

MANY ISSUES TACKLED DURING NEW TOWN COUNCIL'S FIRST MEETING

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At its first meeting with six newly-elected members Monday, Halton Hills town council discussed a range of topics, including 2023 fees and charges bylaw and interim taxes, Acton indoor pool tank repairs, snowplow trucks replacement and appointment of municipal law enforcement officers.

Here are some highlights:

INTERIM TAXES

Property tax payments will be due and payable in two equal instalments on Feb. 24 and April 26 and shall be 50 per cent of the taxes levied in the previous year, shared the agenda. Properties can also be registered in a 10-payment pre-authorized plan, which will offer five instalments from January to May next year.

Due to the limited time avail-

able between receiving the year-end final tax roll and the legislative timing of mailing tax bills to property owners, the agenda states that rate schedules are not included with the interim bylaw.

The bylaw also sets a penalty rate of 1.25 per cent per month on all unpaid taxes on the due date.

2023 FEES AND CHARGES BYLAW

For 2023, council has approved three new fees — Community Benefit Charges for Independent Land Appraisals, request for overpayment refund, and town business licence inspection.

Residents will also see a two per cent increase in fees and charges for various sectors, including personal, business, mercantile and industrial occupancies, and building services (building permits, plumbing, sewage and self and racking system, etc.).

To view a complete list of rates, visit the 2023 Rates and Fees

Schedule.

ACTON INDOOR POOL TANK REPAIRS

Repairs at the Acton Indoor Pool (AIP) — a collegiate pool at Mackenzie-Smith Bennett Public Elementary School — with a total cost of \$155,973, have been approved by town council.

The six-lane 25-meter pool was last resurfaced in 2009, with some repairs to the basin in 2019, which shares the agenda. Since then, new areas of the basin are requiring repairs. The agenda states a total of \$88,000 was approved for this project from the capital budget. However, due to greater costs, council approved an additional \$80,000 from the Capital Replacement Reserve.

A Georgetown Indoor Pool (GIP) Tank Repairs project, which was previously approved, has been repealed, and the unspent amount (\$80,000) returned to the Capital

Replacement Reserve to fund additional costs for the Acton Pool project.

Staff will continue to monitor the GIP pool tank to determine when repairs or replacements are required and will include the project in a future capital budget request if required.

SNOWPLOW TRUCKS REPLACEMENT

Council approved a \$272,000 budget increase amounting to a total of about \$1.17 million for the purchase of three single-axle snowplows.

The impacts of the pandemic and related supply-chain challenges in the car and truck industry have resulted in significant cost increases and vehicle availability challenges especially magnified this year, shared the meeting agenda.

APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Council authorized the appointment of eight new municipal police officers for the purpose of enforcing all parking and parks bylaws, along with other bylaws of the Corporation of the Town of Halton Hills.

TRAILERS STOLEN FROM FACILITY

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Halton police are investigating following the theft to two trailers from a logistics facility in Halton Hills on Saturday, Dec. 10.

At some point between 12:20 and 2 a.m., suspects attended a lot belonging to Speedy Transport Group Ltd., in the area of Steeles Avenue and 5th Line, police said. It's alleged the intruders hooked vehicles up to two trailers on the property and hauled them away. Police said the trailers were loaded with freight but were unable to provide further details about what type or what it is worth. The trailers were found empty in York Region at around 8:45 p.m. the same day.

No suspect description is available. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact Halton police at 905-825-4747 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.haltoncrimes-toppers.ca.


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