

**Questions/Requests from the week of September 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

**Question:** How much has the mill rate increased in the last 3 election terms (12 years)?

**Answer:** In 2010 the rates were as follows:

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Type</b>		
<b>Municipal</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.00852900
<b>County</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.00321900
<b>Education</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.00241000
<b>Total</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.01415800

In 2022 the rates are as follows:

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Type</b>			<b>Increase/Decrease from 2010</b>
<b>Municipal</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.00926294	increase of 8.6%
<b>County</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.00305219	decrease of -5.2%
<b>Education</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.00153000	decrease of -36.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	Residential Tax Rate	=	0.01384513	<b>Overall decrease of -2.2%</b>

**Question:** Is there any limitations on how many council meetings a member can be absent in a year?

**Answer:** Section 259 (1) (c) of the Ontario’s Municipal Act states: “is absent from the meetings of council for three successive months without being authorized to do so by a resolution of council;”

**Question:** Were any of the office positions posted externally when Arlene retired?

**Answer:** The Clerk position was not advertised as Council’s intent in previous years was to do succession planning for the position. The person appointed to the Clerk position had 10 years’ experience and training through their position as Deputy Clerk.

The Treasury position was advertised and candidates were interviewed by Council and Management.

**Question:** Why are the By-Laws not available on the Carlow/Mayo web site?

**Answer:** The Carlow/Mayo website was redone end of 2019 to meet accessibility regulations. Then Covid hit. Our most commonly asked for by-laws including the User Fee By-Law, Comprehensive Zoning By-Law, Open Air Fire By-Law and Fireworks By-Law are on the website. More will be added.

**Question:** Why is there a monetary charge for paper copies of by-laws and detailed council meetings in Carlow/Mayo, when other municipality’s have them available free on their websites?

**Answer:** Our Agendas and Minutes of Council meetings are all on the website and we normally do not charge if a rate payer asks for a paper copy of Agendas, Minutes or a By-Law. The exception is if they ask for the Comprehensive Zoning By-Law which is a large document (available on the website) or if they ask for a large quantity of items that require a lot of time for staff to research/compile.

**Question:** Could you please send a more detailed answer, re: hiring of John Mayhew and Dwayne Maharrie. Example Job posting, qualifications, other applicants, interview process, council in meeting conversations, original term (if contract) starting salaries and in the case of the community safety officer position, the presumed need for such a position?

**Answer:** See attached job posting for Public Works Manager and CFSO/CEMC posting. I am not permitted to release personal information on who applied, individuals' qualifications, or individual salaries/hourly rates of pay as they are confidential and all discussions in relation to employee negotiations are done in closed sessions under section 239 of the **Municipal Act**.

A Community Fire Safety Officer (CFSO) / Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) was originally hired part-time/temporary basis to start bringing the Municipality into compliance after an audit by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management. The "presumed" need for such a position is that we are mandated to do so by the **Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997** (Part II – Responsibility for Fire Protection Services) and the **Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act** (Part II - Municipal Standards).

**Question:** According to Municipal act or other regulatory rules of conduct, would it not be a Conflict of Interest for a sitting council members business to purchase scrap or anything else for profit from the same municipality?

**Answer:** Yes it does but that does not mean there is a problem. The **Municipal Conflict of Interest Act** sets out the rules to be followed if a member of council has a conflict of interest. Under "Duty of a Member" it states:

When present at meeting at which matter considered

5 (1) Where a member, either on his or her own behalf or while acting for, by, with or through another, has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any matter and is present at a meeting of the council or local board at which the matter is the subject of consideration, the member,

(a) shall, prior to any consideration of the matter at the meeting, disclose the interest and the general nature thereof;

(b) shall not take part in the discussion of, or vote on any question in respect of the matter; and

(c) shall not attempt in any way whether before, during or after the meeting to influence the voting on any such question. R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50, s. 5 (1).

- **Please note all the above-mentioned Acts and many more can be found online at [e-Laws | Ontario.ca](http://e-Laws | Ontario.ca) \***

**Question:** If I am using my signs from previous elections do I have to claim a cost this election on my financial statements?

**Answer:** Yes, you need to claim the amount they would have cost you if you had purchased them this year.