

SYNOPSIS

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) By-law Amendment

The Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Bylaw enables the town to offer financing to homeowners for energy efficiency retrofits and renewable energy adoption that are paid back via their tax bill over a period of up to 10 years. The PACE Bylaw, adopted on October 22, 2018, was based on a template that, upon further review, requires changes to ensure the program parameters and administration are made clear. The review also considered PACE program documentation and best practices from other municipal units. As a result, staff are proposing the PACE Bylaw be amended and that a corresponding PACE Policy be adopted. The new policy will be brought forward in June subsequent to second reading and final adoption of the bylaw.

The administration of the program will be carried out by the Clean Nova Scotia Foundation. A sample service agreement is attached. Staff are also recommending that the CAO be authorized to enter into a service agreement with that organization in the amount of \$13,300. It is anticipated that cost will be offset by a corresponding grant from the Province of Nova Scotia.

MOTION:

That Council give first reading of an amendment to the Town of Amherst By-law B-8 Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program; and

That Council authorize the CAO to enter into a service agreement with the Clean Nova Scotia Foundation to administer the program on behalf of the Town in the amount of \$13,300.