

ARTICLE IV - EXCAVATIONS

33-4-1 **PERMIT REQUIRED.** It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to tunnel under or to make any excavation in any street, alley or other public place in the City without having obtained a permit as is herein required or without complying with the provisions of this Article or in violation of or variance from the terms of any such permit. **(See the Street Regulations Permit in Appendix "O".)**

33-4-2 **APPLICATIONS.** Applications for such permits shall be made to the Clerk and shall describe the location of the intended excavation or tunnel, the size thereof, the purpose therefor, and the person, firm or corporation doing the actual excavating work; and the name of the person, firm or corporation for whom or for which the work is being done, and it shall also contain an agreement that the applicant will comply with all ordinances and laws relating to the work to be done.

33-4-3 **BOND.** No such permit shall be issued unless and until the applicant therefor has filed with the Clerk a bond in the sum of **Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)**, conditioned to indemnify the City for any loss, liability or damage that may result or accrue from or because of the making, existence or manner of guarding or constructing any such tunnel or excavation. Such bond shall have as surety a corporation licensed to do business in the state as a surety company. The City Council may waive the bond provided for herein.

33-4-4 **DEPOSIT.** No such permit shall be issued unless and until the applicant therefor has deposited with the Clerk a cash deposit in the sum of **Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)** if no pavement is involved, and **One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00)** if the excavation is a paved area, to insure the proper restoration of the ground and laying of the pavement, if any. From this deposit shall be deducted the expense of the City of relaying the surface of the ground or pavement and of making the refill if this is done by the City or at its expense and the balance shall be returned to the applicant without interest after the tunnel or excavation is completely refilled and the surface or pavement is restored. The City Council may waive the deposit in this Section.

33-4-5 **MANNER OF EXCAVATING.** It shall be unlawful to make any such excavation or tunnel in any way contrary to or at variance with the terms of the permit therefor. Proper bracing shall be maintained to prevent the collapse of adjoining ground; and in excavations, the excavation shall not have anywhere below the surface any portion which extends beyond the opening at the surface.

No injury shall be done to any pipes, cables or conduits in the making of such excavations or tunnels; and notice shall be given to the persons maintaining any such pipes, cables or conduits or to the City department or officer charged with the care thereof, which are or may be endangered or affected by the making of any such excavation or tunnel before such pipes, cables or conduits shall be disturbed. No unnecessary damage or injury shall be done to any tree, shrub or the roots thereof.

33-4-6 SIDEWALKS. If any sidewalk is blocked by any such work, a temporary sidewalk shall be constructed or provided which shall be safe for travel and convenient for users. The temporary sidewalk is subject to inspection by the Street Superintendent and shall not be open for use until approved by him.

33-4-7 RESTORING SURFACE. Any person, firm or corporation making any excavation or tunnel in or under any public street, alley or other public place in the City shall restore the surface to its original condition if there is no pavement there. Refills shall be properly tamped down, and any bracing in such tunnel or excavation shall be left in the ground. Any opening in a paved or improved portion of a street shall be repaired and the surface re-laid by the applicant in compliance with the regulations of the City and under the supervision of the Street Superintendent.

33-4-8 SUPERVISION. The Street Superintendent shall, from time to time, inspect or cause to be inspected, all excavations and tunnels being made in or under any public street, alley or other place in the City to see to the enforcement of the provisions of this Code. Notice shall be given to him at least **ten (10) hours** before the work of refilling any such tunnel or excavation commences.

33-4-9 TUNNELING. It shall be unlawful to make any excavation in any portion of a street or sidewalk in the City which is paved with a concrete or asphalt paving. Where necessary, and where a proper permit has been secured, tunnels may be driven or excavated under any such pavement, provided that upon completion of the work involved, the tunnel shall be backfilled with compacted sand.

33-4-10 PROTECTIVE MEASURES AND ROUTING OF TRAFFIC. It shall be the duty of every person cutting or making an excavation in or upon any public place to place and maintain barriers and warning devices necessary for the safety of the general public.

(A) Barriers, warning signs, and lights shall conform to the requirements of all applicable provisions of this Code. Warning lights shall be electrical markers or flashers used to indicate a hazard to traffic from sunset of each day to sunrise of the next day.

(B) Electrical markers or flashers shall emit light at sufficient intensity and frequency to be visible at a reasonable distance for safety. Reflectors or reflecting material may be used to supplement, but not to replace light sources.

(C) The permittee shall take appropriate measures to assure that during the performance of the excavation work, traffic conditions as nearly normal as possible shall be maintained at all times so as to minimize inconvenience to the occupants of the adjoining property and to the general public. When traffic conditions permit, the Street Superintendent may, by written approval, permit the closing of streets and alleys to all traffic for a period of time prescribed by him if, in his opinion, it is necessary. Such written approval may require that the permittee give notification to various public agencies and to the general public. In such cases, such written approval shall not be valid until such notice is given.

(D) Warning signs shall be placed far enough in advance of the construction operation to alert traffic within a public street and cones or other approved devices shall be placed to channel traffic in accordance with the instructions of the Street Superintendent.

33-4-11 CLEARANCE FOR VITAL STRUCTURES. The excavation work shall be performed and conducted so as not to interfere with access to fire hydrants, fire stations, fire escapes, water gates, underground vaults, valve housing structures, and all other vital equipment as designated by the Street Superintendent.

33-4-12 PROTECTION OF TRAFFIC. The permittee shall maintain safe crossings for **two (2) lanes** of vehicle traffic at all street intersections where possible and safe crossing for pedestrians at intervals of not more than **three hundred (300) feet**. If any excavation is made across any public street, alley or sidewalk adequate crossing shall be maintained for vehicles and for pedestrians. If the street is not wide enough to hold the excavated material without using part of the adjacent sidewalk, a passageway at least **one-half (1/2)** of the sidewalk width shall be maintained along such sidewalk line.

33-4-13 RELOCATION AND PROTECTION OF UTILITIES. The permittee shall not interfere with any existing facility without the written consent of the Street Superintendent and the owner of the facility. If it becomes necessary to relocate an existing facility, this shall be done by its owner. The facility owned by the City shall be moved to accommodate the permittee unless the cost of such work is borne by the permittee. The cost of moving privately-owned facilities shall be similarly borne by the permittee unless other arrangements are made with the person owning the facility. The permittee shall support and protect, by timbers or otherwise, all pipes, conduits, poles, wires or other apparatus which may be in any way affected by the excavation work, and do everything necessary to support, sustain and protect them under, over, along or across said work. The permittee shall secure approval of method of support and protection from the owner of the facility.

In case of any said pipes, conduits, poles, wires or apparatus should be damaged, and for this purpose, pipe coating or other encasement or devices are to be considered as part of a substructure, the permittee shall promptly notify the owner thereof. All damaged facilities shall be repaired by the agency or person owning them and the expense of such repairs shall be charged to the permittee. It is the intent of this Section that the permittee shall assume all liability for damage to facilities and any resulting damage or injury to anyone because of such facility damage and such assumption of liability is a contractual obligation of the permittee. The only exception will be such instances where damage is exclusively due to the negligence of the owning utility. The City shall not be made a party to any action because of this Section. The permittee shall inform itself as to the existence and location of all underground facilities and protect the same against damage.

33-4-14 ABANDONMENT OF SUBSTRUCTURES. Whenever the use of a substructure is abandoned, except the abandonment of service lines designed to serve single properties, the person owning, using, controlling, or having an interest therein shall, within **thirty (30) days** after such abandonment, file with the Street Superintendent a statement in writing giving in detail the location of the substructure so abandoned. If such abandoned substructure is in the way or subsequently becomes in the way of an installation of the City or any other public body, which installation is pursuant to a governmental function, the owner shall remove such abandoned substructure or pay the cost of its removal during the course of excavation for construction of the facility by the City or any other public body.

33-4-15 PROTECTION OF ADJOINING PROPERTY. The permittee shall, at all times, and at his or its own expense, preserve and protect from injury, any adjoining property by providing proper foundations and taking other measures suitable for the purpose. Where, in the protection of such property it is necessary to enter upon private property for the purpose of taking appropriate protective measures, the permittee shall obtain consent from the owner of such private property for such purpose and if he cannot obtain such consent, the Street Superintendent may authorize him to enter the private premises solely for the purpose of making the property safe.

At the permittee's own expense, all buildings, walls, fences, or other property likely to be damaged during the progress of the excavation work shall be shored up and protected, and the permittee shall be responsible for all damage to public or private property or highways resulting from failure to properly protect and carry out the work. Whenever it may be necessary for the permittee to trench through any lawn area, said area shall be reseeded or the sod shall be carefully cut and rolled and replaced after ditches have been backfilled as required in this Article. All construction and maintenance work shall be done in a manner calculated to leave the lawn area clean of earth and debris and in a condition as nearly as possible to that which existed before such work began. The permittee shall not remove, even temporarily any trees or shrubs which exist in parking street areas without first obtaining the consent of the appropriate City department or official having supervision of such property.

33-4-16 **PLACEMENT OF EXCAVATED MATERIAL.** All material excavated from trenches and piled adjacent to the trench or in any street shall be piled and maintained in such a manner as to eliminate danger to those working in the trench, pedestrians or users of the streets, and so that as little inconvenience as possible is caused to those using streets and adjoining property. Where the confines of the area being excavated are too narrow to permit the piling of excavated material beside the trench, such as might be the case in a narrow alley, the Street Superintendent shall have the authority to require that the permittee haul the excavated material to a storage site and then rehaul it to the trench site at the time of backfilling. It shall be the permittee's responsibility to secure the necessary permission and make all necessary arrangements for all required storage and disposal sites.

All material excavated shall be laid compactly along the side of the trench and kept trimmed so as to cause as little inconvenience as reasonably possible to vehicular and pedestrian traffic, or as specified by the Street Superintendent, whenever necessary, in order to expedite the flow of traffic or to abate the dirt or dust nuisance, toe boards or bins may be required by the Street Superintendent to prevent the spreading of dirt into traffic lanes.

33-4-17 **CLEAN-UP.** As the excavation work progresses, all streets shall be thoroughly cleaned of all rubbish, excess earth, rock and other debris resulting from such work. All clean-up operations at the location of such excavation shall be accomplished at the expense of the permittee and shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Street Superintendent. From time to time as may be ordered by the Street Superintendent and in any event, immediately after completion of the work, the permittee shall, at his or its own expense, clean up and remove all refuse and unused materials of any kind resulting from the work and upon failure to do so within **twenty-four (24) hours** after having been notified to do so by the Street Superintendent, said work may be done by the Superintendent and the cost thereof charged to the permittee and the permittee shall also be liable for the cost thereof under the surety bond provided hereunder.

33-4-18 **PROTECTION OF WATERCOURSES.** The permittee shall maintain all gutters free and unobstructed for the full depth of the adjacent curb and for at least **one (1) foot** in width from the face of such curb at the gutter line. Whenever a gutter crosses an intersecting street, an adequate waterway shall be provided and at all times maintained. The permittee shall make provisions to take care of all surplus water, muck, silt, slickings, or other run-off pumped from excavations or resulting from sluicing or other operations and shall be responsible for any damage resulting from its failure to so provide.

33-4-19 **BREAKING THROUGH PAVEMENT.**
(A) Heavy duty pavement breakers may be prohibited by the Street Superintendent when the use endangers existing substructures or other property.

(B) Saw cutting of Portland cement concrete may be required when the nature of the work or the condition of the street warrants. When required, the depth of the cut shall not be less than **one (1) inch** in depth; however, depths greater than **one (1) inch** may be required by the Street Superintendent when circumstances warrant. Saw cutting may be required by the Superintendent outside the limits of the excavation over cave-outs, overbreaks and small floating sections.

(C) Approved cutting of bituminous pavement surface ahead of excavations may be required by the Street Superintendent to confine pavement damage to the limits of the trench.

(D) Sections of sidewalks shall be removed to the nearest score line or joint.

(E) Unstable pavement shall be removed over cave-outs and overbreaks and the subgrade shall be treated as the main trench.

(F) Pavement edges shall be trimmed to a vertical face and neatly aligned with the center line of the trench.

(G) Cutouts outside of the trench lines must be normal or parallel to the trench line.

(H) Boring or other methods to prevent cutting of new pavement may be required by the Street Superintendent.

(I) The permittee shall not be required to repair pavement damage existing prior to excavation unless his cut results in small floating sections that may be unstable, in which case, the permittee shall remove and pave the area.

33-4-20 DEPTH OF STRUCTURES. No person shall, without written permission of the Street Superintendent, install any substructure except manholes, vaults, valve casings, culverts, and catch basins at a vertical distance less than:

(A) **Streets. Twenty-four (24) inches** below the established flow line of the nearest gutter. If said flow line is not established, then the depth shall be at a minimum of **twenty-four (24) inches** below the surface of the nearest outermost edge of the traveled portion of the street.

(B) **Parkway.**

(1) The minimum depth of any substructure shall be **sixteen (16) inches** below established gutter grade when said substructure parallels the parkway.

(2) The minimum depth of any substructure shall be **twelve (12) inches** below the top of the established sidewalk or curb when such substructure is at right angles to the parkway.

(C) **Other Public Places.** The minimum depth of any substructure in any other public place shall be **twelve (12) inches** below the surface.

Nothing in this Section shall impose a duty upon the permittee to maintain said specifications as required herein upon subsequent changes of grade in the surface unless the grade in said substructure interferes with the maintenance of or travel on a public street.

33-4-21 **BACKFILLING.** Fine material, free from lumps and stone, selected from the soil shall be thoroughly compacted around and under the substructure to the upper level of such substructure. Above the upper level of the substructure, backfill material shall be placed to the subgrade of the pavement in lifts consistent with the type of soil involved and the degree of consolidation specified by the City Council. Broken pavement, large stones, roots and other debris shall not be used in the backfill.

The number and size of each lift shall be dependent upon the type of soil involved. Such backfill shall be done in a manner that will permit the restoration of the surface to a density condition not less than that existing prior to excavation unless otherwise specified. The Street Superintendent may require soil tests to be furnished by a recognized soil testing laboratory or registered professional engineer specializing in soil mechanics when, in his opinion, backfill for any excavation is not being adequately compacted. In order for the resurfacing to be permitted, such tests must show that the backfill material meets the minimum requirements as prescribed by the City Council. All expense of such tests shall be borne by the permittee.

33-4-22 **TRENCHES IN PIPE LAYING.** The maximum length of open trench permissible at any time shall be in accordance with existing codes and regulations; however at night no more than **fifty (50) feet** may be open with proper barriers.

33-4-23 **PROMPT COMPLETION OF WORK.** After an excavation is commenced, the permittee shall prosecute with diligence and expedition all excavation work covered by the excavation permit and shall promptly complete such work and restore the street to its original condition, or as near as may be so as not to obstruct the public place or travel thereon more than is reasonably necessary.

33-4-24 **URGENT WORK.** When traffic conditions, the safety or convenience of the traveling public or the public interest require that the excavation work be performed as emergency work, the Street Superintendent shall have full power to order, at the time the permit is granted, that a crew of men and adequate facilities be employed by the permittee **twenty-four (24) hours** a day to the end that such excavation work may be completed as soon as possible.

33-4-25 **EMERGENCY ACTION.** Nothing in this Article shall be construed to prevent the making of such excavations as may be necessary for the preservation of life or property or for the location of trouble in conduit or pipe, or for making repairs, provided that the person making such excavation shall apply to the Street Superintendent for such a permit on the first working day after such work is commenced.

33-4-26 **NOISE, DUST AND DEBRIS.** Each permittee shall conduct and carry out excavation work in such a manner as to avoid unnecessary inconvenience and annoyance to the general public and occupants of neighboring property. The permittee shall take appropriate measures to reduce to the fullest extent practicable in the performance of the excavation work, noise, dust and unsightly debris and between the hours of **10:00 P.M.** and **7:00 A.M.**, shall not use except in case of emergency as otherwise provided herein, any tool, appliance or equipment producing noise of sufficient volume to disturb the sleep or repose of occupants of the neighboring property.

33-4-27 **PRESERVATION OF MONUMENTS.** Any monument set for the purpose of locating or preserving the lines of any street or property subdivision or a precise survey reference point or a permanent survey bench mark within the City shall not be removed or disturbed or caused to be removed or disturbed without first obtaining permission in writing from the City Council to do so. Permission to remove or disturb such monuments, reference points or bench marks shall only be granted upon condition that the person applying for such permission shall pay all expenses incident to the proper replacement of the monument by the City.

33-4-28 **INSPECTIONS.** The Street Superintendent shall make such inspections as are reasonably necessary in the enforcement of this Article. The Superintendent shall have the authority to promulgate and cause to be enforced such rules and regulations as may be reasonably necessary to enforce and carry out the intent of this Article.

33-4-29 **LOCATION RECORDS.** Every public utility, after the enactment of this Article, shall maintain records showing the location of all of its underground facilities except relatively minor facilities which connect a particular premise or building to a facility serving more than one premise or building and except oil or gas-gathering or field lines. Every public utility shall maintain equipment which can locate such facilities in the field.

33-4-30 **LIABILITY OF PERSONS TO CITY FOR DAMAGE.** If any person violates any provision of this Code and any person or property in consequence thereof is injured or damaged, the person so guilty of such violation shall be liable to the City in relation thereto, and no prosecution or other proceeding by the City of such person for any penalty imposed for a violation shall constitute a bar to such action by the City for such damages.

(See 65 ILCS Secs. 5/11-80-1 through 5/11-80-23)