THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

BY-LAW NO. 2006 - 06

Being a By-law to establish a Compensation and Expense Policy for the Mayor and Members of Council

WHEREAS subsection 224(e) of the Municipal Act, 2001, states it is a role of Council to maintain the fiscal integrity of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the Town Finance Committee did make recommendations in minutes dated September 22, 2005 with regard to expenses incurred by Members of Council including conference and seminar attendance, registration, meals and accommodation costs and per diem allowances;


AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient to establish an equitable and uniform guideline to address compensation levels for and expense amounts eligible to be incurred by Members of Council;

NOW THEREFORE Council of the Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains hereby enacts as follows:

1. That the following compensation and per diem and expense amounts for Members of Council are hereby approved and established as follows:

a) Compensation
   
   Mayor $28,500  
   Deputy Mayor $19,500  
   County Councillor $15,000  
   Councillors $15,000  

   * 1/3 of these amounts is deemed to be tax free under Section 81(3) of the Income Tax Act.

b) Per Diem Amounts

   Per Diem allowances will only be paid to the Members of Council for attendance at the following:

   i) Conferences/seminars outside of the Town boundaries  
   ii) Council appointed committees outside of the Town boundaries, and  
   iii) Boards or Committees of the following municipal associations - FCM, AMO, OSUM, OGRA/Roma; subject to Council's prior approval of seeking appointment to these Boards or Committees.  
   iv) Attendance at other meetings or events outside of the Town boundaries as approved by Council.

c) Conferences / Seminars

   i) That Councillors be encouraged to participate in Municipal Conferences and Seminars within Ontario, up to two (2) per year. Participation at Conferences and Seminars, beyond 2 per calendar year, or out of Province must be specifically approved by Council.
ii) That expenses for the Members of Council for registration, meals and accommodations be reimbursed based on reasonable actual amounts.

*Claims and approvals for the above expenses will be in accordance with procedures established by the Treasury Department.

2. All previous resolutions and by-laws of the former Town of Thornbury, former Township of Collingwood and Town of The Blue Mountains addressing and establishing compensation and expenses for the Mayor and Members of Council shall be hereby rescinded.

Read a first and second time this 9th day of January, 2006.
Read a third time and passed this 9th day of January, 2006.

Ellen Anderson, Mayor

Jeffery Fletcher, Acting Deputy Clerk
A. Recommendations

2. That Council approve a change to the mileage reimbursement of $.34 per kilometre to $.38 per kilometre for Councillors & staff.
3. That Council direct the CAO to prepare a complete analysis of need and benefit of the policy for the payment of "per diem" allowances and expenses and report back by September 30, 2005.
4. That Council approve a policy to complete a comprehensive review of Council compensation with recommendations to Council every three years, by March 31 of each election year.

B. Background

Based on Council direction, I have had prepared the attached comprehensive review of Council Compensation with comparable municipalities.

The highlights are as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Current Pay</th>
<th>Comparable Municipalities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mayor</td>
<td>$29,500</td>
<td>$25,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Mayor</td>
<td>$19,500</td>
<td>$14,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$12,949</td>
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</tbody>
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As a result of a secondary review completed by Grey Highlands, we noted a great deal of difference in terms of "per diem" policies and annual amounts paid. Municipalities like Collingwood, Wasaga Beach and Orillia have no policies for per diems or very restrictive payment.
It appears that a great deal more research should be completed and debated by Council before recommending any current changes to existing policy.

C. Budget Impact (cc: Treasury, if required)

1.

D. Attached (Relevant documentation not personal information about an identifiable person)

1. March 15, 2005 letter from Gazda Houline & Associates
2. Grey Highlands comparison chart
3. 2004 Council Remuneration Comparison chart

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]