

Ordinance #222

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TAX STABILIZATION FUND PROGRAM

Sec. 2-4. - Tax Stabilization Fund Program.

(a) *Title.* This section shall be known and may be cited as the Town of South Windsor Tax Stabilization Fund (TSF) program.

(b) *Purpose of Fund.* The Town's general tax revenues are sensitive to economic conditions as well as actions taken by state and federal government. Unanticipated revenue shortfalls during a fiscal year are usually addressed through reductions to services or increased taxes. The TSF program is established for sound financial management and fiscal accountability and enforces spending discipline by setting aside monies collected from revenues received during good economic conditions for use during years with lower growth or declining revenue. The TSF program may also reduce Town borrowing costs due to stronger bond ratings. The purpose of the Tax Stabilization Fund is to set aside revenue during years of strong growth in a fund which does not lapse at the end of the municipal fiscal year, which monies would then be available when revenue is stagnant or in decline and may be expended to prevent large tax increases and protect against the reduction of services in future years.

(c) *Establishment of TSF.* There is hereby established a fund pursuant to C.G.S. § 7-148(K), which fund shall not lapse at the end of the municipal fiscal year. Said Fund shall be known as the South Windsor Tax Stabilization Fund (TSF).

(d) *Fund Balance.* The Town's annual budget shall include allocations to the TSF in amounts adequate to meet its purposes as follows: Allocations into the fund will come from any surplus over one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in the General Fund annually. The Town Council may also appropriate up to 10% of the amount of tax revenue generated in the first full year of new residential and/or commercial construction and/or revenue generated by the expiration of tax abatement and/or tax fixing agreements resulting in increased personal property and/or real property taxes. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the aggregate balance in the TSF shall be a minimum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) but in no event shall it exceed a maximum of three million dollars (\$3,000,000).

(e) *Fund Expenditures.* The TSF shall not be reduced or used for purposes other than those specifically provided for in subsection (b) above, *Purpose of Fund*. During the development of the annual budget, the Town Council may authorize a transfer from the TSF to the General Fund. This transfer will be shown as a revenue line in General Fund Budgeted Revenue consistent to the extent possible with Use of Fund Balance entries. The minimum annual transfer amount shall be fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) and the maximum annual transfer shall be five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in any one fiscal year.

(f) *Management of Fund and Termination.* The TSF shall be administered by the Town Treasurer pursuant to Charter Section 205. The TSF shall only be terminated by an affirmative vote of six members of the Town Council.

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Ordinance #222 was adopted at the February 20, 2018 Regular Meeting of the South Windsor Town Council. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after publication in a newspaper having circulation in South Windsor.

Dated at South Windsor this 23rd day of February, 2018.

ATTEST:

Lori Trahan, Town Clerk