



Town of Avon Newsletter

ISSUE LII

April, 2017

Annual Town Meeting

This issue of the Town newsletter is devoted to the proposed budget, which will be the subject of the May 1, 2017 Annual Town Meeting and the May 10, 2017 Referendum. The Annual Town Meeting is held for the purpose of presenting the Board of Finance's proposed budget to the voters; the Annual Town 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 10th Referendum.

The Board of Finance held its Public Hearing on April 3rd. On April 5th, the Board of Finance held their budget workshop with the Board of Education and Town Council and reached their 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 2017/2018 budget will be \$90,913,236. This represents a budget increase of \$1,858,801, or 2.09%, and an increase in the levy of 4.39%. The associated mill rate would increase from 29.52 to 30.59, or 3.62%.

The Board of Finance will be presenting their proposed budget at the Annual Town Meeting on May 1, 2017. The Resolution that will be presented at the Town Meeting and the Referendum is as follows:

'SHALL THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,913,236 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2017 BE APPROVED?'

At the conclusion of the discussion on the proposed budget, the meeting will be adjourned to a referendum vote on May 10th. 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, 2016 Grand List, and are U.S. citizens.

Avon Day is now Celebrate Avon!

Yup, you heard it here first..Avon Day has changed its name to Celebrate Avon! and that's exactly what your Celebrate Avon 2017 Committee is planning to do, so...mark your calendars for Saturday, September 23, 2017!! **WHERE:** Thompson Brook School **TIME:** 11:00 AM. Look forward to some new entertainment, informational booths from local service organizations, corporate booths and some other exciting surprises you will find out about later!! If you are interested in reserving a booth, you can find all the information at www.avonct.gov. **If you reserve your booth by August 4, 2017, you will receive a \$25.00 discount!** The cost for a non-profit booth remains the same at \$25.00. The Committee can't wait to see you there!

Dog Registration



On May 15th, the Town Clerk's Office will begin issuing July 2017 dog licenses. Renewal notices will be mailed to all registered dog owners. To purchase a license, simply bring or send a copy of the dog's valid rabies certificate and spayed/neutered certificate along with \$8.00 or \$19.00 if unaltered dogs to: Avon Town Clerk, 60 W Main St., Avon CT 06001-3719. 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.

Inside this issue:

Fisher Meadows Field Expansion	2
2017 Household Hazardous Waste Collections	2
Reminders from the Avon Volunteer Fire Department	2
Proposed FY 2017/18 Budget	3-7



Fisher Meadows Field Expansion

The fields at Fisher Meadows will be doubling in number this spring and summer! The Town will soon break ground on an expansion project to add seven new playing fields (north of the existing fields), approximately 210 parking spaces, and an additional pavilion to the Town's main recreation area. These new fields will allow for more flexibility in the scheduling of recreational activities and will relieve some of the burden that is currently placed on the Town's existing fields. We estimate the project cost to be \$686,000; funded through the Fisher Meadows Special Revenue Fund, the Fee-in-Lieu of Open Space Special Revenue Fund, and the proposed FY18 Capital Budget (pending referendum approval). Most of the work will be completed in-house by Department of Public Works staff; the use of town personnel will reduce the costs associated with this project. We anticipate that the majority of the fields will be ready for play in spring 2018. Please head to the Town's website, www.avonct.gov, for periodic updates about the expansion project.

2017 Household Hazardous Waste Collections

The Town of Avon, in conjunction with Canton, Farmington, Granby, and Simsbury will be holding three household hazardous waste collections in 2017! Each collection will run from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM and is open to all residents from Avon, Simsbury, Canton, Granby and Farmington. **The collection schedule is as follows:**

- ◆ April 29, 2017 – Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT
- ◆ June 17, 2017 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT
- ◆ October 28, 2017 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT

Reminders from the Avon Volunteer Fire Department

Mailboxes: When rebuilding mailboxes damaged over the winter, please be sure to affix large, reflective house numbers to both sides of the mailbox so emergency personnel can see them clearly when responding to calls for help. Consider placing numbers in conspicuous places on homes and/or garages as well.

Propane Grilling: Many gas grill fires happen when people either use a grill that has been left idle or has just had a refilled gas tank reattached. Check tubes and hoses for blockages as well as cracking, brittleness, holes, and leaks. Protect hoses from heat, either by moving them or using a heat shield. Check for leaks – if you find one, turn off the gas. Use grills outdoors, at least 10 feet away from buildings. Keep propane containers upright and do not store spare containers under or near the grill or indoors. For more gas grill safety tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, visit the AVFD's website at www.avonvfd.org.

Brush Fires: While March snowfall delayed the start of spring fire season this year, it's never too early to prepare. Downed trees that fell under the weight of ice and snow as well as other storm debris can provide additional fuel for brush fires. Wind gusts and low humidity cause brush fires to quickly grow and spread. Most brush fires are started by humans—a discarded hot match or cigarette or a campfire that isn't properly extinguished. The Avon Volunteer Fire Department urges residents to take precautions. In Avon, open burning is prohibited without a permit. For more information visit: <http://www.avonct.gov/fire-prevention/pages/open-burning>.



Avon Free Public Library

Art day in May! Join us in the Children's Room on Saturday, May 6 for an afternoon of music, dance, book making and art.

Avon Recreation & Parks

The Recreation Department's summer program was delivered to Avon residents via The Valley Press on Thursday, April 20. Summer Registration will begin online, on Monday, April 24th for all of our summer programs including swim memberships.



Town of Avon – BUDGET SUMMARY				
	Actual FY 2015/2016	Adopted FY 2016/2017	Projected FY 2016/2017	Proposed FY 2017/2018
<u>Revenues</u>				
Property Taxes & Assessments	74,824,941	76,857,403	76,857,403	80,284,081
Intergovernmental Revenues	5,735,424	4,741,745	4,741,745	3,859,329
Licenses, Fees and Permits	1,207,603	1,129,445	1,129,445	1,120,775
Charges for Services	4,576,715	4,489,393	4,489,393	4,258,827
Other Local Revenues	604,797	411,977	411,977	401,417
Transfers from Other Funds	340,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Use of Fund Balance	820,000	1,025,082	1,025,082	988,807
Other	322,000	399,390	399,390	N/A
Total Revenues	88,431,480	89,054,435	89,054,435	90,913,236
<u>Expenditures</u>				
General Government	2,991,797	3,283,023	3,283,023	3,370,540
Public Safety	10,047,452	10,007,820	10,007,820	10,326,376
Public Works	5,552,473	5,787,523	5,787,523	6,019,351
Health and Social Services	506,086	504,338	504,338	523,403
Recreation & Parks	1,117,970	1,172,661	1,172,661	1,231,069
Culture & Education	1,541,279	1,586,279	1,586,279	1,637,129
Education – Town	55,318,334	56,621,408	56,621,408	58,292,975
Education - Regional School District	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Conservation & Development	644,285	633,142	633,142	654,862
Miscellaneous	275,247	320,732	320,732	333,868
Sewers	1,969,344	1,947,682	1,947,682	2,015,307
Debt Service	3,538,631	2,779,790	2,779,790	2,818,850
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	3,396,150	4,410,037	4,410,037	3,689,506
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Expenditures	86,899,048	89,054,435	89,054,435	90,913,236

Proposed FY 2017/2018 Budget Summary

Total Estimated Expenditures	\$ 90,913,236
Less: Revenues Other Than <u>Current</u> Property Taxes	\$ 11,017,970
Amount to be Raised from <u>Current</u> Property Taxes (based on an estimated tax collection rate if 99%)	\$ 79,895,266

Estimated Fund Balance (Deficit) – General Fund as of July 1, 2017

General Fund Resources Available as of June 30, 2016	\$ 8,443,716
FY 2016/2017 General Fund Projected Increase (Decrease) in Revenues over Expenditures	\$ 0
Estimated General Fund, fund balance (deficit) as of July 1, 2017	\$ 8,443,716

The estimates above of the proposed fiscal year 2017/2018 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 and click on "Annual Town Budget" under Quick Links.

**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018 - Revenues**

PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	ACTUAL FY 15/16	BUDGETED 16/17	PROPOSED 17/18
Gross Levy	74,077,300	76,536,588	79,895,266
Uncollectible	(605,565)	(595,565)	(595,565)
Net Levy	73,471,735	75,941,023	79,299,701
Supplemental Real Estate	137,872	85,525	85,525
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	725,347	450,855	490,855
Prior Levies	194,669	130,000	160,000
Interest & Penalties	194,052	140,000	140,000
Sewer Assessments	45,262	50,000	48,000
West Main Interest	618	--	--
Lakeview Water Ext. Assessments	1,482	--	--
Telephone Gross Receipts	53,904	60,000	60,000
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	74,824,941	76,857,403	80,284,081
LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS			
Police Protection	9,620	9,000	9,000
Building, Struct. and Equip.	544,860	500,000	500,000
Hunting and Fishing	151	75	75
Animal Licenses	13,141	1,900	1,900
Street and Curb	3,300	2,200	2,200
Recording & Conveyance	588,865	550,000	550,000
Conservation and Development	9,605	29,500	20,000
Sale: Maps/Publications/Copies	24,142	21,070	22,000
LOCAP Recording Fee	7,923	7,600	7,600
MERS Land Recording Fee	4,246	3,600	3,600
Sewer Permits & Inspection Fees	1,750	4,500	4,400
TOTAL LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS	1,207,603	1,129,445	1,120,775
INTERGOVERNMENTAL STATE GRANTS-IN-AID:			
Speed Reinforcement Program	7,465	--	--
Grants for Municipal Projects	261,442	261,442	--
Municipal Revenue Sharing	--	--	539,387
Equalized Cost Sharing	1,207,268	760,204	--
School Transportation	13,532	11,484	--
BOE Special Education Excess Cost	1,199,407	1,190,000	--
BOE Open Choice Attendance	1,207,214	795,000	765,000
Title II Part A Teachers - Fund #13	33,040	32,000	32,000
Adult Education Cooperative - Fund #13	2,138	2,010	1,789
IDEA 611 Part B - Fund #13	618,149	523,000	563,000
Title I Improving Basic Programs - Fund #13	182,443	120,000	121,924
PreSchool-IDEA 619 - Fund #13	6,293	15,537	17,000
Carl Perkins - Fund #13	--	24,114	--
SHEF Settlement - Fund #13	217,125	201,550	101,225
BOE Education Program Grants - Fund #13 Various	38,333	7,175	7,175
Pequot Funds	19,504	16,979	18,973
Town Aid Road Fund - Fund #8	312,344	312,344	312,623
Cafeteria-BOE - Fund #14	169,250	166,977	177,969
Public Library	9,000	--	--
Property Tax Relief - Elderly	85,128	85,000	85,000
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	--	95,895	68,226
Veteran Reimbursement	4,898	4,750	4,750
LOCIP Fund - Fund #11	108,947	108,884	199,736
Youth Services Grant	19,817	--	--
Judicial Branch 51-56	1,527	--	--
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts	11,160	7,400	7,400
NEW Special Education Grant	--	--	836,152
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	5,735,424	4,741,745	3,859,329
TOTAL THIS PAGE	81,767,968	82,728,593	85,265,968

**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018 - Revenues**

CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	ACTUAL FY 15/16	BUDGETED 16/17	PROPOSED 17/18
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Services	189,519	17,452	17,508
Accident Reports & Photos	2,560	1,300	1,300
Animal Pound Fee	810	1,080	1,080
PUBLIC WORKS			
Sale of Materials	596	--	--
Landfill (Residential) Fees	92,773	140,000	138,000
Landfill - Bulky Waste/Other	26,583	27,000	25,000
Sewer Connection Charges	67,500	150,000	65,000
Sewer Use Charges	1,906,453	1,800,000	1,665,000
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:			
Vital Statistics	25,164	22,500	22,500
RECREATION & PARKS:			
Organized Summer Programs	42,362	43,000	43,000
Swim Fees	55,729	55,000	55,000
Fees: Non-Reimbursable	5,829	4,000	4,000
Fees: Reimbursable	286,121	293,503	316,827
Maintenance Fees	45,121	48,543	48,998
Senior Rec. Activities	13,128	19,190	19,700
EDUCATION			
Cafeteria Sales	856,043	883,339	910,264
BOE Athletic Game Receipts/Pay to Play	192,550	203,840	191,500
Use of School Facilities	55,539	54,000	54,000
FINES & FORFEITS			
Courts	20	150	150
Public Library	16,510	19,000	16,000
BOE Employee Bnft Contrb, Dent/Life	120,388	123,376	129,000
BOE Miscellaneous Receipts	12,009	--	--
BOE Tuition Receipts-Parent Paid (pre K Prog)	45,959	38,620	46,000
BOE TEAM Program	5,500	4,250	--
BOE Cafeteria Rent Receipts	60,848	30,000	30,000
BOE AHS Parking Fees	21,047	35,250	29,000
BOE Special Education Tuition	430,054	475,000	430,000
TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SVCS.	4,576,715	4,489,393	4,258,827
OTHER LOCAL REVENUES			
Investment Interest - GF	128,055	100,000	140,000
Refunds & Reimbursements	28,335	120,189	120,129
Sewer Use - Interest & Liens	12,591	15,000	19,000
Sewer Assessments - Interest & Liens	6,662	100	100
Rents & Reimbursements: Sprint Tower	66,711	52,000	60,000
BOE Misc Revenue	106,814	--	--
Donations & Grants Private Source - Fund #9	500	--	--
Donations & Grants Private Source - GF	750	--	--
Interlocal Program Funding	42,426	--	14,500
Field Advertising Revenue - Fund #9	9,750	--	--
Timber Sale - Fund #4	18,358	10,000	--
BOE Funding School Resource Officer	76,000	65,000	--
Salvage and Demolition Sales	6,757	10,000	8,000
Sale of Property	18,330	25,000	25,000
Miscellaneous	7,650	14,688	14,688
Cancelled Encumbrances	75,108	--	--
TOTAL OTHER LOCAL REVENUES	604,797	411,977	401,417
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Fund #1 - Use of Assigned Fund Balance Cap. Res	72,000	120,000	--
Fund #2 - Use of Assigned Fund Balance Cap. Res	250,000	279,390	--
Fund #4 - Unassigned Fund Balance	--	--	10,000
Fund #5 - Unassigned Fund Balance	820,000	1,025,082	978,807
Transfers In	340,000	--	--
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	1,482,000	1,424,472	988,807
GRAND TOTAL MUNICIPAL REVENUES	88,431,480	89,054,435	90,913,236



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018 - Expenditures**

TOWN COUNCIL	ACTUAL FY 15/16	BUDGETED 16/17	PROPOSED 17/18
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
Legislative	47,657	50,331	50,331
Executive	433,840	501,763	507,926
Judicial	4,804	4,950	6,138
Elections	87,825	113,923	108,072
Legal	189,434	165,000	170,000
Recording & Reporting	387,941	402,140	414,650
Town Hall	115,635	127,538	132,110
Human Resources	258,529	264,561	273,602
Finance	1,466,132	1,652,817	1,707,711
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2,991,797	3,283,023	3,370,540
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Protection	6,797,838	6,635,808	6,848,002
Fire Protection	1,835,265	1,904,659	1,930,192
Central Communications	806,699	839,335	895,641
Protective Inspection	364,418	375,856	392,160
Other Protection	243,231	252,162	260,381
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	10,047,452	10,007,820	10,326,376
PUBLIC WORKS			
Administration	447,843	451,987	473,709
Highways	2,104,999	2,102,680	2,190,044
Sanitation	301,491	401,261	408,906
Machinery & Equipment	567,240	623,944	636,815
Buildings & Grounds	1,781,744	1,819,670	1,908,435
Engineering	349,155	387,981	401,442
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	5,552,473	5,787,523	6,019,351
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES			
Conservation of Health	133,688	135,710	137,515
Social Services	372,398	368,628	385,888
TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	506,086	504,338	523,403
RECREATION & PARKS			
Recreation	821,229	974,829	1,047,965
Parks	99,816	116,421	98,328
Senior Citizens	32,136	47,196	48,230
Community Activities	164,789	34,215	36,546
TOTAL RECREATION & PARKS	1,117,970	1,172,661	1,231,069
CULTURE & EDUCATION			
Library	1,541,279	1,586,279	1,637,129
TOTAL CULTURE & EDUCATION	1,541,279	1,586,279	1,637,129
TOTAL THIS PAGE	21,757,056	22,341,644	23,107,868



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018 - Expenditures**

	ACTUAL FY 15/16	BUDGETED 16/17	PROPOSED 17/18
TOTALS FROM PREVIOUS PAGE	21,757,056	22,341,644	23,107,868
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT			
Planning & Zoning	483,757	457,290	473,842
Conserv. Of Natural Resources	160,528	175,852	181,020
TOTAL CONSERVATION & DEV'T	644,285	633,142	654,862
MISCELLANEOUS			
Claims & Losses	18,243	15,000	15,000
Municipal Insurance	210,502	239,232	251,161
Intergovernmental Expend.	46,108	56,500	57,707
Contingency	394	10,000	10,000
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	275,247	320,732	333,868
SUB-TOTAL TOWN OF AVON	22,676,589	23,295,518	24,096,598
SEWERS			
Operating Expenses	1,969,344	1,947,682	2,015,307
TOTAL SEWERS	1,969,344	1,947,682	2,015,307
CAPITAL IMPROV. DEBT SERVICE			
Bond & Anticipat. Notes	3,538,631	2,779,790	2,818,850
TOTAL CAP. IMP. DEBT SERVICE	3,538,631	2,779,790	2,818,850
CAPITAL IMPROVE. PROGRAM (CIP)			
Capital Improvement Facilities	1,858,150	3,825,037	2,601,506
Capital Improvement Equipment	853,000	385,000	913,000
Capital & Non-Recurr. (C.N.R.E.F.)	685,000	200,000	175,000
TOTAL CIP	3,396,150	4,410,037	3,689,506
BOARD OF EDUCATION			
Salaries	32,926,852	34,595,843	34,734,933
Employee Benefits	8,754,671	9,435,814	10,223,770
Purchased Prof & Tech Services	1,485,927	1,067,654	1,448,302
Property Services	787,059	726,306	727,881
Other Purchased Services	6,198,356	6,168,358	6,638,213
General Supplies & Utilities	2,371,152	2,188,491	2,122,918
Equipment	526,732	320,705	341,542
Fees & Memberships	93,354	88,535	69,070
Cafeteria Operation	1,034,366	1,050,316	1,088,233
Facility Use	42,345	54,000	54,000
Prepaid State & Federal Grants	1,097,521	925,386	844,113
TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION	55,318,334	56,621,408	58,292,975
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	86,899,048	89,054,435	90,913,236

ISSUE LII
April, 2017

Avon Town Council
Town of Avon
60 W Main St.
Avon, CT 06001-3719

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Fax: (860) 409-4368
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IMPORTANT DATES

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 1, 2017

7:00 P.M.

**AVON SENIOR CENTER
635 WEST AVON ROAD**

BUDGET REFERENDUM

MAY 10, 2017

6:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

**AVON SENIOR CENTER
635 WEST AVON ROAD**

Absentee Ballots will be available.

**Any questions regarding absentee ballots should be directed to the
Town Clerk's Office at (860) 409-4310**

Dog/Cat Rabies Vaccination Clinic (Open to all Towns)
Avon Animal Shelter

11 Arch Road • Saturday, June 10, 2017

3:00 - 5:00 PM

Cost: \$20.00/vaccine (**CASH ONLY**)

Proof of previous rabies vaccine must be presented to receive a three year vaccine. For additional information you may contact Beverly LaPlume, Animal Control Officer, at (860) 409-4205.

VFW Annual Memorial Day Parade
May 29, 2017

This will be the 72nd anniversary and the 72nd parade following the end of WWII. **All veterans all welcomed to march in the parade.** If you have any questions, please call Bill Samol (860) 673-0594. In case of rain, meet at the Avon Senior Center at 11:00 AM. The **VFW POPPY DRIVE** will run from the 2nd week of May through Memorial Day. Please show your support for all the veterans.