

TOWN COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING AND BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Tuesday, June 30, 2026 at 6:00 PM

RUTH TOWN HALL

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

ROLL CALL

AGENDA ADOPTION

GUEST SPEAKERS

COMMUNITY FORUM

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

1. See attached for review

OLD BUSINESS

2. Old Business is tabled until next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

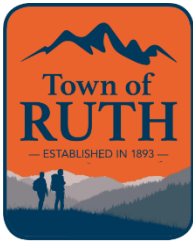
3. Financial Reports attached for review and budget amendment recommendation for board's consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Entering Public Hearing portion of Budget Adoption-
5. Exiting Public Hearing portion of Budget Proposal-
6. Adopt Budget Proposal as presented-

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.



MAY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:00 PM
RUTH TOWN HALL

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

David called meeting to order.

INVOCATION

David offered an Invocation.

ROLL CALL

Present are Mayor Guy, Commissioners Goode and Piper, Manager Hanaway.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Goode made a motion to adopt agenda as presented. Piper seconded.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Guest speakers are present.

1. Phillip Sheehan owns the property next to the Town Hall. Jim King is his surveyor. They would like for the Town to consider bypassing the County's health requirements of square footage for sewer and water so the property may be split and sold separately. Documentation attached for board review.

Phillip Sheehan would like for the Board to consider a variance on County requirements requiring properties to have a specified amount of acreage (15,000 to safely maintain water and sewage) so he might divide his property and sell as two parcels. This would require the board to allow a 5,000 sq ft variance for each parcel. There was much discussion regarding the health codes driving this requirement. David asked for board comments. Goode communicates he feels it's best to continue to align with the County's requirements; he continues if you do it for one, you would open yourselves up to others. Piper stated she would love to help Phillip, doesn't feel it would be wise to deviate from the County's regulation. David said the board has the option to, but to Goode's point it would open the field to others. Amy added, the reason we adhere so closely to the County's regulations is for enforcement purposes. We don't have the funding or expertise to enforce different variances/regulations. The board must consider this when thinking about variances. Amy and David feel we should pursue the drivers to the health regulation for this sq ft footage parameters. Phillip feels the repair area is the reason for the parameters. Amy volunteered to do some research to isolate the reasoning for the parameters. Amy mentioned she can't expend energy on it until budgeting is complete, at the latest middle of June. She will communicate her findings to the board and the interested parties. Goode shared the board is all for your property is yours, this board doesn't overregulate. David agreed our board believes in limited government. Both feel this situation is slightly different as it concerns public health and safety. David shared this isn't a denial, it is a we will do more research and make a decision after collecting the data.

COMMUNITY FORUM

William Steppe shared comments during community forum. He shared, as a tax paying citizen of Ruth, he is proud of the board and it's fiscal responsibility to its citizens. Specifically he is proud the board did not expend taxpayer dollars on the fireworks/countywide 250 celebration event. He pointed out the per citizen amount for our small Town would have not been equitable. David communicated there was such private business and citizen donations they had more than enough and would probably be returning some monies to the Towns that did participate. Amy pointed out the considerations the board had in their mind with the increase in our Fire Tax (increase of over \$16,000.00 to existing contract price), waste CPI increase, etc.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES

Minutes attached

2. See attached

Last meetings minutes approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Road Signage-

Stop signs, road signs. Last conversation Mayor Guy was going to ride the City limits to assess how many new signs Stop or Street were required so Amie could order.

David will compile a list for Amy and she will get them ordered.

4. Town of Ruth Sign-

David has asked Amie to bring Town Sign discussion back to the forefront. She is working to review/revisit with Shytle, update renderings, and has initiated contact with a couple other sign companies to have them render options for review. This is happening around budgeting, as well as street revitalization based on needs.

Town Sign-David and Jenny are aware of DS Signs and Graphics who are doing a fabulous job on several backlit signs. Amy asked for contact information so I can send renderings and get quote. David will forward information. Jenny said the pricing would be competitive also. Nick shared his thoughts of expending money on roads and right of ways prior to Town signage. Amy shared the road assessment work is beginning and feels it should be a top priority. She understands this is an expensive, overwhelming endeavor, however needs to be addressed.

5. Lighting and Security-

David has noticed vagrancy and littering, feels cameras would help deter both. Amie will pick this project back up again as soon as budget proposal is finished. This is a layered project with many tenacles and open contacts for each.

Amy is picking this back up and it will be started again as soon as budget prep is complete. David wanted to comment there is a section where someone is either sleeping at night or stopping in the morning littering. David feels if they are identified they can be caught. Must have surveillance to have the opportunity to identify. Nick spoke of the litter officer, and the prayer boxes attracting trespassers.

6. Duke Power Pole Leases-

David has asked Amie to follow up on Pole Lease discussions with Duke Power for decorative purposes. Amie has reached out to Duke and will hopefully have feedback by the meeting.

Amy had made contact and was routed to new construction for new contracts. They will reply within three to five business days. Amy will continue to follow up.

7. Street priority assessment-

Amie is working with potential contractors for street resurfacing; needs assessment phase will begin soon.

Amy is working with different contractors to get quotes/bids for assigning degree of need to address resurfacing. She will continue to interact and provide follow up to the board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

8. Proposed Fire Tax Increase-

Fire tax proposed increase from Rutherfordton Fire Department is from \$0.11 per \$100 valuation to \$0.14 per \$100 valuation. Our recent tax valuation is (\$54,578,038) which computes to \$76,409.25. Previous rate \$60,035.84; difference of \$16,373.41.

Amy reviewed the changes in the upcoming budget for Fire Tax and Waste fees. Amy highlighted waste is increasing 4.7% based on December's CPI. This will add \$1,961.96 for the year. Going from \$22,490.16 to \$24,452.12. This CPI is slightly better than last years which was 5.2%. The other changes and nuances will be highlighted during budget workshop and for public hearing presentation at

the end of June. Amy reminded the board of how diligently they and previous boards have been to keep this number under control. Jenny asked if there's any competition, David and Amy shared horror stories of others who contract that tried to escape them and it has turned out negatively. Also, you cannot go back at the same rate you currently have should you try to revert back to them. Additionally the count of cans in circulation would be dramatically different under reassessment.

9. Annual Municipal Legal Contract-

See attached

David will sign and Amy will forward to Legal.

10. Audit Contract and Engagement letter-

See attached

David will sign and Amy will forward to Auditor.

11. Financial Reports-

See attached

Amy proposed a budget amendment for the board's consideration. Nick made a motion to accept the budget amendment presented, Jenny seconded. Approved unanimously. Amy asked for dates for budget workshop and budget hearing. Shooting for the 30th of June to have regular and public budget hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

12. Rails to Trails ground enhancements-

David has some suggestions of flower options for Rails to Trails embankment.

David would like to plant wildflowers for the TBRT embankment. He would like to do cornflowers and white/red to display a flag. Amy mentioned the wildflowers at the Equestrian Center exit that are gorgeous. William shared the gravel ones he has seen that display the state or town boundaries and require very little upkeep. David did request edge should be treated on a small portion of either side of the trail. Amy will follow up on these issues.

ADJOURNMENT

Nick made a motion to adjourn, Jenny seconded. Meeting adjourned.

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.

GL Budget Amendment Entries

Selected Batch

Town of Ruth
06/28/2026 8:07 PM

Page 1 of 1
Operator: 1

| Batch: 2347 | | Description June Amendments | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| GL Account | | Date | Description | Debit | Credit |
| 10-336-00 | Current Personal Auto Ta | 06/30/2026 | Increase for additio | \$0.00 | \$951.87 |
| 10-367-02 | Sales & Use Tax Dist | 06/30/2026 | Increase for dividen | \$0.00 | \$13,908.43 |
| 10-367-03 | NC Franchise & Utility TD | 06/30/2026 | Increase for dividen | \$0.00 | \$6,689.47 |
| 10-409-00 | NC Sales Tax | 06/30/2026 | Increase for additio | \$1,785.65 | \$0.00 |
| 10-410-58 | Christmas Decorations | 06/30/2026 | Increase for preappr | \$21,005.00 | \$0.00 |
| 10-510-73 | Capital Outlay Other Imp | 06/30/2026 | Decrease for reclas | \$0.00 | \$22,790.65 |
| 10-410-04 | Professional Services | 06/30/2026 | Increase for additio | \$154.61 | \$0.00 |
| 10-410-53 | Dues & Subscriptions | 06/30/2026 | Increase for additio | \$653.31 | \$0.00 |
| 10-580-46 | RCSW Landfill Fees | 06/30/2026 | Increase for additio | \$299.88 | \$0.00 |
| 10-399-00 | Appro.Fund Balance | 06/30/2026 | Offset for adjusting t | \$20,441.97 | \$0.00 |

Fund Total(s)

| Fund | Debits | Credits |
|------|-------------|-------------|
| 10 | \$44,340.42 | \$44,340.42 |

June Budget Ordinance Recommendation

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Town of Ruth, North Carolina, the above amendments are made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026:

Section 1 & 2: Amends the General Fund Revenues & Appropriations as displayed above.

Section 3: Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk of the Governing Board, the Budget Officer, and the Finance Officer for their direction. Adopted this 30th day of June 2026.

Notes for Amendment to the Budget Ordinance:

1 This assumes that for budgeting purpose, the city used an estimated collection rate in line with the amount established by state law [G.S. 159-13(b)(6)] and that the un-amended collection rate is equal to or less than the allowable limit.

2 Many revenues are not fully collected until June 30. To revise estimates mid-year requires careful analysis to ensure that revenue estimates will not be overestimated. Most revenue amendments are for new revenues; however, these are not new revenues.

| Type | Disp Acct | Budget | YTD | Variance | Pr | Item 3. |
|----------------|--|--------------|--------------|---------------|----|---------|
| Type: Revenues | | | | | | |
| Revenues | 10-250-01 Unearned Revenue | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-282-01 Late List Penalty Current | \$0.00 | \$9.92 | \$9.92 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-282-02 Late List Penalty Prior | \$0.00 | \$0.92 | \$0.92 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-300-00 Revenues | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-301-00 Current Taxes | \$178,243.35 | \$162,860.99 | (\$15,382.36) | | 91.37% |
| Revenues | 10-301-01 Taxes - Prior Years | \$0.00 | \$4,771.38 | \$4,771.38 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-302-00 Interest and Penalties | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-329-00 Interest Earned on Invest | \$5,270.00 | \$5,175.30 | (\$94.70) | | 98.20% |
| Revenues | 10-329-01 Interest Earned Powell Bill | \$150.00 | \$143.33 | (\$6.67) | | 95.55% |
| Revenues | 10-335-00 Miscellaneous Revenues | \$0.00 | \$39.00 | \$39.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-336-00 Current Personal Auto Taxes | \$11,668.96 | \$12,620.83 | \$951.87 | | 108.16% |
| Revenues | 10-336-01 Personal Auto Prior Years | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-337-00 NC Franchise Tax | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-343-00 Powell Bill Allocation | \$15,219.55 | \$15,219.55 | \$0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Revenues | 10-367-02 Sales & Use Tax Dist | \$69,036.94 | \$82,945.37 | \$13,908.43 | | 120.15% |
| Revenues | 10-367-03 NC Franchise & Utility TD | \$14,109.85 | \$20,799.32 | \$6,689.47 | | 147.41% |
| Revenues | 10-367-04 Solid Waste Disposal Tax Dist. | \$300.00 | \$269.74 | (\$30.26) | | 89.91% |
| Revenues | 10-380-01 Sign Permit Payment | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-385-01 Hall Rental Fees | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | \$50.00 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-399-00 Appro.Fund Balance | \$5,137.64 | \$0.00 | (\$5,137.64) | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-399-01 Current Landfill Fees | \$33,880.00 | \$33,745.70 | (\$134.30) | | 99.60% |
| Revenues | 10-399-02 Landfill Fees Prior | \$0.00 | \$513.94 | \$513.94 | | 0.00% |
| Revenues | 10-399-51 ARP Funding | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| | | \$333,016.29 | \$339,165.29 | \$6,149.00 | | 102% |
| Type: Expenses | | | | | | |
| Expenses | 10-400-00 Expenses | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-409-00 NC Sales Tax | \$1,800.00 | \$3,585.65 | (\$1,785.65) | | 199.20% |
| Expenses | 10-409-01 Sales Tax Other | \$95.00 | \$94.12 | \$0.88 | | 99.07% |
| Expenses | 10-409-02 S/H Freight | \$400.00 | \$0.00 | \$400.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-00 Mayor's Salary | \$387.54 | \$355.30 | \$32.24 | | 91.68% |
| Expenses | 10-410-01 Commissioner's Salary | \$646.00 | \$533.62 | \$112.38 | | 82.60% |
| Expenses | 10-410-02 Tax Collection & Clerk Ex | \$23,600.04 | \$21,633.37 | \$1,966.67 | | 91.67% |
| Expenses | 10-410-03 Legal | \$5,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$5,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-04 Professional Services | \$11,492.36 | \$11,646.97 | (\$154.61) | | 101.35% |
| Expenses | 10-410-06 FICA Expense | \$2,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-10 Election Expense | \$0.00 | \$600.14 | (\$600.14) | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-11 Town Employee Education | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-13 Utilities/CityHall/Mall | \$4,000.00 | \$3,030.39 | \$969.61 | | 75.76% |

| Type | Disp Acct | Budget | YTD | Variance | Pr | Item 3. |
|----------|--|-------------|-------------|---------------|----|---------|
| Expenses | 10-410-15 Maint/Repairs-Bldg&Ground | \$17,500.00 | \$9,969.43 | \$7,530.57 | | 56.97% |
| Expenses | 10-410-16 Maint/Repair-Equipment | \$1,000.00 | \$352.51 | \$647.49 | | 35.25% |
| Expenses | 10-410-26 Advertising | \$300.00 | \$228.80 | \$71.20 | | 76.27% |
| Expenses | 10-410-33 Dept.Materials & Supplies | \$3,469.94 | \$3,466.24 | \$3.70 | | 99.89% |
| Expenses | 10-410-53 Dues & Subscriptions | \$26,000.00 | \$26,653.31 | (\$653.31) | | 102.51% |
| Expenses | 10-410-54 Insurance & Bonds | \$7,356.39 | \$7,356.39 | \$0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-57 Miscellaneous Expense | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | (\$50.00) | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-58 Christmas Decorations | \$30,000.00 | \$51,005.00 | (\$21,005.00) | | 170.02% |
| Expenses | 10-410-59 Downtown Beautification | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-60 Town Hall Furnishings | \$551.31 | \$551.31 | \$0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-70 Town Grounds | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Expenses | 10-410-76 Captial Outlay-Technology | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-420-01 CARES Expenditure account | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-510-71 Capital Outlay Land | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-510-72 Capital Outlay Building | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-510-73 Capital Outlay Other Imp | \$29,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$29,500.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-510-74 Capital Outlay Equipment | \$30,194.11 | \$0.00 | \$30,194.11 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-510-75 Capital Outlay Technology | \$10,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$10,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-530-00 Fire Department | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-530-45 FireDept.Contr.Serv-Calls | \$59,414.45 | \$59,414.45 | \$0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Expenses | 10-530-46 Tree Removal | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-00 Street Department | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-13 Utilities-Street Lights | \$10,393.99 | \$9,581.87 | \$812.12 | | 92.19% |
| Expenses | 10-560-14 Utilities-Signal Lights | \$50.00 | \$0.00 | \$50.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-15 Maint/Rep-Existing Street | \$15,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$15,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-16 Snow & Ice Removal | \$2,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-17 Traffic Control | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-18 Drainage & Storm Sewer | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-19 Curb & Gutter | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-20 Bikeways | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-21 Sidewalks | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-22 Greenways | \$500.00 | \$0.00 | \$500.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-25 Town Hall Mowing & beautification | \$675.00 | \$0.00 | \$675.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-26 Helene Storm Damage Cleanup and Recovery | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-33 Dept. Materials & Supplie | \$0.00 | \$1,300.00 | (\$1,300.00) | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-560-45 Contr.Serv.-FireHydrants | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-580-00 Sanitation Department | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | % |
| Expenses | 10-580-33 Sanitation-Dept.Mat.&Supp | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 7% |

| Type | Disp Acct | Budget | YTD | Variance | Pr | Item 3. |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----|----------------|
| Expenses | 10-580-44 Recycle Contracted Servic | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| Expenses | 10-580-45 Garbage Contracted Serciv | \$22,490.16 | \$20,523.58 | \$1,966.58 | | 91.26% |
| Expenses | 10-580-46 RCSW Landfill Fees | \$11,200.00 | \$11,499.88 | (\$299.88) | | 102.68% |
| Expenses | 40-500-00 Depreciation Expense | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | | 0.00% |
| | | \$333,016.29 | \$245,432.33 | \$87,583.96 | | 74% |

We work passionately to review currents and directions, always with the best interest of our citizens as our guide. When discussing revenues the following informs our decisions:

1. Maintain tax collection rate of 96%-This is an outstanding collection rate and the 4% uncollected often is collected in the next fiscal period.
2. We continue to anticipate our roadway infrastructure changes will encourage commercial business. Thriving, bustling opportunities for employment, dining, socialization and recreation; we are building towards this future. We are always looking for opportunities to partner with private enterprises to advance the condition of Ruth, its citizens, and the surrounding community.
3. Increase of Sales & Use, Franchise Utility, & Solid Waste tax distributions-also considered “elastic” or “flex” revenues. Although this is speculative, we feel it judicious to maintain based on the previous year’s performance trends.
4. Increases in interest in investments continue to creep upward. We have chosen to maintain anticipating increased profitability.
5. While on revenue topics, we want to again highlight the utilization of our federal replacement revenue to maintain fire protection services for several years without increasing our tax rate. While this helped to buffer ourselves during difficult COVID times, we no longer have the luxury of revenue replacement; we must generate the revenue to support our limited services. We continue to plan for our future and for these ever-expanding deficits. Currently, the recommendation is to hold our tax rate at \$.33 per \$100.00 valuation. This will allow us to continue to do several things for our constituents without interruption. We will be able to continue protecting our citizens through our contracted fire-related services, as well as help support the current deficit and ongoing fees for our sanitation services.

In preparing and planning for expenditures in this proposed budget, the following are conditions included in calculations:

6. Fire protection- Our rate has gone from \$0.11 to \$0.14 per \$100 valuation. This is an increase of \$16,373.41.
7. Sanitation services- Our CPI increase from Republic is 4.7%; this computes to \$23,543.52. Landfill fees are not indicated to change; estimated at \$12,300.00. This totals \$35,843.52. Therefore, I’m recommending a rate increase of \$13.00 per can. Taking us from \$220 per to \$233 per. This is an annual fee, if computed monthly it remains competitive at under \$20 a month.
8. Dues and Subscriptions- This account reflects so many of our recurring dues and subscriptions. The largest, most noteworthy conversation is regarding our website. I have attached documentation for recommended upgrades and the costs associated. Based on the board’s decisions, this could increase our dependency on this line item, increasing the expense \$10,000.00. Details will be discussed.
9. Streets- Roads and right of ways are an area the board is taking aim to improve. This will be our costly endeavor to date. We are recommending an increase in this line item as we move through the process of assessing our roadways and planning to improve them on a need and funding basis.

Given all the information at our disposal at this time, based largely on the current year’s activity/history, feedback/interaction with the board, proposed increases, tax value changes, change in management of duties, or submitted requests, the following budget values are recommended:

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Administration | \$ 149,164.64 |
| Capital Outlay | \$ 14,132.11 |
| Fire Department | \$ 77,409.25 |
| Street Department | \$ 65,590.00 |
| Sanitation Department | \$ 35,843.52 |
| Total Appropriations | \$ 342,139.52 |
| | |
| Current year's real property taxes | \$166,548.51 |
| Current year's motor vehicle taxes | \$ 13,559.01 |
| Powell Bill funds | \$ 15,200.00 |
| Franchise taxes | \$ 21,000.00 |
| Interest on investments | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Solid Waste Disposal Tax | \$ 300.00 |
| Sales & Use Tax | \$ 83,500.00 |
| Landfill Taxes | \$ 35,882.00 |
| Appropriated Fund Balance | \$ 0.00 |
| Total estimated revenues | \$342,139.52 |

No new budget requests submitted.

Our fiscal policy continues to seek revenue streams, cultivate a community environment for the Town, encourage efforts to promote the Town's vitality. The board's approach remains constant, they wish to be resourceful, open-minded, and creative in alternative revenue pursuits. Financially the board wishes to continue its conservative perspective and guard expenditures closely.

While the new highway is a painful process, it continues to hold opportunity for us. We believe it will function as a catalyst to spur growth, positively affecting the economy and our upcoming budgets in a bright way. We continue to look for assistance from those who can support us in capitalizing on this event, working it to our favor. We believe Public Private Partnerships are the best path forward and are seeking to bolster these opportunities. Our board cares about the Town and everyone in it. They work hard to champion and shepherd projects and goals to improve conditions for all.

TOWN OF RUTH PROPOSED BUDGET 2026-2027

REVENUE:

| | | |
|---------|--|--------------|
| 1030100 | CURRENT TAXES | \$166,548.51 |
| 1032900 | INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS | \$6,000.00 |
| 1032901 | INTEREST ON POWELL BILL | \$150.00 |
| 1033600 | PERSONAL AUTO TAX | \$13,559.01 |
| 1034300 | POWELL BILL ALLOCATION/** <u>RESTRICTED</u> | \$15,200.00 |
| 1036702 | SALES & USE TAX | \$83,500.00 |
| 1036703 | NC FRANCHISE TAX | \$21,000.00 |
| 1036704 | SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TAX | \$300.00 |
| 1039900 | APPROPRIATED FUND BALANCE/** <u>RESERVES</u> | \$0.00 |
| 1039901 | LANDFILL FEE/** <u>RESTRICTED</u> | \$35,882.00 |

Total Revenue **\$342,139.52**

EXPENSE:

ADMINISTRATION:

| | | |
|---------|---|---------------------|
| 1040900 | NC SALES TAX | \$3,600.00 |
| 1040901 | SALES TAX OTHER | \$100.00 |
| 1040902 | SHIPPING AND HANDLING | \$400.00 |
| 1041000 | SALARY OF MAYOR | \$387.60 |
| 1041001 | COMMISSIONERS | \$646.00 |
| 1041002 | TAX COLLECTION & CLERK EXPENSE | \$23,600.04 |
| 1041003 | LEGAL SERVICES | \$5,000.00 |
| 1041004 | PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | \$15,000.00 |
| 1041006 | FICA EXPENSE | \$2,000.00 |
| 1041010 | ELECTION EXPENSE | \$0.00 |
| 1041011 | TOWN EDUCATION EXPENSE | \$1,000.00 |
| 1041013 | UTILITIES/ CITY HALL – MALL | \$4,000.00 |
| 1041015 | MAINTENANCE & REPAIR BUILDING & GROUNDS | \$15,000.00 |
| 1041016 | MAINTENANCE & REPAIR EQUIPMENT | \$1,000.00 |
| 1041026 | ADVERTISING | \$300.00 |
| 1041033 | DEPARTMENTAL SUPPLIES & EXPENSE | \$5,000.00 |
| 1041053 | DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS | \$36,000.00 |
| 1041054 | INSURANCE & BONDS | \$7,631.00 |
| 1041058 | CHRISTMAS LIGHT EXPENSE | \$25,000.00 |
| 1041059 | DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION | \$1,000.00 |
| 1041060 | TOWN HALL FURNISHINGS | \$500.00 |
| 1041070 | TOWN GROUNDS | \$2,000.00 |
| | | \$149,164.64 |

CAPITAL OUTLAY:

| | | |
|---------|---|--------------------|
| 1051071 | CAPITAL OUTLAY LAND | \$0.00 |
| 1051072 | CAPITAL OUTLAY BUILDING | \$0.00 |
| 1051073 | CAPITAL OUTLAY OTHER IMPROVEMENTS/SIGNAGE | \$9,132.11 |
| 1051074 | CAPITAL OUTLAY OTHER EQUIPMENT | \$0.00 |
| 1051076 | CAPITAL OUTLAY TECHNOLOGY | \$5,000.00 |
| | | \$14,132.11 |

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

| | | |
|---------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1053045 | CONTRACTED SERVICES | \$76,409.25 |
| 1053046 | TREE REMOVAL | \$1,000.00 |
| | | \$77,409.25 |

STREET DEPARTMENT:

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1056013 | UTILITIES-STREET LIGHT | \$11,000.00 |
| 1056014 | UTILITIES-SIGNAL LIGHT | \$50.00 |
| 1056015 | MAINTENANCE – EXISTING STREETS | \$50,000.00 |
| 1056016 | SNOW & ICE REMOVAL | \$2,000.00 |
| 1056018 | DRAINAGE AND STORM SEWER | \$0.00 |
| 1056019 | CURB AND GUTTER | \$0.00 |
| 1056020 | BIKEWAYS | \$1,500.00 |
| 1056021 | SIDEWALKS | \$0.00 |
| 1056022 | GREENWAYS | \$500.00 |
| 1056025 | TOWN HALL MOWING AND BEAUTIFICATION | \$540.00 |
| | | \$65,590.00 |

SANITATION DEPARTMENT:

| | | |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1058045 | GARBAGE CONTRACTED SERVICES | \$23,543.52 |
| 1058046 | LANDFILL FEES | \$12,300.00 |
| | | \$35,843.52 |

Total Expense **\$342,139.52**

Budget Ordinance for the Town of Ruth 2026-2027

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, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this Town:

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Administration | \$ 149,164.64 |
| Capital Outlay | \$ 14,132.11 |
| Fire Department | \$ 77,409.25 |
| Street Department | \$ 65,590.00 |
| Sanitation Department | \$ 35,843.52 |
| Total Appropriations | \$ 342,139.52 |

Section 2: It is estimated that the following revenues will be available in the General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026:

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Current year's real property taxes | \$166,548.51 |
| Current year's motor vehicle taxes | \$ 13,559.01 |
| Powell Bill funds | \$ 15,200.00 |
| Franchise taxes | \$ 21,000.00 |
| Interest on investments | \$ 6,000.00 |
| Solid Waste Disposal Tax | \$ 300.00 |
| Sales & Use Tax | \$ 83,500.00 |
| Landfill Taxes | \$ 35,882.00 |
| Appropriated Fund Balance | \$ 0.00 |
| Total estimated revenues | \$342,139.52 |

Section 3: There is hereby no change in our levy. A tax at the rate of thirty-three cents (\$0.33) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property (54,578,038) as listed for taxes as of April 28th, 2026, for the purpose of supporting 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 \$54,578,038 and an estimated rate of collection of 96.0%.

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.

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

Item 6.

Section 5: The City Mayor or a designate 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 30th day of June 2026.