

PROPOSED BUDGET GOALS

FY 2025 – 2026

1. **Maintaining or lowering the tax rate (FY2024-25 mill rate is \$17.20) by reviewing procedures and practices to creatively see what it would take to do better, in other words think about better ways to do what needs to be done**
2. **Continue commitment to the improvement and maintenance of the Town roads**
3. **Undesignated fund balance can be utilized within existing policy to accomplish priority number one. (see below policy)**
4. **All budget areas are on the table for discussion and review**
5. **Core services driven budget**

Financial Policy Excerpt:

UNASSIGNED GENERAL FUND BALANCE (SURPLUS)

The purpose of maintaining surplus is to ensure adequate undesignated reserves to respond to unforeseen emergencies and provide overall financial stability.

In view of the unpredictability of non-tax revenues, the Town of Raymond shall set as a target sufficient fund balance to both protect the creditworthiness of the Town and ensure adequate liquid funds for emergency needs.

The goal of the Town is to have a level of undesignated surplus equal to at least 15% of the prior year's tax commitment. This level of surplus is to be exclusive of any amount already designated to be paid from surplus.

The appropriate use of any funds over that level shall be determined upon receipt of audited figures, and used, with Town Meeting approval, for equipment reserves, capital improvements, debt reduction, and/or real estate tax reduction.