

Tuesday, May 27, 2025, is the Town of Berlin Budget Referendum.

Here are some highlights:

- The budget calls for a 3.63% overall increase in expenditure (3.34% General Gov't & 3.9% BOE)
- The Proposed Mill Rate Increase is 0.45 (1.49% increase over prior fiscal year.)
- Tax Impact: A homeowner with a home worth \$345,000 can expect to see a \$109 increase in taxes over their prior year tax bill.
- Grand List Growth - Berlin saw a 1.78% increase to the Grand List over the prior fiscal year.
- Capital Needs: As part of the budget process, over \$2 million was funded for Berlin's capital needs. This includes vans for the BOE, a new bus for the Senior Center, repairs to Fire Engine #10, plumbing improvements at Willard Elementary, and lighting upgrades at Sage Park.
- The full detailed budget can be found [here](#):

Frequently Asked Questions

1) How is this referendum different from the April Budget Referendum?

Answer: While voters approved of the General Government budget in April, the Board of Education budget was rejected. Based on voter feedback that the BOE budget was “too high”, the Town Council (4-3) reduced the BOE budget by \$50,000.

2) If the General Government budget has already passed, why is it being voted on again?

Answer: Although the General Government budget was approved, both budgets need to pass in order to be adopted. Because the BOE budget was rejected, no budget was approved. Per Berlin’s Corporation Council, “The fact that Berlin chooses to bifurcate the vote on its annual budget doesn’t change the fact that there is one Town budget (as per C.G.S. 7-344, *et seq.*). Since the BOE portion of the budget was rejected, no budget was approved.”

3) I am out of town for the May 27, 2025 Referendum, can I still vote?

Answer: YES. Absentee ballots are currently available in the Town Clerk’s office during regular business hours.