

TOWN OF SHARON



2021 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

With Report & Recommendations of the Finance Committee

Sunday, May 2, 2021

1:00pm

Sharon Middle School

75 Mountain Street

(outdoors, under a tent on the football field)

Registered voters are asked to bring this report to the meeting for use in the proceedings

Registered voters planning to attend Town Meeting needing an ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreter are asked to call the Town Clerk's Office at 781-784-1500 x1201 at least two weeks in advance of the meeting

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

7:00am – 8:00pm

Sharon High School Gymnasium, 181 Pond Street

Early Voting Hours for Annual Town Election

Town Hall, 90 South Main Street

Monday, May 10, 2021	9:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday, May 11, 2021	7:00am – 8:00pm
Wednesday, May 12, 2021	9:00am – 4:00pm
Thursday, May 13, 2021	9:00am – 4:00pm

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Learn more and ask questions about the business to be conducted at Town Meeting at the
VIRTUAL PRE-TOWN MEETING FORUM ON MONDAY, APRIL 26 AT 7:00PM

A Virtual Pre-Town Meeting Forum will take place via Zoom virtual meeting technology. The purpose of this virtual forum is to give voters an opportunity to learn more about each warrant article, to ask questions, and to be able to gather more information to help inform your vote before the May 2 Annual Town Meeting as much as possible so that the meeting can be conducted in the safest and most efficient manner. Residents may access this meeting as follows:

Via the internet: <https://us04web.zoom.us/> or
<https://zoom.us/j/5846487446?pwd=ZE45aUhrNXc3ayszKzVhcnBRR1BkZz09>
Via phone: 1-929-205-6099, 1-312-626-6799, or 1-346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 584-648-7446 **Password:** 02067

This information is also available on the Town website at www.townofsharon.net



*Sharon Community Television covers government meetings.
The meetings are on Channel 22 and are posted on their website.
To view the schedule or to watch online, visit www.sharontv.com*

IMPORTANT COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Public health, public safety and other municipal and school officials are working together to ensure the necessary precautions are incorporated into all aspects of Town Meeting. We ask for your patience and understanding as we navigate these unusual set of circumstances.

Face Coverings/Masks

All those attending or working/participating at Town Meeting **MUST** wear face coverings/masks at all times.

Pre-Entry Health Check

Anyone who is ill or experiencing cold symptoms should not attend Town Meeting and should stay home and contact their primary care physician. A questionnaire is printed below for individuals to assess their health prior to entering the Town Meeting area.

Parking

Parking will be available in the main lot as well as by The Children's Center. The parking lot closest to check in/by the tennis courts is reserved for handicapped parking. Parking will be also available **ONLY** on the outbound side of Mountain Street. Please observe signage. To the extent possible, family groups and fully vaccinated voters are asked to carpool to minimize parking issues.

Check-In Procedure

Check-in opens at 12:00pm. Voters shall approach the check-in tent and line up in the separated check-in lines. While in line, voters will stand at the 6-foot markings. Once a voter is checked-in, they will be handed a brightly colored card. This card will serve two purposes. One, the voter will hold up their card when voting, to make it easier for counters to see in the tents. Two, should the voter need to leave the area after checking-in, when they return the card will identify their checked-in status. All those working at the check-in tables will wear gloves. There will be a clear divider between voters and those working at the check-in tables. Hand sanitizer will be at the check-in tables.

Social/Physical Distancing

All attendees, workers and participants at Town Meeting, when not seated, are to follow physical distancing guidelines and provide at least 6 feet of space between themselves and others.

- There will be directional pathways to manage the flow of foot traffic and to minimize contact (e.g., one-way entrance and exits, one-way pathways). These will be clearly visible and should be followed.
- There will be limited seating together for two individuals living in the same household; once that seating has been taken, all others must sit in seating as configured; **PLEASE DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS.**
- Once checked in, please move straight to the seating for Town Meeting and remain in your seat.

Signage

Signage will be posted throughout the grounds that will explain physical distancing and face covering protocols.

Food/Water & Hand Sanitizer

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own water and snacks, as well as their own hand sanitizer. There is a "carry in – carry out" policy in effect.

Restroom Facilities

Two portable restroom facilities will be onsite near voter check-in.

Children

No one under the age of 18 is permitted.

Motions

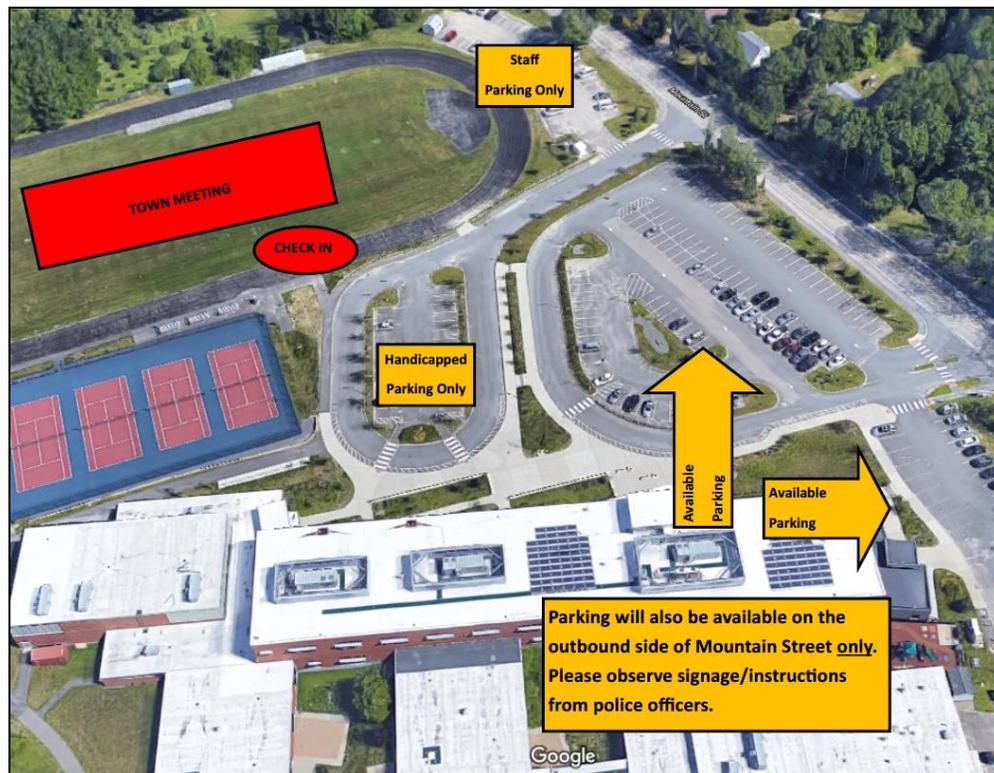
Motions are being printed in this year's Warrant to help expedite the proceedings. They are subject to change and final motions will be read aloud during the meeting.

COVID-19 HEALTH SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE

Please review the screening questions below prior to your arrival at Town Meeting. These questions are for your own use. **IF YOU REPLY YES TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS, WE STRONGLY URGE YOU TO NOT ATTEND.** Please stay home if you are feeling unwell. This is for your safety and others.

Do you currently or recently have had:

- Temperature above 100.4° Fahrenheit?
- Atypical shortness of breath?
- Unusual fatigue?
- Atypical dry cough?
- Atypical runny/stuffy nose?
- Atypical sore or irritated throat?
- Vomiting/diarrhea, nausea, abdominal pain?
- Atypical headache or muscle aches?
- Loss of sense of smell or taste?



MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings and welcome to the Town of Sharon's 2021 Annual Town Meeting. As we did last year, this year we are convening under a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fortunately, by the opening of Town Meeting, a large number of Sharon residents will have been vaccinated, thereby reducing the potential for spreading the virus. Nevertheless, we will be implementing social distancing, mask-wearing requirements and other measures designed to protect town residents who come to Town Meeting. Please know that a great deal of time and thought has gone into the planning for this Town Meeting - the ultimate goal of which has been to provide a safe forum for Sharon voters to debate and vote on the items on the Warrant.

The most obvious change this year is the location of the meeting. Because of the ongoing construction of the new high school, it is not suitable for a gathering such as Town Meeting. Because it is far easier to socially distance at an outdoor venue, we will be holding Town Meeting on the football field at the **Sharon Middle School**.

The meeting will be called to order on Sunday May 2, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. In Sharon, Town Meeting is open to any registered voter to attend, participate in debate and vote. In furtherance of the twin goals of providing a forum for informative debate on each article enhancing the efficiency of the disposition of the Town's business, we will be repeating some of the procedures which have worked well in recent years.

First, in order to provide additional clarity and helpful information to voters, we have included within the Warrant the intended motions as well as some information so we can move more quickly to debate. Additionally, in coordination with the Finance Committee, we will again be having an expanded Pre-Town Meeting forum which will be conducted **virtually** on Monday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m.

At this forum, article proponents will be available to explain the purpose of the article, to provide additional information, and to respond to questions posed by voters. The goal is to shorten the duration of the meeting by limiting discussion to a debate on the articles rather than an opportunity for extensive questions.

Second, I plan to exercise my discretion as Moderator to limit the duration of remarks and to see to it that voters avoid repeating arguments which have been made by others.

Third, as in prior years, we will be utilizing a consent agenda for the disposition of routine and non-controversial articles. Rather than address these articles one at a time, we will act using one motion. The thought behind this approach has been that the articles on the consent agenda are those which should not generate controversy and as such can be properly voted without debate. Similar to the approach with the budget, if any voter wishes to have any particular article considered separately, please let me know in advance of the Pre-Town Meeting forum. It has been our experience that the consent agenda process as it has been successful in speeding up the handling of non-controversial items so our time can be better devoted to issues of greater importance to voters. This year's consent agenda will consist of the following articles:

#	Article
4	Personnel By-Law
8	Norfolk County Retirement Annual Assessment
9	Unemployment Fund
10	Funding Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund
11	Funding Assessor Inspection Services
12	Annual Audit Appropriation

13	Revolving Fund Authorizations
14	Property Tax Exemptions
15	Act on Reports
16	Sharon Friends School Fund Records & Appointments

Following the opening of Town Meeting, the Consent Agenda will be taken up first by reading the following motion: Moved that the Town take Articles 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 out of order and they be “Passed by Consent” in accordance with the motions shown on the Consent Agenda as printed on pages i through iii in the Warrant for this Annual Town Meeting.

Microphones will be positioned at the midway point and rear of the center aisle.

Once again, I would like to thank the voters of the Town of Sharon for their understanding and cooperation as we strive to deal with the challenges brought upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic. I am confident we will meet those challenges and maintain our open town meeting tradition with fairness and sensitivity. Finally, I would urge anyone with a question or concern to email me at townmoderator@townofsharon.org and to attend the Pre-Town Meeting forum so we can be informed before Town Meeting convenes.

Be well and stay safe!

Andrew D. Nebenzahl
Town Moderator

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. The primary task at the Annual Town Meeting is for voters to adopt a budget for the next fiscal year. In addition, Town Meeting makes decisions on strategic issues of the Town such as major capital improvements and zoning. Other matters of Town business that require Town Meeting authorization are brought before the voters to debate and vote.

On May 2, the 2021 Annual Town Meeting will convene to decide a variety of issues. Of the 20 articles in this Warrant, the majority deal with fiscal matters, including the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Town budget of \$93,922,286, a 4.13% increase in spending over FY 2021. Because it is important to the Annual Town Meeting process for voters to have as much relevant information as possible, this introduction will present a recap of the budget history, the financial planning process, the FY 2022 budget and highlight some other warrant articles.

Budget Background

The budget of the Town of Sharon is separated into three components. The first component is the operational budget (about 70%), consisting primarily of salaries and smaller expenses such as supplies, fuel, occupancy costs, etc. The operational budget is divided into three sectors: (1) School Department; (2) Select Board (Police, Fire, DPW, Water, and most of the other departments responsible for town operating functions); and (3) Finance Committee (mainly the entities elected to oversee certain town functions such as the Town Clerk, Library, Board of Health, Planning Board, and Board of Appeals). The School Department represents about 75% of the Town employees and operating budget. The Select Board and Finance Committee Sectors represent about 25% of the Town operating budget and employees. The second component of the budget is comprised of costs labelled as “fixed and uncontrollable.” These costs are primarily the Town’s debt (principal and interest), property and other insurances, health insurance (for both current and retired employees), and other employee-related costs such as FICA and Medicare. As an enterprise fund, the Water Department has a separate operational budget funded exclusively by water rates and not by property taxes. Operating, fixed and uncontrollable and Water department budgets are voted under Articles 4 and 5. The third component relates to funding of retirement plan contributions for non-teaching personnel, other post-employment benefit costs (OPEB), unemployment compensation, property valuation and audit services. They are voted separately under articles 8 through 12.

Strategic Planning Process

Since September 2015, the Finance Committee, Select Board, School Committee, and Capital Outlay Committee have engaged in a collective town planning process facilitated by the Town Administrator and Finance Director. Joint open meetings are convened to review the financial status and discuss significant long-term planning needs of the town. This collaborative process has continued with joint meetings held in June 2016, July 2017, January 2018, January 2019, September 2019, and August 2020. Strategic long-term financial planning remains a priority for the Finance Committee and is essential to managing the Town’s fiscal matters.

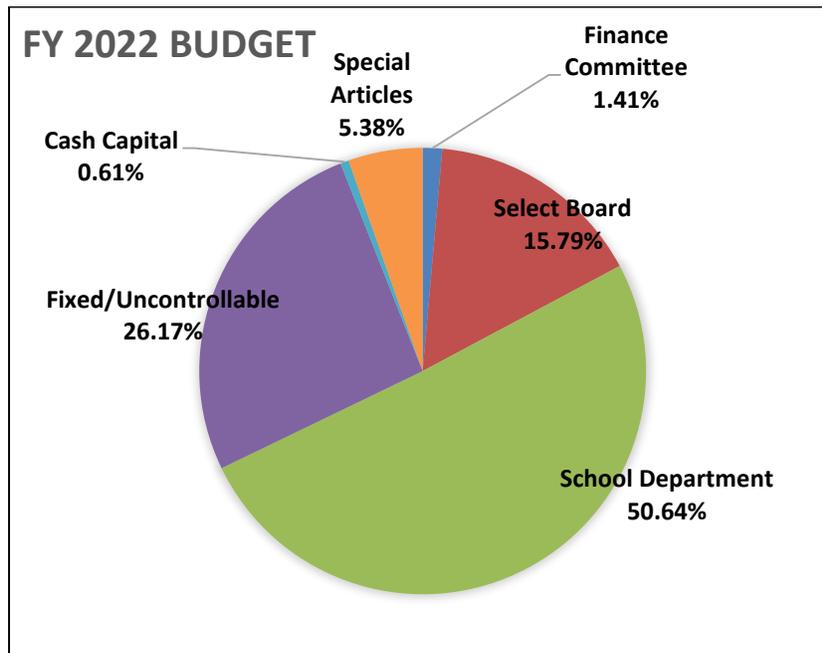
FY 2022 Budget

As directed by Town Bylaw, it is the responsibility of the Priorities Committee to develop revenue estimates and allocate those estimated revenues among the three operating sectors. The Priorities Committee is composed of two (2) representatives each from the Select Board, School Committee and Finance Committee and is supported by the Town Administrator and Finance Director. Based on estimated available

revenues from all sources and assuming not more than a 2.5% increase in the property levy, the Priorities Committee voted in February 2021 to limit spending increases over FY 2021 to 2.8668% for FY 2022 departmental budgets. To be more specific, in building a revenue model for FY 2022, the Priorities Committee budgeted using a 2.25% increase in the tax levy base, rather than the full 2.5% allowable by law, to help offset the impact of the additional excluded debt as well as the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Finance Committee reviewed departmental budget requests in February and March of 2021.

The proposed FY 2022 budget for the Town of Sharon is \$93,922,286, a 4.13% increase over FY 2021. If approved, the Town operating budgets would increase by 2.81% in aggregate to \$63,710,697 (total budget less “fixed/uncontrollable and special articles”), comprised of the School Department budget of \$47,559,430, the Select Board sector budget of \$14,830,304, and the Finance Committee sector budget of \$1,320,963. The FY 2022 proposed total budget includes \$30,211,589 for the “fixed/uncontrollable and special articles” items. A summary of the FY2021 and 2022 budgets is provided below:

SECTOR	FY 2021	FY 2022	% Change
Finance Committee	\$1,309,024	\$1,320,963	0.91%
Select Board	\$14,424,226	\$14,830,304	2.82%
School Department	\$46,234,015	\$47,559,430	2.87%
Fixed/Uncontrollable	\$23,345,635	\$24,584,038	5.30%
Special Articles 8-12 & Cash Capital	\$4,886,106	\$5,627,551	15.17%
TOTAL	\$90,199,006	\$93,922,286	4.13%



The fixed & uncontrollable costs include debt service, property insurance, employee health insurance and other mandatory payroll charges (Medicare/FICA). The special articles (8-12) relate to retirement plan contributions for non-teaching personnel, other post-employment benefit costs (OPEB), unemployment compensation, property valuation and audit services.

Taken together, fixed/uncontrollable and special articles represent an increase of \$1,979,848 (7.01%) over FY 2021. The increase in costs in these categories come primarily from a sharply higher health insurance

appropriation, increased withholding for both the Reserve Fund and Unemployment Fund to brace for potential pandemic-related impacts, and increased use of cash to fund capital needs. A table of historical reserve fund transfer activity is included as an appendix at the end of this warrant for informational purposes to help illustrate how the Reserve Fund has been used in the past.

Debt service, a significant portion of our budget for the Town, is lower year-over-year with principal payments of \$6,576,300 (-1.39%) and interest payments of \$4,789,799 (-0.77%). In March 2021, the Town issued \$24,495,000 of 20-year General Obligation Bonds at an average net interest rate of 1.351%. Proceeds will fund Town capital projects, including the new High School, and refinance \$10,370,000 of existing debt originally issued in 2011, generating \$1,859,911 in savings over the remaining life of the refunded bonds.

During 2020, amid the uncertainty that accompanied the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town watched and waited patiently over several months before being able to finalize a FY 2021 budget proposal and calling the 2020 Annual Town Meeting in October 2020. Despite the widespread impact of the pandemic on all our lives, the Town has managed through FY 2021 utilizing available state and federal relief funds to offset extraordinary COVID-19 related expenses and stay within budget. This year the budgeting picture is significantly clearer, and as the Town continues to account for meaningful pandemic-related costs in its budgeting process, it does so with confidence in its revenue projections and spending needs. The Town remains in a good financial position with the ability to maintain its services and move ahead with important capital projects having prudently managed the fiscal impacts of the pandemic.

Because salaries, employee benefits, and debt service represent the vast majority of the budget, there are few options to offset contractual salary increases and associated costs. Without new sustainable revenue sources, these increases will outpace the growth in assessed property values and the Town will be forced to further increase the property tax burden. Maintaining the balance between providing the services and resources the citizens of Sharon expect and desire while managing the growth in property taxes is a constant challenge.

Annual Town Meeting Articles

Many of the Warrant Articles to be considered at Town Meeting relate to the FY 2022 Budget. Article 4 sets the salaries of certain Town employees. Article 5 appropriates the operating budgets and a significant portion of fixed and uncontrollable expenses that comprise the FY 2022 Budget, as well as sets the compensation of elected officials. Article 6 funds requested capital purchases that are made annually outside the department budgets. Article 7 relates to projects funded by the Community Preservation Act revenues and reserves managed by the Community Preservation Committee. Articles 8-14 relate to some of the items in the fixed and uncontrollable budget that fund certain employee-related costs (Article 8 – Norfolk County Retirement Assessment; Article 9 - Unemployment Fund; Article 10 - Other Post-Employment Benefits) as well as the Assessor's annual property inspection and valuation services (Article 11) and annual audit of the Town's financial statements (Article 12). Article 13 reauthorizes the spending limits for revolving funds. Article 14 relates to property tax exemptions.

Other articles that are specific to this year's Annual Town Meeting are as follows:

- Article 2 seeks to further the state legislative process to formalize the name change of the former "Board of Selectmen" to "Select Board."
- Article 3 relates to the conveyance of a small parcel of Town land at 18 Briar Hill Road to an abutter in the vicinity of the Massapoag Avenue water tower.
- Article 17 concerns the reinstatement of Town participation in a state program to assist residents needing financing for the repair or replacement of failed septic systems.
- Article 19 relates to granting of a gas utility easement at the High School.

- Article 20 is a citizen's petition to increase the number of Select Board members from three (3) to five (5).
- Article 18 is currently a "placeholder" article to be acted upon if agreement can be reached regarding a potential transaction involving the property at 66 North Main Street, which abuts the 1 School Street new library project site. The Finance Committee will continue to monitor the progress of these negotiations and assess any impact to the library project and Town finances. If action on this article does go forward, the Finance Committee will make a recommendation at Town Meeting.

A detailed write-up of each article and corresponding Finance Committee recommendations are presented with each article. The Finance Committee voted timely recommendations for all articles for which it was provided sufficient information. If new information becomes available after this warrant was printed, the Finance Committee may amend its recommendations at Town Meeting.

The Finance Committee is pleased to be able to offer the citizens of Sharon the opportunity to review how their individual property tax dollars are spent in support of Town services through the Sharon Visual Budget platform. Sharon Visual Budget can be accessed from the Finance Committee page on the Town website (<https://www.townofsharon.net/finance-committee>) via the link at the upper left "Sharon Visual Budget" or from an internet browser: <https://sharon.vb2.visgov.com>. *Please note that Internet Explorer does not support full aspects of Sharon Visual Budget. You are advised to use Google Chrome, Firefox, etc.*

Opportunities to ask questions or give opinions are always available at Finance Committee meetings and at the Open Warrant Meeting on April 26. Please take time to understand the issues and attend the Annual Town Meeting on May 2 and make your voice heard.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Daniel Lewenberg, Chair; Ann Keitner and Ira Miller, Vice-Chairs; Patricia-Lee Achorn, Anja Bernier, William Brack, Arnold Cohen, Brian Collins, Gordon Gladstone, Charles Goodman and Jada Wang.

**TOWN OF SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021**

CONSENT AGENDA

Warrant articles on a Consent Agenda are exceptions to the general process of Town Meeting. The Moderator, in consultation with the Town Administrator and Town Counsel, identify for Town Meeting consideration, those articles that they believe will generate no controversy and can be properly voted without debate. These articles are put on the Consent Agenda to allow the individual motions under these articles to be acted upon as one unit and to be passed without debate.

At the call of the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will read out the number of the articles, one by one. If one or more voters object to any particular article being included in the Consent Agenda, they say "hold" in a loud voice when the number is called. If only one voter requests to "hold" an article for discussion, the Moderator will then call for a second. If a second is offered, the article then will be removed from the Consent Agenda and restored to its original place in the Warrant to be debated and to be voted in the usual manner. After the calling of the individual items in the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will ask for a motion that the voters pass all items remaining as a unit on one vote. Use of the Consent Agenda process makes the Town Meeting more efficient by speeding up the handling of non-controversial items.

The Consent Agenda will be taken up as the first order of business at the beginning of the Annual Town Meeting on Sunday, May 2, 2021.

Please review the list of articles and motions proposed for each article that comprises the Consent Agenda that follows the proposed motion:

MOTION: Moved that the Town take Articles 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 out of order and they be "Passed by Consent" in accordance with the motions shown on the Consent Agenda as printed on pages i-iii in the Warrant for this Annual Town Meeting.

Article 4: Please refer to page 6 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant for article language.

MOTION: Moved that the Town amend the Personnel By-law of the Town of Sharon exactly as printed on pages 6 through 14 of the Warrant for this Annual Town Meeting, except deletion of the words "or act in any way relative thereto."

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money 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, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,246,399 to pay the Norfolk County Retirement Board for the Annual Assessment costs chargeable to the Town.

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, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 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.

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.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$400,000 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.

Article 11: 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 property inspection and valuation services for properties within the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2022 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 56 and Chapter 58, Sections 1, 1A and 3, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform property inspection and valuation services for properties within the Town of Sharon in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 56 and Chapter 58, Sections 1, 1A and 3, or as otherwise authorized by law.

Article 12: 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 2021 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, §40, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$59,000 for the purpose of paying for the cost of services to perform an annual audit of fixed assets and annual audit of accounts of the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2021 in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 40 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize FY 2022 expenditure limits for the revolving funds listed below for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, to be expended in accordance with Article III of the Town's General Bylaws:

Revolving Fund	Expenditure Limit
Cable TV Licensing and Re-licensing Fund	\$20,000.00
Library Public-Use Supplies Replacement Fund	\$7,000.00
Library Materials Replacement Fund	\$3,500.00
Street Opening Fund	\$25,000.00
Solid Waste and Recycling Fund	\$1,800,000.00

Community Center Building Maintenance Fund	\$100,000.00
High School Parking Lot Fund	\$65,000.00
Railroad Parking Fund	\$550,000.00
Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	\$400,000.00
Waterfront Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	\$200,000.00
Conservation Commission Advertising Revolving Fund	\$4,000.00
Board of Health Fund for Monitoring Compliance with Septic Variance	\$20,000.00
Health Department Revolving Fund	\$40,000.00
Council on Aging Program Revolving Fund	\$50,000.00

Or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town authorize FY 2022 expenditure limits for the revolving funds printed on page 35 of this Annual Town Meeting Warrant for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, to be expended in accordance with Chapter 24, Article III of the Town's General Bylaws.

Article 14: 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 1/2, 17D, 17E, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C and 41D of M.G.L. Chapter 59, § 5 in an amount equal to 100 percent to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022; or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that the Town 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 1/2, 17D, 17E, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C and 41D of M.G.L. Chapter 59, § 5 in an amount equal to 100 percent to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

Article 15: To act upon the reports as printed and to hear any other reports and to act thereon.

MOTION: Moved that That the reports of the various officials, boards and committees be received for filing.

Article 16: 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.

MOTION: Moved that the Town Clerk cast one ballot for the Trustees of the Dorchester and Surplus Revenue School Fund as follows: Bettye Outlaw, Patricia MacDougall and Elizabeth Siemiakaska; That the Town Clerk cast one ballot for the Trustees of the Edmund H. Talbot Fund as follows: Shirley Schofield, Marie Cuneo and Paul Bergeron; To accept the report of the donors of the funds.

-- End --

**TOWN OF SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2021**

Norfolk, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Sharon in the County of Norfolk, Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Football Field at Sharon Middle School, 75 Mountain Street, Sharon, Massachusetts on **Sunday, May 2, 2021, at 1:00 P.M.**, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1: Appoint Finance Committee Members and Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee Members

Sponsored by: Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee

To see if the Town will choose members of the Finance Committee for three-year terms, and to fill any vacancies on said Committee; and to approve the Moderator’s appointments of five members of the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee for one-year terms; or take any other action relative thereto.

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 not less than seven (7) and not more than twelve (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 Select Board voted 3-0 in favor of approval.

Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee

In May 2021, four members of the Finance Committee are completing their terms. The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee interviewed the current incumbents who expressed a desire to remain on the committee and any registered voters who expressed a desire to join the Finance Committee in serving the Town of Sharon.

The Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee has nominated the following residents to serve on the Finance Committee. A brief biography is provided by each nominee to allow the town residents to be familiar with the members' duly approved nominations.

Incumbents

Brian P. Collins

Our family moved to Sharon in 1982. Previously I served on the Transportation Advisory Board and a committee formed by the Select Board to consider the disposition of the Sacred Heart dormitory building on the site of Deborah Sampson Park. Over these thirty-eight years I have benefitted from the considerably greater efforts which so many of our fellow residents have devoted to the Town's governing boards and committees. The opportunity to serve on the Finance Committee now would enable me to reciprocate. My studies and professional experience promise to facilitate my understanding of the complexities of municipal finance. I hold a Master of Science degree in Finance from Bentley University. I am retired from BNY Mellon Wealth Management in Boston. Having started in retail banking after graduating from the University of New Hampshire in 1973, the bulk of my banking career was spent managing clients' investment portfolios. I specialized in administering fiduciary accounts such as family trusts, estates, and foundations.

Charles Goodman

I have been a resident of Sharon for the past 49 years and have had four children and three grandchildren who have attended, or are now attending, Sharon Public Schools. Each attended East Elementary School. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accountancy, am a managing partner in a local CPA firm and 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:

- Seventeen years of service, including serving as chair
- Member of and chair of the priorities committee
- Preparation of receipts and expenditures analysis of Rattlesnake Hill
- Cost analysis of Town Health Insurance
- Liaison to Library Trustees, Police, Fire, School and Water departments
- Revenue analysis of the Cape Club of Sharon

Currently I am a member of the Town Audit Committee.

Ira Miller

I have been a Sharon resident since 1979. I earned both a B.A. and M.Ed. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and received Certificates from programs in both Television Production and Financial Planning from Boston University.

For over 45 years I have held positions in health care, education, technology and media at venues including the Northeast Regional Media Center for the Deaf, Smith College, the University Affiliated Facility at the Shriver Center for Mental Retardation, Wang Laboratories and the WGBH Educational Foundation. I currently hold the position of Production Manager for the Media Access Group at WGBH, where for the last twenty years I have contributed to their efforts to make media accessible for viewers with auditory and vision impairments.

Appointed by the Sharon Select Board to the Sharon Cable Advisory Board, as Vice Chair, I oversaw negotiation of the initial license hearings to select the Town's first cable television provider. As Chair, I led the Board of Directors of Sharon Community Television through its creation and first three years of

operation, supervised the construction and management of local access cable television studio and facilities, and established a training curriculum to teach residents the process of producing public programming.

As a member of the Sharon Finance Committee for eighteen years, I have served as Chair and Vice-Chair for multiple terms as well as Chair of the Priorities Committee.

I continue to serve on the Governing Board of the Massachusetts Association of Town Finance Committees and have held three terms as President. The ATFC maintains and publishes The Finance Committee Handbook, organizes educational and professional meetings for finance committee members, and provides, through its affiliation with the Massachusetts Municipal Association, an avenue for member towns and their committee members to influence state government policies that affect cities and towns.

I have represented the ATFC as a member of the Executive Committee of the MMA Board of Directors for five years and was appointed by Governor Baker to the Massachusetts Local Government Advisory Commission. The LGAC meets with the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor regularly to discuss issues facing cities and towns and to strengthen the local-state partnership. I have also served on the MMA Labor and Personnel Committee and am a current member of the MMA Fiscal Policy Committee.

Jada Wang

A Sharon resident since 2007, I'm a proud mom of two beautiful kids. Professionally, I'm a CPA with an MBA in Finance, and currently in finance management for an industry leader (\$100 billion in annual revenue). My prior experience includes auditing for a public accounting firm, and global consolidations and SEC reporting, mainly for a major player in the medical device industry. My diversified experience includes financial planning and analysis, forecasting and budgeting, and accounting and financial reporting. In addition to contributing to various community initiatives, I was also invited to serve on the board of SCA in 2021. It's an honor for me to join the Sharon Finance Committee and work with my wonderful neighbors to build our community together.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **Majority vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS: That the Town elect to the Finance Committee the following named: Brian Collins, 28 Brook Road – 3-year term; Charles Goodman, 72 Lincoln Road – 3-year term; Ira Miller, 6 Horizons Road, 3-year term; Jada Wang, 46 Magnolia Road – 3-year term

That the Town affirm the following named Moderator's appointments to the Nominating Committee of the Finance Committee: Charles Goodman – 72 Lincoln Road – 1-year term; Jacqueline Modiste – 21 Canoe River Road – 1-year term; Cheryl Weinstein – 4 Coach Lane – 1-year term; David Fixler – 81 Bishop Road – 1-year term; Anne Carney – 41 Pole Plain Road – 1-year term

Article 2: **Special Legislation to Change Name of the Board of Selectmen to Select Board**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board (Board of Selectmen) to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a special act in the form set forth below, to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to the Select Board and title of "Selectmen" to "Select Board Member"; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Select Board (Board of Selectmen) is hereby authorized to approve amendments

which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; or take any other action relative thereto.

AN ACT CHANGING THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF SHARON TO A SELECT BOARD

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the executive body of the Town of Sharon, previously known as the Board of Selectmen, shall be known as the Select Board and shall have the powers and authority of a board of selectmen under any general or special law, and individual members, previously known as Selectmen, shall be referred to as Select Board members.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

As noted above, an affirmative vote under this Article would allow the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to the Select Board and title of “Selectmen” to “Select Board Member”. While this name change was voted at a previous Annual Town Meeting, the Attorney General’s office has informed the Town that this additional action by the Legislature must occur for the name change to be formally recognized by the Commonwealth.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town authorize the Select Board (Board of Selectmen) to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a special act in the form set forth below, to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to the Select Board and title of “Selectmen” to “Select Board Member”; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Select Board (Board of Selectmen) is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

AN ACT CHANGING THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF SHARON TO A SELECT BOARD

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the executive body of the Town of Sharon, previously known as the Board of Selectmen, shall be known as the Select Board and shall have the powers and authority of a board of selectmen under any general or special law, and individual members, previously known as Selectmen, shall be referred to as Select Board members.

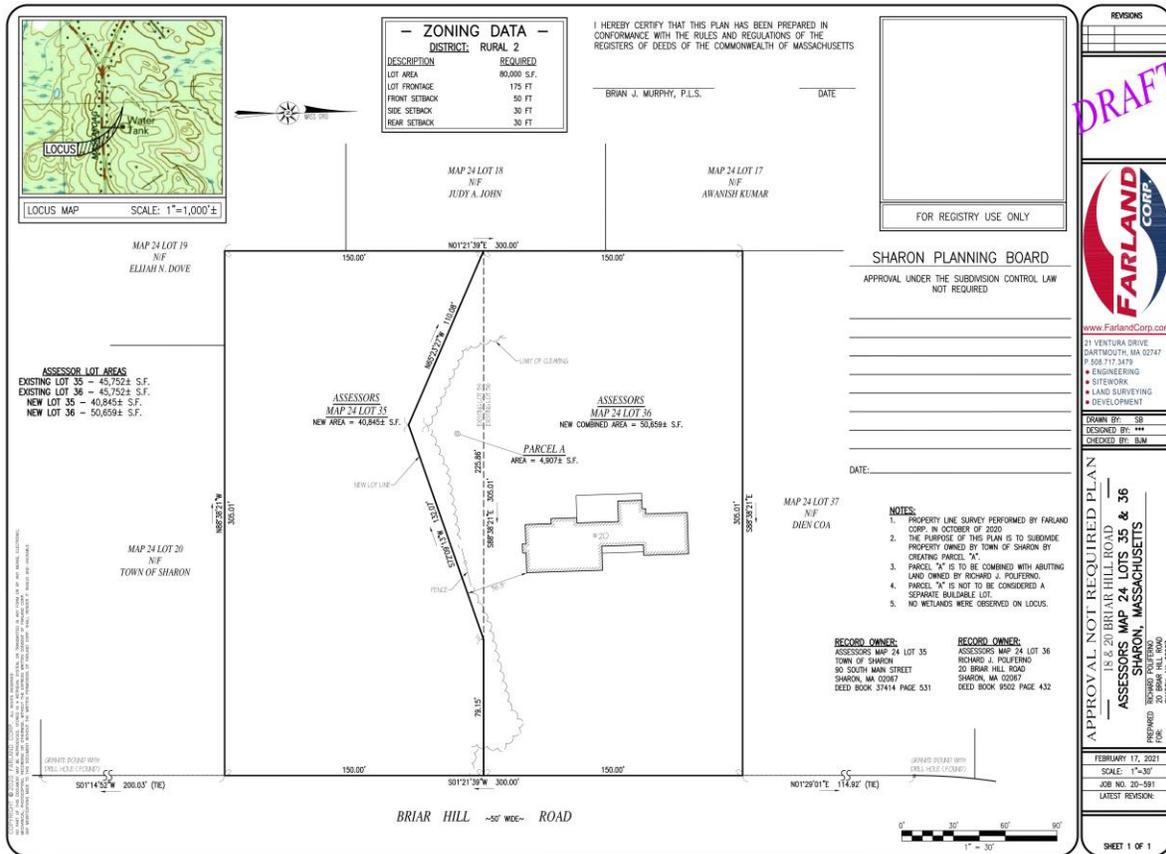
SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Article 3: Conveyance of Parcel of Town-Owned Land at 18 Briar Hill Road

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, pursuant to G.L. c. 30B, § 16, or as otherwise authorized, to convey an approximately 4,906 sq. ft. portion of the property known and numbered as 18 Briar Hill Road, shown as “Parcel A” on a Plan of Land entitled “Approval Not Required Plan of Land, 18 & 20 Briar Hill Road, Assessors Map 24, Lots 35 & 36, Sharon, Massachusetts, Prepared for Richard Polifero, 20 Briar Hill Road, Sharon, MA 02067”, prepared by Brian J. Murphy, P.L.S., Farland Corp., 21 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk. Being a portion of the same property purchased by a vote of Town Meeting November 4, 2019 and evidenced by a Deed dated November 25, 2019 from Florence R. Einis and recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds at Book 37414, Page 531.

And to authorize the Select Board to take all actions necessary and to execute such documents, including but not limited to a purchase and sale agreement and deed, as they deem necessary to affect the foregoing; or to take any other action relative thereto.



FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article will allow the Town to convey approximately 4,900 square feet of Town property located at 18 Briar Hill Road to the abutter at 20 Briar Hill Road for approximately \$3,000 to create a buffer zone for 20 Briar Hill Road as part of the Massapoag Avenue water storage tank replacement project.

Town Meeting approved the replacement of the Massapoag Avenue water storage tank in May 2019. Subsequently in 2020, Town Meeting approved the acquisition of the parcel of land known as 18 Briar Hill Road to facilitate the construction of the replacement of the Massapoag Avenue water storage tank. During discussions with neighbors to review the construction plans, the direct abutter located at 20 Briar Hill Road requested that 4,907 square feet of land be sold to him because he had been maintaining that area and had only recently determined through a land survey that some of his lawn and garden were on the recently acquired Town-owned lot at 18 Briar Hill Road. The land has been appraised at \$3,000 and all required survey and legal work is being paid by the owner of 20 Briar Hill Road.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **2/3 vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town authorize the Select Board, pursuant to G.L. c. 30B, § 16, or as otherwise authorized, to convey an approximately 4,906 sq. ft. portion of the property known and numbered as 18 Briar Hill Road, shown as "Parcel A" on a Plan of Land entitled "Approval Not Required Plan of Land, 18 & 20 Briar Hill Road, Assessors Map 24, Lots 35 & 36, Sharon, Massachusetts, Prepared for Richard Polifero, 20 Briar Hill Road, Sharon, MA 02067", prepared by Brian J. Murphy, P.L.S., Farland Corp., 21 Ventura Drive, Dartmouth, MA 02747, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk. Being a portion of the same property purchased by a vote of Town Meeting November 4, 2019 and evidenced by a Deed dated November 25, 2019 from Florence R. Einis and recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds at Book 37414, Page 531.

That the Town authorize the Select Board to take all actions necessary and to execute such documents, including but not limited to a purchase and sale agreement and deed, as they deem necessary to affect the foregoing.

Article 4: **Personnel By-Law**

Sponsored by: *Personnel Board*

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:

- 1) That the position of Social Worker/Wellness Coordinator be classified as an MP-4 within the Management Professional Category, effective March 4, 2020.
- 2) To accept the 2020 wage increases for Summer employees of the Recreation Department
- 3) To allow Financial Assistant Melissa Healey to carry over 20 hours of accrued vacation from calendar year 2020 to 2021.

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, 2021, except as other dates are specified.

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, 2021 – June 30, 2022

**SECTION 1.100
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE**

**SECTION 2.100
BASE PAY SCHEDULE/ANNUALLY**

Position	Minimum	Actual	Maximum
Administrative Assessor	\$79,991	\$89,382	\$110,420
Assistant to the Town Administrator	\$72,457	\$98,977	\$98,977
Council on Aging Executive Director	\$72,459	\$81,799	\$99,787
Director of Information Technology	\$90,748	\$121,765	\$127,316
Finance Director	\$98,209	\$126,857	\$142,502
Fire Chief	\$109,084	\$157,106	\$157,106
Library Director	\$79,949	\$99,076	\$99,937
Police Chief	\$110,289	\$164,320	\$164,320
Recreation Director	\$72,141	\$94,554	\$99,787
Superintendent of Public Works	\$108,696	\$150,411	\$157,076
Town Administrator	\$173,575	\$210,090	\$210,393
Town Engineer	\$86,630	\$122,144	\$122,144
Treasurer/Collector	\$83,541	\$86,443	\$116,707

**SECTION 1.200
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE**

**SECTION 2.200
PAY SCHEDULE**

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SELECT BOARD

Select Board (hourly)

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
27.05	27.59	28.14	28.70	29.28	29.87	30.45	31.06	31.67	32.32

MISCELLANEOUS

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Veterans' Agent	21,298	annually
Sealer of Weights & Measures	4,658	annually
Assistant Animal Control/Senior Fill-In Officer	2,538	annually
Animal Control Fill-In (Weekend/Sick/Holiday/Vacation Coverage)	51.20	per assignment
Animal Control Fill-In (Night Pager Coverage)	14.63	per night
Animal Control Fill-In (After Hour Coverage)	14.63	per call
Animal Inspector	4,392	annually
Plumbing/Gas Inspector	475.00	per week
Wiring Inspector	475.00	per week
DPW Temp/Summer Labor (hourly)	13.50	14.25
Per Diem Public Health Nurse	33.22	per hour

Adult Center Receptionist/Aide	18.51 per hour
Recreational Basketball League Coordinator	8,300.00 per season
Referee Coordinator	1,000 per season

PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE STANDING BUILDING COMMITTEE (hourly)
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
34.99	35.78	36.58	37.39	38.23	39.12	39.98	40.87

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT - PART-TIME
Effective May 1, 2021 (hourly)

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Waterfront Director	\$21.50	\$21.75	\$22.00
Waterfront Supervisor	\$17.50	\$17.75	\$18.00
Asst. Waterfront Supervisor	\$16.50	\$16.75	\$17.00
Lifeguard	\$14.75	\$15.00	\$15.25
Lifeguard & WSI	\$15.50	\$15.75	\$16.00
Program Director	\$25.75	\$26.00	\$26.25
Program Supervisor	\$20.50	\$20.75	\$21.00
Program Assistant Supervisor	\$16.50	\$16.75	\$17.00
Program Counselor	\$14.50	\$14.75	\$15.00
Gate Attendant	\$13.50	\$13.75	\$14.00
Summer Maintenance	\$17.50	\$17.75	\$18.00

PART-TIME RECREATION
Effective January 1, 2021 (hourly)

	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Program Instructor	35.00	36.00	37.00
Program Director	25.75	26.00	26.25
Program Coordinator	20.50	20.75	21.00
Program Assistant	14.50	14.75	15.00
Per Game:			
Non-Certified Referee	15.75	16.00	16.25
Certified Referee	40.00	41.00	42.00

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)

MP-00	Assistant Town Engineer	MP-2	Animal Control Officer*
			Assistant Recreation Director
MP-0	Building Inspector		Business Manager
	Water Systems Supervisor		Info Services/Assistant Library Director*
			Assistant Operations Supervisor
MP-1	Operation Supervisor		Assistant Supervisor-Water
	Public Health Nurse*		Water Construction Supervisor
	Forestry & Grounds Supervisor		Water Pump Station Operator
	Health Agent for Engineering		Systems Administrator
	Conservation Administrator		
	Health Administrator*	MP-3	Recreation Athletic Supervisor
	GIS Coordinator		Technical Support Specialist*
	Facilities Supervisor		Engineering/Planning Specialist
			Social Worker*
		MP-4	Part-Time Public Health Nurse*

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

Health Administrator	37.5 hours
Information Services/Assistant Library Director	37.5 hours
Public Health Nurse	37.5 hours
Social Worker	37.5 hours
Animal Control Officer	25 hours
Technical Support Specialist	19 hours
Part Time Public Health Nurse	2 hours
(up to 10 hours for vacation coverage)	

SECTION 2.400

PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7
MP-00	39.2540	40.1335	41.0396	41.9589	42.9049	43.8775	44.8635
MP-0	37.2284	38.0681	38.9342	39.8002	40.7064	41.6122	42.5584
MP-1	34.8169	35.6029	36.4025	37.2020	38.0416	38.9210	39.7871
MP-2	31.5792	32.3251	33.0180	33.7775	34.5104	35.2966	36.0962
MP-3	29.0266	29.6337	30.2733	30.9662	31.6591	32.3920	33.0981
MP-4	26.3558	26.9420	27.5419	28.1545	28.9742	29.4605	30.1000
Grade	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10	Step 11	Step 12	Step 13	Step 14
MP-00	45.8763	46.9022	47.9549	48.6742	49.4043	50.1454	50.8976
MP-0	43.5046	44.4906	45.5031	46.1856	46.8784	47.5816	48.2953
MP-1	40.6665	41.5859	42.5451	43.1833	43.8310	44.4885	45.1558

MP-2	36.9086	37.7484	38.5878	39.1666	39.7541	40.3504	40.9557
MP-3	33.8712	34.6168	35.3899	35.9207	36.4596	37.0064	37.5615
MP-4	30.7662	31.4858	32.1654	32.6478	33.1376	33.6346	34.1391

LIBRARY CATEGORY
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

LMP-3 Head of Youth Services
 Head of Adult and Technology Services

LMP-4 Children’s Librarian
 Information Services Librarian

	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
LMP-3	30.46	31.13	31.82	32.54	33.28	34.06	34.79	35.58	36.38	37.19
LMP-4	27.68	28.31	28.94	29.59	30.24	30.97	31.66	32.36	33.09	33.83

Library Page: Minimum Wage

LOC-3a Circulation Supervisor
 Technical Services Supervisor

LOC-3b

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

	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
LOC-3A	25.13	25.64	26.13	26.68	27.20	27.74	28.30	28.87	29.45	30.03
LOC-3B	23.80	24.28	24.76	25.26	25.78	26.30	26.81	27.34	27.89	28.44
LOC-4A	22.57	23.01	23.47	23.94	24.44	24.89	25.42	25.92	26.43	26.98

LABOR CATEGORY

SECTION 1.500
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

- Grade A Working Foreman (F&G, Water, Operations), Senior Water Systems Technician
- Grade B Master Mechanic
 Aerial Lift Oper., Heavy Equip. Oper., Water Sys. Tech., Working
- Grade C Foreman/Facilities Maint-Comm Ctr
- Grade D Night Custodian
- Grade E Auto Equipment Operator, Recreation Custodian, Maint./Custodian DPW

SECTION 2.500
PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY
July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

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	28.61	29.38	30.12	30.91	31.67	32.44	33.24	33.99	34.74	35.51	36.22	36.95
B	27.38	28.00	28.59	29.20	29.78	30.42	31.00	31.64	32.24	32.85	33.50	34.18
C	25.00	25.68	26.34	27.01	27.66	28.35	29.03	29.70	30.36	31.03	31.65	32.28
D	25.26	25.76	26.28	26.83	27.36	27.89	28.46	29.02	29.61	30.19	30.80	31.42
E	23.97	24.46	24.93	25.45	25.93	26.44	26.99	27.52	28.07	28.62	29.20	29.78

OFFICE OCCUPATION CATEGORY

SECTION 1.600

CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

- OC-1 Assistant Accountant
Assistant Treasurer/Collector
- OC-2a Administrative Assistant – Assessor
Office Manager/Transportation Coordinator, Council on Aging
Administrative Fire Secretary/Ambulance Records Supervisor
Assistant Town Clerk
Confidential Secretary to the Police Chief
Financial Assistant - Payroll/Revenue
- OC-2b Collections Supervisor
Payroll/Benefits Administrator
- OC-3a Election & Registration Secretary
Financial Assistant – Accounting /Veterans
- OC-3b Activities/Program Coordinator for Council on Aging
Secretary – Building & Engineering
Secretary – DPW Operations Division
Secretary – Water
Secretary – Recreation
Senior Clerk – Assessor
Secretary – Conservation Commission
Financial Assistant – Treasurer/Collector
Administrative Assistant to the Board of Health
- OC-4a Secretary – Planning Board
Secretary – Finance Committee
Secretary – Personnel Board
Secretary – Zoning Board of Appeals
- OC-4b Bus/Van Driver
Police Clerk
Secretary – Community Preservation
Secretary – Sharon Standing Building Committee
Secretary – all other Committees

SECTION 1.600
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.600
PAY SCHEDULE/HOURLY

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Grade	Min	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step10	Step 11
OC-1	30.5896	31.1991	31.8191	32.4601	33.1221	33.7737	34.4462	35.1397	35.8438	36.5584	37.2939
OC-2a	27.5422	28.0931	28.6549	29.2280	29.8126	30.4089	31.0170	31.6374	32.2701	32.9155	33.5738
OC-2b	26.3443	26.8712	27.4086	27.9568	28.5159	29.0862	29.6680	30.2613	30.8665	31.4839	32.1135
OC-3a	24.7575	25.2527	25.7577	26.2729	26.7984	27.3343	27.8810	28.4386	29.0074	29.5876	30.1793
OC-3b	23.4545	23.9236	24.4021	24.8901	25.3879	25.8957	26.4136	26.9419	27.4807	28.0303	28.5909
OC-4a	22.2461	22.6910	23.1448	23.6077	24.0799	24.5614	25.0527	25.5537	26.0648	26.5861	27.1178
OC-4b	21.0901	21.5120	21.9422	22.3810	22.8287	23.2852	23.7509	24.2260	24.7105	25.2047	25.7088

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
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Patrol Officer	PD-60A	PD-60B	PD-60C	PD-60D	PD-60E	PD-60F	PD-60G	PD-60H	PD-60I
PD-60	Recruit	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
	928.41	990.95	1,056.33	1,110.68	1,168.68	1,192.09	1,246.35	1,277.51	1,309.45
Sergeant	PD-80A	PD-80B	PD-80C	PD-80D	PD-80E	PD-80F			
PD-80	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6			
	1,400.72	1,428.77	1,457.31	1,486.46	1,516.20	1,576.52			

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:

Prosecutor	50.00	per week
Detective Patrol Officer	50.00	per week
Detective Sergeant	25.00	per week
		when assigned to two of the four shifts in the 4-2 schedule
Detective Sergeant	50.00	per week
		when assigned solely to the Detective unit
Motorcycle Operator (Selective Enforcement)	32.54	per week
Accreditation Manager, Computer Manager	32.54	per week
Crime Prevention Officer	32.54	per week

Special Assignment Officer	32.54	per week
LEAPS Representative	10.00	per week

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.

DISPATCHERS
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Relief 1	Relief 2	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8
23.58	24.05	24.54	25.02	25.53	26.03	26.56	27.09	27.64	28.19

POLICE CROSSING GUARDS
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

				<u>Daily Rate</u>
School Crossing Guard	PD-20	Step 1		41.30
		Step 2		45.01
		Step 3		49.49
School Crossing Guard Supervisor	PD-20A			61.99

POLICE SUPERIOR OFFICERS
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
2,046.21	2,128.48	2,213.34	2,280.25	2,348.65	2,419.11

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.

FIRE DEPARTMENT
July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

SECTION 1.410
CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

SECTION 2.410
PAY SCHEDULE/WEEKLY

		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4
Capt/EMT	FD90		1,529.62	1,606.10	
Capt/Medic	FD92		1,578.76	1,657.70	
Lt/EMT	FD80	1,367.67	1,422.39		
Lt/Medic	FD82	1,418.70	1,475.43		
F/F-EMT	FD60		1,155.92	1,205.79	1,290.28
F/F-Medic	FD62		1,204.08	1,233.57	1,338.42

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

For 30 Course Credits certified	14.50	per week
For 45 Course Credits certified	19.25	per week
For an Associate Degree certified	40.00	per week
For a Bachelor's Degree certified	65.00	per week
For a Master's Degree certified	72.00	per week

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.

CALL FIREFIGHTERS
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011
Hourly compensation rate: \$20.00

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.

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 Police Chief	\$2,968.10	per week
Deputy Fire Chief	\$2,344.83	per week

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would amend the Town's Personnel By-Law and implement the listed increases in salaries and wages for executive employees. Compensation for elected officials is dealt with in Article 5 of the Warrant.

The majority of the salaries contained in Article 4 are union contracts negotiated by the Select Board. This year contractual increases are 1.5% plus bargaining unit "steps" (incremental increases based upon experience in a position). The union contract amounts in Article 4 are informational only; voters do not approve those pay tables.

Also included in this Article is compensation for the "Executive Category." For this group of thirteen professionals the Select Board proposes salary increases and requests concurrence of the Personnel Board. The base increase for Executive Category employees is 1.5% to match the union contractual increase, plus a performance bonus with the total increase not to exceed 3.5% (1.5% cost of living adjustment, or "COLA," and 2% merit) per individual. This year, the Executive salary adjustments vary between 3.0% and 3.5% contingent on the results of the individual's annual performance review. There are three individuals at the maximum salary for their position who will receive an increase of only 2.11%, which equals the adjustment of the salary maximums. The Personnel Board is requested to concur on the equitable application of the performance evaluation process (not the percentage or dollar increase). With the retirement of Chief Ford, the new maximum Police Chief salary will be set at \$164,300.

Similar to last year, the Finance Committee understands that this is another difficult year for the Town and citizens who have faced financial adversity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Though the actual dollar amount involved in this year's increases is a minor portion of the overall Town budget, members of the

Finance Committee recognize the current financial burden of many Sharon citizens. The decision and authority to determine individual salaries in this category rests with the Select Board.

A listing of the wages earned and paid to all Town and School employees, inclusive of overtime and stipends, can be found in the annual Town Report.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 5: FY 2022 Budget & Compensation of Elected Officials

Sponsored by: Finance Committee

To fix the compensation of elected officers, 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, 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article will fund FY 2022 Town operations as detailed. The Finance Committee has a statutory obligation to present to Town Meeting, for debate and approval, operating budgets for all Town departments. The Town departments are grouped into three operating sectors: Select Board, School Department and Finance Committee. Each sector must develop budgets for their respective department operations in the months leading up to Town Meeting.

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

A revenue summary from the Priorities Committee process is included here to show the revenue available to the Town for appropriation in the amount of \$93,960,990.

REVENUE SOURCES:	FY19 Actual	FY 20 Actual	FY 21 Tax Recap	FY 22 Estimate	FY 22-21
TAXATION:					
FY Levv base:	\$64,067,988	\$66,158,287	\$68,241,180	\$70,884,940	\$2,643,760
Tax Increase up to 2 1/2% (*)	1,601,700	1,653,957	1,706,030	1,594,911	(111,119)
New Growth:	487,739	425,960	937,730	450,000	(487,730)
Net Debt Exclusion:	3,426,161	3,310,074	6,858,677	7,660,060	801,383
Levy Limit:	69,583,588	71,548,278	77,743,617	80,589,911	2,846,294
Excess Levv Capacity:	(2,017,487)	(2,024,952)	(2,464,254)	(2,460,696)	3,558
Total Tax Revenue:	67,566,101	69,523,326	75,279,363	78,129,215	2,849,852
STATE AID:					
Cherry Sheet:	9,026,240	9,270,077	9,298,626	10,429,736	1,131,110
School Construction (SBA):	1,950,626	1,950,622	1,244,025	608,054	(635,971)
Total State Aid:	10,976,866	11,220,699	10,542,651	11,037,790	495,139
LOCAL RECEIPTS:	5,513,249	5,132,708	4,843,953	5,121,700	277,747
OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS:					
Ambulance Reserve:	700,000	700,000	650,000	650,000	0
Free Cash:				300,000	300,000
F/B Excluded Debt	25,293	25,293	25,293		(25,293)
Overlay Reserve Released:	150,000	200,000			0
Reauthorized capital/other funding	50,430			0	0
Septic Loan Program receipts:	29,215	29,215	29,215	29,215	0
Total Other Available Funds:	954,938	954,508	704,508	979,215	274,707
GROSS REVENUE AVAILABLE:	85,011,154	86,831,241	91,370,475	95,267,920	3,897,445
LESS ASSESSMENTS & OFFSETS:					
Offsets - Reserved for Direct Expenditures	(20,655)	(22,237)	(23,255)	(27,906)	(4,651)
Total Cherry Sheet charges:	(788,777)	(832,566)	(863,041)	(979,024)	(115,983)
Overlay:	(376,203)	(301,671)	(410,711)	(300,000)	110,711
Total Assessments & Offsets:	(1,185,635)	(1,156,474)	(1,297,007)	(1,306,930)	(9,923)
NET AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION @ TOWN MEETING:	83,111,840	85,674,767	90,199,006	93,960,990	3,761,984
Assessed Valuation:	3,480,994,400	3,659,122,400	3,684,746,130	3,684,746,130	0
Tax Rate:	\$19.41	\$19.00	\$20.43	\$21.20	\$0.77

(*) Note: FY 22 estimate 2.25%; pending changes in assessed valuations TBD by October/November 2021

On February 25, 2021, the Priorities Committee unanimously voted to limit spending increases to an amount not to exceed the revenue generated from all sources assuming not more than a 2.5% increase in the tax levy as permitted by Prop. 2 ½ for the three operational budget sectors funded in this article plus fixed expenses and the items presented in Articles 8-12. More specifically, in light of the increase in excluded debt used to fund the new High School and Library projects, and considering the financial challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Priorities Committee voted to approve more modest, sustainable budgetary increases that would allow the Town to raise taxes by 2.25%, rather than the Prop. 2 ½ limit. It should be noted though that taxes will increase by more than this amount as a result of the additional excluded debt. As depicted in the revenue summary chart, assuming no change in assessed valuations and also not taking into account the assessed value of new growth in the property tax base, the tax rate is projected to increase by 3.79% to \$21.20 per thousand. After funding fixed and uncontrollable expenses, the three major operating budget sectors could be increased by 2.8668% for FY 2022.

The total amount requested for FY 2022's Town's budget appropriation under Articles 5 and 8-12 is \$93,922,286, up \$3,723,280 or 4.13% year over year. This number is \$38,704 below the available revenue number. Items such as the retirement contribution, payments into the unemployment fund, OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) funding, and the cost of property valuation services and the annual audit are included in the total amount but are funded through Articles 8-12.

By itself, the requested appropriation under Article 5 is for \$88,294,735 (up \$2,981,835 or 3.50% year over year) and is allocated among the budget sectors as follows: Select Board department budgets of \$14,830,304 (+2.82%), School Department budget of \$47,559,430 (+2.87%), Finance Committee budgets of \$1,320,963 (+0.91%), and \$24,584,038 (+5.30%) allocated for so-called Fixed & Uncontrollable items such as health and other insurances, debt service, and street lighting and Special Items. The requested allocations for the operating sectors largely reflect funding for level services. The increase in Fixed and Uncontrollables was primarily due to increased health insurance costs combined with higher withholding for the Reserve Fund given the uncertain environment posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The combined requested appropriations under Articles 8-12, and including cash capital from Article 6, total \$5,627,551 (+15.17%) due to increased use of cash appropriations for capital needs (rather than borrowed funds) and higher anticipated costs to fund unemployment compensation.

The compensation for elected officials proposed for FY 2022 within the respective department budgets is as follows:

- Select Board – chair \$500, two members \$400 each
- Assessors – chair \$2,400, two members \$2,200 each
- Town Clerk – \$78,000
- Moderator – \$50

In addition, the proposed FY 2022 budget for the Water Department totals \$4,836,146, up 9.46%, primarily with increased debt service from capital projects. As an enterprise fund, the Water Department expenses are funded exclusively by water rates.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS: That the Town raise and appropriate for the various Town offices and for defraying charges and expenses of the Town, including debt principal and debt interest for fiscal year July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, the various sums stated "Fiscal Year 2022" as shown on pages X to X of the Warrant except the following: Town Clerk, Select Board, Board of Assessors, Fire/Ambulance, Debt: Principal, Debt: Interest, Water Department, and Cable Public Access.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$157,365 for the Town Clerk's budget, of which \$78,000 shall be for the salary of the Town Clerk, and \$79,365 shall be for other salaries, wages and expenses.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$440,735 for the Select Board's budget, of which \$500 shall be for the Chair and \$800 for the salaries of the other members, and \$439,435 shall be for other salaries, wages and expenses.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$222,062 for the Board of Assessors budget, of which \$2,400 shall be for the salary of the chair, \$4,400 shall be for the salaries for the other members, and \$215,262 shall be for the other salaries, wages and expenses.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,859,102 for the Fire/Ambulance budget, of which \$650,000 shall be transferred from the Ambulance Reserve Account, with the balance of \$3,209,102 raised on the tax levy; raise and appropriate \$90,000 for EMS ambulance billing and supplies from the Ambulance Reserve Account.

That the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,496,637 for the Debt: Principal budget (\$6,576,300) and Debt interest (\$4,920,337), and in order to meet said appropriation the following amounts shall be transferred from accounts as set forth below: Septic Loan Program – \$29,215 and Community Education Revolving Funds – \$130,538, with the balance of \$11,336,884 raised on the tax levy.

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$4,636,146 for the Water Department budget to be raised from user fees; and also appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from Water Retained Earnings for a Reserve Fund.

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$340,000 raised from cable subscriber franchise fees for the Cable Public Access Enterprise Fund.

Account		FY22 Approp.	% over FY21	FY21 Approp.	% over FY20	FY20 Approp.	% over FY19	FY19 Approp.	% over FY18
114	Moderator	\$ 50.00	0.00%	\$ 50.00	0.00%	\$ 50.00	0.00%	\$ 50.00	0.00%
131	Finance Committee	\$ 9,555.00	-3.04%	\$ 9,855.00	-39.37%	\$ 16,255.00	-5.80%	\$ 17,255.00	-6.98%
152	Personnel Board	\$ 3,150.00	0.00%	\$ 3,150.00	-3.88%	\$ 3,277.00	3.15%	\$ 3,177.00	0.00%
161	Town Clerk	\$ 157,365.00	-0.36%	\$ 157,927.00	-6.68%	\$ 169,236.00	2.27%	\$ 165,478.00	3.83%
610	Library	\$ 1,150,843.00	1.12%	\$ 1,138,042.00	4.05%	\$ 1,093,721.00	4.44%	\$ 1,047,264.00	4.69%
	Total Fin. Com. Budgets	\$ 1,320,963.00	0.91%	\$ 1,309,024.00	2.07%	\$ 1,282,539.00	4.00%	\$ 1,233,224.00	4.38%
122	Select Board	\$ 440,735.00	5.68%	\$ 417,038.00	4.97%	\$ 397,308.00	-0.57%	\$ 399,570.00	4.60%
135	Accountant	\$ 274,410.00	1.16%	\$ 271,275.00	5.17%	\$ 257,945.00	-2.09%	\$ 263,438.00	3.38%
141	Board of Assessors	\$ 222,062.00	2.19%	\$ 217,298.00	4.26%	\$ 208,414.00	-4.19%	\$ 217,527.00	-8.27%
145	Treasurer	\$ 336,125.00	6.30%	\$ 316,213.00	-1.16%	\$ 319,937.00	-2.94%	\$ 329,632.00	-3.31%
151	Law	\$ 158,000.00	14.91%	\$ 137,500.00	3.00%	\$ 133,500.00	-5.65%	\$ 141,500.00	4.04%
155	Information Technology	\$ 347,096.00	3.45%	\$ 335,533.00	6.84%	\$ 314,051.00	3.21%	\$ 304,272.00	-2.92%
162	Elections & Registrations	\$ 125,902.00	-21.97%	\$ 161,350.00	11.84%	\$ 144,275.00	5.12%	\$ 137,249.00	36.16%
171	Conservation Commission	\$ 150,488.00	40.96%	\$ 106,760.00	-16.13%	\$ 127,295.00	3.21%	\$ 123,330.00	2.62%
172	Lake Management	\$ 7,000.00	7.69%	\$ 6,500.00	0.00%	\$ 6,500.00	0.00%	\$ 6,500.00	0.00%
175	Planning Board	\$ 35,525.00	39.18%	\$ 25,525.00	74.83%	\$ 14,600.00	7.35%	\$ 13,600.00	0.00%
176	Board of Appeals	\$ 25,300.00	11.45%	\$ 22,700.00	0.61%	\$ 22,563.00	0.00%	\$ 22,563.00	0.00%
195	Town Report	\$ 18,325.00	-0.27%	\$ 18,375.00	2.51%	\$ 17,925.00	24.70%	\$ 14,375.00	7.48%
210	Police	\$ 3,823,200.00	0.56%	\$ 3,801,887.00	1.38%	\$ 3,750,293.00	0.31%	\$ 3,738,688.00	3.48%
220	Fire/Ambulance	\$ 3,859,102.00	4.00%	\$ 3,710,580.00	1.66%	\$ 3,650,077.00	5.43%	\$ 3,461,955.00	4.66%
244	Weights & Measures	\$ 5,371.00	1.30%	\$ 5,302.00	1.30%	\$ 5,234.00	1.30%	\$ 5,167.00	2.13%
249	Animal Inspector	\$ 4,565.00	1.51%	\$ 4,497.00	1.67%	\$ 4,423.00	1.68%	\$ 4,350.00	2.52%
291	Civil Defense	\$ 16,100.00	40.00%	\$ 11,500.00	0.24%	\$ 11,472.00	0.00%	\$ 11,472.00	17.40%
292	Animal Control Officer	\$ 83,037.00	2.31%	\$ 81,159.00	0.38%	\$ 80,852.00	1.92%	\$ 79,327.00	1.18%
400	Dept of Public Works	\$ 4,033,693.00	2.40%	\$ 3,938,997.00	5.50%	\$ 3,733,706.00	5.37%	\$ 3,543,382.00	1.36%
510	Board of Health - Services & Admin	\$ 189,156.00	13.10%	\$ 167,241.00	-25.63%	\$ 224,882.00	3.39%	\$ 217,502.00	5.51%
541	Council on Aging	\$ 289,239.00	2.43%	\$ 282,379.00	-6.77%	\$ 302,878.00	-0.28%	\$ 303,731.00	2.51%
543	Veterans Agent	\$ 94,748.00	0.34%	\$ 94,431.00	37.04%	\$ 68,908.00	0.74%	\$ 68,402.00	0.59%
544	Veterans Graves	\$ 5,900.00	9.26%	\$ 5,400.00	0.00%	\$ 5,400.00	0.00%	\$ 5,400.00	8.00%
545	Commission on Disability	\$ 500.00	0.00%	\$ 500.00	0.00%	\$ 500.00	0.00%	\$ 500.00	0.00%
630	Recreation	\$ 276,045.00	0.16%	\$ 275,606.00	5.46%	\$ 261,326.00	7.73%	\$ 242,580.00	4.36%
691	Historical Commission	\$ 1,380.00	0.00%	\$ 1,380.00	0.00%	\$ 1,380.00	112.31%	\$ 650.00	0.00%
692	Community Celebrations	\$ 7,300.00	0.00%	\$ 7,300.00	0.00%	\$ 7,300.00	0.00%	\$ 7,300.00	52.08%
	Total Select Board Budgets	\$ 14,830,304.00	2.82%	\$ 14,424,226.00	2.50%	\$ 14,072,944.00	2.99%	\$ 13,663,962.00	2.97%

Account		FY22 Approp.	% over FY21	FY21 Approp.	% over FY20	FY20 Approp.	% over FY19	FY19 Approp.	% over FY18
310	School Department	\$ 47,559,430.00	2.87%	\$ 46,234,015.00	2.50%	\$ 45,108,051.00	2.94%	\$ 43,818,836.00	3.31%
	Total School Department	\$ 47,559,430.00	2.87%	\$ 46,234,015.00	2.50%	\$ 45,108,051.00	2.94%	\$ 43,818,836.00	3.31%
320	Voc Tech School	\$ 200,000.00	14.47%	\$ 174,716.00	-27.20%	\$ 240,000.00	-3.80%	\$ 230,320.00	-3.80%
321	Voc Tuition/Norfolk Ag. Tuition	\$ 12,000.00	0.00%	\$ 12,000.00	33.33%	\$ 9,000.00	-34.50%	\$ 7,860.00	-34.50%
9299	ARC of South Norfolk	\$ 9,916.00	0.00%	\$ 9,916.00	0.00%	\$ 9,916.00	0.00%	\$ 9,916.00	0.00%
132	Reserve Fund	\$ 800,000.00	60.00%	\$ 500,000.00	0.00%	\$ 500,000.00	0.00%	\$ 500,000.00	0.00%
490	Street Lighting	\$ 193,048.00	-11.06%	\$ 217,048.00	13.05%	\$ 192,000.00	0.00%	\$ 192,549.00	0.00%
511	Board of Health - Waste Removal	\$ 118,000.00	6.79%	\$ 110,500.00	11.06%	\$ 99,500.00	-25.10%	\$ 89,500.00	-25.10%
694	Marijuana Mitigation	\$ 45,000.00							
710	Debt: Principal	\$ 6,576,300.00	-1.39%	\$ 6,669,000.00	2.25%	\$ 6,522,300.00	-5.41%	\$ 6,440,000.00	-5.41%
751	Debt Long term:Interest	\$ 4,789,799.00	-0.77%	\$ 4,826,850.00	130.28%	\$ 2,096,067.00	2.30%	\$ 2,123,949.00	2.30%
914	FICA: Medicare	\$ 780,000.00	0.00%	\$ 780,000.00	6.12%	\$ 735,000.00	1.38%	\$ 735,000.00	1.38%
915	FICA: Social Security	\$ 10,000.00	0.00%	\$ 10,000.00	-4.76%	\$ 10,500.00	0.49%	\$ 10,500.00	0.49%
916	Benefits Accrual								
920	Insurance	\$ 11,049,975.00	10.11%	\$ 10,035,605.00	1.87%	\$ 9,851,450.00	1.01%	\$ 9,770,030.00	1.01%
	Total Fixed & Uncontrollable	\$ 24,584,038.00	5.30%	\$ 23,345,635.00	15.20%	\$ 20,265,733.00	-1.26%	\$ 20,109,624.00	-1.26%
	Town Total	\$ 88,294,735.00	3.50%	\$ 85,312,900.00	5.68%	\$ 80,729,267.00	2.41%	\$ 78,825,646.00	2.06%
450	Water Department	\$ 4,636,146.00	9.90%	\$ 4,218,324.00	15.97%	\$ 3,637,377.76	16.54%	\$ 3,121,070.00	-28.85%
	Water Dept. - Reserve	\$200,000	0.00%	\$200,000	0.00%	\$200,000	0.00%	\$200,000	0.00%
	Total Water Department	\$ 4,836,146.00	9.46%	\$ 4,418,324.00	15.14%	\$ 3,837,377.76	15.55%	\$ 3,321,070.00	-27.59%
	PEG Access (cable) Enterprise Fund	\$ 340,000.00	0.00%	\$ 340,000.00	0.00%	\$ 340,000.00			
	Total GF Budgets Less Fixed	\$ 63,710,697.00	2.81%	\$ 61,967,265.00	2.49%	\$ 60,463,534.00	2.98%	\$ 58,716,022.00	3.25%

Article 6: Capital Outlay

Sponsored by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to consider the following items A through M, which will be voted separately, and to raise and appropriate a sum of money for each of the capital outlay purposes herein mentioned, and to determine whether the money shall be raised by borrowing, taxation, previously approved but unexpended capital project funds or otherwise; and to reduce the borrowing authority for the new high construction school project by appropriating a sum of money from previously approved but unexpended borrowed funds, or act in any way relative thereto.

CIVIL DEFENSE

6A. Purchase of equipment by Civil Defense

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

6B. Town wide replacement/upgrade of security cameras

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

6C. Purchase of operations equipment by the Department of Public Works

6D. Resurfacing of public ways and reconstruction of sidewalks by the Department of Public Works

WATER DEPARTMENT

6E. Relaying of water mains by the Water Department

6F. Replacement of water meters

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

6G. Purchase of technology and equipment by the School Department

6H. Replacement of HVAC equipment

6I. Traffic and parking lot improvements at Heights Elementary

6J. Purchase of furniture by the School Department

6K. Purchase of SPED vans by the School Department

FIRE DEPARTMENT

6L. Purchase of equipment by the Fire Department

POLICE DEPARTMENT

6M. Purchase of equipment by the Police Department

Article #	CIVIL DEFENSE			
6A	12kW Three phase generator	C	\$11,000.00	
	<i>Civil Defense Subtotal</i>			\$11,000.00
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY			
6B	Town wide replacement/upgrade of security cameras	C	\$53,446.00	
	<i>IT Subtotal</i>			\$53,446.00
	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS			
6C	Operations equipment replacement	B	\$435,000.00	
6D	Roads and sidewalks	B	\$310,500.00	
	<i>DPW Subtotal</i>			\$745,500.00
	WATER DEPARTMENT			
6E	Water main replacement	WB	\$550,000.00	
6F	Replacement of water meters	WB	\$1,200,000.00	
	<i>Water Dept. Subtotal</i>			\$1,750,000.00
	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT			
6G	Wireless access points	C	\$25,000.00	
6G	1:1 Chromebooks	C	\$120,000.00	
6G	Small teacher replacement - computers	C	\$75,000.00	
6G	iPad replacement	C	\$45,000.00	
6G	Portable radio replacement (40)	C	\$21,700.00	
6G	Projectors/Monitors	B	\$112,000.00	
6G	Replace network hub switches	B	\$66,000.00	
6G	Classroom desktop computers - update	B	\$150,000.00	
6G	Classroom audio systems	B	\$130,000.00	
6G	Firewall replacement	B	\$102,000.00	
6G	DSLR cameras	B	\$53,790.00	
6G	Heights - security cameras and access controls	B	\$34,729.00	
6G	Snow removal equipment	B	\$26,000.00	
6G	East - security cameras & access controls	B	\$29,320.00	
6H	Cottage - New roof top unit (1)	B	\$70,000.00	
6H	East - Energy Recovery Ventilator ceiling hung units in 4 modular class rooms (4)	B	\$79,500.00	
6H	East - new RTU (1) nurse office	B	\$60,000.00	
6H	Heights - new RTUs (2)	B	\$125,000.00	
6I	Heights - traffic/parking lot improvements	B	\$937,176.00	
6J	DW Replacement furniture - classrooms	B	\$40,000.00	
6K	SPED vans	B	\$70,000.00	
	<i>School Dept. Subtotal</i>			\$2,372,215.00
	FIRE DEPARTMENT			
6L	Quick response vehicle	B	\$31,964.00	
		UC	\$38,036.00	
6L	Thermal imagers	B	\$25,000.00	
6L	Rescue boat	B	\$30,000.00	
6L	Snowmobile/Ice rescue	C	\$25,000.00	
6L	Fire fighter bailout equipment	C	\$16,000.00	
	<i>Fire Dept. Subtotal</i>			\$166,000.00
	POLICE DEPARTMENT			
6M	Replacement of police cruisers (3)	C	\$180,000.00	
	<i>Police Dept. Subtotal</i>			\$180,000.00
	GRAND TOTAL			\$5,278,161.00
	Town			\$1,155,946.00
	School			\$2,372,215.00
	Water			\$1,750,000.00
	TOTAL			\$5,278,161.00

SUMMARY OF FUNDING SOURCES:		
BORROW (NON-EXEMPT)	B	\$2,917,979.00
CASH CAPITAL	C	\$572,146.00
UNEXPENDED CAPITAL FUNDS	UC	\$38,036.00
WATER BORROW (NON-EXEMPT)	WB	\$1,750,000.00
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES		\$5,278,161.00

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

CIVIL DEFENSE

6A. Purchase of equipment by Civil Defense

Civil Defense is requesting \$11,000 to be raised and appropriated to purchase a new 12 Kw three phase generator. This comparatively small generator would supplement the existing large generators the Town owns which would be used to power the Town’s emergency shelters and Public Safety Building in the event of a large-scale power outage. This smaller generator could, for example, be used to power the IT infrastructure at Town Hall, or one of the gas stations located in Town.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

6B. Purchase of equipment and software by the Information Technology Department

The Information Technology Department is requesting \$53,446 to be raised and appropriated for the town wide replacement/upgrade of security cameras. The upgrade and purchase of new security cameras, including those requested by the School Department, will be coordinated throughout Town, to ensure that all Town departments could quickly access live video streams in the case of an emergency.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

6C. Purchase of operations equipment by the Department of Public Works (DPW)

DPW is requesting a total of \$435,000 to be borrowed toward the purchase of new equipment.

Project	Budget Source	Amount
Large Dump Truck	Borrow/Debt	\$255,000
Small Dump Truck	Borrow/Debt	\$80,000
Large Field Mower including trailer	Borrow/Debt	\$100,000
Total Operations Equipment Replacement		\$435,000

The large dump truck would replace present DPW vehicle #13, a 1998 model L-8000 which has failed inspection due to a rusted frame and chassis. The small dump truck would replace DPW vehicle #10, a 2008 Ford F550 with 75,000 miles and recent repairs of \$6,800. The large field mower would replace a 2006 Toro mower with roughly 3,500 hours of service.

6D. Resurfacing of public ways and reconstruction of sidewalks by the Department of Public Works

DPW is requesting a total of \$310,500 to be borrowed toward the resurfacing and reconstruction of public ways and sidewalks.

Project	Budget Source	Amount
Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks: Chestnut Street – Depot Street to South Main Street	Borrow/Debt	\$92,000

Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks: South Pleasant Street – Depot Street to Chestnut Street	Borrow/Debt	\$55,500
Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks: Pine Road – South Pleasant Street to Chestnut Street	Borrow/Debt	\$41,000
Reconstruction of roads/sidewalks: Forest Road – South Pleasant Street to end of street	Borrow/Debt	\$35,000
Reconstruction of Chessman Drive sidewalk – Bishop Road to Williams Road	Borrow/Debt	\$87,000
Total		\$310,500

All of the above projects, except for the reconstruction of the sidewalk on Chessman Drive, are in the vicinity of the train station. The water main pipe was recently replaced in that neighborhood and the above projects will address the (normal) damage done to the roads and sidewalks during construction.

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Department is requesting a total of \$1,750,000 to be borrowed (debt service for which will be paid from water rates) to replace water mains and water meters.

Project	Budget Source	Amount
Relaying of water mains	Borrowing	\$550,000
Replacement of water meters	Borrowing	\$1,200,000
Total		\$1,750,000

6E. Relaying of water mains by the Water Department
\$550,000 to be borrowed to fund Phase 2 of 3 of the Walnut Street/Oakland Road area water main replacement project.

6F. Replacement of water meters
\$1,200,000 to be borrowed to replace water meters (this is a multi-year project and funds are requested each year as needed). This project was put out for competitive bidding in January 2021 and the request is based on the bids received. Costs this year compared with prior years are higher, impacted by Covid-19 related additional expenses relating to regular testing of installers, vaccine tracking and decreased scheduling abilities. Procurement of the actual water meters has also increased.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

The School Department is requesting \$2,372,215, with \$2,085,515 to be funded by borrowing and \$286,700 to be raised and appropriated. Several of the requests are connected to the School Department’s Covid-19 pandemic response which requires upgrades to HVAC systems (i.e., roof top units) and IT infrastructure and equipment. The remainder are routine replacements/upgrades of existing equipment, or part of multi-year projects to which funds were allocated in previous budget years. The largest request is the Heights Elementary parking lot project which is necessitated by the poor condition of the parking lot, reconfiguration of the parking lot and drop-off/pick-up lane, and to ease traffic issues on South Main Street during drop-off and pick-up.

Project	Budget Source	Amount
Wireless Access Points	Cash	\$25,000
Chromebooks	Cash	\$120,000
Small tech replacement for teachers	Cash	\$75,000

Projectors/monitors	Borrow/Debt	\$112,000
Replace Network Hub Switches	Borrow/Debt	\$66,000
Classroom desktop computers – update	Borrow/Debt	\$150,000
Classroom audio systems	Borrow/Debt	\$130,000
Firewall replacement	Borrow/Debt	\$102,000
iPad replacement	Cash	\$45,000
DSLR Cameras	Borrow/Debt	\$53,790
Cottage – New Roof Top Unit	Borrow/Debt	\$70,000
Portable Radios replacement (40)	Cash	\$21,700
Snow Removal Equipment	Borrow/Debt	\$26,000
East- Security Cameras & Access Control	Borrow/Debt	\$29,320
East- Energy Recovery Ventilators	Borrow/Debt	\$79,500
East – New Roof Top Unit Nurse Office	Borrow/Debt	\$60,000
Heights – Parking Lot Additional Funding	Borrow/Debt	\$937,176
Heights – Security Cameras & Access Control	Borrow/Debt	\$34,729
Heights – New Roof Top Units (2)	Borrow/Debt	\$125,000
Districtwide – Replacement Furniture Classrooms	Borrow/Debt	\$40,000
SPED Vans (s)	Borrow/Debt	\$70,000
Total		\$2,372,215

6G. Purchase of technology and equipment by the School Department

\$25,000 in cash to be raised and appropriated to purchase additional wireless access points in the schools which are needed due to increased device usage connected to the one-to-one program. This will facilitate faster and more reliable wireless access for students and staff.

\$120,000 in cash to be raised and appropriated to purchase 300 Chromebooks which are requested to continue the 1:1 program. This is the seventh year of this program which provides all students in grades 8-12 with a Town-issued laptop. This equipment is part of the curriculum as an instructional tool, much like textbooks.

\$75,000 in cash to be raised and appropriated to replace small technology equipment (laptops) for teachers.

\$45,000 in cash to be raised and appropriated to fund iPad replacement. This project is part of the School Department’s objective to replace 20% of all computer devices each year. This year, the objective is to replace the iPads which are used by the Grades K - 2 students.

\$21,700 in cash to be raised and appropriated to replace portable radio equipment used by staff to communicate within the buildings during routine operations and emergencies.

\$112,000 to be borrowed to purchase new projectors. There are 250 projectors district-wide, with 100 projectors/interactive whiteboards currently in need of replacement. Annual tech replacement for those is beginning to be cycled rather than replacement in aggregate every few years.

\$66,000 to be borrowed to purchase new switches. 9-year-old switches are being replaced to upgrade infrastructure to current needs. Priority will be given to the schools with the oldest switches, which are Cottage Elementary and Heights Elementary.

\$150,000 to be borrowed to replace classroom desktop computers. It is the goal of the School Department to replace 20 percent of all computer devices every year, as opposed to replacing devices all at once every few years. This year’s requests are in line with that goal.

\$130,000 to be borrowed to install classroom audio systems. This is part of a multi-year project that aims to improve acoustics in classrooms for hearing impaired students. The audio systems also aide in acoustics for students attending school remotely.

\$102,000 to be borrowed for firewall replacements. This project is part of the School Department's routine upgrades of IT equipment.

\$53,790 to be borrowed to fund the purchase of DSLR cameras for students to be used at the High School. These cameras are intended to support the visual arts department and their photography studio classes by increasing the number of cameras available to students.

\$64,049 to be borrowed to purchase security cameras & access control technology (\$29,320 at East Elementary and \$34,729 at Heights Elementary). The objective is to update access control and security cameras including camera fixtures and software. The current system is antiquated with failing components and not compatible with other building and town systems. A district wide update will allow for a unified system and compatibility across the district and the Town of Sharon.

\$26,000 to be borrowed to purchase snow removal equipment for the schools' parking lots and walkways.

6H. Replacement of HVAC equipment

\$70,000 to be borrowed to purchase a new HVAC roof top unit at the Cottage Street School to create an isolated nursing office ventilation area. This project is part of the School Department's upgrade of HVAC equipment due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The project costs include the design, equipment, and subcontracted labor and materials to complete this work.

\$79,500 to be borrowed to purchase Energy Recovery Ventilators at East Elementary. The objective is to install 4 Energy Recovery Ventilators in the 4 modular classrooms to improve indoor air quality by capturing contaminants, pollutants, allergens, pollen, and more. This project is part of the School Department's upgrade of HVAC equipment due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

\$60,000 to be borrowed to purchase a new roof top unit for the nurse's office at East Elementary. This will replace the current Nurse Area Roof Top Unit which operates to maintain the temperature and ventilation of the nurse office. Project costs include equipment and labor. This project is part of the School Department's upgrade of HVAC equipment due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

\$125,000 to be borrowed to purchase 2 new Roof Top Units at Heights Elementary to service the administrative office area and the nursing unit. Project costs include equipment and labor to demo, remove current equipment and install new units. This project is part of the School Department's upgrade of HVAC equipment due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

6I. Traffic and parking lot improvements at Heights Elementary

\$937,176 to be borrowed for additional funding of the Heights Elementary parking lot project. The parking lot was installed in 1994, and due to its age, in recent years has incurred significant annual expenses for repairs. Additionally, the current parking lot configuration for drop off and pickup is dangerous, since a significant number of cars queue up on South Main Street, their amount regularly exceeding the space available in the designated drop off/pick up lane. This situation increases the potential of through traffic rear-ending cars waiting in the drop off/pickup lane and slows down the drop off and pick up process. Currently, the drop off/pickup loop in front of the school and the right turn lane on South Main Street provide storage for approximately 50 vehicles. In addition to necessary repairs to/reconstruction of the parking lot and walkways, the proposed project would fund the construction of a new queuing lane that circles the Heights Elementary School building (it would NOT be in-between the building and the

playground, but between the playground and the property line to Ward’s Berry Farm). This queuing lane would be able to accommodate 78 cars. The queuing lane on South Main Street would provide space for an additional 32 cars, for 110 cars total, thus more than doubling current capacity. While parents would que up in the newly constructed loop and parent drop off and pick up would be moved to the side of the building (school entrance between the traffic light and parking lot), buses would drop off and pick-up at the entrance facing South Main Street (where currently parents pick up and drop off).

A February 2019 traffic study by Bryant Associates concluded that the current overall “Delay in Seconds per Vehicle” for the intersection of South Main Street, Walpole Street and the Heights Elementary Driveway is at 188.6 seconds during AM drop-off time, and 218.9 seconds during the PM pickup time. The traffic report estimates that these delay times will be reduced to 51.0 seconds (AM drop off) and 55.7 seconds (PM pickup), with the Northbound and Southbound approaches projected to have very significant drops in delay and the Eastbound and Westbound approaches along South Main Street showing slight increases.

	Delay in Seconds/Vehicle			
	AM Peak Time (Drop off)		PM peak Time (Pickup)	
	Current Status	New Build	Current Status	New Build
Overall Intersection	188.6	51.0	218.9	55.7
Northbound Approach	824.2	106.4	973.1	96.5
Southbound Approach	477.7	83.8	298.6	90.9
Eastbound Approach	19.7	41.1	24.0	46.8
Westbound Approach	16.9	27.8	22.0	34.1

At the May 2018 Town Meeting, \$70,500 were approved towards design services for this project. At the May 2019 Town Meeting, \$1,182,500 were approved “to design and replace the parking lot, curbing, sidewalks, and traffic configurations at Heights Elementary including measures to alleviate drop-off/pick-up related traffic congestions on South Main Street”. The additional funding request of \$937,176 reflects an updated cost assessment to address the full scope of the work required to complete the Parking Lot Upgrade and Drive Lane Access for Heights Elementary School.

	Amount
Design Fees	\$70,500 (amount was approved by May 2018 Town Meeting & has been mostly spent)
Site Costs	\$1,695,729 (\$1,182,500 of this amount was approved by May 2019 Town Meeting and has already been borrowed by the Town towards this project)
Construction Management/Administration	\$169,573
Contingency Site Costs (15% of total project budget; funds not needed will be returned to the Town)	\$254,359
Total Project Budget	\$2,190,161

The Finance Committee subjected this project to detailed review and expressed their dissatisfaction with the handling of this project so far. Not only has this project been delayed by several years, but it appears that internal management of this particular project has been less than desirable until recently. Given the sense of urgency, resulting from the public safety concerns that were the main impetus for this project, the Finance Committee expressed its concerns to the School Administration and School Committee and were assured that the project will receive the necessary attention and sense of urgency going forward, should the necessary additional funding be approved. The Capital Outlay Committee has made the hiring of a

Construction Project Manager a condition of a favorable vote on the additional funding approval. The Finance Committee agrees with the Capital Outlay Committee on this approach. It is anticipated that execution of this project would now commence as soon as approved funds are available.

6J. Purchase of furniture by the School Department
\$40,000 to be borrowed for district wide furniture replacement. This request is part of the standard cycle of replacing old furniture.

6K. Purchase of SPED vans by the School Department
\$70,000 to be borrowed to replace two (2) of the fleet of 35 special education vans.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

6L. Purchase of equipment by the Fire Department
The Fire Department is requesting \$166,000 towards the purchase of new equipment, with \$86,964 to be generated by borrowing, \$41,000 to be funded with cash and \$38,036 funded from previously approved but unexpended capital funds.

Project	Budget Source	Amount
Quick Response Vehicle	Borrow/Debt & Other (unexpended capital funds)	\$31,964 & \$38,036
Thermal Imagers	Borrow/Debt	\$25,000
Rescue Boat	Borrow/Debt	\$30,000
Snowmobile/Ice Rescue	Cash	\$25,000
F/F Bailout Equipment	Cash	\$16,000
Total Operations Equipment Replacement		\$166,000

Two of the current thermal imagers have failed. The main purpose of this equipment is to allow firefighters to quickly locate trapped victims in smoke filled rooms. The typical life expectancy for thermal imagers is about ten years.

The firefighter bailout equipment allows a firefighter to escape and descend through a window if otherwise trapped in a burning building. The \$16,000 purchase price would outfit every Town firefighter with this lifesaving equipment. This equipment has a ten-year life expectancy.

The Fire Department is requesting appropriation of funds to purchase a snowmobile. Large amounts of open space in Town (for example, Borderland and Moose Hill) are difficult to access for rescue operations when snow covered in winter. These areas are used by many people for recreational activities in such weather conditions. The snowmobile would allow rescue staff to reach injured parties much quicker than at present. One member of the Finance Committee felt strongly that this was an unnecessary expenditure.

The Fire Department is requesting appropriation of funds to purchase a rescue boat. Currently, the Fire Department uses an old skiff owned by the Recreation Department which is not designed for water rescue. The proposed equipment has capacity for 10 people, with a bow that opens and folds down to slide a victim into the boat, a critical feature in cases of neck or back injurie rescues. If two boats were to collide on Lake Massapoag, or if there were a boat/kayak collision, this equipment would be critical. The current boat only has capacity for 4 people and would continue to be used by the Recreation Department.

Since a fire engine typically accompanies the ambulance on all medical calls, the requested \$70,000 for purchase of a Quick Response Vehicle (an SUV) would save on wear and tear on the Town's fire engines (approximate cost of \$700,000 each). The Quick Response Vehicle would be used instead to transport the shift Captain and one firefighter who backup EMS personnel. This vehicle would be fully outfitted with lights and sirens and other necessary equipment.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

6M. Purchase of equipment by the Police Department

The Police Department is requesting \$180,000 in cash to be raised and appropriated for the purchase of three vehicles as part of an annual replacement program. These vehicles will be hybrids. The Police Department has calculated that, at approximately \$3,600 per year and vehicle, the fuel savings associated with purchasing hybrid vehicles over the life of the vehicles will noticeably exceed the additional upfront cost to purchase them (an extra \$8,000 per vehicle). The costs per vehicle include the costs to modify the vehicles to make them suitable for police use.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-1-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: 2/3 vote

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS:

[6A]

That the Town raise from taxation the sum of \$11,000 for the purchase of additional departmental equipment for Civil Defense.

[6B]

That the Town raise from taxation the sum of \$53,446 for the purchase of security technology equipment for Information Technology.

[6C]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$435,000 for the purchase of operations equipment for the Department of Public Works; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$435,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6D]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$310,500 for the resurfacing of public ways and for the reconstruction of sidewalks for the Department of Public Works; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$310,500 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to

pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6E]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$550,000 for the relaying of water mains for the Water Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$550,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6F]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,200,000 for the replacement of water meters for the Water Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$1,200,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6G]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$990,539 for the purchase of additional departmental technology equipment for the School Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$703,839 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7, and the remainder, \$286,700, to be raised from taxation.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6H]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$334,500 for the replacement of HVAC equipment for the School Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$334,500 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6I]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$937,176 for traffic and parking lot improvements at Heights Elementary for the School Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$937,176 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6J]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purchase of additional furniture for the School Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$40,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6K]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$70,000 for the purchase of special education vans for the School Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$70,000 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6L]

That the Town appropriate the sum of \$166,000 for the purchase of additional departmental equipment for the Fire Department; and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow \$86,964 under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 7; raise from taxation the sum of \$41,000 and the remainder, \$38,036, to be expended from previously approved but unexpended capital funds.

Any premium received by the town from the sale of any bonds or notes authorized by this vote, less the costs of issuance of the bonds or notes paid from the premium, and any accrued interest may be applied to pay project costs in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, and the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay those costs shall be reduced by the same amount applied.

[6M]

That the Town raise from taxation the sum of \$180,000 for the purchase of additional departmental equipment for the Police Department.

That the Town reduce the borrowing authorization for the new high school construction project as voted under Article 6 of the November 4, 2019 Special Town Meeting by \$1,250,502.33 and appropriate \$1,250,502.33 of unexpended borrowed funds previously authorized by Town Meeting as follows: \$965,209.59 previously authorized by Article 1 of the November 6, 2017 Special Town Meeting for the High School Feasibility project; \$147,293.46 previously authorized by Article 6 of the May 5, 2014 Annual Town Meeting for the public safety building construction project; and \$137,999.28 previously authorized by Article 3 of the November 6, 2017 Special Town Meeting for the Town Hall construction project.

Article 7: Community Preservation Act Annual Funding & Projects

Sponsored by: Community Preservation Committee

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 2022 Community Preservation Fund Revenues or CPA Fund Balances for Community Preservation purposes with each item considered a separate appropriation:

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

APPROPRIATIONS:

Purpose	Recommended Amount	Funding Source
Budget – Salaries	\$5,000.00	FY2022 Annual Estimated Revenues
Budget – Expenses	\$10,000.00	FY2022 Annual Estimated Revenues

(Community Preservation Committee Annual Funding – To raise and appropriate up to 5% of the Town’s portion of the expected Fiscal Year 2022 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.)

DEBT SERVICE:

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$368,693.75 for Rattlesnake Hill (Open Space) project debt service from FY2022 Annual Estimated Revenues (\$229,000.00 Principal + \$139,693.75 Interest).

RESERVES:

Purpose	Recommended Amount	Funding Source
Historic Resources – Reservation	\$76,000	FY2022 Annual Estimated Revenues
Community Housing - Reservation	\$76,000	FY2022 Annual Estimated Revenues

PROJECTS:

Project	Category	Amount	Funding Source	Description
Athletic Field Sand Infusion	Recreation	\$35,000	Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, the infusion of sand for athletic fields at East Elementary and Sharon Middle School to improve soil structure and improve drainage for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated the sum of \$35,000 to the Department of Public Works for Sharon Lacrosse Association, Sharon Soccer Association, interscholastic sports and other sports groups for such purposes.

Heights Playground Surfacing	Recreation	\$169,050	Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, the installation of a rubber playground cover to reduce injury risk and to create an accessible playground space in both the play structure and swing set areas for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated the sum of \$169,050 to the School Department for such purposes.
Pickle Ball Courts	Recreation	\$100,000	Open Space and Recreation and Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, the construction of 4 dedicated pickle ball courts located at Deborah Sampson Park adjacent to existing tennis courts. (Total project cost estimated at \$200,000. \$100,000 to be contributed in donations from sponsors and players.) \$100,000 appropriated from CPA funds as follows: \$70,262 from Open Space and Recreation fund balance and \$29,738 from Undesignated funds. The use of said CPA funds under the Community Preservation Act is expressly contingent upon the first \$100,000 in project costs being expended from donations from sponsors and players; and, further, to appropriate from CPA Fund Balances the sum of \$100,000 to the Recreation Department for such purposes.
Tennis Rally Wall	Recreation	\$15,283	Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, the purchase and installation of a tennis rally wall as an enhancement to existing tennis courts for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to appropriate from Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated the sum of \$15,283 to the Recreation Department for such purposes.
Recreation Facilities Feasibility Plan	Recreation	\$24,550	Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated	To appropriate, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, the development of a feasibility plan to help determine best field layouts, surface types, lighting viability, ADA improvements and various other site improvements for recreational facilities at Ames Playground, Gavin's Pond, Deborah Sampson, East, Cottage, Heights, Middle School and High School for recreation purposes under the Community Preservation Act, and to

				appropriate from Fund Balance Undesignated/ Unappropriated the sum of \$24,550 to the Recreation Department for such purposes.
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Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would appropriate and reserve the sum of \$879,576.75 from the Town's Community Preservation Fund (CPF) as outlined above: \$273,621 from the Undesignated/Unappropriated fund balance and \$70,262 from the fund balance for Open Space to fund total approved projects in the amount of \$343,883; \$368,693.75 in debt service on the purchase of Rattlesnake Hill, \$15,000 for administrative expenses, and \$152,000 in 10% Reservations, will all be funded from CPA (Community Preservation Act) Revenues and CPA Fund Balances. Any unused amount from administrative expense is returned to the undesignated fund balance reserved for future project requests.

The CPA requires that every year the fund reserve or appropriate 10% of its revenues for each of the prescribed funding categories – Open Space (including recreational), Historic Preservation, and Affordable Housing – with the balance to be used in any of the three CPA designated categories. This year, with no projects slated for Historic Preservation or Affordable Housing, there are 10% reservations of \$76,000 for each of these two categories.

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has a responsibility to review requests for projects in the three prescribed funding categories and recommends that the Town fund the above projects from current revenues and/or accumulated reserves.

CPC Chair, Corey Snow, presented to the Finance Committee an Executive Summary which is publicly accessible and found at:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KezrW3CewOmRhiIF0J_L7gqzgBwQpkYT8fxM5y9W9J8/edi

Highlights of the discussion include the following comments:

- Funding Pickle Ball courts would also support the tennis community as the tennis courts are currently shared by players of both sports. The Pickle Ball project would not go forward without \$100,000 of pledged funding which must be expended first.
- Funding (principal \$229,000.00 and interest \$139,693.75) for the purchase of Rattlesnake Hill is the largest single item in the FY 2022 budget. Twenty-year bonds funding this purchase were issued in March 2021 at a favorable rate of 1.363%, and will require annual appropriations through 2040.
- There have been long standing issues in Town regarding the availability, utilization and access to recreational fields. The Recreation Department Feasibility Plan is designed to identify ways of addressing some of the issues around the use of fields.
- In an effort to increase playability, the SandMaster infusion project at East Elementary and the Middle School is designed to address utilization of fields following adverse weather.
- Over the years, Sharon has allocated the bulk of CPA funds to Recreation and Open Space including the acquisition of large parcels of land. This year the only projects submitted and reviewed by the CPC were for Recreation and Open Space; no requests submitted for Affordable Housing or Historic Preservation.

- There are funds accruing in the Historic Preservation category (\$727,083). Sharon does not have a standing inventory of historic houses but does have historic assets. In the past, funds have been used to repair historic dams, walls, cemeteries, the Carnegie library building as well as historic record preservation.
- The CPC plans to convene community meetings or workshops to address the question of getting value from the Historic Preservation. Under the CPA, there is no provision for moving funds among the designated categories and to date no exceptions have been granted. Since other towns may have a similar problem of disproportionately accruing funds in a category, it might be worth approaching the Legislature as a coalition to address the issue.

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

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

ANTICIPATED MOTIONS: That the Town hear and act upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee as follows: By raising and appropriating the sum of \$15,000 of the Town’s portion of the expected Fiscal Year 2022 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. Chapter 44B, § 6 and amendments thereof; authorize the Community Preservation appropriate and/or reserve from Fiscal Year 2022 Community Preservation Fund Estimated Revenues the following: \$368,693.75 for Open Space/Recreation debt service; \$76,000 for Historic Resources – Reservation; and \$76,000 for Community Housing – Reservation.

That the following amounts be appropriated from Community Preservation Fund Balances, with each item considered a separate appropriation: \$35,000 for Recreation for athletic field sand infusion; \$169,050 for Recreation for the installation of a rubber playground surface at the Heights Elementary Playground; \$100,000 for Recreation for the construction of four dedicated pickle ball courts at Deborah Sampson Park (\$70,262 from Open Space and Recreation and \$29,738 from Fund Balance Undesignated/Unappropriated); the use of said CPA funds under the Community Preservation Act is expressly contingent upon the first \$100,000 in project costs (total project cost: \$200,000) being expended from donations from sponsors and players; \$15,283 for Recreation for the purchase and installation of a tennis rally wall as an enhancement to existing tennis courts; \$24,550 for Recreation for the development of a feasibility plan to help determine best field layouts, surface types, lighting viability, ADA improvements and various other site improvements for recreational facilities at Ames Playground, Gavin’s Pond, Deborah Sampson, East, Cottage, Heights, Middle School and High School.

Article 8: Norfolk County Retirement Annual Assessment

Sponsored by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money 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, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would allow the Town to pay its assessment costs pertaining to the Norfolk County Retirement System. The monies are used to fund pension liabilities of past and current Town employees.

At the time of the vote on this recommendation, the expected appropriation for FY22 is \$4,246,399, a 3.9% increase over last year’s obligation. Since the Town has no choice but to fund its obligations to the Norfolk County Retirement System, the Finance Committee voted in favor of approval. Members of the Finance Committee expressed their concern over the ever-increasing Town obligation for public sector pensions.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 9: Unemployment Fund

Sponsored by: Select Board

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, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would allow the Town to appropriate \$300,000 (an increase of \$225,000 from FY 2021) 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 300% increase over last year represents the Town positioning itself to absorb the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on employment. Unemployment benefits have been both extended and increased in response to the pandemic. Any of the appropriated funds not expended in FY 2022 would return to the General Fund.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 10: Funding Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B.) Trust Fund

Sponsored by: Select Board

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 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would appropriate \$400,000 (up from \$350,000 in FY 2021) 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 \$400,000 would go into a trust fund that would be invested in appropriate investment vehicles, as provided under state law, potentially producing investment returns that would lower the ultimate cost. The trust fund, if appropriately funded, provides the Town with a favorable position with the bond rating authorities as it demonstrates that the Town is planning for known future contingencies.

One member of the Finance Committee would prefer to pay for post-employment benefits as incurred rather than setting aside funds in anticipation of future expenses.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 11: Funding Assessor Inspection Services

Sponsored by: Board of Assessors

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 property inspection and valuation services for properties within the Town of Sharon for Fiscal Year 2022 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 56 and Chapter 58, Sections 1, 1A and 3, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize the Town to pay the vendor services to perform Inspection & Valuation Services for properties within the Town. The budgeted amount is \$50,000 for FY 2022 appropriation (unchanged from FY 2021). Funds for these services were previously included in the Assessor's budget but have been moved to a separate fund to allow unexpended amounts to be carried over from one fiscal year to the next.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 12: Annual Audit Appropriation

Sponsored by: Finance Director

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 2021 in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, §40, and to determine whether to meet said appropriation by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or by a combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize the Town to pay the costs associated with the Annual Audit of Accounts. The budgeted amount is \$59,000 for FY 2022 appropriation (unchanged from FY 2021).

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 13: Revolving Fund Authorizations

Sponsored by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to authorize FY 2022 expenditure limits for the revolving funds listed below for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, to be expended in accordance with Article III of the Town's General Bylaws:

Revolving Fund	Expenditure Limit
Cable TV Licensing and Re-licensing Fund	\$20,000.00
Library Public-Use Supplies Replacement Fund	\$7,000.00
Library Materials Replacement Fund	\$3,500.00
Street Opening Fund	\$25,000.00
Solid Waste and Recycling Fund	\$1,800,000.00
Community Center Building Maintenance Fund	\$100,000.00
High School Parking Lot Fund	\$65,000.00
Railroad Parking Fund	\$550,000.00
Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	\$400,000.00
Waterfront Recreation Programs Revolving Fund	\$200,000.00
Conservation Commission Advertising Revolving Fund	\$4,000.00
Board of Health Fund for Monitoring Compliance with Septic Variance	\$20,000.00
Health Department Revolving Fund	\$40,000.00
Council on Aging Program Revolving Fund	\$50,000.00

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize each of the different revolving funds for fiscal year 2022.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 14: Property Tax Exemptions

Sponsored by: Department of Veterans' Services

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 1/2, 17D, 17E, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C and 41D of M.G.L. Chapter 59, § 5 in an amount equal to 100 percent to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022; or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize the Board of Assessors to grant estate exemptions in FY 2022 for specific categories of veterans and their survivors, individuals with disabilities, individuals who are legally blind and qualified elders.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 15: Act on Reports

Sponsored by: Select Board

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize actions to be taken on reports.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 16: Sharon Friends School Fund Records & Appointments

Sponsored by: Select Board

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.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize acceptance of the records and appointments of the Sharon Friends School Fund.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

Article 17: Community Septic Management Program Participation Authorization

Sponsored by: Board of Health

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following relating to the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust's Community Septic Management Program: to appropriate \$500,000 for the purpose of financing the following residential property water pollution facility projects: repair, replacement and/or upgrade of residential septic systems, pursuant to agreements with Board of Health and residential property owners including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in M.G.L. Chapter 29C, Section 1; and to determine whether it is appropriate that this sum shall be raised by borrowing from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust or otherwise.

And to further authorize the Select Board and/or such other Town agencies or officials as may be appropriate to take such other actions, execute such agreements and execute such other documents as may be required to accomplish the foregoing, or act in any way relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article would authorize the Town to offer financial support to homeowners who must repair or replace a failed septic system. Applicants must meet eligibility requirements, including income requirements, as required under the State's Community Septic Management Program (CSMP). This CSMP is funded through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the "Trust") and assistance from the Town to qualifying homeowners is offered through the Town's Loan Betterment Program. The Town's Loan Betterment Program establishes priorities for making Betterment Agreements with homeowners who qualify under the CSMP requirements.

Under the CSMP, the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust provides low-cost loans to the Town. The Town would then make betterment loans of up to 20 years to qualified homeowners and charge up to 5% as an administrative fee. The Town Assessor would place a lien on the property in the amount of the loan. The Board of Health would screen and approve applicants; the Assessors would manage the lien and tax billing; the Treasurer/Collector would manage the collection of repayments; and the Finance Director would handle the loan and overall supervision of the program.

The article contemplates asking for authority to borrow up to a total of \$500,000, in increments of approximately \$100,000 as needed.

The Massachusetts Constitution prohibits the use of Town funds for private purposes, where the expenditure of funds will primarily and directly benefit certain individuals. However, through the State's Community Septic Management Program, the use of Town funds to assist homeowners who need to address a failed septic system is permissible. This would reinstate a program which the Town successfully operated several years ago.

The Board of Health voted 5-0-0 in favor of approval.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **2/3 vote**

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town appropriate \$500,000 for the purpose of financing the following water pollution facility projects: repair, replacement and/or upgrade of septic systems, pursuant to agreements with Board of Health and residential property owners including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in M.G.L. Chapter 29C, Section 1, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 111, Section 127B½, or any other authority. All or any portion of the amount authorized to be borrowed by this vote may be borrowed from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Article 18: **Acquisition of 66 North Main Street**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money from available funds, funds available from the community preservation act accounts, funds transferrable from prior authorized but unused borrowings, and/or by borrowing to be expended by the Select Board for the acquisition by purchase for the public use of the location of a public library on or adjacent to said parcel, the fee and/or an easement in the following parcel of land, or a portion identified below, thereof:

The property now or formerly owned by Michael and Ruth Freeman, situated in Sharon, MA, located at 66 North Main Street, consisting of 1.15 acres, more or less, and shown as Assessors identification number 101048000, or as the same may be more particularly described; or any portion of the above parcel, or as the same may be more particularly described.

And to authorize the Select Board to take all actions necessary and to execute such documents as they deem necessary to affect the foregoing, including without limitation, the dedication of any structures on said parcel to be used for affordable housing.

And/or to act in any way related thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

This Article is currently a “placeholder” article to be acted upon if agreement can be reached regarding a potential transaction involving the property at 66 North Main Street, which abuts the 1 School Street new library project site. The Finance Committee will continue to monitor the progress of these negotiations and assess any impact to the library project and Town finances. If action on this article does move forward, the Finance Committee will make a recommendation at Town Meeting.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: **2/3 vote (absent an appropriation, Majority vote)**

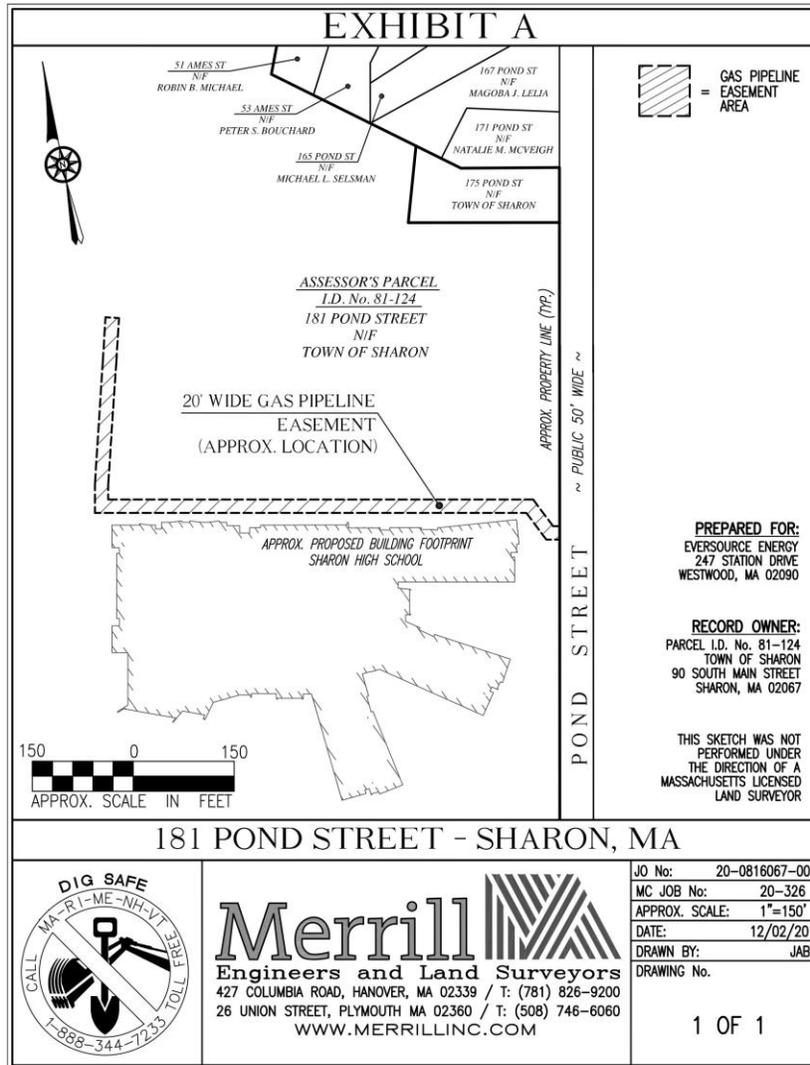
ANTICIPATED MOTION: The source of funds has not been determined.

Article 19: **Grant of Gas Utility Easement for High School**

Sponsored by: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board and/or School Committee, upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board and/or School Committee deem to be in the best interest of the Town, to convey to Eversource Gas Company of Massachusetts, a perpetual and exclusive right and easement to enter upon from time to time, make necessary excavations, locate, relocate, erect, construct, reconstruct, add to, extend, repair, replace, maintain, operate, inspect or remove gas mains and/or distribution systems for gas, together with all fittings, pipes, valves, equipment and other fixtures and appurtenances necessary or useful in connection therewith, for the transmission and/or distribution of natural gas on, over, under and across the Sharon High School property, located at 181 Pond Street, Assessor’s Parcel ID 81-124, as more particularly described on a plan entitled, “Plan of Land in the Town of Sharon, Norfolk County, Massachusetts”, dated February 8, 1954, prepared by The Schuyler Clapp Company, and recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 486 of 1954; and additionally as shown on a plan entitled, “Plan of Memorial Park and Memorial Parkway as Laid Out for Park Purposes by the Planning Board of the Town of Sharon, Norfolk Co., Mass.”, dated April 16, 1946, prepared by The Schuyler Clapp Company, and recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 372 of 1946. The location of said Easement is generally shown and described as “20’ Wide Gas Pipeline Easement” as shown on the plan entitled “181 Pond Street – Sharon, MA”, dated December 2, 2020, and prepared by Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, and as the same may be more or less particularly described, or as such plan may be later identified or amended.

And to authorize the Select Board and/or School Committee to take all actions necessary and to execute such documents as they deem necessary to affect the foregoing; or to take any other action relative thereto.



FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this Article will authorize the Select Board and/or the School Committee on behalf of the Town of Sharon to grant a gas utility easement to Eversource Gas Company of Massachusetts for an existing gas main that is located on the High School parcel. There is currently no recorded easement granted to the gas company for the existing gas main. Town Counsel has advised that it is legally advisable for the gas main, which serves the present high school and will serve the new high school, to be documented by an easement which would be recorded at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds.

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

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 11-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town authorize the Select Board and/or School Committee, upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board and/or School Committee deem to be in the best interest of the Town, to convey to Eversource Gas Company of Massachusetts, a perpetual and exclusive right and easement to enter upon from time to time, make necessary excavations, locate, relocate, erect, construct,

reconstruct, add to, extend, repair, replace, maintain, operate, inspect or remove gas mains and/or distribution systems for gas, together with all fittings, pipes, valves, equipment and other fixtures and appurtenances necessary or useful in connection therewith, for the transmission and/or distribution of natural gas on, over, under and across the Sharon High School property, located at 181 Pond Street, Assessor's Parcel ID 81-124, as more particularly described on a plan entitled, "Plan of Land in the Town of Sharon, Norfolk County, Massachusetts", dated February 8, 1954, prepared by The Schuyler Clapp Company, and recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 486 of 1954; and additionally as shown on a plan entitled, "Plan of Memorial Park and Memorial Parkway as Laid Out for Park Purposes by the Planning Board of the Town of Sharon, Norfolk Co., Mass.", dated April 16, 1946, prepared by The Schuyler Clapp Company, and recorded with the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 372 of 1946. The location of said Easement is generally shown and described as "20' Wide Gas Pipeline Easement" as shown on the plan entitled "181 Pond Street – Sharon, MA", dated December 2, 2020, and prepared by Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, and as the same may be more or less particularly described, or as such plan may be later identified or amended.

And that the Town authorize the Select Board and/or School Committee to take all actions necessary and to execute such documents as they deem necessary to affect the foregoing.

Article 20: Citizen Petition – Home Rule Petition to Increase Membership of Select Board from Three to Five

Sponsored by: Phillip King, 18 Ashcroft Road, and 10 others

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to file a Home Rule petition with the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to file legislation on behalf of the Town for a special Act as set forth below, and further, to authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Select Board to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the objectives of this petition:

Or take any action relative thereto.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TOWN OF SHARON TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SELECT PERSONS FROM THREE TO FIVE.

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Select Board (Board of Selectmen) of the Town of Sharon shall be increased from three members to five members. At the next ensuing town election following the enactment of this Act three Select persons shall be elected, one for a two- year term, two for three- year terms, and thereafter each member to be elected for a three-year term.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

An affirmative vote under this citizens' petition would authorize the Select Board to file a Home Rule petition to the General Court of the Commonwealth, seeking the enactment of a special act by which the number of members of the Select Board would be increased from three to five.

Potential benefits of increasing Select Board membership to five members includes: increased representation, diversity, and viewpoints; less likelihood of one member being isolated or dominated by the other two members; potential for a wider range of skills and experience on the Board; increased access by the Select Board to town residents and vice versa; increased ability to communicate with Town committees; increased capacity to establish subcommittees; and increased ability to accommodate absences of members without limiting the Board's effectiveness. Having a five-member board would avoid the situation where any time two members of a three-member board met outside a noticed meeting, the potential of an open meeting law violation could arise.

Potential negative effects of increasing the number of members include: meetings might be more efficient with three as opposed to five members; it might be easier to reach a consensus with three members; and the present system with three members might be considered working well enough now such that no change is needed. There is also a possibility that there would be unanticipated consequences resulting from a change in the number of members without first undertaking a comprehensive review of the Town bylaws. The last substantive review of Town governance was completed in 2009.

There are 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. Of the towns that do have Select Boards, and with Open Town Meeting, like Sharon, 120 towns have five select board members, while 143 have three select board members. Of towns with representative town meetings, 24 have Select Boards of five members, and four have three members. It appears that more typically towns with three board members are towns with smaller populations, but this is not always the case. For example, demographically comparable towns such as Hingham, Westwood, Holliston, Medfield, Lynnfield, and Duxbury each have three members. Each of the towns surrounding Sharon (Easton, Foxborough, Mansfield, Norwood, Stoughton and Walpole) have five members.

The Select Board has not yet taken a position on this article.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 10-0-0 IN FAVOR OF APPROVAL.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority vote

ANTICIPATED MOTION: That the Town authorize the Select Board to file a Home Rule petition with the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to file legislation on behalf of the Town for a special Act as set forth below, and further, to authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Select Board to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the objectives of this petition:

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE TOWN OF SHARON TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SELECT PERSONS FROM THREE TO FIVE.

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Select Board (Board of Selectmen) of the Town of Sharon shall be increased from three members to five members. At the next ensuing town election following the enactment of this Act three Select persons shall be elected, one for a two- year term, two for three- year terms, and thereafter each member to be elected for a three-year term.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its passage.

And furthermore, in the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of Sharon who are 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 18, 2021 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 offices:

- 1 Member Board of Selectmen – 3 year term
- 1 Member Board of Assessors – 3 year term
- 3 Members School Committee – 3 year term
- 2 Members School Committee – 1 year term (To fill vacancy)
- 1 Member Planning Board – 5 year term
- 2 Trustees of Public Library – 3 year term
- 1 Member Housing Authority – 5 year term
- 1 Member Housing Authority – 2 year term (To fill vacancy)

Early Voting Hours for Annual Town Election

Town Hall, 90 South Main Street

Monday, May 10, 2021	9:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday, May 11, 2021	7:00am – 8:00pm
Wednesday, May 12, 2021	9:00am – 4:00pm
Thursday, May 13, 2021	9:00am – 4:00pm

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting. 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 12th day of April, A.D., 2021

SELECT BOARD, TOWN OF SHARON

Emily E. Smith-Lee, Chair

William A. Heitin, Clerk

Hanna R. Switekowski

A True Copy: John Ford, Constable
Sharon, Massachusetts
Dated: April 12, 2021

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