



Town of Rocky Mountain House

2019 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



On Jan. 22, the Town of Rocky Mountain House Town Council approved its 2019 operating budget in the amount of \$23,841,300.

Council is proud to introduce the 2019 budget with no increase in municipal taxes for residents, businesses or industry.

“Any increase in cost to our residents and businesses would put additional pressure in a time of economic uncertainty,” said Mayor Tammy Burke. “We challenged ourselves and Town staff to find the most efficient and responsible way to maintain services and infrastructure while still moving our community forward.”

Budget 2019 reflects increased operational spending in Economic Development with decreased operational spending in Protective Services, Transportation and Recreation, all while advancing or achieving the Town’s strategic goals.

“Rocky Mountain House Town Council and town staff scrutinized our budget line-by-line to find nearly \$600,000 in savings this year,” said Burke. “We are also planning for the future, with just over \$2 million being set aside for specified and general reserves. This means less operational burden on our taxpayers now, and in the years to come.”

The 2019 budget will place \$2,081,000 into reserves. This figure includes \$750,000 from Clearwater County as per the Revenue Sharing Agreement, \$698,400 direct transfer to specific reserves and \$632,600 into water and sewer reserves to offset depreciation.

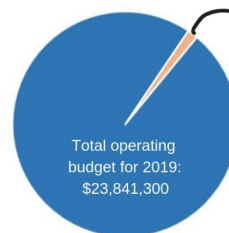
Council’s new Financial Framework Committee is advancing long-term financial planning and finance policies for the Town to ensure these best budgeting practices continue.

“We want to be leading the province in municipal finance planning, to ensure our ratepayers are getting good value, great service and satisfaction in knowing our public finances are well taken care of,” added Burke.

The \$6,321,600 capital budget identifies attainable funding sources for projects that will improve quality of life and quality of Town services:

- ⇒ Development of the spray park (subject to Clearwater County cost-sharing approval).
- ⇒ Covered bleachers and improvements at the North Saskatchewan River Park (subject to grant approval and Clearwater County cost-sharing approval).
- ⇒ Seats for the Quick Lane Arena (funded by sponsorship dollars).
- ⇒ Electrical and lighting for Curtis Field (subject to Clearwater County cost-sharing approval).
- ⇒ Street sweeper and fleet replacement (funded by reserves).
- ⇒ Lochearn and Swainger playground equipment replacement (funded by reserves).
- ⇒ Starting construction of 54 Street extension (private funds and debenture).
- ⇒ Overlaying on 59 Ave., 54 Street and 56 street (funded by reserves).
- ⇒ A modernized land-use bylaw will be developed.

How much do we spend on governance (ie: Council)?



1.4 % on governance.

(That's \$332,075 on councillor honoraria, training, travel and subsistence for seven elected officials carrying out official duties.)

WATER TREATMENT PLANT RESUMES NORMAL OPERATIONS

Extremely cold temperatures in early February affected the Town of Rocky Mountain House Water Treatment Plant and prompted the Town to ask residents to conserve water.

On Feb. 4, frazil ice—slush-like ice that forms in the water column instead of floating on top of the river—built up in the



plant's lower lift pump house and blocked intake lines from the river. This reduced the plant's overall operating capacity.

With the help of two steam units and operators working around the clock, the plant resumed normal operations on Friday, Feb. 8.

Thank you to all residents and businesses for your cooperation!

How much does the Town spend on...?

Answers to common budget questions.

TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET
\$23,841,300



Policing
\$2,514,100



Fire Services
\$631,200



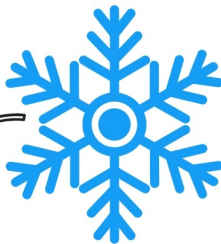
Streets and sidewalks
\$2,078,500



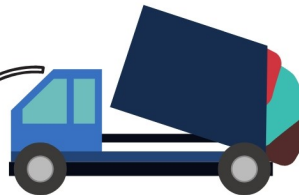
Capital projects
\$6,321,600



Snow and ice control
\$195,200



Solid Waste
\$1,574,600



Recreation and culture
\$4,674,100



TAXES
\$8,937,800
to be collected
in 2019



STAFFING
27 % of total
operating
budget



To view the complete operating and capital budgets for 2019, please visit www.rockymtnhouse.com.

Council meetings are open to the public.

Upcoming meetings:

- Feb. 19 at 1 p.m.
- March 5 at 1 p.m.
- March 12 at 7 p.m.
- March 19 at 1 p.m.

Regular meetings are now being livestreamed.

Follow the link at www.rockymtnhouse.com to watch live, or check online for highlights posted after each meeting.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The Town Office will be closed on Monday, Feb. 18 for Family Day.