



REPORT FIN-2025-008

TO: Mayor and Members of Council

PREPARED BY: Mary Hasan, Director of Finance/Treasurer

PRESENTED BY: Mary Hasan, Director of Finance/Treasurer

MEETING DATE: February 20, 2025

SUBJECT: 2025 Budget - Final
File No. F05 BUD

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Report FIN-2025-008 entitled 2025 Budget – Final be received; and

That Council approves the Puslinch Historical Society’s design for the Killean School Bell Cairn and directs staff to proceed with the project accordingly; and,

That Council give 3 readings to By-law No. 2025-033 being a by-law to adopt the Budget for the Corporation of the Township of Puslinch for the year 2025.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- 1.) Report on the results of the Public Information Meeting (PIM) held on January 22, 2025 as it relates to the 2025 Proposed Budget; and
- 2.) Provide Council with the results of the community engagement survey issued through the Township’s Online Engagement Platform, [EngagePuslinch.ca](https://engagepuslinch.ca); and
- 3.) Seek approval from Council to enact the 2025 Budget By-law.

Background

Council and the Public have received the following reports and presentations to date as part of budget deliberations:

Report	Council Meeting
FIN-2024-024 - 2025 Proposed User Fees and Charges	September 25, 2024 Council Meeting
2025 Proposed User Fees and Charges Public Information Meeting (PIM) Presentation and Draft By-law	October 9, 2024
FIN-2024-027 – 2025 Proposed Capital Budget	October 23, 2024 Council Meeting
FIN-2024-028 - 2025 User Fees and Charges By-law	November 6, 2024 Council Meeting
FIN-2024-032 - 2025 Proposed Cost of Living Adjustment	November 20, 2024 Council Meeting
FIN-2024-029 - 2025 Proposed Operating Budget	November 27, 2024 Council Meeting
FIN-2024-030 - 2025 Grant Application Program	November 27, 2024 Council Meeting
FIN-2024-031 – 2025 Municipal Insurance	December 18, 2024 Council Meeting
FIN-2025-004 - 2025 Capital and Operating Budget Update	January 15, 2025 Council Meeting
2025 Proposed Budget PIM Presentation and Draft By-law	January 22, 2025 PIM
FIN-2025-005 – 2024 Completed Capital Projects	February 20, 2025 Council Meeting
FIN-2025-006 – Balances in Discretionary and Restricted Reserves	February 20, 2025 Council Meeting
FIN-2025-007 – Ontario Regulation 284/09 – 2025 Budget	February 20, 2025 Council Meeting
FIN-2025-008 - 2025 Budget - Final	February 20, 2025 Council Meeting

Public Information Meeting

A PIM was held on January 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm to obtain public input on the 2025 Proposed Budget and Draft By-law.

Public comments received at the PIM were responded to at the PIM. At the time of writing this Report, based on the comments received from the Public to date, Township staff do not recommend updates to the 2025 Proposed Budget and Draft By-law that was presented at the January 22, 2025 PIM. The minutes of the PIM are included in the February 20, 2025 agenda package. Township staff will provide Council with an update should there be any further questions received prior to the Council Meeting scheduled on February 20, 2025.

Community Engagement Survey – Engage Puslinch

Attached as Schedule A to Report FIN-2025-008 are the results of the community engagement survey issued through the Township’s Online Engagement Platform, [EngagePuslinch.ca](https://engagepuslinch.ca) for Council’s information. The survey was open from December 13, 2024 to January 31, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. There were a total of 15 (29 – 2024) completed surveys and 75 (104 – 2024) visits to [EngagePuslinch.ca](https://engagepuslinch.ca) as part of 2025 budget engagement.

Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) – Freezing of Fees

Council at its meeting held on January 15, 2025 inquired as to whether the freezing of GRCA fees has impacted the Township’s levy. Attached as Schedule B to Report FIN-2025-008 is the GRCA’s response.

Killean School Bell Cairn

Council at its meeting held on January 15, 2025 directed staff to seek feedback from the Puslinch Historical Society and the donor of the Killean School Bell regarding the design of the cairn. Township staff did not receive any comments regarding the design of the cairn from the donor of the bell. Attached as Schedule C to Report FIN-2025-008 is the feedback and sketch received from the Puslinch Historical Society.

Township staff have received a quote for the construction of the stone cairn of \$10,500 and the bronze plaque of \$3,425. Township staff have not received a quote for the wooden belfry at this time but estimate that the construction will cost approximately \$5,000-\$7,000. This design is in line with the budgeted amount for this project of \$20,550 from the Cash in Lieu of Parkland Restricted Reserve. Township staff recommend that Council approve the Puslinch Historical Society’s cairn design and direct staff to proceed with the construction of the cairn accordingly.

Financial Implications

As part of the Budget PIM held on January 22, 2025, the following table was presented to the Public to summarize the proposed Capital and Operating Budget.

Description	2024 Approved Budget	2025 Proposed Budget	\$ Change from 2024
Total Capital Tax Levy	\$1,334,875	\$1,435,809	\$100,934
Total Operating Tax Levy	\$4,024,046	\$4,236,333	\$212,287
Total Municipal Tax Levy	\$5,358,921	\$5,672,143	\$313,222

The following tables outlines the 2025 budget compared to the 2024 budget:

Description	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	Notes
Operating Budget			
Operating Expenditures	\$6,835,434	\$7,463,899	Note A, Note D
Operating Revenues	-\$2,876,345	-\$2,967,656	Note B, Note D
Net Reserve Transfers	\$64,957	-\$259,910	Note C, Note D
Total Operating Tax Levy	\$4,024,046	\$4,236,333	Note D
Capital Budget by Funding Source			
Capital Tax Levy	\$1,334,875	\$1,435,809	
Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF)	\$250,000	\$218,596	
Discretionary Reserves	\$1,679,461	\$3,202,431	Note E
Restricted Reserves	\$698,202	\$1,261,937	Note F
Other (grants)	\$463,594	\$456,360	
Total Capital Budget	\$4,426,132	\$6,575,134	
Total Tax Levy	\$5,358,921	\$5,672,143	

Note A – A portion of the operating expenditures increase are offset by reserve withdrawals and increases in revenues/recoveries.

Note B – The operating revenues are noted as a negative which represents a reduction in the total operating tax levy requirement.

Note C - The \$64,957 in 2024 represents a net budgeted contribution to reserves. The \$259,910 in 2025 represents a net budgeted withdrawal from reserves. These amounts are informed based on the balances in each discretionary reserve taking into account contributions and withdrawals as outlined in Report FIN-2025-006 included in the February 20, 2025 Council agenda package.

Note D – The detailed changes in operating expenditures, operating revenues, net reserve transfers, and the operating tax levy were previously reported in the 2025 Proposed Budget PIM Presentation at the January 22, 2025 PIM, in Report FIN-2024-029 at the November 27, 2024 Council Meeting, and within the questions received from Council seeking additional information and the corresponding responses provided by staff regarding the November 27, 2024 Council agenda.

Note E – The increase in the discretionary reserve funding source in the 2025 Capital Budget relates to a higher utilization of the Asset Management (AM) Discretionary Reserve in 2025 compared to 2024 for asset replacement/rehabilitation projects and a higher utilization of the Building Surplus/Capital Carry forward/Corporate Information Technology/AM Discretionary Reserves related to the Municipal Administration and Operations Facility renovation project.

Note F – The increase in the restricted reserve funding source in the 2025 Capital Budget relates to a higher utilization of the Cash in Lieu of Parkland Restricted Reserve for eligible parks and recreation projects and a higher utilization of development charges (DC) for DC eligible projects in 2025 compared to 2024.

The discretionary reserve contributions in the 2025 budget compared to the 2024 budget are outlined below:

Discretionary Reserve	2024 Budget	2025 Budget	Notes
Insurance Contingency	\$0	\$0	The current balance in the reserve is \$113K.
Legal Contingency	\$25,000	\$0	The current balance in the reserve is \$257.2K.
Elections	\$13,750	\$13,750	The current balance in the reserve is \$27.5K prior to any further contributions through the 2025 budget process. The net operating tax levy impact is \$13,750.
Heritage Financial Incentive Program	\$10,600	\$10,600	Please note, of the \$10,600 contribution approved in the 2024 budget, Council at its meeting held on December 13, 2023 authorized that the one-time BBI of \$2,200 for the heritage plaque on the PCC Grounds be funded by this Discretionary Reserve. The current balance in the reserve is \$19K prior to any further contributions through the 2025 budget process. The net operating tax levy impact is \$0 as the expenditure is also budgeted in Administration.
AM	\$949,075	\$1,002,575	See Report FIN-2024-027 presented at the October 23, 2024 Council Meeting and Council’s direction at this meeting.
Information Technology	\$15,000	\$20,000	See Report FIN-2024-027 presented at the October 23, 2024 Council Meeting.
Winter Maintenance	\$25,000	\$0	The current balance in the reserve is \$25K.
Administrative Studies	\$250,000	\$40,000	See Report FIN-2024-027 presented at the October 23, 2024 Council Meeting.
Gravel Roads Improvement	\$320,800	\$344,050	See Report FIN-2024-027 presented at the October 23, 2024 Council Meeting and Council’s direction at this meeting.
Total	\$1,609,225	\$1,430,975	These amounts are informed based on the balances in each discretionary reserve taking into account contributions and withdrawals as outlined in Report FIN-2025-006 included in the February 20, 2025 Council agenda package.

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) 2025 Returned Assessment Roll

Based on the 2025 MPAC returned assessment roll and the current tax levy impact as reported in this Report, approximately each additional \$57,000 of taxes levied results in a 1% tax rate increase for the Township portion of taxes on the Median/Typical Single Family Home.

Similar to previous practice, the 2025 returned assessment roll obtained from MPAC in mid-December is compared to the 2024 returned assessment roll to determine the assessment change for the median/typical properties in the Township. The Township verifies the median/typical property assessment changes to the Ontario Property Tax Analysis tool that was made available to Township staff on December 10, 2024. The assessment change is incorporated in the calculation of the tax rate impact for the median/typical properties as further outlined in the tables below in this Report.

The education tax rates are based on correspondence received from the Ministry of Finance dated November 1, 2024 and remain unchanged from 2024. The County of Wellington (County) adopted its 2025 budget on January 30, 2025. The County tax rate has reduced from what was previously presented at the Budget PIM on January 22, 2025. Both the Township and County tax rates are also subject to change based on the County Tax Policy which will be adopted by County Council in approximately April of 2025.

The 2025 returned assessment roll continues to be based on January 1, 2016 assessed values due to the Province's continued postponement of the 2021 assessment update. Property assessments for the 2025 property tax year will continue to be based on January 1, 2016 assessed values. As a result of the reassessment cycle being postponed again until 2026, the 2021 assessment values are deemed for 2025. There is however new assessment growth (ie. new construction and renovations) as outlined below.

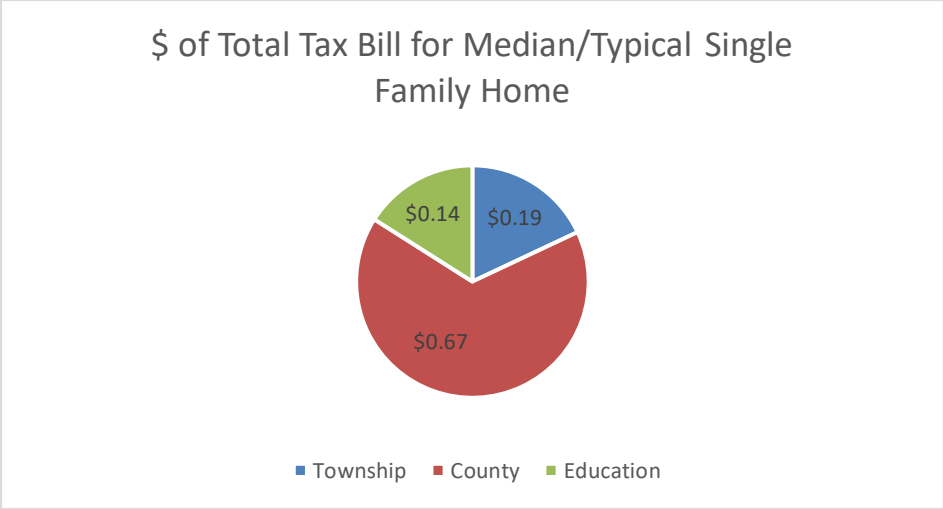
The 2025 returned assessment roll includes a reduction of approximately \$10.2K of Township taxes related to the new aggregate extraction property class announced by the Province. Unfortunately, this Provincial direction results in a Township tax increase of 0.18% and \$3 on the median/typical single family home.

The Township's 2025 new weighted assessment growth is approximately 1.67% or \$46.9M (ie. new construction and renovations). If there had not been any new assessment growth in the Township, the proposed 2025 budget would have resulted in a Township tax increase of 5.84% and \$74 and a blended tax increase of 3.71% and \$253 on the median/typical single family home.

Median/Typical Single Family Home

The following table shows that the proposed 2025 budget results in a Township tax increase of 4.10% and **\$52 (monthly increase of approximately \$4)** and a blended tax increase of 3.38% and \$231 on the median/typical single family home (2024 Assessment - \$661,000; 2025 Assessment - \$661,000).

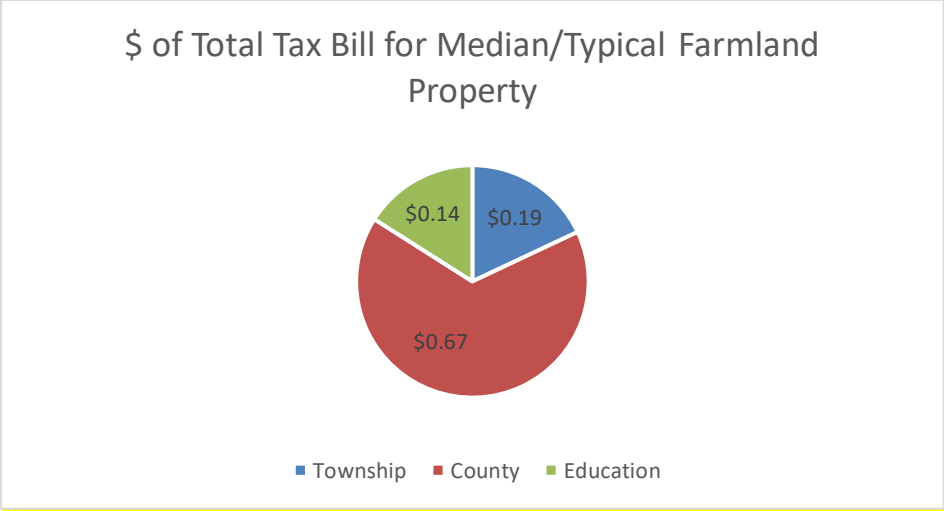
Description	\$ of Total Tax Bill	2024	2025	\$ Change from 2024	% Change from 2024
Median Assessment		\$661,000	\$661,000	\$0	0.00%
Yearly Township Taxes	\$0.19	\$1,264	\$1,316	\$52	4.10%
Yearly County Taxes	\$0.67	\$4,557	\$4,736	\$179	3.94%
Yearly Education Taxes	\$0.14	\$1,011	\$1,011	\$0	0.00%
Yearly Blended Taxes	\$1.00	\$6,832	\$7,063	\$231	3.38%
Yearly Township Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$191	\$199	\$8	4.10%
Yearly Blended Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$1,034	\$1,069	\$35	3.38%



Median/Typical Farmland Property

The following table shows that the proposed 2025 budget results in a Township tax increase of 4.10% and **\$14 (monthly increase of approximately \$1)** and a blended tax increase of 3.38% and \$63 on the median/typical farmland property (2024 Assessment - \$719,400; 2025 Assessment - \$719,400).

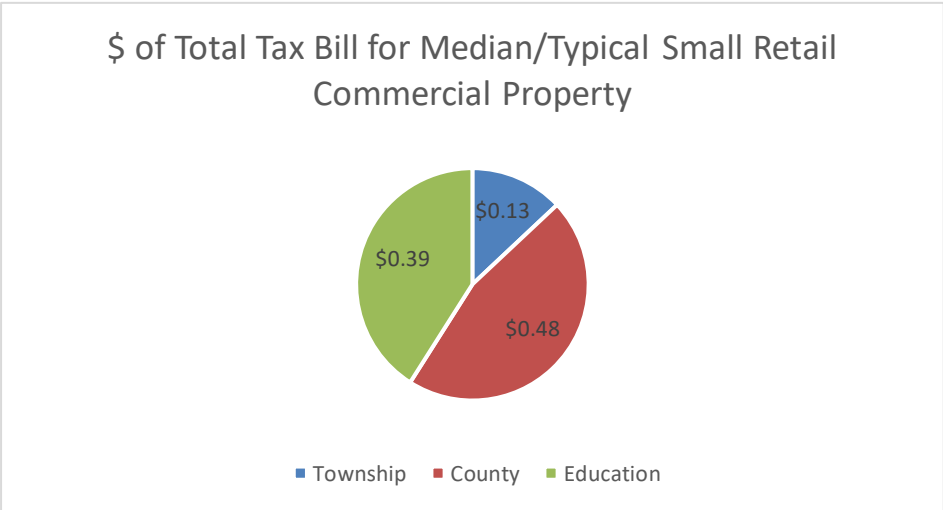
Description	\$ of Total Tax Bill	2024	2025	\$ Change from 2024	% Change from 2024
Median Assessment		\$719,400	\$719,400	\$0	0%
Yearly Township Taxes	\$0.19	\$344	\$358	\$14	4.10%
Yearly County Taxes	\$0.67	\$1,240	\$1,289	\$49	3.94%
Yearly Education Taxes	\$0.14	\$275	\$275	\$0.00	0.00%
Yearly Blended Taxes	\$1.00	\$1,859	\$1,922	\$63	3.38%
Yearly Township Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$48	\$50	\$2	4.10%
Yearly Blended Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$258	\$267	\$9	3.38%



Median/Typical Small Retail Commercial Property

The following table shows that the proposed 2025 budget results in a Township tax increase of 4.10% and **\$74 (monthly increase of approximately \$6)** and a blended tax increase of 2.38% and \$332 on the median/typical small retail commercial property (2024 Assessment - \$636,100; 2025 Assessment - \$636,100).

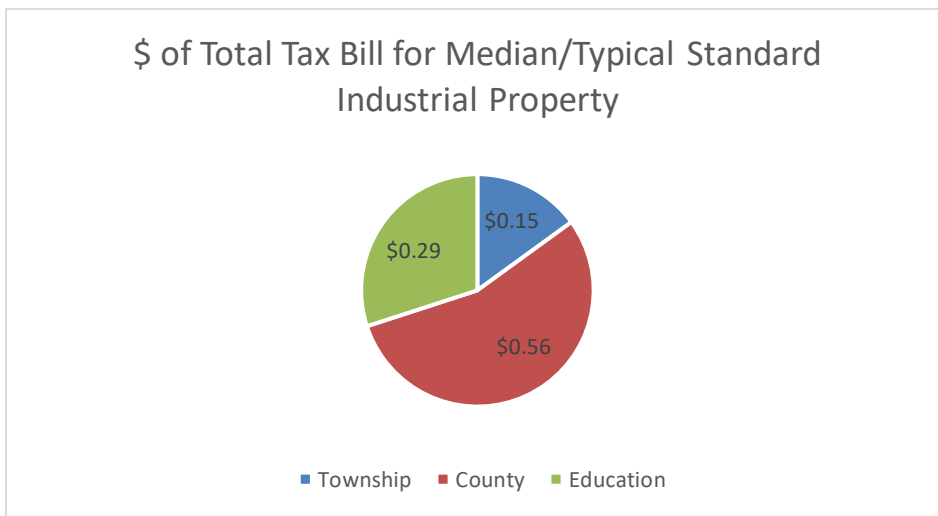
Description	\$ of Total Tax Bill	2024	2025	\$ Change from 2024	% Change from 2024
Median Assessment		\$636,100	\$636,100	\$0	0%
Yearly Township Taxes	\$0.13	\$1,814	\$1,888	\$74	4.10%
Yearly County Taxes	\$0.48	\$6,538	\$6,795	\$257	3.94%
Yearly Education Taxes	\$0.39	\$5,598	\$5,598	\$0.00	0.00%
Yearly Blended Taxes	\$1.00	\$13,949	\$14,281	\$332	2.38%
Yearly Township Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$285	\$297	\$12	4.10%
Yearly Blended Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$2,193	\$2,245	\$52	2.38%



Median/Typical Standard Industrial Property

The following table shows that the proposed 2025 budget results in a Township tax increase of 4.10% and **\$311 (monthly increase of approximately \$78)** and a blended tax increase of 2.80% and \$1,385 on the median/typical standard industrial property (2024 Assessment - \$1,649,000; 2025 Assessment - \$1,649,000).

Description	\$ of Total Tax Bill	2024	2025	\$ Change from 2024	% Change from 2024
Median Assessment		\$1,649,000	\$1,649,000	\$0	0%
Yearly Township Taxes	\$0.15	\$7,569	\$7,879	\$311	4.10%
Yearly County Taxes	\$0.56	\$27,281	\$28,355	\$1,074	3.94%
Yearly Education Taxes	\$0.29	\$14,511	\$14,511	\$0	0.00%
Yearly Blended Taxes	\$1.00	\$49,361	\$50,746	\$1,385	2.80%
Yearly Township Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$459	\$478	\$19	4.10%
Yearly Blended Taxes per \$100K Assessment		\$2,993	\$3,077	\$84	2.80%



Applicable Legislation and Requirements

Municipal Act, 2001

Engagement Opportunities

The Township has incorporated a number of engagement opportunities associated with the 2025 budget process as outlined below:

- Advisory Committee Budget Input

- Social Media Posts and/or Advertisements at Facebook.ca/TownshipofPuslinch and Twitter.com/TwpPuslinchON and Instagram.com/TownshipofPuslinch
- Township Website Banner and Budget Page at puslinch.ca/government/budget/
- Community Engagement Survey at EngagePuslinch.ca open from December 13, 2024 to January 31, 2025 at 12:00 p.m.
- Puslinch Today Advertisement
- Wellington Advertiser Advertisement
- Public Information Meeting on January 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
- Media releases related to EngagePuslinch.ca survey and final budget highlights.
- Community Newsletter regarding final budget highlights which will be sent with the final tax bill in August 2025.

Attachments

Schedule A - Engage Puslinch Community Engagement Survey Results

Schedule B – Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) – Freezing of Fees

Schedule C – Puslinch Historical Society Feedback - Killeen School Bell Cairn

Respectfully submitted:	Contributors:	Reviewed by:
<p>Mary Hasan, Director of Finance/Treasurer</p>	<p>Mike Fowler, Director of Public Works, Parks, and Facilities</p> <p>Justine Brotherston, Interim Municipal Clerk</p> <p>Jamie MacNeil, Fire Chief</p> <p>Andrew Hartholt, Chief Building Official</p> <p>Michelle Cassar, Deputy Treasurer</p>	<p>Courtenay Hoytfox, Interim CAO</p>

2025 Proposed Budget

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

13 December 2024 - 31 January 2025

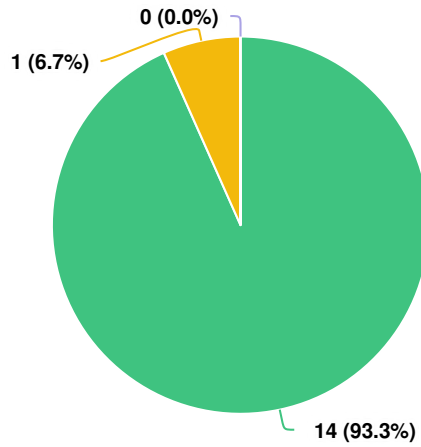
PROJECT NAME:

2025 Proposed Budget



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 What percentage of my 2024 tax bill went towards Township of Puslinch services?



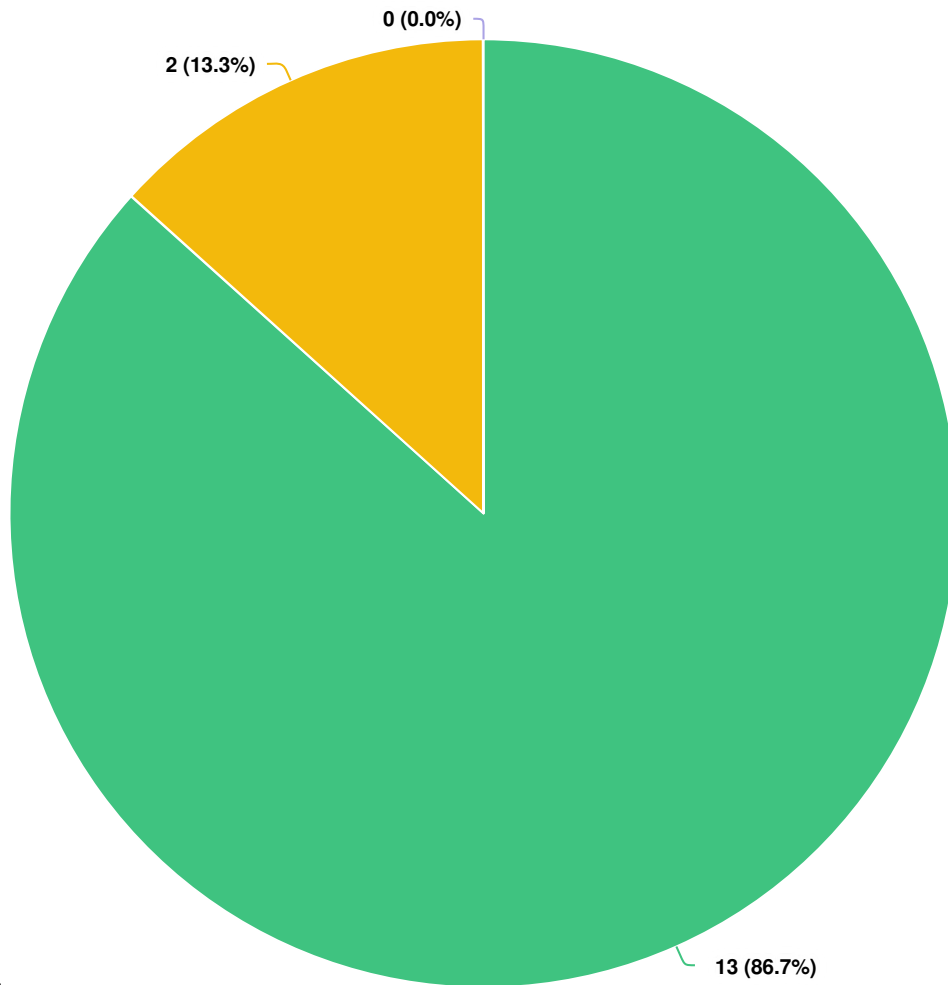
Question options

- 18%
- 15%
- 67%

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Question Options	Responses
18%	14
15%	1
67%	0

Q2 In 2024, a typical single family home paid \$6,357 in taxes. Of that \$6,357, how much was applied towards Township of Puslinch services?



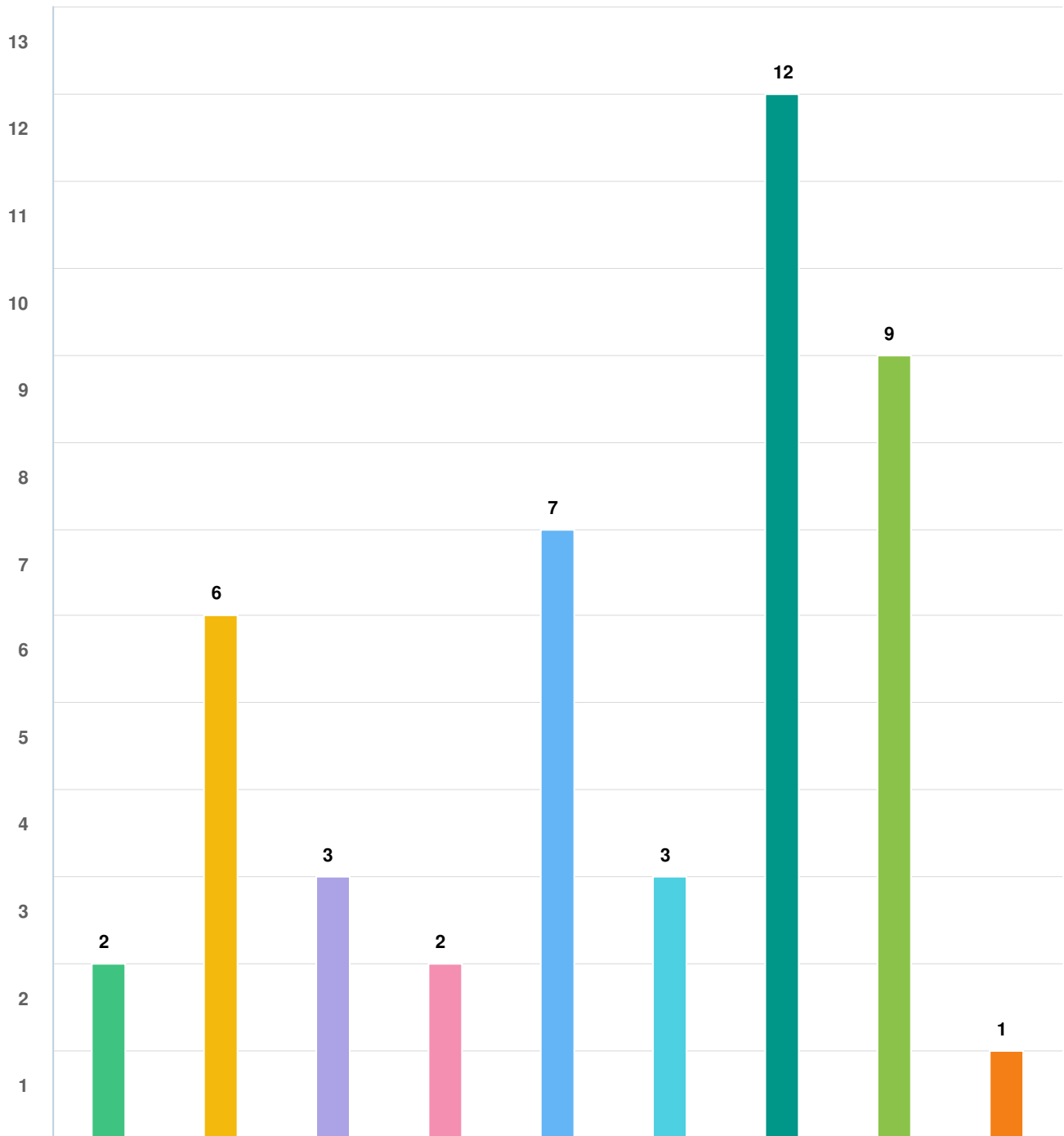
Question options

- \$1,176
- \$941
- \$4,239

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Question Options	Responses
\$1,176	13
\$941	2
\$4,239	0

Q3 The Township strives to balance excellent service delivery while maintaining affordable tax rates. Which of the following Township services are most important to you? (select up to 5)



Question options

- Animal Licensing and Control (Dog Tags, Dogs at Large, etc.)
- Community Centres and Recreation Facilities
- Customer Service
- By-law Enforcement
- Parks
- Planning & Development
- Roads (including Winter Maintenance)
- Fire Services
- Trails

Optional question (13 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q3 The Township strives to balance excellent service delivery while maintaining affordable tax rates. Which of the following Township services are most important to you? (select up to 5)

Question Options	Responses
Animal Licensing and Control (Dog Tags etc)	2
Community Centres and Recreation Facilities	6
Customer Service	3
By-law Enforcement	2
Parks	7
Planning & Development	3
Roads (including Winter Maintenance)	12
Fire Services	9
Trails	1

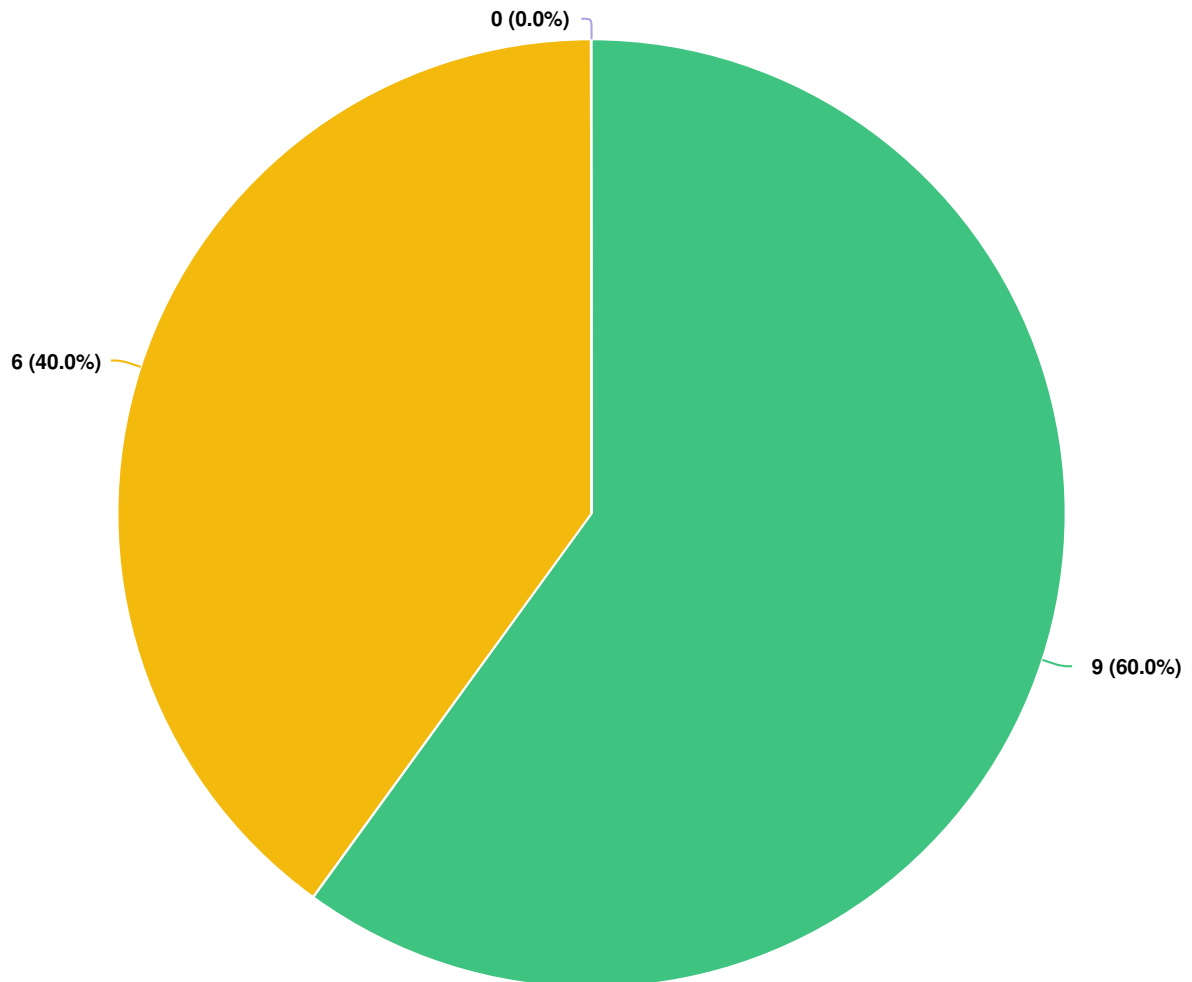
Q4 Which of these action items do you see as the highest overall priorities that you would like Council to consider for Puslinch? Rank in order of priority with 1 being the highest.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Economic Development	3.67
Innovations and Partnerships	4.47
More Paved Roads	4.53
Access to Recreation Programming	4.73
Growth	5.60
Increased Service Levels - Public Works	5.80
Increased Service Levels - Fire	5.93
Additional Recreation Facilities	6.47
Increased Service Levels - Planning	6.47
Increased Service Levels - Building	7.33

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))

Question type: Ranking Question

Q5 | Do you feel that you understand how your tax dollars are used within the Township budget?



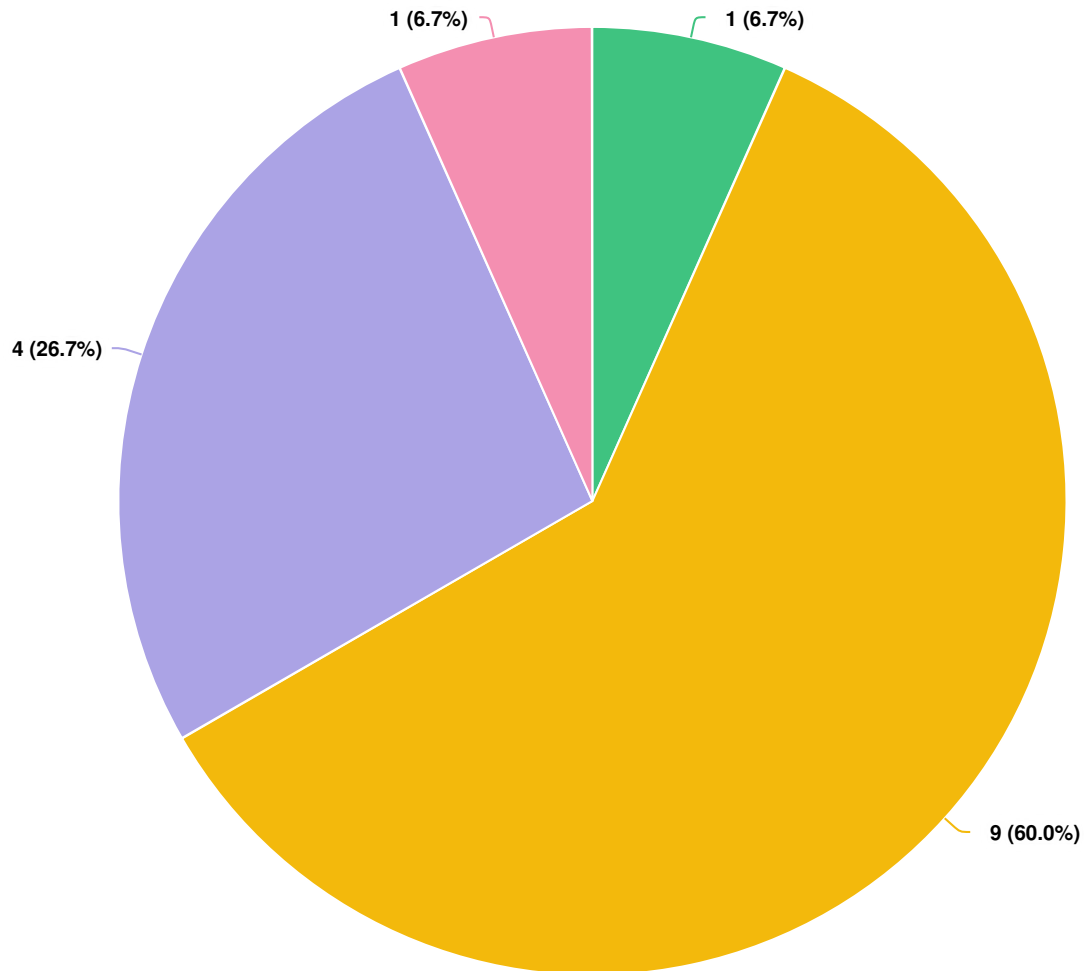
Question options

- Somewhat understand
- Good understanding
- Do not understand

*Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Question Options	Responses
Somewhat understand	9
Good understanding	6
Do not understand	0

Q6 Which of the following options would you prefer the Township implement in order to balance the increasing costs of delivering services to Township residents?



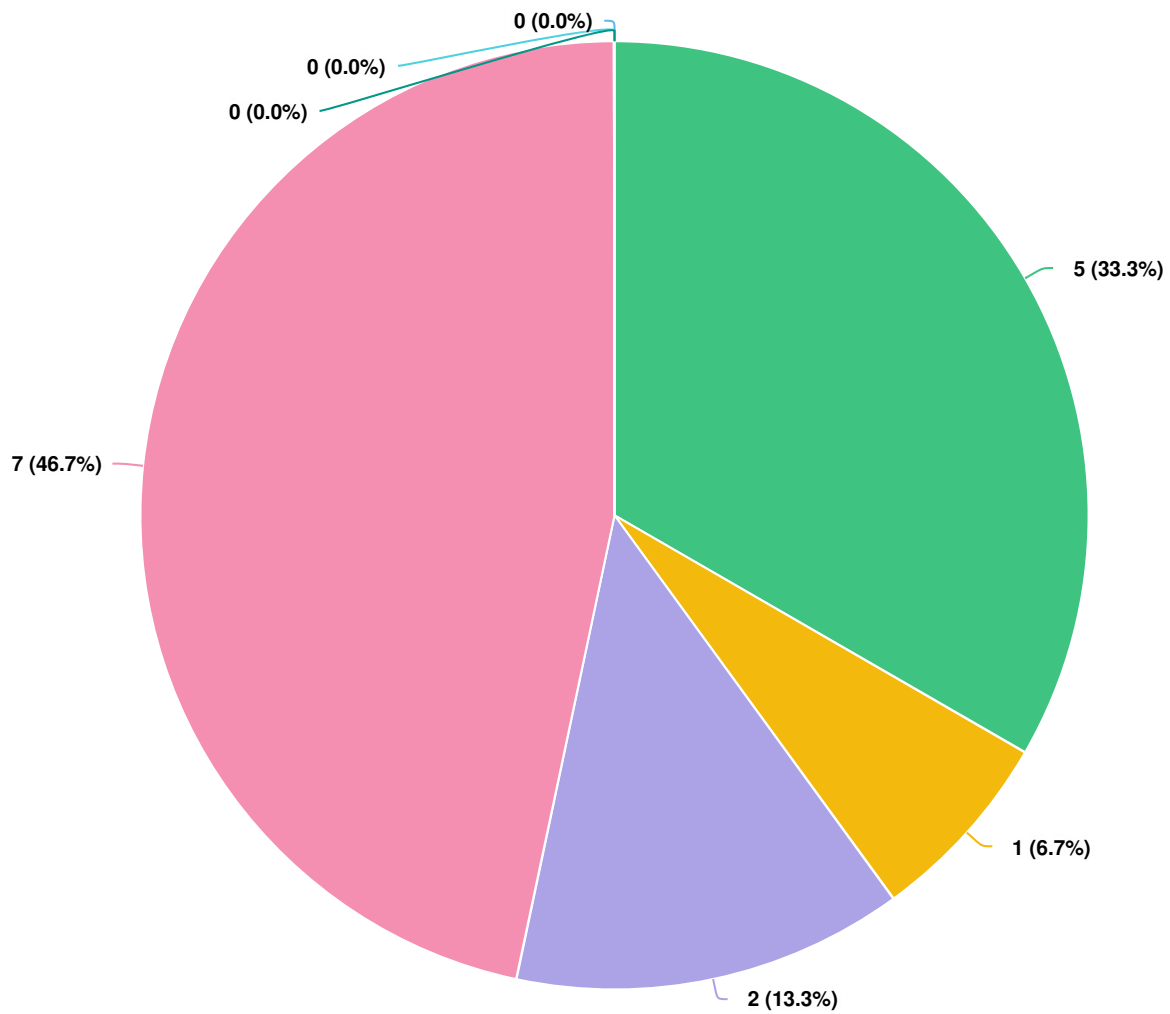
Question options

- Increase taxes a little above the rate of inflation to provide for enhanced service levels such as expanded recreation amenities, without the need to cut services elsewhere to offset.
- Increase taxes by the rate of inflation; if services are enhanced in one area, these should be offset by a reduction to services elsewhere.
- Reduce existing service levels to have a tax increase below the rate of inflation. ● Don't know

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
 Question type: Radio Button Question

Question Options	Responses
Increase taxes a little above the rate of inflation to provide for enhanced service levels such as expanded recreation amenities, without the need to cut services elsewhere to offset	1
Increase taxes by the rate of inflation; if services are enhanced in one area, these should be offset by the reduction to services elsewhere	9
Reduce existing service levels to have a tax increase below the rate of inflation	4
Don't know	1

Q7 | What is your age?



Question options

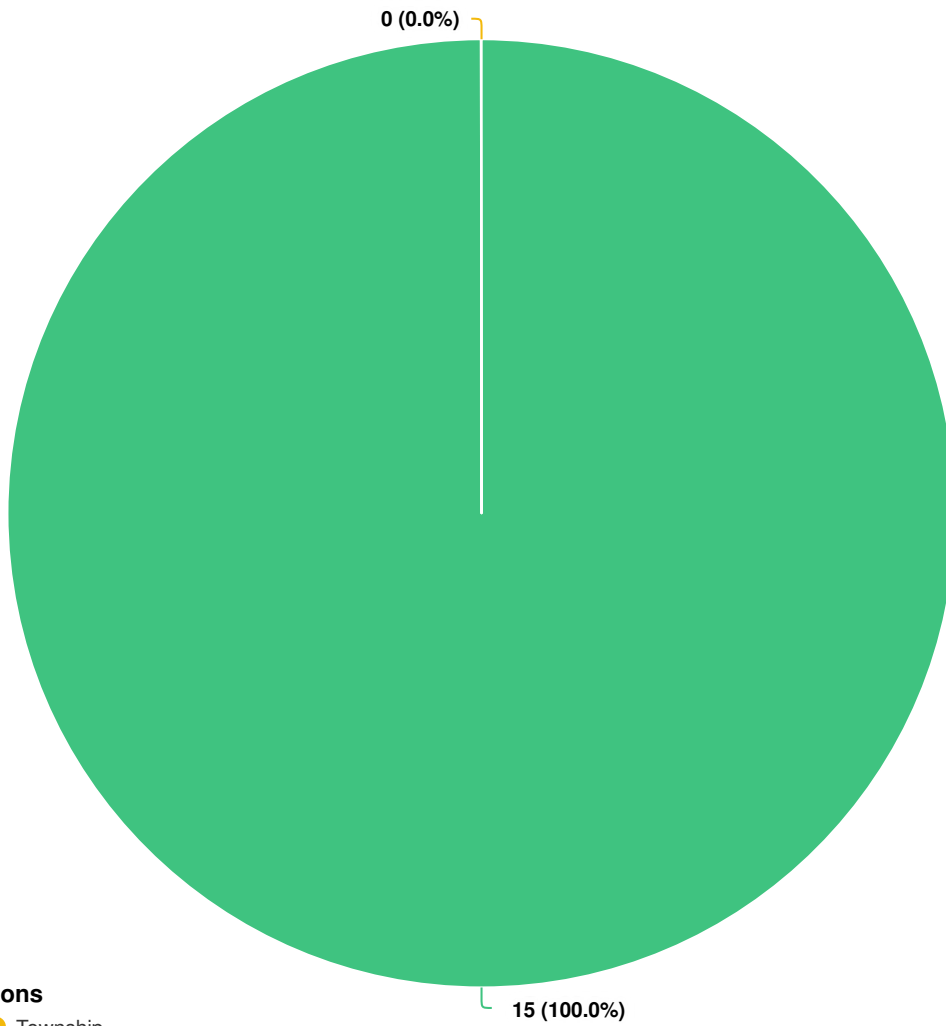
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65+
- Under 18
- 18-24
- 25-34

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Question Options	Responses
Under 18	0
18-24	0
25-34	0
35-44	5
45-54	1
55-64	2
65+	7

Q8 Is garbage and recycling a Township or County service?



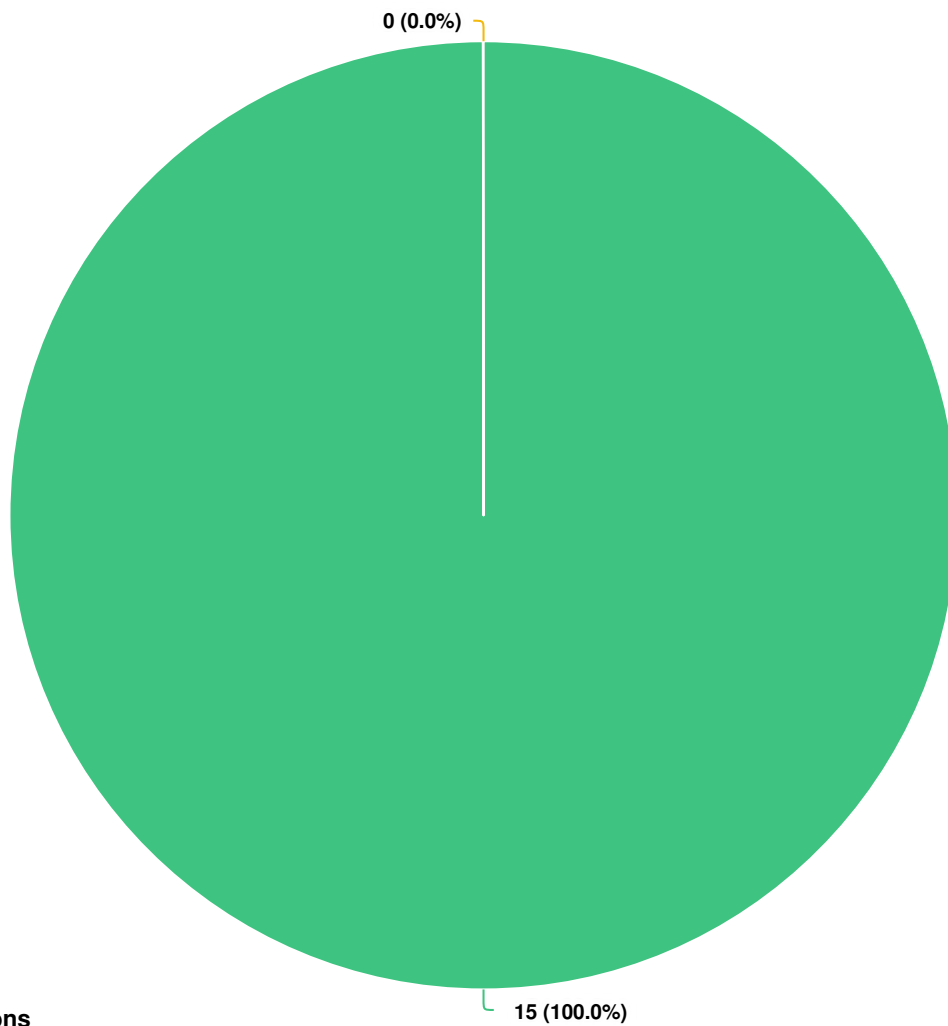
Question options

- County
- Township

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Question Options	Responses
County	15
Township	0

Q9 Are building permits a Township or County service?



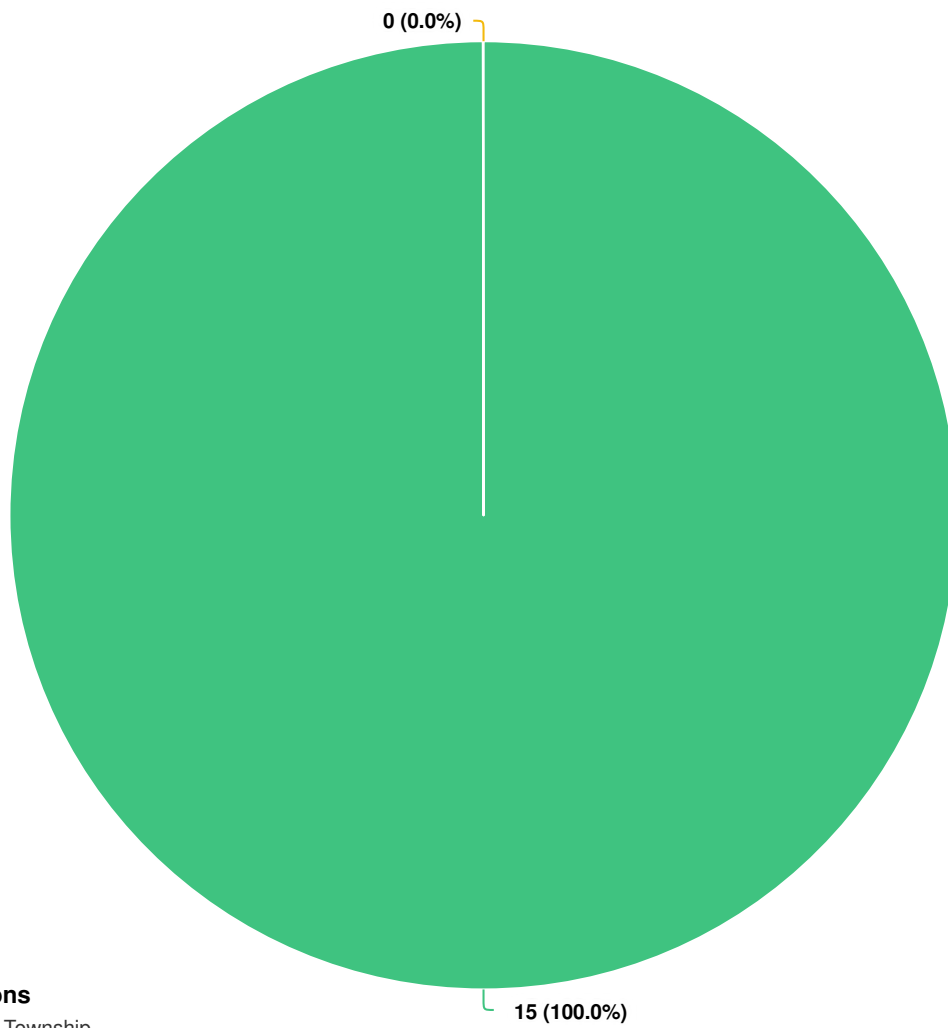
Question options

- Township
- County

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
 Question type: Dropdown Question

Question Options	Responses
County	0
Township	15

Q10 | Are police services a Township or County service?



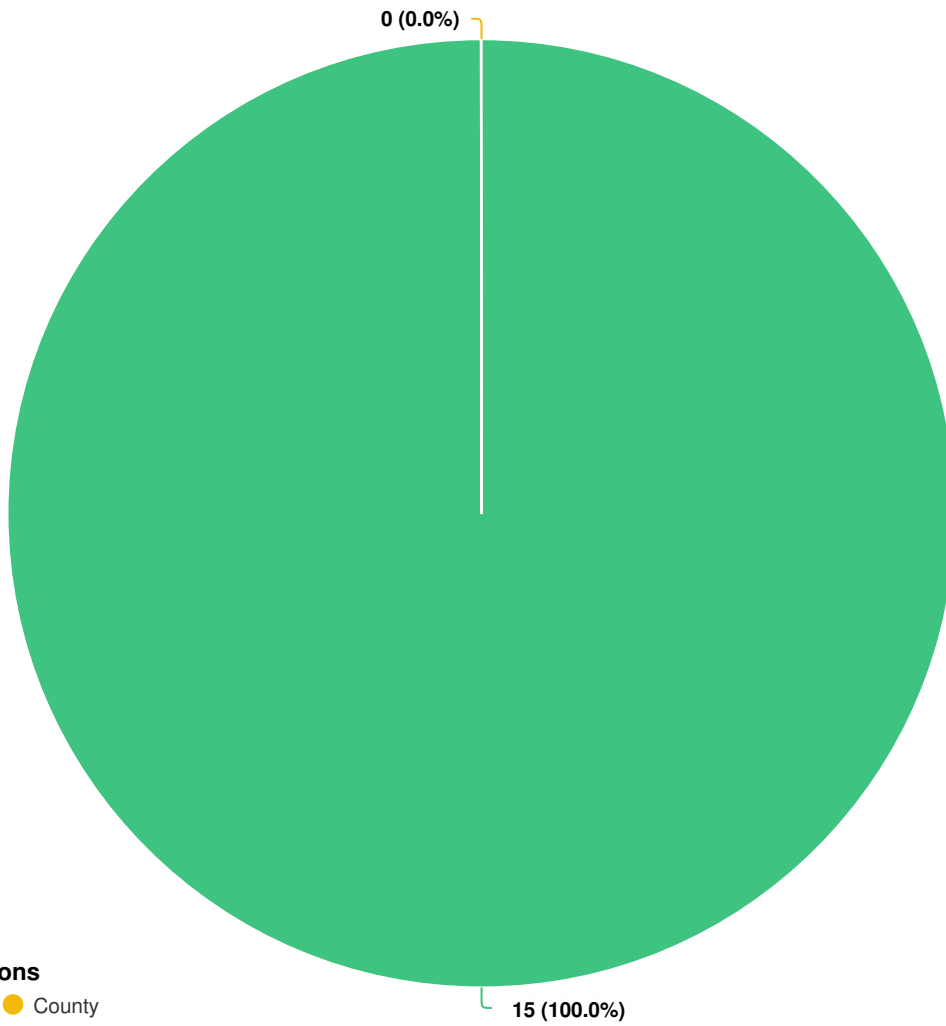
Question options

- County
- Township

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Question Options	Responses
County	15
Township	0

Q11 | Is the paving of Township roads a Township or County service?



Question options

- Township
- County

Mandatory Question (15 response(s))
 Question type: Dropdown Question

Question Options	Responses
County	0
Township	15

Q12 | Do you have any comments or feedback that you would like Council to consider on the proposed 2025 Budget?

Anonymous

12/14/2024 12:27 AM

You can make as many lists for awareness of dollars spent as you want however I feel we are constantly left off any priority lists for the county.

Anonymous

12/20/2024 11:48 PM

It's hard not to feel frustrated with the superficial nature of the public surveys conducted regarding the Township's proposed 2025 budget. While the idea of engaging residents sounds great on paper, these surveys seem more like an exercise in optics than a genuine effort to gather meaningful input. The questions are often so general or narrowly framed that they fail to address the real concerns of residents, like how these new fees and charges will impact affordability and accessibility, or how litigious the township has become spending frivolous amounts of tax payers' money on Bay St lawyers fighting against property owners. Worse yet, there's little to no evidence that the Township actually uses the feedback to adjust their plans. It feels like the decisions have already been made, and the survey is just a box-ticking exercise to say, "We consulted the public." This "consultation" process does little to instill confidence that the Township values or even listens to its residents. Instead, it reinforces the perception that they will proceed with their plans regardless of community feedback. When the focus seems more on justifying pre-determined decisions rather than adapting them based on legitimate concerns, it undermines trust and leaves residents feeling unheard. If the Township truly wants to foster transparency and collaboration, they need to take a hard look at how they engage with the public. Start by asking meaningful questions, showing clear evidence of how input shapes decisions, and being willing to revisit plans when the community voices concerns. Otherwise, these surveys remain little more than window dressing for decisions already made behind closed doors. Please do not increase service levels. The QUALITY of service is incredibly poor - gravel roads are horrendous even when graded, general inquiries at the office go unanswered because no one knows anything, permits are non-existent yet you still take residents' money .. ?!. No need to increase frequency or number staff within programs that are poorly executed to begin with. For the love of god, trim the fat: - NO 4%+ raises for staff, despite the mayor wanting to pat everyone on the back as a facade to claim the township has actually accomplished anything for the benefit of residents. -stop the knee jerk litigious reactions. The township is bleeding tax payers money into the hands of greedy lawyers. - No pins. People don't want this garbage, until they can actually feel a sense of pride for where they live. Right now, that's

impossible the way this pitiful place is run. - REDUCE ALL service levels, reduce headcount in the township office. - Prioritize better and do better. Ask yourself, what NEEDS to be done, instead of "how can I waste money today?!" - HIRE people from WITHIN the township. Staff DO NOT care about making the most of every dollar when they aren't the ones footing the bill to pay their own wages. - NO TRAVEL. Why are councillors attending in-person conferences? It's 2024. Find virtual options.

Anonymous

12/27/2024 03:23 PM

Why is this a bloody quiz lol Where is the section to comment on increase or decrease litigation fees? Can we fire some staff that are costing tax payers exorbitant amounts of money on legal fees making mountains out of mole hills, claiming bylaws are "flexible" but then not actually exercising that flexibility where it makes sense to do so? Please run a cost-benefit analysis on this. The selections and rankings above are a joke. Residents get piss poor quality of service, so just reduce everything. Stop taking a "we know best" and actually listen to some god damn feedback from the community.

Anonymous

1/04/2025 10:11 AM

Keep taxes down

Anonymous

1/04/2025 03:12 PM

Our taxes are already to high. Cut backs need to be made so our taxes are reasonable.

Anonymous

1/04/2025 07:20 PM

Thank you for doing this survey. I trust it will help some with understanding where their tax money goes. With careful planning I feel the staff is being careful with spending. Thank you for all the Hard work the staff does.

Anonymous

1/05/2025 02:37 PM

Stop increasing the budget yearly.

Anonymous

1/06/2025 06:32 PM

As a taxpayer, I can read a pie chart. I can also read dollars indicated to make up that percentage however what I don't understand is why certain envelopes of money which seem to be a very big amounts, such as roads, etc.. versus the 67% that goes to the county that I feel we should be keeping a portion of that. Why is it that the county continues to get that much of our tax dollars and yet I continue to see very little benefit such as a daycare here in Puslinch. There is a strong need for such a facility.

2025 Proposed Budget : Survey Report for 13 December 2024 to 31 January 2025

Anonymous

thank you for the public access & inputs to this process

1/08/2025 01:42 PM

Anonymous

Consider efficiencies to reduce overhead.

1/12/2025 06:57 PM

Optional question (10 response(s), 5 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Mary Hasan

From: Sonja Radoja <sradoja@grandriver.ca>
Sent: January 17, 2025 12:08 PM
To: Mary Hasan
Subject: RE: Budget Consultation Notification - GRCA Budget 2025 Draft 1

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Hi Mary,

The freezing of fees does not impact GRCA's overall budgeted apportionment (levy) for 2025, therefore does not impact any individual municipality.

A conservative estimate of Resource Planning revenue was incorporated into the 2025 budget, giving consideration to 2024 forecast actual results and trend analysis.

Sonja Radoja

Manager Corporate Services

From: Eowyn Spencer <espencer@grandriver.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2025 11:27 AM
To: Sonja Radoja <sradoja@grandriver.ca>; Karen Armstrong <karmstrong@grandriver.ca>
Cc: Kayleigh Keighan <kkeighan@grandriver.ca>
Subject: FW: Budget Consultation Notification - GRCA Budget 2025 Draft 1

Hi, Please see below. I've let her know I've forwarded to senior staff for response.

From: Mary Hasan <mhasan@puslinch.ca>
Sent: January 15, 2025 11:08 AM
To: Eowyn Spencer <espencer@grandriver.ca>
Subject: FW: Budget Consultation Notification - GRCA Budget 2025 Draft 1

Hi Eowyn,

Council received the attached correspondence from the Grand River Conservation Authority at their meeting held today. Can you please advise how the freezing of fees as noted in the attached document has impacted the Township's levy. For reference, the Township's levy has increased from \$134K to \$139K from 2024 to 2025.

Thanks,

Mary

From: Eowyn Spencer <espencer@grandriver.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 11:03 AM
To: Admin <admin@puslinch.ca>; Courtenay Hoytfox <choytfox@puslinch.ca>
Subject: Budget Consultation Notification - GRCA Budget 2025 Draft 1

Greetings Township of Puslinch

Please be advised that the General Membership of the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) approved Budget 2025 Draft #1 for consultation purposes at their meeting on October 25, 2024. This consultation circulation is required under *Ontario Regulation 402/22: Budget and Apportionment*.

The attached letter provides further information about providing feedback, along with the attached report and draft 2025 budget which outline the programs and services of the GRCA and how those programs are expected to be funded in 2025. Also attached is the municipal apportionment information.

Kind regards,

Eowyn Spencer
Supervisor of Administrative Services
Grand River Conservation Authority
400 Clyde Road, PO Box 729
Cambridge, ON N1R 5W6
Office: 519-621-2763 ext. 2200
Toll-free: 1-866-900-4722

Mary Hasan

From: Marilyn Crow
 Sent: February 4, 2025 9:35 AM
 To: Laura Emery
 Cc: Cheryl McLean
 Subject: PHS response
 Attachments: sketch of bell tower.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
 Flag Status: Completed

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Good afternoon, Laura:

The members of the Puslinch Historical Society have come to a consensus on the design of the bell tower.

Cheryl has outlined a rough sketch that John Smith has been given to quote on. (attached here) We looked at two designs for the roof over the bell and decided a four-sided roof would be in keeping with the supports of the bell below it.

Specifics:

- Construction of a stone cairn 56" wide X 56" long X 37" high. It will be widest at the base and taper to the platform for the bell to 52"

The front and back faces will be flat (sort of for stone surface) and the side faces will slope out. (our thoughts was to give protection to the plaque on the front) The builder, John Smith, commented that the sloping and the 2 sides and flat on front and back would be attractive.

- The cairn will sit on a 64" wide X 64" long X 6" high cement base
- The cairn, bell base, will be built using natural field stone, Puslinch local, if possible
- The bell will sit on a 3-4" solid stone cap that is 56" wide X 56" long
- A wooden Belfry will be built around the bell, similar to the Badenoch and other schools. This belfry will address concerns of protection for the bell and will display the bell similar to that seen in pictures of the bell on the original school houses - often stone schools with wooden belfries. Builder to advise if posts should be wood, vinyl clad, metal or other. We suggest metal roof. sketch is 4" in 12" pitch.

Rough measurements of the Bell: width 23" x 18" height. With hardware 32" wide x 26" high.

Suggested wording for plaque:

Killean School bell represents the twelve School Sections of Puslinch.

S.S. #1 Arkell

S.S. #2 Brock Road

S.S. # 3 Downey

S.S. #4 Aberfoyle

S.S. #5 Third Concession

S.S. #6 Crieff

S.S. #7 Killean

S.S. #8 Morriston

S.S. #9 Badenoch

S.S. # 10 Corwhin

S.S. #11 Puslinch Lake

S.S. #12 Glen Christie

The Historical Society supports the above design. Please let me know if you have any further questions or would like a representative from the PHS to be in attendance at the council meeting. Lynn Crow, PHS

