



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TOWN OF WARE

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022

6:30PM

TOWN MEETING

@ WARE JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF WARE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

FISCAL YEAR 2022

ARTICLE 1. I Move that the town appropriate \$4,929.26 to pay unpaid bills from prior fiscal years of the Fire, Schools, Senior Center, Town Clerk and Water Departments and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$4,929.26 from available free cash.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No

ARTICLE 2: Move that the Town amend the following line items of the Fiscal Year 2022 Town Budget:

Account #	Description	
141-5200	Assessor Purchase of Services	50,000.00
423-5400	Snow & Ice Supplies	40,012.00
918-5100	Immunization & Physicals	3,000.00
194-5700	Facilities Maintenance	35,840.00
		128,852.00

And to fund these increases by Transfer as follows From:

<u>From</u>		
141-5120	Principal Assessor Salary	(50,000.00)
423-5100	Snow & Ice Salaries	(17,512.00)
913-5100	Unemployment	(25,500.00)
752-5900	Short Term Debt	(35,840.00)
		(128,852.00)

Explanation: This article provides funding to budgets that are anticipated to have a shortfall for the current fiscal year. This includes a shortfall in the Snow and Ice account, primarily due to an increase in the cost of salt, and the purchase of security cameras.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No

ARTICLE 3. Move that the Town appropriate \$32,000.00 to purchase a portable restroom and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$32,000.00 from free cash.

Explanation: The Parks and Water department facilities currently do not have year round restrooms. This would provide a temporary solution while permanent restrooms are designed and constructed.

ARTICLE #4

I move that the Town appropriate \$500,000.00 to fund the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$500,000.00 from available Free Cash.

ARTICLE # 5

I move that the Town appropriate \$200,000.00 to fund the Stabilization Fund and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$200,000.00 from available Free Cash.

ARTICLE # 6

I move that the Town appropriate \$200,000.00 to fund the Capital Stabilization Fund and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$200,000.00 from available Free Cash.

FISCAL YEAR 2023

Consent Articles (7-15)

Warrant articles on a Consent Agenda are exceptions to the general process of Town Meeting. The Select Board, Moderator, and Finance Committee can identify, for Town Meeting consideration, those articles that they believe should generate no controversy and can be properly voted upon without debate. These articles are put on the Consent Agenda to allow motions under these articles to be acted upon as one unit and to be passed without debate. At the call of the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will read out the numbers of the articles, one by one. If one or more voters object to any particular article being included in the Consent Agenda, they say "HOLD" in a loud voice when the number is called. The article will be removed automatically from the Consent Agenda and restored to its original place in the Warrant, to be debated and voted under the usual manner.

After the calling of the individual items in the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will ask for a motion that the voters pass all items remaining AS A UNIT on one vote. Use of the Consent Agenda process makes the Town Meeting more efficient by speeding up the handling of non-controversial items.

Please review the list of articles and motions proposed for each Consent Item which follows:

I move that the Town take Articles 7, 8, 9, 10,11,12,13, 14, and 15 out of order and that they be "Passed by Consent" in accordance with the Motions shown on the Consent Agenda distributed this evening.

Recommended by:	Board of Selectmen (5) <u> 4 </u> Yes <u> </u> No
	Finance Committee (4) <u> 4 </u> Yes <u> 0 </u> No
	Town Manager <u> X </u> Yes <u> </u> No

Article 7. I move that the Town accept the reports of the Town Committees, Boards and Departments as presented in the Annual Town Report.

Article 8. I move that the Town authorize the Treasurer/Tax Collector with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to enter into Compensating Balance Agreements during Fiscal Year 2023 as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, §53F..

Article 9. I move that the Town accept and appropriate any Grant Funds awarded to the Town of Ware under Massachusetts Community Development Fund by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Community Development Authority to expend the funds in accordance with the Terms and Conditions of the Grant.

Article 10. I move that the Town accept all State and Federal Educational Grants in any amount as may be awarded for the direct educational expenditures for Fiscal Year 2023 to be expended by the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District.

Article 11. I move that the Town accept all State and Federal Educational Grants in any amount as may be awarded for the direct educational expenditures for Fiscal Year 2023 to be expended by the Ware Public Schools.

Article 12. I move that Town authorize the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for, accept and expend any grants or donations from State or Federal governments or private agencies, individuals or institutions.

Article 13. I move that the Town appropriate Four hundred twenty-one thousand, eight hundred sixty-one dollars and no cents (\$421,861.00) to be expended for road repairs in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Department under the Chapter 90 State Highway Aid Program and to meet said appropriation

by authorizing the Treasurer to borrow the sum of Four hundred twenty-one thousand, eight hundred sixty-one dollars and no cents (\$421,861.00) under provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §6 and/or any other relevant sections of the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44.

Article 14. I move that the Town establish FY2023 spending limits for the revolving funds listed in the Town’s General bylaw and to authorize such expenditure limits to remain in place from fiscal year to fiscal year unless revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 for the ensuing fiscal year as follows:

Authorized Revolving Fund	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
Senior Center Rental	20,000.00
Ware Public School Athletic Advertising	100,000.00
Community Development Septic Repair	25,000.00
Community Development	120,000.00
Cemetery Maintenance and Burial	10,000.00
Bulky Waste	15,000.00

Article 15. I move that the Town fix the salaries of the several Elected Officers of the Town for the Fiscal Year 2023 and to determine whether any Town Board, Commission or Committee shall be authorized to employ any of its members for additional salary or compensation.

Town Moderator	\$ 250.00
Chairman, Selectmen	\$2,652.00
Members, Selectmen	\$2,232.00 each member
Board of Assessors, Chair	\$3,800.00
Board of Assessors Member	\$3,100.00 each member
Planning Board Members	\$800.00 each member
Board of Health Members	\$654.50 each member

And, further that no Town Board or Commission shall be authorized to employ any of its members for an additional salary or compensation except for the Board of Registrars, Finance Committee, Planning Board, and Recreation Commission, and further provided that the Board of Health may appoint one or

more of its members to witness percolation tests and deep hole tests and to perform other paid functions required by the Board of Health.

Article 16. I move that the following sums be appropriated for the Water Enterprise Fund for FY 2023.

Explanation: This article adopts the budget for the Water Enterprise

Salaries	\$331,220.00
Operating Expenses	\$433,300.00
Capital	\$ 78,500.00
Budgeted Surplus to Separate Reserve Fund	<u>\$197,834.00</u>
	\$1,040,854.00

And that \$1,040,854.00 be raised from Department Receipts

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No

Article 17. I move that the following sums be appropriated for the Sewer Enterprise Fund for FY 2023

Salaries	\$273,850.00
Operating Expenses	\$574,750.00
Capital	<u>\$105,000.00</u>
 Total	 \$953,600.00

And that \$793,280.00 be raised from Department Receipts, 105,000.00 from available free cash and \$55,320.00 be raised from taxation.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No

Article 18. I move that the Town raise and appropriate from taxation \$32,993,045.00 and \$200,000 from available free cash for a total appropriation of \$33,193,045.00 to defray the charges and expenses of the Town, including Debt and Interest for the Fiscal Year 2023.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No



TOWN OF WARE

Office of the Town Manager

126 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082
413-967-9648 x100

May, 2022

To : Select Board
Finance Committee
Town Meeting

From : Stuart Beckley, Town Manager

Subject: Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Narrative

Please find attached the proposed FY2023 budget for the Town of Ware for consideration by Town Meeting. The budget represents the proposed funding suggested by respective department heads. The proposed budget balances a rare availability of funds and free cash with the goal to limit the impact on the local tax rate. Thoughtful and careful review by the departments and the financial team went into this proposal. Each proposed expansion in personnel was deeply scrutinized. The larger than usual availability of free cash (due to COVID assistance and funds remaining after FY2021) allow Town Meeting to increase reserves, fund several capital projects and to stabilize the tax rate.

The purpose of the budget is to fund services such as public safety, public works and education for the residents of Ware that contribute to a strong quality of life, that allow the Town to provide community activities and caring support of residents, that inspire growth, and that lead to a better future for residents and children in years ahead.

The past two years have tested residents and employees alike with the roller coaster of funding and rule changes designed to improve the economy while protecting health. All should be commended for working cooperatively to get through the pandemic. Federal and state funding assistance will continue to support Town activities through grants and earmarks.

The proposed FY2022 budget is defined by key components that affect the Town's revenues and expenses. State general unrestricted aid is proposed to increase 2.7% over last year's level funded amount. State educational funding increased 10%. Pathfinder Vocational High School (small increase in students) and Ware Public schools utilized the State budgeted funds and federal COVID funds to propose reasonable increases. The cost of employee benefits, particularly health insurance increased by 9.6%. As with last year,

cooperation with the Town's unions allowed plan changes that ultimately lowered insurance costs.

This FY2022 budget strategically increases some staff hours. Of particular concern are the increases in fuel and energy costs. These respective budgets are increased in anticipation of continued higher costs in FY2023. This budget meets the financial policies of the Town, Free cash was used within the budget to include smaller recurring capital items. An annual priority, free cash was not used to supplement the operations budget. This allows additional capital and reserves funding. The proposed budget provides the funding level requested for the School Department's Needs based budget.

Revenues and Costs – Significant Changes

- **State Aid – General and Chapter 70 Education** – The Governor's proposed State budget numbers provide a 2.7% increase in local aid, and an increase in Chapter 70 educational funding of 10.1%. The recently released House budget proposes similar local revenues. The Senate's budget and the final compromise budget will be approved after Town Meeting. It is unlikely that aid will be lower than the amounts used.
- **Pathfinder Vocational School Budget** – Due to available state aid and a modest increase in the number of Ware students, the Pathfinder budget will increase by only \$10,000 compared to FY2022.
- **New Growth** – New growth from construction rose dramatically in fiscal year 2022 This FY2023 budget uses a conservative estimate of \$150,000.
- **Health Insurance Costs** – In the second year of a high deductible plan, the work of the Insurance Advisory Committee provided the proposed 9.6% premium cost increase (compared to what would have been a 19% increase on a standard plan).
- **The Town negotiated contracts with all Town bargaining units.** The contracts' intent is to increase pay rates so that employees stay with the Town long term. Hiring personnel is increasingly challenging, so the importance of retention is heightened.

Revenues

State Aid – Based on the Governor's budget, Local aid and Chapter 70 Aid would increase \$1,150,000. Other State Revenue and Costs generally offset each other.

Local Receipts. Income from the local marijuana retail tax should generate nearly \$200,000 of revenue; more when the second shop opens. (Note: Town Meeting will consider dedicating some of these funds to support annual road improvements). The Town continues to budget other local receipts conservatively, including excise taxes as these could vary greatly during unstable economic times.

Free Cash. Based on the Town's Fiscal policies, 35% of available Free Cash is available for the FY 2023 budget and adjustments to the FY2022 budget. This equates to

\$896,000. The proposed FY2023 budget uses \$305,000, primarily for small and/or recurring capital purchases in the budget.

New growth due to construction in town is estimated conservatively until a true value is known late in the summer. \$150,000 was used in the budget.

Enterprise Funds. The Water Reserve has a healthy earnings balance, but the Sewer reserve continues to run in the red and will again requires funding from the general fund to balance for the third year in a row. This year's rate increases should bring the fund into line by next year.

Budget Key Points

Insurance/Retirement. Employee benefit costs are a large part (20.5%) of the Town's budget. After a couple years of insurance rate relief, the health insurance premium quote included a 12.8% increase. The Town will continue to work with bargaining units to hold the Town's insurance costs down, including looking at shared contribution rates and expansion of a wellness program. The town is considering a higher deductible plan which may save on the insurance increase AND assist employees with out of pocket expenses. Like the Town's efforts with Post Employment Benefits costs, the Hampshire County Retirement System is working to fully fund the pension system by 2037. The 11% increase in Ware's contribution reflects this.

School spending. The School Department's Need Based budget is an important tool to understanding the needs to providing education in Ware. The School Committee budget request and the proposed funding reflects a needs based budget. The school has used federal and state assistance effectively to address the costs of staff and student safety and remote learning. Transportation costs rose slightly per contract (\$69,000) while Pathfinder Voc remained nearly level (+\$10,000).

Energy. The Town continues to benefit from its solar credits from a project in Oxford. Savings continue to be approximately \$40,000 annually. Payments from the four active Solar Arrays in town generate payments in lieu of taxes.

The Town-owned streetlights were replaced with LED bulbs which led to significant energy and cost savings (decrease of 35%).

Electricity costs have increased approximately 15-20% this year, and building budgets have been adjusted to reflect this in FY2023. Similarly the municipal fuel budget has been increased based on gas and oil prices.

Budget Specifics –

1. Elected and appointed board salaries are funded.
2. Town Hall, Senior Center and DPW Admin hours are maintained. Operating hours are maintained for all town employees. Funding is included in the budget for staff salary increases per settled union contracts.

3. The proposed budget includes funds for additional labor in the Parks Department (part-time seasonal), a promotion for a fourth sergeant in the Police Department, two additional paramedic firefighters, an activities director (part-time) in the senior center and intern assistance for the Planning and IT departments.
4. The Human Resources director is full-time.
5. Custodial hours are maintained
6. The Finance Committee Reserve Fund is increased to \$80,000. The Finance Committee conservatively manages these reserves. With tighter expense budgets, demand for reserves will increase. Funding for personnel and overtime is set as a reserve as well if needed.
7. The legal services budget should be stabilized this coming year with union negotiations completed.
8. Fuel cost budgets are adjusted based on the significant increases this year. Rising costs for electricity are anticipated in the budget.
9. The Quabbin Health District received a grant that will cover the costs of the public health nurse. The funds set in the health and building budgets may be used for addressing problem properties. The Town continues to participate in the Quabbin Health District for Health Agent and Inspector services.
10. Additional funding is provided to the Young Men's Library Association in an effort to increase funding to State-required levels over the next five years and to address a needed building repair.
11. Funding for regional animal control is provided with those services currently offered through the Town of Palmer. The cost of an animal shelter is reduced significantly, but operating costs are increased.
12. \$100,000 is proposed in the DPW budget for additional Road Repairs. Depending on Town Meeting action, this may be funded in the future by use of the Cannabis local sales tax.
13. A small deficit in the snow and ice budget will be addressed at Town Meeting and does not affect the budget
14. The proposed School department budget currently proposes \$13,750,000, a 3.6% increase over FY2022. The proposed budget meets the Net School Spending requirements, providing \$1.3 million beyond the minimum requirement.
15. Small capital items are included for: building maintenance and repairs, as well as vehicles for police and fire.
16. The assessors' budget includes \$42,000 for an updated software program.
17. With a decrease in ambulance revenue and increase in local tax revenue (meals and marijuana), local receipts are conservatively strong
18. New growth is estimated at \$150,000 based on increases in building.

Thank you to Ware Departments, the Finance Committee and the Select Board for their thoughtfulness in preparing and discussing their budgets.

Thank you for your review and ongoing support.

TOWN OF WARE - Fiscal Year 2023			FY22	FY23	
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS					
A. ESTIMATED RECEIPTS - STATE					
1. Cherry Sheet Estimated - Chapter 70			11,202,810.00	12,335,233.00	
Cherry Sheet Estimated - Genl Govt Aid			1,897,463.00	1,948,694.50	
Cherry Sheet Estimated GGA additional Formula					
Cherry Sheet Estimated - All Other			550,901.00	494,576.00	
2. Mass. School Bldg. Auth. Reimb.					
B. ESTIMATED RECEIPTS - LOCAL					
1. Local Receipts			2,858,900.00	2,800,000.00	
2. Enterprise Funds			2,096,405.00	2,378,470.00	original included
C. REVENUE FOR PARTICULAR PURPOSE					
1. Other Available Funds			2,500.00		
D. OTHER REVENUE SOURCES					
1. Free Cash			387,000.00	305,000.00	
2. Ambulance Receipts Reserved			45,500.00		
3. Stabilization Fund					
4. Capital Stabilization Fund					
5. Overlay release of funds					
E. REAL & PERSONAL TAX LEVY					
Tax Levy			16,080,570.27	16,671,644.00	
+ 2.5%			402,014.26	416,791.10	
New Growth			199,110.00	150,000.00	
Debt Exclusion			29,150.00	23,650.00	
to balance			-	(341,000.00)	
Total Real & Personal Tax Levy			16,710,844.53	16,921,085.10	
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS			\$ 35,752,323.53	\$ 37,183,058.60	
ESTIMATED APPROPRIATIONS					
A. APPROPRIATIONS					
	Budget		15,569,207.00	16,445,856.00	
	School		13,200,000.00	13,675,000.00	
	Transportation		1,800,000.00	1,869,090.00	
	Pathfinder		1,118,955.00	1,128,099.00	
	Medicaid		75,000.00	75,000.00	
	Enterprise Funds		1,718,804.00	1,994,454.00	
	STM Appropriations		72,000.00		
	Addnl Appropriations/Adjs		22,500.00	100,000.00	
	Transfers OPEB/Stab		-	-	
	Total Appropriations		\$ 33,576,466.00	\$ 35,287,499.00	
B. OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED					
1. Tax title purposes			20,000.00	20,000.00	
2. Debt & Interest not included			-	-	
3. Final court judgments			-	-	
4. Total overlay deficits prior years			-	-	
5. Total Cherry Sheet offsets CS1-ER			248,744.00	232,880.00	
6. Revenue deficits					
7. Offset receipts deficits			-	-	
8. Authorized (Quabbin Health District)			168,322.43	172,000.00	
9. Snow & Ice deficit			-	-	
Transportation Deficit			-	-	
10. Other			1,715.46	1,715.46	
TOTAL B			\$ 438,781.89	\$ 426,595.46	
C. STATE & COUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES			1,286,963.00	1,268,033.00	
D. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS & EXEMPT.			175,000.00	200,000.00	
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED			\$ 35,477,210.89	\$ 37,182,127.46	
TOTAL RECEIPTS LESS TOTAL EXPENDITURES			\$ 275,112.64	\$ 931.14	

TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	FY23 RECOMMEND	TOWN MGR
GENERAL GOVERNMENT							
100 RESERVE FOR SALARY INCREASES							
5600 Reserve	-	-	-	71,350.00	40,000.00	30,000.00	
5610 Reserve for Overtime	-	-	-	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	
114 MODERATOR							
5100 Salary	-	-	-	250.00	250.00	250.00	
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	-	-	-	250.00	250.00	250.00	
122 SELECTMEN							
5100 Chairman Salary	2,652.00	2,652.00	2,652.00	2,652.00	2,652.00	2,652.00	
5110 Member's Salary	8,928.00	8,928.00	8,928.00	8,928.00	8,928.00	8,928.00	
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	4,351.90	16,863.21	4,831.84	5,700.00	5,700.00	5,700.00	
TOTAL	15,931.90	28,443.21	16,411.84	17,280.00	17,280.00	17,280.00	
123 TOWN MANAGER							
5100-5110 Salaries	134,301.44	142,734.08	146,050.90	146,585.00	147,500.00	147,500.00	
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	7,415.78	9,162.80	9,675.00	9,700.00	9,800.00	9,300.00	
TOTAL	141,717.22	151,896.88	155,725.90	156,285.00	157,300.00	156,800.00	
131 FINANCE COMMITTEE							
5200-5700 Expenditures	313.04	266.17	180.00	455.00	455.00	455.00	
5701 I Reserve Fund	18,931.00	29,740.31	17,178.91	55,000.00	100,000.00	80,000.00	
TOTAL	19,244.04	30,006.48	17,358.91	55,455.00	100,455.00	80,455.00	
135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT							
5100 Salary	119,860.04	124,232.45	127,287.15	144,500.00	147,390.00	147,610.00	
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	49,011.33	42,673.52	51,770.99	45,200.00	53,350.00	53,350.00	
TOTAL	168,871.37	166,905.97	179,058.14	189,700.00	200,740.00	200,960.00	
141 BOARD OF ASSESSORS							
5100 Board Member's Salary	9,999.78	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	
5110-5120 Salaries	73,643.12	80,592.87	125,134.92	102,747.00	102,823.00	102,823.00	
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	21,502.20	23,110.33	18,790.70	21,075.00	20,600.00	62,600.00	
5800 Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	105,145.10	113,703.20	153,925.62	133,822.00	135,423.00	177,423.00	

TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	TOWN MGR FY23 RECOMMEND
145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR						
5100-5120 Salaries	154,553.06	163,351.53	199,097.52	200,362.00	206,408.00	206,408.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	39,478.92	48,558.94	37,175.37	38,325.00	37,193.00	37,193.00
TOTAL	194,031.98	211,910.47	236,272.89	238,687.00	243,601.00	243,601.00
151 LAW						
5200 Purchase of Services	90,000.00	174,408.81	128,945.09	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
152 HUMAN RESOURCES						
5100 Salary	-	-	17,465.00	51,210.00	66,760.00	66,760.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	-	-	939.48	16,500.00	23,000.00	22,250.00
	-	-	18,404.48	67,710.00	89,760.00	89,010.00
155 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY						
5100 Salary	63,025.56	65,000.00	66,370.72	75,000.00	76,500.00	88,500.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	59,856.60	74,796.49	84,926.81	131,700.00	137,403.00	137,403.00
5800 Capital Expenditures	24,384.37	23,861.79	17,533.19	15,560.00	12,000.00	20,000.00
TOTAL	147,266.53	163,658.28	168,830.72	222,260.00	225,903.00	245,903.00
158 TELEPHONE CHARGES						
5200 Purchase of Services	20,378.56	19,584.07	18,312.52	23,000.00	24,000.00	24,000.00
422 MUNICIPAL FUEL						
5401 Supplies	104,860.72	70,633.40	76,523.78	110,000.00	120,000.00	130,000.00
161 TOWN CLERK						
5100-5110 Salaries	98,089.54	102,326.75	106,224.67	113,260.00	115,530.00	115,530.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	5,254.58	9,711.12	5,289.89	5,000.00	5,600.00	5,400.00
TOTAL	103,344.12	112,037.87	111,514.56	118,260.00	121,130.00	120,930.00
162 ELECTIONS & TOWN MEETING						
5100 Salaries	8,625.08	6,560.44	14,221.03	5,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	11,362.25	8,880.16	11,971.98	6,500.00	11,700.00	11,700.00
5800 Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	20,600.00	-	-
TOTAL	19,987.33	15,440.60	26,193.01	32,100.00	20,700.00	20,700.00
163 BOARD OF REGISTRARS						
5100 Salaries	3,400.00	3,300.00	3,000.00	3,400.00	3,400.00	3,400.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	6,787.84	5,000.72	5,207.16	6,380.00	6,800.00	6,600.00
TOTAL	10,187.84	8,300.72	8,207.16	9,780.00	10,200.00	10,000.00

TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	TOWN MGR FY23 RECOMMEND
171 CONSERVATION COMMISSION						
5100 Salary	12,384.84	13,701.48	7,754.10	15,700.00	15,700.00	15,700.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	699.50	900.00	2,021.95	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
TOTAL	13,084.34	14,601.48	9,776.05	16,900.00	16,900.00	16,900.00
175 PLANNING /ZBA						
5100 Board Members Salaries	4,333.34	6,400.00	5,600.00	6,800.00	6,800.00	6,800.00
5110-5120 Salaries	47,538.82	45,326.85	42,726.29	43,950.00	51,602.00	51,602.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	16,131.10	20,166.91	10,127.44	12,475.00	14,838.00	14,838.00
TOTAL	68,003.26	71,893.76	58,453.73	63,225.00	73,240.00	73,240.00
192 TOWN HALL						
5100 Custodian's Salary	5,640.52	5,966.50	7,500.00	8,500.00	7,800.00	7,800.00
5130-5700 Operating Expenses	38,814.03	41,586.79	40,745.08	115,500.00	52,000.00	85,000.00
TOTAL	44,454.55	47,553.29	48,245.08	124,000.00	59,800.00	92,800.00
194 FACILITIES MAINTENANCE						
5700 Other Charges	13,581.00	19,535.53	14,599.10	18,000.00	25,000.00	44,000.00
195 TOWN REPORT						
5200 Purchase of Service	500.00	238.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
198 AMERICANS W/IDISABILITY COMMISSION						
5200-5700 Operating Expenses				100.00	250.00	250.00
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,280,589.86	1,420,752.02	1,447,258.58	1,768,664.00	1,822,432.00	1,915,002.00

TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	TOWN MGR FY23 RECOMMEND
PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY (PUBLIC SAFETY)						
210 POLICE DEPARTMENT						
5100-5160 Salaries	1,431,615.17	1,417,744.51	1,488,302.05	1,617,700.00	1,662,691.00	1,642,691.00
5190-5700 Operating Expenses	153,120.69	188,951.96	189,870.75	173,728.00	172,350.00	181,350.00
5800 Capital Expenditures	45,000.00	14,397.92	60,000.00	74,500.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
TOTAL	1,629,735.86	1,621,094.39	1,738,172.80	1,865,928.00	1,895,041.00	1,894,041.00
220 FIRE DEPARTMENT						
5100-5120 Salaries	977,548.93	1,076,164.07	1,073,742.87	1,166,585.00	1,183,975.00	1,269,075.00
5180-5700 Operating Expenses	89,370.28	69,773.45	104,994.43	106,400.00	124,500.00	126,500.00
5800 Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	60,000.00	45,000.00	45,000.00
TOTAL	1,066,919.21	1,145,937.52	1,178,737.30	1,332,985.00	1,353,475.00	1,440,575.00
231 AMBULANCE						
5100 Salary	414,876.38	338,633.44	287,253.00	308,620.00	319,210.00	334,510.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	164,572.97	162,085.44	169,758.59	225,225.00	235,025.00	235,025.00
5800 Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	579,449.35	500,718.88	457,011.59	533,845.00	554,235.00	569,535.00
241 INSPECTONAL SERVICES/CODE ENFORCEMENT						
5100-5120 Salaries	110,282.61	131,937.75	136,088.00	118,435.00	144,660.00	129,660.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	15,279.11	31,866.65	25,050.99	35,000.00	78,520.00	50,520.00
TOTAL	125,561.72	163,804.40	161,138.99	153,435.00	223,180.00	180,180.00
244 SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES						
5200 Purchase of Service	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
291 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT						
5110 P/T Salary	-	-	-	-	-	-
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	7,717.29	6,699.95	6,537.99	10,550.00	18,875.00	18,875.00
TOTAL	7,717.29	6,699.95	6,537.99	10,550.00	18,875.00	18,875.00
292 ANIMAL CONTROL						
5100 Salary	-	-	-	-	-	-
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	20,238.00	20,744.00	20,744.00	24,300.00	23,262.00	31,050.00
TOTAL	20,238.00	20,744.00	20,744.00	24,300.00	23,262.00	31,050.00
293 TRAFFIC CONTROL						
5200 Purchase of Services	987.27	875.27	1,364.50	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	3,434,108.70	3,463,374.41	3,567,207.17	3,928,543.00	4,075,568.00	4,131,756.00

TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	FY23 RECOMMEND	TOWN MGR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS							
421 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS							
5100-5120 Salaries	452,903.53	527,618.07	516,775.67	571,660.00	591,381.00	591,381.00	
5180-5700 Operating Expenses	168,593.39	203,235.77	216,489.06	218,100.00	232,100.00	228,100.00	
5800 (Road Repairs	100,000.00	100,000.00	65,000.00	90,000.00	135,000.00	143,000.00	
TOTAL	721,496.92	830,853.84	798,264.73	879,760.00	958,481.00	962,481.00	
423 SNOW REMOVAL							
5100 Salaries	61,171.39	48,352.76	59,045.33	70,000.00	80,000.00	75,000.00	
5400 Supplies	152,107.77	118,052.11	111,775.63	150,000.00	170,000.00	170,000.00	
TOTAL	213,279.16	166,404.87	170,820.96	220,000.00	250,000.00	245,000.00	
424 STREETLIGHTS							
5200 Purchase of Services	86,680.24	29,697.74	26,072.26	40,000.00	42,000.00	42,000.00	
425 TREE WARDEN							
5100 Salary	-	4,800.00	5,000.00	5,400.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	-	4,121.00	167.99	4,700.00	15,600.00	12,600.00	
TOTAL	-	8,921.00	5,167.99	10,100.00	21,600.00	18,600.00	
426 CEMETERY							
5200-5400 Operating Expenses	-	-	-	1,800.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	
5800 Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	24,000.00	-	-	
TOTAL	-	-	-	25,800.00	2,300.00	2,300.00	
TOTAL DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS	1,021,456.32	1,035,877.45	1,000,325.94	1,175,660.00	1,274,381.00	1,270,381.00	
HEALTH & SANITATION							
510 BOARD OF HEALTH							
5100 Board Members Salaries	1,908.95	1,963.50	1,309.00	1,964.00	1,964.00	1,964.00	
5121-5123 Salaries	9,856.01	17,658.00	9,855.98	10,056.00	10,056.00	10,056.00	
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	31,493.67	34,264.74	21,443.23	50,700.00	18,650.00	31,650.00	
TOTAL	43,258.63	53,886.24	32,608.21	62,720.00	30,670.00	43,670.00	
TOTAL HEALTH & SANITATION	43,258.63	53,886.24	32,608.21	62,720.00	30,670.00	43,670.00	

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TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	TOWN MGR FY23 RECOMMEND
HUMAN SERVICES						
541 COUNCIL ON AGING						
5110-5120 Salaries	103,140.58	108,386.57	112,363.82	127,470.00	142,075.00	156,575.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	36,278.72	31,107.08	53,939.74	44,000.00	42,450.00	63,250.00
5800 Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
TOTAL	139,419.30	139,493.65	166,303.56	173,470.00	186,525.00	221,825.00
543 VETERAN'S SERVICE						
5100 Salary	8,934.96	8,934.96	9,600.00	10,200.00	10,450.00	10,450.00
5200-5701 Operating Expenses	316,868.32	286,813.98	249,753.70	282,650.00	277,650.00	282,650.00
TOTAL	325,803.28	295,748.94	259,353.70	292,850.00	288,100.00	293,100.00
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	465,222.58	435,242.59	425,657.26	466,320.00	474,625.00	514,925.00
CULTURE & RECREATION						
610 YOUNG MEN'S LIBRARY ASSOCIATION						
5120 Salaries	160,573.00	171,876.00	176,200.00	172,320.00	193,399.00	193,399.00
5200-5900 Operating Expenses	66,050.00	69,655.00	78,200.00	82,125.00	112,631.00	92,631.00
SUB TOTAL	226,623.00	241,531.00	254,400.00	254,445.00	306,030.00	286,030.00
Less Library Funds	(32,500.00)	(32,550.00)	(39,600.00)	(27,000.00)	(27,000.00)	(27,000.00)
TOTAL	194,123.00	208,981.00	214,800.00	227,445.00	279,030.00	259,030.00
695 HISTORICAL COMMISSION						
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	250.00	250.00	-	250.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
693 PARKS DEPARTMENT						
5100-5120 Salaries	127,217.02	115,237.18	110,035.81	151,281.00	131,621.00	139,621.00
5200-5700 Operating Expenses	21,697.06	15,958.84	15,954.10	28,000.00	28,000.00	28,000.00
5800 Capital Expenditures	-	-	-	-	12,000.00	27,000.00
TOTAL	148,914.08	131,196.02	125,989.91	179,281.00	171,621.00	194,621.00
694 CELEBRATIONS						
5400 Supplies	4,000.00	3,647.63	3,268.15	7,000.00	8,000.00	13,000.00
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	347,287.08	344,074.65	344,058.06	413,976.00	459,651.00	467,651.00

TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	TOWN MGR FY23 RECOMMEND
DEBT & INTEREST						
710 RETIREMENT OF DEBT						
5900 Principal	1,487,843.65	602,400.00	726,344.00	721,400.00	495,200.00	526,000.00
720 LEASE LONG TERM DEBT						
5900 Leases	-	-	-	-	-	-
751 LONG TERM DEBT						
5900 Interest	146,643.50	131,608.66	106,177.51	148,490.00	131,915.00	145,000.00
752 SHORT TERM DEBT						
5900 Interest	23,996.60	13,536.13	18,311.10	70,000.00	80,000.00	80,000.00
TOTAL DEBT & INTEREST	1,658,483.75	747,544.79	850,832.61	939,890.00	707,115.00	751,000.00
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS						
911 HAMPSHIRE COUNTY RETIREMENT						
5100 Assessment	1,883,643.21	1,969,540.00	2,239,747.00	2,318,539.00	2,559,471.00	2,581,471.00
913 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND						
5100 Benefit	37,145.43	57,789.19	40,388.74	80,000.00	80,000.00	75,000.00
914 HEALTH & MEDICAL INSURANCE						
5100 Benefit	3,614,999.54	3,381,820.86	3,366,799.34	3,700,000.00	4,040,000.00	4,000,000.00
916 MEDICARE						
5100 Benefit	211,520.35	225,330.71	225,983.49	245,000.00	260,000.00	250,000.00
917 EMPLOYEE SICK LEAVE BUY BACK						
5100 Benefit	800.00	800.00	1,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
918 IMMUNIZATIONS & PHYSICALS						
5100 Benefit	3,957.00	4,671.10	6,963.80	5,500.00	6,500.00	7,000.00
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	5,752,065.53	5,639,951.86	5,880,882.37	6,352,039.00	6,948,971.00	6,916,471.00
INSURANCE						
945 MUNICIPAL INSURANCE						
5700 Other Charges	284,206.96	351,631.16	362,467.27	428,000.00	440,000.00	435,000.00
TOTAL INSURANCE	284,206.96	351,631.16	362,467.27	428,000.00	440,000.00	435,000.00
GRAND TOTAL TOWN	14,286,679.41	13,492,335.17	13,911,297.47	15,535,812.00	16,233,473.00	16,445,856.00
	5.6%	-5.6%	3.1%	11.7%	4.5%	5.9%

TOWN OF WARE FY23 BUDGET

	FY19 ACTUAL	FY20 ACTUAL	FY21 ACTUAL	FY22 BUDGET	FY23 REQUEST	TOWN MGR FY23 RECOMMEND
SCHOOLS						
5100 Net School Spending - WPS (School Committee)	12,085,000.00	12,625,000.00	12,761,826.04	13,200,000.00	13,618,144.00	13,675,000.00
Medicaid Share	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00
5100 Transportation - WPS	1,567,120.00	1,480,072.56	1,376,510.92	1,800,000.00	1,869,090.00	1,869,090.00
5600 Pathfinder Regional Schools	1,283,879.00	1,121,028.00	1,261,669.00	1,118,955.00	1,150,000.00	1,128,099.00
TOTAL SCHOOL	15,010,999.00 2.6%	15,301,100.56 1.9%	15,475,005.96 1.1%	16,193,955.00 4.6%	16,712,234.00 3.2%	16,747,189.00 3.4%
GRAND TOTAL TOWN & SCHOOL	29,297,678.41 4.0%	28,793,435.73 -1.7%	29,386,303.43 2.1%	31,729,767.00 8.0%	32,945,647.00 3.8%	33,193,045.00 4.6%

Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
Town Manager X Yes No

Article 19. I move that the Town appropriate \$35,000 to fund the Employee Compensated Absences Reserve Fund and to meet said appropriation whether by transferring \$35,000 from Free Cash.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
Town Manager X Yes No

Explanation: This reserve fund is for use to fund employees' benefit payouts upon retirement.

Article 20. I move to amend the Town's General Bylaws by adopting the highlighted Vacant properties section within the Unkempt and Vacant Property Bylaw as on file with the Town Clerk and attached to the Town Meeting packet.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen Yes 4 No
Finance Committee Yes No (not financial)
Town Manager Yes X No

Article 21. I move that the Town amend the Town's Zoning Bylaw by amending or adding to Section §1 (General Provisions), §2 (Definitions), §4.2 (Use Table), §4.3 (Operational Standards), Section 4.8.5, The Earth Removal Bylaw, and the Marijuana Bylaw (§4.8.8). as presented at a Public Hearing on April 7, 2022 and on file with the Town Clerk and available on the Town's website and attached to this motion.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
Finance Committee (4) Yes No (not financial)
Town Manager X Yes No
Planning Board X Yes No

VACANT AND/OR UNKEMPT PROPERTIES

1. REGULATION OF INADEQUATELY MAINTAINED VACANT OR UNKEMPT PROPERTIES

(a) PURPOSE:

The purpose of this by-law is to help protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Town of Ware by preventing blight, protecting property values and neighborhood integrity, protecting the Town's resources, avoiding the creation and maintenance of nuisances and ensuring the safe and sanitary maintenance of dwellings.

Inadequately maintained vacant buildings or unkempt properties are at an increased risk from fire, unlawful entry, and other public health and safety hazards. This by-law will help secure the welfare of the Town's residents and neighborhoods by requiring all property owners, including lenders, trustees, service companies and the like to properly maintain vacant and/or unkempt residential and commercial properties.

(b) DEFINITIONS:

Commercial Property: Any property that contains one or more structures or units used, intended, or designed to be occupied for any business type activity that is owned or leased by a corporation, LLC, partnership, or any other legal holding entity.

Owner: Every person, entity, service company, property manager or real estate broker, who alone or severally with others:

1. Has legal or equitable title to any dwelling, dwelling unit, or parcel of land, vacant or otherwise, in any capacity including but not limited to agent, executor, executrix, administrator, trustee or guardian of the estate of the holder of legal title; or
2. Has care, charge or control of any dwelling, dwelling unit, parcel of land, vacant or otherwise, in any capacity including but not limited to agent, executor, executrix, administrator, trustee or guardian of the estate of the holder of legal title; or
3. Is a mortgagee in possession of any such property; or
4. Is an agent trustee or other person appointed by the courts and vested with possession or control; or
5. Is an officer or trustee of the association of unit owners of a condominium; each such person is bound to comply with the provisions of these minimum standards as if he or she were the owner; or
6. Is a trustee who holds, owns or controls mortgage loans for mortgage backed securities transactions and has initiated a foreclosure process.

Property: Any real, residential or commercial property, or portion thereof, located in the Town of Ware, including buildings or structures situated on the property. For purposes of this section, property does not include property owned or subject to the control of the Town of Ware or any governmental bodies.

Residential Property: Any property that contains one or more dwelling units used, intended, or designed for living purposes.

Unkempt Property: Any residential or commercial property that has any type of overgrown vegetation or plantings that have overgrown to a point that rodents, animals, or varmints can dwell within. Any property where debris, trash, junk, or garbage has accumulated on the ground, driveway, sidewalks, etc., shall be determined as unkempt.

Vacant Property: Any residential property that is unoccupied for a period greater than one hundred eighty (180) days by a person or persons with legal right to reside therein.

(c) REGISTRATION OF VACANT BUILDING:

1. Vacant properties must be registered with the Building Commissioner on forms provided in the Building Department. All registrations must state the individual owner's or agent's name, mailing address, physical address if different, telephone number and email address. The mailing address shall not be a P.O. Box. If the owner or agent does not have an address in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the address is not within 30 miles from the Town of Ware, the owner must designate and retain a local agent or local property management company responsible for the security and maintenance of the property. This designation shall state the individual's or company's name, telephone number, email address and local mailing address. This mailing address shall not be a P.O. Box.
2. An annual registration fee of \$25 shall be required. All property registrations are valid for one calendar year. Subsequent annual registrations are due within 30 days of the expiration of the previous registration. The failure to timely register a vacant building shall be a violation of this Bylaw. Within the context of this bylaw, "timely" shall mean registration no later than thirty (30) days after a building becomes vacant. Once the property is no longer vacant or is sold, the owner must provide proof of sale or written notice of occupancy to the Building Commissioner.
3. The owner or owner's agent shall inspect and maintain the property on a monthly basis for the duration of the vacancy per the "requirements for adequate maintenance" as stated in this bylaw. The property shall be posted and maintained with updated information of the 24-hr contact telephone number of local individual or property management company. The posting shall be on the front door of the property.

(d) REQUIREMENTS FOR ADEQUATE MAINTENANCE:

Owners of vacant or unkempt properties, as defined in Section (b), must fulfill the following minimum adequate maintenance requirements for any such property they own.

1. Maintain vacant or unkempt properties subject to this section in accordance with the relevant Sanitary, Building and Fire Codes.
2. Secure vacant properties subject to this section to prevent unauthorized entry and exposure to the elements.
3. Maintain vacant or unkempt properties subject to this section in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Building Commissioner pertaining to the external/visible maintenance of the property, including but not limited to the maintenance of major systems, the removal of trash and debris, and the upkeep of lawns, shrubbery, and other landscape features.
4. Repair or replace broken windows or doors within thirty (30) days.
5. For properties vacant for six months or more, whose utilities have been shut off; remove or cut and cap such utilities to prevent accidents.
6. Compliance with this subsection shall not relieve the owner of any applicable obligations set forth in any other codes, regulations, covenant conditions or restrictions, and/or homeowner or condominium association rules and regulations.

(e) NOTICE OF FAILURE TO ADEQUATELY MAINTAIN VACANT OR UNKEMPT PROPERTY:

Upon identifying a vacant or unkempt property as failing to meet the minimum maintenance requirements set out in Section (d), the Building Commissioner will notify the owner in writing of maintenance deficiencies at the owner's last known address. If any maintenance deficiency is not corrected within thirty (30) days of said notice, or if a maintenance plan is not approved by the Building Commissioner within thirty (30) days of said notice, the Building Commissioner may impose fines as set in Section 7.6.2 of the Zoning Bylaws.

(f) INSPECTIONS:

The Building Commissioner, the Board of Health, the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief or their designees shall have the authority to periodically inspect any property subject to this Section for compliance. The Building Commissioner shall have the discretion to determine when and how such inspections are to be made, provided that the time and manner of such inspections are reasonably calculated to ensure that this Section is enforced.

(g) PENALTIES:

This Bylaw may be enforced through any lawful means, including, but not limited to, enforcement by criminal indictment or complaint pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 21 or by non-criminal disposition pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 21D. For the purpose of non-criminal enforcement, the enforcing persons shall be the Zoning Enforcement Officer or the Fire Chief of the Town of Ware. If enforced pursuant to non-criminal disposition, the civil penalty for each such violation shall be set forth in Section 7.6.2 of the Town of Ware's Zoning Bylaws.

(h) ENFORCEMENT:

The Building Commissioner or the Fire Chief or their designee shall enforce all provisions of this Section, including any regulation promulgated hereunder, and shall institute all necessary administrative or legal action to assure compliance.

(i) SEVERABILITY:

If any provision of this Section is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then such provision shall be considered separate and apart from the remaining provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town’s Zoning Bylaws to add a new Section 4.8.3.H: Temporary Moratorium on the Siting of Large-Scale Solar Battery Storage Facilities, as follows, or take any action relative thereto:

ARTICLE 22: Large-Scale Solar Battery Storage and Large-Scale Battery Storage Facilities. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws to add a new Section 4.8.3.H: Temporary Moratorium on the Siting of Large-Scale Solar Battery Storage and Large-Scale Battery Storage Facilities, as follows, or take any action relative thereto:

4.8.3.H.1. PURPOSE

The Town of Ware recently has been the target of interest for the construction of large- scale solar and large-scale non-solar battery storage facilities. The regulation of large- scale battery storage facilities raises complex legal, planning, and public safety issues, and the Town needs time to study and consider their regulation and address these issues.

The Town intends to adopt a temporary zoning moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities so as to allow the Town to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town, and to enact bylaws in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives. During the moratorium, the Town will undertake a planning process to evaluate the impacts of large-scale battery storage facilities on the health, safety and welfare of Town residents and to consider appropriate amendments to its Zoning Bylaw to address said impacts, in accordance with state and federal law.

Battery storage utilized for small solar projects (and have a capacity that is complimentary to a solar array that produces no more than 100kW of electricity) are exempt from this moratorium.

4.8.3.H.2. DEFINITION

A “large-scale solar battery storage facility” shall mean a facility, including all structures and components used in connection therewith, used to store energy produced by a solar system or systems having a total rated nameplate capacity of greater than 100kW, whether such facility may be accessory to other use, including a solar system, or is a separate land use.

A “large-scale battery storage facility” shall mean a facility, including all structures and components used in connection therewith, used to store energy produced by natural gas plants, petroleum fired-generation, or other non-solar

electrical systems, whether such facility may be accessory to other use, or is a separate land use.

4.8.3.H.3. TEMPORARY MORATORIUM

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaws to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities in Town. The moratorium shall be in effect through June 30, 2023, or the date on which the Town adopts amendments to the Zoning Bylaw regulating large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities, whichever occurs earlier. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to study, review, analyze and address what revisions to the Zoning Bylaw relative to large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities are needed or desirable to allow for and regulate such uses consistent with protecting the Town's natural resources and furthering its planning goals.

Requires a 2/3 vote to approve.

Planning Board

Summary. This article establishes a moratorium on large-scale solar battery storage and large- facilities while the Town considers appropriate zoning measures.

Recommended by:	Board of Selectmen (5) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 abstain
	Finance Committee (4) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Not financial
	Town Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
	Planning Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Article 23

(by petition) To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 5 of the Town of Ware, Massachusetts Home Rule Charter as follows:

5-10 Housing Authority. The Ware Housing Authority will consider of five (5) members, and they shall serve for five (5) year staggered terms. Four (4) members shall be appointed by the Town Manager subject to the approval of the Board of Selectman. One (1) member shall be appointed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Ware Housing Authority shall have all the powers that are conferred upon a housing authority by state law, and such additional duties and powers as may be provided by Charter, by-law, or otherwise, and not inconsistent with said grant of powers conferred by state law.

And to amend Article 7 of the Town of Ware, Massachusetts Home Rule Charter as follows. 7-6 Housing Authority. Repealed.



TOWN OF WARE
Planning & Community Development
126 Main Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082
t. 413.967.9648 ext. 118 rwatchilla@townofware.com

To: Town Meeting
From: Richard Starodoj, *Planning Board Chairman*
Robert Watchilla, *Director of Planning & Community Development*
Date: May 9, 2022

Proposed Zoning Amendments

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40A §5, you are being presented with proposed amendments to the Town of Ware Zoning, Earth Removal, and Marijuana Bylaws.

At a Public Hearing held before the Planning Board on April 7, 2022, the following changes to the Zoning, Earth Removal, and Marijuana Bylaws were approved by a vote of 4/0/1 and recommended to Annual Town Meeting:

- **The addition of "Adoption of Rules and Regulations" (as §1.9)**
 - *The Town of Ware shall allow the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals to adopt rules and regulations for procedural and substance matters directly, provided they are not inconsistent with the Town's current Bylaws. They shall be made and adopted by majority vote and filed with the Town Clerk. Rules and regulations with penalties attached must be filed with the Town Clerk within ten(10) business days from the date of adoption.*
- **§2.2: Definitions**
 - Changing of "Auto Salvage" to "Auto Salvage/Auto Salvage Yard"
 - Adding the definition of "Craft Distillery"
 - *A plant or premise where distilled spirits are produced, manufactured, or distilled for human consumption, limited to a maximum annual production of 10,000 proof gallons (12,500 gallons) of distilled spirits per year. Such establishments may also offer on-site tastings, sell their product on-site and/or sell wholesale to other parties as stated in M.G.L. Ch. 138 §19E.*

- Registered craft distilleries must be licensed as "farm distilleries" under M.G.L. Ch. 138 §19E.
- Expanding the definition of "Farm" (additions in bold)
 - A property used for commercial agriculture (raising crops, *hemp*, and/or livestock), horticulture (raising fruits, flowers, ornamental plants [*to include trees farms*], or vegetables), silviculture (forestry), aquaculture (raising fish or shellfish), or viticulture (raising grapes). *This includes facilities for the sale of produce, wine and dairy products, provided that either during the months of June, July, August and September of each year or during the harvest season of the primary crop raised on land of the owner or lessee, 25 percent of such products for sale, based on either gross sales dollars or volume, have been produced by the owner or lessee of the land on which the facility is located.*
 - Adding the definition of "Hemp"
 - The plant of the genus Cannabis or any part of the plant, whether growing or not, with a delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) concentration that does not exceed 0.3% on a dry weight basis of any part of the plant of the genus Cannabis, or per volume or weight of cannabis or marijuana product, or the combined percent of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and tetrahydrocannabinol acid (THCA) in any part of the plant of the genus Cannabis regardless of moisture content. Production of Hemp is separate from marijuana cultivation, and is considered an acceptable agricultural crop within this bylaw.
 - Adding the definition of "Marijuana Delivery Operator"
 - An entity licensed to purchase at Wholesale and Warehouse Finished Marijuana Products acquired from a Marijuana Cultivator, Marijuana Product Manufacturer, and Microbusiness, sell and deliver Finished Marijuana Products, Marijuana Accessories and Marijuana Branded Goods directly to Consumers, but is not authorized to Repackage Marijuana or Marijuana Products or operate a storefront under this license.
 - Adding the definition of "Microbrewery"
 - An establishment that specializes in the production and manufacturing of beer/malt beverages and sells at least 25 percent or more of its beer/malt beverages for on-site consumption. Such establishments can sell their beer/malt beverages at wholesale under the regulations set forth in M.G.L.

Ch. 138. This definition includes brewpubs, taprooms, and craft breweries. Microbreweries located in the Rural Residential District must have a Farmer Brewery license under M.G.L. Ch.138 §19C and shall produce no more than 1,000 barrels (31,000 gallons) of beer/malt beverages annually. Microbreweries located in all other zoning districts may have either a farmer brewery license (M.G.L. Ch.138 §19C) or a pub brewery license (M.G.L. Ch.138 §19D) and shall produce no more than 15,000 barrels (472,000 gallons) of beer/malt beverages annually.

- Adding the definition of "Marijuana Microbusiness"
 - *A co-located Marijuana Establishment that can be either a Tier 1 Marijuana Cultivator or Marijuana Product Manufacturer or both, in compliance with the operating procedures for each license. A Microbusiness that is a Marijuana Product Manufacturer may purchase no more than 2,000 pounds of marijuana per year from other Marijuana Establishments.*
- Adding the definition of "Park"
 - *A municipally, state, or privately owned area that is used for active or passive recreation, or a place dedicated to the use of the public, which may include equipment and facilities for active recreation and play such as playfields, play structures, courts, swings, slides, dog parks, pools, splash parks, public assembly and accessory uses such as restrooms. It may also include areas for passive recreation such as gardens, walking/hiking trails, picnic areas, benches, tables, seating areas, and undeveloped open space. A park may also serve as an area for formalized sanctioned events, civic gatherings, a place for reflection or remembrance (such as a monument park), and accommodate related municipal uses such as educational facilities, or facilities for storage and maintenance of equipment used in the park.*
- Changing of "Tow Service" to "Tow Service/Tow Yard"
- **§4.2: Use Table**
 - Changes to "Adult Entertainment Establishment" (E1)
 - To not be allowed (N) in all zoning districts except for the Industrial (I) district, which it is allowed by Special Permit (SP).
 - Proposed use additions: "Microbrewery", "Craft Distillery", "Winery", "Earth Processing", and "Marijuana Delivery".

	Residential					Mixed ¹			Commercial/Industrial		
	RQ	RR	SR	BLR	DTR	RB	DTC	MY	HC	CI	I
Microbrewery (See §2.2)	N	SP	SP	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N
Craft Distillery	N	SP	SP	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N
Winery ⁵	N	SP	SP	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N
Earth Processing (see § 4.3.27)	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	SP	SP	SP
Marijuana Delivery	N	N	N	N	N	N	SP	SP	SP	N	N

- Additions to Footnotes Section
 - *Definition of farm includes the use of land for agriculture, horticulture, silviculture, aquaculture, or viticulture. See §2.2.*
 - *This excludes farm-wineries or wineries that grow and use grapes on site.*

- **§4.3: Operational Standards**
 - §4.3.14 to §4.3.23
 - Changes to the referred designation numbers in parenthesis that reference the Use Table to accommodate additions to the Use Table.
 - Proposed addition for "Auto Salvage" (as §4.3.25)
 - *Auto Salvage (F-1) is permitted by special permit and site plan review in the Industrial (I) district. Unregistered motor vehicles that are stored on site for the purpose of reselling, disassembling, or reusing for parts shall be stored for a period no greater than three (3) years. No person shall establish, operate or maintain an auto salvage yard within one-thousand (1000) feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of any interstate or primary highway (Routes 9 and 32) unless such auto salvage yard is:*
 - *screened by natural objects, plantings, fences, or other appropriate means so as to not be visible from the main traveled way of the road system, or otherwise removed from sight as specified by the Special Permit Granting Authority, or*
 - *located within an area within the Industrial (I) zoning district, or*
 - *is not visible from the main traveled way of the road system.*
 - *Auto salvage yards shall be placed at least one-hundred (100) feet from the front property line, fifty (50) feet from the side property lines, and one-hundred (100) feet from any residential property*

- line and shall be properly screened as determined by the Special Permit Granting Authority.*
- Changing of "§4.3.25" to "§4.3.26" in regard to Earth Removal
 - Proposed addition for "Earth Processing" (as §4.3.27)
 - *Earth Processing (F-4) shall be defined as the processing of more than 1000 cubic yards of earth materials (soil, loam, peat, sand, gravel, stone, or compost) brought on site or brought in and stored for processing in any 12-month period, this includes gravel pits. Earth processing shall be allowed by special permit (see §7.2) in the Highway Commercial (HC), Commercial Industrial (CI) and Industrial (I) zoning districts. In addition to a special permit, earth processing operations shall warrant a site plan review by the Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA). A special permit for earth processing may not be required if:*
 - *Conducted on the site of an earth removal operation that was allowed by special permit (only applicable to earth materials generated on site),*
 - *Conducted on the site of a privately owned subdivision for the sole purpose of developing the private roadway,*
 - *Conducted on the site of, incidental to, and in connection with earth removal necessary for the construction of a principal or accessory structure permitted by the Zoning Bylaw.*
 - §4.3.26 to §4.3.28
 - *Changes to the referred designation numbers in parenthesis that reference the Use Table to accommodate additions to the Use Table.*
 - *Changing of §4.3.26 to §4.3.28 in regard to Solid Waste Facilities.*
 - *Changing of §4.3.27 to §4.3.29 in regard to Wood Processing/Lumber Mills.*
 - *Changing of §4.3.28 to §4.3.30 in regard to Marijuana Cultivation Facilities.*
 - *Deletion of "of the Use Table" in §4.3.28.*
 - **Earth Removal Bylaw (§4.8.5 of the Zoning Bylaw)**
 - **Subsection C: Exemptions**
 - **C.1**
 - *Deletion of "provided that no such moving shall take place across or within a street".*

- Addition of "For the purposes of section 4.8.5, properties separated by a public way are not considered contiguous".
- C.2
 - (C.2.a) Addition of "For the purpose of Earth Removal, the definition of structure within §4.8.5 shall not include: pole, sign, fence, wall, any small constructs (less than 100 sq.ft.) or any part of the above".
 - (C.2.a.i) Addition of "Any garages, sheds, barns or similar structures between 100 to 1000 sq.ft. may be exempt from this definition at the discretion of the Special Permit Granting Authority.
- Subsection D: Operational Standards
 - D.4
 - Addition of "or within two years of the issuance of the permit" to D.4:
 - All excavated areas shall, upon completion of the operation or within two years of the issuance of the permit, be covered with not less than four inches of loam suitable for seeding, brought to the finish grade and seeded in a manner complying with Mass DOT standards.
 - Addition between D.5 & D.6
 - For Earth Removal projects requiring a special permit, no excavation shall be made at less than 10 feet above the annual high water table, as established from monitoring wells which are installed and gauged quarterly, or at a frequency determined by the Special Permit Granting Authority.
- Subsection F: Decision
 - F.1 (Decision Criteria)
 - Addition of "The removal will not violate section 4.3.24 of this zoning bylaw in regard to vibration and noise".
 - F.2 (Imposed Conditions)
 - Addition of "hours of operation to be set by the SPGA on a case by case and/or zoning district basis".
 - Addition of "an updated topography map of the project site showing the current grade with volume calculations shall be sent to the SPGA every 5 years or as determined otherwise by the SPGA,".
 - Addition of clause pertaining to performance bonds/surety:

- *The authorization granted to Licensees in categories of Marijuana Establishments identified by the Cannabis Control Commission to perform deliveries directly from the establishment to Consumers. Delivery items refers to Finished Marijuana Products, Marijuana Accessories, and Marijuana Established Branded Goods.*
 - **Addition of the definition of “Marijuana Delivery License”:**
 - *A Marijuana Courier License or a Marijuana Delivery Operator License.*
 - **Addition of the definition of “Marijuana Delivery Licensee”:**
 - *A Marijuana Courier or a Marijuana Delivery Operator authorized to deliver Marijuana and Marijuana Products directly to Consumers and as permitted, Marijuana Couriers to Patients and Caregivers.*
 - **Addition of the definition of “Marijuana Delivery Operator (MDO)”:**
 - *An entity licensed to purchase at Wholesale and Warehouse Finished Marijuana Products acquired from a Marijuana Cultivator, Marijuana Product Manufacturer, and Microbusiness, sell and deliver Finished Marijuana Products, Marijuana Accessories and Marijuana Branded Goods directly to Consumers, but is not authorized to Repackage Marijuana or Marijuana Products or operate a storefront under this license.*
 - **Addition of the definition of “Marijuana Microbusiness”:**
 - *A co-located Marijuana Establishment that can be either a Tier 1 Marijuana Cultivator or Marijuana Product Manufacturer or both, in compliance with the operating procedures for each license. A Microbusiness that is a Marijuana Product Manufacturer may purchase no more than 2,000 pounds of marijuana per year from other Marijuana Establishments.*
 - **Deletion of “MA Department of Public Health” and replaced with “Cannabis Control Commission (or appropriate licensing authority)” in the definition of “Registered Marijuana Dispensary (RMD)”.**
- **E: Separation and Setbacks**
 - **Additions to the following statement (indicated in bold)**

- *No Registered Medical, Recreational and Hybrid Marijuana Facility, Marijuana Cultivation Site, and/or Marijuana Delivery Operator may be located closer than three hundred feet (300') (measured from door to door) of a facility used, at the time of the first notice of the public hearing, for a park (measured from door to property line), playground (measured from door to property line), pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, middle or high school, state-licensed child day care center, public library, recreation facilities, and other areas where children commonly congregate in an organized, ongoing, formal basis, or which are dedicated to the use of children.*
 - *Such uses shall not be prohibited from locating within three hundred feet (300') of a Registered Medical, Recreational and Hybrid Marijuana Facility, a Marijuana Cultivation Site, and/or a Marijuana Delivery Operator nor shall a Registered Medical, Recreational and Hybrid Marijuana Facility, Marijuana Cultivation Site, and/or Marijuana Delivery Operator become nonconforming under the Zoning Bylaw if a park (measured from door to property line), playground (measured from door to property line) pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, middle or high school, state-licensed child day care center, public library, recreation facilities, or other areas where children commonly congregate in an organized, ongoing, formal basis or which are dedicated to the use of children, later locates within three hundred feet (300') of a preexisting Registered Medical, Recreational and Hybrid Marijuana Facility, Marijuana Cultivation Site, and/or Marijuana Delivery Operator.*
- G: Standards Applicable to Registered Medical, Recreational and Hybrid Marijuana Facilities, and/or Marijuana Cultivation Sites
- Change title of §4.8.8.G to "Standards Applicable to Registered Medical, Recreational and Hybrid Marijuana Facilities, Marijuana Cultivation Sites, and/or Marijuana Delivery Operators".
 - Addition of the following statement:
 - *An applicant shall possess a Certification of Registration from the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission as a Registered Marijuana Dispensary, Marijuana Cultivation Site, and/or Marijuana Delivery Operator and shall comply with the Department's regulations at all times.*
 - Addition of "Rural Residential (RR)" to §4.8.8.G.1.

- Addition of the following statement:
 - *Use of property as a Marijuana Retailer, Cultivation facility, or Delivery Operator shall be deemed a principal use for purposes of this Zoning Bylaw, and shall be permitted exclusively in accordance with this Article. No Marijuana Establishment shall be allowed within Town as an accessory use. Cultivation of marijuana shall not take place in a residential property with an established accessory use, unless the marijuana is for personal consumption in accordance with Massachusetts State law.*
- Addition of the following statement:
 - *Any Marijuana Delivery Operator application for a Special Permit shall include the anticipated number of vehicles operating from the location, number of employees for all operations including fulfillment, administration, and vehicle drivers shall be identified and may be conditioned as such. A copy of the Application of Intent and Management and Operations Profile submitted, to the extent permitted by law, as an integral part of the Special Permit application.*
- Addition of "Marijuana Cultivation Site" and "and/or Marijuana Delivery Operator" to §4.8.8.G.9.
- Addition of the following statement:
 - *All applicable rules and regulations established under the auspices of the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) must be adhered to.*
- Additions of the following statements regarding outdoor cultivation:
 - *Outdoor cultivation may occur in provided that screening, security and other provisions complies with 935 CMR500.*
 - *For outdoor cultivation, this bylaw will require that security fencing be screened with natural vegetation or topography. On large properties, it is likely that the cultivator will place the relatively small growing area far from any property boundary so that it is screened from the public by existing vegetation and/or topography. If vegetation is planted to screen the fence, the cultivator will have 3-years for the vegetation to reach maturity and full coverage. It is required that any barbed or razor wire type fencing materials not be used or be entirely hidden from view from*

public ways or neighboring property. The cultivar must include these security provisions within its special permit application.

- *Outdoor cultivation must not occur within 3000 feet of a pre-existing hemp farm.*
- *Outdoor cultivation must not store fertilizers, compost, soils, materials, machinery, or equipment within the required front, side, and rear yard setbacks.*



TOWN OF WARE

Planning & Community Development
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To: Town Meeting
From: Richard Starodoj, *Planning Board Chairman*
Robert Watchilla, *Director of Planning & Community Development*
Date: May 9, 2022

Proposed Moratorium on Large-Scale Solar Battery Storage and Large-Scale Battery Storage

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40A §5, you are being presented with a proposed amendment to the Town of Ware Solar Bylaws (Section 4.8.3 of the Zoning Bylaws).

At a Public Hearing held before the Planning Board on April 28, 2022, the proposed moratorium and addition to the Solar Bylaw was approved by a vote of 5/0/0 and recommended to Annual Town Meeting:

- The addition of §4.8.3.H: The temporary moratorium on the use of land and structures for large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities for a period of 12 months.
 - 4.8.3.H.1. *PURPOSE*

The Town of Ware recently has been the target of interest for the construction of large-scale solar and large-scale non-solar battery storage facilities. The regulation of large-scale battery storage facilities raises complex legal, planning, and public safety issues, and the Town needs time to study and consider their regulation and address these issues.

The Town intends to adopt a temporary zoning moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities so as to allow the Town to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town, and to enact bylaws in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives. During the moratorium, the Town will undertake a planning process to evaluate the impacts of large-scale battery storage facilities on the health, safety and welfare of Town residents and to consider appropriate amendments to its Zoning Bylaw to address said impacts, in accordance with state and federal law.

Battery storage utilized for small solar projects (and have a capacity that is complimentary to a solar array that produces no more than 100kW of electricity) are exempt from this moratorium.

4.8.3.H.2. DEFINITION

A "large-scale solar battery storage facility" shall mean a facility, including all structures and components used in connection therewith, used to store energy produced by a solar system or systems having a total rated nameplate capacity of greater than 100kW, whether such facility may be accessory to other use, including a solar system, or is a separate land use.

A "large-scale battery storage facility" shall mean a facility, including all structures and components used in connection therewith, used to store energy produced by natural gas plants, petroleum fired-generation, or other non-solar electrical systems, whether such facility may be accessory to other use, or is a separate land use.

4.8.3.H.3. TEMPORARY MORATORIUM

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaws to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities in Town. The moratorium shall be in effect through June 30, 2023, or the date on which the Town adopts amendments to the Zoning Bylaw regulating large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities, whichever occurs earlier. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to study, review, analyze and address what revisions to the Zoning Bylaw relative to large-scale solar battery storage and large-scale battery storage facilities are needed or desirable to allow for and regulate such uses consistent with protecting the Town's natural resources and furthering its planning goals.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) Yes No (Not financial)
 Town Manager X Yes No

Article 24. I move the Town to appropriate \$100,000.00 from available free cash for the Town’s share of the purchase and equipping of a Regional Animal Control Shelter, including all costs incidental and related thereto.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No

Explanation: Two years ago, Town Meeting voted funds (\$166,000) to construct a new animal control shelter. The plan is now to purchase a former veterinarian building and outfit it for a shelter. The previous appropriation will be closed to free cash.

Article 25 I move that the Town accept the fourth paragraph of G.L. c. 40, Sec. 5B and, consistent with the authority set forth therein, to establish a special purpose stabilization fund to be known as the Road Repair Stabilization Fund, the purpose of which is to appropriate funds to offset the yearly tax levy and further, to dedicate 50% of the of the adult use marijuana local excise tax imposed by the Town pursuant to G.L. c.64N, §3 and/or or payments from marijuana host community agreements to the Road Repair Stabilization Fund, for a minimum of three years, effective for fiscal year 2023 beginning on July 1, 2022.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No

Explanation: This will dedicate part of the funds raised from the retail sales tax on local retail marijuana sales for use on Road repairs. This fund will be subject to Town Meeting appropriation. This year, over \$200,000 was generated.

Article 26 To see if the Town will vote to establish the position of Tree Warden in accordance with MGL Chapter 41, Section 106 to be appointed by the Select Board, or take any other action related thereto.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) Yes No (Not Financial)
 Town Manager X Yes No

Article 27

I move that the Town appropriate \$390,000.00 to purchase and equip an ambulance for the Fire Department and to meet said appropriation by transferring \$390,000 from available free cash.

Recommended by:	Board of Selectmen (5)	<u> </u> Yes	<u> </u> No
	Finance Committee (4)	<u> 4 </u> Yes	<u> 0 </u> No
	Town Manager	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> No
	Capital Planning	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> No

Explanation:



<p>This will replace the 2011 ambulance. An increase in transport time and miles is increasing wear and tear on ambulance vehicles.</p>

Article 28

I move the Town appropriate \$180,000 from available free cash to purchase a snowblower for the Department of Public Works.

Explanation: Currently the Town has a 2002 WAUSAU SNO-GO loader mounted snowblower. The Town under this article would replace the older machine this year. Replacement parts have become a struggle to find or are totally obsolete. These are very costly repairs to make on a twenty-year-old machine. This piece of equipment is a primary source in our snow removal operations. Without this, snow removal on some of our main arteries along with Main Street and especially our narrower streets will take much more time than usual.



Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No
 Capital Planning X Yes No

Article 29 I move that the Town appropriate \$75,000 from available free cash to purchase and outfit a tractor for the Parks Department including all costs related and incidental thereto.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No
 Capital Planning X Yes No

Explanation: This article would fund a compact utility tractor with three-point hitch and implements. This will replace a 22-year old similar style tractor for day to day operations throughout the park system.

Article 30 I move that the Town appropriate \$250,000 from available free cash for design, purchase and installation of a playground in Grenville Park including all costs related and incidental thereto for the Parks Department.

Explanation The Parks Commission will use an additional \$60,000 of trust funds for this project which is pictured below.

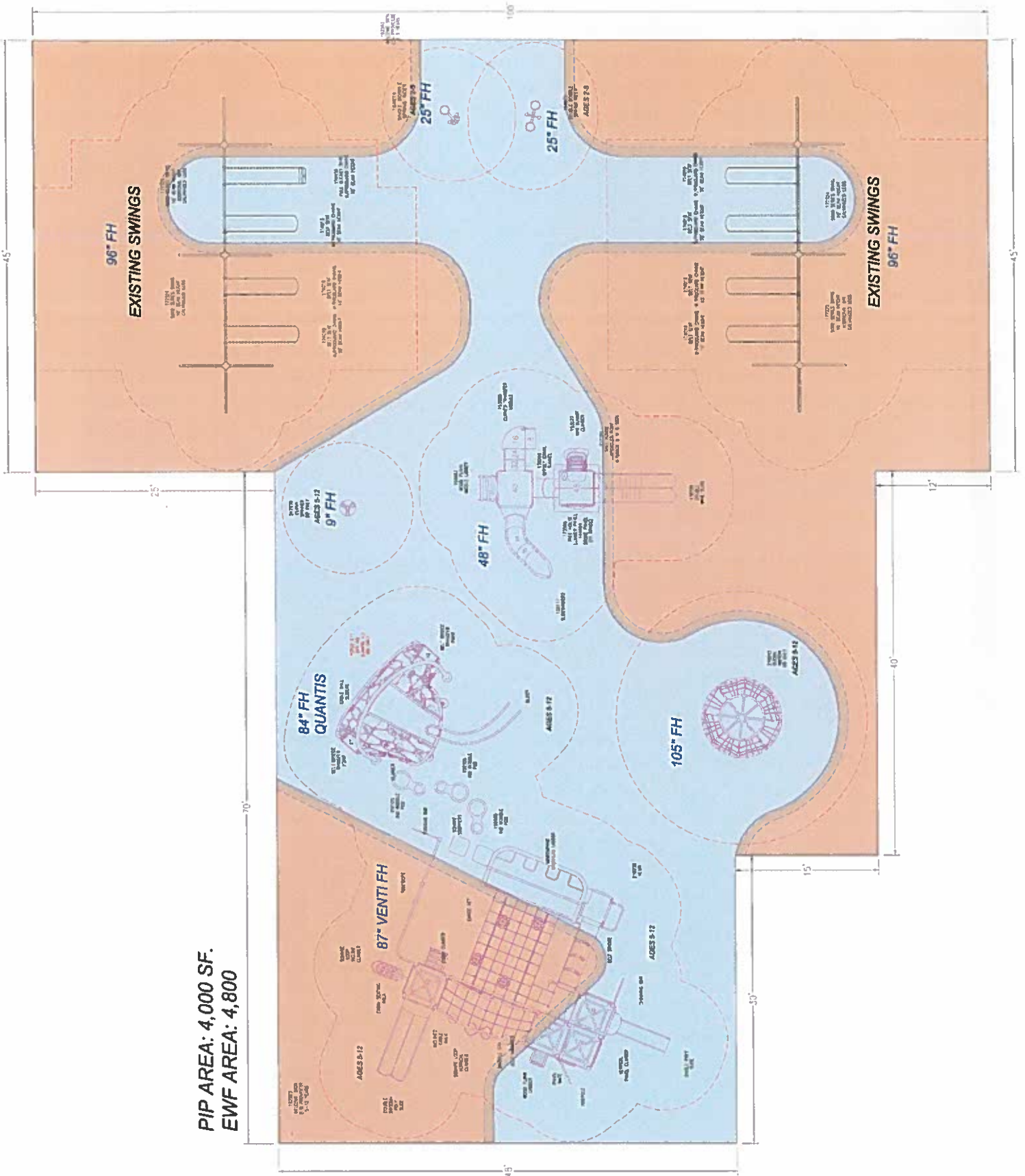
Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
 Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
 Town Manager X Yes No
 Capital Planning X Yes No

Article 31 I move that the Town appropriate \$515,000.00 to design, purchase and install an updated Supervisory Computer And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system for the Water Department including all costs incidental and related thereto and to appropriate \$515,000 from Water Retained earnings.

Explanation The funding will be for an updated SCADA computer with radio modems for increased reliability and the replacement of obsolete modems for communication between the two storage tanks, well 5 and Barnes Pumping Station. The upgraded SCADA will also provide the ability for expansion for future upgrades for other equipment. For example, the Cistern has a series of old floats that control when the wells turn on and off as well as high/low water level alarms. We

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PIP AREA: 4,000 SF.
 EWF AREA: 4,800





cannot control the set points for this. The new SCADA system will be able to accept a new signal from the cistern and we will be able to control the cistern from inside Barnes.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
Town Manager X Yes No

Article 32 I move that the Town appropriate \$100,000 to purchase and install fire hydrants including all costs incidental and related thereto and to appropriate \$100,000 from Water Retained Earnings.

Explanation: This article would fund the replacement of 10-15 of 50 needed hydrant replacements.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 2 Yes 2 No
Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
Town Manager X Yes No
Capital Planning X Yes No

Article 33 Motion to DISMISS (To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to update the operations and maintenance manual for the Water Pollution Control Plant including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.) Contained in the budget

Article 34. Motion to DISMISS. (Quaboag Connector, contained in the budget)

Article 35. I move the Town appropriate \$100,000 of available funds to be used to address impacts related to marijuana use and retail establishments.

Explanation: In addition to sales tax, the Town also collects an impact fee from retail marijuana shops. The fees are to address caused effects of marijuana on the community. For example prevention or recovery services.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen (5) 4 Yes No
Finance Committee (4) 4 Yes 0 No
Town Manager X Yes No