

24.

**ORDINANCE REGULATING USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS**

- a. **Art. III, Section 7 amended by Ordinance #27**
- b. **Art. III, Section 5 amended by Ordinance #31**
- c. **Art. III, Section 7 further amended by Ordinance #32**
- d. **Art. III, Section 9 amended by Ordinance #40**
- e. **Art. III, Section 13, amended by Ordinance #41**
- f. **Art. III, Section 4 amended by Ordinance #42**

On Ordinance regulating the use of Public Sewers and Drains, the Installation and Connection of Building Sewers, and the Discharge of Waters and Wastes into the Public Sewer System(s); and providing Penalties for Violations thereof; in the Town of Plainfield, County of Windham aim State of Connecticut.

BOOK F

Pages 305-310

May 25, 1970

The following ordinance was adopted at a Special Town Meeting of the Town of Plainfield held on May 25, 1970.

**ARTICLE I  
DEFINITIONS**

Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the meaning of terms used in this ordinance shall be as follows:

SECTION 1. "BOD" (Denoting Biochemical Oxygen Demands) shall mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five (5) days at 20-degree C, expressed in milligrams per liter.

SECTION 2. "Building Drain" shall mean that part of the lowest horizontal piping of a drainage system which receives the discharge from soil, waste, and other drainage pipes inside the walls of the building and conveys it to the building sewer, beginning five (5) feet (1.5 meters) outside the inner face of the building wall.

SECTION 3. "Building Sewer" shall mean the extension from the building drain to the public sewer or other place of disposal.

SECTION 4. "Combined Sewer" shall mean a sewer receiving both surface runoff and sewage.

SECTION 5. "Garbage" shall mean solid wastes from the domestic and commercial preparation, cooking, and dispensing of food, and from the handling, storage and sale of produce.

SECTION 6. "Industrial Wastes" shall mean the liquid wastes from industrial manufacturing processes, trade or business as distinct from sanitary sewage.

SECTION 7. "Natural Outlet" shall mean any outlet in a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake, or other body of surface or groundwater.

SECTION 8. "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, company, association, society, corporation, or group.

SECTION 9. "ph" shall mean the logarithm of the reciprocal of the weight of hydrogen ions in grams per liter of solution.

SECTION 10. "Properly Shredded Garbage" shall mean the wastes from the preparation cooking, and dispensing of food that have been shredded to such a degree that all particles will be carried freely under the flow conditions normally prevailing in public sewers, with no particle greater than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) inch (1.27 centimeters) in any dimension.

SECTION 11. "Public Sewer" shall mean a sewer which all owners of abutting properties have equal rights, and is controlled by public authority.

SECTION 12. "Sanitary Sewer" shall mean a sewer which carries sewage and to which storm, surface, and groundwaters are not intentionally admitted.

SECTION 13. "Sewage" shall mean a combination of the water-carried wastes from residences, business buildings, institutions, and industrial establishments, together with such ground, surface and stormwaters as may be present.

SECTION 14. "Sewage Treatment Plant" shall mean any arrangement of devices and structures used for treating sewage.

SECTION 15. "Sewage Works" shall mean all facilities for collecting pumping, treating, and disposing of sewage.

SECTION 16. "Sewer" shall mean a pipe or conduit for carrying sewage.

SECTION 17. "Shall" is mandatory; "May" is permissive.

SECTION 18. "Slug" shall mean any discharge of water, sewage or industrial waste which in concentration of any given constituent or in quantity of flow exceeds for any period of duration longer than fifteen (15) minutes more than five (5) times the average twenty-four (24) hour concentration or flows during normal operation.

SECTION 19. "Storm Drain" (sometimes termed "storm sewer") shall mean a sewer which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and industrial wastes, other than unpolluted cooling water.

SECTION 20. "Superintendent" shall mean the (Superintendent of Sewage Works and/or of Water Pollution Control) of the Town of Plainfield, or his authorized deputy, agent, or representative.

SECTION 21. "Suspended Solids" shall mean solids that either float on the surface of, or are in suspension in water sewage, or other liquids, and which are removable by laboratory filtering.

SECTION 22. "Watercourse" shall mean a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently.

## **ARTICLE II USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS REQUIRED**

SECTION 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit or permit to be deposited in any unsanitary manner on public or private property within the Town of Plainfield, or in any area under the jurisdiction of said Town any human excrement, garbage, or other objectionable waste.

SECTION 2. It shall be unlawful to discharge to any natural outlet within the Town of Plainfield, or in any area under the jurisdiction of said Town, any sewage or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with subsequent provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 3. The owner of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purposes, situated within the town and abutting on any street, alley, or right-of-way in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public sanitary or combined sewer of the town, is hereby required at his exptnse to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance, within ninety (90) days after date of official notice to do so, provided that said public sewer is within one hundred (100) feet (30.5 meters) of the property line.

SECTION 4. At such time as a public sewer becomes available to a property served by a private sewage disposal system, a direct connection shall be made to the public sewer in compliance with this ordinance, and any septic tanks, cesspools, and similar private sewage disposal facilities shall be abandoned for use as a sewer system.

SECTION 5. No statement contained in this article shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the director of health.

SECTION 6. When a public sewer becomes available, the building sewer shall be connected to said sewer within ninety (90) days and after official notice, and the private sewage disposal system shall be cleaned of sludge and filled with clean bank-run gravel or dirt, unless it is to be used as a dry well.

## **ARTICLE III BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS**

SECTION 1. No unauthorized persons shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the (Superintendent).

SECTION 2. There shall be two (2) classes of building sewer permits. (a) for residential and commercial service, and (b) for service to establishments producing industrial wastes. In either case, the owner or his agent shall make application on a special form furnished by the town. The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the (Superintendent). A permit and inspection fee of ten (10) dollars for a residential or commercial building sewer permit and twenty-five (25) dollars plus engineering and consultation fees if necessary, for an industrial building sewer permit shall be paid to the town at the time of the filing of the application.

SECTION 3. All costs and expense incident to the installation and connection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the town from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.

SECTION 4. A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building; except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard or driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer.

SECTION 5. Old building sewers may be used in connection with new building only when they are found on examination and test by the Superintendent, to meet all requirements of this ordinance.

SECTION 6. The size, slope, alignment, materials of construction of a building sewer and the methods to be used in excavating placing of the pipe, jointing, testing, and backfilling the trench, shall all conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable rules and regulations of the town. In the absence of code provisions or in amplification thereof the materials and procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the A.S.T.M. AND W.P.C.F. Manual of Practice No. 9 shall apply.

SECTION 7. Whenever possible, the building sewer shall be brought to the building at an elevation below the basement floor. In all buildings in which any building drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such building drain shall be lifted by an approved means and discharged to the building sewer.

SECTION 8. No person shall make connection of roof downspouts, exterior foundation drains, areaway drains, or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a building sewer or building drain which in turn is connected directly or indirectly to public sanitary sewer.

SECTION 9. No building sewer may be located within twenty-five (25) feet of a private well, nor within one hundred (100) feet to a public well.

SECTION 10. Building sewers shall not be located within twenty-five (25) to seventy-five (75) feet distance from a private well except as approved by the local Director of Health

SECTION 11. Building sewers which must be located within 25 to 75 feet from a private well shall be either cast iron pipe with leaded joints, asbestos cement pipe with standard o-ring gaskets, or clay pipe with type III joints. In any case, the pipe shall be tested to assure a leakage not to exceed 50 gallons, per mile, per inch per day tested at a minimum hydraulic head of at least 2 feet.

SECTION 12. The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable rules and regulations of the town or the procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the A.S.T.M and the W.P.C.F. Manual of Practice No. 9. All such connections shall be made gas tight and watertight. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the (Superintendent) before installation.

SECTION 13. Building sewers shall be installed without 90 degrees and short-body bends and shall be installed with tees or bends so located as to afford facilities for hydraulic or pneumatic testing of the entire sewer.

SECTION 14. The applicant for the building sewer permit shall notify the (Superintendent) when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of the (Superintendent) or his representative.

SECTION 15. All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the town.

#### **ARTICLE IV USE OF THE PUBLIC SEWERS**

SECTION 1. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surfacewater, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer.

SECTION 2. Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as combined sewers or storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the (Superintendent). Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged, on approval of the (Superintendent), to storm water combined sewer or natural outlet.

SECTION 3. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewers:

- A. Any gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil, or flammable or explosive liquid, solids or gas.
- B. Any waters or wastes containing toxic or poisonous solids, liquids, or gases in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any sewage treatment process constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a public

nuisance, or create any hazard in the receiving waters of the sewage treatment plant, including but not limited to changes in excess of two (2) mg-1 as CN in the wastes as discharged to the public sewer.

- C. Any waters or wastes having a ph lower than (5.5), or having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and personnel of the sewage works.
- D. Solid or viscous substances in quantities or of such size capable of causing obstruction to the flow in sewers, or other interference with the proper operation of the sewage works such as, but not limited to ashes, cinders, sand, mud, straw, shavings, metal, glass, rags, feathers, tar, plastics, wood, unground garbage, whole blood, paunch manure, hair and fleshings, entrails and paper dishes, cups, milk containers, etc. either whole or ground by garbage grinders.

SECTION 4. No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged the following described' substances, materials, waters or wastes, if it appears likely in the opinion of the (Superintendent) that such wastes can harm either the sewers, sewage treatment process, or equipment, have an adverse effect on the receiving stream, or can otherwise endanger life, limb, public property, or constitute a nuisance. In forming his opinion as to the acceptability of these wastes, the (Superintendent) will give consideration to such factors as the quantities of subject wastes in relation to flows and velocities in the sewers, materials of construction of the sewers, nature of the sewage treatment process, capacity of the sewage treatment plant, degree of treat-ability of wastes in the sewage treatment plant, and other pertinent factors. The substances prohibited are:

- a. Any liquid or vapor having a temperature higher than one hundred fifty (150) degrees Fahrenheit (65, decree Centigrade).
- b. Any water or waste fats, wax, grease, or oils whether emulsified or not, in excess of one hundred (100) mg-1 or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two (32) and one hundred fifty (150) degrees F (0 and 65 degrees C.)
- c. Any garbage that has not been properly shredded. The installation and operation of any garbage grinder equipped with a motor of three-fourths horsepower (0.76 hp metric) or greater shall be subject to the review and approval of the (Superintendent).
- d. Any waters or wastes containing strong acid iron pickling wastes, or concentrated plating solutions whether neutralized or not.
- e. Any waters or wastes containing iron, chromium, copper, zinc, and similar objectionable or toxic substances; or wastes exerting an excessive chlorine requirement, to such degree that any such material received in the composite sewage at the sewage treatment works exceeds the limits established by the (Superintendent) for such materials.
- f. Any waters or wastes containing phenols or other taste or odor-producing substances, in such concentrations exceeding limits which may be established by the (Superintendent) as necessary, after treatment of the composite sewage, to meet the requirements of the State, Federal, or other public agencies of jurisdiction for such discharge to the receiving waters.
- g. Any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the (Superintendent) in compliance with applicable State or Federal regulations.

- h. Any waters or wastes having a ph in excess of (9.5).
- i. Materials which exert or cause:
  - 1. Unusual concentrations of inert suspended solids (such as, but not limited to, Fullers earth, lime slurries, and lime residues) or dissolved solids (such as, but not limited to, sodium, chloride and sodium sulfate).
  - 2. Excessive discoloration (such as, but not limited to, dyewastes and vegetable tanning solutions).
  - 3. Unusual BOD, chemical oxygen demand, or chlorine requirements in such quantities as to constitute a significant load on the sewage treatment works.
  - 4. Unusual volume of flow or concentration of wastes constituting "slugs" as defined herein.
- j. Waters or wastes containing substances which are not amenable to treatment or reduction by the sewage treatment processes employed, or are amenable to treatment only to such degree that the sewage treatment plant effluent cannot meet the requirements of other agencies having jurisdiction over discharge to the receiving waters.

SECTION 5. If any waters or wastes are discharged, or are proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which waters contain the substances or possess the characteristics enumerated in Section 4 of this Article, and which in the judgment of the (Superintendent), may have a deleterious effect upon the sewage works, processes, equipment, or receiving waters, or which otherwise create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the (Superintendent) may:

- a. Reject the wastes
- b. Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewers
- c. Require payment to cover the added cost of handling and treating the wastes not covered by existing taxes or sewer charges under the provisions of Section 10 of this article, and/or
- d. Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge. If the (Superintendent) permits the pretreatment or equalization of waste flows, the design and installation of the plants and equipment shall be subject to the review and approval of the (Superintendent) and subject to the requirements of all applicable codes, ordinances, and laws

SECTION 6. Grease, oil, and sand interceptors shall be provided when, in the opinion of the (Superintendent), they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease in excessive amounts, or any flammable wastes, sand, or other harmful ingredients; except that such interceptors shall not be required for private living quarters or dwelling units. All interceptors shall be of a type and capacity approved by the (Superintendent), and shall be located as to be readily and easily accessible for cleaning and inspection

SECTION 7. Where preliminary treatment or flow-equalizing facilities are provided for any waters or wastes they shall be maintained continuously in satisfactory and effective operation by the owner at his expense

SECTION 8. When required by the (Superintendent), the owner of any property serviced by a building sewer carrying industrial wastes shall install a suitable control manhole together with such necessary meters, and other appurtenances in the building sewer to facilitate observation,

sampling, and measurement of the wastes. Such manhole, constructed in accordance with plans approved by the (Superintendent). The manhole shall be installed by the owner at his expense, and shall be maintained by him so as to be safe and accessible at all times

SECTION 9. All measurements, tests, and analyses of the characteristics of waters and wastes to which reference is made in this ordinance shall be determined in accordance with the latest edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater," published by the American Public Health Association, and shall be determined at the control manhole provided, or upon suitable samples taken at said control manhole. In the event that no special manhole has been required, the control manhole shall be considered to be the nearest downstream manhole in the public sewer to the point at which the building sewer is connected. Sampling shall be carried out by customarily accepted methods to reflect the effect of constituents upon the sewage works and to determine the existence of hazards of life, limb, and property. (The particular analyses involved will determine whether a twenty-four (24) hour composite of all outfalls of a premise is appropriate or whether a grab sample or samples should be taken. Normally, but not always, BOD and suspended solids and an analyses are obtained from (24) hour composites of all outfalls whereas ph's are determined from periodic grab samples.)

SECTION 10. No statement contained in this article shall be construed as preventing any special agreement or arrangement between the town and any industrial concern whereby an industrial waste of unusual strength or character may be accepted by the town for treatment, subject to payment therefore, by the industrial concern

## **ARTICLE V PROTECTION FROM DAMAGE**

SECTION 1. No unauthorized person shall maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface, or tamper with any structure, appurtenance, or equipment which is a part of the sewage works. Any person violating this provision shall be subject to immediate arrest under charge of disorderly conduct.

## **ARTICLE VI POWERS AND AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS**

SECTION 1. The (Superintendent) and other duly authorized employees of the town bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all properties for the purposes of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, and testing in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance. The (Superintendent) or his representatives shall have no authority to inquire into any processes including metallurgical, chemical, oil, refining, ceramic, paper, or other industries beyond that point having a direct bearing on the kind and source of discharge to the sewers or waterways or facilities for waste treatment.

SECTION 2. While performing the necessary work on private properties referred to in Article VI, Section 1 above, the (Superintendent) or dully authorized employees of the Town shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the company and the company shall be held harmless for injury or death to the town employees and the town shall indemnify



the company against loss or damage to its property by town employees and against liability claims and demands for personal injury or property damage asserted against the company and growing out of the gauging and sampling operation, except as such may be caused by negligence or failure of the company to maintain safe conditions as required in Article IV, Section 8.

SECTION 3. The (Superintendent) and other duly authorized employees of the town bearing proper credentials and identification shall be permitted to enter all properties through which the town holds a duly negotiated easement for the purposes of, but not limited to, inspection, observation, measurement, sampling, repair, and maintenance of any portion of the sewage works lying within said easement. All entry and subsequent work, if any, on said easement shall be done in full accordance with the terms of the duly negotiated easement pertaining to the private property involved.

## **ARTICLE VII PENALTIES**

SECTION 1. Any person found to be violating any provision of this ordinance except Article VI shall be served by the town with written notice stating the nature of the violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. The offender shall, within the Period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease all violations.

SECTION 2. Any person who shall continue any violation beyond the time limit provided for in Article VII, Section 1, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined in the amount not exceeding twenty-five (25) dollars for each violation. Each day in which any such violation shall continue shall be deemed a separate offense.

SECTION 3. Any person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall become liable to the town for any expense, loss, or damage occasioned the town by reason of such violation.

## **ARTICLE VIII VALIDITY**

SECTION 1. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. The invalidity of any section, clause, sentence, or provisions of this ordinance shall not affect the validity of any other part of this ordinance which can be given effect without such invalid part or parts.

## **ARTICLE IX ORDINANCE IN FORCE**

SECTION 1. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, recording, and publication as provided by law.

SECTION 2. To see if the town will vote to adopt the following ordinance.

The Clerk of the Town of Plainfield, Sewer Authority shall be designated as Collector of Sewerage System, connection and use charges of the Town of Plainfield Sewerage System.

This Ordinance became effective fifteen (15) days after publication. Published May 27, 1970 in The Journal Press.