



Office of the Town Manager
Frank Cassidy

Warrenton Town Council
Carter Nevill, Mayor
Heather Sutphin, Ward 1
William Semple, Ward 2
Brett Hamby, Ward 3
James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor
Eric Gagnon, Ward 5
Paul Mooney, At Large
David McGuire, At Large

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date:	September 10, 2024
Agenda Title:	FY 2026 Budget Guidance
Requested Action:	For council review and direction
Department / Agency Lead:	Finance Department
Staff Lead:	Brooke Campbell, Budget Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the coming weeks the Finance Department will hold a budget kickoff meeting for departments. Following the meeting, departments will begin working on their FY 2026 budget requests. The Finance Department is requesting guidance from Town Council for the FY 2026 budget.

BACKGROUND

The adopted FY 2025 budget was the result of a needs-based approach to budgeting. Town staff reviewed their functional areas for operating efficiencies while maintaining service levels. The Town's capital needs were the primary focus of the FY2025 budget, with the water and sewer utility infrastructure being the top priority. FY 2025 was the second year of rate increases resulting from the water and sewer rate study completed in FY 2023. The study recommends a phased approach to increasing user rates coupled with the strategic issuance of debt to fund capital needs. FY 2026 will bring the third year of rate increases in line with the study's recommendations. The FY 2025 budget also focused on fulfilling the Town's Mission Statement while pursuing the Town's Vision and working towards several of our Strategic Goals from Plan Warrenton 2040. We plan to continue with these objectives and seek any additional guidance from the Town Council.

MISSION STATEMENT

In cooperation with and for our Citizens, the Mayor, Town Council and the Staff of Warrenton are dedicated to ***providing public safety, economic opportunity, and quality public services*** in an attractive, well-planned community with historic character for the benefit, enjoyment and accessibility of all.

VISION & VALUE STATEMENT

To achieve our Mission, we strive to ***provide high level services in a cost-effective manner***; display honesty, respectfulness, and fairness in all relationships; support the health and economic well-being of our citizens and businesses; preserve our historic small-town character; encourage opportunities, services and infrastructure that allow people of all means to live, work and visit here; and address public concerns and opportunities promptly and effectively.

STRATEGIC GOALS Selected from Plan Warrenton 2040

1. Ensure healthy, safe, adequate water and wastewater services.
2. Provide a fiscally responsible infrastructure that maintains a high quality of life for residents, supports current businesses, and attracts new employers with a stable tax structure.
3. Ensure public safety services and policies are viewed as amongst the best in similar Virginia towns for responsiveness, community trust, and effectiveness.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

None.