

Special Town Meeting (October 17, 2022)

<p>Article 1 (To update the Dog Control Law to reduce the number of days the Town is responsible for kenneling lost dogs from 10 days to 7 days)</p> <p>*Defeated</p>	<p>Yes - I voted in favor of this change to align our Town bylaws with the General Laws of the Commonwealth. According to the Police Chief, lost dogs are typically returned 1-2 days after being placed at the Animal Rescue League in Worcester. Ultimately, I am pleased that the Town Meeting opted to leave the Dog Law unchanged, which will grant owners more days to be reunited with their lost pets. The cost to impound a lost dog is \$25/night, so overall there is no large fiscal impact to keep the lost pets under the authority of the Town for the maximum of 10 days vs 7 days.</p>
<p>Article 2 (To increase the fine for handicap parking violations from \$100 to \$300)</p> <p>*Passed</p>	<p>Yes - While I would ideally like to see no money raised from this fine, I am pleased that the money would be split to support the Commission on Disabilities' mission to improve accessibility issues throughout the town.</p>
<p>Article 3 (To amend the Tree Bylaw to set the limits on fines to \$300)</p> <p>*Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 4 (To amend the FY23 Operating Budget - \$181,937.50 from taxation to the Finance Committee and the Long Term Debt Interest: Police Station and Public Safety Radio project; and transfer \$140,420.99 between various departments)</p> <p>*Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 5 (To raise and appropriate \$47,810 into the General Stabilization Account)</p> <p>*Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 6 (To raise and appropriate \$7,100 to fund enhanced physicals for firefighters)</p> <p>*Passed</p>	<p>Yes - This amount will supplement the grants the Town is using to fund this so that all of our firefighters will be able to receive one of these life-saving physicals.</p>
<p>Article 7 (To raise and appropriate \$20K to fund the replacement of a hybrid police cruiser)</p> <p>*Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 8 (To raise and appropriate \$33.5K to fund a Unified Dispatch Staffing and Operations Study)</p> <p>*Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 9 (To raise and appropriate \$185K to fund HVAC repairs and improvements at Floral Street School)</p> <p>*Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Article 10 (To raise and appropriate \$100K to fund a Primary Address Table system) *Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 11 (To raise and appropriate \$200K to fund the Cemetery Expansion Design) *Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 12 (To authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift a portion of 32 Olde Colony Drive for open space purposes) *Passed</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 13 (To appropriate \$200K to authorize the acquisition of a parcel of land at 12 Chase Terrace)</p> <p>*Defeated</p>	<p>No - Initially I supported this Article because I thought it would be a good opportunity to help boost the Town’s vision in revitalizing the Town Center, which is why I recommended it in my capacity as a Finance Committee Member. Upon hearing the discussion at Town Meeting, I decided to vote against this Article, because I believe that we need a more holistic approach to addressing the concerns of the Town Center.</p>