

CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF MERRICKVILLE-WOLFORD

BY-LAW NO. 05 - 17

BEING a By-Law to provide a deferral for low income seniors and low income persons with disabilities to those residential property owners who qualify under authority of Section 10 and Section 365 of the Municipal Act and meeting the municipality's mandatory requirements under section 391 of the Municipal Act.

WHEREAS Section 319 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, provides that a municipality shall pass a by-law providing for deferrals or cancellation of, or other relief in respect of all or part of a tax increase on property in the residential tax class for persons assessed as owners who are or whose spouses are low income senior or low income persons with disability;

AND WHEREAS Section 365(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, authorizes the Council of a local municipality to provide for the cancellation, reduction or refund of taxes levied for local municipal and school purposes for eligible property owners whose taxes are considered by the Council to be unduly burdensome;

AND WHEREAS Section 10 of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended, provides a municipality may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford deems it desirable and in the public interest to provide a deferral of financial hardship to low income seniors and low income persons with disabilities by way of a water deferral to those residential property owners who qualify under authority of Section 10 and Section 365 of the Municipal Act while also meeting the municipality's mandatory requirements under Section 319 of the Municipal Act;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford enacts as follows:

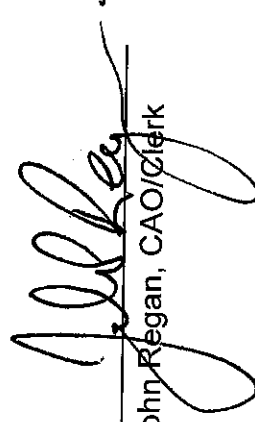
1. Schedule "A" of By-Law No. 05-17 shall become the policy.
2. The Clerk of the municipality is hereby authorized to make any minor modifications or corrections of an administrative, numerical, grammatical, semantically or descriptive nature or kind to the by-law or schedule(s) as may be deemed necessary after the passage of the by-law, where such modifications do not alter the intent of the by-law.

READ a first and second time this 9th day of January, 2017.

READ a third and final time and passed this 9th day of January, 2017.



David Nash, Mayor



John Regan, CAO/Clerk

Village of Merrickville-Wolford

Schedule "A" to By-Law No. 05-17

In this By-law:

- a) "Corporation" means The Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford;
 - b) "eligible property" means a property in the residential/farm property class of which an eligible person is the owner and which is actually occupied by such eligible person as his or her principal residence, furthermore, to be eligible for the water credit, the property must be connected to the Corporation's water distribution system;
 - c) "eligible person" means a low income senior or a low income person with a disability or the spouse of such person where the spouse also actually occupies the same property as his or her principal place of residence and has been in occupation for a minimum of twelve months prior to the date of application;
 - d) "eligible amount" means:
 - i) a credit of \$1,200.00 which is to be applied against the eligible property's municipal water account;
 - e) "total household income" means the combined gross income of all persons occupying the eligible property of which the application is being made as identified on line 150 of a persons Notice of Assessment by Canada Revenue Agency..
 - f) "low income person with disability" means a person who is in receipt of an increment paid under the Ontario Disability Support Program Act or, a person who is in receipt of a disability amount paid under the Canada Pension Plan who has a total household income below the threshold income level ;
 - g) "low income senior" means a person who is 65 years of age or older who is in receipt of an increment paid under the Guaranteed Income Supplement as established under Part II of the Old Age Security Act, and has a total household income below the threshold income level;
 - h) "threshold income level" is established on an annual basis at the discretion of the Village Treasurer using Guaranteed Income Supplement rates for married or common-law partners, both receiving Old Age Security as published by Service Canada, and is the sum of the maximum combined yearly income of a couple allowed in order to be in receipt of GIS assistance plus the total of the annual Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement payment. For 2016 the amount shall be \$32,160.
3. Assistance granted pursuant to this by-law, shall be the annual eligible amount for eligible property, which is to be applied against the water account(s) of the eligible property to produce relief from future or pending water billings for the benefit of an eligible person.
4. Applications for assistance shall be submitted to the Corporation on or before June 30 in any year for relief in the year of application only.
5. The Village Treasurer shall provide application forms and obtain such information as he or she determines necessary to determine eligibility.
6. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

~~7. Water accounts must not be in arrears at the time of application, in order to be considered.~~