FY28 draft Town Budget, notes, November 24, 2026

The Budget Pieces:
The Greensboro Town Budget part has two main parts:

- **The General Fund** includes general building expenses, town office staff, town hall expenses, cemeteries, all committees and commissions, and appropriations. Public safety is also included here with the Orleans County Sheriff contract, Hardwick Rescue appropriation, driveway plowing, and the fire department.

  Two transfers are included in the General Fund budget. **The Capital Fund** transfer is made on a yearly basis into the **Capital Fund** which is used for long-term capital investments, replacement windows for the Greensboro Historical Society. **The HERF (Highway Equipment Reserve Fund)** is a fund for purchase of highway equipment, such as plow trucks. A proposed ten-year plan for each of these funds is included in this material.

- **The Highway Fund** includes road-related expenses such as paving, plowing, grading, repairs, culverts, gravel, and brush clearing.

FY28 Budget Overview:
The FY28 Town Budget Committee met weekly, beginning in September. The committee is composed of the Selectboard, town staff, and three community members. The initial draft had an expenditure increase of approximately 7%. The committee believed that increase to be too high and endeavored to find expenses that could be cut without creating harm to the town. The overall proposed increase of expenditures in this draft is 3.82%.

Education taxes are included in property tax bills, but are set by the state, not the town.

Town revenues have increased, due to more funds available for investment (FEMA money) and smarter investing. In the Highway Fund, specific lines are noted where FEMA money is used to off-set projects and grant matches. (Lines 334, 382, and 384.) The final tax rate is determined by the Grand List (combined value of all taxable property in town).

70% of the entire town budget is devoted to roads and public safety. This includes the Highway Fund, the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund, the Orleans County Sheriff's Department, Hardwick Rescue, and the Fire Department. Additionally, two annual payments are expensed from the Capital Fund (the Fire Station annual payment of $64K and the Fire Truck payment of $62K).

A few items to note:

- Line 194: Orleans County Sheriff Department contract is $207,050. The Selectboard requested a lower cost option from the Sheriff, for purposes of discussion. This lower level of service would cost $175,000, saving around $32,000 annually, but would come with a reduced level of service: the Sheriff would no longer provide coverage on weeknights between midnight and 6:00 a.m., or any weekend coverage. These gaps would be covered by the state police.
- The Capital Fund includes $10K for a website upgrade, In addition, the budget includes $12K for a Caspian Lake dam hydrology study which is contingent on matches from the Town of Hardwick and the Greensboro Association.
- Equipment purchases from the HERF (Highway Equipment Reserve Fund) were pushed out one year. Purchasing a reclaimer in FY28 is proposed to "reclaim" gravel from the road shoulders.

Notes for the draft **General Fund**:

- Staff wage increases held to 3.6% cost of living (the federal COLA rate).
- Lines 81& 82: Town Administrator payroll & FICA/MEDI is included in Town Office Payroll in lines 77 & 79. In FY27, this position was separated for transparency as it was a new position. No new positions are included; no additional staff hours are included.
- Line 104: Technology, includes increased tech needs and improved security.
- Phone contract renegotiated for all departments is a decrease.
- Line 148: Assessor, incorrectly budgeted in FY27.
- Line 166: Custodian, includes anticipated additional costs for use of town hall third floor.
- Line 167: Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance: decreased. Overall plan to be proposed by Town Hall Committee. Any significant repairs to be expensed through the Capital Fund.
- Line 178: Grounds, includes Lamoille Valley Rail Trail portalet in The Bend. NVDA grant paid for the portalet in FY27.
- Line 195: Hardwick Rescue Squad, increase reflects increased calls and HRS increased operating expenses. This does not include a contribution to the proposed new building.
- Lines 198-199: Driveway Plowing and Lake Road Plowing: final year in a 3-year contract.
- Line 209: Fire Department payroll includes more hours which reflects the agreement between Greensboro and Hardwick to maintain coverage.
- Line 232: Cemetery Maintenance. Mowing contract will need to be renewed in FY28. Expanded cemeteries require more mowing. Increase expected due to higher fuel costs.

Appropriations (within the General Fund):

- Line 270: Hardwick Area Food Pantry, which serves Greensboro residents, requested an increase to reflect increased need and use.
- Line 294: Greensboro Free Library increase due to need to hire a bookkeeper.
- Line 297: Caspian Lake Beach Committee: the proposed $5,200 will be matched by an equal appropriation from the Town of Hardwick.
- Line 298: Greensboro Bend Water District. This new appropriation is a request to aid paying a water operator.

Notes for **Highway Fund:**

- Line 308: Paving grant not available in FY28.
- Lines 322 & 324: Sand and Gravel. Lower bids in FY27. Expected to increase.
- Line 333: Brush. This new expense is for upper-level brush cutting.
- Line 334: FEMA money proposed to be used for one-time projects which require mostly labor and materials (line 327).
- Line 341: Equipment Repairs. Decreased due to newer equipment and, hence, less repairs.
- Line 377: Paving. Decreased to one mile.
- Line 379-384: Four grants match projects proposed. Two required in-kind labor and $15K each for materials. Two culvert projects require a 25% grants match, proposed to be paid by FEMA money on hand.

Respectfully submitted,
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Brett Stanciu, Town Treasurer
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