

**2015
TOWN OF SHARON**



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

With Report and Recommendations of the Finance Committee

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Monday, May 4, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Sharon High School

Arthur E. Collins Auditorium

181 Pond Street

PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO THE MEETING

Registered voters of Sharon planning to attend the meeting needing an ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreter are urged to call the Selectmen's Office – 781-784-1500 ext. 1208

YOU MUST BE A REGISTERED VOTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING

TOWN ELECTION
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015
7:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
Sharon High School Gymnasium



OPEN WARRANT MEETING

Monday, April 27, 2015

8:00 P.M.

**Sharon High School Library
181 Pond Street**

INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF WARRANT ARTICLES

WARRANT INTRODUCTION

It is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to make recommendations to the voters of Sharon on all matters that come before Town Meeting. Although other matters come before Annual Town Meeting, the primary task at Annual Town Meeting is for voters to adopt a budget for the next fiscal year. In addition, Town Meeting makes decision on strategic issues of the Town such as major capital improvements and zoning as well as other matters of Town business that require Town Meeting Authorization that are brought before the voters to debate and vote.

On May 4, Annual Town Meeting will convene to decide a variety of issues. Of the 23 articles in this Warrant, the majority deal with fiscal matters, including the proposed Fiscal Year 2016 Town budget, which totals \$77,827,929, a 5.47% spending increase over FY2015. The Finance Committee believes that it is very important to the Annual Town Meeting process for the voters to have as much relevant information as possible. Because so much of the Annual Town Meeting relates to the budget, we will first recap a few points from the FY2015 Budget and FY2015 history before reviewing the FY2016 Budget and Warrant Articles.

Budget Background

The budget of the Town of Sharon is generally separated into two components. The first component is the “operational budget” which consists of primarily salaries and a smaller amount of expenses such as supplies, fuel, occupancy costs, etc. The operational budget is divided into three “Sectors”: (1) the School Department; (2) the Selectmen (Police, Fire, DPW, Water and most of the other “town” operational functions); and (3) the Finance Committee (mainly the Town’s “administrative functions” such as the Town Clerk, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Planning Board, and Board of Appeals). About 75% of the operational budgets are salaries. The School Department represents about 80% of the Town Budget and the Town’s employees, and the Selectmen and Finance Committee Sectors represent about 20% of the Town Budget and Town’s employees. The second component of the budget is comprised of the so called “fixed and uncontrollable” costs. These costs are made up primarily of the Town’s debt (principle and interest), health care insurance (for both current and retired employees), retirement for the non-teaching personnel, and the other employee-related costs such as FICA and unemployment.

FY2015 Budget

The FY2015 Budget for the Town of Sharon is \$73,793,832. \$22,028,672 of that budget is the “fixed and uncontrollable” for the whole Town, which is comprised primarily of \$7.9 million debt (principle and interest) and \$9.0 million of health insurance. Of the \$22,028,672 fixed and uncontrollable budget, approximately \$17,473,878 (around 80%) is directly related to the Schools, with the balance related to the Selectmen and Finance Committee Sector. The remaining \$51.8 million is for the FY2015 “operational budget”, of which \$38,659,352 is for the School Department, \$12,608,714 is for the Selectmen Sector and \$497,094 is for the Finance Committee Sector. As you can see, the Town’s Budget is primarily comprised of the costs associated with employing people. The overall budget for the Town and School Department are very much fixed. About 80% of the total budget (fixed and uncontrollable, operating budget and

allocation of Town administrative costs under Department of Education rules) is attributable to the School Department and over 19% to the Selectmen Sector and less than 1% to the Finance Committee. Given the nature of the Town's operating cost structure, there is simply not a lot of room for maneuvering if the Town is faced with budget pressures such as reduced revenues or uncontrollable increases costs.

FY2015 Budget/Tax History

In December 2014, the Town Administration learned of substantial issues with the actual financial conditions of the Town compared to the revenue forecast upon which the FY2015 budgets were established at the Annual Town Meeting in May 2014. Specifically, the Town discovered a revenue shortfall of \$1,139,948 versus the projected revenue. This was almost entirely in the area of local receipts and \$700,000 of this short fall was attributed to the delay in receiving one-time revenue from the cell tower leases that were approved in 2014 and that are the subject of Article 3 and Special Article 5 in this Warrant. In addition, as of December, the Town Administrator and Treasurer had identified \$825,504 in cost increases above the FY2015 projections. Of this, \$370,000 was for the purchase of the Pond Street property adjacent to the High School which was authorized by the Special Town Meeting in the fall of 2014. In addition, even though the Town exhausted the FY 2014 Reserve Fund due to overruns with the snow and ice account in FY 2014, the Town incurred an additional \$73,015 in snow and ice as a deficit that carried into FY2015 unexpectedly and was funded at the Special Town Meeting in the fall of 2014. As a result of the revenue shortfalls and cost increases, the Town had to increase taxes in January 2015 by an average of 7.9%, more than double the tax increase that the FY2015 budget was predicated on.

In addition to the \$2.0 million hit in decreased revenue and increased expense for FY2015, the Town discovered in December 2014 that several capital projects from prior fiscal years (FY2010-FY2012) were not borrowed for within the time required by state regulations and therefore now must be paid for with cash. The deficit for these capital items is \$733,798.74. This is primarily an accounting and timing issue, as the funds being directed to account for the deficit will eventually be available in free cash to the Town, as described in more detail in the write up of Article 4 of the Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting.

FY2016 Budget

The proposed FY2016 Budget for the Town of Sharon is \$77,827,929. If approved, the Town would increase spending by \$4,034,097, or an increase of 5.47%. The proposed FY2016 budget for the "fixed and uncontrollable" budget items is proposed to increase by \$2,174,508 to \$24,203,180, or 9.98%. This includes a 21% increase in long term debt principal (approximately \$1,300,000 increase) and a 26% increase in long term debt interest (approximately \$500,000 increase) both of which are significantly related to the financing of the Public Safety Building approved at the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting and an increase of \$152,497 (5.04%) to the Town's retirement contribution. The remaining \$53,624,749 million is for the FY2016 "operational budget". The School Department proposed FY2016 budget is \$39,991,553, an increase of \$1,340,648 or 3.45%. It includes over \$100,000 for new programs, including \$63,000 for a pilot Foreign Language program for First Grade that, if successful, would likely be

extended to Second – Fourth grade in the future with a corresponding increase of an additional approximately \$180,000 in salaries as it is implemented based upon current School Department estimates. The proposed budget for the Selectmen Sector is \$13,110,678, an increase of \$501,964 or 3.98%. It includes reorganizing some of the personnel in the Sector to eliminate three positions in Town Hall and add a Fire Captain, an Assistant Town Engineer (DPW), a Facilities Manager to oversee Town (non-School) property, including the new Public Safety Building and an additional DPW employee in park maintenance. This reorganization increases the salary costs of the Selectmen Sector Budget by \$164,165. The fixed and uncontrollable budget does not include changes to health insurance or other employee related costs due to increased headcount in the School Budget. Because the Selectmen are restructuring three existing positions with benefits, the fixed and uncontrollable budget does include health insurance and related costs for the three Selectmen Sector increases. The proposed budget for the Finance Committee is \$522,518, an increase of 5.11% which is made up almost entirely of increases to the Board of Health for required increased time needed for regulatory inspections.

Given that salaries and related benefits, some of which are “fixed and uncontrollable” such as medical insurance, retirement/pension plan obligations and related employment costs, make up such a high percentage of the Town’s budget, it is axiomatic that increases in salaries will directly relate to increases in the fixed and uncontrollable section of the budget and that salary increases and adding new positions drive on going budget increases overall as there is simply no other significant budget areas to reduce to offset salary increases and associated costs. The result is that if the current trend continues and salaries and related benefits outpace the growth in assessed values annually, the Town will continue to need to increase the property tax burden unless other new sustainable revenue sources are found.

This trend is exacerbated given the structure of the Town’s retirement and medical insurance benefits in the fixed and uncontrollable budget. Current salaries and benefit decisions impact future liabilities for the Town through Pension Plan obligations which in FY2016 are around \$3,175,990 (the subject of Article 8), and future medical insurance costs, including the OPEB stabilization fund (the subject of Article 10).

FY2016 Revenue and Tax Increase

The FY2016 Budget is funded by revenues that are primarily made up of residential taxes. The current Tax Rate for the Town of Sharon is 20.30, among the highest in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The FY2016 budget is supported by an average 5.0% increase in taxes, of which 2.98% is for the debt and interest for the Public Safety Building approved by the Annual Town Meeting in May 2014 and 2.0% is for the operational budget increases and other increases to fixed and uncontrollable. The resulting tax rate would be 21.32. As part of the revenue sources for the FY2016 budget, the Town is proposing to use \$625,000 in one-time revenues from the sale of the cell phone tower leases that were approved in 2014 and discussed previously. The Finance Committee believes it is appropriate to use much of the one-time cell tower revenues for the FY2016 Budget to reduce the proposed property tax increases since this revenue was originally intended to be used in FY2015 and would have been used in FY2015 had they been received in time for the State to include it in the Town’s certified FY2015 revenue. The money in question has since been received by the Town and should be used to offset the tax increase

from FY2015. The Finance Committee cautions, however, that the FY 2017 operating budgets will likely have to be reduced by \$625,000 unless other one time revenues are found in the future, as otherwise the Town will continue to build an unsustainable operating budget beyond the ability of the property tax to fund it.

The Finance Committee recognizes and respects the efforts of the Town's dedicated employees who protect the Town, serve the community, educate the Town's children and play a vital role in making Sharon a great place to live. The issue before us is how to balance these needed services and the costs of these services with the need to diversify the revenue sources to the Town. The Finance Committee urges the School Department and Selectmen to join in our repeated request that the Town undertake a strategic planning process to ensure a sustainable Town budget structure. We strongly believe that such a process is in the Town's best interest and the Town employees' best interest. This includes the need for long range planning on capital improvements, including in the schools, evaluation of future revenue sources and evaluation of the appropriate structure and level of services within the Town needed to achieve operating and financial goals. We are hopeful that there is a consensus within the current town leadership to implement a better planning process beginning in early FY2016.

Annual Town Meeting

The first five articles in this Warrant will be considered on the evening of May 4th under a procedure called a Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting. These articles address matters relating to FY2015, some of which have been discussed above. The Special Town Meeting includes Special Article 3, that seeks, if necessary, to appropriate additional monies if needed for covering a potential snow and ice deficit from FY2015.

After voting on the Special Town Meeting article, we will move to the Annual Town Meeting. Again many of these articles have been noted above in the budget discussion. Article 6 funds requested capital purchases that are made annually outside of the department budgets. Article 7 relates to projects sought to be funded with money from the Community Preservation Act reserves that are managed by the Community Preservation Committee. The remaining articles in this warrant deal with an assortment of topics, annual Town business that requires Town Meeting approval (Articles 1, 11, 12-16).

The Finance Committee voted timely recommendations for all articles for which it was provided with sufficient information. On those articles for which information was unavailable or lacking, the Committee will make its recommendations at Town Meeting.

Opportunities to ask questions or give opinions are always available at Finance Committee meetings and at the Open Warrant Meeting on April 27th. Please take time to understand the issues and attend the Annual Town Meeting on May 4th to make your voice heard.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

William Brack, Chair; Ira Miller, Edward Philips, Vice-Chairs; Patricia-Lee Achorn, Aaron Agulnek, Arnold Cohen, Gordon Gladstone, Charles Goodman, Alexander Korin, Laura Nelson

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WITHIN THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$13,100.00 from the following accounts for the Town Clerk Codification project; or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>From:</u>		<u>To:</u>		<u>Amount:</u>
00011617-731100	Town Clerk Encumbrance	00011616-616001	Codification Project	\$11,000.00
00011627-731100	E&R Encumbrance	00011616-616001	Codification Project	\$2,100.00
Total:				<u>\$13,100.00</u>

TOWN CLERK

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article would transfer \$13,100 from encumbrance accounts back to the Town Clerk's budget.

The Codification Project was originally a line item in the FY2014 Town Clerk's budget. The work was not expected to complete in the first year, so \$13,100 was encumbered with the expectation that the work would be complete by the end of FY2015. However, the remaining work will not be completed in FY2015, and the Town Clerk has requested that the funds be transferred from the encumbrance accounts back into the Clerk's budget.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the premium paid to the Town upon the sale of bonds or notes issued for the public safety building which are the subject of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, to pay costs for the project being financed by such bonds or notes and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project, but not yet issues by the Town, by the same amount; or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>From:</u>		<u>To:</u>		<u>Amount:</u>
00010930-493000	Bond Premium	31003999	Public Safety Building	\$621,499.00

FINANCE DIRECTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article authorizes the town to take advantage of a new ruling by the Department of Revenue that allows for an alternate treatment of the exempt bond sale premium. Instead of allocating the premium proceeds over the 20 year life of the bond, the premium could be allocated immediately, enabling a reduction in the amount of the borrowing authorization.

By applying the bond premium received by the Town from the sale of bonds to finance the public safety building in this manner, the amount of the total borrowing would be reduced, lowering the project borrowing expense.

The Finance Committee recommends this passage of this article to allow for the proposed \$621,499 reduction in borrowing.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to close the Snow & Ice Deficit for FY2015 and use Free Cash or any other available funds to meet this appropriation; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE DIRECTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article authorizes the town to raise funds to close the deficit created by the need to overspend the FY2015 Snow and Ice budget.

Due to the record-breaking snowfall this winter, the Town's allocated budget for Snow and Ice expenditures is currently running a deficit of approximately \$500,000. These expenses are allocated to three DPW budget categories: Salaries and Wages (overtime), Salt and Sand & Contractor Expenditures, and Motor Vehicle Repair. The Finance Committee has asked that the Selectmen and School sectors identify savings in this year's FY2015 budget to offset as much of the deficit as possible. At this time, the Reserve Fund has \$350,000 available to cover some of the overrun. Unless enough savings in FY2015 expenditures from other line items of the overall Town budget, an additional appropriation under this Article will be necessary. The Finance Committee is hopeful that we will obviate the need to raise additional monies under this article before Town Meeting.

To date the Town has submitted reimbursable expenses to FEMA totaling \$125,000 for the storm deemed a blizzard. The Town is preparing additional reimbursement requests for

the subsequent winter storms should expenses from these storms also become reimbursable. Unfortunately, we will not know the actual reimbursement amount for months.

The Finance Committee feels that future reimbursement monies will be available to offset a portion of a tax increase for FY2017. It is the strong preference of the Finance Committee that the FY2015 Snow and Ice expenses be paid with savings from the FY2015 budget.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 TO MAKE THEIR RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING.

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$733,798.74 from the following accounts to close the Capital Project Deficit in Fund 3300; or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>From:</u>		<u>Amount:</u>
3300-2011-2014	School Return	\$59,863.22
32004400-621315	DPW Return	\$70,000.00
32004400-621501	DPW Return	\$30,000.00
31003998-621400	Standing Building Return	\$131,495.85
00010370-437001	Cell Tower Revenue	\$442,439.67
	<u>Total:</u>	\$733,798.74

FINANCE DIRECTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article authorizes the town to close the \$733,798.74 deficit created by the delay in authorized borrow for several Capital projects from the FY2010-FY2012 fiscal years.

In the last several years, the Finance Director used available funds to pay bills for Capital projects and then he borrowed necessary funds for several projects at once. This practice allowed the town to save on borrowed costs. Unfortunately, in some cases the Town missed deadlines required by state regulations and as a result was unable to borrow money.

To close the deficit in the Capital projects account we have to provide new funds in the amount of \$733,798.74. The new Finance Director recommended the Town to reallocate \$291,359.07 in unused fund from other Capital projects and use \$442,439.67 from the Cell Tower Revenue.

The approval of this article will not authorize new spending but will only allow the Town to balance the Capital projects account. The \$733,798.74 will become part of our free cash account after the State certifies it and it will be available for the FY2017 budget.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to reserve a sum of money from proceeds of assignment of cell tower leases for use with the FY2016 Appropriation; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article authorizes the use of revenue received from the sale of cell tower leases to reduce the amount to be raised on the property tax for the FY2016 budget.

Last May at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, voters adopted a budget with a projected average tax increase of about 4%. Estimated property tax bills for the first two quarters of FY2015 were sent reflecting that amount. Each year the Department of Revenue must certify a tax rate for all cities and towns, ensuring that enough revenue will be available to fund their next fiscal year's budget. Because the assignment of cell tower leases was not completed by November 2014, \$700,000 of cell tower revenue that was expected and identified by Priorities Committee as a revenue source was not available. To address this delayed revenue and make up the shortfall to fully fund the FY2015 budget, \$700,000 had to be raised by increasing the amount collected in property taxes. Through the tax rate certification process, adjustments were made in 3rd and 4th quarter property tax bills. Taxpayers were surprised when they received their actual bills that reflected an average tax increase of 7.9%, almost double the estimated amount.

This year other unexpected costs including overruns in the FY2015 Snow and Ice budget (\$500,000) and accounting shortfalls caused over the years (\$734,000 in the capital project deficit account) must also be funded.

The Finance Committee has been looking at ways to lessen another large increase to the property tax without dramatically impacting the operating budgets. We have examined many options, including a combination of modest reductions in the requested increases to operating budgets, adjustments to revenue estimates and use of one-time revenues to offset one-time expenses. For example, we recommend passage of Article 4 at this Special Town Meeting that proposes to use \$442,000 of cell tower revenue to partially fund the current capital projects deficit. After diligent consideration and deliberative discussion at both Finance Committee and Priorities Committee meetings, both committees have agreed to

use an additional \$625,000 of the cell tower revenue to fund the FY2016 budget. This action will lessen the impact to taxpayers by lowering the projected average tax increase for FY2016 to 5%.

Much has been said about sustainability and the ability to maintain our current rate of spending without endless increases to our property tax bills. It is agreed that this discussion must begin in earnest before the budget process begins next year. Without solutions to the always present need to increase revenues and control expenses, this year's average increase on top of last year's average increase of 7.9% will be the norm.

The Finance Committee has always expressed concern about the use of one-time funds to support the operating budget. The preferred fiscal approach would be to control expenditures. However, in this instance, the committee feels that the use of the cell tower funds to lower FY2016 tax bills is in order.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

The Priorities Committee voted 6-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-1-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Norfolk, ss.

To either Constable of the Town of Sharon, Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sharon qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at the Arthur E. Collins Auditorium at Sharon High School on Pond Street in said Sharon on Monday, the 4th of May, 2015, at 7:00 P.M., and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1

To choose three or more members of the Finance Committee for two-year and three-year terms, and to fill any vacancies on said Committee; or take any other action relative thereto.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article would endorse nominees to fill some or all of the expiring terms and vacancies on the Finance Committee. Article 2 of the Town of Sharon By-Laws states that it is the responsibility of the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee to present to the voters for approval or other appropriate action its nominees.

Created by Sharon By-Law, the Finance Committee is composed of up to 12 members, each elected for a three-year term. Appointed by the Town Moderator, the Finance Committee Nominating Committee recommends to Town Meeting the names of residents who in its opinion would best fill the vacant positions.

The Finance Committee appreciates the work of The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee's approval of this article is an approval of the Nominating Committee process and not an endorsement of a particular individual nominated for the Finance Committee.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APROVAL.

Report of the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee

Article 6 of the Town of Sharon By-Laws states that it is the responsibility of the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee to present to the voters for approval or other appropriate action its nominees to fill some or all of the expiring terms and vacancies on the Finance Committee.

In May 2015, four members of the Finance Committee are ending their terms and in addition there are two vacant seat to be filled to bring the committee to the capacity of 12 members. The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee interviewed the current incumbents who expressed a desire to remain on the committee, and interviewed potential new members who expressed a desire to serve the Town of Sharon. The four current members are being nominated for three year terms and the two new members will serve two year terms.

The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee has nominated the following Town of Sharon residents to serve on the Finance Committee that will be voted in Article 1 at the Town Meeting on May 4, 2015. A brief bio is being provided by each nominee to allow the town residents to be familiar with the members of the duly approved nomination.

Incumbents

Charles Goodman: I have been a resident of Sharon for the past 40 years, have had four children and now grandchildren attend Sharon Schools. I have a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, am a managing partner in a local CPA firm, have completed courses in Municipal Accounting. I was a Captain in the United States Army Reserves.

My service on the Finance Committee has included the following: fourteen years on the committee to include serving as chair; member of and chair of priorities committee, prepared receipts and expenditures analysis for Rattlesnake Hill, cost analysis to Town Health Insurance, served as liaison to Police, Fire, School and Water Departments. Currently, I am member of the Town Audit Committee and served on the search committee to recommend the selection of the prior Finance Director.

Ira Miller: I have been a Sharon resident since 1980. With 40 years of media experience in health care, education, and technology venues, I currently manage the production of closed captioning and audio description services for the Media Access Group at WGBH, creating accessible media for viewers with auditory and vision impairments. Appointed to the first Sharon Cable Advisory Board, as Vice Chairman, I oversaw the license hearings. Serving as Chairman, I led the Board of Directors of Sharon Community Television through its initial three years of operations. A member of the Finance Committee for twelve years, I have held the positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 9 of them. For the past 5 years I have been elected to the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of Town Finance Committees (ATFC). This year, I serve as ATFC Vice President and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

Laura Nelson: Our family has lived on a Scenic Road in Sharon since 1995. We chose Sharon because of the reputation of the schools, the town's relatively unspoiled natural state, and our house, which was built in 1733. Our son, now 23, went through the public school system, and we enjoy using our antique barn to house and care for our miniature horses.

My career in software internationalization has spanned both client- and vendor-side roles in a variety of technologies, with solid management of departments, projects, vendors, and multi-million-dollar budgets. My formal studies are in seven natural languages as well as software engineering: my B.A. from Barnard College is in Spanish Language and Literature, and I have a Graduate Certificate in Applied Sciences from Harvard University. I am also a certified Project Management Professional from the Project Management Institute and a Certified ScrumMaster from the Scrum Alliance.

During my terms on the Finance Committee, I have served four years as Vice-Chair, researched additional topics and issues, and collaborated with other Town entities, e.g., acting as liaison to the Conservation Commission and Town Library. I believe that functional, democratic governments require checks, balances, honesty, and full disclosure where permitted by law, and I am unafraid to ask probing questions. I look forward to continuing my service to the Town during my third term on the Finance Committee.

Edward R. "Ted" Philips- A lifelong resident of Sharon, I am a graduate of Sharon High School. I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Sawyer School of Business at Suffolk University in Boston. In addition to my tenure on the Finance Committee, I have served as a Vice Chair multiple times. I am a member of the Sharon's 250th Anniversary Committee and I am active in the Sharon Lions Club. For the past 9 years I have worked for State Representative Lou Kafka in the Massachusetts House and currently hold the position Staff Director.

New Members

Steven Ross: I am CEO of Sharon Medical Associates in the town center and resident for thirty years. I have served on many community organizations including Rotary, Sharon Education Foundation, PTO and Drug Coalition. In addition to degrees in chemistry, engineering and medicine I have expertise in financial management and pension plan administration. My children attend Sharon Middle School and High School.

Hanna Switekowski: Growing up in Sharon during my middle and high school years, I was very involved in the community, from serving in student government, to participating in theater, and leading various community service projects, including being a peer mentor in the Anti-Defamation League World of Difference Program. In 2008, I received the Ordinary Hero Award in recognition of my community service. After graduating Sharon High in 2009, I spent a year in Los Angeles studying at The American Jewish University. I transferred to Brandeis University and graduated in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics and Near Eastern & Judaic Studies. Since graduating, I have moved back home and live with my parents. I work full time in the Massachusetts Legislature as Legislative Aide to State Representative Louis Kafka. I am

currently a Master of Public Administration candidate at Northeastern University, with an expected graduation in May and I was recently inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. Serving on the Finance Committee is my way of giving back to the community and it is an honor to be nominated.

We the undersigned respectively submit the aforementioned information to the Town of Sharon residents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gloria Rose, Chair: Mitchell Blaustein, Cheryl Weinstein Garani, Charles Goodman, Deena Segal

ARTICLE 2

To act upon the reports as printed and to hear any other reports and to act thereon.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This is an annual pro-forma article to receive and file reports submitted by Town officials, boards and committees.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any and all agreements to let and/or lease, on such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate, the property or any portion thereof, located in Sharon, MA listed below and referenced in the following leases for purposes of multi-carrier wireless communication facilities and related access and improvements, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be in the best interests of the Town of Sharon, and further to authorize the Selectmen to convey such non-exclusive easements, and to enter into any and all necessary agreements on such terms and subject to such conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate, to provide electric and telephone utilities to serve such properties:

1. The Premises as defined in the Land Lease Agreement dated March 4, 2014 by and between the Town of Sharon and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC regarding the property located at 411 E. Foxboro Street, Sharon;

2. The Premises as defined in the Land Lease Agreement dated March 4, 2014 by and between the Town of Sharon and Bell Atlantic Mobile of Massachusetts Corporation, LTD regarding the property located at 12-17 Farnham Road, Sharon, MA;
3. The Site as defined in the Wireless Communications Facility Lease Agreement dated December 4, 2009 by and between the Town of Sharon and T-Mobile Northeast LLC as amended on February 12, 2013 regarding the property located at 12-17 Farnham Road, Sharon, MA;
4. The Site as defined in the Wireless Communications Facility Lease Agreement dated March 24, 2009 by and between the Town of Sharon and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. regarding the property located at 438 Massapoag Avenue, Sharon, MA;
5. The Site as defined in the Wireless Communications Facility Lease Agreement dated July 5, 2007 by and between the Town of Sharon and Bell Atlantic Mobile of Massachusetts Corporation, LTD. d/b/a Verizon Wireless regarding the property located at 438 Massapoag Avenue, Sharon, MA; and
6. The Site as defined in the Wireless Communications Facility Lease Agreement dated February 10, 2009 by and between the Town of Sharon and Metro PCS Massachusetts regarding the property located at off Upland Road, Sharon, MA.;

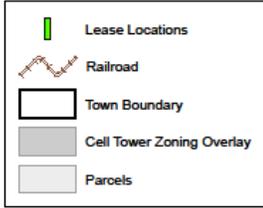
A map of the Properties is on file with the Sharon Town Clerk;

And further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into such other agreements relating to the foregoing on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interests of the Town of Sharon;

Or to take any other action relative thereto.

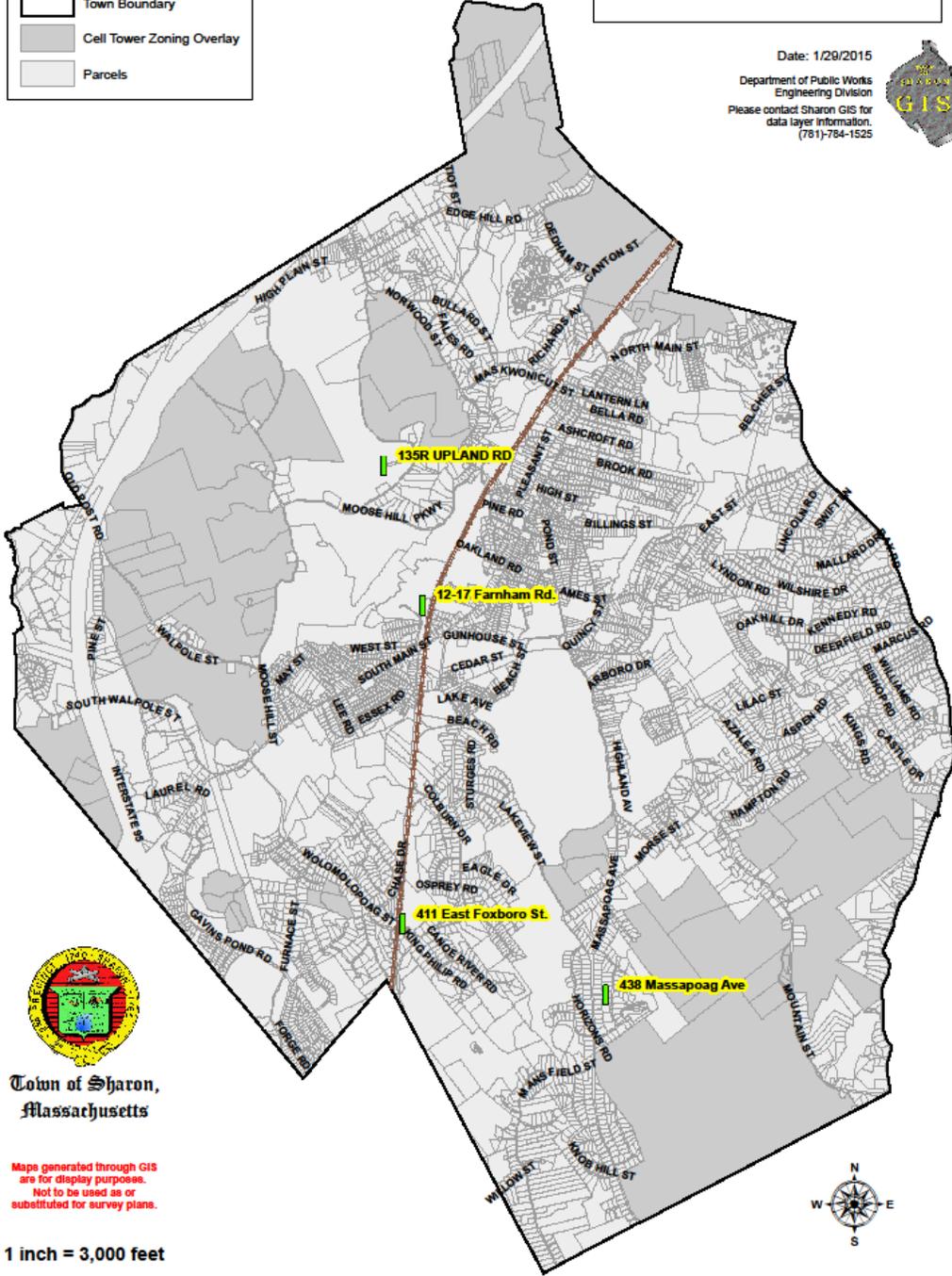
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Existing Cellular Tower Antennas: Lease Locations



Date: 1/29/2015

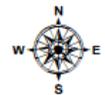
Department of Public Works
Engineering Division
Please contact Sharon GIS for
data layer information.
(781)-784-1525



**Town of Sharon,
Massachusetts**

Map generated through GIS
are for display purposes.
Not to be used as or
substituted for survey plans.

1 inch = 3,000 feet



Address	Lease 1	Lease 2	Year Added	Mounting Structure
135R UPLAND RD	Metro PCS Massachusetts		2000	Upland Rd Water Tank
438 Massapoag Ave	Verizon Wireless	Omnipoint Communications, Inc.	2007	Massapoag Ave Water Tank
12-17 Farnham Rd.	T-Mobile Northeast LLC	Bell Atlantic Mobile of Massachusetts Corporation, LTD	2012	Monopole
411 East Foxboro St.	New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC		2015	Monopole

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into agreements with multi-carrier wireless communication facilities in order to seek lump sum payments for the run out of current leases and the right to future revenue streams from extensions of the current leases.

The Finance Committee voted in support of this article. Agreements such as these allow the Town to collect lump sums from existing obligations and to secure a consistent stream of revenue. Funds from cell tower leases are deposited in both the Town's General Fund and as part of the Water Enterprise Fund (for those facilities situated on Town water towers). The allocation of funding to the Water Enterprise Fund allows the town to avoid borrowing for water main replacement and other capital investments, which reduce further rate increases.

This agreement would bring the Town approximately \$2,513,000 in revenue, with \$841,420.31 allocated to the Water Enterprise Fund and \$1,262,130.47 deposited into the Town's General Fund to date. Other articles in the Special Town Meeting within the Town Meeting propose methods for expending a portion of said revenue in the General Fund.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Law of the Town of Sharon as follows, or act in any way relative thereto:

A. By adopting as amendments to said By-Law, the following interim and/or emergency changes, additions or deletions made by the Personnel Board in its authority under Section 2.6 of the By-Law:

B. By striking out all classification schedules and pay schedules in Appendix A and Appendix B and substituting new classification schedules and new pay schedules. Appendix A and Appendix B as of July 1, 2015, except as other dates are specified.

1) That the position of Secretary-Clerk Accounting/Veterans Agent be eliminated and the Positions: Financial Assistant-Payroll/Revenue Manager and Financial Assistant-Assistant Veterans' Agent are established effective October 1, 2013. These new positions are established in the OC classification.

2) Dawn Miller is assigned to the position Financial Assistant - Payroll/Revenue and Patty Walker is assigned to the position Financial Assistant - Assistant Veterans' Agent retroactive to October 1, 2013.

- 3) That the position of Financial Assistant/Assistant Veterans Agent be rated as an OC-3A classification in the Office Occupation Category, effective October 1, 2013.
- 4) That the position of Financial Assistant/Payroll be rated as an OC-2 classification in the Office Occupation Category, effective October 1, 2013.
- 5) That the position of Head of Adult and Technology Services be rated as an LMP-3 classification in the Library Category, effective March 1, 2014.
- 6) That the appointment of Jennifer Little Leavitt to the Confidential Police Secretary position at Step 8 effective July 1, 2014 is justified by her exceptional qualifications.
- 7) That the appointment of Rachelle Levitts to the position of Standing Building Committee Secretary be at the Step 8 pay level within the OC-4a category justified by her exceptional qualifications, effective June 10, 2014.
- 8) That Rachelle Levitts be allowed to simultaneously occupy positions with the Planning Board, the Community Preservation Committee, the School Department and the Standing Building Committee provided that a written correspondence is received not later than August 1, 2014 from the appointing authority or organization of each indicating the lack of any irreconcilable conflict.
- 9) That the position of Recreation Basketball League Coordinator be established with a seasonal salary of \$8,300 payable in equal installments during the season, and that it be recorded as part of the "Miscellaneous" category in Article 4.
- 10) That the newly created position of Water Treatment-Pumping Station Operator be rated as an MP-2 classification in the Management Professional Category, effective July 10, 2014.
- 11) That the newly created position of Water Construction Supervisor be rated as an MP-2 classification in the Management Professional Category, effective July 10, 2014.
- 12) That Beverly Anderson be hired in the position of Health Administrator at a Step 9 starting salary in the MP-1 category, effective on date of hire, and step assignment is justified by her exceptional qualifications.
- 13) That the salary steps for the miscellaneous Lifeguard position be modified to read as follows:
Lifeguard Step 1 \$10.68 – Step 2 \$10.94 – Step 3 \$11.21

APPENDIX A

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CONTAINED WITHIN CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE SECTION ENTITLED 1.100-1.300 WITH ASSOCIATED PAY SCHEDULE SECTION 2.100-2.300 ARE NOT COVERED BY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.

EXECUTIVE CATEGORY
JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016

SECTION 1.100
 CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE
 SCHEDULE/ANNUALLY

SECTION 2.100
 BASE PAY

Group	Position	Minimum	Actual	Maximum
E-0	Town Administrator	156,000	165,240	187,200
E-1	Police Chief	146,250	163,130	175,500
E-2	Fire Chief	117,000	131,687	140,400
	Superintendent of Public Works	117,000	125,025	140,400
E-3	Director of Information Technology	91,650	98,107	111,150
	Finance Director	91,650	98,880	111,150
	Town Engineer	91,650	101,375	111,150
E-4	Recreation Director	68,250	69,470	89,700
	Council on Aging Executive Director	68,250	81,640	89,700
	Treasurer/Collector	68,250	82,400	89,700
	Administrative Assessor	68,250	84,345	89,700
	Assistant to the Town Administrator	68,250	81,600	89,700
	Library Director	68,250	79,050	89,700

SECTION 1.200
 CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.200
 PAY SCHEDULE25

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
 Board of Selectmen (hourly)
 Effective 7/1/15

<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>	<u>Step 4</u>	<u>Step 5</u>	<u>Step 6</u>	<u>Step 7</u>	<u>Step 8</u>	<u>Step 9</u>	<u>Step 10</u>
24.37	24.86	25.35	25.86	26.38	26.91	27.44	27.99	28.55	29.12

MISCELLANEOUS
 Effective 7/1/15

Veterans' Agent (yearly)	14,694			
Sealer of Weights & Measures	4,196			
Animal Control Officer				
Assistant Animal Control/Senior Fill-In Officer	2,500 annually			
Fill-In (Weekend/Sick/Holiday/Vacation Coverage)	46.15/day			
Fill-In (Night Pager Coverage)	13.19/night			
Fill-In (After Hour Coverage)	13.19/call			
Animal Inspector (yearly)	3,958			
Custodian/Maintenance (hourly)	8.18	8.45	8.68	8.95
DPW Temp/Summer Labor (hourly)	10.22	11.20	12.25	
Per Diem Public Health Nurse	24.00/hour			

Adult Center Receptionist/Aide 16.68/hour
 Recreational Basketball League Coordinator 8,300 yearly

Standing Building Committee Secretary (hourly) steps

<u>Min</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>
19.94	20.33	20.74	21.15	21.59	21.99	22.46	22.90	23.35	23.83	24.31

Project Manager for the Standing Building Committee (hourly) steps

<u>Min</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>
24.41	24.99	25.52	26.11	26.68	27.28	27.90	28.53	29.18	29.83	30.50

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT - PART-TIME
 EFFECTIVE May 1, 2015 (hourly)

	<u>Step 1</u>	<u>Step 2</u>	<u>Step 3</u>
Waterfront Supervisor	14.81	15.07	15.33
Assistant Waterfront Supervisor	12.24	12.50	12.77
Lifeguard	10.68	10.94	11.21
Attendant/Maintenance	9.02	9.27	9.53
Sailing Supervisor	14.81	15.07	15.33
Assistant Sailing Supervisor	12.24	12.50	12.77
Sailing Instructor	10.18	10.44	10.71
Camp Counselor	9.71	10.00	10.30
Assistant Camp Supervisor	11.30	11.55	11.80
Camp Supervisor	13.20	13.49	13.79

APPENDIX B

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CONTAINED WITHIN CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE SECTIONS ENTITLED 1.400-1.800 WITH ASSOCIATED PAY SCHEDULE SECTIONS 2.400-2.800 ARE COVERED BY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.

MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY
 (FORMERLY ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY)

SECTION 1.400
 CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

MP-00	Assistant Town Engineer	MP-2	Animal Control Officer*
			Asst. Recreation Director*
MP-0	Building Inspector		Business Manager
	Water Systems Supervisor		Info Svcs/Asst Library Director*

MP-1	Operations Supervisor Public Health Nurse* Forestry & Grounds Supervisor Health Agent for Engineering Conservation Administrator Health Administrator* GIS Coordinator	Asst Operations Supervisor Asst Supervisor-Water Water Construction Supervisor Water Pump Station Operator
		MP-3 Recreation Athletic Supervisor Case Mngr/Coord.Volunteer Svcs* Technical Support Specialist*
		MP-4 Part-Time Public Health Nurse*

*The following positions work other than a 40 hour work week:

- Info Services/Asst Library Director-37.5hrs
- Public Health Nurse-30 hours
- Animal Control Officer-25 hours
- Asst. Recreation Director-37.5 hours
- Case Manager/Coordinator of Volunteer Services-28 hours
- Health Administrator-37.5 hours
- Technical Support Specialist-20 hours
- Part-time Public Health Nurse 3 hours (up to 10 hours for vacation coverage)

SECTION 2.400
PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step10	Step11	Step 12
MP-00	35.5492	36.3457	37.1663	37.9988	38.8555	39.7363	40.6293	41.5465	42.4756	43.4289	44.4062	45.2943
MP-0	33.7148	34.4752	35.2596	36.0439	36.8645	37.6848	38.5417	39.3986	40.2916	41.2085	42.1376	42.9805
MP-1	31.5309	32.2427	32.9668	33.6909	34.4512	35.2476	36.0320	36.8284	37.6610	38.5297	39.3986	40.1866
MP-2	28.5988	29.2743	29.9018	30.5896	31.2533	31.9653	32.6894	33.4252	34.1857	34.9459	35.7302	36.4447
MP-3	26.2871	26.8369	27.4161	28.0436	28.6711	29.3348	29.9743	30.6744	31.3497	32.0498	32.7738	33.4293
MP-4	23.8683	24.3992	24.9425	25.4973	26.0766	26.6800	27.2592	27.8625	28.5142	29.1296	29.7933	30.3892

*This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

LIBRARY CATEGORY

LMP-3	Head of Youth Services Head of Adult and Technology Services
LMP-4	Children's Librarian Information Services Librarian

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Max
LMP-3	26.24	26.86	27.45	28.06	28.68	29.33	30.00	30.69	31.35	32.06
LMP-4	23.86	24.40	24.95	25.51	26.08	26.66	27.25	27.91	28.53	29.16
L4	21.82	22.25	22.70	23.16	23.62	24.09	24.56	25.04	25.55	26.07

LOC-3a Circulation Supervisor
 Technical Services Supervisor

LOC-3b

LOC-4a Library Assistant
 Technical Services Asst.
 Administrative Asst.-Library

LOC-4b

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Max
LOC-3a	22.65	23.11	23.55	24.04	24.51	25.00	25.50	26.02	26.54	27.06
LOC-3b	21.45	21.88	22.31	22.76	23.23	23.70	24.16	24.64	25.13	25.63
LOC-4a	20.34	20.74	21.15	21.57	22.02	22.43	22.91	23.36	23.82	24.31
LOC-4b	19.28	19.68	20.05	20.46	20.88	21.29	21.72	22.16	22.59	23.05

Library Page 10.62

*This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

LABOR CATEGORY
 SECTION 1.500
 CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

Grade A Working Foreman-Operations Senior Water Systems Tech Working Foreman –Water Working Foreman -Forestry&Grnds	Grade D Night Custodian
	Grade E AutoEquipmentOperator Recreation Custodian Maint/Custodian DPW

Grade B Master Mechanic

Grade C Heavy Equip Operator
 Aerial Lift Operator
 Water Systems Tech
 Working Foreman/Facilities Maint-Community Ctr.

SECTION 2.500
 PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY
 July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10	Step 11	Step 12
A	25.91	26.61	27.28	27.99	28.68	29.37	30.10	30.78	31.46	32.16	32.80	33.46
B	24.79	25.35	25.89	26.44	26.97	27.55	28.08	28.64	29.19	29.75	30.34	30.95

C	22.65	23.25	23.86	24.46	25.05	25.67	26.30	26.89	27.50	28.10	28.66	29.23
D	22.87	23.34	23.81	24.29	24.77	25.26	25.77	26.29	26.81	27.34	27.89	28.45
E	21.70	22.15	22.58	23.05	23.48	23.94	24.44	24.92	25.42	25.93	26.44	26.97

OFFICE OCCUPATION CATEGORY

SECTION 1.600
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>OC-1 Assistant Accountant
Assistant Collector
Assistant Treasurer</p> <p>OC-2 Confidential Police Secretary
Administrative Asst.-Assessor
Administrative Asst.-Ex Dir COA
Admin Asst to Fire Chief/Ambulance Rec.
Assistant Town Clerk
Financial Asst-Payroll/Revenue Manager</p> <p>OC-3a Collections Supervisor
Treasury Supervisor (Payroll)
Election & Registration Secretary
Financial Asst/Asst Veterans Agent</p> <p>OC-3b Senior Assessor Clerk
Activities/Program Coordinator COA
Secretary - Building & Engineering
Secretary - Recreation
Secretary – Water
Secretary - Operations Division</p> | <p>OC-4a Bookkeeper
Secretary-Fire
Admin. Asst-Planning Board
PT Admin Asst.-Board of Health</p> <p>OC-4b Bus/Van Driver
Police Clerk
Secretary-Zoning Board of Appeals
Secretary-Community Preservation</p> <p>OC-5 Secretary-Conservation
Secretary-Personnel Board
Secretary-Finance Committee
Secretary to a Board or Committee</p> |
|---|---|

SECTION 1.600
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.600
PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY

July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step10	Step 11
OC-1	26.37	26.90	27.44	27.98	28.54	29.11	29.68	30.27	30.88	31.51	32.13
OC-2	23.75	24.21	24.71	25.18	25.66	26.18	26.71	27.24	27.80	28.36	28.94
OC-3a	22.21	22.66	23.09	23.57	24.03	24.51	25.00	25.51	26.02	26.53	27.08
OC-3b	21.03	21.45	21.87	22.31	22.77	23.24	23.69	24.16	24.64	25.13	25.62
OC-4a	19.94	20.33	20.74	21.15	21.59	21.99	22.46	22.90	23.35	23.83	24.31

OC-4b	18.90	19.29	19.66	20.06	20.47	20.87	21.29	21.73	22.15	22.60	23.03
OC-5	17.01	17.35	17.70	18.05	18.41	18.78	19.16	19.54	19.93	20.33	20.74

*This is the rate that has been in effect, and will continue to be in effect, until such time as a new collective bargaining agreement is executed.

PUBLIC SAFETY CATEGORY

**SECTION 1.700
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE**

**SECTION 2.700
PAY SCHEDULE/WEEKLY**

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Sergeant	PD-80	PD-80A	PD-80B	PD-80C							
Effective Date		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3							
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015		1256.09	1281.21	1306.86							
Patrolman	PD-60	PD-60A	PD-60B	PD-60C	PD-60D	PD-60E	PD-60F	PD-60G			
Effective Date		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7			
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015		832.60	888.63	947.25	1,048.00	1,069.00	1,090.39	1,144.43			
Dispatchers	Steps	Min	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Max
Effective Dates **	hrly	21.25	21.67	22.11	22.55	23.00	23.45	23.93	24.40	24.90	25.38
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016											

The amounts of pay shown in the above schedule for position code PD-60 and PD-80 do not include the extra pay for educational qualifications provided for in the statutes and regulations of the State.

Members of the Police Department while so designated by the Chief of Police shall receive additional compensation to be considered part of their base pay as follows:

MOTORCYCLE OPERATOR (SELECTIVE ENFORCEMENT)	\$32.54 PER WEEK
ACCREDITATION MANAGER, COMPUTER MANAGER	\$32.54 PER WEEK
LEAPS REPRESENTATIVE	\$10.00 PER WEEK
CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER	\$32.54 PER WEEK
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT OFFICER	\$32.54 PER WEEK
PROSECUTOR	\$50.00 PER WEEK
DETECTIVE PATROL OFFICER	\$50.00 PER WEEK

Any patrolman, appointed without being required to take the written examination, shall be paid the base pay rate called for by step 1 of the pay schedule for a period of six months following his appointment, and, upon the expiration of said six-month period, shall be paid the base pay rate provided for by step 2 unless he shall have previously been employed full time as a police officer, in which case he shall be paid the base pay rate under the step he would have been paid if his prior employment had been in the Sharon Police Department, but not greater than Step 4. Notwithstanding the step increase or increases provided herein, a patrolman's probationary period shall be the probationary period provided for in 5-5 of this By-Law or in the collective bargaining agreement, whichever is applicable.

POLICE CROSSING GUARDS*

7/01/15 to 6/30/16

DAILY RATE:

	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3
School Crossing Guard PD20	37.41	40.76	44.82
School Crossing Guard Supervisor PD20A			56.14

SUPERIOR OFFICERS

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6
Lieutenant, Police Dept.	1909.06	1985.80	2064.98	2127.40	2191.22	2235.04

**JULY 1, 2015- JUNE 30, 2016
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**SECTION 1.410
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE**

**SECTION 2.410
PAY SCHEDULE/WEEKLY**

Effective JULY 1, 2015 – JUNE 30, 2016

TITLE	CODE	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
CAPT./EMT	FD-90			1276.16	1371.67
CAPT./Para	FD-92			1320.19	1415.73
LT./EMT	FD-80			1358.23	
LT./Para	FD-82			1402.28	
FF./EMT	FD-60	1010.44	1057.29	1180.17	
FF./Para	FD-62	1054.49	1101.34	1224.22	

Members of the Fire Department are eligible to receive additional compensation in each fiscal year in accordance with the following educational incentive program:

FOR 15 COURSE CREDITS CERTIFIED	\$ 500 ANNUALLY
FOR 30 COURSE CREDITS CERTIFIED	700 ANNUALLY
FOR 45 COURSE CREDITS CERTIFIED	950 ANNUALLY
FOR AN ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE CERTIFIED	1,550 ANNUALLY

FOR A BACHELOR'S DEGREE CERTIFIED 2,725 ANNUALLY
FOR A MASTER'S DEGREE CERTIFIED 3,025 ANNUALLY

CALL FIREFIGHTERS
HOURLY COMPENSATION RATE
July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011
Hourly 20.00

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS CONTAINED WITHIN CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE SECTION ENTITLED 1.100-1.300 WITH ASSOCIATED PAY SCHEDULE SECTION 2.100-2.300 ARE NOT COVERED BY COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.

Deputy Fire Chief 1,825.96/week
Deputy Police Chief 3,188.15/week

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article would amend the Town's Personnel By-Law and implement the listed increases in salaries and wages for all employees except those in the School Department and the Town Administrator, both of which are dealt with in Article 5 of the Warrant. Also voted in Article 5 is the salary for the Town Clerk.

The majority of the salaries contained in Article 4 are union contracts negotiated by the Board of Selectmen. These salaries are listed in Article 4. Also included in Article 4 is the compensation for the "Executive Category." For this category the Selectmen propose salary increases and request concurrence of the Personnel Board. The salary adjustments vary between 3 and 3.5%, based on the results of the annual performance reviews.

Concern with the Town's salary growth and the ability of taxpayers to fund that growth continues. Approximately 80% of the Town operating budget consists of salaries. The Finance Committee recognizes the need to offer fair competitive compensation to its valued employees. The Finance Committee will engage in a more detailed review process with the Selectmen, Personnel Board and Town Administrator earlier in the budget process as part of the long-term planning process that the Town intends to engage on early in FY2016.

A listing of all Town employees' salaries can be found in the annual Town Report.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-2-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 5

To fix the compensation of elected officers, to provide for a Reserve Fund, and to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriation from other available funds, to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2015; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Finance Committee has a statutory obligation to present to Town Meeting, for debate and approval, budgets for all Town departments. The Town departments are divided into three sectors: Selectmen, School Committee and Finance Committee. Each sector must develop budgets for their respective departments in the months leading up to Town Meeting.

As directed by Town By-Law, it is the responsibility of the Priorities Committee to develop revenue estimates and allocate those estimated revenues among the three sectors. It is the statutory responsibility of the Finance Committee to recommend to Town Meeting the amount to be spent.

The Finance Committee provided a detailed history of the FY2015 Budget, the issues that gave rise to the average tax increase of 7.9% in January 2015 and the details of the FY2016 Budget in the Introduction to this Warrant. The Finance Committee urges all members of Town Meeting to read the introduction and ask questions to ensure that they understand the fundamental issues facing the Town and the Town's current financial situation.

This year the Priorities Committee took a "bottom up" approach to its process and sought to evaluate the forecasted revenue against the budget requests from the Schools, Selectmen and Finance Committee and to meet the projected Fixed and Uncontrollable sector of the budget. As a result of the Priorities Committee process, the Finance Director is projecting increased tax levy of 5.0% for FY2016, of which 2.98% is attributable to debt (principal and interest) for the Public Safety Building. As part of the revenue sources for the FY2016 budget, the Town is proposing to use \$625,000 in one-time revenues from the sale of the cell phone tower leases that were approved in 2014 and discussed at length in the Warrant Introduction. The Finance Committee believes it is appropriate to use much of the one-time cell tower revenues for the FY2016 Budget to reduce the proposed property tax increases given the unique circumstances surrounding the FY2015 Budget and the timing of receiving that revenue. Since those revenues would have been used in FY2015 had they been received in time for the State to include it in the FY2015 revenue and the money in question has since been received by the Town, the Finance Committee believes it should be used in FY2016 to offset the tax increase from FY2015. The Finance Committee cautions, however, that the FY 2017 operating budgets will likely have to be reduced by the amount of the one-time revenue (\$625,000) unless other one-time revenues are found in the future,

as otherwise the Town will continue to build an unsustainable operating budget beyond the ability of the property tax to fund it.

In short, the FY2016 Budget is predicated upon a revenue projection that does not rely on any speculative revenue, and often uses the FY2015 projected revenue levels and carries them forward without adjustment unless a downward adjustment was warranted due to FY2015 experience. The projections rely on stable local receipts including building permits and other permit fees. The FY2016 Budget is supported by a 5% total tax increase. However, 2.98% of the increase is the debt exclusion for the Public Safety Building project approved in May 2014. As a result of the use of one time revenues of \$625,000 in the FY2016 revenue projecting, the tax rate is projected to be 21.32.

The proposed FY2016 Budget for the Town of Sharon is \$77,827,929. If approved, the Town would increase spending by \$4,034,097, or an increase of 5.47%. The remaining operational budget is proposed to be \$53,624,749 divided by the budget sectors as follows: Selectmen Budget of \$13,110,678 (3.98% increase), School Department Budget of \$39,991,553 (3.45% increase) and the Finance Committee Budget \$522,518 (5.11% increase). The total requested amount for the FY2016 Town budget appropriation is \$82,221,006 including \$24,203,180 for the “fixed and uncontrollable” budget items which is an increase of 9.98%, and \$4,393,077 for the Water Department.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 6-3-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

Account	3/31/2015	FY16 Appopr	% Incr over FY15	FY15 Appopr	% incr over FY14	FY14 Appopr	% incr over FY13	FY13 Appopr
114	Moderator	\$ 50.00	0.00%	\$ 50	0.00%	\$ 50	0.00%	\$ 50
131	Finance Committee	\$ 23,582.00	0.00%	\$ 23,582	74.46%	\$ 13,517	2.02%	\$ 13,250
152	Personnel Board	\$ 3,589.00	0.00%	\$ 3,589	0.00%	\$ 3,589	1.82%	\$ 3,525
161	Town Clerk	\$ 146,111.00	-6.63%	\$ 156,485	-3.59%	\$ 162,317	19.80%	\$ 135,492
171	Conservation Commission	\$ 116,830.00	4.61%	\$ 111,684	0.00%	\$ 111,684	0.00%	\$ 111,684
172	Lake Management	\$ 2,500.00	0.00%	\$ 2,500	0.00%	\$ 2,500	0.00%	\$ 2,500
175	Planning Board	\$ 13,600.00	0.00%	\$ 13,600	0.00%	\$ 13,600	0.00%	\$ 13,600
176	Board of Appeals	\$ 22,303.00	1.38%	\$ 22,000	0.00%	\$ 22,000	0.54%	\$ 21,881
510	Board of Health - Services & Admin	\$ 193,953.00	18.55%	\$ 163,604	4.69%	\$ 156,281	-6.58%	\$ 167,287
	Total Fin. Com. Budgets	\$ 522,518.00	5.11%	\$ 497,094	2.38%	\$ 485,538	3.47%	\$ 469,269
122	Selectmen	\$ 401,537.00	40.84%	\$ 285,098	-4.93%	\$ 299,876	3.62%	\$ 289,396
135	Accountant	\$ 262,924.00	1.87%	\$ 258,105	6.80%	\$ 241,681	4.00%	\$ 232,391
141	Board of Assessors	\$ 233,014.00	-0.44%	\$ 234,036	2.56%	\$ 228,200	0.97%	\$ 226,000
145	Treasurer	\$ 380,805.00	-6.54%	\$ 407,438	0.26%	\$ 406,382	2.37%	\$ 396,978
151	Law	\$ 133,300.00	2.32%	\$ 130,275	0.00%	\$ 130,275	0.00%	\$ 130,275
155	Information Technology	\$ 255,647.00	1.36%	\$ 252,228	1.48%	\$ 248,556	-0.34%	\$ 249,412
162	Elections & Registrations	\$ 109,720.00	-6.66%	\$ 117,548	15.05%	\$ 102,173	-13.11%	\$ 117,586
195	Town Report	\$ 12,424.00	-2.17%	\$ 12,699	0.00%	\$ 12,699	0.00%	\$ 12,699
210	Police	\$ 3,491,762.00	0.00%	\$ 3,491,762	2.20%	\$ 3,416,740	2.95%	\$ 3,318,703
220	Fire/Ambulance	\$ 3,052,058.00	3.26%	\$ 2,955,812	2.40%	\$ 2,886,596	2.17%	\$ 2,825,223
244	Weights & Measures	\$ 4,889.00	2.00%	\$ 4,793	1.72%	\$ 4,712	1.99%	\$ 4,620
249	Animal Inspector	\$ 4,083.00	1.95%	\$ 4,005	1.96%	\$ 3,928	1.95%	\$ 3,853
291	Civil Defense	\$ 9,772.00	0.00%	\$ 9,772	0.00%	\$ 9,772	0.00%	\$ 9,772
292	Animal Control Officer	\$ 75,902.00	4.32%	\$ 72,759	2.12%	\$ 71,249	2.04%	\$ 69,826
401	DPW Wages	\$ 2,345,362.00	12.12%	\$ 2,091,753	1.92%	\$ 2,052,266	2.22%	\$ 2,007,627
421	DPW Administration	\$ 51,355.00	0.18%	\$ 51,263	1.22%	\$ 50,643	9.55%	\$ 46,230
422	DPW Highway	\$ 21,500.00	2.38%	\$ 21,000	0.00%	\$ 21,000	-19.23%	\$ 26,000
423	DPW Show & Ice	\$ 182,750.00	3.25%	\$ 177,000	1.72%	\$ 174,000	0.00%	\$ 173,995
426	DPW Road Machinery	\$ 160,000.00	3.23%	\$ 155,000	12.73%	\$ 137,500	21.36%	\$ 113,295
427	DPW Gasoline	\$ 138,341.00	-6.64%	\$ 148,176	0.00%	\$ 148,176	5.20%	\$ 140,846
428	DPW Maintenance	\$ 250,000.00	3.09%	\$ 242,500	0.00%	\$ 242,500	-1.42%	\$ 246,000
429	DPW Forestry & Grounds	\$ 31,000.00	3.33%	\$ 30,000	0.00%	\$ 30,000	-3.23%	\$ 31,000
541	Council on Aging	\$ 293,908.00	5.14%	\$ 279,534	4.10%	\$ 268,512	2.77%	\$ 261,286
543	Veterans Agent	\$ 57,164.00	4.49%	\$ 54,706	69.10%	\$ 32,352	0.86%	\$ 32,075
544	Veterans Graves	\$ 4,150.00	10.02%	\$ 3,772	0.00%	\$ 3,772	0.00%	\$ 3,772
545	Commission on Disability	\$ 500.00	0.00%	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 500
610	Library	\$ 928,282.00	2.07%	\$ 909,473	1.98%	\$ 891,847	2.00%	\$ 874,400
630	Recreation	\$ 214,659.00	5.00%	\$ 204,437	4.04%	\$ 196,491	-2.78%	\$ 202,113
691	Historical Commission	\$ 650.00	0.00%	\$ 650	0.00%	\$ 650	0.00%	\$ 650
692	Community Celebrations	\$ 3,220.00	22.90%	\$ 2,620	0.00%	\$ 2,620	2.02%	\$ 2,568
	Total Selectmen Budgets	\$ 13,110,678.00	3.98%	\$ 12,608,714	2.38%	\$ 12,315,668	2.21%	\$ 12,049,091

Account		FY16 Appopr	% Incr over FY15	FY15 Appopr	% incr over FY14	FY14 Appopr	% incr over FY13	FY13 Appopr
310	School Department	\$ 39,991,553.00	3.45%	\$ 38,659,352	2.36%	\$ 37,766,329	2.19%	\$ 36,957,713
	Total School Department	\$ 39,991,553.00	3.45%	\$ 38,659,352	2.36%	\$ 37,766,329	2.19%	\$ 36,957,713
320	Voc Tech School	\$ 288,502.00	26.21%	\$ 228,594	-18.26%	\$ 279,655	10.00%	\$ 254,232
321	Voc Tuition/Norfolk Ag. Tuition	\$ 16,000.00	-44.83%	\$ 29,000	0.00%	\$ 29,000	6.23%	\$ 27,300
9299	SNARC	\$ 9,916.00	0.00%	\$ 9,916	100.00%	\$ -	-100.00%	\$ 9,916
132	Reserve Fund	\$ 500,000.00	42.86%	\$ 350,000	0.00%	\$ 350,000	0.00%	\$ 350,000
2800	Stabilization Fund	\$ 100,000.00	33.33%	\$ 75,000	-75.00%	\$ 300,000	100.00%	\$ -
490	Street Lighting	\$ 187,500.00	0.00%	\$ 187,500	0.00%	\$ 187,500	0.81%	\$ 186,000
511	Board of Health - Waste Removal	\$ 119,500.00	1.27%	\$ 118,000	0.00%	\$ 118,000	0.00%	\$ 118,000
710	Debt: Principal	\$ 7,421,797.00	20.81%	\$ 6,143,297	14.15%	\$ 5,381,701	-6.19%	\$ 5,736,701
914	FICA: Medicare	\$ 705,427.00	4.00%	\$ 678,295	2.50%	\$ 661,751	7.71%	\$ 614,401
915	FICA: Social Security	\$ 10,244.00	4.00%	\$ 9,850	2.50%	\$ 9,610	6.78%	\$ 9,000
916	Benefits Accrual	\$ -	-100.00%	\$ 35,000	-65.00%	\$ 100,000	100.00%	\$ -
917	OPEB Trust Cont.	\$ 100,000.00	100.00%	\$ 50,000	100.00%	\$ -	100.00%	\$ -
920	Insurance	\$ 8,965,076.00	-0.39%	\$ 9,000,289	1.70%	\$ 8,850,020	21.77%	\$ 7,267,976
1226	Unemployment	\$ 75,000.00	0.00%	\$ 75,000	0.00%	\$ 75,000	0.00%	\$ 75,000
1356	Annual Audit	\$ 55,120.00	4.39%	\$ 52,800	0.00%	\$ 52,800	0.00%	\$ 52,800
12260	Retirement Norfolk County	\$ 3,175,990.00	5.04%	\$ 3,023,493	15.46%	\$ 2,618,733	7.57%	\$ 2,434,478
751	Debt Long term:Interest	\$ 2,473,108.00	26.33%	\$ 1,957,638	-8.91%	\$ 2,149,096	-0.72%	\$ 2,164,606
	Total Fixed & Uncontrollable	\$ 24,203,180.00	9.90%	\$ 22,023,672.00	4.07%	21,162,866	9.65%	19,300,410
	Town Total	\$ 77,827,929.00	5.47%	\$73,788,832	2.87%	\$71,730,401	4.29%	\$68,776,483
450	Water Department	\$ 4,193,077.00	51.49%	\$ 2,767,945	0.00%	\$ 2,767,945	13.08%	\$ 2,447,738
	Water Dept. - Reserve	\$ 200,000.00		\$ -				
	Total Water Department	\$ 4,393,077.00	58.71%	\$ 2,767,945	0.00%	\$ 2,767,877	13.08%	\$ 2,447,738
	Total Budgets Less Fixed	\$ 53,624,749.00	3.59%	\$ 51,765,160.48	2.37%	\$ 50,567,535.00	2.21%	\$ 49,476,072.80

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to consider the following items A through N, which will be voted as a block, or singly, or in any combination, but however voted will be treated as a separate article and to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money for each of the capital outlay purposes herein mentioned, and to determine whether the money shall be raised by borrowing or transfer or otherwise; or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

- 6A. Resurfacing of public ways and for the reconstruction of sidewalks by the Department of Public Works
- 6B. Purchase of additional departmental equipment by the Department of Public Works
- 6C. Paying for engineering or architectural services for Town buildings by the Department of Public Works

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

- 6D. Purchase of additional departmental technology equipment by the School Department
- 6E. Purchase of additional furniture for the School Department
- 6F. Remodeling, reconstruction, and making extraordinary repairs to public buildings and facilities by the School Department
- 6G. Paying for engineering or architectural services for the School Department

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 6H. Purchase of additional departmental equipment by the Fire Department
- 6I. Purchase of additional departmental equipment by the Fire Department by transferring funds from Ambulance Reserved Receipt

POLICE DEPARTMENT

- 6J. Purchase of additional departmental equipment by the Police Department

LIBRARY

- 6K. Improvements and extraordinary repairs to public buildings by the Library

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- 6L. Reconstruction of outdoor recreational facilities for the Recreation Department

CIVIL DEFENSE

- 6M. Purchase of additional departmental equipment by the Civil Defense Department
- 6N. Rescind borrowing authorization in the amount of \$15,000.00 from Article 10H of the May 5, 2014 Annual Town Meeting

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of Articles 6A through Articles 6N will raise and appropriate a net total of \$2,093,100 for the following listed purposes:

Department of Public Works (total of \$789,350)

6A. \$390,000 for the purpose of resurfacing roads anticipated to be:

- \$135,000 for the reconstruction of South Walpole Street from I-95 to Town line, approximately 2900 feet**
- \$50,000 for the reconstruction of Massapoag Lane, approximately 715 feet**
- \$205,000 for the reconstruction of Billings Street from 155 to East Street**

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL

6B. \$344,350 for the purchase of equipment as follows:

- \$180,000 for the purchase of a large dump truck to replace a 1966 similar truck**
- \$164,350 for the purchase of a Bombardier sidewalk snowplow to replace a 1979 model**

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL

6C. \$55,000 for an existing condition study of Town Hall that is not ADA compliant

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 5-4-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL. While a majority of the Finance Committee members were in favor, it was the judgment of a substantial minority that such an expenditure was not warranted at this time and the amount requested seem to be excessive.

6D. School Department (total of \$1,030,250)

- \$650,000 to purchase equipment as follows:**
- \$260,000 for MacBook Airs (or substitute lower priced portable computers) to provide 1:1 access for one grade at the High School**

\$120,000 for the purchase of iPad and carts at elementary schools
\$13,000 for the purchase of replacement projectors
\$10,000 for the purchase of wireless access points
\$19,000 to upgrade the phone system at East Elementary School
\$120,000 to provide laptops for elementary school teachers
\$27,000 for a special needs van for the Pathways Program at the High School
\$81,000 for three vans to replace three vans being retired from the fleet

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 TO MAKE THEIR RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING.

6E. School Department

\$15,000 for purchase of district wide replacement furniture

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-1-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL. The dissent was solely on financial grounds.

6F. \$121,300 for remodeling, reconstruction and making extraordinary repairs to public buildings and facilities as follows:

\$36,800 to acoustically outfit a classroom at Cottage Elementary
\$10,000 for the installation of two pedestrian traffic lights at the Middle School
\$34,500 to replace the existing fire alarm system at the High School
\$25,000 for front office security technology at Heights Elementary
\$15,000 for air conditioning and server room improvements at Heights Elementary

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL

6G. School Department

\$243,950 for services to design a replacement roof at Heights Elementary

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL

6H. Fire Department (total of \$325,000 of which \$50,000 is to be raised by taxation and \$275,000 is to be transferred from the Ambulance Reserve)

\$50,000 to replace a utility pickup. This multipurpose vehicle will be used to support firefighting operations, towing equipment trailers; transfer equipment and supplies to and from emergency scenes; will have a fuel transfer tank to refuel fire apparatus on long duration incidents; will have a plow to assist firefighters gaining access to homes during heavy snow incidents; and will be used for general utility purposes.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-1-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL. The dissent was solely on financial grounds.

6I. Fire Department

To transfer \$275,000 from the Ambulance Reserve for the purchase of a new ambulance to replace a 2006 vehicle

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-1-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL. The dissent was solely on financial grounds.

6J. Police Department

\$21,000 for the purchase of a fingerprint scanner, which is required by the state to fingerprint prisoners and submit fingerprints electronically

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL

6K. Library

\$68,000 to remove and replace damaged and original 1969 carpet and vinyl flooring

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL

6L. Recreation Department (total of \$119,500)

\$67,500 to repair the tennis courts at Deborah Sampson Park. The courts will be repaired and resurfaced to improve conditions for current users and expand the life of the existing courts. The project will repair existing cracks in the tennis courts, replace tennis net poles and anchors, and resurface all tennis courts and basketball court.

\$52,000 to repair the restrooms and concessions at Ames Street playground. The building will be repaired to improve conditions for existing users and expand the life of the facility. The project will include a roof repair, updating the public restroom facilities, and updating the concession area.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-1-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL. The dissent was solely on financial grounds.

6M. Civil Defense

\$15,000 for the purchase of two lighting tower trailers for additional lighting for emergencies and community celebrations

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-2-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL. The dissenting votes were solely on financial grounds.

6N. Civil Defense

To rescind \$15,000 authorized at the May 5, 2014 Town Meeting for repairs to the Civil Defense building. That building will be demolished as part of the Public Safety Building project.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

Approval of this article will appropriate and authorize the Town to borrow for the enumerated items 6A – 6M and to rescind the borrowing authorization in 6N.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee as follows: That the following amounts be appropriated or reserved from Fiscal Year 2016 Community Preservation Fund Revenues, unless otherwise specified, for Fiscal Year 2016 Community Preservation purposes with each item considered a separate appropriation:

That the Town raise and appropriate the funds as shown in the breakdown below:

<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING SOURCE</u>		
Appropriations				
Budget – Salaries	\$4,000.00	FY2016 Revenues	Annual	Estimated
Budget – Expenses	\$16,000.00	FY2016 Revenues	Annual	Estimated
Reserves:				
Open Space	\$56,350	FY2016 Revenues	Annual	Estimated
Historic Resources	\$56,350	FY2016 Revenues	Annual	Estimated
Community Housing	\$56,350	FY2016 Revenues	Annual	Estimated
Fund Balance Reserve for CPA	\$374,450	FY2016 Revenues	Annual	Estimated

(Community Preservation Committee Annual Funding – To raise and appropriate up to 5% of the Town’s portion of the expected fiscal year 2016 Community Preservation Fund Revenues,

to permit the Community Preservation Committee to expend funds as it deems necessary for its administrative and operating expenses, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Ch.44B, Sec 6 and amendments thereof.)

Recreation - Community Center

General Undesignated Fund Balance

Garden Pergola \$45,000

(To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for a custom built garden pergola for the patio at the back of the Community Center, for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act and to appropriate from FY2016 Annual Estimated Revenues the sum of \$45,000 to the Council on Aging for such purposes.)

Historic – Town Records

General Undesignated Fund Balance

**Sharon Town Records
Preservation Project \$23,628**

(To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for a conservation survey and production of a long range preservation plan for the archival collections of the Town Clerk’s office, the Sharon Public Library and the Sharon Historical Society, for historic purposes under the Community Preservation Act and to appropriate from FY2016 Annual Estimated Revenues the sum of \$23,628 to the Sharon Historical Society for such purposes.)

Historic - Water Department

General Undesignated Fund Balance

**Soffit & Fascia Repair at Water
Department Building \$116,000**

(To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for repairs to rotted and animal damaged fascia and soffit woodwork at the Sharon Water Department building, located at 0 Upland Road, for historic purposes under the Community Preservation Act and to appropriate from General Undesignated Fund Balance the sum of \$116,000 to the Sharon Department of Public Works/Water Department for such purposes.)

**Historic - Hammershop Pond
Dam**

Historic Undesignated Fund Balance

**Hammershop Pond Dam
Repair and Rehabilitation \$430,000**

(To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for repairs to Hammershop Pond Dam outlet control structure and earthen dam to conform with all state requirements, for historic purposes under the Community Preservation Act and to appropriate from Historic Undesignated Fund Balance the sum of \$430,000 to the Sharon Department of Public Works for such purposes.)

Or take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article will appropriate and reserve the funds from the Town's Community Preservation Fund (CPF) as follows:

Appropriation

Administrative expenses:

\$ 4,000	Budget-Salaries
<u>\$ 16,000</u>	Budget-Expenses
\$ 20,000	

Reserves:

Open Space	\$56,350	FY2016 Annual Estimated Revenues
Historic Resources	\$56,350	FY2016 Annual Estimated Revenues
Community Housing	\$56,350	FY2016 Annual Estimated Revenues
Fund Balance Reserve for CPA	\$374,450	FY2016 Annual Estimated Revenues

The Community Preservation Act requires that annually the fund reserve 10% of its revenues for each of Open Space (excluding recreational), Historic Preservation and Affordable Housing with the balance to be used by the CPA in any of the areas described.

The total of Reserves of \$543,000 and the \$20,000 for administrative expenses represents the allocations described. This is an annual appropriation for administrative expenses. Any unused amount from administrative expense is returned to the fund.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

Community Preservation Committee voted 4-0-0 in favor of approval.

Additionally the CPC recommends that the Town fund the following projects from accumulated and current Reserves:

Recreation-Community Center Garden Pergola-\$45,000

Approval of this appropriation would allow for the construction of a pergola on the concrete patio in the rear of the Community Center. It is anticipated that such a structure would mitigate the strong sun and allow for the use of the patio during the summer by the Recreation Department for its summer program and use by the seniors who participate in a variety of programs at the Senior Center.

The Board of Selectmen voted 2-1-0 in favor of approval.

Community Preservation Committee voted 6-0-0 in favor of approval.

Historic- Sharon Town Records Preservation Project - \$23,628

Approval of this appropriation will provide funds for a project to preserve and make available to the public the archival collections of the Town clerk's Office, the Sharon Public Library and the Historical Commission. The funds would be used to hire a preservation consultant to conduct a conservation survey and to produce a report with recommendations for priority actions; with any surplus to be used for housing of the documents. The documents to be preserved include old birth certificates, marriage certificates and death certificates presently kept the Town Clerk in a safe in the Town Office Building; and historical document collections maintained by the Town Library and Historical Commission. The project will help to ensure that all future preservation efforts meet current best practices. The intent is also to make the records easily accessible to the public by digitizing the collections and making them available over the internet.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

Community Preservation Committee voted 4-0-0 in favor of approval.

Historic-Water Department - \$116,000

Approval of this appropriation will allow for the repair of rotted and animal-damaged fascia and soffit woodwork at the Sharon Water Department building, a historic building, located at 0 Upland Road, (near the train station) Assessors Map 101, Parcel 011. This necessary work due to the deterioration of the building.

Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

Community Preservation Committee voted 4-0-0 in favor of approval.

Historic-Hammershop Pond Dam - \$430,000

Approval of this appropriation will allow for the repair of the historic Hammershop Pond Dam, located at the corner of Ames Street and Cottage Street. The state has declared the dam unsafe and has mandated repair, as the wooden weir is rotting. It is possible that the actual cost will be less, in which case the surplus funds will be remain in the CPC reserve account.

Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

Community Preservation Committee voted 5-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL OF CPC ANNUAL FUNDING AND PROJECTS.

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the special fund established to pay the Norfolk County Retirement Board for the Annual Assessment costs chargeable to the Town, and determine whether the money shall be provided by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE DIRECTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article will allow the Town to pay its assessment costs pertaining to the Norfolk County Retirement. The monies are used to fund pension liabilities of past and current Town employees.

At the time of this write up, the expected appropriation for FY2016 is \$3,175,990, a 5.04% increase over last year's obligation of \$3,023,493. The Town has no choice but to fund its obligations to Norfolk County Retirement. Members of the Finance Committee expressed their concern over the ever increasing Town obligation for public sector pensions.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the special fund established to reimburse the Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training for the actual costs of benefits paid to former Town employees and chargeable to the Town, and determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article will allow the Town to appropriate \$75,000 to the Unemployment Fund used to reimburse the Massachusetts Division of Employment and Training for the actual costs of benefits paid to former Town employees.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund established to fund the presently unfunded liability of future health insurance costs for current town retirees and employees, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by gift, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE DIRECTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article would appropriate \$100,000 to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (“O.P.E.B. Trust Fund”) (G.L. c. 32B, § 20) to be used to fund the unfunded liability of future health insurance costs for current Town employees and retirees.

The \$100,000 would go into a trust fund that could be invested in appropriate investment vehicles provided under state law and thus would earn interest, lowering the ultimate cost. The trust fund provides the Town with a favorable position with the bond rating authorities, as it demonstrates that the Town is planning for known future contingencies.

Some members of the Finance Committee would prefer to pay for post-employment benefits as incurred rather than setting aside funds to offset a future expense.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-1-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Stabilization Fund for the purposes for which the Town may be authorized to borrow under M.G.L. Chapter 44, sections 7 and 8, or any other lawful purpose; to determine whether the money shall be provided by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by gift, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article will appropriate a sum of \$100,000 to be added to the Stabilization Fund. The current balance of the stabilization account is \$475,682.50. Bond rating agencies recommend that stabilization accounts be funded at an amount between 5 and 10

percent of the Town annual operating budget. Five percent of the FY2016 Budget is \$3,891,396.45.

This appropriation to the Stabilization Fund is part of a continuing effort to prevent future bond rating agency downgrades that would increase the Town's borrowing costs. A well-funded stabilization account also allows the Town to brace against future economic uncertainties.

The Finance Committee discussed with the Town Finance Director the selection of an appropriate dollar amount to add to the Stabilization Fund for FY2015. The goal is to increase the Stabilization Fund annually in a measured way does not unduly burden property taxes, yet satisfy the requirements of the rating agencies.

Almost half of the members of the Finance Committee present would prefer to pay for unanticipated expenses as they are incurred rather than setting aside funds in anticipation of a future expense.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 5-4-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to consider the following items A through P, which will be voted as a block, or singly, or in any combination but however voted will be treated for accounting purposes as if each item were voted as a separate article; or take any other action relative thereto:

A. Cable TV Licensing and Re-licensing Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Cable TV Licensing and Re-licensing Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, §53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to prepare for future cable licensing or re-licensing, and to defray the costs incurred by the Town in providing public internet access. Receipts to be deposited to this fund shall be solely derived from the annual proceeds received by the Town from the cable television licensee under the terms of a Renewal License granted by the Board of Selectmen. Said license requires that to the extent authorized by M.G.L. ch.166A, and permitted by Federal Communication Commission regulations, 50 cents per subscriber per year be forwarded to the Town annually.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance in the fund carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus receipts deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any case shall not exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars.

Any unused balance, subject to subsequent Town Meeting authorization, shall carry forward for the benefit of Sharon cable subscribers to cover any costs incurred at the time of license issuance or renewal.

The Board of Selectmen shall have the authority to expend from this fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

B. Library Public-Use Supplies Replacement Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Library Public-Use Supplies Replacement Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to acquire supplies associated with the use of public-use computer printers and faxes such as, but not limited to, paper and ink cartridges. Receipts to be deposited in this fund shall be monies collected as a user fee paid by the users of computer printers and/or the recipients of faxes. Such monies represent the replacement cost of the supplies. The Library Director, with the approval of the Library Board of Trustees, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance in the fund carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed seven thousand (\$7,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

C. Street Opening Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund, first established for Fiscal Year 1992, known as the Street Opening Fund as provided by M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to defray the cost of making permanent repairs to openings in Town streets by utility companies, contractors, and/or the Town Water Division.

Receipts to be deposited in this fund shall be monies paid by utility companies, contractors and/or the Town Water Division in accordance with the requirements of the Town of Sharon Street Opening Manual. The Superintendent of Public Works, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance in the fund carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

D. Recycling Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund, first established for Fiscal Year 1991, known as the Recycling Fund as provided by M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to support the recycling program of the Town of Sharon and to purchase and install shade trees and shrubs to be planted in the public ways of the Town and otherwise as provided for in M.G.L. ch. 87, § 7. Receipts to be deposited to this fund shall be monies derived from the sale of recycled materials including, but not limited to, newspaper, glass, metals and plastics, the sale of leaf bags, and disposal fees for certain special wastes generated by the citizens of Sharon including, but not limited to, batteries, tires, and used motor oil and white goods, and an amount equal to the number of tons of material recycled times the Tipping Fee at the SEMASS facility to be transferred from the Tipping Fee Escrow Fund. The Superintendent of Public Works, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance in the fund carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016, and in any event shall not exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

E. Conservation Commission Advertising Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Conservation Commission Advertising Revolving Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund shall be to defray the cost of advertising for hearings and meetings before the Sharon Conservation Commission. Receipts to be deposited in this fund shall be monies paid by persons requesting hearings before the Sharon Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance in the fund carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed Four Thousand (\$4,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

F. Library Materials Replacement Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund, first established for Fiscal Year 1993, known as the Library Materials Replacement Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to acquire equivalent Public Library materials to replace items lost by those who borrow such materials. Receipts to be deposited in this fund shall be monies paid by the borrowers of the lost materials. Such monies represent the replacement cost of the material. The Library Director, with the approval of the Library Board of Trustees, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance in the fund carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus receipts deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any case shall not exceed Three Thousand Five Hundred (\$3,500.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

G. Recreation Programs Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Recreation Programs Revolving Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to support the fee-based recreation department programs. Receipts to be deposited into this fund shall be monies collected from users of the recreation department programs and facilities. The Recreation Director, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed Three Hundred Thousand (\$300,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

H. Parking Lot Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Parking Lot Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to provide and pay for the maintenance, repair, improvement, monitoring, and operation, including payment for public liability coverage, for municipal parking lots within the Town that are subject to the control of the Board of Selectmen, including, but not limited to, the parking lot located on Pond Street which was accepted at Special Town Meeting on June 21, 1978, by gift of the Sharon Civic Foundation, and/or to purchase or lease additional parking lots, and in general for any traffic control or traffic safety purposes. Receipts to be deposited to this fund shall be solely derived from the receipt of parking fees and charges. The Superintendent of Public Works, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to administer and expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed Sixty-five Thousand (\$65,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

I. Board of Health Fund for Monitoring Compliance with Septic Variance

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Board of Health Fund for Monitoring Compliance with Septic Variances in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, §53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to support the Board of Health's efforts to protect public health through the successful management and oversight of all required reporting and testing requirements placed on onsite wastewater disposal installations that have been and will be approved for installation requiring mandated variances.

Receipts to be deposited into this fund shall be monies collected from fees generated from application fees for all new onsite wastewater disposal installations, which require variance from the requirements of Title V or Article 7 and annual fees, assessed to owners of new and existing onsite wastewater disposal installations that require reporting, annual, or more frequent pumping, testing, or other actions by the owner, as required by their variance from Title V or Article 7. The Board of Health shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF HEALTH

J. Health Department Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Health Department Revolving Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to support health promotion clinics for Sharon residents including, but not limited to, influenza and pneumococcal vaccination clinics. Receipts to be deposited into this fund shall be monies collected through reimbursements for immunizations. The Board of Health shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed Forty Thousand (\$40,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF HEALTH

K. Horizons for Youth Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Horizons for Youth Revolving Fund in accordance with M.G. L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to provide for maintenance and improvements to facilities and property and general support for programs occurring on said property. Receipts to be deposited into this fund shall be monies collected from users of the former Horizons for Youth property and facilities and programs occurring thereon. The Board of Selectmen shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited in the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

L. Waterfront Recreation Programs Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Waterfront Recreation Program Revolving Fund in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to utilize all program monies associated with Massapoag Lake to be utilized for expenses incurred related to programs occurring on the lake as well as the beaches. The Recreation Director, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

M. Community Center Building Maintenance Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Community Center Building Maintenance Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Laws ch. 44, § 53E½. The purpose of this fund is to provide and pay for the maintenance, repair, improvement, monitoring, and operation of the Community Center. Receipts to be deposited into the fund shall be monies collected from users and lessees of the Community Center. The Superintendent of Public Works, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

N. Council on Aging Program Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the Council on Aging Program Revolving Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Laws ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to support fee based Council on Aging programs. Receipts to be deposited into the fund shall be monies collected from programming at the Council on Aging. The Council on Aging Director, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed Twenty-Five Thousand (\$25,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

COUNCIL ON AGING

O. 250th Anniversary Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund known as the 250th Anniversary Revolving Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Laws ch. 44, § 53E½.

The purpose of this fund is to support the activities of the 250th Anniversary Celebration Committee. Receipts to be deposited into the fund shall be monies collected by the Committee. The Committee, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed the balance carried forward from Fiscal Year 2015 plus monies deposited into the fund during Fiscal Year 2016 and in any event shall not exceed One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

P. Water Department Fund for Water Service Replacement

To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund known as the Water Department Fund for Water Service Replacement in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44 § 53E½. The purpose of this fund is to support the Water Department's efforts to reduce unaccounted for water losses through the replacement of leaking water services.

Receipts to be deposited into this fund shall be monies collected from fees generated from application fees for all new service connections. The Water Department shall be authorized to expend from this fund.

Expenditures in Fiscal Year 2016 shall not exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars; or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This is a pro forma article - approval of the article authorizes each of the different revolving funds for fiscal year 2016. Details regarding the purpose and financial status of each fund are listed in the Warrant.

The only addition to the article this year is authorization of the fund listed last, the Water Department Fund for Water Service Replacement in support of the Water Department replacement of leaking water service.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to accept Section 4, Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, and Chapter 380 of the Acts of 2000, which authorizes additional real estate exemptions to be granted to persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C 2, 17D, 17E, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C and 41D of M.G.L. ch. 59, § 5 in an amount equal to 100 percent, or such lesser amount as voted, to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016; or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article will authorize the Board of Assessors to grant additional real estate exemptions for specific categories of veterans and their survivors, individuals with disabilities, individuals who are legally blind and qualified elders.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 14

To hear the records of the donors of the Dorchester and Surplus Revenue School Fund and Trustees of the Edmund H. Talbot Fund and to choose trustees of the Funds and other officers not on the official ballot; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This is an annual pro-forma article in support of the Sharon Friends School Fund Records & Appointments.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform an annual audit of fixed assets and audit of accounts of the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2015 in accordance with M.G.L. ch. 44, §40, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE DIRECTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this Article will authorize the Town to pay the costs associated with the Annual Audit of Accounts. The budgeted amount is \$55,120 for FY2016 and increase of 4% over FY2015 appropriation.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special Home Rule legislation entitled "An Act to Exempt the Town of Sharon from Certain Provisions of Chapter 58, Section 8," which Act is on file with the Town Clerk and substantially in the form thereof, 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, authorizing the Town to issue an abatement for a portion of the fiscal year 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 real estate taxes assessed on a parcel of land located at 9 Glendale Road in the total amount of \$5,401.77.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

When the owners of the parcel of land in Sharon known as 9 Glendale Road discovered in 2010 that their property had been incorrectly assessed due to a land measurement error since Fiscal Year 2007, they requested an abatement from the Sharon Board of Assessors to rectify the situation.

However, under Chapter 58 of the Massachusetts General Laws, local Boards of Assessors are only allowed to issue real estate tax abatements retroactively for a period of up to three years. If passed, this article will authorize the Town to request an act of the Massachusetts Legislature to allow the Assessors to grant the abatement back to 2007, a total of \$5,401.77. The town will only be able to grant said abatement if the bill is passed into law.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 7-0-1 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or the Finance Director to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure, in accordance with the requirements of M.G.L. Ch. 60, §77C, for the following parcel of land:

20 Tracey Lane
Parcel ID: 007-049-000

Or take any other action relative thereto.

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of this article will allow the Town to accept pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, chapter 60, section 77C, a deed in lieu of foreclosure from the owner of an 11,000 square foot parcel of land located at 20 Tracy Lane. The statute requires Town Meeting approval for the Town to accept the deed in lieu. The parcel is unbuildable under current zoning. Acquiring the parcel is a win-win, in that the owner wishes the town to take title to

the parcel. There is a 20 foot water line running through the parcel, and the Town wishes to own this parcel. There is only nominal cost to the Town (e.g. Registry fee to record deed). The owner is delinquent on real estate tax payments, and acquiring the property through this procedure saves the Town the legal expense of foreclosing on the property.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 8-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special Home Rule legislation entitled “An Act Providing That Current and Future Members of the Police Force of the Town of Sharon Shall Be Exempt From the Provisions of the Civil Service Law” which Act is on file with the Town Clerk and substantially in the form thereof, 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.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

If passed, this article will authorize the Town of Sharon to request an Act of the Massachusetts Legislature to remove current and future members of the Sharon Police Department from the provisions of the Massachusetts Civil Service law. As explained to the Finance Committee, this article is predicated upon the successful conclusion of contract negotiations between the Town of Sharon and the Sharon Police Association MASSCOP Local 166. Under the terms of such an agreement, the civil service system would be replaced by a similar set of regulations specific to the Sharon Police Department governing issues such as hiring, promotions, and the process for adjudicating any disciplinary actions. Because negotiations had not concluded at the time when the warrant went to print, the Finance Committee will wait to issue a recommendation on the article. The article will be indefinitely postponed if there is no agreement between the Town and the police union prior to town meeting.

The Board of Selectmen voted 3-0-0 in favor of approval.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 9-0-0 TO MAKE THEIR RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING.

And furthermore, in the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sharon qualified to vote in elections to vote at

Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
Sharon High School Gymnasium, 181 Pond Street, Sharon, MA

on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 from 7:00am to 8:00pm for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Annual Town Election for the candidates for the following officers:

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Member Board of Selectmen | 3 year term |
| 1 | Member Board of Assessors | 3 year term |
| 2 | Members School Committee | 3 year term |
| 1 | Member Planning Board | 5 year term |
| 2 | Trustees of Public Library | 3 year term |
| 1 | Housing Authority | 5 year term |
| 1 | Housing Authority | To fill unexpired term/1 year |

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon, at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the same in accordance with the Town By-Laws.

Given under our hands this 14th day of April, A.D., 2015

William A. Heitin
Chairman

John J. McGrath
Clerk

Walter B. Roach, Jr.
Selectman

Board of Selectmen
Sharon, Massachusetts

A True Copy: Joseph S. Bernstein, Constable
Sharon, Massachusetts
Dated: April 14, 2015

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