



Report n° FIN2024-47
Date: 2 décembre 2024
Submitted by: Frédéric Desnoyers
Subject: 2025 Budget Adoption Report

Nature/Goal

Following public consultation and detailed review of the draft 2025 budget, this report recommends that Council formally approve the 2025 Budget which includes the revisions made during the Committee of the Whole budget process.

Directive/Previous policy

The Municipal Act, 2001, as amended requires that every municipality adopt an annual operating and a capital budget; property tax bylaws cannot be passed until both budgets have been adopted. Under the Act, municipalities are not allowed to budget for a deficit.

Department's recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law No. 2024-119, being a by-law to establish the budget estimates for the year 2025, be approved.

QU'IL SOIT RÉSOLU QUE le Règlement no. 2024-119, visant à établir les estimés budgétaire pour l'année 2025, soit adopté.

Background

N/A

Discussion

On November 18 & 19, 2024, the 2025 draft Operating Budget was presented to Council representing a 8.74% tax increase. Following the review, and consideration of the 2025 draft budget, Committee of the Whole was recommending to Council a 7.80% tax increase.

On November 29th, the municipality received a letter from the Solicitor General of Ontario announcing a 594 870 \$ grant to offset some of the OPP cost increase. (Schedule B)

From that amount \$210,467 is for the 2023 adjustment already accrued for in 2024 therefore not affecting the 2025 budget.

From the remaining \$384,403 the administration is recommending transferring \$162,600 in a reserve to offset OPP increases in future years and stabilize the tax increase. Because this is a one-time funding, decreasing the tax rate from \$384,403 would only transfer the increase to next year. By sending some of the amount to the reserve the administration can defer the increase over many years.

The result of this change is a tax increase of 6.98%

The impact on the average home in Clarence-Rockland is estimated to be \$169/year. Please see Schedule "A" for the detailed adjustments. The 2025 Capital Budget is at \$44.8 million.

Consultation

The 2025 draft budget was distributed to Council through the correspondence package on November 1st, 2024. Committee of the Whole met on the following dates to receive comments from the public and review the budget :

- November 18, 2024
- November 19, 2024

Formal notice of the budget review meetings was placed on our Website and in social media.

The budget documents were posted on the City's website and a form was created to receive comments from the public. Zero comments were received from the public.

Recommendations or comments from committee/ other departments

As included in this report

Financial impact (expenses/material/etc.)

As included in this report

Legal implications

N/A

Risk management

N/A

Strategic implications

N/A

Supporting documents

Operating Changes (Schedule A to report)

Proposed By-Law 2024-119

Proposed By-Law Schedules A&B

- 2025 Operating & Capital Budget

Letter from Solicitor General (Schedule B to report)