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**THE TOWNSHIP OF TARBUTT**  
**Special Council Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 28, 2022 at 5:00 pm**  
**Municipal Township Office**  
**27 Barr Road S., Desbarats, Ontario**

Present: Mayor L. Smith  
Councillor U. Abbott  
Councillor D. Farrar  
Councillor D. McClelland (arrived at 5:08)  
Councillor R. Wigmore

Staff: Treasurer C. Mahoney  
Clerk C. Trainor

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor L. Smith called the special council meeting to order at 4:55 pm.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None was declared.

**3. PRESENTATION OF DRAFT 2022 BUDGET**

Treasurer C. Mahoney presented a draft of the 2022 budget, providing projections for the amount to be raised by taxation under a 1%, 2% and 3% increase in taxation. Assessment increased by \$1.207 m in 2021. The Auditors have almost finished the 2021 audit, and those statements will be presented to council at the next meeting.

Council discussed revenue and expenditures for each department and set of accounts. Under reserves, staff have suggested that the landfill ramp, being infrastructure, may be eligible for OCIF funding, as the reconfiguration and access to recycling bins is a large capital cost up front.

The Lakeshore Drive widening and resurfacing project will exceed the NORDS funding provided for two years, but OCIF funds can be accessed to cover the remainder so that this project will not impact the tax rate.

Quotes for the sand shed project are due tomorrow, but if the total cost of that project does not exceed efficiency funding held in reserve, there are several other potential uses for those funds that fit the definition of "modernization" such as add on software and equipment.



### **Administration:**

The budget includes a 3% increase to council and staff wages for all positions on the salary grid. The pay equity review was a large cost in 2021 but is now complete, and a salary grid will be approved to allow wages to be structured.

The budget had previously allocated monies for the purchase and design of the furniture for the council chambers. D. McClelland will enquire about the possibility of engaging a school shop class for design and construction, with other funds spent on signage for the Township office, repairs to the concrete pad at the front entrance, and an office door.

The switch to Starlink from Bell for internet services will not save any money, but will improve security, improve access, allow all computers to be networked, and will be more effective and secure in the long run. Starlink costs will be shared with Fire and Roads, and this new system will also allow the township to purchase a server for better connectivity.

Following discussion about rising cemetery costs, the levy was increased to \$4,000 to cover maintenance costs and projects at Port Findlay and Stickney that have been on hold for some time. Fees for the sale of lots will have to increase retroactive January 1 as a result of changes at the provincial level which require a minimum fee to be provided to the care and maintenance fund.

No additional expenditures are anticipated for the MacLennan Hall in 2022, once the Active Transportation Hub has been completed, but staff will be seeking funding for renovations and retrofits required to the hall itself and

### **Roads:**

Any expenses that have any fuel or fuel related activity or overhead was increased by 25% due to the increasing cost of fuel and the uncertainty of how high it might go. This budget includes the purchase and installation of 60 km speed limit signs and posts, some small tools and equipment for the shop including a power washer and jack stands. The Amalgamated Tender included flake calcium, culverts, and materials for resurfacing, which was awarded to Ellwood Robinson.

### **Landfill:**

All expenses are split 50/50 with Johnson Township. The landfill budget was reviewed at length given recent changes. Tarbutt has taken over administrative and operational management, shipping waste out of the site, and changes to recycling bins.

A significant investment has been made in the ramp for the non household waste and scrap metal, and this ramp will be reconfigured again once half loads are off to improve access, reduce the gap between the bins and the ramp, and to ease the traffic congestion.



**Planning and Development:**

Planning Board staff are investigating the need for a separate insurance policy. In 2021 wages were increased, and the Planning Board began paying a larger share of office and admin costs to Tarbutt. Tarbutt will be engaging a planner to conduct a peer review of the draft zoning by-law and draft Official Plan for the planning area, in addition to costs to have the area wide Official Plan approved in this fiscal year.

Adjustments were made to reduce the allocated amount for diesel, and for road side brushing, and for the purchase of salt and sand until the end of the year.

Changes to landfill expenses as a result of shipping waste have yet to be determined until we have completed a few billing cycles with the new system.

Resolution No: 2022 – 48

Moved by: R. Wigmore                      Seconded by: D. McClelland

Be it resolved that the draft 2022 budget presentation from the Treasurer be received; and

That Council authorizes the Treasurer to make the revisions as discussed, to result in a 0% residential tax rate increase; and

That the total levy to be raised in 2022 be \$1,033,485.60.

Carried


**4. ADJOURNMENT**

Resolution No: 2022 – 49

Moved by: D. McClelland                      Seconded by: D. Farrar

Be it resolved that the Special Meeting of Council held this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022 be adjourned at 8<sup>h</sup>:17 pm to meet again for the regular Council meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

Carried

  
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Lennox Smith, Mayor

  
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Carol Trainor, Clerk