

22-AT-01 Demand Utility Charges

WHEREAS Yukon Municipalities are very concerned with the ever-rising costs of operating a municipality in the Yukon, and especially the increasing cost of utilities, and

WHEREAS All municipal buildings including seasonally used buildings are on demand meters, and if the electrical use is higher for one day of the month, the utility charges for the entire month will be calculated at the peak rate, and

WHEREAS Yukon municipalities are service delivery organizations who maintain a balanced budget and do not exist to make a profit like a business, and

WHEREAS Government of Yukon promotes the use of electricity for heating buildings, and is affiliated with the Yukon Energy Corporation, and

WHEREAS Yukon municipalities are dependent on Government of Yukon and the Comprehensive Municipal Grant for their ongoing operational expenses.

THEREFORE Be it resolved that the Association of Yukon Communities urge the Government of Yukon to mandate that Yukon Energy Corporation changes their rate policy to only charge municipalities an actual utility rate, and to discontinue demand charges.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Demand Utility Charges resolution be accepted as presented.

Carried unanimously

22-AT-02 Increase Council Term to Four Years

WHEREAS population growth has led to increasing demands on Yukon municipal councils to plan and set direction to address the needs of their citizens; and

WHEREAS the implementation of First Nation Land Claims and Self-government Agreements and the transfer of administration and control of land and resources from Canada to Yukon have placed increasing demands and planning requirements on municipal councils; and

WHEREAS the planning horizons commonly addressed by municipal councils look well beyond the 3-year term of today's councils;

WHEREAS a 4-year term would ensure that municipal councils have *adequate* time to enact strategic priorities; and

- **FRIENDLY AMENDMENT:** revise the wording from "...adequate time to enact..." to "...additional time to enact...";

WHEREAS the responsibility for setting the term of office for municipal councils in organized communities in Yukon resides with the Government of Yukon under the *Municipal Act*;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Yukon Communities call upon the Government of Yukon to increase the term of office for municipal councils in organized communities to 4 years prior to the next general election for municipalities in October 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Association of Yukon Communities work with the Government of Yukon on an engagement process with Yukon citizens to seek their input on this change in length of term, with the engagement process taking place alongside, but separate from, the continued exploratory work by the Yukon Legislative Assembly on electoral reform at the territorial level.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Increase Council Term to Four Years be accepted as presented with the friendly amendment to change the word adequate to additional.

Carried unanimously

22-AT-03 Emergency Relief for Municipalities

WHEREAS Yukon municipalities have been impacted by unanticipated additional operating expenses in order to enforce and support the public health restrictions imposed by the Government of Yukon in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS Yukon municipalities have also experienced significant revenue loss as a result of the public health restrictions, and

WHEREAS Yukon municipalities are not eligible for existing financial relief programs;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Yukon Communities call upon the Government of Yukon to consult with municipalities on an appropriate financial relief program to offset increased costs and lost revenues due to the COVID-19 pandemic.