

**TOWN OF STRATFORD  
PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET  
FISCAL YEAR 2009**

**01 - GENERAL FUND  
304 - TAX ASSESSMENT**

ORG	OBJ	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2005 ACTUAL	FY 2006 ACTUAL	FY 2007 ACTUAL	FY 2008 BUDGET	FY 2009 MAYOR PROPOSED	PERCENT CHANGE
<b>TAX ASSESSMENT</b>								
01304	6003	Payroll - Regular	\$ 298,495	\$ 322,604	\$ 302,408	\$ 348,787	\$ 377,228	8.15%
01304	6004	Payroll - Part Time	\$ 11,339	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,100	\$ 7,100	0.00%
01304	6020	Payroll - Overtime	\$ 9,611	\$ 2,299	\$ 16,073	\$ 4,500	\$ 3,600	-20.00%
01304	6061	Education	\$ 2,925	\$ 2,785	\$ 5,268	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,000	66.67%
01304	6102	Printing & Stationery	\$ 3,998	\$ 5,717	\$ 5,902	\$ 5,500	\$ 6,000	9.09%
01304	6157	Gas & Oil	\$ 880	\$ 927	\$ 713	\$ 900	\$ 1,035	15.00%
01304	6302	Equipment Service	\$ 518	\$ 371	\$ 329	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0.00%
01304	6309	Auto Maintenance	\$ 415	\$ 100	\$ 585	\$ 300	\$ 1,000	233.33%
01304	6382	Audit Fees	\$ 100,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 19,634	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	0.00%
01304	6499	Contractual Services	\$ -	\$ 9,692	\$ 43,083	\$ 42,000	\$ 30,000	-28.57%
			<b>\$ 428,181</b>	<b>\$ 394,495</b>	<b>\$ 393,996</b>	<b>\$ 433,087</b>	<b>\$ 451,963</b>	<b>4.36%</b>



**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Tax Assessor's Office is responsible for the discovery, listing, valuation and equalization of all properties in the Town of Stratford. This office is also responsible for the maintenance of assessment records and the annual calculation of the taxable Grand List.

Personnel	FY 05 Approved	FY 06 Approved	FY 07 Approved	FY 08 Approved	FY 09 Mayor Proposed
Positions	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0

**BASIC BUDGET LINE ITEM JUSTIFICATION**

Department	Finance Tax Assessment	2009 Proposed Budget
<b>304-6003</b>	<b>Payroll - Regular</b>	<b>\$ 377,228</b>

The Tax Assessor's Office is proposing hiring two new property field assessors [\$62,500] to restructure the roles and responsibilities to address the field inspection needs of the department. There will be the same number of Council approved positions in the Tax Assessor's Office as in FY 08.

<b>304-6020</b>	<b>Payroll - Overtime</b>	<b>\$ 3,600</b>
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Provides for compensation for anticipated overtime in connection with records maintenance and the facilitation of the elderly exemption programs.

<b>304-6061</b>	<b>Education</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
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Professional association memberships and educational courses for the Assessor and related staff professional development.

<b>304-6102</b>	<b>Printing and Stationery</b>	<b>\$ 6,000</b>
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Provides funds for office supplies, printing and binding of the Grand List.



**304-6382 Personal Property Audit \$ 20,000**

This account provides funding for the professional audit of businesses for the purpose of insuring accurate personal property declarations. Funding will provide for forty (40) audits.

**304-6499 Contractual Services \$ 30,000**

This account provides funding for software maintenance for Vision Appraisal and Quality Data.

**SIGNIFICANT CHANGES AND COMMENTARY**

In FY 2009, the Town of Stratford must conduct a physical revaluation of all residential and commercial property and personal property. In addition, with the leasing of new commercial square footage, opening of new businesses in Town and rise in residential and commercial property transfers, it remains an important objective for the Tax Assessor office to reorganize to meet its primary goal of recording all real and personal property declarations on the taxable Grand List each year. This reorganization expands our field presence by hiring two property appraisers to conduct field inspections.

