

W A R R A N T

TOWN OF WAREHAM

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

APRIL 25, 2016

ARTICLE 1 – BUDGET TRANSFERS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer sums of money within the budget lines as voted in Article 6 of the 2015 Spring Annual Town Meeting and further transfer from available funds to said budget lines, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

This article allows the Town to transfer money between budget lines. Transfer estimates are being done by the Town Accountant and will be presented at Town Meeting. The article also seeks to transfer money from Free Cash to the Snow & Ice line to cover that deficit which is estimated to be \$200,000. If this article were to pass, it would leave the Free Cash balance at \$187,648.

**The Board of Selectmen did not vote on this article.
The Finance Committee did not vote on this article.**

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Town Administrator was still analyzing what line item transfers might be necessary, therefore, the Finance Committee did not vote on this article. When presented with the final list of transfers, the Finance Committee will vote and report a recommendation directly to Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 2 – FY16 CAPITAL PLAN

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds and authorize borrowing subject to MGL Chapter 44, Sections 7 or 8 or any other enabling authority, for the purpose of capital improvement projects including replacement of vehicles, equipment, repairs to and improvements to town buildings, facilities and waterways, or to take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

This article will seek to have Town Meeting approve and fund the following capital items:

1. **School Technology by transferring the sum of \$120,000 from the Stabilization Fund. The money will be reimbursed to the Stabilization Fund from Free Cash at the October Town Meeting.**
2. **Animal Control Officer vehicle by transferring the sum of \$30,000 from Free Cash. This will leave a balance of \$157,648 in Free Cash. This will replace a 2004 Chevy van with approximately 270,000 miles on it.**

The Board of Selectmen did not vote on this article.

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 6-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommends that approximately \$30,000 be expended to purchase an Animal Control van to replace the current vehicle which has over 270,000 miles on it. The Finance Committee also recommends that Town Meeting allow the Town to borrow \$120,000 from the Stabilization Fund to complete needed technology upgrades in school buildings. This amount will be repaid to the Stabilization Fund from Free Cash at the Fall Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 3 – INFILTRATION/INFLOW STRUCTURAL REHABILITATION ENGINEERED PLANS

To see if the Town will vote to amend and change the language of Article 7 of the October 29, 2014 Fall Annual Town Meeting by striking "in the Swifts Beach Area" and replacing it with "in all sewer areas in the Town", or to take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by Board of Selectmen at the request of the Wareham Board of Sewer Commissioners

Explanation:

Article 7 of the October 29, 2014 Fall Town Meeting Warrant approved the transfer of \$750,000 from the WPCF retained earnings account to engineer the rehabilitation of the sewer system in the Swifts Beach area. This article will allow for the engineered rehabilitation of the sewer system Town-wide rather than limited only to the Swifts Beach area.

The Board of Selectmen did not vote on this article.

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 6-0-0

The Sewer Commissioners recommend approval of this article: 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This article strikes a restriction in a prior Town Meeting article which allocated funds to engineer the rehabilitation of the Swifts Beach area sewer system. The Swifts Beach inspection is complete with \$662,397 remaining. Instead of the

restriction “in the Swifts Beach area”, this article will allow the funds to be used wherever necessary for inspecting/engineering sewer pipes in Town.

ARTICLE 4 – TRANSFER OF FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money from the Water Pollution Control Facility Retained Earnings Account to the Water Pollution Control Facility Annual Budget for the purpose of emergency and unforeseen infrastructure repairs, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by Board of Selectmen at the request of the Wareham Board of Sewer Commissioners

Explanation:

The funds will be used for emergency-unforeseen infrastructure repairs.

The Board of Selectmen did not vote on this article.

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 6-0-0

The Sewer Commissioners recommend approval of this article: 5-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. These funds will be used to repair a portion of the Swifts Beach sewer system. \$240,000 will come from Retained Earnings. Rather than digging up the old pipe, the WPCF will line the damaged pipe in place, using a proven lining technology. This will save money and avoid the disruption of having to dig up old pipe that was buried as much as 17 feet below the streets.

ARTICLE 5 – HEALTH CARE TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer sums of money from the Town’s portion of the Health Care Trust Fund to the Mayflower Municipal Health Insurance Group Fund, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

This article seeks to transfer the remainder of the Town’s balance, \$749,634, of the Health Trust Fund to the Mayflower Municipal Health Insurance Group. We are entering the final year of the three-year agreement of moving from being self-insured to entering the joint purchasing group.

These funds can only be used for Health Insurance or paying into the Town’s OPEB Trust Fund, so they could not supplement the budget in any other way.

The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article: 4-0-0

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 7-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This article will pre-pay Health Insurance to lower overall costs. The Finance Committee believes that pre-paying this obligation is part of the strategy to maintain and improve Wareham's financial health.

ARTICLE 6 – WATERWAYS ACCOUNT TRANSFER

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$11,728.77 from the Waterways Account to fund the lease payment of a 1 Ton Diesel Truck, or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

This article seeks to transfer the sum of \$11,728.77 from the Waterways Account to fund the lease payment of a Harbormaster vehicle. The purchase of the vehicle was approved at a previous Town Meeting, so this is not a new purchase.

The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article: 4-0-0

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 7-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The Spring 2015 Special Town Meeting approved \$20,000 in Article 3, to make the first year's payment on a new ³/₄ ton truck for the Harbormaster. This truck replaced a 2002 model with \$175,000 miles on it. This transfer is the second payment for the truck. The Waterways account was generated by Harbor Patrol activities, so this is a reasonable reinvestment of those funds.

ARTICLE 7 – ELECTRONIC VOTING STUDY COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to establish an Electronic Voting Study Committee, consisting of seven members appointed by the Moderator as follows: the Town Clerk or designee, one representative of the Board of Selectmen, one representative from the Finance Committee, a representative from the Town's technology department and three members at large. The Town Moderator will serve as a non-voting member of said committee. The charge of this committee will be to bring forth a proposal for Electronic Voting to the Spring 2017 Town Meeting. The committee will research technology options and associated costs, consulting with vendors and other Massachusetts towns that have already implemented electronic voting at their Town Meeting, or any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Moderator

Explanation:

The goal of an electronic voting system at Town meeting is three-fold: improve accuracy, save time, and provide accountability to the voters. The proposed electronic voting system would not abolish existing procedures for voting, but would provide for more rapid, accurate, and tamper-resistant means of voting when the Moderator is unsure of a voice vote or when Town Meeting voters request a counted vote. It will also ensure that a vote taken at Town meeting is private, which may actually encourage more attendees/participation at Town Meeting.

The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article: 4-0-0

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 7-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Electronic Voting Study Committee is not requesting financial assistance, so the Finance Committee supports the study. Any recommendation for use of an electronic voting system would come before Town Meeting prior to implementation. Currently, the estimated cost is \$17,000 per year. These systems add efficiencies to the Town Meeting process and remove all peer pressure from Town Meeting voters.

ARTICLE 8 – UNION CONTRACTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money from available funds to fund the Collective Bargaining Agreements between the Town and:

- A. AFSCME Council 93 AFL-CIO Local 30 Wareham Library Employees;
- B. Massachusetts Labor's Public Employees Council Union 1249 of the Labor's International Union of North America Wareham Dispatchers Union;
- C. Massachusetts Labor's Public Employees Council Union 1249 of the Labor's International Union of North America Wareham Clerical Union;
- D. Massachusetts Labor's Public Employees Council Union 1249 of the Labor's International Union of North America Wareham Wastewater Treatment Plant Union;
- E. Wareham Police Union;
- F. Massachusetts Labor's Public Employees Council Union 1249 of the Labor's International Union of North America Wareham Municipal Maintenance Department and Town Custodians Union;
- G. United Steelworkers, AFL-CIO-CLC, Local Union 13507, Unit 7 - Lower Managers Union;
- H. United Steelworkers, AFL-CIO-CLC, Local Union 13507, Unit 8 Upper Managers Union;
- I. Wareham Professional Firefighters EMT Association, IAFF, Local 2895;
- J. Wareham Foreman's Union;
- K. Wareham Superior Officers Union;

or to take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

This article is a placeholder as negotiations continue with the Unions.

The Board of Selectmen did not vote on this article.

The Finance Committee did not vote on this article.

Finance Committee Recommendation:

No vote or recommendation was made by the Finance Committee as Union contracts continue to be negotiated.

Article 9 – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RESERVE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds for the purpose of establishing a collective bargaining reserve, or to take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

Currently, twelve (12) of the Town's Union contracts are set to expire at the end of this fiscal year. We are currently negotiating to resolve many of the contracts, but most will not be resolved before the end of the fiscal year and as such, we are seeking to transfer \$100,000 from Free Cash to establish a Collective Bargaining Reserve. If this article were to pass, then there would be \$57,648 left in Free Cash.

The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article: 4-0-0

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 7-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. This reserve will provide the Town with the ability to absorb salary increases that may result from the ongoing contract negotiations with the various unions. Setting aside funds for likely expenditures is an integral part of ensuring and improving Wareham's financial well-being.

ARTICLE 10 – AMEND ARTICLE 10 OF THE FALL 2012 TOWN MEETING

To see if the Town will vote to amend article 10 of the Fall 2012 Town Meeting by striking "to constitute the Town's 10% share of a Department of Homeland Security, Assistance to Firefighters and Emergency Services grant award for the purchase of four (4) cardiac monitor / defibrillators" and replacing it with "shall be used to purchase one (1) Chest Compression System and associated equipment", or to take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

This article seeks to change Article 10 of the Fall 2012 Town Meeting so that the \$15,000 encumbered under that article can be used to purchase a chest compression system. The original purpose of the article was to encumber the Town's portion of a grant to purchase cardiac monitor/defibrillators. The Town did not receive the grant, however, Southcoast Health System generously donated the money to purchase the needed equipment.

The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article: 4-0-0

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 7-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article. The original need for cardiac monitor/defibrillators was fulfilled by a gift from Tobey/Southcoast Hospitals Group, leaving this grant money available to be spent on this life-saving equipment. Our EMS services work tirelessly to help our residents with their medical emergencies. This equipment is now standard issue. Chest compression CPR is an exhausting treatment that is best done by a machine, as a machine neither tires nor is interrupted by doorways or ambulance entrance or egress. Further, this equipment allows the paramedic to attend to the patient while safely secured in the back of the ambulance, which will reduce the chance of injuries, while increasing team morale.

ARTICLE 11 – SCHOOL BUSES

To see if the Town will vote to transfer or borrow a sum of money to be used to purchase 10 new school buses.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

Explanation:

The Town received an EPA grant that will reimburse the Town \$200,000 towards the purchase of ten (10) school buses. The net cost to the Town will be \$620,000 that we are seeking to borrow over seven (7) years. The buses that are being replaced range in age from 1996 to 2000.

The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article: 4-0-0

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 7-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

As an incentive to purchase modern buses with current pollution control equipment, the Federal Department of Environmental Protection has offered the Town a \$200,000 grant, contingent upon the replacement of ten (10) old school buses. The remaining funds will be borrowed over seven (7) years at a 3.4% interest rate. Although scrap value, reduced maintenance costs, and reduced diesel consumption will not cover the loans, these efficiencies will

offset some of the cost and may free up DPW mechanics to pursue other Town priorities. Further, the replaced buses are near the end of their useful lives. We should take advantage of the subsidies while they are offered. As an additional perk, ten (10) of our bus drivers and hundreds of our children will ride in safe, reliable vehicles. The Finance Committee believes that this is a prudent expenditure that will save money over the next few years.

ARTICLE 12 - WESTFIELD - FENCING AND FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unallocated Fund or any other monies available in the Community Preservation Fund under the category of Open Space/Recreation, up to the sum of \$24,000.00, to fund the purchase and installation of fencing around three softball fields that exist at the Westfield recreation complex or to take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Community Preservation Committee

Explanation:

The Wareham Girls Softball (WGS) organization has a license from the Town of Wareham to use the softball fields at Westfield. WGS is responsible for maintaining the three ball fields on which 150 girls, grades K-8, participate in softball games, practices and training. The fencing will be installed around the three fields to better define the boundaries of the fields and improve the safety of those playing on the fields.

The Board of Selectmen recommends approval of this article: 4-0-0

The Finance Committee recommends approval of this article: 7-0-0

The Community Preservation Committee recommends approval of this article: 6-0-0

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee interviewed the Community Preservation Committee members who recommend this article. The Finance Committee believes the purpose for, and the amount of this expenditure, are appropriate. Given the constraints of the Town's budget, the Finance Committee believes that Community Preservation funds should be used for capital projects of this sort which support outdoor recreation for our children. The softball season will help teach our children the value of teamwork, exercise, competition, and may provide positive role models. The Finance Committee recommends this upgrade to the Westfield recreation complex.

**TOWN
OF
WAREHAM**

**SECOND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT**

APRIL 25, 2016

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TOWN OF WAREHAM

SECOND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

APRIL 25, 2016

ARTICLE 1 – RECURRING BUSINESS

- A. To see if the Town will authorize its Town Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements for fiscal year 2017 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the General Laws, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Treasurer/Collector

Explanation:

This is a housekeeping article, which authorizes the Town Treasurer to maintain sufficient balances in Town accounts to avoid bank service charges.

**The Board of Selectmen did not vote on item A.
The Finance Committee did not vote on item A.**

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee did not vote on this item as this Warrant did not close until after the deadline for voting occurred.

- B. To see if the Town will vote to expend interest earned from loan repayments made between the Town of Wareham and Wareham residential property owners as authorized under Chapter 111, Section 127 B1/2 and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws for use for the administration of the Septic Loan Program and for additional so-called betterment loan projects, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of Community and Economic Development Authority

Explanation:

This is a housekeeping item to ensure that the Town conforms to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's regulations under the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust's Title V Septic Loan Program. This authorizes that interest earned on loans

made to individual homeowners be used for the program's administration and to make additional loans.

**The Board of Selectmen did not vote on item B.
The Finance Committee did not vote on item B.**

Finance Committee Recommendation:

The Finance Committee did not vote on this item as this Warrant did not close until after the deadline for voting occurred.