

Town of Somers

Proposed Annual Budget 2016-2017

To: Somers Residents

April 8, 2016

The 2016-2017 fiscal years' proposed budget is \$31,396,041. This budget represents an overall increase of 2.28% over last year's adopted budget of \$30,696,103 and allows the Town to continue maintaining the same level of programs and services to its residents. We are recommending a slight increase of 0.85 mills to the current mill rate of 23.37 bringing the new mill rate to 24.22. This represents the first mill increase since the 2013-2014 fiscal year. While other towns have regularly increased their mill rate, ours has remained the same for the past three years. We believe the effects of revaluation and the desire to not negatively impact our community needs has made this increase necessary. For the majority of taxpayers who saw a decline in their property assessments after revaluation, this mill increase will not result in a corresponding tax increase.

With regard to revenues, the Town's Grand List decreased by 2.31%, resulting in a reduction in projected tax revenues. The General Government budget of \$7,410,849 represents a zero percent increase over last year. Overall, Debt Service expenditures have increased by 6.11% and the General Fund contribution to the Capital Improvement Projects fund has increased by 25.0%. The Board of Education approved a \$22,014,859 budget for a 2.57% increase.

ANNUAL BUDGET

	FY 2015/2016 Adopted Budget	FY 2016/2017 Proposed Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
Town Government	\$7,410,849	\$7,410,849	\$0	0.00%
Board of Education	\$21,463,926	\$22,014,859	\$550,933	2.57%
Capital Improvements - Town Funded	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$50,000	25.00%
Debt Service	\$1,621,328	\$1,720,333	\$99,005	6.11%
TOTAL	\$30,696,103	\$31,396,041	\$699,938	2.28%

REVENUES

	FY 2015/2016 Adopted Budget	FY 2016/2017 Proposed Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
Property Taxes	\$19,851,127	\$20,264,040	\$412,913	2.08%
State Aid	\$9,428,593	\$9,565,139	\$136,546	1.45%
Use of Fund Balance	\$524,984	\$559,257	\$34,273	6.53%
Other Financing Sources	\$891,399	\$1,007,605	\$116,206	13.04%
TOTAL	\$30,696,103	\$31,396,041	\$699,938	2.28%

Somers Board of Finance: James Persano-Chairman, Timothy Geib-Vice Chairman, Thomas Mazzoli, Michael Parker, Joseph Tolisano, and William Salka

See www.somersct.gov for additional Town proposed budget information
 See www.somers.k12.ct.us for additional Board of Education proposed budget information
 Budget is also available at the Town Hall, Library and Senior Center

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS

* * * CAST YOUR VOTE ON THE 2016-2017 BUDGET * * *

**PLEASE
ATTEND
MEETINGS**

▶ **April 19, 2016 - Public Hearing 7:00pm** ◀
Somers Elementary School Auditorium
*To Discuss the 2016-2017 Annual Budget and
 Receive Your Comments*

▶ **May 3, 2016 - Annual Town Meeting 7:00pm** ◀
Somers Town Hall Auditorium
To Adopt the Annual Budget and Set a Referendum Date

▶ **May 10, 2016 – Referendum** ◀
Somers Town Hall Auditorium
VOTE on the Annual Budget

**CAST
YOUR VOTE!**