

CITY OF VINELAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2021- 65

ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2019-52, AS AMENDED, CHAPTER 687, SECTION 687-95.1 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF VINELAND ENTITLED PROCEDURES OF HYDRANT FLOW TESTING TO RE-ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR FLOW TESTING ON CITY OWNED AND PRIVATE FIRE HYDRANTS.

WHEREAS, water hydrant flow testing causes a temporary reduction in pressure and discoloration of the water supply

WHEREAS, in order to assure efficient and safe hydrant flow testing and to assure ratepayers and businesses do not experience any adverse effect from hydrant flow testing on both City owned and Private hydrants, the Director has recommended Council consider times to perform such testing which will least impact ratepayers and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Water Utility has experienced times where private testing has taken place without notifying the Water Utility thereby prevents the City from notifying ratepayers and businesses of the pressure and discoloration results occurring during hydrant testing and therefore, the Director has recommended a fine be assessed against any person or entity performing a hydrant test without notifying the Water Utility; and

WHEREAS, City Council finds it to be in the best interest of the City to establish times for hydrant flow testing and fines to be assessed for violation thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Vineland that Ordinance 2019-52, as amended, Chapter 687, Section 687-95.1 be amended as follows:

1. Section 687-95.1C shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced as follows:

C. City Owned Fire Hydrant Flow Testing

All City Owned Hydrant Flow Test will be performed between the hours of 10:00 PM and 4:00 AM. Flow test for City Owned Fire Hydrant Flow Testing is defined as being executed between a maximum of (3) hydrants. One Gauge Hydrant between two flow hydrants. Each additional set of hydrants will be considered a separate test requiring a separate application and additional per test fee of \$300. All Flow Test Requests shall be submitted for approval and scheduling with all completed applications prior to performing test.

2. Section 687-95.1 D shall be added as follows:

D. Private Hydrants and Fire Pump Test Flow Testing

All Private Hydrants and Fire Pump Test will be performed between the hours of 10:00 PM and 4:00 AM---No application or fee is required for this testing. Notice shall be given to the Water Utility at 856-794-4056 a minimum of three business days prior to the test date to allow time to notify the surrounding residential and business of the possible effect on the Water Infrastructure and the possibility of reduced pressure and/or discolored water.

3. Section 687-95.1 E shall be added as follows:

E. Penalties for Violation

1. Except members of the Vineland Fire Department utilizing the hydrant during an emergency, any person or entity performing an unauthorized fire flow test or causing water to flow from a City Hydrant for any reason without prior written approval shall be subject to a fine of \$1,000.00 and prosecution for tampering with City Utilities and theft of City property.

CITY OF VINELAND

2. Any person or entity that fails to comply with approved testing hours and or failure to notify the Water Utility of pending Private Hydrant and Fire Pump Tests shall be subject to a fine of \$1,000.00 assessed against the owner of the equipment tested.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the balance of Ordinance 2019-52, as amended, not amended hereby shall remain in full force and effect.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that should any portion of this Ordinance be deemed unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, that portion so determined to be unenforceable, shall be void and the balance hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that any Ordinance or portion thereof inconsistent herewith shall be void to the extent of such inconsistency.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication according to law.

Passed first reading:

Passed final reading:

President of Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk