

CHAPTER 18

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PART 1

PUBLIC SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM

§18-101. Definitions.

AUTHORITY — Rockledge Municipal Authority as presently or hereafter constituted, which has been created by Borough Council and to which has been referred by the Borough Council the specific project of sewers.

BOROUGH — the Borough of Rockledge, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, or the duly constituted and elected municipal authorities thereof.

OCCUPIED BUILDING — each single dwelling unit, household unit, flat or apartment unit, store, shop, office, business or industrial unit or family unit contained within any structure erected and intended for continuous or periodic habitation, occupancy or use by human beings or animals and from which structure sanitary sewage is or may be discharged.

PERSON — any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation or group.

PROPERTY ACCESSIBLE TO THE SEWER SYSTEM — means improved property which adjoins, abuts on, or is adjacent to, the sewer system.

SANITARY SEWAGE — the normal water carried household and toilet wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions and industrial establishments.

SEWER SYSTEM — the public sanitary sewer collection system, together with appurtenant facilities about to be constructed for the Borough, and any improvements, additions or extensions that hereafter may be made thereto by the Authority or the Borough or to any part or parts of any or all thereof.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §1)

§1-802. Duty of Borough.

Whenever the Sewer System is completed and ready for public use, it shall be the duty of the Borough to cause notice of the fact to be given by advertisement published once in one newspaper of general circulation in the Borough, and such advertisement shall state that the sewer system may be used by all persons owning occupied buildings on property accessible to the Sewer System, subject to the payment of any connection charges and of annual sewer rentals in amounts as may from time to time be fixed by the Borough.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §2)

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§18-103. Connection Required.

1. All persons owning any occupied building now erected upon property accessible to the sewer system shall, at their own expense, connect such building with the Sewer System within 90 days after the date of publication specified in §18-102.
2. All persons owning any property accessible to the sewer system upon which an occupied building is hereafter erected shall, at the time of the erection of such building and at their own expense, connect the same with the sewer system.
3. All persons owning any occupied building upon property which hereafter becomes accessible to the sewer system shall, at their own expense, connect such building with the sewer system within 90 days after notice to do so from the Borough.

Where more than one occupied building, as hereinbefore defined, is contained in a separate structure, a single common connection to the lateral of the sewer system shall be permitted for accommodating all units contained in such structure, except that separate connections shall be required for each semi-detached or row-type house or structure.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §3)

§18-104. Prohibited Actions.

It shall be unlawful for any person owning any property accessible to the sewer system to erect, construct or use or maintain or cause to be erected, constructed, used or maintained, any privy, cesspool, sinkhole, septic tank or other receptacle on such premises or otherwise for receiving sanitary sewage after the expiration of the particular period specified in §18-103, or otherwise at any time to erect, construct, use or maintain any pipe, conduit, drain or other facility for the discharge of sanitary sewage into the gutters of the Borough, the storm sewers of the Borough or upon public or private property or otherwise, except into the sewer system.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §4)

§18-105. Nuisances.

Any person who erects, constructs, uses or maintains a privy, cesspool, sinkhole or septic tank on any property accessible to the sewer system, or otherwise erects, constructs, uses or maintains any pipe, conduit, drain or other facility for the discharge of sanitary sewage in violation of this Part, shall be deemed and shall be declared to be erecting, constructing and maintaining a nuisance, which nuisance the Borough is hereby authorized and directed to abate in the manner provided by law.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §5)

§18-106. Compliance.

No connection shall be made to the sewer system, except in compliance with the ordinances and resolutions, as well as such rules and regulations as may, from time to time, be enacted, adopted, approved or promulgated by the Borough or the Authority.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §6)

§18-107. Failure to Connect.

After the expiration of the particular periods specified in §18-103, if any owner of an occupied building on property accessible to the sewer system shall have failed to connect such property with the sewer system as required by said §18-103, the Borough shall cause to be served on the owner of such property so failing to connect to said sewer system, and also upon the occupants of the building in question, a copy of this Part and a written or printed notice requiring such connection to be made, and such notice shall further state that its requirements shall be complied with within 30 days from the date thereof.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §7)

§18-108. Permit and Fee Required for Each Sewer Connection.

1. Persons, firms and/or corporations desiring to do plumbing intended to be connected to the sewer system shall obtain from the Chairman of the Street Committee or Building Inspector or such person designated by Borough Council, in the form to be provided, a separate permit entitling the applicant to engage in plumbing work relative to connection to the Rockledge Sewer System for which permit a separate fee of \$1,000 shall be charged by the Borough. [Ord. 426]
2. The fee to be paid in accordance with the requirements of subsection (1) is not a one time fee for the calendar year but is to be paid for each separate connection to the Sewer System of Rockledge, for as many connections as any person, firm and/or corporation is required to make.
3. No plumbing or connections to the Rockledge Sewer System shall be made without the permit being first obtained and the fee paid, as required in the prior subsections. Any plumbing or connections to the Rockledge Sewer System must be inspected by the Rockledge Building Inspector and said inspection fee is to be paid by the owner of the property at which time the work is being performed.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §8, as amended by Ord. 426, 11/14/1983, §II)

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§18-109. Competency.

Any person, firm or corporation which, for a period of at least 1 year previous to the passage of this Part has been regularly engaged in the plumbing business in the Borough, shall be deemed competent to initially obtain a permit; and all other persons, firms or corporations desiring to do plumbing business in the Borough or to do a particular piece of work to be connected with the sewer system, shall exhibit such evidence of competency as said Borough from time to time may require.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §9)

§18-110. Failure to Comply.

Any plumber or other person who shall neglect or refuse to take out a permit or comply with the provisions of this Part shall not be deemed competent to perform any work intended to be connected with the sewers, and no work performed by such plumbers or other persons shall be connected with any sewers.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §10)

§18-111. Penalty.

Any person, firm and/or corporation who shall neglect or refuse to obtain a permit, or to pay the fee amount as required above, and who has also commenced and/or completed the plumbing and connection work at any location, shall, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding, be subject to a fine of \$350 as well as having to excavate said work site to acquire the approval of the Building Inspector, as well as any costs incurred by the Borough.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §11; as amended by Ord. 426, 11/14/1983, §III)

§18-112. Authority.

Borough hereby grants to Authority all and every easement, right-of-way and any and all other rights necessary or desirable on, over or under the public streets, sidewalks and alleys in the Borough, for the purpose of constructing the sewer system therein.

(Ord. 268, 1/4/1960, §12)

PART 2

SEWER RENTALS AND CHARGES

§18-201. Annual Charge or Rental.

Beginning with the year 1986, and each year thereafter, an annual charge or rental is hereby assessed upon each property connected to the sanitary sewer system as follows:

- A. Upon each property improved for residential use, \$85 for each dwelling unit.
- B. Upon each property improved for commercial or industrial or manufacturing use, a charge or rental is hereby assessed for each commercial or industrial or manufacturing unit as follows:
 - (1) Each commercial unit employing less than 10 persons there shall be a charge or rental of \$170.
 - (2) Each commercial unit employing more than 10 persons there shall be a charge or rental of \$255.
 - (3) Each bar, tavern, club or restaurant seating less than 300 persons, there shall be a charge or rental of \$255.
 - (4) Each bar, tavern, club or restaurant seating more than 300 persons, there shall be a charge or rental of \$850.
 - (5) Each industrial or manufacturing unit employing less than 25 persons, there shall be a charge or rental of \$425.
 - (6) Each industrial or manufacturing unit employing more than 25 persons, there shall be a charge or rental of \$850.
- C. Upon each property improved for use as a school, there shall be a charge or rental of \$850.
- D. Upon each property improved for use as a fire station or firehouse, there shall be a charge or rental of \$170.

(Ord. 330, 4/8/1968, §II; as amended by Ord. 374, 1/12/1976, §1; by Ord. 397, 12/28/1977, §1; by Ord. 428, 12/12/1983, §I; by Ord. 438, 6/9/1986, §1; by Ord. 467, 12/11/1989, §1; and by Ord. 502, 12/13/1993, §1)

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§18-202. Payment of Annual Charges or Rentals.

The annual charges or rentals provided for in this Part shall be paid by the owner or owners of the properties served by the sanitary sewer system to the Tax Collector of the Borough, at the times fixed for the payment of the annual taxes assessed and levied against real estate within the Borough and the same discount allowed for and the same penalty imposed upon, the payment of such annual real estate taxes shall be applied to the said annual charges or rentals for use of the sanitary sewer system.

(Ord. 330, 4/8/1968, §II)

§18-203. Lien.

Such annual rentals and charges as are provided for in this Part shall be a lien on properties charged with the payment thereof from the 31st day of December of the year in which any rental or charge shall become payable and may be collected by an action of assumpsit or by distress upon personal property or the premises, or by a lien filed in the nature of a municipal lien.

(Ord. 330, 4/8/1968, §III)

§18-204. Senior Citizen Rebate.

1. Any resident of the Borough of Rockledge who resides in an owned single-family dwelling and said resident is 65 years or older, then a rebate of 20% is to be allowed against the annual charge or rental assessed for the use of the sanitary sewer system. In order to qualify for said rebate, the resident must be 65 years of age or older, be the owner of the property in question, reside at the given address and must qualify for the rebate by making application for same. Said rebate is only for single-family dwellings and may not be applied against a multiple dwelling unit or a business property. An application for said rebate must be filed each year not later than June 15th of the year in question.
2. A rebate of 20% to be allowed against the annual charge or rent assessed for the use of the sanitary sewer system to a resident of the Borough of Rockledge who is 65 years of age or older, is the owner of a two family dwelling or residence, as said term is defined in the Rockledge Zoning Ordinance [Chapter 27], consisting of two units, with the restriction that the person seeking said rebate is 65 years of age or older, is the owner of the two family dwelling or residence, and in fact, resides in one of the units in said two family dwelling or residence and qualifies for said rebate by making application for same. It is the express intention, as stated in this Part, that this rebate will only apply to residents who are owners of single-family dwellings or two family dwelling or residences as defined herein, and said rebate may not be applied against any other multiple dwelling unit(s) or a business property, except as herein stated. Application for rebate must be filed not later than

December 31st of the year prior to the year for which the rebate is being applied for. [Ord. 451]

(Ord. 330, 4/8/1968; as added by Ord. 397, 12/28/1977, §2; as amended by Ord. 451, 12/14/1987, §1)

§18-205. Penalty.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Part shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 30 days. Each day that a violation of this Part continues or each Section of this Part which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 330, 4/8/1968, as amended by Ord. 590, 3/14/2005, §1)

PART 3

WASTEWATER CONTROL REGULATIONS

§18-301. Compliance.

All property owners and businesses which are located within the Borough of Rockledge, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania and which use water which is discharged into the Borough of Rockledge sanitary sewer system, must comply with those wastewater control regulations adopted by the City of Philadelphia Water Department, as herein-after set forth, as the wastewater system located within the Borough of Rockledge is part of a wastewater treatment system owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia, for which all wastewater ultimately is transported to and monitored by the City of Philadelphia's industrial waste division.

(Ord. 550, 8/9/1999, §1)

§18-302. Adoption.

The Borough of Rockledge hereby adopts those wastewater control regulations which are in effect within the City of Philadelphia, which regulations were originally enacted by the City of Philadelphia on June 11, 1990 and as amended June 1, 1993, a true and correct copy of which is attached to this Part¹ and the provisions of which are fully incorporated within this Part, the same as if fully set forth at length herein.

(Ord. 550, 8/9/1999, §2)

§18-303. Enforcement.

The Borough of Rockledge shall fully cooperate with Abington Township and the City of Philadelphia in enforcement of those wastewater control regulations which have been adopted by this Part in reference to enforcement for any failure to comply with said regulations and the imposition of penalties which may be imposed for the violation of said wastewater control regulations.

(Ord. 550, 8/9/1999, §3)

¹ Editor's Note: Wastewater Control Regulations are on file at the Borough office.