

**TOWN OF MILLBURY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM**

-April 11, 2017

7:00 pm

Selectmen Present: Chairman Francis B. King, Sandy Cristo, Mary Krumsiek, Scott Despres, and Jon Adams
Town Manager David J. Marciello, Steve Balistreri-*Millbury Sutton Chronicle*

Sign & Approve Bond Anticipation Notes

Ramshorn Dam- \$2,500,000.00

Motion to approve the Bond Anticipation note made by Selectman Cristo, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously.

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus-\$113,851.00

Motion to approve the Bond Anticipation note made by Selectman Cristo, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously

Applebees Change of Manager: 70 Worcester/Providence Tpk. Christopher Agnitti:

He used to work in Millbury, went to Auburn, and now back to Millbury.

Motion to Change the Manager made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

One Day Liquor License- NE Carpenters Training Fund- 13 Holman Road

April 23, 2017 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

Motion to approve the one day license made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Previous Minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen Meeting on March 29, 2017 made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen Meeting on April 3, 2017 made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Town Manager Report:

Mr. Marciello would like to introduce John K. McElroy, II as the Director of the Asa Waters Mansion. He believes that he will be a great fit for the mansion.

Mr. McElroy said that he is very excited to be joining the Town of Millbury, he has a background in fundraising, nonprofit develop and running large event facilities. His idea is to get Asa Waters back on the map for weddings and special events. He has many ideas to drive up revenue and excitement at the Mansion. He created a new ad campaign for social media and a

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catchy tag line. He would like to hold a New Year's Eve bash, incorporate live theater, improv, murder mysteries, etc.

Mr. Adams asked if he has met the "friends" at the mansion yet. Mr. Marciello is planning on introducing him to everyone next week. There were 2 representatives on the hiring committee from the "friends" and "task force". He hopes to move forward to get this grand building to be more of a program. Mr. Marciello feels that Mr. Elroy has a lot of good ideas.

Chairman King welcomed John to the town and said that he will find that the friends and the task force will be a great asset.

Senator Michael Moore *see attached-he will be speaking on the Governor's budget tonight. The House released their budget today and debate on it next week. The Senate will release its budget in May UGGA- House ways means \$1,690,015. Governor's is the same. Tax collections for February and March are 9.1% below benchmark. Revenues are below benchmarks. He does not foresee any 9C cuts. Millbury's aid has gone up by \$66,000. This year's total aid for FY18 is \$1,964,443.00. Ch. 70 funding will be \$7,150,572

Millbury Public Schools have 1,748 students- decrease of 5 students. Down by 237 students since 2007.

The Senator filed an act to study the dover amendment; he has also filed an act for a municipality for the first right of first refusal for agricultural land expanding from 90 days to 120 days. He also filed an act that any new rule for environmental have a cost/benefit analysis before enacting. He also filed an act to have a Charter school approved by the local community before allowed. He has been working on higher education with early college high schools offering AP classes; the courses may or may not be taken as credit at college. Students could graduate high school with as many credits for an associate's degree. We are also taking up a land zoning bill that looks at all local zoning.

Selectman Despres asked if the revenues are down how are we coming up with new money? The senator said that revenues did go up but not up to benchmark standards. There was about a billion dollars up. Selectman Despres asked about tax refunds, there seems to be some kind of problem. The senator was not aware of that. He then asked what kind of impact the tolls coming down have had? There is not a report yet. Email his office a request for DOT.

Mirick O'Connell

Selectman Cristo recused herself and left the room

D Moschos, Sharon Siegel and Brian Falk

They would like to request reappointment as Town Counsel and Labor Counsel. They have been labor counsel for the town since 1987 and have been labor counsel since 2015. There are some factors that the board needs to look at; they are a local firm, 15 minutes from town hall and many employees who live in Millbury. They can deliver efficient and effective services to the town. The firm has the highest rating by Martindale Hubble.

This fiscal year we have billed \$91,000 so far through the first seven months.

Brian Falk has worked with the department very closely; they are members of the community Sharon has worked with Millbury for over 20 years. She has worked with the Police Chief on many matters and he is happy with their sound advice. She thinks the police has reached a place of relative stability.

D continued stating that they have placed caps on the fees and they don't think there will be another spike as there was in the past. Selectman Despres asked if they have already billed

\$91,000 for seven months, how can they bill \$65,000 for twelve months? They are proposing \$5,000/month for general advice, the \$65,000 is based on \$190/hr for other matters such as a dog hearing, planning board hearing, etc. capped at \$65,000/year. Total cap is \$125,000.00. Chairman King said that when we hired the new town manager we charged him with finding a way to reduce attorney fees and he came up with the two proposals. He thinks the new fee structure will help. Selectman Despres asked if he feels that they have won or lost more cases. Atty Moschos said that he could not quantify that; as lawyers, they do not guarantee results. Selectman Despres asked if they have ever given the town advise that the town did not take and resulted in hurt for the town. Atty Moschos said that he has; they are appointed by Mr. Marciello asked if all verbal legal opinions on the phone and in writing are covered? Yes, they are.

Selectman Cristo returned

Joy Chambers- Millbury Dog Park Committee

She would like to have the dog park opened to other communities up to 200 dogs. They would still require licenses, rabies and higher fees. We are hoping to increase resources and have more dogs/people there. They do not feel that they are utilizing it to their full potential.

Selectman Adams asked why they didn't include other towns when it began? Laurie Connors said that they did not know how many people would be involved and wanted to keep it more manageable until they got their feet wet. Selectman Krumsiek asked if they can handle the parking? There are many times that the park is not utilized at all; at their busiest times or events held they have not had a parking issue.

Chairman King asked if having dogs from other towns would affect our insurance cost? Mr. Marciello cannot see that it would be any different. He suggested having a temporary pass for people that may be dog watching.

Chairman King asked if they have discussed the issue with the Butler Farm Committee? Ms. Chambers did try to go last week but they did not have a quorum; she will be going to the meeting tomorrow night and would like to attend regularly to keep the lines of communication open.

Selectman Despres asked if she knows how many people go without a license? She does do checks when she is there and explains to people that they must be members; it is better for them to know what dogs are coming in so that they know that they are vaccinated and how to get in touch with the owners if there is an issue.

Motion to create rules to allow out of towners to use the dog park with the approval of the Butler Farm Reuse Committee made by Selectman Despres, seconded by Selectman Adams.

Motion carried unanimously.

Fernandez Auto Sale- 519 Southwest Cutoff

We have been contacted by a man who states that he is opening a vape shop "smoke shop" at that location. He states the car dealer is closing down this week and he will be the only business there. Selectman Adams asked if they have a lease? Ms. Fernandez said that she does not have a lease, she pays monthly rent. Ms. Fernandez spoke to Timothy Tracey as the landlord and she paid the rent for this month.

Chairman King said that they will have to continue this to the May 9th meeting.

Town Manager Report Continued:

We have posted the HR Director on the MMA and he has received one promising resume. There is an update on the DPW Director; he received a resume yesterday that he is very interested in. He entered into contracted services with a consultant to oversee the DPW in the interim as he did not want to lose the paving season. She is very adept at the DPW issues that we do day to day. Her name is Patricia Arp, she is on the Energy Advisory Committee, she will work three days a week. He needs to go out to bid soon for the roads. Ms. Arp is meeting with Mr. VanMeter tomorrow, he will be giving her an updating list from worst to best roads and his suggestions as to what needs to be done. After that they will take that to the Roadway Advisory Committee. This year we will be repairing roads as \$1.2 million will not fix our roads, we need between \$8-10 million.

Selectman Cristo said that residents of Wedgewood asked her to come to look at the road and it is deplorable.

Selectman Adams said that Millbury is a small town; he commends you for getting a consultant so that you do not lose the paving season but you need to keep the Roadway Advisory Committee in the loop and up to speed with this stuff.

Chairman King said that someone at church told him that the manager is doing a presentation at town meeting; Mr. Marciello said that he is. He is doing a short presentation describing what proposition 2 ½ is; what is free cash; what is stabilization and why is it important; etc. He thanks the board for letting him know that he needs to be more forthright with his thoughts as they are bubbling.

Selectman Adams said that the S. Main Street area had a lot of work put into it already, the neighbors went to many meetings and had a lot of input; he doesn't think that project should be shut down, it needs to be addressed.

Selectman Cristo asked if we could start crack sealing now before we get a director? Mr. Marciello does not know; he thinks that Mr. VanMeter has a plan for that and he will speak to Ms. Arp.

Selectman Krumsiek asked Mr. Marciello to do a PSA on the cable channel regarding his town meeting presentation.

Mr. Marciello would like the board to vote to concur with the appointment of John McElroy. Motion to concur with the appointment of John McElroy as the Asa Waters Mansion Director made by Selectman Adams, seconded by Selectman Cristo. Motion carried unanimously.

The Carpenters Training School will begin to repair the back stairs; it is not a public entrance but it is a fire exit. For that period of time that door will be blocked off. We have another egress on the other side of the building and the employees can go in and out through the police station. DPW will demolish the stairs and take away the rubble and then the school will pour the stairs; the building inspector is on board and it will be done to code. Thank you to Chief Desorcy for helping with the Carpenters School contact.

We have met with our electrical contractor and he will be giving use quotes. We have three options and he will let you know when he gets them.

In his 100 days-the finance director Katie was instrumental in getting the budget done; and the Town Clerk was instrumental in formulating the Warrant. These are not functions that they normally would do, this is exactly his management style. He delegates and let them do what they need to do.

With his recent hire of Laurie Connors as Director of Planning & Development, she has

- 1) Handling all of the operations of the Planning Department / Planning board filings.
 - a. Making sure the day to day is done with all regulatory requirements necessary to deal with the planning applications

Here is a partial list of what is currently before the PB

- 2) A Cell tower change
- 3) Industrial developments including Latti Farm
- 4) Riverlin St project
- 5) IT Grant
- 6) Master Plan Visioning
 - a. There is a meeting scheduled with the current consultant to look at what we are doing and where we propose to go
- 7) RFP for consultant services
- 8) Economic Development efforts for down town
 - a. Beatification of Downtown
 - b. Adopt a flag project being undertaken
 - c. Flowers and plantings
 - d. Changing of hardscapes into landscapes
 - i. Helps with Stormwater regulations
 - ii. Improves sustainability due to ongoing maintenance in the adoption of the island by investors/donors etc.
- 9) Downtown Center visioning with Weston and Sampson and CMPRC
- 10) Annual Report of Energy Grant
- 11) Energy Manager Hire
- 12) LED Street Light Project
- 13) Complete Street Grant
 - a. Looking into the pros and consAssessing the availability of funding and what it can be used for vs what we are required to do
 - b. Sustainability vs responsibility

Selectman Cristo showed the board photos of Wedgewood Drive. Mr. Marciello said that we should at least band aid that road without drainage right now. Maybe we can throw some chipseal on it.

Mr. Marciello has hired the Asa Waters Director, a couple of part-time clerks and things are moving along. He is working on the Board of Health fee

Selectman Adams asked where the software stands for the Building Department? We have an IT Grant for it as part of the Community Contact. We have reached out to the contractor on the state bid list; we cannot pull the trigger until we have the money in hand.

Selectman Krumsiek asked to have the Worcester Regional Board of Health in to a May or June meeting.

Mr. Marciello is appointing Happy Erickson to the Upper Blackstone Board.

Motion made to concur with the appointment of Happy Erickson to the Upper Blackstone Board, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Cristo asked if something is being coordinated for Earth Day.

Selectman Despres asked if the sewer bills are being corrected. Mr. Marciello had a meeting with the sewer commission and the finance director; they came up with some ideas to make the bills easier to understand. The easiest solution is to third party bill with the folks that do our excise tax bills.

Selectman Krumsiek asked if we have done anything about the cemetery issue. It is a difficult and sensitive situation and the town is empathetic to particularly one mother, but other graves are affected as well. There is a high-water table and we are compacting top coats on it as it sinks. Once the land dries out weather permitting, we will permanently fix the situation by filling it in and compacting it.

Chairman King said that on Memorial Day everyone would like the cemeteries up to snuff.

Selectman Cristo recused herself

Selectman Despres made a motion to allow the manager to change the town counsel to KP;

Selectman Adams agrees with the concept and would like to table the issue until they are able to compare the proposals.

Selectman Krumsiek said that we need to get a handle on suits and grievances instead of changing counsels.

Chairman King said that the hourly and the flat fee is going to make a difference.

Chairman King asked why Murray, Toomey did not come in to our meeting.

Mr. Marciello said that he vetted upwards of 15 firms and brought the two forward that he thought was best.

Motion was not seconded.

Selectman Adams made a motion to table the attorney issue until the next meeting, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Cristo re-entered.

Chairman King asked if the Board they would like to reorganize at the town meeting or the first meeting in May. As Mr. Marciello is on vacation for the May 9th meeting he suggested doing it on May 23, 2017.

Selectman Despres asked why all of the departments are not open until 7:00 pm on Tuesday's?

Chairman King read Dates to Remember:

Thursday April 13th at 6:30 pm Shaw Chorus Concert at Shaw School

Tuesday April 25th 6:30 to 8:30 pm "Commonwealth Conversations" A Listening Tour with Central MA Senators, including Millbury's Senator Michael O. Moore

Thursday April 27th 7:00 pm at Asa Waters Mansion- COIN APPRAISAL NIGHT

Millbury Little League Parade Sunday April 23, 2017 beginning at 12:00 pm

On a Good Note:

Congratulations to the High School Drama club on their performance of Sister Act
The electric car made it to Boston and back!

Mail:

Donations received by the Millbury Center Beautification Initiative in the amount of \$4500.00.
Motion to accept the donations made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.
Motion carried unanimously.

Reminder: Sewer Use Bills and Real Estate/Personal Property tax bills are due May 1, 2017

Carter's Cleanup for Earth Day-Saturday April 22, 2017 at 10:00 at the Bike Path!

Time to register your dogs & cats!

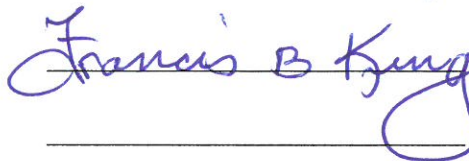
Motion to adjourn at 9:30 pm made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Selectman Krumsiek at 8:17 pm, seconded by Selectman Adams.
Motion carried unanimously.

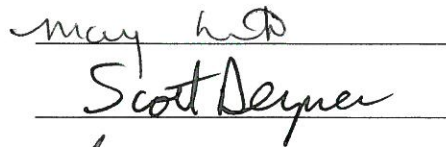
Respectfully submitted,

Tish Hayes, Secretary

Francis B. King

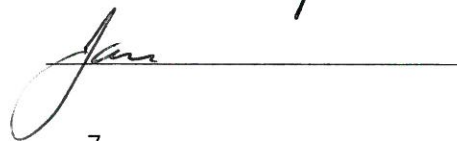


Sandy J. Cristo



Mary Krumsiek

Scott Despres



Jon Adams

MEMORANDUM

TO: SENATOR MICHAEL O. MOORE
FROM: ZACHARY S. TSETSOS, LEGISLATIVE & POLICY ADVISOR
SUBJECT: MILLBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN FY18 BUDGET MEETING
DATE: APRIL 11, 2017

MILLBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
Francis B. King	Chairman
Sandra J. Cristo	Vice Chairman
Mary Krumsiek	Clerk
Scott Despres	Member
Jon Adams	Member

Budget Timeline

- ✓ The Governor released his version of the FY18 budget (H1) in January 2017.
- ✓ The House Ways and Means Committee's budget recommendation is expected in mid-April.
- The Senate Committee on Ways and Means' recommendation is expected in mid-May.
- July 1, 2017 marks the start of FY18.

General Local Aid

Unrestricted General Government Aid <i>Town of Millbury</i>		
<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Appropriation</i>
FY18	House Ways & Means (HWM)	\$1,769,015
FY18	Gov. Budget (H1)	\$1,769,015
FY17	Final	\$1,702,613
<i>FY17 vs. FY18 HWM Difference</i>		+\$66,402

The Governor's budget (H1) proposes \$45.2 billion in total spending, an increase of \$1.57 billion (3.59%) over FY17. The budget would increase Unrestricted General Government Aid (UGGA) by \$39.9 million over current FY17 levels to \$1.1 billion. While the HWM budget is \$156.7 million less in spending overall than the Governor's proposal, the UGGA funding in the HWM budget is identical to that proposed in the Governor's budget. Both budgets increase UGGA funding by 3.9%.

It is worth noting that tax collections for February and March 2017 have badly missed budget benchmarks. The Department of Revenue recently reported that February's collection totals are 9.1% below benchmark. While tax collections through January grew by 2.7% over FY16, revenue collections are still below benchmark by about 1%. Moreover, during the month of March, revenues were \$81M below monthly benchmark and \$220M below year-to-date benchmark. In the weeks and months ahead, the Legislature will be closely monitoring the status of revenue collections during the FY18 budget debates.

The Legislature recently passed a supplemental budget to cover unavoidable funding shortfalls, including \$20 million for unbudgeted state snow and ice cost. The legislation was signed into law at the end of March as Chapter 5 of the Acts of 2017.

According to the Governor's proposed FY18 budget, Unrestricted General Government Aid to the Town of Millbury would increase by \$66,402 over

FY17 to a total of \$1,769,015. The proposed HWM budget would provide the same level of increase in unrestricted local aid as the Governor’s budget. Overall, this marks a continuing trend in modest increases to local aid—up by \$136,596 over FY16.

	FY17 FINAL	FY18 H1
General Government:		
Unrestricted Gen Gov't Aid	1,702,613	1,769,015
Local Sh of Racing Taxes	0	0
Regional Public Libraries	0	0
Urban Revitalization	0	0
Veterans Benefits	130,728	126,896
State Owned Land	7,847	7,847
Exemp: VBS and Elderly	90,170	43,172
Offset Receipts:		
Public Libraries	17,448	17,513
Sub-Total, All General Government	1,948,806	1,964,443

Chapter 90 Funding

The legislature is currently reviewing a bill (H.2783) that would deliver millions for local road repairs. Different versions recently passed the House and Senate and the bill is currently before a conference committee to resolve differences between both bills. It is expected that the bill will move forward very quickly to help get funding to local communities during the construction season.

I will continue to aggressively advocate for additional funding going forward to support local infrastructure.

<i>Millbury Chapter 90 Funding</i>	
FY18	Not Yet Available
FY17	\$430,301
FY16	\$433,001
<i>FY17 vs. FY18 Difference</i>	N/A

Chapter 70 Aid

Statewide, the Governor's FY18 budget (H1) proposal increases Chapter 70 aid by \$91.4 million to \$4.7 billion which reflects an increase of about 1.97% over FY17 and \$207.4 million more than FY16. The Governor's budget is based off of a \$20 minimum per pupil increase and the HWM budget provides a \$30 per pupil increase—a reduction from the \$55 per pupil minimum increase secured by the Legislature in FY17. The HWM version of the budget provides \$15 million more education dollars than the Governor's budget. The House recommendation is a \$106.3M (2.3%) increase over FY17.

- Notably, in response to the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission, the "benefits and fixed charges" rate was increased in the FY18 budget such that an additional \$66 million is invested in district foundation budgets. The HWM budget provides 3% more funding for this item than the Governor's budget in FY18.
- For the third consecutive fiscal year, the Homeless Student Transportation (McKinney-Vento Reimbursements) account has remained stagnant at \$8.35 million in funding.
- Charter school reimbursement funding has also remained level-funded between FY1-FY18 at \$80.5 million.
- Within H1, Special Education Circuit Breaker funding has also remained level-funded at \$277,281,180 when comparing FY17-FY18. The HWM budget, however, increased this item by about \$4M.
- The Governor's FY18 budget does not include an independent line item to fund kindergarten expansion grants. The Legislature did, however, override the Governor's FY17 veto to supply \$200,000 for the program last year.

<i>Chapter 70 Town of Millbury</i>		
<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Appropriation</i>
FY18	HWM	\$7,150,572
FY18	H1 Governor	\$7,114,315
FY17	Final	\$7,019,398
<i>FY17 v. HWM Difference</i>		<i>+\$131,174</i>

The Governor's Fiscal Year 2018 budget places the Millbury Public School enrollment at approximately 1,748 students which marks a decrease of 5 students (-0.29%) over FY17 and a continuing trend in decreasing enrollment size—down by 237 students since FY07.

The Governor's FY17 budget sets the Millbury Public School's foundation budget at \$17,715,133 which is a \$285,287 increase (1.64%) over FY16 and a \$584,184 increase over FY15. The District's net minimum contribution within H1 is set at \$10,600,818 which is an increase of \$127,192 (1.21%) over FY16.

Chapter 70 aid to the District is also set to rise within H1 by \$94,917 (1.35%) over FY16 to \$7,114,315. The HWM budget provides an additional \$36,257 more than the Governor's budget. The District has not experienced a decrease in Chapter 70 funding since FY11. Chapter 70 aid in FY07 was \$6,392,219—about \$758,353 less than FY18 projections and with hundreds more enrolled students.

- Required net school spending for FY18 is projected to increase by \$222,109 (1.27%) over FY17.
- In FY18, state education dollars are expected to fund 40.16% of the District's *foundation budget* which is a 0.11% decrease over FY17.

Increasing Chapter 70 Aid

I recognize that school districts, including Millbury, face rising expenses every year just to maintain existing services. Most of these cost drivers, including energy and health care rates, contractual obligations and testing mandates, are beyond the control of local districts.

While I was proud to support historic increases in public education funding in FY17, I recognize that additional efforts are needed to increase resources available to school districts in an equitable manner.

Like many of you, I agree that the existing Chapter 70 funding formula must be updated to more accurately provide for school districts' costs, and to enhance resources available to public schools in our Commonwealth.

As you may know, the Senate passed legislation last year known as the 'Rise Act' that marked a significant step forward in generating meaningful reforms to local education aid, and developing performance measures for charter schools operating, or seeking to operate, in the state. While the bill was ultimately tabled by the House of Representatives, it is my hope that a robust and productive conversation will take place during the current legislative session that will lead to meaningful reforms in this area.

To that end, you may be interested to know that I have recently co-sponsored a bill filed during the current legislative session that would enact recommendations made by the Foundation Budget Review Commission. The bill, S.223, *An Act Modernizing the Foundation Budget for the 21st Century*.

This bill would phase-in the recommendations of Foundation Budget Review Commission over the course of several years and ensure that our investment in our schools will match our expectations of our schools. I look forward to supporting this legislation as it moves through the legislative process.

Moore-Sponsored Legislation

S.194, An Act Establishing a Special Commission on the Dover Amendment

This legislation establishes a special commission to study the use and effectiveness of the zoning approval process of educational uses under the so-called Dover Amendment, section 3 of chapter 40A of the General Laws. The commission shall study the impact of the education exemption provided by the Dover Amendment on municipalities and nonprofit education institutions, which shall include a review of the types of building projects sited under the protection of the dover amendment and the case law decided on the

educational exemption. The commission shall file the results of its study together with recommendations for legislation, which shall include a proposed definition of “educational purposes”, with the clerks of the House and Senate, by December 31, 2016.

S.1572, An Act Relative to a Municipality’s Right of First Refusal of Agricultural Land

Chapter 61A §14 of the General Laws pertains to the notification process in which a city or town has the option to exercise, waive or assign its right of first refusal of agricultural land which the property owner seeks to sell or use for non-agricultural purposes. The existing timelines under Chapter 61A §14, however, are not conducive a municipality’s ability to effectively conduct the required due diligence of a potential land acquisition; particularly communities that have a town meeting form of government. This bill seeks to extend the existing time period from 120 to 180 days to provide municipalities with a more appropriate timeframe to make a determination about whether to exercise its right of first refusal. In addition, the bill would extend the existing 90-day period for a municipality to fulfill the purchase and sale contract to 120 days which would provide communities with more time to identify and secure alternate funding sources to offset the purchase price of the land. The bill also seeks to clarify the existing law by ensuring that communities are not required to purchase land that is not classified under Chapter 61A, even if the non-61A property is included within the same purchase and sale agreement provided to the municipality by the landowner. Lastly, the bill would establish a 30-day timeline in which the seller may accept the purchase and sale agreement since the existing law does not require the landowner to respond to a purchase and sale agreement provided by a city or town. As such, a municipality may not know if the seller accepts the agreement for months, or possibly years, which may have major financial and budgetary implications that are not immediately foreseeable.

S.462, An Act to Assist Municipal and District Ratepayers

This legislation establishes a provision that any new rule, regulation or "guidance" issued by a state environmental agency must undergo a cost-benefit and cost impact analysis in order to consider whether compliance costs and environmental improvements are equitable. As municipalities are asked to do more with limited funds, it is critical that local funds be applied where they will make the greatest effect.

S.705, *An Act relative to early college high schools*

This legislation directs DESE and the Department of Higher Education to establish and administer an early college education program to increase postsecondary completion rates and participation in career pathways. The program shall consider applications for partnerships among public secondary institutions and public and private institutions of higher education to be designated as Massachusetts Early College Schools. The program will allow for the accumulation of 12 transferable college credits and the offering at least one career pathway yielding an associate's degree or relevant industry credential.

S.298, *An Act relative to local approval for charter schools*

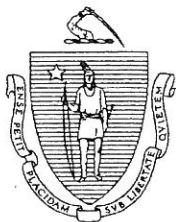
This legislation would give communities a measure of control in where charter schools are located, a process that can dramatically impact local traditional public school funding issues. The bill would require a vote from either a school committee or city council, to approve the placement of a charter school that would draw significantly from that community. This provision was included as part of the 'Rise Act' passed by the Senate last year.

S.193, *An Act Relative to Early Education Funding*

The Education Fund established by the casino law currently only includes K-12 and higher education. This legislation adds early education to the fund.

S.706, An Act Concerning Sexual Violence on Higher Education Campuses

- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (“Title IX”) is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in federally funded education programs and activities. It requires all schools that receive federal funds to take immediate and effective steps to respond to sexual violence. If a school knows or should know about possible sexual violence, it must investigate to determine what occurred and then take appropriate steps to resolve the situation.
- This legislation, which is the version enacted by the Senate last session, adds additional information on sexual violence to a higher education institution's annual crime report; appoints a Public Safety Officer to the Board of Higher Education to review of all campus safety policies; requires campus websites to include information about the resources available to sexual assault victims; requires that sexual assault policies be emailed to all students each semester; requires campuses to establish a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with sexual assault crisis services; requires the option for anonymous reporting as well as the designation of a trained confidential advisor for students to report an assault to; requires mandatory annual sexual violence training for students; requires sexual violence training for employees; and requires institutions to integrate a Threat Response Program to be used for emergency communications for students on and off campus.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives

State House, Boston 02133-1054

April 5, 2017

Chairman Brian S. Dempsey
House Ways & Means Committee
State House, Room 243

Chairwoman Karen E. Spilka
Senate Ways & Means Committee
State House, Room 212

RE: Request for \$55 minimum per pupil increment

Dear Chairman Dempsey and Chairwoman Spilka,

We greatly appreciate your leadership and support in raising the Chapter 70 minimum per pupil increment to \$55 during last year's budget and we respectfully ask for this same amount for the FY18 budget.

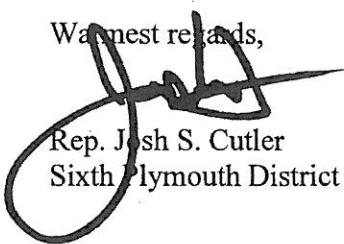
Under our existing funding formula the vast majority of school districts across Massachusetts wouldn't receive any increase in aid from year to year based solely on their foundation budget allocation under Chapter 70. Our districts instead rely on the minimum per pupil increment. In House 1, that minimum aid figure is set at \$20 per pupil, a reduction from the FY17 GAA of \$55 per pupil.

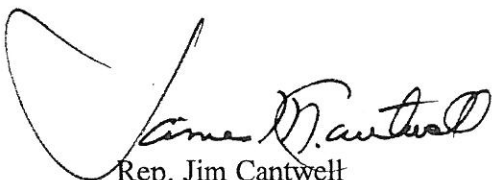
Our school districts face rising expenses every year just to maintain existing services. Most of these cost drivers, including energy and health care rates, contractual obligations and testing mandates are beyond the control of local districts. Yet for the 237 school districts that would receive just the minimum aid increment under House 1, Chapter 70 increases by an average of less than one percent.


Restoring the minimum per pupil increment to \$55, as the Legislature did last year, will provide a significant boost in local aid to our school districts across Massachusetts at a total cost of just \$6.2 million.


Thank you for your support and consideration of our request.

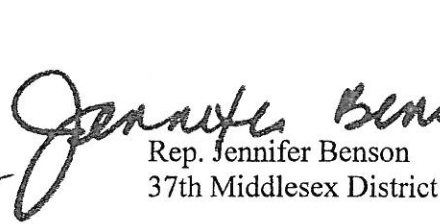
Warmest regards,

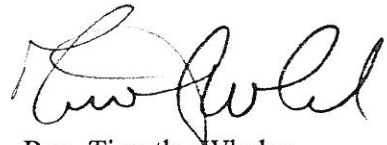

Rep. Josh S. Cutler
Sixth Plymouth District

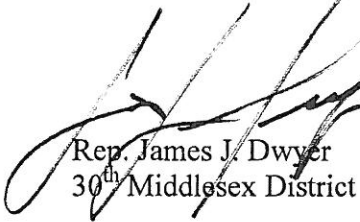

Rep. Jim Cantwell
Fourth Plymouth District

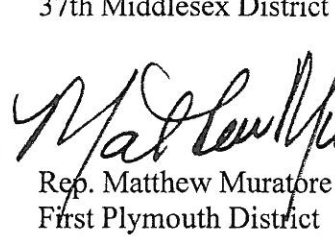

Sen. Patrick O'Connor
Norfolk & Plymouth District

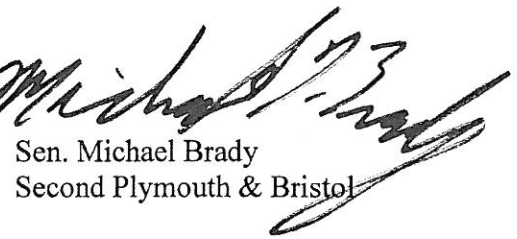

Rep. Steven Ultrino
33rd Middlesex District

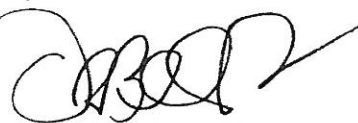

Rep. Jennifer Benson
37th Middlesex District



Rep. Timothy Whelan
First Barnstable District



Rep. James J. Dwyer
30th Middlesex District

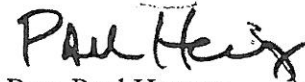

Rep. Matthew Muratore
First Plymouth District

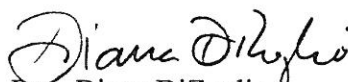

Sen. Michael Brady
Second Plymouth & Bristol

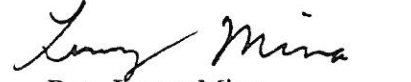

Rep. Donald Berthiaume, Jr.
Fifth Worcester District



Rep. Smitty Pignatelli
Fourth Berkshire District



Rep. Kevin Kuros
Eighth Worcester District



Rep. Paul Heroux
Second Bristol District



Rep. Diana DiZoglio
14th Essex District



Rep. Lenny Mirra
Second Essex District


Rep. Frank Smizik
15th Norfolk District



Rep. Thomas Calter
12th Plymouth District

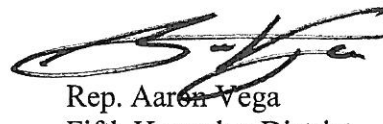

Rep. Lori Ehrlich
Eighth Essex District



Rep. Peter Durant
Sixth Worcester District



Rep. Hannah Kane
11th Worcester District



Rep. Jon Zlotnik
Second Worcester District



Sen. Marc Pacheco
First Plymouth & Bristol


Rep. Aaron Vega
Fifth Hampden District


Rep. Michelle DuBois
10th Plymouth District


Sen. Jennifer Flanagan
Worcester & Middlesex


Rep. Jonathan Hecht
29th Middlesex District


Sen. Julian Cyr
Cape & Islands

Rep. David DeCoste
Fifth Plymouth District

Rep. David Muradian Jr.
Ninth Worcester District

Rep. Joan Meschino
Third Plymouth District

Rep. Joseph McKenna
18th Worcester District

Rep. Jeffrey Roy
10th Norfolk District

Rep. Sean Garballey
23rd Middlesex District

Sen. Vinny DeMacedo
Plymouth & Barnstable

Rep. Geoff Diehl
Seventh Plymouth District

Rep. Sarah Peake
Fourth Barnstable District

Rep. David Rogers
24th Middlesex District

Rep. Dylan Fernandes
Barnstable, Dukes & Nantucket

Rep. Paul Schmid, III
Eighth Bristol District

Rep. Stephan Hay
Third Worcester District

Rep. Elizabeth A. Poirier
14th Bristol District

Rep. James Lyons
18th Essex District

Rep. F. Jay Barrows
First Bristol District

Rep. Bruce Ayers
First Norfolk District

Rep. James Murphy
Fourth Norfolk District

Rep. James Kelcourse
First Essex District

Rep. Keiko Orrall
12th Bristol District

Nicholas Boldyga

Marc T. Lombardo
22nd Middlesex

Angelo D'Emilia
8th Plymouth

Kathleen O'Connor Ives
First Essex



Rep. Harold Naughton, Jr.
12th Worcester District

Rep. Gailanne Cariddi
First Berkshire District



Sen. Ryan Fattman
Worcester & Norfolk




Rep. John Velis
Fourth Hampden District



Rep. Mike Connolly
26th Middlesex District



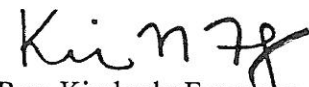
Sen. John Keenan
Norfolk & Plymouth



Rep. Carolyn Dykema
Eighth Middlesex District




Rep. Colleen Garry
36th Middlesex District



Rep. Kimberly Ferguson
First Worcester District



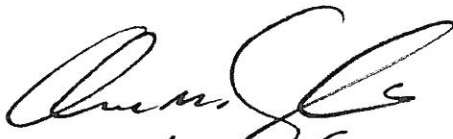
Sen. Michael Moore
Second Worcester



Rep. Carmine Gentile
13th Middlesex District



Sen. Joan Lovely
Second Essex



SEN. ANNE M. GOBI
WORCESTER, HAMPDEN,
HAMPSHIRE, MIDDLESEX