

FY24 Budget Forum Town of Lancaster

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

FY 24'S CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION

Confirmed Deficit Between	\$1.1 - \$1.2 M
Override Amount	\$1.2 M
Nashoba Increase	4.8%
Minuteman Increase	4.4%

FY24 Municipal Budget Aggregate

TOWN OF LANCASTER Budget Summary	FISCAL 2020 ACTUAL	FISCAL 2021 ATM	FISCAL 2022 DEPT REQUEST	FISCAL 2022 ATM	FISCAL 2023 REQUEST	FISCAL 2023 TOWN ADMIN RECOMMEND	FISCAL 2023 FIN COMM RECOMMEND	FISCAL 2023 ATM ADOPTED	FISCAL 2024 DEPT REQUEST	FISCAL 2024 TA PROPOSED	FISCAL 2024 % INC/DEC from FY23
REVENUES											
Tax & Other Revenues Within Levy											
Real Estate & Property Tax INSIDE	18,918,074.35	19,343,656.48	20,305,497.81	20,305,497.81	21,150,844	21,150,844	21,013,134	21,013,135	21,738,462	21,779,615	3.65%
Real Estate & Per Prop Tax OUTSIDE	1,503,460.00	1,474,560.00	1,607,029.00	1,607,029.00	910,982	910,982	910,982	910,982	910,982	910,982	0.00%
From the Commonwealth	1,221,488.00	1,240,487.00	1,222,848.00	1,222,848.00	1,386,044	1,386,044	1,261,633	1,261,633	1,261,633	1,386,044	9.86%
Local Revenue	2,046,556.00	1,888,150.00	1,888,150.00	1,888,150.00	1,952,800	1,952,800	1,952,800	1,952,800	1,952,800	2,039,813	4.46%
Sub-total (Tax & Current Rev)	23,689,578.35	22,472,293.48	25,023,524.81	25,023,524.81	25,400,670	25,400,670	25,138,549	25,138,550	25,863,877	26,116,454	3.89%
Other Available Funds											
Free Cash - Other Items		137,975.00		223,719.33	0	0	0	703,086			0.00%
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS	23,689,578.35	24,168,812.11	25,107,508.44	25,530,277.14	25,400,670	25,400,670	25,138,549	25,841,636	25,863,877	26,116,454	1.06%
EXPENSES											
Personal Services (Non-School)	3,485,510.20	3,626,618.22	3,671,358.14	3,671,358.14	4,263,708	4,224,566	4,224,567	4,239,843	4,380,466	4,324,739	3.77%
Expenses (Non-School)	1,461,679.13	1,633,308.00	1,587,707.00	1,587,707.00	1,822,067	1,867,391	1,867,391	1,881,591	2,079,091	2,245,860	19.43%
Sub-total (Non-School)	4,947,189.33	5,259,926.22	5,259,065.14	5,259,065.14	6,085,774	6,091,957	6,091,958	6,121,434	6,459,556	6,570,599	8.60%
Expenses Debt	1,093,225.00	1,092,975.00	1,068,375.00	1,068,375.00	403,025	400,025	400,025	400,025	388,125	388,125	-2.97%
Expenses Risk Management	1,525,246.51	1,731,049.50	1,880,317.00	1,880,317.00	2,068,947	2,068,947	2,068,947	2,068,947	2,123,423	2,123,423	2.63%
Expenses Transfers out	100,000.00	174,282.00	174,282.00	174,282.00	174,282	174,282	174,282	174,282	174,294	174,282	0.00%
Sub-total Debt/Insurances	2,718,471.51	2,998,306.50	3,122,974.00	3,122,974.00	2,646,254	2,643,254	2,643,254	2,643,254	2,685,842	2,685,830	1.61%
Minuteman Regional Vocational	2,085,501.00	2,195,473.00	2,382,776.00	2,382,776.00	2,285,510	2,285,510	2,285,510	2,285,510	2,391,567	2,382,024	4.22%
Nashoba Regional High School	13,014,404.00	13,400,697.38	13,843,493.00	13,843,493.00	14,591,571	14,591,571	14,591,571	14,591,571	15,457,012	15,285,485	4.76%
Assabet Valley	23,634.00	25,000.00	57,268.00	57,268.00	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000	82,000	87,000	58.18%
Sub-total Schools	15,123,539.00	15,621,170.38	16,285,537.00	16,285,537.00	16,932,081	16,932,081	16,932,081	16,932,081	17,930,579	17,754,509	4.86%
State & County Assessments	141,622.00	142,114.00	142,114.00	142,114.00	144,867	144,867	144,867	144,867	144,867	149,062	
Sub-total Special Items	141,622.00	552,989.00	1,097,914.00	495,114.00	144,867	144,867	144,867	144,867	144,867	149,062	
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS	141,622.00	24,407,392.10	25,765,490.14	25,162,690.14	25,808,976	25,812,159	25,812,160	25,841,636	27,220,844	27,160,000	6.06%
NET											
TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDS	23,689,578.35	24,168,812.11	25,107,508.44	25,530,277.14	25,400,670	25,400,670	25,138,549	25,841,636	25,863,877	26,116,454	1.06%
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS	141,622.00	24,407,392.10	25,765,490.14	25,162,690.14	25,808,976	25,812,159	25,812,160	25,841,636	27,220,844	27,160,000	6.06%
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		(238,580.00)	(657,981.70)	367,587.00	(408,306)	(411,489)	(673,610)	0	(1,356,967)	(1,043,546)	

Nashoba Enrollment - *5-year averages*

Foundation Enrollment (Five-year average)

Updated 3/1/23		Five Year Rolling Foundation Enrollments				
		Preliminary FY24	FY23	FY22	FY21	FY20
Town:	FIVE YEAR TOTAL	1-Oct-22	1-Oct-21	1-Oct-20	1-Oct-19	1-Oct-18
Bolton:	5,119	1,011	1,030	1,054	1,004	1,020
Lancaster:	4,852	1,014	983	969	940	946
Stow:	5,614	1,083	1,124	1,115	1,138	1,154
Total:	15,584	3,107	3,137	3,138	3,082	3,120

FOR OPERATING ASSESSMENT

		Updated 3/1/23			
Town:	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	Change
Bolton:	32.2388430%	33.0927901%	32.9001913%	32.8453542%	-0.0548371%
Lancaster:	30.1843461%	30.5511208%	30.8753189%	31.1318018%	0.2564830%
Stow:	37.5768109%	36.3560892%	36.2244898%	36.0228439%	-0.2016459%
Total:	100.0000000%	100.0000000%	100.0000000%	100.0000000%	0.0000000%

FY24 Nashoba Assessment adjustments

NRSC Date	Proposed Operating Budget	% Change in Member Town Assessments		
		Bolton	Lancaster	Stow
1/18/23	\$65,532,703	6.04%	7.65%	5.78%
2/1/23	\$65,426,842	5.84%	7.42%	5.58%
2/15/23	\$64,997,516	5.01%	6.51%	4.74%
3/1/23	\$64,902,630	3.32%	4.76%	2.82%
3/8/23	\$64,902,630	3.32%	4.76%	2.82%

Minuteman Per Pupil Assessments

Lancaster	Operating Assessment	October 1 Enrollment Count	Per Pupil Assessment
Est. FY24*	\$1,796,388	58	\$30,972
FY23	\$1,555,661	49	\$31,748
FY22	\$1,619,145	56	\$28,913
FY21	\$1,688,523	55	\$30,700
FY20	\$1,515,549	47	\$32,246

	Enrollment (Rolling 4 yr. Average)	Estimated Minimum Required Contribution	School Choice	Transportation Assessment	Remaining Operation Assessment	Capital/Debt Service	Total FY24 Assessment	Total FY23 Assessment	Difference
ACTON	65.00	\$ 1,348,307	\$ 22,225	\$ 74,464	\$ 1,106,184	\$ 733,618	\$ 3,284,798	\$ 2,841,323	\$ 443,475
ARLINGTON	181.00	\$ 3,419,797	\$ -	\$ 207,354	\$ 3,080,296	\$ 2,225,468	\$ 8,932,916	\$ 7,947,938	\$ 984,978
BOLTON	20.75	\$ 540,671	\$ -	\$ 23,771	\$ 353,128	\$ 281,889	\$ 1,199,459	\$ 893,714	\$ 305,745
CONCORD	29.75	\$ 612,477	\$ -	\$ 34,082	\$ 506,292	\$ 488,844	\$ 1,641,695	\$ 1,508,544	\$ 133,151
DOVER	3.50	\$ 68,053	\$ -	\$ 4,010	\$ 59,564	\$ 117,000	\$ 248,626	\$ 197,427	\$ 51,199
LANCASTER	54.50	\$ 806,460	\$ -	\$ 62,435	\$ 927,492	\$ 583,233	\$ 2,379,621	\$ 2,185,510	\$ 194,111
LEXINGTON	69.50	\$ 1,310,022	\$ -	\$ 79,620	\$ 1,182,766	\$ 929,570	\$ 3,501,977	\$ 3,223,898	\$ 278,079
NEEDHAM	29.75	\$ 655,050	\$ -	\$ 34,082	\$ 506,292	\$ 445,038	\$ 1,640,461	\$ 1,367,739	\$ 272,722
STOW	50.25	\$ 1,059,989	\$ -	\$ 57,567	\$ 855,165	\$ 601,803	\$ 2,574,523	\$ 2,145,103	\$ 429,420

Override Alternatives?

MUNICIPAL SERVICE CUTS

\$500,000 - \$550,000 from Town Departments

- Less Officers per Shift; No Midnights; One Person Patrols
- Loss of Mutual Aid Assistance; Increase in Charges from State Police for Services, Delayed Response Times
- Vacant Buildings; Part Time Staff, loss of services and in-person transactions.
- No Licensed Social Work Services; Community Center Closure on Nights/Weekends.
- No Fire/EMT Services; Private Ambulance Contracts.
- Degradation of Roads, No Pre-Treatment Before Storms

SCHOOL CUTS

\$400,000 - \$450,000 off School Assessments.

- Equates to \$1.3 M in Cuts District-Wide (Nashoba).
- Not Sustainable, Does Not Meet State Requirements (Nashoba & Minuteman).
- Elimination of Extra-Curricular Activities or Specials.
- Deeply Impacts Education for Our Students.
- Impacts to Transportation (Minuteman)

Minuteman and Nashoba Assessments are fixed and set by Regional Agreements. Non-Payment is Considered a DEFAULT.