

## Township of Whitewater Region

### Mayoral Decision MDE-2025-003

#### **To provide direction for the preparation of the 2026 Budget**

Under the Authority: Part VI.1 (Special Powers and Duties of Head of Council) of the Municipal Act, 2001, Section 284.6 (Organizational Structure).

The Mayor has decided as follows:

1. Direction to the CAO to prepare:

A summary of the draft 2026 Budget for Council and public consultation, considering:

- a 5-year Budget A 5-year Budget forecast addressing inflation, cost of living adjustments, maintaining levels of service, Asset Management Plan forecasted increases of 4.2% per year, OCIF/OMPF/CCBF allocations, OPP/County of Renfrew/Ministry of Education forecasted increases, and estimated annual assessment growth.
- a 5-year Capital Funding projection (excluding water and wastewater).
- a 5-year rate-supported Water and Wastewater Operating and Capital Budget, considering the 2025 10-year Water and Wastewater Rate Study.
- that assessment growth taxation revenues generated from new properties are included in the 2026 operating budget as growth.
- user fees and charges increasing in alignment with inflation, with subsidies supporting ratepayers only, and a contribution to capital reinvestment needs.
- the 2026 Budget considering feedback from the community, Council members, and direction from the Mayor, prior to the end of 2025.

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- that proposed changes to the budget align with the overall objective of inflation plus capital infrastructure reinvestment, with a net tax requirement of no more than 7%, and not to exceed 3.4% of median household income (inclusive of County of Renfrew levy, OPP levy, and Ministry of Education levy).

2. This Mayoral Decision comes into effect on September 16, 2025

Neil Nicholson, Mayor  
Dated September 16, 2025

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