

TOWN OF EATON

ORDINANCE NO. 2015- 9-3

**ORDINANCE PROHIBITING TAMPERING WITH WATER METERS AND
GAINING ACCESS TO METER PITS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Eaton, Indiana operates a water utility and provides water services to businesses and residences within the Town of Eaton; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Eaton has determined that it is in the Town's water utility's best interest to adopt a policy prohibiting any person or entity from tampering with a water meter without the written consent and authority of the Town of Eaton and to assess a fine and costs to any person or entity who tampers with a water meter without the written consent and authority of the Town; and

WHEREAS, The Town Council of the Town of Eaton has determined that it is in the Town's water utility's best interest to adopt a policy prohibiting any person or entity from gaining access to a water meter pit without the written consent and authority of the Town of Eaton and to assess a fine and costs to any person or entity who tampers with a water meter without the written consent and authority of the Town.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF EATON, INDIANA:

Section 1. No person or entity shall turn on or off water service through a water meter or otherwise change or damage a water meter without prior written consent and authority of the Town.

Section 2. No person or entity shall gain access to a water meter pit without prior written consent and authority of the Town.

Section 3. The person or entity violates any provision of this Ordinance shall pay a fine of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for violating this Ordinance. The person or entity that violates this ordinance shall also pay all costs of repairs for damages caused to the water utility.

Section 4. No water service shall be provided to the person or entity until all fines and costs are paid in full as to the violation of this Ordinance.

Section 5. The Town Attorney shall pursue criminal prosecution, under appropriate circumstances, for the theft in any all cases where it is deemed that the unauthorized tampering with the water meter or access to the water meter pit was accomplished with the intent to steal the water obtained.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall be effective ten (10) days after publication of the same.

Passed and adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Eaton, Indiana this 8th day of September, 2015.

Lowan Hicks
Town Council Member

Don Dawley
Town Council Member

Don Bechtel
Town Council Member

[Signature]
Town Council Member

B. Russell Lee
Town Council Member

ATTEST:

Vicki Hargis
Clerk Treasurer