



Town of Avon Newsletter

ISSUE LXVII

April, 2022

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 2, 2022 Annual Town Meeting and the May 11, 2022 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 11th Referendum.

The Board of Finance held its Public Hearing on April 4th. On April 6th, 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 2022/2023 budget will be \$106,248,104. This represents a budget increase of \$4,986,945 or 4.92%, and an increase in the levy of 3.77%. The associated mill rate would increase from 34.21 to 34.61 or 1.17%.

The Board of Finance will present its proposed budget at the Annual Town Meeting on May 2, 2022 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://meet.goto.com/536701477> or by phone by dialing 1-866-899-4679 and entering access code 536-701-477. The livestream access instructions will also be made available on the Town's website.

Electors or taxpayers wishing to provide 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 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 \$106,248,104 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2022 BE APPROVED?'

At the conclusion of the discussion of the proposed budget, the meeting will be adjourned to a referendum vote on May 11th. 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, 2021 Grand List, and are U.S. citizens.

Avon Recreation Department News

- The Avon Recreation Department seeks Aquatics staff including Assistant Aquatics Director, Lifeguards, Water Safety Instructors, Swim Team Coaches and Assistant Swim Team Coaches and Gate Attendants. Details can be found at www.avonrec.com.
- Registration for all summer programs including swim memberships begin April 22nd online at www.avonrec.com.

2022 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates:

- ◆ April 23, 2022 – Farmington High School, 10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT
- ◆ June 11, 2022 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT
- ◆ October 15, 2022 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT

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Avon Transfer Station News

On June 1st, the Transfer Station will begin selling annual permits online! Residents may access the permit purchasing website at: <https://avonct.viewpointcloud.com/>, Department of Public Works, or by visiting the Town of Avon website at www.avonct.gov. Go to **Departments** and select the **Landfill/Transfer Station** or the **Public Works** webpages. After purchase, permit tags will be available for pick up. Please bring proof of payment to the Landfill Office at 281 Huckleberry Hill Road during regular operating hours.

"Fee Free Saturdays" Residential Brush Disposal Program, the Transfer Station will again offer 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 23, April 30, May 7, and May 14. 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.

Be Bear Aware! Dos and Don'ts for Living with Black Bears

- Do not** feed birds in the spring (starting in late March), summer, and early fall. **Do** clean up spilled seed from the ground.
- Do not** place your garbage curbside the night before your scheduled collection. **Do** put your barrels outside the morning of collection. Store garbage in secure, airtight containers inside a garage or storage area. Adding ammonia to cans and bags will reduce odors that attract bears. Periodically clean garbage cans with ammonia to reduce residual odor.
- Do not** store leftover bird seed or recyclables on a porch or screened sunroom as bears can smell these items and will rip screens to get at them.
- Do not** leave dogs outside unattended. **Do** keep dogs on a short leash when walking and hiking. A roaming dog might be perceived as a threat to a bear or its cubs.
- Do not** leave pet food outdoors or feed pets outside.
- Do not** place meat scraps or sweet foods, such as fruit and fruit peels, in compost piles. **Do** use electric fencing to protect beehives, agricultural crops, berry bushes, chickens, and other livestock.
- Do** keep barbecue grills clean. **Do** store grills inside a garage or shed.
- Do** call DEEP's 24-hour hotline at 860-424-3011 to report a black bear sighting. **Do** call the Avon Police Department, Routine Line at 860-409-4200 if you observe a bear that is damaging property or believed to be a threat. An Officer will be dispatched to investigate and contact DEEP if necessary.

Dog Registration

On June 1st, the Town Clerk's Office will begin issuing 2022 dog licenses. Renewal notices will be mailed to all 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. Licenses fees are \$8.00 for altered or \$19.00 for unaltered dogs. Please send 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.

News from Social Services

CT Energy Assistance Program: The State of Connecticut can help households pay for primary heating bills (i.e. oil, propane, electric, and gas). To be eligible, the gross annual household income must be less than 200% of the federal poverty income guidelines, and the applicant must meet a certain limit for assets. If you have never applied and/or are interested in receiving more information on this program, please visit our website, www.avonct.gov, under the Social Services link ("Energy Assistance & Renters Rebate"), or, call our office at (860) 409-4346, to see if you may qualify. **Applications are by appointment only! Program deadline is May 31st.**



Town of Avon – BUDGET SUMMARY				
	Actual FY 2020/2021	Adopted FY 2021/2022	Projected FY 2021/2022	Proposed FY 2022/2023
<u>Revenues</u>				
Property Taxes & Assessments	\$ 85,197,373	\$ 89,502,681	\$ 89,502,681	\$ 92,895,395
Intergovernmental Revenues	5,204,162	3,449,597	3,449,597	4,650,625
Licenses, Fees and Permits	1,436,164	1,031,650	1,031,650	1,031,470
Charges for Services	6,063,779	6,375,624	6,375,624	6,718,424
Other Local Revenues	407,002	385,607	385,607	384,611
Transfers from Other Funds	NA	NA	NA	NA
Use of Fund Balance	NA	516,000	516,000	567,579
Other	157,307	NA	NA	NA
Total Revenues	\$ 98,465,787	\$101,261,159	\$101,261,159	\$106,248,104
<u>Expenditures</u>				
General Government	\$ 3,630,665	\$ 3,696,005	\$ 3,696,005	\$ 3,101,653
Public Safety	11,517,419	11,757,099	11,757,099	9,528,242
Public Works	7,550,869	6,927,349	6,927,349	5,786,646
Health & Social Services	614,535	620,052	620,052	549,134
Recreation & Parks	1,063,693	1,354,587	1,354,587	1,322,583
Culture & Education	1,751,984	1,864,393	1,864,393	1,689,468
Education – Town	63,049,711	64,558,457	64,558,457	66,523,018
Education – Regional School District	NA	NA	NA	NA
Conservation & Development	696,394	752,807	752,807	530,069
Miscellaneous	1,878,487	431,834	431,834	5,845,912
Sewers	3,076,505	3,099,766	3,099,766	3,116,593
Debt Service	3,151,590	2,975,117	2,975,117	2,962,950
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	3,388,573	3,223,693	3,223,693	5,291,836
Other	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Expenditures	\$101,370,425	\$101,261,159	\$101,261,159	106,248,104

Proposed FY 2022/2023 Budget Summary

Total Estimated Expenditures	\$ 106,248,104
Less: Revenues Other Than <u>Current</u> Property Taxes	\$ <u>14,616,496</u>
Amount to be Raised from <u>Current</u> Property Taxes (based on an estimated tax collection rate if 99%)	\$ 91,631,608

Estimated Fund Balance (Deficit) – General Fund as of July 1, 2022

General Fund Resources Available as of June 30, 2021	\$ 12,718,912
FY 2022/2023 General Fund Projected Increase (Decrease) in Revenues over Expenditures	\$ _____
Estimated General Fund, fund balance (deficit) as of July 1, 2022	\$ 12,718,912

The estimates above of the proposed fiscal year 2022/2023 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, 2023 - Revenues**

PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	ACTUAL FY 20/21	BUDGETED 21/22	PROPOSED 22/23
Gross Levy	\$ 83,674,265	\$ 88,967,656	\$ 92,331,608
Uncollectible	-	(600,000)	(700,000)
Net Levy	83,674,265	88,367,656	91,631,608
Supplemental Real Estate	42,264	57,575	43,325
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	775,942	592,137	692,137
Prior Levies	283,766	200,000	200,000
Interest & Penalties	203,814	175,000	175,000
Sewer Assessments	175,997	71,000	112,000
Telephone Gross Receipts	41,325	39,313	41,325
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	85,197,373	89,502,681	92,895,395
LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS			
Police Protection	15,415	4,500	4,500
Building, Struct. and Equip.	625,708	425,000	425,000
Hunting and Fishing	81	50	50
Animal Licenses	12,867	12,000	12,000
Street and Curb	7,100	3,000	3,000
Recording & Conveyance	730,181	550,000	550,000
Conservation and Development	5,001	5,800	6,320
Sale: Maps/Publications/Copies	29,058	22,500	22,000
LOCAP Recording Fee	7,943	7,600	7,600
MERS Land Recording Fee	140	-	-
Sewer Permits & Inspection Fees	2,670	1,200	1,000
TOTAL LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS	1,436,164	1,031,650	1,031,470
INTERGOVERNMENTAL STATE GRANTS-IN-AID:			
OPM CRF-Covid Relief	140,098	-	-
DEEP/Farmington River Trail	3,000	-	-
Grants for Municipal Projects	261,442	-	-
Equalized Cost Sharing	541,355	391,430	391,430
BOE Special Education Excess Cost	703,056	811,685	864,140
BOE Open Choice Attendance	826,754	672,000	672,000
Title II Part A Teachers - Fund #13	27,755	45,663	45,126
Adult Education Cooperative - Fund #13	2,362	1,800	2,510
IDEA 611 Part B - Fund #13	593,875	603,794	646,077
Title I Improving Basic Programs - Fund #13	105,280	100,685	99,997
PreSchool-IDEA 619 - Fund #13	21,363	17,572	17,936
SHEF Settlement - Fund #13	118,438	129,400	125,250
BOE Education Program Grants - Fund #13 Various	666,962	7,000	-
Title III - Fund #13	26,123	-	13,415
Town Aid Road - Fund #8	312,687	312,434	312,867
Cafeteria-BOE - Fund #14	494,862	215,226	292,770
PILOT - Colleges and Hospitals	9	-	-
Property Tax Relief-Elderly	1,297	-	-
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	27,370	27,370	27,370
Veteran Reimbursement	3,734	3,800	3,800
LOCIP Fund - Fund #11	110,330	108,988	110,330
Youth Services Grant	24,923	-	24,857
SLA EMPG Reimbursement, EHSM1, EMRG HMLND	9,057	-	-
Judicial Branch 51-56	736	-	-
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts	-	750	750
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts - Fund #9	2,500	-	-
Absentee Ballots	12,887	-	-
OPM FEMA-Covid Relief	17,348	-	-
Municipal Stabilization Grant	142,054	-	-
Technology President Election Grant	6,505	-	-
American Rescue Plan Act Grant - Fund #50	-	-	1,000,000
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	5,204,162	3,449,597	4,650,625
TOTAL THIS PAGE	91,837,699	93,983,928	98,577,490



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 - Revenues**

CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	ACTUAL FY 20/21	BUDGETED 21/22	PROPOSED 22/23
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Services - Fund #7	155,899	38,855	39,781
Accident Reports & Photos	1,846	1,000	1,800
Alarm System	25	-	-
Animal Pound Fee	390	300	300
PUBLIC WORKS			
Landfill (Residential) Fees	309,901	128,000	128,000
Landfill - Bulky Waste/Other	53,025	25,000	25,000
Lakeview Water Main Extension	248	-	-
Water Main Interest	152	-	-
Sewer Connection Charges - Fund #5	93,100	40,000	30,000
Sewer Use Charges - Fund #5	3,056,393	2,971,566	2,944,593
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:			
Vital Statistics	25,885	30,000	30,000
RECREATION & PARKS:			
Organized Summer Programs	44,979	43,000	45,000
Swim Fees	51,965	55,000	52,000
Organized Summer Programs - Fund #9	240	-	-
Fees: Reimbursable - Fund #9	299,090	356,423	383,545
Maintenance Fees - Fund #9	34,036	53,796	59,053
Senior Rec. Activities - Fund #9	5,091	17,700	11,200
EDUCATION			
BOE Cafeteria Sales - Fund #14	106,156	778,014	860,658
BOE Athletic Game Receipts/Pay to Play	121,997	110,000	191,000
BOE Use of School Facilities - Fund #15	17,260	25,000	25,000
FINES & FORFEITS			
Courts	-	150	-
Public Library	441	-	600
BOE Employee Benefit Contrb, Dental/Life	114,179	110,500	107,000
BOE Miscellaneous Receipts	29	-	-
BOE Tuition Receipts-Parent Paid (pre K Prog)	113,258	111,320	115,000
BOE TEAM Program/Unified Program	2,366	-	-
BOE AHS Parking Fees	32,000	30,000	30,000
BOE Special Education Tuition	1,423,828	1,450,000	1,638,894
TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SVCS.	6,063,779	6,375,624	6,718,424
OTHER LOCAL REVENUES			
Investment Interest - GF	93,536	200,000	200,000
Refunds & Reimbursements	51,004	86,707	34,036
Sewer Use - Interest & Liens - Fund #5	28,854	16,000	29,000
Sewer Assessments - Interest & Liens - Fund #5	35,445	-	-
Rents & Reimbursements: Sprint Tower	79,998	60,000	60,000
BOE Miscellaneous	853	-	-
Sewer Deposits - Fund #5	32,000	-	-
Interlocal Program Funding	2,727	2,400	2,400
Energy Incentive	14,095	-	-
Salvage and Demolition Sales	24,427	8,500	8,500
Sale of Property	9,272	10,000	10,000
Miscellaneous	4,348	2,000	2,000
Admin Allowance ICMA	10,000	-	-
BOE Technology Protection Plan - Fund #40	-	-	38,675
Cancelled Encumbrances	20,443	-	-
TOTAL OTHER LOCAL REVENUES	407,002	385,607	384,611
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Fund #1 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	206,000	-
Fund #1 - Use of Assigned Fund Bal. - Board of Ed	-	250,000	-
Fund #4 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	10,000	579
Fund #5 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	-	567,000
Fund #8 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	50,000	-
Transfers In	157,307	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	157,307	516,000	567,579
GRAND TOTAL MUNICIPAL REVENUES	98,465,787	101,261,159	106,248,104



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 - Expenditures**

TOWN COUNCIL	ACTUAL FY 20/21	BUDGETED 21/22	PROPOSED 22/23
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
Legislative	47,727	51,114	51,987
Executive	566,255	574,441	467,714
Judicial	6,962	7,400	7,760
Elections	113,634	122,003	134,357
Legal	188,695	180,000	185,000
Recording & Reporting	462,574	451,542	298,941
Town Hall	124,593	123,336	111,270
Human Resources	230,665	241,978	255,781
Finance	1,889,560	1,944,191	1,588,843
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,630,665	3,696,005	3,101,653
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Protection	7,764,836	7,957,255	5,951,681
Fire Protection	2,228,312	2,134,006	2,143,472
Central Communications	902,188	954,069	756,380
Protective Inspection	432,595	438,627	403,416
Other Protection	189,488	273,142	273,293
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	11,517,419	11,757,099	9,528,242
PUBLIC WORKS			
Administration	491,798	476,125	438,354
Highways	3,255,581	2,462,821	1,974,286
Sanitation	439,048	470,359	383,747
Machinery & Equipment	665,883	659,498	581,313
Buildings & Grounds	2,283,196	2,428,565	2,077,149
Engineering	415,363	429,981	331,797
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	7,550,869	6,927,349	5,786,646
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES			
Conservation of Health	179,488	166,932	180,885
Social Services	435,047	453,120	368,249
TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	614,535	620,052	549,134
RECREATION & PARKS			
Recreation	970,033	1,179,776	1,135,424
Parks	51,965	107,876	105,012
Senior Citizens	25,065	47,150	47,950
Community Activities	16,630	19,785	34,197
TOTAL RECREATION & PARKS	1,063,693	1,354,587	1,322,583
CULTURE & EDUCATION			
Library	1,751,984	1,864,393	1,689,468
TOTAL CULTURE & EDUCATION	1,751,984	1,864,393	1,689,468
TOTAL THIS PAGE	26,129,165	26,219,485	21,977,726



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 - Expenditures**

	ACTUAL FY 20/21	BUDGETED 21/22	PROPOSED 22/23
TOTALS FROM PREVIOUS PAGE	26,129,165	26,219,485	21,977,726
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT			
Planning & Zoning	491,593	516,769	391,166
Conserv. Of Natural Resources	204,801	236,038	138,903
TOTAL CONSERVATION & DEV'T	696,394	752,807	530,069
MISCELLANEOUS			
Claims & Losses	14,085	45,000	12,000
Municipal Insurance	290,801	312,959	302,685
Intergovernmental Expend.	50,072	63,875	63,875
Contingency	67,945	10,000	10,000
Other Financing Uses	1,455,584	-	-
Employee Benefit Funding	-	-	5,457,352
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	1,878,487	431,834	5,845,912
SUB-TOTAL TOWN OF AVON	28,704,046	27,404,126	28,353,707
SEWERS			
Operating Expenses	3,076,505	3,099,766	2,917,834
Employee Benefit Funding	-	-	198,759
TOTAL SEWERS	3,076,505	3,099,766	3,116,593
CAPITAL IMPROV. DEBT SERVICE			
Bond & Anticipat. Notes	3,151,590	2,975,117	2,962,950
TOTAL CAP. IMP. DEBT SERVICE	3,151,590	2,975,117	2,962,950
CAPITAL IMPROVE. PROGRAM (CIP)			
Capital Improvement Facilities	2,707,955	2,170,193	3,957,836
Capital Improvement Equipment	531,000	858,500	546,000
Capital & Non-Recurr. (C.N.R.E.F.)	149,618	195,000	788,000
TOTAL CIP	3,388,573	3,223,693	5,291,836
BOARD OF EDUCATION			
Salaries	37,528,081	39,215,846	40,699,418
Employee Benefits	10,309,897	10,859,254	10,369,798
Purchased Prof & Tech Services	1,335,831	1,393,370	1,450,159
Property Services	1,089,785	790,665	774,926
Other Purchased Services	6,390,962	7,332,640	7,680,735
General Supplies & Utilities	2,479,042	2,326,392	2,571,436
Equipment	1,667,744	620,482	681,182
Fees & Memberships	94,701	95,654	127,950
Cafeteria Operation	606,126	993,240	1,153,428
Facility Use	2,559	25,000	25,000
Prepaid State & Federal Grants	1,544,983	905,914	950,311
Technology Protection Plan	-	-	38,675
TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION	63,049,711	64,558,457	66,523,018
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	101,370,425	101,261,159	106,248,104

ISSUE LXVII
April, 2022

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 2, 2022

7:00 P.M.

AVON HIGH SCHOOL & LIVESTREAM

Details on Page 1 and

www.avonct.gov

BUDGET REFERENDUM

MAY 11, 2022

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.

<https://www.avonct.gov/town-clerk>

VFW Annual Memorial Day Parade and Poppy Drive*

May 30, 2022

This will be the 77th anniversary and the 76th 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, or if you would like to be involved. 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 to donate. All funds raised will be 100% 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 30th.***