



**UTILITY  
ENGINEER**

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mayor and City Council Members  
Douglas Faseler, City Manager

**From:** David Rabago, P.E., CFM, Utility Engineer

**Through:** Rick Cortes, Assistant City Manager

**Subject:** Ordinance Amending Water Connections to set Maintenance and Responsibility for PRV

**Date:** April 23, 2018

Staff is requesting approval for an Ordinance Amending Water Connections to set maintenance and responsibility for pressure regulating valves.

As an anticipated result of the construction of the Continental Elevated Storage Tank and Booster Pump Station on 123 Bypass, there were noticeable increases of water pressure throughout some sections of the City water service area. There were also increases in pressure within some areas of the OVN subdivision resulting in numerous complaints. In an effort to address these complaints, the City of Seguin installed a 6" CLA-VAL pressure-reducing valve at the northwest end of the subdivision. The new valve established pressure ranging from a high of 80 to a low 60. However, at time due to anomalies in the system, pressure may exceed 80 psi. Pressure within the City's water distribution system can vary greatly. However, the City must maintain a minimum water pressure, including pressure for fire flow. Inevitably, due to the nature of the City's water distribution system, some existing and future water customers may experience higher water pressures than they desire for their homes.

It is also important to note that while the installation of the 6" PRV addresses many of the complaints, city staff began receiving low-pressure complaints from within the OVN Subdivision. Many of these complaints have been addressed; however, staff is now beginning to receive complaints of high pressure in the most eastern section of the subdivision. In an effort to provide these water customers the flexibility to control pressure at their residence, Staff is proposing to amend the Code of Ordinances. The changes will require that customers, who experience a water pressure greater than 80 pounds per square inch, or greater than they desire for their homes, may want to control such pressure with their own pressure-reducing valve that is installed as a plumbing fixture on the customer side of the meter. Moreover, customers would be responsible for the installation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of the pressure regulating valves.

Please note that Utilities throughout our area such as San Antonio Water Systems, Austin Water, City of Schertz, and the City of San Marcos require property owners to install and maintain pressure-reducing valves at their expense. Staff recommends approval of the amendment to the Code of Ordinances and will be available to answer any questions at the May 1, 2018 City Council Meeting.