



TOWN OF WEST NEWBURY

James RW Blatchford
Town Clerk

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West Newbury, MA 01985
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Townclerk@wnewbury.org

May 5, 2023

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 items voted at the Spring Special Town Meeting which convened on April 24, 2023 and adjourned the same date, together with other votes affecting the finances of the Town.

Pursuant to the Warrant issued by the Select Board on April 7, 2023, which was posted on April 10, 2023 according to law by Constable Brian Richard, who made proper return of his doings thereon, the Spring Special Town Meeting was to be held on April 24, 2023 at the Town Annex, 379 Main Street, West Newbury, MA. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by the Town Clerk James RW Blatchford, upon report of a quorum of 90 or more registered voters. 280 voters were in attendance.

ELECTION OF TEMPORARY MODERATOR

With the elected Town Moderator Kathleen C. Swallow absent, the Town Clerk presided over the election of a Temporary Town Moderator for this Town Meeting.

Select Board member David Archibald nominated Michael P. McCarron as Temporary Town Moderator.

The motion was seconded from the floor by a member of Town Meeting.

Hearing no other nominations, the Town Clerk closed nominations.

There was a motion that was properly seconded from the floor of Town Meeting that the Chair of the Select Board cast the sole ballot for Michael McCarron as Temporary Town Moderator.

With there being no discussion, the Town Clerk called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

The Chair of the Select Board David Archibald cast the sole ballot for Temporary Town Moderator. After having reviewed and counted the ballot cast, the Town Clerk declared Michael McCarron had been elected Temporary Town Moderator. The Town Clerk administered the Oath of Office and swore in the Town Moderator.

The Town Moderator asked the Town Clerk to read the return of service. There were no objections to non-resident Town Officials who were in attendance addressing the meeting, if necessary.

ARTICLE 1.

The Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of this Article.

Select Board member David Archibald moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$54,198.43 to fund the existing year snow and ice deficit during fiscal year 2023.

The motion was seconded from the floor by a member of Town Meeting.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

ARTICLE 2.

The Finance Committee recommended disapproval of this article 2-3-1.

Select Board member Richard Parker moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$60,180 to fund an inoculation treatment program for ash trees within public rights-of-way against the effects of the Emerald Ash Borer, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the general account fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

Tree Committee Chair Fred Chanania spoke in favor of this article, explaining the four different tiers of West Newbury Ash Trees.

Finance Committee member Walter Burmeister moved to amend the amount of the article from \$60,180 to \$18,700.

The motion was seconded from the floor by a member of Town Meeting.

Mr. Burmeister spoke in favor of lowering the amount expended and explained why the majority of Finance Committee members felt the lower amount was more appropriate of an expenditure.

With there being no further discussion on the amendment, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion failed.

With there being no further discussion on the original motion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

ARTICLE 3.

The Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of this Article.

Open Space Committee member Carol Decker moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 to fund professional invasive species management on town-owned land, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the general account fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2025.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

Ms. Decker spoke briefly on the current situation regarding invasive plant species in town. With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

ARTICLE 4.

The Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of this Article.

Select Board member Wendy Reed moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to fund an engineering study related to property located at 31 Dole Place, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the general account fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

There was a question from the floor of Town Meeting regarding the Article and if a similar study had already been conducted. The Town Manager explained that a similar study had been done however the previous water quality testing had expired and needed to be renewed as well as this will be peer reviewing the cost estimates to develop a potential future water source on this site.

With there being no further discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

ARTICLE 5.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Water Commissioner Robert Janes moved that the Town vote to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of \$140,000 for the purchase of water from the City of

Newburyport and to replenish the line items within the FY 2023 Water Operating Budget that were utilized to pay water bills, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the Water enterprise fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2023.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

Mr. Janes presented a report from the Board of Water Commissioners regarding the report naming West Newbury Water Department having an outstanding performance by a small water system in Massachusetts. Additionally, Mr. Janes thanked Mike Gootée the outgoing Water Superintendent and all Water Department staff for their efforts on behalf of the Town of West Newbury. He noted that Mr. Gootée will be recognized at a ceremony at the State House on May 11th.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 6.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Water Commissioner Robert Janes moved that the Town vote to transfer from Water Stabilization the sum of \$3,865 for the purchase of equipment and materials to replace the current Master Meter, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the Water Stabilization fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2023.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

The Moderator noted that passage requires a 2/3 vote. With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 7.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Water Commissioner Robert Janes moved that the Town vote to transfer from Water Stabilization the sum of \$19,900 for the purchase of equipment and materials for a continuous chlorine monitoring system, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the Water Stabilization fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

The Moderator noted that passage requires a 2/3 vote. With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 8.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Water Commissioner Robert Janes moved that the Town vote to transfer from Water Stabilization the sum of \$7,340 for the purchase of equipment and materials for SCADA Remote Terminal Units, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the Water Stabilization fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

The Moderator noted that passage requires a 2/3 vote. With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 9.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Water Commissioner Robert Janes moved that the Town vote to transfer from Water Stabilization the sum of \$16,610 for the costs of equipment, materials and labor for repairs to the original Wellfield #1 building, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the Water Stabilization fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

The Moderator noted that passage requires a 2/3 vote. With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 10.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Water Commissioner Robert Janes moved that the Town vote to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of \$9,975 for the purchase of equipment and materials to be used for cleaning of the well heads located at Wellfield #1, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the Water Retained Earnings fund at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 11.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Water Commissioner Robert Janes moved that the Town vote to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of \$30,000 for the purchase of equipment and materials to be used for the repair and/or replacement of valves, hydrants, water mains, meter pits and/or any other devices that are part of the Town's water distribution system, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the Water Retained Earnings at the close of Fiscal Year 2025.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 12.

The Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of this Article.

Select Board member Richard Parker moved that the Town take no action on this article. Noting that the Select Board had voted to fund this project with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

The motion was seconded from the floor by a member of Town Meeting.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried, with no action being taken on this article.

ARTICLE 13.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 5-0-0.

Select Board member Wendy Reed moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000 to fund the purchase of a police cruiser for use by the Police Department, and to dispose of the existing vehicle in accordance with Town policy for disposition of surplus property, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the general account fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2023.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

ARTICLE 14.

The Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of this Article.

Park and Recreation Commissioner Brad Buschur moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,425 to fund the purchase of an ABI Infield Rascal

Pro infield maintainer or similar product for purposes of field maintenance, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the general account fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 15.

The Finance Committee unanimously recommended approval of this Article.

Park and Recreation Commissioner Brad Buschur moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$9,960 to fund the replacement and repair of the soccer field fencing at Pipestave Athletic Field, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the general account fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2024.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 16.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of this Article 4-2-0.

Select Board member Wendy Reed moved that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,500 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, with any remaining funds to be closed out to the general account fund balance at the close of Fiscal Year 2025.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

The Town Moderator recognized Dr. Jillian Knowles from the floor of Town Meeting.

Dr. Knowles moved that the Town vote to approve the resolution as printed on page 36 and 37 in the Finance Committee Booklet presented at Town Meeting.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member Wendy Reed.

Dr. Knowles spoke in favor of adopting the resolution.

The Moderator reminded Town Meeting that this is a non-binding resolution. With there being no further discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

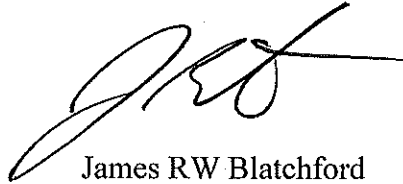
Select Board member Richard Parker moved that the Town dissolve the Special Spring Town Meeting.

The motion was seconded by Select Board member David Archibald.

With there being no discussion, the Town Moderator called for a vote, and declared that the Motion carried.

Town Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Attest:



James RW Blatchford
Town Clerk

cc: Town Accountant (2)
Select Board
Finance Committee
Park and Recreation Commission
Water Commission
DPW Director
Police Chief
Conservation Agent

TOWN MEETINGS: IMPACTS ON TOWN ACCOUNTS

Balances Report	1/1/2023	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
April 2023 Special Town Meeting	Art #	1,955,369	348,618	791,685	1,750,706	454,620	657,454	172,178	301,255	142,178	2,262,301	
Snow & Ice deficit	1				(54,198)							
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)					
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)							
Estimated Balances after STM		1,955,369	348,618	791,685	1,519,443	406,905	477,479	172,178	301,255	142,178	2,262,301	0