



TOWN OF WEST NEWBURY

Michael P. McCarron
Town Clerk

381 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985
978-363-1100 ext. 110
978-363-1117 (Fax)
mmccarron@wnewbury.org

June 30, 2020

Mr. Angus Jennings, Town Manager
Town of West Newbury
381 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985

Dear Mr. Jennings:

The following is a report of expenditures voted at the Annual Town Meeting which convened on June 27, 2020 and adjourned the same date, together with other votes affecting the finances of the Town. Also, included with this report is a schedule of the funding of appropriations.

Pursuant to the Warrant issued by the Selectmen on April 28, 2020, which was posted on April 28, 2020 according to law by Constable Brian Richard, who made proper return of his doings thereon, the Annual Town Meeting was to be held on June 1, 2020 at the Town Annex, 379 Main Street, West Newbury. Due to the state of emergency for the Covid 19 crises, K.C. Swallow, the Town Moderator acting pursuant to the powers vested in her by MGL c. 39 sec. 10A, postponed the Annual Town Meeting until June 27, 2020 to be held outside in the bandstand and ballfield located behind the Town Annex, 379 Main Street, West Newbury, MA The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by the Moderator Kathleen C. Swallow, upon report of the Board of Registrars of Voters of a quorum of 40 or more registered voters (the Board of Selectmen had reduced the number required for a quorum for this Annual Town Meeting from 90 to 40). The Board of Registrars announced that 272 voters were in attendance. The Town Clerk read the return of service. The Moderator introduced Town Officials and reviewed new Town Meeting procedures to address any changes in the conduct of this Meeting. There were no objections to non-resident Town Officials who were in attendance addressing the meeting, if necessary. At 11:03 AM, the Moderator recessed the Annual Town Meeting to open the Special Town Meeting. The Annual Town Meeting was re-opened at 11:43 A.M. following adjournment of the Special Town Meeting. The record of the Special

Town Clerk's Report

Town Meeting follows the record of the Annual Town Meeting. The reconvened Annual Town Meeting continued with discussion under Article 4 of the Annual Town Meeting warrant.

ARTICLE 1. Calling for the election of Town officers was passed over for action at the Annual Town Election on June 3, 2020.

ARTICLE 2. To hear and act upon the reports of Town officers and committees.

Due to the Covid 19 crisis, the Town Moderator ruled that no reports of town officers and committees would be heard in this meeting.

ARTICLE 3. (The Budget) The Finance Committee Booklet contained the Finance Committee's Fiscal Year 2021 recommended budget and also a recommended budget from the Selectmen which varied from the Finance Committee's recommended budget on a number of Line Items. The Moderator addressed the procedure for adoption of the Line Item Budget for Fiscal Year 2021. For purposes of this Article the recommendation of the Finance Committee is considered the main motion. Each Line Item is considered a separate appropriation and the main motion for each line item may be considered separately. Any Town Meeting member wishing to discuss a line item or move a different amount may call out "Hold" when the line item number is read. Amending a line item requires two steps; first a motion to amend the main motion (the Finance Committee recommendation) and then a motion to approve the main motion, as amended. The Moderator read each Line Item number.

Holds were called on the following Line Item numbers:

Line 2 – Selectmen Salary & Wages. Selectman David Archibald called upon the Town Manager, Angus Jennings, to explain this amount. No motion to amend was given.

Line 10 – Conservation Commission Salary and Wages. Selectman David Archibald wanted to have the Town adopt the Board of Selectmen's salary recommendation. The Town voted to adopt the Finance Committee's recommendation of \$27,965.00.

Line 15 – Police Salary and Wages Selectman David Archibald moved to reduce the Police OT Wages to \$50,000.00. The Town Moderator declared that she needed to count the vote. The count was 83 in favor of the motion and 136 opposed. The Motion to amend was defeated. The Finance Committee recommendation was adopted.

Line 26 DPW Town Bldgs Operating Expenses Selectman Richard Parker moved to amend this line item to add \$2396 to this Line Item to pay for warranty expenses for EV charging stations. The Motion to amend failed.

Line 30 Veterans Services- Selectman David Archibald moved to amend the amount for Other Assessments Veterans Services from \$10,000 to \$24,000. The motion to amend passed by majority vote.

Town Clerk's Report

Line 31 Library- Library Trustee Wendy Reed explained that the Library Board was seeking additional staff assistance but due to the Covid 19 crises was withdrawing that request at present. The Finance Committee recommendation was adopted

Finance Committee Member Gary Roberts moved that the amounts of money set forth in the printed report of the finance committee be appropriated, as amended hereby, for the several purposes therein itemized, each numbered item being considered as a separate appropriation, and that the same be expended only for such purposes. .

The Moderator declared that the motion passed by majority vote. It was voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,552,680.00 for the Total Line Item Budget.

The approved Line Item Budget is attached hereto.

At 11:03 AM, the Town voted to recess the Annual Town Meeting to take up the Special Town Meeting.

At 11:43 AM, upon the adjournment of the Special Town Meeting, the Annual Town Meeting resumed.

ARTICLE 4. The Finance Committee gave no recommendation on this Article.

No instructions were offered for the Water Commissioners in accordance with Chapter 38 of the Acts of 1936.

ARTICLE 5. The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to appropriate, in anticipation of Water Department revenue, the sum of \$861,446 of which \$205,579 for Salaries and Wages which include \$1,700 for Water Commissioners stipends, \$27,141 for Insurances, \$379,896 for Expenses, \$176,920 for Debt Service, \$20,000 for Extraordinary and Unforeseen and \$51,910 for Indirect Cost.

The Moderator declared that the motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 6. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved that the Town take no action on this Article

The Moderator declared that the motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 7. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved that the Town take no action on this Article

Town Clerk's Report

The Moderator declared the motion passed unanimously

ARTICLE 8. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to raise and appropriate the sum of \$328,600 to be placed in the special purpose municipal stabilization fund established pursuant to MGL Chapter 40 Section 5B (the School Stabilization Fund) in order to fund capital expenditures for school related building projects.

The Moderator declared that the motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 9. The Finance Committee recommended approval of the Article, but with a different appropriation.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer the sum of \$652,340 from the School Stabilization Fund to pay the debt service associated with the building of the new Middle/High School for the Pentucket Regional School District.

Finance Committee Member Forbes Drury moved to amend the Motion to the sum of \$247,647.00.

The motion to amend passed.

The Town Moderator called for a vote on the amended motion. A two thirds majority voted was required. The vote was 272 in favor and 18 opposed.

Selectman Richard Parker called for a reconsideration of the vote and the Town Moderator declared it out of order at this time but would consider such a motion after the vote on the last article.

ARTICLE 10. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer the sum of \$21,965.20 from the Septic Loan Revolving Account for the repayment of debt service.

The Moderator declared that the motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 11. The Finance Committee recommended that the Town take no action.

Selectman Richard Parker moved that the Town take no action on this Article.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 12. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Town Clerk's Report

ARTICLE 12. *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 Fiscal Year 2021, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation, or take any other action thereto. By request of the Community Preservation Committee.*

- *Appropriate \$21,620 from FY 2021 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses.*
- *Reserve \$43,240 from FY 2021 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve.*
- *Reserve \$43,240 from FY 2021 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve.*
- *Reserve \$43,240 from FY 2021 estimated revenues for Open Space & Recreation Reserve.*
- *Reserve \$281,060 from FY 2021 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve.*

Selectman Richard Parker moved to allocate and/or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues the amounts as set forth in Article 12.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 13. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer from Community Preservation Act funds, the sum of \$175,000.00 with \$148,308.41 from the Open Space and Recreation Fund Balance, and \$26,691.50 from the Undesignated Fund Balance, in conformity with the applications submitted, to purchase a conservation restriction in conjunction with any other party on three parcels of land containing approximately 38 acres of land, located off Middle Street and as shown on Assessors' Map R-27 as Parcels 28, 28A and 29. Said lots are also described in the deeds recorded with the Southern Essex District Registry of Deeds in Book 6703, Page 590, and Book 6547, Page 419. Said conservation restriction is to be conveyed to the Town of West Newbury; said purchase to be subject to approval of the conservation restriction by all involved parties, and that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to execute, acknowledge and deliver all grants, agreements and such other instruments, including but not limited to the conservation restriction, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 184 or any other applicable statute or regulation, as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of West Newbury to effectuate the purchase of said conservation restriction.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed by majority vote.

ARTICLE 14. The Finance Committee recommended disapproval with two in favor and three opposed.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer from Community Preservation Act funds, Historic Resources Reserve, the sum of \$85,000 for the payment of debt service and related borrowing costs authorized at the November 4, 2019 Special Town Meeting

Town Clerk's Report

associated with the Preservation and Restoration of the Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Building.

The Moderator declared that this Motion passed by majority vote.

ARTICLE 15. The Finance Committee recommended that the Town take no action on this Article.

Selectman Richard Parker moved that the Town take no action on this Article.

The Moderator declared that this Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 16. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$304,000 to replace and/or improve the fire alarm system in the Page School. Any remaining funds will be closed out to the undesignated fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2022.

Since this was an appropriation from a stabilization account, the Moderator declared a two thirds vote was necessary.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed by a vote of 200 in favor and 1 opposed.

ARTICLE 17. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$40,000 to replace failing sections of concrete flooring throughout the Page School. Any remaining funds will be closed out to the undesignated fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2023.

Since this was an appropriation from a stabilization account, the Moderator declared a two thirds vote was necessary.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 18. The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer from free cash the sum of \$19,000 to replace the police cruiser radios and portable radios Any remaining funds will be closed out to the undesignated fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2021.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed by majority vote.

ARTICLE 19. The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article.

Town Clerk's Report

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer from free cash the sum of \$4,000 for the purchase by the Fire Department of emergency equipment – ice/water rescue suits. Any remaining funds will be closed out to the undesignated fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2021.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 20. The Finance Committee recommended disapproval of this Article.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to transfer from free cash the sum of \$7,500 for the purchase by the Fire Department of emergency equipment – (2) 20” Dual Power Fans. Any remaining funds will be closed out to the undesignated fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2021.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 21. The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article.

Selectman moved that the Town accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22H.

The Moderator declared that the Motion passed by majority vote.

ARTICLE 22. The Finance Committee gave no recommendation on this Article.

Selectman Richard Parker moved that the Town take no action on this Article.

The Moderator declared that the motion for no action passed by majority vote.

ARTICLE 23. The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to limit the total amount that may be expended from each revolving fund established pursuant to Section XL of the Bylaws of the Town of West Newbury, to wit: By request of the Board of Selectmen.

- *Section 5.1 Summer Recreation Revolving Fund* \$ 44,350
- *Section 5.2 GAR Library Fines and Penalties Revolving Fund* \$ 10,000
- *Section 5.3 Police Vehicle Revolving Fund* \$ 20,000
- *Section 5.4 Pipestave/Mill Pond Care and Main Revolving Fund* \$ 5,000

Selectman Richard Parker moved that the Town vote to limit the total amount that may be expended from each revolving fund as set forth in Article 23.

The Moderator declared that the motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 24. The Finance Committee gave no recommendation on this Article.

Town Clerk's Report

Selectman Richard Parker moved that the Town take no action on this Article.

The Moderator declared that the Motion for no action passed unanimously.

Selectman Richard Parker moved to reconsider the vote on Article 9 in order to proffer an appropriation between the Finance Committee's recommended appropriation and the Board of Selectmen's recommended appropriation. The Moderator called for a vote on the Motion. The Moderator declared that the Motion for Reconsideration failed.

Upon the motion of Selectman Glenn Kemper, it was voted to adjourn and dissolve the 2020 Annual Town Meeting at 12:45 P.M.

Attest:

Michael P. McCarron
Town Clerk

Cc: Board of Selectmen
Board of Assessors
Town Accountant (2)
Finance Committee