

# THE VILLAGE OF ROCKYFORD

## BYLAW NO. 2023-002

### PUBLIC UTILITY BYLAW

#### A BYLAW REGULATING AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUPPLY AND USE OF THE WATER, WASTEWATER, AND WASTE COLLECTION UTILITIES IN THE VILLAGE OF ROCKYFORD

#### THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ROCKYFORD, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, DULY ASSEMBLED ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

##### SECTION I – Definitions:

1. "AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL" means any employee or contractor of the Village of Rockyford authorized by Council for the purpose of providing service of water, sewer, or garbage.
2. "CAO" refers to the Chief Administrative Officer of the Village of Rockyford
3. "COMPOSITION OF SYSTEM OR WORKS" means when the system of works of a public utility involve pipes, wires or other apparatus that connect to a building, the system or works include:
  - a. the pipes, wires or apparatus
    - (i) running up to the building,
    - (ii) located on or within the exterior walls of the building, and
    - (iii) running from the exterior walls to couplings, stop-cocks, meters and other apparatus placed inside the building by the municipality or person providing the public utility, and
  - b. those couplings, stopcocks, meters and other apparatus.
4. "CONSUMER" shall be understood and construed as anyone using Village water , sewer, and garbage services including a firm, corporation, owner, occupier, lessee or tenant.
5. "COUNCIL" refers to the Council of the Village of Rockyford.
6. "MUNICIPAL UTILITY SERVICE" means a utility service provided by the Village of Rockyford.
7. "OCCUPANT" means the occupier of any property who resides in or carries on any kind of business therein.
8. "OWNER" means the person who is registered under the Land Titles Act as owner of the property.
9. "PROPERTY" means land or building or a part thereof occupied, unoccupied, or used for any purpose.
10. "PUBLIC UTILITY " means a system or works used to provide water, sewage disposal, and waste management services for public consumption, benefit convenience or use within the Village of Rockyford and includes the apparatus that is provided for public consumption, benefit, convenience or use.
11. "SPRINKLING" means the distribution of water to the surface or sub-surface of lawns, gardens, or other areas situated outside buildings by pipes, hoses, sprinklers or any other method, and shall include all uses of water other than human and commercial consumption and fire fighting.
12. "STREET MAIN" means that portion of land on which any sewer or water main is laid for the service of more than one person.
13. "TENANT" means one who rents or leases a property from a landlord.
14. "VILLAGE" refers to the Village of Rockyford in the Province of Alberta.
15. "WATER OR SEWER SERVICE CONNECTION" means the system or works of the public utility that runs from the main lines of the Village of Rockyford public utility to a building or other place on a parcel of land for the purpose of providing the utility service to the parcel and includes those parts of the system or works described in Section I 3:
16. "WHEATLAND REGIONAL CORPORATION" the corporation contracted by the Village to provide water and sewer service, maintenance and billing..

**SECTION II - Waterworks**

1. Tapping Water Mains

- a. No person except authorized personnel shall make any connection whatsoever with any of the public pipes or mains.
- b. All water service pipes laid in private property, between the property line and the water meter, shall be of the same material as the service pipe in the street between the water main and the property line. No connection may be made to the water service pipe between the property line and the meter unless prior approval by designated officer of Village of Rockyford

2. Meters

The Village will provide 5/8"x 3/4" meters to current consumers. Those consumers requiring a larger meter will be charged for the difference in price between the 5/8"x 3/4" and the larger meter. The Village also supplies the remote top for the meters. All consumers are required to have a meter installed where it is physically possible to do so, all meters shall have a remote head for outside reading.

- b. Where meters are installed for the measuring of water, all owners, tenants, or occupiers shall give every facility for the placing, inspection, and reading of such meter, and shall protect it from interference or injury by frost or otherwise, and shall be liable for any damage which may occur to the meter.

3. Turning on or shutting off Water

- a. Water shall be turned on and off only by authorized personnel. Cost of disconnecting or connecting water shall be by resolution of Council
- b. It is hereby declared that no person shall have any claim for compensation or damages as the result of the Wheatland Regional Corporation shutting off the water without notice or from the failure of the water supply from any cause whatsoever.

4. Wells and Other Sources of Supply of Water

- b. No wells or other sources of supply of water except the Village water mains shall be used in the Village

5. Interference with Hydrants and Valves

- a. Except as hereinafter provided, no persons other than authorized personnel shall open or close or operate or interfere with any valve, hydrant or fire plug, or draw water therefrom.
- b. The Chief of the Rockyford Fire Department, his assistants and officers, and members of that department, are authorized to use the hydrants or fire plugs for the purpose of extinguishing fires, or for making trial of hose pipe, or for fire protection, but all such use shall be under the supervision of the said Chief or his duly authorized assistants, and in no event shall any inexperienced or incompetent person be permitted to manipulate or control in anyway any hydrant or plug.
- c. No person shall in any manner obstruct the free access to hydrant or valve or stopcock. No vehicle, building, rubbish, or any other matter which would cause such obstruction shall be placed nearer to a hydrant than the property line of the street in which the hydrant is located, not within twenty (20) feet or 6.1 meters, of the hydrant in a direction parallel with the said property line.

6. Disposal and Sale of water

No person utilizing a water service connection or water supply from the municipal water utility service provided by the village shall sell or dispose of water from that supply unless prior approval is obtained from the village. No person shall wrongfully, or negligently waste any water.

7. Sprinkling

- a) The CAO may at such times and for such length of time as he considers necessary or advisable, regulate, restrict or prohibit sprinkling.
- b) In exercising the authority conferred by Section II 8 a) the CAO:
  - i. shall cause a public notice to be circulated to every household in the village giving reasonable detail of the regulation, restriction or prohibition of sprinkling being imposed which may be limited to certain times or which may be unlimited as to time in which latter case, a similar public notice shall be circulated giving notice of the time of cessation of such regulation, restriction or prohibition.

- ii. May regulate, restrict or prohibit sprinkling in all or any part of parts of the village in so doing the CAO may provide different times during which different consumers may sprinkle by reference to compass direction, streets, odd and even street addresses, or in such other manner as the CAO in his absolute discretion considers appropriate.

c) The CAO may cause the water supply to any consumer who causes, permits or allows sprinkling in contravention of any such regulation, restriction or prohibition to be shut off until such consumer enters into an undertaking to abide by and comply with such regulation, restriction or prohibition in a form acceptable to the CAO.

### SECTION III - Sewers

#### 1. Use and Protection of Sewer System

- a. Only feces, urine, the necessary closet paper, wastewater, and slops shall be properly discharged through a house sewer into Village sewer
- b. No person shall throw, deposit or leave in or upon any Village sewer, or any trap, basin, grating, manhole or other appurtenance of any Village sewer any butchers offal, garbage, litter, manure, rubbish, sweepings, stock, stones, bricks, earth, gravel, dirt, mud, hay, straw, twigs, leaves, papers, rags, cinders, ashes, tar, feathers, glass, diapers, or refuse matter of any kind.
- c. No person shall be permitted to discharge into any sewer - any liquid or liquids which would adversely affect the sewers, or the disposal of the sewage, or any matter or substance by which the free flow of the sewage may be interfered with, or any chemical refuse or other trade waste, or any waste steam, condensing water, heated water or other liquids of a higher temperature than one hundred and eighty degrees Fahrenheit (180 F) or eighty-two degrees Celsius (82 C).
- d. No person shall make or cause to make any connection with any Village sewer, or house drain, or appurtenance thereof for the purpose of conveying, or which may convey, into the same any inflammable or explosive material, storm water, roof drainage, cistern or tank overflow, condensing or cooling water. In some cases, roof drainage may be permitted but must have approval of the Village engineer, Plumbing Inspector, and the Village Council.
- e. No person shall discharge the contents of any privy vault, manure pit or cesspool, directly or indirectly, into any Village sewer or house drain connected therewith.
- f. No person shall turn, lift, remove, raise or tamper with the cover of any manhole, ventilator or other appurtenance of the Village sewer, except duly authorized personnel.
- g. No person shall cut, break, pierce, or tap any Village sewer or appurtenance thereof, or introduce any pipe, tube, trough or conduit into any Village sewer.
- h. No person shall interfere with the free discharge of any Village sewer, or part thereof, or do any act or things, which may impede or obstruct the flow or clog up any Village sewer or appurtenance thereof.
- i. Wheatland Regional Corporation operators shall have the right at all reasonable times to enter houses or other places which have been connected with the Village sewers, and access must be given to the operator(s) to ascertain whether or not any improper material or liquid is being discharged into the sewers, and they shall have power to stop or prevent from discharging into the sewer system any private sewer or drain through which substances are discharged which are liable to injure the sewers or obstruct the flow of sewage.

#### 2. Industrial and Trade Wastes

No waste or discharge resulting from any trade, industrial or manufacturing process, shall be directly discharged to any Village sewer without such previous treatment as shall be prescribed by the Council for each such case. The necessary treatment works so prescribed shall be completely installed by the applicant, at his expense, prior to the construction of the sewer connection, and thereafter shall be continuously maintained and operated by the applicant.

#### 3. Interceptors

Grease, oil, sand, or mud, sumps or interceptors shall be provided by the owner, where in the opinion of the Development Officer, they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease, oil, sand, mud or other harmful ingredients.

4. Grease Traps

Grease traps of sufficient size and approved design shall be placed on the waste pipes from all hotels, restaurants, laundries and such other places as the Council under advisement may direct.

5. Sewer Connections

No person other than duly authorized personnel acting under the direction of the Wheatland Regional Corporation operators shall make any connection to, or shall cut or otherwise tamper in any way with a public or Village sewer

**SECTION IV - Plumbing**

1. All plumbing and sewer work in the village shall be done in strict accordance with the regulations under the Public Health Act of the Province of Alberta and Safety Codes Regulations, and amendments thereof, which regulations shall be considered as forming part of this Bylaw as if incorporated herein.

**SECTION V - Waste Collection**

1. The Village shall supply once weekly waste collection service to each residence and or business. The day of waste collection will be designated by Council. Residents are also allowed direct access to the Rockyford Waste Transfer Site during hours of operation under supervision.
2. Garbage shall be prepared for collection as follows:
  - i. drained, securely wrapped and placed in an animal proof container. All items placed out for collection must be in bags. Weight of each bag shall not exceed forty (40) pounds
  - ii Containers shall be in the lane or in front of the property on the designated collection day.
  - iii Personnel shall not be required to collect any garbage not properly prepared and set out.
3. Materials that are not acceptable for weekly collection include but are not limited to large pieces of wood walls, doors, construction materials, large pieces of metal, car parts, appliances, heavy steel, paint, oil, toxic chemicals, out-dated drugs, bio-medical waste, sharps, syringes, empty pharmaceutical bottles, tires, propane tanks. The resident at the resident's expense must transfer these prohibited materials to the Rockyford Waste Transfer Site or to Drumheller Landfill Site.

**SECTION VI - Service Information**

1. Service Connections
  - i. In the event that mains are required in order to provide services for the applicant, the applicant will be required to pay the cost of the said mains unless otherwise specified by Council.
2. Billing Regulations
  - a. Water, sewer and garbage rates shall be set from time to time by resolution of Council.
  - b. Wheatland Regional Corporation will send out a monthly billing for water, sewer and garbage at the rates as established by Village Council.
  - c. Penalties for delinquent accounts and procedures for water shut-off for non-payment will be established by Wheatland Regional Corporation.
  - d. In the event that a water, sewer and garbage bill remains unpaid past a balance of \$1000 Wheatland Regional Corporation will be responsible for sending the customer to collection.
3. Rental Properties
  - a. Each owner of a property shall be responsible for making a water, sewer and garbage application to Wheatland Regional Corporation as soon as the property is occupied or otherwise in use.
  - b. In the case of rental or revenue properties, the owner of the property, not any tenant, shall be responsible for making a water, sewer and garbage utility application to Wheatland

Regional Corporation as soon as a building on the owner's property is occupied or otherwise in use.

- c. The owner of the property shall be responsible for all water consumed on a premise, whether the water consumption was registered by the water meter or consumed by accidental or illegal means.

4. Re-Connection of Service

- a. In the event that a water service has been shut off for non-payment of account as prescribed in Wheatland Regional Corporation policies, a re-connection fee as set by Council shall be charged and shall be payable in advance of the turning on of the service.
- b. In the event a water service has been shut off upon the request of the consumer, a re-connection fee as set by Council shall be payable in advance for the turning on of the service.
- c. In the event a disconnection or reconnection fee is to be levied, that fee will be billed by and payable to Wheatland Regional Corporation.

5. Property Ownership

- a. In the event a property is sold; has a name change or a new property title is issued a transfer fee that represents this disconnection as set by Council from time to time shall be charged and shall be payable in advance of the changing of title. No rebate shall be made for any fractional part of a month.
- b. In the event a property is sold, has a name change or a new property title is issued a transfer fee representing this reconnection fee as set by Council from time to time shall be charged and shall be payable in advance of the changing of title. No rebate shall be made for any fractional part of a month.

6. Discontinuance of Service

- a. Any person intending to vacate the property that have been supplied with water from the waterworks, sewer or garbage, or who is desirous of discontinuing the use thereof shall be charged the regular monthly fees of rates and levies as have been set by Council, no rebate shall be made for any fractional part of a month.

**Section VII - Repeal**

Bylaw No. 2020-002 and amendments thereto are rescinded.

This bylaw shall take effect upon the date of the final reading.

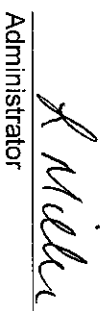
READ a first time this 12 day of April 2023

READ a second time this 12 day of April 2023

Received permission to proceed to Third and Final Reading this 12 day of April 2023  
Carried Unanimously

READ a third and final time this 12 day of April 2023.

  
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Mayor

  
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Administrator