

CITY OF WHEELING



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

CITY COUNTY BUILDING
1500 CHAPLINE STREET
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003

February 17, 2021

Hon. Glenn Elliott and
Members of Wheeling City Council
City of Wheeling
1500 Chapline Street
Wheeling, WV 26003

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

It is my pleasure to present to the Mayor and City Council the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 General Fund and Coal Severance Budget for your review. This year's proposed budget for the Budget Stabilization Fund is \$5,000,000.

As is the case with sound budgeting philosophy, this budget is based on conservative revenue projections versus reasonable expectations for expenditures although again this year we have focused on as accurate revenue projections as possible. Generally speaking, the municipal services that have been provided to the citizens of Wheeling will remain the same. It is important to note that we will continue to work hard to insure that the most efficient and effective services possible are being offered to the community and continually strive to improve our service delivery.

The City of Wheeling, from a budget standpoint, finds itself in the similar situation to many cities throughout the country in that we've been able to keep our nose above water financially. Some cities unfortunately can't make that same claim. As a result, we are in a position to logically look at our budgeted and future needs and direction of our organization. This proposed budget doesn't include any proposed tax increases, but does recommend a \$2 per month increase in sanitation fees. All other fees for service remain the same.

The City's financial situation has improved over the past three years. Spending levels in nearly every non-employee related area have either remained the same or reduced to insure that we do our part in a competitive environment. We will always closely monitor expenditures to insure that, although budgeted, each expenditure is necessary and is in the best interest of delivering municipal services to our community. Also the Administration will continue to provide financial options to Council to enable the City to accomplish goals that come up throughout the upcoming year. In addition, revenues will be monitored very closely as there is virtually no margin for error.

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I have enclosed the Department Heads' Budget submittals as I received them. Council can compare the proposed budget against the Department Head requests to remain informed as to each Department's need and to gauge the various cuts that have been made to balance the budget. In addition, each Department's Goals and Objectives for the upcoming fiscal year are included. Finally, I would like to thank the Department Heads and Seth McIntyre for their efforts in putting together this proposed budget. Their serious approach to the budget process helps ensure that the best possible information is put forth.

I am looking forward to discussing the proposed 2020-21 budget with you. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RH', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Herron
City Manager

RH:jb

Enclosures