

TOWN OF SCOTLAND

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN



First Selectman
Daniel D. Syme

Selectmen
Clare D. D' Appollonio
Rodney E. Perry

Benjamin Barnes, Secretary
Office of Policy and Management
State of Connecticut
450 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

August 15, 2017

Dear Mr. Barnes,

The Town of Scotland does not have an approved budget for fiscal year 17/18. The Governor has proposed cutting ECS funding by \$750,214, Pilot and Tribal grants cuts totaling \$32,534, requests municipal contribution to the Teachers Retirement of \$222,000 for a total of \$1,004,748 to be funded by our residents and very limited business base. Municipal revenue sharing and motor vehicle payments to the town of \$74,206 can be subtracted from the \$1,004,748 leaving an approximate municipal aid reduction of \$930,542. That equals a 9.30 mill tax increase on our 650 homes and 12 businesses. There is no way the voters of Scotland would approve a 9.3 mill increase to cover municipal aid reductions. Through public hearings discussing the proposed budget it was made clear to the Selectmen that a town budget with a significant property tax increase will not pass.

At the annual town meeting voters approved the implementation of the statute that allows a municipality without an approved budget to operate on a 90 day basis the prior year's approved budget. With our current Unassigned Fund balance of \$652,261, using the \$652,261 to keep our school open, Teachers Retirement payment on or before January 1st, 2018, it is obvious that Scotland will become financially insolvent by the end of the 2017/18 budget year.

Therefore, in response to your request for future anticipated fund balances, and given the current state legislative lack of budget progress, coupled with the Governor's Executive Order, we have to place zeros (0) in the future estimated projected fund balances for FY 2017/18 request from OPM.

Respectfully submitted,


Daniel Syme
First Selectman
Town of Scotland

Cc: Cheryl Miller, Treasurer
Michael Izadi, Office of Policy and Management

9 Devotion Rd.
P.O. Box 288
Scotland, CT 06264

Tel. (860) 456-7797 x1
Fax: (860) 456-1402
email:

townofscotland@yahoo.com