### Town of Arlington Massachusetts

# **Report of the Finance Committee**



# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING Monday, April 27, 2015

#### THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

#### ALLAN TOSTI, Chairman

RICHARD C. FANNING, *Vice Chairman* CHARLES T. FOSKETT, *Vice Chairman* 

ALAN JONES, Vice Chairman PETER B. HOWARD, Secretary

PRECINCT	TERM ENDS	PRECINCT	TERM ENDS
1 JOHN J. DEYST, JR.	2015	11 THOMAS CACCAVARO JR.	2017
2 STEPHEN W. DECOURCEY	2016	12 KENNETH J. SIMMONS	2015
3 ALLAN TOSTI	2015	13 PAUL BAYER	2016
4 LEN KARDON	2015	14 ALAN JONES	2016
5 MARY MARGARET FRANCLEMONT	2017	15 RICHARD C. FANNING	2015
6 CAROLYN WHITE	2016	16 WILLIAM KELLAR	2017
7 JONATHAN WALLACH	2016	17 GRANT GIBIAN	2015
8 CHARLES T. FOSKETT	2016	18 ROBIT K. DUVADIE	2016
9 BRIAN BECK	2015	19 CHRISTINE DESHLER	2015
10 PETER B. HOWARD	2017	20 DEAN CARMAN	2017
		21 DAVID MCKENNA	2015

#### GLORIA TURKALL

Executive Secretary

The Finance Committee was established by vote of the Town over a century ago on March 7, 1895. Article 33 provided for the selection of a "committee of twenty-one", which would consider all articles in the warrant involving an appropriation of money and "make report thereof in print, with their estimates and recommendations for final action of the town....."

Arlington's Finance Committee, however, was not the first in the state. According to the Massachusetts Finance Committee Handbook, "The Finance Committee's beginning was the action of a group of citizens of Quincy in 1870, who created themselves a committee to restore financial order." In 1910, the legislature required finance committees for every town "whose valuation for the purposes of apportioning the state tax exceeds one million dollars." Chapter 39, Section 16, also provided that any other town may "by by-law provide for the election or the appointment and duties of appropriation, advisory or finance committees, who shall consider any or all municipal questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the town...."

In Arlington, the duties and responsibilities of the Finance Committee are stated in the Town Manager Act, Sections 31-35, and in the Bylaws, Title I, Article 7. Finance Committee members must be registered voters of the town. They are appointed by a three-member committee composed of the Moderator, the chairman of the Finance Committee and the chairman of the Board of Trust Fund Commissioners.

Under Section 4 of Article 7 of Title I of the Bylaws, the Finance Committee "shall consider all articles contained in any warrant except articles on zoning...and those articles which do not require or request an appropriation of money...said committee shall make recommendations, and shall report in print, if possible at or prior to each town meeting, but the omission of said committee so to consider, recommend and/or report shall not affect the validity of any vote or other action at any town meeting. The committee shall also make such general suggestions, criticisms and recommendations, as it may deem expedient. Nothing contained in this section shall preclude the Committee from considering, if it sees fit, articles which do not require or request an appropriation of money."

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Finance Committee	2
Glossary	3
Report of the Chair of the Finance Committee	4
Recommendations Articles Annual Town Meeting	6
Recommendations Budgets	Appendix B
Summary of Finance Committee Recommendations	Appendix C
Five Year Revenue and Expenditure Projection (Report from the Town Manager)	Appendix D
Water Bodies Fund Projected Revenues and Expenditures	AppendixE
MBTA Local Assessment on Cities and Towns	AppendixF

#### **GLOSSARY**

**AVAILABLE FUNDS** -- See Unencumbered Funds

**CHERRY SHEET** – A formerly, cherry-colored form showing state and county charges and reimbursement to the Town as certified by the State Director of Accounts.

**ENTERPRISE FUNDS** -- 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. Each fund has an independent budget. Losses are made up from the Town's general fund. Presently, Arlington has enterprise funds for Council on Aging Transportation, Recreation, Veterans' Memorial Rink, Water & Sewer and Youth Services.

FISCAL YEAR -- July 1 through June 30.

**FREE CASH** -- See Unencumbered Funds.

**OVERLAY** -- Funds set aside to cover abatements and exemptions. The amount is determined by the Board of Assessors.

**OVERLAY RESERVE** -- Unused accumulated amount of Overlay for previous years that is not required to be held in a specific Overlay account for a given year. Once released by the Board of Assessors, the funds may be used for any municipal purpose.

**RESERVE FUND** -- A fund established by the Annual Town Meeting. It is under 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.

**STABILIZATION FUND** -- A special account created to provide a reserve for municipal expenditures. Transfers into and out of these funds require a 2/3 vote of Town Meeting.

**SURPLUS REVENUE** -- The total amount of cash, accounts receivable, and other current assets that exceed liabilities and reserves.

**UNENCUMBERED FUNDS** -- The amount of surplus revenue, minus uncollected taxes of prior years. Unencumbered funds must be certified by the State Bureau of Accounts before they can be used. Also known as Free Cash or Available Funds.

#### REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Town is now entering the second year beyond the three year plan developed as a promise to the voters in exchange for their approval of the tax override in 2011. The plan has worked well not only because of the successful override and the caps on Town spending, but also because of the successful implementation of the legislation allowing towns to enter the State Group Insurance Commission ("GIC") to cover their employee health insurance.

While the combination of joining the GIC, the 2011 override and projected increases in state aid and local receipts will allow the Town to have balanced budgets which protect services and the taxpayer for several years into the future, the projected deficit in fiscal year 2020 was becoming extremely troubling. The Long Range Planning Committee reviewed all of the assumptions and modified several that members believed were too conservative. But the committee needed to do more to change the rate of expenditure growth. At the recommendation of the Town Manager, the rates of the budget's allowable growth were reduced from 3.5% for the Town budgets to 3.25% in fiscal year 2016 and 3.0% for the future. The schools will stay at 3.5% for fiscal year 2016, go to 3.25% for fiscal year 2017 and 3.0% into the future. The schools will still be allowed to grow 7% for special education and an allowance for change in the student body size as agreed to last year. See Appendix D for a breakdown of projected revenue and expenditures. These changes put the first deficit off for one more year until 2021 and reduced its size, but unless state aid increases at a higher level, more will have to be done in the future to reduce the projected deficit.

Under this policy, the Finance Committee, in cooperation with other Town officials, proceeded to move ahead with the fiscal year 2016 budget. Both the Town Manager and School Superintendent presented budgets within the limits as promised to the voters and modified as described above. Our initial revenue projections were based upon levels agreed to by various Town officials and local aid as recommended by the Governor and modified by the House Ways and Means Committee. The Finance Committee has been working since mid January reviewing budgets and warrant articles and examining the revenue projections for next year. We waited until the House Ways and Means Committee reported their recommendations on April 15<sup>th</sup>, fine tuned the numbers, and went to print with the Finance Committee Report making it available to you as soon as possible.

We have thoroughly reviewed all of the budgets, continued to fund the long term stabilization fund and dedicated to the Other Post Employment Benefits Fund (OPEB) the full amount we had utilized in past years including an additional amount from the Town Manager's share of the increases allowed by the long term financing plan. We have been concerned about continuing deficits in the snow and ice budget, which have occurred despite our increases to the budget over the last 10 years and increases in the Town's reserve fund. This year we have spent over \$2 million to keep our streets open during a record snow fall. We will be using the entire snow and ice budget, \$500,000 from the reserve fund, plus transfers from other budgets and will still have to roll a \$500,000 deficit into next year. This budget increases the snow and ice budget by another \$75,000 to improve the situation for next year. We are also recommending the addition of funds to the Override Stabilization Fund as promised to the voters to postpone the need for

future tax increases, and continuing to monitor revenues and expenditures to keep future budgets balanced.

We have included two additional tables in Appendices E and F. Appendix E demonstrates the revenues and expenditures of the water bodies fund which the Town Meeting has supported for many years. The Finance Committee has requested a comprehensive report on all of the Town's water bodies for the next Annual Town Meeting, so the Finance Committee and the Town Meeting can get a better view of the problems the water bodies face in an urban environment and the resources needed to maintain them in the future.

Appendix F demonstrates what many consider a great inequity in the level of assessments by the MBTA on local municipalities. One has only to look at the assessment on Arlington versus those of Braintree and Quincy to see that something is very wrong. The Finance Committee has collaborated with other Town officials to advocate for action on this issue.

In closing, we need to emphasize the importance of controlling appropriations in the fiscal year 2016 budget. In the fall of 2014, when we last issued Town bonds, the Town maintained its high AAA rating from Standard and Poor's, which rates the Town's bonds. We accomplished this because we have a multi-year revenue and expenditure plan, a capital plan with strong support from Town Meeting, a strong reserve position and continued funding of the retiree health insurance fund. We cannot use any more of the Town's reserves without jeopardizing the Town's future financial condition and forcing an override sooner than currently projected. The voters must know that the Town can control expenditures and maintain a balanced budget. We need to utilize conservative financial practices if we are to maintain our high credit rating, which lowers interest costs for future bonding and keeps faith with our promise to the voters.

As in past years, we ask for your support in keeping the budgets balanced. We have allocated revenues as prudently and fairly as possible. Proposed increases must be balanced by reductions elsewhere. As always, we are available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Tosti, Chair Arlington Finance Committee

#### The Finance Committee recommends passages of the following votes:

(Unless otherwise indicated, the following recommendations were by unanimous votes: any exceptions are noted in parentheses following the text of the recommended vote. The Chairman votes only when the recommendation of the Finance Committee will be affected.)

### ARTICLES 2-5 The Redevelopment Board and Board of Selectmen will report on these articles.

## ARTICLE 6 ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENT/DOCUMENTED ZONING REVIEWS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws to require that all applications for building permits, special permits, and variances undergo review for compliance with the Zoning Bylaw by the Inspector of Buildings, that the results of such reviews be documented and kept on file by the Inspector of Buildings, and that the documented reviews be provided to the Arlington Redevelopment Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals before they take action on any applications requiring their comment or approval; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Christopher Loreti and ten registered voters)

**VOTED:** The Finance Committee supports the No Action recommendation of

the Redevelopment Board. (15-5)

**COMMENT:** Because the Finance Committee was concerned that this article would

require additional personnel, it invited the proponents to present the reasons for the article and its benefits and costs. The proponents refused to meet with the Finance Committee and instead sent a memo stating that there were no costs and the Finance Committee had no jurisdiction as it was a zoning article. The Town Manager stated in a meeting with the Finance Committee that, in his opinion, there was no problem to be solved and no need for the article. He also stated that the requirements of this article would require between one and two additional staff. Neither, the Redevelopment Board or the ZBA had complained about a lack of information from the Building Department. After this discussion, the Finance Committee voted to recommend no action as stated above. The 5 members voting no believed that they did not have enough information or that since there was no appropriation requested it was not within our

jurisdiction.

#### **ARTICLES 7-12** The Board of Selectmen will report on these articles.

### ARTICLE 13 DISPOSITION OF REAL ESTATE/

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of 1207 Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington and/or its appurtenant land by sale or otherwise under such terms as the Town may specify consistent with applicable legal requirements; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted by the Board of Selectmen)

1207 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

**VOTED:** The Finance Committee supports the Favorable Action

recommendation of the Board of Selectmen.

COMMENT: The Finance Committee believes that moving this property back onto the

tax rolls and using the proceeds toward the capital budget is very important. The Town has many capital needs, including the rebuilding of the Stratton School, which should move forward as soon as possible.

#### **ARTICLE 14-16** The Board of Selectmen will report on these articles.

#### ARTICLE 17 ACCEPTANCE/LOCAL OPTION TAXES

To see if the Town will vote to accept any local option taxes or other revenue raising options, which are made available to cities and towns through enactments of the legislature, by state regulation or court action; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

**VOTED:** No report at this time.

COMMENT: Because there is no legislation enacted in this area that could be accepted

at this time, the Finance Committee voted to not make a recommendation at this time on this Article. If an opportunity occurs that we can take advantage of, a recommendation will be made. If not, we will change our

recommendation to No Action.

**ARTICLE 18-19** The Board of Selectmen will report on these articles.

#### ARTICLE 20 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

To see if the Town will vote to fund any fiscal items in the event that any are contained in collective bargaining agreements between the Town and the following named collective bargaining units, and to fund for non-union, M Schedule, and elected officials' salaries or fringe benefits, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto:

- A. Local 680, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees;
- B. Service Employees International Union (formerly NAGE);
- C. Robbins Library Professional Association;
- D. Local 1297, International Association of Firefighters;
- E. Arlington Patrolmen's Association;
- F. Arlington Ranking Police Officers' Association;
- G. M Schedule and non-union employees; and
- H. Full-time elected officials.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

VOTED: That the Town hereby ratifies the following financial items in the collective bargaining agreements and memoranda of agreement with the following enumerated collective bargaining units and hereby approves the following financial items relating to non-union employees and full-time elected officials:

#### C. Robbins Library Professional Association

- (1) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2015;
- (2) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2016; and
- (3) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2017;
- (4) \$200 increase in longevity at each increment;

and that for this purpose the sum of \$13,000.00, which is to be raised by the general tax and shall be appropriated for the purposes of funding the terms of the agreement and may be expended under the direction of the Town Manager;

#### D. <u>Local 1297, International Association of Firefighters</u>

- (1) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2015;
- (2) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2016;
- (3) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2017;
- (4) implementation of a new step system; and
- (5) base education stipend as a percentage of rank pay;

and that for this purpose the sum of \$203,201.00, which is to be raised by the general tax and shall be appropriated for the purposes of funding the terms of the agreement and may be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, provided that this vote shall be null and void unless the collective bargaining unit has ratified the collective bargaining agreement no later than May 15, 2015;

#### G. M Schedule and Non-Union Employees

- (1) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2015;
- (2) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2016; and
- (3) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2017;

and that for this purpose the sums of \$37,080.00 (M Schedule) and \$46,112.00 (non-union), which are to be raised by the general tax and shall be appropriated for the purposes of funding the terms of the agreement and may be expended under the direction of the Town Manager;

#### H. Full-Time Elected Officials

- (1) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2015;
- (2) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2016; and
- (3) a 2% general wage increase effective July 1, 2017;

and that for this purpose the sum of \$3,464.00, which are to be raised by the general tax and shall be appropriated for the purposes of funding the terms of the agreement and may be expended under the direction of the Town Manager;

And that the sum of \$397,143.00 is hereby appropriated, to be set aside for funding future collective bargaining agreements, said sum to be raised by the general tax and said sum shall not be expended without a further vote of Town Meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 21**

#### POSITIONS RECLASSIFICATION

To see if the Town will vote to make additions, deletions and/or modifications to the Classification and Pay Plan, appropriate a sum of money to fund same if necessary, determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and the Director of Human Resources)

#### **VOTED:**

That the Classification Plan, as established by Title 1, Article 6, Section 1, Schedule A of the By-Laws, be and hereby is amended as follows:

#### 2015 Town Meeting Request – Positions Reclassification

#### 1. By reclassifying the following positions:

A.	Master Mechanic – Community Safety, ATP7 to ATP8 Community Safety	FTE1	\$2,459
В.	Assistant Registrar of Voters, OA3 to OA4		FTE1 \$1,853
	Town Clerk		
C.	Administrative Assistant – BOS OA5 to ATP3	FTE1	\$1,284
	Board of Selectmen		
D.	Paralegal, ATP5 to ATP6	FTE1	\$2,904
	Legal Department		
E.	Office Manager – HHS, ATP6 to ATP7	FTE1	\$3,026
	Health and Human Services		
F.	IT Administrative Assistant, OA6 to OA7	FTE1	\$3,123
	Information Technology		
G.	Principal Clerk and Bookkeeper - Library, OA5 to OA	6	FTE1 \$3,374
	Library		
H.	Regional Energy Manager, ATP5 to ATP7		FTE.88 \$0
	<b>Department of Public Works</b>		

and to fund the \$18,023 appropriation as indicated above, said sum to be raised by general tax and included in the budgets of the departments affected.

#### 2. By adding the following positions:

- A. Master Mechanic/Public Safety Radio Coordinator, ATP8
  Community Safety
- B. Project Manager HHS, ATP7 Health and Human Services
- C. Head of Technology Library, L3 Library
- D. Public Safety Dispatcher, MC6 Community Safety
- E. Office Manager Library OA6 Library
- F. MEO III Catch Basin, MC6 Public Works
- G. MEO III Crane, MC6 Public Works
- H. Records Attendant, OA3 Community Safety

#### 3. By deleting the following positions:

- A. Master Mechanic Community Safety, ATP7 Community Safety
- B. Technology Librarian, L3 Library
- C. Office Manager HHS, ATP6 Health and Human Services
- D. Telecommunications Dispatcher, MC6 Community Safety
- E. Principal Clerk and Bookkeeper Library, OA5 Library
- F. Detention Attendant, OA4 Community Safety

#### **ARTICLE 22**

#### APPROPRIATION/TOWN BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to make appropriations to defray Town obligations, liabilities, outlay and expenses and especially for or relating to all or any of the boards, departments, purposes and matters hereinafter mentioned, and to provide for the disposal of motor vehicles and other personal property belonging to the Town, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto: Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Human Resources, Comptroller, Information Technology, Town Treasurer and Collector of Taxes, Assessors, Legal and Workers' Compensation, Town Clerk, Registrars, Planning and Community Development, Redevelopment Board, Parking, Zoning Board of

Appeals, Public Works, Cemeteries, Community Safety, School Department, Libraries, Human Services, Insurance, Non-Contributory Pensions, Contributory Pensions, Town Debt and Interest, Reserve Fund, and/or any other Town Departments, Boards, Commissions or Committees, Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund, Recreation Enterprise Fund, Council on Aging Transportation Enterprise Fund, Veterans' Memorial Rink Enterprise Fund, and Youth Services Enterprise Fund.

(Inserted by the Board of Selectmen and at the request of the Town Manager)

See Appendix B Below.

#### ARTICLE 23 APPROPRIATION/REVALUATION OF REAL/ PERSONAL PROPERTY

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of \$50,000 to fund a revaluation of the real and personal property in the Town, determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Board of Assessors)

VOTED: That the sum of \$50,000 be and hereby is appropriated to fund a

revaluation of the real and personal property in the Town, said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the

**Board of Assessors.** 

COMMENT: This Article requests an appropriation of \$50,000 to add to the

Revaluation Account, whose balance is approximately \$11,642. The Assessors need this additional \$50,000 for revaluation of Town properties,

work to be done in FY 2016.

ARTICLE 24 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to defray the expense of purchasing, leasing, or bonding of capital equipment, infrastructure, buildings or other projects of the Town or to acquire real property for municipal purposes; to appropriate a sum of money to fund previously incurred or future Town debt, to acquire land for said projects where necessary by purchase, eminent domain taking or otherwise, determine how the money shall be raised including the possibility of borrowing any or all of the same, or the transfer of funds from any previous appropriation, determine how such money shall be expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted by the Board of Selectmen and at the request of the Town Manager and the Capital Planning Committee)

VOTED: (1) That the sum of \$10,231,101 be and hereby is appropriated for various capital projects and equipment as shown below, and expended under the direction of the Town Manager, said sum to be raised by general tax:

Item	Amount	Project	Department	
1.	\$ 8,000	Carpet Replacement - Selecmen Chambers	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
2.	\$ 5,200	Photocopier lease	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
3.	\$ 3,200	Voting Machine Replacement	BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
4.	\$ 14,700	ATAC RAIDS Software	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
5.	\$ 17,000	Bullet Proof Vest Program	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
6.	\$ 5,000	Fitness Equipment	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
7.	\$ 4,500	Laser Radar	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
8.	\$ 6,000	Photocopier	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
9.	\$ 14,000	Radio Upgrade/Replacement Program	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
10.	\$ 15,000	Speed Trailer Replacement	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
11.	\$ 131,000	Vehicle Replacement Program	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	
12.	\$ 2,800	AYCC Photocopier	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	
13.	\$ 2,800	Photocopier Lease - BOH/COA	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	
14.	\$ 3,000	Photocopier	HUMAN RESOURCES	
15.	\$ 5,000	Photocopier lease	INSPECTIONS	
16.	\$ 25,000	Vehicle - Plumbing	INSPECTIONS	
17.	\$ 5,000	Photocopier	LEGAL/WORKERS' COMPENSATION	
18.	\$ 5,800	Exhaust fans	LIBRARY	
19.	\$ 6,000	Hot Water Heater	LIBRARY	
20.	\$ 24,000	Library Van	LIBRARY	
21.	\$ 5,100	PC Vend Printing/Photocopier Project	LIBRARY	
22.	\$ 2,800	Photocopier	LIBRARY	
23.	\$ 7,200	Repair Honeywell 3 way valves & controller	LIBRARY	
24.	\$ 2,500	Photocopier/Equipment	PLANNING	
25.	\$ 2,000	Photocopier	PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATION	
26.	\$ 350,000	Roadway Reconstruction	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	
27.	\$ 430,756	Roadway Reconstruction Override 2011	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	
28.	\$ 50,000	Sidewalks and Curbstones	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	
29.	\$ 5,000	Small equipment	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	
30.	\$ 30,000	3/4 Ton Pickup Truck	PUBLIC WORKS NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION	
31.	\$ 6,000	Small equipment	PUBLIC WORKS NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION	
32.	\$ 18,000	Buildings Rehab consultant Services	PUBLIC WORKS PROPERTIES DIVISION	
33.	\$ 10,000	Feasibility Study	RECREATION	
34.	\$ 5,000	Asbestos Abatement - Remove Tiles	SCHOOLS	
35.	\$ 5,000	Custodial/maint. Equip. replacement program	SCHOOLS	
36.	\$ 120,000	Photocopier Lease Program	SCHOOLS	
37.	\$ 15,000	Replace Floor Mats throughout District	SCHOOLS	
38.				
		Replace Maintenance Service Van	SCHOOLS	
39.	\$ 8,000	Cyrus Dallin Sculpture Restoration	TOWN MANAGER	
40.	\$ 3,000	Photocopier	TOWN MANAGER	
41.	\$ 17,000	Office Security Improvement	TREASURER	
42.	\$ 6,000	Photocopier	TREASURER	
	\$ 1,426,356		Acquisitions Total	
	\$ 10,632,273		Prior Debt Service	
	\$ 218,600		New Debt Service	
	\$ (83,000)		Less Ed Burns Rink	
	\$ (51,506)		Less Ambulamce Revolving Fund	
	\$ (120,000)		Less Capital Carry Forward	
	\$ (326,000)		Less Antenna Fund	
	\$ (20,962)		Less Urban Renewal Fund	
	\$ (212,625)		Less Enterprise Fund Debt service Appropriation	
	\$ (1,232,035)		Less MWRA Loan Payments	
	A 40 CO. 10:			
	\$ 10,231,101		Grand Total	

(2) That the various capital projects and equipment purchases shown below shall be undertaken and financed by grants or other funds, such grants to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

Item	Amount	Project	Department
1.	\$ 10,000	Headstone Cleaning & Repair	PUBLIC WORKS CEMETERY DIVISION
2.	\$ 500,000	Chapter 90 Roadway	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION
3.	\$ 125,000	Install Sidewalk Ramps - CDBG	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION
4.	\$ 150,000	Drainage Rehab-Regulatory Compliance (Ch-308)	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
5.	\$ 78,000	FlatBed 8-ton Truck - Generator Mount	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
6.	\$ 100,000	Hydrant replacement program	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
7.	\$ 1,100,000	Sewer System Rehabilitation	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
8.	\$ 5,000	Small equipment	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
9.	\$ 7,500	Trailer for Generator Mount	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
10.	\$ 1,000,000	Water System Rehabilitation	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
11.	\$ 35,000	3/4 Ton Pickup - Replace #34	PUBLIC WORKS WATER/SEWER DIVISION
12.	\$ 25,000	Kid Care 15 Passengar Van	RECREATION
13.	\$ 15,000	ARB - 23 Maple Street remove oil tank	REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
14.	\$ 15,000	ARB - Central Oil Tank De-commissioning	REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
15.	\$ 15,000	ARB - Jefferson Cutter/Gutter Downspout/chimne	y REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
16.	\$ 20,000	ARB - Window Painting & Waterproofing	REDEVELOPMENT BOARD
	\$ 3,200,500		Grand Total

(3) That the sum of \$13,594,350 be and hereby is appropriated for extraordinary repairs to public facilities, acquisition of land and the purchase and installation of equipment and for costs incidental and related thereto as follows:

Item	Amount	Project	Department	Statutory Citation Chap 44, Sec (), or any Enabling Authority
1.	\$ 7,647,000	Phase 3 - Comm. Safety Building Renovations	COMMUNITY SAFETY - POLICE SERVICES	7(3A&22)
2.	\$ 275,000	Rink Renovations: Electrical Improvements	ED BURNS ARENA	7(3A&22)
3.	\$ 31,150	Purchase of IT Equipment for Inspectors	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	7(28&29)
4.	\$ 60,000	Whittemore Robbins - Basement Waterproofing	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	7(3A&22)
5.	\$ 80,000	Whittemore Robbins House - Replace 4 HVAC units & Compressors	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	7(9)
6.	\$ 25,000	Senior Center Feasibility Study	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	7(3A&22)
7.	\$ 25,000	Document Management System	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
8.	\$ 40,000	GIS Department - Planimetric Data	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
9.	\$ 235,000	Replacement of Receivable Package	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
10.	\$ 400,840	SCHOOL - Replacement academic PC's district wide	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
11.	\$ 40,000	School - Software Licensing	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
12.	\$ 40,000	School Dept. Admin Computers	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
13.	\$ 40,000	School Network Infrastructure	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
14.	\$ 50,000	Software Upgrades & Standardization - Town	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
15.	\$ 20,000	Town Network Infrastructure	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
16.	\$ 75,000	Town-Microcomputer Program	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	7(28&29)
17.	\$ 21,400	Heating/Cooling Water Pumps	LIBRARY	7(28&23)
18.	\$ 30,960	MLN Computer Project	LIBRARY	7(28&29)
19.	\$ 25,000	MGR - Gibbs School onsite drainage	PLANNING	7(28&23) 7(3A&22)
20.	\$ 20,000	Gateway Project Phase 2 & 3	PLANNING	7(3A&22)
21.	\$ 40,000	MGR - Replace Gibbs Fire Alarm System	PLANNING	7(9)
22.	\$ 75,000	Cemetery Roadway Improvements	PUBLIC WORKS CEMETERY DIVISION	7(5&6)
23.	\$ 175,000		PUBLIC WORKS CEMETERY DIVISION	7(3A&22)
24.	\$ 300,000	Garage Renovation/ Rehab Chapel/HVAC Flood Mitigation Grant FEMA Millbrook	PUBLIC WORKS ENGINEERING DIVISION	7(3A&22) 7(1,1A & 7)
25.	\$ 25,000	Mass Ave Streetscape Design - Phase 2	PUBLIC WORKS ENGINEERING DIVISION	
26.	\$ 160,000	1 3	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	7(5,6&22)
27.	\$ 113,000	44,000 GVW, 4WD Truck w/Sander		7(9)
		Backhoe/Loader 1.5 CY	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	7(9)
28.	\$ 65,000	Install Sidewalk Ramps	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	7(6)
29.	\$ 24,000	Replace Concrete Street Light Poles	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	7(14)
30.	\$ 99,000	Replace Retaining Wall - Westminster Ave	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	7(7)
31.	\$ 17,000	Sander Body	PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY DIVISION	7(9)
32.	\$ 300,000	DPW Yard Bldg C Replace Spanish Tile Roof	PUBLIC WORKS PROPERTIES DIVISION	7(3A&22)
33.	\$ 100,000	Town Hall - Renovations	PUBLIC WORKS PROPERTIES DIVISION	7(3A&22)
34.	\$ 50,000	ADA Study Implementation Program	RECREATION	7(25)
35.	\$ 455,000	Magnolia Playground	RECREATION	7(25)
36.	\$ 45,000	Summer Street & Buck Field Safety Fencing Repair	RECREATION	7(25)
37.	\$ 50,000	Replace Dividing Wall - Gibbs Gymnasium	RECREATION	7(3A&22)
38.	\$ 140,000	ARB - 23 Maple St, porches, entryways	REDEVELOPMENT BOARD	7(3A&22)
39.	\$ 60,000	ARB - Jefferson Cutter House - Roof Replacement & Gutters	REDEVELOPMENT BOARD	7(3A&22)
40.	\$ 80,000	ARB - Paving Central School Parking Lot	REDEVELOPMENT BOARD	7(5&6)
41.	\$ 130,000	Bus -77 Passenger #104	SCHOOLS	7(9)
42.	\$ 150,000	Hardy Windows	SCHOOLS	7(3A&22)
43.	\$ 75,000	Install Carbon Monoxide Detectors through District	SCHOOLS	7(9)
44.	\$ 500,000	Peirce Field Replace Turf	SCHOOLS	7(25)
45.	\$ 100,000	Regrade Bishop School Parking Lot	SCHOOLS	7(6)
46.	\$ 1,085,000	Stratton Building Improvements	SCHOOLS	7(3A&22)
	\$13,594,350		Grand Total	

(This space intentionally blank)

And that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectman, is hereby authorized to borrow not exceeding the sum of \$13,594,350 under and pursuant to the statutes cited above (requires a 2/3 vote), or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

- (4) That the Town Manager is authorized and directed to apply for and accept any further federal, state or other grants that may be available for any one or more of the foregoing projects and equipment.
- (5) Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that monies are not expended for the purposes delineated under sections (1) and (2) then the Comptroller is authorized and directed not to transfer these excess funds to available funds, but said funds shall remain and be accounted for in the warrant article pending further vote of the Town Meeting, except as otherwise provided by law, and,
- (6) That any amounts appropriated under Section (3) above for a particular purpose under a specified section of Chapter 44 and not needed for such purpose may be expended by the Town Manager, with the approval of the Capital Planning Committee, for any other purpose listed in Section (3) above under the same section of Chapter 44.

#### **ARTICLE 25**

## RESCIND BORROWING AUTHORIZATIONS FROM PRIOR YEARS

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authority to borrow, from prior years' authorizations, the amounts remaining with regard to any numbered prior Annual and/or Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Treasurer)

#### **VOTED:**

That the Town hereby rescinds \$4,338,547 in the following individual amounts that have been authorized to be borrowed by the Treasurer, but which are no longer needed for the purposes for which they were initially approved.

<b>Amount Rescinded</b>	Warrant Article	<u>Purpose</u>
\$ 1,293,000	<b>Article 2, 2002 Annual Meeting</b>	<b>Urban Renewal</b>
\$ 177,372	Article 2, 2004 Annual Meeting	Dallin School
\$ 200,000	Article 47, 2005 Annual Meeting	Road Repair
<b>\$ 145,000</b>	Article 54, 2007 Annual Meeting	Water (MWRA)
<b>\$ 198,880</b>	Article 57, 2008 Annual Meeting	Sewer (MWRA)
\$ 200,000	Article 58, 2008 Annual Meeting	Water (MWRA)
<b>\$ 120,000</b>	Article 42, 2009 Annual Meeting	Remodeling
\$ 25,000	Article 42, 2009 Annual Meeting	<b>Safety Improvements</b>
\$ 357,500	Article 49, 2009 Annual Meeting	Sewer
\$ 100,000	Article 50, 2009 Annual Meeting	Water Maintenance
<b>\$ 140,728</b>	Article 53, 2010 Annual Meeting	Various Purposes
<b>\$ 101,420</b>	Article 55, 2010 Annual Meeting	Sewer
\$ 200,000	Article 56, 2010 Annual Meeting	Water
<b>\$</b> 710,567	Article 4, 2010 Annual Meeting	<b>Stratton School</b>

\$ 530	Article 57, 2011 Annual Meeting	Various Purposes
\$ 44,000	Article 60, 2011 Annual Meeting	<b>Water Mains</b>
\$ 324,000	<b>Article 42, 2012 Annual Meeting</b>	Sewer
\$ 550	<b>Article 33, 2013 Annual Meeting</b>	Playground

COMMENT: These rescissions are from previously authorized borrowings for projects

which have been completed and which amounts are unissued debt that is

no longer required.

## ARTICLE 26 APPROPRIATION/FINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF SEWERS AND SEWERAGE FACILITIES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of sewers and sewerage facilities for inflow/infiltration reduction or system rehabilitation, including costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine how the appropriation shall be raised or expended, including the possibility of borrowing all or some of same; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works)

#### **VOTED:**

That the sum of \$1,000,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of sewers and sewerage facilities, inflow/infiltration reduction or system rehabilitation, including costs incidental and related thereto; that to raise this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$1,000,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7, of the General Laws, as amended, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; and that the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager be and hereby are authorized to enter into any agreements they determine to be necessary in connection with the project and its financing and are further authorized to accept and expend in addition to the foregoing appropriation any grants that may become available from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority or other sources.

#### **COMMENT:**

This authorization allows the Town to receive an interest free loan from the MWRA and issue municipal debt in support of capital construction projects.

#### **ARTICLE 27**

# APPROPRIATION/FINANCING OF CONSTRUCTION OR RECONSTRUCTION OF WATER MAINS AND WATER FACILITIES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of water mains and water facilities, including costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine how the appropriation shall be raised and expended including the possibility of borrowing all or some of same; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works)

**VOTED:** 

That the sum of \$900,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of financing the construction or reconstruction of water mains and water facilities, including costs incidental and related thereto; that to raise this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$900,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8, of the General Laws, as amended, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; and that the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager be and hereby are authorized to enter into any agreements they determine to be necessary in connection with the project and its financing and are further authorized to accept and expend in addition to the foregoing appropriation any grants that may become available from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority or other sources.

COMMENT:

This authorization allows the Town to receive an interest free loan from the MWRA and issue municipal debt in support of capital construction projects.

#### **ARTICLE 28**

# APPROPRIATION/MINUTEMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying the Town's apportioned share of the operating and maintenance costs, including capital costs, of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Minuteman Regional Vocational School District Committee)

**VOTED:** 

That the sum of \$4,010,950 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of paying the Town's apportioned share of the operating and maintenance costs, including capital costs, of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School District Budget; said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Minuteman Regional Vocational High School Committee. (14-3)

#### ARTICLE 29 APPROPRIATION/COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money to be expended under the direction of various committees, commissions, and boards of the Town, determine how the money shall be raised; provided that any funds appropriated hereunder shall remain under the jurisdiction of said entities until expended at their direction, unless otherwise appropriated by the Town Meeting; the entities included hereunder, without limitation, are: Arlington Historical Commission, Arlington Recycling Committee, Avon Place Historic District Commission, Broadway Historic District Commission, Central Street Historic District Commission, Mt. Gilboa/Crescent Hill Historic District Commission, Jason/Gray Historic District Commission, Pleasant Street Historic District Commission, Russell Historic District Commission, Conservation Commission, Capital Planning Committee, Commission on Disability, Personnel Board, Public Memorial Committee, Human Rights Commission, Arlington Committee on Tourism and Economic Development, Vision 2020, Transportation Advisory Committee,

Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture, and any other Town Committee or Commission; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

#### **VOTED:**

That the sum of \$25,695 be and hereby is appropriated to be expended by the following commissions, committees, and boards in the amounts indicated:

- A. Arlington Historical Commission \$2,160
- **B.** Historic District Commissions \$5,100

(Avon Place Historic District Commission, Broadway Historic District Commission, Central Street Historic District commission, Jason/Gray Historic District Commission, Russell Historic District Commission, Pleasant Street Historic District Commission and Mount Gilboa/Crescent Hill Historic District Commission)

- C. Capital Planning Committee \$0
- D. Commission on Disability \$3,000
- E. Recycling Committee \$3,000
- F. Human Rights Commission \$4,500
- G. Arlington Tourism and Economic Development Committee \$1,775
- H. Vision 2020 \$3,000 (9-8)
- I. Transportation Advisory Committee \$0
- J. Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture \$3,160

Said sums to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the various commissions, committees and boards.

#### **ARTICLE 30**

#### APPROPRIATION/TOWN CELEBRATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager for the following celebrations and memorials, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto:

Veterans' Day Parade

Memorial Day Observation and the Patriots' Day Celebration

Display of American Flags on Massachusetts Avenue

Placing of American Flags on the Graves of Veterans

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

#### **VOTED:**

The sum of \$10,167 be and hereby is appropriated for the following celebrations and memorials in the amounts indicated:

- A. Veterans' Day Parade, Memorial Day Observation and the Patriots' Day Celebration. \$5,667
- B. 2015 Town Day Celebration \$0
- C. Display of American Flags on Massachusetts Avenue \$0
- D. Placing of American Flags on the Graves of Veterans \$4,500

Said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

#### **ARTICLE 31**

#### APPROPRIATION/MISCELLANEOUS

To see if the Town will vote the following:

Legal Defense – To appropriate a sum of money to replenish the Legal Defense Fund established under Article 13, Section 5 of Title 1 of the Town Bylaws, Out-Of-State Travel – To appropriate a sum of money for expenses incurred outside the Commonwealth and as described in the General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5, Paragraph 34, said appropriation to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager, Indemnification of Medical Costs, to appropriate a sum of money in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 100B of the General Laws, to indemnify certain retired Police Officers and Firefighters for all reasonable medical and surgical expenses which they incurred, determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

#### **VOTED:**

The sum of \$8,500 be and hereby is appropriated for the following purposes:

- A. Legal Defense To appropriate a sum of money to replenish the Legal Defense Fund established under Article 13 of Title I of the Town By-Laws \$0
- B. Indemnification of Medical Costs \$8,500

(To indemnify certain retired Police Officers and Firefighters for all reasonable medical and surgical expenses which they incurred during the previous calendar year that are the proximate result of the disability for which they were retired; and to defray the expenses of the Medical Panel required by law; provided, incurred expenses shall be considered for indemnification thereunder except only those such as are excess over covered benefits of any plan of Hospital, Surgical or other coverage which the retiree has or had available to him, either directly or through a member of his immediate family, which benefits shall be considered primary, and which must be disclosed by such plan, or by the physician, hospital or other medical personnel or facility with or without the consent of the retiree.)

Said sums to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

#### **ARTICLE 32**

#### APPROPRIATION/PUBLIC ART EAST ARLINGTON MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE CORRIDOR

To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money to fund the facilitation of a process to select and place public art at multiple locations along the East Arlington Massachusetts Avenue Corridor, said sum to be raised by the general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

**VOTED:** That the sum of \$12,000 be and hereby is appropriated for the

purpose of funding the facilitation of a process to select and place

public art at multiple locations along the East Arlington

Massachusetts Avenue corridor; said sum to be raised by general tax

and expended under the direction of the Town Manager. (13-5)

**COMMENT:** These funds will be used to assist with a public art selection process for

> projects along the Massachusetts Avenue corridor between Grafton and Cleveland Streets. It is anticipated that funds for the actual construction

and maintenance will be raised privately.

#### **ARTICLE 33** APPROPRIATION/HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION/FUND **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate funds for the position of Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Stephen Harrington and ten registered voters)

**VOTED:** 

That the Board of Selectmen is requested to investigate the position of **Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission and report its findings** to the next Annual Town Meeting. The Board should determine the need for such a position and whether this position and its duties can be handled by an existing member of the Human Services staff. If the Board determines that this position is not needed for the Commission to fulfill its responsibilities, they are requested to submit necessary amendments to the Town bylaws eliminating the requirement for the Executive Director position.

COMMENT: The duties of Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission are currently handled by the Director of Human Services with money appropriated for direct staff support to the Commission included in Article 29. This situation has existed for many years and the Human Rights Commission has not requested additional funds for staff support or complained about the current management situation. This article is here because no one has been appointed officially to the Director position. The Finance Committee is recommending that the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen correct this situation. If it is corrected by the time this article is heard, the Finance Committee will move No Action on this article.

#### **ARTICLE 34**

#### APPROPRIATION/WATER BODIES FUND

To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money to the Town's Water Bodies Fund for the maintenance, treatment and oversight of all the Town's water bodies, said sum (\$40,000) to be raised by the general tax, and expended under the direction of the Town Manager who will also report to Town Meeting on the status of the fund; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Vision 2020's Environment Task Group's Spy Pond Committee)

**VOTED:** 

That the sum of \$40,000 be and hereby is appropriated to the Water Bodies Fund for the purpose of testing, maintaining, treating and oversight of the Town's water bodies. Said sum to be raised by the general taxes and expended under the direction of the Town Manager. The Town Manager shall report to the next Annual Town Meeting on the status of the various water bodies of the Town, including ponds and brooks, and the short and long term policies and programs that will be needed to maintain their quality.

COMMENT:

The Water Bodies Fund, established by special legislation in 2008, is used for periodic testing, treatment, maintenance and oversight of the town's water bodies. The fund receives private donations as well as public appropriations. The current use is for treatment to reduce growth of invasive weeds at Spy Pond, the Arlington Reservoir, and Hills Pond. The Finance Committee believes that a long-term plan to maintain **all** our rivers, streams and ponds is needed to guide these efforts.

#### **ARTICLE 35**

# APPROPRIATION/HARRY BARBER COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$7,500.00 for the Harry Barber Community Service Program for the Council on Aging, to determine how the money will be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Council on Aging)

**VOTED:** 

That the sum of \$7,500 be and hereby is appropriated for the purpose of conducting the Harry Barber Community Service Program; said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

COMMENT:

This program provides the opportunity for senior citizens to provide service in various Town departments in exchange for payment, which they can use to help with taxes and rent.

# ARTICLE 36 APPROPRIATION/BATTLE ROAD SCENIC BYWAY: ROAD TO REVOLUTIONS

To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 in support of activities specified by the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING by and between the Town of Arlington, the Town of Lexington, the Town of Concord, and the Minute Man National Historical Park for the purpose of establishing a permanent management entity for The Battle Road Scenic Byway: Road to Revolutions, said sum to be raised by the general tax; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Arlington Committee on Tourism and Economic Development)

**VOTED:** 

That the sum of \$5,000 be and hereby is appropriated to support activities specified by the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Arlington, the Town of Lexington, the Town of Lincoln, the Town of Concord, and the Minute Man National Historical Park for the purpose of promoting The Battle Road Scenic Byway: Road to Revolutions. Said sum to be raised by general tax and expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

**COMMENT:** 

These funds, together with the contributions from the other towns, will be used to support the activities of the committee established at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting that coordinates the actions of the four towns and the National Historic Park in order to improve tourism and related economic development within the area. This will be especially important to Arlington since we tend to be overlooked in regards to regional tourism.

# ARTICLE 37 APPROPRIATION/PENSION ADJUSTMENT FOR FORMER TWENTY-FIVE YEAR/ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY EMPLOYEES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to implement the provisions of Chapter 32 of Massachusetts General Laws Section 90A, 90C, 90D and 90E, pursuant to which the Town pays up to fifty percent of the maximum salary as set forth in the Compensation and Pay Plan for the position formerly held by retired employees with twenty-five or more years of service to the Town and those employees who retired under an Accidental Disability; provided, however, that no one who retires after May 1, 2010 shall be eligible under this vote unless they qualify for at least a fifty percent pension, without this vote upon their retirement; this adjustment to be paid to those who qualify and administered in accordance with prior practice and understanding relating to the retirement allowance of said retirees; determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Contributory Retirement Board)

**VOTED:** 

That the sum of \$0 be and hereby is appropriated to implement the provisions of Chapter 32 of Massachusetts General Laws Section 90A, 90C, 90D and 90E, pursuant to which the Town pays up to fifty percent of the maximum salary as set forth in the Compensation and Pay Plan for the position formerly held by retired employees with twenty-five or more years of service to the Town and those employees

who retired under an Accidental Disability; provided, however, that no one who retires after May 1, 2010 shall be eligible under this vote unless they qualify for at least a fifty percent pension, without this vote, upon their retirement. This adjustment to be paid to those who qualify, and administered in accordance with prior practice and understanding relating to the retirement allowance of said retirees; said sum to be expended under the direction of the Retirement Board. (15-0-1)

COMMENT:

This vote, which is required annually, allows the Retirement Board to ensure that retired employees will not drop below 50% of the current salary of the position they held as an active Town employee.

#### **ARTICLE 38**

# APPROPRIATION/OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to accept into the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund, established by Chapter 161 of the Acts of 2005, an appropriation of funds and/or the transfer of additional monies that the Town may deem advisable from other sources, including any monies previously deposited into any of the Town's stabilization funds for this purpose, in order to administer and fund its OPEB obligation as described in the said Chapter 161 of the Acts of 2005; determine how the monies shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Contributory Retirement Board)

#### **VOTED:** That the Town takes the following actions:

- (a) appropriates into said Other Post-Employment Benefits Fund (OPEB), authorized by Chapter 161 of the Acts of 2005, the sum of \$413,000 representing that amount of money that is the difference between the previously established base amount of \$500,000 and the fiscal 2016 appropriation for the noncontributory pension obligation; said sum to be raised by the general tax;
- (b) appropriates into said fund the sum of \$155,000 representing the increased share of retiree HMO contributions as voted by the Board of Selectmen on November 6, 2006; said sum to be raised by the general tax.
- (c) appropriates into said fund the sum of \$300,000 to be transferred from the remaining balance in the health benefit trust fund.
- (d) appropriates into said fund the sum of \$92,800; said sum to be raised by the general tax. (13-2-1)

COMMENT: These recommendations continue the program to fund the unfunded

liability for retiree health insurance.

### ARTICLE 39 ACCEPTANCE OF LEGISLATION/INCREASE OF SURVIVOR BENEFITS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 65 of Chapter 139 of the Acts of 2012 to increase the benefit paid to survivors under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32, Section 101 from \$9,000 to \$12,000 annually; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Contributory Retirement Board)

**VOTED:** That no action be taken under this article.

COMMENT: Insufficient information will be available on the impact of this change by

the time the Town Meeting begins. The Arlington Retirement Board thereby requested that this article be evaluated in the 2016 Annual Town

Meeting.

#### ARTICLE 40 APPROPRIATION/LONG TERM STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will make an appropriation to the Long Term Stabilization Fund in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, as amended, or other appropriate provisions of law, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

**VOTED:** That the sum of \$100,000 be and hereby is appropriated to the Long

Term Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised by general tax.

COMMENT: The Finance Committee recommends that we appropriate a yearly sum in

this account for the foreseeable future to both protect the financial position

of the Town and reinforce the Town's bond rating.

#### ARTICLE 41 APPROPRIATION/OVERLAY RESERVE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from previous years overlay reserve surplus accounts, determine to what purpose this appropriation shall be made; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

VOTED: That the sum of \$350,000 be and hereby is appropriated, to be

transferred from Overlay Reserve Surplus Accounts of previous fiscal years, said sum to be utilized in the determination of the tax rate.

#### ARTICLE 42 TRANSFER OF FUNDS/CEMETERY

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money to the Cemetery Commissioners for the improvement of Town cemeteries, said sum shall be taken from the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery "Sale of Lots and Graves or Perpetual Care Funds"; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

**VOTED:** 

That the Town transfers \$150,000 to the Cemetery Commissioners for the care of Town cemeteries and \$10,000 to the Capital Budget for headstone cleaning and repair, said \$150,000 to the Cemetery Commissioners shall be taken from the Perpetual Care Fund; and \$10,000 to the Capital Budget from the Sale of Lots and Graves.

ARTICLE 43 USE OF FREE CASH

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the taking of a sum of money voted for appropriations heretofore made at the Town Meeting under the Warrant and not voted to be borrowed from available funds in the Treasury, and authorize the Assessors to use free cash in the Treasury to that amount in the determination of the tax rate for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2015; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

VOTED: That the sum of \$3,435,846 be taken from available funds in the

treasury, and that the Board of Assessors is instructed to use said

amount in the determination of the tax rate.

ARTICLE 44 APPROPRIATION/ FISCAL STABILITY STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will make an appropriation to or from the Fiscal Stability Stabilization Fund created under Article 65 of the 2005 Annual Town Meeting or any other enabling action of Town Meeting in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, as amended, or other appropriate provisions of law, determine how the money shall be raised and expended; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Finance Committee)

VOTED: That the sum of \$2,782,763 be appropriated to the Fiscal Stability

Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised by general tax and

expended under the direction of future town meetings.

**ARTICLE 45** The Town Moderator will report on this article.

ARTICLE 46 RESOLUTION/MASTER PLAN ENDORSEMENT

To see if the Town will accept, receive, or resolve to endorse the Master Plan, adopted by the Arlington Redevelopment Board; or take any action related hereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Redevelopment Board)

**VOTED:** The Finance Committee supports the Favorable Action

recommendation of the Master Plan Endorsement of the

**Redevelopment Board.** (10-0-5)

#### COMMENT:

The affirmative vote of the majority of the Finance Committee is meant to indicate its support for the Redevelopment Board's recommendation to endorse the Master Plan in general, and the Economic Development goals in particular, and to express its appreciation for the work of everyone involved in the plan's development. The Finance Committee has taken no position on any specific proposals, and will consider each independently as they are presented to future Town Meetings. The minority votes were not in opposition to the Redevelopment Board's recommendation, but were opposed to the Finance Committee taking any position on this article.