



COUNCIL – AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: 2 April 2024

Subject: Borrowing Bylaw No. B-07/2024 - Highland Park Fire Station (Project 000505)

Boards Routed Through: N/A

Date: N/A

Issue:

Council is being asked to give Second and Third Reading to Borrowing Bylaw No. B-07/2024 to fund the Highland Park Fire Station project.

Background:

On March 4 2024, Council gave first reading to Bylaw B-07/2024. This borrowing bylaw is associated with the Highland Park Fire Station project. The bylaw is being presented to Council for Second and Third Reading.

All required advertising has been completed and no petition has been received. Pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, Council may now give Second and Third Reading to Bylaw No. B-07/2024.

The City of Airdrie is well within required Provincial debt limits as shown in the chart below.

As at Dec 31, 2023	City Use	Provincial Limit	Remaining
Debt	\$ 66,613,692	\$ 320,601,887	\$ 253,988,195
Debt Servicing	8,599,789	53,433,648	44,833,859

With the addition of the debenture associated with Bylaw No. B-07/2024, outstanding debt will rise to \$96,073,892. The cumulative debt will rise to \$111,269,992 considering all three borrowing bylaws brought forward today.

The Highland Park Fire Station project is the addition of a fourth fire station in Airdrie and is necessary to maintain service levels in the NE quadrant of Airdrie while meeting the needs driven by development pressures already under way in this area. A 3.2-acre site for the Highland Park Fire Station was identified at 960 Hamilton Boulevard NE. This station is required to maintain emergency service responsiveness as development and growth continues in the NE.

The portion of the Highland Park Fire Station project identified in the 2024 Budget to be funded by debenture is **\$29,460,200**.

Debentures are a means for a municipality to acquire debt financing. This type of financing is regulated under the *Municipal Government Act* and requires an approved bylaw. Debenture bylaws have an advertising requirement of two consecutive weeks followed by a fifteen-day petition period. Council may proceed with second and third readings of the bylaw if there are no petitions received. Debenture bylaws are valid thirty days after the second and third readings.

Alignment with South Saskatchewan Regional Plan and AirdrieONE:

N/A

Boards Routed Through:

N/A

Administration Recommendation:

That Council gives second and third readings to Bylaw No. B-07/2024, being a Debenture Bylaw in the amount of \$29,460,200 to fund the Highland Park Fire Station project.

Alternatives/Implications:

1. Council could choose to defeat Bylaw No. B-07/2024 at second and third readings. Should the debenture not be approved, this project could be delayed until alternate means of financing are arranged.
2. Council could choose to table Bylaw No. B-07/2024 for further review. Should the debenture be tabled, this capital project could be delayed.

Communications Plan:

The debenture was publicly advertised according to *Municipal Government Act* requirements for two consecutive weeks on the following dates March 7, 2024 and March 14, 2024 and no petition was received.

Recommendation:

That Council gives Second and Third Reading to Bylaw No. B-07/2024, being a Debenture Bylaw in the amount of \$29,460,200 to fund the Highland Park Fire Station project.

Stephanie Mitchell, CPA, HBComm
Team Leader, Budget and Financial Planning

Presenter:	Stephanie Mitchell
Department:	Budget and Financial Planning
Reviewed by:	Shannon Schindeler, Director of Corporate Services
Attachments:	#1 Bylaw No. B-07/2024
Appointment:	N/A