

Chapter 24 SEWERS*

***Cross reference(s)**--Buildings and building regulations, Ch. 6; disposal of wastes by food service establishments, § 11-26; land use, Ch. 14; streets, sidewalks and other public places, Ch. 25.

State law reference(s)--Sewers and drains, 30 M.R.S.A. § 4351 et seq.

- Art. I. In General, §§ 24-1--24-15
- Art. II. Sewer Construction, §§ 24-16--24-30
- Art. III. Sewer Use Regulations, §§ 24-31--24-70
- Art. IV. Sewer Use Charges, §§ 24-71--24-77

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

- Sec. 24-1. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-2. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-3. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-4. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-5. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-6. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-7. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-8. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-9. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-10. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-11. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-12. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-13. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-14. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-15. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. SEWER CONSTRUCTION

Sec. 24-16. Accepted streets.

When any person owning property on an accepted street shall petition for the construction of a sewer in the street, such sewer may be constructed under one (1) of the following arrangements at the option of the petitioner, subject to the approval of the public

works authority:

- (a) Upon authorization by the city council, the sewer shall be constructed by the city, the cost of a sanitary, combined or interceptor sewer to be recovered in part as hereinafter provided; or
- (b) The petitioner may cause the sewer to be built to the specifications of the public works authority and under his or her supervision, with or without regard to competitive bids. Upon completion of the sewer, the city shall be reimbursed in full for its costs, including engineering and inspection, and the sewer shall be deeded to the city as a public sewer at no cost to the city.

(Code 1968, § 704.1; Ord. No. 101-81, §§ 1--3, 9-21-81)

Sec. 24-17. Dedicated streets.

When any person owning property on a street, which prior to July 7, 1948, has been dedicated, constructed and used for public travel but has not been accepted by the city, shall petition for the construction of a sewer in the street, such sewer may be constructed under one (1) of the following arrangements at the option of the petitioner, subject to the approval of the public works authority:

- (a) Upon authorization by the city council, the sewer shall be constructed by the city, the cost of a sanitary, combined or interceptor sewer to be recovered in part as hereinafter provided; or
- (b) The petitioner may cause the sewer to be built to the specifications of the public works authority and under his or her supervision, with or without regard to competitive bids. Upon completion of the sewer, the city shall be reimbursed in full for its costs, including engineering and inspection, and at such time as the street is accepted by the city, the sewer shall be deeded to the city as a public sewer at no cost to the city.

(Code 1968, § 704.2; Ord. No. 101-81, §§ 4, 5, 9-21-81)

Sec. 24-18. Initiative of city council.

The city council may, on its own initiative and without petition therefor, authorize construction by the city of sewers in accepted and dedicated-but-unaccepted streets, the cost of a

sanitary, combined or interceptor sewer to be recovered in part as hereinafter provided.

(Ord. No. 101-81, § 6, 9-21-81)

Sec. 24-19. Costs.

(a) A charge is hereby established for the connection heretofore or hereafter of any property to a sanitary, combined or interceptor sewer constructed by the city or the Portland Water District and completed on or after January 1, 1978. Such charge shall be due and payable upon application for a connection permit as provided in section 24-39, and except for connections made before November 15, 1981, shall be in lieu of all other charges related thereto, including the fee for the connection permit and street and sidewalk opening charges as provided in section 25-156, provided that connection is made in accordance with article III of this chapter. This section shall not apply to any property assessed for the cost of sewer construction according to law.

(b) For any such sewer completed heretofore, the charge shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per each connection made heretofore or hereafter but before November 15, 1981, and one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per each such connection made thereafter.

(c) For any such sewer completed hereafter, the charge shall be two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) per each such connection, provided that the city council may, from time to time, by order readjust the charge according to the then-prevailing cost of sewer construction and the anticipated number of such connections.
(Ord. No. 101-81, § 7, 9-21-81)

Cross reference(s)--Uniform procedure for collecting assessments, § 1-16.

- Sec. 24-20. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-21. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-22. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-23. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-24. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-25. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-26. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-27. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-28. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-29. Reserved.**
- Sec. 24-30. Reserved.**

ARTICLE III. SEWER USE REGULATIONS*

***Editor's note--**Ord. No. 263-96, passed May 20, 1996, amended this article in its entirety, in effect repealing the former provisions and enacting similar new provisions as herein set out. Formerly, such provisions pertained to sewer use regulations, consisted of substantive §§ 24-31--24-60, and derived from §§ 309.1--309.29 of the 1968 Code, as amended by the following legislation:

| Ord. No. | Sec. | Date | Ord. No. | Sec. | Date |
|----------|------------------|----------|----------|------|---------|
| 13-76 | -- | 10- 6-76 | 221-88 | 1 | 1- 4-88 |
| 154-79 | -- | 3-19-79 | 228-88 | 1 | 2- 1-88 |
| 355-84 | 1--14, 16, 17 | 1- 4-84 | 77-91 | -- | 8- 7-91 |
| 317-87 | 1 | 2- 2-87 | 37-93 | -- | 7- 7-93 |

Sec. 24-31. Scope.

The provisions of this article shall apply to and govern all types of buildings requiring sanitary facilities; the excavation, construction, installation, usage, maintenance, extension, alteration, repair or removal of any building sewer, building storm drain, sanitary sewer system, or storm drainage or sewer system; the connection of building sewers and building storm drains to sanitary sewer systems, storm drainage systems or combined sewers; the types of wastes or wastewaters prohibited from public sewers and storm drainage systems; permitted and prohibited concentrations and strengths of wastewater; and situations in which use of a private sewage disposal system is permissible.
(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-32. Intent and purpose.

(a) It shall be the intent and purpose of this article to eliminate existing pollution, and to prevent further pollution

caused by inadequate wastewater disposal, and to accomplish the necessary local legislation to meet the pollution abatement schedule for the Portland Regional Wastewater Plan established by the state and the federal government. All this is in furtherance of the health, welfare, comfort and convenience of the inhabitants of the city.

(b) Whereas the Portland Water District has been designated by state legislative action and local public referendum as the regional agency responsible for interception and wastewater treatment, and is the owner and operator of the POTW treatment plant, none of the provisions of this article shall be construed to repeal or otherwise interfere with the rights, duties or powers granted to the Portland Water District pursuant to Chapter 433 of the private and special laws of the State of Maine of 1907, as amended.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-32.1. Administration.

(a) The director of the public works authority shall establish rules and regulations governing the availability and use of city wastewater collection and treatment facilities. The rules and regulations shall be consistent with federal law and ordinances. Said rules shall be enacted in conjunction with the Portland Water District prior to enactment.

(b) The rules shall be enacted in the same manner as the rules for solid waste disposal are promulgated, prescribed in section 12-105(b) and (b.1) of this Code, with the exception that the rules will go into effect twenty (20) days after enactment by the director unless stayed by action of the city council. Proposed rules shall be delivered to the council as a communication prior to enactment.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-33. Enforcing officer.

The public works authority or the Portland Water District as agent for the city and at the request of the public works authority, shall administer and enforce the provisions of this article.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-34. Definitions.

For the purposes of this article, all words shall have their normal meanings and such meanings as may be in common use in the field of sanitation and wastewater treatment. Certain words are more particularly defined. For the purposes of this article, the term:

Act shall mean the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, as amended, U.S.C. § 1251 et seq., 86 Stat. 816, PL 92-500 and the regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended from time to time.

B.O.D. (denoting biochemical oxygen demand) shall mean the quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure in five (5) days at twenty (20) degrees Celsius, expressed in milligrams per liter.

Building shall mean a structure built, erected and framed of component structural parts designed for the housing, shelter, enclosure or support of persons, animals or property of any kind.

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, which begins eight (8) feet outside the outer face of the building wall.

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

Categorical industrial user shall mean an industrial user subject to national categorical pretreatment standards.

Caustic alkalinity (hydroxide alkalinity) shall mean a measure of the capacity of wastewater, which exhibits a pH of greater than or equal to 8.3, to neutralize acids.

Combined sewer shall mean a sewer receiving both surface runoff and wastewater.

C.O.D. (chemical oxygen demand) shall mean the measure of the oxygen required for oxidation of the organic matter in a sample that can be oxidized by a strong chemical oxidizing agent under standard laboratory procedure.

District shall mean the Portland Water District, a quasi-municipal corporation existing pursuant to Chapter 84 of the

Private and Special Laws of Maine of 1975, as amended, with a business address of 225 Douglas Street, Portland, Maine.

Domestic wastewater shall mean the liquid wastes and liquid borne wastes discharged from the sanitary conveniences such as toilets, washrooms, urinals, sinks, showers, drinking fountains, home laundry rooms, kitchens, and floor drains essentially free of industrial wastes or toxic materials.

F.O.G. shall mean the measure of fats, wax, grease and oils (other than petroleum based materials).

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

Incompatible pollutant is defined as any pollutant other than biochemical oxygen demand, suspended solids, pH, and fecal coliform bacteria or additional pollutants identified in the POTW's NPDES permit to discharge, which the POTW was not designed to treat and does not remove to a substantial degree or may be toxic to the POTW or receiving water.

Industrial user shall mean a source of indirect discharge or any source which discharges industrial waste to the facility.

Industrial waste shall mean any liquid, gaseous, or solid waste substance, or a combination thereof, resulting from any process of industry, manufacturing, trade, or business or from the development or recovery of any natural resources.

Interceptor sewer shall mean a large sewer used to intercept a number of main or trunk sewers and convey wastewater to treatment or other disposal facilities.

Interference means a discharge which, alone or in conjunction with discharges from other sources, inhibits or disrupts the facility, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal, and which is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation), or of the prevention of wastewater sludge use or disposal by the facility in accordance with applicable federal, state, or local statutes and regulations or permits issued thereunder, as set forth in 40 CFR . 403.3(i).

mg/l shall mean milligrams per liter.

National categorical pretreatment standard shall mean any regulations containing pollutant discharge limits promulgated by EPA in accordance with § 307(b) and (c) of the act, which apply to a specific category of industrial users and which are found in 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapter N, Parts 405 through 471.

National pollutant discharge elimination system or *NPDES permit* shall mean a permit issued pursuant to § 402 of the act, 33 USC § 1342, and M.R.S.A. Title 38, § 414-A.

Natural outlet shall mean any outlet into a watercourse, pond, ditch, lake or other body of surface or groundwater.

pH shall mean the logarithm (base 10) of the reciprocal of the concentration of hydrogen ions in a solution expressed as standards units.

POTW (publicly owned treatment works) ("facility") shall mean the treatment works, as defined by § 212 of the act, operated by the Portland Water District. This definition includes any devices and systems used in the storage, treatment, recycling, disposal, and reclamation of wastewater consisting of domestic, commercial, municipal, and industrial wastes of a liquid nature. It also includes those sewers, pipes, pump stations and other conveyances which convey wastewater to the facility and may be owned by the city. For the purposes of this article, POTW shall also include any sewers that convey wastewater to the treatment works from persons who are, by permit, contract, or agreement with the city, users of the facility.

POTW treatment plant shall mean that portion of the facility designed to provide treatment (including recycling and reclamation) of wastewater, municipal wastewater, industrial waste, septage and holding water and other trucked-in wastes as allowed under the provisions of this article.

Private wastewater disposal system shall mean a treatment tank with the effluent discharging into a subsurface absorption area, or such other facilities as may be permitted under the procedures set forth in rules and regulations adopted by the state department of health and welfare pursuant to 22 M.R.S.A. § 42(3), and the city's plumbing code.

Private sewer system shall mean any sewer system within the

city not owned by or being constructed by a public authority.

Private wastewater treatment works shall mean all facilities other than private sewage disposal systems for treating and disposing of wastewater within the city not owned by a public authority. Private wastewater treatment works shall be distinct from private wastewater disposal systems as the effluent is discharged directly into surface water bodies. Private wastewater treatment works shall be licensed by the state department of environmental protection, in accordance with the provisions of 38 M.R.S.A. §§ 413, 414.

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 inch (1.27 centimeters) in any dimension.

Public sewer shall mean a common sewer directly owned, operated or controlled by the city or the Portland Water District.

Sanitary sewer shall mean a sewer that carries liquid and water-carried wastes from residences, commercial buildings, industrial plants and institutions together with minor quantities of ground, storm, and surface waters that are not admitted intentionally.

Sewer shall mean a pipe or conduit for carrying wastewater.

Significant industrial user shall mean any industrial user subject to categorical pretreatment standards, and any other industrial user that discharges an average of twenty-five thousand (25,000) gallons per day or more of process wastewater to the facility (excluding sanitary, noncontact cooling and boiler blowdown wastewater); contributes a process waste stream which makes up five (5) percent or more of the average dry weather hydraulic or organic capacity of the POTW treatment plant; or is designated as such by the city on the basis that the industrial user has a reasonable potential for adversely affecting the facility's operation or for violating any pretreatment standard or requirement; provided, however, that upon a finding that an industrial user meeting the foregoing criteria has no reasonable potential for violating any pretreatment standard or requirement or for adversely affecting the facility's operation, the city may, at any time, upon its own initiative or in response to a petition

received from an industrial user, and in accordance with 40 CFR 403.8(f)(6), determine that such industrial user is not a significant industrial user.

Slug shall mean any discharge of nonroutine, episodic nature, including, but not limited to, an accidental spill, noncustomary batch discharge, or any discharge of wastewater 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-hour concentration or flow rate during normal operation or which may adversely affect the POTW.

Storm drain or *storm sewer* shall mean a sewer for conveying rainwater, groundwater, subsurface water, condensate, cooling water or other similar discharge but which excludes wastewater and polluted industrial wastes.

Total suspended solids (TSS) shall mean the total suspended matter that floats on the surface of, or is suspended in water, wastewater, or other liquids, and which is removable by laboratory filtration.

Wastewater shall mean a combination of the liquid and the water-carried wastes from residences, commercial buildings, institutions and industrial establishments, together with such ground, surface and stormwaters as may be present.

Watercourse shall mean a channel in which a flow of water occurs, either continuously or intermittently on a natural basis.

Westbrook Inter-Municipal Sewer Service Area shall mean the Domestic and sanitary sewage and waste water from the Riverside Street/Warren Avenue/Forest Avenue vicinity of Portland as defined on the plan to the Rules and Regulations enacted by the Public Works Authority, and on file in the Department of Public Works, intercepted by the District and delivered to the existing Westbrook Gorham Regional Treatment Plant for treatment.
(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96; Ord. No. 97-03/04, 12-17-03)

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Cross reference(s)--Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1-2.

Reference - Council Order 54-02/03 § An Order Authorizing Three-Party Sewer Service Agreement with Portland Water District and City of Westbrook).

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Sec. 24-35. Sanitary facilities required.

Every building intended for human habitation, occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes, situated within the city shall be provided with suitable and sufficient sanitary facilities for the use of the occupants thereof, which facilities in character, number and method of installation shall comply with all health laws of the state, ordinances of the city, and rules and regulations of the state bureau of health so far as the same are compatible and not inconsistent.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-36. Connection to public sewer required.

The owner of any building used for human habitation, occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes, situated within the city and abutting on any street, alley or right-of-way in which there is located a public sanitary, combined or interceptor sewer, is hereby required at his expense to connect the building drainage system in the most direct manner possible with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of this article, provided that the public sewer is within two hundred (200) feet of the building (the two hundred (200) feet to be measured in such manner so as not to pass over any property owned privately by anyone other than the owner of the premises from which such measurement is being made). Any required compliance with this section shall be completed within one (1) year after the date of official notice to do so.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-37. Exception for private wastewater system.

Where the public sewer does not extend to within two hundred (200) feet distant from the nearest point of the building (measured as described in section 24-36), the public sewer shall, at such time, be classified as inaccessible with regard to such premises. Where the public sewers are inaccessible to premises, any building required to be provided with sanitary facilities under section 24-35 shall comply with the following:

- (a) The owner may at his own expense connect with the public sewer even though the building is over two hundred (200) feet distant from the public sewer; or
- (b) Where liquid-carried wastes or wastewater result, they

shall discharge into a private wastewater disposal system; or

- (c) Where liquid-carried wastes or wastewater result, they shall discharge into a private wastewater treatment works.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-38. Private wastewater systems discontinued.

(a) At such time as a public sewer becomes accessible, as defined in section 24-36, to a property served by a private wastewater disposal system, direct connection shall be made to the public sewer by the owner of such property in compliance with this article within twelve (12) months of receipt of official notice to do so. At the time that direct connection to the public sewer is completed, use of the private wastewater disposal facilities shall have been discontinued. Such abandoned private wastewater disposal system shall be cleaned of sludge and waste materials and filled with clean bankrun gravel or dirt within thirty (30) days of abandonment.

(b) The closing and filling of the private wastewater disposal system and the connection to the public sewer system shall be inspected by the public works authority. The fee for such inspection shall be a minimum of ten dollars (\$10.00) per septic tank plus ten dollars (\$10.00) per hour for all inspection time exceeding one (1) hour. The permit for the connection to the public sewer is the same as those required under sections 24-39 and 24-42.

(c) No such work may be approved unless notice is given to the public works authority sufficient to permit the inspector to be present at the filling of the private wastewater disposal system and the connection to the public sewer. No new sewer construction or sewer repair or reconstruction may be approved if backfilled and/or covered prior to inspection. No statement contained in this article shall be construed to interfere with any additional requirements that may be imposed by the health authority.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-39. Public sewer connection; permit; fee.

No person shall uncover, make any connections with or openings into, alter or disturb either any public sewer or appurtenance thereof or any private sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the public works authority or the

Portland Water District, if required. The fee for such permit shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00).

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96; Ord. No. 261-01/02, 5-20-02)

Sec. 24-40. Costs.

All costs and expense incidental to the installation, connection and maintenance of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-41. Separate connections required.

A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every new building, and a separate connection shall be made for each building sewer. Old building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when they are found, on examination and test by the public works authority, to meet all requirements of this article.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-42. Defective building sewers to be repaired or replaced.

(a) Whenever any building drain or building sewer connected to the public sewers, or to a private sewer system connected to the public sewers is found to be defective, deteriorating or substandard, the owner of the building served by such building drain or sewer shall be served by the public works authority with written notice stating the nature of the defect and providing a fifteen (15) day period for the satisfactory repair or replacement of such building sewer and requiring the owner to make a new connection to the public sewer at the owner's expense.

(b) All work done pursuant to this section shall be inspected by the public works authority. The fee for such inspection shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), represented by the permit fee required under section 24-39.

(c) *Failure to comply.* When a person to whom an order is directed fails to fully comply within the fifteen (15) day period, it shall be lawful for the city to repair a building drain or building sewer which is located within the public right-of-way, and all costs thereof shall be charged to the owner thereof.

(d) *Lien procedure.* The public works authority shall keep an accurate account of the expense of the work under this article, and

as soon as practicable after completion of such work, the city shall assess to the person(s) upon whom notice has been served pursuant to subsection (a) of this section their just cost thereof, and all assessments so made shall constitute a lien on the property to be enforced in the manner provided for the collection of sewer assessments within the city.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Cross reference(s)--Uniform procedure for collecting assessments, § 1-16.

Sec. 24-43. Methods of construction.

On all work done within the scope of this article, the size, slope, alignment and materials of construction of a building sewer, and the methods to be used in placing of the pipe, jointing, testing and backfilling the trench shall conform to the requirements of the public works authority's building sewer construction specifications. 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, wastewater carried by such building drain shall be lifted by a means subject to the approval of the public works authority and discharged to the building sewer.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-44. Public sewer connection limitations.

(a) No person shall make connection of sanitary conveniences such as toilets, washrooms, urinals, sinks, showers, drinking fountains, kitchens or laundry rooms, nor discharge or cause to be discharged any waste or wastewater to a building's stormwater system or building storm drain which in turn is connected directly or indirectly to a public storm drain.

(b) No person shall make connection of roof downspouts, foundation drains, sump pump, areaway drains or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater, nor discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to a building sewer or building drain which in turn is connected directly or indirectly to a public sanitary sewer.

(c) 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 public works authority. Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged, on approval of the public works authority, to a storm sewer, combined sewer or a natural outlet. (Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-45. Connections to public sewer.

The connection of the building sewer into the public sewer shall be constructed in the following manner:

- (a) The public works authority shall be notified in advance of the time when the connection is to be made. Such notice must be sufficient to permit the public works authority to inspect the building sewer during construction and to be present when the connection is made to the public sewer.
- (b) In the case of new construction, wastewater systems and stormwater drainage systems shall be kept separated from their connections to the proper city sewers.
- (c) The building sewer shall be connected to the public sewer at the point designated by the public works authority.
- (d) No building sewer connection constructed pursuant to this section can be approved if such sewer is backfilled and/or covered prior to inspection. No connection to the public sewer constructed pursuant to this section can be approved if such connection is made other than in the presence of an inspector from the public works authority or the Portland Water District, as required. No such unapproved or unapprovable building sewer in the city may be used, and if the building served by such building sewer is occupied, the owner of such building will be held to be in violation of this section, with each day in which the violation continues deemed to be a separate violation.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-46. Sewer excavations.

(a) All excavations under this article within the public way shall be in accordance with article VII of chapter 25 of this Code.

(b) All excavations for sewer installation shall be made and maintained in compliance with the provisions of the construction

safety rules and regulations of the state, applicable to excavation work.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-47. Prohibited wastes.

(a) No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any waters or wastes prohibited by rule; or:

(1) Any noxious or malodorous gas or substance capable of creating a public nuisance.

(b) The public works authority may, if deemed necessary in his judgment, impose the following limitations on discharges of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewer or any part thereof:

(1) Any aluminum exceeding a concentration of 500 milligrams per liter;

(2) Any iron exceeding a concentration of 10 milligrams per liter;

(3) Any tin exceeding a concentration of 2 milligrams per liter;

(4) Any fluorides exceeding a concentration of 100 milligrams per liter;

(5) Any phenols exceeding a concentration of 100 milligrams per liter;

(6) Any chlorides exceeding a concentration of 3,000 milligrams per liter;

(7) Any sulphates exceeding a concentration of 600 milligrams per liter;

(8) a. Any waters or wastes containing animal or vegetable based fats, wax, grease or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 500 milligrams per liter or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two (32) degrees and one hundred fifty (150) degrees Fahrenheit (zero (0) and sixty-five (65) degrees centigrade).

b. In the Westbrook Intermunicipal Sewer Service Area, any waters or wastes containing animal or vegetable based fats, wax, grease or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 milligrams per liter or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperature between thirty-two (32) degrees and one hundred fifty (150) degrees Fahrenheit (zero (0) and sixty-five (65) degrees centigrade).

b. Any waters or wastes containing hydrocarbon (nonpolar) based fats, wax, grease or oils, whether emulsified or not, in excess of 100 milligrams per liter or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperatures between thirty-two (32) degrees and one hundred fifty (150) degrees Fahrenheit (zero (0) and sixty-five (65) degrees centigrade).

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96; Ord. No. 250-97, 4-9-97; Ord. No. 97-03/04, 12-17-03)

Sec. 24-48. Prohibited wastes permitted how; cost.

(a) If any waters or wastes are discharged, or are proposed to be discharged to the public sewers, which waters or wastes contain any of the substances or possess the characteristics listed in section 24-47, and which in the judgment of the public works authority may have a deleterious effect upon the wastewater works, processes, equipment, or receiving waters, or which otherwise create a hazard to life or constitute a public nuisance, the public works authority may:

- (1) Reject the wastes;
- (2) Require pretreatment to an acceptable condition for discharge to the public sewer as required by rule;
- (3) Require control over the quantities and rates of discharge (flow equalization); and/or
- (4) Require payment to cover the added cost of handling and treating the wastes.

(b) If the public works authority permits or requires pretreatment or waste flow equalization, the design and installation of the plants and equipment shall be subject to its

review and approval subject to the provisions of the state plumbing code, and the provisions of this article

(c) Where preliminary treatment or flow equalizing facilities are provided for any water or wastes, the owner shall bear the cost and responsibility for installing and maintaining them in continuously satisfactory and effective operating condition, as determined by the public works authority.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-49. Separate systems required.

Any person discharging or causing to be discharged into any public sewer both domestic wastewater and industrial wastes from any building or premises shall install separate drainage systems for the domestic wastewater and industrial waste. The control manhole required by rule shall be installed in the industrial waste system; or where two (2) separate systems are required, the two (2) systems may be joined in the control manhole provided that samples of each system can be sampled separately.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-50. Discharge permit.

(a) All categorical users and other dischargers of industrial wastes shall obtain a discharge permit from the public works authority as required by rule. New users shall obtain permits prior to any discharge. Applications and permits shall be in a form prescribed by the public works authority and shall be subject to an application fee of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per permit. Additionally, each permit shall be subject to an issuance fee which shall equal the direct and indirect costs of any previous advertisement of noncompliance and any other outside services which in the discretion of the public works authority are required in order to review and evaluate the application or to implement a pretreatment program for such permitted user.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-51. Public wastewater works not to be damaged.

No person shall break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface or tamper with any structure, appurtenance or equipment which is a part of the public wastewater works system.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-52. Right of entry.

The public works authority, or the Portland Water District as its agent, bearing proper credentials and identification, shall be permitted to enter upon all properties with sewer or storm drainage systems connected to the public sewer and producing industrial or process wastes, at reasonable times and upon reasonable notice for the purpose of inspection, observation, measurement, sampling and testing or otherwise enforce the rule, including copying of reports and records relating to the industrial pretreatment program in accordance with the provisions of this article.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-53. Exclusion of industrial waste.

(a) The public works authority or the Portland Water District shall have authority to temporarily exclude any industrial waste, whether pretreated or not, from the municipal sewers whenever, in its or their opinion, such action is necessary for the purpose of determining the effects of such wastes upon the sewers, wastewater works or wastewater treatment facilities.

(b) The public works authority or the Portland Water District shall notify the affected user prior to taking such actions and shall afford the user a reasonable time for response. The public works authority or the Portland Water District shall have the authority to take actions necessary to halt the discharge of pollutants from any user to the treatment works which reasonably appears to present an imminent endangerment to the health or welfare of persons or the POTW. Such actions shall be preceded by a notification, oral or written, to the user.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-54. Demolition of buildings.

(a) No building served by a building drainage system, sanitary or storm sewer, or both, which is connected to the public sewers or to a private sewer system connected to the public sewers, may be demolished prior to the termination of the building and/or facility sewer or drain at the city sewer under the inspection of the public works authority. The building sewer shall be terminated at the main, at the point designated by the public works authority.

(b) Notice of intent to demolish a building shall be given to the public works authority, by means of a copy of the application for a demolition permit from the building authority or by direct notice to the public works authority, in advance of the time when

the building drain is to be terminated. No such demolition permit shall be issued until a drain termination permit has been issued by the public works authority and a copy thereof has been given to the building authority.

(c) The fee to terminate the building and/or facility sewer and/or drain system will be paid to the city in advance of the termination. The fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) per termination represents inspection fees and materials to terminate sewer service. Upon payment of this fee and approval by the public works authority, the applicant shall be issued a sewer termination permit.

(d) Failure to give notice of intent to demolish a building to the public works authority, or to terminate the building drain prior to demolition thereof, or to obtain a permit therefor, shall be deemed a violation of this section, with each day in which the violation continues deemed to be a separate violation.

(e) All excavation for sewer service termination shall be made and maintained in compliance with all provisions of the construction safety rules and regulations of chapter 25, article VII of this Code.

(f) *Violations.* The property owner who fails to obtain a sewer termination permit and terminate the sewer or drain from the building to be demolished to the city sewer shall be guilty of an offense.

(g) *Failure to comply.* When a person to whom an order is directed fails to terminate a building sewer or drain within a ten-day period, it shall be lawful for the city to terminate the building sewer or drain. All city costs thereof shall be charged to the property owner.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-55. Written notice required.

Forty-five (45) days' written notice shall be given to the public works authority by any person proposing to:

(a) Substantially change the volume or character of pollutants over that being discharged into the treatment system at time of enactment of this article;

(b) Create a new discharge into the treatment system of

pollutants from any source which would be a new source as defined in section 306 of the act if such a source were discharging pollutants elsewhere;

- (c) Create a new discharge into the treatment system of pollutants from any source which would be subject to section 301 of the act if it were discharging such pollutants elsewhere.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-56. Violations.

Any person failing to comply with or violating any provision of this article shall be served by the public works authority with written notice stating the nature of the failure or violation and providing a reasonable time limit for the satisfactory correction thereof. Such person shall, within the period of time stated in such notice, permanently cease or correct all such failures or violations. Any person who shall continue any failure or violation beyond the time limit required for compliance in any notice given pursuant to this section shall be guilty of an offense. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be liable to the city and shall be assessed a civil penalty of a minimum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per day for each violation of industrial pretreatment standards and requirements, and in addition, shall be liable for any expense, loss or damage occasioned by the city by reason of such violation. The city may seek injunctive relief for the purposes of enforcing this article.
(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Sec. 24-57. Appeals.

(a) Whenever the person receiving written notice shall deem himself aggrieved by an order made by the public works authority, the person may file an appeal to the city manager within ten (10) days of the date of the written notice, and the person shall be afforded a hearing on the matter before the city manager or his designee, and unless by their authority the aggrieved order is revoked, such order shall remain in force and be forthwith complied with by the person.

(b) In cases of applicability or interpretation of this article, the city manager may revoke such order made by the public works.

- (c) In cases where compliance with such order made by the

public works authority would cause undue hardship, the city manager may extend the time limit of such order or they may permit exceptions to, or waive requirements of, or grant a variance from the specific provisions of this article, subject always to the rule that the city manager shall give due consideration to the purposes of this article in eliminating existing pollution, preventing further pollution and promoting the public health, safety and welfare.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

- Sec. 24-58. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-59. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-60. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-61. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-62. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-63. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-64. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-65. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-66. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-67. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-68. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-69. Reserved.
- Sec. 24-70. Reserved.

ARTICLE IV. SEWER USE CHARGES*

***Editor's note**--Ord. No. 263-96, passed May 20, 1996, amended this article in its entirety, in effect repealing the former provisions and enacting similar new provisions as herein set out. Formerly, such provisions pertained to sewer use charges, consisted of substantive §§ 24-71--24-78, and derived from §§ 322.1--322.3, 322.5--322.8 of the 1968 Code, as amended by the following legislation:

| Ord. No. | Sec. | Date | Ord. No. | Sec. | Date |
|----------|------|---------|----------|------|----------|
| 326-77 | -- | 5-16-77 | 123-89 | -- | 10- 2-89 |

| | | | | | |
|--------|------|---------|--------|------|---------|
| 420-77 | -- | 7-18-77 | 259-90 | -- | 2-21-90 |
| 284-78 | -- | 5-15-78 | 79-91 | -- | 8- 7-91 |
| 102-81 | 1, 3 | 9-21-81 | 88-92 | 1, 2 | 9- 9-92 |
| 476-82 | 1--3 | 4- 6-82 | 187-95 | -- | 3- 6-95 |
| 523-83 | 1--3 | 6- 8-83 | 157-96 | -- | 2- 5-96 |
| 17-88 | -- | 6-20-88 | | | |

Sec. 24-71. Definitions.

Unless the context specifically provides otherwise, the meanings of terms used in this article shall be as follows:

Commercial unit shall mean any structure or portion of a structure from which wastewater or industrial waste is discharged, excepting only dwelling units as defined hereinafter and shall include industrial users. Commercial units owned by different entities within the same structure and sharing the same water meter shall be treated as one (1) commercial unit.

Dwelling unit shall mean one (1) or more rooms occupied or designed to be occupied by one (1) or more natural persons as a single housekeeping unit with sanitary facilities, other than a place of public accommodation as defined hereinafter, discharging only domestic wastewater and shall include each unit of ownership in any condominium. If the occupant or occupants of rooms fit the definition of a dwelling unit except for the fact that the occupants share sanitary facilities with an occupant or occupants of other rooms located within the same structure, the number of units in the structure shall be deemed to be the total number of toilets or urinals located within such structure.

Parcel of land shall mean any area of land shown on the assessor's maps on the April first last preceding the operative date, located within the city, which is either connected in fact to

a sewer within the city, or developed-but-unconnected to a sewer within the city, which sewer is nevertheless accessible to the area within the meaning of section 24-36.

Place of public accommodation shall mean any establishment having sanitary facilities located therein which gives or offers shelter or lodging to members of the general public, whether transient or long term and shall include but is not limited to hotels, motels, guest houses, hospitals, rest homes, nursing homes, inns, fraternity houses and dormitories.

Treatment facilities shall mean all wastewater treatment plants owned and operated by the Portland Water District or by the city.

Total organic carbon or TOC shall mean the determination of organic matter present by the measurement of carbon dioxide produced by pyrolysis measured in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136.

Volume of water shall mean the amount of water, estimated or measured, whichever is less, provided to the property by the Portland Water District during the previous period of the calendar year. This term shall include any amounts of water obtained from other sources whether or not water is also provided by the district.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Cross reference(s)--Definitions and rules of construction generally, § 1-2.

Sec. 24-72. Sewer user charges.

(a) *Applicability.* There are levied upon all parcels of land charges for cost of treatment of wastewater and for the operation and maintenance of the wastewater system.

(b) *Billing.* Bills for all charges under this article may be sent to the record owner, or to the person requesting water service. Bills shall be sent to each such owner or person every month, except that persons billed quarterly or seasonally by the Portland Water District for water service may be billed quarterly or seasonally for all charges under this article. All payments shall be credited against the oldest outstanding bill sent to such owner or person. Any payments made to the Portland Water District or its agents, which do not indicate to which account they are to be applied, shall be applied as provided by contract between the city and the Portland Water District.

Bills shall contain an amount for sewer user charges, and if delinquent as provided in section 1-16 of this Code, shall include charges for interest to be computed in the same manner as provided for real estate taxes.

(c) *Computation.* The user charges shall be computed in accordance with the following schedule, as from time to time amended, which shall be sufficient to meet costs of the eligible purposes for which such charges may be used. User charges under this section for both dwelling units and commercial units billed for water used after July 1, 2009, the foregoing rate shall be seven dollars and sixty-four cents (\$7.64) per hundred cubic feet of volume for connected parcels of land. The user charge for developed but unconnected parcels of land shall be one dollar and seventy-one cents (\$1.71) per hundred cubic feet of volume. Each metered billing unit shall have a minimum charge of at least one hundred (100) cubic feet per month.

(d) *Purposes for which charges may be used.* Charges and assessments made under this article shall be used consistently with 33 U.S.C.A. § 1281 et seq., and applicable federal regulations for the following purposes:

- (1) To defray the current expenses of operating and maintaining the wastewater system, including any assessment made by the Portland Water District;
- (2) To pay the interest and repay the principal on any outstanding or future indebtedness of the city for construction of sewers heretofore or hereafter constructed within the city;
- (3) To reimburse the city for the cost of computation, billing and enforcement of such charges.

(e) *Collection.* Charges assessed pursuant to this section shall be enforceable pursuant to section 1-16 of this Code.

(f) *Disconnection for nonpayment of charges.* The Portland Water District shall disconnect sewer users with unpaid sewer use charges according to the same terms and procedures used to disconnect water users with unpaid water use charges.

(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96; Ord. No. 88-97, 9-15-97; Ord. No. 118-01/02, 12-3-01; Ord. No. 249-02/03, 5-19-03, Ord. No. 31-03/04, 7-21-03(enacted as emergency); Ord. No. 218-03/04, 5-17-04; Ord. No. 249-04/05, 5-16-05, enacted as emergency;

Ord. No. 244-07/08, 5-19-08; Ord. No. 265-08/09, 5-18-09)

Sec. 24-73. Industrial surcharges.

(a) *Applicability.* Each industrial user except those included in the Westbrook Inter-Municipal Sewer Service Agreement Area, shall be subject to surcharges in addition to any other treatment charge if the wastewater discharged by such user is determined by the public works authority, in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136, to exceed any of the following concentrations:

- (1) BOD of two hundred fifty (250) mg/l; or COD, where indicated for specific wastewater and a correlation between BOD and COD is established in such wastewater; or TOC, where indicated for specific wastewater and a correlation is established between TOC and BOD in such wastewater;
- (2) TSS content of three hundred (300) mg/l.

(b) *Computation of surcharge for BOD.* The surcharge for BOD shall reflect the cost of removing the excess BOD and shall be computed in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{Surcharge for BOD} = (C_1 - 250 \text{ mg/l}) \times Q \times 8.34 \times S_1$$

Where C_1 = The concentration of BOD in mg/l

Q = The total volume of wastewater contributed during the billing period, in millions of gallons

8.34 = Conversion factor of gallons to pounds

S_1 = \$0.1633 for each pound of BOD in dollars

(c) *Computation of surcharge for TSS.* The surcharge for TSS shall reflect the cost of removing the excess TSS and shall be computed in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{Surcharge for TSS} = (C_2 - 300 \text{ mg/l}) \times Q \times 8.34 \times S_2$$

Where C_2 = The concentration of TSS in mg/l

Q = Total volume of wastewater contributed during the billing period, in millions of gallons

8.34 = Conversion factor of gallons to pounds

S₂ = \$0.0817 for each pound of TSS in dollars

(d) Westbrook Inter-Municipal Sewer Service Agreement area may be surcharged for BOD and TSS, based on the cost of treatment at the Westbrook Gorham Regional Treatment Plant.

(e) *Industrial surcharge fee.* An industrial surcharge fee is hereby established for all permitted discharges from all permitted users at a rate of \$0.0857 per hundred cubic feet of volume, provided that the city council may, from time to time, by order, readjust the surcharge fee according to the then prevailing cost of administering the industrial pretreatment program and the anticipated number of permitted users and anticipated volume to be surcharged.

(f) *Appeals.* Any person aggrieved by a determination of the public works authority made pursuant to this section may appeal such determination to the city manager, within thirty (30) days of notification of such determination. Such person may submit additional evidence and shall be heard orally by the manager or his deputy. The manager may modify the public works authority's determination if satisfied that the determination was erroneous, inconsistent with this chapter, or with applicable rules, regulations or grant requirements made pursuant to 33 U.S.C.A. c. 26. All determinations of the manager shall be rendered within a reasonable period of time, not to exceed ninety (90) days from the date of such hearing and shall be final.
(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96; Ord. No.97-03/04, 11-17-03)

Sec. 24-74. Reserved.

Sec. 24-75. Volume measurements.

(a) *Water volume measurements.* Whenever in this article there is reference to volume of water, and the charges of such person are computed in whole or in part upon such volume of water, the use of such standard shall give the public works authority the right to require any person obtaining water from sources other than the Portland Water District to install and maintain at such person's own expense water meters of a type approved by the public works authority for the purpose of determining the volume of water obtained from their other sources and to report the volume of such water recorded by such meter to the public works authority.

Following installation, such meter shall not be removed without the written permission of the public works authority.

(b) *Wastewater volume.* Devices for measuring the volume of wastewater discharged by a commercial or industrial user may be required by the public works authority if these volumes cannot be determined from the water volume records. Any person who is a commercial or industrial user may, at his option, install devices approved by the public works authority for the metering of wastewater and may have the charges based upon the volume of wastewater rather than upon water volume. All metering devices for determining the volume of wastewater shall be installed, owned and maintained by the person to be charged. Following approval and installation, such meters may not be removed without the consent of the public works authority and may be read by the public works authority at all reasonable times.

(c) *Submetering of water volume.* Any person who feels that recorded water records are not a reliable index of his discharge volume may install an additional water meter of a type approved by the public works authority to measure the volume of water which can be shown not to enter the sewerage system. The person installing such a meter shall immediately notify the public works authority of such installation and shall be responsible to the public works authority for reporting meter readings once every month. Such person shall be credited with the volume charges for the volume shown by such meter, which meter shall be accessible for reading by the city or its agents at all reasonable times.

(d) *Review.* Any person subject to charges under this article may make a written request for review of such charges by the city manager as provided in section 1-16 of this Code. The city manager may review and modify such charges, to the extent that justice requires, upon affirmative proof by such person that:

- (1) The volume of metered water consumed exceeds the volume of wastewater generated by the unit;
- (2) The difference between the volume of water and of wastewater exceeds ten (10) percent of the metered water measurement;
- (3) The amount of the difference can be established to a substantial certainty by reliable tests or is documented by reliable sources prepared for purposes unconnected with wastewater disposal; and

(4) Measurement by the measuring devices provided for in the preceding subsections is impossible or impractical.
(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96; Ord. No. 37-09/10, 8-17-09)

Sec. 24-76. Assessments.

(a) *Lien*. All assessments upon a parcel of land made under this article shall create a lien for the benefit of the city.

(b) *Reserved*.
(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)

Cross reference(s)--Uniform procedure for collecting assessments, § 1-16.

Sec. 24-77. Violations.

Any person violating the provisions of this article, other than the requirement of payment of charges or assessments, shall be guilty of an offense.
(Ord. No. 263-96, 5-20-96)