



# Town of Ledyard Public Hearing

Fiscal Year 26/27 Budget

April 21, 2026 – 7:00PM



# General Government Budget Process Overview

## Sessions and Meetings

## Date

*Mayor submits budget to Town Council*

*March 2, 2026*

*Budget Work Sessions*

*March 5, 9, 12, 19, 2026*

*Finance Committee Approval*

*April 8, 2026*

*Town Council Approval*

*April 8, 2026*

*Public Hearing*

*April 21, 2026*

## Upcoming

*Annual Town Meeting*

*May 18, 2026*

*Referendum Vote*

*May 19, 2026*



## Mayor's Budget Letter

- Revaluation year - Grand list increase of 42.21% after revaluation, primarily driven by residential real estate valuation increases.
- Equalized mill rate after revaluation is 25.78. Proposed mill rate for Mayor's budget is 26.67.
- Revenue challenges from exemptions and unfunded state mandates.
- Grand list lags behind neighboring towns as it has historically, even after revaluation.
- Debt service decreased by \$183,209 (4.8%).
- Town pension liability is funded at 90.7%, one of the highest in the state. Expected to be fully funded in the next 5-7 years.
- Road surface rating currently at 85.96.



# Proposed Budget

## FY26/27 proposed budget – \$73,555,506

- General Government – \$31,698,171 (including healthcare for Town/BOE) – 6% increase
- Board of Education – \$41,857,335 – 3.4% increase
- Total budget increase – 4.5%

## Proposed mill rate – TBD\*

Proposed budget includes utilizing 1 mill of the mill rate stabilization fund.



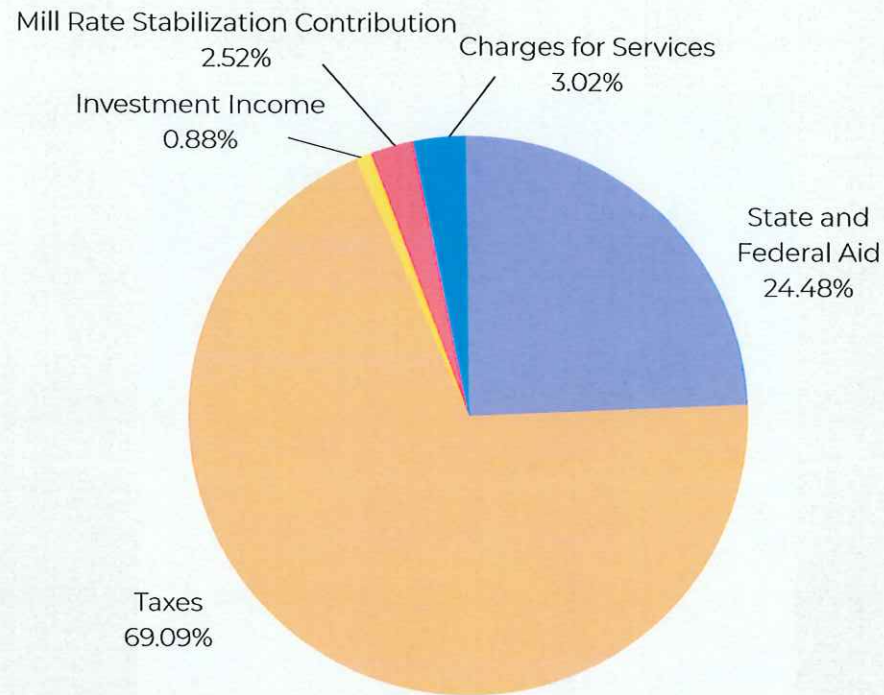
# Proposed Budget

## Key changes to Mayor's proposed budget:

- Reductions – \$266,360
  - adjust healthcare to reflect correct expense – \$80,000
  - reduce audit expense to align with RFP – \$14,860
  - reduce Board of Education operating – \$75,000
  - reduce capital projects funding to reflect need and alternate funding sources– \$96,500
- Additions – \$11,197
  - Mayoral asst. to reflect 3% wage adjustment– \$1,747
  - Mayor - employee reimbursement for mileage – \$1,000
  - EDC dues & fees adjustment – \$150
  - Ledyard Fire Company repairs – \$3,000
  - GFFC Repairs - \$2,000
  - Parks and Rec Contract Maintenance – \$300
  - Ethics Commission – \$3,000

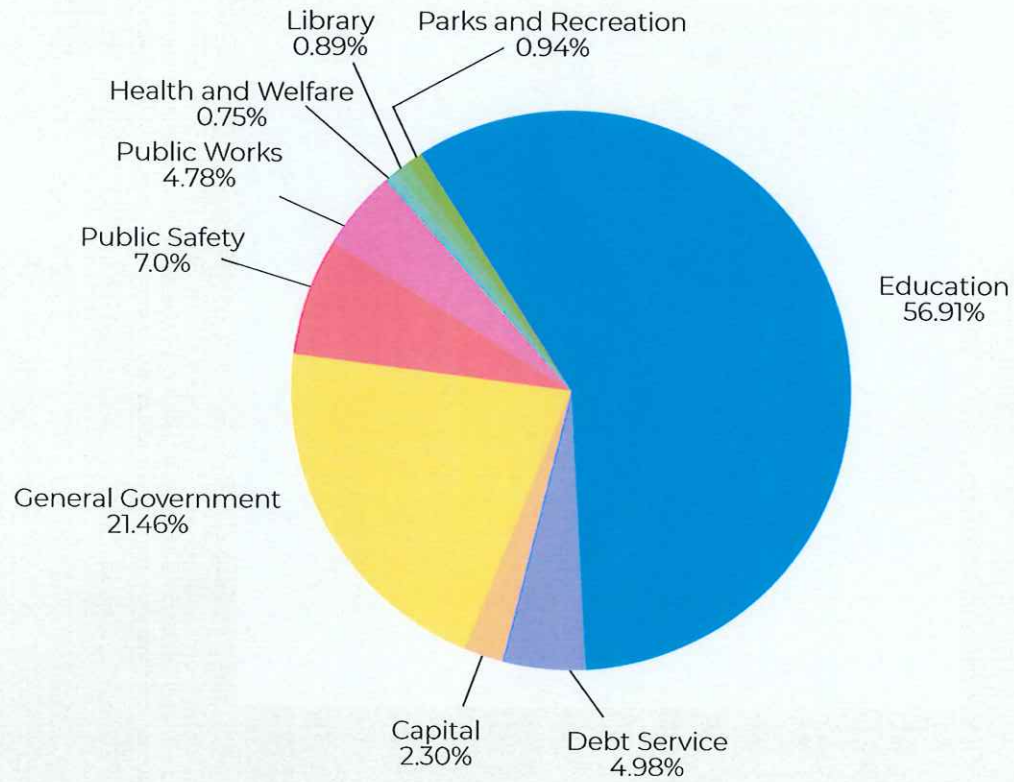


## Proposed FY 26/27 Budgeted Revenues





## Proposed FY 26/27 Budgeted Expenditures





# Capital Improvement Plan

## Major Projects & Ongoing Capital Funding – Tax Levy

- Sawmill Dam Remediation - \$25,000
- MIS Computer & Server Reserve Fund - \$75,000
- Fire Apparatus Reserve - \$384,305
- Public Works Equipment Reserve - \$360,500
- Municipal Building Reserve - \$100,000
- JWL Classroom Renovations - \$140,000
- BOE Ongoing Operating Capital - \$156,500

Total Tax Levy Capital Projects: \$1,690,487



## Grants and Other Capital Funding

- COPS Law Enforcement Technology Grant
  - The COPS Law Enforcement Technology Grant was awarded in FY 25/26 to purchase new computer aided dispatch and record management systems for LPD. Original funding requests were \$180,000 through tax levy. This grant is entirely funded with no match from tax levy.
  - In FY26/27, Council worked with Chief Rich and Capt. Creutz to apply for the COPS Law Enforcement Technology Grant again for in-car video cameras and body cameras. In realistic anticipation, capital funding was reduced by \$20,000 for FY 26/27.
- Land Use Property Sale Proceeds
  - A blighted property was recently sold; after legal fees to reimburse the Legal line for Land Use, \$73,000 was able to be allocated towards Land Use P&Z Document Updates instead of \$75,000 from tax levy.
- Whitford Brook Watershed
  - Grant awarded for \$2,800,000 toward replacement of the Lantern Hill Rd bridge over Whitford Brook. This grant is estimated to be 50% of the costs of replacing the bridge; a LOTCIP grant has been applied for as well for the other 50% of the cost.



## Additional Considerations

- Motor Vehicle Mill Rate Maximum
  - This year, the mill rate will be below the maximum mill rate. In FY 27/28, we will not receive any reimbursement from the state. In FY 26/27, we are projected to receive ~\$741,000
- Mashantucket Pequot/Mohegan Fund Revenue
  - FY 26/27 has an increase of \$800,000 from the efforts of Sen. Osten. Current legislation is proposing significant increases to all allocations from the Fund.
- Veterans Exemptions
  - PA 24-46 provides an exemption for veterans with a service-connected permanent and total disability rating. As a town with a rich military history and population, this Act exempts over \$26m of dwellings and motor vehicles. Proposed HB 5407 would provide reimbursement from the State to cover lost revenue.



Questions?

