

# INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council

FROM: Shelley Rector CPA, CMA - CFO

DATE: May 7, 2019

SUBJECT: Setting of General Rate Discussion

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## **Background**

Council received information in support of the General Tax Rate and a recommendation on what the general tax rate for 2019/2020 should be to balance the budget. This information is contained in the budget binder given to Council on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Questions were received from Council after the meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> and responses to those questions were provided via email.

During the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, Council identified changes that were required to the user fee policy. Those changes have since been made and a revised red-lined version is in this meeting package. Also discussed during the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting was to move the Youth Free Ice Time to the Community Support Area Rate. This change has been completed as well as the implementation of recording the associated revenue and expense for the Youth Free Ice Time in 2019/20. These changes resulted in zero impact to the general rate and the community support area rate as the revenue and expense offset each other.

## **Discussion**

Our discussion today will be focused on whether Council has enough information to refer the setting of the General Tax Rate to the next Council meeting.

Part of the discussion last week included the ten-year projection (page 11 of the binder) and the forecast that our sustainability reserve will be fully utilized by 2023-24 based on the current information if our tax rate is increased as proposed and remains the same in future years.

The anticipated framework for the discussion is as follows:

- Is Council willing to approve the operating budget and General Rate as presented on April 29<sup>th</sup> with an increase to the General rate of .004 (per page 2 of binder)?

## **Next Steps**

If we can reach consensus on the setting of the General Tax Rate, we would ask for a motion that this be referred to the next Council meeting.