

The background of the slide features a large, semi-transparent circular seal of the Town of Tolland, Connecticut. The seal depicts a landscape with a river, trees, and a building. Text around the seal includes "TOLLAND CONNECTICUT" and "CHARTERED 1739".

Town of Tolland Town Council's Annual Budget Presentation

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

**Presented by
Katie Stargardter
Chair, Tolland Town Council**

**April 17, 2024 7pm – Town Council Chambers
April 18, 2024 12pm – Tolland Senior Center**

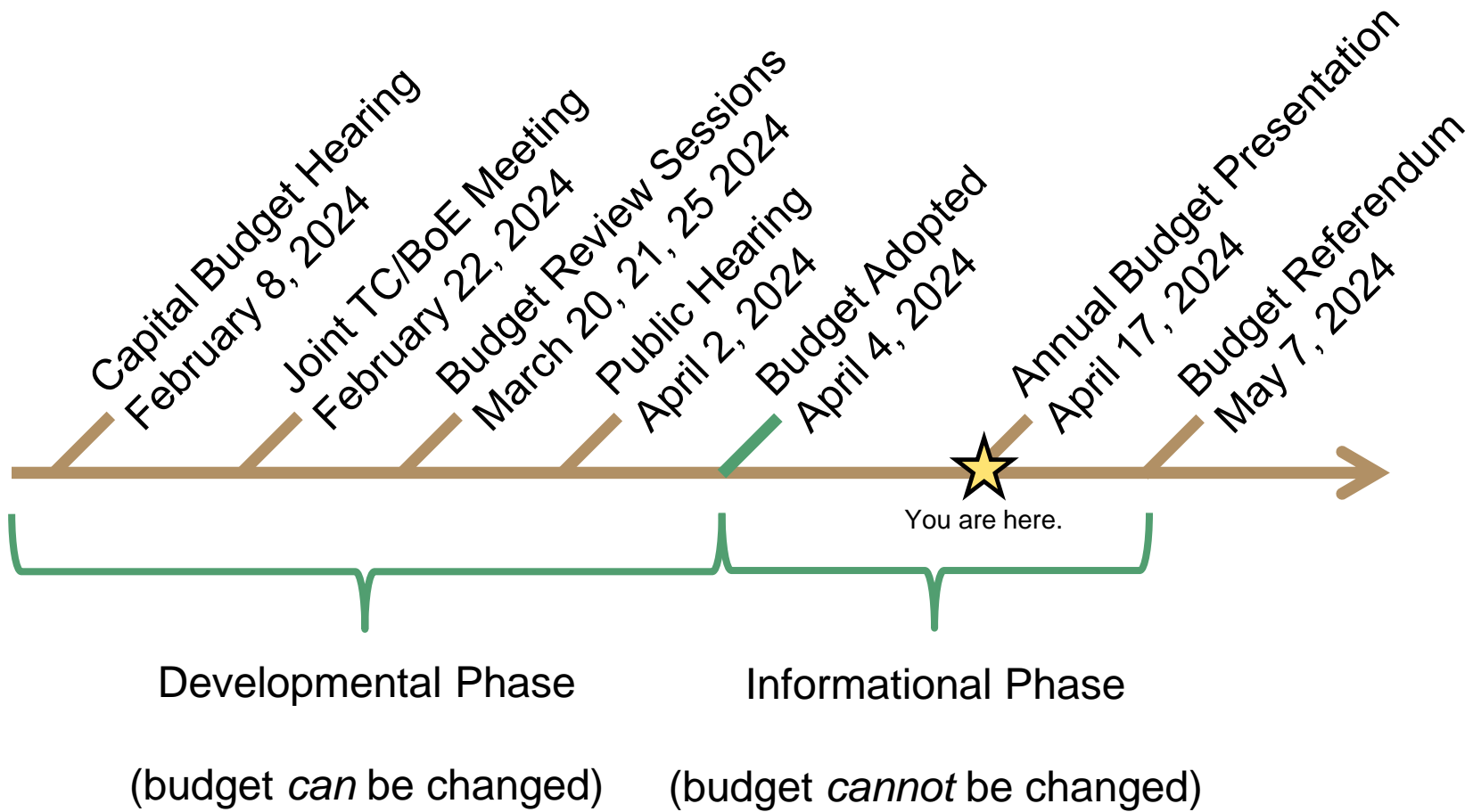
Agenda and Purpose



Overview of the Presentation Meeting

- High-level Review of the Budget and Community Planning Process
- Summary of Budgetary Expenditures
- Summary of Revenues
- Public Input and Questions

Budget and Community Planning Timeline



Changes to Expenditures



By the numbers

Budget Area	Adopted Budget FY23-24	Proposed Budget FY24-25	Change	
General Government (Town Operations)	\$13,542,051	\$14,114,908	\$572,857	4.23%
Board of Education	\$42,989,855	\$44,671,148	\$1,681,293	3.91%
Capital Improvements	\$319,451	\$397,395	\$77,944	24.4%
Debt Service	\$4,700,000	\$5,376,489	\$676,489	14.39%*
Total	\$61,551,357	\$64,559,940	\$3,008,583	4.89%

* Although this reflects an increase in this budget, it is a reclassification out of the Operating Budget to Debt Service.

Impact to Town Services



- Summary of driving costs.
 - Increase of refuse and recycling costs: \$196,903
 - FICA, Medicare, Employee Deferred Contribution Plan, Health Insurance increase: \$193,213
 - Salary increases: \$136,134
 - Reduced costs for State Troopers: \$68,700
- New expenditures.
 - Stipend for EMTs increased: \$2,500
 - Senior Center programming increased: \$500
 - Legal services funding increased: \$15,000
 - Increased costs for early voting: \$24,680

Board of Education



- BOE passed a 4.84% budget increase
 - Included 5 position reductions + program reductions
- BOE Budget documents can be found online:
https://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/board_of_education/budget

Significant Cost Drivers for the BOE Budget



- Transportation costs increases
- Contractual salary increases
- Special Education cost increases
- IT Equipment cost increases

Town Council Budget



- Town Council reduced \$400,000 from the BOE requested budget

BOE Adjustments



The BOE members are discussing options for the items that will need to be reduced from their original request.

Capital/Debt Services Summary



- The General Fund portion of the Capital Improvements pay-as-you-go increased \$77,944.
- Debt services increased \$676,489 which reflects the transfer of UISF principal and interest from BOE and Town budgets.

Additional Budget Highlights

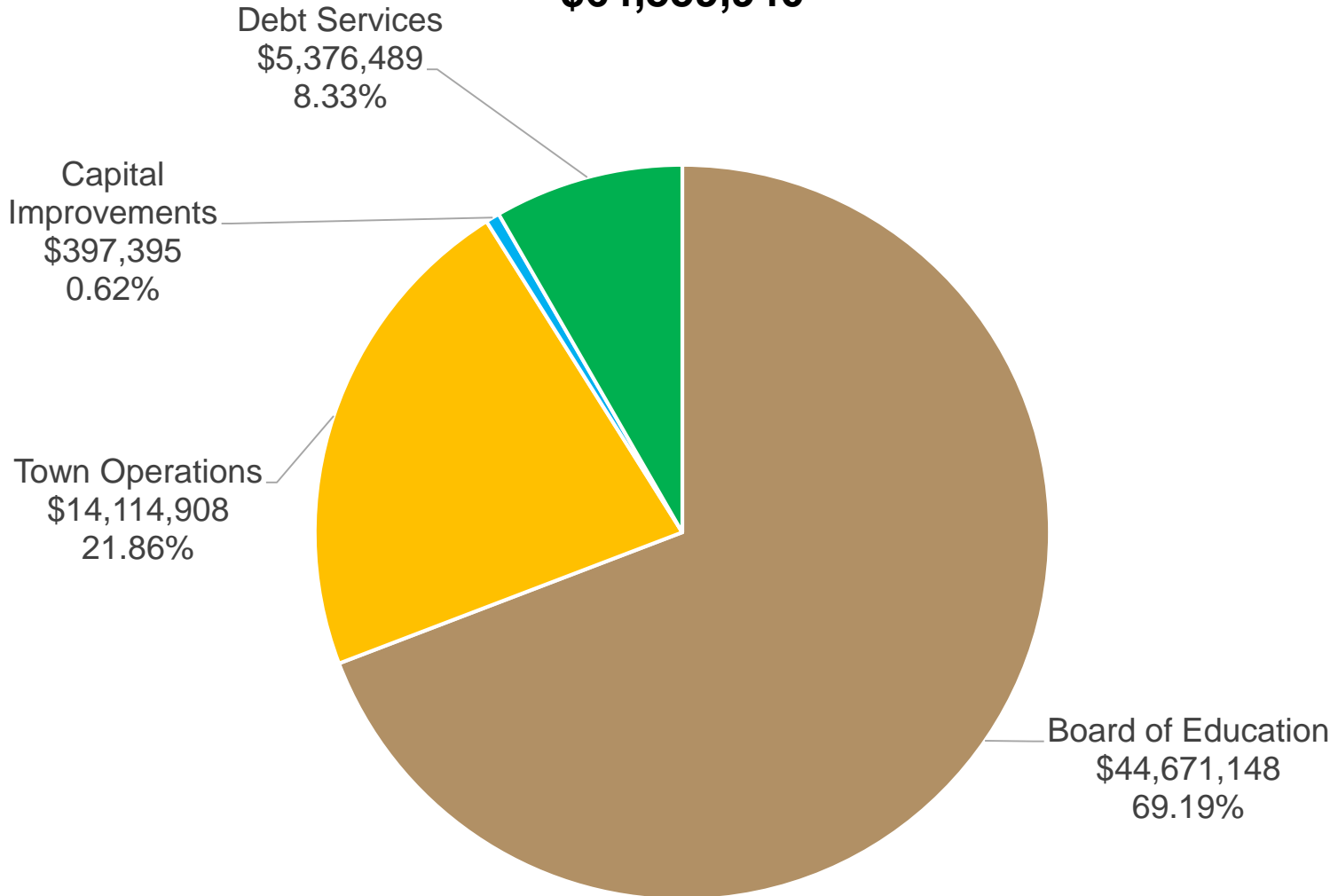


- As we have in past years, the budget includes a small use of fund balance.
- This year's use of fund balance is \$300,000.
- We are also proposing using \$200,000 from the Municipal Tax Stabilization fund.

The Budget: Expenditures

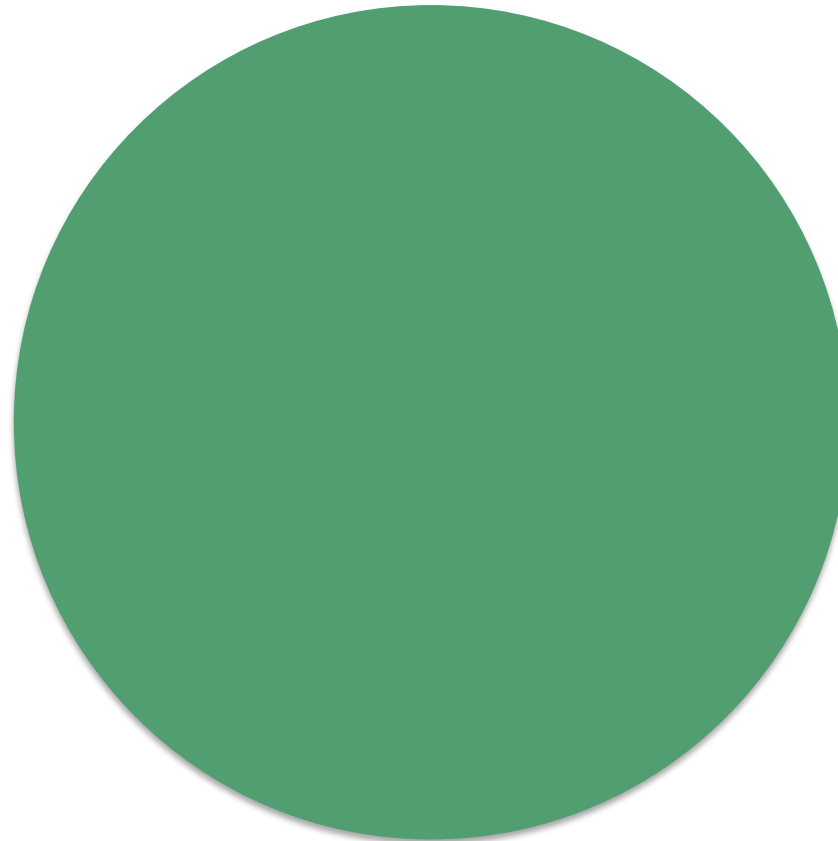


2024-2025 Budget \$64,559,940



The Budget: Revenues

Revenue must equal expenditures for a balanced budget

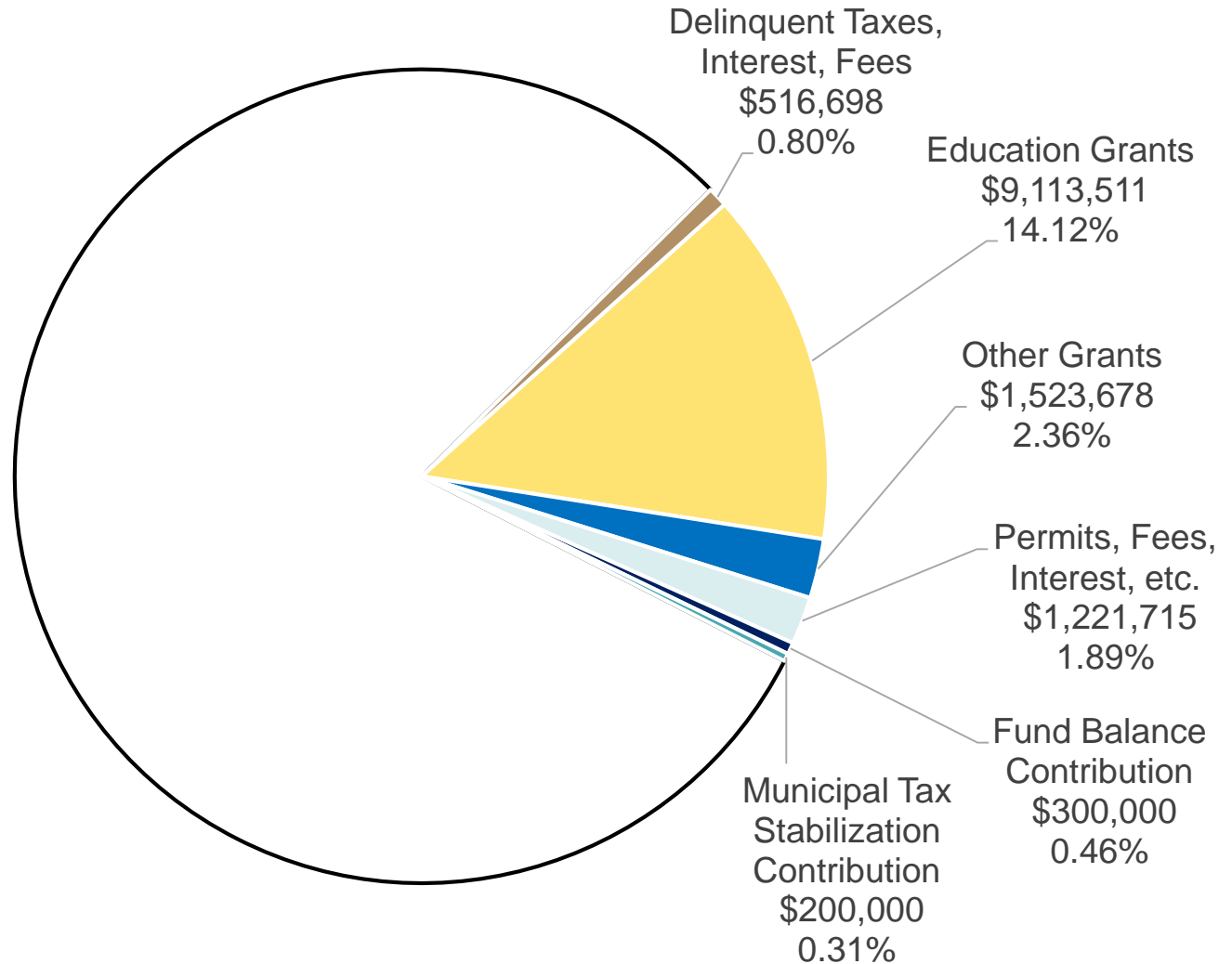


Total Revenue
\$64,559,940

The Budget: Revenues



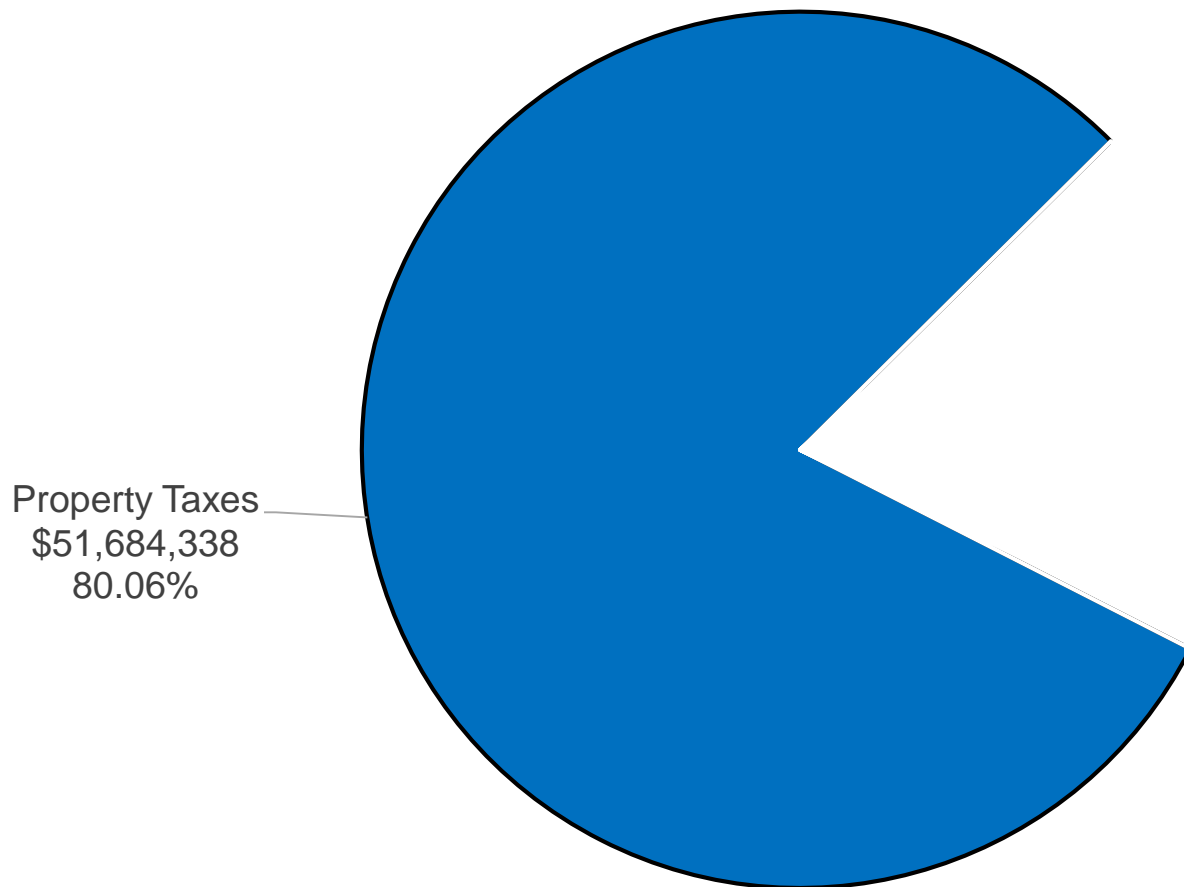
Subtract delinquent taxes & fees, permits, fees, grants, etc.



The Budget: Revenues



What's left is current property taxes: \$51,684,338



Estimated Taxes—Residential & Commercial



	2020 Assessment	Market Value	Taxes at 37.33 FY 23-24	Taxes at 38.74 FY 24-25	DIFFERENCE
RESIDENTIAL					
Low	\$129,570	\$185,100	\$4,837	\$5,020	\$183
Medium	\$178,870	\$255,530	\$6,677	\$6,929	\$252
High	\$314,125	\$448,750	\$11,726	\$12,169	\$443
\$200,000	\$140,000	\$200,000	\$5,226	\$5,424	\$197
\$250,000	\$175,000	\$250,000	\$6,533	\$6,780	\$247
\$300,000	\$210,000	\$300,000	\$7,839	\$8,135	\$296
\$350,000	\$245,000	\$350,000	\$9,146	\$9,491	\$345
\$400,000	\$280,000	\$400,000	\$10,452	\$10,847	\$395
\$450,000	\$315,000	\$450,000	\$11,759	\$12,203	\$444
\$500,000	\$350,000	\$500,000	\$13,066	\$13,559	\$493
COMMERCIAL					
Low	\$191,275	\$273,250	\$7,140	\$7,410	\$270
Medium	\$347,760	\$496,800	\$12,982	\$13,472	\$490
High	\$785,190	\$1,121,700	\$29,311	\$30,418	\$1,107

Comparable Communities



Proposed Mill Rate Changes

Tolland proposed mill rate change: +3.78%

Neighboring communities proposed mill rate changes:

- Ellington: +8.45% *(in deliberations)*
- Coventry: +7.17% *(must be approved by referendum)*
- Mansfield: -3.20% *(in deliberations)*
- Vernon: +4.23% *(must be approved at Town Meeting)*
- Willington: +8.70% + 0.90% motor vehicle
(must be approved at Town Meeting)

The Budget Referendum Question



Referendum Question

“Shall the Town of Tolland’s proposed 2024-2025 budget of \$64,559,940, reflecting a spending increase of \$3,008,583 or 4.89% which requires an estimated tax rate of 38.74 mills for an increase of 1.41 mills or 3.78% be adopted?”

Yes/No

Where to vote and when



Where?

Library Program Room

When?

Tuesday, May 7, 6am-8pm

NOTE: There is NO early voting for referendum;

For an absentee ballot application, fill out the form online at:

<https://oabr-sots.ct.gov/OABR/absenteeBallotReqPortalHome.do>

or go to Town Clerk's office

Online Resources



Tax Calculator, Budget Information

- To calculate your estimated property tax, go to <https://gis.vgsi.com/tollandct/> to find your home's assessed value.
 - Next year's estimated tax = Assessed value * 0.03874
- Tax Calculation Form can also assist with this calculation
 - <https://www.tollandct.gov/tax-department/pages/tax-calculation-form-real-estate-personal-property>

Additional Resources



Tax Relief Programs

- There are a number of tax relief programs available to qualified property owners in Tolland. The state offers an elderly or disabled homeowner program and the town offers two local tax relief programs to qualified property owners.
- The Tolland Tax Assessor's Office is now accepting applications for tax relief for senior citizens or permanently disabled homeowners from **February 1, 2024 through May 15, 2024.**
- More information can be found at <https://www.tollandct.gov/assessors-office/pages/tax-relief-programs>

Annual Budget Referendum

Tuesday, May 7 from 6am to 8pm

Tolland Library Program Room

**All districts vote at the Tolland Public Library
Program Room located at 21 Tolland Green.
Parking is available.**

For Voting questions, contact:

Registrars of Voters – (860) 871-3634

Town Clerk's Office – (860) 871-3630

Town Manager's Office – (860) 871-3600



Questions and Comments?