

Memo

Date: September 11, 2025

To: City Secretary, Debra Howe

From: Bruce A. Alexander, Mayor

Cc: Scott Dixon, City Administrator

Re: FY2025-2026 Budget Ordinance – Local Government Code 52.003 (c)

This written statement objecting to the Budget Ordinance adopted by City Council at the September 9, 2025 meeting is, in my opinion, in accordance with Section 52.003 (c) of the Texas Local Government Code.

Be it known that I object to the Ordinance approving the FY2025-2026 Budget for the City of Castroville for the following reason(s);

- Section 5: That all ordinances and appropriations for which provision has heretofore been made are hereby expressly repealed if in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance.
 - This section, as written, permits all established rules, regulations, ordinances and/or policies concerning how funds are expended to be ignored. This is problematic to me as it removes certain oversight duties and responsibilities of the City Council.
 - Any established rules, regulations, ordinances and/or policies of the city that are in conflict with the approved budget should either be revised or changed before a provision that appears to remove city council oversight of the budget expenditures of the city is approved by the budget ordinance.
 - All expenditures made in accordance with the budget should comply with all rules, regulations, ordinances and policies of the city in place at the time the budget is approved unless specifically exempted by the city council and made part of this budget ordinance.

In accordance with Local Government Code 53.003 (c) this item shall be placed on the next City Council Agenda for reconsideration by the City Council.



Bruce A. Alexander, Mayor
City of Castroville

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE FY 2025-2026 ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF CASTROVILLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES AS THEREIN PROVIDED

WHEREAS, the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025 and ending September 30, 2026 was duly presented to the City Council by the City Administrator and a Public Hearing was ordered by the City Council of the City of Castroville and public notice of said Public Hearing was caused to be given by the City Council and said Public Hearing was held according to notice on August 26, 2025 and September 9, 2025.

WHEREAS, said proposed budget was prepared in accordance with Texas Local Government Code §102.003 and carefully itemized proposed expenditures by the City of Castroville, Texas for projects and the estimated revenues available to cover said proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, the City of Castroville, Texas having made the proposed budget available for inspection by any taxpayer in the office of the City Secretary.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CASTROVILLE, TEXAS:

Section 1: That the recitals contained in the preamble hereto are hereby found to be true and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Ordinance for all purposes and are adopted as a part of the findings of the Council.

Section 2. That the proposed budget for the City of Castroville for fiscal year 2025-2026, in the form in which it is on file in the office of the City Secretary and hereby approved in all respects and adopted.

Section 3. That the budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$355,693 which is a 20.82 percent increase is from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$154,897.

Section 3: That the appropriations for the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the different administrative units and purposes of the City of Castroville, Texas be fixed and determined for said fiscal year in accordance with the expenditures shown in said budget, and that the distribution and division of said appropriations be made in accordance with said budget including such amounts shown for providing for sinking funds for payment of the principal and interest and the retirement of the bonded debt of the City of Castroville.

Section 4: That should any part, portion, or section of this ordinance be declared invalid or inoperative or void for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision, opinion or judgment shall in no way affect the remaining portions, parts, or sections or parts of section of this ordinance, which provisions shall be, remain and continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 5: That all ordinances and appropriations for which provision has heretofore been made are hereby expressly repealed if in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 6: That it is officially found, determined and declared that the meeting at which this Ordinance is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting, including this ordinance, was given, all as required by Chapter 551, as amended, Texas Government Code.

Section 6: That this ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval according to law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Castroville this the 9th day of September, 2025.

BRUCE ALEXANDER, Mayor

ATTEST:

DEBRA HOWE, City Secretary