

**RECEIVED**

*By Town Clerk's Office at 8:38 am, Mar 14, 2022*

WAYS & MEANS  
BURLINGTON, MA 01803

FEB 2, 2022

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Steve Morin, Chair  
John Iler, Vice Chair

Brad Bond  
Doug Davison  
Michael Hardy  
Rob Neufeld  
Roger Riggs

Chris Campbell  
Phil Gallagher  
Frank Monaco  
Ed Parsons  
David Tait

**Absent:** Tom Killilea  
Sonia Rollins  
Jaya Vorunganti

**Guests:** John Danizio, Town Accountant  
Bob Cunha, Director of Operations  
Gary Gianino, Tax Collector/Treasurer  
Paul Sagarino, Town Administrator

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

N/A

**Public Participations**

Jim Round, an employee of the town of Burlington of 26 years, regarding his concerns on the compensation of employees that responded to last year's financial crisis. During this period, wages were reduced in response to covid protocols.

**Additional Comments**

N/A

**DPW Article 6**

**\$100,000**

Replenish Reserve Fund – a Ways & Means Reserve Fund for emergency purposes that is funded per year out of the operating budget with \$200,000. The account allows Ways & Means to respond to circumstances that need emergency funding without requesting a town meeting. The subcommittee voted 2-0 to support the transfer of \$100,000 from free cash to the emergency fund. A motion was made and seconded.

*Vote: unanimous*

**DPW Article 7**

**\$ 802,040.03**

Transfer to Water Stabilization – an annual transfer that will be assessed into the foreseeable future to allocate funds. It was voted to increase the water bill annually to assist paying for the MWRA connection; the additional funds will be transferred into the Stabilization Fund from free cash . Eventually it will be sent to the general fund then shifted into the Stabilization Fund. The subcommittee voted 2-0 to support the transfer. A motion was made and seconded.

*Vote: unanimous]*

**DPW Article 8**

**\$150,000**

Transfer to Stabilization – \$150,000 was drawn out of Stabilization to fund the interest payment for the Macy’s tax abatement. Now that free cash is certified, it is desirable to replace the funds from free cash back into Stabilization. The subcommittee voted 2-0 to support the transfer. A motion was made and seconded.

*Vote: unanimous*

**Article 9**

**\$12,001.10**

Transportation Infrastructure Fund – the state collects 20 cents for every initiated rideshare (Lyft, Uber) and 10 cents is transferred to Burlington from the state. The committee is requesting to receive \$12,001.10 for rides originating in Burlington in 2020; the funds would be used to offset the town’s transportation program.

*Vote: unanimous*

**Article 10**

**\$ 35,000**

Repurpose Article 25 of June 2020 Economic Development Study – the town was awarded a \$85,000 grant. The office is requesting to repurpose the funds for an increase in effort for communication and promotion of Burlington. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support of the article. A motion was made and seconded

*Vote: unanimous*

**Article 11**

**\$ 1,500,000**

Fox Hill School Feasibility Study – the need to replace Fox Hill has been cleared; it's based on overcrowding and poor conditions of the building. Last year Burlington was accepted into the Massachusetts School Building Authority program. The school building need is determined by enrollment

figures that are taken from information about current and past enrollments in the town and fertility rates to develop a 10-year expected enrollment plan that will be reviewed by the building and school committee. The \$1.5 million is for the cost of hiring a project manager and beginning the feasibility studies required by the MSBA. The subcommittee voted 4-0-0 in support of the article. A motion was made and seconded.

Vote: *[11-1-0]*

## Article 12

**\$ N/A**

Fox Hill School Feasibility Study; Non-MSBA Project – the article was withdrawn.

## Budget Guidelines

### FY23 Budget Summit Overview

1. **Property Values** – residential increase for FY22 was \$264. FY22 values are based on the calendar year 2020.
2. **Financial Indicators; where we started** – free cash (\$18,749,255) Stabilization (\$10,201,463) Excess Levy Capacity (\$11,818,212)
3. **Budget Goals** – Maintain, Prioritize, Minimize and Adjust
4. **Main Revenue Categories**– local receipts state aid and tax levy
  - a. Local Receipts: level funded revenue projections for FY22, increased by \$500K in September. Projecting a modest increase for FY23
  - b. State Aid: mostly due to federal revenues backfilling, held harmless during the span of the pandemic. Estimating normal growth for FY23
  - c. Tax Levy: projecting a tax levy increase consistent with the last few years in the range of 4-5 percent
5. **Assumptions and Effects**
  - a. Project modest increase to local receipt & state aid: \$500K revenue replacement with ARPA
  - b. Project realist accommodated accounts: between range 5-6 percent increase
  - c. Set minimal operation budget increases: increase 3.5 percent
  - d. Control tax levy increase: between range of 4.5-5 percent increase
6. **Guideline Recommendation** – an operating budget increase of 3.75 percent for the School and 3.5 percent for the town, and a 5.75% increase for accommodated accounts

The selectboard supported these guidelines 5-0 at the last meeting. A motion was made and seconded.

Vote: *[12-0-0]*

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to the approval of 9/22/21.

Vote: *[10-0-2]*

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to the approval of 1/05/22.

Vote: *[11-0-1]*

MEETING ADJOURNED.