

Meeting Date: June 17, 2019
Department: Chief Administrative Officer
Prepared By: Greg McClinchey, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: Economic Development Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council approve the establishment of a permanent full-time Economic Development Officer staff position commencing in the fall of 2019.

BACKGROUND

Beginning in 2017, the Municipality hired a full-time contract Economic Development Officer to assist the CAO and Management Team with an array of duties relating to economic development broadly. Since that time, the staff resource has proven exceptionally valuable and versatile and, as a consequence of having this resource in-house, staff have been able to gain considerable momentum and to accomplish a number of Council's essential goals and objectives including:

- The research and drafting of an economic development roadmap;
- The creation of various promotional packages (i.e. the hotel feasibility/attractions package);
- Data collection relating to various initiatives such as the Municipal CIP, planning processes such as housing type deficits and commuter rates, and the need for a redesign of the Molnar Industrial Park; and
- Collaboration with external partners such as the BIA, the Industry Council and with our municipal partners in Mbizana on matters such as the RED Hub.

While the above is only a small selection of tasks already undertaken by the Economic Development Officer, momentum is building and staff are eager to continue with the progress. Accordingly, it is recommended that Council approve the establishment of a permanent full-time Economic Development Officer staff position commencing in the fall of 2019.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The salary and benefits of an Economic Development Officer was included in the 2019 Budget. No additional resources are required.

ATTACHMENTS

- None