



NEWS RELEASE

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Vienna Town Council Adopts 2021-2022 Budget

The 2021-22 annual operating budget was adopted by Vienna Town Council on May 17, 2021 for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2021.

The \$43.2 million budget is an increase of 5.4% over fiscal year 2020-21. The General Fund budget increase of 6.9% reflects a return to more normal post-pandemic operations and revenues from the Coronavirus pandemic but is still 3.1% below the pre-COVID 2020-21 proposed budget.

General fund highlights for the \$26.6 million budget include a decrease in the real estate tax rate to 22.25 cents per \$100 of assessed value, the first decrease in rate since 2013, increased activities in parks and recreation as the pandemic eases, and additions to resources in economic development and parks. The average resident will see their real estate tax bill increase by \$72 due to increases in assessed value, partially offset by the rate decrease.

“Last year at this time it was difficult to determine if we had budgeted sufficiently to meet the economic challenges of the pandemic,” says Town Manager Mercury Payton. “We were pleasantly surprised at how well Vienna survived the initial challenges and how well we are positioned to handle improving conditions.”

Water and sewer fund budget increased 6.1% overall to \$10.8 million, reflecting a 4.3% increase in rates to offset increasing costs of sewer treatment and to fund necessary infrastructure replacement. The average resident will see an increase of \$11.75 or 6% on their quarterly water and sewer bill, or \$47 annually.

The \$5.4 million debt service fund budget has a 2.9% decrease from last year. Better than expected returns for meals taxes during fiscal year 2020-21 means that the Town will have to draw on less reserves for the debt service fund than anticipated, and as principal is paid off, debt service payments decrease. The Town funds debt payments with its 3% meals tax.

The Town’s stormwater fund, which receives its funding from the County stormwater tax is budgeted to rise 6.6% to \$0.47 million, based on historical receipts from the County to meet the requirements of joint stormwater regulations.

The economic effect of the American Rescue Plan on the Town is unknown at this time and is not included in the 2021-22 budget.

The full budget can be viewed [here](#) and questions can be directed to the finance department at finance@viennava.gov.

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