



DISTRICT OF 100 MILE HOUSE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
TO BE HELD IN DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Tuesday, March 19th , 2024, AT 12:30 PM

	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u> Mayor to call the Committee of the Whole meeting to order. Mayor acknowledges that this meeting is being held on Tsqescencúlecw.
A.	<u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA:</u>
	A1 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the March 24th, 2024, Committee of the Whole agenda <u>be approved</u> .
B.	<u>INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS</u>
C.	<u>DELEGATIONS:</u>
D.	<u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</u>
E.	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>

F.	<u>STAFF REPORTS:</u>
2024 Draft Budget	2024 Budget discussion.
G.	<u>BYLAWS:</u>
H.	<u>OTHER BUSINESS:</u>
I.	<u>QUESTION PERIOD:</u>
J.	<u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>
	BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole meeting of March 19 th , 2024, adjourn: PM:



DISTRICT OF 100 MILE HOUSE

M E M O

Date: March 14, 2024
To: Mayor & Council
From: Finance
Subject: DRAFT Budget 2024

I am writing to provide a comprehensive overview and justification for the proposed 5% tax rate increase in the upcoming 2024 budget. The information outlined below highlights the key factors driving this adjustment and underscores the necessity of this increase for the continued prosperity and sustainability of our municipality.

Revenue Considerations:

- The closure of Norbord's plant in 100 Mile House has led to a significant reduction in Class 4 taxation revenue, amounting to \$200,000. While this is a setback, we have mitigated its impact by adjusting the surplus from operations accordingly.
- The determination of actual tax rates relies on the revised roll from the BC Assessment Authority, expected later in March. The proposed collection amount is an estimate based on the 2024 Revised Roll totals, indicating a need for flexibility in our revenue projections.
- Funding contributions from the Cariboo Regional District remain robust and support various essential functions within our municipality.

Utility Frontage & User Rates:

Sewer and Water Frontage taxes, as well as user fees, have been subject to annual increases of 5% as per current bylaws. It is imperative to maintain these increases to ensure the efficiency and sustainability of our water and sewer infrastructure, especially as we approach the expiration of the current bylaws in 2027.

Government Grants:

We anticipate receiving \$387,000 from the Small Communities Grant, which serves to offset current year operating expenses, relieving some pressure on our budget.

The Community Works funding, determined by the UBCM Federal Gas Tax Agreement, provides vital support for eligible projects or reserves, contributing to the overall financial health of our municipality.

Expense Considerations:

Wage increases for the bargaining unit and exempt staff are reflective of collective agreements and district policies, ensuring fair compensation while adhering to budgetary constraints.

Adjustments to volunteer Fire Department members' wages align with recently adopted rates, maintaining consistency and equity within our emergency services. Employee benefits are calculated at 29% of wages, while training budgets remain consistent with prior year allocations.

Debt Principal Payments:

The outstanding debt principal payments pertain solely to the Sewer Specified associated with the Blackstock expansion, scheduled to be retired in 2024.

Capital Expenditures:

The proposed capital projects address critical infrastructure needs, equipment replacements, and community service enhancements, all of which are vital for the well-being and development of our municipality.

In conclusion, the proposed 5% tax rate increase is necessary to address revenue shortfalls resulting from noted external factors, maintain essential services, and fund vital capital projects.

We remain committed to prudent fiscal management and will continue to refine the budgetary process to ensure transparency and accountability. Your support of this increase is crucial for the continued prosperity of our municipality.

This memo serves as a prelude to the final draft budget presentation and the Five-year Financial Plan, scheduled for Council consideration in April 2024.

Should you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



S. Elias; Dir. of Finance

T. Boulanger, CAO