

Order No. 27/18

**CITY OF STEINBACH
WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY RATES
April 1, 2018, January 1, 2019 and 2020**

February 20, 2018

BEFORE: Carol Hainsworth, C.B.A., Panel Chair
Michael Watson, Member

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1.0 Summary

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves the revised water and wastewater rates for the City of Steinbach (City) Water and Wastewater Utility (Utility), effective April 1, 2018, January 1, 2019 and 2020.

The approved rates are as follows:

	Current By-law (1983)	Proposed By-law (2064) April 1, 2018	Proposed By-law (2064) January 1, 2019	Proposed By- law (2064) January 1, 2020
Water \$/cubic meter (m ³)	\$1.08	\$1.08	\$1.08	\$1.08
Sewer \$/cubic meter (m ³)	\$0.63	\$0.70	\$0.76	\$0.83
Quarterly Service Charge****	\$17.00	\$17.14	\$17.32	\$17.52
Minimum Quarterly*	\$42.65	\$43.84	\$44.92	\$46.17
Wastewater Only -Unmetered FLAT RATE	\$54.00	\$51.26	\$54.36	\$57.96
Bulk Water \$/m ^{3**}	\$1.50	\$2.50	\$3.50	\$3.50
Hauled Sewage \$/m ^{3***}	\$2.52	\$2.80	\$3.04	\$3.32
Hydrant Rental (Annual)	\$135.00	\$140.00	\$145.00	\$145.00

*Based on 15 cubic meters

Minimum charge is **\$75.00 per sale of bulk water for **April 1, 2018**

Minimum charge is **\$100.00** per sale of bulk water for **2019 and 2020**

***Minimum charge per load of hauled sewage \$20.00

****Quarterly service charge revised due to removal of working capital surcharge

Details of other rates may be found in the attached Schedule "A".

Rationale for the Board's decisions may be found under "Board Findings".

2.0 Background

The City of Steinbach (City) owns and operates a water and wastewater utility serving 4,625 customers. Of the total number of customers, 4,099 are water and wastewater customers and the remaining 526 are wastewater only customers. The major type of customer is the single family residential home, primarily being serviced by 5/8 inch (15mm) water meters.

Water Supply/Distribution

Supply Wells

The drinking water supply for the City is provided by a bank of three (3) wells that draw from a limestone aquifer. The supply capacity of these wells is approximately 125% of average system demand. With the current growth trends in the community, new capacity will be required before 2020. The City is in the process of developing this capacity which includes a series of new wells to be brought online in 2019.

Water Treatment

Current drinking water treatment plant was upgraded in 2006 to increase the City's capacity to supply drinking water to connected customers. Additional water treatment capacity is needed by the system will also be provided for 2019.

Treated Water Storage

Storage facilities include an elevated water tower (1972 – capacity 400,000 gallons) and two underground reservoirs (1964- capacity 250,000 gallons and 1999-capacity 1,750,000 gallons)

Treated Water Distribution

Approximately 90% of the properties within the City are connected to the drinking water distribution network. The underground pipe network varies in age and type of material with the oldest being approximately 60 years old.

Wastewater- Collection/Treatment

Wastewater Collection

Approximately 95% of the properties within the City are connected to the wastewater collection network. The majority of properties in the City are connected to gravity flow pipe with approximately 540 properties served by low pressure systems. Pipes are inspected at least once every 10 years.

Wastewater Pumping System

There are three neighborhood lift stations that collect wastewater from across the City and one main lift/pump station that pumps all collected wastewater to the City's wastewater lagoon.

Wastewater Treatment/Storage

The City operates a wastewater lagoon to provide for the effective treatment of sewage. This facility was opened in 1992 with an expansion completed in 2011. Capacity is able to serve up to 22,000 people. New operating license requirements have added significant costs to the Utility in the treatment of phosphorous.

Unaccounted for Water

The City's unaccounted for water in 2015 was 12.37% and 12.30% in 2016.

The acceptable percentage of unaccounted water is 10%. If the percentage is above this the applicant is to explain why and the plan to remedy.

The City has informed the Board that it will continue to investigate the unaccounted for water in order to reduce it to below the 10% standard.

3.0 Application

On June 2, 2016, the City applied for revised water and wastewater rates, to be effective January 1, 2017 as set out in By-law No. 2064 having had first reading on May 17, 2016. The application was supported by a rate study prepared by the City's staff. Rates were last reviewed in 2013 in Board Order No. 107/13.

A Public Notice of Application was issued on June 16, 2016 affording customers the opportunity to comment to both the Board and City with respect to the proposed rate increases. No responses were received.

When reviewing an application, the Board has at its disposal two approaches, either a paper or a public hearing review. After the publication of the Notice of Application, the Board will consider the application and stakeholder responses, and determine which method of review is most appropriate.

A public hearing process allows the Utility and stakeholders the opportunity to present their application and any concerns to the Board in person.

The Board may review the application using a paper review process, which saves the cost of a public hearing process. Having received no expressions of concern from consumers, the Board decided to process this application with a paper-based review.

The rates were calculated based on the following revenue projections:

	Budget year	forecasts- Rate years				
	Projected	Rate year 1	Rate year 2	Rate year 3	Rate year 4	
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
Administration						
Administration (building, office, staff, etc.)	319,320	332,093	345,377	359,192	373,559	
Billing and collection	16,830	17,503	18,203	18,931	19,689	
Interest on short term debt	16,690	17,358	18,052	18,774	19,525	
Working capital surcharge (1%of yrly expense)	48,724	53,107	55,071	61,395	68,435	
Total gen. exp./Admin revenue requirement (A)	401,564	420,061	436,703	458,292	481,208	
Revenue:						
Service charges ⁽⁴⁾	313,740	-	-	-	-	
Utility Custom Work	13,000	13,520	14,061	14,623	15,208	
Penalties	7,500	7,800	8,112	8,436	8,774	
Total general revenue	334,240	21,320	22,173	23,059	23,982	
Net revenue general/Admin	67,324	398,741	414,530	435,233	457,226	
Water						
Expenses:						
Purification and treatment	220,995	229,835	239,028	376,629	391,694	
Service of Supply	269,480	280,259	291,470	303,128	315,253	
Transmission and Distribution	693,173	690,220	822,829	992,542	1,021,844	
Amortization/ depreciation	1,166,255	1,252,097	1,323,021	1,640,647	1,729,620	
Interest on long term debt	34,519	38,216	200,785	334,753	313,274	
Reserves	-	40,000	235,000	55,000	-30,000	
Contingency ⁽³⁾	118,365	120,031	135,333	167,230	172,879	
Sub-total- water expenses	2,502,787	2,650,658	3,247,466	3,869,929	3,914,564	
Revenue:						
Water rate charges ⁽⁴⁾	1,567,250					
Installation Revenue	55,000	57,200	59,488	61,868	64,342	
Hydrant rentals	75,870	76,630	77,395	78,170	78,950	
Amortization of capital grants	26,324	42,285	53,605	94,205	94,205	
Amortization of contributed assets	328,904	373,325	419,967	468,941	458,630	
Taxation revenues-water debt (C)	419,014	466,134	980,457	1,477,813	1,488,340	
Total non-rate revenue - water	905,112	1,015,574	1,590,912	2,180,997	2,184,467	
Net rate revenue requirement - water (B)	1,597,675	1,635,084	1,656,554	1,688,932	1,730,097	

	Budget year	forecasts- Rate years			
	Projected	Rate year 1	Rate year 2	Rate year 3	Rate year 4
	(self populates year) 2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Sewer					
<i>Expenses:</i>					
Sewage Collection System	410,747	386,977	402,456	418,554	435,296
Sewage Lift Station	222,360	193,814	201,567	209,630	218,015
Sewage Treatment and Disposal	335,330	348,743	362,693	377,201	392,289
Amortization/ depreciation	1,223,345	1,263,191	1,303,598	1,340,307	1,388,052
Interest on long term debt	76,648	71,978	48,136	27,221	66,153
Reserves	-	40,000	-	-	340,000
Contingency ⁽³⁾	137,918	131,651	136,917	142,394	148,090
Total sewer expenses	2,406,348	2,436,354	2,455,367	2,515,307	2,307,895
<i>Revenue</i>					
Sewer rate charge ⁽⁴⁾	988,630				
Connection Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Lagoon Tipping Fees	4,435	4,612	4,797	4,989	5,188
Amortization of capital grants	175,000	186,900	195,325	199,200	199,200
Amortization of contributed assets	276,193	298,152	321,209	345,148	370,838
Taxation revenues	868,212	923,526	763,079	674,446	298,269
Other Revenue	-	-	-		
Total non-rate revenue- sewer	1,323,840	1,413,190	1,284,410	1,223,783	873,495
Net rate revenue requirement - sewer	1,082,508	1,023,164	1,170,957	1,291,524	1,434,400

An inflation rate of 4% was used in all calculations. The 4% reflects a combination of increased expenses due to growth and cost increases.

The City plans to invest \$6.120 million to renew existing infrastructure and to spend \$8.190 million for new facilities over the next five (5) years.

In 2018, the City will be constructing a new secondary water supply system, consisting of new wells, treatment and distribution infrastructure. The project will be completed and operational in 2019, thus the increases in the projections for transmission and distribution expenses as well as in the purification treatment expense.

Although it is experiencing surpluses, many less significant capital improvements are funded using cash resources as opposed to having the costs funded by the issuance of debt. Over

the next eight (8) years, the anticipated cost of new and replacement Utility infrastructure is over \$27 million, of which approximately \$5 million is expected to be funded from the City's Utility Reserve Fund.

Debt service costs for certain capital improvements, consisting of principal and interest payments on debentures issued by the City on behalf of the Utility, are paid by a combination of a mill rate levy over the water and wastewater districts and a frontage levy for properties that derive a direct benefit from the improvement.

The City initially had a Working Capital Surcharge included in the rate revenue requirement for General Administration. At the Board's inquiry, it was confirmed that there was an error in the worksheets provided as a resource by the Board. The removal of the Working Capital Surcharge caused the proposed customer service charge to decrease as follows:

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Quarterly Service Charge – Original	\$19.58	\$19.76	\$20.13	\$20.61
Quarterly Service Charge – Revised (January 2018)	\$16.98	\$17.14	\$17.32	\$17.52

The City reported to the Board that it issues all of its debt financing with 5-year terms, which can create a significant gap in the timing alignment, since the majority of assets are amortized over 25 to 60 years. This exceptionally short term means that the City records tax revenues that are significantly higher than the amortization expense for the same assets over a shorter span of time. This can, and in the case of the City of Steinbach, has resulted in significant surpluses. The City will need these surpluses in the future to help offset the cost of amortization for the same assets.

Working Capital Surplus/Deficit

Board Order No. 93/09 established that utilities should maintain a minimum working capital surplus, in an amount equal to 20% of annual expenses. The working capital surplus is defined as the Utility fund balance, excluding any capital related items plus Utility reserves.

As per the 2016 audited financial statements, the most recent information available, the working capital surplus at December 31, 2016 was:

	2014	2015	2016
Accumulated Fund Surplus	\$ 53,612,235	\$ 53,000,106	\$ 55,994,849
Deduct Tangible Capital Assets	\$ 57,701,523	\$ 56,361,069	\$ 58,502,420
Add Long-Term Debt	\$ 4,954,506	\$ 4,257,999	\$ 4,574,328
Add Utility Reserves	\$ 1,412,740	\$ 1,775,073	\$ 1,936,229
Equals Working Capital Surplus	\$ 2,277,958	\$ 2,672,109	\$ 4,002,986
Operating expenses	\$ 4,358,676	\$ 4,702,036	\$ 4,641,001
20% of operating expenses (Target)	\$ 871,735	\$ 940,407	\$ 928,200

Cost allocation methodology

The Board requires all municipalities to review the costs shared between the general operations of the Municipality and the Utility, and to allocate appropriate and reasonable costs to the Utility, based on a policy known as a Cost Allocation Methodology. This policy must be submitted to the Board for approval and cannot be changed without receiving approval from the Board. The Board's requirements regarding cost allocation methodologies can be found in Board Order No. 93/09.

Costs to the Utility that pertain to operating and maintenance items and that are funded through rates include:

- On-going and recurring expenses incurred during the accounting period (salaries, materials, supplies and maintenance costs;

- Support services – 15% of municipal administration wages and benefits; 25% wages and benefits for department head of Operational services;
- Building and operation yard costs – one third of the primary shop annual operating costs to the Utility based on usage;
- Vehicle and equipment costs – exclusive to the Utility;
- “Pay as you go” capital items (motors, pumps, water meters, and other items with life expectancy of less than ten years); and
- Amortization of long term Utility capital assets.

Contingency Allowance and Utility Reserves

As per the Board’s Guidelines a yearly allowance equal to 10% of the variable operating costs is recommended for contingency allowance.

The contingency allowance of \$1,154,525 (2017-2020) included in the rate proposal will allow the City to supplement ongoing infrastructure maintenance costs necessary to maintain the Utility’s infrastructure.

4.0 Board Findings

The Board has reviewed the application and the projections presented by the City in its rate application.

A public notice was issued on June 16, 2016 affording customers the opportunity to comment to both the Board and City with respect to the proposed rate changes. The Board received no responses from stakeholders.

The Board finds that the revenue estimates provided are acceptable and will approve the rates for 2018, 2019 and 2020 effective April 1, 2018, January 1, 2019 and 2020 including the revised quarterly service charge.

The removal of the working capital surcharge in the rate revenue requirement for Administration expenses has caused a decrease in the quarterly service charge. When recomputed the Board will approve the revised quarterly service charge as follows:

	2018	2019	2020
Net Revenue General/Admin	\$ 414,530	\$ 435,233	\$ 457,226
Less: Working capital surcharge	\$ 55,071	\$ 61,395	\$ 68,435
Revised revenue requirement - Administration	\$ 359,459	\$ 373,838	\$ 388,791
Divided by: Total number of customers	5,244	5,397	5,547
Quarterly service charge	\$ 17.14	\$ 17.32	\$ 17.52

The removal of the working capital surcharge in the rate revenue requirement for Administration expenses will also have an effect on the bulk water rate for the City. However, the methodology which the City used to determine the bulk water rate is not consistent with Board recommended methods. The City has chosen to spread the increase over a few years instead of having the rate fluctuate significantly from year to year. No adjustment is being made to the rate contained in the proposal. The Board does encourage applicants to confer with Board staff where there is uncertainty about Board recommended methodology and, where variation is proposed, that the variation be clearly substantiated in the application.

The Board is generally not supportive of retroactive rate increases, and approve them only in circumstances where it is in the best interest of all parties.

The Board will approve the revised Cost Allocation Methodology, and reminds the City that this methodology must be used consistently, and requires Board approval should any further changes be considered.

The Board asked several questions about the various expense accounts used in determining the revenue requirements, and several of the responses indicated that the audited financial statements contained classification errors within Schedule 9. The Board will expect that in the future the audited statements and the financial projections that are used in the calculation of rates will align in a meaningful way to allow the Board to analyze the reasonableness of the projections without first reconciling the two statements.

Board decisions may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of Section 58 of The Public Utilities Board Act, or reviewed in accordance with Section 36 of the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules). The Board's Rules may be viewed on the Board's website at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

5.0 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The revised water and wastewater rates for the City of Steinbach, Water and Wastewater Utility, BE AND ARE HEREBY APPROVED in accordance with the attached Schedule "A", effective April 1, 2018, January 1, 2019 and 2020.
2. The City of Steinbach is to provide a notice to its customers, including the decisions found in this Order, in the next quarterly billing with a copy provided to the Public Utilities Board.
3. The City of Steinbach amend its water and wastewater rate By-law to reflect the decisions in this Order and submit a copy to the Board once it has received third and final reading.
4. The City of Steinbach review its water and wastewater rates for adequacy and file a report with the Public Utilities Board, as well as an application for revised rates if required, by no later than June 30, 2021.

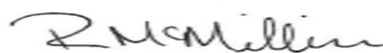
Fees payable upon this Order - \$500.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"Carol Hainsworth, C.B.A."
Panel Chair

"Rachel McMillin, B.Sc."
Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 27/18 issued by
The Public Utilities Board



Acting Secretary

**City of Steinbach
By-Law No. 2064**

Schedule "A"

1. SCHEDULE OF RATES - 2018

	<u>Water</u>	Wastewater	<u>Water & Wastewater</u>
a) Quarterly Commodity Rates per cubic meter	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.70	\$ 1.78
b) Quarterly Service Charge (per meter)			\$ 17.14
c) Minimum Quarterly Charge			

Meter Size (Inches)	Group Capacity Ratio	Cubic Meters	Customer Service Charge (\$)	Commodity Charge – Water (\$)	Commodity Charge – Wastewater (\$)	Total Quarterly Minimum (\$)
5/8	1	15	17.14	16.20	10.50	43.84
3/4	2	30	17.14	32.40	21.00	70.54
1	4	60	17.14	64.80	42.00	123.94
1 ½	10	150	17.14	162.00	105.00	284.14
2	25	375	17.14	405.00	262.50	684.64
3	45	675	17.14	729.00	472.50	1,218.64
4	90	1,350	17.14	1,458.00	945.00	2,420.14
6	170	2,550	17.14	2,754.00	1,785.00	4,556.14
8	300	4,500	17.14	4,860.00	3,150.00	8,027.14

2. SCHEDULE OF RATES - 2019

	Water	Wastewater	Water & Wastewater
a) Quarterly Commodity Rates per cubic meter	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.76	\$ 1.84
b) Quarterly Service Charge (per meter)			\$ 17.32

c) Minimum Quarterly Charge

Meter Size (Inches)	Group Capacity Ratio	Cubic Meters	Customer Service Charge (\$)	Commodity Charge – Water (\$)	Commodity Charge – Wastewater (\$)	Total Quarterly Minimum (\$)
5/8	1	15	17.32	16.20	11.40	44.92
3/4	2	30	17.32	32.40	22.80	72.52
1	4	60	17.32	64.80	45.60	127.72
1 ½	10	150	17.32	162.00	114.00	293.32
2	25	375	17.32	405.00	285.00	707.32
3	45	675	17.32	729.00	513.00	1,259.32
4	90	1,350	17.32	1,458.00	1,026.00	2,501.32
6	170	2,550	17.32	2,754.00	1,938.00	4,709.32
8	300	4,500	17.32	4,860.00	3,420.00	8,297.32

3. SCHEDULE OF RATES - 2020

	Water	Wastewater	Water & Wastewater
a) Quarterly Commodity Rates per cubic meter	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.83	\$ 1.91

b) Quarterly Service Charge (per meter)	\$ 17.52
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c) Minimum Quarterly Charge

Meter Size (Inches)	Group Capacity Ratio	Cubic Meters	Customer Service Charge (\$)	Commodity Charge – Water (\$)	Commodity Charge – Wastewater (\$)	Total Quarterly Minimum (\$)
5/8	1	15	17.52	16.20	12.45	46.17
3/4	2	30	17.52	32.40	24.90	74.82
1	4	60	17.52	64.80	49.80	132.12
1 ½	10	150	17.52	162.00	124.50	304.02
2	25	375	17.52	405.00	311.25	733.77
3	45	675	17.52	729.00	560.25	1,306.77
4	90	1,350	17.52	1,458.00	1,120.50	2,596.02
6	170	2,550	17.52	2,754.00	2,116.50	4,888.02
8	300	4,500	17.52	4,860.00	3,735.00	8,612.52

4. Minimum Quarterly Charges

Notwithstanding the commodity rates set forth in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 hereof, all customers will pay the applicable quarterly minimum charges as set out above, which include water allowances indicated.

a) Water Only Customers

Minimum charge will be the same for each meter size as shown above, but the wastewater commodity charge will be excluded.

b) Wastewater Only Customers

With meters – Minimum charge will be the same for each meter size as shown above, but the water commodity charge will be excluded. The water from the customer's private service shall be metered at the customer's cost and the wastewater charges will be based on the quantity of water used by the customer.

Without meters – these customers are deemed single-family residences, and as such, will be charged a flat rate based on the estimated annual average consumption and use of water and wastewater by all residential customers. The flat rate charge for these customers will be based on this average estimated quarterly consumption amount in each year multiplied by the water and wastewater commodity rate in effect from time to time, plus the customer service charge according to the following schedule.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Flat rate per quarter	\$ 47.93	\$ 51.26	\$ 54.36	\$ 57.96

5. Meter Resealing Fee

When damages, or meter tampering, or both are reported, all costs to restore or replace the meter, as determined by the City Waterworks Department Head, shall be charged to the customer. The amount charged shall also include a commodity charge for the estimated quantity of un-metered water used, the related wastewater discharged, plus a fee of \$75.00 to reseal the meter unless prior written authorization for breaking the seal has been issued by the City Waterworks Department Head.

6. Meter Circumventing

Any consumer who circumvents the water meter by installing a bypass line around the meter or by a dual line from the water main so as to draw water that has not been metered shall pay a fine of \$500.00 plus a charge for unmetered water consumed for each occurrence. Water services to the customer may be terminated upon discovery of an unauthorized bypass line in use, and service will not be restored until the bypass is metered or removed and the fine and water charges are paid.

7. Additional Meters

Where deemed expedient, the City of Steinbach (the “City”) may elect to install auxiliary meters to separately record the amount of wastewater or water for billing purposes or upon application to the City Waterworks Department Head, by an owner or operator of a premises where a wastewater service is installed, the City shall install an auxiliary meter at the expense of the applicant, for such purpose.

8. Bulk Water Sales Rate

All water sold in bulk by the City shall be charged for at a rate per cubic meter on a pro-rated basis according to the following table. The minimum charge for each sale of bulk water shall be \$75.00 for 2017 and 2018, and \$100.00 for 2019 and 2020.

	2018	2019	2020
Bulk Water Rate per cubic meter	\$ 2.50	\$ 3.50	\$ 3.50

9. Service to Customers Outside of City Limits

The City may enter into agreements with customers for the provision of water and wastewater services to properties located outside the legal boundaries of the City. Such agreements shall provide for payment of the appropriate rate set out in the schedule, as well as a surcharge, set by resolution of Council. In addition, all costs of connection to the utility mains and the installation and maintenance of service connections shall be paid by the customer, as set by resolution of Council.

10. Billings and Outstanding Bills

Accounts shall be billed quarterly, and will be due and payable not less than 21 days after the date of billing. A late payment charge of 1.25% per month shall be charged on the dollar amount owing after the billing due date.

In the event that an account remains outstanding, the account may be transferred to the realty tax account of the property in respect of which the water account is unpaid, by an authorized representative of the City, to be collected as ordinary realty taxes.

11. Re-connection or Disconnection of a Service

The City shall charge a fee in the amount of \$100.00 for a re-connection or a disconnection of a service, if requested by a customer. Any site that is planned for abandonment or demolition will continue to receive a quarterly bill until such time as the City Waterworks Department Head has inspected and approved a proper disconnect from the main water and wastewater lines.

The Public Utilities Board has approved the Conditions Precedent to be followed by the City with respect to the disconnection of service for non-payment including, such matters, as notice and the right to appeal such action to the Public Utilities Board. A copy of the Conditions Precedent is available for inspection at the City office.

12. Hydrant Rentals

The City or any other hydrant owner shall pay to the utility an annual fee according to the following table for each hydrant connected to the system, which shall include the cost of water used for system maintenance and fire protection.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Annual hydrant rental per hydrant	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 145	\$ 145

13. Water Allowance Due to Line Freezing

In any case where, at the request of the City, a customer allows water to run continuously for a period of time to prevent the water lines in the water system from freezing, the charge to the customer for that quarter shall be the average of the billings for the last two previous quarters to the same customer, or for the same service, as applicable.

14. Wastewater Surcharge

There may be levied, in addition to rates set forth above, a special surcharge on sewage having a biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) in excess of 300 parts per million (ppm), or on sewage containing other nutrients requiring special treatment or removal as identified by the City or by the Province of Manitoba from time to time, based on the actual costs of treatment required for the particular wastewater.

15. Water Meters

All new services and meters for water and wastewater shall be installed and metered at the customer's cost.

Residential meters shall be owned, inspected, and maintained by the utility system of the City with the costs of maintenance and meter replacement for normal use to be the responsibility of the City.

Non-residential meters shall be inspected and maintained by the utility system of the City. All costs of ownership, maintenance and meter replacement shall be the responsibility of the non-residential customer. Fees for time and materials incurred by the City for the maintenance of these meters shall be billed to the customer.

16. Meter Testing Charges

Any customer who desires and requests that their water meter be tested for accuracy shall deposit with the City the sum of three hundred (\$300.00) dollars. If the water meter, upon being tested, is found to measure within the allowable limits of accuracy, an amount equal to the cost of the meter test will be retained by the City, and the balance of the deposit shall be returned to the customer. If the water meter fails to measure within the allowable limits of accuracy, the deposit shall be refunded in full and the customer's account shall be adjusted. The allowable limit of meter variation shall be 4% of average flow.

17. Hauled Sewage Dumping Fee

All hauled sewage that is discharged into the City's wastewater system shall be charged for at a rate per cubic meter on a pro-rated basis according to the following table. The minimum charge for each load of hauled sewage shall be \$20.00.

	2018	2019	2020
Hauled sewage rate per cubic meter	\$ 2.80	\$ 3.04	\$ 3.32