

Summary

During 2019, Council approved the Revised Long Range Financial Plan for Water and Wastewater. The Plan recommended that the Water Wastewater Rate should increase by 4.8% annually over a 20 year period to achieve financial sustainability. Notwithstanding, the Plan has to be revised every 5 years as part of the Drinking Water Licenses renewal process.

Council approved this increase in 2020 and the water and wastewater consumption rates have been adjusted for 2021 to achieve the recommended 4.8% increase and will become effective January 1, 2021.

For 2021, the following rates will be charged:

1. Water Variable Rate of \$1.893 (2020 - \$1.809) per cubic metre of water used
2. Fixed Monthly Water Service Charges based on size of metre/service

5/8 "	\$23.37
3/4"	\$23.37
1"	\$58.41
1 1/2"	\$116.81
2"	\$186.90
3"	\$373.80
4"	\$584.06
6"	\$1,168.13
8"	\$1,869.00
10"	\$2,686.69

3. Wastewater Surcharge of 112.9% (2020 - 112.0%) applied to water usage and water service charge

The following table provides a summary of the impact of the 2021 rates on a residential customer who consumes 200 Cubic metres of water annually.

	2020	2021	\$ Change	% Change
Water				
Annual Usage Charge	\$361.80	\$378.60	\$16.80	
Annual Fixed Service Charge	269.76	280.44	10.68	
Total Annual water	\$631.56	659.04	\$27.48	4.4%
Wastewater				
Annual Usage Surcharge	\$405.22	\$427.44	\$22.22	
Annual Fixed Service Surcharge	302.13	316.62	14.49	
Total Annual Wastewater	\$707.35	\$744.06	\$36.71	5.2%
Total Annual Water Wastewater Charges	\$1,338.91	\$1,403.10	\$64.19	4.8%

All other miscellaneous rates were increased by a maximum of 3% in accordance with the Rates By-Law, where appropriate, with the following exception noted in this report.

Hauled Liquid Waste Rates

As part of the Biosolids Plant project, the City built a Hauled Liquid Waste Receiving station to receive material from septic tanks and holding tanks from customers who are not connected to the City's wastewater infrastructure.

The City charges a fee for the receipt of septic and holding tank waste material at the Sudbury Wastewater Treatment plant pursuant to the Sewer Use Bylaw 2010-188 as amended.

A recommended fee was established for waste received from a septic tank and a rate of 50% of that amount for waste from a holding tank. These fees were calculated using best practice and chosen as a median amongst other municipalities that offer this service. Additionally, the owner of a holding tank is entitled to apply for a 50% rebate of the per cubic metre (m³) fee. The current rate for septic waste is \$33.00/m³ and \$16.50/m³ for holding tanks.

Since the installation of the septage receiving station in 2015, sufficient data has now been collected to allow a review of rates. In 2020 a study was completed which took into account items such treatment costs, operations and maintenance impacts and capital recovery required. The completed analysis determined that a reduction in septage and hauled liquid waste fees is merited. Commencing January 1, 2021 the recommended new rates will be \$26.47/m³ for septage waste. Holding tank owners will be eligible to apply for a rebate for hauled liquid waste in the amount of \$18.36/m³ for a net rate of \$8.11/m³. Staff continue to investigate options for eliminating the rebate application process and will report recommendations to Council as information becomes available. These rates will be implemented effective January 1, 2021 upon passing of the By-law. The expected total revenue for this service is estimated at \$325,000 which represents an estimated reduction of \$200,000 in budgeted revenues. Estimates are based on the annual average amount of liquid waste received since the service was introduced in 2015. The total estimated revenue is sufficient to deliver the service provided.