

Town of Wrentham, Massachusetts
Motions and Recommendations of the Finance Committee
Special Town Meeting
Monday, April 25, 2011

ARTICLE 1: Move that the Town vote to appropriate the by transfer from unappropriated funds in the treasury the sum of \$3077.37 to pay for Fiscal Year 2010 unpaid bills. Said sum to be distributed as follows:

Payee	Amount	Explanation
WEST Payment Center	77.37	Monthly subscription for law books
Dr Andrew Geller	2,500.00	For EMT training
Joseph Galvao	500.00	For Hazardous Duty pay
And to appropriate by transfer from Water Retained Earnings the following sum to IPREO:	\$1000.00	Bonding for Taunton St water project

Discussion: Unpaid bills are bills for goods and services provided in the previous fiscal year and which were not received by the Town until the current fiscal year. These are normally addressed at the November Special Town Meeting. The bills for the four items cited here were received after the November STM and the town has an obligation to pay them.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to approve Article 1.

ARTICLE 2: Move that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from unappropriated funds in the treasury the sum of \$355,927 to supplement the current Fiscal Year 2011 operating budgets and to be distributed as follows:

Expense	Amount	Explanation
To Snow and Ice	\$331,538.00	Historically the Town purposely under funds the Snow & Ice budget and supplements the money as needed at a Town meeting after the winter. This amount will supplement the budgeted \$150,000, bringing the total requirement for this winter to \$481,538.
To DPW Expenses	\$10,000.00	This funds the Hazardous Waste Day to be conducted on May 14.
To Veteran's Agent Expenses	\$7,000.00	Current economic conditions continue to cause an increase in benefits requests. We are obligated to distribute

Expense	Amount	Explanation
		benefits to those qualified and are reimbursed 75% of the outlay by the state.
To Fire Expenses	\$3,780.00	The Town appropriated \$5000 at the Nov 09 STM to support a grant the fire department received for critical equipment. In June 10, only a portion of that funding had been expended and the remainder (\$3,780) was inadvertently closed out to Free Cash. In order to complete the grant obligation requirements, the \$3,780 needs to be reinstated for expenditure.
To Assessor's Expenses	\$568.00	This funds maintenance required for the Assessor's town owned vehicle, an expense not in their budget.
To Town Clerk Expenses	\$3,041.00	This amount is required to augment funding for the May special election for the debt exclusion.
And to transfer from Planning Board Salary to Planning Board Expenses the sum of \$645.00		This is an intradepartmental transfer. No new funding is required, but the transfer from salary to expenses requires approval.

Discussion: The total funding requirement for this article (\$355,927) will be funded from Free Cash (unappropriated funds in the treasury).

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to approve Article 2.

ARTICLE 3: Move that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone action on this article.

Discussion: When our ambulance is unavailable to respond to an emergency in town, we must rely on assistance from other towns via a mutual aid agreement which is then reimbursed. However there are currently no reimbursements due.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 3.

ARTICLE 4: Move that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone action on this article.

Discussion: The Fire and Police Retiree prescription co-pays are a contractually obligated expense that is funded at Town Meeting as needed. Currently, this account is funded adequately to meet projected requirements through next November. No new funding is required at this time.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 4.

ARTICLE 5: Move that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from unappropriated funds in the treasury the sum of \$5,000.00 to purchase or lease and to install an auxiliary receiving station for Public Safety Communications, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.

Discussion: When the communications tower was moved from the Morse property to Rhodes Drive in the west end of town, we lost line of sight to the mall and we have very limited portable talk back at the mall. The funding is for the town to put up a receiver at Knuckup Hill which is the recommendation of the Public Safety Communications Review Committee. The project is expected to cost \$10,000 and we received a donation in the amount of \$5,000 to cover half of the cost.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to approve Article 5.

ARTICLE 6: Move that the Town vote to transfer \$20,020.00 from the account established under Article 25 of the Special Town Meeting of November 12, 2002 (septic system upgrade loan program) to the General Fund in order to offset the Town's payments to the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust (MWPAT) in connection with that program.

Discussion: The Water Pollution Abatement Trust is a septic upgrade loan program that provides a means for homeowners to borrow money from the Commonwealth via the town to upgrade their septic systems. When the homeowner pays the town back, this money must be transferred from the November 2002 Article 25 account to the general fund so that the Town can then repay the MWPAT. No new funding is required for this article.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to approve Article 6.

ARTICLE 7: Move that the Town vote to appropriate by transfer from unappropriated funds in the treasury the sum of \$15,000.00 to fund the milfoil and tapegrass aquatic weed control program at Lake Pearl. Said sum to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectman.

Discussion: This funding is required to continue the very successful milfoil and tapegrass aquatic weed control program for Lake Pearl.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to approve Article 7.

ARTICLE 8: Move that the Town vote to grant the Board of Selectmen permission to sell surplus property or materials of the Town, exclusive of buildings and land, no longer needed by the Town.

Discussion: This is an annual procedural action that requires approval of Town Meeting. This authority is required for actions such as when the town purchases a new police cruiser to replace an older vehicle. The older vehicle becomes surplus and this authority is required to dispose of that vehicle.

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to approve Article 8.

ARTICLE 9: Move that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone action on this article.

Discussion: The Finance Committee has received a set of recommended changes to the Personnel By Law Salary Schedule from the Personnel Board. Our recommendation at this time is to postpone action on these changes and address them in conjunction with the Annual Town Meeting continuation in June so that our recommendations are consistent with other budgetary recommendations that will be put forward at that time. (Article 9 of the ATM addresses Personnel By Law changes and is among the articles tabled until June.)

The Finance Committee recommends that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 9.