

Fiscal Committee Meeting Agenda

City of Bloomington Common Council

Friday, October 2, 2026 at 8:30 a.m.

Allison Conference Room, Room 225, City Hall

401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, IN 47404

The meeting may also be accessed [remotely](#)¹.

Chair: Hopi Stosberg

Topics to be Discussed:

1. Agenda Review and Approval
2. MUST Meeting Update
3. Elected Official Salaries Discussion
 - A. Public Comment
4. Updates from Controller
 - A. GO Bonds
 - B. ACFR/Audit
 - C. Public Comment
5. Scheduling
6. Adjournment

Pursuant to applicable law and policy, the following details are provided regarding the officers serving on this committee. Committee Members:

- Hopi Stosberg (Chair), Appointed by Council President, Term: 01/07/2026-01/06/2027
- Matt Flaherty, Appointed by Council President, Term: 01/07/2026-01/06/2027
- Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Appointed by Council President, Term: 01/07/2026-01/06/2027
- Dave Rollo, Appointed by Council President, Term: 01/07/2026-01/06/2027

Fiscal Committee meetings can be watched on the following websites:

- [Community Action Television Services](#)² (CATS)
- [City's YouTube Channel](#)³

[Materials for meetings](#)⁴ are available on the committee website.

Posted Date: October 1, 2026

¹ <https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/82252165279?pwd=a3c4cT4fwpFVFRMsmrwU4FtkRFdKTu.1>

Meeting ID: 822 5216 5279 Passcode: 586390

² <https://catstv.net/>

³ <https://youtube.com/@citybloomington>

⁴ <https://bloomington.in.gov/council/fiscal-committee>

Elected Official Compensation Framework-2026

Guiding Principles:

Values:

- 1) **Accessibility of Public Service:** Service in elected office is financially viable for community members at all socioeconomic levels, taking into account compensation relative to time spent.
- 2) **Quality Community Service:** Elected officials are paid a rate that motivates them to prioritize their city work and to do their best work. The compensation level leads highly qualified candidates to seek the office.
- 3) **Equitable Pay:** Elected officials are compensated equitably according to their respective levels of responsibility and relative to other Bloomington elected officials and departmental leadership.

Process:

- 1) **Informed Decisions:** Council makes informed decisions about elected official compensation in alignment with the above values and based on relevant objective data such as budgetary limitation, city compensation levels, comparisons with other cities, and historic inequities.
- 2) **Transparency and Consistency:** Council follows a transparent, repeatable process to make compensation decisions for elected officials and clearly explains this process to the public and all city elected officials.

Annual Process

March/April: Fiscal Committee validates and updates the Compensation Framework.

May-July: Fiscal Committee gathers and analyzes relevant data and information.

August: Preliminary numbers are available for budget presentations

October: Fiscal Committee drafts the Elected Salary Ordinance and presents it to the full council.

Relevant Information/Data

- City Budget Constraints/Capacity
- Civil City pay ranges
- Peer City data/analysis
- Bloomington Area Median Income
- Bloomington Cost of Living
- State law (elected salaries may never be decreased)
- Consultation with all Bloomington Elected Officials

Basis of Salary Setting

******This is what we really need to focus on. Ideally, we would be able to create a basis for salary setting that could be replicated year over year in terms of agreed upon processes. We need to determine whether it is still possible this year to create a basis that has some longevity or if we want to use a basis for 2027 that we may want to further modify next spring.

The ad hoc committee in 2024 ended up with the following recommendation:

- Mayor's salary was the midpoint of the salary range for the highest civil city pay grade
- Clerk's salary was the midpoint of the salary range for "leaders of civil city departments" (so one grade lower than the mayor if I remember correctly)
- Council Member salary was set as a percentage of the mayor's salary (proposal was originally 25%, if I remember correctly)

Ultimately those recommendations were not taken due to the salary increase that would result in for all three elected roles.

Considerations for 2027:

This year we have looked into some comparisons to other second class cities. I'm not sure how helpful those are.

There has been discussion of increasing council salaries in 2027 since it is an election year and higher salaries could encourage more highly qualified candidates to run for election.

We are facing future financial uncertainty and funding changes.

The viewpoints of Clerk Bolden* and Mayor Thomson**.

*Clerk Bolden intends to join the meeting on Friday, October 2, via Zoom.

******Mayor Thomson is unable to attend on Friday, but submitted the following statement regarding elected official salaries: "For 2027, I recommend that elected official increases not exceed the

budgeted Civil City COLA. Based on the 2026 Salary, Wage, and Fringe Benefits Survey - City of Bloomington's elected official salaries are competitive, especially considering benefits eligibility.

For 2028, I think additional research is needed to develop a consistent process for evaluating elected official compensation.”

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA,
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-27**

**TO FIX THE SALARIES OF ALL ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS FOR THE CITY OF
BLOOMINGTON FOR THE YEAR 2027**

Be It Ordained by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, That:

Section 1. Pursuant to Indiana Code 36-4-7-2, the annual salaries of elected officials of the City of Bloomington for the year beginning January 1, 2027, and extending to December 31, 2027, shall be:

2026 salaries

Mayor	\$146,011
Clerk	\$92,430
Council Members	\$25,675

Proposed w/2.7% COLA:

Mayor	\$149,953	(+\$3,942)
Clerk	\$94,926	(+\$2,496)
Council Members	\$26,368	(+\$693)

Proposed w/ Average COLA \$ amount of \$2,377

Mayor	\$148,388
Clerk	\$94,807
Council Members	\$28,052

Proposed w/ 2.7% COLA for clerk and mayor and council as 20% (25%) of mayor

Mayor	\$149,953	
Clerk	\$94,926	
Council Members	\$29,991	(\$37,488)

Section 2. The City Council President shall receive an additional \$1,500 per year, and the City Council Vice President shall receive \$800 per year.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

Passed

Passed and Adopted by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon the day of , 2026.

Isak Nti Asare
President, City of Bloomington

Attestation of Bloomington City Clerk:

Nicole Bolden
Clerk, City of Bloomington

Presentation by Bloomington City Clerk:

Presented by me to the Mayor of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this
day of _____, 2026:

Nicole Bolden
Clerk, City of Bloomington

Approval by Mayor

Signed and approved by me upon this _____ day of _____, 2026:

Kerry Thomson
Mayor, City of Bloomington

Synopsis

This Ordinance sets the maximum 2027 salary rate for all elected city officials for the City of Bloomington.