

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, July 15, 2011				Report Date	Wednesday, July 13, 2011			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Change of Fees in Building Permit By-law Report 15/07/11/402									

Subject: Amend the Building Permit fee schedule; required public meeting portion.

RECOMMENDATION: That this resolution is adopted increasing the fee for minor construction and limiting the fee to be charged on decks.

**WHEREAS** the current building permit fee schedule has no upper limit set for the construction of decks but instead relies on a per foot calculation resulting in some fees that are in excess of costs;

**AND WHEREAS** the fee for minor renovations/changes is set at only \$15 barely meeting costs of plan review let alone site visits that are still required;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Schedule A to By-law 2007- 06 concerning building permit fees be amended to add a separate section entitled "Residential – decks" and modify the fee by inserting ".10/ft<sup>2</sup> to a maximum of \$30";

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the fee for "Minor alterations, repairs and renovations" be increased by \$5 for a total of \$20;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** this resolution take effect immediately upon passing.

#### BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The content of this report has been presented to Council previously but has been provided as an update. The legislated public meeting will occur on Friday, July 15, 2011 with our CBO Robert Labre in attendance to answer any questions.

Upon review of the current building permit schedule our CBO has suggested the changes as above. The changes are fair allowing for cost recovery but not charging fees that are unnecessary.

For the new section entitled "Residential – Decks" the rationale is that the fees currently being charged can exceed necessary costs when a large deck is being built. A base fee must be set to meet the costs of plan review and site visits but when a large deck is being constructed; the area does not really affect the number of site visits. The costs of review and visit are relatively similar with a 100 ft<sup>2</sup> deck as with a 500 ft<sup>2</sup> deck. Obviously, the costs would be significantly and unnecessarily higher.

For the "Minor alternations, repairs and renovations" the \$15 fee currently being paid does not accurately reflect the time needed to review the plans and perform a site visit. An increase of \$5 would bring this more in line with other small county municipalities.

As per section 7 (6) and 7 (7) of the *Building Code Act*, notice for a public meeting will be publicized with the meeting to occur on May 20, 2011. ( Due to unforeseen circumstances the May meeting did not occur and was rescheduled to July 15, 2011.)

Financial Implications/Budget Impact: Negligible.

Policy Impact: None, as per policy.

Others Consulted: Robert Labre, CBO

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,  
Municipal Clerk

*Melinda Reith*