

February 5, 2020

Memo To: Members of Council

From: David Dexter, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer

Subject: 2020 Draft Operating Budget - Revised Recommendations - Staff Report SRCFS.20.002

Revised Recommendations:

- a) That the 2020 Operating Budget with a recommended budget increase of \$845,700 and a total tax levy of \$116,894,500 (excluding supplementary taxes), be adopted inclusive of the following adjustment;
 - i. The costs associated with the 4 new firefighters approved as part of the 2019 Operating Budget be removed from the 2020 Operating Budget.
- b) That the 2020 Seniors Tax Assistance Grant be increased to \$404;
- c) That draft By-law 2-20, as updated and attached, be enacted to adopt the 2020 Operating Budget.
- d) That the Capital Asset Sustainability Fee budget increase of \$1,160,500 and total fee levy of \$5,392,100 for the 2020 taxation year, be adopted;
- e) That draft By-law 3-20, as updated and attached, be enacted to adopt the 2020 Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Budgets;
- f) That the Financial Outlook as provided in staff report SRCFS.20.002 be received;
- g) That, as required by Ontario Regulation 284/09, *Municipal Act 2001*, the compliance report as provided in staff report SRCFS.20.002 be approved for expenses that have been excluded from the 2020 Operating Budget;
- h) That the Library Board's 2019 Operating Surplus be allocated to the Library Special Purposes Reserve;
- i) That Council approve a project budget of \$150,000, funded from the Fire DC Reserve Fund, to update the Richmond Hill Fire and Emergency Services Master Plan, as well as comply with Provincial legislative requirements for a Community Risk Assessment.

Background:

At the January 28, 2020 Budget Committee of the Whole meeting, the Draft 2020 Operating Budget was presented with a \$1,162,900 deficit (i.e. 1% tax rate increase). Deliberations at the meeting resulted in the following direction:

“The costs associated with the 4 new firefighters approved as part of the 2019 Operating Budget be removed from the 2020 Operating Budget.”

Cost Analysis

With the removal of the four (4) firefighters results in the following revised Draft 2020 Operating Budget:

Table 1 - 2020 Draft Operating Budget

Deficit as of January 28 th	\$1,162,900	
Removal of 4 Firefighters	<u>(317,200)</u>	
Update Tax Levy Increase	\$845,700	0.73%

Also at that meeting there was a desire to expedite the Update of the Fire Master Plan. The estimated cost to do this update is \$150,000 and is fully funded from Development Charges.

As a result, staff recommend that Council adopt the revised recommendations to adopt the 2020 Operating Budget, as amended by the Budget Committee of the Whole, as well as approving the update to the Fire Master Plan.

“Signed version on file in the Office of the Clerk”

David Dexter
Director of Financial Services/Treasurer