

Northcott: COW 0134/2025

THAT this presentation be received.

CARRIED

The Director of Finance outlined the schedule for the 2026 budget meetings.

Topics covered included: wages and benefits; staffing changes and full-time equivalents (FTE's); water utility fund operations; sewer utility fund operations; and budget considerations and assumptions.

Council debated the adequacy and structure of their remuneration, considering options such as increasing the base amount, adjusting the ratio between mayor and councillor pay and allowing for cash in lieu of benefits.

The Director of Finance will prepare and present a range of options for council remuneration increases, including scenarios for percentage-based increases, flattening the disparity between mayor and councillor pay, and the financial impact for each option.

The water and sewer utility budgets, anticipated operating deficits and projected required rate increases were presented.

The water utility rate may require a 5% increase due to required reservoir cleaning and other repairs and maintenance.

The sewer utility budget faces a significant operating deficit that is projected to result in a 15% increase in user fees. This deficit is driven by increased staff time at the treatment plant, higher insurance rates and the start of long-term debt repayment.

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THAT public input be permitted.

CARRIED

A member of the public commented on council remuneration.

Adjournment

Fowler: COW 0136/2025

THAT the meeting adjourn at 2:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct this
2nd day of December, 2025



Corporate Officer