

**Order No. 19/17**

**AN ORDER RESPECTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF HARRISON PARK  
ONANOLE UTILITY WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES**

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**February 9, 2017**

**BEFORE: Robert Gabor, Q.C., Chair  
Karen Botting, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., Vice-Chair**

## 1.0 Executive Summary

By this Order, the Manitoba Public Utilities Board (Board or PUB) approves as final the water and wastewater rates previously approved on an interim *ex parte* basis for the Municipality of Harrison Park (Municipality) - Onanole Utility (Utility).

Rationale for the PUB's decisions may be found under "Board Findings on the Issue".

## 2.0 Board Findings on the Issue

Initial rates were approved on an interim *ex parte* basis in Board Order No. 142/16 as applied for by the Municipality of Harrison Park for the Onanole water and wastewater utility. The Board made this interim rate decision to establish water and wastewater rates for this new utility.

A Notice of Public Hearing was issued on December 9, 2016 affording customers the opportunity to comment to both the PUB and Municipality with respect to the proposed rates. No comments were received.

When reviewing an application, the PUB has at its disposal two approaches, either a paper or a public hearing review. A public hearing process allows the Utility and stakeholders the opportunity to present their application and any concerns to the Board in person. A public hearing was held on January 9, 2017 in Onanole, Manitoba. No ratepayers were in attendance. The Municipality's consultant presented the application with the Chief Administrative Officer and the Reeve in attendance.

The Board will approve the finalized rates for the Onanole Utility previously approved on an interim *ex parte* basis in Board Order No. 142/16.

The Board will require the Municipality to review its rates for adequacy and file a report with the Public Utilities Board, as well as an application for revised rates if required.

Board decisions may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of Section 58 of *The Public Utilities Board Act*, or reviewed in accordance with Section 36 of the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Board's Rules may be viewed on the Board's website at [www.pub.gov.mb.ca](http://www.pub.gov.mb.ca).

**3.0 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

- 1) The water and wastewater rates for the Municipality of Harrison Park-Onanole Utility effective for June 1, 2016, January 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019 as set out in Schedule "A" to this Order BE AND ARE HEREBY CONFIRMED AS FINAL.
  
- 2) The Municipality of Harrison Park review its water and wastewater rates for the Onanole Utility for adequacy and file a report with the Public Utilities Board, as well as an application for revised rates, if required, by no later than December 1, 2018.

Fees payable upon this Order - \$500.00

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"ROBERT GABOR, Q.C."

Chair

"JENNIFER DUBOIS, CPA, CMA"

Acting Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 19/17  
issued by The Public Utilities Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting Secretary

**SCHEDULE "A"  
SCHEDULE OF QUARTERLY RATES**

1. Schedule of Commodity Rates & Quarterly Service Charge  
Rates per 1,000 Gallons

**June 1, 2016**

	<u>1,000 Gallons per quarter</u>		
	Water	Sewer	Water & Sewer
	\$6.54	\$6.64	\$13.18

Quarterly Service Charge \$32.50

2. Minimum Charges per Quarter

Notwithstanding the rates set forth in paragraph 1, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges per quarter set out below, which includes the water allowance as listed.

**a. Water & Sewer Customers**

<u>Meter Size</u>	<u>Group Capacity Ratio</u>	<u>Water Included Gallons</u>	<u>Customer Service Charge</u>	<u>Water Commodity Charge</u>	<u>Sewer Commodity Charge</u>	<u>Water &amp; Sewer Total Quarterly Minimum</u>
5/8 inch	1	3,000	\$32.50	\$19.62	\$19.92	\$72.04
¾ inch	2	6,000	\$32.50	\$39.24	\$39.84	\$111.58
1 inch	4	12,000	\$32.50	\$78.48	\$79.68	\$190.66
1 ½ inch	10	30,000	\$32.50	\$196.20	\$199.20	\$427.90
2 inch	25	75,000	\$32.50	\$490.50	\$498.00	\$1,021.00
3 inch	45	135,000	\$32.50	\$882.90	\$896.40	\$1,811.80
4 inch	90	270,000	\$32.50	\$1,765.80	\$1,792.80	\$3,591.10

**b. Water Only Customers**

The minimum charge will be the same for each meter size as shown above but the Sewer Commodity Charge will be excluded.

**c. Sewer Only Customers**

The sewer only charge will be the Sewer Commodity Rate based on quarterly consumption of 12,000 gallons plus the quarterly customer service charge.

1. Schedule of Commodity Rates & Quarterly Service Charge  
Rates per 1,000 Gallons

**January 1, 2018**

1,000 Gallons per quarter		
Water	Sewer	Water & Sewer
\$6.93	\$6.92	\$13.85

Quarterly Service Charge \$32.50

2. Minimum Charges per Quarter

Notwithstanding the rates set forth in paragraph 1, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges per quarter set out below, which includes the water allowance as listed.

**a. Water & Sewer Customers**

Meter Size	Group Capacity Ratio	Water Included Gallons	Customer Service Charge	Water Commodity Charge	Sewer Commodity Charge	Water & Sewer Total Quarterly Minimum
5/8 inch	1	3,000	\$32.50	\$20.79	\$20.76	\$74.05
¾ inch	2	6,000	\$32.50	\$41.58	\$41.52	\$115.60
1 inch	4	12,000	\$32.50	\$83.16	\$83.04	\$198.70
1 ½ inch	10	30,000	\$32.50	\$207.90	\$207.60	\$448.00
2 inch	25	75,000	\$32.50	\$519.75	\$519.00	\$1,071.25
3 inch	45	135,000	\$32.50	\$935.55	\$934.20	\$1,902.25
4 inch	90	270,000	\$32.50	\$1,871.10	\$1,868.40	\$3,772.00

**b. Water Only Customers**

The minimum charge will be the same for each meter size as shown above but the Sewer Commodity Charge will be excluded.

**c. Sewer Only For Residential Customers**

The sewer only charge will be the Sewer Commodity Rate based on quarterly consumption of 12,000 gallons plus the quarterly customer service charge.

1. Schedule of Commodity Rates & Quarterly Service Charge  
Rates per 1,000 Gallons

**January 1, 2019**

1,000 Gallons per quarter		
Water	Sewer	Water & Sewer
\$7.05	\$7.17	\$14.22

Quarterly Service Charge \$32.50

2. Minimum Charges per Quarter

Notwithstanding the rates set forth in paragraph 1, all customers will pay the applicable minimum charges per quarter set out below, which includes the water allowance as listed.

a. **Water & Sewer Customers**

Meter Size	Group Capacity Ratio	Water Included Gallons	Customer Service Charge	Water Commodity Charge	Sewer Commodity Charge	Water & Sewer Total Quarterly Minimum
5/8 inch	1	3,000	\$32.50	\$21.15	\$21.51	\$75.16
¾ inch	2	6,000	\$32.50	\$42.30	\$43.02	\$117.82
1 inch	4	12,000	\$32.50	\$84.60	\$86.04	\$203.14
1 ½ inch	10	30,000	\$32.50	\$211.50	\$215.10	\$459.10
2 inch	25	75,000	\$32.50	\$528.75	\$537.75	\$1,099.00
3 inch	45	135,000	\$32.50	\$951.75	\$967.95	\$1,952.20
4 inch	90	270,000	\$32.50	\$1,903.50	\$1,935.90	\$3,871.90

b. **Water Only Customers**

The minimum charge will be the same for each meter size as shown above but the Sewer Commodity Charge will be excluded.

c. **Sewer Only For Residential Customers:**

The sewer only charge will be the Sewer Commodity Rate based on quarterly consumption of 12,000 gallons plus the quarterly customer service charge.

**The following clauses take effect June 1, 2016:**

3. Service To Customers Outside Municipality of Harrison-Park Limits

The Council of the Municipality of Harrison-Park may sign Agreements with customers for the provision of water and/or sewer services to properties located outside the boundaries of Municipality. Such Agreements shall provide for payment of the appropriate rates set out in the Schedule, as well as a surcharge, set by Resolution of Council, which shall be equivalent to the frontage levy, general taxes, and special taxes for the Utility purposes in effect at the time or may be in effect from time to time, and which would be levied on the property concerned if it were within the Municipality's boundaries. In addition, all costs of connecting to the Utility's mains, and installing and maintaining service connections, will be paid by the customer.

4. Billings And Penalties

Accounts shall be billed quarterly and the due date shall be at least 14 days after the mailing of the bills.

A late payment charge of 1.25% per month shall be charged on the dollar amount owing after the billing due date.

5. Termination of Service

When service to a customer commenced or terminated during a quarter, the minimum charge payable for part of the quarter during which service was received shall be calculated on a monthly basis to the nearest whole month of the rates set forth in paragraph 2 hereof.

6. Reconnection

A customer who has had their service disconnected for any reason shall not be reconnected until all arrears, penalties and a reconnection fee of \$100 has been paid.

7. Outstanding Bills

Pursuant to Section 252(2) of The *Municipal Act*, the amount of all outstanding charges for water and sewer services are a lien and charge upon the land serviced and shall be collected in the same manner in which ordinary taxes upon the land are collectible, and with like remedies.

8. Disconnection for Non-Payment

The Public Utilities Board has approved the Conditions Precedent to be followed by the Municipality with respect to disconnection of service for non-payment including such matters as notice and the right to appeal such action to The Public Utilities Board. A copy of the conditions precedent is available for inspection at the Municipality's office.

9. Hydrant Charges

The Municipality of Harrison-Park or any other hydrant owner will pay to the Utility an annual fee of \$150.00 for each hydrant connected to the system which shall include the cost of water used for firefighting.

10. Sewage Dumping Charge

- a. Regular septic haulers are to remit to the Municipality of Harrison-Park an annual dumping fee of \$350.00 for dumping of septic tanks into the Onanole lagoon.
- b. Approved septic service haulers are to be provided a key to enter the lagoon and shall maintain a log of lagoon use, including the recording of septic service provided to residents located outside the boundaries of the Municipality of Harrison-Park.
- c. Septic service haulers shall remit \$20.00 per load for septage hauled from residents located outside the boundaries of the Municipality of Harrison-Park.

#### 11. Sewage Surcharges

- a) There may be levied annually, in addition to the rates set forth above, a special surcharge on sewage having a Biochemical Oxygen Demand in excess of 300 parts per million, to be set by Resolution of Council.
- b) A special surcharge for substances requiring special treatment shall be charged based on the actual costs of treatment required for the particular sewage or industrial waste.

#### 12. Meter Testing

That in any case where a utility customer requests that a meter be tested for accuracy, the customer will provide the Municipality with a deposit of \$200. The Municipality will then remove the subject meter and send it to an independent lab for testing. If the meter is found to be faulty, all costs associated with the testing process will be borne by the Municipality and the deposit will be refunded to the customer. If the meter is found to be in proper working order, all costs associated with the testing process will be borne by the customer and the customer will be billed or refunded any balance owing.

#### 13. Cross Connections

No customer or person shall connect, cause to be connected or allow to remain connected any piping, fixture, fitting, container or appliance in a manner which under any circumstances may allow water, wastewater or any harmful liquid or substance to enter the Municipality's water system.

If a condition is found to exist which, in the opinion of the Municipality, is contrary to the aforesaid, the Municipality may either:

Shut off the service or services; or

Give notice to the customer to correct the fault at his or her own expense within a specified time period.

#### 14. Conditions of Disrepair

In the event that there are conditions of disrepair in the sewer and water works on a property that detrimentally affects the system as a whole and, upon the failure of the owner of the property to correct the condition within a reasonable time, the Municipality, or its agents, may enter the property, effect repairs and charge the cost thereof against the subject property as ordinary taxes.

#### 15. Authorization For Officer To Enter Upon Premises

The Public Works Manager, or other employee authorized by the Municipality in the absence of the Public Works Manager, shall be authorized to enter upon any premise for the purpose of:

Affixing to any pipe, wire or apparatus connected with any such utility, a meter or any other measuring or testing device; or taking readings from, repairing, inspecting or removing any meter or apparatus belonging to the Municipality.