

AN ORDINANCE No 96-225-207
ADOPTED SEP 8 1986

To amend and reordain Sections 30-181 and 30-334 of the Code of the City of Richmond of 1985 concerning statements for water and wastewater service and for gas service to authorize sending a single or combined statement for all services.

Patron - City Manager

PUBLIC HEARING SEP 8 1986 4:17 P.M.
Approved as to form and legality
by City Attorney

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Sections 30-181 and 30-334 of the Code of the City of Richmond of 1985 be and are hereby amended and reordained as follows:

**DIVISION 5. CONTRACTS AND ACCOUNTS
FOR WATER AND GAS SERVICE***

**Sec. 30-181. Bureau to bill and collect charges to users, including city departments; when bills to be rendered; failure to receive bills; improper billing; fire hydrant rentals ;
combining statements.**

The bureau of billing and collection shall bill for and collect on behalf of each utility not only

charges due from domestic, commercial and industrial users of its services, but similar charges against the city and each department, board, commission, office and agency thereof, including the school board and each other utility. Bills for service may be rendered monthly or bimonthly, unless otherwise specified in this chapter. Meters will be read, for billing purposes, either monthly or bimonthly, as elected by the director, and readings will be made, as near as practicable, every thirty (30) days for those meters read monthly, and every sixty (60) days for those read bimonthly. Bills rendered during the months between the regular bimonthly meter reading dates will be estimated from the best information available. When the director is unable to read a meter after reasonable effort or due to circumstances beyond his control, the customer's bill shall be estimated from the best information available and the billing adjusted when the meter is read. Failure to receive a bill shall not exempt a customer from liability for payment of bills or from the provisions of this article. It shall be the responsibility of the owner, occupant or consumer to notify the department of failure to receive a bill for any reason and to advise the department whenever it is suspected that charges for gas or water, or both, used, consumed or wasted are improperly billed. The correct charges for gas or water, or both, used, consumed or wasted which have not been billed, or which have been billed improperly shall be determined at the discretion of the director from meter readings, prior average consumption for a period as long as he may deem advisable, or from the best information available to establish such charges. The rates to be charged the city and its departments, boards, commissions, offices and agencies, as above provided, for water and gas shall be the same as those charged to other customers; except, that the charges to be made for the use of water for fire protection shall be in the form of an annual rental, to be paid by the department of safety, for each fire hydrant based on the proportion of the valuation of the water utility properly allocable to fire protection.

For billing purposes, the Director may combine a customer's separate bills for water, sewer and gas services into one consolidated bill. The consolidated bill shall clearly set forth the charges assessed for each service and the Director shall treat the charges assessed for each service as a separate bill for purposes of determining whether a customer's individual residential water service may be discontinued pursuant to Section 30-188(b) or Section 30-338(b) herein and whether a customer's individual residential gas service may be discontinued pursuant to Section 30-189 herein. Upon a customer's request, the Director shall apply the customer's consolidated bill payment toward the customer's separate bills for individual services in any reasonable manner requested by the customer.

Sec. 30-294. When bills for sewer service to be rendered; failure to read meter; failure to receive bill; combining statements.

The director of public utilities shall bill for and collect all charges due. Bills for sewer charges shall be rendered monthly or bimonthly, as elected by the director. When such service charges are based on meter readings, the meters will be read, for billing purposes, as near as practicable, every thirty (30) days for those meters read monthly, and every sixty (60) days for those read bimonthly. Bills rendered during the months between the regular bimonthly meter reading dates will be estimated from the best information available.

When the director of public utilities is unable to read a meter after reasonable effort or due to circumstances beyond his control, the bill shall be estimated from the best information available, and the billing adjusted when the meter is read. Failure to receive a bill shall not exempt a user from liability for payment of bills or from the provisions of this article. It shall be the responsibility of the owner, occupant or user to notify the department of failure to receive a bill for any reason and to advise the department whenever it is suspected that charges for sewer service are improperly billed. The correct charges for sewer service which have not been billed or which have been billed improperly shall be determined at the discretion of the director from water meter readings or sewer meter readings, if applicable, the average amount used on such premises for a period deemed proper by the director of public utilities, or from the best information available to establish such charges.

For billing purposes, the Director may combine a customer's separate bills for water, sewer and gas services into one consolidated bill. The consolidated bill shall clearly set forth the charges assessed for each service and the Director shall treat the charges assessed for each service as a separate bill for purposes of determining whether a customer's individual residential water service may be discontinued pursuant to Section 30-188(b) or Section 30-338(b) herein and whether a customer's individual residential gas service may be discontinued pursuant to Section 30-189 herein. Upon a customer's request, the Director shall apply the customer's consolidated bill payment toward the customer's separate bills for individual services in any reasonable manner requested by the customer.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION SUMMARY
CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

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| Resolution Ordinance No. 86-225 | Subject |
| Requested by City Manager | To Amend Sections 30-181 and 30-334 of Code/Combined Statement for Gas, Water and Wastewater Services |
| Received City Manager's Office | |
| Summarized | |

SUMMARY

This Ordinance would amend and reordain Sections 30-181 and 30-334 of the Code of the City of Richmond, 1985, concerning statements for water, wastewater, and for gas service to authorize sending a single or combined statement for all services.

COUNCIL ACTION

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| On Docket 9/8/86 |
| Amended |
| Adopted |
| Rejected |