

Finance Committee Report



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – MAY 2, 2022
MARBLEHEAD VETERANS MIDDLE SCHOOL
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
MARBLEHEAD, MASSACHUSETTS

Photo By Colleen King

TO THE RESIDENTS OF MARBLEHEAD

The Finance Committee once again respectfully welcomes the opportunity to present this report and to make its recommendations regarding the Town of Marblehead's Fiscal Year 2023 budget and other financial matters to be voted on at the 2022 Annual Town Meeting.

The Finance committee makes its recommendations to Town meeting based upon our own review of all available information. While the committee hopes that our insight is a benefit to Town meeting, and while we further believe that our recommendations are both thoughtful and thorough, it is ultimately up to Town meeting to review what the proponents of the articles have presented, to weigh the arguments for and against each article, and to vote the most beneficial course of action for our town.

The Fiscal Year 2023 budget cycle commenced in the fall of 2021, which is earlier than past budget cycles, with the goal of providing Town Finance with solid draft budget estimates prior to the annual "State of the Town" fiscal analysis presentation in January. During the budget season, the Finance Committee formed smaller liaison groups to work with department heads, managers, administrators, and elected officials to review their respective budgets in a series of posted liaison meetings. The Finance Committee held budget meetings to discuss and vote on recommendations of the individual department budgets. The Finance Committee then held an open public hearing on the Town Warrant and voted to make the recommendations contained in this report to Town Meeting.

The Finance Committee is pleased to report that we will present to you a balanced budget recommendation for the seventeenth consecutive year without proposing a general override of Proposition 2½ to achieve that balance.

To develop the FY23 budget, the following revenue assumptions were made:

- The statutory 2.5% increase on the Town's tax levy and projected new growth combine to generate approximately 3% more tax revenues to fund municipal services.
- Net State Aid assumes level funding from FY22 levels.
- Local receipts are estimated to be approximately 90% of FY21 actuals.

On the expense side, assumptions were made based on level-funded expense budgets, adjusted for contractual obligations. Below is a summary of key cost drivers:

- Salaries and Wages are projected to increase by approximately 3.0% – 4.0%
- Health insurance budget is projected to increase by approximately 5.0%
- Pension assessment increased by approximately 8.5%

At the 2020 Annual Town Meeting, the Town created a general fund Stabilization Fund and this year, for the second time, the Town is appropriating \$250,000 to it, which will bring the overall balance in the fund to \$500,000. This practice annually will ensure the Town has a sufficient reserve fund balance over time. It will also effectively account for, protect, and provide increased transparency on the Town's reserve funds. Once approved, the only way the Town can access these funds is through a 2/3rds vote of Town Meeting.

The Town continues to enjoy a AAA bond rating for the thirteenth consecutive year. This is the result of the Town's long-term consistency regarding budget oversight, strong cooperation from the departments and schools on service levels within level funding expectations, and proactive management of the largest cost drivers that impact the entire Town.

Based on forecasts prepared by Town Finance and presented in January at the annual “State of the Town” public meeting, although the Fiscal Year 2023 budget presented in this year’s report is balanced, it is expected that next year’s Fiscal Year 2024 budget, adjusted for all contractual obligations, will not balance without an operating budget proposition 2 ½ override.

The Town of Marblehead faces a structural budget challenge. This challenge exists due to recurring costs structurally outpacing recurring revenues and the constraints of Massachusetts Proposition 2½. According to this law enacted in 1980, Massachusetts cities and towns cannot increase the total property tax levy by more than 2.5% over the prior year, unless the increase is approved by voters. The law does permit additional increases as a result of “new growth” in real estate property. For towns like Marblehead that rely mostly on residential property tax revenue and have limited “new growth,” it can be difficult to fully fund recurring expenses. These factors are leading to a situation where an operating budget override will likely be required next year to maintain a “level services” budget. Put differently, Marblehead will likely require an override next year to simply maintain the same Town and School services that residents currently receive.

When Proposition 2½ was initially put into place by ballot measure, it was explicitly acknowledged that towns and cities would, from time to time, pass overrides. Overrides were not envisioned as a sign of mismanagement or overspending, but rather as tools to ensure transparency and allow voters the opportunity to participate in tax levy decisions. The Finance Committee expects swift action to be taken to address the structural budget challenge beginning in the months immediately following Town meeting. A coordinated effort between Town Finance, our Town Administrator, the Board of Selectmen, all town departments, commissions, and boards is required. A well thought out plan to address the structural budget challenge needs to be developed. Various options need to be considered and ultimately a sound conclusion needs to be reached. We as a Finance committee are committed to participating in this effort and being involved from start to finish. We are confident that we, as a community, can successfully address our challenges.

We would like to thank all members of our current Finance Committee, the majority of whom are new this year, for all of their contributions to another successful budget review process. We’d also like to thank and commend the Board of Selectmen, all department heads, municipal employees, appointed and elected boards, and involved citizens for their collaboration. We specifically wish to express our thanks to Finance Director Steve Poulos and the Town’s accounting department for the significant time, resources, and guidance that they dedicated to this budget process. Finally, we would like to thank Interim Town Administrator John McGinn for his counsel, support, and encouragement.

Respectfully submitted,

Alec Goolsby
Chair, Marblehead Finance Committee

Emily Belfbecker
Vice Chair, Marblehead Finance Committee

C. Pat Franklin
Vice Chair, Marblehead Finance Committee

Fiscal 2021 RESERVE FUND

The following is an accounting of funds entrusted to the Finance Committee for Fiscal 2021 Reserve Fund use.

Reserve Funds – Fiscal 2021 ending June 30, 2021.....\$144,000.00

DEPARTMENTS FUNDS TRANSFERRED TO:

Tree Expense	\$7,995.00
Selectman Expense.....	\$40,000.00
Finance Expense.....	\$14,000.00
Veterans Expense.....	\$3,500.00
Library Expense.....	\$24,300.54

Total Transferred.....\$89,795.54

Returned to Treasury.....\$54,204.46

Fiscal 2022 RESERVE FUND

The following detail represents funds voted to various departments by the Finance Committee from the Reserve Fund covering the period July 1, 2021 thru April 15, 2022.

Reserve Funds – Fiscal 2022 ending June 30, 2022..... \$144,000.00

DEPARTMENT FUNDS TRANSFERRED TO:

Total Transferred.....\$0.00

Balance Remaining.....\$144,000.00

Respectfully Submitted,

MARBLEHEAD FINANCE COMMITTEE

Alec Goolsby, Chair
Emily Belfbecker, Vice Chair
C. Pat Franklin, Vice Chair
Cameron Staples
Timothy Shotmeyer
Terra Samuels
Molly Teets
Michael O'Neil

Article 1 Articles in Numerical Order

To see if the Town will vote to adopt an order requiring articles in the Warrant to be taken up in their numerical order, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 2 Reports of Town Officers and Committees

To receive the report of the Town Accountant, the reports of the Town Officers, and special committees, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 3 Assume Liability

To see if the Town will assume liability in the manner provided by Section 29 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws, for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Massachusetts Highway Department for the improvement, development, maintenance and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers and streams, harbors, tidewaters, foreshores and shores along a public beach in accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws and authorize the Selectmen to execute and deliver a bond of indemnity therefore to the Commonwealth, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted

Article 4 Accept Trust Property

To see if the Town will vote to accept certain trust property, gifts or grants to be administered by the Town or modify the terms thereof, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by Town Counsel.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: There is no trust property to accept at this time.

Article 5 Lease Town Property

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to let or lease such land, buildings or structures owned by the Town on such terms as they may determine, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted.

Article 6 Unpaid Accounts

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to provide for the payment of any unpaid accounts brought forward from previous years, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$53,831.83 be appropriated as follows:

School	20,022.21
Selectmen	7,268.00
Finance	6,797.82
Fire	315.28
Workers Comp	5,064.75
Medicare B	5,962.80
Highway	7,700.97
Board of Health	700.00
TOTAL	53,831.83

Article 7 Contracts in Excess of Three Years

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to G. L. c. 30B § 12, to enter into contracts in the best interest of the Town in excess of three (3) years but not more than ten (10) years. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted.

Article 8 Departmental Revolving Funds

To see if the Town will vote to fix the maximum amount that may be spent during FY 2023 beginning July 1, 2022 for the revolving funds established in the town bylaws for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with G.L. c. 44 § 53E 1/2, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the maximum amount to be spent during FY2023 be \$4,042,788 as summarized below:

FUND	SPENDING LIMIT
Animal Control	\$ 20,000
Council on Aging	\$ 250,000
Board of Health, commercial waste disposal	\$ 1,485,000
Board of Health, vaccines	\$ 10,000
Highway, street opening fees	\$ 150,000
Sump pump improvement	\$ 10,300
Historical Commission Gift Shop	\$ 25,000
Recreation and Parks	\$ 1,000,000
Marblehead Public Schools, Special Education	\$ 1,000,000
Conservation fines	\$ 75,000
Storm Water bylaw	\$ 10,000
Hobbs Memorial Building	\$ 7,488
TOTAL	\$ 4,042,788

Article 9 Purchase of Equipment of Several Departments

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate any sums of money for the purchase and/or lease of equipment for several departments of the Town, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade old equipment as part of the purchase price and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$722,160.00 be appropriated, and to meet this appropriation; \$188,100 is to be transferred from Waste Revolving Funds, \$52,660 from Cemetery Sale of Lots, \$199,000 from Sewer Department Retained Earnings, \$66,000 from Water Department Retained Earnings, and \$216,400.00 is to be raised by taxation. To include the following:

Health/Waste Department	Roll-Off Truck
Cemetery Department	JD 2032R Compact Utility Tractor
Cemetery Department	JD 60 Snow Blower Attachment
Cemetery Department	Sullair portable air Compressor
Cemetery Department	Cemetery Software
Police Department	Traffic related speed monitors
Fire Department	Portable Radios
Fire Department	New frame for Engine 1
Fire Department	Undercoating of Apparatus and Utility vehicles
Sewer Department	F150 Crew Cab
Sewer Department	F550 Dump Body
Sewer Department	F350 Utility Body
Water Department	F350 Utility Body

Article 10 Lease Purchase

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44 §21C, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into lease purchase agreements for the lease and purchase of vehicles and certain capital for a period of time not in excess of the useful life of the property to be procured on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all actions necessary to administer and implement such agreement and to fund said lease purchase through an annual appropriation in the Capital Budget or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$396,155.56 is to be raised through taxation. \$191,596 is for existing leases and \$204,559.56 is for new leases to include the following:

DPW/Tree/Drain	International Truck HV507 SFA with Wing Plow
Park & Recreation	Wide Area Mower
School Department	Pick-up Truck with Plow
Police	2 police cruisers

Article 11 Capital Improvements for Public Buildings

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to existing Town or School buildings, infrastructure, and the purchase of necessary equipment including computer hardware and software to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$24,793,917 be appropriated, and to meet this appropriation: \$427,400 is to be raised by taxation, \$2,219 is to be transferred from available funds, and \$24,364,298 is to be raised by issuances of debt subject to a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion.

Comment: The request for the various capital improvements, technology improvements, roof replacements, and road and sidewalk improvements included in Article 11 to be raised by issuances of debt subject to a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion was presented to the Finance Committee as a request that will allow the town to address significant infrastructure, building and facility needs over the next five years in line with the Town's five-year Capital Improvement Plan. It is the Finance Committee's understanding that the actual debt to be issued will be spread out over the next 5 years as other debts currently issued roll off. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to support Article 11.

Capital Improvements - Article 11

Capital Improvements for Public Buildings		Amount	Total Request	Tax Levy	Available Funds		Issuance of Debt
Police Station	Improvement to locker room flooring and new lockers	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000			
Old Town House	Remove & re-flash 2nd story window	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000			
Old Town House	Paint building	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000			
Animal Shelter	Install mini Split heating system	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000			
Tower Way DPW / W&S headquarters	Upgrade vehicle fuel exhaust in garage	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000			
Tower Way DPW / W&S headquarters	various wiring, plumbing, building repairs	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000			
Tower Way DPW / W&S headquarters	Replace Salt Shed	\$ 975,000	\$ 975,000				\$ 975,000
Seawall related issues	Replacement of Railings at Grace Oliver's	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000			
Old Burial Hill	Restoration of Grave stones	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000			
Hobbs House	Repair Wall in rear of Garage, Soffit & Fascia, install gutters	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000			
Hobbs House	Replace furnace	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000			
Cemetery	Office Alarm system	\$ 2,219	\$ 2,219		\$ 2,219		
Okos Building	Exterior Trim, Sills and gutters	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000			
Various Town Buildings	Minor roof repairs	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000			
Abbot Hall	Replace Sprinkler Heads on Fire supression system	\$ 21,400	\$ 21,400	\$ 21,400			
School Department	Replace Main Fire Alarm Panel at High School	\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000			
School Department	Replace Boilers at High School	\$ 220,000	\$ 220,000				\$ 220,000
	Total Public Building Article		\$ 1,624,619	\$ 427,400	\$ 2,219	\$ -	\$ 1,195,000
Technology Improvements							
School Department	HVAC Computer Contol systems (Village, Vets, MHS)	\$ 740,000	\$ 740,000				\$ 740,000
School Department	SMART Panels - High School	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000				\$ 200,000
School Department	SMART Panels - MVMS	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000				\$ 165,000
School Department	SMART Panels - Village	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000				\$ 150,000
School Department	SMART Panels - Glover	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000				\$ 150,000
Finance Department	Town Departments IT equipment & software upgrades	\$ 312,000	\$ 312,000				\$ 312,000
	Total Technology		\$ 1,717,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,717,000
Roof Replacements and major roof renovations							
School Department	Replace Roof at High School & HVAC Units on Field House	\$ 5,360,000	\$ 5,360,000				\$ 5,360,000
School Department	Replace D Wing Roof - Veterans	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000				\$ 600,000
Police Station	Roof Replacement	\$ 285,000	\$ 285,000				\$ 285,000
Mary Alley Building	Roof Replacement	\$ 480,000	\$ 480,000				\$ 480,000
Community Center	Roof Replacement	\$ 871,700	\$ 871,700				\$ 871,700
Franklin Street Fire Station	Roof & Gutter Replacement	\$ 130,598	\$ 130,598				\$ 130,598
Tower Way DPW / W&S headquarters	Roof Replacement	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 1,250,000				\$ 1,250,000
	Total Roof		\$ 8,977,298	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,977,298
Roads & Sidewalk Improvements							
	Year 1		\$ 2,495,000				\$ 2,495,000
	Year 2		\$ 2,495,000				\$ 2,495,000
	Year 3		\$ 2,495,000				\$ 2,495,000
	Year 4		\$ 2,495,000				\$ 2,495,000
	Year 5		\$ 2,495,000				\$ 2,495,000
	5 Year Total- Roads and Sidewalks		\$ 12,475,000				\$ 12,475,000
	Summary Total		\$ 24,793,917	\$ 427,400	\$ 2,219	\$ -	\$ 24,364,298

Article 12 Walls and Fences

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the construction and reconstruction of walls and fences for the protection of highways and property, including engineering services in connection therewith; to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easements necessary therefore; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$50,000 be appropriated and raised by taxation.

Article 13 Storm Drainage Construction

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or otherwise fund a sum of money for the construction, reconstruction, permitting and maintenance of storm sewers for surface drainage, including engineering services in connection therewith, and for general Drain Department purposes, including the purchase or lease of equipment, and to authorize the appropriate Town Officers to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, any land or easements necessary therefore, and to raise the money for such purposes by the issue of bonds or notes or in any other manner, to be expended by the Department of Public Works; or to take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$400,000 be appropriated and raised by taxation.

Article 14 Water Department Construction

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Water and Sewer Commission for the construction, reconstruction and extending of water mains, replacement of water meters, appurtenances, engineering, consultants, surveys including revenue studies and other general Water Department purposes, and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise any lands or easements necessary, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$524,106 be appropriated, to be appropriated from Water Department Retained Earnings.

Article 15 Sewer Department Construction

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Water and Sewer Commission for the construction or reconstruction of sewers for sanitary purposes and for sewerage disposal, pump stations, original pumping equipment, metering equipment, safety equipment, replacement of said equipment, engineering, consultants, surveys, including revenue studies and other general Sewer Department purposes, and to authorize the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners to acquire by purchase, eminent domain or otherwise any lands or easements necessary, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$420,924 be appropriated, to be appropriated from Sewer Department Retained Earnings.

Article 16 Water and Sewer Commission Claims

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Water and Sewer Commission and the Board of Selectmen acting jointly to compromise any claims for damages or suits pending against the Town of Marblehead on account of acts which may have occurred during the construction of the water or sewer systems, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted.

Article 17 Collective Bargaining (Fire)

To see if the Town will, pursuant to G.L. c. 150E §7, vote to appropriate the sums of money sufficient to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2023 with the International Association of Firefighters AFL/CIO CLC Local 2043, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting

Article 18 Collective Bargaining (Police)

To see if the Town will, pursuant to G.L. c. 150E §7, vote to appropriate the sums of money sufficient to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2023 with MASS C.O.P., AFL-CIO, Local 437, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting

Article 19 Collective Bargaining (IUE/CWA – Local 1776)

To see if the Town will, pursuant to G.L. c. 150E §7, vote to appropriate the sums of money sufficient to fund the collective bargaining agreement for fiscal year 2023 with Local 1776 of the IUE/CWA, AFL-CIO, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: Recommendation to be made at Town Meeting

Article 20 Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Administrative)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Administrative Pay Schedule; to strike out the pay schedule as it relates to Administrative personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted with a 2% cost of living increase effective July 1, 2022.

Article 21 Proposed Pay Schedule and Reclassification (Traffic Supervisors)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Traffic Supervisors Pay Schedule; to waive the pay schedule as it relates to Traffic Supervisor personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted with a 2% cost of living increase effective July 1, 2022.

Article 22 Proposed Reclassification and Pay Schedule (Seasonal and Temporary Personnel)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 121 of the Bylaws, Classification and Wage Salary Plan, by changing certain job titles where indicated and reclassify certain positions in the Seasonal and Temporary Personnel Pay Schedules; strike out the pay schedules as they relate to seasonal and temporary personnel, substitute in place thereof the new pay schedules and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said new pay schedules effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted with a 2% cost of living increase effective July 1, 2022.

Article 23 Compensation - Town Officers

To see if the Town will vote to revise the compensation of the Town Clerk as the Town by vote may determine and to transfer from available funds and/or appropriate a sum of money to make said revision effective, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the yearly compensation of the Town Officer named in this article be as follows:

Town Clerk	\$85,777.35
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Said amount to be in full compensation for services as Town Clerk. All fees received by the Town Clerk in their official capacity to be accounted for to the Town Revenue Officer.

That the Town Clerk as elected and having served in that position or as a regular full-time employee for five consecutive years, and for each applicable additional five years on such basis, shall be paid longevity pay annually, in addition to her weekly salary.

Eligibility will be determined on November 30 each year and payment made to the official with the first regular payroll of December of that year. Only those in office on the determination date and qualified by their consecutive years of service, as described above, shall receive longevity pay for the calendar year.

Annual longevity for Town Clerk

Pay Schedule

Not less than 5 years	\$300.00
Not less than 10 years	400.00
Not less than 15 years	500.00
Not less than 20 years	600.00
Not less than 25 years	700.00
30 years and over	800.00

Article 24 Ratification of Salary Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to ratify certain actions taken by the Compensation Committee under Chapter 43 Section 3(e) as last amended and amend the classification table by reclassifying certain positions, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Compensation Committee.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted with the following:

To reclassify the following positions on the Administrative Pay Scale as previously approved by the Compensation Committee:

- a) Director of Public Works – from Grade 10 to Grade 11**
- b) Assistant Director of Public Works – from Grade 9 to Grade 10**
- c) Cemetery Superintendent from Grade 9 to 10; and**
- d) To Create the position of Recreation Program Associate at Grade 2 on the Administrative pay scale in Recreation and Parks**

Article 25 Financial Assistance for Conservation

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission and other proper officers of the Town to apply for financial assistance from public and private sources to be expended by the Conservation Commission for the purchase of vacant land and any other purpose, authorized by Section 8C of Chapter 40 of the General Laws as amended, or to reimburse the Town for sums of money expended for such purposes, or both, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Conservation Commission.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted.

Article 26 Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District

To see if the Town will vote to approve the gross operating and maintenance budget of the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2022 and appropriate a sum of money for the Town's assessment of the same, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$584,223 be appropriated and raised by taxation.

Article 27 Transfer Funds to the Special Education Stabilization Account

To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate or otherwise transfer funds to the Special Education Reserve Fund; or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: There is a current balance of \$250,000 in the Special Education Stabilization account that is not expected to be used during this fiscal year and, therefore, will be carried forward and available to be drawn upon, if necessary, during Fiscal Year 2023.

Article 28 Release Funds from Transportation Network

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from the reserve for appropriation Fund 27 for the purpose of implementing Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Fund related to improvements to the rail trail, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

That the sum of \$2,511 be appropriated, to be transferred from Transportation Network Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

Article 29 Available Funds Appropriate to Reduce Tax Rate

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate free cash balance in the hands of the Town Treasurer, including any surplus or part of surplus in the Electric Light Department for use of the Assessors in making the tax rate, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

Recommendation: That the sum of \$10,530,000 be appropriated from the following sources for the use of the Assessors in making the Tax Rate:

From Free Cash	\$	10,200,000
From Electric Surplus	\$	330,000
Total	\$	10,530,000

Article 30 Expenses of Several Departments

To see what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from Federal Revenue Sharing moneys, to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

(Required by Mass. General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 60)

Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022			Fiscal 2023			
Appropriation	Expended	Appropriation	8 Mos. Actual	4 Mos. Estimated	Item No.	Departmental Requests	Recommended	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT								
					Moderator			
100.00		100.00		100.00	1	Officials Expense	100.00	100.00
					Selectmen			
		5,500.00		5,500.00	2	Officials Expense	5,500.00	5,500.00
349,903.00	377,187.92	377,202.31	206,158.00	171,044.31	3	Salaries	387,664.50	387,664.50
90,450.00	46,889.29	92,302.00	82,972.99	9,329.01	4	Expense	102,302.00	102,302.00
27,000.00	12,369.00	27,000.00		27,000.00	5	Zoning Board Legal Services	27,000.00	27,000.00
2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00		2,000.00	6	Out of State Travel	2,000.00	2,000.00
469,353.00	438,446.21	504,004.31	289,130.99	214,873.32			524,466.50	524,466.50
					Finance Committee			
	2,535.27				7	Salaries		
5,585.00	397.52	5,585.00	280.00	5,305.00	8	Expense	5,585.00	5,585.00
175.00		175.00		175.00	9	Local Travel	175.00	175.00
5,760.00	2,932.79	5,760.00	280.00	5,480.00			5,760.00	5,760.00
144,000.00		144,000.00		144,000.00	10	Reserve Fund	144,000.00	144,000.00
	91,729.00			7,995.00		Less Transfers		
144,000.00	52,271.00	144,000.00		136,005.00		Net		
					Finance			
650,396.00	626,899.06	677,547.80	284,764.96	392,782.84	12	Salaries	758,098.75	758,098.75
254,610.00	259,516.79	401,405.00	260,914.82	140,490.18	13	Expense	619,246.00	619,246.00
905,006.00	886,415.85	1,078,952.80	545,679.78	533,273.02			1,377,344.75	1,377,344.75
					Assessor			
300.00	300.00	300.00		300.00	17	Officials Expense	300.00	300.00
218,092.39	208,836.04	226,938.00	53,804.98	173,133.02	18	Salaries	219,516.25	219,516.25
63,685.00	31,259.58	37,750.00	20,322.98	17,427.02	19	Expense	45,450.00	45,450.00
500.00		500.00		500.00	20	Local Travel	500.00	500.00
282,577.39	240,395.62	265,488.00	74,127.96	191,360.04			265,766.25	265,766.25
					Town Counsel			
2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	29	Salaries	2,000.00	2,000.00
96,575.00	152,668.25	100,000.00	54,969.00		30	Expense	110,000.00	110,000.00
98,575.00	154,668.25	102,000.00	55,469.00	46,531.00			112,000.00	112,000.00
					Parking Tickets			
12,650.00	4,787.22	12,650.00	780.00	11,870.00	35	Expense	12,650.00	12,650.00
					Town Clerk			
195,651.00	192,097.45	199,642.93	45,716.07	153,926.86	39	Salaries	203,968.17	203,968.17
10,137.00	9,286.76	10,137.00	545.63	9,591.37	40	Expense	10,137.00	10,137.00
205,788.00	201,384.21	209,779.93	46,261.70	163,518.23			214,105.17	214,105.17

Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022			Item No.		Fiscal 2023	
Appropriation	Expended	Appropriation	8 Mos. Actual	4 Mos. Estimated			Departmental Requests	Recommended
32,462.00	12,864.78	18,206.00		18,206.00	43	Election & Registration		
25,375.00	23,614.28	24,175.00	6,135.25	18,039.75	44	Salaries	32,462.00	32,462.00
57,837.00	36,479.06	42,381.00	6,135.25	36,245.75		Expense	24,825.00	24,825.00
							57,287.00	57,287.00
1,675.00	1,020.50	1,675.00	2,232.82	-557.82	50	Planning Board		
						Expense	1,675.00	1,675.00
113,334.00	99,864.84	118,088.00	71,975.26	46,112.74	55	Public Buildings		
105,790.00	93,112.13	106,034.00	48,944.93	57,089.07	56	Salaries	123,725.80	123,725.80
400.00		400.00		400.00	57	Expense	121,034.00	121,034.00
219,524.00	192,976.97	224,522.00	120,920.19	103,601.81		Local Travel	400.00	400.00
4,300.00	3,808.71	4,300.00		4,300.00	59		245,159.80	245,159.80
54,500.00	54,500.00	54,500.00	80,460.00	-25,960.00	60	Town Reports	4,300.00	4,300.00
2,461,645.39	2,217,815.39	2,650,113.04	1,221,477.69	1,420,640.35		Town Audit	54,500.00	54,500.00
						TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,019,114.47	3,019,114.47
PUBLIC SAFETY								
4,089,754.00	3,891,208.61	4,099,480.52	2,468,165.89	1,631,314.63	62	Police Department		
182,390.00	192,842.29	182,390.00	152,913.10	29,476.90	63	Salaries	4,411,114.74	4,411,114.74
5,000.00	439.25	5,000.00	113.52	4,886.48	64	Expense	203,490.00	203,490.00
4,277,144.00	4,084,490.15	4,286,870.52	2,621,192.51	1,665,678.01		Indemnif. of Officers	5,000.00	5,000.00
							4,619,604.74	4,619,604.74
3,990,113.00	3,689,626.26	4,445,612.92	2,732,341.56	1,557,271.36	68	Fire Department		
196,503.00	205,708.98	201,619.00	148,002.23	53,616.77	69	Salaries	4,627,254.28	4,627,254.28
5,000.00	2,718.38	5,000.00	991.83	4,008.17	70	Expense	212,174.00	212,174.00
4,191,616.00	3,898,053.62	4,652,231.92	2,881,335.62	1,614,896.30	71	Fire Alarm Expense	5,000.00	5,000.00
						Fire SCBA Equipment		
485,242.00	496,133.15	514,896.62	301,418.19	213,478.43	73		4,844,428.28	4,844,428.28
21,355.00	10,959.20	44,809.00	39,701.07	5,107.93	74	Building Inspection		
6,000.00	2,858.14	6,000.00	450.85	5,549.15	75	Salaries	569,088.51	569,088.51
512,597.00	509,950.49	565,705.62	341,570.11	224,135.51		Expense	49,102.00	49,102.00
						Local Travel	6,000.00	6,000.00
							624,190.51	624,190.51
250.00	65.00	250.00		250.00	80	Sealer of Weights & Measures		
						Expense	250.00	250.00
2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	86	Animal Inspector		
8,984,007.00	8,494,959.26	9,507,458.06	5,845,298.24	3,506,159.82		Salaries	2,400.00	2,400.00
						TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	10,090,873.53	10,090,873.53
40,521,000.00	39,556,504.03	41,839,543.00	14,953,041.13	26,886,501.87	101	Schools	43,982,273.00	43,982,273.00
40,521,000.00	39,556,504.03	41,839,543.00	14,953,041.13	26,886,501.87		TOTAL SCHOOLS	43,982,273.00	43,982,273.00

Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022			Fiscal 2023		
Appro- piation	Expended	Appro- piation	8 Mos. Actual	4 Mos. Estimated	Item No.	Departmental Requests	Recom- mended
PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES							
168,827.00	167,902.97	175,342.66	103,586.00	71,756.66	105	Engineering	
10,645.00	6,992.87	10,645.00	2,255.02	8,389.98	106	Salaries	184,999.92
179,472.00	174,895.84	185,987.66	105,841.02	80,146.64		Expense	10,645.00
							195,644.92
9,000.00		9,000.00				Source:	
170,472.00		176,987.66				Conservation Wetlands Fee	9,000.00
179,472.00		185,987.66				Taxation	186,644.92
							195,644.92
936,783.00	887,417.01	1,337,999.27	737,688.99	600,310.28	112	Highway	
107,084.00	90,231.91	160,812.00	103,550.35	57,261.65	113	Salaries	1,459,262.40
1,043,867.00	977,648.92	1,498,811.27	841,239.34	657,571.93		Expense	173,891.30
14,425.00	14,267.08	14,425.00	14,426.86	-1.86	116		1,633,153.70
100,000.00	110,167.93	100,000.00	161,824.00	108,697.00	117	Maintain Streets and Sidewalks	50,875.00
128,820.00	128,820.00	128,820.00	19,062.87	109,757.13	118	Snow Removal	100,000.00
1,287,112.00	1,230,903.93	1,742,056.27	1,036,553.07	705,503.20		Street Lighting	128,820.00
							1,912,848.70
379,796.00	350,439.45	407,330.67	94,705.53	312,625.14	126	Waste Collection	
1,861,502.00	1,693,721.71	1,893,887.00	405,586.07	1,488,300.93	127	Salaries	449,332.67
114,600.00	114,600.00	114,600.00	8,626.49	105,973.51	129	Expense	1,946,806.50
2,355,898.00	2,158,761.16	2,415,817.67	508,918.09	1,906,899.58		Landfill Monitoring Expense	114,600.00
							2,510,739.17
149,627.00	150,718.02				132	Drains	
5,647.00	4,046.38				133	Salaries	
155,274.00	154,764.40					Expense	
300.00	300.00	300.00		300.00	141	Cemetery	
366,569.76	370,482.35	375,604.20	85,707.13	289,897.07	142	Officials Expense	300.00
26,226.00	30,138.59	26,226.00	3,304.15	22,921.85	143	Salaries	418,888.70
393,095.76	400,920.94	402,130.20	89,011.28	313,118.92		Expense	26,919.00
							446,107.70
367,095.76		376,130.20				Source	
26,000.00		26,000.00				Taxation	446,107.70
393,095.76		402,130.20				Perpetual Care	
							446,107.70
256,637.00	247,898.00				148	Tree Department	
56,578.00	52,786.92				149	Salaries	
313,215.00	300,684.92					Expense	
4,684,066.76	4,420,931.19	4,745,991.80	1,740,323.46	3,005,668.34		TOTAL PUB. WORKS & FAC.	5,065,340.49
							5,065,340.49

Note: Highway, Drain and Tree budgets have been consolidated in FY22

Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022			Fiscal 2023			
Appropriation	Expended	Appropriation	8 Mos. Actual	4 Mos. Estimated	Item No.		Departmental Requests	Recommended
HUMAN SERVICES								
Health Dept.								
400.00	400.00	400.00		400.00	153	Officials Expense	400.00	400.00
176,284.00	175,306.36	209,585.85	48,955.35	160,630.50	154	Salaries	221,894.99	221,894.99
18,155.00	9,497.32	19,120.52	4,272.45	14,848.07	155	Expense	19,120.52	19,120.52
1,632.00	472.09	1,632.00	71.38	1,560.62	157	Local Travel	1,632.00	1,632.00
4,000.00		4,000.00		4,000.00	158	HAWC	4,000.00	4,000.00
200,471.00	185,675.77	234,738.37	53,299.18	181,439.19			247,047.51	247,047.51
Mental Health								
60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	10,690.00	49,310.00	162	Contractual Services	60,000.00	60,000.00
Council on Aging								
274,382.94	268,996.10	282,746.06	192,539.00	90,207.06	164	Salaries	323,358.05	323,358.05
11,990.00	11,980.60	11,990.00	9,026.52	2,963.48	165	Expense	11,990.00	11,990.00
286,372.94	280,976.70	294,736.06	201,565.52	93,170.54			335,348.05	335,348.05
Veterans Benefits								
68,226.00	68,482.73	71,241.69	44,643.00	26,598.69	175	Salaries	75,096.11	75,096.11
1,243.00	1,059.92	1,243.00	60.89	1,182.11	176	Expense	1,243.00	1,243.00
1,100.00	410.41	1,100.00	-32.48	1,132.48	177	Local Travel	1,100.00	1,100.00
40,000.00	44,523.25	45,000.00	29,593.00	15,407.00	178	Benefits	45,000.00	45,000.00
110,569.00	114,476.31	118,584.69	74,264.41	44,320.28			122,439.11	122,439.11
657,412.94	641,128.78	708,059.12	339,819.11	368,240.01		TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	764,834.67	764,834.67
Library								
900,080.11	849,909.14	917,476.33	187,932.37	729,543.96	185	Salaries	996,580.53	996,580.53
257,259.00	277,489.33	268,010.00	59,612.77	208,397.23	186	Expense	268,826.00	268,826.00
100.00	100.00				187	Local Travel	100.00	100.00
1,157,439.11	1,127,498.47	1,185,486.33	247,545.14	937,941.19			1,265,506.53	1,265,506.53
Park Department								
625,114.74	584,564.06	624,469.57	171,184.98	453,284.59	190	Salaries	653,255.71	653,255.71
171,590.00	157,889.94	171,590.00	21,632.67	149,957.33	191	Expense	171,590.00	171,590.00
46,093.00	41,007.24	46,093.00	5,078.89	41,014.11	192	Facility Expense	46,093.00	46,093.00
842,797.74	783,461.24	842,152.57	197,896.54	644,256.03			870,938.71	870,938.71
Memorial & Veterans Day								
6,500.00	3,542.18	7,050.00		7,050.00	210		7,050.00	7,050.00
2,006,736.85	1,914,501.89	2,034,688.90	445,441.68	1,589,247.22		TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	2,143,495.24	2,143,495.24

Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022			Fiscal 2023			
Appropriation	Expended	Appropriation	8 Mos. Actual	4 Mos. Estimated	Item No.		Departmental Requests	Recommended
4,640,012.00	4,425,000.00	5,375,000.00	5,375,000.00		214	Maturing Debt	6,465,000.00	6,465,000.00
2,868,947.99	2,521,379.84	4,064,700.77	2,430,331.97	1,634,368.80	215	Interest	3,641,618.98	3,641,618.98
7,508,959.99	6,946,379.84	9,439,700.77	7,805,331.97	1,634,368.80		TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	10,106,618.98	10,106,618.98
MISCELLANEOUS								
100,000.00	48,426.80	100,000.00	7,364.50	92,635.50	211	Utility Reserve	100,000.00	100,000.00
3,513,768.00	3,253,489.00	3,822,649.00	3,822,649.00		217	Contributory Retirement	4,151,398.00	4,151,398.00
720,000.00	652,174.87	730,000.00	81,754.15	648,245.85	218	Medicare	754,000.00	754,000.00
397,169.00	397,169.00	397,169.00	397,169.00		219	Worker's Compensation/ 111F	397,169.00	397,169.00
15,000.00	13,491.29	15,000.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	220	Training Expense	15,000.00	15,000.00
13,812,644.00	10,655,945.66	14,475,406.43	6,103,006.00	8,372,400.43	221	Group Insurance	15,244,116.56	15,244,116.56
475,888.00	475,888.00	523,476.80	637,000.00	-113,523.20	222	Other Insurance	725,000.00	725,000.00
110,770.00	65,740.72	133,640.50	90,705.00	42,935.50	223	Salary Reserve	173,640.50	173,640.50
61,845.00	58,157.35	63,468.60	3,277.12	60,191.48	224	NonContributory Retirement		
533,544.00	383,334.04	533,544.00	40,512.97	-40,512.97	225	Energy Reserve	533,544.00	533,544.00
		250,000.00		250,000.00	226	Other Post Employment Benefits	250,000.00	250,000.00
		250,000.00		250,000.00	229	Stabilization	250,000.00	250,000.00
19,740,628.00	16,003,816.73	21,294,354.33	11,190,937.74	9,569,872.59		TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	22,593,868.06	22,593,868.06
Sewer								
875,578.55	677,666.26	866,734.00	436,895.32	429,655.72	227	Salaries	975,504.00	975,504.00
761,886.64	748,071.84	797,874.00	321,601.90	476,271.23	228	Expense	894,956.00	894,956.00
3,676,315.00	3,099,938.86	3,149,818.00	259,665.50	2,890,152.50	230	South Essex Sewer District	3,194,971.00	3,194,971.00
5,037,280.00	4,525,676.96	4,814,426.00	1,018,162.72	3,796,079.45			5,065,431.00	5,065,431.00
5,037,280.00		4,814,426.00				Source		
5,037,280.00		4,814,426.00				Sewer Receipts		5,065,431.00

Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022			Fiscal 2023			
Appropriation	Expended	Appropriation	8 Mos. Actual	4 Mos. Estimated	Item No.		Departmental Requests	Recommended
						Water		
855,186.00	723,148.40	877,221.00	432,206.98	443,371.57	231	Salaries	966,343.00	966,343.00
719,823.00	612,705.52	761,887.00	289,839.89	472,046.75	232	Expense	878,804.00	878,804.00
3,060,357.00	2,580,646.00	3,676,315.00	1,546,444.00	2,129,871.00	235	Metropolitan Water	3,625,940.00	3,625,940.00
4,635,366.00	3,916,499.92	5,315,423.00	2,268,490.87	3,046,932.13			5,471,087.00	5,471,087.00
						Source:		
4,635,366.00		5,315,423.00				Water Receipts	5,471,087.00	
						Light		
Revenue		Revenue			236	Operating Expenditures	Revenue	
						Harbor		
409,803.00	377,454.75	409,803.00	125,119.64	284,683.36	238	Salaries	432,741.37	432,741.37
417,056.00	394,138.36	438,576.00	102,411.35	336,164.65	239	Expense	469,007.31	469,007.31
190,000.00	76,580.83	120,000.00	11,264.14	108,735.86	241	Outlays	105,000.00	105,000.00
1,016,859.00	848,173.94	968,379.00	238,795.13	729,583.87			1,006,748.68	1,006,748.68
						Source		
883,859.00		835,379.00				Harbor Receipts	886,748.68	
133,000.00		133,000.00				Harbor Retained Earnings	120,000.00	
1,016,859.00		968,379.00					1,006,748.68	
						TOTAL ENTERPRISE	11,543,266.68	11,543,266.68
						TOTAL BUDGETS	109,309,685.12	109,309,685.12

SPECIAL ARTICLES

68,000.00	68,000.00	-				Fiscal 2021 Special Articles	
100,596.00	79,987.58	-				Art 8, 2020- Purchase of Equipment	
125,040.00	33,143.43	50,000.00				Art 9, 2020 - Lease Purchase of Equipment	
314,000.00	7,838.22	1,230.10				Art 10, 2020 - Capital Improvements for Public Buildings	
787,946.00	774,234.00	-				Art 15, 2020 - Storm Drain Construction	
3,628.38	3,628.38	-				Art 16, 2020 - Essex North Shore Agricultural and Tech	
34,500.00	34,500.00	-				Art 18, 2020 - Unpaid Accounts	
6,199.60		-				Art 30, 2020 - Affordable Housing/Tax Title Forecloure	
						Art 31, 2020 - Transportation Network Funds	
						Fiscal 2022 Special Articles	
		239,429.42	-	239,429.42		Art 8, 2021 - Purchase of Equipment	
		191,596.00	96,720.34	94,875.66		Art 9, 2021 - Lease Purchase of Equipment	
		857,189.00	235,177.55	622,011.45		Art 10, 2021 - Capital Improvements for Public Buildings	
		768,853.00	-	768,853.00		Art 12, 2021 - Water Construction	
		917,246.00	-	917,246.00		Art 13, 2021 - Sewer Construction	
		314,000.00	6,873.30	307,126.70		Art 15, 2021 - Storm Drain Construction	
		652,392.00	489,900.75	162,491.25		Art 16, 2021 - Essex North Shore Agricultural and Tech	
		7,143.14	7,143.14	-		Art 18, 2021 - Unpaid Accounts	
		142,101.60	142,101.60	-		Art 20, 2021 - Collective Bargaining (Fire)	
		44,400.00	-	44,400.00		Art 30, 2021 - Affordable Housing/Tax Title Forecloure	
		7,811.00	-	7,811.00		Art 31, 2021 - Transportation Network Funds	
		750,000.00	642,339.00	107,661.00		Art 32, 2021 - Pumper Truck	
		8,500,000.00	-	8,500,000.00		Art 35, 2021 - Abbot Public Library	

Fiscal 2021		Fiscal 2022			Item No.	Fiscal 2023	
Appro- piation	Expended	Appro- piation	8 Mos. Actual	4 Mos. Estimated		Departmental Requests	Recom- mended
						Fiscal 2023 Special Articles	Total
					Art 6, 2022 - Unpaid accounts	53,831.83	
					Art 9, 2022 - Purchase of Equipment	722,160.00	
					Art 10, 2022 - Lease Purchase	396,155.56	
					Art 11, 2022 -Capital Improvement for Buildings	24,793,917.00	
					Art 12, 2022 - Walls and Fences	50,000.00	
					Art 13, 2022 - Storm Drain	400,000.00	
					Art 14, 2022 - Water Department	Per Amy 420,924.00	
					Art 15, 2022 - Sewer Department	Per Amy 524,106.00	
					Art 17, 2022 - Fire Contract	181,585.67	
					Art 18, 2022 - Police	200,756.12	
					Art 19, 2022 - MMEU	175,074.82	
					Art 23, 2022 - Town Clerk Compensation	fy22 + 2% * 52 weeks 85,777.35	
					Art 26, 2022 - Essex Tech Assessment	584,223.00	
					Art 28, 2022 - Transportation Network Funds	2,511.00	
1,439,909.98	1,001,331.61	13,392,161.16	1,620,255.68	11,823,135.58	TOTAL SPECIAL ARTICLES	28,591,022.34	
					Less: Other funds	1,509,351.83	
					Less: Bond Issue	24,364,298.00	
1,439,909.98	1,001,331.61	4,142,161.16	1,620,255.68	2,573,135.58	2,717,372.51		
97,253,961.93	89,486,387.93	103,318,137.02	47,067,119.74	55,553,294.45	Total Depart. Budgets(Above)	109,309,685.12	
98,693,871.91	90,487,719.54	107,460,298.18	48,687,375.42	58,126,430.03	TOTAL BUDGETS AND ARTICLES	112,027,057.63	

Article 31 Summer Break from gas powered leaf blowers

1. Gas powered leaf blowers can be used from October 15th thru June 15th
2. A representative chosen by the Board of Selectmen may implement the use of GPLB's in a Town emergency situation at any time
3. This bylaw shall be effective on June 15, 2022

Sponsored by Beth Grader and others.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 32 Land Acknowledgement

To see if the Town will vote to adopt a land acknowledgement to be published on the town website with a shortened version to be read at the beginning of certain official meetings and which recognizes the following: Whereas: The Town of Marblehead is built on land that was originally inhabited by Native Americans and, Whereas: it is understood that the Naumkeag band of the Massachusetts and Pawtucket Tribes called this land home and, Whereas: we strive to be inclusive in our understanding of the history of this town. Sponsored by the Task Force Against Discrimination.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 33 Allocation of Land for Off-Road Bike Park

To see if the Town will vote to allocate a portion of land under the care and custody of the School Committee, as shown on the Town of Marblehead Assessor's Map 159 and Lot 20, located at the corner of Green and Beacon Streets; for the purpose of building and operating an off-road bike park overseen by an appropriate town department or commission, provided that the park shall be constructed of natural materials; all funds and labor for construction and maintenance shall be contributed by donations and volunteers; and the park shall remain open to walkers and other passive users. Sponsored by Rick Smyers and others.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 34 Mooring Fees in Marblehead Waters.

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 190, Section 190-5 (C) of the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws as follows (~~cross through~~ text represents deleted language and **bold and underline** font represents proposed amendment.): The Harbormaster shall collect from the applicant a mooring permit fee of ~~\$8.00~~ **\$10.00** per foot for Marblehead Harbor, Little Harbor, and Dolibers Cove. All other locations in Marblehead anchorage shall be assessed ~~\$7.00~~ **\$9.00** per foot. Working commercial fishermen shall have their permit fee abated to a rate of ~~\$3.50~~ **\$4.25** per foot upon approval of the Harbormaster. Such fee shall be assessed on a per-foot basis, measured from the stem in a straight line aft to the stem of the vessel. Booms, boomkins or pulpits are exempt from the measurement. The minimum mooring permit fee shall be \$10. Said fee shall be collected before a mooring permit is issued. All fees collected by the Harbormaster shall be paid to the Town of Marblehead. All permits shall expire on the first day of February following the year of issue, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Harbors and Waters Board.

Recommendation: That this article be adopted.

Article 35 Adoption of Diversity Statement

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Task Force Against Discrimination's Diversity Statement, utilizing best practices for high visibility placement. Sponsored by Megan Sweeney and others.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 36 Procedures of Operation and Organizational Structures Instructions

To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Town Administrator to oversee the development,

common structure and adoption of Procedures of Operation and Organizational Structures for all appointed and elected Boards or Committees. Each entity shall modify the template, approve and submit the final version to the Town Administrator annually. Sponsored by Megan Sweeney and others.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 37 Work Associated with New Transfer Station Building

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Board of Health for the permitting, public bidding, site work, utility work, deconstruction of the old Compactor Pit and construction of the new Transfer Station, scale house, staff support buildings and swap shed, and all other activities and costs necessary to carry out the work including legal, engineering and architecture work; and determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by the Board of Health.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: The sponsor has withdrawn this request.

Article 38 Work Associated with Existing Transfer Station Building

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be expended by the Board of Health for the permitting, public bidding, site work, utility work, restoration of the old Compactor Pit, construction of a new scale house, staff support buildings and swap shed and all other activities and costs necessary to carry out the work including legal, engineering and architecture work; and determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or take any other action relative to. Sponsored by the Board of Health.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: The sponsor has withdrawn this request.

Article 39 Order of Candidates Names on Ballot

In order to ensure fair elections that provide a level playing field and encourage more citizens to run for elected office in the Town of Marblehead, the order of candidates listed on the ballot shall be determined by random drawing of names by the Town Clerk for each race. Prior to printing of the ballots the Town Clerk will hold a lottery for each race where names of all qualified candidates will be entered. The order of the names drawn shall be the order in which the names appear on the ballot. Any candidate for re-election shall be designated as such on the ballot. Each candidate, or her or his representative, shall have the opportunity to be present at such drawing. Sponsored by Barbara A. Grenier and others.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 40 Change name of Board of Selectmen to Select Board in General Bylaws.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws by deleting the word "Selectmen" each time it appears in said bylaw and inserting the term "Select Board" in place thereof, and further, deleting the words "Board of Selectmen" each time it appears and inserting in place thereof the term "Select Board" and further that the Town Clerk be authorized to make clerical, editorial or other adjustments related to the non-gendered reference to effectuate the purposes hereof; or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 41 Change name to of Board of Selectmen to Select Board in Zoning Bylaws

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws by deleting the word "Selectmen" each time it appears in said bylaw and inserting the term "Select Board" in place

thereof, and further, deleting the words “Board of Selectmen” each time it appears and inserting in place thereof the term “Select Board” and further that the Town Clerk be authorized to make clerical, editorial or other adjustments related to the non-gendered reference to effectuate the purposes hereof; or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 42 Replace pronouns and nomenclature throughout our bylaws to gender-neutral terms

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead General Bylaws to make them gender neutral, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 43 Replace pronouns and nomenclature in Zoning Bylaws to gender-neutral terms

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Marblehead Zoning Bylaws to make them gender neutral, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by Board of Selectmen.

Recommendation: No recommendation under this article.

Article 44 Open Meeting Law Compliance

To see if the Town will vote to require all town boards and committees to fully implement best practices related to 940 CMR 29.10 of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law governing remote participation by ensuring the use of hybrid meeting platforms for all body members and for the public at all public meetings. Recordings of all such meetings must be made easily accessibly along with official minutes linked from the Town Website after the meeting at no cost to the public. Sponsored by Rosalind Nadeau and others.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: It is the Finance Committee’s understanding that there are costs associated with implementing Article 44. As of the printing of this report, the Finance Committee was not presented with a comprehensive plan outlining the costs associated with the implementation of this Article and how the costs will be funded. Accordingly, the Finance committee voted unanimously to indefinitely postpone Article 44 at this time.

Article 45 Utility Easement Lucretia and Joseph Brown School

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an easement regarding utility services for the Lucretia and Joseph Brown School, in the location as noted on a plan which is on file in the Town Clerk’s office, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the School Building Committee.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: The sponsor has withdrawn this request.

Article 46 Supplemental Appropriation for the Schools

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement the School Department’s operating budget beginning in FY2023, contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2½, so called, ballot question, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the School Committee.

Recommendation: The School Committee’s additional operating budget request of \$3,051,093 be appropriated subject to a Proposition 2 ½ operating budget override.

Comment: The request for additional funds to supplement the School Department’s operating budget beginning in FY23 was presented to the Finance Committee as part of the

School Committee's overall FY23 budget request. As in prior years, the Town determined that it is able to support level funded budgets plus contractual obligations within the current tax levy for all town departments, as shown in Article 30. The money requested in Article 46 represents funds beyond the level funded budget in Article 30 and represents a combination of new and increased services the School Department plans to provide. From the beginning of the budget review process, the School Department's overall budget request was presented to the Finance Committee as a budget that is connected to the School Department's five-year roadmap for success. The Finance committee supports the process the School Department went through to develop their overall budget request and voted unanimously to support Article 46.

Article 47 Supplemental Expenses of Several Departments

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement the Town's General Government operating budget beginning in FY2023, contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2½, so called, ballot question, or take any action relative thereto. Sponsored by the Finance Director.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: The sponsor has withdrawn this request.

Article 48 School Capital Needs

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of making renovations and extraordinary repairs, including all professional feasibility studies, design, architectural and engineering fees to the Brown, Glover, Village, Veterans Middle and High School and their respective school grounds, and to purchase technology software and equipment and to raise the money for these purposes by the issue of bonds or notes, by the transfer of an unused/prior appropriation and borrowing authority for such purposes, or in any other manner, or take any other action relative thereto. Sponsored by the School Committee.

Recommendation: That this article be indefinitely postponed.

Comment: The sponsor has withdrawn this request.