



AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Monday, November 23, 2020, 11:30 a.m.

Via Teleconference Hosted in the Council Chamber, Saskatoon City Hall

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Recommendation

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4. REPORTS

4.1. Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate [File No. CK 1905-3]

2 - 3

An approval report of the Administration is provided.

Recommendation

1. That the implementation of the Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate for Saskatoon Light & Power customers, as outlined in the report of the General Manager, Environment & Utilities dated November 23, 2020, be approved; and
2. That the City Solicitor be instructed to amend Bylaw No. 2685, The Electric Light and Power Bylaw, 1940, specifically to identify that a Minimum Bill may be calculated as the service charge, less applicable rebates.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate

ISSUE

The Government of Saskatchewan announced a new rebate on electricity that will be effective December 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021. This will be a 10% rebate to customers on electrical charges.

The purpose of this report is to provide details on this rebate program and request that the City Solicitor be instructed to amend Bylaw No. 2685, The Electric Light and Power Bylaw, 1940.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That City Council approve the implementation of the Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate for Saskatoon Light & Power customers, as outlined in this report; and
2. That the City Solicitor be instructed to amend Bylaw No. 2685, The Electric Light and Power Bylaw, 1940, specifically to identify that a Minimum Bill may be calculated as the service charge, less applicable rebates.

BACKGROUND

The Government of Saskatchewan has decided to implement the Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate on December 1, 2020, and will continue to provide this rebate until November 30, 2021. Saskatoon Light & Power (SL&P) will provide an equivalent rebate for its customers which will be reimbursed by the provincial government.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate will be a 10% rebate on electrical charges, which includes service, electric, and demand charges. It will not apply to the Municipal Surcharge or the Carbon Tax Charge. The rebate will apply to all customer classes.

SL&P has historically set rates to match SaskPower's, to ensure there are no inequities between citizens in Saskatoon regardless of their electrical service provider. SL&P will be reimbursed through SaskPower on a monthly basis to offset the cost of providing this rebate to our customers.

The two utilities itemize their rates slightly different on customer bills. SL&P includes the 10% Municipal Surcharge in its rates, while SaskPower shows this as a separate line item. Since the 10% Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate is not applicable to the Municipal Surcharge, the rebate realized by SL&P customers will only be calculated based on the portion of the rate excluding the Municipal Service Charge. This will ensure that all customers will receive the same rebate amount.

The Saskatchewan Economic Recovery Rebate will be shown on utility bills as a separate line item.

The rebate will also apply for customers who only pay the minimum charge. In these situations, the charge will be less than the minimum charge amount stated in Bylaw No 2685, The Electric Light and Power Bylaw, 1940. The bylaw will require an amendment to implement this rebate for customers who pay only the minimum bill in any given month during the term of the rebate. Without changing the Bylaw, those paying the minimum would not receive the benefit of the rebate.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Between December 1, 2020, and November 30, 2021, this rebate is expected to have a \$1,187,900 positive impact to mill rate programs and a \$628,600 positive impact to Utility Programs. The rebate will be cost neutral for SL&P.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There is no public and/or stakeholder involvement, policy, environment, privacy, or CPTED considerations or implications.

Public Notice pursuant to Section 3 of Policy No. C01-021, Public Notice Policy, is not required.

NEXT STEPS

Should City Council adopt the recommendations of this report, the City Solicitor would prepare the necessary bylaw amendments for adoption.

Customers will be notified of this rebate through a Public Service Announcement. The City website will also be updated to reflect details on this rebate.

Report Approval

Written by: Trista Gartner, Accounting Coordinator II
Reviewed by: Trevor Bell, Director of Saskatoon Light & Power
Approved by: Angela Gardiner, General Manager, Utilities & Environment