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**Sent:** Thursday, June 13, 2024 5:37 PM

**To:** csc <csc@london.ca>; csc <csc@london.ca>

**Cc:** Trosow, Sam <strosow@london.ca>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] CSC Meeting - Monday June 17th - Added Agenda Submission - Item 2.3 2025 Year Annual MTG Calendar

City Clerks Office Team – Please distribute this E – Mail as a Added Agenda to all the members of the CSC Committee with respect to Item 2.3 – 2025 Annual MTG calendar on the June 17<sup>th</sup> Agenda . I’m just fine @ this E – Mail being part of the public record so no need to reach back to seek approval.

Chair H McAlister , all CSC Committee Members , please consider this taxpayer – customer feedback with respect to the proposed 2025 Council MTG calendar and recommendation going forward for this 2024 year.

### **Fact’s 1<sup>st</sup> CSC Members & Council :**

1. You are on target to deliver your 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Budget increase in your 4 year budget cycle of approximately 7.0 % in 2025 , added tremendous fiscal pressure to all taxpayers and especially seniors @ fixed incomes and all taxpayers @ variable mortgages.
2. In 2024 On top of this tax increase and AFTER THE PUBLIC BUDGET MTG ( **no public input** ) you approved the addition of a further 1.6 % Tax Increase deferred by 1 fiscal year by “ CONSENT “ report from Finance to Allocate the majority of the new Assessment Value Growth with no public input. This addition will be added to the approved starting balance of the 2025 budget before any new adjustments are even considered ( ASS Growth is only new revenue in the 1<sup>st</sup> year – general Tax Payer Revenue stream after that ) . This is only likely to grow in impact for 2025 ( More Homes Programs )
3. In 2024 On top of this , and well after the formal 2024 yr. Budget Cycle again **with out public input** , you approved an other “ CONSENT REPORT “ from Finance to allocate what 3 - 4 % of the Taxes your customers paid in 2023 as surplus to needs and allocated based BY – LAW to pay down debt already budgeted for a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> time ( see ASS Growth above ) and add more \$\$ to Capital Budget Reserves + special interests . NOT A DIME allocated back to credit 2024 tax payer increases as one time carry over !
4. Our Budget Process is completed broken for both Council oversight and Public participation by not aligning # 2 and # 3 reporting with the Public Budget MTG proposed on Oct 28 / 2025 and should be aligned for later this year. There is zero reason the Finance Team can’t commit to aligning these HUGE Financial reporting to be concurrent with the Public Budget input process.

### **Clear Recommendation ;**

>>> Please align these **3 key Financial reporting and events for the late 2024 year for 2025 Budget** and beyond to be concurrent to improve both this Councils huge responsibility on Budget oversight and input as well as the public . Even ST Thomas does this.

I have no idea how any Member of Council can claim to have a leadership role on oversite of City of London finances , feel some what secure in claiming we are a well run City @ good stewards of tax payer funds without this concurrent requirement .

Its truly not hard to visualize a 5 % surplus in the current 2024 year driven by lags to approved Budget OPS spending as we approved that budget in March and the huge challenges of implementing new initiatives and Police Board spending. Shouldn’t we carry these over as a one time spending re-allocations if the plan hasn’t changed or do you want to charge us twice again for the same budget spending just because its late and carries over to 2025 ??? ( Green bins example 2024 – THXS a lot ) .

THXS for your consideration .

Chris Butler