

Fund:

GENERAL

Department:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Division:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Division No.: **40000**

MISSION:

The mission of the Mayor and City Council is to serve as the legislative and policy body of the City Government. The Mayor serves as the official head of the government.

SERVICES:

The Mayor and City Council Members are elected at-large for staggered four-year terms on a biennial basis. Regular meetings of the City Council are normally held twice a month on Tuesdays.

SIGNIFICANT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

GOAL:

A. Provide policy direction for the City of Carbondale that addresses both short-term and long-range needs of the community and the municipal government.

Objective:

1. Provide leadership and direction in long-range planning issues for the City

Strategies:

- a. Identify issues that the City should be addressing to help position the community for future growth, to enhance vitality and to ensure fiscal soundness
- b. Formulate policies that anticipate community changes and that encourage appropriate growth and development opportunities while considering fiscal restraints and subsequent impacts on the City, its citizens and staffing resources
- c. Maintain a vision statement for the City Council that outlines key policy objectives to work to achieve

Objective:

2. Solicit advice from professional staff, advisory boards and commissions and others in formulating policy

Strategies:

- a. Require the City Manager and staff to provide well-developed recommendations and alternatives for initiatives and issues being presented to the Council

- b. Actively solicit input from boards and commissions on issues before the City Council
- c. Encourage boards and commissions to submit proposals to the City Council when Council policy or direction is needed
- d. Require the City Manager to provide periodic updates to the City Council regarding progress that has been made toward achieving key policy goals.

Objective:

3. Be involved in regional, state and national organizations and activities that can benefit the City

Strategies:

- a. Continue active participation in local and regional groups including the Southern Illinois Mayor's Association, the Illinois Municipal League and the National League of Cities to share information and to work cooperatively toward solutions to problems facing cities similar to Carbondale
- b. Take leadership roles in organizations that will promote the City and provide heightened visibility to the community
- c. Support the mission of Southern Illinois University and work together in cooperative ways to enhance town/gown relations, representing a unified partnership.

Objective:

4. Represent and lobby on behalf of the community and region for the best interests of the constituency

Strategies:

- a. The Mayor is designated as the chief spokesman for the City of Carbondale
- b. Solicit funds and propose/support/oppose legislation as needed at the state and federal levels

GOAL:

B. Provide an open forum and encourage widespread participation in the discussion of issues and concerns pertaining to City government

Objective:

1. Facilitate discussion of ideas and concerns

Strategies:

- a. Include "Citizen Comments and Questions" agenda item at every regular City Council meeting
- b. Provide ample opportunity for citizen comments at City Council meetings for items on the agenda
- c. Refer items to advisory boards and commissions for comment and input as needed

Division: **MAYOR and COUNCIL**

Division No.: **40000**

Objective:

2. Ensure that membership on advisory boards and commissions reflects the diversity of the Carbondale community

Strategies:

- a. Utilize the *Carbondale Communiqué* to advertise vacancies on boards and commissions and to recruit new volunteers
- b. Encourage Council members to take an active role in recommending constituents for vacant positions on Boards and Commissions.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

In April of 2015, an election allowed the citizens of Carbondale to elect a new Mayor and three new City Council members. They include Mayor Mike Henry, Councilman Tom Grant, Councilman Adam Loos, and Councilman Navreet Kang.

In January of 2016, the new City Council held a retreat that included both Council and staff. The goal of the retreat was to develop a vision statement to outline the key policy objectives that City Council wants to focus on over the next 3-4 years. The City Manager and staff attended and assisted Council with defining strategies to achieve the primary policy goals.

Much of the Mayor and City Council's focus for Fiscal Year 2017 was on preparation and implementation of the annual budget. The City's financial situation has been impacted by uncertainty related to the State of Illinois' ongoing budget impasse, continuing enrollment and employee reductions at Southern Illinois University, the negative impact of internet sales on local sales tax collections and increases in police and fire pension contributions. However, in response to concerns about rising property tax rates and on the advice of the City Manager and staff, the City Council did not increase the property tax levy for FY 2017. Instead, the City Council levied the same amount of property tax as FY 2016 and advised staff to explore all possible savings opportunities and cost reductions to present a balanced budget for FY 2017.

In Fiscal Year 2017, the Mayor and Council will continue to monitor the budget to see that expenses do not exceed revenues. Major Community Improvements Program projects in Fiscal Year 2017 include the construction of a downtown bike/pedestrian path that will connect Town Square to Mill Street and eventually SIU, streetscape improvements to Illinois Avenue, sanitary sewer reconstruction along Oak Street to better serve Southern Illinois Healthcare, and ongoing planning for a new downtown multi-modal transportation center.

NUMBER OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

POSITION TITLE	ACTUAL FY 2015	AUTHORIZED BUDGET FY 2016	ESTIMATED ACTUAL FY 2016	BUDGET FY 2017	\$ AMOUNT BUDGET FY 2017
Mayor	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	\$9,000
Council	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	\$25,200
TOTAL	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	\$34,200

Fund: GENERAL

Division: MAYOR and COUNCIL

Department: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Division No: 40000

EXPENDITURE CLASSIFICATION	AUTHORIZED		ESTIMATED	
	ACTUAL FY2015	BUDGET FY2016	ACTUAL FY2016	BUDGET FY2017
PERSONAL SERVICES				
120 Elected Officials Salaries	34,200	34,200	34,200	34,200
130 Employee Health Ins. Benefits	13,411	14,103	24,495	25,215
131 Employee Retirement Benefits	2,617	2,616	2,616	2,616
140 Employee Work. Comp. Benefits	76	76	68	76
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	50,304	50,995	61,379	62,107
DIRECT OPERATING CHARGES & SERVICES				
220 Communications-Telephone	835	740	997	864
222 Communications-Postage	115	160	20	20
240 Travel, Conferences, Training	4,789	9,700	3,000	10,543
270 Outside Printing Services	174	208	126	100
271 Other Outside Services	0	1,000	1,100	1,000
272 Office Supplies	523	575	460	575
273 Operating Supplies & Materials	857	675	1,232	1,250
280 Subscriptions and Memberships	4,162	7,015	2,700	3,350
TOTAL DIRECT OPER. CHRGS & SRVCS	11,455	20,073	9,635	17,702
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	61,759	71,068	71,014	79,809