



CIVIC CENTS

Democracy is a slow process of stumbling to the right decision instead of going straight forward to the wrong one

WELCOME TO THE CIVIC CENTS WORK SESSION SERIES

Let's make sense of Laramie's finances, moving away from the traditional model of communicating mountains of financial information in the month of budget work sessions. This series is grounded in the idea that, together, we create our government.





ESSENTIAL FOR DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE SERVICES

The money tree myth counsels that prosperity and good fortune result from effort and attention. We must engage about and plan for our public finances in a meaningful way to get the most out of them for our community. These conversations are especially important for making sound budget decisions.



INFLUENCES HOW OUR COMMUNITY GROWS

Once we understand 1) what our finances look like 2) what our community wants and 3) what our opportunities are, the City Council and City staff work to facilitate community growth in a way that best suits Laramie, recognizing the importance of it being a great place to live, work, and play.



AFFECTS QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS

The financial decisions we make have a direct impact on our community. The user fees and taxes that our community members pay, and the revenue we receive from other sources (State of WY + grants), are the basic mechanisms for how we deliver services - public safety services, reliable and safe infrastructure, and quality of life amenities, like parks and recreation.



BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY WITH COMMON CENTS



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BUT, WE TEND TO ONLY TALK ABOUT FINANCES ONCE A YEAR!



It's time for a change in approach - working towards true transparency.



The budget has been presented in a way that can be intimidating.



It's easy to get lost in the process.



We don't always talk about what matters most to our community.



It's easy to get stuck in the formal, feeling like it's necessary for trust.

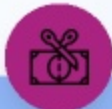
CIVIC CENTS STARTS TO LAY DOWN DIFFERENT ROOTS

The City Council will chart the course forward on this journey, and I will follow your lead. We will build a strong financial foundation together by communicating about the finances (revenue, spending, reserves) in a way that is easy to digest.



THE ROAD FORWARD

At each work session this spring, we'll take 10 minutes to explore a financial topic. Then we'll have a 10 minute discussion about the topic and determine what we explore next.



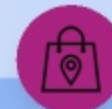
Easy to Understand

I commit to making my presentations easy to understand and engaging.



Relevant

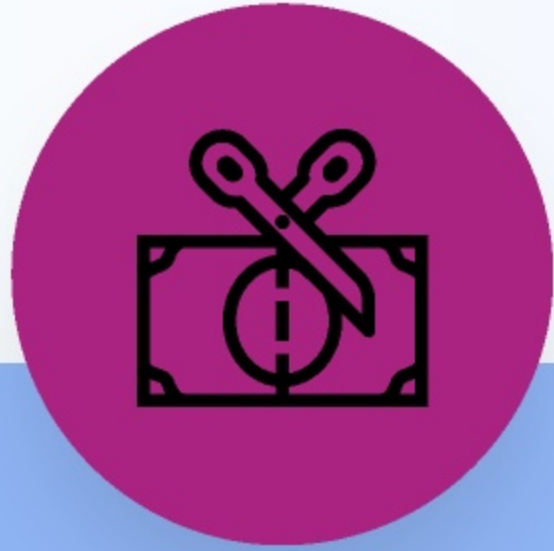
Relevant topics will be covered because this direction will come from our elected officials.



Impactful

Civic Cents will result in meaningful changes in how we communicate about financial information, which creates a foundation for even more trust.





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SO, WHERE DO WE START THE
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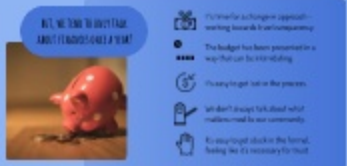


CIVIC CENTS STARTS TO LAY DOWN DIFFERENT ROOTS

The City Council will start the conversation about the future of the city by commissioning a study to explore the possibilities of a new civic center.



SO, WHERE DO WE START THE CONVERSATION?



LET'S TRY TO SORT OUT WHAT'S GOING ON

- We need to get a better understanding of what's going on in the city.
- The budget has been presented in a way that isn't very clear.
- We need to get a better understanding of what's going on in the city.
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WELCOME TO THE CIVIC CENTS WORK SESSION SERIES

Let's get started with our first session, 'Welcome to the Civic Cents Work Session Series'. The session will be held on the 14th of July at 10am.



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