

Adoption of 2018 Budget, 2018 Tax Structure and Schedule of Fees

Deputy Mayor Laham gave the following preamble:

I have the privilege of presenting the 2018 Budget for the Town of Portugal Cove – St. Philip’s on behalf of Council, as Chair of Administration and Finance. This is our first budget and as such we took our time to debate and consider how we wish to govern and decide what our priorities are. We are early in our term and this budget is just the beginning, however, it offers a foundation for a vision of the future, a vision that focuses on efficiency, growing the community and minimizing the tax burden on our residents. We could not have done this without the incredible input and feedback that we have received since we were elected. We made the commitment early in our term to listen and collaborate with the community and this budget is a sincere reflection of that.

Motion: Laham/Harding
2018-026 Resolved that:

(a) 2018 Budget

That the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip approve and adopt the attached 2018 Budget with Revenues and Expenditures totaling \$14,063,440.

(b) 2018 Tax Rates

That the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip approve and adopt the following Tax Rates for 2018 taxation year:

Property Tax:

Residential and Commercial Property Tax – 6.5 mils with a minimum tax of \$20.00

Business Tax – Based on Assessment: Rates as follows with a minimum tax of \$200.00

- General Business Tax – 8.1 mils
- Farms – 1.5 mils
- Daycare and Bed & Breakfasts – 5.1 mils
- Golf Courses – 8.1 mils
- Nursing & Retirement Homes – 8.1 mils
- Non – Profit Organizations – 8.1 mils
- Professional Services – 12.1 mils
- Medical/Dental/Pharmacy – 12.1 mils
- Bank/Financial Institutions – 45 mils

Business Tax – Based on Revenue: Rates as follows with a minimum tax of \$200.00

No Fixed Place of Business – 1 % of Gross Annual Revenue

Home Based - 0.6 % of Gross Annual Revenue

Utilities and Cable Television Tax:

2.5 % of Gross Revenue as per Taxation of Utilities and Cable Televisions Companies Act.

Water and Sewer Taxes:

- Residential Water and Sewer - \$625.00 yearly per unit.
(\$450.00 for Water only, \$175.00 for Sewer only)
- Commercial Water and Sewer - \$715.00 yearly per unit.
(\$480.00 for Water only, \$235.00 for Sewer only)
- Fish Plant Water and Sewer - \$150.00 per month
- Ferry Water Fill up - \$975 per month

(c) Interest

That the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's approve the rate of 1 % per month simple interest to be charged on all outstanding accounts on the unpaid balance at the end of each month commencing January 2018.

(d) Early Payment Discount:

That the Town of Portugal Cove – St. Philip's grant a 5 % discount on the property tax portion only of the tax invoice if payment of all debts, current and prior including water and/or sewer and storm sewer fees (any and all charges or otherwise) is received and paid in full by the discount date of March 30, 2018.

Exception as follows: In the case of payments from mortgage companies and other financial institutions (electronic or otherwise) the payment must be received by the discount date of March 15, 2018 to allow for processing. Furthermore, there will be NO 5% early payment discount for payments made by credit card.

(e) Other Discount:

That the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's grant a 20 % discount on the Property Tax portion of the invoice to Residential Property owners in receipt of the GIS (Guaranteed Income Supplement) for their principle place of residence only in the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's (this discount does not apply to any vacant lands or summer residences). Completion of a mandatory application is required in order to receive this discount and the calculation for the 20 % reduction will be applied prior to the 5 % early payment discount (if applicable) or when calculating payment plans. Property owners who qualify for this option may avail of any of the payment plans. Furthermore, there will be NO 5% early payment discount for payments made by credit card.

(f) Payment Options:

That the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's provide the following payment options:

- a) Payment in full by discount date of March 30, 2018 (with the above noted provisions)
- b) Interest free (NO early payment discount for this option) a choice of either 6 equal monthly Payments (January to June inclusive) or 8 equal monthly payments (January to August inclusive) for the full balance or 12 equal monthly payments by Pre-Authorized Debit from your

bank/financial institution (January to December) Returned cheques/payments will cancel this interest free option and interest will be reinstated retroactively.

- c) Debit, Visa and Mastercard accepted. Telephone and Electronic Funds Transfer from banks and other financial institutions are also available.

(g) Tax Structure and Schedule of Fees:

Committee recommends that the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip approve and adopt the attached 2018 Tax Structure and Schedule of Fees to take effect January 1, 2018 and to be advertised accordingly.

Carried Unanimously

Note: the Municipal Budget Submission Form, Revenue and Expenditure Summary and Tax Structure & Schedule of Fees were tabled with the supporting documents.