



Protecting the Environment

Water, Wastewater & Environmental Protection Projects

- The Municipality has replaced 292 straight pipes in the Wastewater Management District, with a further 67 to be removed this year. Our goal is to make the lower LaHave River straight pipe free by 2023.
- \$1.6 million for upgrades and replacement work at the Cookville Wastewater Treatment Plant and \$135,100 for improvements require at the New Germany Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Flood Mitigation and Planning

- MODL2040, our municipal-wide land-use planning project, is underway including a \$170,000 municipal floodline mapping project.

Climate Change Emergency

- We are investing \$575,000 into Climate Change projects, including \$400,000 for a 100KW solar array for the municipal services building to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, \$100,000 for the Petite Riviere Watershed Flood Mitigation project, \$25,000 for an electric vehicle charger strategy, and \$7,000 for a tree planting strategy.
- MODL has replaced two aging gasoline vehicles from its municipal fleet with electric vehicles. MODL expects to save approximately \$4,200 annually on fuel costs by switching two vehicles from gas to electric. The Municipality expects to slowly replace gas powered municipal vehicles with electric vehicles over the next few years. These vehicles are predominately used by staff for park and trail maintenance, as well as fire and building inspections.
- MODL is participating in No Mow May at select facilities. Learn more at engage.modl.ca/NoMowMay



Making Life Affordable

Maintain Tax Rate

- Residential and commercial tax rates remain constant in this budget. The residential tax rate has not increased in 13 years, while the commercial rate has remained constant for 10 years.

Debt Free in 2021

- The Municipality became debt-free in 2021. Our Five-Year Financial Strategy includes maintaining the Municipality's debt-free status. We are only the second municipality in the province to be debt-free.

Property Tax Rebate for Low Income Households

- We have expanded the Property Tax Rebate program. The new policy permits a rebate of up to \$530 for those households with incomes of less than \$38,000. The number of categories has also been reduced from five to three, ensuring the majority of low-income homeowners now qualify for the highest rebate category. An application must be completed to qualify for the rebate. Please call (902) 541-1348 or visit **modl.ca** to obtain the application. The application deadline is August 1, 2022.

Removing financial barriers for children and youth

- Continue to contribute to Positive Recreation Opportunities for Kids (PRO Kids). This program strives to remove financial barriers to ensure every child and youth has an opportunity to participate in sport, recreation, and cultural activities in the Municipality.

Clean Energy Financing Program

- The Municipality will invest \$200,000 and expand the Clean Energy Financing Program, also known as PACE, that offers financing for energy efficiency and cleaner energy retrofits. The program is designed to ensure residents save as much or more in energy and heating expenses than the cost of a low interest rate retrofit loan, which can be paid back over a 15-year period. For more information visit www.CleanEnergyFinancing.ca.



Investing in our Community

Anti-Racism and Inclusion

- This budget includes \$30,000 for anti-racism and inclusion work in the Municipality.

Open Space Strategic Plan

- Council continues to aggressively pursue expansions to the network of public parks and trails. The proposed 2022/23 budget of \$1.65 million for Trail Development and Parks & Open Spaces includes \$169,000 for the first phase in the Osprey Village Active Transportation Connection, \$685,400 for trail and park improvements, \$500,000 for the first phase of an Active Living Park in Osprey Village including a pickleball court and \$100,000 for River Ridge Common.

Fire Services Recruitment and Retention

- Council has included \$45,000 in funding for recruitment and retention initiatives.

Accessibility

- \$500,000 has been earmarked for accessible upgrades to buildings, facilities, trails, park washrooms, and more.

Community Grants

- The Municipality offers various grants to individuals, and non-profit and charitable organizations. This includes \$146,000 in annual operating & recreation capital grants, \$59,900 to supporting community-led trail organizations, \$55,000 to community groups maintaining public spaces, \$50,000 to the Town of Lunenburg Arena, and \$10,000 to the Mahone Bay Centre.



Building the Local Economy

Internet

- Council is pursuing multiple avenues for expanding internet service. Over the next two years, we will have over 99% of households connected to reliable, high-speed internet. This year will see \$700,000 invested by the Municipality.

Rural Roads

- A total of \$1.4M will be spent on the maintenance, operation, and improvement of roads in our Municipality.
- The proposed 2022/23 budget includes \$500,000 in funding for paving of cost-shared provincial roads, should provincial approval be granted and \$426,000 for municipally owned road maintenance, and \$462,000 contribution to the province to maintain Municipal J Class Roads.

Osprey Village

- The budget includes \$150,000 for design work and \$3.7 million in 2023/24 for the construction of a water storage tank to enhance the water pressure in the Town of Bridgewater-owned Public Service Commission (PSC) water utility. This infrastructure addresses water pressure issues as well as opening up adjacent lands for serviced development, including expansion of Osprey Village.

Economic Development

- The Municipality is investing \$225,000 this year in the promotion and awareness of the Municipality's tourism sector through the implementation of a comprehensive wayfinding strategy.
- \$150,000 is being committed to complete a feasibility study to identify the possible construction of a community hub, and how such facility will be funded and operated long term.