



2024 Finance/Budget Survey Results:

There were 36 surveys completed.

1. The Municipality provides a wide range of services, including police and fire protection, garbage collection, water/sewer utilities, recreation & tourism facilities, road/street maintenance. Thinking about all the programs and services you receive from the municipality; please indicate to which degree you believe you receive good or poor value for the level of property taxes that you currently pay?

Answer:

6 Strongly Agree.

20 Agree.

6 Disagree.

2 Strongly Disagree.

2. When the Municipality is creating the municipal budget, please indicate which of the statements comes closest to your point of view. Please only check one.

The Municipality should:

Answer:

6 feel the Municipality should *decrease taxes and fees*, even if municipal services must decrease.

19 feel that taxes and fees should be *maintained*, even if it means reducing some services.

8 feel that municipal services should *increase*, even if taxes or fees must increase.

3. Based on the current economic situation, do you think it's more important that the municipality reduce taxes for citizens and businesses (through service reduction) or focus on maintaining and increasing services (through higher spending and taxes) to support the economy? Please check only one.

Answer:

2 want to reduce taxes for Residential and Business.

8 want to reduce taxes for Residential.

Zero want to reduce taxes for Business.

22 want to maintain services and taxes with minor increase for inflation.

3 want to increase services and taxes.

The following are six strategic themes. Please rate them in terms of importance to you. Included are some examples of the focus for each theme.

4. **Environment:**

Reduced emissions from municipal operations, partnering to reduce community wide emissions -
Preparing communities, infrastructure, and natural systems to withstand and recover from impact of severe weather -Protecting and sustaining our environment and natural systems

Answer:

8 felt it was Extremely Valuable.

20 felt it was Valuable.

3 felt it was Not So Valuable.

3 felt it was Not at all Valuable.



5. **Governance & Engagement:**

Making good decisions about how to run the municipality -Planning & managing finances and spending on services and programs -Communicating about municipal affairs -engaging with the public on local and regional issues and projects

Answer:

25 felt it is Extremely Valuable.

11 felt it is Valuable.

6. **Economy & Planning:**

Reduced red tape/making it easier to do business with the municipality -Keeping and attracting businesses & talent -Planning to make housing more affordable & inclusive -Supporting the surrounding economy

Answer:

14 felt it is Extremely Valuable.

17 felt it is Valuable.

3 felt it was Not So Valuable.

2 felt it was Not at all Valuable.

7. **Communities:**

Ensuring public safety. Providing recreation, leisure/tourism, social, and learning programming and facilities. Removing systematic barriers and building social equity supporting community well-being and supporting vulnerable, marginalized populations.

Answer:

8 felt it is Extremely Valuable.

23 felt it is Valuable.

3 felt it is Not so Valuable.

2 felt it is Not at all Valuable.

8. **Integrated Mobility:**

Continued development of the mobility network that connects communities and supports all modes of transportation including walking, rolling, cycling, etc. -Safe, well-maintained, complete streets and lanes that are accessible.

Answer:

12 felt it is Extremely Valuable.

21 felt it is Valuable.

1 felt it is Not at all Valuable.



9. **Service Excellence:**

Improvement focused on making service to people and businesses better -Development of municipal app for communication of notices -updated website (already in the works) -Community master plan (similar to a Official Community Plan but more in-depth planning and direction, would contain prioritized projects) -Continued infrastructure management (locating & mapping past installs that have been lost due to poor management/resources).

Answer:

16 felt it is **Extremely Valuable**.

14 felt it is **Valuable**.

3 felt it was **Not so Valuable**.

1 felt it was **Not so Valuable**.

10. The cost to deliver municipal services is rising, and even the cost of maintaining services is increasing. Maintaining or increasing some service levels without additional revenues may require reducing other services. Please indicate whether you believe the municipality should increase, maintain, or lower the services in the following areas;

Answer:

Public Engagement: 5 believe it should increase. 22 maintain. 7 believe it should decrease.

Summer Street Maintenance: 3 believe it should increase. 27 maintain. 5 decrease.

Dust Control Initiatives: 7 believe it should increase. 22 maintain. 6 decrease.

Winter Street Maintenance: 1 believe it should increase. 30 maintain. 3 decrease.

Support Business Services: 4 believed it should increase. 24 maintain. 8 decrease.

Economic Development: 5 Increase.22 maintain.10 decrease.

Development of Walking/Hiking Trails: 11 increase. 22 maintain.5 decrease.

Community Beautification: 6 increased. 26 believe it should be maintained. 3 decrease.

Indoor Recreation Facilities: 4 believe it should increase. 25 maintain. 5 decrease.

Outdoor Recreation Facilities: 5 increase. 25 maintain. 5 believe it should decrease.

Parks, Playgrounds, & Green Space: 11 believe it should increase. 19 maintain. 5 decrease.

Bylaw Enforcement: 11 believe it should increase. 19 maintain. 5 decrease.



11. New Projects/Initiatives for the 2024 Budget:

- Safe walking/cycling zone along the lake road from John Street – East.
- More updates.
- Dead brush and trees removed from the hillside at Wellington Park.
- More weed control along the berm and beaches.
- Forest management- clear dry brush and limit caragana bushes.
- Better sand on the beach.
- Put large rocks along the shoreline.
- Remove the motel.
- Add an outdoor rink.
- Continue pilot project on William Street.
- Raise the height of the road on 200 block Douglas Ave. and put in a weeping tile.
- Crackdown on derelict properties.
- Show expenses and income on financial statement, ex. For the Drive in.
- Encourage the 3 main community groups to spend their money soon to help enhance the community.
- Save and protect the park trees.
- Finish Uhmman Park landscaping.
- More trash containers.
- More washrooms.
- Plantings needed along the west beach.
- More access to the lake over the berm.
- Beautification - Paint /repair all public facing signage ex. Drive In
 - Collaborate with key facilities to enhance appearance and functionality ex. Danceland
- Preserve the open lake shore.
- More visitor information ex. Dog on leash all times and clean up after themselves.
- Encourage greenery.
- More by-law officer on property issues.
- Plant more trees and look after them.
- Better sign and access to the tree pit.
- Open the tree pit back up for leaves.
- Do more sewer work.
- More signs as no RV sleep overs and dogs must be leashed.
- Revive the monthly newsletters to better inform residents.
- Preserve natural areas – weeds are good for bees etc.
- More attention to the shoreline now that the water is going down.
- Preserve the unbroken natural prairie east of Jean Street and west of CES.
- More attention needed for the main beach washrooms.
- Expand the beach front.
- RVMB to pay for garbage pick up.
- Wheelchair and golf carts should be allowed in Wellington Park.
- More attention to the lake water quality.



- Control the number of tiny homes.
- Monitor maintenance and property appearance, especially 300 block of Richard St.
- Pickleball and new basketball hoops are more popular than tennis is for the court.
- Needs a pathway to walk on off road along the water side.
- Put a toll booth so Regional Park and CES can contribute as they pay zero tax right now.
- Walking trail from CES to Uhmman Park along the berm for wheelchairs.
- Create a clear definition of core businesses.
- Add single vehicle taxi service to homebase business.
- Is a used car lot allowed as a home business?
- Adopt a code of practice cop to inform all contractors using dust controlled streets in the future to use rubber tire matting to both cross and to travel on these road surfaces with steel tracked equipment. This will reduce both short- and long-term maintenance costs in regard to these road surfaces.

12. Are there specific projects or initiatives the RVMB should consider removing in the 2024?

- Don't do anything until all debt is paid and taxes are lowered.
- Do we need the Marketing Board?
- Limit the vast amount of grass being cut.
- Bring back the original prairie as nature intended.
- Remove the Motel.
- Remove marketing board.
- Sell the Drive-In.
- No need for more Chainsaw Carving Contests.
- Marketing group; Shift the cost of marketing/promoting from residential to commercial.

13. Top 3 2024 Budget Priorities:

- 30 vote Street Maintenance & Repair (Street sweeping, snow clearing and dust control).
- 24 vote Water and Sewer Infrastructure.
- 20 vote Parks, Greenspace & Walking Trail Maintenance & Development.

14. What single change would have the greatest impact to make the RVMB better?

- Safe walk/cycle zone along the lake road – John Street East
- Put good sand on the main beach.
- Reconstruct rain water drainage.
- Remove the old motel.
- Dust control.
- Weed control.
- More public meetings so people can have their say and not bicker about nothing.
- More surveys for engagement.
- More bylaw officer.
- More dust control like on William Street.
- Crackdown on derelict properties.
- More newsletters.
- More communication is needed.



- More communication before and after meetings.
- Establish a viable and attractive village center as a gathering place for events, etc.
- Develop an outdoor concert venue.
- Spiff up the general appearance of major buildings and signs.
- Build further transparent communication opportunities with community, citizens, and governance.
- Better communication and more regular to rate payers.
- Staff needs to be more visible in the village.
- More main beach attention at the start of the season.
- Debt reduction kept on pace.
- Beautify main beach.
- Beautify with plantings and hanging baskets.
- A well mapped and groomed trail system with points of interest and marked rest spots and natural vegetation and habitat information and recorded distances.
- Remove the facebook page where folks moan and create ill feeling.
- Use the black tank to heat water so more hot water showers can be had here at the beach.
- Charge campers to pay down debt and maintain roads and beaches.
- Cultivate better relationships with volunteers.
- Need more regular updates.
- Control spending.
- Assure residents are accountable for their actions.
- Staff needs more visibility and talk to people.
- Return phone messages (heard complaints).
- Council needs to understand the importance of tourism.
- Secure yard fence.
- Trim the trees etc in alleys growing into the power lines.

15. Do you have any other comments for the RVMB Staff & Council?

- More communication from Mayor and Councillors – ideas and priorities would be beneficial to understand future actions.
- Sewer cost should not be tied to water consumption especially in the summer months when a lot of the water is used to water lawns and gardens and does not affect sewer usage.
- Develop an accessible and pedestrian oriented beachfront with multiple destinations.
- Rec Bd should pay to maintain what they put in, ex. Dog park.
- Summer cabins get same services as year-round but pay nowhere near the taxes as year round.
- Regional Park makes its money off of RVMB so they should have to put back their change room, bathroom and shower.
- Pleasant and appealing community to attract more residents.