ORDINANCE NO. 2013-01

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREEN ISLE, MINNESOTA TO PROMOTE THE PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE, HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING CERTAIN SUMP PUMP AND OTHER DISCHARGES INTO THE CITY’S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

SECTION 1. Purpose.

The City Council finds that the discharge of water from roof, surface, groundwater sump pump, footing tile or swimming pool or other natural precipitation to the City sanitary sewage system will, and has on numerous occasions in the past, flooded and overloaded the sanitary sewage system to such an extent as to cause significant wear and processing costs to the waste treatment plant and sanitary sewer trunk system. In addition, ground infiltration has also caused the backup of sewage into private properties, and pressure damage to trunk lines. The City Council, therefore, finds it essential to the minimization of damage to property and to meet Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Green Isle City Ordinance requirements that the provisions of this Ordinance be strictly enforced to avoid emergencies in the future.

SECTION 2. Prohibition Against Discharges Into Sanitary Sewer System.

No water from any roof, surface, groundwater, sump pump, footing tile, swimming pool, or other natural precipitation shall be discharged into the sanitary sewer system. Dwellings and other buildings and structures which require, because of infiltration of water into basements, crawl spaces and the like, a sump pump discharge system shall have a permanently installed discharge line which shall not at any time discharge water into the sanitary sewer system, except as provided herein. A "permanently installed discharge line" shall be one which provides for year-around discharge capability to either the outside of the dwelling, building or structure, or is connected to the City storm sewer or discharges through the curb and gutter to the street. It shall consist of a rigid discharge line, without valving or quick connections for altering the path of discharge. It shall not be capable of connection or reconnection to the sanitary sewer system.

SECTION 3. Disconnection.

Any person, firm, or corporation having a roof surface, groundwater, sump pump, footing tile or swimming pool now connected and/or discharging into the sanitary sewer system shall disconnect and/or remove same, no later than December 1, 2013. Any disconnects or openings in the sanitary sewer shall be closed in an effective, workmanlike manner, as approved by the City or its designated agent.
SECTION 4. Inspection.

No later than December 1, 2013, every person owning improved real estate that discharges into the City's sanitary sewer system shall obtain an inspection of each building located on such property by an inspector designated by the City. The purpose of this inspection shall be to confirm that there is no sump pump or other prohibited discharge into the sanitary sewer system.

SECTION 5. Future Inspections.

For any building found to have a sump pump, after the initial inspection called for in Section 4 above, the building will be subject to future spot check inspections in the discretion of the City. If a building has no sump pump, as determined by the initial inspection called for in Section 4 above, said building shall not be subject to future inspections, unless a sump pump is installed.

SECTION 6. New Building Inspections.

All new buildings constructed, or additions to existing buildings, shall be subject to city inspection regarding the installation of connections to the sanitary sewer system. No such connections shall be made until first inspected by an inspector designated by the City. This shall include, but not be limited to, the installation of a sump pump or footing tile. No excavations made for the outlet to any such sump pump or footing tile shall be filled until such inspection has been made. If this section is violated, the City shall have the right to require the building owner to re-excavate any such outlet so that it can be determined that the outlet is not illegally connected to the sanitary sewer system. This re-excavation shall be at the property owner's cost.

SECTION 7. Surcharge and Penalties.

A surcharge of One Hundred Dollars ($100.00) per month shall be added to every sewer bill mailed after December 1, 2013, to property owners who have not obtained a property inspection by that date, and after December 1, 2013 to property owners who are not in compliance with this Ordinance as of that date. The surcharge shall be added every month to be included in monthly bills for properties not complying with this Ordinance. All properties found during inspection to have violated this Ordinance will be subject to the $100.00 per month charge for all months between the two most recent inspections, and for each month thereafter until the property owner submits proof to the City that the property is brought into full compliance. Any property owner who fails to cooperate with any requested city inspection under this ordinance shall be considered in violation of this ordinance. In addition to the $100.00 per month charge, a property owner or other person who is not in compliance with this Ordinance shall be mailed, by regular mail, with a notice that such violation shall cease and desist within a time limit provided by the City Council. If such violation is not cured by the established time limit, the owner of the property or other person violating this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. In the discretion of the City Council, property that remains in violation of this ordinance after the expiration of the cease and desist time limit issued by the City, may also be subject to shut off of city utility services to the property.
This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon publication.

For City of Green Isle:

[Signature]
By Dale Zumberg
Its Mayor

[Signature]
By Bert Panning
Its City Clerk/Treasurer

Reading: April 9, 2013
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