

1 Introduced September 28, 2004, by
2 Councilwoman Burkhalter, seconded by
3 Councilwoman Livaudais (both by request of
4 Administration)

5 **Item No. 04-09-2442**

6
7 **ORDINANCE NO. 3216**

8 An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, LA,
9 Chapter 28 Utilities, by adding Section 28-37 establishing a comprehensive Fire Hydrant
10 use guidelines for the City of Slidell, Louisiana.

11 WHEREAS, representatives of the City of Slidell have determined that certain
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13 fire hydrants are being used without authorization from the City; and

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15 WHEREAS, it has been determined that there is a need for a comprehensive
16
17 fire hydrant use ordinance; and

18 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell, Louisiana, has determined that it is in the best
19
20 interest of its citizens and residents to approve this ordinance.

21 NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Slidell City Council, that it does
22
23 hereby amend its Code of Ordinances by adding Section 28-37 as follows:

24 Chapter 28 Utilities

25
26 **Sec. 28-37. Fire Hydrant Use.**

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28 (a) *Damaging Prohibited.* It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, contractor
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30 or corporation to damage or destroy any fire hydrant in the City of Slidell water service
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32 area. Any person, firm, contractor or corporation responsible for damage or destruction of
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34 any fire hydrant shall be responsible for the cost of replacement or repair and a fine of
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\$500.00 or up to 60 days imprisonment.

36 (b) *Opening Fire Hydrants.* It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, contractor,
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38 or corporation to open any fire hydrant in the City of Slidell's water service area. Any
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1 **ORDINANCE NO. 3216**
2 **ITEM NO. 04-09-2442**
3 **PAGE 2**

4 person, firm, contractor or corporation found to violate this section shall be subject to a fine
5 of \$500.00 or up to 60 days imprisonment for the act of vandalizing the City of Slidell's
6 water system.
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9 (c) *Exceptions.* Section (B) shall not be applicable to:

- 10 (1) Any City of Slidell employee or officer of a public agency acting within
11 the scope of his/her employment and in the performance of his/her
12 duties; or
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14 (2) Any person, firm contractor or corporation who has secured a permit
15 under provisions of subsection D of this ordinance.
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18 (d) *Permit use of a Fire Hydrant.* The City's water department may issue a
19 permit to any person, firm, contractor or corporation to use a fire hydrant within the City's
20 water service area. Subject to the following conditions:
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- 22 (1) Location of fire hydrant shall be designated on said permit.
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24 (2) Duration of permit and use for which it is issued shall be specified on
25 said permit.
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27 (3) Permittee shall comply with all of the rules, regulation, orders and
28 ordinances of the City of Slidell's water service area.
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30 (4) Permittee shall be responsible for damages to said fire hydrant arising
31 out of permittee's use thereof.
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33 (5) Permittee shall indemnify and hold harmless the City and its
34 employees from any and all claims by, damages to and causes of
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1 **ORDINANCE NO. 3216**
2 **ITEM NO. 04-09-2442**
3 **PAGE 3**

4 action of a third parties arising out of or resulting from the issuance of
5 said permit or the use of said fire hydrant.
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7 (6) Permittee shall at time of issuance of said permit deposit with the City
8 the sum of \$800.00 to insure permittee's compliance with the terms
9 and conditions hereof. Said sum shall be returned to the permittee
10 upon the termination, surrender or expiration of the permit provided
11 the permittee has complied with all the terms and conditions of the
12 said permit and this ordinance. Charges for the actual use of water at
13 the current water rates and applicable taxes and administrative fees
14 will be billed to the permittee.
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16 (7) Any person, firm, contractor or corporation that opens a fire hydrant
17 without a permit will be subject to prosecution and a fine of \$500.00 or
18 up to 60 days imprisonment.
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20 (8) Permittee shall place a City issued permit tag on the permitted hydrant
21 while in use of such permit.
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23 (9) Permittee shall have a City issued fire hydrant meter on all permitted
24 hydrants. Permittee shall follow proper hydrant operating procedures
25 before installing hydrant meters as described in subsection E of this
26 ordinance.
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28 (10) Permittee may be required to use backflow devices in accordance with
29 City and State requirements.
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4 (11) Limitations: The City Water Department reserves the right to suspend
5 or revoke any issued permit. Water use may be suspended during
6 periods subject to freezing temperatures and/or other conditions at the
7 sole discretion of the City Water Department.
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10 (e) *Hydrant Operating Procedures:*

- 11 (1) Permittee must use only City approved fire hydrant wrenches.
- 12 (2) Permittee shall stand directly behind the hydrant when operating.
- 13 (3) Permittee shall insure that all un-selected caps are snugly tightened
14 before operating the hydrant.
- 15 (4) Select and remove hydrant nozzle cap.
- 16 (5) Flushing the hydrant. Open hydrant slowly. It should take more than
17 60 seconds to fully open to prevent surging on the water system.
- 18 (6) Close the hydrant slowly to prevent water hammers in the water
19 system.
- 20 (7) Attach hydrant meter device to the permitted hydrant.
- 21 (8) The Fire hydrant main valve shall never be use to regulate water flow
22 from the hydrant. Water flow shall be regulated by using the valve
23 located on the hydrant meter or a regulating device installed by the
24 permittee.
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- 27 (9) Permittee shall never allow the discharge end of a hose to be inserted
28 into a tank or container underwater or laid on the ground to make and
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1 **ORDINANCE NO. 3216**
2 **ITEM NO. 04-09-2442**
3 **PAGE 5**

4 lay in its own pool of water. There must be at all times an air gap
5 between the end of the water hose and the container or the receiving
6 discharge destination.
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9 (10) Upon completion of the permitted use, close the hydrant main valve
10 slowly.
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12 (11) Remove the hydrant meter and connected hose.
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14 (12) Replace hydrant cap.
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16 (13) No hydrant meter shall be left attached to the hydrant when not in use
17 under the permit.
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19 (14) Permittee shall not leave the hydrant without the hydrant caps snugly
20 tightened.
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22 (f) *Obstructing Fire Hydrants.* It shall be unlawful to obscure from view,
23 damage, deface, obstruct or restrict the access to any fire hydrant or any fire department
24 connection, including fire hydrants located in public or private streets and access lanes or
25 on private property. It shall also be unlawful to park any vehicle within 10 feet of any fire
26 hydrant.
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30 (g) *Notice of Violation.* City code enforcement personnel shall issue notices
31 of violation of Subsection F of this ordinance to any property owner or person in violation of
32 said section. The notice shall contain a description of the material(s) found to be in
33 violation, and direction to remove the material(s) within (15) days after mailing of the
34 notice, and a copy of Subsection F. Parked vehicles will be given a 24 hours notice to
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1 **ORDINANCE NO. 3216**
2 **ITEM NO. 04-09-2442**
3 **PAGE 6**

4 remove said vehicle. In cases of emergencies vehicles can be towed at owner's expense.
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6 The Director of Public Operations or his delegee(s) shall be the enforcement agent of this
7 section.
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9 **ADOPTED** this 26th day of October, 2004.

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11 Elsie Burkhalter
12 President of the Council
13 Councilwoman, District A
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16 Ben O. Morris
17 Mayor
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20 Shawn B. McManus, CMC
21 Clerk of the Council
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| DELIVERED | 9:00 A.M. |
| 10/29/04 | to the Mayor |
| RECEIVED | 1:00 p.m. |
| 11/3/04 | from the Mayor |