



Dear Fairfielders,

On Thursday, Feb 22 at 4:30 p.m., I submitted my proposed Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget and posted it on the [Annual Budget page](#) on the Town Website. Today I am sharing my budget with you and invite you to follow the budget process as it moves through Town government.

In this email, you will find:

- A copy of the press release sent to area media announcing the release of the proposed budget.
- A link to the Town website's [Annual Budget page](#) where you can find budget documents.
- A schedule of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) budget hearings, the Board of Finance (BOF) budget hearings and the Representative Town Meeting (RTM) budget hearings, followed by the Board of Finance setting of the mill rate.

I look forward to your involvement in this very important part of your Town governance. As always, you can reach me at [firstselectman@fairfieldct.org](mailto:firstselectman@fairfieldct.org), or by phone at 203-256-3030.

*Bill Gerber*  
*First Selectman*

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## **First Selectman William A. Gerber Releases Proposed Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget**

### **Budget Provides Expenditures for Teachers, Police and Fire, Plus Critical Conservation Funding**

**Fairfield,CT, February 22, 2024**—Fairfield First Selectman William A. Gerber released his proposed fiscal year 2024-2025 budget today. The budget highlights critical expenditures for public safety, education, conservation, and libraries, and allocates wage increases for teachers and first responders that have lagged inflation for several years, as well as long-overdue investments in the Fire Department. Increased investment in the Fairfield County Regional Dispatch Center (911 Call Center) will improve response times and service levels. The proposed \$370.1 million budget results in a modest 1.81 percent increase in the mill rate.

In line with the administration's commitment to environmental sustainability, the budget also includes expenditures for conservation staffing. Additional funding for libraries and restoring the teen librarian position will address the increasing need for young adult services.

“Given the magnitude of the projects needing funding and effectively operating a Town of our size, my administration is very pleased with our ability to keep the tax increase moderate while still providing exceptional service levels,” Gerber said. “We are proud to present a budget that prioritizes the safety, education, and well-being of all our residents.”

The budget reflects an increase of \$13.3 million, or 3.74 percent. As the 11th largest municipality in the state, a significant portion of the budget increase is allocated to salaries and wages. Wages accounted for \$10.9 million, or 82 percent of the increase in combined Town and Board of Education operating expenses. The majority of this increase is unavoidable due to collective bargaining agreements, with a portion related to personnel adjustments in the Board of Education, the Police and Fire Departments.

Additionally, there was a \$3.5 million increase in Town and Board of Education operating expenses and a decrease of \$1.1 million in shared expenses between the Board of Education and Town, such as debt service and workers compensation costs. Other major drivers for the increase were Pension and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) contributions, essential for funding the Town's long-term liabilities.

The total tax levy of \$337.7million represents a net increase of 2.19 percent, well below the cost of inflation and offset by a modest increase in the Town's Grand List of 0.37 percent.

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**[Review the 2024-2025 Proposed Budget Here](#)**

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*Please note that the agenda and review items are subject to change. We recommend you [check the website](#) for the most up-to-date information.*

**TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, CT FISCAL YEAR  
2024-2025 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE  
February 26, 2024 – May 9, 2024**

**Board of Selectmen**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024 - Board of Selectmen –Budget Hearing #1**  
*10:00 am – Via Zoom & In-Person in 1st floor conference room, Indp. Hall, 725 Old Post Rd.  
Zoom links can be found [in the agenda here](#)*

**First Selectman's Budget Presentation**

**Budget Hearings – Town-Side**

5070 Engineering  
4070 Street Lights  
130 WPCA  
5011 DPW Administrative  
5030 DPW Operations  
6070 Solid Waste  
4030 Police

4050 Animal Control  
123 ECC  
4150 ECC  
4010 Fire  
4090 Hydrant and Water Services  
4110 Emergency Management  
126 Regional Fire Training Center  
Public Comment

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024 - Board of Selectmen – Budget Hearing #2**

*10:00 am – Via Zoom & In-Person 1st floor conference room, Indp. Hall, 725 Old Post Rd.*

**Budget Hearings – BOE**

2531 Private School Bus Transportation  
11030 Health and Welfare Services  
8010 Board of Education

**Budget Hearings – Town-Side**

1030 Town Clerk  
2170 Discovery Museum  
2210 Audubon Society  
2480 Center for Family Justice  
1040 FairTV  
6010 Health  
1010 First Selectman's Office  
1110 Plan and Zoning  
1090 Zoning Board of Appeals  
1230 Conservation  
1250 Shellfish  
5050 Building  
3030 Purchasing  
1050 Administrative Services  
6050 Human and Social Services  
3050 Tax Assessor  
3090 Tax Collector  
3110 Information Technology  
1350 Community and Economic Development  
1070 Registrar of Voters  
1330 Human Resources  
1270 Legal Services  
Public Comment

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024 - Board of Selectmen – Budget Hearing #3**

*10:00 am – Via Zoom & In-Person in 1st floor conference room, Indp. Hall, 725 Old Post Rd*

**Budget Hearings – Town-Side**

7010/7011 Library – Main and Woods  
7030 Penfield Pavilion Complex  
7050 Recreation  
7070 Waterfront  
7080 Parks

7090 Marina  
7113 H. Smith Richardson Golf Course  
7111 Carl J. Dickman Golf Course  
3010 Finance  
10030 Debt Service  
2010 Contingency  
3150 Unemployment Compensation  
1310 Retiree Benefits  
1320 Active Employee Benefits  
Public Comment

**MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024 - Board of Selectmen –Budget Deliberations & Vote**

*4:00 pm – Via Zoom & In-Person in 1st floor conference room, Indp. Hall, 725 Old Post Rd.  
Public Executive Session - Budget Deliberations and Vote (No Public Comment)*

**Board of Finance – Detailed Schedule TBA**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024 – Board of Finance - Public Budget Session #1**

*7:30 pm – Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2024 – Board of Finance - Public Budget Session #2**

*7:30 pm – Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024 – Board of Finance - Public Budget Session #3**

*7:30 pm – Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024 –Board of Finance -Public Budget Session #4**

*7:30 pm – Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024 – Board of Finance - Public Budget Session #5**

*7:30 pm – Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024 – Board of Finance –Budget Follow-Up, If Needed**

*7:30 pm Via Webex and Fire Training Center, Room 111, 205 Richard White Way, off Reef Road*

**SAT., MARCH 30, 2024 –Board of Finance -Public Budget Comment Session**

*9:30 am – Fairfield Ludlowe High School Auditorium, 785 Unquowa Road*

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024 – Board of Finance – Budget Follow-Up, If Needed**

*7:30 pm – Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

**WEDS, April 3, 2024 – Board of Finance - Budget Vote-Public Exec. Session-No Public Comment**

*7:30 pm – Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

**RTM – Detailed Schedule TBA**

**Representative Town Meeting – Hearings and Vote**

**MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024 - RTM - Budget Hearing #1**

*7:00 pm –Via Webex & Location TBA*

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024 - RTM - Budget Hearing #2**

*7:00 pm – Via Webex & Location TBA*

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024 -RTM- Budget Hearing #3**

*7:00 pm – Via Webex & Location TBA*

**MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024 - RTM - Annual Budget Vote**

*Meeting Time & Location TBA & Via Webex*

**Board of Finance – Setting of the Mill Rate**

**THURSDAY, May 09, 2024 – Board of Finance Regular Meeting – Set Mill Rate** *7:30 pm –*

*Via Webex and BOE Conference Room 295 A/B, 501 Kings Hwy E.*

