

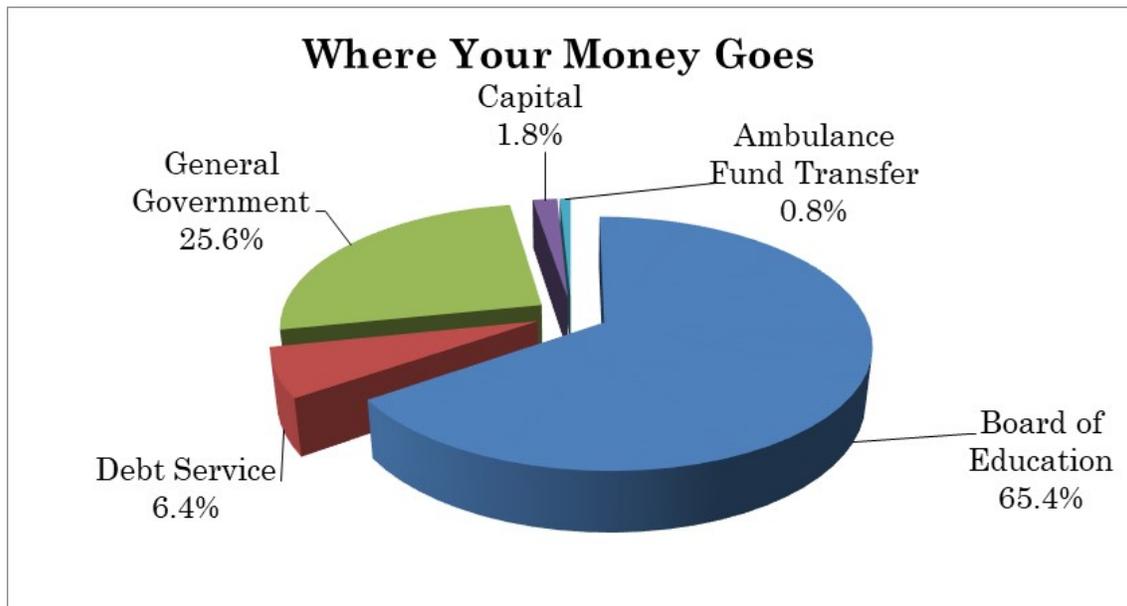
# **Expenditures**

## EXPENDITURES

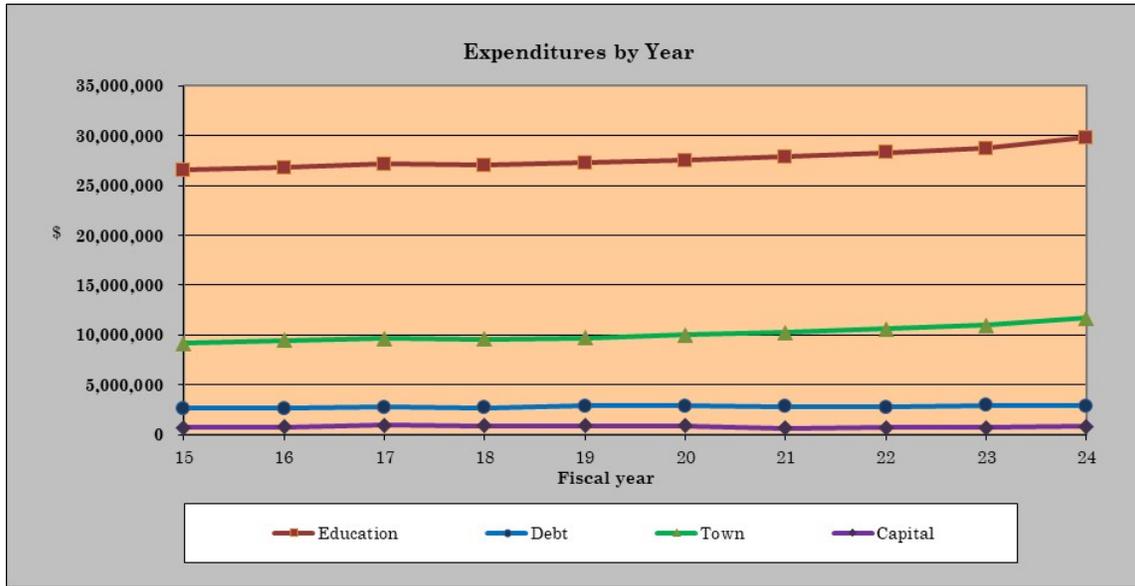
The expenditure part of the budget is broken down into the categories of General Government, Board of Education, Debt Service, and Capital Expenditures which includes the Reserve for Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditures (CNREF). The requested expenditures for the FY year 23/24 total \$45,601,940, an increase of \$1,898,995, or 4.35% over the adopted FY 22/23 budget.

<b>Budget Area</b>	<b>Approved Budget FY22/23</b>	<b>Proposed Budget FY23/24</b>	<b>\$ Inc/Dec</b>	<b>% Change</b>
General Government	\$ 10,973,292	\$ 11,697,230	\$ 723,938	6.60%
Board of Education	28,712,461	29,824,330	1,111,869	3.87%
Debt Service	2,932,192	2,898,880	(33,312)	-1.14%
Capital	723,500	820,000	96,500	13.34%
Ambulance Fund Transfer	362,500	362,500	-	0.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 43,703,945</b>	<b>\$ 45,602,940</b>	<b>\$ 1,898,995</b>	<b>4.35%</b>

The following chart shows a breakout of the various budget areas by percentage which, when combined, create the annual budget.

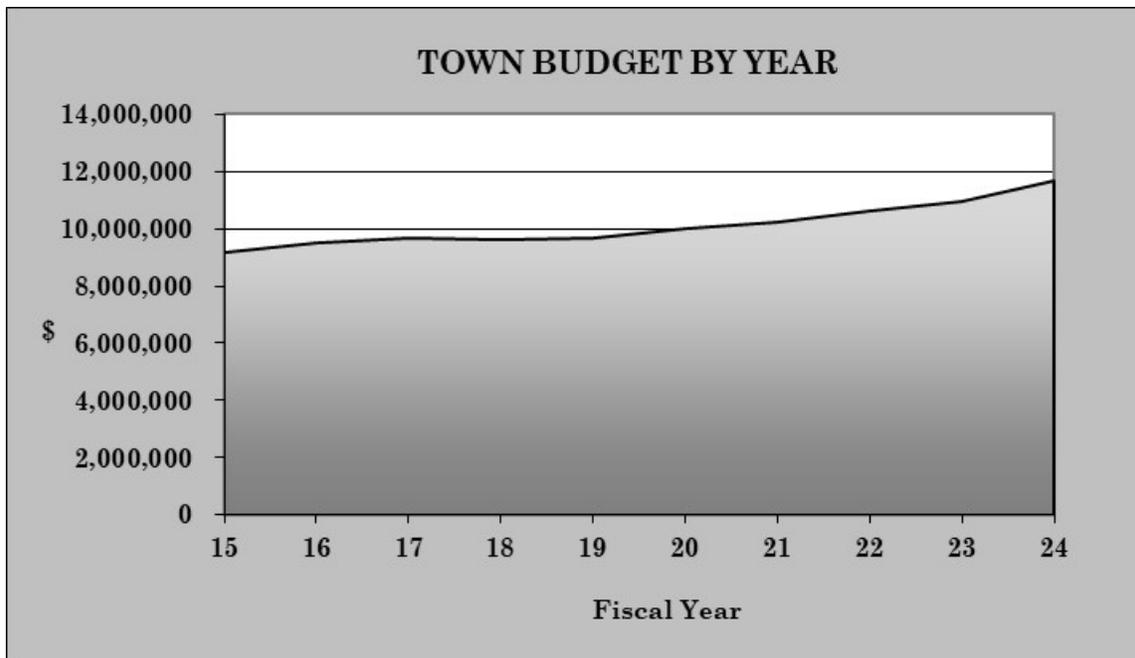


The next illustration shows historical trends for the same categories.



### General Government

The Town operating budget recommended for FY 22/23 is \$11,697,230, which represents a \$723,938 or a 6.60% increase compared to the current adopted budget. The Town budget makes up 25.70% of the total operating budget.



The following table presents a summary of the operating budget by function.

	<b>Approved Budget FY22/23</b>	<b>Proposed Budget FY23/24</b>	<b>Inc/(Dec)</b>	<b>%</b>
General Administration	\$ 1,943,963	\$ 2,019,240	\$ 75,277	3.87%
Public Safety	2,684,070	2,844,360	160,290	5.97%
Public Works	2,660,473	2,803,870	143,397	5.39%
Human Services	332,186	354,475	22,289	6.71%
Civic and Cultural	693,000	728,165	35,165	5.07%
Sundry	2,659,600	2,947,120	287,520	10.81%
Total	<u>\$ 10,973,292</u>	<u>\$ 11,697,230</u>	<u>\$ 723,938</u>	<u>6.60%</u>

Within each function the Town operating budget is composed of five major expenditure objects: Personnel Services, Contractual Services, Supplies, Capital Expenditures and Utilities. A table comparing FY 22/23 and FY 23/24 is provided below. A detailed analysis of the five expenditure objects follows.

	<b>Approved FY22/23</b>	<b>Proposed FY23/24</b>	<b>% Total</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Personnel	\$ 8,148,973	\$ 8,771,716	75.0%	622,743	7.64%
Contractual	1,646,745	1,631,409	13.9%	(15,336)	-0.93%
Supplies	866,422	971,030	8.3%	104,608	12.07%
Capital	23,400	24,150	0.2%	750	3.21%
Utilities	287,752	298,925	2.6%	11,173	3.88%
Total	<u>\$ 10,973,292</u>	<u>\$ 11,697,230</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>\$ 723,938</u>	<u>6.60%</u>

## Personnel Services

The recommended expenditures for personnel services have increased by \$622,743 or 7.64%. Personnel services include wages, overtime, pension, health insurance, and Social Security. One of the four labor unions have approved contracts. A rate increase has been assumed for the three unions without approved contracts. Nonunion employees are receiving comparable wage increases.

This budget maintains the current level of Town staffing. Many newly hired employees are receiving step increases based on their union contract. In addition, two promotions from Maintainer I to Maintainer II are included in this budget based on requirements of the union contract. The FY22/23 budget had one police officer funded 50% through the General Fund and 50% with American Rescue Plan Act funding. The FY23/24 budget includes 100% of this position as we phase out the use of ARPA funds.

Due to Medical inflation and claims our health insurance rates are projected to have a 9.0% increase (\$144,400) due to increased claim trends as well as increased enrollment.

## Personnel Services *(Continued)*

Pension expenses have increased by 15.0% to \$535,922 as recommended by the actuary. We continue to contribute the amount based on the annual actuarial review. Our unfunded pension liability is solid and was 72.90% funded as of July 1, 2021.

The FY23/24 budget also includes \$80,000 towards sick and severance. A minimum of two long tenured employees will be retiring in FY23/24 with contractual sick and vacation payouts which are estimated to total over \$100,000.

## Contractual Services

Contractual services decreased by \$15,336 or 0.93%. A large portion of this directly relates to a decrease in estimated legal fees as well as the allocation of emergency dispatch services to the EMS Fund. A list of major changes in this category includes:

IT contracted services	\$5,725
Software Licenses	\$6,485
Legal	(\$10,000)
Service Contracts	(\$35,006)

## Supplies

The supply area of the budget increased by \$104,608 or 12.07%. The main driver for this increase relates to increase in gasoline and fuel costs, which is a state-wide issue as well as general inflation. Major changes include:

Gasoline	\$24,510
Diesel Fuel	\$27,625
Salt	\$16,660
Ground Supplies	\$8,000
Contingency	\$10,000

## Capital Expenditures

Capital Expenditures within the General Government budget have increased \$750 from the prior year budget due to minor equipment purchases.

## Utilities

It is difficult to predict utility expenses due to the change of four buildings to natural gas and the impact of solar on electricity. Utilities have increased \$11,173 or 3.88%. We re-bidding electric rates and obtained a rate of 0.09926 for 59 months (compared to 0.0754 previously). We have changed all street lights to LED with significant savings and hope to change floodlights and decorative street lights which have just been authorized by PURA. Pricing for fuel and gasoline are still being evaluated but were competitively bid through CRCOG.

**Town of Coventry**  
**Town Manager Recommended Budget**  
**Summary by Department**

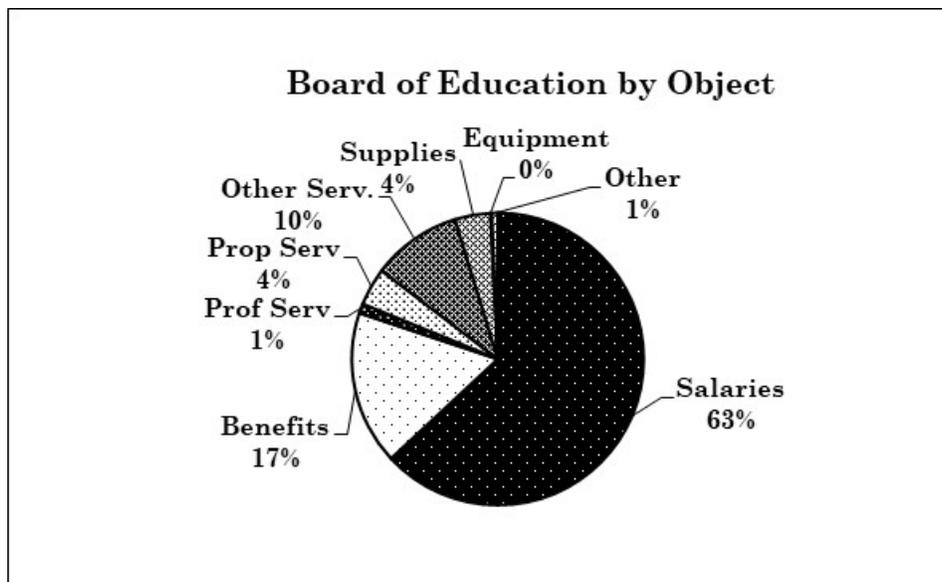
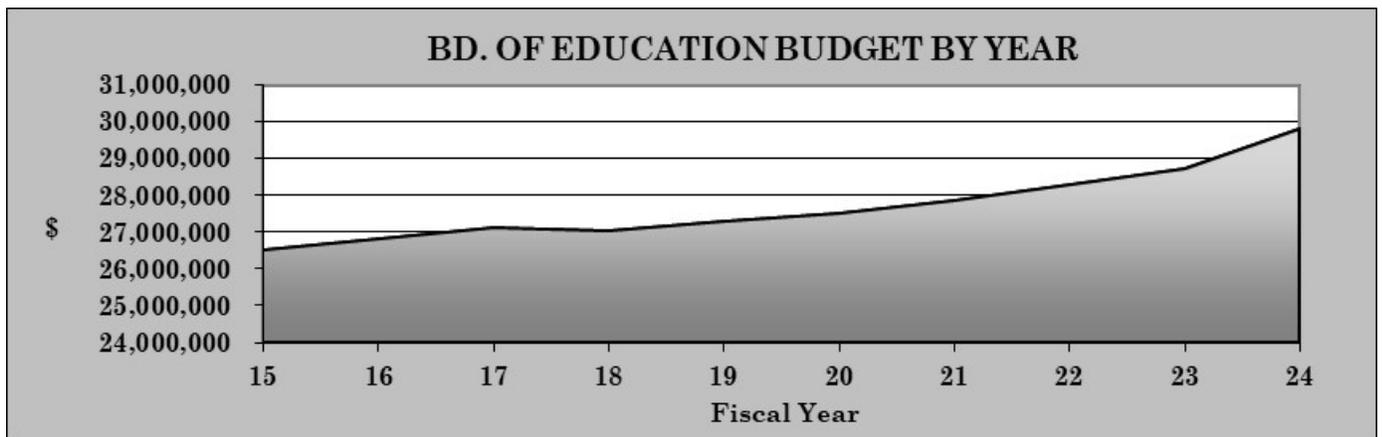
**Budget Fiscal Year: 2024 to 2024**

	2022	2023	2023	2023	2023	Dept Head	Town	Mgr/Bud	%
	Actual	Base Budget	Budget	Actual YTD	Est. Actual		Manager	Inc/Dec	
1101 TOWN COUNCIL	\$ 41,032	\$ 39,217	\$ 39,217	\$ 31,830	\$ 39,217	\$ 40,464	\$ 40,464	\$ 1,247	\$ 126
1201 TOWN MANAGER	238,901	245,884	245,884	155,633	245,884	251,375	250,975	5,091	-167.30
1300 FINANCE ADMINISTRATION	140,147	143,620	143,620	102,792	143,620	149,790	149,790	6,170	91.15
1301 ACCOUNTING	133,702	142,400	142,400	84,317	142,400	155,850	155,850	13,450	42.78
1302 COLLECTOR OF REVENUE	152,085	121,500	121,500	68,247	121,500	124,090	124,090	2,590	121.21
1303 ASSESSOR	158,901	160,726	160,726	100,307	160,726	174,286	174,236	13,510	1,309.10
1304 ASSESSMENT APPEALS	361	800	800	112	800	800	800	-	0.00
1305 TREASURER	27,110	27,950	27,950	17,482	27,950	28,850	28,850	900	3.25
1306 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	202,556	248,710	248,710	236,728	248,710	259,825	259,725	11,015	-20.30
1401 PLANNING	163,178	162,850	162,850	111,633	162,850	170,950	170,950	8,100	-91.04
1402 ZONING BOARD/APPEALS	22,194	23,030	23,030	5,547	23,030	18,530	18,530	(4,500)	477.78
1403 CONSERVATION	2,450	1,835	1,835	681	1,835	11,000	4,500	2,665	500.72
1404 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	19,979	20,046	20,046	13,536	20,046	21,445	21,445	1,399	3.31
1406 INLAND WETLANDS	50,539	112,630	112,630	67,916	112,630	119,280	116,880	4,250	-31.15
1407 P&Z COMMISSION	953	1,075	1,075	363	1,075	1,075	1,075	-	0.00
1501 LEGAL COUNSEL	89,223	90,000	90,000	66,730	90,000	75,000	80,000	(10,000)	-11.11
1502 PROBATE COURT	9,034	8,810	8,810	8,809	8,810	8,810	8,810	-	0.00
1601 RECORDING/LICENSING	164,012	178,660	178,660	107,139	178,660	190,860	189,080	10,420	-6.14
1701 ELECTIONS	70,046	74,270	74,270	53,245	74,270	79,190	78,190	3,920	-2.41
1801 TOWN OFFICE BLDG.	76,739	94,900	94,900	75,581	94,900	98,975	97,450	2,550	-84.96
1802 CENTRAL SERS./SUPPLY	45,387	45,050	45,050	29,648	45,050	47,550	47,550	2,500	28.48
2101 POLICE ADMINISTRATION	259,525	321,760	321,760	201,327	321,760	348,810	348,810	27,050	-109.30
2102 POLICE OPERATIONS	1,247,868	1,333,200	1,333,200	843,952	1,333,200	1,434,025	1,434,025	100,825	60.47
2103 POLICE SUPPORTIVE SERVICE	333,019	368,180	368,180	252,670	368,180	377,930	377,930	9,750	93.33
2104 POLICE MARINE PATROL	3,723	5,500	5,500	2,652	5,500	5,075	5,325	(175)	-40.00
2105 POLICE STATION	61,884	73,220	73,220	56,208	73,220	79,285	79,285	6,065	59.55
2201 FIRE MARSHAL	9,825	20,500	20,500	11,358	20,500	32,000	27,000	6,500	33.33
2202 STATION 118	36,956	38,335	38,335	32,646	38,335	42,015	39,885	1,550	67.10
2203 STATION 218	44,290	37,020	37,020	34,890	37,020	42,120	39,615	2,595	57.97
2206 STATION 418	8,781	6,540	6,540	5,768	6,540	7,710	7,380	840	42.57
2207 JOINT FIRE BUDGET	341,613	354,760	354,760	328,377	354,760	356,860	349,820	(4,940)	290.37
2208 STATION 318	14,160	15,280	15,280	13,491	15,280	17,405	16,665	1,385	35.76
2301 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	28,128	31,200	31,200	22,082	31,200	54,290	35,990	4,790	26.44
2401 ANIMAL CONTROL	75,081	78,575	78,575	48,798	78,575	82,930	82,630	4,055	-133.40
3100 ROADS & DRAINAGE	663,473	660,915	660,915	403,787	660,915	662,215	630,215	(30,700)	-59.75
3101 PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING	71,254	80,760	80,760	62,373	80,760	86,340	84,340	3,580	-71.48
3102 SNOW REMOVAL	276,897	298,350	298,350	243,263	298,350	315,010	313,510	15,160	-72.21
3103 FACILITY MAINTENANCE	325,163	380,855	380,855	277,059	380,855	457,155	450,500	69,645	1,515.50
3104 PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	250,119	254,685	254,685	169,060	254,685	272,835	266,035	11,350	391.77
3105 FLEET MAINTENANCE	487,156	501,946	501,946	364,692	501,946	575,750	559,250	57,304	76.35
3107 MATCHING FUNDS	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	-	0.00
3108 STREET LIGHTS	48,239	47,000	47,000	40,238	47,000	47,000	47,000	-	0.00
3109 CEMETERY COMM.	30,717	25,082	25,082	15,858	25,082	34,995	26,495	1,413	34.32
3110 TREE WARDEN	96,846	78,250	78,250	69,169	78,250	107,750	75,250	(3,000)	-200.00
3111 FACILITIES - OTHER	2,639	4,300	4,300	3,650	4,300	4,000	4,000	(300)	0.00
3201 ENGINEERING	87,620	94,665	94,665	47,471	94,665	125,650	111,450	16,785	47.76
3301 BLDG. INSPECTION	196,063	159,525	159,525	97,633	159,525	162,340	162,340	2,815	140.68
3302 BUILDING CODE BD. OF APPEALS	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	-	0.00
3501 HEALTH DEPT.	70,534	71,595	71,595	71,595	71,595	70,940	70,940	(655)	-0.91
4102 VISITING NURSE & COMM. CARE	-	500	500	500	500	-	-	(500)	-100.00
4200 HUMAN SERVICES/GA	184,829	195,386	195,386	128,993	195,386	215,340	215,340	19,954	31.57
4205 ELDERLY SERVICES	114,445	136,300	136,300	85,502	136,300	139,135	139,135	2,835	22.36
5101 BOOTH DIMOCK/PORTER LIBRARY	517,998	544,125	544,125	136,031	544,125	581,820	571,790	27,665	-23.86
5201 PARKS & REC SUPV/OPERATIONS	73,161	78,900	78,900	53,445	78,900	86,400	86,400	7,500	9.69
5202 LISICKE	-	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,880	2,700	-	0.00
5203 PATRIOTS PARK	-	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	33,000	30,000	-	0.00
5204 CAMP CREASER	-	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,800	2,300	-	0.00
5205 MILLBROOK PLACE	-	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	3,900	2,800	-	0.00
5206 LAIDLAW PARK	-	600	600	600	600	700	600	-	0.00
5207 MILLER RICHARDSON	-	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,900	2,700	-	0.00
5210 PARKS & REC OPERATIONS	-	23,300	23,300	23,300	23,300	24,200	23,300	-	0.00
5215 COMMUNITY EVENTS	-	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900	2,050	1,900	-	0.00
5301 MEMORIAL DAY	2,192	3,675	3,675	2,145	3,675	3,675	3,675	-	0.00
8101 MUNICIPAL INSURANCE	341,333	359,220	359,220	347,966	359,220	359,220	359,220	-	0.00
8102 PENSION/SOCIAL SECURITY	990,480	1,095,180	1,095,180	838,641	1,095,180	1,153,300	1,153,300	58,120	-21.13
8103 HEALTH INSURANCE	1,064,433	1,165,200	1,165,200	687,827	1,165,200	1,304,600	1,304,600	139,400	90.42
8301 CONTINGENCY	28,231	15,000	15,000	62,336	15,000	30,000	25,000	10,000	66.67
8303 CLAIMS AND LOSSES	77,357	25,000	25,000	19,839	25,000	125,000	105,000	80,000	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,277,106</b>	<b>10,973,292</b>	<b>10,973,292</b>	<b>7,490,413</b>	<b>10,973,292</b>	<b>11,903,895</b>	<b>11,697,230</b>	<b>723,938</b>	<b>6.60</b>

## Board of Education

The Coventry Public Schools prepares an independent budget utilizing the same process the Town agencies go through. The Superintendent of Schools gathers and prepares a budget, which is reviewed and modified as necessary by the Board of Education and then forwarded to the Town Council for review and modification. The Town Council, under Connecticut law, has the authority only to reduce the bottom line of the Board's budget, not specific programs. The Board of Education submitted a budget request of \$29,824,330, an increase of \$1,111,869 or 3.87%, above their adopted FY 22/23 budget. Please see the separate Board of Education budget for details.

Five capital projects totaling \$4,160,000 for Education are also included in the Capital Budget of which \$140,000 is proposed from General fund taxation. \$20,000 are projects relating to kitchen upgrades which will be funded by the Cafeteria Fund. \$4,000,000 in bonding is being proposed for school HVAC upgrades and replacement. Please see the separate Capital budget for details.



**Town of Coventry  
Town Manager Proposed Budget  
Summary by Department**

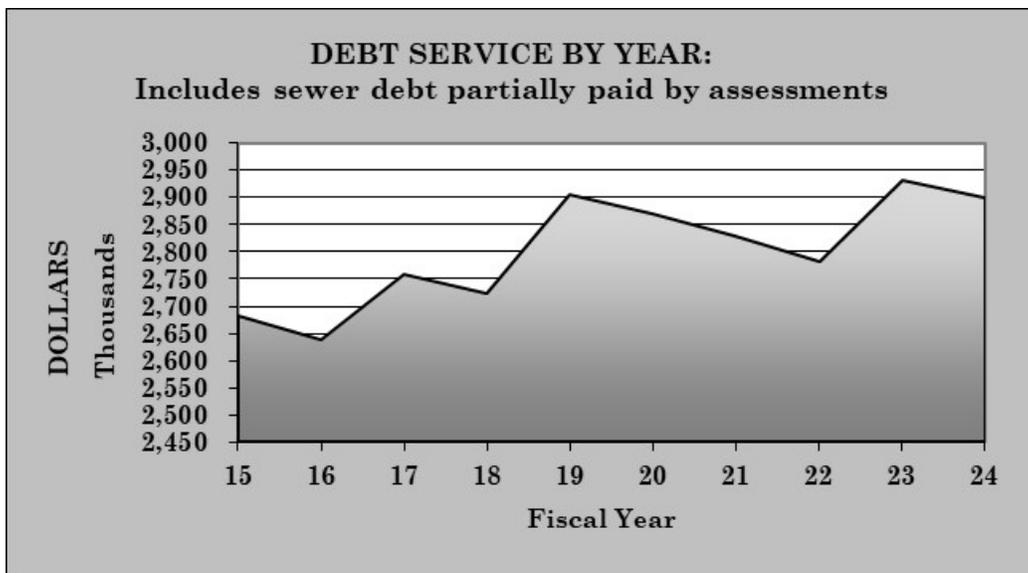
**Budget Fiscal Year: 2024 to 2024**

	2022	2023	2023	2023	2023	Dept	Town	Mgr/Bud	
	Actual	Base Budget	Budget	Actual YTD	Est. Actual	Head	Manager	Inc/Dec	
1101 TOWN COUNCIL	\$ 41,032	\$ 39,217	\$ 39,217	\$ 31,830	\$ 38,750	40,464	40,464	1,247	3.18%
1201 TOWN MANAGER	238,901	245,884	245,884	155,633	245,984	251,375	250,975	5,091	2.07%
1300 FINANCE ADMINISTRATION	140,147	143,620	143,620	102,792	117,115	149,790	149,790	6,170	4.30%
1301 ACCOUNTING	133,702	142,400	142,400	84,317	143,120	155,850	155,850	13,450	9.45%
1302 COLLECTOR OF REVENUE	152,085	121,500	121,500	68,247	116,965	124,090	124,090	2,590	2.13%
1303 ASSESSOR	158,901	160,726	160,726	100,307	164,394	174,286	174,236	13,510	8.41%
1304 ASSESSMENT APPEALS	361	800	800	112	800	800	800	-	0.00%
1305 TREASURER	27,110	27,950	27,950	17,482	27,950	28,850	28,850	900	3.22%
1306 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	202,556	248,710	248,710	236,728	251,243	259,825	259,725	11,015	4.43%
1401 PLANNING	163,178	162,850	162,850	111,633	164,034	170,950	170,950	8,100	4.97%
1402 ZONING BOARD/APPEALS	22,194	23,030	23,030	5,547	16,880	18,530	18,530	(4,500)	-19.54%
1403 CONSERVATION	2,450	1,835	1,835	681	1,835	11,000	4,500	2,665	145.23%
1404 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	19,979	20,046	20,046	13,536	20,320	21,445	21,445	1,399	6.98%
1406 INLAND WETLANDS	50,539	112,630	112,630	67,916	112,980	119,280	116,880	4,250	3.77%
1407 P&Z COMMISSION	953	1,075	1,075	363	1,075	1,075	1,075	-	0.00%
1501 LEGAL COUNSEL	89,223	90,000	90,000	66,730	80,000	75,000	80,000	(10,000)	-11.11%
1502 PROBATE COURT	9,034	8,810	8,810	8,809	8,810	8,810	8,810	-	0.00%
1601 RECORDING/LICENSING	164,012	178,660	178,660	107,139	178,660	190,860	189,080	10,420	5.83%
1701 ELECTIONS	70,046	74,270	74,270	53,245	74,270	79,190	78,190	3,920	5.28%
1801 TOWN OFFICE BLDG.	76,739	94,900	94,900	75,581	69,681	98,975	97,450	2,550	2.69%
1802 CENTRAL SERS./SUPPLY	45,387	45,050	45,050	29,648	45,300	47,550	47,550	2,500	5.55%
2101 POLICE ADMINISTRATION	259,525	321,760	321,760	201,327	327,175	348,810	348,810	27,050	8.41%
2102 POLICE OPERATIONS	1,247,868	1,333,200	1,333,200	843,952	1,334,700	1,434,025	1,434,025	100,825	7.56%
2103 POLICE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	333,019	368,180	368,180	252,670	375,300	377,930	377,930	9,750	2.65%
2104 POLICE MARINE PATROL	3,723	5,500	5,500	2,652	4,910	5,075	5,325	(175)	-3.18%
2105 POLICE STATION	61,884	73,220	73,220	56,208	67,625	79,285	79,285	6,065	8.28%
2201 FIRE MARSHAL	9,825	20,500	20,500	11,358	21,050	32,000	27,000	6,500	31.71%
2202 STATION 118	36,956	38,335	38,335	32,646	37,545	42,015	39,885	1,550	4.04%
2203 STATION 218	44,290	37,020	37,020	34,890	37,180	42,120	39,615	2,595	7.01%
2206 STATION 418	8,781	6,540	6,540	5,768	6,540	7,710	7,380	840	12.84%
2207 JOINT FIRE BUDGET	341,613	354,760	354,760	328,377	369,195	356,860	349,820	(4,940)	-1.39%
2208 STATION 318	14,160	15,280	15,280	13,491	15,280	17,405	16,665	1,385	9.06%
2301 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	28,128	31,200	31,200	22,082	31,550	54,290	35,990	4,790	15.35%
2401 ANIMAL CONTROL	75,081	78,575	78,575	48,798	79,525	82,930	82,630	4,055	5.16%
3100 ROADS & DRAINAGE	663,473	660,915	660,915	403,787	605,575	662,215	630,215	(30,700)	-4.65%
3101 PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING	71,254	80,760	80,760	62,373	76,410	86,340	84,340	3,580	4.43%
3102 SNOW REMOVAL	276,897	298,350	298,350	243,263	299,060	315,010	313,510	15,160	5.08%
3103 FACILITY MAINTENANCE	325,163	380,855	380,855	277,059	424,655	457,155	450,500	69,645	18.29%
3104 PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	250,119	254,685	254,685	169,060	257,135	272,835	266,035	11,350	4.46%
3105 FLEET MAINTENANCE	487,156	501,946	501,946	364,692	522,071	575,750	559,250	57,304	11.42%
3107 MATCHING FUNDS	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	-	0.00%
3108 STREET LIGHTS	48,239	47,000	47,000	40,238	45,500	47,000	47,000	-	0.00%
3109 CEMETERY COMM.	30,717	25,082	25,082	15,858	28,282	34,995	26,495	1,413	5.63%
3110 TREE WARDEN	96,846	78,250	78,250	69,169	75,750	107,750	75,250	(3,000)	-3.83%
3111 FACILITIES - OTHER	2,639	4,300	4,300	3,650	4,250	4,000	4,000	(300)	-6.98%
3201 ENGINEERING	87,620	94,665	94,665	47,471	88,390	125,650	111,450	16,785	17.73%
3301 BLDG. INSPECTION	196,063	159,525	159,525	97,633	155,075	162,340	162,340	2,815	1.76%
3302 BUILDING CODE BD. OF APPEALS	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	-	0.00%
3501 HEALTH DEPT.	70,534	71,595	71,595	71,595	71,595	70,940	70,940	(655)	-0.91%
4102 VISITING NURSE & COMM. CARE	-	500	500	500	500	-	-	(500)	100.00%
4200 HUMAN SERVICES/GA	184,829	195,386	195,386	128,993	205,922	215,340	215,340	19,954	10.21%
4205 ELDERLY SERVICES	114,445	136,300	136,300	85,502	123,840	139,135	139,135	2,835	2.08%
5101 BOOTH DIMOCK/PORTER LIBRARIES	517,998	544,125	544,125	136,031	544,125	581,820	571,790	27,665	5.08%
5201 PARKS & REC SUPV/OPERATIONS	73,161	78,900	78,900	53,445	83,900	86,400	86,400	7,500	9.51%
5202 LISICKE	-	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,880	2,700	-	0.00%
5203 PATRIOTS PARK	-	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	33,000	30,000	-	0.00%
5204 CAMP CREASER	-	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,800	2,300	-	0.00%
5205 MILLBROOK PLACE	-	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800	3,900	2,800	-	0.00%
5206 LAIDLAW PARK	-	600	600	600	600	700	600	-	0.00%
5207 MILLER RICHARDSON	-	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,700	2,900	2,700	-	0.00%
5210 PARKS & REC OPERATIONS	-	23,300	23,300	23,300	23,300	24,200	23,300	-	0.00%
5215 COMMUNITY EVENTS	-	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,900	2,050	1,900	-	0.00%
5301 MEMORIAL DAY	2,192	3,675	3,675	2,145	3,069	3,675	3,675	-	0.00%
8101 MUNICIPAL INSURANCE	341,333	359,220	359,220	347,966	359,220	359,220	359,220	-	0.00%
8102 PENSION/SOCIAL SECURITY	990,480	1,095,180	1,095,180	838,641	1,095,180	1,153,300	1,153,300	58,120	5.31%
8103 HEALTH INSURANCE	1,064,433	1,165,200	1,165,200	786,543	1,165,200	1,304,600	1,304,600	139,400	11.96%
8301 CONTINGENCY	28,231	15,000	15,000	62,336	20,000	30,000	25,000	10,000	66.67%
8303 CLAIMS AND LOSSES	77,357	25,000	25,000	19,839	25,000	125,000	105,000	80,000	320.00%
	<b>\$ 10,277,106</b>	<b>\$ 10,973,292</b>	<b>\$ 10,973,292</b>	<b>\$ 7,589,129</b>	<b>\$ 10,936,290</b>	<b>\$ 11,903,895</b>	<b>\$ 11,697,230</b>	<b>\$ 723,938</b>	<b>6.60%</b>

## Debt Service

Debt Service as a percentage of the budget is 6.36% of the total budget which is well below the 10% threshold of concern. It is proposed to decrease by \$33,312 or 1.8%. The good news is that the Town's long term bonded debt service peaked a couple of years ago and will now continue to decline or allow other needed projects to proceed without a major tax impact. A slight decrease is expected in FY24 as the Town retires a capital lease from FY17. Sewer debt continues to be mostly paid by sewer assessments, but the assessment fund is running out of money and is no longer able to fully pay annual debt service. The WPCA is not raising sewer use bills but is partially compensating for this shortfall caused in part by lower investments earnings.

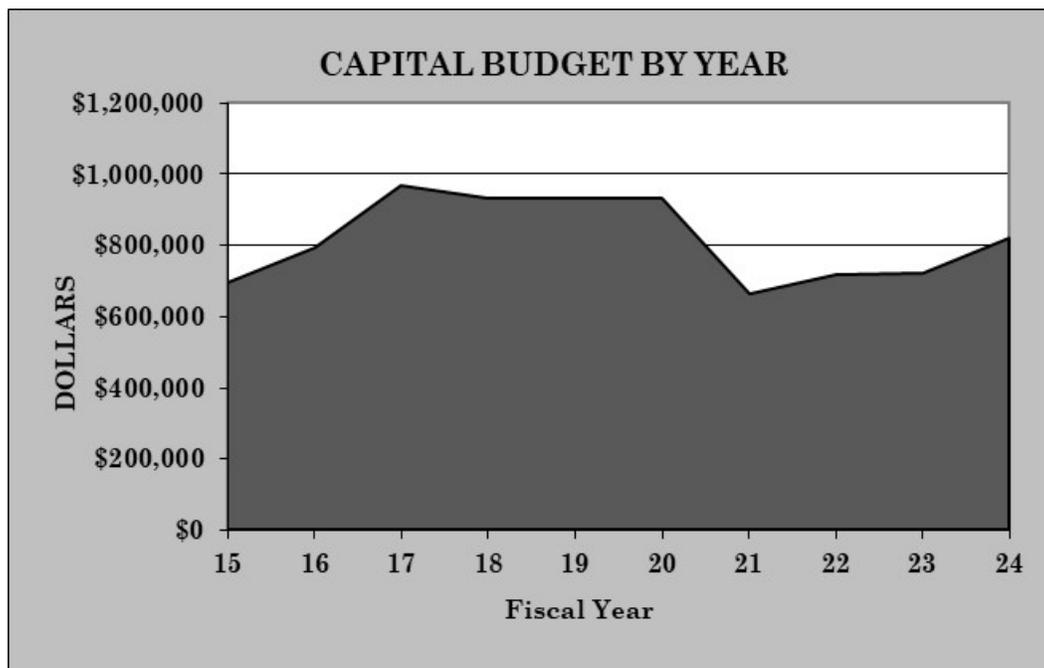
Lease purchases are detailed in the Capital section of the budget document. Even with these proposals the debt budget will decline. The entire debt schedule is included in the Debt portion of the budget.



## Capital Expenditures

The Capital Expenditures Budget request for the general operating budget is \$820,000, an increase of \$96,500 or 13.34% from the prior year budget. The largest items are recurring expenses for summer roads, lake management, Town and School computer resources, replacement Police, Fire and Public works equipment, and a contribution into the Open Space fund. Over the years many projects were deleted or delayed in an effort to hold down the impact of the overall tax increase, creating a backlog of projects. Please refer to the Capital section of the budget for further details and information on other funding sources.

Under the Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP), the State of Connecticut will reimburse the Town 100% of approved infrastructure improvements. Details of planned projects are contained in the Capital budget. Based upon auditor's advice, LoCIP has been established as a Special Revenue Fund. We receive approximately \$100,000 per year. These items are not part of the referendum and are voted on at the Town Meeting. \$101,000 is proposed for several projects this year.



## **Ambulance Fund Transfer**

The Ambulance Fund Transfer proposed in the FY24 budget is \$362,500, no increase from the prior year. The Ambulance Fund Transfer represents 0.79% of the total budget.

In March of 2020 at the start of the COVID 19 pandemic, it was determined that there was an immediate need to switch to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week ambulance services (previously the Town had contracted for 12 hours a day, 7 days a week). Preliminary revenue projections showed the services to almost fully cover themselves.

As time went on, it has become very clear that the Ambulance Fund is not able to sustain the 24/7 ambulance service without additional funding from the tax payers. One main reason for this is Medicare and Medicaid cost rates. When we bill for ambulance services, Medicare's allowable reimbursement is approximately 50% of our total charges. Medicaid's allowable reimbursement is approximately 30%. Medicare and Medicaid calls represent approximately 76.12% of all calls made by our ambulance. This severely limits the amount of revenue that can be generated from these calls.

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.

Based on review of current operations at the continued 24 hour a day, 7 day a week coverage, the amount needed to properly fund the ambulance services is \$500,000.