

CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Bylaw C5-16, a Bylaw of the City of Fort Saskatchewan to Amend Fees and Charges Bylaw C23-15

Motion:

That Council give third reading to Bylaw C5-16, which amends Fees and Charges Bylaw C23-15.

Purpose:

To present Council with information and request third reading to Bylaw C5-16, which amends Fees and Charges Bylaw C23-15.

Background:

Bylaw C5-16 was presented at the March 22, 2016 Council meeting where first and second reading were approved. The Bylaw is being presented to Council for approval of third reading.

As per the Fees and Charges Bylaw C5-16, the following amendments are being proposed:

Planning and Development

Three changes are being proposed for the Planning and Development Department. Two of the changes are correcting a decimal placement for fees within the Medium and Heavy Industrial Development Permit section.

The third change is related to gas permits. In an effort to streamline the 2016 Fees and Charges, Planning and Development replaced the former 30 line fee table with a simplified table, amalgamating fees based on BTU input. Following approval of Fees and Charges Bylaw C23-15, it was discovered that the change was an over-simplification of the original table, which resulted in an unintended substantial fee increase for large projects. To address this issue, Planning and Development has revised the table to better reflect the fees.

Recreation

A change is proposed for Facility Rental fees, to increase the current 72 hour ice cancellation policy to 15 days. Recreation Services conducted a review of neighbouring municipalities, which revealed that the 15 day cancellation notice is within the range for this service. City Bookings staff handle all bookings throughout the City (excluding the Shell Theatre) and increasing the amount of time required for the cancellation of ice bookings would allow Bookings staff a greater opportunity to resell the cancelled ice and increase revenue.

A grandfathering plan would occur if Bylaw C5-16 is approved. All ice user groups and current ice contract holders will be given 60 days' notice prior to the 15 day cancellation policy coming into effect. Recreation Services will be advising all ice users of the change by written communication, including an information update at the Annual Ice Users Meeting scheduled for April 5, 2016.

An additional change under the Facility Rental section is proposed for SOCAN (Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada) and ReSound fees. SOCAN and ReSound are not-for-profit organizations that represent Canadian performing rights for music creators, publishers, artists, and record companies. Organizations and individuals are legally

required to pay a licensing fee when broadcasting or communicating recorded music or playing recorded music in public or at events.

When SOCAN and ReSound fees were added to the Fees and Charges Bylaw, the original intent was to charge a set cost. However, to ensure that users are charged correctly, Administration is proposing an amendment to the wording, indicating that fees would be charged “at cost”. In most cases users pay these fees directly to SOCAN and ReSound. Occasionally however, there may be instances where the City adds these fees to the user’s booking, and pays SOCAN and ReSound on their behalf. Amending the wording to “at cost” will assist Booking staff to ensure users are accurately charged for these fees.

Recommendation:

That Council give third reading to Bylaw C5-16, which amends Fees and Charges Bylaw C23-15.

Attachments:

1. Bylaw C5-16 - Amending Fees and Charges Bylaw C23-15
2. Bylaw C23-15 - Portions of Bylaw outlining sections to be amended

Prepared by:	Sheryl Exley Legislative Officer	Date: March 23, 2016
Approved by:	Brenda Molter Director, Legislative Services	Date: March 23, 2016
Approved by:	Brenda Rauckman General Manager, Corporate and Protective Services	Date: March 23, 2016
Reviewed by:	Kelly Kloss City Manager	Date: March 23, 2016
Submitted to:	City Council	Date: April 12, 2016