

ORDINANCE #: 292

TOWN OF MARS HILL

BUDGET ORDINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

WHEREAS this Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina, has been prepared pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 159 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina, meeting in open session on June 27, 2024, that this Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 be adopted as follows:

SECTION 1. GENERAL FUND AND POWELL BILL FUND

A. REVENUE – Revenue totaling **\$3,152,895** is hereby anticipated from the following sources:

Description	Amount
Property Tax (Current Year \$0.47 per \$100)	\$ 883,800
Property Tax (1 st Prior Year & All Other Prior Years)	\$ 5,500
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 8,000
Tax Penalties & Interest	\$ 2,000
Ad Valorem Vehicle Tax	\$ 65,000
Municipal Parking Fees	\$ 6,000
Interest Earned, Investments	\$ 100,000
Rents & Concessions	\$ 0
Utilities Revenue	\$ 1,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 5,000
Utility Franchise Tax	\$ 125,000
Excise Tax – Beer & Wine	\$ 8,000
Powell Bill Street Allocation	\$ 70,000
Local Option Sales Tax	\$ 700,000
Court Costs, Fees, Etc.	\$ 100
Parking Violation Penalties	\$ 3,000
Zoning Permits	\$ 500
Police Department Donations	\$ 100
Recreation Department Revenue	\$ 25,000
Fire Department Revenue	\$ 2,000
Fire Department Relief Fund	\$ 0
Tax Refunds	\$ 10,000
Special Fire District Tax	\$ 902,395
Appropriated Fund Balance – General Fund	\$ 100,000
Appropriated Fund Balance – Powell Bill	\$ 130,000
TOTAL REVENUES ANTICIPATED	\$ 3,152,895

B. EXPENDITURES – A total of **\$3,152,895** is hereby authorized to be expended from the departmental accounts of the General Fund and Powell Bill Fund as follows:

Description	Amount
Governing Body	\$ 128,500
Administration	\$ 309,240
Elections	\$ 0
Tax Collections	\$ 5,300
Public Buildings	\$ 41,300
Police Department	\$ 781,941
Fire Department	\$ 942,376
Street Department	\$ 401,725
Powell Bill Expenditures	\$ 200,000
Sanitation Department	\$ 213,306
Recreation Department	\$ 105,708
Library	\$ 23,500.00
Debt Service	\$ 0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AUTHORIZED	\$ 3,152,895

SECTION 2. WATER AND SEWER FUND

A. REVENUE – Revenue totaling **\$1,330,181** is hereby anticipated from the following sources:

Description	Amount
Interest Earned – Investments	\$ 10,000
Interest Earned – Enterprise Fund	\$ 10,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 5,000
Water & Sewer Charges	\$ 1,265,181
Sewer Taps	\$ 20,000
Water Taps	\$ 20,000
Appropriated Fund Balance/Water & Sewer	\$ 0
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 1,330,181

B. EXPENDITURES – A total of **\$1,330,181** is hereby authorized to be expended from the departmental accounts of the Water and Sewer Fund as follows:

Description	Amount
Debt Service	\$ 113,100
Administration, Engineering and Billing	\$ 328,897
Operations	\$ 888,184
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AUTHORIZED	\$ 1,330,181

SECTION 3. PURPOSE

The appropriations made herein are for the maximum amounts necessary to provide the services and accomplish the purpose described. Each department head shall affect savings to the extent possible.

SECTION 3. FISCAL YEAR EFFECTIVE DATE

Appropriations made herein are effective for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending on June 30, 2025.

SECTION 4. AD VALOREM TAXES

An *ad valorem* tax rate of forty-seven cents (\$0.47) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation of taxable property is hereby levied as the official tax rate for the Town of Mars Hill for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025. This rate is based upon the total property preliminary valuation of \$209,671,029 less ten percent (10%) for pending real property appeals and exclusions pursuant to information provided by the Madison County Tax Office subject to the county mass real property revaluation effective January 1, 2024. The FY 2025 property tax is estimated with a collection rate of 97.0%.

SECTION 5. FEE SCHEDULE AND WATER AND SEWER USAGE RATES

There is hereby established for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 a schedule of fees, penalties, and fines and is included as an attachment to this ordinance as Appendix A. In addition, there shall be implemented a 2.5% increase in water and sewer usage base rates consistent with established water operation policy.

SECTION 6. BUDGET OFFICER

Pursuant to N.C. General Statute 159-8, the Town is required to appoint a Budget Officer and the Town of Mars Hill Board of Aldermen has and hereby appoints the Town Manager to serve as Budget Officer.

SECTION 7. UTILIZATION OF BUDGET ORDINANCE

The Budget Ordinance shall be the basis for the financial plan for the Town of Mars Hill during the fiscal year. The Budget Officer shall administer the budget and maintain such records consistent with this ordinance and the appropriate statutes of the State of North Carolina. The Budget Officer/Town Manager is authorized to execute contracts or other documents for which this ordinance makes an appropriation.

The Budget Officer/Town Manager is authorized to transfer amounts between objects of expenditure within a department without limitation. The Budget Officer/Town Manager is further authorized to transfer from one appropriation to another appropriation within the same fund as contained herein provided any such transfers shall be reported to the Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting and such action be recorded in the meeting minutes.

SECTION 8. DISTRIBUTION AND DOCUMENTATION

Copies of this Budget Ordinance shall be provided to the Budget Officer, Town Manager, Town Clerk, and the Treasurer/Finance Officer to be kept on file by them for direction in the collection of revenues and disbursement of Town funds.

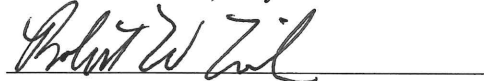
SECTION 9. ADOPTION

A motion was made by Alderman Zink that the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 be ADOPTED as presented. A second was made by Alderman Jolley. Upon a vote on the motion, the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Town of Mars Hill was approved by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina.

ADOPTED this 27th Day of June 2024.



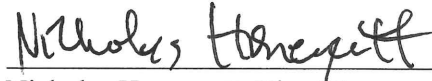
John L. Chandler, Mayor



Robert W. Zink, Treasurer



Larry Davis, Secretary



Nicholas Honeycutt, Vice-Mayor



Stuart L. Jolley, Clerk



APPENDIX A

TOWN OF MARS HILL

**BUDGET ORDINANCE
FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

FEE SCHEDULE

ADMINISTRATION	
Copies – Black and White, per page	\$0.10
Copies – Color, per page	\$0.25
Return Check Fee	\$35.00
Online / Credit Card Payment Fees	As set by 3 rd party vendor
Parking Permit – Main Street area – annual	\$170.00
Parking Permit – Library/Fire Annex lots – annual	\$150.00
Special Event Permit	\$25.00
Special Event Permit – Tent or Street Closure	\$25.00 plus \$50 per specialty use
Special Event Permit – Public Assembly	\$50.00
ZONING FEES	
Zoning Permit	\$25.00
ABC Verification Letter	\$25.00
Sign Permit – Permanent	\$50.00
Sign Permit – Temporary/Banner	\$50.00
Special Use Permit	\$300.00
Variance Application	\$300.00
Administrative Appeal	\$300.00
Zoning Map or Text Amendment	\$400.00
Voluntary Annexation Petition Requests	\$300.00
Conditional Zoning District	\$500.00
Re-advertising fee (due to action by applicant)	\$25.00 plus Cost of Advertisement
Site Plan Review	\$250.00
Recombination Plat (zoning review only)	\$25.00
Communication Tower Permit – Initial	\$2,500.00
Communication Tower – Annual Renewal	\$250.00
POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Police Reports (per report)	\$4.00
Parking Violation	\$25.00 - \$100.00 (per ordinance 88)
Noise Violation	\$200.00
Alcohol Violation	\$50.00
Leash Law Violation	\$50.00
Operating Gaming Terminal	\$500.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT	
Annual Permit Fee	\$50.00
Plan Review Fee	\$50.00
Construction and Repair Fee	\$100.00
Life Safety Violation	\$100.00
All Other Code Violation	\$25.00
Rapid Entry Key Box Violation	\$500.00

SANITATION	
Trash Can (1 st at no cost, each additional, or damaged or lost container)	\$150.00
RECREATION	
Pool Admission – 6 and over (<i>5 and under free</i>)	\$5.00
Seasonal Pool Pass – Individual	\$50.00
Seasonal Pool Pass – Family	\$150.00
Swimming Lessons – each child	\$75.00
Pool Reservation – Private Event – up to 50 people	\$200.00 / \$75.00 Deposit
Pool Reservation – Private Event – 50 to 75 people	\$250.00 / \$100.00 Deposit
Pool Reservation – Private Event – 75 to 90 people	\$300.00 / \$125.00 Deposit
Small Shelter at Playground	\$10.00 per hour
Large Shelter	\$20.00 per hour
Ball Field / Tennis Court – without lights	\$10.00 per hour
Ball Field / Tennis Court – with lights	\$40.00 per hour
Picnic Area & Ball Field	\$20.00 per hour
WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT	
Administration Fee	\$100.00
Water Turn Off / Turn On	\$25.00
Water Reconnection Fee	\$50.00
Water Meter Evaluation Fee	\$25.00 (if no issue found)
Meter Charge	\$3.50
Meter Tampering Fee	\$200.00
Late Charge	\$5.00 OR 5% whichever is greater
Water Connection Fee* – ¾ inch	\$3,000.00
1 inch	\$5,000.00
1 ½ inch	\$7,000.00
2 inch	\$9,000.00
3 inch	\$13,000.00
4 inch	\$30,000.00
6 inch	\$35,000.00
Sewer Connection Fee* – ¾ inch	\$3,000.00
1 inch	\$5,000.00
1 ½ inch	\$7,000.00
2 inch	\$9,000.00
3 inch	\$13,000.00
4 inch	\$15,000.00
6 inch	\$35,000.00
*Connection fees are a minimum fee only. Final fee is actual cost plus 20%. Water connection fee for a connection greater than ¾ inch does not include cost of the meter. Meter cost at owner expense.	
Water Deposit – Residential – Owner	\$100.00
Water Deposit – Residential – Tenant/Renter	\$200.00
Water Deposit – Commercial	\$250.00
Road Boring Fee	Cost plus 20%

ORDINANCE #: 293

TOWN OF MARS HILL

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

FY 2025-01

WHEREAS the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina, was approved and enacted by the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting in open session on June 27, 2024, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 159 of the North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS on the date of adoption of said ordinance on June 27, 2024, a complete and accurate assessment of the valuation of taxable property within the Town of Mars Hill was not available from the County of Madison Tax Office due to delays with the county mass real property appraisal resulting in the Town maintaining the then existing tax rate; and

WHEREAS on November 4, 2025, said County provided an assessment of taxable property valuation for the Town of Mars Hill; and

WHEREAS the North Carolina General Assembly has granted authority to local governments through and be Chapter 159, Article 3, Section 15 (N.C.G.S. 159-15) of the North Carolina General Statutes, that should the local government receives revenues that are substantially more or less than the amount anticipated, the governing body may, before January 1 following adoption of the budget, amend the budget ordinance to reduce or increase the property tax levy to account for the unanticipated increase or reduction in revenues; and

WHEREAS pursuant to N.C.G.S. 159-15, the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen find that said tax valuation does substantially increase the amount of anticipated revenue and herein amend the “Town of Mars Hill Budget Ordinance Fiscal Year 2024-2025, SECTION 4. AD VALOREM TAXES,” to levy the official *ad valorem* tax rate in consideration of the complete assessment valuation of taxable property for the Town of Mars Hill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina, meeting in open session on November 25, 2024, that this Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 shall be amended as follows:

SECTION 1.

The entire text of the “Town of Mars Hill Budget Ordinance Fiscal Year 2024-2025, SECTION 4. AD VALOREM TAXES,” is hereby repealed and replaced with the following text:

SECTION 4. AD VALOREM TAXES

An ad valorem tax rate of thirty-four cents (\$0.34) per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation of taxable property is hereby levied as the official tax rate for the Town of Mars Hill for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025. This rate is based upon the

total property valuation of \$290,146,782 as provided by the Madison County Tax Office subject to the county mass real property revaluation effective January 1, 2024. The FY 2025 property tax is estimated with a collection rate of 94.0%.

SECTION 2.

The entire text of the “Town of Mars Hill Budget Ordinance Fiscal Year 2024-2025, SECTION 1. GENERAL FUND AND POWELL BILL FUND, SUBSECTION A – REVENUE,” is hereby repealed and replaced with the following text:

SECTION 1. GENERAL FUND AND POWELL BILL FUND

A. **REVENUE** – Revenue totaling **\$3,152,895** is hereby anticipated from the following sources:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Property Tax (Current Year \$0.34 per \$100)</u>	\$ <u>927,318</u>
<u>Property Tax (1st Prior Year & All Other Prior Years)</u>	\$ <u>5,500</u>
<u>Payment in Lieu of Taxes</u>	\$ <u>8,000</u>
<u>Tax Penalties & Interest</u>	\$ <u>2,000</u>
<u>Ad Valorem Vehicle Tax</u>	\$ <u>65,000</u>
<u>Municipal Parking Fees</u>	\$ <u>6,000</u>
<u>Interest Earned, Investments</u>	\$ <u>100,000</u>
<u>Rents & Concessions</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
<u>Utilities Revenue</u>	\$ <u>1,500</u>
<u>Miscellaneous Revenue</u>	\$ <u>5,000</u>
<u>Utility Franchise Tax</u>	\$ <u>125,000</u>
<u>Excise Tax – Beer & Wine</u>	\$ <u>8,000</u>
<u>Powell Bill Street Allocation</u>	\$ <u>70,000</u>
<u>Local Option Sales Tax</u>	\$ <u>700,000</u>
<u>Court Costs, Fees, Etc.</u>	\$ <u>100</u>
<u>Parking Violation Penalties</u>	\$ <u>3,000</u>
<u>Zoning Permits</u>	\$ <u>500</u>
<u>Police Department Donations</u>	\$ <u>100</u>
<u>Recreation Department Revenue</u>	\$ <u>25,000</u>
<u>Fire Department Revenue</u>	\$ <u>2,000</u>
<u>Fire Department Relief Fund</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
<u>Tax Refunds</u>	\$ <u>8,500</u>
<u>Special Fire District Tax</u>	\$ <u>905,377</u>
<u>Appropriated Fund Balance – General Fund</u>	\$ <u>55,000</u>
<u>Appropriated Fund Balance – Powell Bill</u>	\$ <u>130,000</u>
<u>TOTAL REVENUES ANTICIPATED</u>	\$ <u>3,152,895</u>

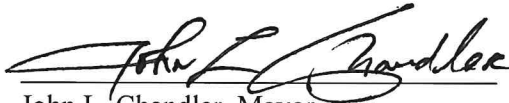
SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY

Except as amended herein and may be amended hereafter, this ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. All ordinances and clauses of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. ADOPTION

A motion was made by Alderman Stuart Jolley that this amendment to the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 be ADOPTED as presented herein. A second to the motion was made by Alderman Robert W. Zink. Upon a vote on the motion, this amendment to the Town of Mars Hill Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 was approved by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina.

ADOPTED this 25th Day of November 2024.



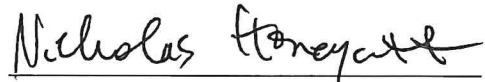
John L. Chandler, Mayor



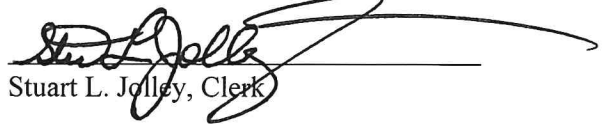
Robert W. Zink, Treasurer



Larry Davis, Secretary



Nicholas Honeycutt, Vice-Mayor



Stuart L. Jolley, Clerk

