

[shall] MAY not be turned on again until the bill has been paid, including a \$10 penalty [of ten dollars (\$10.00)].

(2) A charge for the upkeep of water and sewer systems against all properties benefited by any such system or having a connection with any water main or sewer under its operation or ownership. The charge for the upkeep of the water and sewer system, if any, shall be made upon [such] A reasonable basis [as] DETERMINED BY the board [may determine] and shall be collected annually in the same manner as are front foot benefit assessments against all property benefited by or having a connection with a water main or sewer under the operation or ownership of the county [and]. IT shall be a lien against the property. [Such] THE charges shall be based upon [such] THE classifications [as] the board [from time to time may establish] ESTABLISHES and shall be uniform throughout each system within each classification[; provided, however, that no]. A charge for the upkeep of water and sewer systems [shall] MAY NOT be made against any property in any year for which [such] THE property is currently subject to a front foot benefit assessment as [elsewhere] PROVIDED in this chapter [provided].

[(3)] (B) Before any sewer or water system is added to a consolidated system for either sewer or water rates, the board of county commissioners [of Frederick County] shall conduct a duly advertised public hearing on the subject. A consolidated system is an arrangement in which a sewer and water system or any combinations thereof are combined as one unit for the establishment of uniform rates.

(C) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 2-13, THE COUNTY MAY CONSOLIDATE THE INCOME AND OUTLAYS FOR ALL WATER SYSTEMS, SEWER SYSTEMS, AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS IT OWNS FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

(I) MAINTAINING, REPAIRING, AND OPERATING WATER, SEWER, AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS;

(II) ESTABLISHING RATES, CHARGES, AND ASSESSMENTS; AND

(III) PAYING THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON ANY AUTHORIZED INDEBTEDNESS.

2-13-18.

(I) IN ADDITION TO THE AUTHORITY TO FIX ASSESSMENTS ON A FRONT FOOT BENEFIT BASIS AS DESCRIBED IN THIS SECTION, THE COUNTY MAY FIX ASSESSMENTS ON ~~AN-ALTERNATE-BASIS-AS-IT-DEEMS-APPROPRIATE~~ A BASIS THAT IS SIMILAR AND REASONABLY REFLECTS THE BENEFIT TO THE PROPERTY, SUBJECT TO COUNTY REGULATIONS. THE ASSESSMENTS MAY BE LEVIED ON ALL PROPERTY BENEFITED BY A PARTICULAR SYSTEM OR