

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.6

MEETING DATE: April 18, 2023

**STAFF REPORT - COVER SHEET**

SUBJECT: Annual Tax Rates Bylaw for 2023 Date: April 6, 2023

DEPARTMENT: Finance Department Prepared by: L Kreitner

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**1. SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

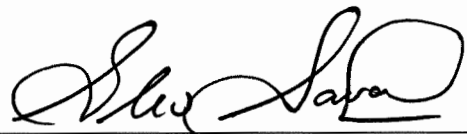
Section 197 of the *Community Charter* requires Council to approve the Annual Rates Bylaw prior to May 15<sup>th</sup> each year, following the adoption of the Financial Plan Bylaw. Staff are presenting the attached "Rates Bylaw 2023, No. 5302" for Council approval.

The 2023 Financial Plan, as approved by Council, includes a 4.48% tax increase.

**2. RECOMMENDATION:**

That "Rates Bylaw 2023, No. 5302", be given first and second reading.

That "Rates Bylaw 2023, No. 5302", be given third reading.



Glen Savard, Director of Finance

**3. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S  
RECOMMENDATION/COMMENTS:**

Supports recommendation.



Chris Crosman, CAO

## STAFF REPORT

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DEPARTMENT: Finance Department Prepared by: L Kreitner

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### 1. SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

- 1.1. Section 197 of the *Community Charter* requires Council to approve the Annual Rates Bylaw prior to May 15<sup>th</sup> each year, following the adoption of the Financial Plan Bylaw. Staff are presenting the attached "Rates Bylaw 2023, No. 5302" for Council approval.
- 1.2. The 2023 Financial Plan, as approved by Council, includes a 4.48% tax increase.

### 2. BACKGROUND:

- 2.1. To meet the goals and objectives of Council, a property tax increase of 4.48% was approved within the previously adopted 2023 Financial Plan Bylaw.
- 2.2. High levels of inflation within the local and global economies had a significant effect on the 2023 Financial Plan and the cost of service delivery to the community, including labour, materials, contracted services, routine repairs and maintenance to City infrastructure and facility operation. In addition to non-discretionary inflationary pressures, the Financial Plan further supports the goals of Council to provide a safe community by including additional resources of three (3) RCMP members, one (1) RCMP support resource, two (2) Firefighters, and two (2) Bylaw Officers.
- 2.3. The tax rates proposed for each property class have been considered in conjunction with the objectives and measures set out in the Financial Plan. The principles that guide the Financial Plan remain unchanged, including revenue funding sources and property taxation, following a pay-as-you go no debt policy for capital projects, while charging user fees on a cost recovery basis, where appropriate, to maintain reasonable property taxation levies.
- 2.4. In comparison with surrounding lower mainland municipalities, Chilliwack continues to provide the lowest property tax levies, while providing the community with numerous facilities, amenities and services.