



FINANCE COMMITTEE
September 20, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Room 210, Billerica Town Hall

Meeting was called to order by Mary McBride, Chairman, at 7:00pm:

Members	Present	Absent	Excused	Arr. Time	Dep. Time
Mary K. McBride, Chairman	X				
Thomas Aquavella, Vice Chairman	X				
John Piscatelli, Secretary	X				
Mark Efstratiou			X		
Ed Giroux	X				
Patrick Logue, Jr	X				
Rino Moriconi	X				
Scott Morris	X			7:01a	
Philip J. Newfell	X				
Kathleen Paulsen			X		
Anthony Ventresca	X			7:01a	
John Griffin, 1st Associate	X				
David Howe, 2 nd Associate	X				

Mary turned the meeting over to Donald Gadbois, Chairman of the Water Conservation Committee who introduced Lee Dubuc, a member of the Water Conservation Committee as well, to present Article 33.

Article 33 - To Amend General By-Law To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 8, Section 6 of the General By-Laws by deleting the present By-Law and inserting in its place the following to read:

6.0 WATER CONSERVATION

Definitions

State of Water Supply Emergency: A state of water supply emergency declared by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection under M.G.L. Chapter 21G, Section 15-17.

State of Water Supply Conservation: A state of water supply conservation declared by the Billerica Board of Selectmen pursuant to Section 6.2 of this By-Law.

Water User: All public and private users connected to the Town's public water supply, irrespective of any user's responsibility for billing purposed for water used on any particular site. Also included are the water users that are beyond the Town's statutory boundaries.

Non Essential Uses:

- Irrigation of lawns via sprinklers or automatic in-ground irrigation systems
- Manual washing of vehicles, except as necessary for operator safety;
- Washing of exterior building surfaces, parking lots, driveway or side walks
- Exceptions to these are listed below in this bylaw.

Drought Advisory: Includes any drought advisory or higher advisory issued by the Massachusetts Drought Advisory Task Force for the area in which the Town is located.

Allowed Outdoor uses:

- Use for health or safety
- By regulation
- For the production of food and fiber
- For the maintenance of livestock

- To meet the core function of a business (golf courses, plant nurseries, etc)

Don had distributed a handout and would like us to turn to the last page of the handout. In the first sentence it is telling us in November 2010 the town received from the DEP mandates to use 65 gallons of water per day. Don said in order to reach that mandate we need to follow their guidelines and Don said essentially what we are doing is limiting water that can be used on a regular basis. Section 6 article is only changing water conservation. There are penalties if we don't. Many people are saying we have plenty of water. People need to understand that eventually we need to reach that limit of 65 gallons per day. We have tried voluntary and it doesn't work. By doing what we have recommended in the change to the bylaw we would like to be able to get it down to 65 gallons a day and not have as much restriction as the state is mandating. The change would limit use; non-essential use to 2 days a week and it is up to the BOS to pick those days. He doesn't know how they will handle that it wasn't the committee's task according to what the state sent us. Changed the bylaw to abide by what the state is telling us. Don said that this edict was in November 2010 and the committee struggled to get it done last year but the state gave us an additional year so that when 2013 comes around we will be ready for this. According to John McGovern who is very proactive in keeping up with what the state is demanding and he makes sure we don't pay penalties for what is happening. Works well for the Town.

Mary asked if it was available on line and Don said no so he will scan it and put it on the website. The town manager will know who to speak to. Phil and Mary said that the need to have the old by law as well as an appendix on the warrant would be necessary. Mary said you must have something crossed out and she will work with the committee to accomplish this. Don said the Rules Committee looked at it and their attorney and the Rules Committee made changes. Mary explained that the old language with it bolded or crossed out with the new language next to it is what should be done. Don if that had been the case the rules committee should have told us? Mary said that per the FinCom it must be done. Don asked if you needed to have this along with the by law? Mary thinks it needs to be in the body of the warrant or in the appendix of the warrant. Phil: if it does not pass what occurs to the Town. Lee we could be fined \$25K per day for not following the rules of the water permit. Water permit says if our water usage is more than 65 gal per person per day. We have been averaging 68 gallons per day and this has been a dry year, we have to restrict non essential water use to 2 days a week from May 1 . Don: if we meet less than 65 gallons this doesn't apply to us. John G: does think there is a financial impact, employees of the water division to enforce this? How do we enforce? What about existing irrigation systems that residents have, are they now required to get a backflow device? Any thought to grandfathering in people that already have an irrigation system in place. So you don't have to have a backflow device. Abdul this is unrelated to the article. John it is part of the by law to require the backflow device? Mary people with irrigation systems do not necessarily have 2 different meters. John G: will everyone one that has an irrigation system be required to have a backflow. Don said it would be up to the BOS to include that in their evaluation as to how they are going to apply this bylaw and if you think that is a good idea they could add that as an additional. John P: are you really meaning to say if people that have irrigation systems should they be required to install a rain sensor and backflow device. John G: if it is installed, then there is an annual fee that is attached to that every year not only paying for water but the usage of the backflow as well. Some people may have had one for 20 years and now they are going to be hit with a backflow device as well? Lee: language has not been changed from the existing by law. John G: enforcement of the bylaw of this magnitude how will it be done? Abdul said 5 employees in distribution and we do not have the staff to enforce. Don: we put signs out that tell you there is a water ban and if you are conscientious and if I see a neighbor and he is watering on the wrong day it is just a telephone call. Neighbors could do this. Almost impossible but when we do see it we will call Abdul and he will contact users. John G so if a call is received by the water dept about someone who appears to be violating the current law is their rules and procedures in place. Abdul someone will pay them a visit and ask them to abide by it. We have been having a good response from the public. Just a visit we have not had to impose any fines. We have been having a good response. Not a lot of violations. John G does the town have any ability to ask for any increase in the gallons withdrawn from the Concord. River? Abdul said no they will then ask why you need it? John G: how was that number established? Abdul said that is the number used state wide. John G: cities and towns across the commonwealth? Abdul said he believes so. Lee it also is influenced by what river you are taking your water from. Concord is medium stressed and the DEP has decided this is the number that is appropriate for us. John G how long is the permit for? Abdul said 5 years. John G: can it change every 5 years? Abdul doesn't think so. It is possible the DEP can do anything they wish to do. Ed: 65 gal per day based on residents; nothing to do with commercial? Abdul said we actually take the residential consumption and apply it to the number of people in town. The commercial consumption is not in the equation. Ed: procedural. Backflow prevention has not changed? If you highlight what you change in here so that only new is highlighted anything not changed should be left alone. Mary perfect example of what should be done. Ed said the general by law review committee is in session and he would like to have the group appear and he would do this through Abdul. Don appreciates the help anyone can throw his way. David: the limit of 65 gal per residential was under

the impression and that is what the permit is. We are just monitoring the residential and applying it to the residential what happens with industrial how do they fit in. Abdul said industrial has a permit and a limit of how much they will use. If they go over do they get penalized, Abdul said no. What they use is based on need and not waste. It is in their best interest to keep their usage down. Residential has less impact you can still violate and not pay a penalty. David they just do it basically for monetary and limited to permit. Abdul: they are using based on their needs. David the permit is just arbitrary? Abdul no penalty they would move into a higher tier and pay more. Patrick: we should have the actual changes and redlines to see what we are voting on. Mary said this has been in the preliminary warrant and we have had this information. Patrick said it is difficult to pick out the changes. Tony: as you know something like this came out before and there is a survey and it says we need 100 per day per capital and to have anyone say we have to go below it and to have a government entity say this is wrong. When you see some of the science to come up with these numbers it is amazing where these people are coming up with this data. I understand there are some issues with Concord River saying we had a dry year this year we are only 3 to 4 inches. This town is a public utility we need to sell water and now we are forcing more and more restrictions and that is going to drive the rates up. Maybe we should be looking at getting water elsewhere. Lee says we are subsidizing we are not making money selling water to people. Our taxes are subsidizing the water. Don it wasn't the committees idea to change the by law. We looked at the document and we were asked to change the by law to satisfy what the state is mandating if we don't do this they are going to fine us. Tony: have we or anyone taking the state to court to challenge their findings. Maybe it is up to Billerica and all the towns to start. Lee said he thinks we would lose, we are averaging 68 gal per person and we have very few restrictions on water. If you look at the water usage a substantial portion of what we use is outdoor watering. Don: I guess the question is what are our options if we don't do this. Tony understands but he thinks we should start talking to other towns to start pushing back on the state of this. Don would we do this as a committee. Don we are presenting the warrant article to you and if we don't chase it who is going to do it. Tony the other night we were funding another state mandated. Mary said excuse me Tony but I am going to rein you in. In the current state she doesn't think these folks are the correct people and they should talk to the BOS. Mary: are you a committee of the BOS? Don said yes they are. It was never our thought to challenge it. Mary could we accept that we have discussed this and possibly the BOS could sit down with the Water Commission. Tony said okay. Tony: is it true that we put back into the Concord 70% of what we take out. Abdul pretty much. In flow and out flow a couple of miles apart. Tony: Why are we not getting credit for getting it back into the river. Abdul says he has asked the same question why we don't get additional allowances. The DEP is going to water conservation everything is green, low flushing toilets and washing machines that don't use DEP or EPA will come down on us if we don't meet it. They are asking us what we are doing and so we have a rebate program and we have given 200 rebates in one year and people are using. We are doing what we can do and I think we have a long way to go and we can meet the goal if we continue. 5.3M gallons per day per year and we are within our limit and if we don't work on the other end to reduce; if the town has another 20K residents and you are asking for additional water; then they will ask what you have done for conservations. They want this done in the schools and town buildings as well. It is a collective effort and he doesn't see harm it. Tony: what would it take to recycle the water through our system again? Abdul said you are not going to do it in the wastewater system. You are talking major capital. You could use it for other than consumption but it would be a capital expenditure. Rino: pulled the old section 6 and he noticed a significant 6.3 restrictive water uses and he read what was written. The change before 9 am and after 5 pm and that is a significant to what we have now. You cannot have rules and regulations without specificity and that is what you have done in this case. You left it to be on the BOS and that is a no no. 6.3a specifically says the days. This is on a fixed time of the day and the days to be named later, you must specify those days. The bylaw change has defects. Don: Please give us two days and I will put them down. That is what the BOS needs to do us. Rino: if you are going to say that you must put that down. He will put in the bylaw the days you want., Rino unfortunately he detests having left and not have been able to look at the law. Not saying that your committee did not work very hard, but for a by aw it must have certainty and directions. Don says he would put 2 days down there but they could not select the days. They thought the BOS would be able to pull it together and select the 2 days. Mary did you present to the BOS? Don said they met with the BOS. Abdul suggested Tuesday & Friday. Will be the days listed in the new by law. John P thinks that if you are going to list the 2 days one should be a weekend day and most people don't have time to do it during the week. Abdul says the problem is with enforcement to talk to someone. John P said he understands what you are saying but if you list without a day on the weekend town meeting will not support it. You make it so restrictive then it will be a hard article to support. Don said we say the same thing. We did not have the answer and thought the selectman would have that responsibility. Maybe make an announcement. Mary said this is beyond the scope of what we are here for but it is way beyond the FinCom to tell you what days to water. Mary suggested Don try to come make some changes to the bylaw and come back to FinCom prior to Town Meetingback.

A motion made to table this article until October 2 at 6:30pm was as follows:

Motioned by:	John Griffin
Seconded by:	Ed Giroux
In Favor:	9
Opposed:	2
Abstained:	0

John P if we have questions now should we ask them in advance of Tuesday October 2. Mary said to send an email to Mr. Dubois one on one is okay. And he will respond to John. If you have a number of questions from a number of people mail it to Mary.

Article 31 - To Amend Zoning By-Law To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by deleting the following section:

Section 7.D.7 – An accessory building, structure or use with a gross square footage of 100 or less may be placed in the side or rear yard of a lot with a 7 ½ foot side yard and a 10 foot rear yard. All other accessory buildings, structures or uses shall comply with the minimum yard requirements for principal buildings, structures or uses.

And replace Section 7.D.7 with the following:

Section 7.D.7 – An accessory building with a gross square footage of 120 or less and a maximum height of 15' shall be exempt from the rear and side yard setback requirements. All other accessory buildings and structures shall comply with the minimum yard requirements for principal buildings and structures.

Mark LaLumiere, Building Commissioner for the town was introduced to the town. Mark said this article loosens regulations regarding setback on sheds and is based on his experience for over 2 years. He said his office has spent an inordinate amount of time on frivolous complaints on setbacks of sheds. He knows that people do not abide by the setback and we are not aware of it until a neighbor complains. The issue is not the shed but a problem that develops between neighbors. Quite a bit of time is spent chasing down these types of issues. Mark feels that it is a waste of his department's time and resources. Technically the zoning is the only thing that requires this. Mark said that he had appeared before the Planning Board and they had suggested some changes to the wording and they would bring it up as an amendment at town meeting. John C said they would put it in the warrant and it should satisfy everyone. Tony: no grandfathering clause? Mark did not include it. Mark by changing the zoning anything 10 years or older you cannot force people to change it. Phil: normally I don't like weakening a regulation but not in this case. A lot of time is spent what would be a guesstimate. Mark said it comes in spurts but he would say that he had spent at least one solid week this summer on this. John G: you had mentioned that residents are not required to get a building permit for a building of this size? But it is a building code requirement and still a fee? Mark yes \$10. David: added in a height dimension that wasn't there before? Mark yes inspectors felt that it would revert back to zoning district if we did not put a height in it. John P: making the recommendation because you think it is the right thing to do or not to deal with neighbors. Mark thinks it is the right thing to do. It is not that we get the complaint when it is being built it is when the relationship goes sour. If it was a compliance issue it would come up when it is under construction. It is the same as the fence as far as he sees. John P did you give any thought to the size of the lots? Mark we did discuss that but it would become difficult to enforce it based on lot size and would be overly complicated and this is easy to understand. 7-1/2 feet now and it would change to 0 and a lot plan locating the shed so you could see if that is where it was placed. Tom: thinks this is an improvement.

After much discussion a motion made to recommend Article 31 as amended as follows:

Motioned by:	Edward Giroux
Seconded by:	Rino Moriconi
In Favor:	10
Opposed:	1
Abstained:	0

John Curran asked to take the budget items first so that the department heads can get out here.

Article 9 To amend various Fiscal Year 2012 Town and School Operating Budget Line Items

John distributed a reminder of where the money is coming from again to let you know where the budget amendment falls in the scope of the whole exercise. He then went on to explain the sheet he had distributed. Levy of \$100+M in spring still \$1.1M under prop 2-1/2; excess capacity is the money we are leaving on the table. We have been under the levy capacity for over 10 years. The levy in the spring was \$99,276,915 it will be the same after the fall town meeting. Important because it doesn't impact the decisions we make tonight. Local aid up 705K; 600K for snow & ice deficit; and available revenue from Spring Town Meeting of \$544K; a total of \$1,849,000. Local aid increased. Snow and ice revenue we have it is all over the map we have discipline ourselves to only appropriate that money for one time spending because we might need it in the following year. That 600K is split between the town and school and it is onetime revenue as well. He then distributed a handout which he said is a working document. Adam Bossi, Conservation Director was at the meeting and Mary introduced him. John said \$1.3M is the appropriation for the amendment to amend the following fiscal year budget line items. He will give a detailed breakdown of where the money is going and shows line item and proposed amendment to each of those line items. At the bottom it shows you the \$1.3M and the budget approved by TM in spring and what the final number would be with approval of this amendment. Explained what the line items were. Mr. Piowar could not be here tonight so he worked the school dept into the presentation. He will take each line item individually. He started with the salary survey on the next page and what initiated the changes in the salary positions. They are non union positions. We had a situation where we could have lost our assessor to a neighboring community and that prompted the change in salary that we see here today. Had we lost our assessor, who is very valuable to the community and what he offers the town, we would have had to go out on the street to get someone of equal value would have been very difficult to do. The idea is we increased the salary to maintain a tremendous asset that we have. Mary said some of you already know about this. The Town Manager appeared to us in an executive session and he also told the committee he would be coming before us. John: Similarly with the Town Accountant. We looked at the surrounding towns and you will see most of these are surrounding and some because of size and similarity to the town of Billerica. It is commensurate with what we raised our salaries to. We do not want to lose the person and institutional knowledge they have. He informed the committee in the executive committee that we want to remain competitive and hang on to employees that are valuable to the town. In my position the accountant and assessor are critical. He hopes that FinCom will support it. Happy to answer any questions on that but he will present the whole article first.

Conservation commission is next and he will let Adam talk about this. In the handout it sums up the 3 things that tell what we are looking for. \$20K is to fund one of the commission's responsibilities that is unfunded now. One is dealing with permitting and the other managing town owned conservation land. The town owns 623 acres of land which we have no budget to manage properly now. That being said the addition \$20K: \$3K to fund an internship, hopeful an intern with some landscape, architectural, and planning background; and GIS software to map the properties that we have, where we can park, etc to make available to the community. Most folks do not know about this land. Map/Map booklet to produce maps to put them into a booklet as well as electronically. Several towns have done that. Carlisle has a great trail book and it is good. He brought some examples to pass around. This is taken off of Carlisle's conservation web site. Ultimately the \$5K is to produce and print those booklets. The \$15K for materials is for service costs related more to directly investing in that property; to improve access and deal with problems that we know exist, i.e., dumping, vehicles accessing where they should not be. Duct tape land management issues. John C a lot of this is generated by the response we have been getting at the neighborhood meetings. People have brought up these issues. Right now we do not have resources to manage that. People telling us that people are where they should not be. Adam part of that \$15K we would like to buy materials for scouts and other organizations that have come in to volunteer labor but we don't have the money to spend on materials. Great scout troops in town but unfortunately we do not have the funding to help them help us.

John C: next would be the Police & Fire dept supplies which are actually for fuel. Price of fuel is more than we anticipated \$25K for each department will help us to get through the fiscal year. You may recall we did this last year as well.

Fire dept overtime is next. It is \$25K. Approximately three areas that contributed to this need: several fires this summer and as a result we had several injuries which have pushed up the demand; a lot of water work going on this summer and we have to change how we man the fire dept especially if there is less available of water. Last year's budget, OT was flat we did not increase it and there were increases in the contract to make up for that we are increasing that. Fire chief was present but did not add anything to this.

Next slide ambulance appropriation: COMSTAR billing is 4% of our receipts. In fiscal year \$1.7M in receipts and 4% about \$57M our appropriation last year was 70 and we did an amendment at the time that was being done and put in place the budget had already been put in place and we decided to deal with it in the fall. Think our receipts will be better than last year and we are seeing a bigger demand for ambulance services if you look at what we spend on COMSTAR billing it is still less than what we would spend on a full time employee. More cost effective to do it this way. The other thing is COMSTAR is in this business and up to date with all the changes and easier for them to keep up where if we had one person doing this we could miss it. It works well for us and is cost effective.

Highway division there is a \$100K appropriation and the lion's share mechanical supply of that line item in the supply account. End of year last year we had an issue with mechanic supply and we said we would revisit it and this is a projection of what we will need to keep up with the demand in that dept. In a later article we are dealing with old equipment that doesn't make a lot of sense, welding floors into vehicles that have no floors and the beginning of our winter season we dump money into it, should be replaced. We decided to do it 2 ways; amend the budget to show what we are spending on mechanical needs and make an investment in our capital vehicles to try and eliminate spending money that is not good money. Gas & diesel, concrete, \$100K

Water flushing overtime has been a hotbed issue in the last few weeks. We came upon an issue in town where the hydrants were not being inspected. When I became aware of it I brought in the water dept, fire chief, and DPW and got a pilot program to determine what it would cost to fund; associated with inspecting and that cost us \$50K. Hydrant inspections would be done in conjunction with the flushing program; that program only addresses a small percentage each year and the same hydrants so the flushing alone cannot cover our needs so it requires us to take on additional work during that time to make sure we can inspect all of the hydrants. Not as simple as opening it up, it can cause a disturbance in the water supply. Why O/T to do this. Why can't the firefighters do this? John C said his first order is to address this problem immediately and the quickest and easiest is to have the Water dept do this. There was language in the fire dept contract in the past and it was taken out; but bottom line it was deleted. These things do have to be negotiated. This will be a part of our negotiations to try and reincorporate this program. This has to be done and we will revisit the hydrant inspection program long term and try to do it more cost effectively. It needs to be done now.

Last item is the General Capital Fund which we started in the last few years, \$100K in the spring and some of these funds should be one time and some recurring revenue, this is a onetime fund because the money is available and it will be used off of the 5 year plan. General Capital Fund is for Capital plan which is attached.

School side splitting their money into 3 places: \$150,000 for Technology, \$350K to fill the circuit breaker structural deficit this is an effort to remove it from their operating budget; and some shortfalls in some of the grants they received as well. Capital Outlay: \$150K 40K for a van; 40K utility truck; 20K security cameras and \$50K for classroom furniture.

Mary thinks the best way to handle this is that we have discussion on the individual line items and potentially vote the entire thing. Mary is uncomfortable on the school items and wishes the superintendent was present and she would like to have it explained and she will ask the superintendent to come another night. The balance of the line items will be opened separately and we will vote the total.

Accountant/assessor salary increases will be first. Ed: a general question about the article, what is the source of the funding. John said if you look at the sheet I gave you we appropriated \$600K expecting a deficit this year in snow and ice and it was nothing so we have a revenue resource. David: when did either one of these gentlemen get a raise? John said they got one on June 1. David so they already got a raise on July 1. John said he incorporated on July 1 he changed the schedule. David: So they got the raise already. Mary said it might have been before David started with us but it was already explained to the FINCOM. David so this has not been approved and this would be like a second raise this year. Basically to keep them here. John C yes. Patrick: normally round up on the overall sheet but the number is not. Tony: when it came to the revenue from the snow and ice one of my concerns we had a winter that was unlike any other winter and for me personally for once it could go back to the taxpayers because who knows when we will have a winter like that. If you just spent the \$705K what would you do for that. Mary said we are discussing the first two lines not the whole figure. John C: we broke this up between recurring and one time and if you suggest that we don't appropriate it, it would come out of the capital items. As I stated before we are under prop 2-1/2 and the amount of the levy this year versus before it is less than last year. All interrelation things to make sure we do not dramatically change the tax rate but this is what we propose. Rino: when you first came to us about a salary adjustment was only one person? Mary said no

it was for both. Mary: will say what happened in her memory was the discussion was precipitated by the assessor salary because of a job opportunity for him and the Town Manager said he was going to be adjusting the town account's in stages. Rino: One thing this should not be the way we start adjusting salaries. In my opinion this is not the way to do it; applying salaries this way. John C that is an excellent point and I don't think I would be doing this if these people should not be staying in the Town. We can do these things by merit; we are so accustomed to seeing things across the board we are applying responsibility professional back ground and you cannot really avoid that. John C if other people came in you could say no. Tom: this is something which came up since the budget was formulated and voted so I don't have a problem with this and he thinks this the way to address it for the year going forward.

Conservation commission: Phil: illegal dumping how much of a problem on a yearly basis. Adam some cases you can work with the DPW. Ed said he had no idea we had over 600 acres of land. It goes to the quality of life to have some sort of a trail. Great idea! Sure the article will be split. He thinks there will be a motion made to split each of these items he thinks.

Barbara left the meeting at 8:59pm and John Piscatelli continued with the notes as follows:

Article 9 notes:

Police department supply increases are largely to fund gasoline. Dave Howe: Asked about police cars running at details while the officers are not in the car to keep heat or AC running. Mary commented that this was discussed in the past and the chief asked this practice be discontinued unless there is a specific reason. Mary to ask the chief to re-issue the directive on idling. John P. Confirmed this incremental funding can only be applied to gasoline, and if the money is not used (if gasoline costs are reduced), that it can't simply be directed to other accounts, but rather would be returned.

Ambulance

Tony asked if, as the level of business increases, whether we could negotiate a better percentage rate. John Curran to investigate further but thought we already have a sliding scale agreement.

Hydrant Flushing:

Chief Conway. Goal is to test 2100 hydrants on an annual basis, but only 30% have been flushed on average since 2006. John Curran. Current contract expires in June-2013. Need to address inspection needs in the next contract

A motion made to amend Article 9 reducing it from \$1.3M to \$700K was as follows:

Motioned by:	Tony Ventresca
Seconded by:	Patrick Logue
In Favor:	2
Opposed:	8
Abstained:	0

A motion made to amend Article 9 to vote the town side by line was as follows:

Motioned by:	John Griffin
Seconded by:	Ed Giroux
In Favor:	8
Opposed:	3
Abstained:	0

A motion to recommend the town side of Article 9 was as follows:

Motioned by:	Ed Giroux
Seconded by:	Phil Newfell
In Favor:	8
Opposed:	3
Abstained:	0

Article 16 - To Fund General Fund Capital Budget To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 to fund a new General Fund Capital Budget (72040-5850); or act in relation thereto.

John Curran presented the overall paving plan. The intent is to spread work roughly equally throughout the town. Roads are given a grade as part of developing the plan. Warrant seeks to spend \$500,000 in addition to the roughly \$1million we receive in chapter 90 funding. John Curran also explained it is in our best interest to accept streets as we largely need to maintain them for safety reasons, but our chapter 90 allocation is a function of the total miles of accepted roadways

Tony V. Why do we use R&A (levy) vs free cash? John Curran explained the levy can support and address infrastructure within the budget and that we can afford the levy.

A motion to recommend Article 16 was as follows:

Motioned by:	Ed Giroux
Seconded by:	Rino Moriconi
In Favor:	11
Opposed:	0
Abstained:	0

A motion made to extend the meeting past 10:00pm was as follows:

Motioned by:	Ed Giroux
Seconded by:	Phil Newell
In Favor:	10
Opposed:	1
Abstained:	0

Article 20 - To Fund the DPW Capital Equipment To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund \$377,900 for the following DPW Capital Equipment:

F350 Pick up- Highway (to replace 1999 H-11)	\$38,700
F350 Pick up – Highway (to replace 1996 H-10)	\$38,700
F250 Pick up –Administration (to replace 1997 A-2)	\$37,400
F250 Pick up –Water (to replace 2000 W-4)	\$37,400
F250 Pick up –Water (to replace 2000 W-5)	\$37,400
F350 Pick up –Water (to replace 1997 W-8)	\$38,700
F250 Pick up – Cemetery (to replace 1994 C-3)	\$37,400
F250 Pick up – Wastewater (to replace 2001 S-2)	\$37,400
F250 Pick up – Wastewater (to replace 2000 S-4)	\$37,400
F250 Pick up –Wastewater (to replace 1997 S-8)	\$37,400
Total	\$377,900

John P asked about wear and tear on trucks from plowing. Abdul explained the cost to outsource plowing easily justifies the truck replacement costs. David asked if we can do a better job in washing trucks by using another town’s washing set up. Abdul to contact Bedford and Lexington

A motion to recommend Article 20 was as follows:

Motioned by:	Ed Giroux
Seconded by:	Phil Newfell
In Favor:	11
Opposed:	0
Abstained:	0

A motion to adjourn the meeting was as follows:

Motioned by:	Ed Giroux
Seconded by:	Rino Moriconi
In Favor:	6
Opposed:	4
Abstained:	0

Meeting adjourned at 10:45pm.

Submitted by:

Barbara A. Doherty,
Recording Secretary