

Appendix F - ES-023-24

Summary of Budget Process

The following is a summary of the implications to the 2025 budget process giving consideration to the Bill 3 (Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act, 2022) amendments to Section 284.16 of the Municipal Act, 2001. A full copy of the Act can be found [here](#), along with the details found within [O.Reg. 530/22](#).

The proposed process for the 2025 Budget has been developed in a manner that maintains many elements of the Town's recent budget processes with amendments where required in response to the newly approved legislation. Following the 2025 Budget process, the Town can re-assess the process with consideration for both the results of the 2025 process for Milton as well as for the other municipalities that will be implementing the new legislated authorities. The Town's Budget Management Policy (Policy 113) can also be revisited at that time for any required revisions.

Bill 3 includes the following language in relation to the power and duties associated with the budget process:

Proposed budget

(2) The head of council shall, in accordance with the regulations, prepare a proposed budget for the municipality and provide the proposed budget to the council for the council's consideration.

Council may adopt or amend budget

(3) After receiving the proposed budget, council may, in accordance with the regulations, pass a resolution making an amendment to the proposed budget.

Veto power

(4) The head of council may, in accordance with the regulations, veto a resolution passed under subsection (3).

Override of veto

(5) Council may, in accordance with the regulations, override the head of council's veto under subsection (4) if two-thirds of the members of council vote to override the veto.

As such, the process includes the preparation of the budget by the head of council for council's consideration, and the final decision-making step in the process resides with Council. Details with respect

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to the timeframes associated with each step and other pertinent details can be found in the related regulations.

Process	Legislative Changes	Process Implications
<p>Budget guidance, budget preparation and budget document</p>	<p>The Mayor is responsible to propose the budget and provide it to Council for consideration.</p> <p>Duty reverts to Council if Mayor fails to present a budget by February 1.</p>	<p>Budget call report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • presented in September for Council deliberation • recommendations include items that are identified by Council for the Mayor to consider in the preparation of the proposed budget • recommendations also include direction to staff for the preparation of a Budget Reference Document that will help inform Council’s consideration of the Mayor’s proposed budget <p>Budget Reference Document</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will be available in November • will be prepared by staff in a manner that is similar to the past with respect to content, and will include figures that align with Council’s recommended budget target for the Mayor’s consideration • will include options for further reducing the budget or making additional investments <p>Council Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will be published in November and presented at the December 2 meeting • will identify the Mayor’s proposed budget and highlight the differences between the proposed budget and the Budget Reference Document figures

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<p>Budget Deliberation</p>	<p>Council may pass resolutions making amendments to the proposed budget within 30 days of receiving the proposed budget from the Mayor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mayor may veto a resolution passed by Council within 10 days. • Council may override the Mayor if two thirds of Council vote to override the veto within 15 days. 	<p>During the December 4 budget meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Budget Chair role will continue to be utilized to moderate discussion around amendments and vetoes. • Members of Council may bring forward resolutions to make changes to the budget, each of which will require a simple majority of Council as in the past. • The Mayor may then veto a resolution passed by Council. • Council may then override the Mayor with a two-thirds (6 members) vote. • The Mayor and Council may then choose to confirm that no further resolutions or vetoes will be brought forward. Should that occur, the Town's budget will be considered finalized at the meeting.
<p>Final Approved Budget</p>	<p>Council will not vote on the budget; it will be passively deemed adopted when various rights of the Mayor and Council are exhausted.</p>	<p>After the budget has been deemed to be final (based on the steps noted above), staff will prepare a final budget document that is consistent with the Town's past practice with respect to content. The final levy amount will also be utilized to prepare the Town's final tax levy by-law for the year as well.</p>