

CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA  
ORDINANCE NO. 89-24(A)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA,  
AMENDING CHAPTER 13.28, WATER SYSTEMS OF THE HOMER  
CITY CODE TO REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OF A PRESSURE  
REGULATOR ON CERTAIN INCOMING SERVICE LINES; TO  
ESTABLISH MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR BACKFLOW AND  
CROSS-CONNECTION PREVENTION; AND TO MAKE THE  
CITY CODE CONSISTENT WITH THE STATE PLUMBING CODE.

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department of the City of Homer has recently conducted tests in certain residences served by the municipal water system to determine the cause of high pressure water hammer experienced in such residences, and

WHEREAS, the tests carried out by the Department indicate that similar water hammer characteristics exist in residences with high water system pressure, and

WHEREAS, there is at present no requirement in the municipal code for installation of a regulator on service lines carrying water at higher pressures, and

WHEREAS, such a requirement is necessary for the protection of properties served by high pressure water distribution systems, and

WHEREAS, the city code currently in effect is not consistent with existing State plumbing codes and in certain instances exceeds the requirements of the State and codes adopted by other Alaskan municipalities, and

WHEREAS, the 1979 Uniform Plumbing Code adopted by the State, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation regulations, and the Anchorage Municipal Code do not require backflow prevention devices on residential water service connection unless a specific portion of the system has a cross-connection or pollution potential, and

WHEREAS, the Uniform Plumbing Code requires backflow prevention on all boiler make up water feed systems, whether residential, industrial or commercial, and

WHEREAS, a substantial and unnecessary financial burden may result from the city code provisions as presently worded, and

WHEREAS, clarification is also required regarding the right of the City of Homer to inspect and review plumbing plans for conformance with the Homer City Code Chapter 13.28 and to require or perform testing when determined to be necessary for operational compliance.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA, HEREBY ORDAINS that :

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of Section 13.28.050, Water Meter Installation, of the Homer City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

e. The shutoff valve shall be installed immediately before the meter on the incoming service line for customer use.

A pressure regulator provided by the City must also be installed between this valve and the meter on all installations with a distribution system pressure of more than eighty pounds per square inch (80 P.S.I.) and the pressure must be regulated at sixty pounds per square inch (60 P.S.I.) or less.

Section 2. Section 13.28.060, Backflow and Cross-Connection prevention of the Homer City Code is hereby repealed and re-enacted to read as follows:

a. All connections to the public potable water system shall have an approved backflow-prevention device where required in accordance with the minimum requirements listed below.

b. All devices recommended in this section are minimum standards and thus the requirements for backflow-prevention may be made more stringent should the Public Works Director deem it necessary or appropriate.

c. The location and type of the backflow-prevention devices shall be approved by the Public Works Inspector.

d. All backflow-prevention devices or the installation of the devices, excepting residences (single, family and duplex), shall include test cocks and shutoff valves for testing the device for correct and continuous function. Annual tests shall be made to verify that the device is functioning correctly and continuously. The owner shall be responsible for making these tests and for the maintenance of the device and shall maintain a record of these tests in a form suitable to the city and shall submit the records to City upon request.

e. The City has the right to inspect all installations and structures, and to review plumbing plans to determine compliance with the backflow and cross-connection prevention requirements. The City has the right to reject the devices or installations not in compliance with the requirements and has the right to disapprove the plumbing plans if not in compliance with the requirements.

f. All boiler make up water feed systems must have an approved reduced-pressure type backflow-prevention device.

g. Minimum requirements for backflow-prevention:

<u>Structure of System</u>	<u>Recommended Device</u>
1. Residences (single-family and duplex)	Single check valve at meter and a reduced-pressure/air break vented device (Watts series 9D or equal), at boiler feed line.

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| 2.  | Hotels, apartments, public private buildings   | Air-gap separation or reduced-pressure device or double check valve, depending on the situation. |
| 3.  | Canneries, packing houses and reduction plants   | Air-gap separation or reduced-pressure device.   |
| 4.  | Chemical plants  | (Same as above.)   |
| 5.  | Chemically contaminated water systems  | (Same as above.)   |
| 6.  | Civil works  | Air-gap separation or reduced-pressure device or double check valve, depending on the situation. |
| 7.  | Dairies and cold storage plants  | (Same as above.)   |
| 8.  | Film laboratories  | Air-gap separation or reduced-pressure device.   |
| 9.  | Fire systems   | Air-gap separation or reduced-pressure device or double check valve, depending on the situation. |
| 10. | Hospitals, medical buildings, sanitariums, morgues, mortuaries, autopsy facilities, nursing and convalescent homes and clinics | (Same as above.)   |
| 11. | Waterfront facilities and industries   | (Same as above.)   |
| 12. | Oil and gas production storage or transmission properties  | Air-gap separation or reduced-pressure device.   |
| 13. | Plating plants   | (Same as above.)   |
| 14. | Power plants   | (Same as above.)   |
| 15. | Radioactive materials or substances plants or facilities handling  | (Same as above.)   |
| 16. | Restricted, classified to other closed facilities  | (Same as above.)   |

- 17. Schools and colleges (Same as above.)
- 18. Sewage and storm drain facilities (Same as above.)

h. All devices must be approved by the State and the Public Works Department.  
 i. All installations shall be done to conform to all applicable City and State building and plumbing codes.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect 10 days after enactment.

ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 1989.

THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA

*John P. Calhoun*  
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 JOHN P. CALHOUN, MAYOR

AYES: 4  
 NOES: -0-  
 ABSENT: 2  
 ABSTAIN: -0-

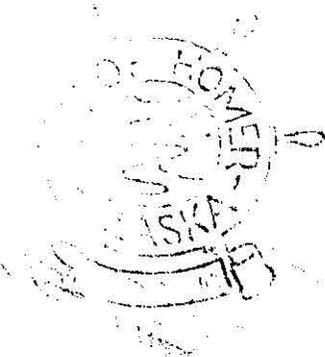
ATTEST:

*Patti J. Whalin*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Patti J. Whalin, CMC  
 City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

PERKINS COIE, Attorneys  
 for the City of Homer, Alaska  
*Gordon J Tans*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gordon J Tans  
 City Attorney

(City Seal)



Introduced by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Introduction Date: 9/25/89  
 Public Hearing & Enactment Date: 10/9/89 / 10/23/89