

## **TOWN OF HIGH PRAIRIE Request For Decision (RFD)**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting of Council</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>October 10, 2017</b>
<b>Originated By:</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>FINANCE</b> 2018 – 2020 Capital Budget
<b>Agenda Item Number:</b>	<b>5.a.vii.</b>

### **BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:**

As per Section 245 of the current MGA, Council must adopt a capital budget for each calendar year. With the new MMGA changes, this is amended to require multiple year budgets.

### **DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES:**

Presented is the Draft Capital Budget. While the new provincially mandated multi-year budget deadline for municipalities has been postponed until 2019, Town administration felt that we would strive to start a year early so any tweaking necessary could be done during the first year.

While it is not necessary for Council to approve the Capital Budget immediately, earlier approval gives administration more time to start researching grants to pay for the projects instead of using the Town's reserve monies. And as previously mentioned, many funding entities will not even approve grants unless the projects have already been passed through Council. And some grants require a Council motion before an application can even be submitted.

Another reason for approving the Capital budget in the fall prior is that it allows for our Town engineers to give us more accurate pricing, to advertise for tenders, and to contract a company prior to construction season starting in April or May. When we wait too long to pass the Capital Budget, we miss out on some contractors bidding or even being able to put the project out to tender early enough so it can be completed in that year.

However, please note that changes can still be made to this budget during the next 14 months for any of the 2018, 2019 and 2020 budgets. And every year when another year (2021) is added and the old one (2018) is dropped, Council will again have an opportunity to change the next two years (2019 and 2020) budgets when they review the additional (2021) year that has been added to the multi-year budget.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Proposed Capital Projects for 2018 – 2020

### **COST/SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

