

Municipality of the Township of Low Budget 2022 Highlights

After a year with no increase to the tax rate, Municipal Council passed a balanced budget for 2022 that will create the conditions for employees to serve the citizens by improving infrastructure, ensuring public safety, protecting the environment, and supporting access to recreation and culture as we emerge from the isolation caused by Covid-19.

Overall, the \$3,022,029 budget is an increase of 8% over 2021, with a 2.7% increase in tax from citizens. A total of \$80,608 will be reinvested from the surplus.

- All employees will receive a 2% increase in salary in 2022.
- A reorganization in the administration will increase capacity in accounting and financial management.
- The cost of insurance for infrastructure, vehicles and cyber-insurance has increased by 5%.
- Low's contribution to Sureté du Québec has increased by 3.3%.
- Investment in fire protection salaries, supplies, equipment including telecommunications, and repairs represents an increased investment of \$38,166 in the public security budget.
- Transportation costs have increased by \$155,116 for plowing, grading, maintenance and repair, road signs, radios, salary, benefits, and fuel increases. Hiring a person dedicated to driving the grader will liberate other employees for other tasks.
- With the library and community activities restarting after a covid-related shutdown, the budget for Recreation and Culture has increased by \$10,558 since last year. Work on an intergenerational park will begin with a survey on user needs.

There are some savings in the forecast:

- The loan for earlier work on the Fieldville Road is paid off, resulting in a reduction of \$36,000 in financing charges.
- The Municipality contributes a share of the MRCVG's expenses. In 2022, Low will contribute \$235,426, a decrease of 8.23% from last year.
- Collection of over \$350,000 in overdue property and welcome taxes will be a priority.
- Revenues include \$38,641, a refund for the garbage truck at the end of former garbage contract.

Separate from the annual budget process, we will also receive funding in 2022 from various provincial sources for infrastructure projects as part of the three-year plan:

- \$469,326 of TECQ funding will be invested in roadwork on Burrough, Cahill, Fieldville, Macdonald, and Principal Roads.
- The TECQ is also providing funding for a chlorinator system for the aqueduct in Fieldville.
- PAVL is providing \$59,339 for work on Lake Bernard Road.
- PRABAM is supporting work on municipal infrastructure with \$96,859.

To view the complete 2022 budget for the Municipality of the Township of Low go to www.lowquebec.ca