

# STOCKS

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and raise inflation before committing to its next move. So far, the economy seems to be holding up OK, though a report on confidence among U.S. consumers came in weaker on Tuesday than economists expected, while inflation has remained only a bit above the Fed's 2% target.

Trump, though, has been pushing for more cuts to rates. And two

of his appointees to the Fed have said in the last week that they may consider cutting rates as soon as the Fed's next meeting next month.

Fed Chair Jerome Powell remains more cautious. He said again in testimony delivered to Congress Tuesday that the Fed is "well positioned to wait to learn more about the likely course of the economy before considering any adjustments to our policy stance."

Such mixed messages had Treasury yields swiveling up and

down in the bond market. The yield on the 10-year Treasury eased to 4.30% from 4.34% late Monday.

The two-year Treasury yield, which more closely tracks expectations for Fed action, fell to 3.82% from 3.84%.

On Wall Street, cruise operator Carnival steamed 9.7% higher after delivering a much stronger profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected. CEO Josh Weinstein said it's seeing strong demand from people booking cruises close to the departure date, and

customers are spending strongly once on board. Carnival also raised its forecast for an underlying measure of profit for the full year.

Other companies that burn a lot of fuel and that could benefit from falling oil prices also jumped to big gains.

Norwegian Cruise Line jumped 6.4%. United Airlines flew 2.2% higher, and Delta Air Lines rose 2.8%. Such travel-related companies also need their customers feeling confident enough to travel to make their profits.

In stock markets

abroad, indexes rallied more than 1% everywhere from France to Germany to Japan following the announcement of the Israel-Iran ceasefire. Hong Kong's jump of 2.1% and South Korea's leap of 3% were two of the strongest moves.

# FISCAL

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Jeremy Moore said no government entity in Kentucky has received the approval. That means public property damages during this spring's storms and flooding remain uncovered by disaster relief funds.

Henry said if that approval doesn't come, the county would have to find the money elsewhere to replace the Slaughters-Elmwood Rd. bridge. That total could be in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million.

The bridge to be built is 24 feet wide and 60 feet long. The bid package must meet KYTC

standards and specifications and is due by 9 a.m. on July 14. The bids will be opened at the fiscal court meeting that day.

In other business, the court approved the second reading of the fiscal year 2026 budget. The total in all funds is estimated at \$20.9 million.

The court also approved the administrative code for county employees. Revisions to the handbook include a change in long-term loyalty raises, and policies covering general harassment and social media use.

Salaries for several elected officials were set for The next fiscal year, including the county attorney (\$63,557.18), coroner (\$14,462.22),

and magistrates (\$27,697.30). Those salaries are subject to cost of living adjustments each year.

In an update, Moore told the court the FEMA disaster assistance office set up at the Onton Methodist Church had closed on Saturday. Residents are still able to apply online for relief funds. He added that approximately \$400,000 had been distributed to Webster Countians.

Henry praised the work the church had done to help with the relief process, and singled out Lisa Preston for the time she put in with disaster victims.

"There hasn't been a bigger or better lobbyist for the victims than Lisa Preston," he said.

# BOE

FROM **PAGE A1**

Aaron Harrell. "This is the one that basically says if you work for Webster County Schools, you must use the district supported platform to communicate with students."

The intent of the law is to keep adults from communicating with minors in a private format. The goal is to make it harder for an employee to enter into an inappropriate relationship with a student.

Questions arose, however, that board attorney Roy Massey believes will ultimately result in challenges to the language of the law.

"I think there are going to be some legal issues," he said, pointing out it may have first amendment implications.

Harrell said he had no problem shutting down communication outside of ParentSquare, the application the district has used for four years to pass information to families concerning school matters.

"It's a problem waiting to happen," he said about private communications. "But the problem here is that there are all of these grey areas."

Board members say the language presents an issue that is likely worse for small, rural districts than those in places like Lexington and Louisville. Many teachers have students as babysitters for their younger children, and some teachers work with youth at their churches. Those teachers would not be allowed to send texts or other messages to those students.

While parents can sign

waivers to make situations such as those easier on everyone involved, Harrell said he doesn't want those waivers to become so numerous that those keeping up with them becomes next to impossible.

"We need to be more conservative with this rather than less conservative," he stated. "We don't want to be the test case (for a lawsuit)."

The law takes effect Friday, and the policy will be in place and enforced immediately.

Other policies that will be in place for the fall are:

- A \$3,000 limit on money spent to fund trips to state and national scholastic competitions. Clubs and extra-curricular organizations such as FFA and FBLA, for example, may request assistance for travel and hotel rooms once a year under the new policy.

- The district can hire substitute teachers with fewer than 64 college credit hours. However, Harrell said the central office will be very stringent with the process, saying they won't just hire anyone to fill those positions.

- Each day will begin with a one-minute "moment of silence," as mandated by state law.

- Over the counter medication will only be administered with parental consent and a doctor's order. Both will need to be on file with the students' respective schools.

- Phone use by students during instructional time is now prohibited under state law.

- Military personnel working in the school system will have a clear policy governing their rights and benefits if

they are called to active duty.

The board also approved a quote by EM Ford Insurance and Financial Planning for a policy to cover the 2025-26 school year.

The total premium cost for the fiscal year will be \$573,970. That covers property, equipment, vehicles, workers' compensation, school leaders, and general liability.


Harrell told the board the quote was the only realistic one the district had received, and was not delivered until the previous Thursday. He said it is increasingly difficult to get insurance quotes in this area due to extensive damage from a higher than normal number of severe weather events.

Finally, after a length discussion in closed session, the board approved the annual evaluation of Harrell.

The superintendent of each district in the state is evaluated in seven categories each year. Harrell's ratings were:

- Strategic Leadership: Meets the standard (3);
- Instructional Leadership: Exceeds the standard (4);
- Cultural Leadership: Exceeds the standard (4);
- Human Resource Leadership: Meets the standard (3);
- Managerial Leadership: Meets the standard (3);
- Collaborative Leadership: Exceeds the standard (4);
- Influential Leadership: Exceeds the standard (4).

The four possible ratings are exemplary (4), accomplished (3), developing (2), and improvement required (1).



# LEGAL NOTICE

**ORDINANCE #2025-01**  
**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, KENTUCKY, ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 07/01/25 THROUGH 06/30/26**

**WHEREAS**, annual budget proposal has been prepared and delivered to the City Council; and **WHEREAS**, the City Council has received such budget proposal and made necessary modifications, **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDIANED BY THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE** that an annual budget total of \$11,890,236.00 is hereby adopted, per line item, as follows:  
FIRST READING: SPONSORED BY C.M. PALMER  
SECOND READING:  
APPROVED:  
MOTION MADE BY:  
SECOND BY:  
VOTE:

Tom Glover, Mayor

Tiffany Conrad, City Clerk

**ORDINANCE SUMMARY**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01**  
**CITY OF PROVIDENCE, KENTUCKY**  
**FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL BUDGET**  
**07/01/25 THROUGH 06/30/26**

Account	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures
Special Revenue	\$3,666,490.00	\$3,666,490.00
Utility Fund	\$5,113,337.00	\$5,113,337.00
General Fund	\$2,977,121.00	\$2,977,121.00
PG&RC	\$133,288.00	\$133,288.00
Grand Total	\$11,890,236.00	\$11,890,236.00

A complete copy of the itemized budget is available without charge at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, Providence, KY.  
Prepared and certified by Bobby D. Murray, Attorney

**SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT 2025-2026**

ESTIMATED REVENUE		ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	
LGEA: Coal Severance	\$10,355	Big Hill Cemetery Maintenance	\$7,800
LGEA: Mineral Severance	\$6,333	Community Center Maintenance	\$3,600
Big Hill Cemetery Interest	\$124	Lakeview Cemetery Maintenance	\$9,989
Community Center Interest	\$58	Street Maintenance - Road Aid	\$73,101
Community Center Rentals	\$2,600	Collection and distribution project	\$1,379,000
Lakeview Cemetery Interest	\$119	Wastewater Treatment Project	\$2,193,000
Municipal Road Aid	\$73,101		
Lakeview cemetery plots	\$1,200		
Big Hill Cemetery Plots	\$600		
Collection and distribution project	\$1,379,000		
Wastewater Treatment Project	\$2,193,000		
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE	\$3,666,490	TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	\$3,666,490

Expenses	PMG&RC	Admin	Code Enf./Zoning	EMS	Fire	Police	Sanitation	Street	Park/Cem	Alcohol	Total
Salaries	\$75,350	\$34,800	\$19,968	\$450,000	\$300,000	\$336,000	\$53,000	\$137,200	\$28,000	\$7,200	\$1,441,518
FICA	\$5,765	\$2,700	\$1,530	\$35,160	\$23,600	\$25,705	\$4,100	\$10,700	\$2,200	\$600	\$112,060
Unemployment Tax	\$140	\$70	\$60	\$1,000	\$750	\$850	\$300	\$450	\$100	\$30	\$3,750
Employees Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,600	\$7,200	\$0	\$0	\$2,400	\$0	\$0	\$19,200
Health Insurance	\$13,980	\$0	\$0	\$52,030	\$22,708	\$5,230	\$7,766	\$15,500	\$7,750	\$0	\$124,964
Retirement Employer	\$9,310	\$2,100	\$3,720	\$85,580	\$57,300	\$63,100	\$9,870	\$26,000	\$5,300	\$1,350	\$263,630
Advertising	\$300	\$0	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$4,150
Bank Service Charge	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$10,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$37,000	\$1,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$47,085	\$355,085
Chemicals	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
Cleaning Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$800	\$500	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,800
Detention CTR (Trustee)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$8,000
Discount & Release Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Dues/Subscriptions/Permits	\$300	\$2,000	\$0	\$17,238	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$40	\$22,578
Fire Prevention	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
Fuel/Oil	\$0	\$4,500	\$0	\$7,000	\$6,500	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$8,500	\$0	\$61,500
Incentive Pay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Insurance/Liability	\$17,082	\$0	\$0	\$16,380	\$16,380	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$0	\$118,170
Insurance/Life	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$187	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$0	\$0	\$931
Interest/Note Payment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Landfill Charges	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
Laundry & Cleaning	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Maintenance/Repairs	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$15,000	\$9,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$35,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$119,000
Medical Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,750
Office Supplies	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$500	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250	\$10,250
Other Supplies	\$0	\$15,000	\$0	\$750	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$1,100	\$0	\$32,350
PIOLT to WC	\$0	\$4,010	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,010
Postage/Shipping	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$250	\$250	\$400	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$1,600
Physical/Drug Testing	\$400	\$500	\$0	\$800	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$200	\$0	\$3,900
Professional Fees	\$75	\$95,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$122,575
Rent/Lease	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300
Telephone	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,600	\$26,100
Testing/Calibration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,750
Training/Travel	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$3,500	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$12,500
Transfer to Other Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transfer to Utility Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Workman's Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$0	\$12,600
Uniforms/Clothing Allowance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,100	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$18,100
Total	\$126,402	\$199,880	\$27,228	\$958,725	\$506,524	\$494,153	\$199,104	\$293,318	\$105,532	\$66,255	\$2,977,121

Expenses	Admin-Off	Admin-Shop	Electric	Gas	Sewer Trt	Water Trt	Sewer Dist	Water Dist	Total
Salaries	\$171,219	\$89,200	\$199,712	\$80,000	\$45,500	\$148,100	\$80,000	\$130,000	\$943,731
FICA	\$14,131	\$6,825	\$15,280	\$6,200	\$3,500	\$11,400	\$6,200	\$9,950	\$73,486
Unemployment Tax	\$550	\$300	\$600	\$250	\$150	\$480	\$250	\$400	\$2,980
Employees Benefits	\$13,432	\$0	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$25	\$25,432
Health Insurance	\$22,520	\$7,325	\$28,570	\$28,570	\$14,652	\$14,652	\$14,652	\$14,652	\$145,593
Retirement Employer	\$34,550	\$16,650	\$37,500	\$14,900	\$8,950	\$28,100	\$14,900	\$24,700	\$180,250
Contract Labor	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Advertising	\$600	\$0	\$100	\$500	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$100	\$2,300
Bank Service Charge	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay	\$4,100	\$20,000	\$100,000	\$15,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$40,000	\$289,100
Chemicals	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$52,000	\$165,100	\$9,750	\$1,000	\$227,850
Dues/Subscriptions/Permits	\$2,500	\$0	\$500	\$2,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$17,000
Fuel/Oil	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,400	\$70,400
Insurance/Liability	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$17,082	\$136,656
Insurance/Life	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$186	\$1,488
Maintenance/Repairs	\$3,200	\$20,000	\$50,000	\$11,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$194,200
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Office Supplies	\$7,000	\$3,000	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,000
Other Supplies	\$8,000	\$15,000	\$50,000	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$70,000	\$500	\$10,000	\$188,500
Payment of Borrowed Monies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Postage/Shipping	\$7,700	\$500	\$600	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,800
Physical/Drug Testing	\$400	\$500	\$500	\$200	\$200	\$500	\$400	\$400	\$3,100
Professional Fees	\$18,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$65,000	\$2,500	\$240,500
Purchased Electric/Gas	\$0	\$0	\$1,996,000	\$289,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,285,000
Rent/Lease	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$9,000
Retirement Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Security Bond	\$3,040	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,040
Telephone	\$1,300	\$1,200	\$0	\$0	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
Testing/Calibration/Analysis	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
Training/Travel	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,200	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$500	\$500	\$11,700
Uniforms/Clothing Allowance	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$1,800	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$15,400
Workmen's Compensation	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$16,800
Total	\$337,710	\$212,868	\$2,545,830	\$524,788	\$310,476	\$618,350	\$259,920	\$303,370	\$5,113,306

**ESTIMATED REVENUE 2025-2026**

UTILITY FUND:	GENERAL FUND:		
Cut-on & Tap Fees	\$25,000	Ambulance Service	\$310,817
Electrical Sales	\$3,086,572	Building Permits	\$1,000
Gas Sales	\$664,475	County Ambulance Tax	\$34,695
Interest Earned	\$3,105	Fire Incentive Pay	\$39,589
Prior Coal & Mineral Serv cary over	\$23,800	Franchise Fee	\$56,690
Recovery of Bad Debts	\$9,000	House Bill 413	\$5,510