

TOWN OF OKOTOKS
2019 SUMMARY OF BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS
(\$M's)

Overall Operating Budget

- The budget is balanced, with overall revenues of \$58.978
- Expenditures of \$52.249, long term debt repayment of \$3.335 and net transfers to/from reserves and capital funds of \$3.394
- Council's 2018 Service Priorities and Budget Guidelines have been met

Inflation

- 2018 YTD Consumer Pricing Index for Alberta = 2.0%

Growth

- Foothills Community Centre (FCC) will transition to municipal responsibility in 2019
- Champion Park facility contract (shared with MD)
- Full year of servicing the annexed land
- Providing core services to another forecasted 150 homes and 300 residents
- A rethink of our planning processes including the Municipal Development Plan(MDP) and the Land Use Bylaw (LUB) are well underway to support the continued growth model

Enhancements to Quality of Place

- Implementation of Local Transit
- Implementation of the Environmental Master Plan
- Affordable Housing Investments
- Wastewater Plant Improvements

Funding

- MD contribution pursuant to Master Shared Services Agreement – required contribution for Fire, Library, Recreation Services, Recycling and Cemetery – Total of \$1.856 up from 2018 primarily due population numbers provided by the MD
- Debt of \$6.174 is anticipated in 2019
- Offsite Levies are a significant draw on debt in the 10 year capital plan

Efficiencies

- Incorporation of a 1.5% vacancy factor to reflect historic activity
- Use of partnerships and practicum personnel
- Creation of numerous information technology enhancements to assist staff with data
- Removal of municipal census in 2019
- Facility maintenance focused on energy efficiencies
- Investment in equipment to provide more efficient services (garbage collection, snow removal)
- Aggregate futures energy procurement (electricity, natural gas and fuel)

Rates and Fees

- Electrical and Natural Gas Franchise Fees rates proposed increases subject to approval from AUC. Electrical rate proposed 18% and Natural Gas to 16%.
- Water, Sewer, Storm and Waste rates overall increase on average by 3.88%
- Recreation fees and facility rental rates increase by 3%

Contributions to Reserves

- Reserve contribution rates are rolled into a single requisition with property taxes

Changes in Taxes

- Municipal tax revenue is estimated to be \$1.202 higher than 2018
- Municipal property tax rate differential – non-residential municipal tax rate differential remains constant at 1.50% above the residential municipal tax rates, same as 2018
- Municipal property tax on a typical residence increased by 2.5% over 2018 property tax. \$4.76 per month or \$57.12 per year.

Changes in Staffing Levels

- An increase of 9.99 FTE's for 2019 to a total of 255.27 FTE's at a cost of approximately \$0.705. The total year over year budget increase in salaries and benefits is approximately \$1.5M

Operating and Capital Projects

- \$3.694 One Time Operating Expenditures
- \$20.81 Capital Projects including Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, Local transit, Zone 3N/4N Reservoir Upgrade, Affordable Housing, Snow Dump land and development, North Railway Water main, Fleet asset program