FY25 Town Manager's Budget for Newcastle ME

Presented at the 3-11-2024 Select Board Meeting

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Introduction to a Municipal Budget

What is a municipal budget?

All of the expenses and revenues that the Town of Newcastle needs to provide quality services for its citizens for a full fiscal year

What is a Fiscal Year?

The Town's Fiscal Year is July 1st-June 30th

The "Year" is represented by the last day of that fiscal year.

Example: Fiscal Year 2025 (the one we'll be working on), goes from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Introduction to a Municipal Budget

What is the property tax rate?

The Town calculates taxes by dividing the net of expenditures minus non-property tax revenues by the total assessed value of the town.

What is the Mil Rate?

The Mil Rate is the property tax rate per \$1000 of property value. For Fiscal Year 2024, the Mil Rate was \$16.00

Example: The Median Home assessed value for all residential properties in Newcastle was \$287,349.

\$287.35 X \$16.00 = \$4,597.60

or \$383.13 per month

A broad interpretation, but government has three primary functions:







Functions of Government (Kevin's interpretation)

Government is in place to create order and allow ALL the opportunity to lead happy, healthy, and successful lives.



Education is the key to the future strength of a community, state, and a nation.



Public, Health, and Life safety –Police, Fire, and Code enforcement provide a sense of security for a community to feel safe and trust that they are supported by something bigger.



Public Infrastructure –Roads, Bridges, Water, Sewer, Parks –the infrastructure which allows us to get from point A to point B and to enjoy the inbetween.

Three primary functions as a percent of the FY24 Fiscal Year Approved Budget:

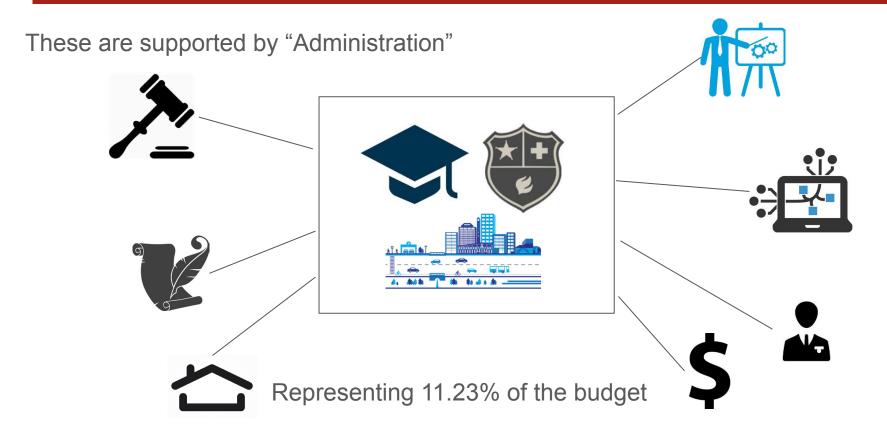




49.32% 30.34% 9.11%

These three functions represent 88.77% of the total annual budget.





How do we pay for all this?

In Maine, primarily with property taxes.

Assessed value for FY24 in Newcastle is just over \$335 million

The total annual budget for the town is nearly \$7.2 million

And about \$5.5 million of that was paid for property taxes.

Simplified math: \$5,500,000 / \$335,000,000 = .01642

(or \$16.42 per thousand of value) (NOTE: current mil rate is actually \$16.00)

Median Home (simplified) 290 x 16.42 = \$4,761.80 or \$396.82 per month

SCENARIO 1:

How will a re-valuation effect this?

Holding the **budget flat**, this would, in theory lower the mil rate but would keep the taxes the same.

Simplified math: 5,500,000 / 335,000,000 = .01642

Median Home of \$290,000 pays \$396.82 a month

Constant

All properties are increased 10% to better align with Market value

5,500,000 / 368,500,000 = .01492

Median Home of \$319,000 pays \$396.62 a month

(or \$2.40 less per year)

SCENARIO 2:

Cost rise, taxes rise

Assume a 4% increase on the budget and no change to the Assessed Value

Simplified math: 5,500,000 / 335,000,000 = .01642

Median Home of \$290,000 pays \$396.82 a month

Constant

5,720,000 / 335,000,000 = .01707

Median Home of \$290,000 pays \$412.52 a month

(or \$188.40 more per year)

SCENARIO 3:

Cost rise, building happens, what about taxes?

Assume a 4% increase on the budget, no change to the existing Value, and a 4% increase in value from new construction projects.

Simplified math: 5,500,000 / 335,000,000 = .01642

Median Home of \$290,000 pays \$396.82 a month

Constant

5,720,000 / 348,400,000 = .01642

Median Home of \$290,000 pays \$396.82 a month

(no change in taxes)

SCENARIO 4:

Cost rise, more building happens, what about taxes?

Assume a 4% increase on the budget, no change to the existing Value, and a 5% increase in value from new construction projects.

Simplified math: 5,500,000 / 335,000,000 = .01642

Median Home of \$290,000 pays \$396.82 a month

Constant

5,720,000 / 351,750,000 = .01626

Median Home of \$290,000 pays \$392.95 a month

(or \$46.44 less per year)

So, Municipal government is in the real estate business?

In a state where property taxes are heavily relied on, I would argue, yes.

While it is always prudent to keep an eye on the operating budget and to ensure efficient use of taxpayer dollars....

What ultimately keeps the mil rate stable while continuing to providing quality service to the residents is for municipalities to see a rate of 'improvements' that is in line with or occasionally outpacing that of the cost of operations.

What can we do?

Support Newcastle.

Support smart growth in our town.

Tell your friends, once we've fixed the housing crunch, to move here.

Tell your friends who own businesses to consider expanding.

Tell your colleagues to start a business in Newcastle.

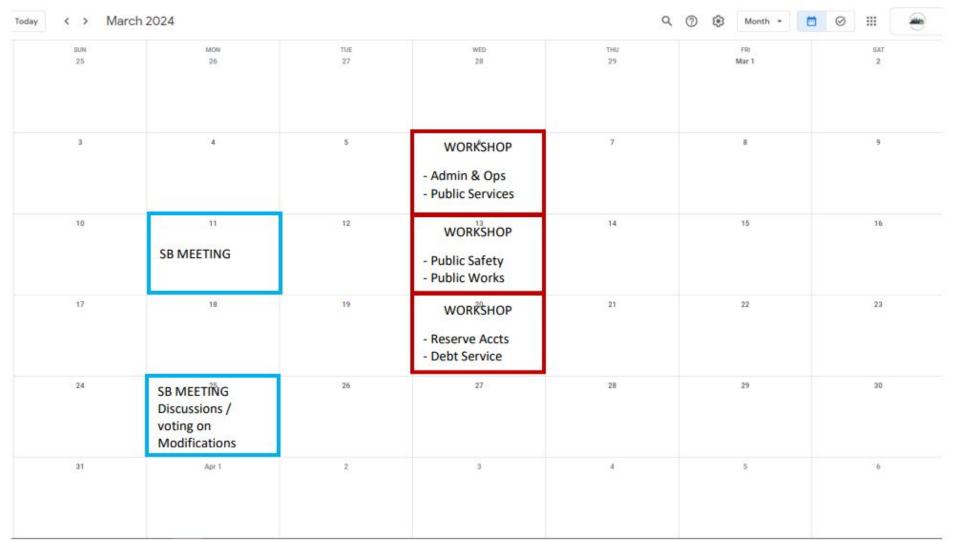
Start a business in Newcastle.

Shop, dine, live, swim, walk, bike, love Newcastle

Get involved.

Make a difference.

Three workshops with the Select Board and 2 Select Board meetings in March
Two additional Select Board meetings in April.



Today < > April 2024						9 ₩ €
SLIN 31	MON Apr 1	TUE 2	3 WED	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6
7	SB MEETING Community input	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	:17	18	19	20
21	SB MEETING Final Warrant for Annual Town Meeting	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	May 1	2	3	4

Three workshops with the Select Board and 2 Select Board meetings in March Two additional Select Board meetings in April.

- 3/6 Admin and Operations and Community and Public Services Workshop
- 3/11 Select Board meeting. Agenda item for a public presentation of the budget by Manager
- 3/13 Public Safety and Public Works Workshop
- 3/20 Reserves (including Capital), Debt, Education, and Other
- 3/25 Select Board meeting to discuss and vote on Select Board members proposed changes
- 4/6 Public Comment period on the budget
- 4/22 Approval of Warrant articles for June Town Meeting

Workshop Format:

- 3/6 1. Initial presentation by Town Manager
 - 2. Community and Public Services
 - 3. Administration and Operations

Questions asked during the meeting will be developed into a memo with all responses at the beginning of the next meeting. This will give staff time to research and provide meaningful answers.

If Select Board members have motions for changes to the budget ahead of 3/25, please submit them to staff during a workshop or to the Town Manager via email.

Workshop Format:

- 3/13- 1. Review of Q+A from week before
 - 2. Public Safety
 - 3. Public Works

Questions asked during the meeting will be developed into a memo with all responses at the beginning of the next meeting. This will give staff time to research and provide meaningful answers.

If Select Board members have motions for changes to the budget ahead of 3/25, please submit them to staff during a workshop or to the Town Manager via email.

Workshop Format:

- 3/20- 1. Review of Q+A from week before
 - 2. Debt Service 3. Reserve Accounts (including Capital)
 - 4. County 5. Education

Questions asked during the meeting will be developed into a memo with all responses at the beginning of the next meeting. This will give staff time to research and provide meaningful answers.

If Select Board members have motions for changes to the budget ahead of 3/25, please submit them to staff during a workshop or to the Town Manager via email.

A new approach this year.

We are providing a hard copy of the Manager's budget in book form for your consideration.

This should be extremely helpful for note taking, better understanding of the big picture which we hope results in more in depth conversations.

NEWCASTLE BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2025

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES

	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	Net Cha	ange	NO
	Actual	Actual*	Budget	YTD	Manager	\$	9/0	
WASTE DISPOSAL			200000000000000000000000000000000000000					
05 - SEPTIC WASTE CONTRACT	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00			
10 - TRANSFER STATION	111,019.50	117,863.70	125,316.00	61,894.91	143,700.00	18,384.00	14.67%	
10 - WASTE DISPOSAL TOTAL	113,319.50	120,163.70	127,616.00	64,194.91	146,000.00	18,384.00	14.41%	
GENERAL ASSISTANCE								
04 - AVAILABLE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
99 - BUDGET	1,740.00	0.00	3,000.00	255.76	2,000.00	-1,000.00	-33.33%	
51 - GENERAL ASSISTANCE	1,740.00	0.00	3,000.00	255.76	2,000.00	-1,000.00	-33.33%	
PROVIDER AGENCIES								
09 - AMERICAN LEG	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	0.00	- 450.00	-100.00%	
10 - CLC YMCA	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	-5,000.00	-100.00%	
11 - COASTAL KIDS	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	2,000.00	100.00%	
13 - MIDCOAST CONSERVANCY	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00			
14 - ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00			
15 - HEALTHY KIDS	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00	0.00	-1,700.00	-100.00%	
16 - HEARTY ROOTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00%	
17 - LCTV	10,205.00	13,500.00	13,500.00	13,500.00	13,500.00			
18 - MAINE BROADCASTING	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00			
19 - MIDCOAST ME COMMUNITY ACTION	1,400.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,400.00	- 100.00	-6.67%	
20 - NEW HOPE FOR WOMEN	830.00	830.00	996.00	996.00	996.00			
21 - SKIDOMPHA LIBRARY	27,612.00	27,612.00	27,612.00	27,612.00	27,612.00			
22 - SPECTRUMS GENERATION	1,756.00	1,756.00	1,756.00	1,756.00	1,756.00			
23 - ADULT EDUCATION	9,635.00	6,595.00	8,812.00	8,812.00	0.00	-8,812.00	-100.00%	
89 - PROVIDER AGENCIES	59,188.00	59,543.00	66,926.00	66,926.00	54,864.00	-12,062.00	-18.02%	-53
102 - COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES	174,247.50	179,706.70	197,542.00	131,376.67	202,864.00	5,322.00	2.69%	-

The FY25 Budget Book has 7 Sections:

Section 1: Manager's Memo and Summary Documentation

Section 2: Municipal Revenues and Fee Schedule

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures

Section 4: Reserve Accounts

Section 5: Capital Improvement and Asset Inventory

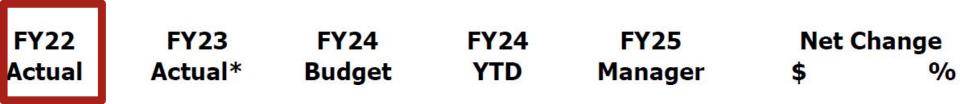
Section 6: School and County Budgets

Section 7: Community and Public Services requests

Headers on

Section 2: Municipal Revenues and Fee Schedule

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures

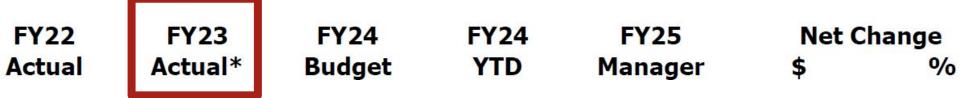


This column represents the audited numbers for what was actually spent in Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1st, 2021 to June 30th, 2022).

Headers on

Section 2: Municipal Revenues and Fee Schedule

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures



This column represents what was actually spent in Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023).

*These numbers have not been independently audited at the time the budget book was developed.

Headers on

Section 2: Municipal Revenues and Fee Schedule

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures



This column represents what approved at the Town Meeting in June of 2023 for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024) and includes budget amendments made at the Special Town Meeting in August of 2023.

Headers on

Section 2: Municipal Revenues and Fee Schedule

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures

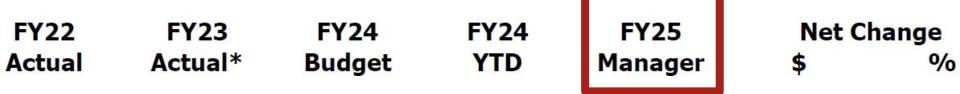


This column represents what has been spent July 1st, 2023 through February 13th 2024 and was used to make some of the assumptions for cost projections into FY25

Headers on

Section 2: Municipal Revenues and Fee Schedule

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures



This column represents what the Town Manager has proposed for expenditures and revenues for Fiscal Year 2025 (July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025)

Headers on

Section 2: Municipal Revenues and Fee Schedule

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures

FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	Net C	hange
Actual	Actual*	Budget	YTD	Manager	\$	%

The first Net Change column '\$' represents the subtraction of the 'FY24 Budget' column from the '2025 Budget' column and the second column '%' is the result of \$ divided by 'FY24 Budget' column. Numbers in **black** are an increase to the budget, negative amounts in **red** are a decrease to the specific budget line.

Line Item example:

Section 3: Municipal Expenditures, General Government, Operations:

	FY24	FY25	Net Change	
	Budget	Manager	\$	%
OPERATIONS/SERVICES				
04 - MMA ANNUAL DUES	3,546.00	3,746.00	200.00	5.64%
05 - POSTAGE/ENVELOPES	5,000.00	7,200.00	2,200.00	44.00%
07 - ELECTION SUPPLIES	2,500.00	2,500.00		
09 - COMPUTER SUPPORT	7,000.00	8,500.00	1,500.00	21.43%
10 - COMPUTER HARDWARE	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	-100.00%
11 - HARRIS (TRIO) SOFTWARE	34,000.00	28,300.00	-5,700.00	-16.76%

The numbers on the left of the pages for Section 2 and 3:

These are numbers used in our software to code the accounts.

General Government is coded as 101

Cemetery Main (a division of General Government) is 70.

Cemetery Mowing Contract (02) is a line item within the division.

This line item is in the financial system as: 101-70-02

CEMETERY MAINT

01 - CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

02 - CEMETERY MOWING CONTRACT

70 - CEMETERY MAINT TOTAL

VETERAN PARK

01 - MAINTENANCE/PLANTINGS

78 - VETERAN PARK TOTAL

MISC

99 - CONTINGENCY

99 - MISC TOTAL

101 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTAL

The FY25 Budget Book has 7 Sections:

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Section 5: Capital Improvement and Asset Inventory

Section 6: School and County Budgets

Section 7: Community and Public Services requests

Section 4: Reserve Accounts

This section was initially shared with the Select Board at their December of 2023 for the first time. Some updates have been made as part of the FY22 Audit.

In past years, as part of the budget process, the Select Board has been primarily focused on the expenditures in the general fund being allocated to the Reserve accounts with not too much attention to what's in there and what the money should be or has been spent on.

It would be beneficial to spend some time on reviewing the Reserve accounts, defining their uses, and better documenting what the money allocated to them should be reserved for.

The FY25 Budget Book has 7 Sections:

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Section 4: Reserve Accounts

Section 5: Capital Improvement and Asset Inventory

Section 6: School and County Budgets

Section 7: Community and Public Services requests

Section 5: Capital Improvement and Asset Inventory

This section currently has three components showing our inventory:

- Newcastle Roads
- Facilities
- Town assets Vehicles and Equipment

As part of the budget process, we'll be updating this section to include a 10 year plan for asset and infrastructure maintenance and replacement.

As priorities and needs change and unforeseen circumstances prevent the best laid plans, this should be reviewed and updated on annual basis as part of the budget process.

The FY25 Budget Book has 7 Sections:

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Section 4: Reserve Accounts

Section 5: Capital Improvement and Asset Inventory

Section 6: School and County Budgets

Section 7: Community and Public Services requests

Section 6: School and County Budgets

This section contains three subsections:

- The County Budget and Newcastle's finance share
- GSB Community School District (and now Adult Education)
- Secondary Education

You'll notice at the time of this presentation and the handing out of the budget binders, this section is a little light. We should have more information on GSB and Lincoln Academy before the end of the month of March.

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Section 6: School and County Budgets

Section 7: Provider Agency Requests

Section 7: Provider Agency Requests

This section includes all the letters we've received for requests for funding by provider agencies.

All the documentation related to this can be found in a Google Workspace folder that was shared with the Select Board on March 1st.

The public can view any of the information sent to the Town HERE.

The FY25 Budget Book has 7 Sections:

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Section 4: Reserve Accounts

Section 5: Capital Improvement and Asset Inventory

Section 6: School and County Budgets

Section 7: Provider Agency Requests

Section 1: Manager's Memo and Summary Documentation

Section 1: Summary Documentation

There are seven sections in the municipal portion of the expenditure budget:

- 101 GENERAL GOVERNMENT
- 102 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES
- 103 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
- 105 PUBLIC SAFETY
- 107 PUBLIC WORKS
- 110 DEBT SERVICE
- 118 TRANSFER TOTALS

BUDGET SUMMARY

671,665

197,542

131,651

277,311

662,399

253,717

1,221,522

3,415,807

FY 24	FY 25
Budget	Manager

101 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT

105 - PUBLIC SAFETY

107 - PUBLIC WORKS

110 - DEBT SERVICE

118 - TRANSFER TOTALS

103 - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET

102 - COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES

rialiayei

733,168

202,864

89,471

281,191

812,450

249,857

1,007,116

3,376,117

Net Change

61,503

5,322

3,880

-42,180

150,051

-214,406

- 39,690

-3,860

\$

%

9.16%

2.69%

1.40%

22.65%

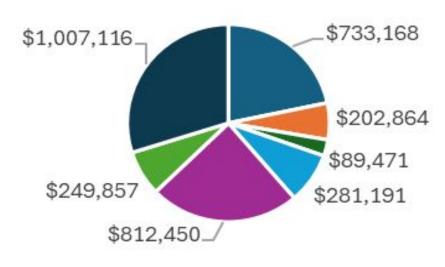
-1.52%

-17.55%

-1.16%

-32.04%

Manager Requested Expenditure Budget for FY25



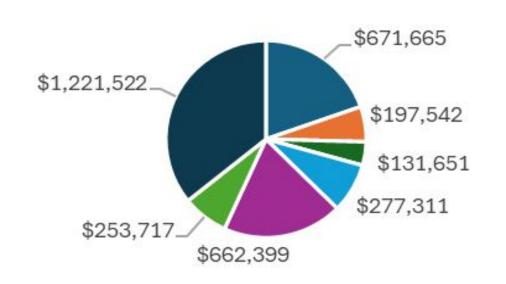
■ 102 - COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES

\$3,376,117

- 103 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT 105 PUBLIC SAFETY
- 107 PUBLIC WORKS 110 DEBT SERVICE
- 118 TRANSFER TOTALS

101 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT

FY24 Expenditure Budget



\$3,415,807

- 101 GENERAL GOVERNMENT
- 103 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
- 107 PUBLIC WORKS
- 118 TRANSFER TOTALS

- 102 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES
- 105 PUBLIC SAFETY
- 110 DEBT SERVICE

BUDGET SUMMARY

FY 24

FY 25

202,864

89,471

281,191

812,450

249,857

1,007,116

3,324,117

Net Change

5,322

3,880

-42,180

150,051

-3,860

22,336

158,310

2.69%

1.40%

22.65%

-1.52%

2.27%

5.00%

-32.04%

(removed one-time use of fund balance to show more accurate change in annual operations)

102 - COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES

103 - PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET

105 - PUBLIC SAFETY

107 - PUBLIC WORKS

110 - DEBT SERVICE

118 - TRANSFER TOTALS

	Budget	Manager	ince citati	90
			<u>\$</u>	<u>%</u>
101 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT	658,407	681,168	22,761	3.46%

197,542

131,651

277,311

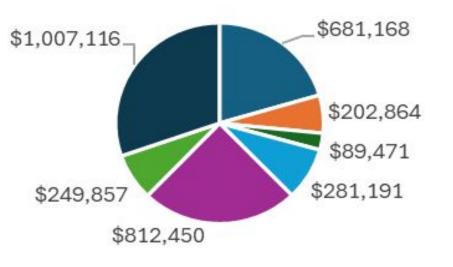
662,399

253,717

984,780

3,165,807

Manager Requested Expenditure Budget for FY25 (Not showing use of fund balance)



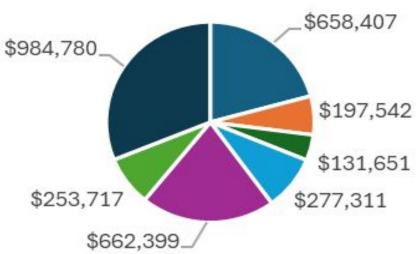
- 101 GENERAL GOVERNMENT
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102 - COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES

\$3,324,117

- 105 PUBLIC SAFETY
- 110 DEBT SERVICE

FY24 Expenditure Budget (Not showing use of fund balance)

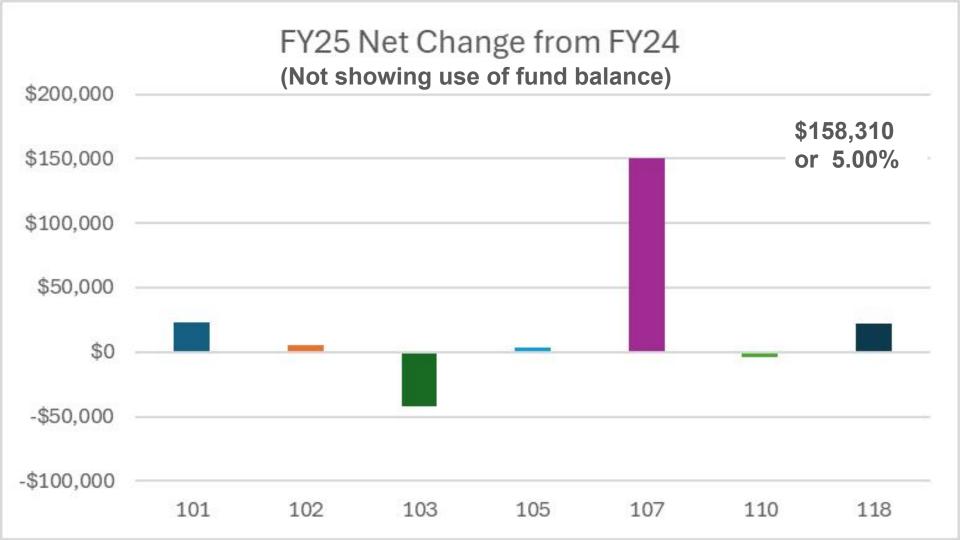


■ 102 - COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICES

\$3,165,807

- 105 PUBLIC SAFETY
- 110 DEBT SERVICE

- 101 GENERAL GOVERNMENT
- 103 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
- 107 PUBLIC WORKS
- 118 TRANSFER TOTALS



Total Expenditure Budget

