



## **City of Toccoa, Georgia FY21 Operating Budget Summary**

The Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget for the period beginning July 1, 2020, is attached for review by the Toccoa City Commission. The following is a summary of the FY21 Budget highlighting items of interest.

The Overall Budget for the City of Toccoa is proposed at \$32,536,213; a decrease of \$1,988,783 over the FY20 Budget; a 5.8% decrease. This decrease is due to less SPLOST activity planned in the FY2021 budget year.

### **Overall Comments**

- The Department Heads have presented realistic FY21 departmental budgets that reflect the goals established by the Toccoa City Commission.
- The Budget provides funds to continue replacing our aging fleet of vehicles and equipment.
- No property tax millage rate increase is proposed.
- We will continue to utilize our Reserve Accounts.
- The Budget includes an incremental salary increase of \$1,500 annual for all departments.
- The overall staffing of the City includes 176 full-time employees and 7.5 part-time employees; a breakdown by department is attached.
- Attached is a list of vehicles and equipment proposed for purchase in FY21 showing the amounts and funding source. A list of items requested but that remain unfunded is also attached for your review.
- Health Insurance funds are included in every department should rate increases occur in FY21.



## **General Fund**

- The General Fund budget is \$10,660,142.

Operational Highlights for the General Fund:

### Revenues:

- General Fund Revenues continue to be strong and stable with the following notable adjustments:
- Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) collections are increased by \$82,584 based on FY20 receipts.
- Insurance Premiums Tax is increased by \$52,808 based upon FY20 receipts.
- Recorder's Court Fees has been decreased by \$36,150 to reflect FY20 collections.
- Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) Lease Pool revenues of \$906,622 are included to assist with vehicle and equipment purchases; the most significant being the purchase of a new fire truck.
- Transfers from the City's Reserve Account (CRA) have been decreased to \$25,000 to fund Main St and Currahee St Facade Grants as approved. The General Fund is matching grant funds in FY21.
- Water Fund transfers will be \$2,485,609.
- Gas Fund transfers will be \$1,531,687.
- Solid Waste transfers will be \$96,701.

### Expenses:

- Finance Budget increased by \$22,395 for the purchase of new computers.
- Public Lands & Buildings decreased by \$16,933 for the payoff of lease pool van and equipment.
- Code Enforcement is increased by \$15,184 for contract labor related expenses regarding legal matters.
- The Police Budget is increased by \$39,300 to replace aging equipment and the purchase of three patrol cars.
- The Fire Budget is increased by \$159,530 to repair and/or replace aging equipment and purchase new gear.
- The Streets Budget has been increased by \$41,693 for the purchase of a new truck.



- The Right of Way crew for Public Works was reduced by \$116,497 for FY21 to make funds available for some needed equipment. The positions are still in the Personnel Allocations.
- The FY21 Budget continues the Community Support for several community organizations at the same level as FY20.
- Local Government Support budget increases \$4,360 for Toccoa Stephens Airport Authority projects.
- The Currahee Street Beautification budget is increased by \$11,500 to fund the Grant Program Facades.
- The Main Street Budget increases \$34,668 to fund additional banners, Education & Training, and Signage
- The Capital Outlay budget includes \$750,000 for the purchase of a new fire truck and the first installment toward the lease pool payment.

### **Special Revenue Funds**

#### **Grant Fund**

The Grant Fund budget is \$320,170 in anticipation of funding from a variety of sources for:

- Purchase safety equipment.
- Continued Wellness Programs.
- Park improvements at Lake Toccoa.
- Community Development Projects.

#### **SPLOST Funds**

SPLOST Funds of \$913,000 are budgeted for a variety of Capital improvement projects for:

- Wastewater System improvements
- Water System improvements



## Hotel-Motel Fund

The Hotel-Motel Fund revenues are increased to \$107,875 based on FY20 receipts. The Chamber of Commerce support comes from this Fund and is proposed at the same level as FY20.

## Water Fund

The Water Fund budget is \$7,174,986; an increase of \$79,240 over the FY20 Budget.

Operational Highlights for the Water Fund:

- The Water Fund will transfer \$2,485,609 to the General Fund and \$106,287 to the renewal and extension funds for Water and Sewer.
- Water sales are projected at \$5,267,551 and Sewer sales at \$1,556,335 for a combined total of \$6,823,886.
- Water and Sewer Revenue Bond Debt for FY20 is \$653,798 with final payment scheduled for April 1, 2021.

## Natural Gas Fund

The Natural Gas Fund budget is \$11,232,162; a decrease of \$133,351 over the FY20 Budget.

The operating margin is estimated to be \$6,104,640. This margin is determined by taking the difference of gas sales revenues (\$10,554,826) and subtracting the cost of purchasing gas (\$4,450,186).

Operational Highlights for the Gas Department:

- The Natural Gas Fund will transfer \$1,531,687 to the General Fund and \$49,455 to the Natural Gas Renewal and Extension Fund.
- Debt Service in the Gas Department for FY21 is \$1,999,619; with final payment due on June 1, 2024.
- Capital Projects include:
  - Bare Steel Line Replacement: \$180,000
  - CNG Equipment: \$10,000



- Meter Replacement: \$240,000
- Equipment replacement of \$187,000 using lease pool and reserves
- The Natural Gas Fund includes \$32,500 for Education & Training requirements.

### **Solid Waste Fund**

The Solid Waste Fund has a budget of \$1,152,564 for FY21; a decrease of \$2,058 over FY20.

Operational Highlights for the Solid Waste Fund:

- Revenues for Commercial are \$332,176; Residential are \$782,988 and Recycling revenues are \$11,800.
- Disposal fees are budgeted at \$298,000 for Residential, \$212,000 for Commercial and \$42,900 for yard waste (brush).
- Solid Waste is transferring \$96,701 to the General Fund and transferring \$31,100 to the Solid Waste Renewal and Extension.

### **Lake Toccoa Facilities Fund**

The Lake Toccoa Facilities Fund Budget is proposed at \$567,073.

Operational Highlights for the Lake Toccoa Facilities Fund include:

Revenues:

- Green Fees of \$48,741
- Cart Rental Fees of \$59,204
- Pro Shop Sales of \$18,900
- Membership Sales of \$22,000
- Tournament Revenues of \$9,000
- Grill Revenues of \$224,424
- Event Center Revenues of \$89,100
- Sod Sales of \$10,800
- Course Sponsorship of \$5,000
- General Fund Transfers-In of \$68,504; the same as FY20 Budget.



- Expenses:
- Pro Shop Expenses of \$105,385
- Maintenance Expenses of \$105,489
- Event Center Expenses of \$56,522
- Ping's Grill Expenses of \$299,677

### **Closing Remarks**

The City of Toccoa's FY21 Operating Budget points out the following:

- The City is able to meet all of its financial and debt obligations.
- The City continues to make infrastructure and facility improvements in our community, and replace aging equipment and vehicles.
- The City continues to maintain a high level of services for our citizens and customers.

We look forward to reviewing the FY21 Budget with the Toccoa City Commission.  
Thank you for your time and assistance.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Morse".

William A. Morse  
Toccoa City Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Becky Bohannon".

Becky Bohannon  
Finance Director