

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSZA

Date: January 25, 2023

To: Amy Lam, Town Clerk

From: Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman

Re: Budget Recommendation for Fiscal Year 2022/2023

Pursuant to East Windsor Town Charter Section 8-4(D)(3)(a), attached please find my budget submission for Fiscal Year 2023/2024. The submitted budget was developed by town department heads and agencies and includes my recommended changes to their initial requests.

My budget recommends a Town government budget of \$17,769,582, an increase of 3.71% over last year's appropriations. The bulk of the increase in expenditures is driven by rising costs of employee benefits. These are market and exposure-driven increases and are currently budgeted to be conservative estimates. Those projections may still come down as new information is provided by the Office of the State Comptroller over the next few months.

My budget recommendation contains reductions where possible and practicable.

This proposal also takes the final step in consolidating the Social Services, Senior Services, and Parks and Recreation Departments into one Community Services Department. This consolidation has been in practice for several years, and codification of the consolidation in the town budget will allow for the director to manage the three divisions of the department most effectively.

This year's preliminary Grand List, based on the 2017 valuation, is projected to increase by 2.91%. Over the course of the budget process, it is recommended that the Boards of Selectmen and Finance have discussions around other non-tax revenue assumptions, some of which can be adjusted upwards to provide additional relief on local property taxpayers.

As always, this represents a starting point for the budget development process. Over the coming weeks, the Boards of Selectmen and Finance should examine the budget submissions in total, with consideration for the needs of the community.

RECEIVED
Town of East Windsor
Town Clerks Office

JAN 25 2023

Asst. Town Clerk