

**ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021
7:30 PM
TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM**

The Annual Town Budget Meeting of electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings in the Town of Burlington, CT was called to order at 7:30 pm by First Selectman Theodore C. Shafer. Selectmen James Chard, Cheryl Byrne, Carl Salsedo and Tom Zabel were present.

Thirty-five (35) individuals were present.

First Selectman Shafer called for nominations for moderator. Chard/Byrne nominated Ted Shafer as moderator of the meeting. Upon no further nominations, a motion to close nominations was made by Zabel/Salsedo. Motion was approved by voice vote. Chard/Zabel made a motion to appoint Ted Shafer as moderator. Ted Shafer was voted moderator by unanimous voice vote.

Call of the meeting was read by Mary-Jane Ugalde, Town Clerk.

ITEM #1: To consider and act upon the acceptance of the Town Budget in the amount of \$38,131,222 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021.

First Selectman Shafer asked for a motion to accept the 2021-2022 budget of \$38,131,222. Carl Salsedo moved to accept the 2021-2022 budget; Mark Klepacki seconded.

Discussion

Gerry Mullen, Chairman of the Board of Finance gave a status report of the 2021-2022 budget. There is a 1.49% or \$562,558 increase to the budget from last year. The Region 10 budget is \$27,612,122 or 72.4% of the total town budget. The town portion of the budget is \$10,519,100.

Mullen gave a brief review of expenditures and revenues; increases and decreases from the previous budget year. Highlighted items from the budget were...

Expenditures

- Line Item 810 Regional School District 10 increase \$395,000
- Line item 903 Capital Expenses: Police
Capital expenses are being paid out of Private Duty Reserve Fund; monies generated when police work for tree services, road work or electrical work. The Town receives a portion of the fees paid to officers. The 2020 Police Capital Expenses are approximately \$256,000. State accountability requires body cameras and police cruiser cameras. These expenses are paid from the Private Duty Reserve Fund, not taxpayer money. The Police Reserve Fund had a \$320,000 balance prior to this year's capital expenses.
- Line item 990 Miscellaneous: Municipal Reserve
No funds allocated this year. Reserve has a healthy balance.

Revenue

- Anticipated State funding is \$4,184,286. The majority of this is ECS funds for education. State funding is down approximately \$76,000 from last year.
- Revenue applied from Surplus is \$317,136.

- Total Revenue before Taxes & Surplus is \$5,399,203. This is an increase of \$37,000.
- Town Revenue is up by \$113,000. These funds are from increase revenue from the Building Department Permits and Conveyance Tax Revenue from Town Clerk's office and pistol permits.

The mil rate is currently 33.3 mils. The 2021-2022 budget will require a .1 mil rate increase: increasing the rate to 33.4 mils. A one tenth mil increase works out to \$3/\$1000. An example: 70% of a home valued at \$300,000 is \$210,000 taxable property. That would result in a \$21 increase of taxes.

Board of Finance will set the mil rate on June 2, 2021, at a virtual meeting dependent on the Town Meeting vote to pass the budget.

Questions and Comments

Persephone Szydlo	66 Ford Road
Greg Szydlo	66 Ford Road
Jon Szydlo	70 Ford Road
Melanie Wilhelm	7 Fawn Hill Drive

Upon no further questions, Mr. Shafer called for a voice vote. Item #1 passed by voice vote.

ITEM #2: To set a mil rate sufficient to meet the Town's obligations for the upcoming fiscal year.

The moderator noted that Item #2 would not be acted upon at the Town Meeting. The Board of Finance will set the mil rate at a virtual Special Meeting on June 2, 2021, at 6:30pm. This is mandated by the Town Charter, Section 7-5 once the budget is passed at a Town Meeting.

Additional Item: To authorize the requisition from the State of CT LOCIP Funds the sum of \$75,000 and to use those monies for Capital Improvement to the Town.

The moderator asked for a motion to add the above additional item to the agenda. A motion was made and seconded to accept the above additional item to the agenda by Carl Salsedo and Cheryl Byrne. The motion to add the above agenda item passed by voice vote.

Chard made a motion to authorize the requisition from the State of CT LOCIP Funds the sum of \$75,000 and to use those monies for Capital Improvement to the Town. Byrne seconded. Discussion followed. Scott Tharau, Public Works Director gave a brief breakdown of the use of the LOCIP Funds for town road projects. The moderator called for a voice vote on the added item. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Zabel, seconded by Chard. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary-Jane Ugalde
Town Clerk