



## MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019

5:00 P.M.

TOWN HALL

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Councillor Frank Kennes, Chair

### 1. Roll Call.

Present:

Mayor Joanne Vanderheyden  
 Deputy Mayor Brad Richards  
 Councillor Frank Kennes  
 Councillor Marie Baker  
 Councillor Sandi Hipple  
 Councillor Larry Cowan  
 Councillor Neil Flegel  
 Councillor Steve Pelkman

Absent with

Notice: Councillor John Brennan

Also present:

Greg McClinchey, Chief Administrative Officer  
 Bill Dakin, Director of Finance-Treasurer  
 Kerry Maloney, Acting Financial Analyst  
 Lindsay Laskey, Manager of Accounting/Deputy Treasurer  
 Kim Arruda, Financial Analyst  
 Jennifer Pereira, Assistant to Director of LLS  
 Brian George, Strathroy-Caradoc Fire Chief  
 Robert Lilbourne, Director of Parks and Recreation  
 George Elliott, Director of Engineering and Public Works  
 Joe Pilon, Information Technology  
 Rob Lilbourne, Director of Community Services

Matthew Stephenson, Director of Building and Waste Management  
 Katie Dortmans, Resident  
 Grant Meme, MYFm  
 Stephen Riczu, Resident

## 2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest.

## 3. 2019 Draft Consolidated Capital Budget Review

The Director of Financial Services, Bill Dakin reviewed the timeline of meetings and then presented the 2019 Consolidated Municipal Operating and Capital Budget with an overall Taxation Levy increase of 7.61%. This would result in a 0.12% increase in the tax rate and an increase in the residential property tax by \$0.80 per \$100,000 of assessment.

Bill Dakin, Director of Financial Services also spoke on the provincial funding. He expressed that the municipality is in a financial position in order to put in their 1/3. He also provided the following chart which displayed the 2019-2018 Year over Year Comparison.

	2019	2018	2018*	\$ Difference	% Difference		
<b>Taxation Required(A)</b>	17,140,709	15,999,577	15,999,577	1,141,132	7.61%		
<b>Assessment Base(B)</b>	2,577,001,929	2,428,688,266	2,428,688,266	148,313,663			
				<b>2018 Difference</b>		<b>2018* Difference</b>	
<b>Tax Rate (Taxation/ Assessment)</b>	0.006651415	0.006587744	0.00664338	0.000063671	0.97%	0.000008035	0.12%
	(A/B)	(A/B)	(Four area rates/4)				
<b>\$ Per 100K (Tax Rate * 100,000 of Assessment)</b>	\$ 665.14	\$ 658.77	\$ 664.34	\$ 6.37	0.97%	\$ 0.80	0.12%
<b>* 2018 Tax Rate is an average of the four tax rates due to the changes of including streetlights in the general levy for 2019</b>							

Councillor Kennes indicated that the increase to revenues also reflect the phased in value and new growth within the community.

Mayor Vanderheyden inquired on the breakdown of phased-in value and new growth. Bill Dakin, Director of Financial Services did not have that breakdown but indicated that new-growth is reflected anywhere for 18-24 months after the occupancy is taken, as MPAC does not assess the structures until that time.

Greg McClinchey, Chief Administrative Officer adds that in the last 24 months our Building Department has shown that 460 new homes have been built. Those are

homes that require services immediately although the revenue in taxation does not reflect in our budget immediately.

Councillor Baker wanted to clarify that if the municipality could tax immediately it would, but the delay from MPAC makes it difficult and is out of the municipality's control.

Councillor Pelkman suggested that a notification system be put in place, to ensure the new homeowners understood the process and are not surprised when they receive a 2 year tax bill that needs to be paid immediately.

Councillor Baker requested that George Elliott, Director of Engineering and Public Works go over the Caradoc Street Re-Construction project. George Elliott states that he has concerns with the longevity of the compass stamping component, but wanted to clarify that any changes at this point will not effect the tax rate.

Councillor Flegel has concerns with the cost of burying the wiring. He feels that the municipality has other liabilities within our own capital projects and money should be used for that instead.

Councillor Pelkman felt that he was comfortable with the loan needed for this project but would prefer on increasing the tax rate a little to reduce the amount borrowed.

Deputy Mayor Richards feels that the components of the project should all be left in until the tender process and council can review all of them at that point.

Councillor Cowan wanted confirmation on what services would be buried underground. George Elliott, Director of Engineering and Public Works indicates that services that are at the eye sight line would be buried.

Mayor Vanderheyden indicates that Middlesex County has already set aside funds for this project in a reserve.

Bill Dakin, Director of Financial Services reviews the Fleet Schedule with council.

There is a total of \$810,000 in fleet replacement proposed. He also suggested a fleet review at the cost of \$35,000. Greg McClinchey, Chief Administrative Officer clarifies that aside from the fleet review, staff are always looking for efficacies throughout the fleet and that purchasing the right equipment will save in staff costs.

Moved By Councillor Pelkman and Deputy Mayor Richards

**THAT:** the Finance Committee recommends to Council, for a meeting date to be determined, approval of the 2019 Consolidated Operating and Capital Budget with an overall 7.61% levy increase, which will result in an average rate increase of 0.12%. **Carried.**

#### 4. Unfinished Business. None

#### 5. Next Meeting

- Monday, April 01, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m. (Proposed Budget Presentation to Council).

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. on a motion by Mayor Vanderheyden and Councillor Pelkman. **Carried.**

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Mayor

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Clerk