



Citizen's Budget Guide

Fiscal Year 2026
(July 2025-June 2026)

Where your Property Tax Dollars Go

2025 Total Tax Rate: \$34.37



For a property valued at \$5,250
\$300,000, the property tax is distributed as follows:
\$4,083 Schools
\$978 City
County

The City collects property taxes for the schools and the County; however, their budgets are reviewed and approved by their School Board and Commissioners independently.

Contact Us

email: budget@KeeneNH.gov

call: (603) 357-9804

Public Meetings Calendar

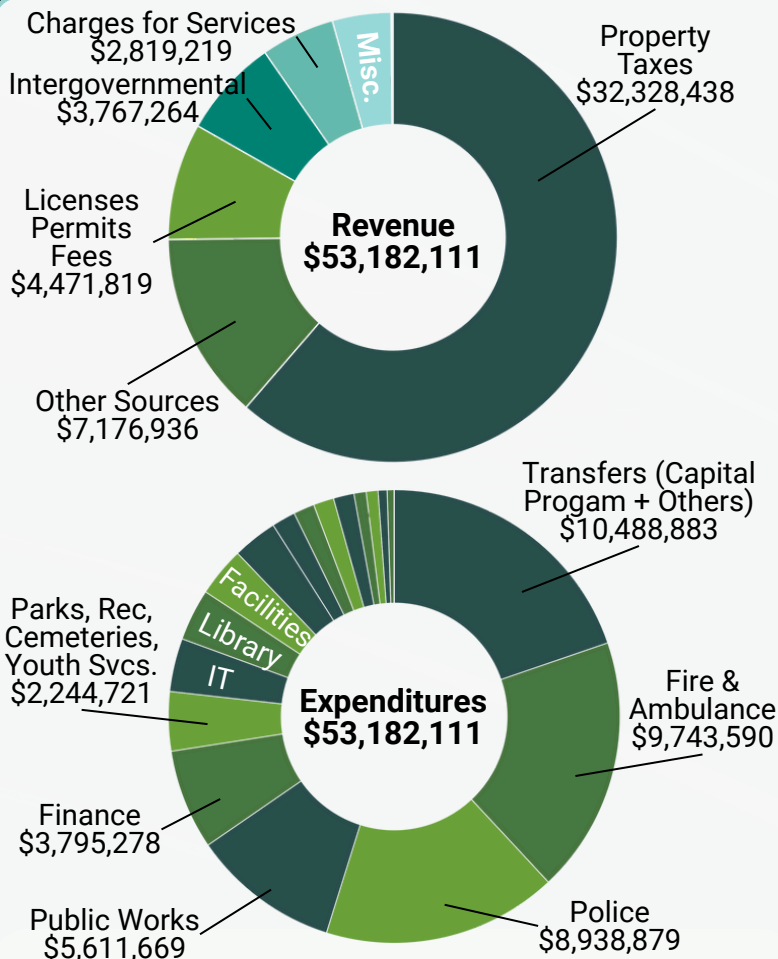
online: KeeneNH.gov/calendar

Budget Documents

online: KeeneNH.gov/budget



General Fund Revenue & Expenditure Budgets



\$32,328,438 of the City's Operating Budget for fiscal year 2026 (July 2025 through June 2026) will be raised through property taxes, and this amount will be used by the NH Department of Revenue Administration to set the property tax rate.

The General Fund is the main operating fund for the City. It encompasses resources necessary for day-to-day operations. Services, activities, and programs vital and desirable to the community are found in the General Fund, such as Police, Fire, road maintenance, library, and recreation.

Beyond the General Fund, the City has other specialized funds that are limited to the purpose for which they were created and consist of dedicated resources. These specialized funds consist of grants; revenues from services such as water, wastewater, recycling & disposal, and parking; and funds dedicated for a particular purpose such as equipment maintenance and replacement.

The City Council reviews its Fiscal Policy annually. The policy sets boundaries for the Capital Improvement Program and the Operating Budget and provides direction that incorporates City Council goals and objectives.

- **Budgetary strategy:** Fiscal Policy guides staff in the preparation of budget recommendations to advance the goals of the Comprehensive Master Plan and Council priorities.
- **Property Taxes:** Fiscal Policy establishes the limit within which property taxes revenues may increase. It uses a rolling 3-year average of the Northeast Region - New England CPI net of expenditures required by law and excluding debt service payments and capital leases.
- **Debt:** Fiscal Policy guides debt service limitations and caps debt service at a 5-year average of 12% or less of the General Fund Operating Budget.
- **Unassigned Fund Balance:** Fiscal Policy restricts unassigned fund balance to between 7% and 17% of the sum of the total General Fund Operating Budget plus the tax commitment for the school and county. The fund balance is a key indicator of the City's ability to withstand and respond to fiscal challenges and opportunities.