

The 9th meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> Elected Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay was held on January 29, 2018 at 5:02 PM and called to order by Mayor Wally Andersen.

Members Present:

Mayor Wally Andersen  
Deputy Mayor Bert Pomeroy  
Councillor Michelle Baikie  
Councillor Jackie Compton Hobbs  
Councillor Shawn Crann  
Councillor Lori Dyson-Edmunds

Also Present:

Confidential Secretary, Kathy Eddy  
Town Engineer/Acting Town Manager Randy Dillon  
Director of Financial Operations/Acting Town Clerk Nadine MacAulay

Regrets:

Youth Councillor Katie Wells

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Pomeroy and seconded by Councillor Compton Hobbs to adopt the agenda of the 9th meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Motion carried.

**2. 2018 Municipal By-Election**

- a. **Appointment of Returning Officer**-The Finance and Administration Committee recommends that pursuant to *Section 13(2)* of the *Municipal Elections Act* the Town Council of The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay appoint Nadine MacAulay as the Returning Officer for the March 13, 2018 municipal by-election. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pomeroy. Motion carried.
- b. **Appointment of Alternate Returning Officer**-The Finance and Administration Committee recommends that pursuant to *Section 13(2)* of the *Municipal Elections Act* the Town Council of The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay appoint Paul Motty as the

Alternate Returning Officer for the March 13, 2018 municipal by-election. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.

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- c. **Nomination Day**-The Finance and Administration Committee recommends that pursuant to *Section 14 of the Municipal Elections Act* the Town Council of The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay set Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 8:00am to 8:00pm as the nomination day for the March 13, 2018 municipal by-election. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.
- d. **Advance Poll**-The Finance and Administration Committee recommends that pursuant to *Section 26(2) of the Municipal Elections Act* the Town Council of The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay hold one advance poll on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to be located at the Town Office at 212 Hamilton River Road. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pomeroy. Motion carried.

## 2. COMBINED COUNCILS OF LABRADOR AGM SPONSORSHIP

The Finance, Administration and Policy committee recommends Council approve sponsorship of \$1500.00 towards the 2018 Combined Councils of Labrador Annual General Meeting. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Compton Hobbs. Motion carried.

## 3. 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET SPEECH

### **Budget Speech 2018**

Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay

**Councillor Michelle Baikie**

*Chair of Finance, Administration and Policy Committee*

January 29, 2018

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- Your Worship Mayor Andersen, Deputy Mayor Pomeroy and Councillors Dyson-Edmunds, Compton-Hobbs and Crann, ladies and gentlemen...
  - As Chair of the Finance, Administration and Policy Committee, it gives me great pleasure to present to you the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay's 2018 budget.

- This is a fiscally-responsible budget, one that will allow us to meet our objectives to provide quality services to all residents of our community. It will allow us to make investments in much-needed resources, equipment and infrastructure as we position ourselves for future growth.
- Our budget is balanced at \$23,232,490 – the largest in our history. This figure includes planned multi-year capital works and other projects, cost shared with the Province and the Government of Canada.
- Our residents, particularly those in the Valley portion of our town, have told us that they want better drinking water. I can safely say that we as the 12<sup>th</sup> Council are carrying out some of the vision that previous councils and the Late Mayor John Hickey had for our great town.
- This budget will allow us to access more water from Spring Gulch water, but it will come at a cost. We have trimmed departmental budgets and have had to make some tough decisions while, at the same time, minimizing impacts on taxpayers.
- Water rates will increase by \$25 this year. That works out to just over \$2 per month, or 50 cents a week.
- The water meter rate will increase from \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 1,000 gallons and the sewer meter rate from \$1.66 to \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons.
- These increases will help offset the cost of additional water from the Department of National Defence. Our goal is to have an agreement signed with DND within weeks and to have the water turned on by March 31<sup>st</sup> if not sooner. Council will continue to negotiate with the Department of National Defence to hopefully bring costs down in the future.
- I am pleased to note that there is no change to property tax mil rates for residential and commercial customers. As well, business tax rates will remain unchanged from 2017. This year, however, given the increased demand for data centres, council is introducing a new tax category, to be set at 55 mils. This is in-line with rates in our northern regions.

- The cost to operate and maintain our landfill continues to increase annually. To offset this, a 25 per cent increase will be applied to tipping fees for commercial and industrial waste originating outside town limits. The tipping fees for waste originating from within town limits will increase by 10 per cent. For example, the cost to dump a pick-up load of waste will now be \$11 – up from \$10. For a large 20-tonne tandem truck, the price will increase from \$150 to \$165.
- Council is also pleased to continue to apply tax relief to low-income property owners. This shows the ongoing commitment and effort by the town to assist those with low household incomes. As well, the recreational property tax rebate policy will also remain in place.
- Investing in town operations is key to our future growth and prosperity.
- This budget will allow us to hire an additional enforcement officer to focus on ensuring our municipal regulations are enforced and to deal with the growing number of concerns from residents. As well, the Town is expected to achieve cost savings by hiring a Red Seal electrician to meet the needs of the town's operations.
- The budget will allow us to purchase a new backhoe – a badly needed piece of equipment for town operations. This is part of Council's commitment to replace our aging fleet of equipment and vehicles.
- We will also acquire additional surveillance cameras, radar speed signs, a new vehicle for Fire Chief and equipment for the Fire Hall, as well as new uniforms for the Volunteer Fire Fighters.
- Further investments will be made at Kinsmen Park and other community outdoor infrastructure.
- We will continue to invest in our GIS department, to enable us to operate more effectively and efficiently.
- The Labrador Wellness Centre was a project started by the 11<sup>th</sup> Council and this Council continues to support such a necessary facility for our community.

- It is Council's hope that construction will begin on this project this year. The total project is expected to cost just over \$22 million – cost shared with the Province and the Government of Canada. This year's budget sets aside \$6 million for the project.
- In conclusion, I would like to thank Council and staff for their hard work in putting out a fiscal and responsible budget for 2018. We have met the Municipal Affairs deadline of Jan 31, 2018 for budget submission - despite our difficult setback with the unexpected passing of our Mayor, the late John Hickey.
- I would also like to acknowledge the residents for their contributions and suggestions during the budget consultations through emails, telephone calls and in person. Your thoughts and ideas were taken into consideration throughout this process.

Thank you.

#### 4. 2018 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

##### **Motion # FA2018-01-01**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the 2018 Municipal Budget for the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay as per *Section 77* of the *Municipalities Act, 1999* with total revenues of \$ 23,232,490 and total expenditures of \$ 23,232,490. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pomeroy. Motion carried.

#### 5. 2018 MUNICIPAL TAX RATES AND FEES

##### Property Tax

##### **Motion # FA2018-01-02**

Be it resolved that pursuant to *Section 112* of the *Municipalities Act, 1999*, the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve one uniform Property Tax Residential mil rate of 6.25 mils, Property Tax Commercial Rate of 10.5 mils and a Minimum Non-Vacant Property Tax Rate of \$50.00 as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Taxes and Rates**, Policy Number:

**F0001** as the property tax for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.

**Motion # FA2018-01-03**

Be it resolved that pursuant to *Section 112 of the Municipalities Act, 1999*, the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve the Minimum Vacant Commercial Property Tax of \$3,750.00, as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Taxes and Rates**, Policy Number: **F0001** as the property tax for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.

**Water and Sewer Rates**

**Motion # FA2018-01-04**

Be it resolved that pursuant to *Section 130 of the Municipalities Act, 1999*, the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve the Sewer Tax Rate of \$300.00 per year and the Water Tax Rate of \$235.00 per year, as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Taxes and Rates**, Policy Number: **F0001** and **Water and Sewer Rates**, Policy Number: **F0008** as the water and sewer rates for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.

**Motion # FA2018-01-05**

Be it resolved that pursuant to *Section 130 of the Municipalities Act, 1999*, the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Water Metered Rate of \$3.50 per 1000 gallons of water consumed and the Metered Sewer Tax Rate at \$2.00 per 1000 gallons of water consumed, for clients using water meters, as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual titled **Taxes and Rates**, Policy Number: **F0001** and **Water and Sewer Rates**, Policy Number: **F0008** as the water meter rates and sewer meter rates for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Dyson-Edmunds. Motion carried.

**Business Tax**

**Motion # FA2018-01-06**

Be it resolved that pursuant to *Section 120 of the Municipalities Act, 1999*, the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the **Business Tax Rates** as set out in the

Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Taxes and Rates**, Policy Number: **F0001** as the business tax rates and utility tax rate for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.

### **Town Fees for Services and Equipment Rental**

#### **Motion # FA2018-01-07**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Arena Fees set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Arena Fees**, Policy Number: **F0002** for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Compton Hobbs. Motion carried.

#### **Motion # FA2018-01-08**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Ballfield Rental Fees set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual titled **Ballfield Rental Fees**, Policy Number: **F0003** for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Compton Hobbs. Motion carried.

### **Miscellaneous Rates**

#### **Motion # FA2018-01-09**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Miscellaneous Rates set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Miscellaneous Rates**, Policy Number: **F0005** for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Councillor Compton Hobbs and Councillor Dyson-Edmunds voted against the motion and all others voted in favour. Motion carried.

### **Miscellaneous Rates continued**

#### **Motion # FA2018-01-10**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Municipal Rates – Equipment Rates set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled

**Municipal Rates – Equipment Rates**, Policy Number: **F0006** for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Mayor Pomeroy. Motion carried.

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**Motion # FA2018-01-11**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Animal Control Services Rates set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Cost of Animal Control Services**, Policy Number: **F0007** for 2018. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.

**Property Tax (Residential and Business) and Business Tax Exemption**

**Motion # FA2018-01-12**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Property Tax Low Income Relief Policy, Business and Property Tax Non-Profit Organizations and Groups Exemption Policy, Doctors Property Tax Exemption, and Young Entrepreneurs Business Application and Business Tax Exemption as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Property Tax (Residential and Business) and Business Tax Exemption**, Policy Number: **F0009**. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pomeroy. Motion carried.

**Recreational Property Tax Rebate Policy**

**Motion # FA2018-01-13**

Be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay approve and adopt the Recreational Property Tax Rebate Policy as set out in the Policy and Procedures Manual, titled **Recreational Property Tax Rebate Policy**, Policy Number: **F0010**. Moved by Councillor Baikie and seconded by Councillor Crann. Motion carried.

**6. COUNCILLORS FORUM**

All of Council agreed that preparing this budget was difficult considering the circumstances and offered thanks to Nadine and Randy for the time, effort and countless hours that went into it. They all agreed that some difficult decisions had to be made but overall they are pleased to see improvements such as water from Spring Gulch, upgrades to infrastructure, new equipment and of course moving forward with the Wellness Centre. They were all pleased that there will be no



increase in the mil rate and noted the small increase in water tax. Council made it known that they are committed to moving forward and continuing to work for the betterment of the community.

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There being no further business, a Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councillor Hobbs and seconded by Deputy Mayor Pomeroy. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

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MAYOR WALLY ANDERSEN

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ACTING TOWN MANAGER RANDY DILLON