



**Annual Town Meeting,
Thursday, January 18, 2024
at 7:00 PM
Large Meeting Room, Kent Town Hall**



One of the great privileges and responsibilities we have here in New England and specifically in Kent, is the ability to participate directly in our Town government. In Kent we vest the responsibility to listen and act in support of our citizens, put information together, work on policies and ordinances, and to recommend action from our many Boards and Commissions with the Board of Selectman (BOS). For the review and decision on yearly budget numbers, the BOS works with the Board of Finance (BOF), who has the responsibility of taking the BOS and other inputs, and then coming up with the eventual recommended budget to go before the Town for a vote. During this budget season, the BOS has first crack at working with our Town organizations, including the Board of Education, Kent Volunteer Fire Department, Park and Recreation Commission and our Public Works Department (to name a few), to review and recommend to the BOF, a Capital Plan input. In a nutshell, the Capital Plan is a look forward 5 and 10 years for the process of budgeting resources for an organization's long-term

plans, including projections for future projects and their potential gains and losses. The key to the Capital Plan is the ability to tax across the 5-year timeframe allowing the Town to properly budget long term for higher ticket items that the people of Kent agree are necessary.

So why is this important to the Town now? This coming Thursday evening, during our Annual meeting the Board of Selectman, along with the Board of Finance, will present and explain the Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Plan. It's also a time to ask questions about the projects and purchases within the Capital Plan. We will address a few other business items that night as well, and I encourage you to visit the Town website (townofkentct.org) to read and review all the items on the agenda for this meeting.

Bottom line...this is your time to become educated on the issues, get your questions answered and to have a direct vote in the matters before the Town of Kent. The budget vote, which includes capital expenses, will take place on May 17, 2024 at 7:00 PM

I look forward to seeing you Thursday night.

Any questions, please reach out to me.

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