2014–2018 Financial Plan Process 2014–March–04

Old Budget Process

- Departmental staff prepare budget
- Finance staff review
- Senior staff review
- Package assembled and presented to Council
- Council review and discussion
- Public consultation/Council deliberation & direction
- Bylaw adoption "provisional" and "annual" budgets

Revised Budget Process

- Service level review for each function
- Operating and maintenance costs
- Review of non-recurring expenses (projects, capital)
- Service level adjustments
- Priority setting for all non-recurring expenditures & service level adjustments (dept + organization)

Pilot project lead to full review

- To determine whether this meets Council's needs, staff proposed a pilot
- Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Special meetings October on Wednesdays & Thursdays in SARC Board Room (open COW)
- Rest of departments added meetings until end of February

Service Level Reviews

- Departments divided into a number of service areas, e.g., arenas
- Each service area described current service levels, including appropriate statistics
- Included presentation to Council regarding services, with opportunity for Council to discuss, and provide direction if desired

Operating & Maintenance Budgets

- Information about revenue and expenditures
- Special analysis customized for each service area
- FTE information

Decision Packages

- List of capital expenditures, projects and similar one time expenditures
- Proposed Higher Service Levels, e.g., new plans or studies, internal auditor
- Previously authorized increases, e.g., new RCMP members and support staff
- Funding sources
- Organizational priority is maintenance of existing assets

"Base" Operating Budget

- Base operating budget is down 1.7% from 2013
- Early approvals and work in progress
- If nothing further is approved, there would be a 6.1% tax decrease
- This would have serious consequences, such as reduced service levels and increased maintenance costs – future tax increases

Decision Package List

- Projects and other expenditures previously presented to Council
- All are important and will be implications if they are not done
- Ranked by staff in priority order according to predetermined principles
- Concurrent projects (related) are ranked together
- Where known, funding sources are applied
- If all approved in 2014, tax increase would be 2.8%

Early Approvals

- Jan 22, Staff brought a report to Council to get approval on some projects
- Operational need to keep processes moving
- Prepare for tender/RFP or meet early deadline

2014 BUDGET & SERVICE LEVEL REVIEW



RANKING CORPORATE PRIORITIES



CORPORATE PRIORITY SETTING PROCESS

