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Arnprior Approves Water & Wastewater Financial Plan

Arnprior, ON. The Town of Arnprior provides safe drinking water to almost 3300 customer accounts. Arnprior’s water and sewer systems have consistently received the highest possible ratings by the province as well as independent auditors. The cost of a bottle of water can range from \$1.25 to \$2.50 to purchase at a store, whereas Arnprior produces the same amount of water with more rigorous testing and treatment for 1/10 of one penny.

The Province of Ontario requires that all municipalities develop a Water Financial Plan in part to ensure that drinking water is delivered safely to its users and also to ensure that adequate funds are available to replace aging water infrastructure. On November 9, 2015, Arnprior Council approved its Water & Wastewater Financial Plan. “The plan was carefully designed to help protect rate payers from large increases to water and sewer rate charges by introducing modest annual increases which average \$2.50 per month (or \$30/year) for the average user.” said Mayor David Reid. Mayor Reid confirmed that “Even with these modest increases, Arnprior’s water and sewer rates remain lower than many of our municipal comparators who have yet to implement their upcoming 2016 increases.”

Comparison of Annual Municipal Water & Sewer Rates Based on annual average use of 172 cu. m consumption 5/8" or 3/4" Meter			
Municipality	Water	Wastewater	Total
Bonnechere Valley (2015 rate)	\$617.88	\$617.88	\$1,235.76
Renfrew (2015 rate)	\$599.80	\$573.18	\$1,172.98
North Grenville (2015 rate)	\$537.04	\$537.04	\$1,074.08
Pembroke (2015 rate)	\$390.80	\$623.80	\$1,014.60
Mississippi Mills (2015 rate)	\$463.47	\$463.47	\$926.94
Carleton Place (2015 rate)	\$447.28	\$447.28	\$894.56
Arnprior (2016 new)	\$398.55	\$359.73	\$758.28

The Town has over **\$145,000,000** of water and sewer infrastructure which will need to be replaced over the coming decades. The planned modest annual monthly increases will position the Town to move forward on approximately **\$27,500,000** of capital replacement of aging water and sewer infrastructure as well as new infrastructure related to growth over the next 10 years. The new Financial Plan also takes into account annual Operating Costs to deliver safe drinking water, repayment towards previous water and sewer plant expansions, as well as annual inflation.

The full Water and Wastewater Financial Plan can be found on the Arnprior website at: <http://arnprior.ca/wp-system/uploads/2013/12/By-Law-6521-15-Water-Financial-Plan-November-3-2015.pdf>

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