

TITLE III - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES

ARTICLE IX
SELF-BILLING FOR WATER, SEWER AND GARBAGE SERVICES

3-9.1 Applicability. If, by resolution, the City Council of Salem, Iowa, provides that this Article be used for the purpose of the payment of water, sewer and garbage services provided by the City of Salem, Iowa, then this Article shall apply to those defined as a "consumer" in Section 3-4.1(5) of Article IV of this Title re "Water" and to those defined as a "contributor" and/or anyone required to sue the public sewers under Article VIIA and Article VIIB of this Title re "Sewer" and to all residence households under Section 3-3.6 of Article III of this Title re "Garbage Collection".

For the purposes of this Article, the term "consumer" shall include all those stated above and anyone to whom this Article applies.

3-9.2 Self-billing procedure.

A. The City shall provide to each consumer, a combined water, sewer and garbage self-billing booklet and current rate sheet.

B. Where usage of a service is measured by a meter, each consumer shall read their respective meters between the first day and the 5th day of each and every month noting on the monthly billing page in the self-billing booklet, the prior month's meter reading and the current month's meter reading.

C. After said meter reading is taken, each consumer shall take the difference between the two meter readings and using the rate sheet, calculate their monthly bill for such service and usage.

D. Where usage of a service is not measured by a meter and there is a specific monthly charge for a service, each consumer shall enter on the monthly billing page from the self-billing booklet, the applicable charge for each such service that the consumer is receiving.

E. All charges for water, sewer and garbage services as determined by the above procedure shall be totaled by each consumer for each month and the payment of each month's total charges shall be due by the 10th day of each month and shall be paid by each consumer at the office of the City Clerk.

All bills for such services shall become delinquent on the 20th of each month and if not paid by said date, then a delayed payment charge of 10% of the amount of the bill as finally determined shall be added thereto and collected therewith.

3-9.3 Compliance. Nothing herein shall prevent the City, through its agents or employees, from checking from time to time the accuracy of any meter readings and/or verifying that each consumer is complying with the provisions of this Article.

If it is found that a consumer has not been accurately recording the meter readings and/or not complying with the provisions of this Article, the City reserves the right to commence reading the meter on a monthly basis and/or computing the monthly bill on the basis of services received by said consumer and submitting a monthly bill to said consumer for all applicable services in lieu of the above procedure. In addition, the City can, based upon either prior usage or future usage, determine an average monthly bill and assess the applicable delayed payment charge thereon and said consumer shall pay what is determined to be due to the City. The City may further terminate service for non-payment, except that water service may not be discontinued for failure to pay sewer rental charges.

In cases of partial payment, the City may apply said payment against any bill due for any such service and is not required to make a pro-rata credit of said partial payment against the balance due for each such service that the consumer is receiving.

3-9.4 Additional Provisions. All provisions of Article III, Article IV, Article VI, Article VIIA and Article VIIB concerning the payment of garbage, water and sewer bills, the collection thereof, and the termination of service therefore, to the extent that said provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Article, shall remain in full force and effect.

3-9.5 Termination of Self-Billing Procedure. Should the City Council determine for whatever reason that the self-billing procedure as provided for in this Article should be terminated, said Council may terminate such procedure by resolution and the billing for such garbage, sewer and water services shall revert back to those billing procedures as provided for in Articles, III, IV, VI, VIIA and VIIB.

(Entire Article - Ordinance No. 1985-1 passed August 6, 1985.

Note: By Resolution No. 1985-1 passed August 6, 1985, the above procedures were implemented. By Resolution No. 1992-8, passed October 6, 1992, the above procedures were terminated.)