

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, MAY 9-10, 2000

Voters of the Town of Boxford met at the Masconomet Regional High School on Tuesday, May 9, 2000. Moderator Gerald R. Johnston called the Town Meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. The Articles of the Warrant were disposed of accordingly.

**ARTICLE 1.** To receive and place on file the reports of the Town Officers and Committees without ratification of any action taken or authorization of any action proposed; or take any other action thereon.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to receive and place on file the reports of the Town Officers and Committees without ratification of any action taken or authorization of any action proposed.*

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of a Recycling Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Board of Health and used for the deposit of receipts and fees collected on recyclable materials; said recyclable materials to be determined by a joint vote of the Board of Health and Recycling Committee and to be in compliance with all state health regulations; and, further, to allow the Board of Health, or the Recycling Committee, with the approval of the Board of Health, to expend funds not to exceed \$15,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for the operation and maintenance of the Town Recycling Center; said authorization to be contingent upon the maintenance of specific recycling fees by the Board of Health for construction and demolition materials, tires and other materials banned from disposal in the landfill; and contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Health to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Health and Recycling Committee  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the establishment of a Recycling Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Board of Health and used for the deposit of receipts and fees collected on recyclable materials; said recyclable materials to be determined by a joint vote of the Board of Health and Recycling Committee and to be in compliance with all state health regulations; and, further, to allow the Board of Health, or the Recycling Committee, with the approval of the Board of Health, to expend funds not to exceed \$15,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for the operation and maintenance of the Town Recycling Center; said authorization to be contingent upon the maintenance of specific recycling fees by the Board of Health for construction and demolition materials, tires and other materials banned from disposal in the landfill; and contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Health to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year.*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of a Printing Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and used for the deposit of receipts and fees collected on the sale of printed official documents as required by law by several of the elected and appointed committees, commissions, and boards as well as legal advertisements which are reimbursed to the Town; to expend funds not to exceed \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for the costs to the Town for printing and

reimbursable advertising; and contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Selectmen to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the establishment of a Printing Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and used for the deposit of receipts and fees collected on the sale of printed official documents as required by law by several of the elected and appointed committees, commissions, and boards as well as legal advertisements which are reimbursed to the Town; to expend funds not to exceed \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for the costs to the Town for printing and reimbursable advertising; and contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Selectmen to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year.*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Library Photocopy Machine Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Board of Library Trustees and used for the deposit of receipts collected through public use of the photocopy machines at both the Boxford Village and West Boxford libraries; and further to allow the Board of Library Trustees to expend fees not to exceed \$5,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for ongoing supplies and maintenance of the copy machines, and purchase of other library supplies and contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Library Trustees to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Library Trustees

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the establishment of a Library Photocopy Machine Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Board of Library Trustees and used for the deposit of receipts collected through public use of the photocopy machines at both the Boxford*

*Village and West Boxford libraries; and further to allow the Board of Library Trustees to expend fees not to exceed \$5,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for ongoing supplies and maintenance of the copy machines, and purchase of other library supplies and contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Library Trustees to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year.*

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Conservation Revolving Fund as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Conservation Commission and used for the deposit of receipts collected through fees by direction of the Conservation Commission and further to allow the Conservation Commission to expend fees not to exceed \$5,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for extraordinary Conservation Commission application review expenses and contingent upon an annual report from the Conservation Commission to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Conservation Commission  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the establishment of a Conservation Revolving Fund as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Conservation Commission and used for the deposit of receipts collected through fees by direction of the Conservation Commission and further to allow the Conservation Commission to expend fees not to exceed \$5,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for extraordinary Conservation Commission application review expenses and contingent upon an annual report from the Conservation Commission to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year.*

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the establishment of a Highway Safety Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and used for the deposit of receipts collected through fines assessed against commercial motor vehicles by the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit; and further to allow the Board of Selectmen to expend fees not to exceed \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for the purchase and maintenance of equipment related to highway safety; contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Selectmen to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the establishment of a Highway Safety Revolving Account as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, said account to be under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and used for the deposit of receipts collected*

*through fines assessed against commercial motor vehicles by the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit; and further to allow the Board of Selectmen to expend fees not to exceed \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2001 from said account for the purchase and maintenance of equipment related to highway safety; contingent upon an annual report from the Board of Selectmen to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of the Account each fiscal year.*

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Classification Plan and Compensation Plan for FY 2001, as submitted by the Personnel Board under Chapter 23 of the Town Code; said Classification Plan and Compensation Plan as printed on page 26 of this warrant; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Personnel Board  
Finance Committee recommends this change.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to adopt the Classification Plan and Compensation Plan for FY 2001, as submitted by the Personnel Board under Chapter 23 of the Town Code; said Classification Plan and Compensation Plan as printed on page 26 of this warrant except that the hourly rate for the Outreach Counselor position to read \$12.50, and Clerical Associates to read \$10.00.*

**ARTICLE 8.** To act on the proposed budget and see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, for the use of several departments for Fiscal Year 2001, to wit: General Government, Finance, Public Safety, Education, Town Maintenance, Inspectors, Insurance and Pensions, and all other necessary proper expenses during said fiscal year; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,611,905 to fund the proposed town budget for Fiscal Year 2001, to wit: General Government, Finance, Public Safety, Education, Town Maintenance, Insurance & Pensions; all as printed on Pages 27 & 28 of this warrant, and authorize expenditure of these funds under the direction of the appropriate listed departments.

**ARTICLE A9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$22,000** to construct a 10,000 square foot wetland replication area on the town owned parcel located off Spofford Road, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.  
Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"A" Essential**



*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by majority voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$22,000 to construct a 10,000 square foot wetland replication area on the town owned parcel located off Spofford Road, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE A10.** To see if the Town will vote to accept the following as a public way: **Ashland Road** in its entirety, from Station 0+00 to Station 18 + 17 as shown on a plan entitled, "Subdivision As built, Village Estates Subdivision: Hickory Land & Ashland Road", Boxford, MA, prepared for Hill & Associates, dated October 1999, by Apple Associates, Inc. and recorded in Essex South Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 290, Plan 65 (Definitive Plan), including any easements appurtenant thereto; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Planning Board

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to pass over this Article.*

**ARTICLE A11.** To see if the Town will vote to accept the following as a public way: **Hickory Lane** in its entirety, from Station 0+00 to Station 29 + 35 as shown on a plan entitled, "Subdivision As built,

Village Estates Subdivision: Hickory Lane & Ashland Road", Boxford, MA, prepared for Hill & Associates, dated October 1999, by Apple Associates, Inc. and recorded in Essex South Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 290, Plan 65 (Definitive Plan), including any easements appurtenant thereto; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Planning Board

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to pass over this Article.*

**ARTICLE A12.** To see if the Town will vote to accept the following as a public way: **Mulberry Lane** in its entirety from Station 0+00 to Station 14 + 99.96 as shown on a plan entitled, "As built Subdivision Plan of Merriwood Farm", Boxford, MA, prepared for Merriwood Realty Trust, dated March 17, 1999, by Thomas E. Neve Associates, Inc. and recorded in Essex South Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 313, Plan 65 (Definitive Subdivision Plan), including any easements appurtenant thereto; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Planning Board

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to accept the following as a public way: **Mulberry Lane** in its entirety from Station 0+00 to Station 14 + 99.96 as shown on a plan entitled, "As built Subdivision Plan of Merriwood Farm", Boxford, MA, prepared for Merriwood Realty Trust, dated March 17, 1999, by Thomas E. Neve Associates, Inc. and recorded in Essex South*

*Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 313, Plan 65 (Definitive Subdivision Plan), including any easements appurtenant thereto.*

**ARTICLE A13.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$8,000** to install, repair and improve road drainage on Andrews Farm Road, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by a majority voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of **\$8,000** to install, repair and improve road drainage on **Andrews Farm Road**, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOTE:** At this time, we anticipate that Article A14 will be offered as a "contingent appropriation." This means that although the appropriation could be approved at the Annual Town Meeting, the appropriation would be fully contingent upon successful passage of the related Proposition 2½ ballot question. Should the override question fail, the appropriation would be rendered null and void.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ARTICLE A14.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$66,122** to fund the salary, benefits and associated expenses necessary to hire two full time firefighters for the Boxford Fire Department, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Fire Chief; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article subject to successful passage of related Proposition 2 ½ override ballot question.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$66,122** to fund the salary, benefits and associated expenses necessary to hire two full time firefighters for the Boxford Fire Department, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Fire Chief, said appropriation to be fully contingent upon successful passage of related Proposition 2 ½ override ballot question.*

**ARTICLE B15.** To see if the Town will vote to set the annual curbside solid waste collection fee at **\$2.00** per 32-gallon bag or container (each use), said fee to fund the town wide curbside collection service and related expenses for Fiscal Year 2001; or take any other action thereon

Sponsored by the Board of Health  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by a majority voice vote, to set the annual curbside solid waste collection fee at **\$2.00** per 32-gallon bag or container (each use), said fee to fund the town-wide curbside collection service and related expenses for Fiscal Year 2001.

**ARTICLE B16.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following sums to fund the Roadside Collection Solid Waste and Recycling Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2001, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health:

Expenses, Contract (Est)	\$ 364,528
Expenses, Sticker Printing	\$ 4,200
Expenses, Education/Mailing	<u>\$ 7,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 380,728</b>

and that **\$380,728** be raised as follows:

\$230,728 be raised from the enterprise fund receipts;  
\$150,000 be raised and appropriated;

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Health  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*There was a Move to reconsider Article B16 for the purpose of **CORRECTING A MATHEMATICAL ERROR** and to re-read the Article as follows:*

**ARTICLE B16.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following sums to fund the Roadside Collection Solid Waste and Recycling Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2001, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health:

Expenses, Contract (Est)	\$ 364,528
Expenses, Sticker Printing	\$ 4,200
Expenses, Education/Mailing	<u>\$ 7,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 375,728</b>

and that **\$375,728** be raised as follows:

\$225,728 be raised from the enterprise fund receipts;  
\$150,000 be raised and appropriated;

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Health  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to reconsider Article B16 for the purpose of CORRECTING A MATHEMATICAL ERROR.*

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a majority voice vote, to fund the Roadside Collection Solid Waste and Recycling Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2001, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Health:*

<i>Expenses, Contract</i>	<i>\$ 364,528</i>
<i>Expenses, Sticker Printing</i>	<i>\$ 4,200</i>
<i>Expenses, Education/Mailing</i>	<i>\$ 7,000</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 375,728</b>

*and that the \$375,728 be raised as follows:*

*\$225,728 to be raised from the enterprise fund receipts;  
\$150,000 be raised and appropriated.*

**ARTICLE B17.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$15,000** to purchase a replacement photocopy machine for the Town Hall offices; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"B" High Priority**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$15,000 to purchase a replacement photocopy machine for the Town Hall offices; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE B18.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$5,892** to fund the salary, benefits and associated expenses necessary to hire an outreach counselor for the Council on Aging Office, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Council on Aging; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Council on Aging

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 to fund the salary, benefits and associated expenses necessary to hire an outreach counselor for the Council on Aging Office, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Council on Aging.*



**ARTICLE B19.** To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. Chapter 127 §59 of the Acts of 1999 to establish a property tax work-off program for senior citizen volunteers in the Town of Boxford to be effective July 1, 2000; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by Board of Assessors

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to accept M.G.L. Chapter 127 §59 of the Acts of 1999 to establish a property tax work-off program for senior citizen volunteers in the Town of Boxford to be effective July 1, 2000.

**ARTICLE B20.** Should the Boxford School Committee continue to participate as a member of the Tri-Town Elementary School Superintendence Union?

Sponsored by Initiative Petition

Finance Committee does not recommend continued participation in the Tri-Town Elementary School Superintendence Union.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded to call the question, it was **VOTED**, by a hand count of 183 in favor, 149 opposed, that the Boxford School Committee continue to participate as a member of the Tri-Town Elementary School Superintendence Union.*

**ARTICLE B21.** Do you support the payment of town funds of at least \$175,000, that could exceed \$381,000, to dissolve the Tri-Town Elementary School Superintendence Union?

Sponsored by Initiative Petition

Finance Committee recommends a "no" vote.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded to call the question, it was **VOTED**, by a greater than 2/3 voice vote, defeating the article to support the payment of town funds of at least \$175,000, that could exceed \$381,000, to dissolve the Tri-Town Elementary School Superintendence Union.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to adjourn to a time certain; namely 7:30 p.m. tomorrow evening, Wednesday, May 10, 2000, at Masconomet Regional High School.*

\*\*\*\*\*

Voters of the Town of Boxford met at the Masconomet Regional High School on Wednesday, May 10, 2000. Moderator Gerald R. Johnston called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The Articles of the Warrant were disposed of accordingly.

**ARTICLE C22.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$50,000** to fund various major repairs, maintenance or painting of town buildings; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.  
Capital Budgeting Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$50,000 to fund various major repairs, maintenance or painting of town buildings; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE C23.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$125,000** to fund a Reserve Fund; said funds to be spent under the direction of the Finance Committee; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$125,000 to fund the Reserve Fund; said funds to be spent under the direction of the Finance Committee.*

**ARTICLE C24.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$50,000** to fund the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$50,000 to fund the Stabilization Fund.*

**ARTICLE C25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$10,000** to fund the Unemployment Fund; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$10,000 to fund the Unemployment Fund.*

**ARTICLE C26.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 to fund the Compensated Absence Fund; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$5,000 to fund the Compensated Absence Fund.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOTE:** At this time, we anticipate that Articles C27 & C28 will be offered as a "contingent appropriations." This means that although the appropriation could be approved at the Annual Town Meeting, that appropriation would be fully contingent upon successful passage of the related Proposition 2 1/2 ballot question. Should the override question fail, the appropriation would be rendered null and void.

**ARTICLE C27.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow, or raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$150,000 to fund architectural design and engineering services, and to fund related permits and expenses necessary to obtain the required approvals and plans for the reconstruction and expansion of the Police/Communications building; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article subject to successful passage of related Proposition 2 1/2 override ballot question.  
Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: "A" Essential

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, and passed by a greater than 2/3 voice vote, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow, the sum of \$150,000 to fund architectural design and engineering services, and to fund related permits and expenses necessary to obtain the required approvals and plans for the reconstruction and expansion of the Police/Communications building; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, said appropriation to be fully contingent upon the successful passage of related Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion ballot question.*

**ARTICLE C28.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$27,127 to fund the salary, benefits and associated materials expenses necessary to hire a new Assistant Conservation Administrator for the Conservation Commission Office, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Conservation Commission; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Conservation Commission  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article subject to successful passage of related Proposition 2 ½ override ballot question.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to allow Mr. Ken Pruitt to address the Article on behalf of the Conservation Commission.*

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE C28: To change from Proposition 2 ½ Override and to move to transfer from free cash to hire a new Conservation Commission Administrator and move from free cash to fund salary and benefits for the Conservation Commission Office.

Finance Committee supports the Article only, not the Amendment.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a majority voice vote, to defeat the Amendment to Article C28.*

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a majority voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,127 to fund the salary, benefits and associated expenses necessary to hire a new Assistant Conservation Administrator for the Conservation Commission Office, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Conservation Commission, said appropriation to be fully contingent upon the successful passage of related Proposition 2 ½ override ballot question.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOTE:** Article D29 through Article D38 are related to several changes in local government structure which create an integrated department of municipal finance administered by the new position of Director of Municipal Finance. Articles D29, D35, D36, D37, & D38 also require successful passage of their related ballot questions in order to become effective.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ARTICLE D29.** To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 43C, Section 11, to enable the Town of Boxford to create by bylaw a consolidated department of municipal finance; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to accept the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 43C, Section 11, to enable the Town of Boxford to create by bylaw a consolidated department of municipal finance.



**ARTICLE D30.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its bylaws as codified in the Town Code, by creating the following new article, under Chapter 11, Departments:

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Department of Municipal Finance

###### § 11-7. Creation

There shall be a consolidated Department of Municipal Finance as provided for under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 43C, Section 11 and as provided for in the following section of this bylaw.

###### § 11-8. Authority

*This Department shall include the following statutory, bylaw, or otherwise authorized presently existing entities as follows: Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector of Taxes, and Assessors. Additionally, the Director of Municipal Finance, acting in an ex officio capacity, shall coordinate and assist the following financial committees: Finance Committee, Capital Budget Committee, and Commissioners of Trust Funds.*

###### § 11-9. Conflict

When in conflict, this bylaw shall prevail over other articles, the by-laws, or statutes as provided for in MGL 43C.

###### § 11-10. Appointment, Removal

There shall be a Director of Municipal Finance who shall be appointed by and responsible to the Selectmen. The term of office for said position shall not be less than three years, nor more than five years, subject to removal as provided for in this bylaw.

###### § 11-11. Appointment Authority

The Director of Municipal Finance shall appoint the Town Accountant and the Treasurer/Collector of Taxes, subject to approval by the Selectmen, and shall appoint the Assistant Assessor, subject to the approval of the Board of Assessors. In performing duties where the approval of the Board of Assessors is statutorily required, the Director of Municipal Finance may direct the Assistant Assessor, but the Board of Assessors will make any final decision. The Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector of Taxes, and Assistant Assessor shall hire and/or appoint his/her own staff, subject to approval by the Director of Municipal Finance.

###### § 11-22. Term

All officers appointed by the Director of Municipal Finance may be appointed for a term of office up to three (3) years.

###### § 11-13. Additional Positions

The person holding the position of Director of Municipal Finance may also be appointed to hold other financial positions identified in this bylaw, except that no one person shall hold both the Town Accountant and Treasurer position at the same time.

§ 11-14. Removal

The Director of Municipal Finance may be removed from office by the Board of Selectmen as provided for in the Town's Personnel bylaw or in any personal service employment agreement entered into by the Director and the Board of Selectmen.

§ 11-14. Functions

The functions of the Department of Municipal Finance shall include the following:

- a) Coordination of all financial services and activities;
- b) Maintenance of all account records and other financial statements, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;
- c) Payment of all obligations, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;
- d) Receipt of all funds due, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;
- e) Personnel administration, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;
- f) Oversight of the Municipal Information Systems of the various town departments;
- g) Oversight of grant proposals and responsibility for compliance with terms of grants received;
- h) Assistance to all other Town departments and offices in any matter related to financial affairs;
- i) Monitor the expenditure of all funds, including periodic reporting to the appropriate agencies on the status of accounts;
- j) Supervision of all purchases of goods, materials and supplies, and maintenance of inventory control;
- k) Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Selectmen.

§ 11-15. Budget Responsibilities

The Director of Municipal Finance shall be responsible for the functions of the Department of Municipal Finance. He/she shall be specifically responsible for the Annual Budgeting process, beginning with the forecast of municipal revenues and the formulation of guidelines for submission of budget requests, through the consideration of budgets via support of the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen, up to the timely issuance of the resulting tax bills.

§ 11-16. Continuation of Term

Any persons holding any office or position in the services of the Town upon acceptance of this optional form of administration under MGL Chapter 43C, Section 11, and who is employed in a office of agency which is affected by or reconstituted by the creation of this Department of Municipal Finance, shall be allowed to continue in the employ of the Town without reduction in compensation or impairment of any Civil Service, collective bargaining agreement, retirement, pension, seniority, vacation, sick leave, or other rights or benefits to which then entitled.

§ 11-17. Effective Date

This bylaw shall take effect July 1, 2000 subject to the approval of the Attorney General and approval at the Annual Town Election held on May 16, 2000.

§ 11-18. Severability

If any section of this bylaw shall to any extent be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining sections shall not be deemed affected thereby.

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to create a Department of Municipal Finance by amending as follows:*

ARTICLE IV

Department of Municipal Finance

§ 11-7. Creation

*There shall be a consolidated Department of Municipal Finance as provided for under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 43C, Section 11 and as provided for in the following section of this bylaw.*

§ 11-8. Authority

*This Department shall include the following statutory, bylaw, or otherwise authorized presently existing entities as follows: Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector of Taxes, and Assessors. Additionally, the Director of Municipal Finance, acting in an ex officio capacity, shall coordinate and assist the following financial committees: Finance Committee, Capital Budget Committee, and Commissioners of Trust Funds.*

§ 11-9. Conflict

*When in conflict, this bylaw shall prevail over other articles, the by-laws, or statutes as provided for in MGL 43C.*

§ 11-10. Appointment, Removal

*There shall be a Director of Municipal Finance who shall be appointed by and responsible to the Selectmen. The term of office for said position shall not be less than three years, nor more than five years, subject to removal as provided for in this bylaw.*

§ 11-11. Appointment Authority

*The Director of Municipal Finance shall appoint the Town Accountant and the Treasurer/Collector of Taxes, subject to approval by the Selectmen, and shall appoint the Assistant Assessor, subject to the approval of the Board of Assessors. In performing duties where the approval of the Board of Assessors is statutorily required, the Director of Municipal Finance may direct the Assistant Assessor, but the Board of Assessors will make any final decision. The Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector of Taxes, and Assistant Assessor shall hire and/or appoint his/her own staff, subject to approval by the Director of Municipal Finance.*

*§ 11-12. Term*

*All officers appointed by the Director of Municipal Finance may be appointed for a term of office up to three (3) years.*

*§ 11-13. Additional Positions*

*The person holding the position of Director of Municipal Finance may also be appointed to hold other financial positions identified in this bylaw, except that no one person shall hold both the Town Accountant and Treasurer position at the same time.*

*§ 11-14. Removal*

*The Director of Municipal Finance may be removed from office by the Board of Selectmen as provided for in the Town's Personnel bylaw or in any personal service employment agreement entered into by the Director and the Board of Selectmen.*

*§ 11-14.1. Functions*

*The functions of the Department of Municipal Finance shall include the following:*

- l) Coordination of all financial services and activities;*
- m) Maintenance of all account records and other financial statements, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;*
- n) Payment of all obligations, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;*
- o) Receipt of all funds due, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;*
- p) Personnel administration, either directly or via the responsible Department Head;*
- q) Oversight of the Municipal Information Systems of the various town departments;*
- r) Oversight of grant proposals and responsibility for compliance with terms of grants received;*
- s) Assistance to all other Town departments and offices in any matter related to financial affairs;*
- t) Monitor the expenditure of all funds, including periodic reporting to the appropriate agencies on the status of accounts;*
- u) Supervision of all purchases of goods, materials and supplies, and maintenance of inventory control;*
- v) Any other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Selectmen.*

*§ 11-15. Budget Responsibilities*

*The Director of Municipal Finance shall be responsible for the functions of the Department of Municipal Finance. He/she shall be specifically responsible for the Annual Budgeting process, beginning with the forecast of municipal revenues and the formulation of guidelines for submission of budget requests, through the consideration of budgets via support of the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen, up to the timely issuance of the resulting tax bills.*

*§ 11-16. Continuation of Term*

*Any persons holding any office or position in the services of the Town upon acceptance of this optional form of administration under MGL Chapter 43C, Section 11, and who is*



employed in a office or agency which is affected by or reconstituted by the creation of this Department of Municipal Finance, shall be allowed to continue in the employ of the Town without reduction in compensation or impairment of any Civil Service, collective bargaining agreement, retirement, pension, seniority, vacation, sick leave, or other rights or benefits to which then entitled.

§ 11-17. Effective Date

This bylaw shall take effect July 1, 2000 subject to the approval of the Attorney General and approval at the Annual Town Election held on May 16, 2000.

§ 11-18. Severability

If any section of this bylaw shall to any extent be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining sections shall not be deemed affected thereby.

**ARTICLE D31.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its bylaws as codified in the Town Code, Chapter 19, Article I Town Accountant which currently reads:

§ 19-1. Appointment; term

A Town Accountant shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a three-year term of office.

to be amended to now read as follows:

§ 19-1. Appointment; term

A Town Accountant shall be appointed by the Director of Municipal Finance, subject to approval by the Selectmen, for up to a three-year term of office;

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to amend our town bylaws as codified in the Town Code, Chapter 19, Article I Town Accountant, as printed in the warrant deleting the words, "or take any other action thereon," and subject to approval of Article D29 of the May 9, 2000 Annual Town Meeting by ballot vote at the Annual Town Election on May 16, 2000.

**ARTICLE D32.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its bylaws as codified in the Town Code, Chapter 19, Article II Assistant Assessors which currently reads:

§ 19-2. Appointment; term

The Board of Assessors may appoint Assistant Assessors as it deems necessary, and it may remove them. The Assistant Assessors shall perform such duties as the Board may require and shall receive compensation only for duties performed. Every Assistant Assessor shall hold office for one year unless sooner removed. If the Board fails to appoint any successor to any such Assistant Assessor during the month preceding the expiration of his term, he shall continue to serve during the following year unless sooner removed.

to be amended to now read as follows:

*§ 19-1. Appointment, term*

*The Director of Municipal Finance, subject to the approval of the Board of Assessors, may appoint Assistant Assessors as he deems necessary, and he may remove them. The Assistant Assessors shall perform such duties as the Director of Municipal Finance and the Board may require and shall receive compensation only for duties performed. Every Assistant Assessor shall hold office for one year unless sooner removed. If the Director of Municipal Finance, subject to the approval of the Board fails to appoint any successor to any such Assistant Assessor during the month preceding the expiration of his term, he shall continue to serve during the following year unless sooner removed.*

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to amend our town bylaws as codified in the Town Code, Chapter 19, Article II Assistant Assessors, as printed in the warrant deleting the words, "or take any other action thereon," and subject to approval of Article D29 of the May 9, 2000 Annual Town Meeting by ballot vote at the Annual Town Election on May 16, 2000.

**ARTICLE D33.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its bylaws as codified in the Town Code, Chapter 19, Article VI Treasurer which currently reads:

*§ 19-17. Custody of certain documents*

*The treasurer shall have custody of all receipted bills and receipts, and of notes, bonds and coupons which have been paid.*

to be amended to now read as follows:

Article VI

*Treasurer/Collector of Taxes*

*§ 19-17. Appointment; term*

*A Treasurer/Collector of Taxes shall be appointed by the Director of Municipal Finance, subject to approval by the Selectmen, for up to a three-year term of office.*

*§ 19-17.1. Custody of certain documents*

*The Treasurer/Collector of taxes shall have custody of all receipted bills and receipts, and of notes, bonds and coupons which have been paid;*

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to amend our town bylaws as codified in the Town Code, Chapter 19, Article VI Treasurer, as printed in the warrant deleting the words, "or take any other action thereon," and subject to approval of Article D29 of the May 9, 2000 Annual Town Meeting by ballot vote at the Annual Town Election on May 16, 2000.*

**ARTICLE D34.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its bylaws as codified in the Town Code, by creating the following new article, under Chapter 7, Commissions, Committees and Boards,

**ARTICLE IV**  
**Board of Assessors**

*§ 7-30. Appointment; terms*

*A Board of Assessors of three members shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen for three year overlapping terms of office;*

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to amend our town bylaws as codified in the Town Code, by creating the following new article, under Chapter 7, Commissions, Committees and Boards, as printed in the warrant deleting the words, "or take any other action thereon," and subject to approval of Article D36 of the May 9, 2000 Annual Town Meeting by ballot vote at the Annual Town Election on May 16, 2000.*

**ARTICLE D35.** To see if the Town will vote to have its elected Treasurer/Collector of Taxes become an appointed Treasurer/Collector of Taxes of the town; or to take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to have the elected Treasurer/Collector of Taxes become an appointed Treasurer/Collector of Taxes of the town.*

**ARTICLE D36.** To see if the Town will vote to have its elected Board of Assessors become an appointed Board of Assessors of the town; or to take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to have the elected Board of Assessors become an appointed Board of Assessors of the town.*

**ARTICLE D37.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$80,000** to fund the purchase and/or construction of additional office space adjacent to the current town hall, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article subject to successful passage of related Proposition 2 ½ override ballot question.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by a majority voice vote, to pass over this article.*

**ARTICLE D38.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$56,200** to fund the salary, benefits and associated materials expenses necessary to hire a Director of Municipal Finance for the Town of Boxford, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article subject to successful passage of related Proposition 2 ½ override ballot question.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$56,200** to fund the salary, benefits and associated expenses necessary to hire a Director of Municipal Finance for the Town of Boxford, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, said appropriation to be fully contingent upon the successful passage of related Proposition 2 ½ override ballot question.*

**ARTICLE E39.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$35,000** to purchase new computer equipment hardware software, peripherals, and any other furniture, equipment or services necessary to upgrade and link various computer systems throughout town and implement internet access as the Phase III implementation plan by the Computer Management Committee to fully integrate all municipal departments' computer systems; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Computer Management Committee

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"A" Essential**



*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a majority voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to purchase new computer equipment hardware software, peripherals, and any other furniture, equipment or services necessary to upgrade and link various computer systems throughout town and implement internet access as the Phase III implementation plan by the Computer Management Committee to fully integrate all municipal departments' computer systems; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE E40.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$2,000** for the purpose of participation in the Help for Abused Women and their Children (HAWC) program; said funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a unanimous voice vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$2,000 for the purpose of participation in the Help for Abused Women and their Children (HAWC) program; said funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE E41.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$23,000** for Fiscal Year 2001 for the support of the Tri-Town Council on Youth and Family Services, Inc.; said funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$23,135 for Fiscal Year 2001 for the support of the Tri-Town Council on Youth and Family Services, Inc.; said funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE E42.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Masconomet Regional School Committee to re-certify a School Building Construction Budget of \$52,105,344 which would include \$42,500 of capital expenditures for the purpose of purchasing software, technology, furniture and equipment to be appropriated from FY2001 Chapter 70 funds with no additional assessment made to the member towns; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Masconomet Regional School Committee  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the Masconomet Regional School Committee to re-certify a School Building Construction Budget of \$52,105,344 which would include \$42,500 of capital expenditures for the purpose of purchasing software, technology, furniture and equipment to be appropriated from FY2001 Chapter 70 funds with no additional assessment made to the member towns.*

**ARTICLE E43.** To see if the Town will vote to amend Section II of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Masconomet Regional School District, as proposed by the Masconomet Regional District School Committee, by replacing Section II with the following:

*Section II*

*Types of Regional District Schools*

*The regional district schools shall be a middle school consisting of grades 7 and 8, inclusive, and a high school consisting of grades 9 through 12, inclusive;*

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by Masconomet Regional School District Committee

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to amend Section II of the Agreement for the Establishment of the Masconomet Regional School District, as proposed by the Masconomet Regional District School Committee, as printed in the warrant deleting the words, "or take any other action thereon."*

**ARTICLE E44.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$35,000** for the repair and upgrading of drainage on playground surfaces at the Cole School, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Elementary School Committee; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Elementary School Committee

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"B" High Priority**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$35,000 for the repair and upgrading of drainage on playground surfaces at the Cole School, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Elementary School Committee.*

**ARTICLE E45.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$12,000** for the repair and replacement of pipe insulation in the northern walls of the Cole School, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Elementary School Committee; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Elementary School Committee

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$12,000 for the repair and replacement of pipe insulation in the northern walls of the Cole School, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Elementary School Committee.*

**ARTICLE E46.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$10,000** for the repairs on the well at Spofford Pond School, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Elementary School Committee; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Elementary School Committee  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$10,000 for the repairs on the well at Spofford Pond School, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Elementary School Committee.*

**ARTICLE F47.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$100,000** to fund road maintenance in the town, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.  
Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"A" Essential**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$100,000 to fund road maintenance in the town, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE F48.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$25,000** to fund road drainage repairs in the town; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.  
Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"A" Essential**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000 to fund road drainage repairs in the town; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE F49.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$70,000** to purchase and equip a new 39,220 GVW cab & chassis, dump body and sander for the Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen  
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.  
Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"A" Essential**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a majority voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of \$63,254 to purchase and equip a new 39,220 GVW cab & chassis, dump body and sander for the Department of Public Works, and to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of the current 1986 Chevrolet C-70 with sander and dump body in any manner they deem appropriate said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE F50.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$5,000** to fund the purchase of a plow attachment and associated equipment to complete the transfer of a surplus Fire Department utility vehicle for use by the Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee does not recommend adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a unanimous voice vote, to pass over this article.*

**ARTICLE F51.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$15,000** to fund the purchase of a new or used utility vehicle for the Fire Department; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"B" High Priority**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a majority voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to fund the purchase of a new or used utility vehicle for the Fire Department; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE F52.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$26,000** to fund the purchase of a new sander body and repairs to the used surplus fire truck for the Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"A" Essential**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,148 to fund the purchase of a new sander body and repairs to the used surplus fire truck for the Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE F53.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$12,000** to purchase a new mower for the Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee does not recommend adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by a majority voice vote, to transfer from free cash the sum of **\$12,600** to purchase a new mower for the Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE F54.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$27,800** to purchase a new Fire Command Vehicle for the Boxford Fire Department; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"B" High Priority**

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$27,800** to purchase a new or used Fire Command Vehicle for the Boxford Fire Department; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE F55.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$10,000** for debt acquisition and legal expenses and appropriate **\$250,000** for land purchase expense for a total appropriation of **\$260,000** to enable the Conservation Commission to purchase a certain parcel of land known as the Hebb Property consisting of 6.00 acres, more or less, said parcel shown as a portion of Map 6, Block 1, Parcel 34 in the records of the Boxford Assessors; further as shown as lot #4, on a plan of land entitled: "Topographic Plan of Land in Boxford, MA, scale 1"= 80 feet, prepared by JA-BY Engineering, Inc., 363 Boston Street, Topsfield, MA on October 9, 1998 on file with the Town Clerk, together with all flowage and other rights and easements and subject to all well rights and easements; that said land be conveyed to the Town under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, and as it may hereafter be amended and other

Massachusetts Statutes relating to Conservation, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission, said funds to be expended from the debt authorized under Article 37 of the Boxford Annual Town Meeting held on May 14, 1997, and the Town and the Conservation Commission be authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of Boxford to affect said purchase; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Conservation Commission

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this Article.

Capital Budgeting Committee Recommendation: **"D" Did Not Recommend**



*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, and passed by a greater than 2/3 voice vote, to appropriate \$10,000 for debt acquisition and legal expenses and appropriate \$250,000 for land purchase expense for a total appropriation of \$260,000 from the debt authorized under article 37 of the Boxford Annual Town Meeting held May 14, 1997, to enable the Conservation Commission to purchase a certain parcel of land known as the Hebb Property consisting of 6.00 acres, more or less, said parcel shown as a portion of Map 6, Block 1, Parcel 34 in the records of the Boxford Assessors; further as shown as lot #4, on a plan of land entitled: "Topographic Plan of Land in Boxford, MA, scale 1"= 80 feet, prepared by JA-BY Engineering, Inc., 363 Boston Street, Topsfield, MA on October 9, 1998 on file with the Town Clerk, together with all flowage and other rights and easements and subject to all well rights and easements; that said land be conveyed to the Town under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C, and as it may hereafter be amended and other Massachusetts Statutes relating to Conservation, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission, said funds to be expended from the debt authorized under Article 37 of the Boxford Annual Town Meeting held on May 14, 1997, and the Town and the Conservation Commission be authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of Boxford to affect said purchase.*

**ARTICLE G56.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$2,042** to fund the first year dues and to join the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission in order to benefit from the commission's planning and consultant services, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Land Committee

Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,042 to fund the first year dues and to join the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission in order to benefit from the commission's planning and consultant services, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.*

**ARTICLE G57.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its wetland protection bylaws as codified in the Town Code as Chapter 192, §192-7. Regulations; to identify the existing paragraph as "A" and to include the following new paragraph as follows:

*B. In addition, these regulations shall list minimum setback distances for activities in Buffer Zones and other Resource Areas based on the environmental sensitivity of those Resource Areas. The Conservation Commission may require greater than the minimum setback distances for activities within areas of jurisdiction based on the type of work proposed and/or features specific to the site, in order to protect the Resource Area values;*

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Conservation Commission

*Explanation: The proposed language will explicitly authorize the Conservation Commission to include minimum setback distances in the regulations.*

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to amend the town wetlands protection bylaws as codified in the Town Code as Chapter 192, § 192-7. Regulations; to identify the existing paragraph as "A" and to include the following new paragraph:*

*B. In addition, these regulations shall list minimum setback distances for activities in Buffer Zones and other Resource Areas based on the environmental sensitivity of those Resource Areas. The Conservation Commission may require greater than the minimum setback distances for activities within areas of jurisdiction based on the type of work proposed and/or features specific to the site, in order to protect the Resource Area values.*

**ARTICLE G58.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its wetlands protection bylaws as codified in the Town Code as Chapter 192, § 192-8. Definitions; as follows:

**Change the third sentence of the definition of "Stream" to read** *"Such a body of running water which does not flow throughout the year (i.e., which is intermittent) is a stream except for that portion up gradient of all wetland resource areas including freshwater wetlands, marshes, wet meadows, bogs, swamps, lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, creeks, banks, beaches, vernal pools, and large isolated wetlands."*

**Change the definition of "Riverfront Area" to add the following at the end of the existing sentence** *"and as amended in the Town of Boxford Wetlands Protection Bylaw Regulations, Section 10.58. If any part of the definition of Riverfront Area in 310 CMR 10.58(2) is different from the definitions in the Boxford's Wetlands Protection Bylaw and Regulations, the definitions in the Bylaw and Regulations shall prevail."*

**Change the definition of "Ponds," first paragraph, to change the size of jurisdictional ponds from 10,000 square feet to 5,000 square feet, and to change the final sentence to read** *"For purposes of this definition, extended drought shall be defined in the Wetlands Protection Bylaw Regulations"*

**and to change the second paragraph to read** *"Notwithstanding the above, the following man-made bodies of open water shall not be considered ponds: swimming pools or other impervious man-made basins, fire ponds for approved subdivisions, approved storm water management structures, irrigation*

*ponds for agricultural purposes, golf courses, and individual gravel pits or quarries excavated from upland areas unless such gravel pit or quarry has been inactive for five or more consecutive years."*

Change the definition of Vernal Pool to read as follows: "Vernal Pool shall include a confined basin depression of any size which is free of naturally occurring fish populations and which contains evidence of breeding by obligate vernal pool species as recognized by the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program";

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Conservation Commission

*Explanation:* The proposed language is necessary to make certain aspects of the definitions clearer and to protect Ponds of the same size as jurisdictional isolated wetlands (5,000 square feet).

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by a majority voice vote, to amend the town wetlands protection bylaws as codified in the Town Code as Chapter 192, § 192-8. Definitions; as printed in the warrant deleting the words, "or to take any other action thereon".*

**ARTICLE G59.** To see if the Town will vote to accept a certain parcel of land known as the Lockwood Pond situated at Boxford, MA, and being more particularly described as the "Pond" on a Plan of Land entitled, "Definitive Subdivision Plan of Arrowhead Farm located at Boxford, MA, Owner: Priscilla Parker, Lockwood Trust, Applicant: Arrowhead Farms Realty Trust, dated July 23, 1986, revised November 5, 1986, scale as noted, Thomas E. Neve Assoc., Inc., Engineer" recorded at the Essex South Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 220, Plan 63, said plan on file with the Town Clerk, including any easements appurtenant thereto; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by Board of Selectmen

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was VOTED, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the Selectmen to accept a certain parcel of land, including any appurtenant easements, known as the Lockwood Pond situated at Boxford, MA, and being more particularly described as the "Pond" on a Plan of Land entitled, "Definitive Subdivision Plan of Arrowhead Farm located at Boxford, MA, Owner: Priscilla Parker, Lockwood Trust, Applicant: Arrowhead Farms Realty Trust, dated July 23, 1986, revised November 5, 1986, scale as noted, Thomas E. Neve Assoc., Inc., Engineer" recorded at the Essex South Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 220, Plan 63, said plan on file with the Town Clerk, including any easements appurtenant thereto.*

**ARTICLE G60.** To see if the Town will vote to accept a parcel of land situated on Ipswich Road, Boxford, Essex County, MA and being shown as Parcel "A" on a plan entitled, "Definitive Subdivision Plan of Merriwood Farm designed for Merriwood Realty Trust, Edmond R. LeClair, trustee, dated May 29, 1996 by Thomas E. Neve, Associates, Inc., engineer", recorded in Essex South Registry of Deeds Plan Book 313, Plan 65, said plan on file with the Town Clerk, including any easements appurtenant thereto; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by Board of Selectmen

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the Selectmen to accept a parcel of land, including any appurtenant easements, situated on Ipswich Road, Boxford, Essex County, MA and being shown as Parcel "A" on a plan entitled, "Definitive Subdivision Plan of Merriwood Farm designed for Merriwood Realty Trust, Edmond R. LeClair, trustee, dated May 29, 1996 by Thomas E. Neve, Associates, Inc., engineer", recorded in Essex South Registry of Deeds Plan Book 313, Plan 65, said plan on file with the Town Clerk, including any easements appurtenant thereto.

**ARTICLE G61.** To see if the Town will vote to accept (1) a conservation restriction on a portion of lot 14 shown on a plan of land entitled, "Plan of Land in Boxford and Georgetown, Mass, petitioner, Georgetown Road Limited Partnership, dated March 3, 1999, Thomas E. Neve Associates, Inc., engineer", Land Court Plan no. 26501 D, Certificate No. 63411, and (2) accept a conservation restriction on a portion of lots 12 & 13 shown on a plan of land entitled, "Plan of Land in Boxford and Georgetown, Mass, petitioner, Georgetown Road Limited Partnership, dated March 3, 1999, Thomas E. Neve Associates, Inc., engineer", Land Court Plan no. 26501 C, Certificate No. 63411, and (3) accept a deed of land for consideration of one dollar (\$1.00) for lots 12 & 13 shown on a plan of land entitled, "Plan of Land in Boxford and Georgetown, Mass, petitioner, Georgetown Road Limited Partnership, dated March 3, 1999, Thomas E. Neve Associates, Inc., engineer", Land Court Plan no. 26501 C, Certificate No. 63411, said plans on file with the Town Clerk, including any easements appurtenant thereto; or take any other action thereon

Sponsored by Board of Selectmen

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to authorize the Selectmen to accept two parcels of land, including any appurtenant easements, and conservation restrictions as described in the warrant, deleting the words, "or take any other action thereon".

**ARTICLE G62.** To see if the Town will vote to grant a nonexclusive easement to Elmlea Partnership Trust, Charles W. Haynes, Trustee, in, across, along, upon and under the easement premises located in the Townsend Farms Road Subdivision described in the instrument entitled "Grant of Public Way Easement" recorded with the Essex South Registry of Deeds at Book 16112, Page 73, for the purpose of access over, across, upon and along the easement premises described therein, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Upon a motion made and seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to pass over this article.

**ARTICLE G63.** To see if the Town will vote to amend its bylaws as codified in the Town Code, by creating the following new article, under Chapter 32, Selectmen, Board of,

*§ 32-11. Authority to accept gifts of land; grant small easements*

*The Board of Selectmen is authorized to accept gifts of land and easements on behalf of the Town without a Town Meeting vote provided no appropriations of funds is necessary for the acquisition;*

or to take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee recommends against supporting this Article.

An AMENDMENT to Article G63 was introduced by Mr. Duke Brown, 46 Brookview Road, Boxford, MA, as follows:

*§ 32-11. Authority to accept gifts of land*

*The Board of Selectmen is authorized to accept gifts of land and easements on behalf of the Town without a Town Meeting vote provided no appropriation of funds is necessary for acquisition;*

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to pass over this Article.*

**ARTICLE G64.** To see if the town will vote to support the Price family and the Boxford Town Boards in their efforts to maintain the Ingaldsby Farm Stand in its current configuration and method of operation; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by Initiative Petition

An AMENDMENT to Article G64 was introduced as follows:

*To support the Price family and the Town Boards in their efforts to negotiate a plan that will keep the Ingaldsby farm in operation as a financially viable farm and encourage an amicable settlement in the neighborhood.*

*Upon a motion made and duly seconded relative to the Amendment to Article G64, the Amendment was defeated by a hand count of 43 in favor of the Amendment and 100 opposed the Amendment.*

*Upon a motion made and seconded, it was **VOTED**, to pass over this Article, by a hand count of 88 in favor and 69 opposed.*



**ARTICLE 65.** To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

*Upon a motion made and seconded, it was **VOTED**, by unanimous voice vote, to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting.*

Registered voters attending the meeting were 202. Counters and checkers for the meeting were appointed by Town Clerk Patricia Shields.

A true record.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia Shields  
Town Clerk

**RAISE AND APPROPRIATE:**

Article A8	\$ 16,611,905
Article A14 (Proposition 2 ½ Override)	66,122
Article B16	150,000
Article B18	6,500
Article C28 (Proposition 2 ½ Override)	27,127
Article D38 (Proposition 2 ½ Override)	56,200
Article E39	35,000
Article F51	15,000
Article F52	26,148
Article F54	27,800
Article G56	<u>2,042</u>

**TOTAL TO BE RAISED AND APPROPRIATED** **\$17,023,844**

**BORROW:**

Article C27 (Proposition 2 ½ Override)	\$ 150,000
<b>TOTAL TO BE BORROWED</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>

**APPROPRIATION:**

Article B16 (From Enterprise Fund Receipts)	\$ 225,728
---	------------

<b>TOTAL TO BE APPROPRIATED</b>	<b>\$ 225,728</b>
---------------------------------	-------------------

**BOND:**

Article F55 (Debt Acquisition/Legal Expenses)	
Funded by Article 37, ATM 5/14/97.	10,000
Article F55 (Hebb Property Land Purchase)	
Funded by Article 37, ATM 5/14/97.	250,000

<b>TOTAL TO BE BONDED</b>	<b>\$ 260,000</b>
---------------------------	-------------------

**TRANSFER:**

Article A9 (From Free Cash to wetland replication area)	\$ 22,000
Article A13 (From Free Cash for road drainage)	8,000
Article B17 (From Free Cash to purchase photocopy machine)	15,000
Article C22 (From Free Cash to maintain town buildings)	50,000
Article C23 (From Free Cash to The Reserve Fund)	125,000
Article C24 (From Free Cash to The Stabilization Fund)	50,000
Article C25 (From Free Cash to The Unemployment Fund)	10,000
Article C26 (From Free Cash to The Compensated Absence Fund)	5,000
Article E40 (From Free Cash to HAWC)	2,000
Article E41 (From Free Cash to Tri-Town Council)	23,135
Article E44 (From Free Cash to repair/upgrade drainage – Cole School)	35,000
Article E45 (From Free Cash to repair/replace pipe insulation – Cole School)	12,000
Article E46 (From Free Cash to repair well – Spofford Pond School)	10,000
Article F47 (From Free Cash for road maintenance)	100,000
Article F48 (From Free Cash for road drainage repairs)	25,000
Article F49 (From Free Cash for cab chassis, body dump & sander)	63,254
Article F53 (From Free Cash to purchase mower)	12,600

<b>TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED</b>	<b>\$ 567,989</b>
--------------------------------	-------------------