

ORDINANCE NO. 17481

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 31 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, WATER & SEWER-IN REGARDS TO SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Joliet, Illinois (City) has the authority to adopt ordinances and to promulgate rules and regulations that pertain to its government and affairs and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City is a duly organized and existing municipal corporation created under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that in order to properly protect the health and welfare of the residents of the City of Joliet and the quality of life of neighborhoods it is necessary to regulate the discharge of clear water from foundation drains and ground infiltration from sump pumps; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have determined that sump pump regulations are necessary to provide adequate protection for persons and property within the City and to serve the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOLIET, ILLINOIS, PURSUANT TO ITS STATUTORY AND HOME RULE AUTHORITY, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: The Mayor and City Council hereby find that the recitals contained in the preamble to this Ordinance are true, correct and complete and are hereby incorporated into this Ordinance by reference.

SECTION 2: That Chapter 31, Water and Sewers, Article V, Sewers, Division 13. – Wastewater Discharge Requirements:

CHAPTER 31. - WATER AND SEWERS ARTICLE V. - SEWERS

DIVISION 13. – Wastewater Discharge Requirements. Sec. 31-402. – Storm Water

Storm water and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers specifically designated as storm sewers or to a natural outlet. Connections to storm sewers, the discharge of unpolluted cooling waters, or unpolluted process waters to storm sewers may only be done if permitted by the Director of Public Utilities. Source waters which continue to produce water after a storm event shall be included in this section.

- (a) Connection. Every foundation drain shall be connected to an approved sump pit containing an approved sump pump pursuant to the regulations set forth in the plumbing regulations of the State of Illinois, and as specified elsewhere in the City of Joliet Municipal Code and Zoning Code.

(b) Installation. Sump pumps are to be installed for the purpose of discharging clear water from foundation drains and ground infiltration, and shall either discharge into an approved underground conduit leading to a drainage easement for that purpose, or shall discharge onto the ground of the property owner at least ten (10) feet or more from the building from which the water is being pumped, and not closer than ten (10) feet from the property of adjacent owners or public right-of-way. The place of discharge shall be determined at the point where the water is discharged upon the ground from hoses, pipes and other conduits conveying water from the sump pump. The discharge pipe from an approved sump pump shall include an air gap before connecting to any buried conduits.

(c) Violation. No water shall be discharged from a sump pump if the excess discharge creates icing problems on roads or walkways, or creates a situation causing damages to roads or to property, or creates ponds of standing or stagnant water, or water flows over adjoining properties. Rain gardens specifically designed to promote groundwater infiltration are allowed and shall be sized to accept discharge water accordingly.

(d) Corrective Action. If such nuisance condition exists or is created, the city manager or designee shall require the owner of the property discharging the water to install an underground lateral or surface discharge connection which shall cause the water from the sump pump to be discharged in such a manner as not to interfere with the use of public right-of-way or property of adjacent property owners. Sewer laterals specifically designed for storm water or other sources of clear water shall be the property owners' to maintain and shall be approved by the Department of Public Utilities prior to connection to the City Storm Sewer System.

(e) Penalties. Violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00). Each day a violation of this provision of this Code shall continue shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 3: In the event that any provision or provisions, or portion or portions of this Ordinance shall be declared to be invalid or unenforceable by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such adjudication shall in no way affect or impair the validity or enforceability of any of the remaining provisions or portions of this Ordinance that may be given effect without such invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions, portion or portions.

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

SECTION 5: The City Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Ordinance.

SECTION 6: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED this 5th day of April, 2016.


MAYOR


CITY CLERK

VOTING YES: Councilwoman Gavin, Councilmen Gerl, Hug, McFarland, Morris, Mudron, Councilwoman Quillman and Councilman Turk.

VOTING NO: None.

NOT VOTING: Mayor O'Dekirk.

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**JAMES D. HOCK****CITY MANAGER****PHONE: 815/724-3720****FAX: 815/724-3737****jhock@jolietcity.org****150 WEST JEFFERSON STREET
JOLIET, ILLINOIS 60432-4158**

DATE: MARCH 30, 2016

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES D. HOCK, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 31 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, WATER & SEWER-IN REGARDS TO SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE REGULATIONS

BACKGROUND:

The City currently has no specific regulation concerning where property owners should discharge the water from their sump pump. Not only has this been a problem for neighboring owners, it is becoming more of a problem for the Roadways Department when discharge into the street is causing large ice build-up in the winter season. The Public Service Committee will review this matter.

LAND USE AND LEGISLATIVE:

The Land Use and Legislative Committee met on February 9, 2016 in the Council Chambers. The meeting was attended by Chairman Morris, Councilman McFarland and Councilwoman Qullman. Staff explained the proposed ordinance. The Committee recommended unanimously that the Mayor and Council approve the attached amended ordinance. No one spoke in opposition.

CONCLUSION:

The Ordinance language as proposed is incorporated into Section 31-402. -Storm Water. The modifications also include rain gardens as approved discharge points to promote natural filtration and reduce storm water runoff.

RECOMMENDATION:

Based on the above, the Administration recommends that the Mayor and City Council adopt the Ordinance as attached.

CONCURRENCES:

James E. Eggen
Director of Public Utilities

Respectfully submitted,

James D. Hock
City Manager

James M. Haller
Director of Community &
Economic Development