



**Mayor & Board of Aldermen
SPECIAL CALL MEETING**

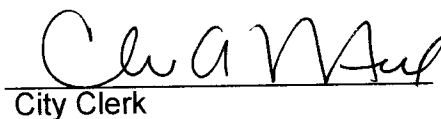
Wednesday, September 10, 2025 @ 5:30 PM

Location: City Hall Boardroom - 1018 Porter Avenue - Ocean Springs, MS 39564

The object of the meeting will be any matters pertaining to:

1. Ocean Springs School District Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Ad Valorem Request
2. Adopt the City of Ocean Springs Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026
3. Authorize Execution of Funding Award from MS Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) – Police Traffic Services – FY26 - Resolution
4. Executive Session — Litigation Update


Mayor


City Clerk



Bobby Cox
Matthew Hinton
Steve Tillis
Karen Stennis

Mayor
Alderman at Large
Alderman Ward 1
Alderman Ward 2

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Alderman Ward 6



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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor & Board of Aldermen
From: Christine Millard, City Clerk
Re: Ocean Springs School District Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Ad Valorem Request
Section: The Object Of The Meeting Will Be Any Matters Pertaining To:
Meeting Date: September 10, 2025

The Ocean Springs School District (OSSD) has submitted its Fiscal Year 2025–2026 ad valorem tax request.

As a matter of procedure, the Board of Aldermen has historically approved the OSSD ad valorem request separately before adopting the Resolution Fixing the Tax Levy and adopting the annual budget. Although the Resolution Fixing the Tax Levy, which included the OSSD request, was adopted at the September 2, 2025, meeting, this additional step ensures compliance and consistency with prior practice.

Action Requested:

A motion to approve the OSSD 2025–2026 ad valorem tax request.



August 13, 2025

Mayor Bobby Cox
City of Ocean Springs
1018 Porter Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

RE: 2025-2026 Ad Valorem Request for Ocean Springs School District

Dear Mayor Cox and Board:

Below is a recap of the amount necessary to provide sufficient aggregate tax receipts to fund the 2025-2026 fiscal budget adopted by the Board of Trustees at the August 12, 2025 meeting and to meet the requirements of Section 37-19-11 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 (Annotated). This requirement includes the dollars generated from both ad valorem taxes and homestead exemption reimbursement. Please add additional millage to cover any cost of collections related to the district's levy as required in Section 37-57-1 of the Mississippi Code of 1972 (Annotated). The intent of the district is to remain at the 55 mill level for operations and to receive revenue generated from a 55 mill levy and all interest and penalties collected on school tax levies.

District Maintenance (Section 37-57-105)	\$ 20,710,814.00
Less: Ad Valorem Reduction Grant	\$ 0.00
Total Request for District Maintenance Operations	\$ 20,710,814.00

Debt Service:

General Obligation Bonds	\$ 3,048,603.00
3-Mill Notes	\$ 925,000.00
Shortfall Note	\$ 126,262.00
Total All Debt Service	\$ 4,099,865.00

Our total request is **\$24,810,679.00**

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Lindsey
Superintendent of Schools

OCEAN SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUDGET YEAR ENDING 2026
Amendment #1

	GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS				BUDGET
	GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	DEBT SERVICE	
<u>REVENUES:</u>					
LOCAL SOURCES	22,414,150.25	1,040,116.00	-	4,121,865.00	27,576,131.25
INTERMEDIATE	-	-	-	-	-
STATE SOURCES	38,276,126.00	816,870.47	-	-	39,092,996.47
FEDERAL SOURCES	261,390.00	5,180,929.17	-	-	5,442,319.17
16TH SECTION	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES	60,951,666.25	7,037,915.64	-	4,121,865.00	72,111,446.89
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>					
INSTRUCTION	36,039,647.52	3,842,096.97	-	-	39,881,744.49
SUPPORT SERVICES	-	-	-	-	-
STUDENTS	4,588,686.62	467,003.96	-	-	5,055,690.58
INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF	2,125,464.72	629,665.46	-	-	2,755,130.18
GENERAL ADMIN	652,827.45	559,588.37	-	-	1,212,415.82
SCHOOL ADMIN	3,138,732.97	121,084.22	-	-	3,259,817.19
BUSINESS	619,705.78	39,755.70	-	-	659,461.48
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	8,246,556.72	53,476.66	-	-	8,300,033.38
TRANSPORTATION	2,976,620.14	101,675.00	-	-	3,078,295.14
CENTRAL	1,987,333.49	-	-	-	1,987,333.49
NON INSTRUCTIONAL	-	2,663,127.04	-	-	2,663,127.04
16TH SECTION	-	-	-	-	-
FACILITIES ACQUISITION / CONSTRUCTION	38,302.00	-	13,260,905.17	-	13,299,207.17
DEBT SERVICE	251,487.72	-	2,000,000.00	4,305,886.00	6,557,373.72
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	60,665,365.13	8,477,473.38	15,260,905.17	4,305,886.00	88,709,629.68
<u>OTHER FUND SOURCES (USES)</u>					
OTHER FUND SOURCES	8,718,557.50	1,341,888.73	15,000,000.00	184,021.00	25,244,467.23
OTHER FUND USES	(9,705,067.15)	(539,400.08)	-	-	(10,244,467.23)
TOTAL OTHER FUND SOURCES (USES)	(986,509.65)	802,488.65	15,000,000.00	184,021.00	15,000,000.00
Budgeted Fund Balance	700,208.53	637,069.09	260,905.17	-	1,598,182.79
EXCESS REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES & OTHER	-	-	-	-	-



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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor & Board of Aldermen
From: Christine Millard, City Clerk
Re: Adopt the City of Ocean Springs Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026
Section: The Object Of The Meeting Will Be Any Matters Pertaining To:
Meeting Date: September 10, 2025

At the FY 2025–2026 Budget Public Hearing held on September 2, 2025, members of the public raised questions for clarification. Staff responses are provided below for the record.

1. Public Question (Ward 6): Concern was expressed that since there is a line item for Festival expenditures on the expense side of the 2% fund, why are transfers not entered directly there? The transfer, as currently shown, could be misleading, as an average citizen might assume the funds are going into the General Fund.

Response: The line item was reviewed and found to have been in existence since at least 2016; however, the current title format is misleading as to the purpose of the transfer. The line item will be revised to accurately reflect that the transfer is specifically for festival expenditures, which aligns with the purpose of the 2% fund.

2. Public Question (Ward 1): Since there is already a line item for Overtime, and it is being used routinely, why not consolidate all Overtime into one executive-level account, so the Mayor can review and authorize each request?

Response: Due to limited staff in most of our departments and workload management, overtime is sometimes necessary for activities such as festival support, after-hours special calls, and emergency maintenance or repair work. These situations are often cyclical (festivals) or occur outside of normal business hours (special calls, emergency response), making it more cost-effective to pay overtime when needed rather than hiring additional full-time staff. In certain departments, such as Police and Fire, open positions and call-ins also increase reliance on overtime to maintain essential services. Department Heads are required to justify overtime usage and plan for it within their budgets when possible, ensuring that after-hours work is necessary and that funding is available. To responsibly manage costs, the City will continue to monitor overtime use closely and encourage alternative solutions whenever feasible.

City of Ocean Springs

FY 2025-2026

Budget

GENERAL FUND

REVENUE

Budget

FYE 9/30/25

Budget

FYE 9/30/26

Ad Valorem Taxes	\$	5,112,697.95	\$	6,187,055.00
Prior Year Taxes	\$	27,600.00	\$	27,600.00
Land Redemption	\$	30,000.00	\$	30,000.00
Homestead Exemptions	\$	325,000.00	\$	325,000.00
ABC License	\$	100,000.00	\$	100,000.00
Gasoline Tax	\$	14,000.00	\$	14,000.00
Utility Franchise	\$	825,200.00	\$	825,050.00
Licenses and Permits	\$	373,000.00	\$	385,000.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$	36,900.00	\$	40,140.50
Sales Tax	\$	6,600,000.00	\$	6,700,000.00
Government Services	\$	12,000.00	\$	12,000.00
County Road Tax	\$	875,000.00	\$	875,000.00
Jackson Co BOS	\$	368,000.00	\$	260,000.00
Fines and Forfeits	\$	242,200.00	\$	242,200.00
Rentals and Leases	\$	263,905.00	\$	215,855.00
City Participation Fees	\$	330,000.00	\$	350,000.00
Flow-thru funds-other agencies	\$	66,626.00	\$	66,626.00
Transfer from other funds	\$	470,085.00	\$	107,570.55
Mary C Income	\$	51,500.00	\$	52,500.00
Other Income	\$	398,500.00	\$	498,500.00
Total Revenue	\$	16,522,213.95	\$	17,314,097.05
Cash carry over	\$	2,130,000.00	\$	1,700,000.00
<u>Total income</u>	\$	18,652,213.95	\$	19,014,097.05

Budget

FYE 9/30/25

Budget

FYE 9/30/26

EXPENSES

MAYOR

Personnel Services	\$	248,229.00	\$	253,632.00
Supplies	\$	8,900.00	\$	11,900.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	337,943.00	\$	340,512.00
Grants, Subsidies	\$	6,000.00	\$	6,000.00

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Personnel Services	\$	155,340.00	\$	149,379.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	25,900.00	\$	15,900.00
Grants, Subsidies	\$	22,000.00	\$	7,000.00
Capital Improvements	\$	42,500.00	\$	42,000.00
Transfers	\$	20,000.00	\$	20,000.00

City of Ocean Springs

FY 2025-2026

Budget

CLERK/FINANCE

Personnel Services	\$	258,312.00	\$	455,793.00
Supplies	\$	10,100.00	\$	10,100.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	532,864.00	\$	455,529.22

HR/RISK

Personnel Services	\$	111,113.00	\$	113,355.00
Supplies	\$	4,050.00	\$	1,720.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	719,800.00	\$	748,600.00

PLANNING/GRANTS

Personnel Services	\$	179,931.00	\$	190,908.00
Supplies	\$	2,100.00	\$	2,600.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	114,803.00	\$	112,003.00

BUILDING/PERMITS

Personnel Services	\$	334,712.00	\$	331,986.00
Supplies	\$	8,320.00	\$	8,820.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	121,704.00	\$	121,304.00
Capital Outlay	\$	33,000.00	\$	-

FACILITIES

Personnel Services	\$	202,411.00	\$	148,871.00
Supplies	\$	31,400.00	\$	29,750.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	300,007.00	\$	309,880.00
Capital Outlay	\$	31,000.00	\$	-

POLICE

Personnel Services	\$	4,203,463.00	\$	4,456,047.00
Supplies	\$	424,000.00	\$	478,500.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	825,983.00	\$	569,180.00
Capital Outlay	\$	17,000.00	\$	-

COURT

Personnel Services	\$	250,597.00	\$	257,392.00
Supplies	\$	6,300.00	\$	6,800.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	62,102.00	\$	62,574.00

FIRE

Personnel Services	\$	2,798,901.00	\$	2,993,852.00
Supplies	\$	113,626.00	\$	136,350.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$	156,658.00	\$	161,450.00
Capital Outlay	\$	102,700.00	\$	-

**City of Ocean Springs
FY 2025-2026**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	Budget	
Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION		
Personnel Services	\$ 157,624.00	\$ 157,915.00
Supplies	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 33,055.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 51,234.00	\$ 51,294.00
PUBLIC WORKS STREET		
Personnel Services	\$ 799,267.20	\$ 867,439.00
Supplies	\$ 363,200.00	\$ 338,400.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 728,560.00	\$ 738,400.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 97,000.00	\$ 55,000.00
PUBLIC WORKS SHOP		
Personnel Services	\$ 91,692.00	\$ 90,520.00
Supplies	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 14,500.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 10,500.00
PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE		
Personnel Services	\$ 110,930.00	\$ 306,562.00
Supplies	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 8,000.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00
PUBLIC WORKS DRAINAGE		
Personnel Services	\$ 282,396.00	\$ 300,039.00
Supplies	\$ 30,700.00	\$ 24,500.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 41,880.00	\$ 53,350.00
Drainage Projects	\$ 365,000.00	\$ 300,000.00
PUBLIC WORKS LANDSCAPING		
Personnel Services	\$ 190,383.00	\$ 195,258.00
Supplies	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 36,200.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PARKS AND RECREATION		
Personnel Services	\$ 1,526,388.00	\$ 1,577,003.00
Supplies	\$ 280,000.00	\$ 281,500.00
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 354,878.00	\$ 366,260.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 85,000.00	\$ -
BUILDING RENTAL		
Contractual/Other Services	\$ 126,160.00	\$ 138,000.00
Capital Outlay	\$ 18,000.00	\$ -
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 18,642,461.20	\$ 18,976,382.22
Ending cash balance carryover	\$ 9,752.75	\$ 37,714.83



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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor & Board of Aldermen

From: Carolyn Martin, Grants Administrator

Re: Authorize Execution of Funding Award from MS Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) – Police Traffic Services – FY26 - Resolution

Section: The Object Of The Meeting Will Be Any Matters Pertaining To:

Meeting Date: September 10, 2025

Applications for FY26 MOHS programs were submitted on May 19, 2025. The award will cover overtime police activity necessary to directly impact fatalities and injuries which includes all aspects of traffic enforcement in the combined areas of Occupant Protection, Child Restraint and Speed. Police Traffic Service programs will work the national priority program blitz campaign Click It or Ticket.

There is no match required for these funds and the total award is \$10,000.00. I respectfully request authorization for the mayor to execute this agreement as presented including the attached Resolution.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL RESOLUTION AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO PROCEED

WHEREAS, the City of Ocean Springs
(Governing Body of Unit of Government)

Herein called the "**SUB-GRANTEE**" has thoroughly considered the problem addressed in the application
(Program Funding Source) **402 POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES** and has reviewed the project described in the agreement; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of Public Law 89-564 as amended, the United States of America has authorized the Department of Transportation, through the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety to make federal contracts to assist local governments in the improvement of highway safety,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Mayor and Board of Aldermen
(Governing Body of Unit of Government)

IN THE JURISDICTION City of Ocean Springs **MISSISSIPPI, THIS** _____ **Day of**
_____, 20 25 **AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the project above is in the best interest of the Sub-Grantee and the general public.
2. Mayor Bobby Cox
(Name and Title of Representative) is authorized to accept, on behalf of the Sub-Grantee,
an award in the form prescribed by the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety for federal funding in the
amount of \$ 10,000.00 to be made to the Sub-Grantee defraying the cost of the
(Federal Dollar Requested)
project described in the award.
3. One original or certified copy of this resolution must be included as part of the award referenced above.
4. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

(If Applicable)

DONE AND ORDERED IN OPEN MEETING BY _____
(Chairman of Board / Mayor)

Alderman/Councilperson _____ offered the foregoing resolution and moved its adoption,
which was seconded by Alderman/Councilperson _____ and was duly adopted.

Date: _____

Seal (City/County Seal is required)

Attest By: _____

Title: _____