



**March 7, 2013**

## **City Council Committee Report**

**TO: Mayor and Council**

**FR: Karen Brown**

**RE: 2013 Water & Sewer Budget**

### **Recommendation:**

**That** in accordance with Notice By-Law Number 144-2007, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to formally adopt the 2013 Water & Sewer Utility Budget at the March 18th Council Meeting; and

**That** Council hereby approves the 2013 Water & Sewer Operating Budget and Five Year Capital Plan; and

**That** Council hereby gives three readings to By-Law Number 23-2013 – A By-Law to approve the 2013 Water & Sewer Utility Budget.

### **Background:**

The draft water & sewer operating budget and five year capital plan were reviewed at a budget meeting of Council held on March 7, 2013. The draft budget includes the 10% rate increase effective January 1, 2013, as approved by Council. It further reflects the ongoing increases of 10% per annum each year for a six year period, with the last increase effective January 1, 2017, in accordance with the recommendations as made within the City's Water & Sewer Financial Plan as prepared by BMA Consulting Ltd and adopted by Council in December 2011. The budget provides information with regards to the impacts of those rate increases and related increase in capital spending on the City's current and projected water & sewer infrastructure deficit.

It was recognized that the draft budgets included maintaining existing service levels. It was further recognized during the meeting that the City must continue to work on service delivery reviews and seek opportunities for both streamlining existing services, and confirming City priorities.

### **Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

The City needs to provide notice in accordance with Notice By-law Number 144-2007 that the City intends to adopt its 2013 water & sewer utility budget.