



## City of Conover Budget for 2018-2019

The largest expense in a typical household is the purchase and upkeep of your home. Most have a mortgage on the home purchase while repairs or improvements are saved for and paid as needed rather than borrowing money. It is the same for your Conover government.

Historically the City of Conover reserves cash funds, in some cases, for many years to purchase essential equipment like fire trucks, police cars, tractors, snow plows, and sanitation trucks; all without borrowing and paying unnecessary interest. Conover continues to see revenues once generated from retail sales, manufacturing, and licensing fees used for these major purchases eliminated by our NC General Assembly. The NC General Assembly has cut revenues to Conover over \$600,000 annually. Additionally, Duke Energy is proposing an average electrical rate increase of 10.5%. This alone accounts for more than \$100,000 in increased expenses.

Conover began the replacement of Fire Station #2. The original structure is more than 60 years old and was not designed for 24 hour emergency staffing. Catawba County has partnered with the City to build a new station and EMS base to maintain fire protection and improve EMS response times. To provide the same level of service expected by our citizens, your City Council and Manager have adopted a tax increase of .03¢ for the 2018-2019 budget. These funds will go directly toward increased electrical costs and to pay the debt service on the replacement of Fire Station #2.

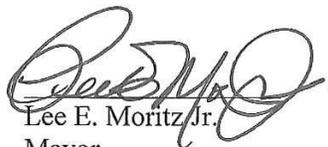
Powell Bill funds generated from the motor fuel tax continue to decline, while the cost of paving and maintenance of streets continues to rise. City Council has made street maintenance and paving one of its highest priorities. In order to pave and maintain city streets to an acceptable standard the City implemented a \$30 Municipal Motor Vehicle Tax for the specific purposes of street maintenance and public transportation.

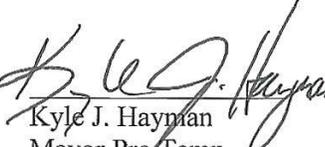
Council and staff feel it is a disservice to our citizens to borrow money for equipment or streets that could reach end of service life by the time the debt is repaid. Many cities take this approach and find themselves in financial trouble several years later. We will continue a “pay as you go” philosophy and believe it’s a waste of taxpayer resources to spend dollars on interest and finance charges.

The question asked the most is how this will affect my tax contribution. If your home is valued at \$200,000, you will see a \$60 annual increase or \$5 a month. This puts Conover at a 0.50¢ per hundred dollar tax rate, and still the third lowest in our county. Water/sewer rates will increase 3% and a fixed monthly charge of \$5 will be added to upgrade and rehabilitate the Northeast Wastewater Treatment Plant. The facility is 50 years old and must undergo incremental rehabilitation over the next 12 years. The net impact to the utility bill will be \$6.50 per month for the average customer of 5000 gallons consumed.

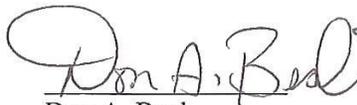
Copies of the budget are available online at [www.conovernc.gov/budget](http://www.conovernc.gov/budget)

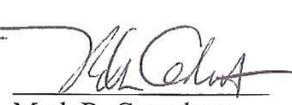
If you have any questions please feel free to contact the City Manager, staff, or Council.

  
 Lee E. Moritz, Jr.  
 Mayor

  
 Kyle J. Hayman  
 Mayor Pro Temp

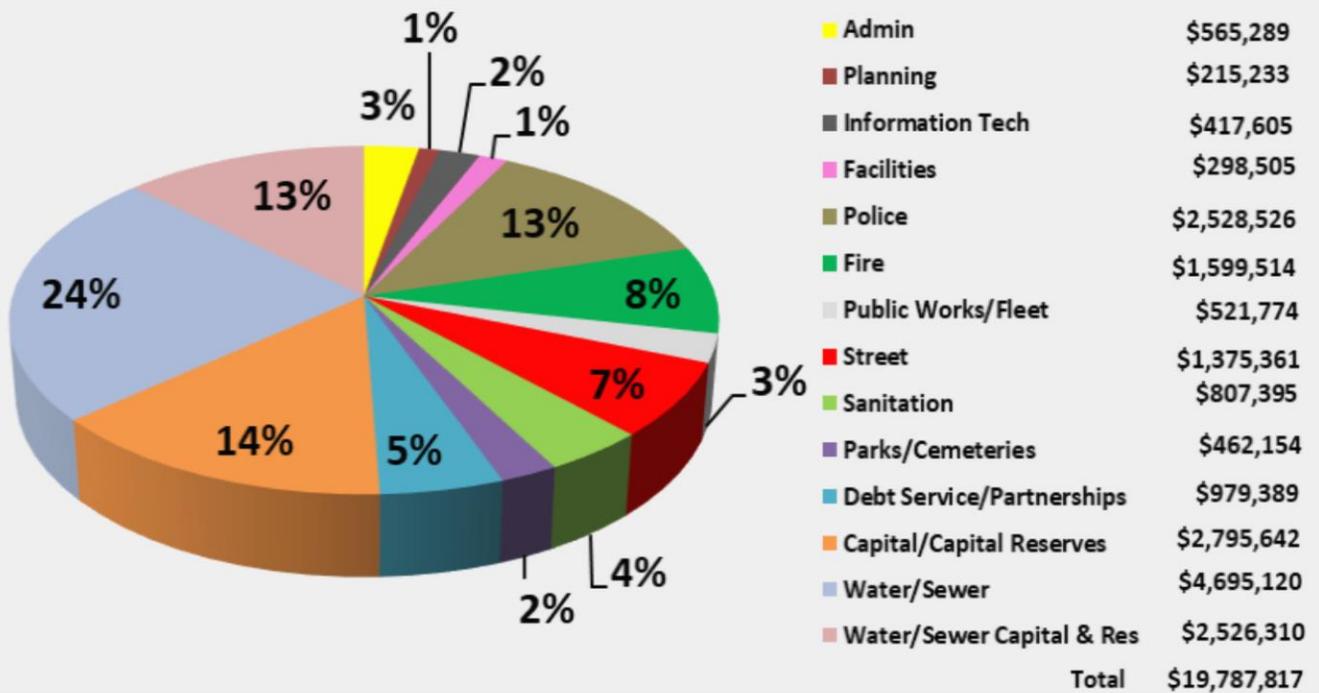
  
 Bruce R. Eckard  
 Councilman

  
 Don A. Beal  
 Councilman

  
 Mark R. Canrobert  
 Councilman

  
 Joie D. Fulbright  
 Councilman

## 2018-2019 CONOVER BUDGET HOW YOUR MONEY IS SPENT



# CITY OF CONOVER

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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P.O. BOX 549  
CONOVER, NC 28613-0549

Phone 828-464-4808

June 18, 2018

Dear Customer,

Your 2017 Annual Water Quality Report is Now Available online.

Each year, the City of Conover provides its customers with an Annual Water Quality Report to let them know how our water quality stacks up against established federal and state drinking water standards. We encourage you to review this report as it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to the community in 2017.

In an effort to be more environmentally responsible we are no longer printing this report, but have made it available online. Visit us online to view your water quality report at:

<http://bit.ly/COC-2017-WaterReport>

If you wish to have a paper copy you can print one directly from the website, or you can contact 828-464-4808 and request a copy.

Regards,

Brian Bradshaw  
City of Conover  
Water Department