

COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SECTION - H

MISCELLANEOUS

SUBJECT: Street Lighting
POLICY NUMBER: H - 1
APPROVAL DATE: December 12, 2001
AMENDED DATE: January 20, 2021

PREAMBLE

This Policy will apply to the Municipality of the District of Guysborough and its residents.

TERMS

The Municipality of the District of Guysborough is committed to the provision of municipal services that enhances the health and well-being, safety and protection of persons and property. The Council is committed to the provision of street lighting in communities within the Municipality in order to improve the safety for both pedestrian and vehicular traffic; and, to enhance the protection of property.

All requests for street lighting shall be referred to the Director of Public Works. The following shall be the procedure for requesting street lighting or for an additional light.

RESIDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

Five (5) residents of an area requesting street lighting shall submit a formal request to the Director of Public Works requesting that the Council consider the installation of street lighting in the area. The request should define the proposed area to be served including the road or roads involved and the proposed distance for the required lighting.

MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITY

A pattern of installation will be identified by Staff of the Department of Public Works. An assessment of safety, traffic, cost (capital and operating), and available poles will be considered when determining the pattern. When determining a street lighting area the density of dwellings should be at least 10 dwelling units per kilometre.

Residents in the area to be serviced will be consulted by petition indicating their willingness to be serviced.

This petition will include:

- title of petition
- name and address of owner (civic and mailing)
- estimated annual operating cost for each dwelling; this cost will be based on a general uniform rate per dwelling unit, this is based on assessment value
- a vote of favor or opposing
- a signature from the property owner

The petition should only be signed by permanent residents (a permanent resident for this purpose is anyone living in the area for one half of the year) in the area to receive the lighting. There must be a majority of the Residents in favor of the street lighting prior to proceeding. The petition will be supplied by the Municipality of the District of Guysborough and returned to the Director of Public Works who will then make a report and recommendation to Committee. The Municipal Staff of Public Works will develop the petition and will do either a mail out or deliver by way of door to door survey depending on the amount of dwelling units to be included.

STREET LIGHTING GRANTS AND CHARGES

It is recognized that the provision of street lighting has a benefit for both local residents and businesses located within street lighting areas of improved vehicular and pedestrian safety, and improved property protection. It is also recognized that there is general benefit to resident's of the municipality in terms of enhanced vehicular safety and pedestrian safety in commercial areas.

Operating Grant: A 50% contribution from the General Rate

Operating Charge: A uniform area rate on taxable residential and resource property will be established each budget year. The rate will be determined by dividing the total operating cost for all street lighting areas (less the operating grant) divided by the total taxable residential assessment in all the street lighting areas.

Capital Grant: 50% contribution from the General Rate.

Capital Charge: Local area only to cover 50% of the costs, this is to be spread out over an appropriate period not to exceed 3 years.

- Individual light requests must be in an area already services by street lighting. Municipal personnel will make a decision and report to Committee.
- Individual light(s) will not be installed by the Municipality in areas not already serviced by street lighting. Installations of this nature should be considered as a private light.

- Requests to expand a street light area in a community already serviced by street lights will be handled in the same manner as developing a new street light area. A petition or survey will be conducted of the area residents located in the proposed expansion area.