



Town of Avon Newsletter

ISSUE LXX

April, 2023

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 1, 2023 Annual Town Meeting and the May 10, 2023 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 4th, 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 2023/2024 budget will be \$110,096,541. This represents a budget increase of \$3,848,437 or 3.62%, and an increase in the levy of 2.25%. The associated mill rate would increase from 34.61 to 35.39 or 2.25%.

The Board of Finance will present its proposed budget at the Annual Town Meeting on May 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon High School Auditorium and livestreamed via GotoMeeting. Livestream access instructions will 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 \$110,096,541 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2023 BE APPROVED?'

At the conclusion of the discussion of 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, 2022 Grand List, and are U.S. citizens.

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 60% or less of the 2022 State Median income guidelines. 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.**

Residential Sewer Customers

The annual sewer bill is due and payable in two installments. The first installment of the sewer bill is due **April 1, 2023**, and must be received or postmarked by **May 1, 2023** to avoid state-mandated interest charges. Residents may elect to pay the annual bill in full or any portion of the October bill any time prior to November 1, 2023. If you have any questions, please call the Collector of Revenue office at (860) 409-4306.

Avon Recreation Department News

- ♦ Avon Recreation and Parks Department summer program registration, including swim memberships, is now open at www.avonrec.com.
- ♦ The Sycamore Hills Pool will open on **Saturday, June 10th** at 12:00 noon.

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Avon Transfer Station News

On June 1st, the Transfer Station will begin selling annual permits for FY 23/24 online. Residents may access the permit purchasing website via the Town's website at www.avonct.gov under "Citizen Action Center," "Trash & Recycling." After purchase, permit tags will be available for pick up at the Transfer Station during regular operating hours. Please bring proof of payment with you at time of pick-up. For those that need assistance with the permitting website, the Town will have technical assistance appointments available during the month of June. Specific dates, times and locations are yet to be determined, but more information will be posted on the Town's website as it becomes available. Please note that if you wish to purchase a permit for the remainder of FY 22/23, you may do so in-person at the Transfer Station only. FY 22/23 permits will not be available online. We apologize for any inconvenience.

"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 22, April 29, May 6, and May 13. 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.

May is National Bike Month - Events & Updates!

Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan: The Town is developing a Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan for the community. A StoryMap has been created for the project and is available at arcg.is/0851im. Visit the site to learn more about the project and be sure to weigh in on the "Monthly Mobility Question!" We will hold the first of two public meetings on the project on **April 25th at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Senior Center**. We anticipate holding the second public meeting in mid-June. Project updates will be shared on the Town's website and Facebook page.

Celebrate National Bike Month: BikeWalk Avon CT has planned a number of exciting events to celebrate National Bike Month. For more information on all of these events visit www.bikewalkavonct.org.

- (1) **Earth Day Trail Clean Up:** Saturday 4/22 @ 8:30 a.m. Gather at DPW trailhead parking lot (11 Arch Road.)
- (2) **National Bike & Roll to School Day:** Wednesday 5/3 before and after school. Organize a group of neighbors to participate together!
- (3) **Recreation & Parks Bike Rodeo:** Saturday 5/13, 11:00 a.m. –12:15 p.m. in the PGS and TBS parking lots. Visit www.avonrec.com to register before 5/1. Cost is \$5/child.
- (4) **Town Council Bike Ride:** Thursday 5/18 @ 5:30 p.m. Meet in the Town Hall parking lot.
- (5) **Ride the State:** Saturday 6/24; for the third consecutive year, riders will stop for lunch in Avon.

Dog Registration

On June 1st, the Town Clerk's Office will begin issuing 2023 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.

2023 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates:

- ♦ June 10, 2023 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT
- ♦ October 7, 2023 – Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Rd., Simsbury, CT

The Town of Avon is now on
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Town of Avon, Connecticut



Town of Avon – BUDGET SUMMARY				
	Actual FY 2021/2022	Adopted FY 2022/2023	Projected FY 2022/2023	Proposed FY 2023/2024
<u>Revenues</u>				
Property Taxes & Assessments	\$ 89,833,767	\$ 92,895,395	\$ 92,895,395	\$ 94,987,422
Intergovernmental Revenues	7,483,042	4,650,625	4,650,625	4,845,272
Licenses, Fees and Permits	1,719,359	1,031,470	1,031,470	1,088,114
Charges for Services	6,132,980	6,718,424	6,718,424	7,388,941
Other Local Revenues	768,999	384,611	384,611	531,792
Transfers from Other Funds	1,523,061	NA	NA	NA
Use of Fund Balance	NA	567,579	567,579	1,255,000
Other	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total Revenues	\$107,461,208	\$106,248,104	\$106,248,104	\$110,096,541
<u>Expenditures</u>				
General Government	\$ 2,789,907	\$ 3,101,653	\$ 3,101,653	\$ 3,319,419
Public Safety	9,198,564	9,528,242	9,528,242	9,886,948
Public Works	5,270,924	5,786,646	5,786,646	6,092,010
Health & Welfare	530,589	549,134	549,134	571,318
Recreation	1,017,245	1,322,583	1,322,583	1,442,154
Culture	1,561,968	1,689,468	1,689,468	1,688,265
Education – Town	65,832,259	66,523,018	66,523,018	68,905,081
Education – Regional School District	NA	NA	NA	NA
Conservation & Development	481,492	530,069	530,069	520,641
Miscellaneous	6,093,547	5,845,912	5,845,912	6,272,432
Sewers	2,882,182	3,116,593	3,116,593	3,198,967
Debt Service	3,038,525	2,962,950	2,962,950	2,889,400
Capital Improvement Program (CIP)	3,223,693	5,291,836	5,291,836	4,559,906
Other	NA	NA	NA	750,000
Total Expenditures	\$101,920,895	\$106,248,104	\$106,248,104	\$110,096,541

Proposed FY 2023/2024 Budget Summary

Total Estimated Expenditures	\$ 110,096,541
Less: Revenues Other Than <u>Current</u> Property Taxes	\$ <u>16,491,772</u>
Amount to be Raised from <u>Current</u> Property Taxes (based on an estimated tax collection rate of 99%)	\$ 93,604,769

Estimated Fund Balance (Deficit) – General Fund as of July 1, 2023

General Fund Resources Available as of June 30, 2022	\$ 13,560,617
FY 2023/2024 General Fund Projected Increase (Decrease) in Revenues over Expenditures	\$ _____
Estimated General Fund, fund balance (deficit) as of July 1, 2023	\$ 13,560,617

The estimates above of the proposed fiscal year 2023/2024 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, 2024 - Revenues**

PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	ACTUAL FY 21/22	BUDGETED 22/23	PROPOSED 23/24
Gross Levy	88,007,479	92,331,608	94,404,769
Uncollectible	-	(700,000)	(800,000)
Net Levy	88,007,479	91,631,608	93,604,769
Supplemental Real Estate	53,725	43,325	51,915
Supplemental Motor Vehicle	1,004,674	692,137	730,350
Prior Levies	321,295	200,000	225,000
Interest & Penalties	297,981	175,000	200,000
Sewer Assessments	113,225	112,000	140,000
Telephone Gross Receipts	35,388	41,325	35,388
TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES & ASSESSMENTS	89,833,767	92,895,395	94,987,422
LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS			
Police Protection	7,215	4,500	4,500
Building, Struct. and Equip.	710,413	425,000	475,000
Hunting and Fishing	37	50	50
Animal Licenses	13,194	12,000	12,000
Street and Curb	7,255	3,000	5,000
Recording & Conveyance	904,660	550,000	550,000
Conservation and Development	42,887	6,320	10,404
Sale: Maps/Publications/Copies	26,418	22,000	22,060
LOCAP Recording Fee	5,658	7,600	7,600
MERS Land Recording Fee	152	-	-
Sewer Permits & Inspection Fees	1,470	1,000	1,500
TOTAL LICENSES, FEES & PERMITS	1,719,359	1,031,470	1,088,114
INTERGOVERNMENTAL GRANTS-IN-AID:			
DEEP/Farmington River Trail	3,000	-	-
Municipal Grants-In-Aid	261,442	-	196,082
Municipal Revenue Sharing	19,456	-	-
Education Cost Sharing	627,859	391,430	553,588
BOE Special Education Excess Cost	965,087	864,140	865,000
BOE Open Choice Attendance	856,189	672,000	654,000
Title II Part A Teachers - Fund #13	52,089	45,126	42,473
Adult Education Cooperative - Fund #13	2,510	2,510	2,492
IDEA 611 Part B - Fund #13	820,964	646,077	663,503
Title I Improving Basic Program - Fund #13	92,470	99,997	94,225
IDEA 619 Preschool - Fund #13	19,436	17,936	18,933
Sheff Settlement - Fund #13	141,350	125,250	126,575
Title III - Fund #13	9,673	13,415	10,411
ESSER & ARPA Grants - Fund #13	481,697	-	-
BOE Education Program Grants - Fund #13	24,300	-	-
Town Aid Road - Fund #8	312,800	312,867	312,867
BOE Cafeteria - Fund #14	1,603,375	292,770	398,322
Property Tax Relief-Elderly	56,098	-	-
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	-	27,370	78,062
Veteran Reimbursement	4,513	3,800	-
Motor Vehicle Tax Reimbursement	-	-	586,816
LOCIP Fund - Fund #11	221,874	110,330	110,330
Youth Services Grant	25,052	24,857	25,052
Emergency Management Grants	9,211	-	-
Judicial Branch 51-56	618	-	-
Miscellaneous State Grant Receipts	15,000	750	-
Municipal Stabilization Grant	142,054	-	106,541
American Rescue Plan Act Grant - Fund #50	714,925	1,000,000	-
TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL	7,483,042	4,650,625	4,845,272
TOTAL THIS PAGE	99,036,168	98,577,490	100,920,808



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024 - Revenues**

CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	ACTUAL FY 21/22	BUDGETED 22/23	PROPOSED 23/24
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Services - Fund #7	148,481	39,781	40,002
Accident Reports & Photos	2,340	1,800	1,800
Alarm System	550	-	-
Animal Pound Fee	375	300	300
PUBLIC WORKS			
Landfill (Residential) Fees	133,457	128,000	128,000
Landfill - Bulky Waste/Other	48,572	25,000	25,000
Lakeview Water Main Extension	340	-	-
Water Main Interest	60	-	-
Sewer Connection Charges - Fund #5	48,600	30,000	40,000
Sewer Use Charges - Fund #5	2,836,438	2,944,593	3,001,217
HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES:			
Vital Statistics	25,006	30,000	30,000
RECREATION & PARKS:			
Organized Summer Programs	39,325	45,000	45,000
Swim Fees	60,899	52,000	65,000
Organized Summer Programs - Fund #9	300	-	-
Fees: Reimbursable - Fund #9	368,563	383,545	418,803
Maintenance Fees - Fund #9	41,641	59,053	55,170
Senior Rec. Activities - Fund #9	9,403	11,200	11,700
EDUCATION			
BOE Cafeteria Sales - Fund #14	105,870	860,658	740,088
BOE Athletic Game Receipts/Pay to Play	266,244	191,000	192,000
BOE Use of School Facilities - Fund #15	43,492	25,000	38,000
FINES & FORFEITS			
Public Library	361	600	700
BOE Employee Benefit Contribution, Dental/Life	101,861	107,000	107,000
BOE Vendor Refunds	6,833	-	-
BOE Miscellaneous Receipts	24	-	-
BOE Tuition Receipts: Pre-K Program	178,470	115,000	145,000
BOE TEAM Program	1,301	-	-
BOE AHS Parking Fees	47,369	30,000	30,000
BOE Special Education Tuition	1,616,805	1,638,894	2,274,161
TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SVCS.	6,132,980	6,718,424	7,388,941
OTHER LOCAL REVENUES			
Investment Interest	155,464	200,000	362,000
Investment Interest - Fund #14	178	-	1,000
Refunds & Reimbursements	188,432	34,036	35,000
Refunds & Reimbursements - Fund #5	5,950	-	-
Sewer Use - Interest & Liens - Fund #5	33,706	29,000	16,250
Sewer Assessments - Interest & Liens - Fund #5	25,682	-	-
Rents & Reimbursements: Sprint Tower	80,597	60,000	60,000
BOE Miscellaneous	87,499	-	-
Donations & Grants Private Source	5,000	-	-
Interlocal Program Funding	3,340	2,400	-
Field Advertising Revenue - Fund #9	8,400	-	-
Salvage and Demolition Sales	15,957	8,500	8,500
Sale of Property	10,728	10,000	10,000
Miscellaneous	4,355	2,000	13,792
Admin Allowance Mission Square	10,000	-	-
BOE Technology Protection Plan – Fund #40	32,762	38,675	25,250
Cancelled Encumbrances	100,949	-	-
TOTAL OTHER LOCAL REVENUES	768,999	384,611	531,792
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			
Fund #1 - Assigned Fund Balance - Medical Ins.	-	-	750,000
Fund #4 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	579	-
Fund #5 - Unassigned Fund Balance	-	567,000	505,000
Transfers In	1,523,061	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	1,523,061	567,579	1,255,000
GRAND TOTAL MUNICIPAL REVENUES	107,461,208	106,248,104	110,096,541



**Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024 - Expenditures**

TOWN COUNCIL	ACTUAL FY 21/22	BUDGETED 22/23	PROPOSED 23/24
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
Legislative	51,056	51,987	53,983
Executive	440,334	467,714	581,246
Judicial	7,753	7,760	7,760
Elections	96,079	134,357	148,402
Legal	182,765	185,000	185,000
Recording & Reporting	249,646	298,941	269,030
Town Hall	105,146	111,270	-
Human Resources	225,057	255,781	299,013
Finance	1,432,071	1,588,843	1,774,985
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2,789,907	3,101,653	3,319,419
PUBLIC SAFETY			
Police Protection	5,848,573	5,951,681	6,318,327
Fire Protection	2,144,608	2,143,472	2,251,824
Central Communications	661,566	756,380	797,165
Protective Inspection	320,119	403,416	445,510
Other Protection	223,698	273,293	74,122
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	9,198,564	9,528,242	9,886,948
PUBLIC WORKS			
Administration	422,624	438,354	481,622
Highways	1,611,971	1,974,286	2,105,074
Sanitation	313,352	383,747	399,304
Machinery & Equipment	550,673	581,313	589,290
Buildings & Grounds	2,072,114	2,077,149	2,122,069
Engineering	300,190	331,797	394,651
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	5,270,924	5,786,646	6,092,010
HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES			
Conservation of Health	166,932	180,885	187,087
Social Services	363,657	368,249	384,231
TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	530,589	549,134	571,318
RECREATION & PARKS			
Recreation	904,338	1,135,424	1,245,603
Parks	65,377	105,012	112,050
Senior Citizens	31,886	47,950	49,310
Community Activities	15,644	34,197	35,191
TOTAL RECREATION & PARKS	1,017,245	1,322,583	1,442,154
CULTURE & EDUCATION			
Library	1,561,968	1,689,468	1,688,265
TOTAL CULTURE & EDUCATION	1,561,968	1,689,468	1,688,265
TOTAL THIS PAGE	20,369,197	21,977,726	23,000,114



Town of Avon - All Funds Budget Proposed to Town Meeting for
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024 - Expenditures

	ACTUAL FY 21/22	BUDGETED 22/23	PROPOSED 23/24
TOTALS FROM PREVIOUS PAGE	20,369,197	21,977,726	23,000,114
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT			
Planning & Zoning	335,335	391,166	472,106
Conserv. Of Natural Resources	146,157	138,903	48,535
TOTAL CONSERVATION & DEV'T	481,492	530,069	520,641
MISCELLANEOUS			
Claims & Losses	19,590	12,000	12,000
Municipal Insurance	285,938	302,685	561,749
Intergovernmental Expenditures	50,708	63,875	65,450
Contingency	13,599	10,000	10,000
Employee Benefit Funding	5,723,712	5,457,352	5,623,233
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	6,093,547	5,845,912	6,272,432
SUB-TOTAL TOWN OF AVON	26,944,236	28,353,707	29,793,187
SEWERS			
Operating Expenses	2,882,182	3,116,593	3,198,967
TOTAL SEWERS	2,882,182	3,116,593	3,198,967
CAPITAL IMPROV. DEBT SERVICE			
Bond & Anticipat. Notes	3,038,525	2,962,950	2,889,400
TOTAL CAP. IMP. DEBT SERVICE	3,038,525	2,962,950	2,889,400
CAPITAL IMPROVE. PROGRAM (CIP)			
Capital Improvement Facilities	2,170,193	3,957,836	2,720,906
Capital Improvement Equipment	858,500	546,000	1,039,000
Capital & Non-Recurr. (C.N.R.E.F.)	195,000	788,000	800,000
TOTAL CIP	3,223,693	5,291,836	4,559,906
OTHER FINANCING USES			
Transfer Out to Medical Claims Fund	-	-	750,000
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING USES	-	-	750,000
BOARD OF EDUCATION			
Salaries	38,972,531	40,699,418	42,180,291
Employee Benefits	10,602,051	10,369,798	11,076,230
Purchased Prof & Tech Services	1,195,468	1,450,159	1,331,551
Property Services	846,338	774,926	816,421
Other Purchased Services	7,323,500	7,680,735	7,850,636
General Supplies & Utilities	2,652,439	2,571,436	2,702,842
Equipment	1,101,984	681,182	638,536
Fees & Memberships	121,203	127,950	147,302
Cafeteria Operation	1,146,630	1,153,428	1,139,410
Facility Use	17,729	25,000	38,000
Prepaid State & Federal Grants	1,847,286	950,311	958,612
Technology Protection Plan	5,100	38,675	25,250
TOTAL BOARD OF EDUCATION	65,832,259	66,523,018	68,905,081
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	101,920,895	106,248,104	110,096,541

ISSUE LXX
April, 2023

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

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IMPORTANT DATES

BUDGET ADOPTION PROCESS

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 1, 2023

7:00 P.M.

AVON HIGH SCHOOL

**510 WEST AVON ROAD &
LIVESTREAM**

BUDGET REFERENDUM

MAY 10, 2023

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 29, 2023

This is the 78th 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 19 and ends on Memorial Day. All funds are 100% donated to veterans' charities and are 100% tax deductible. 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.