



# 2026 BUDGET

Revised 08/05/2025



## City of Council Grove FY2026 Budget: Glossary of Key Terms

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### ACCOUNTING & BUDGETING TERMS

- **Cash-Basis Accounting**: A method where revenues are recorded when cash is received and expenses when paid. Required by Kansas law for second-class cities.
  - **Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR)**: The Revenue Neutral Rate is the mill levy (property tax rate) that would generate the same amount of property tax revenue in the current tax year as was collected the previous year, using the current year's assessed property values.
  - **Mill Levy**: A property tax rate expressed in mills per dollar of assessed value. One mill = \$1 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
  - **Encumbrance**: Budgeted funds reserved for specific obligations or future expenditures.
  - **Capital Outlay**: Budgeted funds for acquiring or upgrading long-term physical assets like vehicles, buildings, or equipment.
  - **Cash Carry Over**: Unspent funds from one fiscal year carried into the next, providing financial flexibility.
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### FUNDING SOURCES & REVENUE

- **Ad Valorem Tax**: Property tax based on assessed valuation.
  - **1% / 0.7% Sales Tax Fund**: Dedicated local sales tax funds used to support city services, infrastructure, and debt.
  - **Kansas Gas Tax**: A state fuel tax shared with municipalities for infrastructure maintenance.
  - **Special Highway Fund**: Receives Kansas Gas Tax revenues to maintain city roads.
  - **Special Parks/Recreation Fund**: Funded by liquor taxes for recreational capital projects (not personnel).
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### HOUSING & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- **Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID)**: A tool that captures new property tax revenue from housing developments to fund related public infrastructure.
  - **Moderate Income Housing (MIH)**: Grants/loans for rural housing development or rehabilitation for families earning 60–150% of median income.
  - **Comprehensive Plan**: A strategic long-term plan guiding the city's development, zoning, and growth priorities.
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### GRANTS & STATE PROGRAMS

- **CCLIP (City Connecting Link Improvement Program)**: KDOT funds for streets that are state highways within city limits.
  - **KLINK**: A subset of CCLIP funding for resurfacing projects on major road links.
  - **KDHE State Revolving Loan Program**: Low-interest state loans for water and sewer infrastructure.
  - **CDBG (Community Development Block Grant)**: Federal grants to support infrastructure and community development.
  - **HSIP (Highway Safety Improvement Program)**: A matching fund program for safety enhancements on public roads.
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### DEBT & FINANCING

- **General Obligation Bond**: A municipal bond backed by city taxing authority.
  - **Revenue Bond**: Bonds repaid through revenue generated by specific sources, such as utilities.
  - **Lease-Purchase Agreement**: A financing arrangement allowing the city to lease and eventually own equipment or property while complying with cash-basis laws.
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## 2026 BUDGET INTRODUCTION

The City of Council Grove FY2026 Budget serves as a conservative plan for the staff's work during the 2026 fiscal year, which runs from January 1 through December 31, 2026. The budget is reflective of the city's 2025 comprehensive plan, which is due to be updated.

The City of Council Grove created a Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) August 1, 2023 (Resolution No. 080223-01). The city in conjunction with the Morris County and Greater Morris Council Development Cooperation (GMDC) approved a cost share to update the housing study for Morris County. (November 15, 2024). The long-term goal is growth for the community that will positively impact sales tax and property taxes. The Rural Housing Incentive District (RHID) is a tool used to encourage housing development by capturing the incremental property tax revenue generated by new construction to fund public infrastructure improvements within the development. The incremental increase in property taxes resulting from the development is used to pay for streets, sidewalks, water, sewer, and other public improvements for a period not to exceed 20 years. This allows infrastructure cost to be covered without issuing "special assessments." The City of Council Grove and Morris County are working with GMDC on Moderate Income Housing Program (MIH). The MIH program in Kansas provides grants and loans to small cities and counties (population under 60,000) to support the development or rehabilitation of housing for moderate-income families, those earning between 60–150% of the area median income (Median Household Income in Council Grove \$56,211). Administered by the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC), MIH funds can be used for building homes, infrastructure, or revitalizing housing stock. The program aims to address rural housing shortages and support workforce growth across Kansas communities. The Council Grove City Council sees this as an investment in the future of Council Grove.

To ensure continued competitive health insurance coverage the City of Council Grove hired Professional Insurance Consultants, Inc. (PIC) to shop the city's insurance for better rates with multiple Health Insurance agencies to maintain competitive insurance coverage for the city employees. The City of Council Grove incurred a 27% increase in Health Insurance coverage. The cost of the Health Insurance coverage for 2025/2026 increased by \$152,815.80. The employee reimbursement of 20% for employee/child, employee/spouse, and Family to the city is \$67,326.84, which is paid back to the city over 26 pay periods. The City of Council Grove incurred a 13% increase in Dental Insurance coverage. The cost of Dental Insurance for 2025/2026 increased by \$1,926.68, with the city covering the employee portions of Dental Insurance. The city employees cover the cost for Dental Insurance for spouses and dependents, which totals \$6,538.36 and is reimbursed over 26 pay periods. Total reimbursed amount to the city for Health and Dental Insurance is \$75,791.88. The city must budget the full amount of health and dental insurance to have budget authority to pay for the health and dental insurance. Total FY2025/2026 Budgeted amount for Health and Dental Insurance coverage is \$558,642.36. The city continues to do a good job of being conservative in its approach to employee benefits and building reserve funds in case of a large increase, such as the 2025/2026 Health Insurance renewal. Page 9 of Budget.

The 2026 budget is Revenue Neutral for the first time since it was established in January of 2021. The approach to the 2026 budget is gradual continued improvement to keep the economy going as we are seeing multiple small towns struggle and decline. The City of Council Grove's aim is to improve services, facilities, and infrastructure while working within a realistic budget while navigating all the different economic factors.

**2026 Revenue Neutral Rate: 62.719**

❖ 2025 RNR: 66.747

**2026 City of Council Grove Mill Levy: 62.719**

❖ 2025 Mill Levy: 67

**2026 Value of 1 Mill: \$17,495**

❖ 2025 Value of 1 Mill: \$16,375

While reviewing the City of Council Grove 2026 Budget, you will notice that it is conservative in its approach and focuses on the idea of being versatile and providing the community with desired services in a fiscally responsible manner.

Sincerely, Nick Jones - City Administrator



## **City of Council Grove City Council**

### **Mayor**

Debi Schwerdtfeger

### **Ward 1**

Denise Hartman

Nathan Adams

### **Ward 2**

Mark Berner

Sharon Haun

### **Ward 3**

Jason Booker

Sean Honer

### **COUNCIL GROVE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Nick Jones	City Administrator/City Clerk
Megan Weaver	Assistant City Clerk/Accounts Payable
Lisa Good	Billing Clerk/Administrative Assistant
Kamryn Smith	Court Clerk/Administrative Assistant
Justin Carlson	Recreation Director
Jeff Barbo	Streets and Parks Superintendent
Derek Craige	Utilities Superintendent
Shawn Wangerin	Chief of Police
Zoey Wadick	Convention & Visitors Bureau Director



## Cash-Basis Accounting Explained

In the State of Kansas, second-class cities with a population between approximately 2,000 and 15,000 are required to manage their financial operations in compliance with the Kansas Cash Basis Law. This law is designed to ensure that municipalities live within their means by spending only the money they have actually received, rather than incurring debt without appropriate funding.

The Kansas Cash Basis Law, found in K.S.A. 10-1101 through 10-1122, mandates that all municipalities—including second-class cities—operate on a cash basis. This means:

- Revenues are recorded when cash is actually received.
- Expenditures are recorded only when cash is paid out.
- No debt or obligation may be incurred unless there are sufficient funds on hand to pay for it.

In other words, second-class cities must avoid deficit spending and may not promise to pay for goods or services unless they already have the money in the bank to cover the cost.

For a second-class municipality using cash-based accounting, cash reserves are not just financial cushion, they are an operational necessity. They ensure smooth service delivery, financial stability, and the ability to respond to both planned and unforeseen needs throughout the fiscal year. Cash reserves ensure stability, flexibility, and resilience in managing the city budget.



# BUDGET OVERVIEW

The summary provides an overview of the revenue and expenditures for the 2026 operational budget for the City of Council Grove, Kansas.

## REVENUES SUMMARY

The City of Council Grove property tax revenue (AD Valorem Tax) for the General Fund is Revenue Neutral for FY2026 in the amount of \$1,097,267.

The 5-year average annual interest rate income on investments (CD's, Money Market, and Checking) is \$57,991.83. For 2026 the investments are estimated to come in around \$50,000. This income is estimated conservatively due to the economy and all the unknown.

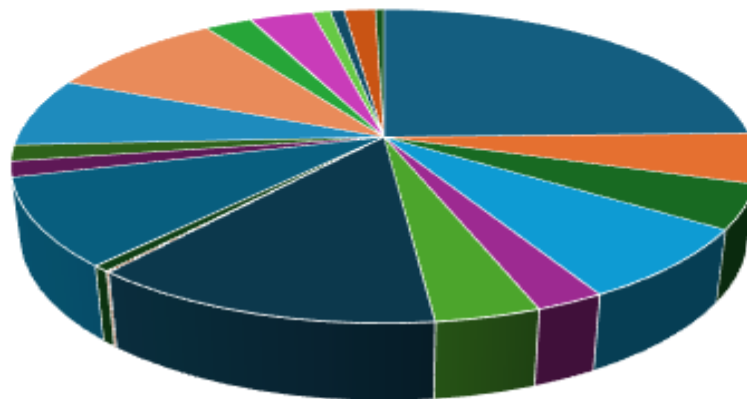
Other sources of revenue for the General Fund come from transfers from the 1% fund to the General Fund.

The City of Council Grove budget reflects a total mill levy of 62.719 mills. This is because property valuations increased causing property taxes increase. With the increase in property taxes, the city decreased its budget to Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) to keep things stable and avoid increases. The goal of the 2026 budget is to administer a budget that has constraints but still meets demands for service increases as we see revenue from other sources remain flat, decreased or no longer solvent.

### *History of Council Grove Mill Levy*

2022: 68.372 Mills (RNR 66.402)  
2023: 68.380 Mills (RNR 64.409)  
2024: 70 Mills (RNR 63.563)  
2025: 67 Mills (RNR 66.747)  
2026: 62.719 Mills (RNR 62.719)

Sources of Revenue



- |                          |                          |                         |                            |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| ■ Property Taxes         | ■ Motor Vehicle Taxes    | ■ Transfer 1% - Pool    | ■ Transfer 1% - Recreation |
| ■ Recreation Receipts    | ■ Swimming Pool Receipts | ■ Sales/Use Tax         | ■ Watercraft Tax           |
| ■ Local Alcoholic Liquor | ■ Franchise Fees         | ■ Court Fees            | ■ City Permits/Licenses    |
| ■ Rural Fire Contract    | ■ Lake Leases            | ■ Lake Permits/Licenses | ■ Septic Land Use Fee      |
| ■ Interest on Idle Funds | ■ Farm Land Lease        | ■ CFAP                  | ■ Reimbursed Expense       |
| ■ Miscellaneous          |                          |                         |                            |



## General Fund Overview

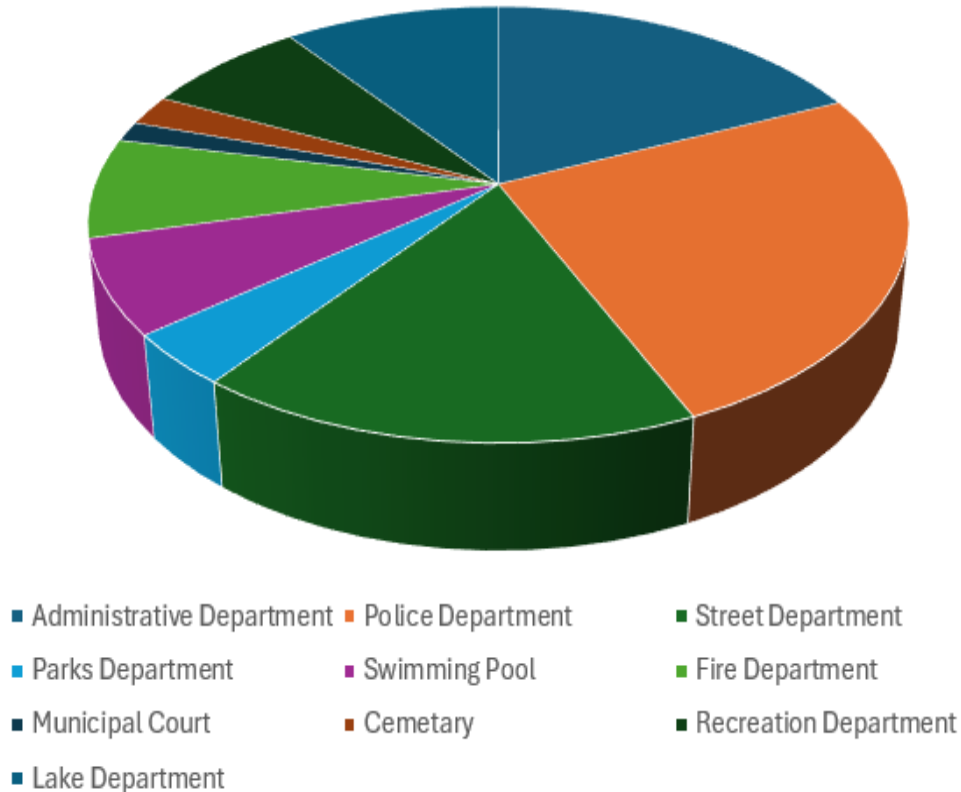
### **General Government:**

The Morris County Appraiser's office conducted a study of the residential real estate market, which indicated an overall inflationary trend of 5% for assessments in 2025. While some properties may increase, other properties may decrease or change in valuation because of changes in the property, corrections to data or adjustments of value based on sales of similar properties(morriscountyks.org). Kansas Statute (79-1439) generally addresses the appraisal of real and tangible personal property at fair market value, but residential property has a specific assessment rate of 11.5% as stipulated in the Kansas Constitution.

Commercial real estate indicated that the market is stable with no general upward or downward trend. (morriscountyks.org) Commercial property in Kansas is assessed at 25% of its appraised value, not 11.5% like residential property. Kansas Statute (K.S.A. 79-1439) governs the classification, appraisal, and assessment of commercial property.

The City of Council Grove's budget shows a decrease in mill levy to 62.719 making the FY2026 budget revenue neutral for the first time since it was established in January 2021. There remains a strong commitment and approach to gradual continued improvement while being versatile and providing the community with desired services in a fiscally responsible manner.

Expenditures Summary







**Administrative Department:** Page 7b of Budget

The Administrative Department will have an overall increase of \$16,200 related to Full-time Salaries (\$5,000), Part-Time Salaries (\$8,500), and Capital Outlay (\$3,000). A 2% merit raise for the Administrative Department is budgeted for FY2026. The total Administrative Department budget for FY2026 is \$377,844. The FY2026 cash carry over to start the FY2026 Budget is \$250,513

**Police Department:** Page 7b of Budget

The Police Department budget for FY2026 remains solid with an overall decrease from the FY2025 budget of \$15,026 related to one less full-time officer. The Police Department has no large purchases scheduled for the 2026 budget. A 2% merit raise for the Police Department is budgeted for FY2026. The total Police Department budget for FY2026 is \$525,700.

**Street Department:** Page 7b of Budget

The Street Department budget for FY2026 will have an overall increase of \$22,900 related to salaries (\$3,600), contractual services (\$17,300) and vehicle parts and supplies (\$2,000). A 2% merit raise for the Street Department is budgeted for FY2026. The total Street Department Budget for FY2026 is \$349,857. In FY2026 a more concentrated effort will be made on replacement of curb and road repairs using funds from the Special Highway Fund, which is allocated from the Kansas Gas Tax. The City of Council Grove received a grant from KDOT Alternative Transportation Program in the amount of \$1,880,000 to replace sidewalks, curbs and add beautification features for the 1 through 3 hundred blocks of Downtown Main Street. The project was eligible to be matched by Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds since it is located on a Priority 1 corridor. There is no local match required for the project. The project is tentatively scheduled to start in the Spring of 2026.

**Swimming Pool:** Page 7b of Budget

The Swimming Pool budget will see an increase of \$11,025 for FY2026 related to increases in Salaries (\$5,000), Contractual (\$2,000), Commodities (\$3,800) and Capital Outlay (\$225). The FY2026 budget is \$144,793.

**Parks Department:** Page 7b of Budget

The Parks Department budget for 2026 remains solid with an overall increase of \$800 for salaries. The total Parks Department budget for FY2026 is \$80,000. The Parks Department will need to purchase a slope mower for the Riverwalk Park because of safety concerns with mowing the steep inclines and the age of the current slope mower. The city will look to purchase a remote-control slope mower to alleviate safety concerns. The funds to purchase the slope mower can come from the equipment reserve.

**Recreation Department:** Page 7b of Budget

The Recreation Department remains solid with an FY2026 budget increase of \$6,000 related to salaries (\$3,500), Contractual Services (\$2,100), and Commodities (\$400). The Recreation Departments budget is mainly made up of a transfer from the 1% Sales Tax Fund in the amount of \$116,500, which was voted in by the public on April 1, 2003. The remainder of the budget is made up of activities fees, donations for a total FY2026 budget of \$158,683. A 2% merit raise for the Recreation Department is budgeted for FY2026.



**Cemetery: Page 7b of Budget**

The Cemetery fund budget for FY2026 remains stable and will see an increase of \$2,200 related to Full-Time Salaries (\$800) and Capital Outlay Gworks (\$1,400) with a total FY2026 Budget of \$47,224. In 2023, the Streets and Parks Department assumed responsibility for mowing at Greenwood Cemetery, aiming to reduce expenses associated with contracted mowing services.

**City Lake: Page 7b of Budget**

The City Lake budget for FY2026 will see an increase of \$3,700 related to Full-Time Salaries (\$1,100), Commodities (\$1,600) and Capital Outlay (\$1,000) with a total FY2026 budget of \$210,968. The 3-year average of expenses for transfers at the City Lake are \$222,619. Transfer to 10% as stated in the lease \$37,800, Transfer to 10% of 10% as stated in the lease \$4,200, Transfer to equipment reserve average \$26,150, Transfer to Employee Benefits average \$21,899, Transfer to General Fund Reimbursement average \$32,376.

**Fire Department: Page 7c of Budget**

The Fire Department budget remains solid with no changes for FY2026 with a budget of \$154,442. The Fire Department has done an outstanding job of applying for and receiving grants to replace equipment and purchase new gear for the Firefighters.

**Municipal Court: Page 7c of Budget**

The Municipal Court budget for 2026 remains stable with an overall increase of \$3,600 related to salaries (\$3,300) and Commodities (\$300) with a total FY2026 budget of \$31,200.

**Appropriations: Pages 8 – 9 of Budget**

- Greater Morris County Development Corporation receives 1 mill, which for FY2026 is \$17,495 to assist with Economic Development in the City of Council Grove.
- The Council Grove Library receives 4.113 mills for operating expenses, which for FY2026 is \$79,598. The Council Grove Library also receives 1.396 mills for Employee Benefits, which for FY2026 is \$27,000.

## **Revenue for Funds with No Tax Levy**

**Special Highway Fund: Page 10 of the Budget**

The revenue received is the city's allocation of the Kansas Gas Tax, which is estimated to be \$57,600 in 2026 according to Municipal Services Website. These funds are used for maintenance of the public transportation system and transportation infrastructure. The City of Council Grove was awarded a 2027 CCLIP grant in the amount of \$400,000 for highway resurfacing from Belfry to the west city limits. The cities matching portion of the project is estimated to be \$240,000. The project will take place in the summer/fall of 2026 as KDOT's budget year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. The current balance in the Special Highway Fund balance is \$229,463.11.



**1% Sales Tax Fund:** Page 10 of Budget

The 1% Sales Tax fund remains steady; sales tax is flat but is maintaining. The budget for FY2026 is \$1,157,506. The 1% Sales Tax has encumbrances of \$539,850 related to Employee Benefits of (\$68,350), Transfer to General fund of (\$186,500) for the Recreation Department and Swimming Pool expenses, Convention and Visitors Bureau (\$45,000), Sales Tax Grant (\$40,000), Infrastructure (\$200,000). Leaving \$617,656 in reserve funds.

**.7% Sales Tax:** Page 11 of Budget

The .7% Sales Tax fund remains steady; sales tax is flat but is maintaining. The budget for FY2026 is \$1,141,045. The .7% Sales Tax has encumbrances of \$335,930.64 related to Pool Lease Payment (\$212,475), Intake Payment (\$23,455.56), and Pool Sandblasting and Painting (\$100,000). Leaving \$805,114.36 in reserve funds. The number one priority of the .7% is to pay the debt on the Pool Lease Payment, Pool Maintenance/Replacement and Intake Payment.

**Special Parks/Recreation Fund:** Page 11 of Proposed Budget

This fund is supported by the local alcohol liquor tax and can be used for purchases, maintenance, expansion, programs, and facilities, but not personnel. The Special Parks/Recreation fund balance is \$54,613.43.

**Highway Maintenance – KLINK:** Page 12 of Budget

The revenue received is the city's allocation of the CCLIP funding in FY2026 is estimated to be \$35,800. These funds are used for maintenance of the public transportation system and transportation infrastructure. The City of Council Grove was awarded a 2027 CCLIP grant in the amount of \$400,000 for highway resurfacing from Belfry to the west city limits. The cities matching portion of the project is estimated to be \$240,000. The project will take place in the Summer/Fall of 2026 as KDOT's budget year runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. Highway Maintenance – KLINK fund balance is \$205,760.77.

**Diversion Fund:** Page 12 of Budget

The Diversion Fund budget for FY2026 is \$3,249. A diversion program is an alternative to formal prosecution for certain offenders, typically for first-time or low-level crimes (such as minor drug offenses, DUIs, or traffic violations). Instead of going to trial, a defendant may agree to complete specific requirements — such as community service, counseling, fines, or classes — in exchange for having the charges dismissed after successful completion.

**Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB):** Page 13 of Budget

The City of Council Grove was contracted with the Council Grove Chamber of Commerce, which dissolved at the end of 2024. The City of Council Grove created a CVB, January 1, 2025, and hired a CVB Director to continue to promote and attract tourism to Council Grove and Morris County by advertising the local businesses, events, historic sites, and lakes. The CVB is funded through the 1% Sales Tax Fund in the amount of \$45,000 and receives \$25,000 from the Morris County bed tax along with grants funding and sales. The City of Council Grove received a \$650,000 Community Development Block Grant to restore the historic Katy Depot, which is where the CVB is located. The city also received a \$50,000 match from the Young Foundation toward the overall cost of the project, along with applying for State Historic Tax Credits, which can offset the city's match up to 40%. The city also plans to apply to the State Historical Society for up to \$100,000 toward the project cost.

**Water Department: Page 14 of Budget**

Water Production budget will see an increase in FY2026 of \$43,040 related to Full-Time Employee Salaries (\$14,040), Insurance (\$20,000), Contractual (\$5,000), Vehicle/Equipment Parts & Supplies (\$4,000). Water Production budget for FY2026 is \$565,640. The FY2026 Water Distribution increased by (\$4,000) related to Vehicle/Equipment Parts & Service. The total FY2026 budget for Water Distribution is \$296,600. The General Water Budget decreased by \$57,190 related to the Debt Service for General Obligation for Series 2020 being reduced. Total budget for FY2026 General Water is \$222,317. The city continues to transfer funds to the water/maintenance reserve. The city needs to have a water rate analysis done. Getting Great Rates last conducted a rate analysis 6 years ago; another review is recommended to ensure sufficient water fund funding. The water fund relies on user fees rather than property taxes to support it. The city submitted a project to KDHE to be placed on the intended use list with the State Revolving loan for the replacement of water infrastructure with an estimated project cost of \$3.5 million. Notification of project acceptance and funding is expected in the near future. Money is transferred from the Water Fund to the Employee Benefits fund for employees working for the Utilities Department and is not paid for by property taxes. A 2% merit raise is budgeted for FY2026.

**Sewer Department: Page 15 of Budget**

Sewer fund budget is projected to remain stable and will see an increase in FY2026 of (\$7,600) related to Full-Time Salaries (\$6,000), Workers Comp (\$100), Contractual Services (\$2,000), and Petroleum Products (\$500). The Sewer Department FY2026 Budget is \$247,050 with an estimated cash balance of \$658,143 starting January 1, 2026. The city continues to transfer funds to the sewer/maintenance reserve. The city needs to have a sewer rate analysis done. Getting Great Rates last conducted a rate analysis 6 years ago; another review is recommended to ensure sufficient sewer fund funding. The sewer fund relies on user fees rather than property taxes to support it. The city submitted a project to KDHE and the State Revolving Loan Program to fund sewer repairs and replacement with an estimated cost of \$3,162,750. The city has received approval of the project from KDHE and is awaiting approval for project funding. Money is transferred from the Sewer Fund to the Employee Benefit fund for employees working for the Utilities Department and is not paid for by property taxes. A 2% merit raise is budgeted for FY2026.

**Refuse Collection: Page 16 of Budget**

The City of Council Grove is contracted with Superior Systems for trash pickup. Customers pay a fee of \$16.26 on their monthly water bill for the service. Costs for FY2026 are projected to stay steady with no change in rates.

**Debt Service – Bonds: Page 4 of Budget**

The City of Council Grove continues to make progress toward paying down its annual bond payments. FY2026 payments total \$137,157. This debt includes General Obligation for Series 2020 – Water, which will retire 7/1/2033. Principal and interest payments on the debt schedule dropped from \$159,050 in FY2025 to \$56,005 for FY2026 with payment coming out of the Water Fund. The city has two Revenue Bonds. KDOT Loan for the Washington Street project, which will be retired on 8/1/2027 with principal and interest payments on the debt schedule of \$53,503 for FY2026 coming out of the infrastructure fund. A KDHE Revolving Loan, which will be retired on 9/1/2031 for wastewater treatment lagoon upgrade with principal and interest payments on the debt schedule of \$27,649 for FY2026 coming out of the Sewer Fund.



### **Lease Purchase Debt: Page 5 of Budget**

The City of Council Grove can enter into Lease Purchase Agreements as long it adheres to cash-basis law (K.S.A. 10-1101). The City of Council Grove has Lease-Purchase agreements for the following:

- **Fire Truck** – Current Balance - \$52,236 – FY2026 Payment \$25,766. Paid for from Fire Department Fund/Rural Fire Contract
- **Water Department Skid Steer** - Current Balance \$8,449 – FY2026 Payment \$2,973. Payment from Water and Sewer Funds.
- **Energy Audit – CTS Group** - Current Balance \$925,510 – FY2026 Payment \$98,647. Payment from Administration, Streets and Parks, Recreation, Fire Department, Water and Sewer Funds.
- **Public Building Commission** – Current Balance \$1,675,000 – FY2026 Payment \$212,475. Payment from the .7% Sales Tax Fund for pool.
- **Rural Fire Truck**: Current Balance \$49,716 – FY2026 Payment \$18,482. Payment from Rural Fire Contract.

### **City of Council Grove: Current Projects**

- **Katy Depot**: The City of Council Grove received a \$650,000 Community Development Block Grant to restore the historic Katy Depot, which is where the CVB is located. The city also received a \$50,000 match from the Young Foundation toward the overall cost of the project, along with applying for State Historic Tax Credits, which can offset the city's match up to 40%. The city also plans to apply to the State Historical Society for up to \$100,000 toward the project cost. The project is currently in process and will see more activity in the coming months.
- **Downtown Street Scope**: The City of Council Grove received a grant from KDOT Alternative Transportation Program in the amount of \$1,880,000 to replace sidewalks, curbs and add beautification features for the 1 through 3 hundred blocks of Downtown Main Street. The project was eligible to be matched by Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds since it is located on a Priority 1 corridor. There is no local match required for the project. The project is tentatively scheduled to start in the Spring of 2026.
- **Sewer Department**: The City of Council Grove submitted a project to KDHE and the State Revolving Loan Program to fund sewer repairs and replacement with an estimated cost of \$3,162,750. The city has received approval of the project from KDHE and is awaiting approval for project funding.
- **Water Department**: The City of Council Grove has applied to KDHE for a State Revolving loan to replace water infrastructure, with an estimated project cost of \$3.5 million. Notification of project acceptance and funding is expected in the near future.
- **HWY56 CCLIP Grant**: The City of Council Grove was awarded a 2027 CCLIP grant in the amount of \$400,000 for highway resurfacing from Belfry to the west city limits. The cities matching portion of the project is estimated to be \$240,000 from Special Highway and KLINK Fund. The project will take place in the summer/fall of 2026 as KDOT's budget year runs from July 1st through June 30th of each year.



## City of Council Grove: Future Projects

- **Swimming Pool Sandblasting and Repainting:** The Council Grove pool requires sandblasting and repainting for proper maintenance. The FY2026 Budget includes \$100,000 from the .7% Sales Tax Fund for this project.
- **Safe Routes to School Phase 2:** The City of Council Grove can apply for grant funding for Phase 2 of Safe Routes to School in 2026.
- **Riverwalk Amphitheater Stage Covering:** The City of Council Grove is looking at options to add a roof to the stage area of the Amphitheater. Much of the funding will come from grant funding, which some have already been secured.
- **Curbs and Street Replacement/Repair:** The City of Council Grove looks to put a larger emphasis on curb replacement and road repairs in 2026. The funding for the work can come from the Special Highway Fund, which is paid for by the City of Council Grove's allocation of the Kansas Gas Tax. These funds are used for maintenance of the public transportation system and transportation infrastructure. The city can also look at using funds from the infrastructure fund.
- **Continued Improvement of Water and Sewer Infrastructure:** Through KDHE low-interest rate loans and grants.