CHAPTER 96
BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS

96.01 PERMIT. No unauthorized person shall uncover, make any connection with or opening into, use, alter or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the City. The application for the permit shall set forth the location and description of the property to be connected with the sewer system and the purpose for which the sewer is to be used, and shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications, or other information considered pertinent. The permit shall require the owner to complete construction and connection of the building sewer to the public sewer within sixty (60) days after the issuance of the permit, except that when a property owner makes sufficient showing that due to conditions beyond the owner’s control or peculiar hardship, such time period is inequitable or unfair, an extension of time within which to comply with the provisions herein may be granted. Any sewer connection permit may be revoked at any time for a violation of these chapters.

96.02 CONNECTION CHARGE. The person who makes the application shall pay a connection charge in the amount of two hundred dollars ($200.00) for each residential connection and three hundred dollars ($300.00) for each commercial or industrial connection to reimburse the City for costs borne by the City in making sewer service available to the property served. The connection charge is in addition to any current special assessment applicable.

(Ord. 726 – Apr. 07 Supp.)

96.03 PLUMBER REQUIRED. All installations of building sewers and connections to the public sewer shall be made by a plumber authorized to do business in the City. The Mayor shall have the power to revoke the permit of any plumber for violation of any of the provisions of these Sanitary Sewer chapters.

96.04 EXCAVATIONS. All excavations required for the installation of a building sewer shall be open trench work unless otherwise approved by the City. The excavations shall be made in accordance with the City of Dyersville Standard Specifications and the provisions of Chapter 135.

96.05 CONNECTION REQUIREMENTS. Any connection with a public sanitary sewer must be made under the direct supervision of the Director and in accordance with the following:
1. Old Building Sewers. Old building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when they are found, on examination and test conducted by the owner and observed by the Director, to meet all requirements of this chapter.

2. Separate Building Sewers. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every occupied building; except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard, or driveway. In such cases the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer.

3. Installation. The size, slope, alignment and materials of construction of the building sewer and the connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of Division 4, Plumbing Rules and Regulations, of the State Building Code or the City of Dyersville Standard Specifications for Waste Water Collection. All such connections shall be made gastight and watertight. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the Director before installation.

4. Depth. Whenever possible, the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. The depth of cover above the sewer shall be sufficient to afford protection from frost.

5. Sewage 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 to the building sewer.

96.06 INTERCEPTORS REQUIRED. Grease, oil, sludge and sand interceptors shall be provided by gas and service stations, convenience stores, food establishments, car washes, garages, and other facilities when, in the opinion of the Director, they are necessary for the proper handling of such wastes that contain grease in excessive amounts or any flammable waste, sand or other harmful ingredients. Such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. When required, such interceptors shall be installed in accordance with the following:

1. Design and Location. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity as provided by the Iowa Public Health Bulletin and Division 4 of the State Building Code, to be approved by the Director, and shall be located so as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection.

2. Construction Standards. The interceptors shall be constructed of impervious material capable of withstanding abrupt and extreme changes in temperature. They shall be of substantial construction, watertight and equipped with easily removable covers that shall be gastight and watertight.
3. Maintenance. All such interceptors shall be maintained by the owner at the owner’s expense and shall be kept in continuously efficient operations at all times.

96.07 SEWER TAP. Connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall be made at the “Y” branch, if such branch is available at a suitable location. If no properly located “Y” branch is available, a “Y” saddle shall be installed at the location specified by the Director. The public sewer shall be tapped with a tapping machine and a saddle appropriate to the type of public sewer shall be glued and attached with stainless steel clamps to the sewer. At no time shall a building sewer be constructed so as to enter a manhole unless special written permission is received from the Director and in accordance with the Director’s direction if such connection is approved.

96.08 INSPECTION REQUIRED. All connections or modifications with the sanitary sewer system before being covered shall be inspected and approved, in writing, by the Director. As soon as all pipe work from the public sewer to inside the building has been completed, and before any backfilling is done, the Director shall be notified and the Director shall inspect and test the work as to workmanship and material; no sewer pipe laid under ground shall be covered or trenches filled until after the sewer has been so inspected and approved. If the Director refuses to approve the work, the plumber or owner must proceed immediately to correct the work.

96.09 PROPERTY OWNER’S RESPONSIBILITY. All costs and expenses incident to the installation, connection and maintenance 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.

96.10 ABATEMENT OF VIOLATIONS. Construction or maintenance of building sewer lines whether located upon the private property of any owner or in the public right-of-way, which construction or maintenance is in violation of any of the requirements of this chapter, shall be corrected, at the owner’s expense, within thirty (30) days after date of official notice from the Council of such violation. If not made within such time the Council shall, in addition to the other penalties herein provided, have the right to finish and correct the work and assess the cost thereof to the property owner. Such assessment shall be collected with and in the same manner as general property taxes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3])

96.11 ADOPTION OF CHAPTER 10 AND APPENDIX H OF UNIFORM PLUMBING CODE. In addition to any other provisions of this Code of Ordinances, the installation of any private sewer and its connection with a public sewer shall comply with all applicable provisions, whether regulatory, procedural or enforcement provisions, of Chapter 10 and Appendix H of the Uniform Plumbing Code (1994), published by the International Conference of Building Officials, which provisions are hereby adopted. An official copy of Chapter 10 and Appendix H of the Uniform Plumbing Code shall be kept in the office of the Director.
Plumbing Code (1994) as adopted and a certified copy of Ordinance No. 691 are on file in the office of the Clerk for public inspection.

1. Right to Inspect. Such employees of the City as designated by the City Administrator shall have the right to inspect any such traps, clarifiers, interceptors or similar devices as required by Chapter 10 and Appendix H of the Uniform Plumbing Code. The person in control or possession of each such trap, clarifier, interceptor or similar device shall maintain, on forms provided by the City, records showing the maintenance of such devices, including receipts from the contractors hauling the waste removed from such devices.

2. Compliance Date. Any person required by the provisions of Chapter 10 and Appendix H of the Uniform Plumbing Code to have such a trap, clarifier, interceptor or similar device must be in compliance with the provisions of said Code within 180 days after the effective date of the ordinance codified in this section†, or have on file with the City a Compliance Agreement acceptable to the City setting out a timetable for compliance.

† EDITOR'S NOTE: Ordinance No. 691 adopting Chapter 10 and Appendix H of the Uniform Plumbing Code and providing for inspection and compliance was adopted by the Council on January 21, 2002.