



**ANNUAL/SPECIAL TOWN MEETINGS
PROCTOR SCHOOL – WOODBURY AUDITORIUM
TUESDAY, MAY 5th, 2015**

The several articles in the Warrant for the Meeting and the action of the Town thereto.

The Moderator called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:04 PM., stating the required quorum had been surpassed. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Moderator followed with stating that the warrant had been served and duly posted and that the Return of the Constable was certified as proper and complete, posted and advertised as required by law, and called the meeting to order. The Moderator having introduced himself continued with general announcements.

The Moderator moved to his introductions starting with the Finance Committee Members, Chairman Mark Lyons, Heidi Bond, Karen Dow, Dana Warren, Eric Menzer, Jonathan Guido, and Louis Ross, as well as Secretary Keelie Winslow. He then introduced the Board of Selectmen, Chairman Dick Gandt, Martha Morrison, Eldon Goodhue, Stephen Lais, and Laura Powers. He also recognized Town Council Lauren Goldberg, and Town Administrator Kellie Hebert.

In attendance were Department Heads as follows: Pamela Wood, Barbara Michalowski, Roberta Knight, Library Director Laura Zalewski, Lana Spillman from Conservation, and Council on Aging director Jodi Gibeley. Educators Bernie Creeden from Topsfield Elementary Schools and Masconomet Superintendent Kevin Lyons were also recognized.

The Moderator asked for permission to allow out of town Department Heads and leadership of Departments to sit with their peers, and there were no objections.

If it is necessary to have a hand counted vote, the Tellers were Ruth Lucy, Darcy Fulton, Dottie Wass, Liz Collins, Mary Connors, and Mary Beth Willis. Donna Rich will be an alternate if necessary. Voter cards were introduced this year and instructions on the process of using them if necessary. A summary of further announcements are listed below:

1. The meeting is being taped for future broadcast. Thanks to the staff of Topsfield Cable.
2. Microphones have been provided in the auditorium for your convenience. We ask that you use them when addressing the meeting.
3. If one wishes to speak to any question, one must first be recognized by the Moderator. When recognized, the person must state his or her name and street address. Three minutes is provided for each speaker. Debate should be conducted in a respectful and courteous manner.
4. By long standing tradition in the Town, a recommendation of the Finance Committee amounts to the main motion, and doesn't require a second. If the Finance Committee recommends "no action" on a particular article, and a voter desires positive action on the article or an amended article, the voter may and should, during discussion of the Finance Committee recommendation, state his or her intention to move for positive action on the article or an amended article if the Finance Committee's "no action" recommendation is voted down; but, the vote will be taken on the Finance Committee's recommendation of "no action" before a motion for positive action is in order.

5. If a voter desires to move an amendment to a Finance Committee recommendation or to any other motion, I will require a written proposed motion to amend for review by myself and Town Counsel prior to any action on it. We have printed forms for these motions and will be happy to help anyone who needs assistance in making it out.
6. Since the Finance Committee's recommendation is the motion on which the vote is being taken, the Moderator asked for a motion to be made to waive the reading of the warrant. The motion was made and seconded, and there were no objections.

ARTICLE FIRST:

REPORTS

To hear all reports that may legally come before the meeting.

The Moderator acknowledged Mark Liptak of 192 Rowley Bridge Road, Chairman of the Fluoride Study Group. Mr. Liptak provided a one page summary on the Group's findings concerning the fluoridation of the Town's water. The Group was formed as a result of the September Special Town Meeting in 2014. Town residents John B. Hart of 18 Walker Road, Cheryl A. Jolley of 33 Colrain Road and Gregg Demers, of 70 Washington Street, were also members of this Group.

The Group reviewed dozens of reports both pro and anti-fluoridation. They invited interested parties both pro and anti-fluoridation to speak at the Study Group meetings, as well as meeting with members of the Water Department and Board of Health for a full understanding of the issues from the Town Officials stand point.

The Group recommended to lower the current level from 1 part per million to .7 parts per million. Mr. Liptak pointed out that these same findings were also recently recommended by the U.S. Health and Human Services Division.

The Moderator at this time asked the Town to vote to receive and acknowledge the report and the Town so voted.

Mark Lyons, Chairman of the Finance Committee spoke regarding the history of Town Hall, reading an excerpt from George Francis Dow's The History of Topsfield. The Finance Committee continues to use a Conservative approach to the Budgeting process. Mr. Lyons explained how they review budgetary needs and meet with Department heads to work on staying within provided guidelines.

Mr. Lyons presented a framework on how the Finance Committee approached the warrant process including five significant financial components. These components were the Town and School Operating Budgets, Rolling stock, inclusive of a Police cruiser and slope mower, certain capital items, Water expenditures, and Masconomet School system base level funding.

The Finance Committee would like the Town's approval on their recommendation to allow for the essential character and nature of the town to remain intact.

Following Mr. Lyons report, the Moderator introduced Selectman Laura Powers to present the Annual Achievement Awards as listed below.

Below is list of recipients for the Town's Annual Achievement Award: 2015

Heidi Bond	Finance Committee
Ian de Buy Wenniger	Planning Board
Paul E. Dierze	Finance Committee
Wade Goldman	Board of Health
George Hall	Moderator
Kathleen Hoffman	Board of Library Trustee
Larry Linquist	Masconomet School Committee
Rosemarie Lucey	Elementary School Committee
Mark Lyons	Finance Committee
Philip Madell	Board of Library Trustee
Jennie Merrill	Conservation Commission
Carole Moore	Council on Aging
Shirley Sciora	Council on Aging

Not able to attend:

William Hunt	Board of Health
James MacDougal	Conservation Commission
Daniel Shugrue	Finance Committee

The Moderator asked the recipients to all stand and thanked them for their dedication and service to the Town.

At this time, Board of Selectman Chair, Dick Gandt was recognized and made his report. He provided an updated on purchases that were approved at last year's Town Meeting, including the DPW Dump Truck that has arrived, the fire rescue truck which will be arriving this summer, and the Ladder Truck arriving early in 2016.

Mr. Gandt stated that this year was a "catch up" year on capital items and asked the Town to listen to the reasons and explanations that would be provided, and to consider the approval of such items. Mr. Gandt provided information regarding the Proposition 2 ½ override, and the Board of Selectmen's support on that Warrant Article.

In closing, he thanked all those in attendance, and was looking forward to questions and deliberations as they are part of a productive and meaningful Town Meeting.

At 7:35 PM, the Moderator called the Annual Town Meeting into a brief recess and called to order the Special Town Meeting. The Special Town Meeting, subject to the call of the chair, was called into a brief recess, and the Annual Town Meeting was called to order once more.

ARTICLE SECOND:

RESERVE FUND

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$150,000 for the Fiscal Year 2016 Reserve Fund, and to meet said appropriation that the Town transfer the sum of \$14,200 from Free Cash, and transfer the sum of \$135,800 from the Overlay Reserve Account, and at 7:35 PM, the Town so voted unanimously.

ARTICLE THIRD:

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$17,168,562 for schools, highways, and other Town expenses, and fix the annual salary and compensation of all elected officers for Fiscal Year 2016, and determine the manner of expending the same as stated in attachment A; and to meet said appropriation, raise and assess the sum of \$17,062,472; transfer the sum of \$66,000 from the Gould Trust Fund Part B; transfer the sum of \$1,585 from the Fund Balance Reserved for Reduction Future Excludable Debt Account; and transfer the sum of \$38,505 from the Police Insurance and Restitution Account.

Robert Kmetz of 32 Towne Lane had concerns regarding the significant increase of wage accounts and how it would affect the next three to five years and does it have implications for collective bargaining cycles. Finance Committee member Karen Dow responded that the new compensation plan is for nonunion personnel and that the new grid does not have built ins for cost of living adjustment. Last year's budget did not have people on the new grid, but an article from last year's warrant had money set aside to put people on the grid during this year, making this an unusual year. Ms. Dow also responded to an informational question from Heidi Fox of 31 Wildes Road regarding whether the Debt Service included Articles 28 thru 33 which it did not, as it only includes incurred debt. The Town so voted at 7:49 PM and the recommendation was adopted.

ARTICLE FOURTH:

WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,055,626 as detailed herein, and to meet said appropriation \$1,055,626, to come from Water Revenue, to operate the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2016, and to approve the sum of \$76,362 of indirect costs appropriated in the General Fund under Article Third above, to be funded from Water Revenue.

Resident and Water Commissioner Chairman Philip Knowles of 75 High Street requested the Board of Selectmen to speak on this budget. Selectman Gandt stated that the Board of Selectmen approved the Operating Budget for 2016, and the Town so voted unanimously.

Appropriated Fiscal Year 2015		Approved Appropriation Fiscal Year 2016
WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET		
\$ 81,073	Salary	\$ 85,299
177,577	Wages	192,667
296,980	Other	305,780
83,500	Long-Term Debt Principal	84,000
28,212	Long-Term Debt Interest	24,872
38,000	Short-Term Debt Interest	11,508
5,000	Debt Issue Costs	5,000
130,000	Water Reserve Fund	295,000
51,500	Unanticipated Emergency	51,500
891,842	SUB-TOTAL – DIRECT COSTS	1,055,626
109,702	Indirect Costs	76,362
1,001,544	TOTAL: WATER DEPARTMENT	1,131,988

ARTICLE FIFTH:

MASCONOMET REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

Recommended that the Town vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2016 Gross Operating Budget of the Masconomet Regional School District in the amount of \$32,867,324 and appropriate the sum of \$6,923,501 to fund the Town's share of the Fiscal Year 2016 Masconomet Regional School District Assessment of which the sum of \$6,632,904 supports the Maintenance & Operating Budget, and the sum of \$290,597 supports the Masconomet Building Debt Service; and to meet said appropriation raise and assess the sum of \$6,923,501; provided, however, that the sum of \$193,000 of the amount appropriated for the Maintenance & Operating Assessment shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 ½ general override referendum under General Laws Chapter 59, § 21C (g), and if such referendum is not passed, the vote as it pertains to the appropriation in the amount of \$193,000 will be deemed to be a disapproval.

Discussion and debate ensued including resident and Vice-Chair of the Regional District School Committee John Spencer of 27 Morningside Drive, stated the frustrations of being on the board and the challenges they face, and highlighting that currently Masconomet's per pupil spending is under state average. John Kinhan of 55 Colrain Road countered stating that the trend seems to be to exceed the guidelines every year. Masconomet student and registered voter Salvatore Atkinson LaRussa of 31 East Street spoke on behalf of the override and stated that despite budget increases, there is a lack of funding in various areas at the school. The Town voted and the motion carried.

ARTICLE SIXTH:

ESSEX NORTH SHORE AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2016 Gross Operating Budget of the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District in the amount of \$25,419,392 and appropriate the sum of \$175,401 for the Town's share of the assessment of same; and to meet said appropriation, raise and assess the sum of \$175,401. After minimal discussion the Town so voted unanimously.

At 8:21 pm the Moderator presented the first group of consent articles including Articles Seventh thru Article Seventeenth, asking the Town to vote unanimously on these annually recurring articles. A particular article could be pulled for debate and discussion simply by objection. John Kinhan of 55 Colrain Road objected to Article 11. The Moderator then restated the Consent Items, excluding Article Eleventh, and the Town so voted.

***ARTICLE SEVENTH:**

LEASE OF EMERSON FIELD

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Park & Cemetery Commissioners, and under such terms as it deems advisable, to enter into a lease with the Congregational Church of Topsfield for certain property in Topsfield commonly known as Emerson Field, and vote to raise, assess and appropriate the sum of \$1,250 for said lease and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE EIGHTH:**

GRANT AUTHORIZATION FOR TOWN PROJECTS

The Finance Committee recommended and the Town voted unanimously at 8:21 PM to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend without further appropriation any private, state or federal grants or loans for Town projects.

***ARTICLE NINTH:**

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONTRACTS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for the ensuing year and to accept and expend such sums as may be made available to the Town under Chapter 90 of the General Laws and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE TENTH:**

ANNUAL ENGINEERING & LANDFILL MONITORING

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$38,700 from the Solid Waste Fund to be expended by the Board of Selectmen in Fiscal Year 2016 to fund services for professional engineering and monitoring related to the capping and closure of the Town's sanitary landfill and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE ELEVENTH:**

TRI-TOWN COUNCIL ON YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,500 as a grant for Fiscal Year 2016 to fund certain activities of the Tri-Town Council.

Mr. John Kinhan of 55 Colrain Road asked why the Town should vote to fund a non-government organization and asked the Town to reconsider. There was no further discussion and the motion carried and the article was adopted at 8:26 PM.

***ARTICLE TWELFTH:**

SENIOR CARE

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,500, as a grant, to Senior Care Inc. and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE THIRTEENTH:**

FUND TOWN EMPLOYEE SEPARATION RESERVE FUND

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$105,000 to the Town Employee Separation Reserve Fund to fund the costs of employment separation benefits for employees for time owed for unused sick and vacation leave or other benefits as may be required by law, the Personnel Bylaw, rules, regulations, policies or applicable contracts or collective bargaining agreements and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE FOURTEENTH:**

FUND OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to the “Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund” and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE FIFTEENTH:**

PARK REVOLVING FUND

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to reauthorize the Park Revolving Fund for the Park & Cemetery Department pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapters 44, § 53E1/2: (1) to pay for part-time, seasonal and temporary wages, equipment, supplies and other operating expenses; (2) receipts of the Park & Cemetery Department’s recreation programs shall be deposited in said fund unless otherwise provided for by law; (3) said funds may be expended by majority vote of the Park & Cemetery Commissioners; (4) expenditures to be limited to \$45,000 in the ensuing year and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE SIXTEENTH:**

CEMETERY REVOLVING FUND

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to reauthorize the Cemetery Revolving Fund for the Park & Cemetery Department pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E1/2: (1) to pay for part-time, temporary and seasonal wages, equipment, supplies and other operating expenses; (2) cemetery related receipts of the Park & Cemetery Department shall be deposited in said fund unless otherwise provided for by law; (3) said funds may be expended by majority vote of the Park & Cemetery Commissioners; (4) expenditures to be limited to \$25,000 in the ensuing year, and the Town so voted unanimously.

***ARTICLE SEVENTEENTH:**

CONSERVATION COMMISSION REVOLVING FUND

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to reauthorize the Conservation Revolving Fund for the Conservation Commission pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E1/2: (1) to be expended for services, supplies, part-time wages and other operating expenses as authorized by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, § 8C; (2) receipts of the Conservation Commission of fees paid under the Topsfield General Wetlands Bylaw and Regulations will be deposited in said fund unless otherwise provided for by law; (3) said funds may be expended by majority vote of the Conservation Commissioners; (4) expenditures to be limited to \$10,000 in the ensuing year, and the Town so voted unanimously.

The second set of consent articles eighteen thru twenty-seventh were presented at 8:27 PM. These articles were capital borrowing items. The moderator asked for any objections on any of the articles and article eighteen was objected to by Kim Sherwood of 29 Perkins Row. The moderator then restated the consent items to include articles nineteen thru twenty seventh and asked the town to vote unanimously.

****ARTICLE EIGHTEENTH:**

FUND TOWN HALL SCHEMATIC DESIGN PLANS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen with the advice of the Town Hall Building Committee to fund a schematic design plan for Town Hall.

Some discussion ensued regarding the process of obtaining an architect. These questions were fielded by Town Hall Building Committee Chairman and resident Boyd Jackson of 27 Great Hill Drive. Mr. Jackson stated that this appropriation would allow for the hiring of an architect, whose purpose would be to determine how to bring Town Hall into the Twenty-first Century and whether an addition would be necessary to accomplish that. The Town voted and the motion carried at 8:37 PM.

****ARTICLE NINETEENTH:**

FUND WATER ENTERPRISE METER TESTING PROGRAM

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from the Water Enterprise Retained Earnings the sum of \$40,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Board of Water Commissioners, for the implementation of a water meter testing program, and the Town so voted unanimously.

****ARTICLE TWENTIETH:**

PURCHASE OF A WATER ENTERPRISE TRUCK

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from the Water Enterprise Retained Earnings the sum of \$80,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Board of Water Commissioners, to purchase and equip a Service Truck; and trade-in or sell the 2006 F-350 Service Truck, and the Town so voted unanimously.

****ARTICLE TWENTY-FIRST:**

PURCHASE OF TELEPHONE SYSTEMS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$130,000 to be expended by the Elementary School Committee to purchase and install digital telephone systems, including hardware, software and other equipment needed to replace the existing systems at the Proctor and Steward Elementary Schools, and the Town so voted unanimously.

****ARTICLE TWENTY-SECOND:**

PURCHASE OF HOT WATER HEATERS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$34,000 to be expended by the Elementary School Committee for the purchase and installation of new hot water heaters for the Proctor and Steward Elementary Schools, including all incidental and related costs, and the Town so voted.

****ARTICLE TWENTY-THIRD:**

PURCHASE OF TOWN HALL COMPUTER SOFTWARE ENHANCEMENTS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$32,250 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen for the purchase of licenses, installation and training of two new modules for the Munis financial software program, including the setup of program data and codes, training of personnel, maintenance costs and including all incidental and related costs; and to meet said appropriation transfer the sum of \$1,329 from Article 4 of the May 2012 Special Town Meeting, the sum of \$2,871 from Article 15 of the May 2012 Annual Town Meeting, and the sum of \$28,050 from Free Cash. The Town so voted unanimously.

****ARTICLE TWENTY-FOURTH:**

PURCHASE OF A POLICE CRUISER

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$42,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Police Chief, to purchase and equip a new Police cruiser; and trade-in or sell a 2011 Ford Crown Victoria, and the Town so voted unanimously.

****ARTICLE TWENTY- FIFTH:**

PURCHASE OF RADIO SIGNAL REPEATERS FOR POLICE COMMUNICATIONS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Police Chief, to procure and implement equipment to improve coverage of our two-way police radio communications within the Town, including all incidental and related costs, and the Town so voted unanimously.

****ARTICLE TWENTY-SIXTH:**

FUND LANDFILL – FIELD AND INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Park & Cemetery Commissioners, for maintenance of the Town's sanitary landfill infrastructure and for maintenance of the landfill's recreational fields, and the Town so Voted unanimously.

****ARTICLE TWENTY-SEVENTH:**

PURCHASE OF SLOPE MOWER

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Park and Cemetery Commissioners, to purchase and equip a slope mower, and to meet said appropriation transfer the sum of \$19,694 from Free Cash and the sum of \$5,306 from Article 23 of the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting, and the Town so Voted unanimously.

The Moderator having concluded Town Meeting Action on the second group of Consent Articles, declared a recess on the Annual Town Meeting. Confirming with the Town Clerk that the warrant had been duly posted for the Special Town Meeting, the Moderator declared the meeting lawfully in session at 8:38 PM.

ARTICLE FIRST:

REPORTS

There were no reports.

ARTICLE SECOND:

PRIOR YEAR BILLS AND WAGES

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to transfer from available funds and appropriate

\$1,040	From Fire Wages	Detail Pay
\$3,920	From Police Other Account	Vests; grant not received.
\$249	From Inspection Services Other Account	Office Supplies

to pay outstanding bills and wages contracted prior to July 1, 2014. Article Second was adopted by a unanimous vote at 8:39 PM.

ARTICLE THIRD:

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

The Finance Committee recommended and the Town so voted unanimously to transfer from the unexpended balance of certain accounts, and/or from available funds, and appropriate said funds to certain other accounts to pay certain expenses for the 2015 fiscal year as follows:

FROM:		TO:	
\$3,447	Town Accountant Wage	\$3,447	Town Accountant Salary Account
\$428	Conservation Wage	\$428	Conservation Salary Account
\$600	Hazardous Waste Collection	\$600	Inspectional Services Wage Account
\$1,075	Inspectional Services Salary	\$1,075	Inspectional Services Wage Account
\$13,000	Unemployment Account	\$13,000	Highway Other Account
			Essex NS Agricultural & Technical
\$12,996	Essex Retirement Account	\$12,996	Account
\$25,000	Police Other Account	\$25,000	Police Wage Account
	Insurance & Restitution		
\$45,000	Account	\$45,000	Police Wage Account
\$254,053	MIIA Health Insurance	\$27,458	Snow & Ice Wage Account
		\$139,595	Snow & Ice Other Account
		\$25,000	Police Wage Account
		\$62,000	Fire Wage Account

ARTICLE FOURTH:

AMEND TOWN CLERK'S FY15 SALARY

The Finance Committee recommended and the Town so voted unanimously to amend the Town Clerk's Fiscal Year 2015 salary; and further to appropriate and transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Town Clerk Salary Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE FIFTH:

TOWN HALL EXTERIOR ENVELOPE REPAIRS

The Finance Committee recommended and the Town voted unanimously at 8:51 PM to appropriate the sum of \$227,000 for exterior repairs to the Town Hall including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 (3A) of the General Laws or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any state aid available for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen with the advice of the Town Hall Building Committee is authorized to take any necessary action to carry out this project.

ARTICLE SIXTH:

FIRE/RESCUE JAWS OF LIFE EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to purchase Fire/Rescue Jaws of Life emergency equipment, or take any other action relative thereto, and the Town unanimously voted positive action at 8:54 PM.

ARTICLE SEVENTH:

LIBRARY SECURITY DOORS & ALARM SYSTEM

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money for the Library security doors and alarm system, or take any other action relative thereto. The Town voted unanimously at 8:57 PM.

ARTICLE EIGHTH:

STEWARD SCHOOL LIBRARY CARPETING REPLACEMENT

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money for the replacement of carpeting at the Steward School Library, or take any other action relative thereto. Said motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE NINTH:

FINANCIAL PROGRAM CONVERSION UPGRADE

The Finance Committee recommended and the Town so voted unanimously to transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money for the conversion upgrade of the Munis financial programs to version 10.0, or take any other action relative thereto.

At 8:58 PM, the Moderator asked for a motion to dissolve the Special Town Meeting which was provided and seconded, and the Special Town Meeting was dissolved. The Moderator called the Annual Town Meeting back to order.

ARTICLE TWENTY-EIGHTH:

PURCHASE OF CATCH BASIN CLEANER/PLOW/CRANE

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$165,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Board of Road Commissioners, to purchase and equip a Catch Basin Cleaner/Plow/Crane, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; and trade-in or sell the existing 2000 model year Catch Basin Cleaner/Plow/Crane and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(9) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. The Moderator than stating that a borrowing authorization requires a 2/3rd vote, and asked the Town for a unanimous vote, and Town so voted.

ARTICLE TWENTY-NINTH:

FUND EXTERIOR PAINTING AND PRESERVATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$135,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Elementary School Committee, to fund the exterior painting and preservation of the Proctor and Steward Elementary Schools, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Dr. Bernard Creeden, Superintendent of the Topsfield Elementary Schools, addressed the need for approval on Article Twenty-ninth, as well as Articles thirtieth thru thirty-fourth inclusive. Article Twenty-Ninth was voted positive action unanimously by the Town at 9:07 PM.

ARTICLE THIRTIETH:

FUND SIDEWALK REPAIRS AT STEWARD SCHOOL

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Elementary School Committee, for the repairs of the sidewalks at the Steward School, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. A 2/3rds vote was required, and the Town so voted unanimously.

ARTICLE THIRTY-FIRST:

FUND REPLACEMENT OF HALLWAY FLOORING IN PROCTOR SCHOOL

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$60,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Elementary School Committee, for the replacement of certain hallway floors in Proctor School, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 (3A) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. A 2/3rds vote was required and at 9:10 PM the Town so voted unanimously.

ARTICLE THIRTY-SECOND:

FUND ENGINEERING DESIGN FOR PROCTOR SCHOOL LIBRARY HVAC

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Elementary School Committee, for the engineering design of a replacement HVAC system for the Proctor School library and adjacent spaces, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 (21) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. The Town so voted unanimously exceeding the 2/3rds required vote.

ARTICLE THIRTY-THIRD:

FUND LAVATORY RENOVATIONS AT PROCTOR SCHOOL

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$48,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Elementary School Committee, for the renovation of eight student lavatories at Proctor School, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. The Town so voted unanimously exceeding the 2/3rds required vote, at 9:12 PM.

ARTICLE THIRTY-FOURTH:

FUND CUPOLA AND ROOFING ENGINEERING DESIGN FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$49,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen, with the advice of the Elementary School Committee, for a roofing assessment study for the Proctor and Steward Elementary Schools inclusive of the Proctor School cupola and surrounding roof area, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and the Town so voted unanimously exceeding the 2/3rds required vote.

ARTICLE THIRTY-FIFTH:

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES—REVISE MINIMUM VALUE

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause Fifty-Fourth, to amend the vote taken under Article Thirty-Eighth of the May 1, 2001 Annual Town Meeting to establish a minimum value of \$2,500 for property subject to taxation, and the Town so voted unanimously at 9:17 PM.

ARTICLE THIRTY-SIXTH:

ADDITIONAL TAX EXEMPTIONS

The Finance Committee Recommended that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 5C ½ of the General Laws, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions by 100% for all exemption clauses listed in the first paragraph of General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2015, and the Town so voted unanimously.

This local option statute replaces a statute previously accepted by the Town at the May 2001 Annual Town Meeting; that statute was repealed by Section 27 of Chapter 62 of Acts of 2014. Unlike the repealed law, the new law does not require annual approval. Therefore the additional percent of exemption recommended in this article would remain in effect unless changed by a vote of a future town meeting.

ARTICLE THIRTY-SEVENTH:

HOME RULE PETITION - ADDITIONAL PACKAGE STORE LICENSES

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a petition with the General Court for special legislation authorizing the licensing authority of the Town to issue two alcohol open store licenses in the form set forth below; provided however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the public purposes of the petition, or take any other action relative thereto.

An Act Authorizing the Issuance of Two Additional Licenses for the Sale of Wines and Malt Beverages Not to be Drunk on the Premises.

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding section 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, the licensing authority of the town of Topsfield shall be authorized to grant an additional two licenses for the sale of wines and malt beverages not to be drunk on the premises under section 15 of said chapter 138; provided however, that the selling of wines and malt beverages shall be incidental to the sale of food and other products. The licenses shall be subject to all chapter 138 except section 17 of said chapter.

SECTION 2. The licenses granted under this Act, if revoked or no longer in use, shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights and privileges pertaining thereto, to the licensing authority.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

At 9:22 p.m. the Town voted in favor of Article Thirty-seventh.

ARTICLE THIRTY-EIGHTH:

AUTHORIZATION OF 10 YEAR LEASE FOR TRI-TOWN UNION

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to authorize the Elementary School Committee to enter into a ten (10) year, joint lease with the two other members of the Tri-town School Union of a building and associated premises at 28 Middleton Road, Boxford, Massachusetts on such terms and conditions as said Committee deems favorable to the residents of the Town of Topsfield, or take any other action relative thereto. The Town voted positive action.

ARTICLE THIRTY-NINTH:

AMEND CHAPTER LI, STORMWATER AND EROSION CONTROL BYLAW

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to amend certain sections of the Town Code, Chapter LI, Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Bylaw as follows, with the provisions to be inserted shown in bold italics and deletions shown in strikethrough, as set forth below:

In section 51-2 DEFINITIONS:

Insert the following new definitions for Common Plan of Development:

“COMMON PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT: A common plan of development is a contiguous area where multiple separate and distinct construction activities may be taking place at different times on different schedules under one plan.”

In section 51-5 STORMWATER PERMIT MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENT

Amend the first sentence of 51-5 a. as follows:

“a. Applicability

No person shall alter land within the Town of Topsfield including, without limitations, any new development or redevelopment, ~~or~~ other activity that will alter the drainage characteristics of a parcel of land, ***or any activity that may result in stormwater flowing from the parcel under development onto an adjacent parcel of land*** without obtaining a Stormwater Management Permit, unless exempt pursuant to Section 51-5(b) of this Bylaw.

Amend the first paragraph of 51-5 b. as follows:

“b. Exemptions

The following activities shall be exempt from the requirement to obtain a Stormwater Management Permit. The exemptions in b.1 and 2 below shall not be applied to projects entirely or in any part on poorly drained soils, ***or for*** ~~to~~ projects consisting of the installation of any drain system designed to transport stormwater or groundwater beyond the boundaries of the property on which it is located. ***The exemptions in b.1 and b.2 shall also not apply to an activity that is part of a common plan of development that, considered as a whole, would alter an area greater than the area permitted by b.1 and b.2 below. In applying the exemptions in b.1 and b.2 below, the area subject to alteration pursuant to such exemptions may not exceed, in the aggregate, 7,500 square feet.”***

or take any other action thereto, and the Town voted unanimously.

ARTICLE FORTIETH:

AMEND ZONING BYLAW, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3.05 NONCONFORMING USES

The Finance Committee recommended and the Town so voted unanimously to amend the Topsfield Zoning Bylaw, Article III, Section 3.05 Nonconforming Uses by removing extraneous quotations from the first paragraph, inserting alphabetic ordering “A” and “B” to the two existing paragraphs, and then adding a new section C shown in bold italics as set forth below:

“3.05 Nonconforming Uses

C. A nonconforming single family or two family residential structure located on a lot whose only nonconformity is insufficient lot area and/or insufficient frontage may be altered if the structure, as altered, complies with all current requirements for setbacks, yards, building coverage and building height, as determined by the Inspector of Buildings.”

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE FORTY- FIRST:

AMEND ZONING BYLAW, ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4.12 OFF-STREET PARKING USES

The Finance Committee recommended and the Town voted unanimous approval at 9:33p.m., to amend the Topsfield Zoning Bylaw, Article IV, Section 4.12 B, Off Street Parking Areas as follows, with the provisions to be deleted to be shown in strikethrough and with the provisions to be added shown in bold italics as set forth below:

“B. Off Street Parking Areas. Off street parking spaces shall be i) located on the premises or ii) on a site within ~~two hundred (200) feet~~ ***five hundred (500) feet*** of the premises which is accessible by foot from the premises and of which the user has a legal right to use for parking.”,

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE-FORTY-SECOND:

AMEND ZONING BYLAW, ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 3.13 PARKING OF AUTOMOBILES

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to amend the Topsfield Zoning Bylaw, Article III, Sections 3.13, Parking of Automobiles as follows with the provisions to be added shown in bold italics and those deleted in strikeout:

“3.13 Parking of Automobiles.

The following shall not be permitted in the Central Residential, ***the*** Inner Residential and Agricultural, and the Outlying Residential and Agricultural Districts either as an accessory use or by authority of the Board of Appeals, except as provided below:

“a. The parking of automobiles where a direct or indirect charge therefore is made except ~~to the extent already in use~~ for periods not to exceed (10 days) ~~at~~ **during** the Essex Agricultural Fair, but to no greater extent. ***The parking of more than 20 automobiles on a single lot in such period, except to the extent already in use, shall require a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.”***,

, or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectman and Planning Board Member Martha Morrison moved to amend the main motion as follows:

“I move to amend the main motion by inserting after the word “lot”, where it appears in the sentence to be added to Section 3.13a the phrase “at any one time,” so that the full sentence will read:

The parking of more than 20 automobiles on a single lot at any one time in such period, except to the extent already in use, shall require a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.”

A majority vote was required to amend the main motion and the Town so voted at 9:36 p.m. There was some discussion on the recommendation as amended. The Moderator asked if the motion as amended could be approved unanimously, and there were objections. A hand count was taken and at 9:54 PM the amended motion carried, 173 votes to 3 votes.

ARTICLE FORTY-THIRD:

AMEND ZONING BYLAW, ARTICLE III, SECTION 3.02 TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Topsfield Zoning Bylaw, Article III, Section 3.02, Use Regulations and Table of Use Regulations for the Business District Highway North by amending subsection 4.35 Commercial Kennels to allow said use by special permit as set forth below, with the provision deleted in strikeout and the provision inserted in bold italics:

4.35	Commercial kennels	BHN NP <i>SP</i>
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, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Finance Committee recommended no action on this article. Steven Hall of 86 Salem Road, member of the Zoning Board supported this recommendation and the Town voted in favor of no action.

ARTICLE FORTY-FOURTH:

CITIZEN PETITION - 24/7 FIRE SERVICE

The Finance Committee recommended that a Committee of seven (7) be formed, by appointment of the Board of Selectmen, to study the matter and report back to the Selectmen no later than November 1, 2015; and if the matter is supported by the Committee, to be considered in the Fiscal Year 2017 town’s budget process, and the motion was adopted to form such a committee.

ARTICLE FORTY-FIFTH:

CITIZEN PETITION - TOWN CLERK APPOINTMENT

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of special legislation which would authorize the appointment of the Town Clerk, and which legislation would provide substantially as follows:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF TOPSFIELD TO APPOINT THE TOWN CLERK

SECTION 1.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 41 of the General Laws or any other general law, special law or bylaw to the contrary, the Office of Town Clerk in the Town of Topsfield shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Town Clerk shall be governed by the Town of Topsfield Personnel Bylaw and shall have all the powers, perform all the duties and be subject to the liabilities and penalties conferred and imposed by the law on town clerks.

SECTION 2.

Notwithstanding Section 1, the position of elected Town Clerk shall be abolished upon the expiration of the term of the current elected incumbent, and provided further that such incumbent shall also then become the first appointed Town Clerk, unless sooner resignation, retirement or removal.

SECTION 3

This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

Provided however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition, or act in any manner relating thereto. The Moderator asked for a hand counted vote. There were 94 votes in the affirmative and 26 in the negative. The Finance Committee's recommendation was adopted at 10:18 PM.

At 8:16 p.m. resident Bill Quinn of 5 Millbrook Lane moved to advance Article 46 and take it up at this time. Mr. Quinn stated that this Article, a Citizen's Petition to fund a Senior needs analysis study was recommended favorably by the Finance Committee and that it may present a hardship to many seniors currently in attendance at this time who are interested in supporting the article. The Moderator than asked the Town and there were no objections.

ARTICLE FORTY-SIXTH:

CITIZEN PETITION - SENIOR NEEDS ANALYSIS STUDY

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to raise and assess or transfer from available funds and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be expended by the Board of Selectmen with the advice of the Council on Aging to retain the services of a consultant to prepare a comprehensive needs assessment of senior residents of the Town of Topsfield, or take any other action relative thereto. The recommendation passed unanimously.

ARTICLE FORTY-SEVENTH:

CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to raise and assess or transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto. The motion was unanimously adopted at 10:19 PM.

ARTICLE FORTY-EIGHTH:

STABILIZATION FUND

The Finance Committee recommended the Town vote to raise and assess or transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto. The Town so voted unanimously.

ARTICLE FORTY-NINTH:

FREE CASH

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash and appropriate the sum of \$392,690 to reduce the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2016, or take any other action relative thereto. The Town voted favorable action.

After completion of the last article to be brought before the Town, the Moderator asked for a motion to dissolve Town Meeting. Receiving one, Annual Town Meeting of 2015 was dissolved at 10:24 PM. There were 246 registered voters in attendance.

ATTACHMENT A

**FISCAL YEAR 2016
GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET
May 5, 2015**

**Approved
Appropriation
Fiscal Year
2016**

**Approved
Appropriation
Fiscal Year
2015**

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ELECTED OFFICERS

50	MODERATOR:	50
	SELECTMEN:	
1	Chairman	1
1	Clerk	1
1	Member	1
1	Member	1
1	Member	1
	ASSESSORS:	
1,500	Chairman	1,500
1,500	Clerk	1,500
1,500	Member	1,500
56,651	TOWN CLERK:	63,048
300	TOWN CONSTABLE:	300
	PLANNING BOARD:	
1	Chairman	1
1	Clerk	1
1	Member	1
1	Member	1
1	Member	1

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

	Moderator:	
50	Salary	50
50	TOTAL: Moderator	50
	Selectmen:	
182,160	Salaries	188,428
45,080	Wages	53,150
37,867	Other	39,696
265,107	TOTAL: Selectmen	281,274
	Selectmen's Special:	
68,200	Other	70,200
68,200	TOTAL: Selectmen Special	70,200
	Parking Clerk:	
-	Other	-
-	TOTAL: Parking Clerk	-
	Finance Committee:	
1,264	Wages	1,316
385	Other	390
1,649	TOTAL: Finance Committee	1,706
	Town Website/Cable Advisory:	
1,630	Wages	1,858
1,263	Other	1,263
2,893	Total: Town Website/Cable Advisory	3,121
	Town Accountant:	
68,205	Salary	78,365
36,096	Wages	42,171
22,619	Other	23,297
126,920	TOTAL: Town Accountant	143,833

	Board of Assessors	
74,455	Salaries	83,865
36,596	Wages	42,704
30,875	Other	31,725
141,926	TOTAL: Assessors	158,294
	Town Treasurer and Collector:	
68,955	Salary	78,365
76,668	Wages	86,779
48,136	Other	56,583
193,759	TOTAL: Town Treasurer & Coll.	221,727
	Town Hall:	
-	Wages	-
142,431	Other	137,423
142,431	TOTAL: Town Hall	137,423
	School Street Building	
500	Other	600
500	TOTAL: School Street Building	600
	Town Clerk:	
56,951	Salary	63,348
23,447	Wages	26,013
14,335	Other	13,156
94,733	TOTAL: Town Clerk	102,517
	Trust Fund Clerk:	
-	Salary	-
100	Other	100
100	TOTAL: Trust Fund Clerk	100
	Conservation Commission:	
	Salary	

68,955		72,979
14,079	Wages	17,756
83,034	TOTAL: Conservation Commission	90,735
	Planning Board:	
5,005	Salaries	5,105
1,742	Other	1,791
6,747	TOTAL: Planning Board	6,896
	Zoning Board of Appeals:	
724	Other	745
724	TOTAL: Zoning Board of Appeals	745
1,128,773	SUB-TOTAL: GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,219,221

PUBLIC SAFETY

	Police Department:	
157,062	Salaries	161,789
1,015,293	Wages	1,168,805
138,929	Other	142,990
-	Capital Equipment	-
1,311,284	TOTAL: Police Department	1,473,584
	Fire Department:	
103,262	Salaries	103,262
458,837	Wages	506,870
104,255	Other	108,007
666,354	TOTAL: Fire Department	718,139
	Ambulance Services:	
-	Other	-
-	TOTAL: Ambulance Service	-

	Inspectional Services:	
88,259	Salaries	96,718
26,734	Wages	29,326
5,913	Other	6,089
120,906	TOTAL: Inspectional Services	132,133
	Sealer Weights & Measure	
1,593	Salary	1,625
-	Other	-
1,593	TOTAL: Sealers Weights & Measure	1,625
	Animal Control Officer:	
9,449	Salary	9,638
560	Other	560
10,009	TOTAL: Animal Control Officer	10,198
	Animal Inspector:	
7,303	Salary	7,303
1,840	Other	1,840
9,143	TOTAL: Animal Inspector	9,143
2,119,289	SUB-TOTAL: PUBLIC SAFETY	2,344,822

EDUCATION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5,511,557	Total Salaries	5,689,382
206,289	Total Supplies/Materials/Textbooks	250,600
45,703	Total Equipment	43,837
94,056	Total Prof Dev (Mem./Work./Conf.)	113,357
412,146	Total Special Education (Tutions & Services)	422,318
	Total Food Service	30,000
263,493	Total Transportation	240,542

180,971	Utilities	193,561
152,704	Facilities	188,606
6,866,919	TOTAL: Elementary Schools	7,172,203
6,866,919	SUB-TOTAL - ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS	7,172,203

PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES

General Highway:		
81,323	Salary	90,244
263,989	Wages	284,892
221,520	Other	242,170
29,257	Capital Equipment	29,257
596,089	TOTAL: General Highway	646,563
Snow and Ice:		
28,000	Wages	29,720
174,400	Other	176,445
202,400	TOTAL: Snow and Ice	206,165
Street Lights		
20,250	Other	20,858
20,250	TOTAL: Street Lights	20,858
818,739	SUB-TOTAL: PUBLIC WORKS	873,586

HUMAN SERVICES

Board of Health:		
68,205	Salary	72,229
15,383	Wages	21,264
17,629	Other	18,158
101,217	TOTAL: Board of Health	111,651

	MSW Collection, HHW & Recycling	
409,713	Services	409,713
409,713	TOTAL: MSW Collection, HHW & Recycling	409,713
	Recycling:	
2,050	Other	4,150
2,050	TOTAL: Recycling	4,150
	Council On Aging:	
43,158	Salary	46,029
44,378	Wages	46,389
2,767	Other	2,850
90,303	TOTAL: Council On Aging	95,268
	Veterans' Benefits:	
20,960	Other	20,960
20,960	TOTAL: Veterans' Benefits	20,960
	Soldiers & Sailors Graves:	
1,000	Other	1,000
1,000	TOTAL: Soldiers & Sailors Graves	1,000
625,243	SUB-TOTAL: HUMAN SERVICES	642,742

CULTURE & RECREATION

	Library:	
208,021	Salaries	225,972
164,784	Wages	181,256
140,550	Other	151,988

513,355	TOTAL: Library	559,216
	Park and Cemetery Department:	
69,955	Salary	73,643
131,582	Wages	142,551
51,593	Other	53,018
253,130	TOTAL: Park & Cemetery Dept.	269,212
	Tree Department:	
3,096	Salary	3,158
3,330	Wages	3,395
8,195	Other	8,440
14,621	TOTAL: Tree Department	14,993
	Memorial Day/Veteran's Day:	
3,600	Other	2,650
3,600	TOTAL: Memorial Day/Veteran's Day	2,650
	Historical Commission:	
450	Other	450
450	TOTAL: Historical Commission	450
785,156	SUB TOTAL: CULTURE & RECREATION	846,521

DEBT SERVICE

556,500	Long-Term Debt Principal	486,000
95,469	Long -Term Debt Interest	75,059
-	Short-Term Debt Principal Pay Down	71,000
-	Interest for Temporary Loans	9,846
2,500	Issue Cost	2,500
654,469	TOTAL: DEBT SERVICE	644,405
	SUB TOTAL: DEBT SERVICE	

654,469

644,405

OTHER EXPENDITURES

Pensions:

884,541

Essex Retirement

964,456

884,541

TOTAL: Pensions

964,456

Insurance:

355,439

Liability/Accident/Workmen's Compensation

369,469

1,945,203

Life/Medical/Medicare

2,016,137

75,000

Unemployment

75,000

2,375,642

TOTAL: Insurance

2,460,606

3,260,183

SUB-TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURES

3,425,062

*****TOTAL BUDGET
RECOMMENDATION*****

16,258,771

17,168,562

Fiscal Year 2015: July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

Fiscal Year 2016: July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016

**TOWN OF TOPSFIELD
TOWN ELECTION
May 7, 2015**

The polls opened at 7:00 AM on May 7, 2015 at St. Rose of Lima Church Hall, 12 Park Street, with Paula Burke as Election Warden. The following election workers were sworn to the faithful performance of their duties:

Jane Bonanno, Elaine Crippen, Sally Cabral, Dottie Roberts, Barbara Adams, Carole Carter, Mary Connor, Ruth Lucy, Sue Caples, Chris Cotti, Kathy Curran, Betty Booye, and Mary Beth Willis.

The polls were closed at 8:00 PM, and 1242 ballots were cast. There were 4657 persons registered to vote in this election. The results are as follows:

Moderator, One Year

Jeanine P. Cunniff	522
Stephen T. Whelan	659*
Blanks	56
Write-ins	5

Selectman, Three Years(Vote for 2)

A. Richard Gantdt	582
Laura J. Powers	723*
Boyd R. Jackson	745*
Blanks	427
Write-ins	7

Elementary School Committee, Three Years

Linda S. Ross	943*
Blanks	297
Write-ins	2

Assessor, Three Years

Eldon D. Goodhue	960*
Blanks	280
Write-ins	2

Commissioner of Trust Funds, Three Years

David G. Strachan, Jr.	908*
Blanks	326
Write-ins	8

Housing Authority, Five Years

Richard Cullinan	932*
Blanks	307
Write-ins	3

Library Trustee, Three Year(Vote for 2)

Audrey B. Iarocci	878*
Patricia Walsh	864*
Blanks	738
Write-ins	1

Park & Cemetery Commissioner, Three Year

Steven Mscisz	971*
Blanks	270
Write-ins	1

Planning Board, Three Year

Stephen D. Silveri	897*
Blanks	345
Write-ins	0

Regional School Committee, One Year

William J. Hodges	914*
Blanks	326
Write-ins	2

Regional School Committee, Three Years

Kim M. Sherwood	840*
Blanks	391
Write-ins	11

Road Commissioner, Three Years

Joseph K. Gibbons	939*
Blanks	303
Write-ins	0

Water Commissioner, Three Years

Mark F. Gallagher	923*
Blanks	315
Write-ins	4

Proposition 2 ½ Referendum Ballot Question

Question One: Masconomet Regional School District:

Shall the Town of Topsfield be allowed to assess an additional \$193,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Town's assessment for the Masconomet Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015?

Yes	707*
No	481
Blanks	54

A true copy attest:

Ann D. Gill
Town Clerk