

Town of Springside Annual Waterworks Information

For the year 2025

Waterworks Rate Policy

On April 8, 2024, Council enacted Bylaw No. 2024-01, *A Bylaw to Fix the Water and Sewer Utility Rates*. This bylaw establishes the rates charged for water, sewer, connection fees, bulk water rates, the quarterly infrastructure levy, penalties, and disconnection fees. The bylaw was approved by the Saskatchewan Municipal Board on April 22, 2024.

The quarterly water rate established under this bylaw was selected to remain affordable for residents and businesses while supporting progress toward a self-financing waterworks system in which users pay for the cost of the service. The quarterly fees are expected to generate sufficient waterworks revenue to cover operating expenses.

Council will continue to monitor these expenses to determine whether future rate increases are required to ensure this user-pay service remains self-sustaining.

Council will also review its waterworks rate policy annually to determine whether revenues are sufficient to cover expenses. This policy is intended to support:

- A financially independent waterworks system that does not compete with other key demands on municipal general revenue.
- Ensuring the Town's waterworks can continue to provide safe drinking water.
- Encouraging responsible consumer demand and water conservation.
- Reducing pressure on property taxes, which may help limit impacts on future property tax rates.

Waterworks Capital Investment Strategy

At their Regular Meeting on August 14, 2024, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024/97 which states:

"THAT, the Town of Springside's waterworks capital investment strategy be to budget each year for anticipated maintenance in order to build larger reserves which combined with increased water rates, long term borrowing, municipal collaboration and grant funding can be used to upgrade, replace and repair the waterworks as necessary. The capital investment strategy will ensure that safe drinking water can be provided to the residents and businesses in the community in the present and future."

The objective of the waterworks capital investment strategy is to ensure that anticipated maintenance and replacement of waterworks infrastructure are addressed in a timely manner, supporting the continued delivery of an uninterrupted supply of drinking water to residents and businesses. The strategy is informed by the 2006 waterworks assessment required by Saskatchewan Environment for infrastructure planning, as well as the Water Treatment Plant Evaluation completed by BCL Engineering on March 13, 2023. To fund future waterworks infrastructure maintenance and replacement requirements, Council may need to consider a combination of increased water rates, borrowing, grant funding, and collaboration with other municipalities. New funding opportunities will continue to be researched to support the maintenance and replacement of aging infrastructure as required.

2025 Public Reporting on Municipal Waterworks

- Total waterworks revenue (R): \$178,433.00
- Total waterworks expenses (E): \$241,047.98
- Total debt payments on waterworks infrastructure loans for 2024: nil
- Comparison of waterworks revenues to expenses expressed as a ratio:

$$\frac{R}{E} = \frac{\$178,432.52}{\$241,047.98} = 0.74$$

For 2025, waterworks revenues covered 74% of the waterworks expenses.

Ratio Explanation: Comparison of waterworks revenues to expenses expressed as a ratio without the inclusion of amortization expenses is 1.208.

Note that the following information required pursuant to section 54 of *The Municipalities Regulations* is available for inspection at the Town Office during regular office hours:

- Current waterworks rate policy as outlined in Bylaw No. 2024-01
- Current Capital Investment Strategy as outlined in Resolution No. 2024/97
- 2025 waterworks revenues, expenses, revenues to expenses (expressed as a ratio) and any explanation of the ratio that the municipality considers necessary.
- Current Waterworks reserves (As of December 31, 2025, there was \$763,967.00 in reserves available for waterworks capital infrastructure).
- Most recent waterworks independent engineering assessment – completed by Stantec in 2006 as well as the March 27, 2023 Water Treatment Plant Evaluation completed by BCL Engineering Ltd.
- The Town of Springside does not have any capital plans or sources of funding for infrastructure projects until grant funding becomes available. Funding under the Canada Housing & Infrastructure Fund (CHIF) was applied for on November 14, 2025. The Town was notified that our application was declined on July 16, 2026 because the number of applications and funding requests exceeded the available funding for this intake. An application for the Build Communities Strong Fund, Direct Delivery Stream was submitted on July 17, 2026.
- The Town of Springside has not entered into any agreements respecting the provision of waterworks services.

The following additional information available for inspection at the Town Office during regular office hours includes:

- 2025 Audited Financial Statement
- Drinking Water Quality and Compliance – Annual Notice to Consumers for January 1-December 31, 2025.