



Finance Committee Opening Statement

2025 Annual Town Meeting | Monday, June 2, 2025

Finance Committee

Who we are: 15 volunteers appointed by the Moderator

What we do: Provide objective recommendations and analysis on town financial matters

How we do it: Several specific responsibilities under the bylaws, including:

1. Budget guidelines
2. Five-year tax projection
3. Public hearings and recommendations on warrant articles with spending or borrowing components
4. Annual report

Annual Report Highlights

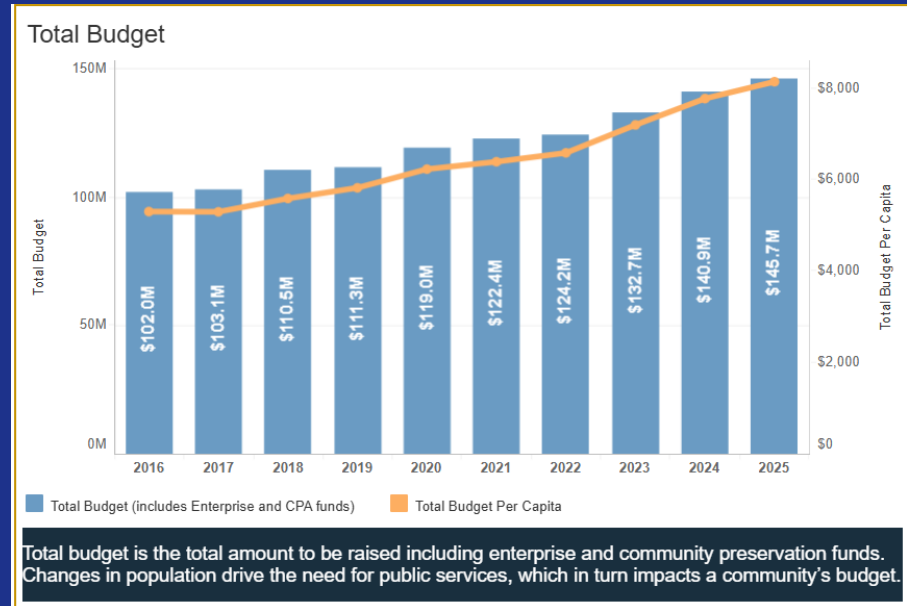
Good news: FY26 operating budgets will meet the Finance Committee's guidelines:

Budget Unit	Guideline
Town	2.85%
Concord Public Schools	2.40%
CCRSB	3.48%

But challenges remain...

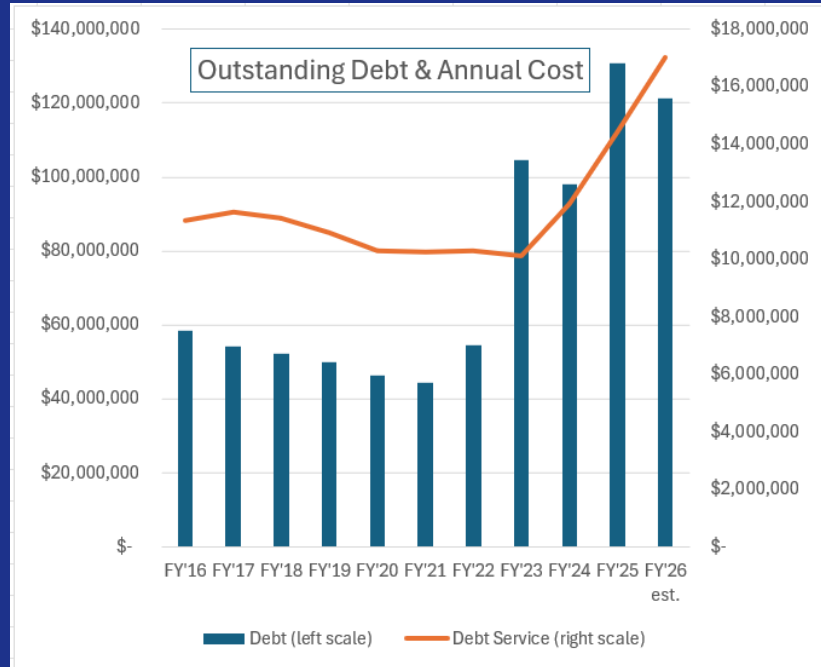
Annual Report Highlights

Challenge: Annual spending growth is accelerating.



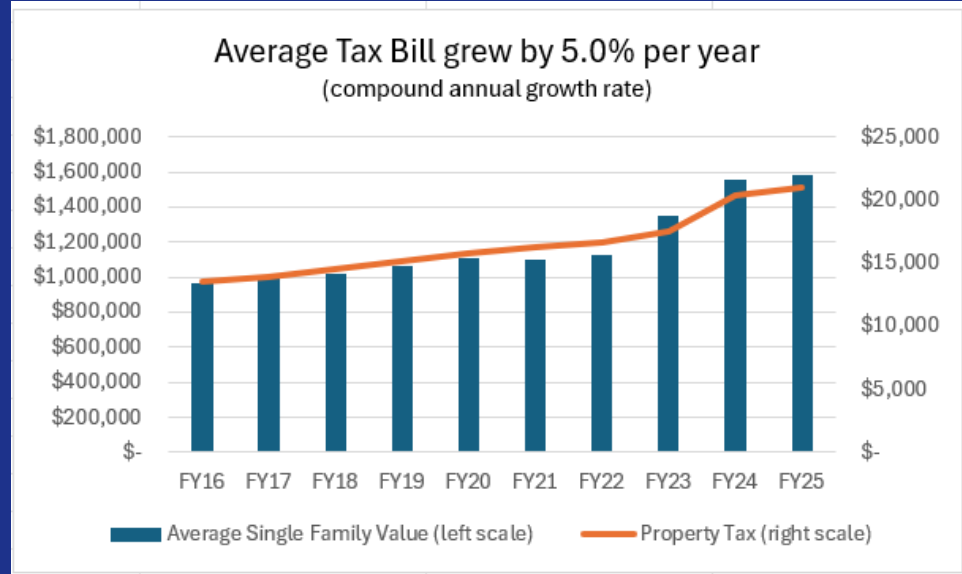
Annual Report Highlights

Challenge: Debt and debt service are hitting new highs.



Annual Report Highlights

Challenge: Ever higher taxes.





Annual Report Highlights

Conclusion:

The Finance Committee urges Annual Town Meeting to consider all requests for spending and borrowing with these spending, debt, and tax challenges in mind.