

Minutes of a Council Budget Session held on Monday March 24th 2003 at 9.30am.

PRESENT: Mayor Tony DiBartolomeo
Deputy Mayor Robert Pillon
Councillor Lynne Fox
Councillor Frank Gorham
Councillor Anthony Leardi
Councillor Rosa White

ABSENT Councillor Mickey Bezaire - with prior notice

ALSO PRESENT: Hilary Payne, CAO
Paul Beneteau, Treasurer
Lou Zarlenga, Public Services Manager
Ralph Barnwell, Recreation Superintendent (part meeting)
Randy Sinasac, Dep. Fire Chief (part of meeting)

General

The mayor suggested Scenario #2 (attached) with an increase of 3.5%.

Councillor Leardi suggested Scenario #1A

Councillor White suggested Scenario #1A - this would require no increase on the new assessment, but would provide 7% more funds than last year.

Moved by Councillor Leardi, seconded by Councillor White that there be no increase in the tax rate based on the new assessment (Scenario 1A)

A recorded vote was requested.	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Councillor Fox	X	
Councillor Gorham	X	
Councillor Leardi	X	
Deputy Mayor Pillon		X
Councillor White	X	
Mayor DiBartolomeo		X

Motion Carried

(Note-subsequently reconsidered and lost)

Council decided at this point to review the proposed changes (attached) to the original budget reviewed by Council in December 2002 and the following motions were introduced.

Moved by L. Fox, seconded by R White that \$20,000 be added back in to item #15 (reforestation).

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R Pillon that \$10,000 be added back into item #14 (sidewalk maintenance).

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi and seconded by T. DiBartolomeo that \$5100 be added back into Item #22 (Environmental capital).

Motion Carried

Moved by L. Fox, seconded by F. Gorham that \$30,000 be added back into eliminate the cut in Item #25 (LACAC Heritage Study).

Motion Carried

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Moved by L. Fox, seconded by A. Leardi that \$30,000 be added to the budget for improvements to the auditorium at the arena.

Motion Carried

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by R. Pillon that \$ 25,000 for Item 35 (Marina Study) be eliminated.

Motion Carried

The above changes total an addition of \$95,100 to the budget.

Moved by F. Gorham, seconded by L. Fox that the previous motion to adopt Scenario 1A be reconsidered.

A recorded vote was requested.

	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Councillor Fox	X	
Councillor Gorham	X	
Councillor Leardi		X
Deputy Mayor Pillon	X	
Councillor White		X
Mayor DiBartolomeo	X	

Motion Carried

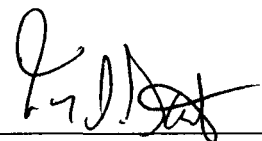
Moved by R. Pillon, seconded by L. Fox that an amount of \$95,100 be taken out of working capital reserves.

Motion Carried

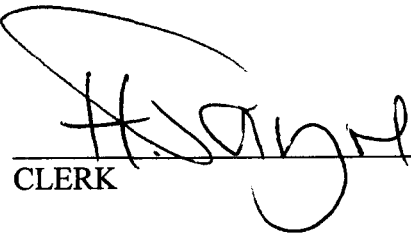
Councillor White requested that the tax bills include a graphical representation of the components of the budget and the CAO suggested the "house diagram" he had previously used in the city.

Moved by A. Leardi, seconded by F. Gorham that we rise and adjourn.

Motion Carried



MAYOR



CLERK



**TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG
TAX RATE CALCULATION
2003**

	2002 BUDGET	2003 BUDGET
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	16,807,260.00	17,644,576.00
PREVIOUS YEAR SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	103,603.25	550,000.00
SUPPLEMENTARIES		130,000.00
LESS: TOTAL NON-TAX REVENUES	7,123,953.00	6,903,939.00
LESS: LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS	1,124,227.00	1,132,253.00
TOTAL TO BE RAISED THROUGH TAXATION	8,455,476.75	10,028,384.00

TAX RATE CALCULATION	2002	2003	
	0.006084	0.006236	Percentage Increase
<u>10,028,384.00</u>			2.50% if no changes made
1,608,117,850			for reassessment

The numerator represents the amount to be raised through taxation with no cuts being made to the budget.
The denominator is the total 2002 assessment for 2003 purposes converted into residential assessment based on the previous year's transition ratios as passed by the County of Essex.

All models below are based on an assessment increase of \$11,000 or approx. 7 % which is the average increase for residential properties. The amount of the previous year's deficit is based on amounts not budgeted for and expended including new computer software, training, tourism and economic development, and the allocation of Provincial Offenses Revenues to Reserves.

Scenario # 1

Lasalle Model – Increase the tax rate by 2.5 %, with no consideration given to the reassessment

	2002	2003	Increase/Decrease
Assessment	\$160,000	\$171,000	
Assessed Value Increase from \$ 160,000 to \$ 171,000			
Taxes	973.44	1,066.37	92.93 Increase in taxes for residential unit with nominal 7 % increase
Tax Rate	0.006084	0.006236	10,028,384 Total Tax Revenue
			0 Reduction Required from initial amount of \$10,028,384 to be raised through taxation

Scenario # 1a

Lasalle Model – No increase in the tax rate, with no consideration given to the reassessment

	2002	2003	Increase/Decrease
Assessment	\$160,000	\$171,000	
Assessed Value Increase from \$ 160,000 to \$ 171,000			
Taxes	973.44	1,040.36	66.92 Increase in taxes for residential unit with nominal 7 % increase
Tax Rate	0.006084	0.006084	9,783,789 Total Tax Revenue
			244,595 Reduction Required from initial amount of \$10,028,384 to be raised through taxation

Scenario # 2

Learnington /Lakeshore Model – Adjust the tax rate based on a nominal rate for reassessment of 7 % and then providing for a budgetary increase of 2.5 %.

	2002	2003	Increase/Decrease
Assessment	\$160,000	\$171,000	
Assessed Value Increase from \$ 160,000 to \$ 171,000			
Taxes	973.44	996.61	23.17 Increase in taxes for residential unit with nominal 7 % increase
Tax Rate	0.006084	0.005828	9,372,321 Total Tax Revenue
			656,063 Reduction Required from initial amount of \$10,028,384 to be raised through taxation



THE FOLLOWING ARE A LIST OF CHANGES MADE TO THE
TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG 2003 PROPOSED BUDGET.

	Total Changes as @ Mar.24	Amounts Effecting Revenue only	
1	Additional hardware including projector & laptop for projector	11,000.00	
2	Reduce transfer from Reserve in Fire Department	100,000.00	
3	Debenture rescue truck in fire department	- 203,130.00	
4	Add Provincial Offences Revenue to Current Fund	230,000.00	230,000.00
5	Additional Police Department office supply expenses	2,500.00	
6	Additional Police Department Capital	9,329.00	
7	Reduce Police Capital for Debenture included Twice	- 171,689.00	
8	Debenture Public Works Roof	- 56,000.00	
9	Debenture Public Works Office Expansion	- 220,000.00	
10	Increase Public Works Capital per Budget session	187,800.00	
11	PW Capital items removed from Item 10	- 87,800.00	
12	Increase Roads Dept. capital for deferred items from 2002	126,000.00	
13	Transfer from Reserves for items from 2002 (See 12 above)	- 126,000.00	
14	Reduce sidewalk maintenance in Roads Department	- 30,000.00	
15	Reduce reforestation in Roads Department	- 30,000.00	
16	Reduce storm sewer maintenance in Roads Department	- 5,000.00	
17	Reduce capital in roads for 4th Concession S. Road Dept.	- 125,000.00	
18	Debenture capital in roads for 7th Concession S. Road Dept.	- 70,000.00	
19	Debenture capital in roads for 8th Concession S. Road Dept.	- 210,000.00	
20	Reduce capital in roads for Kempt St. Road Dept.	- 340,000.00	
21	Transfer from reserve in roads for Sandwich St. Road Dept.	- 66,000.00	
22	Reduce Environmental Capital	- 32,100.00	*
23	Increase Dog Pound per budget received	1,374.00	
24	Reduce Protective Services for ERCA	- 63,000.00	
25	Reduce Building Department for Heritage Study	- 30,000.00	
26	Increase Planning for Planning Coordinator Salary increase	6,300.00	
27	Reduce Tourism & Economic Development (various)	- 10,476.00	
28	Increase Co-An Grant in Parks & Recreation	9,000.00	
29	Increase Recreation for Lions' Pool Chlorine Room Renovations	5,000.00	
30	Debenture land acquisitions in Parks & Recreation	- 540,000.00	
31	Increase Arena Capital for Flooring	50,000.00	
32	Debenture Arena Capital for Flooring	- 50,000.00	
33	Increase Arena Revenue for Pepsi Contract	- 18,584.00	- 18,584.00
34	Increase Arena Capital for Facility Program	4,400.00	
35	Increase Marina Capital for Study	25,000.00	*
36	Increase Marina Capital for markers, radio, phone system & computer	5,900.00	*
37	Increase Marina Capital for Dock Repairs	75,000.00	*
38	Increase Cultural Services for grant for Heritage Festival	1,500.00	
39	Increase Cultural Services for grant for Municipal Events	4,000.00	
40	Increase capital in Cultural Services for AC for Library	8,000.00	
41	Debenture all library capital including AC	- 156,000.00	
42	Water Department - Collection Expenses	135,000.00	~
43	Water Department - Contract with OCWA	690,000.00	~
44	Water Department - Prior year's capital	96,000.00	~
45	Water Department - Special ERCA levy	63,000.00	~
46	Water Department - Transfers from Reserves	- 80,000.00	~
47	Water Department - Debt Charges	252,717.00	~
48	Colour copiers, Scanner & Printers	10,594.00	
49	Transfer from Working Capital Reserves	- 159,400.00	- 159,400.00
50	Supplementaries Tax Billings	- 130,000.00	- 130,000.00
51	Net amounts not impacting Tax Rate	- 73,800.00	- 73,800.00
~ Net change in water revenue included in net changes to non tax revenue		- 1,156,717.00	- 151,784.00
Net effect from previous budget submission		- 2,131,282.00	
Proposed debenture issue		- 1,506,130.00	

Proof:	
Beginning Budget Amount	18,467,357.00
Ending Budget Amount	17,644,676.00
Net Change	822,781.00
Items effecting Revenues only	151,784.00
Water Revenue Changes	1,156,717.00
Net effect from previous budget submission	2,131,282.00