



Medford City Council  
Medford, Massachusetts

**Committee of the Whole, May 12, 2026**

**City Council**

Isaac B. “Zac” Bears  
Anna Callahan  
Emily Lazzaro  
Matt Leming  
Liz Mullane  
George A. Scarpelli  
Justin Tseng

This meeting will take place at 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, Medford City Hall, 85 George P. Hassett Drive, Medford, MA and via Zoom.

Zoom Link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87915924922?pwd=TB521Nkno6FsfkH8wGAxbwDXct9rED.](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87915924922?pwd=TB521Nkno6FsfkH8wGAxbwDXct9rED.1)

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Call-in Number: +13092053325,,87915924922#,,,,\*462572#

Live: Channel 22 (Comcast), Channel 43 (Verizon), [YouTube](#), and [medfordtv.org](http://medfordtv.org).

To submit written comments, please email [ccmembers@medford-ma.gov](mailto:ccmembers@medford-ma.gov).

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**26-061 - Offered by Isaac Bears, Council President**

Annual Budget Process for FY2027 - Preliminary Budget Meeting #4

**Adjournment**



Medford City Council  
Medford, Massachusetts

**MEETING DATE**

May 12, 2026

**SPONSORED BY**

Isaac Bears, Council President

**AGENDA ITEM**

**26-061** - Annual Budget Process for FY2027 - Preliminary Budget Meeting #4

**FULL TEXT AND DESCRIPTION**

This will be the fourth preliminary budget meeting of the FY27 Budget Process. The Mayor has communicated that the following departments will be present:

- Assessors
- Bonds & Interest / Pensions
- Facilities
- Insurance / Workers Compensation

Note: Preliminary budget meetings will continue after May 15th and the Council President will be working with the Mayor and City Administration to develop the schedule of further meetings to be shared at the May 12 Committee of the Whole preliminary budget meeting.

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Be it Resolved by the Medford City Council that, based on Budget Ordinance and discussions with the administration, the City Council and City Administration will follow the following budget schedule for the FY2027 City Budget:

- **By March 11, 2026** - City Councilors Submit Individual Budget Recommendations for Consideration in Committee of the Whole - **Completed**
- **Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 6PM** - City Council Committee of the Whole Meeting to Discuss Council Budget Recommendations - **Completed**
- **Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 7PM** - City Council Regular Meeting to Submit Collective Budget Recommendation to the Mayor - **Completed (Attached)**
- **Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 6PM** - Joint Meeting of the City Council and School Committee to Receive a Financial Update and Discuss the FY27 Budget Process - **Completed**
- **From April 15, 2026 to May 15, 2026** - City Council Holds Preliminary Budget Meetings with Department Heads - **In Progress**

- **By Friday, May 31, 2026** - Mayor Submits Comprehensive Budget Proposal to the City Council

Be it Further Resolved that the Draft Schedule of Preliminary Budget Meetings in Committee of the Whole is as follows:

- Tuesday, April 21st, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.
- Tuesday, April 28th, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, April 29th, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.
- Wednesday, May 6th, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.
- Tuesday, May 12th, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

## RECOMMENDATION

## FISCAL IMPACT

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Assessor Budget 2027
2. Facilities Budget 2027
3. Insurance Budget 2027
4. Workers Comp Budget 2027
5. Bonds and Interest - GF and Water
6. Pension Budget 2027

# Dept. 141 | ASSESSOR

## Departmental Budget

		FY26 Budgeted	FY26 Actuals as of 05/08/26	FY27 Proposed
<b>Personnel</b>				
010-141-5110	Permanent Employees	\$ 366,262.00	\$ 304,904.90	\$ 381,814.09
010-141-5121	Part-Time Employees	\$ 31,200.00	\$ 22,974.00	\$ 24,960.00
010-141-5125	Stipends - Board	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,545.20	\$ 15,000.00
010-141-5125-1113	Stipends - Employees		\$ -	
010-141-5150-1111	Longevity	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 2,050.00
010-141-5150-1115	Sick Leave Incentive	\$ 1,525.00	\$ 1,525.00	\$ 1,525.00
010-141-5150-1116	Travel	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 2,906.25	\$ 2,700.00
	Sick-Leave Buyback (Estimate)		\$ -	\$ -
<b>Personnel Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 419,637.00</b>	<b>\$ 345,805.35</b>	<b>\$ 428,049.09</b>
<b>Ordinary Expenses</b>				
010-141-5240	Rep & Maint-Office Equipment		\$ -	
010-141-5302	Prof/Legal / Appraisal	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 6,475.00	\$ 9,600.00
010-141-5306	Pro/Tech - Data	\$ 57,000.00	\$ 47,963.02	\$ -
010-141-5310	Prof/Tech	\$ 55,800.00	\$ 19,600.00	\$ 51,600.00
010-141-5340	Telephone	\$ 500.00	\$ 439.89	\$ 500.00
010-141-5341	Communications-Advertising	\$ 7,900.00	\$ 440.16	\$ 2,700.00
010-141-5420	Office Supplies	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 1,533.57	\$ 2,050.00
010-141-5580	Water Cooler	\$ 525.00	\$ 492.38	\$ 576.00
010-141-5710	Dues - Conferences	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 1,851.41	\$ 5,250.00
010-141-5856	Computer Applications	\$ 83,750.00	\$ 81,615.81	\$ 89,009.00
010-141-5860	Office Equipment	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,257.40	\$ 2,995.00
<b>Expense Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 225,175.00</b>	<b>\$ 162,668.64</b>	<b>\$ 164,280.00</b>
<b>Departmental Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 644,812.00</b>	<b>\$ 508,473.99</b>	<b>\$ 592,329.09</b>

Below is a comparison from FY26 budgeted numbers to FY27 budgeted numbers. If there is a net increase between FY26 to FY27, please identify below for fixed cost growth and new expenses. Fixed cost growth includes contractual or other increases to existing staffing that were initiated by the Administration and approved by the City Council, increased costs to existing supply and service costs, etc. New expenses are for all proposed increases to staffing and/or proposed new supplies and services

FY26	644,812.00
<u>FY27</u>	<u>592,329.09</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease)</b>	<b>(52,482.91)</b>

Fixed Cost Growth			
Account Number	Account Name	Total Cost	Explanation
010-141-5110	Permanent Employees	\$ 15,552.09	COLAs and Steps
010-141-5580	Water Cooler	\$ 51.00	Increase in cost
010-141-5856	Computer Application	\$ 5,259.00	Inflationary increases for existing applications/software
010-141-5860	Office Equipment	\$ 195.00	Increase in cost

New Expenses			
Account Number	Account Name	Total Cost	Explanation

# Dept.410| FACILITIES & GROUNDS

## Departmental Budget

		FY26 Budgeted	FY26 Actuals as 05/08/26	FY27 Proposed
<b>Personnel</b>				
010-410-5110	Permanent Employees	\$ 280,629.00	\$ 241,767.77	\$ 278,084.55
010-410-5130	Overtime	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 3,532.33	\$ 4,000.00
<b>Personnel Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 284,629.00</b>	<b>\$ 245,300.10</b>	<b>\$ 282,084.55</b>
<b>Ordinary Expenses</b>				
010-410-5202	Contracted Services	\$ 124,000.00	\$ 71,551.71	\$ 136,000.00
010-410-5210	Heating Fuel	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 155,524.44	\$ 135,000.00
010-410-5230	Utilities	\$ 800,000.00	671,744.95	\$ 865,000.00
010-410-5255	Building Repair	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 751,636.00	\$ 725,000.00
010-410-5380	Fire Alarm Systems	\$ 3,500.00	-	\$ 3,500.00
010-410-5450	Janitorial Supplies	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 16,824.52	\$ 65,000.00
<b>Expense Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 1,817,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,667,281.62</b>	<b>\$ 1,929,500.00</b>
<b>Departmental Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 2,102,129.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,912,581.72</b>	<b>\$ 2,211,584.55</b>

## Personnel Services Summary

Position Title	FY26 Budgeted		FY27 Proposed	
	# of Positions	Amount	# of Positions	Amount
Facilities Director	1	115,894.00	1	107,625.43
Chevalier Theater Custodian *	0.5	32,640.00	0.5	32,643.52
COA Custodian	1	70,006.00	1	71,757.92
Library Custodian	1	62,089.00	1	66,057.68
<b>Dept. Totals</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>280,629.00</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>278,084.55</b>

\* Funded through other sources

Below is a comparison from FY26 budgeted numbers to FY27 budgeted numbers. If there is a net increase between FY26 to FY27, please identify below for fixed cost growth and new expenses. Fixed cost growth includes contractual or other increases to existing staffing that were initiated by the Administration and approved by the City Council, increased costs to existing supply and service costs, etc. New expenses are for all proposed increases to staffing and/or proposed new supplies and services.

FY26	2,102,129.00
FY27	<u>2,211,584.55</u>
<b>Net increase/(decrease)</b>	<b>109,455.55</b>

Fixed Cost Growth			
Account Number	Account Name	Total Cost	Explanation
010-410-5202	Contracted Services	\$ 12,000.00	increase in material costs
010-410-5210	Heating Fuel	\$ 10,000.00	Increase in supplier costs
010-410-5230	Utilities	\$ 65,000.00	Increase in supplier costs
010-410-5255	Building Repair	\$ 25,000.00	Increase in required contracts

  

New Expenses			
Account Number	Account Name	Total Cost	Explanation

# Dept. 914 | INSURANCE

## Departmental Budget

		FY26 Budgeted	FY26 Actuals as of 5/5/26	FY27 Proposed
<u>Ordinary Expenses</u>				
010-914-5170-1118-0000-000-0000-0001	MEDICARE - CITY	\$ 700,000.00	\$ 540,812.67	\$ 691,000.00
010-914-5170-1118-0000-000-0000-0002	MEDICARE - SCHOOL	\$ 775,000.00	\$ 770,033.94	\$ 1,120,000.00
010-914-5170-1119	HEALTH, DENTAL, LIFE	\$ 28,875,000.00	\$ 19,193,236.00	\$ 31,400,000.00
010-914-5170-1120	UNEMPLOYMENT	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 46,570.00	\$ 25,000.00
010-914-5170-1125	FRINGE - EAP	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 34,214.00	\$ 37,325.00
<b>Personnel Totals</b>		<b>\$ 30,445,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 20,584,866.61</b>	<b>\$ 33,273,325.00</b>
<u>Other Ordinary Expenses</u>				
010-914-5740-1758	INSURANCE PREMIUMS	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 530,583.00	\$ 574,750.00
010-914-5740-1760	POLICE LIABILITY	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 218,244.00	\$ 235,125.00
<b>Expense Totals</b>		<b>\$ 775,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 748,827.00</b>	<b>\$ 809,875.00</b>
<b>Departmental Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 31,220,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,333,693.61</b>	<b>\$ 34,083,200.00</b>

FY26 to FY27 Dollar Change	FY26 to FY27 Percent Change
\$ (9,000.00)	-1%
\$ 345,000.00	45%
\$ 2,525,000.00	9%
\$ (35,000.00)	-58%
\$ 2,325.00	7%
<b>\$ 2,828,325.00</b>	<b>9%</b>
\$ 24,750.00	5%
\$ 10,125.00	4%
<b>\$ 34,875.00</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>\$ 2,863,200.00</b>	<b>9%</b>

# Dept. 912 | WORKERS COMP

## Departmental Budget

		FY26 Budgeted	FY26 Actuals as of 3/30/26	FY27 Proposed
<u>Ordinary Expenses</u>				
010-912-5135	STIPENDS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,000.00
010-912-5150-1123	WORKER COM CITY VOUCHERS SA	\$ -	\$ -	
010-912-5150-1123-0000-000-0000-0001	WORKERS COMP CITY VOUCHERS	\$ 425,000.00	\$ 376,990.01	\$ 490,000.00
010-912-5150-1123-0000-000-0000-0002	WORKERS COMP SCHOOL VOUCHERS	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 268,271.43	\$ 310,000.00
010-912-5170-1121-0000-000-0000-0001	WORKERS COMP - MEDICAL - CITY	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 108,684.00	\$ 130,000.00
010-912-5170-1121-0000-000-0000-0002	FRINGE BENEFITS - MEDICAL - SCHOOL	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 289,986.80	\$ 250,000.00
<b>Personnel Totals</b>		<b>\$ 898,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,046,182.24</b>	<b>\$ 1,183,000.00</b>
<u>Other Ordinary Expenses</u>				
010-912-5300	WORKERS COMP PROFESSIONAL SER	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 16,458.30	\$ 30,000.00
<b>Expense Totals</b>		<b>\$ 30,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,458.30</b>	<b>\$ 30,000.00</b>
<b>Departmental Totals:</b>		<b>\$ 928,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,062,640.54</b>	<b>\$ 1,213,000.00</b>

## Dept. 710 | DEBT SERVICE: BONDS & INTEREST

### Departmental Budget

		FY26 Budgeted	FY27 Proposed
<b>SUMMARY DEBT</b>			
GENERAL FUND DEBT SERVICE		5,060,178.00	6,050,413.63
WATER/SEWER FUND DEBT SERVICE		2,336,757.00	2,330,862.50
<b>Debt Totals:</b>		<b>7,396,935.00</b>	<b>8,381,276.13</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND DEBT SERVICE</b>			
5910	Interest on Temp Notes	-	1,028,136.11
5920	Interest on Bonds	1,818,928.00	1,687,277.52
5930	Principal on Bonds	3,241,250.00	3,335,000.00
<b>General Fund Totals:</b>		<b>5,060,178.00</b>	<b>6,050,413.63</b>
<b>WATER/SEWER FUND DEBT SERVICE</b>			
5920	Interest on Bonds	71,106.25	63,962.50
5930	Principal on Bonds	2,265,651.00	2,266,900.00
<b>Water/Sewer Fund Totals:</b>		<b>2,336,757.25</b>	<b>2,330,862.50</b>

## Dept. 910,911 PENSIONS

		FY22 Actuals	FY23 Actuals	FY24 Actuals	FY25 Actuals	FY26 Budgeted	FY27 Proposed
<u>Ordinary</u>							
010-910-5150-1117	Retirement Non-Cont	\$ 83,113.47	\$ 82,427.22	\$ 85,897.10	\$ 84,043.44	\$ 85,897.10	\$ 84,043.00
010-911-5150-1117	Retirement Contributory	\$ 13,251,414.00	\$ 14,337,732.00	\$ 15,318,597.00	\$ 16,197,493.00	\$ 16,683,497.00	\$ 17,551,285.00
<b>Ordinary Total</b>		<b>\$ 13,334,527.47</b>	<b>\$ 14,420,159.22</b>	<b>\$ 15,404,494.10</b>	<b>\$ 16,281,536.44</b>	<b>\$ 16,769,394.10</b>	<b>\$ 17,635,328.00</b>
<u>Department Totals</u>		<b>\$ 13,334,527.47</b>	<b>\$ 14,420,159.22</b>	<b>\$ 15,404,494.10</b>	<b>\$ 16,281,536.44</b>	<b>\$ 16,769,394.10</b>	<b>\$ 17,635,328.00</b>