

Ordinance No. 679

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940, by adding a new chapter thereto numbered Chapter XIV-A, which chapter authorizes the introduction of fluorine into the drinking water supply system which serves the City of Alexandria, and provides for the regulation of fluoridation.

WHEREAS, it appears to be the consensus of scientific, medical, and dental opinion, that the presence of fluorine in drinking water is a deterrent to tooth decay; and

WHEREAS, such chemical element is not found in the natural supply of water distributed to the citizens of the City of Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, fluoridation of the drinking water within the city has been endorsed by United States Public Health Service, the Virginia State Health Department, the Alexandria Health Department, the American Public Health Association, the American Dental Association, the Territorial and State Dental Health Officers Association, the Northern Virginia Dental Society, the Alexandria Medical Society, the American Water Works Association, various local civic groups and organizations, and many citizens; and

WHEREAS, it appears that fluorine can be introduced into the drinking water supply of the City as a measure to promote the public health and welfare; therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

1. That the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940, be and the same hereby is amended by adding a new Chapter XIV-A to read as follows:

CHAPTER XIV-A FLUORIDATION OF WATER

Sec. 1. Upon receiving a permit from the State Department of Health the Alexandria Water Company is hereby authorized to provide the means and to proceed with the introduction of the fluoride ion into the water supply in such quantities as are required to maintain throughout the pipe distribution system a fluoride ion concentration of approximately one part per million.

Sec. 2. The Alexandria Water Company shall keep an accurate record of the amount of fluorine-bearing chemical applied, the quantities of water treated, and cause such analytical tests to be made for fluorides (in terms of the element F) in the untreated and treated waters as it shall be directed to do by the Health Department of the State of Virginia. Copies of the Company's reports to the State Health Department covering the fluoridation process shall be submitted to the Alexandria Health Department.

Sec. 3. The City Health Officer is hereby directed to make periodic

reports to the City Council on the fluoridation of the water supply and to seek the cooperation of educational and scientific institutions to conduct surveys and research as to the beneficial effect of the program and project on the citizens of this community.

Sec. 4. The City of Alexandria by herein authorizing fluoridation, however expressly declares that it in no way assumes any liability for, or on account of any damage or injury incurred by any user of water so treated.

2. That this ordinance shall be published in the Alexandria Gazette not later than two days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The clerk of the council shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

Franklin P. Backus
Mayor

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