



Town of Blowing Rock

1036 Main Street ★ Post Office Box 47 ★ Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605

Date: June 14, 2016

To: Blowing Rock Town Council

From: Scott Fogleman, Town Manager

Re: List of Changes to the Manager's Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year 2017

The Manager's Recommended Fiscal Year 2016 budget was officially presented at the Council meeting on May 10, 2016. It was posted online and a copy has been available for review at Town Hall. Three separate work sessions with Council were held on May 24, 25, and 27 to discuss the details associated with the budget. Following Council discussion, a list of changes to the Manager's Recommended Budget has been developed. The following list of changes, proposed to be incorporated into the Manager's Recommended Budget, is summarized below for Council consideration following the public hearing.

1. **Eliminate the Recommended Vehicle License Fee of \$10.00 per vehicle**

As outlined in the Budget Message and discussed during the worksessions with Council, the Manager's Recommended Budget included a vehicle license fee of \$10.00 per registered vehicle. The NC General Assembly, effective July 1, 2016, has authorized all municipalities in NC to charge a vehicle license fee of up to \$30 per vehicle. Per state statute, \$5.00 of this fee can be used for any general purpose within the general fund. Revenues generated by each dollar over and above \$5.00 per vehicle must be dedicated to street related maintenance expenses. At \$10.00 for Blowing Rock, this revenue was estimated to generate \$15,980.

2. **Adjust the Recycling Fee from \$6.00 Every Two Months to \$8.00 Every Two Months**

Currently the recycling fee being charged to each residential customer is \$6.00 per two month billing cycle. To assist with the Town's recently expanded recycling program including the Main Street recycling program and the recycling program occurring at the Post Office, Council indicated the fee should be adjusted to \$8.00 every two months, an increase of \$2.00 per two month billing cycle or \$1.00 per month.

3. **Adjustment to the Capital Budget**

During the budget worksessions, the third phase of the technology infrastructure improvement project was discussed. Since final cost estimates are not yet available, the scope of the Technology improvement project was adjusted to provide additional flexibility for general government capital needs including the phone system. It is anticipated that the final cost of a new and integrated phone system to connect Town facilities will be lower than initial estimates. Once final quotes are available, staff will present the information to Council for approval as well as other minor capital improvements including possible interior Town Hall maintenance and office reconfiguration needs. Accordingly, the title of the capital project will be changed from "Technology Infrastructure: Phase 3 Phone System" to "General Government Capital Improvements".

4. **Fee Schedule Update**

The central business and office-institutional off-street in lieu parking fee, which changed from \$7,500.00 per required space to \$15,000.00 effective February 1, 2016 is to remain at \$15,000.00 per required space. Should any particular applicant feel this fee overly burdens their project such that the project would not be financially viable due to the level of this fee, consideration will be given to a waiver of the fee on a case by case basis by the Town Council.

End of List