FINANCE/CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, March 9, 2023, 7:00 P. M.
By Zoom Virtual Teleconference:

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone, Zoom, and/or the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at www.norwalkct.org/meetings.

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Public should watch via the youtube link to the City of Norwalk CT is https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRcAj0a6fNzo2prQ6LhSjVA

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AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Public Participation
4. Approve the Minutes of the following Finance Committee Meetings:

   February 9, 2023- Regular Meeting

   February 23, 2023– Public Hearing and Special Meeting
5. Claims Committee: March 2023
6. Narrative on Tax Collections dated March 2023 – Receive Report and discuss.
7. Monthly Tax Collector's Reports dated February 2023– Receive Report and discuss.
8. Tax Assessor update on the Revaluation process.
9. Received Oak Hills Authority Monthly Financial Statements for January 2023.
10. RESOLUTION: requesting for Economic and Community Development ARPA Projects in the aggregate amount of $260,000 from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) fund. Accounts: $180,000 133710-5796-AEC24 Economic and Financial Impact Analysis and $80,000 133710-5796-AEC25 Urban Land Institute-Advisory Services Program.
11. Authorize the Mayor Harry W. Rilling to execute any all agreements and other documents necessary to transition from its current legal document management provider, Worldox to acquiring company, NetDocuments. Year 1, $7,900.92; Year 2, $6,581.47; Year 3, $8,814.96 Account No. 011370-5742.
12. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to execute an Amendment Agreement with Tyler Technologies, for Tyler Hosting and Software as a Service for the MUNIS Financials, Human Capital Management, Revenue, and Productivity Modules, for the City and Board of Education, for a three-year renewal term for amounts as follows: Year 1, $323,144.85; Year 2, $323,144.85; Year 3, $323,144.85. Account 011370-5742 IT SOFTWARE.
13. Adjournment.

CITY OF NORWALK
FINANCE/CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING
VIA TELECONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 9, 2023

By Zoom Virtual Teleconference:
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ATTENDANCE: Gregory Burnett, Chair; Edwin Camacho; Jenn McMurrer; Nora Niedzielski Eichner; Diana Revolus; Nicol Ayers (7:16 p.m.); David Heuvelman (7:16 p.m.)

STAFF: Mayor Harry Rilling; Lisa Biagiarelli, Tax Collector; Henry Dachowitz, Chief Financial Officer; Bill Ford, Tax Accessor

OTHERS: Joseph Andrasko, Oak Hills Park Authority Chair; William Hodell, Board of Education

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Burnett called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Committee members in attendance indicated above.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public who wished to participate this evening.

Mayor Rilling thanked the members of the Committee and said that tonight they were going to see the first draft of the recommended operating budget. He said they need to work together to have a fair, equitable and balanced budget. Mayor Rilling described the budgeting process and said that he asked all departments to be conservative in their asks.

Mayor Rilling noted that since coming into office, he has prioritized the schools and described the initiatives that were funded since coming into office. He said that the City works to deliver the best learning environment for the students and the City will commit to seeking out ways to fund various services, including mental health services for the students.

Mayor Rilling said this is a fiscally responsible budget that will not jeopardize the residents' ability to live in the City. He thanked everyone for their efforts over the next coming months.

Ms. Ayers and Mr. Heuvelman joined the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

4. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

January,12, 2023- Special Joint Finance and Claims and Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Alexandra Estrella, Chair, should be Dr. Alexandra Estrella, Superintendent of Norwalk Public Schools

Remove Nora Niedzielski Eichner, from OTHERS

**** MS. MCMURRER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**
**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. CAMACHO)**

January 12, 2023– Regular Meeting

Correct the spelling of Assessor throughout.
Page 5: She said this would be for about 15,000 and the levy would be around $4 million. This should be corrected to: She said this would be for about 15,000 items or better and the levy would be around $4 million.

**** MS. MCMURRER MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**
**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. CAMACHO)**

5. CLAIMS COMMITTEE: February 2023

Ms. Biagiarelli reported there were no claims to discuss this evening. Only one claim was refunded last month.

Ms. Biagiarelli highlighted her report as follows:

6. NARRATIVE ON TAX COLLECTIONS DATED FEBRUARY 2023 – RECEIVE REPORT AND DISCUSS.

7. MONTHLY TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORTS DATED JANUARY 2023– RECEIVE REPORT AND DISCUSS.

As of the end of January 2023, having concluded the first seven months of the fiscal year, we had collected nearly $330 million against our $365 million adjusted levy, or 90.28%. We also collected 92.94% of our sewer use levy, more than $16 million, and 83.11% of the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) fee billing on behalf of the WPCA.

Compared with the prior fiscal year (January 2022) we are behind relative to taxes (-1.77%), ahead relative to sewer use (1.56%); and behind relative to the IPP fee (-4.31%). Please note that the current adjusted collectible tax levy does now reflect the addition of the 2021 grand list motor vehicle supplemental levy, which was added during the month of January 2023.

Since February 1 was the last day to pay without interest, and we did experience robust activity through the end of the first week of February, this January month end report does not truly reflect the entire collection period.

We will more accurately assess where we stand in terms of our collection goals after we close the month of February, 2023. Even then, we might falter a bit, due to the extended due date of the motor vehicle supplemental billing, payable by April 1, 2023 and discussed subsequently herein.

With regard to prior years' collections: court stipulated tax credits and other adjustments beyond our control continue to erode our prior years' collections. From July 2022 through the month of January 2023, we show a net collection of only $150,831 in principal; more than $3 million in tax credits granted in adjudicated property tax appeal cases has all but wiped out all of our year to date collection of revenue from prior years.

In 2022, the Common Council approved the use of a third party collection agency to bill past due motor vehicle taxes for which we had no valid address. In November 2022, this agency sent its first mailing to approximately 7,800 taxpayers on our behalf. In December 2022, we took in nearly $200,000 on these accounts. In January 2023, we took in another $140,000. Again, most of this revenue coming in has been offset by credits previously processed.

Tax bills for approximately $4.4 million in supplemental motor vehicle taxes are at the printer now. We expect them to be mailed before the end of February. To clarify, these supplemental vehicle bills are for newly registered vehicles that are added to the tax rolls subsequent to the "grand list" date of October 1, 2021 - first time registration, not registration renewed. Under normal circumstances, these bills would have been due January 1, payable by February 1, the same as second installment bills; however, for various reasons, the assessor's division was not able to provide billing data to us according to the usual timeline. The Board of Estimate and Taxation, the Finance & Claims Committee, and the full Common Council all approved a two month extended due date and payment period under CGS 12-142 to accommodate the delayed mailing of these bills. They are due March 1, 2023, payable without interest by April 1, 2023. This extension affects only the 2021 grand list supplemental motor vehicle bills. Second installment payments were still payable by February 1, 2023, and subject to interest as of February 2, 2023.

In early October 2022, all city departments using Munis ERP software were required to implement a major software upgrade. This upgrade did not go well and several divisions are still attempting to deal with its unforeseen effects. This upgrade is different from our assessment and tax collection software conversion that is happening in March and April 2023. The conversion will move the Norwalk assessment and tax collection administration modules off Munis entirely and onto Quality Data Services (QDS) software.

The conversion has been going well and we anticipate the final cutover will occur on March 1, 2023. I plan to get delinquent notices in the mail by the end of February 2023. In spite of our second installment tax bills having been mailed later than usual in December 2022, and our supplemental motor vehicle bills being issued late, the collection went well, as evidenced by our collection rates, which did not suffer significant impact from either event. We plan to file lien continuing certificates after the software conversion. Liens are normally filed by the second week of March, but this year, they may be filed slightly later, due to the software conversion.

Our division remains short staffed due to two vacancies out of our eight person staff. We are anxious to fill those vacancies but have not been able to move forward as quickly as we had hoped due to these other issues. Aside from the collection agency initiative, most of our delinquent enforcement activities also have been on hold in recent weeks, as staff have been occupied with most notably the software conversion to QDS.

Last month, with the Administration's input and approval I was interviewed by Matthew Ford of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities' (CCM) for their "Municipal Voice" podcast on the subject of Norwalk's use of tax sale as a delinquent tax collection enforcement method. In November 2022, the Norwalk Tax Collector's Office won a Municipal Excellence Award at the CCM convention in recognition of our tax sale initiatives. The podcast can be viewed on YouTube here: https://youtu.be/SbbZSnMX_FE

I am prepared to respond to questions, and will continue to keep all stakeholders informed of our progress.

Mr. Burnett noting the tax collection rate was slightly behind last year's collection rate, asked Ms. Biagiarelli if she was concerned at this point. She said she was not concerned because they took in so much in February. She added that if she saw a drop as of the end of February, then she would be alarmed.

8. **RECEIVED OAK HILLS AUTHORITY MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR DECEMBER2022.**

Mr. Andrasko reported that their financial performance at this time is minimal. The rounds will start up again in April. They are working on some capital projects.

Mr. Andrasko said they have a line of credit, that they have not used for a few years. Due to inflation and their financial position, they increased the line of credit from $200,000 to $225,000.

There are some past due balances on the contract for the restaurant. Mr. Andrasko said they have been working with the contractor to be sure these balances are paid in full. Mr. Burnett asked if the restaurant is in service. Mr. Andrasko said the restaurant is closed for the winter, but they expect it to open in mid-March, with a St. Patrick's Day season kick off.

Mr. Dachowitz asked if the interest rate in the line of credit was locked in. Mr. Andrasko said he believed it was locked in at the 6+% range.

Mr. Burnett read the following request.

**** MS. MCMURRER MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING**

REQUESTING A SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $425,000 TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION TO FUND 09215010-5777-C0790 SILVERMINE DRIVEWAY IMPROVEMENTS. THIS CAPITAL APPROPRIATION SHALL BE FUNDED THROUGH $425,000 OF AUTHORIZED BUT UNISSUED GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY. THE $425,000 OF BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY SHALL BE ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS AND TERMS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL BOND RESOLUTIONS THAT AUTHORIZED THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY FOR PROJECT #09215010-5777-C0790.

Mr. Hodell reviewed the request. He said this project was developed several years ago, but there were quite a few delays. When they went out to bid, the lowest bid came in over the amount that was initially approved. He said they were able to repurpose some funds.

If approved, this project will start the day after the students graduate in mid-June and they expect it to be completed by the first day of school.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO MOVE THIS ITEM TO THE FULL COMMON COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL AT THE FEBRUARY 14, 2023 MEETING**

10. **TAX ASSESSOR REVALUATION PROCESS UPDATE**.

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING REQUEST**

REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE SOFTWARE AGREEMENT WITH VISION GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS, COMPUTER ASSISTED MASS APPRAISAL (CAMA), INCLUDING CERTAIN CLOUD

SERVICES DURING THE REVALUATION FOR AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $35,694 FOR TWO YEARS. (ACCOUNT 011320-5255 IT SERVICES)

Mr. Ford reported that over 1,500 properties were inspected. They are running at about 50% acceptance to being allowed in the homes. He noted that it is always best to gain interior access.

Mr. Ford said they are moving ahead with additional inspections. They did receive some phone calls about the inspectors. He said that inspectors will not ask for personal information; they are only interested in the real estate.

Mr. Burnett asked about the process if a homeowner sees an inspector at their door and they are hesitant to allow them to enter their home. Mr. Ford said they could contact the Tax Assessor's office. The inspector has identification, a letter of authorization from him and they wear a yellow vest.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said that given the low rate, asked if it would be worth sending a preemptive letter to the residents. She said she heard comments from people expressing their concern that they were scammers. Mr. Ford said he was contacted by two districts about including information in their mailers. He said they had a press release, news organizations did articles on the revaluation and they are trying to put as much information out as possible.

Mr. Heuvelman suggested sending an initial letter to every property owner. Mr. Ford said that if they send the letter now, some neighborhoods may not be inspected until June. He added that he letters could be used by someone to scam a homeowner.

Ms. McMurrer said she did not see information on the City's website about the revaluation. Ms. Revolus suggested making appointments to go to the individual homes, because the inspection hours take place when people are generally at work. Mr. Ford said they do not maintain telephone numbers; however, there will be announced Saturday visits. He added that the inspection rates are a little low, but that is typical of a revaluation. In addition, they do not have the staff to call homeowners.

Ms. McMurrer said that robo calls are very effective and may be a resource. Mr. Ford said that you can't schedule a visit with a robo call. Ms. McMurrer said that the call could be used to communicate with people. Mr. Ford said they call people who have made renovations and most properties have already been inspected.

Mr. Heuvelman suggested planning ahead and telling the public. Mr. Ford explained that the revaluation is required every five years with a full inspection every 10 years. Covid took place during this time period and there was the potential they were going to postpone the revaluation. Ms. Revolus suggested reaching out to residents earlier.

There was a question about the $5,000 annual fee stated in the back up material. Mr. Ford said he would fix that before it goes before the Common Council. He added that he needs to review this with the attorneys, but he would like to have a vote tonight so there is no delay in the revaluation. Mr. Burnett said the back up was incorrect.

Mr. Dachowitz explained that the total amount was the same. He said he would really appreciate moving this item to the Common Council. The revaluation will be delayed without the signed contract. He said he will come back and explain this at the Common Council meeting where everyone is present. Ms. McMurrer said best practice is to review the contract. Mr. Ford agreed.

Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said she understood why this is important but was reluctant to vote if there is an error on the total. Mr. Dachowitz said they need the services. Ms. Niedzielski Eichner said she would not vote on a contract with inaccurate information.

Mr. Camacho suggested approving the amount conditionally and then consider the correct contract at the next Common Council meeting.

Ms. Ayers told Mr. Ford that he could not come to the Committee and Common Council with inaccurate information. She said she was disturbed by the tone because they were questioning the accuracy of a document. Mr. Dachowitz explained that from an operational point of view, if this gets delayed a month, it may delay the revaluation, which may cause harm.

Mr. Burnett said they could table this item to the February 14th meeting of the Common Council. He said they need clarification on this item.

** **MS. MCMURRER MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM TO THE FEBRUARY 14, 2023 MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL, PENDING RECEIPT OF UPDATED INFORMATION**

** **MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (MR. CAMACHO)**

12. **PRESENTATION OF THE FY 2023-2024 RECOMMENDED OPERATING BUDGET.**

Mr. Dachowitz presented the Mayor's 2023-2024 recommended operating budget. He reviewed the calendar and the budgeting process. He reviewed the historical allocation of local tax dollars. He said the City uses about 40% of the dollars and the Board of Education uses about 60% of the dollars.

Mr. Dachowitz said he total debt outstanding is $361.6 million, but $400 million seems to be the point where the City's AAA rating will be in jeopardy. He reviewed the key budget drivers and said they plan on a $6 million drawdown.

Mr. Dachowitz reviewed the mill rates broken down by district. He said last year's budget was $414,175,402 and this year's proposed budget is $424,361,207 which represents a 2.46% increase. He said he feels this is a balanced and fair budget that shows fiscal restraint and is affordable for Norwalk's single family homeowners.

Mr. Burnett noted that this is the first time seeing this presentation and they need time to formulate their questions and comments.

Mr. Dachowitz said he will present the proposed budget at the Board of Estimate and Taxation meeting on Monday and again at Tuesday's Common Council meeting.

13. **ADJOURNMENT.**

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO ADJOURN**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services

CITY OF NORWALK COMMON COUNCIL
FINANCE & CLAIMS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE 2024 OPERATING BUDGET
FEBRUARY 23, 2023
CITY HALL COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AND
ZOOM VIRTUAL TELECONFERENCE

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Listen mode only please dial 1 (646) 558-8656 Webinar ID: 813 8900 7661 PW 022417
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ATTENDANCE: Gregory Burnett, Chair; Mayor Harry Rilling; Ed Camacho; John Kydes; Jenn McMurrer; Diana Revolus; Bryan Meek (7:18 p.m.); Nora Niedzielski Eichner (7:10 p.m.)

STAFF: Henry Dachowitz, Chief Financial Officer; Chitsamay Lam, Controller

OTHERS: Heidi Alterman; Nicol Ayers; David Heuvelman, Common Council members

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Burnett opened the public hearing at 6:38 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Burnett called the Roll as indicated above. A Quorum was present.

3. **PUBLIC HEARING ON FISCAL YEAR 2023 - 2024 RECOMMENDED OPERATING BUDGET**

Mr. Burnett made opening comments. He said this public hearing would not address items in the capital budget and will not address school construction. The goal is to keep the tax rates as low as possible, while maintaining services.

The plan is to draw down from the rainy day fund to provide tax relief to the tax payers. In addition, it is essential the City maintains its AAA bond rating.

At the close of this public hearing, the Finance Claims Committee will hold a special meeting to discuss the cap and next steps.

Mr. Burnett reviewed the procedures for the public hearing. He said that several individuals submitted e-mails and they will be included as part of the official record of this meeting.

For those people joining by Zoom, there will be translation services provided in Spanish and Haitian Creole.

Mr. Burnett asked if any members of the Finance Claims Committee wished to make a comment. There were no comments form the Committee members.

Public participation comments are not verbatim and represent a summarization of statements unless otherwise noted. Speakers are Norwalk residents unless otherwise noted and all comments are about the Board of Education's budget request unless otherwise noted.

Lynn Moore, representing NASA said the City's proposed 4% increase was not enough. She shared what is being done to support the students and added they have a family center that provides support to the families.

Lawrence Anastasia reviewed his background and said that as a teacher he sees first hand what Interventionists do. He said that an overwhelming number of Norwalk residents left Norwalk for a better educational system. As a fourth generation Norwalk resident, he said he does not want to be a former resident. He asked that the City raise the amount of funding going to the Board of Education.

Julie Flemming said educational needs and contractual needs are real. The proposed 4% increase does not cover contracts and then the students lose. She said that in 2022, the City underfunded the Norwalk Public School's request and said she is disappointed to see limited activism from local representatives. If the plan is to underfund the schools she said she does not know if she wants to remain in Norwalk. She said she is losing faith in local government.

Lisa Brinton said she has been attending these meetings since 2006. The student demographics are needier and Norwalk's ability to raise funds is shrinking. She described the budgeting process between the Board of Education and the City. She said that no one wants to discuss the correlation between housing policy and education. She said there need to be dialogues over Norwalk's revenue bleed verses its ability to fund its schools.

Doug Peoples said he was disappointed in the people on Zoom. He said they should be face to face to see the reactions when people start taking about kids in crisis. He asked how the cuts in the schools are justified. He said that when people put their reputation on the line, they need to have as much as they need.

Jason Saunders said it was important to address the needs and advocate for the students. He said he understood how difficult a budget can be, but a 4% increase is a reduction. Without additional funding, Norwalk Public Schools will face a reduction in staff.

Marissa Agular said it was an honor to work with the families in Norwalk. She spoke about the importance of her position at the Family Center where she supports the students with social and emotional learning. She said the student achievement is improving and it is important that appropriate funding is given to the District so they can continue to energize families.

Keith Parmalee said this moment is one of many where he asks why he lives in Norwalk He said kids are struggling with academics. Following covid, 27% of students report they feel nervous or anxious He noted that his child needs to see a counselor often and hopes those counselors will be there next year. He asked about priorities and said schools can't be compromised. He asked the City to fund $6.6 million for the schools.

Jennifer Jeffries said the 4% increase was unacceptable. She said it was crucial to think about the students and said there are a number of high need students that need support and intervention. She said it is important to retain the Social Work and Guidance positions.

Adriana Romera said she is on staff at the Family Center and investing in the children is an investment in all departments. She said they do amazing work at the Family Center to enroll students and get transportation and answer questions.

Ms. Chada spoke about her experience when she was new to the country and enrolling a child in school. The Family Center makes it easier for parents to enroll their student because they walk the parent through each step.

Anne Hennessy expressed concern about the lack of support for the Board of Education's budget. She said 4% does not allow the students to be competitive with students in surrounding towns.

Margaret Watt said the kids are hurting badly. Most students bounced back from covid, but some have not. She added that all mental health providers are booked.

Elizabeth Hass spoke about the opportunities offered at Kendal Elementary School and wants to be sure the City provides funding so her child and other children will have access to those opportunities.

Dorian spoke about how grateful he was for the programs at Kendall and said he wants to continue to shine bright.

Zakiyyah Baker, Hamden, CT, Principal of Kendall Elementary School shared that she was blessed to serve the community at the school. Pre covid, the school was identified as a school of distinction. She asked to consider the decisions that would have to be made if the Norwalk Public Schools are not fully funded.

Jenelle Gray spoke in support of the people who support her daughter with mental health issues. She said they are fortunate to have supportive staff and it is terrifying if they are not there.

Ms. Gray's daughter described her mental health issues and said that if it were not for her guidance counselor at the school she does not know if she would be here today.

Diane Keefe said that as a sanctuary city, Norwalk has the responsibility to fund the Board of Education budget by at least the rate of inflation. She suggested shifting the social work rolls under the City's budget while retaining the same staff so families can have continuity of care. She said that now is not the time to withdraw care. She also suggested creating a tax credit for residents who meet certain criteria.

Brian Door reviewed his background and said that he would not be in his current position if not for his coaches and guidance counselors. He said he had a lot of support while going to Norwalk High School and having budget cuts is not the right choice and will not be safe for the students or the community.

Susan Patrinelli said she understands that budgeting is hard, but it is not hard to put the children first. She said the children will not grow by cutting the education budget.

Mary Yordan, Lynn Moore and Joseph Giandurco said they were here to advocate for a higher budget cap. A 4% cap does not provide the means to fund programs and resources. This will endanger the gains the students made coming out of the pandemic. They added that they do what they can to get funding from the State.

Barbara Myer Mitchell urged the City to start a new era in investment thinking. She said she sent a lengthy e-mail that included data. She shared her experience as a Kindergarten parent. She asked everyone to work together to solve the problem.

Mason Seed, student at Kendall Elementary School spoke about his experiences at the school and said he wants to make sure the City provides a lot of money.

Doug Bates said he was concerned about putting his child in the Norwalk Public schools because of his own bad experience, but tried Kendall and said the services there are fabulous. He said it disgusts him that the education system is being put on a back burner.

Gavin Bates said the teachers deserve a raise because they do a not. He said the social worker helped him a lot. The teachers are nice and should get more than 4%.

Amanda Trimboli said she was from Greenwich and if you are not going to support the schools and the teachers and the mental health of the students she can go back to Greenwich. If you tell the Board of Education to use COVID funds, you would expect they would ask for a big percentage increase. They asked for 12% and you're giving them 4% . You are not meeting them in the middle. If you do not invest in the children the town will go down the tubes.

Delsa Covena said she arrived from Venezuela six years ago and it was a dream come true. She spoke about the benefits her son needed and said that she was speaking out for all the Spanish parents who have the same problem. She said she is happy to be here and asked for continued help. She spoke about the Family Center and expressed concern about the cuts.

Alysa Tabachneck said she saw what the schools put out regarding their request for a 12% increase. She feels the City can handle a slight increase.

Joseph Benacaso said that the kids need schools and if that is taken away, they will have nothing.

Ms. Diane Lauricella said this year she is celebrating 40 years in Norwalk. As a senior, renter and citizen advocate she thanked the Committee for having a virtual option and for providing translation services. She said she appreciates and supports teachers, but asked the Committee to not raise the cap until the Board of Education and the City takes a hard look to find savings in both budgets. She said the parents have been misled and while the Family Center was a brilliant idea, the way it was handled was not. It should have been placed in a City owned building to reduce the cost and as a result, the Board of Education was not fiscally responsible.

Ms. Lauricella said she also observed the explosion of high level administrative staff and would rather see them fund sports and social workers. She proposed that Dr. Estrella reduce the high overhead by ½ - ½ and not raise the cap for seniors who cannot afford it. Electric costs in the schools are too high. Having solar panels on the schools would create savings. Ms. Lauricella suggested looking for a full time grants manager.

Marissa Mangone spoke about partnering with Norwalk Public Schools to provide mental health services for the students.

Jody Sattler advocated for Brien McMahon High School resources so the students can be more successful. She said it is hard to hire teacher and they can't keep adding students without hiring teachers. She added they need more guidance counselors as well as more math and science teachers.

Iliana Zuniga spoke in support of the Family Center and asked people to remember why they ran for Common Council. She asked them to put the children first and added that if you want diversity, you need to fund the schools.

Gloria Neiderer said that for decades the Norwalk officials have failed to fund the Norwalk Public Schools. They are now dealing with decrepit schools and the increase will not cover the contractual increases. She said it is gross that you are not covering the costs for life support for the kids. The school and staff feel like a second home for the students.

Audra Good said that she saw that Norwalk has a history of underfunding schools. She asked to consider fully funding the Board of Education's request.

Michael McCarthy was a substitute teacher for Norwalk Public schools for 10 years and they were the best 10 years of his life. She said Brien McMahon needs more support.

Nora King said she has been a champion for the Board of Education; however, she does not support funding this Board of Education. Norwalk is not heading in the right direction and has lost focus over the last 2 ½ years. The new Superintendent has a lock of accountability, and she is burning teachers out due to a lack of strategy on academics. She said the Superintendent has made it clear she does not see eye to eye with parents on academics. All of the counseling can be done at community centers, but they are not doing a good job of preparing the students academically.

Ms. King said she does not fault the teachers. Dr. Estrella has demonstrated she does not appreciate involvement from the community or accountability. She said 4% is too much and the Board of Education should be defunded until they have accountability to the tax payers.

Lindsey Greca said both of her sons receive services at the schools and their experience has been great. She said these proposed budget cuts validate the fears of the parents. It is unfathomable that there would be cuts to these valuable resources.

Colin Hosten thanked the people for making their voices heard. He acknowledged it is not "us vs. them". He said that everyone on the Common Council was there because they love Norwalk and want to invest in its future. He said there is little fat in this budget and thinks there are ways to fund these important priorities while ensuring Norwalk taxes are not onerous and can protect the City's investment rating. He said his colleagues on the Board of Education and on the Common Council are willing to work together on this.

Dr. Robin Gredinger, a school Social Worker said it is important to note the increase in needs for services for the students and the families. She said it is important to have these services in the schools, because this is an extension of the families.

Christopher Papadopolos expressed concerns about the budget cuts and asked if the cuts were due to the construction of the new schools. He said that if the cut was due to support the new schools, he asked what they would provide to the community.

There were no other members of the public who wished to comment.

Mr. Burnett announced that Ms. Niedzielski Eichner joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m. and Mr. Meek joined the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO ADJOURN**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services

TOPIC:	DATE: ITEM #4
FILE UNDER: 02-23-2023	PAGE:

Signup Finance & Claims Public Hearing

Name	Address
Lynne Moore	NHS
Larry Anastasia	16 Marlborough Rd. Norwalk
Julie Fleming	1 Arrowhead Ct
Lisa Brinting	19 Shorefront Park
Doug Peoples	25 Poganeg St
Jason Sandler	19 Deerwood MAR
Maritza Ayala	Kendall
Keith Parmalee	113 William St
Jen Jefferies	165 Winfield St.
Adriana Romero	2 Pettom Rd.
Leidy Chetta	10 W main St.
Anne Hennessey	2 Clearview Avenue
Margaret Watt	Marjorie 41 France St
~~Henry Flores~~	~~203 Ely~~
Elizabeth Cobbs / Dorian	39 Kettle Rd.
Zakiyyah Baker	35 Fawn Ridge Drive Norwalk
Janelle Braig	2 1/2 thistle Rd
Jadyn Martinez	2 1/2 thistle Rd
Diane Keefe	249 Chestnut Hill Rd
Brian Meder	NHS
Susan Patrignelli	3 Rampart Rd
Mary Yordan	9 Mott Ave
Braelyn Myan Mitchelle	-

TOPIC: 2-23-2023

ITEM #4

DATE:

FILE UNDER: Public Participation

PAGE:

Signup

Name	Address
✓MASON SEAD	
✓NATALIA BATES (Doug)	55 FERRIS AVE.
Martha campos	
Manolena D.	
Amanda Trimboli	
DELCI CARVAJAL	
[illegible]	4 Gilbert St.
[illegible] [illegible]	

Public Comments via E-mails for Finance and Claims Public Hearing Meeting
23-Feb-23

	last name	first name	Address	e-mail address
1	Bernstein	Patricia		Bernstein.p.mhc.gmail.com
2	Bohorque	Johan		yhanbohorquez185@gmail.com and johannisb76@gmail.com
3	Carvajal	Jackeline		jackelinecar547@gmail.com
4	Cavell	Michelle	28 Pequot Dr.	michelleavell@gmail.com
5	Cenateimpo	Valentina		val_iacono@yahoo.com
6	Deab	Chris		chriseab@gmail.com
7	DePalma	Erica	100 Perry Aven	depalmae@norwalkps.org
8	Fleming	Julie	1 Arrowhead C	julie.m.fleming@gmail.com
9	Foscato	Melinda	38 Esquire Rd.	melinda.foscato@gmail.com
10	Francis	Nadine		nadinefrancis@gmail.com
11	Good	Audra	3 Cottontail Ro	gooda@norwalkps.org
12	Guevara	Narcisa		nachisguevara@gmail.com
13	Henriquez	Samantha L.		hriquezs1@southernct.edu
14	Kalunian	Adam		akalunia@steson.edu
15	Keefe	Diane	249 chestnut H	dianekeefe@gmail.com
16	Lehnert	Bridget	26 Honeysuckl	bridgetlehnert@gmail.com
17	LeMieux	Sarah		mommasarah@gmail.com
18	Matley	Justin	4 Cindy Lane	justincmately@gmail.com
19	McCarthy	Mike	SGC Member, E	mccarthy62@hotmail.com
20	McIntee	Sarah	6 Susan Court	sarahrmcintee@gmail.com
21	Merel	Emilie	29 Thomes Stre	emiliekmerel@gmail.co
22	Meyer-Mitchell	Barbara	10 Allen Road	barrbara@meyer-mitchell.com
23	Milano	Melissa		melissacmilano@gmail.com
24	Miller	Nicole		nicolemiller205@gmail.com
25	Montilla	Thamar		montilla20053@gmail.com
26	Oatis	Vicki	12 Fairfield Ter	voatis@gmail.com
27	Patrignelli	Susan	3 Rampart Roa	susan.patrignelli@gmail.com
28	Pollak	Jennifer		willij7@gmail.com
29	Robertson	Will	7 Harstrom Pla	wrobertson@gmail.com
30	Story	Lisa	44 Pine Hill Ave	storylibrarian@gmail.com
31	Tabachneck	Ana	4 Gilbert St	serelle21@gmail.com
32	Tiani	Michelle		michelletiani@gmail.com
33	Trimboli	Amanda	12 Cider Lane	amanda.trimboli@gmail.com
34	Troiana	Jaime	Wildmere Lane	jt0421@hotmail.com
35	Walters	Sarha	152 Witch Lane	sarahlwaters@yahoo.com
36	Zuniga	Iliana	8 Running Broo	ilianazm@gmail.com
	Henderson	Lisa P	21 Appletree Lane	

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Patricia Bernstein <bernstein.p.mhc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 1:51 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Budget public hearing comment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good afternoon,

I'm a parent of a student at Tracey Magnet School and a therapist in private practice and I'm writing to urge that the budget increase for next school year be as close to the 12% requested as possible.

My child entered Kindergarten in September and there has not been a single day since she walked through the doors of Tracey for the first time that I have not been awed by and grateful for the things that go on within those walls. I did not know a public school community could feel so kind, warm, and nurturing. I am amazed by the ways in which the staff go above and beyond for our children every single day. It makes me proud to have chosen Norwalk as the town in which I will raise my children.

But Tracey can't be Tracey with a decrease in funds. Every member of that team works diligently and with so much love for our children. The children flourish - and, by extension, our Norwalk community flourishes. Every penny going into this school is going back into our community tenfold in the future.

As a therapist, I see several educators from other systems all over the region. None of my clients describe a school like Tracey, or of being able to put as much into their students as the Tracey staff do. They describe schools that are drastically overwhelmed and ineffective, with insufficient staffing that leads to large gaps in the care and teaching of the children.

Please, I beg you, do not let our Norwalk schools suffer that same fate. Increase the budget to provide for the future of our greatest asset: our children, and also, our city.

Thank you,

Patricia Bernstein, LPC

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Burnett, Greg
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 10:00 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Fwd: Presupuesto de las Escuelas

Greg Burnett
City of Norwalk
Common Council At-Large
Gburnett@norwalkct.org

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Yohannis Bohorquez <yohannisb76@gmail.com>
> **Date:** February 22, 2023 at 6:10:32 PM EST
> **To:** Yohannis Bohorquez <yohannisb76@gmail.com>
> **Subject: Presupuesto de las Escuelas**
>
> **CAUTION:** EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders
>
> Estimado Concejal de Norwalk,
>
> Le escribo para expresar mi preocupación por la recomendación de la ciudad para el presupuesto operativo del año fiscal 2023-24 que ofrece sólo un aumento del 4 por ciento para la Junta de Educación de Norwalk en comparación con su solicitud del 12,7 por ciento.
>
> Mi hijo es estudiante en las Escuelas Públicas de Norwalk y mi familia aprecia enormemente el trabajo de cada maestro, administrador y personal de apoyo que asegura una experiencia de aprendizaje positiva para mi hijo.
>
> Con la recomendación presupuestaria de la ciudad, muchos de esos miembros del personal y las oportunidades de programación están en riesgo, como la instrucción fuera del salón de clases (banda, orquesta, teatro, deportes de la escuela intermedia y secundaria, excursiones) y los

recursos que brindan atención individual a los estudiantes (ayudantes, intervencionistas, para profesionales, consejeros escolares y maestros).

Le pido que reconsidere esta recomendación y proporcione los niveles adecuados de fondos monetarios que permitan a las escuelas continuar brindando el mismo nivel de servicio y excelencia a nuestros estudiantes que han recibido hasta el momento.

Gracias por su consideración.

Respetuosamente,

Yohannis B.

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Burnett, Greg
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 10:01 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Fwd: School Budget

Greg Burnett
City of Norwalk
Common Council At-Large
Gburnett@norwalkct.org

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** jackeline carvajal <jackelinecar547@gmail.com>
> **Date:** February 22, 2023 at 6:02:23 PM EST
> **Subject: School Budget**
>
> **CAUTION:** EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders
>
> Estimado Concejal de Norwalk,
>
> Le escribo para expresar mi preocupación por la recomendación de la ciudad para el presupuesto operativo del año fiscal 2023-24 que ofrece sólo un aumento del 4 por ciento para la Junta de Educación de Norwalk en comparación con su solicitud del 12,7 por ciento.
>
> Mi hijo es estudiante en las Escuelas Públicas de Norwalk y mi familia aprecia enormemente el trabajo de cada maestro, administrador y personal de apoyo que asegura una experiencia de aprendizaje positiva para mi hijo.
>
> Con la recomendación presupuestaria de la ciudad, muchos de esos miembros del personal y las oportunidades de programación están en riesgo, como la instrucción fuera del salón de clases (banda, orquesta, teatro, deportes de la escuela intermedia y secundaria, excursiones) y los

recursos que brindan atención individual a los estudiantes (ayudantes, intervencionistas, para profesionales, consejeros escolares y maestros).

Le pido que reconsidere esta recomendación y proporcione los niveles adecuados de fondos monetarios que permitan a las escuelas continuar brindando el mismo nivel de servicio y excelencia a nuestros estudiantes que han recibido hasta el momento.

Gracias por su consideración.

Respetuosamente,

Lam, Chitsamay

From:	Michelle Cavell <michellelcavell@gmail.com>
Sent:	Wednesday, February 22, 2023 1:28 PM
To:	Lam, Chitsamay
Cc:	Lindsay Esposito
Subject:	Re: Norwalk School Budget Concerns

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Sure!

28 Pequot Dr.
Norwalk, CT 06855

I have a kid at CMS and Tracey

Thank you for your prompt response!

On Wed, Feb 22, 2023 at 1:25 PM Lam, Chitsamay <CLam@norwalkct.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please provide address.

Thank you,

Chitsamay Lam

Comptroller

203 854-7711 office

203 854-7710 fax

clam@norwalkct.org email

City of Norwalk

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Comptroller Office

From: Michelle Cavell <michellelcavell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 1:15 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay <CLam@norwalkct.org>
Cc: Lindsay Esposito <espositol@norwalkps.org>
Subject: Norwalk School Budget Concerns

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Norwalk Government Officials,

I am writing to you today with great concern regarding the current state of our schools and their funding. As a member of this community, I feel that it is our collective responsibility to ensure that our schools are given the resources necessary to provide our children with the education they deserve. Unfortunately, it has come to my attention that the capital budget allocated for our schools next year is woefully inadequate 4% vs the very needed 12% increase which the superintendent proposed.

The state of our schools is simply unacceptable. Our students are being taught in outdated, poorly maintained buildings that are not conducive to learning. Schools would not have the money to pay for full staffing (already an issue!), field trips and other extremely important essential resources to help grow our communities' future. This is particularly distressing given that our community is home to so many talented and motivated young people who deserve every opportunity to succeed. It is imperative that we provide them with the best possible education, and that starts with adequate funding.

I urge you to reconsider the allocation of the capital budget for our schools next year. It is critical that we invest in our schools and make them a priority. We cannot continue to ignore the urgent needs of our children and their education. By failing to invest in our schools, we are failing our children and our community as a whole.

I implore you to take immediate action to ensure that our schools are given the resources they need. This includes increasing the capital budget for our schools next year and prioritizing their maintenance and upkeep. Our children's education is too important to neglect.

In conclusion, I urge you to prioritize the needs of our schools and their funding in the upcoming capital budget. It is time to take action and invest in our community's future. Our children are counting on you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Michelle Cavell (parent of a 2nd and 4th grader)

--

Michelle Cavell
917.822.7630

--

Michelle Cavell
917.822.7630

--

Michelle Cavell
917.822.7630

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Valentina Cenatiempo <val_iacono@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:58 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Common Council; Rilling, Harry
Subject: Increasing the Education Budget

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good afternoon,

I am writing this email in support of **increasing** the proposed 4% for education in Norwalk. I have three children in the school system, and all three would be negatively impacted if interventionists, guidance counselors, the arts programs, and more are cut due to a decreased budget. The pandemic affected all of us, but especially our children. My 1st grader currently meets one-on-one with a reading interventionist because he was not meeting the reading goal in September of 2022. Because of her supports, he is has increased his test scores on the given benchmark assessment. This wouldn't be possible without the intervention from his improvement teacher at Cranbury Elementary School. My child at West Rocks Middle School relies on his middle school guidance counselor to provide him support in school, while also relying on the arts programs as a place to excel and shine. Cutting the budget would put a burden on both parents and students and negatively impact us all. I am urging you to consider increasing the proposed 4% budget so that our children do not suffer.

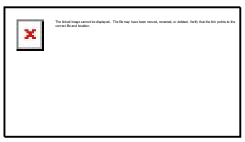
Thank you for your time.

Valentina Cenatiempo

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Burnett, Greg
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 10:01 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Fwd: School Budget

Greg Burnett
City of Norwalk
Common Council At-Large
Gburnett@norwalkct.org



Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** chris deab <chrisdeab@gmail.com>
> **Date:** February 22, 2023 at 6:05:14 PM EST
> **Subject: School Budget**

> **CAUTION:** EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

> Estimado Concejal de Norwalk,

> Le escribo para expresar mi preocupación por la recomendación de la ciudad para el presupuesto operativo del año fiscal 2023-24 que ofrece sólo un aumento del 4 por ciento para la Junta de Educación de Norwalk en comparación con su solicitud del 12,7 por ciento.

> Mi hijo es estudiante en las Escuelas Públicas de Norwalk y mi familia aprecia enormemente el trabajo de cada maestro, administrador y personal de apoyo que asegura una experiencia de aprendizaje positiva para mi hijo.

> Con la recomendación presupuestaria de la ciudad, muchos de esos miembros del personal y las oportunidades de programación están en riesgo, como la instrucción fuera del salón de clases (banda, orquesta, teatro, deportes de la escuela intermedia y secundaria, excursiones) y los

recursos que brindan atención individual a los estudiantes (ayudantes, intervencionistas, para profesionales, consejeros escolares y maestros).

Le pido que reconsidere esta recomendación y proporcione los niveles adecuados de fondos monetarios que permitan a las escuelas continuar brindando el mismo nivel de servicio y excelencia a nuestros estudiantes que han recibido hasta el momento.

Gracias por su consideración.

Respetuosamente,

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Erica DePalma <depalmae@norwalkps.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:29 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay; Rilling, Harry; Common Council
Subject: Public comment for tonight's 6:30 finance meeting

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To be read into record:

Good afternoon members of the Common Council and Mayor Rilling,

I'm flying today so unable to attend tonight's meeting, but please kindly read into the record:

When I started on the BOE, what I consistently heard from staff and parents was that NPS's late identification, intervention and inability to implement specialized services with fidelity was largely due to Norwalk not having a robust SRBI (scientific research based intervention) program in place and Specialized Improvement teachers to address identified children before they required expensive tier 3 special education services…and in many instances, after the critical grade 3 age when the window for closing the gap narrows significantly. A third party audit provided the roadmap for addressing these systemic issues, but when COVID hit, the number of children increased and their needs deepened. Now is not the time to neglect these children. Flat funding this district in 21-22 forced us to use Grant dollars to ensure the critical years for children in grades k - 3 weren't lost and we continue to combat a heightened learning loss and mental health struggles in children impacted by the pandemic. Now is not the time to fail our children.

Below please find testimony from our boots on the ground and stats on the impact they've made on our children's outcomes, as well as our district's financial health through early identification and intervention.

Thank you,

Erica DePalma
110 Perry Avenue

Improvement Teacher Video.mp4
drive.google.com

NORWALK
Public Schools

IMPACT OF IM
ON STU

TESTIMONIALS

TAMMY MALKIN
Elementary school teacher

"Elementary school teachers teacl multiple subjects and are expectec to be nurses, social workers, house cleaners and tech engineers. Reading and math interventionist are essential to meeting our kids' academic needs as pinpointed by targeting pre and post assessments."

" Interventionists and improvement teachers are trained in research-based programs that provide students with

SARAH ANASTASI
Elementary

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Julie Fleming <julie.m.fleming@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 1:42 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay; Common Council; Rilling, Harry; board@norwalkps.org
Subject: Finance & Claims Public Hearing Testimony - In Support of Full NPS Funding Request

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

My name is Julie Fleming. I have been a resident of Norwalk for almost 10 years. I have a first grader this year and will have another child in kindergarten in Norwalk Public Schools next year. I am a taxpayer, a registered Democrat and I have an "I will vote" bumper sticker on my car.

Appropriately funding our local schools is my **number one** issue as a voter and a central consideration in whether my family remains in Norwalk.

I have been disappointed by the budget discussions over the last several cycles. What has become apparent to me is that Norwalk's educational funding needs are growing as we service an increasing concentration of high-needs students - and that our collective willingness to fund those increasing needs through local tax revenue is not.

There always seems to be some reason why 'now' is not the right time to invest in our students. I am beginning to believe that the City of Norwalk simply does not prioritize educational investment in the same way I do.

We conducted an efficiency study last year, which demonstrated that the schools are generally acting efficiently and not wasting money. Our educational needs are real. Our contractual obligations are real. Underfunding the public school budget means that important services that benefit students will be cut.

So when I hear that Norwalk is considering underfunding the BOE's request, that a 4% increase is fair and financially responsible when it doesn't even cover contractual obligations, what I actually hear is that when it comes to making hard choices, students will lose.

In the 2021 budget cycle, the city did not provide any funding increases (which are necessary each year to support contractual obligations) and instead directed the BOE to fund regular operational expenditures using short term Federal ESSR funds that were intended to provide *incremental* services, not to replace the local operating budget

In the 2022 budget cycle, knowing that these Federal funds would dry up, the city again underfunded the BOE's budget request. Now we have amnesia and are wondering why the BOE is making a large request and pretending this is both unexpected and unreasonable.

It is also disappointing to see limited activism from our own city representatives in demanding that Hartford fairly compensate our school system (via full funding of the ECS) for the extra burdens we carry as a district because (unlike our suburban neighbors) we do NOT have exclusionary zoning policies that stifle socioeconomic diversity. I do notice and appreciate those of you who have supported this process, particularly providing testimony for HB 5003, as I did.

What all of this communicates to me is that Norwalk does not have a plan to adequately fund our schools going forward. What I want to know is whether this is going to continue or whether the city is going to prove me wrong. Because if the plan is to continue to underfund our schools every year, I don't know that Norwalk is where I want to continue to live. As a parent and as a homeowner, it is very difficult to justify staying the course as the city willingly lets our school quality decline.

This is not going to be the most eloquent argument for funding our schools fully, but it is the most true for me. I am losing faith in our city and it hurts because I appreciate all that Norwalk is and I am worried for its future if we continue down this path. I urge our city leaders to **fully support the BOE's funding request.**

Thank you,

Julie

1 Arrowhead Court

Lam, Chitsamay

From:	Melinda Foscato <melinda.foscato@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:14 AM
To:	Lam, Chitsamay
Cc:	Darrell Soho
Subject:	Re: NPS 2023-24 Budget // Finance & Claims Committee Public Hearing

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

We live at 38 Esquire Rd, Norwalk, CT 06851.

Very best,
Melinda Foscato and Darrell Soho

On Thu, Feb 23, 2023 at 10:02 AM Lam, Chitsamay <CLam@norwalkct.org> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> Thank you for your e-mail. Please also provide address to be noted in the record.
>
> Thank you,
>
> Chitsamay Lam
>
> ***Comptroller***
>
> 203 854-7711 office
>
> 203 854-7710 fax
>
> clam@norwalkct.org email
>
> City of Norwalk

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Comptroller Office

From: Melinda Foscato <melinda.foscato@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 6:36 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay <CLam@norwalkct.org>
Subject: NPS 2023-24 Budget // Finance & Claims Committee Public Hearing

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,

I am writing in response to the proposed budget for the NPS 2023-24 school year. My family and I moved from Washington, DC in 2020. I grew up in New Canaan and wanted to be closer to my parents who had just relocated to the Marvin Beach area. Having spent the majority of my time in New Canaan and then Stamford during my high school years, I was excited to return to CT and explore a familiar, but not well known, area for me. I will admit that when choosing where to move with our two young daughters, the school system was my biggest concern. Norwalk is surrounded by towns with schools that are notably some of the best in the state, yet NPS continually ranks on the lower side. I believe in public schools and the power they have in not only shaping young minds, but drawing in-- or keeping away -- new families who help local communities and economies thrive.

I was disheartened and a bit shocked to learn about the Mayor's proposed 4% budget increase which won't sustain the educators needed at the schools. My oldest daughter currently attends Tracey Elementary and we have been so pleased by the teachers and administration. It is my understanding that if NPS receives only a 4% increase that Tracey and other schools will have to cut their staff drastically. School counselors, instructional coaches, improvement teachers, and paraeducators are essential to our school community.

- Having a school counselor at every elementary school - directly impacts the social and emotional regulation of our students

- Instructional coaches - directly impacts Tier 1 instruction

- Improvement teachers - directly impacts Tier 2 and Tier 3 instruction

- Paraeducators - directly impacts small group and individual student support

My family and I have loved our past 2.5 years here in Norwalk with all it has to offer: diversity, culture, family friendly activities, and so much more. But if proper funding cannot be put in place to support and grow NPS next year and for years to come, I fear we will have to look to move to a neighboring town which can ensure the proper care and education of our girls. If Norwalk is to thrive the way I believe the city's leadership intends and its residents hope it will, the educational system cannot be given short shrift; otherwise, Norwalk will fail to attract and retain residents.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

All my best,

Melinda Foscato

Lam, Chitsamay

From:	Nadine Francis <nadinerfrancis@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, February 23, 2023 2:56 PM
To:	Lam, Chitsamay
Subject:	Comment for Budget Public Hearing

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello, my name is Nadine Francis and I am the mother to 3 daughters in Norwalk Public Schools. I'm writing this email to beg you to reconsider the budget increase you are recommending for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Four percent is just not enough.

As we all know, the cost of virtually everything has gone up recently. The price of food in the last 7 months has gone up 11.3%! With certain items, such as eggs seeing as much as a 50% increase! Our energy prices have increased almost 50%! And the increased cost of housing in our area is insane. The federal government is giving social security recipients an 8.7% cost of living adjustment this year. Yet our city is recommending we only give our schools a 4% increase. While the 12.7% increase NPS is asking for seems like a big amount, it's not. It's the amount needed to help the schools continue operating without having to eliminate current programs and positions that are essential to our children's education. To expect that our schools can operate on a 4% budget increase is heartbreaking.

While our schools have pretty much returned back to normal, our children are still recovering from the setbacks we experienced during COVID. Now is not the time to take away our interventionists, our paraprofessionals, school counselors, and other essential members of our schools. A 4% increase in the budget would force NPS to eliminate many of those positions. While I know there are many important projects and departments/divisions in our city that need budget increases, our students should be towards the top of that priority list.

I urge you to please reconsider NPS's budget increase request! We need the 12.7%.

Sincerely,

Nadine Francis
Norwalk Resident

Lam, Chitsamay

From:	Audra Good <gooda@norwalkps.org>
Sent:	Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:12 PM
To:	Lam, Chitsamay
Subject:	Public Comment for tonight

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Please see my public comment for tonight's meeting
Dear members of the Common Council

I'm speaking to you this evening as a long time Norwalk Public Schools parent and a current Library Media Specialist in the Norwalk Public Schools. I have spoken up for the budget in the past and have seen us in similar positions throughout the years. Norwalk had a history of being consistently underfunded and understaffed but has made great strides in replenishing staffing that was devastated by cuts in 2008 and other years prior to that. My current role as a full time Elementary School Library Media Specialist was one that was originally cut from our schools in 1998 and took over 20 years to rebuild and bring back into our schools. Part time staffing and lack of training had a lasting impact on our libraries and our new Elementary LMS have been working tirelessly this year to revive libraries in schools that have gone without for years. To consider any cuts just as we are rebuilding these programs would be impossible to overcome.

As a parent I have seen positions return that were lost many years ago such as the Elementary and Middle School Library Media Specialists, Literacy and instructional Coaches and improvement teachers, new positions created that we have always needed such as Elementary School Counselors and staff such as RBT's that service our special education students. To consider any cuts from school staffing at a time when teachers are already working their hardest would be devastating to the entire school community. My own department of Library Media Specialists and Instructional Coaches for Digital Literacy have built robust systems of support for our staff and students and those of us that have had time to develop our partnerships and programs are vital resources for schools. Throughout covid we had to make significant changes to our methods of teaching and how our schools operated, we are finally settling into our new path forward and the valuable support mine and other departments have been able to provide is still as much of a need as ever. Please do not send us backward. I ask that you consider meeting the full budget request for our schools so that we can continue the progress we have made.

Audra Good
3 Cottontail Road, Norwalk CT

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Burnett, Greg
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 10:02 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Fwd: 23-24 Budget

Greg Burnett
City of Norwalk
Common Council At-Large
Gburnett@norwalkct.org

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Narcisa Guevara <nachisguevara@gmail.com>
> **Date:** February 16, 2023 at 6:04:15 PM EST
> **Cc:** "Rilling, Harry" <hrilling@norwalkct.org>, "Alterman, Heidi" <HAlterman@norwalkct.org>, "Ayers, Nicol" <NAyers@norwalkct.org>, "Burnett, Greg" <gburnett@norwalkct.org>, "Camacho, Edwin" <ecamacho@norwalkct.org>, "Goldstein, Josh" <JGoldstein@norwalkct.org>, Council Young <councilmemberyoung@norwalkct.org>, "Kydes, John" <jkydes@norwalkct.org>, "Livingston, Thomas P." <tplivingston@norwalkct.org>, "McMurrer, Jenn" <JMcMurrer@norwalkct.org>, "Meek, Bryan" <BMeek@norwalkct.org>, "Niedzielski-Eichner, Nora" <NNiedzielski-Eichner@norwalkct.org>, "Révolus, Diana" <DRevolus@norwalkct.org>, "Shanahan, Lisa" <LShanahan@norwalkct.org>, "Smyth, Barbara" <BSmyth@norwalkct.org>
> **Subject: 23-24 Budget**
>
> **CAUTION:** EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders
>
> Estimado Concejal de Norwalk,
>
> Le escribo para expresar mi preocupación por la recomendación de la ciudad para el presupuesto operativo del año fiscal 2023-24 que ofrece sólo un aumento del 4 por ciento para la Junta de Educación de Norwalk en comparación con su solicitud del 12,7 por ciento.

Mi hijo es estudiante en las Escuelas Públicas de Norwalk y mi familia aprecia enormemente el trabajo de cada maestro, administrador y personal de apoyo que asegura una experiencia de aprendizaje positiva para mi hijo.

Con la recomendación presupuestaria de la ciudad, muchos de esos miembros del personal y las oportunidades de programación están en riesgo, como la instrucción fuera del salón de clases (banda, orquesta, teatro, deportes de la escuela intermedia y secundaria, excursiones) y los recursos que brindan atención individual a los estudiantes (ayudantes, intervencionistas, para profesionales, consejeros escolares y maestros).

Le pido que reconsidere esta recomendación y proporcione los niveles adecuados de fondos monetarios que permitan a las escuelas continuar brindando el mismo nivel de servicio y excelencia a nuestros estudiantes que han recibido hasta el momento.

Gracias por su consideración.

Respetuosamente,

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Burnett, Greg
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2023 9:35 AM
To: Lisa Pisano Henderson
Cc: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Re: Finance Committee 2/23/23 Comments.

Thank you Lisa for sharing your thoughts. We will include your note in the minutes.

Greg Burnett
City of Norwalk
Common Council At-Large
Gburnett@norwalkct.org

Sent from my iPad

On Feb 23, 2023, at 7:03 PM, Lisa Pisano Henderson <lhendersn@aol.com> wrote:

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To Greg and the Finance Committee

The taxpayers of Norwalk can no longer afford an increase to the BOE and other departments of the City of Norwalk.

It's an even bigger concern that we would use rainy day funds for operations.

Flat line the budget. No increases should Be given this year.
We just cannot afford it.

We have been through too many of these same budget cycles.

Lisa Henderson

21 Appletree Lane, Norwalk

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Henriquez, Samantha L. <henriquezs1@southernct.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 6:10 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: FINANCE & CLAIMS COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING - Parent Statement

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Good evening,

In regards to Common Council Meeting:

My name is Samantha Henriquez, I live at 15 Ponus Ave. in Norwalk. My child is a student at Kendall College & Career Academy. I am proud of the chance for my child to participate in projects throughout the day. The Project Expo showed me that my child is exposed to skills that they will use in middle school and beyond. I have seen the growth that they have demonstrated because of extra support in reading. Their NWEA scores have really improved, and I want to make sure that the city provides the appropriate funding so that school programs are not jeopardized. Please let's support our teachers and staff on behalf of our futures generation, and the future state of our city.

Thank you,

Samantha Henriquez

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Adam Kalunian <akalunia@stetson.edu>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:21 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Budget Hearing Comment

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Good evening,

I am writing to add to the public comments. I do not wish the schools to be underfunded. However, a 12% increase is absolutely absurd. I am a homeowner taxpayer resident and Parent of Norwalk. I understand the crucial need to maintain the funding that we have gotten due to the pandemic. But I think now, the time is to reevaluate some of the things we have put money into and see where we can make cuts.

Embedded within the 12% increase I see is a 10.7% increase to Estrella's salary. According to the article on Nancy in Norwalk, the variance includes reimbursement from the teachers retirement board. If this truly is what it is, why is it part of the Norwalk schools budget? Please answer this for all taxpayers.

Also, I am sure there are many positions in Norwalk public schools that do not serve individualized education, our most needy students, or are absolutely necessary to the operation of the schools and I want to make a distinction between wants and needs. I want there to be class size is 20 and under. But it is not necessary to have a class size under 20. Sometimes we have to give up a want and make due with what we have. Our hard-working educators do this day after day. Even with the whole budget increase, they still don't have 100% of the resources that they need to truly reach each and every student. They try their best every single day to make do with what they have anyways. Now it is your turn.

I also want to think of this through the lens of a taxpayer. My property taxes go up 10% while my year over year raise may only increase 1%, which could have adverse financial effects. I am not alone. Many other families will be in this situation.

We have people who never even interact with our children, making hundreds of thousands of dollars. Getting a guaranteed 2.2% raise. For example, there are math improvement and literacy coach teachers at every middle school and high school. Their job description does not involve working with students. If the average salary with benefits is about $100,000 and there are 14 positions. They make up almost $1.5 million.

This is just one example of something that was given to us from Covid, but we may need to do without until we acquire adequate funding over the course of several years and not all at once. This is not the only example, but I want to keep this as brief as possible.

To summarize, I support the schools. I do not want to see them and get level funded, but we need to find the correct balance between what we ask and the burden we put on our tax payers.

Thank you for your time.

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Diane Keefe <dianekeefe@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:18 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Public Comment on BOE request

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Chitsamay,
Below please find my testimony for this evenings public hearing:
My name is Diane Keefe and I have been a Norwalk taxpayer for 32 years. I have no children in the school system but believe that, as a sanctuary city and as a city committed to diversity, equity and inclusion, we have a responsibility to fund the BOE budget at least at the rate of inflation for the year 2023. The rate of inflation is running at about 6.9% and is on a slow decline. I support a BOE increase of 6.9% and the shifting of many of the social work and mental health roles to be managed under the city budget rather than the BOE budget. This can enable partnerships with nonprofits to continue to meet some of the needs for mental health and social services interventions for families in need. An attempt should be made to retain as many of the same staff as have been employed in this work through the school systems so students and families can have as much continuity of care as possible. The pandemic has been de-stabilizing for many. This is not the time to withdraw support from meeting these needs.

I realize that this is likely to require a mill rate increase. In tandem with this increased mill rate I suggest that the city set up a fund to provide a tax credit to Norwalk residents who have lived in the city for at least ten years and have incomes in the prior tax year of under $80,000 (which is lower than the median income county wide) such that those who own their own homes but have limited income to afford a property tax increase can apply for and receive a credit for property taxes paid such that the tax rate increase stays at 3% for each applicant vs the prior year payment. The intent is that this will offset the cost pressure on low and middle income residents to sell their property in order to afford the property taxes.

Thank you for your work in struggling with balancing the many competing needs in our city.

Best,
Diane Keefe
249 Chestnut Hill Rd
Norwalk, CT 06851

"The world carries along an outgrown past and it has not yet wholly achieved the gleam of vision of the possible future, but it is always capable of being made good...The "evil" is not purely diabolic. It is a relic of an outgrown past." Rufus Jones Haverford Commencement June 9, 1934

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Bridget Lehnert <bridgetlehnert@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 12:00 AM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Common Council; Rilling, Harry; King, Laoise
Subject: Comments on NPS Funding for Finance Hearing

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Dear Mr. Mayor and Council,

As a concerned citizen and parent, I wanted to share comments for the public record regarding the operating budget for FY24 for the schools.

I understand that governments at every level face the tough decision on where to cut spending where they can. However, investing in Education is a must, especially since Education funding relies primarily on state and local resources. The Economic Policy institute highlights this perfectly here.

It is not just my personal view that academic investment benefits the entire community; studies and data show that increased investment in education leads to better academic outcomes, higher property values, and lower crime.

As a Norwalk resident, taxpayer, and parent, I am deeply concerned that our education system is currently underfunded and struggling to meet the needs of our students and teachers.

I would like to express my support for increasing the NPS' requested budget increase of 12.7%.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Bridget Lehnert

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Sarah LeMieux <mommasarah@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 2:52 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Rilling, Harry; Common Council; Board
Subject: public comment for tonight

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Ms. Lam,

I won't be able to be present for the meeting tonight, but I would very much appreciate my comment being read into the record. Thank you so much -- comment follows below.

We all understand that budgets, including school budgets and municipal budgets, increase over time due to contractual obligations. As leaders, you can easily have access to the percentage increase that is contractually obligated for municipal employees like teachers, administrators, police, and firefighters from year to year. Any budget increase below this minimum percentage is a de facto cut, which will have a negative impact on our community. As leaders, I think you are underestimating the capacity of Norwalk's citizens to understand this process and work together to fund a city we can be proud of.

In 2021-2022, Norwalk Public Schools received flat funding from the city, which is equivalent to a cut. In addition, the city encouraged the use of ESSER funding for necessary positions, knowing that this funding would eventually run out. I think it's essential to educate the public about these decisions and how they can impact our community, rather than reacting to a perception that there will be public discontent at any expense. People want to work together, and Norwalkers on both sides of the aisle have expressed that public funds, such as the "rainy day fund," are best used thoughtfully to serve the public. I would point out that the rainy day fund has almost doubled since I moved here 11 years ago, and is the highest in the state.

Please don't be penny-wise and pound-foolish. Others have suggested, and I agree, that a minimum of 8 percent would be a workable solution that would prevent another budget conversation like this next year. It would also prevent the chaos, corruption, and financial waste that occurred during the disastrous cuts of our "revolving door" period beginning in 2010. This period resulted in a number of costly lawsuits for the city, which I believe could have been avoided had services been appropriately funded, and therefore managed.

As a community, notwithstanding our moral and ethical obligations, we have legal obligations at the federal and state level, to ensure that the children of Norwalk receive an appropriate education. I know we can work together as a city to find a solution that benefits everyone rather than burdening our youngest residents. I appreciate your dedication to serving our community, and I believe that we can work together to find a solution that benefits everyone. Thank you so much for your time, consideration and service.

Sarah LeMieux
--
Sarah LeMieux

http://www.sarahlemieux.com

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Justin Matley <justincmatley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 8:07 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Common Council; Rilling, Harry; board; King, Laoise
Subject: Comments on NPS Funding for Finance Hearing

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good evening Mr. Mayor and Council,

I wanted to present comments for the public record regarding the operating budget for FY24 for the schools.

I have no doubt that this year, like those preceding, presents unique financial challenges as we weigh the demands and wherewithal of our city's taxpayers. In previous years I have presented peer-reviewed data supporting more robust academic investment leading to better academic outcomes, higher property values, lower crime, better health, and increased community economic vitality - all relative to any other investment a community can make. That additional data is readily available and can be provided upon request. I've included shorter pieces linked above.

I have spoken to several Council and Board members over the last few weeks - and several years if I'm frank - and have come up with what I feel is a reasonable compromise between the NPS request of 12.7% and the Mayor's 4%. It considers much of what both NPS and the Mayor have represented as common concerns and need for Norwalk, and is informed by hours of research - both in hard data and statements.

While I understand it is not the purview of this Committee or Council to dictate to NPS how to use their funds, I am utilizing, in part, their own numbers to hold them responsible for their decision making. This is the 4-part breakdown, #1 pertinent to FY24 Finance and #1-2 to FY24 Council's purview:

1. 7.9% total increase to the operating budget, broken down as:

- 5.0% to cover FY24 Base Budget Request
This covers fixed changes in contractual obligations, classroom and school services, operations, business services, administration, and professional development.
- 1.6% to cover ESSER-funded Counselor and Social Worker salaries and benefits by:
- reducing current 57 positions down to 31
- 1 social worker / school (22)
- 1 guidance counselor for each Middle and High school (9)
This covers expenses resulting from past flat budget and request for these to be moved to temporary ESSER coverage
- 1.3% from a one time $3MM drawdown of city's Rainy Day Fund (no effect on property taxes) to cover:
- SPED out-of-district costs
- SPED contract service increases
Consequently, based on the Mayor's quote, this plan would raise the approximate 2.5% hike he proposes to 3-3.5%.
2. A joint proposal from the City and NPS to produce a co-op partnership with local organizations to aid in the continued **academic and social-emotional recovery** (and associated issues like chronic absenteeism) from pandemic-related learning losses. Replacing ESSER funded school programming, this initiative would be:

- Funded by available philanthropic investment awaiting a city/school action plan, and future state appropriations currently being sought by Norwalk state representatives
- An all-hands-on-deck leverage of community-based organizations like Norwalk ACTS, Mid-Fairfield Community Cares Center, Kids in Crisis, etc.
- Financially managed as part of the City-side budget
- Appointed program coordinators on both City and NPS sides

3. An expanded NPS initiative to further reduce out-of-district costs for SPED, currently accounting for 1/3 of total SPED budget request.

4. A hard cap of a more traditional ≤3% increase for FY2025 operating budget to stabilize property tax effect as budgets stabilise post-loss of federal dollars.

--

I appreciate this Committee's time and effort in considering a logical compromise grounded in fact, context, and the desire to supply our kids with the money, and thus, the necessary tools to succeed.

Best,
Justin Matley
4 Cindy Lane

--
Justin Matley
Audio Post-Production | Creative Development | Education
Adjunct Faculty, University of Connecticut
justinmatley.com

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Mike McCarthy <mccarthy62@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:23 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: More Appropriate Funding

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Dear Common Council,

The advertised date of setting the Budget Cap was March 7th, but now the Finance Department moved that date February 28th.
So the Common Council will determine a cap yet again without ever looking at the unavailable Grand List?
Norwalk has to exercise the ability to use funding from the ‘Rainy Day Fund’.
With a solid history of under-allocated funding and banking the largest General Fund Balance in the state, Norwalk must use
these funds allocate appropriate funding to our schools.

Sincerely,
Michael McCarthy
SGC member, Brien McMahon High School

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Burnett, Greg
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 12:17 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Fwd: NPR Annual Operating Budget Request

Greg Burnett
City of Norwalk
Common Council At-Large
Gburnett@norwalkct.org

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Sarah McIntee <sarahrmcintee@gmail.com>
> **Date:** February 23, 2023 at 11:50:21 AM EST
> **To:** "Rilling, Harry" <hrilling@norwalkct.org>, Common Council <CommonCouncil@norwalkct.org>
> **Subject: NPR Annual Operating Budget Request**
>
> **CAUTION:** EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders
>
> Good Morning,
>
> I am writing to you to ask that you fully fund the Board of Educations Operating Budget request this year. I write as a parent, a homeowner, a taxpayer, and a very concerned citizen.
>
> It seems that every year we are in the exact same position as the last, parents begging the council to properly fund the schools and the council taking the party line of "not this year" or "the city and the taxpayers can't afford it". Meanwhile our Grand List increases year after year, and our rainy day fund has ballooned. From 2020 to 2021 we saw an almost 200 million dollar increase in the grand list. Unfortunately, because the CFO has once again failed to provide the Grand List BEFORE these critical discussions are occurring, we are in a position that we can't properly evaluate how much the grand list will have increased by again this year. Undoubtedly the grand list will go up, which gives the perhaps mistaken impression that these numbers are being withheld intentionally to provide further justification for underfunding our schools.
>
> This year's high budget request is a problem of our own making. I have seen several council members attempt to argue that the BOE's request is a "want" and not a "need" but this is a tenuous and self-serving argument at best. Cutting those services most complained about - things like the welcome center, or the middle school lottery, even the twilight program only saves the district a few million. Even if we round up to 5 million in savings, we are still woefully underfunded and the need to

cut staff to meet the 15+ million deficit exists. By flat funding the schools in 20-21 we forced the school district to move numerous positions from the general fund budget and funded them using ESSER grants. Failing to provide the necessary funds guarantees that staff will be cut. The positions most at risk include some of the most critical for our students and families, including school counselors, social workers, and support staff in the classroom. It takes $6 million dollars alone to move the mental health support back into the general fund. Other critical ESSER positions like math and reading interventionists would cost another $3 million. And it can't be ignored that these positions have only been in place for ONE year and yet they have made a critical difference in student outcomes and performance. Losing them would have an immediate and negative impact on the children of Norwalk. Finally, NPS has over $10 million in contractually mandated increases alone. These are funds that must be paid, so if we don't fund them then we will end up cutting other programs - band, music, art, even sports are at risk. The only people who truly lose by underfunding the schools are the children.

I have lived in Norwalk for 5 years now. I have watched this cycle year after year. And this is the first year that I am truly concerned by the public discourse I have witnessed. I've seen our Mayor say it would be "fiscally irresponsible" to raise property taxes to a level that will fully fund the schools. Yet, was it "fiscally irresponsible" when all of our personal property tax bills went up as car values increased? Will it be "fiscally irresponsible" to increase our taxes at the end of the year with the re-evaluation and increased home values? This feels like a party tagline that can be pulled out when convenient and then thrown away later when elections have ended. Meanwhile, we harm the population that needs us most. We remove access to an education our children deserve and support services our kids need. We prevent our students from receiving a well rounded education with access to music, sports, and other programs.

Meanwhile, the city is receiving a 12 million dollar bump in their budget. An almost 8% increase because of a mathematical error. Yet, the party line is to say the city is also being "flat funded" despite the new windfall benefiting them.

If property taxes can't be increased, then it is time to stop hoarding the rainy day fund. It's time to start actually using those funds as they were designed to be used. As a taxpayer, I am tired of seeing the general fund increase year over year as our schools slide backwards. Providing a solid education will make a massive difference in the lifelong outcomes for the children of Norwalk. It is time that we invest in ALL of our children. It's time that we accept that education is a critical part of the community. Without a strong school system, we will see increased crime and a significant decrease in the property values in Norwalk. Considering that most people consider their home to be their single largest asset, that is a very real and very genuine concern for all. The city will slide backwards - not forwards. Families who live in Norwalk will leave if given the chance, families considering Norwalk will elect to set roots in the surrounding communities. None of this is a beneficial outcome. And for those council members who claim that increasing taxes forces families out, not properly educating their children properly also continues a cycle of poverty.

I urge you to consider the broader picture and who you want Norwalk to be, what values you want Norwalk to represent, and who you are actually trying to serve. Thank you,

Sarah McIntee
6 Susan Court

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Emilie Merel <emiliekmerel@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:18 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Budget

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,

I am the parent of two children in Norwalk Public Schools, a kindergartener at Rowayton Elementary and a first grader at Brookside Elementary. I am writing to strongly request that the Common Council reconsider the Board of Education's budget proposal to increase spending to adequately fund Norwalk's schools. With federal COVID support funds coming to an end and following an earlier recent year of NO budget increase (not to mention record inflation), increasing the budget to at least address Norwalk's current staffing needs seems like a no-brainer. Skimping on Norwalk's children and schools would be detrimental the city as a whole.

Kind regards,
Emilie Merel
29 Thomes Street
--
Emilie Merel
+1 203 984 5486

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Barbara Meyer-Mitchell <Barbara@Meyer-Mitchell.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:19 AM
To: Lam, Chitsamay; Alterman, Heidi; Ayers, Nicol; Burnett, Greg; Camacho, Edwin; Goldstein, Josh; Heuvelman, David; Kydes, John; Livingston, Thomas P.; McMurrer, Jenn; Meek, Bryan; Niedzielski-Eichner, Nora; Révolus, Diana; Rilling, Harry; Shanahan, Lisa; Smyth, Barbara; Council Young
Cc: Dachowitz, Henry; King, Laoise; Board
Subject: Public Comment on the Operating Budget

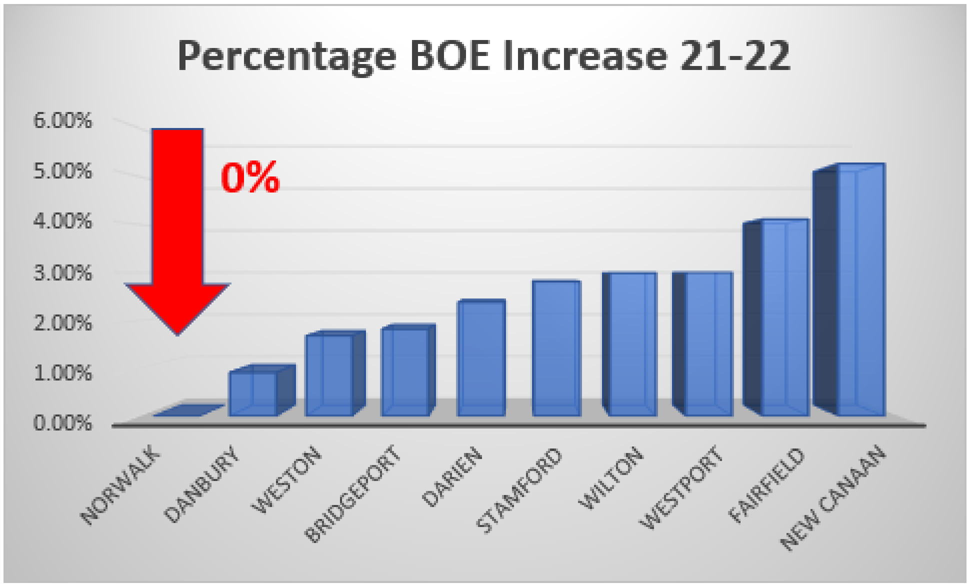
CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

For public comment on the City of Norwalk Operating Budget,

First let me say THANK YOU for serving Norwalk during these incredibly volatile, contentious and difficult years coming through a once in a lifetime global pandemic. I have been impressed to see the city making strides even in the face of adversity. It has given me great joy as I have driven through the city to see the major improvements to sidewalks in so many neighborhoods. The progress in building the Norwalk River Valley trail and additional bike routes is also cause for celebration. The leveraging of the community services department to help lift more families to a better path is fantastic. Modernization of city procedures like permitting and property records is bringing Norwalk into the 21st century. I look forward to hearing your discussion of the Operation Budget this evening.

When I ran for the Board of Education in 2017 it was because I and many parents were frustrated by over-crowding, poor building maintenance, egregious special education failures, and a lack of rigor compared to surrounding communities. As I met with building principals, they overwhelmingly spoke of the difficulty of teaching students who are hungry, coping with trauma and mental illness, experiencing housing challenges. They desperately needed more social workers, counselors and psychologists to lift these burdens off of teachers so that they could focus on delivering the curriculum. Over the last few years more of this need has been met, but the need is still great. Please continue to consider Maslow's hierarchy of needs as you approach this budget cycle.

To understand the unusually large budget request made by the Norwalk Board of Education for 2023-34, one must understand what has transpired over the last two budget cycles. In a surprise move, the City of Norwalk Board of Estimate and Taxation gave the BOE a 0% increase in 2021-22, and strongly suggested that American Recovery funds be used for the salaries that needed to be covered for social workers, counselors and interventionists. While other municipalities recognized the challenging time for educators and invested in their schools, Norwalk chose a cautious and conservative route. At the time, there continued to be economic uncertainty as to how the pandemic would affect the economy, and using the relief funding seemed to some like a good idea to address the serious needs in the schools. However, the Board of Education and superintendent warned that we would have a “cliff” when the federal funds were exhausted.

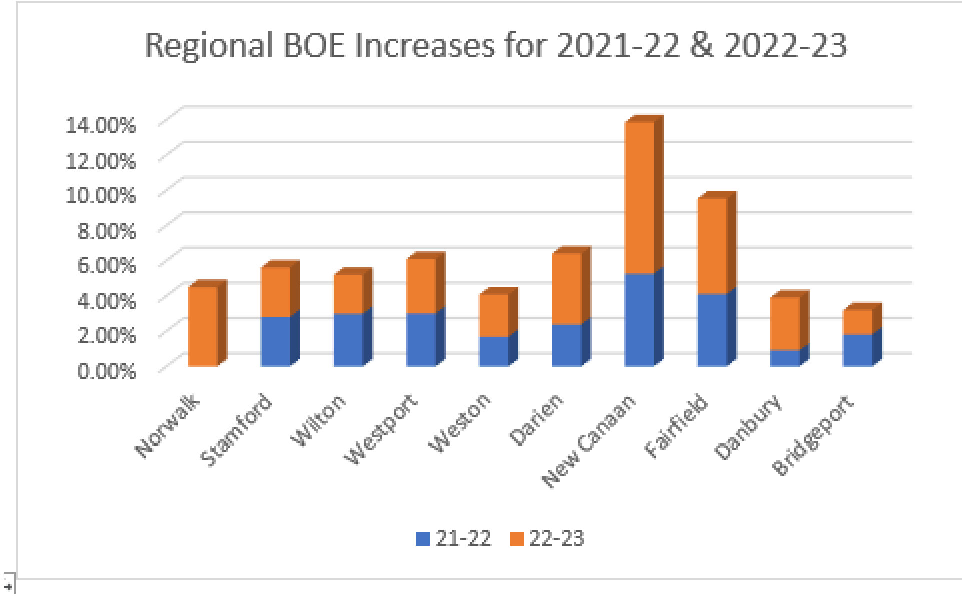


Regional Percentage School Operating Budget Increase by district in 2021-22

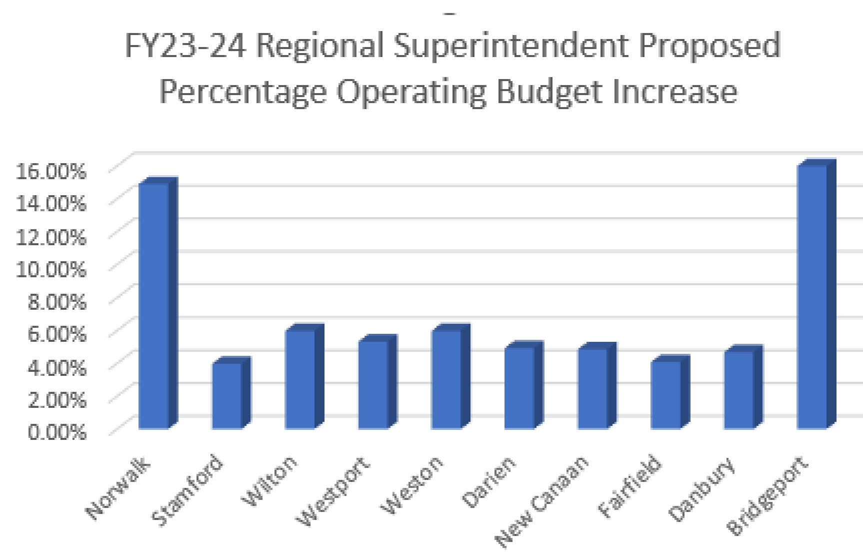
Norwalk 0.00%
Stamford 2.81%
Wilton 2.99%
Westport 3.00%
Weston 1.68%
Darien 2.38%
New Canaan 5.27%
Fairfield 4.11%
Danbury 0.91%
Bridgeport 1.82%

Even with a healthier increase of 4.5% for 2022-23, Norwalk lagged its neighboring communities in cumulative budget increases, as seen below.

District	21-22	22-23
Norwalk	0.00%	4.50%
Stamford	2.81%	2.81%
Wilton	2.99%	2.21%
Westport	3.00%	3.10%
Weston	1.68%	2.40%
Darien	2.38%	4.03%
New Canaan	5.27%	8.59%
Fairfield	4.11%	5.42%
Danbury	0.91%	3.00%
Bridgeport	1.82%	1.38%



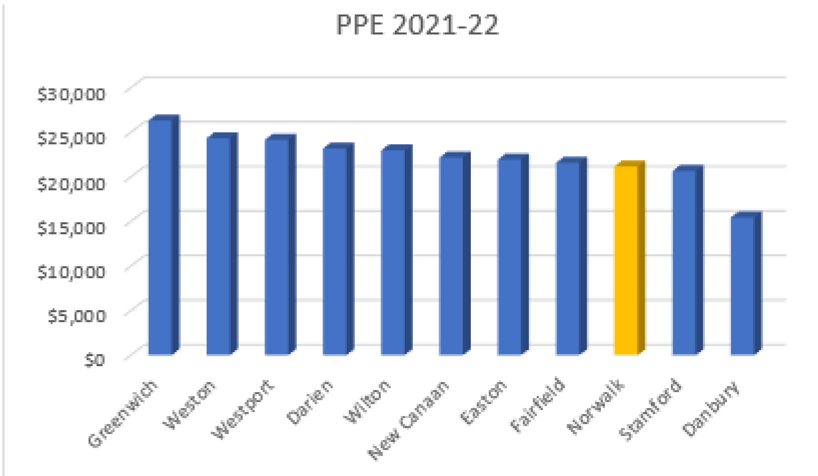
Regional Operating Budget Requests from Superintendents for 2023-24
The Norwalk superintendent's budget request is markedly higher than most surrounding communities. However, because Norwalk had the second highest allocation of federal relief funds that are ending there is a pressing need to cover salaries in the local operating budget, and the "cliff" coming off of them is steeper. According to the CT State and School Finance Project, the average per pupil expenditure from the federal funding has been about $2000. You can see that Bridgeport, which is another district that received a lot of covid funding is making a similar request. That said, I acknowledge that a 12% increase in a year when tax payers are struggling with record inflation is a challenging request.

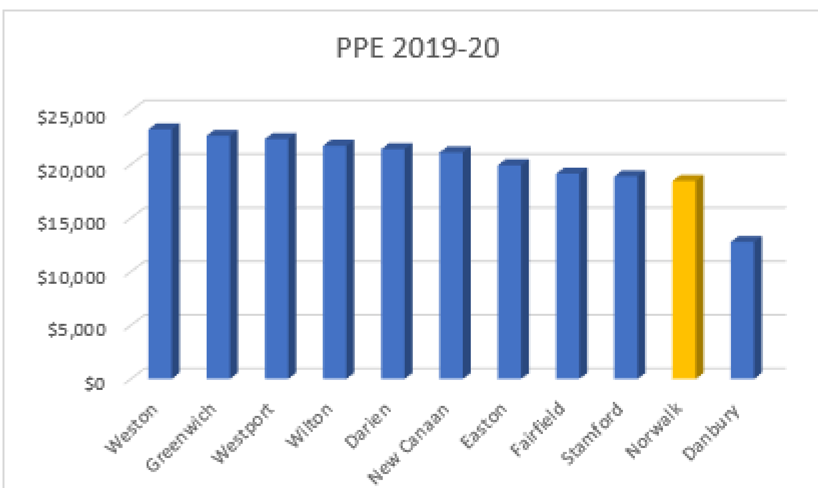


2021-22 and 2019-2020 Per Pupil Expenditure per the Connecticut State Department of Education

The CT SDE provides data to create an apples-to-apples comparison between districts as to how much money is spent per pupil. However, there is a lag as they work to audit the data, and they have not published 2022-23 data yet. Also, this 2021-22 data includes the Federal Covid funding, which means Norwalk's per pupil expenditures could be down significantly ($2k) in 2023-24 if the "cliff" is not addressed. **And we all know that you get what you pay for.**

Municipality	PPE 2021-22	PPE 2019-20
Greenwich	$26,308	$22,682
Darien	$23,180	$21,443
Westport	$24,150	$22,378
New Canaan	$22,170	$21,127
Norwalk	$21,160	$18,473
Stamford	$20,667	$18,887
Fairfield	$21,584	$19,143
Danbury	$15,451	$12,771
Wilton	$22,985	$21,753
Easton	$21,940	$19,935
Weston	$24,334	$23,277



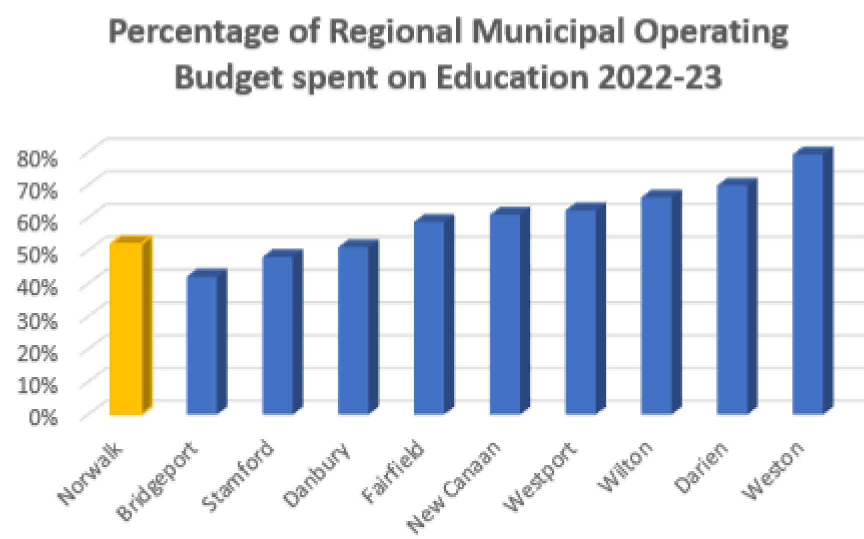


Regional Percentage of Municipal Budget spent on Education

Below is the percentage of operating budget that each municipality spends on Education, as taken from their audited financials. While there has been a historic disagreement between the City and BOE Finance Departments regarding the correct percentage to include, hopefully we can all agree that Norwalk *could* choose to fund Education more robustly as our neighbors do.

Norwalk: 52%
Stamford: 48%

Wilton: 66%
Westport: 62%
Weston: 79%
Darien: 70%
New Canaan: 61%
Fairfield: 59%
Danbury: 51%
Bridgeport: 42%



Grand List

For the fourth year in a row the CFO of the City of Norwalk has not published the Grand List on time, obfuscating the possible total revenues as the Common Council debates where to set the budget cap. If we don't know our Grand List, it is difficult to predict what revenues may be. Perhaps he is sharing them with you in caucus and not in public.

According to this article, he has publicly asserted that there would be no increase in the Grand List, only to reveal that indeed there was: **https://www.nancyonnorwalk.com/norwalk-adds-361-1-million-to-grand-list/**.

"Some recent history:

- **2021 Grand List**: $15,108,214,790, 2.45% increase
- **2020 Grand List**: $14,972,207,943, a 1.65% increase
- **2019 Grand List**: $14,728,523,380, a 2.51% increase
- **2018 Grand List**: $14,368,125,568, a 16.5% increase, due to the property revaluation
- **2017 Grand List**: $12,332,806,676, a .92% increase
- **2016 Grand List**: $12,220,457,278, a 1.1% increase

The 2.45% increase this year compares to the 4.2% budget increase authorized by the Council.

Last year, Norwalk Chief Financial Officer Henry Dachowitz said, "The problem is, I just don't see the Grand List going up as fast as our expenses are going up." The Common Council then approved 1% appropriations cap increase, using federal COVID-19 relief as a means to keep the tax increase lower than it might otherwise be. just before the official Grand List was submitted to the State, showing a 1.65% increase."

Because the Finance Department advertised that the Common Council would set the cap on March 7th, but instead moved the vote up to February 28th, once again the Common Council will vote on the Budget Cap without ever seeing the Grand List, unless it is furnished to them outside of public meeting. It would be a shame not to exhaust every possible funding opportunity for our students.

General Fund Balance, A.K.A. "Rainy Day Fund"

Every year but one of the last seven, City of Norwalk has under-allocated its revenues, banking up the highest "Rainy Day Fund" in the state. In 2021, the City Board of Estimate and Taxation, a body appointed by the Mayor, chose to allocate a 0% increase to the Board of Education, and clearly there were revenues available for the schools to be better funded. Every year there is some scenario that makes it "impossible" to invest in the schools (Recession, Covid, War, Inflation, etc.) and yet we consistently end the year with millions of revenues unspent and banked to our Rainy-Day fund.

City General Fund Balance

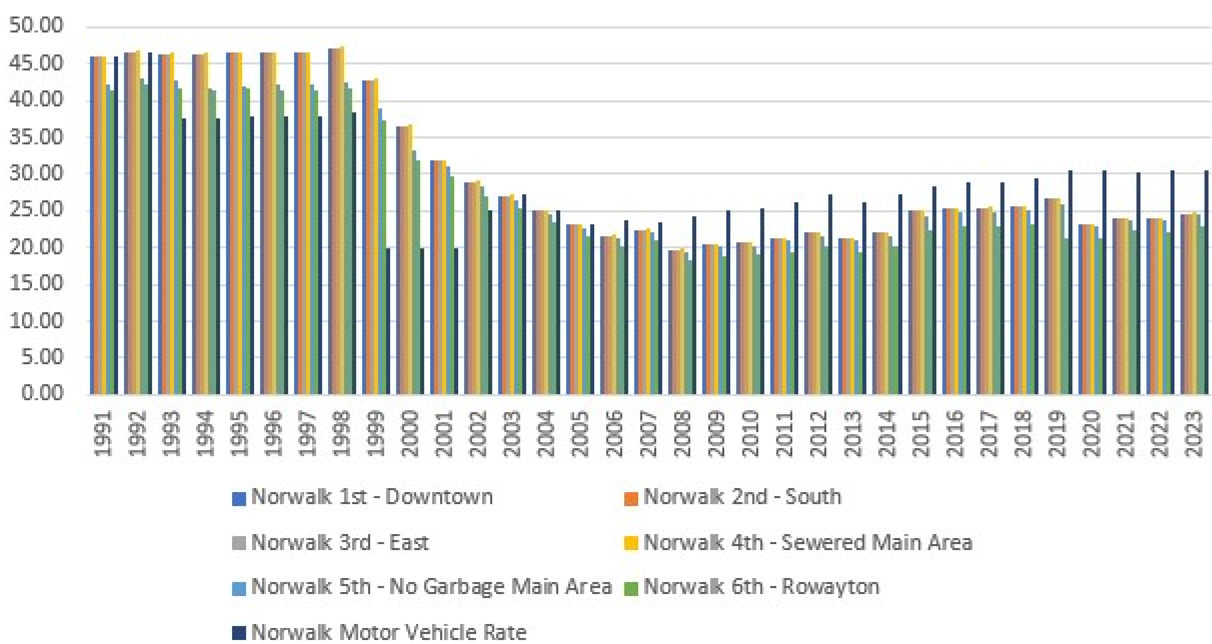
For appropriated funds, the Board of Education only manages the fund balance for the Grant Fund and School Lunch Fund. The General Fund is part of the City General Fund balance. Municipalities in Connecticut are fiscally dependent on their respective cities/towns. As a result, the BOE General Fund does not carry a fund balance. The City General Fund Balance as of June 30, 2022 was $83.5 million.

Fiscal Year	City Original Budget	City Revised Budget	City Actual	Added to City Fund General Balance	Comments
2021-22	188,169,682	189,058,974	176,660,241	4,824,562	FY22 City Audit Book Page 32
2020-21	177,214,173	183,327,573	176,481,579	5,493,680	FY21 City Audit Book Page 17
2019-20	144,673,617	144,776,477	144,720,895	(836,449)	FY20 City Audit Book Page 17
2018-19	146,829,924	146,517,045	142,167,154	12,793,893	FY19 City Audit Book Page 16
2017-18	142,905,261	142,208,073	140,519,050	5,621,671	FY18 City Audit Book Page 18
2016-17	141,392,082	142,926,731	142,802,287	4,506,174	FY17 City Audit Book Page 16
2015-16	156,001,752	156,462,609	153,979,122	6,305,972	FY16 City Audit Book Page 16

Mill Rate

What can Norwalkers afford to pay for their services? This is a very tricky question because of the large socioeconomic diversity of our city. I know that you have a very difficult task to find the "Goldilocks" sweet spot to keep taxes low enough to be affordable but high enough to meet the needs of the city. A tax increase lands very differently based on your income and the value of your home. As you can see in the data, during the 90s, a time period during which many Norwalkers expressed pride in their schools and town, the mill rate was much higher. From 2000-2010, elected and appointed officials chose to drastically lower the mill rate, and by 2010-2012 Norwalk Public Schools faced drastic cuts, laying off assistant principals, aides, raising class sizes and deferring necessary repairs to the schools. During this time period NPS also received four negative reports about failing delivery of special education. At the time administrators pointed to budget constraints as the reason the were struggling to meet legal special education obligations. Thankfully, Mayor Rilling's administration did turn the tide, and Norwalk is beginning to show the benefits of more robust funding. However, as we all know, the pandemic added additional hurdles and challenges for our students and faculty. The bottom line is that YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR, and we as a community must be willing to come together and find a strategy we can all be proud of for our City and Schools.

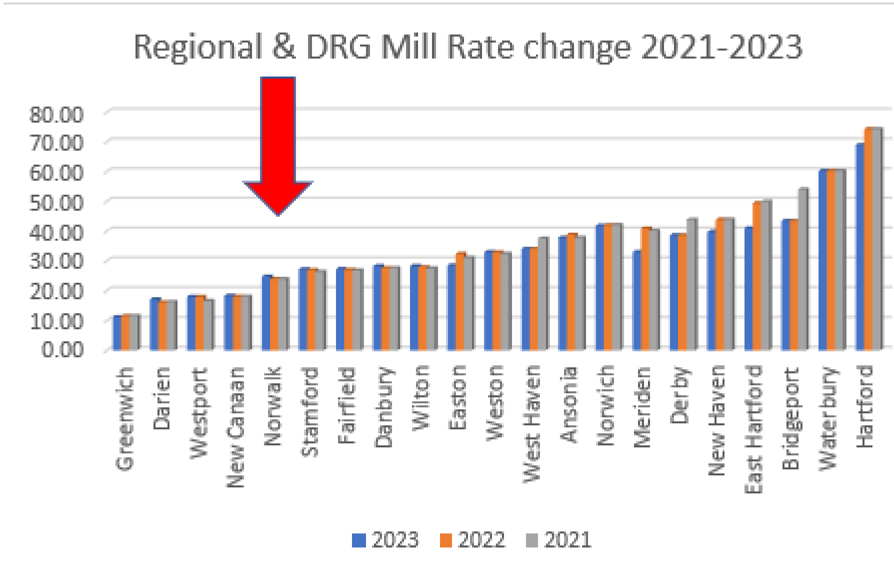
Historical City of Norwalk Mill Rates 1991-2023



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Norwalk 1st - Downtown	20.742	21.331	22.142	21.331	22.142	25.041	25.371	25.4
Norwalk 2nd - South	20.742	21.331	22.142	21.331	22.142	25.041	25.371	25.4
Norwalk 3rd - East	20.742	21.331	22.142	21.331	22.142	25.041	25.371	25.4
Norwalk 4th - Sewered Main Area	20.795	21.377	22.187	21.377	22.187	25.100	25.430	25.5
Norwalk 5th - No Garbage Main Area	20.304	20.889	21.682	20.889	21.682	24.328	24.710	24.7
Norwalk 6th - Rowayton	19.022	19.483	20.157	19.483	20.157	22.425	22.852	22.9
Norwalk Motor Vehicle Rate	25.448	26.186	27.365	26.186	27.365	28.241	28.805	28.9

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Norwalk 1st - Downtown	46.28	46.48	46.45	46.44	47.03	42.75	36.53	3
Norwalk 2nd - South	46.28	46.48	46.45	46.44	47.03	42.75	36.53	3
Norwalk 3rd - East	46.28	46.48	46.45	46.44	47.03	42.75	36.53	3
Norwalk 4th - Sewered Main Area	46.47	46.67	46.65	46.64	47.24	42.91	36.67	3
Norwalk 5th - No Garbage Main Area	41.70	42.01	42.12	42.16	42.47	38.97	33.36	3
Norwalk 6th - Rowayton	41.51	41.59	41.28	41.41	41.55	37.18	32.00	2
Norwalk Motor Vehicle Rate	37.58	37.82	37.83	37.86	38.38	20.00	20.00	2

During the Pandemic, many communities were able to use federal funds to lower their mill rates. However, it is time to step up and shoulder the full burden once again.



I know you have your work cut out for you, but I urge you to work collaboratively with the Board of Education and the Superintendent to provide as much funding as you can in this cycle. With teacher and social worker shortages across the country, if layoffs need to be made, we may have difficulty recruiting good people back to the district if funding improves in a subsequent cycle. As we learned in 2012-13, you also lose all of the investment in training and professional development in individuals who are laid off. They take that training to other districts.

I believe that Norwalk can be as successful academically as our surrounding neighbors, but it would require a shift in thinking about what the right amount to invest in our schools would be. That change is not likely to happen entirely in time for my children, but I hope you will consider setting that goal for our community. As Dr. Adamowski frequently said, Norwalk's children do as well or even better when given comparable funding to our neighboring communities. We should feel proud of our school, faculty and students and invest in them accordingly.

Thank you for your sacrifices to serve our city. I know it isn't easy, and you probably have sleepless nights as I do about the future of Norwalk. Norwalk is my American dream, and I pray we can continue to lift it's promise to reality.

Very sincerely,
Barbara Meyer-Mitchell
10 Allen Road
Norwalk CT

--
Barbara Meyer-Mitchell
Barbara@Meyer-Mitchell.com

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Melissa Milano <melissacmilano@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 9:15 AM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Budget

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello Chitsamay Lam,
I am writing as a concerned parent of two students in the Norwalk public school system. Their needs are unique, requiring both academic enrichment and social/emotional support. Thankfully, Tracey Magnet School has been more than capable of meeting these needs. My boys love going to school everyday because they are getting what they need there to succeed, and my husband and I are eternally grateful for the amazing teachers, counselors, and social workers that help them achieve their fullest potential.

The budget situation as it stands will undoubtedly affect my children. And I know it's not just MY children. We are hoping at the end of the day, any adult who is either a parent, in the field of education in any capacity, or both would certainly want what is best for the children overall. As a result of that, perhaps a compromise can be reached. Please consider this message. We would truly appreciate it.

Thank you,
Melissa Milano

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Nicole Miller 0435 <nicolemiller205@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 5:37 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Rilling, Harry; Common Council
Subject: Finance & Claims committee

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,

I am an active member of the PTA at Kendall College & Career Academy. I also have a child who attends PTEC, where I am a member of the School Governance Council. I am concerned about the programs at either school being negatively impacted. At Kendall, there is an explicit focus on meeting the needs of every child by exposing them to college and career opportunities. It is so important that we embed the appropriate resources when our children are young so that they are prepared for their next steps. My daughter is in kindergarten and her class engaged in a project that involved a collaboration with local businesses. She was able to visit a local restaurant, and work with her peers to design their own pizza restaurant incorporating math concepts. It is unacceptable for resources for schoolwide enrichment to be jeopardized. Enrichment gives all students access to opportunities that have historically been limited to students who are identified as gifted and talented. I am aware that Norwalk continues to lag behind its neighboring communities in cumulative budget increases. It is important for Norwalk to demonstrate that they prioritize education.

Thank you
Nicole Miller

Sent from my iPhone

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Burnett, Greg
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 10:00 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: Fwd: Preocupation con el Presupuesto

Greg Burnett
City of Norwalk
Common Council At-Large
Gburnett@norwalkct.org

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Thamar Montilla <montilla20053@gmail.com>
> **Date:** February 22, 2023 at 6:10:31 PM EST
> **To:** Thamar Montilla <montilla20053@gmail.com>
> **Subject: Preocupation con el Presupuesto**

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Estimado Concejal de Norwalk,

Le escribo para expresar mi preocupación por la recomendación de la ciudad para el presupuesto operativo del año fiscal 2023-24 que ofrece sólo un aumento del 4 por ciento para la Junta de Educación de Norwalk en comparación con su solicitud del 12,7 por ciento.

Mi hijo es estudiante en las Escuelas Públicas de Norwalk y mi familia aprecia enormemente el trabajo de cada maestro, administrador y personal de apoyo que asegura una experiencia de aprendizaje positiva para mi hijo.

Con la recomendación presupuestaria de la ciudad, muchos de esos miembros del personal y las oportunidades de programación están en riesgo, como la instrucción fuera del salón de clases (banda, orquesta, teatro, deportes de la escuela intermedia y secundaria, excursiones) y los

recursos que brindan atención individual a los estudiantes (ayudantes, intervencionistas, para profesionales, consejeros escolares y maestros).

Le pido que reconsidere esta recomendación y proporcione los niveles adecuados de fondos monetarios que permitan a las escuelas continuar brindando el mismo nivel de servicio y excelencia a nuestros estudiantes que han recibido hasta el momento.

Gracias por su consideración.

Respetuosamente,

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Vicki Oatis <voatis@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 11:25 AM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Common Council; Rilling, Harry; board@norwalkps.org; Donna King
Subject: Comments on NPS Funding for Finance Hearing

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Hello Mr. Mayor and Council,

I wanted to email my concerns regarding the recommended operating budget for FY24 for the Norwalk Public Schools.

As a parent with two children in the Norwalk Public School system, one in 4th grade at Tracey and one in 9th grade at CGS, I have seen both of my children develop beautifully and thrive at NPS. However, they have done so because of the wonderful resources that have been offered. Both of my children have benefited greatly from their schools' guidance counselors, social workers, and many teachers and aides that have been part of their education.

With the lingering effects of the pandemic and the rise in mental health issues we are seeing in all age groups, now is the time to be adding services to the schools.

I want to see all the children thrive and that means we need to fund our schools fully. While I would like to see the full 12.7% increase covered, I am willing to support the 7.9% compromise.

Not only does each school's administration, every teacher, and all the support staff deserve our full support, the children deserve to have a high-quality education that addresses their social, emotional, and academic needs to the fullest.

Thank you,

Vicki Oatis
12 Fairfield Terrace

Lam, Chitsamay

From:	Susan Patrignelli <susan.patrignelli@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, February 23, 2023 9:09 AM
To:	Lam, Chitsamay
Cc:	Common Council; Rilling, Harry; Susan Patrignelli
Subject:	Commentary for Public Hearing 2/23/23

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To Mayor Rilling and the Common Council:

I want to present comments for the public record regarding the operating budget for FY24 and funding for our schools.

Each year presents new and unique challenges and, undoubtedly, your job to create a City budget is no easy or small task. What IS easy is the simple fact that we need – and demand – this City takes care of the children.

Today you will be presented with lots of data regarding funding percentages. I've read the information, I've examined comparatives of our neighbor towns and it all boils down to this:

We have to INVEST in the schools. We have to give our children a foundation for a strong future. We need the social workers, smaller classrooms, gym class and music and sports, enrichment programs and teachers that are not so overwhelmed and stressed that they leave.

The recommendation to increase the budget only 4% vs the requested 12.7% completely ignores the expiration of the ESSER funds (which was repeatedly highlighted as an imminent threat to the BOE budget), the critical need for specialized education and the FLAT funding received in 2020-2021. You cannot grow a thriving education system without proper funding.

And if you don't particularly care about the children, know that the success, growth, and continued development of Norwalk depends on the education system. If we do not have a strong, well-funded and highly regarded school system, the families won't stay. It will become a transient town, with high turnover. That brings down market values. Businesses can't stay open. Jobs are lost. Economic depression sets in. Crime rises. It's basic.

I am a mother of 2 children: one in Kindergarten at Brookside and another little one still in daycare, but excited for his opportunity to join his brother at the "big kid school" in a couple years. This is personal.

I implore you to do right by the children and increase the budget as requested by the BOE.

Respectfully,

Susan Patrignelli

3 Rampart Road

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Jennifer Pollak <willij7@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 2:01 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Subject: School budget

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello,
I have a first grader at Tracey Magnet School. His transition last year to kindergarten was challenging and because of the amazing staff he is really flourishing at Tracey.

They need increased funding to continue to be able to meet the needs of the students. With so many teachers across the nation leaving the profession, we need to support the ones that are still working to help our kids. That includes offering the arts, teachers aides and counselors and all the extra things that make school fun and safe.

Please consider more than just the proposed 4% budget increase.

Jennifer Pollak

Sent from my iPhone

Lam, Chitsamay

From:	Will Robertson <wrobertson@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, February 23, 2023 11:11 AM
To:	Lam, Chitsamay
Subject:	Re: NPS Budget

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello.
Here is my contact information:

William Robertson\
7 Harstrom Place
Norwalk, CT 06853

Thank you

On Thu, Feb 23, 2023 at 10:04 AM Lam, Chitsamay <CLam@norwalkct.org> wrote:

> Hello,
>
> Thank you for your e-mail. Please provide address to be noted for the record.
>
> Chitsamay Lam
>
> ***Comptroller***
>
> 203 854-7711 office
>
> 203 854-7710 fax
>
> clam@norwalkct.org email
>
> NORWALK
> The Sound of Connecticut

City of Norwalk

125 East Avenue

Norwalk, CT 06851

Comptroller Office

From: Will Robertson <wrobertson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 7:34 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay <CLam@norwalkct.org>
Subject: NPS Budget

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To whom it may concern:

I would plead for the reconsideration if the budgeting guidelines put forth this year. 4% is not enough to support the need in our public schools. Though I understand the desire to be cost conscious, I think that this proposal will serve to drive away tax dollars from Norwalk. I want to keep my children in public school because I see great benefit to their future but the chronic underfunding of Norwalk's school system is proving difficult to ignore. There are major upgrades needed at my children's school and the teacher shortages show a need to increase incentives to teachers and educators. It is difficult to ignore the benefits of leaving Norwalk for better schools and better funding.

Please reconsider as there is great potential in the Norwalk public school district but like everything it must be properly funded

Thank you

William Robertson

--

Will Robertson

Lam, Chitsamay

From:	Lisa Story <storylibrarian@gmail.com>
Sent:	Thursday, February 23, 2023 1:57 PM
To:	Lam, Chitsamay
Subject:	NPS Budget

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I'm writing to support the full budget request of the Norwalk Public Schools for the upcoming school year. I've had one child graduate from NPS and one who is currently a junior. They've both had specialized learning plans. We are an upper-middle-class family with resources and two deeply involved parents and we still could not have gotten our kids this far without the support along the way of the guidance counselors and social workers at NHMS and NHS. I cannot imagine how kids from low-income homes will be able to thrive and succeed without intense supports from the school district because it was an epic struggle for us.

'm also concerned about the lingering effects of the pandemic and the learning loss that is still being addressed. I work at the library, and I can tell you that it is pretty shocking how far behind kids' reading levels are compared to prepandemic times – and I'm talking about kids whose parents are bringing them to the library. I hate to think what it's like for kids whose parents are unwilling or unable to take them to the library for additional enrichment. The school district has its hands full and needs every bit of financial support the city can provide.

Sincerely,

Lisa Story
44 Pine Hill Avenue

Sent from Mail for Windows

Lam, Chitsamay

From: ana tabachneck <serelle21@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:10 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Rilling, Harry; Common Council
Subject: For public comment at tonight's meeting

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

I know 12% on its own is a lot, but I remember when the BOE was given a 0% increase specifically because they had ESSER funds, which means whatever increase they needed for that year would need to be covered with ESSER. You can only use ESSER for specific line items. In this case they used it for social work/counseling staff.

FWIW they should have gotten a standard increase and used ESSER for extra COVID costs but whatevs. When you tell them to use these funds instead of giving the money needed, that means when the funds go away they will need a larger increase to fill the hole. I don't know why this is surprising to folks. I've heard it talked about for years.

Please fully find the BOE ask here. I don't have time to get into the rest of it, but everything I've read from the BOE folks makes sense. What I've read from the Common Council and mayor justifying the proposed 4% does not. In addition, it obfuscates and is condescending.

I was very open to hearing the rationale for only providing 4%. The only argument that made sense was not wanting to raise taxes. The rest of it did not. And that's a noble goal, but our public schools in this country are funded by local taxes. So if the taxes have to go up to cover the schools, then they go up.

This year is playing catch up.

Ana Tabachneck
4 Gilbert St

Sent from my iPhone

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Michelle Tiani <michelletiani@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2023 7:32 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay; Rilling, Harry; Common Council
Subject: Public Comment for 2/23 Finance Meeting

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

To whom it may concern,
I'd like you to imagine yourself as a parent or guardian of a child attending school in Norwalk. (If you're not already).

Imagine a town with a school system that operates the following way:
You may try to call the school to pick up your child early, or to alert the school of a new allergy but no one answers the phone because there are 4 staff out, no available subs, so someone from the front office must cover. You can't leave work and just have to cross your fingers your child remembers not to eat the school hot lunch that day.

You may have a meeting with your child's teacher about how to enhance their learning, but the school has no interventionists or resources to help your child. They may suggest a community partner to send your child too but there is a 3-month waitlist and then you have to leave work early to take them along with having to pay for it.

You may have a child who has built a bond with a staff member while working in small groups to close the learning gap, and all of a sudden, they no longer have the opportunity to receive that much needed educational time.

You may have a child who lost a grandparent or needs mediation with a friend but there is no one there to help comfort or facilitate.

You may have a teacher who has a para in the classroom who vanishes. Those para's are the extra set of hands who gives your child another set of ears to listen to them. Those paras are the extra set of hands who help our kindergarteners adjust to school and build their self-confidence and skills to open their food, zip their coats and learn how to play and make friends.

Imagine a school with no field trips, no community meetings, no extracurricular activities, no school event nights, no fun. It's no longer a school.

The transformation these staff do in teaching our kids builds their confidence and fine tune their abilities could potentially be gone.

Your child starts to talk about how they no longer want to go to school.

Your child starts coming home talking about fights at school because there aren't enough staff to watch all the kids.

Imagine a school where the familiar faces of staff who love coming to work each day, who make a difference and have a strong impact on all students are ripped from the school the following year.

Our children deserve the best because they are our future. I strongly urge you to reconsider the percentage to be given to the BOE to at least 9%, if not more. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

I am also writing in regard to the Capital budget. I am in full support for the 2023-2024 budget to include upgrades on the sound wall of the stage at Tracey Magnet School as we hold many community meetings, asbestos removal at all schools, air conditioning at all schools and enhanced security. A/C and asbestos should be taken care so all schools are equal, there shouldn't be early dismissals for some because it's too hot in the school. Kids need an environment that is suitable to learn in. As a community we should always want to make sure our security in all schools is enhanced to protect all students!

Thank you. Proud Tracey Magnet School Parent.

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Amanda Trimboli <amanda.trimboli@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 9:18 AM
To: Lam, Chitsamay
Cc: Rilling, Harry; Common Council
Subject: Response to Operating Budget

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello Common Council and Mayor Rilling,

My name is Amanda Trimboli and I live at 12 Cider Lane. I have two children at Wolfpit Integrated Arts Elementary school. One of the many reasons I love living in Norwalk is because of the diversity and the many different programs that are offered at our schools. The Norwalk Public School system is important not only to our children, but to the future of this community. Part of that is creating equal opportunities for all children. COVID had a huge impact on our children in many respects - mentally, emotionally, socially, and academically - and still continues to. Because of the investment in our schools over the recent years, we have successfully started to close the COVID-gap. A major factor includes our recent addition of Numeracy and Literacy Specialists, as well as Counselors and Social Workers at each and every school in the district. These are impactful and necessary additions to help our children succeed, as well as the specialized programs that our schools hold.

Over the past several years, the City of Norwalk has invested in growing our population and encouraging residential space. What is Norwalk if we have families moving into our city, and young people looking to settle down and start a family, but a school system that isn't fully-funded and valued? What is Norwalk if our children don't have the academic, social and emotional tools to succeed? Now is the time for the City of Norwalk to invest in our children and their future, and we are counting on you to fully fund the school budget for the upcoming year. Our children absolutely deserve it. Please do not leave them behind.

While I understand the predicament that you are in, handing over millions of dollars, and not wanting to raise our taxes, there has to be a way that we can keep all the staff that we have, as well as the special and unique programs that NPS offers. Please try to find common ground on this matter. Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Amanda Trimboli

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Jaime Troiano <JT0421@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 3:14 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay; Rilling, Harry; Common Council
Subject: Norwalk Public Schools

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Hello Common Council and Mayor Rilling,

My name is Jaime Troiano, and I live on Wildmere Lane. I have a child at Wolfpit Integrated Arts Elementary school. The Norwalk Public School system is important not only to our children, but to the future of this community. Part of that is creating equal opportunities for all children. COVID had a huge impact on our children in many respects - mentally, emotionally, socially, and academically - and still continues to. Because of the investment in our schools over the recent years, we have successfully started to close the COVID-gap. A major factor includes our recent addition of Numeracy and Literacy Specialists, as well as Counselors and Social Workers, *at each and every school* in the district. These are impactful and necessary additions to help our children succeed, as well as the specialized programs that our schools hold.

Over the past several years, the City of Norwalk has invested in growing our population and encouraging residential space. What is Norwalk if we have families moving into our city, and young people looking to settle down and start a family, but a school system that isn't fully-funded and valued? What is Norwalk if our children don't have the academic, social and emotional tools to succeed? Now is the time for the City of Norwalk to invest in our children and their future, and we are counting on you to fully fund the school budget for the upcoming year. Our children absolutely deserve it. Please do not leave them behind.

Sincerely,
Jaime Troiano

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Sarah Waters <sarahlwaters@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 6:30 PM
To: Lam, Chitsamay; Rilling, Harry; King, Laoise; Common Council
Subject: Norwalk Public Schools--Please Increase Funding Further

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Our schools are important to the community. Value in Norwalk is increased by the quality of the schools. It is decreased when quality of the school is lowered.

The Arts, Music, Enrichment, and the quality of good longstanding teachers that can focus on their work, rather than on job security... all of these things are invaluable.

I think most can handle an increase in taxes. Those who can't--there should be senior exemptions/reductions.

We have a lot of business in Norwalk, they should pay a fair share as well of property taxes (even if via the pass on effect from who they are renting) to help pay.

Continue to push for better cost sharing with the state.

Norwalk creates places for people to live; we have a higher share of high needs low income students; our neighbors refuse to create affordable housing for the people who serve their community; thus these wealthier neighbors should help cover the costs of our schools. We should hold the state accountable to their standards of affordable housing, as we clearly evidence the financial problems that happen when their is an imbalance due to affordable housing/state funding/local funding.

Sarah Waters
152 WItch Lane
Norwalk CT 06853
Mother of 3 currently in NPS, 1 graduate

Lam, Chitsamay

From: Iliana Zuñiga <ilianazm@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:02 AM
To: Lam, Chitsamay; Common Council; Common Council; Rilling, Harry; King, Laoise; board
Subject: Public commentary for today's meeting

CAUTION: EXTERNAL Email: Don't open links or attachments from untrusted senders

Good evening Mr. Mayor and Council,
My name is Iliana Zuniga and I live at 8 Running brook lane in Norwalk.
I would like this email to be considered for Public comment to be read during the meeting tonight.

I want to start by thanking you for ALL YOU DO for our community. This is a difficult time of the year when there will be always unhappy people no matter what you decide, so I would like to start by thanking you for all of the time you devote to our community.

I am the founder of Latinos Unidos Nowalk. A local group that supports almost 5000 Latino Norwalk residents. On daily basis, I am in contact with our members and I am very aware how the education of their children is one of the reasons they migrated to this city.

Many of these children are actively benefiting from services and support from our NPS System. I would like to support the request for a 12.7% increment.
However, I understand many parties that have contacted you are speaking about a compromise between NPS request and the Mayor's 4% proposal. I've heard the amount of 7.9% potential total increase as a compromise between the two proposals.

Reusing some of the data provided by the Norwalk Parents Initiative, I am encouraging you to consider the following compromise:

1. A 7.9% total increase to the operating budget, broken down as:
    a. - 5.0% to cover FY24 Base Budget Request
    b. This covers fixed changes in contractual obligations, classroom and school services, operations, business services, administration, and professional development.
    c. - 1.6% to cover ESSER-funded Counselor and Social Worker salaries and benefits by:
    d. - reducing current 57 positions down to 31
    e. - 1 social worker / school (22)
    f. - 1 guidance counselor for each Middle and High school (9)
    g. This covers expenses resulting from past flat budget and request for these to be moved to temporary ESSER coverage
    h. - 1.3% from a one time $3MM drawdown of city's Rainy Day Fund (no effect on property taxes) to cover:
    i. - SPED out-of-district costs
    j. - SPED contract service increases

   k. Consequently, based on the Mayor's quote, this plan would raise the approximate 2.5% hike he proposes to 3-3.5%.

2. A joint proposal from the City and NPS to produce a co-op partnership with local organizations to aid in the continued academic and social-emotional recovery (and associated issues like chronic absenteeism) from pandemic-related learning losses. Replacing ESSER funded school programming, this initiative would be:
   a. Funded by available philanthropic investment awaiting a city/school action plan, and future state appropriations currently being sought by Norwalk state representatives
   b. An all-hands-on-deck leverage of community-based organizations like Norwalk ACTS, Mid-Fairfield Community Cares Center, Kids in Crisis, etc.
   c. Financially managed as part of the City-side budget
   d. Appointed program coordinators on both City and NPS sides
3. An expanded NPS initiative to further reduce out-of-district costs for SPED, currently accounting for 1/3 of total SPED budget request.
4. A hard cap of a more traditional ≤3% increase for FY2025 operating budget to stabilize property tax effect as budgets stabilize post-loss of federal dollars.

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We want our town to continue to thrive and be known for its diversity and inclusion. Supporting this approach would allow some of the programs and support needed for our immigrant families to continue to thrive and contribute to our beautiful City.

Thank you again for your time and efforts.

Iliana Zuniga
Founder
Latinos Unidos Norwalk

--
Iliana Zúñiga-Miranda
Digital Strategist

How to pronounce my name

- www.linkedin.com/in/ilianazuniga/

CITY OF NORWALK
FEBRUARY 23, 2023
FINANCE CLAIMS COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
CITY HALL COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AND
ZOOM VIRTUAL TELECONFERENCE

ATTENDANCE: Gregory Burnett, Chair; Mayor Harry Rilling; Ed Camacho; John Kydes; Jenn McMurrer; Nora Niedzielski Eichner

STAFF: Henry Dachowitz, Chief Financial Officer; Thomas Ellis, Director of Management and Budgets; William Ford, Tax Assessor

OTHERS: Nicol Ayers, David Heuvelman and Lisa Shanahan Common Council members

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Burnett called the meeting to order at 9:05 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Burnett called the Roll as indicated above. A Quorum was present.

Mr. Heuvelman noted the meeting was not being streamed on Zoom. It appeared that the link expired. The meeting continued streaming on YouTube.

**** MS. MCMURRER MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS**

3. RESOLUTION: REQUESTING A SPECIAL CAPITAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $489,225 TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION TO FUND FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE TWO FIRE ENGINES (PUMPER TRUCKS) ACCOUNT 09233110-5777-C0437 (APPARATUS REPLACEMENT). THE $489,225 OF BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY SHALL BE ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS AND TERMS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL BOND RESOLUTIONS THAT AUTHORIZED THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES OF THE CITY FOR PROJECT #0923110-5777-C0437(APPARATUS REPLACEMENT).

4. RESOLUTION: DEAUTHORIZE IN THE AMOUNT OF $489,225 OF AUTHORIZED BUT UNISSUED BONDS FROM THE POLICE COMMUNICATIONS CONSOLE ACCOUNT #09213610-5777-C0638 TO PURCHASE TWO FIRE ENGINES (PUMPER TRUCKS).

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. **FISCAL YEAR 2023 - 2024 RECOMMENDED OPERATING BUDGET AND CAP REVIEW; DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMON COUNCIL.**

Mr. Dachowitz provided an update on the operating budget. He said he presented the Mayor's operating budget two weeks ago and reviewed the sequence of events.

Mr. Dachowitz explained a situation where the Tax Assessor submitted request to the State for a one month delay to submit the grand list. He described the update with the MUNIS which resulted in some glitches. He said the Tax Assessor is being very cautious and checking all the numbers. He has been working with the Tax Assessor, but as of 3:00 p.m. today, he was not comfortable in releasing the numbers.

Mr. Dachowitz reviewed the Assessment procedures. He then described how the mill rate is set.

Mr. Burnett asked Mr. Dachowitz when he anticipated an update will be available from the Tax Assessor. Mr. Dachowitz said the new target is to make sure it is done by Monday night. He wants to provide accurate numbers.

Ms. McMurrer said that this is such an important decision and it is not fair to vote on this without the information. She said she will vote no. Mr. Burnett agreed.

**** MR. BURNETT MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM TO THE FEBRUARY 28, 2023 MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Ayers expressed her displeasure in not being given the numbers in a timely manner. She said at this point, they are setting a pattern and it has to stop. Mr. Heuvelman agreed and asked what happens if they do not have the numbers on Monday. Mr. Burnett explained that by Charter, the Common Council has to set the cap by March 7th. If need be, they can call a special meeting on or before March 7th.

Mr. Dachowitz said the problem was with the ambitious calendar. For the last three years the Tax Assessor has asked for and been granted a legal extension by the State. The administration knew this. He said they delivered a 360 page book on February 7th, but the numbers changed five hours before. He noted that Mr. Ford is doing Yeoman's work in a tough situation. He said that rushing was impossible and he was the one who made the decision. He added that Mr. Ford never missed a deadline; the problem was the calendar.

Ms. Shanahan said that she is uncomfortable with only 24 hours to review the numbers.

6. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. REVOLUS MOVED TO ADJOURN**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services

ITEM #5

AGENDA

MARCH 9TH 2023

CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING

REFUNDS PROCESSED CLAIMS COMMITTEE **APPROVED BY TAX COLLECTOR**

PAY TO:	BILL No & AMOUNT REFUNDED		REASON

MOTOR VEHICLE

ACAR LEASING LTD	21-MV-300744	$259.36	PRORATION
ACAR LEASING LTD	21-MV-300582	$304.33	PRORATION
AIRPLUS INC	21-MV-301285	$50.49	PRORATION
	21-MV-301286	$58.47	PRORATION
AQUINO Y AQUINO LEYDI YANIRA	21-MV-302784	$30.53	PRORATION
BERRIOS FRANK DAVID	21-MV-305693	$378.48	PRORATION
BLAU VERONIKA	20-MV-401443	$123.70	PRORATION
BRUNNER GEORGE JASON	21-MV-307728	$67.45	PRORATION
CARMONA GILBERTO	21-MV-310066	$60.38	PRORATION
CARPIO-ACABAL WILLIAMS DAVID	21-MV-310134	$45.58	PRORATION
CUELLAR JORGE	21-MV-315084	$521.38	PRORATION
CROAKE DONALD E	21-MV-314779	$401.04	PRORATION
DAIMLER TRUST	21-MV-315663	$356.40	PRORATION
DAIMLER TRUST	21-MV-315532	$957.73	PRORATION
	21-MV-315660	$661.32	PRORATION
DENICOLA LORRAINE	19-MV-402908	$150.58	PRORATION
	20-MV-312975	$172.75	PRORATION
	21-MV-317123	$182.81	PRORATION
DENNISON-CUFFEE VERDELL	21-MV-317164	$16.39	PRORATION
DICKINSON MARTHA WELCH	19-MV-403022	$110.50	PRORATION
	20-MV-317542	$118.82	PRORATION
	21-MV-317800	$119.34	PRORATION
DICK ALAN WILLIAMS	21-MV-317777	$32.27	PRORATION
FELDER MARY LANE	21-MV-321635	$105.69	PRORATION

ITEM #5

AGENDA

MARCH 9TH 2023

CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING

REFUNDS PROCESSED CLAIMS COMMITTEE **APPROVED BY TAX COLLECTOR**

PAY TO:	BILL No & AMOUNT REFUNDED		REASON
GESSNER CHRIS H	21-MV-325537	$93.17	PRORATION
GONDA ELISHA	15-MV-325442	$174.83	OVER PYMT
HALL WILLARD BRADLEY	21-MV-328389	$111.38	PRORATION
HAMPTON CAROL	21-MV-328494	$10.94	PRORATION
HERNANDEZ-VELEZ JONATHAN	21-MV-330214	$68.60	PRORATION
	21-MV-328867	$47.50	PRORATION
HINZE MARKA S	21-MV-330053	$87.44	PRORATION
HONDA LEASE TRUST	21-MV-330776	$544.90	PRORATION
	21-MV-330997	$463.25	PRORATION
	21-MV-330997	$405.48	PRORATION
	21-MV-331212	$442.48	PRORATION
HONDA LEASE TRUST	21-MV-329807	$34.43	PRORATION
	21-MV-330676	$456.94	PRORATION
	21-MV-330805	$296.81	PRORATION
	21-MV-331021	$357.05	PRORATION
HUGHES DYLAN THOMAS	21-MV-330873	$68.09	PRORATION
	21-MV-331712	$286.55	PRORATION
HUNTLEY ROGER MICHAEL	21-MV-331791	$369.90	PRORATION
IANNACCONE ANN M	20-MV-407859	$126.59	PRORATION
	21-MV-332491	$284.22	PRORATION
JP MORGAN CHASE BANK	21-MV-SEE ATTACHED	$4,874.54	PRORATION
JP MORGAN CHASE BANK	21-MV-334391	$112.18	PRORATION
KIMMICH FERDINAD S	21-MV-336331	$13.90	PRORATION
KNEBEL JEFFREY P	21-MV-337747	$473.75	PRORATION
MAJOR GERALD P	21-MV-341210	$45.76	PRORATION

ITEM #5

AGENDA

MARCH 9TH 2023

CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING

REFUNDS PROCESSED CLAIMS COMMITTEE **APPROVED BY TAX COLLECTOR**

PAY TO:	BILL No & AMOUNT REFUNDED		REASON
MARCEL-HIERRO YUSED F	21-MV-341716	$108.83	PRORATION
NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	21-MV-348312	$600.65	PRORATION
NISSAN INFINITI LT LLC	21-MV-348012	$460.14	PRORATION
	21-MV-348015	$307.44	PRORATION
PORSCHE LEASING LIMITED	21-MV-352244	$913.81	PRORATION
RAMIREZ-RUEDA LESLIE M	21-MV-354775	$189.88	PRORATION
RIVERA GUERRA KEYLIM S	21-MV-356141	$20.47	PRORATION
RIVERA VILMA LORENA	21-MV-354945	$60.72	PRORATION
SANCHEZ-RAMIREZ STEPHANIE	21-MV-357529	$72.52	PRORATION
SANTOS-BUCETA MARTHA	21-MV-359352	$75.96	PRORATION
SALINAS CHRISTIAN OTTO	21-MV-359591	$200.09	PRORATION
SATTLER JODY ANN	21-MV-351507	$895.85	PRORATION
TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	21-MV-SEE ATTACHED	$1,009.63	PRORATION
TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	21-MV-364261	$346.05	PRORATION
	21-MV-366621	$773.10	PRORATION
TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	21-MV-366821	$311.64	PRORATION
VAULT TRUST	21-MV-SEE ATTACHED	$6,521.13	PRORATION
VAULT TRUST	21-MV-368892	$55.94	PRORATION
VW CREDIT LEASING LTD	21-MV-370576	$140.76	PRORATION

REAL ESTATE

CORELOGIC TAX SERVICE			
14 SILWEN LANE			
5-16-22-0	21-RE-113292	$4356.83	PAID IN ERROR

ITEM #5

AGENDA

MARCH 9TH 2023

CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING

REFUNDS PROCESSED CLAIMS COMMITTEE | **APPROVED BY TAX COLLECTOR**

PAY TO:	BILL No & AMOUNT REFUNDED		REASON
CORELOGIC TAX SERVICE			
5-21-407-6	21-RE-100978	$637.61	PAID IN ERROR
5-21-407-7	21-RE-100979	$2269.98	PAID IN ERROR
5-21-407-8	21-RE-100980	$2269.98	PAID IN ERROR
5-21-407-10	21-RE-100966	$2269.60	PAID IN ERROR
COYLE KATHERINE			
11 MARVIN ST			
3-53-22-0	21-RE-106255	$5,108.12	OVER/DUP PYMT
ISLAND VIEW PROPERTIES INC			
7 PLEASANT ST			
3-4-8-0	21-RE-113041	$3876.59	PAID IN ERROR
LERETA PROPERTY TAX			
81 GRUMMAN AVE			
5-27-43-0	21-RE-115897	$4939.76	PAID IN ERROR

JP MORGAN CHASE BANK

21-334394	AU95631	JM3KFBCM1K0638205	$	149.56
21-334455	AV52676	4S3GRAC60K3747191	$	199.44
21-334925	AV93970	JM3KFBDM5K0641705	$	112.18
21-335053	AS65847	SALZL2FX8LH025712	$	372.67
~~21-334331~~	~~AC21222~~	~~4S4BSENC5K3228222~~	~~$~~	~~473.34~~
~~21-334503~~	~~AP39964~~	~~4S4BSAHC5J3382903~~	~~$~~	~~46.28~~
~~21-334955~~	~~AU87462~~	~~JF2SKAWC3KH549658~~	~~$~~	~~418.10~~
~~21-334927~~	~~AX05449~~	~~JF2GTAPC8L8214141~~	~~$~~	~~491.22~~
21-335064	AU79584	JM3KFBCM6K0629855	$	249.46
21-334881	AV83156	JM1DKFB75K1451737	$	80.22
21-334561	AT65533	4S4BSABC4K3301108	$	90.21
21-334896	AT64870	4S3BNAS60K3023281	$	279.93
21-334838	AV95877	JF2GTAEC5K8392560	$	91.71
20-333395	AP39969	4S3GKAA68J1614274	$	235.42
~~20-333444~~	~~AK71185~~	~~4S4BSETC8J3208046~~	~~$~~	~~356.55~~
20-408417	BA06489	4S4BTANC6L3190460	$	654.10
20-408420	AN45652	JM3KFBCM8J0373071	$	308.69
20-333483	AK26616	JF2SJAECXHH595629	$	374.04
20-333844	AX38445	4S3GTAB6XL3715108	$	33.98
20-333697	AM14902	JF2GTAJC5JH238645	$	373.10
20-334317	AP34161	SALYL2RX4JA751323	$	742.96
20-333310	AP35980	4S3GTAB63J3729669	$	131.22
20-333497	474POP	JM3KFBDL4H0154804	$	206.78
20-334198	AP21171	JM3TCBCY2J0225899	$	143.44

TOTAL: ~~**$ 6,614.60**~~

4874.54

TOYOTA LEASE TRUST

BILL	PLATE	VIN	AMOUNT
21-413715	BE01205	5TDJZRFH2KS599799	$ 70.44
21-413845	BE33324	2T2HZMDA6LC248486	$ 88.78
21-413609	BF04301	JTJKM7BX5N5307123	$ 219.02
21-413812	BF81880	3MVDMBDL0NM406031	$ 290.35
21-413751	BG47081	JM3KFBCM6N1558915	$ 341.04
		TOTAL	$ 1,009.63

VAULT TRUST

BILL #	PLATE #	VIN#	AMOUNT
21-368862	AU71611	1C4PJMDXXKD460739	$ 274.81
21-368867	AR98222	1C4HJXEG4JW291471	$ 236.61
21-368874	AR98314	1C4PJMDX8KD299940	$ 494.26
21-368875	BA23209	ZACNJDBB2MPM11762	$ 327.18
21-368876	BA41747	1C4GJXAG1LW181224	$ 478.70
21-368896	AR98446	1C4PJMLB1KD286954	$ 432.29
21-368909	AZ98965	1C4RJFAG9KC826382	$ 626.67
21-368966	AHAHAH	1C4HJXDN3MW512580	$ 564.85
21-369000	AY46016	3C4NJDBB4LT228924	$ 506.76
21-369015	BC04337	3TYSZ5AN4MT014965	$ 774.13
21-369018	BD12417	1C4RJFBG4JC378114	$ 620.46
21-369029	AU72945	1C4PJMDX4KD446982	$ 439.55
21-369036	AP20306	1C4RJFBGXJC387772	$ 744.86
		TOTAL	**$ 6,521.13**

CITY OF NORWALK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Tax Collector's Office

P: 203-854-7731 / F: 203-854-7770

125 East Avenue Room 105
Norwalk, Connecticut 06851
www.norwalkct.org

To: Mayor Harry Rilling; Board of Estimate and Taxation; Finance & Claims Committee
From: Lisa Biagiarelli, Tax Collector
Date: March 8, 2023
Re: **Narrative for February 2023 Tax Collector's Report**

As of the end of February 2023, having concluded the first eight months of the fiscal year, we had collected nearly $353 million against our $365 million adjusted levy, or **96.54%**. We also collected **97.24%** of our sewer use levy, an additional $17 million, and 84.07**%** of the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) fee billing on behalf of the WPCA. Compared with the prior fiscal year (February 2022) we are behind relative to taxes (-1.33%), slightly ahead relative to sewer use (.62%); and behind relative to the IPP fee (-5.75%). Due to the extended due date of the motor vehicle supplemental billing, payable by April 1, 2023, we did anticipate a drop in the February 2023 collection numbers as compared with the prior fiscal year, when that billing was payable by February 1 rather than April 1.

With regard to prior years' collections, court stipulated tax credits and other adjustments beyond our control continue to erode prior years' collections. From July 2022 through the month of February 2023, note that we show a net loss of $985,239.91 in principal. As has been the case throughout this fiscal year, tax credits granted in adjudicated property tax appeal cases continue to affect our net year to date collection of revenue from prior years. We do show a net gain of $560,456.05 fiscal year to date in prior years' combined principal, interest and fee collections, as opposed to the net loss when looking only at principal.

In 2022, the Common Council approved the use of a third party collection agency to bill past due motor vehicle taxes for which we had no valid address. In November 2022, this agency sent its first mailing to approximately 7,800 taxpayers on our behalf. Between December, January and now February, we have collected more than $517,000 in past due motor vehicle taxes and interest as a result of the collection agency's billing on our behalf. Please note that these collections are made directly to the City, and payments are processed by the tax collector's office, not the collection agency.

Tax bills for approximately $4.5 million in supplemental motor vehicle taxes were mailed the week of February 20. These bills were for newly registered vehicles that are added to the tax rolls subsequent to the "grand list" date of October 1, 2021 - first time registration, not registration renewed. Under normal circumstances, these bills would have been due January 1, payable by February 1, the same as second installment bills. A two month extended due date and payment period were granted under CGS 12-142 to accommodate the delayed mailing of these bills. They are due March 1, 2023, payable without interest by April 1, 2023. This extension affects *only* the 2021 grand list supplemental motor vehicle bills.

On March 1, the Norwalk Assessor's and Tax Collector's offices underwent a software *conversion* to move our assessment and collection administrative systems off Munis entirely and onto Quality Data Services LLC (QDS) software. The city's financials, budgeting, accounting and other systems are still operating on Munis; only the assessment and tax collection modules have moved away.

In the tax collector's office, this conversion affects our billing; payment entry and payment processing; reporting, including receiving and providing reports to agencies such as the town clerk's office, the DMV, tax services and escrow agents, etc.; our IVR and online payment portals and E Tax Bill lookup; our financial reporting interface; all our recordkeeping, including fifteen years of payment and other history; and other areas as well.

The conversion went as well as could be expected. QDS staff members have been on site in Norwalk for the better part of the past several weeks. Our staff has received excellent training from their staff, and the back office employees at QDS who are responsible for making things work have been helpful. Speaking for myself, as a user of (now) seven different tax administrative systems over the course of 39 years in tax collection, it is going to take some time to learn the system's features and how best to use it. Norwalk's former tax billing and collection systems were driven by a permanent "customer identification number" (CID number) for decades, even before the use of Munis software. QDS does not operate this way, and there are other differences as well. We are adapting, and will continue to appreciate our taxpayers' patience as we navigate the changes.

The timing of the software conversion, and our delayed supplemental motor vehicle billing, have both necessitated changes to our regular spring schedule, including when we send past due notices, and when we file lien continuing certificates in the land records. We were not able to issue delinquent notices as we normally do in February. Those notices are at the printer now, and we expect them to go out later in March. Liens are normally filed by the second week of March, but this year, because the past due notices are being mailed later, we will file our liens after April 1. The lien continuing certificate filing processes will be done on the new software. I do not expect this change in timing to have a significant effect on our collection rate this year. Going forward in subsequent years, we expect to revert to the old schedule.

Our division remains short staffed due to two vacancies out of our eight person staff. We are anxious to fill those vacancies, but have not been able to move forward as quickly as we had hoped due to these other issues.

I am prepared to respond to questions, and will continue to keep all stakeholders informed of our progress.

ITEM #7

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
FEBRUARY 2023

FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 (2021 GRAND LIST)	ORIGINAL LEVY	ADJ. TAX COLLECTIONS JUN 22 - FEB 23	COLLECTION %	CORRECTED LEVY*	CHANGE IN LEVY	COLLECTION %
AUTOMOBILE-REGULAR	$27,605,498.25	$24,572,468.53	89.01%	$27,174,527.99	($430,970.26)	90.42%
AUTOMOBILE-SUPPLEMENTAL	$4,572,442.02	$852,795.95	18.65%	$4,496,691.36	($75,750.66)	18.96%
PERSONAL PROPERTY	$26,217,238.98	$21,017,412.25	80.17%	$21,813,290.62	($4,403,948.36)	96.35%
REAL ESTATE	$315,360,461.09	$306,349,375.95	97.14%	$311,949,460.24	($3,411,000.85)	98.20%
TOTAL TAX	**$373,755,640.34**	**$352,792,052.68**	**94.39%**	**$365,433,970.21**	**($8,321,670.13)**	**96.54%**
SEWER USE	$17,981,973.00	$17,121,495.48	95.21%	$17,608,320.33	($373,652.67)	97.24%
IPP FEE	$190,750.00	$162,252.49	85.06%	$193,000.00	$2,250.00	84.07%

FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 (2020 GRAND LIST)	ORIGINAL LEVY	JUN 21 - FEB 22				
AUTOMOBILE-REGULAR	$21,672,160.18	$19,769,325.44	91.22%	$21,334,411.94	($337,748.24)	92.66%
AUTOMOBILE-SUPPLEMENTAL	$4,219,965.63	$3,198,600.69	75.80%	$4,208,440.17	($11,525.46)	76.00%
PERSONAL PROPERTY	$22,966,731.64	$21,902,709.54	95.37%	$23,003,663.66	$36,932.02	95.21%
REAL ESTATE	$308,716,745.40	$300,643,233.73	97.38%	$304,495,273.93	($4,221,471.47)	98.73%
TOTAL TAX	**$357,575,602.85**	**$345,513,869.40**	**96.63%**	**$353,041,789.70**	**($4,533,813.15)**	**97.87%**
SEWER USE	$16,488,685.00	$15,778,136.55	95.69%	$16,331,457.16	($157,227.84)	96.61%
IPP FEE	$187,000.00	$170,660.47	91.26%	$190,000.00	$3,000.00	89.82%
TAX DIFFERENCE 2021 G.L. vs. 2020 G.L. INCREASE/(DECREASE)	$16,180,037.49	$7,278,183.28	-2.24%	$12,392,180.51	($3,787,856.98)	-1.33%
SEWER DIFFERENCE 2021 G.L. vs. 2020 G.L. INCREASE/(DECREASE)	$1,493,288.00	$1,343,358.93	-0.48%	$1,276,863.17	($216,424.83)	0.62%
IPP DIFFERENCE 2021 G.L. vs. 2020 G.L. INCREASE/(DECREASE)	$3,750.00	($8,407.98)	-6.20%	$3,000.00	($750.00)	-5.75%

BACK TAXES COLLECTED	FISCAL YR 2022-2023 (JUL 22 - FEB 23)	FISCAL YR 2019-2020 (JUL 21 - FEB 22)	CUR YR vs.PRIOR YR INC/(DEC)
PRIOR TAXES	($1,098,505.55)	$1,474,550.58	($2,573,056.13)
PRIOR SEWER USE FEE	$110,314.82	$212,265.20	($101,950.38)
PRIOR IPP FEE	$2,950.82	$12,291.12	($9,340.30)
TOTAL PRIOR TAX, SEWER & IPP	**($985,239.91)**	**$1,699,106.90**	**($2,684,346.81)**
CURRENT INTEREST	$612,808.45	$463,953.21	$148,855.24
PRIOR INTEREST	$765,101.17	$954,082.60	($188,981.43)
SEWER USE FEE INTEREST	$59,979.15	$77,987.46	($18,008.31)
IPP FEE INTEREST	$2,968.47	$5,671.54	($2,703.07)
TOTAL INTEREST COLLECTED	**$1,440,857.24**	**$1,501,694.81**	**($60,837.57)**
PRIOR LIEN FEE	$8,047.51	$11,577.26	($3,529.75)
CURRENT LIEN FEE	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
TOTAL LIEN FEE COLLECTED	**$8,047.51**	**$11,577.26**	**($3,529.75)**
MISC FEES COLLECTED**	**$96,791.21**	**$353,935.73**	**($257,144.52)**
TOTAL PRIOR TAX, ALL INTEREST & ALL FEES	**$560,456.05**	**$3,566,314.70**	**($3,005,858.65)**

* CORRECTED LEVY INCLUDING CERTIFICATES OF CORRECTION & SUSPENSE TRANSFERS

** PRIOR & CURRENT FISCAL YEAR INCLUDES TAX SALE AND TITLE SEARCH FEES PROCESSED THRU MUNIS

Oak Hills Park Authority
January 2023 Financial Commentary

Operations Updates:

- Golf rounds are nearly 5% over budget for the first seven months of FY23. Dry weather and the current popularity of golf helped push rounds so high.
- OHPA is performing additional capital improvements currently in the off-season.
- 2023 memberships (both Discount ID Cards and Annual Passes) began selling in January.
- Discount ID card sales are off to a slow start this calendar year but we expect them to be made up in the coming months.

YTD Financial Highlights:

- FY23 YTD net operating income was over budget by $158k and we ended January with a $468k cash balance which includes $24k in the capital reserve bank account.
  - Revenue was over-budget by $100k thanks to strong golf and cart rounds.
  - Expenses were $57k lower than budget due to lower than expected wages as a result of being understaffed; offset by very high water expense due to the dry, hot conditions.
- OHPA made $89k in repayments to the City for the first six months of this fiscal year. The annual 1% of gross golf revenue additional debt payment was made in November.

Other:

- Work will begin next month on our FY2023 fiscal budget.

Updated through *1/31/2023*

Fiscal Year To Date

		Budget	Actuals	Variance	Var %	Comments
Sales	Revenue Rounds	21,467	23,817	2,350	10.9%	Actual rev rounds have beat budget nearly every month this year
	Non-Revenue Rounds	4,272	3,152	(1,120)	-26.2%	Less season passholder rounds than anticipated
	Total Rounds	**25,739**	**26,969**	1,230	4.8%	
	Carts	14,671	14,666	(5)	0.0%	
	ID Cards	335	180	(155)	-46.3%	Slow start to ID card sales this calendar year

		Budget	Actuals	Variance	Var %	Comments
P&L	Golf Revenue	1,126,739	1,223,572	96,833	8.6%	Driven mostly by greens fees
	Tennis Revenue	25,200	25,200	-	0.0%	
	Restaurant Revenue	45,000	46,916	1,916	4.3%	
	Other Revenue	10,459	12,003	1,544	14.8%	Budget does not include a portion of booking fee revs from GolfNow
	Total Revenue	**1,207,398**	**1,307,691**	**100,293**	**8.3%**	
	Management Salary	133,293	99,821	(33,472)	-25.1%	Overall lower staffing
	Operations Salary	129,790	132,991	3,201	2.5%	
	Maintenance Salary	284,845	274,262	(10,583)	-3.7%	Overall lower staffing
	Employee Benefits	95,750	83,890	(11,860)	-12.4%	Driven by lower payroll taxes due to lower payroll expense
	Administrative	114,431	120,641	6,210	5.4%	Slight overages across the board
	Interest & Insurance	57,818	56,082	(1,736)	-3.0%	
	Sales & Operations	2,890	3,724	834	28.9%	
	Park Maintenance	143,570	132,033	(11,537)	-8.0%	Driven by an overage in water ($21k), offset by a $25k underage in Ag&Chem, $8k in grounds maintenance
	Park Equipment	50,670	48,626	(2,044)	-4.0%	
	Carts	17,780	21,306	3,526	19.8%	Actual property tax on cart fleet came in over budget by nearly $3k
	Operating Expense	**1,030,837**	**973,376**	**(57,461)**	**-5.6%**	
	Operating Income	**176,561**	**334,315**	**157,754**	**89.3%**	
Balance Sheet	Capital Improvements	(120,000)	(47,139)	72,861	-60.7%	Kitchen equipment; improvements to several structures; new boiler; fencing
	Line of Credit Balance	-	-	-		
	Capital Reserve Cash Bal	-	24,004	-		Portion of cash reserved for capital improvements per our lease requirements
	Cash Balance	315,226	444,364	129,138	41.0%	Over budget due to strong rounds and top-line revenue

Updated through ***1/31/2023***

Rest of Fiscal Year

		Budget	Proj.	Variance	Var %	Comments
Sales	Revenue Rounds	13,707	15,078	1,371	10.0%	Current trends expected through end of fiscal year
	Non-Revenue Rounds	2,728	2,182	(546)	-20.0%	Current trends expected through end of fiscal year
	Total Rounds	**16,435**	**17,260**	825	5.0%	
	Carts	9,368	9,368	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	ID Cards	861	1,016	155	18.0%	Initial ID card sales are soft. Expectation is to make up for the underage over the coming months

		Budget	Proj.	Variance	Var %	Comments
P&L	Golf Revenue	828,732	858,732	30,000	3.6%	Projecting slightly higher rounds than budgeted offset by small undersell of season passes
	Tennis Revenue	17,600	17,600	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Restaurant Revenue	35,000	35,000	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Other Revenue	20,441	20,441	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Total Revenue	**901,773**	**931,773**	**30,000**	**3.3%**	
	Salaries	391,509	373,109	(18,400)	-4.7%	Slightly lower staffing expected through most of fiscal year
	Employee Benefits	64,984	64,984	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Administrative	76,628	76,628	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Debt Service & Insurance	48,269	48,269	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Sales & Operations	2,710	2,710	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Park Maintenance	104,630	104,630	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Park Equipment	42,830	42,830	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Carts	6,275	6,275	-	0.0%	Projections are still in line with Budget
	Operating Expense	**737,835**	**719,435**	**(18,400)**	**-2.5%**	
	Uncategorized Exp/Rev					
	Operating Income	**163,938**	**212,338**	**48,400**	**29.5%**	
Balance Sheet	Capital Improvements	(50,450)	(129,311)	(78,861)	156.3%	Golf Simulator, tennis court, restaurant and house improvements
	Line of Credit Balance	-	-	-		We do not expect to borrow during the remainder of this fiscal year.
	Capital Reserve Cash Bal	-	29,254	-		Portion of cash reserved for capital improvements per our lease requirements
	Cash Balance	285,814	447,475	161,661	56.6%	YTD under-spend in Capital improvements to be spent by end of year offset with receipt of restaurant rent

Oak Hills Park Authority
FY22 Actual vs. Budget

ITEM #9

	January Act	January Bud	Var $	Var %	YTD Act	YTD Bud	Var $	Var %
REVENUE								
4000 · REVENUES								
4001 · Golf Revenue								
4010 · Golf Fees	$7,776	$6,401	$1,375	21.5%	$828,626	$730,860	$97,767	13.4%
4020 · I.D. Cards	$11,990	$36,270	-$24,280	-66.9%	$19,725	$44,155	-$24,430	-55.3%
4025 · Season Pass	$7,309	$10,395	-$3,086	-29.7%	$64,290	$68,975	-$4,685	-6.8%
4030 · Tournament Fees	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$53,056	$38,731	$14,325	37.0%
4050 · Cart Revenue	$0	$2,144	-$2,144	-100.0%	$254,503	$244,865	$9,638	3.9%
4060 · Golf Revenue - Gift Certif.	$175	$313	-$138	-44.1%	$11,261	$15,415	-$4,154	-26.9%
4070 · Gift & Rain Checks Redeemed	-$60	$0	-$60	0.0%	-$7,889	-$16,262	$8,373	-51.5%
Total 4001 · Golf Revenue	**$27,190**	**$55,523**	**-$28,334**	**-51.0%**	**$1,223,572**	**$1,126,739**	**$96,833**	**8.6%**
4100 · Tennis Revenue	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$25,200	$25,200	$0	0.0%
4200 · Rental Income	$0	$1,600	-$1,600	-100.0%	$0	$1,600	-$1,600	-100.0%
4300 · Investment Income	$140	$75	$65	86.8%	$829	$626	$204	32.5%
4400 · Misc. Income	$2,595	$33	$2,562	7684.7%	$11,174	$233	$10,941	4688.8%
4500 · Golf Simulator Revenue	$0	$4,000	-$4,000	-100.0%	$0	$8,000	-$8,000	-100.0%
4600 · Restaurant Income	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$46,916	$45,000	$1,916	4.3%
4700 · Advertising Revenue	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	$0	0.0%
Total Other Revenue	**$2,735**	**$5,708**	**-$2,973**	**-52.1%**	**$84,119**	**$80,659**	**$3,460**	**4.3%**
TOTAL REVENUE	**$29,925**	**$61,232**	**-$31,307**	**-51.1%**	**$1,307,691**	**$1,207,398**	**$100,293**	**8.3%**
EXPENSE								
5000 · PERSONNEL EXPENSE								
5010 · Management Salary	$14,308	$19,000	$4,692	24.7%	$99,821	$133,293	$33,472	25.1%
5030 · Operations	$2,630	$2,610	-$20	-0.8%	$132,219	$129,790	-$2,429	-1.9%
5040 · Operations O/T	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$773	$0	-$773	0.0%
5050 · Course Personnel	$26,160	$25,457	-$703	-2.8%	$180,316	$176,324	-$3,991	-2.3%
5060 · Course Personnel O/T	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$1,440	$0	-$1,440	0.0%
5070 · Seasonal Personnel	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$62,892	$107,084	$44,192	41.3%
5075 · Outside Seasonal Personnel	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$29,004	$0	-$29,004	0.0%
5080 · Seasonal Personnel O/T	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$610	$1,436	$826	57.5%
Total 5000 · PERSONNEL EXPENSE	**$43,098**	**$47,067**	**$3,969**	8.4%	**$507,075**	**$547,928**	**$40,853**	7.5%
5200 · EMPLOYEE BENEFITS								
5210 · Payroll Taxes	$3,289	$4,127	$838	20.3%	$36,416	$43,025	$6,609	15.4%
5230 · State Unemployment	$2,302	$3,124	$822	26.3%	$14,110	$14,230	$120	0.8%
5250 · Health Insurance	$2,313	$2,800	$487	17.4%	$15,950	$19,600	$3,650	18.6%
5260 · Workmans Compensation	$1,051	$1,215	$164	13.5%	$13,403	$14,999	$1,597	10.6%
5270 · Retirement Plans	$576	$607	$31	5.0%	$4,012	$3,896	-$116	-3.0%
Total 5200 · EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	**$9,531**	**$11,873**	**$2,341**	19.7%	**$83,890**	**$95,750**	**$11,860**	12.4%
5400 · ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES								
5420 · Telephone	$1,028	$1,061	$32	3.0%	$7,370	$7,424	$54	0.7%
5430 · Professional Fees	$3,019	$2,792	-$227	-8.1%	$19,769	$19,542	-$227	-1.2%
5436 · Advertising	$646	$1,120	$474	42.3%	$6,363	$7,949	$1,586	20.0%
5440 · Office Expense	$647	$659	$12	1.8%	$10,960	$8,795	-$2,165	-24.6%
5441 · Bank Charges	$17	$25	$8	32.7%	$153	$232	$80	34.3%
5442 · Credit Card Fees	$2,730	$1,277	-$1,453	-113.8%	$27,728	$25,915	-$1,813	-7.0%
5445 · Postage	$0	$50	$50	100.0%	$60	$199	$139	69.8%
5450 · Training and Dues	$0	$107	$107	100.0%	$645	$1,514	$869	57.4%
5461 · Authority Secretarial Services	$120	$148	$28	19.1%	$850	$1,038	$188	18.1%
5469 · Other Outside Services	$933	$848	-$84	-9.9%	$4,543	$4,184	-$358	-8.6%
5470 · Other Administrative	$577	$1,003	$426	42.5%	$5,535	$7,024	$1,489	21.2%
5480 · Utilities	$7,707	$3,184	-$4,523	-142.1%	$36,666	$30,615	-$6,051	-19.8%
5499 · Bad Debt Expense	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	$0	0.0%
Total 5400 · ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	**$17,424**	**$12,275**	**-$5,149**	-41.9%	**$120,641**	**$114,431**	**-$6,210**	-5.4%
5500 · DEBT SERVICE AND INSURANCE								
5500 · Liability Insurance	$7,783	$7,803	$20	0.3%	$54,490	$54,622	$132	0.2%

Oak Hills Park Authority
FY22 Actual vs. Budget

ITEM #9

	January Act	January Bud	Var $	Var %	YTD Act	YTD Bud	Var $	Var %
5520 · Interest	$195	$494	$299	60.6%	$1,592	$3,196	$1,604	50.2%
Total 5500 · DEBT SERVICE AND INSURANCE	**$7,977**	**$8,297**	**$319**	3.9%	**$56,082**	**$57,818**	**$1,736**	3.0%
5600 · SALES AND OPERATIONS								
5620 · Clubhouse/Pro Shop Maint.	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	$0	0.0%
5640 · Golf Pro Supplies	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$3,202	$2,410	-$793	-32.9%
5680 · Golf Pro Work Clothes	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$521	$480	-$41	-8.6%
Total 5600 SALES AND OPERATIONS	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	0.0%	**$3,724**	**$2,890**	**-$834**	-28.9%
5700 · PARK MAINTENANCE								
5710 · Water	$899	$980	$81	8.2%	$67,241	$45,973	-$21,268	-46.3%
5715 · Nature and Open Space	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$180	$980	$800	81.6%
5720 · Heating Fuel	$4,323	$3,331	-$991	-29.7%	$8,187	$8,595	$409	4.8%
5730 · Grounds Maintenance	$147	$33	-$114	-348.4%	$17,117	$24,832	$7,716	31.1%
5740 · Tree Maintenance	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$1,420	$2,250	$830	36.9%
5751 · Agriculture&Chemicals-Purch	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$19,855	$52,003	$32,147	61.8%
5752 · Agriculture/Chemicals Utilized	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$6,870	$0	-$6,870	0.0%
5760 · Irrigation Maintenance	$902	$793	-$108	-13.7%	$6,440	$7,059	$619	8.8%
5770 · Consumable Tools	$88	$365	$277	75.8%	$2,531	$1,341	-$1,190	-88.7%
5780 · Tee and Green Supplies	$1,289	$141	-$1,148	-816.7%	$1,890	$479	-$1,412	-294.7%
5795 · Janitorial Supplies	$281	$0	-$281	0.0%	$302	$57	-$244	-425.8%
Total 5700 · PARK MAINTENANCE	**$7,929**	**$5,644**	**-$2,285**	-40.5%	**$132,033**	**$143,570**	**$11,538**	8.0%
5800 · PARK EQUIPMENT								
5800 · Equipment Maintenance	$2,361	$1,562	-$799	-51.2%	$21,165	$18,647	-$2,518	-13.5%
5810 · Equipment Rental	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$0		$0	0.0%
5820 · Building Maintenance	$467	$2,757	$2,290	83.1%	$15,590	$17,233	$1,643	9.5%
5840 · Small Equipment	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$580	$1,813	$1,233	68.0%
5860 · Gasoline/Diesel Fuel	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$11,176	$12,227	$1,051	8.6%
5880 · Employee work clothes	$0	$750	$750	100.0%	$115	$750	$635	84.7%
Total 5800 · PARK EQUIPMENT	**$2,828**	**$5,069**	**$2,241**	44.2%	**$48,626**	**$50,670**	**$2,044**	4.0%
6000 · CART EXPENSE								
6010 · Cart Lease Expense	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$7,916	$5,000	-$2,916	-58.3%
6020 · Electricity	$494	$210	-$284	-134.9%	$9,334	$8,701	-$634	-7.3%
6030 · Maintenance	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$1,256	$1,280	$24	1.9%
6050 · Cart Insurance	$400	$400	$0	0.0%	$2,800	$2,800	$0	0.0%
6060 · Misc. Cart Expense	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	$0	0.0%
Total 6000 · CART EXPENSE	**$894**	**$610**	**-$284**	-46.5%	**$21,306**	**$17,780**	**-$3,526**	-19.8%
7001 · Uncategorized Expenses								
TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSE	**$89,682**	**$90,835**	**$1,153**	1.3%	**$973,376**	**$1,030,837**	**$57,461**	5.6%
TOTAL OPERATIONAL NET INCOME	**-$59,757**	**-$29,603**	**-$30,154**	101.9%	**$334,316**	**$176,562**	**$157,754**	89.3%
Restructured City Debt	$1,189	$1,307	$118	9.1%	$88,832	$87,204	-$1,628	-1.9%
Commercial Debt	-$195	$1,074	$1,269	118.1%	$62,260	$69,074	$6,814	9.9%
	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	$0	0.0%
Total BS Debt Payments	**$994**	**$2,381**	**$1,387**	58.3%	**$151,092**	**$156,278**	**$5,186**	3.3%
NET INCOME BEFORE CAPITAL EXPENSES	**-$59,757**	**-$29,603**	**-$30,154**	101.9%	**$334,316**	**$176,562**	**$157,754**	89.3%
8000 · OTHER EXPENSE								
8000 · Depreciation/Amortization								
8000 · Depreciation/Amortization Non Cash	$24,582	$22,500	-$2,082	-9.3%	$172,074	$157,500	-$14,574	-9.3%
8001 · Capital projects								
8100 - Capital Proj Cash	$11,274	$0	-$11,274	0.0%	$47,139	$120,000	$72,861	60.7%
8101 - Capital Proj Financed	$0	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	$0	0.0%
8006 · Disposed Assets	$0	$0			$0	$0		
Capital Contribution								
Total 8000 · OTHER EXPENSE	$24,582	$22,500	-$13,356	-9.3%	$172,074	$157,500	$58,287	-9.3%
NET INCOME	**-$84,339**	**-$52,103**	**-$32,236**	61.9%	**$162,242**	**$19,062**	**$143,180**	751.1%

ITEM #9

OAK HILLS PARK AUTHORITY
Balance Sheet FY22
As of January 31, 2023

	Total			
	As of Jan 31, 2023	As of Jan 31, 2022 (PY)	Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Bank Accounts				
1000 Cash				
1021 NBT Money Market	462,386.31	302,748.38	159,637.93	52.73%
1022 NBT Payment Account	-19,422.62	-7,587.02	-11,835.60	-156.00%
1023 NBT Rent Escrow Sec Apt Right	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00%
1024 NBT Capital Reserve Savings Account	24,003.78	6,150.59	17,853.19	290.27%
1050 Petty	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.00	0.00%
Total 1000 Cash	$ 468,368.47	$ 302,712.95	$ 165,655.52	54.72%
Total Bank Accounts	$ 468,368.47	$ 302,712.95	$ 165,655.52	54.72%
Accounts Receivable				
1201 Accounts Receivable	7,068.69	11,451.30	-4,382.61	-38.27%
Total Accounts Receivable	$ 7,068.69	$ 11,451.30	-$ 4,382.61	-38.27%
Other Current Assets				
1100 Inventory	77,897.99	55,045.48	22,852.51	41.52%
1200 Receivables	31,603.59	5,063.25	26,540.34	524.18%
1300 Prepaid Expenses	15,591.83	15,885.43	-293.60	-1.85%
Total Other Current Assets	$ 125,093.41	$ 75,994.16	$ 49,099.25	64.61%
Total Current Assets	$ 600,530.57	$ 390,158.41	$ 210,372.16	53.92%
Fixed Assets				
1500 Fixed Assets				
1505 Machinery and Equipment	1,597,008.13	1,597,008.13	0.00	0.00%
1510 Accumulated Depreciation/Amort.	-4,401,895.83	-4,145,612.09	-256,283.74	-6.18%
1520 Furniture & Fixtures	47,635.23	47,635.23	0.00	0.00%
1560 Leasehold Improvements	157,690.84	88,497.24	69,193.60	78.19%
1561 Park Improvements	2,043,360.87	1,821,963.05	221,397.82	12.15%
1562 Restaurant	2,277,134.66	2,277,134.66	0.00	0.00%
1565 Amortize Leasehold Improvements	-96,219.28	-42,676.54	-53,542.74	-125.46%
Total 1500 Fixed Assets	$1,624,714.62	$1,643,949.68	-$ 19,235.06	-1.17%
Total Fixed Assets	$1,624,714.62	$1,643,949.68	-$ 19,235.06	-1.17%
TOTAL ASSETS	$2,225,245.19	$2,034,108.09	$ 191,137.10	9.40%
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
2000 *Accounts Payable	37,064.59	30,322.90	6,741.69	22.23%
Total Accounts Payable	$ 37,064.59	$ 30,322.90	$ 6,741.69	22.23%
Other Current Liabilities				

2051 Accounts Payable - OHMGA Revenue	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.00%
2100 Accrued Payroll	17,127.38	17,236.80	-109.42	-0.63%
2104 Accrued retirement contribution	205.79	181.19	24.60	13.58%
2105 Accrued Vacation Pay	20,817.27	24,800.92	-3,983.65	-16.06%
2200 Accrued Expenses	23,514.06	32,805.50	-9,291.44	-28.32%
2250 Deferred Revenue				
2251 Tournament Deposits	4,800.00	5,300.00	-500.00	-9.43%
2254 Other Deferred	147,198.75	162,776.97	-15,578.22	-9.57%
Total 2250 Deferred Revenue	**$ 151,998.75**	**$ 168,076.97**	**-$ 16,078.22**	**-9.57%**
Total Other Current Liabilities	**$ 213,673.25**	**$ 243,111.38**	**-$ 29,438.13**	**-12.11%**
Total Current Liabilities	**$ 250,737.84**	**$ 273,434.28**	**-$ 22,696.44**	**-8.30%**
Long-Term Liabilities				
2701 Consolidated City Debt	1,845,121.19	1,965,968.03	-120,846.84	-6.15%
2772 Wells Fargo 2017 Aera-Vator	197.16	372.96	-175.80	-47.14%
2773 DLL Finance Club Car CA550G Utility Cart	0.00	1,548.50	-1,548.50	-100.00%
2774 Wells - Sod Cutter, Progator, 3500-D Groundsmaster	0.00	14,143.91	-14,143.91	-100.00%
2775 Deere Credit, Inc. Hybrid Mower	1,081.97	7,453.17	-6,371.20	-85.48%
2776 Wells Fargo MTE 2018 TurfCo Blower	1,510.44	3,215.92	-1,705.48	-53.03%
2777 DLL Finance Club Car CA502 Utility Cart	2,759.93	4,599.95	-1,840.02	-40.00%
2778 Wells Fargo Used Kubota Tractor Mini Ex	11,712.32	17,640.27	-5,927.95	-33.60%
2779 Wells Fargo Groundsmaster Mower and Procore Aeration	36,735.43	47,977.70	-11,242.27	-23.43%
2780 DLL Club Car 2021 Cart Fleet	218,936.88	291,915.84	-72,978.96	-25.00%
2781 GPSi Visage Software 2021 Cart Fleet	48,960.00	73,440.00	-24,480.00	-33.33%
Total Long-Term Liabilities	**$2,167,015.32**	**$2,428,276.25**	**-$261,260.93**	**-10.76%**
Total Liabilities	**$2,417,753.16**	**$2,701,710.53**	**-$283,957.37**	**-10.51%**
Equity				
3900 Retained Earnings	-307,610.18	-529,621.39	222,011.21	41.92%
Net Income	115,102.21	-137,981.05	253,083.26	183.42%
Total Equity	**-$ 192,507.97**	**-$ 667,602.44**	**$ 475,094.47**	**71.16%**
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	**$2,225,245.19**	**$2,034,108.09**	**$ 191,137.10**	**9.40%**

OAK HILLS PARK AUTHORITY
P&L - Current Month Vs. Prior Year Month
January 2023

	Total			
	Jan 2023	Jan 2022 (PY)	Change	% Change
Income				
4000 REVENUES				
4001 Golf Revenue				
4010 Golf Fees	7,776.00	852.00	6,924.00	812.68%
4020 I.D. Cards	11,990.00	10,185.00	1,805.00	17.72%
4025 Season Pass	7,308.75	8,665.83	-1,357.08	-15.66%
4030 Tournament Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4050 Cart Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4060 Golf Revenue - Gift Certif.	175.00	350.00	-175.00	-50.00%
4070 Gift & Rain Checks Redeemed	-60.00	0.00	-60.00	
Total 4001 Golf Revenue	$ 27,189.75	$ 20,052.83	$ 7,136.92	35.59%
4300 Investment Income	140.38	76.40	63.98	83.74%
4400 Misc. Income	2,594.90	0.00	2,594.90	
4600 Restaurant Income	0.00	1,563.25	-1,563.25	-100.00%
Total 4000 REVENUES	$ 29,925.03	$ 21,692.48	$ 8,232.55	37.95%
Total Income	$ 29,925.03	$ 21,692.48	$ 8,232.55	37.95%
Gross Profit	$ 29,925.03	$ 21,692.48	$ 8,232.55	37.95%
Expenses				
5000 PERSONNEL EXPENSE				
5010 Management Salary	14,307.69	18,098.29	-3,790.60	-20.94%
5030 Operations	2,630.42	2,175.91	454.51	20.89%
5040 Operations O/T	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5050 Course Personnel	26,159.78	26,039.44	120.34	0.46%
5060 Course Personnel O/T	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5070 Seasonal Personnel	0.00	1,116.50	-1,116.50	-100.00%
5080 Seasonal Personnel O/T	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total 5000 PERSONNEL EXPENSE	$ 43,097.89	$ 47,430.14	-$4,332.25	-9.13%
5200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS				
5210 Payroll Taxes	3,288.79	3,587.20	-298.41	-8.32%
5230 State Unemployment	2,302.35	3,825.41	-1,523.06	-39.81%
5250 Health Insurance	2,313.34	2,149.73	163.61	7.61%
5260 Workmans Compensation	1,050.74	1,143.57	-92.83	-8.12%
5270 Retirement Plans	576.22	561.68	14.54	2.59%
Total 5200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	$ 9,531.44	$ 11,267.59	-$1,736.15	-15.41%
5400 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES				
5420 Telephone	1,028.22	1,126.53	-98.31	-8.73%
5430 Professional Fees	3,018.96	2,665.14	353.82	13.28%
5436 Advertising	645.96	967.45	-321.49	-33.23%
5440 Office Expense	647.45	720.31	-72.86	-10.12%
5441 Bank Charges	17.15	18.05	-0.90	-4.99%

5442 Credit Card Fees	2,729.77	2,024.91	704.86	34.81%
5445 Postage	0.00	58.00	-58.00	-100.00%
5461 Authority Secretarial Services	120.00	120.00	0.00	0.00%
5469 Other Outside Services	932.50	872.28	60.22	6.90%
5470 Other Administrative	577.28	755.50	-178.22	-23.59%
5480 Utilities	7,706.99	3,157.95	4,549.04	144.05%
5500 Liability Insurance	7,782.83	6,940.49	842.34	12.14%
5520 Interest Expense	194.65	351.43	-156.78	-44.61%
Total 5400 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	**$ 25,401.76**	**$ 19,778.04**	**$ 5,623.72**	**28.43%**
5600 SALES AND OPERATIONS				
5620 Clubhouse Maintenance	0.00	1,366.54	-1,366.54	-100.00%
Total 5600 SALES AND OPERATIONS	**$ 0.00**	**$ 1,366.54**	**-$1,366.54**	**-100.00%**
5700 PARK MAINTENANCE				
5710 Water	899.36	686.27	213.09	31.05%
5720 Heating Fuel	4,322.59	1,695.93	2,626.66	154.88%
5730 Grounds Maintenance	147.22	0.00	147.22	
5760 Irrigation Maintenance	901.69	155.00	746.69	481.74%
5770 Consumable Tools	88.19	0.00	88.19	
5780 Tee and Green Supplies	1,288.93	0.00	1,288.93	
5795 Janitorial Supplies	280.95	0.00	280.95	
5800 Equipment Maintenance	2,360.78	1,290.17	1,070.61	82.98%
5820 Building Maintenance	466.87	2,439.90	-1,973.03	-80.87%
5860 Gasoline/Diesel Fuel	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5880 Employee work clothes	0.00	254.33	-254.33	-100.00%
Total 5700 PARK MAINTENANCE	**$ 10,756.58**	**$ 6,521.60**	**$ 4,234.98**	**64.94%**
6000 CART EXPENSE				
6020 Electricity	494.39	410.88	83.51	20.32%
6050 Cart Insurance	400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00%
Total 6000 CART EXPENSE	**$ 894.39**	**$ 810.88**	**$ 83.51**	**10.30%**
Total Expenses	**$ 89,682.06**	**$ 87,174.79**	**$ 2,507.27**	**2.88%**
Net Operating Income	**-$59,757.03**	**-$ 65,482.31**	**$ 5,725.28**	**8.74%**
Other Expenses				
8000 Depreciation/Amortization	24,582.00	22,462.26	2,119.74	9.44%
8001 Capital projects				
8100 Capital Projects - Cash	11,273.82	5,140.60	6,133.22	119.31%
Total 8001 Capital projects	**$ 11,273.82**	**$ 5,140.60**	**$ 6,133.22**	**119.31%**
Total Other Expenses	**$ 35,855.82**	**$ 27,602.86**	**$ 8,252.96**	**29.90%**
Net Other Income	**-$35,855.82**	**-$ 27,602.86**	**-$8,252.96**	**-29.90%**
Net Income	**-$95,612.85**	**-$ 93,085.17**	**-$2,527.68**	**-2.72%**

OAK HILLS PARK AUTHORITY
P&L - Current YTD Vs. Prior YTD
July 2022 - January 2023

	Total			
	Jul 2022 - Jan 2023	Jul 2021 - Jan 2022 (PY)	Change	% Change
Income				
4000 REVENUES				
4001 Golf Revenue				
4010 Golf Fees	828,626.48	758,481.02	70,145.46	9.25%
4020 I.D. Cards	19,725.00	18,215.00	1,510.00	8.29%
4025 Season Pass	64,289.72	75,022.36	-10,732.64	-14.31%
4030 Tournament Fees	53,056.00	45,195.00	7,861.00	17.39%
4050 Cart Revenue	254,502.92	243,417.00	11,085.92	4.55%
4055 GolfBoard Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4060 Golf Revenue - Gift Certif.	11,261.00	15,389.00	-4,128.00	-26.82%
4070 Gift & Rain Checks Redeemed	-7,889.00	-14,705.12	6,816.12	46.35%
Total 4001 Golf Revenue	$ 1,223,572.12	$ 1,141,014.26	$ 82,557.86	7.24%
4100 Tennis Revenue	25,200.00	24,000.00	1,200.00	5.00%
4200 Rental Income	0.00	2,750.00	-2,750.00	-100.00%
4300 Investment Income	829.35	795.61	33.74	4.24%
4400 Misc. Income	11,173.92	2,757.61	8,416.31	305.20%
4600 Restaurant Income	46,916.06	14,362.67	32,553.39	226.65%
Total 4000 REVENUES	$ 1,307,691.45	$ 1,185,680.15	$ 122,011.30	10.29%
Total Income	$ 1,307,691.45	$ 1,185,680.15	$ 122,011.30	10.29%
Gross Profit	$ 1,307,691.45	$ 1,185,680.15	$ 122,011.30	10.29%
Expenses				
5000 PERSONNEL EXPENSE				
5010 Management Salary	99,821.21	125,999.39	-26,178.18	-20.78%
5030 Operations	132,218.89	118,923.11	13,295.78	11.18%
5040 Operations O/T	772.50	-15.81	788.31	4986.15%
5050 Course Personnel	180,315.58	174,587.37	5,728.21	3.28%
5060 Course Personnel O/T	1,440.20	1,290.25	149.95	11.62%
5070 Seasonal Personnel	62,892.18	90,913.87	-28,021.69	-30.82%
5075 Outside Seasonal Personnel	29,003.97	0.00	29,003.97	
5080 Seasonal Personnel O/T	610.06	1,006.06	-396.00	-39.36%
Total 5000 PERSONNEL EXPENSE	$ 507,074.59	$ 512,704.24	-$ 5,629.65	-1.10%
5200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS				
5210 Payroll Taxes	36,415.62	38,935.96	-2,520.34	-6.47%
5230 State Unemployment	14,109.94	16,111.17	-2,001.23	-12.42%
5250 Health Insurance	15,950.02	14,804.75	1,145.27	7.74%
5260 Workmans Compensation	13,402.75	14,678.04	-1,275.29	-8.69%
5270 Retirement Plans	4,011.59	3,894.41	117.18	3.01%
Total 5200 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	$ 83,889.92	$ 88,424.33	-$ 4,534.41	-5.13%
5400 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES				

5420 Telephone	7,370.27	6,057.38	1,312.89	21.67%
5430 Professional Fees	19,768.96	18,565.14	1,203.82	6.48%
5436 Advertising	6,363.29	7,064.28	-700.99	-9.92%
5440 Office Expense	10,960.16	9,247.46	1,712.70	18.52%
5441 Bank Charges	152.74	265.50	-112.76	-42.47%
5442 Credit Card Fees	27,727.55	30,812.64	-3,085.09	-10.01%
5445 Postage	60.00	116.00	-56.00	-48.28%
5450 Training and Dues	645.00	991.00	-346.00	-34.91%
5461 Authority Secretarial Services	850.00	1,090.00	-240.00	-22.02%
5469 Other Outside Services	4,542.61	4,355.00	187.61	4.31%
5470 Other Administrative	5,534.68	7,204.17	-1,669.49	-23.17%
5480 Utilities	36,665.88	26,267.01	10,398.87	39.59%
5500 Liability Insurance	54,489.84	48,583.51	5,906.33	12.16%
5520 Interest Expense	1,591.71	2,636.63	-1,044.92	-39.63%
Total 5400 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	**$ 176,722.69**	**$ 163,255.72**	**$ 13,466.97**	**8.25%**
5600 SALES AND OPERATIONS				
5620 Clubhouse Maintenance	0.00	25,859.41	-25,859.41	-100.00%
5640 Golf Pro Supplies	3,202.12	2,036.45	1,165.67	57.24%
5680 Golf Pro Work Clothes	521.38	923.51	-402.13	-43.54%
Total 5600 SALES AND OPERATIONS	**$ 3,723.50**	**$ 28,819.37**	**-$ 25,095.87**	**-87.08%**
5700 PARK MAINTENANCE				
5710 Water	67,240.77	28,264.91	38,975.86	137.89%
5715 Nature and Open Space	179.99	0.00	179.99	
5720 Heating Fuel	8,186.83	4,702.54	3,484.29	74.09%
5730 Grounds Maintenance	17,116.61	27,551.31	-10,434.70	-37.87%
5740 Tree Maintenance	1,419.56	0.00	1,419.56	
5750 Agriculture and Chemicals				
5751 Agriculture&Chemicals-Purchased	19,855.33	21,119.71	-1,264.38	-5.99%
5752 Agriculture/Chemicals Utilized	6,870.13	14,556.56	-7,686.43	-52.80%
Total 5750 Agriculture and Chemicals	**$ 26,725.46**	**$ 35,676.27**	**-$ 8,950.81**	**-25.09%**
5760 Irrigation Maintenance	6,439.88	4,328.45	2,111.43	48.78%
5770 Consumable Tools	2,531.26	1,713.70	817.56	47.71%
5780 Tee and Green Supplies	1,890.49	573.46	1,317.03	229.66%
5795 Janitorial Supplies	301.72	19.59	282.13	1440.17%
5800 Equipment Maintenance	21,165.13	21,667.95	-502.82	-2.32%
5820 Building Maintenance	15,590.12	10,721.81	4,868.31	45.41%
5840 Small Equipment	579.99	456.12	123.87	27.16%
5860 Gasoline/Diesel Fuel	11,175.93	7,851.91	3,324.02	42.33%
5880 Employee work clothes	115.00	754.33	-639.33	-84.75%
Total 5700 PARK MAINTENANCE	**$ 180,658.74**	**$ 144,282.35**	**$ 36,376.39**	**25.21%**
6000 CART EXPENSE				
6010 Cart Lease Expense	7,916.17	0.00	7,916.17	
6020 Electricity	9,334.48	8,997.61	336.87	3.74%
6030 Maintenance	1,255.81	930.63	325.18	34.94%
6050 Cart Insurance	2,800.00	2,800.00	0.00	0.00%
Total 6000 CART EXPENSE	**$ 21,306.46**	**$ 12,728.24**	**$ 8,578.22**	**67.40%**
Total Expenses	**$ 973,375.90**	**$ 950,214.25**	**$ 23,161.65**	**2.44%**

Net Operating Income	**$ 334,315.55**	**$ 235,465.90**	**$ 98,849.65**	**41.98%**
Other Expenses				
8000 Depreciation/Amortization	172,074.00	157,235.82	14,838.18	9.44%
8001 Capital projects				
8100 Capital Projects - Cash	47,139.34	218,661.13	-171,521.79	-78.44%
Total 8001 Capital projects	**$ 47,139.34**	**$ 218,661.13**	**-$171,521.79**	**-78.44%**
8006 Disposed Assets	0.00	-2,450.00	2,450.00	100.00%
Total Other Expenses	**$ 219,213.34**	**$ 373,446.95**	**-$154,233.61**	**-41.30%**
Net Other Income	**-$ 219,213.34**	**-$ 373,446.95**	**$ 154,233.61**	**41.30%**
Net Income	**$ 115,102.21**	**-$ 137,981.05**	**$ 253,083.26**	**183.42%**

OAK HILLS SALES ANALYSIS JANUARY 2023 FISCAL REPORT

Description	Jan-23	Jan-22	Inc/(Dec)	YTD FY23	YTD FY22	Inc/(Dec)
Revenue Rounds	440	34	1194.1%	23,817	22,708	4.9%
Season Pass Rounds	113	31	264.5%	1,735	3,199	-45.8%
POS System Servicer Rounds	122	12	916.7%	1,417	1,467	-3.4%
Barter Rounds	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Comp Rounds	0	0	0.0%	0	425	-100.0%
Total All Rounds	675	77	776.6%	26,969	27,799	-3.0%
Total Carts	0	0	0.0%	14,666	15,993	-8.3%
Total Boards	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Total Golf ID Cards	96	46	108.7%	180	135	33.3%
Total Season Passes	39	9	333.3%	40	47	-14.9%
Total Gift Cards	2	3	-33.3%	211	215	-1.9%
Total GPS Ad Sales	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Total $ Revenue Rounds	$7,781	$852	813.3%	$866,390	$803,545	7.8%
Total Carts $	$0	$0	0.0%	$270,662	$258,956	4.5%
Total Board $	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	0.0%
Total Golf ID Cards $	$11,990	$6,780	76.8%	$19,725	$17,350	13.7%
Total Season Pass $	$85,580	$21,140	304.8%	$87,705	$103,990	-15.7%
Total Gift Cards $	$175	$350	-50.0%	$13,321	$15,389	-13.4%
Total GPS Advertising $	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$0	0.0%
Rain Chks/Gift Cards Redeemed	-$60	$0	0.0%	-$7,853	-$14,705	-46.6%
	$105,466	**$29,122**	**262.2%**	**$1,249,950**	**$1,184,525**	**5.5%**
$ Revenue/Revenue Round	**$17.68**	**$25.06**	-29.4%	**$36.38**	**$35.39**	2.8%
Carts/Revenue Round	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	0.0%	**61.6%**	**70.4%**	-12.6%
Cart $/Revenue Round	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	0.0%	**$11.36**	**$11.40**	-0.3%
Cart $/Cart Round	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	0.0%	**$18.46**	**$16.19**	14.0%
Board $/Board Round	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	0.0%	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	0.0%
ID Card $/Card	**$124.90**	**$147.39**	-15.3%	**$109.58**	**$128.52**	-14.7%
Resident Adult 18 Rounds	243	0	0.0%	3,221	3,864	-16.6%
Resident Senior 18 Rounds	0	2	-100.0%	3,017	3,443	-12.4%
Junior/Golf Team 18 Rounds	2	0	0.0%	1,230	1,097	12.1%
Golf League 18 Rounds	0	0	0.0%	60	80	-25.0%
Employee 18 Rounds	0	0	0.0%	408	488	-16.4%
Non Resident 18 Rounds	187	27	592.6%	14,496	12,691	14.2%
Total 9 Hole Rounds	8	5	60.0%	1,385	1,045	32.5%
Total Revenue Rounds	***440***	***34***	***1194.1%***	***23,817***	***22,708***	***4.9%***
Resident Adult 18 Rounds $	$4,737	$0	0.0%	$110,042	$132,842	-17.2%
Resident Senior 18 Rounds $	$0	$37	-100.0%	$89,871	$96,507	-6.9%
Junior/Golf Team 18 Rounds $	$40	$0	0.0%	$26,955	$19,139	40.8%
Golf League 18 Rounds	$0	$0	0.0%	$0	$1,600	-100.0%
Employee 18 Rounds $	$0	$0	0.0%	$2,746	$3,361	-18.3%
Non Resident 18 Rounds $	$2,852	$692	312.1%	$619,043	$525,533	17.8%
Total 9 Hole Rounds $	$152	$123	23.6%	$17,734	$24,564	-27.8%
Total $ Revenue Rounds	***7,781***	***852***	***813.3%***	***866,390***	***803,545***	***7.8%***
Senior Non-Resident ID	10	6	66.7%	10	14	-28.6%
Adult Non-Resident ID	4	12	-66.7%	5	15	-66.7%
Family ID	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Total Non-Resident ID's	***14***	***18***	***-22.2%***	***15***	***29***	***-48.3%***
GolfNow Rounds	187	0	0.0%	4497	953	371.9%
GolfNow Dollars	$2,852	$0	0.0%	$171,791	$40,615	323.0%
Dollars/Round	$15.25	$0.00	0.0%	$38.20	$42.62	-10.4%
City of Norwalk debt paydown	**$1,417.50**					

ARPA Projects Request by Departments
Economic and Community Development

City of Norwalk Munis General Ledger Account Number	Name	ARPA Project #	Project Expenditure Category	SubCategory	04-11-22 revised	Project Description	City of Norwalk Munis General Ledger Account Number
133710-5796-AEC23	Economic and Financial Impact Analysis	AEC23	2-Negative Economic Impacts	2.13-Other Economic Support	$180,000	Economic and financial impact analyses for upcoming mixed-use development	
133710-5796-AEC24	Urban Land Institute - Advisory Services Program	AEC24	2-Negative Economic Impacts	2.13-Other Economic Support	$80,000	Contract with the Urban Land Institute to complete a Housing Advisory Program	

CFO APPROVAL ____________________

CHIEF OF STAFF APPROVAL Jessica Vonashek

INTERNAL USE:

FINANCE AND CLAIMS DATE 3.07.2023
COMMON COUNCIL DATE 3.14.2023

Building a Housing Plan and an Affordable Housing Plan

3/9/2023

City of Norwalk, CT

GOAL

Norwalk has a neighborhood and housing strategy that maintains a variety of neighborhood types and housing choices through a variety of mechanisms.

Plan of Conservation and Development

Chapter 4: Housing Choice and Healthy Lifestyle

- Create a housing policy and implementation infrastructure within City government
  - ***Develop a Norwalk Housing Plan*** that establishes a set of housing data to monitor and analyze, a policy framework, and an implementation plan.
- Promote diverse housing types, such as townhouses, condos, live-work units, and rental apartments in Norwalk's urban core, at transit-oriented locations and in mixed-use clusters on major corridors, in village districts when appropriate, and through redevelopment.
- Seek solutions to provide sufficient safe and affordable housing for low-income and very low-income residents.
  - As part of the Housing Policy Plan, develop an integrated ***citywide strategy for affordable housing*** in Norwalk.

Proposed approach to develop a Housing Plan and an Affordable Housing Plan

HOUSING PLAN

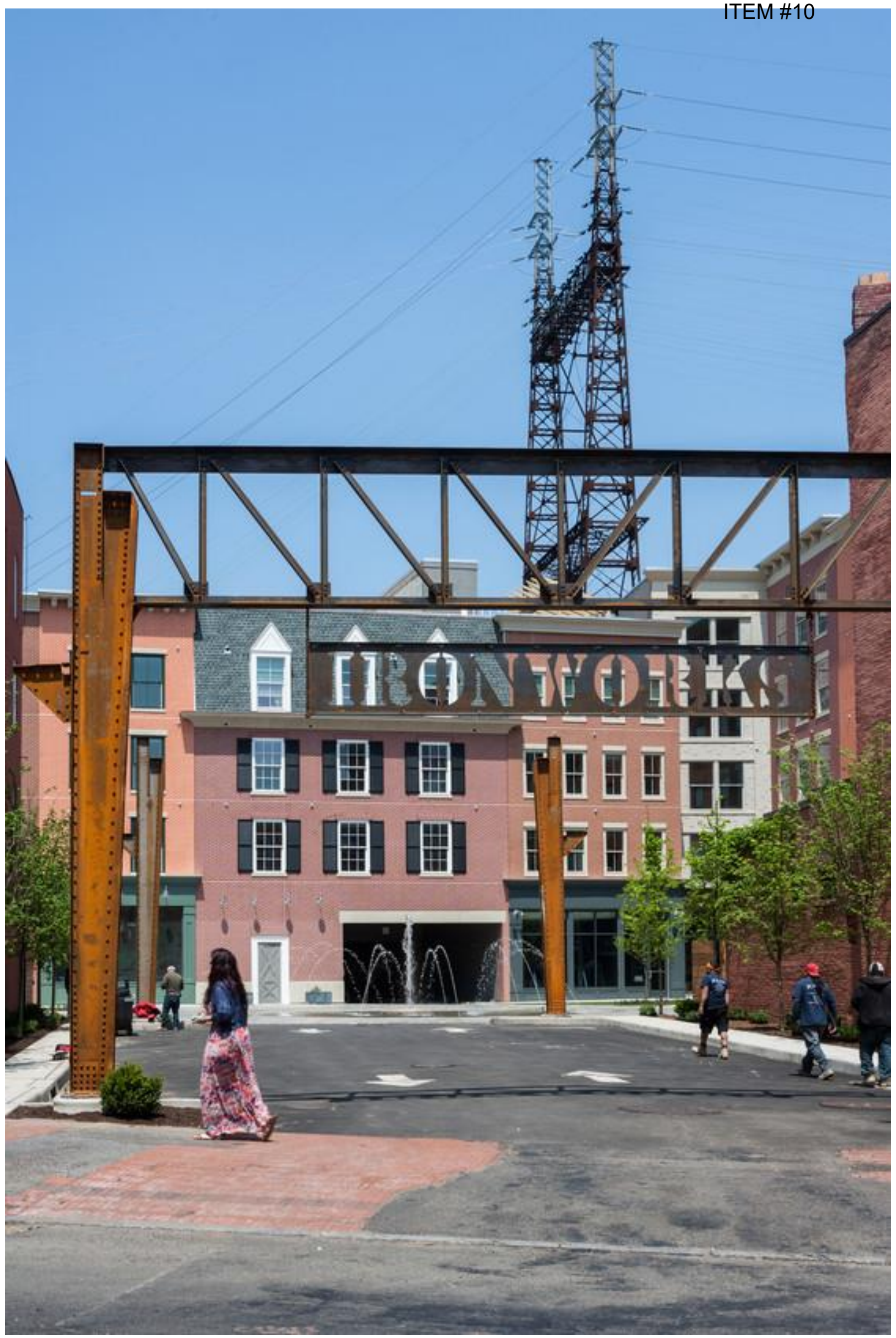
- We propose $80,000 in ARPA funding to have the Urban Land Institute conduct a three-day Advisory Services Program in Norwalk.
- The three-day program will include three to five national housing experts who will interview at least 20 people. The experts will provide guidance and best practices related to city-wide residential and mixed-use development. A presentation will be given at the conclusion of the three-day program. A report will be provided within two weeks after the program.
- Provides an independent, objective candid advice on important land use and real estate issues.
- This process can take place in the next five to six months. It will take two weeks to complete.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLAN

- Use of $120,000 in ARPA funding was approved by the Common Council.
- Since then, the city released an RFP, held interviews, and selected AKRF, as the preferred vendor.
- Since then, we have worked with AKRF on the scope of the plan to incorporate best practices identified by the Commission on Connecticut's Future and Development Report of the Affordable Housing Plans Working Group. See report attached (link here).
- The scope has been agreed upon and we are ready to contract.
- The Affordable Housing Plan process will be completed in 10 to 12 months.

Next Steps

- Received approval from the Economic and Community Development Committee on March 2, 2023. Seek approval from the Finance Committee (March 9, 2023) and the Common Council (March 14, 2023). With support, contract with the Urban Land Institute to conduct an Advisory Services Program for no more than $80,000. Continue to partner with the Common Council Ad Hoc Affordable Housing Committee and other stakeholders through the process.
- Received approval from the Economic and Community Development Committee on March 2, 2023. Seek approval from the Common Council (March 14, 2023). With support, contract with AKRF on the Affordable Housing Plan for no more than $120,000. Continue to partner with the Common Council Ad Hoc Affordable Housing Committee and other stakeholders throughout the process.



ITEM #10

URBAN LAND INSTITUTE

Advisory Services Program

Summary of the Advisory Panel Process

2021

Overview

The Urban Land Institute Advisory Panel Program assembles teams of senior real estate and land use professionals to help solve your most challenging issues.

Our experience advising communities has been a core role for ULI since 1947, when it helped Louisville, Kentucky, solve transportation challenges during a time when America's exodus to suburbia was just beginning and the decline of the country's industrial metropolises was many years away. Over the past seven decades, ULI, through its Advisory Services Program panels, has provided nonpartisan and objective land use advice that is not influenced by local politics, special interest groups, or intractable interests.

Panels bring together the best and brightest from ULI's diverse membership – developers, planners, financiers, market analysts, economists, architects, designers, and public officials – to provide practical solutions and objective advice not available from any other source.

Providing guidance to more than 700 panels in 49 states and 21 countries, Advisory Services panels over the years have addressed issues ranging from small-scale, declining Rust Belt towns to burgeoning vacation resorts in the South China Sea, and from post-9/11 New York City to redevelopment challenges of historic structures such as the Astrodome in Houston and Navy Pier in Chicago.

Background

The Advisory Services Panel process is a for-fee service. ULI contracts with one or more "sponsors" who act as ULI's client during the process. A panel week usually begins on Sunday evening and concludes on Friday afternoon. The week is highly structured and over the past 70 years ULI has perfected the agenda to ensure maximum efficiency and participation from the sponsors.

Sponsors play a central role in the success of Advisory Services panels. From the very beginning, sponsors work with ULI staff to develop a unique panel program.

Sponsors are involved in all aspects of planning—from defining the panel scope and assignment and developing background materials and resources for panelists to identifying local resources and stakeholders for the panel to interview, including business leaders, community leaders, real estate leaders, residents, public officials, and others with helpful insights.

Before the Panel

ULI staff members meet with a potential sponsor to talk about their specific land use and development challenges, and discuss the scope of the panel, timing, travel logistics, panel recruitment from the ULI membership, and the preparation of briefing materials.

ULI handles all logistics. Logistical arrangements are completed exclusively by ULI staff and provide for panelists' travel, lodging, and workspace.

Throughout the entire panel process, ULI staff members work closely with the sponsor to create a scope of work to address the sponsor's land use and development challenges. The scope of work is usually provided as a series of 7-10 strategic questions.

The sponsor prepares briefing materials, arranges interviews with local stakeholders, and plans a tour of the study area for the panelists.

During the Panel

A panel tours and studies a problem and offers comprehensive recommendations all in five days. A typical five-day panel week is arranged as follows:

- Sunday: Panelists' arrival, orientation, and sponsor dinner;
- Monday: Panel assignment briefing, study tour, and public reception;
- Tuesday: Stakeholder interviews;
- Wednesday: Panel deliberations and work sessions;
- Thursday: Report and presentation preparation; and
- Friday: Presentation of the panel's findings and recommendations.

After the Panel

Approximately 90 days after completion of the panel, the sponsor receives a draft of a comprehensive report detailing the panel's comprehensive findings and recommendations.

After the sponsor submits comments on the manuscript, ULI publishes the report. The sponsor receives 150 printed copies of the report, as well as a digital version.

Stakeholder Interviews are the Key to Panel Success

An important part of the panel process incudes stakeholder interviews held on the Tuesday of the panel week. These private and candid interviews are with key community leaders, businesses and institutions and allow the panel to dig deeply into the issues surrounding the land use challenge. A typical panel will interview anywhere from 80 to 100 stakeholders who represent not only land owners and businesses, but community institutions and grassroots organizations that have the knowledge, history and insight into the subject.

Timing, Cost and Deliverables

ULI can usually have a panel team on the ground within two months of signing a contract. This time is used to recruit panelists and arrange logistics.

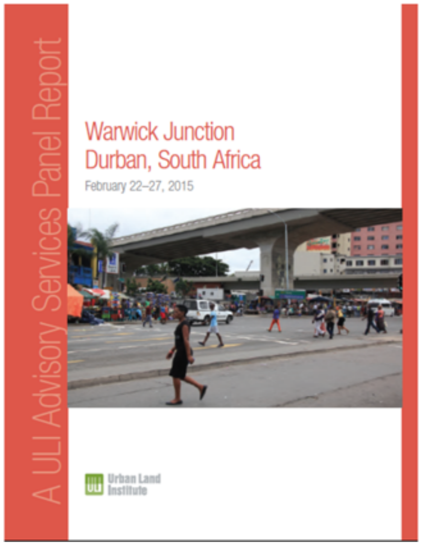
A 5 Day ULI Advisory Services Panel costs $135,000. This fee is mostly used to cover travel and on-site expenses such as food, lodging and transportation. The remainder goes back to the larger mission of ULI.

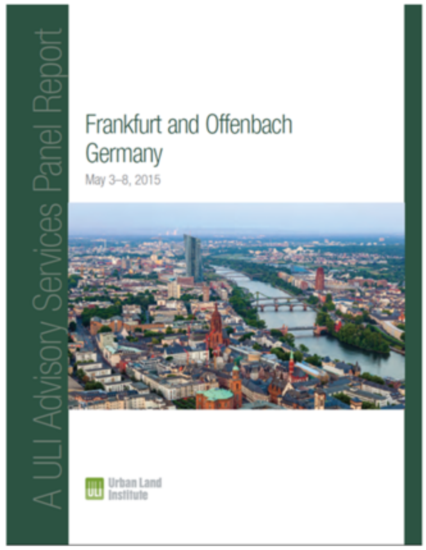
Sponsors will receive 150 full-color printed copies of the final report as well as a digital version for posting on websites.

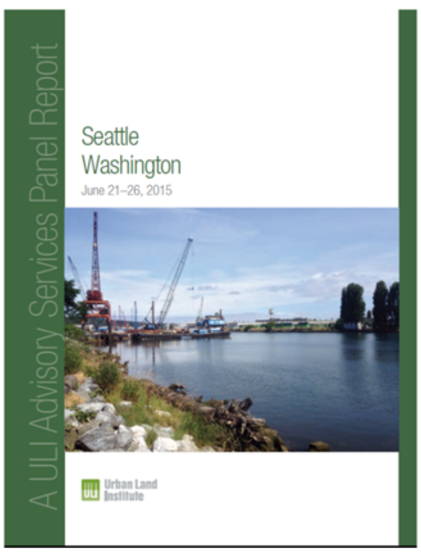
For more information visit: https://americas.uli.org/programs/advisory-services/

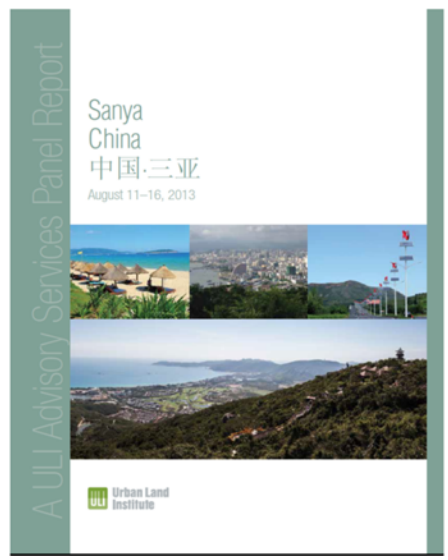
Urban Land Institute

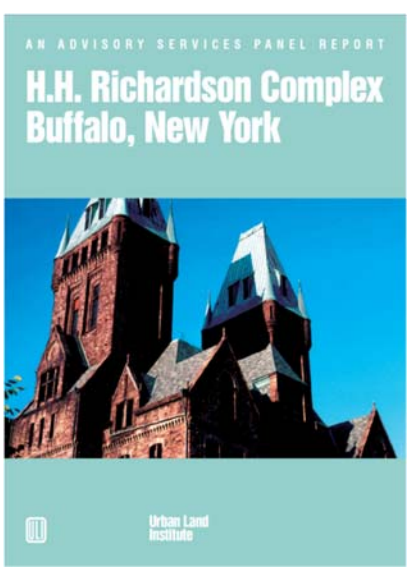
Advisory Services Program

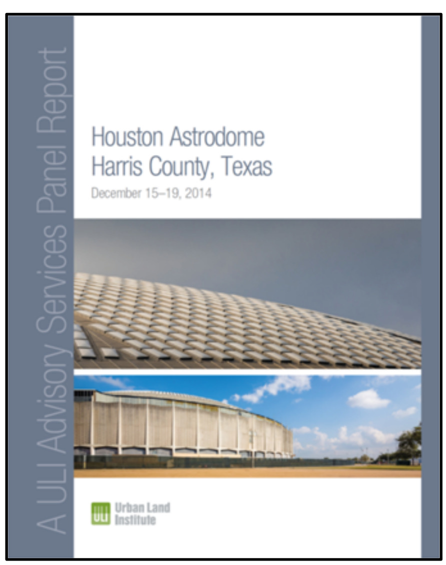


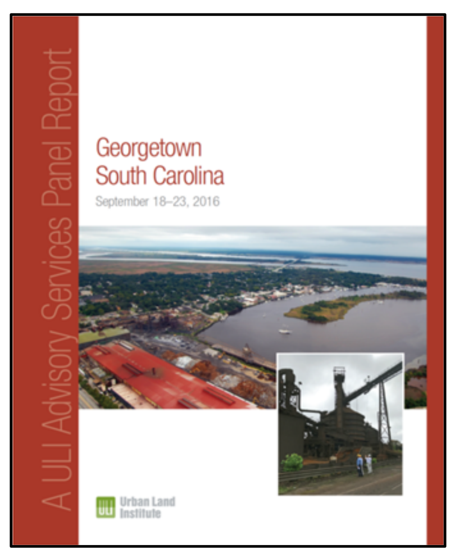












ITEM #10

URBAN LAND INSTITUTE **ADVISORY SERVICES**

Helping Communities Help Themselves

Experts Providing Practical Solutions for Complex Land Use Issues

Urban Land Institute

Advisory Services Program

Since 1947, advisory services panels have helped find creative, practical solutions for some of the most challenging issues facing today's urban, suburban and rural communities.

- Get timely, candid and unbiased input from expert land use professionals.
- Kick-start critical conversations and move beyond deadlock.
- Gain fresh insights and discover innovative solutions to the most complex real estate development challenges.

Panels bring together the best and brightest from ULI's diverse membership including developers, planners, financiers, market analysts, economists, architects and public officials to provide practical and candid advice that is not available from any other source. We work with local governments, private developers, community development corporations, and many other organizations to address the most challenging real estate and land use issues facing communities today.

www.uli.org/advisoryservices

To inquire about convening a panel in your community, or to serve as a panelist, contact Tom Eitler, Vice President, Advisory Services at 1-202-624-7186 or teitler@uli.org.

Urban Land Institute, Advisory Services Program: Sole Source Justification

ULI – The Urban Land Institute, is a nonprofit research and education organization whose mission is to promote responsible leadership in the use of the land. To help fulfill its mission, the ULI maintains an Advisory Services program for the purpose of benefiting the general public through improved planning and utilization of urban land. Through its Advisory Services Program, ULI assembles teams of real estate planning, development, and financing experts who volunteer their time to provide objective advice on addressing challenging land use issues. It is ULI's ability to draw on the expertise of its more than 45,000 members with extensive experience and expertise in land planning and development that makes the Advisory Services Program a unique process that is not replicated by any other organization. The knowledge, development experience and commitment to objectivity by each panel member highlights the ULI Advisory Services Panel Program's unique nature. The multidisciplinary teams assembled by ULI provide a panel sponsor with an unbiased set of recommendations for strategic actions for moving a community forward. The team includes people and expertise that is not available for hire under any other means.

NORWALK
The Sound of Connecticut

DEPT OF FINANCE
Purchasing Department
NONCOMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM

DATE: 2/2/23 **DEPARTMENT:** Law Dept.

Procurement by non–competitive proposals may be used only when the award of a contract is infeasible under informal competitive Quotations (§3-204), Informal Competitive Request for Proposals (§3-205), seal bids, or competitive proposals and at least one of the following circumstances applies:

Check One:

☐	The item is available only from a single source (justification is attached). The provisions of this regulation apply to all sole source procurements unless emergency conditions exist as defined by Purchasing Guideline on Emergency Procurements
☐	After solicitation of a number sources, competition is determined inadequate (record of source contacts and/or attempts to obtain pricing is attached)
☑	The compatibility of equipment, accessories, or replacement parts is of paramount consideration
☐	The item/service is available on a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement (please provide the organization name, quote and the contract/agreement number)
☐	The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation (documented emergency contingency is attached). **Please forward this form and supporting documentation within 48 hours of the Emergency**
☑	Other, please explain: Acquisition of Worldox

TOTAL COST: See Eclosed Pricing Sheets **MUNIS Account:** IT Pay from their budget

VENDOR: Net Documents

Purchasing Agent Signature	**The Purchasing Agent**		**Department Head Signature**
Sharon Conners Digitally signed by Sharon Conners Date: 2023.02.02 11:40:00 -05'00'		**Supports**	
Purchasing Agent Name		**Does Not Support**	**Department Head Name**
		Single Source Requires Common Council Authorization (in excess of $20,000.00)?	Darin Callahan
Date			**Date** 2/2/2023

JUSTIFICATION:

See attached explanation

ANY OTHER VENDORS CONTACTED FOR PRICING? (Please attach quotes): ______________________

Vendor 1: ______________________________________

Vendor 2: ______________________________________

EMERGENCY: Explain in detail the nature of the emergency

See attached explanation

netdocuments®

City of Norwalk Legal Department

Project Plan Estimate

December 9, 2022

Please approve the following services for Mary Bendik and Andrea Prigot to provide **net**documents Implementation, Training and Conversion work.

Description of Services	Quantity	Rate	Total
Planning meeting to configure the system. Review Admin Console features. Configure 1 Cabinet, Lookup Tables and Workspace Template. *	1.5	240	360.00
Test Conversion of one Client so we have data for the Training classes.	1	240	240.00
Configure ndMail, DocuSign and ndOCR. **	1	240	240.00
Provide Training on how to Configure 1 computer with ndOffice, ndMail. ***	1	240	240.00
Provide Training on Basic netdocuments Features. ****	1	240	240.00
Provide Training on Advance netdocuments Features. ****	1	240	240.00
Final Conversion Worldox 101,000 files (6-10 hours)*****	8	240	1920.00
Total Services:	**14.5**	**240**	**$3,480.00**
Optional Services:			
Go Live Remote Telephone Support	2	240	480.00
Configure 8 additional computer with ndOffice and ndMail.**	6	240	1440.00

*If we need to configure more than one Cabinet then it will take about 1 hr. per Cabinet at a rate of $240.00/hour.
**You must have Office 365 and Exchange for ndMail. This requires an Exchange Plan 1 License for the ndMail Service Account.
***If you need me to configure the other 8 computers, then it will take about 45 minutes for each computer at a rate of $240.00/hour.
**** All training is live with Documentation and Videos provided.
***** Worldox Cloud will export your data.

Approved By: ______________________ Date Approved: ___/___/___

ITEM #11

©2022 Amicus Consulting, Inc. This proposal is in US Dollars.

Confidential Information

netdocuments

Customer: City of Norwalk
Address: 125 East Avenue, Corporation Counsel Norwalk, Connecticut 06851

Order Form

Year 1 - Pricing

Services	Quantity	Service User Type	Storage GB	Monthly Unit Price	Annual Recurring Total
ORGANIZE	7.00	Internal	210	USD 45.75	USD 3,843.00
CollabSpaces	7.00	n/a		USD 6.88	USD 577.92
				Year 1 - Pricing TOTAL:	USD 4,420.92

Year 2 - Pricing

Services	Quantity	Service User Type	Storage GB	Monthly Unit Price	Annual Recurring Total
ORGANIZE	7.00	Internal	210	USD 70.88	USD 5,953.50
CollabSpaces	7.00	n/a		USD 7.48	USD 627.97
				Year 2 - Pricing TOTAL:	USD 6,581.47

Year 3 Pricing

Services	Quantity	Service User Type	Storage GB	Monthly Unit Price	Annual Recurring Total
ORGANIZE	7.00	Internal	210	USD 95.70	USD 8,038.80
CollabSpaces	7.00	n/a		USD 9.24	USD 776.16
				Year 3 Pricing TOTAL:	USD 8,814.96

Terms and Conditions

This Order Form ("**Order Form**") is binding between Customer and NetDocuments (each as defined on the signature page attached to this Order) as of the date of the last signature below (as defined on the signature page attached to this Order), and subject to the terms contained herein. Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement, as defined in Section 1.1, below.

1. **Miscellaneous.**
   1.1. Terms and Conditions. This Order is incorporated by reference into and governed by the terms of the Software as a Service Agreement found at https://www.netdocuments.com/services-agreement/2022v1.
   1.2. Service Region. The Parties understand that Customer's designated Service Region shall be US.
   1.3. Interpretation. For purposes of this Order, the words "including" and "include" mean inclusion without limitation and do not limit the generality of the statements they qualify, and the word "or" is not exclusive and shall have the meaning commonly ascribed to the term "and/or."
   1.4. Currency. All pricing is quoted in and shall be paid in USD.

2. **Services Term.**
   2.1. Initial Term. The initial term of Customer's subscription to the Services in this Order shall commence on the Order Effective Date and shall continue for a period of 3 Year (the "Initial Term"). At the completion of the Initial Term, this Order will renew for consecutive annual terms (each, a "Renewal Term") unless either party gives the other notice writing that it declines to renew at least 30 days prior to the end of the Initial Term or any Renewal Term.

3. **Billing and Payment Terms.**
   3.1. Additional Users. Customer may subscribe for additional Internal Users of any NetDocuments Service listed herein for the then-current price for Customer's existing Internal Users of that respective Service.
   3.2. Additional Services. Except as set forth below, the number of Internal Users of any additional Service must always be equivalent to the number of NetDocuments DM Internal Users subscribed by Customer.
   3.3. Billing Frequency. NetDocuments will invoice Subscription Fees Annually in advance.
   3.4 Billing Commencement Date. Billing for the Service(s) listed on this Order Form will commence upon contract execution or when the Service(s) are available for use by Customer, whichever occurs first.
   3.5 Invoices. On the Billing Commencement Date, NetDocuments shall invoice Customer the applicable Subscription Fees according to the terms of the relevant Order or Statement of Work. Customer shall pay all invoices within 30 days of the invoice date. Failure to pay undisputed amounts within 60 days of the invoice due date will constitute a material breach of the Agreement.

4. **Additional Terms for Specific Services**. The following additional provisions apply to the Services and Solutions listed herein:

- ndOCR:

ndOCR is a web-based application that applies optical character recognition and file compression technology to Customer Data stored in the NetDocuments DM Service. ndOCR is provided with configuration options that specify the types of Customer Data to be processed using ndOCR and how the results of that processing will be stored within the Services. ndOCR permits Customer to configure processing by reference to specified 'cabinets' but not at any lower level. ndOCR might not process all Customer Data in all formats.

5. **No Professional Services**. The Subscription Fees set forth above do not include any Professional Services. Professional Services (if any) will be subject to a separate Statement of Work between the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties, through their authorized representatives, have read, understood, and agree to be bound by the terms of this Order, which is effective as of the date of the last signature below.

City of Norwalk

By:

Name:

Title:

Date:

NetDocuments

By:

Name:

Title:

Date:

NetDocuments Acquires Worldox

October 18, 2022 Lehi, Utah

NetDocuments, the most trusted cloud platform where legal professionals do their best work, today announced it has acquired Worldox, a global document management system (DMS) provider that has helped shape the legal technology landscape for more than 30 years.

Leadership from both organizations identified a customer-first approach and vision for the future as key synergies that will align customers for success as they move to future-proof their firms with the leading cloud DMS in the industry.

"We are thrilled to welcome Worldox customers, partners, and employees to NetDocuments, and look forward to building upon the strong relationships established by the Worldox team," stated Josh Baxter, CEO of NetDocuments. "Going forward, our focus will be integrating Worldox customers onto our cutting-edge platform at their own pace, while delivering on our commitment to all of our customers through continual innovation on the NetDocuments platform."

This acquisition comes following NetDocuments' latest product launch of PatternBuilder, a document and workflow automation tool which uniquely combines a rich DMS experience with inherited security capabilities and advanced legal automation technologies. Law firms and legal teams on the NetDocuments cloud platform are well-positioned to take advantage of solutions like this that address their

Press Contact

ATTN: Press Relations

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biggest document organization, collaboration, automation, and governance challenges.

Rebecca Sattin, Co-CEO and CIO at Worldox commented, "Industry trends among law firms and legal teams reflect a prevailing cloud-first strategy and the desire to future-proof their organizations with platforms that can deliver a wide variety of tools, seamlessly connect to other technologies, and scale with their needs. NetDocuments' proven ability to support these capabilities coupled with their commitment to innovating new, customer-inspired solutions made the combining of our organizations a win-win for customers, partners, employees, and the legal industry as a whole."

Worldox, a NetDocuments company, will continue to operate uninterrupted and customers can expect informational webinars to answer questions about this exciting step in enabling even more legal professionals to do their very best work. Current Worldox customers may call (844) 638-3696 or email experiencespecialists@netdocuments.com to connect with an Experience Specialist directly, or visit the website to learn more.

Hennepin acted as the exclusive financial advisor to NetDocuments.

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About NetDocuments
NetDocuments, the most trusted cloud-based content management and productivity platform that helps legal professionals do their best work. Backed by over 20 years of experience in cloud innovation, NetDocuments supports 3,700+ law firms, corporate legal departments, and public sector entities with solutions that drive better user experiences and business outcomes. NetDocuments offers a complete end-to-end platform for document and email organization and management, including award-winning security and research capabilities; robust automation, collaboration, and search technologies; seamless integrations with other tools professionals use daily; and much more. Learn more about NetDocuments.

For more information, please contact:
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2021 >
2020 >
2019 >
2018 >
2017 >
2016 >
2015 >
2014 >
2013 >
2012 >
2011 >
2010 >
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TERMS OF USE PRIVACY POLICY COOKIE POLICY COMPLIANCE

PRIVACY POLICY FOR CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

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EXPLANATION

The City's Law Department utilizes a document management system to departmentally warehouse all its electronic documents. This includes everything from emails, draft legal documents, executed contracts, etc. . . The Law Department has utilized Worldox as its document management provider for the past eight year. Prior to engaging Worldox, the Law Department did not have an electronic document management system. All department files were managed with a physical filing system.

It was announced in a press release in the Fall of 2022 that Worldox was acquired by a competitor, Net Documents.

> https://www.netdocuments.com/press-releases/netdocuments-acquires-worldox#:~:text=NetDocuments%2C%20the%20most%20trusted%20cloud%20platform%20where%20legal,legal%20technology%20landscape%20for%20more%20than%2030%20years.

Net Documents offers a similar (although more sophisticated) document management system to its clients.

As a result of the acquisition, the Worldox platform will no longer be available ***as of summer of 2023*** Making conventional bidding procedures problematic from a timing standpoint. However, Net Documents is working with current Worldox customer to help them transition on to the Net Documents platform. It is our understanding that the Worldox technical staff were retained in the acquisition to facilitate the transition to Net Documents for prior Worldox customers and provide ongoing platform to platform continuity.

Net Documents arranged for a workshop for the Law Department to attend so that Law Department staff could get a live tutorial on the functionality of the system. Our assessment is that the Net Documents offers a document management system which we believe will make the transition from the existing Worldox platform to the Net Documents platform efficient, manageable and seamless, and put the Law Department in the best position to avoid disruption in services as a result of migrating to a new documents management system. The cost breakdown or seven users on the Net Documents Platform is as follows:

Year 1: **$7,900.92**
Year 2: **$6,581.47**
Year 3: **$8,814.96**

Table: Net Documents

Year 1	Cost
Implementation, Training, and Conversion.	$3,480.00
Software License,	$4,420.92

Technical Support Total	**$7,900.92**

Year 2	Cost
Implementation, Training, and Conversion.	$ 0.00
Software License, Technical Support	$6,581.47
Total	**$6,581.47**

Year 2	Cost
Implementation, Training, and Conversion.	$ 0.00
Software License, Technical Support	$8,814.96
Total	**$8,814.96**

NORWALK

The Sound of Connecticut

DEPT OF FINANCE

Purchasing Department

NONCOMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM

DATE: 03-06-23 **DEPARTMENT:** Finance/Comptroller/IT

Procurement by non–competitive proposals may be used only when the award of a contract is infeasible under informal competitive Quotations (§3-204), Informal Competitive Request for Proposals (§3-205), seal bids, or competitive proposals and at least one of the following circumstances applies:

Check One:

☐	The item is available only from a single source (justification is attached). The provisions of this regulation apply to all sole source procurements unless emergency conditions exist as defined by Purchasing Guideline on Emergency Procurements
☐	After solicitation of a number sources, competition is determined inadequate (record of source contacts and/or attempts to obtain pricing is attached)
☐	The compatibility of equipment, accessories, or replacement parts is of paramount consideration
☐	The item/service is available on a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement (please provide the organization name, quote and the contract/agreement number)
☐	The public exigency or emergency for the requirement will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation (documented emergency contingency is attached). **Please forward this form and supporting documentation within 48 hours of the Emergency**
☑	Other, please explain: Munis (Tyler Technology) is the vendor of the City and Norwalk Public School cloud base ERP system for Financial/Budgeting/Payroll/Purchasing and Tax.

TOTAL COST: $323,144.85/ANNUALLY **MUNIS Account:** 011370-5742 IT SOFTWARE

VENDOR: MUNIS (TYLER TECHNOLOGIES)

Purchasing Agent Signature	**The Purchasing Agent**		**Department Head Signature**
Sharon Conners Digitally signed by Sharon Conners Date: 2023.03.07 09:01:50 -05'00'	X	**Supports**	[signature]
Purchasing Agent Name		**Does Not Support**	**Department Head Name** Chitsamay Lam
Date	X	**Single Source Requires Common Council Authorization (in excess of $20,000.00)?**	**Date** 03-06-23

JUSTIFICATION:

Munis (Tyler Technology) is the vendor of the City and Norwalk Public School cloud base ERP system using the follow modules Munis Financial Management, Munis Human Capital Management, Munis Procurement and Munis Tax Billing & Collection. The system also includes Tyler Content Manager for archiving financial, payroll, purchasing and accounts payable documents. Help desk support are available. Three cloud base environments (production, training, and testing environments).

ANY OTHER VENDORS CONTACTED FOR PRICING? (Please attach quotes): NA

Vendor 1: NA

Vendor 2: NA

EMERGENCY: Explain in detail the nature of the emergency

NA

AMENDMENT

This amendment ("Amendment") is effective as of the date of signature of the last party to sign as indicated below ("Amendment Effective Date"), by and between Tyler Technologies, Inc. ("Tyler") and the City of Norwalk, Connecticut ("Client").

WHEREAS, Tyler and the Client are parties to an agreement dated October 24, 2017 ("Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Term of the Agreement expires February 28, 2023 ("Expiration Date");

THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, Tyler and the Client agree as follows.

1. SaaS Term. The term of the Agreement is hereby renewed for a three (3) year term, indicated on the Sales Quotation attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and commencing on the day following the Expiration Date (for the purposes of this Amendment, the "Renewal Term"). After the completion of the Renewal Term, the Agreement will renew automatically for additional one (1) year terms at our then-current SaaS Fees unless terminated in writing by either party at least sixty (60) days prior to the end of the then-current term. We will provide you notice of any increase in SaaS Fees no less than sixty (60) days prior to the commencement of the renewal term.

2. SaaS Fees. SaaS Fees, as detailed in the attached Sales Quotation, for year one are invoiced annually in advance, beginning on the commencement date of the Renewal Term. Subsequent annual SaaS Fees are invoiced annually in advance, beginning on the anniversary of the initial invoice date. Tyler agrees there shall be no increase in annual SaaS Fees during the three (3) year Renewal Term. Tyler agrees the annual renewal term for Year Four (4) and Year Five (5) is subject to a five percent (5%) cap on increases to the annual SaaS Fees.

3. Users Limits. The SaaS fees may be based on user limits indicated in the attached Sales Quotation and the Agreement, with the Sales Quotation controlling in the event of conflict. Should the number of users be exceeded, Tyler reserves the right to re-negotiate the SaaS fees based upon any resulting changes in the pricing categories.

4. Removal of Tax Billing. Notwithstanding any terms in the Agreement to the contrary, Client may, upon thirty (30) days advance written notice to Tyler, remove the Tax Billing module from the Agreement. Tyler shall credit Client's account for any prepaid SaaS fees for Tax Billing for any time following the effective date of removal, with such credit available at Client discretion to apply to SaaS Fees payable pursuant to the Agreement.

5. This Amendment shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement.

6. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, persons having been duly authorized and empowered to enter into this Amendment hereunto executed this Amendment effective as of the date last set forth below.

Tyler	City of Norwalk, Connecticut
By: ______________________	By: ______________________
Name: ______________________	Name: ______________________
Title: ______________________	Title: ______________________
Date: ______________________	Date: ______________________

Exhibit 1
Investment Summary

The following Investment Summary details the software, products, and services to be delivered by us to you under the Agreement. This Investment Summary is effective as of the Effective Date, despite any expiration date in the Investment Summary that may have lapsed as of the Effective Date. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined will have the meaning assigned to such terms in the Agreement. In the event of conflict between the Agreement and terms in the Comments section of this Investment Summary, the language in the Agreement will prevail.

REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Quoted By:	Eddie Flaherty
Quote Expiration:	07/11/23
Quote Name:	City and Schools of Norwalk, CT-ERP- SaaS Renewal
Quote Description:	SaaS Renewal
Saas Term	3.00

Sales Quotation For:

City of Norwalk
PO Box 5125
125 East Avenue
Norwalk CT 06856-5125
Phone: +1 (203) 854-7900

Tyler SaaS and Related Services

Description	Qty	Imp. Hours	Annual Fee
Financial Management			
Accounting/GL/BG/AP	1	0	$ 70,406.70
Project & Grant Accounting	1	0	$ 12,000.45
Purchasing	1	0	$ 18,802.35
Requisitions	1	0	$ 14,001.75
Human Resources Management			
Employee Self Service	1	0	$ 4,989.60
Human Resources & Talent Management	1	0	$ 7,998.90
Payroll	1	0	$ 14,482.65
Revenue Management			
Accounts Receivable	1	0	$ 16,201.50
Tax Billing	1	0	$ 31,200.75
Content Management			
Content Manager Core	1	0	$ 22,578.15

Data Insights			
Crystal Reports	1	0	$ 14,223.30
Role Tailored Dashboard	1	0	$ 13,493.55
Additional			
Enterprise ERP Office	1	0	$ 13,515.60
Enterprise Forms Processing (including Common Form Set)	1	0	$ 6,249.60
Subscription Fees			
Concurrent Users	60	0	$ 63,000.00
TOTAL		**0**	**$ 323,144.85**

Summary	One Time Fees	Recurring Fees
Total Tyler License Fees	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Total SaaS	$ 0.00	$ 323,144.85
Total Tyler Services	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Total Third-Party Hardware, Software, Services	$ 0.00	$ 0.00
Summary Total	**$ 0.00**	**$ 323,144.85**
Contract Total	**$ 969,434.55**	

Unless otherwise indicated in the contract or amendment thereto, pricing for optional items will be held
For six (6) months from the Quote date or the Effective Date of the Contract, whichever is later.

Customer Approval: ______________________ Date: ______________________

Print Name: ______________________ P.O.#: ______________________

All Primary values quoted in US Dollars

Comments

Client agrees that items in this sales quotation are, upon Client's signature or approval of same, hereby added to the existing agreement ("Agreement") between the parties and subject to its terms. Additionally, payment for said items, as applicable but subject to any listed assumptions herein, shall conform to the following terms:

- License fees for Tyler and third party software are invoiced upon the earlier of (i) deliver of the license key or (ii) when Tyler makes such software available for download by the Client;
- Fees for hardware are invoiced upon delivery;
- Fees for year one of hardware maintenance are invoiced upon delivery of the hardware;
- Annual Maintenance and Support fees, SaaS fees, Hosting fees, and Subscription fees are first payable when Tyler makes the software available for download by the Client (for Maintenance) or on the first day of the month following the date this quotation was signed (for SaaS, Hosting, and Subscription), and any such fees are prorated to align with the applicable term under the Agreement, with renewals invoiced annually thereafter in accord with the Agreement.
- Fees for services included in this sales quotation shall be invoiced as indicated below.
  - Implementation and other professional services fees shall be invoiced as delivered.
  - Fixed-fee Business Process Consulting services shall be invoiced 50% upon delivery of the Best Practice Recommendations, by module, and 50% upon delivery of custom desktop procedures, by module.
  - Fixed-fee conversions are invoiced 50% upon initial delivery of the converted data, by conversion option, and 50% upon Client acceptance to load the converted data into Live/Production environment, by conversion option. Where conversions are quoted as estimated, Tyler will invoice Client the actual services delivered on a time and materials basis.
  - Except as otherwise provided, other fixed price services are invoiced upon complete delivery of the service. For the avoidance of doubt, where "Project Planning Services" are provided, payment shall be invoiced upon delivery of the Implementation Planning document. Dedicated Project Management services, if any, will be invoiced monthly in arrears, beginning on the first day of the month immediately following initiation of project planning.
  - If Client has purchased any change management services, those services will be invoiced in accordance with the Agreement.

  - Notwithstanding anything to the contrary stated above, the following payment terms shall apply to services fees specifically for migrations: Tyler will invoice Client 50% of any Migration Fees listed above upon Client approval of the product suite migration schedule. The remaining 50%, by line item, will be billed upon the go-live of the applicable product suite. Tyler will invoice Client for any Project Management Fees listed above upon the go-live of the first product suite. Unless otherwise indicated on this Sales quotation, annual services will be invoiced in advance, for annual terms commencing on the date this sales quotation is signed by the Client. If listed annual service(s) is an addition to the same service presently existing under the Agreement, the first term of the added annual service will be prorated to expire coterminous with the existing annual term for the service, with renewals to occur as indicated in the Agreement.
- Expenses associated with onsite services are invoiced as incurred.

Tyler's quote contains estimates of the amount of services needed, based on our preliminary understanding of the scope, level of engagement, and timeline as defined in the Statement of Work (SOW) for your project. The actual amount of services required may vary, based on these factors.

Tyler's pricing is based on the scope of proposed products and services contracted from Tyler. Should portions of the scope of products or services be altered by the Client, Tyler reserves the right to adjust prices for the remaining scope accordingly.

Unless otherwise noted, prices submitted in the quote do not include travel expenses incurred in accordance with Tyler's then-current Business Travel Policy.

Tyler's prices do not include applicable local, city or federal sales, use excise, personal property or other similar taxes or duties, which you are responsible for determining and remitting. Installations are completed remotely but can be done onsite upon request at an additional cost.

In the event Client cancels services less than two (2) weeks in advance, Client is liable to Tyler for (i) all non-refundable expenses incurred by Tyler on Client's behalf; and (ii) daily fees associated with the cancelled services if Tyler is unable to re-assign its personnel.

The Implementation Hours included in this quote assume a work split effort of 70% Client and 30% Tyler.

Implementation Hours are scheduled and delivered in four (4) or eight (8) hour increments.

Tyler provides onsite training for a maximum of 12 people per class. In the event that more than 12 users wish to participate in a training class or more than one occurrence of a class is needed, Tyler will either provide additional days at then-current rates for training or Tyler will utilize a Train-the-Trainer approach whereby the client designated attendees of the initial training can thereafter train the remaining users.

Content Manager Core includes up to 1TB of storage. Should additional storage be needed it may be purchased as needed at an annual fee of $5,000 per TB.

Financial library includes: 1 A/P check, 1 EFT/ACH, 1 Purchase order, 1099M, 1099INT, 1099S, and 1099G.

State Tax includes Tyler Forms Library - State Tax - 5 Forms.

Personnel Actions Forms Library includes: standard Personnel Action form - New and standard Personnel Action Form - Change.

In the event Client acquires from Tyler any edition of Content Manager software other than Enterprise Edition, the license for Content Manager is restricted to use with Tyler applications only. If Client wishes to use Content Manager software with non-Tyler applications, Client must purchase or upgrade to Content Manager Enterprise Edition.

Tyler's form library prices are based on the actual form quantities listed, and assume the forms will be provided according to the standard Enterprise ERP form template. Any forms in addition to the quoted amounts and types, including custom forms or forms that otherwise require custom programming, are subject to an additional fee. Please also note that use of the Tyler Forms functionality requires the use of approved printers as well. You may contact Tyler's support team for the most current list of approved printers. Any forms included in this quote are based on the standard form templates provided. Custom forms, additional forms and any custom programming are subject to additional fees not included in this quote. The additional fees would be quoted at the time of request, generally during the implementation of the forms. Please note that the form solution provided requires the use of approved printers. You may contact Tyler's support team for the most current list of approved printers.