

**Special Town Meeting (October 16, 2023)**

<p>Article 1 - To make adjustments to the FY24 operating budget</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Yes - The adjustments made will help the Town support new salary schedules, which will make us more competitive and attract/retain excellent staff. The adjustments also help the Town reach its fiscal policy of having a Reserve Fund at 5% of the operating budget. The net impact of all of the adjustments totals \$335.2K (.19% of the FY24 budget passed at Annual Town Meeting).</p>
<p>Article 2 - To appropriate \$596.2 into the General Stabilization Account</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 3 - To appropriate \$350K in capital improvements projects for FY24</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Yes - \$250K is being appropriated to the schools to add temporary HVAC-cooling units to the upper floor rooms, mostly at the high school. While this is a temporary fix, I am happy to see investments here to ensure that our students and staff are in better conditions. As our summer days get hotter through the years, a long-term solution to heating issues at our public buildings, especially our schools, is imperative. The remaining funds have been appropriated to upgrade building security at our schools and for hardware for the IT dept.</p>
<p>Article 4 - To rescind the excess amount of \$40.6M authorized but unissued borrowing for the purpose of constructing the new Beal School</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Yes - This action is necessary because it benefits the bond rating process. Maintaining our AAA bond rating is crucial and is a great benefit to the taxpayers.</p>
<p>Article 5 - To lower the interest rate for tax deferral and recovery agreements as provided by M.G.L. Ch. 59 Sec. 5, Clauses 18A and 41A from 8% to 4%</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Yes - Adopting this helps residents who fall behind and defer their real estate taxes. When properties defer payments, a lien is placed on the property - those liens now will have a lower interest rate of 4% so as not to hurt residents even more who are struggling.</p>
<p>Article 6 - To appropriate \$70K from CPC to acquire and restore the Town's 3rd motorized fire apparatus, a 1926 American LaFrance Fire Engine</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Yes - Acquiring and preserving this historic asset is an exciting opportunity that will hopefully be on display in time for the Town's 300th celebration in 2027.</p>
<p>Article 7 - To update the Dog Control Law to comply with state law and update the fines listed</p> <p>Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 8 - To authorize the Town Clerk to make non-substantive, administrative changes to the numbering/lettering of the General Bylaws</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Passed	
Article 9 - To authorize the Town Clerk to make non-substantive, administrative changes to the numbering/lettering of the Personnel Bylaws	Yes
Passed	