



SUBJECT: Approval of 2018 operating budget

TO: Committee of the Whole - Budget

FROM: Finance Department

Report Number: F-38-17-2

Wards Affected: All

File Numbers: 435-01

Date to Committee: January 18, 2018

Date to Council: January 29, 2018

Recommendation:

Approve the 2018 operating budget including any budget amendments approved by the Committee of the Whole – Budget to be applied against the proposed net tax levy amount of \$159,855,656.

Purpose:

- An Engaging City
- Good Governance

Background and Discussion:

On December 1, 2017, the Committee of the Whole – Budget considered finance department report F-38-17; the overview of the 2018 operating budget. Committee members also received the proposed 2018 operating budget book which will be required for consideration at the meeting on January 18, 2018.

On January 18, 2018 Committee will hear from delegations and consider the recommendations regarding the proposed 2018 operating budget and request forms submitted to the finance department by members of Committee.

Appendices A and B provide a consolidated summary of the proposed amendments and responses to questions provided by members of Committee to facilitate the operating budget review at the January 18 meeting as well as the final approval of the 2018 operating budget at the January 29, 2018 Council meeting.

The consolidated Budget Action Request form (Appendix A) has been arranged in the following order:

- Proposed amendments to business cases
- Proposed amendments to the base budget
- Proposed staff directions

Financial Matters:

Approval of the 2018 operating budget will establish the authority for preparing the 2018 Tax Levy By-law. The proposed city increase of 4.19% which when combined with the Region of Halton and educational taxes, provides an overall property tax increase of 2.49% for urban residential taxpayers. For each \$100,000 of residential assessment, this translates into an overall increase of \$19.76.

Public Engagement Matters:

Staff will continue to use the city's website as a communication medium through videos, webcast and online surveys.

The City hosted a Telephone Town Hall on the 2018 proposed budget on October 18, 2017 for residents, businesses and community partners. Participants learned about and discussed the proposed 2018 budget priorities with Mayor Rick Goldring and senior staff.

A Ward 4 budget meeting was held on January 10, 2018.

Conclusion:

The proposed 2018 operating budget presents a balanced program aimed to address some initiatives in the Strategic Plan, the city's commitment to the asset management plan and providing value for service to residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Rudy
Committee Clerk

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Appendices:

- A. 2018 consolidated operating budget action request forms
- B. 2018 Council operating budget information session follow-up

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, Director of Finance and Director of Legal. Final approval is by the City Manager.