

Township of Brock Corporate Policy



Policy Name: Township of Brock Streetlight Policy

Policy Type: Public Works

Policy Number: PW3

Reference: 2002-FI-03

Date Approved: October 21, 2002

Date Revised:

Approval By: Finance Committee

Point of Contact: George S. Graham (CAO)

Recommendation

That the Committee approve the recommendation procedures for the application of streetlights within the limits of the Corporation of the Township of Brock.

Report

The township of Brock currently owns and maintains streetlights in various areas of the municipality.

The streetlighting is provided in the urban areas of Beaverton, Cannington and Sunderland and in various areas throughout the municipality to address specific requests/needs.

Requests for streetlighting vary, being received in the form of individuals requests, petitions and/or by specific resolution of Council/Committee.

The objective in dealing with a streetlight application is to be consistent in relation to Implementation and cost containment.

Varying options to deal with these requests are available and are provided herein:

Local Improvement Act:

The Local Improvement Act provides for various works to be undertaken and may be prompted by a petition or on the initiative of council, however, past experience has proven the council generally considers a request by petition.

The problem in this particular instance the petition is governed by majority and in some instances, the related costs generate neighbourhood discontent.

Area Wide Rate

As the Committee is aware, various municipalities allocate the costs of the installation and maintenance of streetlights to the General Tax Rate, specific to the whole of the municipality.

This method spreads the costs over a greater area and lessens the individual impact. This method causes little problem in urban settings. However, may generate monetary impacts on budgetary considerations due to the lack of streetlighting in the rural component of the municipality.

The current system of approving streetlight requests was adopted in 1982 and is outdated in relation to requests and certain authority approval requirements.

It is therefore recommended that the following be implemented to address requests for streetlights:

1. Request for streetlights
(Applicant(s) or Council/Committee)
2. Cost Analysis
(Capital/ Maintenance)
3. Acknowledgement of Costs
(To be offset by confirmation by Applicant(s) or Council)
4. Approval
(Staff report to Council)
5. Payment of Capital Costs
6. Inspection
(Safety Authority)
7. Installation
8. Connection

It is recognized that streetlight applications differ in urban areas (Beaverton, Cannington and Sunderland) to that of the defined rural areas of the municipality.

It is the intent of this policy that the process, namely steps one (1) through eight (8), would be followed for the purposes of obtaining a streetlight.

The varying difference between the monetary commitment would be as follows:

Urban Area

The "Urban Area" is defined as the Beaverton, Cannington and Sunderland Urban Areas.

The cost of the capital and maintenance, including energy charge, would be allocated to the whole of the area and the costs placed on the tax rate applicable to the service area. This is the current manner in which the urban area costs are currently distributed.

Rural Area

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.

Please contact the Clerk's Department at 705-432-2355 or clerks@townshipofbrock.ca.

The specific area to be serviced would be defined. The capital costs of installation would be established, acknowledged, approved and payment in full received by the municipality, prior to installation.

The maintenance and energy charge would be established on an annual basis and would be applied to the whole of the rural area serviced with streetlights. In this manner, the maintenance and energy charge would be consistent in the rural area and collected as a charge applied to the tax bill.

Summary

The existing method of approving the application for streetlighting is outdated.

The suggested method of dealing with the application(s) for streetlighting is sufficient to meet with objectives of being consistent in the implementation and cost containment in dealing with requests for streetlights in the Township of Brock.

Respectfully Submitted,

George S. Graham, AMCT, CMC

Clerk-Administrator