



The Town of Abita Springs held a Finance Committee Meeting open to the public on Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 10:00 AM at the Abita Springs Town Hall.

Town officials conducted a detailed review of several budget funds for the end of 2025 and the upcoming 2026 fiscal year. The meeting began with an update from Danette Jenkins on the Cemetery Fund, which showed no significant financial changes. The only adjustment was the agreed-upon renaming of salary-related expenses to “cemetery administrative fee” to more accurately reflect the General Fund administrative work that supports cemetery operations.

The Debt Service Fund, funded by dedicated millage revenues tied to the 2014 and 2020 bonds, also remained structurally unchanged. Ms. Jenkins then moved on to the Parks and Recreation Fund, which underwent substantial restructuring. All town-sponsored events, rentals, and related activities previously spread across multiple funds will now be consolidated under Parks and Recreation. This change results in a proposed balanced budget of \$156,390 for 2026. During discussion, Alderman Saussy raised questions about salary increases, while Alderman Contois expressed concern over rising insurance costs. Ms. Jenkins explained that these changes resulted from recalculating employee salary allocations, benefits, and workers’ compensation across the appropriate departments.

The review of the Public Works Fund emphasized clarification regarding the “shared sales tax” revenue. This revenue appears in both the budget document and the instrument as a dedicated restricted “shared sales tax”, kept in its own General Ledger which ensures proper allocation of interest. Ms. Jenkins also discussed the grass-cutting contract from the state, confirming that the town will not renew it in the coming year, as the revenue generated did not support the expenses required to maintain the agreement.

Discussion then turned to the Town’s active capital projects. Most projects are nearing completion, with several already in the closeout phase. Of the eight total projects, five have been fully reimbursed by the state so far, and the Town is awaiting additional reimbursements while continuing to monitor progress and associated costs.

The review of the General Fund confirmed that the budget remains balanced, with no significant changes to overall revenues or expenditures for 2026. Ms. Jenkins highlighted one key adjustment: the reallocation of the Clerk of Court’s salary, which had previously been budgeted under the Police Fund. Going forward, this salary will be allocated to the General Fund.. This change ensures a more accurate representation of staffing costs and provides a clearer picture of police-related expenditures.

The meeting concluded with a policy discussion regarding the potential addition of a credit-card processing fee for residents. Following a review of provider fee variations and their effect on the bill-payment process, the board indicated a preference for allowing credit card processing fees to be passed through to the user.

Mr. Saussy moved to adjourn, and Mr. Boudreaux seconded. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Leanne Schaefer, Town Clerk

Honorable Daniel J. Curtis, Mayor