

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF KENNESAW
Council Chambers
(2529 J.O. Stephenson Avenue, Kennesaw, GA 30144)**

**Livestream: <https://www.facebook.com/CityofKennesaw/>
September 3, 2024
6:30 PM**

Present	Mayor Derek Easterling Mayor Pro Tem Antonio Jones Councilmember Madelyn Orochena Councilmember Tracey Viars Councilmember Pat Ferris Councilmember Anthony Gutierrez City Clerk Lea Alvarez City Manager Jeff Drobney City Attorney Randall Bentley, Sr.
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1. Invocation

City Attorney Randall Bentley, Sr. led the Invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Mracek and Hunter families led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Call to Order

Mayor Easterling called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

4. Announcements

- A. If you are not able to attend a meeting in-person and would like to provide public comment on a specific agenda item, you can email kennesawcouncil@kennesaw-ga.gov no later than 6:00 PM the night of the regular meeting. Your comments on a specific agenda item will be read aloud or grouped into categories for the record. **Facebook Live is not monitored for public comment.**

5. Presentations

A. Proclamation: Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Presentation of a proclamation declaring the month of September 2024 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Kennesaw.

Mayor Easterling presented a proclamation to the family members of Millie Mracek and to Isiah, Melissa, and Judan Hunter, declaring the month of September 2024 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Kennesaw.

6. Public Comment/Business from the Floor

6:35 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:36 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Committee and Board Reports

10. Public Hearing(s)

A. First Public Hearing: FY 25 Operating Budget

Consideration to approve a resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Operating Budget for the City of Kennesaw and adopt the organizational chart.

Assistant Director Jennifer Gordy presented a resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Operating Budget for the City of Kennesaw and to adopt the organizational chart. This public hearing was the first public hearing, with the final public hearing and adoption being held on Monday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m. The first and second advertisements in the Marietta Daily Journal were on August 23, 2024, and August 30, 2024, respectively. The final advertisement will be on September 6, 2024. Ms. Gordy went through a brief overview of the proposed budgets [See **Exhibit A**].

6:43 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments

6:44 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

B. First Public Hearing: FY 25 Capital Improvement (SPLOST) Budget

Consideration to approve a resolution to adopt the FY 2024-2025 Capital Improvement (SPLOST) Budget for the City of Kennesaw.

Assistant Director Jennifer Gordy presented a resolution to adopt the FY 2024-2025 Capital Improvement (SPLOST) budget for the City of Kennesaw.

6:44 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

No comments.

6:45 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

11. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes: August 12, 2024 Work Session

Approval of the August 12, 2024, City Council work session minutes.

B. Minutes: August 12, 2024 Executive Session

Approval of the August 12, 2024, City Council executive session minutes.

C. Minutes: August 14, 2024 Special Called Meeting

Approval of the August 14, 2024, City Council special called meeting minutes.

D. Minutes: August 19, 2024 Regular Meeting

Approval of the August 19, 2024, City Council regular meeting minutes.

Motion by Councilmember Viars to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Ferris.

Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

12. General and Administrative

A. Alcohol License: Fern Gully Jamaican Cafe

Consideration for approval of an Alcohol License for Sunday Sales for Fern Gully Jamaican Cafe LLC d/b/a Fern Gully Jamaican Cafe located at 2756 S. Main St. Kennesaw, GA 30144. Applicants: Patricia Josephs and Kapel Josephs

Business License Manager LaMaya Edmonds presented an Alcohol License for Sunday Sales for Fern Gully Jamaican Cafe LLC d/b/a Fern Gully Jamaican Cafe located at 2756 South Main Street, Kennesaw, GA 30144. Ms. Edmonds shared that the applicant has completed the required alcohol workshops, signs have been posted, and background checks are on file. The applicant was approved for a Beer and Wine Alcohol License in 2019 and is seeking approval to add Sunday Sales.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Jones to approve an alcohol license for Sunday Sales for Fern Gully Jamaican Cafe LLC d/b/a Fern Gully Jamaican Cafe located at 2756 South Main Street, as presented, Seconded by Councilmember Orochena.

Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

13. Public Safety

14. Information Technology

15. Public Works and Building Maintenance

16. Recreation and Culture

17. Community Development

18. Public Comment/Business from the Floor

6:46 p.m. Floor Open for Public Comments

ANDREW BRAMLETT [City Resident]: Mr. Bramlett presented the life history of resident J.F. Brinkley (1849 -1922) [See **Exhibit B**].

CARLENE FREGEOLLE [City Resident]: Ms. Fregeolle invited everyone to view Alex Kendrick's new movie, The Forge, in theaters. Ms. Fregeolle tries to promote Mr. Kendrick's movies as much as she can and hopes everyone gets a chance to watch it!

6:48 p.m. Floor Closed for Public Comments

19. City Manager's Report

A. Reports, Discussions, and Updates

Dr. Drobney reminded everyone of the events coming up this fall, including the Harvest Hustle 5K and the Summer Concert Series.

20. Mayor's Report

- A. Mayor and Council (re)appointments to Boards and Commissions. This item is for (re)appointments made by the Mayor to any Board, Committee, Authority, or Commission requiring an appointment to fill any vacancies, resignations, and to create or dissolve boards and commissions, as deemed necessary.

21. Council Reports & Discussions

Mayor Easterling asked the Council to share something they have done to benefit the community.

Councilmember Gutierrez shared that he likes to walk his dog every day and if he sees litter, he tries to pick it up. He said that if everyone does one or two little tasks like that each day, it adds up!

Mayor Pro Tem Jones drove around the city this weekend looking at our parks. He loves to see the progress of our parks and facilities.

Councilmember Orochena mentioned she loves how in our community, when she is out on a walk, people always take the time to wave or say hi. She appreciates the connection.

Councilmember Ferris said his story would be a stretch. He went to Cartersville this past weekend to visit his brother, so he was a good-will ambassador visiting the city of Cartersville on behalf of Kennesaw.

Councilmember Viars worked with the Kennesaw Downtown Merchants Association to work out the details for the First Friday Concert Series. She also spent a lot of money locally this weekend as well.

22. Executive Session

Pursuant to the provisions of O.C.G.A 50-14-3, the City Council could, at any time

during the meeting, vote to close the public meeting and move to executive session to discuss matters relating to litigation, legal actions and/or communications from the City Attorney; and/or personnel matters; and/or real estate matters.

Motion by Councilmember Gutierrez to enter into Executive Session as allowed by O.C.G.A § 50-14-3 for the purpose of discussing land and personnel. Motion seconded by Councilmember Viars. Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

6:52 p.m. Recess to Executive Session

The Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, and Assistant City Attorney attended the Executive Session.

7:23 p.m. Reconvene to Open Session

Councilmember Gutierrez read the Council back into Open Session and directed the Mayor and City Council to execute an affidavit in compliance with O.C.G.A § 50-14-4. Motion seconded by Councilmember Viars. Vote taken, motion unanimously approved 5-0. Motion passed.

23. Adjourn

Mayor Easterling adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The public is encouraged to attend or view via Facebook Live.

Lea Alvarez, City Clerk



City of Kennesaw, GA

September 3, 2024

FY 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET



FY 2025 BUDGET SCHEDULE

Public Hearing

- September 3, 2024 (6:30 p.m.)

Public Hearing

- September 16, 2024 (6:30 p.m.)

Adoption

- September 16, 2024 (6:30 p.m.)

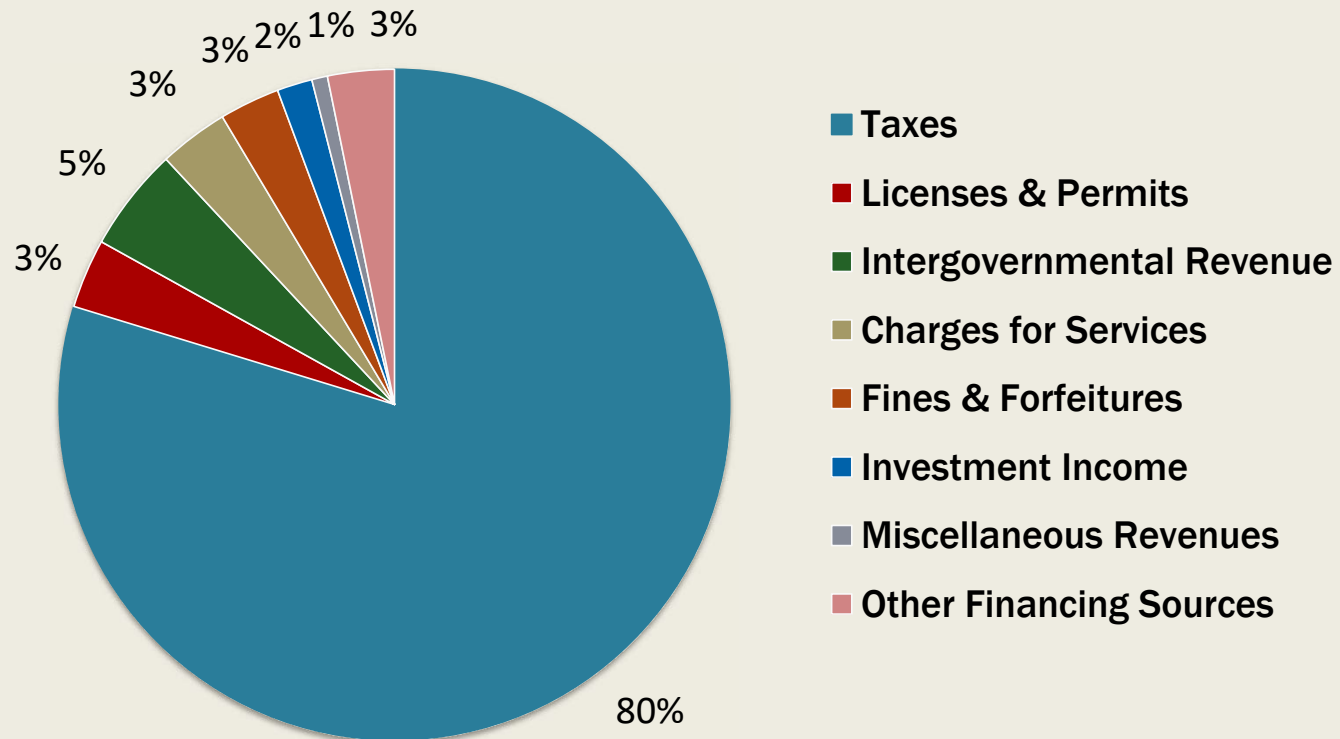


FY 2025 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND OPERATING REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES

CATEGORY	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Taxes	\$25,587,785	80%
Licenses and Permits	\$1,074,000	3%
Intergovernmental	\$1,603,028	5%
Charges for Services	\$1,076,440	3%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$935,000	3%
Investment Income	\$545,000	2%
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$244,039	1%
Other Financing Sources	\$1,029,732	3%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$32,095,024	100%



FY 2025 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND OPERATING REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES

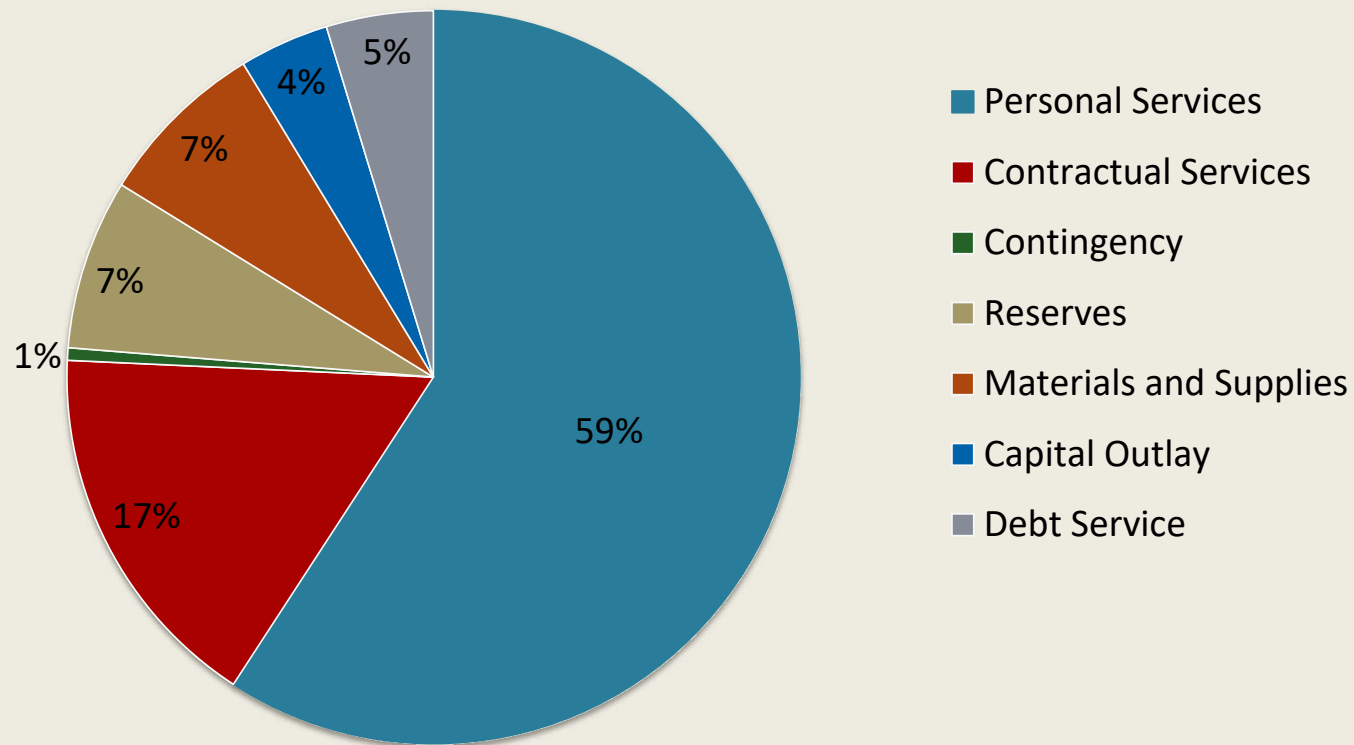


FY 2025 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

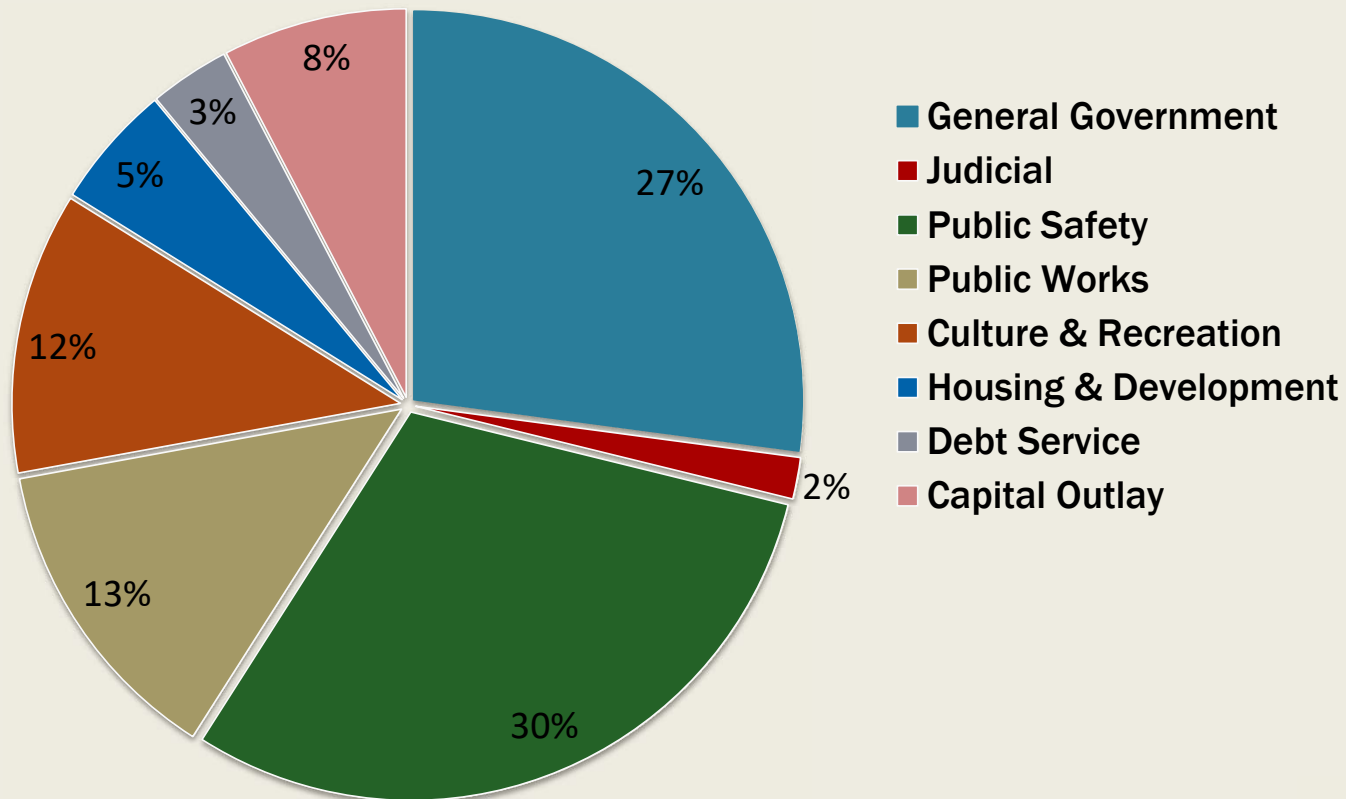
CATEGORY	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
Personal Services	\$18,316,952	59%
Contractual Services	\$5,120,928	17%
Contingency	\$170,000	1%
Materials and Supplies	\$2,329,626	7%
Reserves	\$2,324,898	7%
Debt Service	\$1,461,068	5%
Capital Outlay	\$1,225,000	4%
TOTAL DEPT EXPENDITURES	\$30,948,472	
Transfers to Other Funds	\$1,146,552	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$32,095,024	



FY 2025 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES (CATEGORIES)



FY 2025 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES (BY FUNCTION)



FY 2025 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

Operating Budgets:	FY 24 Adopted	FY 25 Proposed	% Change
Governmental Fund Types			
General Fund	\$29,395,743	\$32,095,024	9%
Asset Forfeiture	\$21,200	\$21,200	0%
Treasury Equitable	\$20,500	\$20,500	0%
Opioid Settlement	-	\$36,069	100%
Emergency 911	\$1,534,400	\$1,534,400	0%
American Rescue Plan Act	\$1,997,154	\$1,405,708	-30%
Hotel Motel	\$110,920	\$101,550	-8%
Impact Fee	\$232,412	\$450,000	94%
Cemetery	\$57,865	\$22,000	-62%
Debt Service	\$1,454,334	\$ 1,461,068	0.5%
Subtotal	\$34,824,528	\$37,147,519	7%



FY 2025 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

Operating Budgets:	FY 24 Adopted	FY 25 Proposed	% Change
Business - Type Funds			
Sanitation	\$3,665,500	\$4,022,100	10%
Museum	\$1,030,716	\$1,074,846	4%
Smith Gilbert Gardens	\$770,049	\$832,236	8%
Storm Water	\$1,450,395	\$1,491,130	3%
Streetlights	\$393,900	\$415,000	5%
Subtotal	\$7,310,560	\$7,835,312	7%
Total Operating Funds	\$42,135,088	\$44,982,831	7%



FY 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET SPLOST FUND

SPLOST BY YEAR	
Remaining Dollars to be Spent	
2011 SPLOST	\$3,300,000
2016 SPLOST	\$2,800,000
2022 SPLOST	\$28,700,000
TOTAL	\$34,800,000

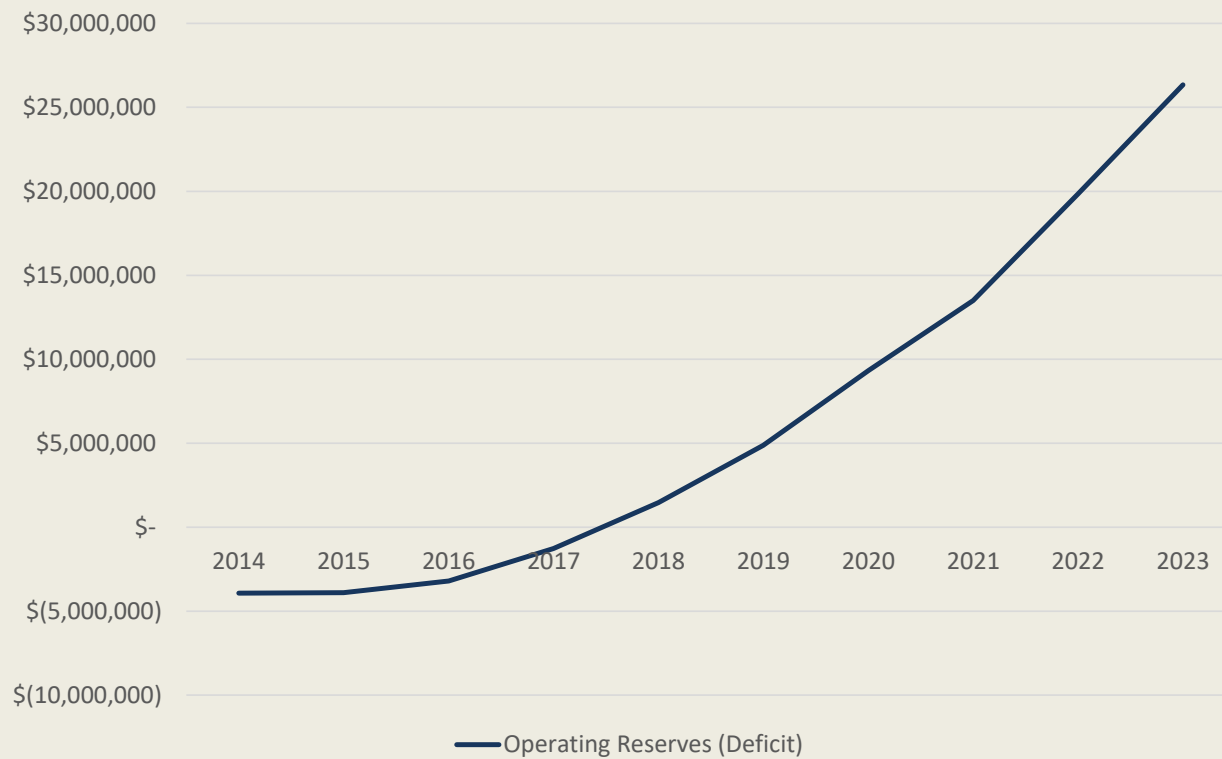


FY 2025 PROPOSED INTERNAL SERVICE FUND BUDGET

PARTIALLY SELF-INSURED HEALTH INSURANCE FUND	FY 24 Adopted	FY 25 Proposed	% Change
Fixed Cost	\$702,487	\$788,097	12%
Claims	\$2,730,200	\$2,621,346	-4%
Total	\$3,432,687	\$3,409,443	-1%



Operating Reserves



FY 2025 PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

New Full-time Positions (5)

Parks and Recreation

- Recreation Division Manager

Court

- Deputy Clerk

Police

- Public Safety Ambassador
- Public Safety Ambassador Supervisor

Finance

- Accounting Specialist



FY 2025 PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Freeze Positions (5)

Finance

- Utility Billing Support Clerk

Public Works

- Landscape (3) Maintenance I
- Landscape (1) Maintenance III



FY 2025 PERSONNEL RECOMMENDATIONS

Reclassifications

- Communications and Engagement Manager to Director of Communications and Engagement
- Smith Gilbert Gardens PT Program Assistant to FT Program and Visitors Services Assistant



FY 2025 PROPOSED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

- Police –Eight (8) vehicles, Rifle Suppressors, Patrol Car Key Box, LIDAR Laser Units, AEDs, FLOCK Cameras, Less Lethal Launchers
- Parks & Recreation – Two (2) Trucks, Two (2) Toro Workman's, John Deere Gator, Baseball and Softball Scoreboards, expanded playgrounds for Kennesaw Station Park and Adams Park, new Chalker Park construction, repair Trail Bridge, replace Gymnastics Equipment and Community Center Tables and Chairs
- IT – Twenty-Five (25) Replacement Computers, Virtual Server Replacements, Office 365 upgrade City Wide, Diverse Computing CJIS ACE Audit Program



FY 2025 PROPOSED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES CONTINUED

- Building Maintenance – One (1) Vehicle
- Smith-Gilbert Gardens – Construction of new restroom facility, pavilion, and paved pathways
- Southern Museum – Furniture and fixtures for more gift shop storage space
- Streets- One (1) Zero Turn mower, Two (2) Right of Way Maintenance Trucks, paving and resurfacing projects
- Stormwater- One (1) Exmark Turf Tracer Lawn Mower, Storm system in Public Works yard, AutoCAD software to draft site plans



QUESTIONS?

City of Kennesaw, GA

FY 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET



KENNESAW HISTORY

J. F. Brinkley

John F. Brinkley's
headstone



John Fletcher Brinkley was born May 5, 1849 in Warren County, Georgia. He was the son of Samuel and Emeline Brinkley. He worked as a farmhand until at least 1870. Prior to 1875 he moved to Cobb County, as in that year he married area resident Mary “Mollie” Chalker. Brinkley and his wife would later have seven children. Brinkley worked as a farmer, and at one point grew peaches.

In 1898, Brinkley was elected to the Executive Committee of the Cobb County Democratic Party. He was re-elected in 1900. Brinkley was also an active member of the Methodist church, and in 1905 he was superintendent of its Sunday schools. In 1909, Brinkley began working as a clerk at a store downtown owned by J. U. Kitchen, but he also continued farming.

Sometime prior to 1909, Brinkley became a Freemason. In 1910 he became the local lodge's treasurer. In addition, he was involved with the Kennesaw State Bank. In 1917, he became part of the Cobb County Food Products Safety Association. In 1920, Brinkley sold his Kennesaw Farm to George Skelton, and moved to Marietta. He lived on Dixie Avenue. John F. Brinkley died at his home on March 27, 1922. The funeral was held at the Kennesaw Methodist Church.

Presented by Andrew J. Bramlett at the September 3, 2024,
City of Kennesaw Mayor & Council Meeting

Names and Addresses will be disclosed in the Permanent Minutes of the
City of Kennesaw

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR NAME IS LEGIBLE AND CLEAR

Mayor & Council Regular Meeting

9/3/2024

Public Comment Sign-in

	Name	Address	Topic
1	Andrew J. Brissett	2940 Emoryfield Ct.	Local history
2	Cordeanna Fergall	2549 Red Oak	The Forge
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