



Town of Yountville

6550 Yount Street
Yountville, CA 94599

Staff Report

Agenda Item #: {{section.number}}A

Yountville Town Council Staff Report

DATE: January 18, 2022

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: John Ferons, Public Works Director

PREPARED BY: John Ferons, Public Works Director

SUBJECT:

Introduce and Waive First Reading of Ordinance Number 22-505 Amending Chapters 13.08, 13.20, And 13.24 Of Title 13 Of The Yountville Municipal Code Related To The Water System, Water Conservation, And Water Shortage Emergencies

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND

During the 2021 drought emergency, the Town Manager, Public Works Staff and Town Attorney have collaborated to complete a review of the Yountville Municipal Code Title 13 chapters related to the water system, water conservation and water shortage emergencies. During this review process, staff focused on making administrative updates such as eliminating outdated language, correcting code references, and improving language consistency. The goal being easier interpretation of pertinent water codes as the drought condition persists and water conservation measures and enforcement become more urgent.

Specifically, the existing code was confusing as it tried to apply various penalties for water violations. The Town's philosophy for enforcing its water ordinances is to obtain voluntary compliance through education and, when necessary, a persuasive administrative process. In keeping with this philosophy, this ordinance deletes various references to a stand-alone penalties and ties water violations to Chapter 8.05, Administrative Enforcement of the Municipal Code. An administrative penalty is a monetary penalty, or fine, imposed by the Town and is designed to deter violations of Town water ordinances and to create a speedy and efficient way to gain compliance.

Presented for consideration at this introduction are the changes that were deemed necessary to help staff administer the ordinance. Staff focused on three chapters of the code that merit revision and deferred consideration for more substantive changes to sections not pertinent to the drought conditions currently in place.

The code sections proposed for revisions as a part of this ordinance are:

Title 13 Public Services, Division 1 Water System

- Chapter 13.08 General Provisions
- Chapter 13.20 Water Conservation
- Chapter 13.24 Water Shortage Emergencies

The revisions to each are described in general terms as follows:

13.08 General Provisions

- Adds language making a violation of water rules and regulations a code violation subject to Administrative Enforcement via chapter 8.05 of the Muni Code.
- Adds an annual limit to both commercial and residential water customers.
- Adds a requirement that all identified leaks be repaired within a time certain.

13.20 Water Conservation

- Repeals sections related to imposition of civil penalties as part of the enforcement process.
- Inserts language related to the imposition of Administrative Enforcement via chapter 8.05 of the Muni Code.
- Adds language to allow installation of flow restricting devices on the water meters of customers exceeding water allotments.

13.24 Water Shortage Emergencies

- Repeals sections related to imposition of civil penalties as part of the enforcement process.
- Inserts language related to the imposition of Administrative Enforcement via chapter 8.05 of the Muni Code.
- Adds language to allow installation of flow restricting devices on the water meters of customers exceeding water allotments.

Please see the attached proposed ordinance for the specific language revisions described above.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

This Ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Pursuant to section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. This Ordinance will not result in a significant foreseeable environmental impact.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

Is it Currently Budgeted? N/A

Where is it Budgeted? N/A

Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary

Is there a Staff Resource Impact? Nominal

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Is item Identified in Strategic Plan? Yes

If yes, Identify Strategic Goal and Objective. **Exceptional Town Services and Staff:** The Town supports its talented staff who deliver high quality municipal programs and services while maintaining public infrastructure for the benefit of the community. **Visionary Leadership:** The Town's leadership maintains an open-minded, forward-thinking decision-making process. We value engagement and participation from all members of the community as we work together to create policies and plan for the future.

Briefly Explain Relationship to Strategic Plan Goal and Objective. Development of this portion of the Municipal Code is necessary to maintain water services for the benefit of the community via a forward-thinking process planning for the future as the drought persists now.

RECOMMENDATION

Introduce and Waive First Reading of Ordinance Number 22-505 Amending Chapters 13.08, 13.20, And 13.24 Of Title 13 Of The Yountville Municipal Code Related To The Water System, Water Conservation, And Water Shortage Emergencies