BYLAW NUMBER 2014-06

BEING A BYLAW OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWN OF TROCHU IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO IMPOSE A USER FEE FOR POLICE AND FIRE SERVICE FALSE ALARMS

WHEREAS, businesses, institutions, and residences may have alarm systems and carbon monoxide detectors installed to: reduce damage to the property in the event of a fire; reduce property losses sustained during break and enters; and to warn building occupants of a hazardous condition; and

WHEREAS Fire Services and RCMP detachments have an obligation to respond to all alarms, resulting in a significant cost (wages, fuel, and vehicle use) to the municipality and the detachment for false alarms; and

WHEREAS a significant percentage of the Fire Service fire calls are for false alarms; and

WHEREAS false alarms unnecessarily increase the risk of traffic accidents and delay police attendance at genuine emergencies; and

WHEREAS Council deems it expedient and proper to institute a charge for false alarms to recover some costs and encourage proper maintenance of alarm systems by users;

NOW THEREFORE, as authorized under the Municipal Government Act, R.S.A. 2000, the Council of the Town of Trochu, duly assembled, hereby enacts as follows:

- Where the Fire Service and/or a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) must respond to a property because of a warning generated by a false alarm; the property owner or occupant shall pay to the Town of Trochu
 - a) If the false alarm is the second or more such alarm in any given calendar year, a user fee of \$200.00 (two hundred dollars).
- 2. A fire false alarm is defined by any activation of the alarm system that results in a response by a member of a Fire Service to the location of the alarm system, and that was not caused by a fire or carbon monoxide emission;
- 3. A police false alarm is defined as any activation of the alarm system that results in a response by a member of the RCMP to the location of the alarm system and that was not caused by an unauthorized entry into the protected premises;
- 4. The County Fire Service and the NCO i/c of the RCMP detachment (or their duly authorized delegate in their absence) shall make the subsequent determination of which incidents constitute a false alarm in accordance with this bylaw.
- 5. The false alarm user fee authorized by this bylaw is: An amount owning to the municipality, and is recoverable as debt due to the municipality.

Read a first time this 22nd day of September, 2014.

Read a second time this 14th day of October, 2014.

Read a third time and finally passed on this 14th day_of October, 2014.

Barry Kletke, Mayor

Carl Peterson, Chief Administrative Officer