

Boonsboro Mayor and Council
Public Hearing
Ordinance 2025-01; An Ordinance to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 Budgets and Tax Rate
for the Town of Boonsboro, Maryland
May 12, 2025

The Mayor and Council of Boonsboro held a Public Hearing, as duly advertised in The Herald-Mail Newspaper and Town website, on Monday, May 12, 2025 in the Town Annex Meeting Chambers. In attendance were Mayor Howard Long, Assistant Mayor Tony Nally, Council Members Eric Kitchen, Ray Hanson, Marilee Kerns, Terri Hollingshead, and Ricky Weaver. Also present were Town Manager Rachel Souders and Office Manager Kimberly Miller.

Mayor Long opened the Public Hearing at 6:30 PM for the purpose of receiving public input, either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Ordinance 2025-01; *An Ordinance to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 Budgets and Tax Rate for the Town of Boonsboro, Maryland.*

Ordinance 2025-01; An Ordinance to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2026 Budgets and Tax Rate for the Town of Boonsboro, Maryland

General Fund Budgetary highlights include:

- Maintaining the current Constant Yield Tax Rate of \$0.3591 per \$100 of assessed property value for Fiscal Year 2026 will provide the potential revenue of \$1,490,973
- Maintaining the current Personal Property Tax Rate of \$0.87 per \$100 of assessed personal property value for Fiscal Year 2026 will provide the potential revenue of \$60,000
- **Highway User Revenues:** Highway User Revenues is estimated at \$298,424 for Fiscal Year 2026
- **Fire and Rescue Donations:** The annual contribution amount to both agencies for Fiscal Year 2026 will be \$28,000 per agency
- **Sanitation Rates:** Sanitation Rates will increase from \$30 to \$35 per quarter per EDU (EDU – Equivalent Dwelling Unit or One dwelling unit, each individual apartment is an EDU)
- **Capital Improvements**
 - Chase Six Boulevard – Maple Avenue Intersection - \$1,210,000
- **Total Revenues and Expenses of \$2,926,488**

Water and Sewer Fund Budgetary highlights include:

- Based on the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan for the Water and Sewer Fund and at the recommendation of the Debt Task Force, a Tiered Rate Plan was provided by the Task Force and the Utilities Commission. The Mayor and Council approved and implemented a tiered rate structure in Fiscal Year 2016, which charges users a small, fixed fee and for the quantity of Water/Sewer that they use, per 1,000 gallons. The proposed Water and Sewer Fixed Fee Rates increase for Fiscal Year 2026 is as follows:

	Residential	Commercial	Out of Town
Sewer Fixed Fee	\$66.00 per EDU per quarter	\$66.00 per EDU per quarter	----
1-18,000 gallons waste water	\$9.00/1,000gal	\$9.00/1,000gal	----
18,001+ gallons waste water	\$13.00/1,000gal	\$13.00/1,000gal	----
Water Fixed Fee	\$37.50 per EDU per quarter	\$37.50 per EDU per quarter	\$56 per EDU per quarter
1-18,000 gallons water	\$6.20/1,000gal	\$6.20/1,000gal	\$9.30/1,000gal
18,001+ gallons water	\$9.30/1,000gal	\$9.30/1,000gal	\$11.30/1,000gal

Water Fund Budgetary highlights include:

- Revenue from Water charges will be **\$1,265,448**
- **Expenses:** Reflects a percentage of the expense and 30% of the Salaries and Insurance for the Administration staff, Public Works Employees and the Water and Sewer Operators.
- **Total Revenues of \$1,415,448** for Fiscal Year 2026 and the establishment of a Contingency Fund of \$10,000
- **Capital Improvements**

- Drinking Water Reservoir Replacement - \$7,380,335
- Crestview Water Pressure – \$1,335,910
- **Debt**
 - MDE Alternate 40 Waterline – \$21,767.77
- **Total Revenues and Expenses of \$1,415,448**

Sewer Fund Budgetary highlights include:

- Revenue from Sewer charges will be **\$1,186,710**
- **Expenses:** Reflects a percentage of the expense and 20% of the Salaries and Insurance for the Administration staff, Public Works Employees and the Water and Sewer Operators.
- **Total Revenues of \$1,663,770** and the establishment of a Contingency Fund of \$10,000
- **Capital Improvements**
 - Special Funding Project - \$100,000
- **Debt**
 - Waste Water Treatment Plant CDA Bond - \$309,007
- **Total Revenues and Expenses of \$1,663,770**

Town Manager Souders stated that Section 6 is a new addition to the Ordinance this year.

Section 6. Water and Sewer Connection Fees. The water and sewer connection fees established in the Water and Sewer Funds Budget shall be charged as set forth in Resolution No. 2024-02, effective March 3, 2024. Any landowner, developer, or applicant applying to the Town’s water and sewer system shall pay to the Town the following fees at the time of application and before any connection may be made:

Water Connection Fee: \$10,550.00
Sewer Connection Fee: \$15,500.00

The floor was opened for public comment. No comments were received.

Motion by Council Member Kitchen, second by Council Member Weaver to close the Public Hearing at 6:42pm. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Miller, Office Manager