

October 26, 2017

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2018 Budget Highlights

Key Investments and Service Enhancements

GREY HIGHLANDS – Grey Highlands Council heard the 2018 Budget Presentation at the October 25th Council meeting.

Key Investments and Service Enhancements include:

- **FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES** - Commitment of funds for enhanced rescue services and increased community safety through a Fire Master Plan and by employing a full-time Fire Chief. The addition of a Rugged Terrain Vehicle (RTV) and training equipment for improved rescue capabilities. And the addition of one bay to the Flesherton Fire Hall.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL** – Investment for an improved model for waste management including increased hours for landfill sites and transfer stations as well as new roll-off bins for the landfill sites.
- **TRANSPORTATION** - Roads continue to be a priority with an investment in road surface reconstruction of Wellington Street in Feversham, 7th Line Euphrasia, Road 63 Osprey, and the Blue Mountains/Euphrasia Townline.
- **ARENAS AND FACILITIES** – Continued improvements and maintenance of our facilities with additional funds committed to the replacement of the flat roof at Rocklyn Arena, replacement of the furnace at Flesherton arena, and replacement of the pavilion roof at Flesherton Pond.

- **PUBLIC UTILITIES** – Investment into water tower replacement in Markdale, water and sewer replacement on County Rd 12, and the addition of one pick-up truck.
- **CORPORATE AND ADMINISTRATION** - Ongoing commitment of providing excellent customer service through investments to improve accessibility for Council Meetings and Public Meetings, optimization of Council Chambers and administrative offices, upgrades to computer hardware and software, and creating local job opportunities by employing summer student staff.
- **COMMUNITY INVESTMENT** - Improvements to downtown areas with the development of a Façade Improvement Grant Program and a Downtown Beautification Initiative

The next phase of the budget process will be to receive input from residents through the citizen engagement site connectgreyhighlands.ca.

Deliberations are set to begin November 20th and November 21st.

Residents are asked to send their questions, comments or feedback to: budgetquestions@greyhighlands.ca

Information and updates will also be available on Facebook and Twitter.