

## STRONG MAYOR BUDGET

On May 1, 2025, Ontario Regulation 580/22 was amended extending strong mayor powers to several municipalities, including the Township of Woolwich. These powers include a duty for the Mayor to propose a budget before February 1 each year.

On September 23, 2025, Mayor Shantz directed the Township's Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Financial Services/Treasurer to assist her in developing the Mayor's budget based on public and Council's feedback. This direction is set out in Mayoral Instrument 2025-005 and may be viewed on the [Mayor's](#) page on the Township website. The details are shown below:

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*I, Sandy Shantz, Mayor of the Township of Woolwich, direct the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Financial Services/Treasurer to:*

- 1. Present updated annual grant applications and funding requests from local boards and committees to Council on October 7, 2025.*
- 2. Prepare a preliminary staff draft of the operating and capital budgets and review fees and charges on November 4, 2025, for initial public and Council input, with the following priorities:*

*a. Infrastructure maintenance and renewal, with an emphasis on roads;*

*b. Financial sustainability, including building reserves, limiting the use of debt, preparing for future growth and reviewing alternate sources of revenue; and*

*c. Community building, including affordable housing and recreation opportunities.*

*3. Support me in developing the Mayors Budget to be proposed on January 6, 2026, based public and Council feedback.*

*4. Convene budget meetings in January for Council to consider the Mayor's Budget and allow for any Council amendments within the required 30-day timeframe when the Woolwich budget will be deemed adopted (unless shortened by Council).*

*This Mayoral Direction shall come into effect on September 23, 2025.*