BARRINGTON
Be Inspired.

BUDGET IN BRIEF

Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2026

In December 2025, the Village Board adopted the 2026 annual expenditure budget of $65,114,843 effective Jan. 1, 2026 through Dec. 31, 2026. The Village continues to maintain a strong financial position leading into 2026. This position helps to mitigate the financial impact of Village operations on taxpayers.

The budget cycle encompasses a year-long series of public discussions about operational needs, capital improvements, economic development, debt management, financial forecasting and strategic planning. The annual budget sets forth a financial plan to meet the goals and objectives outlined in the Village's Strategic Plan for 2021–2026.

Top Budget Takeaways

- 2026 total expenditure budget is **$65,114,843** (see page two for a breakdown)
- The General Fund expenditure budget is **$23,588,256**
- The Village continues to **maintain current operations and services while pursuing a substantial capital program**
- The budget includes **$24.7 million in funding for significant infrastructure projects and capital spending**
- Continued strong sales tax performance, including second full year of **home rule sales tax collection**
- The Village receives revenues from a **variety of sources**, including property tax, sales tax, charges for services and grants

2026 Strategic Initiatives

Continued Sound Financial Practices

- Regularly review and update financial policies while actively seeking and applying for grant funding
- Implement Asset Management software to improve customer service, plan for capital projects and reduce operating costs
- Develop strategies for long-term obligations and economic development programs

Provide Excellent Public Services Through Infrastructure Management and Improvements

- Begin replacement of the Iron Filtration Facility and kick off the Wastewater Treatment Facility rehabilitation project
- Commence construction of the downtown streetscape enhancement project
- Supplement the Capital Improvement Plan with prioritization lists to support a shared understanding of improvement, maintenance and operating costs

Renewed Economic Development Efforts

- Collaborate and meet with local merchants to strengthen relationships, provide support and encourage involvement in community events
- Continue business attraction and retention efforts
- Enhance the economic development tools implemented in 2025
- Assess the downtown corridor to develop a future vision supported by infrastructure that is aligned with the Village's historic charm

Expenditures

The budget includes three types of Village funds which serve different purposes and are defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Governmental Funds are used to account for activities primarily supported by charges for services, taxes, fees, grants, interest income and similar revenue sources.

> General Fund
> Motor Fuel Tax
> TIF #2
> Capital Improvements Fund
> Debt Service Fund

Enterprise Funds are those that are most like funds in the private sector. They are used to account for activities that receive significant support from fees, charges and donations.

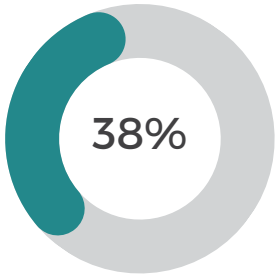
> Water & Sewer Fund
> Parking System Fund
> Barrington's White House Fund
> Recycling & Refuse Fund

Fiduciary Funds are used to account for resources that a government holds as a trustee or agent and that cannot be used to support the government's own programs.

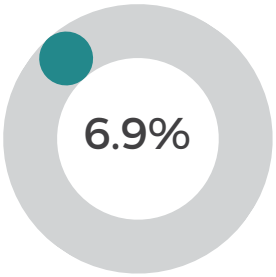
> Police Pension Fund
> Firefighters' Pension Fund

Major Expenditure Categories Across All Funds

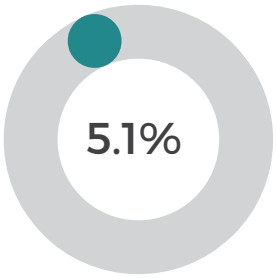
Operating Costs
Salaries, Benefits & Other Day-to-Day Costs



Capital Expenses
Infrastructure, Vehicles, Equipment & Maintenance



Pension Expenses
Police, Fire and IMRF Pension Payments



Debt Service
Principal & Interest Payments on Long-Term Debt

Governance

The Village President and Board of Trustees set policies, adopt rules, and guide the approval of budgets and priorities for all Village departments, ensuring alignment with the Village's strategic and comprehensive plans. Staff is responsible for implementing and enforcing the board's decisions to deliver effective service. Regular collaboration between the board and staff enables timely updates to codes and policies, fostering transparency, accountability and responsiveness to the community's needs.

Annual Cost Considerations

Inflation
Adjustments are necessary to cover increased costs.

Required Expenses by Statute
These are non-negotiable expenditures mandated by state statute, critical for the Village's operation like pension obligation and funding, outside safety requirements.

Aging Infrastructure
Expenses necessary to support the maintenance and replacement of aging infrastructure.

Desired Service Levels
Investments to meet or exceed the community's expectations for Village services.

Core Services

Police, Firefighting & Emergency Services
Maintaining safety through patrol, investigations, emergency response (this includes weather-related events such as snowplowing) and firefighting.

Water Delivery & Wastewater Treatment
Delivering clean, safe water to our community, and efficiently treating wastewater to protect the environment and public health.

Capital Maintenance and Improvements
Enhancing and maintaining infrastructure such as sidewalks, roadways and right-of-way trees.

Village Hall Operations
Providing strategic public communications, community events, development reviews, Village permits and enforcement, and administrative and fiscal management.

Revenues

A large portion of revenues are collected from state shared revenues and direct services provided to the community. These services include water delivery and treatment, and charges for services, which includes ambulance transports, licenses and permitting.

Property Tax Revenue

Property tax accounts for 7.2% of all Village revenue collected. Of your total annual property tax bill, only 7% supports the Village. The graphic below depicts how property tax bills are allocated to other taxing bodies in our area.

Significant Non-Property Tax Revenues

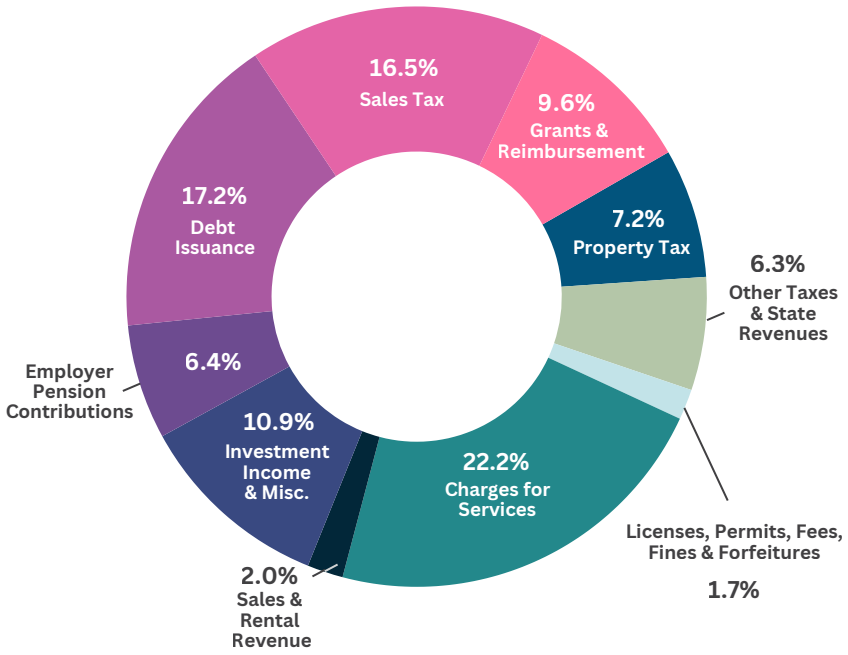
The Village collects revenue from a variety of sources:

Water, Sewer & Garbage Charges
Revenue generated from utility bills pays directly for water and sewer system maintenance and improvements, and refuse and recycling collection. Refuse, water and sewer are billed on a monthly basis.

Sales Tax*
Revenue generated from purchases made within Village limits, including online sales shipped to a Village address.
**Includes home rule sales tax*

Income Taxes & Other Revenues
State income tax is allocated based upon population. The Village also seeks to leverage federal, state and county resources and grants to advance initiatives and infrastructure investment.

Where Does the Village Revenue Come From?



2026 Service Stats

Responded to over 12,127 public safety calls for service

32,588 linear feet of sanitary sewer pipe cleaned

67 trees planted & 40 years of being named a Tree City USA

Treated over 767 million gallons of wastewater

2026 Major Priorities

Route 14 Underpass
Following contract award and project commencement in 2025, work continues this year and will include storm sewer installations to facilitate the rerouting of Flint Creek and railroad bridge construction. Stay updated by visiting the dedicated project website at www.us14underpass.com.

Streetscape Enhancements
The Village is enhancing the downtown streetscape to create a more vibrant space. Plans include upgrades in the Village Center, such as new sidewalk, raised planters and clay brick accents. The project will be completed in two phases: Phase 1 will begin this year on Cook and Station Streets, and Phase 2 will follow with improvements on Main and Hough Streets after receiving permitting approvals from the Illinois Department of Transportation.

TOO BRIEF?
Scan the QR code to view the full Village budget document.

Water Systems Upgrades and Maintenance

Iron Filtration System
Village water is treated through an iron filtration system, which removes excess iron from the water, improving color and taste. Design is completed, and initial construction for the replacement of the existing iron filtration system is anticipated to begin in mid-2026. Due to the age of the existing system, this work is necessary to maintain the current level of service and provide improved water quality.

Wastewater Treatment Facility
The aging Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF), all of which was constructed prior to 1976, requires significant renovation. Major upgrades include new equipment (screening, pumps, blowers, filtration, disinfection, plumbing and electrical), tanks, and other mechanical improvements. Design work is nearly completed, with construction to begin in late 2026.

About the Village of Barrington & Department Contacts

A beautiful, historic suburb just 35 miles northwest of Chicago, Barrington's 10,722 residents pride themselves on the Village's hometown charm and small-town heritage.

The Village of Barrington serves as the hub of activity for the 90-square-mile Barrington area, which consists of seven independent villages and more than 47,000 residents. The Metra train stops right in the Village center, easily connecting Barrington to the City of Chicago.

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