



## NEWS RELEASE

### **HERNDON TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTS FY 2019 BUDGET *All Town Tax Rates Unchanged from Prior Year***

Herndon, VA (April 25, 2018) – Following two public hearings and after receiving input from citizens online and in person, the Herndon Town Council last evening adopted a FY 2019 Budget of \$60,222,260, a 17.7 percent increase from the adopted FY 2018 Budget. The town’s FY 2019 begins July 1, 2018 and extends to June 30, 2019.

“It’s always a fine calibration to hold tax rates at their current levels while providing funding for services, programs and projects that are important to our citizens,” said Mayor Lisa Merkel. “We are grateful to those who came out and provided their input on the budget process.”

Highlights of the adopted FY 2019 Budget include:

- Maintenance of the town real estate tax, meals tax and all other tax rates at their current levels;
- Continued allocation of resources to strategic capital projects, including downtown redevelopment and Metro planning;
- Resources to support development of an arts facility that will act as an economic driver for the downtown;
- Implementation of a town-wide sustainability plan;
- Focus on the town’s use of technology to support administration and service provision; and
- Increased personnel costs to include a 1.25 percent market rate adjustment and an average pay-for-performance increase of two percent.

The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) calls for funding of longer-term projects such as Phase 5 of the Herndon Community Center, a Nature Center at Runnymede Park, vehicular and pedestrian access to Metro and Van Buren Street improvements.

FY 2019 Budget “Facts-at-a-Glance” follow. The complete budget will be available online at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov) by July 1.

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### **FY 2019 ADOPTED BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE**

#### **Total Budget Expenditures**

\$60,222,260 for all funds (General Fund, Water and Sewer Fund, Golf Course Fund, Chestnut Grove Cemetery Fund, Downtown Parking Enterprise Fund and the Capital Projects Funds). The total reflects an increase of 17.7 percent over the adopted FY 2018 budget of \$51,181,877.

**General Fund Recurring Budget Expenditures**

FY 2019 recurring General Fund expenditure are \$35,191,231, an increase of 1.7 percent over the FY 2018 recurring expenditures of \$34,599,127. Includes personnel, operations and maintenance, debt service and minor capital (excludes transfers).

**General Fund Expenditures**

\$36,216,231 which reflects an increase of \$598,104 or 1.7 percent more than the FY 2018 adopted budget.

**Real Estate Tax**

Remains at \$0.2650 per \$100 of assessed value.

**One Penny on the Real Estate Tax Rate**

Equivalent to approximately \$445,015 in tax revenues (includes assessed value of public service corporations and real property assessments).

**Average Residential Property Value**

Projected at \$386,541.

**Average Residential Real Estate Tax Bill**

\$1024.33 based on \$0.2650 per \$100 assessed value.

**Personal Property Tax Rate**

Remains at \$0.00 per \$100 assessed value.

**Meals Tax**

Remains at 2.5 percent.

**Cigarette Tax**

Remains at 75 cents per pack.

**Business Professional and Occupational License Tax**

All classifications and thresholds remain at the current amounts.

**Motor Vehicle License Fee**

Remains at \$25 for private passenger and other vehicles weighing less than 4,000 lbs; and \$32 for vehicles weighing in excess of 4,000 lbs.

**Consumer Utility Tax**

Tax based on the purchase of utility services within the corporate limits of the town. The amount of the tax for residential consumers contains a monthly cap of \$3 per utility.

**Sewer Service Rate**

Increased from \$5.05 in FY 2018 to \$5.40 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption in FY2019.

**Sewer Availability Fee**

Increased from \$7,490 in FY2018 to \$10,800 in FY2019 for new, single-family homes.

**Sewer Lateral Repair and Replacement Program**

Remains at \$2 per year (\$0.50 per quarter).

**Water Service Rate**

Increased from \$2.90 in FY 2018 to \$2.98 per 1,000 gallons of water consumption in FY2019. Peak rate increased from \$4.95 in FY2018 to \$5.08 in FY2019.

**Water Availability Fee**

Increased from \$4,863 in FY2018 to \$7,800 in FY2019 for new, single-family homes.

**Recycling Fee**

Remains at \$16 per year (\$4 per quarter).

**Personnel**

Personnel costs for all funds total \$27,257,521, an increase of \$374,966 when compared to FY 2018.

**Capital Improvement Program**

\$14,700,000 (all funds).