

Town of Eatonia Statement of Policy and Procedure			
Subject:	Water and Sewer Line Repair and Replacement Policy	Policy No:	20
Date of Council Approval:	September 14, 2021	Resolution No.	14/9/21

1. Purpose:

To provide a guideline for staff regarding water and sewer line repairs and replacement.

2. Scope:

That Section 25(2) of *The Municipalities Act* provides the following:

As a term of supplying the public utility service to the parcel of land, the council may make the owner of the parcel of land responsible for the costs of the construction, maintenance, repair and replacement of the portion of the service connection from the main line of the system or works to the boundary of the street, road or easement.

And Section 25(3) of *The Municipalities Act* provides as follows:

If the council acts pursuant to subsection (2), the costs mentioned in that subsection are an amount owing to the municipality by the owner of the parcel of land.

3. Definitions:

- a) **"Lateral Lines"** are those sewer and water lines which extend from the building to the main line;
- b) **"Main Lines"** are the large water and sewer main pipes located in the street;
- c) **"Town"** is the Town of Eatonia.

4. General Guidelines:

- a) It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the water lateral line to the property line, except for the curb stops. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the sewer lateral line to the property line for repairs and maintain the sewer lateral line to the main line for cleaning or unplugging the line.

- b) It is the responsibility of the property owner to contact the Town Public Works to inspect the sewer or water lateral lines to determine the location of the blockage or repair.
- c) The property owner may hire a contractor to complete the repair of the water and/or sewer lateral lines on the property owner's portion but the Public Works Foreman shall inspect the line(s) before the trench is backfilled to ensure the work meets Town specifications.
- d) Replacement or repair of curb stops, water meters and the outside water meter reader shall be done by the Town at no cost to the property owner unless the repairs or replacement is caused by negligence of the property owner or renter, then all costs will be the responsibility of the property owner.
- e) Lead water lines will be dealt with on a special basis by council resolution.
- f) The Town shall pay the costs of cleaning the main sewer line.
- g) The property owner shall pay the costs of cleaning or unplugging the sewer lateral line from the building to the main line.
- h) The Town will not pay the costs of a replacement of a sewer or water lateral line unless the repair needed is the direct result of a failure of the line on town owned property. For a sewer line, this does not include a minor slump in a line or tree roots which may cause a blockage or a slowdown and for a water line, this does not include increasing the size of the line.
- i) All costs for repairs to pavement and curbing due to the repairs or replacement of a water and/or sewer lateral line as a direct result of a failure of the line(s) will be the responsibility of the Town. All costs for repairs to the pavement and curbing due to the replacement of the water and/or sewer lateral line for anything other than a failure of the line(s) will be the responsibility of the property owner.
- j) The Town Public Works may complete a sewer cleaning at a minimum fee as set out in the Custom Work Rate Schedule plus applicable taxes from Monday through Friday, during regular working hours. In the event that a water or sewer lateral line problem is encountered after hours or on a weekend, the Town Public Works may attend to the problem if available, at the minimum fee set out in the Custom Work Rate Schedule. The individual shall be advised of this fee prior to the Public Works completing the fee. Public Works has the discretion to refuse to enter a property to complete water and/or sewer line work.