



**TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY  
Budget Meeting  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
July 01, 2025, 6:00 PM  
Agenda**

**Mayor:** Gerald Greer

**Council Members:** Tim Adkins, Nicole Binkley, Chris Kerrigan, Michael Smith, Kevin Thompson, Tony Young

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**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of June 3, 2025, Special Called Budget Workshop Minutes
2. Approval of June 17, 2025, Budget Workshop Minutes

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Newspaper Advertisement for the First reading of the Budget

**NEW BUSINESS**

3. 2025-2026 Budget - 1st Reading

**ADJOURNMENT**

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*Those with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the ADA Coordinator at 615-792-6455, M-F 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The town will make reasonable accommodations for those persons.*



**TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY**  
**Special Called Budget Workshop Meeting**  
**June 03, 2025, IMMEDIATELY**  
**FOLLOWING THE REGULAR**  
**WORKSHOP MEETING**  
**Minutes**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Greer called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Greer

Councilman Tim Adkins

Councilwoman Binkley

Vice Mayor Chris Kerrigan

Councilman Michael Smith

Councilman Kevin Thompson

Councilman Tony Young

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Binkley, Seconded by Councilman Thompson, to approve the agenda. All approved by voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approve April 30, 2024, Budget Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Young, to approve the April 30, 2024, Budget Meeting Minutes. All approved by voice vote.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS**

2. Budget Discussion - Jamie Winslett, Kellie Reed, and CPA Consultant James Bence

**Kellie Reed** led the meeting; she stated that we would not get into Water/Sewer in this meeting. She provided Budget Books and asked to open to section 1. Kellie started with the General Fund Budget Summary. The summary gives an overall picture of where the budget is for the upcoming year.

Kellie explained O & M and what that means. This is Operating and Maintenance. Total **Operating and Maintenance Revenues** are reoccurring Revenues that come in every year. Examples: Property Taxes, Sales Taxes, Park Revenues, and things we expect year after year. **Operating and Maintenance Expenditures** are the things that are paid out every year. Examples: Salaries, Benefits, Utilities, Repair and Maintenance costs, out of the Operating and Maintenance every year.

Budgeted, Projected, and Proposed boxes were next. That is Revenues minus the Operating and Maintenance Expenditures and then what is remaining.

The 23 Actual and the 24 Actual are the unaudited numbers. What was budgeted for 2025 was budgeted at a deficit for the Operating and Maintenance Revenues verses Expenditures.

We are projecting that we are going to come in a little under budget. We are still going to be at a deficit for Revenues verses Expenditures.

The next set of numbers, we add in the Fund Balance and then add what is remaining from the Operating and Maintenance Revenues. Then I added the Grant monies that we get for the different grants that we have. These are one off Revenues for fundings that we have. The Grants are listed below, and this list has grown significantly since I emailed it to you. This is proposed capital and Grant Projects. I have what is proposed for the year 2026. This will include all the

capital projects as well as the Grant Funding items. It is the Revenue that offsets the Expenditure. The other Grant Funding Line is the Revenue for it and the Capital and Grant Projects is the Expenditure.

The total proposed O & M Expenditures for the year, the 9.2 that you see is the number that the 2026 proposed O&M Expenditures. If we divide the number by 12 and multiply it by 2 this is 2 months of O&M at 1.5, 3 months is 2.3, and 4 months, 5 months, and 6 months. The comptroller of the State of Tennessee says that you should have between 2- and 6 months' worth of Emergency Funds saved. This is showing at the end of this Fiscal year the year-end Fund Balance covers your Emergency Funds. As far as Cash you are okay, but we are going into our Fund Balance for Operating and Maintenance costs every year.

When we first met with the Department heads and started the budget process we were at a million-dollar deficit. We worked with the Department Heads and cut costs and did everything we could do to bring the O&M down as low as we possibly could get it. The department heads worked hard to get it to where it is now. If we keep going into the Fund Balance year after year it is not a good thing. There is a lot of Debt in the General Fund. We have a lot of capital projects.

**James Bence added:** clarification on some of these projects, these are Grant projects that were partially funded and getting grant supplements for their capital acquisitions or projects that the Department Heads proposed they need. At the bottom of the second table there is about 2.8 million capital projects with about a million dollars of funding. There is another million and half to use from the Fund Balance for one-time capital projects. This is why you build Fund Balance to be able to fund those one-time costs but it is something to be mindful of because you can see in that table for the last couple of years we have built the balance up and now the last 2 to 3 years we have consumed some of the fund balance on some of these needed capital projects, capital improvements and grant matches.

**Kellie Reed:** We will come back next week and have more details, and you will be able to take these books home and study them as well. I have included a list of questions that we are going to touch on. Please move to Section 2, we will start going through the line-item budget. She went through the numbers in Section 2 and 3 skipping back and forth to explain where the numbers are coming from. Property taxes and Property Assessment sheet, this is the total assessed value for the year. Kellie explained how the numbers go in and are calculated. We are at a 96% collection rate currently. Kellie included how much revenue would be raised if the taxes were raised, the value used to show this was 1 penny. Kellie included the rates of every county around Cheatham County and what their tax rates are for 2024. Kellie also included what the cities are within those counties so that there is a comparison. Kellie included 3 sample tax bills and how they would change if the taxes were raised. Kellie set the budget at the current tax rate but gave the council the numbers so they are informed should they decide to increase taxes. Kellie then explained the next section Local Taxes; the projected year end is 6.7 million. For 2026 our proposed year end is 6.6 million. They are proposed rounded down. The next section is building related permits; we calculated this based on a 3-year trend and proposed it at \$ 85,000. Next is intergovernmental, this is where you will see all the Grant monies paid out of. There are notes to describe each line. MTAS sets what we should have a State shared revenues at each year, Kellie included a copy of the State shared publication for reference. Kellie also included her state shared worksheet for comparison. County Firefighters funds are separated out this budget, we normally just lump it all into donations. We get money for the rural fire contract, the firefighter funding, and fire fighter staffing. They are in 3 different line items siu t will be easier for them to track both the fire department and the front office to be sure they receive that money. Next section is Fines; this is mainly for the court fines and costs. The projected year end is also rounded down in this section. When general sessions were removed these numbers decreased. Next section is other; these are mainly in-house collections. Examples are events, music on main, parks revenues and anything the senior center collects, the farmland lease, interest earnings. That will conclude with the revenues and the total on them is 9.9 million is anticipated next year. Kellie went over each department the same and looked at them as a whole and stated if the council has any questions the department heads are there to answer them. The court department was first; there is a new city hall department suggested by MTAS for better record keeping.

Kellie asked Allen Nicholson to speak on the beatification project. Allen started by stating these 3 (Jamie, Kellie, James and Casey) and the department heads have worked really hard to get the deficit down from where it was to where it is now is unimaginable. The beatification project is something we worked with Amanda Bell on our downtown area. We broke it down in 2 different phases, phase 1 covers from Cumberland Street to Mulberry Street. We are working with the landscape architect. The cost of Phase 1 is \$ 117,000.00 estimated. Phase 2 covers Chestnut Street to Cumberland Street and that cost is estimated at \$ 36,000.00. Phase 1 is the first focal point in front of the courthouse. Next week we will go through the capital list with you so that you are able to say yes or no to any of them. When the beautification gets moved to finance it will decrease the court budget to \$ 297,750.00. Councilman Adkins asked if all the departments could list the salaries and how many employees that will cover for each department. Kellie advised it is difficult to project health insurance and gave the council a breakdown of how health insurance works and why it is difficult to project.

**Finance Department:** There were a few longevity or bonus pay questions and Kellie and Jamie explained how it paid out and when it is paid out. None of the donation requests were added to the budget, all the donation requests are in section 4. The debt for City Hall is included in the budget. Technology department: big area of interest is rotating out the laptop and desktops and it was cut. There is some debt for the laptops in this budget, and it should be paid off this year. The projected year end is \$ 455,980.00 and the proposed budget for next year is \$ 374,097.00.

**Codes Budget:** projected year end \$ 393, 067.00 proposed for next year is \$ 340, 730, and the additional employee was cut out of the budget. There are 3 employees in this budget, Allen, Gary, and Alicia. Allen's salary is currently split between Codes and Finance. The current role as Chief of Staff we can take a portion of his salary from water/sewer. The way it will be split is 40% Codes, 40% out of Finance, and 10% out of water and 10% out of sewer. Alicia's salary will be 75% out of codes and 25% out of the I.T. department. Councilman Smith questioned cutting the additional person from Allen's budget with him taking on the Chief of Staff Role and having a shortage in his department. Kellie advised that the board could decide to add the new position back in if they would like. This will be the third time that he has taken this position out of the budget because other departments needed positions, so he always removed his to help other departments first. The proposed salary for this position with benefits would be approximately \$ 85,000. There are no new positions for any departments, only revamping the current positions we have. Councilman Thompson asked with the new WWTP do we have enough manpower to cover everything. He advised he added to his crew last year to compensate for the new WWTP.

**General Government Buildings:** this is the new city hall. This is taking money out of, court, finance, and codes to pay for the different things for the new city hall. The one capital item is the AED devices. Jamie thinks the number is a little high and will revisit it to verify. Kellie advised if we get a grant for them, we can amend the budget.

**Police Department:** Vice Mayor Kerrigan asked why we are getting 3 new police vehicles when we normally get 2. Chief Matlock answered that because of the cars that are up in rotation being administrative cars as opposed to patrol cars they need less equipment so they cost less, and they can get 3 cars for the same price as 2 patrol cars.

**Fire Department:** The debt that is included in this budget is for the Fire Truck and the New Fire Hall. There are several Grants listed out on various line items. The donation to the Firefighters fund is something the council would decide if they wanted to fund that donation.

**Streets Department:** The big thing for this department is the new radios. This is due to the 911 dispatch. There is also a multi model in this budget. Councilman Adkins asked about the Bucket Truck. Kellie advised it is a requested capital item. Radios are going to be moved to the water/sewer fund. Allen Nicholson advised why the radios need to get replaced. He serves on the Cheatham County 911 board; Cheatham County was the last of 9 counties that moved to the new system. THP offered to move us to their radio towers which is going to increase our radio coverage. If we opt not to get onboard, we will have interoperability with other counties that we serve. The equipment we currently have will be obsolete.

**Thrive 55 Center;** Door replacement is the big item on her budget. Tammany is not there so if there are any questions we will need to ask them next week.

**Parks Department:** AC is currently down at Summerfest so we will need to ask questions next week also. A couple of things to point out in his budget are \$ 20,000.00 for engineering expenses for the bridge and this is just an estimate for Jason Reynolds to look at the Trail Bridges. We have a couple of Grants. Councilman Adkins asked about the Ballpark Remodel for \$ 200,000.00 and she answered yes. He asked if that is for John's Park? She answered yes and a second ballpark behind the school. If there are any grants obtained, we can come back and amend the budget to reflect any grant money that is applied. Vice Mayor Kerrigan had questions about the Bridge's. There was some discussion about the costs and how to fix some of these items in the most economical way. There are still some questions about who owns the land to decide on how to fix the bridge that has collapsed.

Kellie reviewed the questions that she gave the council members for next week. Kellie forgot to mention a position that is being revamped in the streets budget. Utility Street Maintenance Supervisor is how it is listed on the pay table. That position was just street maintenance supervisor and is being proposed to take a dual role now. This is Jared's position, and he will be taking over to do what Kevin was doing and now the position will be split into thirds. The salary will be split between Streets, water, and sewer.

The budget was set with no merit raises for employees and no COLA raises. Mayor Greer stated that he would like to see us do whatever possible to balance the budget without raising the property taxes and Vice Mayor Kerrigan agreed and would like to see at least the COLA raise for the staff. Mayor Greer gave a suggestion instead of making a 3% raise is looking at doing a set amount and every employee gets the same amount because some salaries are so much higher than others.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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MAYOR GERALD GREER

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CITY RECORDER MARY MOLEPSKE



## TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY

### Special Called Budget Workshop Meeting

June 17, 2025, 6:00 PM

### Minutes

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#### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Greer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

Mayor Greer

Councilman Tim Adkins

Councilwoman Binkley

Councilman Michael Smith

Councilman Kevin Thompson

Councilman Tony Young

#### ABSENT

Vice Mayor Chris Kerrigan

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilwoman Binkley, Seconded by Councilman Young, to approve the agenda. All approved by voice vote.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve June 10, 2025, Special Called Budget Workshop Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the June 10, 2025, Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes. All approved by voice vote.

#### PUBLIC FORUM

**Karen Boyte:** She stated that she may not have to speak because Councilwoman Binkley passed out the email that she sent to the Council members prior to the meeting, she offered to read it if they would like her to. The Council Members choose to read it themselves and moved into the report section with Attorney Noe.

#### REPORTS

2. ATTORNEY: Jennifer Noe stated that she did not have anything to add that is not already on the agenda.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. Budget Discussion - Kellie Reed, Jamie, Winslett, James Bence

James Bence was not available through zoom for this meeting.

Mayor Greer gave the floor to Kellie Reed.

Kellie Reed advised that there are a few items left to discuss, and she sent an email to the Council members outlining the discussion for this evening.

1. **Raises** – She emailed the Summary sheets showing the changes and what the costs would be for the 1.5%, 2.0%, 2.5%, and 3% would be and the difference it would be if there was a bonus given opposed to raises.

**Mayor Greer:** The difference between 1.5% and 3% is \$ 73, 900.00 (seventy-three thousand and nine hundred dollars).

**Kellie Reed:** advised in the General fund that is correct.

**Councilman Adkins** added: I calculated at the 3% it would be a difference of \$ 145, 700.00 (one hundred forty-five thousand and seven hundred dollars) with No COLA and 3%).

**Kellie Reed:** advised that sounds accurate.

**Mayor Greer:** asked the council how they would like to proceed with the raises.

**Councilman Adkins:** advised he would like to see the employees get something, but he would like to look further to see if items can still be cut from the budget that has not been cut yet so that we would not have to raise property taxes.

**Kellie Reed:** responded not to her knowledge.

**Councilman Thompson:** asked about the money that is resting and is supposed to be used toward Music on Main (HOTEL/MOTEL TAX).

**Kellie Reed:** We will get to that soon. There is close to \$ 96,000.00 (ninety-Six Thousand Dollars) that is restricted for Tourism.

**Mayor Greer:** stated that these funds could be used for some of the items we currently have in line items and some of the other park projects that would help with Tourism in the city.

**Kellie Reed:** advised that it would help lower the O&M for the Parks Department.

**Councilman Adkins:** wanted to know how much the property tax increase would be for the 2% and the 3% raise. A 2% increase would increase the deficit to \$ 454,000.00 (Four-Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand Dollars) and 3% would increase the Deficit by \$ 503,000.00 (Five Hundred Three Thousand Dollars). How much would a property tax be to cover the whole deficit with the raise included?

**Kellie Reed:** advised that at 1.5% it would be a difference of \$ 71,800.00 (Seventy-one Thousand and Eight Hundred Dollars). At a 96% collection rate you would need a raise of 2 or 3 cents (Two or Three Cents) property tax increase. At 2% the difference would be \$ 96,200.00 (Ninety-Six Thousand and Two Hundred Dollars) and you would need to raise it by 4 cents (Four Cents). For the 2.5% it would be a difference of \$ 121,400.00 (One Hundred Twenty-one Thousand and Four Hundred Dollars) the increase would increase to 5 Cents (Five Cents). For 3% the difference is \$ 145, 700.00 (One Hundred Forty-five Thousand and Seven Hundred Dollars) the increase would be Six Cents.

**Councilman Adkins:** clarified he would like to know the total increase with the current deficit plus the raise increase amounts. He calculated it would be 17 or 18 cents (Seventeen or Eighteen Cents) to cover the deficit and the raise. He feels that we are not having a water and sewer increase this year, but we need to give our citizens a break somehow.

**Councilman Thompson:** advised that technically we did last year when we decreased from .58 cents (Fifty-Eight Cents) to .36 Cents (Thirty-Six Cents). He suggested a 1.5% raise and 5 Cent (Five Cents) increase in property taxes to get us back out of the red.

**Councilman Young:** stated that he has received some complaints about increasing the property tax rates to give raises to the employees.

**Councilman Adkins:** asked what else could be cut besides the Building and Codes Positions.

**Mayor Greer:** advised to take away more would be decreasing services.

**Councilman Thompson:** advised that the Town has grown by 3,000 (Three Thousand) people between 2016 and now.

**Mayor Greer:** advised that he, Allen Nicholson, Kellie Reed, and Jamie Winslett went through multiple sessions and cut as much as they could before it came to the Council.

**Kellie Reed:** advised when the budget was started and it was proposed; they allowed the Department Heads to propose what they wanted in the budget and the original budget deficit was over a million dollars. Section 10 shows what the budget was last year. It defines what each department has in its budget for this current fiscal year. If you compare what was in the budget last year and what is proposed this year you will be able to see where those cuts are. Most of the departments made significant cuts.

**Attorney Noe:** asked Kellie if the budget includes the additional cost of the TCRS change for Hazardous pay?

**Kellie Reed:** stated that she would get to that discussion. She gave the board the option to table the discussion and hear the rest of the changes and come back to it for a decision. The Council Members decided on giving the Employees a 2% COLA raise and increasing property taxes by 17 Cents.

**Councilman Smith:** stated that right now everyone is having a hard time hiring employees and retaining them. If people have experience in any department they will choose to go to other jobs for more money.

**Department Head Clint Biggers:** stated that if they give a lump sum, it does not go towards the pay scale, so the people who top out will not get a lump sum. If anyone is topped out, they would not get it no matter what the bonus is.

**Violet Black (HR):** added that if it is COLA they change the pay scale to reflect the change, and COLA is different than merit raises.

**Mayor Greer:** it would be stipulated that this would go to all full-time employees if they were choosing a one-time bonus instead of the COLA raise.

**Clint Biggers:** He added that residents are saying something about raising taxes for pay raises. If we had not built a Fire Hall and City Hall, we would not be in a deficit. You can't hurt your family because you want to build new buildings, if you must raise taxes, that is just part of it. You raise taxes to build buildings.

**Department Head Chief Chuck Walker:** advised that they have no way to top people out. Before this administration there were departments getting merit raises and other departments did not know about it so we asked and it turned out that we had an employee (example: Fire Captain) in the same line for 15 years and still making \$ 15,000.00 (Fifteen Thousand Dollars). Because when we get the COLA it bumps the line up to a higher pay so that was the reason for the merit raises. The previous administration said this was the only way to get them topped out. The county has a policy of 5 years, and they are topped out if they do a good job and meet their merit. We have no system in the city and that is why we put money there in the last 2 years to try to get some of their people topped out that have stayed 15 years. We advertise these jobs at the top out pay but they are not able to get there. After all of this is settled, we need to come up with a policy or we are false advertising these positions. He is speaking on behalf of the Fire Department, and they would wait on the hazardous pay to make sure the city employees get their raises.

**Attorney Jennifer Noe:** Asked Kellie how much the property tax rate would need to increase to cover the entire deficit and the 2% COLA increase.

**Kellie Reed:** Advised, to cover the entire deficit of \$ 479, 644.00 (Four Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand and Six Hundred Forty-Four Dollars) we would need to increase the property taxes by a .17 Cents (Seventeen). That would give us a little more than the deficit at a total of \$ 484,160.00 (Four Hundred, Eighty-Four Thousand and one Hundred and Sixty Dollars). If you raise the property tax of 16 Cents it would equal \$ 455,680.00 (Four Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand, Six Hundred and Eighty Dollars).

**Mayor Greer:** asked for some figures on the different percentages of the COLA raise and to pay off the deficit too.

**Kellie Reed:** went through all the figures and then asked the board to decide how to put it in the budget for the first reading. For 3 years the city did not have a tax increase. The city is on the radar with the comptroller because your budget was turned in last year with an O&M deficit.

**Attorney Jennifer Noe:** The board was not made aware of the deficit last year. This means that you already dipped into your Fund Balance last year. How much did we dip into the Fund Balance last year, if you are able to answer this?

**Kellie Reed:** Go back to your Summary Sheet, the budget was presented to you with your O&M at \$ 606,097.00 (Six Hundred Six Thousand, ninety-Seven Dollars). I will have to investigate that figure. The projection this year was under that at \$ 353,467.00 (Three Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand, Four Hundred sixty-seven Dollars). If you increased the property tax by 17 cents it would make the rate .538 which is just a little higher than it was in 2022 when it was adjusted to pay the same amount when the appraisals went up.

**Councilwoman Binkley:** she would like to get the new bucket truck. She would support a higher tax increase to take care of as much of the deficit as possible and add the Bucket truck back into with the COLA raise.

**Kellie Reed:** stated that it could possibly lower your O&M because of the maintenance costs on the older truck. The truck was going to be inspected and come back to the board and inform them of the cost to fix it.



**Clint Biggers:** advised they are waiting in line because there are very few places that can inspect and certify the truck we currently have.

**Mayor Greer:** asked if they were suggesting putting the Bucket truck back in the Capital Outlay. The council all agreed to add the truck back into the budget.

**Mayor Greer:** 2% COLA, Add Bucket Truck, Raise Tax Rate to .5348 (10 cent increase) like it was previously.

**Kevin Thompson:** 2% COLA, Add Bucket Truck, Raise Tax Rate to .5348 (10 cent increase) like it was previously.

**Michael Smith:** 2% COLA, Add Bucket Truck, Raise Tax Rate to .5348 (10 cent increase) like it was previously.

**Tim Adkins:** 2% COLA, Add Bucket Truck, Raise Tax Rate to .5348 (10 cent increase) like it was previously.

**Tony Young:** 2% COLA, Add Bucket Truck, Raise Tax Rate to .5348 (10 cent increase) like it was previously.

**Nicole Binkley:** 2% COLA, Add Bucket Truck, Raise Tax Rate to .5348 (10 cent increase) like it was previously.

**Vice Mayor Kerrigan:** Absent

2. **TCRS Hazardous Pay for Police and Firefighters:** Kellie Spoke to James Armistead and got some valuable information on the program. She explained in simple terms; If you have 30 years vested with TCRS, you can retire at any time. At any age you can retire with TCRS and draw based on that formula. The top 5 (Five) salary years and then calculate What you can be paid for 30 years of employment. The amount you draw monthly will increase if you continue your employment for the past 30 years. Hazard Pay offers an enhanced benefit for anyone who is vested after 5 years but has not reached the 30 years. If you are aged 60 and not at the social security age you can take early retirement if your age is between 60 and 67 (sixty and sixty-seven) if you are Police or Firefighters. This is half of the enhancement of the bridge program, and it does not require them to retire early. The predetermined amount that TCRS says that you must contribute as an employer is 7.14% and the board voted that the city would contribute 7.5% and reduce liability. If you pay the costs in a lump sum payment of \$ 205, 673.00 (Two Hundred Five Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy-Three Dollars) all employees rates for the employer paid contribution in addition to the 7.5% that the city currently pays would go up .34%. You would have to pay 7.84% of their salaries. This rate would affect all employees not just Police and Fire. The budget is calculated at 7.5% and if you choose to make the change, I will have to recalculate the budget because it will be a drastic change. We have not turned in the TCRS certified rate currently. It is not due until July 1. We could withdraw the rate if you choose the lump sum and adding an additional .34% would increase it to 7.48% and we have calculated enough for that. The three options are lump sum payment, you can amortize the rate for a year which would increase the TCRS rate, and you would pay 7.5% plus 12.23% for a year and after the year the 12.23% would drop off and then you would have to adopt whatever TCRS says your liability is. The rate is based on your liability, or you could do it for 10 years, and you don't get to choose any other time between one year and 10 years. The 10 years would be 7.5% plus 1.91% and after the 10 years 1.91% would be dropped off. You will have to pass a resolution sent by TCRS to accept one of these methods.

**Attorney Jennifer Noe:** confirmed that no matter which option is selected it would increase the deficit in the budget.

**Kellie Reed:** advised that the board does not have to accept this right now it can be revisited later but the numbers will change, and it will require a new study for the lump sum payment.

**Councilwoman Binkley:** If we do push this to next year it will make giving all the employees a COLA raise. Mayor Greer and all the present Council Members agreed to wait until next year for the Hazardous duty pay.

**Kellie Reed:** Stated that Jamie Winslett is looking into ways to generate Revenue through MTAS. She would prepare the budget with the COLA at 2% and add the bucket truck back, and 10 Cent property tax increase. No increase in the Water and Sewer bills this year. We are still waiting for Billy Harris to get some additional information on the number of bills

affected. She advised the board what the Multi Modal Grant is and how it works. The Hotel/Motel tax can be used for any expense the Council would deem to promote tourism. There has been a little over \$ 91,000.00 (Ninety-One Thousand) this year. Some of the things that was cut from the Parks Department can be added back in if the board deems the project will promote Tourism.

**Jamie Winslett:** We will need to update the Resolution for Hotel/Motel Tax.

We will have a Special Called Budget Meeting on July 1, 2025, after the Workshop.

## **OTHER**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Thompson, Seconded by Councilman Young, to adjourn the meeting. All approved by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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MAYOR GERALD GREER

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CITY RECORDER MARY MOLEPSKE

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY**  
**2025/2026 BUDGET MEETING**

**AGENDA: BUDGET FOR FY 2025/2026**  
**FIRST READING**

**PLACE: 104 RUTH DRIVE**

**DATE: JULY 1, 2025      TIME: 6:00 PM**