



Town of Hingham
FY24 Budget Overview
Public Information Session

April 11, 2023



Agenda

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. How We Got Here**
- 3. Proposition 2 ½ Basics**
- 4. Override & Implications**
- 5. Related Articles & Tax Relief**
- 6. Town Meeting & Town Election**
- 7. Available Information**

Executive Summary



1. Town Meeting will be asked to consider two votes on a balanced budget and an override

I. The balanced budget is the first vote within Article 6:

- a. It matches service delivery to available revenue. It funds the majority of the Town's operating budget
- b. Town Meeting must pass a balanced budget to ensure delivery of essential services

II. The proposed override and Financial Management Plan:

- a. Override addresses a significant budget deficit to deliver level services
- b. Override includes additional requests
- c. Financial Management Plan commits to budget growth caps through FY28
- d. Both are recommended unanimously by the Select Board & AdCom

2. The override also requires a favorable Town Election vote

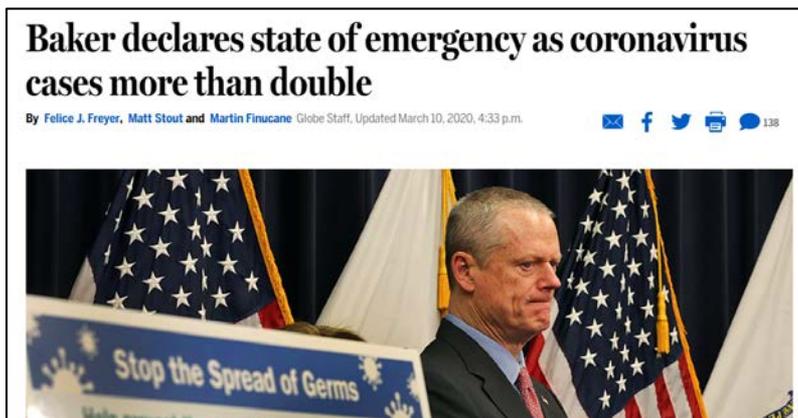


How We Got Here



How We Got Here

- **FY24 budget deficit resulted from adding critical capacity during COVID-19 pandemic in FY22 and FY23**
- **Cost of providing services has outpaced revenue growth**
 - High *cost* drivers include inflation, personnel costs, health insurance, etc.
 - Low *revenue* drivers include less commercial and residential development
- **Optimized federal COVID-19 funds and local reserves to offset deficits**
- **Town must either reduce services to balance FY24 budget or raise revenue through an override to maintain current operations**



How We Got Here



FY22 ADDITIONAL POSITIONS/SERVICES	DEPT	AMOUNT
School Recovery Budget positions (32 FTEs)	School	\$2,325,606
Town-wide Field Maintenance Program	Recreation	\$241,180
Address Legal structural deficit	Legal	\$138,372
Assistant Town Administrator (1 FTE)	Select Board	\$137,000
Senior Planner (1 FTE)	Community Planning	\$63,403
Address Snow & Ice structural deficit	Public Works	\$63,173
Mental Health/Crisis Response Clinician (1 FTE)	Police	\$54,096
Transfer Station Heavy Equipment Operator (1 FTE)	Public Works	\$51,980
Communications consultant	Select Board	\$35,000
TOTAL		\$3,109,809

FY23 Costs included non-union reclassifications (first time in 19 yrs.) and settlements of 4 union contracts.

* These FY22 and FY23 expenses were paid for with federal COVID-19 funds or use of one-time local reserves.



How We Got Here

- **AdCom Chair Bob Curley at ATM 2021:** *“For Fiscal Year 23, the Town faces the prospect of an override to address what is essentially a structural deficit in the budget.”*



How We Got Here



- **ATM 2022 Warrant:** *"...Town needs to reconcile revenues with expenses through an override. ...it is expected that an override will be placed before the citizens at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting and 2023 Annual Election."*



How We Got Here



SUSTAINABLE BUDGET TASK FORCE

- Understanding that we were creating a structural deficit in FY22, the Town formed the [Sustainable Budget Task Force](#) in August 2021 to begin developing a long-term financial management plan
- Municipal, school, and former AdCom leaders worked together to analyze expenditures, explore revenue opportunities, identify ways to fund the Town's budget going forward

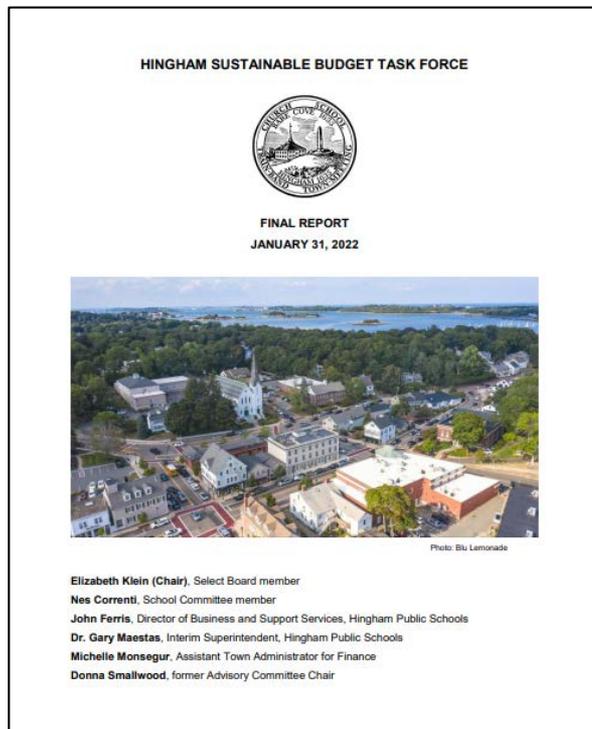


How We Got Here



SUSTAINABLE BUDGET TASK FORCE

January 31, 2022



- The Town was experiencing increasing budget pressure from expenditure growth exceeding revenue growth prior to the pandemic
- Hingham should seek both tax and non-tax revenue to provide high quality municipal and school services.
- New revenue sources require time - they are not solutions for the budget gap in the short term
- Both municipal and school departments should target a 3.5% expenditure growth rate in future years to better align expenses with available revenue
- The Town should consider closing the FY23 budget deficit by using remaining federal and other one-time funds
- **The Town should consider proposing a potential override in FY24 to maintain or grow services**

How We Got Here



SUSTAINABLE BUDGET TASK FORCE

Ongoing implementation of various recommendations, including:

- Exploring economic development opportunities
- Working with MMA and state legislators to lobby for increased local aid
- Exploring potential new non-tax revenue sources, such as a real estate transfer fee and/or marijuana zoning changes
- Analyzing municipal and school fees to see if adjustments are necessary
- Analyzing Town-owned real property for potential disposition
- Targeting specific annual growth rates for operating budgets – part of FY24-28 Financial Management Plan
- Identifying ways to supplement the Capital Outlay budget

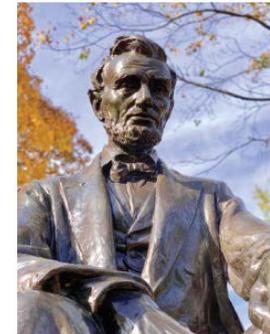
How We Got Here



2021 MASTER PLAN

- Proposed override and budget support Master Plan and community vision

Town of Hingham MASTER PLAN



Approved by the Hingham Planning Board
August 23, 2021

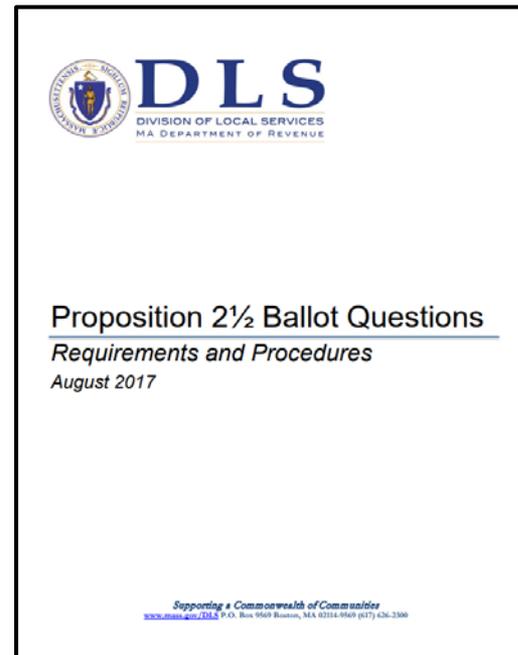
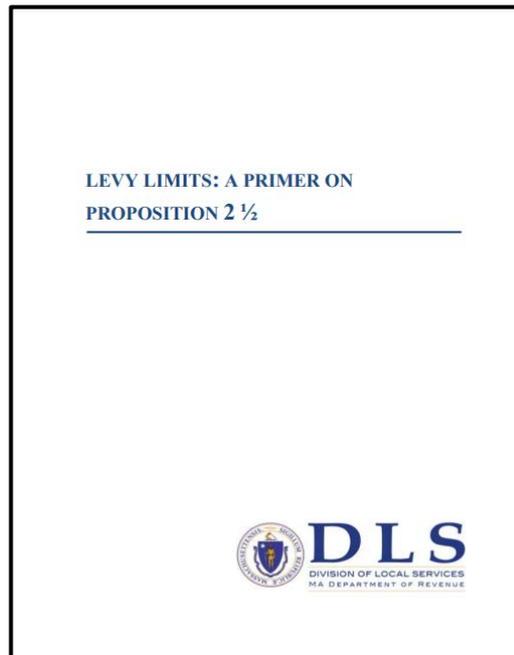


Proposition 2½ Override Basics



Proposition 2½ Override Basics

An override is a voter-approved, permanent tax increase designed to provide a community with the ability to generate sufficient revenues to fund costs that are likely to continue into the future, such as annual operating and fixed expenses.





Proposition 2½ Override Basics

Override Approval Requirements

- 1. Budget appropriations (Article 6) require a majority vote at Town Meeting on April 24, 2023**
- 2. Override ballot question requires a majority vote at the Town Election on April 29, 2023**





Override and Implications: Two Scenarios

Override Passes – Scenario 1

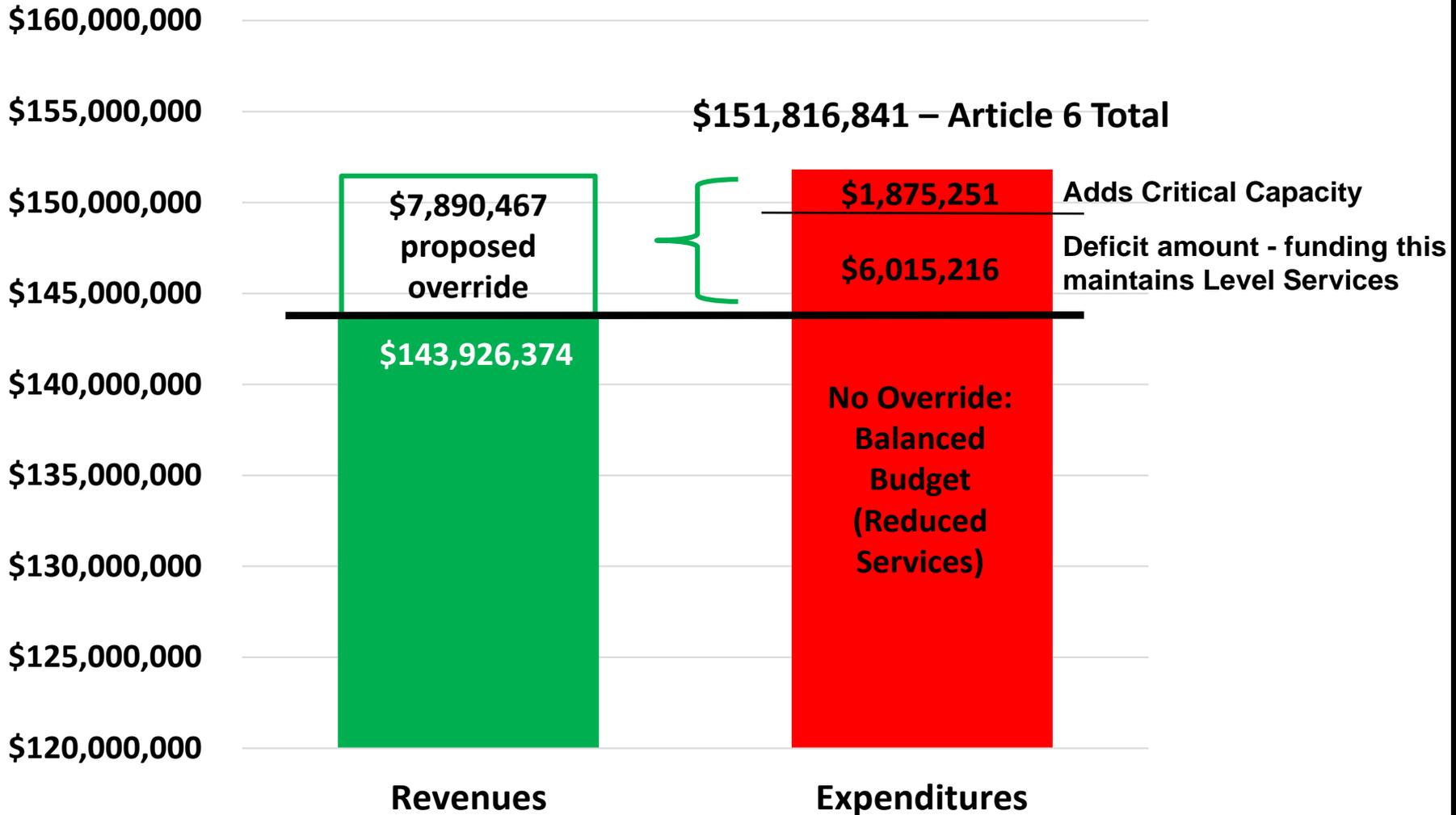


Balanced Budget *and* Override Pass:

- Level Services funded – all services provided in FY23 are provided in FY24
- Additional Requests – Critical services from School and Municipal Departments are funded
- Financial Management Plan is put in place
 - 3.5% growth rate caps through FY28
 - At least 4 years without an override



Override Passes – Scenario 1



Override Passes – Scenario 1



Level Services + Additional Requests = Override

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| • AdCom recommendation contains level of services from FY23 (no service reductions) for Municipal & School Departments | \$6,015,216 |
| • AdCom recommendation also includes \$1.375M of \$2.7M requested by Municipal and School Department Heads | \$1,375,251 |
| • \$500,000 to be added to Capital Budget (to put us in compliance with our Financial Policy) | <u>\$500,000</u> |
| • A total FY24 Override of \$7,890,467 is recommended, which results in a total Article 6 amount of \$151,816,841 | \$7,890,467 |

Override Passes – Scenario 1



FY24 Recommended Additional Requests	Amount
MUNICIPAL SERVICES	
Four Firefighters	\$392,280
Assistant Town Engineer	\$96,000
Senior Center Program Coordinator	\$65,255
Increase Veterans' Administrative Assistant to FT	\$20,842
Sustainability Coordinator	\$49,000
Budgeting software	\$50,000
Municipal Total	\$673,377
SCHOOL SERVICES	
Technology Costs (moving from capital to the operating budget)	\$300,000
Nursing Coordinator	\$115,174
Increased Professional Development to support Strategic Plan	\$200,000
Reduction of Full-Day Kindergarten Fee	\$86,700
School Total	\$701,874
Municipal & School Subtotal	\$1,375,251
SHARED SERVICES	
Increase Capital Outlay budget	\$500,000
Shared Total	\$500,000
GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED	\$1,875,251

Override Passes – Scenario 1



SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM COORDINATOR

- Position eliminated in 2012
- Staff invests 47 hours/week into research, marketing, preparation, and evaluation for programming, beyond normal workload
- Address rising programming demand as Hingham grows and ages
- Enable Senior Center Director to focus on strategic planning & grants
- Of 16 peer communities with Senior Centers:
 - 12 employ at least 1 FT Program Coordinator
 - 3 employ at least 1 PT with 30+ total weekly hours
- **FY24 additional request: \$65,255**



Override Passes – Scenario 1



FOUR FIREFIGHTERS

- Hire 4 new firefighters (one for each shift)
- Long-standing request allowing Town to increase maximum staffing from 13 to 14
- Will decrease overtime and holdovers (forced double shifts) needed to preserve minimum staffing at 11
- There was one shift filled with overtime each day last year; 58% of the time, that overtime was forced (48 hours worked instead of 24) and paid at double time
- Will help prevent staff burnout
- Estimated to offset more than \$392k in overtime expenditures (starting in FY25)
- **FY24 additional request: \$392,280**





Override Passes – Scenario 1

ASSISTANT TOWN ENGINEER

- FT Position is needed to support the Town Engineer with multiple current and planned initiatives, including:
 - ✓ Street and sidewalk reconstruction & utility coordination
 - ✓ Pedestrian safety improvements
 - ✓ Traffic Committee
 - ✓ Route 3A design
 - ✓ Harbor wharf wall resiliency improvements
 - ✓ Public Safety Facility construction
 - ✓ Grants & much more
- **FY24 additional request: \$96,000**



Override Passes – Scenario 1



INCREASE VETERANS' ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO FT

- Position now budgeted at 20 hours/week; vacant & historically hard to fill
- Increase position to full-time to attract more qualified candidates with specialized skills
- Maintain Town's ability to provide critical Chapter 115 assistance to Hingham veterans and family members
- Support veterans accessing Federal VA benefits
- Reduce overuse of volunteers
- **FY24 additional request: \$20,842**



Override Passes – Scenario 1



SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR

- Annual Town Meeting 2022 voted to fund a FT contract position to be shared with Cohasset in FY23
- Contract position funded by state earmark through October 2023
- Of 19 peer communities (17 responded):
 - 9 have a staffer with sustainability and/or energy titles
 - 8 are F/T; annual salary range - \$58K - \$105K
- Dedicated staff needed to implement Climate Action Plan – achieve town wide “net zero” carbon emissions by 2040
- **FY24 additional request: \$49,000 (partial year funding)**

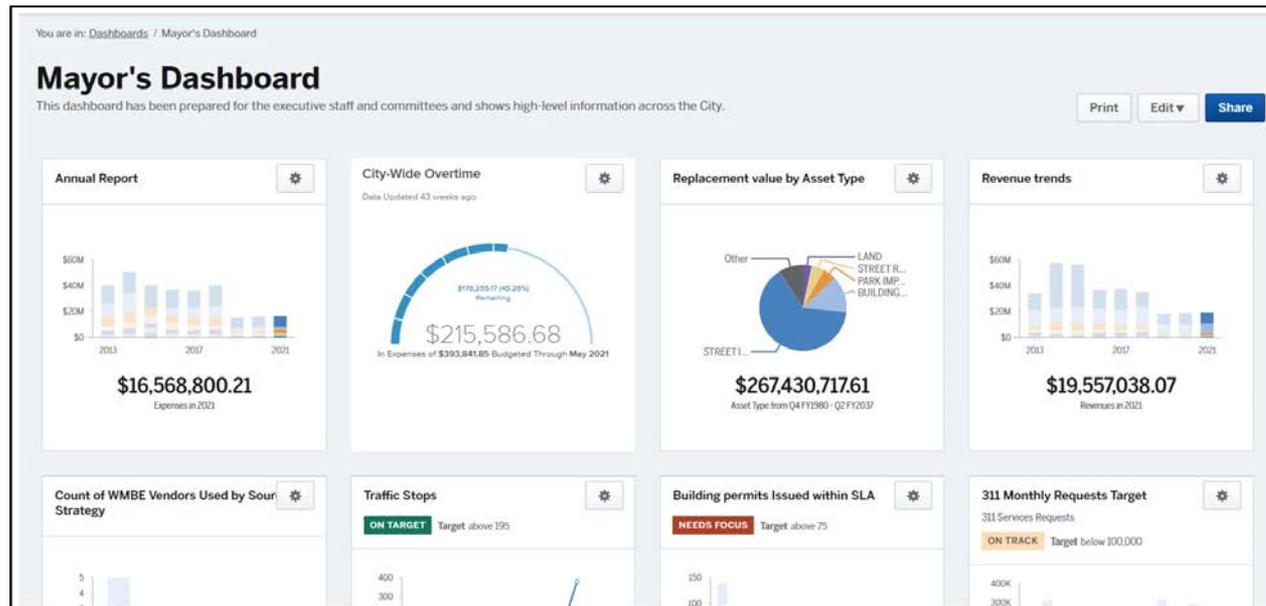




Override Passes – Scenario 1

BUDGETING SOFTWARE

- Use modern budgeting software to streamline budget development process and increase efficiency and transparency
- Tools include budget development, salary and expenditure projections, financial forecasting, capital planning, reporting, etc.
- **FY24 additional request: \$50,000**



Override Passes – Scenario 1



Hingham Public Schools

Reduction of Technology Costs in Capital Outlay

- This would be a move of mostly Chromebooks out of capital and into the operational budget. This would increase the operational budget by \$300k and ensure that there is funding for additional capital projects.
- An increase in capital expenditure will ensure that some of the needed projects will be completed.

Nursing Coordinator

The position will:

- Meet the increased needs of students.
- Coordinate and substitute with nurse absences and coverage.
- Ensure all state health mandates are met.
- Coordinate school testing and recordkeeping.
- Provide ongoing professional development for nurses within the district.



Override Passes – Scenario 1



Hingham Public Schools (cont'd)

Increased Professional Development

Accelerate progress towards Strategic Plan objectives that require professional development:

- Universally Designed Learning (UDL) & Inclusive Practices
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS)
- K-5 Math Program Pilot; Gr. 6-8 Math Adoption
- Social Studies Standards Alignment
- HMS Open Sci Ed
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL); PBIS; Mental Health
- Culturally Responsive & Restorative Practices
- Innovative Pathways; Portrait of a Graduate

Override Passes – Scenario 1



Hingham Public Schools (cont'd)

Gradual Elimination of Full Day Kindergarten Tuition

- Hingham is one of very few districts which still has a kindergarten fee that is charged to parents of incoming kindergarteners based on income levels. In some communities universal preschool is now the priority. Full day Kindergarten is seen as a requirement for ensuring students success in elementary school. Students develop strong reading and mathematics skills as well as social, emotional intelligence that are seen as essential to ensuring later success. Because of how essential kindergarten is, charging a fee for kindergarten as part of a public education is seen as morally incorrect.

Override Passes – Scenario 1



INCREASE CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET

- Capital Outlay Plan should be budgeted at between 3-6% of the Town's Operating Budget for that fiscal year per Town's Financial Policy
- FY24 level services request of \$2,800,000 is about 2.7%
- **FY24 additional request of \$500,000 would bring us into compliance**

Town's Financial Policy: "The capital assets of the Town comprise the Town's physical infrastructure, inherited from previous generations and intended to be passed on to future generations. It is the aggregate property, plant, and equipment used by the Town. We are the current caretakers. It is our collective responsibility to maintain, replace, when necessary, upgrade and/or expand - as directed by Town Meeting - the Town's capital assets."

Override Passes – Scenario 1



INCREASE CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET

Example: DPW deferral list

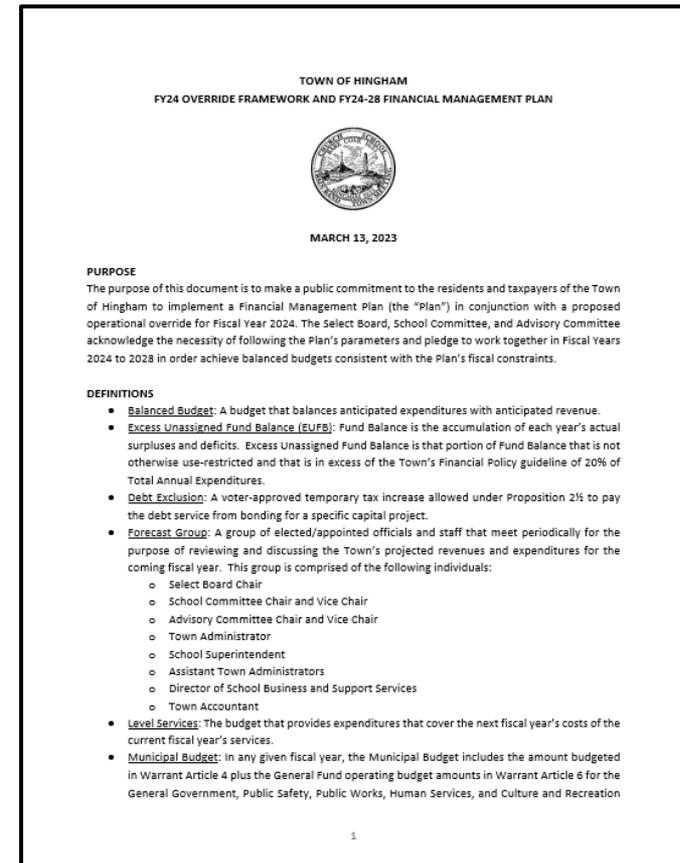
#	YEAR	Vehicle	COST	LIFE	Fiscal Year																		
	PURCHASED				2021	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23				
1	2008	2008 IH Dump 7400DP Plow & Sander	168	10													D	D	D	D	D		
2	2010	2010 GMC SIERRA 2500 P/U w/ Plow	44	10	N														D	D	D		
3	2005	2005 CHEVROLET 2500 HD P/U w/ Plow	44	10				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		
4	2006	2006 GROUNDMASTER 4010D	80	10						D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	X		
5	2010	2010 544K JOHN DEERE FRONT END LOADER	125	10	N														D	D	D		
6	2005	2005 John Deere 5425 Tractor LOADER	40	10				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		
7	1997	48" SCAG Walk behind Mower #1	7	10													D	D	D	D	D		
8	1997	48" SCAG Walk behind Mower #2	7	10													D	D	D	D	D		
9	2003	2003 MITSUBISHI DIESEL FORK TRUCK	28	10				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		
10	2009	2008 ELGIN SWEEPER (PELICAN)	124	8								D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	X		
11	2011	2011 3500 Silverado 4WD 1 Ton w/ Plow	77	10	N															D	D		
12	2008	2005 410G JOHN DEERE BACKHOE	58	10															D	D	X		
13	2000	STATIONARY COMPACTING UNIT	25	15										D	D	D	D	D	D	D	X		
14	2000	STATIONARY COMPACTING UNIT	25	15										D	D	D	D	D	D	D	X		
15	2000	STATIONARY COMPACTING UNIT	25	15										D	D	D	D	D	D	D	X		
16	2012	2012 3500 Silverado 1 Ton Dump w/ Plow	77	10				N													X		
17	2012	2012 2500 Chevy 4WD Pick up w/ Plow	44	10				N													X		

Override Passes – Scenario 1



FY24-28 Financial Management Plan

- **Tri-party Agreement (similar to FY21 Financial Management Plan) signed by:**
 - **Select Board**
 - **School Committee**
 - **Advisory Committee**
- **The Town Administrator and School Superintendent also signed on signaling agreement to implement and manage to the terms of the Plan**



Override Passes – Scenario 1



FY24-28 Financial Management Plan

Key Terms:

- **Voted & signed in March, 2023**
- **Municipal and School Departments commit to cap expenditure growth at 3.5%**
- **No additional override until FY28 at the earliest**
- **School Department access to Reserve Fund Transfer process for out-of-district SPED tuitions and specialized contracts above 2% increase**

Plan is contingent on FY24 full override amount of \$7.89M

Override Passes – Scenario 1



FY24-28 Financial Management Plan

Further commitments to:

- **Seek efficiencies in operations**
- **Pursue economic development opportunities (New Growth)**
- **Continue to fund Capital and maintain Fund Balance within financial policy guidelines**
- **Continue to fund OPEB**
- **Continue to advance tax relief programs**
- **Seek new non-tax revenue sources**
- **Maintain AAA credit rating**

Override Passes – Scenario 1



Estimated FY24 Tax Impact of \$7.89M Override

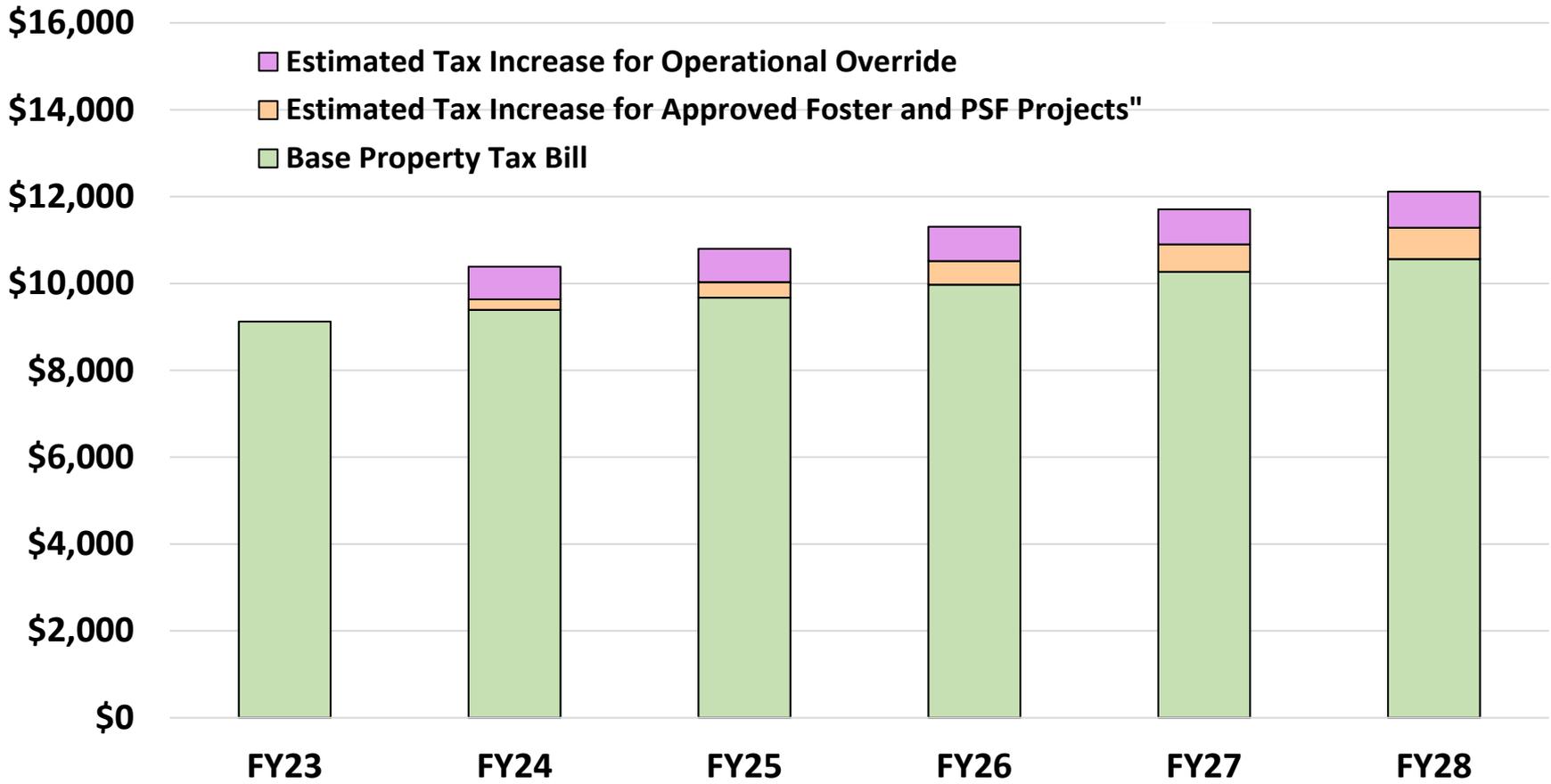
	25th Percentile Assessed Value (\$658,400)	50th Percentile Assessed Value (\$898,850)	75th Percentile Assessed Value (\$1,230,600)
FY24 Estimated Tax Bill*	\$7,053	\$9,634	\$13,196
FY24 Estimated Tax Increase for Operational Override	<u>\$550</u>	<u>\$751</u>	<u>\$1,029</u>
FY24 Estimated Property Tax Bill with Override	\$7,603	\$10,385	\$14,225
% Increase of Override over FY24 Estimated Tax Bill	7.8%	7.8%	7.8%

* Estimated Tax Bill Includes allowed 2.5% increase, CPA surcharge, and existing excluded debt including Foster School and Public Safety Facility debt service

Override Passes – Scenario 1



5-Year Estimated Property Tax Impact for Median Assessed Value (\$898,850)



Notes: 1) Base Property Tax Bill includes allowed 2.5% increase, CPA surcharge, and excluded debt borrowed before November 2022.

2) Projected debt service amounts for Foster School and the Public Safety Facility peak in FY29 and begin to decline in FY30.

Override Passes – Scenario 1



Override Tax Impact Calculator
Available at hingham-ma.gov/override

Override Tax Impact Estimator for FY24 | LOGIN 

Instructions: Enter your street name, number, and unit (if applicable) below. The calculator will display the estimated FY24 property tax increase associated with the proposed \$7,890,467 operational override.

Address:

Street Name:

Street Number:

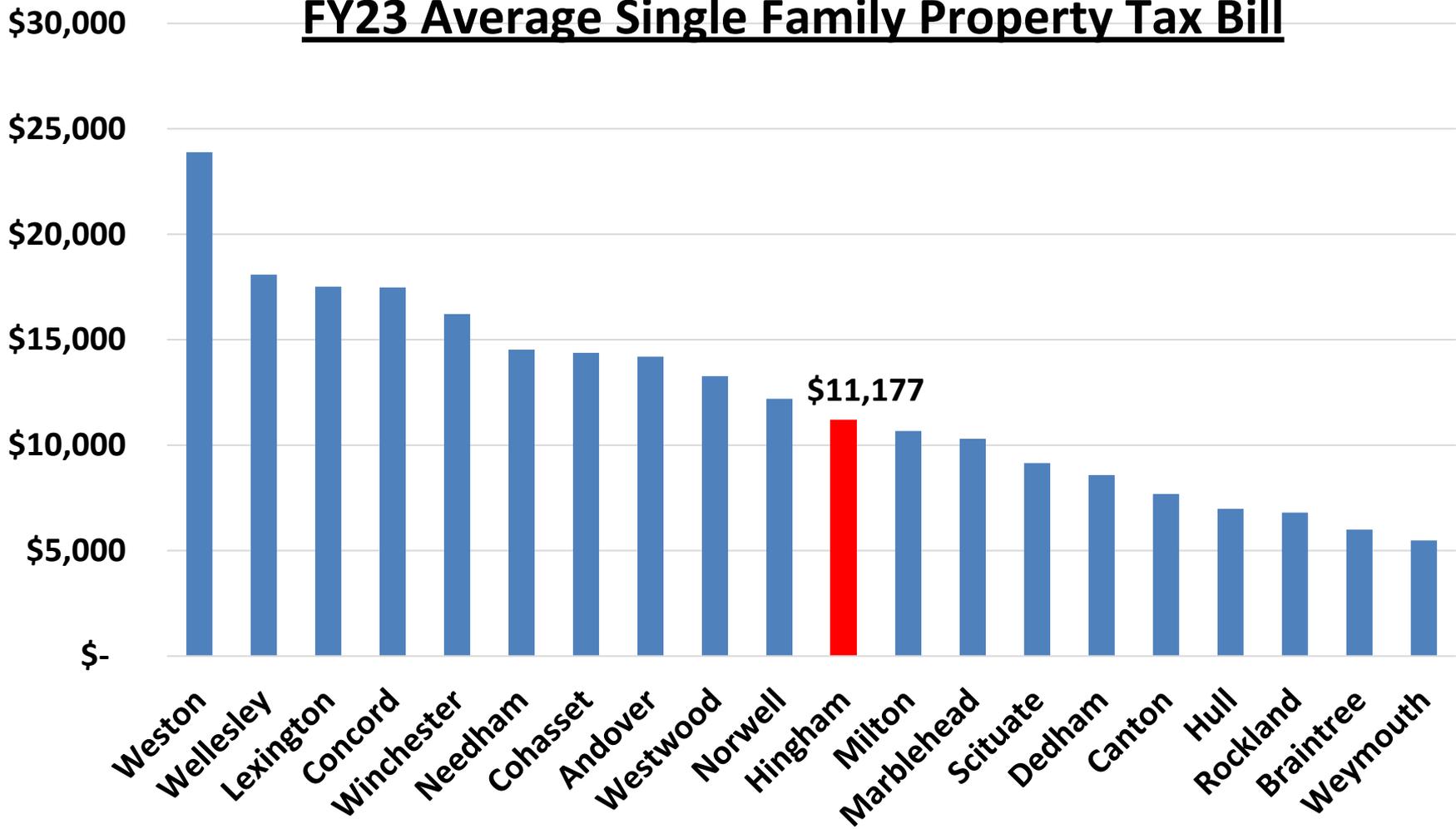
- CAUSEWAY ROAD
- CEDAR STREET
- CENTRAL STREET**
- CHAMBERLAIN RUN
- CHARLES EVERETT WAY
- CHARLES STREET
- CHATHAM CIRCLE
- CHERRY STREET
- CHESTNUT PLACE

PeopleForms
Tablet

Override Passes – Scenario 1



FY23 Average Single Family Property Tax Bill



Source: MA DLS Municipal Databank

Override Passes – Scenario 1



FY24 Projected Average Single Family Property Tax Bill

\$30,000

\$25,000

\$20,000

\$15,000

\$10,000

\$5,000

\$-

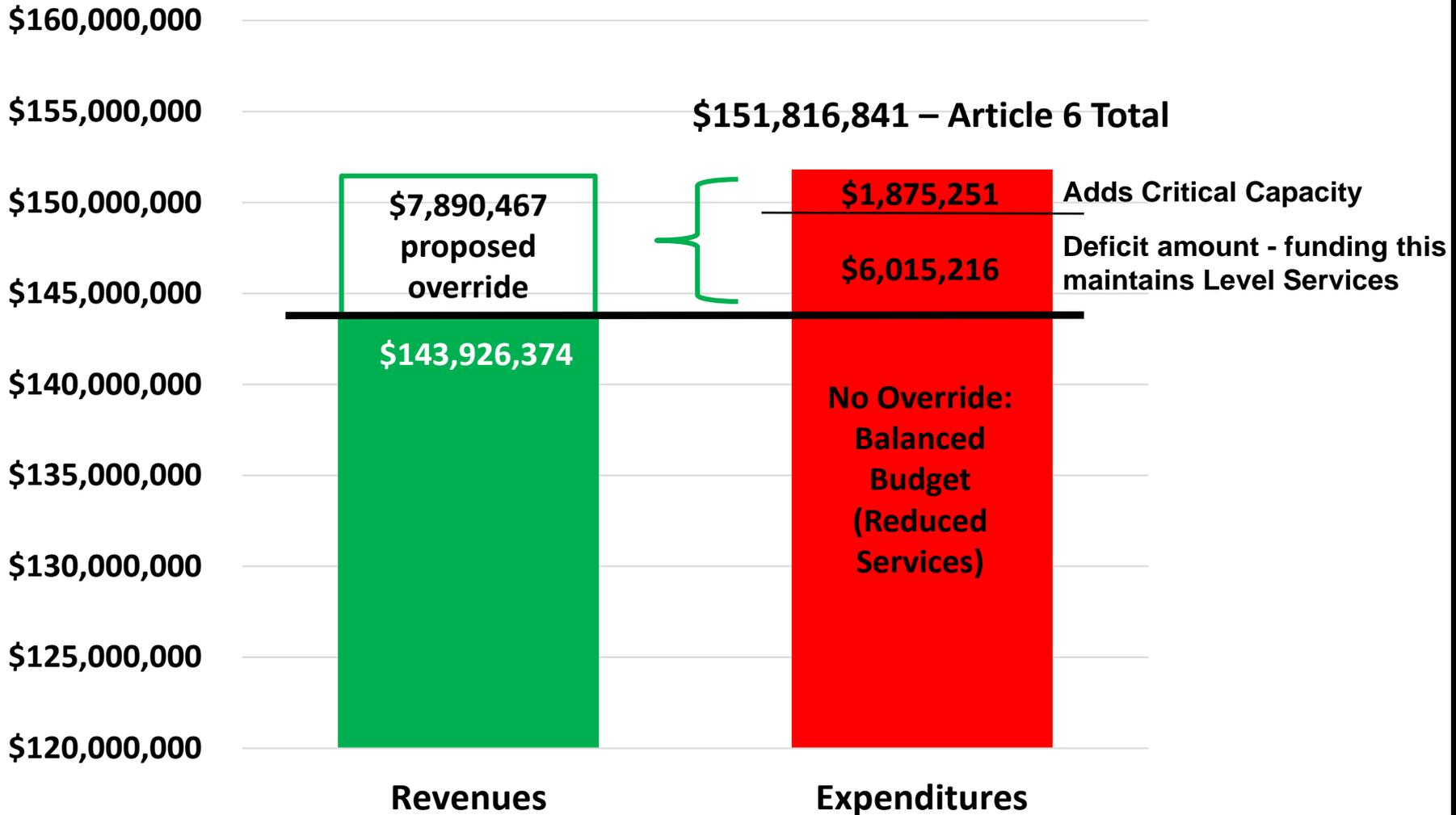
Note: Hingham FY24 estimate of \$12,917 includes \$934 for the \$7.89M FY24 override and \$299 for the Foster School and Public Safety Facility Projects

\$12,917

Weston
Wellesley
Lexington
Concord
Winchester
Needham
Cohasset
Andover
Westwood
Hingham
Norwell
Milton
Marblehead
Scituate
Dedham
Canton
Hull
Rockland
Braintree
Weymouth

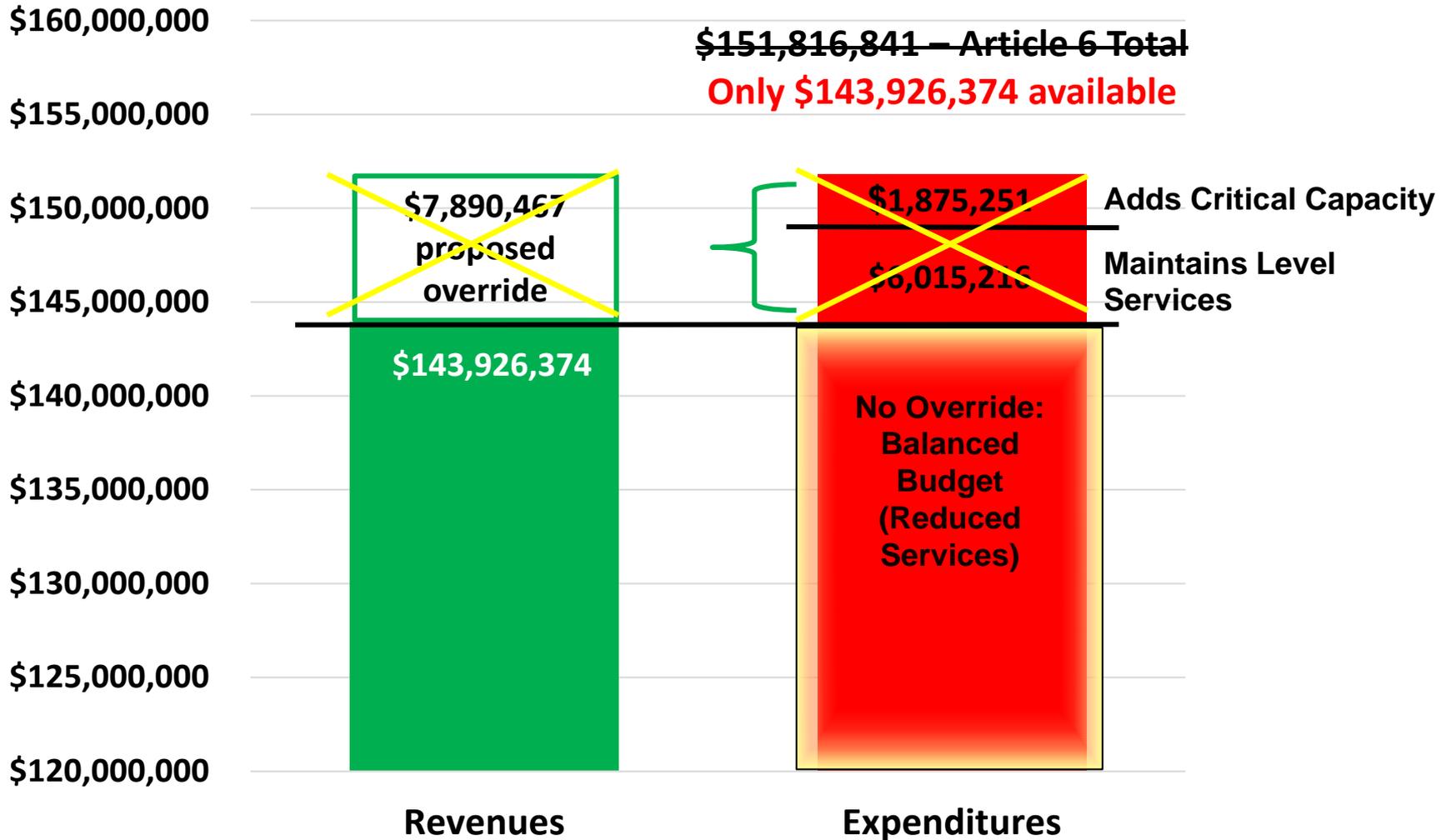


Override Passes – Scenario 1





Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



Balanced Budget *only* Passes:

- Beginning July 1, 2023, Town will decrease services and reduce personnel to cut expenditures by \$6,015,216
- Town will offer lower level of services than currently provided
- No additional requests
- No Financial Management Plan results in financial instability & unsustainable budget

Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



Balanced Budget Requirement

- State law requires Hingham to adopt a balanced budget (this is the budget that matches expenditures to available revenues)
- FY24 projected deficit = \$6,015,216
- To manage to a balanced budget, reductions would be necessary:
 - School budget will be reduced by \$3.9M (65% of the \$6M)
 - Municipal budget will be reduced by \$2.1M (35% of the \$6M)
- If override does not pass, reductions go into effect July 1, 2023

Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



Proposed Reductions to Reach Balanced Budget

Service Sector	FTEs	Amount
Education Reductions	46.1	\$3,909,890
Municipal Reductions		
General Government	4.7	\$451,006
Public Safety	3.6	\$500,503
Public Works	9.0	\$536,047
Human Services	2.1	\$148,440
Culture & Recreation	TBD	\$469,330
Subtotal Municipal Reductions	19.4+	\$2,105,326
Total Reductions	65.5+	\$6,015,216

Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



School Department Reductions: \$3,909,890 (46.1 FTEs)

Proposed Administration Positions but not voted by the School Committee	Amount
Elementary (20.8 FTEs)	\$1,416,788
Middle School (10.2 FTEs)	\$628,076
High School (11.1 FTEs)	\$816,635
Athletics	\$266,000
Central Office (2.0 FTEs)	\$94,788
Curriculum & Professional Development	\$94,500
Student Services (2 FTEs)	\$271,700
Technology	\$86,725
Transportation	\$234,678
Total (46.1 FTEs)	\$3,909,890



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



School Department's Proposed Reductions: \$3,909,890 (46.1 FTEs) (cont'd)

FTE reductions at all schools - including teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, & administrative assistants

- This will impact class sizes and the elimination of optional courses.
- Reductions of staffing impact our ability to continue to develop the Multi Tiered Systems of Support (“MTSS”) model. The implementation of MTSS allows the district to address the strengthening of Tier II supports.
- Decrease in the direct support provided for special education programming and continual development of in-district programs.
- The speed with which departments can respond to faculty, staff, and families will slow - impacting students.
- Reduced ability to meet administrative demands (e.g., attendance, discipline, communications, etc.) in the school office.



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



School Department's Proposed Reductions: \$3,909,890 (46.1 FTEs) (cont'd)

Reduced curriculum, textbooks, & materials available to students

- This further delays textbook adoption cycles already slowed during the pandemic.
- Reduced funds for curriculum materials to support proposed new course offerings or planned curriculum updates.
- Significant impact to disciplines requiring consumable supplies (science/STEM labs, technology/engineering, visual art supplies).
- Reduced scope and robustness of professional development offerings.
- Reduced staff to support adoption of K-5 reading program and related professional development.



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



School Department Proposed Reductions: \$3,909,890 (46.1 FTEs) (cont'd)

Elimination of High School sub-varsity sports, Middle School clubs & the late buses

- Reduction in opportunities for students to participate in athletics and clubs at the high school across all grade levels.
- Sports is a central component of a comprehensive high school. Reduces our ability to attract and retain students at the high school.
- For many students, sports and extracurricular activities support and strengthen academic performance, physical and social emotional well-being.
- The late buses may not be available after school for students requiring academic support or needing to use the library.
- The late bus helps ensure equity for students by providing students who do not have transportation the ability to stay after school.



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



School Department Proposed Reductions: \$3,909,890 (46.1 FTEs)
(cont'd)

New transportation fees – grades 7 – 12, high school activities, & elementary instrumental music

- Fee-based extracurricular activities will likely lead to reduced participation and will negatively impact the social emotional wellbeing of students.
- The district would have to implement structures and procedures for the collection of transportation fees for students in grades 7-12. This adds additional strain to the Finance and Business Office.

In sum:

A district that is significantly less equipped to meet the needs of its students.



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



General Government Service Reductions: \$451,006 (4.7 FTEs)

- Reduce capacity to implement Master Plan, protect community character
- Slow economic development
- Reduce efficiency and capacity across Town – eliminate Assistant Town Administrator, reduce support for Select Board, Town Administrator, boards/committees, and department heads and their missions
- Close facilities – GAR Hall, 308 Cushing Street
- Reduce GIS capacity to inform strategic decision making
- Decrease maintenance of municipal facilities
- Reduce Town's ability to communicate with the public
- Slow sustainability initiatives



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



Public Safety Reductions: \$500,503 (3.6 FTEs)

- Eliminate SRO - reduce Police support to School safety and security, presence at drop-off and pick-up, traffic safety, community and youth relations, DARE program, classroom curriculum
- Eliminate Community Crisis Clinician - diminish ability to support community members with mental health crises
- Reduce Animal Control capacity
- Reduce support for Police administration
- Decrease Fire minimum staffing from 11 to 9 for certain shifts
 - Remove one engine or ambulance from service per affected shift
 - Increase response times, beyond normal standards
 - Exacerbate remaining staff stress
- Eliminate Fire CPR training for school and municipal employees





Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2

Public Works Reductions: \$536,047 (9.0 FTEs)

- Reduce trash and recycling pickup, mowing of fields, maintenance of public grounds and parks, support for special/community events, and tree planting
- Delay filling of potholes
- Limit line painting
- Transfer Station: Close Yard Waste Area 1-2 days per week and trash compactors/trailers



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2



Human Services Reductions: \$148,440 (2.1 FTEs)

- Decrease ability to provide public health services
- Eliminate Town social worker position – decrease support for community wellness and mental health needs
- Significantly reduce Senior Center transportation program – affects senior community's ability to attend appointments, events, and programs



WELLNESS WEDNESDAY
No/Low Cost Health and Wellness Resources

988
LIFELINE
In Crisis? Call: Dial 988
Online: 988lifeline.org



How to Handle Anxiety, Depression & Your Kids
Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. | Hingham High School Auditorium

 Hingham parents and caregivers are invited to join Dr. Nadja Reilly, Clinical Psychologist, for a discussion about supporting their child's mental health and well-being. Topics include anxiety and depression, signs to look for, coping mechanisms and more. Heather Rodriguez, HPS School Counseling Director, will also be present to discuss mental health services offered in Hingham Public Schools and the Care Solace program.

Spend Time Outdoors in Hingham's Open Space

 Spending time in nature has been linked to improvements in mental health. We encourage you to go outside this month to explore Hingham's many open space locations. There are over 4,000 acres of protected open space in Hingham, owned by the Town, the State, the Hingham Land Conservation Trust (HLCT), and the Trustees of Reservations (TTOR).

Find locations at HLCT's [website](#), TTOR's [website](#) or the town's conservation [webpage](#).

Yoga Classes Presented by Hingham Recreation
Every Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat at 8:30 a.m.

 Hingham Recreation hosts weekly yoga classes at a cost of \$10/week. Attending these classes is a great way to support both mental and physical health.

To learn more or to register for a class, please visit Hingham Recreation's website [here](#).

Aspire Health Alliance

 Aspire Health Alliance is Hingham's regional partner for behavioral health support. Hingham residents can receive access to the organization's wide array of mental health resources for free, including trauma services, outpatient counseling, emergency/crisis services and more.

Learn more [here](#).



Override Does Not Pass – Scenario 2

Culture & Recreation Reductions: \$469,330 (FTEs TBD)

- Eliminate Town-wide field maintenance program
- Reduce Library hours
- Reduce children's and other programs offered at Library – potentially jeopardizes Library certification (OCLN network and grant funding)
- Diminish Town ceremonies marking holidays and historical events





Related Articles & Tax Relief



2023 ATM Warrant Articles

(Sustainable Budget Task Force Recommendations)

- **Article 12 - Tax Mitigation Stabilization Fund**
- **Article 13 - Capital Stabilization Fund**
- **Article 14 - Sale of Property**
- **Article 20 - Plumbing & Gas Permit Fees**
- **Article 21 - Electrical Permit Fees**
- **Article 22 - Naming By-law**

Related Articles & Tax Relief



Property Tax Exemption/Relief Program	FY23 Max. Benefit
1. Temporary/extraordinary financial hardship	varies
2. Senior Means-Tested Tax Exemption (new)	\$1,170
3. Qualifying residents over 65	\$1,000
4. Qualifying surviving spouses or persons over 70	\$334
5. Elderly and Disabled Taxation Aid Fund	varies
6. Residents who are legally blind	\$500
7. Various programs for disabled veterans	varies
8. Gold Star Family tax exemption	full exemption
9. Community Preservation Act exemption	varies
10. Tax Deferral Program	varies - can defer all
11. Senior Tax Workoff Program	\$1,781
12. Valor Act (Veterans) Tax Workoff Program	\$1,500

Related Articles & Tax Relief



- **300% increase in participation in Senior Means-Tested Tax Exemption this year over FY22**
- **Three tax relief articles on the ATM2023 Warrant:**
 - **Article 16: Permanently extend Senior Means-Tested Tax Exemption**
 - **Article 17: Double all current statutory exemptions**
 - **Article 18: Increase max Veterans' Tax Workoff amount by \$375**
- **Ongoing outreach campaign**

You May Qualify for Property Tax Relief

The Town of Hingham offers a number of different property tax relief programs for residents based on age, income, and veteran or disability status. Town staff can help direct you to the right programs and exemptions. See below for a list of property tax relief programs and contact information to learn more.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF PROGRAMS	APPLICATION DEADLINE	CONTACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Hardship Person over 65 years old Surviving Spouse or Person over 70 Elderly and Disabled Taxation Aid Fund Legally Blind Persons Various programs for Disabled Veterans Gold Star Family tax exemption Tax Deferral Program Community Preservation Act exemption 	Submit your application by April 1 to the Assessor's Office	Assessor's Office Town Hall, 1st floor Call: 781-741-1455 Email: Assessors@hingham-ma.gov
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Means-Tested Tax Exemption 	Submit your application by September 1 to the Assessor's Office	

Did you know that you may be able to "work off" a portion of your property taxes by completing tasks/projects for Town Departments? See below for more information:

TAX WORKOFF PROGRAMS	PROGRAM TIMELINE	CONTACT
Senior Tax Workoff Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals age 60+ Must meet income eligibility guidelines Work up to 125 hours max per calendar year May have a representative work on your behalf if you are physically unable 	Hours must be worked between January 1 and October 1	Hingham Senior Center Town Hall 781-741-1458 Frugolm@hingham-ma.gov
Valor Act Tax Workoff Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available to eligible veterans May earn up to \$1,500 per household per year May have a representative work on your behalf if you are physically unable No criteria based on income 	Hours must be worked between July 1 and March 15	Veterans' Services Town Hall – 2nd floor 781-741-1440 VeteransServices@hingham-ma.gov

Not sure where to start? The Assessor's Office would be happy to help!

Call: 781-741-1455

Email: Assessors@hingham-ma.gov

Visit: First floor of Town Hall

Online: hingham-ma.gov/178/Board-of-Assessors



Town Meeting & Town Election

Town Meeting & Town Election



SAVE THE DATES

HINGHAM ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Monday, April 24 at 7 p.m.
Hingham High School

&

TOWN ELECTION

Saturday, April 29

More info: Hingham-ma.gov/Elections





Town Meeting & Town Election

- 1. Budget appropriations (Article 6) require a majority vote at Town Meeting on April 24, 2023**
- 2. Override ballot question requires a majority vote at the Town Election on April 29, 2023**



Town Meeting – Article 6



The following amounts will be added to the respective budgets as indicated below, contingent upon affirmative action by the voters of the Town on the ballot question to allow the Town to assess an additional \$7,890,467 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding the operating budgets of the Town and the Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

999 OVERRIDE	
School Department - Payroll	3,638,581
School Department - Expenses	973,183
School Department - Capital Outlay	215,000
Select Board - Payroll	172,600
Select Board - Expenses	35,000
Information Technology - Payroll	69,115
Information Technology - Expenses	50,000
Treasurer/Collector - Expenses	3,000
Town Clerk - Expenses	1,000
Conservation - Payroll	6,541
Conservation - Expenses	5,000
Community Planning - Payroll	80,770
Land Use & Development - Payroll	64,053
Town Hall - Payroll	32,927
Town Hall - Expenses	20,000
GAR Hall - Expenses	10,000
GAR Hall - Capital Outlay	94,000
Police - Payroll	229,243
Police - Capital Outlay	67,000
Fire - Payroll	624,040
Fire - Expenses	34,800
Animal Control - Payroll	4,700
DPW/Highway/Tree & Park - Payroll	576,999
DPW/Highway/Tree & Park - Capital Outlay	124,000
Transfer Station - Payroll	55,048
Health Department - Payroll	91,341
Elder Services - Payroll	98,429
Elder Services - Expenses	17,525
Veterans' Services - Payroll	20,842
Health Imperatives	2,700
South Shore Resource & Advocacy Center	3,700
Library - Payroll	67,732
Library - Expenses	118,020
Recreation - Payroll	72,512
Recreation - Expenses	192,445
Celebrations	18,621
TOTAL OPERATIONAL OVERRIDE	<u>7,890,467</u>
GRAND TOTAL	151,816,841

**Balanced Budget
and Override votes
will be part of
Warrant Article 6 at
Town Meeting**

Town Election – Ballot Question 1



Question 1:

Shall the Town of Hingham be allowed to assess an additional \$7,890,467 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the operating budgets of the Town and the Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?



EARLY / ABSENTEE
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
APRIL 29, 2023

Paul M. Falvey
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name and address on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

FOR MODERATOR FOR ONE YEAR Vote for ONE MICHAEL J. PUZO 63 Cross Street Candidate for Re-election <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	FOR MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD FOR THREE YEARS Vote for ONE TYLER R. HERRALD 31 Maryknoll Drive <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	FOR SEWER COMMISSIONER FOR THREE YEARS Vote for ONE JAMES HENRY BYRNE II 319 Lincoln Street, #248 <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
FOR SELECT BOARD FOR THREE YEARS Vote for ONE WILLIAM C. RAMSEY 55 North Street Candidate for Re-election <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR THREE YEARS Vote for TWO MICHELLE AYER 41 Hemlock Road Candidate for Re-election <input type="radio"/> JENNIFER A. BENHAM 300 Gardner Street Candidate for Re-election <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	FOR RECREATION COMMISSION FOR FIVE YEARS Vote for ONE VICKI DONLAN 12 Floret Circle Candidate for Re-election <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
FOR BOARD OF ASSESSORS FOR THREE YEARS Vote for ONE RANDALL M. WINTERS 4 Cutler Hill Road Candidate for Re-election <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	FOR PLANNING BOARD FOR FIVE YEARS Vote for ONE THOMAS F. PATCH 9 Ship Street <input type="radio"/> TRACY K. SHRIVER 12 Boulder Glen Road <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	FOR RECREATION COMMISSION FOR THREE YEARS Vote for ONE MATTHEW LEBRETTON 8 Volunteer Road <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>
FOR BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THREE YEARS Vote for ONE ELIZABETH A. ELDRIDGE 154 Union Street Candidate for Re-election <input type="radio"/> (Write-in) <input type="radio"/>		

BALLOT QUESTION

Question 1: Shall the Town of Hingham be allowed to assess an additional \$7,890,467 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the operating budgets of the Town and the Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?

YES

NO



Additional Information

Additional Information



Updates will continue to be posted to hingham-ma.gov/override



Hingham
Massachusetts

Departments

Government

Services & Resources

Residents

How Do I...?



Override - Public Information Sessions

In Person: Thursday, March 30th, 7-9 PM, Town Hall

Remote: Tuesday, April 11th, 7-9 PM, Zoom

Join: <https://zoom.us>

Dial 929-205-6099

Webinar ID: 836 0275 0107

Password: 209578



Override Benefits

Education

General
Government

Public
Safety

Public
Works

Human
Services

Culture &
Recreation

Capital
Investment

Additional Information



QUICKLINKS



SEARCH

ABOUT | SCHOOLS | PROGRAMS | STUDENTS & FAMILIES | CALENDAR | NEWS | EMPLOYMENT

BUDGET DOCUMENTS

HINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS > ABOUT > BUSINESS & SUPPORT SERVICES > BUDGET DOCUMENTS

About

Business & Support Services

Bids

Budget Documents

Operational Override

Assistant Superintendent

Communications Department

Contacts

Directions

ESSER III Information



FISCAL YEAR 2024

FY 24 BUDGET DOCUMENTS

OPERATIONAL OVERRIDE

The Town of Hingham is entering the FY24 budget season with a deficit that resulted from COVID-19 and related operational needs. To address this deficit, the town will present an override proposal to Town Meeting and at the ballot. As part of the override process, the town, including the schools, must present two budgets:

- The **level services budget**, which has been strongly advocated by Central Office, district leadership, and the Hingham School Committee, to allow us to maintain current programming. This budget assumes that the Town Meeting provides an operational override.
- The **reduced service budget/balanced budget** outlines a series of reductions that would



Questions?

Visit hingham-ma.gov/override
or email us at override@hingham-ma.gov