



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Bohol
MUNICIPALITY OF LOON

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 122ND REGULAR SESSION OF THE 14TH SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF LOON, PROVINCE OF BOHOL HELD ON THE 4TH DAY OF JANUARY 2022 AT JUAN M. RELAMPAGOS SESSION HALL, LOON, BOHOL -

PRESENT:

Hon. Lloyd Peter M. Lopez, M.D.	Vice Mayor, Presiding Officer
Hon. Pedro M. Literatus, Jr.	SB Member
Hon. Ana Lisa O. Go	SB Member
Hon. Lydia L. Almasa	SB Member
Hon. Judy Marie H. Veloso	SB Member
Hon. Zaide Y. Coritico	SB Member
Hon. Timoteo L. Legitimas	SB Member
Hon. Priscila C. Branzuela	SB Member
Hon. Emalinda A. Veloso	LnB President, Ex-Officio Member
Hon. April Joseph L. Corciega	SKMF President, Ex-Officio Member

ABSENT:

Hon. Kristel P. Tecson	SB Member
------------------------	-----------

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 22-001
Series of 2022

THE WATER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT CODE OF LOON, BOHOL

RATIONALE

The enactment of this Code is a response to the pressing demand of the Loonanon water consumers and the business sector for efficient management of the water system and for provision of sufficient water supply in the Municipality of Loon. It consolidates related ordinances and laws relative to the compliance or application of proper water management standards, practices and technologies for the general welfare of the public, as well as the private and institutional sectors who would be benefited by the upgrading and improvement of services of the Loon Waterworks System.

It is a vital piece of legislation that legitimizes a system that ensures the provision of a consistent and sufficient water supply that is essential for the attainment of a better quality of life of the general populace and for the successful business operation of the eco-tourism, agricultural, industrial, trading and commercial investors within the 8 districts. This may help to propel the Municipality of Loon toward the direction of rapid socio-economic growth and the attainment of the Philippine 2040 Vision of a prosperous, healthy, smart and innovative middle-class society.

HON. PEDRO LITERATUS, JR.
Chairman, Committee on Rules & Codification

Be it enacted by the 14th Sangguniang Bayan of Loon, Bohol in session duly assembled:

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Title. This Code shall be known as the Water System Management Code of Loon, Bohol.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipal Government of Loon, Bohol to tap, develop, distribute and manage water resources sustainably for residential as well as for commercial or industrial use by the public and private or business sectors within the municipality.

Section 3. Definition of Terms.

- a) Charity Service Connection – is the utilization of water from the mainline for charitable institution run and operated by the government or by its quasi bodies.
- b) Communal/Public Faucet Connection – is the utilization of water from the mainline for public commodity use only through a metered public faucet assumed, operated and granted to government entities or instrumentalities or to any political subdivisions of the Municipality of Loon only.
- c) Cost – Labor, material, transportation expenses, supervision, engineering and all other necessary overhead expenses.
- d) Domestic/Residential Service Connection – is the utilization of water from the main for individual metered household and for commodity use only.
- e) Lake – A considerable body of standing water in a depression of land or expanded part of a river, or a body of water of considerable size surrounded by land; a widened portion of a river or a lagoon.
- f) Loon Waterworks System – refers to the personnel in-charged in the management and operations of the water system of Loon.
- g) Service Connection – refers to the tapping of water mains and the laying of pipes from the main to the curb line and the setting of the meter and meter box.
- h) Water Source – is the body of fresh water which can utilize for drinking, washing, health and sanitation, agriculture use and for other purposes. It includes live spring water impounding, lakes, rivers, streams water basin beneath the surface of the earth, deep wells, shallow wells, etc. within territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Loon.

For the purpose of these regulations all words used here in the present tense shall include the singular number; and all words in the singular number shall include the plural number.

Section 4. Objectives. This Code is enacted to serve the following objectives:

- 1) To establish the basic principles and framework relating the appropriation, control and conservation of water resources to achieve the optimum development and rational utilization of these resources;
- 2) To strengthen the management and operations of the waterworks system to meet the basic demands of its constituents and the business sector.
- 3) To provide the mechanics in serving the water concessionaires without unnecessary delay or unattended leaking whatsoever.

Section 5. Principles. The following are the underlying principles of this Code:

- a. Principle of State Ownership.
-that all waters belong to the State.
- b. Principle of Non-Prescription.
-that all waters that belong to the State cannot be the subject to acquisitive prescription.
- c. Principle of Concession.
-that the State may allow the use or development of waters by administrative concession.
- d. Principle of Water Development.
-that the utilization, exploitation, development, conservation and protection of water resources shall be subject to the control and regulation of the government through the National Water Resources Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council.
- e. Principle of Preferential Use.
-that preference in the use and development of waters shall consider current usages and be responsive to the changing needs of the country.
- f. Principle of Water Coverage.
-that Waters, as used in this Code, refers to water under the grounds, water above the ground, water in the atmosphere and the waters of the sea within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Loon.

ARTICLE II

GENERAL WATER GUIDELINES

Section 1. Water Ownership.

- a) The following belong to the State:
 - i. Rivers and their natural beds;
 - ii. Continuous or intermittent waters of springs and brooks running in their natural beds and the beds themselves;
 - iii. Natural lakes and lagoons;

- iv. All other categories of surface waters such as water flowing over lands, water from rainfall whether natural, or artificial, and water from agriculture runoff, seepage and drainage;
 - v. Atmospheric water;
 - vi. Subterranean or ground waters; and
 - vii. Seawater.
- b) The owner of the land where the water is found may use the same for domestic purposes without securing a permit. Any person who captures or collects water by means of cisterns, tanks, or pools shall have exclusive control over such water and the right to dispose of the same.

Section 2. Appropriation of Waters.

- a) Appropriation of water is the acquisition of rights over the use of waters or the taking or diverting of waters from a natural source in the manner and for any purpose allowed by law.
- b) Water may be appropriated for the following purposes:
- i. Domestic purposes
- is the utilization of water for drinking, washing, bathing cooking or other household needs, home gardens, and watering of lawns or domestic animals.
 - ii. Municipal
- is the utilization of water for supplying the water requirements of the community.
 - iii. Irrigation
- is the utilization of water for producing agricultural crops.
 - iv. Power generations
- is the utilization of water for producing electrical or mechanical power.
 - v. Fisheries
- is the utilization of water for the propagation and culture of fish as a commercial enterprise.
 - vi. Livestock raising
- is the utilization of water for large herds or flocks of animals raised as a commercial enterprise.
 - vii. Industrial
- is the utilization of water in factories, industrial plants and mines, including the use of water as an ingredient of a finished product.
 - viii. Recreational
- is the utilization of water for swimming pools, bath houses, boating, water skiing, golf courses and other similar facilities in resorts and other places of recreation.
 - ix. Other purposes
- is the utilization of water for all other purposes.

Section 3. Water Rights And Permits.

- a) Water right is the privilege granted by the government to appropriate and use water.
- b) As a rule, no person, including government-owned or controlled corporations, shall appropriate water without a water right, which shall be evidenced by a document known as a water permit. Any person who desires to obtain a water permit shall file an application with the National Water Resources Council who shall make known said application to the public for any protests.
- c) However, any person may appropriate or use natural bodies of water without securing a water permit for any of the following:
 - i- Appropriation of water by means of hand carried receptacles; and
 - ii- Bathing or washing, watering or dipping of domestic or farm animals, and navigation of watercrafts or transportation of logs and other objects by flotation.

A water right shall be exercised in such a manner that the rights of third persons or of other appropriators are not prejudiced thereby.

Section 4. Prohibitions And Conditions For Use Of Waters.

- a. In all instances, prior to securing national permit from the National Water Resources Board, a favorable recommendation of the concerned barangay/s and the Sangguniang Bayan through a resolution of endorsement shall be coursed through for purposes of consolidating both public and private efforts in providing optimum water services to the Loonanon public and the private sector as a whole.
- b. No excavation for the purpose of emission of a hot spring or for the enlargement of the existing opening thereof shall be made without prior permit. Any person or agency who intends to develop a hot spring for human consumption must first obtain a permit from the Department of Health.
- c. No person shall develop a stream, lake, or spring for recreational purposes without first securing a permit from the National Water Resources Council.
- d. Unless otherwise ordered by the President, and only in time of national calamity or emergency, no person shall induce or restrain rainfall by any method such as cloud seeding without a permit from the proper government agency.
- e. No person shall raise or lower the water level of a river, stream, lagoon, or marsh nor drain the same without a permit.
- f. Drainage systems shall be so constructed that their outlets are rivers, lakes, the sea, natural bodies of water, or such other water course as may be approved by the proper government agency.
- g. When artificial means are employed to drain water from higher to lower land, the owner of the higher land shall select the routes and methods of drainage that will cause the minimum damage to the lower lands, subject to the requirements of just compensation.
- h. When the use, conveyance or storage of waters results in damage to another, the person responsible for the damage shall pay compensation.
- i. Any person having an easement for an aqueduct may enter upon the servient land for the purpose of cleaning, repairing or replacing the aqueduct or the removal obstruction therefrom.
- j. Lower estates are obliged to receive the waters which naturally and without the intervention of man flow from the higher estate, as well as the stone or earth which they carry with them. The owner of the lower estate cannot construct works which will impede this natural flow, unless they provide an alternative method of drainage; neither can the owner of the higher estate make actuations which will increase this natural flow.

- k. The banks of rivers and streams and the shores of the seas and lakes throughout their entire length and within a zone of three (3) meters in urban areas, twenty (20) meters in agricultural areas and forty (40) meters in forest areas, along their margins are subject to the easement of public use in the interest of recreation, navigation, floatage, fishing and salvage. No person shall be allowed to stay in this zone longer than what is necessary for recreation, navigation, floatage, fishing or salvage or to build structures of any kind.

(Law on Natural Resources and Environmental Law Developments, 2012- Page 371-373)

Section 5. Loon Water Sources.

1. Policy.

No barangay or specific area within the territorial jurisdiction of this municipality shall be deprived of the basic right to avail of and enjoy clean and potable water being supplied and distributed by this Municipality through the Loon Waterworks System (LWS) or through a private sector with favorable endorsement of the Sangguniang Bayan.

2. Existing Water Sources.

All existing water sources shall be developed and maintained to serve the following clusters of barangays with corresponding service expanded connections, as follows:

WATER SOURCE	CONSUMING BARANGAYS
1.Cogon Sur Drilled Well/ Pumping Station	Canmanoc, Cabug, Cabadug, Upper Lintuan, Upper Basdacu, Pig-ot, Tangnan, Cuasi &Taytay, Tontonan, Song-on
2. Moto Sur Drilled Well/ Pumping Station and Cogon Norte Drilled Well/ Pumping Station	Lintuan, Moto Sur, Basdacu, Moto Norte, Napo, Cogon Norte, Basac,
3.Biasong Spring Pumping Station	Biasong, Canhangdon Oriental, Canhangdon Occidental, Ubayon, Catagbacan Sur, Catagbacan Norte, Cantam-is Baslay
4.Canhangdon Oriental Drilled Well Pumping Station	Canhangdon Oriental, Canhangdon Occidental, Ubayon, Catagbacan Sur, Catagbacan Norte
5.Agsoso Spring	Badbad Occidental, Badbad Oriental, Ticugan, Cogon Norte, Basac, Cogon Sur, Tubodio (Lintuan to Song-on partly night time)
6.Ticugan Pumping Station/ Danicop Spring	Ticugan, Cabilao Island
7.Basac-Ticugan Pumping Station	Sandingan Island
8.Bagacay Katipuhan Spring	Catagbacan Handig, Cantomocad, Pondol, Pananquilon
9.Catagbacan Handig Pumping Station	Catagbacan Handig, Cantomocad, Pondol, Pananquilon
10.Pananquilon Pumping Station	Catagbacan Handig, Cantomocad, Pondol, Pananquilon

3. Expanded Water Services.

Subject to funding sources, the following water sources shall be developed to supply other underserved barangays of Loon as the need arises:

- 1) Moalong River Source
- 2) Cantaongon-Canmaag Falls
- 3) TicuganDanicop Falls
- 4) Tubig-Loon Spring

- 5) Other sources shall be explored and developed upon authorization of the Water Board.

The LGU through the LWS may enter into an agreement with any qualified private entity to fill up whatever gap for water services.

However, subject to the recommendation of the Planning Division and approval of the Water Board, the Clustering of Water Sources and the corresponding service distribution areas may be modified or cancelled depending on the demand and/or the current financial status of the LWS or technical condition of the system or the availability of the source of water in the town.

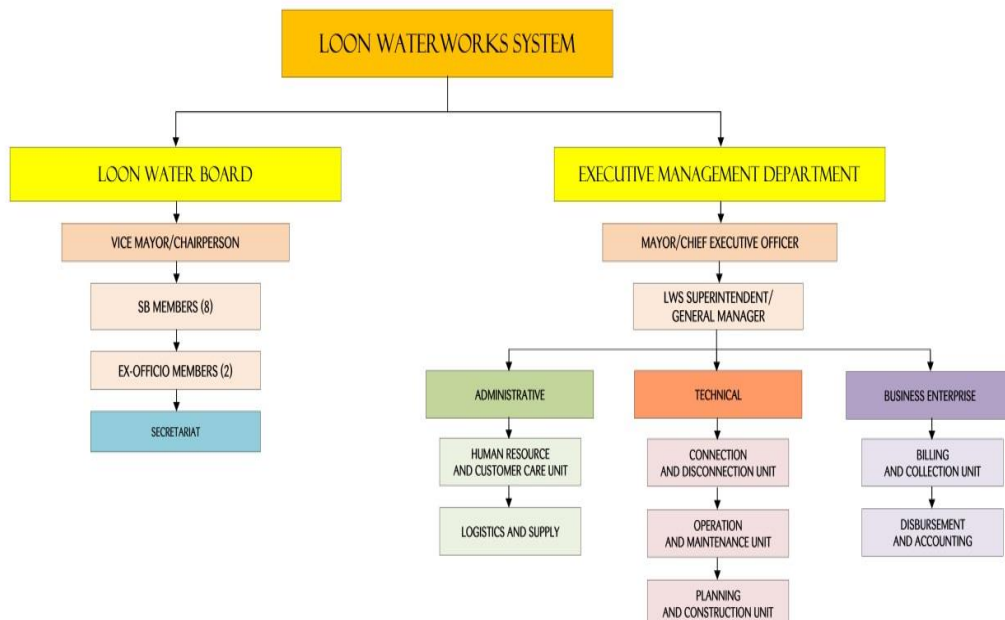
ARTICLE III LOON WATERWORKS SYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Section 1. Creation of the Loon Waterworks System.

There shall be created the Loon Waterworks System (LWS), to be operated and managed as an income-generating and self-sustaining economic enterprise body under the jurisdiction and control of the Local Government Unit of Loon, Bohol, as provided for by the Local Government Code.

Section 2. Organizational Structure.

The Loon Waterworks System shall be organized as follows:



Section 3. LWS Governing Authorities.

The Loon Waterworks System shall be governed and administered by two (2) departments having equal power and authority, namely, the Loon Water Board which is the policy-making branch, and the Executive Management Department which is the implementing or administering branch of the LWS.

1. The Loon Water Board.

- a) Ex officio members. There shall be created the Loon Water Board comprising of the Municipal Vice Mayor as the Chairperson and the eight (8) regular members and two (2) ex-officio members of the incumbent Sangguniang Bayan (SB) as the members. The Secretariat of the Water Board shall be headed by the Sangguniang Bayan Secretary or his/her authorized representative and manned by the SB staff.
- b) Powers, Duties and Responsibilities.
 - i. To review and approve the projects, programs and activities directly or indirectly attached to or connected with the service mandate of the Loon Waterworks System.
 - ii. To grant or revoke the authority of the Executive Department duly represented by the Municipal Mayor to enter into contracts, agreements, or similar legal undertakings that shall be required with any government or private entity, including water consumers, who engage with the LWS.
 - iii. To conduct regular review of the policies, plans and ongoing projects of the LWS every fourth quarter of each fiscal year, or as the need arises.
 - iv. To conduct public consultation prior to enactment of any water service-related ordinance or resolutions.
 - v. To formulate applicable rules, regulations, guidelines and policies pertaining to water system operation, management and approved projects.
 - vi. To serve as the monitoring and oversight body for the implementation of this code.

2. The Executive Management Department.

- a) There shall be created the Executive Management Department to be headed by the Municipal Mayor as the Chief Executive Officer who shall oversee the overall management and operation of the LWS, through the General Manager.
- b) The Chief Executive Officer: Power, Duties and Responsibilities.
 - i. To implement the programs, projects and activities approved by the Loon Water Board as well as all the provisions mandated by this Code.
 - ii. To monitor, review, or evaluate existing operation, and administer systematic remedies to mitigate and address water service deficiency or failure of the LWS in order to ensure good quality service to the consumers.
 - iii. To manage and administer the customer service, connection/disconnection systems, and all logistical concerns of the LWS.
 - iv. To formulate plans and strategies for cost-effective water system maintenance and for service improvement of existing facilities, as well as expansion to underserved areas within the jurisdiction of the LWS.
 - v. To sign and enter into contracts, agreements and other related undertakings, in behalf of the LWS, with any government or private entity for the implementation of the related projects or activities including the

- drawing of loans with any qualified financial institutions as authorized by this Code or related laws.
- vi. To hire or terminate the services of any qualified employee subject to existing rules of the Civil Service and related Labor laws.
 - vii. To ensure the technical and financial stability as well as gains of the LWS.
 - viii. To cause for the provision of daily supply of potable water to consumers within the service areas of the LWS.
 - ix. To represent the LWS/LGU-Loon in the application or renewal of water permit with the National Water Resources Board.

Section 4. Executive Management Department.

1. LWS 3 Divisions.

The LWS Executive Management Department shall be divided into 3 Divisions, namely, the Administrative, the Technical, and the Business Enterprise, with each functioning division executing or carrying out orders and tasks by the Chief Executive Officer or Municipal Mayor, through the General Manager, as mandated in this Code.

2. The General Manager: Duties and Responsibilities

There shall be created the office of the General Manager to be headed by the Loon Waterworks Superintendent who is mandated to supervise the 3 Divisions and to manage the daily administrative and technical operations of the Executive Department of the LWS.

The General Manager of the LWS shall perform the following, to wit:

- a) To ensure harmonious working relationship and collaboration among the employees and officials of the LWS.
- b) To provide and maintain an uninterrupted flow and supply of potable water to all consumers of the LWS.
- c) To promptly respond to consumers complaints and to address problems on water pipe leakage or water supply interruption or failure.
- d) To maintain sufficient supplies and materials essential for the administrative and technical operations of the LWS.
- e) To ensure financial gains and avoid or minimize losses in order to achieve financial stability of the business enterprise of the LWS.
- f) To layout plans for maintenance, rehabilitation and expansion of the areas of responsibility of the LWS.
- g) To directly supervise the field operations and maintenance works undertaken by the crew of the LWS.
- h) To recruit workers, laborers, or technical personnel and recommend to the Chief Executive Officer for hiring or termination of employment.
- i) To execute orders, tasks or any other activities as mandated by the Chief Executive Officer and/or the Water Board.
- j) To do whatever acts or obligations as mandated by this Code.

3. The Administrative Division.

There shall be created the Administrative Division which is composed of two Functional Units, namely, the Human Resource and the Customer Care Unit, and the Logistics and Supply Unit, viz:

a) The Human Resource and Customer Care Unit: Duties and Responsibilities.

The Human Resources and Customer Care Unit shall be headed by a competent and qualified regular employee of the LGU to be designated as The Human Resource and Customer Care Officer who shall perform the following functions, to wit:

- i. To assist in the recruitment, screening and hiring of laborers, workers, or technical personnel of the LWS.
- ii. To handle and settle grievances and disputes as well as any work-related concerns among the employees of the LWS.
- iii. To conduct counselling or work-related seminars to promote the general well-being and enhance the skills and performance of the workers of the LWS.
- iv. To establish a Customer Care Hotline where customer complaints and suggestions are received and relayed to the management of the LWS and responses to such complaints are channeled to consumers, vice versa.
- v. To assist in the settling of disputes with customers and LWS management.
- vi. To relay announcement, notices or memoranda from the management to the consumers of the LWS.
- vii. To formulate strategies and/or administer measures or initiative to maintain and improve public relations of the LWS.

b) Logistics and Supply Division: Duties and Responsibilities.

The Logistics and Supply Division shall be headed by a competent and qualified regular employee of the LGU with designation as the Logistics and Supply Officer who shall perform the following functions, to wit:

- i. To procure and maintain sufficient supplies, equipment and machineries essential for the administrative and technical operations of the LWS.
- ii. To establish a systematic and organized inventory of equipment, tools, supplies, and all properties owned by the LWS of the LGU-Loon.
- iii. To provide financial supply, office materials and other related supplies to the offices of the Executive Department and Water Board.
- iv. To do other tasks and duties as ordered by the superiors.

4. Business Enterprise Division

There shall be created the Business Enterprise Division which is divided into two (2) units, namely, the Billing and Collection Unit, and the Disbursement and Accounting Unit.

a) The Billing and Collection Unit: Duties and Responsibilities.

The Billing and Collection Unit shall be headed by a competent and qualified regular employee of the LGU who is designated as the Billing and Collection Officer and shall perform the following functions, to wit:

- i. To establish a systematic and modernized billing system.
- ii. To ensure One Hundred percent (100%) payment collection efficiency on water consumers bills.

- iii. To open linkages with financial institutions in order to make water bill payment accessible to the consumers.

b) The Disbursement and Accounting Unit: Duties and Responsibilities.

The Disbursement and Accounting Unit shall be composed of two officers, namely, the Disbursement Officer and the Accounting Officer, who shall be any competent and qualified regular employees of the LGU with the following duties and responsibilities, to wit:

- i. To conduct bookkeeping works involving all financial transactions with the LWS.
- ii. To make and submit, on a regular basis, a financial report on the status of finances of the LWS to the Loon Water Board and the Chief Executive Officer.
- iii. To manage and supervise cash flows including expenditures or disbursements and income or sales.
- iv. To execute any other financial activities deemed necessary as mandated by this Code.

5. The Technical Operation Division

There shall be created the Technical Operation Division to be managed by the Waterworks Superintendent and is divided into three (3) Units, namely the Connection and Disconnection Unit, Operation and Maintenance Unit, and the Planning and Construction Unit:

a) The Connection and Disconnection Unit: Duties and Responsibilities.

The Connection and Disconnection Unit shall be headed by a competent and qualified regular employee of the LGU with a designation as the Connection and Disconnection Officer and shall perform the following functions, to wit:

- i. To install water pipe lines, water meter and its accessories to the consumer.
- ii. To replace damaged or malfunctioning water meters and water pipelines and its accessories that are within the property line of the consumer.
- iii. To carry out water disconnection orders for delinquent water consumers or terminated water connections.
- iv. To establish a safe and organized depository of water meters and water pipelines for disconnected consumers.

b) The Operation and Maintenance Unit: Duties and Responsibilities.

The Operation and Maintenance Unit shall be headed by a competent and qualified regular employee of the LWS with a designation as the Operation and Maintenance Officer who shall perform the following functions, to wit:

- i. To operate the water system involving the deep wells, water pumps, reservoirs and other accessories in order to provide constant or uninterrupted flow of potable water to consumers.
- ii. To assist the Municipal Engineer, Waterworks Superintendent and water project contractors in installing or constructing water system facilities.
- iii. To monitor and repair water leakages along the main as well as consumer water pipelines within the areas of the LWS.

- iv. To repair or replace damaged pumps, reservoirs, deep wells, water lines, and other water system facilities of the LWS.
 - v. To do other related tasks as deemed necessary.
- c) Planning and Construction Unit: Duties and Responsibilities.

The Planning and Construction Unit shall be headed by the Waterworks Superintendent who is also the General Manager of the Executive Department and shall perform the following Duties and Responsibilities, to wit:

- i. To formulate water system plan for rehabilitation, development and expansion project of the LWS.
- ii. To assist or undertake the construction works or activities involving water system projects of the LWS.
- iii. To prepare the annual budget of the LWS to be submitted to the Water Board through the Chief Executive Officer for approval.
- iv. To determine and hire laborers and/or skilled personnel who shall be tasked to execute special expansion or construction projects of the LWS.

Section 5. Discretionary Authority.

Only under extraordinary or emergency situation or condition shall the Executive Department through the Municipal Mayor be allowed to create and supervise an office, task force or other related body not specified and provided for in this Code but is essential for addressing urgent issues or problems concerning the operation and management of the Loon Waterworks System, provided that prior authority by the Loon Water Board is granted. Provided, further, that the said body/bodies shall be considered to be in a temporary nature or short-term basis and is project or mission-specific.

Section 6. Water Quality Monitoring and Maintenance Committee (WQMM).

To ensure water safety, there shall be created the Water Quality Monitoring and Maintenance Committee which acts to monitor water contaminants or impurities and administer remedy or treatment in order to achieve and maintain a water quality level that is within the acceptable health standard set by the Department of Health.

- A. Composition of the WQMM. The committee shall be composed of the following, to wit;

Chairperson - The Waterworks Superintendent or representative
Vice Chairperson - The Municipal Health Officer/ Rural Health Physician
Members:

- Representative of the Municipal Health Officer, preferably the Sanitary Inspector
- The Water Quality and Sanitation Officer of LWS
- The Municipal Engineer

- B. Duties and Responsibilities of WQMM. The committee shall be obliged to do the following functions, to wit;

1. To regularly conduct water testing / sampling activities in order to detect water contamination or deterioration of water quality.

2. To periodically administer water disinfection or treatment procedures in order to achieve an acceptable water quality that is considered safe for human use or consumption.
3. To regularly conduct monthly meetings in order to report the state of water quality standard of the LWS to the Local Chief Executive and the Sangguniang Bayan.

C. Water Quality and Sanitation Officer

To assume the duty and responsibility of monitoring or testing water quality and treating contaminants or impurities of the water, the water Quality and Sanitation Office shall be created and operated which shall be headed by any qualified regular or contractual employee of the LWS/LGU. The WQS officer shall be appointed by the Local Chief Executive as recommended by the Loon Waterworks Superintendent.

Section 7. Water Facility Security Force.

There shall be created the Water Facility Security Force which acts to guard and secure water facilities such as reservoir, pumping stations, deep wells, and related infrastructures of the LWS, and shall be composed of a head who is a regular or contractual employee and security guards employed or hired by the LWS/LGU, on a case to case basis.

Section 8. Workers Protection and Privileges.

Pursuant to Section 444a, 1, xvii, RA 7160, in case of legal disputes, accidental injuries incurred or death caused by any activity or task related to water system works on any employee of the LWS, the LGU shall provide discretionary financial assistance for hospitalization/medication and burial, or technical/legal assistance if the incident occurred during or within official working period or during special working date/time as authorized by the Mayor and approved by the Sangguniang Bayan.

ARTICLE IV

OPERATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 1. Water Connection. All applicants for water connection shall first secure barangay clearance subject to compliance of the 7 days period of issuance pursuant to Section 152 (c) of RA 7160, prior to the compliance of other requirements set forth at the LWS Connection/Disconnection Unit.

Section 2. Size and Locations. The LWS Operations Unit shall determine the size of service connections and their locations with respect to the boundaries of the premises to be served. The layering of consumer's service lateral to the meter shall not be done until the location of the service connection has been recommended by the General Manager and approved by the Municipal Mayor or its authorized representative.

Section 3. Curb Cock. Every service connection installed by the LWS shall be equipped with a curb or valve on the outlet side of the meter, which valve or curb cock shall be for the exclusive use of the LWS in controlling the water supply through the service lateral. It is further provided that, if the curb cock or valve is damaged by the consumer's use to an extent requiring replacement, such replacement shall be made at the consumer's expense.

Section 4. Pressure Conditions. All applicants for the service connections or water service shall be required to accept such conditions of pressure and service as are provided by the

distributing system at the location of the proposed connection, and shall agree to hold the LWS blameless for any damages arising out of low pressure or high-pressure conditions or interruptions of service.

Section 5. Water Rents. Water rents are due and payable at the Treasurer's Office on or before the due date as reflected in the bill and shall be delinquent 15 days thereafter, with six percent (6%) surcharge in case of delinquency.

Failure to receive the bill does not relieve consumer of his/her liability. Any amount due shall be deemed a debt, to the Municipal Treasurer's Office. Any person, firm or corporation who fail, neglect or refuse to pay said indebtedness shall be liable to a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction for the amount due hereof.

It is the declared policy of the LWS that all connections are to be metered and that no water is to be delivered without charge except for firefighting purpose, calamity or disaster response provided prior permission is granted by the LWS and for other purposes which the Loon Water Board may deem just and reasonable.

Section 6. Maintenance of Service and Connections. The service laterals extending from the water mainline to the water meter (including the meter) shall be maintained by the LWS. All pipes and fixtures extending from the meter or lying beyond the customer meter shall be installed and maintained by the owner of the property.

Section 7. Property Owner's Guarantee. The water charge shall begin when a service is installed and the meter is set. Before the water shall be turned on by the LWS for any purpose whatsoever, the consumer or his authorized agent shall first sign a form in which he guarantees the payment of future water bills for the service required. The property owner shall notify the LWS in writing in the event the authorized agent is changed.

Section 8. Water Used Without Regular Application Made. A person, firm, or corporation taking possession of premises and using water from active service connection without having made application to the LWS for water service, shall be held liable for the water delivered from the date of the last recorded meter reading and if the meter is found inoperative, the quantity consumed will be estimated. If proper application for water service is not made upon notification to do so by the LWS, and if accumulated bills for service are not immediately paid, the service may be discontinued by the LWS without further notice.

Section 9. Water concessionaire's account. A corresponding service charge will be made for turning on and shutting off the water supply upon request by consumer and approval by the LWS for the closing of an old account or the beginning of a new one. If the LWS representative is in any way prevented from discontinuing service or if service is turned back on by persons other than the representative duly authorized, the LWS may take or authorize any further steps it deems necessary to effect the disconnection and the full cost of all such efforts plus the estimated cost of reconnection must be paid in full before service will be restored.

Section 10. Damaged Leaking Pipes and Fixtures.

- 1) Rules on Vacant House or Property
 - a) The LWS technical staff shall endeavor to ascertain if water is running inside of the vacant building.
 - b) If such is found to be the case, the water will be left shut off at the curb cock on the inlet side of the meter.

- 2) Emergency Repairs. On emergency cases, the LWS shall immediately shut off the water supply at the curb cock until necessary repairs are made, Provided that the payment of the required fees shall be made prior to the repair.
- 3) LWS Responsibility
The jurisdiction and responsibility of the LWS shall end at the meter and the LWS will in no case be liable for damages beyond the meter.

Section 11. Leaking Rules.

1. LWS Responsibility.
 - a) It shall be the prime responsibility of the Loon Waterworks System (LWS) through the Operation and Maintenance Unit to monitor and immediately take remedial measures to check and plug any leaking in all of the service areas of LWS through a leaking-check-system to be adopted by its technical unit.
 - b) All sectors, individuals, firm, corporation, barangay and municipal officials and employees, organizations and institutions are obliged to report "ASAP" direct to the LWS hotline for prompt anti-leaking response not later than 24 hours from the time it was reported.
 - c) Failure of the LWS personnel to immediately respond to such verified/reliable notice either in verbal including telephone or cellular phone call or in writing in whatever form such as cellular phone text or social media messaging, or letter shall render the concerned office/personnel administratively liable for negligence of duty.
2. Consumer's Responsibility.
 - a) Problems on leaking from the house/ building structure to the meter shall be within the look-out and responsibility of the water consumer.
 - b) Whenever it has been established after due investigation by the Operation and Maintenance or its authorized representatives that the consumer has been negligent in the proper maintenance of his water connection, the full cost of water consumed as reflected in the meter shall be paid.
 - c) However, if negligence has not been established after due investigation, the customer shall be made to pay the average monthly consumption computed from the immediately preceding 3 months to cover the cost of electrical consumption.
3. Payment of Damages/Fees or Disciplinary Measures.
 - a) If the leaking happens from the mainline to the water meter, and the LWS personnel tolerated its action beyond 1-day rule, they shall be held liable for disciplinary action.
 - b) If the leaking happens from the household towards the meter, and the LWS personnel did not heed or take any initial action to the reliable notice/call from the consumer after the lapse of the 1-day rule, the LWS personnel shall be liable for disciplinary action, provided, the following requisites are observed:
 - i. The water consumer exercised due diligence to minimize the loss
 - ii. The average rate for the past three (3) months shall be the basis for its payment
 - iii. The privilege applies only on one time-basis, except if the leaking is on the other line or location, without the consumer's fault, subject to the determination of the SB Committee on Public Works and Utilities with the presence of the LWS technical staff.

- c) If the leaking happens at any government structure or office, and the office personnel concerned tolerated and ignored such leaking, they shall pay the excess of its regular monthly bill. If it was reported and the LWS personnel violated the 1-day response rule, the latter is subject for disciplinary action.
4. LWS Monitoring and Reporting of Damages or Leaks.
 - a) The 24-hour LWS telephone and cellular phone hotline shall always be open and maintained.
 - b) Each division or unit of the LWS shall have its Hotline cellular phones for compliance within 24 hours immediate response rule.
 - c) Every technical personnel of the LWS shall be provided with monthly communication or cellular phone load allowance, subject to the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer and the approval of the Water Board for them to immediately respond to whatever calls for immediate water services down to every affected service pipeline.

For transparency and accountability purposes, the official LWS hotline numbers shall be disseminated to the barangay officials.

Section 12. Damage to Meters. The LWS reserves the right to install and replace a meter on any connection. The water consumer shall be held liable, however, for any damage to the meter due to his negligence or carelessness. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of the property to protect the meter and the inlet valve to the meter from physical damage. The cost of repairs to the meter or inlet valve as a result of such physical damage shall be included in the next water bill.

Section 13. Meter Testing. When the accuracy of a water meter is questioned, the LWS upon request will cause an official test to be made its own expense. The consumer shall be duly notified of the time and the place of such test and maybe present before any such test will be made by the LWS. The meter will be tested on variable rates of delivery and if the average registration is more than two percent (2%) in excess of the actual quantity of water passing through the meter, the LWS shall refund to the consumer the overcharge based upon the test, for the prior twelve months, unless it can be shown that the error was due to some cause for which the date can be fixed. In the latter case, the overcharge shall be computed back to and beyond such times. If the meter is within two percent (2%) of accuracy, the consumer will reimburse the LWS for the expense involved in testing.

Section 14. Tampering with LWS Property. No one except an employee or representative of LWS shall at any time in any manner operate the curb cocks or valves, main cocks, gates or valves of the LWS, or interfere with meters or their connections, street main and secondary pipes, water pumps, water reservoirs, deep wells and spring sources, electric power supply or other parts of the water system.

Section 15. Maintenance of Water Pressure and Shutting Down for Emergency and/ or Maintenance Repairs. The LWS shall not take any responsibility for the maintenance of pressure and it reserves the right to discontinue service while making emergency repairs or for other causes, which in the discretion of the LWS necessitates such discontinuance. Customers depending upon a continuous water supply should provide their own emergency storage of water. However, for scheduled repairs and maintenance services, prior notices shall be given to the concerned officials of the affected barangays at least 48 hours prior to the said operation.

Section 16. Domestic, Commercial and Industrial Services Connection.

- (a) Each parcel of land under a separate ownership must be provided with a separate service. Two or more dwelling units under one ownership and on the same lot or parcel of land may be supplied through the same service, provided, however, that the LWS shall reserve the right to limit the number of dwelling units of the area of land under one ownership to be supplied by one service.
- (b) When a property provided with a service is subdivided, each service shall be considered as belonging to the lot or parcel of land upon which it fronts.

Any cooperative, association or group of households may avail of water service from the LWS as one entity utilizing one mother meter: provided that its officers and members shall be held accountable for all transactions and possible damages entered into or incurred by the group in the utilization of its water connection. Provided further that the said cooperative or group of households shall secure accreditation from the Sangguniang Bayan as a requirement for water supply connection.

Section 17. Fire and Protective Service Connection. This service shall be used for water consumed in the fire suppression and prevention activities. Such activities shall not be obstructed by any vehicles or objects. Upon the completion of the installation, the valve governing the same will be closed and shall remain so until a written order is received from the owner of the premises served by reason of the installation, maintenance, use, fluctuation or pressure, or interruption of supply.

- (a) If water is used through a fire connection for any other purpose than the extinguishing of fires, the LWS shall have the right to place a meter on the fire connection at the owner's expense or to shut off the entire water supply from such premises.
- (b) The LWS shall have the right to take a domestic, commercial or industrial service from the fire connection at the curb to supply the same premises as those to which the fire connection belongs. The LWS shall also have the right to determine the proportion of the installation costs properly changeable to each connection, if such segregation of costs shall become necessary.
- (c) The LWS reserves the right to install on all fire connections a check valve of a type approved by the Board of Fire Underwriters and to equip the same with a by-pass meter: such installations shall be at the expense of the owner of the property and the regular domestic water rates as set forth by resolution hereof shall apply for all water used through such service except for fire protection purposes only.

Section 18. Supply From Fire Hydrants.

- 1) An applicant for temporary use of water from a fire hydrant must secure a permit thereupon from the LWS and pay the regulatory fee charged for the installation and removal of a meter to be installed on said hydrant, or in the case of an unmetered installation, for the permits required for such usage.
- 2) Each applicant shall provide himself with a hydrant wrench necessary to operate such hydrant, and install a separate shut off with restricting orifice to minimize damage to hydrant and mains. If a hydrant is damaged by the consumer's use to any extent requiring repair or replacement such repair or replacement shall be made at the consumer's expense.

Section 19. Pumping Unit Power Generator. Every pumping station shall be provided with corresponding “pumping unit power generator set” which shall be used during brownouts or during the state of calamity or emergency cases.

ARTICLE V

LWS BUSINESS ENTERPRISE REGULATIONS

Section 1. Application For Water Service.

A. Declaration of Applicant’s Profile and Undertaking:

A new water service installation may be obtained by formal application on the prescribed form provided for this purpose. The application shall be signed by the applicant or his authorized representative and shall distinctly declare the following:

- 1) Whether the service is new installation and additional service connection or conversion of service from private to public;
- 2) the location of property;
- 3) The nature of the property to which the service is to be installed;
- 4) The size of the pipe connection desired; and
- 5) The fact that the applicant agrees to abide by all rules and regulations as provided herein and all those which may be enforced thereafter. The applicant once approved shall be required to execute a duly notarized service contract/agreement with the LWS through the Municipal Mayor.
- 6) The applicant shall embed the water service pipe connection in minimum of 0.30 meter deep to prevent from any impending damage.

B. Requirements for Application of Water Connection:

1. Residential Building

- 1) Barangay Clearance
- 2) Certification from Punong Barangay stating the ownership or usage of the house or building
- 3) Photocopied Community Tax Certificate (Cedula)
- 4) Photocopied Land Title/Tax Declaration or Deed of Sale as proof of the right to apply for water connection
- 5) Affidavit of Consent/ Lease Contract or Deed of Usufruct – if applicant is not the land or building owner
- 6) Notarized Special Power of Attorney executive by the owner in favor of the representative
- 7) Affidavit of Consent executed by the lot-owner/s of the servient estate/s in favor of the applicant on pipelines traversing adjacent/affected lot/s

2. Commercial, Industrial, or Institutional Building

- 1) Barangay Clearance
- 2) Certification from Punong Barangay stating the ownership or usage of the building
- 3) Photocopied Community Tax Certificate (Cedula)
- 4) Photocopied Real Property Tax Clearance
- 5) Photocopied Land Title/Tax Declaration or Deed of Sale as proof of the right to apply for water connection
- 6) Affidavit of Consent/ Lease Contract or Deed of Usufruct – if applicant is not the land or building owner
- 7) Photocopy of the Building Permit for “new commercial, industrial, or institutional

- building” applicant only
- 8) Photocopy of the Plumbing Permit for “new commercial, industrial, or institutional building” applicant only
 - 9) Notarized Special Power of Attorney executed by the owner in favor of the representative
 - 10) Affidavit of Consent executed by the lot-owner/s of the servient estate/s in favor of the applicant on pipelines traversing adjacent/affected lot/s
 - 11) Picture of the Building

3. Water Connection for Gardening/Farming only

- 1) Barangay Clearance
- 2) Certification from Punong Barangay stating the ownership or usage of the property
- 3) Photocopy of the Community Tax Certificate (Cedula)
- 4) Photocopy of the Land Title/Tax Declaration or Deed of Sale as proof of the right to apply for water connection
- 5) Affidavit of Consent/ Lease Contract or Deed of Usufruct – if applicant is not the land owner
- 6) Notarized Special Power of Attorney executed by the owner in favor of the representative
- 7) Affidavit of Consent executed by the lot-owner/s of the servient estate/s in favor of the applicant on pipelines traversing adjacent/affected lot/s
- 8) Picture of the property
- 9) Affidavit of Undertaking executed by the applicant stating that the water connection granted by LWS is temporary in nature and that the approved building permit and plumbing permit as required by the Municipal Building Official shall be submitted to LWS prior to the construction of any building being supplied with water, provided otherwise that the existing temporary water connection shall be disconnected for failure of the applicant to submit the aforementioned permits”

Section 2. Excavation Clearance. For purposes of embedding the applicant’s water service pipe connection, if the affected excavation site is located within a public domain, the applicant is required to secure excavation clearance/ permit from the LGU or DPWH or any concerned agency to which the excavation is done, provided, they have to comply with the condition subsequent, that is, to restore back to the original condition of the damaged or excavated area/s of the public domain.

Section 3. Contractual Transient Concessionaires and Compensation of Damages.

For transient concessionaires who apply for temporary use of water for specific projects or business-like contractors and other similar business, a concessionaire’s bond shall be deposited which shall be withdrawn minus the amount as compensation corresponding to any damages incurred upon the properties of the LWS and the cost of total water consumption, if any, upon completion of the project and full payment of the water bills, as follows:

- a) P1,000.00 – for projects amounting to P1 million or less
- b) P2,000.00 – or projects amounting to more than P1 M to P5M
- c) P3,000.000 – for projects amounting to more than P5M to P10M
- d) P5,000.00 – for projects more than P10M

Provided however, that in the event that the total cost of damage incurred exceeds the bond, the contractor shall be obliged to pay the excess amount.

Section 4. Transfer of Concessionaire's Ownership. A water service in operation may be transferred from the concessionaire to another upon the filing of an application form provided in this Article. The water meter of the water service concerned shall be read and recorded. Charges for water service rendered prior to such reading shall be for the account of the old concessionaire. Provided, that no transfer of water connection shall be allowed unless previous charges shall have been fully paid by the old concessionaire.

Section 5. Connection and Sub-Connection. Connections shall extend to one house or property only, except when several houses are owned by the same person who may desire to have all this property supplies through a single connection. Where no water pipe exists on a street, sub-connection may be allowed; provided that only one mother meter shall be installed and used as basis in reading the consumption, *provided further*, that a cash deposit in an amount which may be required by the Municipal Treasurer to guarantee the payment of bills and other charges for not less than the estimated amount of water bills for two (2) months subject to the same condition provided in this Article.

Section 6. Meters. Every connection to the water supply system shall be provided with a meter which shall register the water passing through it in cubic meters and which shall be of size approved by the management. The meter shall be placed/installed in the designated Tee-Terminal.

All meters connected with the water supply system shall be under the control of, and sealed by, the management of LWS or its duly authorized representative or agent, and shall not be removed, relocated or otherwise changed without the knowledge and consent of the said management, although the same is owned by the concessionaire.

In case the meter becomes unserviceable, destroyed, or lost the concessionaire shall be responsible for the cost of replacement.

Section 7. Examination of Meters and Connections. The concessionaire and the person living in the premises shall permit pipe fitters, authorized inspectors, or meter readers of the management to enter therein at all reasonable times for the purposes of examining the meter, pipeline and connections, or for any purposes connected with the performance of their official duties.

Undue interference with or refusal without just causes to permit the inspector to enter the property or premises shall justify the stoppage of the water service.

Section 8. Reading of Meters and Abnormal Consumption. Monthly reading of meters shall be made by the authorized meter readers. However, a special reading may be made upon the request of the concessionaire in cases where a property changes ownership or tenant. Such reading shall be entered upon a card covering a period of one-year, which card shall be tacked in a convenient and safe place as near to the meter as possible. The meter reader shall enter his signature on the card opposite every reading made by him. If the meter readers believe that there is a defect in the meter or that the same has been tampered with, he shall report at once to the LWS Office through the Waterworks General Manager who shall order an investigation on the matter promptly and inform the owner of the defects in writing.

When a meter is believed defective or the accuracy of the same is questioned by the concessionaire, the Waterworks General Manager shall cause the official test to be made free of charge. The meter will be tested either at the location or at the shops of the management, and, if the average registration is found to be more than 5% in excess of the actual quantity of water passing through the meter, the management will refund to the concessionaire the amount

of overcharge based on test results for the entire period protested but, in no case, for a period of over six (6) months. However, should the test show that the meter is registering more than five percent (5%) slow, the corresponding under collection charge collected if the registration of the meter tested is not more than five (5%) percent, either way of the actual quantity of water passing through it.

When a meter is damaged, not reasonably due to the fault of the owner, or tenant, and/or for any cause stops functioning, the adjustment of the water bills shall have been made on the basis of the average normal consumption for the three (3) months immediately after remounting of the repaired meter.

Section 9. Breaking of Meter Seal, Etc. No person other than authorized representative of the office of the Municipal Treasurer or the Waterworks General Manager shall break the seal of a meter, nor shall a concessionaire permit such breaking of seal or the tampering with a meter, by any unauthorized person.

Section 10. Concessionaire's Expenses And Duties. The tapping of the water main, the laying of pipes, shall be performed by the management at the expense of the concessionaire, provided that for individual or single water service with one half and three-fourth (1/2" and 3/4") connection to houses not fronting a street where there is no water shall be placed by the concessionaire may avail of the services of the management upon payment of the required charges.

The concessionaire shall file a report for repair with the Waterworks manager who shall direct the preparation of a job order indicating the name of concessionaire, type of repair, duration or number or faucet or meters to be repaired, the repairman/plumber assigned and the cost of the job.

The service fees based on this Code shall be paid to the Municipal Treasurer before the job order is served.

Section 11. Concessionaire's Responsibility for Charges.

The concessionaire shall be held responsible for the water service charges, and his responsibility shall not cease except in the following cases:

- a) When the water service is disconnected and all obligations paid.
- b) When the concessionaire has parted with the ownership of the property and written notice to that effect has been filed by him in the Office of the Waterworks Manager, giving the location of property disposed of, the date of said conveyance and the same of the new owner. The concessionaire shall be relieved from the responsibility therein mentioned until such notice is received in the Office of the Waterworks Manager/Municipal Mayor; and
- c) When the property served by a water service is destroyed by fire or by force majeure, the services is considered automatically close and the charges corresponding to the billing period covered shall be dropped.

Section 12. Restrictions – Shutting Off Water Connections. No restriction as to the water consumption as intended, except the wastage shall not be allowed. The management reserved the right to shut off the supply when public interest so requires. This measure will be resorted to

only under strict necessity and no action for damages shall lie against the management for such stoppage. In all cases where practicable, notice through the Punong Barangay and other concerned officials and via social media shall be given on the contemplated stoppage of water, stating the time of closing of valve and the probable duration of stoppage and the area affected.

Section 13. Damages To Water System. It shall be unlawful to needlessly or willfully waste water from supply system, to destroy or remove any part of the water works system, cut, mark, deface, obstruct, tamper or damage on any water main valve or any part thereof, and other property of the Loon Waterworks System.

Section 14. Cross Connections. No persons, firm or corporation shall install or maintain any physical connection between any private sources of water supply; provided, however, that the said LWS may maintain emergency connections with other utilities serving domestic water.

Section 15. Classification of Concessionaires.

For purpose of determining the fair water rates schedule, all applications for service connection shall be classified according to the following categories

- 1) Domestic/Residential
- 2) Commercial/Industrial
- 3) Communal/Public faucet
- 4) Charity Service connection

However , in case of calamities or disasters, the LGU through the LWS shall provide free water supply services to affected residents provided that a certification is issued from the Office of the MDDRMO and duly approved by the Municipal Mayor, as recommended or endorsed by the Punong Barangay, attesting that the residents are victims of calamity or other exceptional circumstances.

Section 16. Size of Connection.

The following sizes of connection shall be the minimum and maximum allowable:

	Pipe Size:
Private Houses	½ " to 1" Ø
Commercial establishment	½ " to 2 ½ " Ø
Industrial establishment	1" to 3" Ø
Charity Service connection	½ " to 1" Ø

Section 17. Imposition of Charges.

The fees and charges provided hereunder shall be collected for the water service rendered by the municipality in all its service area:

1. application fee for connection with waterworks system
 - a) inspection fee 80.00
 - b) tapping fee 80.00

2. rate of installation / service fee
 - a) new connection 20.00 / 6 meter pipe length
 - b) installation of faucets 20.00 per faucet / stopcock

- c) installation of water meter 50.00 per water meter
- d) fittings 25.00 per fittings
- e) service connection fee 100.00
- f) reconnection 100.00
- g) threading of pipe ½ “ dia. 10.00 per end
- h) threading of pipe 1” 15.00 per end
- i) threading of pipe 1 ½” 20.00 per end
- j) threading of pipe 2” 30.00 per end

3. repairs:

- a) water meters (material and spare parts supplied by the concessionaires) 50.00 / water meter
- b) faucets (materials or spare parts supplied by the concessionaires) 30.00 / per faucet
- c) service charge:
 - repair and replacement of leaking faucet, broken pipes & fittings after the meter 70.00 / piece of job
 - plus the authorized travel expenses incurred in delivering said services to be reflected in the official receipts, which shall be based on acceptable fare practice in the area, especially in places where there are no available transportation 30.00 / travel

Authority for Accredited Repair Service Provider

The LWS may allow any qualified private repair service provider provided that the latter possesses the technical qualification or expertise in plumbing works and secures mandatory accreditation certificate and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the LGU which is subject to the approval of the Water Board upon recommendation of the Chief Executive Officer or the Municipal Mayor. Provided further, that the repair service rates shall conform to that of the LWS and shall be made payable to the private service provider. Provided finally, that in case of misconduct or fraudulent act committed by the private service provider which is detrimental to the concessionaire, the Water Board reserves the right to suspend or revoke the accreditation certificate depending on the gravity of the offense.

Section 18. Water Rates. Depending on the classification of water concessionaires, the following are the corresponding water rates:

- a) The water rates for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, institutional, communal consumption shall be uniform as follows:

	Rate/cum (1-10cum)	1.1875 (11-20cum)	1.4375 (20-30cum)	1.8542 (30-up cum)
Existing Rates	8.75	11.75	14.75	17.75

- b) Barangay-managed water system using barangay-owned pump to convey water to reservoir shall be collected flat rate of P12.00 per cubic meter or based on the minimum water rate, regardless of consumption.
- c) Bulk water – for non-concessionaires - P40.00/ cubic meter
- d) The aforementioned rates shall automatically be adjusted (increased or decreased) depending on the consumption of the adjustment of electricity bill per accounting computation.

- e) The above sizes shall not be deviated from except in special cases when it shall be shown in the application that the circumstances warrant it; Provided, that the minimum sizes of all connections shall be determined by the Waterworks Manager. Only water meters of a diameter equal to that of the connection shall be permitted, unless in the judgment of the management a smaller one would be satisfactory.

Section 19. Refunds and Adjustments. If, for any reason, a consumer becomes entitled to a refund such as for overpayment of a closing bill, or other just cause, a demand shall be made by said consumer to the LWS for refund of such overpayment and, subject to approval of Loon Water Board or its delegated representative, an Order of Refund/s or Adjustment/s shall be issued to the consumer corresponding to the amount of overcharged or, in the event the overpayment was made on a bill which is not a closing bill, the amount overpaid shall be credited to the consumer's account.

Section 20. Disputed Bills.

- 1) In the event a complaint is made by a consumer that his water bill is excessive, it shall be read or checked again to determine in particular if there are leaks in the meter.
- 2) Should no leak in such meter be found, then upon request of the consumer, the meter shall be removed and be subject to a test upon it.
- 3) In the event the meter tests within the approved limitations and the consumer continues to question the water bill, a personal investigation of said premises served by the meter shall be made by the responsible officer of the Commercial Enterprise Unit or his appointed representative.
- 4) Should said investigation finds no reason to adjust said bill, he shall refer the disputed bill to the Water Board for a final ruling.

Section 21. Rates and Charges. All water rates and charges shall also be reflected in the Revised Revenue Code of Loon.

Section 22. Bill Payable Monthly, Default in Payment. Bills for water services shall be delivered monthly and shall be payable at the Office of the Municipal Treasurer. Bills that remain unpaid after due date shall carry a surcharge of six (6%) percent. If the said amount together with the penalty is not paid to the Municipal Treasurer on/or before sixty (60) days from the end of the month in which the bill corresponds the water service shall be disconnected and shall be reopened only after the outstanding obligations shall have been fully paid.

ARTICLE VI

FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Generic Penalty.

Any person who violates the provision of this Code, except those specifically defined, shall, upon conviction, or by virtue of compromise payment, be penalized, as follows:

- First offense – One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1, 500.00)
- Second offense – Two Thousand Pesos (P2, 000.00)
- Third offense – Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P2, 500.00)

However, the case may not be filed in Court provided that the violator voluntarily pays the fine either for the first or for the second offense, with corresponding payment of the damage cost whatsoever.

Section 2. Funding. There shall be allocated an amount of Sixteen Million Two Hundred Ninety One Thousand Ninety Four Pesos and Four Centavos (P16,291,094.04) out of the 2022 Annual Budget as Seed Capital for the development, operation and maintenance of the Loon Waterworks System as an economic enterprise of the LGU of Loon. The LWS shall exercise prudence in operational spending and minimize systems losses in order to sustain the system financially and ultimately to gain positive income or profit that shall be used to finance its development or expansion projects.

Section 3. Separability Clause. If any section, subsection, sentence clause or phrase of these regulations is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, illegal or unlawful, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the regulations.

Section 4. Repealing Clause. Any provisions of existing ordinances inconsistent thereof are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectively Clause. This Code shall take effect after three (3) consecutive days/weeks of publications in the local newspaper pursuant to Section 188 of RA 7160.

1753

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the above-quoted ordinance.

FIDELINO P. CORITICO, LLB
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

LLOYD PETER M. LOPEZ, M.D.
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

ELVI PETER L. RELAMPAGOS
Municipal Mayor

Date Signed: _____

Section 2. Funding. There shall be allocated an amount of Sixteen Million Two Hundred Ninety One Thousand Ninety Four Pesos and Four Centavos (P16,291,094.04) out of the 2022 Annual Budget as Seed Capital for the development, operation and maintenance of the Loon Waterworks System as an economic enterprise of the LGU of Loon. The LWS shall exercise prudence in operational spending and minimize systems losses in order to sustain the system financially and ultimately to gain positive income or profit that shall be used to finance its development or expansion projects.

Section 3. Separability Clause. If any section, subsection, sentence clause or phrase of these regulations is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, illegal or unlawful, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of the regulations.

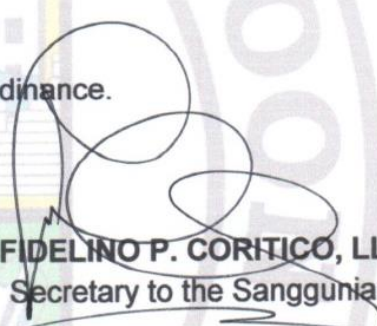
Section 4. Repealing Clause. Any provisions of existing ordinances inconsistent thereof are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectively Clause. This Code shall take effect after three (3) consecutive days/weeks of publications in the local newspaper pursuant to Section 188 of RA 7160.


1753

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the above-quoted ordinance.


FIDELINO P. CORITICO, LLB
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:


LLOYD PETER M. LOPEZ, M.D.
Vice Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


ELVI PETER L. RELAMPAGOS
Municipal Mayor

Date Signed: 01/14/2022