




City of Hartford * County of Van Buren * State of Michigan

TO: Mayor Danger and the Hartford Commission

FROM: Nicol Pulluiam, City Manager 

DATE: April 27, 2026

RE: **DRAFT ANNUAL BUDGET FY JUL 1, 2026 - JUNE 30, 2027**

The city manager began the budget process in March by distributing budget worksheets to employees in each department. I held one-on-one meetings with department heads to collect their proposed budgets. The budget committee met on April 16th to review the budget in detail.

Enclosed is a rough draft of the proposed fiscal year-end budget. I have not yet received all the quotes needed for some road repairs. Below are the significant proposed changes. The budget committee is scheduled to meet again on May 5th.

Summary of the Budget:

- General Fund: Deficit of \$47,700 (2.77% over budget)
- Major Street Fund: Fund balance of \$129,500
- Local Street Fund: Fund balance of \$9,100
- Downtown Development Authority: Fund balance of \$700
- Building Department Fund: Fund balance of \$10,900
- Sewer Fund: Deficit of \$41,500 (3.39% over budget)
- Water Fund: Fund balance of \$287,600

Proposed Changes:

- Purchase of vehicles, equipment, and radios for police officers
- Increased costs for utility and water operators
- Hiring a contractor in the Treasurer's department
- Leasing a copy machine
- Implementing a monitoring system for the Sewer Plant
- Attorney fees for the Sewer Plant
- Staff salary increases, including for one DPW worker with CDL classification
- 17% increase in health insurance
- Bond payments for roads and sewer
- Election equipment expenses

At this time, staff is not requesting that the city commission approve the budget, as this is only a rough draft. The commission will receive an updated budget at the May city commission meeting.