

## **2019 Budget Summary**

Tax Levy increase at 2.25% meaning an increase of \$25.00 for the year or \$2.08 a month for the average homeowner. Consistent with the local rate of inflation.

### **Key Points**

Sustains our core services and operations and addresses priorities we heard in the election campaign and strategic plan.

Environmental Sustainability – Funding our Urban Forest Strategy to clear the backlog of trees needing replacement and increase inspections to prolong tree life. Creating a sustainability program to meet our targets for decreasing Green House Gas Emissions. Creating a Retrofit Reserve to fund projects that save energy and on energy costs. Increase in the use of Biodiesel for our fleet.

Road Safety And Cycling – Funding for installing protected bike lanes on Belmont, Water & Queen Streets, Replace the Trestle Bridge and improve the lighting on the Iron Horse Trail, clearing snow in bike lanes and Increasing resident-led traffic calming opportunities.

Improving Customer Service – Funding for improving the online customer service and making it simple and easy for customers to do business and get information.

Maintaining And Investing In Our infrastructure – Funding for rehabilitating the outdoor spaces at City Hall to make necessary repairs and improve the space for gatherings and events.

### **Utility Rate Changes**

These increases fulfill the funding needed for our ongoing strategy that sustainably funds replacing critical infrastructure at the end of it's lifecycle. It also provides for proactive maintenance that extends the life of current infrastructure.

Water: 4.5% or \$21 for the year

Sanitary: 8% or \$44 for the year

Stormwater: 7.2% or \$13 for the year

Gas: Decrease of 0.93% or \$7 for the year

Combined with the Tax Levy increase, and the Gas decrease, the annual total impact was \$96.00.