

## January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### Special Meeting

Kerri Borne, Chief Financial Officer, provided a brief presentation of the 2024 potential rates for water, sewer and garbage.

### Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Presentation

Committee members Elizabeth Blackburn, Chair, David Schindler, Cassandra Carter, and Kimberly Grywinski presented a year in review of the committee's activities and their recommendations to Council.

### Mackenzie Community Services – Ski Hill Use Request

Council received a letter from Mackenzie Community services requesting to use Little Mac Ski Hill for no charge during their regular hours of operation when working with a client. The majority of the use would be for the Child and Youth Care program, ages 3-19, with goals to make positive changes in their lives. Council approved the request.

### District of Mackenzie Bursary

Council approved a District bursary in the amount of \$500 to be awarded to a student graduating from Mackenzie Secondary School in 2024.

### Letter of Support – BC License Plate Program

The Province of British Columbia and ICBC are currently seeking public input as they aim to broaden the scope of the Specialty Licence Plate Program. This expansion is intended to encompass support for non-profit and charitable organizations within the province. The overarching objective of the program is to generate funds and raise awareness for non-profit organizations and charities that hold particular significance for British Columbia motorists. Individuals interested in contributing to this initiative are encouraged to participate in the survey available at <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/engagement/specialty-licence-plates/>. The survey provides an avenue for the public to express their views on the expansion of the Specialty Licence Plate Program. Notably, the survey period extends until January 31, 2024, affording participants ample time to share their perspectives and preferences regarding this impactful program.

### Letter to Minister Farnsworth Regarding the Community Safety Act

Council received a letter from the City of Fort-St. John, sent to Minister Farnsworth requesting the Community Safety Act be brought into force in response to the increased criminal activity and social disorder in Fort St. John. Council voted in favour of sending a letter to Minister Farnsworth in support.

### AIAC – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Activity Report

Council received the Accessibility and Inclusion Advisory Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter activity report for information.

### Age-Friendly Accessibility and Inclusion Action Plan

Council passed a motion to defer accepting the plan for further time for review and update some required edits found in the document.

## **Ernie Bodin Community Centre (EBCC) – Lease Extensions**

Council passed a motion to not extend the lease for the organizations moving out of the Ernie Bodin Community Centre (EBCC).

## **Short Term Rentals**

Council received a report on the current state of short term rental units in Mackenzie. Council moved that staff begin to update District Bylaws and Policy to allow short-term rentals in Mackenzie.

## **Complete Communities Grant Application**

Council moved to support the application to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) for the Complete Communities Grant for up to \$150,000 towards a community sustainability review.

## **Dental Equipment Agreement**

Council moved to authorize Administration to enter an equipment use partnering agreement with Dr. Johannes Yliruusi for the proposed operation of a dental clinic in the District of Mackenzie.

## **RDFFG Building Inspection Agreement**

Council authorized the District to enter into an agreement with the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George for Building Inspection Services from January 2, 2024 – April 30, 2024. The 4-month service agreement is estimated to cost up to \$20,000.

## **Contract Disclosure – Chrysalid Tech & Print**

Councillor Hipkiss provided disclosure to the District that she is the owner of Chrysalid Tech & Print and that the municipality has used Chrysalid Tech & Print for municipal related business as a local source of stationary supplies.

## **Contract Disclosure – Garden House Bed & Breakfast**

Mayor Atkinson provided disclosure to the District that she is the owner of Garden House Bed & Breakfast and that the municipality has used the Garden House Bed and Breakfast for municipal related business as a source of local accommodations.

## **DOM 23-10B Garbage Truck Replacement**

Council approved the purchase of a new commercial Garbage Truck from Rollins Machinery in the amount of \$499,077 plus GST. The new truck will be capable of dumping various sizes of bear resistant bins and will only require one operator instead of two. New bear resistant commercial bins will be purchased costing approximately \$183,200.

## **2024 Water, Sewer and Garbage Proposed Rates**

As the community ages, operations are seeing more deficiencies in infrastructure and the need for replacement. It is important that funds are set aside to ensure they are available when it is time to replace aging infrastructure.

Below is a table showing Council's proposed annual increase rates for Water, Sewer, and Garbage service rates projected to the year 2030.

Residential	2023 Bylaw Rate	2024 Proposed Bylaw Rate	Projected Rates					
			2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Water*	\$408.13	\$457.11 (12%)	\$511.96	\$566.81	\$621.67	\$676.52	\$731.38	\$786.23
Sewer*	\$266.55	\$290.54 (9%)	\$314.53	\$338.52	\$362.51	\$386.50	\$410.487	\$434.48
Garbage Collection (Weekly)**	\$15.63	\$16.65 (6.5%)	\$17.66	\$18.68	\$19.69	\$20.71	\$21.73	\$22.74
Garbage Collection (Bi-weekly)**	\$13.24	\$14.10 (6.5%)	\$14.96	\$15.82	\$16.68	\$17.54	\$18.40	\$19.26

\*Annual Rate, Billed Annually

\*\*Monthly Rate, Billed Annually

Commercial	Bi-Monthly minimum Charges		Projected Rates					
	2023 Bylaw Rate	2024 Proposed Bylaw Rate	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Water*	\$408.13	\$457.11 (12%)	\$506.08	\$555.06	\$604.03	\$653.00	\$701.98	\$750.96
Sewer*	\$52.79	\$57.54 (9%)	\$62.29	\$67.04	\$71.79	\$76.55	\$81.30	\$86.05

\*Billed Bi-Monthly

## Council Travel – NCLGA, UBCM, LGLA Costs and Policy

Council received a report outlining the anticipated expenses for Council members to attend the North Centra Local Government Association, Union of BC Municipalities and Local Government Leadership Academy for the annual conventions. Council passed a motion to reduce the \$5,000 travel budget to \$3,000.

## Bylaw No. 1511 Annual Mayor and Council Remuneration Amendment

This bylaw amendment would set the annual remuneration increase for Council to the Consumer Price Index. Council gave this bylaw the first three readings.

## Coming Events

"How Do I..." Speaker Series

Date: Sunday, January 21, 2024

Time: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Mackenzie community Services

Speaker: Wendy Chambers