

**BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 26, 2016
MEETING ROOM B TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: Jeff Rutishauser, Richard Creeth, John Kalamarides, Walter Kress, Peter Balderston (via phone)

ABSENT: Warren Serenbetz

Others Present: Anne Kelly-Lenz, CFO; several members of the press and public

Call to Order

Chairman Jeff Rutishauser called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting December 15, 2015

Mr. Rutishauser asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. John Kalamarides so moved, Walter Kress seconded and the motion carried 5-0-1.

Election of Committee Members

Mr. Rutishauser explained that Walter Kress had asked to be removed from serving as a Trustee to the Wilton Pension, as his employer deemed it a potential conflict of interest. Therefore, Mr. Rutishauser recommended that John Kalamarides return to the Wilton Pension Board and Warren Serenbetz return to OPEB. John Kalamarides made the motion to approve these nominations, Richard Creeth seconded and the motion carried 5-0-1. The recommendations to the BOS will be acted on at their next Regular Meeting, on February 1st, so that all will be in order for the quarterly Investment, Pension and OPEB meeting Wednesday, the 3rd.

Status of Audit – Anne Kelly-Lenz

Yesterday the town filed an extension for another two weeks, so as to correct the cash issue discussed at last month's meeting. The auditors were now fine with the correction that related to an active health care account. The auditors were given some additional requested schedules, and there were a few minor corrections she will make to ensure the Audit goes through without any discrepancies. Anne added that the auditors felt that she should wait a couple weeks vs. filing the next day to ensure closing out everything appropriately with all the requested schedules. There are no implications from filing this week, as the first extension was filed properly on December 1st. The new filing deadline is February 15th. The Management Letter would be approved at the same time.

John Kalamarides asked how Wilton plans to make the Audit available to the public, saying several towns printed out a supply of the document. Answer: Wilton puts it on-line to give the public access to it. Walter Kress inquired about recommendations for next year. Anne plans to meet with the auditors to tighten up the schedule, so that by the end of November the Audit will be ready. She informed all she is instituting monthly closings. Example: the staff will close out the month of June and then go on to the audit process. The Audit will be an Agenda Item for February's Regular Meeting. The auditors most likely will not attend that meeting.

FY16 Status Report

Richard Creeth complimented Anne on the report, saying the new format was very useful. Anne replied it was a collaborative effort among Lynne Vanderslice, IT and herself. With the new Forecast field Anne stated department heads will now be asked to review monthly and make adjustments as needed. Walter asked Anne to add a Last Year's actual column as a benchmark, and Richard commented the same would be needed for the budgeting process. Peter asked for a percentage of total budget spent also be included in the report. Discussion followed on whether the New World system would be able to handle monthly budgets, and Anne indicated it might be available in a new system upgrade due to the New World merger. Anne then reviewed highlights of her report and answered questions. Anne mentioned that the state PILOT revenue will fall from \$96,000, cut to \$91,000, then cut to zero.

FY 17 Budget Discussion

Walter Kress spoke about the attached report, saying the school budget absorbs about 69% of the town's revenues. The report looks at the declining enrollment, the salary component, the students to staff ratio, the composition of staff and the special education needs of the schools. Mr. Kress said the BOF is very sensitive to the special education needs, which is seeing an increase of 20% in students and is approximately 25% of the budget – a very significant driver in the budget discussions - and will encourage the BOE to look closely at the numbers. Jeff commented that a study of this nature has been done about every 25 years as enrollments fell after the Baby Boom children left the school system.

Committee Reports

John Kalamarides - Miller Driscoll: Everything is proceeding well. There are two new members; Patti Temple (doing communications) and a parent (who runs a company that does environmental testing in buildings). John felt these were good additions to the Committee. Lynne Vanderslice is attending the meetings. Bruce Hampson resigned as Chair, but no new Chair has yet been appointed. Turner now has an on-site building superintendent to ensure daily everything is working properly.

Richard Creeth - Comstock Building Committee: They are only 2 or 3 meetings away from completion and are scheduled to wrap up the end of this month. A little work will be done in the spring and all is on track with "favorable variances".

Both John and Richard felt it very worthwhile for the BOF to sit in on Departmental Budget meetings.

Other Business

Peter Balderston reminded all he plans to present his proposal of a "central repository" of key data next month and touched briefly on the concept and what would be involved to support such a repository.

Jeff reminded all about their upcoming budget meeting with the BOE on Monday, February 22nd. The BOE requests that questions be submitted in advance. Jeff asked that BOF members send in any questions to him, and he will compile them and send over to the BOE. A target date to get the questions to Jeff is February 12th.

Public Participation

Alex Ruskewich, 22 Calvin Road, asked to speak. He gave the BOF a handout (on file) and spoke to the main points of it. He spoke of the importance of not increasing taxes, citing Wilton's housing recovery rate, companies leaving Connecticut and the declining enrollment and told where he ascertained his data. Richard Creeth and Peter Balderston challenged the housing recovery rate data and discussion followed. Jeff Rutishauser acknowledged lots of trends will not turn around soon and the need to adapt. He stated the BOF will be taking a serious look at to what to put forth as recommendations vs. prior years' strategy. All BOF present thanked Mr. Ruskewich for his participation and interest.

Having no further business, Richard Creeth moved to adjourn; seconded by Walter Kress and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Fager
(from video recording)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Telephone (203) 563-0114
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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

January 22nd, 2016

To: Board of Finance

From: Anne Kelly Lenz *AKL*

Re: FY 2016 Financial Reporting-December

We have added forecasting by department as a component of our monthly financial reporting.

I wanted to share an overview of the FY 2016 forecast versus the budget and will speak to more details on the night of the meeting. Please forward any questions in advance of the meeting so I can be prepared with the answers.

FY 2016 revenues are currently forecasted at \$121,491,934 or \$965,876 higher than the budget. Additional revenues are due to \$943,000 of proceeds from the sale of assets, primarily the Danbury Road property plus \$50,000 of anticipated additional supplemental motor vehicle fees off set by a \$25,000 of anticipated shortfall in recording fees due to declines in the number of properties sold and mortgages being refinanced.

FY 2016 BOS operating expenses are currently forecasted at \$30,858,000 or \$285,414 less than the budget. Savings are due to a reduced need for consultants for labor negotiations, delays in filling open positions, reductions in employee benefit costs including workman's compensation and energy savings. Savings are forecasted to be offset by overspending of \$110,000 in legal costs.

Operating Capital is forecasted to be unchanged and Charter Authority is forecasted to be unused.

Revenue

Taxes	115,837,614	70,936,287	44,901,327	115,887,614	50,000
Education Intergovernmental Assistance	1,558,566	400,263	1,158,303	1,568,158	9,592
Town Intergovernmental Assistance	857,443	228,695	628,748	763,964	(93,479)
Licenses, Permits & Fees	1,540,100	832,619	707,481	1,524,510	(15,590)
Other Revenues	474,352	1,236,153	(761,801)	1,484,705	1,010,353
Interest	145,000	111,847	33,153	200,000	55,000
Investments	0	(41,927)	41,927	(50,000)	(50,000)
Capital	112,983	0	112,983	112,983	0
	<u>120,526,058</u>	<u>73,703,937</u>	<u>46,822,121</u>	<u>121,491,934</u>	<u>965,876</u>

Expense

Debt Service	10,616,380	5,653,447	4,962,933	10,606,652	9,728
Board of Education	79,956,024	37,680,103	42,275,921	79,916,538	39,486
Board of Selectmen Operating	31,078,978	15,708,780	15,370,198	30,793,564	285,414
Board of Selectmen Capital	1,795,917	560,661	1,235,256	1,769,233	26,684
Charter Authority	1,230,046	0	1,230,046	1,230,046	1,230,046
	<u>124,677,345</u>	<u>59,602,992</u>	<u>65,074,353</u>	<u>123,085,987</u>	<u>1,591,358</u>

Taxes

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Tax Collector	115,837,614	70,936,287	44,901,327	115,887,614	50,000
Interest And Lien Fees	275,000	108,698	166,302	275,000	0
Back Taxes	400,000	108,115	291,885	400,000	0
Motor Vehicle Supplement	650,000	156,560	493,440	700,000	50,000
Current Property Taxes	114,512,614	70,562,914	43,949,700	114,512,614	0
Total Taxes	115,837,614	70,936,287	44,901,327	115,887,614	50,000

Education Intergovernmental Assistance

Board Of Education	1,558,566	400,263	1,158,303	1,568,158	9,592
School Construct-Interest	0	7,028	(7,028)	7,028	7,028
Adult Education	1,081	35	1,046	35	(1,046)
Transportation	290	3,900	(3,610)	3,900	3,610
Education Cost Sharing	1,557,195	389,299	1,167,896	1,557,195	0
Total Education Intergovernmental Assistance	1,558,566	400,263	1,158,303	1,568,158	9,592

Town Intergovernmental Assistance

Finance Department	288,788	0	288,788	288,788	0
MRSA Bonded Distribution	288,788	0	288,788	288,788	0
Assessor	61,500	57,744	3,756	57,744	(3,756)
Veterans Exemption	4,500	4,722	(222)	4,722	222

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Revenues

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Elderly Tax Relief	57,000	53,022	3,978	53,022	(3,978)
Tax Collector	177,309	3,981	173,328	81,415	(95,894)
Telephone Line Tax Grant	70,000	0	70,000	70,000	0
Pequot Pilot	10,909	3,981	6,928	11,415	506
State Property Tax Refund	96,400	0	96,400	0	(96,400)
Highways	315,846	157,969	157,877	315,846	0
Town Aid Roads	315,846	157,969	157,877	315,846	0
Social Services	14,000	9,000	5,000	20,171	6,171
Youth Svcs.Bureau Grant	14,000	9,000	5,000	20,171	6,171
Total Town Intergovernmental Assistance	857,443	228,695	628,748	763,964	(93,479)
Licenses, Permits & Fees					
Town Clerk	769,400	377,683	391,717	736,885	(32,515)
Town Clerk MERS Recording Fee	4,000	1,470	2,530	2,500	(1,500)
Other Town Clerk Fees	33,000	15,129	17,871	30,000	(3,000)
Vital Statistics	20,000	7,682	12,318	17,000	(3,000)
Farm Fund Fees	12,000	3,701	8,299	7,000	(5,000)
Conveyance Tax	575,000	296,294	278,706	580,000	5,000
Recording Fees	125,000	53,057	71,943	100,000	(25,000)
Marriage Licenses	350	275	75	300	(50)
Sports Licenses	50	76	(26)	85	35

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Revenues

Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav) FY 16 Forecast FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Planning & Zoning	10,400	8,440	1,960	16,000	5,600
ZBA Fees	3,400	2,268	1,132	4,000	600
Application Fees	7,000	6,172	828	12,000	5,000
Finance Department	43,000	20,071	22,929	41,000	(2,000)
Alarm Registration Fees	25,000	9,853	15,148	22,000	(3,000)
Admin Fee - Private Duty	18,000	10,218	7,782	19,000	1,000
Assessor	2,500	938	1,563	2,100	(400)
Assessor Fees	2,500	938	1,563	2,100	(400)
Building	558,800	304,165	254,635	558,800	0
Reproduction Fees	7,800	4,080	3,720	7,800	0
Building Permits	551,000	300,085	250,915	551,000	0
Fire	21,000	4,897	16,103	15,000	(6,000)
Inspection Fees	16,000	1,572	14,428	10,000	(6,000)
Fire Department Fees	5,000	3,325	1,675	5,000	0
Administration	2,500	1,750	750	2,500	0
Road Opening Permits	2,500	1,750	750	2,500	0
Dial-A-Ride	6,500	2,709	3,791	6,500	0
Dial-A-Ride Fees	6,500	2,709	3,791	6,500	0
Parks & Grounds	0	15,100	(15,100)	25,000	25,000
Stadium Lighting	0	15,100	(15,100)	25,000	25,000
Environmental Affairs	35,000	24,688	10,312	35,000	0

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Revenues

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Application Fees	35,000	24,688	10,312	35,000	0
Animal Control	4,000	1,014	2,986	4,000	0
Dog Licenses	4,000	1,014	2,986	4,000	0
Health	68,000	62,900	5,100	63,725	(4,275)
Env Health Permits/Fees	68,000	62,900	5,100	63,725	(4,275)
Senior Center	19,000	8,265	10,735	18,000	(1,000)
Senior Center Fees	19,000	8,265	10,735	18,000	(1,000)
Total Licenses, Permits & Fees	1,540,100	832,619	707,481	1,524,510	(15,590)
Other Revenues					
Planning & Zoning	200	150	50	350	150
Fines	0	150	(150)	150	150
Sale of Regulations and Maps	200	0	200	200	0
Finance Department	0	941,029	(941,029)	943,014	943,014
Miscellaneous Revenue	0	8,229	(8,229)	10,214	10,214
Sale of Assets	0	932,800	(932,800)	932,800	932,800
Tax Collector	0	3,492	(3,492)	4,500	4,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	0	3,492	(3,492)	4,500	4,500
Registrar Of Voters	75	0	75		(75)
Registrar of Voters Fees	75	0	75		(75)
Comstock	5,000	8,035	(3,035)	10,000	5,000

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Revenues

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Comstock	5,000	8,035	(3,035)	10,000	5,000
Other Town Properties	337,202	166,713	170,489	337,202	0
Rent - Gilbert & Bennett	1	0	1	1	0
Rent: Miscellaneous	1	0	1	1	0
Rent: Radio Tower	100,000	50,000	50,000	100,000	0
Rent: Marvin Tavern	37,200	18,600	18,600	37,200	0
Rent: Town Green	100,000	49,292	50,708	100,000	0
Rent: Town Houses	100,000	48,821	51,179	100,000	0
Police	18,750	7,237	11,513	18,100	(650)
Judicial Branch Revenue	9,000	3,570	5,430	9,000	0
Parking Fines	1,700	575	1,125	1,700	0
Fingerprinting	2,000	950	1,050	2,000	0
Police Reports	1,250	712	538	1,400	150
Police Permits	4,800	1,430	3,370	4,000	(800)
Paramedic Service	60,000	40,000	20,000	97,254	37,254
Advanced Life Support Fund	60,000	40,000	20,000	97,254	37,254
Swimming	50,000	56,901	(6,901)	60,000	10,000
Swimming	50,000	56,901	(6,901)	60,000	10,000
Environmental Affairs	2,100	0	2,100	1,000	(1,100)
Sale of Trail Guides	100	0	100	1,000	(100)
Fines	2,000	0	2,000	1,000	(1,000)

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Revenues

Amended Budget

Actual YTD

Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)

FY 16 Forecast

FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Animal Control	1,025	380	645	1,070	45
Sale of Pets	25	10	15	25	0
Dog Impound & Quarantine	1,000	325	675	1,000	0
Animal Population Control	0	45	(45)	45	45
Board Of Education	0	12,215	(12,215)	12,215	12,215
Education - Athletic Fees	0	12,215	(12,215)	12,215	12,215
Total Other Revenues	474,352	1,236,153	(761,801)	1,484,705	1,010,353
Interest					
Finance Department	145,000	111,847	33,153	200,000	55,000
Interest - Investments	145,000	111,847	33,153	200,000	55,000
Total Interest	145,000	111,847	33,153	200,000	55,000
Investments					
Finance Department	0	(41,927)	41,927	(50,000)	(50,000)
Unrealized Inv Gain/Loss	0	(41,927)	41,927	(50,000)	(50,000)
Total Investments	0	(41,927)	41,927	(50,000)	(50,000)
Capital					
Information Systems	112,983	0	112,983	112,983	0
Local Capital Improvement	112,983	0	112,983	112,983	0

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Revenues

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Total Capital	112,983	0	112,983	112,983	0
	120,526,058	73,703,937	46,822,121	121,491,934	965,876

Debt Service

Debt Service	10,616,380	5,653,447	4,962,933	10,606,652	9,728
Total Debt Service	10,616,380	5,653,447	4,962,933	10,606,652	9,728

Board of Education

Board Of Education	79,956,024	37,680,103	42,275,921	79,916,538	39,486
Total Board of Education	79,956,024	37,680,103	42,275,921	79,916,538	39,486

Board of Selectmen Operating

Board of Selectmen	595,449	296,993	298,456	553,943	41,506
Town Clerk	449,518	231,591	217,927	451,451	(1,933)
Planning & Zoning	571,325	284,452	286,873	571,305	20
Board Of Finance	81,423	50,480	30,943	81,423	0
Human Resources	387,353	128,503	258,850	310,117	77,236
HR Reserve	82,951	0	82,951		82,951
Finance Department	892,477	476,948	415,529	894,472	(1,995)
Assessor	372,959	200,565	172,394	368,683	4,276
Tax Collector	235,244	115,768	119,476	233,529	1,715
Town Counsel	188,000	176,689	11,311	298,840	(110,840)
Probate Court	20,000	10,407	9,593	20,000	0
Registrar Of Voters	205,496	93,044	112,452	199,137	6,359

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Expenses

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Town Hall & Annex	289,185	91,191	197,994	271,735	17,450
Town Wide Utilities	236,545	116,655	119,890	236,545	0
Comstock	256,643	74,730	181,913	231,127	25,516
Other Town Properties	138,418	26,939	111,479	136,799	1,619
Ambler Farm	30,960	6,277	24,683	30,960	0
Building	376,876	199,311	177,565	373,660	3,216
Information Systems	754,112	397,238	356,874	773,631	(19,519)
Police	7,268,164	3,880,281	3,387,883	7,260,877	7,287
Fire	4,647,056	2,506,704	2,140,352	4,641,651	5,405
Cert	9,950	3,712	6,238	9,950	0
Emergency Medical Service	102,023	23,347	78,676	94,945	7,078
Paramedic Service	291,386	148,493	142,893	292,283	(897)
Georgetown Fire District	339,750	330,873	8,877	330,873	8,877
Central Dispatch	329,584	123,050	206,534	245,029	84,555
Administration	532,808	252,697	280,111	516,462	16,346
Highways	2,831,150	1,225,542	1,605,608	2,857,542	(26,392)
Transfer Station	275,000	0	275,000	275,000	0
Park & Recreation Admin.	254,404	136,099	118,305	248,089	6,315
Recreation Programs	249,668	128,663	121,005	251,927	(2,259)
Dial-A-Ride	164,821	76,820	88,001	161,167	3,654
Swimming	90,983	55,734	35,249	94,369	(3,386)

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Expenses

FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)

FY 16 Forecast

Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)

Actual YTD

Amended Budget

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Tennis	20,400	17,531	2,869	33,280	(12,880)
Parks & Grounds	888,445	474,818	413,627	883,079	5,366
Environmental Affairs	406,389	179,109	227,280	342,747	63,642
Animal Control	132,023	67,986	64,037	133,996	(1,973)
Health	419,128	226,557	192,571	416,628	2,500
Nursing & Homecare	927,336	456,013	471,323	927,336	0
Private School Welfare	31,500	6,728	24,772	31,500	0
Social Services	477,624	241,854	235,770	488,337	(10,713)
Senior Center	165,943	87,948	77,995	162,980	2,963
Trackside	154,000	77,000	77,000	154,000	0
Employee Benefits	378,934	281,726	97,208	395,434	(16,500)
Insurance	782,603	368,213	414,390	765,799	16,804
Library	2,692,972	1,346,509	1,346,463	2,692,927	45
Route 7 Bus Service	5,000	2,500	2,500	5,000	0
Wilton Energy Commission	4,000	0	4,000	2,000	2,000
Wilton Economic Development Comm	35,000	2,850	32,150	35,000	0
SW Regional Mental Health Board	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0
Wilton Garden Club	5,000	1,641	3,359	5,000	0
Total Board of Selectmen Operating	31,078,978	15,708,780	15,370,198	30,793,564	285,414

Board of Selectmen Capital

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Expenses

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
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Assessor	62,880	43,775	19,105	62,880	0
Tax Collector	20,848	20,848	0	20,848	0
Town Facilities	25,193	0	25,193	25,193	0
Code Enforcement	27,000	27,000	0	27,000	0
Information Systems	706,531	98,593	607,938	706,531	0
Police	295,915	57,210	238,705	275,492	20,423
Fire	112,950	9,660	103,290	105,500	7,450
Emergency Medical Service	4,895	0	4,895	4,895	0
Paramedic Service	38,940	34,665	4,275	34,664	4,276
Central Dispatch	21,365	8,784	12,581	21,365	0
Public Works	326,900	138,283	188,617	335,161	(8,261)
Park & Recreation	150,000	73,843	76,158	149,704	296
Transfer Station	2,500	48,000	(45,500)		2,500
Total Board of Selectmen Capital	1,795,917	560,661	1,235,256	1,769,233	26,684

Charter Authority

Charter Authority BOS/BOF	1,230,046	0	1,230,046		1,230,046
Total Charter Authority	1,230,046	0	1,230,046		1,230,046
Total	124,677,345	59,602,992	65,074,353	123,085,987	1,591,358

Board of Selectmen Capital

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Assessor	62,880	43,775	19,105	62,880	0
Assessment/Appraisal Serv	62,880	43,775	19,105	62,880	0
Tax Collector	20,848	20,848	0	20,848	0
Computer Software	20,848	20,848	0	20,848	0
Town Facilities	25,193	0	25,193	25,193	0
Parking & Landscaping Imp	25,193	0	25,193	25,193	0
Code Enforcement	27,000	27,000	0	27,000	0
Staff Vehicles	27,000	27,000	0	27,000	0
Information Systems	706,531	98,593	607,938	706,531	0
Computer Hardware	57,888	13,222	44,666	57,888	0
Fiber Backbone	270,979	0	270,979	270,979	0
Computer Software	266,058	81,676	184,382	266,058	0
GIS	111,606	3,695	107,911	111,606	0
Police	295,915	57,210	238,705	275,492	20,423
Computer Hardware	13,499	13,463	36	13,463	36
Protective Equipment	9,730	8,700	1,030	9,730	0
Weapons	16,673	10,140	6,533	20,595	(3,922)
Medical Equipment	3,646	3,593	53	3,593	53
Communications Equipment	10,000	10,415	(415)	10,415	(415)
Computer Software	27,605	27,605	0	27,604	1

Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Capital

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Police Vehicles Use	130,716	(20,706)	151,422	151,422	(20,706)
Vehicle Accessories	34,670	0	34,670	34,670	0
Building Renovation	49,376	4,000	45,376	4,000	45,376
Fire	112,950	9,660	103,290	105,500	7,450
Computer Hardware	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0
Fire/Rescue Equipment	8,800	0	8,800	8,800	0
Protective Equipment	12,400	9,660	2,740	10,000	2,400
Staff Vehicles	47,500	0	47,500	47,500	0
No Smoke Diesel Filters	11,750	0	11,750	2,200	9,550
Equipment Trailer	23,000	0	23,000	23,000	0
Building Renovation	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	0
Prof Svcs _ Engin Arch	5,500	0	5,500	10,000	(4,500)
Emergency Medical Service	4,895	0	4,895	4,895	0
Generator	4,895	0	4,895	4,895	0
Paramedic Service	38,940	34,665	4,275	34,664	4,276
Medical Equipment	0	6,805	(6,805)	6,805	(6,805)
Paramedic Fly Car	38,940	27,859	11,081	27,859	11,081
Central Dispatch	21,365	8,784	12,581	21,365	0
Communications Equipment	21,365	8,784	12,581	21,365	0
Public Works	326,900	138,283	188,617	335,161	(8,261)
Staff Vehicles	35,000	33,930	1,070	35,000	0

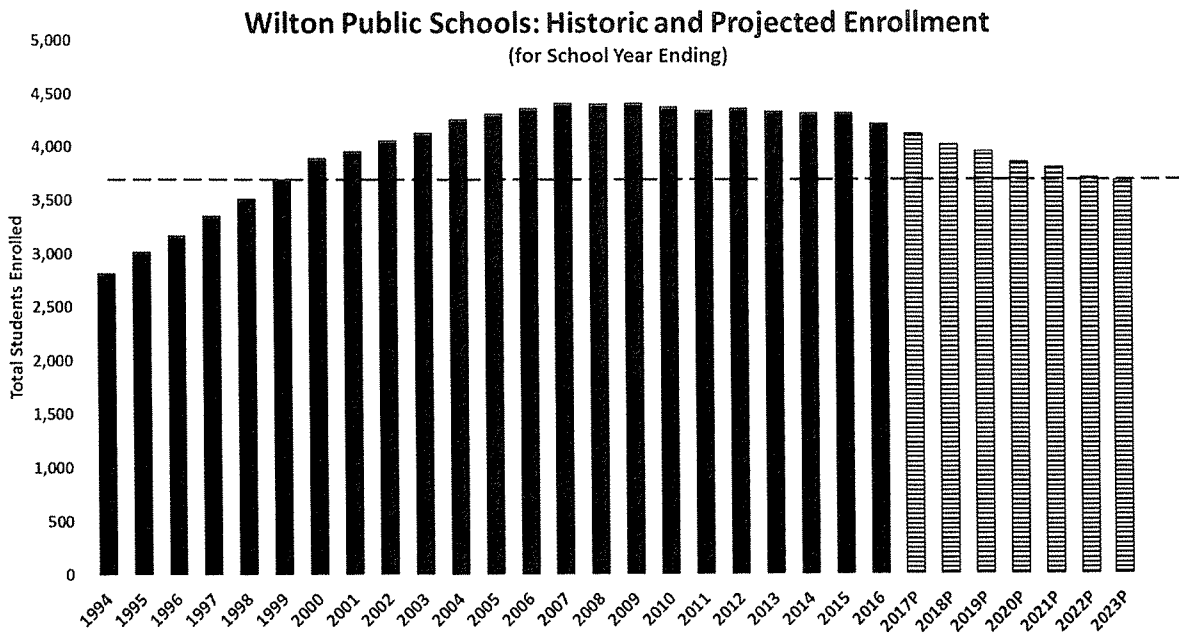
Budget Status 12/31/2015 - Capital

	Amended Budget	Actual YTD	Actual YTD to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)	FY 16 Forecast	FY 16 Forecast to Amended Budget Fav/(Unfav)
Dump Trucks - Large	95,000	90,000	5,000	95,000	0
Tri-Axle Dump Truck	180,000	0	180,000	180,000	0
Plows	16,900	6,093	10,807	16,900	0
Loader	0	4,761	(4,761)	4,761	(4,761)
Road Restoration Program	0	3,500	(3,500)	3,500	(3,500)
Park & Recreation	150,000	73,843	76,158	149,704	296
Mowers/Grounds Equipment	0	60,000	(60,000)		0
Tractor	60,000	0	60,000	60,000	0
Passenger Van	60,000	0	60,000	59,704	296
Parking & Landscaping Imp	30,000	13,843	16,158	30,000	0
Transfer Station	2,500	48,000	(45,500)		2,500
Building Renovation	2,500	48,000	(45,500)		2,500
Total Board of Selectmen Capital	1,795,917	560,661	1,235,256	1,769,233	26,684
	1,795,917	560,661	1,235,256	1,769,233	26,684

Wilton Schools – Fiscal Year 2017 Budget

The Wilton Public School system is arguably one of our town’s most important assets. Our schools are why many residents moved here, and like Wilton’s Board of Education, the Board of Finance wants to maintain a sustainable, top-rated school system at a reasonable cost to the town’s taxpayers.

The Wilton School Budget absorbs 69% of the town’s total revenues (a percentage that has been climbing over the past ten years), and therefore plays a sizeable role in the state of Wilton’s overall financial condition. After many years of growth in school enrollment, Wilton schools are now facing years of projected declines. The graph below lays out historic school enrollment from 1994 through projected 2023.



From 2013 to the current school year ending 2016, Wilton School enrollment declined by 2.65% from 4,319 to 4,219 students. For school year 2017 alone, our school expects an enrollment decline of 99 students or 2.35%. The enrollment projections set forth in the graph above are based on three independent studies commissioned by the Wilton School District (conducted in 2013, 2014 and 2015). Note that the yearly reductions from the current school year’s enrollment to 2023 are expected to average almost 2.00% per year. By 2023, enrollment is expected to be at the same level as it was in 1999. This is a significant and sustained year-over-year projected decline and its implications for the school and its budget are significant as well.

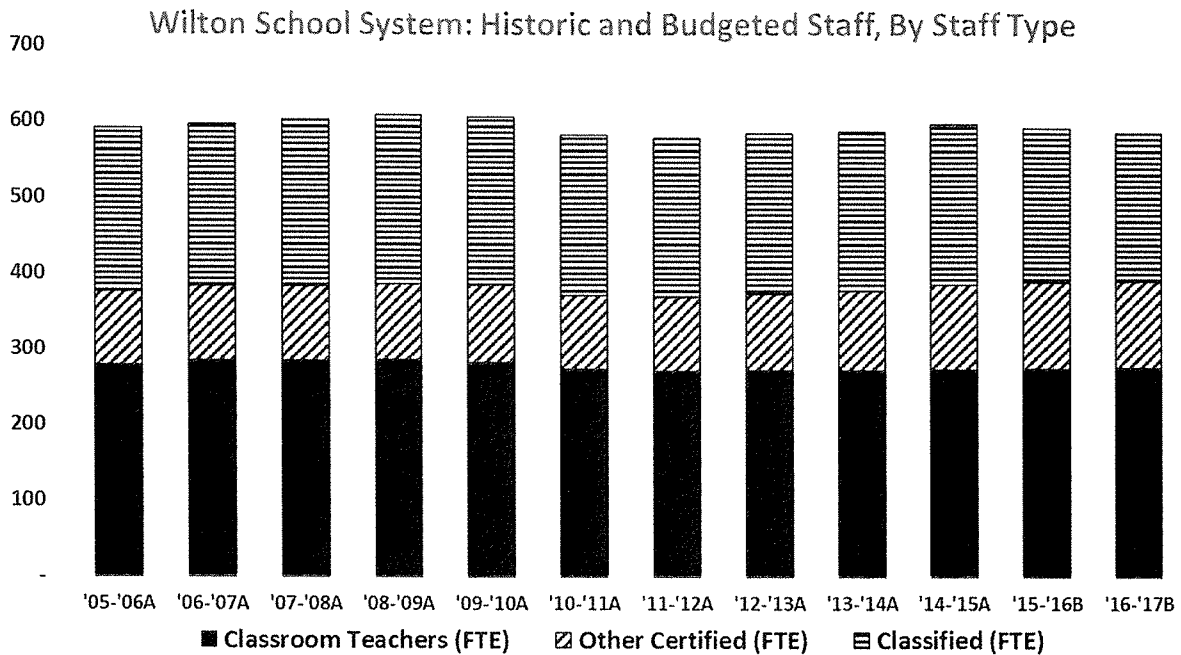
By far the largest component of the school’s budget is salaries and benefits paid to school staff, made up of three broad categories:

- Teachers
- Certified Professionals – special education staff and supporting staff for teachers
- Classified – all others, including administrative staff

Collectively, these compensation expenses currently represent slightly over 77% of the Board of Education’s total proposed 2017 budget and consume about 50% of Wilton’s total town tax revenues. As such, these variable compensation costs – variable based on the number school staff

service the student body – will be a primary area of understanding and focus for the Board of Finance.

Below is an historic view of the makeup of Wilton School staff, with 10 Year and 3 Year annual rates of growth for each staff type.

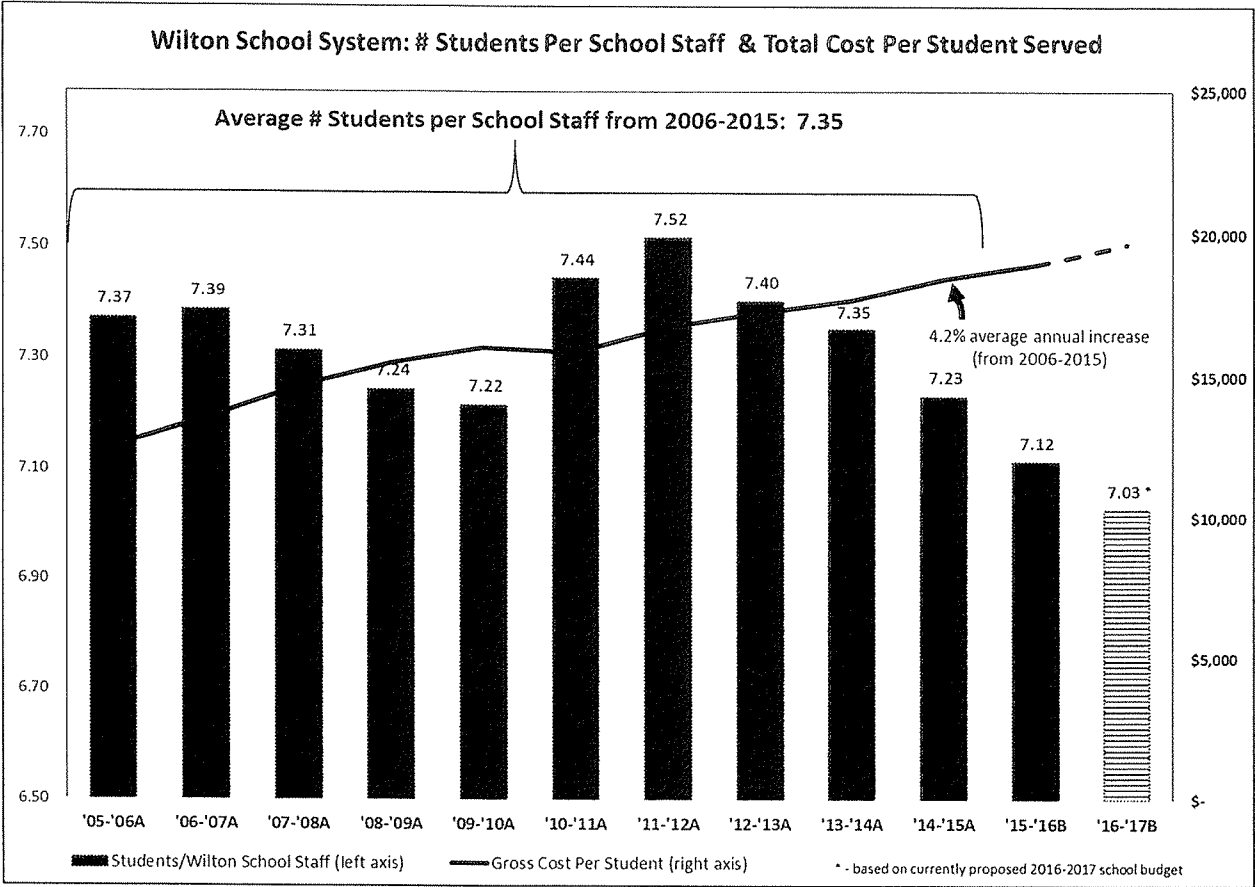


	Avg. Annual Growth Rate (Through Fiscal 2017B)	
	10 Year	3 Year
Classroom Teachers	-0.1%	0.4%
Other Certified	1.6%	3.3%
Classified	-0.9%	-2.5%
TOTAL STAFF	-0.1%	-0.1%
Student Body	-0.6%	-1.56%

Wilton’s Superintendent and the Board of Education face the unenviable task of managing through this significant yearly decline in student enrollment while ensuring class sizes do not grow further. No doubt this is and will be a difficult process as it involves:

- Foregoing the replacement of retiring staff
- Reassigning administrative staff into teaching positions (certainly disruptive and not always possible); and
- Staff layoffs (always a difficult process)

When the Board of Finance devises this coming year’s rate of increase/decrease for the school budget, the ratio of students-to-staff, in particular, the composition of that staff amongst teachers, professionals and administrative personnel, and the cost per student, are key considerations in the deliberation process. The graph below lays out the historic students per school staff loading rate and cost per student over the past 10 years.



Special Education needs of the school (SPED) – mandated by the state – have obviously played a significant role in the rate of increase in cost per student over the past 10 years. Looking at the breakout of Special Education students served and its budgeted cost for fiscal year 2017, it's clear that this portion of the budget has played a significant role in the year-over-year increase. In response to this rapidly increasing portion of the budget, Wilton's Board of Education commissioned an in depth study to explore the cost effective use of the school's limited resources. The *Special Education & Struggling Students Opportunities Review*, published in June of 2015, identifies a number of tangible, "high-potential, high-impact opportunities" for more cost effective use of SPED dollars that could be achieved in a 2-3 year time frame with potential annual savings in excess of \$1.9 million. Understanding how the *Review's* recommendations will be implemented and when the resulting cost-savings maybe integrated into the school budget will be another area of focus for the Board of Finance.

Wilton School Budget - Trends In Special Education Budget

STUDENTS SERVED	School Year				Change 2014-2017			'16-17 Budget	Cost/student	Cost Factor
	'13-'14A	'14-'15A	'15-'16B	'16-'17B	# Chg	% Chg	CAGR			
SPED	461	482	514	550	89	19.3%	6.06%	\$ 20,134,003	\$ 36,607	1.86
Regular	3,858	3,837	3,705	3,570	(288)	-7.5%	-2.55%	\$ 60,973,307	\$ 17,079	0.87
TOTAL	4,319	4,319	4,219	4,120	(199)	-4.6%	-1.56%	\$ 81,107,310	\$ 19,686	1.00
SPED % of Total	10.7%	11.2%	12.2%	13.3%				24.8%		
Regular % of Total	89.3%	88.8%	87.8%	86.7%				75.2%		

Finally, a significant constraint the Board of Finance faces is the current tax burden on Wilton property owners. The average rate of increase in Wilton property taxes over the past ten years has been 3.75% which has been largely driven by the historic increase in school enrollment. The

general sentiment surrounding our recent town elections was one of fiscal restraint. Complaints of property taxes being too high and growing too fast were front and center in the debates leading up to the election, and we imagine this will continue to dominate the discussion.

All members of the Board of Finance want to get a clear indication from Wilton voters as to what direction the town's finances should take – from the deliberation process all the way through to the final town vote on the budget. Over the coming months, the Board of Finance should encourage participation from the community and seek input from the electorate during the many opportunities Wilton voters will have to observe and be a part of the public process in developing the town's 2016-2017 budget.