

ARTICLE XII

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Section 1. Jurisdiction over Public Utilities : The City of Arlington shall have the power to construct, own, purchase or lease, within or without the City Limits, and to maintain and operate a system or systems of waterworks, sewers, sewage disposal plants, gas and electric light plants, parks, hospitals, telephone systems, street railways, garbage disposal plant and all other public utilities, and to receive compensation for services furnished for private purposes or otherwise, and to exercise the right of eminent domain, as by this Charter provided, for the appropriation of lands and rights-of-way that may be proper and necessary to efficiently carry out such objects; to adopt by ordinance such rules and regulations as it may consider necessary and advisable for the acquiring and operation of any such public utilities; to manufacture its own electricity, gas and ice, and to purchase, and make contracts with any person or corporation for the purpose of purchasing gas, electricity and ice, (and to purchase, and make contracts with any person or corporation for the purpose of purchasing gas, electricity and ice) and to sell the same to the public on such terms as the Council may provide.

Section 2. Municipal Service: The rates charged for service furnished by any of the said public utility plants shall be fixed by the City Council, and shall be just and equitable and there shall not be allowed any person, firm or corporation, or to any officer or employee of said City, any service free of charge, except that free service may be provided for buildings and institutions owned or operated by the City. In determining the rates to be charged and collected for such service, the cost of operation, maintenance, depreciations, replacements, betterments, interest charges, and the creation of a sinking fund to pay the principal and the interest of any bonds issued for the construction or acquirement or improvement of any such public utilities, shall be taken into consideration; provided, that the City may charge a greater rate for such service to persons, firms or corporations without the City Limits than for the same service to those within the City Limits.