



AGENDA ACTION FORM

Consideration of an Ordinance to Increase Court Costs

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen
From: Chris McCartt, City Manager *CM*

Action Form No.: AF-224-2026
Work Session: July 20, 2026
First Reading: July 21, 2026

Final Adoption: August 4, 2026
Staff Work By: Finance/Police Dept. Staff
Presentation By: Travis Bishop

Strategic Focus Area: 1. Efficient & Responsive Government

Recommendation:

Approve the Ordinance

Executive Summary:

If approved, this ordinance will amend Section 30-29 of the Kingsport Municipal Code to increase Municipal Court costs to \$106.50 per case from the current amount of \$85.00 per case. Municipal court costs are assessed to help offset a portion of the City's expenses associated with operating the Municipal Court, including judicial administration, court personnel, records management, technology, and other court-related services. Court costs are separate from fines and are authorized under Tennessee law. The City's current court costs have not kept pace with the increasing costs of administering the Municipal Court. Expenses related to personnel, software, records retention, cybersecurity, and operational support have continued to rise.

The increase is authorized under Tennessee Code Annotated §16-18-304 and will help offset the City's costs of administering Municipal Court while maintaining compliance with Tennessee law. The proposed increase will better align court cost revenue with the actual cost of providing municipal court services while remaining consistent with state law.

Attachments:

1. Ordinance

	Y	N	O
Baker	—	—	—
Cooper	—	—	—
Duncan	—	—	—
George	—	—	—
Mayes	—	—	—
Phillips	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	—	—