The definition of the Default Budget was:

"The amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget."

Effective August 24, 2018 it now continues to say:

"The amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget and by salaries and benefits of positions that have been eliminated in the proposed budget."

Effective August 11, 2018:

For default budget purposes, contracts now have to be "previously approved, in the amount so approved, by the legislative body in either the operating budget authorized for the previous year or in a separate warrant article for a previous year."

Effective August 24, 2018:

- It is now required to have the default budget not only "disclosed" at the first budget hearing, it must now be "presented for questions and discussion."
 - Line items details for reductions and increases must be available for inspection by voters.
 - The reductions and increases must identify the specific items that constitute a change by account code and the reasons for each change.