

Town of Milton

Proposed 2021 Capital and Operating Budget

Public Input Received via www.milton.ca/en/town-hall/budget-and-finance (as of 10:00 am December 7, 2020)

Number	Comments
1	Please increase total number of full time fire-fighters employed by the Town.
2	<p>It is great that Main Street, Milton got attention with new paving etc in 2020. Thank You Perhaps the town could address two bridges over the 16 Mile Creek on Main Street east of Commercial and on Martin Street north of Mill Street. Both these bridges are built over top of the OLD bridge infrastructure and inhibit the flow of water through the creek bed into the channeled creek area. In a potential flood the water would back up at the entrance / or around both these bridges causing flooding in the properties behind the bridges (Millside Drive, Rotary Park, Towne Square, old post office, old town hall property and downtown Milton heritage buildings). In order to prevent the flooding of downtown Milton heritage buildings - the Clements property as well - a permanent BURM should be erected along the 16 Mile Creek on the access road to Rotary park to stop any flood waters from escaping from the 16 Mile Creek water flow. The Clements properties in the flood plain are heritage buildings and we need to be allowed to PROTECT our buildings and the PEOPLE who work in them whether it is Region of Halton Health centre or the two restaurants or stores that keep people coming to the downtown core to shop and appreciate the uniqueness of the Milton heritage and the small town atmosphere.</p>
3	<p>Having a 395 page document with lots of pretty pictures, displays the excess that is contained within the organization. I would hope that a in this day and age of technology that a printed version was not needed, but the fact there are intentional blank pages indicates otherwise. A small expense, but waste nonetheless. Adding 20 million in Capital debt and a 6.5% increase on tax levies is not the direction Milton should be taking. Governments, including Milton, should not just balance budgets, but rather have surpluses. It is incumbent on every government to use funds wisely and this document does reflect that. Milton should break with the status quo and set an example of reducing costs, reducing debt and decreasing taxation. For example, Salaries represent 38% of the operating budget. Cutting salaries by 10 % across the board to all full time staff, 20% for those employees on the Ontario Sunshine list would save 5-10 million. Secondary to that savings is the message to the community that the public sector is actually sympathetic to the plight of so</p>

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	<p>many businesses and workers have suffered this year. We are in this together, aren't we?? Smaller government, less waste, reduces taxes!</p>
4	<p>Could you please consider constructing Ontario St S. The road conditions are very poor and unsafe in extreme conditions. Also consider Bronte St N/S road that connects to 401 Hwy. These are the 2 important connectivity to/from Milton.</p>
5	<p>Hello Milton Council</p> <p>Request that you reduce taxes during a pandemic and NOT to further burden the 10% of unemployed citizens. There is very little reason to increase taxes again. Any surveys that were taken before this pandemic must be shelved and not brought up to justify any tax increase.</p> <p>The town has a profit (overtaxed the taxpayers) by approx 30 million dollars in 2019. The town can afford a significant rebate to the taxpayers which would be a welcome relief to all taxpayers. The 2020 year has been a break even situation after closing services such as Libraries, community centres etc which had already paid for by the taxpayer.</p> <p>In summary, leave the tax at the 2020 rate, give the taxpayers back a rebate on the 2019 over taxed (Minimum 25%) and please keep safe.</p> <p>Have a happy holiday.</p>
6	<p>I do not support a tax increase for Milton. For most of this year and the foreseeable future, we have been/ will be unable to access many of the town services and facilities we enjoy. Furthermore, many of the citizens of Milton who work in the private sector have lost jobs, business, or wages, making their financial situations more difficult. A tax hike at this time would be insensitive. I would much prefer a cut in services, since that is what I feel we have been living with for most of the year.</p>
7	<p>Let me preface my comments by saying how truly upset I am with every level of government at the moment. Over the last ten months, I've witnessed the government, not COVID, send millions of Canadians into poverty and dependency. I want to repeat that, the government, through their terrible knee jerk reaction legislation, has caused this, not a virus that has a 99.9% survivability rate.</p> <p>With that being said, it's a real slap in the face of the people in this town to see that the council is going to</p>

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	<p>raise our taxes. I see COVID is again, used as one of the primary justifications to screw people. How does an HR department need a 3mil dollar budget? Surely, there is a little fat to trim there. How about just taking the empty--empty even before COVID--busses off the road for a while? I see that enforcement is costing us more. What a shocker when they have to enforce an absurd mask bylaw that's apparently mandatory, despite the fact that it so many exemptions it's impossible for it to be considered mandatory. It's just mandatory enough to turn the public against one another and inflate your enforcement costs. Lastly, the fact that Milton still has lower taxes and less staff than other Halton municipalities, isn't justification for increasing them! I'm glad we have less and it should be less than what it is now.</p> <p>Trust me I could go on, but you get the point. In my opinion the town should do what millions of Canadians have been forced to do, make cuts to their spending. Major cuts. Enough cuts that you actually lower our taxes. If you want to stimulate the economy, try giving everyone a break this year. Try to do the difficult but necessary thing, and cut taxes. You could actually make a positive difference in people's lives.</p>
8	<p>I do not approve of a tax increase. Especially given the amount of job losses due to excessive and damaging lockdowns in the GTA. Now is a time to be sensitive to those who are struggling in this town, not try and get more out of them. We are all just trying to feed our families and this is now becoming increasingly more difficult given the current COVID situation.</p> <p>I'd like to suggest you do internal cuts or trim up public services which are barely accessible now anyways.</p> <p>If you raise taxes now it just shows you have absolutely no concern for the people in this town.</p>
9	<p>I do not support a tax increase for Milton. For most of this year and the foreseeable future, we have been unable to access many of the town services and facilities we enjoy. Furthermore, many of the citizens of Milton who work in the private sector have lost jobs, business, or wages, making their financial situations more difficult. A tax hike at this time would be insensitive. I would much prefer a cut in public services, since that is what we have been living with for most of the year.</p>
10	<p>I don't support a property tax increase to make up for the town's financial shortcomings. We are all struggling trying to make ends meet with The ridiculous restrictions imposed on our small businesses and the rising costs of foodstuffs and household items. We are all hurting... don't kick us while we are down.</p>