

TOWN OF ERIN Media Release

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December 9, 2016

ERIN'S 2017 BUDGET DESIGNED TO SUPPORT FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Erin, ON, December 7, 2016 – Town of Erin Council approved a \$10.6 million Operating Budget and a \$5.6 million Capital Budget for 2017. This represents a 2 per cent tax rate increase over 2016 or \$28.51 for a home assessed at \$500,000. "The 2017 Budget provides an expansion of funding for infrastructure projects," says Ursula D'Angelo, Director of Finance/Treasurer. "Community input, Council deliberation and staff support helped develop the 2017 Budget approved by Council and emphasizes the Town's commitment to deliver core services, plan for anticipated and future infrastructure projects while recognizing the financial pressures families in our community face."

The 2017 Operating Budget includes increased contributions to infrastructure reserves of \$487 thousand for future capital projects in addition to \$501 thousand for capital projects during 2017. In 2017, the Town will undertake a number of large capital projects such as Station Street (bridge and dam) and Daniel Street (road and water mains). In addition, repairs and maintenance for smaller projects in community centres, parks, fire halls, Thompson Crescent, bridges and culverts and accessibility renovations to Town Hall.

The 2017 Budget maintains core services at 2016 levels with minor increases to address current administrative pressures. In addition, Council continued funding for Committees of Council such as the Heritage Committee, Let Get Hillsburgh Growing, Celebrate Erin, Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee, Erin Tennis Club and Trails Advisory Committee at their 2016 levels.

The approved Budget is available on the Town website at www.erin.ca.

The County tax portion has not been finalized; however, the currently proposed County increase of 3.4% would generate a blended increase of \$27.56 or 2.41% for \$100,000 assessment value. The impact on the average Erin household stated above does not include changes from assessment values.

"Council is pleased to approve a budget that is responsive to the needs of our community, funds some key initiatives such as the Rotary Riverwalk and Community Improvement Initiative and, from a strategic perspective, improves our fiscal position to address known, future infrastructure pressures." says Mayor Allan Alls. "We were able to accomplish much while keeping the tax increase reasonable. I think Town Council and staff did a commendable job." he added.

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