

WATERWORKS RATE POLICY

The objective of the Waterworks Rate Policy is to maintain waterworks that are self-financing and to set aside funds for future capital expenditures.

Council has set water and sewer rates for a four-year period from 2019 to 2022 in order to provide sufficient revenue for the Town's water utility to be self sustaining, and to provide users with advanced notice of increases. The rates include a separate infrastructure levy which is to be set aside and used for capital infrastructure upgrades and replacement.

The Town's original infrastructure is from the late 1950's and early 1960's. In the last 20 years, upgrades have been done to two of the three sanitary sewage lift stations and the forcemain, the lagoon holding cells, and approximately 50 percent of the water distribution system. Additional water and sewer infrastructure has been constructed for current developments. Prioritizing future projects is based on the condition of existing infrastructure and the service it provides, the capacity of the infrastructure, and future development.

WATERWORKS CAPITAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The objective of the Waterworks Capital Investment Strategy is to eliminate risks by addressing anticipated infrastructure maintenance, immediate infrastructure problems, and future infrastructure replacements in a timely fashion so as to ensure safe drinking water and reliable services to the community. The strategy uses the 2015 Waterworks System Assessment that was required by Saskatchewan Environment for infrastructure planning as well as data from current condition assessments which have been done on the infrastructure.

Recommendations in the 2015 Waterworks System Assessment indicate some major infrastructure upgrades which will require a new water treatment plant, reservoir storage and additional supply wells.

To date, the following work has been done on the WTP & Well Supply project:

- purchased the adjoining property to the existing Water Treatment Plant to allow for expansion.
- commissioned a hydrogeology study on the aquifer system.
- commissioned our consultant engineers with preparing the plans for the project.
- applied for Federal and Provincial funding to assist with the cost of the project.
- researched and considered other water supply options.
- contracted hydrogeologists to perform exploration test drilling for future supply.
- construction of replacement supply wells.

2021 ANNUAL FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Water & Sewer revenues and expenditures as reported in the 2021 Audited Financial Statements:

REVENUE	Fees		
	Water	\$	950,383
	Sewer	\$	321,195
	Infrastructure Levy	\$	251,250
	Interest on Reserves	\$	2,675
	Total Utility Revenue	\$	1,525,503
Less:			
EXPENDITURES	Water	\$	671,781
	Sewer	\$	246,202
	Total Utility Expenditures ⁽¹⁾	\$	917,983
	Debt Payments	\$	198,835
	SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$	408,685
	RATIO		1.37%

Comparison of the utility revenues to expenditures plus debt payments expressed as a ratio – 1.37

Current Year Capital Grants ⁽²⁾ - \$0

Current Year Capital Projects & Equipment Expenditures - \$322,012

The amount of utility revenues transferred into the utility reserves was \$277,526. This amount is a total of the current years surplus amount, plus the Infrastructure Levy amount dedicated for capital projects, less Capital costs.

The amount of supplementary revenue needed to cover expenditures was \$0

⁽¹⁾ Includes amortization expense of \$185,191

⁽²⁾ Does not include CCBF funds which were previously allocated to previous years projects.

UTILITY RESERVES

Amount added to the reserve account during the year: \$280,201.

End of year balance in reserve account for future waterworks capital infrastructure: \$777,587.

FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS

1. Water Treatment Plant & Reservoir Storage – Estimated at \$11,000,000.00
2. Ongoing replacement of cast iron water main – Estimated \$200,000 per block

DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

1. 2015 Waterworks System Assessment, as required under Section 35 of *The Water Regulations, 2002*, is available on request.
2. Agreements for Water Services available on request:
 - Mennonite Nursing Home
 - Valley Regional Park