



**June 17, 2020 Annual Town Meeting Minutes  
Dorothy A. Powers, MMC/CMMC, Westwood Town Clerk**

Pursuant to a warrant signed on June 4, 2020 by Select Board Members John F. Hickey, Nancy C. Hyde, Chair, and Michael F. Walsh, posted on June 9, 2020 by Constable, Sgt. Paul Sicard, attested copies online and in four public places equally distributed among the four precincts in Town, the inhabitants of Westwood qualified to vote in Elections and Town affairs, convened outside at Westwood high School, Flahive Field, 200 Nahatan Street, on Wednesday, June 17, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for voters to meet and vote on the FY2021 budget and a concern that there would not be a quorum to go forward with the meeting, the Westwood Select Board voted at their May 4, 2020 meeting, to authorize Town Counsel Patrick Ahearn to file and seek injunctive relief in Norfolk County Superior Court to reduce the 175 voter quorum required by town bylaws (§138-12) to a minimum quorum of 25 percent (44).

On May 29, 2020 a zoom hearing was held in Norfolk County Superior Court with Justice Thomas A. Connors presiding, who granted the preliminary injunction (C.A.No.200476) for a quorum reduction and Town Meeting action to only include Financial Articles 1-13.

All precautions were taken to ensure the safety of staff and attendees of Town Meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic. Chairs were set up with regards to the State of emergency social distancing guidelines of six foot increments; attendees were encouraged to wear masks, those who wished to speak were given a microphone which was sanitized before and after use and hand sanitizer was available throughout the field. There were - *220-two hundred and twenty registered voters* and -*7- seven visitors* in attendance. Upon check-in, each registered voter was given a Red Card to use in the event of any standing vote called by the Moderator.

Moderator James O'Sullivan opened the meeting at 5:00 PM with the pledge of allegiance led by Westwood Boy scouts, Charlie Goodman, Ali Turiq and Daniel Wasserman followed by a moment of silence for the following residents who died during the past year and who served the Town in various capacities: Ann Bean, Carol Blumental, Jean Brooks, Betty L. Connors, Wesley " Lee" McQuarrie and James Reilly.

Town Clerk Dottie Powers proceeded with administering the oath of office to Town Officials who were elected to their prospective offices at the Annual Town Election held on June 2, 2020. Those individuals were *Albert F. Wisialko- Collector of Taxes, Christine E. Previtera, -Housing Authority, Maureen Murphy VonEuw & Mary Beth Persons -Library Trustees, James M. O'Sullivan- Moderator, Robert R. Gotti - Planning Board, Charles I. Donahue, Jr. & Amanda L. Phillips- School Committee, Michael F. Walsh-Selectman, Francis X. Macpherson, Jr., David W. Krumsiek & Diane E. Hayes, Sewer Commissioners.*

Following the swearing in of elected officials was the announcement of the John Cronin award by Select Board Chair, Nancy C. Hyde to Steven Rafsky. This is awarded annually to honor an individual who has been remarkable in service to the community and exemplifies John J. Cronin, Town Treasurer, who for many years selflessly gave of his time and expertise for the betterment of the community, both as an elected official and in numerous volunteer activities.

Mr. Rafsky will be honored at a ceremony in the near future.

The Moderator officially called the meeting to order at 5:13 p.m. The return on warrant was read and the Town voted unanimously on the Selectmen’s move to dispense the reading of the articles and full warrant and adjourn the meeting when all business is concluded no later than 10:00 PM. The Moderator then went over Town Meeting rules.

A statement was made by Nancy C. Hyde, Chair of the Select Board, followed by a financial presentation made by Pamela Dukeman, Finance Director/Asst.Town Administrator, with a recap of articles 1-13.

Following the Financial presentation, Town Moderator James O’Sullivan addressed the Warrant articles as follows:

**Annual Town Meeting Article 1:**

**ARTICLE 1 - FY20 Budget Adjustments by Transfers**

No vote from the Finance and warrant commission was necessary as no funding adjustments were needed for FY2020. No action was needed by Town Meeting.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of dollars (\$,000) to supplement the following fiscal year 2020 appropriations, or take any other action thereon:

| Transfer     |        |            |        |
|--------------|--------|------------|--------|
| From Account | Amount | To Account | Amount |
| Total        |        |            |        |

**Annual Town Meeting Article 2:**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. No discussion from floor
4. Unanimous Vote in favor

**ARTICLE 2 - FY20 Budget Adjustments by Appropriation**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted unanimously in favor declared by the Moderator to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of Four Hundred and Forty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$444,000) to supplement the following fiscal year 2020 appropriations:

| Transfer           |                 |                                   |                  |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| From Account       | Amount          | To Account                        | Amount           |
| Ambulance Receipts | \$62,500        | Ambulance Services/Equipment      | \$62,500         |
| Overlay Surplus    | \$31,500        | Assessing Revaluation Services    | \$31,500         |
| Free Cash          | \$350,000       | Schools Special Education Reserve | \$350,000        |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>\$44,000</b> | <b>Total</b>                      | <b>\$444,000</b> |

**Annual Town Meeting Article 3**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Discussion from floor:
  - ✓ *Douglas Obey, 435 High Street*
  - ✓ *Brian Camenker, 95 University Avenue*
  - ✓ *Marlyse Schwartz, 32 Westwood Glen Road*
  - ✓ *Sandra Castaldini, 54 Birch Street*
  - ✓ *Jayme Allan, 530 Pond Street*
  - ✓ *Alicia Wayshville, 115 Stanford Drive*
  - ✓ *Tony Mullin, School Committee Chair, 126 Pond Street*
  - ✓ *Brian Camenker, 95 University Avenue*
  - ✓ *Corrine Campbell, 1189 High Street*
  - ✓ *Stephen Springer, 456 Hartford Street*
  - ✓ *Douglas Obey, 435 High Street*
  - ✓ *Christina Martin, 23 Brookfield Road*
  - ✓ *Nancy Hyde, Select Board Chair, 15 Martingale Lane*
  - ✓ *Charles Donahue, 407 Gay Street*
  - ✓ *Philip Dunkelbarger, 125 Sunrise Road*
  - ✓ *Lemma Jean Baptiste, Director of Business & Finance for Westwood Schools*

3. Seconded by Town Meeting
4. Majority vote in favor

**ARTICLE 3 - FY21 Operating Budget**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Majority vote in favor declared by the Moderator to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds and/or borrow for the operation of the municipal departments and public school system for the fiscal year July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, as set forth in Appendix D(see Attached) of the Finance and Warrant Commission's Report to the 2020 Annual Town Meeting.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 4**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. No discussion from floor
4. Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 4 - Appropriation (\$1,304,400) - Municipal Capital Improvements**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of One Million Three Hundred and Four Thousand and Four Hundred Dollars (\$1,304,400) for the purchase, lease or lease/purchase of the following capital equipment and improvements:

| Equipment/Project                             | Requesting Department | Cost      | Funding Source |
|---|-----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Wheel Chair Accessible Van                    | Council on Aging      | \$90,000  | Free Cash      |
| One Ton Dump Truck with Plow                  | DPW                   | \$70,000  | Free Cash      |
| Tractor Machine for Cemetery                  | DPW                   | \$35,000  | Free Cash      |
| Fire Engines (2) (Lease payments Year 4 of 5) | Fire                  | \$226,400 | Free Cash      |
| Fire Turnout Gear and Equipment               | Fire                  | \$44,000  | Free Cash      |
| Radio Upgrade and Replacement                 | Fire                  | \$26,000  | Free Cash      |
| Shift Command Vehicle                         | Fire                  | \$63,000  | Free Cash      |
| Swap Body Truck Town Match for Grant          | Fire                  | \$20,000  | Free Cash      |

|  |                        |                    |           |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| End User Technology-All Departments                                | Information Technology | \$75,000           | Free Cash |
| Patron/Staff End User Technology                                   | Library                | \$10,000           | Free Cash |
| Self-Check Circulation Terminals                                   | Library                | \$28,000           | Free Cash |
| Police Vehicles  | Police                 | \$190,000          | Free Cash |
| Police Equipment   | Police                 | \$52,000           | Free Cash |
| Police, Fire, and EMS Radio Infrastructure                         | Police                 | \$75,000           | Free Cash |
| Facility Maintenance   | DPW                    | \$100,000          | Free Cash |
| Energy Efficiency  | DPW                    | \$50,000           | Free Cash |
| Housing Authority Associates- Building Maintenance and Improvement | Housing                | \$150,000          | Free Cash |
| <b>Total</b>   |                        | <b>\$1,304,400</b> |           |

each listed capital equipment or project must be authorized by a majority vote of the Select Board prior to any purchase and/or implementation of project and/or expenditure of funds; and to direct the Select Board to trade as part of the purchase price or to sell or dispose of any equipment no longer necessary, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any State or Federal grant or assistance, or both, that may be available for any of the above purchases.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 5:**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. No discussion from floor
4. Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 5 - Appropriation (\$1,017,000) - School Capital Improvements**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of One Million and Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$1,017,000) for the purchase, lease or lease/purchase of the following capital equipment and improvements:

| Equipment/Project                  | Requesting Department | Cost               | Funding Source |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Technology                         | Schools               | \$130,000          | Free Cash      |
| Roofing                            | Schools               | \$100,000          | Free Cash      |
| Repair and Maintenance             | Schools               | \$402,803          | Free Cash      |
| Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment | Schools               | \$111,797          | Free Cash      |
| HVAC                               | Schools               | \$192,400          | Free Cash      |
| Copiers                            | Schools               | \$20,000           | Free Cash      |
| Vehicles                           | Schools               | \$60,000           | Free Cash      |
| <b>Total</b>                       |                       | <b>\$1,017,000</b> |                |

each listed capital equipment or project must be authorized by a Majority vote of the Select Board prior to any purchase and/or implementation of project and/or expenditure of funds; and to direct the Select Board to trade as part of the purchase price or to sell or dispose of any equipment no longer necessary, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any State or Federal grant or assistance, or both, that may be available for any of the above purchases.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 6**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. No discussion from floor
4. Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 6 - Appropriation (\$765,000) – Sewer Capital Improvements**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Seven Hundred and Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$765,000) for the purchase, lease or lease/purchase of the following capital equipment, projects, and/or improvements:

| Equipment/Project               | Requesting Department | Cost             | Funding Source          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Infiltration and Inflow Program | Sewer                 | \$125,000        | Sewer Retained Earnings |
| Pump Station Facility Program   | Sewer                 | \$500,000        | Sewer Retained Earnings |
| Sewer Vehicle                   | Sewer                 | \$70,000         | Sewer Retained Earnings |
| Stormwater Compliance           | Sewer                 | \$70,000         | Sewer Retained Earnings |
| <b>Total</b>                    |                       | <b>\$765,000</b> |                         |

each listed capital equipment or project must be authorized by majority vote of the Select Board prior to any purchase and/or implementation of project and/or expenditure of funds; and to direct the Select Board to trade as part of the purchase price or to sell or dispose of any equipment no longer necessary, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any State or Federal grant or assistance, or both, that may be available for any of the above purchases.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 7:**

1. Moderator Read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. No discussion from floor
4. Unanimous vote in Favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 7 - Appropriation (\$64,720)- Additional Capital Improvements- Ambulance Equipment**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Sixty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Dollars (\$64,720) for the purchase, lease or lease/purchase of the following capital equipment, projects, and/or improvements:

| Equipment/Project  | Requesting Department | Cost            | Funding Source     |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Upgrade and Replacement | Fire                  | \$46,000        | Ambulance Receipts |
| Rescue Equipment   | Fire                  | \$18,720        | Ambulance Receipts |
| ✓ <b>Total</b>   |                       | <b>\$64,720</b> |                    |

each listed capital equipment or project must be authorized by majority vote of the Select Board prior to any purchase and/or implementation of project and/or expenditure of funds; and to direct the Select Board to trade as part of the purchase price or to sell or dispose of any equipment no longer necessary, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any State or Federal grant or assistance, or both, that may be available for any of the above purchases.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 8**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. Discussion from floor:
  - ✓ Jennifer Kinnear 237 Alder Road
4. Unanimous Vote in favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 8 - Appropriation (\$1,062,500)- Additional Capital Improvements- Town and School Projects**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator to transfer from available funds the sum of One Million Sixty-Two Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,062,500) for the purchase, lease or lease/purchase of the following capital equipment, projects, and/or improvements:

| Equipment/Project  | Requesting Department  | Cost               | Funding Source |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Town Hall Repairs and Maintenance                                | DPW                    | \$300,000          | Free Cash      |
| Fire Station 1 Repairs and Maintenance (Phase 2 of 2)            | DPW                    | \$150,000          | Free Cash      |
| Thurston Middle School HVAC Univent Project (Phase 2 of 2)       | Schools                | \$150,000          | Free Cash      |
| Schools Security Projects  | Schools                | \$150,000          | Free Cash      |
| Municipal Security Projects                                      | DPW                    | \$75,000           | Free Cash      |
| Town/School Financial Enterprise Software (2 <sup>nd</sup> of 2) | Information Technology | \$237,500          | Free Cash      |
| <b>Total</b>   |                        | <b>\$1,062,500</b> |                |

each listed capital equipment or project must be authorized by majority vote of the Select Board prior to any purchase and/or implementation of project and/or expenditure of funds; and to direct the Select Board to trade as part of the purchase price or to sell or dispose of any equipment no longer necessary, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any State or Federal grant or assistance, or both, that may be available for any of the above purchases.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 9**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Motion from Finance & Warrant Commission for Indefinite Postponement
3. Seconded by Town Meeting
4. No discussion from floor
5. Majority vote in favor of Indefinite Postponement declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 9 - Appropriation (\$1,050,000)- Additional Capital Improvements-Town Wide Recreation Projects**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended Indefinite Postponement and the Town voted in favor of Indefinite postponement by a Majority vote declared by the Moderator to transfer from available funds the sum of One Million and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,050,000) for the purchase, lease or lease/purchase of the following capital equipment, projects, and/or improvements:

| Equipment/Project                                  | Requesting Department | Cost               | Funding Source   |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Field Design and Construction                      | Recreation            | \$750,000          | Meals/Hotels Tax |
| Field Enhancement and Maintenance- Existing Fields | Recreation            | \$25,000           | Meals/Hotels Tax |
| Pool Deck Surfacing Replacement                    | Recreation            | \$200,000          | Meals/Hotels Tax |
| Pool Drainage and Resurfacing                      | Recreation            | \$75,000           | Meals/Hotels Tax |
| <b>Total</b>                                       |                       | <b>\$1,050,000</b> |                  |

each listed capital equipment or project must be authorized by majority vote of the Select Board prior to any purchase and/or implementation of project and/or expenditure of funds; and to direct the Select Board to trade as part of the purchase price or to sell or dispose of any equipment no longer necessary, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any State or Federal grant or assistance, or both, that may be available for any of the above purchases.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 10**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. Discussion from Floor:
  - ✓ Claire Galkowski, 320 Dover Road
  - ✓ David Atkins, 783 High Street
  - ✓ Marlyse Schwartz, 32 Westwood Glen Road
  - ✓ Nancy Hyde, Chair Select Board, 15 Martingale Lane

- ✓ David Atkins, 783 High Street
- ✓ Brian Haak, 27 Sexton Avenue
- ✓ Claire Galkowski, 320 Dover made a motion to amend this article from the floor as follows: "To see if the Town will vote to transfer from hotel and meals tax \$325,000 for the purchase heavy duty dump truck with a plow."

4. Seconded by Town Meeting

5. Discussion on the Amendment:

- ✓ Pamela Dukeman, Finance Director/Asst. Town Administrator, 57 Sexton Avenue
- ✓ Chris McKeown, 70 Lorraine Road

6. Amendment was defeated by a Unanimous vote declared by the Moderator

7. A 2/3 voice vote in favor of article as written declared by the Moderator

**10 - Appropriation (\$325,000) – Additional Capital- Equipment Borrowing Article**

The Finance and Warrant recommended and the Town voted by a 2/3 voice vote in favor declared by the Moderator, to appropriate \$325,000 to pay for the cost of purchasing a heavy duty dump truck with plow, including all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow \$325,000 under M.G.L. Chapter 44, section 7(1) or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the town therefor. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount; and that the Select Board is authorized to take any action necessary to carry out this project.

| Equipment/Project               | Requesting Department | Cost      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Heavy Duty Dump Truck with Plow | DPW                   | \$325,000 |

**Annual Town Meeting Article 11**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. No Discussion from floor
4. Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 11 - Appropriation (\$125,000) Stabilization Fund- FY21**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$125,000) for the Stabilization Fund established in accordance with General Law Chapter 40, Section 5B.

| Purpose            | Amount    | Funding Source |
|--------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Stabilization Fund | \$125,000 | Free Cash      |

**Annual Town Meeting Article 12**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. Discussion from floor:
  - ✓ Christina Martin, 23 Brookfield Road
  - ✓ Pam Dukeman, Finance Director/Asst. Town Administrator, 57 Sexton Avenue
4. Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 12 - Appropriation (\$1,465,000) OPED Liability Trust Fund- FY21**

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted by a Unanimous vote in favor declared by the Moderator to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of One Million Four Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand (\$1,465,000) for the OPEB Liability Trust Fund established in accordance with General Law Chapter 32B, Section 20.

| Purpose | Amount | Funding Source |
|---------|--------|----------------|
|---------|--------|----------------|

|                           |             |          |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------|
| OPEB Liability Trust Fund | \$1,465,000 | Taxation |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------|

**Annual Town Meeting Article 13**

1. Moderator read Article
2. Seconded by Town Meeting
3. Discussion from floor:
  - ✓ Maria Constantini, 15 Spellman Road
  - ✓ Todd Korchin, Director of Public Works, 172 Burgess Avenue
  - ✓ Brian Haak, 27 Sexton Avenue
  - ✓ Philip Dunkelbarger, 125 Sunrise
  - ✓ Marlyse Schwartz, 32 Westwood Glen Road
  - ✓ Chris Hilton, 167 Pond Street
  - ✓ Todd Korchin, Director of Public Works, 172 Burgess Avenue
  - ✓ David Atkins, 783 High Street
  - ✓ Elaine deReyna, 221 Hartford Street
  - ✓ Kate Wynne, 10 Cedar Hill Drive
  - ✓ Amanda Phillips, 13 Webster Street
  - ✓ Bob Rich, 34 York Way
  - ✓ Keri DeAngelis, 19 Warwick Drive
4. 2/3 voice vote in favor declared by the Moderator

**ARTICLE 13 - Road Improvement Bond (\$4,650,000)**

The Finance and Warrant recommended and the Town voted by a 2/3 voice vote in favor declared by the Moderator, to appropriate \$4,650,000 to pay costs for road improvements, including but not limited to, improvements to Route 109, town-wide crosswalk improvements, paving and sidewalks, including all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow \$4,650,000 under M.G.L. Chapter 44, section 7(1) or any other enabling authority; and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes, approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount; and that the Select Board is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

| Item  | Requesting Department | Cost               |             |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Route 109 Improvements  | DPW                   | \$2,550,000        |             |
| Crosswalk Safety Improvements- Town wide                                      | DPW                   | \$500,000          |             |
| Paving/Sidewalk Enhancements/ Intersection Improvements/Pavement Preservation | DPW                   | \$1,600,000        |             |
| <b>Total</b>  |                       | <b>\$4,650,000</b> | <b>Bond</b> |

All Business on the Warrant having been acted upon, a motion was made and seconded to dissolve said Town Meeting at 7:06 PM.

❖ A full videotaped transcript of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting and all discussion details are available through the following Westwood Media Center link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtSz8cl2hK0>

Attest:



Dorothy A. Powers, MMC/CMMC  
Westwood Town Clerk