



John L. Salomone
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

131 CEDAR STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

MAYOR STEPHEN WOODS

MINUTES

NEWINGTON TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN MANAGER'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Conference Room L-101 Lower Level – Town Hall
7:00 P.M.

March 11, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Woods at 7:10 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Councilor Baume
Councilor Borjeson
Councilor Castelle
Councilor Cohen
Councilor Dinunzio
Councilor Klett
Councilor Marocchini
Councilor Nagel
Mayor Woods

Staff Attendees:

John Salomone, Town Manager
Jamie Trevethan, Executive Assistant
Linda Irish-Simpson, Clerk of the Council

John Salomone, Town Manager, presented his proposed budget for fiscal year 2014-2015 to the Council and a copy is attached.

Marc Finkelstein, 272 Candlewood Drive: He commented the Board of Education fully supported the Town's art program and the Board of Education would present to the Town Council what the present needs of the schools were. It was up to the Town Council to judge the needs of the schools.

Madeline Kenny, 53 Crestview Drive: She 1) asked if it was possible to have items that were mandated and non-negotiable in the CIP to be listed 2) Under the General Fund she asked what "other and

Phone: (860) 665-8510 Fax: (860) 665-8507
townmanager@newingtonct.gov
www.newingtonct.gov

transfers" meant and 3) indicated the charts of the tax grand list were not complete and were unclear since no years were listed

John Slusarski, 40 Grandview Drive: He wondered why the CIP generally used for capital replacement and construction was being used for funding of the on-going budget for the Board of Education. Mr. Slusarski indicated that in the CIP the pay-as-you-go dropped by a million dollars over the next ten years and wondered if the Town did not need those projects any more. He stated he had heard that the CIP was \$6.3 million ten years ago and the Town needed some inflation so the CIP should be \$8 million and hoped the taxpayers were aware of that sentiment. He was not as confident as Mr. Salomone regarding the pension fund.

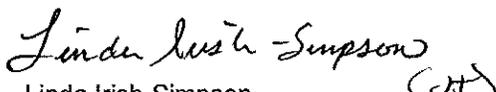
Gary Bolles, 28 Burdon Lane: He stated he was pleased with the Town Manager's proposed Board of Education budget of \$67 million, which was an increase of 2.7%. The Board of Education had requested a 4.9% increase, which was too much and stated the Mayor had been quoted as saying the same thing. Mr. Bolles stated the increase requested by the Board of Education ignored other components of the Town's budget. He asked the Council members to remember that the Board of Education had always projected savings in the health benefits account and felt any savings should be used to reduce the proposed mill rate to give the taxpayers a break.

Pam Raynock, 118 Harding Avenue: She stated that many times the Board of Education was pitted against the residents of the Town with regard to how the tax money was spent. She encouraged residents to contact their State representatives regarding how education was paid for since other states did not fund schools on the backs of taxpayers. Education should be funded in other ways since it was the backbone of any community. Mrs. Raynock commented she would like to see the difference between what the Town Manager had proposed and the Board of Education request with regard to the amount of the mill rate.

Councilor Castelle said the Town government side of the budget had a 1% increase last year and residents needed to average the two figures to get an accurate figure. Councilor Dinunzio stated that local governments felt the strain of education budgets and that would continue. Newington had been lucky in the past to hold the level of funding and it was important to remember everyone had a vested interest in funding education while keeping taxes down so people would stay and raise families in Newington.

Mayor Woods thanked Dr. Finkelstein for his comments and the others who came to comment on the proposed budget. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Linda Irish-Simpson
Clerk of the Council

Attach.



Town of Newington

March 11, 2014

Public Hearing

Town Manager's

Proposed Budget

Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Mill Rate Calculation

	Proposed
General Government	32,295,725
Board of Education	67,899,471
Debt Service & CIP	6,247,000
MDC	3,216,800
Employee Leave Liability Fund	92,900
Total Appropriations	109,751,896
Non-Tax Revenue	-20,452,945
Applied Fund Balance	-2,250,000
Amount to be Raised by Taxes (A)	87,048,951
Net Adjusted Grand List (B)	2,493,824,039
Mill Rate (A/B)	34.91

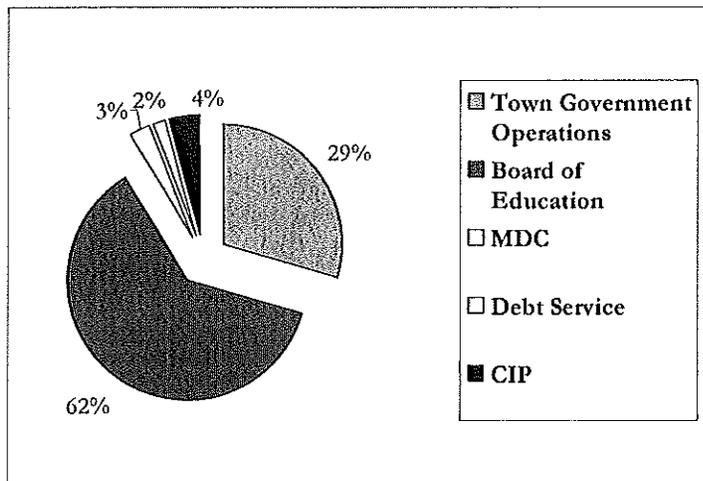
Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Overview

	Proposed	\$ Change	% Change
Total Appropriations	109,751,896	3,693,200	3.5
General Government	32,295,725	1,505,208	4.9
Board of Education	67,899,471	1,802,601	2.7
Debt Service & CIP	6,247,000	270,841	4.5
MDC	3,216,800	114,550	3.7
Non-Tax Revenue	20,452,945	125,067	.6
Applied Fund Balance	2,250,000	2,250,000	0.0
Amount to be Raised by Taxes	87,048,951	3,568,133	4.3

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

General Fund Appropriations



Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

General Government – Major Changes

Appropriation	\$ Change
Retirement	507,771
Medical Insurance	441,049
Wage Increases	481,666
Total	1,430,486

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Capital Improvement Plan Funding Policy

- Maximum future debt service ■ \$ 3.8 million

+

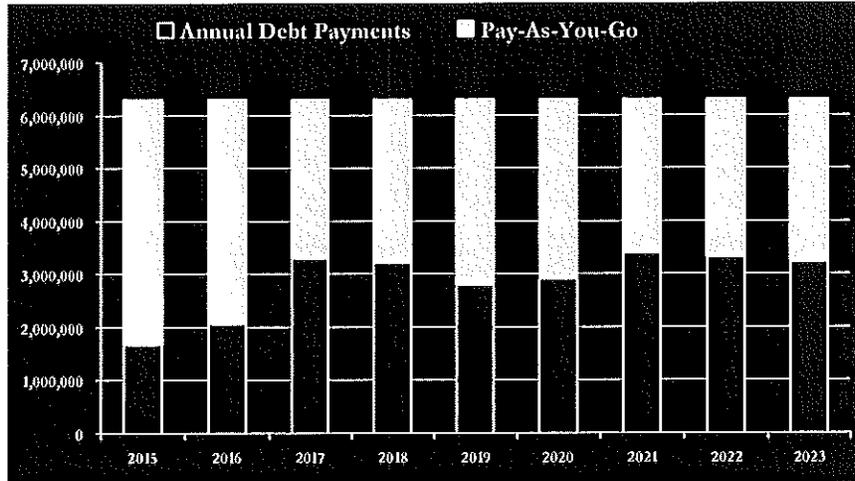
- Annual Depreciation ■ \$ 2.5 million

=

- Total Debt + Pay-As-You-Go ■ \$ 6.3 million

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Debt & Capital Improvement Plan Funding Policy



Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Capital Improvement Plan Funding

Total Debt Service	1,676,931
Total PAYG	4,570,069
Total CIP	6,247,000
Offset by:	
School Construction Grants	400,000
Cell Tower Rent	40,000
 Net Cost	 5,807,000

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Capital Improvement Plan

Project Title	\$
J Wallace PCB Remediation – Wing 7	900,000
Garfield Street Realignment	750,000
Marcap Property Acquisition	554,188
Equipment Replacement Reserve	395,000
NHS Career Tech Program Renovation	300,000
Information Technology Reserve	231,200
Town Hall Emergency Generator	187,000
Public School CIP Reserve	125,000
Single Stream Recycling Containers	111,594
Revaluation 2015	110,000

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Capital Improvement Plan

Project Title	\$
General Property Improvements	100,000
Police Records Management and CAD Replacement	100,000
Road Resurfacing and Reconstruction	78,852
Public Building Resurfacing Program	75,000
Park and Playfield Improvements	75,000
Library Automated Collection Mgmt System	70,300
Recreation Software	66,935
Sidewalk and Stonewall Repair	60,000
Drainage Improvements	55,000
Fire Company 1 – Shingled Roof Replacement	50,000

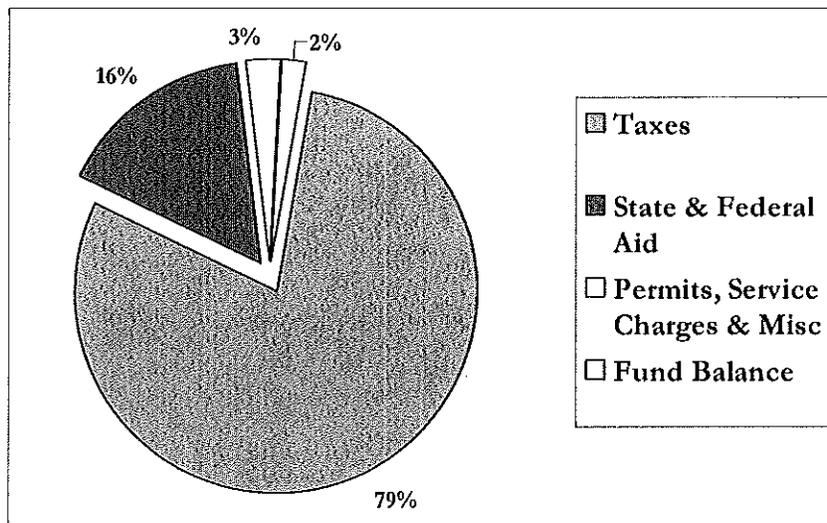
Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Capital Improvement Plan

Project Title	\$
Radio Replacement Reserve	40,000
NVA Site Improvements	38,000
Fire Company 1 – Heating System Replacement	37,000
Traffic Signal Repair & Replacement Reserve	25,000

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

General Fund Revenue



Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

General Fund Revenue

Non-Tax Revenue Category	2014-15	Net Change from Adopted 2013-14
Prior Year/Prorated Taxes	1,585,000	95,000
State & Federal Aid*	17,525,993	259,180
Permits	303,000	37,775
Rentals	146,472	1,618
Interest Income	46,350	16,350
Service Charges	582,450	32,500
Other/Transfers	263,680	-317,356
Total	20,452,945	125,067
* Includes Payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT).		

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Fund Balance (000's)

		Expenditure Level	%
Available Fund Balance 6/30/13	\$14,626	\$106,059	14%
Estimated Excess Revenues	\$1,300		
Assigned to 2013-14	-\$2,250		
Projected Fund Balance 6/30/14	\$13,676	\$109,752	12.5%
Retention @ 10%	- \$10,975	\$109,752	10%
Remaining	\$2,701		

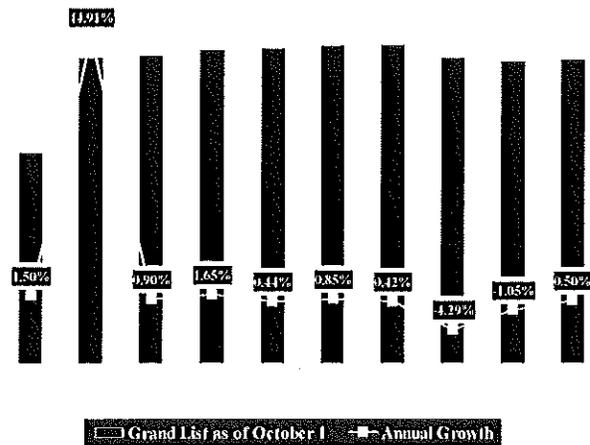
Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Net Grand List

CATEGORY	2012	2013	% CHANGE	\$ CHANGE
REAL ESTATE	\$2,188,702,373	\$2,197,055,035	0.4%	\$8,352,662
PERSONAL PROPERTY	134,889,100	136,146,200	0.9%	1,257,100
MOTOR VEHICLE	<u>213,855,277</u>	<u>216,032,070</u>	1.0%	<u>2,176,793</u>
TOTAL	\$2,537,446,750	\$2,549,233,305	0.5%	\$11,786,555

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Net Taxable Grand List Growth (000s)



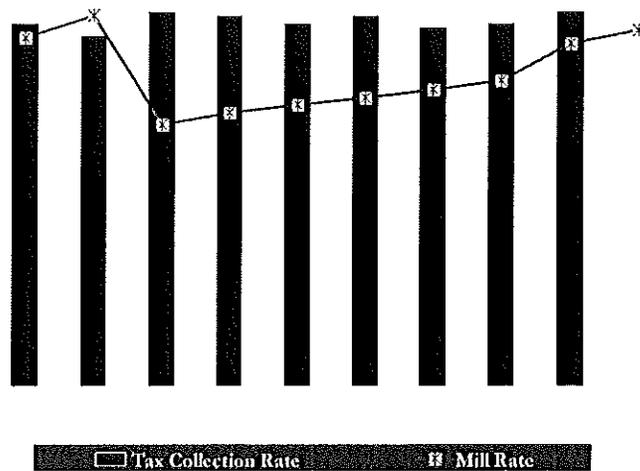
Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Mill Rate – Residential Taxpayer Impact

Fiscal Year	Mill Rate	Average Assessment	Tax Amount	\$ Change	% Change
2013-14	33.63	143,368	4,821		
2014-15	34.91	143,368	5,005	184	3.8%

Town Manager's Proposed Budget – FY 2014-15

Tax Collection & Mill Rate





Town of Newington

March 11, 2014

Public Hearing

Town Manager's

Proposed Budget

Fiscal Year 2014-2015