



Interim 2022 Municipal Operating Budget Approved by Wetaskiwin City Council

Thursday, December 16, 2021 (Wetaskiwin, Alberta) - Wetaskiwin City Council approved an interim 2022 municipal operating budget of \$11.2 million at their regular December 13, 2021 meeting to allow for uninterrupted operations while Council reviews and deliberates the 2022 municipal budget in February 2022.

The decision to delay the deliberation and approval of the 2022 municipal budget was made to give current members of Council time to complete their orientation and finalize their strategic priorities – which directs the investment of funds through the annual budget process.

“Budget is driven by Council’s strategic plan, and we felt it was important to make sure we developed a strong plan before we went through the budget consultation and deliberation process,” stated Mayor Tyler Gandam. “It is also very important that we get input from the community – residents and business owners – while we work through the 2022 budget.”

The 2022 municipal budget schedule – including public consultation dates – is as follows:

| Date | Time | Description |
|----------------------|-------------------|---|
| Jan. 17 to 31, 2022 | 24/7 | Virtual budgeting tool/survey allows the public to review budget areas and provide feedback. |
| Jan. 26, 2022 | 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. | In-person budget open house at the Best Western Wayside Inn (downstairs meeting room). <i>*REP in effect. Provide proof of vaccination or negative test.</i> |
| Jan. 28, 2022 | 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. | In-person budget open house at the Wetaskiwin Seniors Centre. <i>*REP in effect. Provide proof of vaccination or negative test.</i> |
| Feb. 8, 9 & 10, 2022 | TBD | Budget presentations and Council deliberations. |
| Feb. 28, 2022 | 1:00 pm start | Anticipated approval of the 2022 municipal budget. |

Members of the public can choose to learn more about the budget and share their feedback in an online environment or in-person, depending on individual comfort levels. For the in-person budget consultations, attendees must either present proof of vaccination, or a negative rapid test.

The 2022 municipal budget documents will be published online at wetaskiwin.ca/budget as soon as they are available for public viewing. The link to the virtual budget tool – available from January 17 to 31 – will also be found there. Keep checking back for schedule updates.





Quick facts:

- Based on section 242(1) of the Municipal Government Act (MGA), each municipal Council must adopt an operating budget for each calendar year.
- Where there is no ability to approve an annual Operating Budget, prior to the start of a calendar year, there is an option under section 242(2) of the MGA, which allows an interim operating budget to be approved by the City Council, for a portion of the calendar year.
- Ultimately, based on section 242(3), an interim operating budget for part of a calendar year ceases to have any effect when the operating budget for that calendar year is adopted.
- Capital projects that have been previously funded, are able to continue without interruption, as the funds have already been pre-approved, and are not tied to a specific fiscal period.

About the City of Wetaskiwin

Wetaskiwin is a secure, connected, and inclusive community, home to a diverse population of nearly 13,000 people. Located only 30 minutes south of the Edmonton International Airport, the City of Wetaskiwin provides a high quality of life through ample recreation opportunities, diverse cultural activities, and a modernized, business-friendly downtown.

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