

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-04

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF  
WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND APPROVING AND ADOPTING A BUDGET  
FOR THE CITY OF WESTMINSTER FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING  
JULY 1, 2024 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025 (“FY25”) AND ESTABLISHING  
THE VARIOUS CITY TAX RATES FOR FY25

WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of Md. Code Ann., Division IV and Title 5 of the Local Government Article, Section 41 of the Charter of the City of Westminster and Chapter 20 of the Code of the City of Westminster, the Mayor and Common Council are required to adopt a budget ordinance to appropriate funds for the several programs and purposes for which the City of Westminster must provide in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 (“Fiscal Year 2025”) and to set the property tax rates for Fiscal Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, as required by the City Charter, on or before June 15, 2024, prepared and presented to the Common Council a proposed budget outlining the anticipated expenditures and transfers for Fiscal Year 2025, and including the estimated revenues and other financing sources required and establishes the proposed tax rate for all real property taxes, personal property taxes, and public utility taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council held a public hearing with respect to the Tax Rate and the proposed budget on May 28, 2024, after appropriate notice thereof in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Westminster;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Westminster that:

Section 1: From and out of the monies and balances known to be in the General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Fiber Infrastructure Fund, and Public Housing Agency Fund of the City of Westminster, Maryland, and from all monies anticipated to come into all funds during the twelve (12) month period ending June 30, 2025, there shall be, and hereby are, ~~Strikethrough:~~ Indicates matter deleted from the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

**Bold underlined numbers:** Indicate matter added to the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

Sponsored By: Dr. Mona Becker, Mayor  
 Gregory Pecoraro, Council President

appropriated the following sums for use by the departments and offices of the City, and for the objects and purposes for which the City must provide during Fiscal Year 2025:

<b>General Fund Revenues</b>	
Taxes	16,417,671
Licenses & Permits	544,500
Intergovernmental	1,804,272
Charges for Services	1,158,035
Fines & Forfeitures	29,000
Miscellaneous Income	168,542
Interest Income	150,000
<b>General Fund Appropriations by Activity</b>	
Executive & Legislative	927,729
Finance	369,109
Human Resources	229,201
Planning, Zoning and Development	538,137
Housing and Preservation	101,649
Public Safety Department	9,570,924
Facilities	452,141
Public Works	4,524,219
Technology	490,429
Recreation & Parks	2,189,036
<b>Total General Fund Revenues</b>	<b>20,272,020</b>
<b>Total General Fund Appropriations</b>	<b>19,392,574</b>
<b>Excess Revenues Over Expenses</b>	<b>879,446</b>
<b>Transfer in From Opioid Fund</b>	<b>25,000</b>
<b>Transfer out to Capital Projects Fund</b>	<b>(4,298,287)</b>
<b>Use of General Fund Fund Balance</b>	<b>(3,393,841)</b>

~~Strikethrough~~: Indicates matter deleted from the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

**Bold underlined numbers**: Indicate matter added to the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

Sponsored By: Dr. Mona Becker, Mayor  
Gregory Pecoraro, Council President

<b>Public Housing Agency Fund</b>	
Revenues	3,395,676
Expenses	3,395,676
<b>Capital Projects Fund Funding Sources</b>	
General Fund	4,298,287
Sewer Fund	<del>2,773,700</del> <b><u>3,472,002</u></b>
Water Fund	<del>3,333,805</del> <b><u>3,726,245</u></b>
Benefits Assessment Funds	2,074,500
Capital Projects Fund	3,113,353
Grants	2,607,527
ARPA	8,005,215
<b><u>ENR Related Fund/Loans</u></b>	<b><u>1,942,709</u></b>
Highway Unser Revenues (HUR) Funds	1,243,808
Intergovernmental	<del>7,840,132</del> <b><u>7,926,469</u></b>
Other Funding	110,106
<b>Capital Projects Fund Appropriations by Activity</b>	
Recreation and Parks	4,137,214
Streets	5,659,226
Facilities	1,105,000
Debt Service	551,412
Police Department	715,665
Planning and Zoning	180,000
Technology	383,000
Sewer	<del>4,032,500</del> <b><u>6,759,848</u></b>
Water	<del>18,636,416</del> <b><u>19,028,856</u></b>
<b>Total Capital Projects Fund Funding Sources</b>	<del>35,400,433</del> <b><u>38,520,221</u></b>
<b>Total Capital Projects Fund Appropriations</b>	<del>35,400,433</del> <b><u>38,520,221</u></b>

~~Strikethrough~~: Indicates matter deleted from the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

**Bold underlined numbers**: Indicate matter added to the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

Sponsored By: Dr. Mona Becker, Mayor  
Gregory Pecoraro, Council President

<b>Water Fund Revenues</b>	
Charges for Services	6,550,443
Other Revenue	94,801
Rental Revenue	264,000
Interest Revenue	75,000
Benefit Assessment	250,000
<b>Water Fund Appropriations by Activity</b>	
Executive & Legislative	359,737
Finance	386,341
Human Resources	226,101
Planning, Zoning and Development	231,473
Facilities	41,727
Public Works	312,722
Technology	477,377
Utilities	1,165,222
Water	3,556,998
<b>Total Water Fund Revenues</b>	7,234,244
<b>Total Water Fund Appropriations</b>	6,757,698
<b>Excess Revenues Over Expenses</b>	476,547 <del>476,546</del>
<b>Transfer out to Capital Projects Fund</b>	<del>(3,333,805)</del> <b><u>(3,726,245)</u></b>
<b>Use of Water Fund Fund Balance</b>	<del>(2,857,258)</del> <b><u>(3,249,699)</u></b>
<b>Sewer Fund Revenues</b>	
Charges for Services	8,606,699
Other Revenue	94,801
Interest Revenue	150,000
Benefit Assessment	250,000

~~Strikethrough~~: Indicates matter deleted from the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

**Bold underlined numbers**: Indicate matter added to the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

<b>Sewer Fund Appropriations by Activity</b>	
Executive & Legislative	355,903
Finance	386,338
Human Resources	225,200
Planning, Zoning and Development	231,470
Facilities	54,285
Public Works	311,587
Technology	477,378
Utilities	1,239,589
Sewer	4,903,713
<b>Total Sewer Fund Revenues</b>	9,101,500
<b>Total Sewer Fund Appropriations</b>	8,185,463
<b>Excess Revenues Over Expenses</b>	916,036 <b><u>-916,037</u></b>
<b>Transfer out to Capital Projects Fund</b>	<del>(2,773,700)</del> <b><u>(3,472,002)</u></b>
<b>Use of Sewer Fund Fund Balance</b>	<del>(1,857,664)</del> <b><u>(2,555,965)</u></b>
<b>Fiber Fund Revenues</b>	
Charges for Services	888,000
Other Financing	1,000,000
<b>Fiber Infrastructure Fund Appropriations by Activity</b>	
Finance	4,180
Public Works	59,276
Technology	44,500
Utility Maintenance	113,125
Fiber	1,313,174
<b>Total Fiber Infrastructure Fund Revenues</b>	1,888,000
<b>Total Fiber Infrastructure Fund Appropriations</b>	1,534,255
<b>Excess Revenues Over Expenses</b>	353,745

~~Strikethrough:~~ Indicates matter deleted from the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

**Bold underlined numbers:** Indicate matter added to the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

Sponsored By: Dr. Mona Becker, Mayor  
Gregory Pecoraro, Council President

<b>ARPA Fund Revenues</b>	
Interest Revenue	75,000
<b>ARPA Fund Appropriations by Activity</b>	
<b>Total ARPA Fund Revenues</b>	75,000
<b>Transfer out to Capital Projects Fund</b>	(8,005,215)
<b>Use of ARPA Fund Fund Balance</b>	(7,930,215)
<b>Opioid Fund Revenues</b>	
Settlements	34,543- <b><u>9,543</u></b>
<b>Opioid Appropriations by Activity</b>	
<b>Total Opioid Fund Revenues</b>	34,543- <b><u>9,543</u></b>
<b>Transfer out to General Fund</b>	(25,000)
<del>Excess Revenues Over Expenses</del> <b><u>Use of Opioid Fund Fund Balance</u></b>	9,543- <b><u>(15,457)</u></b>

Section 2. The Tax Levy for all real property within the City’s corporate limits for the tax year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 shall be Fifty-Six Cents (\$0.56) on every One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value. The Tax Levy for all personal property within the City’s corporate limits shall be One Dollar and Ten Cents (\$1.10) on every One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value. The Tax Levy on all public utility operating property within the City’s corporate limits shall be One Dollar and Forty Cents (\$1.40) for every One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value. The aforementioned Tax Levy rates are inclusive of the special tax levied for the purposes of paying for the light and water used by The Mayor and Common Council of Westminster, as authorized and directed by Section 31 of the Charter of the City of Westminster.

~~Strikethrough:~~ Indicates matter deleted from the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

**Bold underlined numbers:** Indicate matter added to the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

Sponsored By: Dr. Mona Becker, Mayor  
Gregory Pecoraro, Council President

Section 3. The taxes levied for the aforesaid respective purposes for the tax year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 shall be due and payable July 1, 2024 and shall be subject to interest beginning October 1, 2024 at the rate of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of 1 per centum for each month or fraction thereof until paid, and additionally, a  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 per centum penalty assessment for each month or fraction thereof until paid, provided that taxes paid by owner-occupants of residential property shall be due and payable as provided in § 10-204.3 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and § 143-3 of the City Code which authorize semiannual and annual payments of taxes. Additionally, taxes paid by owner-occupants of residential property on a semiannual basis as provided in § 10-204.3 of the Tax Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and § 143-3 of the City Code shall be subject to a service charge in an amount equal to the service charge adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Carroll County as to its County property taxes, which charge may include an administrative fee as permitted by law,

Section 4: Should any section of this Ordinance be determined to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other section hereof.

Section 5: Any transfer of funds between appropriations must be approved by the Common Council in the form of an ordinance by a vote of at least  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the members of the Common Council.

~~Strikethrough:~~ Indicates matter deleted from the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

**Bold underlined numbers:** Indicate matter added to the Budget Ordinance after its introduction.

Sponsored By: Dr. Mona Becker, Mayor  
Gregory Pecoraro, Council President

Section 6: BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this ordinance shall become effective ten days after its enactment by the Common Council of the City of Westminster, Maryland.

INTRODUCED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024

Douglas A. Barber  
Douglass Barber, City Clerk

ADOPTED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024

Douglas A. Barber  
Douglass Barber, City Clerk

APPROVED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024

Dr. Mona Becker  
Dr. Mona Becker, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUFFICIENCY

this 10 day of ~~May~~, 2024

Elissa D. Levan  
Elissa D. Levan, City Attorney