

**Summary of the  
VILLAGE OF BEAR LAKE  
WATER ORDINANCE  
Ordinance No. 1 of 2018**

THE VILLAGE OF BEAR LAKE ORDAINS:

ARTICLE I

DEFINITIONS

This article defines the following terms: Building Pipe, Corporation stopcock, DPWE Manager, Debt Service, Meter or Water Meter, Owner, Person, Service Area, Service Pipe, Village, Village Clerk, Village Treasurer, Water Main, Water Use Charge, and Waterworks System.

ARTICLE II

USE OF WATERWORKS REQUIRED

This article prohibits private water wells (except for non-drinking purposes) and requires connection to Village water system for drinking purposes.

ARTICLE III

CONNECTION TO WATERWORKS SYSTEM

This article provides regulation for connecting to the Village water system, including the following: requires a permit from the village before tapping into the water system; authorizes the Village Council to establish permit and inspection fees; provides that the costs of connecting to the water system is borne by the property owner; requires that applicants to tap into the water system submit plans and possible construction schedule for the tap (and provides that approval is contingent on availability in both the water and sewer systems and compliance with plumbing code and Health Department regulations); requires Village employees or approved contractors to tap into water main; specifies cost responsibility for service pipes; requires a separate service pipe for each building receiving water service (except when the buildings are under the same ownership); prohibits cross connections; requires that meters be inside all new buildings, but capable of being read from the outside, and authorizes village to access the meters that are not outside or install a new meter (at the owner's expense) that can be read from the outside; authorizes commercial uses and schools to connect to the water system for purpose of fire suppression; requires village inspections for authorized contractor taps; authorizes use of existing service pipes for new building when the service pipe passes inspection; requires the property owner to maintain the building pipe (but requires authorization from the village); provides regulation for excavations into public streets and alleys; authorizes the owner to install service pipe on private property with inspection by the village; requires the water supervisor to maintain records

of permits issues; and authorizes village water service outside village limits when authorized by the township.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### WATER USE REGULATIONS

This article provides water use regulations, including the following: prohibits a person receiving water service to provide that service to another person (except with permission from the village); and requires water conservation in emergency or draught conditions.

#### ARTICLE V

##### EXTENSION OF WATER MAINS

This article provides regulations for the extension of water service, including the following: requires a property owner to file an application for the water service extension and to pay the required fee; provides that the village may extend water service by either and extension of the service pipe or the water main (and provides standards for exercising that discretion); requires a property owner outside the village to comply with the ordinance; requires that the extension be within streets, alleys, or utility easements granted to the village; provides how the costs of the extension will be allocated between the property owner and the village; authorizes the village council to extend water service utilizing a special assessment district; and authorizes additional property owners to tap into the water service and to reimburse the original property owner a portion of the costs for the extension.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICES

This article provides regulations for water service charges, including the following: provides that the water service be operated and maintained on a public utility bases with a specified operating year; requires the users of the water service to pay user charges (based on water usage), tap-in fees, and other charges established by the village council; prohibits the free use of water; requires the village auditor to review user charges annually; requires quarterly water bills; allows a user to have a water meter tested for accuracy; and requires a separate fund for water service revenue.

#### ARTICLE VII

##### PROTECTION FROM DAMAGES

This article provides regulations to prohibit damage to the waterworks system and water meters; prohibits the unauthorized use or tampering with curb stops; prohibits the unauthorized opening of fire hydrants; and provides penalties for such violations.

## ARTICLE VIII

### PROTECTION OF POTABLE WATER SUPPLY

This article provides regulations and penalties to protect the quality of the water service system, including the following: prohibits the introduction of any substance that with the intent to cause harm to the water supply; and requires the village to monitor water quality.

## ARTICLE IX

### ENFORCEMENT

This article provides for enforcement and penalties for violations of the ordinance, including the following: provides that delinquent water charges become a lien on the property; authorizes the village to shut off water service if the water bill is more than two months delinquent and authorizes the village not to reestablish water service until all charges have been paid; provides that the village is not liable for any failure or deficiency in the water supply; authorizes village employees to access property to read meters and inspecting water system; provides for a civil fine of not more than \$500 for violations of the ordinance; and authorizes the village to take legal action for violations of the ordinance.

## ARTICLE X

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

This article provides the following miscellaneous matters: the repeal of all prior water ordinances; that the provisions of the ordinance are legally severable; and the effective date of the ordinance.

VILLAGE OF BEAR LAKE

By: Jeff Bair, President

By: Cindi McPherson, Clerk

NOTICE: Please take note that a true copy of the ordinance can be inspected or obtained at the office of the Village Clerk.