



# Town of York

186 York Street  
York, Maine 03909-1314

Town Manager/  
Selectmen  
(207)363-1000

Town Clerk/  
Tax Collector  
(207)363-1003

Finance/  
Treasurer  
(207)363-1004

Code Enforcement  
(207)363-1002

Planning  
(207)363-1007

Assessor  
(207)363-1005

Police Department  
(207)363-1031

Dispatch  
(207)363-2557

York Beach Fire  
Department  
(207)363-1014

York Village Fire  
Department  
(207)363-1015

Public Works  
(207)363-1011

Harbor Master  
(207)363-1000

Senior Center/  
General Assistance  
(207)363-1036

Parks and  
Recreation  
(207)363-1040

Fax  
(207)363-1009  
(207)363-1019

[www.yorkmaine.org](http://www.yorkmaine.org)

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING AGENDA 7:00PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2015 YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Call to Order

#### A. Old Business

1. **Continued discussion and possible action on the proposed FY16 Operating Budget**

### Adjourn

## **Transaction of Business**

The Board of Selectmen shall transact all official business at a public meeting. The following items deal with the transaction of business at official meetings of the Board of Selectmen.

### **Right to Know**

Except for Executive Sessions, the proceedings of all meetings of the Board of Selectmen are open to the public.

### **Rules of Order**

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all Board of Selectmen meetings.

### **Regular Meetings and Work Sessions**

Regular meetings and work sessions of the Board of Selectmen shall be held on the days and the time and place determined by the Board at the annual Organizational Meeting. Abbreviated Regular Meetings may be held at the same time as Work Sessions.

Selectmen will be furnished with the date, time and place for each meeting along with an agenda. This information will be provided by the Town Manager's Office no later than two (2) workdays prior to the Regular Meeting.

### **Special and Emergency Meetings**

Special and Emergency Meetings of the Board may be called by the Chairman, or in the absence of the Chairman, by the Vice Chairman, or by a majority of the Board. The Selectmen will be furnished with the date, time and place and an agenda (if necessary) by the Town Manager's Office. Meeting notification requirements are pursuant to State Statute.

### **Requests for Agenda Items**

All Selectmen requests for regular meeting agenda items must be submitted to the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen along with supporting background material, or a position paper not less than one (1) week prior to the scheduled meeting date. The Chairman of the Board shall review agenda requests with the Town Manager to assure proper background and staff support has been afforded the item requested. If, in the opinion of the Chairman additional information and/or study are required, the requested agenda item will be postponed until proper preparation has been made. The Chairman of the Board will subsequently notify the affected Selectman.

If the Chair refuses to place an item on the agenda that has been properly prepared, the written request of two Selectmen is sufficient to place the item on the Agenda for the next regular meeting.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Minutes
- IV. Chair's Report
- V. Manager's Report
- VI. Public Hearings
- VII. Citizen Forums (Open to audience for comments or questions on items to be addressed on this agenda)
- VIII. Approval of Warrants
- IX. Bid Opening & Award
- X. Endorsements
- XI. Old Business
- XII. New Business
- XIII. Other Business
- XIV. Citizen's Forum
- XV. Adjournment

#### **Majority Vote**

Three affirmative votes are required for the transaction of business.



#### **Meeting Curfew**

No new discussion shall be initiated after 10:00 P.M. The Selectmen may, on a case by case basis, waive this restriction if requested by a member of the board and a majority of the board is in agreement.

Original Adoption 3/29/82  
Amended 7/8/91  
Amended 3/11/92  
Amended 3/11/97  
Amended 5/13/97  
Amended 5/26/98  
Amended 5/20/2004  
Amended 12/12/2005  
Amended 03/21/2011



AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUEST FOR ACTION BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

<b>Date Submitted:</b> January 28, 2015	<b>Type of Action:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Procedural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal Action <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<b>Date Action Requested:</b> January 29, 2015	
<b>Regular</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Work Session</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Subject:</b> Continuing discussion of the proposed FY16 Municipal Operating Budget	

<b>TO:</b> BOARD OF SELECTMEN
<b>FROM:</b> Stephen H. Burns, Town Manager
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> see below
<b>PROPOSED MOTION:</b> see below

**Discussion:** At the Board meeting on Monday night it was decided that additional time should be spent discussing the proposed FY16 municipal operating budget.

Some decisions were made Monday night:

- added \$20,000 for Cliff Walk legal;
- added \$5,000 for grantor/grantee research; and
- focused the Route One maintenance on contracted services.

Attached is a new Draft FY16 Budget Summary table. This is an expense summary that reflects numbers quality-checked by the Finance Director, and the changes referenced above. As it stands here, operating expenses would increase by 3.53%

In terms of remaining issues, I have identified 3. First, there is the issue of insurance opt-out incentives. Second, there is the issue of continued use of the fund balance. Third, I believe we need a bit of follow-up on the Route One maintenance issue.

### **INSURANCE OPT-OUT**

Regarding the insurance opt-out incentive policy, I recommend this be deferred to the Board's February 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Liam has not been able to gather up much new information that will help inform this discussion. Yesterday's storm certainly didn't help, but it's also something that will take time to do well. In my budget message to the Budget Committee I can mention the Board's need for some additional time to work through this issue, so I do not believe the timing is critical.

### **FUND BALANCE**

Regarding continued use of fund balance, I recommend the Board do two things:

- First, I recommend the Board decide to reduce the use of fund balance from \$650,000 down to \$600,000 in FY16. Attached are three budget summary sheets that summarize revenues and expenses, and 3 scenarios are offered – use of fund balance unchanged at \$650,000, reduced to \$600,000, and reduced to \$550,000. This would make a corresponding increase on property tax revenues. There is a sheet from the Assessor titled, Increase That Affect the Tax Rate. Rick calculated that a decrease of revenue of \$50,000 would add 1.5¢ to the tax rate.
- Second, I recommend the Board direct the Town Manager to draft a policy position that would commit to annual reductions in use of fund balance until we stop using it as a supplemental revenue for operating expenses. This makes good sense on its face, and should help the Town improve its bond rating. Also relevant is the matter that, in FY19, there will be a significant drop in County taxes that could help facilitate a large reduction – on the order of \$200,000.

### **ROUTE ONE MAINTENANCE**

The Board was clear, that if we need to take on Route One maintenance that we will start with the contracting option. Dean Lessard provided an initial cost estimate of \$222,000 in FY16. I believe the Board should discuss working with staff and the Budget Committee to see if this number could be reduced in any way, and to see if it would be possible to create some sort of contingency spending type of question for the voters so the matter would be funded only if we lose the battle with the State.

### ***Additional Information***

*I have taken the liberty of providing 2 additional documents that have information the Board would find helpful. One is the most recent annual report from the Assessor to the Board. There is an assessment of historical changes in tax rates and spending that seems helpful to me. The other document is the Selectmen's fund balance policy, along with the handout from Monday night about fund balance.*

Prepared By: 

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Draft* **Town of York**  
**Approved FY16 Budget Summary**

	Actual FY13	Actual FY14	Budget FY15	Proposed FY16	\$ Change	% Change Plus or Minus
<b>Administration</b>						
Board of Selectmen	23,586	26,900	25,644	26,882	1,238	4.83%
Town Manager	241,556	264,278	292,073	270,824	-21,250	-7.28%
Finance Department	219,611	215,041	235,172	273,125	37,952	16.14%
Information Technology	0	165,216	198,366	186,385	-11,981	-6.04%
Human Resources	0	88,678	79,756	87,902	8,146	10.21%
Assessing Department	265,612	275,593	302,098	315,900	13,802	4.57%
Community Development Department	413,349	403,633	408,078	403,456	-4,622	-1.13%
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	328,867	351,546	375,640	394,032	18,393	4.90%
Elections	22,715	9,886	25,673	48,480	22,808	88.84%
Town Hall Operations	124,494	161,299	169,397	191,148	21,751	12.84%
Earned Account/Unemployment	25,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	0	0.00%
Debt Service	1,778,516	1,937,527	1,977,437	2,014,560	37,123	1.88%
Contingency	5,200	4,425	50,000	50,000	0	0.00%
Cable TV Operations	7,530	6,368	12,663	12,624	-39	-0.31%
Short Sands Park	36,183	29,248	37,573	38,573	1,000	2.66%
Insurance	343,970	343,459	410,903	403,261	-7,642	-1.86%
Policy Items: Markers/Index/Revolving Loan/Cliff Path	49,819	0	63,000	25,000	-38,000	-60.32%
MS4	0	71,096	95,100	94,640	-460	-0.48%
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>3,886,008</b>	<b>4,389,192</b>	<b>4,793,573</b>	<b>4,871,792</b>	<b>78,219</b>	<b>1.63%</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>						
Police	3,150,221	3,307,063	3,334,127	3,486,826	152,699	4.58%
Communications	618,234	591,466	637,430	652,532	15,102	2.37%
Animal Control	38,717	35,820	46,970	47,712	742	1.58%
Harbormaster	44,875	46,259	55,727	58,129	2,402	4.31%
York Village Fire	466,074	426,471	480,808	482,175	1,367	0.28%
York Beach Fire	377,473	474,707	467,796	496,759	28,963	6.19%
Public Health	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	0	0.00%
Hydrants	852,088	855,080	902,611	1,010,748	108,137	11.98%
<b>Total Public Safety</b>	<b>5,627,682</b>	<b>5,816,865</b>	<b>6,005,470</b>	<b>6,314,882</b>	<b>309,411</b>	<b>5.15%</b>
<b>Public Works</b>						
Tree Care	23,852	12,197	27,800	29,000	1,200	4.32%
White Goods	60,724	90,389	77,953	84,471	6,518	8.36%
Highway Maintenance	1,534,717	1,558,255	1,894,829	1,937,009	42,180	2.23%
Winter Maintenance	1,090,936	1,159,139	1,199,482	1,271,709	72,227	6.02%
Contracted Services	1,427,795	1,441,527	1,616,100	1,651,100	35,000	2.17%
<b>Total Public Works</b>	<b>4,138,024</b>	<b>4,261,507</b>	<b>4,816,164</b>	<b>4,973,289</b>	<b>157,125</b>	<b>3.26%</b>
<b>Parks/Grounds/Beaches</b>						
School Grounds Maintenance	132,236	133,930	139,004	144,024	5,020	3.61%
Mt. Agamenticus Trails and Coordinator Appropriation	25,250	25,250	0	0	0	0.00%
Public Buildings, Grounds and Beaches	595,934	637,505	670,658	698,306	27,647	4.12%
Veterans' Graves	2,516	3,000	16,696	25,270	8,574	51.35%
<b>Total Parks/Grounds/Beaches</b>	<b>755,936</b>	<b>799,685</b>	<b>826,358</b>	<b>867,599</b>	<b>41,241</b>	<b>4.99%</b>
<b>Boards and Committees</b>						
Planning Board	5,898	6,164	8,800	8,800	0	0.00%
Appeals Board	460	175	6,535	3,998	-2,537	-38.83%
Cemetery Maintenance	4,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	0	0.00%
Shellfish Commission	1,609	1,264	1,725	1,725	0	0.00%
Conservation Commission	2,830	-2,043	2,830	2,830	0	0.00%
Cable TV Board	0	0	400	0	-400	-100.00%
Budget Committee	115	123	100	100	0	0.00%
Historic District Committee	163	1,063	1,040	4,000	2,960	284.62%
Energy Steering Committee	0	0	0	3,000	3,000	100.00%
Recycling Committee	0	0	1,000	0	-1,000	-100.00%
<b>Total Boards and Committees</b>	<b>15,075</b>	<b>10,746</b>	<b>27,430</b>	<b>29,453</b>	<b>2,023</b>	<b>7.37%</b>
<b>Human Services</b>						
Recreation Administration	131,166	135,601	138,439	140,895	2,457	1.77%
Senior Center	233,764	249,898	269,667	277,927	8,260	3.06%
General Assistance	29,278	41,451	38,688	42,152	3,464	8.95%
Senior Transportation Appropriation	32,500	32,500	0	0	0	0.00%
Outside Requests	37,200	36,000	36,400	39,320	2,920	8.02%
<b>Total Human Services</b>	<b>463,908</b>	<b>495,449</b>	<b>483,193</b>	<b>500,294</b>	<b>17,100</b>	<b>3.54%</b>
<b>Total General Fund Cost Centers</b>	<b>14,886,633</b>	<b>15,773,445</b>	<b>16,952,188</b>	<b>17,557,308</b>	<b>605,120</b>	<b>3.57%</b>
<b>Other Items:</b>						
Cliff Path/Fishermen's Walk	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Seawall Repair	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Library Appropriation	450,218	462,906	483,102	504,373	21,271	4.40%
Bonding Costs	35,331	36,454	44,000	44,000	0	0.00%
New Debt Service	0	24,563	9,250	0	-9,250	-100.00%
<b>Total Other Items</b>	<b>485,549</b>	<b>523,923</b>	<b>536,352</b>	<b>548,373</b>	<b>12,021</b>	<b>2.24%</b>
<b>Total Budget Requests:</b>	<b>15,372,182</b>	<b>16,297,369</b>	<b>17,488,540</b>	<b>18,105,681</b>	<b>617,141</b>	<b>3.53%</b>

SUM 1

# **INCREASES THAT AFFECT THE TAX RATE**

*Providing that everything else remains the same when applying one these changes.*

**Increased Valuation: + \$40,000,000**

**10¢ decrease on the tax rate**

**Increased Revenue: + \$100,000**

**3¢ decrease on the tax rate**

**Increased budget: + \$400,000**

**10¢ increase on the tax rate**

# 2014 Assessor's Report to the Board of Selectmen

## General Information

- The new tax rate is \$10.70, up .27¢.
- The new total taxable valuation of the town is \$3,915,250,959. That's up \$60,216,343 from last year.
- We have a certified assessment ratio of 100%, with an actual of 100%. Our quality rating is 7.8%.
- This year we picked up \$30,705,500 in new construction, this includes additions and renovations. Last year we picked up \$28,562,500.
- We had 318 qualified sales in 2013/2014, compared to 282 the previous year.
- Due to market conditions, out of 72 neighborhoods, 5 had an increase in value and 4 had a decrease in value. The remaining neighborhoods stayed the same as last year.
- The average selling price of a single family home, April 2, 2013 – April 1, 2014, was \$468,012.
- The average assessed value of those same homes is \$465,704.
- This year's overlay is \$146,209.26.
- The 2014 TIF Financing Plan Amount is \$0; there was a increase in building values town wide, but a decrease in the building values in the TIF District.
- The 2015 State Valuation is \$3,967,100,000 (2013 municipal valuation), second highest in the State behind the City of Portland.

## Assessment Statistics

- Total real estate accounts in the Town of York: 10,632.
- 2,528 properties had an increase in valuation:
  - 1,145 properties had an increase of \$100 - \$9,900
  - 867 properties had an increase of \$10,000 - \$24,900
  - 229 properties had an increase of \$25,000 - \$49,900
  - 110 properties had an increase of \$50,000 - \$99,000

- 156 properties had an increase of \$100,000 - \$499,000
- 21 properties had an increase of over \$500,000
- 6,203 properties' values stayed the same.
- 1,901 properties went down in value:
  - 1,367 properties had a decrease of \$100 - \$9,900
  - 317 properties had a decrease of \$10,000 - \$24,900
  - 115 properties had a decrease of \$25,000 - \$49,900
  - 71 properties had a decrease of \$50,000 - \$100,000
  - 31 properties had a decrease of over \$100,000
- The 2014 average ratio of assessment to sale price for single family homes (non-waterfront) is 99%. The median ratio of assessment to sale price is 98%. (194 sales)
- The average ratio of assessment to sale price for waterfront properties is 104%. The median ratio of assessment to sale price for waterfront properties is 100%. (20 sales)
- The average ratio of assessment to sale price for vacant land is 100%. The median ratio of assessment to sale price for vacant land is 101%. (22 sales)
- The average ratio of assessment to sale price for condominium properties is 98%. The median ratio of assessment to sale price for condominium properties is 98%. (61 sales)
- The average ratio of assessment to sale price for commercial properties is 109%. The median ratio of assessment to sale price for commercial properties is 104%. (8 sales)
- A home, assessed at \$400,000, with no increase/decrease in assessed value, will see an increase in their tax bill of \$108.00.

## **Historic View of Taxable Value, Tax Rates, and Budgets**

The new tax rate is \$10.70 per thousand dollars of value. This is up from the 2013/2014 rate of \$10.43. This is the seventh time since 2002 that the tax rate has gone up. This year we had a 1.6% increase in the Town's assessed value. As you can see by the table below, for the tax rate to be reduced, the percent increase in assessed values needs to be higher than the percent increase in the budget.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Taxable Valuation</b>	<b>% Change in Valuation</b>	<b>Tax Rate/1000</b>	<b>% Change in Tax Rate</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>% Change in Annual Budget</b>
2003	\$2,564,460,490	+89.06%	\$10.25	-46.05%	\$26,285,720	+1.99%
2004	\$2,794,142,350	+8.96%	\$9.70	-5.37%	\$27,103,181	+3.11%
2005	\$3,188,015,020	+14.10%	\$8.75	-9.79%	\$27,895,131	+2.92%
2006	\$3,465,999,200	+8.72%	\$8.46	-3.31%	\$29,322,353	+5.12%
2007	\$3,794,235,030	+9.47%	\$8.14	-3.78%	\$30,736,026	+4.82%
2008	\$3,988,361,710	+5.12%	\$8.10	-0.49%	\$32,160,100	+4.63%
2009	\$4,100,916,830	+2.82%	\$8.26	+1.98%	\$33,722,498	+4.86%
2010	\$4,037,653,357	-1.54%	\$8.58	+3.87%	\$34,485,161	+2.26%
2011	\$3,967,061,240	-1.78%	\$9.10	+6.06%	\$35,961,240	+4.28%
2012	\$3,909,591,408	-1.45%	\$9.35	+2.75%	\$36,406,723	+1.24%
2013	\$3,849,714,344	-1.53%	\$9.96	+6.52%	\$38,245,119	+5.05%
2014	\$3,855,034,616	+0.14%	\$10.43	+4.72%	\$39,974,697	+4.52%
2015	\$3,915,250,959	+1.6%	\$10.70	+2.59%	\$41,746,976	+4.43%

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rick Mace, Assessor

### **Selectmen's Policy on Fund Balance**

The Board of Selectmen shall maintain a fund balance between 8%-12% of the gross Town and School Budgets.

As required by Article II, Section 6.B. of the Charter, the Board of Selectmen shall annually determine how much and for what purposes any excess fund balance shall be used. Their recommendation shall be submitted to the Budget Committee with the Town Managers annual Budget.

## Fund Balance Policy

Maintain fund balance between 8% - 12% of the gross Town and School Budgets

### FY14

Town Budget	\$16,922,712
School Budget	\$28,810,916
<hr/>	
sum	\$45,733,628

8% of gross:	\$3,658,690.24
12% of gross:	\$5,488,035.36

### Start of FY14

Town Fund Bal.	\$4,769,958
School Fund Bal.	\$1,706,877
<hr/>	
Total Fund Bal.	\$6,476,835

Town of York  
Fund Balance by Year  
FY06-FY13  
Compiled 8/3/14

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds	Voter approved use of fund balance	Amount used	Fund Balance at 6/30 RKO	Fund Balance at 6/30 Purdy Powers	
FY14			\$ -	\$ 650,000.00				
FY13	\$ 6,476,835.00	\$ 10,662,749.00	\$ 17,139,584.00	\$ 650,000.00	\$ 65,207.00	\$ 4,298,028.00		
FY12	\$ 6,835,511.00	\$ 10,659,103.00	\$ 17,494,614.00	\$ 790,000.00	\$ (56,200.00)	\$ 4,232,821.00		
FY11	\$ 11,453,404.00	\$ 6,645,120.00	\$ 18,098,524.00	\$ 790,000.00	\$ 106,168.00			
FY10	\$ 10,911,771.00	\$ 3,345,386.00	\$ 14,257,157.00	\$ 790,000.00	\$ (531,218.00)		\$ 4,289,021.00	
FY09	\$ 13,520,101.00	\$ 5,613,258.00	\$ 19,133,359.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ (413,978.00)		\$ 4,182,853.00	
FY08	\$ 12,547,796.00	\$ 2,097,927.00	\$ 14,645,723.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ (376,448.00)		\$ 4,714,071.00	
FY07	\$ 12,396,721.00	\$ 3,314,855.00	\$ 15,711,576.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 157,962.00		\$ 5,128,049.00	
FY06	\$ 12,136,889.00	\$ 3,165,998.00	\$ 15,302,887.00	\$ -	\$ 157,962.00		\$ 5,504,497.00	
FY05	audited financial statements not immediately available							\$ 5,346,535.00

This is the year reporting Changed

FY06 Article 29 5/21/05 voters did not approved use of fund balance for FY06 in the amount of \$300,000 ( 2054 NO; 1216 yes)

FY07 Article 27 5/20/06 voters approved use of fund balance for FY07 in the amount of \$500,000 (2808 yes; 855 no)

FY08 ?? Warrant articles unavailable, but FY09 refers to prior year fallback amount as a result of no vote would be \$500,000

FY09 Article 38 5/17/08 voters approved use of fund balance in the amount of \$500,000 (3096 yes; 455 no)

FY10 Article 36 5/29/09 voters approved use of fund balance for FY10 in the amount of \$790,000 (2061 yes; 690 no)

FY11 Article 36 5/22/10 voters approved use of fund balance for FY11 in the amount of \$790,000 (2149 yes; 199 no)

FY12 Article 33 5/21/11 voters approved use of fund balance for FY12 in the amount of \$790,000 (2036 yes; 253 no)

FY13 Article 36 5/19/12 voters approved use of fund balance for FY13 in the amount of \$650,000.00 (2549 yes; 361 no)

FY14 Article 34 5/17/14 voters approved use of fund balance for FY14 in the amount of \$650,000.00 (2041 yes; 241 no)

FY15

MAINE REVENUE SERVICES - 2014 MUNICIPAL TAX RATE CALCULATION STANDARD FORM

Municipality: YORK

BE SURE TO COMPLETE THIS FORM BEFORE FILLING IN THE TAX ASSESSMENT WARRANT

Table with 3 columns: Description, Line Number, Amount. Includes lines 1-6 for valuation and exemptions.

ASSESSMENTS

Table with 3 columns: Description, Line Number, Amount. Includes lines 7-11 for various taxes and total assessments.

ALLOWABLE DEDUCTIONS

Table with 3 columns: Description, Line Number, Amount. Includes lines 12-15 for deductions and net tax raised.

Table with 3 columns: Calculation (Amount x Rate), Result, Description. Includes lines 16-23 for tax rate calculations and overlays.

(If Line 23 exceeds Line 20 select a lower tax rate.)

Results from this completed form should be used to prepare the Municipal Tax Assessment Warrant, Certificate of Assessment to Municipal Treasurer and Municipal Valuation Return.