



FY2021 Departmental Budget Review

TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN



Police

Budget Book Page 196

Total expenditures	\$6,270K	an increase of \$89K or 1%
FTEs	44.5	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2% July 1 / 2% on June 30 for top step only	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	0.12 %	
Capital Purchases	\$77.5K	Taser replacement -page 14 in CIP

Other highlights:

- RI Police Chiefs Association (RIPCA) “Twenty for 2020” campaign
- State initiative to implement new CAD/RMS (New World)
- Refined training schedule/cost

Challenges:

- COVID issues
- Need to consider vehicles replacement and maintenance schedule
- Town administrator and chief recommend implementation of body camera program
- Renegotiation of CBA- changes anticipated



Fire

Budget Book Page 210

Total expenditures	\$5,925K	an increase of \$1,213K or 26%
FTEs	38.0	change from last year
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	(IAFF and NEARI)
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	0.12 %	
Capital Purchases		
(see page 14 in CIP)	\$600K	pumper replacement (lease purchase)
	\$311K	emergency radio upgrade (grant pending)

Other highlights:

- Staffing - minimum staffing changes approved in CBA
- Multi-year plan to implement new staffing
- Search ongoing for new chief

Challenges:

- COVID
- SAFR grant fire employees pending
- Accreditation



Public Works

Budget Book Page 221

Total expenditures	\$2,627K	a decrease of \$44K or 2%
FTEs	14.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2% (Teamsters)	3 employees have contractual step increases
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	\$650K	Roads (page 15 in CIP)
	\$25K	Grant (sidewalks at Rogers Lane, page 16 in CIP)

Other highlights:

- Savings achieved by avoiding use of part-time employees and contractors

Challenges:

- COVID
- Stormwater management
- RIDOT
- National Grid



Sewer

Budget Book Page 108

Total expenditures	\$6,833K	a decrease of \$118K or 2%
FTEs	5.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	1 employee has contractual step increases
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	\$100K	Sliplining
(see page 16 in CIP)	55K	Pump station generator
	60K	Wave Ave improvements

Other highlights: (see rate information on page 109)

- Sewer maintenance \$16.78 from \$15.69
- Customer service charge \$36.40 from \$36.31
- Annual change per single family is \$13.63 (1.8%)
- Excess I&I unchanged at \$34.25
- Water usage down

Challenges:

- Completed rate study, postponed
- City of Newport wastewater
- COVID operations
- Major improvements deferred



Refuse & Recycling

Budget Book Page 117

Total expenditures	\$1,045K	an increase of \$8K or 1%
FTEs	1.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	\$21K	cart replacement

Other highlights:

- Increased subscribers
- Weekend and weekday bulk waste day
- No change in rate
- Reserve is \$600K

Challenges:

- COVID - change in behavior, increased residential trash
- Increased demand on contractor, discussion regarding agreement



Parks & Recreation

Budget Book Page 96

Total expenditures	\$1,750K	a decrease of \$2,120K or 55%
FTEs	75.0	part-time employees
Change in rates:		
Compensation	n/a	
Health/Dental	n/a	
Pension	n/a	
Capital Purchases	Capital replenishment program has been suspended	

Other highlights:

- General fund balance is funding civic appropriations
- Fund balance used to balance fund

Challenges:

- Concerns related to COVID, next season presents additional questions
- Capitalize on opportunities identified to improve beach ops
- Changing concessions



Town Administrator

Budget Book Page 123

Total expenditures	\$348K	an increase of \$35K or 11%
FTEs	2.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	(parity to NEARI)
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- Includes \$57K for communications and marketing support, \$32K increase from prior year

Challenges:

- COVID response
- Senior housing
- Department consolidations
- Long-term planning



Finance

Budget Book Page 129

Total expenditures	\$566K	an increase of \$8K or 1%
FTEs	6.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2% (NEARI)	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- Reduced operating costs by 15%

Challenges:

- Consolidation of town departments with school department



Tax Assessment/Collection

Budget Book Page 139

Total expenditures	\$405K	an increase of \$76K or 23%
FTEs	3.0	
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- Includes property revaluation costs, \$64K

Challenges:

- Determine whether to conduct 1 or 2 tax sales in FY2021
- Motor vehicle excise tax bills to be mailed out separately



Town Clerk

Budget Book Page 147

Total expenditures	\$509K	an increase of \$11K or 2%
FTEs	4.5	
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2% (NEARI)	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- 2 elections
- Increase probate court stipend to \$1,200/month
- Decrease municipal court stipend to \$1,200/month

Challenges:

- Elections in the COVID environment including finding election workers, implementing state required changes, and the increase in mail and emergency ballots



Information Technology

Budget Book Page 157

Total expenditures	\$744K	a decrease of \$280K or 27%
FTEs	2.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2% (NEARI)	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	\$45K	Network infrastructure
(see page 13 of CIP)	\$7K	Copier replacement

Other highlights:

- Elimination of summer intern
- OpenGov license not renewed, \$20K
- Transition applications to the cloud
- Reclass \$24K from other tech services to administrator for media consultant
- Cybersecurity management
- Developing website update

Challenges:

- Need to add additional \$14K to software licenses as a result of inventory reconciliations
- Consolidation of town and school IT
- COVID response to meeting management



Support Services

Budget Book Page 164

Total expenditures	\$263K	a decrease of \$139K or 35%
FTEs	0.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	n/a	
Health/Dental	n/a	
Pension	n/a	
Capital Purchases	none	Prior year included non-recurring accrual

Other highlights: none

Challenges:

- Anticipated decreased utilities due to Newport SD moving out and not anticipating replacement
- May need to reconsider now that EBCAP signed lease
- Merging town and school facility departments



Town Solicitor/Town Council Boards/Committees

Budget Book Page 169

Total expenditures	\$329K	a decrease of \$62K or 16%
FTEs	n/a	
Change in rates:		
Compensation	n/a	
Health/Dental	n/a	
Pension	n/a	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- Decrease of \$64K due to non-recurring litigation
- Increased election costs due to 2 scheduled elections

Challenges:

- COVID and the ability to convene



Building/Zoning

Budget Book Page 180

Total expenditures	\$368K	a decrease of \$9K or 2%
FTEs	4.0	1 vacancy
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2% (NEARI)	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- Savings associated with hiring new employee

Challenges:

- Recent decision to unsubscribe from host compliance, \$21K, not reflected



Planning/ Economic Development

Budget Book Page 189

Total expenditures	\$422K	a decrease of \$118K or 22%
FTEs	2.0	
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2% (NEARI)	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	increase in employee participation
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- \$50K reduction in consultant services for non-specific studies

Challenges:

- West Main/Coddington limited developer response to RFI, partially COVID related
- Limited funding for lower Aquidneck Avenue/Dunlap-Wheeler Park (underground utilities, streetscapes, improvements)
- Awaiting Navy cleanup and transfer of Shoreline Park
- Economic development - COVID



Library

Budget Book Page 233

Total expenditures	\$845K	a decrease of \$105K or 11%
FTEs	10.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	— %	
Capital Purchases	\$10K	book collection (see page 19 in CIP)

Other highlights:

- \$100K for building assessment in FY20 not used
- Decrease in healthcare cost due to employee's transition from family to single plan

Challenges:

- COVID
- Phase out, last year of book money



Senior Center

Budget Book Page 242

Total expenditures	\$275K	a decrease of \$92K or 25%
FTEs	2.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- Non-recurring capital purchases, van and kitchen, in prior FY
- Operating increase related to van operations

Challenges:

- COVID
- Meal program
- Instructor program costs



Middletown Prevention Coalition

Budget Book Page 250

Total expenditures	\$54K	a decrease of \$124K or 70%
FTEs	1.0	
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2 %	
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	1 %	
Capital Purchases	none	

Other highlights:

- Measurable success in reducing use of all substances since 2012
- Use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) decreased 6.3% in four years
- Drug Free Community (DFC) grant sunsets in January

Challenges:

- Sustainability
- COVID
- Additional funds needed to capture costs associated with grant termination



Non-department Specific

Budget Book Page 258

Total expenditures	\$35M	an increase of \$1M or 3%
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Other highlights:

- Pension and OPEB for retirees is funded based on actuarial valuation reports
- Transfers out to other funds
 - Schools - \$1.06M per school committee request (4% increase)
 - Parks & Recreation - \$93K for civic appropriations
 - Burial fund - \$34K to pay for annual operations (197%)
- Net contingency is reduced by \$40K

Challenges:

- Economic issues related to COVID



Middletown School Department

Budget Book Page 261

Total expenditures	\$43.7 M	an increase of \$410K or 1%
Appropriation from town	\$27.5 M	an increase of \$1.06K or 4%
FTEs	298.0	no change
Change in rates:		
Compensation	2-2.5%	Teachers 2.5%, Custodial 2.0% 7/1 and 0.5% 6/30, All Others 2%
Health/Dental	4% / 1%	
Pension	2.7% / 8.9%	Certified / Non-Certified
Capital Purchases-Town SRF	\$320K	\$200K technology replacement
(Additional items-page 12 in CIP)		\$120K network infrastructure

Other highlights:

- District pivot to distance learning beginning in March of 2020

Challenges:

- School re-entry planning and associated costs
- Consolidation
- Additional funds needed