



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

TOWN OF COLCHESTER Unassigned Fund Balance Policy

The Town of Colchester (the "Town") shall maintain an Unassigned Fund Balance (the "Fund Balance") to improve and maintain the Town's financial stability. The Fund Balance provides a reserve to the Town in the event of unforeseen or unbudgeted situations, such as declining tax collection rates, loss of a major taxpayer, sudden changes in revenues or spending requirements, natural disasters, major infrastructure failures or unexpected litigation.

DEFINITION AND TARGET

The Fund Balance represents available financial resources of the Town that have not been designated for a specific purpose.

The Town strives to maintain a level of Fund Balance of 7% to 10% of its annual operating expenditures (including debt service). The level of Fund Balance may exceed 10% and may fall below 7%, but it cannot be allowed to fall below 5% without a determination of a **specific urgent situation** in accordance with this policy.

USE OF FUND BALANCE:

If the Fund Balance exceeds the 7% target, then the excess over 7% may be used as determined by majority vote (but no less than 3 members) of the Board of Finance members present at an official meeting. The funds can be used to repay debt (if permissible), capital projects, other designated accounts or other one-time uses.

If the Fund Balance is between 5% and 7%, then the excess over 5% may be used for a **specific urgent situation** as deemed by the Board of Finance (by regular voting procedures) and approved by a vote of 4 members of its members at an official meeting. The Board of Finance shall adopt a plan to restore the Fund Balance to greater than 5% over the next 2 fiscal years and to replace funds over 5 fiscal years

If the Fund Balance is less than 5%, then Fund Balance can only be used as determined by a vote of 4 members of the Board of Finance at an official meeting, and only upon the determination of a specific urgent situation by both the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen (by regular voting procedures). In addition, in such an urgent situation, the Board of Finance shall adopt a plan to restore the Fund Balance to greater than 5% over the next two fiscal years.

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