

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Administration

Date: January 2, 2024

Subject: Council Remuneration Bylaw Amendment

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receives this report for information.

BACKGROUND:

At the December 11, 2023 Regular Council meeting, a review of annual Mayor and Council remuneration in other communities was provided to Council. An option for Council to make a motion for staff to bring forward bylaw or policy amendments with desired updates was presented for Council's consideration.

Council directed staff to prepare a bylaw amendment to amend the Annual Mayor and Councillor Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 1338, 2015 to set the annual remuneration increase at a rate matching the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

As described on the Statistics Canada website¹ :

"the CPI represents changes in prices as experienced by Canadian consumers. It measures price change by comparing, through time, the cost of a fixed basket of goods and services."

The proposed amendment would set the annual increase of remuneration for Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillors to the Consumer price index, as well as set a process should the CPI be negative. Currently, the annual remuneration increase is set by amendment to the bylaw and needs to be amended after the years defined in the bylaw are completed. To align with policies seen in other communities, it is being proposed to set a 3% maximum increase per year.

The advantages of this change are first, that setting annual remuneration to the CPI ensures that Council Remuneration stays at pace with the cost of living experienced by residents of Mackenzie, and second this change means that annual remuneration increase will not require further amendments to be passed.

¹ https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/subjects-start/prices_and_price_indexes/consumer_price_indexes

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

If Council chose to proceed with this bylaw amendment, the annual salaries would be adjusted as follows:

	2023	2024	Percentage Change
Mayor	\$29,697.51	\$30,588.43	3% Increase
Deputy Mayor	\$14,624.17	\$15,062.89	3% Increase
Councillor (1)	\$12,587.35	\$12,964.97	3% Increase
TOTAL <i>All Council (7)</i>	\$107,258.43	\$110,476.17	

\$3,217.74 in additional funding would be allocated from the General Government Operating Budget.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Strong Governance and Finances

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Rowan Paulsen, Local Government Intern

Reviewed By: Corporate and Financial Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer