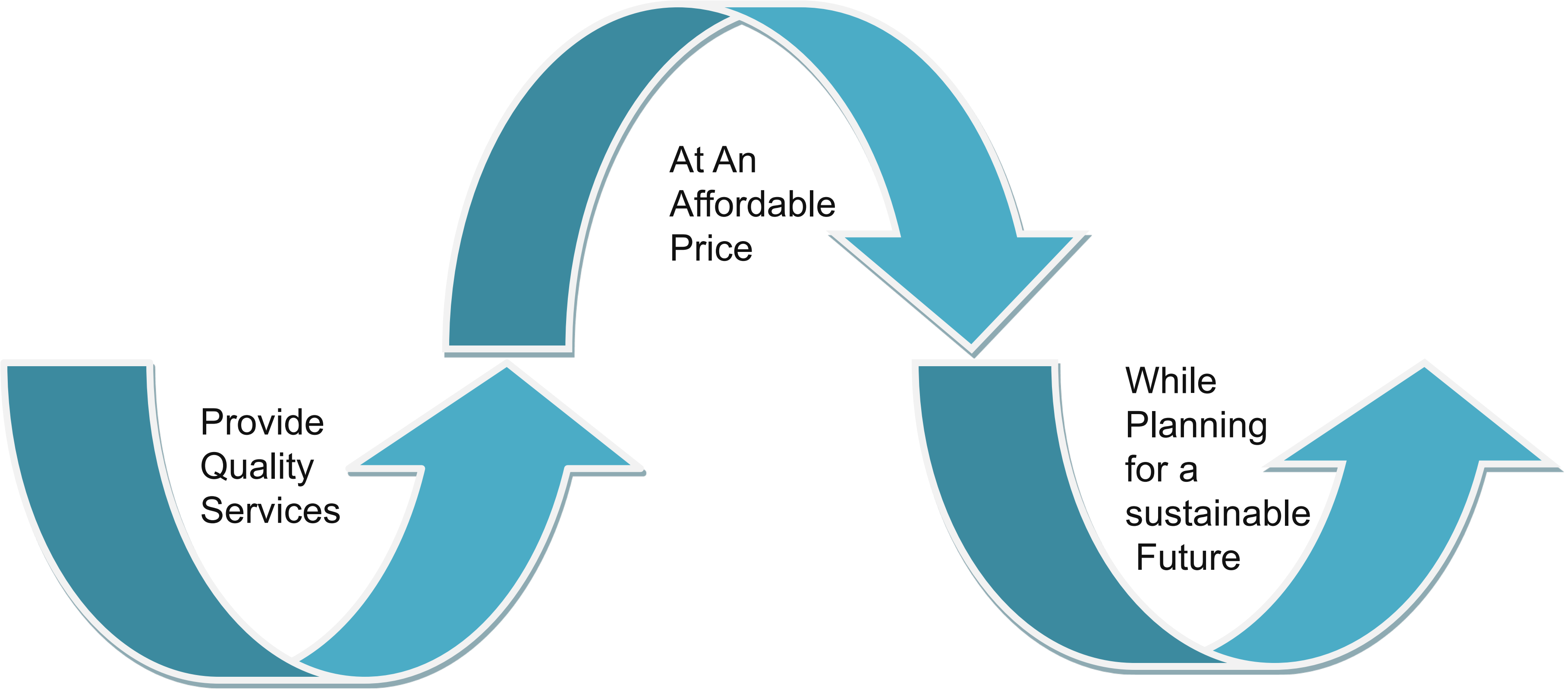
2026 First Draft Budget

TOWNSHIP OF
North Kawartha

Budget Process

- Township Managers provided a list of capital items for their departments to the Treasurer.
- The Leadership Team held a meeting where they discussed the capital items and a consensus was made on what items should be recommended to Council to be included in the first 2026 draft budget.
- Department Managers presented their Capital Forecasts to Council on Wednesday, October 29, 2025.
- Council directed staff on which items to include in the first draft budget, which will be presented to Council on Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

Budgeting Objectives



Investments in Municipal Infrastructure

Maintain a Strong, Accountable, Municipal Government

Guide Economic Growth for a Sustainable Community

Protect and Enhance the Environment

Considerations in the Budget Process

- Costs of products and services remain inflated on some products and services. Delivery dates for many products are delayed. Heavy vehicles which were either available within a year or off a lot are now forecasted for a two year delivery date impacting ordering timeframes.
- There are a few remaining projects that remain carried over due to lack of satisfactory bids, workload and other resources.
- Training on new legislation and best practices is more important than ever and increases training and related costs.

Considerations Continued

- A review of the Assessment Act and MPAC new assessment phase-in period timeline is still unknown and there is no indication of when revised assessments will be provided. Assessments continue to sit at 2016 values.
- Across the province, increases in the price of goods and services not only impacts households, it impacts the municipality as well. The Township is facing higher material and product costs, hydro costs, service costs (such as for police services) with little assessment growth, other than supplemental billings.
- In 2026, the Township will receive OMPF (Ontario Municipal Partnership Funding) funds in the amount of $1,387,700.

Considerations Continued

- Council adopted the current Asset Management Plan in July, 2022 and chose the Financing Strategy #3. The Plan was updated in the Fall of 2025, pending a more thorough review and update of it in 2026. The transfer amount to Future Capital Reserves for 2026 is $406,376, which is being reduced by $21,076 to fund 2026 Capital items, leaving a remaining balance of $385,300 to be transferred to Future Capital Reserves.
- The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) has provided a draft budget for Council input. A 2.07% has been incorporated.

TOWNSHIP OF North Kawartha

Considerations Continued

- Staff complete their budgets according to known revenues and expenses. Where numbers are not known, i.e. hydro, volunteer wages, estimates are based on a review of the previous years, protocol and process changes, multi-year contracts and other anticipated influences.

TOWNSHIP OF
North
Kawartha

Salary Considerations

- Normal progression on the salary grid and a 3.0% COLA increase for staff, council and committee members have been included in this draft budget.
- The average proposed 2026 COLA on salaries in the surrounding municipalities is 2.9%, ranging from 1.9% to 4.5%. In 2025, the average was 2.93%, ranging from 2.5% to 4%. While the municipality opted for the salary grid to be in the 50th percentile, some neighbouring municipalities are have increased their salary grids to be in the 60th percentile.

TOWNSHIP OF North Kawartha

Salary Considerations

At the Direction of Council:

- A new position of Full Time Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (10 months in 2026) is included.

Recommendations from the Organizational Review:

- New – Full Time IT Specialist (10 months) in the Finance Department
- New Part Time Administrative Assistant is included in the Parks and Recreation Department
- Two positions revised to include supervisor responsibilities.
- Planning Salaries include 10% of Chief Building Official’s wages and 50% of the Building/Planning Assistant’s wages.
- Enhanced the Winter Patrol position to include Equipment Operator responsibilities. Full time hours for the winter season.

Township of North Kawartha

Salary Considerations

Full Time Equivalent FTE Adjustments:

- New Full Time Parks & Recreation Labourer – from Part Time to Full Time

Other

- Increased hours in Waste due to IC&I Collection (2 people on-site)
- Increased volunteer wages due to the requirement of more hours to accommodate increased number of calls

Salary Considerations

Summer Canada Summer Jobs Positions

- Roads, two summer positions (applying for Canada Summer Jobs Grant)
- One summer position shared between Clerks/Finance, Building Department, and Public Works Department
- Two Swim Instructors
- One Labourer in Parks & Recreation

Full 12 month impact of the Fire Prevention Inspector position (6 months in 2025).

TOWNSHIP OF North Kawartha

Salary Considerations

- To accompany the salary/position changes, other items are included throughout the budget including (where applicable) laptop, monitors, phone, other hardware/software, PPE, training.

TOWNSHIP OF North Kawartha

Notes

- Council has the option to use funds from General Reserves to fund unexpected items or new projects during the year.
- Every $70,884 added to the budget is equivalent to a 1% increase in dollar to dollar, 2026 over 2025.
- Carry-forwards may transpire to lower the budget to budget increase. This will depend on an analysis of anticipated year-end surplus/deficit to be performed prior to the passing of the 2026 budget.
- The current draft Budget indicates an increase in dollar to dollar of 10.32%, which would result in an increase in the tax rate of 9.45% ($38.71 for the year on $100,000).

Included in 2026 Budget

- Committee Remuneration includes 3 Library Board Members,1 CIP Committee Member, 3 Short Term Rental Committee Members, 3 Comprehensive Zoning By-Law Members (See Items Not Included re CZB)
- Council Expenses $12,500 – Previously Mayor $2,500, $2,000 each Councillor and Deputy Mayor, and $2,000 for Council Initiatives (Municipal Property Tour, etc)
- Increase of 5% in Hydro Costs and Insurance
- $15,000 for Surveys of Municipal property (Fire Station 3 was suggested through the property tour)

TOWNSHIP OF North Kawartha

Items Not Included in the 2026 Draft Budget

- Due to not receiving the Housing Affordability Fund II grant, there are no dollars to facilitate affordable housing.
- Expenses for any future grant programs or applications, for example, for aquatic invasive species
- Façade at 135 Burleigh Street
- Sufficient dollars for Consultant to review the Comprehensive Zoning By-Law (potential shared costs with County participants)

TOWNSHIP OF North Kawartha

Items Not Included in the 2026 Draft Budget

- Costs for Recreation and Open Space Master Plan as it is being completed in-house.
- Municipal Office Parking Lot.

2026 Draft Budget

Township of North Kawartha Summary Costs Comparisons						
2026 Draft Budget					Previous Year: 2025	Budget Year: 2026
Departments	**2025 Budget**	**2025 Year End Projection per Third Quarter Financials**	**Variance Budget to Actual**	**2026 Budget**	**Variance Budget to Budget**	**% Variance Budget to Budget**
Bldg By-Law	173,256	87,613	85,643	156,345	-16,911	-9.8%
Conservation Authority	98,176	98,176	0	100,653	2,477	2.5%
Emergency Planning	3,080	3,080	0	3,650	570	18.5%
Fire	594,758	632,535	-37,777	720,648	125,890	21.2%
General Government	1,483,034	1,564,337	-81,303	1,888,809	405,775	27.4%
Health	5,796	6,796	-1,000	-1,492	-7,288	-125.7%
Library	317,658	317,658	0	321,629	3,971	1.3%
Parks & Recreation	960,376	1,008,276	-47,900	1,052,440	92,064	9.6%
Planning	253,646	171,860	81,786	166,731	-86,915	-34.3%
Police Services	943,601	939,909	3,692	1,041,354	97,753	10.4%
Public Works	1,676,565	1,656,948	19,617	1,734,239	57,674	3.4%
Waste	578,473	607,473	-29,000	634,708	56,235	9.7%
Totals	7,088,419	7,094,661	-6,242	7,819,714	731,295	10.32%

TOWNSHIP OF North Kawartha

Conclusion of our Round Trip of the 2026 First Draft Budget

TOWNSHIP OF
North
Kawartha