

Resolution No. 2017-8
**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAMMOND WATER
WORKS DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHING A POLICY TO ADDRESS THE
ILLEGAL USE OF WATER AND THEFT OF SERVICES.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Hammond Water Works Department, as part of its rule-making authority, desires to establish a policy to combat the illegal use of its utility by customers and/or tenants of customers who illegally utilize the utility without the consent of the Water Works Department; and

WHEREAS, heretofore, some customers, landlords and/or tenants of customers have illegally altered, tampered with, rearranged, bypassed or otherwise interfered with controls -- including the water meter and/or Buffalo Box -- in an effort to reconnect or use the utility after the Water Works Department has shut off or disconnected the same; and

WHEREAS, the Hammond Water Works Department may deem some customers to be repeat offenders of these illegal methods to utilize the utility.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Hammond Water Works Department that the following policy be established:

AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2017, upon discovery or belief that a customer, landlord or tenant of a customer has tampered with, rearranged, bypassed or otherwise interfered with the water meter and/or Buffalo Box in an effort to obtain water without the authorization or consent of the Water Works Department, said water services shall be immediately disconnected or shut off at the corp without notice.

FURTHER, AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2017, any customer, landlord and/or tenant of customers deemed by the Water Works Department to be a "repeat offender" of such offending conduct shall also be subject to the immediate disconnection or shut off at the corp at **all** properties owned or used by that party.

AFTER SHUT OFF OR DISCONNECTION, the offending customer, landlord and/or tenant shall pay a fine of \$200.00 for reconnection of the services, in addition to any regular rates owed for use.

IN ADDITION TO THE SHUT OFF AND FINE, criminal charges may be sought against the offending customer, landlord and/or tenant for the tampering, rearrangement, bypassing or interference with the water meter and/or Buffalo Box and for theft of services, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Department and Indiana Law § 35-43-5-3. Said person(s), if convicted, shall be fined up to \$5000 and sentenced up to 1 year in jail.

THIS RESOLUTION is adopted by unanimous vote of the members present of the Hammond Water Works Department Board of Directors this 26th day of October, 2017.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
HAMMOND WATER WORKS DEPARTMENT,
CITY OF HAMMOND, INDIANA

BY: 
SHARON M. DANIELS, PRESIDENT

ATTEST: 
PAUL WALKER, SECRETARY