2025-2026 Budget Ordinance

BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Bessemer City, North Carolina:

Section 1. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the General Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026:

Ad Valorem Taxes	$	4,360,000
Ad Valorem Taxes State Board Assessed		40,000
Prior Year Taxes		30,000
Motor Vehicle License		280,000
Gross Rental Vehicle Tax		600
Penalties & Interest		15,000
North Carolina Local Sales Tax		1,262,017
Solid Waste Disposal Tax		4,000
Beer & Wine Tax		22,000
Franchise Tax		465,000
PD Fees for Services		500
Confiscated Drug Money		500
Fire Department Grants		30,000
PD – Grants		84,000
Landfill Fees		530,000
Grave Opening/Closing		22,000
Cemetery Lot Sales		1,000
Zoning Permits & Fees		24,000
Grant - Kiser Center		5,000
Recreation Department Fees/Sponsors		60,000
Senior Events		4,000
Pool Fees/Concessions		115,000
Park Fees/Concessions/Mer/Rental		75,000
Investment Earnings		61,000
Rent- Land		1,100
Sale of General Fund Property		20,000
ABC Revenue		17,000
Miscellaneous Revenues		15,000
Administrative Charges - Enterprise Funds		900,000
Fund Balance Appropriated		0
	$	**8,443,717**

Section 2. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in accordance with the established chart of accounts:

Governing Body & Legal	$	98,780
Administration & Finance		1,310,584
Police Department		2,192,760
Fire Department		629,709
Garage Operations		236,981
Public Works Department		372,500
Sanitation Department		486,000
Planning & Zoning		186,575
Economic Development		299,108
Debt Service		955,677
Recreation Department		1,009,503
Parks & Gym		408,300
Pool & Concessions		235,740
Cemetery		21,500
	$	**8,443,717**

Section 3. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Water & Sewer Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026:

Water Sales	$	2,727,041
Sewer Sales		2,787,041
Water Tap Fees		76,000
Water Meter Fees		180,000
Water System Development Fees		250,000
Reconnect Fees		22,000
Penalties		100,000
Admin Activation Fee		20,000
Sewer Tap Fees		46,000
Sewer System Development Fees		85,000
Fund Balance Appropriated		0
	$	**6,293,082**

Section 4. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Water & Sewer Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in accordance with the established chart of accounts:

Debt Service	$	570,248
Administration Share		825,000
Water/Wastewater Treatment		3,032,879
Public Works		1,678,239
New Line Distribution		186,716
	$	**6,293,082**

Section 5. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Natural Gas Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026:

Sales of Gas	$	1,257,000
Cut-ons and Reconnects		1,500
Fund Balance Appropriated		0
	$	**1,258,500**

Section 6. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Natural Gas Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in accordance with the established chart of accounts:

Debt Service	$	72,932
Administration Share		0
Gas Operations		1,185,568
	$	**1,258,500**

Section 7. It is estimated that the following revenues will be available to the Storm Water Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026:

Storm Water Charges	$	330,000
	$	**330,000**

Section 8. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Storm Water Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in accordance with the established chart of accounts:

Debt Service	$	36,555
Administrative Share		75,000
Operations		218,445
	$	**330,000**

Section 9. The following revenues are expected to be available in the Powell Bill Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026:

State Powell Bill Allocation	$	220,000
	$	**220,000**

Section 10. The following amount is hereby appropriated in the Powell Bill Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in accordance with the established chart of accounts:

Debt Service	$	100,815
Street Operations		119,185
	$	**220,000**

Section 11. There is hereby levied a tax rate of fifty-five cents ($.55) per one hundred dollars ($100) valuation of property taxes as of January 1, 2025, for the purpose of raising the revenue listed 'Ad Valorem Taxes' in the General Fund. This rate is on a total valuation of property for the purposes of taxation of $840,599,289 and an estimated rate of collection of 97%.

Section 12: Fees shall be charged as outlined in **Appendix A** starting July 1, 2025.

Section 13: All other fees for service, surcharges, etc. previously established by Council shall remain the same unless adjusted at some future date. All billing not paid on the due date is subject to a 15% late penalty.

Section 14: The Budget Officer is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund as contained herein as follows:

a) The Budget Officer may transfer amounts between the object of expenditure within a department as defined by Ordinance without limitations.
b) The Budget Officer may transfer amounts up to $7,500 between departments as designed by Ordinance of the same fund with report on such transfers at the next regular Council meeting.

Section 15: Copies of the Budget Ordinance shall be furnished to all Department Heads for guidance in the disbursement of funds. A copy shall always be available for public inspections in the City Clerk's office.

Adopted this the 9th day of June 2025.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk

City of Bessemer City
APPENDIX A- Fee Schedule

Service	2025-2026
Water	
Treated Water- Inside City Limits	
minimum per month for 2,000 gallons	$ 14.50
per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons	$ 8.90
Treated Water- Outside City Limits	
minimum per month for 2,000 gallons	$ 29.00
per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons	$ 17.80
Water Deposit- Residential	
Credit Score- Approved	$ 250.00
Credit Score- Caution	$ 300.00
Credit Score- Alert	$ 450.00
Water Deposit- Non-Residential	$ 900.00
Water Reconnect Fee	
First and Second Reconnect	$ 35.00
Third Reconnect and After	$ 70.00
Broken Lock Fee	$ 300.00
Meter Tampering Fee	$ 500.00
Utility Cut off Fee	$ 20.00
Utility Late Fee	15%
New Service Administrative Fee	$ 50.00
Illegal Turn-on Fee	$ 200.00
Meter Reset Fee	$ 300.00
Water Tap Fees (plus cost of meter)	
.75 inch line	$ 1,100.00
1 inch line	$ 1,500.00
1.5 inch line	$ 2,000.00
2 inch line	$ 2,500.00
Sewer	
Sewer- Inside City Limits	
minimum per month for 2,000 gallons of water metered	$ 21.50
per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons of water metered	$ 16.50
per 1,000 gallons over 1,000,000 gallons of water metered	$ 11.50
Sewer- Outside City Limits	
minimum per month for 2,000 gallons of water metered	$ 43.00
per 1,000 gallons over 2,000 gallons of water metered	$ 33.00
per 1,000 gallons over 1,000,000 gallons of water metered	$ 23.00

Service	2025-2026
Sewer Tap Fees	
4 Inch Line	$ 1,000.00
6 Inch Line	$ 1,500.00
Sewer User Surcharges	
High Strength BOD >250 mg/L per lb.	$ 0.0240
High Strength TSS >250 mg/L per lb.	$ 0.0450
High Strength O & G >100 mg/L per lb.	$ 0.1000
High Strength TKN >25 mg/L per lb.	$ 0.4830
High Strength TP >mg/L per lb.	$ 0.8470
Initial Issuance Permit	
SIU	$ 1,000.00
Local Permit Fee	$ 500.00
Annual Maintenance Permit	
SIU	$ 250.00
Local Permit Fee	$ 100.00
Reopening Permit	
SIU	$ 500.00
Local Permit Fee	$ 100.00
Composite Sample Event	$ 300.00
Acute Toxicity Screening	$ 600.00
Chronic Toxicity Screening	$ 1,200.00
TTO with Pesticide Analysis	$ 550.00
TTO without Pesticide Analysis	$ 500.00
System Development Fees	
System development fees are calculated by the Council-Adopted System Development Fee Schedule Calculator. Examples are provided below:	
Residential Dwelling Unit	
2 bedroom	$ 3,861.00
3 bedroom	$ 4,211.00
4 bedroom	$ 5,573.00
Full-Service Restaurant (20 employee)	$ 4,869.00
Convenience Store with Food Preparation (2,500 square feet)	$ 16,230.00
Stores and Shopping Centers without Food Service (25,000 sf. ft.)	$ 27,050.00
Availability Fees	
Water and Sewer (per month)	
Inside Customer Connected to Water but Not Sewer	$ 21.50
Inside Customer Connected to Sewer but not Water	$ 80.00
Inside Customer not Connected to Water or Sewer	$ 36.00

Service	2025-2026
Meter Checks and Reports	
One Check Per Year	Free
Defective Meter Replacement	Free
Non-Defective Meter Check (plus cost of test)	$ 25.00
Meter Profile Report	$ 25.00
Stormwater	
Residential (per month)	$ 6.00
Non-Residential (per month)	
MMR	$ 4.50
Calculation based on Council-Adopted Impervious Surface Study	
ERU: 3,286 sf. ft.	
Formula: (impervious surface sq. ft. / ERU) X residential rate = non-residential rate	
Solid Waste	
Per Container (Weekly Pickup)	$ 16.00
Per Container (Bi-Weekly; Commercial Only)	$ 32.00
Planning Board/Board of Adjustment	
Conditional Rezoning Request	$ 1,500.00
General Rezoning Request	$ 1,000.00
Zoning Text Amendment Request	$ 800.00
Conditional Use Permit	$ 1,500.00
Special Use Permit	$ 700.00
Variance Request	$ 500.00
Land Development Code Appeal	$ 500.00
Zoning Permits	
Zoning Permit - Residential	$ 100.00
Zoning Permit - Non-Residential Change of Use	$ 100.00
Zoning Permit - Home Occupation	$ 100.00
Zoning Verification Letter	$ 250.00
Demolition Permit	$ 100.00
Temporary Use Permit	$ 150.00
Sign Permit	$ 100.00
Fence Permit	$ 25.00
Driveway Permit	$ 50.00
Accessory Structure (Including ADU)	$ 100.00
Recombination Plat	$ 100.00

Service	2025-2026
Residential Development- Small Scale	
Individual Single Family New Construction	$ 200.00
Multi-Family New Construction (Duplex, Triplex)	
Base Fee	$ 200.00
Per Unit	$ 50.00
Addition to Existing Home	$ 100.00
Subdivision Resulting in No More Than 5 Lots Plat	$ 400.00
Subdivision Exempt Under NC GS 160D-802 Plat	$ 400.00
Residential Development- Large Scale	
Preliminary Plat Review Up to 50 Lots/Units	
Base Fee	$ 300.00
Per Lot/Dwelling Unit	$ 50.00
Preliminary Plat Review More Than 50 Lots/Units	
Base Fee	$ 800.00
Per Lot/Dwelling Unit	$ 50.00
Construction Drawing Review & TRC - First Two Submittals (plus engineering cost)	$ 1,500.00
Construction Drawing Review & TRC - Subsequent Submittals (plus engineering cost)	$ 1,000.00
Final Plat Review Up to 50 Lots/Units	
Base Fee	$ 250.00
Per Lot/Dwelling Unit	$ 15.00
Final Plat Review More Than 50 Lots/Units	
Base Fee	$ 500.00
Per Lot/Dwelling Unit	$ 15.00
Non-Residential Development	
Telecommunication Tower Permit	$ 5,000.00
Telecommunication Tower Permit (Co-Location)	$ 500.00
Preliminary Plat Review	$ 750.00
Construction Drawing Review & TRC - First Two Submittal (plus engineering costs)	$ 2,000.00
Construction Drawing Review & TRC - Subsequent Submittals (plus engineering cost)	$ 1,500.00
Final Plat Review	$ 500.00
Addition to Existing Structure	
Base Fee	$ 350.00
Per 1,000 Square Feet	$ 15.00

Service	2025-2026
City Council	
Code Enforcement Appeal	$ 150.00
Annexation Petition	$ 700.00
Street/Alley/ROW Closing Petition	$ 700.00
Code Enforcement	
Grass Cutting	
Maintenance Show Up Fee	$ 50.00
Administrative Fee (plus cost of mowing)	$ 200.00
Natural Gas	
Base Fee	
Residential	$ 10.40
Commercial	$ 10.40
Industrial	$ 8.00
Availability	
Residential	$ 8.70
Commercial	$ 9.10
Industrial	$ 200.00
Firm- Interruptible	$ 400.00
Gas Tap (plus cost of meter and installation)	
Residential Gas Connection	$ 500.00
Commercial Gas Connection	$ 500.00
Industrial Gas Connection	
Industrial Gas Connection- Industrial customers shall reimburse the City for the installation of the meter set, which includes the piping, valves, pressure reducing regulator, and meter. New industrial customers shall bear all costs to contract with a qualified contractor, that is approved by the City, to install and connect the service piping between the main and the meter set.	
Gas Extension	
Should it be determined that natural gas service is not available to install a service line in a direct path to the meter location, the City will install up to 100 feet of gas main to accommodate the service connection. For main extensions that exceed 100 feet, the customer will be assessed for $10.00 per foot.	
Service Line Relocation	$ 300.00

Service	2025-2026
Meter Upgrades	
The City will upgrade customer meters necessitated by changes in customer equipment. The fee for the meter upgrade shall be the current cost of the upgrade meter.	
Gas Deposits- Residential	
Credit Score- Approved	$ 250.00
Credit Score- Caution	$ 325.00
Credit Score- Alert	$ 400.00
Gas Deposits- Non-Residential	$ 800.00
Cut-Off List Administrative Fee	$ 20.00
Gas Utility Late Fee	15%
Gas Reconnect Fee	
First and Second Reconnect	$ 40.00
Third Reconnect and After	$ 80.00
After Hours Reconnect	$ 125.00
New Service Administrative Fee	$ 50.00
Seasonal Reconnect	$ 100.00
Other Fees	
Return Check Fee	$ 35.00
Copies	
B & W Up to 8.5 X 14 (per page)	$ 0.50
Color up to 8.5 X 14 (per page)	$ 0.75
Cemetery Fees	
Cemetery Lots	$ 1,000.00
Grave Marking Fee	$ 100.00
Grave Opening (plus contractor price)	$ 100.00
Motor Vehicle	
Motor Vehicle Tag Fee	$ 30.00