

Municipality of

BAYHAM

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2026 Budget Approval

Municipality of Bayham Council approved the 2026 Municipal Budget on January 6, 2026 with a 1.75% Tax Rate increase over 2025. The Notional Value increase of the 2026 budget is 3.67% over 2025.

- 'Tax Rates' are the rates levied against the assessed value of a property.
- 'Notional Value' is the total dollars required for the Municipality of Bayham.

In 2024 and 2025, the Municipality of Bayham again was subject to significant building and development growth. This development growth contributed to assessment growth and provided the Municipality an increased assessment base to fund municipal services.

What does this mean for the average property owner? As a result of an increased assessment base and depending on MPAC determined assessment phase-in, as follows:

2026			
	Assessment	Municipal	Year over Year Levy Increase/(Decrease)
Residential	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 2,076.85	\$ 35.72
Farm	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 764.28	\$ 13.14
Commercial	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 3,401.05	\$ 58.49
Industrial	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 4,621.20	\$ 79.48

NOTE: Actual taxation impacts do not parallel assessment change because of Ontario's variable tax rate system. Tax rates vary by property class based on tax ratios, which affect the distribution of the tax levy across property classes. The numbers noted in the above table are for illustration purposes only for a property with unchanged year over year assessment.

INFRASTRUCTURE GAP

Like most municipalities, Bayham has a significant gap between the amount of funds available each year to maintain its infrastructure and the amount of funds needed to ensure infrastructure remains in a state of good repair. This is further detailed in the Municipality of Bayham Asset Management Plan (AMP). In 2026, the Municipality increased the Capital Levy to fund rising future construction costs to meet the AMP targeted increases.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) identified that Ontario municipalities receive only 9 cents of every tax dollar raised in Ontario, while the Provincial and Federal governments receive 44 cents and 47 cents respectively. In contrast to this, municipalities own 65% of the capital infrastructure, while the Provincial government owns 31% of Infrastructure and the Federal government only 4%

The Municipality of Bayham Asset Management Plan recommends increasing capital tax revenues by 4.9% each year for the next 25 years solely for the purpose of phasing in full funding to Capital Assets. The Asset Management Plan also recommends increasing existing and future infrastructure budgets by the applicable inflation index on an annual basis. In 2026, the Municipality increased the Capital Levy by \$168,250.

The 2026 Budget maintains 2025 service levels while incorporating expenses associated with higher Asset Management Planning funding, new collective agreements and inflation at 2.2%. The 2026 Budget also works to continue the process of sustainably protecting assets in fair to good condition by extending their useful lives, while also providing for fiscal stability by investing in infrastructure renewal.

Service Area Budget Allocation	
Public Works	20.46%
General Government	12.84%
Police Services	13.12%
Fire Services	7.92%
Recycling & Waste Management	5.60%
Development Services	1.59%
Conservation Authority	1.37%
Council	1.38%
Parks & Recreation	1.31%
Tourism & Marketing	0.49%
Straffordville Community Centre	0.70%
Marine Museum	0.58%
By-law Enforcement Services	1.38%
Building Services	0.00%
Municipal Drains	-0.01%
Cemeteries	0.25%
Municipal Assistance	0.11%
Capital Programs	30.91%

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BUDGET INCLUDE:

- Council Computers
- Bunker Gear
- Fire Tanker 1 Replacement
- Thermal Imaging Cameras and Radios
- Best Line Culvert
- 2 New Tandem Trucks for Roads
- Murray Road – Single tar chip
- Chute Line – Single tar chip
- Carson Line – Brush, ditch, gravel, tar chip
- North Street - Resurface
- Gravel Replacement
- Sidewalk Upgrades and Replacements
- Climate Risk Assessment
- Pre Engineering Assessment for Stormwater
- East Pier Rehab – Engineering
- Eden Pavilion
- Port Burwell Ball Diamond Lights
- Municipal Facility Audit
- SCC ICIP Capital Works
- Marine Museum Parking Lot
- PB East Beach Washroom – Engineering
- Zoning By-Law Review

The Municipality has also made application to several grant programs in order to complete additional projects that will improve infrastructure and quality of place. Additional information is available by viewing Budget Report TR-01/26 re Operating Budget through the website on the January 6, 2026 Agenda or the 2026 Budgets under the Finance & Taxes section at www.bayham.on.ca

For further information please contact:

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