

Changes to the 2022 Meeting Dates Schedule – Budget Process

Report Purpose

To seek Council approval on changes to upcoming Council budget meetings dates and to provide an overview of the budget process.

Recommendation

1. THAT the following changes to the multi-day Council budget meeting be approved:
 - Cancel October 27, 2022
 - Cancel November 1, 2022
 - Add November 17, 2022 from 1:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
 - Change the start time for November 18, 2022 to 1:00 p.m.
 - Add November 21, 2022 with a start time of 9:00 a.m.
 - Add November 28, 2022 with a start time of 9:00 a.m.
 - Add December 5, 2022 with a start time of 9:00 a.m.
2. THAT a non-statutory public hearing on the development of the Multi-Year Budget be held on September 27, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
3. THAT a non-statutory public hearing on the recommended Multi-Year Budget be held on November 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Our Prioritized Strategic Goals

Governance Requirement

Report

Changes to the 2022 meeting dates schedule are being recommended to accommodate scheduling conflicts for members of Council and to facilitate the budget process. The proposed meeting schedule includes the addition of two non-statutory public hearings: the first to hear from the public before final development of the budget, and the second to consider feedback on the recommended budget.

If these changes are approved by Council, the schedule will be as follows:

September 27 @ 5:00 p.m.	Non-Statutory Public Hearing on development of the Multi-Year Budget
November 3	Closed Session Introduction and Orientation to the Recommended Multi-Year Budget
November 16 November 17 (1:30 – 4:45 p.m.) November 18 (start at 1:00 p.m.) November 21 (as required)	Public presentation of the recommended Multi-Year Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget documents will be made available to the public on November 16 • Questions from Council • Opportunity to raise “Flagged Items”
November 21 @ 5:00 p.m.	Non-Statutory Public Hearing on the recommended Multi-Year Budget
November 24, 28 and December 5 (as required)	Budget Deliberations

The process outlined above is similar to past practice, with the addition of the preliminary non-statutory public hearing before the recommended budget is finalized. Council will receive a closed session introduction and orientation to the recommended budget on November 3. The budget documents will be made available to the public on November 16 when Administration begins the open session budget presentation.

Members of Council will have opportunities to ask questions throughout the process and will also be able to identify "Flagged Items". Flagged Items are requests for information and future discussion that are used if an issue raised by a Councillor is deemed by Council motion to be critical for budget approval. These items are voted on, and if passed, the item will be flagged and will come back to Council for discussion and direction prior to budget approval.

The proposed schedule includes three days for budget deliberations after the recommended multi-year budget has been presented. This is the point at which Council move and pass amendments and debate the recommended budget prior to approval.

Council and Committee History

October 26, 2021 Council approved the 2022 Meetings Dates Schedule.

March 8, 2022 Priorities Committee was provided with an update on public engagement options for the upcoming budget cycle.

Other Impacts

Policy: n/a

Legislative/Legal: Section 193 of the *Municipal Government Act* allows Council to establish a regular meeting schedule and to make changes to the date, time or place of a regularly scheduled meeting with 24 hours' notice of the change to any councillors not present at the meetings at which the change was made, and to the public.

Financial/Budget: n/a

Interdepartmental: Legislative and Legal Services worked with relevant departments to coordinate the revised meeting dates.

Master Plan/Framework: n/a

Communication Plan

If approved, the updated meeting dates and times will be added to the public website and revised calendar invitations will be provided to Council.

Enclosure

- 1 Changes to the 2022 Meeting Dates Schedule – Budget Process Presentation