



PUBLIC HEARING OF BUDGET AND BUDGET ADOPTION

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 6:00 PM
RUTH TOWN HALL

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL

AGENDA ADOPTION

COMMUNITY FORUM

1. Public Hearing of Budget Comments

NEW BUSINESS

2. Adoption of the proposed budget

ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons who need accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Town Hall at (828) 287-7943 within 48 hours prior to the meeting to request such assistance.

Budget Message information

I have never prepared a budget proposal during such challenging times or under more surreal circumstances. The two most important pieces of communication are we do not know what the future holds, and we are operating in the best interest of our community and its citizens. In March, the entire world changed, and our shared situation is the overriding need for replacement revenue. While cities and towns are the economic engines of the state, we to must be creative and courageous in searching out additional revenue pursuits. We must strive to cultivate revenue streams. Revenue shortfalls coupled with no revenue replacement plan and increasing expense is a daunting condition. Therefore, in preparing and planning for revenues in this proposed budget, the following are conditions I have included in my calculations:

1. Decrease in collection rate of taxes-Based on my research, my working hypothesis is to estimate a 5% decrease in collections. Aggressive? I offer you to think of it as one out of every twenty residents may need forgiveness of some portion of their tax. Or for our estimated population of 487, 15 people might need support. This computes to a decrease of \$4,202.43.
2. Decrease in collection of residential property purchased by the state and now exempt from collections. This computes to a decrease of \$3,164.28.
3. Decrease of Sales & Use, Franchise Utility, & Solid Waste tax distributions are estimated by most to be down by a minimum of 15%. We already know these distributions are “elastic” ones or “flex” revenue. Although this is hypothetical, I feel this is a prudent calculation. This computes to a decrease of \$6,577.35.
4. Decrease in interest on investments. This is an area we have already seen dramatic changes in our dividends. For example, our annual % yield earned on most of our investments in February was 1.20%, we thought that rate was low! In March, our rate dropped almost in half and was .80%. In April.... wait for it.... it is going to hurt, .35%. I am going to suggest we reduce our expected by \$1,000.00. This may not seem enough, however, we underestimated our current earnings. Therefore, I feel this will suffice.
5. As usual, we are always chasing regarding waste endeavors. There are many layers we must include in this calculation. Our CPI increase from Republic is 2.2%. This equates to an increase of \$332.64 for waste and \$129.36 for recyclables. There has been no feedback from RCSW regarding the rumored increase in tipping fees for recycling. Hence disposal fees should remain relatively constant. As slight as this increase may seem, the Town will burden \$4,022.48 for the year. Our waste expense (16% of our

total budget) will be approximately \$30,032.48, while our revenue for waste from taxpayers will equal \$26,010.00. Given the increase in waste fees the past two budget cycles, combined with increased burden on citizens due to COVID19 related issues, I am not recommending an increase in waste fees. Are we postponing the inevitable? Possibly, however I feel there are some other avenues we can explore to potentially alleviate this burden. Examples of possibilities are (1) reexamine alternate providers/competitors (2) try negotiating with Republic for unit price reduction (3) eliminate recycling all together; just to name a few. I will be investigating all and providing feedback to the board. Can it be argued if we burden the difference now, how can we justify or leverage not sharing the burden in the future or for other concerns? Yes, certainly. Should waste be a self-sustaining operation, absolutely, especially for a town of our size and means. Although these arguments are true, consider we would have to raise the fee from \$170 per can to \$196.10 per can, levying an additional \$26.10 per can per year. I cannot recommend this before exhausting all other possibilities.

This introduces us nicely to our expenditure discussion. As highlighted above, our waste has increased by \$.18 per unit per month, recycling has increased by \$.54 per unit per month. The discussion of recycling disposal fees has not come to fruition at the time this message was created. Due to the need for leanness and based on activity/history, I have budgeted a decrease to the following accounts:

Administration

- Legal \$2,000.00
- Election Expense \$2,000.00
- Town Education \$ 500.00
- Maintenance & Repair Equipment \$1,000.00
- Departmental Supplies \$1,500.00
- Insurance and Bonds \$1,000.00
- Miscellaneous Expense \$1,000.00
- Downtown Beautification \$3,500.00
- Town Hall Furnishings \$ 500.00

Capital Outlay

- Capital Outlay Land \$1,000.00
- Capital Outlay Building \$5,000.00
- Capital Outlay Other Improvements/Signage \$2,000.00
- Capital Outlay Other Equipment \$ 500.00
- Capital Outlay Technology \$4,000.00

Street Department

- Utilities-Street Lights \$ 500.00
- Maintenance-Existing Streets \$8,200.00
- Snow & Ice Removal \$ 200.00

This is a grand total reduction across departments of \$34,400.00.

Conversely, I am recommending increases to the following line items based on current year activity, proposed increases, tax value changes, change in management of duties or submitted requests:

Administration

- Tax Collection & Clerk Expense \$ 3,000.00
- Dues & Subscriptions \$10,000.00
- Christmas Light Expense \$ 900.00

Fire Department

- Contracted Services \$ 1,238.20
- Tree Removal Hired Services \$ 2,000.00

Street Department

- Bikeways \$ 2,000.00
- Greenways \$ 700.00
- Ruthridge Right of Way \$ 500.00
- Ruthridge Beautification \$ 500.00
- Town Hall Beautification/mowing etc. \$ 1,500.00

Sanitation Department

- Recycling Contracted Service \$ 129.36
- Garbage Contracted Service \$ 332.64

This is a grand total increase across departments of \$22,800.20. This is a net reduction of \$11,599.80.

The only budget request given was for a software upgrade

Naturally, given all the data I have highlighted, there are changes in fiscal policy for being lean & thoughtful in spending. Understanding in some cases you must spend money to create revenue flows. The approach of the board is to be resourceful and openminded in pursuing alternative sources of revenue. This includes grants and aid, however, is not limited to these

temporary solutions. Financially the board wishes to continue its conservative perspective and guard expenditures closely.

While we are chasing our Pole Star of revenue, the new highway is an opportunity for us. It is an economic factor which will affect our upcoming budgets. We are hoping to enlist the assistance of those who can support us in capitalizing on this event and make it work in our favor.

[G.S. 159-11(b)]

TOWN OF RUTH

Proposed Budget 2020-2021

Item 1.

REVENUE:

1030100 CURRENT TAXES	\$76,681.78
1032900 INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	\$1,600.00
1033600 PERSONAL AUTO TAX	\$6,916.00
1034300 POWELL BILL ALLOCATION/* <u>RESTRICTED</u>	\$15,000.00
1036702 SALES & USE TAX	\$29,998.01
1036703 NC FRANCHISE TAX	\$7,051.88
1036704 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TAX	\$221.75
1039900 APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE/** <u>RESERVES</u>	\$18,083.18
1039901 LANDFILL FEE/* <u>RESTRICTED</u>	\$26,010.00
Total Revenue	\$181,562.60

EXPENSE:

ADMINISTRATION:

1040900 NC Sales Tax	\$47.00
1040901 Sales Tax Other	\$72.00
1040902 Shipping & Handling	\$66.00
1041000 SALARY OF MAYOR	\$775.00
1041001 COMMISSIONERS	\$1,292.00
1041002 TAX COLLECTION & CLERK EXPENSE	\$20,000.00
1041003 LEGAL SERVICES	\$5,000.00
1041004 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$12,000.00
1041006 FICA EXPENSE	\$2,508.12
1041010 ELECTION EXPENSE	\$0.00
1041011 TOWN EDUCATION EXPENSE	\$500.00
1041013 UTILITIES/ CITY HALL – MALL	\$5,000.00
1041015 MAINTENANCE & REPAIR BUILDING & GROUNDS	\$5,000.00
1041016 MAINTENANCE & REPAIR EQUIPMENT	\$0.00
1041026 ADVERTISING	\$500.00
1041033 DEPARTMENTAL SUPPLIES & EXPENSE	\$1,500.00
1041053 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$20,000.00
1041054 INSURANCE & BONDS	\$4,000.00
1041057 MISC. EXPENSE	\$0.00
1041058 CHRISTMAS LIGHT EXPENSE	\$7,400.00
1041059 DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION	\$1,500.00
1041060 TOWN HALL FURNISHINGS	\$500.00
1041070 TOWN GROUNDS	\$0.00
	\$87,660.12

CAPITAL OUTLAY:

1041071 CAPITAL OUTLAY LAND	\$0.00
1041072 CAPITAL OUTLAY BUILDING	\$0.00
1041073 CAPITAL OUTLAY OTHER IMPROVEMENTS/signage	\$3,000.00
1041074 CAPITAL OUTLAY OTHER EQUIPMENT	\$500.00
1041076 CAPITAL OUTLAY TECHNOLOGY	\$1,000.00
	\$4,500.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

1053045 CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$36,000.00
1053046 Tree Removal Hired Services	\$2,000.00
	\$38,000.00

STREET DEPARTMENT:

1056013 UTILITIES-STREET LIGHT	\$7,000.00
1056014 UTILITIES-SIGNAL LIGHT	\$170.00
1056015 MAINTENANCE – EXISTING STREETS	\$8,000.00
1056016 SNOW & ICE REMOVAL	\$1,000.00
1056017 TRAFFIC CONTROL	\$0.00
1056018 Drainage & Storm Sewer	\$0.00
1056019 Curb & Gutter	\$0.00
1056020 Bikeways	\$2,000.00
1056021 Sidewalks	\$0.00
1056022 Greenways	\$700.00
1056023 Ruthridge Right of Way	\$500.00
1056024 Ruthridge Beautification	\$500.00
1056025 Town Hall Beautification	\$1,500.00
	\$21,370.00

SANITATION DEPARTMENT:

1058044 RECYCLE CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$6,079.92
1058045 GARBAGE CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$15,652.56
1058046 LANDFILL FEES	\$8,300.00
	\$30,032.48

Total Expense

\$181,562.60

*These monies can only be used for the dedicated services they were intended,

** The cash on hand ordained for use if excess expenditures are required

Budget Ordinance for the Town of Ruth 2020-2021

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Town of Ruth, North Carolina:

Section 1: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of the town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this Town:

Administration	\$ 90,660.12
Capital Outlay	\$ 4,500.00
Fire Department	\$ 38,000.00
Street Department	\$ 21,370.00
Sanitation Department	\$ 30,032.48
Total Appropriations	\$ 184,562.60

Section 2: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021:

Current year's real property taxes	\$ 76,681.78
Current year's motor vehicle taxes	\$ 6,916.00
Powell Bill funds	\$ 15,000.00
Franchise taxes	\$ 7,051.88
Interest on investments	\$ 1,600.00
Solid Waste Disposal Tax	\$ 221.75
Sales & Use Tax	\$ 29,998.01
Landfill Taxes	\$ 26,010.00
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 21,083.18
Total estimated revenues	\$184,562.60

Section 3: There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of twenty eight cents (\$0.28) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of April 27, 2020, for the purpose of raising the revenue listed "Current Year's Property Taxes" in the General Fund in Section 2 of this ordinance.

This rate is based on a total valuation of property for the purposes of taxation of \$30,017,319 and an estimated rate of collection of 95.0%. The estimated rate of collection is based on the fiscal 2019-2020 collection rate of 96.4%, the added decrease of %5 of collections due to COVID19 burdens, and the newly exempted properties acquired by the NCDOT furthermore removed from our revenue stream.

Section 4: The City Mayor or a designee is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations as contained herein under the following conditions:

- a. Transfers between line item expenditures within a department without limitation and without a report being required. These changes must not result in increases in recurring obligations such as salaries.

b. Transfers up to \$1,000 between departments, including contingency appropriations, within the same fund. The budget officer must make an official report on such transfers at the next regular meeting of the Governing Board. Item 1.

c. All transfer between funds require prior approved by the Governing Board in an amendment to the Budget Ordinance

Section 5: The City Mayor or a designee may make cash advances between funds for periods not to exceed 60 days without reporting to the Governing Board. Any advances that extend beyond 60 days must be approved by the Board. All advances that will be outstanding at the end of the fiscal year must be approved by the Board.

Section 6: Copies of this Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board and to the Budget Officer and Finance Officer to be kept on file by them for their direction in the disbursement of funds.

Adopted this 23rd day of June, 2020

Budget Ordinance for the Town of Ruth 2020-2021

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Town of Ruth, North Carolina:

Section 1: The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of the town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this Town:

Administration	\$ 90,660.12
Capital Outlay	\$ 4,500.00
Fire Department	\$ 38,000.00
Street Department	\$ 21,370.00
Sanitation Department	\$ 30,032.48
Total Appropriations	\$ 184,562.60

Section 2: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021:

Current year's real property taxes	\$ 76,681.78
Current year's motor vehicle taxes	\$ 6,916.00
Powell Bill funds	\$ 15,000.00
Franchise taxes	\$ 7,051.88
Interest on investments	\$ 1,600.00
Solid Waste Disposal Tax	\$ 221.75
Sales & Use Tax	\$ 29,998.01
Landfill Taxes	\$ 26,010.00
Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 21,083.18
Total estimated revenues	\$184,562.60

Section 3: There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of twenty eight cents (\$0.28) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of April 27, 2020, for the purpose of raising the revenue listed "Current Year's Property Taxes" in the General Fund in Section 2 of this ordinance.

This rate is based on a total valuation of property for the purposes of taxation of \$30,017,319 and an estimated rate of collection of 95.0%. The estimated rate of collection is based on the fiscal 2019-2020 collection rate of 96.4%, the added decrease of %5 of collections due to COVID19 burdens, and the newly exempted properties acquired by the NCDOT furthermore removed from our revenue stream.

Section 4: The City Mayor or a designee is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations as contained herein under the following conditions:

- a. Transfers between line item expenditures within a department without limitation and without a report being required. These changes must not result in increases in recurring obligations such as salaries.

b. Transfers up to \$1,000 between departments, including contingency appropriations, within the same fund. The budget officer must make an official report on such transfers at the next regular meeting of the Governing Board. Item 2.

c. All transfer between funds require prior approved by the Governing Board in an amendment to the Budget Ordinance

Section 5: The City Mayor or a designee may make cash advances between funds for periods not to exceed 60 days without reporting to the Governing Board. Any advances that extend beyond 60 days must be approved by the Board. All advances that will be outstanding at the end of the fiscal year must be approved by the Board.

Section 6: Copies of this Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board and to the Budget Officer and Finance Officer to be kept on file by them for their direction in the disbursement of funds.

Adopted this 23rd day of June, 2020

TOWN OF RUTH

Proposed Budget 2020-2021

Item 2.

REVENUE:

1030100 CURRENT TAXES	\$76,681.78
1032900 INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS	\$1,600.00
1033600 PERSONAL AUTO TAX	\$6,916.00
1034300 POWELL BILL ALLOCATION/* <u>RESTRICTED</u>	\$15,000.00
1036702 SALES & USE TAX	\$29,998.01
1036703 NC FRANCHISE TAX	\$7,051.88
1036704 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TAX	\$221.75
1039900 APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE/** <u>RESERVES</u>	\$18,083.18
1039901 LANDFILL FEE/* <u>RESTRICTED</u>	\$26,010.00
Total Revenue	\$181,562.60

EXPENSE:

ADMINISTRATION:

1040900 NC Sales Tax	\$47.00
1040901 Sales Tax Other	\$72.00
1040902 Shipping & Handling	\$66.00
1041000 SALARY OF MAYOR	\$775.00
1041001 COMMISSIONERS	\$1,292.00
1041002 TAX COLLECTION & CLERK EXPENSE	\$20,000.00
1041003 LEGAL SERVICES	\$5,000.00
1041004 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$12,000.00
1041006 FICA EXPENSE	\$2,508.12
1041010 ELECTION EXPENSE	\$0.00
1041011 TOWN EDUCATION EXPENSE	\$500.00
1041013 UTILITIES/ CITY HALL – MALL	\$5,000.00
1041015 MAINTENANCE & REPAIR BUILDING & GROUNDS	\$5,000.00
1041016 MAINTENANCE & REPAIR EQUIPMENT	\$0.00
1041026 ADVERTISING	\$500.00
1041033 DEPARTMENTAL SUPPLIES & EXPENSE	\$1,500.00
1041053 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$20,000.00
1041054 INSURANCE & BONDS	\$4,000.00
1041057 MISC. EXPENSE	\$0.00
1041058 CHRISTMAS LIGHT EXPENSE	\$7,400.00
1041059 DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION	\$1,500.00
1041060 TOWN HALL FURNISHINGS	\$500.00
1041070 TOWN GROUNDS	\$0.00
	\$87,660.12

CAPITAL OUTLAY:

1041071 CAPITAL OUTLAY LAND	\$0.00
1041072 CAPITAL OUTLAY BUILDING	\$0.00
1041073 CAPITAL OUTLAY OTHER IMPROVEMENTS/signage	\$3,000.00
1041074 CAPITAL OUTLAY OTHER EQUIPMENT	\$500.00
1041076 CAPITAL OUTLAY TECHNOLOGY	\$1,000.00
	\$4,500.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

1053045 CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$36,000.00
1053046 Tree Removal Hired Services	\$2,000.00
	\$38,000.00

STREET DEPARTMENT:

1056013 UTILITIES-STREET LIGHT	\$7,000.00
1056014 UTILITIES-SIGNAL LIGHT	\$170.00
1056015 MAINTENANCE – EXISTING STREETS	\$8,000.00
1056016 SNOW & ICE REMOVAL	\$1,000.00
1056017 TRAFFIC CONTROL	\$0.00
1056018 Drainage & Storm Sewer	\$0.00
1056019 Curb & Gutter	\$0.00
1056020 Bikeways	\$2,000.00
1056021 Sidewalks	\$0.00
1056022 Greenways	\$700.00
1056023 Ruthridge Right of Way	\$500.00
1056024 Ruthridge Beautification	\$500.00
1056025 Town Hall Beautification	\$1,500.00
	\$21,370.00

SANITATION DEPARTMENT:

1058044 RECYCLE CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$6,079.92
1058045 GARBAGE CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$15,652.56
1058046 LANDFILL FEES	\$8,300.00
	\$30,032.48

Total Expense

\$181,562.60

*These monies can only be used for the dedicated services they were intended,

** The cash on hand ordained for use if excess expenditures are required

Budget Message information

I have never prepared a budget proposal during such challenging times or under more surreal circumstances. The two most important pieces of communication are we do not know what the future holds, and we are operating in the best interest of our community and its citizens. In March, the entire world changed, and our shared situation is the overriding need for replacement revenue. While cities and towns are the economic engines of the state, we to must be creative and courageous in searching out additional revenue pursuits. We must strive to cultivate revenue streams. Revenue shortfalls coupled with no revenue replacement plan and increasing expense is a daunting condition. Therefore, in preparing and planning for revenues in this proposed budget, the following are conditions I have included in my calculations:

1. Decrease in collection rate of taxes-Based on my research, my working hypothesis is to estimate a 5% decrease in collections. Aggressive? I offer you to think of it as one out of every twenty residents may need forgiveness of some portion of their tax. Or for our estimated population of 487, 15 people might need support. This computes to a decrease of \$4,202.43.
2. Decrease in collection of residential property purchased by the state and now exempt from collections. This computes to a decrease of \$3,164.28.
3. Decrease of Sales & Use, Franchise Utility, & Solid Waste tax distributions are estimated by most to be down by a minimum of 15%. We already know these distributions are “elastic” ones or “flex” revenue. Although this is hypothetical, I feel this is a prudent calculation. This computes to a decrease of \$6,577.35.
4. Decrease in interest on investments. This is an area we have already seen dramatic changes in our dividends. For example, our annual % yield earned on most of our investments in February was 1.20%, we thought that rate was low! In March, our rate dropped almost in half and was .80%. In April.... wait for it.... it is going to hurt, .35%. I am going to suggest we reduce our expected by \$1,000.00. This may not seem enough, however, we underestimated our current earnings. Therefore, I feel this will suffice.
5. As usual, we are always chasing regarding waste endeavors. There are many layers we must include in this calculation. Our CPI increase from Republic is 2.2%. This equates to an increase of \$332.64 for waste and \$129.36 for recyclables. There has been no feedback from RCSW regarding the rumored increase in tipping fees for recycling. Hence disposal fees should remain relatively constant. As slight as this increase may seem, the Town will burden \$4,022.48 for the year. Our waste expense (16% of our

total budget) will be approximately \$30,032.48, while our revenue for waste from taxpayers will equal \$26,010.00. Given the increase in waste fees the past two budget cycles, combined with increased burden on citizens due to COVID19 related issues, I am not recommending an increase in waste fees. Are we postponing the inevitable? Possibly, however I feel there are some other avenues we can explore to potentially alleviate this burden. Examples of possibilities are (1) reexamine alternate providers/competitors (2) try negotiating with Republic for unit price reduction (3) eliminate recycling all together; just to name a few. I will be investigating all and providing feedback to the board. Can it be argued if we burden the difference now, how can we justify or leverage not sharing the burden in the future or for other concerns? Yes, certainly. Should waste be a self-sustaining operation, absolutely, especially for a town of our size and means. Although these arguments are true, consider we would have to raise the fee from \$170 per can to \$196.10 per can, levying an additional \$26.10 per can per year. I cannot recommend this before exhausting all other possibilities.

This introduces us nicely to our expenditure discussion. As highlighted above, our waste has increased by \$.18 per unit per month, recycling has increased by \$.54 per unit per month. The discussion of recycling disposal fees has not come to fruition at the time this message was created. Due to the need for leanness and based on activity/history, I have budgeted a decrease to the following accounts:

Administration

- Legal \$2,000.00
- Election Expense \$2,000.00
- Town Education \$ 500.00
- Maintenance & Repair Equipment \$1,000.00
- Departmental Supplies \$1,500.00
- Insurance and Bonds \$1,000.00
- Miscellaneous Expense \$1,000.00
- Downtown Beautification \$3,500.00
- Town Hall Furnishings \$ 500.00

Capital Outlay

- Capital Outlay Land \$1,000.00
- Capital Outlay Building \$5,000.00
- Capital Outlay Other Improvements/Signage \$2,000.00
- Capital Outlay Other Equipment \$ 500.00
- Capital Outlay Technology \$4,000.00

Street Department

- Utilities-Street Lights \$ 500.00
- Maintenance-Existing Streets \$8,200.00
- Snow & Ice Removal \$ 200.00

This is a grand total reduction across departments of \$34,400.00.

Conversely, I am recommending increases to the following line items based on current year activity, proposed increases, tax value changes, change in management of duties or submitted requests:

Administration

- Tax Collection & Clerk Expense \$ 3,000.00
- Dues & Subscriptions \$10,000.00
- Christmas Light Expense \$ 900.00

Fire Department

- Contracted Services \$ 1,238.20
- Tree Removal Hired Services \$ 2,000.00

Street Department

- Bikeways \$ 2,000.00
- Greenways \$ 700.00
- Ruthridge Right of Way \$ 500.00
- Ruthridge Beautification \$ 500.00
- Town Hall Beautification/mowing etc. \$ 1,500.00

Sanitation Department

- Recycling Contracted Service \$ 129.36
- Garbage Contracted Service \$ 332.64

This is a grand total increase across departments of \$22,800.20. This is a net reduction of \$11,599.80.

The only budget request given was for a software upgrade

Naturally, given all the data I have highlighted, there are changes in fiscal policy for being lean & thoughtful in spending. Understanding in some cases you must spend money to create revenue flows. The approach of the board is to be resourceful and openminded in pursuing alternative sources of revenue. This includes grants and aid, however, is not limited to these

temporary solutions. Financially the board wishes to continue its conservative perspective and guard expenditures closely.

While we are chasing our Pole Star of revenue, the new highway is an opportunity for us. It is an economic factor which will affect our upcoming budgets. We are hoping to enlist the assistance of those who can support us in capitalizing on this event and make it work in our favor.

[G.S. 159-11(b)]