Hamilton County, TN
Budget Hearings
FY 2027

Volunteer Services

	Adopted Budget FY 2025	*Adopted Budget FY 2026*	Requested FY 2027	Inc. (Dec.) FY27 vs. FY26
OPERATING BUDGET				
1030480-Hazardous Material Team	*82,165*	*102,165*	**327,850**	225,685
1030490-Tri-Community Volunteer Fire Department	*640,979*	*690,979*	**1,458,586**	767,607
1030500-Dallas Bay Volunteer Fire Department	*475,160*	*535,160*	**1,008,416**	473,256
1030510-Mowbray Volunteer Fire Department	*130,884*	*165,884*	**386,108**	220,224
1030520-Chatt.-Hamilton County Rescue	*82,467*	*102,467*	**248,011**	145,544
1030530-Highway 58 Volunteer Fire Department	*532,211*	*582,211*	**2,225,996**	1,643,785
1030540-Sequoyah Volunteer Fire Department	*68,348*	*68,348*	**5,463,500**	5,395,152
1030550-Walden's Ridge Emergency Service	*164,841*	*199,841*	**305,000**	105,159
1030560-Sale Creek Volunteer Fire Department	*237,447*	*272,447*	**914,850**	642,403
1030580-Hamilton County STARS	*103,467*	*123,467*	**136,900**	13,433
1030590-Flattop Volunteer Fire Department	*81,708*	*91,708*	**131,649**	39,941
TOTAL OPERATING	***2,599,677***	***2,934,677***	**12,606,866**	**9,672,189**
CAPITAL OUTLAY	***300,000***	**-**	**-**	**-**

Key Items to Address with County Commission:

1. What are you investing in?
2. Where are you maintaining/holding the line?
3. What is the reason for the funding increase - additional services, improved efficiencies, other?

Hamilton County, Tennessee

VOLUNTEER SERVICES Budget Year 2027 (Requested)

1030510-MOWBRAY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT		Prior Year Actuals	FY 2026 Budget			FY 2027 Budget	
					YTD Thru		Change from PY
	DESCRIPTION	2025	Adopted	Amended	1/31/2026	Requested	Adopted
56003	APPROPRIATION	130,884	165,884	165,884	165,884	386,108	220,224
	Operating Expenditures Totals:	*130,884*	*165,884*	*165,884*	*165,884*	*386,108*	*220,224*
	1030510-MOWBRAY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT Totals:	***130,884***	***165,884***	***165,884***	***165,884***	***386,108***	***220,224***

Hamilton County Volunteer Fire Department Budget Request Form FY 2026-27	
Department Name	Mowbray Volunteer Fire Department
Department Address (s)	1705 Mowbray pike soddy daisy tn 37379
Contact person	chief / chairman chris weddington
Phone number	Office 423-332-9658 Cell 423-667-0913
E-mail address	cweddington1401@mowbrayfiredept.com
Previous Year Funding	

General accounting and description of previous year funding allocation	
1. Administrative ($)	$43,321.83
2. Fleet ($)	$64,183.49
3. Facilities and fixtures ($)	$29,224.42
4. Clothing/PPE ($)	$38,805.96
5. Equipment ($)	$38,230.33
6. Training ($)	$8,044.31
7. Payroll ($)	$140,599.72
8. Additional Requests ($)	$1.00

Grand Total	$362,411.06

2026-2027 Budget Request	
1. Administrative	
Office supplies	$2,000.00
Communications (Radios, Internet, Phones)	$10,000.00
Dues and subscription	$10,151.00
Printing, postage and shipping	$3,000.00
Insurance	$35,000.00
Retention and recruitment	$5,000.00
Professional fees	$2,000.00
Total Administrative Budget	$67,151.00
2. Fleet	
Fuel Costs	$5,000.00
Service and repair	$40,000.00
Total Fleet Budget	$45,000.00
3. Facilities and fixtures	
Utilities (gas. electic, water, sewer)	18,000.00
Generator maintenance and fuel	0.00
Furniture/improvements	0.00
Pest control.garbage, septic, well service	2,500.00
Station repair	3,000.00
Station supples	10,674.06
Total facilities and fixtures	34,174.06
4. Clothing/PPE	
Turnout gear	$15,000.00
Uniforms	$10,000.00
Gear inspection	$0.00
Rehab supplies	$0.00
Total clothing/PPE	$25,000.00
5. Equipment	
Fire and rescue	$26,368.97
Tools	$3,000.00
Breathing air testing	$0.00
HazMat	$0.00
Compressor maintenance	$4,500.00
EMS equipment	$3,000.00
Firefighting agents and supples	$0.00
Gas monitor calibration	$2,000.00
SCBA maintenance & testing	$3,912.75
Equipment maintence & repair	$8,000.00
Total equipment	$50,781.72
6. Training	
Instructor fees	$0.00
Course fees	$5,000.00
Training equipment & supplies	$5,000.00
Travel and accomodation	$5,000.00

Total Training	$15,000.00
7. Payroll	
Full time staff salaries	$70,000.00
Part time staff salaries	$1.00
Volunteer stipends	$72,000.00
Benefits and insurance	$7,000.00
Total payroll budget	$149,001.00
8. Additional Requests	
Special Projects or Initiatives	$0.00
Emergency Fund Allocation	$0.00
Other (specify)	$0.00
Total additional requests	$0.00
Grand Total	$386,107.78

Budget Request Justification
1. Administrative
Cost-Benefit Analysis: Emphasize the long-term savings that can result from investing in a well-equipped and trained volunteer fire department. Reducing response times and improving service can lead to fewer losses and lower costs in the event of a emergency Community Growth: If the community served by the fire department is growing, there may be a corresponding increase in call volume, which necessitates more resources to adequately cover the expanded population. Increased Operational Costs: Fire departments often face rising costs for equipment maintenance, fuel, and supplies. As these costs increase, additional funding may be needed to ensure that the department
2. Fleet
Fleet and Equipment Upgrades: Many volunteer fire departments rely on outdated equipment. An increase in the budget can help facilitate the purchase of new firefighting gear, vehicles, and technology that enhance response capabilities and safety for volunteers. Community Growth: If the community served by the fire department is growing, there may be a corresponding increase in call volume, which necessitates more resources to adequately cover the expanded population and more wear and tear on the outdated equipment we currently have and have to maintain which is a high cost
3. Facilities and fixtures
Fire departments often face rising costs for facilities and maintenance. Due to the increased use of the facility because of being there more often than before and as these costs increase, additional funding may be needed to ensure that the department can operate effectively Note our insurance went from $18000 to $34000 this past year which put a hurt on our stipend program because we had to use the extra funds for insurance cost
4. Clothing/PPE
Many volunteer fire departments rely on outdated equipment. An increase in the budget can help facilitate the purchase of new firefighting gear, uniforms, and enhance response capabilities and safety for volunteers
5. Equipment
Equipment Upgrades: Many volunteer fire departments rely on outdated equipment. An increase in the budget can help facilitate the purchase of new firefighting gear, equipment that has been worn or broke over the years and replace hand me down equipment from other departments that have larger budgets ,this is safety for volunteers to use no working or broke equipment
6. Training
Training and Certification: Volunteer firefighters require regular training and certification to stay safe and effective. Funding may be necessary to provide training programs and materials, which can be costly but are essential for community safety this also includes the medical side of our job example to send someone to emt program is 1500 per person not including books and testing fees required
7. Payroll
Response to Emergencies: Increased frequency and severity of emergencies (e.g., wildfires, medical, house fires) due to climate change and growth may require additional resources. A budget increase can help prepare and equip the department to handle these challenges more effectively in a timely

response which we have proven with running the stipend program.Recruitment and Retention:

8. Additional Requests

because we had to use the extra funds for insurance cost, So we could sure use the increase in the budget for I had to cut the stipend program back due to noit enough funds to continue doing this however it was making a difference in peoples lives so we would greatly appreciate the funding to be able to continue the stipend program that the mayor was in favor of. You gave us 165,804 and clearly that is not enough to operate effectively however we made adjustments and cut services to sustain the budget. Insurance was where we hurt at if that was compensated in the budget i feel that will help

	Signature	Date
Fire Chief	chris weddington	1/5/2026
OEM Director		
Chief Operating Officer		

Budget Increase Justification

Mowbray Volunteer Fire Department
Fiscal Year 2026–2027

The Mowbray Volunteer Fire Department respectfully requests a budget increase for the 2026–2027 fiscal year to ensure continued, reliable emergency services and to meet growing operational demands. This increase is necessary due to rising costs, equipment needs, and expanded service responsibilities.

1. Rising Operational Costs

The cost of essential operating expenses has increased significantly, including:

Fuel and vehicle maintenance

Utilities and station upkeep

Insurance and compliance-related fees
These increases directly impact our ability to respond promptly and safely to emergencies.

2. Equipment Maintenance and Replacement

Firefighting and rescue equipment must meet strict safety standards. Several critical items are reaching the end of their service life or require costly maintenance, including:

Fire apparatus and rescue vehicles

Personal protective equipment (PPE)

Fire hoses, tools, and communication equipment

A budget increase will help ensure firefighter safety and reliable emergency response capability.

3. Training and Certification Requirements

Volunteer firefighters are required to complete ongoing training and maintain certifications to comply with state and national standards. Increased funding will support:

Mandatory training programs

Certification renewals

Emergency medical and specialized rescue training
This ensures personnel remain qualified and effective in protecting the community.

4. Increased Call Volume and Community Growth

The department has experienced an increase in emergency calls and continues to serve a growing population. Expanded demand requires additional resources to maintain response times and service quality.

5. Volunteer Recruitment and Retention

Sustaining a volunteer fire department requires investment in:

Recruitment initiatives

Retention incentives

Basic support for volunteers who dedicate their time and skills to public safety
Adequate funding helps ensure the department remains staffed and operational.

Conclusion

The requested budget increase for FY 2026–2027 is essential to maintain safe, effective, and dependable fire and emergency services for the Mowbray community. This investment directly supports public safety, firefighter protection, and the department's ability to meet current and future challenges.

We reqested in year 24-25 an increase to what is needed to operate of 385,000 we were given an increase of 50,000 from the previous year bringing us to 165,804 we clearly will need at the minimum 230,000 to operate effectivly however it takes about 390,000 to operate thanks chief