

Have your say on town budget

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million is up from \$14.3 million in 2015. Funding is anticipated to come primarily from development charges (\$15.2 million) and capital reserves (\$15.3 million).

Among the items in the draft capital budget is the library/leisure centre expansion, the construction of Coultyce Park at Musselman's Lake and a number of road/sewer/watermain rehabilitation projects.

The requested 11 new full time employees include an HR consul-

tant/policy advisor; HR co-ordinator; bylaw officer; special events co-ordinator; recreation programmer and fire prevention officer.

The net costs associated with the new hires are approximately \$437,134, according to the draft budget.

A meeting to solicit input from the public takes place Jan. 12, 7 p.m.

The budget and audit committee meeting will take place Jan. 26, 9 a.m. and if needed, Jan. 27, also at 9 a.m.

Grants and donation requests will be dealt with Feb. 16 at a 3 p.m. meeting.

Expanded gym will turn profit: town

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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The expanded leisure centre's new gym is expected to make a profit of anywhere between \$25,000 and \$75,000, according to the Dec. 15 staff report.

The revised fitness space is anticipated to make a net profit of \$110,000 in its full year of operation, according to the report.

The \$12,825,000 million project, will actually cost \$14,410,000 when the 10 per cent contingency and net HST are factored in.

Development charges will pay

for just over half of the project — \$8,710,000, according to the report. VAA/VCA contributions will cover another \$3,080,300, while gas taxes are expected to provide another \$1,290,000. Just over \$1.3 million — \$1,330,000 — will have to be borrowed.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library board, during the Dec. 1 council meeting, requested an additional \$1,030,000 million in renovations be done to the current library at the same time as the expansion.

The library does not have

enough money in its reserve fund, so these costs may need to be debentured, according to the staff report. The debt would be repaid via property taxes.


Town staff is recommending construction begin as soon as possible in the spring, which would enable the additions to be closed-in in the fall/winter of 2016 in order to keep the project completion date in early to mid-2017, according to the report.

Some of the current facility may close "to make the (work) faster and more cost effective."

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