General Operating Budget = \$21 Million

Capital Funds in General Operating Budget Additional Capital Funds for 2026 Outside General

Police Realignment Capital = \$ 471,520

Interest Revenue = \$ 64,600

General Capital Budget = \$ 745,694 Canada Community Building Fund = \$ 800,000 Capital Renewal Funding = \$ 346,911

Interest Revenue = \$ 48,000

Estimated Total Capital Budget = \$2.5 Million

Municipal Tax Rates (per \$100 of assessment)

Ward 4 \$1.50 (no change from 2025) Wards 1,2,3,5 \$0.74 (increase of 2 cents) **Commercial Hold 1.7x multiplier**

Additional \$0.4115 per \$100 of assessment is added to outside Wards by the Province for road maintenance and repairs for a combined tax rate of \$1.15

How is the budget funded?



2026 budget

2026 Tax Assessment Base **\$ 1.28 Billion**

2.5% increase over 2025 = **\$ 30.5 million** increase

The province has issued a one-year freeze on property tax assessments for the 2026 taxation year, meaning the value for taxation will remain at its 2025 level for most properties.

The freeze does not apply to properties with new construction, major improvements, errors in assessment, or a change in use of the property or its classification.

The Town intends to release a 3-5 year Property Tax Rate Strategy after the Province legislates new property tax reform in 2026 for 2027

Where is our money going in our community?



Ec. Dev.. **Planning, Tourism** \$ 532,170

General Government \$ 2,583,371

Debt/Fiscal Services \$ 534,340



Safety (Fire, Police, RCMP, By-Law,

Animal Control, etc.) \$ 8,422,772



\$ 2,280,148



Solid Waste \$1,243,066



Utility Budget

Operating = \$2,330,504Capital = \$348,365

Water and Sewer flat rate fee increases for 2026 will come into effect on your June 2026 Annual Invoice.

Annual Residential Flat Rate Fees

2025 2026 Inc. Rate Amt. Rate \$725 Tier 1 \$650 \$75

\$925

\$ 0

\$25 Tier 2 \$775 \$800 \$825 \$850 \$25 Tier 3

Tier 4 \$925

DID YOU KNOW?

Water and sewer costs cannot be covered by property taxes. Users of the utility must share the costs through direct billing.



Your Annual utility bill does not need to be paid in full. **Contact Utility to** set up a payment schedule that better suits your financial needs.

506-325-4600 or utility@woodstocknb.ca

The Town of Woodstock has adopted a **2026 General budget of \$21,004,912** and a **Utility budget of \$2,330,504**. The General budget includes \$1,651,446 of Policing Realignment Funds to help offset cost increases to the Woodstock Police Force (WPF) budget for Ward 4. The funds will help support the town as we prepare to realign all RCMP services to WPF for the full jurisdiction of the new town boundaries, by January 1st, 2028. More details on the realignment phased plan will be released in January of 2026.

The 2026 budget will see the residential tax rate for Ward 4 remain the same for the second budget year in a row, at \$1.50 (per \$100 of assessment), with Wards 1, 2, 3 and 5 seeing an increase of 2 cents (per \$100 of assessment) for a new municipal rate of \$0.74. With use of realignment funds, property tax assessment increases, and interest on reserves, the Town was able to reduce the anticipated outside Ward rate increase for policing expansion in 2026 from 5 cents to 2 cents.

Municipal Property Tax Rate Increases since 2023, including 2026 increases:

Ward 4 5.00 cent increase

Ward 1 2.72 cent increase

Ward 2 5.54 cent increase

Ward 3 4.78 cent increase

Ward 5a 3.24 cent increase (Northampton)

5b 2.99 cent increase (Upper and Lower Northampton)

All Wards will see an increase in service levels for solid waste collection in 2026 starting in July. Solid waste will move to a year-round weekly pick-up and recycling will be picked up every other week, year-round. For Wards 1, 2, 3, and 5, the cost increase in service levels for solid waste, plus the increases in the RCMP costs for 2026, are equivalent to the revenue from the 2 cent increase and are the reason the increase was necessary. Ward 4 was able to absorb the increases in costs for solid waste without requiring an increase to the municipal tax rate. Further information on this rollout will be released in the new year. The goal will be to eventually move to restricted garbage collection requiring bins for all residents to prepare for the transition of armed trucks for garbage collection, which will help keep costs stable and more efficient long-term. This will also help us prepare for organics collections that we understand will be mandated for 2028 by the province. An educational campaign in the first quarter of 2026 will help prepare all residents for future changes in 2026 and beyond that will provide more efficient and sustainable solid waste collections. The aim is to ensure solid waste collections costs remain fiscally feasible long-term and provide you a consistent weekly collection that we know many residents have been requesting.

The town's budget will allow all other service levels to be maintained, with a continued increase to the general capital budget year-over-year. The budget also increases our Community Grant & Community and Tourism Events fund to \$250,000. This will continue to help support the many non-profits in our community with important capital projects to improve their services, as well as supporting local events that provide significant economic, social, and cultural benefits to our community. The province recommends municipalities should aim to budget a capital amount in our general budgets and utility budgets equal to the prior year amortization amount. For Woodstock, that would mean a general capital fund of \$1,724,291 and a utility capital fund of \$370,309. With funding from Police Realignment Funds, our 2026 budget continues the approach to increase the capital investments appropriately, with a \$1,281,814 capital budget. The utility operating budget includes a capital budget of \$348,365, which is on target.

Property Tax example using the 2025 New Brunswick Real Estate Association benchmark property price of \$327,600:

Residential Example

| | Municipal | Provincial | Amount to | Amount to | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| | Tax Rate | Tax Rate | Municipality | Province | TOTAL |
| Houlton Rd, Ward 4 | \$1.50 | SNB FEE | \$4,914.00 | \$63.55 | \$4,977.55 |
| Pincher St., Ward 2 | \$0.74 | \$0.4115 | \$2,424.24 | \$1,411.63 | \$3,835.87 |

Impact on 2 cent increase for **outside Wards** in 2026 for the example house with an assessment freeze is **\$65.52** total for the year, or a 1.7% increase year-over-year.

Projected 2026 Tax Amount
Wards 1, 2, 3, and 5 send to Province
for road maintenance and repairs

Ward 1 \$296,913 Ward 2 \$957,739 Ward 3 \$871,726 Ward 5 \$724,088 **TOTAL = \$2,850,468**

The Town remains hopeful that the provincial government will complete their review of the property tax system for implementation in 2027 and that it will have a positive impact. The goal is to balance the need to fund local services with a commitment to fairness and affordability to our taxpayers.

The Town plans to maximize the capital budgets, Canada Community Building Funds for 2025 and 2026, the new Fiscal Capacity Fund, and Policing Realignment Funds to spend approximately, \$2.5 Million on capital and community investment projects.

Highlights of potential infrastructure and community improvements:

- \$900,000 for paving for designated highway projects and other street and sidewalk upgrades.
- Replacement of two pick-up trucks, an asphalt roller, and other public works equipment for proper asset management.
- \$300,000 reserved for an Active Transportation project to add to funding secured for Deakin Drive. This project was carried over from 2025 after funding was extended.
- AYR Motor Centre facility upgrades, including fieldhouse light improvements, lobby and lower lever washroom upgrades, arena dehumidifier replacement.
- Baseball field and outdoor volleyball court upgrades.
- Funding for Connell Park and downtown area upgrades once feasibility studies for our Downtown/waterfront Revitalization as well as the Connell Park Area Revitalization are completed in 2026.
- Continuation of decorative lighting improvements and electrical upgrades in the downtown and extended downtown area.
- Rebranded signage renewal project to place all new entrance and directional signage, banners, highway sign replacement in the spring of 2026.
- Traffic feasibility study to review current traffic lights, pedestrian lights and crosswalks, for possible improvements to high traffic areas and overall traffic flow (including potential traffic calming measures).
- Toughbook Tablet upgrades for 4 police vehicles, replacement and upgrade for Police Portable Radios.
- Audio and visual equipment for Council meetings.
- Portable bleachers and event fencing to support community and town sponsored events.

3 year Major Capital Plan for Utility:

- \$1,200,000 required to refurbish the Eastwood Heights reservoir.
- \$250,000 required for Lagoon curtain replacement.
- \$400,000 for water outflow improvement projects.
- Other upgrades to the Mangazur filtration, installation of UV disinfection system filtration on new well, lift station upgrades, and other underground upgrades.

The Town will need to draw on reserve funds, provincial and federal funding, as well as loans in order to continue the efforts we've achieved in the past 2 years for required upgrades to our water and sewer system.