

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
March 2, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, in the Selectmen's Chamber as well as via GoToMeeting by Chairman Polhamus. Members present: Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico (arrived at 7:18 p.m.). A quorum was present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Polhamus.

III. PUBLIC HEARING: None

IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS: February 2, 2023
February 4, 2023 Budget Work Session

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the February 2, 2023 Meeting as drafted.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello and Mr. Polhamus voted in favor. Mr. Weber abstained. Motion carried: 3-0-1.

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the February 4, 2023 Budget Work Session as drafted.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE

Norm Sondheimer, 25 Nottingham Ridge, member of the Recreation and Parks Committee, shared that he coordinates hikes for the Town and learned from Brian McDermott that trail maintenance was discussed at the February Budget Workshop. He shared and discussed a map that showed priorities for trail maintenance. He added that the \$10,000 budget request in the FY 24 budget follows the current year's spend of \$20,000 and the prior year of \$16,000 which were both augmented by grants, in addition to approximately \$12,000 by the Town for signage improvements. He invited the Town Council to attend a Town-wide walk scheduled for the first Saturday in June. Chairman Polhamus thanked Mr. Sondheimer for the overview and the FY 24 budget will be discussed later in the agenda.

Bruce Appell, 85 New Road, Fire Marshal, shared information regarding an upcoming CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Training Program that starts on Wednesday, March 22nd; it will be a great benefit to the Town. He noted that Canton, Farmington, and West Hartford have CERT Programs. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, Mr. Appell responded that if a participant misses a session, there will be make-up opportunities.

VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL

Ms. Ausiello noted that Avon Middle School 8th graders, which included her daughter, had the opportunity to scrimmage during halftime at a UCONN ladies' basketball game.

Mr. Weber echoed Mr. Sondheimer's remarks regarding the Avon Hike Day. He shared that he joined Mr. Sondheimer for a hike through the Old Farms loop trail and his knowledge of the trails is invaluable. He congratulated the Avon High School Wrestling Team on their State Championship for the first time in twenty-two years and gave credit to the coaches for their time and dedication with the program. He noted that Isaiah Adams and his son Jonah participated in the State Open tournament and took 2nd place and 3rd place respectively and both will move on to the New England tournament; congratulations to Avon High School!

Mrs. Maguire shared news regarding two upcoming events: Blood Drive at the Avon Senior Center on March 6th and the Avon Historical Society will host a Tablescape event on March 17th and 18th at the North House.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council move agenda item 22/23-61 2023 Girl Scout Day Proclamation up before Old Business.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

21/22-46 American Rescue Plan Act: Discussion re: Projects List

No new updates were provided for this item.

22/23-26 FY 23/24 Budget Development

The Town Manager reviewed a list of recommended adjustments to the proposed FY 24 budget following the Town Council's February Budget Workshop. He is confident that once the budget goes to the Board of Finance, we will be able to bring the current proposed mill rate increase of 3.29% down by adding back some non-tax revenue by increasing original grant projections. The Town Council accepted all recommended adjustments which decreases the General Fund budget total by \$33,809.00. In response to a question from Mr. Indomenico, the Town Manager responded that at the end of the year he expects there will still be a significant positive variance and then we will review our Unassigned Fund Balance and any Assignments on Fund Balance to get ahead next year; we may make a recommendation for an Assignment for Pavement Management similar to last year. The Assistant Town Manager noted that the adjustments made with the capital budget items in the FY 24 proposed budget results in a net savings of \$37,000. Mrs. Maguire feels good about the non-tax revenue offsetting the mill rate increase to below 3%; we are a service industry and if we can't provide the services, we need to for our citizens we will hear about it; it is finding that right balance. Chairman Polhamus noted two requests in the FY 24 budget: a plow truck and the School Resource Officer. He added that we have one plow route now that is being run by a smaller truck and other trucks are making up for its shortcomings, it spends a fair time in the shop, and it is time to replace it. He noted that it is a good budget; it is a lot of money but inflation has

been rampant over the last few years; and we have a revaluation next year; it is a reasonable budget that he would support. Ms. Ausiello agreed that it is a reasonable and responsible budget and would like to see it under 3%; so much of it is personnel related that is out of our control to a degree; and thank you to all for their hard work with the budget.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council recommends the FY 23/24 Proposed Budget of \$110,096,541 to the Board of Finance as follows:

REVENUES

Property Tax & Assessments	\$ 95,798,053
Intergovernmental	4,156,220
Licenses, Fees & Permits	1,038,114
Charges for Current Services	7,388,941
Other Local Revenues	460,213
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,255,000
TOTAL	\$ 110,096,541

EXPENDITURES

Town Operating Budget	\$ 29,793,187
School Operating Budget	68,905,081
Sewer Operating Budget	3,198,967
Capital & Debt Service Budgets:	
Debt Service	2,889,400
Capital Budget (CNREF, Facilities & Equipment)	4,559,906
<i>Subtotal: Capital & Debt Service</i>	<i>7,449,306</i>
TOTAL	\$ 110,096,541

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-37 Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

Holly Parker, SLR International Corporation, provided a presentation regarding a draft story map and vision statement to assist with the development of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. She noted that they have been reviewing existing conditions around Town with sidewalks, trails, etc., hoping to make connections where possible to the Farmington Rail Trail; safer routes to connect with schools, residential and commercial areas, public transportation, and work in conjunction with the bicycle friendly community status. They will be conducting an assessment over the course of the project, asking one question at a time. The story map (web site) will be the focal point for information about the project; it will be linked to social media. Public information meetings will be scheduled sometime around April and in June. At the end of the process, they will have a prioritized action plan to make biking and walking safer; it will include a final report and prioritized projects. They will create maps in paper form to distribute at the Senior Center, Library, Police Department, and Public Works to provide comments. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Ms. Parker responded that the story map (web site) was built by using data from the Town. The story map is not live yet. Mr. Weber noted that Thompson Road does not have a sidewalk the length of it. There was discussion regarding assessment/survey participation and the roll out process. The Assistant Town Manager noted that results from the Recreation survey were shared with Council and had pretty good results and likewise a prior Police Department community input

survey had good results. Ms. Parker noted that the first question is the vision statement for the project and then they will build from there. Norm Sondheimer asked if recreational mountain biking or that sort is included in the vision. Ms. Parker responded that it is intended to improve recreational opportunities and to connect to trails, making them more accessible on foot or by bike, is a priority with the project. The Assistant Town Manager commented that this can come back before Council after the first public information meeting with an update. The timeline is an approximate nine month project. Ms. Ausiello encouraged us to use every possible avenue to communicate about the first public information meeting. The Assistant Town Manager responded that we will use the following communication methods: four posterboards, Lunch and Learn with the seniors at the Senior Center, teenagers at the Library (Teen Room), Public Works and Police Department staff (who are on the trails), Town web site, PTO Presidents, Board of Education virtual backpack, Valley Press, Town newsletter, Patch, and QR code signs along the trails. Mrs. Maguire commented on the assessment/survey and not losing participants along the process. The Assistant Town Manager noted that this process is a different approach than what we have done in the past. It was clarified that this is a public engagement process. Consensus was to move forward with going live with the web site after final edits, i.e., the map.

22/23-54 Review, Discuss, Set Public Hearing: Acquisition & Leaseback of Property located at 645 West Avon Road

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: that a certain Purchase and Sale Agreement by and between the Town of Avon and Carolann Baldwin (the “Purchase Agreement”) for the Town’s acquisition of approximately 1.910 +/- acres of land known as 645 West Avon Road in the Town of Avon, now or formerly owned by Carolann Baldwin, and all improvements and appurtenances thereto (collectively, the “Property”), is hereby authorized and approved; and it is

RESOLVED FURTHER: that a certain Lease Agreement by and between the Town of Avon, as landlord, and Carolann Baldwin, as tenant (the “Lease Agreement”) for the lease of the Property by Carolann Baldwin from the Town to Carolann Baldwin to be used and occupied by Carolann Baldwin as her primary residence for a period of up to one year following the date the Town of Avon acquires the Property (the “Lease”), is hereby authorized and approved; and it is

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Town Manager is hereby authorized and directed to negotiate, execute and deliver the Purchase Agreement (and any necessary amendments thereto) and the Lease Agreement upon such terms and conditions as the Town Manager deems necessary and appropriate and in the best interest of the Town of Avon, and in the forms approved by the Town Attorney for form and legal sufficiency; and it is

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Town Manager is hereby authorized and empowered to take all such action and to do or cause to be done any and all other acts, necessary or convenient in carrying out the foregoing resolutions and performing the obligations undertaken by the Town of Avon in connection therewith, including but not limited to, conducting and performing certain inspections, investigations and other due diligence of the Property; and it is

RESOLVED FURTHER: that all acts of the Town Manager which would have been authorized by the foregoing resolutions except that such acts were taken prior to adoption of these resolutions, be, and they hereby are, individually and collectively ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted as acts on behalf of the Town of Avon; and it is .

RESOLVED FURTHER: that the Town Council hereby refers the following items to the Town of Avon Planning and Zoning Commission (the “P&Z Commission”) for review and approval at

the March 14, 2023 meeting of the P&Z Commission on pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes: the acquisition and leasing by the Town of an approximately 1.910 acre parcel of land known as 645 West Avon Road in the Town of Avon, now or formerly owned by Carolann Baldwin, and all improvements and appurtenances thereto.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council set a public hearing to be held at their March 30th Special Meeting to consider: (i) the acquisition by the Town of Avon of real property consisting of approximately one and nine tenths (1.9) acres, commonly known as 645 West Avon Road in the Town of Avon, now or formerly owned by Carolann Baldwin, and all appurtenances thereto (the “Property”) and the appropriation of \$335,000.00 for the payment in part of the costs related to the aforesaid acquisition, and (ii) if the property is acquired by the Town of Avon, the leasing of the Property by the Town to Carolann Baldwin for use as her primary residence for a period of up to one year following the date the Town of Avon acquires the Property.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

22/23-61 2023 Girl Scout Day Proclamation

Chairman Polhamus welcomed girl scouts and co-leader from Troops #66704 and #66335. He read the proclamation.

WHEREAS, March 12, 2023, marks the 111th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, the largest and most impactful leadership program for girls in the world; and

WHEREAS, today, more than 50 million women—trailblazers, visionaries, and leaders—are Girl Scout alums who have made the world a better place.

WHEREAS, in July 2023, Girl Scouts will host its triennial convention where more than 10,000 girls, alums, and supporters from across the Movement will gather to explore, create, and grow alongside thousands of fellow change-makers, dreamers, and doers; and

WHEREAS, during a time when girls are dealing with the impacts of pandemic-related learning loss, Girl Scouts offers important out-of-school and afterschool learning enrichment and skill building opportunities that expand their world, allow them to cultivate their talents, and ensure they can confidently pursue their passions and make the world a better place; and

WHEREAS, since its beginnings, Girl Scouts has emphasized public service and civic engagement, and has fostered a sense of community in girls; and

WHEREAS, during a time when girls are experiencing increased levels of anxiety, stress, loneliness, and depression, Girl Scouts continues to provide community, consistency, and connection for girls, and is a safe haven in all the uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts’ longstanding commitment to getting girls outdoors, including exciting summer camp experiences, instills a lifelong appreciation for nature and the environment is more critical than ever as we emerge from the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, at a time when civics education is missing from many schools, Girl Scouts engages girls of all grade levels in civics programming that deepens their understanding of democracy and government, prepares them for a lifetime of civic engagement, and motivates them to take action on issues that are important to them; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts offers girls 21st century programming in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM); the outdoors; entrepreneurship; and beyond, helping girls develop invaluable life skills; and

WHEREAS, Gold Award Girl Scouts take on projects that have a measurable and sustainable impact on a community by assessing a need, designing a solution, completing a project, and inspiring others to sustain it; and

WHEREAS, as a member organization of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, Girl Scouts is part of an international sisterhood of 10 million girls and young women in 152 countries and is committed to offering girls more opportunities to engage with communities worldwide, make meaningful global connections, and explore global citizenship; and

WHEREAS, the Girl Scouts of Avon, Connecticut celebrates their 101st anniversary in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouts of Connecticut serves more than 13,000 girls across the state of Connecticut.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Dan Polhamus, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairperson of the Town Council of Avon, Connecticut, do hereby applaud the Girl Scout Movement and Girl Scouts of Connecticut for providing girls with a safe, inclusive, all-girl space where they can hone their skills and develop leadership abilities, and I declare March 12, 2023 to be Girl Scout Day.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the 2023 Girl Scout Day Proclamation as presented.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council move agenda item 22/23-62 Approve Proclamation: Apraxia Awareness Day, May 14, 2023, up before Old Business.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-62 Approve Proclamation: Apraxia Awareness Day, May 14, 2023

Chairman Polhamus welcomed Speakology LLC. Jennifer Lano, co-owner of Speakology, introduced her colleague, Emily Lombardi. Ms. Lombardi provided a brief overview about apraxia and Speakology's role with children in need of speech therapy. Chairman Polhamus noted that he has met several parents who have children who are clients at Speakology and they have so many good things to say; thank you for doing what you are doing. He read the proclamation.

Whereas, May 14, 2023 marks Childhood Apraxia of Speech Day during which awareness will be raised throughout Connecticut about childhood apraxia of speech, an extremely challenging speech disorder that affects 1-in-1,000 children.

Whereas, childhood apraxia of speech (CAS) causes children to have significant difficulty learning to speak and is among the most severe speech deficits in children.

Whereas, the act of learning to speak comes effortlessly to most children, those with apraxia require early, appropriate, and intensive speech therapy, often for many years to learn to speak.

Whereas, without appropriate speech therapy intervention, children with apraxia will have diminished communication skills, but are also placed at high risk for secondary impacts in reading, writing, spelling, and other school-related skills.

Whereas, that such primary and secondary impacts diminish future independence and employment opportunities and challenge the ability to become productive, contributing citizens if not resolved or improved.

Whereas, public awareness about childhood apraxia of speech in Connecticut is essential for families of children with this neurological disorder and the professionals who support them to achieve the needed services for those learning to use their own voice.

Whereas, our highest respect goes to these children, as well as their families, for their effort, determination, and resilience in the face of such obstacles.

Let it be resolved, that May 14, 2023 is “Apraxia Awareness Day” and citizens of Connecticut and surrounds are encouraged to work within their communities to increase awareness and understanding of childhood apraxia of speech.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the Apraxia Awareness Day Proclamation as presented.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-63 Lions Club Carnival Event – September 2023

Heidi Zacchera, Avon Lions Club, and Bruce Appell, Fire Marshal, provided an overview regarding the carnival. Ms. Zacchera noted it would include fireworks and food trucks, as well as creating a culture setting atmosphere. She is working with Dave Theriault and Steve McMahon who coordinated the last carnival in Town. A carnival name is still being created – options include Hometown Festival or Farmington Valley Festival. Avon Lions Club is spearheading the carnival; we want to make it smaller this year because it is a new adventure for the group and that it is successful; they anticipate it being an annual event, perhaps earlier in the year. Council is excited about it. Ms. Zacchera noted that they are looking for sponsors to support the event. In response to a question from Mr. Indomenico, the Town Manager responded that the most significant cost will be police officers onsite. Ms. Ausiello inquired if CERT personnel could be utilized for traffic/parking. Mr. Appell responded that they could be used for traffic control. Mr. Indomenico clarified that in theory there should be no cost to Town. Council thanked Ms. Zacchera and they look forward to it.

a) Approval for use of Town Property located at 99 Thompson Road

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the use of the Town’s property located at 99 Thompson Road by the Avon Lions Club for their carnival to held on September 22, 23, and 24, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

b) Approval of Fireworks

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the request by the Avon Lion Clubs for fireworks for their carnival on Friday, September 22, 2023 (rain date: Saturday, September 23, 2023), pursuant to Section 36-3 of the Town of Avon Code of Ordinances.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-64 Resignation: Town Treasurer (12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Charles Harvell as Town Treasurer.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-65 Appointment: Town Treasurer (12/31/2023)

The Town Manager provided a brief overview of the Treasurer's role with the Town.

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Tom DiStasio as Town Treasurer to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-66 Long Range Financing Plan

The Town Manager provided a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). He noted that we manage debt and capital around 7% of the total mill rate. He added that roads and open space are not included in these projections. He noted that in 2028 we project our actuarial required contribution for the pension plan will be fully funded. Chairman Polhamus inquired how much the combined debt service and capital budget increase year over year on average. The Town Manager noted that at the next meeting he will come back with a charge or scope for the Fire Department Building Committee and discuss that process.

22/23-67 Proposed Projects for Completion with FY 23 Funding

This item was discussed under agenda item 22/23-26.

22/23-68 Supplemental Appropriation: Avon Police Department – Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant, \$4,285.41

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 22/23 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

General Fund, Intergovernmental, Distracted Driving Enforcement, Account #01-0330-43378, in the amount of \$4,285.41 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

General Fund, Patrol Services, Overtime, Account #01-2107-51015, in the amount of \$4,285.41, for reimbursement of overtime costs received through the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Distracted Driving High Visibility Enforcement Grant.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-69 Lease Extension: 828 West Avon Road

The Town Manager reported that the lessee has requested an addition of five years to the option period for a total of eight years. He noted that the lessee is responsible for the maintenance of the property located at 828 West Avon Road and all has gone well thus far.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a lease extension with William and Lenore Severni for property located at 828 West Avon Road for five (5) additional one-year options, resulting in up to eight (8) additional and successive one (1) year periods.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-70 Appointment: Town Council Representative-Farmington Valley Health District (12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 22/23-70 Appointment: Town Council Representative-Farmington Valley Health District (12/31/2023) to the March 30, 2023 Special Meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council move agenda items 22/23-71 Resignation: Zoning Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2023) and 22/23-72 Appointment: Zoning Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2023) up before Old Business.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-71 Resignation: Zoning Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Eileen Carroll from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-72 Appointment: Zoning Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello. it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Aden Baume to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

Mr. Baume thanked the Town Council for this opportunity, and he looks forward to serving the Town in this capacity.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council move agenda items 22/23-73 Resignation: Board of Assessment Appeals (D – 12/31/2023) and 22/23-74 Appointment: Board of Assessment Appeals (D – 12/31/2023) up before Old Business.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-73 Resignation: Board of Assessment Appeals (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Kimberly Kersey from the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

22/23-74 Appointment: Board of Assessment Appeals (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Chelsea Ross to the Board of Assessment Appeals to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

IX. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. A: Purchasing Update: The Town Manager noted that an RFP has been advertised for Professional Auditing Services; a bid for Old Farms Road Phase I (North/South Section) will go out soon; and we are currently working towards procuring labor and materials for the Town-wide Fiber Network Project. He recognized Tom Kline for his expertise and skills with the Fiber Network Project.

Misc. B: Construction Update: The Town Manager noted that the CT Siting Council approved the petition related to the Public Safety Communication System Project and next we wait for updated costs from Motorola. The Assistant Town Manager shared that there is an opportunity for the Town to apply for LOTCIP funding for sidewalks rehabilitation from West Avon Road to Stillbrook Road as well as a sidewalk along the southern side of Country Club Road to Old Farms Road.

Misc. C: ARPA Project Updates: No additional highlights were provided.

Misc. D: Revaluation: The Town Manager reported that Harry DerAsadourian, Town Assessor, will attend the Council’s March 30th Special Meeting to discuss the upcoming revaluation.

XI. ADJOURN

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk

Long-Term Debt Forecasting Analysis

Town Council Meeting
March 2, 2023

1

Capital Budget Funding (Pay-as-you-go)

Funds are set aside through the Annual or Supplemental Budget Process to fund projects. Funds accumulate in a capital reserve account until cash flow needs arise. Consider using when assets being acquired or constructed have a relatively short useful life (~5-20 years); costs are relatively small (under ~\$2 mm); costs can be accurately predicted; and there is adequate time to build a capital reserve.

Pros

- Lower costs when compared to debt issuance.
- Flexibility with respect to budget development.
- Enhanced debt capacity & credit outlook.

Cons

- Delay in project implementation to allow for accumulation of capital reserve.
- Does not address intergenerational equity.
- Difficult to adjust for fluctuation in funding needs.

2

Debt Issuance (Long-Term Financing)

Funds are borrowed by the Town to finance the completion of projects. The amount borrowed is paid back to investors over the course of a defined term with interest. Consider using when the assets being acquired or constructed have a long useful life (20+ years; and a large construction or purchase cost (~\$2 million); projects that have irregular cash flow needs; or for which the total cost cannot be adequately predicted in advance.

Pros

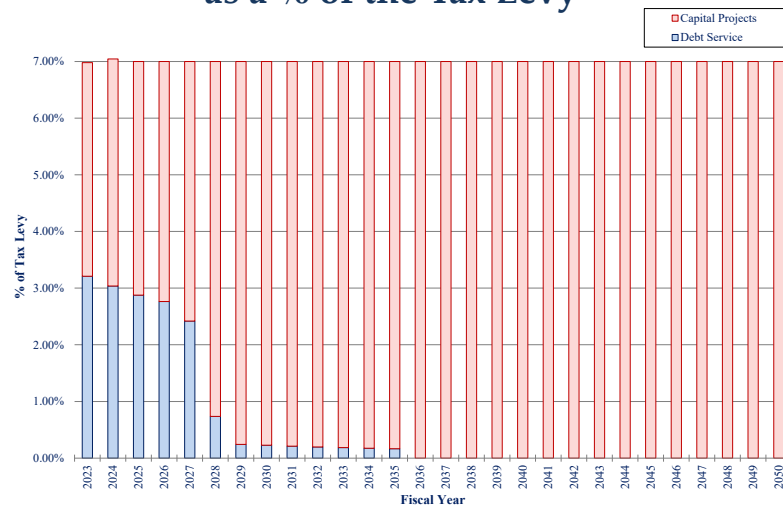
- Acceleration of acquisition or construction.
- Addresses intergenerational equity.
- Stability of known future obligations.

Cons

- Interest and issuance costs.
- Flexibility with respect to annual budget development.
- Practical limits on appropriate amounts of debt.

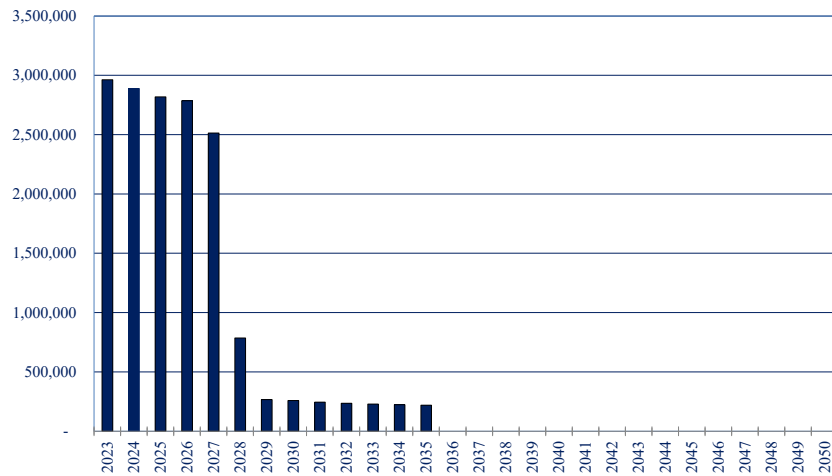
3

Existing Debt + Capital as a % of the Tax Levy



4

Existing Debt Service



5

Pending Projects – \$28.041 million total

- **Fire Apparatus**
 - \$3.431 million, approved, not issued
- **Town & Public Safety Radio System**
 - \$3.61 million, approved, not issued (\$280,000 issued in June 2020 for expenditures to date)
- **AVFD Facility Improvements**
 - Estimated at \$12 million, not approved
- **BOE Central Office Building**
 - Estimated at \$5 million, not approved
- **Old Farms Road (East/West)**
 - Estimated at \$4 million, not approved

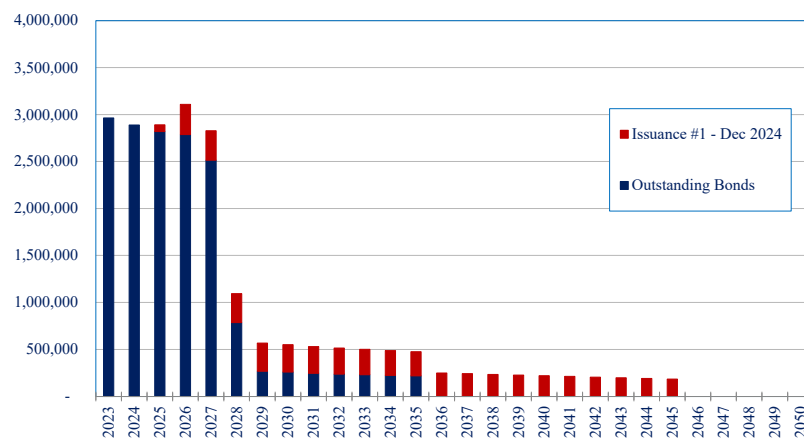
6

Issuance #1

- December 1, 2024
- Total = \$3.61 million; includes:
 - \$3.61 million for the Public Safety Communication System

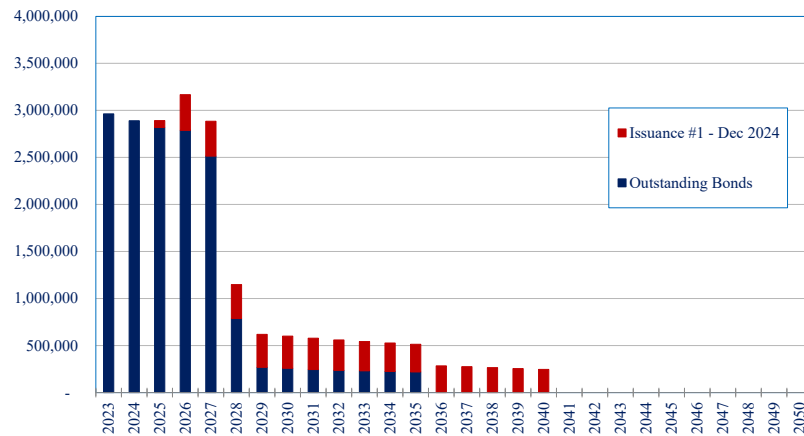
7

Existing Debt + Issuance #1 20 Year Bond Term



8

Existing Debt + Issuance #1 15 Year Bond Term



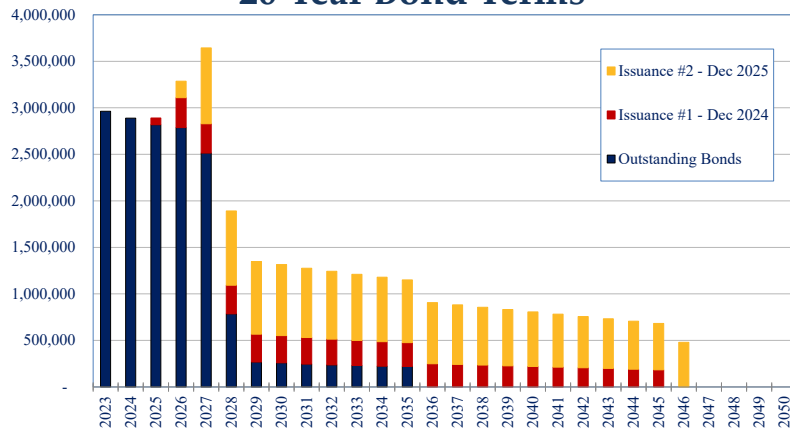
9

Issuance #2

- December 1, 2025
- Total = \$9.431 million; includes:
 - \$2 million for Old Farms Road E/W – 1st of 2 bonds
 - \$4 million for AVFD Facilities – 1st of 2 bonds
 - \$3.431 million for Fire Apparatus

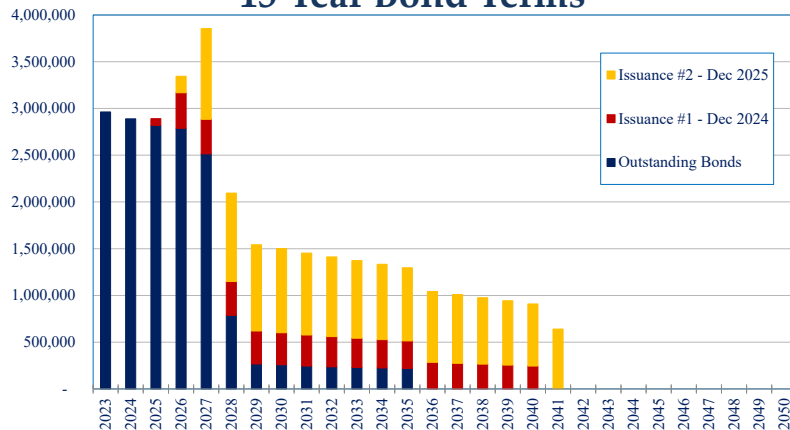
10

Existing + Issuance #1 + Issuance #2 20 Year Bond Terms



11

Existing + Issuance #1 + Issuance #2 15 Year Bond Terms



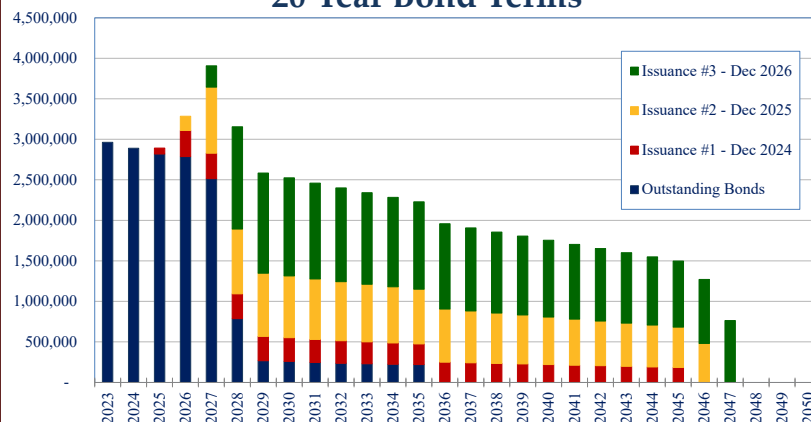
12

Issuance #3

- December 1, 2026
- Total = \$15 million; includes:
 - \$2 million for Old Farms Road E/W – 2nd of 2 bonds
 - \$8 million for AVFD Facilities – 2nd of 2 bonds
 - \$5 million for BOE Central Office

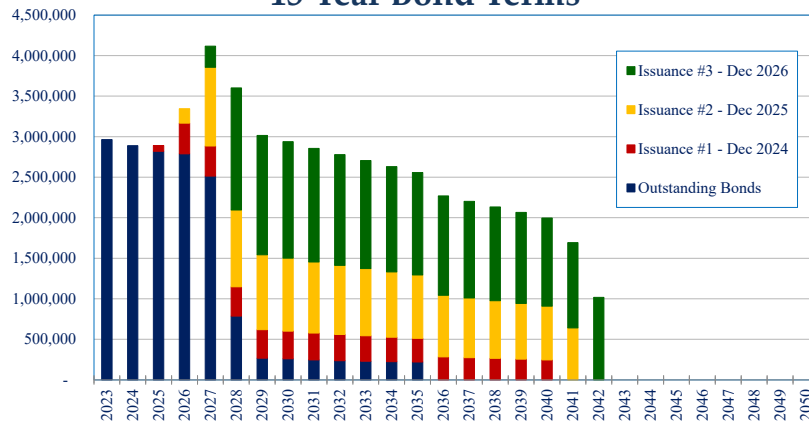
13

Existing + Issuance #1 + Issuance #2 + Issuance #3 20 Year Bond Terms



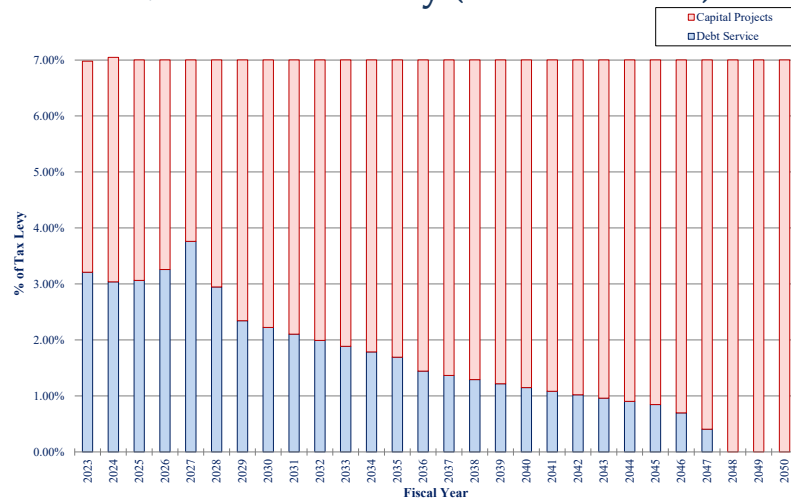
14

Existing + Issuance #1 + Issuance #2 + Issuance #3 15 Year Bond Terms



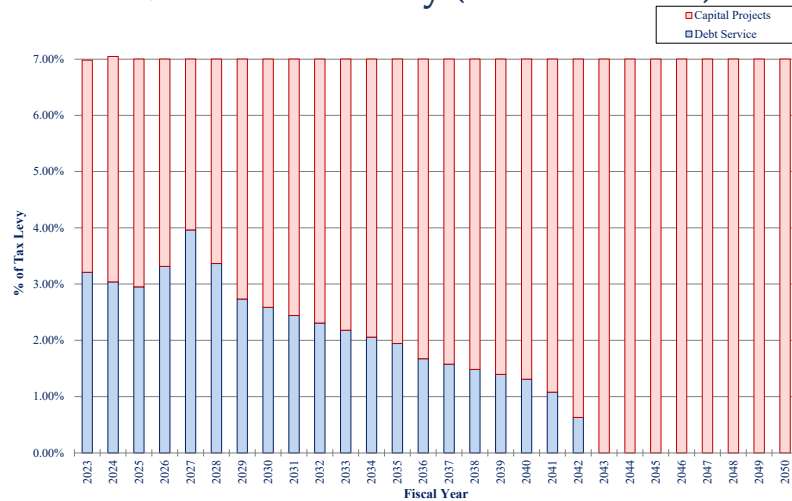
15

Existing & Proposed Debt + Capital as a % of the Tax Levy (20 Year Bonds)



16

Existing & Proposed Debt + Capital as a % of the Tax Levy (15 Year Bonds)



17

QUESTIONS?

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