

**Boonsboro Mayor and Council**  
**Public Hearing**  
**Ordinance 2020-05; Adopt the Fiscal Year 2021 Budgets and Tax Rates for the**  
**Town of Boonsboro**  
**June 15, 2020**

The Boonsboro Mayor and Council held a Public Hearing, as duly advertised in The Herald-Mail Newspaper and Town website, on Monday, June 15, 2020 in the Meeting Chambers. The Meeting was streamed via GoToMeeting online for the public. In attendance were Mayor Howard Long, Assistant Mayor Rick Byrd, Council Members Marilee Kerns, Ray Hanson, Terri Hollingshead, Tony Nally and Rick Weaver. Also present were Town Manager Paul Mantello, Office Manager Kimberly Miller and Police Chief Kevin Morgan.

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 2020-05; *Adopt the Fiscal Year 2021 Budgets and Tax Rates for the Town of Boonsboro.*

Council Member Kerns provided a Power Point presentation.

**Ordinance 2020-05; Fiscal Year 2020 Budgets and Tax Rates**

**General Fund Budgetary highlights include:**

- Maintaining the current Constant Yield Tax Rate of \$0.3591 per \$100 of assessed property value for Fiscal Year 2020 will provide the potential revenue of \$1,162,446
- Maintaining the current Personal Property Tax Rate of \$0.87 per \$100 of assessed personal property value for Fiscal Year 2020 will provide the potential revenue of \$80,000
- Highway User Revenues: Highway User Revenues will decrease from \$166,000 to \$125,000 for Fiscal Year 2021
- Program Open Space: The expected allocation for Fiscal Year 2021 is \$0
- Fire and Rescue Donations: the annual contribution amount to both agencies for Fiscal Year 2021 will be \$25,000 per agency
- Sanitation Rates: Sanitation Rates will not increase and will stay at \$25 per quarter per EDU (EDU – Equivalent Dwelling Unit or One dwelling unit, each individual apartment is an EDU)
- Capital Improvements: \$20,000
  - MS4 Permitting - \$20,000
- **Debt: \$100,925**
  - New Park Development - \$81,519
  - Wellhead Protection - \$15,500
  - Interest Expense - \$3,906
- **Total Revenues and Expenses of \$1,808,861**

**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 1000 gallons. There are no proposed Water and Sewer Rates increases for Fiscal Year 2021.

<b>Proposed Rates July 1, 2020</b>	In-Town Residential	Out of Town Residential	In-Town Commercial	Out of Town Commercial
<b>Wastewater (Sewer) Fixed Fee</b>	\$55	-	\$55 per EDU	-
1 - 18000 gallons Wastewater	\$9/1,000 gal	-	\$9/1,000 gal	-
1 - 8001+ gallons wastewater	\$13/1,000 gal	-	\$13/1,000 gal	-
<b>Water Fixed Fee</b>	\$15	\$15	\$22.50 per EDU	\$22.50 per EDU
1 – 18,000 gallons water	\$6.20/1,000 gal	\$9.30/1,000 gal	\$6.20/1,000 gal	\$9.30/1,000 gal
18,001+ gallons water	\$9.30/1,000 gal	\$11.30/1,000 gal	\$9.30/1,000 gal	\$11.30/1,000 gal

**Water Fund Budgetary highlights include:**

- Revenue from Water charges will be \$700,000
- Expenses: Reflects a percentage of the expense of the Salaries and Insurance for the Administration and Public Works Employees, as well as 1/2 of the salary for the Water and Sewer Operators.
- **Total Revenues and Expenses of \$876,660** and the establishment of a Contingency Fund of \$21,420 for Water Fund
- Capital Improvements: \$172,250
  - Water Study & Model (WRA) - \$125,000
  - Water Meter Replacement - \$47,250
- **Debt**: \$66,493
  - CHIEF Loan – Keedysville Weir Wall - \$18,000
  - Long Term Debt - \$27,089
  - MDE Alternate 40 Waterline – \$21,404

**Sewer Fund Budgetary highlights include:**

- Revenue from Sewer charges will be \$1,129,260
- Expenses: Reflects a percentage of the expense of the Salaries and Insurance for the Administration and Public Works Employees, as well as 1/2 of the salary for the Water and Sewer Operators.
- **Total Revenues and Expenses of \$1,770,760** and the establishment of a Contingency Fund of \$3,000 for Sewer Fund
- Capital Improvements: \$542,000
  - Waste Water Study & Model (WRA) - \$190,000
  - Sewer Linings – I&I Projects - \$312,000 (50/50 Grant)
  - Pump Station Bank Stabilization - \$40,000
- **Debt**: \$316,991
  - General Fund Loan - \$1,258,309 (no rate or terms)
  - Waste Water Treatment Plant CDA Bond - \$309,490
  - Park View Loan - \$7,501

The floor was opened for public comment:

- **Joe Swope**, 27 Chestnut Avenue. Stated that he supports the Ordinance. He thanked the Council for not raising Water and Sewer rates especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stated that he is opposed to the Tax Rate, noting that it is difficult on older and local people who do not make a lot of money. Suggested that the Town could save funds by eliminating 'take-home' vehicles for employees and allowing them to only use them when they are on the clock. Stated that the Council should freeze pay increases or reduce higher paid employee's salaries. Stated that POS funds should be used to purchase more land rather than developing current land. Stated that he would like to see meetings open to the public again. Stated that he would like to see our municipality open up more like other municipalities.

Mayor Long asked if there were any additional comments.

**Motion** by Council Member Hollingshead, second by Council Member Nally to close the Public Hearing at 7:00pm. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Miller, Office Manager