



Council passes 2019 Budget

For Immediate Release,

December 19, 2018

At last night's Special Council meeting, Council of the Town of Erin passed the Town's 2019 Budget and 2020 to 2022 forecasts. Following this year's extensive public consultation, which included a public survey and three public workshops, Council approved the \$11.5m Operating Budget and \$4.4m in the 2019 Capital Budget, resulting in a tax increase of a percent and a half (1.5%) or \$21.92 for a home assessed at \$500k.

Council's decision to increase the 2019 tax rate was a result of reviewing the 2020 to 2022 forecasts and the cost pressures associated with future capital requests. The increase will allow the Town to continue to provide the community with essential services and result in a higher amount contributed to reserves, which will lessen the financial burden to ratepayers in future years.

Key highlights included in the 2019 budget:

- The Town's Growth Management study
- A Water Rate study
- Renovations at Erin Community Centre, to include accessibility requirements, a flat roof and ice resurfacers
- Development Charges study
- Wastewater Financing Options study
- Online facility bookings software for Recreation
- Rural road upgrades from gravel to surface treatment

"The 2019 Budget has been a smooth and effective process, with the help of the community identifying their needs within the Budget Survey", said Mayor Allan Alls. "This budget allows the Town to continue to move forward with enhancing key initiatives in 2019, while also allowing us to plan responsibly for the future of Erin".

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