



**TOWN OF CALMAR SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TO BE HELD Hybrid via GoToMeetings ON July 10, 2025**  
**COMMENCING AT 07:00 PM**  
**GoToMeeting Public Access Code 738-393-413**  
**AGENDA**

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- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Adoption of Agenda**
- 3. Delegations - None**
- 4. Unfinished Business - None**
- 5. Bylaws or Policies - None**
- 6. New Business - None**
- 7. Financial**
  - 7.a 2026 - 2029 Operating Budget - Discussion Only
- 8. Department Reports - None**
- 9. Council and Committee Reports - None**
- 10. Correspondence - None**
- 11. Clarification of Agenda Business - (Open mic)**
- 12. Closed Session**
  - 12.a Development - (Pursuant to Section 25(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act)
  - 12.b Personnel – (Pursuant to Section 24(1)(b)(i) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act).
- 13. Adjournment**

## Town of Calmar

### Request for Decision (RFD)

Meeting:	Special Council Meeting
Meeting Date:	July 10, 2025
Originated By:	CAO Losier
Title:	2026-2029 Operating Budget
Approved By:	CAO Losier
Agenda Item Number:	

#### **BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:**

Each year Council approves an operating budget. Administration typically starts working on the draft budget during summer and through various presentations to Council, the draft budget evolves. In December, Council passes the interim budget and during the following year, once the assessment information is known, Council passes the final budget.

#### **DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES:**

To facilitate the creation of the first draft budget, Administration has prepared a series of assumptions to be presented to Council. These assumptions would set certain directions for Administration to follow as the draft budget takes shape. This year, being an election year, Administration feels that it would be challenging to conduct the conventional process which consists of having budget meetings every month from summer to winter.

This proposed strategy would have for benefit to have some direction to pursue until the new Council is sworn in. It would entail having a first draft produced for the July meeting, then we could have a user fee discussion at the August meeting. The August conversation could include elements identified by Council at the July 10 meeting. Then, Administration would pause the operating budget process until the new Council is ready to pick it up (November 2025). Meanwhile, Administration would work on the capital plan to be fully prepared to bring it to the attention of Council comes November.

The proposed assumptions are as follow:

- Overall expenses will not increase by more than 1.5%. Considering that the Canadian Price Index was 1.8 as of May, Administration feels that a 1.5% increase should be a good target.
- Overall revenues coming from taxation will remain below 60% (including requisition). In the last year, revenues from taxation have typically been around 58%. As the Administration explores the other revenues sources, every effort shall be made to reduce the taxation effort of the residents/owners.
- Town could aim at reducing taxation effort or franchise fees but would not be able to do both. At this point, Administration is leaning towards taxation but require direction from Council.

- The minimum transfer to reserve will be \$500,000. Any additional dollars could be used to balance the budget. This would be done with the understanding that any surplus not budgeted would be added to the reserve at year-end.
- The 2026 budget aims at keeping the same level of services. The draft that will be presented at the July 28 regular meeting will not contain any reduction in service level.
- Revenues associated with penalties will remain high for 2 years because of the current situation with a developer. Should the arrears be paid, these revenues could drop by as much as \$95,000. The proposed budget is assuming that said arrears will not be paid in advance of the agreement signed.
- Sale of lagoon water, we are assuming a small draw every year, but there is no certainty. Which is why we are targeting only \$40,000 in revenues (which represents about 13,000 cubes of water).
- The proposed draft budget is eliminating the recycling revenues and expenses as Calmar is no longer providing the services. The solid waste will remain the same in the first draft budget and will be readjusted once we have the RFP proposals.
- Considering that we are moving forward with the two taskforces for the recreational projects, Administration would like to reduce the operating expenses for the recreational cost share to 20% considering the current anticipated surplus.
- The proposed budget would be filling the Park and Recreation position that was removed in 2021. Unless the Town acquires significant public spaces, Park and Recreation staffing would be adequate for the next 5 years. It is anticipated that we are not going to need any PW staff for the next 5 years either.

**COSTS/SOURCE OF FUNDING (if applicable)**

Pending the feedback receive from Council, the cost on budget could go from minimal to significant. Having said this, it is important to note that this Council will not pass the 2026-2028 budget as this will be the purview of the newly elected Council.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Administration is asking Council to provide direction on the assumptions.