



The Corporation of Haldimand County

Special Council Agenda

Date: December 4, 2025

Time: 9:30 A.M.

Location: Council Chambers - Haldimand County Administration Building

Some agenda documents may not be accessible to all users. If you require an attached document in an alternative format, please contact accessibility@haldimandcounty.ca or call 905.318.5932 for assistance.

Pages

A. Call to Order

B. Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Bentley

C. Roll Call

D. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

E. New Business

1. 2026 Draft Water and Wastewater Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast

[Online 2026 Draft Water and Wastewater Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast](#)

1. Opening Remarks

M. Di Lullo, Chief Administrative Officer

2. FIN-24-2025 2026 Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast

1

THAT Report FIN-24-2025 2026 Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast be received;

AND THAT the 2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast be received;

AND THAT the 2026 Rate Supported Water Operating Budget be approved, with a net revenue requirement from user rates of \$9,780,660;

AND THAT the 2026 Rate Supported Wastewater Operating Budget be approved, with a net revenue requirement from user rates of \$8,144,310;

AND THAT any 2026 rate supported net operating surpluses/deficits be contributed to or from the Water or Sewer Rate Stabilization Reserves, to a maximum reserve balance of 25% of applicable rate revenue, with amounts exceeding 25% for four years in a row contributed to the applicable Capital Replacement Reserve Fund;

AND THAT the appropriate by-laws be passed to reflect changes in User Fees and Miscellaneous Charges, as identified in the 2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast, effective January 1st, 2026;

AND THAT the budgets and related financing be approved for the proposed 2026 water and wastewater capital expenditures, in the amount of \$23,504,500 with projected debenture financing of \$0;

AND THAT the Capital Forecast for Rate Supported Services, for the years 2027 to 2035 be approved in principle, in the amount of \$155,923,730 with projected debenture financing of \$0;

AND THAT Development Related Debt be issued on existing and future projects as outlined in the 2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast;

AND THAT Council approves the Reserve Transfers as outlined in the approved budget document.

F. By-laws

THAT By-law 1 as listed, be enacted.

1. Being a by-law to establish water and wastewater fees and service charges and to repeal By-law 2568/24

9

G. Confirming By-law

23

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County

THAT the Confirmation By-law for the December 4, 2025 Special Council meeting be enacted.

H. Adjournment

THAT this meeting is now adjourned at _____ p.m.

Haldimand County

Report FIN-24-2025 2026 Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast



For Consideration by Special Council on December 4, 2025

Objective:

To provide Council with a high level summary of the 2026 Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast.

Recommendations:

1. THAT Report FIN-24-2025 2026 Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast be received;
2. AND THAT the 2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast be received;
3. AND THAT the 2026 Rate Supported Water Operating Budget be approved, with a net revenue requirement from user rates of \$9,780,660;
4. AND THAT the 2026 Rate Supported Wastewater Operating Budget be approved, with a net revenue requirement from user rates of \$8,144,310;
5. AND THAT any 2026 rate supported net operating surpluses/deficits be contributed to or from the Water or Sewer Rate Stabilization Reserves, to a maximum reserve balance of 25% of applicable rate revenue, with amounts exceeding 25% for four years in a row contributed to the applicable Capital Replacement Reserve Fund;
6. AND THAT the appropriate by-laws be passed to reflect changes in User Fees and Miscellaneous Charges, as identified in the 2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast, effective January 1st, 2026;
7. AND THAT the budgets and related financing be approved for the proposed 2026 water and wastewater capital expenditures, in the amount of \$23,504,500 with projected debenture financing of \$0;
8. AND THAT the Capital Forecast for Rate Supported Services, for the years 2027 to 2035 be approved in principle, in the amount of \$155,923,730 with projected debenture financing of \$0;
9. AND THAT Development Related Debt be issued on existing and future projects as outlined in the 2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast;
10. AND THAT Council approves the Reserve Transfers as outlined in the approved budget document.

Prepared by: Heather Love, CPA, Supervisor, Budgets & Financial Planning

Reviewed by: Tareq El-Ahmed, CPA, Treasurer

Respectfully submitted: Mark Merritt, CPA, CA, General Manager, Financial Services

Approved: Michael Di Lullo, MPA, CMM III, Chief Administrative Officer

Executive Summary:

Haldimand County is responsible for the purification and distribution of potable water to its users and the collection and treatment of the resulting wastewater. This system is fully funded by the users, with no financial support from property taxes. Capital infrastructure is funded from user rates with offsetting funding from Development Charges and financial assistance from other levels of Government when available. The 2026 Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast (Rate Budget) being presented for Council's consideration on December 4, 2025 contains the operational and capital water and wastewater requirements for 2026, as well as the forecasted capital needs for 2027-2035.

As Haldimand County's budget process now falls under the Strong Mayor's Powers, a review of the proposed timelines for 2026 was completed. Mayoral direction was provided to staff to present the budget with the intention that they would follow standard Haldimand County budget processes as closely as possible. There are elements within Strong Mayor Powers that allow this process to be further streamlined and follow Haldimand County's regular budgeting process more closely. This involves shortening some of the review periods allowed for under the Act, in order for the budget to be reviewed and approved by Council on the date it is to be presented. Through report FIN-19-2025, two recommendations were approved to shorten the review and override periods in order for the 2026 Rate Budget to be reviewed and approved on December 4, 2025.

A new rate study was conducted in 2025 and presented to Council on October 28th, 2025 through report FIN-21-2025 - Water and Wastewater Rate Model and Financial Plan Update. Included in the Rate Budget are the end user rates required to fund the applicable systems, as driven by the principles approved through the new study, many of which remain unchanged from the previous study conducted in 2013. The rates included in the draft budget vary slightly from what was projected through the rate study and presented to Council in October. The model forecasted an average monthly rate increase of 3.69% over the 10 year forecast, while the 2026 draft budget includes an average residential impact of 4.07% (\$3.67) per month. The differences between these two figures will be discussed in more detail in the Finance section of this report.

Though the "behind the scenes" calculations that determine the end user rates can be quite complex, the drivers of water and wastewater rates can be grouped into just a few categories. By looking at the drivers in this way, it can assist in better understanding how the rates are determined. There are three main factors that impact the rates annually:

- (i) increase/decreases in gross costs;
- (ii) increases/decreases in miscellaneous revenues (i.e. bulk services, industrial recoveries, etc.); and
- (iii) changes in annual consumptions/number of customers. How these drivers impact the 2026 Rate Budget are highlighted in this report, with further details provided in the budget book.

If approved, the water and wastewater rates included in the current Special Council agenda package would be effective January 1, 2026.

Background:

This report and supporting budget book will provide Council with information required to deliberate the 2026 Rate Supported Operating Budget and Capital Forecast and associated revisions to user rates and miscellaneous fees and charges. Haldimand County staff undertake a comprehensive budget review process to ensure operational requirements are being met in a fiscally responsible manner.

External Influences on the Systems

The Rate Budget is highly legislated, these legislated requirements include:

Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002

This act recognizes that the people of Ontario are entitled to expect their drinking water to be safe, provides for the protection of human health and the prevention of drinking-water health hazards through the control and regulation of drinking-water systems and drinking-water testing.

Statutory Standard of Care [Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, Section 19]

Extends legal responsibility to Council requiring them to exercise the level of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would be expected to exercise in a similar situation while acting honestly, competently and with integrity.

Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS)

Ontario municipalities are required to comply with the Provinces Drinking Water Quality Management Standard (DWQMS) that was established in the wake of the Walkerton tragedy. The standard includes 21 elements that municipalities must comply with and covers a variety of operational, risk management, documentation, evaluation and process related tasks. The Standard of Care confers to municipal councils a responsibility to ensure that they have a functioning and effective DWQMS. Staff continually work to strengthen this system and ensure the County remains in compliance with this requirement.

Financial Plans [Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, Section 30.]

Requires financial plans respecting the cost of water and waste water services be prepared in line with requirements set out in the Sustainable Water and Sewage Systems Act, 2002.

Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure, O.Reg 588/17 [Infrastructure for Jobs and Prosperity Act, 2015]

This regulation prescribes information to be used when planning for municipal infrastructure. Water and Wastewater assets are considered “Core” in the Asset Management Plan.

Updated Rate Study

Haldimand County has completed a comprehensive update to its Water and Wastewater Rate Study and Water Financial Plan, prepared by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd, which was presented to Council on October 28, 2025 through report FIN-21-2025. These documents provide a strategic framework to guide Haldimand’s water and wastewater service delivery and cost recovery, ensuring long-term financial sustainability, regulatory compliance, and equity between all users. The updated rate model and financial plan reflect current infrastructure needs and forecasted growth, while maintaining Haldimand’s commitment to full cost recovery and minimizing cross- subsidization between user groups. The Rate Study builds upon foundational principles established in the 2013 review, reaffirming methodologies such as the 50/50 fixed-variable revenue model, meter equivalency ratios, and functional cost allocation methodologies.

Strong Mayor Powers and the Budget Process

As of May 1, 2025, the Government of Ontario expanded strong mayor powers to Haldimand County. As part of the strong mayor powers, Mayor Bentley has a duty to prepare and propose the budget before February 1, 2026.

The Rate Budget must be presented prior to December 31st, 2025 in order for the related rate changes to be implemented and in effect as of January 1st, 2026. Therefore, this budget will need to follow the protocols under Strong Mayor Powers, as it falls before the budget presentation deadline of February 1st stipulated in the legislation. Typically under this process, once the Mayor proposes the budget, Council has 30 days to meet and pass resolutions to amend the budget. If there are no amendments within the 30 day time period, the budget is deemed to have been adopted. Following the amendment period, the Mayor has 10 calendar days to veto budget amendments.

Strong Mayor Powers does allow for amendments to this time frame, which would allow the rate budget to be presented and passed prior to December 31, 2025, and allow for standard County budget processes to be followed. In order to accommodate this, a resolution was passed through FIN-19-2025 to:

- Shorten the budget review period from 30 to 0 days; and
- Shorten the veto period from 10 to 0 days.

By doing so, Council can review and approved the rate budget as presented on December 4th.

Analysis:

There are limited financing sources available to the County to fund the necessary infrastructure replacements. As the water and wastewater systems are 100% self-funded from the users, there are limited customers to spread the burden of expensive project expenditures across (approximately 11,645 water users and 11,527 wastewater users in total anticipated in 2026). As the individual systems are funded specifically from the users of the relative systems (i.e. water users pay 100% of infrastructure costs related to the water system and wastewater users pay 100% of infrastructure costs related to wastewater systems), the funding sources are different for the two systems. The sources of financing for specific projects depend on the availability of funds and the nature of the capital projects. A long range plan was developed independently for water and wastewater infrastructure needs based on the 10 year forecasted costs. These principles are a major step towards sustainability and lifecycle costing of infrastructure needs.

Major Rate Impacts

Though the "behind the scenes" calculations that determine the end user rates can be quite complex, the drivers of water and wastewater rates can be grouped into just a few categories. By looking at the drivers in this way, it can assist in better understanding how the rates are calculated, and what is causing changes year over year.

Customer Base and Consumption Trends

- As 50% of the system costs are recovered by base/fixed charges, the more users there are on the system, the more these costs can be spread across, thus reducing the impact on the end user.
- The other 50% is recovered by consumption charges, meaning, the more water used overall, the lower the overall costs to the end users. However, should consumption trend downwards (ex. through conservation efforts or the loss of an industrial customer), the opposite would occur, and the end user could expect their consumption rates to rise.

2026 Impact: A thorough analysis of water and wastewater customers and their consumption was completed as part of the 2025 rate study. As a result, further refinement to the customer base has been incorporated in to the 2026 budget. Furthermore, a review of consumption trends shows the average residential consumption decreasing.

Net Operating Expenses

Net operating expenses are the total operating expenses, less any miscellaneous, non-metered revenue (i.e. bulk water, septic/holding charges, etc.). With budget impacts being spread over a limited number of customers, even small increases can have an impact on the end user. A 1% impact on the end user is approximately \$171,250 (\$89,820 water; \$81,430 wastewater).

- Increases in operating expenses will lead to higher rates, as these costs need to be spread over the same users.
- Increased miscellaneous revenues would have the opposite effect, and would assist in relieving pressures on the system users.

2026 Impact: A summary of the 2026 net operating expenditures has been provided below:

Operational Expenditure Drivers

The Rate Budget includes additional water operating expenditures of approximately \$620,000, mainly driven by:

- Hamilton water contract increases of \$286,000;
- Hydro increases of \$63,000;
- Base salaries increases of \$61,000; and
- Operations contract increases of \$55,000.

A summary of the operational water drivers can be found in Figure 1 below.

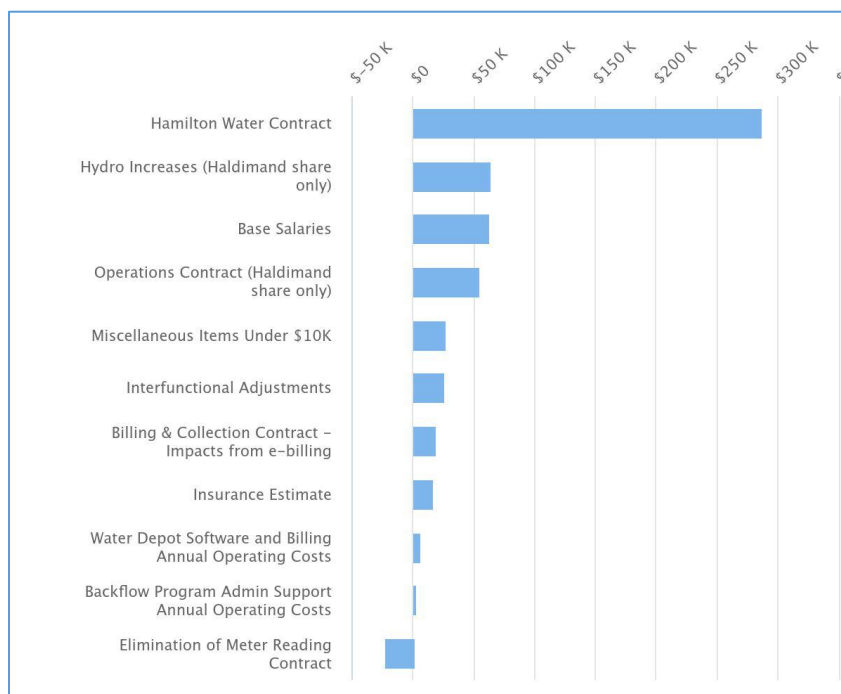


Figure 1: Water Operational Drivers

The Rate Budget includes additional wastewater operating expenditures of approximately \$442,000, mainly driving by:

- Operations contract increases of \$289,000 – including a substantial increase in sludge hauling and repair and maintenance costs; and
- Hydro increases of \$44,000.

A summary of the operational wastewater drivers can be found in Figure 2 below.

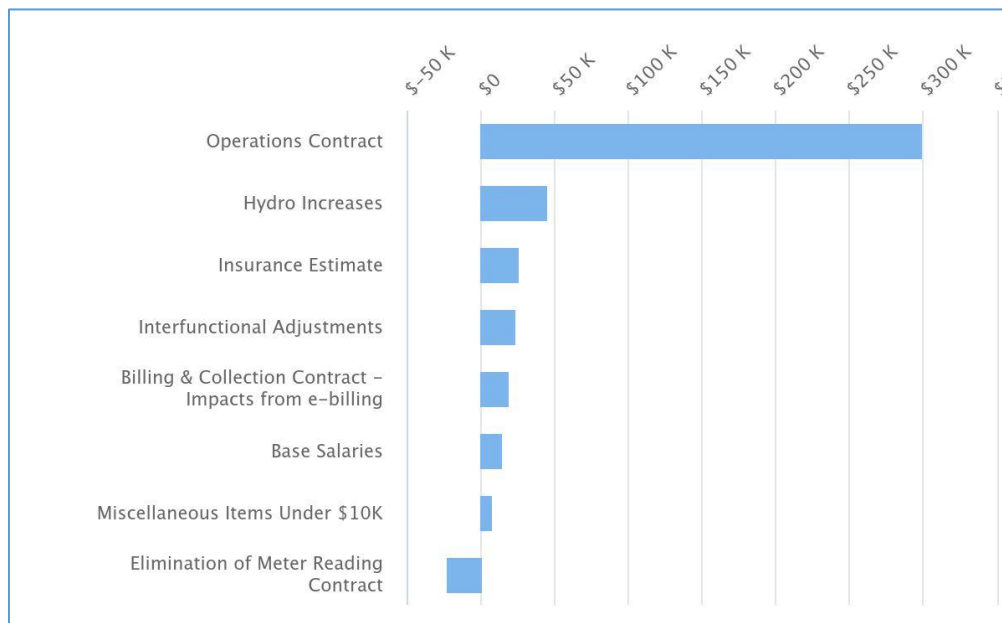


Figure 2: Wastewater Operational Drivers

Miscellaneous Operational Revenues:

Miscellaneous non-metered user fees have been indexed at 3% for 2026. An exception to these are the changes to special charges, including bulk water charges and fire protection. These fees were reviewed in further detail in the rate study, and as a result, there are changes to these fees in 2026.

The study addressed cost reallocation for services such as fire protection, leachate treatment, bulk water, and septic/holding haulage, ensuring that users pay in proportion to their system impact. The bulk water rate is proposed to decrease by 22.5%, from \$3.53/m³ to \$2.74/m³, resulting in a projected revenue reduction of approximately \$365,500. Conversely, the holding/septic rate is set to increase by 11.64%, from \$16.88/m³ to \$18.95/m³, which reflects the reintroduction of capital costs for a future Dunnville receiving station replacement, and is now incorporated into the single, blended rate structure and will support lifecycle replacement costs to ensure long-term sustainability of this service.

These fees form part of the user fee schedules, included in the current Special Council agenda package. If approved, these rates will be effective January 1, 2026.

Capital Financing

Capital financing consists of the debt, reserves, and offsetting funding (i.e. development charges and grants) required to finance the capital plan. Historically, the Rate Supported budget has included a standard 1% additional allocation in capital financing to help fund the water and wastewater capital plan. This additional 1% has been allocated to the water reserve for the past number of years.

The process for funding the capital program was reviewed as part of the 2025 rate study, and as a result, amendments were made to how this financing is included in the budget. The rates included in the new study are the rates required to fund all operating and capital expenditures, offset by non-metered revenues. The rate model also incorporates established reserve principles, with the end result being a shift away from the 1% impact related to capital financing from prior years, replaced with a more accurate contribution required to meet the needs of the 10 year forecast.

Changes to the capital plan could also result in shifts to the end user rates, as the amount of financing required to fulfill the capital plan would come directly from contributions from the system users. Unidentified capital needs, or increases to costs for existing projects in the capital forecast could also require further capital financing to be allocated to the capital program in order for the related reserves to have sufficient funding to meet the demands on the water and wastewater infrastructure assets.

2026 Impact: As a result of the new rate study, and the requirements of the 2026-2035 capital forecast, the water capital reserve is seeing a reduction of approximately \$328,000 in 2026, while the wastewater capital reserve is seeing a reduction of approximately \$484,000. In addition to this, the rate study also recommended a one-time infusion to the water capital reserve of \$1.4 million from the water rate stabilization reserve. This recommendation has been included in the draft budget. The 2026-2035 capital forecast contains expenditures of \$179 million, with \$72 million related to the water systems, and \$107 million related to the wastewater systems. These projects are funded from a variety of sources, including capital reserves, development charges, development charges related debt, and grants.

Financial/Legal Implications:

The Draft Rate Supported Operating Budget incorporates both the requirements to meet the operational needs for both the water and wastewater system, as well as the majority of the financing needs to meet the current planned capital forecast. Any significant changes to rate impact categories discussed above (customer base and consumption, net operating expenses, and capital financing) will ultimately impact the rates required from the end users.

The rate study presented to Council on October 28th noted an average impact on users of 3.69% over a 10 year period. This 10 year impact is the lens in which the rate study was fundamentally developed and approved, rather than the individual increases between two years. Though the 2026 draft impact is 4.07%, the new draft budget figures and forecasted amounts result in a 10 year average impact of 3.85%. Staff continue to utilize the approved 6% “average” increase year-over-year on the water side and 2% “average” increase year-over-year on the wastewater side presented in the study, so any end user impacts are solely due to differences in customers and volumes between the rate study and the budget. There are three main factors driving these differences:

- Lower than anticipated residential growth in 2025;
- Better customer information, specifically lower commercial wastewater customers; and
- A correction in one large industrial customer’s wastewater usage.

Due to the full cost-recovery methodology, any shift in one customer group’s numbers has an offsetting impact on the other groups, including residential, for the same amount of total revenue to be collected.

While both the water and wastewater capital reserves meet Haldimand County’s financial principles up until 2033, after this point the water capital reserve deficit exceeds the 25% of annual contributions threshold throughout the remainder of the forecast. The rate study recommendations of 6% and 2% align with reserve principles, but the draft capital budget came in higher than the 2025 approved

budget and forecast, causing a strain on the reserve balance, resulting in non-compliance with the reserve principles.

As the capital budget continues to better align with Haldimand County's asset management requirements it can be anticipated that this information will continue to change over time. Having an accurate capital forecast is a critical component to ensuring the reliability and accuracy of the rate structure under the principles of the new rate study.

Stakeholder Impacts:

Haldimand County has a responsibility to present a fiscally sustainable budget based on sound financial principals. Given the limited user group of the water and wastewater systems, presenting a fair and equitable water and wastewater budget that meets both the operational and long term financial needs of the users of the systems is critical. The updated rate model, as reflected in the 2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast reflect current infrastructure needs and forecasted growth, while maintaining Haldimand's commitment to full cost recovery and minimizing cross- subsidization between user groups.

Report Impacts:

Agreement: No

By-law: Yes

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

References:

1. [2026 Draft Rate Supported Water and Wastewater Operating Budget and Capital Forecast](#)
2. [FIN-19-2025 2026 Rate Supported Budget – Update on Timelines](#)
3. [FIN-21-2025 Water Wastewater Rate Model and Financial Plan Update](#)
4. [Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002](#)
5. [O. Reg. 169/03 Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards](#)
6. [O. Reg. 588/17 Asset Management Planning for Municipal Infrastructure](#)

Attachments:

None.

Reference: FIN-24-2025

THE CORPORATION OF HALDIMAND COUNTY

By-law Number /25

Being a by-law to establish water and wastewater fees and service charges and to repeal By-law 2568/24

WHEREAS Section 391 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, (the Act) provides that a municipality may pass by-laws imposing fees or charges for services or activities provided, for costs payable for services or activities provided or done by or on behalf of the municipality and for use of its property including property under its control;

WHEREAS The Corporation of Haldimand County deems it necessary to impose water and wastewater fees and charges;

WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County has, from time to time, established various fees and charges for water and wastewater supply, services, activities and use of Haldimand property,

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County deems it expedient to enact a by-law establishing and requiring the payment of water and wastewater fees for supply, services, activities and use of Haldimand property,

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** the water and wastewater fees and charges as set out in Schedules “A” through “E”, attached hereto and forming part of this by-law, are hereby established and adopted by The Corporation of Haldimand County.
2. **THAT**, unless otherwise prescribed, no request by any person for any water and wastewater supply, service, activity or use of Haldimand property described in Schedules “A” through “E” will be processed or provided by any Haldimand County Official, unless and until the person requesting the water and wastewater supply, service, activity or use of Haldimand property has paid the applicable water and wastewater fee or charge in the prescribed amount as set out in Schedules “A” through “E” to Haldimand County.

3. **THAT** in the event that any water and wastewater supply, service, activity or use of Haldimand property is requested by a person, and a fee or charge for such water and wastewater supply, service, activity or use of Haldimand property has not been specifically provided for in Schedules "A" and "D" hereto, a water and wastewater fee or charge shall be calculated by Haldimand County staff utilizing the formula described in Schedule "E", attached hereto and forming part of this by-law, and such water and wastewater fee or charge shall be deemed to be a water and wastewater fee or charge otherwise established and adopted by Council and shall be deemed to be included in Schedules "A" through "D".
4. **THAT** in the event that any information, service, activity or use of Haldimand property is obtained or incurred by a person, and a fee or charge for such information, service, activity or use of Haldimand property has not been specifically provided for in Schedules "A" through "D" hereto, a fee or charge shall be calculated by Haldimand County staff utilizing the formula described in Schedule "E", attached hereto and forming part of this by-law, and such fee or charge shall be deemed to be a fee or charge otherwise established and adopted by Council and shall be deemed to be included in Schedules "A" through "D".
5. **THAT** unless otherwise prescribed, the fees and charges established by this by-law shall be payable to The Corporation of Haldimand County by cash, money order, certified cheque, cheque, debit card, through a financial institution, or online via credit card when due.
6. **THAT** where any payment is received on account, the payment will first be applied against late payment charges owing according to the length of time the charges have been owing, with charges imposed earlier being discharged before charges imposed later. The payment will then be applied against the total amount owing according to the length of time they have been owing, with amounts imposed earlier being discharged before amounts imposed later.
7. **THAT** a percentage of one and one-quarter percent (1¼%) shall be imposed as a penalty for non-payment of fees and charges remaining unpaid on the first day following the last day for payment of such fees and charges and thereafter, an additional charge of one and one-quarter percent (1¼%) shall be imposed and shall be added to any remaining fees and charges remaining unpaid on the first day of such calendar month in which the default continues until a new by-law is established.

8. **THAT** the Treasurer is authorized to adjust penalty/interest applied above under the following conditions: (i) if Haldimand County has applied said penalty/interest in error, at the sole discretion of the County, 100% of the penalty/interest applied will be removed; or (ii) if Haldimand County, at its sole discretion, was negligent or contributed in part to the application of the penalty/interest in error, 50% of the penalty/interest will be removed. All further adjustments to penalty/interest require specific Council approval or an appeal to the applicable Provincial court.
9. **THAT** the Treasurer is authorized to write off small unpaid balances under \$10 as the Treasurer deems appropriate.
10. **THAT**, in the event any part of this by-law, including any part of Schedules “A” through “D”, is determined by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or of no force and effect, it is the stated intention of Council that such invalid part of the by-law shall be severable and that the remainder of this by-law including the remainder of Schedules “A” through “D”, as applicable, shall continue to operate and to be in force and effect.
11. **THAT** in the event another by-law of The Corporation of Haldimand County establishes a fee or charge for water and wastewater services that is not referenced by this by-law and that is not inconsistent with this by-law, the fee or charge established by that or other by-law shall be deemed to be included in Schedules “A” through “D” attached hereto.
12. **THAT** the fees and charges set out in this by-law shall be effective for any bills issued on or after January 1, 2026 for services rendered on or after January 1, 2026.
13. **THAT** any provision of any by-law that is inconsistent with this by-law shall be hereby repealed.
14. **THAT** this by-law shall be known as the “Water and Wastewater Fees and Service Charges By-law”.
15. **THAT** By-law 2568/24 and any amendments thereto are hereby repealed in their entirety.

HALDIMAND COUNTY

By-law Number /25

16. **AND THAT** this by-law shall be effective January 1, 2026.

ENACTED this 4th day of December, 2025.

MAYOR

CLERK

**WATER AND WASTEWATER FEES AND SERVICE CHARGES BY-LAW
INDEX OF SCHEDULES**

Schedule	Division
A	Water and Wastewater Metered Charges
B	Water and Wastewater Bulk Service Charges
C	Water and Wastewater General Fees
D	Water and Wastewater Access Refusal and Tampering Charges
E	Fees and Charges Cost Calculation Template

Note: Housekeeping changes, if any, will be highlighted on the related schedule.



Schedule A - Metered Charges

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater Metered Charges		Description		2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Water						
Consumption Charges		\$/m3		\$1.2864	\$1.3600	5.72%
Basic Charges:	\$ /month based on domestic service size		see below	see below	n/a	
	Service Size:					
	mm	inches				
R1/C1	16 & 19	5/8 & 3/4	\$27.36	\$29.37	7.35%	
R2/C2	25	1	\$27.36	\$29.37	7.35%	
R3/C3	37	1.5	\$154.57	\$165.93	7.35%	
R4/C4	50	2	\$335.95	\$360.63	7.35%	
C5	75	3	\$591.19	\$634.63	7.35%	
C6	100	4	\$1,175.81	\$1,262.22	7.35%	
C7	150	6	\$2,187.20	\$2,347.93	7.35%	
C8	200	8	\$3,735.89	\$4,010.43	7.35%	
Flat Rate		Consumption charge: 15 m3/month		\$19.30	\$20.40	5.72%
		R1/C1 Basic Charge		\$27.36	\$29.37	7.35%
		Total Flat Rate		\$46.65	\$49.77	6.68%
Standby Charge		When a property temporarily discontinues the supply of water or when a property is being developed or re-developed, a standby charge is billed based on the basic rate for the applicable service size until connection is in place. The standby charge represents the Basic Water charge.				
Wastewater						
Consumption Charges		\$/m3		\$1.5001	\$1.5300	2.00%
Basic Charges:	\$ /month based on domestic service size		see below	see below	n/a	
	Service Size:					
	mm	inches				
R1/C1	16 & 19	5/8 & 3/4	\$25.06	\$25.37	1.24%	
R2/C2	25	1	\$25.06	\$25.37	1.24%	
R3/C3	37	1.5	\$141.60	\$143.36	1.24%	
R4/C4	50	2	\$307.76	\$311.58	1.24%	
C5	75	3	\$541.59	\$548.31	1.24%	
C6	100	4	\$1,077.16	\$1,090.53	1.24%	
C7	150	6	\$2,003.70	\$2,028.56	1.24%	
C8	200	8	\$3,422.45	\$3,464.92	1.24%	
Flat Rate		Consumption charge: 15 m3/month		\$22.50	\$22.95	2.00%
		R1/C1 Basic Charge		\$25.06	\$25.37	1.24%
		Total Flat Rate		\$47.56	\$48.32	1.60%
Standby Charge		When a property temporarily discontinues the use of the wastewater system or when a property is being developed or re-developed and discontinues the use of the wastewater system, a standby charge is billed based on the basic rate for the applicable service size until connection is in place. The standby charge represents the Basic Wastewater charge.				



Schedule A - Metered Charges

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater Metered Charges	Description	2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Water and Wastewater Arrears				
Transfer to Taxes	Non-payment will result in the outstanding amounts due being transferred to the current property owners tax account within 60 days.			
Transfer to Taxes - Tenants	Non-payment by a tenant will result in the outstanding amount due being transferred to the property owner's tax account within 60 days.			



Schedule B - Bulk Service Charges

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater Bulk Service Charges	Description	2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Water				
Bulk Water Consumption Rate	\$/m3	\$3.53	\$2.74	-22.38%
Bulk Water Administration Fee	for months with billable consumption	\$20.23	\$20.83	3.00%
Bulk Water	Account Activation Fee (note: accounts will be deactivated if there is no consumption in the prior twelve month calendar year)	\$33.17	\$34.17	3.00%
Bulk Water	Re-Activation Fee	\$33.17	\$34.17	3.00%
New Credit Wholesale Rate	\$/m3 (12% reduction of metered water charge based on agreement)	\$1.13	\$1.20	5.72%
Wastewater				
Bulk Wastewater Disposal	Leachate - Local Volumetric Charge (\$/m3)	\$19.54	\$19.56	0.13%
Bulk Wastewater Disposal	Leachate - Base Charge	\$724,200	\$802,520	10.81%
Bulk Wastewater Disposal	Leachate - Haldimand Leachate Capital Charge (annual) Remove as funded through volumetric & base charges established in Council-Approved 2025 Rate Study	\$27,137		-100.00%
Effluents exceeding the wastewater use by-law limits		cost recovery plus Admin Fee	cost recovery plus Admin Fee	cost recovery plus Admin Fee
Bulk Wastewater Disposal Consumption Rate	Blended Septic/Holding Toilet Waste (per m3)	\$16.88	\$18.95	12.26%
Bulk Wastewater Disposal Administration Fee	Septic/Holding Tank/Portable Toilet Hauler Administration Fee (per month) for months with billable disposable volumes	\$20.23	\$20.84	3.00%



Schedule C - General Fees

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater General Fees	Description	2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Connection Permits and Fees				
Charges payable to the Corporation of Haldimand County for permits, inspections, material and labour. Charges vary depending on type and size of connection.				
Missed Appointment Fee		\$109	\$112	2.75%
Water Connection	Main to Street Line: Includes Inspection and Main Tap (contractor to supply all materials)	\$417	\$430	3.12%
Water Meter	Water Meter for new construction	Meter Cost	Meter Cost	n/a
	5/8" or 3/4" Meter	\$327	\$337	3.06%
	1" Meter	\$385	\$397	3.12%
	1.5" Meter	\$752	\$775	3.06%
	2" Meter	\$1,023	\$1,054	3.03%
Water Main Service Connection 100mm (4") Diameter and Larger	Inspection includes: operating valves to isolate main, installation inspection, pressure test verification, meter and backflow installation, hi range chlorine sampling, flushing (contractor to tap main and supply all materials)	\$ 108 per hour	\$ 111 per hour	2.78%
Bacteriological Testing for New 100mm (4") Diameter & Larger	Water Mains or Services - includes sampling and transport to accredited laboratory per sampling site	\$226	\$233	3.10%
Water Disconnection Inspection	Inspection Only (contractor to supply all materials)	\$109	\$112	2.75%
Sanitary Sewer Service Connection 100mm (4") Diameter	Main to Street Line - Includes Inspection and Main Tap (contractor to supply all materials)	\$417	\$430	3.12%
Other Sanitary Sewer Service Connection Diameters	Main to Street Line: 150mm (6") or Greater Diameter: Inspection Only	\$198	\$204	3.03%
Sanitary Sewer Disconnection Inspection	Inspection Only (contractor to supply all materials)	\$109	\$112	2.75%
Connection Fees	Existing house to connect to the water system - per Development Charges By-law for Singles and Semis	per Development Charges By-law	per Development Charges By-law	n/a
Connection Fees	Existing house to connect to the sewer system - per Development Charges By-law for Singles and Semis	per Development Charges By-law	per Development Charges By-law	n/a
Connection Fees	Monthly Fee for new construction prior to the meter installation. Based on Flat Rate of 20 m3 volume for Water and Wastewater. Monthly fee will be charged until a water meter is installed.	Flat Rate Water and Wastewater	Flat Rate Water and Wastewater	n/a



Schedule C - General Fees

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater General Fees	Description	2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Testing of Water Meters				
Testing Requests	Customers may request that their water meter be tested. If the meter is found to be accurate, the customer must pay carrying charges and cost of testing, in addition to payment in full of the bill(s) in question. The following is an excerpt from Haldimand County's Water Use By-Law describing how the charge for testing of meters works.			
	<p>"No person shall test any meter except the Water Purveyor. The Water Purveyor shall remove and test any meter by an owner or agent of the owner. If the meter is found to be inaccurate, Haldimand shall adjust the water bill accordingly. A new or rebuilt displacement meter from 17mm (5/8) to 50mm (2") in size will be deemed to be inaccurate if it records outside of the accuracy limits of 98.5 to 101.5 percent on high and intermediate flows and 95.0 to 101.0 percent on low flows. New and rebuilt compound meters, turbine meters, multi-jet meters and propeller meters from 50mm (2") to 250mm (10") in size will be deemed to be inaccurate if they record 2 percent higher or lower than the manufacturers' recommended accuracy limits. Repaired meters of all sizes will be deemed to be inaccurate if they record outside of the accuracy limit of 90 percent minimum. A rebuilt meter is defined as one that has had the measuring element replaced with a factory-made new unit. A repaired meter is defined as one that has had the old measuring element cleaned and refurbished."</p>			
External Testing	Testing done at customer's request - includes meter removal, shipment and cost of test	100% cost recovery	100% cost recovery	n/a
Water Turn On/Off				
A customer may request their water be turned on or off due to an internal plumbing problem or for seasonal protection of the plumbing. Haldimand County Finance may initiate a turn off due to non-payment of a bill. The following is an excerpt of Haldimand County's Water Use By-Law.				
<p>"No person shall turn off or turn on a water service except the Water Purveyor. If the Water Purveyor is requested to turn off or turn on a water service, a service charge as detailed in Miscellaneous Charges is to be paid, it being understood that no water service will be turned off or turned on unless the consumer or another person authorized in writing to act on his behalf, is present on the premises."</p>				
During Normal Working Hours	Water Turn On	\$109	\$112	3.00%
During Normal Working Hours	Water Turn Off	\$109	\$112	3.00%
During Normal Working Hours	Water Turn On/Off Same Day for Fix and Repair	\$122	\$126	3.00%
During Normal Working Hours	Water Turn On and Meter Reconnection	\$122	\$126	3.00%
During Normal Working Hours	Water Turn Off and Meter Disconnection	\$122	\$126	3.00%
During Normal Working Hours	Water Meter Removal or Install	\$24	\$25	3.00%
Outside of Normal Working Hours	Water Turn On	\$240	\$247	3.00%
Outside of Normal Working Hours	Water Turn Off	\$240	\$247	3.00%
Outside of Normal Working Hours	Water Turn On and Meter Reconnection	\$288	\$297	3.00%



Schedule C - General Fees

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater General Fees	Description	2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Outside of Normal Working Hours	Water Turn Off and Meter Disconnection	\$288	\$297	3.00%
Outside of Normal Working Hours	Water Meter Removal or Install	\$47	\$48	3.00%
Winter Control Service Calls				
Customers may call the County to perform certain services caused by cold weather conditions.				
Thawing Frozen Water Service Lines	During Normal Working Hours (per hour) (min. 1 hr)	\$163	\$168	3.00%
Thawing Frozen Water Service Lines	Outside of Normal Working Hours (per hour) (min. 2 hrs)	\$287	\$296	3.00%
Replacement of Water Meter due to Frost Plate damage	During Normal Working Hours	Meter Cost plus \$108	Meter Cost plus \$111	2.78%
Replacement of Water Meter due to Frost Plate damage	Outside of Normal Working Hours	Meter Cost plus \$283	Meter Cost plus \$291	2.83%
	5/8" or 3/4" Meter	\$327	\$337	3.00%
	1" Meter	\$385	\$397	3.00%
	1.5" Meter	\$752	\$775	3.00%
	2" Meter	\$1,023	\$1,054	3.00%
Sanitary Sewer Rodding/Teley Video				
If County staff determine that a sewer line blockage is the property owner's responsibility, the charges below will be billed. Services provided outside of normal working hours will be charged a minimum 2 hours.				
Sanitary Sewer Rodding	During Normal Working Hours - each full or additional hours (min. 1 hr)	\$320	\$330	3.00%
Sanitary Sewer Rodding	Outside of Normal Working Hours - each full or additional hours (min. 2 hrs)	\$561	\$578	3.00%
Sewer Video	Sewers will be videoed during normal working hours only. Rate is per hour with a minimum of a one (1) hour charge	\$271	\$279	3.00%
Dye Testing	During normal working hours (min. 1 hr)	\$160	\$165	3.00%
Dye Testing	Outside of normal working hours (min. 2 hrs)	\$282	\$290	3.00%
Vactor Charge	During normal working hours (min. 1 hr)	\$333	\$343	3.00%
Vactor Charge	Outside of normal working hours (min. 2 hrs)	\$610	\$628	3.00%
Wastewater Charges				
Sewer Sludge Storage Costs	Sludge Storage - Townsend Lagoon per Cubic Meter (m3)	\$5.455	\$5.618	3.00%
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	Over-strength discharge fee formula "R" value ("R" means the rate for sewage treatment in\$/m3 of sewage flow as set out from time to time by the County)	\$1.199	\$1.235	3.00%
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	New discharger information report administrative fee	\$290	\$299	3.10%
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	Existing discharger information report administration fee	\$290	\$299	3.10%
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	Sanitary discharge agreement annual administration fee	\$1,741	\$1,793	2.99%
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	Sanitary discharge agreement amendment request application processing fee	\$290	\$299	3.10%



Schedule C - General Fees

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater General Fees	Description	2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	Application for a hauled sewage discharge permit processing fee	\$290	\$299	3.10%
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	Annual hauled sewage discharge permit processing fee	\$290	\$299	3.10%
Sanitary Discharge Agreement	Haldimand County assistance with all other additional requests	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Wastewater Discharge Program	Application fee	\$290	\$299	3.10%
Wastewater Discharge Program	Engineering Compliance Report	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Wastewater Discharge Program	Meter Testing, Meter Calibration, Meter Installation, Other administrative costs	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Other Services				
Inspection of external services		100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Installation of Communication Antennae System on County Facilities	Other Agencies or Departments of the County	No Charge	No Charge	n/a
Installation of Communication Antennae System on County Facilities	Local Emergency Services, Provincial and Federal Agencies or Ministries per year, per mounting	\$3,175	\$3,270	2.99%
Installation of Communication Antennae System on County Facilities	Private Enterprises	Per Contract	Per Contract	n/a
Administration Fees and Late Payment Interest Charges				
Note: the following charges may be administered by a 3rd party on behalf of the County				
Arrears Certificate		\$20.00	\$21.00	5.00%
Non-sufficient Funds Charge (NSF)		\$41.00	\$42.00	2.44%
Credit Reference/Credit Check		\$20.00	\$21.00	5.00%
Account Setup Charge		\$38.10	\$39.00	2.36%
Late Payment Interest Charges:				
	Per Month	1.25%	1.25%	n/a
	Per Year	15.00%	15.00%	n/a
Transfer to Property Tax Account for Collection	adding water and wastewater charges that remain unpaid after the due date, to the property tax owners account	\$38.00	\$39.00	2.63%



Schedule D - Refusal & Tampering

Schedules should be read in conjunction with the By-Law for all applicable terms and conditions.

Water and Wastewater Access Refusal and Tampering Charges	Description	2025 Charge	2026 Charge	% Increase
Refusal of Entry for Inspection, Installation, Repair or Replacement of Meters/Equipment, Service Leaks				
These fees outline the applicable charges to residents who refuse access required for maintenance, inspection, installation, repair or replacement of meters/equipment, including privately-owned laterals.				
Disconnect from the System	Applicable to non-paying derelict properties. Costs to be recovered by the owner. Disconnect at property line or main is at the discretion of the County. Charges unpaid will be added to tax account following proper process	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Refuse Access	Shut off - this is only an option if owner is refusing access and not paying their bill	100% Cost Recovery + continuation of monthly basic charge fee	100% Cost Recovery + continuation of monthly basic charge fee	n/a
Refuse Access	Monthly meter read estimate	\$70.00	\$72.10	3.00%
Refuse Access	Police attendance for enforcement	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Refuse Access	Court costs to gain access	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Meter Pit Installation	Applicable cost for owners who refuse access	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	n/a
Tampering	Charge for tampering with Water Meter and/or Water Service. All costs of repairs to services and equipment will be recovered 100% in addition to the Tampering Charge and estimated consumption charges.	\$609.00	\$627.27	3.00%
When it is determined that a meter fails to register accurately the quantity of water and/or wastewater consumed, during the period of such failure the quantity shall be estimated by the County.				

SCHEDULE E				
FEES AND CHARGES COST CALCULATION TEMPLATE				
Service/Activity to be calculated:				
Description of Service/Activity:				
Input required in yellow cells only.				
<p>The only items requiring input on this tab are those highlighted in yellow. This sheet is a summary tab of all of the input completed on the subsequent tabs and is used to calculate the final costs for the fee to be charged. There are hyperlinks in the title of each section below which will bring you directly to the tab where the input is required.</p> <p>Please insert the name of the user fee under Service/Activity to be calculated along with a description of the fee under Description of Service/Activity.</p> <p>If the fee is to be offset by a revenue source (i.e. Subsidized by levy, grant funding, etc), enter the percentage or the dollar value of the reduction under Ancillary Revenues on this tab.</p> <p>Once all information has been input, the total fee will be calculated in cell G59. If you plan on adjusting the fee (i.e. Rounding, or changing for any other purpose), please input the adjust amount, or duplicate the amount in cell G59 in cell G60. Ensure you document why the value is different in the Comment section.</p> <p>Finally, please select from the drop down beside Applicable Taxes. If you are unsure what applies here, please contact your financial analyst for assistance.</p>				
COSTS:	DESCRIPTION OF COSTS/SERVICES:	HOURS/UNITS:	ESTIMATED COSTS:	
DIRECT COSTS:				
WAGES & BENEFITS:				
Staffing Costs:	Hours x Hourly Rate	0.00	\$0.00	
Staffing Benefit Costs:	County Average Benefit Percentage	48%	\$0.00	
Supervisor Costs:	Hours x Hourly Rate	0.00	\$0.00	
Supervisor Benefit Costs:	County Average Benefit Percentage	48%	\$0.00	
VEHICLE COSTS:				
	Vehicles Used:	# of Vehicles Used:	Operating Hours:	
		0		\$0.00
				\$0.00
				\$0.00
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS:				
Inspection Costs:	Number of Staff x Hours x Hourly Rate	0.00	\$0.00	
Benefits:	County Average Benefit Percentage	48%	\$0.00	
Photocopying	Cost of Photocopying & Paper		\$0.00	
Mailing	Cost for Regular Mail		\$0.00	
Filing	Copying & Filing Internal Copies		\$0.00	
OTHER COSTS:				
	Description:	Cost Per Unit:	Units:	
		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
		\$0.00	0	\$0.00
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS:				\$0.00
INDIRECT COSTS:				
Department Overhead Allocation	Allocation to Department of Allocation (%)		\$0.00	
County General Admin Overhead	Council, CAO, Finance, Clerk's & General Overhead (%)		\$0.00	
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS:				\$0.00
TOTAL COSTS:				\$0.00
Less: Ancillary Revenues:				
	Grants & Offsetting Revenues	Percentage:		\$0.00
		\$ Amount:	\$0.00	\$0.00
CALCULATED USER FEE				\$0.00
ADJUSTED USER FEE APPROVED BY COUNCIL				
Applicable Taxes			1	
Final User Fee Including			\$0.00	
Comments:				

THE CORPORATION OF HALDIMAND COUNTY

By-law Number /25

Being a by-law to confirm the proceedings of Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County

WHEREAS Section 5 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, (the Act) provides that the powers of a municipality shall be exercised by its Council and that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

WHEREAS Section 10(1) of the Act stipulates that a single-tier municipality may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public;

AND WHEREAS in many cases action which is taken or authorized to be taken by Council does not lend itself to the passage of an individual by-law,

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County enacts as follows:

1. **THAT** each motion, resolution and other action of the Council of The Corporation of Haldimand County passed and taken by Council at its Special Council meeting held on the 4th day of December, 2025 be and are hereby approved, adopted, ratified and confirmed.
2. **THAT** where no individual by-law has been or is passed with respect to the taking of any action authorized in or by the above-mentioned minutes or with respect to the exercise of any powers by the Council in the above-mentioned, then this by-law shall be deemed for all purposes to be the by-law required for approving and authorizing and taking of any action authorized therein or thereby, or required for the exercise of any powers therein by the Council.
3. **AND THAT** the Mayor and the proper staff of The Corporation of Haldimand County are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the said action of the Council or to obtain approvals where required and, except where otherwise provided, the Mayor and the Clerk are hereby directed to execute all documents necessary on behalf of The Corporation of Haldimand County and to affix the corporate seal thereto.

ENACTED this 4th day of December, 2025.

MAYOR

CLERK