

City Council – Action Request Form

Date: June 17, 2024

To: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tempore, and Members of the City Council

From: Scott Tesh, Budget and Performance Management Director

Council Action Requested:

Consideration of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget-Related Items

Strategic Focus Area: Service Excellence

Strategic Objective: Maintain the City's Financial Strength

Strategic Plan Action Item: No

Key Work Item: No



Summary of Information:

On May 28, 2024, the City Manager presented his budget proposal for fiscal year 2024-2025 to the Mayor and City Council. The proposed budget totaled \$658.9 million, which included \$485.8 million for operations, \$63.7 million for debt service, and \$109.4 million for capital. The proposed FY 2024-25 tax rate is 72.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value, which is an increase from FY 2023-24. The Finance Committee held three budget workshops and a public hearing before recommending the budget, as proposed, to the full City Council for consideration.

Budget highlights include the following:

- Implementation of an organization-wide classification and compensation study effective in October 2024 to recruit and retain a qualified and diverse workforce
- Increases in transit systems costs related to the new service provider previously approved by the Mayor and City Council, including the restoration of night and weekend services
- Replacement of more than \$20 million in vehicles and equipment to continue providing quality services without disruption and to catch up on deferred vehicle acquisition
- An additional \$2.8 million annually for the city's street resurfacing program made available through increased motor vehicle fees

Committee

Action

For

Against

Remarks:

As part of deliberations during budget workshops, Council Members asked specific questions regarding certain City operations and priorities. The management team has committed to engaging in a new strategic planning process in fiscal year 2024-25. Leading up to and during that process, the following items would be addressed in addition to other City priorities:

- Funding and Process for Affordable Housing Development
- Funding and Service Delivery Models for Homelessness
- Community Aesthetics Related to Trash/Litter Collection and Illegal Dumping
- Debt Structure and Future Debt Issuance Possibilities
- Cash Financing of Equipment and Facility Maintenance
- Deferred Maintenance and Facility Renovation Priorities
- Winston-Salem Transit Authority Funding and Resource Benchmarking
- Parking Fund Operations and Subsidy
- Public Assembly Facilities Operating Deficits
- Street Resurfacing Data and Long-Term Funding Model

On June 17, 2024, the Mayor and City Council will conduct a final public hearing (**item G-1**), as required by State law and will consider the following budget-related items:

- **Item G-2:** Annual appropriation/tax levy ordinance for fiscal year 2024-2025, authorizing the City's annual operating appropriations and adopting the property tax rate of 72.5¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation, as recommended by the Finance Committee
- **Item G-3:** Project budget ordinance for fiscal year 2024-2025, authorizing appropriations for certain special revenue funds, capital projects, enterprise capital projects, internal service capital projects, and capital equipment funds, as recommended by the Finance Committee
- **Item G-5:** Annual appropriation/tax levy ordinance for fiscal year 2024-2025, authorizing the City's annual operating appropriations for anticipated revenues and expenditures related to services provided by the Downtown Winston-Salem Partnership, Kaleideum, Family Services (General Fund), Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation, and Mixxer Makerspace, and a property tax rate of 9.0¢ per \$100 of assessed valuation on property in the Downtown Winston-Salem Business Improvement District.
- **Item G-7:** Annual appropriation/tax levy ordinance for fiscal year 2024-2025, authorizing the City's annual operating appropriations for anticipated revenues and expenditures for Marketing and Communications to include advertising, books, magazines, and periodicals by fund, together with a financial plan for internal service funds
- **Item G-8:** Project budget ordinance for fiscal year 2024-2025, authorizing appropriations for anticipated revenues and expenditures on advertising, books, magazines, and periodicals, and revenues for fiscal year 2024-2025 and thereafter for select Special Revenue funds

- **Item G-10:** Annual appropriation/tax levy ordinance for fiscal year 2024-2025, authorizing the City's annual operating appropriations for anticipated revenues and expenditures for Piedmont Triad Regional Council, the National League of Cities, RiverRun, and the North Carolina League of Municipalities
- **Item G-12:** Project budget ordinance for fiscal year 2024-2025, authorizing appropriations for expenditures and revenues for federal housing funds to include Community Development Block Grant Fund, HOME Investment Partnership Trust Fund, Supportive Housing Grants Fund, and HOPWA Fund
- **Item G-13:** Resolution approving the capital plan for fiscal years 2024-2025 through 2029-2030 as a financial planning guide, as recommended by the Finance Committee
- **Item G-14:** Resolution adopting orders to collect property taxes for the tax year 2024 and previous years, which allows Forsyth County to collect property taxes for the City as outlined in the interlocal agreement
- **Item G-15:** Resolution directing the expenditure of opioid funds to support the Behavior Evaluation and Response (BEAR) team as a criminal justice diversion program
- **Item G-16:** Resolution adopting the User Fee Schedule for the City of Winston-Salem for the fiscal year 2024-2025
- **Item G-17:** Ordinance amending Chapter 10 of the City Code related to building inspections for user fee changes in the Planning and Development Services Department
- **Item G-18:** Ordinance amending Chapter 26 of the City Code related to garbage and trash for user fee changes related to mobile trash collection charts
- **Item G-19:** Ordinance amending Chapter 34 of the City Code related to licenses and business regulations for fee changes related to the motor vehicle privilege tax
- **Item G-20:** Ordinance amending Chapter 75 of the City Code related to stormwater system management for changes to stormwater fees