



Town of West Newbury, Massachusetts

## **Annual Town Meeting**

April 24, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Town Annex, 379 Main Street



April 24, 2023

**Dear Fellow Residents of West Newbury:**

The Finance Committee, in conjunction with the Town Manager, has prepared this booklet to assist the voters in deciding how our financial resources should be allocated to best benefit the citizens of West Newbury. This booklet is the report of the Finance Committee's recommendations to approve or disapprove each Article, together with our rationale for each.

The Articles presented on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant are primarily requests for expenditures as well as the Town's and the Water Department's annual budget for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024. The Articles on the Special Town Meeting Warrant are requests for funding to be made available in the current Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023. Funding for Articles approved at the Annual Town Meeting becomes available on July 1, 2023.

The Finance Committee has met with many Department Heads and Boards/Commissions/Committees, and we reviewed each section of the budget and each warrant article thoughtfully. While the budget presented to Town Meeting reflects the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee, the budget also includes a separate column showing the Select Board's recommendations. This year, it turned out that the two numbers are fully aligned, but if there had been disagreement on any sections of the proposed budget, this would be made clear to voters so as to inform your consideration and vote. You will find numerous backup documents in the Appendices to this booklet. We hope that you will take some time to review this entire booklet in preparation for voting at Town Meeting.

You will note in your review of the proposed operating budget that it carries no funding for debt service. This is a notable absence, as debt service typically comprises a (sometimes sizable) share of the Town's operating budget. Having paid off its only two remaining bonds in FY23 (for the Public Safety Complex, and a Land Acquisition bond, each initially issued in 2002), the Town finds itself in the unusual circumstance of carrying no long-term debt. (This is distinct from the Water Enterprise Fund, which does carry debt; and, does not include debt paid from the Septic Loan Revolving Fund, paid from betterments paid by residents; and does not include debt not held by the Town but for which the Town bears a share of the cost, i.e. West Newbury's share of the schools' long-term debt, as reflected in the budgeted Education assessments).

We draw attention to this to ensure that voters recognize that the zeroed-out debt service budget line is the single biggest contributor to the fact that the proposed FY24 Town budget (not including Education) is actually lower (by \$74,047 – or 0.9%) than the current FY23 non-education Town budget. This should not be viewed as a long-term situation. It is only a matter

**Proposed FY24 Budget Breakdown by Category**

Budget Category	Proposed FY24 Budget	% change from FY23
General Government:	1,288,482	-5.3%
Public Safety:	2,040,176	-1.6%
Education:	9,783,910	8.2%
Dept. of Public Works:	1,550,438	12.8%
Human Services:	1,282,293	9.5%
Debt Service:	0	-100.0%
Benefits & Transfers:	2,085,264	-3.6%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>18,030,563</b>	

of time before the Town elects to take on new long-term borrowing, so – while there is a reprieve from debt service in the FY24 budget – voters should bear in mind, as we do, that this budget line will inevitably change over time as the Town proceeds to implement its Capital Improvements Program. The Town will face significant policy decisions in the years to come, including related to Water infrastructure, Schools, and other infrastructure such as the Middle Street Bridge.

Our estimated net revenues available for operating expenses are \$19,724,480, and are comprised primarily of real estate taxes, supplemented with motor vehicle excise taxes, licenses and fees as well as receipts from the Commonwealth.

Our operating budget as recommended by the Finance Committee will be \$18,030,563, which is a 3.8% increase over last year. The proposed non-Schools budget is proposed to fall by \$74,047, or 0.9%. This is well less than the 2.5% maximum growth target the Select Board set for the non-Education budget at the beginning of the budget process, and is within our allowed levy limit. Should this budget pass, and taking into account estimated FY24 Assessed Values, New Growth, and non-property tax revenues, it is projected to result in an increase in the tax rate for FY2024, from \$ 11.03 /thousand (FY2023) to approximately \$ 11.88 /thousand (FY2024).

Based on this estimate, and taking into account estimated changes in valuations and non-tax revenues in FY2024, the overall effect on your taxes would be an increase of about 4.4%. For a home valued at \$500,000, this would translate to an annual increase of about \$247.00. Because we do not know the FY2024 valuation of property, nor the valuation of certified New Growth, until the fall, and because the Select Board uses those valuations to set the tax rate, our estimate of next year's tax increase is only that: an estimate.

Readers may wonder why the projected FY2024 tax increase (4.4%) exceeds the proposed bottom-line budget increase (3.8%). The reason is that Town Meeting, in October 2022, approved a transfer of \$250,000 from Free Cash in order to reduce the current FY2023 tax rate. Over the past several years, including the current year, the Town has used excess Free Cash to reduce the tax rate; the Select Board may propose a vote to do so again for FY2024 during the Fall Special Town Meeting. The amount of Free Cash transferred over the past several years is illustrated by the table on this page.

In addition, this is the fourth year that the Town will be recommending a draw from the School Stabilization Fund in order to offset the FY2024 taxpayer impact resulting from the Middle/High School project. We are suggesting \$200,000 which is a reduction from the prior year's \$397,325. In doing so, it is our intention that this fund will provide some relief for a couple more years before it is depleted. This is intended to provide for a smoother transition once this fund is fully expended.

One of the largest drivers of our budget is our contribution to the Pentucket Regional School District. Our total contribution this year is \$9,474,666, which is an 8.5% increase from last year. We are fortunate that the Town can accommodate this in our budget without requiring an override. Either Groveland or Merrimac will need to pass an override to fund the school budget as presented. If the override were to fail in both Groveland and Merrimac all of West Newbury's assessments to Pentucket would be reduced. In this scenario, it is anticipated that a revised budget would be

Free Cash Trends, FY16-FY23

<u>Fiscal</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>Year-End Certified</u> <u>Free Cash</u> <sup>1</sup>	<u>Free Cash transfer to</u> <u>reduce Tax Rate</u> <sup>2</sup>
FY23	TBD	\$ 250,000
FY22	\$ 2,128,806	\$ 200,000
FY21	\$ 1,749,980	\$ -
FY20	\$ 1,954,878	\$ 400,000
FY19	\$ 2,102,586	\$ 220,000
FY18	\$ 1,718,985	\$ 114,000
FY17	\$ 1,824,005	\$ 144,300
FY16	\$ 1,892,315	\$ -
Avg (FY17-23)		\$ 189,757

<sup>1</sup> Source: MA DOR Form B-1, FY15-FY22

<sup>2</sup> Source: MA DOR Tax Rate Recaps, Item IIIId, FY16-FY22

\* Note: In FY21 the Town did allocate \$220,000 of Overlay Surplus in order to reduce the FY21 Tax Rate. If that amount were to be included in the table above, the FY17-23 average would be \$221,186.

Source: Angus Jennings, Town Manager

brought to the Fall Town Meeting in order to reduce the budgeted amount prior to setting the FY2024 tax rate.

If all of the proposed articles to be funded from Free Cash passed, approximately \$1,355,925 will remain in that account (plus or minus, based on the final amount of the Snow & Ice deficit). This estimated balance does not account for other financial activities that would affect Free Cash, such as budgetary turn-backs (budgeted but underspent amounts).

If all of the articles proposed to be funded from the Stabilization fund are passed, the balance in this account would be approximately \$2,151,369. This estimated balance does not account for other financial activities that would affect the Stabilization balance, such as prior years' article turn-backs (appropriated but underspent amounts), bank interest, and earnings on investments.

There is a total of 39 warrant articles for voters to consider. Some of the more significant issues pertain to water supply and water infrastructure issues. The Board of Water Commissioners have a number of articles for consideration. The Select Board has approved the partial use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, \$625,000 worth, to purchase water main piping in anticipation of a replacement project on Church St. and Prospect St. The additional funds for engineering and installation will require the Water Department to borrow an estimated \$2.7 million. Both the Select Board and Finance Committee have voted to support this bond article. The Water Department's expenses are funded by its customers, the water rate payers. With the Select Board, we are proposing a comprehensive review and analysis of the Water Department's revenues, operating and capital expenses as well as the related borrowing costs including principal payments and interest. There are other factors affecting potential future Water capital and operating costs, such as the U.S. EPA's recent proposal to greatly reduce the allowance for PFAS; if these proposed Regulations become law, this could drive major cost increases related to the provision of public water. With the magnitude of upgrades in the water system that will be required going forward, compounded by changes in the regulatory landscape, it will be important for the community to understand how these future costs can best be addressed.

There are many other warrant articles for consideration ranging from a fire truck purchase, the acquisition of Sawmill Brook land (with some matching funds), the purchase of a new sidewalk plow as well as some simple (but important) issues such as the clean-up of Town-owned cemeteries. The larger capital expenditures have been reviewed and prioritized by the Capital Improvements Committee and their recommendations can be seen in the appendix. There were a couple of warrant articles that do not have any request for funds but still require our consideration. Last, there is one citizens' petition for a non-binding vote to request support for changing the State Flag and Seal of Massachusetts.

West Newbury is fortunate to be in good financial shape and I feel that this is due to the great work of our Town Manager, Select Board, and dedicated department heads working cooperatively in the best interest of our Town. We would also like to thank all of the dedicated town employees and citizen volunteers who make West Newbury a great place to call home.

*"A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they know they will never sit in."*  
-Greek Proverb

Christopher Wile, Chair

The West Newbury Finance Committee

Christopher Wile, chair  
Jim Sperelakis, secretary  
Walter Burmeister  
Ross Capolupo

Daniel Innes  
Rob Phillips, Jr.  
Angus G. Jennings, ex officio

### Reading Votes for Town Meeting Warrant Articles.

Votes for town meeting warrant articles follow the format of **(Yay-Nay-Abstention)** for the given article. For example:

Select Board Recommendation: **Approve: 2-1-0**

This states that two Select Board members approved the article, one disapproved, no abstentions.

FinCom Recommendation: **Disapprove: 2-3-1**

This states that two FinCom members approved the article, three disapproved, one abstention.

### WHAT TO EXPECT AT TOWN MEETING

This section is intended to share some information about the preliminary plans for the Monday, April 24, 2023 Annual and Special Town Meeting.

Please know that the primary concern of all Town officials is to conduct the meeting in a way that protects the health and safety of everyone, while at the same time upholding our town meeting traditions and standards of participatory democracy. Following is a summary of some of the measures to help conduct town meeting safely and efficiently.

**Face Coverings:** Attendees may choose to wear face coverings over both their nose and mouth. The Town will provide face coverings on request, for those who do not have them. Anyone who requests separate seating for medical reasons will be assigned to sit in a designated location in which only those with face coverings will be permitted. Attendees in this designated location will be afforded full access to the proceedings.

**Main Motion:** A designated speaker will read the main motions under the articles. Then we will move to debate.

**Meeting Efficiency:** A number of steps will be taken to help facilitate a quick, efficient, and orderly meeting.

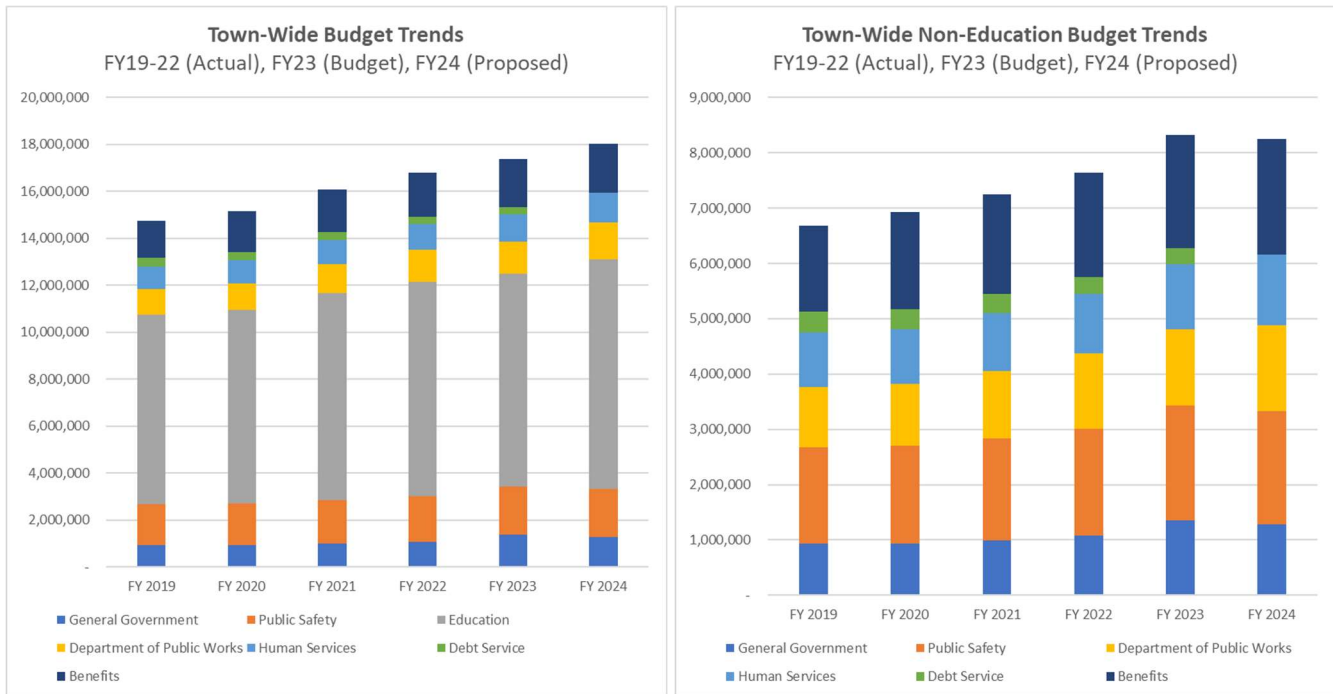
**If the Recommended FY24 Budget is approved,**

**Proposed FY24 Expense Budget Breakdown**

<b>Town Department</b>	<b>Budget (FY24)</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>Each \$1,000 of your property tax dollars will buy:</b>	
EDUCATION	9,783,910	54.3%	\$	542.63
DPW	1,550,438	8.6%	\$	85.99
POLICE DEPARTMENT	1,195,755	6.6%	\$	66.32
ESSEX COUNTY RETIREMENT FUND	675,135	3.7%	\$	37.44
BOARD OF HEALTH	652,633	3.6%	\$	36.20
NET TRANSFERS - STABILIZATION	600,000	3.3%	\$	33.28
EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE	527,865	2.9%	\$	29.28
LIBRARY	422,234	2.3%	\$	23.42
TOWN MANAGER	328,262	1.8%	\$	18.21
PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH	327,848	1.8%	\$	18.18
FINANCE DEPARTMENT	326,336	1.8%	\$	18.10
FIRE DEPARTMENT	320,919	1.8%	\$	17.80
INSURANCE AND BONDS	219,643	1.2%	\$	12.18
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	165,372	0.9%	\$	9.17
TOWN CLERK	156,594	0.9%	\$	8.68
INSPECTION DEPARTMENT	151,738	0.8%	\$	8.42
COUNCIL ON AGING	123,482	0.7%	\$	6.85
TOWN COUNSEL	82,349	0.5%	\$	4.57
PLANNING BOARD	80,163	0.4%	\$	4.45
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	76,506	0.4%	\$	4.24
MEDICARE INSURANCE (FICA)	61,421	0.3%	\$	3.41
RECREATION	48,372	0.3%	\$	2.68
FINANCE COMMITTEE	42,000	0.2%	\$	2.33
VETERANS	34,872	0.2%	\$	1.93
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	27,503	0.2%	\$	1.53
BOARD OF REGISTRARS/ELECTIONS	15,250	0.1%	\$	0.85
SELECT BOARD	13,940	0.1%	\$	0.77
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	12,413	0.1%	\$	0.69
HARBORMASTER	4,000	0.0%	\$	0.22
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	1,200	0.0%	\$	0.07
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE	750	0.0%	\$	0.04
BOARD OF APPEALS	700	0.0%	\$	0.04
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	600	0.0%	\$	0.03
MODERATOR	260	0.0%	\$	0.01
CULTURAL COUNCIL	100	0.0%	\$	0.01
DEBT SERVICE	0	0.0%	\$	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 18,030,563</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>

Source: Angus Jennings, Town Manager, 4/3/23

## Town-wide Budget Trends (Total, and Non-Education)



Source: Angus Jennings, Town Manager

## Town-wide Average Single Family Assessed Value and Tax Bill Town of West Newbury, FY11-FY23

Fiscal Year	Total Single Family Value	Single Family Parcels	Average Single Family Value	Average Single Family Tax Bill	Average Dollar Change from Prior Year	% Change from Prior Year
2023	\$1,140,364,400	1,399	\$815,128	\$8,991	\$236	2.7%
2022	\$936,075,900	1,391	\$672,952	\$8,755	\$38	0.4%
2021	\$814,289,900	1,390	\$585,820	\$8,717	\$366	4.4%
2020	\$804,428,300	1,389	\$579,142	\$8,351	\$50	0.6%
2019	\$785,068,500	1,378	\$569,716	\$8,301	\$451	5.7%
2018	\$738,617,100	1,370	\$539,137	\$7,850	\$140	1.8%
2017	\$721,692,600	1,362	\$529,877	\$7,710	\$67	0.9%
2016	\$708,878,300	1,357	\$522,386	\$7,643	\$171	2.3%
2015	\$644,831,600	1,354	\$476,242	\$7,472	\$220	3.0%
2014	\$616,881,300	1,344	\$458,989	\$7,252	\$96	1.3%
2013	\$607,427,900	1,337	\$454,322	\$7,156	\$414	6.1%
2012	\$602,788,900	1,326	\$454,592	\$6,742	\$233	3.6%
2011	\$627,563,400	1,319	\$475,787	\$6,509	\$162	2.6%

Source: West Newbury Assessing Department

**TOWN OF WEST NEWBURY  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WARRANT -- ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023 @ 7:00pm**

Essex, ss.

To any of the Constables of the Town of West Newbury:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the Town of West Newbury, who are qualified to vote in the elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Town Annex, located at 379 Main Street, at **7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2023**, to act upon or take any other action relative to all but the first of the following articles.

Also, to meet in the Annex at 379 Main Street on Monday, May 1, 2023 to act on Article 1, which calls for the election of Town Officials. Polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m.

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**GENERAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS**

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**ARTICLE 1:** To give their votes to the election of the following offices:

Term Position Seat(s);  
Three Years Selectman (1)  
Three Years School Committee (1)  
Three Years Assessor (1)  
Five Years Planning Board (1)  
Three Years Board of Health (1)  
Three Years Water Commissioner (1)  
Two Years Water Commissioner (1)  
Three Years Constable (1)  
Three Years Library Trustees (3)  
Three Years Park & Recreation Commissioner (1)  
Two Years Park & Recreation Commissioner (1).

*By request of the Select Board.*

**ARTICLE 2:** To hear and act upon the reports of Town officers and committees, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate the sum of \$200,000.00 from the School Stabilization Fund to pay a portion of the Town share of debt



services associated with the building of the new Middle/High School, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

*This vote requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority approval to pass.*

***Rationale for Approval:*** *This fund was created to help defray the impacts of the Middle/High School building project. Each of the three prior years the sum of \$397,352 has been transferred from this account to pay a portion of the Town's share of debt service for this project, which reduces the tax rate. For this year the Select Board is proposing to transfer the sum of \$200,000 from this fund. By using a reduced amount this year, and potentially in future years going forward, this will allow for a longer duration of funds to reduce the tax impact. Once these funds in this account are fully expended the total cost burden of this project will be felt in the budget. Spreading out the benefit of these funds over more years will provide for a smoother transition for this process.*

***Funding source:*** *School Stabilization Fund*

***Sunset Date:*** *N/A*

**ARTICLE 4:** To determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate for defraying the expenses of the Town for ensuing fiscal year and for the payment of Town debt, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FY24 Omnibus Budget**



	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024		Change from FY23	
	Expended	Expended	Approved Budget	Select Board	FinCom Proposed	\$	%
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>							
<b>1 MODERATOR</b>							
Salary	200	200	200	200	200	-	0.0%
Expenses	-	30	60	60	60	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>2 SELECT BOARD</b>							
Salary & Wages	31,069	29,821	30,116	-	-	(30,116)	-100.0%
Professional and Technical Services	8,500	4,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	0.0%
Operating Expenses	8,286	6,788	14,000	3,940	3,940	(10,060)	-71.9%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>47,854</b>	<b>40,609</b>	<b>54,116</b>	<b>13,940</b>	<b>13,940</b>	<b>(40,176)</b>	<b>-74.2%</b>
<b>3 TOWN MANAGER</b>							
Town Manager Salary	150,858	153,875	156,952	160,091	160,091	3,139	2.0%
Salary & Wages	70,679	72,092	73,541	71,504	71,504	(2,037)	-2.8%
Technology Expenses	48,342	53,427	67,061	70,032	70,032	2,971	4.4%
Expenses, Comms (bldg), Dues/Subscr/Cont. Ed	17,695	38,616	24,553	23,035	23,035	(1,518)	-6.2%
Vehicle Allowance	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>291,174</b>	<b>321,610</b>	<b>325,707</b>	<b>328,262</b>	<b>328,262</b>	<b>2,555</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>4 FINANCE DEPARTMENT</b>							
Salary & Wages	195,647	193,218	270,594	259,141	259,141	(11,453)	-4.2%
Annual Audit	20,500	20,500	20,500	22,000	22,000	1,500	7.3%
Tax Title and Foreclosure	478	-	800	2,050	2,050	1,250	156.3%
Postage Expense	14,847	14,437	16,430	16,200	16,200	(230)	-1.4%
Finance Dept Expenses	23,157	24,748	27,280	24,945	24,945	(2,335)	-8.6%
Training and Travel	518	1,613	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>255,148</b>	<b>254,516</b>	<b>337,604</b>	<b>326,336</b>	<b>326,336</b>	<b>(11,268)</b>	<b>-3.3%</b>
<b>5 FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>							
Salaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenses	751	1,312	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	0.0%
Reserve Fund	-	-	80,000	40,000	40,000	(40,000)	-50.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>1,312</b>	<b>82,000</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>(40,000)</b>	<b>-48.8%</b>
<b>6 ASSESSING DEPARTMENT</b>							
Salary & Wages	95,260	127,109	132,081	138,792	138,792	6,711	5.1%
Expenses	47,272	46,779	51,699	26,580	26,580	(25,119)	-48.6%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>142,532</b>	<b>173,888</b>	<b>183,780</b>	<b>165,372</b>	<b>165,372</b>	<b>(18,408)</b>	<b>-10.0%</b>
<b>7 SPECIAL COUNSEL</b>							
Legal Fees and Expenses	20,558	53,677	65,124	82,349	82,349	17,225	26.4%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>20,558</b>	<b>53,677</b>	<b>65,124</b>	<b>82,349</b>	<b>82,349</b>	<b>17,225</b>	<b>26.4%</b>
<b>8 TOWN CLERK</b>							
Salary & Wages	118,757	112,969	135,144	141,749	141,749	6,605	4.9%
Operation of Fax/Copier Machine	4,604	5,507	6,370	6,620	6,620	250	3.9%
Expenses	3,482	6,824	7,500	8,225	8,225	725	9.7%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>126,843</b>	<b>125,300</b>	<b>149,014</b>	<b>156,594</b>	<b>156,594</b>	<b>7,580</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<b>9 BOARD OF REGISTRARS/ELECTIONS</b>							
Town Clerk Compensation	200	200	200	200	200	-	0.0%
Bd of Registrars Salary & Wages	7,889	2,965	9,900	6,800	6,800	(3,100)	-31.3%
Bd of Registrars Expenses	4,808	7,800	8,000	8,250	8,250	250	3.1%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>12,897</b>	<b>10,965</b>	<b>18,100</b>	<b>15,250</b>	<b>15,250</b>	<b>(2,850)</b>	<b>-15.7%</b>
<b>10 CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>							
Salary & Wages	26,538	25,713	60,281	69,280	69,280	8,999	14.9%
Expenses	6,361	6,181	6,351	7,226	7,226	875	13.8%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>32,899</b>	<b>31,894</b>	<b>66,632</b>	<b>76,506</b>	<b>76,506</b>	<b>9,874</b>	<b>14.8%</b>
<b>11 PLANNING BOARD</b>							
Salary & Wages	54,921	59,319	66,155	73,071	73,071	6,916	10.5%
Expenses	5,950	6,151	9,220	5,300	5,300	(3,920)	-42.5%
MVPC Assessment	1,663	1,705	1,748	1,792	1,792	44	2.5%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>62,534</b>	<b>67,175</b>	<b>77,123</b>	<b>80,163</b>	<b>80,163</b>	<b>3,040</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

**FY24 Omnibus Budget**



	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024		Change from FY23	
	Expended	Expended	Approved Budget	Select Board	FinCom Proposed	\$	%
<b>12 BOARD OF APPEALS</b>							
Salary & Wages	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ZBA Expenses	292	700	700	700	700	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>13 OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE</b>							
Expenses	-	69	750	750	750	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT:</b>	<b>993,681</b>	<b>1,081,945</b>	<b>1,360,910</b>	<b>1,288,482</b>	<b>1,288,482</b>	<b>(72,428)</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>							
<b>14 POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>							
Salary & Wages	882,496	885,785	955,220	1,015,727	1,015,727	60,507	6.3%
Police OT Wages	67,495	101,301	69,883	71,468	71,468	1,585	2.3%
School Resource Officer	67,775	68,845	63,427	-	-	(63,427)	-100.0%
Police Expenses	67,473	99,984	105,560	108,560	108,560	3,000	2.8%
Police Cruiser	38,903	40,000	40,000	-	-	(40,000)	-100.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,124,141</b>	<b>1,195,915</b>	<b>1,234,090</b>	<b>1,195,755</b>	<b>1,195,755</b>	<b>(38,335)</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>
<b>15 FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>							
Fire Alarm Wages	73,090	68,213	94,448	95,374	95,374	926	1.0%
Fire Training/Drills	9,710	20,486	27,893	28,168	28,168	275	1.0%
Fire Dept Other Wages	26,166	18,405	26,530	26,792	26,792	262	1.0%
Fire Administration Wages	26,245	27,614	27,305	27,575	27,575	270	1.0%
Fire Dept. Medical Exam	972	2,400	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	0.0%
Hydrant/Fire Protection (to Water Dept)	77,207	77,207	77,207	81,510	81,510	4,303	5.6%
Fire Alarm Communications	10,977	11,601	11,000	12,500	12,500	1,500	13.6%
Fire Expenses	45,039	56,941	46,000	46,000	46,000	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>269,406</b>	<b>282,867</b>	<b>313,383</b>	<b>320,919</b>	<b>320,919</b>	<b>7,536</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>16 PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH</b>							
Salary & Wages	222,564	219,917	285,034	270,778	270,778	(14,256)	-5.0%
Municipal Dispatch OT Wages	28,370	22,853	25,765	26,480	26,480	715	2.8%
Expenses	21,800	23,552	27,590	30,590	30,590	3,000	10.9%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>272,734</b>	<b>266,322</b>	<b>338,389</b>	<b>327,848</b>	<b>327,848</b>	<b>(10,541)</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>
<b>17 INSPECTION DEPARTMENT</b>							
Salary & Wages	123,448	125,700	129,962	135,538	135,538	5,576	4.3%
Expenses	13,307	7,019	9,000	9,000	9,000	-	0.0%
Inspectors' Vehicle Allowances	5,880	5,760	5,880	7,200	7,200	1,320	22.4%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>142,635</b>	<b>138,479</b>	<b>144,842</b>	<b>151,738</b>	<b>151,738</b>	<b>6,896</b>	<b>4.8%</b>
<b>18 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY</b>							
Salary & Wages	7,913	7,770	9,138	9,413	9,413	275	3.0%
Expenses	686	2,999	3,000	3,000	3,000	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>8,599</b>	<b>10,769</b>	<b>12,138</b>	<b>12,413</b>	<b>12,413</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
<b>19 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER</b>							
Animal Control Expenses	26,246	25,898	26,858	27,503	27,503	645	2.4%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>26,246</b>	<b>25,898</b>	<b>26,858</b>	<b>27,503</b>	<b>27,503</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
<b>20 HARBORMASTER</b>							
Salary & Wages	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	
Contracted Services	-	2,500	4,000	4,000	4,000	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>4,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY:</b>	<b>1,845,760</b>	<b>1,922,750</b>	<b>2,073,700</b>	<b>2,040,176</b>	<b>2,040,176</b>	<b>(33,524)</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>

**FY24 Omnibus Budget**



FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024		Change from FY23	
Expended	Expended	Approved Budget	Select Board	FinCom Proposed	\$	%

**EDUCATION**

**21 PENTUCKET**

Pentucket Regional Sch Assessment	7,387,515	7,242,985	7,408,673	7,871,758	7,871,758	463,085	6.3%
Pentucket Capital Assessment	710,567	1,196,556	835,497	1,123,070	1,123,070	287,573	34.4%
Pentucket Assessment Page Phase II	501,438	493,338	485,238	479,838	479,838	(5,400)	-1.1%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>8,599,520</b>	<b>8,932,879</b>	<b>8,729,408</b>	<b>9,474,666</b>	<b>9,474,666</b>	<b>745,258</b>	<b>8.5%</b>

**22 WHITTIER**

Whittier Minimum Contribution	146,262	136,998	219,455	217,901	217,901	(1,554)	-0.7%
Whittier Other Assessments	22,570	18,727	27,420	23,624	23,624	(3,796)	-13.8%
Whittier Debt/Capital Assess	21,781	21,602	23,860	21,392	21,392	(2,468)	-10.3%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>190,613</b>	<b>177,327</b>	<b>270,735</b>	<b>262,917</b>	<b>262,917</b>	<b>(7,818)</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>

**23 ESSEX NORTH SHORE AG & TECH**

Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School	38,167	41,234	43,213	46,327	46,327	3,114	7.2%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>38,167</b>	<b>41,234</b>	<b>43,213</b>	<b>46,327</b>	<b>46,327</b>	<b>3,114</b>	<b>7.2%</b>

**TOTAL EDUCATION: 8,828,300 9,151,440 9,043,356 9,783,910 9,783,910 740,554 8.2%**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**24 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Salary & Wages	471,302	483,533	567,397	635,593	635,593	68,196	12.0%
DPW Overtime Wages	16,225	17,299	16,000	18,000	18,000	2,000	12.5%
Snow & Ice Removal	224,021	247,245	150,000	200,000	200,000	50,000	33.3%
Town Bldgs Operating Expenses	134,462	143,869	150,830	158,030	158,030	7,200	4.8%
Town Bldgs Improvements	45,075	41,438	51,000	51,000	51,000	-	0.0%
Street/Paving Repairs	16,534	59,693	55,000	55,000	55,000	-	0.0%
Highway, Sidewalk & Trees	142,398	203,126	205,215	219,580	219,580	14,365	7.0%
Stormwater management	14,265	10,226	15,500	15,500	15,500	-	0.0%
Expenses	12,469	12,080	14,250	16,485	16,485	2,235	15.7%
Parks Expenses	16,637	14,884	15,000	28,790	28,790	13,790	91.9%
Electricity	70,000	80,886	70,000	84,000	84,000	14,000	20.0%
Road Machinery Operating Expen	40,456	41,442	51,000	54,060	54,060	3,060	6.0%
DPW Vehicle Allowance	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	-	0.0%
Public Street Lights	6,421	6,943	7,000	8,400	8,400	1,400	20.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1,216,265</b>	<b>1,368,664</b>	<b>1,374,192</b>	<b>1,550,438</b>	<b>1,550,438</b>	<b>176,246</b>	<b>12.8%</b>

**TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS: 1,216,265 1,368,664 1,374,192 1,550,438 1,550,438 176,246 12.8%**

**HUMAN SERVICES**

**25 BOARD OF HEALTH**

Salary & Wages	124,592	126,498	129,621	134,918	134,918	5,297	4.1%
Public Health Nurse	7,775	5,700	8,175	6,000	6,000	(2,175)	-26.6%
Waste Collection & Disposal	375,680	375,998	401,940	421,400	421,400	19,460	4.8%
Recycling	21,159	1,670	10,000	45,000	45,000	35,000	350.0%
Hazardous Waste Expense	1,899	1,798	2,000	2,000	2,000	-	0.0%
Steele landfill monitoring	22,450	29,708	33,555	36,315	36,315	2,760	8.2%
Expenses	5,583	7,174	7,000	7,000	7,000	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>559,138</b>	<b>548,546</b>	<b>592,291</b>	<b>652,633</b>	<b>652,633</b>	<b>60,342</b>	<b>10.2%</b>

**26 COUNCIL ON AGING**

Salary & Wages	55,905	71,524	100,308	103,982	103,982	3,674	3.7%
Expenses	16,097	21,808	19,500	19,500	19,500	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>72,002</b>	<b>93,332</b>	<b>119,808</b>	<b>123,482</b>	<b>123,482</b>	<b>3,674</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

**27 VETERANS**

Soldiers Grave Expenses	3,161	3,632	3,592	3,592	3,592	-	0.0%
Memorial Day Expenses	-	1,661	2,200	2,320	2,320	120	5.5%
Other Assessments-Veterans Services	21,112	5,816	4,400	6,000	6,000	1,600	36.4%
Northern Essex Veterans Services	3,976	21,695	21,096	22,960	22,960	1,864	8.8%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>28,248</b>	<b>32,804</b>	<b>31,288</b>	<b>34,872</b>	<b>34,872</b>	<b>3,584</b>	<b>11.5%</b>

**TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES: 659,389 674,682 743,387 810,987 810,987 67,600 9.1%**

**FY24 Omnibus Budget**



	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024		Change from FY23	
	Expended	Expended	Approved Budget	Select Board	FinCom Proposed	\$	%
<b>CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b>							
<b>28 LIBRARY</b>							
Salary & Wages	260,408	260,013	282,899	307,665	307,665	24,766	8.8%
Expenses	32,894	38,461	33,000	33,000	33,000	-	0.0%
Books and Periodicals	67,144	71,241	78,000	81,569	81,569	3,569	4.6%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>360,446</b>	<b>369,715</b>	<b>393,899</b>	<b>422,234</b>	<b>422,234</b>	<b>28,335</b>	<b>7.2%</b>
<b>29 RECREATION</b>							
Salary & Wages	239	1,335	2,700	5,072	5,072	2,372	87.9%
Recreation Expenses	16,415	16,000	19,085	33,200	33,200	14,115	74.0%
Action Cove Expenses	1,320	1,826	3,000	-	-	(3,000)	-100.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>17,974</b>	<b>19,161</b>	<b>24,785</b>	<b>38,272</b>	<b>38,272</b>	<b>13,487</b>	<b>54.4%</b>
<b>30 MILL POND OPERATING EXPENSES</b>							
Mill Pond Operating Expenses	-	188	2,100	2,100	2,100	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>2,100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>31 BANDSTAND</b>							
Expenses	-	6,000	6,000	8,000	8,000	2,000	33.3%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>33.3%</b>
<b>32 HISTORICAL COMMISSION</b>							
Expenses	312	-	600	600	600	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>33 CULTURAL COUNCIL</b>							
Cultural Council Expenses	-	-	100	100	100	-	0.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL CULTURE &amp; RECREATION:</b>	<b>378,733</b>	<b>395,064</b>	<b>427,484</b>	<b>471,306</b>	<b>471,306</b>	<b>43,822</b>	<b>10.3%</b>
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>							
<b>34 DEBT SERVICE</b>							
Principal	340,500	305,000	295,000	-	-	(295,000)	-100.0%
Interest	15,400	8,950	5,900	-	-	(5,900)	-100.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>355,900</b>	<b>313,950</b>	<b>300,900</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(300,900)</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE:</b>	<b>355,900</b>	<b>313,950</b>	<b>300,900</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(300,900)</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>
<b>BENEFITS</b>							
<b>35 ESSEX COUNTY RETIREMENT FUND</b>							
Essex Regional Retirement Assess	687,493	731,432	805,420	675,135	675,135	(130,285)	-16.2%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>687,493</b>	<b>731,432</b>	<b>805,420</b>	<b>675,135</b>	<b>675,135</b>	<b>(130,285)</b>	<b>-16.2%</b>
<b>36 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION</b>							
Unemployment Insurance	-	439	1,500	1,200	1,200	(300)	-20.0%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>(300)</b>	<b>-20.0%</b>
<b>37 EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE</b>							
Group Insurance	394,029	406,997	481,857	527,865	527,865	46,008	9.5%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>394,029</b>	<b>406,997</b>	<b>481,857</b>	<b>527,865</b>	<b>527,865</b>	<b>46,008</b>	<b>9.5%</b>
<b>38 MEDICARE INSURANCE (FICA)</b>							
FICA Insurance	46,737	52,412	51,485	61,421	61,421	9,936	19.3%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>46,737</b>	<b>52,412</b>	<b>51,485</b>	<b>61,421</b>	<b>61,421</b>	<b>9,936</b>	<b>19.3%</b>
<b>39 INSURANCE AND BONDS</b>							
Insurance and Bonds	174,508	187,002	199,865	219,643	219,643	19,778	9.9%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>174,508</b>	<b>187,002</b>	<b>199,865</b>	<b>219,643</b>	<b>219,643</b>	<b>19,778</b>	<b>9.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL BENEFITS:</b>	<b>1,302,767</b>	<b>1,378,282</b>	<b>1,540,127</b>	<b>1,485,264</b>	<b>1,485,264</b>	<b>(54,863)</b>	<b>-3.6%</b>
<b>TRANSFERS - STABILIZATION</b>							
<b>40 Transfers Out - to Stabilization</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>20.0%</b>
Transfers In - from School Stabilization	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>20.0%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL OMNIBUS BUDGET</b>	<b>16,080,795</b>	<b>16,786,777</b>	<b>17,364,056</b>	<b>18,030,563</b>	<b>18,030,563</b>	<b>666,507</b>	<b>3.8%</b>

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## WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

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**ARTICLE 5:** In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 38 of the Acts of 1936, to see what instructions, rules, and regulations the Town may wish to impose on the Board of Water Commissioners, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

**Background:** *The West Newbury Board of Water Commissioners was established in 1936 through legislative adoption of Chapter 38 of the Acts of 1936. This legislation provides Town Meeting the opportunity to adopt instructions, rules and regulations that would be binding upon the Board of Water Commissioners. In recent years, including in the current budget and capital planning cycle, the Board of Water Commissioners have submitted documentation showing a significant number of anticipated capital projects, related both to the replacement/repair of aging water mains, and to the potential acquisition of land and development of a new local water source. In anticipation of these future costs – both known and potential – the Select Board and the Finance Committee are bringing forward a proposal to prepare a comprehensive financial plan in order to give Town residents and ratepayers a complete picture of the Department's finances. In addition, the Motion that will be introduced at Town Meeting will ensure that the Select Board and the Town Manager's office are represented in negotiations of future potential intermunicipal agreements.*

**Anticipated Motion:** *I move that the Board of Water Commissioners shall participate in creating a long-range, comprehensive financial plan of the Water Department. This plan shall be produced by the Town Manager's office in its capacity as the Town's Chief Financial Officer, and will model the financial needs of the Town's Water Department including its operating revenues and expenses, capital expenditures and all borrowings including interest costs and principal payments. The plan will forecast the cash requirements, retained earnings, free cash, and stabilization balances which would derive from the Department's activities. The plan will be comprehensive, look out a minimum of 15 years and be completed by February, 2024. Upon its receipt of the plan from the Town Manager, and its acceptance of the report as complete, the Finance Committee will present the plan, with its recommendations, to the Board of Water Commissioners, the Select Board and the Town. Further, any future negotiations of intermunicipal agreements to which the Board of Water Commissioners is a signatory shall include representation by at least one member of the Board of Water Commissioners, at least one member of the Select Board, and the Town Manager.*

**Rationale for Approval:** *Water is a vital resource for West Newbury residents. For the Board of Water Commissioners to meet their responsibility of providing a safe and reliable water supply to the Town, there are significant anticipated capital projects that will be necessary. A comprehensive, long-term financial plan of 15+ years is an essential requirement for assessing the Water Department's future capital needs. This plan will greatly aid in determining the potential financial impact on the Town to ensure a safe and reliable water supply. The Finance Committee unanimously supports this article.*

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, in anticipation of Water Department revenues, the sum of \$1,060,171.00 of which \$318,848.00 for salaries and wages, which include \$1,700.00 for Water Commissioners' Stipends; \$52,191.00 for insurances; \$445,027.00 for

expenses; \$167,913.00 for debt services; \$20,000.00 for extraordinary and unforeseen expenses; and \$56,192.00 for indirect costs, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 2-0-1

***Rationale for Approval:*** *These are the expenses needed to operate the Water Department for FY 2024 and come primarily from its customers with, perhaps, supplemental amounts from the Water Department Free Cash, Stabilization or Retained Earnings. These amounts represent an increase of about \$110,000, or 11.5%, over the current year's budget. It is likely that a rate increase or a draw down from water retained earnings will be needed to cover FY2024 expenses. A water rate study is underway, and the Board of Water Commissioners anticipates either proposing a rate increase, or proposing a fall Town Meeting article to transfer water retained earnings, in order to balance the proposed FY2024 expense budget.*

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds and/or borrow the sum of \$2,700,000.00, or any other sum, to pay a portion of the costs of replacing water mains on or near Church Street and Prospect Street, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The Water Department maintains a list of known and anticipated capital projects, most of which are comprised of water main replacements/improvements. The Church and Prospect Street water main replacements (comprising approximately 7,700 linear feet) have been the next projects on this capital planning list for the past few years, and now that the Department has successfully undertaken a couple of major capital improvements – including the Brake Hill water tank replacement, the construction of a new chemical treatment building at Wellfield #1, and (now underway) the interior repairs to the Pipestave tank – it is ready to move forward with Church and Prospect. In October, 2021, Town Meeting appropriated \$100,000 from Water Retained Earnings to engineer this project, and the project is fully designed. The Board of Water Commissioners initially submitted an article request for \$625,000 in order to pre-purchase the pipe and fittings in order to plan ahead for long lead-times (30± weeks) associated with delivery of these materials. In parallel, funding was also sought from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds under the oversight of the Select Board. On March 13, 2023, the Select Board approved \$625,000 of ARPA funds (which were received from the Federal government as part of a COVID relief package). That night, the Select Board and the Chair of the Board of Water Commissioners agreed, at the suggestion of the Finance Committee, to revise the proposed Town Meeting article request in order to seek borrowing authorization for the estimated balance of project costs. The goal is to put out a bid to purchase the pipe/materials in calendar year 2023, then put the construction project out to bid in early 2024, with the goal of breaking ground in spring 2024. Although the Town does not expect to actually borrow the funds until calendar year 2024, Town Meeting authorization of the borrowing this spring will ensure that, prior to expenditure of any ARPA funds, the full project will be funded to move forward.*

***Funding source:*** *Water Enterprise Fund*

***Sunset Date:*** *N/A*

*(Note: Borrowing is not anticipated until calendar year 2024, so the debt service payments would begin in FY2025. A water rate increase is expected to be needed to pay the debt service).*

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## ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

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**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate the sum of \$10,364.00 from the Septic Loan Revolving Account for the repayment of debt service, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Health.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The Town had enrolled in a twenty-year state-financed program to loan residents money to help them rebuild septic systems that did not conform to Title V. This State program offers 0% loans to communities, which in turn provide low-interest betterment loans to eligible homeowners with failed septic systems through the local Board of Health. The Town loaned money at a rate of 3% (to cover the cost of administration). The homeowners repay their loan to the Town, which in turn reimburses the State. Our amount this year to repay is \$10,364. Neither the Town nor the State profits from this transaction. The Town has been making these payments since 2001. This program is no longer open to new participants and the Town's debt will be paid off entirely in FY2025. There have been no delinquencies under this program.*

***Funding source:*** *Septic Loan Revolving Account*

***Sunset Date:*** *N/A*

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$67,514.00 for the Pension Liability Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Disapprove: 1-5-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Disapproval:*** *For a decade, the Town has funded a pension liability stabilization fund. The current balance is about \$350,000. Meanwhile, Essex Regional Retirement System has been working towards being fully funded in its pension obligations by 2036. There are no facts or figures which indicate to the Finance Committee that we need to increase the current fund balance nor is the Finance Committee satisfied that there are facts or figures which indicate how the fund balance is to be used. Each year the Essex Regional Retirement System draws closer to being fully funded. The Finance Committee believes that our contributions to this fund should be paused pending further analysis for and review by the Select Board.*

***Funding source:*** *Free Cash*

***Sunset Date:*** *N/A*

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$6,868.00 for contribution to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0



***Rationale for Approval:*** Established at April 2010 Town Meeting, West Newbury's Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Stabilization Fund is designed to provide benefits to the Town's eligible current and future retirees. An annual financial commitment to OPEB to ensure resources are available to meet the Town's future obligations is considered a "best financial practice" by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and is unanimously supported by the Finance Committee.

***Funding source:*** Free Cash

***Sunset Date:*** N/A

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$90,000 from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund for the purposes of funding its FY 2024 cable-related expenses pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 44, Section 53F¾; or take any other action relative thereto. By request of the Cable Advisory Committee.

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** The Finance Committee recommends approval of this Article.

*The Town receives quarterly franchise fees from Verizon and Comcast pursuant to license agreements that allow them to provide cable communications services within the Town. These fees have averaged about \$60,000 per year for the past three years and are deposited in an account designated for cable related Public, Educational, and Governmental expenses. ("PEG" Account). The balance in this account is currently around \$220,000. This Article would allow the Cable Advisory Committee to spend up to \$90,000 from this account in FY2024 to expand cable facilities in Town properties, fund public and educational programming, and pay cable related legal expenses.*

***Funding source:*** PEG Access and Cable Related Fund

***Sunset Date:*** N/A

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, and Section XL of the By-laws of the Town of West Newbury, will fix the maximum amounts that may be spent during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2023 for the revolving funds established in town bylaws, as set forth below for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers, with such expenditure limits to be applicable for each fiscal year until such time as Town Meeting votes, prior to July 1 for the ensuing fiscal year, to revise the same; or take any other action relative thereto:

▪ Section 5.1 Summer Recreation Revolving Fund	\$ 75,000.00
▪ Section 5.2 GAR Library Fines and Penalties Revolving Fund	\$ 10,000.00
▪ Section 5.3 Police Vehicle Revolving Fund	\$ 20,000.00
▪ Section 5.4 Pipestave/Mill Pond Care and Maintenance Revolving Fund	\$ 5,000.00
▪ Section 5.5 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Revolving Fund	\$ 10,000.00
▪ Section 5.6 Curbside Collection of Trash, Recycling and Food Waste Revolving Fund	\$ 50,000.00

By request of the Select Board.

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The Finance Committee supports this as a measure to comply with the statute simplifying the appropriation for revolving funds. This Article authorizes those departments with revolving funds to use the fees and monies collected, pursuant to our Revolving Fund Bylaw and up to the limits specified in this Article.*

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to allocate and/or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues, the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

- Appropriate \$30,452.00 from FY 2024 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses.
- Reserve \$60,904.00 from FY 2024 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve.
- Reserve \$60,904.00 from FY 2024 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve.
- Reserve \$60,904.00 from FY 2024 estimated revenues for Open Space & Recreation Reserve.
- Reserve \$395,873.00 from FY 2024 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve.

or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Community Preservation Committee.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The Article presents to the Town an annual allocation of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, as required under state law. In 2006, the Town adopted the CPA that enables the Town to assess an annual 3% surcharge on resident real estate tax bills. CPA Funds provide for 1) open space/ recreational use, 2) community housing, and 3) historical preservation. The Article contains the Community Preservation Committee's (CPC) recommended distribution, which earmarks the required minimum 10% to each of the three categories plus a maximum of 5% to administration. CPC and Town Meeting must approve spending funds in any of the three CPA areas. Approximately two-thirds of these funds were raised from the CPA surcharge and approximately one-third is from matching state aid, based on a Department of Revenue formula for disbursements to participating cities and towns each year. Additionally, towns such as West Newbury, which have committed to the maximum 3%, receive bonus rounds of funding, if available.*

***Funding source:*** *Community Preservation Fund Annual Revenues* ***Sunset Date:*** *N/A*

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## ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

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**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$705,000.00 from the Community Preservation Act fund pursuant to G.L. c.44B for the purpose of acquiring, for open space, conservation and passive recreation purposes, certain parcels of land containing a total of 32 acres, more or less, which parcels are located on Poor House Lane, shown on Assessors’ Map R14 as Parcels 30 and 30F, and also shown as Lots 2A and 2B on a plan entitled “Definitive Plan, Poor House Lane”, dated January 7, 1983, prepared by Cammett and Kutensky Engineering, Inc., recorded with the Southern Essex District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 177, Plan 37, and costs incidental or related thereto, and to authorize the Select Board to acquire said land by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain on such terms as the Select Board deems appropriate, which land shall be held under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission for the foregoing purposes pursuant to G.L. c. 40, §8C; and further to authorize the Select Board, the Conservation Commission, and/or their designee to apply for, accept and expend funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or other public or private sources to defray all or a portion of the costs of acquisition, including, but not limited to, grants and/or reimbursements from the Commonwealth under G.L. c. 132A, §11 (the so-called LAND Grants), and/or any other federal, state or other grants or reimbursement programs in any way connected with the scope of this article, including but not limited to funds contributed by Essex County Greenbelt Association, and to enter into any and all agreements and execute any and all documents necessary or convenient to effectuate the foregoing; provided, however, that the funds appropriated by this vote shall not be expended unless the Town receives grants, gifts or other contributions of no less than \$355,000.00 for this purpose; and, further, to authorize the Select Board to convey a conservation restriction on said land to Essex County Greenbelt Association or any other qualified organization in accordance with G.L. c. 184 §§31-33, as required by G.L. c. 44B, §12(a); or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Community Preservation Committee.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The two parcels of land adjacent to Mill Pond Recreation Area encompass 32 acres of land, and is referenced as the proposed Sawmill Brook conservation project. The total purchase price for the purchase of this land is \$719,350. This includes the purchase price of \$705,000 and additional funds of \$14,350 to cover closing costs and legal fees. This acquisition, proposed in part by the West Newbury Open Space Committee, will be done in conjunction with Essex County Greenbelt Association. The Town’s commitment is for up to \$350,000 from our CPA funds. The balance of the purchase price and soft costs will come from grant funds or fund-raising undertaken by Essex County Greenbelt Association. The Town, with Greenbelt, intends to pursue a LAND (Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity) from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, and has confirmed the grant eligibility of this proposed purchase. Although this article seeks authorization of CPA funding up to \$350,000, the Town’s contribution of funds could be as low as \$210,200 if the grant award is successful. The land will be used for passive recreation, and its location adjacent to Mill Pond Recreation Area presents a good opportunity for the Town at a reasonable cost.*

***Funding source:*** CPA Funds, Open Space and Undesignated Reserves ***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/2026

Note: A map of the land proposed for acquisition, prepared by project co-sponsor Essex County Greenbelt, is included in Appendix A.
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**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from Community Preservation Act funds, Community Housing Reserve, the sum of \$172,178.00 into the West Newbury Affordable Housing Trust, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The Finance Committee unanimously supports this article to transfer the remaining balance of the CPA Community Housing Reserve and FY2023 distributions to the newly formed Affordable Housing Trust. Use of these funds will benefit residents in need of affordable housing in West Newbury. All such uses will be in accordance with the CPA requirements and a CPC/ Affordable Housing Trust grant agreement (currently being drafted). The grant agreement will be finalized and executed prior to the transfer of funds.*

***Funding source:*** CPA Funds, Community Housing Reserve

***Sunset Date:*** N/A

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$172,000.00 to fund the replacement of a sidewalk snow-clearing vehicle for use by the Department of Public Works (DPW), or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the DPW Director.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The existing 2008 Holder Sidewalk Plow has reached the end of its useful life and is ready for replacement. Municipal sidewalk plows are a specialized segment of the snow handling market, providing considerable power in a comparatively smaller footprint than traditional tractors and plows. The DPW is looking to replace the current unit with a different make and model which is tracked versus wheeled, to provide better traction and stability. Having said that, even to replace the current unit “in-kind” would be a similar investment due to the specialized nature. Some thought was given to the future need for snow plow equipment in this area, given the general observation that winters appear to be less intense as of late; however, it is the DPW’s experience that sidewalk plow equipment continues to be used as much or more than in years past. This is partly due to the proximity of the sidewalks to Route 113, and the fact that the sidewalks receive some amount of overflow snow resulting from State plowing of the adjacent roadway.*

***Funding source:*** Stabilization

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/2025

Note: The Capital Improvements Committee report is summarized in Appendix B, and posted to the Town website at <https://www.wnewbury.org/capital-improvements-committee>.

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$117,000.00 to fund the replacement of a Fire Pick-up Truck, including all safety equipment, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Fire Engineers.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** The Finance Committee recommends this article to replace a 2001 F250 Pickup Truck (Engine #27) used for off road firefighting and EMS response out of Garden Street Station. The current vehicle is over 21 years old and beyond its service life. The current water pump, tank and mounted equipment have been reused on multiple vehicles and are no longer serviceable and in need of replacement. The new vehicle will be a F350 4x4 Pickup (or similar) with new fire response equipment (not limited to: pump equipment, storage compartments, tow set-up, emergency lighting, radio and lettering) included in the requested appropriation.

***Funding source:*** Stabilization

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/2025

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$59,500.00 to fund the planning and design efforts to address pedestrian safety concerns on Route 113 (Main Street), including but not limited to the Page/Pipestave/Route 113 intersection and crosswalk, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** Over the years, the Town has contemplated undertaking various improvements to the Route 113 corridor, such as additional sidewalks, and redesigning / improving the Page School / Pipestave crossing. These projects can be costly both in design and construction, and are more feasible with the help of various state and/or federal transportation grant programs and appropriations. Recent attempts to secure such funding have been unsuccessful, due in part to the fact that the Town lacks a high-level vision / conceptual plan for the corridor as a whole.

*Of the \$59,500 requested, \$30,000 will be used to fund for the engineering design and permitting for improvements to the Route 113 intersection and crosswalk at Page School and Pipestave Hill. The balance of funds would be used to develop an overall corridor plan as a basis for future efforts to secure funding through the state's Transportation Improvement Program.*

***Funding source:*** Free Cash

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/2025

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$15,000.00 to fund the restoration of Field 6 at Pipestave Hill, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Parks & Recreation Commission.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0  
Approve: 2-1-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** Field 6 at Pipestave Hill received very heavy use this past fall. The Town had rested Field 7, and the High School needed time on Pipestave's fields because of the construction activity at their building site. Consequently, Field 6 was "ridden hard and put up wet". Last year's severe drought conditions did additional harm. Field 6 needs restoration. Its use this spring will be limited to practices only; no games will be allowed. A review will be made after the spring season by the Town's turf consultant to fine

*tune the scope. The restoration work to be done includes spreading loam to fill low spots and level, slice- and over-seeding, starter and follow-on fertilizer applications. This work is best done in the fall.*

**Funding source:** Free Cash

**Sunset Date:** 6/30/2024

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$8,300.00 to fund the purchase and installation of security cameras at the Page School, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the DPW Director.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

**Rationale for Approval:** *The Finance Committee unanimously supports this article to fund this purchase and installation from Free Cash. During the school day, the main school entrance is the single point of access for staff and all visitors; all other perimeter doors are closed and secured. Currently there is one camera mounted at the main entrance door with a push button to request access. The current device provides limited field of view and during times of the day, lighting and environmental conditions limit its effectiveness. Adding four additional exterior cameras will give the staff a better exterior view of the building and any individual approaching the main entrance to the school.*

**Funding source:** Free Cash

**Sunset Date:** 6/30/2024

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$4,150.00 to fund the maintenance, clean up, and repair of the Town-owned cemeteries, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Historical Commission.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

**Rationale for Approval:** *This would provide funds for the maintenance for Town owned Almsbouse and Quaker Cemeteries. Both cemeteries are historically significant and in need of clean-up of brush, saplings, as well as downed trees and limbs. The Historical Commission will supervise this work in coordination with the DPW.*

**Funding source:** Free Cash

**Sunset Date:** 6/30/2024

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## BY-LAWS – OTHERS

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**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the West Newbury Zoning By-laws by revising Section 5G (Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations Overlay District) for the purpose of replacing the existing Overlay District with locational criteria for the installation of Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations, and other minor amendments to dimensional requirements, design standards and environmental standards, with the proposed bylaw on file and available for viewing in the Town Clerk's office; and by eliminating the Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations Overlay District

from Section 3.A.1, and by revising Section 3.B.1 to note map revision date, by adding Section 4.C.3 (Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations), subject to and consistent with the requirements of Section 5.G; and further to authorize the Town Clerk’s office to make any non-substantive, ministerial changes to numbering and formatting to ensure consistency with the remainder of the By-laws, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Planning Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The Planning Board will present this article at Town Meeting.*

Note: The specific proposed language proposed for amendment is included in Appendix C.

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to recodify, amend and renumber the Town of West Newbury Zoning By-law, including all internal citations therein a copy of which is on file with the Town of West Newbury Town Clerk and is updated through May 14, 2022 (the “Existing Zoning By-law”), as set forth below and as depicted in the proposed revised Zoning By-law or on file with the Town Clerk (the “Revised Zoning By-law”):

1. Delete the Table of Contents in the Existing Zoning By-law and replace it with the Table of Contents as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
2. Delete Section 1 of the Existing Zoning By-law and replace it with Section 1 contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
3. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 2 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 2 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
4. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 3 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 3 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
5. Amend Section 4.A. (Non-conforming Uses) of the Existing Zoning By-law to read Non-Conforming Uses and Structures;
6. Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 4.A, 4.A.1, 4.A.2, 4.A.3 and 4.A.4 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 7.1, 7.1.1, 7.1.2, 7.1.3 and 7.1.4 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 4.B and 4.B.1 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 4.1 and 4.1.1 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 4.C, 4.C.1 and 4.C.2 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 4.2, 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 4.D and 4.D.1 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 9.2 and 9.2.1 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 4.E of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 9.9 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;

7. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 5.A. (Residence A, B and C Districts) of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 4.3, (Uses Permitted in Residential A, B and C Districts), as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 5.A.1, 5.A.2, 5.A.3 and 5.A.4 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.3 and 4.3.4 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 5.B, 5.B.1 and 5.B.2 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 4.4, 4.4.1 and 4.4.2 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 5.C, 5.C.1, and 5.C.2 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 4.5, 4.5.1 and 4.5.2 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
8. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 5.D (Floodplain Overlay District) of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 8.1 (Floodplain Overlay District) as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
9. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 5.D.17 (Uses) of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 8.1.17 (Permitted Uses) as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 5.E of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 9.6 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 5.F of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that section and replacing it with Section 6.1 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 5.G of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 8.3 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
10. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 6 (Intensity of Use) of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 5 (Dimensional Requirements) as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 6.B of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 9.1 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
11. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 7 (Conditions for Use) of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 6.2 (Performance Standards) as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 7.B (Off-Street Parking and Loading) of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 6.3 (Parking and Loading Spaces) as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 7.C of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 6.4 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 7.C.2.I.2 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 6.4.3 as contained in Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify Section 7.D of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 9.8 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify Section 7.E of the Existing Zoning By-law as Section 9.7 of the Revised Zoning By-law;
12. Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 8, 8.A.1 and 8.A.2 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 11, 11.1 and 11.2 as contained



- in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Section 8.B of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with as Section 11.3 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify, renumber and amend Sections 8.C, 8.D and 8.E of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Sections 11.4, 11.5 and 1.5 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
13. Recodify, renumber and amend the remainder of Section 9 (Personal Wireless Service Facilities) of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 9.5 (Wireless Communication Facilities) as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
  14. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 10 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with Section 8.2 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
  15. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 11 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with as Section 9.4 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
  16. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 12 of the Existing Zoning By-law by deleting that Section and replacing it with as Section 9.3 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
  17. Recodify, renumber and amend Section 13-19 of the Existing Zoning By-law, by deleting that Section and replacing it with as Section 10 as contained in the Revised Zoning By-law;
  18. Recodify Appendix A (Zoning District Map) and Appendix B (Overlay District Map(s)) of the Existing Zoning By-law as Appendix A (Zoning District Map) and Appendix B (Overlay District Map(s)) of the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify and amend Appendix One of the Existing Zoning By-law as Appendix C of the Revised Zoning By-law; Recodify Appendix Two of the Existing Zoning By-law as Appendix D of the Revised Zoning By-law.
  19. Authorize the Town Clerk to correct any scrivener's errors and to renumber any Section or internal Section references in the Revised Zoning By-law consistent with this Article;

or take any other action relative thereto.

*By request of the Planning Board.*

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The Planning Board will present this article at Town Meeting.*

<p>Note: The proposed Zoning Bylaw reflecting the proposed amendments is available for review in the Town Clerk's office, and posted to the Town website at <a href="http://www.wnewbury.org/planning-board/west-newbury-legal-adspublic-hearing-notice">www.wnewbury.org/planning-board/west-newbury-legal-adspublic-hearing-notice</a></p>
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**TOWN OF WEST NEWBURY  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WARRANT – SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023 @ 7:00pm**

Essex, ss.

To any of the Constables of the Town of West Newbury:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the Town of West Newbury, who are qualified to vote in the elections and Town affairs, to meet at the Town Annex, located at 379 Main Street, at **7:00 p.m. on Monday April 24, 2023**, to act upon or take any other action relative to all of the following articles:

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**APPROPRIATIONS**

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**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum to fund the existing year snow and ice deficit during the fiscal year 2023, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the DPW Director.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

At Town Meeting  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** This article addresses the deficit resulting from actual Snow and Ice costs above the budgeted amount in the current FY 2023. As of today, the deficit is approximately \$56,384. This number will be finalized prior to Town Meeting, upon payment of any/all outstanding Snow and Ice invoices/expenses. The Snow and Ice budget line was increased in the proposed FY 2024 operating budget.

***Funding source:*** Free Cash

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/23

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$60,180.00 to fund an inoculation treatment program for ash trees within public rights-of-way against the effects of the Emerald Ash Borer, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the DPW Director.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Disapprove: 2-3-1  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Disapproval:*** The Finance Committee voted not to support this Article. The ash trees on Town-owned land are a small minority of ash trees within the town. Most ash trees on private property will not be treated, therefore the Emerald Ash Borers will continue to exist in the town until either all ash trees die and are removed, or a universal treatment is devised. A plan to treat 177 trees would commit the Town to spend as much as an average of \$30,000 per year indefinitely. Even when treated, many of these trees may not survive. The majority of the Finance Committee believes it would be more prudent to focus treatment on

*the 55 currently healthy trees that have a higher chance of survival. This would reduce the projected cost to an average of less than \$10,000 per year. This is a very complex issue. The following material may help you better understand the rationale.*

*A relentlessly destructive pest, the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), is killing ash trees in the eastern half of the United States. EAB is the most destructive forest pest ever to live on American soil. Emerald Ash Borer attacks all varieties of ash trees; the trees have no natural defenses against this insect. Researchers expect the beetles will kill nearly all ash trees wherever their infestations spread. Scientists are exploring how to fight against the infestations and the damage caused by the pest.*

*One option is to try to protect the trees by treating them with a systemic insecticide that will destroy the borers when they eat the wood. Only certain insecticides are likely to hold off the borers. The product will need to be applied every year or two indefinitely, depending on the formula, the size of the tree, and the method of application. It is important to start treatment while the tree is still healthy; insecticides will not save a tree that has already been significantly damaged by the borers.*

*Dead trees should be removed promptly as they can quickly become a hazard. The trees die by drying out and their wood becomes brittle; branches and entire trees break and fall.*

*In the May 14, 2022 Special Town Meeting the town approved spending \$34,000 to identify ash trees on Town-owned land, establish priorities for treatment, and plan and budget the work of safe tree removal as needed. The study identified ash trees and grouped them by their current health. The first group of 55 trees showed little or no damage from EAB. The second group of 122 trees showed a moderate amount of damage. 287 trees were identified as unsuitable for treatment and recommended for removal. (The study results are posted on the Town web site on the DPW page.)*

*The Article proposed by the Select Board would authorize spending \$60,180 for treatment of all 177 trees in the first two groups. The assumption was that by treating all trees with little or moderate damage, enough trees would survive to repopulate ash trees, if and when the Emerald Ash Borer infestation may finally be eliminated. The Finance Committee voted in favor of spending \$18,700 to treat 55 trees – namely, those trees shown in the study to have little or no damage.*

***Rationale for Approval:*** *Treating more trees may increase the chance of some surviving. Note that the study also concluded that removing the already untreatable trees could cost over \$1M, the funding for which would have to be approved in subsequent Town Meetings.*

***Funding source:*** *Free Cash*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/24*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$20,000.00 to fund professional invasive species management on town owned land, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Open Space Committee*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 2-1-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** Since the early 2000s, the Town has spent \$6-7 million to acquire land for open space. These purchases include three parcels – Cherry Hill conservation land, the Indian Hill Fields, and land along the Riverbend Trail – with a total area of almost 40 acres.

*Notwithstanding the large upfront investments, very little money has been dedicated to date for land management, other than routine activities like seasonal mowing in some locations, and the result is that invasive plant species are taking hold. These funds represent a starting point for spot treatments of three primary invasives, with the overarching goal of preserving these parcels as habitats for native plants and pollinators. If approved, these funds will be used to engage a consultant specialized in the management and removal of invasive species.*

***Funding source:*** Free Cash

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/25

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$50,000.00 to fund an engineering study related to property located at 31 Dole Place, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** The Town continues to consider proposing the acquisition of property at 31 Dole Place. The site was previously tested and found to be a potentially productive public well site, and is included as an authorized public water source in the Town's Water Management Act permit. The Select Board, Town Manager and Board of Water Commissioners have been in continuing discussions, as well as in correspondence with the landowner, regarding its continuing interest in potentially proposing acquisition of this property. Through this Article, the Select Board proposes funding to conduct additional study of the property and associated design/engineering, regulatory, and infrastructure costs and financing questions. It is expected that this investment of funds will provide the Town the information it needs in order to make a fully informed decision regarding whether proposed acquisition of the property is in the public interest. Appropriation of funding at the 2023 Special Town Meeting will allow necessary studies to go forward.

*The Select Board anticipates either proposing the acquisition of this property in Fiscal Year 2024, or determining (on the basis of additional studies) that the potential for land acquisition is not viable and/or in the public interest. If the Town were to decide to propose acquisition of this property in the future, and its development as a public water source, this would come with significant infrastructure and operational costs; and, depending on water production and required MassDEP approvals, could also generate revenues from the sale of water to nearby communities.*

***Funding source:*** Free Cash

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/2024

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$140,000.00 for the purchase of water from the City of Newburyport during the remainder of FY 2023 and to replenish the line items within the FY 2023 Water Operating Budget that were utilized to pay water bills, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *There is a need to purchase additional water this fiscal year from adjacent water systems above what had been budgeted. The funds to purchase will come from the Water Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings Account. There are four factors which caused the Water Department to exceed its budgeted amount for water purchases through June 30, 2023: an unexpected 10% increase in the rates charged by Newburyport, last summer's extensive drought conditions, the need for additional water from Groveland during the Brake Hill water tank repair, and the expected additional water needs when the Pipestave water tank is taken offline this spring for repair.*

***Funding source:*** *Water Retained Earnings*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/23*

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$3,865.00 for the purchase of equipment and materials to replace the current Master Meter, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The 20-year-old meter which tracks water pumped to the Brake Hill tank has failed and needs to be replaced. The funds to purchase will come from the Water Enterprise Fund Stabilization Account. Meters are required throughout the system to track flow and, ultimately, to measure lost water and isolate leaks.*

***Funding source:*** *Water Stabilization Fund*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/23*

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$19,900.00 for the purchase of equipment and materials for a continuous chlorine monitoring system, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**  
**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0  
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The existing chlorine analyzer is over 15 years old and repair parts are not available. The funds to purchase will come from the Water Enterprise Fund Stabilization Account. The Department of Environmental Protection requires the Water Department to continuously monitor chlorine and pH residuals 24/7. The new analyzer should be purchased ahead of the current analyzer's inevitable failure.*

***Funding source:*** *Water Stabilization Fund*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/24*

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$7,340.00 for the purchase of equipment and materials for SCADA Remote Terminal

Units (RTU's), or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The SCADA Remote Terminal Units are the primary control system within the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system. The funds to purchase will come from the Water Enterprise Fund Stabilization Account. These RTUs are used to control specific functions and are an integral element of maintaining the water system operations. The current 10-year-old RTUs are more limited in functionality and are also dropping communications frequently.*

***Funding source:*** *Water Stabilization Fund*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/24*

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$16,610.00 for the purchase of equipment and materials to be used for repairs to the original Wellfield #1 building, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The exterior of the original Wellfield #1 building needs to be refinished. The funds to refinish will come from the Water Enterprise Fund Stabilization Account. The building envelope is showing signs of age and wear and needs to be properly sealed up from the elements. The original stucco will be stripped, a new stucco application installed including base coats and finish coat. Exterior woodwork will be repaired and painted. All other existing buildings at the wellfield have had their building maintenances completed.*

***Funding source:*** *Water Stabilization Fund*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/24*

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$9,975.00 for the purchase of equipment and materials to be used for cleaning of the well heads located at Wellfield #1, or take any other action related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *The wellheads located at Wellfield #1 need to be surged, chemically treated, and cleaned. The funds to accomplish this will come from the Water Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings Account. This process removes sediment and manganese and needs to be done every two to three years. Last year's drought has made the need to clean an imperative this fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.*

***Funding source:*** *Water Retained Earnings*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/24*

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$30,000.00 for the purchase of equipment and materials to be used for the repair and/or replacement of valves, hydrants, water main, meter pits and/or any other devices that are part of the Town's water distribution system, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Board of Water Commissioners.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** Multiple components of the water system need repair (if possible) or replacement: valves, hydrants, water main, meter pits, and meters. The funds to repair or purchase will come from the Water Enterprise Fund Stabilization Account and will be specifically earmarked for the next few years of the ongoing repair/replacement cycle. Many older hydrants do not have replacement parts readily available. Aging valves face a similar problem. In addition, more valves need to be installed to better isolate shorter sections of water main run for maintenance, repairs, and hydrant flushing. Additional meter pits are necessary to determine the loss of water throughout the system due to leaks.

***Funding source:*** Water Retained Earnings

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/25

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$115,000.00 to fund the replacement of the HVAC unit at the Page School Main Office and Entry Area, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the DPW Director.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** In 2014, a ductless mini-split system was installed in the main office and entry area. The unit is no longer functioning, and is unable to be repaired because the product was discontinued some time afterwards. The space was re-connected to the building's forced-hot water heating system, however the space is completely unconditioned for cooling in the summer heat. This article will fund replacement of the defunct mini-split system with a new ductless HVAC unit that will provide energy efficient cooling, as well as augment the baseboard heating system for certain months of the year. This will ultimately provide a conditioned and comfortable office space for the affected employees of the Page School.

***Funding source:*** Stabilization

***Sunset Date:*** 6/30/2025

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$25,000.00 to fund the purchase of a police cruiser for use by the Police Department, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Police Chief.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 5-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** The Finance Committee recommends this article for additional funding for a planned replacement cruiser during FY23. The approved FY2023 operating budget carried \$40,000 for a replacement cruiser. The police department also collects administrative fees for traffic details when a police

*vehicle is used. This account offsets the remaining cost of the purchase. The amount in this account, combined with the budgeted operating funds, are insufficient to purchase a cruiser. There have been significant increases in costs by Ford and equipment manufacturers which are driving up costs. Looking ahead, the FY24 cruiser line will be paused for one budget cycle as the next cruiser due for replacement is in relatively good shape and has low mileage. (The proposed FY2024 operating budget does not carry funds for cruiser replacement). We currently have 2 hybrid cruisers in operation, and it is important to see how they will impact our replacement schedule moving forward.*

**Funding source:** Free Cash

**Sunset Date:** 6/30/2023

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$4,425.00 to fund the purchase of an ABI Infield Rascal Pro infield maintainer or similar product for purposes of field maintenance, or take any other action relative thereto. By request of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 2-1-0

**Rationale for Approval:** *The infield grader will be pulled behind an existing lawn tractor on our 6 ballfields. This grader will be quicker, easier, and more efficient than the current hand-raking method. It will also lead to more raking over the course of the growing season. The infield groomer will provide a smoother and safer ballfield surface, will help reduce the amount of airborne dust, and improve the drainage of water off the infield dirt. The grader will be particularly beneficial in the off-season when weeds establish themselves and take over the infield. The use of the grader will improve both the performance and the appearance of our ball fields. It may reduce the annual maintenance costs paid to an outside vendor to maintain the ball fields.*

**Funding source:** Free Cash

**Sunset Date:** 6/30/2024

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$9,960.00 to fund the replacement and repair of the soccer field fencing at Pipestave Athletic Field, or take any other action relative thereto. By request of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 6-0-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

Approve: 2-1-0

**Rationale for Approval:** *The subject fencing was installed many years ago and has reached the end of its service life, due in part to original components being of a lighter duty. The proposed repairs would reinforce the fence line with commercial-grade components that will return the fencing to service.*

**Funding source:** Free Cash

**Sunset Date:** 6/30/2024

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer and/or appropriate from available funds the sum of \$7,500.00 to provide matching funds for the One Stop for Growth grant awarded to the Town of West Newbury in FY 2023 for planning and zoning consulting services related to



the MBTA Communities Act, so-called, or take any other action relative thereto. *By request of the Select Board.*

**FinCom Recommendation:**

Approve: 4-2-0

**Select Board Recommendation:**

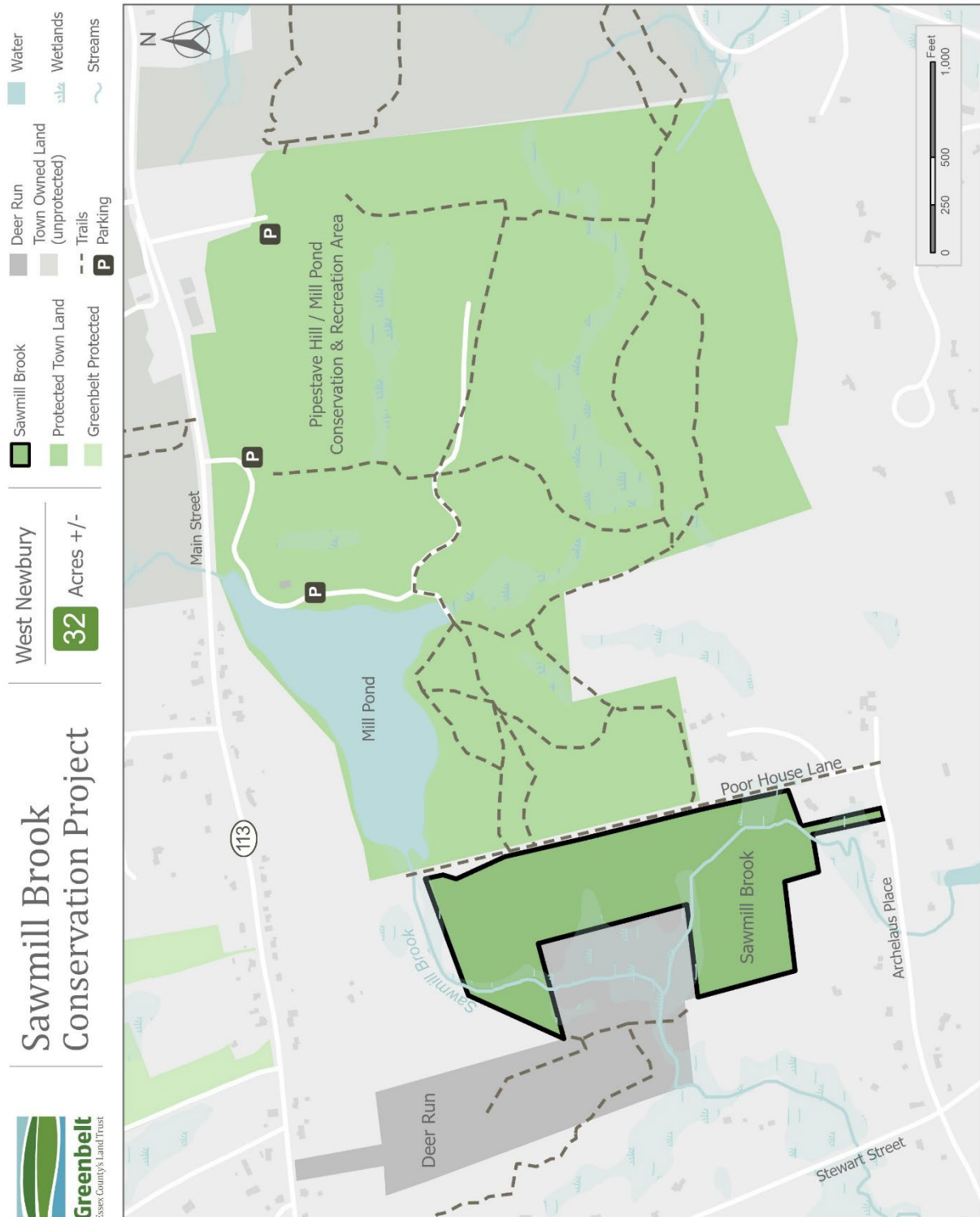
Approve: 3-0-0

***Rationale for Approval:*** *In late fall 2022, the Town was awarded a “One Stop for Growth” grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. \$7,500 is the Town’s required 10% match to the \$67,500 in State funds. The funds will be used to retain a land use planning and landscape design firm. This firm will help West Newbury undertake a public process to evaluate which locations may be more or less suitable for higher-density zoning, and to develop proposed zoning amendments to comply with the MBTA Communities Act. The Planning Board and Town Planner will work with the consulting firm and, if they determine that doing so would be beneficial, would propose zoning amendments at a future Town Meeting to comply with the requirements of Mass. General Laws Ch. 40A Sec. 3A (sometimes referred to as 3A). Section 3A of the Zoning Act now requires allowance for high density residential housing “by right”. Our Town’s requirement under 3A is that local zoning would need to allow for 87 such units of housing. Any proposed zoning amendments brought forth to comply with 3A would need Town Meeting approval in order to take effect.*

***Funding source:*** *Free Cash*

***Sunset Date:*** *6/30/25*

**APPENDIX A – 2023 Annual Town Meeting**  
**ATM Article #14**  
**ACQUISITION OF LAND, OFF POOR HOUSE LANE**



Source data obtained from the Office of Geographic Information Systems (Mass GIS), survey plans, and global positioning systems (GPS). Boundaries are approximate. Map produced by Essex County Greenbelt Association, 2023.

**APPENDIX B – 2023 Annual Town Meeting  
Capital Improvements Committee  
CIC FY24 CAPITAL PROJECT RANKINGS**

The Town Bylaws prescribe that no Town Meeting vote for capital improvements take place unless considered in the annual report of the Capital Improvements Committee (CIC).

In accordance with its charge, the CIC provided its report and recommendations to the Board of Selectmen by memorandum dated March 13, 2023. The CIC was presented with four proposed projects qualifying as capital expenditures during the FY24 budget cycle. The CIC recommendations on each proposal are summarized as follows:

**Summary of CIC Recommendations on Warrant Articles**

Article #	Description	Ranking	Proposed Authorization
ATM #7	Purchase of pipe and hardware for water main replacement	1	\$625,000.00
ATM #17	Fire Dept. Ford F350 pickup truck	2	\$117,000.00
STM #12	HVAC unit Page School	3	\$100,000.00 – \$115,000.00
ATM #16	DPW sidewalk snow-plow	4	\$172,000.00

The Committee also proposed a budget contribution of \$600,000.00 to capital stabilization.

More information about the CIC, including the Capital Improvements Program, can be found at:  
<https://www.wnewbury.org/capital-improvements-committee>

**APPENDIX C – 2023 Annual Town Meeting**  
**Article 22**  
**ZONING BYLAW**

**Article 22.** Proposed amendments to the West Newbury Zoning Bylaw Sections 3.A.1, 3.B.1, 4.C.3 and 5.G.

Editing Notes:

- Text with no underline, strike though, or italics: Language is not proposed for amendment.
- ~~Text with Strikethrough~~: Language that is proposed for deletion.
- Double-Underlined Text: Proposed new or updated language.

**Section 3.A.1 – “~~Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations Overlay Districts~~”**

**Section 3.B.1** - Said districts are hereby established as shown, located, defined and bounded on a map entitled “Town of West Newbury Zoning Map, based on Zoning Map dated September 1, 1967, adopted at Special Town Meeting of October 25, 2010”, amended at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting, filed with the office of the Town Clerk, which map, together with all explanatory matter thereon, and amendments thereto, is hereby incorporated and made a part of this by-law.

**Section 4.C.3.** – “Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations subject to and consistent with the requirements of Section 5.G.”

**Section 5.G. LARGE-SCALE GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATIONS ~~OVERLAY DISTRICT~~**

*[Section 5.G. adopted by Amendment effective May 3, 2012 by vote of Annual Town Meeting, Article 18, and approved by the Attorney General on August 30, 2012, and posted according to law on September 7, 2012]*

**5.G.1. Purpose**

The purpose of this ~~Bylaw~~ Section 5.G is to ~~regulate~~ allow for the development of Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations (LGSPI) ~~in an established district(s) where they are allowed.~~ while balancing the needs of the Town to protect public health, safety and welfare by ensuring that LGSPI are sited in reasonable proximity to necessary infrastructure and by protecting biodiversity. To that end, this Section ~~The Bylaw~~ provides standards for the placement, design, and construction of LGSPI. ~~such installations. The standards aim to address public safety, and minimize impacts on scenic, natural, and historic resources.~~

**5.G.2. Definitions**

**Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation (LGSPI):** A solar photovoltaic system that is structurally mounted on the ground and is not roof-mounted, and has a minimum nameplate capacity of 250 kW DC.

**~~Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation (LGSPI) Overlay District:~~** ~~The location[s] designated by a Town Meeting vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, §5., where LGSPI are a permitted use. Any designated location[s] [is/are] shown on the Town of West Newbury Zoning Map pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A §4. A plan of an approved Overlay District delineated by metes and bounds shall be recorded at the Southern Essex Registry of Deeds. These plans shall also be filed in the Office of the Town Clerk.~~

**On-Site Solar Photovoltaic Installation:** A solar photovoltaic installation that is constructed at a location where other uses of the underlying property occur.

**Rated Nameplate Capacity:** The nominal rated output of electric power production of the Photovoltaic system in Direct Current (DC).

**Solar Photovoltaic Array:** an arrangement of solar photovoltaic panels.

### 5.G.3. Applicability

~~This Section applies to LGSPI proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this Section. This Section also pertains to physical modifications that materially alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment. The provisions set forth in this Section shall apply to the construction, operation, and/or repair of LGSPI as well as to any physical modifications that materially alter the type, configuration, or size of an LGSPI or related equipment.~~

### 5.G.4. General Requirements for all Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations

The following requirements are common to all LGSPI to be sited in designated locations:

- a. Location: A LGSPI may be constructed as of right on any Lot that any portion of is located within one thousand (1,000) feet of necessary supportive infrastructure as mapped by the electric utility company servicing the town so long as that Lot is not a High Conservation Value parcel defined as having 50% or more of the parcel identified as BioMap Core Habitat or Critical Natural Landscapes as mapped by MassWildlife and the Nature Conservancy at the time of application.
- b. Adequate Access: A LGSPI may only be constructed on a Lot shown to have adequate physical and legal access for the construction and operation of the installation, as determined by the Planning Board
- c. ~~a.~~ Compliance with Laws, Ordinances and Regulations. The construction and operation of all LGSPI shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including, all applicable safety, construction, electrical, and communications requirements. All buildings and fixtures forming part of a solar photovoltaic installation shall be constructed in accordance with the State Building Code. Acting pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §53G, the Planning Board may require an applicant to pay the cost of peer review services to inspect the installation of any LGSPI.
- d. ~~b.~~ Building Permit and Building Inspection. A Building Permit is required for construction, installation, or modification of LGSPI as provided in this Section. An Application for a Building Permit for LGSPI must be submitted with all documents required by the Building Inspector's Office and the requirements of the Site Plan Review Decision.
- e. ~~c.~~ Site Plan Review. LGSPI are subject to Site Plan Review Zoning Bylaw Section 8.B., by the Planning Board prior to construction, installation or modification as provided in this Section. In

addition to the requirements of Section 8.B., Site Plan Review, and Planning Board Regulations, the Applicant shall submit the following:

- i. Name, address, phone number and signature of the project proponent, as well as all co-proponents or property Owners, if any
- ii. The name, address, contact information and signature of any agents representing the project proponent, and
- iii. Documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site. The project proponent shall submit documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site sufficient to allow for construction and operation of the proposed solar photovoltaic installation
- iv. Zoning district designation for the parcel(s) of land comprising the project site, Street Address, Assessors' Map and Lot Number, North Arrow, and Locus Map
- v. An aerial photograph showing the existing property and structures, abutting properties, structures and streets. The proposed LGSPI, appurtenant structures, driveways and other proposed improvements shall be superimposed upon the aerial photograph.
- vi. Blueprints or drawings of the solar photovoltaic installation signed by a Registered Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed layout of the system and any potential shading from nearby structures.
- vii. A description of the type of mounting system.

Waiver Authority. The Planning Board may waive documentary requirements of Site Plan Review as it deems appropriate.

e. In addition to that set forth in Section 8., the following standard shall apply to a LGSPI:

#### 5.G.5. Dimensional Requirements.

- a. All LGSPI and Appurtenant Structures shall conform with the Table of Dimensional Control below.

**Table of Dimensional Control for Large- Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations ~~Overlay District~~**

Structures	Minimum Lot Area In feet	Lot Frontage In feet	Percent of Required Lot area as Contiguous and Buildable (6.A.2)	Distance from <del>Overlay District</del> Parcel Boundary In feet	Maximum Lot Coverage %	Maximum Building Coverage %	Maximum Height in feet (6.A.3.)
Solar Photovoltaic Array PV Array	<del>n/a</del> As per District	<del>n/a</del> *	<del>n/a</del> As per District	50	<del>n/a</del> As per District	<del>n/a</del> As per District	15
Appurtenant Structures	<del>n/a</del> As per	<del>n/a</del> *	<del>n/a</del> As per district	40	<del>n/a</del> As per District	<del>n/a</del> As per District	35
* See 5.G.4.b							

b. Appurtenant Structures. All appurtenant structures, including equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers, and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Whenever reasonable, structures should be screened from view by vegetation and/or fencing, and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts.

#### 5.G.6. Design Standards

a. Lighting. Lighting of solar photovoltaic installations shall be consistent with local, state and federal law. Lighting of other parts of the installation, such as appurtenant structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be reasonably shielded from abutting properties. Where feasible, lighting of the solar photovoltaic installation shall be directed downward and shall incorporate full cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.

b. Signage. Signs on LGSPI shall comply with Section 7.C. of the Zoning Bylaw. A sign consistent with the Zoning Bylaw shall be required to identify the Owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. Reasonable identification of the manufacturer or Operator of the solar photovoltaic installation may be provided.

Solar photovoltaic installations shall not be used for displaying any advertising.

c. Utility Connections. Reasonable efforts, as determined by the Planning Board, shall be made to place all utility connections from the solar photovoltaic installation underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape, and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground if required by the utility provider.

d. Safety and Security. Appropriate measures shall be proposed to secure the facility from unauthorized entry.

#### 5.G.7. Environmental Standards

a. Wetlands. LSGPI shall comply with the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 130, as amended as well as the Town's local wetland Bylaw.

b. Stormwater Management. Stormwater Management shall comply with the Town's Stormwater Management Bylaw and Regulations and the Department of Environmental Protection Stormwater Management Policy, as amended.

c. Noise. LSGPI and equipment shall comply with Section 7.A.4. of the Zoning Bylaw, and the provisions of the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Air Quality Noise Regulations, (310 CMR 7.10., as amended).

d. Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts. Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the facility or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations, and bylaws.

#### 5.G.8. Monitoring and Maintenance.

The Large-Scale Ground–Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation Owner or Operator shall maintain the facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, painting, structural repairs, and integrity of security measures.

5.G.9. Removal Requirements.

Any LGSPI which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with Section 5.G.10. of this bylaw shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Site Plan Review Authority by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

(a) Physical removal of all solar energy systems, structures, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site.

(b) Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.

(c) Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Site Plan Review Authority may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping or designated below-grade foundations in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.

5.G.10. Abandonment.

Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning or written notice of extenuating circumstances, the large-scale ground-mounted solar energy system shall be considered abandoned when it fails to operate for more than one year without the written consent of the Site Plan Review Authority. If the owner or operator of the solar energy system fails to remove the installation in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the town retains the right, after the receipt of an appropriate court order, to enter and remove an abandoned, hazardous, or decommissioned large-scale ground-mounted solar energy system.

5.G.11. Surety.

Proponents of any LGSPI shall provide a form of surety, either through cash, certified bank check, escrow account, bond, or otherwise held by and for the Town of W Newbury to cover the cost of installation removal and stabilization of the site in the event the LSPGI has reached the end of its useful life or been abandoned, which surety shall be in an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to exceed more than 125 percent of the cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, as determined by the project proponent. Such surety will not be required for town- or state-owned facilities.

The project proponent shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, prepared by a qualified engineer. Such estimate shall be reviewed by the Planning Board and adjusted as needed to reflect the opinion of the town as to fair costs. The amount shall include a mechanism for prorating removal costs as costs may be affected by inflation and/or changes to disposal regulations. Salvage for solar panels and/or for other components of the installation may be included at the discretion of the Planning Board.

This surety will be due and payable at the issuance of the building permit. Proof of payment in the form of a receipt from the Town Treasurer will be shown to the Building Inspector before the permits are issued. The financial surety shall be maintained by the proponent for the lifespan of the facility, with



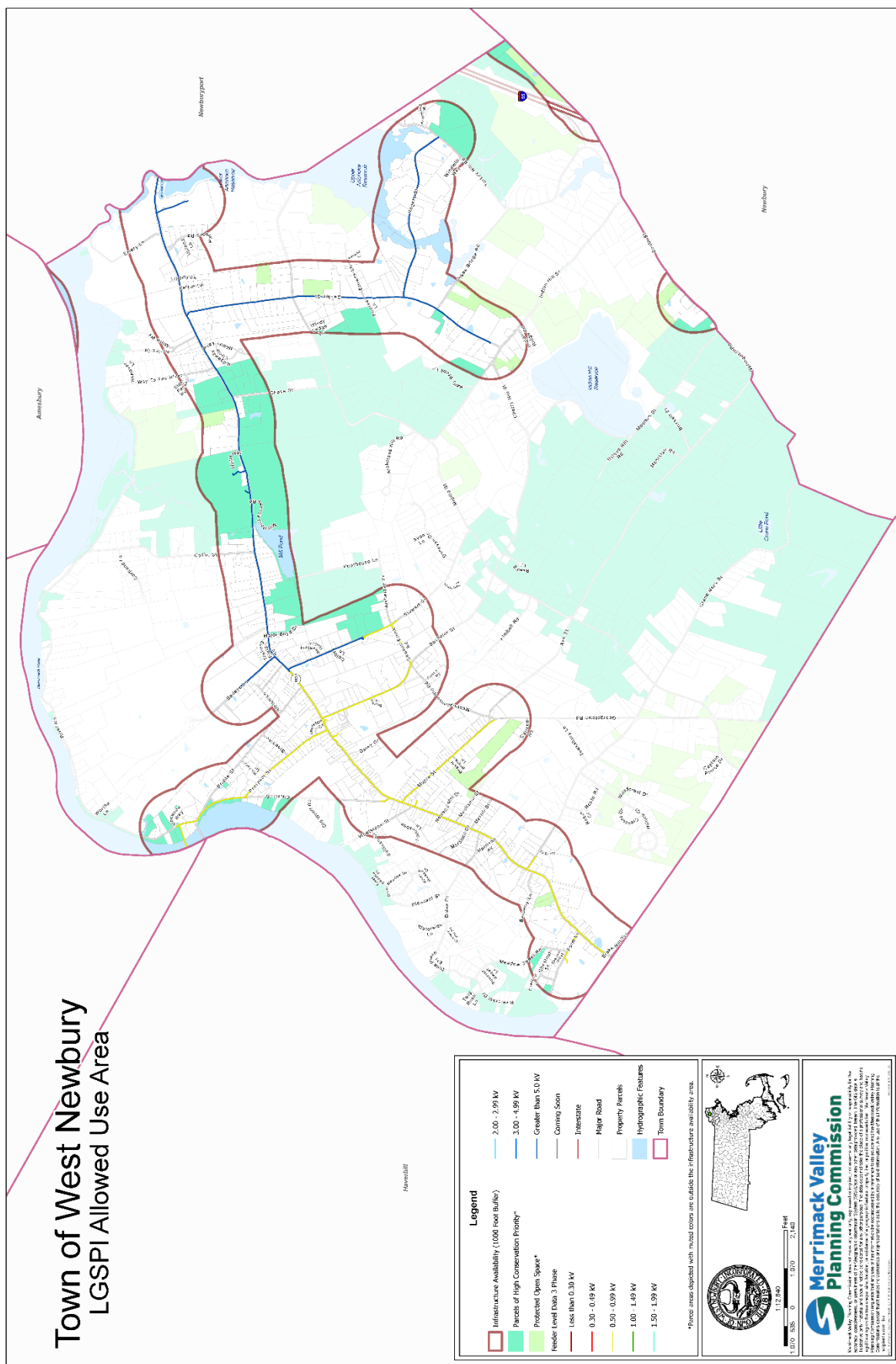
annual certification notices from the surety company or bank for surety bonds submitted to the Planning Board. As a condition of approval, an applicant shall bind itself to grant the necessary license or easement to the town to allow entry to remove the structures and stabilize the site. The town shall have the right but not the obligation to remove the facility.

5.G.9.~~12~~. Modifications

The Building Inspector shall determine if a proposed Modification to an LGSPI made after issuance of the required Building Permit shall require the filing and approval of a new Site Plan and Application with the Planning Board.

5.G.13

In the event of a conflict between any requirement or provision of this Section 5.G. and any other requirement or provision of this Zoning Bylaw, this Section 5.G shall control.



## APPENDIX D – 2023 Annual Town Meeting Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag & Seal of Massachusetts

**PETITION FOR INSERTION OF THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE  
IN THE WARRANT FOR THE West Newbury TOWN  
MEETING DATE OF: \_\_\_\_\_**

DATE and TIME received

We, the undersigned Registered Voters of the Town, hereby petition your honorable board to insert the following Article in the Warrant for the West Newbury Annual/Special Town Meeting of

### Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag & Seal of Massachusetts

**Whereas** the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers' first winters on their land;

**Whereas** members of the Native Nation for whom the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony, at Wessagusett (now Weymouth) in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived;

**Whereas** the Colonial broadsword held by a white hand above the head of the Indigenous person on the Massachusetts Flag and Seal is modeled after Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed for that purpose from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

**Whereas** the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Indigenous leaders that resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675-76 in defense of Native lands against Colonial encroachment;

**Whereas** the proportions of the body of the Indigenous person on the Flag and Seal were taken from (Continued on Back)

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO SIGNERS

For your signature to be valid, you must be a registered voter in the town of West Newbury, and your signature must be written substantially as registered.

If you are prevented by physical disability from writing you may authorize some person to write your name and residence in your presence.

#### SIGNER'S STATEMENT

We, the undersigned, are qualified voters of the Town of West Newbury and in accordance with the provisions of law, request the above article be inserted in the warrant for the meeting of: \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK	I SIGNATURE to be made in person with name substantially as registered (except in case of physical disability as stated above)	II NOW REGISTERED AT (street, number and apartment number, if any) (city or town will be the same as stated above)
1	✓ Robert Gerzon	6 River Meadow Dr.
2	✓ Jael Grossman	90 Maple St.
3	✓ Sheila Grossman	90 Maple St.
4	✓ Dianna Babel	4 upland lane
5	✓ Ella Fogel	4 upland lane
6	✓ Anne B. Madden	50 South St.
7	✓ Christine Gerzon	6 River Meadow Dr.
8	Martin Madden	50 South St. Wn
9	Annie Amato	105 Georgetown Rd
10	Bernadette Hani (tow)	105 Georgetown Rd
11	Cel apedev	130 Tuckshury Lane
12	Kitty Kraus (Kathryn)	13 Tuckshury Lane
13	Cynthia Walsh	28 Baileys lane
14	Austin Walsh	28 Baileys lane
15	Charlie Walsh	28 Baileys lane
16	Patricia Long Skidder	396 MAIN STREET
17	✓ Daniel Tobury	396 MAIN ST.

ATTENTION VOTERS: Before signing, read signer information on other side.

ATTENTION REGISTRARS: Before certifying signatures, see instructions to registrars below

**West Newbury**

**TOWN**

CHECK	I SIGNATURE to be made in person with name substantially as registered (except in case of physical disability as stated above)		II NOW REGISTERED AT (street, number and apartment number, if any) (city or town will be the same as stated above)	
18				
19				
20				

(CONTINUED) the skeleton of an Indigenous person unearthed in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from an Indigenous man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and the facial features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a “fine specimen of an Indian,” though not from Massachusetts;

**Whereas** the history of relations between Massachusetts since Colonial times and the Native Nations who continue to live within its borders includes the forced internment of thousands of so-called “praying Indians” on Deer Island, in Boston Harbor, where they died by the hundreds of exposure in the winter of 1675, the enslavement of Indigenous people in Boston, Bermuda, and the Caribbean Islands, the offering of 40 pounds sterling as bounty for the scalps of Indigenous men, women and children in Massachusetts beginning in 1686, increased to 100 pounds sterling for the scalps of Indigenous adult males by 1722, half that amount for Indigenous women and children;

**Whereas** Indigenous people were legally prohibited from even stepping foot into Boston from 1675 until 2004, when that Colonial law was finally repealed;

**Whereas** the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate government policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, occurred in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to an appreciation of the need for better relations between the descendants of the Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;

**Whereas** the land area once now known as the Town of West Newbury, shares a rich Native history with modern tribal Nations such as the Abenaki and the Mi'kmaq, who have lived here for thousands of years before the first colonial settlers arrived, in 1635;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of West Newbury hereby adopts this resolution in support of the work of the Special Commission Relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2021 and appointed by the Governor to **recommend changes to the current flag and seal of Massachusetts**, and in support of a new seal and motto for the Commonwealth that may better reflect our aspirations for harmonious and respectful relations between all people who now call Massachusetts home. The town clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Sen. Marc Pacheco and Rep. Antonio Cabral, co-chairs of the Joint Committee on State Administration, who serve as members of the Special Commission Relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, and to Rep. Leonard Mirra and Sen. Bruce Tarr, with the request that they support the work of the aforementioned Special Commission and a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth.

**WARNING – criminal penalty for unlawfully signing, altering, defacing, mutilating, destroying or suppressing this petition: fine of up to \$1,000 or imprisonment for up to 1 year.**





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**Role of the Finance Committee:** The Finance Committee is an appointed, standing committee consisting of six qualified voters. The Finance Committee is specifically chartered with the following responsibilities:

- Prepare recommendations regarding all Articles in the warrant, especially those involving the appropriation of money.
- Consider all municipal questions affecting the revenue, indebtedness or expenditures of the funds of the Town, and for this purpose the committee shall have access to all books and records of the Town.
- Present the Annual Budget to the Town.
- Confer with and advise the Board of Selectmen whenever so requested.
- One member of the Finance Committee shall be a member of the advisory Capital Improvements Committee.
- Authorize transfers from the Reserve Fund.
- Authorize year-end budget line item transfers.
- Declare a Snow Emergency to allow deficit spending of the Snow Removal budget.

In addition to these statutory responsibilities, the Finance Committee serves as your investigative agent to make sure that all proposed expenditures are thoroughly vetted before they come before the Town.

\*\*\*\*\*

## GLOSSARY

1. **Article:** The topic to be considered and voted at Town Meeting.
2. **Assessment:** The Board of Assessors judgment of the value of a property.
3. **Bond:** A means to raise money through the issuance of debt. The Town (borrower) promises in writing to repay a specified sum of money, alternately referred to as face value, par value or bond principal, to the buyer of the bond on a specified future date (maturity date), together with periodic interest at a specified rate. The term of a bond is always greater than one year.
4. **Capital Expenditure:** An expense for a tangible asset or project that costs at least \$10,000 and has a useful life of at least 5 years.
5. **Chapter 70:** The Chapter of Massachusetts law that governs the funding of the schools. The formula is designed to distribute state aid to help establish educational equity among municipal and regional school districts. It is also the name for the largest part of state funding to schools.
6. **Chapter 90:** The Chapter of Massachusetts law that governs the funding of roads and highway improvements. It is also the common name for the largest part of state funding to highways.
7. **Cherry Sheet:** State aid to the Town, so called as they used to be printed on red paper.
8. **Credit Rating:** The evaluation given by lenders indicating the Town's ability to repay a Loan or Bond. A good credit rating allows the Town to borrow at a lower interest rate.
9. **Free Cash:** Funds remaining from the operations of a previous fiscal year (June 30) which may be appropriated after they have been certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue. These include unspent appropriations and revenue collected in excess of estimates.

10. **Levy:** The revenue the Town can raise through real and personal property tax and motor vehicle excise taxes.
11. **Levy Limit:** The maximum tax amount the Town can levy in a given year. The limit can grow 2 ½% of the prior year's levy limit plus new growth and any overrides.
12. **New growth:** The taxing capacity and thereby revenue added by new construction and other increases in the property tax base.
13. **Operating Expenses:** The budget for routine, recurring expenses during the fiscal year starting on July 1 through June 30. It includes all labor and expenses. Typical examples are Police and Fire Department salaries, the Town's assessment from the Pentucket Regional School District, road repairs, snow removal and the solid waste pickup (trash) contract.
14. **Override:** Proposition 2 ½ allows a Town to increase the Town's taxes greater than 2 ½% by one of 3 methods, if approved by the voters:
  - a. Capital Outlay Expenditure Override– allows override of Prop 2 ½, only for a one-time purchase.
  - b. Debt Exclusion Override–allows over-ride of Prop 2 ½ only for the term of the debt repayment schedule.
  - c. General Override–increases the total tax beyond 2 ½% permanently.
15. **Pension Obligations:** Contributions to the Essex Regional Retirement Board and to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) for eligible Town employees to pay for negotiated benefits.
16. **Pentucket Regional School District (PRSD) Assessment:** What the Town must pay to the PRSD each year for the schools. It includes:
  - a. Minimum contribution established by the Massachusetts Department of Education based on Town demographics, real estate values, and income.
  - b. Other Assessment. Remainder of operating budget of the PRSD, which is calculated based on the number of West Newbury pupils in the district.
  - c. Capital assessment is the district wide debt service on borrowing also apportioned based on the number of West Newbury pupils in the district and some Green Repair town specific debt and reimbursements.
17. **Proposition 2 ½:** The state law that limits the amount of increase in total real estate taxes, which the Town may assess, to a maximum of 2 ½% per year on existing properties. It does not include taxes that may be levied on new construction or additions (so called new growth).
18. **Raise and Appropriate:** Town Meeting authorization to expend a certain amount of money for a specific purpose by raising that amount of taxes to pay for that expenditure.
19. **Sources of Revenue:** Local receipts collected by the Town such as boat and auto excise tax taxes, fines and interest, real estate property taxes, state aid and grants.
20. **Stabilization Account:** A general or special purpose savings account deposited into or withdrawn from at Town Meetings with a 2/3 vote. West Newbury uses this account to save for capital expenditures.

TOWN MEETINGS: IMPACTS ON TOWN ACCOUNTS

Balances Report		Estimated						Unreserved: Available for Appropriation				
		Town Stabilization	Pension Stabilization	School Stabilization	Town Free Cash	Water Stabilization	Water Retained Earnings	CPC Comm Housing	CPC Historical	CPC Open Space	CPC Undesig	CPC Reserve
1/1/2023		1,955,369	348,618	791,685	1,750,706	454,620	657,454	172,178	301,255	142,178	2,262,301	
<b>April 2023 Special Town Meeting</b>	<b>Art #</b>											
Snow & Ice deficit (NOTE: Amount may change prior to Town Meeting)	1				(56,384)							
Ash tree inoculation/treatment	2				(60,180)							
Invasive Species management	3				(20,000)							
Engineering study, 31 Dole Place	4				(50,000)							
Water, FY23 expenses above budget	5						(140,000)					
Water, Master Meter replacement	6					(3,865)						
Water, Continuous Chlorine Monitoring System	7					(19,900)						
Water, SCADA Remote Terminal Units	8					(7,340)						
Water, Wellfield Building #1 repairs	9					(16,610)						
Water, Cleaning wellfield #1 well heads	10						(9,975)					
Water, purchase equipment and materials (valves, hydrants, water mains, meter pits)	11						(30,000)					
Replace HVAC unit, Page School	12	(115,000)										
Supplemental funding, FY23 Police Cruiser	13				(25,000)							
Purchase Parks & Rec infield maintenance equipment	14				(4,425)							
Repair/replace field fencing at Pipestave	15				(9,960)							
Grant matching funds, MBTA Communities Act consulting	16				(7,500)							
<b>Estimated Balances after STM</b>		1,840,369	348,618	791,685	1,517,257	406,905	477,479	172,178	301,255	142,178	2,262,301	0
<b>April 2023 Annual Town Meeting</b>	<b>Art #</b>											
Transfer from School Stabilization	3			(200,000)								
Omnibus Budget	4	600,000										
Pension Liability Stab. Fund	9		67,514		(67,514)							
OPEB Stabilization Fund	10				(6,868)							
CPA FY24 Estimated Receipts	13							60,904	60,904	60,904	(30,452)	395,873
CPA: Land acquisition off Archelaus Hill / Poorhouse Lane	14									(142,178)	(207,822)	
CPA: Transfer funds to Affordable Housing Trust	15							(172,178)				
Replace DPW Sidewalk Plow	16	(172,000)										
Replace Fire Pickup Truck	17	(117,000)										
Route 113 corridor planning/design for ped/bike/equestrian safety improvements	18				(59,500)							
Restoration of Pipestave Field 6	19				(15,000)							
Page School security cameras	20				(8,300)							
Maintenance/cleanup of Town-owned cemeteries	21				(4,150)							
<b>Estimated Balances after ATM</b>		2,151,369	416,132	591,685	1,355,925	406,905	477,479	60,904	362,159	60,904	2,024,027	395,873

**NOTE:** Estimated Balances after ATM do not account for other changes in account balances, such as Turnbacks (underspent budget line items; and underspent prior appropriations); Bank Interest; and Earnings-on-Investments. These amounts, in general, tend to increase the balances in Free Cash, and the Stabilization account, above what are shown here as estimated amounts.  
Source: Angus Jennings, Town Manager, 4/5/23

REVENUES

4/1/2023

Revenues:	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	In Process FY23	Projected FY24	Comments
Prior fiscal year levy limit	13,212,301	13,653,481	14,138,156	14,732,479	15,339,296	15,890,512	MassDOR levy limit, FY19 to FY23
Amended Prior Year Growth							
Tax Limit 2.5	330,308	341,337	353,454	368,312	383,482	397,263	Increase from prior year levy limit allowed by prop 2 1/2
New Growth	110,872	143,338	240,869	238,505	167,734	144,211	All but FY24 is actual. FY24 est based on 80% of 5-year average
General Overrides							
Debt Exclusions	624,548	627,864	1,268,041	1,194,433	1,311,703	1,549,894	FY24 net excluded debt service per debt schedules
Cherry Sheet Revenues	382,276	391,576	372,865	410,121	438,821	460,504	FY24 est. based on MA DOR Prelim Cherry Sheet estimates 2/23/2023
Local Receipts	1,603,886	1,367,652	1,452,520	1,500,809	1,389,494	1,405,250	All but FY23 and FY24 is actual. FY23 was estimated in FY23 tax rate recap. FY24 forecast by Finance Department.
<b>Total Revenues</b>	16,264,191	16,525,248	17,825,905	18,444,659	19,030,530	19,847,634	
Reserve for Abatements/Exemptions	-138,279	-165,005	-101,824	-118,754	-10,000	-20,000	
Tax Title Purposes	-1,000	-75	-478	-1,000	-800	-2,000	Set aside of tax title purposes
Cherry Sheet Charges	-77,954	-102,244	-82,578	-84,268	-84,882	-89,669	Charges for services thru state and other agencies & Charter schools; FY24 estimated.
<b>Total Offsets</b>	-217,233	-267,324	-184,880	-204,022	-95,682	-111,669	
<b>Revenue-Less Offsets</b>	16,046,958	16,257,924	17,641,025	18,240,637	18,934,848	19,735,965	
Less Direct to Library	-7,378	-7,491	-8,650	-9,403	-9,893	-11,485	Goes directly to library; FY24 estimate
<b>Net to Revenues to General Fund</b>	16,039,580	16,250,433	17,632,375	18,231,234	18,924,955	19,724,480	
Less Prior Year Snow & Ice Deficit	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Less Prior Year Other Deficits	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<b>Net Available for Operating Expenses</b>	16,039,580	16,250,433	17,632,375	18,231,234	18,924,955	19,724,480	