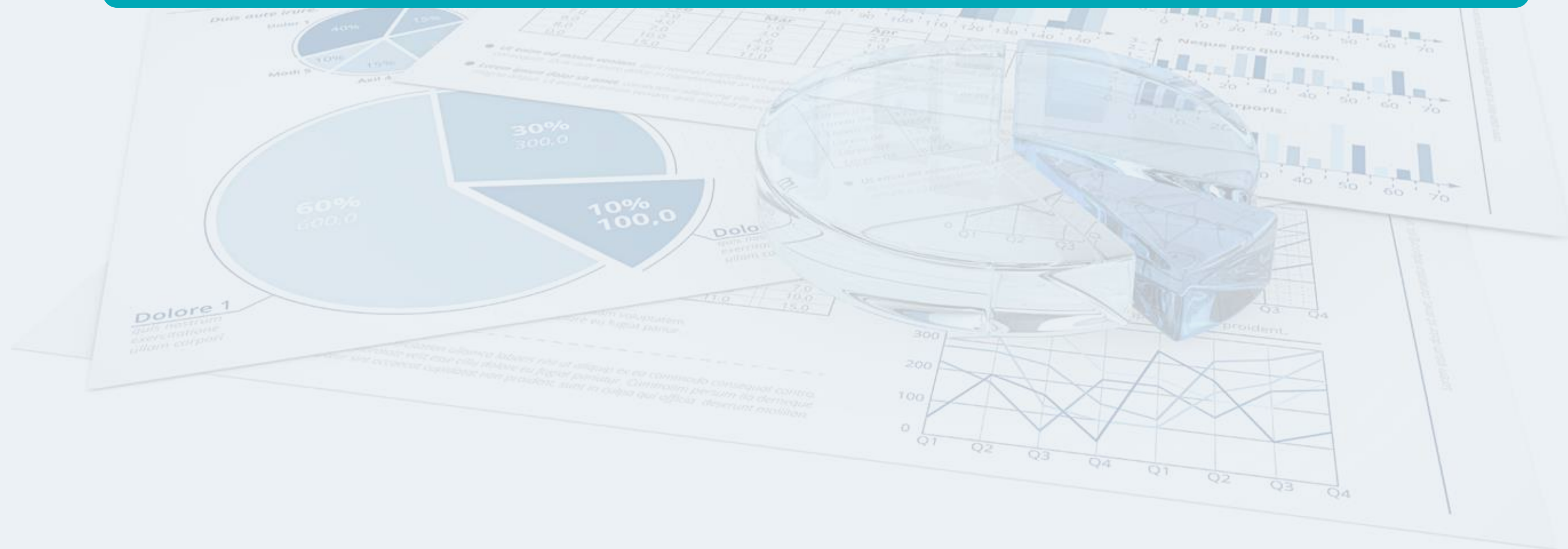


# FINANCE DEPARTMENT

MARCH 18, 2024



# PROPERTY TAXES



# Tax Payment Plans

- There are currently twelve tax payments plans in place.
- Out of the twelve taxpayers on plans, 50% remain current in fulfilling their payment plan obligations. The remaining 50% have been notified by Tax Collector Katie Parlier of their delinquent payment plan status and that the method of collection could include foreclosure proceedings if payments aren't resumed immediately.
- If all of the taxpayers pay their monthly payment amount, the Town could receive up to \$1,800 in revenue per month.
- Since the tax payment plans were implemented in June 2021, twelve taxpayers have paid their past due taxes in full.

# Foreclosures

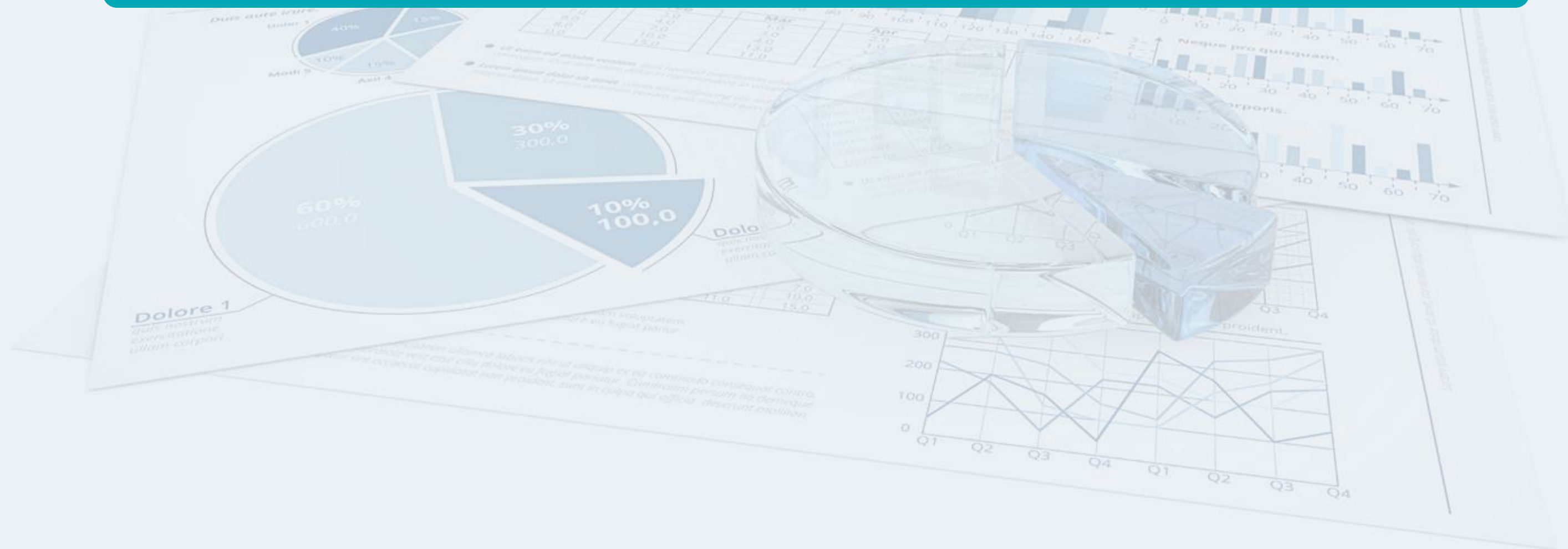
- Foreclosure actions have been initiated on four properties.
- Out of these four properties, one has been paid in full and the Town has received payment from Kania Law firm in August of 2023 for this property.
- The remaining three property owners owe the Town a combined total of \$2,700 in past due property taxes and \$147,000 in nuisance abatements.
- 20 Archer St. was sold via the foreclosure process in February 2024. The Town has not received the funds from this sale yet.

# Property Tax Collections Comparison

Fiscal Year	Levy	Revenue Collected	% Of Levy Collected
2024	\$ 2,195,139	\$ 2,129,620	97.02%
2023	\$ 2,135,546	\$ 2,116,083	99.09%
2022	\$ 2,078,540	\$ 2,051,228	98.69%
2021	\$ 1,804,972	\$ 1,769,950	98.06%
2020	\$ 1,772,959	\$ 1,731,868	97.68%
2019	\$ 1,737,936	\$ 1,693,930	97.47%

**\*\*2024 data is as of 02.29.24. The prior fiscal years are audited data for fiscal year end.\*\***

# GENERAL PROJECTS



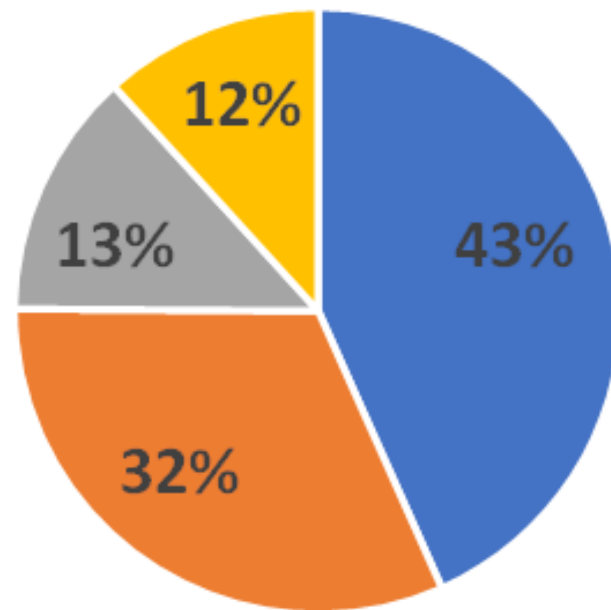
# Community Development Block Grant –Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) Update

- Awarded to the Town during FY 2021 from the NC Dept of Commerce.
- The purpose is to provide funds to South Caldwell Christian Ministries, a non-profit agency, in order to assist low to moderate income individuals with utility, rent, and food assistance.
- The original deadline to obligate all funds was May 23, 2023.
- The Town with assistance from the WPCOG, requested an extension on the grant deadline, and it was approved. The new deadline to obligate all funds is April 30, 2024, and the funds must be fully expended by June 30, 2024.
- The grant closeout documents are due to the state September 30, 2024.

# (CDBG-CV) Continued

As of February 2024, the Town has spent \$208,168 or 69% of the total budget of \$302,500.

YTD Breakdown of Expenses by Category

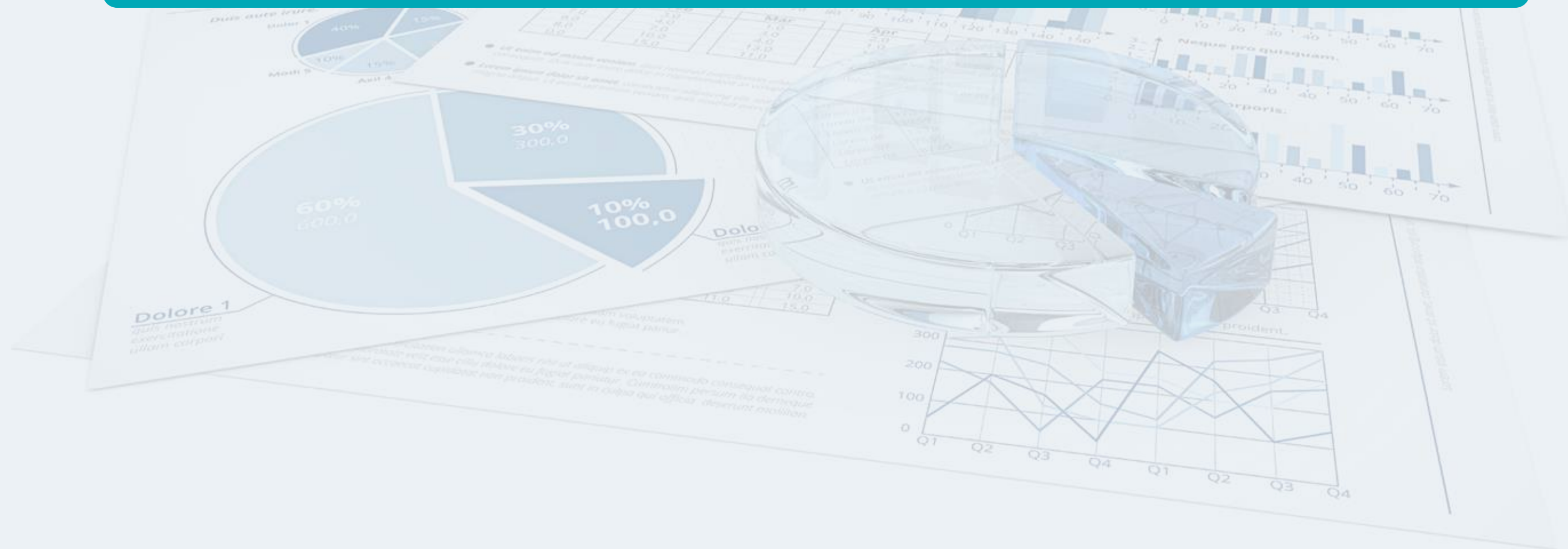


■ Utilities ■ Rent ■ Food ■ Grant Administration

<u>Expense</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Amount Spent</u>	<u>Budget Variance</u>
Utilities	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 90,182.30	\$ 59,817.70
Rent	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 66,165.29	\$ 8,834.71
Food	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 27,381.40	\$ 22,618.60
Grant Administration	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 24,438.87	\$ 3,061.13
Total:	<u>\$ 302,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 208,167.86</u>	<u>\$ 94,332.14</u>



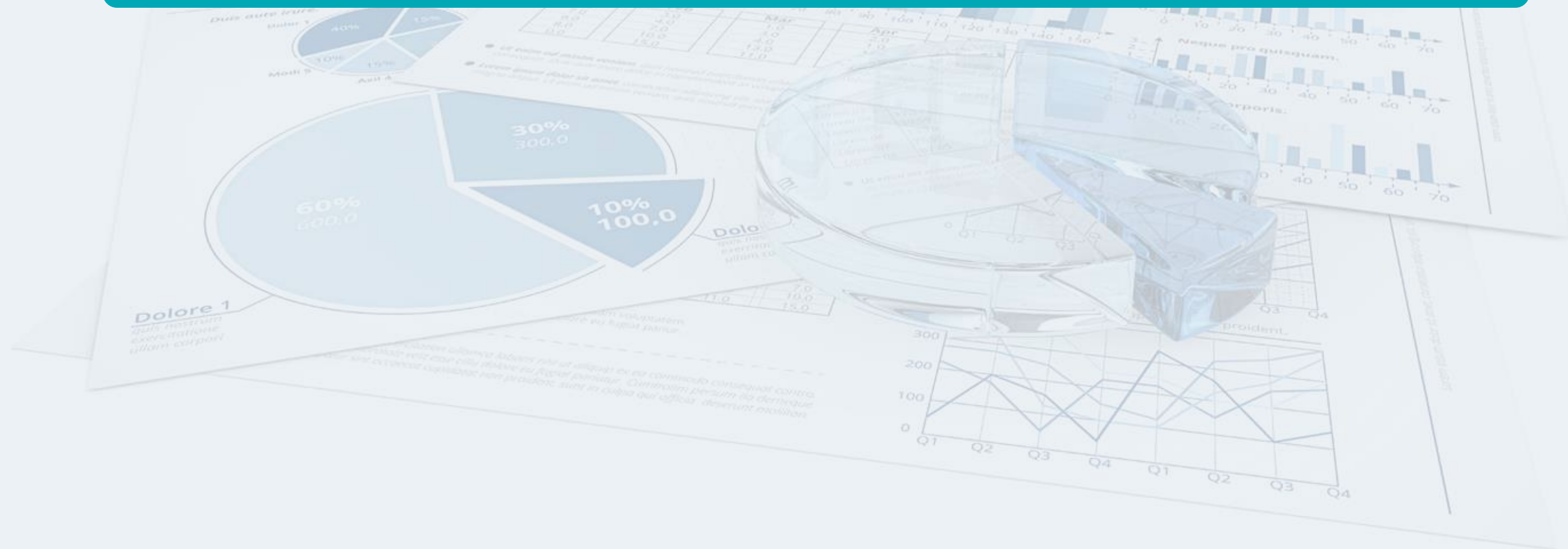
# FIRE PROJECTS



# SCIF Grant- New Fire Station

- During FY 2024, the Town of Granite Falls was awarded a State budget appropriation of \$5 million for construction of a new fire station.
- Required grant paperwork has been submitted to the State as of February 2024, but the funds have not been released yet.
- As the project begins and progresses, Council will receive updates and requests to approve contracts, etc.
- The deadline to expend these funds is October 3, 2025.

# WATER/SEWER PROJECTS



# Lead Service Line Inventory (LCRR)

- As part of the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) published December 16, 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that all community water systems (CWS) and non-transient non-community (NTNC) water systems develop an inventory of all service line connections, both system-owned and customer-owned. The inventory must identify the potential presence of lead within each service line connection. The initial inventory must be completed and submitted to the North Carolina Public Water Supply Section by October 16, 2024.  
(<https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-resources/drinking-water/lead-service-line-inventory>)
- The Town of Granite Falls was awarded a \$240,000 DWSRF grant from NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure. The total estimated cost of the project is \$400,000, and the grant requires a 40% Town match of \$160,000.
- A RFQ was submitted in November 2023 to solicit engineering services to perform the inventory, and in January of 2024 Council approved Town staff to enter into an agreement with an engineering firm contingent upon NCDEQ review and acceptance of the Town's preliminary project scope, cost estimate, and budget.

# SCIF Grant- AMI Water Meters & 8” Waterline Connection

- During FY 2023, the Town of Granite Falls was awarded a State budget appropriation of \$1.125 million for water AMI meters and an 8” waterline connection from Granada to Caldwell County.
- This grant is administered through the NC Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) and will require quarterly reports to be filed with that agency to update the State on the progress of the project.
- This project will begin during FY 2024-2025, and Council will receive updates and requests to approve contracts, etc.
- These funds do not have deadlines and will not revert to OSBM unless the Town does not spend them.

# Community Development Block Grant- Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR)

- During FY 2023, the Town was awarded \$4,999,000 from the NC Department of Commerce for a CDBG-NR grant that must be used for water and sewer infrastructure in areas defined as low to moderate income by the 2010 Census.
- This grant is the largest CDBG grant that the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) has ever obtained.
- This grant will be used to replace water and sewer lines on Hill St, Pearl St., Pine Cone Ln, and Pine St.
- The Town entered into a contract with WPCOG to provide technical assistance with the complexities of the grant.
- An RFQ for engineering services was sent out in January and the sealed bids were due to the Town by February 29th. The Town received three sealed bids and recommended that the Council approve awarding the bid to CHA Consulting, Inc. at the March 4th meeting.
- These funds must be obligated by March 2025 and expended by June 2025.

# Sewer ARPA Grant

## Hillside sewer degradation



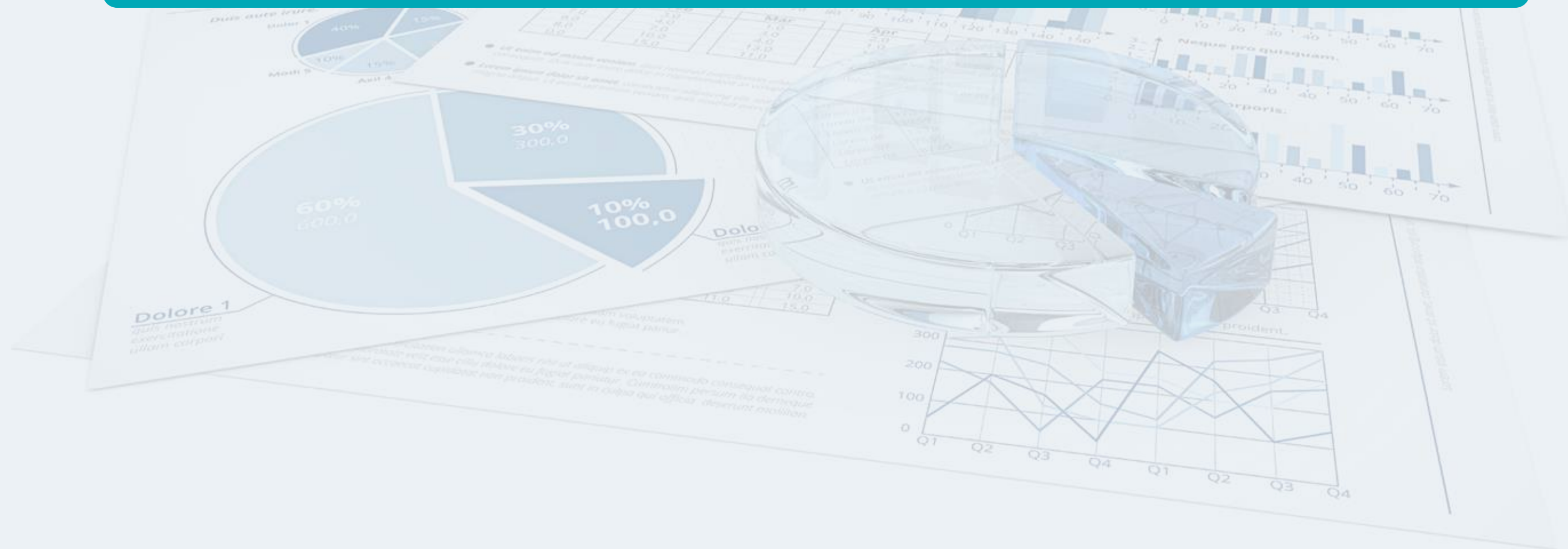
- During FY 2022 the Town was awarded a W&S ARPA grant from NCDEQ in the amount of \$150,000. The estimated cost of the project is expected to be approximately \$325,000 (\$175,000 Town match).
- The funds will be used for a sewer project to replace or pipe burst existing sewer main and taps on Hillside Ave.
- RFQ's were sent out in February 2023 for engineering services, and the Town Council approved the contract with CHA Consulting, Inc. to provide these services.
- An RFP for construction services was sent out in February 2024, and bids must be received by the Town no later than 2:00 pm April 3, 2024. Council will be requested to approve the award for the bid and the contract that will later follow.
- These funds must be obligated by December 2024 and fully expended by December 2026.

# AIA Water System Grant

- The Town was awarded an AIA grant from the NC Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) in the amount of \$150,000 during FY 2023. There is no required Town match as there has been in the past with this type of funding.
- The project will consist of preparing and updating the Town's existing system hydraulic model and will allow for an updated asset management plan.
- In September 2022, The Wooten Company was awarded the contract to perform engineering services for this project and to assist finance with reporting requirements for the State.
- The grant funds are distributed to the Town on a reimbursement basis, and the first reimbursement request was submitted to the State in February 2024.
- This project is expected to be completed by October 2024.



# RECREATION PROJECTS



# PART-F Grant

- During FY 2021, the Town was awarded \$250,000 in Part-F funds from the NC Division of Parks & Recreation to complete projects at the recreation center.
- This grant requires a match of \$286,000, and the Town must spend \$250,000 before requesting a drawdown from the State.
- As of March 2024, the Town has spent \$440,382.75 or 65% of the \$680,547 budget.
- The splash pad is the last remaining item to be completed for this grant. The Town requested an extension during FY 2023 and the deadline for completion has been extended out to October 2024.



# SCIF Grant- ADA Walking Path

- During FY 2022, the Town received a SCIF grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the State budget appropriations administered through the NC Office of State Budget and Management.
- These funds are being used to construct a new ADA compliant sidewalk at the Shuford Recreation Center.
- This project is expected to be completed by June 2024.
- These funds do not have deadlines and will not revert to OSBM unless the Town does not spend them.

# Progress on the ADA sidewalk and splash pad projects.



# Other Updates

- Progress is continuing to be made on the FY 2024-2025 budget and will be finalized and presented to Council in May.
- Utility Billing software implementation through Tyler is scheduled for May. In April, customers will receive notification of the software conversion with their April 1 utility bills. The communication to customers will include the following information:
  - Account numbers will change
  - Bills sent out in May and June will be delayed
  - Penalties will not be assessed on accounts during those months

# Summary

- The Town is currently managing over \$13 million in total for these projects. Out of the \$13 million, \$12.1 million has come through grants and special State budget allocations.
- Each grant has its own expenditure deadline, reporting requirements, etc. and is a multi-department collaboration between finance, the department the project is assigned to, the Town Manager, and engineering and consulting firms.
- The Town Council plays an important role with these grants as well by encouraging staff to take the time to apply for and implement these grants as well as approving the projects these funds will be used for.

Thank  
you!