



Town Council Budget in Brief

Explanatory Text

Proposed Fiscal Year 08/09 Budget

**Annual Budget Presentation, Tuesday, April 29, 2008
7:30 PM, Tolland High School Auditorium**

Budget Referendum, Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Overview

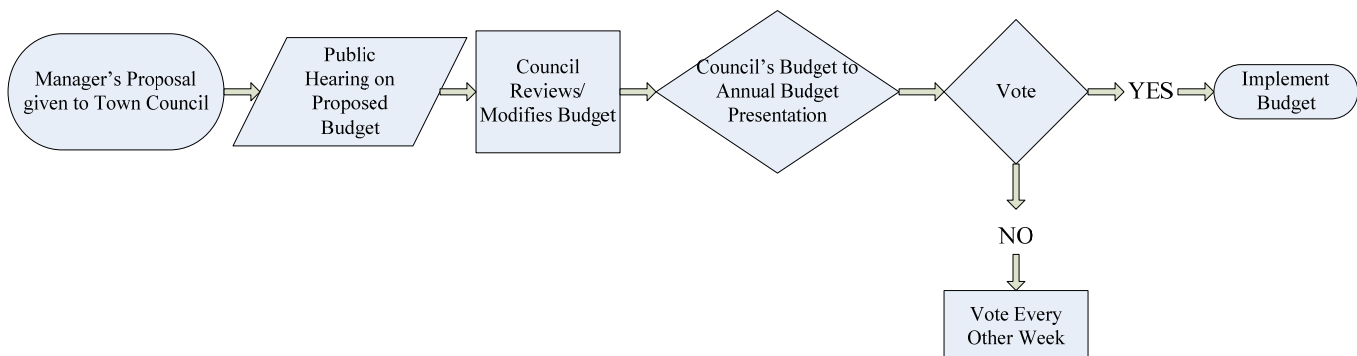
Tolland, a rural community with a strong residential tax base, continues to address the priority-setting which affects our quality of life through our annual budget process. This all important decision making process includes deliberations about whether to expand or reduce programs, the program needs of the Board of Education, whether to maintain infrastructure, and whether to develop non-residential revenues and fees or to ask the taxpayer to bear the burden of the higher costs of providing services.

The Town Council's proposed budget results in the following:

- **3.95% increase to the tax rate.**
- **Last twelve month inflation rate was 4.1%.**
- **Estimated tax increase on a yearly basis for a house assessed at \$150,000 or market value of \$240,000 is \$168.**
- **Estimated tax increase on a yearly basis for a house assessed at \$260,000 or market value of \$441,000 is \$291.**
- **Estimated tax increase on a yearly basis for a house assessed at \$370,000 or market value of \$627,000 is \$414.**

To calculate your own tax impact, please go to www.visionappraisal.com to obtain your home's assessed value. Your home's assessed value times 0.02951 will equal next year's proposed tax. Current year's mill rate is 28.39 for comparison purposes.

This Budget in Brief document provides a broad overview of the proposed fiscal year 2008-2009 budget. The full budget document is available on the Town's website at www.tolland.org.



BUDGET PROCESS

Budget Summary

The expenditure part of the budget is broken down into the categories of General Government, Board of Education, Debt Service and Capital Expenditures.

Budget Area	Adopted Budget FY 07-08	Requested Budget FY 08-09	% Change
General Government	\$10,488,584	\$10,888,941	3.82%
Board of Education	\$31,590,846	\$33,473,797	5.96%
Capital	\$ 462,859	\$ 506,037	9.33%
Debt Service	\$ 4,271,203	\$ 4,411,191	3.28%
Total	\$46,813,492	\$49,279,966	5.27%

To learn more about the fiscal year 2009 proposed budget, you can view the full budget document online at www.tolland.org under 2008/2009 Budget. Copies are also available for viewing in the Library during regular office hours.

*Annual Budget Presentation, Tuesday, April 29, 2008
The Budget referendum date is Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

If you have questions or concerns about the FY 08/09 proposed budget, please don't hesitate to email the Town Council at towncouncil@tolland.org or Tolland's Town Manager, Steven Werbner at swerbner@tolland.org or call the Town Manager's Office at 871-3600.

TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS

Guidelines for additional tax relief for qualified Tolland seniors and disabled persons are available in the Town Assessor's Office or by calling 871-3656.

Application Deadline: May 15, 2008.

Community Involvement – Operational Efficiencies and Cost Containment Efforts

Over the last six months the Town Administration with the support of the Town Council has been involved in a series of Community Conversations with residents regarding the Town budget. Results of the Community Conversation process are available on the Town's web page. In addition public hearings have been held on the Capital as well as Operating Budget. Details on the Town Manager's proposed budget have appeared in the Tolland Monthly as well as local newspapers. The Town's website contains the latest budget detail. **Residents are encouraged to sign up on the Town's website for the Town's email subscription service which provides regular updates or important Town news as well as upcoming meetings.**

Board of Education Summary

The Board of Education is funded at \$33,473,797 which is 97.26% of the amount requested. This amount results in a 5.96% increase to the Board of Education over the amount provided for in the current fiscal year. Details of the Board of Education budget are available at www.tolland.k12.ct.us.

Revenues

- The property tax is the major revenue source accounting for 73.19% of all revenue for Tolland.
- The increase in the 2007 Grand List was 1.64% over the preceding year which provides \$560,987 in new tax revenue without an increase in the mill rate.
- In the FY 08/09 budget, one mill will now raise \$1,210,563 of taxes.
- The Town Council's proposed budget requires a mill rate of 29.51 to balance the budget. Last year's adopted mill rate was 28.39. This budget request requires a 1.12 mill rate increase or 3.95% tax rate increase.
- Intergovernmental revenues, mostly state aid, are the second largest source (24.36%) of revenues for Tolland.
- Other Local Revenues consist of a variety of fees for permits, services and interest earnings and account for 2.47% of revenues. This source of revenue is expected to decrease in FY 08/09 due to falling interest rates and reductions in Other revenue due to a slowing real estate market.

Summary

Town Government Increase	\$ 400,357
Board of Education Increase	\$1,882,951
Total Town Appropriations Increase	\$2,466,474

The information in this brochure was prepared through the Town Clerk's Office.

Tolland Town Council
21 Tolland Green
Tolland, CT 06084

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Tolland, CT 06084

Budget Referendum, Tuesday, May 6, 2008

“Shall the Town of Tolland’s proposed 2008-2009 budget of \$49,279,966, reflecting an increase of \$2,466,474 equal to a 3.95% tax increase of 1.12 mills compared to the current mill rate and requiring a tax rate of 29.51 mills, be adopted? Yes/No”