

PROPOSED 2017 USER FEE BY-LAW

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Township of Puslinch September 8, 2016



Tonight we will discuss...

- Where do Township revenues come from?
- Why do we collect user fees?
- What changes are being proposed for 2017?
- Feedback from the public.

Where do Township Revenues come from?





User fees are in important input into the budget

- Summer Budget Development by Department Heads
- September 8th User Fee Public Meeting
- September 28th Present 1st Draft Capital Budget to Council
- October 12th Present 1st Draft Operating Budget to Council
- October 26th Present 2nd Draft of Operating and Capital
- November 24th Public Information Meeting
- December 7th Present Final Budget to Council
- January Council Adoption of 2016 Budget

Why do we collect User Fees?

- Primary reason: To allocate costs to the users of the service
- Most services are not full cost recovery, the share of recovery depends on fair market costs and the service levels set by Council
- The Building Department is legislatively mandated to be fully funded through user fees

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What changes are being proposed for 2017?

- The proposed 2017 User Fees do not include many changes, however, the changes have been proposed to:
 - Better reflect costs for providing the service
 - Adjust based on the 2016 projected CPI rate of 2%

The following departments have no changes proposed:

- Administration
- Finance
- Corporate
- Public Works
- Fire and Rescue Services
- Puslinch Community Centre

Building

- Majority of fees are proposed to increase by 2%
 - The increase is proposed because the Building Code Act requires the total amount of building permit fees to fund the total costs for the municipality to operate the Building Department
 - Based on the CPI forecast of 2%
- Reactivate Permit Application \$156.00
 - This is a new fee for 2017
 - To be applied to permit applications with no activity for six months
 - To cover admin costs for maintaining the active application

Building Department

- Special Inspect Fee Removed
 - There are no "Special" inspections, all inspections fall into one of the fees in the by-law
- Re-inspect Code Violations/Deficiencies
 - Increase is to reflect that a re-inspection is no different than a full inspection as same level of detail and preparation is used to complete the inspection

2016 Rate	Proposed 2017
\$76.00	\$156.00

Building Department

- Construction New Buildings & Additions Prefabricated Homes (New)
- Construction New Buildings & Additions Residential (Amended)
 - Previous user fee by-law had separate rate for Single Family Dwellings under and over 225m².
 - The previous threshold was set to accommodate smaller homes that require fewer inspections such as a prefab home.

Planning and Development

- Section 69 (1) of the Planning Act stipulates that planning application fees be designed to meet only the anticipated costs to the municipality.
- No changes proposed to the fees for 2017 besides adjustments for CPI.
- The fees implemented for Zoning By-law Amendments are going to continue to be monitored for the remainder of 2016 and 2017 to ensure they are appropriate.

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- Grading Pool Enclosure Permit (Removed)
 - The Township is no longer going to require the submission of grading related to pool enclosures.
- Pool Enclosure Permit
 - The decrease is to reflect the cost of issuing a pool enclosure permit.

2016 Rate	Proposed 2017
\$357.00	\$210.00

- Site Alteration Permit Service Fee
 - Changed from per tonne to cubic metres
 - Township staff have no ability to measure tonnage, whereas, cubic metres can be calculated using drawings

Parks

- No changes to the fees within Parks.
- Ball diamond rentals the Township will no longer be providing dragging and lining.
- Further financial analysis on user fees will be required once decisions are made regarding recommendations outlined in the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and the Puslinch Community Centre Parks Concept.
- It is staff's objective to implement standardized recovery rates for all clubs that operate within the Township.