

CITY OF MEADOW LAKE
BYLAW NO. 8/2011
FALSE ALARM BYLAW

A BYLAW OF THE CITY OF MEADOW LAKE TO PROVIDE FOR THE CHARGING OF A CALL OUT FEE FOR FALSE ALARMS.

The authority for this Bylaw is section 8 and subsection 333(1)(d) of *The Cities Act*.

The Council of the City of Meadow Lake in the Province of Saskatchewan enacts as follows:

PART 1 – INTRODUCTION

1. Title
The Bylaw shall be known and cited as the "*False Alarm Bylaw*" of the City of Meadow Lake.
2. Purpose
The purpose of this Bylaw is to reduce police and fire department responses to false alarms through the establishment of a program of administration and fees in relation to response to alarms.

PART 2 – DEFINITIONS

3. Whenever in this Bylaw, the following words or terms are used, they shall, unless the context otherwise provides, be held to have the following meanings:
 - (a) "**Alarm System**" means any device which detects an unauthorized entry into or any emergency situation at the commercial or residential property where the system is located which, when activated, emits or transmits a local or remote audible, visual or electronic signal;
 - (b) "**False Alarm**" means the activation of an alarm system where there is no indication of unauthorized entry or emergency situation to create a valid alarm response;
 - (c) "**Fire Department**" means the City of Meadow Lake Fire and Rescue.
 - (d) "**Police**" means the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

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PART 3 – DUTIES OF ALARM OWNERS

4. Any person who owns an alarm system must:
- a) Make every reasonable effort to maintain the alarm system in a manner that will minimize or eliminate false alarms;
 - b) Make every reasonable effort to deactivate an alarm system which emits false alarms if requested to do so by the Police or Fire Department;
 - c) Other than for the purpose of testing an alarm system, not manually activate an alarm system for any reason other than the occurrence of an event that the alarm system was intended to report.

PART 4 – WARNINGS AND FEES – POLICE RESPONSE

- 5.
- (a) In this section and the sections which follow the terms “first”, “second”, “third” and “fourth” shall mean the first, second, third and fourth occurrences of a response to a false alarm within the same 365 day period.
 - (b) After the second response to a false alarm by the Police, the City will issue a caution to the alarm owner stating:
 - i) the date and time of the response; and
 - ii) that the next false alarm at the alarm site will result in the fee in Schedule “A” being assessed.
 - (c) After the second, third and any subsequent responses to a false alarm by the Police, the City will assess a false alarm response fee against the alarm system owner in the amounts set forth in Schedule “A”.
 - (d) After a fourth response to a false alarm by the Police, in addition to the fees assessed, the City may send a warning to the alarm system owner indicating that deactivation of the alarm system may be required.

PART 5 – WARNINGS AND FEES – FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE

- 6.
- (a) In this section and the sections which follow the terms “first”, “second”, “third” and “fourth” shall mean the first second, third and fourth occurrences of a response to a false alarm within the same 365 day period.
 - (b) After the first response to a false alarm by the Fire Department, the City will issue a caution to the alarm owner stating:
 - i) the date and time of the response; and
 - ii) that the next false alarm at the alarm site will result in the fee in Schedule “B” being assessed.
 - (c) After the second, third and any subsequent responses to a false alarm by the Fire Department, the City will assess a false alarm response fee against the alarm system owner in the amounts set forth in Schedule “B”.

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- (d) After a fourth response to a false alarm by the Fire Department, in addition to the fees assessed, the City may send a warning to the alarm system owner indicating that deactivation of the alarm system may be required.

PART 6 – INVOICING

- 7.
 - (a) the City will issue invoices for the fees assessed pursuant to this Bylaw at such time and in such manner as the City may deem appropriate.
 - (b) the total amount of an invoice is due and payable on the first day of the month following the month in which the invoice was issued to the alarm system owner.
 - (c) where a person fails to pay any fee assessed pursuant to this Bylaw, within 60 days after the amount becomes due and payable, the City may add the outstanding amount associated with each alarm system to the tax roll of the parcel or parcels of land comprising the alarm site.
 - (d) An owner of an alarm system may apply for a review of the assessment of a false alarm response fee by making a written application, setting forth the reasons for the review filed with the City Manager not later than 10 days after the person receives notice of the false alarm response fee. The City Manager will provide the owner of an alarm system with written notice of the decision made on review.
 - (e) A decision of the City Manager is final and binding and not subject to further appeal.

PART 7 – SERVICE

- 8. Invoices, warnings and notices of required de-activation may be given or served personally, through regular mail to the last known mailing address of the person being served or by leaving a copy of the invoice, warning or notice at the last known address of the person being served.
- 9. Bylaw No. 3/2004 is hereby repealed.
- 10. This bylaw shall come into force on the date of final reading.

Introduced and read a first time this 27th day of June, 2011.
 Read a second time this 27th day of June, 2011.
 Read a third time and adopted this 27th day of June, 2011.

Certified True Copy of
 Bylaw # 8/2011
 Adopted by Resolution of
 Council on the 27th
 day of June, 2011.

Chlodds
 CITY CLERK

Chlodds
 CITY CLERK

Glaine Douglas
 ACTING MAYOR

SCHEDULE "A"
POLICE RESPONSE

INCIDENT	ACTION
1 st false alarm	No action taken
2 nd false alarm	Letter of warning issued
3 rd false alarm within 365 days from letter of warning date	Penalty of \$500.00
4 th & any further false alarms within 365 days from letter of warning date	Penalty of \$600.00 per callout

SCHEDULE "B"
FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE

INCIDENT	ACTION
1 st false alarm	Letter of warning issued
2 nd false alarm within 365 days from letter of warning date	Penalty of \$750.00
3 rd false alarm & any further false alarms within 365 days from letter of warning date	Penalty of \$1,000.00 per callout

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