

At the Special Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown, County of Washington, and State of Rhode Island, held in and for said Town, County, and State this 16th day of March, 2023 at the Municipal Office Court/Meeting Room, 100 Fairway Drive, at 9:15 a.m.

PRESENT WERE: Gregory A. Mancini, President  
Katherine K. Anderson  
Lawrence C. Mandel  
Matthew B. McCoy  
Dr. Kimberly Ann Page

ALSO PRESENT: A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager  
Jeannette Alyward, Town Clerk  
Susan A. Murray, Deputy Town Clerk

An audio recording and video recording of this meeting was made to supplement the written record. Please go to the time stamps indicated on each department's budget discussion by accessing the video/audio located at:

[http://northkingstown.granicus.com/player/clip/1287?view\\_id=3&redirect=true&h=0b161f524a80ea0f465bc8c6590d5a20](http://northkingstown.granicus.com/player/clip/1287?view_id=3&redirect=true&h=0b161f524a80ea0f465bc8c6590d5a20)

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of North Kingstown held on March 16, 2023 was called to order by President Mancini.

2. Notice of Meeting being posted

Pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-6(c), notice of this meeting has been posted on the Secretary of State's Website.

3. Salute to Flag

President Mancini led those in attendance in a salute to the flag.

**I. WORK SESSION**

President Mancini stated that this discussion today and on Monday, March 20<sup>th</sup> is to allow the Council to meet with the department heads to discuss their budget submittals. The public hearing for residents will be held on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> with the adoption of the budget on April 24, 2023.

4. Town Manager's Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024

Mr. Mollis stated that the Council has been provided with an updated budget book as minor changes have been made to the document. Staff will be present for the discussions to provide answers to specific questions and Department Heads will be present to discuss their budgets.

Mr. Mollis reviewed the following presentation:

# FY 2024 NORTH KINGSTOWN BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

A. Ralph Mollis, Town Manager

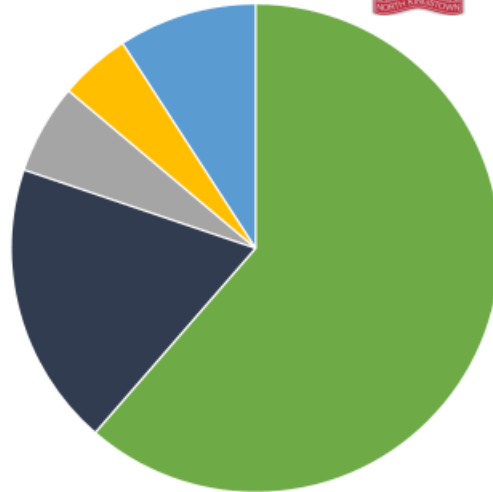
April 19, 2023



## OVERVIEW 2023-2024 BUDGET



<b>School Department</b> \$71,083,818	<b>62%</b>
<b>Public Safety</b> \$22,296,567	<b>19%</b>
<b>Public Works &amp; Utilities</b> \$7,211,288	<b>6%</b>
<b>Debt Service</b> \$5,365,110	<b>4%</b>
<b>Government Services</b> (Administrative, Library, IT, Senior Center, Recreation, GDC, Civic Contributions) \$11,559,974	<b>9%</b>



04/19/2023

FY24 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

3

MARCH 16, 2023

BOOK 110 PAGE

## OPERATIONS 2023-2024 BUDGET



- Public Safety
- Maintenance of over 150 miles of paved Town roads
- Senior Center Services
- Library Services
- Legal Services
- Civic Contributions
- Debt Services
- State-of-the-art Recreation programs and facilities
- Maintenance of over 200,000 sq. ft. of municipal buildings
- An award-winning student body
- Municipal operations among 24 departments
- Cyber Security
- GDC maintenance agreements



04/19/2023

FY24 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

4

## INITIATIVES 2023-2024 BUDGET



- \$700,000 road paving
- 2 Additional Police Officers (Four fully-staffed shifts)
- Senior Center Building Repairs
- Renovations to Municipal Office Building (Fund Balance & ARPA)
- Renovations to Community Center (Restricted Accounts)
- Advancements to address Cyber Security
- Funding of priorities outlined within Asset Management Commission CIP
- AEDs throughout our Town
- Continued improvements to the Municipal Golf Course & Allen Harbor
- Renovations to Parks with court resurfacing and dedicated pickleball courts (ARPA Funded)
- Increased OPEB Funding
- Post Road Façade Improvement Program



04/19/2023

FY24 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

5

# ENTERPRISE FUNDS 2023-2024 BUDGET



FUND	FY 2023	FY 2024
Golf Course	\$1,811,869	\$1,968,137
Municipal Court	\$206,021	\$198,921
Sewer	\$2,606,290	\$2,568,684
Transfer Station	\$1,323,181	\$1,354,673
Water	\$4,214,518	\$5,784,736



04/19/2023

FY24 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

6

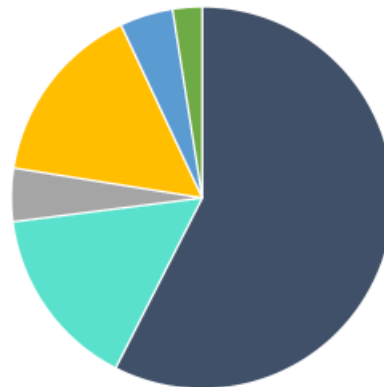
MARCH 16, 2023

BOOK 110 PAGE

## FUNDING OF THE FY2024 BUDGET



Residential Taxes	\$66,842,879	57.0%
Commercial Taxes	\$18,453,900	15.5%
Quonset Business Direct Payments	\$5,214,440	4.5%
State Aid (Inc. Motor Vehicle Reimbursements)	\$18,299,559	15.5%
Departmental Revenue & All Others	\$7,689,975	6.5%
Hotel, Meal & Beverage Taxes	\$1,016,004	1%



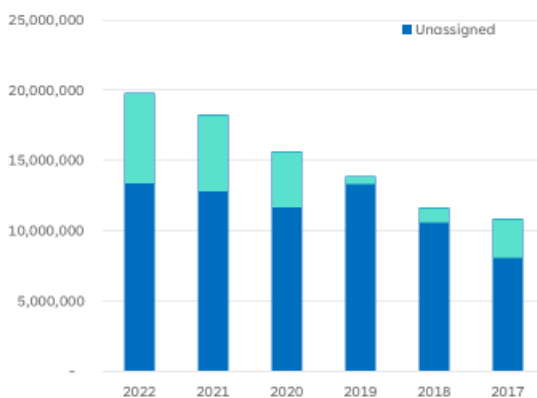
ARPA Funding	\$2,160,700
Fund Balance	\$1,250,000
Restricted Capital Accounts	\$125,000

04/19/2023

FY24 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

7

## FUND BALANCE

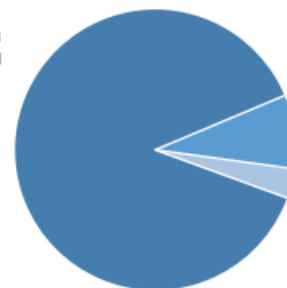


Fund Balance: \$19,781,670

\$13,352,383  
Unrestricted  
67.50%

\$1,304,607  
Assigned  
6.50%

\$5,124,680  
Restricted  
2.60%



04/19/2023

FY24 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

8

PROJECTED 2% TAX INCREASE IN FY 2024



- THIS FOLLOWS NO TAX INCREASE IN 2021

- AND AN AVERAGE TAX INCREASE OF 1.2% OVER FISCAL YEARS 2021 & 2022

TO LESSEN THE EFFECT OF THE STATE-MANDATED PROPERTY REVALUATION, TOWN COUNCIL ADOPTED A 5% HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION AND REDUCED TAX RATES

And continues to provide over \$3.8 Million in exemptions:

- Gold Star Families
- Veterans
- Disabled
- Senior/Flat
- Senior/Income
- Income
- Homestead

No Motor Vehicle Taxes effective FY 23

04/19/2023

FY24 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

9

MARCH 16, 2023

BOOK 110 PAGE

The Council thanked Mr. Mollis for his overview.

Mr. Mollis reviewed the following budgets with the Council:

- Town Manager's Budget (Page 21) (24:15)
- Town Council Budget (Page 20) (27:30)
- Legal Budget (Page 25) (29:19)
- Civic Contributions Budget (Page 47) (30:45)
- QDC-Municipal Services Agreement Budget (Page 23) (46:54)

Personnel Director Haley Wicker reviewed the Personnel/HR Budget (Page 22) with the Council. (51:05)

Building Official Donald Peck reviewed the Code Enforcement Budget (Page 30) with the Council. (54:18)

Director of Senior Services Marie Marcotte reviewed the Senior and Human Services Budget (Page 31) with the Council. (1:02:18)

The Council recessed the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

The Council reconvened the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Michael Forlingieri, Manager of Information Systems reviewed the IT Budget (Page 28) with the Council. (1:08:15)

Recreation Director Chelsey Dumas-Gibbs reviewed the Recreation Budget (Page 32), Allen Harbor (Page 58), and Golf Course (Page 55) with the Council. (1:19:40)

Tax Assessor Deb Garneau reviewed the Tax Assessor's Budget with the Council (Page 27). (1:36:58)

Finance Director James Lathrop reviewed the Finance Budget (Page 26), Debt Service (Page 49), and Utilities Budget (Page 46) with the Council. (1:40:33)

Acting Library Director Susan Aylward reviewed the North Kingstown Free Library (Page 50) with the Council. (2:08:46)

The Council recessed the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

The Council reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Kettelle reviewed the Dispatch/Communications Budget (Page 33) and Fire Department Budget (Page 34) with the Council. (2:27:14)

Public Works Director Adam White reviewed the Public Works Budget (Page 40), Transfer Station Budget (Page 62), and Sewer Budget (Page 61) with the Council. (3:20:41)

Director of Planning and Development Nicole LaFontaine reviewed the Planning Department Budget (Page 29) with the Council. (3:37:05)

The Council recessed the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

The Council reconvened the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

Director of Water Supply Tim Cranston reviewed the Water Department Budget (Page 63) with the Council. (3:48:30)

Mr. Mollis stated that the School Department and the remaining departments will review their budgets on Monday night starting at 6:00 and upon completion of that the Council will adopt the preliminary budget. He requested that the Council forward any additional questions prior to Monday night.

MARCH 16, 2023

BOOK 110 PAGE

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:52 P.M.

Jeannette Alyward  
Town Clerk