

**VILLAGE OF GIROUXVILLE**  
**BYLAW NO. 23-04**

A BYLAW OF THE VILLAGE OF GIROUXVILLE IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WATER RATES AND FOR LEVYING AND COLLECTION THEREOF AND REGULATING AND CONTROLLING THE USE OF WATER FROM THE WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

**WHEREAS**, it is deemed necessary and advisable to make provisions for the establishment of a scale of water rates to meet the costs of maintaining and operating the said system:

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the Village of Girouxville, in Council Assembled, under the authority of the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, Chapter M.26 and amendments thereto enacts as follows:

1. THAT all water services connected to municipal water distribution system shall be metered.
2. THAT all new accounts require a minimum of 2 business day notification prior to opening.
3. THAT all water services are for the sole use of the landowner or user and are not for resale purposes unless by resolution of Council, with the exception of retreated water or the town owned truck fill.
4. THAT when a property owner rents or leases a premise to which the Village provides utility services, all new utility accounts shall be in the name of both the property owner and renter. Invoices will be sent to both if requested.
5. THAT all owners of property within or outside of the Village of Girouxville which is served directly or indirectly by a connection to the water supply system of the Village of Girouxville, shall, upon payment of a non-refundable water meter installation fee of \$300.00, install a water meter:
6. THAT all owners, tenants or occupants of any building where a water service is installed shall provide a valve of approved pattern immediately inside the outer wall of the said building and shall give access to every facility for the introducing, placing, inspecting and reading of such meter and shall protect it from interference or damage from frost or otherwise;
7. THAT all property owners must allow the Village or the Village's duly authorized agent to have the right to enter upon the owner's premises to install the said water meter, and/or read the water meter when required.
8. THAT any fittings, other than those supplied with the meters for the installation and any repairs for damages to the meter caused by frost or otherwise, shall be borne by the owner, tenant or occupant of the building.
9. THAT all water meters supplied by the municipal water system are to be read every second month. Such reading of meters are to be completed, if reasonably possible, by the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month and consumers, occupants, owners or purchasers billed accordingly.

10. THAT the water rate be charged for all residential, commercial and out-of-town connections on a bi-monthly set as follows:
  - \$ 6.00 - per cubic meter
  - \$66.50 - Distribution charge
11. THAT the water rate for the truck fill be charged as follows:
  - \$9.00 per cubic meter
12. THAT the minimum charges applicable to new accounts and closing accounts, excluding temporary closures, shall be prorated according to the days of occupancy in any given billing period.
13. A Homeowner or occupant requesting closure of a utility account less than six (6) months shall be subject to a closing fee of \$250.00. An additional charge of \$50.00 will be applied for curbside closure. Consideration will be given to landlords requesting a 72 hour water service.
14. THAT service is to be disconnected to any consumer whose water bill has remained unpaid for sixty (60) days from the date of billing.
15. THAT failure to receive a utility invoice is not considered sufficient reason for non-payment of the account.
16. THAT if a service is to be discontinued on account of non-payment of a water bill, a charge of \$100.00 shall be made before the service is re-opened.
15. THAT if a water meter seal is tampered with, a fine of \$200.00 shall be charged to the consumer.
16. THAT all water which passes through the water meter and is recorded thereon is to be charged as water consumed by the person responsible for the account unless otherwise directed by resolution of Council.
17. THAT where there is a malfunctioning meter, water consumption will be charged on an estimated consumption basis. Consumption will be based on the average consumption for the previous three actual meter readings.

#### TESTING METERS:

20. IF ANY consumer disputes the accuracy of the consumption of water registered by the meter, they may, by paying a fee based on the current testing rate of the Village of Girouxville, have the meter tested. If on being tested, the meter is found to be correct, the account in dispute must be paid forthwith and the fee paid is forfeited to the Village. If the meter is found to be incorrect, the fee shall be refunded and account adjusted to the basis of the average consumption of the premises for the previous six readings if available.

#### LEAKY AND FAULTY FIXTURES:

21. IN THE case of leaky or faulty fixtures, the owner shall have no claim against the Village for loss of water service. The Village, at their discretion, may provide data to the consumer, should a leak be detected.

## REPAIRS TO SERVICE LINES:

22. THAT when a water line is discovered to be damaged or broken, the following will apply:

a) Pursuant to Section 35(2) of the *Municipal Government Act*, the municipality is responsible for the construction, maintenance and repair of the portion of the service connection from the main lines of the system or works to the boundary of the road or easement.

b) Pursuant to Section 37(1) of the *Municipal Government Act*, the owner of a parcel of land is responsible for the construction, maintenance and repair of a service connection of a municipal public utility located above, on or underneath the parcel.

## FAILURE OF WATER SUPPLY:

23. THE VILLAGE shall not be liable for any damages which may result to any person or premises from shutting off the water main or service or for any purpose whatsoever, even in cases where no notice is given, no deduction shall be made from water bills in consequence.

## DISCONTINUING WATER SERVICE:

24. THAT any owner or renter wanting to discontinue the water service must give not less than two (2) business days notice to the Village of their intention or desire to discontinue the service, otherwise shall be liable for the rates or charges arising from the use of the service.

## BACKFILLING SERVICE TRENCH:

25. THAT no trench either public or private in which has been laid any pipe leading to the main system shall be backfilled until the pipe or work has been tested and approved. The Village of Girouxville Public Works supervisor shall be notified when the work is ready for inspection and such work shall be left uncovered until such time as it has been inspected.

## UNPAID ACCOUNTS:

26. An interest charge of 1.5% per month shall be imposed on any utility account that remains unpaid after the due date. Any unpaid water rates or charges provided for under this Bylaw shall, when in default, constitute a lien upon the owners property and shall be subject to the same penalties and collectable in the manner as taxes levied by the Village.

27. Bylaw No.19-01 is hereby repealed.

28. This Bylaw shall come into force and effect when it receives third reading and is duly signed.

READ a First Time this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023

READ a Second Time this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023

READ a Third and Final Time this 13<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

