Dear Town Resident,

The budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 was adopted by Town Council on June 25, 2019. The total budget is $60,533,389. The Town of Christiansburg's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30.

The budget process began with each department submitting funding requests for their operations, as well as equipment and vehicle needs and major capital projects. This balanced budget is the result of many discussions and work sessions between Town staff and Town Council and will allow Christiansburg to maintain and improve its quality services, while continuing to grow.

Our capital projects list—focused on addressing needs in infrastructure, streets, stormwater, trails, water and sewer—has continued to grow, and much time was spent developing the priorities for inclusion in this year’s budget. A more detailed look at capital projects budgeted for this year can be found inside.

Our growing population has increased the demand on emergency services, information technology and building inspections. An additional radio shop position has been added to install and maintain equipment in Montgomery County emergency response vehicles. The Fire Department will receive a ladder truck replacement. Another position—a network administrator—was added in response to the expansion of information technology, and an additional building inspector position was created to assist residents with town codes.

We hope this summary will give you a better understanding of where the Town’s revenue comes from and how that money is spent. For more information about the budget, or to review it in its entirety, please visit www.christiansburg.org/budget.

If you have any questions regarding the budget, please contact Town Manager Randy Wingfield at rwingfield@christiansburg.org or Treasurer and Director of Finance Valerie Tweedie at vtweedie@christiansburg.org.

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Five-Year Forecast

Each year, the Town completes a five-year projection to supplement the budget by affording the Town Council some guidance for future financial planning.

The local economy appears to be stable and is forecasted to continue growing at a moderate rate. A small tax increase in 2022 is included in the forecast to help fund aging infrastructure improvements, and proposed annual increases through 2022 for water and sewer rates are also included to help fund renovations at the NRV Regional Water Authority and Christiansburg’s wastewater treatment facility.

Development of a park at the former Truman Wilson Property is partially included; however, only limited information on phasing and design was available at the time of this forecast. Operational costs and additional revenues have been added in 2021, and funds are still being added to the reserves in the 2020 budget to assist funding of the park project and for some early engineering costs.

The forecast also includes new financing and major construction work to improve the wastewater treatment facility, and several other large projects have been added, such as a Roanoke Street emergency services station, major paving and trail development, major sewer projects and renovations to the Recreation Center.

For more information about our future plans, please visit www.christiansburg.org/destination2022.
The Town’s main sources of revenue are utility service fees, meals taxes and property taxes. Real estate and personal property tax rates will remain the same as the previous year at $0.16 per $100 of assessed value for real estate and $0.45 per $100 of assessed value for personal property.

To help fund improvements to the NRV Regional Water Authority, the monthly water rate for 1,000 gallons increased July 1 from $7 to $8. For every additional 1,000 gallons up to 50,000 gallons, the rate increased from $9 to $10. For every 1,000 gallons over 50,000 gallons, the rate increased from $6.75 to $7.50. The sewer rates did not change this fiscal year.

Building permit fees increased from a minimum of $40 to $50. Residential square footage fees increased from $0.22 to $0.28 per square foot, and commercial cost fees increased from $3.50 to $4.50 per $1,000 of construction cost. Plans resubmitted for review will be charged $100 after the second submittal.

Building and Zoning $286,600 0.6%
Cigarette Tax $475,000 0.9%
Motor Vehicle Tax $560,000 1.1%
Consumer Utility Tax $571,000 1.1%
Aquatics $818,900 1.6%
Miscellaneous $975,330 1.9%
Non-Categorical State Aid $1,261,553 2.4%
Grants $1,388,234 2.7%
Stormwater Utility $1,458,000 2.8%
Business License and Franchise Tax $3,398,000 6.6%
Solid Waste Service $2,002,150 3.9%
Parks and Recreation $244,000 0.5%
Cemetery $86,000 0.2%
Law Enforcement $445,900 0.9%

The $8.8 million difference between our total revenue and total expenditures is covered by the Town’s capital reserve funds and unexpended funds from previous years.