



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Town of Didsbury Council held a Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 in Council Chambers at 1606-14 Street.

- Melisa Milne, Partner at MNP LLP, gave an overview of the Independent Auditor's Report followed by a presentation of the 2023 audited financial statements by Administration. Council approved the 2023 Audited Financial Statements as presented. These documents can be found on the Town of Didsbury website at: <https://www.didsbury.ca/p/municipal-finance> .
- Council approved several 2024 capital projects at the January 17, 2024 Budget Meeting and further approved capital projects for 2024 at the January 23, 2024 Regular Council Meeting. At the March 26, 2024 Regular Council Meeting, Council approved the 2024 Operating Budget. Through the approval of the operating budget, four additional capital projects that were funded from operating were also approved. The 2024 Budget information documents can be found on the Town of Didsbury website at: www.didsbury.ca/p/budget.
- The Policy and Governance Committee has been working on a new, updated version of the Town of Didsbury Cemetery Bylaw. This bylaw provides a legislative framework for the Didsbury Cemetery. Council granted second and third reading to Cemetery Bylaw 2024-03.
- Assessment notices were issued to all property owners on February 22, 2024. The final complaint date is April 30, 2024. The assessed value of property is based on the market valuation at July 1 of the previous year and the condition of the property on December 31 of the previous year, and it is used to calculate the current year's tax rates. Overall, taxable assessment values in the town have increased. Residential and farm land assessment value has increased 5.73%; non-residential assessment value has increased 4.44%; and designated industrial property, which is assessed by a Provincial Assessor, has increased 5.66%.

Tax Rate Bylaw 2024-05 was presented to Council for first reading. Once the bylaw is passed, tax notices will be prepared and sent to property owners. An information bulletin, referred to as the 'Budget at a Glance', is also being prepared and will be mailed with the tax notices.

- On January 23, 2024, Council approved the Sanitary Lagoon Maintenance project to remove and dispose of the accumulated sediments and biosolids in the sanitary treatment lagoon cells 1 & 2. The Town received seven responses to the *Request for Quote*. Council approved to award the *Bio Solids Remove and Dispose* contract for Cell 1 and 2 to Lambourne Environmental for up to \$205,000, which is \$45,000 under the approved budget for the project.