THE CITY OF THOMPSON BY-LAW NUMBER 2053-2025

BEING A BY-LAW OF THE CITY OF THOMPSON PROVIDING FOR THE FIXING AND RECOVERY OF A CHARGE RELATED TO FALSE FIRE ALARMS

WHEREAS false alarms pose a threat to the safety of responding firefighters and members of the public, by creating unnecessary hazards and possibly delaying the fire department response to other potential emergencies.

WHEREAS section 267 of The Municipal Act provides in part as follows:

- A municipality may fix a fee or other charge, or a method for determining a charge, for responses by the City's fire service to false alarms caused by any of the following conditions listed below;
 - a) false alarm caused by faulty automatic fire detection systems
 - b) false alarm caused by property owners neglect of system and or maintenance
 - false alarm caused by maliciousness as a result of property owners NOT having access to their systems secured
 - d) false alarm caused by service technicians NOT notifying fire department dispatch
- 2) A fee or charge under subsection (1) may be collected by the municipality in the same manner as a tax may be collected or enforced under this Act; and

AND WHEREAS Council has determined the advisability of setting recovering a charge for such false alarms, based on the cost of providing fire protection services;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Thompson enacts as follows:

THAT any false fire alarm response initiated by a service technician who has not provided prior notification to the fire department dispatch that work is being performed on a fire alarm system shall be subject to cost recovery. The applicable fee shall be as set out in the City of Thompson Fee and Fine Schedule, as it exists or is amended from time to time. The charge shall be issued to the responsible service provider or technician.

THAT no charge shall be payable by the owner of a property from which an automatic fire detection system causes a first false fire alarm within a 12-month period. The City shall provide public education materials to the owner or representative of the property at the time of the first incident.

THAT the owner of any property from which an automatic fire detection system causes two or more false fire alarms within a 12-month period shall be subject to cost recovery for each subsequent incident. The applicable fee shall be as set out in the City of Thompson Fee and Fine Schedule, as it exists or is amended from time to time.

THAT the invoicing for any false fire alarm incident shall be issued by the fire department dispatch within 3 business days of the incident occurring;

THAT all payments shall be made payable to The City of Thompson within 30 days of receipt of invoice;

THAT the Thompson Fire & Emergency Services department shall provide a monthly report to The City of Thompson a list of all invoices that have been sent out for payment;

THAT all charges imposed pursuant to paragraph 2 of this by-law may be collected by The City of Thompson in the same manner as a tax may be collected or enforced under The Municipal Act.

Read a first time this 18th day of August , 2025 A.D.

Read a second time this 8th day of September , 2025 A.D.

Read a third time this 8th day of September , 2025 A.D.

Done and passed by the Council of the City of Thompson in regular session assembled this 8th day of September, 2025 A.D.

The City of Thompson

Mayo

City Manager