

Report

Date February 21, 2023

File:

Subject Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 3893

PURPOSE

To introduce an amendment to the Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 3860 to establish utility parcel tax rates for 2023-2027.

BACKGROUND

At the January 10, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting, the following resolutions were passed:

THAT the Committee of the Whole direct staff to prepare the Financial Plan Bylaw, a Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw and a Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw to:

- (1) Increase Chemainus water metered minimum and parcel tax by 5% per year for five years;
- (2) Increase Crofton water metered minimum and parcel tax by 5% per year for five years;
- (3) Increase South End water metered minimum and parcel tax by 3% per year for five years; and,
- (4) Increase metered water rates (for amounts over the minimum) for all water utilities by 3% per year for five years.

THAT the Committee of the Whole direct staff to prepare the Financial Plan Bylaw, a Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw and a Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw to:

- (1) Increase Chemainus sewer parcel tax and user fees by 2% per year for four years beginning in 2024;
- (2) Increase Crofton sewer parcel tax and user fees by 3% per year for five years;
- (3) Increase South End sewer parcel tax and user fees by 5% per year for five years; and,
- (4) Increase Maple Bay sewer treatment plant parcel tax and user fee by 3% per year for five years.

DISCUSSION

Each of the sewer and water utilities uses a combination of user fees and parcel taxes to ensure sufficient revenues to maintain and replace the infrastructure and provide clean, safe drinking water and efficient sewage services. User fee changes are included in a separate Fees and Charges Bylaw Amendment for Council Consideration.

The rates included in the attached Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 3893 reflect the direction from the Committee of the Whole on January 10, 2023.

OPTIONS

1. **(Recommended Option)** THAT Council give first, second and third reading to Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 3893, 2023.
 - This bylaw gives effect to the direction from the Committee of the Whole on January 10, 2023. It

ensures that sufficient revenues will be generated in 2023 to meet the operating and capital budgets for the sewer and water utilities as presented that day.

2. (1) THAT Council give first and second readings to Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 3893, 2023 and,

(2) THAT Council amend section 6 in Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 3893, 2023 by striking out *(identify \$ amount)* for item *(identify item number)* and inserting *(identify \$ amount)* in its place.

(3) THAT Council give third reading as amended to Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 3893, 2023.
 - The bylaw presented includes rates approved during budget deliberations and ensures sufficient revenues will be collected in 2023 to meet the financial plan bylaw. Should Council wish to make changes, it may be necessary to revisit the affected utility budgets and adjust the financial plan accordingly.

IMPLICATIONS

The bylaw presented to Council for consideration today includes the amounts approved by the Committee of the Whole to ensure the utilities are able to meet the revenue targets needed for 2023 operating and capital.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council give first, second and third reading to Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 3893, 2023.

Report prepared by:



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Approved to be forwarded to Council:



Ted Swabey
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments: Sewer and Water Parcel Tax Amendment Bylaw No. 3893, 2023