



**City of Olathe City Council  
Police Department - 501 E Highway 56  
Tuesday | July 8, 2025 | 5:30 PM  
Budget Workshop #1**

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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Present:** Bacon, Vogt, Gilmore, Schoonover, Felter, Vakas, and Essex

Others in attendance were City Manager, Michael Wilkes, Deputy City Manager, Susan Sherman, City Attorney, Ron Shaver and various other City of Olathe staff.

## **2. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A.** General Overview of the Proposed 2026 General Fund, Library Fund, and Debt Service Fund Budgets, and 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Vertical and Transportation projects.

Mayor Bacon called the meeting to order. City Manager, Michael Wilkes, opened the discussion by thanking staff for all the work they have done to prepare the 2026 budget and provided an overview of the agenda for the budget process. He shared items that are taken into consideration as they are preparing the budget. Mr. Wilkes highlighted the list of Council Priorities. He then shared the list of budget principles that the Council had indicated were important to them.

Jamie Robichaud, Director of Economy, started her presentation by sharing some economic indicators to set the foundation for the budget discussion. She then discussed revenue and expenditure trends. She also provided a summary of the challenges the City is facing in the coming years and the proposed solutions for the 2026 budget. She shared that one of the strategies proposed is to shift the debt service mills to the general fund.

Next, Ms. Robichaud provided the proposed 2026 budget overview and highlights. She shared how the budget supports the Future

Ready, 2040 goals. She highlighted specific items for each department and included information about some of the major CIP projects. She shared an update on the Property Tax Rebate Program and how it impacts the community.

Ms. Robichaud provided the Council with the General Fund total proposed budget. Then she shared the revenues and expenditures to reflect the changes that are being proposed for 2026 and talked about the trends they are seeing. She also provided information about the long-range forecast for the general fund.

Next, Ms. Robichaud gave an overview of the proposed 2026 budget for the debt service fund and also provided a 10-year forecast for the fund.

Clara Berneaur, Interim Budget Manager, presented the proposed 2026 Capital Improvement Plan and shared information about the proposed changes to the CIP. She provided a list of transportation projects, vertical projects, and annual projects.

Kathryn Messer, Financial Strategy Manager, provided an overview of the proposed 2026 library fund. She gave information about the revenues and expenditures, highlighted budget additions proposed for 2026 and shared the 5-year library fund forecast.

Ms. Messer outlined the next steps in the 2026 budget process and provided the Council with specific dates to be aware of. She said citizens could access budget documents on the City of Olathe website at <https://www.olatheks.gov/government/budget>.

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### 3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consideration of motion to recess into an executive session to discuss the following items:

- A. Personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to the exception provided in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) regarding the City Manager.

Motion by Vogt, seconded by Gilmore to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel pursuant to the exception provided in K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) regarding the City Manager for 30 minutes with the open meeting reconvening in the Community Room at 8:02 PM.

**Yes:** Bacon, Vogt, Gilmore, Schoonover, Felter, Vakas, and Essex

The council reconvened at 8:02 PM and Mayor Bacon said they needed additional time in executive session.

Motion by Vogt, seconded by Gilmore to recess back into executive session for an additional 20 minutes, with the open meeting reconvening in the Community Room at 8:22 P.M.

**Yes:** Bacon, Vogt, Gilmore, and Schoonover

**Absent:** Felter, Vakas, and Essex

#### **4. RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Vogt, seconded by Gilmore for staff to proceed with the strategies discussed by the governing body.

**Yes:** Bacon, Vogt, Gilmore, Schoonover, Felter, Vakas, and Essex

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 P.M.

Brenda D. Swearingian  
City Clerk