

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

**BYLAW NO. 2063**

A Bylaw to Regulate Connections to and Use of the District Waterworks System.

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WHEREAS the Council has established a municipal waterworks system, and

WHEREAS the Council has from time to time enacted regulations in respect of the use of the waterworks system including the manner in which water service connections may be made, and

WHEREAS the Council deems it appropriate to repeal and replace the regulations,

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the District of Central Saanich, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

**Interpretation**

1. In this bylaw,

"Commercial connection" means any water service connection that is not a residential, multiple residential, or non-municipal connection, that serves a single occupancy.

"Multiple commercial connection" means a commercial connection that is not a residential, multiple residential or non-municipal connection and that serves more than a single occupancy, and includes a connection that serves any combination of commercial, residential, industrial and institutional occupancies.

"Multiple residential connection" means any water service connection to premises containing more than one residential occupancy, including manufactured home parks and apartment buildings.

"Municipal Engineer" includes the authorized representative of the Municipal Engineer.

"Non-municipal connection" means any water service connection to premises located outside the boundaries of the District.

"Residential connection" means a water service connection that serves a single residential occupancy.

**Water Service Connections**

2. Any owner of real property or their authorized agent wishing to connect any building, structure or lands to the waterworks system of the District shall make a written application for a water service connection to the District in the form prescribed for that purpose from time to time, and pay the connection fee set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw.

3. If a water supply main in the highway fronting the real property in respect of which an application for connection has been made and there is sufficient water volume and pressure available in the waterworks system to service the connection, the District will install a water service connection from the water supply main to a point at the boundary of the real property. The diameter and location of every water service connection shall be at the sole discretion of the Municipal Engineer. Such service connection and any appurtenances including service boxes, water meters and curb stops shall, except as to any portion installed within the boundary of the real property, remain the property of the District.
4. The Municipal Engineer shall determine the date of installation of a water service connection requested under this Bylaw, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing may schedule the installation to coincide with weather conditions suitable for the work.
5. The District may refuse to provide a water service connection to real property if the plumbing systems on the property to which the connection would be made are not in compliance with Part 7 of the B.C. Building Code.
6. Any contractor wishing to make a temporary connection to a District hydrant on any business day shall obtain prior approval from the Municipal Engineer and pay the connection charge set out in Fees and Charges Bylaw. Any such connection shall be made after 8:30 a.m. on the day on which the connection is required, and disconnected before 4:30 p.m. on the same day.

#### **Water Charges and Metering**

7. Every person to whom water is supplied from the District waterworks system shall pay the basic charges and consumption charges set out Fees and Charges Bylaw that are applicable to the type of connection through which the water is supplied. A discount of ten percent (10%) shall be deducted from accounts paid in full within 45 days following the billing date. Unpaid charges may be collected in the same manner and with the same remedies as ordinary taxes on land and improvements under the Local Government Act, and any amount unpaid on December 31 of any year is deemed to be taxes in arrears.
8. For the first two tri-annual billing periods of 2020 (approximately January 1st to April 30th and May 1st to August 31st) due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a discount of ten percent (10%) shall be deducted from accounts paid in full within 90 days following the billing date.
9. Every person to whom water is supplied from the District waterworks system for fire protection purposes only shall pay the annual fee set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw. The charges shall be due and payable upon the issuance of the District's account, which shall be issued on the first billing date for water service charges in each calendar year. Unpaid charges may be collected in the same manner and with the same remedies as ordinary taxes on land and improvements under the Local Government Act, and any amount unpaid on December 31 of any year is deemed to be taxes in arrears.

10. The District may disconnect from the waterworks system any real property in respect of which fees and charges imposed under this Bylaw remain unpaid for more than 90 days by closing the curb stop in the water service connection, without notice to the owner or occupier of the premises affected, and may refuse to open the curb stop until all unpaid fees and charges including the reconnection charge set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw have been paid.
11. Any person who considers that the meter recording the supply of water to real property in respect of which that person is liable to pay charges imposed by this Bylaw is not recording properly, may request the District to cause the meter to be tested by making a written application for that purpose in a form prescribed for that purpose from time to time. If a recording error greater than 3% is observed the consumption for the corresponding billing periods from the previous calendar year water may be deemed to be the consumption for the current billing period and not more than one previous billing period. In all other cases no adjustment shall be made.
12. Any person wishing to have a water service temporarily disconnected may request such disconnection in writing in the form prescribed for that purpose from time to time, not less than two business days before the date of the requested disconnection, and the charges imposed by the Fees and Charges Bylaw shall not accrue between the date of the disconnection and the date the water service is reconnected in accordance with the request, provided that the person requesting the connection pays the reconnection fee set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw at the time of requesting the temporary disconnection.
13. In the event that a water leak occurs on real property connected to the waterworks system, Council Policy 10.FIN, Utility Accounts – Leaks and Adjustments will apply. Fees and charges to be applied are set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw.
14. Where any water meter fails to register or does not properly indicate the flow of water or is otherwise unable to be read, the District shall estimate the consumption of water for the effected period(s) and shall render an account to the customer. Estimates will be made in accordance with Council Policy 10.FIN, Utility Accounts – Leaks and Adjustments.
15. Any person wishing to change District's water service billing information as a result of the transfer of the real property to which a water service connection has been made, shall advise the Director of Financial Services of the District at least 14 days before the change is to become effective and pay the applicable fee set out in the Fees and Charges Bylaw.

#### **Conditions of Water Service**

16. Every owner and occupier of property connected to the waterworks system shall:
  - a) maintain, repair or replace as necessary any defective pipes, fittings, valves, tanks or appliances which are leaking, or are otherwise not in good repair such that they are a cause of waste of water;
  - b) protect all water service pipes on and within their premises from freezing;

- c) close the main water supply valve within any premises that are vacant;
  - d) where the water service connection has been made for the purpose of providing fire protection, use the connection only for fire protection purposes and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, not use the connection for domestic consumption or irrigation purposes; and
  - e) comply with such restrictions on water consumption as may be ordered from time to time by the Municipal Engineer or any other authority providing bulk water to the waterworks system.
17. The District may, without notice in the event of an emergency including a situation in which a significant waste of water is occurring, disconnect the water service to any real property whose owner or occupier is not in compliance with the requirements of this bylaw.
  18. No owner or occupier of real property connected to the waterworks system shall install any water-using appliance or plumbing system that does not comply with Part 7 of the B.C. Building Code.
  19. No person shall operate, interfere with or make an unauthorized connection to any part of the waterworks system including any pipe, fitting, meter or valve. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, no person shall, without authorization by the District, install any water service connection or operate the curb stop in any water service connection.
  20. The Municipal Engineer may from time to time, for the conservation of water, order restrictions on the consumption of water for any specified purpose, and may give notice of such restrictions by such means as are reasonable in the circumstances.
  21. The Municipal Engineer may at reasonable times enter on any premises which are connected to the waterworks system or in respect of which an application for a connection has been made, to determine whether the requirements of this bylaw are being or can be observed, and no person shall obstruct such entry. In the case of an emergency, the Municipal Engineer may enter on premises without notice to the owner or occupier, but in all other cases reasonable notice shall be given.
  22. Every owner of land to which water is supplied pursuant to this Bylaw shall clear or trim, within a three (3) foot diameter around, and four (4) feet above the water meter access, any bush, trees, weeds or other forms of vegetation growing on the land in such proximity to the water meter that it hinders or impedes access to the meter from the boulevard and shall remove any other thing which obstructs access to the meter.
  23. Where the Municipal Engineer finds any obstruction, brush, trees, weeds or other vegetation placed or growing on land contrary to subsection 22, he may give notice to the owner of the land requiring him or her to remove the offending obstruction or clear or trim the offending vegetation within a specified period of time in default of which the Municipality by its workers and others may enter upon the said lands and effect such removal at the expense of the owner and the charge for doing so, if unpaid on the 31st day of December in any year, shall be added to

and form part of the taxes payable in respect of that real property as taxes in arrears.

**Short Title and Repeal**

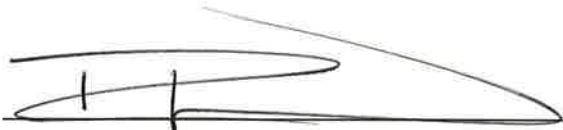
24. This Bylaw may be cited as "**Waterworks Regulation Bylaw No. 2063, 2020**".
25. "**Waterworks Regulation and Fee Bylaw No. 2045, 2020**" is hereby repealed.

READ A FIRST TIME on this            2<sup>nd</sup>    day of    November,            2020.

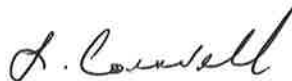
READ A SECOND TIME on this        2<sup>nd</sup>    day of    November,            2020.

READ A THIRD TIME on this        2<sup>nd</sup>    day of    November,            2020.

ADOPTED this                            16<sup>th</sup>    day of    November,            2020.



Ryan Windsor  
Mayor



Liz Cornwell  
Corporate Officer

