



TOWNSHIP OF
EAST ZORRA-
TAVISTOCK

FALL 2019

Eazy Talk

Township Office News

2019 Budget & 2018 Financial Audit – Good News Stories

The 2019 Budget process was heavily condensed this year due to staff transitions and turnover. The work done by all staff and Council was exceptional. The collaboration, cooperation and dedication to creating a 2019 budget resulted in a 2.29% **decrease** in the residential tax rate while maintaining all service levels and increasing reserve balances by the end of this year.

In the same vein of hard work and collaboration, East Zorra-Tavistock was also able to complete the 2018 Financial Statements and audit by the end of August this year. The auditor commended East Zorra-Tavistock for its efforts in the refining processes, reviewing accounts while continuing to replace, install and refurbish assets in amounts that were equal to or in excess of the amortization of those assets in the year. In layman's terms, ensuring that your investment in capital assets, is equal to or in excess of the levels to which they are "used up" (depreciated/amortized) in a year. This represents a sustainable financial strategy.



East Zorra-Tavistock has the comfort of knowing that in addition to capital assets, there are sufficient reserve balances to offset unanticipated "rainy day" events for years to come. East Zorra-Tavistock finances have always been managed in a responsible and respectful way with forethought and planning. The financial "forecast" in EZT is sunny and bright.

Staff News:

We have welcomed Karen DePrest as our CAO/Treasurer. Karen has been a great addition to our staff, with her knowledge and fresh ideas, Karen is sure to keep our Township an awesome place to be.

We have also welcomed Stephanie Mitchell as our Deputy Treasurer to compliment our finance team. Stephanie's strong passion for finance is an asset to our Municipality.

Also joining our team last fall is Sheri Wilker, Customer Service and Reception. Sheri is happy to help with your inquiries.

All of our staff work together with you to keep our Township of East Zorra-Tavistock a country/village lifestyle that we enjoy living within.

Yard & Garden Waste Program

Reminder: Our Township provides three depots for leaves, branches, yard and garden waste. The depots are located at:

Public Works Yard, 158 Loveys St., Hickson
123 Main St., Innerkip

Public Works Yard, 18 Hendershot St., Tavistock

This program is not meant to replace your personal recycling efforts such as backyard composting and grass clippings, but to provide an additional option for those requirements that cannot be handled on-site. To ensure the ongoing cost effectiveness and viability of this program, residents are asked to dump waste materials from the bags or containers they are transported to the depot in. Brush must not be over 4 inches in diameter or 4 feet in length.



We also offer a depot for used tires. This is located at the Hickson Shop, 158 Loveys Street East.

Message from the Mayor



What is in a day? When I asked my grandchildren they were quick to say “24 hours”. One of them grabbed the iPad and added “1440 minutes or 86,400 seconds!”

I recently had the pleasure of attending the Tavistock Braves 50th Anniversary. What a delight to help celebrate this accomplishment. It was also exciting to watch a great hockey game that saw our local guys defeat Wellesley 3-2 in overtime. The current executive did a great job of recognizing John Yausie, Carl Hohner, Tom Warner, Laverne Yantzi and Robert Rudy Jr. who one day fifty years ago decided to form the Tavistock Braves. Over 700 players have worn the Braves jersey and I am certain an equal number of volunteers have helped it thrive over these past years. I wonder what went through their minds on that day. I am thankful they took the initiative and it is one small piece of a thriving EZT.

Today could be a good day to come together with like minded people and share a vision, launch an initiative or try something new. Today is also a good day to celebrate personal and community milestones.

I encourage everyone to consider your days, celebrate your milestones, support local community events and be ready to step forward and start something new. Our community is not alone in looking for solutions to affordable home ownership, mental health issues, and rural transportation. Most effective, affordable and sustainable solutions are not run by government but by individuals and community groups. However, as Mayor I can say with confidence that your Council and staff are open to supporting initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life in EZT. Enjoy the moments that each day presents.

Mayor & County Councillor

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Council meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 9 am and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers at the Oxford County Admin. Building, 21 Reeves St., Woodstock. All meetings are open to the public.



Emergency Awareness

Often our volunteer firefighters are driving their personal vehicles to emergency calls. Their vehicles are equipped with a green flashing light in the front dash window. If you notice this green light in oncoming traffic or in your rear view mirror, please pull over or yield to allow them to pass through traffic. Being aware of the importance of this green flashing light could make the difference in the time it takes firefighters to arrive at an emergency call.

It is also very important that every rural property has a 911 emergency sign at the front of their property. As an owner, you are responsible for this sign to be posted, visible and in good condition in the case you require emergency assistance at your home. Replacement signs can be ordered and purchased at the Township office.

Office and Facility Contacts

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Website: www.ezt.ca
Office Hours: Mon - Fri
8:30 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 4:30

Tavistock & District Recreation Centre
Phone: 519.655.2102

Tavistock & District Memorial Hall
Phone: 519.655.9992
For Bookings: 519.655.2102

Innerkip Community Centre
Phone: 519.469.3889
For Bookings: 519.539.1340

County of Oxford
Phone: 519.539.9800
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