

South Hadley  
Budget Task Force  
11/5/25 Special Town Meeting

# MEMBERS

- Nick Gingras – Co-Chair
- Kevin McAllister – Co-Chair (Appropriations)
- Andrea Miles – Clerk (Selectboard)
- John McCarthy
- Forrest Bowlick
- Charles Miles (School Committee)
- Gena Lomelin
- Nicholas Prentiss
- Hector Lomelin
- Emily Young
- Dan Luis (Capital Planning)



# TIMELINE



April - June 2025: Solicit members & appointments

July 2025: Meetings begin

Sept. 2025: Two subcommittees created

**Dec. 8, 2025: First public forum**

**Jan. 22, 2026: Second public forum**

**Feb. 9, 2026: Report to Selectboard deadline**

Feb. 10, 2026: Selectboard vote on Feb 25 STM

Feb. 25, 2026: Special Town Meeting

April 14, 2026: Annual Town Election & ballot vote

# PROCESS:

## Diligent Approach to Complex Problem

### EXAMINE

- Budget review
- Revenue sources
- Department discussions
- State/Federal impact(s)

### RESEARCH

- Priorities for the community
- Benchmarking
- Efficiencies
- Best Practices

### ANALYZE

- Scenario Modeling
- Tax payer impact of scenarios
- Impact of any cuts on services

# VALUE OF SERVICES

- **Safe neighborhoods**
- **Strong schools**
- **Reliable roads and infrastructure**
- **Essential human services**
- **Libraries**
- **Committed, accessible and skilled staff**

# INITIAL OBSERVATIONS

- **Health Insurance** -> Town has limited control
- **Schools** -> Mandated Services & School Choice
- **Departments** -> Lean, Efficient & Smaller than peers
- **Growth** -> Constrained and barriers exist
- **State** -> Minimal New Funding & Small Solutions
- **Capital & Maintenance** -> Risk to critical projects

# IMPACT

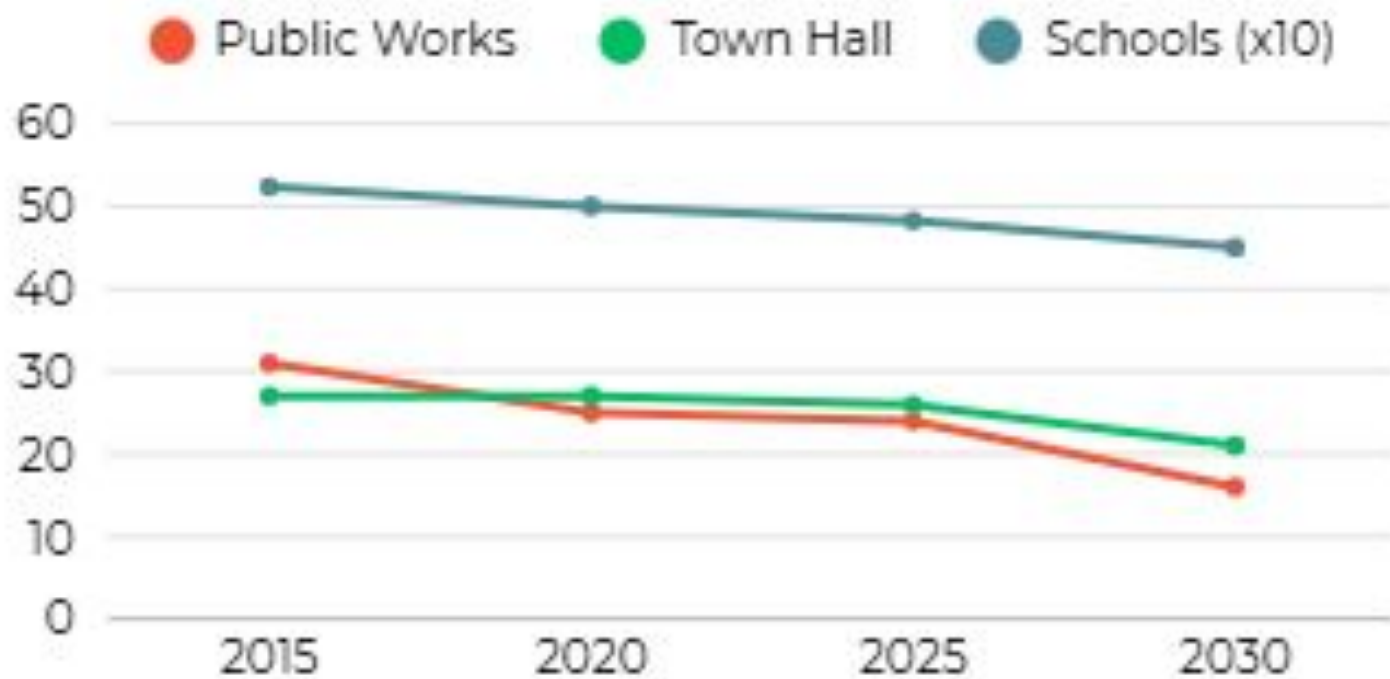
**\$3m** budget gap in **FY2027** and increasing by around **\$2m** per year

## **Solutions Being Explored (Could be a combination):**

- Service reduction
- Staff reduction
- Debt exclusion
- Override
- New revenues
- Advocate for level or increased aid (state/federal)

# Employee Counts (2030 projected)

Note: *school figure divided by 10 for scale*



# ENGAGEMENT

MEETINGS: November 17, December 1 and 15 at 6pm  
Meetings aired and streaming on demand on SHCTV15

LEARN: [www.southhadley.org/1504/Budget-Task-Force](http://www.southhadley.org/1504/Budget-Task-Force)

## PARTICIPATE:

- School Committee and Selectboard public comment
- Email [Selectboard@southhadleyma.gov](mailto:Selectboard@southhadleyma.gov)
- Attend listening sessions - Dec 8 and Jan 22