

2017-2018 Budget Highlights

OPERATING BUDGET

3.5% annual tax increase assuming a 4.0% revenue requirement offset by estimated 0.5% growth in assessment base (2017 & 2018). Budgets meet all Council targets and budget assumptions. The following adjustments are included as a result of the Financially Fit Initiative:

- 2.0% tax increase towards replacing the former Energy Contribution/Dividend
- 2.0% cost containment in 2017; Salaries & Wages freeze (2017) and 2.0% increase (2018)
- 5.0% annual increase in User Fees & Charges
- \$1 million reduction in Service Level Delivery Costs (Arena, Heald Pool – Transit study underway)
- No increase in Personnel
- Continued investment in Aging Infrastructure Rehabilitation Program

CAPITAL BUDGET

Total Capital (including Major Operating Expenses) included in the budget are \$33 million (2017) and \$25 million (2018). Similar expenditures in 2015 and 2016 were \$35 million and \$51 million respectively. The 2017/2018 budget items are aligned with Council Strategic Priorities as follows:

Council Strategic Priority 1 - Economic Development (\$1.2 million)

- Downtown Development Incentive Program
- Tourism Information Centre Upgrades

Council Strategic Priority 2 – Infrastructure & Amenities (\$46.0 million)

- Infrastructure Rehabilitation Programs
- Corporate Asset Management - Facilities
- Public Service Projects

Council Strategic Priority 3 – Social Wellness (\$1.9 million)

- South Saskatchewan River Recreational Development

Council Strategic Priority 4 – Image and Profile (\$1.3 million)

- Community Partnership Requests (Rotary Club track and soccer complex addition, Jeffries Park upgrades, Lions Park upgrades, Tennis Club upgrades and additions)

Council Strategic Priority 5 & 6 – Fiscal Management and City Government (\$7.5 million)

- Value for Money Audit
- Municipal Census
- Municipal Election