

Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Thursday, January 14, 2016				Report Date	Tuesday, January 12, 2016			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
Interim Taxation - Report #14/01/16/1001									

Subject:

Approval for interim taxation billing and collection.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council pass the by-law allowing staff to create interim bills and collect taxes for the first half of 2016 based on 50% of taxes payable in 2015.

Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 2016-02 being a by-law to provide for an interim tax levy on properties designated as residential, farmland, managed forest, pipeline, industrial and commercial and to provide for payment of taxes and penalty and interest of 1.25% be read a first time short and passed.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

From the by-law...

“WHEREAS the Municipal Act, S. O. 2001, c.25, section 317 provides that a local municipality, before the adoption of estimates for the year under section 290, may pass a by-law levying amounts on the assessment of property in the local municipality rateable for local municipality purposes;

AND WHEREAS under section 317 the amount levied on a property shall not exceed the prescribed percentage or 50 per cent if no percentage is prescribed, of the total amount of taxes for municipal and school purposes levied on the property for the previous year.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby enact as follows:

1. **THAT** an interim levy of 50% of the total rate for each property for 2015 be applied to each property;
2. **THAT** this interim levy shall become due on the 31st day of March 2016;
3. **THAT** on all amounts of the interim levy, that are in default on the 4th day of April, 2016, a penalty of 1.25% shall be added and thereafter a penalty of 1.25% per month shall be added to outstanding taxes after the first day of each month;”

Options/Discussion:

1. To adopt or not. Not passing this by-law would result in staff not being delegated the authority to set rates or limits for interim tax billing. Not really an option.
2. Adjust the billing dates. Other municipalities separate the 50% billing to two equal installments – perhaps March and May or February and April. The remaining payments are normally due July and October 31. This too may be amended by Council but has been this way for some years in HCM.
3. Adjust the percentage. 50% is the maximum that can be collected. This amount may be reduced at Council's discretion and would result in the later annual payments being higher.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

Considerable. Without being able to collect taxes our municipality would soon find itself in a deficit position. Delaying payments or reducing the amount collected might cause some issue with paying school board and county portions but could be accommodated with proper planning.

Policy Impact:

As per past practise and according to the Municipal Act.

Others Consulted:

Noella LeBreton, Treasurer.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith