



Township of Asphodel-Norwood
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Township of Asphodel Norwood 2005 Budget Report

The Township of Asphodel-Norwood Council fully reviewed the 2005 budget at three budget review sessions on January 24, 31 and February 24, 2005. The Township's Management Committee has also reviewed the budget a number of times and the results of these meetings were to reduce the draft property tax rate **increase** from 18% to 5.571%. At this point Council has determined that the proposed budget with a 5.571% increase in the tax rate be presented for approval by by-law

Issues, which have affected this increase, include:

1. No increase in the CRF funding from the Province of Ontario. We have calculated that the 2005 funding should be \$96,247 higher than what has been promised. Community Reinvestment Funding (CRF) funding has not increased since 2003, which means that the Province of Ontario is paying us a total of \$165,756 less than what they should for the years 2004 and 2005. The major change in costs for the municipality that would trigger this increase in funding is the increase in policing costs.
2. Policing costs have increased by \$27,000 for 2005 in addition to a \$67,000 increase for 2004 and \$67,000 for 2003.
3. Reduced assessment has resulted in a \$28,000 loss in revenue for 2005.
4. Insurance premiums have increased \$23,863 for 2005.
5. Increased costs attributable to a local medical service agreement are \$15,000 for 2005.
6. The Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) budget has increased by \$3,000 for 2005.
7. Long-term repayment of loans for the new Community Centre will cost an additional \$51,000 for 2005.
8. In 2004 surpluses for the Township and Library Board resulted in \$92,000 being carried forward from 2003. Because of higher than expected operating costs in 2004 there will be no surplus carried forward and this results in an additional \$92,000 having to be levied in 2005. In addition there was a \$15,000 deficit for 2004.

Excluding the CRF funding loss, the above issues total \$240,000. The result is that the 2005 budget as it currently stands actually reflects a reduction in the amount spent on Township operations over 2004 operating costs.

To reduce the effects of the increased costs, this budget includes a reduction in transfers to reserves for future capital projects as well as replacement of vehicles, delayed capital equipment and projects to future years. The revenue also shows proceeds from sale of Donegal Hall to offset the repayment of the new Community Centre.

The capital items included in the budget for 2005 are:

- Minor Capital work on facilities (most of which is paid from reserves)
- Replacement of Fire Tank (from Reserves)
- Some additional Hard Top Resurfacing
- Replacement of Public Works Dual Axel Tandem truck.
- River Road – 1st Phase of Reconstruction
- Sign Enhancement Project and Garbage Containers (funded by Bearwise Grant)
- Work on Cenotaph Lighting
- Minor Arena Capital Items – eg – Water Softener, cleaning equipment
- Downtown Beautification and Township Marketing Project – funded by Federal Grant

In December 2004 the Council approved the Water and Sewer budgets which included the following capital items.

- Sewage Treatment Plant Environmental Assessment Report
- County Road 40 Water and Sewer line upgrades
- Sewer plant pump upgrades
- Sewage Treatment Plant Fencing
- Trentview Pump Replacement
- County Road 45 Waterline Replacement

2005 Budget Summary

	2004 BUDGET	2004 Year End	2005 Revised Budget
Taxation Revenue	-\$3,413,053.00	-\$3,599,847.50	-\$3,558,505.00
Grants from Other Governments	-\$656,000.00	-\$657,739.62	-\$723,000.00
Council	\$25,750.00	\$25,094.40	\$31,586.00
Administration	\$259,140.00	\$414,413.34	\$317,320.31
Fire Services	\$233,877.00	\$253,884.99	\$263,270.00
Protective Services	\$613,688.00	\$587,295.63	\$638,820.00
Transportation Services	\$779,691.00	\$751,145.84	\$740,491.96
Environmental Services	\$76,717.00	\$65,649.10	\$64,671.98
Recreation Services	\$249,505.00	\$271,626.66	\$451,726.75
Planning & Development	\$71,101.00	\$39,509.99	\$70,634.00
Schhol Board & County	\$1,759,584.00	\$1,864,479.64	\$1,702,984.00
	\$0.00	\$15,512.47	\$0.00
Norwood Water	\$0.00	\$16,509.00	\$0.00
Norwood Sewer	\$0.00	-\$47,576.00	\$0.00
Trentview Water	\$76,099.00	\$76,099.00	\$71,136.00
Library	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00