

**Town of Brentwood**  
**Budget Committee Public Hearing at Brentwood Town Office**  
Minutes of Public Hearing on February 8, 2021

*Present:* Keith Levitsky (Chair), Lois DeYoung, Liz Faria, Melissa Litchfield, Michelle Siudut.  
Attending remotely were Andy Artimovich, Alina Arida.

*Visitors:* Robin Wrighton, Letty Bedard, Daphne Woss, Joyce Keegal, Chief Bird, Karen Clement, Ken Christensen, Bob Stephens, Brian Duffy, Wayne Robinson, Rebecca Dunham, Eric Trump.  
Attending remotely were Doug Cowie, Andrea Bickum, Andy Gray, Liz McConnell, Chris Andrewski (SAU), Anthony Phillips, Jack Mitchell, Kim Leo, the Library, Michelle Larson (SAU), Ron Kew (Swasey principal), Robin Woodward, Bobby Cole, Mollie O'Keefe (SAU), Allison Higgins, Kimberly Woods, Alex Morgan, Sue Mayo, Bill Faria

The Chairman called the public hearing to order at 7:01 pm.

The Chairman presented a Powerpoint reviewing budgets for the Town and for Swasey School, as well as warrant articles for the Town and Swasey School. Projected tax impacts of those budgets and warrant articles were outlined, in addition to the projected tax impact of the Exeter Regional Cooperative School District budget and warrant articles. It was explained where residents will be able to vote on the numbers presented.

Town Budget. Budget Committee and Selectmen approved \$4,406,611; a 6.45% increase of what was approved last year

This is \$.38/\$1000 = \$161.50 on a \$425K home

Town Warrant Articles.

Budget Committee approved \$517,000.

\$-.41/\$1000 - a \$174.25 reduction on a \$425K home

Selectmen approved \$617,000

\$-.27/\$1000 - a \$114.75 reduction on a \$425K home

Swasey School Budget. Budget Committee and Selectmen approved \$6,118,709, 2.74% increase over last year's approved amount

This is \$.23/\$1000 = \$97.75 on a \$425K home

Swasey Warrant Articles. Budget Committee and Selectmen have approved three warrant articles which will come from unreserved fund balance, so these will not increase taxes. A warrant article for paraprofessional collective bargaining agreement for \$30,313 for 2022 and \$19,152 for 2023 was approved. A warrant article to bring the food service back to Swasey school was also approved, for \$35,000.

*Total tax impact of Town and Swasey School budgets and warrant articles approved by the Budget Committee is \$.29/\$1000 which is \$123.25 on a \$425K home*

*Total tax impact of Town and Swasey School budgets and warrant articles approved by the Selectmen is \$.43/\$1000 which is \$182.75 on a \$425K home*

The Budget Committee and Selectmen have no authority over the Exeter Regional Cooperative School District budget or warrant articles. We are presenting these numbers for informational purposes only, so you can see a total estimated tax impact.

Cooperative Budget

Proposed budget of \$65,293,750 would be an increase of \$.73/\$1000, or \$310.25 on a \$425K home

Default budget of \$65,337,663 would be an increase of \$.74/\$1000, or \$314.50 on a \$425K home

In summary, Brentwood taxpayers are looking at tax increases anywhere from \$434-\$500 on a \$425K home.

**Important Dates**

February 17: Candidate night on Zoom

March 8: Swasey School Meeting at EHS at 5:30 pm - voting on Swasey budget and warrant articles. Transportation to be provided

March 9: voting on town candidates, school board candidates, cooperative school board candidates and cooperative school district budget at Brentwood Rec Center 7am-7pm

March 13: Town Meeting at Swasey School, 9 am

Comments requested from in-person audience and Zoom audience.

Public hearing ended at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michelle Siudut, Secretary