

Roxanne Maher

From: Carmen Garcia Irizarry
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 9:58 PM
To: Roxanne Maher
Subject: Budget Data

Hi Roxanne,

Can you forward this email to Councilor Buhle and Councilor Ryan? Unfortunately, I won't be able to attend the meeting so I want to share this with them.

In preparation for the budget workshops, I reviewed the budgets for the fiscal years 2023, 2024, and 2025. I only did three years as finding the documents in our website is not always very straight forward. I believe some of this information will answer questions that some of our fellow councilors might have and also questions from the public.

I analyzed the original and revised appropriations for each department, as well as the final amounts spent. I also compared the predicted revenues with the actual revenues received by the Town. All this data was recorded in two spreadsheets using the numbers from the budget documents found on our website for each year and the Excel spreadsheet that Matt sent to the Finance Committee. Since I won't be able to attend the Finance Committee meeting on April 1, 2026, I can discuss these spreadsheets in more detail at our next Town Council meeting and answer any questions that may arise. But in the meantime, I would like to share some of my observations.

These are some of the things that I noticed:

1. Many departments ended the year with a positive balance, although some were only a few hundred dollars.
2. More departments ended the year in the positive than in the negative. However, some departments, like the police department, finished the year with a significant deficit due to overtime pay as the department is understaffed. For others the deficit was by a few thousand dollars.
3. The Town, overall, consistently finished each year under budget.
4. The Town's revenues exceeded predictions in all three years. The revenue from interest on deposits was significantly higher than estimated. For 2023, the estimated amount was \$80,000 and the amount received was \$576,150. For 2024, the estimated amount was \$300,000 and received was \$1,014,472. For 2025, the estimated amount was \$550,000 and the amount received was \$1,031,324. Matt explained to us the difficulty of making adequate estimates for this specific line item.
5. For General Government Grants, the amount received was also significantly higher than estimated, although the difference was not as substantial as for the interest on deposits. For Education Grants, 2023 and 2024 ended with a significant amount higher than estimated, but 2025 saw a significant decrease. However, the Education Charges for 2025 were higher than estimated due to changes made by the state to the formulas.
6. Each year, the Town finished the year with a surplus and the mill rate stabilization fund was not used.

Regarding the budget draft, at this time, I don't have any other changes that I would like to propose.

Thanks,
Carmen

Sent from my iPad