



City of Prince Albert

RPT 2017-84

TITLE: Water Meter Bypasses

DATE: September 21, 2017

TO: Executive Committee

PUBLIC: X

INCAMERA:

RECOMMENDATION:

That Administration develop a cap on the amount of water allowed under the boulevard agreements to reduce the cost of the overall program.

That Administration bring the proposed water cap back to Council for approval once prepared.

TOPIC & PURPOSE:

To provide council with information on water accounts with bypasses resulting in unmetered and unbilled water consumption.

BACKGROUND:

Investigations on water loss have been ongoing as part of the City's Continuous Utility Improvement Plan. Part of these investigations include site inspections. It has been discovered that a building on 2nd Avenue West has a bypass line installed that runs by the meter for the purpose of irrigation.

REPORT:

During an inspection it was discovered that there was a water line that wasn't connected through the water meter. The city plumber was asked to come to offer his expertise and felt that the bypass line was an irrigation line. We reached out to the business for clarification. The business has been corporative in supplying information regarding the plumbing installation

which confirms that line is used for irrigation. We do not have a valid landscape agreement on file for this account which allows free use of water for the purpose of irrigation.

This is only one discovery of this nature at this time. A joint force with Community Services and Financial Services will be formed to gather information regarding landscape agreements and identify areas of water loss.

PUBLIC AND/OR STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT:

As more inspection are completed the affected parties will be notified on any findings.

COMMUNICATION PLAN:

Written communication to any affected account holders will be issued along with an invitation to come discuss any relevant information.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This report supports the long-term strategy to increase revenue sources and reduce reliance on residential property taxes under the Strategic Goal of Fiscal Management and Accountability.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Though water loss identification we can expect to capture lost revenue.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS/IMPLICATIONS:

Options to Recommendation, Official Community Plan, Policy Implications and Privacy Implications have been removed as there are none.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Public Notice pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 24 of 2015 is not required.

PRESENTATION: VERBAL

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Sample water meter bypass

Written by: Natara Kulcher, Service Delivery Coordinator

Approved by: Director of Finance, Director of Community Services and City Manager

