



LOGAN JOHNSON
Chairman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187
www.ellington-ct.gov

ELIZABETH NORD
Vice Chairman

BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MEETING

January 6, 2025

MAURICE BLANCHETTE
DOUGLAS HARDING
DANIEL KEUNE
GOMATHI RAMACHANDRAN

Minutes

Members Present: Logan Johnson, Daniel Keune, Maurice Blanchette, Liz Nord, Gomathi Ramachandran.

Members Absent: Douglas Harding.

Others Present: Laurie Burstein – First Selectman, Tiffany Pignataro – Finance Officer/Treasurer, Tom Modzelewski - DPW Director, Matt Reed – Town Administrator, Robert Smith – EVFD, Mary Cardin – BOS, Shane Schiller – IT, Tom Palshaw – Resident, Peggy Busse – Library Board via Zoom, Jim Fay – resident via Zoom.

Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Logan Johnson, Daniel Keune, Maurice Blanchette, Liz Nord, Gomathi Ramachandran.
Absent: Doug Harding.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman's Report

Mr. Johnson discussed and highlighted the current status of the Town's budget process, advising that budget season is approaching. He encouraged residents to participate in the process and share their concerns by attending upcoming budget-related meetings. A schedule of budget-related meetings can be found on the Town's website.

Public Comment

None.

Presentation

None.

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting – December 2, 2025

A motion to approve the December 2, 2025, Regular Meeting minutes, as amended to reflect the approval of Doug Harding as Presiding Chair for the balance of the meeting.

MOVED (KEUNE) SECONDED (BLANCHETTE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2, 2025, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED TO REFLECT THE APPROVAL OF DOUG HARDING AS PRESIDING CHAIR FOR THE BALANCE OF THE MEETING.

Financial Report

Mrs. Pignataro reviewed the financial highlights as of November 30, 2025. To provide an accurate financial picture for the Board, the following tasks were completed: reconciling all Town bank accounts, recording Town deposits and payments, and reconciling investment and inter-fund accounts, including those with the Board of Education.

As of November 30, 2025, the Town has collected \$32,665,757 in property tax revenue, representing 57% of the budget and 57.23% of the Ratebook. This includes \$261,482 in back taxes and interest/lien revenue, compared to a combined budget of \$160,000. At the same point last year, collections totaled \$31,803,962 or 57% of the budget (57.13% of the Ratebook). In terms of state and federal grants, the Town has received the following: \$2,585,412 ECS Grant, \$229,029 in Town Road Aid, \$769, 146 Motor Vehicle Reimbursement.

Mrs. Pignataro reported that some departments are trending higher YTD due to annual subscriptions or the seasonal nature of the department.

Unfinished Business

Appointment of Officer

Mr. Johnson appointed Liz Nord as the Board of Finance Vice Chairman.

New Business

Board of Finance Budget FY2026-2027

Mrs. Pignataro created a budget proposal (attached). She stated there are minimal increases year over year.

A motion to set the Board of Finance fiscal year 2026-2027 budget as follows.

MOVED (NORD) SECONDED (KEUNE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET THE BOARD OF FINANCE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 BUDGET AS FOLLOWS: DEPARTMENT 120 - \$12,300; DEPARTMENT 121 - \$66,726; DEPARTMENT 122 - \$1; DEPARTMENT 1010 - \$200,000; DEPARTMENT 1011 - \$200,000; DEPARTMENT 1045 - \$100,000; DEPARTMENT 1046 - \$100,000.

Grant Application Approvals

A motion to approve the grant application for the build grant from the Office of Secretary for the Newell Hill Road reconstruction project.

MOVED (RAMACHANDRAN) SECONDED (BLANCHETTE) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE BUILD GRANT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEWELL HILL ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,236,400, PENDING BOARD OF SELECTMEN APPROVAL.

A motion to approve the grant application for the 2026 road to Zero Traffic Safety grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and National Safety Council for the Ellington Center Rotary Design Project.

MOVED (RAMACHANDRAN) SECONDED (NORD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE 2026 ROAD TO ZERO TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION AND NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL FOR THE ELLINGTON CENTER ROTARY DESIGN PROJECT.

A motion to approve the grant application for the Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program from the Connecticut Department of Transportation for the Sandy Beach Road Sidewalks Project.

MOVED (KEUNE) SECONDED (RAMACHANDRAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE LOCAL TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FROM THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE SANDY BEACH ROAD SIDEWALKS PROJECT.

Committee/Liaison Updated

a. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

No update.

a. Shared Services

No update.

b. Deferred Compensation

No update.

c. Ad Hoc Emergency Services

No update.

d. Permanent Building

Mrs. Nord stated that the kids have moved into the new section. The project is still coming in under budget and stated that it should be completed in November.

e. Board of Education Liaison

Mrs. Nord stated that the public is encouraged to attend their budget meetings. They will start advertising for a new Superintendent this month.

f. Hall Memorial Library Liaison

Mrs. Ramachandran stated the next meeting will be held on January 13th at 7 pm in the Library.

Adjournment

MOVED (BLANCHETTE) SECONDED (RAMACHANDRAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Elizabeth Luginbuhl, Recording Secretary

Department 00120

Row Labels	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26		2025-26		2026-27 Dept Head Request
		2025-26 Adj Approved Budget	2025-26 First Six Months Actuals	Estimated Total Actuals	2025-26 Over Under	
1000.01.00120.10.50103	2,092.50	2,300.00	442.50	2,300.00	-	2,300.00
1000.01.00120.20.60221	-	1,000.00	-	500.00	(500.00)	500.00
1000.01.00120.20.60234	-	-	-	-	-	-
1000.01.00120.20.60250	9,032.01	9,000.00	9,549.00	9,549.00	549.00	9,500.00
1000.01.00120.30.60341	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	11,124.51	12,300.00	9,991.50	12,349.00	49.00	12,300.00

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
120 BOARD OF FINANCE**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	
		<u>FY 2025-26</u> <u>Revised</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>
5103	<u>PART TIME PAYROLL</u> BOF Recording Secretary (\$130*15 Meetings) Misc. other tasks (agenda, annual report, etc.)	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,300
	TOTAL PAYROLL	<u>\$ 2,300</u>	<u>\$ 2,300</u>
6221	<u>ADVERTISING-PRINTING-FORMS</u> Publication of Legal Notices on the Budget - \$1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
6250	<u>CONTRACTED SERVICES</u> Printing of the Town Report	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,500
6341	<u>OFFICE SUPPLIES</u> Office supplies	\$ -	\$ -
	TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	<u>\$ 12,300</u>	<u>\$ 12,300</u>

Department 00121

Row Labels	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Adj Approved Budget	2025-26 First Six Months Actuals	2025-26 Estimated Total Actuals	2025-26 Over Under	2026-27 Dept Head Request
1000.01.00121.20.60250	41,965.00	64,710.00	59,210.20	64,710.00	-	66,726.00
Grand Total	41,965.00	64,710.00	59,210.20	64,710.00	-	66,726.00

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
121 AUDITORS**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	
		<u>FY 2025-26</u> <u>Revised</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>
6250	<u>CONTRACTED SERVICES</u>	\$ 64,710	\$ 66,726
	Appointment of auditors to audit the records and accounts of the town as provided in Chapter 111 of the General Statutes, as amended, and Town Charter Section 1105. Duties of the Board of Finance.	\$ 46,935	\$ 48,951
	Annual Comprehensive Financial Report	\$ 5,775	\$ 5,775
	GFOA Review Fee	\$ 500	\$ 500
	OPEB - GASB 75 Disclosure and Valuation	\$ 10,300	\$ 10,300
	LOSAP - GASB 68 Disclosure and Valuation	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200
	TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET	<u>\$ 64,710</u>	<u>\$ 66,726</u>
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	<u>\$ 64,710</u>	<u>\$ 66,726</u>

Department 00122

Row Labels	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Adj Approved Budget	2025-26 First Six Months Actuals	2025-26 Estimated Total Actuals	2025-26 Over Under	2026-27 Dept Head Request
1000.01.00122.20.60250	-	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00
Grand Total	-	1.00	-	1.00	-	1.00

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
122 AUDITORS - SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	
		<u>FY 2025-26</u> <u>Revised</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>
6250	<u>CONTRACTED SERVICES</u> <u>Town Charter Section 1105- Duties of the Board of Finance</u> "The Board of Finance shall also have the power to initiate and appropriate funds for special inquiries by said independent auditors of financial situations that, in the opinion of the Board of Finance, warrant the interim audit and/or gathering of specific information on any accounts, investments or funds operating under the control of employees, boards or agents of the Town of Ellington"	\$ 1	\$ 1
	TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET	<u>\$ 1</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	<u>\$ 1</u>	<u>\$ 1</u>

Department 01010

Row Labels	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Adj Approved Budget	2025-26 First Six Months Actuals	2025-26 Estimated Total Actuals	2025-26 Over Under	2026-27 Dept Head Request
1000.10.01010.80.60850	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00
Grand Total	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
1010 CONTINGENCY FUND**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	
		<u>FY 2025-26</u> Revised	<u>FY 2026-27</u>
6850	<u>CONTINGENCY PLAN</u>	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
	<p>Town Charter Section 1104 - Duties of the Board of Finance on the Budget</p> <p>"The estimate of expenditures submitted by the Board of Finance to the annual town budget meeting shall include a recommendation for a contingency fund which shall not exceed three (3) percent of the total expenditures for the current fiscal year."</p>		
	TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET	<u>\$ 200,000</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	<u>\$ 200,000</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>

Department 01011

Row Labels	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Adj Approved Budget	2025-26 First Six Months Actuals	2025-26 Estimated Total Actuals	2025-26 Over Under	2026-27 Dept Head Request
1000.10.01011.80.60851	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00
Grand Total	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00	-	200,000.00

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
1011 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	
		<u>FY 2025-26</u> <u>Revised</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>
6851	<u>CAPITAL RESERVE FUND</u>	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
	Town Charter Section 1104 - Duties of the Board of Finance on the Budget		
	"The estimate of expenditures submitted by the Board of Finance to the annual town budget meeting will provide a contribution to the Capital Reserve Fund in order to maintain at least a minimum of five (5) percent of the total expenditures for the current year."		
	TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET	<u>\$ 200,000</u>	<u>\$ 200,000</u>
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>

Department 01045

Row Labels	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Adj Approved Budget	2025-26 First Six Months Actuals	2025-26 Estimated Total Actuals	2025-26 Over Under	2026-27 Dept Head Request
1000.10.01045.20.60250	100,000.00	100,000.00	-	100,000.00	-	100,000.00
Grand Total	100,000.00	100,000.00	-	100,000.00	-	100,000.00

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
1045 GASB - OPEB**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	
		FY 2025-26 Revised	FY 2026-27
6250	CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
	For funding the Other Post-Employment Benefit Obligation		
TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET		\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000

Fund Balance Assigned-General Government for Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)
Amount shown in Dollars

	Contribution Fiscal Year	Cumulative Total
FISCAL YEAR 2005-06	\$ 283,774.25	\$ 283,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2008-09	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 383,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2009-10	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 483,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2010-11	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 583,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2011-12	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 683,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2012-13	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 783,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2013-14	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 883,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2014-15	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 983,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2015-16	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,083,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2016-17	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,183,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2017-18	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,283,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2018-19	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,383,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2019-20	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,483,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2020-21	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,583,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2021-22	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,683,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2022-23	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,783,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2023-24	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,883,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2024-25	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 1,983,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2025-26	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 2,083,774.25
FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 2,183,774.25

Department 01046

Row Labels	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Adj Approved Budget	2025-26 First Six Months Actuals	2025-26 Estimated Total Actuals	2025-26 Over Under	2026-27 Dept Head Request
1000.10.01046.20.60250	300,000.00	100,000.00	-	100,000.00	-	100,000.00
Grand Total	300,000.00	100,000.00	-	100,000.00	-	100,000.00

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
BUDGET REQUEST
1046 MILL RATE STABILIZATION**

Object No.	Description & Explanation(s)	FISCAL YEAR 2026-27	
		<u>FY 2025-26 Revised</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>
6250	<u>CONTRACTED SERVICES</u>	<u>\$ 100,000</u>	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
	TOTAL OFFICE BUDGET	<u>\$ 100,000</u>	<u>\$ 100,000</u>
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	<u>\$ 100,000</u>	<u>\$ 100,000</u>