



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: December 3, 2019 RELEASE DATE: Immediate

FROM: James Jenkins, Deputy Clerk

SUBJECT: City Council Highlights – Budget Deliberations

At its budget meeting Sarnia City Council approved a \$154.9 million budget for 2020.

The general levy increase is 2.89%, which is down from the original proposed budget levy increase of 3.95%.

The transit levy increase is 5.97%, which is up from the original 5.0% increase.

A proposed special area levy for the industrial area has been cut in half to \$500,000.

The total budget amount of \$154,938,329 represents an increase of \$248,533. This increase has been mitigated by revenue increases totally \$998,808.

Council approved the following changes to the draft 2020 budget:

	General Levy	Transit
Expenditures		
Statutory benefits (mostly WSIB)	\$130,831	\$8,352
Insurance	\$79,542	\$40,609
Insurance reserves	\$41,593	\$14,786
Revenue interest reserve allocation	-\$257,000	
Police budget (reduction)	-\$169,901	
OMPF reserve allocation	\$256,133	
Gypsy Moth program	\$90,000	

Free Menstrual Products (trial)	\$28,600	
St Clair Region Conservation Authority levy increase	\$20,588	
Vehicle allowance	\$4,400	
Sarnia Library maintenance	-\$20,000	
Care-a-Van fuel expenses	-\$20,000	
Net expenditure changes	\$184,786	\$63,747
Revenues		
Growth taxes		\$25,000
Increase OMPF revenue	\$846,145	
Decrease parking revenue	-\$2,400	
Bluewater Power dividend increase	\$100,000	
Insurance reserve allocation	\$3,063	
Net Revenue Changes	\$973,808	\$25,000
Net impact:	-\$789,022	\$38,747

The impact per \$100,000 of assessment for a residential property is:

General Municipal Purposes	\$25.00 (2.89%)
Transit Area	\$3.23 (5.97%)
Total Municipal Purposes	\$28.23 (3.07%)

Council also approved a grant request in the amount of \$72,366 to the Sarnia Lambton Taskforce on Healthcare Worker Recruitment.

The approved budget will be posted at <https://www.sarnia.ca/2020-budgets/>.

The next Regular Council Meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 9.

- 30 -

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