

Budget changes

The 2009 general fund budget received many alterations before approval Monday night. A proposal to reduce the number of firefighters (from four to three) on city fire engines was eliminated, ambulance fees were increased, and the number of furlough days nonunion employees will take this year was reduced. A series of budget cuts have included a hiring freeze, wage freeze, public safety health insurance changes and others.

	Original budget	Changes	Final budget
Revenue	\$115 million	-\$2.5 million	\$112.7 million
Expenses	\$120 million	-\$7.3 million	\$112.6 million
Surplus/deficit	-\$4.8 million		\$29,685

Ambulance fees increased

(from 2005 to 2008)

Resident:	\$375
Nonresident:	\$665
Mileage:	\$8

New ambulance fees

Resident	
Basic:	\$575
Advanced Life Support One:	\$625
Advanced Life Support Two:	\$725
Nonresident	
Basic:	\$1,150
Advanced Life Support One:	\$1,250
Advanced Life Support Two:	\$1,450
Mileage:	\$15

Source: City of Rockford