# Review of Proposed Debt Issuance Plan 

## \&

## Financial Indicators

Town of Tolland, Connecticut January 2012

## Executive Summary

## Existing and Authorized-But-Unissued Debt

As of June 30, 2012, the Town of Tolland will have outstanding gross tax-supported debt in the principal amount of $\$ 54,571,571$, not including sewer debt paid from assessments. Authorized-but-unissued debt includes the balance of the new high school project at $\$ 43,727, \$ 370,338$ for various open space projects, $\$ 1,227,085$ for various capital projects, $\$ 617,000$ for the sewer project, and $\$ 1,762,936$ for the Birch Grove School expansion, for a total of $\$ 4,021,086$.

## Proposed Capital Projects

Actual and proposed capital projects for fiscal years ending 2011 through 2017 total \$6,726,938. See below for detailed listing of projects.

Proposed Capital Projects

| 2010/11 remaining capital projects | \$ | 100,000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2011/12 remaining capital projects | \$ | 276,738 |
| 2012/13 BOE projects | \$ | 659,000 |
| 2012/13 streets \& roads |  | 578,600 |
| 2012/13 public facilities |  | 30,000 |
|  | \$ | 1,267,600 |
| 2013/14 capital equipment | \$ | 147,000 |
| 2013/14 streets \& roads |  | 1,201,300 |
|  | \$ | 1,348,300 |
| 2014/15 pavement management | \$ | 480,000 |
| 2014/15 Parker school boiler \& roof |  | 1,200,300 |
|  | \$ | 1,680,300 |
| 2015/16 town administration | \$ | 250,000 |
| 2015/16 Birch Grove Primary |  | 100,000 |
| 2015/16 capital equipment |  | 289,000 |
| 2015/16 pavement management |  | 580,000 |
|  | \$ | 1,219,000 |
| 2016/17 Birch Grove Primary | \$ | 100,000 |
| 2016/17 Capital Equipment |  | 155,000 |
| 2016/17 Pavement Management |  | 580,000 |
|  | \$ | 835,000 |
| Total Capital Projects | \$ | 6,726,938 |

## Proposed Debt Issuance Plan

The recommended financing strategy for the authorized-but-unissued debt and proposed capital projects listed above includes a combination of a series of bond anticipation notes and bonds issued within the next five years. The THS Field Lights borrowing for $\$ 300,000$ is included in the bond dated $9 / 1 / 14$ but is not expected to impact the general fund debt service as it will be funded through private donations.

See below for details.

| BAN \#3B | Dated 9/15/12, due 9/14/13 | 2012/13 capital projects | \$ | 1,267,600 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 2011/12 capital projects ( façade, drainage) |  | 276,738 |
|  |  | 2010/11capital projects remain drainage |  | 100,000 |
|  |  |  |  | 1,644,338 |
|  | Dated 9/15/12, due 9/14/13 | THS Field Lights* |  | 300,000 |
|  |  | BAN \#3B Total | \$ | 1,944,338 |
| Fiscal Year 2013/14 CIP year 2 |  |  |  |  |
| BAN \#4 | Dated 9/14/13, due 9/13/14 | Rollover of BAN \#3B | \$ | 1,644,338 |
|  | Dated 9/14/13, due 9/13/14 | 2013/14 capital projects |  | 1,348,300 |
|  |  |  | \$ | 2,992,638 |
|  | Dated 9/14/13, due 9/13/14 | THS Field Lights* | \$ | 300,000 |
|  |  | BAN \#4 Total |  | 3,292,638 |
| Fiscal Year 2014/15 CIP year 3 |  |  |  |  |
| Bond \#5 | Dated 9/1/14, due 9/1/15-24 | Rollover BAN \#4 | \$ | 2,992,638 |
|  | Dated 9/1/14, due 9/1/15-24 | 2014/15 pavement management |  | 480,000 |
|  | Dated 9/1/14, due 9/1/15-24 | THS Field Lights* |  | 300,000 |
|  |  | issuance costs |  | 52,362 |
|  |  |  | \$ | 3,825,000 |
| Fiscal Year 2015/16 CIP year 4 |  |  |  |  |
| BAN \#5 | Dated 9/15/15, due 9/14/16 | 2014/15 Parker School Boiler and Roof | \$ | 1,200,300 |
|  |  | 2015/16 capital projects | \$ | 1,219,000 |
|  |  | BAN\#5 Total | \$ | 2,419,300 |
| Fiscal Year 2016/17 CIP year 5 |  |  |  |  |
| BAN \#6 | Dated 9/14/16, due 9/13/17 | Rollover of BAN\#5 | \$ | 2,419,300 |
|  |  | 2016/17 capital projects | \$ | 835,000 |
|  |  | BAN \#6 Total | \$ | 3,254,300 |
|  |  | Total Bonds Proposed | \$ | 3,825,000 |

## Existing and Proposed Debt Service

The solid color represents the town's existing debt service, and the candy cane portion is what is proposed in this debt plan. The peak debt service year for existing debt for Tolland is in the current fiscal year of 2012. When proposed debt is taken into account, the peak year is 2015. Debt service remains steady until 2016 when there is a slight decrease, and then there is a sharp decline beginning in the FY2019. The decline will allow the Town the ability to fund more capital projects through debt service without significantly increasing the amount of money allocated each year to debt service payments. In the 2017 fiscal year the proposed debt service has been offset by $\$ 188,390$ of bond premium received.


The Proposed Debt Issuance Plan makes the following assumptions:

- Bonds issued in fiscal year ending 2015 are assumed to be issued at a true interest cost of $3.25 \%$ with a final maturity of ten years. (Current market rates are about 2.5 to $2.35 \%$ for ten-year bonds).
- The proposed bond anticipation notes assume a net interest cost of 2\% (Current market rates for notes are less than 1\%).
- Growth in the grand list was assumed at $1 \%$ starting at fiscal year 2013 and going forward.


## Mill Rate Impact

The mill rate impact for the Proposed Debt Issuance Plan does not increase the mill rate for debt service. The mill rate allocated to debt service is expected to decrease in the 2013 fiscal year by .09 with a gradual decline for the next 6 years to 3.33 mills in 2018.


## Financial Indicators

Debt ratios are used by rating agencies to determine a municipality's credit rating and worthiness. Standard \& Poor's rating agency categorizes the Town's debt burden as "low to moderate." Fitch Ratings reports the Town's debt position as "moderate" and "manageable."

Every year the Office of Policy and Management publishes "Municipal Fiscal Indicators," which showcase indicators related to debt, budget, and grand list information for each town in Connecticut. The most recent publication showed the average debt per capita for towns with populations between 10,000 and 30,000 at $\$ 2,058$. The same statistic for all towns in Connecticut was $\$ 2,187$. Tolland's debt per capita for the fiscal year 2012 is $\$ 3,626$. This is expected to decrease beginning in the 2013 fiscal year gradually sinking below $\$ 2,000$ per capita by fiscal year 2019 .

The average annual debt service for towns in the 10,000 to 30,000 population range was $\$ 5,017,955$ and $\$ 5,808,922$ for all towns in Connecticut. By comparison, Tolland's annual debt service for the fiscal year 2012 is $\$ 4,724,128$. If the proposed debt plan is approved, the annual debt service will decrease to $\$ 4,642,785$ in the 2013 fiscal year, and decrease each year thereafter. This is still within the range of average as compared with other towns in Connecticut.

The follow charts show a projected trend of the Town's debt ratios should the Town carry out the financing strategy as proposed.



