1 2 3 4	TOWN OF APEX TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2023 2:00 P.M.
5 6	The Apex Town Council met for a work session on Tuesday, May 5, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at the Apex Town Hall located at 73 Hunter Street in Apex North Carolina.
7 8 9 10	This meeting was open to the public. Members of the public were able to attend this meeting in-person or watch online via the livestream on the Town's YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQFRMr80fgE
11	[ATTENDANCE]
12 13	Elected Body
13 14	Mayor Jacques K. Gilbert (presiding)
15	Mayor Pro-Tempore Audra Killingsworth
16	Councilmember Brett Gantt
17	Councilmember Ed Gray
18	Councilmember Terry Mahaffey
19	Councilmember Arno Zegerman
20	Absent: None
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22	Town Staff Town Manager Cathorina Cracky
23 24	Town Manager Catherine Crosby Deputy Town Manager Shawn Purvis
25	Assistant Town Manager Demetria John
26	Assistant Town Manager Marty Stone
27	Town Attorney Laurie Hohe
28	Town Clerk Allen Coleman
29	Deputy Town Clerk Ashley Gentry
30	Budget and Performance Management Director Amanda Grogan
31	Budget and Performance Analyst Intern Brian Murphy
32 33	Budget Analyst Jessica Hoffman Transportation and Infrastructure Director Chris Johnson
34	Finance Director Antwan Morrison
35	All other staff members will be identified appropriately below.
36	
37 38 39	Staff attending remotely: Performance and Strategy Analyst Jimmy Aughenbaugh, Budget and Performance Analyst Paul Broussard, Inspections and Permits Director Rudy Baker, and Planning Director Dianne Khin.

1 [COMMENCEMENT]

2 **Mayor Gilbert** called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

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4 [AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 - GENERAL FUND REVIEW]

- 5 Budget and Performance Management Director Amanda Grogan gave an overview of
- 6 what's being discussed within the General Fund Budget.

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Councilmember Gantt asked if the separation of the Stormwater Fund was for transparency or advantages.

Director Grogan said it's a separate fund because it's a separate utility, and that this was Finance Director Morrison's call.

Councilmember Zegerman asked by separating it, does it limit the towns options.

Finance Director Antwan Morrison said stormwater is covered by stormwater expenses and its easier to analyze when the funds are split.

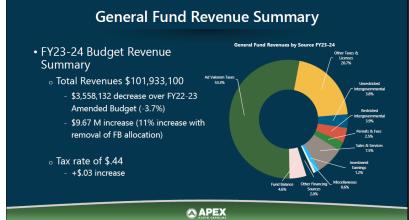
Deputy Town Manager Shawn Purvis said it was already separated out in the water and sewer fund vision-wise. He said now that's it's been a year, it will help with tracking and monitoring funds.

Councilmember Gantt asked if it has to be limited to the specific usage.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said there were separate line items within the fund showing what things went to.

Director Grogan said it is supported by the rates and fees the town charges.

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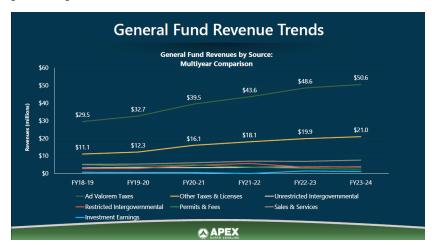
Councilmember Zegerman asked what is driving the 10-million-dollar variance between the budget and the estimates. He asked if the budget increases by a certain percentage and what numbers are being used.

Director Grogan said the number is the use of fund balance. She explained that the actual numbers the town is using are from the amended budget. She said the authorization to spend that amount is there, but the town doesn't anticipate using all of the funds because it's tied into PO carryovers from the previous fiscal year. She said some of it is tied to things that the town will reimburse itself for, such as revenue bonds.

Councilmember Zegerman said he was curious why the town is using the amended budget rather than a baseline for comparison because its not really what we are spending. He said we should be looking at what we are actually spending because it sways the numbers.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said there will be fluctuation because the town is still paying back into this fiscal year through things received through August. He said it is an estimate but for consistency's sake the budget staff looks at the amended budget. Once the budget is finished this year, it is then moved to actuals. He said this gives the worst-case scenario, so that they are in a good situation by the end and not the other way around.

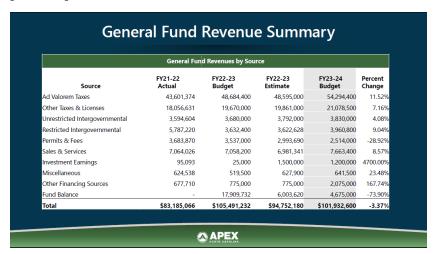
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Town Attorney Laurie Hohe arrived at 2:08 PM.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Killingsworth arrived at 2:09 PM.

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Councilmember Zegerman asked if the budget isn't sustainable because of the reliance on the reserves.

Director Grogan said not necessarily. She said when a fund balance is allocated it's typically for a one-time expenditure or a capital project/purchase. She said PO carry overs can often be tied into the new fiscal year.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said this is an aggregate fund balance. He said the other one discussed in the general otherwise is available fund balance. He said when staff talks with Council they refer to the available fund balance. There is more in the overall funds, but that is already tied up.

Councilmember Zegerman asked how would someone know where the 4.7 million is coming from, and is concerned about relying on reserves to make the budget.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said the town strategically plans for the use of fund balance reserves and treats it like a savings. He said once they save enough for a project, it will be used. He said it isn't good to have too much in reserves, because it doesn't serve the public. He said the reserves only go towards capital, and not operating.

Director Morrison said the previous Council didn't spend money they didn't need to spend and save funds so that now the town doesn't have to raise taxes as much as they would have needed to in order to fund projects.

Councilmember Zegerman said in two years' time the town is going to be at a 25 percent mark and out of reserves. He said he appreciated previous Councils for creating this savings, and that he also does not want to be the Council that spends all of it.

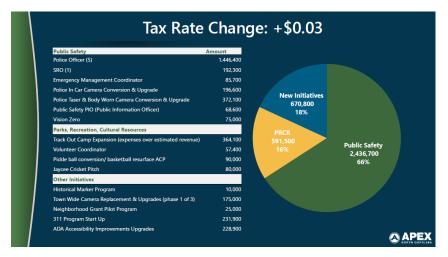
Deputy Town Manager Purvis said the town can run out of reserves if it keeps the same pace. He said they will be shown this possibility in the CIP discussions, but that staff is more conservative in their recommendation. He said they try to give Council flexibility within the budget proposal. He said staff can continue to report the numbers out so there is an idea of where the fund balance is headed. He said if the fund balance heads down even further,

staff will then connect with Council on their direction. He added that they work on trying to find a balance between being conservative, providing the service the community wants and needs, and giving Council the ability to execute projects.

Director Grogan said the fund balance is added back annually. She said anything that was not spent within that fiscal year goes back to the fund balance.

Councilmember Zegerman said he appreciated them being conservative, but stated that coming in under budget in not always a good thing, as it left room for services to be delivered that weren't. He said it could also be used for a new hire or for a capital investment such as a greenway.

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Councilmember Mahaffey said in prior years there had been scenarios mapped out of what could be done if the rate went up an additional half-penny or penny from the proposed. He said this helped give Council a good view of the possibilities.

Director Grogan said this was sent to them as part of an email.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said it wasn't as specific as in year's past, but does provide the list as a menu of options.

Councilmember Zegerman asked if this is the list of items requested by staff.

Shawn Purvis said that's correct.

Councilmember Gray asked if 3 cents is the right number from staff's perspective. He said he knew this was Council's recommendation, but wanted to hear their thoughts.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said the goal is to get in as much of what Council wants to see in the budget as possible. He said from an operating standpoint the baseline is set, so when budget starts with the existing tax rate. He said there will be information presented on what it takes to do an assortment of other things. He said there are a lot of great things that could be done, but he can't really speak to a whole staff perspective as there are many different views from departments regarding where money should be spent. He said

1 2	staff takes into consideration the community and political concerns of residents and Council when drafting the budget.
3 4	Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth said it just depends on what Council wants to do, if more staff is needed from the list or more equipment.
5 6	Councilmember Zegerman asked if staff feels the town is in a "bubble" with spending, and is almost caught up on growth so as not to have to rely on reserves.
7 8	Town Manager Crosby said to a certain extent, reserves would always be relied on for some one-time expenses.
9 10	Councilmember Zegerman expressed concerns about the 25% minimum fund balance.
11 12 13 14	Councilmember Mahaffey said the state minimum requirement for the fund balance is 8%, and the town is at 25%, and also comes in above its own much stricter requirement. He said the rate could be lowered to spend it naturally, or spend this excess on the backlog of 300 million dollars' worth of projects.
15 16 17 18	Deputy Town Manager Purvis said for the past 5 years, the town has come in under budget. He said the town is trying to be careful moving forward with the budget this year or next year because of whatever is going on in the economy and that is unpredictable. He said it's important to be careful in this timeframe to see if this tax rate is sustainable.
19 20	Councilmember Zegerman said he was concerned that the money wasn't going as far as it could. He said they may be reaching a plateau on growth.
21 22 23 24 25	Councilmember Mahaffey said he thinks there are two separate issues getting conflated. There is capital spending which is the fund balance portion that is a set amount of money that sometimes gets added to every year. He said it was a possibility to just not do capital projects, though that isn't what he would suggest. He said then there is the operating budget which is more relatable to the sustainability issue with increased costs.
26 27	Councilmember Zegerman said his concern would be not funding the fund balance, and then there's no money left to do capital projects.
28 29 30	Councilmember Mahaffey said that no matter what, the way the budget is constructed this year, there will be plenty of money available given the town's own requirements to have a higher available fund balance.
31 32 33	Councilmember Gantt said he thinks there has been a lot more non-residential, higher density rezonings since around 2018, which will lead to a better fiscal state in three or four years for the town.

Councilmember Gantt said he believes it will be meaningful.

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tax base.

Councilmember Mahaffey wondered how much of an impact that would have on the

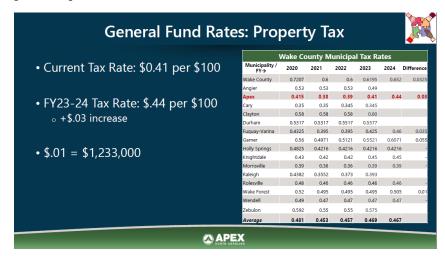
Councilmember Zegerman said it would depend on what gets constructed there, as some developments would bring in less tax revenue long-term.

Councilmember Gantt asked if the town has a residential and non-residential tax ratio that is projected out 10 years.

Director Grogan said the town has been an 80/20 split for years.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said there is no magic number to what the ratio is. He said every community is different. He added that there is uncertainty as to how the commercial developments being constructed over the next several years will impact this ratio.

[Slide 8]



Director Grogan said Wake county is looking to do tax rate increase, as penny of that is tied to bonds. She said Fuguay, Garner, and Wake Forest all propose tax increases.

Councilmember Mahaffey said he has communicated with many members in the community about the tax increases and what they are going to, and the message has been well received. He said he can see there is an opportunity to use some additional fund balance later to capital projects.

Councilmember Zegerman said the use of the additional revenue will mostly impact residents directly.

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Councilmember Gantt asked if the town is moving to the binned solid waste model. He asked would that increase or decrease the cost.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said it wasn't in this budget. He said it could reduce costs, but would be do to an assortment of factors, such as every other week pick up instead of weekly.

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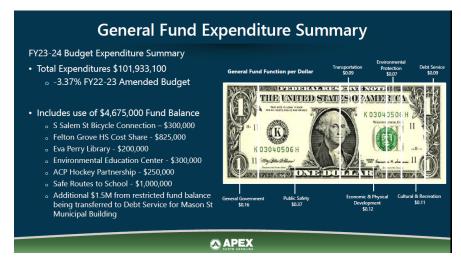
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Councilmember Gantt asked if Holly Springs are paying any money on the Felton Grove High School cost share.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said Holly Springs has an intersection with a light going up and the developer is paying for that, but Cary is contributing to some things.

Mayor Gilbert asked if Holly Springs decided not to contribute or were they asked.

Councilmember Gantt said the Town of Holly Springs needs to be asked since they are benefiting the most from this project.

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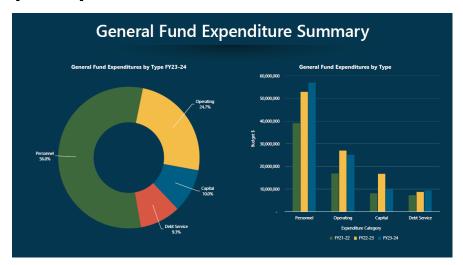
Assistant Town Manager Stone said Wake County Schools are coordinating this and their signalization is going to be done at 55.

Councilmember Mahaffey said the schools don't care because the law says towns pay for the roads now, and it's in the Town of Apex jurisdiction.

Councilmember Gantt said their drivers are going to be benefiting more from this.

Councilmember Mahaffey said he thinks it's a ridiculous law because it's a rounding error and the balance of cost of the project. He said it was pushed to us because that's what the law says.

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Councilmember Mahaffey asked if the PO carryovers will continue the next year.

Director Grogan said all staff received an email regarding their active PO's. She said there will be some PO Carryovers because of ongoing projects. She said projects wouldn't be carried over if they were initiated during this fiscal year, but hadn't actually started. She said they would be restarted in the new fiscal year.

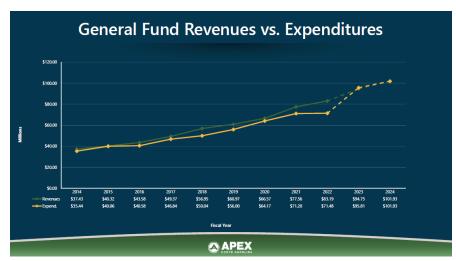
Deputy Town Manager Purvis said the past 2 years have been worse for carryovers, especially with the impact COVID had on long-term projects.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said they were looking at options for what to do with

the information and funds that were left over from the previous year after audits, and how to

Councilmember Gantt said he likes to see the comparison and including more

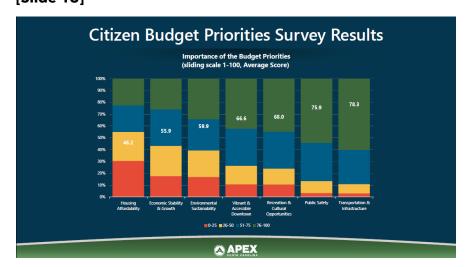
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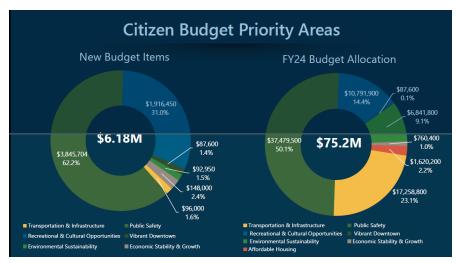
get that information out to Council more efficiently.

context in looking at the budget.

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Special Events 1. MLK Events budgeted 2. Black History Month o 9 - Administration: DEI 3. Women's History Month o 4 - Parks, Recreation & Cultural 4. Ramadan Resources 5. Holi 6. APIA Heritage Month • Event average is \$3,500 per 7. Juneteenth 8. National Disability Day event. 9. Welcoming Week 10. Hispanic Heritage Month 11. Hindu Heritage Month 12. Indigenous Peoples Day 13. Kwanza

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Town Manager Crosby said initially was \$5,000 per event but it had to adjust the budget so that was re-evaluated to \$3,500.

7 **Director Grogan** said the \$3500 is an average number.

Councilmember Zegerman asked if this included the public safety officer tests costs. He also asked if \$3500 is the limit of a town event or an event organizer seek sponsorship from external parties.

Director Grogan said it did not include public safety costs.

Director Morrison said currently the town does not have an approved policy on seeking sponsorships for town events. He said he's not sure of the timeframe but it's on the list and it will come before Council at some point in the future.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if the town has to vote to accept a donation or can the town designate someone to accept checks.

Town Manager Crosby said it sounds like in the past it has not been done under a policy, and has been inconsistent.

Councilmember Zegerman asked what is the timeframe of the policy. He asked would there be some benefit. He said there are plenty of parties that would like to sponsor a town event.

Director Morrison said within the next 6-8 months. He said he would like to have a draft to Council before the end of the calendar year.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if someone would get a tax break if they donated to the town

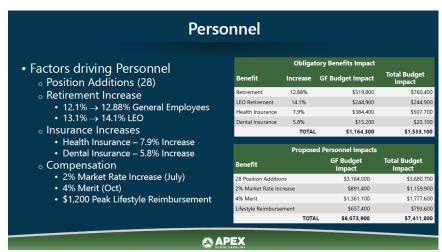
Director Morrison said no, the town not a tax except organization.

Councilmember Mahaffey said if we had a festival commission for all the festivals it would be easier to fundraise for those.

Councilmember Zegerman asked would the town address that though a sponsorship process, or through a separate organization like Councilmember Mahaffey described.

Councilmember Mahaffey said it may depend on how much money is involved.

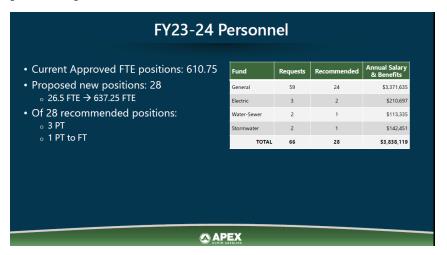
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Councilmember Zegerman asked what the peak lifestyle reimbursement is.

Amanda Grogan said it's a new incentive for staff that offers funding for wellness activities and purchases.

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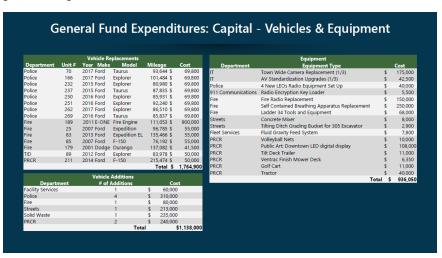
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Councilmember Mahaffey asked how many vehicles will be EVs.

Director Grogan said most of them. She said they are looking at different types and when they could be received. She said of the vehicles aren't practical for EVs or hybrids, such as trucks with a high towing requirement.

Councilmember Mahaffey said whether it's next year or in later years, the town needs to have the charging stations in place at Public Works and the Police Department. He said he didn't see a ton of money in the budget to put charging stations at our facility. He asked is it about \$70,000.

Director Grogan said the town is doing an analysis on the type of charging stations to move to as a standard. She said the process now is to figure out what department is tied to that because the infrastructure over the next five years are based on the replacement vehicle schedule. She said a grant will be applied for this month.

- **Councilmember Gantt** asked if the grant was the Raleigh MSA.
- 13 **Mr. Murphy** said it's a DOT program through the Federal Government.
- 14 **Mayor Gilbert** asked if the electric power stations security has been enhanced.
- **Assistant Town Manager Stone** said there are no cameras.

Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth said it would be a good idea after she's seen some stations has been shot at.

Director Grogan said she can ask the electric substation specifically when they're looking into doing cameras.

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General Fund Expenditures: Capital - Improvements • Annual Pavement Management - \$2.2M • Annual Misc. Greenway Connections - \$300K Annual Misc. Road & Sidewalk Improvements - \$200K • ACP Street Hockey Partnership - \$250K Felton Grove HS Improvements - \$825K • Environmental Education Center - \$300K GoApex Transit Improvements - \$100K • West Street Park Improvements - \$1.65M Justice Heights Street Extension - \$750K • Eva Perry Library Improvements - \$200K • Safe Routes to School - \$1M • Tunstall House Restoration - \$1.85M • S Salem Street Bicycle Connections - \$300K • Tingen Road Pedestrian Bridge - \$500K ♠ APEX

- **Councilmember Mahaffey** asked what is the timeline for the Justice Heights project.
- Director Johnson said he has it budgeted for FY24 as far as design.
 - **Deputy Town Manager Purvis** said it's already budgeted for design, and they are working on moving forward with construction.

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Capital Reserve Fund Projection: \$1.4M from Motor Vehicle Tax Commitments: \$1.4M \$650k to General Fund for Pavement Management & Annual Miscellaneous Road \$750k to Street Project – Justice Heights Extension Recreation Capital Reserve Fund Projection: \$1.3M Fund Balance: \$6.9M

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Affordable Housing Fund • FY23-24 Projection: \$1.2M • \$0.01 tax rate allocation • Reduction from \$0.015 • \$3M committed from ARPA funds • Commitments: none pending

5 **Councilmember Gantt** asked whose call it was for the decrease.

Director Grogan said when there was a recommendation made to the finance committee when there was still a \$2.9 million-dollar gap.

8 **Councilmember Gray** said that this is a way of closing that gap.

Councilmember Zegerman asked if the town had \$4.2 million in the fund.

Director Grogan said \$250,000 is for the housing rehab program.

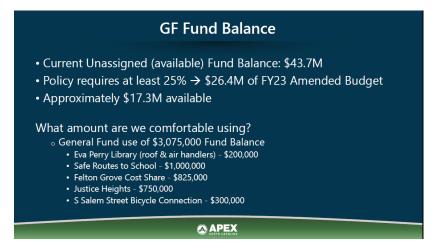
Councilmember Mahaffey said a good fund balance may be able to be saved in order to then purchase some land.

Councilmember Gantt asked if the land purchase might be a joint affordable housing or government use type of thing.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said it's up to Council. He said as long it's an appropriate use of government funds. He said council has the option to modify what these

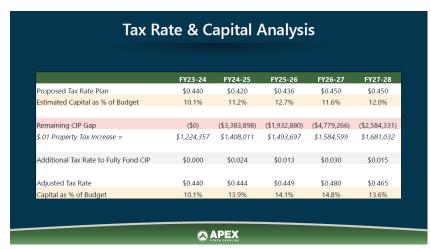
3 funds can be used for.

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- 6 [AGENDA ITEM #2 TAX RATE ANALYSIS]
- 7 **Deputy Town Manager Shawn Purvis** gave an overview on the tax rate and capital analysis
- 8 for the overall budget.
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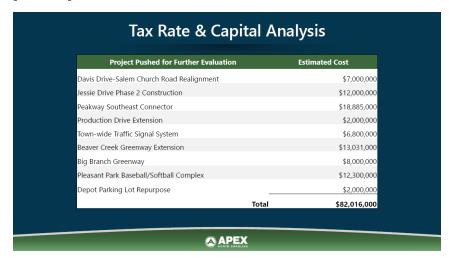
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Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth asked if the town has the staff capacity to do any of the projects.

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Councilmember Gantt said the projects that are closer to this year is what the town should focus on first.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said it depends on the project. He said the transportation projects would need more time for any new project. He said recreation would depend on the project, facilities such as parks would be a push but are manageable. He said we do not have the staff capacity right now for additional greenway projects. He said there are ways to work around that such as consultants and outside engineers, but that puts the town at the mercy of their timelines.

Councilmember Zegerman said he's looking at the CFD plan and asked about the timeframe and costs of the transportation projects with FY24-25 and FY25-26.

Councilmember Gantt said it depends on the project.

 Deputy Town Manager Purvis broke down the project process for Councilmember Zegerman.

 Councilmember Zegerman asked what was the selection process for the list of projects.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said some high priority projects are the Pleasant Park, Beaver Creek Greenway extension, and Production Drive extension. The projects that were pushed out are the Davis Drive-Salem Street realignment and Town-wide traffic signal system. He said time wise and sensitivity of the project, the town isn't there yet so that's why it was pushed.

Councilmember Zegerman asked about the Big Branch Greenway.

 Deputy Town Manager Purvis said it's not on the CIP because it's already been accounted for.

Councilmember Gray said he would like to see the cost estimate at inception for each project. He said having this information would helpful to explain to citizens why projects get delayed and why more money is needed.

Mayor Gilbert said he's already getting questions about Pleasant Park. He said he would like to see this kind of information about certain projects.

Councilmember Gray said the town needs to be better at "telling the story" of why certain things get approved, pushed back, or changed.

Councilmember Mahaffey said the town needs to be at a spot where its not pushing back projects. He asked if there are some opportunities to find funding.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said he's not ruling out any grant funding, but it's too early to confirm anything right now. He said staff has had conversations with the towns financial advisor to help with the structure some things and look at other possible funding options. He said the town can not do Wimberly Road or Olive Farm Park areas without a bond because they're going to be over 50 million dollars each. He said the Peakway Connector is also unlikely to be done without a bond. He said anything debt-related has a long-term impact, and they are analyzing that.

Councilmember Mahaffey said in regards to Pleasant Park, he asked if there is going to be a gap of time in between the next floater bond, then what could the town do with the space. He said if the park isn't going to be built, there is a 12 and a half million-dollar option to build a bunch of really nice fields. He suggested something in the interim to utilize the space.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said that staff is looking into financial options to take care of the other side of it. He said the other side is talking to parks and recreation team and see if anything can be done to rescale the project or if it can be done in two phases. He said as things stand, everything else could be done at the park but there would be some empty space that is grassed.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said some people ask, "why don't the town go back to natural fields", he said the design was based on artificial fields. He said if you go away from artificial, you will end up spending a lot of money on grading and green landscaping, then there's a possibility for stormwater issues. He said there might be a way to phase it with the final product and that's something to look into. He said there are other ways to save money, like shelters. He said it would still have the same function but not the same material.

Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth asked if community donations or financial sponsorships around local businesses have been considered.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said partnerships were looked at but they fell through. He said that it is something that may can still be done and would help. He said Craig Setzer has reached out to potential partners and groups that he's waiting to hear back.

1 2 3 4	Councilmember Mahaffey said the town should spend money to upgrade HVAC systems in the Halle to improve conditions. He also said the floor markings for OSHA was important, and the town has the money for the proposed project for \$110,00. He said this project is five years out but he would rather do it sooner than later.
5 6	Director Grogan said that project would be operational phasing. She also said regarding the HVAC that those are things that the town has started replacing in phases.
7 8	Councilmember Gantt said there may be some EPA grants they could be considered for.
9 10 11 12	Councilmember Gray said he assumes there are other factors that Council hasn't been aware of. He says he isn't sure if this is a regulatory issue or an issue getting parts. He said he assumed staff would let them know of key issues that might would go into their prioritization of things.
13 14	Director Grogan said there were some that were pushed out but also some that were requested.
15 16	Councilmember Zegerman said the town should pull in some of the smaller ones first.
17 18 19	Assistant Town Manager Stone said it could be a staff capacity issue or a new technology that's going to come out the next year, and not necessarily a money reason as to why a project can't be done.
20	Councilmember Mahaffey asked would there be an issue with doing an HVAC today
21	other than budget restraints, he asked is there a capacity issue.
22	Town Manager Crosby said the facilities manager may know and staff would circle
23	back around.
24 25 26	Deputy Town Manager Purvis said they are also looking at things that can be done without changing or impacting the budget, such as procuring EVs. He said they will keep an eye out and take advantage of an opportunity if it arises.
27 28	Director Grogan said they do try to pull things up when they foresee issues potentially arising, or things become more pressing such as safety issues.
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Councilmember Gantt asked if Wake County provided track-out related recreation activities.

 Deputy Town Manager Purvis said there's more municipal coverage in Wake County, and in some cases residents in Apex wouldn't be very close to where the County-provided recreations are.

Councilmember Gantt said it was interesting that the County didn't provide a lot of these recreational things for kids across the county more.

Councilmember Zegerman asked if the town is maxed out on solar panels.

 Assistant Town Manager Stone said the study is going on right now. He said he's working out the contract now and has visited some of the facilities.

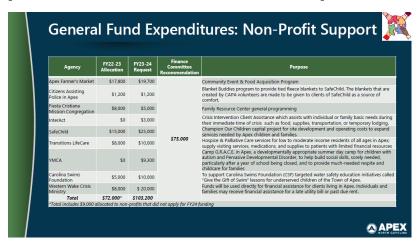
Councilmember Mahaffey asked will it come back as a budget amendment.

 Assistant Town Manager Stone said the study will be done within the next six months.

Councilmember Zegerman there is no mark in CIP right now.

 Assistant Town Manager Stone said he trying to generate how much it costs first then bring to Council to decide. He said its more beneficial if you do more facilities at one time than doing them at different times. He said there will be a project incurred at the treatment plant.

1 [AGENDA ITEM #4 - NON-PROFIT FUNDING]



Director Grogan gave an overview of the agencies that have applied. She said they are waiting on a recommendation from Finance Committee members.

Mayor Gilbert asked how many applications they had.

Director Grogan said this was all that applied. There were originally more but those not shown had withdrawn. She added that the requests add up to \$103,000, but that number needed to be cut down to \$75,000 to match Finance Committee recommendations.

Councilmember Gray asked for more context on the initial applications, and how the list ended up the way it is now.

Director Grogan said Apex Public School Foundation withdrew, and that her staff reached out to organizations that had applied in the past to inquire why they weren't doing so this year. She said some of them had staff changes, and so they were unaware of the deadlines.

Mayor Gilbert asked if Fiesta Christiana only requested \$5,000, noting that they were the only group to go down on their request.

Director Grogan said they requested 3 different amounts in 3 different places on the application.

Ms. Hoffman stated that one of the requests was for emergency fund funding, and the other was for personnel costs, which are not eligible for this town funding. She said the only programming funding request was for \$5,000.

Councilmember Gray said it was good to understand why some groups didn't apply this year and that some had stayed or joined back. He said it was good to help those who help the residents of Apex. He said he appreciates Director Grogan and her team reaching out to organizations to understand where the confusion was.

Director Grogan said next year, Mr. Murphy will be working on piloting other ways to inform non-profits and get the involved other than contacting them directly.

Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth asked about the White Oak Foundation, and	why
they had not requested funds.	

 Director Grogan said they have not requested funds for the past 3 years. She added that staff would let Council know what the Finance Committees recommendation is.

Councilmember Gantt said he views the Farmer's Market differently now that they aren't on public property. He said it is a benefit to Beaver Creek Shopping Center as much as it is to the community. He asked if they were differentiating costs relating to operations versus costs related to development. He also asked if the program that goes towards assisting with utility bills was different from this one and if it is still in place.

Director Grogan said that program was still in place, and that it has always been two separate programs.

Councilmember Gantt asked what that program would do versus this non-profit one.

Director Grogan said this is in addition to the utility program, and that this includes more than utility cost aid.

Councilmember Gantt asked if the utility bill funds were used up.

Director Grogan said they were not, and that staff would be submitting a budget amendment to them before the end of the fiscal year.

Councilmember Mahaffey commented that this non-profit program is much more general as to what it can help fund, whereas the utility assistance program is more rigid in that it can only help with utility costs. He said this non-profit fund is the best way they can spend this money, as it helps those who help people in Apex.

Councilmember Gantt said that since these are charities and people can donate to them on their own accord, his preference is to stay within the \$75,000 recommendation from the Finance Committee.

Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth said she was curious what Council's thoughts were on the Apex Farmer's Market, since it had moved from public property and is not looking to come back.

Councilmember Gray said he agreed with Councilmember Gantt. He said when it was downtown, the intent was to showcase local vendors and local businesses in an environment that would also help be a circulator of business in the downtown area. He said now that they are at Beaver Creek in a much more commercial environment, it makes it more difficult to explain why they as a town are putting that money towards it.

Councilmember Zegerman said he agreed as well. He said he wasn't sure if he was in favor of including the Farmer's Market on this list. He also was curious about SafeChild, since they were based in Raleigh, but did work with the Apex Police.

Director Grogan said part of SafeChild's request was operating expenses, and the other was capital investment and facility expansion.

1 2	Councilmember Gantt said he was uninterested in funding the capital aspect, but was still interested in funding the operating costs.
3 4	Councilmember Mahaffey said they have to expand their facilities in order to expand their programming.
5 6	Councilmember Gantt said he may feel differently if the facility was being built in Apex, but he isn't as interested since it is in Raleigh.
7 8	Councilmember Mahaffey said it doesn't matter where the facility is located if they are helping Apex citizens.
9 10	Councilmember Gantt said he is just thinking about where he would be willing to make cuts to get to the \$75,000 recommended limit.
11 12	Director Grogan said the Apex Police Department refers a lot of cases to SafeChild for their services.
13 14	Mayor Gilbert said to his understanding, Apex gives more than any other Wake County municipality to SafeChild.
15 16	Councilmember Gray said he wished there were other communities that raised the amount they gave.
17 18	Mayor Gilbert asked what the Farmer's Market proposed as far as what they wanted these funds to go towards.
19 20	Director Grogan said part of it went to their contracted service for the coordination and management of their program.
21	Councilmember Mahaffey asked if there was marketing including as well.
22	Mr. Murphy said some of it was marketing.
23 24 25 26	Councilmember Gray said he didn't want to say they shouldn't give them anything, as it ultimately helps out local business, but that it would be hard for them to give them more money than before after they moved away from where Council wanted them. He said they could justify an increase in the allocation if they were based more locally.
27	Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth asked why InterAct was not funded last year.
28 29	Councilmember Mahaffey said they didn't apply last year, and they were one of the organizations they reached out to for them to come back into the program.
30 31	Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth said her preference would be to reduce the amount of money the Farmer's Market received.
32 33	Councilmember Gantt said there would still need to be more cuts to get to the \$75,000.
34 35	Director Grogan clarified that these organizations would have to show that were spending the funds allocated towards them in line with what Council approved.

Councilmember Zegerman if the Carolina Swims Foundation had a location in Apex where they did lessons.

Director Grogan said no, it was in Fuquay-Varina. She said with this money they would ensure it goes to fund support of Apex residents.

Mayor Gilbert said they teach underserved children and partner with the White Oak Foundation.

Director Grogan said they had to work with them to adjust their proposal to fit for qualifying items. She said the Finance Committee would be working to come to a consensus, and then Council will discuss where the money will be allocated.

Councilmember Gantt asked if there would be more information about the specific funding requests.

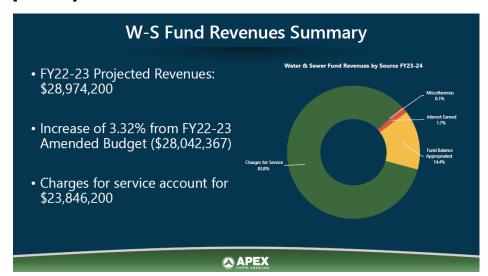
Director Grogan said yes, this was summarized for the PowerPoint.

Councilmember Gantt said he is interested in getting the Farmer's Market back to downtown, and if this could be used as a lever to help aid that it would be good.

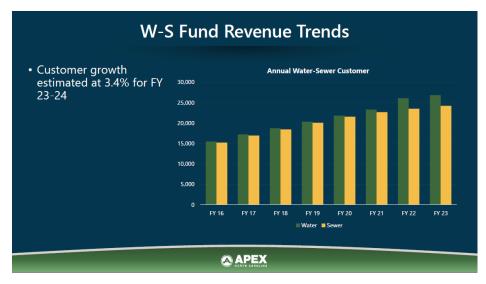
Councilmember Gray said he wasn't sure they could use the term lever, but that it may be an incentive.

[AGENDA ITEM #5 - WATER & SEWER FUND]

[SLIDE 1]



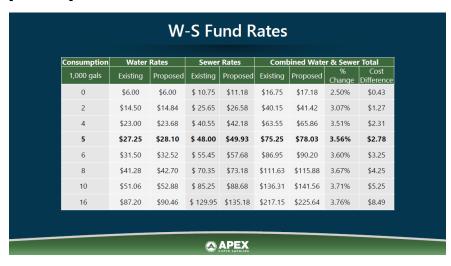
1 [SLIDE 2]



[SLIDE 3]

• Water				
o Base Charge remains flat	Water	FY23	FY24	Differenc
4% Increase in volumetric rate	Base Charge	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$-
o 4% increase in volumetric rate	Volumetric Rate per 1,000 gal.			
	Tier 1: 0-6,000 gal.	\$4.25	\$4.42	\$0.17
• Sewer	Tier 2: 6,000 - 12,000 gal.	\$4.89	\$5.09	\$0.20
4% Increase in base & volumetric	Tier 3: >12,000 gal.	\$6.59	\$6.85	\$0.26
rate	Sewer	FY23	FY24	Differenc
late	Base Charge	\$10.75	\$11.18	\$0.43
	Volumetric Rate per 1,000 gal.	\$7.45	\$7.75	\$0.30
 Outside rates are double 	*Outside rates are double			

[SLIDE 4]



[SLIDE 5]



[SLIDE 6]



Councilmember Zegerman asked if the proposal for the sewer debt services accounted for the western capacity increase.

Director Grogan said part of it did. She said it will be tied to projects over time. She said there's Big Branch and other projects developing in that area over the next several years. She said some projects will be debt funded, then payments would start the following years.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if Big Branch was included in this data.

 Director Grogan said yes, partially, and that they were looking at financing \$20 million of it from reserves and \$20 million as revenue bonds. She said the two debt services shown are Big Branch and the Cary DIP.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked how the revenue would work with the new connections.

Director Grogan said the revenue bonds would be paid off over time by the revenues generated from the new connections.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if it would be based off not doing a rate increase.

Director Grogan said not necessarily. She said rates may have to be increased in order to meet the requirement for paying the debt. She said the idea is not to have the burden places on the existing customers, but the expand the base so future customers would be able to contribute and offset the debt as well. She said the \$20 million reserve money going towards it are specifically able to be used for capacity increases like this.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if the reserves fund was from previous expansions.

Director Grogan said that comes from the developer fees.

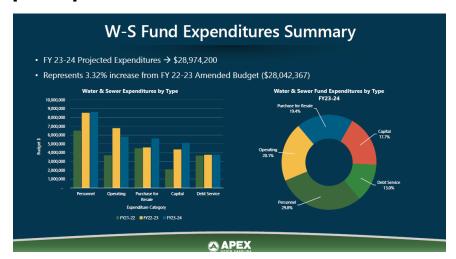
Assistant Town Manager Stone said there is currently legislation being proposed that may limit the town's ability to recover these kinds of fees.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if that meant they could empty reserves for this project and then have no way of refunding it if a law passed that limited the ability to levy those kinds of development fees for expansion of town systems.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said that was a possibility.

Councilmember Gantt said they can't really plan based on potential future legislation.

[SLIDE 7]



[SLIDE 8]

Versonnel Utility Field Supervisor Vehicles & Equipment SL 1000 Analyzer Kits (2) - \$12,000 Itron Handheld Equipment - \$10,000 Cat 299 D3XE skid steer - \$139,000 New valve truck - \$230,000 Replace Unit 208 - \$76,000 Burit gate for Unit 146 - \$5,500 Compactor - \$85,000 Unit 128 Replacement - \$50,000 Badio Comm. operator headsets - \$41,000 Radio Comm. operator headsets - \$4,500 Herbicide Spray Equipment - \$10,000 Easement Jetter Replacement - \$75,000 Crane Truck Replacement - \$155,000 Crane Truck Replacement - \$155,000

Councilmember Gantt asked if the AMI was the same as for electric.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said yes, it serves as the "backbone" of water and electric.

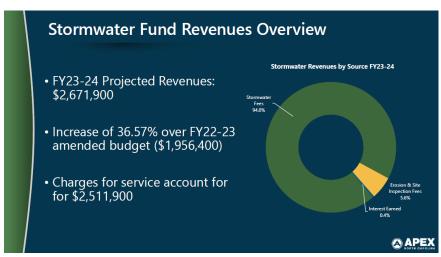
Director Grogan said there would be some shared cost between water and electric, but that they would also have individual costs.

[SLIDE 9]

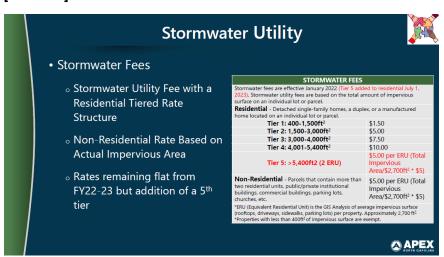
W-S Fund Balance Current Fund Balance for Water Sewer: approx. \$67.5M Awaiting final FY22 Audit and final Finance postings FY23-24 includes use of \$4.1M AMI Smart Meter Project Implementation Capital Reserves (restricted for system expansion) Use of \$ 20.9M in FY24 Big Branch 2 Pump Station & Force Main - \$20M Hwy 55 Booster Pump Upgrades - \$450k Roberts Road Line Connection - \$250k Wimberly Road Water Supply Vault - \$40k WWRWRF - Phase II Expansion - \$170k

1 [AGENDA ITEM #6 - STORMWATER UTILITY]

[SLIDE 1]

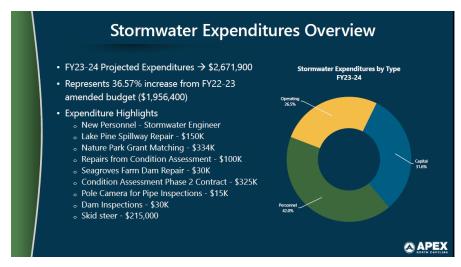


4 [SLIDE 2]



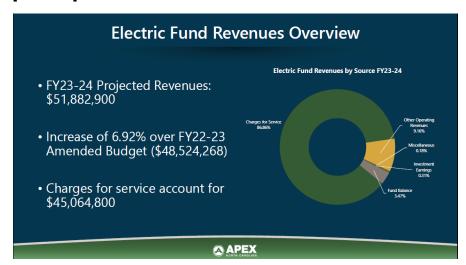
Director Grogan asked if there was a consensus to include these fee schedules in the upcoming budget proposals, and Council said yes.

[SLIDE 3]



4 [AGENDA ITEM #7 - ELECTRIC FUND]

[SLIDE 1]



1

2

[SLIDE 2]

Elect	ric Fund Rates
 Electric Rate Study Cost of service update Rate design update Solar rate evaluation & structure 	update
 Currently balanced with 5.1 NCEMPA increases 3.5% in 2024 at a constant of the const	and 2.0% increases through 2027. 68M vs 48M)
	⊘ APEX

3 4

Councilmember Mahaffey was confused on the \$68 million figure related to Duke Energy.

5 Energy67 expect

Assistant Town Manager Stone said it was based on a higher increase than expected, and that members of ElectriCities would be pass portions of the cost onto the Town. He said he was not sure how much Apex would get since it is a complex calculation. He said it would a number that wasn't known until after July of this year.

9 10

8

Director Grogan said these figures would be spread out over the 32 members of ElectriCities.

11 12

13

Councilmember Mahaffey said Duke's rates had gone up 18% this year, and was wondering if these higher costs were also related to that and the cost of fuel going up.

14 15 **Assistant Town Manager Stone** said he wasn't sure since it was a much different calculation, and that they can charge much different rates since they are a business.

16

Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth asked if Chatham County or Wake County ever considered a hydroelectric plant around Jordan Lake.

17 18

Assistant Town Manager Stone said he had no idea.

19 20 **Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth** said they had them where she grew up, and it was a super cheap cost for energy.

21

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if some ElectriCities towns still build their own power plants.

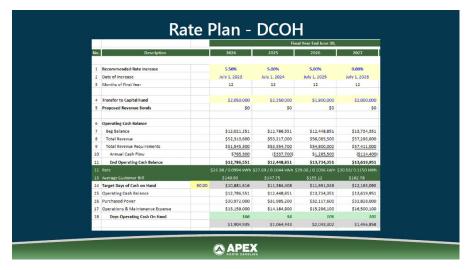
2223

24

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said some that have special permission still do, but that Apex cannot produce energy under the current contract.

- Councilmember Mahaffey said he knows somebody of the King's Mountain City
 Council, and they love the natural gas plants they have, which they had to get special
 legislation to use.
 - **Councilmember Zegerman** asked how the solar requirement with Cary would work, and if that is considered generating power.
 - Assistant Town Manager Stone said they're providing power to the plant itself.

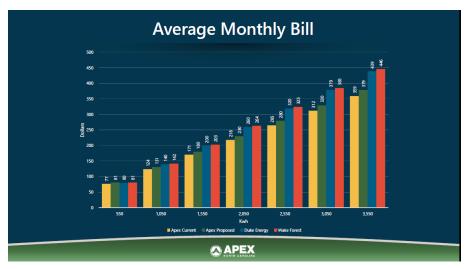
[SLIDE 3]



- **Councilmember Zegerman** asked what the baseline of the average bill was.
- **Director Grogan** said the base plan goes up \$1.38.
- **Councilmember Zegerman** asked what the average customer would have an increased bill of.
- **Director Grogan** said \$7.36.
- **Councilmember Gantt** asked if the Time of Use rates would be included next year.
- Deputy Town Manager Purvis said it may be later than that, but this will be a start of getting on the course that Council wants to go on.
- **[SLIDE 4]**



[SLIDE 5]



[SLIDE 6]

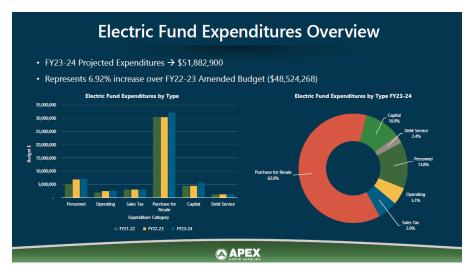
Custon	ner and Sales Escalation											
				Actual					Forec	ast		
Esc.	Description	4-yr Avg	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
1	2	4	6	7	8	9	10				14	
	Residential						9-month trend					
1	Customers	8.26%	8.06%	10.91%	8.46%	5.66%	3.21%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.0
2	Usage	5.90%	8.15%	4.64%	9.09%	1.87%	0.04%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
	Residential TOU						\setminus \setminus					
3	Customers	9.78%	46.05%	9.70%	-4.25%	-5.33%	-3.96%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
4	Usage	9.71%	36.96%	0.66%	-0.34%	5.44%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
	Small General Service											
5	Customers	5.58%	3.62%	5.23%	7.35%	6.16%	4.47%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.0
6	Usage	6.15%	1.36%	-1.30%	5.88%	19.89%	8.28%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.0
	Small General Service TOU											
7	Customers	16.04%	45.64%	23.22%	0.23%	0.81%	-1.52%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
8	Usage	14.58%	45.75%	25.61%	-2.65%	-3.30%	-4.57%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
	Medium General Service											
9	Customers	-0.59%	2.82%	-1.21%	-2.72%	-1.18%	3.49%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
10	Usage	1.40%	0.67%	-4.92%	4.44%	5.75%	-2.98%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
	Medium General Service TOU											
11	Customers	10.67%	25.00%	5.00%	14.29%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0
12	Usage	79.04%	78.70%	296.12%	42.46%	1.89%	-2.59%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0

[SLIDE 7]

Monthly Impact									
А	pex Residenti	al Customer	rs						
Kwh	Current Avg/Month	Proposed Avg/Month	Monthly Change						
950	\$114.49	\$120.81	\$6.32						
1,150	\$133.33	\$140.69	\$7.36						
1,250	\$142.75	\$150.63	\$7.88						
1,350	\$152.17	\$160.57	\$8.40						
		EV							

2 **[SLIDE 8]**

1

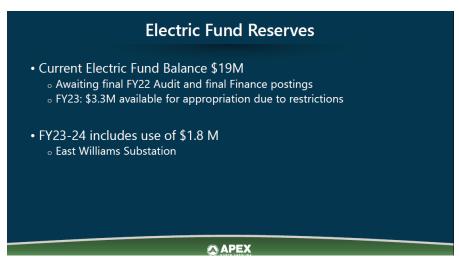


4 **[SLIDE 9]**

3

FY23-24 Electric Fund Expenditures Overview • Vehicles & Equipment Personnel • Equipment Trailer - \$25K o 2 Positions Recommended • Materials Trailer - \$15K 2 Line Technicians 5" MOLE (trenchless equipt.) - \$18K Modification to Pulling Rig - \$10K • Capital Projects o East Williams Substation - \$1.8M • Non-tilt trailer for Unit 112 - \$15K 。 LED Replacement - \$250K • Automatic Traffic Control Arms - \$30K • Resistagraph for Poles & Trees (decay detector) - \$10K • Front End Mower for Ditch Wizard - \$6,500 ♠ APEX

1 [SLIDE 10]



- 3 **Councilmember Zegerman** said it doesn't seem like there's not a lot on line 4 maintenance.
- 5 **Director Grogan** said that and other items were in separate line items in the budget.

6 **[SLIDE 11]**

2



- 8 **Councilmember Mahaffey** asked if the town loses money by providing electricity.
- 9 **Director Grogan** said yes.
- Mayor Pro Tempore Killingsworth asked if the increase rates would cover thatdiscrepancy.
- Director Grogan said somewhat, but the cost to buy energy could still increase. She said they increase costs on developers as well to help system expansion costs.

Councilmember Mahaffey asked if they knew what Duke would charge for this type of service to Municipalities.

Director Grogan said their system is different, but staff can get information on that. She said part of it is tied to how they charge rates.

Assistant Town Manager Stone said Duke's rates are set up to recover costs in a set amount of time. He said they are a for-profit company.

Director Grogan said they aren't trying to recoup all of system expansion costs through rates, like Duke does more of.

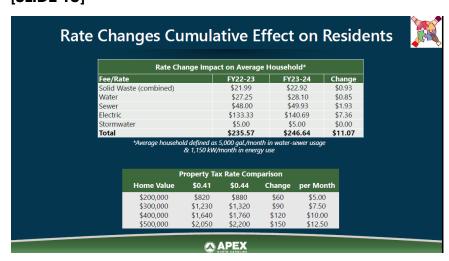
Councilmember Zegerman asked what the restrictions of the balance was.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said they have to keep a certain level to account for lag.

[SLIDE 12]



[SLIDE 13]



[SLIDE 14]



Councilmember Mahaffey asked if there was a way to forecast what these numbers may be.

Deputy Town Manager Purvis said he would like more time to evaluate that, he said he and Director Grogan have looked at creating a model to help determine that.

Councilmember Mahaffey said Apex may be getting closer to a 70/30 Residential/Commercial split after some of the upcoming projects.

[SLIDE 15]

Important Upcoming Budget Dates • May 5-May 11: Revisions and updates • May 12: Budget draft available online • May 23: Public hearing for FY23-24 Recommended Budget • June 8: Second Council budget workshop (if necessary) • June 13: Adopt FY23-24 Budget Ordinance & CIP • July 1: Begin new fiscal year

[SLIDE 16]

