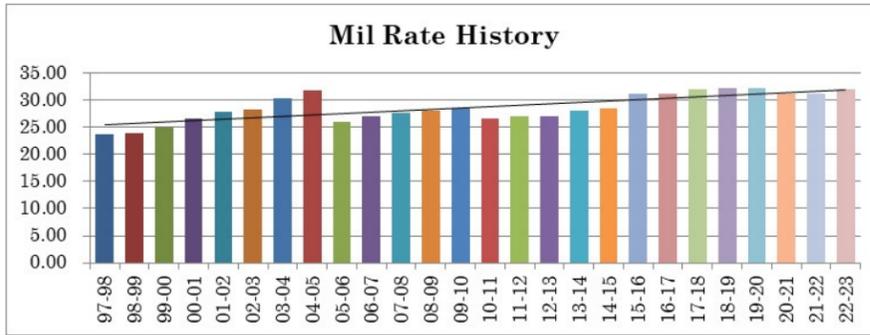


## Revenues

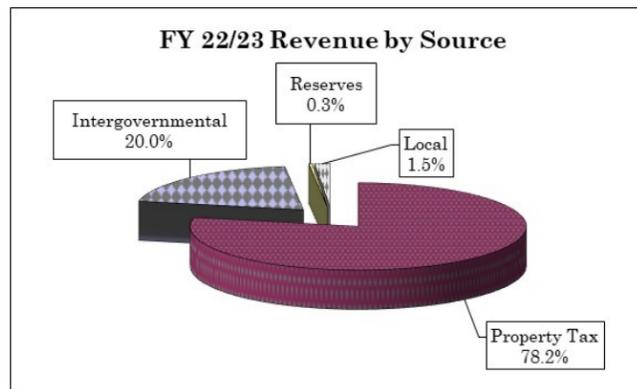
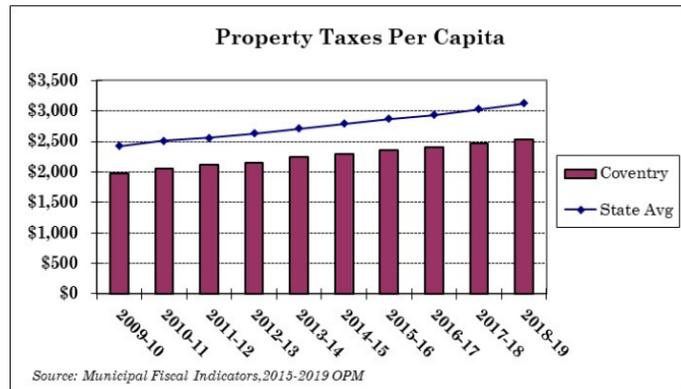
The property tax is the major revenue source (78.2%) for Coventry. The proposed budget is an increase of 3.82% from the prior year. The proposed mil rate is 31.61, a 0.46 or 1.48% change from the prior year. This will generate a monthly increase of \$6.78 to the average homeowner. The three year average for mil rate changes is a decrease of 0.20 mil.



Intergovernmental revenues, mostly State aid, are the second largest source (20.0%) of revenues for Coventry. This is a reduction of 0.35% from the prior year adopted budget. The initial budget included \$50,000 of American Rescue Plan funding to help offset the increase in ambulance costs. The Town Council's revised budget uses an additional \$200,000 to help offset the increase in costs.

Other local revenues consist of a variety of fees for permits, services and interest earnings. This area which represent 1.5% of the Town's budget is expected to increase \$4,450 from the prior year.

Lastly, our proposed revenue budget for FY23 includes use of \$150,000 from fund balance. This is the part of a COVID 19 financial impact plan that was previously adopted to help mitigate the impact of the pandemic. This is a reduction of \$50,000 which has the effect of increasing property taxes by 0.05 mils.



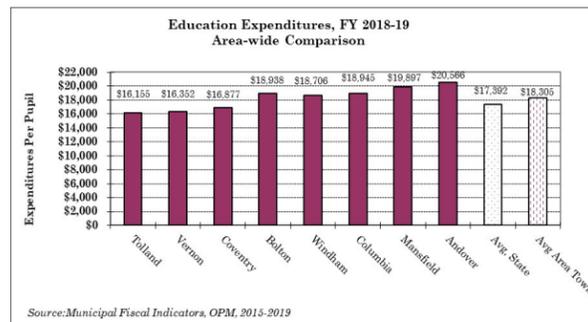
### YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

If you have questions or concerns about the FY 22/23 proposed budget, please don't hesitate to email [budgetcomments@coventryct.org](mailto:budgetcomments@coventryct.org) or call the Town Manager's Office at 860-742-6324.

To learn more about the fiscal year 2022/23 proposed budget, you can view the full Town budget document online at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) under Finance. Copies of the Town and Board of Education budgets are also available for viewing in the Coventry Town Clerk's office during regular office hours.

## Board of Education Summary

The Board of Education budget was reduced \$100,000 by the Town Council in the first budget proposal. This revised Council budget includes an additional reduction of \$75,000 and is proposed at \$28,852,461; an increase of \$546,642 or 1.93% from their originally adopted FY22 budget. Details are available on the web at [www.coventrypublicschools.org](http://www.coventrypublicschools.org).



# Budget in Brief

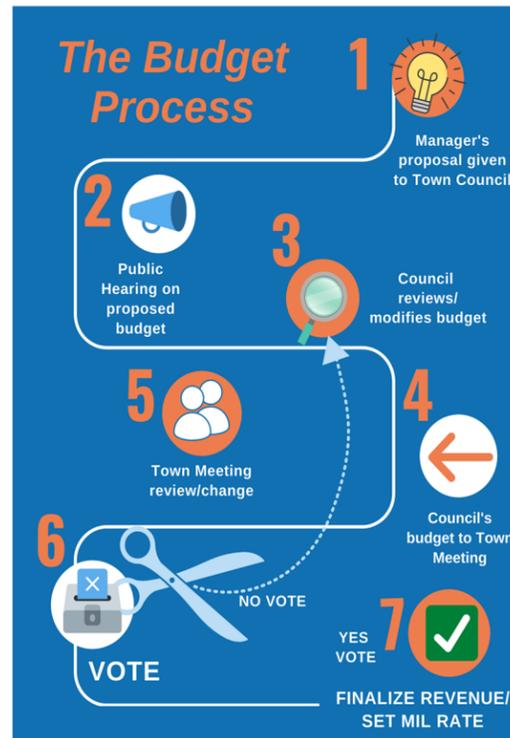
**Proposed Fiscal Year 2022/23 Budget**  
**Special Budget Meeting: Wednesday May 25, 2022**  
 7:00 P.M. Lecture Hall,  
 Coventry High School, Ripley Hill Road



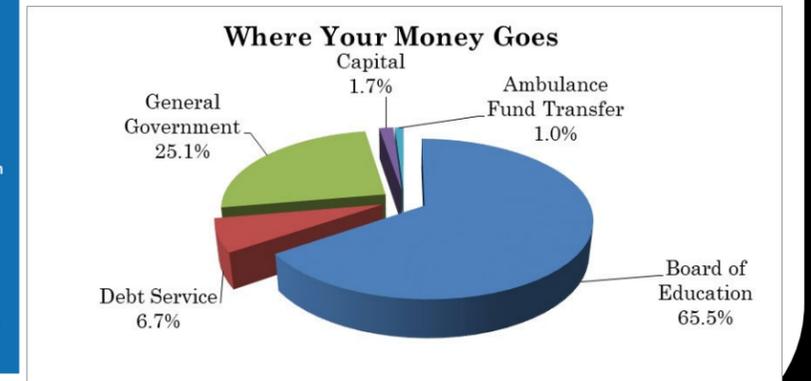
## Overview

Responding to the expectations of Coventry residents for better and more efficient services, Town and Board staff reviewed programs and services and prepared budget proposals that address the stated goals of the Town Council and Board of Education. The Town Manager's recommended budget demonstrated that most agency budgets were submitted with only modest increases. The full budget was reviewed and modified by the Town Council, resulting in a reduction from requests of \$319,965. This budget, which represented a mil increase of 2.68% and a spending increase of 4.28% was voted down by Coventry Residents. The Town Council went through the budget in great detail, to evaluate additional spending cuts that could be made that would result in minimal impact to residents. An additional \$197,750 was cut from the Council's original budget proposal.

"The Town Council's budget proposals for the Town, Board, Capital and Debt Service call for a 3.82% spending increase."



The Town Council's budget proposals for the Town, Board, Capital, Debt Service, and Ambulance Fund Transfer call for a \$1,618,560 spending increase from the prior year adopted budget. 27% of this increase pertains to the transfer to support the ambulance services. The proposed budget will require an increase to the current mil rate of 0.46 mils or 1.48%, resulting in a rate of 31.61 mils. The proposed budget has been sent to the Special Budget Meeting scheduled for Wednesday May 25, 2022, in the CHS Veterans Lecture Hall at 7:00 P.M. The adjourned Town Meeting vote is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 2022.



## Budget Summary

The expenditure part of the budget is broken down into the areas of General Government, Board of Education, Debt Service, Capital and the Ambulance Fund Transfer totaling \$44,041,690, an increase of \$1,618,560 or 3.82% compared to the adopted FY21-22 budget. A breakdown of the budgets are illustrated below.

Budget Area	Adopted Budget FY 21-22	Requested Budget FY 22-23	\$ Change	% Change
General Government	\$10,615,700	\$11,052,892	\$437,192	4.12%
Board of Education	\$28,305,819	\$28,852,461	\$546,642	1.93%
Debt Service	\$2,781,581	\$2,972,337	\$190,756	6.86%
Capital	\$720,030	\$726,500	\$6,470	0.90%
Ambulance Fund	\$ -	\$437,500	\$437,500	100.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42,423,130</b>	<b>\$44,041,690</b>	<b>\$1,618,560</b>	<b>3.82%</b>

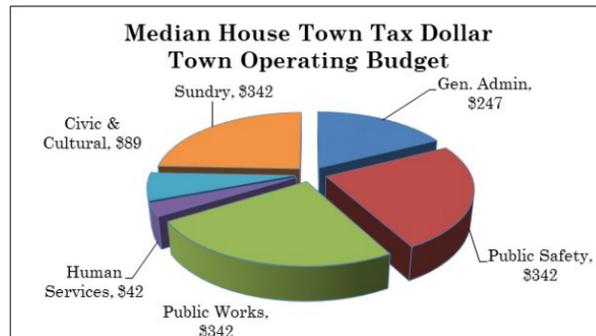
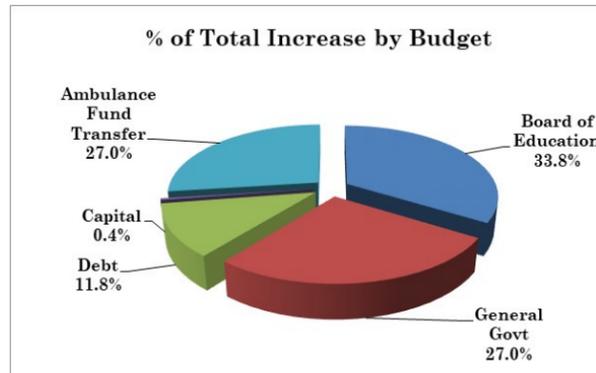
As a result of the failed referendum, the Town Council reviewed the budget to identify additional cuts. This revised budget includes \$197,750 in cuts from the original budget proposal. Cuts were made in the following areas:

Budget Area	Council Original FY 22-23	Council Revised FY 22-23	\$ Change
General Government	\$11,134,642	\$11,052,892	\$81,750
Board of Education	\$28,927,461	\$28,852,461	\$75,000
Debt Service	\$2,983,337	\$2,972,337	\$11,000
Capital	\$756,500	\$726,500	\$30,000
Ambulance Fund	\$ 437,500	\$437,500	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$44,239,440</b>	<b>\$44,041,690</b>	<b>\$197,750</b>

The Town Council reduced its original budget proposal by removing the Assistant Town Manager position, delaying the hire of a DPW maintainer, reducing both the sand and tree removal budget, salary savings due to turnover, delaying the lease purchase of a pick-up truck, reducing the Board of Education budget by \$75,000 and reducing the Board of Education computer capital budget by \$30,000. In addition, the Council authorized an additional \$200,000 of American Rescue Plan funds to be used to help offset increased costs. By making these changes, the Council as reduced the increase in the mil rate from 0.84 mil (2.70%) to 0.46 mil (1.48%).

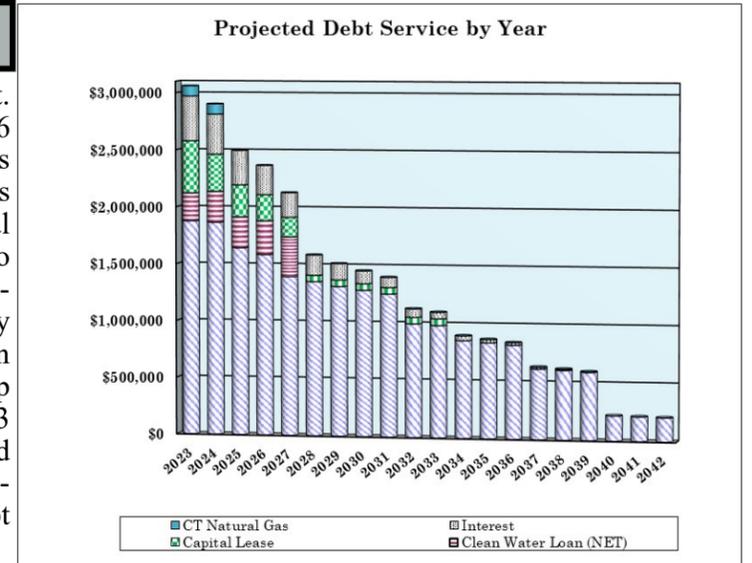
## Town Operating Budget Summary

The Town operating budget recommended for FY23 is \$11,052,892; an increase of \$437,192. The largest driver to this increase is personnel services which increased \$463,937 or 5.99%. Health insurance increased 9% (\$116,100) due to increased claim trends. Public works staffing levels were reviewed and deemed inadequate. The proposed budget includes a custodian (in lieu of contracted services), a DPW Maintainer I which has been delayed until January 1, an additional temporary summer employee and a part-time engineering tech. Public works staff levels have remained unchanged since FY01/02 and severely need to be addressed. The Town Council initial budget had included an Assistant Town Manager in preparation for transition in local government leadership. This position has been eliminated in the revised budget.



## Debt Service

Debt Service represents 6.7% of the Town budget. For FY23, there is a proposed increase of \$190,756 or 6.86% from the prior year. This increase is driven by the issuance of general obligations that is expected to be issued in May of 2022 for several projects that the taxpayers previously approved to bond. These projects include school roof replacement for both the High School and GHR, library renovations and a softball field. Also included in the FY23 budget is a capital lease for a small dump truck. While there is an increase for the FY23 budget, it is important to know that our projected debt service is anticipated to decline each year going forward, which will allow for additional debt issuance or savings to taxpayers.



## Capital Projects

1 Summer Road Program (partial-see also Town Aid)	\$ 300,000
2 Network refresh	64,000
3 Education Computer Upgrades	20,000
4 Classroom Furniture	25,000
5 Town Hall Computer Upgrades	43,000
6 Police SUV Replacement (2)	100,500
7 SCBA Fire Paks	24,000
8 Fire Gear	25,000
9 Fire Hose/equipment	20,000
10 Open Space Fund	15,000
11 Lake Management	90,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 726,500</b>

The proposed capital projects budget for the General Fund for FY23 totals \$726,500, an increase of \$6,470 or 0.90%. Of this increase \$109,000 related to capital projects for the Board of Education. This increase is a direct result of the FY21 budget in which capital was cut by 28.76% (resulting in a FY21 budget of \$664,000).

In addition to the capital project budget outlined in the General Fund, several capital projects are proposed through grants, including Town Aid Road, (\$300,000), Local Capital Improvement Program (\$100,000), Lake Management (\$25,000) and American Rescue Plan Funding (\$1,914,500).

## Transfer to Ambulance Fund

The FY23 budget separates out the transfer to the Ambulance Fund as a separate budgetary line. It is proposed to transfer \$437,500 to the Ambulance fund to fund the ambulance coverage currently provided to residents on a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week basis.

When the Town transitioned to 24/7 coverage, there was hope the revenue generated could sustain these services. It is clear with current reimbursement rates, the fund is not able to cover these costs (Medicare reimbursement is 50% of charges, Medicaid reimbursement is 30% of charges). As such, we are proposing a transfer from the General Fund to the Ambulance Fund in the total of \$437,500. This transfer is 27% of the overall spending increase and represents 0.42 mil increase. The Council has authorized the use of \$250,000 in American Rescue Plan funds to offset this increase. With this funding, the impact to the tax payer is 0.18 mil. The proposed transfer to the ambulance fund represents 1.0% of the total proposed budget.

Ambulance services are an important service that the Town provides to its residents. Without 24/7 ambulance coverage, residents will rely on mutual aid from other Towns and/or volunteer EMS crews. This will cause a significant increase in response times, which are very important in emergency situations.