

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Comments: Per Council rules and procedures, please limit comments to what can reasonably be read to the meeting record in three (3) minutes or less. Please be mindful that this form is for public comment only. Please direct questions/general inquiries to Council members directly.**

First Name	Last Name	Street Address	Comments
Amy	Korber	Old Musket Road	Dear Town Council Members, I am writing to express my support for an increase to the budget for Welles Turner Library, so that additional library staff may be hired. My husband and I both grew up in town and are now raising our four children here. Our family consistently enjoys the resources provided by the library. We participate in library programs, borrow totes of books at a time, and seek out the advice and recommendations of the children’s librarians for books that will speak to our children and continue to engage them in the gift of reading. Despite all of this, it is notable that there is a lack of library resources for the Teen Department and for the Maker Space. Now that my oldest child is a teen, we have spent more time in the Teen Department. It is often vacant, and when we have asked for book advice, multiple library staff have shared that they aren’t well versed in Young Adult literature. Additionally, as I’m sure most of you have noticed, the library’s Maker Space is also often dark and vacant. Our family was excited to find out that this space was going to be created and was looking forward to the opportunity to explore the use of technology to create. The space, unfortunately, remains a shell of its potential without adequate funding for library staff. Welles Turner Library is like the tree in the book "The Giving Tree." Our town, our residents, use the library without always giving much back. Now is the time to give back by increasing the library’s budget to fund additional librarians and staff. Thank you for considering my request. Amy Korber
Nicole	DiCicco	84 Ridgewood Rd.	I am writing to express my strong support of a budget increase for the Welles-Turner Memorial Library, for a full time employee to be added to their staff. The state statistics are alarming when comparing Glastonbury to surrounding towns’ libraries, in seeing just how severely understaffed we are. The entire community would reap the benefits of additional staff to our library, with more opportunities for programming and fuller use of the new maker space. With a minuscule budget increase, the entire town could benefit.