



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: December 1, 2020 RELEASE DATE: Immediate

FROM: Holly Reynolds, Accounting & Budgeting Manager/Treasurer

SUBJECT: City Council Highlights – Budget Deliberations

At its budget deliberations meeting, Sarnia City Council approved a \$155.8 million budget for 2021.

The general levy increase is 2.00%, which is down from the original proposed budget levy increase of 2.39%.

The transit levy increase is 2.45%, which is no change from the original.

The total budgeted expenditures of \$155,759,099 were approved and is an increase of \$1,221,088 over 2020.

Council approved the following changes to the draft 2021 budget:

| | General Levy | Transit |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Expenditures | | |
| Elimination of Blue Bin Costs | -\$5,000 | |
| Increase to Municipal Grants | \$15,634 | |
| Net expenditure changes | \$10,634 | \$0 |
| | | |
| Revenues | | |
| Elimination of Blue Bin Sales | -\$5,000 | |
| Increase to OMPF | \$186,200 | |
| Reserve Contribution | \$129,742 | |
| Net Revenue Changes | \$310,942 | \$0 |
| | | |
| Net impact: | -\$300,308 | \$0 |

The impact per \$100,000 of assessment for a residential property is:

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| General Municipal Purposes | \$17.34 (2.00%) |
| Transit Area | \$1.36 (2.45%) |
| Total Municipal Purposes | \$18.70 (2.03%) |

Council also approved two grant requests, one in the amount of \$80,000 to the Sarnia Lambton Taskforce on Healthcare Worker Recruitment; and the other in the amount of \$8,200 to the Heaven's Wildlife Rescue Rehabilitation & Education Centre.

The approved capital budget is \$61,759,805 after approval of two additional capital projects totaling \$400,000 from those outlined in the draft capital budget.

Reserves are budgeted to be \$28,079,673 after the approval of \$1,089,742 of additional spending from reserves.

Changes to the Fees for Services were made to eliminate all year-over-year increases to fees that are charged to businesses.

The approved budget will be posted at <https://www.sarnia.ca/2021-budgets/>.

The next Regular Council Meeting will be held virtually at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 7, 2020.

- 30 -

For further information contact:

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