

CHAPTER 7.**PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UTILITIES****700. PUBLIC SANITARY SEWERS - CONSTRUCTION**

Section 700.01. Sewer Code Defined. Sections 700.01 through 710.47 inclusive, shall comprise and be referred to hereinafter as the Sewer Code.

Section 700.03. Definitions. Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms in the Sewer Code shall be as follows:

Subd. 1. Sewage Work shall mean all facilities for collecting, pumping, treating and disposing of sewage.

Subd. 2. Sewage shall mean a combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions, and industrial establishments.

Subd. 3. Sewer shall mean a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.

Subd. 4. Public Sewer shall mean a sewer in which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights and is controlled by public authority.

Subd. 5. Sanitary Sewer shall mean a sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface, and ground waters are not intentionally admitted.

Subd. 6. Storm Sewer or Storm Drain shall mean a sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and polluted industrial wastes.

Subd. 7. Sewer Treatment Plant shall mean any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.

Subd. 8. Industrial Wastes shall mean the liquid wastes from industrial processes as distinct from sanitary sewage.

Subd. 9. Garbage shall mean solid wastes from the preparation, cooking and dispensing of food, and from the handling, storage, and sale of produce.

Subd. 10. Properly Shredded Garbage shall mean the wastes from the preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food that has been shredded to such degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than 1/2 inch in any dimension.

Subd. 11. Building Drain shall mean that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning 5 feet outside the inner face of the building wall.

Subd. 12. Building Sewer shall mean the extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.

Subd. 13. Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand(CBOD₅) shall mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter present in wastewater as measured according to the latest edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater prepared and published jointly by the American Public Health Association, the American Water Works Association, and the Water Environment Federation.

Subd. 14. Ph shall mean the logarithm of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.

Subd. 15. Suspended Solids shall mean solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water, sewage, or other liquids; and which are removable by laboratory filtering.

Subd. 16. Natural Outlet shall mean any outlet into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake or other body of surface or ground water.

Subd. 17. Watercourse shall mean a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.

Subd. 18. Person shall mean any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation or group.

Subd. 19. **Shall** is mandatory; **May** is permissive.

Subd. 20. Plumber means that all references to plumber within this ordinance, unless otherwise stated within the context of this ordinance, shall mean a Master Plumber, who shall be licensed and bonded as described in Chapter 326 of Minnesota Statutes.

Subd. 21. City shall mean the City Council or any authorized agents or representatives of the City, including employees of the City acting within the scope of their employment.

Section 700.05. Protection from Damage. No unauthorized person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is a part of the municipal sewage works. Any person violating this provision shall be subject to the penalty provided by this code.

Section 700.07. Powers of Inspection. The City Engineer and other duly authorized employees of the City bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter upon all properties

for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing, in accordance with the provisions of the Sewer Code.

Section 700.09. Loss to City. Any person violating any of the provisions of the Sewer Code shall become liable to the City for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned the City by reason of such violation.

Section 700.11. Use of Public Sewers Required. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited in an unsanitary manner upon public or private property within the City of Medina, or in any area under the jurisdiction of said City, any human or animal excrement, garbage, or other objectionable waste.

Section 700.13. Sewage Treatment. It shall be unlawful to discharge into any natural outlet within the City of Medina, or in any area under the jurisdiction of said City, any sanitary sewage, industrial wastes, or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with provisions of the Sewer Code.

Section 700.15. Use of Public Sewer Required. Except as hereinafter provided, it shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage.

Section 700.17. Toilet Facilities. The owner of all houses, buildings, or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purpose, situated within the City and abutting on any street, alley or right-of-way in which there is now located, or may in the future be located, a public sanitary sewer of the City, is hereby required at the owner's expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of the Sewer Code, within 90 days after date of official notice to do so, provided that said public sewer is located in the street or alley of abutting property.

Section 700.19. Discontinue Septic Tanks and Cesspools. The owner of all houses, buildings or properties where cesspools and septic tanks have been in existence prior to the construction of the sanitary sewer, shall connect with the public sewer within 90 days of official notice to do so. In the event that a hardship exists with respect to fulfilling the requirements contained in this section, it is required that the owner submit a written request for a time extension to the City Council and await its determination and decision as to whether a hardship does exist and whether an extension of time shall be granted. No septic tank or cesspool shall be permitted to discharge into any public sewer or natural outlet.

Section 700.21. Draining Private Systems. The contents of septic tanks cannot be pumped into the public sewer system or in any manner emptied into said public sewer system.

Section 700.23. Filling. Filling of any cesspool, septic tank or similar tanks, shall not commence until permission has been granted by the Building Inspector. All discontinued cesspools, and septic tanks shall be filled with soil.

Section 700.25. Private Systems. Where a public sanitary sewer is not available, the building

sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system complying with the provisions of the Individual Sewage Treatment Code.

Section 700.27. Permits Required for Public Sewer Connections. No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the Building Inspector and otherwise complying with the terms of this chapter.

Section 700.29. Supervision. No plumbing shall be done except under direct supervision of a Master Plumber when said plumbing is connected with a public sewer.

Section 700.31. Bonds. Permits for building sewers and connections shall be taken out by a Master Plumber, who shall be licensed and bonded as described in Chapter 326 of Minnesota Statutes.

Section 700.33. Insurance. Prior to the commencement of construction work such Master Plumber shall maintain insurance as described in Chapter 326 of Minnesota Statutes. Should the insurance coverage hereinbefore provided be inadequate in amount then such Master Plumber shall himself indemnify and save harmless the City and all of its officers and employees.

Section 700.35. Permits. The owner or agent shall make application for a permit on a form furnished by the City. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or other information which the City Engineer may reasonably require. The applicant shall certify whether the building sewer will carry residential, commercial or industrial wastes.

Section 700.37. Fees. A permit and inspection fee for a sewer permit shall be paid to the City of Medina at the time the application is filed, in an amount determined by the City fee schedule.

Section 700.39. Permit Card. The City shall furnish a Permit Card with permit number which shall be prominently displayed on property where sewer connection is being made; said card shall be displayed for the duration of the work.

Section 700.41. Owner to Pay Expense. All costs and expense incidental to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the City from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.

Section 700.43. Separate Sewers. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building.

Section 700.45. Old Sewers. Where any pipe of material other than Schedule 40 Polyvinyl Chloride (“PVC”) or Ductile Iron Pip “DIP” is encountered in the existing building drain or building sewer, it shall be replaced with pipe meeting the requirements of city engineering specifications and/or the state building code.

Section 700.47. Crossing Cesspools and Septic Tanks. Building sewer pipe may be laid across existing cesspools and septic tanks providing pipe rests on a steel reinforced concrete slab, which

ends rest directly on the concrete block walls. The two center sections of a regular cesspool cover laid parallel with each other may be used.

Section 700.49. Elevation. Whenever possible the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. No building sewer shall be laid parallel to or within three feet of any bearing wall, which might thereby be weakened. The depth shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost. The building sewer shall be laid at uniform grade and in straight alignment insofar as possible.

Section 700.51. Lifts. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such drain shall be lifted by approved artificial means and discharged from the building.

Section 700.53. Excavations. All excavating required for the installation of a building sewer shall be open trench work unless otherwise approved by the City Engineer. Pipe laying and backfill shall be performed in accordance with rules and regulations of the City of Medina. No backfill shall be placed until the work has been inspected and approved. Tunneling may be permitted but no tunnel shall exceed six (6) feet in length and the pipe shall be installed so as to permit inspection of all joints.

Section 700.55. Sewer Service Pipe. All sewer service pipes shall be schedule 40 PVC or DIP and must be installed according to city engineering specifications and/or the state building code.

Section 700.57. Joints. All joints and connections shall be made gas-tight and water-tight.

Section 700.59. Permit Required. No person shall in any way open or cut a public street to connect to a "Y" branch without first acquiring a written permit from the City of Medina.

Section 700.61. Connections, Where Sewers Provided. Sewer service leads have been provided for each separate structure and all connections to the public sanitary sewer shall be made where sewer service leads have been installed. Connection with the public sanitary sewer at any other location must be approved by the City Engineer prior to starting of any construction. In the event the sewer service leads which have been installed cannot be used, then the property owner shall pay the full cost of making the connection elsewhere.

Section 700.63. Inspection. The applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the City when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of the City or its representative.

Section 700.65. Guards, etc. All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the City, at the applicant's expense.

Amendment History of this Section

Amended July 7, 2015 (Ord. 581). Comprehensive revision of the public and private utilities to bring them up to date with current standards.