



Town of Johnstown

TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA DATE:	December 4, 2023
SUBJECT:	Resolution No. 2023-57 – Adopting and Appropriating the Budget for the Calendar Year 2024
ACTION PROPOSED:	Approve Resolution No. 2023-57
ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Resolution No. 2023-572. Exhibit A - 2024 Amended Proposed Budget3. Capital Improvement Plan 2024 to 2033
PRESENTED BY:	Devon McCarty, Finance Director

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

The proposed 2024 Budget for the Town of Johnstown, Colorado was presented to Council at meetings held on September 25, 2023, and October 11, 2023. Public hearings regarding the proposed 2024 Budget were held by the Town Council on November 6, 2023, and November 20, 2023, where citizens were invited to file or register objections or suggestions thereto at any time prior to the adoption of the 2024 Budget.

The original proposed 2024 Budget presented in September was amended, to reflect Council suggestions, updates to revenue projections as well as other changes that better reflect the current and expected future financial position of the Town. The amended document was made available to the public on the Town's website and at Town Hall prior to the public hearings. There have been no changes made to expenditures or revenues since the document was posted prior to the public hearing. The property tax revenues are based on preliminary certifications.

The budget document serves as the Town of Johnstown's roadmap, guiding operational decisions by addressing the Council's priorities and becoming a policy guide to strengthen our organizational values, goals, objectives, and service priorities in addition to providing a long-range plan that provides a sustainable framework for years to come. The 2024 Budget reinforces our commitment to financial stewardship, operational efficiency, strategic investments and effective change management.

The overall size of the Town budget has increased over the past few years as the Town adjusts its services to meet the expectation of a growing population, fund civic and infrastructure projects and keep pace with inflation. The 2024 budget focuses on the continuation of high-quality customer service and core services such as public safety, infrastructure maintenance, public facilities, planning and development, parks, transportation networks, water, sewer and stormwater utility services, as well as continuing to build community partnerships to improve the quality of life for Johnstown residents, businesses and visitors alike.

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Capital Projects

As the Town continues to grow, maintaining and improving our facilities and infrastructure is essential to maintaining readiness and the ability to provide essential services. Projects included in the 2024 budget span from extending water and sewer infrastructure, to expanding public facilities and buildings, to developing parks and trails, to improving storm drainage. By collaborating with community and corporate partners, the Town continues to progress.

A few of the major capital projects included in this spending plan are highlighted below:

- General Fund
 - o Police Department building expansion
 - o Johnstown Downtown economic study
 - o Engineering department
- Parks and Open Space Fund
 - o Construction of the Little Thompson Trail bridge project
 - o Playground replacement at Aragon Park
 - o Master Plan for Letford Elementary School property and the SE corner of CR 46.5 and Parish Ave.
- Street and Alley Fund
 - o Street maintenance program
 - o Widening of a section of Colorado Blvd. north of Hwy 60
 - o Hwy 60 and Colorado Blvd. intersection improvements
 - o Realignment design of the approach of High Plains Blvd. into Hwy 34
 - o Thompson Parkway roundabout study
- Capital Projects Fund
 - o EV charging stations
 - o Signage that was designed as part of the Downtown Branding Study
 - o Enhancements to the alleyway west of Parish Ave. between Hwy 60 and Charlotte St.
- Water Fund
 - o Construction of the new Water Treatment Plant Expansion
 - o Easements for the raw water trunk line
- Storm Water Fund
 - o Stormwater master plan
 - o Country Acres drainage improvements
- Sewer Fund
 - o Low Point construction
 - o Central Wastewater Plant construction
 - o North Interceptor construction

Maintaining or improving service delivery is the primary goal across all funds. The current economic challenges such as supply chain issues certainly make a financial impact on daily Town operations in addition to planning for the future. Monitoring economic conditions and their potential effects on the Town is essential. Protecting the Town's strong financial position is imperative.

The budget parallels the methods of accounting used for the Town's funds. Modified accrual basis is used for all governmental fund operations. Proprietary and fiduciary funds use full accrual basis. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available and expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred, except for debt service and

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compensated absences. Under the full accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred, without consideration of the timing of related cash flows. The basis of accounting used in the budget is the same basis of accounting used in the financial statements. The figures presented in the budget represent the estimated cash balances for the budget year 2024.

The Town of Johnstown Home Rule Charter, Section 12.7 requires that the Council adopt the budget for the next fiscal year by ordinance or resolution on or before the final day of the current fiscal year. However, state law requires the Town to adopt a budget prior to certifying the tax levy and the deadline for certifying the tax levy to county commissioners is December 15 (C.R.S. 39-5-128(1)). Due to the recent changes to the Assessor's deadline to implement Senate Bill 23B-001 which makes changes to the assessed values, the deadline to certify the tax levy has been extended to January 17, 2024.

Finally, included in the resolution is also approval of the 2024-2033 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the Town of Johnstown. The CIP document contains information on how the Town plans to invest available resources into key infrastructure and facilities between 2023 and 2032. The plan provides a working blueprint for sustaining and improving the community's assets by coordinating strategic planning, financial capacity, and physical development. The goals of the CIP are to provide sustainable funding sources for essential capital needs; improve the resiliency of essential services; and save the Town money over the long runtime by not deferring necessary improvements.

The CIP is a living document and as such, it is reviewed and updated annually to reflect changing community needs, priorities and funding opportunities to ensure that the infrastructure exists to advance the strategic and long-term goals and objectives.

LEGAL ADVICE:

The Resolution presented has been reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney.

FINANCIAL ADVICE:

The budget document refers to the financial condition of the Town including revenues, expenditures, activities, purposes, and goals. The budget document will be the basis by which we operate and strive to achieve greatness for the Community while operating within the parameters set by the budget document.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends approval of Resolution 2023-57, A Resolution of Johnstown, Colorado, Summarizing Expenditures and Revenues for Each Fund and Adopting and Appropriating the Budget for the Calendar Year 2024.

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

For Approval:

I move to approve Resolution 2023-57, A Resolution of Johnstown, Colorado, Summarizing Expenditures and Revenues for Each Fund and Adopting and Appropriating the Budget for the Calendar Year 2024.

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For Denial:

I move to deny Resolution 2023-57, A Resolution of Johnstown, Colorado, Summarizing Expenditures and Revenues for Each Fund and Adopting and Appropriating the Budget for the Calendar Year 2024.

Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'WJL', is written above a horizontal line.

Town Manager

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