

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 2010 - 15**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 98 OF THE BOROUGH CODE CONCERNING FEES TO CLARIFY METERING AND BILLING PRACTICES FOR WATER USAGE AND TO AMEND QUARTERLY STANDBY FEES FOR FIRE PROTECTION.

WHEREAS, Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington seeks to amend Article XII of Chapter 98 of the Code of the Borough of Pennington, concerning fees for water and sewer usage, to clarify its billing practices determining total volume of water usage and base water usage charges for accounts having two or more meters installed;

WHEREAS, Borough Council seeks further to amend Article XII to insert in quarterly standby fees for private fire protection systems a separate charge for 3-inch lines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, that Article XII of Chapter 98 of the Code of the Borough of Pennington is hereby amended as follows:

1. Section 98-41 of the Borough Code, with **new language underscored and bracketed language deleted**, is amended to read as follows:

98-41. The quarterly base and usage charges for water and sewer customers pursuant to Section 206-1 of the Borough Code are the following:

A. Quarterly charges for water customers (per increments of one-thousand gallons or portion thereof):

Usage Meter Size (inches)	Base Charge	First Excess Usage Block Charge	Second Excess Usage Block Charge	Third Excess Usage Block Charge	Fourth Excess Usage Block Charge
	4,000 Gallons or Less	4,001-20,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	20,001-60,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	60,001-200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	More than 200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)
Less than 1	\$26.87	\$6.24	\$6.43	\$6.61	\$7.30
1	\$41.01	\$6.24	\$6.43	\$6.61	\$7.30
2	\$116.55	\$6.24	\$6.43	\$6.61	\$7.30
3	\$261.44	\$6.24	\$6.43	\$6.61	\$7.30
4	\$384.20	\$6.24	\$6.43	\$6.61	\$7.30
6	\$717.91	\$6.24	\$6.43	\$6.61	\$7.30

B. Quarterly charges for sewer customers (per increments of one-thousand gallons or portion thereof):

Usage Meter Size (inches)	Base Charge	First Excess Usage Block Charge	Second Excess Usage Block Charge	Third Excess Usage Block Charge	Fourth Excess Usage Block Charge
	4,000 Gallons or Less	4,001-20,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	20,001-60,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	60,001-200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	More than 200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 gallons)
All sizes	\$29.54	\$6.65	\$6.73	\$6.82	\$6.92

[C. The minimum quarterly base charge for multiunit residential or multiunit commercial or a combination thereof serviced through a single water meter shall be determined by the product of the number of units by the minimum quarterly base charge of a one-inch meter, regardless of the size of the meter(s) that feeds the units.

D. Except as otherwise provided herein, accounts with two or more meters installed will be billed only the base charge for the larger or largest meter unless the minimum volume included in the base charge for the larger or largest meter is not measured, in which event only the base charge for the smaller or next largest meter on which minimum volume is measured will be billed. If the smaller or next largest meter provides a single water meter service to a multi-unit residential or multi-unit commercial building or a combination thereof, the minimum quarterly base charge shall be determined by the product of the number of units and the minimum quarterly base charge of a one-inch meter, regardless of the size of the meter(s) that feeds the units, as provided in section 1C of this ordinance.]

C. Accounts with two or more meters installed will be billed for the sum of the volumes from each meter.

D. Accounts with two or more meters which exceed 4,000 gallons per unit in total volume measured by the meters will be billed a base charge per unit at the rate for the larger or largest meter. If the sum of the volumes per unit measured by all meters does not exceed 4,000 gallons per unit, the base charge per unit shall be billed at the rate for the smaller or next largest meter subject to the following exception. If that smaller or next largest meter serves a multi-unit residential or multi-unit commercial building or development or a combination thereof, the account shall be billed at the base charge for a one-inch meter regardless of the size of that smaller or next largest meter.

E. If an account has a malfunctioning exterior reader that under- or over-reports the volume measured on the meter inside the structure, the volume measured by the interior meter shall control. Any additional amount due as the result of an adjustment based on a reading of the interior meter may be paid on a pro-rated basis over the current and next three quarters, without interest.

[D] F. Sewage or other wastes containing unduly high concentrations of other substances which add to the operating costs of the sewage treatment works will be subject to a surcharge to be determined by the Borough on the basis of the character and volume for such sewage and wastes. Where, in the opinion of the Borough, sewage and other wastes of a deleterious character adversely affect the treatment processes, the Borough reserves the right to require that such sewage and wastes be treated by the contributor to remove or neutralize the objectionable substances before discharge into the sewers.

[E] G. Base and usage charges shall be due on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1.

[F] H. Premises introducing water into a permanent private pool may be allowed a reduction in the charge of sewer usage in an amount equal to the volume of water introduced into the pool. This will require the installation and rental of a temporary meter in conformance with the Borough Code.

2. Section 98-42 of the Borough Code, with **new language underscored and bracketed language deleted**, is amended to read as follows:

98-42. Quarterly standby fees for private fire-protection systems pursuant to Section 206-2 of this Code are as follows:

A. Quarterly standby fees for private fire-protection systems regardless of the rate or quantity of that service:

Size of Private Lines (inches)	Fee (per connection)
2	\$119
<u>3</u>	<u>\$262</u>
4	\$439
6	\$907
8	\$1,545

B. Customers who are late in making payment of the standby fee will be given notice as to their deficiency in payment, and a copy of this notice shall be sent to the customer's insurance carrier.

C. Standby fees shall be due on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1.

3. This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication as provided by law.

Introduced: October 4, 2010
Advertised: October 14, 2010 / Nov 4, 2010
Public Hearing: November 15, 2010
Adoption: November 15, 2010
Final Publication: November 18, 2010

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Elizabeth Sterling, Borough Clerk

Anthony Persichilli, Mayor