
Tay Valley Township Approves 2017 Budget – Policing Costs Account for 71% of Tax Increase

At its December 13, 2016, meeting, Tay Valley Township Council gave final approval to its 2017 budget. The 2017 budget will see a 5.39% tax levy increase, 3.84% of which will pay for increased policing costs. The total 2017 tax requirement of \$5,274,761 is \$269,652 more than was required in 2016 which represents an increase of \$37.76 on a residential property assessed at \$200,000 in value.

71% of the tax increase is a direct result of the third year of the five year phase-in of the new provincial funding formula for policing. The Township's annual cost for O.P.P. policing services will increase by \$192,186 (22%) from \$878,560 in 2016 to \$1,070,746 for 2017.

The 2017 budget includes continued reserve fund contributions to fund infrastructure renewal, improvements in waste site operations, and recreation and cultural programs.

Highlights of Tay Valley's \$864,000 infrastructure renewal and replacement program for 2017 include the following:

- Somerville Drive , Jodi and Parks Lanes - resurfacing (\$129,200)
- Otty Lake Side Road – scope of work contingent on grant funding (\$50,000)
- Road Deficiencies Elimination Program (\$60,000)
- Menzies Munro Side Road Bridge - retaining walls to be repaired (\$18,000)
- Noonan's Side Road Bridge – concrete repairs, waterproof and paving (\$110,000)
- Guardrail replacement, bridge repair and analysis (\$100,000)
- Replacement of a tandem plow truck (\$235,000)
- Additional compactor for waste site (\$40,000)
- McVeigh Pit Fencing (\$5,500)
- Floor Drains to be installed in two Public Works Garages (\$60,000)
- Improvements to tennis courts in Maberly (\$20,000) – subject to grant approval
- Website Enhancements and Postage Machine Replacement (\$13,050)

Reeve Keith Kerr thanked Council, staff and members of the public who provided input into the budget process. "The Township continues to maintain a strong financial position overall, despite the impact of the new police funding formula, while investing in infrastructure renewal and maintaining core municipal services".

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