

Notable Variances – By Department

Tax Supported

Significant variances within department operating budgets are summarized below. A positive number represents a favourable variance (increases in revenues or decreases in expenditures).

Building

Building

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Licenses and Permits	Unfavourable Building permits anticipated due to current market conditions and high interest rates having a considerable negative impact on permit activity (\$190,000). This is offset by lower than budgeted transfer to reserve. Net impact to Operating budget is NIL.	\$ NIL
Wages & Benefits	Projected to be favourable primarily due to vacancies.	\$ 51,000

Arena

Arena

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	<p>Projected unfavourable variance is driven by Arena closures due to construction. Revenue shortfall consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall Rental (\$14,000) • Ice Rental (\$65,000) • Drop-in Programs (\$3,000) <p>Ice Capital Surcharge is also lower than budget (\$4,000). This is offset by a decreased Transfer to Lifecycle Reserve thus, the impact to the Operating budget is NIL.</p>	\$ (82,000)

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits / Transfer from Reserves	Projected to be favourable primarily due to staffing vacancies.	\$ 50,000
Maintenance Materials & Supplies	Projected to be unfavourable mainly due to incremental use of janitorial supplies (\$8,000), parts for painting and surface restoration (\$6,000), polycarbonate sheets for rink board advertisement (\$2,000) and supplies & parts for hockey goals (\$3,000)	\$ (19,000)
Maintenance Services	Projected to be unfavourable due to unexpected maintenance and repairs to refrigeration plant (\$31,000), and parts for Zamboni, Scissor Lift and floor cleaning machines (\$9,000).	\$ (40,000)
Utilities	Projected to be favourable driven by lower usage than anticipated due to Arena closures for construction.	\$ 37,000

Recreation Programs

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	Project unfavourable variance due to less available weeks for Day Camp Registration driven by ongoing renovations to the Arena facility.	\$ (28,000)
Wages & Benefits	Favourable variance anticipated due to a decrease in the projected number of hours.	\$ 17,000

Transit

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Maintenance Services	Projected unfavourable mainly due to aging vehicles requiring significant repairs.	\$ (13,000)
Contract Services	Projected unfavourable due to use of First Canada bus when Town owned buses were out of service.	\$ (24,000)

Recreation Other

Special Events

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Grants	Projected favourable variance due to incremental Tourism Growth Program grant funding.	\$ 9,000
Wages & Benefits	Projected unfavourable variance driven by incremental hours from various departments for the event of Baseball Canada Men's National Championship.	\$ (16,000)
Contracts / Professional Services	Net unfavourable variance projection driven by incremental costs associated with Tourism Growth Program.	\$ (20,000)

Pool

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Grants	Projected to be unfavourable due to lower than expected Canada Summer Jobs Grant.	\$ (11,000)

Council

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Professional Development	Projected unfavourability due to increased costs associated with increased participation at conferences, as well as increased registration, meals, and travel costs.	\$ (11,500)

Conservation Authority

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Contract Services	Projected favourable due to 2024 ERCA budget reduction to Category 3 Non-Mandatory programs. The full surplus is transferred to Land Stewardship Reserves, thus resulting in a NIL impact to the Operating budget.	\$ NIL

Other Protection

Crossing Guards

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits	Projected to be favourable due to fewer hours worked than budget.	\$ 12,000

Parks

Parks

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Grants	Projected unfavourable due to lower than expected Summer Job Grant funding.	\$ (13,000)
User Charges / Transfer to Reserves	<p>Projected unfavourable mainly due to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited Pavilion rentals caused by construction and the removal of Pavilion #2 at Lacasse Park. (\$6,000) • Lower than expected fall baseball groups and no fall Caboto Soccer program at McAuliffe this year resulted in lowered Ball Diamond Rental (\$1,000) • Lower than expected registration/Entry fee due to combination of reasons (\$1,000) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tennis key sales have declined due to decrease in popularity of the sport. 2. An increasing number of players are opting for recreational/open time play, reducing the need to purchase pickleball court keys. <p>Higher than anticipated donations and sponsorships for commemorative benches and trees (\$27,000). This is fully offset by Transfer to Reserves, thus NIL impact to Operating budget.</p>	\$ (8,000)
Wages & Benefits	Projected favourability driven by staffing vacancies and less than anticipated overall hours.	\$ 39,000

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Maintenance Service	Projected to be unfavourable primarily due to greater than anticipated repairs to trucks (\$5,000) and large mowers (\$15,000).	\$ (20,000)

Fire Services

Fire Services

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	Projected to be favourable mainly due to higher than anticipated fire service calls.	\$ 10,000

Storm Sewers

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Maintenance Services	Projected to be favourable due to lower storm repair activities than anticipated.	\$ 33,000
Utilities	Projected to be favourable due to lower usage in hydro & water than anticipated.	\$ 10,000

Police

OPP

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Grants	Projected favourable variance due to higher than anticipated Community Safety and Policing Grant.	\$ 20,000

Planning & Zoning

Planning & Zoning

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	Projected unfavourable variance due to lower than anticipated planning applications.	\$ (20,000)
Wages & Benefits	Projected favourable variance due to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary staffing vacancy (\$14,000) • The compensation and benefits for Town staff involved in the Housing Accelerator project are funded through Housing Accelerator Fund. (\$78,000) 	\$ 92,000
Tecumseh Hamlet Secondary Plan	Increase in project costs of \$39,000 to engage consultant service for consultation with major property owners regarding land servicing cost-sharing strategies. Funded through reserves, thus no impact to the Operating budget.	\$ NIL
Development Charge Study	Development Charge study required an additional \$19,000 for consultant services for engineering input. Fully funded through reserves, thus no impact to the Operating budget.	\$ NIL
Mainstreet Community Improvement Plan	Tecumseh Mainstreet CIP grant program disbursements are projected to be \$303,000 above budget, attributing to three significant development projects in 2024. Fully funded through accumulated unspent program reserves, therefore no impact to the Operating budget.	\$ NIL
Tecumseh Housing Action Plan	Projected project costs for the year are anticipated to be \$95,000 lower than budget. This is due to timing. Fully funded through Federal Housing Accelerator funding, thus no impact to the Operating budget.	\$ NIL

Committee of Adjustments

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits	Favourable due to a reduction in meetings and per diems.	\$ 13,000

Local Economic Development

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Grants	Projected unfavourable variance due to the delayed commencement of the Rural Economic Development (RED) project. Project will carry over into 2025.	\$ (15,000)
Professional Services / User Charges	Projected favourable variance due to the delayed commencement of the Commercial District Branding study (\$30,000). Partially offset by decrease in User Charges revenue (\$5,000).	\$ 25,000

Agriculture & Reforestation

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits	Favourable variance projected primarily due to staffing vacancies.	\$ 46,000

Administration

Maintenance

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Maintenance Materials & Supplies	Projected unfavourable variance is driven by higher than anticipated spend in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pool (\$7,000)• Corporate Shared (\$7,000)• Community Facilities (\$5,000)• Parks (\$5,000)• Water (\$4,000)	\$ (28,000)
Maintenance Services	Projected unfavourable variance is driven by higher than anticipated spend in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Facilities (\$26,000)• Corporate Shared (\$11,000)• Fire (\$3,000)• HVAC Service Contract (\$14,000)	\$ (54,000)

Financial Services

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits	Projected to be favourable due to staffing vacancies.	\$ 34,000
Professional Services	Projected unfavourability driven by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset Retirement Obligation evaluation for new requirements under Public Sector Accounting Board Standard. (\$19,000) • Incremental cost of 2023 & 2024 financial audit services due to new agreement. (\$9,000) 	\$ (28,000)

CAO

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Professional Services	Favourable variance due to projected year-end activities and less than budgeted costs.	\$ 16,000

Customer Service

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits	Projected favourable variance due to staffing vacancies.	\$ 23,000

Information & Communication Services

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits	Projected favourable variance due to staffing vacancies.	\$ 31,000
Office Supplies & Equipment Maintenance	Projected favourable variance due to lower software subscriptions than anticipated.	\$ 37,000
Professional Services / Transfer from Reserves	Projected favourable variance due to lower than anticipated cost in the Cloud Strategy implementation (\$24,000). This is offset by a decrease in Transfer from Reserves, resulting in no net impact Operating budget.	\$ NIL

Legislative & Clerk Services

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Licenses and Permits / Purchases for Resale	Projected to be net favourable mainly due to significantly increased revenue from pilot marriage services portal (\$15,000), offset by additional purchase of marriage licenses (\$4,000).	\$ 11,000
Wages & Benefits	Projected to be favourable due to staffing vacancies.	\$ 51,000

Corporate Shared

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Supplemental Taxes	In-year assessment growth is projected to be greater than budget mainly due to higher than anticipated Residential supplemental taxes. Annual supplemental tax budget is based on recent historical averages and anticipated development.	\$ 43,000
Investment Income	Projected favourable year-end variance mainly due to interest collected on deferred development charge (\$12,000) and higher than anticipated EPS dividend income (\$7,000)	\$ 19,000
Bank Interest / Transfer to Reserves	Higher than average monthly bank balances and rates resulting in projected favourable bank interest revenue (\$1,800,000). Per Town practice, surplus investment funds are transferred to the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve and/or Infrastructure Reserve, thus resulting in a NIL impact to the Operating budget.	\$ NIL
Tax Write-Offs	Tax Write-Off expense under budget due to lower assessment appeal activity.	\$ (100,000)

Public Works

Roadways

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	<p>Projected to be favourable mainly due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance recoveries (\$17,000) • Additional cost recoveries from VIA Rail (\$14,000) • Grease dumping (\$18,000) • Streetlights/Traffic Signal Repair (\$7,000) <p>Recoveries offset by increases in Maintenance Services expenditures.</p>	\$ 56,000
Wages & Benefits	Projected to be favourable driven by vacancy and fewer winter control hours.	\$ 32,000
Maintenance Services	Projected to be unfavourable due to repair of guardrail on Baseline Road (\$26,000), truck repairs (new suction hose \$12,000, spring \$8,000, and annual commercial vehicle inspection \$7,000).	\$ (53,000)
Contract Services	Projected to be unfavourable due to unexpected repairs to curbs and catch basins (\$22,000), and gateway sign maintenance (\$9,000).	\$ (31,000)
Professional Services	Professional services costs are projected to be greater than budget due to using a third party to assist with By-Law and Policy Development.	\$ (19,000)
Utilities	Projected to be favourable due to lower usage than anticipated in natural gas (\$6,000), and crossing protection – hydro (\$5,000).	\$ 11,000

Street Lighting

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Maintenance Materials & Supplies	Unfavourability projected due to greater streetlight pole repairs/replacements than budget	\$ (19,000)
Maintenance Service	Projected unfavourability mainly due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unanticipated hydro-vac work, • Unanticipated pole repair, and • Higher monthly streetlight repairs. 	\$ (26,000)

Winter Control

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
Wages & Benefits	Projected favourable variance is driven by fewer year-to-date winter events than anticipated. This line item is subject to change depending on actual weather conditions in Q4.	\$ 45,000
Salt	Projected favourable variance resulting from last year's mild winter. This line item is subject to change depending on actual weather conditions in Q4.	\$ 140,000

Rate Supported

Significant variances within department operating budgets are summarized below. A positive number represents a favourable variance (increases in revenues or decreases in expenditures).

Sanitary Sewers

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	Net favourability is mainly driven by higher than anticipated non-residential consumption (\$263,000). This is slightly offset by lower than anticipated residential consumption (\$24,000).	\$ 240,000
Maintenance Services	Favourable variance due to lower than anticipated sanitary flow monitoring cost.	\$ 12,000
Contract Services	Unfavourable variance due to wastewater treatment rates from the City of Windsor being 14% higher than budget (approximately 25% increase to Little River and 2% increase to Lou Romano). City rates are based on prior year operating costs per volume.	\$ (597,000)
Grants Expense	Projected favourability due to lower than anticipated intake of wastewater backflow and foundation disconnection subsidy program.	\$ 72,000

Waterworks System

Watermain and Services

a) General

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	Projected favourability driven by greater than anticipated development activity.	\$ 20,000
Wages & Benefits	Projected to be favourable due to staffing vacancies.	\$ 21,000
Maintenance Materials & Supplies	Projected to be favourable due to lower than anticipated equipment rental/purchase (\$5,000), gas (\$2,000) and repair parts/supplies (\$2,000).	\$ 9,000
Purchases for Resale	Projected unfavourability driven by greater than budgeted bulk water usage.	\$ (26,000)

General Waterworks

Budget Item	Commentary	Amount
User Charges	Net favourability is primarily driven by higher than anticipated non-residential consumption (\$279,000). This is partially offset by lower than anticipated residential consumption (\$100,000), Lakeshore commercial consumption (\$6,000), and miscellaneous revenue (\$5,000).	\$ 168,000
Wages & Benefits	Projected to be unfavourable primarily due to higher than anticipated overtime hours.	\$ (20,000)