

**Recommendation:**

That the Treasurer-2023-24 report, dated December 5, 2023, regarding the 2024 Budget Update as of December 5th be received;

That Council provide staff with any further amendments to the 2024 Budget and;

That Council instruct staff to prepare the final budget document for the December 19th, 2023 Council meeting including the amendments outlined in this report.

**Overview:**

Staff presented the first draft of the 2024 Budget to Council on October 31<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. At this meeting each manager outlined their capital and operating budgets. Council asked clarification questions but did not make any amendments to the budget.

Two weeks later on November 14<sup>th</sup>, staff and Council held a Budget Working Session and some changes were made. After the working session staff continued to make minor changes based on the most up to date information. The following table summarizes all changes made since the first draft:

	<b>Levy Impact:</b>
<b>Changes made the Budget Working Session:</b>	
That the Finance Department be requested to bring forward a proposal regarding the long-term replacement and procurement of fire apparatus.	\$0
That the moneys required for the roof repair at the Warsaw Community Center be approved in advance of the approval of the 2024 Township of Douro-Dummer budget taking place.	\$0
That the Indacom Drive project be deferred until further notice, that the \$200,000 allocated to the project be moved to other projects; and that Councillor Johnston and Deputy Mayor Nelson meet with Otonabee Region Conservation Authority and Township staff to discuss the Indacom Drive project. AND That the \$200,000 originally marked for the Indacom Drive project be reallocated to the following projects: \$150,000 be for Joint-Building and \$50,000 to be placed in reserve for future Fire Department capital purchases.	\$0
That the amount to be made available for community grants be increased to \$5,000.	\$1,100

Although no motion was made from Council there was discussion about special events such as staff and volunteer appreciation events. Therefore, staff are proposing to add \$1,500 to the existing Council budget to bring the total Special Events budget to \$3000 and ensure there are sufficient funds for this purpose.	\$1,500
<b>Other changes made during staff review:</b>	
Reviewed year to date recreation facility revenues and deemed it was appropriate to increase room and ice rentals based on 2023 figures.	-\$13,000
OMERS released the 2024 inflation adjustment which equals 4.93%. This is higher than the budgeted 4.31%.	\$13,732
Miscellaneous minor changes to the budget based on updated information	-\$906
<b>Total Levy Impact from Changes</b>	<b>\$2,427</b>

**Conclusion:**

The total levy required for the 2024 budget amounts to \$6,887,226 which is \$2,427 higher than presented at first budget. The overall increase to the tax rate is still 7.4% but the increases have shifted so 1.5% is related to Capital and Operating and 5.9% is related to the Joint Building.

**Financial Impact:**

The following table summarizes the 2024 Budget:

**Summary of Change to the 2024 Levy**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Tax Impact</b>
Operating Expenses	\$4,992,370	\$5,145,159	\$152,790		2.4%
Transfer to Capital	-\$22,260	-\$10,800	\$11,460		0.2%
Net Operating Levy	\$4,970,110	\$5,134,359	\$164,250	3.3%	2.6%
Capital	\$1,255,812	\$1,238,329	-\$17,482	-1.4%	-0.3%
Less: Assessment Growth in 2023					-0.8%
<b>Percent Change to the Tax Rate before Capital Levy:</b>					<b>1.5%</b>
Capital Levy For Joint Building	\$138,512	\$514,537	\$376,025		5.9%
Total Levy Requirement	\$6,364,433	\$6,887,226	\$522,792	8.2%	
<b>Percent Change to the Tax Rate as at November 21st:</b>					<b>7.4%</b>

**Strategic Plan Applicability:**

To effectively respond to the challenges of addressing the Township's municipal infrastructure needs as well as effectively managing the assets of the corporation.

**Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	2024 Budget Update as at December 5th.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Nov 29, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Martina Chait-Hartwig

Elana Arthurs