

**WEST DEPTFORD TOWNSHIP**

**ORDINANCE # 2018-14**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD AMENDING CHAPTER 163, WATER BY ESTABLISHING A PILOT WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Committee of the Township of West Deptford, County of Gloucester, and the State of New Jersey, that Chapter 163, Water, is hereby amended by the establishment of the following project:

**Section 1: Pilot Water Meter Replacement Project Overview**

- a. The Township is seeking to perform a Pilot Study to determine if various field efficiencies can be achieved and if billing accuracies can be increased by replacing older existing water meters in the Township with new radio-read water meters.
- b. Phase I of the Pilot Study will include Water Meter books 13 (Oakview) and 25 (Greenfields). The reason these two (2) water meter books have been chosen as the test residents is due to the following:
  1. The age of the majority of the existing water meters;
  2. Age-wide difficulty in scheduling entry into resident household to read the water meters during working hours;
  3. A significant number of water meters being located in difficult locations in resident households such as crawlspaces.
- c. All residents in the Phase I Pilot Study will not be charged for the water meter replacement since this is a Township generated study to determine the efficiency of replacing all Township water meters with radio-read water meters,

**Section 2: Procedure**

The Phase I Pilot Water Meter Replacement Project will work as follows:

1. The water meter accounts in the two (2) books selected will be targeted for replacement.

2. An initial letter will be sent from the Township to those residents in the Pilot Study area explaining the project and instructing them to call the Water and Sewer Office to set up an appointment for a water meter replacement.
3. If no response is received from the resident within two weeks, a second letter will be sent to the resident.
4. If no response is received from the resident within those two additional weeks of the second letter, a third letter will be sent to the resident.
5. If there is still no response from the resident within those additional two weeks of the third letter, then the water service will be scheduled for termination as per Township Code Chapter 163-5D(1)(g) for refusal to permit the Water and Sewer Department access to the water meter. However, if a shut off should occur, the resident will not be charged a turn off or turn on fee by the Township under this program.
6. Once the resident responds to the letter, the Water and Sewer Office will set up an appointment with the resident to replace the water meter. A work order will be issued for replacement of the water meter by the Water and Sewer Department.
7. At the scheduled date and time, a representative of the Water and Sewer Department will replace the resident's water meter with a new radio-read water meter at no cost to the resident.
8. Once the new water meter is installed, the employee will complete a work order of the completion and submit the work order to the Superintendent.
9. The Water and Sewer Secretary will then process the completed work order and update the resident's water account.
10. Those water accounts in the study group will be monitored, including but not limited to the current water usage, the time required to read the water meters and the number of billing errors. All information will be compared on a quarter by quarter basis utilizing a two (2) year look back period.
11. Phase I of the Pilot study will last for two (2) years.

12. A report on the Phase I Pilot Study will be submitted to the Township Committee on a quarterly basis. At the end of the Phase I Pilot Study, a final report will be issued to Township Committee by the Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Department.

**Section 3: Repealer:**

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

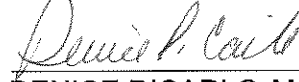
**Section 4: Severability:**

Each section of this Ordinance is an independent section, and the holding of any section or part thereof to be unconstitutional, void or ineffective, shall not be deemed to affect the validity or constitutionality of any other sections or parts hereof.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage and publication as required by law.

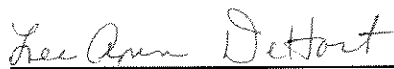
**INTRODUCED** at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of West Deptford, held on August 1, 2018.

**TOWNSHIP OF WEST DEPTFORD**



DENICE DICARLO, Mayor

Attest:



LEE ANN DEHART, RMC

ROLL CALL VOTE				
	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Denice DiCarlo				✓
Megan Kerr	✓			
James Mehaffey	✓			
Adam Reid	✓			
James Robinson	✓			
<b>TALLY:</b>	4			1

**ADOPTED** at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of West Deptford, held on September 5, 2018.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>				
	<b>AYES</b>	<b>NAYS</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Denice DiCarlo	✓			
Megan Kerr	✓			
James Mehaffey	✓			
Adam Reid	✓			
James Robinson	✓			
<b>TALLY:</b>	5			