



April 24, 2024

## Budget Proposal and Summary

The proposed 2024-2025 Budget has a total projected income of \$143,700. This total is a decrease of \$33,800 from last year's budgeted income of \$175,500. This decrease is due to the discontinuation of monies received from The American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA), which was created to offset the negative economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

### **INCOME: \$143,700**

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We estimate that we will receive \$71,700 in ad valorem taxes based on a millage rate of .15 cents per \$100, with an estimated property valuation of \$51,800,000 for properties within the town limits of Webster, but not including areas zoned for government, nor any church or cemetery properties. We expect this year's revenue to be consistent with last year's totals for the following categories: Vehicle Taxes (at \$6,000); Franchise Taxes (\$20,000); Real Estate Taxes (\$71,700); and Rental Income (\$9,000). A significant increase in revenue is noted in Interest following a switch to a money market account with more favorable interest rates. We expect a slight increase in revenue from Sales and Use Tax, which is budgeted this year at \$30,000 (up from last year's budgeted amount of \$28,000).

### **EXPENSES: \$143,700**

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#### ***Government: \$62,500***

Government expenses are Webster's largest expenditure totaling \$62,500. This total is a decrease of \$8,800 from last year's amount of \$71,300. Significant changes from last year's totals are noted in Attorney Fees, which are up \$10,000 ahead of anticipated ordinance updates, and Professional Fees and Services, which are down \$5,000 from last year's estimates. Additional decreases are noted in Administration Fees (down \$3,000), Bonding Fees (down \$300), and Election Expenses (down \$1,500), as there are no elections in this year for our elected officials.

#### ***Residential Services: \$55,350***

Residential services are projected to decrease by \$8,850 from last year's estimate of \$64,200. Changes in this category reflect two compounding trends: the rising costs of labor and materials coupled with a shortage of worker availability. The following categories have been adjusted accordingly: Law Enforcement is down \$8,000, and Landscaping is down \$5,000. Notably, an additional line item has been created to reflect the Town's prioritization of Traffic Safety, with a budget of \$4,000. Expenses for Street Lights, Sidewalks, Cemetery are expected to remain similar to last year's budgeted amounts.



**Town Hall: \$25,850**

Town Hall expenses are expected to decrease by \$14,150 from last year's budget of \$40,000. Repairs, at \$15,000 (down \$10,000 from last year) and Property Management Expenses, at \$4,000 (down \$1,000 from last year) account for the majority of Town Hall Expenses, as ongoing repairs and maintenance are required for Town Hall building.

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Leigh Anne Young  
Mayor pro tempore

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