



STATE OF CONNECTICUT • COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET • P. O. BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

www.ellington-ct.gov

BOARD OF FINANCE

ROBERT J. CLEMENTS
Chairman

RICHARD J. CLEARY
MARK A. JOYSE
BARRY C. PINTO
JOHN P. RACHEK
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

TO: Boards, Agencies, and Departments

FROM: Robert Clements, Board of Finance Chairman *RF*

DATE: December 30, 2010

SUBJECT: Budget Guidelines for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012

At this time last year the unemployment rate was close to 10% and state and federal revenues were way down. Our guidelines suggested that minimum financial support was expected from the State of Connecticut. In fact, the State reduced its ECS funding to \$8,149,398 and added back \$874,087 in ARRA Education State Grants and \$481,932 in ARRA Governors Service Funds for a total combined Entitlement for ECS of \$9,505,417. Unfortunately, those ARRA Funds will not be available for this next budget season.

We have no idea where the State will get the ECS funding from or what it will amount to. The State of Connecticut currently has a 3 billion dollar deficit, unemployment is still around 9% and tax revenues are still minimal.

With this in mind we are fearful that this budget year could be the most difficult in recent history. For this reason, we are suggesting that each department's budget be as austere as humanly possible. We must maintain our commitment to our public service communities (fire, ambulance and police) on whom we depend so much. We cannot afford to undermine our education system which has worked so hard to give Ellington the high quality of educational services we have become accustomed to. We urge all departments to consider any and all utilization of shared services wherever and whenever possible.

This is not the year to dream up new projects or expenditures. We on the Board of Finance will be prioritizing the needs of the Town, giving preference to essential services first, and working our way through the remaining budget requests.

For the purpose of estimating fuel cost budgets, the following numbers should be used.

Diesel Fuel	\$2.39
Gasoline	\$2.52
Heating Oil	\$2.43

The target for capital improvements is \$1,000,000. Projects which can be accomplished within the budget year will be given priority.

The Board of Finance wishes you all a successful and fulfilling new year.