Lago Vista Watchdog request for comment to the City of Lago Vista on the August 2026 monthly financial report

Two emails sent from newsroom@lagovistawatchdog.com through our email service on Nov. 9, 2026. Times are Central. The email service reported both as delivered. The second email repeats the first with two council members copied, at our editor's request.

Sent Monday, Nov. 9, 2026, 4:26 p.m. Central
From Lago Vista Watchdog <newsroom@lagovistawatchdog.com>
To Nichole Navarro, Finance Director, City of Lago Vista (nichole.navarro@lagovistatexas.gov)
Subject Questions on the August 2026 monthly financial report

Ms. Navarro,

I'm writing from Lago Vista Watchdog, an independent local news site. We are preparing a story for residents on the city's August 2026 monthly financial reports, posted Nov. 9 at https://www.lagovistatexas.gov/714/Monthly-Reports. We want to explain them accurately, and a few items in them need the city's explanation.

1. General Fund reserve. The LOGIC page of the Detailed Monthly Financial Report shows $610,000.00 in transfers out of Logic #144, the General Fund Reserve Account, in August. The account went from $11,857,913.62 to $11,285,428.64. We could not find a matching transfer line in the FY25-26 Interactive Revenue & Expense Report. Where did that money go, and what did it pay for?

2. Cash totals. Page 1 of the Detailed report lists a total of $66,527,668.71. The "Cash Position as August 31, 2026" chart is labeled $70,230,530.55. What explains the $3,702,861.84 difference, and which figure is correct?

3. Two expense totals. For the General Fund in August, the Financial Snapshot shows $828,035 in expenses and the Detailed report's summary shows $1,044,923. The difference seems to be $217,120.15 in encumbrances. Can you confirm that the Detailed summary counts encumbrances as expenses and the Snapshot does not?

4. Information technology. Line 10-558-4825 had a $125,000 budget. Through August it shows $410,763 spent and $22,424 encumbered. What drove the spending, and did the council approve it?

5. Cedar Breaks. Line 40-580-8273 had a $0 budget. Through August it shows $257,355 spent and $141,316 encumbered. What is the work, and when did the council approve it and the money for it?

6. Line 10-518-6700, Settlement, shows $25,000 with no budget. Line 10-510-9710, Land Acquisition, shows $18,004 with no budget. What was the settlement for, and what land was bought?

7. Golf course. Through August, the golf fund shows $983,090 in revenue and $1,194,825 in expenses. The $350,000 budgeted for a General Fund transfer to the course (line 10-586-9766) shows $0. What covered the difference?

8. Last year. The August 2025 report shows $2,316,537 in General Fund revenue for that month, against $528,112 in August 2026. What made August 2025 so much higher?

We plan to publish after 5 p.m. Central on Thursday, Nov. 12. We will include any answer we receive by then, and we will update the story with any answer that comes later. A short written reply is fine, and so is a call.

Thank you,
Lago Vista Watchdog
newsroom@lagovistawatchdog.com

Sent Monday, Nov. 9, 2026, 4:27 p.m. Central
From Lago Vista Watchdog <newsroom@lagovistawatchdog.com>
To Nichole Navarro, Finance Director, City of Lago Vista (nichole.navarro@lagovistatexas.gov)
Cc Council Member Adam Benefield, Place 2 (councilplace2@lagovistatexas.gov); Council Member Amanda Chavarria, Place 3 (councilplace3@lagovistatexas.gov)
Subject Questions on the August 2026 monthly financial report (council members copied)

Ms. Navarro,

I'm sending the questions from my earlier email again with Council Members Adam Benefield (Place 2) and Amanda Chavarria (Place 3) copied. The questions have not changed.

We are preparing a story for residents on the city's August 2026 monthly financial reports, posted Nov. 9 at https://www.lagovistatexas.gov/714/Monthly-Reports. A few items in them need the city's explanation.

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