

Department 21 – Winter Control

Overview

Department 21 includes all functions related to the clearing, removal and control of snow and ice from the Township roadways and sidewalks. This budget also provides for most of the costs associated with opening ditches and culverts in the spring throughout the Township to prepare for the spring melt.

The Public Works Department maintains Township roads using its own forces and ensuring that the Minimum Maintenance Standards, as established by Ontario Regulation 239/02 under the Municipal Act and adopted by the Township, are met. These standards establish guidelines for snowplowing, sanding, patrolling and winter sidewalk maintenance. The major objectives for winter operations are:

- To reduce the hazards of icy road conditions to motorists.
- To increase mobility for pedestrians on our sidewalks.
- To facilitate the handling of emergencies by response vehicles.
- To maintain safe passable school bus and winter recreation routes.
- To reduce economic losses to the community and industry.

A contingency reserve is established for winter control to minimize budget impacts should the Township experience higher than normal winter storm events each year.

Revenues

The primary funding source for winter control is through taxation. The levy for winter control comprises approximately 7.5% of the overall net tax levy.

Expenditures

Department 21 shares a portion of the public works overhead from Department 20 to allow for more accurate cost allocations. The budget provides for the estimated costs to accommodate operations for a typical winter season.

2024 was an unusual year for the weather. Although we were under budget on snow plowing operations through the season our sanding and salting was not. With the increase in freeze thaw cycles we have been observing we continue to monitor these new seasonal changes and their impacts on operations and road structure.

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Activity Update - Beyond Dollars and Cents

A Salt Management Plan was adopted in 2021. The plan is intended to set out a framework for ensuring that the Township continuously improves the management of road salt used in its winter maintenance operations. The Plan includes best practices for salt management on all Township roadways and sidewalks.

The Plan demonstrates the Township's commitment to reducing the environmental effects of salt use, consistent with Environment Canada's stated objectives and meets the requirement of the Drinking Water Source Protection Plan which requires a plan for drinking water intake protection zones.

**The Corporation of the Township of Selwyn
Budget Worksheets 2025**

Department 21 - Winter Control

Description	2023 Year to Date Actuals	2023 Approved Budget	2024 Year to Date Actuals	2024 Approved Budget	2025 Proposed Budget
Revenues					
Taxation	689,195	689,195	725,051	725,051	725,051
Transfers In	10,600	10,600	10,600	10,600	10,600
Total Revenues	699,795	699,795	735,651	735,651	735,651
Expenses					
Snow Plowing & Removal	189,050	183,922	151,823	208,960	188,160
Sanding & Salting	284,078	282,187	271,813	291,123	304,634
Snowfence/Culvert & Catch Basin Thaw	8,990	25,257	7,078	23,287	10,682
Sidewalks - Winter Control	20,866	27,474	19,549	25,897	24,200
Transfers Out	196,811	180,955	285,388	186,383	207,975
Total Expenses	699,795	699,795	735,651	735,651	735,651
Balance	0	0	0	0	0