

City of Essex Junction Proposed FY24 Budget & Ballot Questions

- March 22, 2023



INFORMATIONAL HEARING

April 10, 2023
6 PM

The public informational hearing will be held remotely via Zoom. No voting will take place during this meeting. Information to join the Zoom meeting can be found at www.essexjunction.org/meeting/informational-hearing.

ANNUAL MEETING

April 11, 2023
7 AM - 7 PM
Champlain Valley Expo,
Blue Ribbon Pavilion, 105 Pearl Street

The 2023 City Annual Meeting will be held entirely by Australian ballot. More information on the budget and articles can be found online at www.essexjunction.org/departments/clerk/voter-information/annual-meeting



ARTICLE 1. Shall the voters approve an annual General Fund Budget in the amount of \$ 11,421,171 for fiscal year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, \$10,420,986, of which is to be levied in taxes against the City Grand List?





Summary General Fund

FY23 Village Budget (does not include portion of Town Budget)	FY22 Mock City Budget w/ Inflation	FY24 Proposed CITY ONLY Budget	\$ Change from FY22 mock	% Change from FY22 mock
\$6,310,015	\$10,691,093	\$11,421,171	\$730,078	6%

Estimated Tax impact

FY23 Combined Rate	FY24 Proposed Rate	\$ Change	% Change
\$0.9298	\$0.9337	\$0.0039	0.4%

Estimated tax increase to a \$280,000 City property is \$10.86

Primary Budget Drivers



Contributing Factor	Amount	Notes
Salaries & Benefits	\$353,924	New positions: Admin Assistant; Code Enforcement (50% offset); Town Planner; Adult Program Coordinator (half-year); and Building Coordination Role & associated adjustments
Stormwater	\$118,700	Previously included in Town budget
Essex Rescue	\$71,620	Increased operating costs
Essex Junction Cemetery Association	\$20,000	Requested increase for maintenance of cemeteries
Memorial Day Parade & July 4 th Celebration	\$17,500	Memorial Day Parade previously included in Town budget; July 4 th Celebration previously covered in full by EJRP program funds
Capital Transfer	\$79,739	Planned annual increase

One Time Expenditures



Description	Amount	Notes
Rebranding (Admin)	40,000	to be paid for with Local Option Tax (LOT) funds
Strategic Planning (Legislative)	5,000	Increased to \$30,000, to be paid for with LOT funds
Banners and Signs (Streets)	14,375	to be paid for with LOT funds
	59,375	

ARTICLE 2. Shall the voters approve the following amendment to Section 206 of the City Charter (strikethrough represents a deletion, and underline represents an addition):

§ 206. CONFLICT OF INTEREST; PROHIBITIONS

(a) Holding other office. No Council member shall hold any City employment during the term for which they were elected to the Council, unless allowed by state statute. A Council member may be appointed to represent the City on other boards except as pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2647. No former Council member shall hold any compensated appointive municipal office or employment, except for poll worker, until one year after the expiration of the term for which they were elected to the legislative body.

ARTICLE 3. Shall the voters approve the following amendment to Section 206 of the City Charter (strikethrough represents a deletion, and underline represents an addition):

§ 206. CONFLICT OF INTEREST; PROHIBITIONS

(b) Holding other office. No Council member shall hold any City employment during the term for which they were elected to the Council. A Council member may be appointed to represent the City on other boards except as pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2647. ~~No former Council member shall hold any compensated appointive municipal office or employment, except for poll worker, until one year after the expiration of the term for which they were elected to the legislative body.~~



ARTICLE 4. Shall the voters approve the following amendment to Section 302 of the City Charter (strikethrough represents a deletion, and underline represents an addition):

§ 302. MODERATOR

The ~~voters~~ Council ~~at the City Annual Meeting~~ shall ~~elect~~ appoint a Moderator who shall preside at the next City Informational ~~Annual~~ Meeting. The term of Moderator shall be one year. Only qualified voters of the City of Essex Junction shall be eligible to hold the office of Moderator.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters approve the following amendment to Section 401 of the City Charter (strikethrough represents a deletion, and underline represents an addition):

§ 401. CITY MEETINGS AND ELECTIONS

(a) By January 1 of each year, the ~~voters~~ Council shall ~~at each annual meeting vote to~~ set the date of the next annual meeting, at which time the voters shall vote for the election of officers, the voting on the City budget, and any other business included in the warnings for the meetings.



ARTICLE 6. Shall the voters approve holding the 2024 Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at which time the voters shall vote by Australian ballot for the election of officers, the voting on the City budget, and any other business included in the warning for the meeting?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters authorize a planning loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for a project in the Water Enterprise Fund to complete a service line inventory and lead service line replacement plan in an amount not to exceed \$433,700 to be financed over a period not to exceed ten years?

ARTICLE 8. To elect City officers required by law including: Moderator (one-year term), two City Council members (three-year terms), and one Library Trustee (five-year term)?



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