

OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN



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May 11, 2023

Voluntown Residents,

The Board of Selectmen approved the 2023-2024 General Government Budget Proposal at the May 9, 2023 meeting. The 2023-2024 General Government Budget Proposal shows an increase of \$87,454.

Community input on the proposed budget, and on the proposed Flood Prevention and Library and Library Trustees ordinances will be gathered at **the May 16, 2023 Public Hearing that will be held at the Town Hall Meeting Room at 6:00PM.** It will be livestreamed on the Town of Voluntown- Government YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXdF6kZQMhDVNetgjDX2MAQ>) where the hearing can be viewed only. Questions must be asked in person, or submitted to the Board before 4:00PM on May 16 to jzelinsky@voluntown.gov. Questions submitted via email will be answered during the Public Hearing.

2023- 2024 General Government Budget Proposal Key Changes:

- The cost of the Planning & Development Director has been paid for the last two years by ARPA funds. The expense of this position is now incorporated into the Board of Selectmen's budget, and the Planning & Zoning Commission's budget.
- Public Works shows an increase of \$29,028. This is due to the additional lease for a new plow truck, and the addition of a line item for engineering costs.
- A full-time Zoning and Land Use Secretary and General Office Secretary position has been added. This was previously a part-time position.
- Cyber security insurance has increased, and cyber security features are being implemented.

At this time, we are unable to determine the mill rate. We are waiting on the State budget to see if the \$95,043.00 cut to the Education Cost Sharing grant goes through. On a positive note, the Town projects a \$120,000 revenue increase. If we get cut in the ECS funding, we anticipate a slight mill rate increase. If not, there will be a slight mill rate decrease.

The Annual Town Meeting will be held on May 30, 2023 at the Voluntown Elementary School gymnasium at 7:00PM.

Sincerely,

Tracey Hanson