

MINUTES – ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 4/24/06  
The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM by Moderator Richard Patullo  
Attendance 223

At 7:13 p.m. a motion was made to recess to conduct the Special Town Meeting the motion carried by a majority vote. The meeting reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

**Article 1**                    The Town voted that the Annual Reports, as contained in the Annual  
**REPORTS**                    Town Report for the year 2005, be accepted as printed.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 2**                    The Town voted that the sums of money shown in the column entitled  
**BUDGET**                    “Fiscal 2007 Draft Recommendations” of the Supplementary Report and  
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee, with line 70.4 being  
corrected to read \$415,764, be raised and appropriated for the specific  
purposes designated and that the same be expended only for such  
purposes, each number being considered a separate appropriation and that  
the Town raise and appropriate such sums as may be required to defray  
said charges for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 2007.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

|                           |                                     | Fiscal 2007<br>Draft<br>Recommendations |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b> |                                     |   |
| <b>1.0</b>                | <b>Accountant</b>                   |   |
|                           | 1.1 Salary                          | 22,351.00                               |
|                           | 1.2 Clerical                        | 0.00                                    |
|                           | 1.3 Expenses                        | <u>2,500.00</u>                         |
|                           | <b>Total Accountant</b>             | <b>24,851.00</b>                        |
| <b>2.0</b>                | <b>Advisory Committee</b>           |   |
|                           | 2.1 Clerical                        | 4,070.00                                |
|                           | 2.2 Expenses                        | <u>200.00</u>                           |
|                           | <b>Total Advisory</b>               | <b>4,270.00</b>                         |
| <b>3.0</b>                | <b>Appeals, Board of</b>            |   |
|                           | 3.1 Clerical                        | 2,945.00                                |
|                           | 3.2 Expenses                        | <u>200.00</u>                           |
|                           | <b>Total Appeals</b>                | <b>3,145.00</b>                         |
| <b>4.0</b>                | <b>Assessors, Board of</b>          |   |
|                           | 4.1 Salaries                        | 12,824.00                               |
|                           | 4.2 Clerical                        | 13,703.00                               |
|                           | 4.3 Expenses                        | 2,500.00                                |
|                           | 4.4 Data Processing                 | 0.00                                    |
|                           | 4.5 Revaluation Update              | 4,300.00                                |
|                           | 4.6 Mapping Maintenance             | 900.00                                  |
|                           | 4.7 Computer Maint. & Supp.         | 0.00                                    |
|                           | 4.8 Field Review                    | <u>2,000.00</u>                         |
|                           | <b>Total Assessors</b>              | <b>36,227.00</b>                        |
| <b>5.0</b>                | <b>Building Department Expenses</b> |   |
|                           | 5.1 Code and General Enforcement    | 420.00                                  |
|                           | 5.2 Commissioner and Expenses       | <u>0.00</u>                             |
|                           | <b>Total Building Dept.</b>         | <b>420.00</b>                           |
| <b>6.0</b>                | <b>County Retirement</b>            | <b>131,505.00</b>                       |
| <b>7.0</b>                | <b>Insurance</b>                    |   |
|                           | 7.1 Property and Liability          | 78,000.00                               |
|                           | 7.2 Employee Benefits               | 180,000.00                              |
|                           | 7.3 Unemployment Compensation       | 2,000.00                                |
|                           | 7.4 Longevity                       | <u>0.00</u>                             |
|                           | <b>Total Insurance</b>              | <b>260,000.00</b>                       |
| <b>8.0</b>                | <b>Law and Claims</b>               |   |
|                           | 8.1 General                         | <u>20,000.00</u>                        |
|                           | <b>Total Law</b>                    | <b>20,000.00</b>                        |
| <b>9.0</b>                | <b>Moderator</b>                    |   |

|                                 |  |                   |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------|
|                                 | 9.1 Salary                                 | 0.00              |
|                                 | 9.2 Expenses                               | 100.00            |
|                                 | <b>Total Moderator</b>                     | <b>100.00</b>     |
| <b>10.0</b>                     | <b>Planning Board</b>                      |                   |
|                                 | 10.2 Clerical                              | 9,049.00          |
|                                 | 10.3 Expenses                              | 535.00            |
|                                 | <b>Total Planning Board</b>                | <b>9,584.00</b>   |
| <b>11.0</b>                     | <b>Registrars, Board of (Voters)</b>       |                   |
|                                 | 11.1 Salaries                              | 780.00            |
|                                 | 11.2 Election Expenses                     | 2,900.00          |
|                                 | 11.3 Street Lists                          | 1,900.00          |
|                                 | <b>Total Registrars</b>                    | <b>5,580.00</b>   |
| <b>12.0</b>                     | <b>Selectman</b>                           |                   |
|                                 | 12.1 Salaries                              | 9,327.00          |
|                                 | 12.2 Administrative Asst.                  | 29,784.00         |
|                                 | 12.3 Secretarial                           | 0.00              |
|                                 | 12.4 Expenses                              | 1,600.00          |
|                                 | 12.5 Legal Advertising                     | 400.00            |
|                                 | 12.6 Computer Study Committee              | 0.00              |
|                                 | 12.7 Temporary Help                        | 500.00            |
|                                 | <b>Total Selectman</b>                     | <b>41,611.00</b>  |
|                                 | *8 Secretarial is now 56.2                 |                   |
| <b>13.0</b>                     | <b>Tax Collector</b>                       |                   |
|                                 | 13.1 Salary                                | 24,587.00         |
|                                 | 13.2 Clerical                              | 9,508.00          |
|                                 | 13.3 Expenses                              | 2,000.00          |
|                                 | 13.4 Computer Maintenance                  | 4,992.00          |
|                                 | 13.5 Tax Title Work                        | 250.00            |
|                                 | 13.6 Tax Title Admin.                      | 0.00              |
|                                 | <b>Total Tax Collector</b>                 | <b>41,337.00</b>  |
| <b>14.0</b>                     | <b>Town Clerk</b>                          |                   |
|                                 | 14.1 Salary                                | 24,587.00         |
|                                 | 14.2 Clerical                              | 6,339.00          |
|                                 | 14.3 Expenses                              | 1,000.00          |
|                                 | 14.4 Town Publications                     | 0.00              |
|                                 | <b>Total Town Clerk</b>                    | <b>31,926.00</b>  |
| <b>15.0</b>                     | <b>Town Report</b>                         | <b>3,000.00</b>   |
| <b>16.0</b>                     | <b>Treasurer</b>                           |                   |
|                                 | 16.1 Salary                                | 29,922.00         |
|                                 | 16.2 Clerical                              | 7,183.00          |
|                                 | 16.3 Expenses                              | 900.00            |
|                                 | 16.4 Certifying Notes                      | 100.00            |
|                                 | 16.5 Interest on Loans (short term)        | 2,500.00          |
|                                 | 16.6 Tax Title Expense                     | 1,000.00          |
|                                 | 16.7 Payroll Service                       | 5,000.00          |
|                                 | 16.8 Bank Service Charges                  | 100.00            |
|                                 | 16.9 Tax Title Admin.                      | 0.00              |
|                                 | <b>Total Treasurer</b>                     | <b>46,705.00</b>  |
| <b>17.0</b>                     | <b>Veterans' Benefits</b>                  | <b>9,500.00</b>   |
| <b>18.0</b>                     | <b>Greater Springfield Senior Services</b> | <b>467.00</b>     |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b> |  | <b>670,228.00</b> |
| <b>GENERAL TOWN SERVICES</b>    |  |                   |
| <b>20.0</b>                     | <b>Academy Hall Maintenance</b>            | <b>2,500.00</b>   |
| <b>21.0</b>                     | <b>Cemetery Commission</b>                 |                   |
|                                 | 21.1 Clerical                              | 607.00            |
|                                 | 21.2 Expenses                              | 80.00             |
|                                 | 21.3 Maintenance                           | 500.00            |
|                                 | <b>Total Cemetery Commission</b>           | <b>1,187.00</b>   |
| <b>22.0</b>                     | <b>Conservation Commission</b>             |                   |
|                                 | 22.1 Clerical                              | 5,300.00          |
|                                 | 22.2 Expenses                              | 1,200.00          |

|             |                                      |                   |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
|             | <b>Total Conservation Commission</b> | <b>6,500.00</b>   |
| <b>23.0</b> | <b>Transfer Station</b>              |                   |
|             | 23.1 Operation                       | 90,000.00         |
|             | 23.2 Monitoring/Testing              | 14,400.00         |
|             | <b>Total Transfer Station</b>        | <b>104,400.00</b> |
| <b>24.0</b> | <b>School Buildings Repairs</b>      | <b>0.00</b>       |
| <b>25.0</b> |                                      |                   |
| <b>26.0</b> | <b>Library</b>                       |                   |
|             | 26.1 Salaries                        |                   |
|             | 26.2 Expenses                        |                   |
|             | 26.3 Books and Periodicals           |                   |
|             | <b>Total Library</b>                 | <b>70,000.00</b>  |
| <b>27.0</b> | <b>Town Events</b>                   | <b>800.00</b>     |
| <b>29.0</b> | <b>Office Equipment</b>              |                   |
|             | 29.1 Acquisition                     | 500.00            |
|             | 29.2 Maintenance                     | 7,000.00          |
|             | 29.3 Supplies                        | 5,000.00          |
|             | 29.4 Postage                         | 10,000.00         |
|             | <b>Total Office Equipment</b>        | <b>22,500.00</b>  |
| <b>30.0</b> | <b>Parks and Recreation</b>          |                   |
|             | 30.1 Salaries                        | 5,000.00          |
|             | 30.2 Operating Expenses              | 4,000.00          |
|             | 30.3 Capital Improvements            | 2,500.00          |
|             | 30.4 Baseball                        | 0.00              |
|             | 30.5 Softball                        | 0.00              |
|             | 30.6 Girls Soccer                    | 0.00              |
|             | 30.7 Boys Soccer                     | 0.00              |
|             | 30.8 Basketball                      | 0.00              |
|             | 30.9 Director's Salary               | 0.00              |
|             | <b>Total Parks and Recreation</b>    | <b>11,500.00</b>  |
| <b>31.0</b> |                                      |                   |
| <b>32.0</b> | <b>Town House Maintenance</b>        |                   |
|             | 32.1 Custodial                       | 16,000.00         |
|             | 32.2 Maintenance and Repairs         | 6,800.00          |
|             | 32.3 Heat and Utilities              | 35,000.00         |
|             | <b>Total Town House Maintenance</b>  | <b>57,800.00</b>  |
|             | *1STM Nov 2005, Article 2            |                   |
|             | \$ DIFFERENCE of \$7,000             |                   |
| <b>33.0</b> |                                      |                   |
| <b>34.0</b> | <b>Ambulance</b>                     | <b>12,703.00</b>  |
| <b>35.0</b> | <b>Gasoline</b>                      | <b>35,000.00</b>  |
|             | *2 STM Nov 2005, Article 2           |                   |
|             | \$ DIFFERENCE of \$5,000             |                   |
| <b>36.0</b> | <b>Street Lighting</b>               | <b>12,100.00</b>  |
|             | *3 STM Nov 2005, Article 2           |                   |
|             | \$ DIFFERENCE of \$2,500             |                   |
| <b>37.0</b> | <b>Council on Aging</b>              |                   |
|             | 37.1 Director's Salary               | 23,516.00         |
|             | 37.2 Clerk                           | 7,722.00          |
|             | 37.3 Expenses                        | 1,000.00          |
|             | 37.4 Temporary Help                  | 0.00              |
|             | <b>Total Council on Aging</b>        | <b>32,238.00</b>  |
| <b>38.0</b> | <b>Senior Center</b>                 |                   |
|             | 38.1 Custodial                       | 6,550.00          |
|             | 38.2 Utilities                       | 9,000.00          |
|             | 38.3 Building Maintenance            | 6,000.00          |
|             | 38.4 Grounds Maintenance             | 0.00              |
|             | <b>Total Senior Center</b>           | <b>21,550.00</b>  |
| <b>39.0</b> | <b>Historical Commission</b>         | <b>200.00</b>     |

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|                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Total General Town Services</b> | <b>390,978.00</b> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|

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**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

|             |                                 |                  |
|-------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>40.0</b> | <b>Superintendent's Salary</b>  | <b>63,052.00</b> |
| <b>41.0</b> | <b>Tree Warden</b>              |                  |
|             | 41.1 Expenses                   | 5,000.00         |
|             | 41.2 Tree Planting              |                  |
|             | 41.3 Insect Pest Control        |                  |
| <b>42.0</b> | <b>Public Grounds</b>           | <b>30,938.00</b> |
| <b>43.0</b> | <b>Highway Maintenance</b>      | <b>76,320.00</b> |
|             | 43.1 Expenses                   |                  |
|             | 43.2 Paving                     |                  |
| <b>44.0</b> | <b>General Highway Expense</b>  | <b>80,680.00</b> |
| <b>45.0</b> | <b>Snow and Ice Removal</b>     | <b>37,224.00</b> |
| <b>46.0</b> | <b>Contract Services</b>        |                  |
|             | 46.1 Street Sweeping            |                  |
|             | 46.2 Catch Basin Cleaning       | 34,500.00        |
|             | *17 STM Oct. 2004, Article 3    |                  |
| <b>47.0</b> | <b>Other Highway Accounts</b>   |                  |
|             | 47.1 Road Machinery Maintenance | 10,000.00        |
|             | 47.2 Highway Engineering        |                  |
|             | 47.3 Equipment Acquisition      |                  |
| <b>48.0</b> | <b>Building Expenses</b>        |                  |
|             | 48.1 Utilities                  | 7000.00          |

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|                                 |                   |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>TOTAL HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b> | <b>344,714.00</b> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|

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**PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY**

|              |                                |                  |
|--------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>50.0</b>  | <b>Animal Inspection</b>       |                  |
|              | 50.1 Salary                    | 1,900.00         |
|              | 50.2 Expenses                  | 240.00           |
|              | 50.3 Rabies Management         | 0.00             |
|              | <b>Total Animal Inspection</b> | <b>2,140.00</b>  |
| <b>51.0</b>  | <b>Emergency Management</b>    | <b>1,000.00</b>  |
| <b>52.0</b>  | <b>Dog Officer</b>             |                  |
|              | 52.1 Animal Control Account    | 13,545.00        |
|              | 52.2 Dog Damage Fund           | 300.00           |
|              | <b>Total Dog Officer</b>       | <b>13,845.00</b> |
| <b>53.0</b>  | <b>Fire Department</b>         |                  |
|              | 53.1 Fire Chief Salary         | 912.00           |
|              | 53.2 Fire Chief Expenses       | 1,230.00         |
|              | 53.3 Operation                 | 25,154.00        |
|              | <b>Total Fire Department</b>   | <b>27,296.00</b> |
|              | *4 STM Nov 2005, Article 2     |                  |
|              | \$ DIFFERENCE of \$2,000       |                  |
| <b>54.0</b>  | <b>Forest Fires</b>            | <b>1,418.00</b>  |
| <b>55.0</b>  | <b>Forest Fire Warden</b>      | <b>585.00</b>    |
| <b>56.0</b>  | <b>Health, Board of</b>        |                  |
|              | 56.1 Salary                    | 3,764.00         |
|              | 56.2 Clerk Salary              | 17,760.00        |
|              | 56.3 Expenses                  | 3,000.00         |
|              | <b>Total Board of Health</b>   | <b>24,524.00</b> |
| <b>565.5</b> | <b>Water District</b>          |                  |
|              | 565.1 Operations               | 6,889.00         |
|              | 565.2 Testing                  | 2,900.00         |
|              | <b>Total Water District</b>    | <b>9,789.00</b>  |
| <b>57.0</b>  | <b>Police</b>                  |                  |
|              | 57.1 Chief's Salary            | 65,205.00        |
|              | 57.2 General Salaries          | 698,880.00       |
|              | 57.3 Maintenance of Cruisers   | 7,282.00         |
|              | 57.4 General Expenses          | 39,943.00        |
|              | 57.5 New Cruisers              | 31,000.00        |
|              | 57.6 Training                  | 27,763.00        |
|              | 57.7 Equipment                 | 6,828.00         |



**Article 7  
REVOLVING  
FUND**

The Town voted to authorize the Town, acting through its **Library** Trustees, to establish a revolving fund, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving fines paid for overdue, lost and/or damaged materials, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Library Trustees to defray the costs of repairs and supplies and to purchase books and materials, said fund not to exceed \$6,000 for the fiscal year 2007.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 8  
REVOLVING  
FUND**

The Town voted to authorize the Town, acting through its **Council** on **Aging**, to establish a revolving fund, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving proceeds from classes, programs and other fees, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Council on Aging to defray the cost of classes, supplies and other necessary expenses, said fund not to exceed \$35,000 for the fiscal year 2007.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 9  
TREASURER/  
ACCOUNTANT**

The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** to fund an upgrade in software and hardware for the Town Treasurer and Town Accountant.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 10  
COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION  
COMMITTEE**

The Town voted to hear the report of the Community Preservation Committee.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

The Town voted to accept the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee to contribute \$20,925.00 to the Park and Recreation Committee, for improvements to Memorial Park.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

The Town voted to accept the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee to contribute \$80,000.00 to assist the Park and Recreation Committee and Memorial Park Project, a private organization, to establish a spray park at Memorial Park. Memorial Park Project has agreed to assume the financial burden of maintenance of the spray park for the first 3 years. A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

**Article 11  
CAPITAL  
PLANNING  
COMMITTEE**

The Town voted to hear the report and recommendations of the Capital Planning Committee.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

**Article 12  
POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

The Town voted to take no action on this article.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 13  
HIGHWAY  
STATE AID**

The Town voted to accept any monies made available through Chapter 90 funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of local aid fund distribution pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws and be allowed to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement.

A 2/3 vote was declared by the Moderator.

**Article 14  
HIGHWAY**

The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$49,000** to purchase a replacement one-ton dump truck with plow.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 15  
INFRA-  
STRUCTURE  
IMPROVEMENTS**

The Town voted to appropriate **\$4,000,000** for road, intersection and drainage improvements and reconstruction, consisting of the resurfacing thereof with bituminous concrete or other road material, including leveling, structural overlays, utility adjustments, minor drainage improvements and curbing, the replacement of culverts and for design, permitting, appraisals, permanent and temporary easements, construction and services during construction and project contingency; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is

authorized to borrow \$4,000,000 under G.L. c.44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to acquire, accept as a gift, or take by eminent domain permanent and/or temporary easements for such drainage system improvements; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project;\* provided, however, that this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59, Section 21C (Proposition 2 1/2) amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote.

A 2/3 vote was declared by the Moderator

\*Override vote June 6, 2006 failed

**Article 16  
CONSERVATION  
FUND**

The Town **defeated** a motion to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for the Conservation Fund, said fund to be used for the purpose of acquiring available land for the Town for conservation purposes, if said purchase is voted upon and approved at an Annual or Special Town Meeting prior to such purpose.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 17  
LIBRARY  
ADDITIONAL  
STATE AID**

The Town voted that in Fiscal Year 2007, if additional state aid for the library is received, this money will be made available for Library Trustees to use at their discretion.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 18  
ASSESSORS**

The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$12,000** for the mandated full list and measure of all real estate and personal property in the Town.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 19  
COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION  
COMMITTEE**

The Town voted to accept the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee for the 5th year's appropriation of \$20,000 for the purchase of Minnechaug Mountain as initially voted pursuant to Article 16 at the Special Town Meeting on October 21, 2002.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 20  
COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION  
ACT**

The Town **defeated** a motion to revoke its acceptance of General Laws Chapter 44B, Sections 3 to 7, (the Community Preservation Act) as adopted pursuant to Article 18 at the Annual Town Meeting on April 30, 2001 and the referendum on May 7, 2001, this revocation to also be subject to approval by the voters at an election held after May 7, 2006.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 21  
BYLAW**

The Town voted to amend Chapter II, Section 2 of the General Bylaws, by changing polling hours from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm to 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 22  
ZONING**

\*The Town **defeated** a motion to amend the Zoning By-law as described in Article 22 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.  
\* A motion to amend the article to read in part "and every resident member must be aged 30 or older" was deemed out of order by the Moderator who explained that residents were not given sufficient notification of the change.

Lack of a 2/3 vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 23  
ZONING  
BYLAW**

The Town voted to amend the Zoning By-law as described in Article 23 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

A 2/3 vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 24  
BYLAW**

A motion to substitute the language of this Article to read "I move that the Town vote to take no action" was seconded and passed by a declared majority vote.

The Town voted to take no action on Article 24 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 25  
RESERVE  
FUND**

The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$8047.00**  
for the Reserve Fund.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Article 26  
STABILIZATION  
FUND**

The Town voted to take no action on Article 26.

A 2/3 vote was declared by the Moderator.

**Article 27  
REDUCING  
TAX RATE**

The Town voted to take no action on Article 27

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**A motion to adjourn was made and passed by a declared majority vote at 11:02PM.**