

"SPECIAL" COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

Tuesday, November 29th, 2022 5:30 p.m. Tay Valley Municipal Office – 217 Harper Road, Perth, Ontario Council Chambers

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:	Chair, Reeve Rob Rainer Deputy Reeve Fred Dobbie Councillor Wayne Baker Councillor Greg Hallam Councillor Korrine Affleck Councillor Andrew Kendrick Councillor Marilyn Thomas
Staff Present:	Amanda Mabo, Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk Janie Laidlaw, Deputy Clerk Ashley Liznick, Treasurer Noelle Reeve, Planner Sean Ervin, Public Works Manager
Regrets:	Councillor Angela Pierman

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None at this time.

3. DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

i) 2023 Capital Budget Presentation and Discussion.

The Treasurer gave a PowerPoint presentation – attached, page 6.

A member asked if the Strategic Plan was a mandated or committed project. The CAO/Clerk explained that the Strategic Plan is budgeted for in each term of Council. The Strategic Plan keeps things streamlined and structured, staff refer to it when writing a report, if applicable. Council can choose not to undertake a strategic planning process.

A member asked about the Cannabis Grant. The CAO/Clerk explained that it is for a cannabis policy but that it has no timeline to be spent. A consultant will be retained.

A member confirmed that the charging station is included in the budgeted amount for the Electric Vehicle. The Public Works Manager explained that the charging station will be for Township fleet only.

The Planner and Public Works Manager left at 6:03 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole moved "in camera" at 6:03 p.m. to address a matter pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees regarding Contract Obligations and the Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk, Treasurer and Deputy Clerk remained in the room.

The Committee returned to open session at 6:08 p.m.

The Planner and Public Works Manager returned at 6:08 p.m.

The Chair rose and reported that the Committee was provided an update on the Contract Obligation listed in the capital budget.

Councillor Kendrick asked why the Tangible Capital Asset Policy has a threshold for being capital rather than operating. The Treasurer explained the reason it is brought forward this way was although it is called a "Capital" Budget, the items in this section are paid for using grants, reserves, Development Charges and Parkland, rather than from the operating budget. Not all items on this list meet the threshold of a Tangible Capital Asset.

Councillor Kendrick does not agree that projects funded from reserves do not affect the levy, understands that the reserves are like a savings account, but the tax revenue to pay for that came from the levy at some point. The Treasurer agreed but explained that the amount spent on capital projects does not impact the current years levy. Councillor Kendrick is also concerned about what happens when the reserves are spent, as the last 3 years the capital spending has exceeded what was put into reserves. The Treasurer explained that the next 10-year capital plan may show there is not enough reserves to sustain the next 10 years. Ideally there will be some grants for road or bridge projects, but they cannot be predicted 10 years out, increasing the reserves is important and the increase in the 2023 budget will help. The costs shown in the last 10-year plan are different than the costs coming forward now. Councillor Kendrick identified that there are differences in the capital plan and budgeted amounts in 2022 and 2023. The Treasurer explained that it is not comparing apples to apples as the 10-year capital plan has not been updated since the fall of 2021, which is why there is significant changes in cost. The 10-year capital plan in the budget is more accurate and there will be years where more money is put into reserves than is spent, in 2023 more is being spent that being put in.

The Reeve mentioned that the capital items are projects that the public does not know about, there is a lot of good things being done at the waste sites, with Township fleet, improvements to recreational areas, etc., and feels that information should be put out to the public as value added to the Township with those expenditures.

ii) 2023 Operating Budget Update.

The Treasurer gave a PowerPoint presentation – *attached, page 19.*

A member asked about the \$300,000 residential assessment that is used for what a municipal tax increase would be and if that assessed value should be doubled? The Treasurer feels that is still the average assessment as the assessed value is not changing in 2023.

A member asked where in the budget are Development Charges revenue shown. The Treasurer explained that Development Charges are a deferred revenue, even though the funds are taken in and set aside in reserves they do not show in the budget. They show up in the capital spreadsheet but not as revenue in the budget they are shown as a deferred revenue.

The Treasurer reviewed that without increasing the reserves the levy increase is 4.44% with the increase to reserves the levy increase is 5%.

The Deputy Reeve understands that these are tough times but must keep the reserves up or the Township will fall behind, supports the 5% increase so that reserves can increase. The average increase of \$71.65 is spread out over the 4 payments.

Members understand and agree with the need to increase reserves but are somewhat reluctant to a 5% levy increase. Looking for, writing, and administering grants is important, but do not have the staff to do them so it is a vicious cycle. Need to take something to the public and see how they feel. The Committee discussed the new part time position, concerns with whether the increase in growth is unpredictable but understand the amount of work that needs to be done. The Planner further explained the changes the province has made to the requirements in the Planning Act to reduce the timelines to process applications. For example, a Zoning By-Law amendment was 120 days and now is 90 days, if the timelines are not met then the Township must refund the application fees to the applicant which means the taxpayers are paying for that development. With just two people in the department, the timelines cannot be met.

The Deputy Reeve asked what the interest paid on the loan for the Bolingbroke Bridge will be at the end of the loan. The Treasurer explained that last year the amount of interest paid was approximately \$35,900 and over the life of the loan approximately \$500,000 in interest will have been paid.

A member asked about the increasing cost of infrastructure improvements and how firm are the numbers in the budget. The Public Works Manager explained how he estimates the projects and that he is pretty confident in the numbers, there is a 10% contingency added for any unknowns. The Treasurer explained that the budget is one thing but the procurement of each project comes back to Council after it has been tendered so there is still the ability for Council to pull or alter a project.

The Reeve feels that Tay Valley will continue to grow in the next few years and need the planning staff to handle it.

Another member also feels that the building department is doing a great job and that also contributes to the growth in the Township.

The Committee agreed to proceed with a 5% levy increase in order to obtain public feedback. The Treasurer will give a high-level overview of the budget at the public meeting on December 13th. The CAO/Clerk explained that the public meeting is for Council to listen, not necessarily for Council to give their opinion or debate the budget, but for the public to comment and ask questions.

The Treasurer will show a summary sheet of what the increase to the levy is made up of, the public will be aware that most of the increase is inflation and increasing reserves.

The Treasurer had asked other municipalities what their levy increases were and Drummond/North Elmsley is at 4.98% and the Town of Perth is looking at between 6 and 11%.

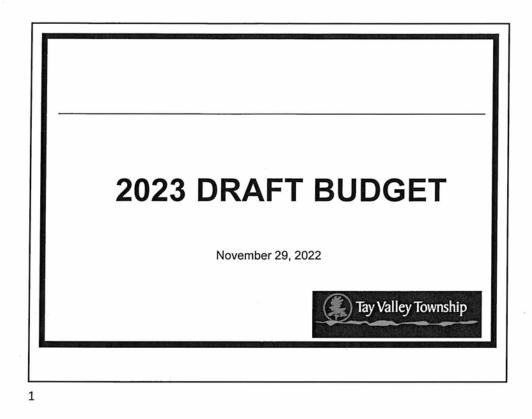
4. ADJOURNMENT

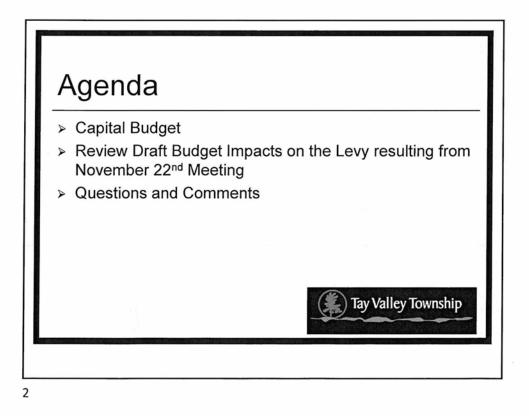
The Committee adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

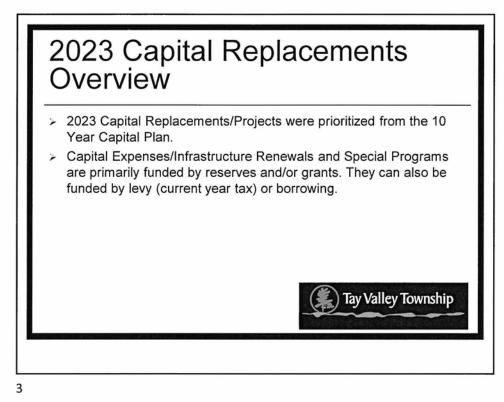
Rob Rainer, Reeve

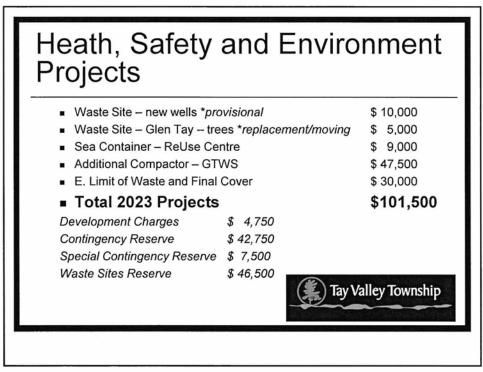
Janie Laidlaw, Deputy

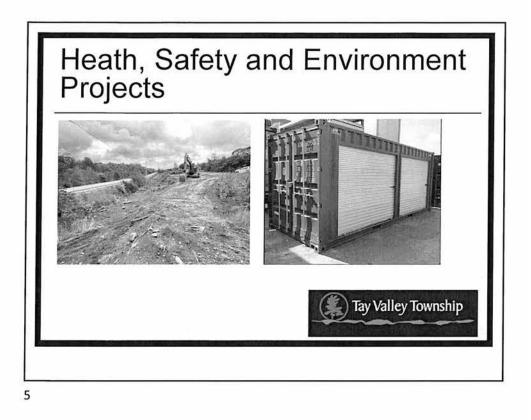
DELEGATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

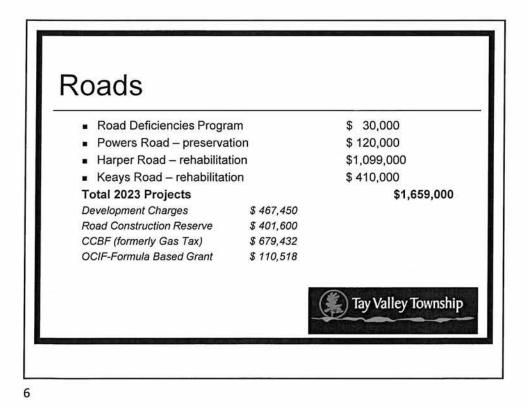


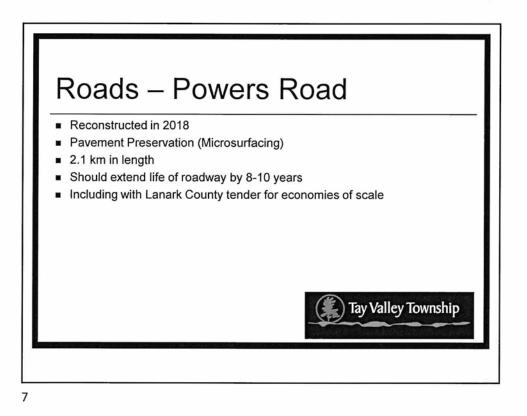


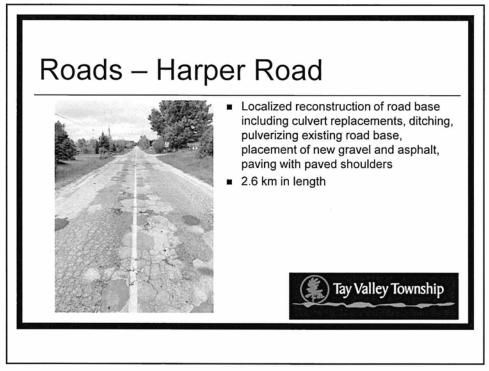


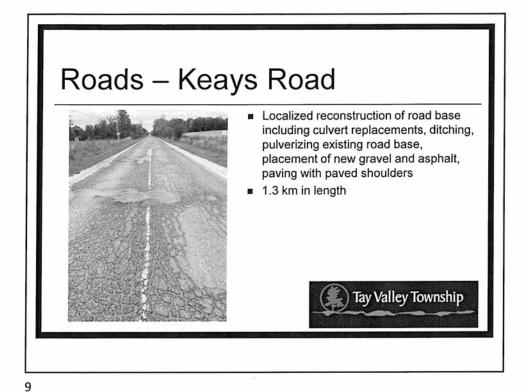


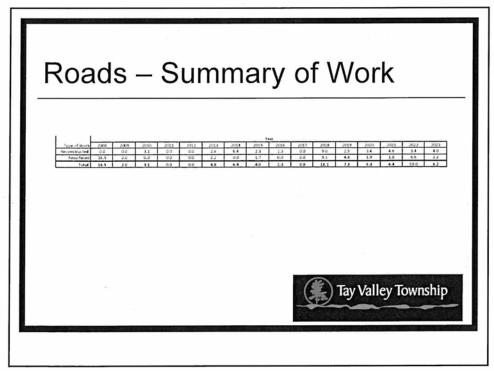


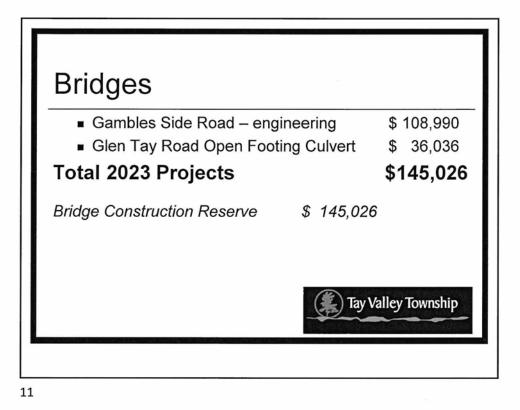


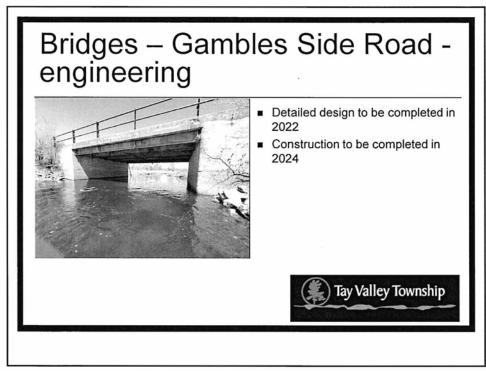


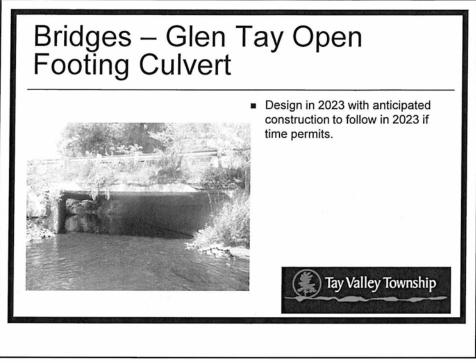


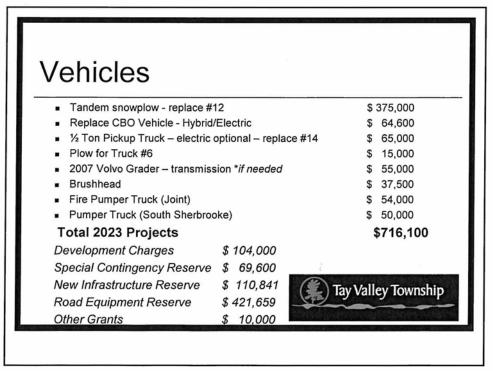


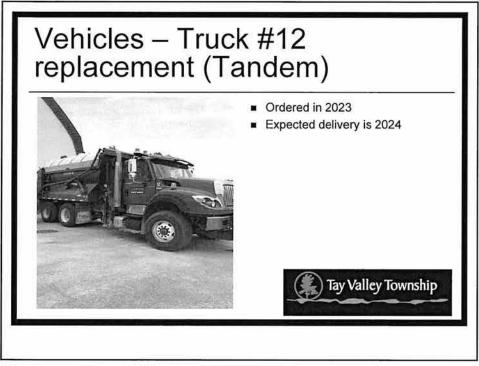


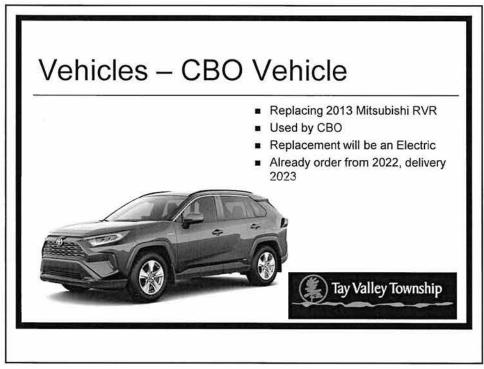


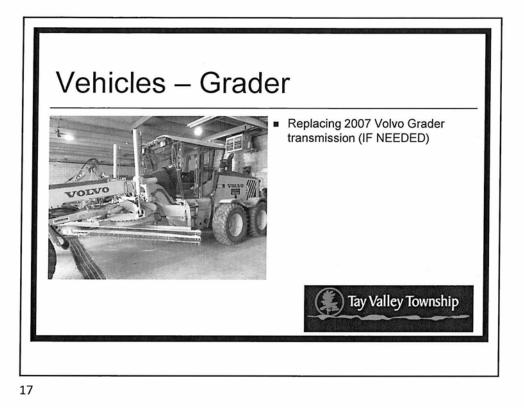






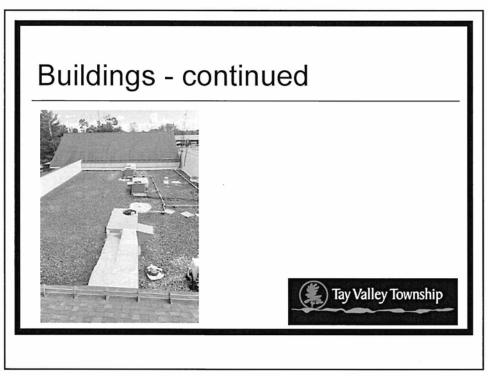


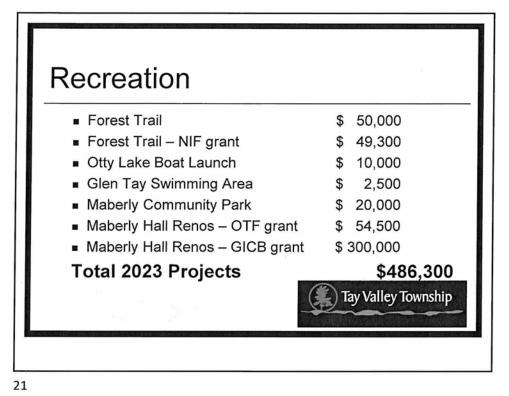




Buildings	
 Waste Site Accessibility Ramps 	\$ 96,278
 Roof Replacement 	\$ 157,500
 Electric Heaters 	\$ 10,080
 Emergency Lighting 	\$ 4,200
 Pressure Washer – replace 	\$ 15,000
 ReUse Centre – Emergency Lighting 	\$ 5,400
 GTWS remove old barn 	\$ 10,000
 Maberly Hall – firestopping penetrations 	\$ 6,000
 Maberly Rink Shed – upgrades 	\$ 7,200
 Automatic Transfer Switch 	\$ 11,600
Total 2023 Projects	\$323.258
	Tay Valley Township

Total 2023 Projects	\$323,	258
Modernization Fund	\$ 15,800	
Contingency Reserve	\$122,830	
Recreation Capital	\$ 7,200	
Maberly Hall Reserve	\$ 6,000	
Waste Site Reserve	\$ 5,400	
Road Equipment Reserve	\$ 15,000	
Township Office/Garage	\$ 54,750	
Enabling Accessibility Grant	\$ 96,278	





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