



Executive Summary

City Council Business Meeting

AGENDA ITEM-NEW BUSINESS:	Ordinance No. 336 – Amendment to Maple Plain City Code Section 9-22: Fire Hydrant Connections
PREPARED BY:	Jacob Schillander, City Administrator
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve Ordinance 336 and Approve Ordinance 336 Summary Publication

Summary:

This ordinance updates Section 9-22 of the Maple Plain City Code to clarify and strengthen regulations surrounding fire hydrant connections. The amendments include:

- **Clarification of Authorized Use:** Restricts hydrant access to City personnel and contract employees performing official duties, removing ambiguous language about discretionary authorization.
- **Permit Requirement:** Explicitly requires a written permit for non-City use, with a fee established in the City's fee schedule.
- **Time Limitation:** Limits permit duration to a maximum of 20 days, ensuring short-term use and reducing risk of misuse.
- **Fee Structure and Enforcement:** Reinforces the obligation to pay fees for non-City water use and outlines penalties for unauthorized withdrawal.

Reasons for Recommendation

- **Improved Clarity and Enforcement:** The revised language eliminates ambiguity and strengthens the City's ability to enforce hydrant use regulations.
- **Removal of Ambiguous Language:** The phrase "except when authorized by the City Administrator" was removed because it lacked clear criteria for authorization, created potential for inconsistent enforcement, and posed risks of misuse or liability. The new language specifies which City departments may access hydrants during official duties, improving clarity and accountability.
- **Operational Control:** Limiting permit duration and requiring written application ensures better oversight and accountability.

- **Consistency with Fee Schedule:** Aligns ordinance language with the City's adopted fee schedule, improving transparency and administrative efficiency.
- **Public Safety and Infrastructure Protection:** Ensures hydrants remain available and functional for emergency and municipal use.

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