

ORDINANCE NO. 567

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE REQUIREMENT OF INSTALLATION OF BACK FLOW CHECK VALVES IN ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF ARMA, KANSAS, WHEREIN AN ATTACHMENT WILL BE MADE TO THE CITY OF ARMA SEWER SYSTEM OR ON ANY OCCASION WHEN A REPLACEMENT OF PRE-EXISTING SEWER LINES ATTACHING TO THE SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF ARMA OCCUR.

Be it ordained by the governing body of the City of Arma, Crawford County, Kansas:

Section 1: Background end caps. The public sanitary sewer system within the City of Arma is gravity based. Occasionally, stoppages occur within the system. This can be caused by such things as debris, grease, tree roots, soap buildups, or items deposited in the sewer lines. When a stoppage occurs within a main line sewer in the street, all the flow coming down the sewer will begin to back up behind the blockage. If the stoppage does not clear itself, the sewage will continue to fill the manhole.

The purpose of back flow prevention device is to ensure that none of the sewage that is backing up in the main line will work its way into the individual sewer line (building sewer) and overflow into the residence or business.

Buildings with finished floor elevations one foot or higher than the surface elevation of the nearest manhole are usually in no danger of overflows. If the finish floor elevation of the building or residence is less than one foot above the manhole elevation, or if a basement is present, the risk of an overflow and flooding is greatly increased.

A back flow prevention device should be installed to protect the building or residence from damage caused by over flows.

Section 2. Installation. Most commonly used back flow prevention device is called a check valve. It is a one way flapper valve that allow the sewage to flow from the building toward the sewer line. It prevents sewage from flowing in the opposite direction. There are other types of back flow prevention devices available. The ideal location to install the back flow prevention device is just outside the foundation and in a location that will be accessible for future maintenance. Back flow prevention devices are not to be installed at the property line clean out, if present.

The property owner is responsible for both installation and maintenance of all back flow prevention devices.

A back flow prevention device must be installed with every new connection with the City of Arma sewer lines or every connection wherein a modification to the sewer line is made and the installation of a back flow prevention device would be readily possible.

All costs for the installation of the backflow prevention device shall be borne by the property owner.

Section 3. Responsibility. The City does not assume responsibility for any back flows into to any property within the City of Arma, Kansas, unless the back flow is specifically the result of negligence or actions by the City of Arma or its agents.

Section 4. Penalty. Failure to install or maintain a back flow check valve by the property owner shall be considered a violation. The penalty for such violation shall be a fine not to exceed \$500.00 and any damage caused to the residence or building by the back flow sewage shall be borne by the building or property owner and the City shall not be responsible for liable for any sewage back flow damage.

Section 5. Repeal. All ordinance or parts of ordinances that are in conflict with ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in the official newspaper.

Passed and approved by the Council this \_\_\_\_ day of January, 2008.

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Karl Wicker, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Bette Lessen, City Clerk