



To: General Purposes Committee

To: General Purposes Committee May 21/

Date: May 6, 2002

From: J. Richard McKenna  
City Clerk

File: 8060-20-7362

Re: Fire and Security Alarm System Regulation Bylaw No. 7362

Staff Recommendation

That Fire and Security Alarm System Regulation Bylaw No. 7362 be introduced and given first, second and third readings.

J. Richard McKenna  
City Clerk

Att. 1

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Fire Rescue .....	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	
Budgets .....	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	
Law.....	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	

Staff Report

During discussions on the preparation of the 2002 Operating Budget, staff were directed to bring forward an increase to the fees charged for fire and security system false alarms. The attached bylaw, aside from updating the language of the original bylaw written a decade ago, increases the fees to \$100 for the first and each subsequent false alarm. The existing fees are \$0 for the first false alarm, \$50 for the second false alarm and \$100 for the third and each subsequent false alarm.



## FIRE AND SECURITY ALARM SYSTEM REGULATION BYLAW NO. 7362

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

### PART ONE: BUSINESS OPERATOR OBLIGATIONS

- 1.1 Every operator of a business located in premises which has an **alarm system** is responsible for keeping the Richmond Fire-Rescue Department informed in writing of the names, and current addresses and telephone numbers of either:
- (a) an **alarm system** monitoring service; or
  - (b) at least three people who may be contacted in the event of an **alarm system** activation.
- 1.2 The three people referred to in clause (b) of section 1.1 must be:
- (a) available 24 hours per day to receive telephone calls from the **RCMP** or the Richmond Fire-Rescue Department in the event of an alarm activation;
  - (b) able to attend at the address of the property of the alarm activation, within 60 minutes of being requested to do so;
  - (c) capable of providing access to the premises where the **alarm system** is located, to a **police officer** or a member of the Richmond Fire-Rescue Department; and
  - (d) capable of operating the **alarm system** and safeguarding the premises where the **alarm system** is located.

### PART TWO: IMPOSITION OF FEES

- 2.1 Every owner or occupier of real property from which a **false alarm** has been generated must pay to the **City**, upon being invoiced in accordance with Part Three, a fee of \$100 for every such **false alarm**.
- 2.2 The fees specified in section 2.1 do not apply to a **false alarm** intended to alert only the occupants of the dwelling unit in which it is installed.

## PART THREE: COLLECTION OF FEES

- 3.1 The **RCMP** and the Richmond Fire-Rescue Department must keep a record of each **false alarm** and provide such records on a monthly basis to the **General Manager, Finance & Corporate Services**.
- 3.2 Upon receipt of the records required under section 3.1, the **General Manager, Finance & Corporate Services**:
- (a) must send an invoice in accordance with the fees specified in Part Two, to the owner or occupier of the property from which the **false alarm** was generated, and
  - (b) may, if the invoice is not paid by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the invoice was sent, add any unpaid amount to the property taxes imposed on the property, and such amount is to be added as taxes in arrears.

## PART FOUR: INTERPRETATION

- 4.1 In this bylaw, the following words have the following meanings:

**ALARM SYSTEM**

means any mechanical, electrical or electronic device which is designed to emit sound or transmit an electrical or electronic signal audible to persons outside the premises fitted with such a device, in the event of a fire, unauthorized entry, intrusion, or other emergency at such premises.

**CITY**

means the City of Richmond.

**FALSE ALARM**

means any intentional or unintentional activation of an **alarm system**, including activation of such **alarm system** by a malfunction, which causes the unnecessary response of either:

(a) a **police officer**; or

(b) the Richmond Fire-Rescue Department

or both.

**GENERAL MANAGER,  
FINANCE & CORPORATE  
SERVICES**

means the person appointed by **Council** to the position of General Manager, Finance & Corporate Services, or an alternate.

**POLICE OFFICER**

means a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

**RCMP**

means the Richmond Detachment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

**PART FIVE: PREVIOUS BYLAW REPEAL**

5.1 Richmond Fire and Security System Bylaw No. 5977 (adopted December 13<sup>th</sup>, 1993), is repealed.

**PART SIX: SEVERABILITY & CITATION**

6.1 If any part, section, sub-section, clause, or sub-clause of this bylaw is, for any reason, held to be invalid by the decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision does not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this bylaw.

6.2 This bylaw is cited as "Fire And Security Alarm System Regulation Bylaw No. 7362".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

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\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK