**POLICY NAME:** Water and Sewer Repair/Blockage Policy

**POLICY NO.:** 700-11

**DATE ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, resolution 2022-

**DATE AMENDED/REVIEWED:**

**PURPOSE:**

To provide a guideline for Administration regarding water and sewer line repairs and are subject to any other agreement or resolution of Council.

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) *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.*

**POLICY:**

1. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the water line to the property line, except for the curb stops. It is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain the sewer line to the sewer main.
   1. Upon discovery of a water or sewer issue it is the responsibility of the property owner/resident to notify the Town Office.
   2. It is the responsibility of Public Works staff to tend to the issue and determine if the issue lies within the main line or the secondary line. A recommended course of action will be determined by the public works staff following review of the issue.
   3. If Town of Lemberg Office is not made aware of the issue and Public Works is not present while the work is being completed the financial responsibility, in its entirety, will fall on the property owner.
2. All costs for repairs to, or replacement of, water lines between the main line and property curb stop will be the responsibility of the Town of Lemberg. The water line between curb stop and the property is the responsibility of the property owner.
3. All costs for repairs to, or replacement of, sewer lines between the main line and residence as determined by a Town representative, will be the responsibility of the property owner.
4. It is the responsibility of the property owner to contact a Plumber and Town Office to ensure both are present at the time of the repair to ensure location of the blockage or break is clearly defined.
   1. If Town of Lemberg Office is not made aware of the issue and Public Works is not present while the work is being completed the financial responsibility, in its entirety, will fall on the property owner.
5. The property owner shall hire a contractor to complete the work on his/her property. The Public Works Foreman will inspect the line before the trench is backfilled to ensure the work meets Town specifications.
6. Replacement or repair of curb stops shall be done by the Town at no cost to the property owner.
7. The Town shall pay the costs of cleaning the sewer main line.
8. The property owner shall pay the costs of cleaning or unplugging the sewer connection to the sewer main.
9. The Town of Lemberg Public Works Department may complete sewer cleaning work at a fee as outlined in the most current Fees and Charges Bylaw. The individual shall be advised of this fee prior to the Town completing the work. Public Works has the discretion to refuse to enter a property to complete water and/or sewer line work.
10. If the same blockage occurs three (3) times, a sewer camera will be put down the line to determine the extent of the blockage, at no cost to the property owner. If the line requires repair or replacement, work will be completed as per the following:
    1. If the sewer line must be repaired or replaced, the property owner shall be responsible for 100% of the costs up to the sewer main.
    2. The property owner shall hire a contractor to complete the work on his/her property. The Public Works Foreman will inspect the line before the trench is backfilled to ensure the work meets Town specifications.
    3. If the water line must be repaired of replaced, the property owner shall be responsible for 100% of the costs up to the property line.
11. If the water line must be repaired or replaced, the property owner shall be responsible for 100% of the costs up to their property line.
12. Water breaks will be repaired as soon as possible. If the break occurs on a weekend and no employees are available, the company appointed by the Town for Backhoe and other equipment services shall do the excavation. People, who are affected by the break, will be notified at least one hour prior to the water being shut off if possible. In cases where the break is major, it may be necessary to shut the water off without notification.
13. The owner of the parcel of land may qualify for financing with the Town of Lemberg for major maintenance, repair, or replacement.