

**Bylaw No. 1194/03**

**A BYLAW FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF  
THE WATERWORKS SYSTEM AND SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM**

The Council of the Town of Gravelbourg in the Province of Saskatchewan enacts as follows:

**1. DEFINITIONS:**

In this bylaw the words:

**PERSON(S), CONSUMER(S), CUSTOMER(S)** are synonymous and mean the person or persons, organizations, corporations, etc. responsible for the payment of charges for water and sewer services.

**TOWN** means the Town of Gravelbourg, its employees or employees whose employment requires them to undertake certain works under this bylaw.

**2. WATERWORKS SYSTEM:**

- (1)** The Council may cause to be installed in the premises of every person applying for or receiving water service, a meter to be placed upon any service pipe or connection in the premises to the satisfaction of the Town.
- (2)** Every person receiving water shall provide at his own expense a suitable place in his premises for the installation of a meter.
- (3)** Water Service may not be given and any service may be discontinued without notice where no meter has been installed.
- (4)** Where more than one meter is required in any premises, the full fee for such an additional meter(s) shall be deposited with the town before service is provided through such meter(s).
- (5)** All applicable meter fee deposits shall be refunded to the owner following transfer of ownership of the premises to a new owner. Meter fees shall then be deposited by the new owner of the premises to the Town.
- (6)** In the event of any consumer failing to pay the meter fee deposit and or allows the water bill to become unpaid after ninety (90) days past the invoice date, water service may be cut off for the consumer
- (7)** Every owner, tenant, or occupant shall give every facility for the installation of water meters and shall protect same fro frost and other injury so that the meter shall not in any way be damaged thereby. In cases where the Town considers any meter insufficiently protected from frost, the water may be cut off until measures have been taken to protect the meter to the satisfaction of the Town.
- (8)** The Town Engineer may with or without any request of any person, or shall upon request by an consumer, remove any meter placed under the provision of this bylaw that is suspected of not correctly measuring the volume of water delivered through the same and have the meter tested. If the meter is found to register less than five percent over or under the actual volume, it shall be deemed correct. Any consumer requesting the testing of his meter shall, with the said application, pay a fee of \$25.00 with the Town Office to cover the cost of said test, which shall be refunded to him if the meter shows an incorrect measurement of more than five percent; other wise the fee shall be retained by the Town.

(9) In the event that a meter, when tested, is found to have failed to register correctly during any portion of the preceding three month period, the amount of water consumption for such period shall be taken to be either the same as that of the first previous period in which the meter has registered correctly or the same as that of the corresponding period in the first preceding year, whichever may be determined by the Town to be most accurate.

(10) The Town may enter the premises of any consumer at any reasonable time for the purpose of installing meters, examining pipes and fixtures, repairing same and ascertaining the volume of water used and the manner of its use.

(11) No person other than the Chairman of Public Works, Town Superintendent, Utility Man, Town Foreman or a person authorized by any of them, or members of the Fire Department in the regular course of their duty, shall open, close or interfere with any hydrant or valve connected with the waterworks system and no person shall in any way interfere with any stop cock, pipe or other waterworks appliance outside of his premises, nor shall he interfere with any meter, whether inside or outside of his premises.

(12) No person shall turn water on in any premises or open a curb stop except the Town Superintendent, Utility Man, Town Foreman or a person authorized by any of them. When water has been turned off for nonpayment of utility charges or for failure to protect meters or pipes to the satisfaction of the Town, or for any other reason, no person shall turn the water on again who is not duly authorized to do so.

(13) For the purpose of making repairs to the mains, or of connecting or repairing service pipes, or constructing extensions or any other work, the Town shall have the right to shut off the water from any customer without notice and to keep it shut off as long as may be necessary to enable the work to be completed. Whenever it is intended to shut water off for more than six hours at a time, reasonable notice shall be given.

(14) The Town shall not be liable for damages cause by the breaking of a service pipe or attachment, or for shutting off water to repair mains or connections or any other reason.

(15) Every customer intending to vacate any premises supplied with water from the waterworks system or who intends to discontinue the use of such water, shall give notice of the same to the Town and shall turn off the meter valve on the inside of the building before leaving.

(16) To prevent freeze-up, the Town may authorize the customer to connect a "bleeder" line or open a tap. The additional volume of water thus consumed to be estimated and deducted from the charges made to the consumer during the period the water is permitted to run. This paragraph applies only where the Town is satisfied the service pipes outside the private property are not at a sufficient depth below the ground surface to prevent freezing.

### **3. WATER AND SEWER SERVICE CONNECTIONS:**

(1) a. Sewer and water service connections may be constructed or replaced only by the Town's employees extending from the sewer or water main in the street to any building(s) on private lots. Upon written application by the owner(s) of lots abutting public streets, the Town will replace or install service connections to the owner(s) property.

**b.** Water service lines will be installed or replaced completely to the inside of the building. On new water service installations, the water meter will be installed near the floor on the wall closest to the point of entry of the service pipe into the building.

**c.** Sewer service lines will be installed or replaced to a point outside of the foundation wall with no installation or repair conducted under the foundation of any building by the Town's work forces.

**d.** The cost of construction shall be assessed against the properties affected proportionate to the lineal feet installed or the work performed as further described in sections (2), (3) and (4).

**(2)** For construction involving a simple trench excavation where no other utilities, trees, buildings, landscape features or other variables exist which would interfere with the straight trenching necessary to perform a service connection installation or repair, the cost assessed with respect to each service shall be calculated as measured from the center of the street, whether or not the main line to which the service is connected is laid in the center of the street, up to the end of the trench excavation. The amount per lineal foot paid by the owner of the lot(s) affected by the work shall be at a rate as set out in **Schedule "A"** by the Town in its' **Custom Work and Equipment Rates** Schedule in the Service Connections section. **Schedule "A"** is attached and forms part of this bylaw.

**(3)** For construction involving extra work as a result of the presence of other utilities, trees, buildings, landscape features or other variables, the cost assessed with respect to the installation or repair of each service connection shall be calculated by totaling all costs associated with the work including the rates as set out by the Town's Custom Work and Equipment Rates **Schedule "A"** in the Equipment Rates section. All related costs shall be split evenly between the Town and the owner. The determination between what is considered a simple trench as compared to what is considered extra work shall be made by the superintendent or in his absence, the most senior public works staff member. That determination shall be binding to the owners as well as the Town.

**(4)** The Town can supply extra water tubing for inside a building with the cost of tubing paid by the owner(s). Any extra water tubing must be encased in a minimum 4 inch conduit completely buried beneath the finished basement floor. The conduit will be supplied by the owner(s) and will not have any elbows exceeding 45 degrees. Minimum separation between elbows will be 12 inches.

**(5)** The assessment of cost for each service connection shall be payable in a lump sum by the owner on demand to the municipality, or if not paid, will be added to the taxes accrued for the property affected by the work.

**(6)** The Town shall make repairs to the curbstop and small water leaks on the water service line up to the water meter location at no cost to the owner. Any replacement of water service connection pipe shall be performed according to the parameters as defined in sections 2, 3 and 4 above.

**(7)** The Town shall make repairs to broken sewer service pipes at no cost to the owner, provided however that no more than ten(10) feet of pipe are repaired. Any repair of over ten (10) feet in length of sewer pipe shall be regarded as a service replacement with the cost of the replacement being assessed to the owner for the entire length being replaced at a rate as defined in sections (2), (3) and (4) above.

(8) Any excavation on private property will be left backfilled to a level two (2) inches higher than the surrounding natural ground. While the town will endeavor to cause as little damage to vegetation as possible while conducting a repair or installation of a service, the owner of the property will be responsible to pay for and re-establish any vegetation destroyed by the work.

(9) All expenses for the cleaning or clearing of blocked sewer service connections shall be the responsibility of the owner or occupant of the property regardless of whether the problem occurs on Town or private property, provided however, if the problem is that of a broken pipe or other blockage at the sewer main, the Town shall be responsible for the expenses.

**4. DISCONNECT AND RECONNECT:**

(1) Upon written application signed by the property owner, the Town shall make a temporary disconnection of any water service connection

(2) The charge for the disconnection shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and the charge for the reconnection shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00).

**5. GENERAL:**

(1) The council may from time to time, by bylaw, determine the periods for billing purposes.

(2) Any person found guilty of a breach of any provision of this bylaw, or any person interfering with or obstructing the Meter Man, Town Employee or their duly authorized assistants in their work, shall be guilty of an offense and liable on summary conviction to the penalties imposed by the General Penalty Bylaw of the Town of Gravelbourg.

6. Bylaw 984/95 is hereby repealed.

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*Mayor*

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*Administrator*