

Town of Goffstown Proposed Town Budget 2014

An abbreviated version of this presentation was originally prepared by the Budget Committee for the Public Hearing on January 16, 2014.

Proposed 2014 Operating Budget

\$19,580,945

increase of **\$307,656** over the current year's budget,
or roughly **1.6 percent**

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 14-0



Department Heads' Initial Requests	\$23,691,124
Board of Selectmen's Budget	\$20,243,515
Budget Committee's Proposed Budget	\$19,580,945

Default Budget

Budget Committee's Proposed Budget	\$19,580,945
Default Budget	\$19,596,061

* Note that the Budget Committee's proposed budget is about **\$15,000 less than** the default budget

How does this budget compare to last year's?

	2013 Budget	2014 Proposed Budget	Difference
Police	\$4,630,597	\$4,717,712	+ \$87,115
Town Hall	\$2,304,492	\$2,379,883	+ \$75,391
Public Works	\$5,133,990	\$5,107,687	- \$26,303
Fire	\$2,494,494	\$2,576,457	+ \$81,963
Parks & Rec	\$428,101	\$428,333	+ \$232
Library	\$703,121	\$717,710	+ \$14,589
CIP	\$1,165,182	\$1,166,606	+ \$1,424
Sewer Fund	\$1,666,538	\$1,742,762	+ \$76,224
EMS Fund	\$414,582	\$417,962	+ \$3,380
Overall	\$19,273,289	\$19,580,945	+ \$307,656

Note that some expenses were shifted between departments

What's in CIP?

- **Road Plan** (\$450,000)
- **2 Police Vehicles**, Interceptor SUV model (\$72,206 total)
- **1 Fire Forestry Vehicle**, which will replace a 1968 jeep and serve as a rapid response vehicle in areas that are difficult to reach with a full-sized fire truck (\$95,000)

What's in CIP? (cont.)

- **8 Dept. of Public Works Vehicles** (\$549,400 total):
 - dump truck with sand and plow (\$178,000)
 - 2 100-yard trailers (\$60,000)
 - F550 with sand and plow (\$95,400)
 - F350 with plow, which is being shared by the sewer department (\$46,000)
 - 2 roll-off trailers (\$60,000)
 - backhoe (\$110,000)

What's new or different?

- The cost of health insurance increased by 14.4 percent this year.
- Some additional hours are budgeted for four town employees on a short-term basis for the implementation of the new finance software.

What's new or different? (cont.)

- **Storm Water Operations**

This is a new subsection added within the Department of Public Works. Most of the expenses for this department were shifted from the general operating budget from Public Works and are not new. However, an additional part-time engineering technician is in the budget to conduct water-quality testing.

Other Notable Items

- This budget eliminates any wage increases or increases for longevity pay for the 53 nonunion town employees.

Note that these employees also increased their contributions to health and dental plans by 3.5 percent this year.

Other Notable Items (cont.)

- The Teamsters union, which is entering into the second year of a three-year contract, will be shifting to a performance-based pay system in July 2014, as per the contract that voters passed in March 2013.

Other Notable Items (cont.)

- The Town's three other union contracts expired this year, but the parties could not reach agreement on new contracts.

Tax Impact of Operating Budget

- This budget assumes a 0.5 percent (half of 1 percent) of growth in the town's assessment for 2014.
- The projected tax rate for the Town side in 2014, not including special warrant articles, is **\$9.33**, which is a **DECREASE of 39 cents** over the 2013 tax rate (\$9.72).

Tax Impact of Operating Budget

- The tax impact of the proposed operating budget on a \$250,000 home would be a tax **DECREASE** of \$97.50.
- Tax savings comes from limiting new spending and projected increased revenues.

Special Warrant Articles

- **Fire Station Bond**

- Funds the rehabilitation and expansion of the Town's three fire stations
- Total Cost: \$4,565,000
- Tax Impact: None in 2014, but bond payments would begin in 2015, resulting in a 27 cent increase to the tax rate for the first year. In subsequent years, the bond payments would add 26 cents to the tax rate per year for 19 years.
- The amount quoted above is the maximum amount the Town could raise for this project and does not include any grants the Town may receive or possible use of the unreserved fund balance

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 7-5-2

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Pleasant Street Bridge Project**
 - To reconstruct the Pleasant Street Bridge sidewalk and underlying structure
 - Total Cost: \$80,000
 - Tax Impact: None because the project will be paid for by money from the unreserved fund balance

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 8-6

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Tyler Drive Detention Pond**
 - To reconstruct the Tyler Drive detention pond and the Maple Ave/Smith Road treatment swale
 - Total Cost: \$73,000
 - Tax Impact: None because the project will be paid for by money from the unreserved fund balance

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 8-6

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Town Hall ADA Lift**

- To replace existing obsolete lift and install an ADA-compliant vertical elevator at Town Hall
- Total Cost: \$40,000
- Tax Impact: None because the project will be paid for by money from the unreserved fund balance

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 8-5-1

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Public Library Painting and Repairs**
 - For the painting and repairs of the exterior of the Public Library
 - Total Cost: \$35,000
 - Tax Impact: None because the project will be paid for by money from the unreserved fund balance

Not recommended by the Budget Committee, 8-6

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Police Department Server Virtualization Project**
 - The server virtualization project upgrades the servers, data storage and disaster recovery at the Police Department
 - Total Cost: \$75,000
 - Tax Impact: None because the project will be paid for by money from the unreserved fund balance

Not recommended by the Budget Committee, 7-6-1

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **SCBA for Fire Department**

- The article allows Goffstown to participate in a 6-town grant to replace the self-contained breathing apparatus for the Fire Department. Although the grant is for \$1,099,734, that amount is for all six towns. Goffstown's matching portion of the grant is \$25,763.07.
- Total Cost: \$25,763.07
- Tax Impact: None because the project will be paid for by money from the unreserved fund balance

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 14-0

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund**
 - To add funds to the Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund, which would then help offset the cost of new fire apparatus when the Town purchases it in the future
 - Total Cost: \$100,000
 - Tax Impact: 7 cents

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 13-1

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Goffstown Main Street Program, Inc.**
 - To support the nonprofit Goffstown Main Street Program
 - Total Cost: \$20,000
 - Tax Impact: less than 2 cents

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 13-0-1

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Crispin's House, Inc.**
 - To support the programs of Goffstown's nonprofit Crispin's House, a youth drug, alcohol, and suicide prevention agency
 - Total Cost: \$20,000
 - Tax Impact: less than 2 cents

Recommended by the Budget Committee, 11-1-2

Special Warrant Articles (cont.)

- **Milfoil Management**

- To support Goffstown Waterway Association's effort to manage milfoil in Glen Lake. This appropriation would be combined with grant funds to begin the project.
- Total Cost: \$5,000
- Tax Impact: less than 1 cent

Not recommended by the Budget Committee, 10-2-2

Total Tax Impact (all articles)*

Proposed Operating Budget:	\$9.33
Fire Station Bond (no tax impact until 2015):	----
Fire Department Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund:	+ \$0.07
Goffstown Main Street Program	+ less than 2 cents
Crispin's House	+ less than 2 cents
Milfoil Maintenance	+ less than 1 cent
Total 2014 Town Tax Rate:	\$9.44
2013 Town Tax Rate:	\$9.72

* The Pleasant Street Bridge Project, Tyler Drive Detention Pond, Town Hall Elevator, Public Library Painting and Repairs, Police Department Server Virtualization, and SCBA have no tax impact because they will be paid for by money from the unreserved fund balance.

Total Tax Impact (cont.)

- If all articles pass, the total tax impact on a \$250,000 home would be a tax **DECREASE** of \$70, keeping in mind that the Fire Station Bond will not have a tax impact until 2015.

What's Next in the Budget Process?

- **Town Deliberative Session**

- Wednesday, February 5 at 7 pm
- Craig Hieber Auditorium at Goffstown High School,
27 Wallace Road, Goffstown
- Followed by Board of Selectman meeting and Budget Committee meeting to reconsider recommendations on any amended appropriation

(Snow Date: Thursday, February 6 at 7 pm, same location)

Town Election

- **Tuesday, March 11, polls open 7 am to 7 pm**
- **Locations: Goffstown High School and Bartlett Elementary School**

See the Town of Goffstown website for additional information about voting and the town election.