

TOWN OF BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS
2024 Special Town Meeting December 17TH @ 6:30pm Ruggles Lane
MINUTES

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, **125 of the 4,241** qualified voters gathered at the Ruggles Lane Elementary School, 105 Ruggles Lane, Barre, MA to act on the Articles in said warrant. A total of **9 guests** (non-voters) were also in attendance. A quorum of 50 voters or more were present at all times. There was a slight delay to open meeting due to voters still being checked in.

Moderator Smith called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. with 125 voters in attendance, followed by a pledge of allegiance to the Flag. He then opened the meeting and announced that there was a shortage of Finance Committee, AKA FINCOM, Booklet which contained the warrant and motions to be acted upon and if anyone that did not get a booklet would mind sharing with a neighbor.

The booklet listed beginning fund balances in the Town's two Stabilization funds prior to the start of this Special Town Meeting as:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Stabilization Fund	\$ 846,726.57
Capital Stabilization	\$ 172,360.73

THE MODERATOR PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS WHICH WERE SECONDED AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

MOTION 1: That this meeting dispenses 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.

MOTION 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.

MOTION 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 meeting continued as follows:

WARRANT ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from any account in the FY2025 budget to another account in the FY2025 budget and/or to reduce any FY 2025 budget line items, including but not limited to transfers from the Stabilization Fund, or other available funds for the purpose of amending Article 7 of the June 25, 2024 Annual Town Meeting to balance the FY2025 budget; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article Amount/Funds: (-\$243,111.19)

Reduce Police Department line items by:

Reduce Contractual Obligations- account number 00102210-514415 by \$5,000.00, from \$55,747.00 to \$50,747.00

Reduce Police Purchased Services, account number 00102210-520000 by \$10,000.00 from \$36,678.00 to \$26,678.00

TOWN OF BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS
2024 Special Town Meeting December 17TH @ 6:30pm Ruggles Lane
MINUTES

Reduce Police Training, account number 00102210-572000 by \$5,000.00
from \$ 22,544.00 to \$ 17,544.00

And further changing the grand total of Police from \$1,091,999.00 to \$ 1,071,999.00

Reduce Fire Department line items by:

Reduce Fire Chief Salary account number 00102220-510000 by \$38,111.19,
from \$ 80,794.00 to \$ 42,682.81;

And further changing the grand total of Fire Department from \$331,477.00 to \$293,365.81

Reduce Town Roads/Highway line item by:

Reduce Town Roads Salary, account number 00104422-511000 by \$80,000.00
from \$ 350,046.00 to \$ 270,046.00 changing the grand total of Town Roads/Highway from
\$731,835.00 to \$651,835.00

Reduce Town Buildings line item by:

Reduce Henry Woods Building, account number 00101192-571100 by \$41,000.00
from \$125,000.00 to \$84,000.00;

Reduce Town Hall Maintenance, account number 00101192-571200 by \$4,000.00
from \$ 10,000.00 to \$6,000.00;

Reduce Public Safety Building, account number 00101192-571350 by \$12,000.00
from \$ 75,000.00 to \$63,000.00;

And further change the grand total of Town Buildings from \$247,606.00 to \$190,606.00.

Reduce Regional Building Program line item by:

Building Commissioner, account number 00102242-510000 by \$33,000.00
from \$ 71,373.00 to \$ 38,373.00 changing the grand total Regional Building Program from
\$75,843.00 to \$42,843.00.

Reduce Reserve Fund line item by:

Reduce Reserve Fund, account number 00101132-570000 by \$15,000.00
from \$20,000.00 to \$ 5,000.00.

Change total Raised and Appropriated from **\$6,629,784.13 to \$6,286,672.94**

Change total Transferred from Ambulance Receipts Reserved from **\$520,000.00 to \$620,000.00**

Change total Article 7 from **\$7,149,784.13 to \$6,906,672.94**

Description:

This article will reduce the FY2025 omnibus budget voted under Article 7 of the June 25, 2024 Annual Town Meeting by \$243,111.19 for the purpose of balancing the town's budget.

Recommendations: Finance Committee: Favorable Select Board: Favorable

TOWN OF BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS
2024 Special Town Meeting December 17TH @ 6:30pm Ruggles Lane
MINUTES

ARTICLE 1:

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Transfers/Reductions

Sponsor: Select Board *[Majority Vote Required]*

ARTICLE 1: VOTED BY A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE VOICE VOTE: To amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 7 of the June 25, 2024 Annual Town Meeting by reducing the following FY 2025 omnibus budget line items as follows:

Reduce Police Department by \$20,000.00 for a new total of \$1,071,999.00;

Reduce Fire Department by \$38,11.19 for a new total of \$293,365.81;

Reduce Town Roads/Highway by \$80,000.00 for a new total of \$651,835.00;

Reduce Town Buildings by \$57,000.00 for a new total of \$190,606.00;

Reduce Regional Building Program by \$33,000.00 for a new total of \$42,843.00;

Reduce Finance Committee line items by \$15,000.00 for a new total of \$5,000.00;

And to further change the total amount Raised & Appropriated from \$6,629,784.13 to \$6,286,672.94;

And to further change the amount Transferred from Ambulance Receipts Reserve from \$520,000 to \$620,000.00;

And to further change the total identified in the Town's Omnibus Budget from \$7,149,784.13 to \$6,906,672.94.

WARRANT ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Capital Stabilization or other available funds for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a snowplow for use by the Department of Public Works and anything incidental or related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article Amount/Funds: \$7,500.00

Transfer \$7,500.00 from Capital Stabilization, leaving a balance of \$164,860.73 in the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Description:

To purchase and equip snowplow for DPW.

Recommendations: Finance Committee: Favorable Select Board: Favorable

TOWN OF BARRE, MASSACHUSETTS
2024 Special Town Meeting December 17TH @ 6:30pm Ruggles Lane
MINUTES

ARTICLE 2:
TRANSFER FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION
TO PURCHASE SNOWPLOW FOR DPW
Sponsor: Select Board / *Majority Vote Required*

ARTICLE 2: VOTED BY A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE VOICE VOTE: To Transfer the sum of \$7,500.00 from Capital Stabilization for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a snowplow for use by the Department of Public Works.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Capital Stabilization or other available funds for the purpose of paying the Town's share of a local match grant to fund the remaining balance of the Fire Truck purchased by a grant authorized by the Select Board, and anything incidental or related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article Amount/Funds: \$26,000.00

Transfer \$26,000.00 from Capital Stabilization to pay balance of Fire Truck Grant local match, leaving a balance of \$138,860.73 in the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Description

The Town purchased a Fire Truck in 2022. The total cost of the Fire Truck was \$501,747.00. The Town obtained a grant from FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant in the amount of \$476,190.47. This appropriation represents the remaining balance, the Town's share.

Recommendations: Finance Committee: Favorable Select Board: Favorable

ARTICLE 3:
TRANSFER FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION
TO PAY OFF THE BALANCE OF FIRE TRUCK MATCHING GRANT
Sponsor: Select Board / *Majority Vote Required*

ARTICLE 3: VOTED BY A MAJORITY AFFIRMATIVE VOICE VOTE: To Transfer the sum of \$26,000.00 from Capital Stabilization to fund the Town's share of a local match grant to fund the remaining balance of the grant used to purchase a Fire Truck.

There being no further business on a motion made and duly seconded it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully:

Ellen M. Glidden

Ellen M. Glidden, CMC, CMMC
Barre Town Clerk