



To: Izadi, Michael Cc: Theodore Shafer (theodore.shafer@gmail.com), adinicola@snet.net, Stephen J. Savino (steve@savinocpa.com), Lindsay, Marisa  
Town of Burlington, General Fund

Below is the information requested by Secretary Benjamin Barnes. We have also sent our concerns regarding the potential impact of a continuing state budget impasse to our Town. We are probably echoing the concerns of many other towns as well.

BURLINGTON	GENERAL FUND		
2015	Total Fund Balance \$ 5,261,847	Unassigned	\$4,795,990
2016	Total Fund Balance \$ 5,845,579	Unassigned	\$4,558,560
Estimated 17	Total Fund Balance \$6,150,000	Unassigned	\$4,650,000
Projected 18	Total Fund Balance \$5,315,000	Unassigned	\$4,000,000

The status of the current State budget has made it very difficult to plan for the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year. Reduction of ECS and/or other Town aid, and reimbursements by the State will have a detrimental impact to the Town of Burlington, including but not limited to the following;

- We would be forced to use part of our fund balance. Rating agencies look for the town’s fund balance to be around 15% of their overall budget to maintain a respectable rating. We suspect that a reduction or elimination of state funding will increase the required fund balance percentage requirement to possibly 20 to 25 percent. Reductions by the state would reduce our fund balances percent which will increase our bonding cost.
- We will need to have a Special Assessment to the residents. In effect this is a tax increase by the state.
- The Town will be forced to make additional substantial cuts to all town budgets, including staff and capital improvement projects. Athletic fields will be mothballed and we may be forced to go to a 3 or 4 day work week. The land scape of our Town will change forever.
- If ECS (Revenue to the Town) money is cut we would have to ask Regional School District #10 to substantially reduce their budget which is approximately 78%of the Town’s total budget. This undoubtable will result in the layoff of administration, certified and non-certified staff, holding on any capital items and will affect programs in the areas of athletics, the arts, educational field trips, transportation, etc. Class rooms will be larger.

Keep in mind the state is making decisions which affect the Towns that already have a budget approved and in place for 2017-18. Any loss in state revenue is a loss to the residents of Burlington and all other CT Towns. The State has been fiscally irresponsible and now they want the towns to bail them out. If items are “untouchable” due to past legislation undo the legislation. It’s time to hit the programs that no one wants to talk about.

Thank you,

Theodore C. Shafer, First Selectman  
 Anthony DiNicola, Chairman, Board of Finance  
 Stephen Savino, Treasurer  
 Eleanor J. Parente