



15 February 2019

Township of Lake of Bays Council via Carrie Sykes, Clerk
Township of Lake of Bays
1012 Dwight Beach Road
Dwight ON P0A 1H0
By email: CSykes@lakeofbays.on.ca

Dear Mayor Glover and Councillors,

As you meet to consider the 2019 Township of Lake of Bays budget, the Lake of Bays Association would ask you to consider the following comments/questions. The proposed 7% increase is significant and considerably higher than increases in the last two years.

- We would appreciate more detailed explanation in future budgets of large discrepancies between the budget and actual spending. Perhaps a column could be added to explain the variance.
- Strategic Visioning Session – We would suggest that some ratepayers be included in this exercise.
- Facilities Operator/Cleaning – We understand the need for an increase in this area given all the new square footage to be cleaned, however we wonder if this could be approved as an eight-month contract with a review of level of service and performance, before committing to a permanent full-time employee?
- Library Part-time hours – We understand the need for more hours at the libraries, but wonder if this could be reviewed and requested annually rather than becoming an assumed source of funding?
- Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Legal Expenses – We would suggest that any unused portion of the \$50,000 approved be put into a legal reserve as safety net for future LPAT hearings.
- Grader – We understand that a Road Grader is being requested and this amount has not been included in the 2019 budget. We have concerns about the need for a second grader, and could you consider contracting the additional grading to an outside supplier?

Finally, we suggest that, given the current Provincial government review of the District of Muskoka and lower tier municipalities, the hiring of additional staff be deferred until the review is complete.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Ann Peden".

Mary Ann Peden, President

cc. LOBA Board of Directors