

**2023 Spring Annual Town Meeting
Fine and Performing Arts Center
Marshall Lebowitz Town Meeting Room,
Natick High School
April 25, 2023, First Session**

The First Session of the 2023 Spring Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Town Moderator, Frank W. Foss, who declared a quorum present. The Moderator welcomed residents, taxpayers, town officials, Town Meeting Members and interested parties to the First Session of 2023 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Foss presented the official, duly posted warrant signed by the Select Board with the officer's return thereon to the Town Clerk to be entered into the Town's official record. The Moderator asked that all recently elected or appointed members of Town Meeting stand to take the oath of office; after the oath of office the Moderator asked the audience to remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in remembrance of Rosita Andrews, Chief Caring Hands, chief of the Massachusetts Natick Ponkapoag and Nashoba Praying Indians.

The Moderator introduced the officials present for the meeting: Diane Packer, Town Clerk; Linda Wollschlager, Finance Committee Chair; Todd Gillenwater, Finance Committee Vice Chair; Karis North, Town Counsel, James Errickson, Town Administrator; and Bruce Evans, Select Board Chair. Town Meeting Members may sit anywhere in the auditorium, allowing for social distancing. Gloria Huang will operate the slides and Jeff Horan, a representative from Option Technologies, will operate the electronic voting system.

The proceedings of Town Meetings shall be governed by *Town Meeting Time*, the Town of Natick Home Rule Charter, the Natick Bylaws and the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Moderator reviewed the general rules and procedures of Town Meeting. He indicated that all residents and taxpayers of the town, town officers and employees, whether or not residents, have the same right to speak as Town Meeting Members; however they do not have the right to submit motions for consideration at Town Meeting, nor vote on any matter before Town Meeting. Non-residents may only speak at Town Meeting after approval by Town Meeting Members.

No person shall speak upon any debatable motion more than once when any other person desires to be heard, nor more than twice on the same question without permission of Town Meeting; and no person shall speak more than five (5) minutes at one time without permission of Town Meeting. All motions offered for the consideration of Town Meeting shall be in writing if required by the Moderator; and all motions involving the expenditure of money shall be in writing when required by any Town Meeting Member. Written motions shall be presented to the Moderator at least 48 hours in advance.

Consistent with the Natick Bylaws, once a member is recognized, it has been the practice of Town Meeting Members to first ask a question(s), then propose a motion and/or debate the highest-ranking motion. Once a speaker is called upon by the moderator, the speaker's time will begin. Time expended asking questions will be considered part of the speaker's time, pursuant to the Natick Bylaws. Responses to the speaker's question will not be considered part of the speaker's requisite time. Each speaker will be limited to three questions, whether they are stated singularly or in a compound question, such will be responded to at the direction of the Moderator. Motions shall be made and have precedence as listed in the table entitled "Precedence of Motions," found in the April 25, 2023; Session 1, Spring ATM

Natick Bylaws, the Town Meeting Member Handbook and *Town Meeting Time*. The motion for the previous question shall not be entertained by the Moderator if three or more persons are seeking recognition, who have not previously spoken to the question.

Any person having a monetary or equitable interest in any matter under discussion at a Town Meeting, and any person employed by another having such an interest, shall disclose the fact of his/her interest or employment before speaking on the matter. There was an objection to the rules resulting in a vote. ***The rules were adopted by majority vote (122-4-2).***

The Moderator suggested a motion to waive the reading of articles and motions. Moved by Mr. Sidney, seconded by Mr. Gath to waive reading the text of all 2023 Spring Annual Town Meeting warrant articles and move to waive reading the text of all motions, excluding the amounts to be appropriated and sources of said amounts to be appropriated when motions are provided in the text of Recommendations of the Natick Finance Committee publications. ***The motion passed by majority vote (121-5-2).***

The Moderator also suggested a motion to permit the use of a Consent Agenda. Moved by Mr. Gath, seconded by Mr. Sidney that a Consent Agenda shall be in order during the First Session of this Spring Annual Town Meeting; provided however, that the Moderator must ensure that said motion was published in the Finance Committee Recommendation book which is required to be provided at least seven (7) days prior to the opening of the First Session of the Spring Annual Town Meeting. The Moderator shall propose to Town Meeting Members a "Consent Agenda" in the form of a motion listing all articles and respective motions which (based on the advice of the Finance Committee, Town Clerk and Town Counsel) the Moderator deems to be prepared for immediate actions. At said First Session of the meeting, seven (7) Town Meeting Members may be recognized by the Moderator so that any article shall be removed from a Consent Agenda motion, then debated and voted in accordance with the provisions of Town Meeting rules and practices. All articles remaining in the Consent Agenda shall then be voted upon by a single two-thirds vote without sponsor presentation or debate. Ms. North, Town Counsel, explained that Article 31 is in the consent agenda as it has not been through the legally required process of Chapter 40A, therefore Town Meeting may not take any action on this article. ***The motion to authorize the use of a consent agenda passed by majority vote (121-10-0).***

There were several additional procedural motions. Moved by Ms. Wollschlager, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater to move consideration of Article 13 prior to considering Article 7. ***This motion passed by a two-thirds vote (128-3-0).***

Moved by Ms. Evans, seconded by Ms. Foss that the Town take up Articles 24, 25, 26 and 27-29 on May 2, 2023 and that Article 26 be taken up first, followed by Article 25 and then 24, and then Articles 27-29. ***The motion passed by two-thirds vote (129-2-0) passed by 2/3 vote.***

Moved by Mr. Ostroff, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman to take up Article 32 immediately following Article 29. ***The motion passed by a two-thirds vote (124-6-1).***

Moved by Mr. Beaumont, seconded by Mr. Awkward to move Articles 33, 34, and 35 to the first order of business on May 4, 2023. ***The motion failed to achieve a two-thirds vote (82-45-5).***

Moved by Ms. Hanna, seconded by Ms. Szretter to postpone consideration of Article 2 until May 4, 2023. *The motion passed by a two-thirds vote (100-23-2).*

The Moderator read the article numbers included in the consent agenda. After sufficient members rose to remove an article, Article 4 was removed from the consent agenda. Moved by Mr. Sidney, seconded by Ms. Merkowitz that the Town take Articles 1, 3, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, 30 and 31 out of order and that they be "Passed by Consent" in accordance with the motion published in the Consent Agenda distributed in the Finance Committee Book of Recommendations.

Details of the Consent Agenda as vote:

Article 1: Authorize Select Board to Acquire, Obtain, Abandon or Relocate Easements (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, during Fiscal Year 2024, to acquire on behalf of the Town any and all easements for any of the following purposes: roads, sidewalks, vehicular and/or pedestrian access or passage, drainage and utilities, provided however that such authorization pertains only to easements acquired at no cost to the Town; and, further, to authorize the Select Board, subsequent to a public hearing, during Fiscal Year 2024 to abandon or relocate easements acquired for any of the foregoing purposes; or otherwise act thereon

MOTION: Move that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board, during Fiscal Year 2024, to acquire on behalf of the Town any and all easements for any of the following purposes: roads, sidewalks, vehicular and/or pedestrian access or passage, drainage and utilities, provided however that such authorization pertains only to easements acquired at no cost to the Town; and, further, to authorize the Select Board, subsequent to a public hearing, during Fiscal Year 2024 to abandon or relocate easements acquired for any of the foregoing purposes.

ARTICLE 3: Elected Officials Salary (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town of Natick for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023) as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended; or otherwise act thereon.

MOTION: Move that the town vote to fix the salary and compensation of the following elected officer of the Town for the Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024) as provided by section 108 Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws: Town Clerk: \$123,000.

Article 9: Transfer of Unexpended Bond Proceeds (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will authorize the transfer of unexpended proceeds from amounts previously borrowed to pay costs of various capital projects, which projects are now complete, and for which such funds are no longer needed, to pay costs of one or more capital projects; or otherwise act thereon.

MOTION: Move No Action on the subject matter of Article 9.

ARTICLE 10: Rescind Authorized, Unissued Debt (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorization for unissued debt that has been determined is no longer needed for the completion of various projects; or otherwise act thereon.

MOTION: Move No Action on the subject matter of Article 10.

ARTICLE 11: Revolving Funds (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote on the limit on the total amount that may be expended from each revolving fund established pursuant to Chapter 44 section 53E ½ of the General Laws and Town by-law; or otherwise act thereon.

MOTION: Move that the Town vote to authorize the following maximum expenditures for FY2023 for the listed revolving funds, established by the Town of Natick Bylaws, Article 41 A pursuant to Chapter 44, §53E ½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, as follows:

Section 4: DPW Vehicles and Equipment, maximum expenditure \$200,000;

Section 5: Morse Institute Library Materials Purchase of New Books and Related Materials, maximum expenditure \$85,000;

Section 6: Morse Institute Library Maintenance and Repair of Library Facilities and Equipment, maximum expenditure \$25,000;

Section 7: Community-Senior Center Rental, Maintenance and Improvement Projects, maximum expenditure \$75,000;

Section 8: Flu Clinics, Immunization Programs, Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness, maximum expenditure \$40,000;

Section 9: Community-Senior Center Programs and Activities, maximum expenditure \$95,000;

Section 10: Tobacco Control Programs and Enforcement, maximum expenditure \$25,000;

Section 11: Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy Projects, maximum expenditure \$25,000;

Section 12: Tax Title Takings or Tax Title Foreclosures, maximum expenditure \$100,000;

Section 13: Curbside Compost Collection Program, maximum expenditure \$20,000; and

Section 14: Community Gardens, maximum expenditure \$25,000.

ARTICLE 14: PEG Access and Cable Related Fund Appropriation or Transfer of Funds (Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, established by vote of 2019 Special Town Meeting #1 under Article 1, as authorized by Chapter 44, Section 53F ¾ of the General Laws, as amended, to fund PEG access programming, as well as certain other municipal cable related expenses; or otherwise act thereon.

MOTION: Move that the Town vote to appropriate from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, established by vote of 2019 Special Town Meeting #1 under Article 1, as authorized by Chapter 44, Section 53F ¾ of the General Laws, as amended, the sum of \$353,758.52 to fund PEG access programming.

ARTICLE 16: Adjust Asset Limit for Personal Exemption Clause 17D by Annual COLA (Board of Assessors)

To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17E, which authorizes an annual increase in the asset (whole estate) limit for exemptions granted to

senior citizens, surviving spouses and surviving minors under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17D by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2023.

MOTION: Move that the Town vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17E, which authorizes an annual increase in the asset (whole estate) limit for exemptions granted to senior citizens, surviving spouses and surviving minors under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17D by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2023.

ARTICLE 17: Adjust Income and Asset Limits for Personal Exemption Clause 41C by Annual COLA (Board of Assessors)

To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41D, which authorizes an annual increase in the income (gross receipts) and asset (whole estate) limits for exemptions granted to senior citizens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2023.

MOTION: Move that the Town vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41D, which authorizes an annual increase in the income (gross receipts) and asset (whole estate) limits for exemptions granted to senior citizens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2023.

ARTICLE 18: Increase Personal Exemptions (Board of Assessors)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the additional real estate tax exemption granted under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5C1/2 to taxpayers who are granted personal exemptions on their domiciles under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, including certain blind persons, veterans, surviving spouses and seniors, to an additional exemption of up to 100 percent of the personal exemption to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2023.

MOTION: Move that the Town vote to amend the additional real estate tax exemption granted under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5C1/2 to taxpayers who are granted personal exemptions on their domiciles under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, including certain blind persons, veterans, surviving spouses and seniors, to an additional exemption of up to 100 percent

ARTICLE 30: Expansion of Assisted Living Overlay Option Plan (ALoop)

(George L. Richards, et al.)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Map to expand the ALoop Overlay District to 0 (R) East Central Street (38-0000001B and 38-0000001C) and 0 Dorset Lane (38-0000001AA); further to amend the Zoning Bylaw, Section III-I to include above listed properties in the ALoop Overlay District, and by further amending applicable sections of the Zoning Bylaw to update such inclusion where necessary; or otherwise, act thereon.

MOTION: Move to refer the subject matter of Article 30 to the Sponsor.

ARTICLE 31: Re-Zoning of 24 N Main St., 26 N Main St., 30 N Main St.

(Kenneth B. Phillips, et al.)

To see what action(s) the Town will take to re-zone the properties location at 24 N Main St., Parcel ID: 43-00000468; 26 N Main St. and 30 N Main St., Parcel ID: 35-00000039, from Residential General (RG) to Downtown Mixed Use (DM), or Commercial II(CII), or Center Gateway (CG), or otherwise act thereon.

MOTION: Move No Action on the subject matter of Article 31.

The Consent Agenda passed by a two-thirds vote (116-7-1)

The Moderator declared that the next order of business is Article 4.

ARTICLE 4: Personnel Board Classification and Pay Plan (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 108A of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, will vote to amend Article 24 of the Natick Town By-Laws, specifically the Classification and Pay Plan referenced in Section 3, paragraph 3.10 therein, by adding, deleting or amending position titles; re-classifying positions to a different Grade; and/or effecting changes in the salary ranges as presently established; or otherwise act thereon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee took the following action:	RECOMMENDATION:	Favorable Action
	QUANTUM OF VOTE:	9-0-3
	DATE VOTED:	March 14, 2023

MOTION: (Requires a Majority Vote)

Moved by Mr. Gillenwater, seconded by Ms. Wollschlager that the Town vote to amend the By-Laws by changing in its entirety the table entitled Classification and Pay Plan that is incorporated by reference into Article 24, Section 3, Paragraph 3.10 with the new Classification and Pay Plan as follows:

**Town of Natick
Classification and Pay Plan
Effective January 1, 2022
Classification changes are effective upon the vote of the Personnel Board**

Grade	Minimum	Point 1	Point 2	Maximum
6	\$125,000.00	\$140,000.00	\$155,000.00	\$181,500.00
5	\$100,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$159,500.00

4	\$75,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$137,500.00
3	\$60,000.00	\$72,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$115,500.00
2	\$48,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$62,500.00	\$88,000.00
1	\$42,000.00	\$48,000.00	\$54,000.00	\$70,000.00

GRADE 6

Chief of Police
 Deputy Town Administrator/Director of Finance
 Deputy Town Administrator/Operations
 Fire Chief
 Town Administrator
 Executive Director of Public Works and Facilities

GRADE 5

Comptroller
 Deputy Chief of Police
 Director of Community & Economic Development
 Director of Facilities Management
 Director of Human Resources/Labor Relations
 Director of Information Technology
 Director of Public Works
 Director of Community Services

GRADE 4

Assistant Comptroller
 Building Commissioner
 Deputy IT Director/Systems Network Administrator
 Deputy Director of Public Works
 Director of Assessing
 Director of Equity, Inclusion, & Outreach
 Deputy Community Services Director Council on Aging & Human Services
 Director of Procurement
 Director of Public Health
 Deputy Community Service Director Recreation & Parks
 Director of Sustainability
 Morse Library Director
 Treasurer/Collector

GRADE 3

Assistant Assessor (Certified)
 Assistant Director of Assessing
 Assistant Director - Programs
 Assistant Director of Finance
 Assistant Director- Resource Allocation
 Assistant Director – Programs & Services
 Assistant Director - Services & Outreach
 Assistant Town Clerk
 Assistant to Town Administration
 Assistant Treasurer/Collector
 Assistant Library Director, Morse Institute Library
 Bacon Free Director
 Benefits Manager
 Budget Analyst
 Business Manager
 Communications Director
 Community & Economic Development Office Manager
 Development Review Planner
 Director of Recreation Programs/Special Events
 Environmental Health Agent
 Executive Director, Farm
 Facility Maintenance Manager
 Golf Course Manager
 Housing/General Planner
 Information Systems Network Administrator
 Information Technology Manager
 Local Building Inspector (Certified)
 Open Space Planner/Conservation Agent
 Prevention & Outreach Program Manager
 Project Manager
 Public Health Nurse
 Regulatory Compliance Coordinator
 Senior Environmental Health Specialist
 Senior Planner
 Staff Accountant

GRADE 2

Assistant Assessor (non-certified)
 Assistant Director, Bacon Free Library
 Assistant Director, Farm
 Assistant Director, Internal Operations, Farm
 Associate Project Coordinator
 Case Manager
 Clinical Social Worker
 Coordinator of Adaptive Programs
 Executive Assistant
 Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator & Select Board
 Executive Assistant to the Fire Chief
 Facility Custodial Supervisor
 Golf Course Superintendent
 Human Resources Coordinator
 Payroll Manager
 Program Manager Volunteer Services
 Sanitarian
 Senior Executive Assistant to the Chief of Police
 Social Worker
 Special Asst. to Director of Facilities Management
 Special Asst. to the Director of Finance
 Special Asst. to Director of Senior Center & Community Services
 System Specialist Administrative
 Youth Center Coordinator

GRADE 1

Animal Control Officer
 Finance Coordinator
 Golf Professional
 Outreach Coordinator
 Parking Enforcement Officer
 Police Records Coordinator
 Student Officer

**Town of Natick
Part-Time Classification and Pay Plan
Effective January 1, 2022**

Grade	Minimum	Point 1	Point 2	Maximum
1	\$ 15.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 21.25	\$ 23.50
2	\$ 17.50	\$ 27.75	\$ 31.00	\$ 34.50
3	\$ 28.00	\$ 36.50	\$ 40.50	\$ 45.00

GRADE 1

Assistant Leader (Rec)
 Assistant Swim Coach
 Attendant (Rec)
 Building Monitor I (Rec)
 Bus Dispatcher
 Bus Driver
 Cart Attendant (Golf)
 Clerical Assistant
 Club House Attendant (Golf)
 Club House Supervisor (Golf)
 Concession Manager
 Custodian
 Deputy Animal Control Officer
 Election Clerk
 Election Inspector
 Equipment Operator (Golf)
 Instructor
 Laborer I
 Leader/Counselor (Rec)
 Library Page (Morse)
 Parking Clerk
 Ranger/Starter (Golf)
 Receptionist
 School Crossing Guard (1st year)
 Senior Counselor Certified-Rec)
 Specialist (Rec)
 Timer/Scorer

GRADE 2

Administrative Support
 Assistant Director (Rec)
 Bookkeeper
 Building Monitor II (Rec)
 Camp Director
 Community Garden Coordinator
 Conservation Agent
 Election Warden
 Golf Course Mechanic
 Head Lifeguard
 Instructor II
 Intern Cooperative
 Laborer II
 Library Assistant (Bacon)
 Lifeguard
 Parking Enforcement Officer
 Plumbing & Wiring Inspector
 Police Matron
 Police Transcriber
 Program Assistant
 Program Supervisor (Rec)
 Recycling Attendant
 School Crossing Guard
 Social Worker
 Swim Coach
 Transportation Coordinator
 Volunteer Coordinator I

GRADE 3

Adult Contractor
 Beach Manager
 Building Inspector
 Certified Sports Official
 Health Care Supervisor
 Instructor III
 Laborer III
 Nurse (RN)
 Volunteer Coordinator II

Position	Annual Rate
Inspector of Animals	\$ 3,750.00
Registrar of Voters	\$ 966.00
Town Meeting Page	\$ 100.00/Session

Premium (Up to a Max of \$85/Hr.)
Golf Instructor
Recreation Professional
Special Assignment Nurse
Subject Area Expert

Mr. Levinsky, Chair of the Personnel Board spoke to this article and discussion ensued. Moved by Mr. Coburn, seconded by Mr. Gath to move the question and end debate. *The motion to move the question and end debate passed by a two-thirds vote (121-6-2). The main motion under Article 4 passed by majority vote (120-7-4).*

ARTICLE 5: Collective Bargaining (Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide, to implement any Collective Bargaining Agreements between the Town of Natick and any recognized bargaining units of the Town; or otherwise act thereon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee took the following action:	RECOMMENDATION:	Favorable Action
	QUANTUM OF VOTE:	9-0-0
	DATE VOTED:	April 6, 2023

MOTION: (Requires a Majority Vote)

Moved by Mr. Gillenwater, seconded by Ms. Wollschlager that the Town vote to appropriate the total sum of \$213,335 from the FY23 Omnibus Budget, ARPA Revenue Replacement, as approved by vote of the 2022 Fall Annual Town Meeting, Article 2 Motion A, as a supplement to the FY 2023 Public Safety Budget, Police Salaries, for the implementation of the Terms of the Agreements reached between the Town and the following collective bargaining units:

New England Police Benevolent Association, Inc., Local 182 – Dispatchers;
 New England Police Benevolent Association, AFL-CIO, Local 82 - Superior Officers.

For payment of wages effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

The total sum of \$213,335 shall be transferred to the following departmental line item in FY2024 as indicated below:

Public Safety - Police – Salaries - \$213,335

Mr. Errickson, Town Administrator spoke to this Article and Article 6 at the same time. *The main motion under Article 5 passed by a majority vote (121-3-5).*

ARTICLE 6: Home Rule Petition: Natick Superior Officers – Exemption from Civil Service (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation, and to revoke prior special acts, pursuant to bargaining agreements between the Town of Natick and the New England Police Benevolent Association, Inc., Local 82, so that the position of Police Sergeant and Police Lieutenant in the Town of Natick shall be exempt from chapter 31 of the General Laws and related regulations applicable thereto, provided that the General Court may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition. However, the foregoing exemption shall not impair the civil service status of the present Police Sergeants and Police Lieutenants employed by the Police Department of the Town of Natick; or to otherwise act thereon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee took the following action:	RECOMMENDATION:	Favorable Action
	QUANTUM OF VOTE:	9-0-0
	DATE VOTED:	April 6, 2023

MOTION: (Requires a Majority Vote)

Moved by Mr. Gillenwater, seconded by Ms. Wollschlager that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation, in substantially the form as set forth below, to exempt all police superior officers in the Natick Police Department from the provisions of Chapter 31 of the General Laws relative to Civil Service, or to take any other action relative thereto.

AN ACT EXEMPTING TOWN OF NATICK POLICE SUPERIOR OFFICERS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding chapter 31 of the General Laws, or any other general or special law to the contrary, all position of police superior officers within the police department in the Town of Natick shall be exempt from the provisions of Chapter 31 of the General Laws.

SECTION 2. Section 1 shall not impair the Civil Service status of any person holding the position of police superior officer in the Town of Natick on the effective date of this act.

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

The main motion under Article 6 passed by majority vote (117-5-7).

**ARTICLE 13: Capital Stabilization Account
(Keefe Regional Technical School District Committee)**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical School (aka Keefe Regional Technical School) District Committee to establish a Capital Stabilization Account for the South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical School (aka Keefe Regional Technical School) District, pursuant to Section 16G½ of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee took the following action:	RECOMMENDATION:	Favorable Action
	QUANTUM OF VOTE:	12-0-0
	DATE VOTED:	March 30, 2023

MOTION: (Requires a Majority Vote)

Moved by Mr. Gillenwater, seconded by Ms. Wollschlager that the Town will vote to authorize the South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical School (aka Keefe Regional Technical School) District Committee to establish a Capital Stabilization Account for the South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical School (aka Keefe Regional Technical School) District, pursuant to Section 16G½ of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.

Mr. Jonathan Evans, Superintendent of the South Middlesex Regional School District spoke to this article. *The main motion under Article 13 passed by majority vote (123-3-0).*

Mr. Errickson, Town Administrator; Mr. Townsend, Deputy Town Administrator for Finance; Dr. Anna Nolin, Superintendent of Natick Public Schools; Mr. Jonathan Evans, Superintendent of the South Middlesex Regional School District gave presentations on the FY 24 budget.

ARTICLE 7: Omnibus Budget Articles (Town Administrator)

Town

To determine what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise, transfer from available funds for the operation of the government of the Town of Natick, including debt and interest, during Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023) and to provide for a reserve fund for Fiscal Year 2023 and to see what budgets for Fiscal Year 2023 will be reduced to offset said additional appropriations;

To determine what sum of money the Town will appropriate and raise, or transfer from available funds for the operation of the government of the Town of Natick, including debt and interest, during Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024) and to provide for a reserve fund for Fiscal Year 2024;

Libraries

To determine what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, for the maintenance and operation of the Morse Institute Library, for Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023);

To determine what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, for the maintenance and operation of the Morse Institute Library, for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024);

To determine what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, for the maintenance and operation of the Bacon Free Library, for Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023);

To determine what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, for the maintenance and operation of the Bacon Free Library, for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024); or otherwise act thereon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion	Department	Quantum of Vote	Date
Motion A	Education & Learning	12-0-0	4/11/2023
Motion B	Public Safety	11-0-1	4/11/2023
Motion C	General Government	12-0-0	4/11/2023
Motion D	Shared Expenses	12-0-0	4/11/2023
Motion E1	Water & Sewer Enterprise	12-0-0	4/11/2023
Motion E2	Water & Sewer Indirect Costs	12-0-0	4/11/2023
Motion F1	Sassamon Golf Enterprise	12-0-0	4/11/2023
Motion F2	Sassamon Golf Indirect Costs	12-0-0	4/11/2023

MOTION A: (Requires a Majority Vote)

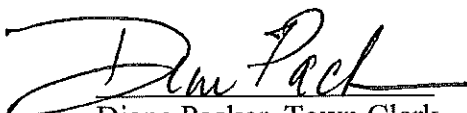
Motion A moved by Mr. Gillenwater, seconded by Ms. Wollschlager

Motions for Article 7, Motion A: Education & Learning	
Motion A: Requires Majority Vote	
Move that the Town vote to appropriate the Total Budget Amount shown below for the purpose of operating the departments shown below, said funds are to be expended under the direction of the following official or committees: Natick Public Schools – School Committee, South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical Schools – School Committee, Morse Institute Library – Morse Institute Board of Trustees and Bacon Free Library – Bacon Free Library Maintenance Committee.	
Natick Public Schools	
Salaries & Expenses	\$ 83,279,134
Total Natick Public Schools	\$ 83,279,134
South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical Schools (Keefe Tech School)	
Expense (Assessment)	\$ 1,063,493
Total South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical Schools (Keefe Tech School)	\$ 1,063,493
Morse Institute Library	
Salaries	\$ 2,120,031
Expenses	\$ 418,525
Total Morse Institute Library	\$ 2,538,556
Bacon Free Library	
Salaries	\$ 196,071
Expenses	\$ 36,934
Total Bacon Free Library	\$ 233,005
Total Budget Amount for Motion A	\$ 87,114,188
And that the above <u>\$87,114,188</u> be raised from the following sources:	
Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2024	\$ 87,114,188

Motion A under Article 7 passed by majority vote (104-3-1).

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Ms. Northgraves to adjourn. *The motion to adjourn passed by majority vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 PM until Thursday, April 27 at 7:30 PM.*

A record of the First Session of
2023 Spring Annual Town Meeting
April 25, 2023


Diane Packer, Town Clerk