CITY OF PORT WENTWORTH

CITY COUNCIL

JUNE 25, 2026

Council Meeting Room	**Regular Session**	**7:00 PM**

7224 GA HIGHWAY 21
PORT WENTWORTH, GA 31407

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
2. **PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL - CLERK OF COUNCIL**
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
5. **RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS and ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS**
6. **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS**
7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS - REGISTERED SPEAKERS**
8. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
9. **CONSENT AGENDA**
10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

    A. Adoption of FY 27 Budget- 3rd Reading
    - Public Hearing and Action

11. **NEW BUSINESS**
12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

    A. Litigation
    B. Personnel
    C. Real Estate

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

10.A

City Council
7224 GA Highway 21
Port Wentworth, GA 31407

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 06/25/26
Department: Administration
Category: Ordinance
Prepared By: Zahnay Smoak
Department Head:

AGENDA ITEM (ID)

DOC ID:

- **Adoption of FY 27 Budget- 3rd Reading**
  Public Hearing and Action

Issue/Item: Annual Adoption of Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027

Background: The annual budget is the City's primary financial planning and policy document. It provides a framework for allocating resources, delivering municipal services, and implementing the goals and priorities established by the Mayor and City Council. The budget ensures that public funds are managed responsibly and in accordance with state law, local ordinances, and sound financial practices.
Specifically, the annual budget:
• Serves as a financial plan for the upcoming fiscal year by estimating revenues and appropriating expenditures.
• Ensures compliance with Georgia's local government budgeting requirements and the City's charter and ordinances.
• Provides transparency and accountability to residents regarding how public funds will be collected and spent.
• Establishes spending authority for City departments and programs.
• Supports the delivery of essential services, including public safety, public works, parks and recreation, community development, and administrative functions.
• Aligns financial resources with the City's strategic goals, capital improvement plans, and community priorities.
• Maintains the City's financial stability by balancing anticipated revenues with planned expenditures.
• Provides a tool for monitoring financial performance throughout the fiscal year and making adjustments when necessary.

Facts and Finding: The budget is $80.9 million. This includes $47.4 million General Fund, $13.6 million in SPLOST Fund, $17.5 million in Enterprise Fund and $2.4 million in Hotel/Motel Tax Fund. This reflects the city's continued rapid growth and major capital investments.

• Public safety dominates the workforce. The city budgets for 185 positions, including 63 police employees and 50 fire department employees. Together, police and fire account for roughly 61% of all city positions. This plan adds 4 police and 1 fire full time positions and 2 public works part time positions. New public safety vehicles and construction is planned, totaling $1.9 million.

• Provides for a 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment for employees.

• Anchor Park remains the city's biggest capital project. The budget includes $10.46 million in General Funds and $1.9 of SPLOST Funds for Anchor Park construction

• The Capital budget is $36.3 million and includes 77 detailed projects supporting new infrastructure, equipment and debt service for all departments.

• Capital projects include: $1.7 million Federal Grant in the General Fund for downtown stormwater project, SPLOST funds totaling $1.5 million for downtown sewer rehabilitation and $1 million to plan for the upgrade of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and $2.8 for the sewer infrastructure upgrade on State Highway 21.

Funding: N/A

Recommendation: