

# Budget In Brief 2022 Township of North Huron

# Message from the Reeve

The 2022 Budget reflects our commitment to the programs and services our community relies on. It has been developed through hard work from our staff team and hours of diligent review by members of Council. The budget balances our need to fund infrastructure projects, big and small, while supporting the services that make North Huron such a great place to live, both now and into the future. Council now needs input from an engaged community so please join us on February 7<sup>th</sup> for the Budget Public Meeting to have your say.

Again, this new year has begun with further unknowns and increased restrictions as COVID-19 cases are spiking. Do your part and take advantage of local vaccination clinics to curb the spread of this deadly virus. I know it has been difficult and stressful for you and your families over the last few years and I want to thank everyone for your dedication to our community. Our priority is to keep staff and residents safe as we continue to adapt to the ever-changing landscape of the Covid-19 pandemic. The kindness, caring and resiliency shown in our community over the past two years will continue to sustain us as we chart a new path forward in these difficult times. — Reeve Bernie Bailey

# 2022 Capital Highlights

Total capital expenses included in the Draft Budget - \$12,505,183.

# Significant projects proposed in the 2022 Capital Budget include:

# Development Servicing

The project will include installation of water and sanitary trunks from Wingham to the Hutton Heights area including a new sewage pumping station along with road, storm, water and sewer improvements on Crawford and Lloyd streets to fully service the development lands. This \$6 million project will begin in Summer 2022 with the long term expectation of allowing 200+/- new residential units to be constructed. Development charges are expected to fund more than 80% of the project with the remaining being funded from existing residential units and the tax levy.

#### Standpipe Replacement

The existing standpipe in Wingham has reached the end of its useful life and will be replaced with a new standpipe that will support growth over the next 50-years. The design capacity also includes

storage capacity for Hutton Heights. The project is expected to cost \$5M and the Township received a grant in the amount of \$2,091,400.93. Development Charges, existing water reserve funds and debt will be used to fund the remainder of the costs.

#### Town Hall Accessibility

The project includes the construction of a mobility ramp and the reconstruction of the two exterior doors and internal door leading to staff areas of the facility to allow proper accessibility to those with mobility challenges. This \$260,000 project is funded from a \$100,000 Enabling Accessibility grant, \$114,350 in Provincial Modernization funding with the remaining from the tax levy.

#### Wastewater Dechlorination

The Blyth Wastewater Treatment Plant will receive an upgrade to assist with the dechlorination of wastewater prior to completion of the treatment process and release to the lagoons. This \$369,000 project is being funded through sewer user fees.

#### North Huron Wescast Community Complex Rehabilitation

North Huron received \$514,000 in funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to complete extensive rehabilitation to the facility and equipment components including the lower roof replacement, pool Dectron replacement, upgrades to accessibility, washroom renovations, sound system upgrades, signage and humidity control upgrades. Total project budget is \$814,700 funded through the grant, taxation, reserve funds and a Knights of Columbus contribution.

North Huron would like to thank all granting agencies and funding partners for their support toward these capital projects.

#### 2022 Budget Expenditures Breakdown

Tax Supported Operating \$11,651,515 68% Tax Supported Capital \$2,654,409 16% Water Rate Operating \$852,205 5% Water Rate Capital \$631,230 4% Wastewater Rate Operating \$613,316 4% Wastewater Rate Capital \$583,804 3%

6.28% This represents the current increase in the Tax Supported budget contained in the final 2022 draft budget as approved by Council on January 13, 2022.

#### Property Taxes \$6,759,279

This is the largest funding source for the Township of North Huron and funds both operating and capital expenditures. The funding requirements of the Township are determined through the budget process and the tax rate is set on these requirements. The tax rate is determined by dividing the funding requirement by the property assessment base. The assessment base for 2022 is projected to increase by approximately 0.8%. The 2022 tax supported budget requires an additional \$399,256 in funding to cover increased expenses.

#### 2022 TAX LEVY DISTRIBUTION

26.5% Operations
24.8% Recreation & Culture
17.7% Policing
12.2% General Government
10.0% Capital Funding
6.8% Protective Services
2.0% Planning & Development

Education 7% County 22% Township 71%

The Township of North Huron is responsible for collecting taxes on behalf of Huron County (upper tier municipal government) and the Boards of Education - English and French Public and Separate. These amounts are not included in the Township's tax revenues shown in this document, but are included on the property tax bills sent to North Huron property owners.

If you have questions please call 519-357-3550