BOARD OF FINANCE PUBLIC HEARING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 13, 2015

I. CHAIR BOARD OF FINANCE: Thomas Harrison

A. Preside and convenes meeting

Board of Finance Chairman Thomas Harrison called to order the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

He thanked the audience for attending. He stated this is the Annual Public Hearing on budget requests as required by the Town Charter. He stated that each of the three Boards will make a slide presentation on their budget requests and the funding requirements to support those requests. At the end of those presentations there will be an opportunity for the community to ask questions and to express their opinions. The speaking requirements are that you are a resident of Avon and at least 18 years of age. If you are not a resident, you must own property in Avon with a minimum assessed value of $1,000. Speaking is limited to three minutes.

Chairman Harrison introduced himself and then asked the rest of the Board to do the same. The members of the Board of Finance are Chairman Thomas Harrison, Vice Chairman Tom Gugliotti, Jim Speich, Brian Stoll, Cathy Durdan, Margaret Bratton, and Dean Hamilton. A quorum was present.

B. Leads Audience in Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mr. Harrison led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

C. Advises the audience of the order of presentation tonight

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II. CHAIR, BOARD OF FINANCE: Thomas Harrison

Calls on Chair, Town Council to present proposed Town Council, Sewer, Debt Service and Capital Improvement Budget for FY 2015/2016

Mr. Harrison called on the Town Council Chairman Mark Zacchio to come forward to make his presentation.

III. CHAIR, TOWN COUNCIL: Mark Zacchio

Presents the Town Council, Sewer, Debt Service and Capital Improvement Budget for FY 2015/2016

Chairman Zacchio guided the audience through a Power Point Presentation. The slides are attached to these minutes. Mr. Zacchio stated that this budget fully funds, from an operating perspective, a public safety budget that the Town Council thought was extremely important to put forward for your consideration. It funds a Social Services Department and has a lot of money going towards infrastructure needs both for our schools and throughout the town. It fully funds two previously part time positions in the Police Department plus one additional new officer; calls for services continue to increase due primarily to medical related calls. The budget also increases public library hours. It extends hours on Sundays from December through April. The way our operating budget breaks out, the majority of funds, 43.16% goes towards the public safety sector; that's for the Police Department and the Fire Department. The next 25% is in the Public Works Department and the balance is for general government in running of the town offices. The proposed budget meets all the mission objectives. The town is actively managing

our personnel resources by only filling essential positions. The Assistant Town Manager position is open and will continue to be open until the Town Manager makes a determination that it needs to be filled. We are requesting $997,479 in new dollars mostly for personnel line items that include salary, obligations to past employees and payment due to our defined benefit plan (ARC). Our employment ratio has remained constant at .5% of the total population since 1970. Long term debt projects continue to fall off; we are paying off more than we are taking on. The projected financing for the Old Farms Road project includes relocating the road to the south and our purchasing open space that would connect the Thompson field area to property we own. The Federal government has become involved in this project. There are a number of Capital Improvement projects budgeted for this year. It includes significant funds for roads, fire apparatus, new science labs at AHS and needed maintenance at our schools. Although this budget includes about $376,000 for roads, we will be spending closer to $1,000,000 due to a Capital Reserve fund we established instead of putting those funds into the Undesignated Fund Balance account. We continue to have more cooperative engagements between the Town and the Board of Education. Mr. Robertson and Mr. Mala are working together to find more ways to share more of the financial services between the two and we hope to have an agreement by next year. Chairman Zacchio asks for your support to move this budget forward. Lastly he called attention to a link on the Town's web site where you can register your e-mail address and subscribe to news updates.

IV. CHAIR, BOARD OF FINANCE: Thomas Harrison
Calls upon Chair, Board of Education to present the proposed Board of Education Budget for FY 2015/2016

V. CHAIR, BOARD OF EDUCATION: Peggy Roell
Presents Board of Education Budget for FY 2015/2016

Chairman Peggy Roell introduced the members of the Board of Education present; Kathy Zirolli, Ames Shea, Jay Spivak, Brian Glenn and Wendy Howard. She called upon Gary Mala, Superintendent of Schools, to present the Board of Education's budget request. Superintendent Mala guided the audience through a Power Point Presentation. The slides are attached to these minutes. He stated that we remain committed to open, clear, transparent processes, and rigorous comprehensive programs being provided to your children. He highlighted more than 12 goals of this budget request that include achieving the mission as stated in the District Strategic Plan, meeting the contractual obligations without adversely impacting programs, reducing the number of students who receive services outside of the Avon Public Schools, creating additional learning opportunities for all students and to operate in a fiscally responsible manner during a time of economic uncertainty. He has added 20 courses to the program of studies at AHS without impacting the budget. Mr. Mala stated there was a three pronged approach to developing this budget. There were reductions of $1,627,495 from the original department requests. He re-appropriated $62,000 of existing funds to achieve Strategic Actions of District Strategic Plan and is making a modest request for $284,492 in new funds to advance Strategic Actions of District Strategic Plan. The gross budget reflects a total increase of $894, 913. New grants have been secured in the amount of $257,403 resulting in a net dollar request of $634,510 or a 1.3% increase. Schools are labor intensive. The largest driver of this budget increase is for salaries and benefits. 94.3% of the budget is going to

non-discretionary expenses. We successfully negotiated a 0% increase when we switched transportation carriers. Our full time equivalent positions (FTE's) show a decrease associated with our slowly declining enrollment and change in the way we are delivering special education services. 80.6% of the budget is associated with meeting salary and benefit obligations to staff. We continue to implement cost savings strategies. About 4 years ago we implemented a energy conservation program in the schools. After 4 years the end result is a savings of $1,700,000. Enrollment has been a question for the better part of a year. An outside enrollment study projected an estimated enrollment decrease of 169 students for the 2014-2015 school year. Using a different method, Mr. Mala projected a decrease of 110 students. The actual decrease has been 59 students. When the proposed budget was created an estimate of 116 less students was used. Currently the projected decrease is 53 students. This number will continue to move during the summer months. The final slide summarizes all the proposed budget achieves.

VI. CHAIR, BOARD OF FINANCE: Thomas Harrison
Presents Board of Finance Overview

Chairman Harrison gave a brief report of how the town is doing in the current fiscal year. He referenced Chairman Zacchio's statements and reiterated that the town took in more than we spent and we were able to put that extra revenue to use for extra road projects. He stated this reflects on the skillful level of management of the professional staff on both the Board of Education and the Town Council. In the current fiscal year, we have just finished the third quarter, and we are doing well; our revenue projections are on target. There have been no unexpected shortfalls in revenue collections. We are anticipating finishing the year in the black.

The role of the Board of Finance is to look at budget requests and try to figure out how we the taxpayers can pay for these requests. We look at the budget requests and on a broader level the town on a whole; what are the pressures on the town, what is the economy doing, what's the job situation and things of that sort. Looking at the budget requests before us, the total amount requested is $86,406,996, an increase of $2,519,901 or 3% more revenue. We have two sources of revenue to generate this 3%; property tax & assessments and non-property tax sources (everything else). For next year we are projecting an increase in the non-property tax revenues and we had a little bit of growth in the Grand List. To meet the budget requests as submitted we would need to increase the Mill Rate from 28.32 to 28.8 or an increase of 1.69%. This is the lowest increase since 2008. The bulk of this increase will be carried by the homeowners. The non-property tax sources include Intergovernmental (State grants), Licenses, Fees & Permits (real estate related building permits and fees for property transfers), Charges for Current Services (landfill & pool permits, other town permits) and Other Local revenues & Other Financing Sources. About two thirds of the budget requests are school related. This year's trend in Grand List growth is consistent with previous year's not counting the revaluation exception. Looking at the multi-town comparative data, Avon compares very favorable. Farmington is the best because they have a lot of non-residential property they can tax. Our location doesn't lend itself to industrial growth. A final footnote is in the Debt Service Budget. It is being reduced by $250,000 by applying a BAN premium. BAN stands for bond anticipation note. When we are doing a new project that has been bonded, customarily the full amount isn't needed on the first day of construction, so for

the first couple of years we go out and borrow money for one year with the anticipation of folding it into a bond a couple years later. Banks may not be able to compete on the interest rates so, similar to a signing bonus, banks offer a cash premium. These premiums are put into a reserve account for the project. If it is not used for the project we can take the premium from previous bond issues and apply it to debt service to help keep property taxes down.

After tonight we will reconvene in this room on Wednesday. The three boards will be here. It is an open meeting but it is not a public meeting. That means everyone is welcome to come, but the public is there as an observer; you are not allowed to ask questions. The three Boards confer as the Charter requires and at end of workshop the Board of Finance will make a recommendation to the voters of a specific budget amount. The Board of Finance has authority to adjust the request put forth by the Town Council and the Board of Education. At the town meeting, the first Monday of May, we will present the budget as recommended. The public can ask questions, but it can't be changed at that point. The meeting adjourns to referendum. Our charter limits us to 3 budget votes.

Avonassessor.com allows you to enter the proposed mill rate to see how it will affect your individual taxes in Avon.

VII. CHAIR, BOARD OF FINANCE: Thomas Harrison
Calls upon the audience for questions and comments on the Town Council, Board of Education, and Board of Finance budget presentations.

Chairman Harrison asked speakers to state your name and street address or if you're not speaking as a resident, to state the location of the property you own in town. He asked that all persons desiring to be heard line up on the left side of room to ask questions or make comments. The Town Clerk, Ann Dearstyne, will be holding up colored coded cards to indicate when you have 30 seconds left and when your speaking time is up.

Chairman Mark Zacchio introduced the Town Council members present; Bill Stokesbury, Doug Evans, David Pena and Heather Maguire. He also introduced the Town Manager, Brandon Robertson.

Florence Stahl, 2 Sunset Trail – Tonight a month before the budget referendum on May 13th we are here to learn what it takes to run the town of Avon and its school system. About $86,400,000 and a mill rate increase of than a mill. Yea, thank you all. It's good to learn about road & school projects and repairs and improvements, about the money we have borrowed and owe; all things a town should do for the well-being, safety and education of its residents. But tonight we are really here to talk about $17,000,000 not $86,400,000. In other words, we are already on the hook for about $69,000,000 or 80% of the budget before we even got here. Why is that? It's because approximately $69,000,000 has been really and officially committed to salary, pension and benefit agreements by Town and Union negotiators. Money is pledged in closed door sessions way into the future. Now this is nothing new. It's just that we have become accustomed to decisions made this way. What is new is the public's emerging right to know. To have our government and our labor unions become more transparent and move out of the

shadows. All of us fund public labor unions and their members with our tax dollars. While the right to collectively bargain is not in question, the right to respectfully and silently observe the process is in question. Now Town negotiators have already said they are in agreement to have open sessions. They have said that at every negotiating session. All it takes is the will of the Unions to say yes. Now there are a few ways to deal with public awakening. And we all know that in our culture in the last decade there has been so much that has changed in terms of what is acceptable culturally. Now with the public awakening to want more transparency, to be there at the table, even silently, it can go two ways. One, it could go totally underground; that is clearly against the law and many people would have to be complicit in that. Another way is that Union lobbyist could introduce legislation to mandate closed door sessions, but that would open concealment policies to even wider audiences. Or folks, we could just get along. We know this is not too much to ask and we are asking it. We are asking our community to help us make negotiations transparent as we go forward. I thank you very much.

VIII. CHAIR, BOARD OF FINANCE: Thomas Harrison
Advises audience that there being no further discussion, the Budget, in its final format, will be presented to the Annual Budget Meeting on Monday May 4, 2015, at the Avon Senior Center Community Room, 635 West Avon Road, Avon, Ct 7:00 p.m. and will be submitted to vote at Referendum on May 13, 2015, at the Avon Senior Center Community Room, 635 West Avon Road, Avon, Ct, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURN
The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas A. Gugliotti, Secretary

Attest: Mary Marinello, Clerk

All referenced material will be available to the public in the Town Clerk's office.

TOWN OF AVON

Proposed Operating Budget
Fiscal Year 2015/2016

1

Mission Statement

Provide quality Town services at a reasonable cost to all citizens and taxpayers.

2

Activities Funded by the Operating Budget

- General Government
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Health and Social Services
- Recreation and Parks
- Education-Culture
- Conservation and Development

3

Mission Objectives this year

- RETAIN CORE SERVICES
  - Public Safety Focus
  - Contract out services where efficient and effective
- FUND LONG-TERM LIABILITIES
  - Fund required pension contributions
  - Fund OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) obligation
- ACTIVELY MANAGE PERSONNEL RESOURCES
  - Fill only essential vacancies
- INCREASE CIP PROJECT FUNDING
  - Focus on School Facilities

4

Proposed Budget Summary FY 2015/2016

	FY 14/15	FY 15/16	$Inc/(Dec)	% Inc/-Dec
Town Operation	$21,494,682	$22,492,161	$997,479	4.64%
Sewers*	1,923,732	1,962,071	38,339	1.99%
Debt Service	3,647,490	3,300,940	(346,550)	-9.50%
C.I.P.	2,590,637	3,531,172	940,535	36.31%
TOTAL	**$29,656,541**	**$31,286,344**	**$1,629,803**	**5.49%**

* Paid for by sewer fees

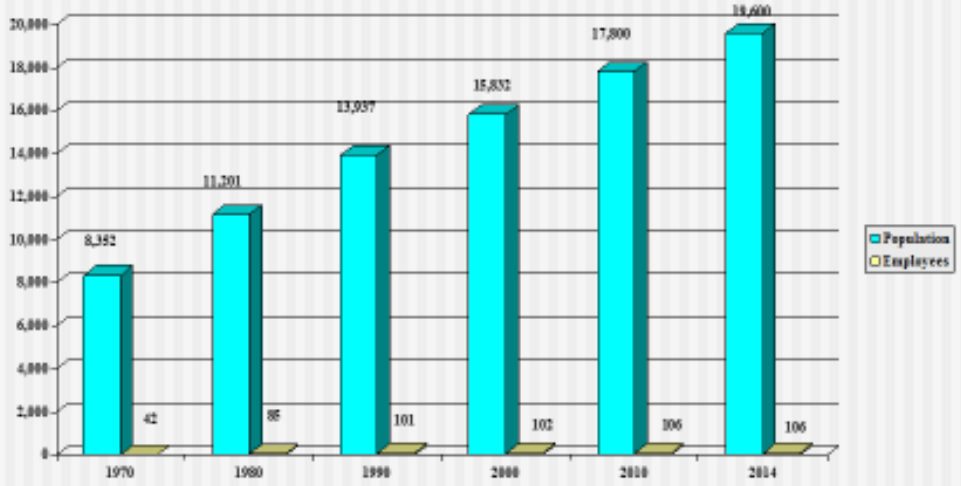
5

Budget Drivers this year

- 4.64% = $997,479 in new dollars
  - Three largest budget drivers
    - Increase in Salaries/Wages $448,320
    - OPEB Funding and Retiree Health $403,921
    - Increase in DB "ARC"= $239,933

6

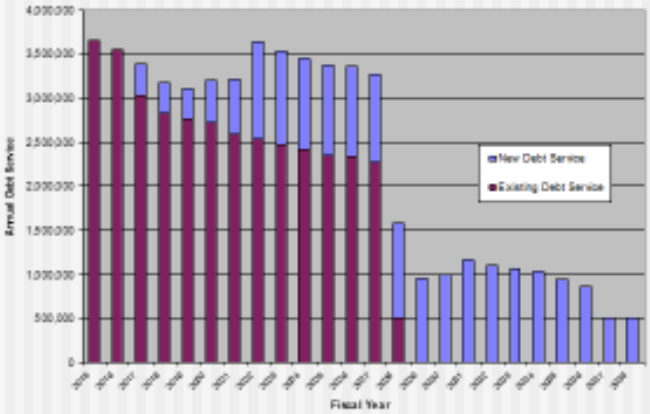
Employment and Population Growth Since 1970



* Population to FTE ratio in 1970 = 0.5%, in 2015 = 0.5%

7

Existing & Projected Net Debt Service*



* This graph is for all Existing and Projected Debt Financing for:

- $ 5,000,000 Fire Station
- $ 1,500,000 Athletic Fields/Facilities
- $ 7,664,000 Old Farms Road

8

Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2015/2016

Fire Apparatus Replacement	$493,000
Middle School Science Laboratories	$429,000
Road Improvements	$376,772
Replacement of 1994 Dump Truck	$200,000
RBS HVAC Units	$190,000
Sycamore Hills Improvements & Restoration	$170,400
Avon High School Flooring Replacement	$140,000
Underground Fuel Tank Replacement	$100,000
Replacement of 1992 Bobcat Skid Steer w/ Trailer	$100,000
Sewer Projects Funded through the Sewer Fund	$820,000
Additional Capital Projects	$512,000
TOTAL	**$3,531,172**

9

Town, Board of Education Cooperative Ventures

1. Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance
2. Purchasing
3. Capital Project Administration
4. Use of Athletic Fields, School and Town Buildings
5. Health, Liability, Auto, Property and Worker's Compensation Insurance
6. Library Collaborative Collection and Reserve Policy
7. Financial Services (Audit, Banking)
8. Legal Services
9. Comprehensive Energy Plan

10

Proposed Budget Summary FY 2015/2016

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TOTAL	**$29,656,541**	**$31,286,344**	**$1,629,803**	**5.49%**

* Paid for by sewer fees

11

Want to know what's happening in Avon?

Get the details sent to your inbox! Log on to the Avon Town Website:

www.avonct.gov

- Click on "Subscribe to News" under Quick Links
- Enter Your Email Address: _____
- Confirm Email: _____
- Check the box under "Urgent Alert" to receive Town-wide urgent/important news
- Check the boxes under "Meeting Agenda" for which Town Board/Commission(s) you would like to receive agendas
- Check the boxes under "Meeting Minutes" for which Town Board/Commission(s) you would like to receive minutes
- Check the boxes under "News or Announcement" for the following:
  - ☐ Avon Free Public Library (Friends Programs, alerts for new items, events)
  - ☐ Board of Education
  - ☐ Town News and Announcements (Town-wide news, events, community-wide fundraisers)
  - ☐ Human Resources (employment opportunities within the Town of Avon)
  - ☐ Recreation and Parks Department (activity announcements, schedule changes, weather cancellations)
- Verify and enter security code.
- Click on [Subscribe Me]

Once you submit your email address, you will receive a confirmation email and notices for the categories you selected.

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Avon Public Schools Board of Education Proposed Budget 2015-2016

April 13, 2015

1

Mission Statement

Our mission is to inspire in each student a joy and passion for learning and a commitment to excellence, personal integrity, and social responsibility.

Statement of Beliefs

We educate students intellectually, socially, emotionally, and physically to acquire knowledge and skills, to develop creativity and character, and to pursue their interests, realize their potential, and meet the challenges in a constantly changing world.

2

We believe that …..

- A high quality education is fundamental to create a life with purpose, meaning, and happiness.
- Educated people of good character are essential to democracy.
- Public education is a responsibility shared by students, parents, school personnel, and community members.
- Trust and respect are prerequisites for sustaining and improving safe and successful schools.
- Critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and innovation are essential.
- All people have value and should be treated with dignity and respect.

3

We are committed to…..

- Clear communication and transparent processes.
- Rigorous, comprehensive, and innovative programs.
- Meeting the needs of all students within local, state, and national requirements.
- Collaboration, professional development, and ethical practice.
- Continuous improvement through systematically assessing our actions and outcomes.
- Using all resources efficiently and effectively to the greatest advantage of all students.

4

Goals of Budget Request

1. Achieve our mission as stated in District Strategic Plan

2. Meet contractual obligations without adversely impacting programs

3. Reduce number of students who receive services outside of the Avon Public Schools

4. Create additional learning opportunities for all students

5

Goals of Budget Request

4a. Maintain Preschool that supports an enrollment of 12 four year old students via the Open Choice program
4b. Increase number of AP level courses at AHS
4c. Facilitate AMS students taking courses at AHS
4d. Implement summer programming for credit recovery, enrichment and course work advancement
4e. Increase support for English Language Learners as identified
4f Introduce *Enrichment for All* model in grades 1 – 6
4g Expand Chinese to grade 3 and Level II at AHS

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Goals of Budget Request

5. Support Professional Development opportunities for all staff

6. Maintain building schedules that support professional collaborative time

7. Maintain the current support structure for the district's Technology department

8. Expand support for safety and organizational needs of the AHS Interscholastic athletic programs

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Goals of Budget Request

9. Incrementally reduce dependence on rental revenue received from district Food Services department

10. Secure alternative revenue sources to offset operating expenses

11. Expand cooperative purchasing and shared services with Town offices

12. Continue to operate in a fiscally responsible manner during a time of continued, unprecedented economic uncertainty

8

Budget Development Approach

Three-Pronged

1. **Reductions** made from proposed requests = **$1,627,495**
2. **Re-appropriation** of existing funding to achieve Strategic Actions of District Strategic Plan = **$62,000**
3. **Requests** to continue to advance Strategic Actions of District Strategic Plan = **$284,492**

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2015-2016 Board of Education Proposed Budget

	2014-2015	2015-2016	$ Increase	% Increase
Operating Budgets				
General Fund	51,903,086	52,797,999	894,913	1.72%
Cafeteria Operation	1,297,474	1,119,209	(Self Funded)	
Facility Use	54,000	56,500	(Self Funded)	
State & Federal Grants	975,994	1,146,944	(Self Funded)	
Total Spending (gross)	54,230,554	55,120,652	890,098	1.64%
Non-Local Tax Revenue				
General Fund	2,708,649	2,966,052	257,403	9.50%
Cafeteria Operation	1,297,474	1,119,209	(Self Funded)	
Facility Use	54,000	56,500	(Self Funded)	
State & Federal Grants	975,994	1,146,944	(Self Funded)	
Non-Local Tax Revenue	5,036,117	5,288,705		
Tax Levy Impact	49,194,437	49,831,947	637,510	**1.30%**

2015-2016 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Summary

2014-2015 Adopted Gross Budget	$ 51,903,086	(A)
Non-tax Revenues	-2,708,649	(B)
Proposed Budget	$ 49,194,437	(C)
2015-2016 Gross Budget Request	52,797,999	(D)
Projected Non-tax Revenues	-2,966,052	(E)
Net Budget Request*	$ 49,831,947	(F)
Difference in Dollars 2015 to 2016	$ 637,510	(F-C)
Difference in Percent 2015 to 2016	1.30%	(F/C)*

*Used to determine tax rate

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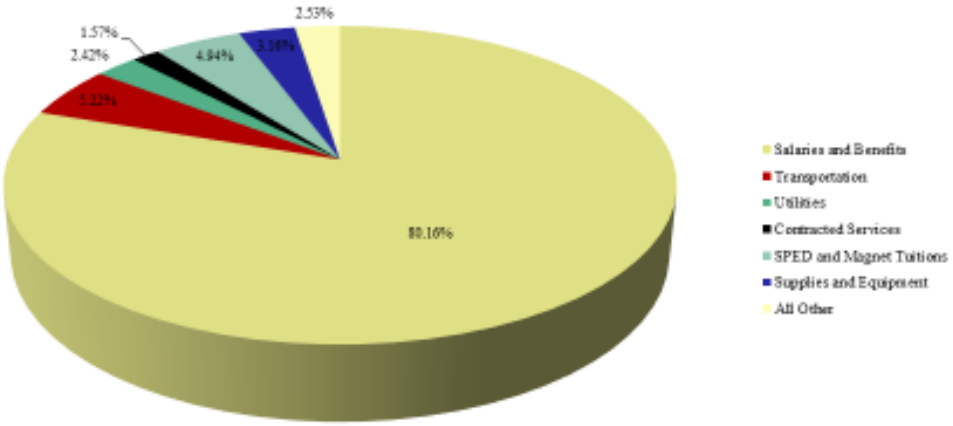
Drivers of Total Proposed Budget

Category	Budget	Percent
Salaries and Benefits	$ 42,324,951	80.2%
Transportation (Includes Sp.Ed.)	$2,754,395	5.2%
Utilities	$1,276,956	2.4%
Contracted Services	$827,195	1.6%
SPED and Magnet Tuitions	$2,608,352	4.9%
Supplies and Equipment	$1,668,198	3.2%
All Other	$1,337,952	2.5%
Total Gross Budget Request	$52,797,999	1.72%
Non-tax Revenue	-$2,966,052	
Total Net Budget Request	$49,831,947	1.30%

Total Proposed Budget Increase impacting Mill Rate = 1.30%

Drivers of Total Proposed Budget



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What Accounts for Requested Funding Increase of $637,510 ?

Category	Increase
Benefits	$357,888
Equipment	$149,783
Textbooks and Supplies	$80,761
All Other	$49,078
	$637,510

$49,831,947 (2015-2016 Gross – Revenue) - $49,194,437 (2014-2015 Gross – Revenue) = $637,510

Total Proposed Budget Increase Impacting Mill Rate = 1.30%

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Budget Details

- ***94.3%*** *($49,349,281)* of proposed budget going to non-discretionary expenses (salaries, benefits, transportation, tuitions, utilities and contracted services)

	2014-2015	2015-2016
Certified:	295.9	288.9*
Non-certified:	195.9	183.9*

* - Position reductions are associated with slowly decreasing enrollment and a change to the service delivery model for special education and related services

- ***80.6%*** *($41,859,753)* of the total proposed budget is associated with meeting salary and benefit obligations to staff

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Budget Details

- Significant efforts to reduce out of district tuitions and transportation costs associated with meeting the needs of disabled learners

- Continue to respond to state mandates
  1. evaluation system for all certified staff
  2. next generation of technology based, state-wide standardized assessments (SBAC) for students
  3. professional development and education reform legislation
  4. curriculum revision necessary to align to Common Core State Standards

- Current expenditures are a direct result of implementing significant cost avoidance strategies

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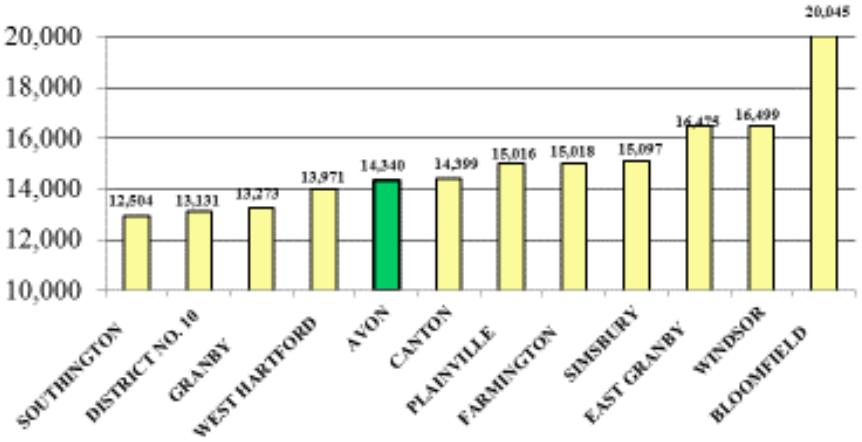
Net Current Expenditures Per Pupil

Excludes Transportation and Debt Service

2013-2014 Data



Data Source: Connecticut State Department of Education 17

PROJECTED 2010-2015
ENROLLMENT AND CLASS SIZE SUMMARY

*** - Average class size for high school is calculated by using the enrollment and sections from four (4) required courses - English, Math, Science and Social Studies.**

**** - Proposed Budget includes grant funded teaching assistants in grades K-2**

Grade	2010-2011 Average	2011-2012 Average	2012-2013 Average	2013-2014 Average	2014-2015 Average	Projected 2015-2016 Average
K	17.64	17.40	17.40	19.00	18.29	20.30 **
1	21.91	19.18	19.30	21.00	21.00	20.10 **
2	21.92	21.42	20.33	19.30	21.90	21.00 **
3	22.25	21.83	21.17	20.33	21.50	21.90
4	21.69	23.50	21.25	21.17	23.08	21.50
5	22.00	22.00	21.54	19.62	23.00	23.08
6	22.00	21.93	20.85	21.54	23.00	23.00
7	23.67	24.08	21.07	18.07	22.92	23.00
8	25.08	23.67	19.73	26.17	22.75	22.92
9-12	23.95	23.66	19.04	19.38	18.60	18.90 *

Enrollment Summary
October 1, 2013 & October 1, 2014

Outside Enrollment Study (2013-2014)
Projected enrollment as of October 1, 2014 = 3,210
Projected decrease (3,379 - 3,210) = 169

2014-15 Approved Board of Education Budget
Superintendent of Schools Projected Enrollment = 3,268
Projected decrease (3,379 - 3,269) = 110

Avon Public Schools Comparison of Seated Enrollment
Official enrollment as of October 1, 2013 = 3,379
Official enrollment as of October 1, 2014 = 3,320
Actual decrease = 59

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Projected Enrollment Summary
October 1, 2014 & October 1, 2015

Avon Public Schools Seated Enrollment as of October 1, 2014
3,320

Avon Public Schools Projected Seated Enrollment as of December 1, 2014
Official enrollment as of October 1, 2014 = 3,320
Projected enrollment as of October 1, 2015 = 3,204
Projected decrease = 116

Avon Public Schools Projected Seated Enrollment as of April 13, 2015
Official enrollment as of October 1, 2014 = 3,320
Projected enrollment as of October 1, 2015 = 3,267
Projected decrease = 53

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What Does This Budget Achieve?

Description	Location
Expands opportunities to study world languages *	RBS, PGS, AMS, AHS
Increases AP course offerings (minimum of 2)	AHS
Acquisition of additional technology equipment	All Schools
Continues school culture / climate professional development	All Schools
Secures textbooks for revised curricula	All Schools
Establishes enrichment model for grades 1 though 6	RBS, PGS, TBS
Establishes academic opportunities for AMS students at AHS	AMS
Provides for all students to participate in the PSAT	AHS
Provides additional administrative support in Pupil Services ***	All School
Expands revised special education service deliver model **	RBS, PGS, AMS
Provides professional development opportunities for all staff	All Schools
Additional non-athletic, co-curricular program offerings	AMS, AHS
Establishes two district-based, special education programs	TBD
Implements summer academic programming	AHS
Provides additional support for AHS athletic programs	AHS
Provides additional teaching assistants in grades K-2 ***	RBS, PGS
Expands support for non-english speaking students	All Schools
Maintains all existing programs and services for students	All Schools

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* - Collaborative with CCSU ** - Achieved Via Re-Appropriation *** - Grant Funded

We are also committed to ....

- Maintaining clear communication and transparent processes
- Providing rigorous, comprehensive, and innovative programming
- Meeting the needs of all students within local, state, and national requirements
- Continuously improving through systematically assessing actions and outcomes via use of third party reviews
- Using all resources efficiently and effectively to the greatest advantage of all students. Continue incremental approach to achieving efficiencies and additions
- Working collaboratively and cooperatively with all local boards and Town officials

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Town of Avon

Board of Finance
Public Hearing
Requested Fiscal Year 15/16 Budget
April 13, 2015

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Requested Budgets

	Adopted FY 14/15	Requested FY 15/16	$ Inc/(Dec)	% Inc/-Dec
Town Operating	$21,494,682	$22,492,161	$997,479	4.64%
Board of Education	$54,230,554	$55,120,652	$890,098	1.64%
Debt Service*	$3,647,490	$3,300,940	($346,550)	-9.50%
Capital Improvement **	$2,590,637	$3,531,172	$940,535	36.31%
Sewers	$1,923,732	$1,962,071	$38,339	1.99%
TOTAL:	**$83,887,095**	**$86,406,996**	**$2,519,901**	**3.00%**

* Debt Service FY 15/16 is $3,550,940, but reduced to $3,300,940, by applying $250,000 of BAN/Bond premium.
** Capital Improvement amount of $3,531,172 includes $820,000 funded by Sewer Fund (Fund 5).

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Board of Finance's Role is to Balance:

Spending for Services and Taxes to Pay for Them

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Local Revenue Options are Limited

State law is very restrictive:

- No Local Income Tax
- No Local Sales Tax
- No Local Taxes on Tobacco, Alcohol, Gasoline, or Hotel Rooms

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What's Left for Towns?

1) Property Taxes & Assessments

2) Non-Property Tax Sources

(such as Licenses, Fees, Permits, Grants, etc.)

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How Much Revenue Will Avon Raise From These Sources?

	Current Budget	Requested Budget	% Inc. / Dec.
Property Taxes & Assessments	$72,721,955 86.7% of revenues	$74,486,325 86.2% of revenues	2.43%
Non-Property Tax Sources	$11,165,140 13.3% of revenues	$11,920,671 13.8% of revenues	6.77%
TOTAL:	**$83,887,095**	**$86,406,996**	3.00%
Net Grand List:	$2,559,080,530	$2,578,884,230	0.77%
Mill Rate Needed:	**28.32**	**28.80**	**1.69%**

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Property Tax and Assessments-Various Breakdown for Requested FY 15/16

$74,486,325

86.2% of Revenue

Category	FY 14/15 Amount	FY 15/16 Amount	% of Property Tax
a) Residential	$55,822,243	$57,252,660	76.86%
b) Commercial/Industrial	$9,297,859	$9,470,300	12.71%
c) Motor Vehicles	$4,977,962	$5,130,510	6.89%
d) Personal Property	$2,339,405	$2,406,578	3.23%
e) Other	$138,605	$11,818	0.02%
Subtotal	$72,576,074	$74,271,866	99.71%
f) Assessments- Various	$145,881	$214,459	0.29%
Total	$72,721,955	$74,486,325	100%

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Non-Property Tax Breakdown for Requested FY 15/16

$11,920,671

13.8% of Revenue

NON-PROPERTY TAX SOURCES	FY 14/15 BUDGETED	FY 15/16 REQUESTED	FY 15/16 % of Non-Property Tax
Intergovernmental	$4,940,842	$4,984,171	41.8%
Licenses, Fees & Permits	$1,054,725	$1,053,825	8.8%
Charges for Current Services	$4,370,778	$4,546,512	38.2%
Other Local Revenues & Other Financing Sources	$798,795	$1,336,163	11.2%
TOTAL	**$11,165,140**	**$11,920,671**	**100%**

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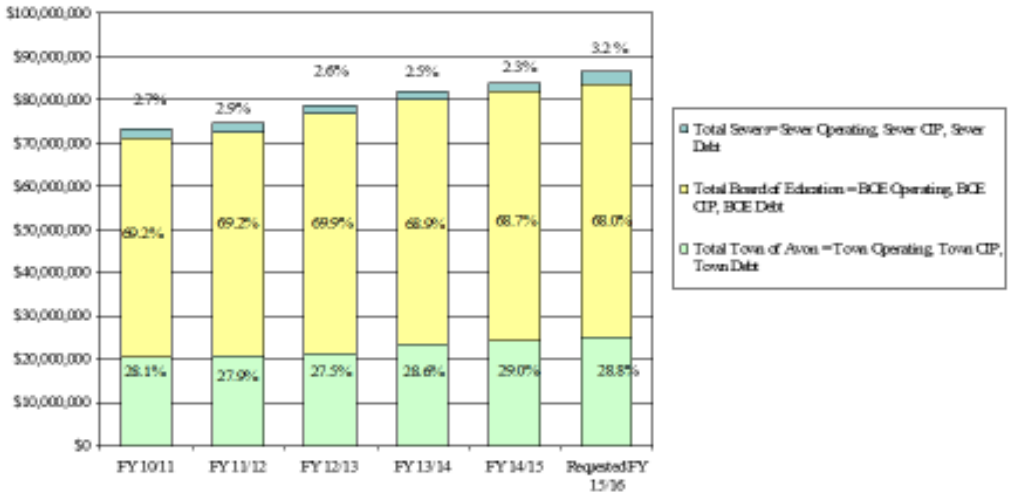
Trends in Spending



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Education FY 15/16 Spending

Classification	Requested FY 15/16	% of Total Budget
Board of Education Operating	$55,120,652	63.8%
Debt Service for BOE * * BOE Debt is 79.6% of the total Debt. 79.6% of the $250K use of BAN/Bond premium has been applied.	$2,627,483	3.0%
Capital Budget for BOE	$944,000	1.2%
BOE Operating, Debt and Capital Total:	**$58,692,135**	**67.93%**

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Town and Sewers FY 15/16 Spending

Classification	Requested FY 15/16	% of Total Budget
Town of Avon Operating	$22,492,161	26.03%
Debt Service for Town * * Town Debt is 20.4% of the total Debt. 28.4% of the $258K use of BAN/Bond premium has been applied.	$673,457	0.77%
Capital Budget for Town	$1,767,172	2.04%
Town Operating, Debt and Capital Sub-Total:	$24,932,790	28.85%
Sewers Operating and CIP Total: (No Debt in FY 15/16)	$2,782,071	3.21%
TOTAL:	**$27,714,861**	**32.07%**

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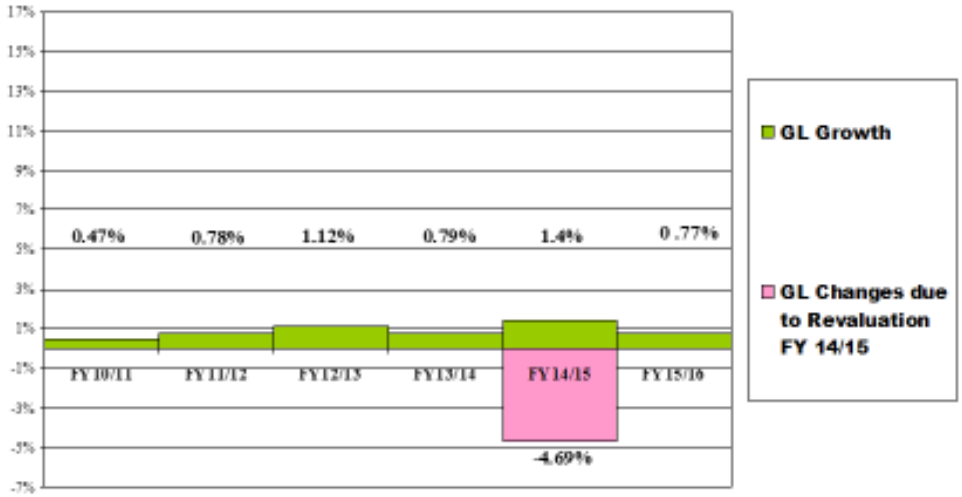
6 Year Grand List History



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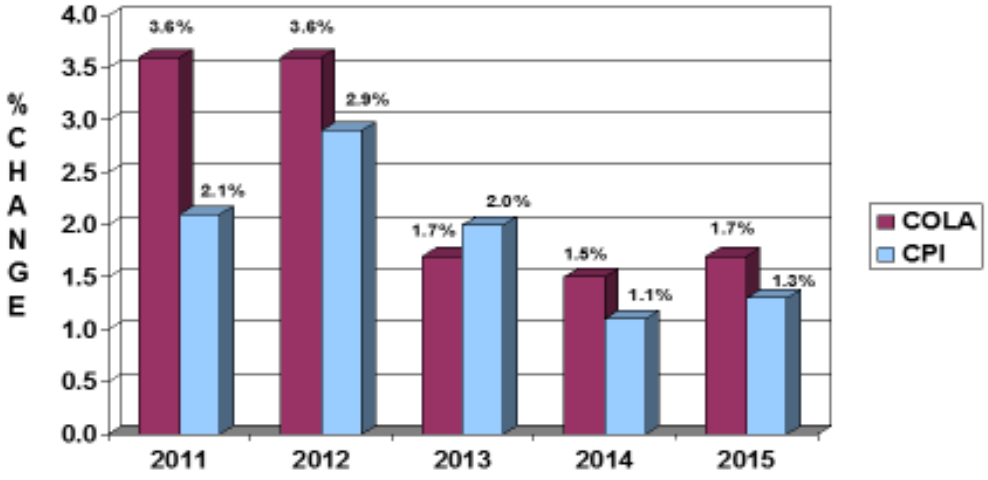
Social Security COLA and Consumer Price Index (CPI)

5 Year History



Sources: US Social Security Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics

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Multi-Town Comparative Data

Town	2013 Equalized Mill Rate *
Avon	19.22
Canton	19.17
East Granby	20.52
Farmington	15.47
Glastonbury	22.34
Granby	23.12
Simsbury	23.27
West Hartford	25.01

* The Equalized Mill Rate is used so we may compare mill rates among towns, using the following formula:

Net Grand List divided by Assessment Sales Ratio = Adjusted Net Grand List
Budget Needs *[taxes to be raised to meet the budget]* divided by Adjusted Net Grand List = Equalized Mill Rate

Source: Office of Policy and Management

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Next Steps

Next Steps in Process

- Workshop (at the Avon Senior Center)
  The workshop listed below is *not a* public hearing:
  - Wednesday, April 15th – 7:00 p.m.
  - Thursday, April 16th – 7:00 p.m. (if necessary)
- Town Meeting – Monday, May 4th – 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Senior Center
- Referendum – Wednesday, May 13th at the Avon Senior Center
  Wednesday, June 3rd at the Avon Senior Center (if necessary)
  Wednesday, June 24th at the Avon Senior Center (if necessary)

  (Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

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