



City of Arkansas City staff are committed to providing a high quality of life for its citizens by furnishing a variety of efficient services in a professional, courteous manner. Every day, City employees work to preserve the integrity of our neighborhoods and parks, provide safety for our families and create economic opportunities for all citizens.

What’s the purpose of our City budget?

The 2013 Budget is a policy document that addresses the direction and spending plan for the year. Just like a family’s personal budget, it is the foundation for how dollars will be spent. It ensures the City can continue providing high-quality services, targeted investments, and planning for future infrastructure improvements.

How much is our City’s budget?

The 2013 City budget is \$22,689,171. In 2012, the total budget expenditure authority was \$19,679,805.

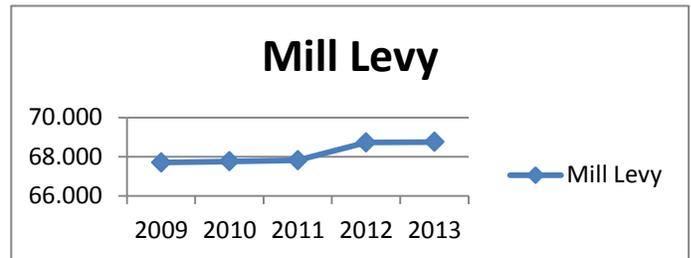
Is our City budget balanced?

State law requires that the City adopt a balanced budget. Unlike the federal government, local governments cannot run a deficit; the City must have the revenues necessary to meet the annual budget. If the projected revenues fall short during the year, the City must make necessary adjustments to balance the budget at zero.



Are our property taxes going up?

The 2013 budget includes a nominal tax increase of about 0.025 mills, which brings the property tax rate to 68.747 mills. The mill levy in 2012 was 68.722. The 2013 mill rate will generate an additional \$254,967.00 in revenue. All of this increase, plus the savings from a reduction in general fund operations, is required to pay for improvements approved in 2010 for Patterson Park development (hospital) and the new sports complex which increased the City’s debt service load.



Where does our money for the budget go?

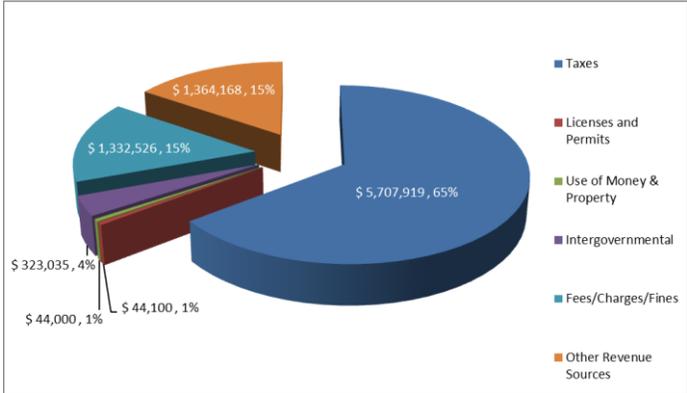
The General Fund is the largest operating fund in the City’s budget. All the City’s operating departments are funded through the General Fund except some public works functions such as Water, Sewer and Sanitation. The General Fund is about 42% of all funds combined, or \$9,459,793. The General Fund supports a majority of basic City services, including Management Services, Police, Fire/EMS, Streets and Parks.

Each dollar paid out of the General Fund is divided as follows:



Where does the money come from for the General Fund?

The City receives money from various sources including taxes, utility charges, and fees, as shown below:



How is my City utility bill figured?

The City has adopted utility rates to recover the cost of providing these services to its residents.

Water is calculated based on actual usage. In 2013, a \$17.78 base amount is charged to all customers for the first 2000 gal used and a tiered structure beyond this usage.

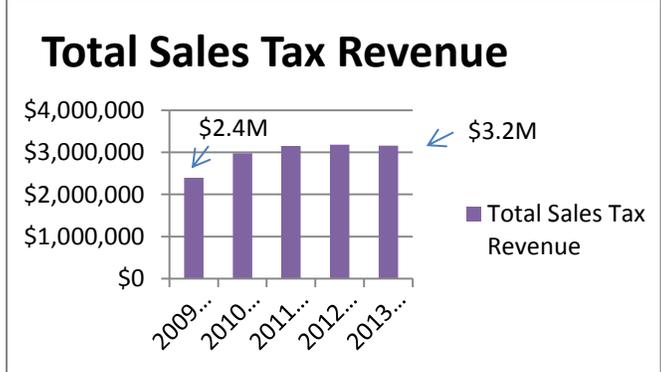
Sewer is calculated based on water usage in the months of January, February, and March of each year. Since sewer usage cannot be measured, Residential rates are based on the average winter water usage and commercial rates are based on the current water consumption. In 2013, a \$19.50 base amount is charged to all customers for the first 2000 gallons used and \$3.65 for each additional 1000 gallons.

Trash: In 2013, a \$18.44 base per month for weekly trash service. Commercial dumpster service is available with a variety of size options and number of pickup options.

Kansas Water Plan: The State Legislature implemented this fee to ensure ample future water supply. The rate is .032 cents per 1000 gallons used. This is sent directly to the State.

The average 2013 monthly bill for a household that uses 6000 gallons of water:

- Water \$44.74
- Sewer \$34.10
- Trash \$18.44
- Ks Water Plan \$0.19
- Stormwater \$3.00
- Total \$100.47**



Does the City receive all the sales tax collected in Arkansas City?

No. Arkansas City residents pay 8.3% in sales tax. 6.3% goes to the State of Kansas. 2% goes to the City.

The portion of sales tax the City receives is used to fund fire, police and improvements by the following breakdown: A 1-cent sales tax is used for police protection and fire protection services. In 2008, Arkansas City adopted a new 1/2-cent sales tax for the construction of a new hospital and a new 1/2-cent sales tax to be used for street improvement projects.

What is happening to service levels compared to the 2010 budget?

In response to citizen demand, the City Commission has tried to maintain service levels as close to their current levels as possible.