

COVINGTON TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL IMPROVED PROPERTIES

These rules and regulations are intended to supplement Resolutions 1993-03 and 1993-04 of the Covington Township Sewer Authority and Ordinance 90-05 enacted by the Township of Covington.

Definitions

Unless the context specifically and clearly indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms and phrases used shall be as follows:

- A. "Authority" shall mean Covington Township Sewer Authority, a municipality authority of the Commonwealth;
- B. "Building Sewer" shall mean the extension from the sewage drainage system of any structure to the Lateral of a Sewer;
- C. "Commonwealth" shall mean the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;
- D. "improved Property" shall mean any property within this Township upon which there is erected a structure intended for continuous or periodic habitation, occupancy or use by human beings or animals and from which structure Sanitary Sewage and/or Industrial Wastes shall be or may be discharged;
- E. "industrial Establishment" shall mean any Improved Property located in this Township used or intended for use, wholly or in part, for the manufacturing, processing, cleaning, laundering or assembling of any product, commodity or article, or any other Improved Property located in this Township from which wastes, in addition to or other than Sanitary Sewage, shall be discharged;
- F. "industrial Wastes" shall mean any and all wastes discharged from an Industrial Establishment, other than Sanitary Sewage;
- G. "Lateral" shall mean that part of the Sewer System extending from a Sewer to the curb line or, if there shall be no curb line, to the property line or, if no such Lateral shall be provided, then "Lateral" shall mean that portion of, or place in, a Sewer that is provided for connection of any Building Sewer;

H. "Owner" shall mean any Person vested with ownership, legal or equitable, sole or partial, of any Improved Property;

I. "Person" shall mean any individual, partnership, company, association, society, trust, corporation, municipality, municipality authority of other group or entity;

J. "Sanitary Sewage" shall mean normal water-carried household and toilet wastes from any Improved Property;

K. "Sewer" shall mean any pipe or conduit constituting a part of the Sewer System used or usable for sewage collection purposes;

L. "Sewer System" shall mean all facilities, as of any particular time, for collecting, transmitting, treating or disposing of Sanitary Sewage and/or Industrial Wastes, situate in or adjacent to this Township, and owned by the Authority;

M. "Street" shall mean and shall include any street, road, lane, court, cul-de-sac, alley, public way or public square; and

N. "Township" shall mean the Township of Covington, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth, acting by and through its Board of Supervisors, or, in appropriate cases, acting by and through its authorized representatives.

Rules and Regulations Governing Building Sewers and Connections to Sewers

1. Where an improved Property, at the time connection to a Sewer is required, shall be served by its own sewage disposal system or sewage disposal device, the existing house sewer line shall be broken on the structure side of such sewage disposal system or sewage disposal device and attachment shall be made, with proper fittings, to continue such house sewer line as a Building Sewer.

2. No Building Sewer shall be covered until it has been inspected and approved by the Authority. If any part of a Building Sewer is covered before so being inspected and approved, it shall be uncovered for inspection at the cost and expense of the Owner of the Improved Property to be connected to a Sewer.

Every Building Sewer of any Improved Property shall be maintained in a sanitary and safe operating condition by the Owner of such Improved Property.

Every excavation for a Building Sewer shall be guarded adequately with barricades and lights to protect all Persons from damage and injury. Any Street, sidewalk and other property disturbed in the course of installation of a Building Sewer shall be restored, at the cost and expense of the Owner of the Improved Property being connected, in a manner satisfactory to this Township and the Authority.

If any Person shall fail or shall refuse, upon receipt of a written notice of this Township or the Authority, to remedy any unsatisfactory condition with respect to a Building

Sewer within 60 days of receipt of such notice, this Township or the Authority may refuse to permit such Person to discharge Sanitary Sewage and Industrial Wastes into the Sewer System until such unsatisfactory condition shall have been remedied to the satisfaction of this Township and the Authority.

Each Improved Property shall be connected separately and independently to a Sewer through a Building Sewer. Grouping of more than one Improved Property on one Building Sewer shall not be permitted, except under special circumstances and for good sanitary reasons or other good cause shown, but when only after special permission of the Authority in writing, shall have been secured and only subject to such rules, regulations and conditions as may be prescribed by the Authority.

The Building Sewer shall be connected to a Sewer at the place designated by the Authority and where, if applicable, the lateral is provided.

8. The designated Inspector of the Authority shall be given at least twenty-four (24) hours notice of the time when connection shall be made in order that said Inspector can be present to inspect and approve the work of connection.

9. At the time of inspection of the connection, the Owner or Owners of properties shall permit the Inspector full and complete access to all sanitary and drainage arrangements and facilities in each building and in and about all parts of the property. No Building Sewer line shall be covered over, or in any manner concealed, until after it is inspected and approved by said Inspector.

10. It is the intention of the Rules and Regulations that the entire connection be inspected at one time; however, if the property owner feels that special conditions warrant more than one inspection, he may request the same, subject to such additional inspection fees as the Authority shall determine.

11. Any single separate gravity Building Sewer shall be constructed of one of the following two (2) types of pipe with approved fittings not less than four (4) inches in internal diameter for single and duplex residential connections, unless otherwise directed or approved by the Authority Engineer. For commercial, industrial and multi-family residential connections, the pipe size shall be approved by the Authority Engineer.

a. Cast Iron Soil Pipe and fittings, shall be extra heavy service grade, single hub conforming to ASTM A74. Joints shall be made with preformed rubber gaskets conforming to ASTM C564. Standard bituminous coating shall be provided on the exterior of all pipe and fittings.

PVC sewer pipe and fittings shall conform to ASTM D3034 for SDR 35 Pipe. The bell shall consist of an integral wall section with solid crosssection rubber ring, factory assembled, securely locked in place to prevent displacement during pipe jointing, meeting the requirements of ASTM D3212. Minimum pipe stiffness at 5% deflection shall be 46 PSI for all sizes when tested in accordance with ASTM D2412. Schedule 40 PVC pipe with glue fittings shall also be acceptable.

12. Any force mains for house connections shall be constructed of the following type of, pipe with approved fittings, unless otherwise directed or approved by the Authority Engineer. The size will be as approved by the Authority Engineer.

a. Polyethylene Pipe, SDR-7 (200 psi minimum). Couplings or adapters shall be Ford or Muller brassfittings.

13. All types of pipes as a minimum should be bedded with five (5) inches of sand or modified material and backfilled with either sand or modified material to a depth of at least 18" above the top of the pipe.

a. Modified material shall conform to ASTM C33, Size 67, crushed aggregate. Section 703 of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Specifications.

After the pipe has been installed, jointed, inspected, and tested, the trench shall be backfilled. Backfill from the top of the bedding to a depth of eighteen (18) inches over the pipe shall be sand or modified material.

Backfill material from eighteen (18) inches over the pipe to subgrade shall be the material removed from the trench and shall be free of organic materials, stones larger than eight (8) inches and frozen, soggy, or wet material. Where such material is not available from the trench excavation, the sewer contractor shall provide satisfactory material as specified under suitable backfill material.

Final restoration should match or exceed what was existing prior to installation of the Building Sewer.

14. The following requirements shall be applicable for the Building Sewer line and it shall be the responsibility of the owner of the property served to require his plumber or contractor to adhere to these requirements.

a. The trench area shall be graded to conform to the existing grade.

b. All streets, roads, or highway surfaces which are disrupted or damaged by the owner, or his plumber or contractor shall be properly repaired at the owners cost. (Prior to excavating in Township roads or PennDot highways, permits must be obtained.)

c. Subsequent settlement of the streets, roads, or highway surface resulting from the improper compaction of the service line trench, or failure to protect the lateral line trench, shall be promptly repaired at the owner's cost.

d. If the owner or his plumber or contractor shall fail to comply with any of the requirements of the above listed subparagraphs, then after reasonable notice to the owner, the Authority may proceed on its own to make any necessary corrections or repairs so that the aforesaid requirements are fulfilled. If the Authority does so repair, then the owner of the property shall be liable to the Authority for the entire cost of such repairs and said costs will be included in the owners next quarterly billing for sewer services.

15. All new materials, as listed above, must be used from the building wall to the service lateral, with the exception that if the existing building sewers are constructed of the materials listed above, they may be accepted only if the property owner(s) uncover all of the existing building sewer for inspection to show that there are no leaks at the joints, or satisfactorily prove to the Authority Inspector that there are no leaks.

16. Basement cellar drains shall not be connected to the building sewer except by special permission of the authority, and if permission is granted by the Authority, the property owner(s) must assume the risk and expense of having the basement floor drain disconnected at a later date because of ground water entering the building sewer and the sewer system.

17. Construction of the building sewer should start at the service lateral and proceed upgrade toward the building. Correct adapters must be used when changing from plastic pipe to cast iron pipe, etc.

18. Construction of the Building Sewer may not be done prior to the issuance of a "NOTIFICATION TO CONNECT".

19. All pipe for Gravity Building Sewers shall be installed with a minimum slope of one-eighth (1/8) inch per foot and a minimum cover of two and one-half (2-1/2) feet outside of all driveways, streets, roads, or highways where the minimum cover shall be four (4) feet unless otherwise approved. All pipe shall be laid to an even grade and straight alignment between changes in grade or alignment to the public sanitary sewer. All pipe shall be laid with full and even bearing and no block supports will be allowed. Bell holes shall be dug to allow sufficient space to properly make each joint. Backfill shall be tamped uniformly around the pipe. All work shall be done in a workmanlike manner.

20. All connections to the sewer must be made into the lateral or wye left for that purpose. Where no lateral or wye has been provided, the sewer shall be tapped with an opening to receive a forty-five (45) degree saddle. The saddle shall be securely fastened by stainless steel bolts, with a rubber gasket. The pipe and saddle shall be completely encased with four (4) inches of three thousand (3000) psi. concrete. When the opening into the pipe has been cut too large to receive the saddle, that section of pipe must be replaced by a wye branch of the proper size. This construction must be inspected and approved by the Inspector before the balance of the lateral connection may be laid.

21. Water in the trench shall be removed by pumping or bailing and must be kept away from mortar or concrete work until it has thoroughly set. If water is encountered, no less than six (6) inches of bank run gravel or crushed stone shall be used as foundation for the pipe between impervious trenches plugs which are also suggested when water in the trench is encountered. Proper erosion and sedimentation control measures must be used when dewatering.

22. Whenever a wye branch has been broken while removing the cap preparatory to making a connection, the protruding branch must be removed and a wye saddle applied as specified in other paragraphs of this section. When an existing lateral stub is broken, the broken end must be cut square and fitted with a duplex coupling or that section of pipe must be replaced.

23. No spring, storm, pool or surface water of any nature whatsoever shall be allowed to enter the sanitary sewer system.

24. On gravity lines clean-outs must be installed at all bends greater than 45 degrees and in straight lines over 150 feet. Clean-out caps shall be set at grade.

25. Each connection must be made to the sewer within the lines of the lot as extended to the sewer or where a written easement has been granted.

26. Grinder Pumps

a. To the maximum extent possible, all sewer lateral construction shall be of the gravity type. However, when serving basement plumbing or on an otherwise case-by-case basis, individual grinder pumps may be allowed by the Authority. In all cases, the installation shall be subject to approval of the Authority. The grinder pump details and manufacturer's specifications shall be submitted to the Authority Engineer for review and approval prior to installation.

b. The grinder pump(s) shall be enclosed in a fiberglass tank and shall have a completely automatic control system which activates and deactivates the pump(s) when the sewage reaches pre-set levels. A high and low level alarm system shall be provided with the unit in the event of a malfunction of the system. When the sewage level reaches a pre-set level and the pump is not activated, the high level alarm will alert the home owner that the pump is not working. Additional tank volume shall be provided before the tank is full after the high level alarm activates. If the pump fails to shut off when the sewage level drops to a pre-set level, the low level alarm will alert the home owner that the pump must be deactivated manually.

c. Grinder pump units and tanks shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations including anti-floatation collar and as approved by the Authority Engineer.

d. The Authority Engineer may require a duplex pump set-up if the building being serviced is a multi-family, commercial, or industrial complex.

e. Pump discharge piping shall have a ball check and full-port shut off valve supplied and installed with the pump assembly.

f. Discharge piping shall include a concentric coupling installed with each pump unit.

g. All electrical connections shall be made as manufacturers' recommendation and in accordance with the National Electrical Code.

27. Grease, oil and sand traps or other pretreatment facilities shall be provided by the Owner of any industrial, commercial or institutional establishment, at his or its sole cost, when required by the Authority, for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing excessive grease, inflammable wastes, sand or other harmful substances.

28. Existing septic tank and cesspool abandonment.

a. Where a lateral is installed, all existing septic tanks and cesspools shall be abandoned.

Septic tanks and cesspools to be abandoned shall be done so according to Township requirements and as follows:

- (i) A licensed (septic) hauler shall remove all water and solids in the septic tank or cesspool by pumping into a tank truck for disposal at a State approved site.
- (ii) The Contractor shall abandon the septic tank or cesspool in-place by filling with sand or crushed stone.
- (iii) The Contractor shall permanently remove the vent cap and fill the vent pipe.
- (iv) The existing tile field may be abandoned in place with no additional work required.

29. Traps with clean outs are recommended on all building sewers to prevent the back passage of gases into the house system.

Instructions

1. Three copies of the municipal wastewater collection system connection permit application along with the required permit fee and mandated connection or tapping fee shall be submitted to the Authority Secretary in accordance with the Connection Ordinance four weeks prior to the time the building permit application is submitted to the Zoning Officer.
2. The Sewer Authority Secretary shall collect the appropriate fees from the Applicant and send the permit application to the Sewer Authority Engineer for review within 7 days of receipt..
3. The Sewer Authority Engineer shall review the application and documentation for compliance with the appropriate ordinances, regulations, and . requirements of this Ordinance.
4. The Sewer Authority Engineer shall submit written comments recommending either approval or denial of the permit to the Sewer Authority within twenty days of receipt of the permit application. if denial of the permit is recommended, the reasons for the denial shall be stated.
5. If the Sewer Authority Engineer recommends approval, the Sewer Authority shall issue the Connection Permit.
6. If the permit is denied, the Sewer Authority shall notify the applicant that the permit

application has been denied. The applicant may re-submit the application and accompanying documentation after the necessary changes have been made.

7. In the event that an application for a wastewater collection system connection permit is denied, that portion of the monies associated with the tapping fees shall be refunded to the Applicant.

8. The Zoning Officer shall not issue any building permits until the municipal wastewater collection system permit has been issued by the Sewer Authority.

9. The applicant is responsible for all expenses for the processing of the application including the reviews.

Industrial Wastewater

Those individuals or business entities seeking to discharge industrial waste shall fill out the specified permit application for industrial waste. The applicant for the permit shall include as part of the permit a list of all substances and chemicals used in the production or manufacturing process and shall also disclose any chemical by-product produced by the production or manufacturing process and any other chemical or substance which is stored on the premises.