CITY COUNCIL

Committee of the Whole

Wednesday, November 4, 2026
Budget COW
Council Chambers - Hybrid Meeting
Agenda

The City Council Committee of the Whole meetings are filmed and can be viewed LIVE while  *g is taking place via the attached Zoom link and dial-in phone number, on Facebook and on BCTV MAC Channel 99.*

Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:
https://readingpa.zoom.us/j/84516353597?pwd=RuHCGkYUf63sMM2V4qqaXiOCrqyrUu.1
Passcode:096891
Phone one-tap: +13052241968

5:00-6:30 pm - Police

- Patrol
- Special Services
- Administrative

Parking Lot

10-14-26

1. Breakdown for all Conferences and Training Expenses, city-wide
2. Breakdown for all reimbursement of Travel Expenses, gas and mileage, city-wide
3. Breakdown on the purchase of uniform expenses by non-uniformed personnel by department or office, excluding the summer intern program
4. Breakdown on Advertisement expenses for the mayor's office
5. List of outcomes or take-aways from all conferences and travel
6. Provide copy of the City's travel policy
7. Provide policy of the use of a City owned vehicle
8. List of conferences planned for 2027

10-19-26

√ Current unassigned general fund balance and amount to be retained to comply with 5-806 D Reserve – 20% of GF operating expenses or a minimum of $22K - 2025 reserve balance is $48,949,000 and $24M will be used in 2026 and 2027 which leaves a balance of $24M

√ 2025 reserve balance is $48,949,000 and $24M will be used in 2026 and 2027 which leaves a balance of $24M Budget modeling using 3% tax increases annually, including personnel costs and 1 mil tax increase values – 1 mil = $1,295,570; a 3% tax increase produces $740,000 in real estate tac revenue

1. Review timeframe of position vacancies

10-21-26

1. Consider increasing the minimum manning of the Fire Department
    a. 2010 144 total w/ 104 budgeted in Suppression
    b. 2011 126 total w/ 87 budgeted in Suppression
2. Consider increasing the number of ambulances

10-28-26

1. Consider making contribution to Crime Watch under GF – ineligible CDBG activity

- Sidewalk Improvement Program for owner occupied properties – fund under GF to avoid HUD required Bacon-Davis Wages; approx. $35K left from prior program; consider using Career Tech Centers to provide on the job training for students.
- Amount of funding homeless organizations receive from the City, County, other organizations and private donations.
- Decrease in rental permits despite growing number of single family rentals
- Request for an independent audit of the City's financials and financial software by the firm who prepares the audit and for that firm to produce independent budget recommendations for the 2027 budget; including a firm estimate on the how much of the reserve assigned to the 2026 was used. Quotes are being obtained

11-2-26

- Value of a 2%, 4%, 5% property tax on a property assessed at $50,000 & $100,000