

M A N I T O B A) Order No. 136/03
)
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT) September 10, 2003

BEFORE: G. D. Forrest, Chairman
S. Proven, Member
M. Girouard, Member

**VILLAGE OF ST. CLAUDE
WATER AND SEWER RATES
BY-LAW NO. 370/03**

WHEREAS The Village of St. Claude has applied to The Public Utilities Board for approval of By-law No. 370/03 to revise the schedule of water and sewer rates of the said Village, and after public notice of the application - no persons signifying their desire to make representation in the matter;

AND WHEREAS the Board deems it expedient to do so;

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. By-law No. 370/03 of The Village of St. Claude BE AND THE SAME IS HEREBY APPROVED subject to amendment on second reading to agree with Schedule "A" attached hereto;

2. The water and sewer rates set forth in Schedule "A" hereto shall apply to all customers of the utility effective on the next billing in the normal course after the date of this Order.

Fees payable upon this Order - \$50.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"G. D. FORREST"

Chairman

"G. O. BARRON"

Secretary

Certified a true copy of
Order No. 136/03 issued by
The Public Utilities Board

Secretary

SCHEDULE "A"

TO BOARD ORDER NO. 136/03

VILLAGE OF ST. CLAUDE

WATER AND SEWER RATES

BY-LAW NO. 370/03

SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES

1. Commodity Rates per Thousand Gallons

Water per M.G.	Sewer per M.G.	Water and Sewer per M.G.
\$6.50	\$2.50	\$9.00

2. Minimum Quarterly Charges

.1 Water and Sewer Customers

Notwithstanding the commodity rates set forth in Paragraph 1 above, all customers shall pay the applicable minimum charges set out below, which will include water allowances in gallons indicated:

Meter Size	Group Capacity Ratio	Water Included (gallons)	Admin. (Service) Charge	Commodity Charge		Total Quarterly Minimum Charge
				Water	Sewer	
5/8"	1	3,000	\$8.25	\$ 19.50	\$ 7.50	\$ 35.25
3/4"	2	6,000	\$8.25	\$ 39.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 62.25
1"	4	12,000	\$8.25	\$ 78.00	\$ 30.00	\$116.25
1-1/2"	10	30,000	\$8.25	\$195.00	\$ 75.00	\$278.25
2"	25	75,000	\$8.25	\$487.50	\$187.50	\$683.25

.2 Water-only Customers

The minimum charge will be the same for each meter as shown under Paragraphs 1 and 2 above, except that sewer commodity charges will be excluded.

.3 Sewer-only Customers

A residential or small commercial customer with sewer service only shall pay a flat quarterly rate of \$28.25, provided such a customer is a single family dwelling or equivalent.

Other sewer-only customers who are estimated to be consuming more than 8,000 gallons of water per quarter (from their own water supply) shall have their water supply metered at their own expense and the rates shall be based on the sum of the customer service charge and the appropriate other charges set out in Paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

3. Bulk Water Sales

All water sold in bulk from the water treatment plant shall be charged at the rate of \$8.40 per thousand gallons.

4. Sales to Customers Outside the Village of St. Claude

The Village of St. Claude may sign agreements with customers for the provision of water and sewer services to properties located outside the legal boundaries of the Village. Such agreements shall provide for the payment of the appropriate rates set out in Paragraphs 1 and 2 above, in addition to a surcharge set by resolution of Council. The surcharge shall be equivalent to the frontage levy plus the general and special tax levies for utility purposes in effect at the time, or as may be in effect from time to time and which would be levied on the property concerned if it were within the Village boundaries. In addition, all costs of connecting to the utility mains and of installing and maintaining the service connections will be paid by the customer.

5. Billing Period

Utility service accounts will be billed quarterly in advance, based on the minimum charges plus excess commodity charges for water and sewer services for the preceding quarter for metered services, all as set out in Paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

6. Billing Due Date and Penalties

Utility bills will be due and payable within 20 days of the billing date. A penalty of 10% of the gross billed amount will be assessed if the account is not paid by the due date.

7. Meter Reading

Every customer of the Village of St. Claude water and sewer utility will be responsible for reading their own water meter up to three (3) times each year upon notice at the end of the applicable billing quarter, and will be responsible to telephone, mail or hand deliver the water meter reading to the Village office. The Village will undertake to read the water meters at least once each year.

- .1 In the event that a customer fails to deliver the water meter reading during the appropriate time period, the Village will read the meter and will assess a fee of \$10.00 for this service. If the Village is unable to access and read the meter within an appropriate time period, an estimate of the water consumption will be made and the customer still will remain liable for the service fee.

8. New Utility Service Connections

Any property owner wanting to connect to either of the Village of St. Claude water and/or sewer utilities must make application for same at the Village office. The property owner shall arrange for the work and pay all costs associated with the connection to the water and/or sewer mains, and shall be responsible for all maintenance and repair of the service connections thereafter.

- .1 The application for new utility service connections is liable for a fee set from time to time by resolution of Council to be applied to the costs of inspecting and recording the new services.
- .2 Only contractors licensed or otherwise approved by the Village are permitted to work within the limits of the Village's road allowances.

9. Disconnection and Reconnection

In the event a customer has not paid his/her water and sewer account within 30 days after the due date set out in Paragraph 5 above, the Village may disconnect and discontinue his/her utility service without further notice. If a customer is disconnected due to non-payment of the account, s/he will not be reconnected to the utility services until s/he has complied with all regulations and has paid all arrears including penalties and a reconnection fee of \$25.00.

10. Outstanding Utility Charges

Pursuant to Section 252(2) of *The Municipal Act*, the amount of all outstanding charges for water and sewer service are a lien and charge upon the land serviced, and shall be collected in the same manner in which ordinary taxes upon the land are collectable, and with like remedies. The property owner shall be advised when such outstanding charges are added to the taxes. Where a tenant is in arrears, the property owner and the tenant each shall be advised that such utility charges are being added to the taxes.

11. Hydrant Rentals

The Village of St. Claude will pay to the Utility an annual hydrant rental fee of \$95.00, for the purpose of maintaining and repairing the fire hydrants. The fee includes a charge for water used for fire fighting purposes.

12. Meter Calibration

Any utility customer who desires and requests that his/her water meter be tested for accuracy shall deposit with the Chief Administrative Officer of the Village the sum of \$40.00. If the meter when tested is found to register within the allowable limits of variation from accuracy, the deposit shall be retained. If the meter is found to register in excess of the allowable limits of variation, the deposit shall be refunded and the customer's account adjusted for the preceding four (4) months.

13. Change in Meter Size

A customer may upon application to the Village Council, be granted a change in water meter size so as to more accurately reflect the required consumption of water throughout the year. However, if for some reason that same customer applies for a reversal involving a water meter change back to the original size, that customer then must pay for all costs pertaining to the reversal plus a fee of \$25.00.

14. Water Allowance due to Line Freezing

In the case where at the request of the Village Council, a customer allows water to run continuously for any period of time to prevent the waterlines in the water system from freezing, the charge to that customer for the current quarter shall be the average of the billings for the last two previous quarters to the same customer, or to the same premises if the occupant has changed.

15. Sewage Surcharges

- .1 There may be levied in addition to the rates set forth in the paragraphs above, a special surcharge for sewage having a Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) in excess of 300 parts per million (ppm). The surcharge will be set from time to time by resolution of Council.
- .2 There may be levied in addition to the rates set forth in the paragraphs above, a special surcharge for sewage containing substances requiring special treatment. The surcharge will be based on the actual cost of special treatment required for the particular sewage or industrial wastes.