

2020 Rate-Supported Budget Highlights

Waterworks

Water rate increases are in accordance with the long-term Water Authority Financial Plan approved in July 2018. The Financial Plan has been prepared in accordance with provincial legislation and maintains the City's water rates at affordable levels overall and provides a sustainable water system that will provide safe drinking water today and into the future.

For 2020, the water rate increase is 4.0% over 2019 rates.

For the average household using 200 cubic meters of water in a year, the water rate increase represents an annual increase of \$25.72, with the daily cost for water services averaging \$1.78 a day.

Wastewater (Sewer)

Wastewater surcharges will remain at 90% of the total water fixed and volumetric charge consistent with the Wastewater System 20 Year Financial Plan that was approved in 2015.

For 2020, the wastewater surcharge increase is 4.0% over 2019 rates.

For the average household with sewer service, the surcharge increase represents an annual increase of \$23.15, with the daily cost averaging \$1.60 per day.

Affordability

Thunder Bay water and wastewater rates remain affordable. For the average Thunder Bay household, the total costs for sewer and water average \$1,235 for 2020, or 1.4% of median household income, based on 2015 Statistics Canada data. The industry standard is that rates are affordable for a combined water/sewer bill of 4% of median household income.

Water & Wastewater Rates 2020 vs. 2019

Average Residential Household - consumption@ 200 m³ per year

		2019	2020	Increase Year	Cost per Day
Water	Fixed Rate (\$/yr)	283.97	296.09	12.12	0.81
	Volumetric (\$/200m ³)	340.40	354.00	13.60	0.97
	Total Water (200m³)	624.37	650.09	25.72	1.78
Wastewater	90% Sewer Surcharge	561.93	585.08	23.15	1.60
	Total Water & Wastewater	1,186.30	1,235.18	48.88	3.37

Solid Waste (Landfill)

The minimum charge for a trip to the Landfill remains at \$10 and is applicable on loads up to 130kg. Tonnage charge for loads over 130kg will increase 3.0% to \$79.26/tonne. A 200 kilogram load of waste will cost \$0.46 more than in 2019.