

Prioritize Responsible & Fair Taxation Policies

As your Mayor, my plan to approach the financial management of the Township would be simple. Focus on what matters, keeping tax increases down as much as possible and adopt financial best practices so that taxpayers know that their tax dollars are being spent wisely.

1. **Financial Controls**
As your Mayor, I will work with Council and staff to improve financial controls and implement new best practices to make sure that our tax dollars are being spent wisely and as efficiently as possible.

2. **Community Focus**
As your Mayor, I will work with Council and staff to develop new financial reporting tools that make information available in language that can be easily understood by all and in formats that the average Township resident would be able to find easily. A Community Finance Dashboard could be designed on the Township website to showcase financial information for residents in an easy to digest format including budget versus actual spending, major project status, tax rate trends, debt levels and reserve balances. It could also be used to highlight progress on the Township's Strategic Plan, innovative programs / services and opportunities for the public to get involved with their Township.

3. **Multi-Year Financial Tracking**
As your Mayor, I will work with Council and staff to prepare financial budgets that include financial analysis of each line item over multiple fiscal years. With a 3-year rolling trend, Council would be best able to allocate tax dollars effectively so that it is going to the right things and that savings are re-directed to community priorities.

4. **Future Forecasting**
As your Mayor, I will work with Council and staff to develop a proactive forward-thinking look at our finances in order to identify future infrastructure needs and how we are going to pay for them. We need to have a solid plan in place for our roads, buildings, vehicles and other assets so that we do not saddle future generations with big bills that we could easily have planned for.

5. **Conduct Public Budget Consultations**
As your Mayor, I will work with Council to plan and hold public consultations in advance of the annual budget process and on the proposed annual Operating and Capital Budgets as an opportunity for the Township to share the Township's budgetary realities with the community in an environment that is deliberately set up to allow the community to contribute their thoughts and perspectives on where the Township should be investing tax dollars for the upcoming fiscal year.



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