

CITY OF GRAIN VALLEY
Board of Aldermen Meeting Minutes
Budget Workshop Session

10/14/2025
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ITEM I: Call to Order

- The Board of Aldermen of the City of Grain Valley, Missouri, met for a Budget Workshop Session on October 14, 2025, at 6:02 p.m. in the Community Room located at the Grain Valley Police Department
- The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mike Todd

ITEM II: Roll Call

- City Clerk Jamie Logan called roll.
- *Present: Bray, Knox, Limberg-Gardner, Myers, Skinner, Sole*
- *Absent:*

-QUORUM PRESENT-

ITEM III: Discussion

- 2026 Fiscal Year Budget
 - City Administrator Ken Murphy summarized the workshop objectives.
- Fund Balance Trends and Reserve Policy
 - The city had reserves during COVID and that helped during that time. The reserve policy is 25% for Emergency reserve and Budget Stabilization
- Revenue & Expenditure Trends
 - The city has seen increases in this section in past years, but in 2025 it has been mixed. Construction slowed considerably resulting in lower revenue from building permits/water/sewer tap fees.
 - Other major sources such as property taxes, fuel receipts and utility revenues are meeting or exceeding budget estimates. There will be an increase since Old Town Marketplace TIF district terminated this year.
 - Expenditures are harder to trend than revenues due to fluctuations in capital overlay.
 - Comparing 2025 to 2026 budgeted expenditures (not including TIF), an approximate 11% decrease is projected.
- Key Personnel Expenses for 2026
 - The health plan year is July 1 – June 30 of each year and there is an estimated 12% increase for the 2nd half of 2026 since actual costs are not known at this time.
 - Proposed COLA and Compensation Plan Adjustment proposed for all employees is 3%
 - One new SRO position is budgeted for 2026
 - Retirement contribution rate to LAGERS increased by 1%
 - Provided cost estimates to increase salaries for 1, 3, 5, and 7% across the board
- Proposed Capital Projects
 - Referred Board to the Proposed 2026 Capital Projects page of their slides
 - Highlights included the Front Street Improvements, the new water tower, and

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Mayor Mike Todd
Alderman Brian Bray
Alderman Jim Myers
Alderman Ryan Skinner
Alderman Rick Knox
Alderman Lisa Limberg-Gardner
Alderman Kyle Sole

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- new trail construction – Eagles Pkwy & Buckner Tarsney (80/20 grant funded)
 - Reviewed the list item-by-item and gave a general summary of what each item is
- ARPA Proposed Budget
 - Reviewed proposed project list and these funds must be spent by the end of 2026.
- The budget and cost updates are reviewed for accuracy/changes up until the 2nd budget reading of the ordinance. There was an extra police position erroneously funded in the budget- only 27 sworn officers. That will be removed and reallocated.
- Mr. Murphy went over a list of items that are not in the budget currently and requested input and ultimately approval from the board before adding the items to the proposed budget:
 - The HVAC item for City Hall was discussed in last night's board of aldermen meeting
 - City Hall Roof replacement estimate \$57,000
 - The fence on the NE side of city hall where the generators are is in need of replacement \$7,000
 - The City Hall carpet needs replacement \$20,600
 - Broken cabinets repairs in the break area \$1,700
 - All of these items would use reserve funds to complete
 - The Butterfly Trail ponds are not in good condition. Mr. Davies stated 4-5 feet shallower than when they were first constructed. To dredge the pond and make it an amenity for the city, the bids were \$240,000 and one closer to \$500,000 to fix. The ARPA funds that must be used on park and rec items, and must be spent in 2026, could be used for this purpose. They would recommend going forward with this.
 - Capital Improvement Fund- there have been discussions about the community garden area and the parking lot downtown. This would need funding to make these areas usable and would like this to be a consideration to be added.
 - There is no camera in the gymnasium currently and it is needed for liability purposes as well as the pool area, pool entrance and exit. This is estimated at \$8,200.
 - Asset Management System platform change for all things public works. This system would be out of water/sewer/transportation funds. \$25,000. This program documents the infrastructure of the city.
 - Fleet has identified a fleet system to assist with vehicle reporting, diagnostics, and GPS on all vehicles. The cost is \$19,000 to cover all city vehicles. This is a new system for the city.
 - \$20,000 demolition costs to get rid of the sign on the city property in front of the hotel.
- Alderman Skinner reiterated that 3% COLA was discussed earlier in the meeting for personnel increases. Add \$83,000 for extra (erroneously funded) position that was found

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in the budget. If those funds are added into the general fund, it would be just over 5% for salary increases.

- Mayor Todd shared the federal cost of living increase is expected to be 2.7%.
- Alderman Sole asked when the police/FOP salary negotiations will happen; 10/31. He asked if things can still be changed in the budget after that meeting. Mr. Murphy stated staff handles the operation side of budget input, and then asks for feedback from the board. Staff does not touch the personnel side without the board's direction and the budget is fluid in nature up until the 2nd read of the budget.
- Alderman Skinner asked why there was a surplus on the transportation funds; Mr. Murphy it was left alone currently until recommendations are back on a particular project.
- Alderman Skinner asked if police positions could be funded from the transportation fund for a traffic officer; Mr. Craig stated using transportation funds for personnel expenses would be something that should be ran by the city attorney as this is not something the City has done.
- Alderman Skinner stated if it were possible to use transportation funds to fund a traffic officer position, it would free up some general fund dollars.
- Mayor Todd suggested an option for the extra position funded in the budget could be the start of a traffic unit
- Alderman Skinner spoke about the dollars allocated to the intersection on Duncan and Buckner Tarsney; Mr. Murphy stated when the design options were given, the standard intersection was most likely the way to go. Now, these options are being explored.
- Alderman Knox asked if the \$510,000 budgeted was rolled over from last year's budget; Mr. Craig stated there were reserves for maintenance and asphalt replacement \$250,000. \$710,000 was not paid last year and an additional \$510,000 is not being requested this year. These are the same funds being rolled over.
- Alderman Skinner stated \$22,000 DARE revenue in the general fund –
- Mr. Craig stated DARE revenue \$22,500 is 30% from the county grant and \$52,500 for salaries. This year it is \$75,000. Mr. Murphy stated Chief has been working to obtain more reimbursements for these purposes.
- Alderman Skinner's number one goal is payroll increases.
- Alderman Sole asked if there is any city cost at 40 & Sni-a-bar. Mr. Murphy responded and shared this project came up without the city's prior knowledge. It was announced at a MODOT public meeting and it is an internal MODOT project. The city is not paying for this project.
 - At Kirby & 40, MODOT is looking to put in a signal intersection.
 - Sni-A-Bar & 40, MODOT is looking to put a right in and right out only. The City and other emergency services are opposed due to the train and sometimes the only way through.
- Alderman Myers asked if the reserve fund balance will start going up in the future; Mr. Murphy stated when water/sewer rates are established, the capital improvement program pieces are looked at and rates are established to get a reserve built to take

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care of the funding of future projects. He stated a big chunk was taken out to do the roads and stop the degradation in the roads a few years back.

- Alderman Knox asked about the road assessment process; vehicles/vans with cameras will be utilized as in the last assessment. This time, sidewalks and trails have been included.
- Alderman Knox asked how the fleet software would work; Mr. Martin stated it could be set up for reporting, and can track whatever parameters they want.
- Alderman Knox asked if there are cameras in our city trucks; Mr. Martin said there is not currently, but there is an additional add on option if the city wants to add in the future. The City wants to start with the diagnostics and safety tracking items first.
- Alderman Knox spoke highly of this program based on his past experience.
- Alderman Knox asked if it is possible to explore other options instead of demolishing the sign in front of the motel such as changing it to something advertising/promoting Grain Valley.
- Alderman Knox asked about the Silverado pick up and why not the Ford truck series; Chief stated whichever vehicle is purchased and available will be plain and basic. It likely will be a Ford.
- Alderman Knox asked why the pool loungers are \$600 each; Mr. Davies stated they were \$350 when they first started buying them, and they get around 5 years out of them. He said there are 60-75 chairs out there and they rotate replacement annually.
- Alderman Limberg-Gardner asked if the pond could be completed this year. Mr. Murphy stated if ARPA funds are used, it has to be completed in 2026. The funds must be expended by 12/31. Mr. Murphy stated the process is long – about 6 months to let the dredged dirt dry and it would come with a short-term pain (disruption in use/aesthetics).
- Alderman Limberg-Gardner stated the people in the city use this space and they need to be aware/communicated if the process is to start.
- Mr. Murphy stated this opens this area up for other recreational possibilities and other grant dollars the pond isn't as shallow with a fix.
- Alderman Skinner stated ARPA funding logistics; 2025 had to be obligated and \$315,000 Park and Rec funds; Alderman Skinner asked how far these funds could go on the Dillingham project. Mr. Davies stated it would maybe do a 1/3 of the project unless it was done in phases.
- Alderman Sole asked if the trail projects Buckner Tarsney to Nelson then the Trail to Cross Creek were still in progress; these are still in progress per Mr. Davies. There are some TAP requirement changes, and no bids were received from the first bid earlier this year to keep them moving. There is a current bid out there now.
- Mr. Murphy asked for direction on the additional projects suggested and if the board doesn't want any of those to go forward.
- Mayor Todd asked about the parking lot improvements in the downtown area; A grant was applied for up to \$100,000 funding. They are looking at other funding sources for that

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- Alderman Sole asked Chief Turner what the de-escalation gloves are; Chief stated there are pain compliance elements to the gloves. There is an on/off switch on the back of the gloves. They do not leave marks and would be an option over taser prongs, pepper spray, etc. The police are asking to purchase 3 and evaluate from their trial.
- Alderman Sole asked how many Flock cameras; Chief stated i70 & Main and the one south of town. This is a recurring cost and not for new cameras.
- Chief stated there is grant funding they are working to install on the west end of town.
- Alderman Sole asked if there is success with the FLOCK programs; Chief stated yes.
- Alderman Skinner asked how much these cameras are a year; Chief stated \$3,000 each a year and that includes all maintenance.
- Alderman Skinner asked if there is a cost-share. Chief is working with the state on grants.
- Alderman Sole asked if these could be used for red light cameras; no these are for investigative purposes.
- Alderman Limberg-Gardner asked if these would catch stolen vehicles; yes.
- Alderman Sole asked what a turf renovator is and where it would be used; Mr. Davies stated this is on their 6 ball fields as well as the football fields.
- Mr. Murphy stated
- Alderman Skinner confirmed 5% for the salary and asked what the board thought.
- Alderman Sole feels the police scale needs to be fixed on that pay scale.
- Most staff received 3% last year and 5.5% at the PD.
- Alderman Skinner stated he would like to see this as high as possible and not just for Police – he said all are dealing with cost-of-living increases.
- Alderman Limberg-Gardner asked what 3, 5, 5.5% would look like; Mr. Murphy brought up the slide with those estimates on it.
- Alderman Limberg-Gardner reiterated Mr. Murphy's point that City Hall is a ticking time bomb.
- Mr. Murphy stated without changing anything \$193,241 in general fund.
- Alderman Myers asked how many employees; 71 full-time employees and 4-6 parks part-time employees and 2 full-time/part-time positions.
- Alderman Skinner asked if healthcare is still paid, for an individual yes. 65% paid for families. Alderman Skinner asked if law enforcement could have paid health insurance instead of salary incentives; Ms. Osenbaugh stated the costs go up every year.
- Mr. Murphy stated this will come back in November at the 1st meeting.

ITEM IV: Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 7:47 P.M.

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Minutes submitted by:

Jamie Logan
City Clerk

Date

Minutes approved by:

Mike Todd
Mayor

Date

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