Town of Carthage

State of the Town Report

Board of Commissioners

Town of Carthage

March 13, 2021

Mayor Jimmy Chalflinch

Mayor Pro-Tem Milton "T" Dowdy, Jr. Commissioner Al Barber

Commissioner Christopher Nance Commissioner Daniel Bonillo

Commissioner Dustin Smith

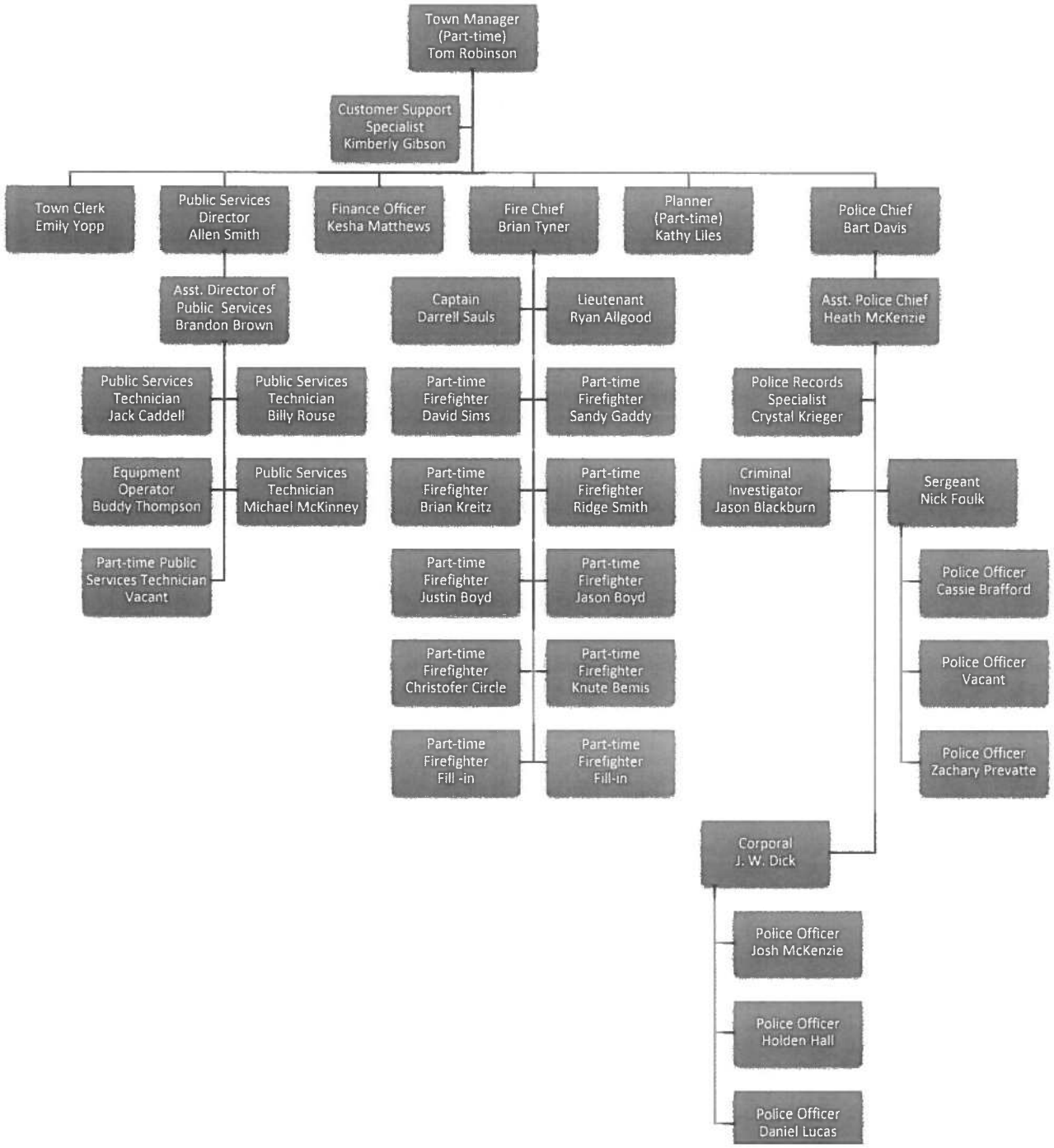
Tom Robinson, Town Manager

Emily Yopp, Town Clerk Kesha Matthews, Finance Officer

Bart Davis, Chief of Police Brian Tyner, Fire Chief

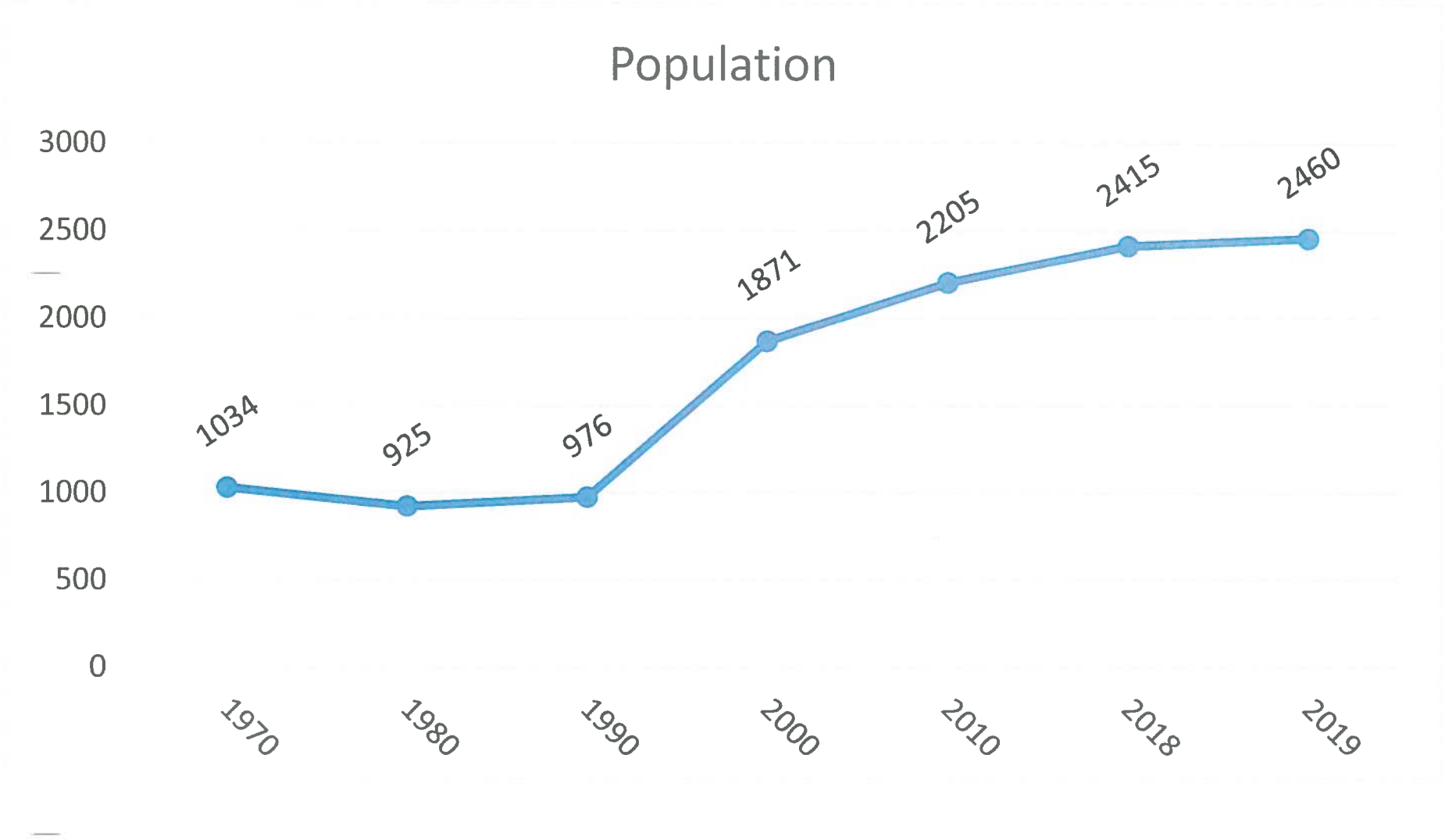
Allen Smith, Director of Public Works Kathy Liles, Town Planner

TOWN OF CARTHAGE STAFF
(24 Full-Time, 13 Part-time)



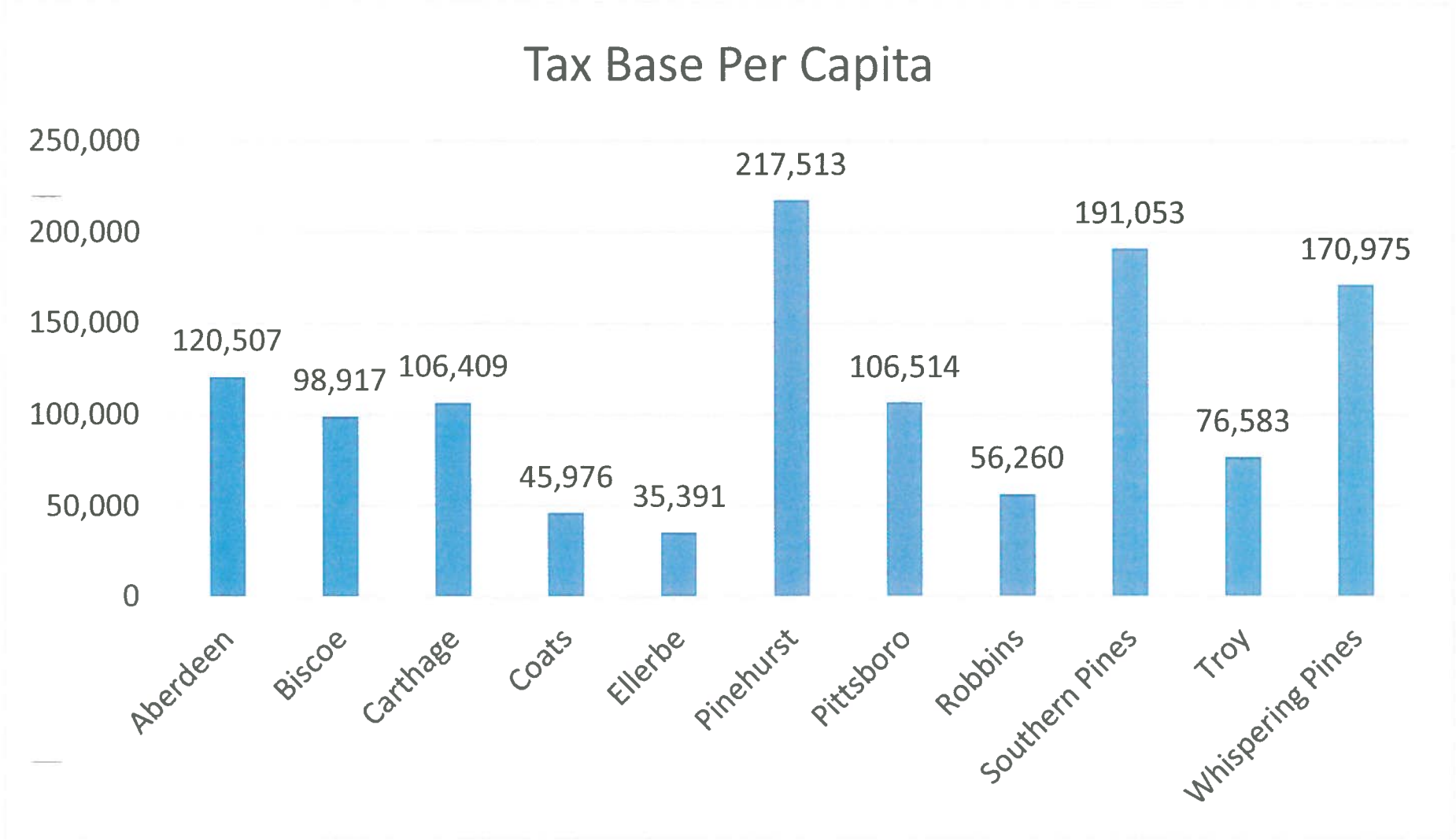
Added /Deleted Staff Positions

- 2012-13
  - Abolished Assistant Director of Public Works
  - Maintenance Worker III
- 2013-14
  - Town Manager (full-time to part-time)
  - Police Officer
  - 2 Full-time Firefighters (SAFER Grant)
  - 4 Part-time Firefighters (SAFER Grant)
- 2014-15
  - Planner (part-time)
- 2015-16
  - Re-established Assistant Director of Public Services position
- 2016-17
  - Abolished 2 Part-time Firefighter positions (SAFER Grant)
- 2017-18
  - Re-established 2 Part-time Firefighter positions
  - Established Part-time Public Services Technician position
  - Hired Police Officer in position that was added in FY 2013-14
- 2018-19; 2019-20; 2020-2021
  - None



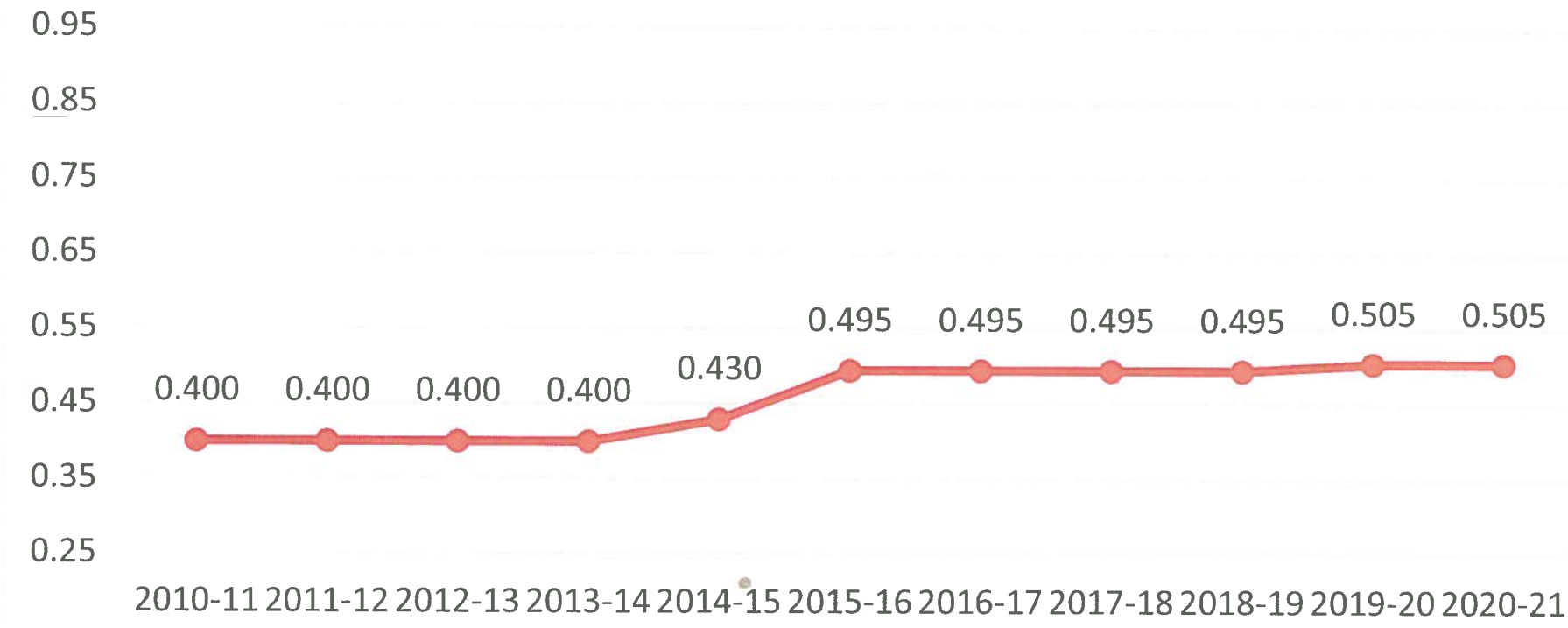
Population totals effect population distributed revenues, like sales tax.


Tax Rate Comparison
Property Tax Rate Per $100 Valuation (FY 2019-20)
0.8
0.7
0.6
0.5
0.4
0.3
0.2
0.1
0
0.49
0.56
0.505
0.59
0.70
0.30
0.43
0.75
0.40
0.46
0.42
Aberdeen
Biscoe
Carthage
Coats
Ellerbe
Pinehurst
Pittsboro
Robbins
Southern Pines
Troy
Whispering Pines

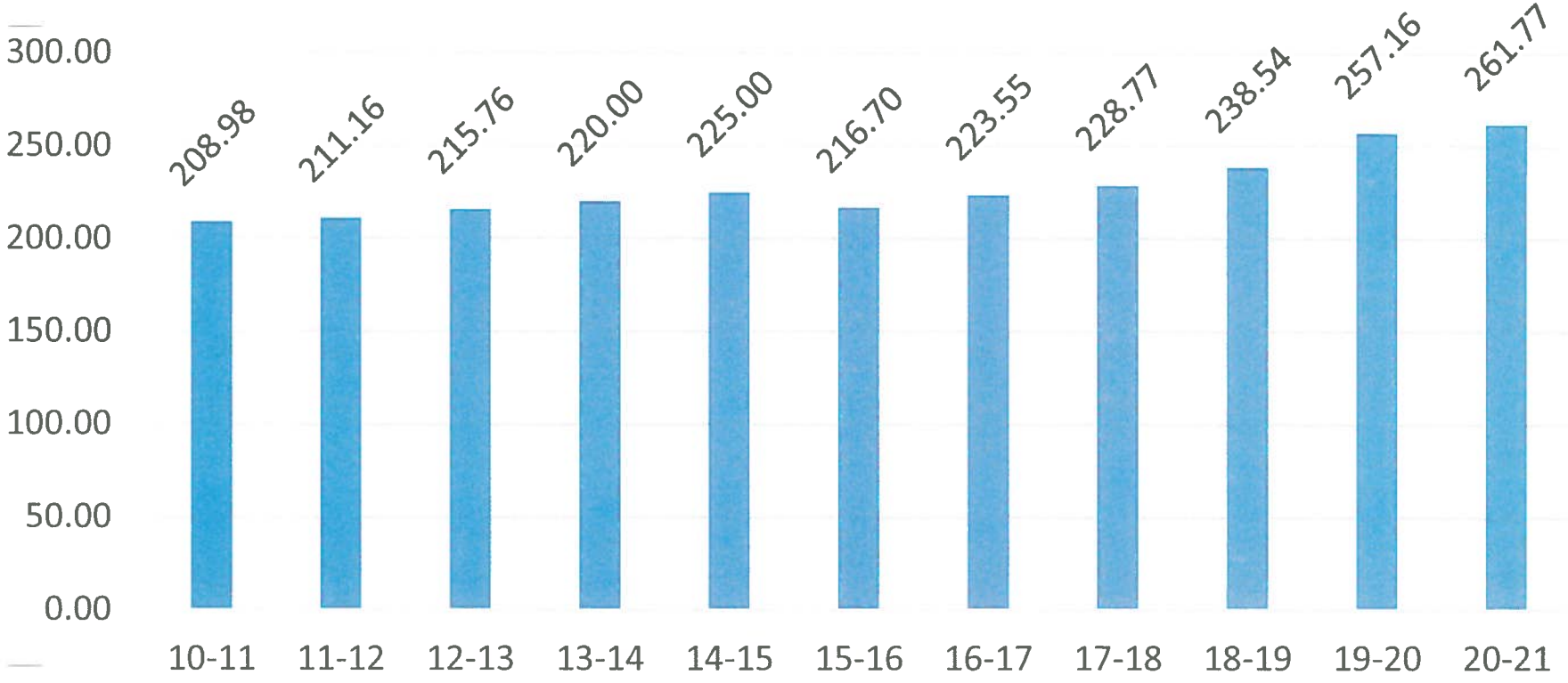

Tax Base Per Capita
250,000
200,000
150,000
100,000
50,000
0
120,507
98,917
106,409
45,976
35,391
217,513
106,514
56,260
191,053
76,583
170,975
Aberdeen
Biscoe
Carthage
Coats
Ellerbe
Pinehurst
Pittsboro
Robbins
Southern Pines
Troy
Whispering Pines

Property Tax Rate History

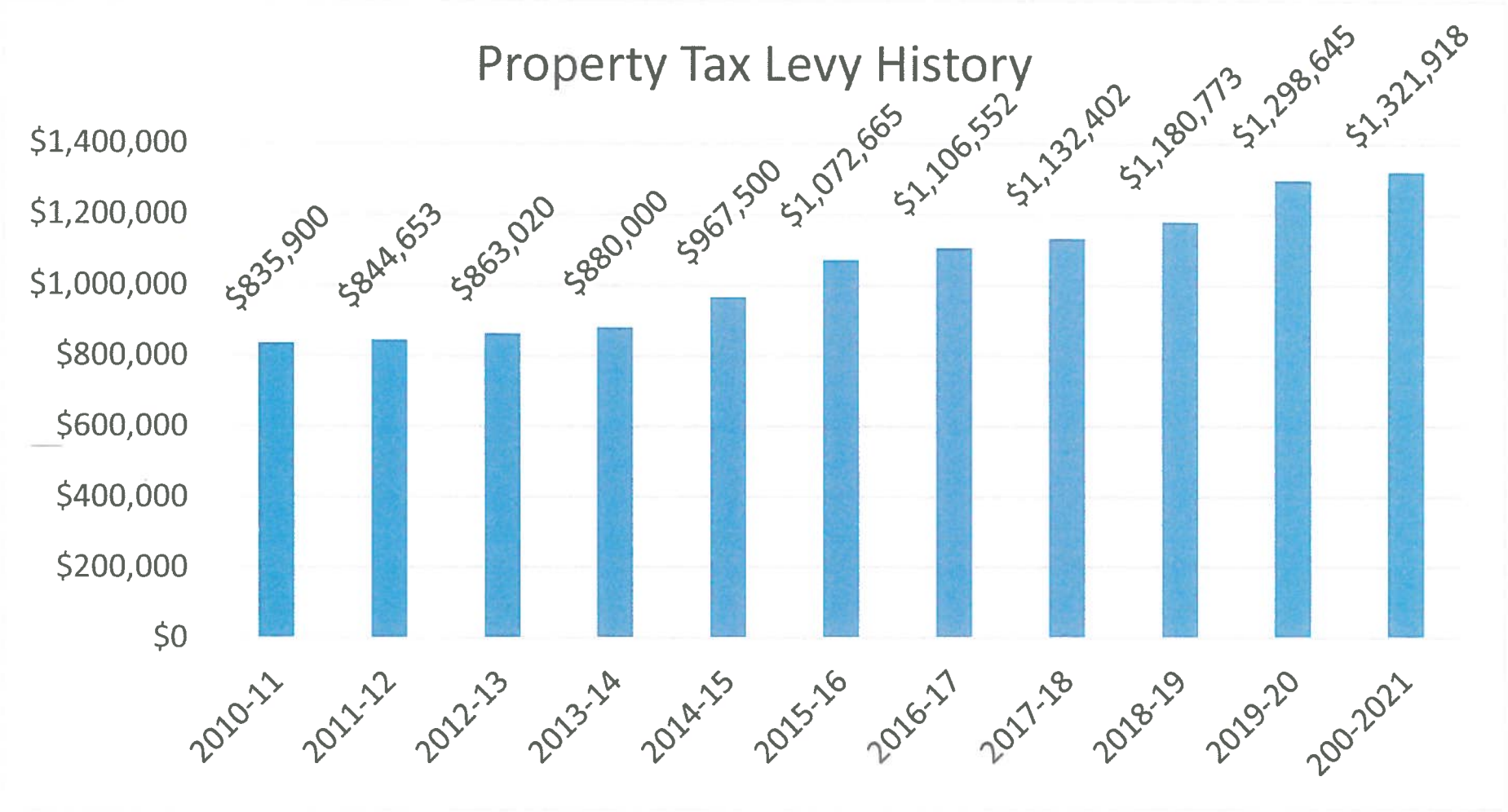
Property Tax Rate Per $100 Valuation



Tax Valuation History
(In Millions)

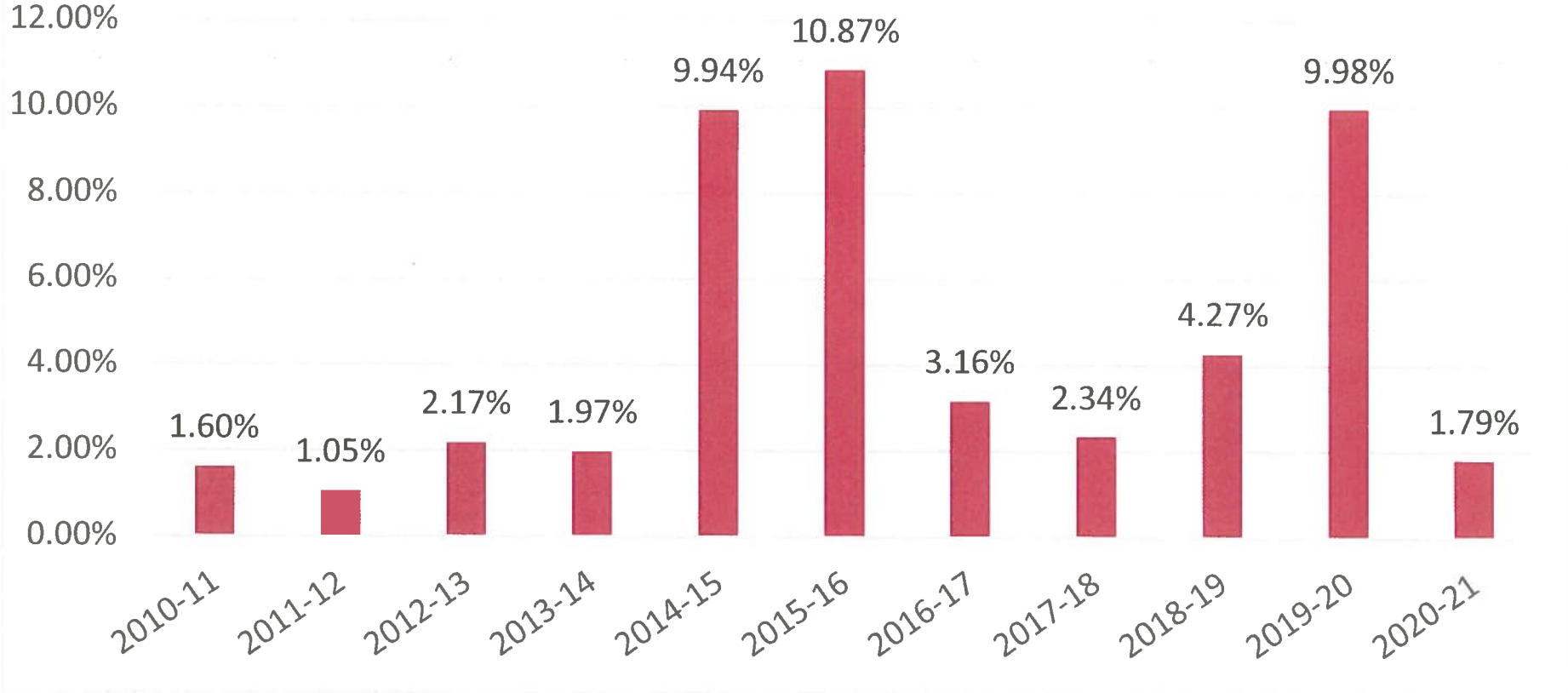


2014-2015 and 2019 - 2020 WERE TAX REVALUATION YEARS

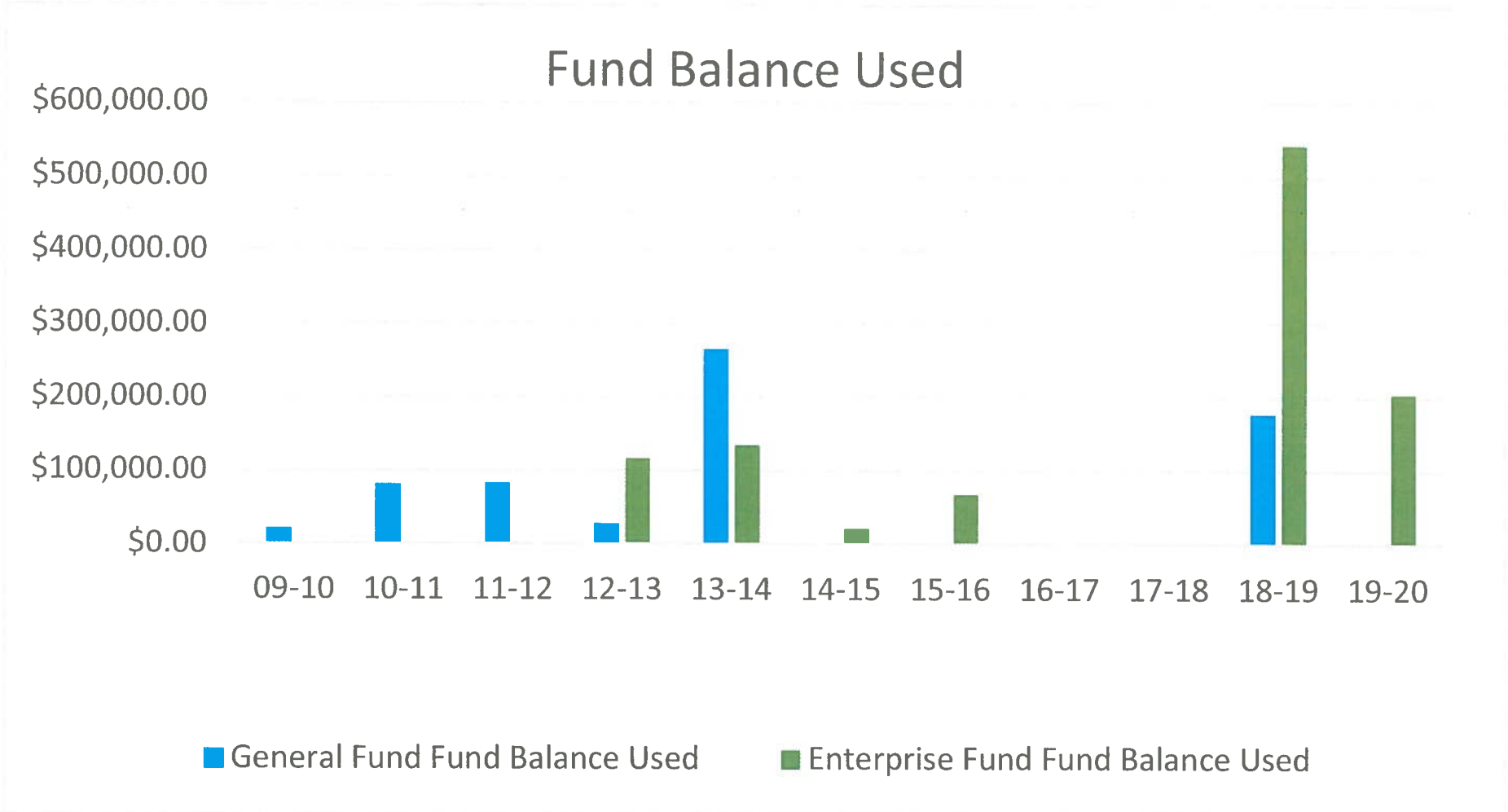


2014-15 value reflects 3 cent property tax increase. 2015-16 value reflects 6.5 cent property tax increase. 2019-20 value reflects a 1 cent property tax increase.

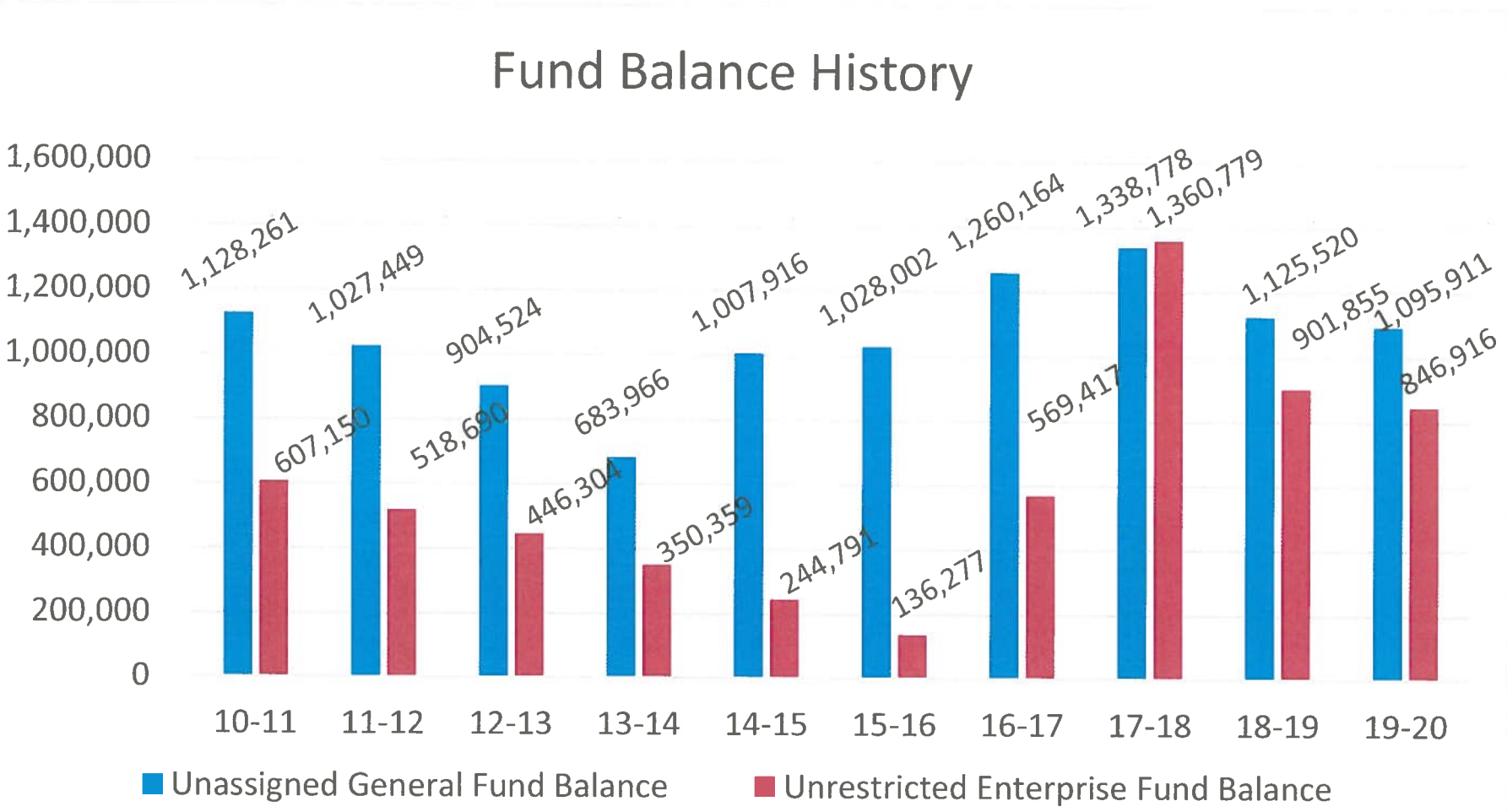
Property Tax Levy Percentage Change from Previous Year



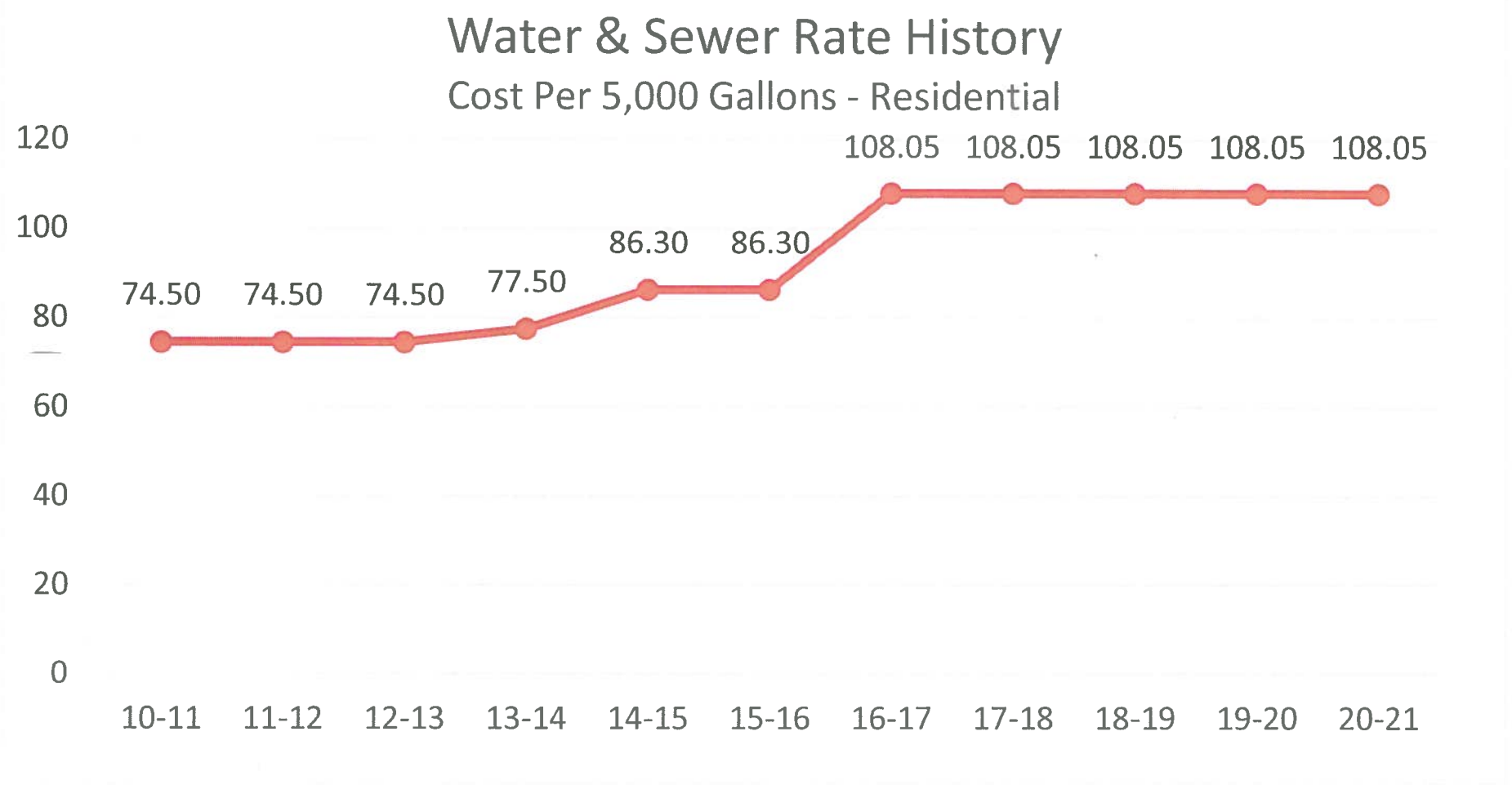
2014-15 and 2019-20
TAX REVALUATION YEARS
2014-15 number reflects 3 cent property tax increase.
2015-16 number reflects 6.5 cent property tax increase. 2019-20 number reflects 1 cent property tax increase.

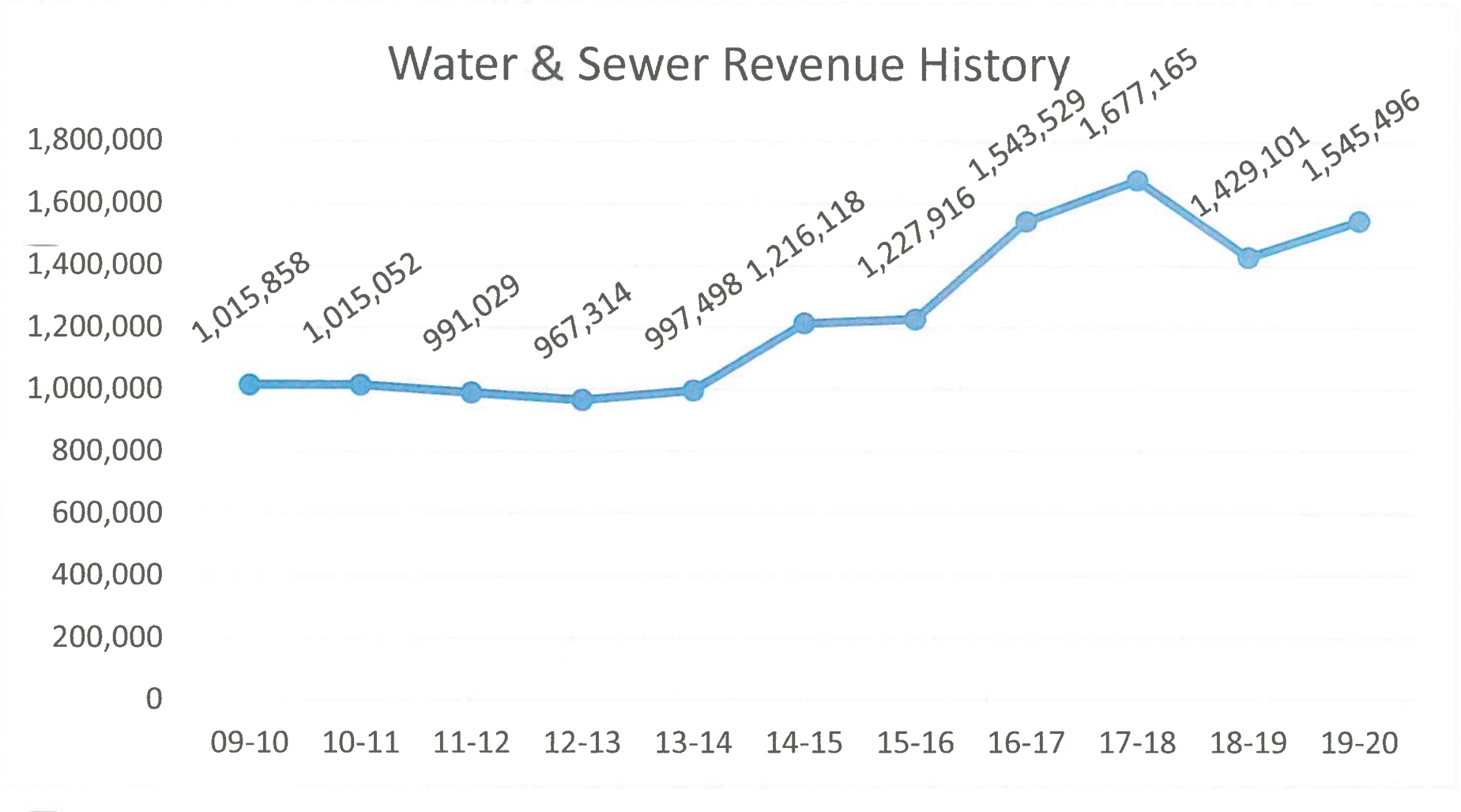


The significant increase in use of GF fund balance in FY 13-14 is due to transfer to WS Fund for purchase of water plant filters, generators and other one-time expenses. In FY 18-19, due to fire truck purchase and I and I caused by excessive rainfall.

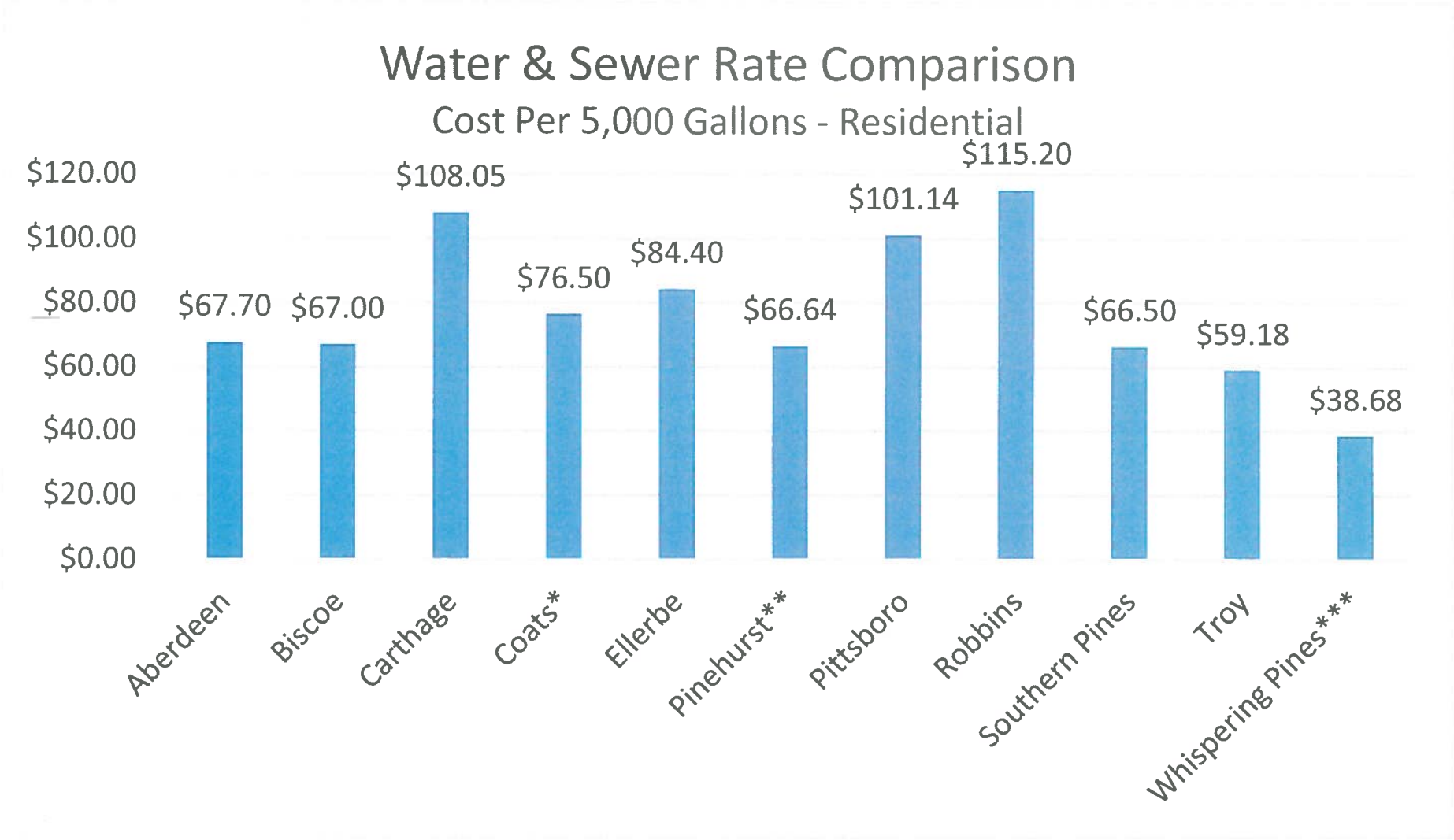


The Town set a target to build the available fund balance to at least 50%. As of FY 18-19, we were at 41%.


Water & Sewer Rate History
Cost Per 5,000 Gallons - Residential
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
74.50
74.50
74.50
77.50
86.30
86.30
108.05
108.05
108.05
108.05
108.05
10-11
11-12
12-13
13-14
14-15
15-16
16-17
17-18
18-19
19-20
20-21



Revenues increased in FY 2014-15 and FY 2016-17 due to rate increases.



*The Town of Coats bills water only, the sewer is billed by Harnett County.

**Pinehurst water and sewer are billed by Moore County Public Utilities.

***Whispering Pines' water is billed by a private company; they have septic systems, so no sewer.

TOWN OF CARTHAGE
OUTSTANDING DEBT AT JUNE 2021

GENERAL FUND DESCRIPTION	Financing Agency	ACCOUNT #	AMOUNT OF ISSUE	DATE OF ISSUE	BALANCE 6/30/2020	ADDITIONS	PAYMENTS PRINCIPAL ONLY	BALANCE 6/30/2021
MUNICIPAL BUILDING	USDA RURAL DEV.	10-500-91	630,000.00	4/23/2002	489,731.43	0.00	12,143.01	477,588.42
(4) POLICE TRUCKS	FORD CREDIT	10-510-20	174,136.50	12/9/2019	126,503.55	0.00	39,599.97	86,903.58
(3) POLICE SUVs	FORD CREDIT	10-510-20	154,747.50	2/15/2020	112,418.18	0.00	35,190.77	77,227.41
2007 PIERCE FIRETRUCK	USDA RURAL DEV.	10-530-20	350,000.00	5/24/2007	155,562.17	0.00	19,632.04	135,930.13
2018 SPARTAN FIRETRUCK	CEMC	10-530-20	360,000.00	10/1/2018	324,000.00	0.00	36,000.00	288,000.00
TYSON-JONES BUILDING		10-500-60	46,000.00	2/27/2015	5,285.68	0.00	5,285.68	0.00
TYSON-JONES ROOF REPLACEMENT	CENTURY COMMITTEI	10-500-91	30,000.00	3/25/2015	9,106.81	0.00	4,497.19	4,609.62
TRACTOR & BUSH HOG*	FIRST BANK	10-560-91	39,251.43	5/1/2020	39,251.43	0.00	12,783.39	26,468.04
SUB-TOTAL GENERAL FUND			**1,784,135.43**		**1,261,859.25**	**0.00**	**165,132.05**	**1,096,727.20**
WATER & SEWER FUND								
SEWER SYSTEM UPGRADE	USDA RURAL DEV.	30-811-91	1,056,000.00	11/18/2014	960,000.00	0.00	17,000.00	943,000.00
TRACTOR & BUSH HOG*	FIRST BANK	31-811-91	39,251.42	5/1/2020	39,251.42	0.00	12,783.39	26,468.03
SEWER VACUUM TRUCK	FIRST BANK	30-811-91	73,218.00	10/14/2016	18,452.72		18,452.72	0.00
WTP UPGRADE	USDA RURAL DEV.	30-810-91	1,766,000.00	8/22/2017	1,676,000.00	0.00	31,000.00	1,645,000.00
SEWER SYSTEM UPGRADE	USDA RURAL DEV.	30-811-91	523,000.00	8/22/2017	500,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	492,000.00
SUB-TOTAL W&S			**3,457,469.42**		**3,193,704.14**	**0.00**	**87,236.11**	**3,106,468.03**
GRAND TOTAL GENERAL AND WATER & SEWER			**5,241,604.85**		**4,455,563.39**	**0.00**	**252,368.16**	**4,203,195.23**

GENERAL FUND

POLICE DEPARTMENT
FORD CREDIT PAY OFF DECE
FORD CREDIT PAY OFF APRIL 2023 (154,747.50)

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS
USDA PAY OFF JANUARY 2043 ($630,000.00)
CENTURY COMMITTEE PAY OFF APRIL 2022 ($30,000)

FIRE DEPARTMENT
USDA PAY OFF MAY 2027 ($350,000.00)
CEMC PAY OFF SEPTEMBER 2029 ($360,000)

WATER & SEWER FUND

WATER & SEWER
USDA PAY OFF JUNE 2054 ($1,056,000)
FIRST BANK PAY OFF MAY 2023 ($78,502.85)*
USDA PAY OFF JUNE 2057 ($1,766,000)
USDA PAY OFF JUNE 2057 ($523,000)

STREETS
FIRST BANK PAY OFF MAY 2023 ($78,502.85)*

TOWN OF CARTHAGE **DEBT SCHEDULE**

General Fund

	Description	Date of Issue	Amount of Issue	Balance Due as of 6/30/20	Payment FY 20-21	Payment FY 21-22	Payment FY 22-23	Payment FY 23-24	Payment FY 24-25
Police	2020 Police Fleet 1	12/9/2019	174,136.50	126,503.55	47,632.95	47,632.95	47,632.95		
	2020 Police Fleet 2	4/1/2020	154,747.50	112,418.18	42,329.32	42,329.32	42,329.32		
Fire	2007 Pierce Firetruck	5/24/2007	350,000.00	155,562.17	26,040.00	26,040.00	26,040.00	26,040.00	26,040.00
	2018 Spartan Firetruck	10/1/2018	360,000.00	324,000.00	36,000.00	36,000.00	36,000.00	36,000.00	36,000.00
Public Works	Muicipal Building	4/23/2002	630,000.00	489,731.35	35,469.00	35,469.00	35,469.00	35,469.00	35,469.00
	Tyson-Jones Building	2/27/2015	46,000.00	5,285.75	5,285.72				
	Tyson-Jones Building Roof	4/14/2015	30,000.00	9,106.81	4,724.86	4,724.86			
	Tractor & Bush Hog*	5/1/2020	39,251.43	39,251.43	13,698.71	13,698.71	13,698.71		

Water/Sewer

Public Works	Sewer Vacuum Truck	10/14/2016	73,218.00	18,776.36	18,776.36				
	Sewer System Upgrade	11/18/2014	1,056,000.00	960,000.00	43,400.00	43,932.50	43,437.50	43,942.50	43,420.00
	Tractor & Bush Hog*	5/1/2020	39,251.43	39,251.43	13,698.71	13,698.71	13,698.71		
	Sewer Upgrage Project	8/22/2017	523,000.00	$500,000.00	21,125.00	20,915.00	21,705.00	21,468.75	21,232.50
	WTP Improvement Project	8/22/2017	1,766,000.00	$1,676,000.00	64,520.00	64,900.00	64,260.00	64,620.00	64,960.00
	AMI Project	??	715,000.00	715,000.00		53,877.21	53,877.21	53,877.21	53,877.21
	USDA Sewer Capacity Upgrad	??	2,545,000.00	2,545,000.00		83,000.00	83,000.00	83,000.00	83,000.00

*Loan paid 50% from Streets and 50% from Sewer

Town of Carthage
Challenges/Issues/Opportunities

- Low rate of growth in tax base and levy
- Pay back of Rural Center – Little River water line funding
- Water and sewer rates high
- Need to fully cover depreciation in General Fund and Enterprise Fund
- What are Town's strategic goals for next 3 to 5 years
  - Build fund balance in General and Enterprise Funds
  - Maintain 5 year Capital Improvement Plan
  - Fund capital needs – streets, sidewalks, water & sewer
  - Image and appearance of Town
  - Sewer Capacity – design, build and finance new 16 inch sewer line
  - Water Capacity – expand water plant production, identify future water supply
  - Reduce Sewer Inflow and Infiltration

- Downtown Development Plan
- Rehabilitation/Marketing of Tyson-Jones Building
- Vision for Carthage's future – what do we want to be; realistically what is possible
- Work with County to plan and design new courthouse
- Water Meter replacement
- Update Town's 1999 Land Use Plan
- Town Personnel – staffing
- Little River Development and Impact on Town as a whole
- Plan and accommodate expected growth