

## **TITLE 15**

### **WATER BOARD AND FEES**

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#### **CHAPTER 1 – IN GENERAL**

##### **SECTION 15-101 IN GENERAL**

There is hereby established a water and sewerage services board.

- (a) The water and sewerage services board of the Town of Pratt shall consist of five (5) citizens recommended by the Mayor with the approval of the Council, who shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Town Council. This board shall choose one of the five (5) of this board to serve as its chairman. They shall meet monthly and no business shall be transacted unless a quorum of three (3) members are present.
- (b) During the first year after the original enactment of this Ordinance, one (1) member shall be appointed to serve a term of one (1) year. Two (2) members shall be appointed to serve a term of two (2) years, and two (2) members shall be appointed to serve a term of three (3) years. After the initial terms, each individual will be appointed to serve for a period of three (3) years. Each member of the board shall serve without salary, but will be paid necessary and actual expenses expended in performing the business of the board.
- (c) The purpose of duty of said board is to construct, maintain, manage and operate the water and sewer system owned by the Town of Pratt, in accordance with all Federal and State laws.
- (d) Said board shall report to the Common Council of the Town of Pratt at its regularly scheduled monthly meeting, and shall submit financial statements at each meeting.
- (e) It shall also be the duty and obligation of the board to prepare an annual budget for the operation of the water and sewerage system, which budget must be approved by the Common Council of the Town of Pratt prior to becoming effective July 1. This budget shall be submitted no later than April's regular Council meeting.

- (f) The board shall also hear and decide all complaints regarding water and sewerage service and other matters relating to the water and sewerage system.
- (g) Any person aggrieved by an action of the board shall have a right to appeal the same to the Common Council of the Town of Pratt. Said appeal must be in writing and delivered to the Mayor of the Town of Pratt. The Common Council of the Town of Pratt shall consider said appeal within thirty (30) days after the appeal has been filed with the Mayor.
- (h) Any ordinances now in existence, which are contrary to this Ordinance are hereby repealed.
- (i) This Ordinance shall take effect the 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1989.

**SECTION 15-102 FEES**

The schedule of rates and charges for the services and facilities of the system shall be as follows:

- (a) **AVAILABILITY OF SERVICE.** All services shall be available for general domestic, commercial and industrial use.

- (b) **RATES.**

First 2,000 gallons used per month	\$4.50 per 1,000 gallons
Next 3,000 gallons used per month	\$3.75 per 1,000 gallons
Next 20,000 gallons used per month	\$3.55 per 1,000 gallons
Over 25,000 gallons used per month	\$3.55 per 1,000 gallons

- (c) **MINIMUM CHARGE.** No bill shall be rendered for less than the following amounts according to the size of the meter installed, to-wit.

5/8" X 3/4" meter, or less	\$9.00 per month
3/4" meter	\$13.00 per month
1" meter	\$22.00 per month
1 1/4" meter	\$36.00 per month
1 1/2" meter	\$52.00 per month
2" meter	\$92.00 per month
3" meter	\$203.00 per month
4" meter	\$360.00 per month
6" meter	\$810.00 per month

- (d) **DELAYED PENALTY.** All water and sewer bills are payable when rendered. On all accounts not paid in full within twenty (20) days of the

billing date, a ten percent (10%) penalty shall be added to the net amount shown.

If any bill is not paid within ten (10) days after the date the penalty was added to the bill, water service shall be discontinued after notice and in accordance with West Virginia Public Service Commission "Rules and Regulations Governing Water Utilities." Service will not be restored until all amounts in arrears, including accrued penalties, plus a re-connection fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) has been paid.

### **SECTION 15-103 MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY**

On apartment buildings, or other multiple occupancy buildings, or where more than one family or business unit is connected to the same meter, each family or business unit shall be required to pay not less than the minimum monthly charge herein established for a 5/8" X 3/4" meter. Motels and hotels shall pay according to the size of meter installed.

### **SECTION 15-104 TRAILER COURTS**

House Trailer Courts may be provided with a master meter (or master meters). No bill shall be rendered for less than the minimum monthly charge herein established for a five-eighths inch meter multiplied by the number of units situated on the court site at the time the meter is read or the minimum charge for the size meter installed, whichever is greater. House Trailer, either mobile or immobile, located at sites other than a park or court, shall be billed in the same manner as any other family or business unit.

### **SECTION 15-105 CONDITIONS**

- (a) The Town will not render or cause to be rendered any free services of any nature by the System nor any of the facilities; and in the event that the Town or any department, agency, officer or employee thereof should avail itself or themselves of the services or facilities of the System, the same fees, rates and charges applicable to other customers receiving like services under similar circumstances shall be charged, such charges shall be paid as they accrue, and revenues so received shall be deposited and accounted for in the same manner as other revenues of the System.
- (b) The Town may require any applicant for any service by the System to deposit a reasonable and equitable amount to insure payment of all charges for the services rendered by the System, which deposit shall be handled and disposed of under the applicable rules and regulations of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia.

- (c) No allowance or adjustment in any bill for use of the services and facilities of the System shall be made for any leakage occurring on the customer's side of any water meter.
- (d) The Town shall not be liable to any customer for any damage resulting from bursting or breakage of any line, main, pipe, valve, equipment or part or from discontinuance of the operation of any part of the System or from failure of any part thereof for any cause whatsoever.
- (e) In case of emergency, the Town shall have the right to restrict the use of any part of the System in any reasonable manner for the protection of the System and the inhabitants of the Town.
- (f) The fees, rates and charges above provided will be increased whenever such increase is necessary in order to comply fully with all provisions hereof, and the Town shall always be obligated to and shall fix, establish and collect fees, rates and charges for the services and facilities of the System which shall at all times be sufficient to provide net revenues to meet its obligations hereunder, but not less than 110% of the average annual debt service on the 1977 Bond.
- (g) The Town will not accept payments of a water or a sewer bill separately, when the customer concerned owes for both water and sewer services.