West Hants
something inspiring awaits

2026-2027 BUDGET OVERVIEW

Council approved the 2026-2027 budget on April 14, 2026, the Municipality continues to experience sustained growth, development, and improved regional connectivity, supported by strategic investments made over the past six years. The proposed 2026–27 Operating Budget reflects a forward-looking approach that prioritizes service improvement, financial resilience, and long-term sustainability amid challenging economic conditions.

The detailed budgets can be accessed at https://www.westhants.ca/financial-services.html

RATE SUMMARY

Commercial	**2025-2026**	**2026-2027**
General Rate	0.98	0.98
Communities	Combined Area Rates*	
West Hants Rate	1.78	1.78
Hantsport Rate	3.75	3.70
Windsor Rate	3.85	3.80

Residential	**2025-2026**	**2026-2027**
General Rate	0.7831	0.8361
Communities	Combined Area Rates*	
West Hants Rate	1.0123	1.0123
Hantsport Rate	1.3537	1.2637
Windsor Rate	1.6464	1.5564

*Combined area rates means all rates applicable to that community.

Tax bills are due September 1, 2026

TAXES

The tax rate structure is set up with a general rate and three area rates from the former municipal boundaries of the Town of Windsor, Municipality of West Hants, and the Town of Hantsport. Over the last five years Council has been moving items gradually from the area rates to the general rate. This year with the new regional waste collection contract, waste collection is being proposed under the general rate.

The approved budget for 2026-2027 will have maintained the residential tax rate for West Hants, while reducing the Hantsport and Windsor rates by nine-cents. With sustained tax rates for commercially assessed properties in the West Hants boundary. Reducing the Windsor and Hantsport commercial tax rate by five cents.

When West Hants Rate is used as the baseline for comparison, the average residential tax burden is approximately 25 percent higher in Hantsport and 54 percent higher in Windsor.

The 2026-2027 operating budget totals $39.9 Million. Provincial services payments make up $7.5 million of the Municipal expenses, representing 38.8% of general tax rates. The remaining tax dollars are used to maintain municipal service levels and make up 69.9% of the Municipality’s revenue sources.

2026-2027 OPERATING BUDGET AT A GLANCE

REVENUE

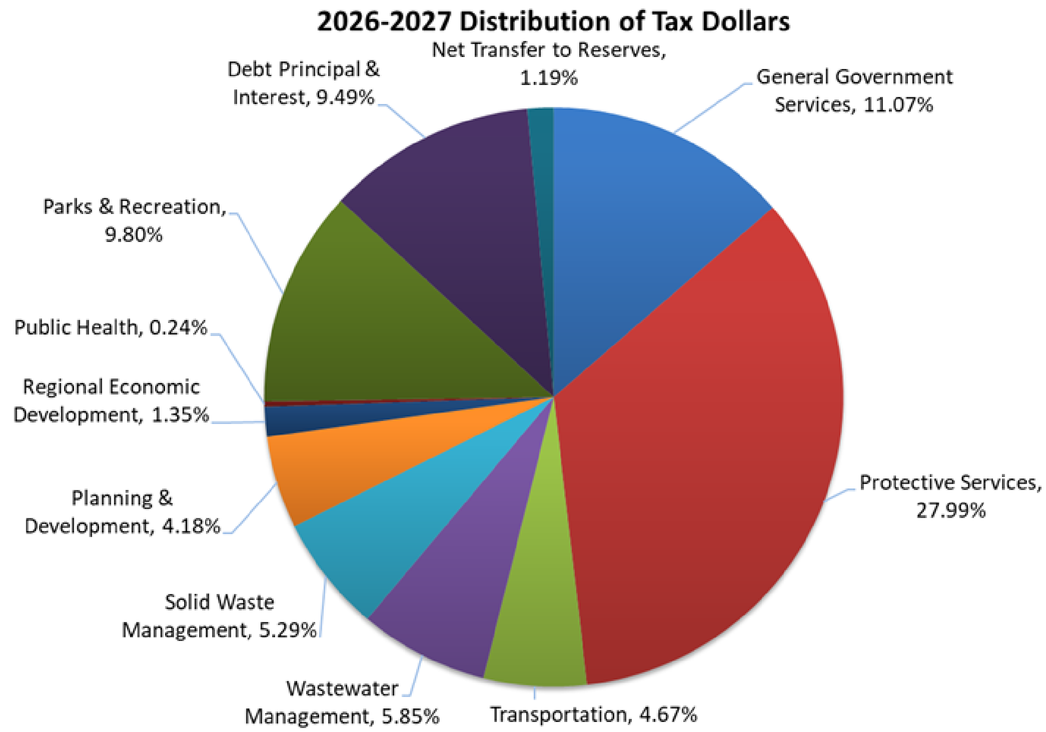
Assessable Property Taxes	$ 33,674,008
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	$ 240,577
Services to Other Governments	$ 1,955,246
Sales of Service	$ 978,691
Other Revenue from Own Sources	$ 1,091,096
Unconditional Transfers	$ 1,623,314
Conditional Transfers	$ 400,494
TOTAL	**$ 39,963,425**

EXPENDITURES

General Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services	
General Government Services	$ 4,017,013.46
Protective Services	$ 4,723,990.74
Roads & Streets	$ 1,865,321.94
Wastewater Management	$ 2,337,763.69
Solid Waste Management	$ 2,115,786.81
Planning & Development	$ 1,671,298.92
Regional Economic Development	$ 431,453.90
Parks & Recreation	$ 3,743,279.10
Debt Principal & Interest	$ 2,665,256.41
Net Transfer to Reserves	$ 258,897.75
West Hants Area Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services	
General Government Services	$ 166,151.12
Protective Services	$ 4,523,530.73
Roads, Streets, & Sidewalks	$ -
Wastewater Management	$ -
Solid Waste Management	$ -
Debt Principal & Interest	$ 687,827.46
Net Transfer to Reserves	-$ 1,332,586.55

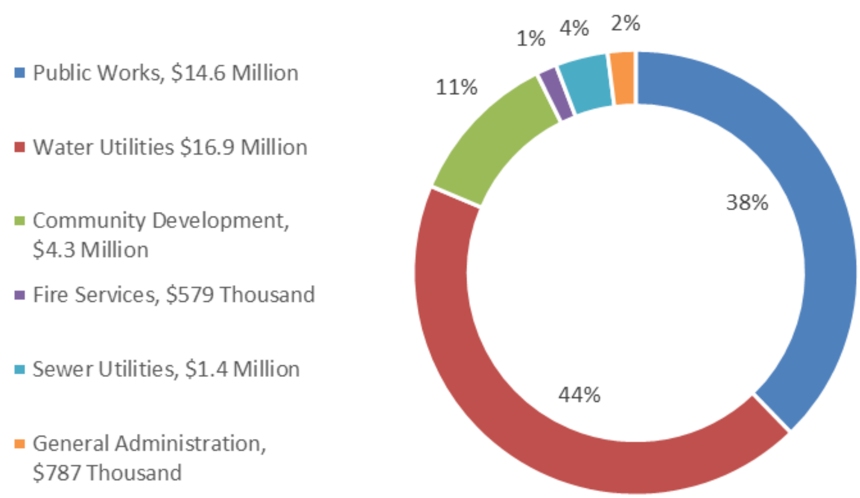
EXPENDITURES Cont.

Hantsport Area Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services	
Protective Services	$ -
Wastewater Management	$ -
Cemetery	$ 35,900.38
Regional Economic Development	$ 3,588.00
HMCC	$ 172,589.03
Debt Principal & Interest	$ -
Net Transfer to Reserves	$ 348,885.00
Windsor Area Rate Expenditures for Municipal Services	
General Government Services	$ 242,686.80
Protective Services	$ 1,938,656.03
Roads, Streets, & Sidewalks	$ -
Wastewater Management	$ -
Solid Waste Management	$ -
Cemetery	$ 58,912.75
Regional Economic Development	$ 104,700.74
Debt Principal & Interest	$ 437,555.18
Net Transfer to Reserves	$ 1,198,550.29
Expenditures Mandated by the Province	
Regional Library Board	$ 201,600.00
Provincial Roads	$ 221,000.00
Prosecuting Attorney	$ 25,000.00
Regional Housing Authority	$ -
Assessment Services	$ 382,869.00
Mandatory Education Contribution	$ 6,715,945.94
Total Expenditures	**$ 39,963,425**



CAPITAL INVESTMENT

There are a number of capital projects identified across the Municipality for 2026-2027 totaling a projected $38.7 million. These are funded through Canada Community Building Fund, Reserves, General Operations, Long-Term Debt, and Provincial/Federal Funding.



Overall, the 2026–27 budget positions the Municipality to respond effectively to immediate financial pressures while supporting sustainable growth and long-term community well-being.