



NEWS RELEASE

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Town Manager's Proposed FY2023 Budget Reduces Tax Rate

Beginning Saturday, March 12, the Vienna Town Council will begin deliberating the Town's FY2023 proposed budget. The proposed \$48.7 million balanced budget reduces the Town's property tax rate by one cent from .2225 cents to .2125 cents per \$100 of assessed value. It also funds compensation increases for eligible employees, adds no new programs, and addresses inflationary increases in operating costs mainly through tax revenue increases related to assessed value of new construction.

"This proposed budget is based, in part, on recommendations from the staff budget committee, said Vienna Town Manager Mercury Payton. "The result is a legally balanced proposed budget that reflects general consensus from a variety of operational perspectives."

The after-effects of the pandemic include a 40-year-high inflation rate as of January 2022. The proposed FY23 budget addresses this by using some of the prior year surplus to fund a salary increase for all eligible employees, and by adopting a separate step-based pay system for sworn public safety staff addressing specific wage and hiring pressures in that sector. Eligible employees will receive a total increase based on three percent deferred from fiscal year 2021-22 funded from the surplus and four percent for fiscal year 2022-23.

"Health insurance premiums will increase by 11.7 percent for most employees, and the salary increase is important to cover those increases and address inflation, wage pressure and employee retention concerns," Payton said.

The Town Council will hold two conference sessions, and a third, if necessary, to review the proposed budget and make any revisions in its discretion. Conference sessions are open to the public, although no public comment is permitted. The public will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the final plan during a public hearing. The proposed budget is available for review online: www.viennava.gov/your-government/town-budget.

The FY23 budget process schedule is as follows:

Budget Conference Session #1
Saturday, March 12
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Vienna Town Hall

Budget Conference Session #2
Monday, March 14
7:30 p.m.
Vienna Town Hall

Proposed Budget, Tax Rate, Water & Sewer Rates Advertised
Thursday, March 24
www.viennava.gov

Public Hearing – Proposed Budget and Water & Sewer Rates
Monday, April 11
8 p.m.
Vienna Town Hall

Budget Conference Session #3 (If needed)
Monday, April 18
7:30 p.m.
Vienna Town Hall

Public Hearing – Proposed Tax Rate
Monday, April 25
8 p.m.
Vienna Town Hall

Adoption of Budget, Tax Rate and Water & Sewer Rate
Monday, May 16
8 p.m.
Vienna Town Hall

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