



BYLAW NO. 496
Water Meter Bylaw

Being a Bylaw of the Village of Arrowwood in the Province of Alberta to establish Water Meter Services.

WHEREAS pursuant to section 7(f) of the Municipal Government Act, being Chapter M-26 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 2000, and amendments thereto, whereby a municipality may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting services provided by or on behalf of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS, all water works, sanitary sewers, drains and sewage disposal works belonging to the Village shall be under direct control and management of the Village;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Arrowwood deems it appropriate to set forth terms and conditions under which such water meter services will be provided;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Village of Arrowwood, in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled enacts as follows:

Part 1 Definitions

As used in this bylaw, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

AUTOMATED METER READING – The programs or projects, as may be adopted by the Village, for the supply and installation of water meters and a radio communications network capable of reading, transmitting, and collecting water meter readings through the Village and includes all related equipment, software and hardware. Automated Meter Reading Program includes the water meter replacement and automated meter reading system project currently undertaken by the Village as at the enactment of this chapter.

BUILDING – All types of residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional buildings.

OCCUPIER – A person residing on or in a property; a person entitled to the possession of the property if there is no other person residing on or in the property; and a tenant of leaseholder; and, where that person is a corporation, shall include the officers, directors, and shareholders of that corporation. An occupier includes an occupant.

OWNER – A person who has any right, title, estate, or interest in a property, other than that of only an occupant and, where that person is a corporation, shall include the officers, directors, and

shareholders of that corporation, and shall include any person with authority or power over or control of that property on the behalf of an owner. An owner includes a developer.

PERSON – A natural person, an association, a partnership or a corporation, and the heirs, executors, administrators, or other legal representatives of a person to whom the context can apply according to law.

PROPERTY – Includes a house, building, structure, lot or any part of a house, building, structure, or lot within the Village which as a unique municipal address and is adjacent to the waterworks.

SHUT-OFF VALVE – The valve on or at a water service connection owned and used by the Village to shut off or turn on the water supply from the waterworks to a property.

WATER METER – An apparatus at a property which measures and records the quantity of water passing through it and is read, serviced, maintained, or supplied by the Village.

WATER SERVICE CONNECTION – The part of the waterworks, consisting of pipes, fittings and appurtenances which supplies water to a property, and which is located between the Village water main and the boundary line of private property.

WATERWORKS – Any works for collection, production, treatment, storage, supply, transmission, and distribution of water by the Village, or any part of any of those works including the water service connection but does not include plumbing to which the Building Code Act or any amendments thereto apply.

Part 2 Administration

- a) The administration of the waterworks and fixed water meter reading equipment shall be under the jurisdiction of the Village designated employee.
- b) The administration of water meter reading, water rates, accounting, billing, and collection shall be under the jurisdiction of the Village designated employee.

Part 3 Use and Receipt of Water

- a) No person shall use, cause, or permit water to be used otherwise than in connection with the property at which it is supplied, nor shall water be sold or otherwise similarly disposed of without the prior written permission of the Village, other than authorized Village Fire Services personnel or other Village personnel, acting in the course of their duties.
- b) No person shall obtain water without paying the applicable charges, fees, or rates for that water, except with the prior written approval of the Village, other than authorized Village Fire Services personnel, acting in the course of their duties.

Part 4 Water Supply

- i. The Village has the authority to restrict, limit or control water usage at any time it deems necessary to do so. The Village, in imposing such limitations, shall notify affected persons of the restrictions by public address.
- ii. The Village does not guarantee the pressure of continuous supply of water and the Village always reserves the right without notice to change the operating water pressure and shut off water.
- iii. Occupants' dependent upon a continuous and uninterrupted supply of water or having processes or equipment that require particularly clear or pure water, shall provide such facilities as they consider necessary to ensure a continuous and uninterrupted supply, pressure, or quality of water required for this use.

Part 5 Conservation Measures

A. No person shall:

- i. lend or sell water unless specifically licensed to do so; or
- ii. give away or permit water to be taken; or
- iii. use or apply water to the use or benefit of others doing anything other than his/her own use or benefit; or
- iv. increase the usage of water beyond that agreed upon with the Village.

B. No person shall waste any water in any way, whether by improper or leaky service pipes, fixtures, or tapes, by freezing, or by improper or excessive use of water.

Part 6 Water Service Connections

A. New or changed connections:

- i. No person shall erect or cause to be erected, any building or structure, except an ancillary building, on lands which are serviced by the waterworks unless the new building or structure is connected to the waterworks.
- ii. No person shall connect or allow to be connected to the waterworks or change or alter an existing connection to the waterworks without approval of the Village.
- iii. The minimum water service connection shall be no less than 19mm in diameter.

B. Application for connection

- i. Any persons who require water to be supplied to a property or a change or alteration to the existing water service connection in relation to a property shall obtain prior authorization from the Village.
- ii. Applications under previous section shall be accompanied by such plans as may be required by the Village.

C. Installation of water service connection

- i. Upon approval by the Village of an application submitted under previous section, a water service connection shall be installed at the expense of the owner as per Village's standards.

D. No installation in road allowance

- i. No person shall install or cause the installation of a water service connection to be installed within any road allowance, Village easement, or other Village land, save and except an authorized employee, agent, or contractor of the Village or a person expressly authorized to do so by a written agreement with the Village.

E. Single Connections

- i. No person shall install or cause the installation of a water service connection that services more than one property.
- ii. No owner or occupant of a property shall permit the installation of a water service connection that services more than one dwelling unit on a property which that person owns and occupies.

F. Replacement of existing water service connection

- i. If a new water service connection replaces an existing water service connection, the existing water service connection shall be disconnected from the Village water main and the shut-off valve shall be removed, all at the same time as the new water service connection is installed. The owner shall pay all costs associated with the disconnection and the new connection.

G. Demolition of a property

- i. If a building or structure on a property is demolished or substantially demolished, the water service connection shall be disconnected by the Village at the connection point to the Village water main.
- ii. The owner shall pay all costs associated with the disconnection prior to the demolition of the building or structure.

H. Costs of disconnection of water service connection

- i. In the event that an owner requests a disconnection of a water service connection, the owner shall pay the disconnection fee prior to commencement of the disconnection of the water service as set for from time to time by the Village

Part 7 Metering of Water

A. Water to be metered.

- i. No person, other than authorized Village of Arrowwood's Fire Services personnel or other Village personnel acting in the course of their duties or authorized agents or contractors of the Village expressly acting within the scope of their work or services, shall use or permit the use of water that has not passed through a water meter.
- ii. No owner shall fail to have a water meter installed and in use at the owner's property where that property is supplied with water by the Village.

B. Installation of water meters

- i. Water meters, including strainers, valves and remote readout units for new or renovated buildings shall be installed by the owner, at the sole expense of the owner, in accordance with the standards and specifications.
- ii. Every owner required to install a water meter shall install a water meter on that owner's property in a secure location.
- iii. Despite any other provisions of this bylaw, the water meter, conduit, and wire for the remote readout unit shall be installed prior to occupancy of a new or renovated building or part thereof.

C. Supply and payment for water meters

- i. The Village shall be the sole supplier of all water meters. The Village will supply, free of charge, a 5/8 "water meter for all buildings to which a water service connection is provided. Owners who wish to install a larger size meter will pay the cost difference between a 5/8" and their requested size.

D. Refusals to install

- i. No owner shall refuse or obstruct the Village or designated in the installation of:
 - a) A water meter and related items; and
 - b) Automated meter reading equipment
 - c) In the event that an owner refuses or obstructs the Village in the installation of a water meter or any related items and equipment, the Village may shut off the water for this property.
- ii. No owner of a property shall fail to install a water meter and any related items and equipment as required under this bylaw
 - a) In the event that the owner fails or refuses to install a water meter and any related items and equipment as required, the Village may issue an order to the owner to do so.
 - b) The owner shall comply with an order no later than seven (7) days after an issuance.

- c) If an owner fails to comply with an order the Village may undertake the work at the owner's expense.

E. Number of water meters

- i. If two or more water services connections supply water to a property, each water service connection shall be separately metered, the owner shall pay all costs associated with those installations.

F. Water meter loss or damage

- i. Every owner shall be responsible for any loss or damage to every water meter on that owner's property including any damage from freezing.
- ii. If a water meter is lost or damaged the owner shall be responsible for the full replacement cost of the water meter and related items or equipment with seven (7) calendar days from the date the new water meter and related items and equipment are delivered to the owner.

G. Water meter inspection sealing and access

- i. Every water meter installed on a property shall be sealed at or about the time of installation.
- ii. Every owner and occupier shall, at reasonable times and on reasonable notice, permit the Village to have free, clear and unobstructed access to that person's property and to the location where a water meter is installed or is to be installed in or on that property or to permit the Village to test, read, repair, maintain, alter, disconnect, remove, replace or install a water meter or seal a water meter which has been installed.
- iii. The Village shall at all times be permitted to take photographs, including digital images, of any water meter, related items and equipment.

H. Water meter interference prohibited

- i. No person, except a person authorized by the Village, shall, or allow any person to open, or in any way alter or tamper with any water meter or seal or do anything which may interfere with the proper registration of the quantity of water that passes through a water meter.

I. Maintenance of water meter appurtenances and piping

- i. Every owner shall ensure that all valves are fitted with proper handles and shall provide, install, and properly maintain all valves to, from and around the water meter, to allow for the proper flow of water.

J. Relocation of water meter

- i. No person shall change or permit to be changed, the location of a water meter or

related items and equipment, at a property once the water meter is installed to the satisfaction of the Village without prior written consent of the Village, as required by the Building Code Act.

K. Water meter leaks

- i. An owner of a property shall immediately, and not later than within 72 hours, repair any leaks developing at the water meter or its couplings.
- ii. The Village shall not be responsible for any damage to the property as a result of leaks at the water meter or its couplings.

L. Building demolition

- i. No person shall demolish a building, or permit a building to be demolished until the final water meter reading is obtained and the water is turned off at the shut off valve.
- ii. The owner shall return to the Village the water meter and remote readout unit.

M. Water shut off and turn on

- i. An owner of a property shall notify the Administrator no less than 48 hours in advance of the date on which the owner requires the Administrator to shut off the water supply temporarily or permanently to a property.
- ii. The owner's notification shall be in writing if the owner requires the water supply to be shut off permanently.
- iii. The owner shall pay the Village for any shut off or turn on of the water supply to a property the amount set by the Village from time to time.
- iv. No person shall turn on or shut off the supply of water to a property at the shut off valve without prior authorization of the Village.
- v. If the water supply to a property has been shut off by the Village, no person shall turn on or use the water supply or permit the water supply to be turned on or used without the prior approval of the Village.
- vi. The Village may shut of the supply of the water to a property if the fees or charges imposed by the Village to suppl water are overdue or if a leak or other fault is found on the water service pip or water service connection and is creating or is likely to create an emergency situation, including but not limited to, injury to persons or damage to adjacent properties including those of the Village, and may keep the supply of water to a property shut off until the time that the leak or fault is completely repaired.
- vii. The Village may shut off the supply of water if an emergency or potential emergency exists and an owner or occupier has not provided to the Village immediate free, clear and unobstructed access to the property, premises, water meter and any related items and equipment.
- viii. The Village shall, prior to the shut off of a water supply, provide reasonable notice as may be practical and possible under the circumstances of the shut off to the owners and the occupiers.

- ix. The Village shall not be liable for damages or loss caused by the stoppage, interruption or reduction of the amount of water supplied to the land or property of any person as a result of emergency, breakdown, repair or extension of the waterworks.

Part 8 Protection from damage

- x. No person shall damage, destroy, deface, or tamper, or cause or permit the breaking, removal, damaging, destroying, defacing, or tampering with:
 - a) Any part of the waterworks; or any seal placed thereon, or attached thereto, or
 - b) Any permanent or temporary device installed in or on the waterworks for the purpose of flow measuring, sampling, testing, contamination prevention or other purpose that the Village may deem necessary for the administration of this chapter or the operation or maintenance of the waterworks.
 - c) Any owner or person receiving water from the waterworks shall be liable for any damage or expense arising out of their failure to properly protect the waterworks.

Part 9 Offences and penalties

- xi. Every person who contravenes any provision of this bylaw or knowingly concurs in a contravention of any provision of this bylaw is guilty of an offence.
- xii. Every person who contravenes a provision of this bylaw or knowingly concurs in a contravention of a provision of this bylaw, upon conviction, shall be liable to a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$50,000 for a first offence and to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$75,000 for any subsequent offence.

Part 10 Severability

- xiii. Despite any section or sections of this bylaw, or any part or parts thereof, may be found by any court of law to be invalid or illegal that section or sections or part or parts thereof shall be deemed to be severable, and all other sections of this bylaw, or parts thereof, are separate and independent there from and enacted as such.

READ a first time on this 12^m day of March 2024

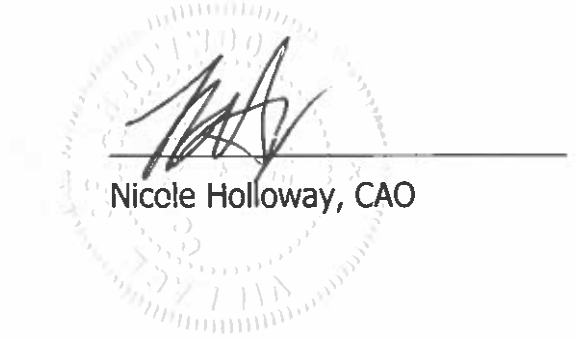
READ a second time on this 12^m day of March 2024

UNANIMOUS CONSENT to proceed to third reading on this 12^m day of March 2024

READ a third time on this 12^m day of March 2024



Colin Bexte, Mayor



Nicole Holloway, CAO

