

Pre-Town Meeting

FY26 Brandon Budget Proposal

January 30, 2025 @ Brandon Town Hall

Tonight's Agenda

Thank you for Being Here Tonight!

- Introductions: Selectboard, Town Management Team, Budget Advisory Committee
- This Year's Budget Building Process
- FY26 Budget Highlights
- FY26 Budget Resources & Tools
- Non-Budget Funding: ARPA, 1% Local Option Tax, Grants
- Grants & Ongoing Projects
- Questions & Answers

Introductions

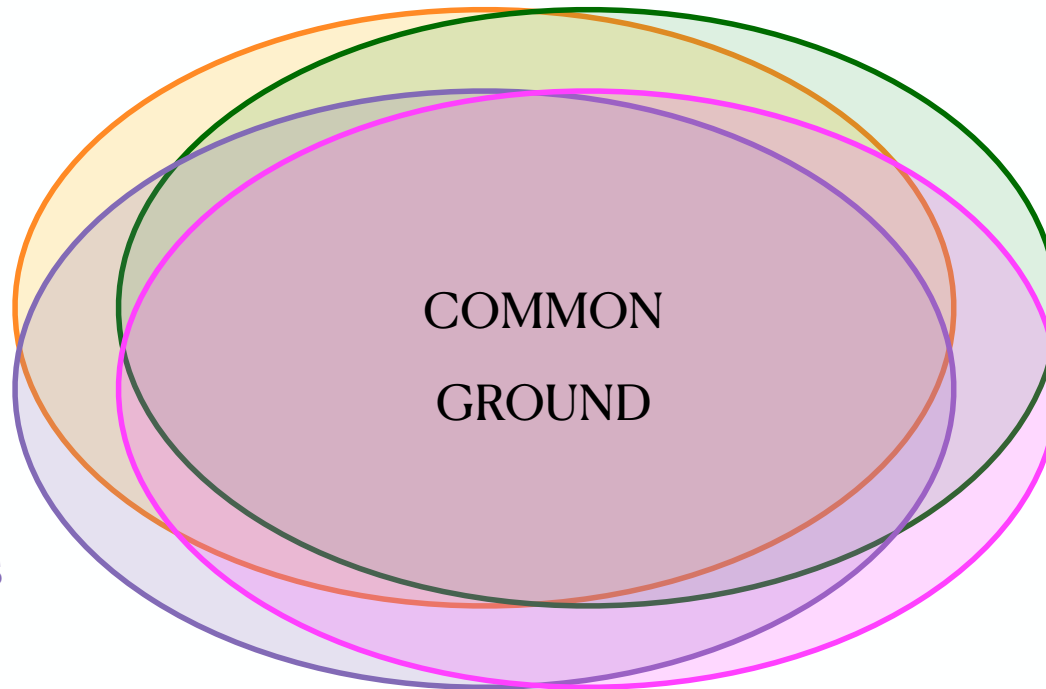
Who Builds the Budget?

Selectboard

Budget
Advisory
Committee

Management &
Department Heads

Public
Participants



Process

Heather Nelson, Selectboard Vice Chair

This Year's Budget-Building Process

Goal: A Process That Is Fair to All

- A Budget Advisory Committee was selected
- We began a series of bi-weekly meetings
- Brainstorming to orient all to the budget development process
- Department heads worked with the Town Manager to prepare budgets for review
- A series of meetings was held to review the budget for each department line-by-line
- The Select Board developed a proposed budget using the input from all
- Publication in the town report book; Pre-Town Meeting; Voter Consideration

FY26 Budget Highlights

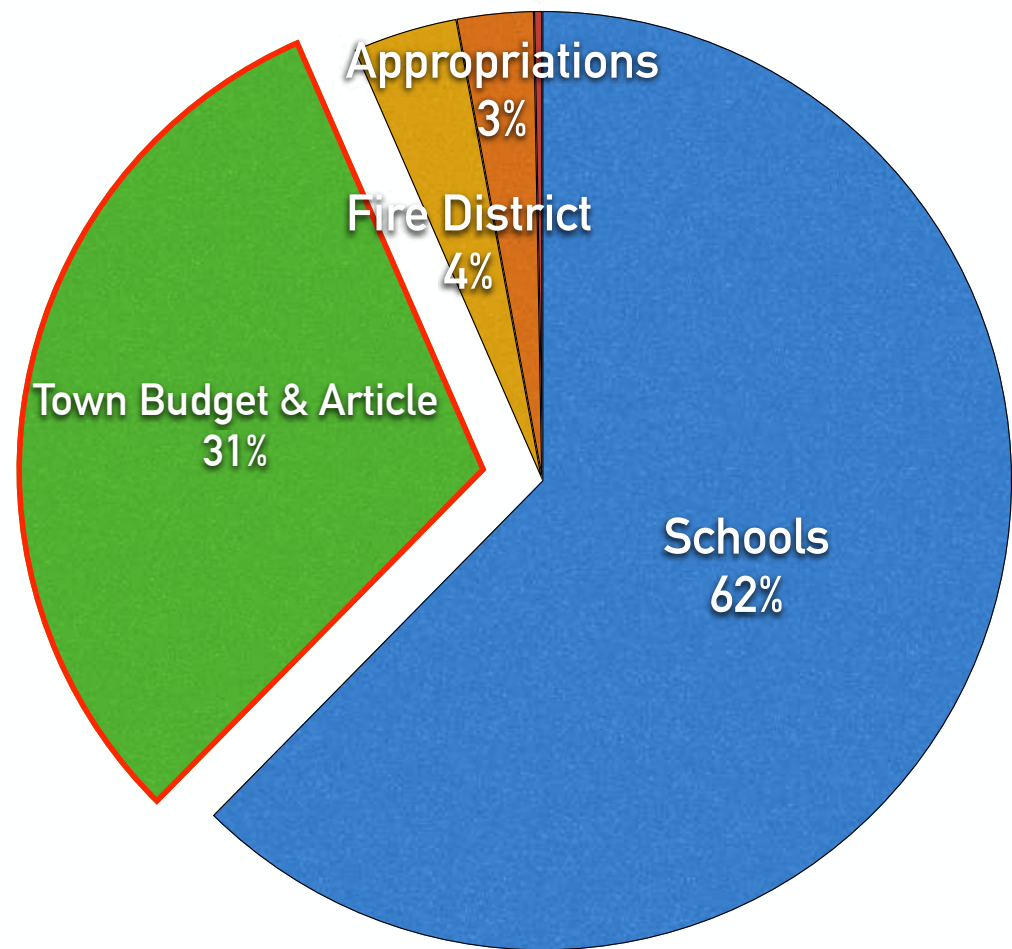
Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair

1.4%

Bottom Line Up Front:

Increase to the Town portion of property tax from the Town budget & Selectboard Article

FY25
(current year)
Residential
Homestead
Tax Bill by %,
Rounded



\$1.78 a month

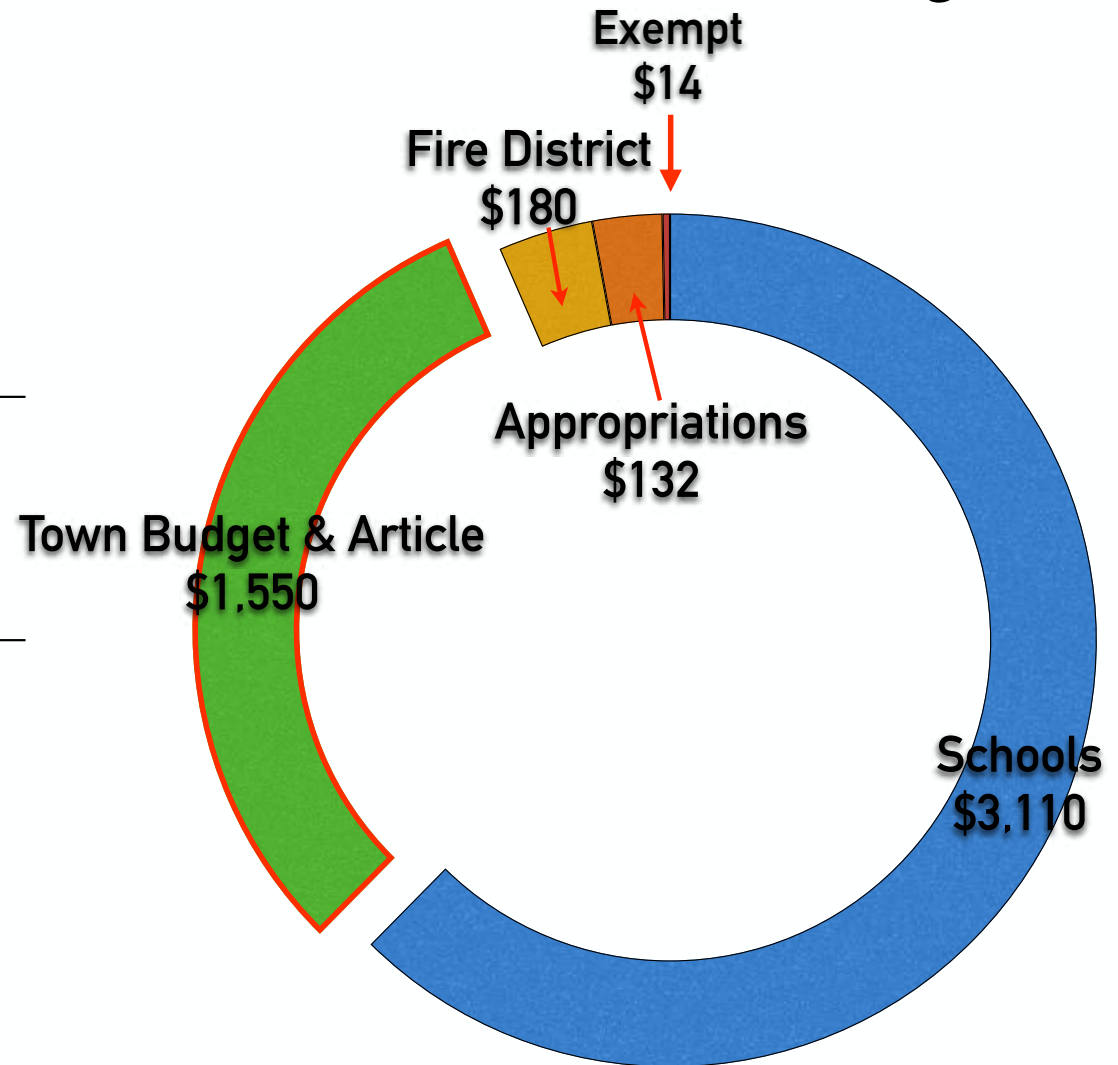
Increase to Town property tax on the average-assessed Brandon home

FY26 Forecast Homestead Tax Bill (\$4,986) on \$186,000 average valuation

Proposed FY26 Town budget (page 8) spending is up 2¼%.

Article is down from \$85K to \$50K, so Total Town Ask is up 1.4%

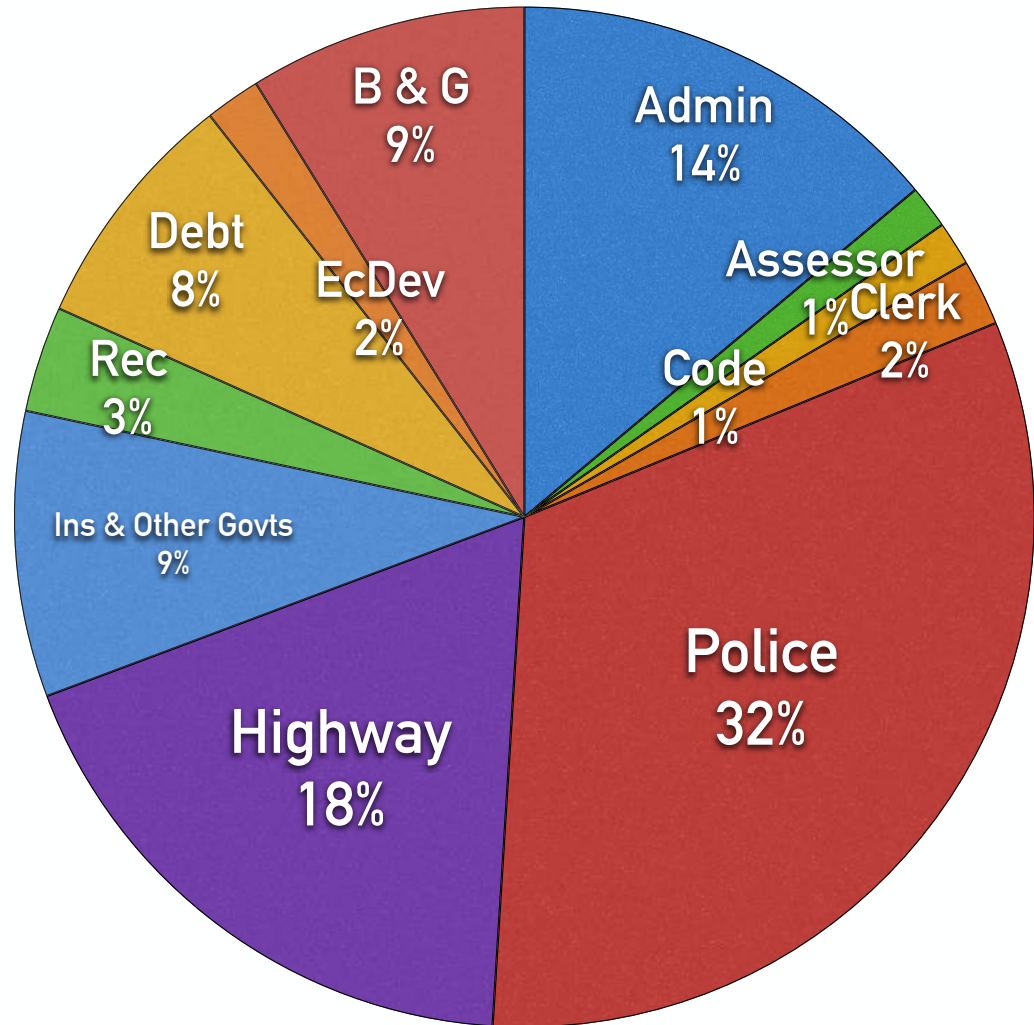
To be raised by taxes on the \$186,000 assessed home is up \$21.95 per year or \$1.78 per month



Highest Ever

Spending Proposed for Policing in our Community

Proposed
FY26
Town
Operating
Budget
Department
Nets
by %

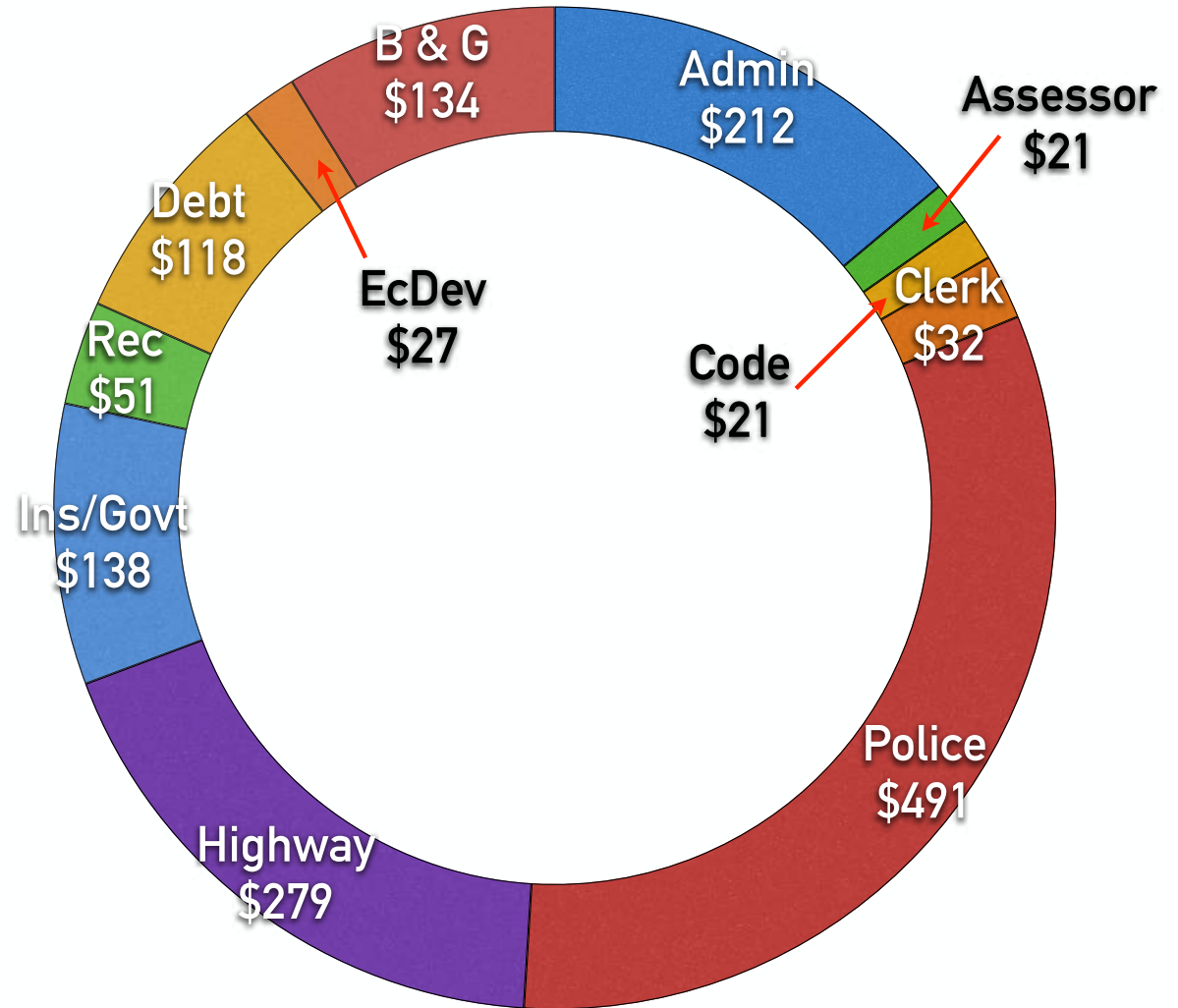


\$869,499

Lowest assessed house value incurring a Town increase of \$100 per year or more

Town Budget Portion of
Projected FY26 Tax Bill
based on \$186,000
Brandon house valuation at
\$0.8191 Town tax rate
(totals \$1,524).

Capital fund article
would cost \$26, but paving
article from current year
drops off, saving \$45.



Budget Resources & Tools

Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair

Resources to Aid in Understanding

FY26 Town Budget & Capital Fund Article

- Town Report Book
 - Budget Summary
 - Board & Management Reports
 - Department Head Reports
 - Line-by-Line Dept Budgets
- 2-page Summary on Website
- 23-page Line-by-Line Detail on Website
- Tax Estimator on Website
- Ask Selectboard & Management Team

www.brandonvermont.gov

Let's Try the Tax Estimator!

Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair

Non-Budget Funding

Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair

Non-Budget Funding

Sources other than Property Tax

ARPA Award

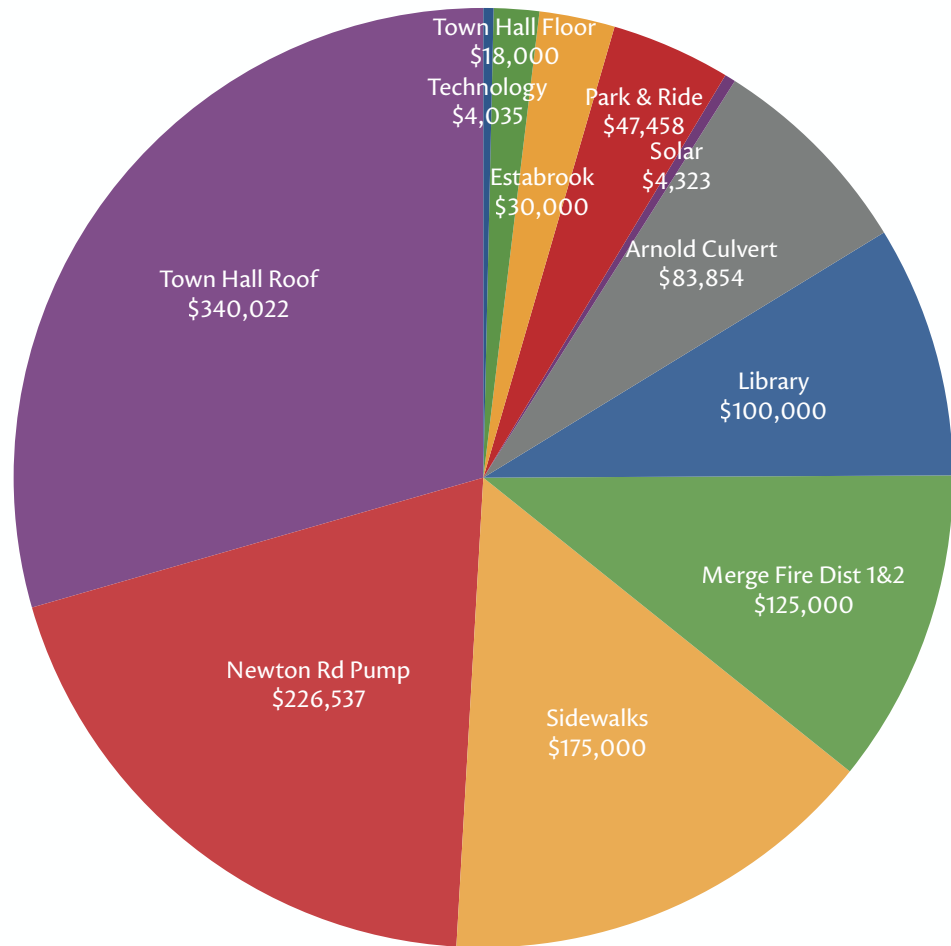
Local Option
Fund

Department
Revenues

Fund Balance

Grants

ARPA AWARD
(Fully Obligated)
\$1.16M

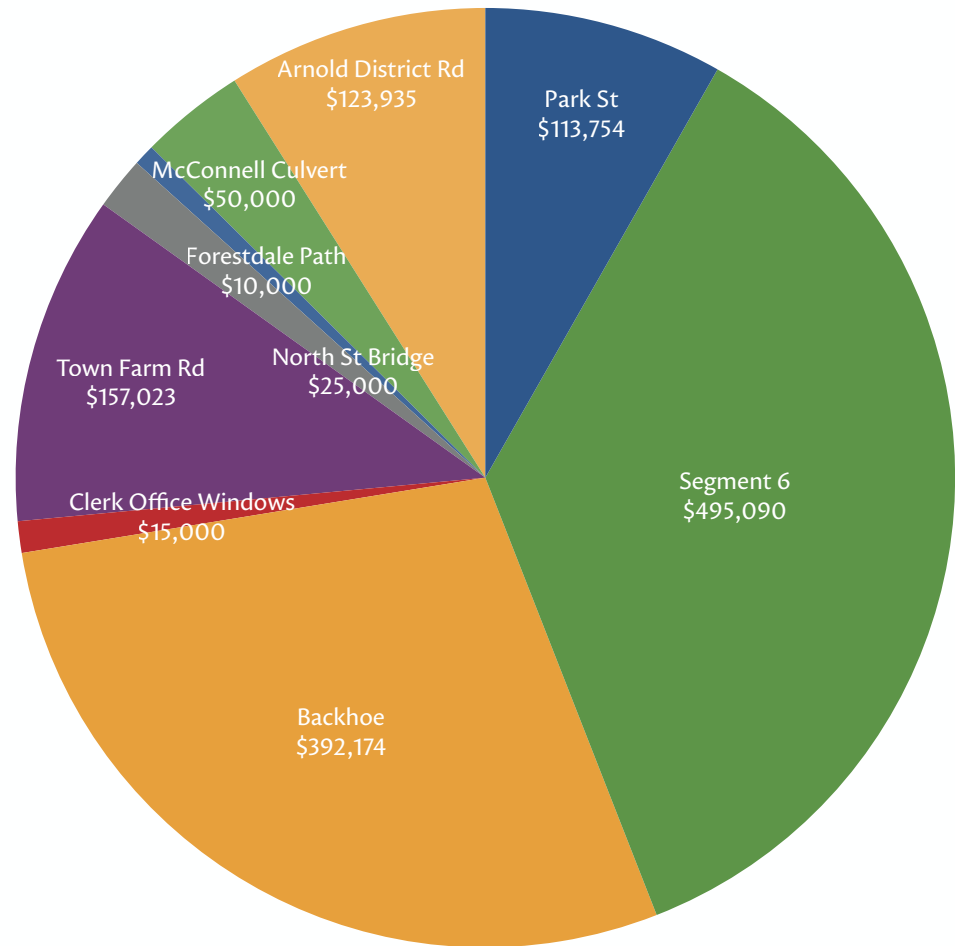


100%

of Local Option Tax Revenue Goes to Long-Lasting Capital Improvements

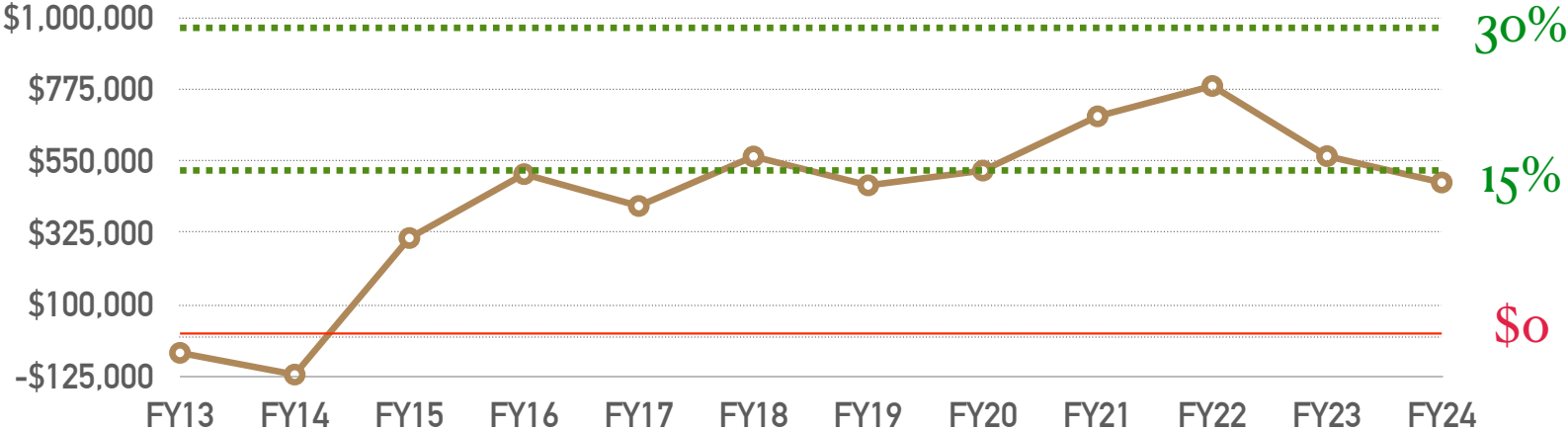
**LOCAL OPTION TAX
(1% Fund)
As of 30 June 2024
\$1.67M**

**Steady Annual
Revenue Exceeds
\$250,000**



UNRESTRICTED RESERVE FUND TREND

Selectboard Fund Balance Policy
Maintain ready reserves of 15% - 30% of our budget
~\$3.3M budget = \$495,000 - \$990,000



Grants & Ongoing Projects

Seth Hopkins, Town Manager

Grants & Ongoing Project Investments in Brandon

Union St Sidewalk

50 : 50 \$750,000

New England Woodcraft
Stormwater

100% \$350,000

Estabrook MultiCourt

Town \$30,000

July 2023 Flood Response

97.8 : 2.2 \$229,343

Town Hall Roof
Town \$340,000

Bylaw Modernization
100% \$10,000

North St Bridge Scoping

75 : 25 \$100,000

Neshobe River Flood Buyouts
100% Three In Progress

Class 2 Paving
80 : 20 \$32,000

McConnell Rd Culvert
80 : 20 \$260,000

Wheeler Rd Bridge Scoping

75 : 25 \$100,000

Forest Dale Path Scoping

80 : 20 \$50,000

VTrans Ditching & Culverts

75 : 25 \$31,000

Clerk Elections \$5,000

Public Shade Trees \$10,800

VLCT Police Vests \$1,548

Questions & Answers

Doug Bailey, Selectboard Chair