

AGENDA 2016 INFO NIGHT

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Where Do My Taxes Go?
3. Recreation & Events
4. OFRC
5. Museum Update
6. Catterall & Wright
 - Local Improvement Update
 - Storm Pond/Storm Sewer Plans
7. Informal Q & A and Coffee





Where Do My Taxes Go?

Let's start by debunking some common myths

MYTH - Taxes should be lower in smaller towns than in cities.....

Fact: "The cost of governance of small size municipal governments is higher than large size municipalities."

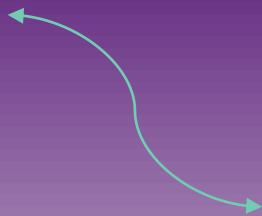
(An excerpt from "The Cost of Government in Small Size Municipalities" by Elias Karagiannis)

What follows is just one example of why this is:

City vs Town Expenses	Purchases	cost per grader	total cost		number of properties			
City of Saskatoon	26 graders	at \$150,000	\$3,900,000	divided by	92,000	equals	\$42.39	per property
Town of Osler	1 grader	at \$150,000	\$150,000	divided by	444	equals	\$337.83	per property

Comparing small towns to cities is not a fair comparison (apples to oranges).

Tim Horton's in Warman pays approx. \$6,800 to the City of Warman just in municipal taxes; if one were to multiply that by the number of businesses in Warman.....well, when the largest percentage of the tax burden is covered by the businesses, cities can well afford to keep their residential taxes down.



MYTH – The total amount of taxes paid to the town, stays with the town

Fact: Every Municipality in the Province of Saskatchewan is required to collect the taxes on behalf of the school division in which it resides, (not all provinces in Canada manage the school tax this way). The Municipality keeps none of this money. At the end of every month the Town sends a cheque to the School Division for all the taxes collected on their behalf that month.

MYTH – Municipalities have deep pockets.....

Fact: Municipal Governments are regulated by the Province (The Municipalities Act) and are not allowed to profit. The Town can not budget to bring in more revenue than it expects to pay out in expenses.



MYTH – Municipalities don't have to pay for utilities.....

Fact: The Town of Osler paid approximately \$17,000 to Sask Power just for the electricity required to power the streetlights! Total costs for utilities for all town properties in 2015 was a whopping \$100,000!!! Every time utility costs rise, the town's utility costs rise as well



And now let's compare to other similar sized towns.....

2015	PROPERTY TAX COMPARISON															
	RESIDENTIAL															
TYPE	MUNICIPALITY	ASSESSED PROPERTIES	MILL RATE	BASE TAX LAND ONLY	BASE TAX IMPR	BASE TAX LAND & IMPR	MINIMUM TAX LAND ONLY	MINIMUM TAX IMPR	MINIMUM TAX LAND & IMPR	PROPERTY ASSESSMENT	TAXABLE ASSESSMENT @ 70%	X mill rate = MUNICIPAL TAX	PLUS BASE TAX	TOTAL MUNI TAX	TOTAL	Total Property Tax
TOWN	DUNDURN	326	12.90					\$1,252		\$400,000	\$280,000	\$3,612		\$3,612	\$1,408	\$5,020
TOWN	KINISTINO	359	6.50			\$900				\$400,000	\$280,000	\$2,184	\$900	\$3,084	\$1,408	\$4,492
TOWN	OSLER	444	8.25	\$300	\$450	\$750				\$400,000	\$280,000	\$2,310	\$750	\$3,060	\$1,408	\$4,468
TOWN	WAKAW	456	14.00				\$371		\$975	\$400,000	\$280,000	\$3,297		\$3,297	\$1,408	\$4,705

Base Tax – shifts the tax property *burden* more evenly across all properties, so for lower assessed properties compared to other towns with no base tax (Dundurn for instance) their taxes would be higher in Osler than Dundurn, for the average assessment (say \$300,000) taxes would be around the same amount, and the higher assessed properties, as you can see above (with an assessment value of \$400,000) would pay higher taxes in Dundurn than in Osler (by about \$600 per year!)

Now let's put the dollar amount of taxes into perspective.....by comparing it to other necessary household expenses

Comparison of typical monthly bills					
does not include Mortgages, Rental amounts or groceries as these vary greatly from household to household					
			monthly	yearly	
	phone		\$55	\$660	phone
	internet		\$55	\$660	internet
	cable		\$85	\$1,020	cable tv
	natural gas		\$95	\$1,140	furnace and water heater
	electricity		\$105	\$1,260	electricity
	water/sewer/garbage		\$110	\$1,320	water & sewer services; bi-wkly garbage/recycling collection
	cell phone		\$170	\$2,040	cell phones (2)
highest bill	insurance		\$287	\$3,444	coverage in case something bad happens 2 vehicles and 1 home/contents/liability
	school taxes		\$75	\$900	Forwarded directly to the school division the month in which it is collected
	And finally.....				
(based on a total assessed value of \$290,000)	Municipal Property Taxes (2015)		\$215	\$2,580	Where does all this money go? And what do I get for it?

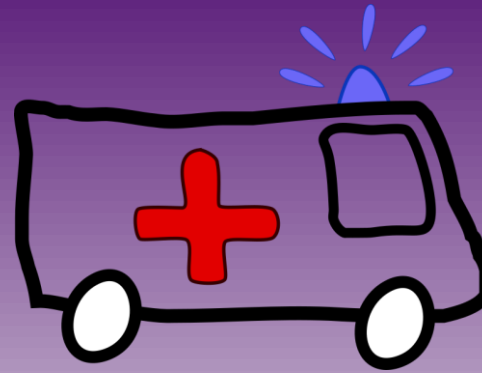
Two cups of Tim Horton's coffee per day = \$1,440 per year!

Protective Services & Environmental Health

2015 Operating Costs
\$289,636

Covers...

- Police protection (available for police emergencies 24/7/365-not to drive through town once a day)
- Fire protection and medical emergencies
- Bylaw Enforcement
- Disaster Preparedness
- Animal Control
- Air Quality
- Restorative Justice
- Waste Disposal & Recycling
- Contaminated Land



Recreation Culture & Greenspace

2015 Operating costs
\$215,672

Covers...

- The Gathering Place
- Community Hall
- Library
- Paddling Pool
- Concession Stand
- Soccer Field and Ball Diamond
- Outdoor Rink
- Parks and Playgrounds
- Hosting Community Events

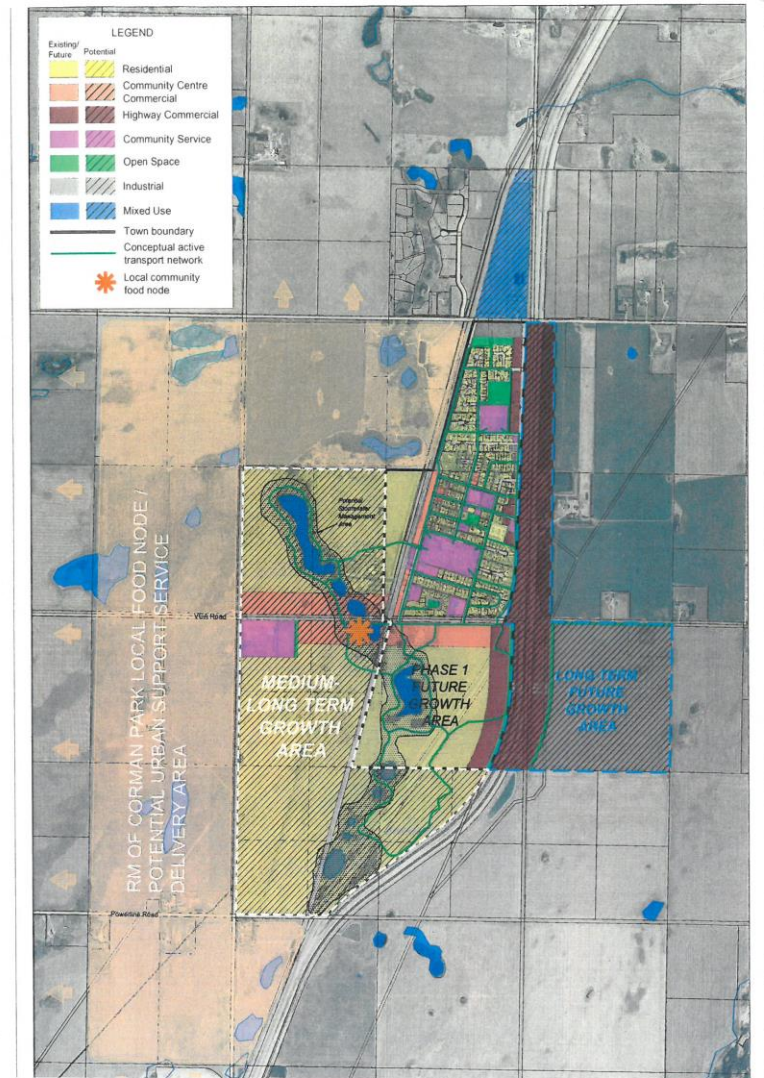


Planning & Development

2015 Operating Costs
\$34,000

Covers...

- Development and Implementation of a Plan for the future of Osler
- Includes OCP (Official Community Plan) and Zoning Bylaw, Strategic Planning, Servicing and Development Agreements
- Policies that protect residents from having to pay for development through tax dollars
- Includes Economic Development and Public Awareness (ie: Website, Newsletters, Public Meetings, and Public Hearings)



Transportation

2015 Operating Costs
\$300,389

Covers...

- Street Lights
- Fuel Costs
- Street Sweeping
- Replacing/Purchasing Street and Traffic Signs
- Gravel & Sand
- Snow Removal
- Grading
- Drainage/Culverts





General Governance

2015 Operating Costs
\$316,000

Covers...

- Insurance – Buildings, Equipment, Vehicles, and Liability
- Human Resources – Council Remuneration, Salaries, Benefits, WCB Premiums, OH&S Committee
- Financial Management
- Audit (annual)
- Assessment and Tax Administration
- Records Management
- Bylaws and Policies
- Grant Writing and Tracking
- Reports – Many, many reports
- Meetings – Many, many meetings



And finally, In addition to all the services provided, the following capital projects have been completed or started since 2004

Capital Projects

Approximately
\$8,000,000
in the past 12 years!!!

- Built a New Fire Hall
- Built a New Rink (by 2017 the plan is to have a concrete base installed, thus making the rink a year-round recreation facility)
- Construction of The Gathering Place
- Renovations to the Community Hall
- Replacement of the Paddling Pool
- Playground Equipment
- Expanded the Lagoon
- Upgraded the Lift Station
- Constructed a new water reservoir and distribution plant
- Local Improvement (6th Ave, Pauls Cres and 1st Street) - although the largest portion is paid by the homeowners who benefit from the LI, a substantial amount (all the municipally owned properties frontage as well as 75% of all the flankage) is paid by the Town



AGENDA 2016 INFO NIGHT

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Where Do My Taxes Go?
3. Recreation & Events
4. OFRC
5. Museum Update
6. Catterall & Wright
 - Local Improvement Update
 - Storm Pond/Storm Sewer Plans
7. Informal Q & A and Coffee

