

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Jennifer Horner <fuhrmannje@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 7:52 PM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Budget changes

Town Council,

I have two children attending school in this town. I have lived here most of my life. I work at a University and see the competition for admission. The cuts you're suggesting will have lengthy repercussions.

I urge you to reconsider the changes you have put forth. The reductions to Park & Rec hurt the working family. Families rely on Camp Wallaby to provide a safe place for their children to learn and interact with others while they work. Many people in our area are essential and still working either out of the house or at home. Kids need the social interaction they've been without for 7+ weeks. It's detrimental to healthy development. The youth basketball provides similar opportunities teaching teamwork and getting kids off screens.

We also cannot afford cuts to education in any way. Our teachers are already making less than their peers in nearby towns. Our schools need work. Technology is behind. If it weren't for the parent teacher organizations, they'd be even further behind. Top it off with kids needing that much more support when we do go back because parents either aren't homeschooling, can't, or are ill prepared to do so. This is not a time to cut. It's a time to support.

There are no easy decisions. I applaud your efforts but urge you to try other options.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Horner

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Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Misty Crowley <misty_crowley@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 7:17 PM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Option 1

Town Council Members,

I urge you to move forward with Option 1 which slightly lowers our mil rate, makes reasonable cuts, yet avoids the loss of jobs and services.

Additionally, if given the opportunity to vote, I urge you to move forward with the KMS Building project. This project is a necessity, not simply a want and delaying till next year will only increase the cost to the taxpayer.

Many thanks for your continued efforts on behalf of our town.

-Misty Crowley
26 Deerwood Dr.

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Lisa Vance <vancelisa@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 5:44 PM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Resending with address

Dear Council Members,

Please do not make changes to the KPS budget. Due to the current world wide pandemic – our students need their teachers and support staff more than ever. Cutting this budget prematurely may save the town money in the short run – but will have a long range impact on our students and their families. The school system has stepped up during this crisis in more ways that can be counted. Please don't let us down.

Lisa Vance
Resident at 220 Snake Meadow Rd
and KPS Teacher

Sent from my iPad

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Katrina Paiva <katrina.paiva@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 3:53 PM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Parks and Rec

Dear Town Council,

Regarding your cuts for the recreation department make no sense. To cut 7,000 from them or more would only hurt our community. Programs are already under funded. To take more money from something that is already operating on a shoe string budget would destroy the heart of this town.

I would suggest finding another area to decrease funding not from the Parks and Recreation.

Katrina Paiva

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Eric <eric.milot@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 1:26 PM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Budget Public Comment

I saw what the budget reduction could do to cripple the Killingly Parks and Recreation Department. This department does so much for the community that it would be a major loss to remove the programs they offer due to lack of funding.

Losing Youth Hoop, Camp Wallaby, April Vacation Camp and Theater as well as other programs would be devastating for the community.

So many of us rely on Camp Wallaby for summer child care to be able to work full time knowing our children are safe and having a great time at Wallaby. It's great to see how the counselors know the kids look up to them and when they see them at other events they make sure the kids feel the love and don't just give them the cold shoulder. We've seen counselors welcome our kids with open arms at high school basketball games and allow the young kids to sit with them knowing how much the kids look up to them. They are great role models for the community. Camp Wallaby should not be reduced even, it should be expanded. You have to sign up right when registrations open otherwise you're out the spot as it fills up so fast. Even a minor reduction to this program would be pretty brutal.

We've done so much to grow the Youth Hoop program to what it is today. So much that other towns use our program as a guide to grow their own. This is also another great program that hundreds of kids participate in. I personally volunteer my time to this program as well as other kids sports to show support for the community as well as showing my own kids what it means to volunteer and be active within the community to help it grow and succeed.

My daughter loves Theater and what Ms. Holly and Natasha do for this wonderful program is outstanding the amount of time and effort they put into it is incredible.

Essentially losing the KPRD due to budget cuts would be a devastating hit to the community in a time where we need the community more than ever!

I hope we don't see this happen and something can be done to keep it up and running and thriving in the community.

Regards,
Eric Milot
16 Laurel Drive
Dayville, CT 06241

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Sara Glynn <sglynn08@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 1:01 PM
To: Budget Comment
Cc: Chris Glynn
Subject: Budget Comment

Sara Glynn
11 Huntley Rd, Dayville

I'm writing to express my concern in the upcoming budget process. I understand that there are programs, including many of the Recreation Department Programs at risk for being reduced or cut completely.

Although I do understand that measures are being looked at to reduce costs, due to the current climate, I beg for you to reconsider the Recreation Department as being one of the budget hits.

So many families in our community depend on our wonderful recreation department for social and engaging activities for their children and for themselves. Wallaby, even a shorter season or reduced number of children given the circumstances, would still be extremely important for those working families that not only depend on that program for care throughout the summer but for the memories, friendships, exercise and even STEM learning during the course of that wonderful program. We have two children of our own that look forward to going to that camp each year. The staff does an amazing job and they deserve to keep their employment doing so! The shorter April camp is also super helpful for families as well.

Youthhoop program is another budget line item that would be devastating if lost. There's no other low cost basketball program that takes on children of all ages from as early as 3/4 and shapes and molds them to be some of our best basketball players in our area! Many go on to play in junior high and highschool. Without this foundation, how could they grow? It's a wonderful program that Scott provides and he always recruits the best coaches. It would be a shame to lose even a part of this program.

My children have never participated directly with the theatre however we have enjoyed many shows there that our friends have been part of over the years. It would be heartbreaking to see that dissolve in any way as well.

The summer concert series and red/white/blue gives many local families the opportunity to get out and enjoy local talent in one of our own venues at no cost to people in our town. It's an enjoyable time and great for all ages.

Our community looks forward to and thrives with these activities as well as others that we've enjoyed over so many years.

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Jonathan Blake <jblake4867@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 11:33 AM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Budget Comments

I respectfully submit the following comments on the 2020-2021 Budget.

While I respect the services that KB Ambulance provides to the Town of Killingly and the surrounding municipalities, they are a private business and should receive no subsidy (or workers compensation coverage) from the Town's residents. Please do not confuse a nonprofit business as operating at a deficit, they exist to turn a profit and should cover their own expenses.

The gesture of the Council of not taking a stipend is admirable but violations the Town Charter. The stipend must stay in the budget and Council members can choose to donate back to the Town for a particular cause. The Council can vote to change (raise /lower) or eliminate the stipend but that does not affect the current Council's term.

The Council made a statement during it's 4/28/2020 Special Meeting that cuts should be equal "Town vs Education" when reviewing the budget. While I feel this mentality is flawed it should be noted that the Education budget is over two times that of all other Town Government services.

Our infrastructure is a depreciating asset and should be funded at a level to atleast maintain it. I can understand the reasoning of wanting to cut such a high expense but I fear this cost will get pushed on to future years with little thought given to the ramifications on residents and businesses. While adding this back to the budget may result in an increase to the Mill rate, that cost is low when compared to the negative effects a crumbling infrastructure has on its Town.

I am in favor of a no mill increase (option 1). Considering the choices which are currently presented, this would lower taxes without job cuts or a major service reduction. I want to thank the Council for taking the time to consider my comments and that of other residents during this difficult time.

Jonathan Blake
20 Charlotte Street
Danielson, CT 06239

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Lisa Vance <vancelisa@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 10:44 AM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: budget

Dear Committee,

Please do not make changes to the KPS budget. Due to the current world wide pandemic – our students need their teachers and support staff more than ever. Cutting this budget prematurely may save the town money in the short run – but will have a long range impact on our students and their families. The school system has stepped up during this crisis in more ways that can be counted. Please don't let us down.

Lisa Vance
Killingly Resident and KPS Teacher

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Kelly Andrews-Babcock <kandrews-babcock@killinglyschools.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 10:27 AM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Budget

Dear Town Council,

Our teachers are dedicated to the education of our students. We believe that, as a result of this pandemic, our students' abilities could be at a range never before seen when we return to the classroom. Teachers will need to support each child as an individual in ways that are beyond anything that has been done before. Making premature budget decisions that lead to cutting staff is in direct conflict with this. The children of Killingly will need MORE from us, not less. Educators will continue to do what's best for the children of Killingly. We encourage you to do the same.

*Sincerely,
Kelly Andrews-Babcock*

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Gail Oakley Pratt <gailoakleypratt@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 10:11 AM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Initial Comments

1. I submit that the fund balance should be used only to fund one time expenses. If you use it to fund recurring expenses, the taxpayer will be hit harder next year.
2. Are the members giving up their stipends? If yes, this may violate section 501 of our town charter, which does not permit the sitting members to change the compensation to affect their own term. I submit that the town must include the stipend in the budget. The members, of course, could then donate it back.

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Julie Corden <jcorden@killinglyschools.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Education funding for Killingly Students

Our teachers are dedicated to the education of our students. We believe that, as a result of this pandemic, our students' abilities could be at a range never before seen when we return to the classroom. Teachers will need to support each child as an individual in ways that are beyond anything that has been done before. Making premature budget decisions that lead to cutting staff is in direct conflict with this. The children of Killingly will need MORE from us, not less. Educators will continue to do what's best for the children of Killingly. We encourage you to do the same.

Julie Corden

112 Country Club Rd.

Grade 6 ELA Teacher
Instructional Coordinator
KIS After School Program Coordinator
jcorden@killinglyschools.org

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Matthew Tocchio <mtocchio@killinglyschools.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 9:39 AM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Comment

To Whom it May Concern,

Our teachers are dedicated to the education of our students. We believe that, as a result of this pandemic, our students' abilities could be at a range never before seen when we return to the classroom. Teachers will need to support each child as an individual in ways that are beyond anything that has been done before. Making premature budget decisions that lead to cutting staff is in direct conflict with this. The children of Killingly will need MORE from us, not less. Educators will continue to do what's best for the children of Killingly. We encourage you to do the same.

*Sincerely,
Matthew Tocchio*

*Matthew Tocchio
Killingly High School
Math Department
mtocchio@killinglyschools.org*

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: Richard Ouellette <rick.ouellette@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 10:09 PM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: budget

thank you to the town council and manager for your efforts on all of our behalf in reducing the budget and our mill rate. speaking for many others we appreciate it.
Rick Ouellette

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: mjhewko@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Budget Comment
Cc: Jason Anderson
Subject: Budget Cuts Consideration

My name is Michael Hewko I live at 20 John St. Danielson CT

First I like to say is thank you for listening to the people. This is not an easy task.

As far as the three scenarios that is being presented I would like to see the Town go with the first one. The first one will decrease the mill rate less than the others which will help the taxpayers a little. The other two will include people losing their jobs. Which I would not like to see. I am sure if you cut the Board Of Education budget using the other two jobs will be lost and our children will be hurt.

I do realize that we will need to use some of our funds balance with this scenario. That will hurt. Just keep in mind that this situation may hurt us for years to come. I hope we don't try to make this all up in one year and put a burden on the citizens next year. It may take some time for us to get back from this situation.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Janice Rockwood-Berry

From: gospergang@ <atlanticbb.net gospergang@atlanticbb.net>
Sent: Thursday, April 30, 2020 3:07 PM
To: Budget Comment
Subject: Budget

I would be in favor of either budget option 2 or 3. What is the current fund balance?

thank you for posting.

Brian Gosper