

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 24, 2021



Wolfville Council Approves 2021/22 Budget and Operations Plan

Wolfville, NS – At the March 23, 2021, Town Council Meeting Wolfville's Council approved an operating budget totalling \$11.2 million for the fiscal year 2021/22, with a capital investment plan of \$4.6 million.

Mayor Wendy Donovan commented:

“The Town of Wolfville Council is pleased to approve the 2021-22 operating and capital budget. This budget holds the residential and commercial tax rates steady, addresses initiatives that will ensure we remain a vibrant, attractive place to live, work and play, and recognizes the need to be sensitive to the finances of our residents and businesses. Council was clear in its intent to hold the tax rate in a year that will continue to bring stresses for many taxpayers. Under Council’s guidance staff have done a masterful job of managing the process to bring us to the point which I believe shows restraint while setting the groundwork for our near future.”

Mike MacLean, Director of Finance with the Town commented:

“This year’s budget successfully achieves Council’s direction to ensure tax increases stay within the cost of living adjustment. Senior Management, through the Office of the CAO, has clear direction from Council on key initiatives for the upcoming year while ensuring financial flexibility to address emerging issues and evolving impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

The 2021/22 budget process benefits from the October 2020 municipal elections and the feedback that candidates, now councillors, heard from the public while on the campaign trail. The Town’s Operating budget will support Council’s strategic priorities for the community. In 2021/22 the Town will:

- Make no changes to the Commercial or Residential tax rates;
- Increase the Low Income Tax Exemption to \$750, for those households not exceeding an income threshold of \$30,000;
- Provide funding at \$100,000 by way of an area rate levy for the Wolfville Business Development Corporation (WBDC);
- Increase the sewer rate by 17% to cover operational costs;
- Carry out major Street Infrastructure projects including Highland Avenue over the next 2 years
- Implement upgrades to Crosswalks in Town;
- Create Pickleball Courts at the Rec Centre for all to use;
- Add decorative lights on Willow and Gaspereau;
- Build the new Visitor Information Centre to promote tourism in Wolfville.

The complete 2021/22 Budget and Operations Plan is available on the Town of Wolfville's website at www.wolfville.ca.

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