



**City of Biddeford
City Council**

May 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers & Zoom

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Meeting ID: 948 0106 3882

Passcode:494571

1. Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adjustment(s) to Agenda
4. Second Reading
 - 4.a 2025.44 Approval City Government Appropriations FY26
 - 4.b 2025.45 Approval Revenues City FY26
 - 4.c 2025.46 Approval Airport Operations Fund FY26
 - 4.d 2025.47 Approval Ambulance Fund FY26
 - 4.e 2025.48 Approval Mooring Fund FY26
 - 4.f 2025.49 Approval Pool Beach Permit Fund FY26
 - 4.g 2025.50 Approval Recreation Programs Fund FY26
 - 4.h 2025.52 Approval Property Tax Dates and Interest FY26
 - 4.i 2025.53 Approval School Essential Programs and Services FY26
 - 4.j 2025.54 Approval School Construction Projects FY26
 - 4.k 2025.55 Approval School Additional Funds Raised FY26
 - 4.l 2025.56 Approval School Appropriations FY26
 - 4.m 2025.57 Approval School Adult Education FY26
 - 4.n 2025.58 Approval School Food Service FY26
5. Orders of the Day

5.a 2025.51 Approval Sewer Operations FY26

6. Executive Session

6.a Executive Session - 1 MRS 405 (6) e - Legal Matters

7. Adjourn

City of Biddeford



2025.44

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum of \$47,821,494 for the CITY GENERAL FUND budget excluding Schools, Adult Education, TIF Funding and County Tax for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, broken down as follows:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	\$15,513,217
PUBLIC SAFETY:	\$14,773,566
PUBLIC WORKS:	\$6,051,409
PUBLIC SERVICES:	\$4,221,417
DEBT SERVICE:	\$4,413,175
CAPITAL OUTLAY:	\$2,148,709
CONTINGENCY:	<u>\$700,000</u>
TOTAL:	\$47,821,494

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: 7 yeas – Councilors Ortiz, Belanger, Gross, Doughty, Beaupre, Emhiser and LaFountain.

1 nay – Councilor Lessard

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

CITY OF BIDDEFORD PROPOSED BUDGET

	Approved Budget FY2025	Dept. Head Request FY2026	City Mgr Recommendation FY2026	Budget Committee Recommendation FY2026
County Tax	\$1,674,127	\$1,720,000	1,720,000.00	\$1,808,299
Municipal Appropriation				
General Government	\$13,882,466	\$15,642,397	15,412,479.49	\$15,513,217
Public Services	\$3,624,795	\$3,640,447	3,554,195.48	\$4,221,417
Public Safety	\$14,280,173	\$15,558,003	14,747,066.12	\$14,773,566
Public Works	\$5,924,730	\$6,066,829	6,028,382.30	\$6,051,410
Contingency	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$500,000</u>	<u>\$700,000</u>
Total Operating Budget	\$38,212,164	\$41,407,677	\$40,242,123	\$41,259,610
Debt Service	\$4,420,737	\$4,413,175	\$4,413,175	\$4,413,175
Capital Projects	\$2,200,000	\$2,128,709	\$2,128,709	\$2,128,709
Total Municipal Appropriation	<u>\$44,832,901</u>	<u>\$47,949,562</u>	<u>\$46,784,008</u>	<u>\$47,801,494</u>
Less: Municipal Revenue Sharing	(\$3,325,000)	(\$4,254,393)	(\$4,254,393)	(\$4,254,393)
Other Non-Property Tax Revenue	(\$10,616,967)	(\$10,792,685)	(\$11,031,054)	(\$11,468,254)
Use of Prior Year Surplus	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)	(\$500,000)
Net Municipal Appropriation	\$30,390,934	\$32,402,484	\$30,998,560	\$31,578,846
TIF	\$2,112,042	\$2,112,042	\$2,112,042	\$2,128,709
Local Education Assessment	\$27,223,022	\$30,323,280	\$30,323,280	\$29,765,424
Overlay	<u>\$239,757</u>	<u>\$239,757</u>	<u>\$239,757</u>	<u>\$239,757</u>
Total Appropriation	\$61,639,883	\$66,797,563	\$65,393,640	\$65,521,036
Less: Homestead	(\$799,402)	(\$799,402)	(\$799,402)	(\$799,402)
BETE	(\$303,292)	(\$303,292)	(\$303,292)	(\$348,792)
Tax Commitment	\$60,537,189	\$65,694,869	\$64,290,945	\$64,372,842
Total Taxable Value	\$4,257,419,733	\$4,277,419,733	\$4,277,419,733	\$4,277,419,733
Tax Rate	\$14.22	\$15.36	\$15.030	\$15.05

	Dept. Head FY2026		City Mgr Proposed FY2026		Budget Committee Recommendation FY2026			
	In \$	In %	In \$	In %	In \$	In %		
County Tax	\$45,873	2.74%	\$45,873	2.74%	\$134,172	8.01%		
Municipal Appropriation:								
Expenses	\$3,116,661	6.95%	\$1,951,107	4.35%	\$2,968,593	6.62%		
Less: Municipal Revenue Sharing	(\$929,393)	27.95%	(\$929,393)	27.95%	\$929,393	27.95%		
Other Non-Property Tax Revenue	(\$175,718)	1.66%	(\$414,087)	3.90%	\$851,287	8.02%		
Net Municipal Appropriation	\$2,011,549	6.62%	\$607,626	2.00%	\$1,187,912	3.91%		
TIF	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$16,667	0.79%		
Local Education Assessment	\$3,100,258	11.39%	\$3,100,258	11.39%	\$2,542,402	9.34%		
Overlay	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%		
Total Appropriation	\$5,157,681	8.37%	\$3,753,757	6.09%	\$3,881,153	6.30%		
Amount from surplus/reserves	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%		
Total Appropriation	\$5,157,681	8.37%	\$3,753,757	6.09%	\$3,881,153	6.30%		
Less: Homestead	(\$0)	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$0	0.00%		
BETE	(\$0)	0.00%	\$0	0.00%	\$45,500	15.00%		
Tax Commitment	\$5,157,680	8.52%	\$3,753,757	6.20%	\$3,835,653	6.34%		
Total Taxable Value	\$20,000,000	0.47%	\$20,000,000	0.47%	\$20,000,000	0.47%		
Tax Rate	\$1.139	8.01%	\$0.811	5.70%	\$0.830	5.84%		
			\$ Needed	Tax Rate +/-	% Increase	\$Needed	Tax Rate +/-	% Increase
Needed to get to zero:	Total	\$3,469,372	\$0.81	5.70%	\$ 3,551,269	\$0.83	5.84%	
	County	\$45,873	\$0.01	0.08%	\$134,172	\$0.03	0.22%	
	School	\$3,100,258	\$0.72	5.10%	\$2,542,402	\$0.59	4.18%	
	City	\$323,241	\$0.08	0.53%	\$ 874,694	\$0.20	1.44%	

City of Biddeford FY2026 Budget

FY2025 Mil Rate:	\$	14.22
Proposed FY2026 Mil Rate:	\$	15.05
Mil Rate Increase:	\$	0.83

	Dollars	Tax Rate	% Increase
Total Increase from 2025	\$3,551,269	\$ 0.83	5.84%
County Assessment	\$134,172	\$ 0.03	0.22%
School Assessment	\$2,542,402	\$ 0.59	4.18%
City Assessment	\$874,694	\$ 0.20	1.44%

Median Home Impact

	2025	2026
Median Value	\$382,350.00	\$382,350.00
Mil Rate	\$14.22	\$15.05
Taxes	\$5,437.02	\$5,754.16
\$\$ Increase		\$317.14
% Increase		5.83%



Budget Detail

County Tax:	\$1,808,299
Municipal Appropriation	
General Government	\$15,513,217
Public Services	\$4,221,417
Public Safety	\$14,773,566
Public Works	\$6,051,410
Contingency	\$700,000
Total Operating Budget	\$41,259,610
Debt Service	\$4,413,175
Capital Projects	\$2,128,709
Total Municipal Appropriation	\$47,801,494
Less: Municipal Revenue Sharing	(\$4,254,393)
Other Non-Property Tax Revenue	(\$11,468,254)
Use of Prior Year Surplus	(\$500,000)
Net Municipal Appropriation	\$31,578,846
TIF	\$2,128,709
Local Education Assessment	\$29,765,424
Overlay	\$239,757
Total Appropriation	\$65,521,036
Less: Homestead	(\$799,402)
BETE	(\$348,792)
Tax Commitment	\$64,372,842
Total Taxable Value	\$4,277,419,733
Tax Rate	\$15.05

City of Biddeford



2025.45

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby adopt the following estimated REVENUES and APPROPRIATIONS from fund balance in support of the general fund budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 as follows:

OTHER NON-PROPERTY TAX REVENUE:	\$11,468,254
STATE REVENUE SHARING:	\$4,254,393
USE OF FY25 OPERATIONAL SURPLUS:	\$500,000
HOMESTEAD:	\$799,402
BETE:	\$348,792
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES AND APPROPRIATIONS:	\$17,370,842

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: 7 yeas – Councilors Ortiz, Belanger, Gross, Doughty, Beaupre, Emhiser and LaFountain.

1 nay – Councilor Lessard

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.46

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum of, \$165,022 for the Biddeford Airport comprised of \$165,022 for the AIRPORT OPERATIONS FUND and \$0 in reimbursable grant expenses for the AIRPORT REIMBURSABLE IMPROVEMENT FUND for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that estimated revenues to the Biddeford Airport Fund in the sum of \$169,516 comprised of \$169,516 for the AIRPORT OPERATIONS FUND and \$0 for the AIRPORT REIMBURSABLE IMPROVEMENT FUND be hereby adopted in support of the Biddeford Airport appropriation

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: 7 yeas – Councilors Ortiz, Belanger, Gross, Doughty, Beaupre, Emhiser and Lessard.

1 nay – Councilor LaFountain.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.47

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum of **\$1,974,698** for the AMBULANCE FUND for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the sum of **\$1,623,968** in estimated revenues to the Ambulance Fund be hereby adopted in support of the Ambulance Fund appropriation

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: 7 yeas – Councilors Ortiz, Belanger, Gross, Doughty, Beaupre, Emhiser and LaFountain.

1 nay – Councilor Lessard

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.48

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, , that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum of **\$44,248** for the MOORING FEES FUND for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the sum of **\$56,600** in estimated revenues to the Mooring Fees Fund be hereby adopted in support of the Mooring Fees Fund appropriation.

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.49 **IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025**

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum of **\$158,707** for the POOL BEACH PERMITS FUND for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the sum of **\$130,280** in estimated revenues to the Pool Beach Permits Fund be hereby adopted in support of the Pool Beach Permits Fund appropriation.

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

Note: Pool Beach revenues are dependent on the condition of the facilities at the beach. The Council has authorized temporary facilities pending replacement of the permanent structure and parking facilities damaged by the winter storm events. Revenues are projected to be lower because of this situation. The revenue projection reflects this condition. If facilities and parking are available through the entire season revenue is expected to increase above current projections.

City of Biddeford



2025.50

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum of **\$839,463** for the RECREATION PROGRAMS FUND for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the sum of **\$934,000** in estimated revenues to the Recreation Programs Fund be hereby adopted in support of the Recreation Programs Fund appropriation.

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.52

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §505(1), the tax lists specified in 36 M.R.S. §709 shall be committed for collection on or before September 1, 2025; and

BE IT FUTHER ORDEDRED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §505(2), the City Council of the City of Biddeford establishes that property taxes shall be payable in two equal installments on November 1, 2025 and April 1, 2026 with any odd amount to be due on the first installment; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §505(4) property taxes shall be delinquent if not paid by November 1, 2025 for the first installment and April 1, 2026 for the second installment and that interest shall be collected at the rate of **8.00%** per annum on any taxes remaining unpaid (delinquent) after each respective date; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, in accordance with 36 M.R.S. Section §506, the Tax Collector/Treasurer is authorized to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed and to pay interest on those payments at a rate of **0.00%** , and any excess paid over the amount finally committed must be repaid, with the interest due on the whole transaction commencing on the date that the tax finally committed is due and payable; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §506-A any overpayment of taxes in an amount in excess of that finally assessed must be repaid in the amount of the overpayment plus interest from the date of overpayment at a rate of **4.00%** per annum.

Note: 36 M.R.S. §506 specifies a municipality may pay interest at a rate not to exceed 8% per annum on prepaid taxes but is not obligated to pay such interest. 36 M.R.S. §506-A further specifies that overpayments must be repaid in full and the interest rate for overpayments may not exceed the interest rate established for delinquent taxes nor may it be less than that rate reduced by 4 percentage points.

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Belanger

Councilor Lessard – motion to amend to change the date from November 1, 2025 to October 15, 2025.

Second: Councilor Belanger

Vote on the amendment: Unanimous in favor.

Amendment passed.

Vote on the order as amended: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.52

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §505(1), the tax lists specified in 36 M.R.S. §709 shall be committed for collection on or before September 1, 2025; and

BE IT FUTHER ORDEDRED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §505(2), the City Council of the City of Biddeford establishes that property taxes shall be payable in two equal installments on October 15, November 1, 2025 and April 1, 2026 with any odd amount to be due on the first installment; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §505(4) property taxes shall be delinquent if not paid by October 15, November 1, 2025 for the first installment and April 1, 2026 for the second installment and that interest shall be collected at the rate of 8.00% per annum on any taxes remaining unpaid (delinquent) after each respective date; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, in accordance with 36 M.R.S. Section §506, the Tax Collector/Treasurer is authorized to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed and to pay interest on those payments at a rate of 0.00% , and any excess paid over the amount finally committed must be repaid, with the interest due on the whole transaction commencing on the date that the tax finally committed is due and payable; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that in accordance with 36 M.R.S. §506-A any overpayment of taxes in an amount in excess of that finally assessed must be repaid in the amount of the overpayment plus interest from the date of overpayment at a rate of 4.00% per annum.

Note: 36 M.R.S. §506 specifies a municipality may pay interest at a rate not to exceed 8% per annum on prepaid taxes but is not obligated to pay such interest. 36 M.R.S. §506-A further specifies that overpayments must be repaid in full and the interest rate for overpayments may not exceed the interest rate established for delinquent taxes nor may it be less than that rate reduced by 4 percentage points.

Attest by:_____

City of Biddeford



2025.53

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

WHEREAS, the Maine Dept. of Education has determined the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12, for Biddeford, as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act to be **\$36,065,078.**

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does appropriate and will raise the sum of **\$22,462,640** for the Biddeford School Department's contribution to the total cost of funding public education for kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 2-A, section 15688.

***Note:** The Biddeford School Department's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.*

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.54

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council does appropriate and will raise the sum of **\$2,648,820** for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the City Council for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the City of Biddeford's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12.

***Note:** Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the municipality's long-term debt for major capital school construction projects and minor capital renovation projects that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was approved by the voters*

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.55

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... May 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council will raise and appropriate **\$4,193,611** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$4,193,611** as required to fund the budget recommended by the Biddeford School Committee.

The Biddeford School Committee recommends **\$4,193,611** for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$4,193,611**.

***Note:** The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the school administrative unit's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Biddeford budget for educational programs.*

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.56

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby authorize the Biddeford School Committee to expend **\$49,269,781** for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 from the City of Biddeford's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools, as follows:

Regular Instruction:	\$17,943,490
Special Education:	\$10,341,515
Career & Technical Education:	\$3,849,511
Other Instruction:	\$823,606
Student & Staff Support:	\$3,126,528
System Administration:	\$1,429,891
School Administration:	\$1,778,006
Transportation & Buses:	\$2,351,350
Facilities & Maintenance:	\$4,929,256
Debt Service & Other Commitments:	\$2,648,820
All Other Expenditures:	\$47,808
Total School Budget:	\$49,269,781

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the School Department is authorized to accept grant funds during the fiscal year and to expend such funds for the purposes for which they are intended.

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.57

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum of **\$791,554** for ADULT EDUCATION for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, and does hereby appropriate and will raise the local share for ADULT EDUCATION in the amount of **\$453,301**.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Biddeford Adult Education is authorized to expend any additional, incidental or miscellaneous receipts in the interest of and for the wellbeing of the Adult Education Program.

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____

City of Biddeford



2025.58

IN BOARD OF CITY COUNCIL... MAY 6, 2025

BE IT ORDERED, that the City Council of the City of Biddeford does hereby appropriate the sum **\$2,087,744** for School FOOD SERVICE (“Hot Lunch”) for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2025, and ending on June 30, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the sum of **\$2,087,744** in estimated revenues is adopted in support of FOOD SERVICE, with a local share for FOOD SERVICE in the amount of **\$0.**

May 6, 2025

Motion: Councilor Beaupre

Second: Councilor Lessard

Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Motion passed.

May 8, 2025

Attest by: _____