



Council Report **For the Meeting of May 7, 2020**

To: Council **Date:** April 10, 2020
From: Jo-Ann O'Connor, Deputy Director of Finance
Subject: 2020 Tax Bylaw

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Give first, second, and third readings to "Tax Bylaw, 2020."
2. Reconsider and adopt Tax Bylaw, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On April 23, 2020 Council directed staff to bring forward Tax Bylaw, 2020 for consideration of introductory readings and adoption to the May 7, 2020 Council meeting. The attached bylaw reflects the tax rate option Council approved at the April 23 Council meeting.

The purpose of the annual Tax Bylaw is to set tax rates to be applied to the assessed values of all taxable land and improvements within the City. In accordance with section 197 of the Community Charter, the Hospital District Act and the Local Government Act, Council can enact the Tax Bylaw to generate municipal taxes and funds needed to meet the city's obligations for the regional and hospital district's annual requisitions.

Each year, the city must adopt a Tax Bylaw after the approval of the Financial Plan Bylaw and before May 15th of each year. This bylaw establishes the rates required to collect the appropriate funds as per the City's Financial Plan and for the annual requisition amounts invoiced from the Capital Regional and Hospital Districts. Also, this bylaw provides the authorization to generate the property tax billings which are due August 4, 2020.

To accommodate the printing and mailing of property tax notices to allow ample time for taxpayers to receive notices and pay before the tax due date, staff are proposing both the introduction and adoption of the tax rate bylaws at the daytime Council meeting on May 7. The provisions of the recent Order from the Provincial Government enabling local governments to adopt bylaws in one meeting as a result of COVID-19 enables this approach. While not to be used without thought, the time sensitivity issues, brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic and the recent changes to the Financial Plan warrant, in staff's view, the introduction and adoption of the Bylaw in the same meeting.

Respectfully submitted,




Jo-Ann O'Connor
Deputy Director of Finance



Susanne Thompson
Deputy City Manager/CFO

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:


Date: Apr. 27, 2020