

**RESULTS OF
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

54 VOTERS ATTENDED

Moderator, Dario Nardi, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. More than a quorum of 25 were present. The Moderator lead with the Pledge of Allegiance then he declared that the Warrant was properly posted and returned. He explained the procedures of the meeting, then the following action was taken on articles:

ARTICLE 1: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$352,000.00 to Stabilization.

ARTICLE 1: VOTED – YES 37 – NO 6 – TOTAL = 43 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 2: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000.00 to Capital Stabilization.

ARTICLE 2: VOTED – YES 36 – NO 7 – TOTAL = 43 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 3: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$18,000.00 for Building Maintenance and Improvements as follows; \$7,500.00 to the Shepard Building Office Improvements Line, \$3,000.00 to Town Hall Repair/Maintenance Line, and \$7,500.00 to the Council on Aging Maintenance Line.

ARTICLE 3: VOTED – YES 40 – NO 5 – TOTAL = 45 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 4: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$2,475.00 for repairs to the roof at the Senior Center.

ARTICLE 4: VOTED – YES 40 – NO 2 – TOTAL = 42 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 5: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from COA Custodian Salary the sum of \$2,600.00 to the Council on Aging Maintenance Line for additional building improvements.

ARTICLE 5: VOTED – YES 39 – NO 3 – TOTAL = 42 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 6: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$3,000.00 to pay for staff training.

**MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO GIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JAMES FERRERA PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE MEETING - VOTED UNANIMOUSLY
(As declared by the Moderator)**

ARTICLE 6: VOTED – YES 31 – NO 12 – TOTAL = 43 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 7: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$4,960.00 to vocational education transportation for an increase in transportation costs for an out of district student.

ARTICLE 7: VOTED – YES 33 – NO 17 – TOTAL = 50 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 8: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from the Accountant Salary Line the sum of \$16,000.00 to the Assistant Town Accountant Salary Line.

ARTICLE 8: VOTED – YES 39 – NO 6 – TOTAL = 45 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 9: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000.00 for maintenance to the Town's Levee.

ARTICLE 9: VOTED – YES 41 – NO 9 – TOTAL = 50 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 10: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$3,717.56 to the Shepard Building Expense Line for security hinges for interior doors at the Shepard Building (\$1,717.56) and (\$2,000.00) for power washing of the building.

ARTICLE 10: VOTED – YES 28 – NO 16 – TOTAL = 44 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 11: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Facilities Custodian Salary the sum of \$14,000.00 to the Shepard Building Expense Line to cover the cost of cleaning services for the period of 7/1/2023 to 11/17/2023.

ARTICLE 11: VOTED – YES 39 – NO 8 – TOTAL = 47 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 12: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$18,900.00 for twenty-eight weeks of cleaning services for the Shepard Building, Police Station, Fire Station, Senior Center, and Highway Garage.

ARTICLE 12: VOTED – YES 37 – NO 10 – TOTAL = 47 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 13: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$9,300.00 to purchase three electronic speed signs and to purchase additional speed limit signs for the Town

ARTICLE 13: VOTED – YES 17 – NO 34 – TOTAL = 51 – MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 14: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$30,000.00 to commission a management assessment study for the Quabog Regional School District as approved at the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 14: MOTION MADE TO MOVE THE QUESTION: 2/3 REQUIRED
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY (As declared by the Moderator)**

ARTICLE 14: VOTED – YES 22 – NO 28 – TOTAL = 50 – MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 15: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate* the sum of \$1,000.00 to Selectmen Information Technology Account to fund additional email accounts.

ARTICLE 15: VOTED – YES 37 – NO 14 – TOTAL = 51 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 16: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *appropriate* from the Cable Advisory Fund the sum of \$2,524.10 to pay Valley Communications for prior fiscal year bills for the purchase of audio and video equipment. 9/10th Vote

ARTICLE 16: VOTED – YES 42 – NO 5 – TOTAL = 47 – MOTION DEFEATED

9/10 VOTE REQUIRED – 43 NEEDED TO PASS

**ARTICLE 16-MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO RECONSIDER ARTICLE 16-
MODERATOR DECLARED IT IS A VOTE (PASSES)**

**ARTICLE 16: REVOTED – YES 46 – NO 3 – TOTAL = 49 MOTION CARRIES
9/10 VOTE REQUIRED - 45 NEEDED TO PASS**

ARTICLE 17: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$11,770.00 to pay the following prior fiscal year(s) invoices: Barton & Loguidice, LLC. for Landfill Monitoring Wells and PFAS Analyses dated May 19, 2023, in the amount of \$10,560.00 and for Engineering Services and Facility Inspections dated May 19, 2023, in the amount of \$1,210.00.

9/10th Vote

**ARTICLE 17: VOTED – YES 46 – NO 4 – TOTAL = 50 – MOTION CARRIES
9/10 VOTE REQUIRED - 45 NEEDED TO PASS**

ARTICLE 18: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate* the sum of \$300.00 to the Animal Inspector Salary to cover the additional costs of inspections for the months of October, November, and December.

ARTICLE 18: VOTED – YES 41 – NO 6 – TOTAL = 47 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 19: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* \$12,880.35 from Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Highway Equipment fund to purchase a Hopper Sweeper for \$5,882.35 and a Buffalo Turbine for \$6,998.00.

ARTICLE 19: VOTED – YES 50 – NO 2 – TOTAL = 52 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 20: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$4,000.00 to Beaver Removal Line for additional beaver removal services.

ARTICLE 20: VOTED – YES 45 – NO 5 – TOTAL = 50 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 21: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$46,286.00 to purchase a new Ford Police Interceptor and to trade in a 2020 Ford Police Interceptor with approximately 104,000 miles on it which is currently at the end of its useful life.

ARTICLE 21: VOTED – YES 36 – NO 11– TOTAL = 47 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 22: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate* the sum of \$3,895.00 to cover the following costs associated with a new police hire; \$3,535.00 to be added to police salary line for a new hire starting at a step 4 and \$360.00 to be added to the supplemental salary line to cover the extra educational incentive costs.

ARTICLE 22: VOTED – YES 42 – NO 9 – TOTAL = 51 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 23: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$400,000.00 to purchase a new Fire Engine Number One of which the Town has already appropriated \$200,000.00 towards its replacement.

ARTICLE 23: VOTED – YES 39 – NO 9 – TOTAL = 48 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 24: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Regional Dispatch the sum of \$50,000.00 to complete the purchase of Fire Engine Number One.

ARTICLE 24: VOTED – YES 43 – NO 5 – TOTAL = 48 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 25: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Fire Engine Number One Capital stabilization, the sum of \$200,000.00 for the purchase of a new Fire Engine Number One.

2/3rd Vote

ARTICLE 25: VOTED – YES 42 – NO 5 – TOTAL = 47 – MOTION CARRIES
2/3 VOTE REQUIRED – 32 NEEDED TO PASS

ARTICLE 26: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate* the sum of \$15,000.00 to the advanced life support expense line to cover additional advanced life support calls.

ARTICLE 26: VOTED – YES 41 – NO 4 – TOTAL = 45 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 27: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of special legislation entitled “An Act Authorizing the Town of Warren to continue the employment of Steven Perkins” as set forth below, provided however, that the General Court shall be authorized to make ministerial, clerical, and editorial changes of form only to said bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve such amendments.

An Act Authorizing the Town of Warren to Continue Employment of Steven Perkins

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, Steven Perkins, a member of the fire department of the town of Warren, may continue to serve in such position until the age of 67, or until the date of his retirement, non-reappointment, or the date he is relieved of his duties by the town, whichever occurs first; provided, however, that he is mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of his office. Provided further, that the town may, at its own expense, require that Steven Perkins be examined by an impartial physician designated by the town to determine such capability; and provided further, that no deductions shall be made from the regular compensation of Steven Perkins pursuant to chapter 32 of the General Laws for any service subsequent to his reaching the age of 65 in connection with his service to the town for retirement or pension purposes, and, upon retirement, Steven Perkins shall receive a superannuation retirement allowance equal to that which he would have been entitled had he retired at age 65.

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

ARTICLE 27: VOTED – YES 50 – NO 1 – TOTAL = 51 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 28: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$2,100.00 to Treasurer’s Expense line for the purchase of a new filing cabinet and accessories for the Treasurer’s office to replace a non-functional unsafe file cabinet.

ARTICLE 28: VOTED – YES 39 – NO 7 – TOTAL = 46 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 29: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$72,900.00 to pay off the debt issued for the highway backhoe pursuant to Article number 16 of the May 11, 2021, Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 29: VOTED – YES 44 – NO 4 – TOTAL = 48 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 30: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$1,550.00 to the Assessor Expense line for the following unanticipated FY24 expenses; \$700.00 for Assessors and Assistant Assessor continuing education and certification training, \$350.00 for annual Multiple Listing Service subscription, and \$500.00 for mileage expense.

ARTICLE 30: VOTED – YES 38 – NO 11 – TOTAL = 49 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 31: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause 37A, to adjust Clause 37 eligibility requirements as follows, to become effective July 1, 2023, for the Fiscal Year 2024 tax billing:

Change In Clause: Change from Clause 37 to Clause 37A

Exemption Amount: Increase exemption from \$437.50 to \$500.00

ARTICLE 31: VOTED – YES 45 – NO 2 – TOTAL = 47 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 32: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 184 Section 51 of the Acts of 2002 (Amending Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause 41C), to adjust Clause 41C eligibility requirements as follows, to become effective July 1, 2023, for the Fiscal Year 2024 tax billing:

MINIMUM AGE: Reduce to 65 from 70 years of age.

GROSS RECEIPT LIMIT: SINGLE resident increase from \$13,000 to \$16,500; Married/Joint residents increase from \$15,000 to \$22,500.

ASSET LIMITS: SINGLE resident increase from \$28,000 to \$34,000; Married/Joint residents increase from \$30,000 to \$42,500.

ARTICLE 32: VOTED – YES 37 – NO 7 – TOTAL = 44 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 33: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$1,400.00 to the Accountant Expense Line for an accounting educational training course or to take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 33: VOTED – YES 41 – NO 5 – TOTAL = 46 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 34: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* Article IV Section 2 of the Town of Warren General Bylaw by adding (in bold below) the position of Town Administrator and updating its purpose, and its Annual Reporting as the Capital Planning Committee as follows:

Section 2. Capital Planning Committee A. Establishment, The Board of Selectmen shall assist in the establishment and appointment of a Committee to be known as the Capital Planning Committee. This Committee is hereby established under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 106B, and shall be composed of one member of the Board of Selectmen, one member of the Finance Committee, the Town Treasurer, **Town Administrator ex officio committee member without the right to vote**, and two registered voters from the Town. The Committee shall choose its own officers. Moderator to appoint the Registered Voter members. Member terms will be as follows: Finance committee, one year, member to be selected by the Committee and may be re-appointed by the same; voter members, three years, with one to expire each year and may be re-appointed by the Moderator.

Section 2. Capital Planning Committee B. Purpose, The Committee shall study proposed capital projects and improvements involving major, nonrecurring, tangible assets and projects which: a) are purchased or undertaken at intervals of not less than five years; b) have a useful life of at least ~~three~~ **five years**, c) cost over ~~\$5,000.00~~ **\$25,000.00**. All Town officers, boards, and

committees, including the Selectmen and School Committee, shall, by September 1st of each year, give to the Committee, on forms prepared by it, information concerning all anticipated projects requiring Town Meeting action during the ensuing ~~six~~ **five** years. The Committee shall consider the relative need, impact, timing and cost of these expenditures and the effect each will have on the financial position of the Town. No ~~expenditure~~ **appropriation** shall be voted for a capital outlay **improvement** requested by a department, board, or commission unless the proposed capital improvement is ~~reflected~~ **considered** in the Committee's report, ~~unless or the~~ Committee shall first have submitted a report to the Board of Selectmen explaining the omission.

Section 2. Annual Report C. The Committee shall prepare an annual report recommending a Capital Improvement Budget for the next fiscal year, and a Capital Improvement Program including recommended capital improvements for the following ~~five~~ **four** fiscal years. The report shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee for its consideration and approval for the inclusion in the Annual Budget. The Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee shall submit its approved Capital Budget to the Annual Town Meeting for adoption by the Town. ~~The Committee shall also prepare a schedule of capital outlays, which it recommends for funding in the second through sixth ensuing fiscal years, with notes as to funding sources called the "Capital Program."~~

ARTICLE 34: VOTED – YES 43 – NO 3 – TOTAL = 46 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 35: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law chapter 140 Section 139 (C) No fee shall be charged for a license for a dog owned by a person aged 70 years or over.

ARTICLE 35: VOTED – YES 45 – NO 1 – TOTAL = 46 – MOTION CARRIES


ARTICLE 36: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to remove the Town of Warren Personnel BY-LAWS Section II – Management Rights, Subsection C. by deleting the entire portion shown in ~~strikeout~~.

~~C. All persons not under Civil Service, employed and paid by the Town as laborers, trucking equipment operators, custodians of any town building, police officers, clerical workers and administrative or management employees shall be residents of the Town or shall reside in a community within fifteen miles of a Town boundary. Any such employee removing from the town to any community from within fifteen mile boundary shall thereupon terminate his/her employment. This section shall not apply to persons employed prior to June 21, 1983~~

ARTICLE 36: VOTED – YES 38 – NO 8 – TOTAL = 46 – MOTION CARRIES

Business of the meeting being completed, a motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting at 8:24 PM.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:


Laura J. Stockley
Town Clerk