

**Amendments to Chapter 130,
Article IV, Division 4, Section 130-
187 of the Code of Ordinances**

Establishing New Meter Connections

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Overview

- Existing Ordinance
- Proposed Amended Ordinance
- Benefits
- Potential Risks
- Next Steps

Mission

Strengthening our community by providing resilient essential services



Vision

Be a trusted community partner dedicated to excellence in service



Core Values

Safety, Team, Integrity, Culture, and Stewardship

Existing Ordinance

- Separate meter required for each residence or building
- No new connection without separate metering
- Single meter allowed for unified office building

Sec. 130-187. - Establishing new meter connections.



- (a) Each individual residence or building making connection with the NBU water system shall have a separate meter, and no new connection shall be made by NBU unless such individual residence or building is separately metered.
- (b) Offices in the same building under one piping system may have a single meter.

(Ord. No. 2002-29, § 1(Att. A), 7-22-02)

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Proposed Amended Ordinance

- Separate metering still required for most new connections
- Single meter allowed for certain non-residential sites (Master Meter – Single Lot)
- Multifamily may use private submeters (Master Meter – Single Lot)

Sec. 130-187. Establishing new meter connections.

- (a) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, each individual residence or building making connection with the NBU water system shall have a separate meter, and no new connection shall be made by NBU unless such residence or building is separately metered.
- (b) All separate non-residential uses in a single building served by a unified piping system may be served by a single meter.
- (c) Non-residential uses on a single lot may use a single meter to serve multiple buildings if the following conditions are met:
 - (1) the system that has been constructed, or that the owner proposes to construct, on such lot to serve the buildings meets all applicable ordinances, codes, and regulations;
 - (2) the single lot is owned or leased by one entity or person; and
 - (3) the NBU Chief Engineer of Water Service determines in the Chief Engineer's sole discretion that using the single meter will not contaminate the water supply, affect water quality, or degrade water service levels, giving consideration to sound engineering care and practices.
- (d) All multifamily residential uses (e.g., apartments, build-to-rent, condominiums, manufactured home rental communities) located on a single lot may use private submeters to serve individual tenants or buildings if the private submeters meet the following conditions:
 - (1) they are maintained in accordance with city and state regulations; and
 - (2) they are connected to an NBU-owned master meter, located in the public right-of-way or a utility easement approved by NBU.

All multifamily residential uses using an NBU master meter must comply with private submetering and allocation requirements established by plumbing code, TCEQ, and the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

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Benefits

- Aligns policy with modern development
- Clarifies when a master meter is allowed
- Clarifies rules for multifamily submetering
- Balances flexibility with stewardship

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Potential Risks

- Private system integrity and cross connection risk
- Ambiguity in ownership, maintenance and enforcement
- Additional customer service & public relations burden

Next Steps

- New Braunfels Utilities Board of Trustees – September 27, 2026
 - Discussion and action on a resolution supporting adoption of amendments to Sec. 130-187.
- City Council – October 12, 2026
 - First reading of the ordinance.
- City Council – October 26, 2026
 - Second reading and final adoption

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Questions?

