

**TOWN OF BROOKFIELD
WARNING: NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

The legal voters of the Town of Brookfield, and those entitled to vote therein are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Brookfield High School Auditorium at 45 Long Meadow Hill Road, Brookfield, Connecticut, on **Tuesday, May 7, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.**, for the following purposes, to

1. To consider, but not to vote upon, the appropriations recommended by the Board of Finance of the Town of Brookfield for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014. Said appropriations are in the total amount of Fifty Nine Million (\$59,000,000) Dollars, consisting of the sum of Thirty Eight Million Two Hundred Ninety Five Thousand (\$38,295,000) Dollars for the Education portion of the Budget and the sum of Twenty Million Seven Hundred Five Thousand (\$20,705,000) Dollars for the Municipal portion of the Budget.

2. To consider and vote upon a Resolution setting the date and time for a vote by voting machine on the Budget for the Town of Brookfield, as recommended by the Board of Finance, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014. Said machine vote is required pursuant to the provisions of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen on April 26, 2013. The Selectmen have recommended Tuesday, May 21, 2013, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., as the date and time for said machine vote. The questions to be voted upon shall be as follows:

Shall the Town of Brookfield appropriate the sum of \$59,000,000 as the total Town Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014?

YES ()

NO ()

Non-Binding Advisory Questions - Response is voluntary:

Is the Municipal Budget in the amount of \$20,705,000

TOO HIGH___ ADEQUATE___ TOO LOW___

Is the Education Budget in the amount of \$38,295,000

TOO HIGH___ ADEQUATE___ TOO LOW___

3. Report of Town Treasurer.

4. To do any and all things which may be legally necessary or appropriate to accomplish the above named purpose?

Dated at Brookfield, Connecticut, this 26th day of April, 2013.

William R. Davidson
Howard Lasser
George F. Walker
Selectmen of the Town of Brookfield

**TOWN OF BROOKFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen hereby find that the Annual Budget proposed by the Board of Finance of the Town of Brookfield for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014, is a matter of sufficient significance to merit broad participation by the electors and voters of the Town of Brookfield.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the vote on the Annual Budget proposed by the Board of Finance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014 is hereby submitted to the electors and voters of the Town of Brookfield for a machine vote. This action is taken pursuant to the provisions of Section C8-3 of the Charter of the Town of Brookfield.
2. That at the machine vote on said Annual Budget, the following question shall be submitted to the voters:

Shall the Town of Brookfield appropriate \$59,000,000 as the total Town Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014?

YES ()

NO ()

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TOO HIGH___ ADEQUATE___ TOO LOW___

Is the Education Budget in the amount of \$38,295,000

TOO HIGH___ ADEQUATE___ TOO LOW___

District 1 voters shall vote at Huckleberry Hill School.

District 2 voters shall vote at Brookfield High School.

3. That the date of Tuesday, May 21, 2013, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., are hereby recommended as the date and time for the machine vote on the Annual Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014.

Dated at Brookfield, Connecticut, this 26th day of April, 2013.

William R. Davidson

Howard Lasser

George F. Walker

Selectmen of the Town of Brookfield


The News-Times

333 Main Street • Danbury, CT 06810

BROOKFIELD 1ST SELECTMAN
P.O. BOX 5106
BROOKFIELD CTR CT 06804

THE NEWS-TIMES AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD SS. DANBURY

I, 
Being duly sworn, depose and say that I am a Representative, Publisher of THE NEWS-TIMES, Publisher of The News-Times, that a LEGAL NOTICE as stated below was published in the THE NEWS-TIMES.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 1st Day of May, A.D. 2013.


Pamela Caluori/Notary Public

My commission expires on January 2018

PO Number

Ad Caption

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD WARI

Publication

Danbury News-Times

Ad Number

0001872358-01

Publication Schedule

5/1/2013

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3. Report of Town Treasurer.

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Selectmen of the Town of Brookfield



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 7, 2013 – 7:30 P.M.

BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

AGENDA

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Call to Order by the First Selectman
3. Opening Remarks by the First Selectman
4. Election of Moderator
5. Call of the Town Meeting – Reading by Town Clerk
6. Budget presentation followed by discussion, questions and comments.
7. Budget Resolution
 - a) Reading by Town Attorney
 - b) Motion, second
 - c) Discussion, questions and comments on the resolution
 - d) Closing of discussion and vote to set Referendum date, time and amount.
8. Annual Report of the Town Treasurer (hand-out).
9. Adjournment

Annual Town Meeting May 7, 2013 Approx. 224 present

First Selectman William Davidson called the meeting to order at 7:40 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

First Selectman William Davidson addressed the assembly.

Mr. Davidson opened the floor for nominations for moderator. Howard Lasser nominated Daniel Smolnik. Ron Jaffe seconded the nomination. Stanley Parker nominated Martin Flynn Jr. Greg Beck seconded the motion. With no further nominations, a hand vote was taken. Mr. Smolnick received 72 votes and Mr. Flynn received 99 votes. Martin Flynn was elected Moderator.

Moderator Flynn asked Town Clerk, Joan Locke to read the call of the meeting.

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Dated at Brookfield, Connecticut, this 26th day of April, 2013.

William R. Davidson
Howard Lasser
George F. Walker
Selectmen of the Town of Brookfield

First Selectman William Davidson gave the following presentation for the Municipal Budget.



Brookfield Annual Town Meeting 2013-14 Budget

BHS Auditorium

Tuesday, May 7, 2013 7:30 PM



Today's Agenda

- ▶ Remarks by the First Selectman
- ▶ Elect a Moderator
- ▶ Call of the Meeting
- ▶ Overview of the Budget
 - Municipal Budget
 - Education Budget
 - Referendum Budget / Mill Rate
- ▶ Public Questions
- ▶ Motions/Votes
- ▶ Adjournment



Items of Note

- ▶ Tax collection rate remains high
- ▶ Both Municipal and Education spending remain within current budget
- ▶ Significant positive changes in negotiated contracts with the Municipal and Education unions
- ▶ The Grand List continues to grow
- ▶ Increased spending for school security



Overview

- ▶ Process began last fall
- ▶ Departmental requests were scrutinized and reduced/adjusted
- ▶ First Selectman and Superintendent proposals were refined by the Boards of Selectmen and Education
- ▶ Expense reduction activities continued on both Town and School side
- ▶ The Board of Finance held 8 special meetings in March — most of which were televised



2013--2014 Referendum Budget

BUDGET AREAS	AMOUNT*	CHANGE
Municipal Operations	\$15,317	+ 6.84%
Public Debt	\$4,258	+ 2.06%
Capital Projects	\$1,130	- 7.71%
Total Municipal Budget	\$20,705	+ 4.93%
Education Budget	\$38,295	+ 3.40%
Total Town Budget	\$59,000	+ 3.93%

* In thousands



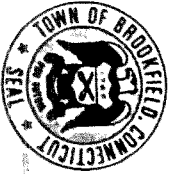
Municipal Budget

Operations and Capital



Municipal Budget Focus

- ▶ Control spending without reducing services to residents
- ▶ Utilize our investment in technology for better public service and Town Hall efficiency
- ▶ Responsible long term planning
- ▶ Reinvest in the Town's capital structure



Municipal Budget Objectives

2012-13 Approved Budget

\$18,508,105

2013-14 Referendum Budget*

\$19,574,550

- Add 1 SRO (School Resource Officer)
- Add 1 employee to Public Works
- Add 1 employee to Technology Department
- Add half-time employee as Zoning Enforcement Officer
- Fund 100% of annual pension obligation
- Increase capital investment

** Total Municipal Budget less Capital*



Capital Budget Objectives

2012-13 Approved Budget

2013-14 Referendum Budget

\$902,943

\$1,224,895

- ▶ Maintain assets and not defer capital maintenance
- ▶ Devote resources for capital investment
- ▶ Continue to build the capacity to fund road maintenance, emergency vehicle replacement, other capital needs on an ongoing basis
- ▶ Fund Phase 3 school building security program



Municipal Budget Drivers

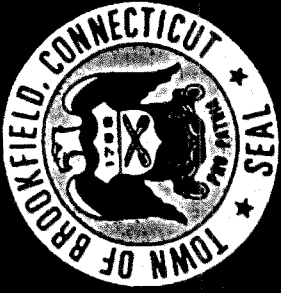
- ▶ Pension (\$230,165, 40% increase)
- ▶ Health Insurance (\$239,720 increase of 9% renewal plus cost of new employees)
- ▶ SROs (\$125,000 for 1 new position)



Municipal Adjustments

- ▶ The Referendum Budget is a reduction of the Public Hearing Budget of \$275,000 in operations and capital.
- ▶ This will result in the following adjustments:
 - *Zoning Enforcement Officer not hired*
 - *Technology employee not hired, funding for part-time consultant remains*
 - *Second SRO position not funded for full year, delayed hiring*
 - *Fund Balance reduced to just above minimum agreed-to level*
 - *High School gym floor will not be restored*
 - *WMS Language Lab will not be established*

Superintendent Anthony Bivona and Director of Finance and Technology Operation's Art Colley, gave the following presentation for the Education Budget.



Education Budget



Education Accolades

- ▶ Ranked 10th in state and 505th nationally by ***Newsweek***
- ▶ One of 26 districts in Connecticut recognized for significant gains in Advance Placement access & performance
- ▶ Recognized for high efficiency while producing strong student achievement by both the ***Center for American Progress*** and the ***University of Connecticut Quarterly Review***



Education Budget Objectives

2012-13 Approved Budget

2013-14 Referendum Budget

\$37,036,000

\$38,295,000

- Meet class size guidelines — particularly at elementary level
- Provide resources for curriculum update and staff development
- Continue multi-year phase-in of world language program and replace third language at high school
- Continue support of technology initiative
- Meet Special Education mandates and attend to students' social and emotional needs in the most cost effective manner



Education Budget Focus

- ▶ Maximize efficiencies - control costs
- ▶ Provide high quality educational programs
- ▶ Improve student achievement
- ▶ Utilize all resources effectively
- ▶ Security



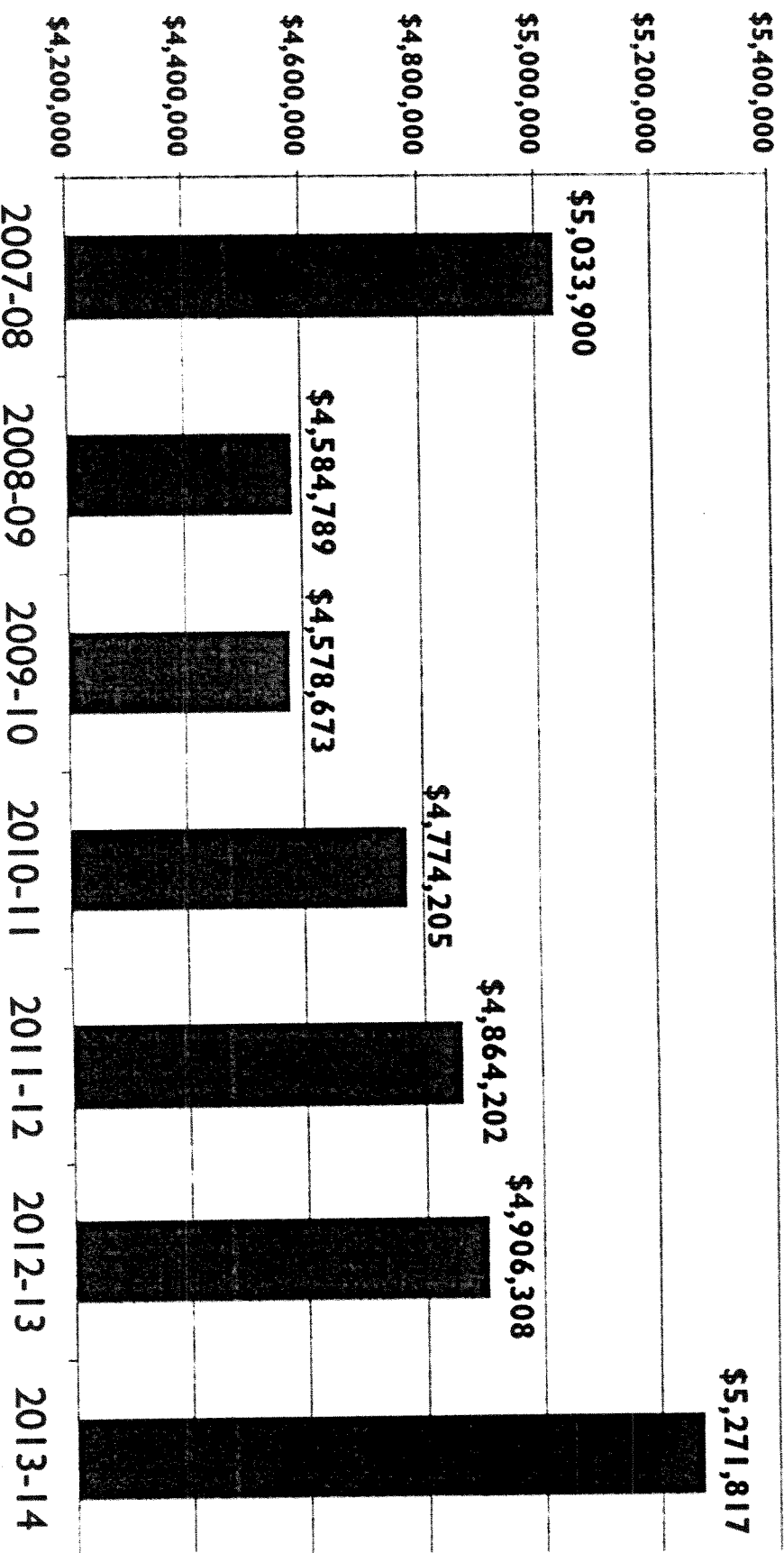
Education Budget Adjustments

- ▶ The Referendum Budget is a reduction of the BOE's request of \$450,571
- ▶ BOE has made the following adjustments:
 - *No third language at BHS (Mandarin)*
 - *-2.2 School Wide Enrichment teachers*
 - *-2.0 paraprofessionals*
 - *-1.0 maintenance mechanic*



Health Care Plan Design

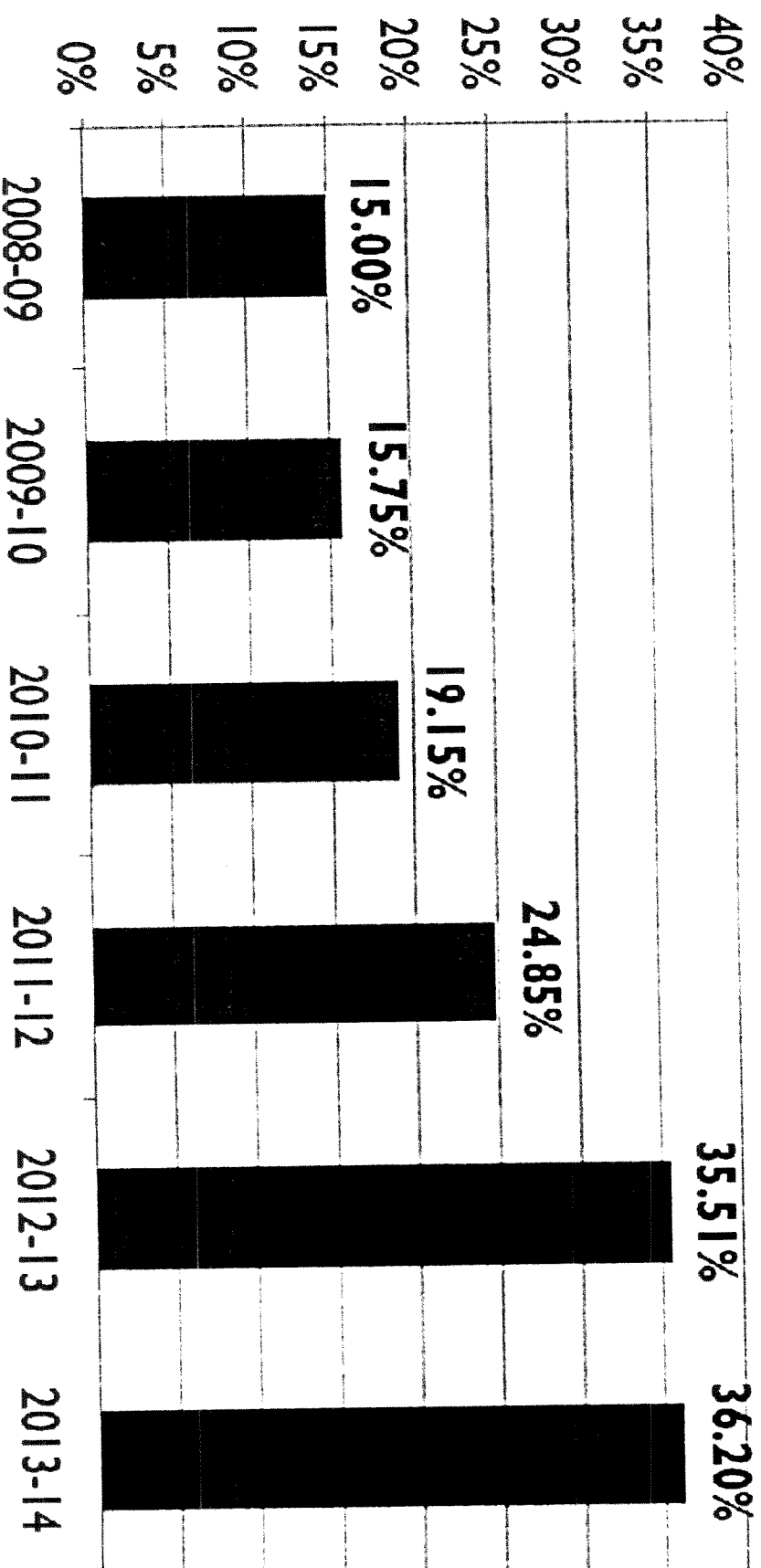
► Move to HDHP has resulted in annual savings of over \$650,000.





Health Care Contribution

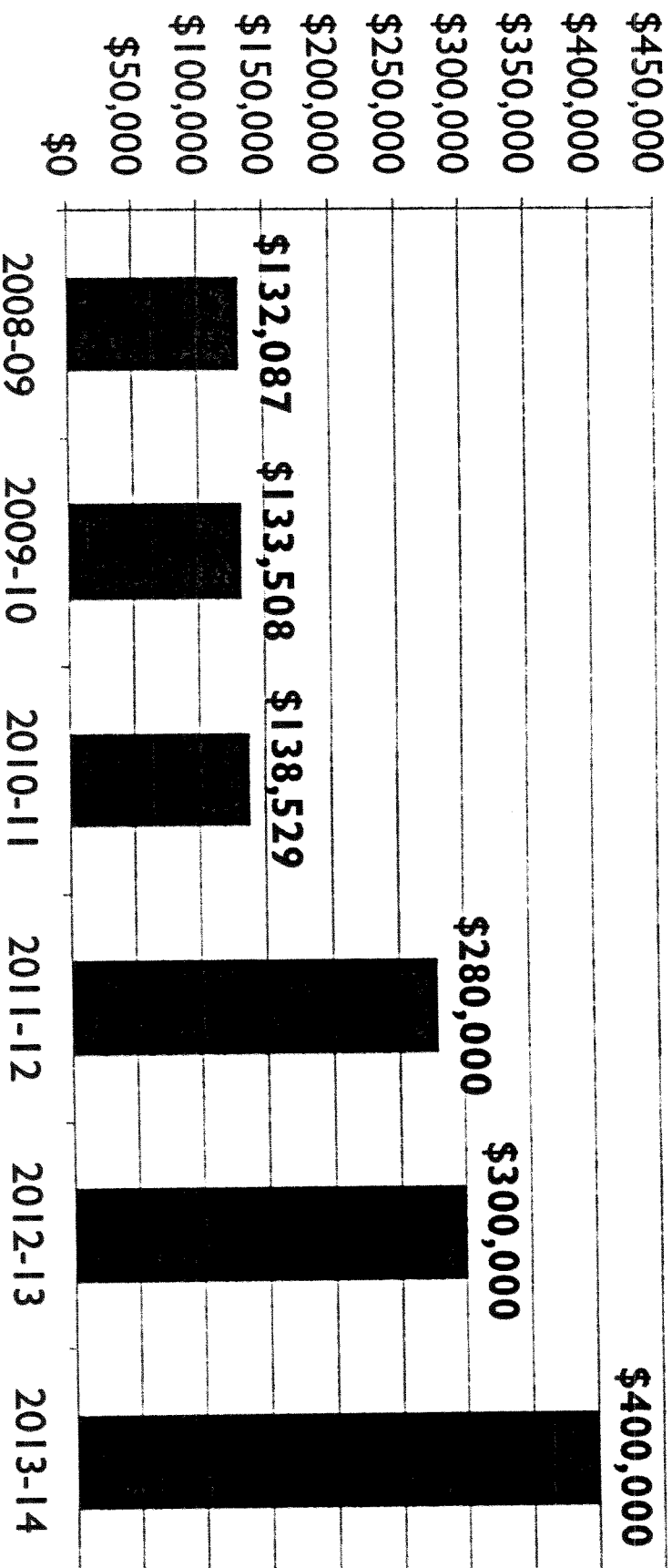
► Employees' participation in health care costs has increased over time.





Education — Pension

▶ Education contribution to the pension plan has grown with the commitment to fully fund the Actuarial Recommended Contribution (ARC).



First Selectman William Davidson made the following presentation on the Referendum Budget/Mill Rate.



Referendum Budget / Mill Rate



2013-2014 Referendum Budget

BUDGET AREAS	AMOUNT*	CHANGE
Municipal Operations	\$15,317	+ 6.84%
Public Debt	\$4,258	+ 2.06%
Capital Projects	\$1,130	- 7.71%
Total Municipal Budget	\$20,705	+ 4.93%
Education Budget	\$38,295	+ 3.40%
Total Town Budget	\$59,000	+ 3.93%

* In thousands



2013-2014 Budget

	2012-13	2013-14	CHANGE
EXPENDITURES			
Municipal Budget	\$19,773	\$20,705	+ 4.93%
Education Budget	\$37,036	\$38,295	+ 3.40%
Total Town Budget	\$56,769	\$59,000	+ 3.93%
REVENUES			
Intergovernmental	\$2,322	\$2,167	- 6.66%
Other	\$1,950	\$2,359	+ 20.97%
Fund Balance	\$300	\$100	- 66.67%
General Property Taxes	\$52,197	\$54,374	+ 4.17%
Total Revenues	\$56,769	\$59,000	+ 3.93%
Mill Rate	24.54	25.40	+ 3.50%



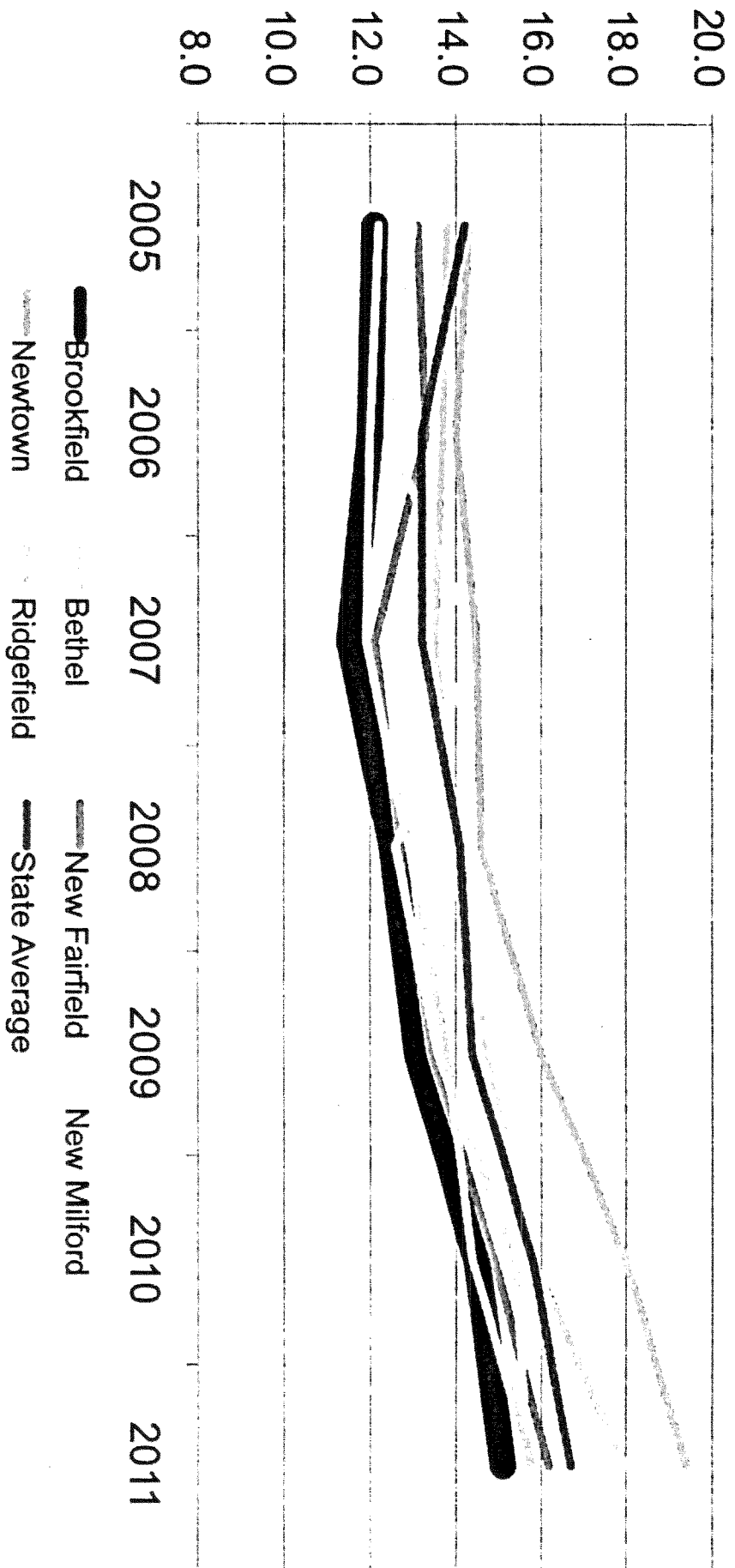
What this means to individuals

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| ▶ Last year's mill rate | 24.54 |
| ▶ Proposed mill rate | 25.40 |
| ▶ Increase | 3.50% |



Equalized mill rates

- ▶ Brookfield's equalized mill rate (tax rate) ranks in the lower 1/3 of the state — lower than many of our neighboring towns.



Source: Data & formula from CT OPM



Important Date

▶ Budget Referendum*

Tuesday, May 21

6:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Huckleberry Hill Elementary School (District 1)

Brookfield High School (District 2)

** Date to be confirmed at Annual Town Meeting*



Referendum Question

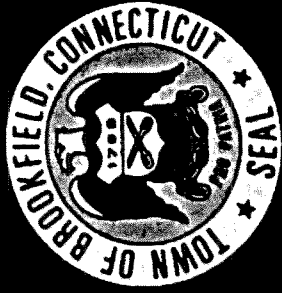
Shall the Town of Brookfield appropriate the sum of \$59,000,000 as the Town Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014?

YES ()

NO ()

District 1 voters shall vote at Huckleberry Hill School

District 2 voters shall vote at Brookfield High School



Thank You.

Stephen Harding, 56 Mist Hill Drive made a motion "In accordance with Sections c9-3 (A) and C8-3 of the Town Charter, I move that the date of the referendum be amended to Saturday, May 18, 2013." Greg Beck, 25 Oak Crest Drive, seconded the motion. Moderator Flynn opened the floor for discussion. There were comments from the following:

Robert Belden	7 Red Barn Lane
Robert Gianazza	3 Spruce Drive
Anna M. Lane	14 Flax Hill Road
William Davidson	19 Cove Road
Robert Iacobello	30 Ironworks Hill Road

Moderator Flynn called for a written vote on the motion. There were 48 votes in favor of moving the date to Saturday May 18, 2013 and 150 against moving the date. The date of the referendum will remain Tuesday, May 21, 2013.

There were further comments from

Richard Saluga	32 Great Heron Lane
Douglas Urisko	46 South Lake Shore Drive
Raymond Distephan	20 Ox Drive
Alaina Toto-Katz	26 Deer Run Road

Matthew Grimes made a motion to call the question. Bob Belden seconded the motion. Moderator Flynn called for a vote on the amended question.

QUESTION 1

"Shall the Town of Brookfield appropriate the sum of \$20,705,000 for the Municipal Government portion of the Town Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014?"

YES () NO ()

Non-Binding Advisory Question – Response is Voluntary:

Is the Municipal Budget in the amount of \$20,705,000

TOO HIGH _____ ADEQUATE _____ TOO LOW _____

QUESTION 2

"Shall the Town of Brookfield appropriate the sum of \$38,295,000 for the Education portion of the Town Budget for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014?"

YES () NO ()

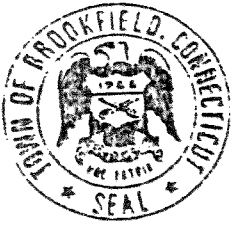
Non-Binding Advisory Question – Response is Voluntary:

Is the Education Budget in the amount of \$38,295,000

TOO HIGH _____ ADEQUATE _____ TOO LOW _____

A hand vote was taken and passed.

Moderator Flynn announced that the following "Report of Town Treasurer "was available in the back of the auditorium.



TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

BROOKFIELD, CT 06804

May 7, 2013

To Brookfield Residents:

The Town of Brookfield's Annual Financial Report is 116 pages. Included in the report is the attached four page summary letter signed by the First Selectman, Town Controller and Town Treasurer. In order to save taxpayers' money, please review the report on the Town's website at the following link:

http://www.brookfieldct.gov/Pages/BrookfieldCT_BComm/Finance/index

If you wish to receive a hard copy of the report, contact the First Selectman's Office at 203-775-7301 or firstselectman@brookfieldct.gov.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

William R. Davidson
First Selectman

William Leverage
Town Controller

David Scribner
Treasurer



TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

BROOKFIELD, CT 06804

February 26, 2013

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, Board of Finance and Citizens of the Town of Brookfield, Connecticut:

The State of Connecticut under Sec. 7-392 of the General Statutes requires all municipalities to annually conduct an audit of their financial statements. A complete set of the audited financial statements shall be filed within six months of the municipality's fiscal year end. In addition, the Treasurer shall annually provide a report concerning the accounts and finances of such municipality. This report is published to fulfill these requirements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

Management assumes full responsibility for the completeness and reliability of the information contained in this report. Since the cost of internal control should not exceed anticipated benefits, the objective is to provide reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of any material misstatements.

Grant Thornton LLP Certified Public Accountants, have issued unqualified ("clean") opinions on the Town of Brookfield's (the "Town") financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information as of and for the year ended June 30, 2012, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. The independent auditor's report is located at the front of the financial section of this report.

Management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) immediately follows the independent auditor's report and provides a narrative introduction, overview, and analysis of the basic financial statements. MD&A complements this letter of transmittal and should be read in conjunction with it.

100 Pocono Rd., Brookfield, CT 06804 (203) 775-7308

PROFILE OF THE GOVERNMENT

The Town was incorporated in 1788 under statutes of the State of Connecticut. The Town, located in Fairfield County in western Connecticut, encompasses an area of 19.8 square miles with an estimated current population of 16,452 residents. The Town is empowered by state statute to levy property tax on real and personal property including vehicles located within its boundaries.

The Town has a Town Meeting form of government, with a three member Board of Selectmen elected to two-year terms, a six member Board of Finance elected to four year staggered terms, and a seven member Board of Education elected to four year staggered terms. Elections are held biennially in November in odd numbered years. The legislative body also has the power and privileges conferred and granted to Towns and Cities under the Constitution and the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut.

The First Selectman is the full-time Chief Executive and Administrative Officer of the Town who oversees the execution of all laws and ordinances governing the Town. He presides over the Board of Selectmen and has full voting privileges. The First Selectman is also an ex-officio member of the Board of Finance and has the authority to cast a vote to break a tie.

The Board of Finance is responsible for proposing annual budgets and special appropriations at Town Meetings. Brookfield's professional staff also includes a Town Controller and an elected Treasurer. The Town Controller is responsible for the coordination of the activities of the accounting staff; the maintenance of the general ledgers of the various funds and account groups of the Town, financial planning, cost accounting, financial report preparation, and supervision of the annual independent audit. The Treasurer is responsible for the investment of Town funds.

PRINCIPAL TOWN OFFICIALS

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Manner of Selection</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Current Term/ Appointment</u>
First Selectman	William Davidson	Elected	3	12/11 - 12/13
Treasurer	David Scribner	Elected	17	1/12 - 01/16
Controller	William Leverence	Appointed	1	6/18/2012
Chairman, Board of Finance	Gerard W. Friedrich	Elected	3	12/9 - 12/13
Superintendent of Schools	Anthony J. Bivona	Appointed	6	7/1/2011
Town Attorney	David Grogins	Appointed	4	1/10 - 2/14

The Board of Education is a legal body created by the statutes of the State of Connecticut with the responsibility to establish, implement and appraise the educational activities of the Town.

SUMMARY OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Police:

The Town maintains a police force with an authorized strength of 29 officers and 3 special officers (Chief, Major and Captain). There are also 8 full-time and 1 part-time dispatchers. The department operates with a fleet of vehicles that includes a mobile crime scene emergency vehicle; the patrol vehicles have on-board computers.

Fire:

The Town Volunteer Fire Departments consist of 120 volunteer firemen and emergency service personnel. Two fire stations are strategically located within the Town. The current 2012-2013 Town Budget includes \$598,651 to assist in the operations of the Volunteer Fire Departments. In addition, the Departments conduct an annual fund-raising drive that generates an average of \$150,000 – \$200,000.

Parks and Recreation:

The Town has recreation facilities both active and passive. These include ten parks, eighteen ball fields, a nine-hole public golf course, tennis/basketball courts, a YMCA that includes a 50 meter pool and wellness center, and numerous picnic areas. Candlewood Lake, the largest fresh water lake in Connecticut, forms the western border of the Town. Lake Lillinonah, another large lake, forms the eastern border. Both lakes offer swimming, boating and fishing facilities.”

The Parks Department maintains on a year-round basis over 725 acres of municipal land which includes parks, ball fields, school grounds, a municipal complex, a police station, two fire stations, a library and several traffic islands. The Department has four full-time employees who are supplemented with year-round independent contractors and seasonal summer employees.

Library:

In addition to providing library services in each school, the Town maintains a public library. The library staff includes five full-time professional librarians and six part-time assistants, supported by a staff of assistant librarians, clerks and staff aids.

Sewers:

The Town of Brookfield has an inter-municipal agreement with the City of Danbury for the treatment of wastewater that is generated in Brookfield. Payments to the City provide for the Town's share of the costs for the operation, maintenance and capital improvements of the regional plant. The Brookfield Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) operates as an enterprise fund within the Town of Brookfield. Sewer customers are assessed for all costs associated with the operation and financing of WPCA. The sewer system is positioned to handle commercial and industrial growth anticipated for the next decade or more.

Solid Waste:

The Town of Brookfield is a member of the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRRA), which is the regional municipal solid waste (MSW) and recycling management organization for the Housatonic Valley municipalities of Bethel, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Danbury, Kent, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield, and Sherman. Solid waste from HRRRA municipalities is taken to one of three regional transfer stations operated by Wheelabrator Environmental System, Inc. (WES) in Danbury, Newtown or Ridgefield. From these three regional transfer stations, MSW is trucked to one of two resource recovery facilities in Bridgeport or Lisbon, CT or taken to other legally permitted WES disposal sites outside CT.

TOWN EMPLOYEES

The following table illustrates the permanent full-time Town employees for the last five fiscal years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>2012-13</u>	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
General Government.....	101	101	101	98	99
Board of Education.....	381	381	383	369	376
Total.....	482	482	484	467	475

The Town's budget procedure is governed by local Charter which provides a detailed schedule of input from department heads, elected officials (Boards of Selectmen, Finance and Education) and the public culminating in a Town-wide referendum in May. The budget is prepared by function and department. Department heads may transfer resources within a department as required. Transfers between departments, however, need special approval from the Boards of Selectmen and Finance.

Local Economy

Brookfield is fortunate to be located in close proximity to the greater New York business centers. Brookfield's employment base is not located within the greater Brookfield area but in areas of the lower Fairfield County of Connecticut, Westchester County in New York and in the New York City business environment.

The area supports medium to small technology-based companies which blend with the Town's Plan of Development. It has a number of financial institutions and warehouse distribution centers. The Town's economy is diverse with services, manufacturing and retail trade being the leading components.

While the region is not immune to the economic slowdown impacting the broader economy, the Town is taking action to mitigate its impact. Recent investments in improvements to infrastructure such as road maintenance, and expansion of public water, fire suppression and sewer lines, have promoted expansion by local business as well as attracted new investment by the business community into the Town's central business area. Brookfield's position as a major regional retail shopping area was enhanced during 2013 with the expansion and modernization of a Costco warehouse store and the new construction of a BJ's warehouse store. In addition, the Town has invested in plans for development of a 198-acre Town Center District, which is anticipated to be a New England-style pedestrian-friendly mixed-use residential and retail area.

The Town, with its close proximity to the New York labor market, continues to enjoy a solid employment base. Per capita earnings are very favorable in comparison to the national and state averages.

	Town of Brookfield	State of Connecticut
Per Capita Income, 2011	\$49,872	\$37,627
Per Capita Income, 1999	\$37,063	\$28,766
Per Capita Income, 1989	\$24,277	\$20,189
Median Family Income, 2011	\$125,380	\$86,395
Median Family Income, 1999	\$91,296	\$65,521
Median Family Income, 1989	\$65,111	\$49,199
Percent Below Poverty Level, 2011	2.6%	6.7%

*Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, 2000, 1990;
U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2011 American Community Survey.*

Unemployment in the Town remains below the State average.

Major Initiatives

While the general economy has slowed, the Town continues to show economic progress. This is demonstrated through the activity in our Land Use Department. A number of new development projects within Town, both residential and commercial are awaiting Land Use approvals.

- The Southern Route 7 Commercial Corridor - The Southern Commercial district of the Town continues to enjoy a strong level of development. The construction continues to be a mixture of commercial retail and a blend of age restricted residences.

- Town's five year road paving program – The Town has approved a bond appropriation of \$10,000,000 for a five year road paving program to upgrade its road and drainage infrastructure throughout the Town.
- Four Corners Streetscape Project – A major project to develop our Route 7 and Route 202 business district by improving the lighting and streetscape along the street.
- Enhancement to the Town's Recreational Facilities Brookfield has been successful over the past year has enjoyed success with the implementation and approval of several of the recreational projects.
 - A major project, the Still River Greenway (a multi-purpose biking, jogging and walking facility), has been funded and is awaiting final State and Federal environmental approval. The Town has received a State of Connecticut financial commitment of approximately \$2,000,000 for the project.
 - A major renovation project at Town's park on Candlewood Lake is in the final design phase. It includes the replacement of the lake wall, installation of handicapped-accessible walkways, lighting, landscaping with benches and picnic tables. A grant for \$750,000 from the State of Connecticut will benefit this project.
 - A major renovation of Kids Kingdom, the Town's playground, was completed in 2012. This project included landscaping, installation of state of the art age-specific equipment, handicap accessibility, safety surface and benches. A grant for \$250,000 from the State of Connecticut benefitted this project.

Due to its strong financial position, Brookfield continues to maintain a credit rating of Aa1 from Moody's Investor Services.

RELEVANT FINANCIAL POLICIES

Long Range Financial Planning and Debt Management

The Town maintains a five-year capital plan. Estimates are based on departmental projections and are complimented with a philosophy of conservative budgeting practices. Several years ago the Town adopted a guideline of maintaining a fund balance in excess of 7.5% of current annual expenditures. The Town has consistently exceeded this guideline increasing the unassigned fund balance to a June 30, 2012 (year end closing) level of \$5,409,796 or 9.6%. The Town has begun discussing steps to fund its OPEB liability for post retirement benefits, including funding for a reserve for its payment of liabilities for current and future heart and hypertension claims. Additionally, for the

current fiscal year the Town has funded its pension obligations at 100% of the ARC and put in place a reserve fund to insure full funding going forward.



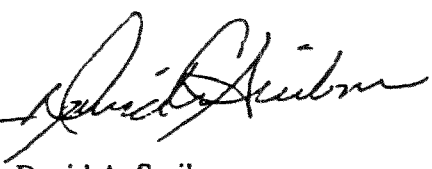
It is still the expectation of the Town that it can safely manage its modest debt burden and maintain a repayment schedule that reduces the principal of any bond issue by at least 50% during the first ten years. Currently, the Town averages debt principal reduction of 60% during the first ten years.

AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Government Finance Officers Association ("GFOA") awarded a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the Town of Brookfield for its comprehensive annual financial report ("CAFR") for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011. The Town has received this award every year it has applied. In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report, whose contents conform to program standards. The CAFR must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only.

The preparation of this report could not have been accomplished without the dedication and hard work of the entire staff of the Finance Department. We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to all members of that department who assisted and contributed to its preparation. We also appreciate the assistance and dedication of the audit team from Grant Thornton LLP. Finally, we would like to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Education and Board of Finance for their interest and support in planning and conducting the financial operations of the Town in a responsible and progressive manner.

Respectfully submitted,

		
William Davidson First Selectman	William Leverage Town Controller	David A. Scribner Treasurer

Town Clerk, Joan Locke explained the process for applying for an absentee ballot for a referendum with less than three weeks notice.

Stanley Parker made a motion to adjourn. Sue Balla seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan M. Locke".

Joan M. Locke
Town Clerk