

Municipal District of Acadia No. 34

Policy Number: 2307

Title: Utility Away Rate

Subject Area: Utilities

Approval Date: 18 July 2017

Revision Date(s):

Policy Statement:

Hamlet residents connected to the Henry Kroeger water line and to the municipal sewer system may be eligible for an 'away rate' on monthly utility bills if certain conditions are met. This rate shall only apply to the water portion of the utility bill.

Principles:

- a. The minimum monthly utility bill for hamlet residents includes separate charges for water and sewer.
- b. Properties that are vacant for at least 3 consecutive months are eligible for an away rate on the water portion only of the utility bill if the property owner notifies the MD of Acadia in advance.
- c. The away rate fee will be 50% of the current minimum monthly water portion of the utility bill plus 100% of the current minimum monthly sewer portion.
- d. The maximum a property can be on an away rate is 6 consecutive months within a 12 month period.
- e. If, for any reason, a property's water meter registers a reading before the minimum three (3) months has expired the full water portion shall be invoiced immediately for the previous months.
- f. The sewer portion of the utility bill shall be invoiced in full each month.
- g. Property Owners are responsible for informing the MD of Acadia when they no longer wish for the away rate to be applied to their account.
- h. This policy will remain in effect until the MD of Acadia council decides to remove or amend it.

2. Definitions

- a. Property Owner- The person, persons or organization that owns a particular property to which a municipal service is connected. As per Municipal Policy 2304, the property owner is ultimately responsible for the service and any overdue amounts, regardless of the name in which the utility account is registered.
- b. Sewer Portion - The minimum sewer charge on a monthly utility bill as set by council each year.
- c. Utility Bill- A monthly invoice issued by the MD of Acadia to residents connected to municipal sewer and the Henry Kroger Water Line. This bill is broken into 2 parts; the water portion and the sewer portion. Each portion has a minimum monthly charge associated with it.
- d. Water Portion - The minimum water charge on a monthly utility bill as set by council each year.

3. Roles and Responsibilities:

- a. Property Owners are responsible for notifying MD of Acadia administration when a property is to begin an away rate.
- b. Administration will be responsible for tracking usage and issuing amended utility bills based on the above stated principles.

Approved by Council: 18 July 2017

Chief Administrative Officer