



AMHERST TOWN COUNCIL

RFD# 2019021

Date: March 25, 2019

TO: Mayor Kogon and Members of Council

SUBMITTED BY: Shelley Rector, CPA, CMA – CFO

DATE: March 25, 2019

SUBJECT: **Setting the Solid Waste Management Uniform Charge**

ORIGIN: Budget Management Policy 03450-04.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY: Budget Management Policy 03450-04 and MGA 75(4) (b).

RECOMMENDATIONS: That, per the attached summary, the setting of the solid waste management uniform charge at \$185.00 for the 2019/20 fiscal year be approved.

BACKGROUND: The amount collected for the solid waste management uniform charge is the amount of the total net expenses for the upcoming year divided by the number of dwelling units in the Town. Historically this has been done as a part of the regular budget process.

DISCUSSION: As the formula is simply total net expenses divided by dwelling units, and the full amount of expense are to be covered by the charge, staff recommend the setting of this rate in the regular March council meeting to expedite budget discussions. The increase to solid waste expenses can be attributed to inflationary increases to costs and an increase in the volume of garbage being picked up which has resulted in increased tipping fees. Of note is that changes were made to the bulky pick-up moving it to a bi-weekly schedule which likely is the reason for the increase in tipping fees.

The anticipated net costs for 2019/20 are \$591,495 and the approximate number of total dwelling units within the boundaries of the Town of Amherst in residential premises with less than four such dwelling units is 3,205. Therefore $\$591,495 / 3,205$ equals \$185 (\$184.55 rounded up).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The solid waste management uniform charge will see an increase of \$10 which will be offset by an equal increase in expenses.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Communication coordinated by Corporate Communications Officer including media releases, the Town's website and social media.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS: None

SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS: None

ALTERNATIVES:



1. Do not approve the changes to the solid waste management uniform charge and fund the increased cost through an increase in general tax rates.
2. Defer the increase to budget discussions.

ATTACHMENTS: Solid Waste Management Uniform Charge Resolution and waste collection and disposal budget for 2019/20.

Report prepared by: Shelley Rector, CPA, CMA, CFO
Report and Financial approved by: