



## City Administrator's Report

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October 1, 2026

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### **Building Code Review**

The City is in the process of finalizing the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating for building code enforcement. This rating is used by insurance companies to rate the cost of insurance repairs - the better the number the lower the insurance. Based upon the most recent correspondence from the auditor from ISO (Insurance Services Office - the group that helps set insurance rates) the City has until March 22, 2027, to complete the adoption of the 2024 ICC building codes (we currently use the 2018 codes) or the City's BCEGS rating will drop significantly, which will likely cause new homes built in town to have more expensive insurance premiums.

Staff have been internally reviewing those codes and will be providing the state-required notice (90 days) before any code can be adopted. (Notice will be published on October 14th). It is anticipated that the new codes will be presented to the Planning Commission at its February 9, 2027 meeting, and ready for Board Review and consideration at its February 16 and March 2, 2027 meetings.

### **2027 Budget – Amendment 1**

The agenda includes approval of the FY2027 Budget. As noted, included in the document are a number of rollover amounts that have not been fully expended in the FY2026 Budget. In the time since the last discussion of the budget with the Board, additional rollover expenses have been identified but not incorporated into the budget as presented. These expenditures will be included in the first budget amendment of the FY2027 Budget year, anticipated to come forward in November.

In addition to these rollover expenses, three additional expenditures/increases to previously anticipated funding levels have been identified and will be included in the first budget amendment.

As the agenda for the work session indicates, staff recommend an increase to the amount provided to the Smithville Chamber of Commerce as part of the Memorandum of Understanding to provide for rental of space in their building to house the City's IT/GIS function.

Since budget development, staff have identified the potential of purchasing a body-worn camera for the code enforcement officer and plan to bring this forward as a budget amendment item.

The final item is additional funding for the annual Influent Pump Station Cleaning. The project was originally budgeted at \$40,000 in both FY2026 and FY2027; however, the current projected cost is \$69,000.

### **Community Conversations: Your City, Up Close**

As previously discussed, staff is developing a series of community informational sessions in response to citizen survey feedback expressing a desire for additional communication and engagement opportunities. The City will host a series of Community Conversations: Your City, Up Close sessions designed to give residents a behind-the-scenes look at City operations and facilities.

The first session, scheduled for Saturday, October 17 from 9 a.m. to noon, will feature a tour of the City's water and wastewater facilities. Participants will learn how these systems work, how they are funded, and have opportunities to ask questions along the way.

Transportation will be provided for the tours. Advance registration is required, and participation is limited on a first-come, first-served basis.

Interested citizens can learn more and register at: [smithvillemo.org/cityupclose](https://smithvillemo.org/cityupclose)

### **Strategic Plan Update Progress**

Staff continues work with the consulting team in developing a draft of the strategic plan to be presented at the November 3 work session. An online survey for community feedback will be available November 9 through 30. In person community review sessions are scheduled for the following dates:

|                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| November 6: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.    | Mid-Continent Public Library   |
| November 10: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. | City Hall – Board Meeting Room |

The final plan will be presented at the December 15 Board of Aldermen meeting. Adoption of a new plan is anticipated by the end of the year.

### **State Petition Audit**

We have been notified that the field work portion of the audit was officially completed Friday, May 8. Auditors are now in the review process and will still be contacting staff for follow-up and clarification on information. Staff continue to provide information as requested. It is anticipated that work on the audit will continue throughout the fiscal year.