



# Town of Ranlo Budget

Fiscal Year 2020-2021

**APPROVED JUNE 11, 2020**

Lynn Black, Mayor

Katie Cordell, Mayor Pro-Tem

Robin Conner, Commissioner

Jamie Fowler, Commissioner

Effie Locklear, Commissioner

Doug Moore, Commissioner



Jonathan D. Blanton, Town Manager



# Town of Ranlo Budget FY 2020-2021

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## Town of Ranlo Budget FY 2020-2021

### FY 2020-2021 Budget Schedule and Timeline

Friday, May 8th 2020 – Board of Commissioners Finalize FY 2020-2021 Budget

Friday, May 8th 2020 – Budget Message Presented to the Board of Commissioners

May 11th through June 11th 2020 – FY 2020-2021 Budget Available for Public Review

Thursday, June 11th 2020 – Public Hearing on FY 2020-2021 Budget

Thursday, June 11th 2020 – Adoption of the FY 2020-2021 Budget Ordinance



## Town of Ranlo Budget FY 2020-2021



### OFFICE OF THE RANLO TOWN MANAGER

May 8, 2020

**REVISED JUNE 11, 2020**

The Honorable Lynn Black, Mayor of Ranlo, North Carolina  
 Ranlo Mayor Pro-Tem Katie Cordell  
 Ranlo Board of Commissioners Robin Connor, Jamie Fowler, Effie Locklear, Doug Moore

Dear Mayor Black and Ranlo Board of Commissioners:

As the Town of Ranlo’s Budget Officer and Town Manager, I am pleased to present for your consideration the Manager and Staff’s Recommended Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year (“Recommended Budget”).

The Recommended Budget balances at **\$3,824,100.00**. The Recommended Budget consists of a General Fund Budget of \$2,077,850; a Powell Bill Budget of \$207,900.00; a Storm Water Budget of \$27,000; and a Utility Fund Budget of \$1,511,350. The Recommended Budget requires a \$140,250 fund balance appropriation for the General Fund Budget, a \$53,4000 fund balance appropriation for the Powell Bill Fund Budget, and a \$93,350 fund balance for the Utility Fund Budget. The allocation required from fund balance for the General Fund is an approximate 66% decrease from the prior fiscal year; for the Utility Fund, the fund balance allocation is approximately 21% less than the prior fiscal year; and an approximate 2.4% decrease from the prior fiscal year for the Powell Bill Fund.

Chart A: Overview of the Recommended Budget

<b>Town of Ranlo FY 2020-2021 Budget</b>		<b>Major Capital Outlay Projects</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$50,000.00 for engineering studies for renovations to Town Hall;</li> <li>\$50,000.00 for Ranlo water tank restoration;</li> <li>\$20,000.00 to research, plan, and implement Ranlo Lodge renovations;</li> <li>\$25,000.00 for a new police vehicle;</li> <li>\$10,000.00 for a zero-turn lawnmower;</li> </ul>
<u><b>General Fund Budget</b></u>	<u><b>Utility Fund Budget</b></u>	
Administration: \$317,500.00 Governing Body: \$47,700.00 Non-Departmental: \$144,000.00 Police: \$989,100.00 Public Works: \$274,500.00 Recreation: \$111,250.00 Sanitation: \$193,800.00  <b>TOTAL: \$2,077,850.00</b>	Admin and Engineering: \$148,250.00 Non-Departmental: \$8,100.00 Sewer: \$699,500.00 Water: \$655,500.00  <b>TOTAL: \$1,511,350.00</b>	



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<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Stormwater Fund</u></p> <p><b>TOTAL:           \$27,000.00</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Powell Bill Fund</u></p> <p><b>TOTAL:           \$207,900.00</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$15,000.00 for grant infrastructure and asset improvements;</li> <li>• \$80,000.00 for street repairs; and</li> <li>• \$53,500.00 for Boulder Court Studies</li> </ul>
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In a collaborative effort, the Recommended Budget was prepared over a six-week period amongst the Town’s staff, coupled with direction and governing input from the Ranlo Board of Commissioners (“the Board”). Due to limited meeting options because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Recommended Budget was completed with one-on-one meetings between the Town Manager and department heads, as well as electronic briefing updates via e-mail with the Board. At the conclusion and revision of four drafts, a robust budget was produced focusing on progression, preparation, and planning.

### PROGRESS, PREPARE, PLAN

In ever changing times, it is important that the Town consistently work towards moving our community forward in a prepared and professional manner. With the continued growth of our citizenry and growth of our region, the need for additional resources and maintenance of current resources will be inevitable in the upcoming year. The Recommended Budget is prepared with a mindfulness of recognizing the importance of being progressive, prepared, and planned.

The Recommended Budget provides for numerous investments in order to ensure that the Town remains committed to not only embracing progress, but to successfully be able to handle progress. Of the most notable signs of progress is the continued growth of new Ranlo residents. New residents equate to new challenges for the Town, including additional calls for service to the Police Department, additional demands on the Public Works Department, and more depreciation of the Town’s roads. In order to manage and support the challenges of this progress, the Recommended Budget includes several notable investments. These include a \$25,000 investment in an additional police vehicle, \$80,000 in repairs to our streets and highways, and the inclusion of one additional police personnel and one additional public works employee. These investments will support recent and upcoming progress in the Town by providing necessary tools to provide quality and superior service to the Town and the Town’s residents.

Next, the Recommended Budget seeks to prepare the Town for necessary and comprehensive utility infrastructure needs. For example, \$15,000 is allocated to ensure the Town is a competitive applicant for the Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) grant from the Division of Water Infrastructure. This allocation will serve as the basis of a 10% grant equating to \$150,000 for the Town to analyze and prepare for underground infrastructure needs.

Also, in order to further be prepared for long-term needs and rehabilitation, the Recommended Budget relies on a restructured utility billing system. Under the restructure plan, residents will only pay for actual water/wastewater used, with rates gradually increasing with increased usage. Unfortunately, the Town maintains an aged water/wastewater system with ongoing and consistent problems that require additional funding above what is currently being garnered with levied rates. Furthermore, the provider for the Town’s water and wastewater treatment, the City of Gastonia, is implementing a 5% increase on the Town beginning July 1, 2020 for these services. The Town must be prepared to continue to upkeep our aging lines and sustain planned increased rates from our provider. The restructured utility billing system will help increase revenue in a fair and gradual manner, ensuring that those who



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use the least are not disproportionately bearing the burden of an overall rate increase and by encouraging water conservation.

Lastly, the Recommended Budget forges a path to a planned future. External variables have played a big part in shaping the future for the Town. The Volunteer Fire Department is vacating their shared space at Town Hall, while the Police Department is out growing their designated shared space at Town Hall; the Ranlo Lodge continues to depreciate due to normal wear-and-tear and continued community usage; and our Town owned water tower stands blighted due to weathered conditions. The Recommended Budget invests \$50,000 to plan for renovations and bold initiatives to explore repurposed options for Town Hall and the Police Department, while \$20,000 is designated to develop a certified plan and further rehabilitation efforts at the Ranlo Lodge, and \$50,000 is allocated to restore and repurpose the Ranlo Water Tower. These efforts in the Recommended Budget will yield a three-fold plan to move Ranlo in a positive and forward trajectory.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Recommended Budget is balanced and prepared in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 159-11. No tax increases are provided for and only minor increases in a tiered utility structure and increased garbage fees are suggested in this Recommended Budget. The Town of Ranlo is, and always has been, built with pride and this Recommended Budget will proudly demonstrate a commitment to progressing, preparing, and planning.

The public hearing on this budget is scheduled to be held during the June 11, 2020 Regular Monthly Ranlo Board of Commissioners Meeting at 7:00 pm. Any person wishing to make comments, or ask questions, may do so at the public hearing prior to the adoption of the Budget Ordinance. The Recommended Budget will be available for public review at Ranlo Town Hall during normal business hours and on the Town's website. Notice of availability of the document, and the scheduled public hearing, will be published in *The Gaston Gazette* in the upcoming days.

It is with the sincerest gratitude and appreciation that I, as Budget Officer and Town Manager, respectfully submit and recommend this proposed budget to the Ranlo Board of Commissioners today, May 8, 2020.

Thank you and best regards,

Jonathan D. Blanton  
Town Manager

Attachment:  
Manager and Staff's Recommended Budget for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year



## Town of Ranlo Budget FY 2020-2021

### BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

**BE IT ORDAINED** and established by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Ranlo, North Carolina on this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 2020 as follows:

**Section I.** The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the General Fund for the operation of its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021 in accordance with the chart of accounts established for the Town:

<b>Administration:</b>	<b>\$317,500.00</b>
<b>Governing Board:</b>	<b>\$47,700.00</b>
<b>Non-Departmental:</b>	<b>\$144,000.00</b>
<b>Police:</b>	<b>\$989,100.00</b>
<b>Public Works:</b>	<b>\$274,500.00</b>
<b>Recreation:</b>	<b>\$111,250.00</b>
<b>Sanitation:</b>	<b>\$193,800.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,077,850.00</b>

**Section II.** It is projected that the following revenues will be available in the General Fund for FY 2020-2021:

<b>Ad Valorem Taxes 2020:</b>	<b>\$850,000.00</b>
<b>Prior Year Taxes:</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
<b>County Tag and Taxes:</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>Alcohol Beverage Tax:</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
<b>Court Fees and Police Income:</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>Garbage Fees:</b>	<b>\$230,000.00</b>
<b>Other Revenue:</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>
<b>Utility Taxes:</b>	<b>\$216,000.00</b>
<b>Sales Taxes:</b>	<b>\$275,000.00</b>
<b>County Hold Harmless:</b>	<b>\$65,000.00</b>
<b>Solid Waste Disposal:</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>Interest on Investments:</b>	<b>\$30,000.00</b>
<b>Customer Trash Can Purchase:</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Building Permits/Zoning:</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
<b>Lodge Fees:</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>Concession Proceeds:</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Ball Team Revenue:</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Unauthorized Tax Distrib.:</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance Appropriation:</b>	<b>\$140,250.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$2,077,850.00</b>



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**Section III.** It is projected that the following revenues will be available in the Powell Bill Fund for FY 2020-2021:

<b>Powell Bill Street Allocations:</b>	<b>\$96,000.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance Appropriation:</b>	<b>\$53,400.00</b>
<b>Other Revenues:</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$154,400.00</b>

**Section IV.** The following expenditure amounts are hereby appropriated in the Powell Bill Fund for the implementation of Powell Bill activities for FY 2020-2021:

<b>Maint/Repair Streets:</b>	<b>\$80,000.00</b>
<b>Other Activities</b>	<b>\$74,400.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$154,400.00</b>

**Section V.** It is projected that the following revenues will be available in the Stormwater Fund for FY 2020-2021:

<b>Stormwater Revenues:</b>	<b>\$60,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60,000.00</b>

**Section VI.** The following expenditure amounts are hereby appropriated in the Stormwater Fund for FY 2020-2021:

<b>Departmental Supplies:</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>
<b>Postage:</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,000.00</b>

**Section VII:** It is projected that the following revenues will be available in the Utility Fund for FY 2020-2021:

<b>Water Sales:</b>	<b>\$600,000.00</b>
<b>Sewer Charges:</b>	<b>\$500,000.00</b>
<b>Availability Fees:</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>Connection Fees:</b>	<b>\$100,000.00</b>
<b>Reconnection Fees:</b>	<b>\$28,000.00</b>
<b>Other Revenues:</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>
<b>Fund Balance Appropriation:</b>	<b>\$93,350.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,511,350.00</b>



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**Section VIII:** The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Utility Fund for the operation of water and sewer utilities for FY 2020-2021:

<b>Admin and Engineering:</b>	<b>\$148,250.00</b>
<b>Non-Departmental:</b>	<b>\$8,100.00</b>
<b>Sewer:</b>	<b>\$699,500.00</b>
<b>Water:</b>	<b>\$655,500.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,511,350.00</b>

**Section IX:** There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of 40 cents (.40) per one hundred dollars of valuation of property as listed for the purpose of raising revenue listed as “Current Year’s Property Taxes” in the General Fund in Section Two of this ordinance.

**Section X:** The town manager/budget officer is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a department without limitations and without a report being required in the following manners:

- (A) Amounts may be transferred between line item expenditures within a department without limitations and without a report being required.
- (B) Amounts not exceeding \$5000 may be transferred between departments of the same fund with an official report on such transfers at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners.
- (C) Contributions may be transferred between funds when needed, but the transfers may not exceed the contribution amounts contained in this ordinance.

**Section XI:** The town manager/budget officer is hereby authorized to execute the necessary agreements within funds included in the budget ordinance for the following purposes:

- (A) Purchase of apparatus, supplies & materials where formal bids are not required by law;
- (B) Lease of normal and routine business equipment;
- (C) Construction or repair work where formal bids are not required by law;
- (D) Consultant, professional or maintenance service agreements prescribed by law;
- (E) Agreements for acceptance of state & federal grant funds; and
- (F) Grant agreements with public & non-profit agencies.

**Section XII:** Copies of this budget ordinance shall be furnished to the Finance Department to be kept on file for the disbursement of town funds and to the Town Clerk for permanent record keeping.