



TOWN OF PAXTON

SELECT BOARD MEETING Monday, March 25, 2024 – 6:00pm Training Room – Public Safety Complex 576 Pleasant Street, Paxton MA 01612

This agenda lists all matters anticipated for discussion, some items may be passed over, and other items not listed may be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Select Board meetings are recorded by the Local Cable Access Channel. Any member of the public planning to record the meeting must first notify the Chair. The Chair will strive to honor timed items as best as possible, however, the estimated timing may occasionally be different.

CALL TO ORDER

1.	OPEN MEETING
2.	CONSENT ITEMS
6:00PM	1. Approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 11, 2024. 2. Approve the request from the Paxton Lions Club to hold their annual Toll Road on March 30 th from 8am to 12pm. 3. To approve the request from the Paxton Boy Scout Troop 105 to use the Town Common on May 4, 2024, from 9am to 12pm for a bottle and can drive.
3.	NEW BUSINESS
6:05PM	1. Approve a request from the Director of Public Works to install new Solar Powered Speed Feedback and School Zone Speed Limit Signs at a new location that will comply with the current standards set forth in the MA DOT Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices 2. Review warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting on May 6, 2024 3. Budget discussions. 4. Discuss the need for possible ballot questions for the Annual Town Meeting. 5. Annual review for the Town Administrator.
3.	UPDATE FROM TOWN COMMITTEES/BOARDS /DEPARTMENTS
7:00PM	1. Budget meeting with Wachusett Regional School District.
5.	OLD BUSINESS
6.	SELECTBOARD CORRESPONDENCE
7.	TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
8.	PUBLIC COMMENT
9.	EXECUTIVE SESSION
8:00PM	1. To conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining for the Police Union. MGL Chapter 30A, Sec. 21 (3). 2. To conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel. Town Administrator contract. MGL Chapter 30A, Sec. 21 (3).
10.	ADJOURN

- Times may be adjusted during the meeting.
- The documents that support this meeting can be located on the Town's website (townofpaxton.net) on the Select Board page under meeting materials.

The meeting room is handicapped accessible. With advance notice the Select Board can arrange for reasonable accommodation for persons with other disabilities. To request assistance please contact the Town Administrators Office at 508-799-7347



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612
(508) 754-7638 – phone (508) 797-0966 – fax
dparsons@townofpaxton.net

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 11, 2024

**Meeting Location: Training Room of the Public Safety Complex
576 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612**

Members Present: Julia N. Pingitore, Chair
Kirk R. Huehls, Vice Chair
Carol L. Riches, Clerk

Town Administrator: Heather M Munroe, Town Administrator

Attendees: see Attendee List

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

CONSENT ITEMS

- 1. Approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 26, 2024.
- 2. Approve the meeting minutes from the Executive Meeting held on February 26, 2024.
- 3. Appoint Heather Munroe to the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) Board through June 30, 2024.
- 4. Appoint Michael Hinkley as a part-time Public Safety Officer.
- 5. Close the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 6, 2024.
- (JP) Hearing no other comments, all consent items have been approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- Award Sole Source procurement in accordance to Chapter 30B Sec 7, for IT Services to Suzor IT for the amount of \$44,550 for FY25 July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025
- Motion (KH) seconded (CR) to award sole source procurement in accordance to Chapter 30B Sec 7, for IT Services to Suzor IT for the amount of \$44,550 for FY25 July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Unanimous, all in favor. (KH) yes, (CR) yes, (JP) yes.**

UPDATE FROM TOWN BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Bay Path presentation for the FY25 budget – Kyle Brenner, Irene Houle, Dean Packard

Funding sources

- Chapter 70 & Chapter 71 estimates are based on Governor's Budget submitted January 25, 2024.
- Estimated Chapter 70 funding for FY 2025 is \$14,453,612.
- Estimated Chapter 71 funding for FY 2025 is \$1,308,294.

- These are preliminary estimates subject to change as the House and Senate deliberate on the budget.

Financial Information

- FY 2025 TOTAL Budget for Assessments is \$29,173,197.
- MEMBER TOWNS' ASSESSMENTS ARE AT MINIMUM.
- Budget Includes Debt Service Assessment of \$1,552,023.
- Operational Budget does not require funds above Minimum Contributions by member communities.
- Member assessments total \$12,932,626.
- Although assessments are at the minimum it is important to note that the Required Minimum Contributions that each town must contribute have increased collectively by \$530,546.
- Member Towns' Transportation Assessment has been reduced by \$600,000 reflecting the use of our Regional Transportation Reimbursement Fund.

Financial Highlights

- Total Chapter 70 Revenue – \$14,453,612.
- School Choice Assessment- (\$296,335).
- Chapter 71 Busing Aid - \$1,308,294.
- Use of \$75,000 from Excess and Deficiency to Continue Funding OPEB Liability.
- Use of \$100,000 from Excess and Deficiency to fund (Net School Spending) NSS obligation.

Budget Highlights

- Add Assistant Principal Position
- Add Vocational Aide
- Intern for IT Department
- 1:1 Initiative for student technology devices & associated software
- Wage increases in accordance with CBA's
- Increase costs for Transportation
- 8% increase in Health Insurance premiums
- Continued use of SOA funds to provide significant Professional Development to all staff, especially programs focused on SEL, EL, and chronic absenteeism.
- Use of SOA funds to provide programs to meet the needs of our most vulnerable groups close the achievement gap.
- Professional Grounds Contract for Fields
- Texts for Vocational
- Adv MFG, Animal Sci, Auto Tech, BEAM, Culinary, Dental Asst, CADD, Health Tech, ISSN, Met Fab, Prog & WebDev
- Shop Equipment - CNC Miller Control, Surface Grinder, CNC Router, Dust Collector Rotating Bake Oven, Freezer
- Virtual Welding
- SIM Man
- (JP) Increase is attributed to local minimum contribution which you have no control over.
- **Mark Love** Why is there nothing under capital improvement. Why is it zero now.
- **Kyle Brenner** Usually it is zero. There was a sewer betterment in the past but that is about it. The athletic field upgrade is the only thing on our radar at the moment. Looking

at solar as a possible assistance towards the cost of the field upgrade but the incentive has changed and that would no longer help to offset the cost of the fields. That is the only know project that we are possibly looking at. Newly renovated school and at capacity so nothing else at the moment.

- **Mark Love** Is there a dollar amount that you might have tied to each of the budget highlights on pages 8, 9 and 10 of the presentation?
- **Kyle Brenner** Yes, we will get those to you.
- **Mark Love** How exactly does the local minimum contribution work that it cannot be changed.
- **Kyle Brenner** Calculated by the state on how much each town has to provide. A large portion of that is the municipal growth factor.
- **Irene Houle** Local Minimum Contribution is the minimum amount each school district is expected to pay towards its foundation budget. No town will ever pay more than 17.5%. Paxton is at 3.37%. There was one town that was lower and the others where all higher. Based on property valuation and resident income.
- **(JP)** There was a recent meeting explaining the foundation budget which can be viewed for more detailed information.

Town Administrator Update

- Working on getting material to Finance Committee.
- Working on a presentation for the Finance Committee as well for Thursday.
- A couple of resident issues that are being worked on.
- Preparing for the Annual Town Meeting.
- Outstanding grants – ADA for Cindy at COA.
- Rapping up loose ends as we hit the end of the fiscal year.

ADJOURN

- **Adjourned Meeting at 6:39pm, Unanimous all-in favor. (KH) yes, (CR) yes, (JP) yes**
- **The next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2024, 6:00pm.**

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Agenda

Attendance list

Bay Path presentation for the FY25 budget

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons, Executive Assistant



TOWN OF PAXTON

USER PERMIT APPLICATION FOR USE OF THE TOWN COMMON OR ROADWAYS

To request use of the Town Common or Roadways. Request must be provided at least thirty days prior to event.

Event Date: March 30, 2023

Begin Time: 8:00 AM

End Time: 12:00 PM

Description of Event: Paxton Lions Toll Road

Number of Attendees: 10

When the Town property is used for an event the Paxton Police, Fire and Emergency Management must be contacted and provided the details of the event to ensure that any public safety concerns are handled. Please contact the following departments and obtain their approval prior to the request going before the Board of Selectmen for final approval. Call Paxton Dispatch at (508) 755-1104 to reach:

Paxton Police Department:

sign off:

Mark S. Santa

Paxton Fire Department:

sign off:

Michael C. O'Neil

Name of Applicant: Emerson Wheeler

Organization: Paxton Lions Club

Address: 262 Pleasant St. Paxton

Telephone #s (H)

(Cell) (508) 450-9650

(email) emewheels37@gmail.com

Mail completed form to - Paxton Town Hall
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant St.
Paxton, MA 01612

* Please feel free to use the back of this form to provide further details or you may attach any other information that may assist in the review process of this request.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S OFFICE USE ONLY:

Town property use approved on: _____

Comments: _____



TOWN OF PAXTON

USER PERMIT APPLICATION FOR USE OF THE TOWN COMMON OR ROADWAYS

To request use of the Town Common or Roadways. Request must be provided at least thirty days prior to event.

Event Date: May 4, 2024

Begin Time: 9:00am End Time: 12:00pm

Description of Event:

Paxton Boy Scout Troop 105 will be collecting bottles and cans for a fundraiser.

Number of Attendees: 10 – 15

When the Town property is used for an event the Paxton Police, Fire and Emergency Management must be contacted and provided the details of the event to ensure that any public safety concerns are handled. Please contact the following departments and obtain their approval prior to the request going before the Board of Selectmen for final approval. Call Paxton Dispatch at (508) 755-1104 to reach:

Paxton Police Department:	sign off:	<u>Mark Santa</u>	
Paxton Fire Department:	sign off:	<u>Mal C D36</u>	<u>3/13/2024</u>
Paxton Emergency Manager:	sign off:	<u>Mal C D36</u>	<u>3/13/2024</u>

Name of Applicant: Robert Dumont
(Contact Person) please print

Organization: Paxton Boy Scout Troop 105

Address: 227 Pleasant St, Paxton, MA 01612

Telephone #s (H) (Cell) 508-320-2156 (email) bob_dumont@yahoo.com

Mail completed form to - Paxton Town Hall
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant St.
Paxton, MA 01612

* Please feel free to use the back of this form to provide further details or you may attach any other information that may assist in the review process of this request.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S OFFICE USE ONLY:

Town property use approved on: _____

Comments: _____

A new Google Earth! A new look, designed to speed up how you create and share

Add Tools Help

Google Earth

+ New

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**TOWN OF PAXTON
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS**

107 Holden Road
Paxton, MA 01612
(508) 753-9077

March 4, 2024

Select Board
Town of Paxton
697 Pleasant Street
Paxton, MA 01612

Members of the Select Board:

In FY23, the Paxton Department of Public Works was awarded two solar-powered Speed Feedback and School Zone Speed Limit Signs through MA DOT's Safe Routes to School Grant.

The Department received the signs in the Fall of 2023 and is now looking to install the signs. I spoke with the Town Administrator about moving the existing signs from their current locations and she stated that she would reach out to Town Counsel for further guidance.

On January 10, 2024, Brian R. Falk (Town Counsel) emailed me to recommend that I reach out to MA DOT to get further details about placement of the signs. He also stated that the Select Board would need to vote on moving the School Zone signs from their current locations.

On February 22, 2024, I spoke with James Terlizzi of MA DOT, who sent me email confirmation of the current standards for School Zone signage.

Mr. Terlizzi stated "the beginning of the reduced school speed limit zone/assembly locations must be 500' or one block, whichever is less, in advance of the school grounds (Part 7, Chapter 7-B, Page 7-2, Line 07B of the attached *MassDOT amendments to the MUTCD*), if the school zone is within the limits of a Special Speed Regulation, of which Route 31 is (governed by SSR 6005)." I have attached a copy of Page 7-2, and highlighted line 7B, which Mr. Terlizzi referenced.

To ensure that the School Zone signage is a minimum of 850 feet from the school grounds, the sign on the east bound lane of West Street will be moved approximately 790-810 feet to the west of the existing School Zone sign. Additionally, the sign on the west bound lane of West Street will be moved approximately 60 feet to the east of the existing School Zone sign. I did receive confirmation from James Terlizzi of MA DOT that we are allowed to set this sign inside the 850 foot requirement since we do not have enough usable space to meet the requirements.

Both existing School Zone signs will be left in place temporarily to confirm that we will not have any issues with the new signage. Once we can confirm everything is working properly with the new signage, we will then remove the School Zone signs that are there currently.

I have also attached a diagram showing the current location of the existing signs as well as the approximate area of where we'll be placing the new signage, if/once approved.

I am respectfully requesting that the Select Board vote to approve the installation of the new Solar Powered Speed Feedback and School Zone Speed Limit Signs at the new locations provided on the attached diagram so that the new signage will comply with the current standards set forth in the MA DOT Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Thank you,

Travis Thibault
Director of Public Works

TOWN OF PAXTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Paxton Center School Cafetorium, West Street, Paxton on May 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., then and there to act on the following articles:

ADMINISTRATIVE ARTICLES

Article 1. BYLAW - Revolving Fund Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to amend the current Departmental Revolving Funds Bylaw with the revisions as attached, or take any related action thereto.

Article submitted by the Town Administrator

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 2. BYLAW – Council on Aging Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to replace the current Council on Aging Bylaw in its entirety with the Amended Council on Aging Bylaw, as attached, or take any related action thereto.

Article submitted by the COA Board

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 3. BYLAW – Recreation Commission Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to replace the current Recreation Commission bylaws in their entirety with the Amended Recreation Commission Bylaw, as attached, or take any related action thereto.

Article submitted by the Recreation Commission

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 4. Chapter 90 Authorization

To see if the Town will vote to accept any funds to be allocated by the Commonwealth under authorization of Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws, (pertaining to Highway Funds);

to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts for the construction, reconstruction, and improvement of Town roads; and to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of receipt of said funds; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works; or take any related action thereto.

Article submitted by Selectboard and DPW Director.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

FINANCE ARTICLES

Article 5. Repurpose Article

To see if the Town will vote to repurpose the remaining funds previously appropriated by Article 5 of the 2022 Annual Town Meeting, the Town proposes a change of purpose to Information Technology Improvements; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by Town Administrator.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 6. Revolving Fund Expenditure Limits

To see if the Town will vote to set the annual expenditure limits for fiscal year 2025 for all revolving funds established under the General Bylaws, as set forth below, or act in any way thereon:

Fund	Maximum Expenditure
Council on Aging	\$2,000
Recreation	\$250,000
Paxton Days	\$ 5,000
Town Rentals/Leases	\$4,000
Planning Board	\$20,000

Article submitted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 7. Free Cash – Transfer – Police Cruiser Outfitting

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$9,200 from FY24 Certified Free Cash for the outfitting of the new cruiser provided by Anna Maria College; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by Police Chief.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 8. Free Cash – Transfer – Opioid Funds

To see if the Town will transfer the sum of \$5,089.46 from FY24 Free Cash to the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue Fund; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by Town Administrator.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 9. Ambulance Receipts Reserved – Transfer – Lucas & Cardiac

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$61,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund to purchase a Cardiac Monitor and Lucas Device for the Ambulances for the Fire Department; or take any action related thereto.

Article submitted by the Fire Department.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Capital Improvements Planning Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 10. WATER ENTERPRISE -Water Department Receipts

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through Water Department receipts, water fees, or water charges, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise, as follows:

Compensation	\$254,925
Expenses	\$874,047
<u>Debt</u>	<u>\$ 96,619</u>
Total	\$1,225,591

and that \$1,056,856 is raised as follows:

Department receipts **\$1,225,591**

Or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Water Commissioners.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 11. WATER ENTERPRISE - Water Tank Maintenance

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from retained earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund the sum of \$20,681, or any other sum, to pay for the inspection, maintenance, repair or modification of the Asnebumskit Road Water Storage Tank in accordance with the six year of the existing contract with Veolia (FKA Suez Advanced Solutions); or act any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Water Commissioners.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 12. Appropriate Funds to Road Improvement

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$121,841** to the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any action related thereto.

Article submitted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 13. Use Funds from Road Improvement

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$121,841** from the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of resurfacing roads, or take any action related thereto.

Article submitted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 14. Wachusett Greenways

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,100, or any other sum, to be used for the expenses for Wachusett Greenways, an eight-town collaborative, said funds to be administered and expended by Wachusett Greenways; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by Wachusett Greenways.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 15. FY25 OVERRIDE CONTINGENT BUDGET - Town

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer the sum of _____ or any other sum, and the amount of _____ to supplement the Town and School Operating purposes and other expenses in Fiscal Year 2025, contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 ½ ballot questions under General Laws Chapter 59, S 21C; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Finance Committee.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 16.

FY25 BUDGET NOT CONTIGENT ON OVERRIDE - Town

To see if the Town will vote to fund the FY25 Town, Wachusett Regional School District, and Bay Path Vocational School budgets by raising and appropriating the sum of _____ or any other sum, and to further appropriate, from the EMS Receipts Account, the sum of **\$400,000** or any other sum, and to further appropriate, from Free Cash the sum of **\$518,000** or any other sum, for a total appropriation of ----- or any other sum, to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town and School Districts for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024, and especially for any and all the items shown on the attached Budget; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Finance Committee.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Wachusett Regional School District

	FY24	FY25	FY25
	APPROVED	REQUEST	RECOMMEND
Minimum Local Contribution	4,860,250	4,997,947	
Debt Service	220,647	88,287	
Discretionary	1,799,744	2,085,938	
Transportation	569,788	614,375	
	<u>7,177,576</u>	<u>7,786,547</u>	

BAYPATH

	FY2024	FY2025	FY2025
	APPROVED	REQUEST	RECOMMEND
Bay Path Debt	61,374	62,878	62,878
Bay Path Assessment	437,964	527,148	527,148
	<u>498,964</u>	<u>590,026</u>	<u>590,026</u>

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AND YOU ARE DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS WARRANT by posting attested copies thereof, one of which shall be at the Post Office, as required by By-laws, seven days at least before the day set for holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT and make due return of the Warrant with your doing thereon at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this April 8, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia N. Pingitore
Chair

Kirk R. Huchls
Vice Chair

Carol L. Riches
Clerk

DRAFT

ATTACHMENTS

Contents

Article 1- Departmental Revolving Funds Bylaw 11

Article 2- Council on Aging Bylaw..... 13

Article 3- Recreation Commission Bylaw 16

Article 15 & 16- Operating Budget..... 17

DRAFT

**Article 1
BYLAW**

Departmental Revolving Funds

Remove the language to the Departmental Revolving Funds, Section 5 (H) as follows:

<u>A</u> Revolving Fund	<u>B</u> Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to spend from fund	<u>C</u> Fees, Charges or other receipts credited to fund	<u>D</u> Program or activity expenses payable from fund	<u>E</u> Restrictions or conditions on expenses payable from fund	<u>F</u> Other requireme nt / reports	<u>G</u> Fiscals years
Council on Aging	Council on Aging	Donations and fees from riders	Van costs	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Recreation Revolving	Recreation Committee	Program fees, donations, gifts, private sponsorships, facilities fees	Support of all recreation programs	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Library	Board of Library Trustees	Fines for overdue books & videos	Purchase new books, videos, and library materials	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Paxton Days	Paxton Days Committee	Event fees, donations, gifts, private sponsorship	Support the Paxton Days Annual Event	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Town Building Rentals/Leases	Town Administrator	Rental/Lease fees for Town Buildings	Property Maintenance costs for rented Town Buildings	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2025 and subsequent years

Replace in its entirety with the language to the Departmental Revolving Funds, Section 5 (H) as follows:

<u>A</u> Revolving Fund	<u>B</u> Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to spend from fund	<u>C</u> Fees, Charges or other receipts credited to fund	<u>D</u> Program or activity expenses payable from fund	<u>E</u> Restrictions or conditions on expenses payable from fund	<u>F</u> Other requireme nt / reports	<u>G</u> Fiscals years
Council on Aging	Council on Aging	Fares from riders	Van costs	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Recreation Revolving	Recreation Committee	Program fees, private sponsorships, facilities fees	Support of all recreation programs	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Library	Board of Library Trustees	Lost and damaged book charges, copier fees, fax fees	Purchase new books, videos, and library materials	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Paxton Days	Paxton Days Committee	Event fees, private sponsorship	Support the Paxton Days Annual Event	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Town Building Rentals/Leases	Town Administrator	Rental/Lease fees for Town Buildings	Property Maintenance costs for rented Town Buildings	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2025 and subsequent years
Planning Board	Planning Board	Consultants, Advertising, Permit/Applicati on Fees	Consultants, Advertising, Planning Board related expenses	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2025 and subsequent years

Commented [HM1]: Removed fines, added copier and fax fees.

Commented [HM2]: Removed the words gifts and donations from rec and paxton days pursuant to AG advisory issued after our original revolving fund bylaw in 2017. See: <https://mass.gov/hylandcloud.com/203npublicaccess/api/Document/AagzzJj9rMWEwmgT%3%898aAMxt9UaVr2tAtzRSWPckKQGLUEBfmg9bnHqSTYpDZO84aEv8Oplx9wOKF8IP1%3%89EzVJ0%3D/>

Commented [HM3]: Added with blessing of Planning Board. This addresses current issue of chasing folks for payment and provides a location for deposit.

Article 2
BYLAW
Council on Aging Bylaw

PAXTON COUNCIL ON AGING BYLAW

ARTICLE I – ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNCIL ON AGING AND BOARD

There shall be a Council on Aging (COA) of the Town of Paxton and a COA Board as established by vote of the Annual Town Meeting of May 5, 1975 in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8B.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

The purposes of the COA Board are to:

- Section 1** Evaluate, promote, and encourage services and programs for the senior population, 60 years of age and older, who live in Paxton, Massachusetts.
- Section 2** Educate the community on the mission and purpose of the COA and encourage their support and participation.
- Section 3** Work with the COA Director to implement existing and new programs for seniors.

ARTICLE III – OFFICES

The office of the COA shall be located at the John Bauer Senior Center, 17 West Street, Paxton, Massachusetts.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1** The COA Board shall consist of nine members who are Paxton residents. They shall be appointed by the Paxton Select Board for a term of three years. Reappointment for an additional three years may be requested by a current COA Board member.
- Section 2** The COA Board shall recommend to the Select Board candidates to fill vacancies on the COA Board, including vacancies due to the resignation of a Board Member.
- Section 3** The Select Board may fill any vacancy of an unexpired term on the COA Board.
- Section 4** Associate members are a source of future COA Board members and may be appointed at any time by the COA Board. There shall be no limit to the number of Associate members. Associate members may participate in COA Board meetings, but they may not vote. Outgoing Board members shall be eligible to be an Associate member.

ARTICLE V – VOTING RIGHTS OF BOARD MEMBERS

All voting rights shall be vested in the members and each individual member shall be entitled to one vote. A member must be present to vote. A majority vote shall prevail.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

- Section 1** Regular meetings of the COA Board shall occur once a month and are subject to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.
- Section 2** Special meetings of the COA Board may be called at any time by the COA Board Chair or at the request of a majority of the members. The Clerk shall notify all members

of such a meeting. Special meetings are subject to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

Section 3 At all meetings of the COA Board, the presence of five Board members entitled to vote shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

Section 4 The COA Board Chair may call an Executive Session, open to only the COA Board and additional parties selected by the COA Board, to discuss confidential matters in accordance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. It may take place before, in the middle of, or at the end of a regular Board meeting.

ARTICLE VII – ATTENDANCE AND RESIGNATION

Section 1 Regular attendance is expected of all COA Board members. In the event of absence of any member for three consecutive meetings, except for reasons of health or extenuating circumstances, the COA Board may request the resignation of that member.

Section 2 In the event that a member wishes to resign from the COA Board, they shall notify the COA Board and the Town Clerk in writing. The COA Board shall notify the Select Board of such resignation and may recommend a replacement

ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS

Section 1 Election and Term of Office

- a. The officers of the COA Board shall consist of a Chair, a Vice Chair, and a Clerk.
- b. Officers of the COA Board shall be elected annually at the July COA Board meeting by a majority vote of the members present and shall take office upon election. Terms of office shall be for one year.
- c. Election of officers to fill vacancies may take place at any regular or special COA Board meeting and shall be for the period of the unexpired term.

Section 2 Chair

- a. The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the COA Board.
- b. During the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair or Clerk will, in that order, exercise the functions of the Chair.
- c. In consultation with the COA Director, the Chair shall prepare an agenda for each monthly meeting.
- d. The Chair or appointee shall post the agenda with the Town Clerk as required by Massachusetts General Laws.

Section 3 Vice Chair

The Vice Chair shall assist the Chair in their duties and shall perform the duties of the Chair in their absence.

Section 4 Clerk

- a. The Clerk shall record all meeting minutes and submit them for approval at the following meeting.
- b. In the absence of the Clerk, the Chair may appoint a Board member as Clerk for said meeting.

ARTICLE IX – COA DIRECTOR

- a. The COA Director reports to the Paxton Town Administrator.

- b. The COA Board is an advisory board to the COA Director. As such, the Board and its individual members shall refrain from interfering in the day-to-day operation of the COA.
- c. The Director is responsible for operating the COA and its programs and services for the seniors in the Town of Paxton.
- d. The Director recommends individuals for staff positions to the Town Administrator.
- e. The Director coordinates and recruits volunteers for all COA programs.
- f. The Director is required to attend all monthly COA Board meetings.
- g. In order to discuss confidential matters, the Director may request that the COA Chair call an Executive Session, according to Article VI, Section 4 of this Bylaw.
- h. The Director shall submit to the COA Board at monthly meetings a report of its finances.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS

The COA Board may propose amendments to this Bylaw to the Select Board for possible inclusion on a Town Meeting warrant.

Article 3
BYLAW
Recreation Commission Bylaw

Town of Paxton Recreation Commission Bylaw

Article I: Establishment and Purpose

1. Creation and Authority:
 - o Pursuant to MGL Chapter 45, Section 14, the Paxton Recreation Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) is hereby established.
 - o The Commission shall serve as the governing body responsible for overseeing recreational activities, programs, and facilities within the town.

Article II: Membership and Structure

1. Composition:
 - o The Commission shall consist of five elected members.
 - o Members shall serve staggered terms to ensure continuity.
2. Annual Elections:
 - o Annually, the Commission shall elect from its members:
 - A Chair to preside over meetings and represent the Commission.
 - A Vice Chair to assist the Chair and act in their absence.
 - A Clerk to maintain records and correspondence.

Article III: Powers and Duties

1. Recreation Director:
 - o The Commission is authorized to appoint a Recreation Director.
 - o The Recreation Director shall be responsible for implementing Commission-approved programs, managing facilities, and coordinating recreational events.
2. Member Attendance and Removal:
 - o Any Commission member who is absent from three consecutive Commission Meetings without valid cause shall be subject to removal.
 - o Removal shall be determined by a majority vote of the remaining Commission members.
 - o In such cases, the vacancy shall be promptly reported to the Town Clerk and the Select Board.

Article IV: Meetings and Procedures

1. Regular Meetings:
 - o The Commission shall hold regular meetings at least once a month.
 - o Meeting dates, times, and locations shall be determined by the Commission.
2. Quorum:
 - o A quorum shall consist of three members.
 - o Decisions shall be made by a **simple majority vote** of members present.

Article 15 & 16
Operating Budget

DRAFT

TOWN OF PAXTON

AGGREGATE PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Employee Name	Heather Munroe
Job Title	Town Administrator
Review Period	3/1/2023 - 2/29/2024

Section	Description	Score 1		Score 2		Score 3	
		# of fields 1	Score 1	# of fields 2	Score 2	# of fields 3	Score 3
1	Financial Management	7	11	7	13	7	11
2	Human Resources Management and	7	3	8	12	7	7
3	Project Management	6	5	6	10	6	7
4	Community Relations & Quality of Life	9	10	9	14	9	5
5	Self-management	8	5	9	13	9	3
6	Planning and Economic Development	6	6	9	9	3	3
7	Relationship with Other Levels of	4	4	5	10	5	6
8	Town Government Efficiency and	7	5	7	14	7	8
9	Meeting Preparation	6	7	6	11	6	7
Totals		60	56	66	106	59	57
		Averages 0.933333333		1.60606061		0.96610169	

Descriptor	Low bound	High bound
Exceptional Performance	2.1	3.0
Exceeds Requirements	1.6	2.0
Meets Requirements	1.0	1.5
Needs Improvement	0.5	0.9
Unsatisfactory Performance	0.0	0.4

Overall Score	1.18378378
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Paxton Finance Committee
FY25 Budget Discussion
March 25, 2024



FY25 Budget Discussion Acknowledgements

Have a difficult conversation

- School Committee may want to see greater investments
- Town Officials may want to see more reductions

Share decision making process

Provide data to support decisions



FY25 Budget Agenda

- District Financial Status
- FY23 Recap
- FY24 Status
- FY25 Development
- FY25 Draft Budget
- Capital Improvement and Requests
- Considerations and Next Steps



Financial Status



District Financial Status

Last year, we identified a number of financial processes and reports that had not been completed from prior years.

Resolved

- FY21 Audit
- FY22 Audit
- FY22 End of Year Report
- FY22 E&D Certification
- Cash Reconciliations current from July 2021
- Journal Entries current from July 2021

On Track

- FY23 End of Year Report completed
- FY23 E&D Certification completed
- FY23 Audit In Progress



FY23 Recap



FY23 Under Funded Appropriations

The FY23 budget did not properly account for actual expenses in a number of areas

- Benefits & Insurance (\$851,215)
- Special Ed Out of District Tuitions (\$1,128,441)
- Special Ed Out of District Transportation (\$1,137,159)
- Operations & Maintenance (\$580,649)
- These deficiencies also impacted the FY24 budget as they were not identified until after the budget development



FY23 End of Year

FY23 End of Year Reconciliations

- Amended Operating Budget by \$950,000
 - Amended Budget: \$110,036,38
- Excess & Deficiency Use
 - \$850,000 Budgeted as FY23 Revenue
 - \$950,000 to Amend FY23 Budget
- Revolving Fund Use
 - \$942,602 to Balance FY23



FY24 Status



FY24 Current Status

Current Certified E&D

- \$1,233,832 (1.06%)
- Allowed \$5.8 Million (5%)

Line Item Concerns

- Special Education Tuitions
- Operations & Maintenance

Hopeful We Will Balance without E&D

- Grants
- Revolving Funds



FY25 Development



FY25 Unexpected Challenges

The FY25 budget forecast has been significantly impacted by a number of unexpected factors:

- Chapter 70 Hold-Harmless Impact
- Adjustment to Properly Appropriate for Special Ed Tuitions
- Lack of Available Reserves to Mitigate Crisis
- Greater financial responsibility shifted to towns from state



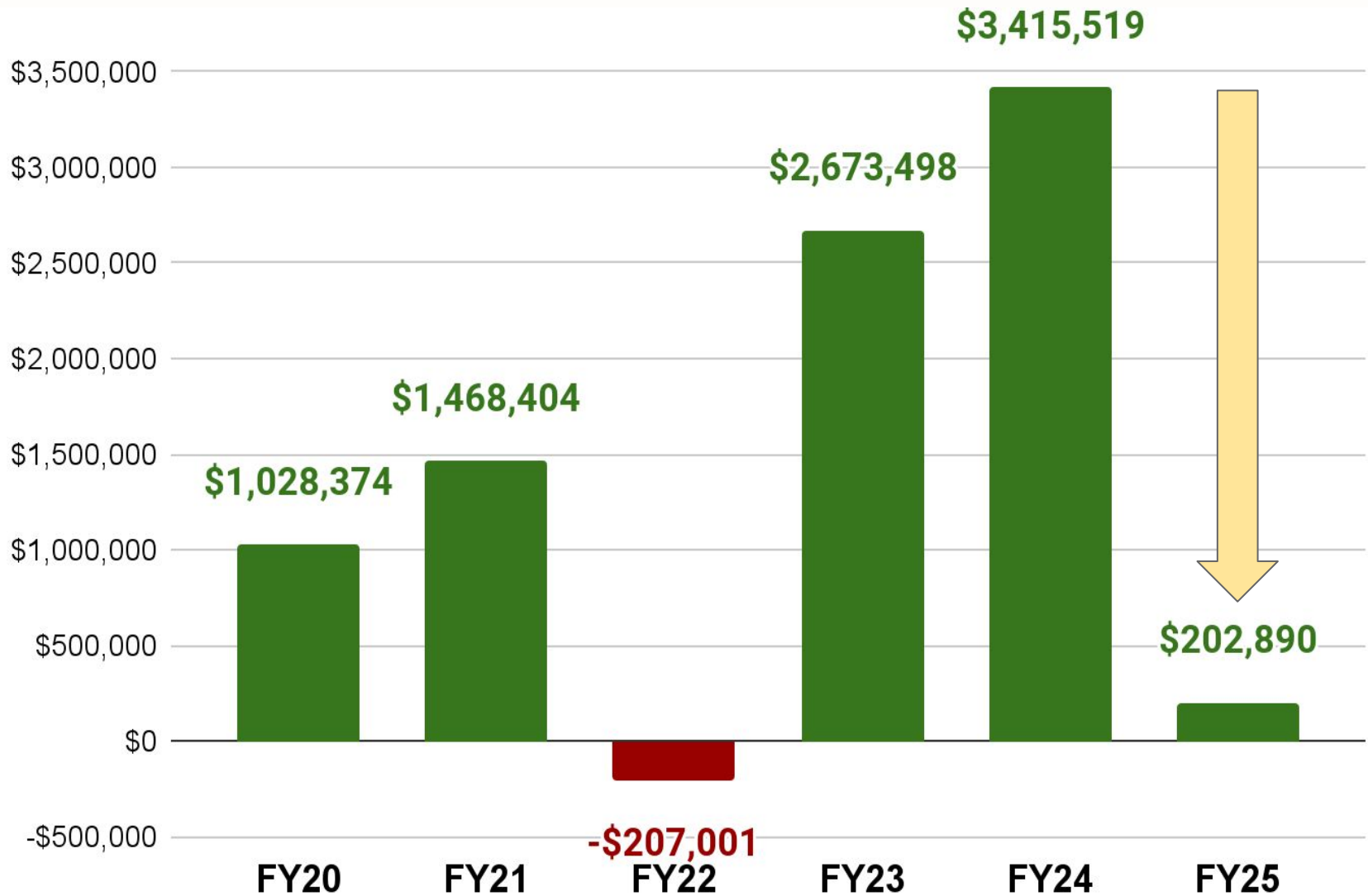
FY25 DESE Hold Harmless Status

What does Hold Harmless mean?

- Due to a slight decline in FY24 enrollment and a decrease in the inflation rate, the district was placed in “Hold Harmless” status for FY25
- This means that the district is not eligible for an increase in Chapter 70 aid
- Hold Harmless districts only receive an additional \$30 per-student in FY25 Chapter 70 aid
- One of 211 Districts in Massachusetts



Historical Chapter 70 Increases





Special Ed Tuitions

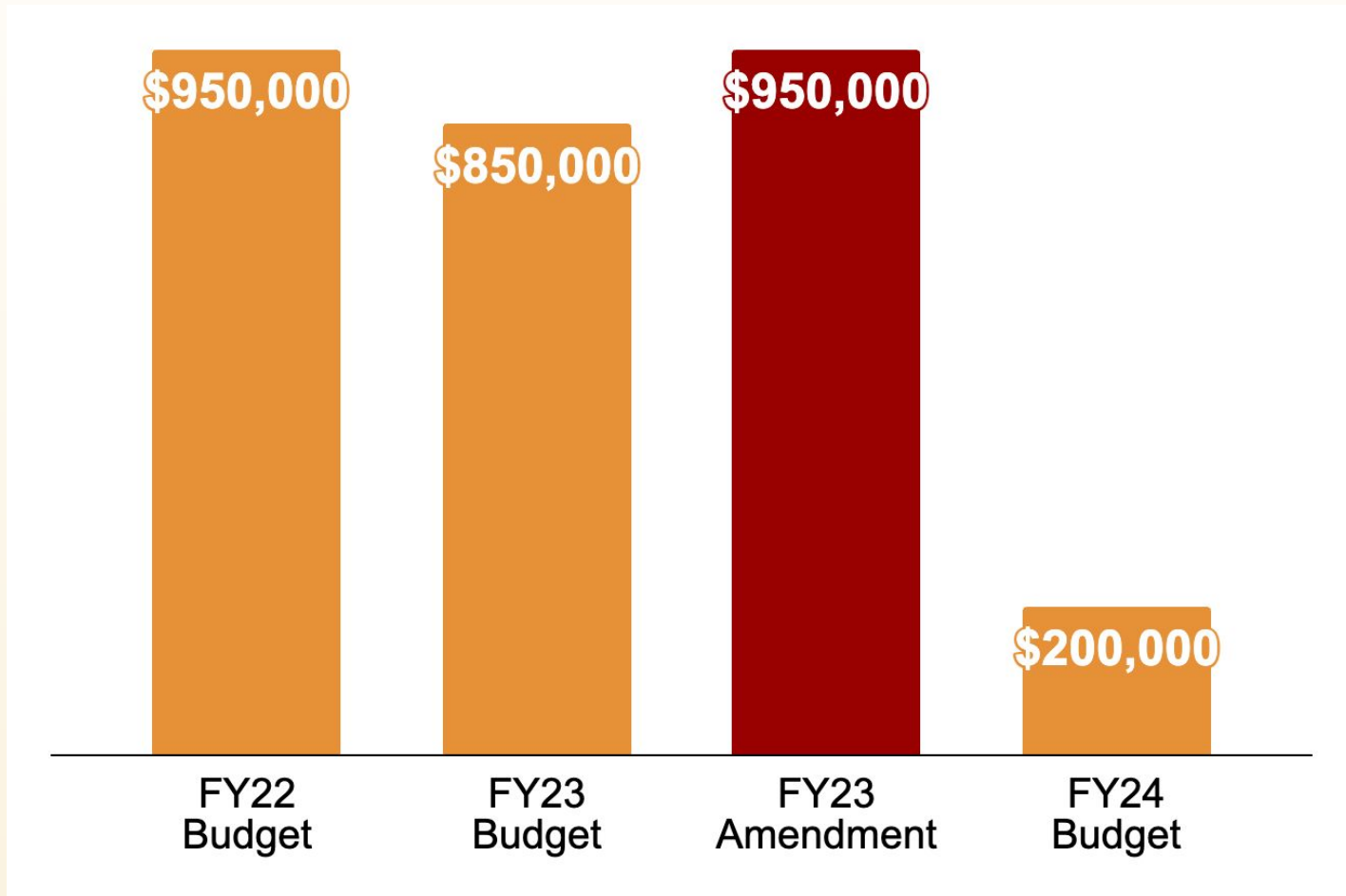
Fees for students attending specialized programs outside of the district

- State-approved OOD tuition rates increased by over 14% in FY24
- Rates will increase by 4.69% in FY25
- Actual FY23 tuition expenditures were unknown until late May 2023
- FY24 Appropriation underfunded as a result
- Necessitates a major correction in FY25



Excess & Deficiency Use (FY22-FY24)

\$2.95 Million Utilized from E&D





Town Share of Overall Budget

- State determination of each town's share of Net School Spending continues to rise
- Exacerbated by Chapter 70 status
- Impact on FY25 revenue structure
 - WRSD draft budget increase: 4.97%
 - Total town assessment increase: 6.12%
 - Paxton assessment increase: 4.39%



FY25 Funding Overview

Additional Challenges

- Transportation contract increased 11.5% for FY25
- Contractual obligations and other cost of living adjustments account for an increase of approximately \$3 million over FY24



FY25 Funding Overview

Budget Crisis in Detail

- Continued fallout from poor budget development practices
 - \$2.95 Million of E&D Used FY22-FY24
 - Over \$2.5 Million Increase in Special Ed Tuitions and Transportation Needed
- Chapter 70 Hold-Harmless Status
- Largest overall town assessment increase in recent years



FY25 Initial Budget Development Process

- 20 School and Departmental Budget Meetings
- School and department funding requests reviewed and discussed with School Committee at Annual Budget Retreat
- Forecasting FY25 Budget based on FY24 expenditures and needs identified in the Strategic Plan



Originally Planned FY25 investments

- School and Department Requests
- Technology Infrastructure Upgrades
- Class Size Adjustments
- Counseling Staff
- Facility Improvements



FY25 Revised Budget Approach

Recognize the Challenge

Be Cognizant of Town Impacts

Protect Essential Services



FY25 Revised Approach: Essential Needs

- Strategic Plan
 - Adoption and support of new Elementary ELA HQIM Curriculum
- Facilities
 - Essential work at District Buildings
- Hope to Identify Further Efficiencies
 - Class Size Adjustments
 - Mental Health Supports



FY25 Draft Budget



FY25 Budget - Enrollment Update

Overall District	Oct. 2023		Oct. 2024		Enrollment Change	
Town	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Holden	3,235	47.51%	3198	47.29%	-37	-1.14%
Paxton	635	9.33%	619	9.15%	-16	-2.52%
Princeton	405	5.95%	421	6.23%	16	3.95%
Rutland	1,628	23.91%	1642	24.28%	14	0.86%
Sterling	906	13.31%	883	13.06%	-23	-2.54%
Total	6,809	100.00%	6763	100.00%	-46	-0.68%



FY25 Minimum Local Contribution

Town	FY24	FY25	\$ Change	% Change
Holden	\$22,192,218	\$23,138,149	\$945,931	4.26%
Paxton	\$4,860,250	\$4,997,947	\$137,697	2.83%
Princeton	\$4,009,651	\$4,223,361	\$213,710	5.33%
Rutland	\$8,718,417	\$9,185,650	\$467,233	5.36%
Sterling	\$9,320,886	\$9,647,652	\$326,766	3.51%
Total MLC	\$49,101,422	\$51,192,759	\$2,091,337	4.26%



FY25 Budget by Appropriation

Appropriation	FY24 Budget	FY25 Proposed	\$ Diff +/-(-)	% Diff
Salaries & Stipends	\$71,256,493	\$73,879,307	\$2,622,815	3.68%
Benefits & Insurance	\$21,111,295	\$22,312,888	\$1,201,593	5.69%
Instructional Support	\$3,891,502	\$4,089,473	\$197,971	5.09%
Operations & Maintenance	\$4,960,364	\$5,610,127	\$649,763	13.10%
Pupil Services	\$67,551	\$86,301	\$18,750	27.76%
Special Ed Tuitions	\$2,563,570	\$3,913,818	\$1,350,248	52.67%
Other Operating Costs	\$1,652,745	\$1,602,059	(\$50,686)	-3.07%
Transportation	\$8,444,077	\$9,623,163	\$1,179,086	13.96%
Debt Service	\$2,261,200	\$862,150	(\$1,399,050)	-61.87%
Total General Fund	\$116,208,797	\$121,979,286	\$5,770,489	4.97%



FY25 State & Local Revenues

Revenue Source	FY24 Budget	FY25 Proposed	\$Diff +/-(-)	% Diff +/-(-)
Ch. 70 Aid	\$35,851,035	\$36,053,925	\$202,890	0.57%
Ch. 71 Transportation	\$2,044,820	\$2,908,678	\$863,858	42.25%
Charter Tuition Aid	\$227,398	\$200,158	(\$27,240)	-11.98%
Total State Aid	\$38,123,253	\$39,162,761	\$1,039,508	2.73%
Medicaid	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	0.00%
Interest	\$50,000	\$275,000	\$225,000	450.00%
Misc. Revenue	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$0	0.00%
Excess & Deficiency	\$200,000	\$0	(\$200,000)	-100.00%
Total Local Revenue	\$1,225,000	\$1,250,000	\$25,000	2.04%



FY25 PRELIMINARY Town Assessments

Town	FY24 Budget	FY25 Proposed	\$Diff +/-(-)	% Diff +/-(-)
Holden	\$35,380,118	\$37,495,740	\$2,115,622	5.98%
Paxton	\$7,458,807	\$7,786,547	\$327,740	4.39%
Princeton	\$5,629,623	\$6,106,079	\$476,456	8.46%
Rutland	\$15,363,502	\$16,555,122	\$1,191,620	7.76%
Sterling	\$13,028,493	\$13,623,038	\$594,545	4.56%
Total Towns	\$76,860,543	\$81,566,526	\$4,705,983	6.12%



Response to Request for Greater Detail



Foundation Budget vs. Actual Spending

What factors account for the difference between the WRSD Foundation Budget and its actual budget?

Foundation Budget Overview

- Calculated by the state based by multiplying the number of pupils in 13 enrollment categories by cost rates in 11 functional areas
- Does not include transportation, debt service, or funding from grants and revolving accounts

According to DESE...

- *The foundation budget represents the minimum amount a district must spend in its operating budget in order to provide an adequate education.*
- *Almost every municipality spends more than required, with communities with the highest requirements spending well above those requirements.*



Foundation Budget vs. Actual Spending

Requested Analysis - FY23 (most recent data available)

Description	Foundation Budget FY23	Actual Spending FY23	Difference \$	Difference %
Administration	\$3,962,018	\$2,444,379	-\$1,517,639	-38.3%
Instructional Leadership	\$5,588,423	\$5,375,372	-\$213,051	-3.8%
Classroom & Specialist Teachers	\$31,438,399	\$41,365,227	\$9,926,828	31.6%
Other Teaching Services	\$7,351,704	\$11,264,020	\$3,912,316	53.2%
Professional Development	\$1,275,443	\$211,652	-\$1,063,791	-83.4%
Instr. Materials, Equip. & Tech.	\$4,234,396	\$923,582	-\$3,310,814	-78.2%
Guidance & Psych. Services	\$2,577,312	\$2,327,181	-\$250,131	-9.7%
Pupil Services	\$2,764,339	\$2,055,939	-\$708,400	-25.6%
Operations & Maintenance	\$7,774,776	\$8,990,299	\$1,215,523	15.6%
Employee Benefits/Fixed Charges	\$10,396,239	\$19,900,311	\$9,504,072	91.4%
Special Education Tuition	\$2,106,529	\$4,906,713	\$2,800,184	132.9%
Total	\$79,469,578	\$99,764,675		
FY23 Local Revenues		-\$275,000.00		
FY23 Net School Spending	\$79,469,578	\$99,489,675	\$20,295,097	25.2%



Foundation Budget vs. Actual Spending

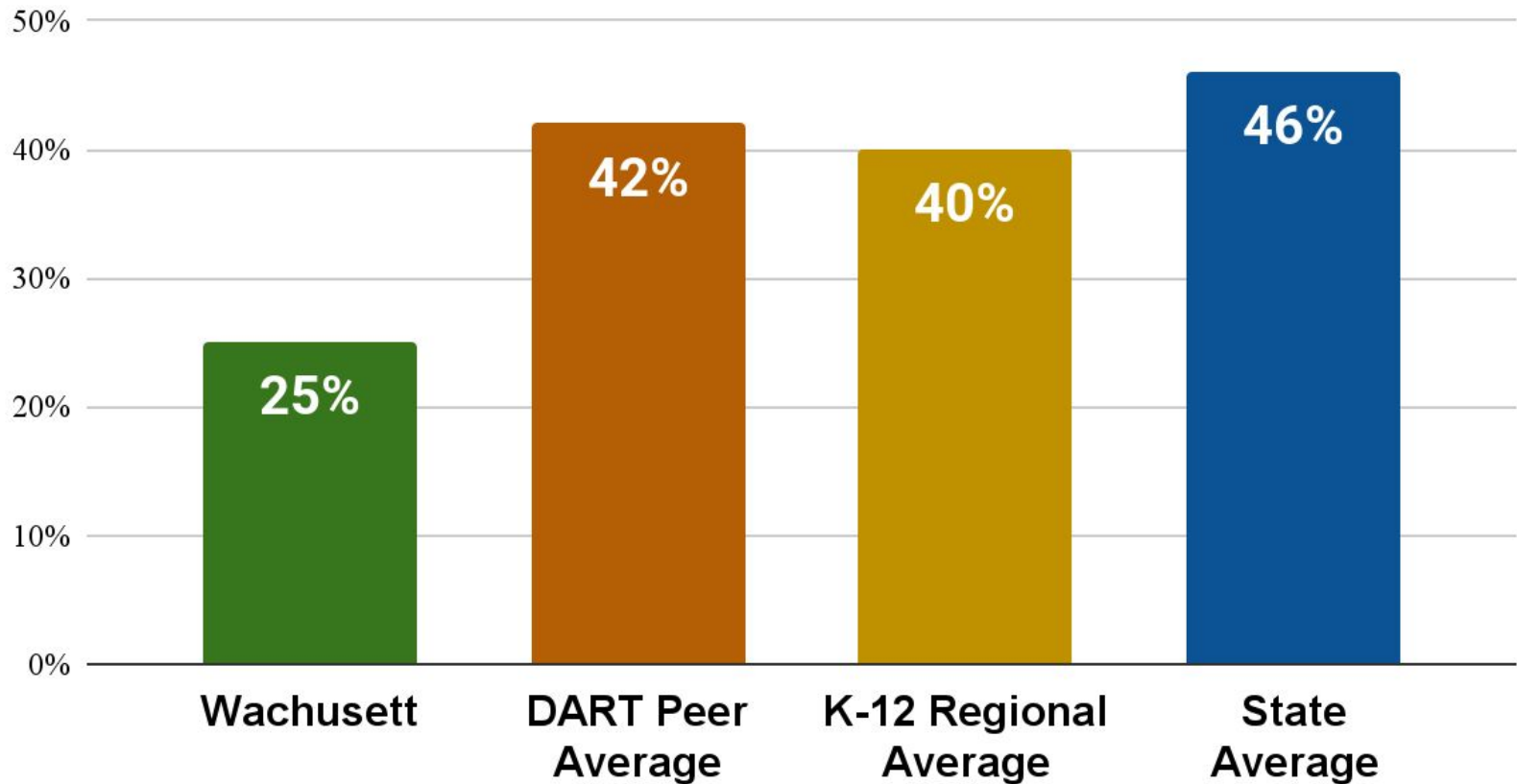
Actual school spending from FY23 (the most recent data available) shows that foundation budgets are inadequate to fund most school districts.

- Approximately 98% of MA school districts exceeded their foundation budgets
- More than half of MA districts exceeded their foundation budgets by at least 40%
- On average, MA school districts spent 46% over foundation
- WRSD exceeded its foundation budget by 25.2%



Foundation Budget vs. Actual Spending

Spending Above Foundation Budget - FY23





Capital Improvement Projects



Capital Improvement Projects

FY24 Capital Improvement (District Funded)

- Kitchen Hood Project \$90,600

Other Districted Funded Kitchen Improvements

- Double Stack Convection Ovens \$23,000
- Steamer \$21,000
- Kettle \$31,000
- Conveyor Dishwasher (April) \$31,000

FY25 Capital Improvement Request

- White House Separation \$150,000



Considerations / Next Steps



Considerations and Next Steps

- Reconsider School Choice
 - \$5,000 per student
- District buildings capital improvement approach
 - \$350,000 WRHS Projects
 - \$150,000 ECC Generator
- Any other reductions would have a direct impact on students



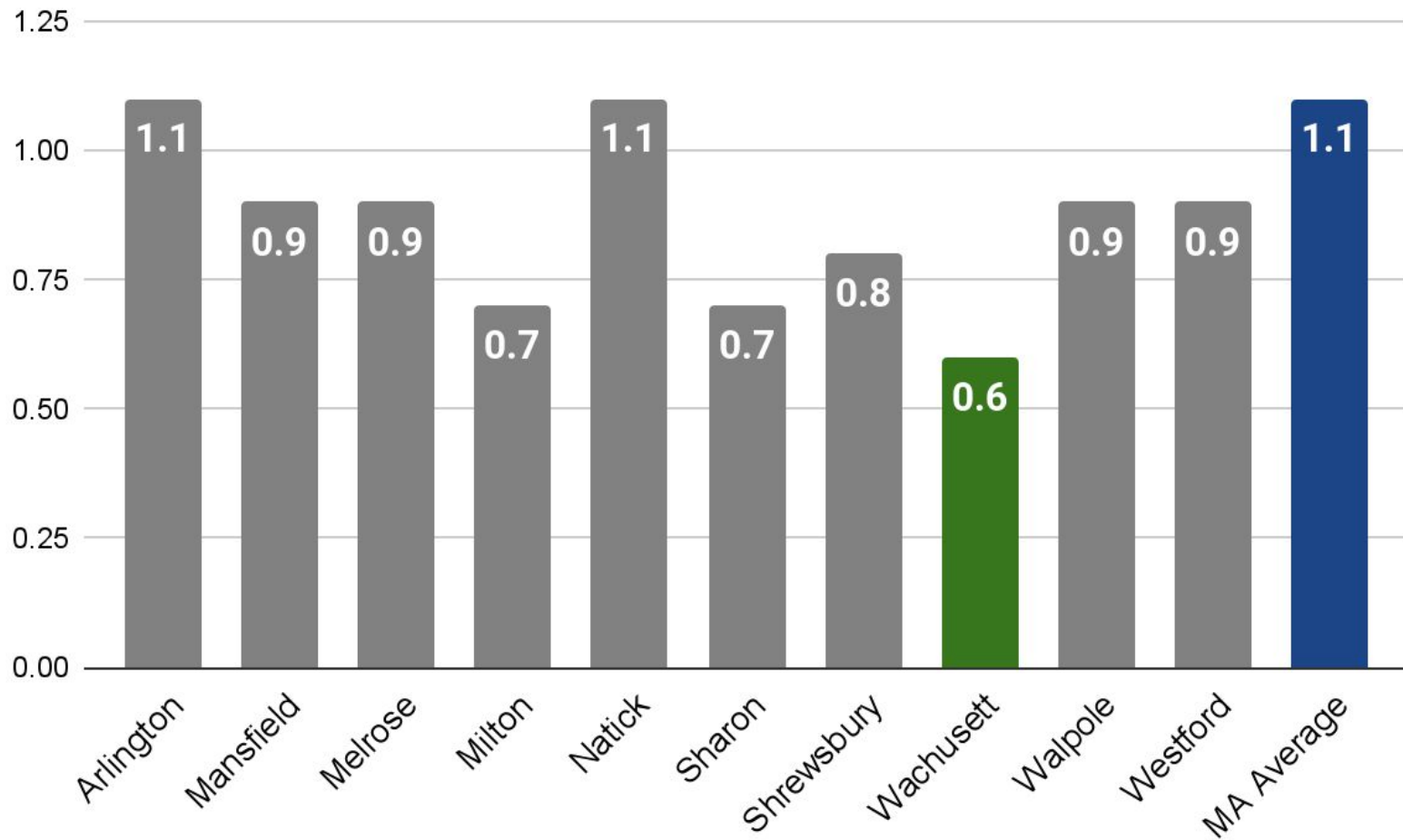
Personnel Impact with Further Reductions

- Personnel Reduction Assumptions
 - $\frac{2}{3}$ Cost Savings
 - 1-3 Years Experience
 - Salary Estimates
 - Average Benefits Package
- Personnel Reduction Projections
 - \$50,000 Teacher
 - \$22,500 Paraprofessional
- Each \$500,000 Reduction Either
 - Elimination 10 Teaching Positions
 - Elimination of 22 Paraprofessionals



Staffing Analysis

School & District Administrators - Oct. 2023
Per 100 Students Compared to DART Peer Districts

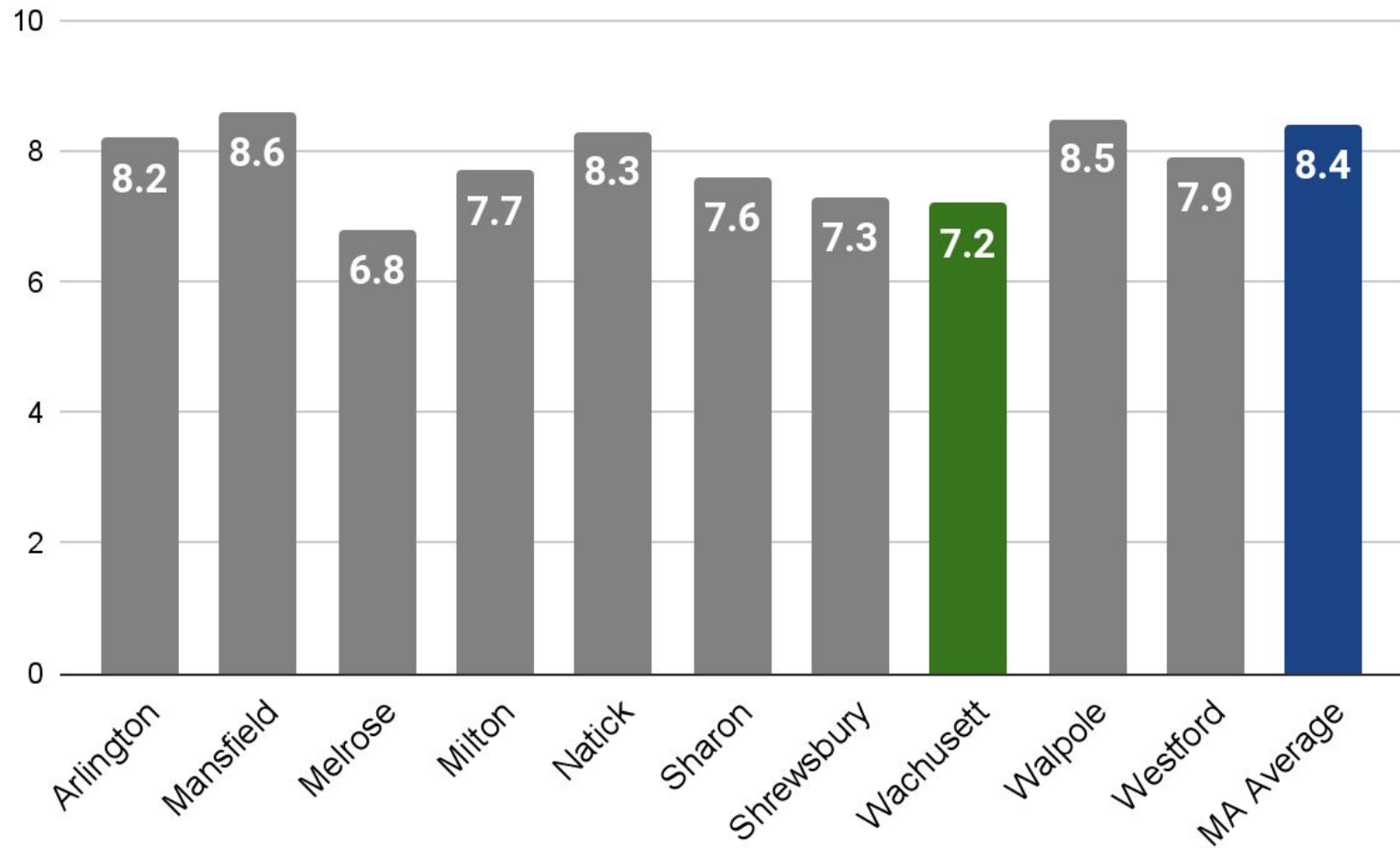




Staffing Analysis

Teachers - Oct. 2023

Per 100 Students Compared to DART Peer Districts

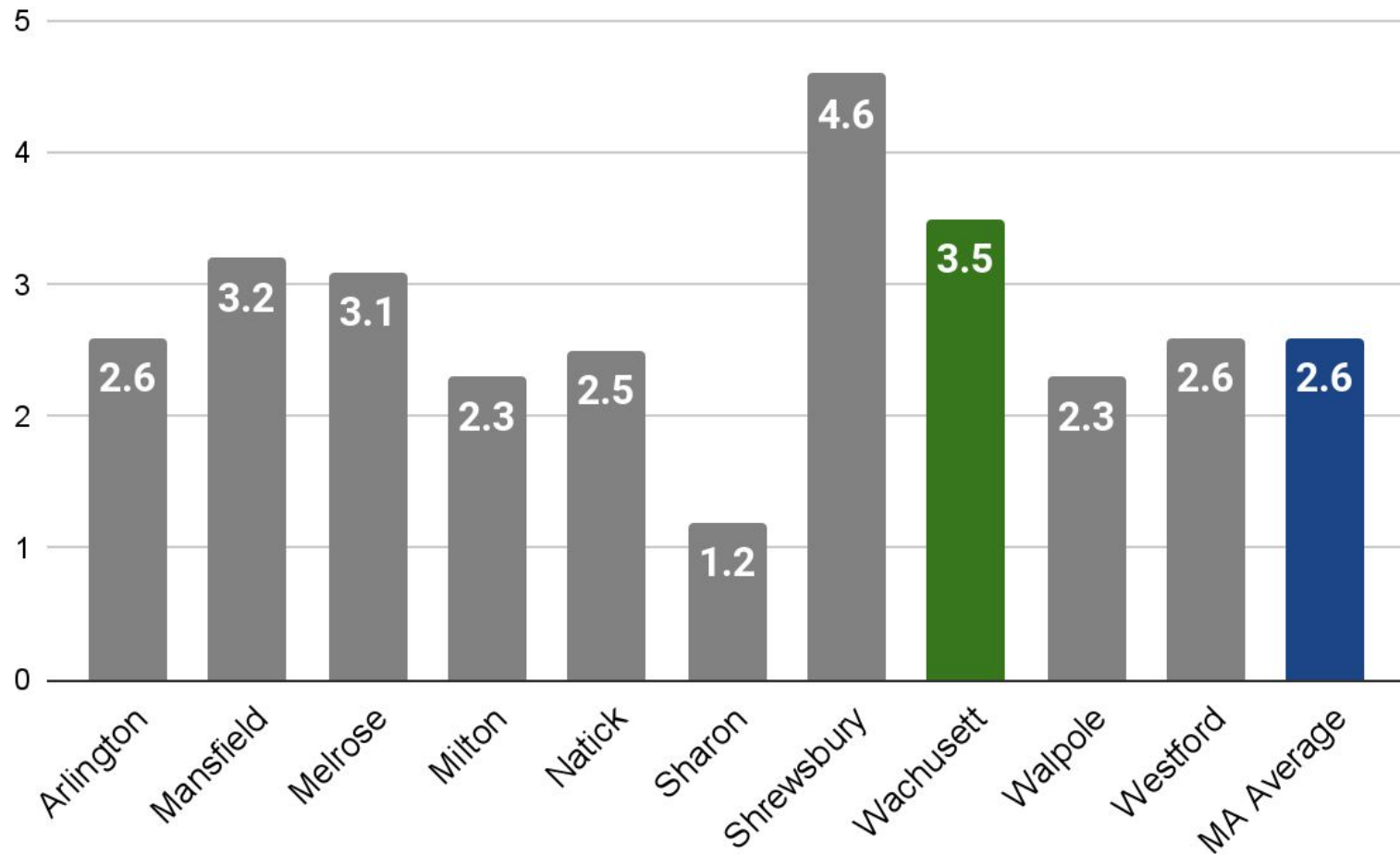




Staffing Analysis

Paraprofessionals - Oct. 2023

Per 100 Students Compared to DART Peer Districts

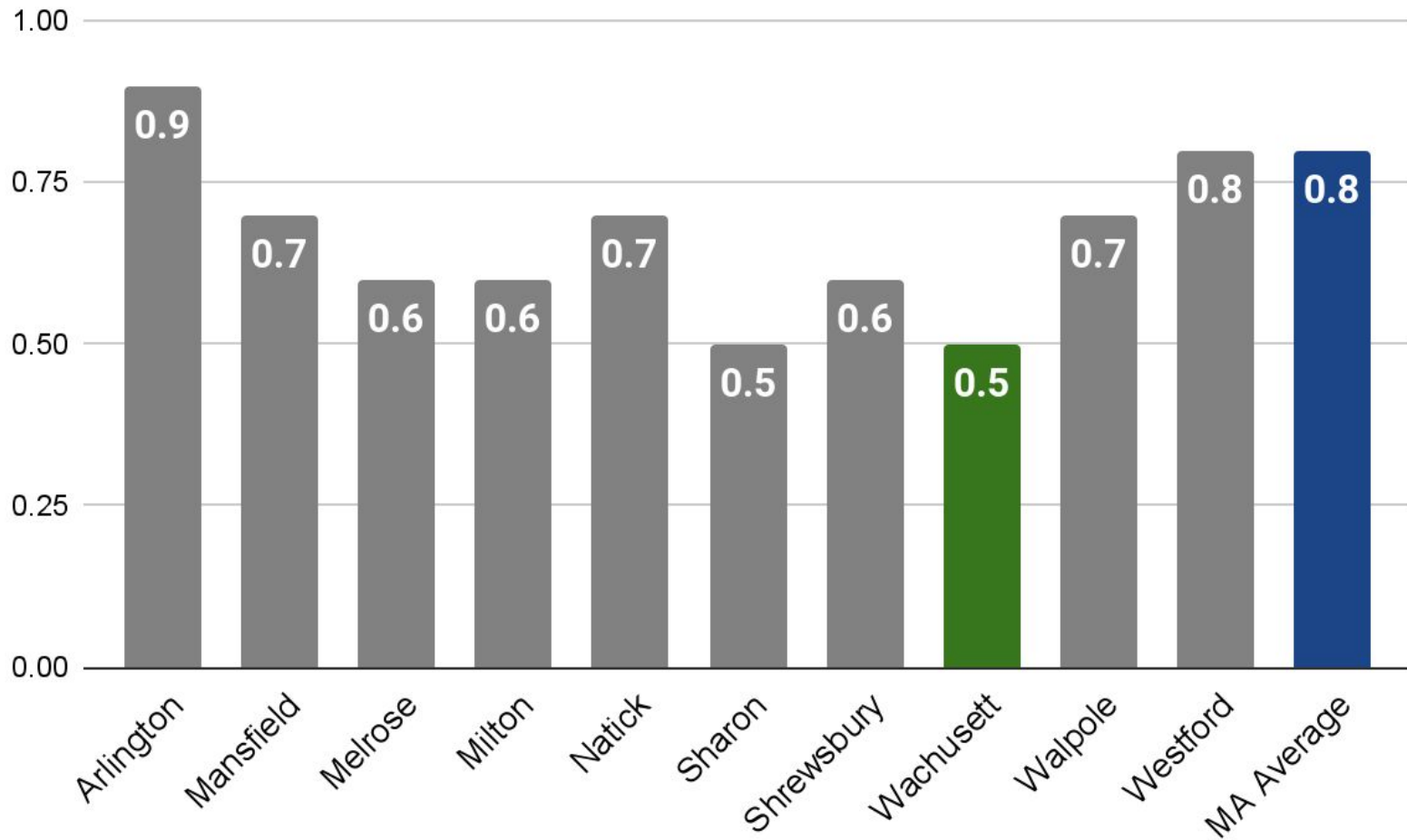




Staffing Analysis

Student Support Staff - Oct. 2023

Per 100 Students Compared to DART Peer Districts

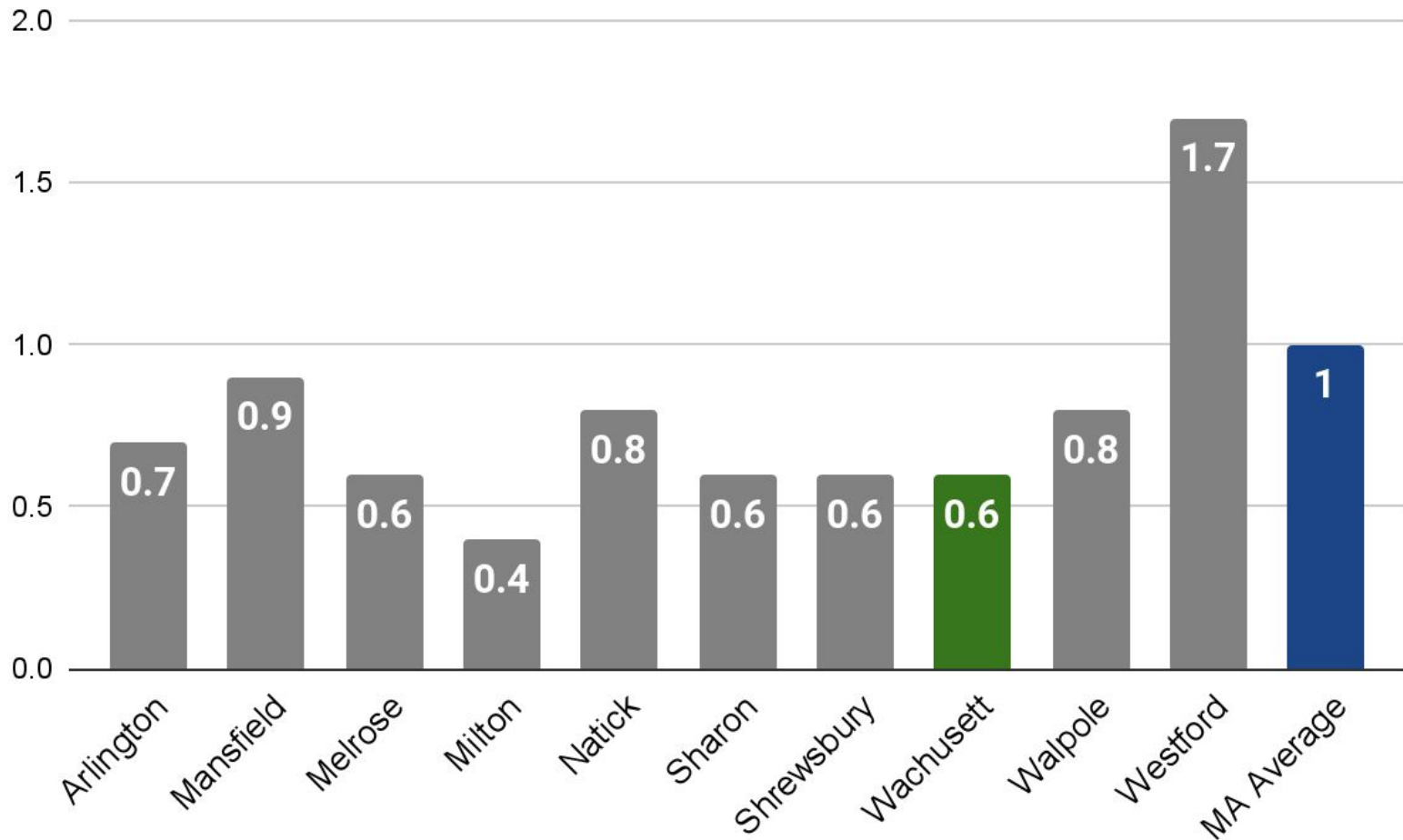




Staffing Analysis

Clerical Staff - Oct. 2023

Per 100 Students Compared to DART Peer Districts

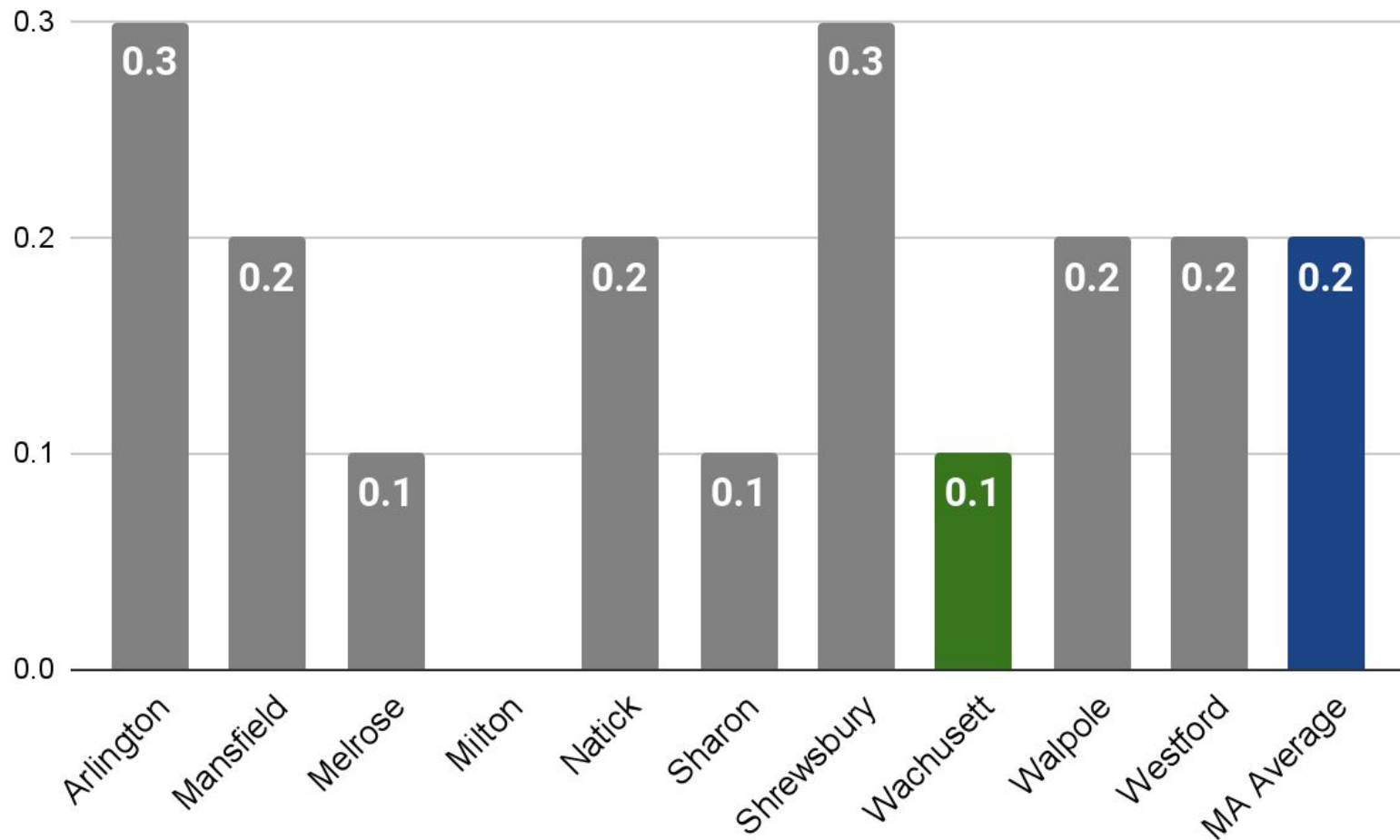




Staffing Analysis

Technology Staff - Oct. 2023

Per 100 Students Compared to DART Peer Districts





FY25 Budget Calendar

- Governor's Preliminary Budget - January 24, 2024
- Business/Finance Sub and Town Officials meeting on first draft budget - February 29, 2024
- Annual Budget Hearing - March 7, 2024
- School Committee budget approval - March 7, 2024
- Meetings with town officials - March, 2024
- Town Meetings (tentative dates):
 - Holden - May 20, 2024
 - Paxton - May 6, 2024
 - Princeton - May 14, 2024
 - Rutland - May 11, 2024
 - Sterling - May 6, 2024



Thank You



Wachusett Regional School District FY25 Budget Narrative

Introduction

The FY25 Draft Budget represents a substantial increase in town assessments due to the confluence of five primary factors: the district's Chapter 70 "Hold-Harmless" status, the exhaustion of alternate district revenue sources to balance improperly conceived budgets in FY22 and FY23, under budgeted appropriations in four major areas, large increases in Special Education Tuition and Transportation costs, and state formula calculations shifting greater responsibility to member towns for the foundation budget.

Chapter 70 Hold Harmless Status

Due to a slight decline in FY24 enrollment and a decrease in the state adjustment rate for inflation, the district entered Hold-Harmless status for FY25 Chapter 70 aid. Consequently, the district's increase in Chapter 70 aid is projected to be only \$202,890 for FY25. This amount is in stark contrast to increases of \$2,673,498 in FY23 and \$3,415,519 in FY24. Total State aid to the district increased \$1,039,508 or 2.73% in FY25 in comparison to an increase of \$3,702,386 or 10.76% in FY24. This has resulted in a major shift of revenue generation from the state to local level in support of what is essentially a level services budget. Roughly $\frac{2}{3}$ of Massachusetts School Districts (211) are in Held Harmless status for FY25. This represents an increase this year alone of approximately 80 districts including Wachusett.

District Revenue Exhaustion

Both the FY22 and FY23 budgets required substantial adjustments at the end of the fiscal year to be brought into balance. In both years, budget appropriations were not built to reflect actual expenditures and thus necessitated major corrections at the end of the fiscal year. In FY22, unplanned transfers of \$1.6 million, primarily from district revolving accounts, were required to balance the budget. In FY23, \$942,602 of unplanned transfers were required in addition to \$950,000 in Excess & Deficiency that was used to amend the final budget. Compounding the exhaustion of district revenues to balance these budgets, was the fact that Excess & Deficiency was already being used as a revenue source when those budgets were created. All told, \$2.75 million dollars was used from Excess & Deficiency either to fund or reconcile the FY22 and FY23 budgets.

At present, the Wachusett Regional School District has \$1,233,832 in certified Excess & Deficiency and began the fiscal year with approximately a \$1,000,000 balance in revolving funds. This amount represents less than 2% of the FY24 operating budget and needs to remain available in the event that corrections are necessitated once again at the end of this fiscal year. Ideally these funds would have balances that would allow the district to supplement state and local revenue sources in supporting the FY25 budget. However, this is not the case due to their depletion in the past three fiscal years.

Under Budgeted Appropriations

The budget development process in FY22 and FY23 resulted in underfunded appropriations in four major areas: Special Education Tuition, Transportation, Operations & Maintenance, and Benefits & Insurance. During the FY24 budget development process a correction was made in the appropriations for Benefits & Insurance, Transportation, and Operations & Maintenance. This was not the case for the Special Education Tuition line, as expenditures in this appropriation for FY23 were not available until May 2023 due to the FY22 not being closed on time. As a result, this appropriation does not reflect actual expenditures and needs to be corrected in the FY25 budget. The Special Education Tuition Appropriation has increased from \$2,564,570 in FY24 to \$3,913,818 in FY25, an increase of \$1,350,248 or 52.67%.

Large Increases in Special Education Tuition and Transportation Costs

Poorly developed appropriations for Special Education Tuition and Transportation have been further exacerbated by a dramatic increase in costs in these areas. The State approved an increase in Out of District tuition rates of more than 14% in FY24 and 4.69% in FY25. In addition, the new district transportation contract calls for an increase of 11.5% in FY25.

State Determination of Town Share

The state continues to increase each member town's proportional responsibility to support net school funding. While the state's contribution rose \$1,039,508 or 2.73%, the minimal local contribution for the towns increased a total of \$2,091,337 or 4.26%.

Adjusted FY25 Budget Approach

The impact of the aforementioned factors resulted in a dramatically altered approach to creating the FY25 Budget. In order to minimize what was already an extraordinary increase to town assessments, the district has attempted to pare operating costs wherever possible and only continue to support the initiatives considered integral to the newly created strategic plan. With the exception of an increase to the curriculum line to fund the newly selected elementary ELA program and those necessitated by contractual obligations, there are no significant increases or additional staff in the FY25 Draft Budget.

FY25 Budget by Appropriation

Salaries and Stipends:

\$73,879,307

This appropriation covers salaries for all teachers, substitutes, nurses, related service providers, paraprofessionals, custodians, clerical staff, technical staff, principals, and administrators. Total salaries

for FY25 have an increase of 3.68% which includes actual and projected contractual obligations for all employee groups, as well as projected spending for substitutes and stipends. Our overall increase for Salaries, Stipends and Substitutes is \$2,622,815 above FY24's Appropriation.

Benefits and Insurance: \$22,312,888

The district has received information on health insurance that indicates a projected increase for both active and retired employees of 5.3% above FY24. To offset health care costs the district applies charge-backs to revolving funds such School Lunch , as well as grants, which lowers the "net" total of the Employee Health Insurance operating budget. Cost increases are projected for Other Insurances and Benefits, and for the assessment to the Worcester Regional Retirement System that increased 9.48%. Our overall increase in this Appropriation will be \$1,201,593 above FY24.

Instructional Support: \$4,089,473

The district is implementing the newly-selected Elementary ELA program in FY25. This accounts for an increase to this Appropriation of \$197,447 or 5.09% over FY24.

Operations & Maintenance: \$5,610,127

The district continues to budget for ongoing building repairs and maintenance. The FY25 Draft Budget also includes needed capital improvement projects at WRHS and the Early Education Center. For FY25, this Appropriation is being budgeted at \$5,610,127 which is an increase of \$649,763 or 13.10%.

Pupil Services: \$86,301

This Appropriation supports non-instructional programs in the schools such as the health offices and student related activities. It has increased by \$18,750 or 27.76% due to a new expense for the maintenance of district AEDs.

Special Education Tuition: \$3,913,818

The district is responsible for the costs of student placements at other public schools, private schools, and collaboratives which are determined by the programmatic needs of the individual student. Prior to arranging placements, the district evaluates whether a student's needs can be met through an in-district program and contract services. This budget continues to address all current and pending placement agreements and contract increases. The district supplements this Appropriation by allocating costs to the Circuit Breaker Revolving Fund and the Federal, IDEA grant. For FY25 we are proposing to budget this Appropriation at \$3,913,818 which is an increase of 1,350,248 or 52.67% more than FY24. This allocation was significantly underfunded in FY22, FY23, and FY24.

Other Operating Costs: \$1,602,059

Other Operating Costs include the district's cost for tuition-out expenses for students attending schools in other districts through the School Choice and Charter School programs. This allocation is based on the Cherry Sheet from the Governor's preliminary budget. The appropriation decreased by \$50,686 or -3.07% from FY24.

Transportation: \$9,623,163

The Transportation appropriation reflects a contractual increase of 11.5% in the regular education bus contract as well as in the special education in-district and out-of-district transportation. This appropriation will be budgeted for FY25 at \$9,623,163 which represents an increase of \$1,179,086 or 13.96% more than FY24.

Debt Service: \$862,150

Debt service includes payments for construction bonds for two projects which are the high school renovation/addition project and the Jefferson oil remediation project. This appropriation of \$862,150 reflects a decrease of \$1,399,050 or -61.87% below FY24.

Total Proposed FY25 Appropriation: **\$121,979,287**

WRSD Draft FY25 Budget by Line - 2.29.24

OBJ / ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	FY23		FY24		FY25	
	REVISED BUDGET	ANTICIPATED ACTUAL	APPROVED BUDGET	ACTUAL/ENCUMB. AS OF 2/19/24	DRAFT BUDGET	CHANGE VS FY24 BUDGET
SALARIES & STIPENDS						
501018 Total Administrator Salary	899,734	836,408	1,215,027	1,215,027	1,277,671	62,644
501028 Total Principal Salary	1,570,211	1,539,432	1,542,267	1,542,421	1,532,207	-10,060
501031 Total Admin Spec - Maint	368,583	372,167	390,565	390,565	393,113	2,548
501038 Total Admin Spec Salary	630,712	620,598	648,179	648,179	645,574	-2,605
501041 Total Ed Spec Sal - Reg Ed	623,380	521,206	554,316	554,471	564,940	10,624
501042 Total Ed Spec Sal - SPED	2,655,513	3,305,021	3,735,329	3,698,643	3,660,142	-75,187
501058 Total Tech Asc/Asst Salary	605,710	632,650	623,138	623,138	638,032	14,894
501071 Total Teacher Sal - Reg Ed	35,079,322	36,585,973	37,965,663	37,960,342	39,454,193	1,488,530
501072 Total Teacher Sal - SPED	9,000,586	9,127,103	9,987,445	9,986,859	10,375,386	387,941
501078 Total Teacher Sal - SPED	82,727	88,184	93,322	93,322	98,998	5,676
501079 Total Stipend	-	36,668	1,888	1,593	27,500	25,613
501082 Total SPED Coordinator Sal	450,474	286,953	812,447	812,668	860,653	48,206
501088 Total Asst Principal Salary	1,652,472	1,764,277	1,758,119	1,759,189	1,782,608	24,489
501128 Total Nurse Salary	1,122,642	1,242,792	1,470,024	1,473,614	1,374,402	-95,623
502061 Total Aide Salary - Reg Ed	379,660	472,497	517,028	492,614	461,156	-55,872
502062 Total Aide Salary - SPED	3,625,227	4,141,338	4,128,304	4,113,805	4,213,235	84,931
502068 Total Aide Salary	89,942	88,900	88,285	66,440	35,435	-52,850
502098 Total Custodian Salary	2,891,051	2,776,931	2,818,260	2,807,474	2,965,367	147,107
502101 Total Cler Salary - Reg Ed	109,598	101,459	97,809	97,809	98,593	785
502108 Total Clerical Salary	1,270,645	1,178,495	1,212,541	1,213,743	1,246,162	33,621
502618 Total Student Salary	3,190	11,970	7,814	3,751	12,600	4,786
503078 Total Substitute/Other Stipend	46,353	18,987	-	-	-	-
561201 Total Pro Dev Salary Reg Ed	19,050	-	1,000	440	1,000	-
562202 Total Por Dev Sped Aide	-	-	31,311	25,655	25,646	-5,664
562808 Total Secretary Overtime	2,272	-	2,500	-	2,500	-
563081 Total Sub LT Teach - Reg Ed	39,412	53,010	66,747	28,806	66,747	-
563082 Total Sub LT Teach - SPED	22,723	-	4,518	1,650	5,118	600
563658 Total Athl Coach Stipend	347,454	361,521	338,088	219,642	345,500	7,412
563668 Total Athl Trainer Stipend	54,657	54,122	55,204	55,204	55,204	-
563678 Total Athl Other Stipend	19,919	2,834	4,631	-	-	-4,631
563908 Total Stipend Sch Committee	11,843	1,533	1,896	934	1,896	-
569990 Total Payroll Reserve	4,006,816	-	38,562	-	650,000	611,438
572801 Total Secretary Overtime G	366	-	222	-	-	-222
572808 Total Secretary Overtime - P	256	-	616	616	-	-616
573072 Total Sub Teach Sal - SPED	3,492	88	191	-	-	-191
573528 Total Custodial Overtime	20,599	52,983	53,000	37,985	48,000	-5,000
573538 Total Building Check	16,358	16,450	9,996	9,269	10,250	254
573548 Total Cust Summer	28,100	26,900	43,631	39,191	43,631	-
573638 Total Stu Act Stip - Adv	63,597	72,118	55,447	49,118	63,252	7,805
573648 Total Stu Act Stip - Other	1,698	1,600	4,666	2,001	3,226	-1,441
583041 Total Sub Ed Spec - Reg Ed	14,618	1,954	14,049	4,130	14,049	-
583042 Total Sub Ed Spec - SPED	73,733	1,250	4,316	5,029	4,316	-
583061 Total Sub Aide Sal - Reg Ed	10,816	15,068	11,901	1,552	11,926	25
583062 Total Sub Aide Sal - SPED	121,997	59,923	90,653	88,064	98,009	7,356
583071 Total Sub Teacher - Reg Ed	370,300	518,217	512,924	367,217	505,160	-7,764
583072 Total Sub Teacher - SPED	57,496	91,137	98,527	26,360	60,211	-38,316
583098 Total Sub Custodian	46,706	92,421	70,776	33,413	78,975	8,199
583108 Total Sub Clerical	38,713	6,421	18,015	1,815	12,000	-6,015
583128 Total Sub Nurse	54,528	65,774	55,338	28,720	54,725	-613
Total Salaries & Stipends	68,605,250	67,245,332	71,256,493	70,582,476	73,879,307	2,622,815
BENEFITS & INSURANCE						
568008 Total Health Ins Employee	11,966,223	11,854,983	13,019,817	13,012,333	13,701,987	682,170
568018 Total Health Ins - Retiree	3,072,504	3,252,077	3,296,242	3,293,839	3,468,413	172,171
568028 Total Contract Benefits	62,173	27,257	30,840	13,698	58,852	28,012
568038 Total Sick Lv By Back	116,141	187,251	62,560	13,114	50,000	-12,560
568048 Total FICA W/H	136	-	-	-	-	-
568058 Total Medicare	981,000	954,711	1,042,672	605,298	1,071,250	28,578
568078 Total ACA ESRP Penalty	-	10,024	8,000	1	22,000	14,000
568108 Total Life Insurance	23,336	24,117	59,965	32,965	35,000	-24,965
568128 Total Unemployment	100,223	69,843	64,026	63,855	70,000	5,974
568158 Total Workers' Comp	378,395	317,643	322,312	322,141	328,584	6,272

WRSD Draft FY25 Budget by Line - 2.29.24

OBJ / ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	FY23		FY24		FY25	
	REVISED BUDGET	ANTICIPATED ACTUAL	APPROVED BUDGET	ACTUAL/ENCUMB. AS OF 2/19/24	DRAFT BUDGET	CHANGE VS FY24 BUDGET
568188 Total OPEB Health in Retire	10,900	-	-	-	-	-
568198 Total Health Ins Buyout	80,161	70,450	68,450	68,333	70,000	1,550
568508 Total Gen Lib Insurance	261,940	290,192	330,882	330,882	376,000	45,118
568608 Total Retirement Benefit	2,571,086	2,570,982	2,745,531	2,745,531	3,005,803	260,272
568658 Total Hlth Ins - Town	104,477	54,508	60,000	54,627	55,000	-5,000
Total Benefits & Insurance	19,728,693	19,684,039	21,111,295	20,556,617	22,312,888	1,201,593
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT						
564001 Total Sup & Exp Reg Ed N/D	15,465	-	3,248	340	15,000	11,752
564008 Total Supplies & Expense	50,121	35,808	50,321	32,485	44,500	-5,821
564108 Total Staff Recruiting	9,611	17,961	11,968	13,372	42,000	30,032
564158 Total Telephone	9,943	8,110	8,358	8,180	8,500	142
564168 Total Network & Telecomm	250,007	125,577	125,602	128,047	152,524	26,922
564508 Total Equipment & Furniture	-	-	632	-	-	-632
564518 Total Technology Software	280,648	349,993	436,662	452,487	398,035	-38,627
564528 Total Tech Leases and Hardware	363,360	197,183	311,396	284,055	421,286	109,891
564538 Total Copier Leases	275,702	216,087	151,440	132,554	142,800	-8,640
564548 Total Outside Printing	-	-	332	-	-	-332
564568 Total Supplies & Exp	4,000	2,897	2,978	2,824	3,000	22
564578 Total Technology Repairs	226	36,711	33,995	2,000	-	-33,995
564861 Total Testing Mat - Reg Ed	-	-	347	-	-	-347
565508 Total Equip Maint Fixed Cos	-	-	35,000	-	-	-35,000
565908 Total Contracted Services	112,977	158,405	206,857	230,400	262,036	55,179
565918 Total Legal Cont Svcs	33,540	110,119	118,000	137,374	140,000	22,000
566001 Total Travel Reg Ed N/D	2,422	350	3,000	253	31,600	28,600
566008 Total Travel	37,713	39,231	46,159	38,922	65,700	19,541
566101 Total MCAS Inst P/R	4,688	1,704	950	-	3,500	2,550
566201 Total Membership/Dues	18,156	26,109	26,156	39,877	40,000	13,844
566301 Total Conf/Reg/Con Svs PD	3,717	3,000	3,000	200	3,000	-
566918 Total Legal Settlements	-	9,275	9,275	3,944	15,000	5,725
574001 Total Supply & Exp - Reg Ed.	284,706	262,997	264,346	227,290	298,668	34,322
574002 Total Supply & Exp - SPED	33,072	27,352	50,175	19,138	35,500	-14,675
574004 Total Supply & Exp - Voc Ed	3,658	3,612	3,612	3,247	3,600	-12
574008 Total Principal Supply & Ex	36,113	25,138	28,512	17,808	33,150	4,638
574058 Total Stu Act/Graduation	29,270	36,188	37,094	34,887	42,000	4,906
574158 Total Telephone	32,713	29,233	30,183	29,138	30,183	-
574538 Total Copiers	4,479	25,916	74,184	76,184	76,700	2,516
574551 Total Equ Rep/Main - Reg Ed	2,034	-	156	-	500	344
574561 Total Tech Supply & Exp	5,356	2,571	3,112	2,271	12,440	9,328
575901 Total Cont Svcs - Reg Ed	13,092	42,426	30,830	44,620	48,000	17,170
575918 Total - Legal Cont Svcs - QS	41,000	62,656	66,000	66,001	66,000	-
576001 Total Travel - Reg Ed	3,185	999	1,735	1,149	9,650	7,915
576002 Total Travel - SPED	10,111	5,229	4,582	1,973	-	-4,582
576008 Total Principal Travel	1,058	1,029	748	45	1,478	730
576201 Total Membership/Dues	8,766	8,718	8,470	8,480	9,800	1,330
576301 Total Conf/Reg/Con Svs - PD	114,018	95,555	100,340	43,839	121,540	21,200
576925 Total Other Exp. - Overdraft fees	-	58	-	-	-	-
584001 Total Guidance & Library Sup & Ex	15,267	14,209	14,910	11,294	15,300	390
584501 Total Equip & Furn - Reg Ed	-	4,716	6,294	6,294	6,200	-94
584508 Total Principal Equip & Fur	-	646	645	138	750	105
584521 Total Technology Hardware	80,535	-	-	-	-	-
584801 Total Textbooks - Reg Ed	505,000	236,007	1,064,672	515,007	1,298,458	233,786
584851 Total Lib Period & Public	1,563	1,982	1,226	489	2,000	774
584871 Total Lib Education Mat'l's	14,912	13,746	14,526	14,526	15,000	474
585902 Total Cont Svcs	285,766	417,641	500,000	253,345	174,075	-325,925
Total Instructional Support	2,997,970	2,657,141	3,892,027	2,884,475	4,089,473	197,447
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE						
565108 Total Heat - Oil	899,125	788,503	920,760	895,420	788,830	-131,930
565118 Total Heat - Gas	358,144	468,625	400,790	934,438	539,000	138,210
565128 Total Electricity	1,237,467	1,387,472	1,353,334	1,550,902	1,551,000	197,666
565138 Total Water & Sewer	248,848	202,720	200,000	210,472	216,100	16,100
565428 Total Equipment Lease	759	3,543	3,500	4,276	4,500	1,000

OBJ / ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	FY23		FY24		FY25	
	REVISED BUDGET	ANTICIPATED ACTUAL	APPROVED BUDGET	ACTUAL/ENCUMB. AS OF 2/19/24	DRAFT BUDGET	CHANGE VS FY24 BUDGET
565808 Total Maintenance	364,626	337,415	354,725	335,701	379,000	24,275
565908 Total Custodial Cont Svcs	5,252	2,921	5,673	1,476	5,673	-
566008 Total Travel	-	33	1,088	33	300	-788
575008 Total Cust Supply & Mat	155,274	270,604	273,260	236,609	300,760	27,500
575528 Total Grounds Supply & Mat	25,047	10,652	13,146	300	13,146	-
575558 Total Equipment Repair	37,410	2,025	7,788	38	7,788	-
575578 Total Vehicle Repair	10,185	3,972	6,240	3,218	5,000	-1,240
585158 Total Trash Removal	75,923	87,475	100,000	103,434	114,000	14,000
585208 Total General Repairs	440,270	813,386	731,760	771,194	859,030	127,270
585318 Total Maintenance Contracts	219,005	217,382	255,060	258,309	261,000	5,940
585408 Total Major Projects	275,000	275,000	275,000	82,411	500,000	225,000
585508 Total Custodial Equipment	23,406	9,939	15,000	-	15,000	-
585908 Total Bldg Sec Cont Svcs	60,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	-
Total Operations & Maintenance	4,435,741	4,931,667	4,967,124	5,438,232	5,610,127	643,003
PUPIL SERVICES						
565908 Total Contracted Services	-	1,444.70	-	-	-	-
566408 Total Nurse Course Reim - Contract	-	978.14	636	874	5,000.00	4,364.00
568208 Total Student Insurance	9,675.00	6,733.00	6,733.00	6,733.00	6,733.00	-
574008 Total Supplies & Expenses	19,364.00	13,202.40	19,464.00	14,269.01	18,020.00	-1,444.00
574058 Total Stu Act/Graduation	-	192.98	-	-	-	-
574558 Total Equipment Repair	340	-	300	-	14,000.00	13,700.00
584008 Total Athletic Sup & Exp	-	1,220.00	-	-	2,500.00	2,500.00
584508 Total Health Equip & Furn	1,796.00	4,181.00	4,568.00	1,565.23	-	-4,568.00
585908 Total Health Contracted Services	20,933.00	51,558.50	35,950.00	38,402.00	39,048.00	3,098.00
589608 Total Athletic Transport	-	8,957.50	-	886.81	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total Pupil Services	52,108	88,468	67,651	62,730	86,301	18,650
SPECIAL ED TUITIONS						
569702 Total SPED Assess	675,000.00	29,334.00	836,470.00	15,258.00	14,732.00	-821,738.00
569712 Total Tuition Public	100,000.00	-	43,480.00	-	61,048.96	17,568.96
569722 Total Tuition Private	1,300,000.00	2,320,691.45	1,650,000.00	3,840,108.90	2,695,164.21	1,045,164.21
569732 Total Tuition Sum Private	691,699.00	33,606.45	33,620.00	-	25,461.65	-8,158.35
569772 Total Tuition Collabor	-	1,031,055.84	-	1,001,807.15	1,117,411.19	1,117,411.19
Total Special Ed Tuitions	2,766,699	3,414,688	2,563,570	4,857,174	3,913,818	1,350,248
OTHER OPERATING COSTS						
567268 Total Bdg Rent/Lease - Admin	5	5	5	5	5	-
569751 Total Tuition Sch Ch	799,279.00	730,440.00	768,108.00	371,020.00	776,555.00	8,447.00
569761 Total Tuition Charter	708,298.00	833,787.00	884,632.00	415,346.00	825,499.00	-59,133.00
Total Other Operating Costs	1,507,582	1,564,232	1,652,745	786,371	1,602,059	-50,686
TRANSPORTATION						
569601 Total Transport	4,277,699.00	4,445,574.99	4,534,795.80	4,566,539.32	5,078,162.70	543,366.90
569621 Total Trasp McKinney Vento	50,000.00	36,690.00	71,630.00	51,800.00	60,000.00	-11,630.00
569622 Total Transportation - ESSA/Foster -	-	16,240.00	-	35,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00
569632 Total Tran SPED in District	1,442,652.00	1,484,090.37	1,739,706.92	1,846,611.42	1,950,000.00	210,293.08
569642 Total Tran SPED Out of Dist	1,894,836.00	2,182,485.45	2,097,944.35	2,331,393.87	2,500,000.00	402,055.65
Total Transportation	7,665,187	8,165,081	8,444,077	8,831,345	9,623,163	1,179,086
DEBT SERVICE						
567826 Total Bond Principal	2,050,000.00	2,050,000.00	2,115,000.00	2,115,000.00	770,000.00	-1,345,000.00
567827 Total Bond Interest	227,150.00	227,150.00	146,200.00	146,200.00	92,150.00	-54,050.00
Total Debt Service	2,277,150	2,277,150	2,261,200	2,261,200	862,150	-1,399,050
Total General Fund	110,036,392	110,027,798	116,216,182	116,260,620	121,979,286	5,763,105

FY25 DRAFT Assessments - 2/29/24

<u>Min. Local Contrib.</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025 Proposed per House 1 1.24.24</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$21,404,782	\$22,192,218	\$23,138,149	\$945,931	4.26%
Paxton	\$4,733,160	\$4,860,250	\$4,997,947	\$137,697	2.83%
Princeton	\$3,836,083	\$4,009,651	\$4,223,361	\$213,710	5.33%
Rutland	\$8,123,913	\$8,718,417	\$9,185,650	\$467,233	5.36%
Sterling	\$8,936,125	\$9,320,886	\$9,647,652	\$326,766	3.51%
Total Local Contrib.	\$47,034,063	\$49,101,422	\$51,192,759	\$2,091,337	4.45%
<u>Discretionary</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$8,654,036	\$9,029,848	\$10,778,484	\$1,748,636	19.37%
Paxton	\$1,698,287	\$1,747,528	\$2,085,938	\$338,410	19.37%
Princeton	\$1,116,533	\$1,189,847	\$1,420,261	\$230,415	19.37%
Rutland	\$4,149,963	\$4,637,155	\$5,535,144	\$897,988	19.37%
Sterling	\$2,448,063	\$2,494,285	\$2,977,305	\$483,020	19.37%
Total Discretionary	\$18,066,882	\$19,098,663	\$22,797,132	\$3,698,469	19.37%
<u>Transportation</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$2,652,422	\$3,025,568	\$3,174,609	\$149,040	4.93%
Paxton	\$520,517	\$585,532	\$614,375	\$28,843	4.93%
Princeton	\$342,212	\$398,674	\$418,312	\$19,639	4.93%
Rutland	\$1,271,944	\$1,553,739	\$1,630,277	\$76,538	4.93%
Sterling	\$750,320	\$835,743	\$876,912	\$41,169	4.93%
Total Transportation	\$5,537,415	\$6,399,256	\$6,714,485	\$315,229	4.93%
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$1,095,195	\$1,073,661	\$404,499	-\$669,162	-62.33%
Paxton	\$225,612	\$220,647	\$88,287	-\$132,360	-59.99%
Princeton	\$123,911	\$103,356	\$44,144	-\$59,212	-57.29%
Rutland	\$522,332	\$548,660	\$204,051	-\$344,609	-62.81%
Sterling	\$310,103	\$314,879	\$121,169	-\$193,710	-61.52%
Total Debt Service	\$2,277,153	\$2,261,203	\$862,150	-\$1,399,053	-61.87%
<u>Total for Towns</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$33,806,435	\$35,321,295	\$37,495,740	\$2,174,445	6.16%
Paxton	\$7,177,576	\$7,413,957	\$7,786,547	\$372,590	5.03%
Princeton	\$5,418,739	\$5,701,527	\$6,106,079	\$404,551	7.10%
Rutland	\$14,068,152	\$15,457,972	\$16,555,122	\$1,097,150	7.10%
Sterling	\$12,444,611	\$12,965,793	\$13,623,038	\$657,245	5.07%
Total for Towns	\$72,915,513	\$76,860,544	\$81,566,526	\$4,705,982	6.12%
<u>State Aid</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Ch. 70 Aid	\$32,435,516	\$35,851,035	\$36,053,925	\$202,890	0.57%
Ch. 71 Transportation	\$1,852,071	\$2,044,820	\$2,908,678	\$863,858	42.25%
Ch. 70 Charter Aid	\$133,280	\$227,398	\$200,158	-\$27,240	-11.98%
Total State Aid	\$34,420,867	\$38,123,253	\$39,162,761	\$1,039,508	2.73%
<u>Local Revenue</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Medicaid	\$625,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	0.00%
Interest	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$275,000	\$225,000	450.00%
Misc. Revenue	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$0	0.00%
Excess & Deficiency	\$1,800,000	\$200,000	\$0	-\$200,000	-100.00%
Total Local Revenue	\$2,700,000	\$1,225,000	\$1,250,000	\$25,000	2.04%
Total Revenue	\$110,036,381	\$116,208,797	\$121,979,287	\$5,770,490	4.97%

FY25 Assessments

March 5, 2024

<u>Min. Local Contrib.</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023 Amended 6/28/2023</u>	<u>2024 Proposed per House 1 #. 2.23.23</u>	<u>2024 Amended 6/28/2023</u>	<u>2025 Proposed per House 1 #. 1.24.24</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$21,404,782	\$21,404,782	\$22,192,218	\$22,192,218	\$23,138,149	\$945,931	4.26%
Paxton	\$4,733,160	\$4,733,160	\$4,860,250	\$4,860,250	\$4,997,947	\$137,697	2.83%
Princeton	\$3,836,083	\$3,836,083	\$4,009,651	\$4,009,651	\$4,223,361	\$213,710	5.33%
Rutland	\$8,123,913	\$8,123,913	\$8,718,417	\$8,718,417	\$9,185,650	\$467,233	5.36%
Sterling	\$8,936,125	\$8,936,125	\$9,320,886	\$9,320,886	\$9,647,652	\$326,766	3.51%
Total Local Contrib.	\$47,034,063	\$47,034,063	\$49,101,422	\$49,101,422	\$51,192,759	\$2,091,337	4.45%
<u>Discretionary</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$8,654,036	\$8,654,036	\$9,168,930	\$9,073,908	\$10,778,484	\$1,704,576	18.79%
Paxton	\$1,698,287	\$1,698,287	\$1,799,774	\$1,781,122	\$2,085,938	\$304,816	17.11%
Princeton	\$1,116,533	\$1,116,533	\$1,147,884	\$1,135,988	\$1,420,261	\$284,273	25.02%
Rutland	\$4,149,963	\$4,149,963	\$4,614,214	\$4,566,395	\$5,535,144	\$968,749	21.21%
Sterling	\$2,448,063	\$2,448,063	\$2,567,861	\$2,541,249	\$2,977,305	\$436,056	17.16%
Total Discretionary	\$18,066,882	\$18,066,882	\$19,298,663	\$19,098,662	\$22,797,132	\$3,698,470	19.37%
<u>Transportation</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$2,652,422	\$2,652,422	\$3,040,331	\$3,040,331	\$3,174,609	\$134,278	4.42%
Paxton	\$520,517	\$520,517	\$596,788	\$596,788	\$614,375	\$17,587	2.95%
Princeton	\$342,212	\$342,212	\$380,628	\$380,628	\$418,312	\$37,684	9.90%
Rutland	\$1,271,944	\$1,271,944	\$1,530,030	\$1,530,030	\$1,630,277	\$100,247	6.55%
Sterling	\$750,320	\$750,320	\$851,479	\$851,479	\$876,912	\$25,433	2.99%
Total Transportation	\$5,537,415	\$5,537,415	\$6,399,256	\$6,399,256	\$6,714,485	\$315,229	4.93%
<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$1,095,195	\$1,095,195	\$1,073,661	\$1,073,661	\$404,499	(\$669,162)	-62.33%
Paxton	\$225,612	\$225,612	\$220,647	\$220,647	\$88,287	(\$132,360)	-59.99%
Princeton	\$123,911	\$123,911	\$103,356	\$103,356	\$44,144	(\$59,212)	-57.29%
Rutland	\$522,332	\$522,332	\$548,660	\$548,660	\$204,051	(\$344,609)	-62.81%
Sterling	\$310,103	\$310,103	\$314,879	\$314,879	\$121,169	(\$193,710)	-61.52%
Total Debt Service	\$2,277,153	\$2,277,153	\$2,261,203	\$2,261,203	\$862,150	(\$1,399,053)	-61.87%
<u>Total for Towns</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Holden	\$33,806,435	\$33,806,435	\$35,475,140	\$35,380,118	\$37,495,740	\$2,115,622	5.98%
Paxton	\$7,177,576	\$7,177,576	\$7,477,459	\$7,458,807	\$7,786,547	\$327,740	4.39%
Princeton	\$5,418,739	\$5,418,739	\$5,641,519	\$5,629,623	\$6,106,079	\$476,456	8.46%
Rutland	\$14,068,152	\$14,068,152	\$15,411,321	\$15,363,502	\$16,555,122	\$1,191,620	7.76%
Sterling	\$12,444,611	\$12,444,611	\$13,055,105	\$13,028,493	\$13,623,038	\$594,545	4.56%
Total for Towns	\$72,915,513	\$72,915,513	\$77,060,544	\$76,860,543	\$81,566,526	\$4,705,983	6.12%
<u>State Aid</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Ch. 70 Aid	\$32,435,516	\$32,435,516	\$35,851,035	\$35,851,035	\$36,053,925	\$202,890	0.57%
Ch. 71 Transportation	\$1,852,071	\$1,852,071	\$2,044,820	\$2,044,820	\$2,908,678	\$863,858	42.25%
Ch. 70 Charter Aid	\$133,280	\$133,280	\$227,398	\$227,398	\$200,158	(\$27,240)	-11.98%
Total State Aid	\$34,420,867	\$34,420,867	\$38,123,253	\$38,123,253	\$39,162,761	\$1,039,508	2.73%
<u>Local Revenue</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>\$Diff+/-</u>	<u>%Diff+/-</u>
Medicaid	\$625,000	\$625,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	0.00%
Interest	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$275,000	\$225,000	450.00%
Misc. Revenue	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$225,000	\$0	0.00%
Excess & Deficiency	\$850,000	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$200,000	\$0	(\$200,000)	-100.00%
Total Local Revenue	\$1,750,000	\$2,700,000	\$1,025,000	\$1,225,000	\$1,250,000	\$25,000	2.04%
Total Revenue	\$109,086,380	\$110,036,381	\$116,208,797	\$116,208,796	\$121,979,287	\$5,770,491	4.97%