

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-797

ORDINANCE REGULATING SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE

WHEREAS, property owners within the City are prohibited from discharging their sump pumps into the City's sanitary sewer system, and are required to discharge to a storm sewer drain;

WHEREAS, sump pump water that is discharged onto adjacent sidewalks or neighboring properties can create a hazard such as build-up of green algae (slime), ice, or pooling of water;

WHEREAS, sump pump water that is discharged adjacent to roadways without proper drainage reduces the lifespan of roads and other public infrastructure;

WHEREAS, property owners may connect their sump pumps to the adjacent underground drain tile currently being installed by the City as part of certain road projects to avoid the hazards caused by discharge into the street and impacts to public infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the City Code currently does not regulate how sump pump discharge should be discharged into the City's storm sewer system, nor does it clarify liability for hazardous conditions caused by sump pump discharge;

WHEREAS, the City of Sauk Rapids wants to revise City Code to require property owners with problematic sump pump discharge to connect to the adjacent public drain tile when available;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Sauk Rapids City Council hereby ordains that the following changes shall be made to the City of Sauk Rapids City Code (additions shown in underline and deletions shown in strikethrough):

SECTION 1. Subdivision 4 of Section 3.57 of the City of Sauk Rapids Code is hereby amended and shall read:

Subd. 4. Storm water and all other unpolluted water shall be discharged to a storm sewer in accordance with Section 3.69, except that unpolluted cooling or process water shall only be so discharged upon approval by the Sewer Control Board and the user may be required to obtain a NPDES Permit by the MPCA.

SECTION 2. Section 3.69 of the City of Sauk Rapids Code is hereby added and shall read:

SECTION 3.69 DISCHARGE INTO STORM SEWER.

Subd. 1. DEFINITIONS. Whenever used in this section, unless a different meaning appears from the context:

- A. "Sump Pump Discharge" shall mean storm water, ground water, or other unpolluted water discharged from any pump or device used to pump water.

- B. “Hazardous condition” shall include the presence of green algae (slime), ice, pooling of water, and street erosion or washouts
- C. “Roof Drains” shall mean any and all devices, troughs, or pipes that collect or gather any and all waters produced by rains or melted snows and ice on the roofs of any buildings or structures within the City.

Subd. 2. SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE

- A. **PROPER DISCHARGE.** Property owners are responsible for ensuring sump pump discharge is discharged to a storm sewer, except that any unpolluted cooling or process water shall only be so discharged upon approval by the City and the user may be required to obtain a NPDES Permit by the MPCA.
- B. **CONNECTION REQUIRED.** If an adjacent subsurface connection to a storm sewer, such as a drain tile, is provided or available to a property owner and the property owners’ current sump pump discharge causes a hazardous condition, the property owner must connect to the adjacent subsurface connection at their own expense within 30 days of notice of the hazardous condition from the City, or within some other time frame agreed to by the City.
- C. **RESPONSIBILITY.** Property owners shall be responsible for the cost and coordination of connecting any sump pump discharge to the City’s subsurface connection.
- D. **LIABILITY.** Property owners are responsible for any hazardous condition caused by their discharge of sump pump discharge. Property owners are responsible for their connection to the storm sewer, however made, including any effects that freezing, flooding, or blockage of either the City’s subsurface connection, or the property owners’ connection to it, may have on the property owners’ structure or property. As a condition of connecting to the City’s subsurface connection to the storm sewer, property owners acknowledge that the City shall not be liable for and flooding, freezing, or other damages that might result from connection of sump pump discharge to the City’s subsurface connection to the storm sewer.
- E. **CONNECTION DESIGN.** Although the design of any private connection of sump pump discharge is the sole responsibility of the property owner, the City recommends the incorporation of an air gap to minimize potential damages in the event of freezing, blockage, or flooding. Property owners are prohibited from connecting their Roof Drains to any adjacent subsurface storm sewer connection. The City will provide guidance for sump pump connections on its website.

SUBD. 3. NONCOMPLIANCE. The City’s Superintendent of Public Works, or designee, will issue a written notice of noncompliance to any property determined not to comply with this

Section's requirements. The property owner will have ninety (90) days from the issuance of the notice of noncompliance to comply with this Section's requirements.

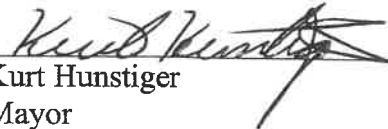
SUBD. 4. PENALTY FOR VIOLATION. Any person violating any provision of this Section shall be guilty of a penal offense punishable by a fine of One Hundred Dollars (\$100). Each quarter that such violation continues after imposition of the first One Hundred Dollars (\$100) shall be considered a separate offense punishable by an additional fine of One Hundred Dollars \$100. The imposition of such fine shall in no way limit the City's right to seek an injunction in District Court ordering compliance with this Section.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be effective upon publication.

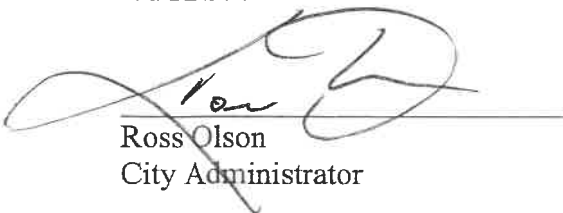
SECTION 4. SUMMARY PUBLICATION. At least four-fifths of the City Council's members direct the Administrator to publish only the title and summary of this Ordinance as follows:

"ORDINANCE REGULATING SUMP PUMP DISCHARGE. It is the intent and effect of this Ordinance to reduce hazardous effects of sump pump discharge onto public right of way by requiring connection to public underground drainage tile where available, and to clarify liability of property owners for their connection to the underground drain tile."

Adopted this 24th day of May, 2021.

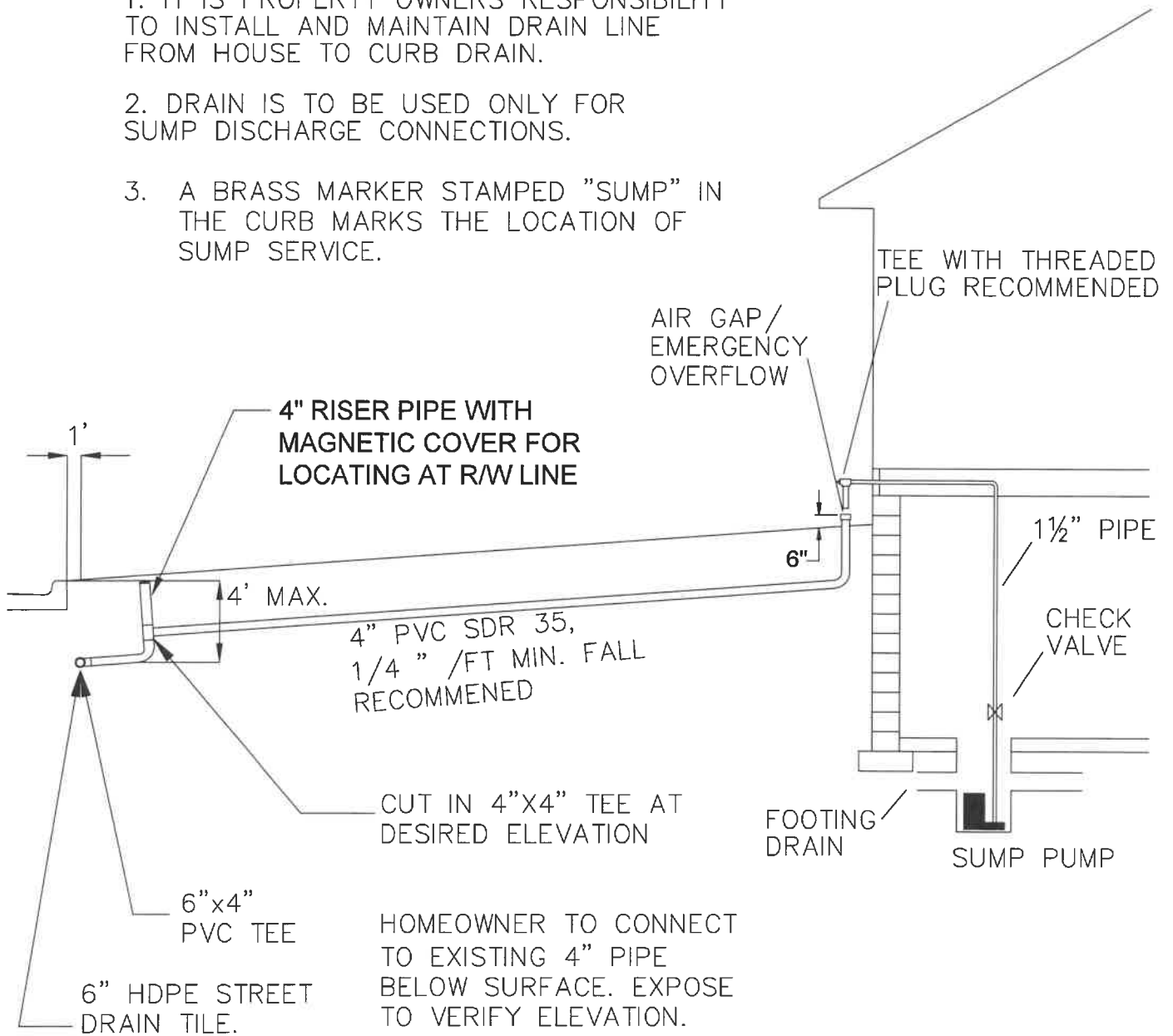

Kurt Hunstiger
Mayor

ATTEST:


Ross Olson
City Administrator

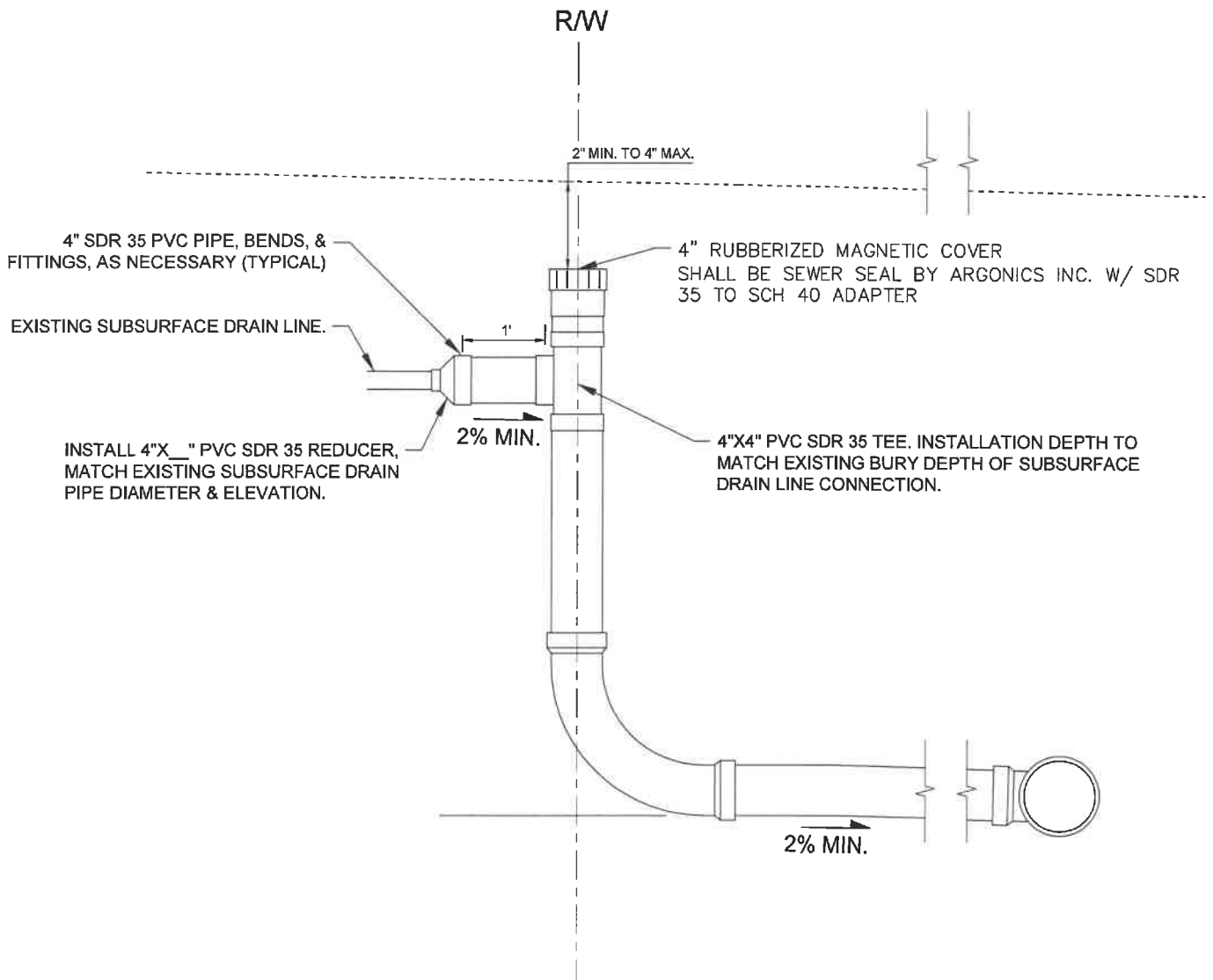
NOTE:

1. IT IS PROPERTY OWNERS RESPONSIBILITY TO INSTALL AND MAINTAIN DRAIN LINE FROM HOUSE TO CURB DRAIN.
2. DRAIN IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR SUMP DISCHARGE CONNECTIONS.
3. A BRASS MARKER STAMPED "SUMP" IN THE CURB MARKS THE LOCATION OF SUMP SERVICE.



SUMP DISCHARGE CONNECTION TO CURB DRAIN

		SAUK RAPIDS MINNESOTA	SUMP DISCHARGE DETAIL	DATE 5/19/21
---	--	--------------------------	--------------------------	-----------------



SAUK RAPIDS
MINNESOTA

BELOW GRADE
SUMP PUMP SERVICE
CONNECTION DETAIL

DATE
5/19/21