

### EAST HADDAM TRI-BOARDMEETING

# ★EDUCATION★ ★FINANCE★ ★SELECTMEN★

Monday, January 29, 2024 Municipal Office Complex

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

<b>Board of Finance</b>	Board of Selectmen			
Joseph Corbett, Chairman	Irene Haines, First Selectman			
Todd Gelston, Secretary	Erik Dill			
Rebecca Whatley	Tanya Bourgoin			
Erik Kolasinski				
Harvey Thomas				
Vacancy				
Teresa DeBrito, Superintendent of Schools				
Valerie Belles, Finance Director				
	Joseph Corbett, Chairman Todd Gelston, Secretary Rebecca Whatley Erik Kolasinski Harvey Thomas Vacancy			

### **Board of FinanceOverview**

> Introductions

- Review of Meeting Purpose and Process
- > Key Points, the Board of Finance:
  - > We are mindful of our goal to provide current services and plan for future needs while maintaining a responsible approach to financial decisions and, as such want to strive for a responsible mill rate which incorporates the growth of our Grand List.
  - > We continue to preserve a strong operating framework and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 the Town's comprehensive annual financial report was completed.
  - > Maintain our desire of providing a clear understanding of both the budget process and its contents to the citizens so that the budget will pass on the first referendum.
  - > The Board of Finance invites the public to join in the process starting now. Detailed budgets are built at the Board of Education committee level and at the Board of Selectmen department level. Those meetings are open to the public and we invite you to participate in the budget development early so that you can see the detail as it is built.
  - Please use the Town's website (<u>https://www.easthaddam.org/departments/FinanceDepartment/Budgets</u>) to access the most recent budget dates, the meeting agendas with links to watch on YouTube Live and the links to ClearGov for budget detail and updates.

### For questions and/or comments, please email: <a href="mailto:bof@easthaddam.org">bof@easthaddam.org</a>



### **Board of Selectmen**

# BUDGET PROCESS

Budget Considerations	Zero-based Budgeting	Budget Detail	Budget Review
<ul> <li>Budget detail—we will continue to implement line-item detail wherever possible.</li> <li>We will be using Zero- Based Budgeting to prepare the 2024-2025 budget.</li> <li>Global supply chain issues, increasing supply costs and increasing utility costs are still challenges.</li> <li>Negotiations of 3 collective bargaining agreements are imminent.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Zero-based budgeting is a method of budgeting in which all expenses must be justified.</li> <li>We start the process with current contractual costs such as employment, utility, equipment leases etc.</li> <li>After which every other function is analyzed for needs and costs.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Salaries and wages—will be listed by each position with the associated cost.</li> <li>Line-item detail—there will be greater detail, where appropriate, on the items in each budget.</li> <li>Budget calendar will be continually updated on the website to keep our citizens informed.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Budgets are due to the Finance Office on January 16<sup>th.</sup></li> <li>The initial budget review is conducted by the First Selectman in January/February.</li> <li>The Board of Selectmen conducts their budget reviewin March.</li> <li>We look forward to the budget process. We are open to, and we welcome employee, board and commission members and public input, suggestions and comments.</li> </ul>

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### **Board of Selectmen**

# **CURRENT EVENTS**

#### Public Safety

- Addressing increased crime activity
- Currently looking to fill a police officer position and Firefighter/EMT
- Continuing the design phase for rehabbing Firehouse Co.2
- Addressing deteriorating roads and infrastructure
- Municipal Office Complex hosted COVID-19 and flu vaccination clinics.

#### **Economic Development**

- Redevelopment Agency diligently working toward a resolution for the East Haddam village. ie TIFF financing proposals and brownfields studies.
- Currently working on an RFP for Moodus Master Plan.
- Broadband implementation committee is beginning outreach

#### Staffing

- Library Directorvacancy.
- Children's Librarian vacancy
- Police Officer—vacancy
- Firefighter/EMT vacancy
- Assistant Animal Control Officers – vacancy
- Public Works driver/laborer vacancies

#### Capital

- Long-Range Capital Improvements Committee will begin reviewing capital requests in February
- Currently designing renovations on Firehouse Co. 2
- Future Library building to be considered
- Future technology needs to include equipment and licensing
- School building HVAC upgrades

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### **Board of Selectmen**

# CHALLENGES & COST DRIVERS

- Staffing Attrition and Negotiations of 3 collective bargaining units and non-union employees
- Increase in health care costs
- Energy Costs continue to rise
- Firehouse Company#2 renovations
- > Updating aging school buildings to comply with future mandates

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# Board of Selectmen AREAS OF FOCUS

- ≻ EH Village Redevelopment
- ≻ Moodus Master Plan
- ≻ Broadband
- ➢ Housing
- ➤ Social Services

The future depends on what we do in the present.

-Mahatma Gandhi

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# EAST HADDAM BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 29, 2024 Tri Board Meeting



# **OVERVIEW**

Contractual Obligations Staffing Instruction Field Experiences Student Transportation Capital Improvements State Mandates

# **CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

≻ Employee contracts: 2.5% - 3% increases

≻ Medical insurance: 19.87% increase

➤ Maintenance agreements: 5% - 5 ½% increase

➤ Daily transportation: 3.6% increase

> Heating cost of oil is expected to decrease

# **STAFFING**

> Instruction/Support:

- Special education (new, 1 FTE at EHES)
- Increase social worker (.4 at EHES)
- Family & Consumer Science (new, 1FTE at NHRMS)
- Two paraprofessionals (new at NHRMS for intervention)
- Building-based substitutes
- Student Activities/Athletics
  - Athletic Trainer (1 FTE for NHRHS)

# INSTRUCTION

- ➤ EHES:
  - State mandated reading program
  - Assessments
- > NHRMS:
  - Second-Step (new)
  - Engineering/robotics Vex kits
  - Intervention math materials
- > NHRHS:
  - NEASC Accreditation
  - Promethean boards for math classrooms
  - SAT fall testing
- $\succ$  Tuition for specialized instruction (K-12)



# **FIELD EXPERIENCES**

- > Field trips
  - EHES: Ray of Light Farm, Cold Springs Farm, Machimoodus State Park, CT Historical Museum, Bushy Hill, Gillette Castle, Chester Disc Golf
  - NHRMS: Florence Griswold Museum, Mashantucket-Pequot Museum, Mystic Seaport, Eastern Region Music Festival, Coast Guard Academy, Music in the Parks Festival, Senior Center, Devil's Hopyard, Boston Freedom Trail, Lake Compounce, Cave Hill, Camp Hazen, CAS, NYC
  - NHRHS: Metropolitan Museum of Art, Model UN, Newport Mansion, Boston Museum of Science, Peabody Museum, Wesleyan University, Middlesex Superior Courthouse, FBLA to Boston, Uconn, Shoreline Music Festival, Coast Guard, Goodspeed Opera House, Electrathon race, College Fair, Career Expo, Middlesex Chamber of Commerce, National Honor Society Conference, Robotics Club competitions, French Quiz Bowl

# **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION**

>Athletic events/competitions

Field experiences for all students – off-campus opportunities for students

Transportation for specialized instruction

# **STATE MANDATES**

- ≻ Right to Read Program (K-3)
- >Kindergarten entry age screeners needed
- ➢ NEASC Accreditation
- Menstrual Equity Law (NHRMS and NHRHS)
- >HVAC annual inspections
- ≻ Air quality: mechanical flow testing

# **THANK YOU**