

NEWS RELEASE

Herndon Town Council Adopts FY 2025 Budget

Most tax rates, fees remain unchanged

Herndon, VA (May 15, 2024) – Following months of preparation and two public hearings, the Herndon Town Council has adopted a Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Budget of \$74,632,184, a 19.9 percent increase from the adopted FY 2024 Budget. The town's FY 2025 begins July 1, 2024, and extends to June 30, 2025.

"The adopted budget reflects a careful balance between minimizing the tax burden on our residents while funding the programs, services and initiatives they expect and enjoy," said Mayor Sheila Olem. "We are grateful to the residents, business owners, organization representatives and others who testified, wrote, called, or otherwise let us know what their priorities are in the town's budget."

Most town tax rates and fees in the FY 2025 Budget remain unchanged from the current fiscal year. While most property owners will receive higher tax bills in FY 2025 due to rising real estate values, the town's real estate tax rate remains at \$0.26 per \$100 of assessed value, a rate that was reduced in FY 2024 after holding steady for more than a decade. Increases were adopted for water and sewer rates, attributed to higher supply and treatment costs; an FAQ on the town's water and sewer rates and services is attached.

Effective July 1, the adopted FY 2025 Budget will be available in interactive detail on the town's website, at Herndon-va.gov/Budget. A comprehensive accounting of the budget is presented, including narratives, charts and graphs that are easily navigated and accessible to all. The interactive tool allows taxpayers to enter their personalized tax amounts and see how their taxes are allocated.

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Adopted FY 2025 Budget At-a-Glance

Total Budget Expenditures

\$74,632,184 for all funds (General Fund, Stormwater Fund, Water and Sewer Fund, Golf Course Fund, Chestnut Grove Cemetery Fund and the Capital Projects & ARPA Fund). The total reflects an increase of 19.9% percent from the FY 2024 adopted budget of \$62,243,805.

General Fund Total Expenditures

FY 2025 General Fund expenditures are \$44,669,023, an increase of \$3,895,412, or 9.6 percent, over the FY 2024 General Fund adopted budget expenditures of \$40,773,611. This includes personnel, operations and maintenance, debt service and minor capital.

Real Estate Tax Rate

Remains at \$0.2600 per \$100 of assessed value.

One Penny on the Real Estate Tax Rate

Equivalent to approximately \$532,958 in tax revenues (includes assessed value of public service corporations and real property assessments).

Average Residential Property Value

Projected at \$531,389. Average Residential Real Estate Tax Bill \$1,381.61 based on \$0.2600 per \$100 assessed value.

Personal Property Tax Rate

Remains at \$0.00 per \$100 assessed value.

Meals Tax

Remains at 3.75 percent.

Cigarette Tax

Remains at 75 cents per pack.

Business Professional and Occupational License Tax

All classifications and thresholds remain at the current amounts.

Motor Vehicle License Fee

Remains at \$25 for private passenger and other vehicles weighing less than 4,000 lbs., and \$32 for vehicles weighing in excess of 4,000 lbs.

Consumer Utility Tax

Tax based on the purchase of utility services within the corporate limits of the town. The amount of the tax for residential consumers contains a monthly cap of \$3 per utility.

Sewer Service Rate

Increased from \$8.27 in FY 2024 to \$8.93 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption in FY 2025. The quarterly service charge per bill rendered shall be \$12.76.

Sewer Availability Fee

Remains at \$10,800 for new, single-family homes.

Sewer Lateral Repair and Replacement Program

Remains at \$2 per year (\$0.50 per quarter).

Water Service Rate

Increased from \$3.47 in FY 2024 to \$4.08 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption in FY 2025.

The quarterly service charge per bill rendered shall be \$16.34. All water consumed during the peak use periods in excess of the average consumption of the preceding two winter quarter billing periods shall be charged an additional amount of \$6.94 per 1,000 gallons.

Water Availability Fee

Remains at \$7,800 in FY 2025 for new, single-family homes.

Recycling Fee

Remains in FY 2025 at \$64 per year (\$16 per quarter).

Personnel

Personnel costs for all funds total \$35,286,712, an increase of \$3,720,632 or 11.8% when compared to FY 2024 adopted budget.