



Penticton

Penticton council highlights

Deborah Pfeiffer - Jan 30, 2016 / 7:42 pm | Story: 157438



Photo: Deborah Pfeiffer

Penticton council will continue with 2016 budget discussions at its next meeting on Monday.

Staff is recommending that council receive the financial plan for information and direct the preparation of the plan with a 5.5. per cent tax increase for 2016.

"Council had asked our development services committee to review and comment on staff's recommendation to increase building permit related fees before we endorsed the revenue suggestion of \$145K to our budget," said Mayor Andrew Jakubeit. "We are looking at a 5.5 per cent tax increase which will impact the average homeowner by approximately \$56.

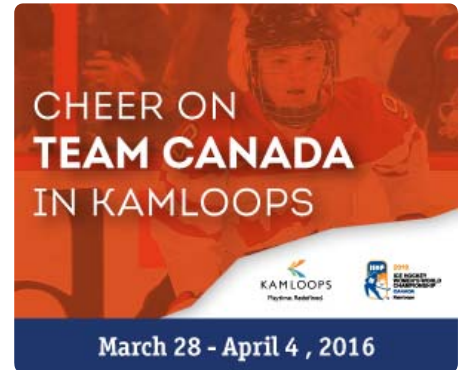
No one likes a tax increase but the reality is over the past five years our increase was only 0.56 per cent. We have rising costs for goods, services, staff, contractual partnerships, plus we have to start to deal with our aging infrastructure and our population tax base shrunk last year; which has added pressure to our budget. In the past we used reserves to offset a tax increase; that is not sustainable."


Council is also being asked to make a decision on the 2016 vending plan for the city.


Recommended changes to the vending program include reducing the number of vending locations to 25, moving some of the vendors near The Peach, from the beach to the concrete plaza and adding six new mobile truck vending locations and creating a mobile vendor hub between Main Street and Martin Street.


Other highlights are introducing the new fire chief Larry Watkinson and manager of facilities, Bregje Kozak, as well as delegations from the RDOS, regarding their financial plan, and the Okanagan Similkameen Healthy Living Coalition.


Also on the agenda is development permits for 619 Burns Street and 292 South Beach Drive, dry floor space in Penticton, a zoning amendment for 166 and 172 Cambie Place, the New Building




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There is correspondence from the Okanagan Nation Alliance requesting a letter of support for a proposal to the Okanagan Basin Water Board regarding water flow monitoring for flood control based on Eurasian Milfoil roughness in the Okanagan River Channel.

A public hearing prior to the council meeting is regarding a zoning amendment bylaw for 451 Churchill Ave.

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