



Town of Avon Newsletter

ISSUE LXXIII

April, 2024

Annual Budget Meeting & Budget Referendum

This issue of the Town newsletter is devoted to the proposed budget, which will be the subject of the May 6, 2024 Annual Budget Meeting and the May 15, 2024 Referendum. The Annual Budget Meeting is held for the purpose of presenting the Board of Finance's proposed budget to the voters. The Annual Budget Meeting will not include a vote for the budget or result in an increase or decrease in the budget. The budget will be voted on at the May 15th Referendum.

The Board of Finance held its Public Hearing on April 1st. On April 3rd, the Board held its Budget Workshop with the Board of Education and the Town Council and reached its final decision on the total budget. As approved by the Board of Finance, and if approved by the voters at referendum, the overall fiscal year 2024/2025 budget will be \$116,087,973. This represents a budget increase of \$5,991,432 or 5.44%, and an increase in the levy of 3.31%. The associated mill rate would decrease from 35.39 to 30.34 or -14.27%.

The Board of Finance will present its proposed budget at the Annual Budget Meeting on May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Free Public Library, Community Room and livestream via GotoMeeting. Livestream access instructions will be made available on the Town's website. Electors or taxpayers wishing to provide comment during the Annual Budget Meeting must attend the meeting in-person at the Library. There will be no opportunity for the virtual audience to provide comment during the meeting. The Resolution that will be presented at the Budget Meeting and the Referendum is as follows:

'SHALL THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$116,087,973 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2024 BE APPROVED?'

At the conclusion of the discussion of the proposed budget, the meeting will be adjourned to a referendum vote on May 15th. Those eligible to vote include electors and taxpayers. Taxpayers are permitted to vote if they are at least 18 years of age, own property that has an assessed value of \$1,000 or more as of the October 1, 2023 Grand List, and are U.S. citizens.

Let's Get Charging!

The Avon Free Public Library is pleased to announce that it now offers an electric vehicle (EV) charging station in the library parking lot. The dual port, ChargePoint level 2 charging station, is a paid service accessible through the ChargePoint app for EV drivers. Funding for this charging station was provided by the Town of Avon, the Avon Free Public Library, Eversource and a VW Settlement Grant administered by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Special thanks to the Board of Directors of the Avon Free Public Library, the Avon Town Council, and the Avon Clean Energy Commission for their support for this project.

Fee Free Saturdays

Transfer Station Offers No Fee Brush Disposal

The Transfer Station will again be offering **no fee** brush disposal for both permit-holders and non-permit-holders on the following Saturdays from **7:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon (ends 1 hour prior to closing)**: April 20, April 27, May 4, and May 11. Proof of residency required. **Note: Commercial landscaping firms assisting residents, must be accompanied by hiring resident. NO stumps!** Please call the Transfer Station at (860) 673-3677 or Public Works at (860) 673-6151 with questions.

The Town of Avon is now on
Facebook! Follow us @
Town of Avon, Connecticut

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Reminders from the Building Official

The CT State Building Code establishes minimum requirements for the construction of residential and commercial buildings to provide a reasonable level of safety, health and general welfare of the population (present and future) and emergency responders. The Building Department is responsible for enforcing the Code for all properties within Avon. In general, any property owner who *intends "to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, or to move a lot line that will affect any existing building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical, or plumbing system,"* is responsible for applying for and obtaining an appropriate permit from the Building Department. While not all projects require a permit, a good rule of thumb is to contact the Building Department (860) 409-4316 prior to beginning any work.

While a contractor may apply for a permit on an owner's behalf, it is ultimately the owner's responsibility to ensure that their project is properly permitted, receives all necessary inspections and ultimately meets the Code. If you are planning to hire a contractor, always hire one that is licensed and insured. We also recommend that you request copies of all approved permits for your project and, before making final payment, request a copy of the closed permit which indicates that the project is in compliance with the Code. Remember, if a property owner requests a Certificate of Occupancy for work that was previously unpermitted, the retrospective permit will be subject to an additional fee of \$1,000 or 100% of the original permit, whichever is less. The owner will need to have the work inspected (even if that requires opening walls or uncovering finished work), correct any work that is not code compliant, and have it approved before receiving a CO.

Dog Licenses

On June 1st, the Town Clerk's Office will begin issuing 2024 dog licenses. Renewal notices will be mailed to all current registered dog owners. To purchase a new dog license, please send a copy of the dog's information from your veterinarian which includes proof of valid rabies certificate, and spayed/neutered certificate. For renewals, please make sure the rabies vaccine is current and not past the expiration date indicated on your paperwork from the vet. License fees are \$8.00 for altered dogs or \$19.00 for unaltered dogs. Please send to: Avon Town Clerk, 60 West Main St., Avon, CT 06001. Please make check payable to the Town of Avon. There is a \$1.00 penalty fee per dog per month if you fail to register your dog on or before June 30th. Remember that Connecticut law requires that all dogs be licensed.

2024 Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Household Hazardous Waste Collections, in conjunction with several surrounding Towns, has been scheduled! These Collections are open to all residents from Avon, Canton, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury, and Suffield, and are open from **8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** on the dates listed below. **Please note the locations of the Collection sites.**

- ◆ April 20, 2024 – Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT
- ◆ June 8, 2024 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT
- ◆ October 19, 2024 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT

These Collections will include the FREE collections for the residents of Avon, Canton, Farmington, Granby, Simsbury, Suffield of electronic recycling collection, used motor oil collection and personal document shredding (8 a.m. to 1 p.m. **or until the trucks are full** - please limit yourself to two boxes).

News from Social Services

CT Energy Assistance Program: The State of Connecticut can help households pay for primary heating. To be eligible, the gross annual household income must be 60% or less of the 2024 State Median income guidelines. If you are interested in receiving more information on this program, please call our office at (860) 409-4346. **Applications are by appointment only through May 31, 2024.**



Town of Avon – BUDGET SUMMARY				
	Actual FY 2022/2023	Adopted FY 2023/2024	Projected FY 2023/2024	Proposed FY 2024/2025
<u>Revenues</u>				
Property Taxes & Assessments	\$ 92,672,843	\$ 94,987,422	\$ 94,987,422	\$ 98,073,697
Intergovernmental Revenues	9,008,236	4,845,272	4,845,272	6,583,241
Licenses, Fees and Permits	1,480,638	1,088,114	1,088,114	1,080,625
Charges for Services	7,088,883	7,388,941	7,388,941	7,168,254
Other Local Revenues	2,523,526	531,792	531,792	1,294,568
Transfers from Other Funds	364,294	NA	NA	NA
Use of Fund Balance	567,000	1,255,000	1,255,000	1,887,588
Other	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Revenues	\$113,705,420	\$110,096,541	\$110,096,541	\$116,087,973
<u>Expenditures</u>				
General Government	\$ 3,093,606	\$ 3,319,419	\$ 3,319,419	\$ 3,624,057
Public Safety	10,095,473	9,886,948	9,886,948	10,041,431
Public Works	5,873,076	6,092,010	6,092,010	6,536,818
Health & Social Services	559,414	571,318	571,318	599,739
Recreation & Parks	1,229,726	1,442,154	1,442,154	1,496,369
Library	1,717,321	1,688,265	1,688,265	1,821,747
Education – Town	67,834,581	68,905,081	68,905,081	72,280,066
Education – Regional School District	NA	NA	NA	NA
Conservation & Development	543,278	520,641	520,641	547,195
Miscellaneous	6,250,815	6,272,432	6,272,432	6,391,146
Sewers	2,708,967	3,198,967	3,198,967	3,305,144
Debt Service	2,962,950	2,889,400	2,889,400	2,890,950
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	5,291,836	4,559,906	4,559,906	6,553,311
Other	NA	750,000	750,000	N/A
Total Expenditures	\$108,161,043	\$110,096,541	\$110,096,541	\$116,087,973

Proposed FY 2024/2025 Budget Summary

Total Estimated Expenditures	\$ 116,087,973
Less: Revenues Other Than <u>Current</u> Property Taxes	\$ 19,372,234
Amount to be Raised from <u>Current</u> Property Taxes (based on an estimated tax collection rate of 99%)	\$ 96,715,739

Estimated Fund Balance (Deficit) – General Fund as of July 1, 2024

General Fund Resources Available as of June 30, 2023	\$ 14,673,859
FY 2024/2025 General Fund Projected Increase (Decrease) in Revenues over Expenditures	\$ _____
Estimated General Fund, fund balance (deficit) as of July 1, 2024	\$ 14,673,859

The estimates above of the proposed fiscal year 2024/2025 budget represents a summary of the proposed budget. A complete detailed presentation is on file at: Avon Town Hall, 60 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001. It can also be viewed at the following web address: www.avonct.gov.



Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for			
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 - Revenues			
PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	ACTUAL 22/23	BUDGETED 23/24	PROPOSED 24/25
Gross Levy	90,817,732	94,404,769	97,527,828
Uncollectible	-	(800,000)	(900,000)
Net Levy	90,817,732	93,604,769	96,627,828
Supplemental Real Estate	26,318	51,915	38,188
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	965,653	730,350	831,655
Prior Levies	277,509	225,000	250,000
Interest & Penalties	447,243	200,000	200,000
Telephone Gross Receipts	41,026	35,388	41,026
Sewer Assessments - Fund #5	97,362	140,000	85,000
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	92,672,843	94,987,422	98,073,697
LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS			
Police Protection	7,100	4,500	4,500
Building, Structures and Equipment	748,625	475,000	475,000
Hunting and Fishing	16	50	50
Animal Licenses	16,236	12,000	12,000
Street and Curb	1,850	5,000	3,050
Recording & Conveyance	652,002	550,000	550,000
Conservation and Development	12,142	10,404	13,920
Sale of Maps and Publications	16,273	22,060	15,105
LOCAP Recording Fee	6,272	7,600	5,500
MERS Land Recording Fee	382	-	-
Sewer Permits & Inspection Fees - Fund #5	19,740	1,500	1,500
TOTAL LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS	1,480,638	1,088,114	1,080,625
INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANTS-IN-AID:			
Municipal Grants-In-Aid	261,442	196,082	196,082
Municipal Revenue Sharing - Tiered PILOT	361,819	-	106,541
Education Cost Sharing (ECS)	579,242	553,588	826,517
BOE Special Education Excess Cost	1,027,266	865,000	940,000
BOE Open Choice Attendance	1,028,748	654,000	1,069,000
Title II Part A Teachers - Fund #13	38,048	42,473	40,617
Adult Education Cooperative - Fund #13	2,519	2,492	2,519
IDEA 611 Part B - Fund #13	654,221	663,503	710,567
Title I Improving Basic Program - Fund #13	122,731	94,225	90,592
IDEA 619 Preschool - Fund #13	32,042	18,933	21,558
Sheff Settlement - Fund #13	140,437	126,575	134,545
Title III - Fund #13	23,826	10,411	11,859
Title IV - Fund #13	605	-	-
ESSER & ARPA Grants - Fund #13	571,570	-	-
Town Aid Road - Fund #8	316,468	312,867	316,468
BOE Cafeteria - Fund #14	1,214,512	398,322	400,000
Property Tax Relief-Elderly	1,390	-	-
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	102,879	78,062	78,062
Veteran Reimbursements	4,711	-	-
Motor Vehicle Tax Reimbursement	376,878	586,816	586,816
LOCIP - Fund #11	116,997	110,330	113,343
Youth Services Bureau Grant	32,155	25,052	32,155
Emergency Management Grants	18,383	-	-
Judicial Branch	4,925	-	-
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts	13,282	-	-
Absentee Ballot Processing Grant	8,533	-	-
Distracted Driving Enforcement Grant	4,285	-	-
Municipal Stabilization Grant	142,054	106,541	-
Auto Theft & Violence Grant	35,000	-	-
American Rescue Plan Act Grant - Fund #50	1,771,268	-	906,000
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	9,008,236	4,845,272	6,583,241
TOTAL THIS PAGE	103,161,717	100,920,808	105,737,563

Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for			
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 - Revenues			
CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	ACTUAL 22/23	BUDGETED 23/24	PROPOSED 24/25
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Services - Fund #7	160,588	40,002	40,986
Accident Reports & Photos	3,470	1,800	1,800
Alarm System	275	-	-
Animal Pound Fee	625	300	300
PUBLIC WORKS			
Landfill - Residential Fees	124,315	128,000	150,000
Landfill - Bulky Waste	31,026	25,000	25,000
Lakeview Water Main Extension	579	-	-
Sewer Connection Charges - Fund #5	52,007	40,000	95,000
Sewer Use Charges - Fund #5	3,196,623	3,001,217	3,063,644
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:			
Vital Statistics	22,381	30,000	28,800
RECREATION & PARKS:			
Organized Summer Programs	46,141	45,000	45,000
Swim Fees	62,279	65,000	65,000
Organized Summer Programs	(300)	-	-
Recreation Fees - Fund #9	414,555	418,803	443,535
Maintenance Fees - Fund #9	42,192	55,170	55,170
Senior Recreation Activities - Fund #9	12,434	11,700	10,900
EDUCATION			
BOE Cafeteria Sales - Fund #14	294,994	740,088	673,000
BOE Sports Program Participation Fees	180,376	192,000	214,000
BOE Use of School Facilities - Fund #15	42,985	38,000	40,000
FINES & FORFEITS			
Library	413	700	100
BOE Employee Contributions, Dental/Life	102,129	107,000	103,000
BOE Vendor Refunds	8,578	-	-
BOE Tuition Receipts Parent Paid	135,458	145,000	175,000
BOE TEAM Program State Payments	2,276	-	-
BOE Student Parking Fees	32,885	30,000	30,000
BOE Special Education Interdistrict Tuition	2,119,599	2,274,161	1,908,019
TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SVCS.	7,088,883	7,388,941	7,168,254
OTHER LOCAL REVENUES			
Interest Income	1,947,759	362,000	1,087,911
BOE Interest Income - Fund #14	1,900	1,000	1,200
Refunds & Reimbursements	165,617	35,000	35,000
Sewer Refunds & Reimbursements - Fund #5	156	-	-
Sewer Use - Interest & Liens - Fund #5	52,291	16,250	60,000
Sewer Assessments - Interest & Liens - Fund #5	23,420	-	-
Rents & Reimbursements	83,383	60,000	60,000
BOE Retiree Contributions, Dental/Life	12,420	-	-
BOE Miscellaneous	20,496	-	-
Interlocal Program Funding	1,506	-	-
Recreation Donations & Grants, Priv. Sources - Fund #9	6,157	-	-
BOE Donations & Grants, Private Sources - Fund #13	8,715	-	-
Field Advertising Revenue - Fund #9	1,585	-	-
Salvage & Demolition Sales	24,189	8,500	8,500
Sale of Property	26,377	10,000	10,000
Miscellaneous	6,536	13,792	437
Admin Allowance Mission Square	5,000	-	-
Opioid Settlement Revenue (Restricted)	52,925	-	-
Liquor Surcharge Remittance (Restricted)	11,547	-	-
BOE Technology Protection Plan - Fund #40	32,876	25,250	31,520
Cancelled Encumbrances	38,671	-	-
TOTAL OTHER LOCAL REVENUES	2,523,526	531,792	1,294,568
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Use of Assigned Fund Balance - Board of Education	-	-	100,588
Use of Assigned Fund Balance - Road Improvements	-	-	1,400,000
Use of Assigned Fund Balance - Medical Insurance	-	750,000	-
Use of Committed Fund Balance - Fund #5	567,000	505,000	205,000
Use of Committed Fund Balance - Fund #12	-	-	182,000
TRANSFERS IN	364,294	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	931,294	1,255,000	1,887,588
GRAND TOTAL MUNICIPAL REVENUES	113,705,420	110,096,541	116,087,973



Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for			
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 - Expenditures			
TOWN COUNCIL	ACTUAL 22/23	BUDGETED 23/24	PROPOSED 24/25
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
Legislative	54,298	53,983	55,333
Executive	466,691	581,246	633,490
Judicial	7,313	7,760	9,595
Elections	121,527	148,402	192,738
Legal	190,139	185,000	185,000
Town Clerk	240,118	269,030	270,245
Town Hall	116,374	-	-
Human Resources	215,201	299,013	315,063
Finance	1,681,945	1,774,985	1,962,593
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,093,606	3,319,419	3,624,057
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Protection	6,525,717	6,318,327	6,484,174
Fire Protection	2,219,174	2,251,824	2,246,014
Central Communications	709,306	797,165	781,849
Protective Inspection	403,846	445,510	455,701
Other Protection	237,430	74,122	73,693
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	10,095,473	9,886,948	10,041,431
PUBLIC WORKS			
Administration	411,241	481,622	451,967
Highways	1,878,515	2,105,074	1,964,496
Sanitation	321,000	399,304	401,052
Machinery & Equipment	617,372	589,290	1,121,948
Buildings & Grounds	2,263,663	2,122,069	2,193,424
Engineering	381,285	394,651	403,931
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	5,873,076	6,092,010	6,536,818
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES			
Conservation of Health	180,885	187,087	187,087
Social Services	378,529	384,231	412,652
TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	559,414	571,318	599,739
RECREATION & PARKS			
Recreation	1,077,881	1,245,603	1,292,844
Parks	84,028	112,050	112,050
Senior Citizens	34,985	49,310	48,631
Community Activities	32,832	35,191	42,844
TOTAL RECREATION & PARKS	1,229,726	1,442,154	1,496,369
LIBRARY & EDUCATION			
Library	1,717,321	1,688,265	1,821,747
TOTAL LIBRARY & EDUCATION	1,717,321	1,688,265	1,821,747
TOTAL THIS PAGE	22,568,616	23,000,114	24,120,161



Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for			
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025 - Expenditures			
	ACTUAL 22/23	BUDGETED 23/24	PROPOSED 24/25
TOTALS FROM PREVIOUS PAGE	22,568,616	23,000,114	24,120,161
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT			
Planning & Zoning	398,996	472,106	496,746
Conserv. Of Natural Resources	144,282	48,535	50,449
TOTAL CONSERVATION & DEV'T	543,278	520,641	547,195
MISCELLANEOUS			
Claims & Losses	-	12,000	8,000
Municipal Insurance	305,466	561,749	578,796
Intergovernmental Expenditures	54,684	65,450	68,390
Contingency	-	10,000	10,000
Employee Benefit Funding	5,890,665	5,623,233	5,725,960
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	6,250,815	6,272,432	6,391,146
SUB-TOTAL TOWN OF AVON	29,362,709	29,793,187	31,058,502
SEWERS			
Operating Expenses	2,708,967	3,198,967	3,305,144
TOTAL SEWERS	2,708,967	3,198,967	3,305,144
CAPITAL IMPROV. DEBT SERVICE			
Bond & Anticipation Notes	2,962,950	2,889,400	2,890,950
TOTAL CAP. IMP. DEBT SERVICE	2,962,950	2,889,400	2,890,950
CAPITAL IMPROVE. PROGRAM (CIP)			
Capital Improvement Facilities	3,957,836	2,720,906	4,122,811
Capital Improvement Equipment	546,000	1,039,000	1,385,500
Capital & Non-Recurring (C.N.R.E.F.)	788,000	800,000	1,045,000
TOTAL CIP	5,291,836	4,559,906	6,553,311
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Transfer Out to Medical Claims Fund	-	750,000	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	-	750,000	-
BOARD OF EDUCATION			
Salaries	40,662,142	42,180,291	44,073,119
Employee Benefits	10,453,343	11,076,230	12,120,047
Purchased Prof & Tech Services	1,300,258	1,331,551	1,360,544
Property Services	1,063,289	816,421	927,586
Other Purchased Services	6,721,529	7,850,636	8,312,824
General Supplies & Utilities	3,028,166	2,702,842	2,718,869
Equipment	1,229,282	638,536	452,109
Fees & Memberships	153,755	147,302	156,991
Cafeteria Operation	1,410,469	1,139,410	1,074,200
Facility Use	65,198	38,000	40,000
Prepaid State & Federal Grants	1,688,246	958,612	1,012,257
Technology Protection Plan	58,904	25,250	31,520
TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION	67,834,581	68,905,081	72,280,066
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	108,161,043	110,096,541	116,087,973

ISSUE LXXIII
April, 2024

Avon Town Council
Town of Avon
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Avon, CT 06001-3719

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IMPORTANT DATES

BUDGET ADOPTION PROCESS

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

MAY 6, 2024 • 7:00 P.M.

**AVON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMMUNITY ROOM
281 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD &
LIVESTREAM**

BUDGET REFERENDUM

MAY 15, 2024

**6:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
AVON SENIOR CENTER
635 WEST AVON ROAD**

Absentee Ballots will be available. Information about Absentee Ballots can be found on the Town Clerk's page on the Town's website.

www.avonct.gov/town-clerk

VFW Annual Memorial Day Parade and Poppy Drive

May 27, 2024

This is the 79th anniversary of the Parade following the end of WWII. All veterans are welcomed and encouraged to march in the Parade, which steps off at 11:00 a.m. from the Board of Education on Simsbury Road (Rts. 10 & 202). The parade travels west on Rt. 44 to the Town Memorial for a brief ceremony (off Ensign Drive). Contact Bill Samol at (860) 673-0594 (leave a message) with questions, or if you want to be involved. Come out and support your local heroes during these challenging times. In case of rain, meet at the Avon Senior Center at 11:00 a.m.

The **VFW Poppy Drive** starts May 18th and ends on Memorial Day. **All funds are 100% donated to veterans' charities and are 100% TAX deductible (we are a 501-C3 non-profit).** Come and meet the veterans at the Avon Walmart & Shop Rite in Canton stores and receive a FREE "Buddy Poppy" to display. The drive will be ongoing thru our web site: www.avonctvfw.com. Please contribute and support the Veterans who gave their all. Call Tim Healy at (860) 693-8562 with questions.