



**Corporation of the Municipality of South Huron**  
**Minutes for the Budget Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 4:00 p.m.**  
**Hybrid Meeting - South Huron Council Chambers**

Members Present:      George Finch, Chair  
                                 Jim Dietrich, Member  
                                 Dianne Faubert, Member  
                                 Marissa Vaughan, Member  
                                 Aaron Neeb, Member  
                                 Barb Willard, Member  
                                 Ted Oke, Member

Staff Present:            Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk  
                                 Sandy Becker, Director Financial Services  
                                 Don Giberson, Director Infrastructure and Development (remote)  
                                 Jeremy Becker, Director of Fire and Community Services  
                                 (remote)  
                                 Scott Currie, Manager of Communications and Strategic  
                                 Initiatives (remote)  
                                 Julia Roberts, Deputy Treasurer  
                                 Shane Timmermans, Manager of Transportation Services  
                                 (remote)  
                                 Maggie McBride, Financial Services Officer (remote)  
                                 Rebekah Msuya-Collison, Director of Legislative Services

1.      Meeting Called To Order

Chair Finch called the Budget Meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

2.      Amendments to the Agenda, as Distributed and Approved by Committee

**Motion:** COW#059-2021

**Moved:** A. Neeb

**Seconded:** D. Faubert

**That South Huron Committee of the Whole approves the Agenda as presented.**

**Disposition: Carried (7 to 0)**

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

4. Reports

4.1 Budget Impacts & Priorities - Levy Funded - Update

CAO Best asked whether the Committee had further questions for capital or operating budgets. The Committee discussed COLA in detail and the Employee Group, Evaluation, Pay Equity and Compensation Review next year. CAO Best noted that staff completed some research and Council can adjust any increases and if they decide to remove. He added that, then the Committee could consider adding difference to further discussion under additional priority item 4.1.

Director S. Becker provided an overview of the budget impacts and priorities sheet and noted that it includes resolutions from last couple meetings. She confirmed the tax rate increases to this point as .29% rural and .10% urban.

**Motion:** COW#060-2021

**Moved:** A. Neeb

**Seconded:** T. Oke

**That the Committee of the Whole recommends to South Huron Council that the 2022 draft operating and draft capital budget as presented and amended by resolution(s) is approved by Committee of the Whole for adoption by Council at the December 20, 2021 Regular Council meeting.**

**Disposition: Carried (7 to 0)**

4.2 2022 Additional Priorities

The Committee discussed the 2022 additional priorities in detail and asked about debt payment and phasing in of debt. Director S. Becker estimated a tax rate impact of 1.8% if split over two years. The Committee discussed mitigation strategies to reduce impact on tax rate on 2023. The

Committee discussed grants, not traditional financing and funding restrictions through Infrastructure Ontario.

Director Becker explained that the intention of the Asset Management/Capital Planning strategies of infrastructure deficit funding options, annual cost of living increase to capital plan and capital replacement reserve contribution was to make capital planning sustainable. She noted that currently .6% allocated to levy based capital replacement reserve and explained that water/wastewater master plan is working towards 2% for 2024.

The Committee discussed the strategy in detail and a target tax rate for 2022. The Committee discussed the current investment for infrastructure deficit, capital replacement and new debt. CAO Best clarified that the strategy is for 2022 and is based on the previous year and the next Council will determine approach for next term.

The Committee discussed the Fire Services strategy and noted that the priorities and recommendations will be brought forward in June and will not have an impact on the 2022 budget. The Committee discussed assumed debt payment and Director S. Becker noted that these funds would be identified in a dedicated capital reserve.

**Motion:** COW#061-2021

**Moved:** A. Neeb

**Seconded:** J. Dietrich

**That the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council a maximum 2.5% tax rate increase.**

**Disposition: Carried (6 to 1)**

**Motion:** COW#062

**Moved:** J. Dietrich

**Seconded:** B. Willard

**That the Committee of the Whole recommends to South Huron Council that of the 2.5 % tax rate increase that 1.8% of that tax rate increase would be applied to the debt payment strategy for the South Huron Recreation Centre and the Stephen Arena capital projects.**

**Disposition: Carried (7 to 0)**

**Motion:** COW#063-2021

**Moved:** M. Vaughan

**Seconded:** D. Faubert

**That the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council that .39% of the overall tax rate increase would be applied to asset management capital planning strategies and that this amount would be placed into the capital replacement reserve.**

**Disposition: Carried (7 to 0)**

5. Adjournment

**Motion:** COW#064-2021

**Moved:** J. Dietrich

**Seconded:** D. Faubert

**That South Huron Committee of the Whole hereby adjourns at 5:17 p.m., to meet again at the Call of the Chair.**

**Disposition: Carried**

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George Finch, Chair

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Rebekah Msuya-Collison, Clerk