

Minutes – Council – March 27, 2025

Minute No. 221

Standing Policy Committee on Water, Waste and Environment – Motions

Item No. 2 Solid Waste Utility

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Seconded by Councillor Mayes,

WHEREAS the Solid Waste Utility Financial Plan and Rate Model 2025-2027 outlines a new user fee for residents;

AND WHEREAS this user fee will be a new charge with an increase of above the rate of property tax and water and sewer rates increases;

AND WHEREAS large increases to the sewer and water rates are already forecast in future years;

AND WHEREAS there are still some unknown costs associated with the solid waste utility for an organics program;

AND WHEREAS a user fee is regressive and not as equitable as funding through property tax because it does not account for a person's ability to pay;

AND WHEREAS the municipal property tax is more equitable for residents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following be referred to the 2026 Budget Update Process:

- “1. That a 1% property tax increase be dedicated to the Solid Waste Utility to offset a portion of the costs of the new utility model to make it more affordable for residents.”

The Speaker ruled automatic referral of the motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Water, Waste and Environment, in accordance with Rule 16(1) of the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007.