



The Municipal Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie

By-law No. 4-2021

Being a By-law to Adopt the 2021 Water and Wastewater Budget, to Adopt Rates and Fees For The Year 2021

Whereas By-law No. 2-2020 adopted rates and fees for the year 2020 and continues in effect until superseded by the passage of this by-law; and

Whereas Report No. CBC-02-2021 was considered and approved at the Council-in-Budget Committee meeting held on December 9, 2020, as follows:

THAT: Council approves the 2021 Water and Wastewater Operating Budget attached as Appendix "1", and further

THAT: Council revises the 2021 Water and Wastewater Base and Consumption rates, subject to Regional Council approval of forecasted treatment rates, effective with billing for January 2021 consumption as follows:

- 2021 water base rate per month: \$25.27
 - 2021 water rate per cubic metre: \$1.467
 - 2021 wastewater base rate per month: \$41.47
 - 2021 wastewater rate per cubic metre: \$2.045
- and further,

THAT: Council excludes the capital asset amortization of \$1.6 million from the 2021 Water and Wastewater Operating Budgets, and further

THAT: Council directs staff to submit the 2021 Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Rates By-law for Council approval on January 18, 2021; and

Whereas in accordance with Public Notice Policy By-law No. 206-07 public notice of the budget meeting schedule and by-law adoption was published in the Post on October 15th, 2020, posted on the Town of Fort Erie website and included in the Council-in-Committee Agendas;

Now Therefore the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie enacts as follows:

1. **That** the 2021 Water and Wastewater Budget for the Town of Fort Erie as set out in Schedule "A" attached and forming part of this by-law is approved and adopted.
2. **That** the Water and Wastewater Rates for 2021 and Fees and Charges as set out in Schedule "B" attached and forming part of this by-law are established approved and adopted.
3. **That** the rates and fees and charges established herein shall remain in effect until repealed or superceded by another by-law.

4. **That** where any by-laws or amendments have been repealed or superseded with respect to the payment of rates and fees and charges, same are recognized to be in force and effect at that time and to continue in effect for collection purposes.
5. **That** the Clerk of the Town is authorized to effect any minor modifications corrections or omissions solely of an administrative, numerical, grammatical, semantical or descriptive nature to this by-law or its schedules after the passage of this by-law.

Read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 18th day of January, 2021.

Mayor

Clerk

I, Carol Schofield, the Clerk, of The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie certifies the foregoing to be a true copy of By-law No. 4-2021 of the said Town. Given under my hand and the seal of the said Corporation, this day of , 2021

Schedule "A" to By-law No. 4-2021

Run Date: 12/1/20 4:33 PM

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE
2021 BUDGET REPORT

	2020 YTD Actuals	2020 Approved Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Forecast	2023 Forecast	2024 Forecast	2025 Forecast	2026 Forecast
Revenue								
Water/wastewater billings	(16,237,493)	(19,334,069)	(19,496,501)	(20,208,311)	(21,101,730)	(21,849,830)	(22,662,906)	(23,433,160)
Local Improvement Charges	(120,872)	(120,901)	(120,901)	(120,901)	(43,555)	(43,555)	(22,397)	(22,397)
Grants	0	(30,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)
Interest & Penalties	(29,086)	(46,000)	(46,000)	(46,000)	(46,000)	(46,000)	(46,000)	(46,000)
User Fees	(90,684)	(76,500)	(83,000)	(83,000)	(83,000)	(83,000)	(83,000)	(83,000)
Total Revenue	(16,478,135)	(19,607,470)	(19,764,402)	(20,476,212)	(21,292,285)	(22,040,385)	(22,832,303)	(23,602,557)
Expenses								
Wages & Benefits	1,850,195	2,110,398	2,176,821	2,209,165	2,247,471	2,286,454	2,329,527	2,375,716
Materials & Services	454,553	907,950	832,397	841,274	1,171,382	842,023	901,192	858,405
Debt Interest Charges	77,451	101,930	92,263	82,683	72,838	63,211	53,375	45,123
Regional Treatment Costs	9,280,367	11,453,214	11,352,451	12,274,396	12,931,763	13,625,408	14,357,386	15,129,872
Total Expenses	11,662,566	14,573,492	14,453,932	15,407,518	16,423,454	16,817,096	17,641,480	18,409,116
NET BEFORE FINANCING AND TRANSFERS	4,815,569	5,033,978	5,310,470	5,068,694	4,868,831	5,223,289	5,190,823	5,193,441
FINANCING & TRANSFERS								
Interdepartmental transfers								
Fleet Related Charges	194,026	356,323	355,027	362,066	365,818	370,053	372,670	374,587
Program Support Charges	912,100	912,100	888,562	909,137	931,740	936,403	941,553	947,078
Total Interdepartmental transfers	1,106,126	1,268,423	1,243,589	1,271,203	1,297,558	1,306,456	1,314,223	1,321,665
Debt principal (advances)/repayments								
Repayment of Debt	262,773	262,773	264,880	267,075	269,361	271,741	274,220	212,000
Total Debt principal (advances)/repayments	262,773	262,773	264,880	267,075	269,361	271,741	274,220	212,000
Reserve and Capital Fund Transfers								

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE
2021 BUDGET REPORT

	2020 YTD Actuals	2020 Approved Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Forecast	2023 Forecast	2024 Forecast	2025 Forecast	2026 Forecast
Transfers from reserves	(291,031)	(430,000)	(150,000)	(200,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(150,000)	(100,000)
Transfers to reserves	4,234,091	4,234,091	4,245,809	4,016,899	4,016,899	4,016,899	4,016,899	4,016,899
Transfers Development Chgs Reserve	(229,784)	(301,309)	(293,808)	(286,483)	(614,987)	(271,807)	(264,519)	(257,123)
Total Reserve and Capital Fund Transfers	3,713,276	3,502,782	3,802,001	3,530,416	3,301,912	3,645,092	3,602,380	3,659,776
NET FINANCING & TRANSFERS	5,082,175	5,033,978	5,310,470	5,068,694	4,868,831	5,223,289	5,190,823	5,193,441
(SURPLUS)/DEFICIT CARRYFORWARD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEPARTMENT NET REVENUE /(EXPENDITURE)	(266,606)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reconciliation to Accrual Basis								
Reserve and Capital Fund Transfers								
Transfers from reserves	(291,031)	(430,000)	(150,000)	(200,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(150,000)	(100,000)
Transfers to reserves	4,234,091	4,234,091	4,245,809	4,016,899	4,016,899	4,016,899	4,016,899	4,016,899
Transfers Development Chgs Reserve	(229,784)	(301,309)	(293,808)	(286,483)	(614,987)	(271,807)	(264,519)	(257,123)
Total Reserve and Capital Fund Transfers	3,713,276	3,502,782	3,802,001	3,530,416	3,301,912	3,645,092	3,602,380	3,659,776
Debt principal (advances)/repayments								
Repayment of Debt	262,773	262,773	264,880	267,075	269,361	271,741	274,220	212,000
Total Debt principal (advances)/repayments	262,773	262,773	264,880	267,075	269,361	271,741	274,220	212,000
Accrual Entries								
Amortization	(795,437)	(1,581,200)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)
Total Accrual Entries	(795,437)	(1,581,200)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)	(1,590,900)
ACCRUAL BASIS SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	2,914,006	2,184,355	2,475,981	2,206,591	1,980,373	2,325,933	2,285,700	2,280,876

SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW NO. 4-2021

1. WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES FOR 2021

1.1 RATES SCHEDULE

The following rates shall apply to all water and wastewater bills issued after February 1st, 2021.

Metered Consumption Rate			(\$)
Per Cubic Metre			
(1 Cubic Metre equals 1000 liters)			
Water			1.467
Wastewater			2.045
Total			3.512
Water Only Commercial Users			1.517
Per 1000 Gallons			
(1 Cubic Metre equals 220 gallons)			
Water			6.668
Wastewater			9.295
Total			15.963

Flat Rates Per Month			
(Base Rate plus Consumption Rate Estimate for a less than 25 mm meter)			
Water			48.74
Wastewater			74.19
Total			122.93
Wastewater Only			74.19

Monthly Base Rates Per Meter Size					
Meter Size		Meter Size Factor	Water (\$)	Wastewater (\$)	Combined (\$)
(mm)	(Inches)				
Base Meter Rate			25.27	41.47	66.74
Less than 25mm		1	25.27	41.47	66.74
25	1	1.4	35.38	58.06	93.44
38	1.5	1.8	45.49	74.65	120.14
50	2	2.9	73.28	120.26	193.54
75	3	11	277.97	456.17	734.14
100	4	14	353.78	580.58	934.36
150	6	21	530.67	870.87	1,401.54
200	8	29	732.83	1,202.63	1,935.46
250	10	40	1,010.80	1,658.80	2,669.60

(For clarification; the first bill utilizing the 2021 rates will be mailed February 15th, 2021 and will include the January 2021 consumption and base period. The due date of the bill will be March 3rd, 2021.)

- 1.2 The base rate set out in Section (1.1) above, applies to all buildings in a serviced area provided with a water service connection, or a wastewater service connection, or both.
- 1.3 The monthly water and wastewater flat rates for 25 mm or greater meter sizes shall be calculated on the basis of the applicable meter rate plus the estimated monthly usage established by engineering study.
- 1.4 A monthly rate shall be applied in accordance with Section (1.1) herein, and collected from customers connected to the wastewater collection system but not connected to the water system.
- 1.5 The monthly wastewater flat rate for customers provided with wastewater services only shall include the minimum base rate for wastewater as set out in Section (1.1) herein.
- 1.6 The minimum monthly billing for water or wastewater or both shall be the base rate according to meter size.
- 1.7 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this by-law, where a single meter is installed for the servicing of a multi-unit complex, the monthly water and wastewater base rate shall be the base rate for a meter size less than 25 mm multiplied by the number of units in the complex or such other base rate established in any development agreement entered into between the Town and the property owner.

2. **CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, COMMERCIAL OR OTHER USE OF UNMETERED WATER**

- 2.1 Except as approved by separate agreement, where water is obtained from the Corporation for building construction or renovation purposes, prior to water meter installation, the charges shall be calculated as follows:

A one-time initial flat rate fee of:	\$213.00	Up to 3,000 square feet of gross floor area
	\$320.00	3,000 to 6,000 square feet gross floor area
	\$427.00	6,000 square feet and over

to be paid upon the issuance of the building permit or a conditional building permit. This fee covers the cost of water used and an estimate of contributions to the sanitary system through direct inflow during new construction or renovation for a maximum period of 90 days after which time a monthly flat rate fee for water and wastewater as established by the Engineer, or his designate, shall apply until the meter is installed. The 90-day period may be extended with cause, in writing, by the Engineer or designate on the payment of a pro-rated fee based on the initial flat rate fee.

2.2 Other Unmetered Usage

Except as approved by separate agreement, where unmetered water is obtained from the Corporation for commercial or social usages and where such water is provided unmetered, the Engineer or his designate shall approve the manner in which the water is obtained and discharged and shall calculate the appropriate fees, both base rates and consumption rates, to be applied, based on estimated water usage, and estimated return of water to the wastewater collection system, the applicable water and wastewater rates and the duration of time services will be supplied. The calculated fees shall be paid upon the issuance of permission to obtain water.

2.3 Water Returned to the Wastewater Collection System

Except as authorized by the Engineer or designate, only water originating from the water works system may be returned to the wastewater collection system. Storm, surface and ground waters shall be directed to the appropriate storm water drainage system.

3. WASTEWATER SERVICE RATES

3.1 Metered Non-Domestic Wastewater Users

Metered non-domestic wastewater users shall be charged a usage rate and a monthly base rate and as set out below in sub-paragraphs a) and b) respectively:

a) Usage Rate

A usage rate per metered volume of wastewater discharged to the wastewater collection system as per sub-section 1.1

b) Base Rates

(i) Water and Wastewater Non-domestic Customers

Non-domestic customers receiving both metered water and metered wastewater services shall pay a monthly single wastewater base rate based on the water meter size as set out in sub-section 1.1

(ii) Non-domestic Wastewater Only Customers

Non-domestic customers receiving metered wastewater services only shall pay a monthly wastewater base rate calculated, by the Engineer or his designate, based on the equivalent water meter size for the peak rate of wastewater discharge.

4. PENALTY

- 4.1** The water and wastewater rates set out in Section (1.1) and not paid in full on or before the due date will be charged a penalty of one and one half percent (1.5%). If a water and/or wastewater account is partially paid, payment of the penalty is required on the unpaid portion.
- 4.2** Senior citizens upon proof of age of sixty-five will not be charged a penalty on the water and wastewater rates for their primary residence.

5. METER BILLING CALCULATION – FIRST TIME CUSTOMER

- 5.1** Where a customer paying for water and wastewater services on a meter rate basis is first added to the municipal metered billing system, the first metered bill shall be issued on the next regularly scheduled billing date following the date of installation to the date on which the meter was read.

6. NON SUFFICIENT FUND (NSF) CHARGES

- 6.1** NSF payments shall result in a fee of \$30.00 exclusive of any applicable taxes. Two NSF payments made within a one (1) year period shall result in the suspension of cheque writing privileges to the Town of Fort Erie for a period of one year from the date of the last NSF payment.

7. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE FEES

All fees and charges are exclusive of any taxes

7.1	Issue of a duplicate/second copy of a bill for an account	\$ 6.06
7.2	Reminder or Final/Disconnect Notice for overdue account	\$ 6.06
7.3	Hard copy of water account history for property owner	\$ 12.08
7.4	New account/transfer account	\$ 48.10
7.5	Bulk Water Hauler Activation	\$ 48.10
7.6	Additional/replacement of water key tags	\$ 27.30
7.7	Water Service turn on during normal business hours	\$ 97.85
	- after business hours	\$ 173.35
	<i>(Water Service turn on fees do not apply to first time connections)</i>	
7.8	Water Service turn off during normal business hours	\$ 97.85
	- after business hours	\$ 173.35
7.9	Water Service turn off resulting from an illegal turn on	\$ 196.50
7.10	Analog water meter read – monthly charge	\$ 17.95

7.11	Request confirmation of meter read Note: A one-time meter read at no charge will be permitted per customer. If a meter read has already occurred in response to an estimate, it will act as the one-time exemption.	\$ 57.85
7.12	Missed appointment with meter technician	\$ 57.85
7.13	Installation by a private contractor	
	New Water Service Connection Inspection and Permit Issue	\$ 275.00
	New Wastewater Service Connection Inspection and Permit Issue	\$ 275.00
	New Storm Water Service Connection Inspection and Permit Issue	\$ 275.00
7.14	Owner requested meter test (Refundable if meter determined to be faulty)	\$ 475.25
7.15	Water Meter including Ground Strap & Remote Reader:	
	5/8" x 3/4" T-10 R-900i E-coder	\$ 432.29
	3/4" T10 R-900i E-coder	\$ 555.84
	1" T10 R-900i E-coder	\$ 678.85
	1 1/2" T10 R-900i E-coder	\$1,077.57
	2" production T-10 R-900i E-coder	\$1,289.29
	2" compound meter R900 E-coder	\$3,319.78
	3" or larger	cost + overhead
	Frost Plate	\$ 35.22
	Frost Plate Replacement	\$ 196.19
	Other Water Meter Parts Replacement	cost + overhead
	Meter Pit for 5/8" x 3/4" T-10 R-900i E-coder-supply	\$ 864.29
	<i>Note: Supply costs for pits for other sizes will be provided as required</i>	
	<i>Note: "Supply only" rate is subject to the approval by the Manager, Water and Wastewater Services</i>	
	Meter Pit - install	<u>\$ 948.40</u>
		\$1,812.69
7.16	Private fire hydrant annual inspection	\$ 149.70
7.17	Fire hydrant flow inspection	\$ 132.92
7.18	New service tap	\$ 178.25

7.19 Non-Municipal Year Round Residential Systems
(fee quoted is annual cost)

<u>Type</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	
Microbiological Sampling	Weekly	\$7,898.54
Free Chlorine Sampling	Weekly	\$4,600.71
pH/Alkalinity Sampling	Quarterly	\$418.23
THM Sampling	Quarterly	\$710.00
HAA Sampling	Quarterly	\$1,400.09
Lead Sampling	Bi-annually	\$307.43
Backflow Device Testing each	Annually	\$856.37
Annual Reporting	Annually	\$83.63
<u>Maintenance if required</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	
Hydrant Inspection/Testing each	Annually	\$265.62
Leak Detection	Annually	\$229.07
<u>Additional Fees</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	
Adverse Response/Reporting	As required	\$462.21
Time & Materials	As required	cost

8. INDEXING OF SERVICE FEES

8.1 The service fees set out in Section 7 hereto shall be adjusted without amendment to this By-law annually for all billings issued after February 1st in each year, based on the 12 months to September 30th Statistics Canada *Consumer Price Index (CPI)*.

9. FAILURE TO RECEIVE BILL

9.1 Failure to receive a bill for services rendered does not preclude payment.

10. WATER/WASTEWATER RATE STRUCTURE

10.1 Water and wastewater rates established herein shall be adjusted without by-law amendment to this schedule, to reflect changes in rates charged by the Regional Municipality of Niagara for water and wastewater treatment as charges become effective.

10.2 Water and wastewater rates shall be adjusted annually to reflect Council approved water and wastewater budgets.

10.3 Water rates shall include a consumption rate that recovers the costs of Regional water supply, as well as a portion of the water and wastewater utility operating costs.

- 10.4** Water rates shall include a base rate that recovers all other costs related to water not recovered through the consumption rate and other miscellaneous water revenues as detailed in the annual water budget approved by Council.
- 10.5** Wastewater rates shall include a consumption rate that recovers the cost of wastewater services, maintenance and all costs of Regional treatment.
- 10.6** Wastewater rates shall include a base rate that recovers all other costs related to wastewater services not recovered through the wastewater consumption rate and other miscellaneous wastewater revenues as detailed in the annual wastewater budget approved by Council, including wastewater system operations, extraneous flow and capital programs.