

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT FY19

THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT, MGL CHAPTER 44B (CPA), IS LEGISLATION WHICH ALLOWS CITIES AND TOWNS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TO ADOPT A PROPERTY TAX SURCHARGE WITH SURCHARGE REVENUES PLUS MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE STATE TO BE ALLOCATED FOR THE “ACQUISITION, CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE, THE ACQUISITION, CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES AND LANDSCAPES AND THE CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF COMMUNITY HOUSING.”¹

In 2002, Wareham enacted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) approving a 3% real estate tax surcharge (with initial \$100,000 property value exclusion) which qualifies the Town to receive state funds from the Commonwealth each year. The state funds are generated by recording fees at the Registrar of Deeds. To date the Town of Wareham has received \$4,855,107 of these funds.

In FY19, the Town of Wareham collected \$903,705 in CPA funds and received \$190,639 from the state. With funds unspent from prior year, Community Preservation Commission (CPC) had a starting balance of \$3,410,138 to support approved projects. At both the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 Town Meetings, the voters approved open space, recreation, affordable housing and historic preservation grants for a total of \$1,197,932 and a bond for \$1,430,000 for Tremont Nail cleanup.

Following is the financial report for FY19:

FY19 REVENUE

3% TAX SURCHARGE	792,513	
STATE MATCH FUND	190,639	
INTEREST EARNED	111,192	
UNALLOCATED PRIOR YEAR	1,531,187	
OPEN SPACE RESERVE	197,097	
AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE	567,203	
HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESERVE	20,307	
TOTAL REVENUE		3,410,138

FY19 GRANTS

FUNDS RETURNED FROM COMPLETED	-35,068	
OR NEVER STARTED		
ONSET PIER	250,000	
ONSET BANDSHELL REBUILD	333,000	
2 AGAWAM HOUSING UNITS	650,000	
TOTAL GRANTS		1,197,932

FY19 CPA FUND BALANCE

BALANCE UNALLOCATED	1,739,731	
OPEN SPACE RESERVE	298,497	
AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE	18,603	
HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESERVE	110,375	
ADMIN RESERVE	45,000	
TOTAL FUND BALANCE		2,212,206

Community Preservation Committee

George Barrett – Planning Board

Jean Connaughton – Housing Authority

Joan Kinniburgh – citizen-at-large

Brian Litchfield – Co-chair, Open Space Committee

Sandra Slavin – Co-chair, Treasurer, Conservation Commission

Barbara Smith – Historic Commission

Sherbie Worthen – Clerk, citizen-at-large