

Proposed Budget 2024-2025

Department of Municipal Utilities
Seth N. Jensen, P.E.; Director

APRIL 18, 2024

CITY OF AUBURN



"History's Hometown"

What is Municipal Utilities?

Who are we?

- We are 39 Full Time Employees
- 25 Different Titles
- 2-4 Summer Help
- 1 Contract Operator - WWTP
- Fund 3 FTE with OLWMC

Funds we manage:

- Water Fund
- Sewer Fund
- Power Utility Fund

Departments we coordinate with:

- Department of Public Works
- Engineering Department
- City Manager
- Comptroller
- Auburn Code Enforcement Department
- Planning Department
- Auburn Fire Department
- Auburn Police Department

Coordinating Agencies



- DMU interacts on multiple levels on a daily basis with partners at the local, state, and federal level.
- Good working relationships with these agencies is key to future success.

Cayuga County



Health Department

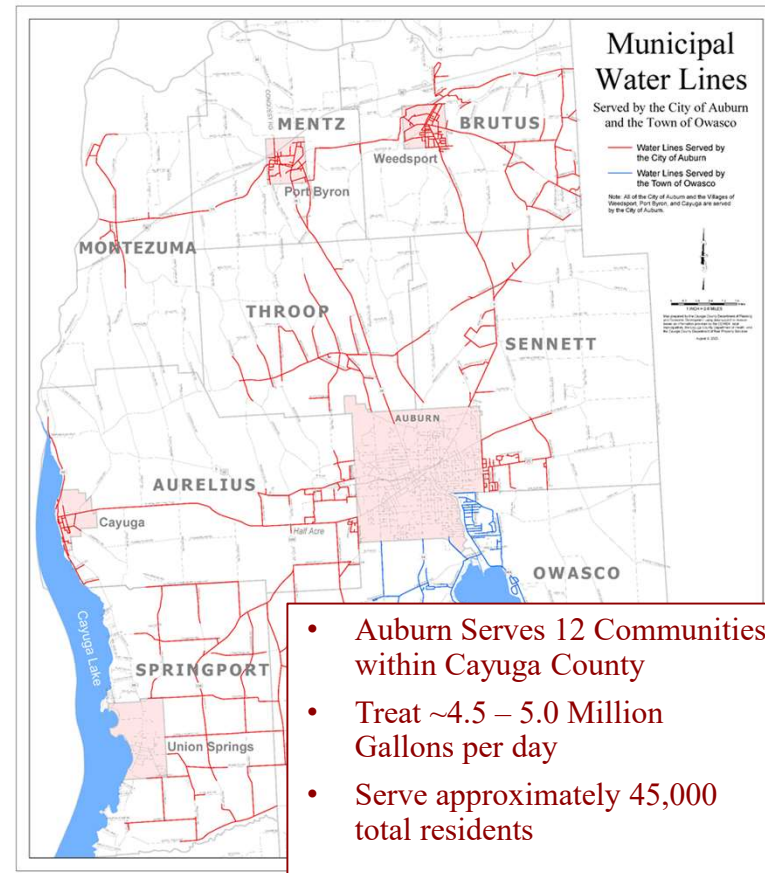
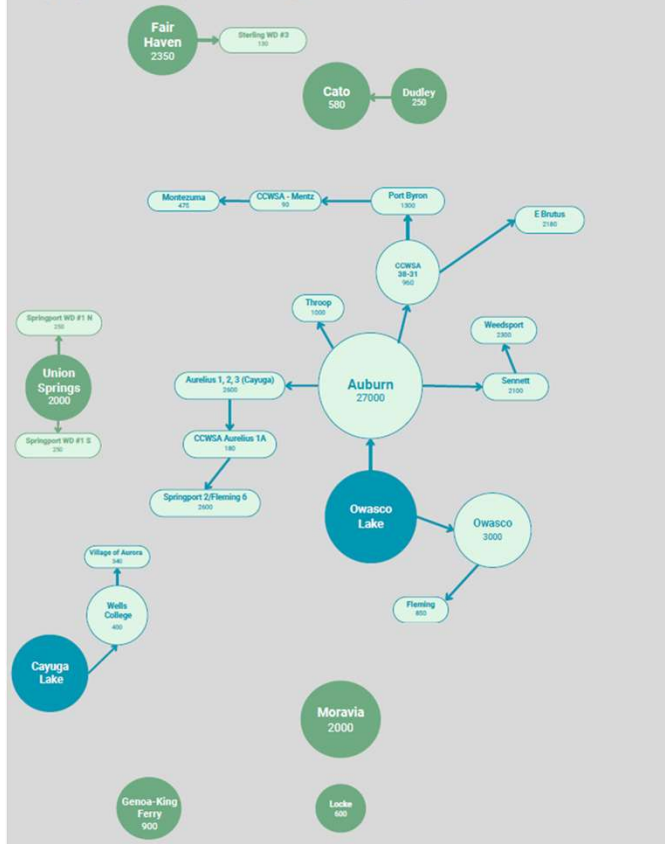


...and many more!



Water Fund

Cayuga County Water System Organization



- Auburn Serves 12 Communities within Cayuga County
- Treat ~4.5 – 5.0 Million Gallons per day
- Serve approximately 45,000 total residents

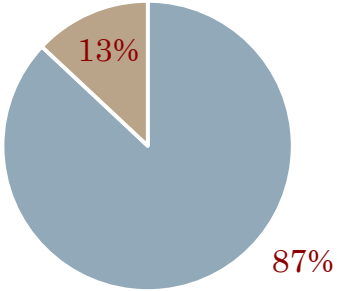
Water Treatment

Annual Stats

Distribution Samples	1000+
Data Entry/Control	71,175+
Filter Backwash	410
Trac Vac Runs	393
Raw Water Samples	100+
Station Checks	260+
Violations	0



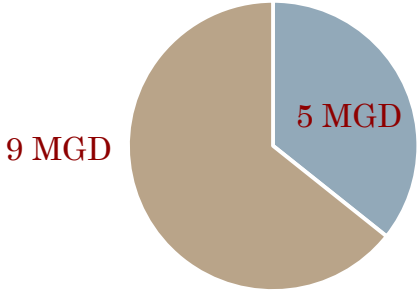
Treated Water Breakdown



■ Metered Water ■ Un-Metered Water



Auburn WTP Capacity

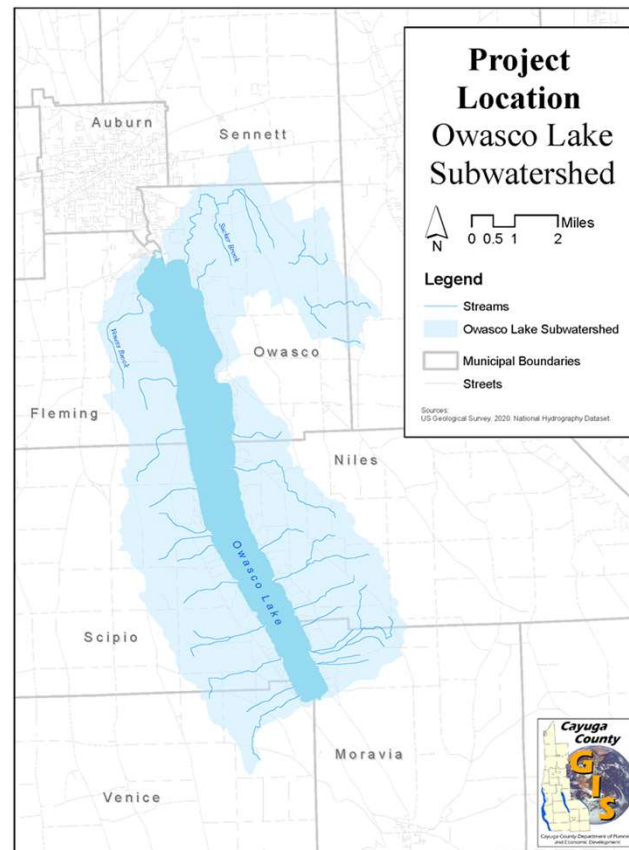


■ Average Flow ■ Reserve Capacity

Owasco Lake & Water Quality

Raw Water Quality = Drinking Water Quality!

- Over 100 contaminants tested each year
- Every contaminant below NYSDOH action level.
- Owasco Lake is a great drinking water source, we need to keep it that way.
- Auburn Initiatives:
 - 9E Planning & Implementation
 - Participated in Drinking Water Source Protection Planning with NYSDOH and NYSDEC – still waiting on final version.
 - Received Grant to study Owasco Lake Subwatershed to develop a comprehensive stream corridor assessment.



2025 Budget supports Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council!

2016 - \$130,000

2019 - \$190,000

2025 - \$225,000

Approximately 8% of total water fund revenue is applied to Watershed Protection thru funding the OLWMC.

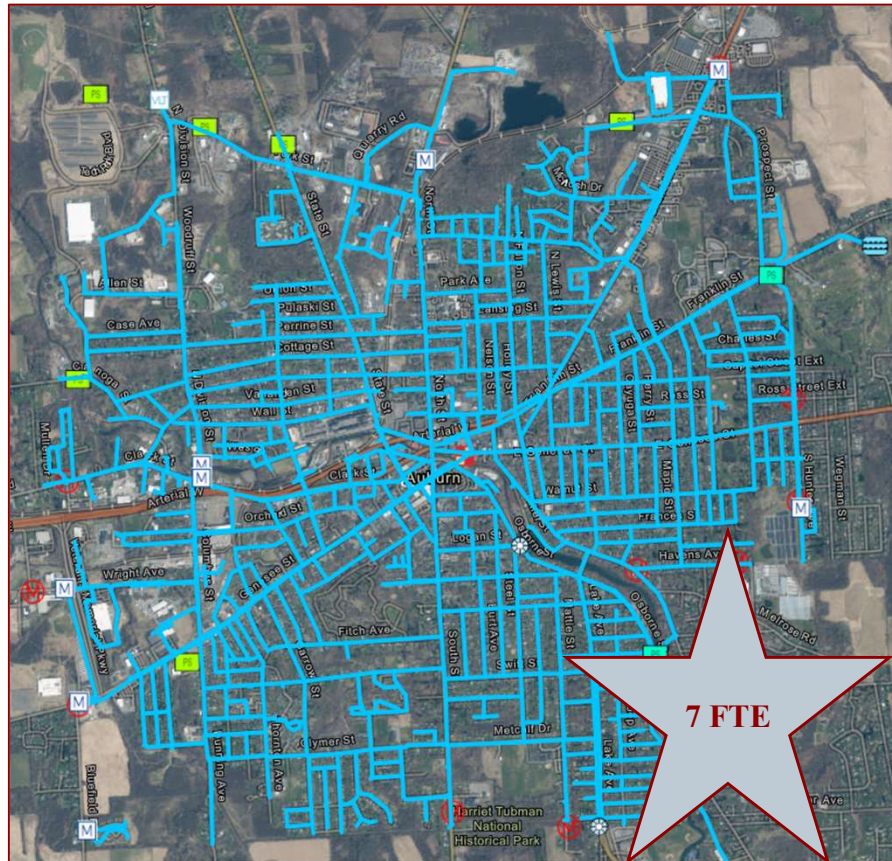
Water Distribution and Maintenance

Annual Stats

New Water Main	780 LF
Water Services	58
Service Line	1044 LF
Dig Safe Tickets	1000+
Overtime Calls	37
Water Main Breaks	15
Water Main Managed	~100 miles
Boil Water Emergencies	0
Hydrants in Service	1049
Hydrants out of Service	0

New Water Mains in 2024

- Rochester Street
- Briggs Drive
- WWTP Access Road
- Brister Avenue



Water Billing and Plumbing Inspection

Water Billing Annual Stats

Service Calls	1061
Public Calls	2000+
Meter Replacements	430
Water On/Off	49
Misc. Meter Work	133
Backflow Preventors	477
Backflow Device Install	7 new
Backflow Device Design	15 new

Plumbing Inspection Stats

Total Annual Permits	450
Total YTD Permits	377
Plumbing Permit Revenue	\$45,000
Fee Schedule Analysis	Under Review

Significant Changes in Water Billing:

Add meter costs to the operating budget.

FY23/34 Meter Budget = \$60,000

FY24/25 Meter Budget = \$120,000

2014 Water Meter Project, 82 large meters installed. These larger meters are now failing and require replacement.

Anticipate ~\$180,000 in replacement costs.

Propose replacing this inventory over the next 3 years at \$60,000/year.

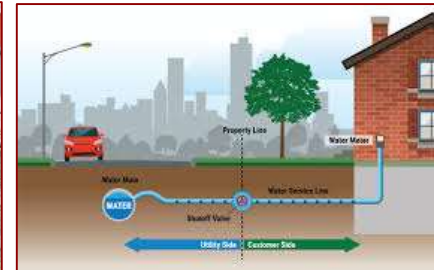


2 FTE

Water– Challenges and Opportunities

Lead Service Line Inventory

- \$917,987 – Lead Service Line Grant
- 8800 Services
- October 2024 Inventory Due
- GIS Platform Assistance



Emerging Contaminants and Treatment Strategies

- HAB Treatment
 - Short-term measures still working well
 - Long-term options require action
- PFAS
 - Owasco Lake Raw Water Tested Non-Detect
 - USEPA just issued guidance

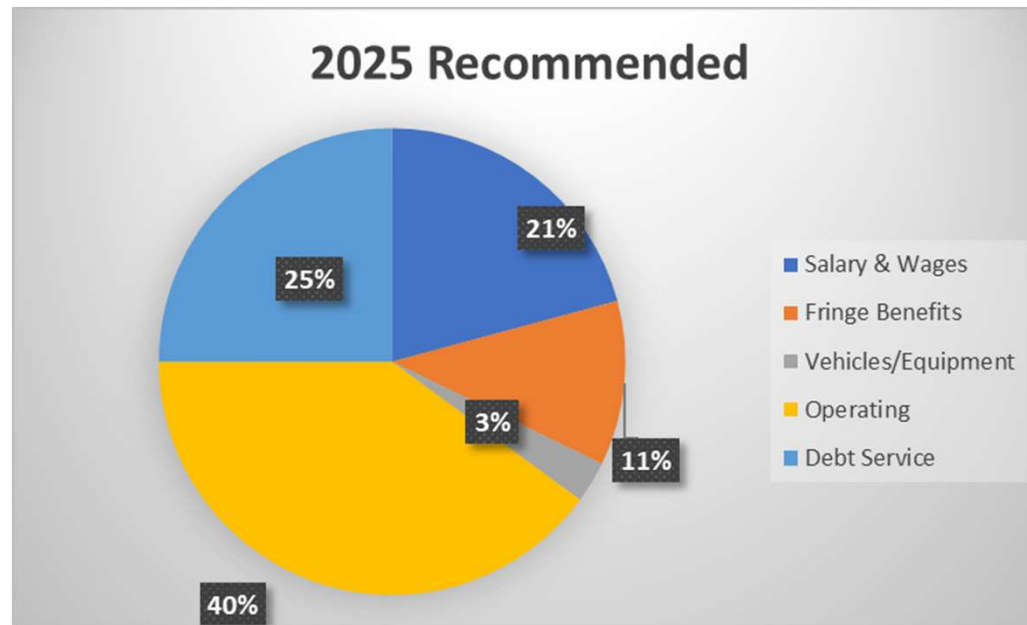
Other Challenges

- Disinfection By-Products
- Rate Stabilization
- Staffing turnover
- Wholesale Agreements
- Economic Development
- Capacity

Water Fund Operating Budgets

	FY24	Proposed FY25	Percent Change
Water Filtration			
Operating Budget	\$1,780,839	\$1,928,396	8.3%
FTEs	9.0	9.0	
Water Maintenance Dept			
Operating Budget	\$1,021,218	\$1,065,442	4.3%
FTEs	7.0	7.0	
Water Billing Dept			
Operating Budget	\$269,127	\$213,587	-21%
FTEs	2.0	2.0	
Total Water Fund	\$3,071,184	\$3,207,425	4.4%

Water Overall Budget



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Municipal Utilities - Water Rate Recommendation – 0% Increase

Rate Review:

- Retail Rate Adopted in 2022
 - \$3.35/CCF
 - Anticipated 5 year stability
 - Currently in year 3 of 5

Factors Impacting Fund Balance Use in 2025 Budget:

- \$80,000 increase in Chemical Cost for Chlorine Dioxide Generator at Upper Pump Station
- \$40,000 Budgeted for Water Agreement Negotiation
- \$40,000 Budgeted for Dam Safety Analysis
- Unanticipated rise in operating supplies and interest rates on borrowing due to inflation.

Anticipated Revenues of \$6,348,050 with no rate increase

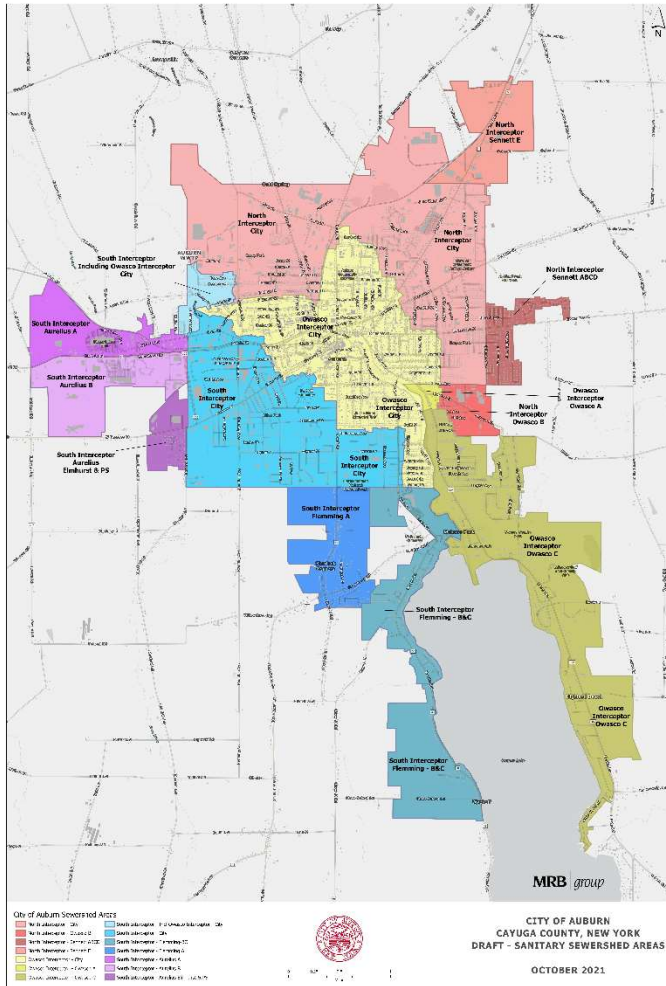
Fund Balance	2,738,410
Projected Use of Fund Balance	<u>(454,585)</u>
Ending Fund Balance	<u>2,283,825</u>



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Sewer Fund



- Auburn Serves 7 Communities within Cayuga County
- Treat ~7.2 Million Gallons per day
- Serve approximately 45,000 county residents

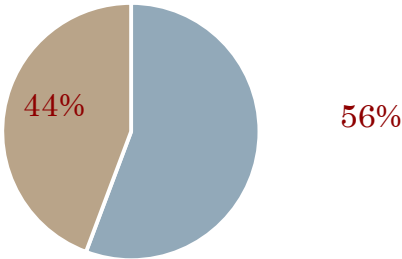
Waste Water Treatment

Annual Stats

Total Treated Flow	2,688 MG
Peak Flow Recorded	50 MGD
Annual Tons of Sludge	10,076 Ton
Process Control Measurements	12,045/yr
Lab Samples Taken	749
CSO Overflow Events	14
ORF Events	9
Average Daily Flow	7.21



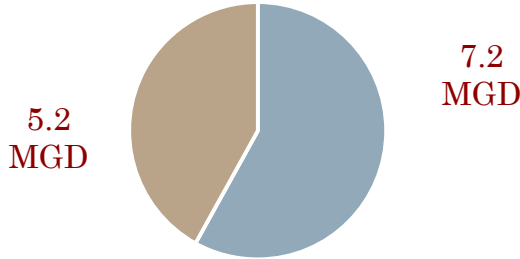
Treated Wastewater Breakdown



■ Metered Wastewater ■ Inflow and Infiltration



Auburn WWTP Capacity



■ Average Flow ■ Reserve Capacity

Sewer Maintenance

Annual Stats

Permitted CSO's	4
Gravity Sewer Mains	~100 miles
Pump Stations	2*
Flushed and Televised Mains	20,000+ LF
Sewer Emergency Calls	35
Sewer Main Install	960 LF
Sewer Laterals	11
Sewer Manholes Surveyed	2800
Sewer/Storm MH Rehab	49

Sewer Rehab Capital Project

Slip Lined Mains	7,159 LF
Sewer Manhole Rehab	26 MH's

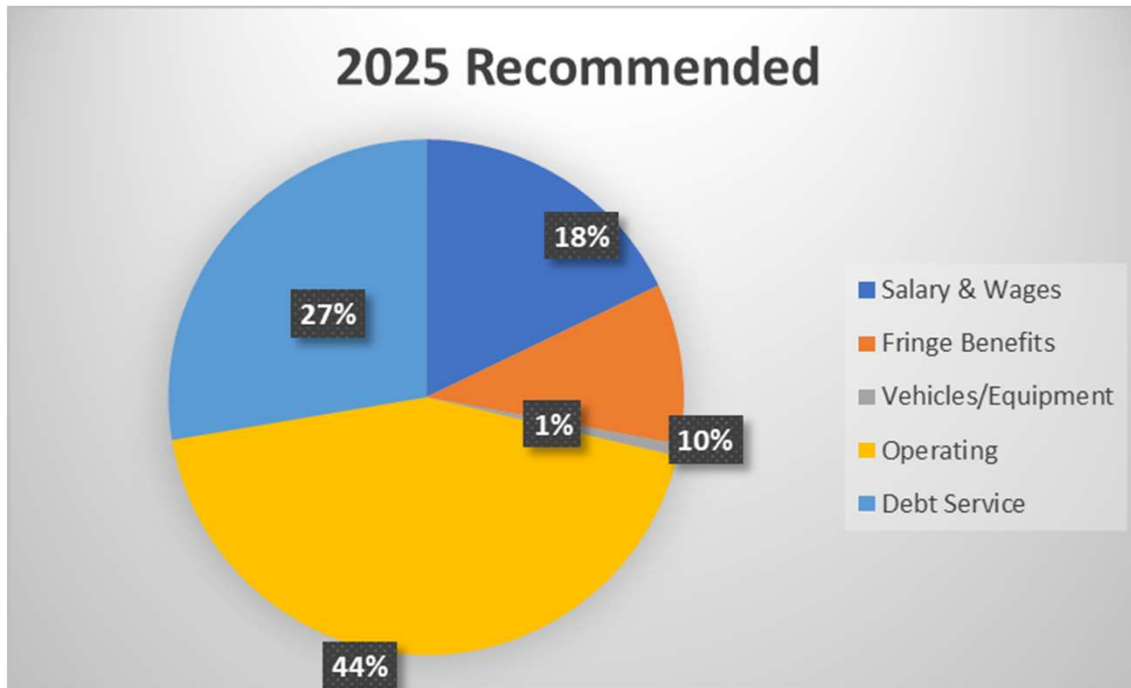


Sewer Fund Operating Budgets

	FY24	Proposed FY25	Percent Change
Sewage Treatment			
Operating Budget	\$3,526,548	\$3,690,258	4.6%
FTEs	15.5	14.5*	
Sewer Maintenance Dept			
Operating Budget	\$906,449	\$931,907	2.8%
FTEs	8.0	8.0	
Total Sewer Fund	\$4,432,997	\$4,622,165	4.2%

Position currently funded by way of service contract with Camden Group instead of Chief Operator

Sewer Overall Budget



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Municipal Utilities - Sewer Rate Recommendation – 3% Increase

Rate Review:

- Retail Rate
 - \$4.78/CCF 20+ years
 - 3% Rate Increase recommended in FY 24
 - **Rate increase of 3% = \$4.92/CCF**
 - \$3/quarter increase on average or \$12/yr
 - Budget balanced.

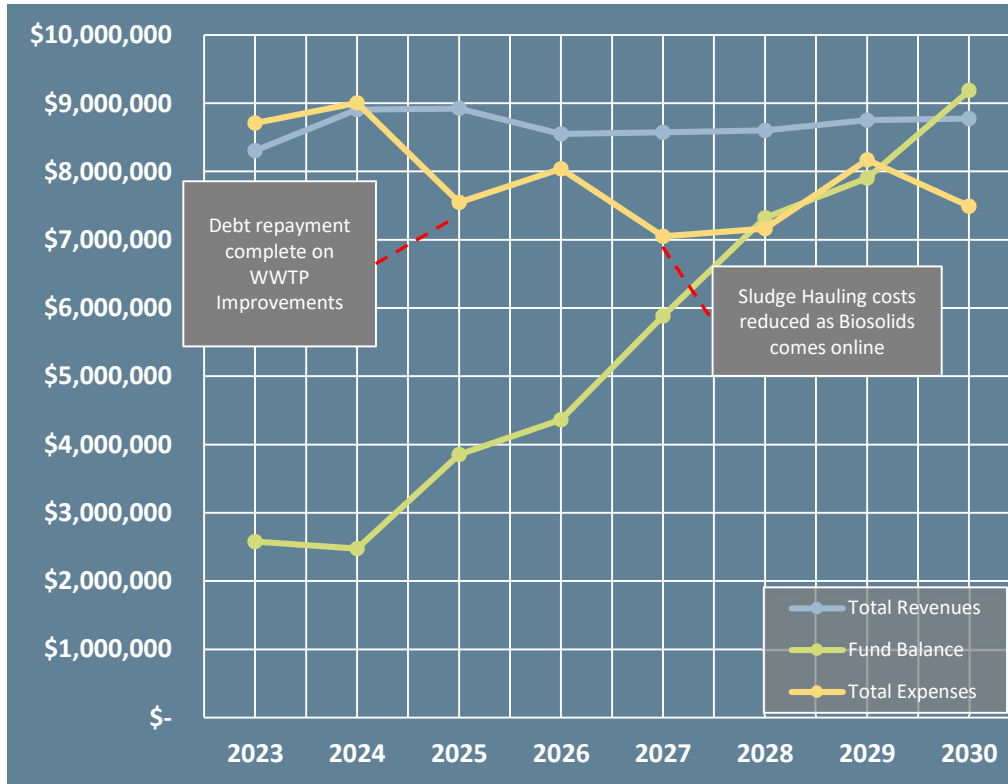
Highlights in 2025 Budget:

- \$250,000 increase to sludge hauling costs in FY25.
- Maybe some good news with Biosolids....
- Extra WWTP sampling and coordination with formation of new SPDES permit in FY25
- Unanticipated rise in operating supplies and interest rates on borrowing due to inflation.

Anticipated Revenues of \$9,152,000 with 3% rate increase

Fund Balance	4,094,340
Projected Use of Fund Balance	-
Ending Fund Balance	<u>4,094,340</u>

2023 Sewer Revenue Analysis



Context:

- CSO Construction (2025-2029)
- Biosolids Financing
 - \$84 Million Cost
 - **WIAA** - \$9,000,000
 - **Inflation Reduction Act Grant** - \$3,000,000* (Still Evaluating)
 - **Grant** - \$13,950,500
 - **EFC 0%** - \$38,950,500
 - Remainder financed
- CSO Financing
 - \$22.4 Million Cost
 - **Grant** - \$11.2 Million
 - **EFC 0%** - \$11.2 Million

Rate Assumptions:

- **Single** Rate increase for FY 2024
 - Results in \$3-10/quarter increase to residents.
- **0%** Rate increase for FY 2025-2029

Fee Schedule Adjustment

SEWAGE TREATMENT FEES						
FEE TYPES				FEE AMOUNT		PROPOSED FEE +3%
Holding Tank Sludge				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
Marina Holding Tank Sludge				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
Portable Toilet Water				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
Septage				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
Sewage Treatment Sludge				\$120.00 /1000 gal.		\$124/1000 gal
Water Treatment Plant Residuals				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
Wash Water				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
Grease Trap				\$200.00 /1000 gal.		
Other Misc. Non-Industrial Waste				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
Digester Sludge				\$120.00 /1000 gal.		\$124/1000 gal
Landfill Leachate				\$67.00 /1000 gal.		\$69/1000 gal
SIU Permit Initial Fee (3 yrs.)				\$1,000.00	1st yr.	
SIU Permit Renewal Fee				\$250.00	renewal	
SIU Permit Initial Fee (3 yrs.) (Outside City)				\$1,250.00	1st yr.	
SIU Permit Renewal Fee (Outside City)				\$500.00	renewal	
\$/# of TSS Over Limit				\$0.60		
\$/# of BOD Over Limit				\$0.47		
\$/# of P Over Limit				\$1.27		
\$/# of O&G Over Limit				\$1.27		
\$/# of TKN Over Limit				\$0.47		
pH Exceedance Administrative Penalty				\$50.00		

- Hauled Waste Revenue = ~\$1,200,000/year
- Industrial Surcharges & Permit Renewal ~\$475,000/yr

Fee Schedule Adjustment

Plumbing Permits:		
1. New Construction		
1A.	Single-Family residences	Application fee of \$50 plus \$5 per fixture
1B. Multiple residences		
1B-1.	Two to 10 units	Application fee of \$100 plus \$5 per fixture
1B-2.	Eleven to 20 units	Application fee of \$250 plus \$5 per fixture
1B-3.	Twenty-one units or more	Application fee of \$500 plus \$5 per fixture
1C. Commercial Plumbing work		
1C-1.	Under \$25,000	Application fee of \$100 plus \$10 per fixture
1C-2.	Between \$25,000 and \$100,000	Application fee of \$250 plus \$10 per fixture
1C-3.	Between \$100,000 and \$500,000	Application fee of \$500 plus \$10 per fixture
1C-4.	Over \$500,000	Application fee of \$750 plus \$10 per fixture
2. Renovations and additions		
2A.	Single-family residences	Application fee of \$25 plus \$5 per fixture
2B.	Multiple residences	Application fee of \$100 plus \$5 per fixture
2C.	Commercial or other plumbing work	Application fee of \$100 plus \$10 per fixture
3. Other Work		
3A.	New Sanitary Sewer	\$100.00
3B.	Repair/Replace Sanitary Sewer	\$75.00
3C.	Storm connection to City	\$150.00
3D.	New Storm Sewer	\$150.00
3E.	Repair/Replace Storm Sewer	\$150.00
3F.	New Water Service	\$100.00
3G.	Repair. Replace Water Service	\$75.00
3H.	Backflow Prevention Assembly	\$50.00
3I.	Extra Inspection Trip	\$50.00
3J.	Manhole or Sewer Tap	\$200.00
3K.	Grease Trap Inspection Fee	\$50.00
3L.	Grease Trap Fine for No Log (In Code)	\$25.00
3M.	Water Heater	\$30.00

No increase, only specifying permit is required.

Fee Schedule Adjustment

WATER AND SEWER SERVICE CHARGES			
FEE TYPE	FEE AMOUNT	CITY CODE REFERENCE	
Water/Sewer Lateral Revolving Loan- Admin Fees	\$50.00		
Retail Charges for Water:		City Charter Section 120 and City Code Chapter 297	
Water-Inside City Quarterly (6 unit minimum)	\$3.35 per 100 cubic ft.	Council Reso #38 of 2022	
Water-Inside City Monthly (6 unit minimum)	\$3.35 per 100 cubic ft.	Council Reso #38 of 2022	
Water-Outside City (6 unit minimum)	\$5.86 per 100 cubic ft.	1.75 x Retail Rate	
Water Service Fee:			
Meter Size			
5/8"	\$12.10 per quarter		
3/4"	\$13.24 per quarter		
1"	\$16.66 per quarter		
1.5"	\$21.23 per quarter		
2"	\$33.78 per quarter		
3"	\$126.20 per quarter		
4"	\$160.43 per quarter		
6"	\$240.30 per quarter		
8" +	\$331.58 per quarter		
Retail Charges For Sewer		City Code Chapter 242	
Sewer-Inside City (6 unit minimum)	\$4.78 per 100 cubic ft.	\$4.92 per 100 cubic ft.	
Sewer-Outside City (6 unit minimum)	\$11.95 per 100 cubic ft.		
Service Fees:			
Meter Size			
5/8"	\$12.10 per quarter		
3/4"	\$13.24 per quarter		

Customer Class	Usage (CCF)	Quarterly Increase
Residential Minimum	7	\$0.98
Residential Average	15	\$2.10
Commercial/ Carwash	1000	\$140
Industrial/ Hospital	3600	\$504
Industrial/ Large	6600	\$924

Rate Adjustment = ~\$180,000 in revenue

Power Utility Operations

Mill Street Hydro



1,555 MWh to date FY 24

North Division Street Hydro



1,910 MWh to date FY24

.5
FTE

Power Utility Fund Operating Budget

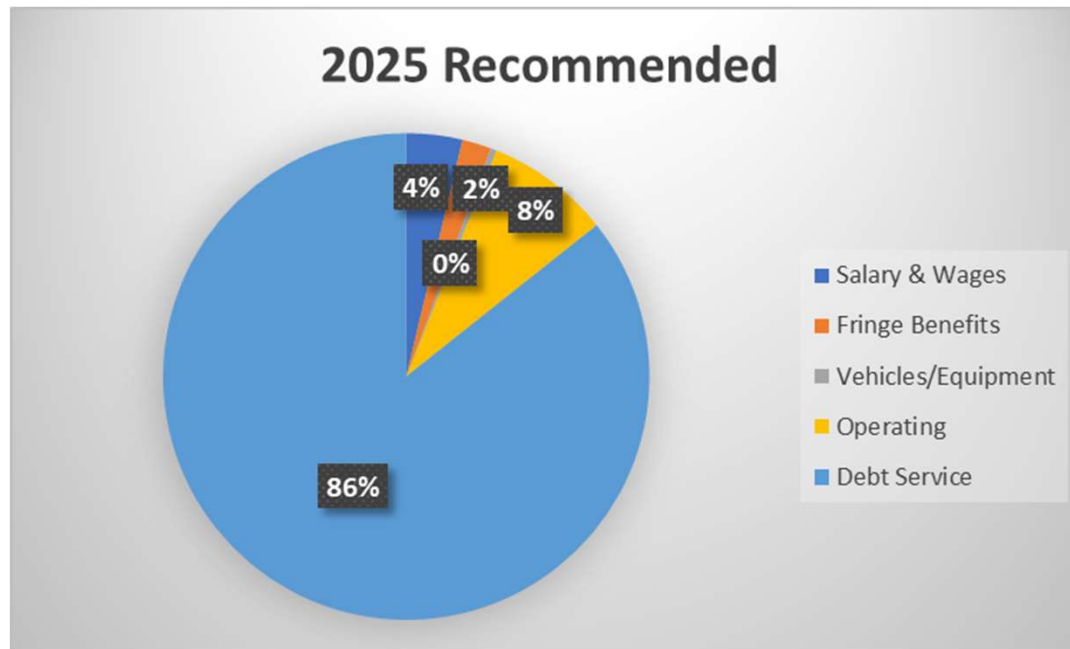
	FY24	Proposed FY25	Percent Change
Hydroelectric Facilities			
Operating Budget	\$149,811	\$149,090	-0.5%
FTEs	.5	.5	
LFGE Facility			
Operating Budget	\$5,000	\$5,000	0%
FTEs	0	0	



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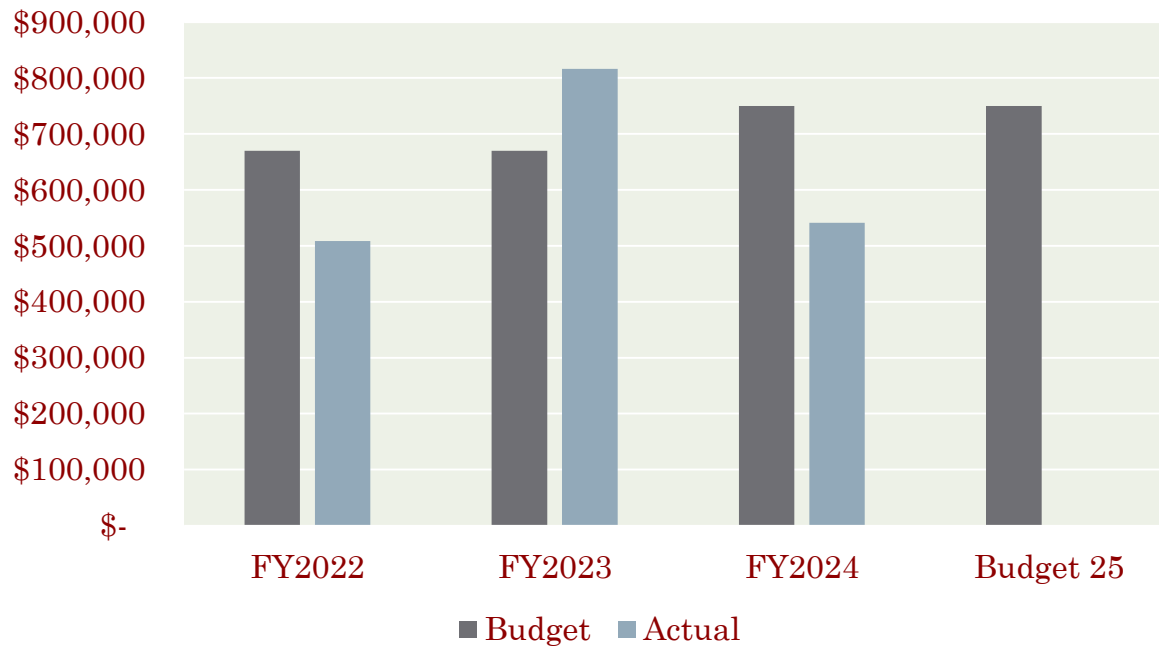
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Power Utility - Overall Budget



* 27% or \$290,000 of debt service is Cogen*

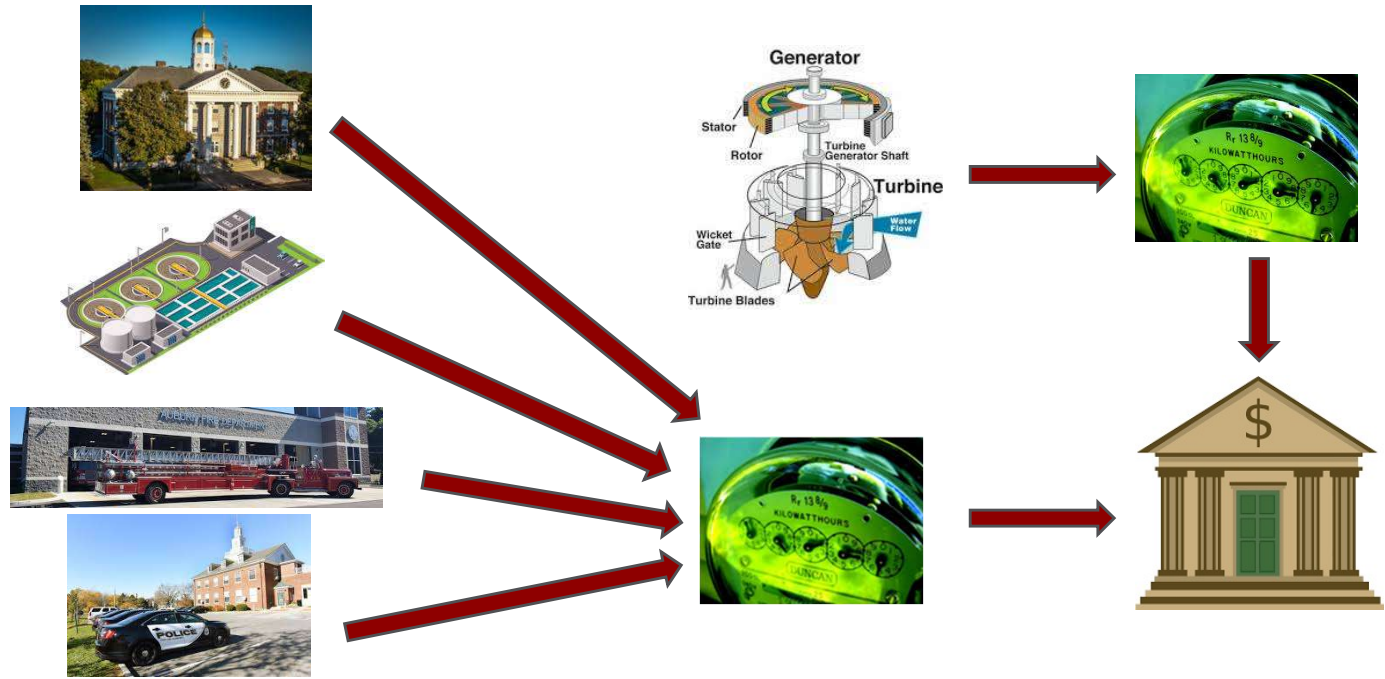
Hydro Power Revenue Projection



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Hydro Power & Remote Net Metering



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2023-24 Highlight Goals

- Complete every special project identified in operating budget at or below budget for the fiscal year. ✓
- Develop a team to begin centralizing and understanding flood prone areas within the City ✓✗
- Be prepared for Harmful Algal Bloom Season and maintain 100% removal of Microcystin ✓
- Complete the procurement and installation of a Chlorine Dioxide Zebra Mussel Control System to reduce DBP formation in the water distribution system. ✓
- Complete Construction upgrades to the Slow Sand Plant and shift focus to the Rapid Sand Plant. ✓
- Work with NYSDEC to complete the Sewer Asset Inventory Project (100% Grant Funded) ✗
- Begin Construction of the Biosolids and WWTP Improvements Project ✓
- Update the Biosolids and WWTP Improvements Engineering Report to include the ORF Upgrades and reapply for NYSEFC BIL (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) Grant Funding. ✓
- Complete Sewer Manhole GIS Asset Inventory Project and Maintain Utility GIS Map ✓
- Obtain 100% Design for the CSO Upgrades Project and work to bid out project. ✓✗
- Look for Grant funding to complete a comprehensive Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Study ✗
- Continue to apply for funding opportunities and work with partners for Watershed Improvement Projects –WSR&R, Implement the 9E Plan, and Finalize the City DWSP2 (Drinking Water Source Protection Plan ✓
- Install new water main on Rochester Street, Briggs Drive, Old International Harvester, Brister Ave, and Pulsifer Drive ✓
- Continue to implement a hydrant painting program and develop a Catch basin Cleaning BMP System. ✗
- Slipline 4000 LF of sewer main to include Chase Street Sewer Main to York Street. ✓
- Support Staff in obtaining 4A Operator Certification and reduce dependency on 3rd party WWTP operators ✓

2024-25 Highlight Goals

- Be prepared for Harmful Algal Bloom Season and maintain 100% removal of Microcystin
- Safely operate new Chlorine Dioxide Zebra Mussel Control System and reduce DBP formation in the water distribution system.
- Complete Construction upgrades to the Rapid Sand Plant including new filter media and roof.
- Work with NYSDEC to complete the Sewer Asset Inventory Project (100% Grant Funded)
- Continue Construction of the Biosolids and WWTP Improvements Project.
- Complete 100% Design of WWTP ORF and add work scope to Biosolids Project.
- Apply for and obtain additional funding to support construction of the CSO Upgrades project.
- Apply for and obtain funding to Study an Intake Extension and Raw Water Transmission Main Replacement Project.
- Obtain grant contract and begin to develop a GIS based Lead Service Line Inventory of all water services.
- Obtain grant contract and complete the Owasco Lake Subwatershed Stream Assessment of Sucker and Veness Brook.
- Continue to apply for funding opportunities and work with partners for Watershed Improvement Projects – WSR&R, Implement the 9E Plan, and Finalize the City DWSP2 (Drinking Water Source Protection Plan
- Install new water main on Pulsifer Drive
- Continue to implement a hydrant painting program and develop a Catch basin Cleaning BMP System.
- Install a new gravity sewer main at Canoga Street Bridge and abandon failing sewer pump station.
- Support Staff in obtaining 4A Operator Certification and reduce dependency on 3rd party WWTP operators.
- Develop a Standardized Wholesale Water Agreement and improve coordination with municipal water partners.