



CITY OF MELROSE

In City Council

June 24, 2024

AN ORDER

ORDER-2024-39

Amending Chapter 228 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Melrose
Water, Sewers, and Drains

BE IT ORDERED

Requesting review and approval of proposed amendments to the Revised Ordinances of the City of Melrose Chapter 228 Water, Sewer and Drains as recommended by the Water and Sewer Rate Advisory Committee. Attached to this order are the relevant documents for review and consideration.

§ 228-14. Water meters.

- A. No person except the DPW Operations staff will be allowed to set, take off or repair water meters owned by the City. **[Amended 8-21-2017 by Ord. No. 2018-4]**
- B. All water meters up to 5/8 inch in size will be furnished, placed and maintained by the City. For any premises requesting a 3/4- or 1-inch meter, the meter will still be furnished, placed, and maintained by the City, with the exception that the property owner shall pay the difference in cost between the price of the standard 5/8-inch meter and the larger size meter requested (up to 1 inch), which will be charged directly to the water bill. Any premises requiring a meter over one inch is the owner's responsibility to purchase, install, and maintain. Any damage to any meter done or caused by the carelessness or neglect of the owner or occupant will be charged to their next bill. Nonpayment will result in fees consistent with nonpayment of water bills.

§ 228-20. Discount program. [Added 4-3-1989 by Ord. No. 2324; amended 5-6-1996 by Ord. No. 96-237]

- A. A 20% discount on water bills shall be given upon application to the office of the City Engineer in accordance with the following procedure: **[Amended 5-21-2012 by Ord. No. 2012-158]**
 - (1) The applicant must have reached or already been over age 65 in the calendar year prior to that in which they are making application for discount. In the case of joint home ownership, either spouse/owner must have reached age 65 by the prior year.
 - (2) The applicant must be the owner of record of the property for which the discount is requested, their name must appear on the

water bill for that property, and they must have lived at the subject property for a minimum of one year.

- (3) The yearly consumption of water by the applicant's household shall not exceed 6,250 cubic feet.
[Amended 6-16-2016 by Ord. No. 2016-166]
 - (4) The discount shall only apply to owners of one-family or two-family homes who are able to demonstrate their primary residence in said single- or two-family home. **[Amended 6-16-2016 by Ord. No. 2016-166]**
 - (5) Otherwise eligible condominium owners will be entitled to a discount which shall be equal to the average single-family discount provided for in this section for the immediately preceding fiscal year. **[Added 6-16-2016 by Ord. No. 2016-166]**
 - (6) Senior citizen owners of owner-occupied two-family homes who meet the 6,250 cubic feet per year usage threshold per dwelling unit and all other requirements of this Section shall be entitled to a discount which shall be equal to the average single-family discount provided for in this section for the immediately preceding fiscal year.
- B. Applicants who have not reached 65 will also qualify for discount if:
- (1) They are in conformity with the other provisions of this section.
 - (2) Their yearly gross income does not exceed \$35,000 for a single person and \$40,000 if filing jointly. Eligibility shall be determined using the gross income (not total taxable) found on the owner's IRS 1040 form.
- C. Administration of the discount program set forth in Subsections A and B above shall be in accordance with reasonable policies established by the Director, or their designee, and shall be in strict compliance with this section. **[Added 6-16-2016 by Ord. No. 2016-166]**

§ 228-31. Discount program. [Added 2-20-1996 by Ord. No. 96-185 ; amended 5-6-1996 by Ord. No. 96-238]

- A. A 20% discount on sewer bills shall be given upon approval of application to the office of the City Engineer if applicants meet all the requirements for a discount to water bills, as defined in Article II, § 228-20. **[Amended 5-21-2012 by Ord. No. 2012-158]**
- (1) The applicant must have reached or already been over age 65 in the calendar year prior to that in which he/she is making application for discount. In the case of joint ownership, either spouse/ owner must have reached age 65 in the prior year.

- (2) The applicant must be the owner of record of the property for which the discount is requested, their name must appear on the sewer bill for that property, and they must have lived at the subject property for a minimum of one year.
- (3) The yearly consumption of water by the applicant shall not exceed 6,250 cubic feet.
- (4) The discount shall only apply to owners of one-family or two-family homes who are able to demonstrate their primary residence in said single- or two-family home. Three-family homes or larger are excluded.
- (5) Otherwise eligible condominium owners will be entitled to a discount which shall be equal to the average single-family discount provided for in this section for the immediately preceding fiscal year.
- (6) Senior citizen owners of owner-occupied two-family homes who meet the 6,250 cubic feet per year water usage threshold per dwelling unit and all other requirements of this Section shall be entitled to a discount which shall be equal to the average single-family discount provided for in this section for the immediately preceding fiscal year.

B. Applicants who have not reached 65 will also qualify for discount if:

- (1) They are in conformity with the other provisions of this section.
- (2) Their yearly gross income does not exceed \$35,000 for a single person and \$40,000 if filing jointly. Eligibility shall be determined using the gross income (not total taxable) found on the owner's IRS 1040 form.

Administration of the discount program set forth in Subsections A and B above shall be in accordance with reasonable policies established by the Director, or their designee, and shall be in strict compliance with this section.

HISTORY:

06/03/24	City Council	ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE
06/10/24	Legal & Legislative	RECOMMEND AS AMENDED

RESULT: PASSED AS AMENDED [10 TO 0]
MOVER: Ryan Williams, At-Large
SECONDER: Maya Jamaledine, At-Large
AYES: Finocchiaro, Garipay, Hamilton, Jamaledine, Karamcheti, Obremski, Romanul, Vandiver, Williams, Migliorelli
ABSENT: Robb Stewart

In the City Council
Ordained Roll Call
[Unanimous]

Passed June 24, 2024

Kristin Foote, Clerk



Leila B. Migliorelli, President
City Council

7/9/24

Date



Jennifer Grigoraitis, Mayor

7/9/24

Date