

Responses received to the Notice of Hearing

Rural Municipality of St. Andrews

South St. Andrews Wastewater Utility

	<b>Received From</b>	<b>Date Received</b>
1.	Jeff Nowak	March 25, 2021
2.	Carol Simon	March 26, 2021
3.	Larry Brodinski	March 30, 2021
4.	Rob Sposito	April 1, 2021
5.	P Ditty	April 5, 2021
6.	Sandra Eggerstson	April 8, 2021
7.	Kendra Pososki	April 9, 2021
8.	David and Irene Ball	April 9, 2021
9.	Carol Simon (2)	April 10, 2021
10.	Ron and Darlene Komonko	April 11, 2021
11.	David and Irene Ball	April 12, 2021
12.	Sean Stoesz	April 13, 2021
13.	Allan Bell	April 18, 2021
14.	Allan Jones	April 18, 2021
15.	Gerald Polson	April 18, 2021
16.	Walter and Karen Horta	April 18, 2021
17.	Kerry Seabrook	April 19, 2021
18.	Robert Emery	April 19, 2021
19.	Evan Scott-Herridge	April 20, 2021

**From:** [Jeff](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St. Andrews utility rates question  
**Date:** March-25-21 7:54:43 PM

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I understand there is an upcoming utility rate hearing and would like to pose a question.

In some discussions with one of the local approved sewer connection companies (one of I believe 8 approved by the municipality of St. Andrews). This individual stated that they are capable of completing one household connection per week. When looking at the amount of homes (1800 approx) the rates proposed by the city with gradual increases up till 2023 and beyond is simply unfair. It would appear that it may take a total of 225 weeks for these installers to connect every household to the system, and the ones that are placed at the end of the list will have to pay the increased price/rates, which if anything should be passed along to the municipality themselves not the home owner due to the current restricting of installers.

I believe that the rates should be locked in for the duration of the project (5 years or longer if approved). Either this or that the city contacts the municipality and request/force the municipality to approve dozens of other installers so that the home owners aren't penalized by the timeline and lack of approved installers at this current time.

I.e. If I want this installation done within the next few weeks, I don't want to be told that the installer I've chosen is booked and that I have to wait till next year (and pay the increased rate for the meter, etc).

I would like this addressed between the city and municipality. Easiest solution is to open the installation portion to whomever the home owner wants to use so the choices are limitless.

Thanks kindly,  
Jeff Nowak

**From:** [+WPG969 - Form Submissions \(CEN\)](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Share Your Views Form Submission  
**Date:** March-26-21 3:21:57 PM

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by  
Form Submitter (publicutilities@gov.mb.ca) on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 15:21:43

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reasonForContact: Share your views

utilityType: Water and Wastewater Utility

ContactFirstName: Carol Simon

ContactEmail: doglovercarol@shaw.ca

detailsOfComplaint: Re: St. Andrews South Wastewater Utility.

I object to all fees being charged by the RM for a system that's not up and running and is not finished. They have demanded I pay over \$7000 by the end of April or they're going to add it to my taxes in October plus they are charging a Quarterly Service Charge, Wastewater Minimum Quarterly Charge, Utilities buy-In Charge, Meter Testing charge, Minimum Meter Tampering Charge and whatever else they can think of. The system IS NOT WORKING YET so how can I be charged any amounts yet? How can they add any charges to my taxes that when they do, I have to pay them plus interest for 20 years with no chance of paying it off early? And why are only some residents having to pay for this? Taxes pay for lagoons, refuse depots, roads, etc. whether we use them or not but in this case, the residents of South St. Andrews are having to pay for all the costs associated with this system. And getting information from the RM is like pulling teeth. They have taken bylaws off the website so you can't even see where they get any legal rights to do anything. They have stripped our Mayor of her legal powers. And to top off everything, they don't have any signed agreements with the City of Winnipeg to take the wastewater. That decision has been extended for another 90 days so THERE IS NO ACTUAL CONTRACT WITH THE CITY BEFORE THE DATE I AM BEING CHARGED MONEY BY THE RM! How is that legal?

DocumentID: PUB\_Share\_Your\_Views\_Form

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN OR  
JENNIFER DUBOIS, CPA, CMA

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD OF MUNICIPALITY  
MARCH 2021

THIS IS WITH REFERENCE TO THE AD IN THE MARCH 11/2021 EDITION OF THE SELKIRK RECORD REGARDING THE PROPOSED RATES FOR THE ST. ANDREWS WATERWASTE SYSTEM. I AM TOTALLY AGAINST THIS PROPOSAL FOR I FIND IT TO BE FINANCIARLY UNAFFORDABLE. FIRST OF ALL THERE IS NO TRANSPARENCY OF HOW THESE RATES WERE ESTABLISHED. THEY ARE PROPOSING INCREASES WHEN THE TAPS HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN TURNED ON YET.

THE MUNICIPALITY OF ST. ANDREWS HAS PUT FORTH A FEVY OF \$100.00 A YEAR FOR NOT HOOKING UP FOR WHEN THIS IS IN THE BEGINNING STAGES NO CHARGES WERE MENTIONED FOR THIS 5 YEAR PLAN. THIS PROJECT FROM START TO FINISH WILL COST EACH HOUSEHOLD ROUGHLY \$20,000.00 OR MORE. THERE IS NO HOPE OF PAYING THIS AMOUNT WHEN THERE ARE PEOPLE OF ALL INCOMES WHICH INCLUDES PEOPLE OF LOW INCOME AS WELL AS SENIORS ON A POVERTY GOVERNMENT PENSION LEVEL. ALSO ADD IN ALL THE USER FEES AND GRADUAL INCREASES THROUGHOUT EACH YEAR. RESIDENTS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO COPE NOR WILL HAVE RESOURCES FOR UPKEEP FOR THEIR HOME. UNFORTUNATELY THERE WILL BE THOSE THAT CAN'T AFFORD THE FINANCIAR BURDEN AND WILL BE FORCED TO SELL AND FOR THAT TERRIBLE HAPPENING I'VE ALWAYS SAID "NO PROJECT SHOULD COME OUT HERE AND FORCE PEOPLE TO SELL THEIR HOME."

THIS PROJECT IS ALSO BEING PUSHED THROUGH NOW DURING A PANDEMIC WHICH HAS ALSO CAUSED MANY TO LOSE THEIR JOBS. THE WAY THE PAYMENT PLAN HAS BEEN SET UP AND EVERYTHING THAT GOES WITH IT THERE WILL BE NO SUCH THING AS RETIREMENT HERE IN ST. ANDREWS. WE WILL ALL BE IN DEPT TO THE END. "THE EXPENDITURES FAR EXCEED WHAT PEOPLE CAN AFFORD."

THE PROVINCIAL GOV'T SHOULD REVIEW THESE ISSUES IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SOME FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO GET US THROUGH THIS BECAUSE WE DEFINITELY ARE NOT GETTING ANY HELP FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF ST. ANDREWS

LARRY BRODINSKI  
ST. ANDREWS RESIDENT

**From:** [Rob sposito](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St Andrews waste system rate  
**Date:** April-01-21 2:06:57 PM

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I am writing you because of the quarterly rate it looks like I will be paying more than people in the city of Winnipeg . the city gets full sewer and water all I will be getting is liquid removal I still have to pay\$150 year to pump out I feel this is just Winnipeg making us pay for their sewer upgrades very unfair please keep this in mind this whole process has been a disaster from the start I remember when the water stewardship board held meetings they could care less what the residence concern's were . Rob Sposito 24 overwater rd. st Andrews

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [p.ditty](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St. Andrews waste water  
**Date:** April-05-21 7:37:08 PM

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I am in disagreement with the proposed rate fee for the waste water system.

This is a fiasco on a financial level as well as a council level.

To pay \$220 quarterly before any grey water enters the system is ridiculous.

We already will have spent approximately \$7300, to the municipality, also \$2000 to \$3000 to bring the pipe into our homes, plus a one time fee to the city of approximately \$3000. Plus we still have our own well water and water softener system to maintain. As well as our septic tank that needs to be pumped out every year, there are costs associated with this.

We will be paying more than any other city or municipality for a service that is not full and we provide our own water.

The cost is not representative of the service that this line will provide.

I don't feel this line will do anything for the environment as well. We will be sending grey water to a sewage treatment plant that dumps millions of litres of untreated water into the Red River every year because of issues, and now we will be contributing more.

This does not make any sense on a financial standpoint or an environmental one.

Subject: St. Andrews waste water

To: [publicutilities@gov.mb.ca](mailto:publicutilities@gov.mb.ca)

I am in disagreement with the proposed rate fee for the waste water system.

This project was ill conceived and largely mismanaged. The majority of residents of south St. Andrews within the Local Improvement District have voiced their concerns and disagreement with the project, and their concerns have been disregarded and dismissed from the start.

The system that has been forced upon us is a low pressure grey-water system and we are still required to:

- Maintain our own Septic tank and pump, and possibly may be required to replace them, at a cost of approx \$10,000.00. I have requested information as to who does an inspection to determine suitability, but have not been provided with information;
- Maintain our own water supply (well), including pump, water treatment (softeners, iron filters, RO systems). These systems are a necessity due to the extreme hardness and high mineral content of the water in this area. There is a cost to this.
- The meter will be reading all ***incoming water from our wells***. Thus, we are being metered for using our own well water, including clean recharge water from our water treatment equipment. After pressure from residents, the RM has agreed to have the meter *in certain cases (if the water is discharged at grade to an environmentally acceptable location)* placed after the treatment equipment. However, despite asking the question, the RM has not provided information as to who will be conducting the inspection or how to arrange for it.
- Some households have their weeping tile water discharged directly to their tanks, and which will now go into the sewer system. . The RM should have been aware of how many properties are in this category and should have dealt with this situation as;
  - these households may incur significant additional expenses to re-route the weeping tile water at grade;
  - ***these households will be discharging water into the system which will not be properly metered, therefore exposing other residents to higher costs***
  - all storm surge ground water from those residences will be entering the system, with potential to overwhelm it.

In addition, we are required to make the following additional payments:

- \$7300 lump sum to the RM for our share of the infrastructure fee
- \$3000 fee to City of Winnipeg (one time connection fee) (which will be increased by a whopping 11% next year)

- \$6000 (or more) Costs of connecting our septic tank to the curb stop, which will vary per property depending on distance from the curb stop, and any other work that may be required;
- \$10,000 (or more) possible replacement of septic tank and pump
- Potential costs to re-plumb pipes from the pressure tank, to ensure outside taps are not metered;

The proposed rates also contemplate a minimum payment of \$220 *quarterly before any grey water even enters the system* . That is, if there is very little or no usage (people who spend summers at the lake, or south in winter) still pay the quarterly amount whether there is water usage or not; and persons who practice good water/waste conservation may not see a benefit.

The current rates being proposed are substantially higher than the City of Winnipeg (which has full water & sewer) and West St. Paul (which has full sewer) We will be *paying more than any other city or municipality for a service that is not full plus we are providing our own water!*

We do not know how many households the RM has utilized in making its estimates. We do not know how many households plan to hook up once the system is operational. The RM does know that approximately only 200 meters have been installed. This does not mean that 200 households will be hooking up. I know some households had the meters installed only because they feared the meters may not be installed without cost in the future.

A survey of residents was undertaken by the RM in July 2020; A Total of 655 people responded, and these are some of the results (posted on the RM website):

- only 15% indicated they would be hooking up immediately – That is only 104 properties.
- 64% of respondents indicated they would not hook up until mandated to do so.
- 90% of respondents felt the utility rates would be too high;
- almost 90% felt that the wastewater system would be a financial burden on residents;
- 74% felt the RM had not given sufficient information to residents;
- 90% of people felt their septic fields/systems were functioning properly,
- 56% felt they would never recoup the costs if they sold their property;

These are issues that MUST be dealt with. These numbers cannot be ignored.

The costs proposed are not representative of the services that are being provided.

Also, importantly, there is *no signed agreement with either the City of Winnipeg or the RM of West St. Paul. How can residents be obligated to pay any costs when there is no agreement to operate the system.*

I don't feel this system will do anything to protect the environment We will be sending grey water to a sewage treatment plant that dumps millions of litres of untreated water into the Red River every year, and now we will be contributing more.

This project was never about “saving the Red ” or the “saving the Lake”. None of the septic fields here ever “leached” into the River. This project was all about having the ability to establish smaller lot sizes only for the benefit of developers. Now, because of the required upgrades to the North End sewage treatment plant there is a cap for ten years on the number of households permitted to hook up



to the system (1800) . The current number of households in the area now is approx. 1900. There is not even enough capacity if all properties currently in the area are required to hook up within the 5 years mandated by provincial legislation.

This is a huge financial drain on the existing residents, and we are paying and will continue to pay for the folly of this project.

This does not make any sense on a financial standpoint or an environmental one.

Sincerely

Sandra J. Eggertson  
164 River Road  
St. Andrews, Manitoba

**From:** [Kendra p](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Date:** April-09-21 11:54:06 PM

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I am a resident of lockport and 100% undeniably opposed to this!!!!!! There has been no clear communication, nothing set in legal writing, and fees are based on all water, CLEAN, grey or black. The mayor was pushed out when she pushed back. The ombudsman has been non communicative. WE WANT ANSWERS!!!!!!

Kendra pososki

**From:** [Irene Ball](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St. Andrews sewer rates  
**Date:** April-09-21 6:54:39 PM

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I would like formally object yet again against the proposed rates that we, the St. Andrews residents have been presented with to take away GREY WATER.

Rates higher than West St.Paul, which has sewer and higher than Wpg, which has full sewer and water.

I object to placement of a meter on my well on my private property that I financially sustain. These rates only move grey water to Wpg. Not solids.

I still have to maintain a holding tank and pump it out twice a year.

I object to these rates that are double what Wpg pays but yet we are accountable for our own repairs and equipment and yes our private well water.

We are burdened with these costs, and for what? A low gravity system.

Not a SEWER SYSTEM!

Set comparable rates that pertain to what this joke of a system is really doing. Sending grey water to a crumbling infrastructure of a waste facility in Wpg that is in need if repair and upgrades to handle our stuff!

David and Irene Ball  
2 Zachary Drive  
St. Andrews, Mb  
R1A 3B7

**From:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**To:** [Dubois, Jennifer \(PUB\)](#); [Villegas, Diana \(PUB\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: St. Andrews Wastewater Mess:  
**Date:** April-12-21 7:58:53 AM

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Another for St Andrews - copy saved to W

Kristen

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol Simon <[doglovercarol@shaw.ca](mailto:doglovercarol@shaw.ca)>  
Sent: April-10-21 12:19 PM  
To: +WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES (FIN) <[publicutilities@gov.mb.ca](mailto:publicutilities@gov.mb.ca)>  
Subject: St. Andrews Wastewater Mess:

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Not only is the system NOT up and running and properties able to hook up to it, but there are no signed agreements with either the City of Winnipeg or the RM of West St. Paul. Both have to be in effect for this agreement to even start, nevermind the system not running.

They are charging me with over \$7000 payable by April 28, 2021 for a system not running, no signed agreements and run by a council who have stripped our elected Mayor of all of her powers. Other than the \$7000+, and I'm not quoting a specific figure as every figure the RM has given us has changed repeatedly upwards not downwards, I have to pay \$2600+ to the City of Winnipeg, plus install a meter on my well water at my cost which goes up every time I check the website, plus all kinds of charges for meter testing, tampering, and everything has the word minimum on it which means it will be a lot more, and that's not even including the service and usage charges.

And I won't know how much it will cost me to hook up until I start the process in case I need a new tank, pump, whatever, which could run another \$20,000+.

Plus they want to charge me a fee if I don't hook up to the system.

How does an RM have the legal right to charge me money before a system is even up and running? How is that legal?

Where is a government body that will protect citizens from an RM that is trying to bankrupt one area of its residents? I have to pay for all kinds of things on my taxes that are for the RM that don't have anything to do with me and yet, for this project, they expect one area of the RM to pay for all of it out of our own pockets. That doesn't make any sense and asking our council for any help is a non-issue. They are the biggest joke I've seen on my computer. They don't even care that people can see and hear them on screen at their meetings. And corresponding with them is completely useless as I've tried that too.

My final question is how does the RM have the authority to make laws that give them the right to make people pay \$40,000+ by a certain date or they'll add it to my taxes?

Carol Simon  
5446 Highway 9  
St. Andrews, Manitoba  
R1A 2W8  
Phone: 204-334-7838

Email: [doglovercarol@shaw.ca](mailto:doglovercarol@shaw.ca)

**From:** [Darlene Komonko](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St. Andrews Wastewater  
**Date:** April-11-21 11:39:25 AM

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The municipality of St. Andrews wants to implement the wastewater to go to the city of Winnipeg by April 30. Winnipeg has not even approved this yet so how can the municipality take our money now for this. The municipality wants to add extra costs if you do not have the sewer wastewater hooked up yet. My wife and I are both seniors and living on a fixed income and we cannot afford these extra costs. We have lived here for forty years and have not had any problem with our sewer system. Ron and Darlene Komonko

**From:** [+WPG969 - Form Submissions \(CEN\)](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Share Your Views Form Submission  
**Date:** April-12-21 10:56:50 AM

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Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by  
Form Submitter (publicutilities@gov.mb.ca) on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 10:56:36

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reasonForContact: Share your views

utilityType: Water and Wastewater Utility

ContactFirstName: David and Irene Ball

ContactEmail: ireneball14@gmail.ca

detailsOfComplaint: Formally object to the proposed rates being set for St Andrews.  
Rates are ridiculously high for Grey water.

No service since its my well water on my private property I must incur all costs regarding maintenance and solid  
pump outs and pay more than Wpg and WSP? For what? Grey Water?

Complete objection. Rates need to be set to be comparable to the service I receive.

Should be half what Wpg pays or less!

This is my 3rd objection to PUB.

DocumentID: PUB\_Share\_Your\_Views\_Form

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**From:** [SEAN STOESZ](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Water Meters  
**Date:** April-13-21 8:43:13 AM

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Hello , I am just enquiring into the recent proposed rates for the South St Andrews Wastewater.

We have a irrigation system that waters our lawn twice a day in the summer . Will I be charged fees for water usage for watering my grass even though this water does not enter the sewer ? What will be the process for this ?

Sean Stoesz  
Journeyman Carpenter  
Rymes Construction  
204-793-5318  
rymescon@shaw.ca



**From:** [Allan Bell](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St Andrews South Wastewater Utility virtual public hearing  
**Date:** April-18-21 8:28:23 PM

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To The Public Utilities Board,

I am writing to **express my opposition** to the proposed wastewater rates for affected residents of the South St. Andrews wastewater system. The requested rate of \$4.23 per cubic meter, **for grey water only**, and an \$80.82 quarterly service charge is excessive when compared to both Winnipeg and West St Paul ratepayers whose waste is also carried to the same North End Water Treatment plant in Winnipeg.

The rates proposed by **St. Andrews** are as follows:

sewer rate (grey water only)	\$4.23 per cubic meter
quarterly service charge	\$80.82 (\$323.28 annually)
minimum quarterly charge	\$140.04 (based on 14 cubic meters)

As a comparison the rates charged to West St. Paul and to Winnipeg residents are as follows:

**West St. Paul:**

sewer rate	\$3.52 per cubic meter
quarterly service charge	\$20.57 (\$82.28 annually)
participation charge	\$63.25 quarterly (\$253.00 annually)

**Winnipeg:**

sewer rate	\$2.86 per cubic meter
basic charge	\$0.36 per day (\$131.40)

annually)

### **Usage rates:**

As you are aware, the wastewater from St. Andrews will be transported to the North End Water Treatment plant in Winnipeg, through piping that runs through West St. Paul. This piping is owned and used by West St. Paul to transport their waste to the North End Water Treatment Plant. This wastewater from St. Andrews is only the grey water. The St. Andrews residents will still be responsible to manage and pay separately for the disposal of their solid waste. The residents of St. Andrews will be paying a **50% premium** compared to Winnipeg citizens, yet will not be receiving the same level of waste treatment (grey water only vs waste and solids treatment for Winnipeg residents).

One could argue that the waste from St. Andrews has to travel a longer distance therefore justifying the increased rate. The city of Winnipeg has three treatment plants that serve all its citizens, North end, South end and West end. As there is no treatment plant serving the East end of Winnipeg, it can very easily be shown that the distance that sewage would flow from homes in the east to a treatment plant are the same distance as the homes in St. Andrews are to the North End Treatment plant. The requested usage rate for St. Andrews residents is **20% more** than the rate being charged to West St. Paul residents using the same system. It should be noted that the **West St. Paul neighborhoods of Riverdale, Lister Rapids, Rivergate (Riversprings), Rivercrest and River's Edge, all receive sewer treatment of both their grey water and solids at a rate less than that proposed for St. Andrews residents.** This begs the question of how can it be more costly to treat grey water only from St. Andrews than it is to treat full grey water and solid sewage from Winnipeg and parts of West St. Paul.

### **Minimum quarterly charge:**

St. Andrews is requesting a minimum quarterly charge of \$140.04 for usage under 14 cubic meters. This is in comparison to the minimum

quarterly charge in West St Paul of \$49.28 for usage under 14 cubic meters. That is a **premium of 180%** that St Andrews residents will have to pay compared to the neighbors in West St Paul who are using the same system. Winnipeg does not charge its residents a minimum charge.

### **Quarterly service charge:**

St. Andrews is requesting a quarterly service charge of \$80.82 (\$323.28 annually). I have been unable to obtain information as to what this charge is for. One can assume it would be to cover administrative and utility maintenance costs. On its paper utility bills, West St Paul describes its quarterly service charge as “for administration and utility maintenance costs incurred by RM for the utility i.e. Utility clerk salaries, office supplies, postage, insurance, utility maintenance, staff salaries, sewer line maintenance, pump house hydro etc”. This is a very inclusive list of incidental and additional costs incurred by West St. Paul for their sewer system. Yet the rate being requested by St. Andrews is **300% more** than that of West St. Paul. If there are other items that St Andrews is including in their service charge these should be taken out and shown as a separate cost so these costs can be assessed individually by the board and to ensure transparency to the St. Andrews ratepayers.

Winnipeg bills a basic charge of \$0.36 per day (\$131.40 annually) On the City of Winnipeg’s website this charge is described as a “charge to cover the cost of providing the service” and “for customer service and billing”.

In addition, to my knowledge, The RM of St. Andrews has not finalized any legal and binding agreements with either the City of Winnipeg or the RM of West St. Paul regarding the transporting or treatment of the St. Andrews wastewater. I question how the RM can make application for a utility rate when these agreements are not finalized and legally binding. One only has to look at the recent debacle over the financing of the individual resident’s portion of the infrastructure capital costs. On

February 26, 2021, correspondence was received indicating that the yearly cost for an affected homeowner would be \$464.00 for 20 years at an interest rate of 2.46% and that this amount would not change. This was recently changed to \$504.00 a year for 20 years at an interest rate of 3.375%. The only explanation given was that “interest rates increased”.

One final issue that the members of the board should ask themselves when deciding on this rate application. The whole of this South St. Andrews wastewater system has been forced upon the citizens who have had no say in any of its components. The system itself was legislated as mandatory by the NDP Provincial Government. St. Andrews was forced to connect into Winnipeg’s North End Treatment plant when attempts were made to explore the option of connecting to Selkirk’s waste water system. Now, St. Andrews is at the mercy of the City of Winnipeg and to a certain extent, the RM of West St. Paul, and the rate they will charge St. Andrews for the transporting and treatment of our wastewater. In the end, whatever rates that Winnipeg and in turn, West St. Paul imposes on the RM of St Andrews, they will simply be passed onto the affected residents. As noted on the Public Utilities website: The Public Utilities Board does not regulate the water or wastewater rates for the City of Winnipeg. This puts the Board in an extremely untenable position to allow it to properly fulfill its mandate. The rates being requested by the RM of St Andrews, both now and in the future, will be based solely on what rate the City of Winnipeg is charging the RM of St Andrews.

In light of this how can it be said that the Public Utilities Board is in a position to “establish just and reasonable rates charged by water and wastewater utilities outside the City of Winnipeg”.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Allan Bell  
18 Chizick Dr  
St. Andrews MB*

**From:** [allan jones](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St Andrews water & waste system  
**Date:** April-18-21 3:06:16 PM

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Public Utilities Board of Manitoba

Re: St Andrews Waste and Water

To Whom it may Concern;

I firmly believe that the R.M. of St Andrews is highly over pricing the waste water usage;

1. The Pabuaya family of Northwest Transcona, Winnipeg family of 7; their water and waste charges run at \$230 to \$255 every three months.
2. Brian Kilmister and the family of Steinbach have the same setup as St Andrew's is having. They pay \$45 to \$60 every three months for sewage waste.

The St Andrews charge of \$140 plus \$80 per three months is excessive and unreasonable.

They have informed me that schools and community clubs will not be charged. Therefore, families outside our small area will use the facilities and south St Andrew's residents will subsidize families from a must greater area.

School taxes and rates are set annually on my property tax bill. I do not think these other expenses are to be paid by a small group. Everyone in the St Andrews district should be supporting these costs. It is unjustified to have some of the residents in the south part of St Andrews to pay solely for school operating expenses.

People like myself use water in our processing and it stays in our manufactured items and does not go back in the ground. When I questioned the RM they admitted they made no announcements to compensate for this (i.e. selling bottled water, fountain drinks etc.). Is there to be a sewage charge on items such as these.

I ask that the board seriously concern what St Andrews is charging to a small number of its residents.

A fair charge yes, no problem they are not being fair but excessive.

If new homes are being built how will they be charged as we are now paying for this sewer hookup?

P.S.

February notice from the R.M. clearly stated an annual fee of \$460 for 20 years.

March notice states \$504 annually for 20 years, in one month they have increased the expenses by nearly ten percent. Something is very wrong in the way they are operating this new waste system.

Please consider carefully my request for a fair and honest billing.

Yours Truly,

Allan J. Jones

5747 Hwy 9

St Andrews, MB

R1A 2R7

Phone: 204-757-2933

**From:** [Gerald Polson](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St.Andrews south waterwaste utility  
**Date:** April-18-21 10:48:19 AM

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My name is Gerald Polson at 44 Mirey creek dr e Lockport Mb. 204 782 1277..

I am expressing my complaint of the new sewer charge for liquid waste water removal from my septic tank to the Winnipeg treatment plant. I assumed the meter to measure the flow of sewage water to Winnipeg was to be attached to the liquid sewage line from my septic tank. Now I've heard it is be attached to my well and I'm to be charged for use of my own well water consumption. I maintain my own well, septic tank and septic field and don't have to pay any usage or fees to anyone except cleaning out the solids in my septic tank once a year. Having a meter on my well will be causing me to pay more for use of my water then the outflow of sewage water. There are only my wife and myself using the inhouse water for normal use such as bathing/showering, dish and clothes washing and toilet use. But in the summer months we use a lot of water maintaining our yard, watering a huge front and back yard lawn lots of flower and shrub trees and ornamental trees. Plus hosing down the house and windows and wetting the earth around the house foundation in extreme dry weather conditions and washing vehicles. With that said, I know the cost of well water versus sewage water out flow would be greatly higher and with greater cost to me. I STRONGLY PROTEST THE ATTACHMENT OF THE METER TO MY WELL.

**From:** [Walter/Karen](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** The Rural Municipality of St. Andrews (RM) South Wastewater Utility  
**Date:** April-18-21 11:24:37 PM  
**Importance:** High

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The Public Utilities Board  
400 – 330 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0C4

ATTN: Jennifer Dubois

We are the current property owners of # 2 Larter (Lot 2 Blk 40010) St. Andrews, and have owned the property for 19 years. The concern is that we have no residence on the property and we will be charged fees that we feel are unjust. Number one, is the levy fee. How can we be charged the fee with no residence to hook up to. Secondly, why should we pay yearly increased connection fees due to the fact that there is “nothing” to hook up to.

We hope you will take this email into consideration being this is a special circumstance.

Thank you.

Regards,  
Walter and Karen Horta



**From:** [Kerry Seabrook](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** St Andrews Sewer  
**Date:** April-19-21 9:09:41 PM

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Attn: Jennifer Dubois

Hi Jennifer,

As per the letter you sent on views of residents, I need a question answered that has been elusive to me.

I live at 494 River Rd, St. Andrews MB R1A 3C2 and am directly impacted by this proposal.

I do not want to connect to the system in any manner.

Rather, I am opting to install an Eljen System, at my expense, which is a more environmentally compatible and favourable alternative than that undertaken by the Rm Of St Andrews.

The Eljen System was approved by the Province of MB in 2016.

As such, the question I need answered is: Am I no longer obligated to pay the hookup fee as I am not using the system in any capacity? Or, in other words, am I expected to pay anything for this new service?

Your input is appreciated.

Thanks in advance,

Kerry Seabrook  
204-333-7687

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Sent from my Atari 2600 Kerry Seabrook

**From:** [Robert Emery](#)  
**To:** [+WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Hearing, April 26, 2021 - Submission on Initial Interim Wastewater Rates, St Andrews South Wastewater Utility  
**Date:** April-19-21 4:17:23 PM

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Dear Public Utilities Board (PUB) Members:

Please accept my written objection to the proposed wastewater rates for the St Andrews South Wastewater Utility.

I ask the PUB to ensure the Rural Municipality (RM) of St Andrews can justify that all rates proposed, especially the Quarterly Service Charge, Wastewater (per cubic meter) Rate and Utilities buy-In Charge, are reasonable, and only cover actual costs, as these rates all seem high.

Do the City of Winnipeg and RM of St Andrews administration fees (including RM system operation and maintenance fees) justify a \$80.82 Quarterly Service Charge (\$323.28 per year)? The PUB must ask the RM of St Andrews to explain their portion of this charge and instruct the RM of St Andrews to negotiate a lower City of Winnipeg administration fee.

The Wastewater (per cubic meter) Rate is proposed at \$4.23. My understanding is this includes the City of Winnipeg Sewer Rate (\$2.86 for 2021), with the remainder to the RM of St Andrews, and covers the collection, transportation and treatment of the wastewater. The \$4.23 compares to \$3.52 per cubic meter for the RM of West St. Paul (PUB Order 136/19, rate effective October 1, 2020), which operates a similar wastewater collection system with the wastewater also treated by the City of Winnipeg. The Wastewater (per cubic meter) Rate for the RM of St Andrews is proposed to be \$0.71 per cubic meter higher than the rate for the RM of West St. Paul for 2021. I find it difficult to accept there are additional expenses for the RM of St Andrews Wastewater Utility to justify a 20% higher Wastewater (per cubic meter) Rate compared to the RM of West St Paul given the similarity of the two wastewater collection systems.

While I believe the Wastewater (per cubic meter) Rate is too high at \$4.23 per cubic meter for basic indoor household water needs, to promote water conservation the RM of St Andrews should adopt an increasing block rate rather than the uniform rate being proposed. Under the increasing block rate the Wastewater (per cubic meter) Rate would increase as the volume of water used increases above basic water needs. All users within the Utility area use well water. The establishment of wastewater collection services is expected to fuel residential densification and rapid growth in the area and put increasing demands on potentially limited supplies of local groundwater. There is some evidence newer residences have higher annual water demand. An increasing block rate that promotes water conservation would ensure that the supply of groundwater in the area remains viable and at the same time lead to manageable amounts of wastewater for the Utility and North End Water Pollution Control Centre.

There does not appear to be proposed separate wastewater rates for residential, commercial,

industrial, or institutional users. The PUB should question the RM of St Andrews on this and instruct the Municipality to adopt separate wastewater rates for residential and other users, with higher rates for other users.

The PUB should instruct the RM of St Andrews to negotiate a lower Utilities buy-In Charge (connection fee) with the City of Winnipeg. The increase to this charge from \$2680 to \$3000 from 2021 to 2022 seems particularly unsupported. Traditionally, the Utilities buy-In Charge set by the City of Winnipeg has risen yearly at about the cost of inflation. The 2021 to 2022 increase to this charge is just under 12%, far above the estimated cost of inflation for 2021 (1.27%). The 2021 to 2022 Utilities buy-In Charge increase appears punitive for those residents unable to hook-up to the wastewater collection system in the first year for a wide variety of legitimate reasons. The application of this charge should not be used in a punitive manner but should treat all users equitably no matter when they are able to hook up to the system. The Utilities buy-In Charge is a poor deal for Utility users. It must be lowered and not increase at an annual rate higher than the cost of inflation.

In closing, the PUB needs to question the RM of St Andrews on the validity of the rates being proposed and lower any rates that are not supported.

Thank-you for your consideration of my comments.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Emery  
270 River Road  
St Andrews, MB  
R1A 2W2

**From:** [Evan Scott-Herridge](#)  
**To:** [CAO; +WPG1002 - Public UTILITIES \(FIN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Change in interest rate for grey water system  
**Date:** April-20-21 2:38:40 PM

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Good afternoon,

I am writing as I have noticed that there was a change in the quoted interest rate for the wastewater system.

On February 26, 2021 I received a letter from the RM of St. Andrews (on the RM of St. Andrews letterhead) advising that if I were to finance the cost of the local improvement fee that a "fixed interest rate of 2.46% would be charged. Your annual payment would be \$464/year - ".

On March 29, 2021 I received another letter from the RM of St. Andrews regarding the wastewater rates for the wastewater utility that stated the interest rate had been increased to 3.375% for an additional \$40 per year for the twenty year term.

How is it that the RM upped the interest rate when the first letter stated that the rate was fixed? If the rate was not fixed, the RM should've stated in its first letter that the rates were subject to change.

This was not written anywhere on the initial letter.

I am writing as I want the RM to honour the first stated interest rate as it was described as fixed and not subject to change.

Sincerely,  
Evan Scott-Herridge