



Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title: Master Rates, Bylaws for Fees, Charges & Fines
Presented by: Anne Victoor, Financial Services Manager

Sponsors:

Indexes:

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Attachments: 1. Bylaw 20-2016 - Master Rates Amendment, 2. City Council Policy C-FS-16, Municipal Fees and Charges, 3. C-FS-16, Municipal Fees and Charges, Schedule 12, Master Rates and Bylaws Fees and Charges, 4. Fees defined by City Council Policy C-IS-02, Wastewater Service Line Disruptions and Maintenance, 5. Fines and Penalties Schedule, 6. C-FS-16 Fees and Charges Schedule, 7. Fees and Charges Budget Impact Summary

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
9/19/2016	1	City Council	receive first reading	Pass
9/19/2016	1	City Council	received second reading	Pass
9/19/2016	1	City Council	consent to third reading	Pass
9/19/2016	1	City Council	received third reading	Pass

TAMRIMS#: B06

Master Rates, Bylaws for Fees, Charges & Fines

Presented by: Anne Victoor, Financial Services Manager

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Bylaw 20/2016, being a bylaw to amend Master Rates Bylaw 1/82, Business License Bylaw 43/2000, and Tobacco Retail Licensing Bylaw 20/96, be read a first time.
2. That Bylaw 20/2016 be read a second time.
3. That unanimous consent be given for consideration of third reading of Bylaw 20/2016.
4. That Bylaw 20/2016 be read a third and final time.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Administration is proposing adjustments to the City's municipal fees, charges and bylaws, as part of the 2017-2019 Municipal and Utility Budget Process. The adjustments are designed to reflect Council's policy direction where applicable. The budget impact of the recommended adjustments is detailed in the report below.

COUNCIL DIRECTION

On September 6, 2016, Council passed the following resolution:

(C521-2016)

That the proposed new rates indicated in C-FS-16, Municipal Fees and Charges, Schedule 12, Master Rates and Bylaws Fees and Charges, provided as an attachment to the September 6, 2016 Council agenda report entitled "Master Rates, Bylaws for Fees, Charges & Fines", be incorporated into the appropriate amending bylaws for fees, charges and fines and presented to Council on September 19, 2016 for consideration.

That the rates governed by Council Policy, as shown in the attachments to the September 6, 2016 Council agenda report entitled "Master Rates, Bylaws for Fees, Charges & Fines", be used in the development of the 2017-19 Municipal Operating Budget and the 2017 Utility Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Administration is proposing adjustments to the City's municipal fees, charges and bylaws, as part of the 2017-2019 Municipal Budget Process. The adjustments are designed to reflect Council's policy direction where applicable. The budget impact of the recommended adjustments is detailed in the report below.

User fees are a critical element of a municipality's revenue mix. Together with government transfers and property taxation, they represent a significant portion of the City's revenue stream. User fees also reflect the City's support for a 'user pay' philosophy, such that wherever possible, the user of a particular program or service pays the cost of delivering or providing that program or service.

There are four types of fees/fines which are listed below:

1. The first type of fee is a non-optional user fee set in a stand-alone bylaw or the Master Rates Bylaw 1/82 and requires Council approval to make changes. These fees are regulated and there is no ability to opt out without amending or repealing a bylaw. This includes things such as development permits, building permits, tobacco retail licensing and electrical fees. The attachment named Bylaw 20/2016 - Master Rates Amendment is the amending bylaw that details all fee adjustments to any stand-alone bylaw or the Master Rates Bylaw 1/82.
2. The second type of fee is within Council Policy C-IS-02 Wastewater Service Line Disruptions and Maintenance relating to wastewater service disruption callout charges.
3. The third type relates to fines that are within bylaw which are levied to people who are not complying with a bylaw. However, fines are set at an appropriate rate in order to act as an effective deterrent to certain behaviour and are not intended to be used for revenue generation. Adjusting levels of fines is done in conjunction with a corresponding review of the bylaw to determine if the fine is having the desired effect on deterring behaviour, for example, exceeding noise regulations under the Noise Bylaw or operating a local business without a required license.
4. The fourth type relates to "optional" fees that are covered within the attachment named Council Policy C-FS-16 Municipal Fees and Charges. This policy delegates approval to the City Manager and to be used in the development of the 2017 Municipal Operating Budget. Fees within this policy are charges that people pay if they wish to access or use an "optional"

service. This includes things such as recreational memberships, facility rentals and transit fares.

The revenue for fees and fines are found in both the Municipal and Utility Operating budgets.

**1. Fees in Master Rates Bylaw 1/82 and other bylaws
(Changes requires Council approval)**

Amendments to fees established by bylaw are being recommended to Council for approval. The impact of all proposed fee increases will equate to additional revenue of approximately \$21,900 to the Municipal Operating Budget No new schedules are proposed for the 2017 budget. The fee schedules can be found in the attachment named C-FS-16, Municipal Fees and Charges, Schedule 12, Master Rates and Bylaws Fees and Charges, Any changes to the Master Rate schedules are shown in red.

**2. Fees contained in Council Policy C-IS-02
(Adjustments made by Administration as per Policy)**

Fees approved through Council Policy C-IS-02 have been calculated based on their specified policy criteria. The impact of the wastewater service disruption callout rate increases equates to additional revenue of approximately \$2,000 to be added to the 2017 Utility Operating Budget. The fee schedules can be found in the attachment named Fees defined by City Council Policy C-IS-02, Wastewater Service Line Disruptions and Maintenance.

**3. Fines contained in bylaws
(Council approval required only if changes to fines are desired)**

No additional revenue is generated in the 2017 operating budget from increasing fine rates. Administration feels that the fine rates are set at an appropriate level and are having the desired effect of deterring behavior. The fines schedules can be found in the attachment named Fines and Penalties Schedule, and are provided for information purposes only.

4. Recommended Fee Revenue from Council Policy C-FS-16

Fees approved through Council Policy C-FS-16 have been calculated based on their specified policy criteria as outlined in their respective schedules. These fees have already been approved by the City Manager as per delegated authority and are presented to Council as information. The impact of Schedule 1 - 11 rate increases equates to additional revenue of approximately \$45,300 to be added to the 2017 Municipal Operating Budget. The fee schedules can be found in the attachment named C-FS-16 Fees and Charges Schedule.

Summary of Proposed Changes

A summary of the budget impacts is provided in the attachment titled Fees and Charges Budget Impact Summary.

STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS OR ENGAGEMENT

N/A

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

a) Financial:

Approval of the recommendation will generate \$67,200 in Municipal Operating Revenue and \$2,000 in Utility Operating Revenue. This will provide funding for the delivery of various municipal programs and services while continuing to support the City's user pay philosophy.

b) Legal / Risk:

None at this time

c) Program or Service:

None at this time

d) Organizational:

None at this time

ALTERNATIVES AND IMPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

If Council does not wish to support the recommendation, the following alternatives could be considered:

- a) Leave fee(s) unchanged from prior year. This will result in lower forecasted revenue generated from user fees.
- b) Make changes to specific fees by resolution or bylaw. This may result in a change in revenue which may increase/decrease the tax rate.

STRATEGIC CONNECTIONS

a) City of St. Albert Strategic Plan (Policy C-CG-02)

Pillars of Sustainability

SOCIAL - We are a friendly and inclusive community of passionate equals, where everyone feels a sense of belonging. We believe that community starts with the person next door.

ECONOMIC - We prosper and excel through a strong and diverse economy that is supported by forward-thinking commerce, outstanding local businesses and a dynamic downtown core.

CULTURE - We are proud of our storied history that has fed and nurtured our festive and culturally-rich community.

Governance Strategy

Council is committed to ensuring that the City of St. Albert is a responsive, accountable government that delivers value to the community.

Service Delivery Strategy

Council is committed to ensuring that the City of St. Albert is engaging residents to identify opportunities to improve delivery of services to the community.

b) Long Term Plans (e.g. MDP, Social Master Plan, Cultural Master Plan, etc.)

N/A

- c) Corporate Objectives (See Corporate Business Plan)
- Deliver programs and services that meet or exceed our standards
 - Exercise strong fiscal management
 - Ensure our customers are very satisfied
- d) Council Policies, Bylaws or Federal/Provincial statutes
City Council Policy C-FS-16, Municipal Fees and Charges
Master Rates Bylaw 1/82
- e) Other Plans or Initiatives (Business Plans, Implementation Strategies, etc.)
N/A

Report Date: September 26, 2016
Author(s): Stanley Chan, Divisional Controller
Committee/Department: Financial Services
General Manager: Greg Dahlen, Acting General Manager
Interim City Manager: C. Jardine