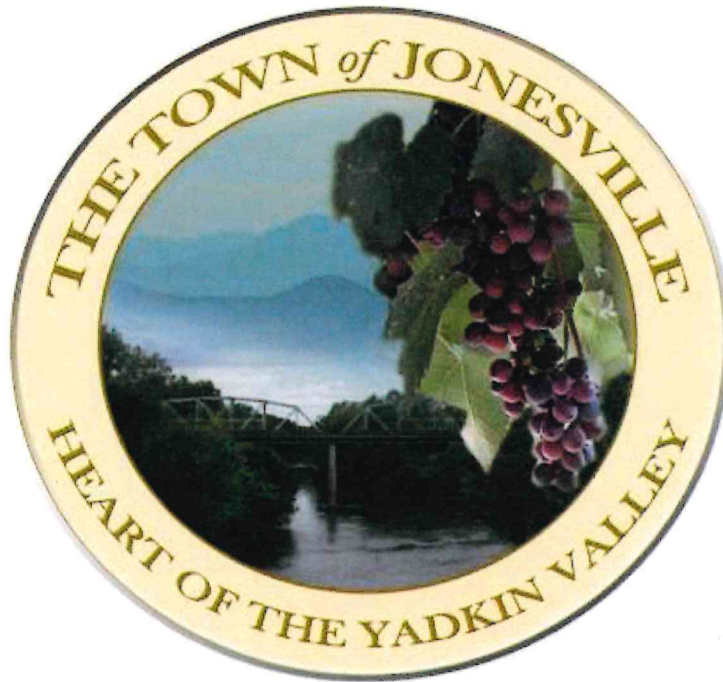


**TOWN OF JONESVILLE
PROPOSED
FY 2024-2025
BUDGET**



**BUDGET MESSAGE
FY 2024-2025**

Presented May 13, 2024

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

May 13, 2024

The Honorable Anita Darnell, Mayor
The Honorable Andy Green, Mayor Pro Tempore
The Honorable Tracy Wall, Council Member
The Honorable Regina Adkins, Council Member
The Honorable Michael Tilley, Council Member
The Honorable Scott Darnell, Council Member

Dear Mayor Darnell and Members of the Town Council:

The 2024-2025 Budget is respectfully submitted to the Town Council, Mayor Darnell, and residents of Jonesville. This budget complies with the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act of the State of North Carolina as described in G.S. §159, Article 3. It represents our commitment to strong fiscal management practices, and our plan for continued growth and a sustained future. All funds within the budget are balanced, and all revenues and expenditures are identified for the fiscal year 2025.

A notice of submission of this budget to the Town Council will be published in accordance with G.S. §159-12 and a copy of this budget has been placed on file with the Town Clerk for public inspection during normal business hours.

The attached budget ordinance with supporting documentation is presented as an estimate of the Town of Jonesville's operating revenues and expenditures for the fiscal year 2024-2025. This proposal represents the culmination of many hours of analysis, deliberation, and preparation by Town's Department Heads and staff members. This budget message highlights the major items essential to the provision of services to the citizens of the Town of Jonesville.

The proposal addresses short-term and long-term needs and establishes priority on the development and implementation of a strategic plan for the Town of Jonesville. This budget proposal reflects the Council's priorities as outlined in our recent planning workshops and considers the wellbeing of our community and the residents of Jonesville. Thoughtful consideration is given to the impact of these decisions. Your input at the workshops has provided

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staff with a good idea of where the emphasis needs to be placed, and that input has been critical in putting together the recommended budget.

FY 24-25 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

GENERAL FUND

The revenues and expenditures outlined propose no increase in the current ad valorem property tax rate of fifty cents (0.50) per \$100.00 of the assessed valuation \$202,622,566 for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Additionally, as authorized by North Carolina G. S. §20-97, the Town is implementing an annual tax of \$30.00 upon any vehicle resident in the Town. An ordinance officially adopting this vehicle tax will be adopted in conjunction with the budget ordinance and is hereby incorporated by reference.

The projection of tax revenue is based on information received from Yadkin County Tax Administration Offices. This projection is calculated using an estimated collection rate, tax base of \$196,543,889 and tax revenue of \$982,719.45.

Grant Funding

To help our community grow and prosper, grant funding has been explored and significant monies have been awarded to Jonesville. These funds are a key component in positioning Jonesville to meet the needs of our community and to attract outside investment. They are highlighted within this document.

The Town has been awarded a Rural Transformation Grant in the amount of \$900,000 by the North Carolina Department of Commerce (NCDOC). Additional funds have been pursued with project activities including construction of a new library anticipated to begin in August. We received a \$50,000 grant from the NC Department of Commerce to place an emphasis on a targeted growth area and incorporate pedestrian friendly features as part of our development plans. Finally, two significant grants were received including a \$500,000 PARTF Grant and a \$3.4 million state appropriation to fully develop Double Bluff Recreation Area. Double Bluff is a 154-acre park sitting at the terminus of our greenway trail system and is a significant addition to the Jonesville Greenway Trail.

Additional opportunities are being researched to address the needs of our parks and recreation areas. Grant funding to address our infrastructure needs are highlighted in the Enterprise Fund section of this document. The receipt of any of these grants will be a substantial gain for our community and will come at little to no cost for our town. Considerable effort is being put into their acquisition.

Jonesville’s sales tax growth is expected to grow at a slower rate for the upcoming year, as the economy continues to advance at a modestly slower pace than in 2023. The US economy entered 2024 on a strong footing, but rising consumer debt and elevated interest rates will weigh on economic growth. Experts expect consumer spending growth to cool down and thereafter, inflation and interest rates should gradually normalize.

The travel industry’s economic impact continues to gain ground. This year, its global impact is expected to set new records, surpassing its prior high from 2019. Investment in our tourism based economy continues with the development of a new community park and the expectation of significant grant funding to upgrade and complete our greenway trail system. Outdoor related activities continue to positively impact Jonesville’s economy as our two RV Parks remain at capacity most weeks of the year. Travelers are once again frequenting our hotels and our restaurants business will benefit the most as people resume their travels and “Discover Jonesville”. Renewed interest in motorsports and the rehabilitation of the North Wilkesboro Motor Speedway continues to increase occupancy at our hotels with the new visitors choosing Jonesville for their accommodations.

The proposed budget accounts for all services necessary to provide the maximum benefit for our citizens within the constraints of our projected revenues and expenditures. Revenues will be monitored, and adjustments will be made during the fiscal year as necessary.

REVENUE PROJECTIONS

General Fund

BUDGET

\$2,590,300

EXPENDITURE PROJECTIONS

General Fund

General Government

\$ 112,200

Administration

\$ 511,800

Police

\$ 986,600

Parks & Recreation

\$ 31,700

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| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Planning & Development | \$ 73,100 |
| Buildings & Grounds | \$ 107,100 |
| Streets | \$ 400,100 |
| Solid Waste | \$ 243,000 |
| Debt Service | <u>\$ 124,700</u> |
| General Fund Expenditure Projections | \$2,590,300 |

POLICE SPECIAL FUND

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| REVENUE PROJECTIONS | BUDGET |
| Seizure Funds and Tax Revenue | \$ 1,000 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| EXPENDITURE PROJECTIONS | |
| Equipment & Supplies | \$ 1,000 |

ENTERPRISE FUND

Revenue projections for the Enterprise Fund budget are expected to hold steady during the coming year. Measures to lower operating costs are being implemented and efficiency in the form of water loss is being addressed to keep costs under control. The Capital Improvement Plan is updated with a schedule to repair/replace aging infrastructure. The consumption allowance included in the monthly minimum billing will remain at 2,000 gallons at a rate of \$24.20 for the monthly minimum bill and a rate of \$10.00 for volumetric rate/1,000 gallons in excess of monthly consumption allowance are recommended.

The Town has been awarded two Viable Utility Reserve (VUR) Grants from the North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure, totaling \$14,961,500. The funds will be used to update critical components of our water infrastructure including \$6,946,300 to install automatic water meters and waterline replacement for the Town’s aging water lines. \$8,015,200 to install new water filters and replace the 200,000-gallon clear well at the Town’s Water Treatment Plant. Most of the preliminary engineering is complete and, in the field, work-related activities are anticipated during the coming year. Continued efforts to secure grant funding have led to additional monies to assess and replace copper and lead-based pipes for our water distribution system. These funds provide an additional \$2.2 million to be used for these important activities. The acquisition of

these grants provides a considerable opportunity to replace outdated systems and positions Jonesville’s water resources in excellent standing for both quality and quantity. Additional funding opportunities are being researched to aid in the effort to fully update our water system.

REVENUE PROJECTIONS

BUDGET

Water Fund

\$ 1,050,700

EXPENDITURE PROJECTIONS

Water Fund

Administration

\$ 107,700

Water Plant

\$ 616,000

Distribution

\$ 172,000

Debt Service

\$ 155,000

Total

\$ 1,050,700

The proposed 2024-2025 budget ensures essential services are safeguarded and our citizens needs are accounted for. It affords funding to provide a 3% COLA increase to all employees to help during the current economy.

TOWN MANAGER COMMENTS

It is my pleasure to submit the 2024-2025 annual budget for the Town of Jonesville. It is one of the most important policy documents that the Town Council must address because it makes the choices about how the Town will use its available resources. It provides clear guidance for management, by setting forth the goals and objectives of the Council for the coming year. It authorizes the programs and funding that will be carried out to meet those objectives. The challenge of meeting the many needs of the public requires thorough planning and research.

In 2023, the Town Council commissioned the development of a new Land Use Plan and a Unified Development Ordinance that will provide guidance as evaluations and decisions are made on rezoning and growth-related issues. It presents a vision for the future, with long-range goals and objectives for all activities that affect our local government and community. Additionally, the Town is undergoing a revitalization of sorts. We are developing our own brand, to be utilized for

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our marketing efforts and to create opportunities for business entrepreneurs to capitalize on our outdoor-based recreation economy. This should be a win for all, as it brings new adventures for our citizens and tourists alike.

Our growing tourism-based economy is expanding and now includes five national brand hotel chains, two RV Parks, a greenway trail system that includes a dog park and a public park currently under development, and Lila Swaim Park. Local business benefits as increased visitation of our facilities continue to grow. With the renovations at North Wilkesboro Motor Speedway, the return of auto racing to our area adds to the economic optimism for Jonesville. Business development opportunities are gaining momentum as these local attractions are discovered by the public.

This policy document represents our continued commitment to practical fiscal management, for effective service delivery and to support an affordable quality of life for our citizens. All information at our disposal was used to prepare the budget, to best reflect the current and future trends of revenues and expenditures necessary to operate our Town as effectively and efficiently as possible. Once adopted by the Council, the budget establishes the direction for all Town government programs and services for the coming year. It represents the consensus of Council direction and staff recommendations on how to best accomplish Council goals and respond to the highest priorities of community needs. The budget accomplishes the following:

- ❖ Economic development is pursued.
- ❖ Service levels are set.
- ❖ Community security is enhanced through public safety.
- ❖ Town employees are supported in delivering efficient and effective services.
- ❖ Public infrastructure is supported and improved where needed.
- ❖ Recreation opportunities for citizens are enhanced.
- ❖ Public health is protected by recycling, waste collection, and water resources.
- ❖ The Town's financial integrity is supported to meet service and debt obligations.
- ❖ Customer service is enhanced.
- ❖ Enforcement of the Town Ordinance is applied fairly.
- ❖ Improved quality of life is pursued for all citizens.
- ❖ Grants are obtained to maximize the cost/benefits ratio to citizens.

As a municipal manager one of my roles is to ensure that the interests of the community are being upheld, and to examine what is being done on its behalf. Significant grant funding has been awarded to Jonesville and all available resources are being directed towards securing additional capital to help our town. Our success in obtaining these funds has translated to prosperity and

stability for all our citizenry. Optimism is on the rise in Jonesville as we get on with the business of growing our town. Our budget reflects our commitment to our citizens and is a means to make our town more resilient to future issues.

I want to extend thanks to the Mayor and the Town Council for their dedication to overseeing the Town's financial wellbeing and establishing a fiscally responsible financial management policy which serves as the cornerstone of the 2024-2025 Budget. Additionally, I wish to recognize all our staff and the respective departments for their continued dedication and hard work for the betterment of our community. We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated workforce. Our Water Resource Department insures the treatment and delivery of quality water, the Police Department enforces the law and protects all who reside in and visit our town, the Administrative Department who collect our payments and provides quality customer service, Finance Department that safeguards the Town's assets and promotes transparency, efficiency, and accountability, Public Works who ensures our streets and grounds are well-maintained, Welcome Center employees who promote local business and tourism. Their aid and support throughout the year is invaluable.

As government officials, we have taken oaths of office and have the responsibility to our citizens to oversee the collection of revenues and to provide services that satisfy their essential needs and ensure the quality of life that they require. This responsibility is taken seriously and has been our central focus in preparing this proposal for your consideration. We are grateful for the opportunity to work together with each of you as we serve the citizens of Jonesville. We believe that this budget document will result in the best possible outcome for our community.

Respectfully,

Michael W. Pardue, Town Manager, Budget Officer

Town of Jonesville
Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Ordinance

WHEREAS, the Town of Jonesville is directed by the North Carolina Legislature according to General Statute to prepare, adopt and operate a fiscal budget and

WHEREAS, the Town of Jonesville endeavors to operate responsibly and efficiently, to maximize the benefits of all revenues and comply with Federal, State and local guidelines regarding operation and expenditures of taxpayer's monies, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Jonesville recognizes the benefits and returns enjoyed by sound financial planning and management resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Jonesville, North Carolina as follows:

SECTION 1. Estimated Revenues: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, to meet the expenditures according to schedule and the chart of accounts established for the Town.

SECTION 2. There is hereby levied the following rate of tax on each One Hundred Dollar (\$100) valuation of taxable property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2024, for the purpose of raising revenue for Current Year's Property Tax as set forth in the estimates of revenue, and in order to finance the expenditures:

Ad valorem rate of 50¢ per \$100 at full valuation is hereby established as the official tax rate of the Town of Jonesville for the fiscal year 2024-2025. The general fund tax rate is based on an estimated total appraised value of property for the purpose of taxation of \$196,543,889 and an estimated collection rate of 97%.

Section 3. The Town of Jonesville desires to establish a General Motor Vehicle Use Tax of \$30.00 for vehicles registered within the corporate limits. There is hereby levied a Municipal Vehicle Tax

assessed and levied annually under this section, which shall be collected credited, used and be in such maximum amount(s) as authorized by North Carolina General Statute, Section 20-97, (a) through (e) inclusive, as of July 1, 2016, and as thereafter amended by the North Carolina General Assembly and as enacted into law from time to time.

Section 4. Rates and fixed charges have been established to be effective with the first billing statements of fiscal year 2024-2025 as follows:

In town rates:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Monthly Minimum Bill (consumption allowance up to 2000 gallons) | \$ 24.20 |
| Volumetric Rate/1,000 gallons (above 2000 gallons) | \$ 10.00 |

Out of town rates:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Monthly Minimum Bill (consumption allowance up to 2000 gallons) | \$ 48.40 |
| Volumetric Rate/1,000 gallons (above 2000 gallons) | \$ 20.00 |

Section 4. Estimated Expenditures: The following amounts are hereby appropriated for the operation of the town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

Section 5. General Fund Appropriations

Revenue

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Ad Valorem Taxes | \$ 995,000 |
| Motor Vehicle Taxes | \$ 142,000 |
| Penalties, Interest, Costs on Ad valorem Taxes | \$ 8,500 |
| Franchise Taxes | \$ 152,000 |
| Local Option Sales Tax | \$ 585,000 |
| Charges for Services | \$ 247,100 |
| Transfer from TDA | \$ 88,500 |
| Transfer from Powell Bill | \$ 24,000 |
| Other Revenue | <u>\$ 348,200</u> |
| TOTAL | \$2,590,300 |

Expenditures

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| General Government | \$ 112,200 |
| Administration | \$ 511,800 |
| Police | \$ 986,600 |
| Parks & Recreation | \$ 31,700 |
| Planning & Development | \$ 73,100 |
| Buildings & Grounds | \$ 107,100 |
| Streets | \$ 400,100 |
| Solid Waste | \$ 243,000 |
| Debt Service | <u>\$ 124,700</u> |
| TOTAL | \$2,590,300 |

Section 4. Powell Bill Appropriations

Revenue

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| NC DOT Powell Bill Aid | <u>\$ 89,000</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 89,000 |

Expenditures

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Powell Bill Expenses | \$ 65,000 |
| Transfer to General Fund | <u>\$ 24,000</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 89,000 |

Section 5. Tourism Authority

Revenue

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Occupancy Tax | \$ 384,000 |
| Other | <u>\$ 7,500</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 391,500 |

Expenditures

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Tourism Expenditures | \$ 316,300 |
| Transfer to General Fund | <u>\$ 75,200</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 391,500 |

Section 6. Water and Sewer Fund

| Revenue | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Water Usage Charges | \$ 969,000 |
| Installation & Late Fees | \$ 60,700 |
| Other Revenues | <u>\$ 21,000</u> |
| TOTAL | \$1,050,700 |

| Expenditures | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Water Administration | \$ 107,700 |
| Water Plant | \$ 616,000 |
| Water Distribution | \$ 172,000 |
| Debt Services | <u>\$ 155,500</u> |
| TOTAL | \$1,050,700 |

Section 7. The Budget Officer or designee is authorized to transfer the appropriation as contained under the following conditions:

- a. Transfer amounts between line-item expenditures within the departments without limitation and without a report being required. These changes must not result in increases in recurring obligations such as salaries without Council approval.
- b. Transfer up to 10% of the appropriated monies for the department whose allocation is reduced, including contingency appropriation within the same fund. The budget officer must make an official report on such transfers at the next regular meeting of the Council.
- c. All transfers between funds require prior approval by the Council in an amendment to the Budget Ordinance.
- d. No salary increases, beyond those set forth in the Budget document and/or personnel policy (salaries, wages/merit increases and promotions) may be made without prior Council approval.
- e. No transfers out of Capital Reserve Account(s) may be made without prior Council approval.

Section 7. The financial management policies shown in the attached budget document are hereby incorporated and approved as part of this budget ordinance.

SECTION V - UTILIZATION OF BUDGET AND BUDGET ORDINANCE

This ordinance and Budget Document shall be the basis of the financial plan for the Jonesville Municipal Government during fiscal year 2024-2025. The Budget Officer shall administer the budget and shall ensure that operating officials are provided guidance and sufficient details to implement their portion of the budget. The accounting section shall establish records which are in concordance with the budget and this Ordinance and the appropriate statutes of the State of North Carolina.

Adopted, this 10th day of June 2024.