

**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - BUDGET**

A Committee of the Whole meeting of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon was held on Thursday, March 5, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to discuss the 2015 Draft Operating and Capital Budgets.

Mayor D. White, Deputy Mayor J. Elliott, Councillor D. Besley, Councillor W. Hannon and Councillor J. Webster were present. Denise Holmes, CAO/Clerk and Wendy Atkinson, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk and Craig Micks, Road Superintendent were also present. Deputy Mayor Elliott presided as Chair and called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Moved by Besley, Seconded by Webster that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting - Feb. 19, 2015 regarding the 2015 Draft Budget be approved as circulated. Carried.

Draft Budget 2015

Wendy Atkinson, Treasurer presented the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of the 2015 Draft Budget for Operating and Capital which included the changes made from the last meeting. She advised that this budget has an increase of 19.3 % and in order to get it down to an increase of 8-9% overall, Council needs to cut approximately \$200,000.00 from it. The Township's increase in assessment this year is 5.3% and therefore if Council can cut \$200,000.00 from it, the increase to the tax rate would be approximately the same as last year's increase of 2.9%. Council advised that they did not want go over 3.5% increase in the tax rate with this Budget. Discussion ensued about financing the large culvert. Council agreed that we would use the \$25,000.00 OCIF funding towards it and finance the balance which is \$150,000.00 and to budget the monthly installments for the loan as we don't want to prolong financing for future Councils. Wendy also advised that she put an additional \$40,000.00 into Supplementary taxation as the turbines will be taxed this year by MPAC. Discussion about reserves and Mayor White advised that a Municipality should have 60% of its tax levy in reserves – this number comes from the Ministry. The draft budget was further reviewed for cuts and then Staff were directed to go and find the remaining monies to be reduce the budget to the acceptable increase of approximately 3.1 - 3.2 % in the tax rate. A final draft will be brought back to the March 19, 2015 with the goal to have it passed at the April 2, 2015 meeting as Staff have to prepare a notice of intent to pass, as well as the By-law and Tax Rate Schedules. Staff were thanked for all the work put into the budget process

5:05 p.m. - Moved by Hannon, Seconded by Besley that we adjourn Committee of the Whole - Budget to meet again on March 19, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. Carried.

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CHAIR

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CLERK