

TOWN OF BARRE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 30, 2020 postponed to July 2, 2020 due to rain

Town of Barre
Annual Town Meeting
June 30, 2020
Details & Protocols

Dear Barre Voters,

This year, the annual town meeting is coming at a difficult and challenging time, as we address the unique circumstances associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, we think it is important to share detailed information with voters about the plans and logistics for the 2020 annual town meeting, which will be held Tuesday, June 30th at 6 p.m. on the side parking lot at Quabbin Regional High School.

First and foremost, we want you to know that special Covid-19-related public safety measures and precautions are being put in place. The overarching goal is to do everything possible to conduct the meeting in a way that protects the health and safety of attendees, while at the same time upholding our high town meeting standards of participatory democracy. The planning and organization for this year's annual meeting is being done in collaboration with the town clerk, board of selectmen, town administrator, town moderator, town counsel, public health and safety officials, and the QRSD facilities team.

Below is a summary of the specific steps being taken to help conduct the annual town meeting safely and efficiently.

Risk.

Assessment. Continuous risk assessment and contingent planning are being conducted throughout the planning of this event and will remain ongoing during the period leading up to Town Meeting. If during the period leading to the event, community spread or other conditions related to COVID-19 change, local health officials will provide input on the risk assessment. In the case of a negative risk assessment, the Moderator has the ability to postpone the meeting due to a public health/safety issue.

Attendance Record. A record of attendees and participants will be maintained should there be a need for contact tracing.

Staff/Volunteers. All staff and volunteers associated with this event have reviewed and acknowledged and participated in the self-screening/self-certifying process.

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MEETING VENUE:

Quabbin Regional. This year's annual town meeting will be held outside in the side parking lot at Quabbin Regional High School. This venue has been chosen because the guidance from public health officials indicates that an outdoor gathering provides the safest venue for conducting a gathering of this type and for guarding against the spread of Covid-19.

Parking. 106 parking spots will be available in front of the athletic field and accessible by entering the main entrance at the school and turning right. Parking for those with disabilities will be marked and available.

Elements. The meeting will be in the evening and in a location that is often breezy. Please still prepare for possible sun exposure, bugs, and cooler temperatures.

Check-In.

Check-In at 5pm. Voters and attendees will line up at the designated entry point, which will be between the stop sign and the sidewalk leading up to the schools. Family members and others sharing the same household will be allowed to stand and sit together. The line to check-in will be managed by volunteers in order to ensure sufficient physical distancing.

Safety Protocol Signage. Signage detailing safety protocols will be posted at the entrance.

Face Coverings. In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order, all individuals over the age of 2 are required to wear face coverings. Attendees will be required to wear a mask or other type of face covering. Individuals who are unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition or disability are exempt from this requirement and will be accommodated. Masks or face coverings will be required upon exiting from your automobile and remain in place throughout check-in and the meeting.

Separate Area for those without masks. If a resident cannot wear a mask for medical reasons, they will be directed to a separate area which will be set-up to accommodate voters without face coverings. The Town will provide masks for those who do not have them.

Check-in Procedure. (1) All attendees will be required to use hand sanitizer upon entering the location of Town Meeting, which will be provided and distributed from a communal bottle operated by a gloved volunteer. Bug spray will be available for those who need it. (2) All attendees then proceed to the second table where they will be checked in using electronic poll pads, requiring attendees to state their name and address. Names should be stated loudly and clearly. Masked and gloved staff will manage the process. (3) All voters will be sent to the last area where they will receive a prepared bag by a masked and gloved volunteer with the following: warrant & motions, Town Report, Voting Paddle, Yes/No secret ballots with

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instructions, and a pen. (4) Once provided materials, all voters will be asked to follow signage to take a seat.

Seating.

Seating arrangements. All seats, materials, implements and venue will be properly sanitized before the meeting. Seats will be set-up for single attendees, two attendees in the same household, and, if more than two in a single household group, specially arranged.

Remain seated. You will be asked to remain in your seats and area at all times except to utilize a rest room or exit the venue. No congregation of people will be allowed at any time.

Foot Traffic. All foot traffic will be one way at all times. Traffic flow patterns will be indicated.

Non-Voters. Will be required to check-in in the same fashion as voters. They will be directed to a non-voting area.

The Meeting.

Consent Agenda Motion: Fewer articles than usual are being included on the annual town meeting warrant, and all articles will be combined into what is known as a consent agenda. This consent agenda motion will enable multiple articles to be voted at once, rather than go through each one separately. As a democratic protection under this process, any voter may make a request to take a consent agenda article out of the consent motion, by saying “hold.” In that case, the article will be considered and voted separately. Many towns in Massachusetts use a consent agenda process as a tool to enhance the efficiency of annual town meetings.

No Voice Votes. There will be no voice votes. All votes will be by use of paddles, first visually observed with a declaration of the moderator, then standing count, if necessary.

Microphones. Microphones will be in the hands of the Town Moderator, each Board of Selectmen Member, the Finance Committee, and two runners. If you would like to speak on an article, please raise your hand. A runner will come over to you while remaining social distant. The runner will then ask you for your information and will repeat each piece into their microphone. They will ask you for your “name and address,” and then your question/comment/motion. Please remember that this process will take a little longer than usual and time will need to be had for the Moderator to hear the information and respond.

Speaking. Face coverings may be removed when an attendee speaks but only for the period when one is speaking. This is a universal standard for all, including officials and the moderator. Your courtesy is sought to limit comment and questions to that which is necessary and non-repetitive. Statements simply stating support or opposition are discouraged. Questions and new information are encouraged for the benefit of the meeting.

Uncompleted Warrant. If we do not complete the full warrant, the meeting may be adjourned to a proximate date or dissolved with full intent to hold a subsequent meeting in the moderate future, as necessary. The latter may be necessary as the Department of Revenue Division of Local Services advises that town meeting adopt its budget as the principal business of the

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meeting. If we can't conclude the meeting in one night, refer the other articles back to the sponsors and put them on for a special meeting, so that the town does not have to adopt a 1/12 budget.

Other Matters.

Dispersing after the meeting. When the meeting is adjourned, please stay in place. A metered process will be directed by staff to ensure safe and orderly exit.

EMS. The Barre Fire Department will be on scene with an ambulance.

Barre Police Department. The Barre Police Department will be on scene to help with traffic. Drivers will be asked to leave in alternating fashion.

Weather. The rain date for the annual town meeting is Wednesday, July 1 at 6 p.m. in the side parking lot at Quabbin Regional High School. The decision on whether to postpone will be made by 12 noon on the day of the meeting. If a postponement until Wednesday, July 1st is needed due to weather, we will post on the Town of Barre website (www.townofbarre.com) and conduct a reverse 911 call. In the event of inclement weather during the meeting, a judgment will be made on the ground.

Bathrooms. Bathrooms at QRSD will be open for emergency use only. Per QRSD policy, a custodian will be monitoring the bathrooms and all who wish to enter will be required to use hand sanitizer (provided by QRSD), wear a mask, and enter one at a time.

As always, your input, feedback and questions regarding the plans for the annual town meeting are welcome. You can contact the Town Clerk, [Ellen Glidden at clerk@townofbarre.com](mailto:Ellen_Glidden_at_clerk@townofbarre.com). We recognize that this is a challenging time and understand that people are being careful and cautious about going out in public. Our hope is that the safety measures and precautions will give voters a comfort level about attending the annual town meeting.

Thank you and stay safe.

Joshua Smith
Town Moderator

Ellen Glidden
Town Clerk

Heather M. Munroe
Interim Town Administrator

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Updated 6/25/2020

Heather Munroe

INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

FY2021 ATM

Finance Committee Booklet

NOTE:

For FY2021, we have prepared the materials for the Finance Committee Booklet a bit differently than in years' past. This booklet will begin with a walk through of the budget process and uncertainties ahead and then transition to a breakdown of the projected revenues and departmental expenses for FY21, followed by a review of each Town Meeting Article with proposed motions and details.

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FY2021 Budget

BUDGET PROCESS

OVERVIEW

The FY2021 budget process has been unlike any other in recent history. The process started as usual in the fall and with a new program for budget entry. The Governor issued his usual State Aid recommendations in January, and revenues for FY21 were estimated and growing. Budget meetings with Finance Committee began in February and March and were underway until COVID-19 vamped up mid-March. With the arrival of the pandemic and stay-at-home advisories, the State and economic advisors in Massachusetts began April with warnings that FY21 needed to be revisited and reduced for additional conservancy due to anticipated reduction in aid and potential decreases in local receipts.

When May came, the State’s budget process had come to a complete halt and no actual revenue estimates for State Aid have been set by either the House or the Senate, with no date to be certain of when they will be. By mid-May, the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen reconvened and modified recommendations to departments, requesting that everyone move towards a level-funded FY21 budget and a second COLA’s added to level-funded budget. Budget meetings were again underway.

Prior to the normalcy of virtual meetings, the regional school district (QRSD) had issued initial assessments to all communities. Discussions had begun that revised numbers would be underway, understanding that communities could not afford the major increase. Initial post-school closing conversations suggested that realized school savings may be passed onto the local communities in the district to offset some of the increases. By June, the FY21 school year is more uncertain as to if and how it will be realized and how any additional costs will be calculated and shared between the State and municipalities. The schools have submitted and have approved 1/12th budgets in order to continue into the uncertainty of FY21.

The Finance Committee has met with all major and many smaller departments to review their FY21 level-funded, COLA requests, and capital requests. The Finance Committee will meet with the QRSD an additional time on the 18th of June to see if any additional information is available. The current goal is to present an FY21 that allows continuation of services, wage increases, and reserves to cover the future unknowns and potential revenue shortfalls.

UNCERTAINTIES

Looking ahead to FY21, there are a number of uncertainties in revenues and expenses that we as a Town need to prepare for. The budget proposed is one that we believe we can utilize to continue providing current services to the public and look ahead to keep our reserves in check and plan for a rough next few years.

As we expect to come back to Town Meeting in the fall to adjust for any revenue changes once the State sets their FY21 budget, we also expect to need to make modifications to the QRSD budget once more details of what school will look like and what funding state and federal governments will provide. Therefore, our proposed budget level funds what we appropriated last year for QRSD while things remain uncertain, and our reserves allow for the function to adjust expenditures when we know more in the fall.

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FY21 REVENUES

For a Town's Operating Budget, the approach is often to build your revenues and expenses simultaneously making sure your expenses are sound and justified. When the process is initially completed, one returns to the revenue projections to see if any adjustments need to be made to expenses or additional funds added to revenues.

With many uncertainties ahead, we have taken a conservative approach to FY21 revenue projections. The total estimated revenues for FY21 are \$11,794,793 which is a \$61,980 increase from FY20 or .53%.

PROPERTY TAX LEVY

The property tax levy for the Town of Barre for FY21 is \$269,595 more than FY20. New Growth is estimated at about 50% of FY20's actuals due to a decrease in building permits and estimated economic recession. The property taxes include real estate and personal property.

	<i>FY 20- Bud</i>	FY21 – ESTIMATES
Property Tax Levy		
Prior Year Levy Limit	8,087,275	8,401,060
2 1/2% Increase	202,292	210,027
New Growth	111,493	54,387
Debt Service Override- School	106,125	99,188
Debt Service Override- Municipal	169,782	177,657
Override?-		
Unused Levy Limit	98	-
Less Overlay	<u>(71,966)</u>	<u>(72,000)</u>
LEVY TOTAL	\$8,605,099	\$ 8,870,319

STATE AID

In conservative efforts, we have level-funded state aid from FY20 and included the increased state assessment numbers. The predictions for state aid have not been clear from the State, but guidance from municipal organizations has been to be conservative and while some communities have level-funded state aid estimates, many have included a lower figure.

	<i>FY 20- Bud</i>	FY21 Estimates
State Aid		
Unrestricted Gen.Governemnt Aid (State Lottery	955,017	955,017
State Owned Land	68,636	68,636
Veteran's Benefits Reimbursements	62,232	62,232
Veteran, Blind, SSP Elderly	19,108	19,108
Public Library Offset	9,411	9,411
Less State Assessments	<u>(19,718)</u>	<u>(20,693)</u>
CHERRY SHEET TOTAL	\$1,094,686	\$ 1,093,711

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LOCAL RECEIPTS REVENUE

Local receipts are comprised from various sources. Local receipts are calculated conservatively and for FY21 they are estimated at a 17% decrease from FY20.

	<i>FY 20- Bud</i>	FY21 Estimates
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Local Receipts Revenue

Other Taxes & Excise	997,181	905,169
Charges for Fees & Services	127,110	98,350
Licenses & Permits	105,100	57,750
Fine & Forfeitures	13,000	2,000
Other Departmental Revenue	52,302	49,000
Miscellaneous	52,302	20,000
Miscellaneous Non-recurring (Only in Actuals)	12,988	-
TOTAL LOCAL SOURCE REVENUE	\$1,359,983	\$ 1,132,269

Other Taxes & Excise

Estimated FY21 receipts are 9.2% lower than FY20. Based on current YTD numbers, a conservative approach, and potential economic impact, estimated figures are lower than FY20.

Other Taxes & Excise

Acct #	FY20 – BUD	FY20YTD	FY21EST
4150 MV Excise	722,012	702,251	650,000
4171 P & I Property	13,500	6,347	10,000
4172 P & I Excise	15,000	20,252	5,000
4173 P & I Tax Liens	26,500	44,684	25,000
4180 PILOT	220,169	215,279	215,169
	997,181	988,812	905,169

PILOT DCR	186,169
Insight Meditation	20,000
Barre Buddhist Studies	5,000
Dhamma Vehara	4,000

Charges for Fees & Services

Estimated FY21 charges for fees & services are 23% lower than FY20. Based on current YTD numbers, a conservative approach, and potential economic impact, estimated figures are lower than FY20.

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Charges & Fees

Acct #	FY20 – BUD	FY20 YTD	FY21 EST
Fees- Misc	-	283	-
Fees from Tax Collector	75,600	31,023	50,000
Town Hall Rental	4,500	5,182	3,000
Cell Tower Lease	32,610	31,257	32,000
Fees – ZBA	-	150	-
Fees- PD	4,000	156	100
Fees- Con Com	900	-	-
Fees – Assessors	-	-	-

Acct #	FY20 – BUD	FY20 YTD	FY21 EST
Fees- Civil Process	-	-	-
Fees- Fire Inspect	-	6,165	5,000
Fees- Cemetery	-	-	-

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Fees – Highway	-	320	250
Fees – Planning	1,500	1,435	750
Grave Openings	1,000	-	250
RMV Marking Fees	7,000	8,420	7,000
	127,110	84,391	98,350

Licenses & Permits

Estimated FY21 licenses and permits are 45% lower than FY20. Based on current YTD numbers, a conservative approach, and potential economic impact, estimated figures are lower than FY20.

Licenses & Permits

Acct #	FY20 – BUD	FY20 YTD	FY21 EST
BOS Licenses	17,400	16,468	15,000
Other Licenses- - Town Clerk Fees	7,000	6,788	6,000
Dog Fees & Fines	15,000	13,999	12,000
BOH Permits	3,000	6,783	2,500
Building Permits	54,000	24,911	15,000
Police Gun Permits	3,000	4,413	3,000
Plumbing Permits	1,500	1,526	1,000
Electrical Permits	3,000	3,585	2,500
Gas Permits	1,200	1,338	750
	105,100	79,810	57,750

Fine & Forfeitures

Estimated FY21 fines and forfeitures are 85% lower than FY20. Based on current YTD numbers, a conservative approach, and potential economic impact, estimated figures are lower than FY20.

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Fines & Forfeitures

Acct #	FY20 – BUD	FY20 YTD	FY21 Est
Abandoned Vehicle	-	-	
Court Fines – Local	1,000	60	
Court Fines – State	12,000	8,151	2,000
	13,000	8,211	2,000

Other Departmental Revenue

Estimated FY21 other departmental revenues are 6% lower than FY20. Based on current YTD numbers, and a calculated misplacement of early voting funds.

Other Dept'l Revenue

Acct #	FY20 – BUD	FY20 – YTD	FY21- Est
Contract - Regional Building Commissioner	29,302	30,699	30,000
Contract- Hardwick Senior Center	19,000	18,843	19,000
Early Voting	4,000		
	52,302	49,542	49,000

Miscellaneous

Estimated FY21 miscellaneous revenues are 150% of FY20. Based on current YTD numbers, and even calculating in a possible decrease in interest rates, we anticipate meeting our estimate.

Miscellaneous - Recurring

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Acct #		FY20 – BUD	FY20 YTD	FY21 Est
Recurring	Earnings on Investments	10,000	33,960	20,000
		10,000	33,960	20,000

ADDITIONAL FUNDS (SEPARATE ARTICLES)

Additional funds are added to offset the general fund costs. Each of these funds is added through a separate article at Annual Town Meeting.

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Additional Funds (Separate Articles)	FY 20- Bud	FY21 - ESTIMATES
Indirect Costs- Water	88,030	94,896
Indirect Costs – Sewer	150,015	126,027
Free Cash		
Transfer from Special Revenue		
Transfer from Ambulance Funds	435,000	475,000
Operating Stabilization		
TOTAL OTHER ADDITIONAL FUNDS	673,045	695,923

Indirect Costs -Water

Indirect costs are the costs that an enterprise fund is assessed based on the services/benefits they receive from the operating fund. Indirect costs include the cost of retirement for any water employees, the cost of insurance (health, dental, Medicare, and unemployment), the portion of general liability insurance, the cost to offset the finance departments assistance with department finance management, and the cost of debt service that is shown in the operating budget.

The estimated indirect costs for water are \$6,866 or 7.8% higher than FY20 based on modifications to calculations, including the addition of the Well debt to the general fund.

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Indirect Cost - Water

Worcester County Retirement

<i>Departmental</i>	\$12,509
<i>Split for shared employees</i>	\$741
	\$13,250

Health Insurance

<i>Health Insurance</i>	\$23,171
<i>Dental</i>	\$1,374
<i>Retiree Insurance</i>	\$0
<i>Medicare (4% of payroll)</i>	\$1,566
<i>Unemployment Insurance (4% of Payroll)</i>	\$522
	\$26,632

General Insurance

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<i>Worker's Comp (4% overall payroll)</i>	\$1,403
<i>General Liability</i>	\$15,712
	\$17,115
Debt Service	
<i>Water Tank Sanderson Road- Principal</i>	\$12,821
<i>Water Tank Sanderson Road- Interest</i>	\$13,622
<i>WMPAT Well #3 Principal</i>	\$2,874
<i>WMPAT Well #3-Interest</i>	\$1,082
	\$30,399
Municipal Costs/Services by Town Employees	\$7,500
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS	\$94,896

Indirect Costs – Sewer

The estimated indirect costs for sewer are \$23,988 or 16% lower than FY20 based on modifications to calculations.

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Indirect Cost - Sewer

Worcester County Retirement	<i>Departmental</i>	-\$455
	<i>Split for shared employees</i>	\$741
		\$286
Employee Benefits		
	<i>Health Insurance</i>	\$6,200
	<i>Dental Insurance</i>	\$364
	<i>Reitree Insurance</i>	\$2,267
	<i>Medicare (2% of payroll)</i>	\$888
	<i>Unemployment Insurance (2% of payroll)</i>	\$296
		\$10,016
General Insurance		
	<i>Worker's Comp (2% of overall payroll)</i>	\$702
	<i>Flood Insurance</i>	\$5,163
	<i>General Liability</i>	\$20,758
		\$26,623
Debt Service		
	<i>WWFT – Principal</i>	\$12,540
	<i>WWFT – Interest</i>	\$14,108
	<i>USDA Phase I</i>	\$21,154
	<i>Phase I – Interest</i>	\$24,063
	<i>USDA Phase I Over – Principal</i>	\$4,607
	<i>USDA Phase I Over - Interest</i>	\$5,130
		\$81,602
Municipal Costs/Services by Town Employees		\$7,500
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS		\$126,027

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Transfer from Ambulance Funds

Ambulance Receipts Reserved is a special revenue account that holds all of the Towns collections for billing for ambulance services and each year a certain amount is transferred to cover the operating funds to offset the cost of the ambulance service. For FY21, the requested transfer amount is \$475,000 which is \$40k more than FY20 or 9%.

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FY21 EXPENSES

Department Heads were requested to submit both a level-funded and a level-funded budget with COLAs. On Thursday, June 18th, the Finance Committee voted to recommend and move forward with the level-funded with COLA budget. For FY21, all departments are listed as complete departments, any and all changes or exceptions to the level-funded method are described below.

NO CHANGES FROM FY20

The following department's budgets are identical to FY20 and experienced zero changes for FY21.

114 – Moderator

114	MODERATOR	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Moderator Stipend	50	<u>50</u>
		50	50

131 – Finance Committee

131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Finance Committee Expense	1,000	<u>1000</u>
		1,000	1,000

132 – Reserve Fund

132	RESERVE FUND	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
	570000 Reserve Fund	10,000	<u>10,000</u>
		10,000	10,000

158 – Tax Title Expense

158	Tax Title Expense	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
520000	Tax Title Expense	10,000	<u>10,000</u>
		10,000	10,000

171 – Conservation Commission

171	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Conservation Commission Expenses	1,000	<u>1,000</u>
		1,000	1,000

175 – Planning Board

175	PLANNING BOARD	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
520000	Planning Board Consultant	1,000	1,000
570000	Planning Board Expenses	3,100	<u>3,100</u>
		4,100	4,100

291 – Emergency Management

291	Emergency Management	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Emergency Management Expense	1,000	<u>1,000</u>
		1,000\$	1,000

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294 – Tree Warden

294	Tree Warden	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Shade Tree Mgmt/Operations	5,000	5,000
		5,000	5,000

423 – Snow Removal

423	Snow Removal	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
520000	Snow Removal OT/PT	23,651	23,651
570000	Highway Snow Removal	105,000	105,000
		128,651	128,651

433 – Sanitary Landfill

433	Sanitary Landfill	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
576000	Sanitary Landfill	8,000	8,000
576200	Labroartory Testing	250	250
		8,250	8,250

519- Inspector of Animals

519	Inspector of Animals	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
514000	Inspector of Animals Stipend	600	600
		600	600

630 – Recreation

630	Recreation	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570,000	Recreation	6,000	6,000
575,500	Youth Commission	2,500	2,500
575,700	South Barre common	500	500
		9,000	9,000

691 – Historical Commission

691	Historical Commission	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Historical Commission	1,200	1,200
		1,200	1,200

692 – Holiday Décor

692	HOLIDAY DÉCOR	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Christmas in Barre (fka Holiday Decoration)	2,100	2,100
		2,100	2,100

COLA ONLY

The following department’s budgets are the FY20 numbers adding in COLAs for employees and any step increases for FY21.

129 – Town Administrator -

Difference of \$2,272 more for FY21

129	TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000	Town Administrator Salary	77,130	78,673
512000	Town Admin Assistant Salary	36,440	37,169
		113,570	115,842

135 – Town Accountant

Difference of \$1,207 more for FY21

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135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000	Town Accountant Salary	54,263	55,380
513000	Assistant Town Accountant	4,482	4,572
520000	Annual Town Audit	24,000	24,000

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570000 Town Accountant Expense	1,500	1,500
	84,245	85,452

141 – Assessors

Difference of \$6,683 more for FY21, includes correction of Admin Assessor’s hours from 37 to 40 per week which was not accounted for in FY20.

141 ASSESSORS	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
511000 Working Assessor Salary	10,426	11,335
512000 Assessor Clerk Salary	15,240	16,329
513000 Administrative Assessor Salary	56,987	61,672
513200 Admin Assessor Longevity Stipend	300	300
514000 Assessors Stipends	6,000	6,000
570000 Assessor Expenses	17,305	17,305
	106,258	112,941

161 – Town Clerk

Difference of \$1,803 more for FY21

161 TOWN CLERK	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Town Clerk Salary	51,381	52,409
513000 Assistant Town Clerk Salary	23,018	23,793
513200 Town Clerk Longevity Stipend	300	300
513210 Certification Stipend	1,000	1,000
520000 Vital Statistics Expense	4,100	4,100
520004 Codification Maintenance	4,425	4,425
570000 Town Clerk Expense	4,800	4,800
570100 Vault Maintenance/Service Co	1,250	1,250
	90,274	92,077

210- Police

Difference of \$13,497 more for FY21

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210 Police	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Police Chief Salary	84,690	88,078
510100 Deputy Police Chief	77,160	80,248
511000 Police Departmental Salaries	378,305	384,648
511100 Police OT	60,000	60,000
512000 Admin Assistant	33,480	34,150
513200 Logevity Stipend	1,150	1,150
513210 PT Salaries	30,000	30,000
514410 Speiality Stipends	2,250	2,250
514415 Contractual Obligations	35,685	35,685
514420 Educational Stipends	9,500	9,500
514425 Special Events	3,432	3,432
520000 Police Purchaed Services	12,940	12,940
520100 Contractual Allowances	14,476	14,476
540000 Police Supplies	9,000	9,000
540400 Armory	12,550	12,558

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570000 Police Other Exp	-	-
572000 Police Training	15,250	15,250
572300 Police Tuition	7,720	7,720
574500 Cruiser Maintenance	11,504	11,504
	799,092	812,589

650- Parks and Commons

Difference of \$760 more for FY21

650 Parks & Commons	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
511000 Commons & Cemeteries Salaries	37,990	38,750
570000 Commons & Cemeteries Expenses	5,250	5,250
	43,240	44,000

REARRANGED BUDGETS AND COLA AND CONTRACTUAL CHANGES

In order to make things easier to track in FY21 and more transparent, we have reorganized the accounting structure of some departments in order to have a better understanding of all expenses and make tracking changes easier.

122 – Selectmen

We have relocated the expenses for postage and the annual cost of the postage machine to a newly created accounting department for centralized purchasing to make postage more consolidated and more efficient. This small change will allow for a reduction in administrative time for preparing separate invoices to each department prior to adding postage to the machine.

No other changes have been made to this department. With the adjusted budget, no change has been experienced in this department.

122 SELECTMEN	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Selectboard Stipends	1,800	1,800
570000 Selectboard Expenses	11,320	8,320
	13,120	10,120

145- Treasurer/Collector

The only financial changes to this account from FY20 to FY21 are COLA and step increases. The structural change was combing the Treasurer and Collector departments into the one Treasurer/Collector department. The total difference between FY20 and FY21 for this department is \$2,429.

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145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Treasurer/Collector Salary	61,845	63,082
513000 Assistant Treasurer Salary	33,290	33,956
513210 Certification Stipend	1,000	1,000
520014 GASB 45 Actuarial Valuation	-	-
570000 Treasurer/Collector Expenses	20,659	20,659
TBD Assistant Collector Salary	-	26,811
	116,794	145,508
146 Collector		
513000 Assistant Collector Salary	26,285	-
	26,285	-

155- IT

In past budgets, this department was coded as data processing. In FY20, there were two IT related departments- Data Processing and Regional IT. For FY21, these two departments have been combined into one and renamed "IT." This budget is level-funded from FY20 to FY21.

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155	IT (fka dataprocessing)	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
570000	Software (fka dataprocessing exp)	15,225	15,225
520000	IT Managed Services	-	25,000
570000	IT Expenses	-	24,000
		15,225	64,225
159	Regional IT		
520000	IT Managed Services	25,000	-
570000	IT Expenses	24,000	-
		49,000	-

162 – Elections

In past budgets we had a separate Elections and Registrars department. For FY21, we have combined both departments into one, Elections. There is a significant increase of \$19,210 for FY21 due to the anticipated costs for the Presidential Election requiring additional workers, social distancing, PPE, voting by ballot, and early voting.

162	ELECTIONS	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
514000	Registrars Stipends	-	1,700
570000	Election Expense	30,000	49,210
		30,000	50,910
163	REGISTRARS		
514000	Registrars Stipends	1,700	-
		1,700	-

TBD- Centralized Purchasing

This is a newly created departmental code in order to combine some Town central services into one location for easier administration through the Town Administrator’s office.

- Postage covers the cost of annual postage, some funds were taken from the Board of Selectmen’s department for this purpose. This amount was increased due to anticipated increase in postage for communicating with the public by mail for FY21.
- Mail Machine covers the annual rental fee for the machine and the Board of Selectmen’s departmental expenses were reduced by this amount. This amount was level-funded.
- The Town Report expense was consolidated into this department and removed from its own department. This amount was level-funded.

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- The Regional Planning Assessment and the Centrex Phone Lines costs that affect the entire Town were relocated from the Building Expenses Department. The Centrex cost was level-funded. The Assessment increased from FY20 by \$35.

TBD	Centralized Purchasing	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
	Postage	-	5,000
	Mail Machine	-	3,000
	Town Report Expense	-	1,000
	Regional Planning Assessment	-	1,585
	Centrex Phone Lines	-	11,000
		-	21,585
195	Town Report		
570000	Town Report Expense	1,000	-
		1,000	-

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192- Town Buildings

For FY21, the Centrex Telephone Expense and Regional Planning Assessment were removed and relocated to the Centralized Purchasing Department code. This department includes increases for COLAs/Stipends. The Public Safety Building expense line was increased by \$11,500 due to high energy costs to run the building that were not budgeted high enough for FY20. Once removing the Centrex and Assessment expenses, this departmental budget increased by \$12,146 for FY21.

192	Town Buildings	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
513200	Longevity Municipal Custodian	150	150
516000	Municipal Custodian	32,500	33,146
520000	Centrex Telephone Expense	11,000	-
520015	Regional Planning Assessment	1,550	-
571000	Repairs to Town Buildings	5,000	5,000
571100	HWB	56,450	56,450
571200	Town Hall Maintenance	8,950	8,950
571350	PSB	39,500	50,000
		155,100	153,696

231- Ambulance Service

For FY21, we combined the Ambulance and EMTs departments and renamed the department as “Ambulance Service.” We were able to eliminate the ambulance insurance line because we were already paying to cover our workers who were also fire fighters under the Injured on Duty insurance and our EMT only folks under Workers Comp. This budget includes COLAs and steps. The cost of EMS service contracts increased this year while we reduced our cost by being finished paying for one of the cardiac care monitors. The cost of supplies for the ambulance service increased. This budget increased by \$31,022 from FY20 to FY21.

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231	Ambulance Service (fka Ambulance)	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
511000	EMT Salaries	-	446,534
511100	EMS OT	-	10,000
514000	EMT Stipends	-	2,300
520000	Ambulance Billing	25,000	25,000
520200	EMS service Contracts	14,374	15,624
540300	EMS Cardiac Monitors	21,500	11,500
570000	Ambulance Expenses	42,150	43,150
599600	Ambulance Insurance	5,844	-
		108,868	554,108
232	EMTs		
511000	EMT Salaries	405,568	-
511100	EMS OT	6,650	-
514000	EMT Stipends	2,000	-
		414,218\$	-

241- Building Department

We rearranged the Building Department expenses by: including half of the shared administrative salary for building and board of health, which was previously 100% in the Health Department line in FY20; by adding in the plumbing and wiring inspector stipends to this department, and by removing all expenses related to the Town’s Regional Building Commissioner Program to its own department. This budget includes COLAs and step increases for the

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administrative position. When adjusting for the relocation of the administrative salary, the overall increase in this budget from FY20 to FY21 is \$707.

241 Building Department	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 BLDG Commissioner	63,705	-
511000 BLDG Inspector/Zoning Enforce Salary	500	-
TBD Administrative Salary	-	21,632
540000 BLDG Dept Expenses	5,400	5,400
TBD Plumbing Inspector Stipend	-	2,000
TBD Wiring Inspector Stipend	-	2,000
573000 Training/Travel/Communications	3,970	-
	73,575	31,032

243 Plumbing Inspector		
514000 Plumbing Inspector Stipend	2,000	-
	2,000	-

245 Wiring Inspector		
514000 Wiring Inspector Stipend	2,000	-
	2,000	-

242- Regional Building Program

This department was created to separately account for the expenses related to the shared regional building commissioner position and related expenses that the Town of Barre hosts. In FY20, these expenses were part of the Building Department. This budget includes a COLA and the total increase from FY20 to FY21 for these expenses is \$1,274.

242 Regional Building Program	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 BLDG Commissioner	-	64,979
511000 Alternate Building Commissioner/Coverage(fka BLDG Inspector/Zoning	-	500
573000 Training/Travel/Communications	-	3,970
	-	69,449

421- DPW

The DPW departments of DPW Administration, Town Roads Highway, and Town Barn Account were combined into one department for FY21 and renamed "DPW." The budget accounts for Collective

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Bargaining Agreement increases, colas, and step increases. It also includes additional hours for the DPW Secretary position. The total increase for this department is \$4,708.

421 DPW (fka DPW Administration)	FY20BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 DPW Superintendent Salary	24,330	26,327
511000 Town Roads Salaries	-	293,268
511100 Town Roads OT/PT	-	12,980
512000 DPW Secretary Salary	13,734	15,808
513200 Longevity	-	400
513300 Differential	-	1,000
520000 Fuel Account	-	70,000
Town Roads Expenses	-	96,400
570000 Highway Administration	5,600	5,600

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Town Barn Account	-	18,100
575000 Machinery Account	-	44,000
	43,664	583,883

422 Town Roads Highway		
511000 Town Roads Salaries	293,031	-
511100 Town Roads OT/PT	12,980	-
513200 Longevity	300	-
513300 Differential	1,000	-
520000 Fuel Account	70,000	-
570000 Town Roads Expenses	96,400	-
575000 Machinery Account	44,000	-
	517,711	-

429 Town Barn Account		
570000 Town Barn Account	17,800	-
	17,800\$	-

510- Board of Health

For FY21, we split down the middle the expense for the Board of Health/Building Admin between this department and the building department, where in FY20 we accounted for the full cost in the Board of Health department. This budget includes COLAs/steps and the difference between FY20 adjusted and FY21 is \$707.

510 BOH	FY20BUD	FY21 REQUEST
511000 BOH Health Agent Salary	7,200	7,200
513000 Inspection Services Admin Salary	41,850	21,632
514000 BOH Stipends	1,500	1,500
570000 BOH Expenses	3,000	3,000
572000 Training	200	200
	53,750	33,532

OTHER CHANGES

For some departments there are specific changes to be accounted for in FY21.

151 – Legal

We increased the estimated expenses for Legal from FY20 to FY21 to account for an increase to our Town Counsel stipend.

151 LEGAL	FY20BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Town Counsel Stipend	6,500	10,000
520000 Legal Expense	16,000	16,000
	22,500	26,000

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176-ZBA

The regional program that provided for an Regional Economic Director was discontinued for FY21 and therefore this item was not budgeted. A COLA/step increase is shown for the salaries in this department. The overall cost savings from FY20 to FY21 is \$6,484.

176 ZBA	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
512000 Land Use Admin Secretary	17,265	18,386
513220 Regional Economic Director	7,605	-
570000 ZBA Expense	250	250
	25,120	18,636

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220- Fire

The FY21 budget includes COLAs and step increases which is shown in the salary, stipend, and training lines. In Fire Expenses, the cost of Verizon wireless and internet increased, the service fee for the SCBA contract increased and the cost for Hose testing was added. The overall increase to this budget from FY20 to FY21 is \$9,050.

220 Fire	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Fire Chief Salary	77,976	79,536
511000 Fire Department Salaries	44,000	44,880
512000 Fire Department Clerk	5,150	5,253
513150 Fire Inspector	35,865	38,142
513200 Fire Dept Longevity Stipends	1,150	1,650
540100 Fire Hoses	2,000	2,000
570000 Fire Expenses	65,045	68,326
572000 Training	22,440	22,889
	253,626	262,676

424- Street Lights

Electrical costs are anticipated to increase and \$1000 was added to this account to cover increase for FY21.

424 Street Lights	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
520000 Street Lighting	30,000	31,000
	30,000	31,000

491- Cemetery

This budget includes COLA/step increases and a break out from expenses to separate out Cemetery Scans. The difference from FY20 to FY21 is an increase of \$575.

491 Cemetery	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
512000 Secretary/Clerk Salary	8,070	8,645
514000 Cemetery Commission Stipend	450	450
570000 Cemetery Expenses	8,000	3,000
TBD Cemetery Scans	-	5,000
	16,520	17,095

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541- COA

The Council on Aging budget contains the COLA/step increase for the COA Director and is reduced off the top by \$5,000 that is charged directly to the EOEI entitlement grant. This was calculated for differently in the past year. Once the adjustment is made, the increase from the FY20 budget is \$1,730.

541 COA	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 COA Director Salary	42,817	39,547
570000 COA Expenses	39,734	39,734
	82,551	79,281

543- Veterans

This budget accounts for COLA/step increases as well as anticipated increases to Veteran's Benefits and expenses due to the current economic situation. The difference from FY20 to FY21 is \$10,402.

543 Veterans	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Veterans Agent Salary	5,085	5,187
520000 Veterans Benefits	90,000	100,000

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570000 Expenses	4,700	5,000
	99,785	110,187

610- Library

This budget includes COLA/step increases, and a reduction in utility costs based on historical trends. The Director line is less than the prior year due to a change of employees in that position. The difference between FY20 and FY21 is \$3,495.

610 Library	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 Library Director	48,953	46,662
511000 Youth Services Librarian Salary	25,168	27,463
513000 Library Assistants	15,309	18,891
513100 Cataloging Librarian	23,240	25,368
513140 Adult Services Librarian	23,616	26,680
520000 Library Utilities	43,729	39,805
570000 Library Expenses	50,431	49,072
	230,446	233,941

710- Excluded Debt Principal

For FY21, we broke out excluded and non-excluded debt and placed them in their own departmental codes. Excluded debt is debt that is outside of the levy limited and voted on at both a Town Meeting and the Ballot Box. The Ariel Ladder Truck BAN falls off in FY20. Once adjusted, the Excluded Debt Principal decreased by \$11,347 from FY20.

710 Excluded Debt Principal (fka Debt Principal)	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
591130 Ariel Ladder Truck BAN	21,000	-
591110 Barre Common	60,000	76,347
591112 Ruggles Lane Project	80,000	75,000
591116 WWTF Upgrades (fka Sewer Update Phase I)	12,540	-
NEW Sewer USDA Phase I Over		-
591118 Sewer USDA Phase I (fka Sewer Upgrade Phase 1B)	25,761	-
591120 Water Tank Sanderson Road	12,821	-
591124 Well #3 South Barre	2,753	-
591125 Barre Common State House Note #1N80,000 80,000 591126FY17	150,000	-
<u>Capital Improve Debt</u>	444,875	231,347

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711- Non-Excluded Debt Principal

For FY21, we created a new departmental code for non-excluded debt principal. Non-excluded debt is debt that is part of the Town's general operating budget. We have two separate borrowing items for the Sewer USDA project with two separate amounts and due dates. For transparency and management, we separated these out into their own expense lines for FY21. Once adjusted, the Excluded Debt Principal decreased by \$193,679 from FY20. This is the result of reducing the FY17 Capital Improvement Debt BAN from last years payment from \$150,000 for principal to the minimum payment required of \$57,200. This will provide relief for this fiscal year, but should be reevaluated in future years to pay off sooner.

NEW Non-Excluded Debt Principal	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
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591116	WWTF Upgrades (fka Sewer Update Phase I)	-	12,540
NEW	Sewer USDA Phase I Over	-	4,607
591118	Sewer USDA Phase I (fka Sewer Upgrade Phase 1B)	-	21,154
591120	Water Tank Sanderson Road	-	12,821
591124	Well #3 South Barre	-	2,874
591126	FY17 Capital Improve Debt	-	57,200
		-	111,196

750- Excluded Debt Interest

In FY21, we separated out the Excluded and Non-excluded debt interest. Once adjusted, the excluded-debt interest decreased by \$10,409 from FY20, using the required minimum payments.

750	Excluded Debt Interest(fka Debt Interest)	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
591110	Barre Common BAN	13,369	7,497
591112	Ruggles Lane Project	26,125	24,188
591116	Sewer Update Phase I	14,672	-
591118	Sewer Upgrade Phase 1B	30,118	-
591120	Water Tank Sanderson Road	14,167	-
591124	Well #3 South Barre	1,144	-
591125	Barre Common State House Note #1N	16,413	13,813
591126	FY17 Capital Improve Debt (fka FY17 Capital Equipment Interest)	27,555	-
591130	Ariel Ladder Truck BAN	5,415	-
		148,978	45,498

751- Non-Excluded Debt Interest

In FY21, we created a new department for non-excluded debt interest. Once added, non-excluded debt interest decreased by \$13,497 from FY20.

NEW	Non- Excluded Debt Interest	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
NEW	WWTF Upgrades (fka Sewer Update Phase I)	-	14,108
591116	Sewer USDA Phase I Over	-	5,130
591118	Sewer USDA Phase I (fka Sewer Upgrade Phase 1B)	-	24,063
591120	Water Tank Sanderson Road	-	13,622
	Well #3 South Barre	-	1,082
591126	FY17 Capital Improve Debt (fka FY17 Capital Equipment Interest)-	-	21,569
		-	79,574

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TBD- Employee Benefits

For FY21, we combined County Retirement and Health Insurance into a new department called “Employee Benefits.” We also broke out health insurance into employee health, retiree, Medicare, and unemployment insurance. The difference is a \$55,745 increase from FY20.

TBD	Employee Benefits	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
599300	County Retirement	-	364,530
599400	Employee Health Insurance	-	321,597
TBD	Retiree Health Insurance	-	63,425
TBD	Medicare	-	40,086
TBD	Unemployment Insurance	-	13,362
		-	803,000

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COUNTY RETIREMENT

911599300	County Retirement	326,085	-
		326,085	-

914	Health Insurance		
599400	Health Insurance	421,170	-
		421,170	-

945- General Insurance

For FY21, we broke out general insurance line into all of the Town's insurance so that it is more transparent and easier to track. The difference is \$20,218 from FY20.

		FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
945	General Insurance		
599600	Property & Liability Insurance(fka Liability Insurance)	164,562	110,045
TBD	Worker's Comp	-	35,081
TBD	Injured on Duty	-	26,341
TBD	Flood Insurance	-	5,163
TBD	Employee Bonds	-	3,150
TBD	Deductible	-	5,000
		164,562	184,780

CONTRACTUAL/MANDATORY CHANGES

The following department's budgets are the FY20 numbers accounting for FY21 contractual and mandatory changes. These are relevant to services that are provided for through intermunicipal agreements for regional services.

292- Regional Animal Control

This service is provided as a regional assessment through the Town of Rutland and the FY21 assessment increased by \$542.

		FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
292	Regional Animal Control (fka Animal Control)		
570000	Regional Animal Control	17,215	17,757
		17,215	17,757

293- Dispatch

This service is provided as a regional assessment through the Town of Rutland and the FY21 assessment decreased due to additional grants and state funding by \$10,615.

		FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
293	Dispatch		
570000	Regional Dispatch Fee	143,440	132,825
		143,440	132,825

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300- Schools

The Monty Tech Assessment and QRSD Debt Service assessment decreased for FY21. The QRSD originally assessed the Town a much higher increase and does not currently have a finalized number to reflect FY21 school operations as of the last meeting of the Finance Committee on June 18th. As the Town will need to reconvene Town Meeting in the Fall once state revenues are finalized, the actual amount appropriated for FY20 was level-funded for FY21. The FY20 appropriation for Quabbin was higher than the final assessment by \$45,840 and funds remain in that line at the end of FY20 as a result. Therefore the FY21 amount reflects a .81% increase from FY20.

		FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
300	Schools		
561000	Quabbin Assessment	5,679,580	5,679,580

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561100 Monty Tech Assessment	446,856	428,358
590000 QRSD Debt Service	52,155	51,020
	6,178,591	6,158,958

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

602 WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

602- Water Enterprise Fund	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 DPW Superintendent Salary	24,330	24,817
511000 Water Department Salaries	107,786	109,960
511100 Water OT/PT	22,440	22,440
512000 Water Secretary (DPW)	13,775	14,051
514000 Water Commissioner Stipends	900	900
576000 Water Operations Expense	104,500	104,700
576100 Water Maintenance Expesne	41,000	41,000
576200 Water Administration Expense	7,300	7,300
576400 Water Replacement	5,000	5,000
576500 Water Pumping Expense	68,000	68,000
576600 Water Upgrade	70,000	70,000
	465,031	468,168

Indirect Costs (Transfer from Water to General Fund)

596250 Water Debt Transfer to GF	30,885	30,399
599000 Water Health Dental Life	24,385	26,632
599100 General Insurance	14,495	17,115
599200 County Retirement	10,765	13,250
599250 Town Services	7500	7,500
	88,030	94,896

TOTAL	553,061	563,064
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601 SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

601- Sewer Enterprise Fund	FY20 BUD	FY21 REQUEST
510000 DPW Superintendent Salary	24,330	24,817
511000 Sewer Department Salaries	160,230	163,493
511100 Sewer OT/PT	24,480	24,480
512000 Sewer Secretary (DPW)	13,734	14,050
513200 Longevity Stipends	200	200
514000 Sewer Commissioner Stipends	900	900
571215 Sewer Infiltration Study	65,000	-
573000 Equipment	-	-
576000 Sewer Opearting Costs	251,700	251,700
576100 Sewer Maintenance Costs	57,600	57,600
576200 Sewer Admin Expenses	32,200	32,200
576300 Sewer Inflow/infiltration	10,000	10,000
576400 Sewer Replacement Fund	40,000	40,000
	680,374	619,440

Indirect Costs (Transfer from Sewer to General Fund)

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596240 Sewer Debt Transfer to GF	83,091	81,602
599000 Sewer Health Dental Life	28,345	10,016
599100 General Insurance	19,049	26,623
599200 County Retirement	12,030	286
599250 Town Services	7,500	7,500
	150,015	126,027
	TOTAL 830,389	745,467

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FY2021 ATM

The following materials will show the following information for each article: the warrant language, the proposed motion(s), the amount of the article and from where the funds will be taken, the description, and any/all recommendations from Finance Committee/Board of Selectmen.

FUND BALANCES

The amounts shown below are the Town's current balances in all available fund accounts prior to the start of Annual Town Meeting.

Fund	Balance
FY19 Free Cash	\$634,774
Operating Stabilization Fund	\$700,810
Cable Access Special Revenue Fund	\$436,305
Ambulance Receipts Reserved	\$542,359
Water Retained Earnings	\$626,696
Sewer Retained Earnings	\$429,007

TOWN CLERK NOTE:

*** THE REMAINDER OF PAGE 27 CONTAINED THE PROPOSED MODERATORS MOTIONS AND PAGES 28-43 OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE BOOKLET CONTAINED WARRANT ARTICLES AND PRE-MOTIONS AND THEREFORE, ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOWN CLERK'S MINUTES.**

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Handout

FY21 Debt Schedule

General Fund- Excluded Debt Principal

Account	Debt	FY21
	Ruggles Lane	75,000.00
	Barre Common Project SHN#1	80,000.00
	Barre Common Project SHN# 2 BAN	76,347.00
		<hr/>
		\$
		231,347.00

General Fund- Excluded Debt Interest

Account	Debt	FY21
	Ruggles Lane	24,188.00

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Barre Common Project SHN#1	13,813.00
Barre Common Project SHN# 2 BAN	7,497.00
	\$
	45,498.00

General Fund- Non-excluded Debt Principal

Account	Debt	FY21
Capital Plan Purchases BAN - 2017		57,200.00
WWTF Upgrade Phase I		12,540.00
Sewer Upgrade Phase 1 USDA		21,154.00
Sewer Upgrade Phase 1 Over USDA		4,607.00
Water Tank Sanderson Road		12,821.00
Well # 3 MWPAT		2,874.00
		\$
		111,196.00

General Fund- Non-excluded Debt Interest

Account	Debt	FY21
Capital Plan Purchases BAN - 2017		21,569.00
WWTF Upgrade Phase I		14,108.00
Sewer Upgrade Phase 1 USDA		24,063.00
Sewer Upgrade Phase 1 Over USDA		5,130.00
Water Tank Sanderson Road		13,622.00
Well # 3 MWPAT		1,082.00
		\$
		79,574.00

MINUTES

On June 30th, 2020 the moderator and Town Clerk met at 800 South Street, the Quabbin Regional High School (Q.R.H.S.) Parking Lot,

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and with no quorum present, the moderator opened the meeting and made a motion the due to the inclement weather and with no quorum present, that the June 30th 2020 Annual Town Meeting be adjourned to Thursday, July 2nd, 2020 at 6 p.m. at the Q.R.H.S. Parking Lot. The Town Clerk seconded the motion and it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, July 2nd at 6pm at the Q.R.H.S. Parking Lot.

On Thursday, July 2nd, 2020, pursuant to the foregoing warrant **88** of the **3,797** qualified voters (53 from Prec. 1 and 35 from Prec. 2) gathered at the Quabbin Regional High School (Q.R.H.S.) Parking lot, located at 800 South St, at 6pm to act on the Articles in said warrant. A total of 4 guests (non-voters) were also in attendance. A quorum was present at all times.

Voters were initially checked in by poll workers using the Towns electronic Poll Pad system. During the check in process (at approximately 5:45) a severe thunder and lightning storm with extreme winds and torrential down pours of rain passed over. The Moderator announced for voters to take shelter and that the meeting would still continue once the storm passed.

Voters evacuated to their cars and huddled under the gym overhang while the Town Clerk and election workers tried to hold down tents to protect the electronic equipment and town meeting documents.

After the storm passed it was determined several voters had left and to re-affirm the accuracy of voters still present and a quorum, the moderator determined all voters needed to be re-check in.

The Town Clerk announced that the voters would need to be checked in manually by paper list as the electronic poll books would need to be re-set and time did not permit.

Non-registered voters and guests were seated in reserved seats.

Moderator Smith, called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m., welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming out and for staying after the storm. He called for everyone to rise and proceeded with a pledge of allegiance to the flag. He then announced that everyone should have received a copy of the finance committee booklet containing the warrant articles to be acted upon and paper ballots with instructions in the event a paper ballot was called for. He then explained that due to COVID-19 he would be requesting the town vote a consent agenda to save on time and move the meeting along

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in an effort to keep people safe from COVID-19 and that if anyone wanted to discuss or vote on the individual articles included in the consent agenda to call out "hold" and those articles could be discussed and voted on separately.

The Moderator then requested the following procedural rules be followed for the meeting:

Motions or Amendments must be in writing.

To not act on an article a motion will be made as follows:

I move we take no action on

VS. I move to Table

When making a point of order please stand.

When voting raise the colored indexed voting card that was provided in your check in warrant packet.

Runners will be available with Microphones to repeat your questions.

When called upon to speak, state your name and your street then wait for the runner to repeat, then ask your question and to the runner and they will repeat into the microphone,

A motion to "move" must be stated as a motion.

The following 3 motions were made by the moderator, duly seconded and unanimously approved:

1. That this meeting dispense with the reading of the warrant and of the Constable's return of service of that warrant and that the Moderator not be required to read warrant articles verbatim, but may refer to them by number and/or subject matter.
2. That the moderator may extend the floor to Town management and staff and other non-voters provided that they must first be recognized by the Moderator.
3. That the Moderator, pursuant to G.L. c. 39 § 15 be allowed to declare a two-thirds vote rather than taking a standing count.

The Moderator then moved that the following articles be jointed into a consent agenda:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Article 1. | Water Enterprise |
| Article 2. | Sewer Enterprise |
| Article 4. | Ambulance Receipts Transfer |
| Article 5. | Omnibus Budget |
| Article 6. | School Budget |
| Article 7. | Assessors Recertification |
| Article 8. | PEG Funding |
| Article 9. | Revolving Accounts |
| Article 10. | Snow Removal Overtime |

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- Article 11. Snow Removal Expense
- Article 12. Wachusett Greenways
- Article 16. Appoint Working Assessor
- Article 17. Chapter 90
- Article 19. Choose Town Officers
- Article 20. Committee Reports

With there being no Articles placed on hold the Town Clerk seconded the motion and it was:
Voted unanimously that the above articles be jointed into a consent agenda.

A motion was then made by the Finance Committee, seconded and **unanimously voted to move Article 3 after Article 21.**

**ALL MOTIONS MADE WERE DULY SECONDED AND THE FOLLOWING
ARTICLES WERE APPROVED UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ARTICLE 1
FY 2021 WATER ENTERPRISE FUND
Sponsor: DPW Commission
*[Majority Vote Required]***

FIN COM NOTES:

Article Amount/Funds

This article is in the amount of \$563,064 to establish the Water Enterprise Budget and is created through the user fees and charges to water users and a transfer of \$26,442 from retained earnings. The current balance of FY19 Retained Earnings is \$626,696.

Description

This article will establish the Water Enterprise Budget for FY21. It will include authorizing the transfer of Water Retained Earnings (Enterprise version of free cash) to offset the water budget and a transfer from the Water Enterprise Fund to the General Fund in the form of indirect costs to cover employee benefits, insurance, departmental costs, and debt.

Recommendations

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 1: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$563,064 for the Water Enterprise Fund; to be funded from the following sources:

Revenues	FY20	FY21
Water Receipts	625,000	536,622
Retained Earnings	30,942	26,442
	655,942	563,064

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To be expended as follows:

Expenses	FY20	FY21
Salaries	168,331	171,268
Commissioner Stipends	900	900
Expenses	220,800	221,000
Water Replacement	5,000	5,000
Water Upgrade	70,000	70,000
Indirect Costs	88,030	94,896
	553,061	563,064

ARTICLE 2
FY 2021 SEWER ENTERPRISE BUDGET

Sponsor: DPW Commission
[Majority Vote Required]

FIN COM NOTES

Article Amount/Funds

This article is in the amount of \$745,467 to establish the Water Enterprise Budget and is created through the user fees and charges to water users and a transfer of \$59,600 from retained earnings. The current balance of FY19 Retained Earnings is \$429,007.

Description

This article will establish the Sewer Enterprise Budget for FY21. It will include authorizing the transfer of Sewer Retained Earnings (Enterprise version of free cash) to offset the water budget and a transfer from the Sewer Enterprise Fund to the General Fund in the form of indirect costs to cover employee benefits, insurance, departmental costs, and debt.

Recommendations

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 2: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO appropriate the sum of \$745,467 for the Sewer Enterprise Fund; to be funded from the following sources:

Revenues	FY20	FY21
Sewer Receipts	730,000	685,867
Retained Earnings	153,280	59,600
	883,280	745,467

To be expended as follows:

Expenses	FY20	FY21
Salaries	222,974	227,040
Commissioner Stipends	900	900
Expenses	456,500	391,500
Indirect Costs	150,015	126,027
	830,389	745,467

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ARTICLE 4
FY 2021 TRANSFER FROM AMBULANCE RECEIPTS RESERVED

Sponsor: Fire Chief
[Majority Vote Required]

FIN COM NOTES

Article Amount/Funds

Ambulance Receipts Reserve Balance - \$542,359

Description

This article allows for the transfer of Ambulance Receipts reserved to the Town's omnibus budget to offset the cost of the ambulance services provided to the Town. Ambulance receipts reserved is a special revenue account that is funded from bills paid from ambulance services incurred. The amount for this year is larger than in past years because there are more funds available and it reduces the overall impact on the Operating Budget. The cost of the FY21 Ambulance Departmental services is \$554,108 which once offset by the transfer will cost the Town, \$79,108.

Recommendations

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 4: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to transfer from Ambulance Receipts Reserved the sum of \$475,000 to fund the FY21 Omnibus Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020.

ARTICLE 5
FY 2021 OMNIBUS BUDGET

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
[Majority Vote Required]

Description

This is the Town's annual operating budget. The School's are taken separately in the next article.

Recommendations

Finance Committee: FAVORABLE

Board of Selectmen: FAVORABLE

ARTICLE 5: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to fix salaries and compensation of all elected officials of the Town for the Fiscal Year 2021 for the period of July 1, 2020- June 30, 2021, and further, to raise and appropriate monies as identified in the Town's Omnibus Budget as follows:

<u>ACCT</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>FY20 Budget</u>	<u>FY21 REQUESTS</u>
114	Moderator	50	50
122	Select Board	13,120	10,120
129	Town Admin	113,570	115,842
131	Fin Com	1,000	1,000
132	Reserve	10,000	10,000
135	Accountant	84,245	85,452
141	Assessor	106,258	112,941
145	Treasurer/Collector	116,794	145,508
146	Collector	26,285	-

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151	Town Counsel	22,500	26,000
155	Data Processing	15,225	64,225
158	Tax Title	10,000	10,000
159	Regional IT	49,000	-
161	Town Clerk	90,274	92,077
162	Elections	30,000	50,910
163	Registrars	1,700	-
TBD	Centralized Purchasing	-	21,585
171	Con Com	1,000	1,000
175	Planning Board	4,100	4,100
176	Zoning Board	25,120	18,636
192	Town Buildings	155,100	153,696
195	Town Report	1,000	-
210	Police	799,092	812,589
220	Fire	253,626	262,676
231	Ambulance & EMTs (fka Ambulance)	108,868	554,108

ACCT Department	FY20 Budget	FY21 REQUESTS
------------------------	--------------------	----------------------

232	EMTs	414,218	-
241	Building	73,575	31,032
242	Regional Building Program	-	69,449
243	Plumbing Inspector	2,000	-
245	Wiring Inspector	2,000	-
291	Emergency Management	1,000	1,000
292	Regional Animal Control	17,215	17,757
293	Dispatchers	143,440	132,825
294	Tree Warden	5,000	5,000
421	DPW Admin	43,664	583,883
422	Town Roads	517,711	-
423	Snow Removal	128,651	128,651
424	Street Lights	30,000	31,000
429	Town Barn Account	17,800	-
433	Sanitary Landfill	8,250	8,250
491	Cemetery	16,520	17,095
510	BOH	53,750	33,532
519	Inspector of Animals	600	600
541	COA	82,551	79,281
543	Veteran's	99,785	110,187
610	Library	230,446	233,941
630	Recreation	9,000	9,000
650	Parks & Common	43,240	44,000
691	Historical Com	1,200	1,200
692	Holiday Décor	2,100	2,100
710	Excluded Debt Principal	444,875	231,347
TBD	Non-Excluded Debt Principal	-	111,196
750	Debt Interest	148,978	45,498
TBD	Non-Excluded Debt Interest	-	79,574

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911	County Retirement	326,085	-
TBD	Employee Benefits	-	803,000
914	Health Insurance	421,170	-
945	General Insurance	164,562	184,780
SUB TOTAL		\$5,487,313	\$ 5,547,692

****Town Clerk Note:** It was the intent of the Town of Barre to Raise and Appropriate \$79,108 within Article 5 for Line #231 for the Ambulance and EMTs (fka Ambulance) – see description within Article 4 of the ATM for their intent, which will now change the Sub Total of Article 5 from \$5,547,692 to \$5,072,692 per Deb Wagner/Dept of Revenue.

**ARTICLE 6
FY 2021 OMNIBUS BUDGET- SCHOOLS**

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
[Majority Vote Required]

Description

This is the annual appropriation for schools for FY21.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable
Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 6: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate monies as identified in the Town’s Omnibus Budget relative to Education as follows:

<u>300</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>FY20 BUD</u>	<u>FY21</u>
561000	Quabbin Assessment	5,679,580	5,679,580
561100	Monty Tech Assessment	446,856	428,358
590000	QRSD Debt Service	52,155	51,020
		\$6,178,591	\$ 6,158,958

**ARTICLE 7
BOARD OF ASSESSORS PROPERTY VALUATIONS**

Sponsor: Board of Assessors
[Majority Vote Required]

Description

The requested appropriation would allow the Board of Assessors to carry out its on-going statutory responsibilities to reevaluate Town properties.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable
Board of Selectmen: TBD

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ARTICLE 7: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,725 for costs associated with the Assessor's Recertification of Properties as follows:

Cyclical Reinspection	\$6,000
Recertification/Reevaluation	\$ 7,500
Interim Value Adjustment	\$ 725
Special Appraisal	\$ 1,500

ARTICLE 8
PEG ACCESS AND CABLE RELATED FUND

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
[Majority Vote Required]

Description:

At the June 2017 Annual Town Meeting, the Town voted to establish a PEG Access and Cable Related Fund effective July 1, 2018. Such a fund is considered a special revenue account under Massachusetts General Laws requiring the Town to adopt a budget annually for PEG Access services and other related expenses. Approval of this article would establish the Fiscal Year 2021 budget for the Town's PEG Access contractor and operational expenses for hosting the PEG Access.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable
Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 8: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to transfer the sum of \$25,000 from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund to operate the Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) Access and Cable Related Fund for fiscal year FY2021.

ARTICLE 9
REVOLVING FUNDS
Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
[Majority Vote Required]

Description

This article would establish the Fiscal Year 2020 expenditure limits for the Town's revolving funds.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable
Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 9: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to establish spending limits for revolving accounts established pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ and the Town's Bylaws Chapter 48, Section 1, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, as follows:

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<i>Revolving Fund</i>	<i>Authorization to Spend Fund</i>	<i>Revenue Source</i>	<i>Use of Fund</i>	<i>FY21 Spending Limit</i>
Library	Library Director	Library printing and photocopying fees and charges	To be used on operation and/or maintenance of the library copier and printers	\$2,000
Library	Library Director	De-certified library user fees and charges	To be used on operation and purchase of replacement materials	\$2,000
Board of Health	Board of Health Members	Percolation test fees and disposal work construction permits Food Permits, Pool Permits	To be used to pay one of its members or designated agent for inspections associated with said tests and permits	\$11,000
Electrical Inspector	Building Inspector	Electrical Inspector charges and fees	To be used on payment of all charges and fees related to electrical expenses and electrical inspector fees	\$50,000
Plumbing Inspector	Building Inspector	Plumbing Inspector charges and fees	To be used on payment of all charges and fees related to plumbing expenses and plumbing inspector fees	\$7,000
Gas Inspector	Building Inspector	Gas Inspector charges and fees	To be used on payment of all charges and fees related to gas expenses and gas inspector fees	\$4,000
Police Department	Police Chief	Civilian Firearms Safety Class fees	To be used on administrative costs (Instructor pay) and expense related cost	\$10,000
Police Department	Police Chief	Detail administrative fees and cruiser fees (1/3rd)	To be used for K9 Cruiser Replacement	\$50,000
Police Department	Police Chief	Barre Falls Dam Contractual Revenue	To be used for Cruiser Replacement	\$50,000

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Police Department	Police Chief	Detail administrative fees and cruiser fees (2/3rds)	To be used on payment of administrative costs and cruiser repair/replacement costs	\$16,000
Fire Department	Fire Chief	Burning Permit Fees	To be used on the purchase of replacement brush fire/forest fire equipment	\$3,000
Town Departments	Town Accountant/ Selectmen	Technology Fee from permit and licenses	To be used on payment of software fees and for purchase of software upgrades/equipment	\$20,000
Council on Aging	Council on Aging	Program Fees and Event Fees	To be used for programs and events	\$2,000

ARTICLE 10
FY 2020 SNOW REMOVAL OT/PT ACCOUNT
Sponsor: DPW Commission
(Majority Vote Required)

Description

Use of Certified Free Cash to fund the over expenditure of salaries used for snow and ice removal in the current fiscal year.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable
Board of Selectmen: TBD

ARTICLE 10: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to transfer the sum of \$5,149 from FY19 Free Cash to the Fiscal Year 2020 Snow Removal OT/PT Account 00104423-511100.

ARTICLE 11
FY 2020 SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSE ACCOUNT
Sponsor: DPW Commission
(Majority Vote Required)

Description

Use of Certified Free Cash to fund the over expenditure of expenses used for snow and ice removal in the current fiscal year.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable

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Board of Selectmen: TBD

ARTICLE 11: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to transfer the sum of \$30,638.63 from FY19 Free Cash to the Fiscal Year 2020 Snow Removal Expense Account 00104423-570000.

ARTICLE 12
WACHUSETT GREENWAYS
Sponsor: Wachusett Greenways
(Majority Vote Required)

Description

Funds to be used for the continual maintenance of the Wachusett Greenways Rail Trail including the use of temporary restrooms.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to transfer the sum of \$1,000 from FY19 Free Cash for Wachusett Greenways Trail Fund.

ARTICLE 16
MGL CHAPTER 268A, SECTION 21A
Sponsor: Board of Assessors
[Majority Vote Required]

Description

To allow the Board of Assessors to appoint one of its members as the Working Assessor.

Recommendations

Finance Committee: **Favorable**

Board of Selectmen: **Favorable**

ARTICLE 16: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to allow the Board of Assessors to appoint one of its members to a paid part-time position under their supervision as allowed by MGL Chapter 268A, Section 21A.

ARTICLE 17
CHAPTER 90 GRANT
Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
[Majority Vote Required]

Description

Massachusetts law requires that Town Meeting approve the use of funds received from the Commonwealth for road construction purposes, including engineering or addressing traffic improvements.

Recommendations:

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Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: TBD

ARTICLE 17: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to accept any and all state highway assistance funds authorized by the state legislature and approved by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation-Highway Division under the so-called Chapter 90 Highway Assistance Program to be expended for the maintenance, repair and construction of Town roads in anticipation of reimbursement under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for work on roads located on the State Aid Primary System as approved by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation-Highway Division, and further to authorize the Treasurer/Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time during Fiscal Year 2021 up to the reimbursable amount, for the period from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, in anticipation of reimbursement of said highway assistance in conformity with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 6A.

ARTICLE 19
CHOOSE TOWN OFFICERS

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

[Majority Vote Required]

Description

Appointment of finance committee members by moderator for the next fiscal year.

Recommendations

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: TBD

ARTICLE 19: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to pass over Article 19 to choose all other town officers, agents and committees not elected by ballot or appointed having already been acted upon.

ARTICLE 20
REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Sponsor: Finance Committee

[Majority Vote Required]

Description:

Annual Article to accept Town Reports.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 20: VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the written reports of the Town departments for calendar year 2019.

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****TOWN CLERK NOTE****

END OF CONSENT AGENDA ARTICLES

ARTICLE 13
CAPITAL REQUEST -POLICE CRUISER

Sponsor: Police Department

[Majority Vote Required]

Description:

This is part of the Town's capital plan to replace one police cruiser a year.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: TBD

Discussion: Resident Neil Anders – West St - stated he was against the spending of money across board on any articles due to everything going on in the world and not knowing what expenses may need to be incurred. Resident Sam Lipson – West St – was in agreement with Mr. Anders and said cars nowadays last longer. Selectmen O'Sullivan said the cruisers are driven 16 hours each day and take a lot more to maintain than an average household vehicle. Resident Bruce Zebal – Williamsville Rd – questioned whether or not the cruiser needed to be replaced. Police Chief Carbone responded it had 142,206 miles and has already spent \$10,338 on maintenance and fix's since 2017 and it was more feasible to replace. Resident Arthur Raiche – Dana Rd- stated he felt we need to support our police and was in favor of the article.

ARTICLE 13: On a motion made and duly seconded it was **VOTED BY A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE VOTE** to transfer from FY19 Free Cash the sum of \$45,000 to pay for a new Police Cruiser.

ARTICLE 14
CAPITAL REQUEST -Purchase & Equip a New Ambulance

Sponsor: Fire Department

[Majority Vote Required]

Description

This would allow the Town to purchase a new ambulance to replace Ambulance 2 and to furnish the equipment to outfit the ambulance to include a stretcher, O2 connectors, cabinet dividers, radio chargers, etc.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: TBD

Discussion: Resident Maureen Marshall – Pleasant St – asked for the Free Cash Balance. Fin Com responded the FY19 Free Cash Balance was \$640,000 as shown on page 27 of the FINCOM Booklet.

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Resident Richard Donati – Loring Rd – Asked how many ambulances the town had and if this was a replacement.

Selectmen O’Sullivan responded 2 ambulance’s and this was a replacement.

Resident Dave St. Germain – Old Stage Rd – asked to clarify if this was a Capital request that was planned years ago or something that just came up.

Selectmen O’Sullivan answered it has been on the Capital Plan for 5 years.

ARTICLE 14: On a motion made and duly seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to transfer the sum of **\$285,000 from FY19 Free Cash** to purchase and equip a new ambulance.

ARTICLE 15
CAPITAL REQUEST -RUGGLES PARKING LOT

Sponsor: QRSD

[Majority Vote Required]

Description:

This would allow the QRSD to cover the repairs of the Ruggles School parking lot as a capital project.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

ARTICLE 15: On a motion made and duly seconded it was **VOTED BY A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE VOTE** to transfer the sum of **\$50,000 from FY19 Free Cash** to pay for parking lot repairs at the Ruggles Elementary School.

ARTICLE 18
TREASURER/COLLECTOR BORROWING

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

[Two-Thirds Vote Required]

Description

Authorize the Treasurer/Collector to borrow funds for anticipated expenses.

Recommendations

Finance Committee: Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

Discussion: Residents Neil Anders and Sam Lipson both of West St and Resident Anne Tuttle – Wauwinet Rd questioned the need to borrow and how much Free Cash will we have left after all articles voted.

Selectmen O’Sullivan explained the borrowing article was a formality and was for temporary borrowing and we would end up with roughly \$160,000 in Free Cash.

ARTICLE 18: On a motion made and duly seconded it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** to authorize the **Treasurer/Collector**, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the twelve month period beginning July 1, 2020, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44,

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Section 17, and to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for Fiscal Year 2021 pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F.

ARTICLE 21

Cable Access Expenditure
Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
[Majority Vote Required]

Description

The Board of Selectmen have discussed at meetings the Town wide concern regarding bringing and expanding internet to more of the Town.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: Not Favorable

Board of Selectmen: Favorable

Discussion: Resident Deb Culver – Jewett Rd – said her street was one of the streets that did not have wifi or cable and this was a true hardship. Especially with COVID and trying to work from home and for home schooling. Resident Robin Donati – Loring Rd – said the lack of broad band for the hard of hearing and limited cable access is very difficult, especially for the school system and virtual work occupations. It is also very difficult and average of six months longer to sell a house that does not have cable access. Resident Paul Dumanoski – Murphy Rd – asked what percentage of the town did not have access. Selectman O’Sullivan replied six streets. Clare Adomaitis, FINCOM Chair, thought it would be a good idea and is much needed but due to economic times was concerned in spending funds at this time and that it would be best to send this to a study committee and re-address it in the fall after state aide figures would be known. Resident Whitney Marshall commented this needs to be addressed now before the fall with COVID and so many residents needing virtual access for communication for jobs and school such as teachers and students and residents in quarantine or other virtual jobs. Resident Dennis Fleming asked if the Cable Committee was active and could be of assistance. Moderator Smith said yes and he was the Chair and Scott Ennis was a 2nd member but the committee does not have that kind of authority. Selectman O’Sullivan said the cost to run cable to all 6 streets would be in the area of \$600,000 or more but the town has to start somewhere. He said if we start with \$100,000 and put that in an account, then we can start to apply for grants or COVID money. Selectman Urban said FINCOM just saw paperwork 15 minutes before meeting and that Grants in the amount of \$700,000 to \$800,000 are going to be needed. Resident Elisha Musgraves asked if FINCOM would put funds into a new account. FINCOM said yes. Resident Fleming asked to move forward in a favorable manner.

A motion was made to refer Article 21 to a committee and table article **was defeated by a Majority No vote.**

Resident Arthur Raiche asked when money could be spent. FINCOM responded anytime during the fiscal year. Robin Donati said to keep in mind that some residents can’t use public internet due to confidential information/reasons. Tyler Goddett – Loring Rd – asked voters to keep in mind the added need and urgency for residents to have access during COVID / PANDEMIC.

Moderator Smith then called for a vote on the main motion.

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ARTICLE 21: On a motion made and duly seconded it was VOTED BY A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE to transfer from FY19 Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to a new account for cable upgrade and expansion in the Town of Barre.

**ARTICLE 3
FY 2021 TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH**

**Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
[Majority Vote Required]**

Description

We placed this article on the warrant as a placeholder.

Recommendations:

Finance Committee: FAVORABLE

Board of Selectmen: FAVORABLE

ARTICLE 3: On a motion made and duly seconded it was VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO PASSOVER Article 3.

Selectmen O'Sullivan stated there was \$160,000 Free Cash left and \$110,000 short to balance the budget and a special town meeting would be scheduled in the fall.

The Moderator then announced that due to resignation of Mark Staiti, there was a vacancy on the Finance Committee if anyone was interested in serving on the committee and re-appointed Theodore Twarog and Kristen Lemieux to the committee, as their terms were due to expire.

There being no further business on a motion made and 2nd it was unanimously voted to dissolve the meeting 7:22 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Ellen M. Glidden

**ELLEN M. GLIDDEN, CMC, CMMC
BARRE TOWN CLERK**