



TOWN OF OKOTOKS
2021 SUMMARY OF BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS
(\$M's)

Overall Operating Budget

- The budget is balanced, with overall revenues of \$63.061
- Expenditures of \$57.978, long term debt repayment of \$1.334 and net transfers to/from reserves and capital funds of \$3.748
- Council's 2021 Service Priorities and Budget Guidelines have been met

Inflation

- 2020 YTD Consumer Pricing Index for Alberta = 2.0%

Growth

- Providing core services to another forecasted 150 homes and 300 residents

Reestablishing Priority Services

- Maintaining minimal tax increases based on current economic conditions
- Focusing on asset management to ensure alignment of reserves, asset replacement and the long term financial health framework
- Aligning service level changes with community priorities
- Implementation of Affordable Housing strategy recommendations
- Implementation of the new Municipal Development Plan and development of a comprehensive Land Use Bylaw Review ensuring a focus on red tape reduction and improve the ease of doing business
- Ongoing Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
- Completing Phase 1 of the Raw water project
- Completing construction of the Arts & Learning Campus
- Implementation of the Long term financial health framework including the OSL, Reserves and Library budgets
- Implementation of the Economic Development plan with a focus on business retention and expansion

Funding

- MD contribution pursuant to Master Shared Services Agreement – required contribution for Fire, Library, Recreation Services, Recycling and Cemetery – Total of \$2.285
- Debt of \$28.742 is anticipated in 2021 (allocation between Developer, Property and Utility Supported). This includes a budgeted \$11M debenture for the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- Developer Offsite Levy projects in the 10 year capital plan forecast will impact our debt levels

Efficiencies

- Incorporation of a 0.4% vacancy factor to reflect historic activity
- Use of partnerships and practicum personnel
- Facility maintenance focused on energy efficiencies
- Investment in equipment to provide more efficient services (garbage collection, snow removal)

Rates and Fees

- Electrical and Natural Gas Franchise Fees rates increased to 20%.
- Water, Sewer, Storm and Waste rates overall increase on average by 2.26%
- Recreation fees and facility rental rates increase by 3%

Changes in Taxes

- Municipal tax revenue is estimated to be \$0.205 higher than 2020
- Municipal property tax rate differential – non-residential municipal tax rate differential remains constant at 1.50% above the residential municipal tax rates, same as 2020
- Municipal property tax on a typical residence increased by 1% over 2020 property tax. \$1.95 per month or \$23.40 per year.

Changes in Staffing Levels

- An increase of 0 FTE's for a 2021 total of 277 FTE's. The total year over year budget increase in salaries and benefits is approximately \$0.22M.

Operating and Capital Projects

- \$1.263 new One Time Operating Expenditures
- \$6.370 new Capital Projects including additional Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements, Municipal Facility enhancements, Campus Land Development, Solar Generation, Fleet asset program, and Operation Yard expansion.