

R.M. of ELLICE – ARCHIE
BY-LAW# 08-2015
WATER METER PROJECT

WHEREAS section 164(4) of The Municipal Act states: *The council must ensure that the amount of estimated revenue and transfers provided for in the utility budget is not less than the amount of estimated expenditures in respect of the utility unless, before adopting the operating budget, the council obtains The Public Utilities Board's written approval, which may include any condition the Board considers necessary or advisable.*;

AND WHEREAS the St. Lazare Utility has been in substantial utility deficit for several years;

AND WHEREAS the utility rates in McAuley have not been reviewed since 2006 and the Village of St. Lazare since 2004;

THEREFORE the purpose of this by-law, known as the "Water Meter Project" by-law to authorize the expenditure to supply and installation of water meters to all properties with active water accounts in the Villages of McAuley and St. Lazare. (per ss. 168.2(2) of The Municipal Act). Once the new meters have been installed it will allow for an accurate water rate study to be completed with the results to be submitted to The Public Utilities Board for rate review.

Now therefore the Council of the Rural Municipality of Ellice – Archie enacts as follows:

1. PROJECT COST

That the Rural Municipality of Ellice – Archie may expend up to Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$250,000) for the purpose of supply and installation of water meters in the Villages of McAuley and St. Lazare.

2. PROJECT FUNDING

Funding for the Water Meter Project is to come from four sources:

- (a) Manitoba Water Services Board has approved 30% cost sharing on the project up to a maximum of \$40,000.
- (b) \$50,000 will be withdrawn from the Gas Tax Reserve.
- (c) \$50,000 will be withdrawn from the Utility Reserve.
- (d) The remainder will be withdrawn from the General Reserve up to a maximum of \$110,000.

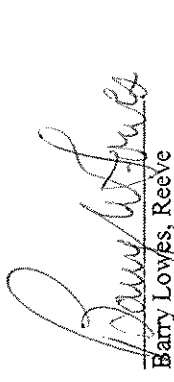
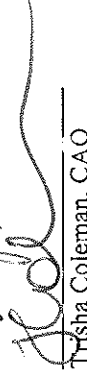
3. RESERVE REPLENISHMENT

- (a) Funds expended through the Gas Tax Reserve and Utility Reserve will be the responsibility of the RM of Ellice – Archie as a whole over time.
- (b) Funds expended through the General Reserve needed to complete the Water Meter Project shall be replenished on the 2016 Financial Plan through the LUD of St. Lazare's Service Plan once the final project expenses are known. The Council RM reserves the right to extend the replenishment over multiple years as per recommendation from the LUD Committee to Council.

4. INSTALLATION

- (a) Installation of the water meters will be completed by a certified plumber obtained by the RM of Ellice – Archie through a tendering process.
- (b) With the understanding that the Village of St. Lazare has never had water meters installed, there are some properties that have hidden water lines behind drywall, cabinets, etc. As such in some properties there will be minor carpentry work needed in order to install the water meters. Homeowners will be contacted for initial inspection of the plumbing in order to establish what will need to be done in order for the plumber to have access to and install the water meter. An agreement will be done with the homeowner after this initial inspection has been completed.
- (c) Any carpentry work needed to repair necessary access to the water lines will not be covered by the RM of Ellice – Archie. All carpentry work needed to return the area to previous state will solely be the responsibility of the homeowner.
- (d) Every property currently attached to, and any new property in the future to be attached to the water service, in McAuley or St. Lazare is obliged to observe this by-law with no exception.

DONE AND PASSED as a by-law of The Rural Municipality of Ellice - Archie at St. Lazare in the Province of Manitoba this 12th day of May, 2015.


Barry Lowes, Reeve

Trisha Coleman, CAO

Read a first time this this 14th day of April 2015.
Read a second time this 12th day of May, 2015.
Read a third time this 12th day of May, 2015.