Annual Town Meeting Princeton, Ma 01541 May 15, 2012

Warrant duly posted:	April 25, 2012
Inhabitants notified by website posting:	May 3, 2012
Advisory Board Hearing:	May 7, 2012
Quorum needed:	79
Voters Present:	119
Moderator:	Harry Pape
Checkers/Counters:	Ellen O'Brien, Helen Townsend
Constable:	Michele Powers
Meeting called to order:	7:05PM
Meeting dissolved:	8:29PM

The Moderator opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the full warrant.

Unanimous

7:07PM

Moderator read the charge to the Constable, noting that this warrant included the Town Election as well as the Town Meeting, and the Return of the Warrant.

The Moderator asked that all non-voters identify themselves for the tellers.

The Constable for the meeting was identified by the Moderator as Chief Michele Powers

All motions are approved by the Advisory Board unless otherwise noted

Announcements

- The Moderator introduced the new Fire Chief, David Cobb
- Citizen of the Year Award was given to Joe O'Brien for his 11 years as a Selectman, participation on many boards and committees, and his role as a crisis manager in the aftermath of the 2008 Ice Storm.
- Election results from the May 15, 2012 Annual Town Election were read by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 1. Voted to receive the reports of the Town Officers and any outstanding committees. Unanimous 7:20PM

ARTICLE 2. Voted under the provisions of Section 108, Chapter 41, of the Massachusetts General Laws to fix the salaries of the following Town Officers for the ensuing year (FY13).

FY13 Moderator \$25 Selectmen \$1,500 Assessors \$4,500 Unanimous

7:22PM

ARTICLE 3. Voted the bulk of the FY13 appropriation by department as set forth in Article 3 of the Warrant with the following exception:

Total Schools Budget – 5,188,194.00 – This portion of the budget was HELD for discussion Unanimous 7:29PM

25.00			
25.00			
25.00			Γ
	25.00		
50.00	75.00		
75.00		100.00	100.00
1,500.00	1,500.00		
3,000.00	3,000.00		
4,500.00		4,500.00	4,500.00
9,500.00	9,500.00	9,500.00	9,500.00
88,496.00	90,266.00		
2,500.00	2,500.00		
90,996.00		92,766.00	92,766.00
34,333.00	36,273.00		
1,500.00	1,500.00		
35,833.00		37,773.00	37,773.00
50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
25,319.00	27,913.00		
3,478.00 28,797.00	3,624.00	31,537.00	31,537.00
	1,500.00 3,000.00 4,500.00 9,500.00 9,500.00 2,500.00 90,996.00 34,333.00 1,500.00 35,833.00 35,833.00 35,833.00	1,500.00 1,500.00 3,000.00 3,000.00 4,500.00 9,500.00 9,500.00 9,500.00 88,496.00 90,266.00 2,500.00 2,500.00 90,996.00 36,273.00 34,333.00 36,273.00 1,500.00 1,500.00 35,833.00 50,000.00 25,319.00 27,913.00 3,478.00 3,624.00	1,500.00 1,500.00 3,000.00 3,000.00 4,500.00 4,500.00 9,500.00 9,500.00 9,500.00 9,500.00 88,496.00 90,266.00 2,500.00 2,500.00 90,996.00 92,766.00 34,333.00 36,273.00 1,500.00 1,500.00 35,833.00 37,773.00 50,000.00 50,000.00 25,319.00 27,913.00 3,478.00 3,624.00

DEPARTMENT	FY12 BUDGET VOTED	FY13 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY13 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY13 AB RECOMMENDS
Board of Assessors				
Assessors Salaries	4,500.00	4,500.00		
Assessor Clerk Salary	19,173.00	19,556.00		
Principal Assessor Salary	27,397.00	27,945.00		
Info. Tech. Mgr. Salary	12,786.00	13,042.00		
Revaluation Salary	6,242.00	6,367.00		
Expense	22,582.00	10,582.00		
Sub-Total	92,680.00		81,992.00	81,992.00
Treasurer				
Salary	28,750.00	29,325.00		
Expense	7,800.00	7,800.00		
Sub-Total	36,550.00		37,125.00	37,125.00
Tax Collector				
Salary	39,332.00	40,119.00		
Expense	8,225.00	8,225.00		
Sub-Total	47,557.00		48,344.00	48,344.00
Town Counsel				
Expense	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Town Clerk				
Salary	31,649.00	32,282.00		
Certification	-	1,000.00		
Expenses	4,950.00	4,900.00		
Sub-Total	36,599.00		38,182.00	38,182.00

DEPARTMENT	FY12	FY13	FY13	FY13
	BUDGET	PROPOSED	Sub-Total To Be Voted	AB
	VOTED	BUDGET	On	RECOMMENDS
Elections and Registration				
Salaries	1,525.00	4,000.00		
Expense	4,485.00	5,640.00		
Sub-Total	6,010.00		9,640.00	9,640.00
Conservation Commission				
Salaries				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Sub-Total	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
Planning Board				
Administrative Asst. Salary	14,761.00	16,936.00		
Expense	2,636.00	2,636.00		
Sub-Total	17,397.00		19,572.00	19,572.00
Board of Appeals				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Open Space Committee				[
Expense	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Agricultural Commission				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Town Building Operations				Ι
Salaries	22,320.00	23,110.00		
Expense	53,095.00	53,095.00		
Sub-Total	75,415.00		76,205.00	76,205.00
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	555,934.00		561,236.00	561,236.00

DEPARTMENT	FY12 VOTED BUDGET	FY13 BUDGET PROPOSED	Sub-Total To Be Voted	RECOMMENDS AB
	VOTED	BUDGET	On	RECOMMENDS
PUBLIC SAFETY:				
Police/Dispatch				
Police non-union Salaries	118,825.00	119,140.00		
Police Union Salaries	332,050.00	349,525.00		
Dispatch Union Salaries	193,201.00	201,111.00		
Expense	95,100.00	96,900.00		
Sub-Total	739,176.00		766,676.00	766,676.00
Fire Department				
Salaries	142,361.00	160,423.00		
Ambulance Readiness	36,000.00	64,000.00		
Vehicle Allowance; Chief	3,000.00	3,000.00		
Expense	75,471.00	92,489.00		
Emergency Management Exp.		2,340.00		
Sub-Total	256,832.00		322,252.00	322,252.00
Animal Control				
Animal Inspector Salary	500.00	500.00		
Animal Control Salary	8,811.00	8,987.00		
Expense	1,900.00	1,900.00		
Sub-Total	11,211.00		11,387.00	11,387.00
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY:	1,007,219.00		1,100,315.00	1,100,315.00
Wachusett Regional School				
Wachusett Min. Contribution	4,053,653.00	4,070,202.00		4,070,202.00
Operations Assessment	321,607.00	542,303.00	468,846.00	468,846.00
Transportation	225,823.00	205,208.00		205,208.00

DEPARTMENT	FY12 BUDGET VOTED	FY13 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY13 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY13 AB RECOMMENDS
Long Term Debt	235,696.00	234,173.00		234,173.00
Capital Program Assessment	-			
Environmental Clean-up	7,735.00	7,886.00		7,886.00
Sub-total	4,844,514.00	5,059,772.00	4,986,315.00	4,986,315.00
Montachusett Reg. Vocational	185,190.00	201,879.00	201,879.00	201,879.00
TOTAL SCHOOLS	5,029,704.00	5,261,651.00	HELD 5,188,194.00	5,188,194.00
PUBLIC WORKS:				
Highway				
Salaries	299,773.00	306,120.00		
Expense	231,000.00	241,188.00		
Sub-Total	530,773.00		547,308.00	547,308.00
Snow/Ice Removal				
Expense	140,000.00	160,000.00	160,000.00	160,000.00
Road Reconstruction	175,000.00	175,000.00	175,000.00	175,000.00
Street Lights				
Expense	9,746.00	9,575.00	9,575.00	9,575.00
Tree Warden				
Salary	1,388.00	1,416.00		
Expense	12,000.00	12,000.00		
Sub-Total	13,388.00		13,416.00	13,416.00
Cemeteries				
Salaries	17,965.00	18,324.00		

	FY12	FY13	FY13	FY13
DEPARTMENT	BUDGET	PROPOSED	Sub-Total To Be Voted	AB
	VOTED	BUDGET	On On	RECOMMENDS
Expense	4,372.00	4,372.00		
Sub-Total	22,337.00		22,696.00	22,696.00
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	891,244.00		927,995.00	927,995.00
HUMAN SERVICES:				
Council on Aging				
Salary	14,284.00	14,570.00		
Expense	1,700.00	1,700.00		
Sub-Total	15,984.00		16,270.00	16,270.00
Veterans Services				
Salary	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Expense	6,765.00	6,765.00		
Sub-Total	8,265.00		8,265.00	8,265.00
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	24,249.00		24,535.00	24,535.00
CULTURE & RECREATION:)	,
Library				1
Salaries	97,985.00	99,945.00		
Expense	53,857.00	54,360.00		
Sub-Total	151,842.00		154,305.00	154,305.00
Parks & Recreation				
Salaries	4,080.00	4,162.00		
Expense	4,100.00	4,100.00		
Sub-Total	8,180.00		8,262.00	8,262.00
Historical Commission				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00

	FY12	FY13	FY13	FY13
DEPARTMENT	BUDGET	PROPOSED	Sub-Total	AB
	VOTED	BUDGET	To Be Voted On	RECOMMENDS
Memorial Day				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	163,022.00		165,567.00	165,567.00
DEBT & INTEREST:				
Library Renovation (Exterior)	32,310.00	31,155.00	31,155.00	31,155.00
Police Cruisers (1)	33,821.00	11,852.00	11,852.00	11,852.00
Fire Vehicle	-	13,031.00	13,031.00	13,031.00
Dentles Denskere	45 000 00	40,000,00	40,000,00	40,000,00
Bentley Purchase	45,290.00	43,820.00	43,820.00	43,820.00
General Interest	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
		-)	- ,	
Thomas Prince/PCBs	-	6,011.00	6,011.00	6,011.00
TOTAL DEBT	126,421.00		120,869.00	120,869.00
MISCELLANEOUS:				
Retirement	174,111.00	185,976.00	185,976.00	185,976.00
	,		,	
Life & Fringe	10,900.00	10,900.00	10,900.00	10,900.00
FICA/Medicare	35,400.00	35,400.00	35,400.00	35,400.00
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Health Insurance	335,582.00	329,085.00	329,085.00	329,085.00
Town Insurance	135,000.00	149,000.00	149,000.00	149,000.00
		•		
Wachusett Earthday	1,278.00	1,148.00	1,148.00	1,148.00
Wachusell Latinday	1,270.00	1,140.00	1,140.00	1,140.00

	FY12	FY13	FY13	FY13
DEPARTMENT	BUDGET	PROPOSED	Sub-Total To Be Voted	АВ
	VOTED	BUDGET	On	RECOMMENDS
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	692,271.00		711,509.00	711,509.00
GRAND TOTAL:	8,490,064.00	8,873,677.00	8,800,220.00	8,800,220.00

Discussion of Total Schools Budget

The following language was included in the original Article 3 motion put forth by the Selectboard.

SCHOOLS Wachusett Regional School:

FY 13 Proposed Budget - Strike \$542,303.00 from Operations Assessment and replace it with \$468,846.00. FY 13 Sub-Total To Be Voted On – Strike \$5,059,772.00 and replace it with \$4,986,315.00.

TOTAL SCHOOLS: FY 13 Sub-Total To Be Voted On – Strike \$5,261,651.00 and replace it with \$5,188,194.

GRAND TOTAL FY 13 Sub-Total To Be Voted On – Strike \$8,873,677.00 and replace it with \$8,800,220.

Ed Cichon- 28 Radford Rd. – What is the unfunded liability for pensions and benefits? Mr. Brennan, representing Wachusett Reg. District Admin. - \$10, 200,000 is the unfunded amount Michele Sciabarrasi, School Committee Rep. – 24 Calamint Hill Rd. NO

- Explained the budget process between old and new budget numbers
- District and school Committee Reps. working very hard to improve communication to residents. District website has budget information, and Michele receives an information packet every two weeks that she will share. Contact Michele with your email address.

With no further discussion a vote was taken on the HELD Total Schools budget item of \$5,188,194.00

Moderator declared on a voice vote that the article carried7:37PM

ARTICLE 4. Voted to establish the FY13 ambulance operating budget of \$94,213.00. I further move to appropriate \$49,940.00 for salary and \$44,273.00 for expenses from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account #15-5-231-000. I further move to transfer the amount of \$57,500 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 to the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation account #15-5-231-000. Receipts for ambulance services received in FY13 and all subsequent fiscal years to be deposited into said account. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years. Unanimous 7:40PM

ARTICLE 5. Voted to establish the FY13 trash operating budget and appropriate \$80,000.00 from the Solid Waste Enterprise Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account #65-5-460-000 for that purpose. Voted further to transfer \$10,000 from Solid Waste Enterprise-Available Retained Earnings. Receipts for trash disposal services received in FY13 and all subsequent fiscal years to be deposited into the Solid Waste Enterprise Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account #65-5-460-000 established in FY08. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years.

Unanimous

ARTICLE 6. Voted to authorize FY13 revolving funds for certain Town departments as written under Article 6 in the town warrant.

Revolving	Authorized to	Revenue	Use of Fund	FY 2012	FY 2013
Fund	Spend Fund	Source		Spending Limit	Spending Limit
Building	Bldg. Inspector	Fees from Bldg,	To Pay Administrative & Inspector		
Department	Town Admin.	Wiring, Fire and	Salary & Expenses	\$69,371	\$73,404
_		Plumbing Permits			
Library	Library Director, Town	Copy Machine, Fax,	Defray Operational Expenses		
	Admin.	Fines and Fees		\$4,000	\$4,000
Parks and	Recreation Comm.	Fees Collected from	Provide Recreational Programs & Pay		
Recreation	Chairman, Town Admin	Recreational Programs	Salaries	\$34,685	\$36,702
Parks and	Recreation Comm.	Fees Collected from			
Recreation	Chairman, Town Admin	Recreational Programs	Maintenance of Parks	\$34,685	\$36,702
Princeton	Princeton Center				
Center	Director, Town Admin.	Rental Fees	Defray Operational & Maintenance Exp.	\$69, 371	\$73,404
Board of	Board of Health	Permits and Inspections	Salary and Expense		
Health	Town Admin	-		\$35,000	\$35,000
Cemetery	Cemetery Comm.				
-	Chairman, Town Admin.	Burial Fees	Salary & Expense	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total					
Spending				\$252,112	\$264,212

Unanimous

ARTICLE 7. Voted to pass over this article. Unanimous

ARTICLE 8. Voted to authorize the Selectmen to contract with and accept any grants from the Mass. Department of Transportation-Highway Division for the construction of any road or related work that may be allotted to the Town for the ensuing year.

Unanimous

7:44PM

7:43PM

7:43 1/2PM

ARTICLE 9. Voted to amend Chapter II, Section 7 (Town Meetings) of the General Bylaws as follows:

Amend SECTION 7 by deleting the first sentence:

"The number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum at any Town Meeting shall be three (3) percent of the voters as of the previous January 1st, but any number may adjourn any meeting to a stated time and place."

And replacing it with the following new language:

"The number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum at any Annual Town Meeting shall be three (3) percent of the voters as of the previous January 1^{st} , and at any Special Town Meeting shall be two (2) percent of the voters as of the previous January 1^{st} , but any number may adjourn any meeting to a stated time and place."

Discussion

Joe Lotuff- 73 Worcester Rd. – spoke against the article, concerned that there would not be proper representation with a smaller quorum

Edith Morgan- Selectboard member- explained research behind the decision, survey of other towns Judy Dino – 84 Main St. – spoke in favor of the article

Moderator declared article soundly defeated on a voice vote 7:51PM

A hand count was requested and called. The vote is as follows:

Yes -	- 59
<u>No -</u>	46
Total	105

Moderator declared that the motion carried7:54PM

ARTICLE 10. Voted to amend Section VI: Area, Yard and Height Regulations and Section X: Definitions of the Zoning By-Laws by the following:

Deleting the second sentence in Section VI(1)(B) and substituting "Frontage shall be computed along the edge of the property line where it borders the street right of way line.";

Deleting Section VI(1)(D) and substituting "No structure or part thereof in any district shall be so located as to extend within fifty (50) feet of a property line where it borders the street right of way line, except that this shall not apply to uncovered steps."

Deleting the first sentence in Section VI(1)(G) and substituting "For any lot created after the adoption of this section, the width of the lot between the property line where it borders the street right of way line and the nearest part of the principal building to be constructed on the lot shall be not less than fifty (50) feet."

Deleting in Section X the definition of "Yard, front" and substituting "Yard, front: A yard extending the full width of the lot and situated between the property line where it borders the street right of way line and the nearest point of the building."

2/3 Vote Required Unanimous, Moderator declares that it clearly carries the 2/3rds 8:01PM

ARTICLE 11. Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,620 and deposit said funds in the General Stabilization Account #83-5-041-000, to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$50,000 to the General Stabilization Account #83-5-041-000, and further move to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$75,000 to the Infrastructure Stabilization Account #85-5-041-000.

2/3 Vote Required Moderator declared the motion carried

ARTICLE 12. Voted to transfer from the Infrastructure Stabilization account 85-5-041-000 the sum of \$225,000 to pay a portion of the debt authorized by the action of the October 11, 2011 Special Town Meeting under Article 6 to fund expenses related to hazardous waste abatement at the Thomas Prince School, 170 Sterling Road.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

ARTICLE 13. Voted to transfer from the General Stabilization account # 83-5-100-000 the sum of \$99,146 to fund student transportation expenses related to the hazardous waste abatement at the Thomas Prince School, 170 Sterling Road.

2/3 Vote Required

Unanimous

8:12PM

8:10PM

8:03PM

0.0001

ARTICLE 14. Voted to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$755.16 to pay departmental bills from previous years.

4/5 Vote Required

Unanimous

ARTICLE 15. Voted to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 the sum of \$90,597 to the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund.

Friendly amendment accepted by Moderator to restate the motion which read, \$90,057 to read the correct amount of, \$90,597.00, as stated in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 16. Voted to transfer the sum of \$40,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 to the Town Building Maintenance Program account #03-5-192-204 to continue to defray the costs for materials and repairs to town buildings.

Unanimous

Unanimous

ARTICLE 17. Voted to transfer the sum of \$25,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to the Town Environmental Clean-up Account #03-5-420-201 to fund expenses associated with environmental issues with town-owned property.

Unanimous

ARTICLE 18. Voted to transfer the sum of \$18,500 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to establish a Special Fund to purchase for public safety purposes a repeater radio and any related equipment. Unanimous

ARTICLE 19. Voted to transfer the sum of \$25,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to the fund established under Mass. General Law Chapter 44, section 53C for off-duty or special detail work.

Unanimous

ARTICLE 20. Voted to transfer the sum of \$19,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to the Fire Department Turnout Gear account #03-5-220-206 to purchase turnout gear for the use of the Fire Department.

Unanimous

ARTICLE 21. Voted to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to establish a Special Fund for fire pond upgrades and construction of new fire ponds by the Fire Department.

Unanimous

ARTICLE 22. Voted to transfer the sum of \$30,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to establish a Special Fund to either rebuild the fire pump on Engine 5 or purchase a used fire engine to replace Engine 5.

Unanimous

ARTICLE 23. Voted to transfer the sum of \$50 to the Goodnow Book Expense Account from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 for the purchase of books for the Library, as required by the terms of the Goodnow Deed of Gift.

Unanimous

8:20PM

8:21PM

8:21 1/2PM

8:22PM

8:16PM

8:17PM

8:19PM

8:24PM

8:14PM

ARTICLE 24. Voted to transfer the sum of \$1,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #27-5-999-000 to the Band Concert Expense account #03-5-692-781 for town concerts, the expenditure of such funds to be authorized by the Board of Selectmen.

Unanimous

8:27PM

A motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting. **Unanimous**

8:27PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne F. Grettum Town Clerk