



**BYLAW NO. 10-2021  
False Alarm Bylaw  
Town of High Prairie**

A Bylaw of the Town of High Prairie in the Province of Alberta, pursuant to the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26* (MGA) to regulate and control alarm systems in the Town of High Prairie.

**WHEREAS**, Section 7 of the MGA, allows a municipality to pass bylaws respecting the health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Town of High Prairie deems it desirable and necessary in order to protect and preserve the safety and welfare of its citizens that alarm systems be regulated and controlled so as to minimize false alarms;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council of the Town of High Prairie enacts as follows:

**1. TITLE**

1.1 This bylaw may be cited as the "False Alarm Bylaw".

**2. INTERPRETATION**

2.1 In this bylaw:

- a) **"Alarm Business"** means any Person who:
  - i. is engaged in the business of selling, installing, leasing, maintaining, repairing, replacing or servicing of Alarm Systems;
  - ii. monitors Alarm Systems and reports to the police or Fire Department when an Alarm System has been activated; or
  - iii. as a part of regular business activities, responds to any Alarm Site in which as an Alarm System has been activated;
- b) **"Alarm Signal"** means a request for emergency response by police or Fire Department services;
- c) **"Alarm Site"** means a Premises served by an Alarm System(s);
- d) **"Alarm System"** includes a device or devices designed to activate an Alarm Signal but excludes a device that is installed in a vehicle;
- e) **"CAO"** means the Chief Administrative Officer or designate, appointed pursuant to the MGA;
- f) **"False Alarm"** means an activation of an Alarm System which results in a response by the Fire Department, where unauthorized entry to the Alarm Site has not occurred and no police or Fire Department emergency exists, but does not include:

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- i. any False Alarm which the Owner can demonstrate was caused by a storm, lightning, fire, earthquake or act of the nature; or
  - ii. any False Alarm which the Owner can demonstrate was actually caused by the act of some Person other than the Owner including the Owner's officers, agents, employees, independent contractors or any other person subject to the direct or indirect control of the Owner;
- g) **"Fire Chief"** means the person appointed by the CAO as head of the Fire Department;
  - h) **"Fire Department"** means the Fire Chief and/or any other member of the High Prairie Volunteer Fire Department;
  - i) **"Key Holder"** means a Person who is capable of providing entry to the Alarm Site;
  - j) **"MGA"** means the *Municipal Government Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26*;
  - k) **"Owner"** means:
    - i. a Person as registered on the Land Title to an Alarm Site; or
    - ii. a Person in possession of an Alarm Site under a lease, license, or permit.
  - l) **"Person"** means an individual and includes partnership, corporation, trustee, executor, joint venture, proprietorship, association, society and any other legal entity;
  - m) **"Premises"** means land, building or structure where an Alarm System is present; and
  - n) **"Town"** means the Town of High Prairie;

### 3. GENERAL INTERPRETATION

- 3.1 All schedules attached to this Bylaw form part of this Bylaw.
- 3.2 Headings or subheadings in this Bylaw are inserted for ease of reference and guidance purposes only and do not form part of this Bylaw.
- 3.3 Words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.
- 3.4 Where this Bylaw cites or refers to any act, regulation, code or other bylaw, the citation or reference to the act, regulation, code or other bylaw includes any amendments thereto before or after the commencement of this Bylaw, and includes reference to any act, regulation, code or other bylaw that may be substituted in its place.



- 3.5 Each provision of this Bylaw is independent of, and severable from, all other provisions and if any provision is declared invalid or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions of this Bylaw remain valid and enforceable.
- 3.6 Nothing in this Bylaw relieves a Person from complying with any provision of any federal, provincial or municipal law or regulation or any requirement of any lawful permit, order or license.

**4. ALARM SYSTEMS**

- 4.1 No Person shall install, maintain or use an Alarm System, which is capable of generating an audible alarm continuously for a period of greater than fifteen (15) minutes after each activation.
- 4.2 Every Person maintaining an Alarm System shall keep posted a notice of the Alarm Business monitoring the Alarm Site with the 24 hour phone number included.
- 4.3 Such notice shall be posted near the Alarm System in such a position as to be legible from the ground level adjacent to the Alarm Site.

**5. KEY HOLDERS**

- 5.1 Every Person maintaining an Alarm System shall keep the Alarm Business informed, by notice in writing, of the current names and telephone numbers of the Key Holders to be contacted in the event that the Alarm System is activated.
- 5.2 Every Alarm Business shall maintain a list of Key Holders.
- 5.3 The Key Holder:
  - a) Shall be available to receive telephone calls made in respect to the Alarm System;
  - b) Shall be capable of affording access to the Alarm Site; and
  - c) Shall attend at the Alarm Site within 20 minutes of being requested to do so by the Alarm Business or the Fire Department.

**6. MONITORING OF ALARM SYSTEM**

- 6.1 A Person who monitors an Alarm System and who informs any member of the R.C.M.P., Town Peace Officer or the Fire Department that the monitored alarm has been activated, shall cause a Person capable of affording access to the Alarm Site to attend at such Premises within twenty (20) minutes of such notice.
- 6.2 No Person shall use, maintain or install, or permit the use, maintenance or installation of any Alarm System which transmits a message to any telephone number assigned to the R.C.M.P, Town Peace Officer or the Fire Department.

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**7. RESPONSE FEE**

- 7.1 Where a False Alarm is activated, the Owner of the Alarm Site shall, upon demand pay a response fee to the Town as set out in Town of High Prairie Fees Bylaw.
- 7.2 An Owner who is charged a fee must pay the fee within the time and in the manner specified on the invoice setting out the fee.
- 7.3 A fee that is not paid becomes a debt owing to the Town and such debt may be charged against the land as taxes due and owing in respect of that land.

**8. REPEALING**

- 10.1 Bylaw #08-2011 False Alarm Bylaw is hereby repealed.

**9. COMING INTO FORCE**

- 11.1 This Bylaw shall come into force and effect upon third reading.

**First Reading given on** this 9th day of March, 2021.

**Second Reading given on** this 13th day of April, 2021.

**Third and Final Reading given on** this 14th day of December, 2021.

  
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Mayor Brian Panasiuk

  
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CAO Rod Risling