

**Minutes of the Special Review Committee  
Water Rates Meeting Held  
Monday, September 21, 2015**

**Present:** Councillor Maroosis, Committee Chair  
Councillor Bain, Committee Member  
Councillor Serran, Committee Member  
Mayor McDonald, Committee Member  
Councillor King, Guest (5:00 p.m to 6:00 p.m.)

**Staff Present:**

J. Knox, D. Euler, M. Karpenko, K. McIsaac.

Special Review Committee Chair, George Maroosis, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Items Discussed:**

1. Review and approval of September 14, 2015 Minutes of the Special Review Committee – Water Rates.  
*Direction: Minutes to be presented to Council.*
2. Next Meeting Dates:  
  
Monday, September 28, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. Council Chambers – Public Presentations  
  
Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom
3. Effective January 1, 2016 water rates will no longer be based on property classes but will be based on size of the water meter.
4. Policy re: Water Meter Size Rate:
  - David Euler provided a handout and went through the process in which a customer can make an application to the City to adjust their water meter size.
  - Councillor Maroosis suggested that all Applications should come before Council in order that Council can determine what applications are to be approved.
  - Mayor McDonald does not agree that a user fee should be charged for the Application within the first year.
  - Councillor Bain suggested that large water users be advised of this policy.
5. Policy re: Frozen Water Lines and “Brown” Water:
  - David Euler provided a handout and the current process in place re: frozen water lines and brown water.
6. Declining Block Structure:
  - Margaret Karpenko provided a handout entitled Assumptions and went through a declining block structure with examples.
  - A declining block structure will not be introduced.

7. Conservation/Subsidy/Assistance Programs

- Margaret Karpenko provided a handout entitled Incentive Programs Review which showed a comparison of various municipal programs.
- The following was discussed as criteria for the rebate:
  - The rebate will be \$50.00
  - Limit set at 1 per household
  - Original receipt required
  - Only for replacement, new construction does not qualify
  - Toilet must be paid for and installed prior to rebate
  - First come first serve basis
  - Must be connected to Municipal water system
  - Possible inspection by a municipal employee to ensure installation has taken place
  - Replacement toilets must be from EcoEnergy Eligible Model List
  - Replacement toilet have to have been purchased in 2016
- The application for rebate will be on the City's website to be completed and returned to the water department.
- The rebate will be shown on the water bill.
- Assistance Programs will be looked at in the future.
- This program will be funded from water capital reserve for an amount of up to \$100,000.00.

8. Capital costs or Firefighting costs transferred to Property Tax Budget:

- The Committee agreed that this is a matter that the Council should be reviewing during the budget process

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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Councillor George Maroosis  
Chair Special Review Committee  
Water Rates

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Deputy City Clerk Karen McIsaac