

Article VI — Rentals, Charges & Fees

§ 64-601 Volume Charge.

The quarterly rent or charge for use and consumption of water by all metered users drawing from the water system of the Borough of Alburtis shall be \$27.09 plus \$0.0045 per gallon for each gallon of water withdrawn from the system in the quarter in excess of 3,000 gallons.

§ 64-602 Multiple Residential Units.

If any one meter shall record the water usage from more than one residential dwelling unit, the quarterly water rent or charge for such water usage under § 64-601 shall be determined as follows:

- (a) The total volume of water used shall be divided by the number of residential dwelling units;
- (b) The charge under § 64-601 for the resulting volume of water shall be determined; and
- (c) That charge shall be multiplied by the number of residential dwelling units.

§ 64-603 Sprinkler System Charge.

In addition to the usage charge under § 64-601, a sprinkler charge of Forty-three Dollars and ninety-five cents (\$43.95) per quarter shall be paid by all resident users of water service maintaining a fire line independently of or in connection with the installation of an automatic sprinkler device system.

§ 64-604 Absence or Removal of Consumer From Premises.

No abatement of charges shall be allowed for absence or removal of a consumer from the premises wherein he had been supplied with service during the billing period unless he shall have made written request for discontinuance of service and made payment of the final bill for service. No request for discontinuance of service shall be deemed approved and effective until actual physical cutoff shall have been accomplished, except where change of ownership of premises is accompanied by immediate transfer of possession to a new consumer.

§ 64-605 Use of Water for Fire Protection.

Whenever a meter reading shall reflect use of water for fire protection or fire fighting during conflagration, no charge shall be made for the water so used. In such case, the billing shall be made on the basis of an estimate corresponding with average volume consumption during preceding billing periods.

§ 64-606 Tapping Fee.

The fee for a permit to tap into a water main shall be Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), to be collected at the time of the issuance of the water service permit.

§ 64-607 New Unit/Future Facilities Charge.

Every consumer of water served by the Alburtis water system hereafter obtaining a permit for the installation of a water meter or the conversion of service from a single-unit to multiple-unit service shall be subject to a surcharge of Three Hundred Seventy-eight Dollars and twenty-five cents (\$378.25) per unit of service. Such surcharge shall be due and payable at the time of installation of a water meter or unit conversion. The proceeds of this surcharge are to be separately maintained in a fund to be used for future water service facilities improvements.

§ 64-608 Miscellaneous Fees.

(a) **Connection Fee.** The owner(s) of any improved property who desires to connect the property to the Borough's water system shall pay a fee to the Borough of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for turning water service on at the curb.

(b) **Disconnection Fee.** The owner(s) of any improved property voluntarily or involuntarily disconnected from the Borough's water system shall pay a fee to the Borough of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for turning water service off at the curb.

(c) **Settlement Meter Readings.** The fee for an additional reading of the water meter at a time other than those regularly performed by the Borough (*e.g.*, for purposes of settlement on the sale of a property) shall be Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

(d) **Water Meter Unit.** The fee for a water meter unit in new construction where no water meter for the water system was previously in operation is Eighty-two Dollars (\$82.00).

(e) **Water Meter Connectors.** The fee for water meter connectors is Ten Dollars (\$10.00).

§ 64-609 Billing and Collection of Quarterly Charges; Penalties.

(a) **Rendering of Bills.** All bills for the water rentals, charges, and surcharges imposed under § 64-601, § 64-602, and/or § 64-603 with respect to any given property shall be rendered

at least twenty-five (25) calendar days before the due date, and are payable to the Borough at the Borough Hall. Bills shall be mailed to the address appearing on the tax records of the Borough or to the property itself, unless the owner of the property designates a different address from time to time. Each owner shall provide the Borough with, and thereafter keep the Borough advised of, the owner's current and correct address. The failure of any person to receive a bill shall not be considered an excuse for nonpayment, nor shall such failure result in an extension of the period of time during which the net bill shall be payable.

(b) Liability for Payment. All bills for metered water service shall be the responsibility of the owner and consumer to whom water service has been furnished. The owner shall in all cases be primarily responsible for payment. As a convenience to the owner whose property holdings in the Borough consist of two (2) or more separate establishments, firms, or family units, separate billings shall be prepared which may designate or identify "consumer" solely by means of meter number or mailing address, or both.

(c) Due Date. Bills shall be due each January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31 for services rendered during the most recently ended calendar quarter, and shall also include the outstanding balance of unpaid amounts from previous bills and unpaid late payment penalties. Payments are credited on the date they are received at the Borough Hall.

(d) Late Payment Penalties. A late payment penalty shall be imposed if there remains an outstanding balance on any bill rendered under subsection (a) as of 12:00 noon on the sixth (6th) calendar day after the due date of that bill. The amount of the late payment penalty is fifteen percent (15%) of the outstanding balance on the bill (including amounts originally billed for previous quarters that remain unpaid, and unpaid late payment penalties) as of the time the penalty is imposed.

(e) Collection and Lien. If there is an unpaid balance on any bill sixty (60) days after the due date of the bill, the Borough Manager may file a civil action before the local District Justice to collect the unpaid balance, or may refer the account to the Borough Solicitor to proceed with a civil action or utilize the procedures for the perfection of a municipal lien and collection of a municipal claim. The Borough Manager may also utilize the procedures set forth in Article VII to terminate water service to a property with overdue water rentals or charges.