



LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE
MASON COUNTY FISCAL COURT
Fiscal Year 2026-2027

The second reading and adoption of the Mason County Fiscal Court proposed budget ordinance for the fiscal year, is scheduled to be held at the date, time and location listed below.

Date: **05/12/2026**
Time: **09:00 am**
Location: **Mason County Fiscal Court room**

BUDGET SUMMARY

AN ORDINANCE Relating to the Annual Budget and Appropriations. BE IT ORDAINED by the Mason County Fiscal Court, Kentucky: WHEREAS, the proposed budget was tentatively approved by the Mason County Fiscal Court, and approved as to form and classification by the State Local Finance Officer, on the dates listed below:

Approval by the Fiscal Court: **04/14/2026**
Approved by State Local Finance Officer: **04/22/2026**

SECTION ONE. The following budget is adopted for the fiscal year specified herein, and the amounts stated are appropriated for the purposes indicated.

General Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,134,104.71
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	530,200.00
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	262,000.00
5300	SOCIAL SERVICES	2,000.00
5400	RECREATION & CULTURE	65,000.00
7700	LEASES	86,000.00
8000	CAPITAL PROJECTS	50,000.00
9100	GENERAL SERVICES	561,525.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	8,926,330.29
9400	FRINGE BENEFITS	1,029,000.00
		Total 14,646,160.00
Road Fund		
6100	ROADS	1,778,353.50
7700	LEASES	63,000.00
9100	GENERAL SERVICES	49,100.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	170,946.50
9400	FRINGE BENEFITS	342,000.00
		Total 2,403,400.00
Jail Fund		
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	2,834,902.59
7700	LEASES	3,000.00
9100	GENERAL SERVICES	192,267.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	246,297.41
9400	FRINGE BENEFITS	771,100.00
		Total 4,047,567.00
Local Government Economic Assistance Fund		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	96,500.00
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	75,862.50
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	68,500.00
5300	SOCIAL SERVICES	67,250.00
5400	RECREATION & CULTURE	351,000.00
6200	AIRPORTS	20,000.00
7700	LEASES	2,000.00
9100	GENERAL SERVICES	1,000.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	102,037.50
9400	FRINGE BENEFITS	78,500.00
		Total 862,650.00
State Grants		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	100,000.00
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	1,116,066.65
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	7,000.00
		Total 1,223,066.65
Federal Grants		
5100	PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY	100,000.00
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	1,120,000.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	242,000.00
9300	TRANSFERS TO OTHER FUNDS	50,000.00
		Total 1,512,000.00
Solid Waste Fund		
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	253,550.00
7700	LEASES	200.00
8000	CAPITAL PROJECTS	5,000.00
9100	GENERAL SERVICES	9,000.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	81,300.00
9400	FRINGE BENEFITS	90,000.00
		Total 439,050.00
Landfill		
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	2,600,950.00
7700	LEASES	1,500,000.00
8000	CAPITAL PROJECTS	55,000.00
9100	GENERAL SERVICES	308,000.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	3,741,050.00
9400	FRINGE BENEFITS	435,000.00
		Total 8,640,000.00
OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS		
5300	SOCIAL SERVICES	215,200.00
		Total 215,200.00
Garbage Collections Fund		
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	530,500.00
7700	LEASES	110,000.00
9100	GENERAL SERVICES	15,000.00
9200	CONTINGENT APPROPRIATIONS	264,200.00
9400	FRINGE BENEFITS	120,500.00
		Total 1,040,200.00
CLERK STORAGE FEES		
5000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	72,025.00
		Total 72,025.00
CDBG WLR TANK GRANT FUND		
5200	GENERAL HEALTH AND SANITATION	1,120,000.00
		Total 1,120,000.00
		Total Budget Appropriations 36,221,318.65

SECTION TWO. This ordinance shall be published in the The Ledger Independent by title and summary within thirty (30) days following adoption.

SECTION THREE. This ordinance becomes effective upon passage and publication.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

All interested persons and organizations are hereby notified that a copy of the Mason County proposed budget in full is available for public inspection at the office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.

The sad ending of Justin Fairfax

According to media reports former Lt. Governor Justin Fairfax recently murdered his wife, Cerina. He then took his own life. He was only 47 years old. She was 48.

Justin Fairfax had been a rising star in the Democratic party. He served as the Lieutenant Governor in Virginia from 2018 – 2022. He was one of the few African Americans elected to statewide office in Virginia. He was known for his hard work as a federal prosecutor and private attorney. He made history as the second African American elected statewide in Virginia.

Cerina was a dentist. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Duke University. She also graduated with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from VCU Medical College of Virginia. She and Justin had two children, a son and a

daughter. According to reports the couple was embroiled in a messy divorce and ongoing conflict. Their children were home but not harmed and their son called 911.

Such a tragedy makes us all sad. We wonder how two successful people could have such a horrific ending. None of us know the extent of the toxicity that invaded the lives of these two successful people. Who knows for sure what brought about such an ending?

There is always a better way than hurting someone. Emotional pain is never made better by physical violence. Depression, mental illness, a life failure and career failures can add to anyone's pain but is never made better by doing something bad.

The problem is only made worse. Two children are now without parents because their father's obvious mental breakdown turned ugly.

Every human being has the potential to experience problems, issues, sin and mistakes of all kinds. If you live long enough and do anything at all you will deal with some kind of upheaval, pain or failure. The only way to avoid this

to never move and then you won't have much of a life. Just a walk across the yard presents the potential of stumbling and falling.

Accepting that we are human challenges us to work hard at dealing with things that could make us angry. Uncontrollable anger is problematic anywhere and anytime. Add some alcohol to it and it will develop into a raging

inferno that burns you and others. You don't need that nor does anyone else.

If Fairfax's wife wanted a divorce then so be it and let it be. If the issues cannot be worked out then people need to resolve to go their separate way in a civil manner. Fighting to the bloody end brings about a bad result that frequently impacts the innocent. Too often, the innocent are left behind to spend the rest of their lives trying to figure it all out.

You don't need the stress or the mess. Be at peace with yourself and others.

Sources: NBC News, CNN, Fox News, New York Times.

Dr. Glenn Mollette is a syndicated columnist read in all fifty states. He is also the author of numerous books and can be heard each weekday morning on XM Radio 131.



GLENN MOLLETTE

RELIGION CALENDAR

MISC.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH — Every Wednesday at 6 p.m., Bible Study, 410 Pelham Street, Maysville.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH — Choir practice, 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. Bible study, 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. Both at 21 West Third Street in Maysville.

MASON COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION — Meeting

the second Wednesday of each month, contact any of the new officers: President, Rev. Adam Burton (Central Baptist Church); Vice President, Rev. Elizabeth Smith (Seddon Methodist Church); and Secretary/Treasurer, Marilyn Roades (Wesley Chapel Church).

MOUNT TABOR — Tuesday Bible Study, 6 p.m. Join in the study of Psalms and put a "Psalm

in Your Heart." Church located in Ribolt.

SHEPHERD'S HOUSE/COMMUNITY TUESDAY — Every Tuesday, 209 East Third Street, 10 a.m.-noon, open to the public, sewing and clothing ministry, free sewing machine adjustments; every third Tuesday food box hand-out. Text Gordon Jones, pastor, at 606-301-1921.

SHEPHERD'S HOUSE FOOD DRIVE

— Donations of non-perishable foods are now being accepted at both church locations at 209 East Third Street.

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH — Mass, 9:30 a.m., Minerva, services every Sunday.

WASHINGTON CENTRAL METHODIST CHURCH — Choir practice, 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. Bible study, 5 p.m. on Sundays.

A smidgen is a unit of measure

Van Yandell

Psalm 90:4: "For a thousand years in thy sight are but yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night."

Anyone that considers themselves a southern gourmet cook knows what a smidgen is. It's like a "bit" or a "pinch" or a "tad."

At any rate, a smidgen is a legitimate unit of measure south of the Mason-Dixon Line. As of yet however, I haven't seen a spoon in a measuring set with such an amount. We simply have to guess or use our best judgement.

Measurements in time and materials control us. We are in bondage to watches, clocks and calendars. Flight schedules, work time clocks, even time settings for distance determine our every movement.

Some web sites and other publications are now adding "read time" to articles.

Many in today's world if asked a distance answer the question in minutes. How far is it to the next town? "Twenty minutes." "At what speed" would be a reasonable response.

Could a carpenter build a house without a tape measure? Could a cook bake a cake without measurements? Of course not!

We are physical beings. Our life span, the years of our marriage and the ages of our children are all stated in numbers. Doctors weigh us when we go for a checkup. The results of our blood tests are stated in numbers.

We "count heads" for attendance and count how many were saved (received Jesus as Lord

and Savior) at a crusade or on a mission project. Numbers are important to us.

The number of believers is surely important to God. Second Corinthians 5:15: "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."

Second Peter 3:8: "But beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day with the Lord is like a thousand years and a thousand years as one day." God is spirit, infinite and eternal.

So, why is time irrelevant to God? Because He is infinite and eternal! If we speak of eternity concerning God, we must not only look into the future but also into the past.

If God will always be, He must have always been. Many astronomers and other scientists want to assign numbers to the existence of the Sun, Earth, galaxy and the universe.

Many make a useless debate of how old the planet or universe is. The distance across the Milky Way galaxy is (we're told) 100,000 light years and the universe is 97 billion light years across.

Should we really be concerned with the distance to Mars or Proxima Centauri? Our individual curiosity factors want to know some things and for many those distances are intriguing but inconsequential in our everyday lives or our eternal destination.

But what is really important? The Bible teaches we have an eternal soul. No one has

ever seen such a thing. No one has ever died and come back to report Heaven or Hell, except in order to write a book or movie script.

No one knows where the eternal soul resides; if it is asleep, concealed in a body cell or flows through one's veins or central nervous system.

The Bible tells us to believe through faith (Ephesians 2:8). Faith is believing in something that cannot be proven or common sense tells us it cannot be true. Faith is a steadfast belief that something is true.

Can we understand in a world of skepticism why so many are turning to non-belief?

A question asked was, "Why do you believe in God?" Can anyone give a logical or reasonable explanation for why we exist?

To believe something came from nothing (on its own/spontaneous generation) or that order came from chaos, takes more faith than believing in a Creator God.

Granted, religionists cannot prove God but the evidence is overwhelming. How much evidence does it take to make a fact? The answer to that is with the individual.

The non-believer must also ask the question "What if I'm wrong?" Whereas there is no (court of law) proof of God, there is no such proof of evolution.

The non-believer must think we, the planet, the atmosphere, the universe came from somewhere. Since there is no such thing as spontaneous generation of matter, where and how did all things begin?

What make sense to you? Why do you exist? Why do we think, have emotions or die?"

Our Creator (John 1:3) was also subjected to numbers. He was born the person Jesus 2026 years ago, lived to thirty-three years of age, was on the cross for six hours, in the grave three days and lived after His resurrection for forty days before ascending into Heaven.

Even Jesus can't get away from measurements and numbers. So, how long is eternity? The most reasonable answer is "It's a time that cannot be measured!" As a smidgen cannot be measured, neither can eternity.

Proverbs 3:5: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding." Is our ability to think a curse or a blessing? Whichever it may be, we must not let it mislead us.

An old Cherokee proverb states: "There is a fight like two wolves going on inside you, one is evil; one is good." The question asked was, "Which one will win?" The answer: "The one you feed!"

The Bible teaches there is only one eternal salvation. That is by a faith-based belief (Ephesians 2:8) that Christ Jesus was crucified (Matthew 27:35) for the remission of sin (Romans 4:25), resurrected (Matthew 28:6) and ascended alive into Heaven (Acts 1:9).

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and missionary. His email is vmy3451@gmail.com