



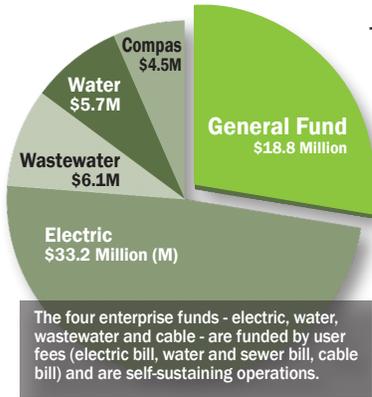
CITY PRIDE

MORGANTON, NC

July 2012 • Morganton's Citizen Newsletter



Morganton Budget Basics



The Morganton City Council approved the City's 2012-2013 Budget on June 18, 2012. The City's total budget including the electric, water, wastewater, and cable enterprise funds is approximately \$65 million. **The General Fund budget for 2012-2013 is \$18.8 million.** This "Budget Basics" edition focuses on the General Fund.

The General Fund includes Public Safety, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, CoMMA, and general City services such as the City Manager's Office, Finance, Human Resources, and Development and Design, Community House and Main Street.

The 2012-2013 budget included a property tax increase of two cents to \$0.48. It is the first property tax increase in five years. The full budget and the City Manager's budget message is online at www.ci.morganton.nc.us. Just search for "2012-2013 City Budget."

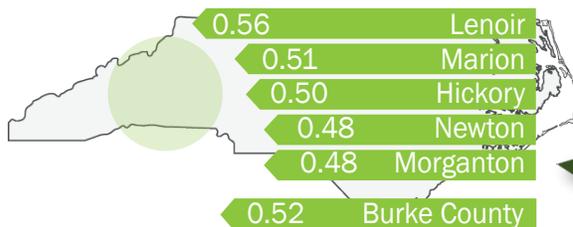
Revenues: *Property taxes, sales taxes, fees, loans*

Where the money comes from ...

The majority of General Fund revenues come from property taxes and sales taxes. The General Fund provides traditional services such as police, fire, parks, pools, recreation programs, planning and zoning, and building inspections.

Competitive Tax Rate

Morganton has a low property tax rate compared to similar-sized cities in the surrounding region.



Property taxes	Sales taxes, franchise taxes and Privilege licenses	Garbage fees, permits Recreation fess, Comma sales, Community House	Restricted Revenues	Borrowing
42%	28%	23%	4%	3%
<p>Almost half of the General Fund revenues come from ad valorem property taxes. The tax rate is \$0.48 per \$100 valuation</p> <p>Each penny on the tax rate generates approximately \$153,000 in revenue.</p> <p>\$7.9 million (M)</p>	<p>Sales taxes generate about \$3 million in revenues. Franchise taxes generate about \$1.6 million.</p> <p>\$5.4 million</p>	<p>The City's \$10/month garbage fee generates about \$1.1 million.</p> <p>\$4.4M</p>	<p>Powell Bill, state & federal grants, & other state funds</p> <p>\$0.6M</p>	<p>The City borrows money to pay for big ticket items.</p> <p>\$0.5M</p>

Spending: Public Safety, Parks, Recreation, Public Works

PUBLIC SAFETY

43%



PARKS & RECREATION

18%



PUBLIC WORKS

18%



COMMA & COMMUNITY HOUSE

7%



ALL OTHER DEPTS.

14%



How the money is spent ...



Like most cities, the majority of General Fund revenue is spent providing police and fire services. Public Safety expenses are greater than the total amount of revenue generated from property taxes.

The second largest expenses in the General Fund are Parks and Recreation and Public Works. These two departments account for approximately \$6.9 million in spending. Changes to the City property tax rate and fluctuations in the economy have a direct impact on funding for these services.

"We remain committed to providing high-quality service to our residents; and to attracting visitors to boost tourism, new residents to grow our communities and new businesses to grow our local economy."

- City Manager Sally Sandy

Police & Fire Services

- Patrol Division
- Criminal Investigations
- Special Operations
- Community Policing
- D.A.R.E.
- K-9 program
- S.E.R.T.
- Fire Response
- and more ...

\$8.1 million

- Collett St. Rec.
- Outdoor pool
- Aquatics Center
- 12 City parks
- Recreation Programs
- Events
- and more ...

\$3.3 million

- Backyard garbage collection
- Rough trash & leaves
- Street sweeping & maintenance
- Cemeteries
- Street signs
- and more ...

\$3.3 million

- Comma
- Community House

\$1.4M

- Manager
- Finance
- H.R.
- Legal
- Main St.
- Tax Dept.
- Inspection
- Planning
- Zoning
- Engineering
- Studio

\$2.7M

Facility Improvements and equipment purchases

The 2012-2013 General Fund budget includes improvements at several public facilities and equipment purchases for Public Safety and Public Works.

Total capital requested = \$1,883,850

- Replace a 26-year-old heating and air system at CoMMA, the City of Morganton Municipal Auditorium
- Install elevator at Collett Street Recreation Center
- Renovate Collett Street Pool Bathhouse
- New kitchen equipment at the Community House
- Purchase six patrol cars for Public Safety
- Purchase a street sweeper for Public Works
- Wayfinding signage

General Fund Employees

The largest expenses in the general fund are salaries and benefits. About \$12.7 million is spent on employees. Public Safety, which operates 24/7, has the largest workforce, followed by Public Works and Parks and Recreation. The 2012-2013 budget includes a 1% pay raise for employees.



95 employees
Public Safety Dept.



49 employees
Public Works Dept.



16
Parks & Recreation



42
All Other Departments