

Order No. 7/25

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD
BALMORAL WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY
REVISED WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025**

JANUARY 15, 2025

BEFORE: Shawn McCutcheon, Panel Chair
Jim Hrichishen, B.A. (Hon), M.A., Panel Member
Marilyn Kapitany B. Sc. (Hon), M. Sc., Panel Member

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1.0 Executive Summary

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) varies the requested water and wastewater rates for the Rural Municipality of Rockwood (RM), Balmoral Water and Wastewater Utility (Utility) on a one-time basis effective January 1, 2025.

The Board approves rates as follows:

	Current Rates	January 1, 2025
Quarterly Service Charge	\$15.95	\$22.50
Water (per cubic meter)	\$1.05	\$3.50
Wastewater (per cubic meter)	\$1.90	\$4.25
Minimum Quarterly Charge*	\$60.20	\$138.75
Bulk Water Sales**	\$3.15	\$3.94
Disconnection/Reconnection Fee	\$50.00	\$100.00
Service Charge for Uncollected Bills	-	\$100.00
Hydrant Rental Charge	\$150.00	\$200.00

*Based on 15 cubic meters

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

The Board directs the RM to review the water and wastewater rates for the Utility for adequacy and file a report with the Board, as well as an application for revised rates on or before July 1, 2025.

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

2.0 Background

The RM operates a water and wastewater utility, servicing 140 customers (as of 2023). Rates were last approved for the Utility in 2012 in Board Order No. 101/12, effective July 1, 2012 with the last rates coming into effect January 1, 2014.

Deficits were last approved for the Utility in Board Order No. 2/24 in the amounts of \$42,547 for 2019, \$19,648 for 2020, and \$84,902 for 2021 or a total three-year actual operating deficit of \$147,097, to be recovered from the Utility's Accumulated Fund Surplus.

Water Supply and Distribution

The water source for the Balmoral Public Water System is supplied by confined aquifer. The RM owns and operates the Utility serving the communities of Balmoral and Gunton. The water systems are inextricably interconnected. Balmoral provides a treated water service to Gunton. Service to Gunton commenced in late 2010.

The Balmoral public water treatment system pumps water from the well to the reverse osmosis membrane train in the water treatment plant. The flow is controlled by a level sensor in the reservoir. Antiscalent is added to the raw water before heading into a five-micron polypropylene cartridge prefilter, then into a three-stage reverse osmosis unit. After the reverse osmosis unit, ClearHib5 is added for corrosion control, sodium hydroxide is added to adjust pH, and chlorine is added to achieve the desired chlorine residual. Contact time is achieved in a two-cell reservoir before being pumped into the distribution system. The distribution lines are all polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and are all in good shape. The Balmoral distribution pumping system consists of one jockey pump, one duty pump, and one pump for fire flow. Water is pumped into the distribution system. A separate pump was added to supply water to the Gunton re-chlorination station. The water pressure leaving the water treatment plant is 414 kilopascals or 60 psi. The distribution pumps are all controlled by variable frequency drive (VFD) to maintain constant pressure.

There have been no reports of any color or taste issues with respect to drinking water.

Wastewater Collection and Treatment

The wastewater system is gravity flow with one lift station and two pumps. Wastewater is pumped from the lift station to the Balmoral Sewage Treatment Lagoon. The collection system lines are PVC and the system is in good condition. The Balmoral lagoon has three cells and discharges are made into the Jackfish Creek after testing and in compliance with the Municipality's Environmental Licence. No septic is allowed to be hauled to the Balmoral lagoon.

Unaccounted for Water

The acceptable percentage of unaccounted for water is 10% based on industry standards. If the percentage is above this amount, the applicant is to explain why and provide a plan to remedy.

The RM's rate study reports unaccounted for water of 8.07% for 2022, which is less than the acceptable percentage.

3.0 Application

On December 20, 2023, the RM applied for revised water and wastewater rates for the Utility.

A Public Notice of Application was issued on January 30, 2024 allowing for any questions or comments with respect to the proposed rate increases to the Board and/or the RM on or before March 15, 2024. There were no responses to the Notice.

The RM has also requested a new service fee of \$100.00 per customer per year for outstanding charges for water and wastewater transferred to property tax bills to provide for administrative expenses, administrative staff, senior staff, and council related costs.

When reviewing an application, the Board can either: hold a public hearing at which the applicant can present its case and customers can present their concerns; or where it is deemed to be in the best interests of a utility and its customers, the Board can review the

application using a paper review process without holding a public hearing. The paper review process considers all written materials submitted by the Utility and the public, as well as any information requests and responses between the Board and the Utility. This process may reduce regulatory costs to the Utility.

A public hearing process allows the Utility and the public the opportunity to review the application and address any concerns with the Board present.

Whenever reasonable, the Board will review the application using a paper review process, which saves the cost of a public hearing process. The Board has chosen a paper review process for the RM's application.

The RM included the following expenditure forecast and projections in its application that include an annual inflation rate of 3.0% in some of the calculations:

Schedule of Utility Rate Requirements			
Rural Municipality of Rockwood – Balmoral Water and Wastewater Utility			
2023 to 2025 Budget Forecasts (\$)			
	2023	2024	2025
	Forecast		
General Expenses			
Administration	8,515	8,770	9,034
Working Capital Surcharge	-	2,904	2,976
Total General Expenses	8,515	11,674	12,010
Revenue			
Penalties	1,500	1,500	1,500
Total General Revenue	1,500	1,500	1,500
Net Costs General	7,015	10,174	10,510
Water Expenses			
Purification and Treatment	7,727	7,959	8,198
Transmission and Distribution	41,317	42,557	43,833
Other Water Supply Costs – Transportation	40,210	41,416	42,659
Amortization	60,437	60,437	60,437
Interest on Long-Term Debt	-	-	-
Reserves	2,500	2,500	2,500

	Contingency	4,904	5,052	5,203
	Total Wastewater Expenses	157,095	159,920	162,830
Revenue				
	Deficit Recovery	23,529	23,529	-
	Hydrant Rentals	3,800	3,800	3,800
	Amortization of Capital Grants	25,367	25,367	25,367
	Other Income	32,000	32,000	32,000
	Bulk Water Fees	567	567	567
	Total Water Revenue	85,263	85,263	61,734
	Net Costs Water	71,832	74,657	101,096
Wastewater Expenses				
	Collection System	29,697	30,588	31,506
	Lift Station	3,555	3,662	3,771
	Treatment and Disposal	5,319	5,479	5,643
	Amortization	79,819	79,819	79,819
	Reserves	2,500	2,500	2,500
	Contingency	3,857	3,973	4,092
	Total Wastewater Expenses	124,747	126,021	127,331
Revenue				
	Amortization of Capital Grants	25,367	25,367	25,367
	Taxation Revenue			
	Total Wastewater Revenue	25,367	25,367	25,367
	Net Costs Wastewater	99,380	100,654	101,964
	Net Operating Costs	178,227	185,485	213,570

The proposed Utility rate increases are primarily to account for increased costs, inflation, and to provide additional reserve funds.

The Board notes the RM has not based the requested rates in its application on the above forecast.

Contingency Allowance and Utility Reserves

As per the Board's Water and Wastewater Rate Application Guidelines, a yearly allowance equal to 10% of the variable operating costs is recommended for a contingency allowance.

The RM has included a contingency allowance of \$4,904 for 2023, \$5,052 for 2024, and \$5,203 for water and \$3,857 for 2023, \$3,973 for 2024, and \$4,092 for 2025 for wastewater

in its forecast. The Board notes, however, the rates applied for by the RM do not include any contingency.

The RM has included a reserve allowance of \$2,500 per year for both water and wastewater or a total reserve allowance of \$5,000 per year in its forecast. The Board notes, however, the rates applied for by the RM do not include any reserve allowance.

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/deficit is defined as the Utility fund balance, excluding any capital related items plus Utility reserves.

As per the 2023 Audited Financial Statements, the most recent information available, the working capital surplus for the Utility at December 31, 2023 was:

	2023
Utility Fund Surplus/Deficit	\$3,831,921
Deduct: Tangible Capital Assets	(3,527,943)
Add: Long-Term Debt	-
Add: Utility Reserve	50,626
Equals Working Capital Surplus (Deficit)	\$354,604
Operating Expenses	428,513
20% of Operating Expenses (Target)	\$85,703

The Utility meets the Board minimum working capital surplus of 20%.

Cost Allocation Methodology

The Board requires all municipal governments to review the costs shared between its general operations and the Utility, and to allocate appropriate and reasonable costs to the Utility, based on a policy known as a Cost Allocation Methodology. This allocation 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.

The RM's application states the following:

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood has three utilities in its jurisdiction, all direct and indirect costs will be shared upon all three of these utilities and will be allocated as follows:

Gunton	15%
Balmoral	20%
Stony Mountain	65%

The allocation of percentages of the shared costs are as follows:

RM of Rockwood Utility - Allocation Plan for Shared Costs		
Shared Overhead: Includes all direct and indirect costs realted to the administration of the Utility		
	Category	Percentage
Direct Overhead Costs	Utility Administration	50%
	Billing - receiting and collection	15%
Indirect Overhead Costs- General Administrative Costs and Shared Office Costs	CAO Salary	10%
	Council costs	10%
	Audit & legal	5%
	Office Space	15%
	Telephone - Hydro	15%
	Office supplies / photocopying	15%
Shared Direct Operating Costs: Includes all costs directly attributable to the maintenance and repair of the utility. Public work employees repair and maintain both transportation and utility infrastructure. A portion of the cost for the public works department		
	Category	Percentage
Direct Equipment Costs	Public works buildings- Maintenance	10%
	Vehicles-Fuel / Insurance	5%
	Machinery and equipment	5%
	Road construction and maintenance equipment- Interest / Lease costs / Amortization	5%
Direct Labour	Labour costs directly attributable to the maintenance and repair of utility TCA.	5%
Shared Capital Costs: These shared costs should not be directly charged to utility operations. Capital costs should be capitalized as a tangible capital asset and amortized to utility operations over it useful life. * Includes all costs directly attributable to the development and construction of a tangible capital asset for a utility. Public works project often construct transportation and utility assets at the same time. In these cases a portion of the road work should be allocated to utility TCA based on the relative fair market value of the assets. *The cost of a tangible capital asset can include interest costs on debt directly attributable to the development and construction of a tangible capital asset. Only interest owed to external parties such as banks or debenture holders. Capitalization of interest cost must end when there is no construction or when the asset is put into use.		
	Category	Percentage
Direct Overhead Costs	Administrative	
	Legal fees / Survey Costs	5%
	Design / Engineering Fees	5%
	Interest on Debt	5%
Direct Equipment Costs	Operating Costs	
	Vehicles / Fuel / Insurance	5%
	Equipment / Amortization / Interest	5%
Direct Labour	Labour costs directly attributable to the maintenance and repair of Utility TCA.	5%

4.0 Board Findings

Rate Application

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

The Board notes, the application was accepted into the queue on December 20, 2023. The RM is requesting rates effective January 1, 2023, January 1, 2024, and January 1, 2025. Generally, the Board does not approve retroactive rate increases, as it does not allow ratepayers the time and opportunity to adjust their consumption to mitigate the increase in costs. The Board therefore denies the RM's request for retroactive rates effective January 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024.

The Board has reviewed the RM's rate setting methodology and finds it is not based on any financial data or forecast for the utility's expenditure requirements and is not consistent with the Board's Guidelines and recommended rate setting methodology. The Board has also reviewed the RM's forecasts in conjunction with the 2023 Audited Financial Statements (the most recent audit available) and finds the rates requested using the RM's rate setting methodology does not create revenue sufficient to provide for the forecasted expenditures required to operate the Utility and will result in a deficit for the Utility in 2025.

On November 27, 2024, Board staff advised the RM the requested rates result in revenue shortfalls and the RM's plan to address. On December 2, 2024, the RM responded the Utility would be applying for deficit recovery using the Utility's working capital surplus, but did not provide any additional methodology or plan to address the known, forecasted deficits.

The Board notes that by law Manitoba utilities are not allowed to incur deficits. The Board is concerned the RM has requested rates that are insufficient. The Board's responsibility is to balance the sustainability of the Utility with the interests of ratepayers.

The Board has considered the 2025 requested rates. The Board finds that the Utility requires a rate increase for 2025. Absent an increase, the Utility is likely to incur a

significant, actual operating deficits. The Board will therefore approve the requested 2025 rates on a one-time basis to mitigate the forecasted 2025 deficit for the Utility.

The Board directs the RM to review the water and wastewater rates for the Utility for adequacy and file a report with the Board, as well as an application for revised rates on or before July 1, 2025.

The Board **directs** the RM to do the following for its rate application:

- to use the prior year's audited financial statements as the basis for the Utility forecast and requested rates.
- to use rate setting methodology consistent with the Manitoba Public Utilities Board Guidelines ([board-guidelines-2023february15.pdf](#)).
- to ensure the requested annual rates adequately provide for the Utility's forecasted annual expenditure forecast.

Please note, all Board directives found in this Order and all items found under the heading, "IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:" are requirements to be undertaken by the RM, not recommendations, and must be complied with or appealed as outlined below. Pursuant to *The Public Utilities Board Act*, the Board can apply penalties for non-compliance.

Duration Between Rate Reviews

The Board notes it has been eleven years since the Utility has submitted a rate application to the Board. In the Board's view the period between rate reviews is too long. Regular rate reviews submitted every three years, as per the Board's Guidelines, protect the financial position of the Utility and may reduce the need for significant rate increase in one year. In this case, the deficits incurred by the Utility between 2015 and 2023 may have been reduced or avoided.

It is the Utility's responsibility to review rates and ensure rates are adequate to fully recover the cost of service being provided to its ratepayers. Ratepayers are generally more tolerant of regular, smaller increases. The RM needs to be much more diligent in conducting regular reviews of its revenue requirements.

Deficits

The Board has reviewed the RM's 2022 and 2023 Audited Financial Statements and notes the Utility may have incurred an actual operating deficit for 2022 and 2023 and directs the RM to review its 2022 and 2023 Audits and file a deficit application and recovery methodology if applicable. If the RM did not incur an actual operating deficit, when calculated for regulatory purposes, the Board directs the RM to file a letter or e-mail with Board staff advising no actual operating deficit was incurred for 2022 and 2023. The Board directs the RM to provide either a deficit application or letter/e-mail by March 31, 2025.

5.0 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The requested water and wastewater rates for the Rural Municipality of Rockwood, Balmoral Water and Wastewater Utility, BE AND ARE HEREBY VARIED in accordance with the attached Schedule A, effective January 1, 2025.
2. The Rural Municipality of Rockwood is to provide a notice of the decisions found in this Order to its customers as soon as possible, with a copy provided to the Public Utilities Board.
3. The Rural Municipality of Rockwood 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 Rural Municipality of Rockwood review its water and wastewater rates for the Balmoral Water and Wastewater Utility 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 July 1, 2025.
5. The Rural Municipality of Rockwood review its 2022 and 2023 Audited Financial Statements and file either a deficit application or letter/e-mail with the Board by March 31, 2025 for the Balmoral Water and Wastewater Utility.

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.

Fees payable upon this Order - \$500.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"Shawn McCutcheon"

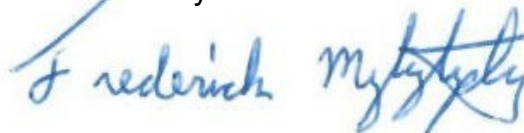
Panel Chair

"Frederick Mykytyshyn"

Assistant Associate Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 7/25

Issued by The Public Utilities Board



Assistant Associate Secretary

**SCHEDULE A
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWODD
BALMORAL WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY
WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY RATES BY-LAW #15/23
SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES**

SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES

1. **COMMODITY RATES PER CUBIC METRE:**

	WATER	WASTEWATER
2025	\$3.50	\$4.25

2. **MINIMUM QUARTERLY RATES:**

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

WATER & WASTEWATER CUSTOMERS:

2025:

Meter Size (Inches)	Group Capacity Ratio	Minimum Quarterly Consumption	Service Charge	Water	Wastewater	Minimum Quarterly Charges
5/8	1	15	\$22.50	\$52.50	\$63.75	\$138.75
1	4	60	\$22.50	\$210.00	\$255.00	\$487.50

3. **BULK SALES:**

All water sold in bulk by the Rural Municipality of Rockwood shall be charged for at the following rates per cubic meter:

i) 2025: \$3.94

plus a flat fee of \$100.00 per fill in order to cover wages and travelling costs associated with the fill.

4. **SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS OUTSIDE THE BOUNDARIES:**

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Rockwood may sign Agreements with customers for the provision of water and sewer services to properties located outside the legal boundaries of the Community of Balmoral. Such Agreements shall provide for payment of the appropriate rates set out in the Schedule, as well as a surcharge, set by Resolution of Council, which shall be equivalent to the frontage levy, general taxes, and special taxes for the utility purposes in effect at the time or may be in effect from time to time, and which would be levied on the property concerned if it were within the Community boundaries. In addition, all costs of connecting to the Utility's mains, installing, and maintaining, the customer will pay service connections.

5. **BILLINGS AND PENALTIES:**

Accounts shall be billed quarterly, and the due date shall be at least 14 days after the mailing of the bills.

A late payment charge of 1.25% per month shall be charged on the dollar amount owing after the billing due date.

6. **DISCONNECTION:**

The Public Utilities Board has approved the Conditions Precedent attached hereto as Appendix B, to be followed by the Municipality with respect to disconnection of service for non-payment including such matters as notice and the right to appeal such action to The Public Utilities Board.

7. **RECONNECTION:**

Any service disconnected due to non-payment of account shall not be reconnected until all arrears, penalties, and a reconnection fee of \$100.00 have been paid.

Upon written request and payment of the applicable fee to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood as noted hereunder, service may be:

- i) Disconnected - \$100.00
- ii) Removed - \$100.00
- iii) Reconnected - \$100.00

8. **OUTSTANDING BILLS:**

Pursuant to Section 252(2) of *The Municipal Act*, the amount of all outstanding charges for water and sewer services 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 collectible, and with like remedies. Upon doing so, the RM of Rockwood will charge a \$100.00 service fee to the utility account.

9. **HYDRANT CHARGES:**

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood shall pay to the Utility an annual hydrant charge of \$200.00 for each hydrant connected to the System, which includes the cost of water for firefighting.

10. **WASTEWATER SURCHARGES:**

- a) There may be levied annually, in addition to the rates set forth above, a special surcharge on sewage having a Biochemical Oxygen Demand in excess of 300 parts per million, to be set by Resolution of Council.
- b) A special surcharge for substances requiring special treatment shall be charged based on the actual costs of treatment required for the particular sewage or industrial waste.

11. **WATER ALLOWANCE DUE TO LINE FREEZING:**

Where, at the request of Council, a customer is allowed to run water continuously for any period of time to prevent the water lines in the Water System from freezing, the charge to that customer for the current quarter shall be the average of billings for the last two quarters for the same customer, or the same premises if the occupant has changed.

12. **DISCONNECT WATER – NON-EMERGENCY - \$100.00 per Disconnection**

Temporary Disconnection:

- Renovations; or
- Property Owner is out of town for more than 30 days due to vacation or work.
- Water to be reconnected upon completion of renovations or Property Owner has returned from vacation/work as described in previous paragraph.

Responsibility of Property Owner:

- “Request for Disconnection from Utility System at Curbstop” A form shall be completed by the Property Owner;
- Fee/cost of \$100.00 to be paid by the Property Owner to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood prior to the Municipality disconnecting the water;
- Property Owner or representative to be present when water is disconnected; and
- The Property Owner shall be responsible for the flat-rate quarterly billings while the water is disconnected

Permanent Disconnection:

- Due to Demolition/Removal of Building with Property to remain vacant;
- Fee/cost of \$100.00 to be paid by the Property Owner to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood prior to the Municipality disconnecting the water; and
- Property Owner or representative to be present when water is disconnected.

Responsibility of Property Owner:

- "Request for Disconnection from Utility System at Curb stop" A form shall be completed by the Property Owner;
- Fee/cost of \$100.00 to be paid by the Property Owner to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood prior to the Municipality disconnecting the water;
- Property Owner or representative to be present when water is disconnected; and
- The sewer line must be immediately detached and capped-off at the property line/curbstop with the Property Owner responsible for having this work completed and for all costs involved. The detachment and capping-off of the sewer line must be inspected and approved by the Municipality.

13. DISCONNECT WATER - EMERGENCY - No Charge

- Due to emergency repairs being required to the water and/or sewer lines on private property, being between the curbstop and the outside meter on the serviced building.
- Re-connection must take place within 48 hours of the disconnection.

Responsibility of Property Owner:

- "Request for Disconnection from Utility System at Curbstop due to Emergency Repairs" A form shall be completed by the Property Owner prior to the Municipality disconnecting the water; and
- Property Owner or representative to be present when water is disconnected.

13. **RE-CONNECT WATER – NON-EMERGENCY - \$100.00 per Connection**

- Water to be re-connected after “temporary” disconnection pursuant to Paragraph No. 1.a) above.

Responsibility of Property Owner:

- “Request for Re-Connection to Utility System at Curbstop” A form shall be completed by the Property Owner;
- Fee/cost of \$100.00 to be paid by the Property Owner to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood prior to the Municipality re-connecting the water; and
- Property Owner or representative to be present when water is re-connected.

15. **RE-CONNECT WATER – EMERGENCY - No Charge**

- Water to be re-connected after emergency repairs being completed to the water and/or sewer lines on private property, being between the curbstop and the outside meter on the serviced building.

Responsibility of Property Owner:

- “Request for Re-connection to Utility System at Curbstop due to Emergency Repairs” A form shall be completed by the Property Owner prior to the Municipality re-connecting the water; and
- Property Owner or representative to be present when water is re-connected; and

16. **Utility Hourly Call Back Rate:**

- Hourly call back rate - \$125.00
(Call backs & re-inspections)

17. **Thaw Frozen Water Lines on Private Property - Actual costs**

18. **Installation of Water & Sewer for New Construction from the Main Line to the Property Line:**

a) **Service Application Information**

- All applicants must fill out the application for service connections as well as pay the fees associated with the application before work is to commence.
- Should any of the costs below be more than the fees collected the Rural Municipality of Rockwood shall invoice the applicant for the balance.

b) Service Fee Information

i) Residential:
Connections

- Fees Associated with connections:

Permit Fee	\$125.00
Connection Fee	\$8,500.00
Water Meter	\$675.00
Inspection Fee	\$300.00
Restoration Fee	\$950.00
Total	\$10,550.00

ii) Commercial / Industrial:
Connections

- Fees Associated with connections:

Permit Fee	\$125.00
Connection Fee	\$8,500.00
Water Meter	\$675.00
Inspection Fee	\$300.00
Restoration Fee	\$950.00
Total	\$10,550.00

SCHEDULE "B"**TO****BY-LAW #15/23****SPECIFICATIONS FOR BALMORAL UTILITY HOOK-UPS****A. SEWER SERVICE PIPE**

- certified CSA; PVC PSM SDR 35 / 100mm (4")

The sewer piping will be installed in common trench with the water pipe. Where connection takes place onto existing (exterior) piping, the process will be referred to as **connection at the building**. The ground cover of the pipe will be a minimum of six (6) feet; variation to this may only occur at the discretion of the Municipality. To meet the elevation of existing piping and to maintain positive flow characteristics, the installation will, where deemed by the Contractor or directed by the Municipality, include 45 degree long sweep bends or standard (22 ¼ or 45 degree) elbows for grade and alignment.

Where the Contractor is required to terminate the service into the building, the process will be referred to as "entry into building". In this process, the entry may simply be through a wall opening. In some cases, it may require the Contractor to mine (burrow) under the footing to an existing opening in the basement floor. **Where this process takes place, the pipe under the footing or through the wall will be C.S.A. B181.1 ABS drain waste pipe or C.S.A. B181.2 P.V.C. drain waste pipe. The connection to the SDR 35 pipe shall be a minimum of three (3) feet away from the exterior basement wall. The couplers joining the two pipes shall be Fernco 1056.44 or 1056.66.**

Note: Recommendation for a backwater valve 1 metre (3 feet) inside basement wall. Not allowed on new construction unless design conforms to CSA B 70 (normally open).

There may also be instances where the property owner has initiated some of the mining. Regardless of which case exists, the Contractor will **not** be required to connect piping inside the basements.

- Main line connections will be by saddle with stainless steel band clamps on Tee's.
- Bell & Spigot 45 degree long sweep shall be certified C.S.A. for PVC PSM SDR 35 piping
- Bell & Spigot (22 ½ or 45 degree) standard for SDR 35 piping
- Sewer service line to service one (1) building only

B. WATER SERVICE PIPE

- O.D. Tubing sizes series 160 HDPE potable water polyethylene C.S.A. certified and factory marked CAS B137.1 / 25mm (1")

- 25 mm (1") compression with stainless steel insert to a 25 mm (1") ball valve

All services to be installed with continuous pipe lengths. Where distances may require joining pipe ends, the use of couplers will adhere to manufacturer's recommendations for connection to polyethylene tubing. Only brass Mueller compression stainless steel inserts for poly tubing is approved. At the curbstop, inserts must be used and at valve connections in building.

The installation of water pipe will be in common trench with the sewer. The pipe will be connected to the existing compression-type end Mueller curbstop at the property line. A minimum cover of 2.43 metre (8 feet) will be maintained up to the "entry into building".

The Municipality may approve some deviation at the building provided the piping is insulated by an approved insulating material. Rigid 50mm (2") sm will be a preferred choice. The water and sewer lines running across the driveway or roadway **MUST** be insulated.

Entry into the building in the case where the sewer pipe is connected at the building will be through an opening by the Contractor or by others. The pipe will be placed alongside the sewer in the case of sewer entry into building. **Requirement is for all outside taps to have vacuum breakers on for backflow prevention.**

Water service line to service one (1) building only

C. SERVICE LINES

i) Residential Water Service Line

Residential water service line shall be 25mm (1") Series 200 PVC, no copper service line. Each service line shall include a dual check valve connected directly to water meter and have an expansion tank installed on the system after the check valve under sewer line to curbstop.

ii) Commercial / Industrial Water Service Line

Commercial / Industrial water service line shall be 38mm (1 ½") line size. Series 200 PVC (municipal tubing), no copper service line, and must have a lockable meter by-pass in accordance with MPC / AWWA Specs. Industrial, commercial and institutional buildings will have testable backflow prevention installed. The backflow to be tested each year at property owner's expense.

iii) **Sewer Service Line**

Sewer service line pipe shall be 100mm (4") SDR 35 bell & spigot.

iv) **Size of Sewer & Water Lines**

Pending the usage of the building and at the discretion of the Municipality, the size of the sewer and water lines may be required to be increased. Example: school, commercial building, etc.

D. CURBSTOP

All curbstops shall be Mueller compression-type ends, be visible and accessible and clearly marked with 2"x 6" board on 4 sides of curbstop, 1.2 meters (4 feet) above ground and painted blue so water may be turned on by the Municipality. If not visible, it shall be the property owner's responsibility to make said curbstop visible and accessible at all times. Services boxes to be poly boot only and marked "Water".

Curbstop to be operated by Municipal Utility Department / Designated Officer only.

Curbstops shall **not** be located in a driveway or pathway.

E. RESTORATION OF CURBSTOP

Due to excavation on private property, the Municipality owner shall be responsible to repair the curbstop, including topsoil and grass seed.

F. BEDDING AND INSTALLATION

- All pipe installations will adhere to manufacturer's recommendations.
- As a minimum requirement, all sewer pipe will be supported among its entire length by a layer of no less than 100mm (4") in thickness of sand. Sand shall also be placed around and above both sewer and water pipes by hand shovel and hand-tamped to no less than 200mm (8") above the pipes.

G. INSPECTION

- All work, prior to being covered, is to be inspected by a duly authorized certified representative of the Rural Municipality of Rockwood.
- Twenty-four (24) hours' notice is required for an inspection