Office of the Mayor
Pat Chiocchio
Mayor
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Mayoral Direction

Direction Number:	**2026-02A**
Date:	**November 24, 2026**
Subject:	**Establish a Budget Chair Appointment Process for the 2027 Budget**

As part of the 2027 Budget Process, I, Pat Chiocchio, Mayor of the City of Welland, pursuant to Section 284.16 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, hereby direct staff to bring forward a report and recommendation for Council's consideration regarding the appointment of a Budget Chair to be selected by Council by resolution from amongst the members of Council.

The intent is that the Budget Chair shall serve in a facilitative and coordinating capacity with respect to the 2027 Budget Process and shall not, beyond the responsibilities of being Budget Chair, acquire or possess any authority beyond that of an individual member of Council.

It is intended that Council shall be fully apprised and informed by staff as to the development of the 2027 Budget so that it may, once proposed, be prepared to exercise Council's statutory authority and responsibility in considering, amending and having the municipal budget adopted in accordance with the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

The intent of this direction is to:

1. Enhance Council's collective participation, engagement, and understanding throughout the annual budget development process;
2. Provide a dedicated Council liaison to support coordination on budget-related matters, including the organization of budget workshops and special meetings;
3. Support transparent, collaborative, and informed budget deliberations by facilitating discussion and ensuring all members of Council have opportunities to contribute throughout the annual budget process;

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4. Designate a member of Council to preside over budget-specific Special Council meetings, subject to any applicable provisions of the Procedure By-law, as directed;
5. Establish the appointment through a resolution of Council, reflecting Council's collective ownership of the budget albeit with the context of a Strong Mayor legislative framework;
6. Confirm that no additional compensation, remuneration, stipend, or honorarium shall be associated with the appointed position and that no separate prescribed committee is being established;
7. Provide the procedural support necessary to facilitate the effective delivery of the annual budget process; and
8. Confirm that the Budget Chair shall retain all rights, responsibilities, and privileges of a member of Council, including the ability to participate in budget discussions, bring forward budget amendments, engage in debate, and vote on all budget-related matters.

Staff are further directed to prepare the necessary report, appointment process, and associated resolution for Council's consideration.

Pat Chiocchio
Mayor