



Town of Avon Newsletter

ISSUE LXIV

April, 2021

Annual Town Meeting & Budget Referendum

This issue of the Town newsletter is devoted to the proposed budget, which will be the subject of the May 3, 2021 Annual Town Meeting and the May 12, 2021 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 12th Referendum.

The Board of Finance held its Public Hearing on April 5th. On April 7th, 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 2021/2022 budget will be \$101,261,159. This represents a budget increase of \$2,549,829 or 2.58%, and an increase in the levy of 5.10%. The associated mill rate would increase from 32.90 to 34.21 or 3.98%.

The Board of Finance will present its proposed budget at the Annual Town Meeting on May 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Avon High School Auditorium. The meeting will also be available to watch at home via a livestream. The livestream may be accessed by web at the following link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/896495829> or by phone by dialing 1-866-899-4679 and entering access code 896-495-829. The livestream access instructions will also be made available on the Town's website.

Written comments on the proposed budget will be accepted until Thursday, April 29th at 4:30 p.m. by U.S. Mail to the Town Manager's Office, 60 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001 or by email to budgetcomments@avonct.gov. Electors or taxpayers wishing to provide spoken comment during the Annual Town Meeting must attend the meeting in-person at the high school. There will be no opportunity for the virtual audience to provide spoken comment during the meeting.

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 \$101,261,159 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2021 BE APPROVED?'

At the conclusion of the discussion of the proposed budget, the meeting will be adjourned to a referendum vote on May 12th. 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, 2020 Grand List, and are U.S. citizens.

Sewer Use Charges

The first installment on the sewer use charges for calendar year 2021 was due April 1, 2021. Payments are due by May 1, 2021. Please mail checks to: Collector of Revenue, 60 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001. There is also a secure box located outside Building #2. Payments can also be made online thru the Town's website www.avonct.gov.

Vaccine Appointments for Homebound Residents:

Please contact the Avon Senior Center at (860) 675-4355 to sign-up to receive your COVID-19 vaccine in your home.

Avon Recreation Department

Registration for all summer programs including swim memberships begin April 23rd online at: www.avonrec.com

Oops, Our Mistake! In our January 2021 article, "Warm Welcomes & Congratulations," we mistakenly welcomed Kathleen Emery to the Department of Social Services, rather than Karen Emery. Welcome Karen!

Inside this issue:

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Avon Library's HVAC System

Work began in February to replace the Avon Library's HVAC system. This system will use conventional geothermal technology, which circulates fluid underground to heat or cool a building. Currently, crews are digging the bore holes for new geothermal wells.

While this work has occurred outside the library, there will also be extensive work inside the building, predominantly in the basement and attic. Every effort will be made to avoid impacting library programs and services during this project, but inevitably there will be some disruptions that may require a change to library operations. When possible, that will be communicated in advance.

Please reach out to Glenn Grube, Library Director, at 860-673-9712 x207 or ggrube@avonctlibrary.info with any questions about this project.

2021 Webinar Series: Unearthing History

Join the Avon Historical Society, the Avon Free Public Library and the Avon Senior Center for the final three virtual lectures in the "Unearthing History" Series which will cover the archeology, geology and anthropology of life along the Farmington River, with a focus on the 12,500 year old Brian D. Jones Paleo-Indian discovery in Avon. Visit www.avonctlibrary.info for more details and to register for the lectures scheduled for May 6th, September 9th and October 7th at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM. This series is sponsored by a grant from the Farmington Bank Community Foundation. See you there!

Signalized Trail Crossings are Coming!

This spring the Town plans to install pedestrian-activated, solar-powered beacons at four Farmington Valley Greenway trail crossings. The beacons are intended to alert drivers to their proximity to the trail and to the presence of pedestrians and bicyclists crossing the road. More information on this project is available on the homepage of the Town's website.

Dog Registration

On May 17th, the Town Clerk's Office will begin issuing July 2021 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 West 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.

Town Launches "Fee Free Saturdays" Residential Brush Disposal Pilot Program

The Transfer Station will 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: April 24, May 1, May 8, and May 15. Proof of residency required. Please call the Transfer Station at (860) 673-3677 or Public Works at (860) 673-6151 with questions.

Join Bike Walk Avon CT and the Town in May to celebrate **National Bike Month** with events including



a Town Council Cinco de Mayo Ride, Bike/Walk to School Day and Bike to Work Day! Dates and details are on the Town's website and on Facebook @BikeWalkAvonCT. Come ride with us!



Town of Avon – BUDGET SUMMARY				
	Actual FY 2019/2020	Adopted FY 2020/2021	Projected FY 2020/2021	Proposed FY 2021/2022
<u>Revenues</u>				
Property Taxes & Assessments	\$ 84,789,196	\$ 85,162,994	\$ 85,162,994	\$ 89,502,681
Intergovernmental Revenues	4,325,000	3,495,991	3,495,991	3,449,597
Licenses, Fees and Permits	1,138,153	1,021,580	1,021,580	1,031,650
Charges for Services	7,912,771	6,353,573	6,353,573	6,375,624
Other Local Revenues	915,780	567,540	567,540	385,607
Transfers from Other Funds				
Use of Fund Balance				
Other	50,000	2,109,652	2,109,652	516,000
Total Revenues	\$ 99,130,902	\$ 98,711,330	\$ 98,711,330	\$101,261,159
<u>Expenditures</u>				
General Government	\$ 3,409,237	\$ 3,573,639	\$ 3,573,639	\$ 3,696,005
Public Safety	11,243,426	11,460,067	11,460,067	11,757,099
Public Works	6,314,722	6,820,218	6,820,218	6,927,349
Health and Welfare	561,123	598,263	598,263	620,052
Recreation	1,117,576	1,294,351	1,294,351	1,354,587
Culture	1,736,517	1,768,042	1,768,042	1,864,393
Education – Town	60,047,357	62,941,294	62,941,294	64,558,457
Conservation & Development	659,674	702,886	702,886	752,807
Miscellaneous	304,891	366,325	366,325	431,834
Sewers	2,027,224	2,837,922	2,837,922	3,099,766
Debt Service	3,036,692	2,959,750	2,959,750	2,975,117
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	2,823,667	3,388,573	3,388,573	3,223,693
Other	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Expenditures	\$ 93,282,105	\$ 98,711,330	\$ 98,711,330	101,261,159

Proposed FY 2021/2022 Budget Summary

Total Estimated Expenditures	\$ 101,261,159
Less: Revenues Other Than <u>Current</u> Property Taxes	\$ 12,293,503
Amount to be Raised from <u>Current</u> Property Taxes (based on an estimated tax collection rate if 99%)	\$ 88,967,656

Estimated Fund Balance (Deficit) – General Fund as of July 1, 2021

General Fund Resources Available as of June 30, 2020	\$ 12,722,454
FY 2021/2022 General Fund Projected Increase (Decrease) in Revenues over Expenditures	\$ _____
Estimated General Fund, fund balance (deficit) as of July 1, 2021	\$ 12,722,454

The estimates above of the proposed fiscal year 2021/2022 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 Find It Fast.



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 - Revenues**

PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	ACTUAL FY 19/20	BUDGETED 20/21	PROPOSED 21/22
Gross Levy	\$ 83,195,139	\$ 84,650,673	\$ 88,967,656
Uncollectible	-	(505,565)	(600,000)
Net Levy	83,195,139	84,145,108	88,367,656
Supplemental Real Estate	80,483	55,750	57,575
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	824,443	492,136	592,137
Prior Levies	209,693	175,000	200,000
Interest & Penalties	212,184	150,000	175,000
Sewer Assessments	227,841	90,000	71,000
West Main Interest	100	-	-
Telephone Gross Receipts	39,313	55,000	39,313
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	84,789,196	85,162,994	89,502,681
LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS			
Police Protection	3,765	4,500	4,500
Building, Struct. and Equip.	405,785	425,000	425,000
Hunting and Fishing	32	80	50
Animal Licenses	12,683	1,900	12,000
Street and Curb	4,700	2,000	3,000
Recording & Conveyance	620,209	550,000	550,000
Conservation and Development	58,750	10,000	5,800
Sale: Maps/Publications/Copies	23,948	20,000	22,500
LOCAP Recording Fee	7,062	6,600	7,600
MERS Land Recording Fee	120	-	-
Sewer Permits & Inspection Fees	1,100	1,500	1,200
TOTAL LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS	1,138,153	1,021,580	1,031,650
INTERGOVERNMENTAL STATE GRANTS-IN-AID:			
Grants for Municipal Projects	261,442	-	-
Equalized Cost Sharing	607,677	391,430	391,430
BOE Special Education Excess Cost	874,070	900,000	811,685
BOE Open Choice Attendance	865,508	660,000	672,000
Title II Part A Teachers - Fund #13	48,479	40,000	45,663
Adult Education Cooperative - Fund #13	2,250	1,800	1,800
IDEA 611 Part B - Fund #13	634,151	580,000	603,794
Title I Improving Basic Programs - Fund #13	101,798	100,000	100,685
PreSchool-IDEA 619 - Fund #13	15,809	16,000	17,572
SHEF Settlement - Fund #13	127,120	120,000	129,400
BOE Education Program Grants - Fund #13 Various	66,777	7,000	7,000
Town Aid Road - Fund #8	312,434	312,623	312,434
Cafeteria-BOE - Fund #14	206,060	202,814	215,226
Property Tax Relief - Elderly	1,263	-	-
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	27,370	27,370	27,370
Veteran Reimbursement	3,832	4,750	3,800
LOCIP Fund - Fund #11	-	127,104	108,988
Youth Services Grant	24,819	-	-
Judicial Branch 51-56	1,633	-	-
Municipal Stabilization Grant	142,054	-	-
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts	455	5,100	750
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	4,325,000	3,495,991	3,449,597
TOTAL THIS PAGE	90,252,350	89,680,565	93,983,928



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 - Revenues**

CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	ACTUAL FY 19/20	BUDGETED 20/21	PROPOSED 21/22
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Services	140,349	39,186	38,855
Accident Reports & Photos	2,462	2,000	1,000
Animal Pound Fee	420	500	300
PUBLIC WORKS			
Landfill (Residential) Fees	104,553	128,000	128,000
Landfill - Bulky Waste/Other	44,550	25,000	25,000
Sewer Connection Charges	139,495	30,000	40,000
Sewer Use Charges	4,296,526	3,150,770	2,971,566
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:			
Vital Statistics	33,098	22,500	30,000
RECREATION & PARKS:			
Organized Summer Programs	17,943	43,000	43,000
Swim Fees	40,447	55,000	55,000
Organized Summer Programs - Fund #9	12	-	-
Fees: Non-Reimbursable - Fund #9		-	-
Fees: Reimbursable - Fund #9	200,852	350,402	356,423
Maintenance Fees - Fund #9	24,949	54,410	53,796
Senior Rec. Activities - Fund #9	10,433	17,700	17,700
EDUCATION			
BOE Cafeteria Sales	696,461	808,455	778,014
BOE Athletic Game Receipts/Pay to Play	86,892	179,000	110,000
BOE Use of School Facilities	47,304	50,000	25,000
FINES & FORFEITS			
Courts	-	150	150
Public Library	9,497	6,500	-
BOE Employee Benefit Contrb, Dental/Life	116,233	106,000	110,500
BOE Miscellaneous Receipts	134,143	-	-
BOE Tuition Receipts-Parent Paid (pre K Prog)	116,819	155,000	111,320
BOE Team Mentor Prog. State Pmts.	1,929	-	-
BOE AHS Parking Fees	30,000	30,000	30,000
BOE Special Education Tuition	1,617,404	1,100,000	1,450,000
TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SVCS.	7,912,771	6,353,573	6,375,624
OTHER LOCAL REVENUES			
Investment Interest - GF	638,415	340,000	200,000
Refunds & Reimbursements	56,059	126,960	86,707
Sewer Use - Interest & Liens	14,934	11,000	16,000
Sewer Assessments - Interest & Liens	42,461	-	-
Sewer Deposits	27,666	-	-
Rents & Reimbursements - Sprint Tower	76,670	60,000	60,000
Donations & Grants Private Source - Fund GF	2,500	-	-
Donations & Grants Private Source - Fund #9	300	-	-
Interlocal Program Funding	2,465	2,800	2,400
Field Advertising Revenue - Fund #9	3,875	-	-
Salvage and Demolition Sales	13,032	8,500	8,500
Sale of Property	14,616	10,000	10,000
Miscellaneous	3,715	8,280	2,000
Admin Allowance ICMA	10,000	-	-
Cancelled Encumbrances	9,072	-	-
TOTAL OTHER LOCAL REVENUES	915,780	567,540	385,607
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Fund #1 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	1,800,000	206,000
Fund #1 - Use of Assigned Fund Bal. - Board of Ed	-	-	250,000
Fund #4 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	10,000	10,000
Fund #5 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	264,652	-
Fund #8 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	-	50,000
Fund #9 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	35,000	-
TRANSFERS IN	50,000	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	50,000	2,109,652	516,000
GRAND TOTAL MUNICIPAL REVENUES	99,130,902	98,711,330	101,261,159



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 - Expenditures**

TOWN COUNCIL	ACTUAL FY 19/20	BUDGETED 20/21	PROPOSED 21/22
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
Legislative	48,651	50,664	51,114
Executive	557,930	557,277	574,441
Judicial	6,988	6,988	7,400
Elections	82,737	134,458	122,003
Legal	173,891	185,000	180,000
Recording & Reporting	440,701	439,462	451,542
Town Hall	128,354	120,930	123,336
Human Resources	140,808	213,317	241,978
Finance	1,829,176	1,865,543	1,944,191
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,409,237	3,573,639	3,696,005
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Protection	7,587,258	7,734,404	7,957,255
Fire Protection	2,095,031	2,091,589	2,134,006
Central Communications	912,265	918,176	954,069
Protective Inspection	415,494	444,151	438,627
Other Protection	233,378	271,747	273,142
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	11,243,426	11,460,067	11,757,099
PUBLIC WORKS			
Administration	474,820	505,523	476,125
Highways	2,373,324	2,416,984	2,462,821
Sanitation	353,468	469,373	470,359
Machinery & Equipment	576,412	648,318	659,498
Buildings & Grounds	2,140,908	2,363,934	2,428,565
Engineering	395,790	416,086	429,981
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	6,314,722	6,820,218	6,927,349
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES			
Conservation of Health	150,030	153,000	166,932
Social Services	411,093	445,263	453,120
TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	561,123	598,263	620,052
RECREATION & PARKS			
Recreation	962,540	1,134,392	1,179,776
Parks	115,951	87,490	107,876
Senior Citizens	29,100	47,150	47,150
Community Activities	9,985	25,319	19,785
TOTAL RECREATION & PARKS	1,117,576	1,294,351	1,354,587
CULTURE & EDUCATION			
Library	1,736,517	1,768,042	1,864,393
TOTAL CULTURE & EDUCATION	1,736,517	1,768,042	1,864,393
TOTAL THIS PAGE	24,382,601	25,514,580	26,219,485



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022 - Expenditures**

	ACTUAL FY 19/20	BUDGETED 20/21	PROPOSED 21/22
TOTALS FROM PREVIOUS PAGE	24,382,601	25,514,580	26,219,485
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT			
Planning & Zoning	471,808	506,155	516,769
Conserv. Of Natural Resources	187,866	196,731	236,038
TOTAL CONSERVATION & DEV'T	659,674	702,886	752,807
MISCELLANEOUS			
Claims & Losses	7,702	15,000	45,000
Municipal Insurance	248,537	277,450	312,959
Intergovernmental Expend.	48,573	63,875	63,875
Contingency	79	10,000	10,000
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	304,891	366,325	431,834
SUB-TOTAL TOWN OF AVON	25,347,165	26,583,791	27,404,126
SEWERS			
Operating Expenses	2,027,224	2,837,922	3,099,766
TOTAL SEWERS	2,027,224	2,837,922	3,099,766
CAPITAL IMPROV. DEBT SERVICE			
Bond & Anticipat. Notes	3,036,692	2,959,750	2,975,117
TOTAL CAP. IMP. DEBT SERVICE	3,036,692	2,959,750	2,975,117
CAPITAL IMPROVE. PROGRAM (CIP)			
Capital Improvement Facilities	1,910,307	2,707,955	2,170,193
Capital Improvement Equipment	121,360	531,000	858,500
Capital & Non-Recurr. (C.N.R.E.F.)	792,000	149,618	195,000
TOTAL CIP	2,823,667	3,388,573	3,223,693
BOARD OF EDUCATION			
Salaries	36,542,908	38,718,888	39,215,846
Employee Benefits	9,956,034	10,354,342	10,859,254
Purchased Prof & Tech Services	1,367,231	1,449,368	1,393,370
Property Services	934,936	778,770	790,665
Other Purchased Services	5,979,432	7,089,577	7,332,640
General Supplies & Utilities	2,648,624	2,150,275	2,326,392
Equipment	550,846	376,685	620,482
Fees & Memberships	82,512	97,320	95,654
Cafeteria Operation	881,547	1,011,269	993,240
Facility Use	29,595	50,000	25,000
Prepaid State & Federal Grants	1,073,691	864,800	905,914
TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION	60,047,357	62,941,294	64,558,457
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	93,282,105	98,711,330	101,261,159

ISSUE LXIV
April, 2021

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

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www.avonct.gov



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IMPORTANT DATES

BUDGET ADOPTION PROCESS

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 3, 2021

7:00 P.M.

AVON HIGH SCHOOL & VIRTUALLY

Details on Page 1 and

www.avonct.gov

BUDGET REFERENDUM

MAY 12, 2021

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

VFW Annual Memorial Day Parade and Poppy Drive*

May 31, 2021

This will be the 76th anniversary and the 75th parade following the end of WWII. **All veterans are welcome to march in the parade, which steps off at 11:00 a.m.** Please call Bill Samol at (860) 673-0594 with questions. In case of rain, meet at the Avon Senior Center at 11:00 a.m.

The **VFW Poppy Drive** is ongoing. Please visit www.avonvfw.com or the Gildo T. Consolini Post 3272 VFW GoFundMe page (tinyurl.com/gildo-t-consolini) to donate. All funds raised will be donated to veterans' charities and all donations are tax deductible. We thank you for your support of our local heroes during these challenging times.

**At this time, the VFW is tentatively planning to hold its traditional Memorial Day parade, however this may be subject to change due to the pandemic. Any changes will be posted on the Town's website, www.avonct.gov, prior to May 31st.*