



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 29, 2020

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Attest:

Jeanne M. Survell, Town Clerk

At 7:09pm on Monday, June 29, 2020 the Annual Town Meeting was held in the Wachusett Regional High School at 1401 Main Street in the Town of Holden. At 6:00PM the Board of Selectmen and the newly elected Town Moderator, Joseph Sullivan, met to discuss and vote on reducing the quorum due to the State of Emergency as declared by the Governor of Massachusetts on March 10, 2020. Holden Town Bylaws Article 1, Section 5 which states *one percent of the registered voters of the Town shall constitute a quorum*. As of June 12th, the last day to register as a voter there were 14,100 registered voters requiring 141 voters to be in attendance. The Selectmen voted to reduce the quorum to a minimum of 25 registered voters. There was a quorum present of two hundred and seventy four (274) registered Holden voters and an additional twelve (12) guest.

All non-voters or non-residents of the Town were asked to be recognized by the Moderator:

Jeanne Survell, Town Clerk
Liz Monahan, Assistant Town Clerk
Lori Rose, Town Accountant
Brian Falk, Town Counsel
Pamela Harding, Planning and Development Director
Glenda Williamson, Conservation Agent
Darryll McCall, Superintendent of WRSD
Russ Hall, Fire Chief
John Woodsmall, DPW Director
John Vining, 132 Mt. View Drive, Holden, MA
Lihua Yang, 90 Fisher Road, Unit 29, Holden, MA
Wayne and Tracy Jakobson, 3 Governors Street, Worcester, MA

There were no tellers appointed by the Moderator.

The following Election Wardens checked in voters for the ATM:

Karen Temblay, 153 Jackson Street Susan Stafford, 296 Chapel Street
Faith Keskula, 624 Malden Street

Moderator Sullivan noted the receipt of the posting of the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting by Constable, Kimberly Lynch and the proper posting in three (3) locations within the Town on June 18th.

As stated in the Town's Bylaws, Article 1, Section 14: *The Moderator may make a public declaration of a 2/3rds vote without the necessity that a count be taken except as otherwise provided by General Laws Chapter 39, Section 15.*

PRELIMINARY MOTIONS: Majority vote required for passage.

MOTION MADE: Joseph Sullivan

I move the dispensing of the reading of the article and only read the motion by the Finance Committee for each article.

MOTION PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 1 – TO CHOOSE A MODERATOR FOR SAID MEETING

MOTION MADE: N/A

The moderator, Joseph Sullivan, was elected at the Annual Town Election on Monday, June 22, 2020.

ARTICLE 2 – TO HEAR A REPORT OF THE RESULTS OF THE TOWN ELECTION HELD ON JUNE 22, 2020

MOTION MADE: No motion made at this time as this article was acted upon previously.

As a courtesy the moderator read the results of the election into the record.

ARTICLE 3 - TO HEAR THE REPORT OF THE TOWN OFFICERS AND ANY OUTSTANDING COMMITTEES AND ACT THEREON

Moderator Sullivan noted the Annual Town Report contained the reports of Town Officers, Boards, Commissions and Committees. The 2019 Annual Town Report is dedicated to George A Balko, III for his 21 years of service to the Town as Moderator and Committee Member. Town Manager, Peter Lukes, presented Mr. Balko with a commemorative plaque to officially recognize his service.

MOTION MADE: No Action was necessary under this article as all the Boards and Committees submitted their annual report.

ARTICLE 4 – FIX SALARY AND COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws as amended, and appropriate a sum of money therefor, and authorize the payment of a salary of the Finance Committee chairman if the chairman also serves as clerk of the committee, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4		
FY 20		FY 21
N/A	FIX COMPENSATION	N/A

Summary: Article 4 sets the compensation rate for the annual services of the Town Moderator and the members of the Select Board. The compensation rates have not changed for many years and are minimal considering the amount of hours and effort expended by these individuals every year. The actual appropriations for these payments are included in Article 6-1, General Government.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 4.

MOTION MADE: Marilyn L. Foley, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town, in accordance with Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws as amended, vote to fix the salaries and compensation of elective Town officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Moderator	\$100.00
Selectman-Chairman	1,150.00
2nd Member	1,000.00
3rd Member	1,000.00
4th Member	1,000.00
5th Member	1,000.00
Trustees of Damon Memorial -	None
6 Members	
Wachusett Regional School District	None
Committee – 10 Holden Members	

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 5 – TOWN DEBTS AND CHARGES

To say what sums the Town will raise by tax or otherwise to pay Town debts and charges for the past years and appropriate same, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5		
FY 20		FY 21
N/A	PAST TOWN DEBTS AND CHARGES	\$6,888.51

Summary: Article 5 is a legal formality. It allows the Town Manager to pay bills that come in after the normal close of a budget year. The bills are typically small and the money for payments comes from free cash as the budgets that would have been used in those prior year(s) were closed to free cash. There are ten (10) bills/items to consider this year. Bills were for goods/services received in prior fiscal year(s) but invoices for payment were not submitted for processing before the close of the applicable fiscal year.

Recommendation: Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 5.

MOTION MADE: Stephanie Adams, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of \$6,354.01 to pay nine (9) bills payable in prior fiscal years for services rendered or goods delivered by the following vendors, for the following sums:

Mass Correctional Industries for \$367.20

MIIA Property and Casualty Group, Inc for \$2,098.00

Atlantic Tactical for \$1,616.65

Atlantic Tactical for \$203.80

Atlantic Tactical for \$1,778.40

Atlantic Tactical for \$81.36

Atlantic Tactical for \$29.80

Atlantic Tactical for \$119.20

Atlantic Tactical for \$59.60

MOTION SECONDED

4/5THS VOTE IS REQUIRED FOR PASSAGE

MOTION PASSED BY 4/5THS VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6 - GOVERNMENT

To say what sums the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer, the Overlay Reserve Fund, the Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund, the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, or from any other available funds, to pay Town debts and charges, other than those relating to the Wachusett Regional School District, for the ensuing year, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6-1: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

ARTICLE 6-1 GENERAL GOVERNMENT

ARTICLE 6-1		
FY 20		FY 21
\$6,314,976	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$6,789,732

Summary: General Government is a common category for many required Town functions including Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector, Assessor, Town Clerk, Planning and Development, Town Manager, Information Technology, and Personnel. It includes contracted legal services, insurance (health and liability) for all Town departments, state-mandated retirement fund assessments, and the Finance Committee's Reserve Fund. It also funds local government functions including the Board of Selectmen, Town Moderator, and Finance Committee. Overall, the FY21 budget for General Government has increased \$474,756 (7.5%) over FY20. This increase is primarily due to increases in the assessment for the town's retirement plan, insurance premium increases and studies to be prepared for town playing fields, the town hall and Starbard building, and the Adams Road re-use analysis.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-1

Majority vote required for passage.

MOTION MADE: John Dolak, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate, to pay Town debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$6,789,732 for the proposed budget for GENERAL GOVERNMENT, item 1, substantially as shown on page 4 of the "TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET" under the heading "FY 2021 RECOMMENDED" and to raise said sum by transferring \$49,000 from the Water/Sewer Enterprise fund receipts for indirect costs, by transferring \$12,400 from the Solid Waste Enterprise fund receipts for indirect costs, by transferring \$50,000 from Overlay Surplus and by raising and appropriating \$6,678,332 to cover the balance; and to further authorize the Town Manager to transfer from the Town Manager Salary & Wages account various sums to the Salary & Wages

accounts of other Town Departments, as the Town Manager may deem advisable to effect adjustments of salaries and wages in the ensuing fiscal year.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-2: DEBT

ARTICLE 6-2		
FY 20		FY 21
\$5,405,893	DEBT	\$3,010,877

Summary: The Debt Service budget covers the principal and interest payments due during FY21. As of June 30, 2019, the total long-term debt outstanding for the Town of Holden was \$38,606,452 of which \$11,049,636 is considered to be inside the debt limit, and \$27,556,816 to be outside the debt limit.

The Debt Service budget includes exempt debt which is excluded from the limits of Prop 2-1/2. The total has decreased significantly due to the retirement of the debt associated with the three elementary school projects.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-2.

MOTION MADE: Stephanie Adams, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate, to pay Town debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$3,010,877 for the proposed budget for GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEBT, item 2, substantially as shown on page 5 of the "TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET" under the heading "FY 2021 RECOMMENDED" and to raise said sum by transferring \$218,835 from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer and by transferring \$1,341 from the reserved bond premium in the hands of the Treasurer, and by raising and appropriating \$2,790,701 to cover the balance.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-3: PUBLIC SAFETY

ARTICLE 6-3		
FY 20		FY 21
\$5,803,958	PUBLIC SAFETY	\$5,871,773

Summary: The Public Safety budget funds the activities of the Police and Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management, the Animal Control Officer, and the Wachusett Regional Emergency Communications Center.

The Police Department budget increased by \$26,516 from last year. This increase is attributable to the costs associated with the addition of four new police officers in FY21 as well as contractual increases in salaries and wages.

The Dispatch budget increased by \$15,508 from last year, due primarily to contractual increases in salaries and wages and internal promotions.

The Animal Control budget increased by \$18,390 from last year, due primarily to transitioning the Animal Control Officer from a split positions between police and animal control to a full-time animal control position.

The Fire Department and Emergency Medical Service Department (Ambulance) budget increased by \$8,006 in FY 2021, due primarily to contractual increases in salaries and wages. It is expected that this budget will be offset by revenue of \$852,000 in EMS receipts.

The Fire Department's Emergency Management Office funds and equips the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) which is the group of volunteers who staffed the Senior Center shelter site during the 2008 Ice Storm and its aftermath. The budget for this Office has increased \$4,395 for FY 2021, reflecting wage increases as a result of the Emergency Management Coordinator role being elevated to a Lieutenant position.

The Public Safety building has its own budget, so that the costs associated with this facility may be monitored closely. This budget decreased by \$5,000 in FY 2021 due primarily to anticipated decreased costs related to maintenance and maintenance contracts.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-3.

MOTION MADE: David White, Sr., Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate, to pay Town debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$5,871,773 for the proposed budget for PUBLIC SAFETY, item 3, substantially as shown on page 5 of the "TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET" under the heading "FY 2021 RECOMMENDED" and to raise said sum by transferring \$25,000 from the Wachusett Fund, and by raising and appropriating \$5,846,773 to cover the balance.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-4: PUBLIC WORKS

ARTICLE 6-4		
FY 20		FY 21
\$3,018,697	PUBLIC WORKS	\$3,210,404

Summary: The Department of Public Works budget includes the:
Administration Division (DPW Director and Staff)
Engineering Division (Project Planning & Supervision)
Highway Division (Road Repair, Maintenance and Snow Removal)
Building and Grounds Division (Maintenance of Buildings, Fields, and Cemeteries)
Mechanics Division (Repair/Maintenance of Vehicles, and Equipment)
Garage Division (DPW Garage Facility)

The Public Works budget increased \$191,707 (6.4%) from FY20. The increase is due primarily to contractual increases in salaries and wages, contractual increases in building cleaning and maintenance contracts, increase in park/field maintenance, increased anticipated costs for snow removal and increased costs associated with landfill post closure monitoring

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-4.

MOTION MADE: Donald Graves, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate, to pay Town debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$3,210,404 for the proposed budget for PUBLIC WORKS, item 4, substantially as shown on page 6 of the “TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET” under the heading “FY 2021 RECOMMENDED” and to raise said sum by transferring \$33,400 from the Water/Sewer Enterprise fund receipts for indirect costs, transferring \$5,000 from the Perpetual Care Trust Fund, and by raising and appropriating \$3,172,004 to cover the balance.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-5: WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

ARTICLE 6-5		
FY 20		FY 21
\$8,185,983	WATER/SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND	\$8,153,419

Summary: Water and sewer services are budgeted within the Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund. The income from water and sewer bills goes into the Fund and all expenses, such as water purchased from Worcester and sewage transport and processing charges, are paid from this fund. No tax monies are part of this fund. This budget has remained essentially flat, decreasing by \$32,564 (-0.3%) over FY20, reflecting increases in disposal fees, assessments and maintenance costs, offset by decreases in legal costs.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-5.

MOTION MADE: Donald Graves, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate, to pay direct debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$8,261,019 and to transfer the sum of \$82,400 to the general fund to cover indirect costs for the ensuing year for a total appropriation of \$8,343,419 for the proposed budget for the WATER/SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND, item 5, substantially as shown on page 6 of the “TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET” under the heading “FY 2021 RECOMMENDED” and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$1,135,000 from Water/Sewer free cash in the hands of the Treasurer and raising the sum of \$7,208,419 through fees and charges.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-6: HUMAN SERVICES

ARTICLE 6-6		
FY 20		FY 21
\$369,104	HUMAN SERVICES	\$386,262

Summary: The Human Services Budget funds the operation of the Senior Center and the Veterans Assistance Office. The Veterans Assistance Office is a state and federally mandated function that is 75% reimbursed by the State of Massachusetts (MGL, Chapter 115) for all direct assistance provided to veterans. The Veterans Budget has increased slightly in FY21 due to primarily to anticipated aid to veterans. The Veterans component of the Human Services Budget is \$90,961.

The Senior Services Budget addresses the needs of our Senior Citizens, providing outreach programs for the homebound, nutrition, information, programs at the Senior Center and transportation. The Senior Services Budget increased slightly due to increased salary and wages and in the department. The Senior Services component of the Human Services Budget is \$295,301.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-6.

MOTION MADE: Marilyn Foley, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate, to pay Town debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$386,262 for the proposed budget for HUMAN SERVICES, item 6, substantially as shown on page 6 of the "TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET" under the heading "FY 2021 RECOMMENDED."

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-7: VOCATIONAL EDUCATION /OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT

ARTICLE 6-7		
FY 20		FY 21
\$901,029	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	\$984,226

Summary: This budget is primarily the assessment from the Montachusett Regional Vocational School District to the Town (\$930,226). This number is derived from the number of Holden students attending the school. Another factor include in the budget is \$54,000 for tuition and transportation for a student to attend and out of district vocational high school.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-7.

MOTION MADE: Paul Challenger, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate, to pay Town debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$984,226 for VOCATIONAL EDUCATION which is a part of the Proposed Education Budget, item 7, as printed on page 7 of the "TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET" under the heading "FY 2021 RECOMMENDED."

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-8: CULTURE

ARTICLE 6-8		
FY 20		FY 21
\$915,570	CULTURE	\$931,770

Summary: The Culture Budget funds the operation of the Gale Free Library and the Historical Commission. The Gale Free Library Budget for FY 21 exceeds the state minimum appropriation requirement for public libraries. Meeting the requirement allows Holden residents to borrow materials from any certified library in the Commonwealth and it makes the library eligible for state aid. Since the Massachusetts State Aid to Public Libraries was established in 1987, Holden has always met the Minimum Appropriation Requirement. The Gale Free Library Budget for FY 2021 is \$928,270, representing an increase of \$16,200, or 1.8% from FY 2020.

The Historic District Commission Budget funds the care and maintenance of the Hendricks House as a museum and local historical education center. The Historical Commission Budget for FY 2021, which remains unchanged from FY 2020, is \$3,500.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-8.

MOTION MADE: John Dolak, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate, to pay Town debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$931,770 for the proposed budget for CULTURE, item 8, substantially as shown on page 7 of the "TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET" under the heading "FY 2021 RECOMMENDED."

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6-9: SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND

ARTICLE 6-9		
FY 20		FY 21
\$1,331,676	SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND	\$1,363,154

Summary: Trash collection and recycling services are budgeted in the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. The income from trash bills funds the account and all trash expenses are paid from this account. No tax monies are part of this fund. The budget is up \$31,478, or about 2.4%, due primarily to an increase in recycling collection costs, increased disposal fees and toter purchases.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 6-9.

MOTION MADE: Donald Graves, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate, to pay direct debts and charges for the ensuing year, the sum of \$1,350,764 and to transfer the sum of \$12,400 to the general fund to cover indirect costs for the ensuing year for a total appropriation of \$1,363,154, for the proposed budget for the SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND, item 9, substantially as shown on page 7 of the "TOWN MEETING

HANDBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE FY 2021 BUDGET” under the heading “FY 2021 RECOMMENDED” and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$25,000 from Solid Waste free cash in the hands of the Treasurer and raising the sum of \$1,338,154 through fees and charges.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 7: EDUCATION REQUIRED

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money not to exceed \$23,503,348 for the Town’s share of the costs and expenses of the Wachusett Regional School District for the ensuing fiscal year, such sum to include the Town’s so-called required Local Minimum Contribution, debt service and transportation.

ARTICLE 7		
FY 20		FY 21
\$22,519,746	EDUCATION REQUIRED	\$23,503,348

Summary: This article funds Holden’s state-mandated payment (Minimum Local Contribution) for education expenses of the Wachusett Regional School District, plus Holden’s share of the District’s transportation and debt costs. Overall this item is up \$983,602 (4.4%) versus the FY20 voted budget.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 7.

MOTION MADE: Paul Challenger, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,503,348 for the Town’s share of the costs and expenses of the Wachusett Regional School District for the ensuing fiscal year, such sum to include the Town’s so-called required Local Minimum Contribution, debt service and transportation, such amount to be paid to the Wachusett Regional School District.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 8: EDUCATION VOLUNTARY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such additional sums of money not to exceed \$8,142,799 for the Town’s share of the costs and expenses of the Wachusett Regional School District for the ensuing fiscal year to supplement the appropriation made under Article 7 of the warrant for this town meeting.

ARTICLE 8		
FY 20		FY 21
\$7,306,064	EDUCATION VOLUNTARY	\$8,142,799

Summary: This item, assessed by the Wachusett Regional School District, is Holden’s share of the additional money that the School Committee and District Administration feel is required to supplement the amount in Article 7 to provide a quality education for the students of the District. This is an increase of \$836,735 (11.5%) from FY 2020. This article also approves the WRSD budget recommended by the School Committee. Overall, our assessment from Wachusett in Articles 7 and 8 increased \$1,802,337 (6.1%) from last year.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 8.

MOTION MADE: Paul Challenger, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,142,799 for the Town's share of the costs and expenses of the Wachusett Regional School District for the ensuing fiscal year to supplement the appropriation made under Article 7 of the warrant for this Town Meeting, it being understood that by appropriating \$8,142,799 under this Article 8 and \$23,503,348 under Article 7 of the warrant for this Town Meeting, for a total appropriation by the Town to the Wachusett Regional School District of \$31,646,147, the Town thereby approves a budget of \$102,115,384 for Fiscal Year 2021 for the Wachusett Regional School District.

MOTION SECONDED**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR****ARTICLE 9: DPW DEPRECIATION FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the Public Works Depreciation Fund, created by Chapter 328 of the Acts of 2000, and to transfer from the Public Works Depreciation Fund a sum of money to fund various public works projects and purchase public works vehicles and equipment, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9		
FY 20		FY 21
\$100,000	TRANSFER INTO DPW DEPRECIATION FUND	\$100,000
\$0	TRANSFER FROM DPW DEPRECIATION FUND	\$0

Summary: The Public Works Depreciation Fund was established to provide an account in which to save money to fund large equipment purchases for the DPW. It was intended to normalize fluctuations in the DPW budget from year-to-year. This vote is to transfer \$100,000 into the account.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 9.

MOTION MADE: Donald Graves, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of \$100,000 for deposit into the Department of Public Works Depreciation Fund, created by Chapter 328 of the Acts of 2000.

MOTION SECONDED**MOTION PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR****ARTICLE 10 – CHAPTER 90 STATE HIGHWAY AID**

To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend all monies to be received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under Chapter 90 of the General Laws for highway purposes, or any other legislation adopted by the General Court relating to public works, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10		
FY 20		FY 21
N/A	CHAPTER 90 STATE HIGHWAY AID	N/A

Summary: This article is a legal formality in that it allows the Town to accept and spend State assistance received under the provisions of MGL Chapter 90. Chapter 90 is a reimbursement program. Once the Town expends money, it can file for reimbursement from the state under this program. The funds are explicitly reserved for highway related projects and expenses. In FY 2021, the Town is eligible for an estimated \$615,739 in Chapter 90 reimbursements. Planned expenses include various major road reconstruction and paving projects, as well as sidewalk work.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 10.

MOTION MADE: John R. Lambert, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to accept and authorize the expenditure of all monies to be received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under Chapter 90 of the General Laws for highway purposes, or any other legislation as may be adopted by the General Court relating to public works.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 11 – TRANSFER INTO FIRE VEHICLE STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle, Apparatus and Capital Equipment Stabilization Fund established pursuant to MGL Chapter 40 §5B for the purpose of funding the acquisition, repair, replacement, extension, reconstruction, enlarging, and/or additions to the capital equipment, vehicles, and apparatus of the Fire Department, and to transfer from the Fire Department Vehicle, Apparatus and Capital Equipment Stabilization Fund a sum of money to fund the acquisition of Fire Department vehicles and equipment, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11		
FY 20		FY 21
\$100,000	TRANSFER INTO FIRE VEHICLE STABILIZATION FUND	\$100,000

Summary: This Fund was created in FY 2008 as a means of saving for major capital expenditures of the Fire Department. The Finance Committee recommends placing a total of \$100,000 into the Fund from the Town's free cash. All expenditures from this fund are voted (by 2/3 majority) at Town Meeting.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 11.

MOTION MADE: Stephanie Adams, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of \$100,000 for deposit into the Fire Department Vehicle, Apparatus and Capital Equipment Stabilization Fund, established pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 12 - FISCAL YEAR 2020 STORMWATER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money received by the Town pursuant to

employee contribution programs for Other Post-Employment Benefits established by the Town Manager, for deposit into the Town's Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund, or act in any other way thereon.

ARTICLE 12		
FY 20		FY 21
\$2,842	TRANSFER INTO OPEB LIABILITY TRUST FUND	\$12,528

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 12.

MOTION MADE: John R. Lambert, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,528 received by the Town pursuant to employee contribution programs for Other Post-Employment Benefits established by the Town Manager, for deposit into the Town's Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund, or act in any other way thereon.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 13 – TRANSFER INTO STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the General Stabilization Fund, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13		
FY 20		FY 21
\$300,000	TRANSFER INTO STABILIZATION FUND	\$200,000

Summary: The FY 2021 budget allocates significant funds to the Town's General Stabilization Fund. This fund was established by state law. Essentially a 'Rainy Day' savings account, this fund collects monies that can be used by voters to pay for a wide variety of operations and purchases. It is therefore different than other stabilization funds, which can only be used for very specific purposes. This year the Finance Committee is recommending a \$200,000 contribution to the Stabilization Fund which will yield a total fund balance of approximately \$4,630,167. It is important to note that healthy savings accounts help the Town's credit rating, which, in turn, drives down the Town's cost of borrowing funds. The Finance Committee believes it is fiscally prudent to make this contribution and to continue funding this account, as possible, year after year.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 13.

MOTION MADE: Joseph Dolak, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer the sum of \$200,000 for deposit into the General Stabilization Fund, established pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 14 – TRANSFER INTO OPEB – GENERAL

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund, and to transfer a sum of money from the Water-Sewer Enterprise Fund to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14		
FY 20		FY 21
\$458,449	TRANSFER INTO OPEB - GENERAL	\$449,011
\$45,000	TRANSFER FROM WATER-SEWER ENTERPRISE TO OPEB	\$45,000

Summary: This article represents this year's payment toward a fund to provide for future Other Post-Employment benefits for retired personnel of the Town. The Town maintains a continuing obligation for payment of certain retirement and health insurance benefits of former employees, and it is prudent to maintain such a fund, rather than rely totally on "pay-as-you-go" funding for these obligations in the future. This article also transfers the Water-Sewer Enterprise Fund's annual OPEB obligation into the Fund.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 14.

MOTION MADE: John R. Lambert, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town appropriate the sum of \$494,011 for deposit into the Town's Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, established under Article 30 of the May 18, 2009 Annual Town Meeting pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the General Laws, and to raise said sum by transferring \$449,011 from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer, and by transferring \$45,000 from the Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund Free Cash in the hands of the Treasurer.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 15 – CAPITAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or authorize the borrowing of a sum of money to defray the expense of purchasing and/or leasing capital equipment, vehicles, buildings, infrastructure, or other projects of the Town and/or to fund future Town debt related to these projects, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15		
FY 20		FY 21
\$3,541,000	CAPITAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION	\$3,527,208

Summary: This Fund is set up to fund capital purchases for all Town departments in one budget. Historically, each department funded capital purchases within its own budget. While this system effectively controlled capital spending within each department, it also limited the transparency as to how much the Town was spending annually on capital purchases across all departments. In addition, it made projecting capital purchases very challenging for the Finance Committee and Town Manager. This year's appropriation requests the expenditure of \$1,127,208 in cash for general government capital and \$2,400,000 in borrowings for the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 15.

MOTION MADE: Christopher Lucchesi, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,837,208 for the purpose of acquiring capital items substantially as shown on page 23 of the “TOWN MEETING HANDBOOK FY 2020 CAPITAL BUDGET,” and to raise said sum by transferring \$1,127,208 from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer, transfer \$310,000 from Fire stabilization and by borrowing the sum of \$2,400,000 under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or Section 8, or any other enabling authority, which borrowing relates to the Water-Sewer Enterprise Fund for Water Main Replacement and/or lining, Inflow and Infiltration, and SCADA Planning, Design and Implementation and to that end that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, be authorized to issue bonds and notes therefore totaling \$2,400,000 and in accordance with Chapter 44 Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any Bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuances of such bonds or notes, may be applied to pay project costs, and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each project be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied.

MOTION SECONDED

2/3RDS VOTE IS REQUIRED FOR PASSAGE

MOTION PASSED BY 2/3RDS VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 16 – RECREATION REVOLVING FUND ANNUAL LIMIT

To see if the Town will vote to set the fiscal year 2020 spending limit for the Recreation Revolving Fund established in Article II, Section 5 of the Town of Holden’s general by-laws, and Chapter 408 of the Acts of 1996 or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16		
FY 20		FY 21
\$447,008	RECREATION REVOLVING FUND ANNUAL LIMIT	\$999,779

Summary: The Recreation Department operates the town pool, conducts summer recreation programs and year-round recreation programs for residents. Income for the budget is generated from user fees which are used to pay expenses, including expenses for support provided by other town departments. The budget increase of \$552,771 is due mainly to capital improvements at the pool, court repairs and field maintenance. The FY 2021 recommended budget is \$999,779.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 16.

MOTION MADE: Marilynn L. Foley, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town set the Fiscal Year 2021 spending limit for the Recreation Revolving fund at \$999,779.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 17 – PEG ACCESS AND CABLE RELATED FUND

To see if the Town will vote to set the fiscal year 2020 appropriation for the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund established in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F-3/4, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17		
FY 20		FY 21
\$396,492	PEG ACCESS AND CABLE RELATED FUND	\$349,804

Summary: Holden Community Television provides the programming seen on Charter Cable Channels 191, 192, 194. These operations are budgeted in the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund. The funds in this budget are from an annual grant from Charter Communications. The FY 2020 budget is \$349,804.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 17.

MOTION MADE: Stephanie Adams, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommend and I move that the Town set the Fiscal Year 2021 appropriation for the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund established in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F-3/4 at \$349,804.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 18 – CONTINUE INSPECTION REVOLVING FUND

To see if the Town will vote to set the fiscal year 2020 spending limit for the Inspection Revolving Fund established in Article II, Section 5 of the Town of Holden's general by-laws, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18		
FY 20		FY 21
\$232,596	CONTINUE INSPECTION REVOLVING FUND	\$244,795

Summary: The Inspection Revolving Fund was established as part of an incentive to put more town services on a pay-as-you-go basis. Building, electrical, plumbing and other permit fees are the source of revenue for this fund. All inspection and support activities are paid from this fund. The FY 2020 budget is \$244,795.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 18.

MOTION MADE: Marilynn L. Foley, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town set the Fiscal Year 2021 spending limit for the Inspection Revolving Fund at \$244,795.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 19 – TRANSFER INTO OPEN SPACE STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be added to the Open Space Preservation Stabilization fund, established pursuant to General laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, for the purpose of funding the costs to acquire real property within the Town of Holden, such property to be held and maintained as open space for the use of the citizens of Holden, or act or do anything relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19		
FY 20		FY 21
\$50,000	TRANSFER INTO OPEN SPACE STABILIZATION FUND	\$50,000

Summary:

The FY 2020 budget allocates funds to the Open Space Stabilization Fund. This fund is a type of savings account that was established under state law and collects monies that can be appropriated by voters to acquire real property within the town to be held and maintained as open space. This year the Finance Committee is recommending a \$50,000 contribution to the Stabilization Fund which will yield a total fund balance of approximately \$315,069.

Recommendation: The Finance Committee recommends approval of Article 19.

MOTION MADE: Christopher Lucchesi, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum \$149,834 for deposit into the Open Space Preservation Stabilization Fund, established pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, and to meet this appropriation by transferring \$99,834 from unspent funds previously appropriated under Article 24 at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting for the purchase of the property known as the Holbrook Extension and by transferring \$50,000 from available funds in the hands of the Treasurer.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 20 – CONSERVATION LAND PURCHASE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of the Conservation Commission acquiring by purchase, for open space and land conservation purposes, the fee interest or any lesser interest, such as a conservation restriction, easement or other contractual rights, or any combination thereof, in two parcels of vacant land or portions thereof, both parcels located off of Salisbury Street in Holden, and described as follows:

- a) A parcel containing approximately 56.84 acres of land, owned now or formerly by the Heininger Realty Trust, as shown on a plan prepared by Places Site Consultants, Inc., dated July, 2007 and shown on the Town Assessor's Map 221 as Parcel No. 1; and
- b) A parcel containing approximately 60.21 acres of land, owned now or formerly by Frank W. and Anne L. Puffer, as shown on plan prepared by Places Site Consultants, Inc., dated July, 2007 and shown on the Town Assessor's Map 221 as Parcel No. 221-12-1.

The interests acquired in the two properties shall be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission; the plans referenced herein are available for public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk and on the Town's Website, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Christopher Lucchesi, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate \$250,000 from the Open Space Preservation Stabilization Fund for the purpose of the Conservation Commission acquiring by purchase, for open space and land conservation purposes, the fee interest or any lesser interest, such as a conservation restriction, easement or other contractual rights, or any combination thereof, in two parcels of vacant land or portions thereof, both parcels located off of Salisbury Street in Holden, and described as follows:

- a) A parcel containing approximately 56.84 acres of land, owned now or formerly by the Heininger Realty Trust, as shown on a plan prepared by Places Site Consultants, Inc., dated July, 2007 and shown on the Town Assessor's Map 221 as Parcel No. 1; and
- b) A parcel containing approximately 60.21 acres of land, owned now or formerly by Frank W. and Anne L. Puffer, as shown on plan prepared by Places Site Consultants, Inc., dated July, 2007 and shown on the Town Assessor's Map 221 as Parcel No. 221-12-1.

The interests acquired in the two properties shall be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission.

MOTION SECONDED

2/3RDS VOTE IS REQUIRED FOR PASSAGE

MOTION PASSED BY 2/3RDS VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 21 – PUBLIC WORKS DEPRECIATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate into the Public Works Depreciation Fund, established by Chapter 328 of the Acts of 2000, certain unexpended funds originally appropriated from said Public Works Depreciation Fund for projects now completed or no longer necessary, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Joseph Dolak, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate from the following unexpended warrant articles the sum of \$51,052.52 and appropriate into the Public Works Depreciation Fund, established pursuant to Chapter 328 of the Acts of 2000:

May 2005 ATM, Article 10	Capital Purchases	\$18,138.10
May 2009 ATM, Article 9	Capital Purchases	\$7,909.90
May 2010 ATM, Article 9	Capital Purchases	\$5,601.80
May 2015 ATM, Article 9	Capital Purchase & to pay debt service	\$11,812.20
May 2016 ATM, Article 9	Truck with Plow	\$7,590.52
		\$51,052.52

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 22 – GENERAL OBLIGATION MUNICIPAL PURPOSE LOAN

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$59,024 from the premium paid to the Town upon the sale of its \$5,860,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2017 Bonds, for the Mountview Middle School Building Project, which are the subject of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, to pay final costs of the Mountview Middle School Building Project, and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project, but not yet issued by the Town, by the same amount, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 44, §20, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Paul Challenger, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town appropriate \$59,024 from the premium paid to the Town upon the sale of its \$5,860,000 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2017 Bonds, for the Mountview Middle School Building Project, which are the subject of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, to pay final costs of the Mount View Middle School Building project, and to reduce the amount authorized to be

borrowed for such project, but not yet issued by the Town, by the same amount, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 44, §20.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 23 – RESCIND BOND AUTHORIZATION - MT. VIEW FEASABILITY

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unissued balance of a borrowing authorization for the Mountview Feasibility study from the November 8, 2010 Special Town Meeting, which is no longer needed to accomplish the purposes for which it was approved, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Paul Challenger, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to rescind the unissued balance of the following borrowing authorization, which is no longer needed to accomplish the purposes for which it was approved, be and hereby are rescinded and of no further force or effect:

Amount to be Rescinded	Date of Approval/Warrant Art	Purpose
\$26,118	11/8/10 Art #3	Mt View Feasibility Study

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 24 – RESCIND MOUNTVIEW DEBT

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unissued balance of a borrowing authorization for the Mountview School Building Construction Project from the May 28, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, which is no longer needed to accomplish the purposes for which it was approved, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Paul Challenger, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommend and I move that the Town vote to rescind the unissued balance of the following borrowing authorization, which is no longer needed to accomplish the purposes for which it was approved, be and hereby are rescinded and of no further force or effect:

Amount to be Rescinded	Date of Approval/Warrant Art	Purpose
\$10,043,996.20	11/8/10 Art #3	Mt View School Building

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 25 – SCHOOL CAPITAL PROJECTS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager to design, engineer, and construct improvements to the following school buildings:

- Davis Hill Elementary School - repairs to roof and gutters;
- Davis Hill Elementary School – concrete envelope replacement;
- Davis Hill Elementary School - upgrades to the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems;

- d. Dawson Elementary School – upgrades to and replacement of the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems;
- e. Mayo Elementary School – replacement of the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems; and all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: David White, Finance Committee

The Finance Committee recommends and I move that the Town vote to appropriate the amount of \$904,000 to design, engineer, and construct improvements to the following school buildings:

- a. Davis Hill Elementary School - repairs to roof and gutters;
 - b. Davis Hill Elementary School – concrete envelope replacement;
 - c. Davis Hill Elementary School - upgrades to the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems;
 - d. Dawson Elementary School – upgrades to and replacement of the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems;
 - e. Mayo Elementary School – replacement of the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems;
- and all other costs incidental or related thereto, said amount to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, and to meet this appropriation the Town:

- (i) transfer \$55,858 from unexpended funds appropriated for the following completed projects:

\$23,680 from the Dawson Elementary School Heating System Improvement Project, as appropriated under Article 15 at the 2015 Annual Town Meeting;

\$29,000 from the Mayo Elementary School HVAC Project, as appropriated under Article 14 at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting; and

\$3,178 from the School Wireless Improvements Project, as appropriated under Article 15 at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting; and

- (ii) by borrowing the balance of \$848,142; for which the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by General Laws Chapter 44, § 7(1), or any other general or special law, for a period not to exceed 10 years. Any premium received by the Town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with General Laws Chapter 44, Section 20 and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

MOTION SECONDED

2/3RDS VOTE IS REQUIRED FOR PASSAGE

MOTION PASSED BY 2/3RDS VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 26 – USE OF TOWN HALL

To see if the Town will vote to permit the use of the Town Hall for the next year at less than the fair rental value by: John E. Harkins Post #42 American Legion, Boy and Girl Scout Troops of Holden, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Women's Auxiliary of the John E. Harkins Post #42, Women's Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Holden Baseball Program, Inc., League of Women Voters, 4-H Club, Rainbow Girls, the Grange, the White Oak Land Conservation Society, Inc., Holden Citizens for Responsible Energy, Holden Republican Town Committee, Holden Democratic Town Committee, Friends of Eagle Lake, Holden Associated Taxpayers and Holden for Children, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Tyler Gibbs, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to permit the use of the Town Hall for the next year at less than the fair rental value to: John E. Harkins Post #42 American Legion, Boy and Girl Scout Troops of Holden, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Women's Auxiliary of the John E. Harkins Post #42, Women's Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Holden Baseball Program, Inc., League of Women Voters, 4-H Club, Rainbow Girls, the Grange, the White Oak Land Conservation Society, Inc., Holden Citizens for Responsible Energy, Holden Republican Town Committee, Holden Democratic Town Committee, Holden Associated Taxpayers and Holden for Children.

MOTION MADE BY DANIEL MARINONE, 37 VILLAGE WAY TO INCLUDE THE “FRIENDS OF EAGLE LAKE”.

MOTION SECONDED

TYLER GIBBS WITHDRAWS MOTION AND READS MOTION TO INCLUDE THE “FRIENDS OF EAGLE LAKE”

AMENDED MOTION SECONDED

AMENDED MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 27 – LIGHT DEPARTMENT TAXES

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the sum of \$153,108 of the excess of the income of the Municipal Light Department for the calendar years 2020 and 2021 over and above the total expense of the plant as defined in the General Laws, as an item of income to be used by the Assessors in establishing the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Tyler Gibbs, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to authorize the sum of \$153,108 of the excess of the income of the Municipal Light Department for the calendar years 2020 and 2021 over and above the total expense of the plant as defined in the General Laws, as income to be used by the Assessors in establishing the tax rate for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2020.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 28 – LIGHT DEPARTMENT BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the operation and maintenance of the Municipal Light Department and its Depreciation, Construction and Rate Stabilization Funds, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Geraldine Herlihy, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote that the income from the sale of electricity to private consumers, of electricity supplied to municipal buildings, and for municipal power, and of sales of appliances and from jobbing during the calendar year commencing January 1, 2020, be appropriated for the Municipal Light Department, the whole to be expended for the expense of the department for said calendar year, and that if the income exceeds the expense of the department for said calendar year, such part thereof as the Town may vote shall be retained by the Town Treasurer in accordance with applicable law and any further excess shall be transferred to the Depreciation Fund, the Construction Fund, and the Rate Stabilization Fund of said Municipal Light Plant as may be hereafter authorized by the Board of Light Commissioners as outlined in General Laws, Chapter 164, Section 57.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 29 – STREET ACCEPTANCES

To see what action the Town will take relative to accepting streets and authorizing the acquisition of related interests in real estate, according to plans filed with the Town Clerk after approval by the Selectmen and referrals to the Planning Board for a report, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Geraldine Herlihy, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to accept as a public way, Liberty Circle, from Station 0+00.34 to Station 12+83.32 for a distance of approximately 1,282.98 feet along the centerline; and

Patriot Way, from Station 0+25 to Station 5+00 for a distance of approximately 475 feet along the centerline; and

Freedom Lane, from Station 0+00.42 to Station 12+00 for a distance of approximately 1,199.58 feet along the centerline;

all roadways being shown on a plan of land entitled, “Street Acceptances Plan Wachusett Valley Estates” prepared by Meisner Berm Corporation, prepared for Greenstone Reality, LLC, dated January 15, 2020, and on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, said streets having been laid out by the Selectmen and approved by the Planning Board, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or taking by eminent domain easements for public street purposes in said ways and any other interests in real property necessary to complete the acceptance of Liberty Circle, Patriot Way and Freedom Lane as public ways.

MOTION SECONDED

PAMELA HARDING, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE PLANNING BOARD RECOMMENDING THE PASSAGE OF THIS ARTICLE

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 30 – NUISANCE BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to revise the general bylaws by adopting a new Article XXVII, to be entitled “Nuisance Property Bylaw”, which will provide definitions of terms and phrases such as blight, dilapidated, hazard, interested parties, nuisance, occupant, owner, responsible party, and structure, establish property maintenance standards, vest enforcement authority of the Nuisance Property Bylaw with the Town’s Building Commissioner, and establish a schedule of fines for violations, all as shown on a document entitled “Nuisance Property By-Law, Town of Holden By-Laws, Article XXVII”, available online on the Town’s website and on file and available for public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Chiara Barnes, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to revise the general bylaws by adopting a new Article XXVII, to be entitled “Nuisance Property Bylaw”

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 31 – STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AND EROSION CONTROL BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the general bylaws by revising Article XXIV, entitled “Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Bylaw”, to read as “Stormwater Management Bylaw” and as shown on a document entitled “Proposed Revisions to Article XXIV and Article XXV”, available online on the Town’s website and on file and available for public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Anthony Renzoni, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to amend the general bylaws by revising Article XXIV, entitled “Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Bylaw”, to read as “Stormwater Management Bylaw” and as shown on a document entitled “Proposed Revisions to Article XXIV and Article XXV”

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 32 – ILLICIT DISCHARGE CONTROL BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the general bylaws by deleting the entire text of Article XXV, entitled “Illicit Discharge Control”, and further that the Town Clerk is authorized to make non-substantive changes to the numbering of the Articles in the general bylaws to reflect the deletion of the current Article XXV, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Anthony Renzoni, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to amend the general bylaws by deleting the entire text of Article XXV, entitled “Illicit Discharge Control”, and further that the Town Clerk be authorized to make non-substantive changes to the numbering of the Articles in the general bylaws to reflect the deletion of the current Article XXV.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 33 – ADOPTION OF MGL CH. 148, SECTION 26(H) – SPRINKLER IN BOARDING/LODGING HOUSES

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 26H of Chapter 148 of the General Laws to require adequate systems of automatic sprinklers in every lodging house and boarding house in accordance with the terms therein, or act or do anything relative thereto.

MOTION MADE: Robert Lavigne, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Section 26H of Chapter 148 of the General Laws.

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 34 – AUTHORIZATION FOR TOWN MANAGER AND BOS TO PURCHASE OR TAKE EAGLE LAKE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, or taking by eminent domain all rights and interests in the real and personal property known as the Eagle Lake Dam, located on a portion of the property at 1665 Main Street, Holden, Massachusetts and on land adjacent thereto, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town, and to appropriate a sum of money for such purposes, or act in any other way thereon.

MOTION MADE: Robert Lavigne, Board of Selectmen

The Board of Selectmen recommends and I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, or taking by eminent domain all rights and interests in the real and personal property known as the Eagle Lake Dam.

MOTION SECONDED

David White, Finance Committee, reported the Finance Committee voted 8 to 1 not to support this article.

MOVE THE QUESTION AT 9:30PM BY SELECTMAN RENZONI

MOTION SECONDED

MOTION PASSES AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

MOTION PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 35 – CITIZEN’S PETITION – EAGLE LAKE

“To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to obtain, through purchase, sale, or taking, all interest in the real or personal property known as Eagle Lake Dam upon terms and conditions which they may approve, and appropriate funds for these purposes, or take any other action relative thereto.”

MOTION MADE: Gerald Kersus, 201 Kendall Road

I move to withdraw the citizen’s petition request.

MOTION MADE

To adjourn the Annual Town Meeting.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR

TOWN MEETING CONCLUDED AT 9:35PM

RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING FY 2021 BUDGET

FY2020 Voted Budget		FY2021 Recommended	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
1,762,411	Salary & Wages	1,808,954	
4,552,565	Expense	4,980,778	
#1 6,314,976	Total General Government	6,789,732	
Moderator			
100	Salary & Wages	100	
65	Expense	65	
165		165	
Finance Committee			
0	Salary & Wages	0	
1,786	Expense	1,786	
150,000	Reserve Fund	150,000	
151,786		151,786	
Selectmen			
7,250	Salary & Wages	7,250	
24,600	Expense	28,000	
31,850		35,250	
Town Manager & Personnel			
522,054	Salary & Wages	472,331	
26,950	Expense	125,475	
549,004		597,806	
Information Technology			
254,043	Salary & Wages	265,018	
176,619	Expense	155,527	
430,662		420,545	
Accounting			
181,205	Salary & Wages	209,867	
28,700	Expense	33,400	
209,905		243,267	
Treasury			
229,637	Salary & Wages	239,878	
59,400	Expense	71,400	
289,037		311,278	

FY2020 Voted Budget		FY2021 Recommended
	Assessors	
180,860	Salary & Wages	185,727
30,700	Expense	42,300
<u>211,560</u>		<u>228,027</u>
	Legal	
180,000	Expense	180,000
<u>180,000</u>		<u>180,000</u>
	Town Clerk	
167,898	Salary & Wages	216,414
36,745	Expense	44,018
<u>234,643</u>		<u>260,432</u>
	Planning and Development	
185,364	Salary & Wages	208,369
128,900	Expense	171,050
<u>314,264</u>		<u>379,419</u>
	Sealer	
4,000	Salary & Wages	4,000
1,100	Expense	1,700
<u>5,100</u>		<u>5,700</u>
	Insurance	
2,107,000	Expense	2,191,057
<u>2,107,000</u>		<u>2,191,057</u>
	Retirement	
1,600,000	Expense	1,785,000
<u>1,600,000</u>		<u>1,785,000</u>

DEBT SERVICE		
<u>5,405,893</u>	Expense	<u>3,010,877</u>
#2 5,405,893	Total Debt Service	3,010,877
FY2020 Voted Budget		FY2021 Recommended

PUBLIC SAFETY		
5,022,458	Salary & Wages	5,083,873
781,500	Expense	787,900
<u>5,803,958</u>		<u>5,871,773</u>
#3 5,803,958	Total Public Safety	5,871,773

2,269,353	Police	
226,500	Salary & Wages	2,283,369
<u>2,495,853</u>	Expense	<u>239,000</u>
		2,522,369
46,959	Animal Control	
9,200	Salary & Wages	65,349
<u>56,159</u>	Expense	<u>9,200</u>
		74,549
1,987,123	Fire & Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	
288,300	Salary & Wages	1,992,679
<u>2,275,423</u>	Expense	<u>290,750</u>
		2,283,429
207,500	Public Safety Facility	
<u>207,500</u>	Expense	<u>20,27,500</u>
		207,500
643,223	Regional Dispatch	
40,000	Salary & Wages	662,281
<u>683,223</u>	Expense	<u>36,450</u>
		698,731
75,800	Emergency Management	
10,000	Salary & Wages	80,195
<u>85,800</u>	Expense	<u>10,000</u>
		90,195

FY2020	FY2021
Voted Budget	Recommended

PUBLIC WORKS		
1,572,877	Salary & Wages	1625,493
945,820	Expense	1,034,911
<u>500,000</u>	Snow Removal	<u>550,000</u>
#4	3,018,697	3,210,404
	Total Public Works	

188,111	Administration	
11,380	Salary & Wages	196,158
<u>199,491</u>	Expense	<u>12,150</u>
		208,308
167,363	Engineering	
170,950	Salary & Wages	174,950
<u>338,313</u>	Expense	<u>177,050</u>
		352,000

	Highway	
551,320	Salary & Wages	557,869
342,200	Expense	343,950
500,000	Snow Removal	550,000
<u>1,393,520</u>		<u>1,451,819</u>

	Mechanics	
201,855	Salary & Wages	205,837
18,100	Expense	18,411
<u>219,955</u>		<u>224,248</u>

	Building and Grounds	
464,228	Salary & Wages	490,679
355,190	Expense	416,850
<u>819,418</u>		<u>907,529</u>

	Garage	
48,000	Expense	66,500
<u>48,000</u>		<u>66,500</u>

FY2020	FY2021
Voted Budget	Recommended

	WATER/SEWER	
663,846	Salary & Wages	701,649
6,989,737	Expense	7,064,370
82,400	Indirect Costs	82,400
225,000	Emergency Reserve	225,000
225,000	Capital Outlay	80,000
<u>8,185,983</u>		<u>8,153,419</u>
#5	TOTAL WATER/SEWER	8,153,419

	HUMAN SERVICES	
277,854	Salary & Wages	285,012
91,250	Expense	101,250
<u>369,104</u>		<u>386,262</u>
#6	Total Human Services	386,262

	Veterans	
19,375	Salary & Wages	20,361
600	Expense	600
60,000	Aid & Assistance	70,000
<u>79,975</u>		<u>90,961</u>

	Senior Citizens	
258,479	Salary & Wages	264,651
30,650	Expense	30,650
<u>289,129</u>		<u>295,301</u>

EDUCATION		
19,225,254	WRSD Required	20,061,939
7,306,064	WRSD Voluntary	8,142,799
39,726	Debt-Oil Remediation	39,434
1,050,248	Debt -School Construction	1,110,997
2,204,518	Transportation	2,290,978
29,825,810		31,646,147
901,029	Vocational	984,226
#7 30,726,839	Total Education	32,630,373
FY2020		FY2021
Voted Budget		Recommended

CULTURE		
656,319	Salary & Wages	672,344
259,251	Expense	259,426
#8 915,570	Total Culture	931,770

656,319	Library	
255,751	Salary & Wages	672,344
912,070	Expense	255,926
		928,270
0	Historical Comm	
3,500	Salary & Wages	0
3,500	Expense	3,500
		3,500

SOLID WASTE		
51,882	Salary & Wages	52,813
1,267,394	Expense	1,297,941
12,400	Indirect Costs	12,400
0	Capital Outlay	0
#9 1,331,676	TOTAL SOLID WASTE	1,363,154

52,555,037	TOTAL BUDGET	52,831,191
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FY2020
Voted Budget

FY2021
Recommended

REVOLVING FUNDS

RECREATION

222,767	Salary & Wages	225,075
124,076	Expense	158,539
36,165	Indirect Costs	36,165
64,000	Capital Outlay	580,000
447,008	TOTAL RECREATION	999,779

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

226,076	Salary & Wages	236,076
129,944	Expense	148,118
356,020	TOTAL AFTER SCHOOL	384,194

CABLE

101,214	Salary & Wages	105,823
202,678	Expense	157,381
2,600	Indirect Costs	2,600
90,000	Capital Outlay	84,000
396,492	TOTAL CABLE	349,804

INSPECTIONS

147,556	Salary & Wages	152,905
73,640	Expense	80,490
11,400	Indirect Costs	11,400
262,176	TOTAL INSPECTION	244,795

FY 2020 CAPITAL PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT	PROGRAM	CASH	BOND	OTHER	TOTAL
FIRE - EMS	Equipment Vehicles	\$42,000		\$310,000	\$42,000 \$310,000
POLICE	Vehicles	\$65,000			\$65,000
DPW	Infrastructure Improvements Building Maintenance Vehicles Equipment Local Roads Chapter 90 State Aid	\$179,000 \$15,000 \$40,000 \$422,000 \$325,000		\$615,739	\$179,000 \$15,000 \$40,000 \$422,000 \$325,000 \$615,739
DPW WATER/SEWER	Infrastructure Improvements		\$2,400,000	\$80,000	\$2,480,000
RECREATION	Court Maintenance Field Maintenance Playground Surfaces Pool Upgrades			\$25,000 \$100,000 \$35,000 \$420,000	\$25,000 \$100,000 \$35,000 \$420,000
SENIOR CENTER	Vehicle	\$30,000			\$30,000
TOWN MANAGER /IT	IT Equipment	\$9,208			\$9,208
CATV	Equipment			\$84,000	\$84,000
Grand Total		\$1,127,208	\$2,400,000	\$1,669,739	\$5,196,947

FY 2021 Capital Program Detail

DEPARTMENT	EXPENDITURE	CASH	BOND	OTHER	TOTAL
FIRE - EMS	Personal Protective Equipment	\$12,000			\$12,000
	Chaffins Sub-Station Portable Structure	\$30,000			\$30,000
	Ambulance			\$310,000	\$310,000
POLICE	Cruiser	\$65,000			\$65,000
DPW	Bridge Replacement Master Plan	\$ 50,000			\$50,000
	Catch Basin Cleaning Contract	\$90,000			\$90,000
	Drainage Outfall Assessment	\$21,000			\$21,000
	Rehab Rubber Tire Excavator #55	\$40,000			\$40,000
	Specialty Plow Blades	\$50,000			\$50,000
	New Bucket – Catch Basin Cleaner	\$6,000			\$6,000
	LOCAL ROADS/ SIDEWALKS	\$325,000			\$325,000
	CHAPTER 90			\$615,739	\$615,739
	Building Repairs	\$15,000			\$15,000
	Waste Wood Removal – Cemetery	\$18,000			\$18,000
	Replacement Tires-Roadside Mower	\$6,000			\$6,000
	DPW Facility Industrial Equipment	\$360,000			\$360,000
WATER/SEWER	Water Main Replacement and/or lining		\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000
	Inflow & Infiltration		\$950,000		\$950,000
	SCADA Planning, Design & Implementation		\$450,000		\$450,000
	Risk & Resilience Assessment			\$20,000	\$20,000
	Water System Master Plan			\$60,000	60,000
RECREATION	Field Maintenance			\$100,000	\$100,000
	Court Maintenance			\$10,000	\$10,000
	Playground Surfaces/Material			\$35,000	\$35,000
	Shade Structures-Pool			\$20,000	\$20,000
	Fencing Dawson Basketball			\$15,000	\$15,000
	Pool Plumbing Upgrades			\$150,000	\$150,000
	Pool Slide Replacement			\$250,000	\$250,000
SENIOR CENTER	Senior Van	\$30,000			\$30,000
TOWN MGR /IT	UPS Battery Replacements	\$1,100			\$1,100
	UPS Electric Battery for PSB	\$8,108			8,108
CATV	Studio Camera Upgrades			\$70,000	\$70,000
	Remote Studio Upgrades			\$14,000	\$14,000
Grand Total		\$1,127,208	\$2,400,000	\$1,669,739	\$5,196,947

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AVAILABLE FUNDS – See Free Cash

CHERRY SHEET – Cherry-colored (formerly) form showing state charges and reimbursements to the Town as certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

DPW DEPRECIATION FUND – The DPW Depreciation Fund was created at the Town's request by a special act of the state Legislature. It is a Stabilization Fund used for DPW vehicles and equipment purposes only.

ENTERPRISE FUND – Funds that account for all revenues and expenditures for services and allow surpluses to be used to reduce user fees for the services or to pay for capital improvements are Enterprise Funds. The Town has two Enterprise Funds: the Water-Sewer Enterprise Fund, and the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. Each fund has a discrete and independent budget.

FISCAL YEAR – The Town of Holden's Fiscal Year is from July 1 through June 30.

FREE CASH – The amount of surplus revenue, minus uncollected taxes of prior years is called Free Cash. Also known as Unencumbered or Available Funds, Free Cash funds must be certified each year by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue before they can be appropriated by Town Meeting.

GENERAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS—Income derived from motor vehicle excise taxes, interest on investments, license and permit fees, etc.

OVERLAY – Funds set aside to cover abatements and exemptions. This amount is determined by the Board of Assessors.

OVERLAY RESERVE – Unused accumulated amounts of Overlay from previous years that are not required to be held in a specific Overlay account for a given year. Once 'released' by vote of the Board of Assessors, the funds may be used for any municipal purpose.

OPEB TRUST FUND – The Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund was established in 2009 to fund the future obligations of the Town for the Town's share of retirees' health benefits.

RESERVE FUND – A fund established by the Annual Town Meeting. It is under the control of the Finance Committee which may authorize transfers for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures. The fund may be composed of an appropriation of not more than 5% of the tax levy for the preceding year.

REVOLVING FUND – A fund established that credits the revenues received in connection with the programs supported by the fund. Expenditures may be expended without further appropriation up to the balance of the fund or to the total authorized maximum established by Town Meeting. An annual reauthorization by Town Meeting is required. Currently, Holden has the following revolving funds: Recreation, Cable TV, and Inspections.

STABILIZATION FUND – A special account created to provide a reserve for municipal expenditures. A 2/3rds vote by Town Meeting is required to expend these funds. Currently, Holden has stabilization funds set up for General Purposes, Water/Sewer, and Fire Vehicles.

