



TOWN OF DUDLEY

Fall 2023 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Worcester, ss

As instructed in preceding warrant, legal voters of the Town of Dudley assembled in the Connie Vanco-Galli Auditorium at Shepherd Hill Regional High School in said Dudley on Monday, October 16, 2023. The meeting was brought to order at 7:02 pm as our required quorum had been exceeded at 7:00 pm with approximately 79 registered voters for the Town of Dudley. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited. The Moderator asked for a moment of silence to recognize the challenges that we as a community have overcome, as well as some of the political and humanitarian difficulties that are facing the world at this time. The Moderator then recognized the Town Clerk to read the Service of the Warrant.

Non-registered voters and guests were asked to sit in the front two rows. The Moderator stated that a department budget item or other article be required that employees or agents who are not residents but are acting on behalf of the Town of Dudley or petitioner of the article be permitted to speak. The Moderator noted that there may be consultants in the audience tonight who are sitting in the first two rows, including Michelle Randazzo of KP Law. A brief tutorial on how to work the voting clickers was given. A brief tutorial on how to work the voting clickers was given.

ARTICLE 1: (Board of Selectmen) Hear Committee Recommendations- Approved by Majority vote to hear and act on the recommendations of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance, Appropriation and Advisory Committee.

The Moderator read Article 2 as printed in the warrant and asked for unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the entire line items. Unanimous consent was given. The FAA made a motion that the Town approve Article 2 as printed in the warrant, including the sources and uses of funds included in the warrant under the column labelled "10/16/23 Adjusted Final FY 2024 Budget", as recommended by the FAA, totaling \$26,707,255 to defray the charges and expenses of the Town, provide for a reserve fund(s), and determine the compensation for elected offices, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2023, including payment of debt and interest; and further, to replace the appropriations made under Article 2 of the July 24, 2023 Special Town Meeting and Article 3 of the May 22, 2023 Annual Town Meeting with the revised budget contained in this Article 2. Motion was made and seconded. Mike Mayotte, FAA, made mention that contained in the budget is the COLA raises for the Town Treasurer/Collector and Town Clerk.

ARTICLE 2: (Town Administrator) FY 2024 Amended Budget – Approved by a clear Majority vote to approve Article 2 as printed in the warrant, including the sources and uses of funds included in the warrant under the column labelled "10/16/23 Adjusted Final FY 2024 Budget", as recommended by the

FAA, totaling \$26,707,255 to defray the charges and expenses of the Town, provide for a reserve fund(s), and determine the compensation for elected offices, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2023, including payment of debt and interest; and further, to replace the appropriations made under Article 2 of the July 24, 2023 Special Town Meeting and Article 3 of the May 22, 2023 Annual Town Meeting with the revised budget contained in this Article 2.

Amended FY24 Budget Incorporating Results of August 17, 2023 Override Votes:

TOWN OF DUDLEY - October 16 Town Meeting Warrant Article 2 BUDGET FISCAL 2024 (7/1/2023 thru 6/30/2024)				
	BUDGET VOTED May 22, 2023 FY2024 BUDGET RESCINDED 07/24/2023	CONTINGENT A AMENDED BUDGET July 24, 2023 FY2024 BUDGET RESCIND 10/16/2023	10/16/2023 ADJUSTED FINAL FY 2024 BUDGET	FUNDING SOURCES
PURPOSE				
SELECTMEN	5,302	5,302	27,821	STATE AID
ADMINISTRATION	542,838	542,838	561,194	STATE AID
F.A.A.C.	0	0	20,000	STATE AID
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	82,384	82,384	113,222	STATE AID
INFO TECH EXPENSES	63,696	63,696	100,146	STATE AID
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	110,420	110,420	189,015	STATE AID
TOWN TREASURER (Treasurer/Citr. salary of \$103,577 included)	3,805,626	3,805,626	3,656,611	TAXATION + LOCAL REVENUE
MUNICIPAL EXPENSES	142,782	142,782	238,265	TAXATION
TOWN CLERK (Town Clerk salary of \$77,658 included)	166,862	166,862	170,396	TAXATION
PLANNING BOARD	47,453	47,453	50,502	STATE AID + TAXATION
POLICE DEPARTMENT	1,722,198	1,722,198	1,809,404	\$189,347 AUG 17th Override+Taxation
FIRE DEPARTMENT	1,269,820	1,269,820	1,469,648	\$366,765 AUG 17th Override+Taxation
BOARD OF HEALTH	46,450	46,450	91,450	TAXATION
BUILDING INSPECTOR	32,800	32,800	45,141	TAXATION
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	899,500	899,500	971,714	STATE AID + TAXATION
RECYCLING CENTER	164,700	164,700	164,700	STATE AID
VETERANS SERV.	178,251	178,251	203,364	TAXATION
LIBRARY	360,223	370,223	381,473	\$297,528 AUG 17th Override+Taxation
TOTAL GENERAL FUND:	9,641,304	9,651,305	10,264,067	
SCHOOLS				
D-C REGIONAL	10036308	10,937,991	10,937,991	\$901,683 AUG 17th Override+Taxation
BAY PATH	1128269	1,128,269	1,128,269	TAXATION
TOTAL SCHOOLS	11,164,577	12,066,260	12,066,260	
TOTAL GF + SCHOOLS:	20,805,881	21,717,565	22,330,327	
STATE ASSESSMENTS (from Cherry Sheet)	35,820	35,820	35,820	TAXATION
Sub Total:	20,841,701	21,753,385	22,366,147	
ENTERPRISE FUNDS				
WATER DEPARTMENT (0061)	2,661,798	2,661,798	2,661,798	USER CHARGES
SEWER FUND (0060)	1,517,322	1,517,322	1,517,322	USER CHARGES
TOTALS	4,179,120	4,179,120	4,179,120	
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET WITH STATE ASSESSMENTS (includes Enterprise):	25,020,821	25,932,505	26,545,267	
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET W/O STATE ASSESSMENTS:	24,985,001	25,896,685	26,509,447	
Town Budget with St. Assmnts	25,020,821	25,932,505	26,545,267	
Cherry sheet offsets	34,708	34,708	34,708	TAXATION
Overlay	127,280	127,290	127,280	STATE AID
TOTAL BUDGET	25,182,809	26,094,503	26,707,255	
GENERAL FUND DEPOSIT	0	51,788	0	
	25,182,809	26,146,291	26,707,255	
SUMMARY	FUNDING	FUNDING	FUNDING	OVERVIEW SHEET
	SOURCES	SOURCES	SOURCES	FUNDING COLUMN:
STABILIZATION	534,305	596,103	0	0
FREE CASH	17,050	17,050	0	0
TAXATION: OVERRIDES	0	901,683	1,755,323	1,755,323
TAXATION: DEBT EXCLUSION	1,007,382	1,007,382	803,257	803,257
TAXATION (without Overrides and Debt)	14,048,252	14,048,252	14,048,252	14,048,252
STATE AID	2,264,044	2,264,044	2,299,220	2,299,220
LOCAL REVENUES	3,132,657	3,132,657	3,622,082	3,622,082
WATER/SEWER INDIRECT FEES	212,149	212,149	212,149	212,149
WATER / SEWER (EXCLUDES INDIRECTS)	3,966,971	3,966,971	3,966,971	3,966,971
	25,182,809	26,146,291	26,707,254	26,707,254

FAA recommends that Article 3 be approved as printed in the Warrant with the source of funding being free cash. Motion was made and seconded.

ARTICLE 3: (Treasurer/Collector) – Approved by 9/10th vote to transfer from free cash the sum of Six Thousand Seventy-Three Dollars and Twenty-Six Cents (\$6,073.26) to pay unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year.

Webco:	\$270
Boston Mutual Life Group Billing:	\$1106.50
KP Law	\$4,696.76

FAA recommends that Article 4 be approved as printed in the Warrant with source of funding being Water Retained Earnings. Motion was made and seconded.

ARTICLE 4: (Water/Sewer Commissioners) – Unpaid Bills of a Prior Year. Approved by 9/10th vote to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of Eight Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$8,600.00) to pay unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year.

Northeast GeoScience, Inc:	\$8,600.00
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FAA recommends that Article 5 be approved as printed in the Warrant with source of funding being Free Cash. Motion was made and seconded.

ARTICLE 5: (Agricultural Commission) – Approved by Majority vote to transfer from free cash the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$1,500.00) for fundraising activities and events.

FAA recommends that Article 6 be approved as printed in the Warrant. Motion was made and seconded. Mr. Mayotte asked the Accountant for clarification on the Account number listed in the warrant. The Accountant confirmed the Account number should be 0210 210 5580 2114. The Moderator noted as it is in the same the account pool, he is going to regard it as a scrivener's error unless there are any objections. No objections were made to this correction.

John Briare, Flaxfield Road asked for clarification on what these funds could be used for. Jon Ruda stated that there are allowable and unallowable expenses set forth in the law and opioid-litigation settlement documents, including Narcan and opioid cessation programs. The expenditure of funds require a 2/3rd appropriation vote from this body.

ARTICLE 6: (Board of Selectmen) – Approved by a 2/3rd vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, which may be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid-litigation settlement documents, a document prepared by the Substance Addiction Bureau of the Commonwealth's Office of Health and Human Services Department, found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download> entitled "Abatement Strategies", and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to adopt the last paragraph of said §5B and dedicate to such fund, without further appropriation, 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town; and further, to transfer from available funds a sum of money equal to that received or to be received by the Town from opioid litigation settlements resulting from the Town's participation in the national Opioid Multi-District Litigation into said Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund; and further, to transfer from Account 0210 000 5766 (Med Project Account) the sum of One Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars and Ninety-One Cents (\$1,376.91) and transfer from Free Cash the sum of Six

Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Five Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$6,555.30), to the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund.

FAA made a motion for Article 7 that the Town transfer the sum of \$406,217.95 from free cash into the Stabilization Account and the sum of \$799,458.92 from free cash into the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund. Motion was made and seconded.

Article 7: (Town Administrator) – Approved by Majority vote to transfer the sum of \$406,217.95 from free cash into the Stabilization Account and \$799,458.92 from free cash into the Capital Improvement Stabilization Account.

FAA recommends that Article 8 be approved as printed in the Warrant. Motion was made and seconded.

ARTICLE 8: (Water Sewer Commissioners) – Approved by Majority vote to transfer Eight Hundred Forty-Five Dollars and Seventy-Four Cents (\$845.74) from Acct # 0360 900 5780 3603 (Sewer F450 Truck Art 26 Oct 2017) and transfer One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-Two Dollars and Ninety-Four Cents (\$1692.94) from

Acct # 0360 900 5780 3606 (Sewer Video Camera Art 31 Oct 2018) to Sewer Retained Earnings Acct# 0060 000 3590 0001

FAA recommends that Article 9 be approved with the following change; replacing the \$160,000.00 dollar amount with \$80,000.00. Motion was made and seconded.

ARTICLE 9: (Water Sewer Commissioners) – Approved by Majority vote to transfer Eighty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$80,000.00) from Sewer Retained Earnings Acct #0060 000 3590 0001 to the Sewer Operating Expense Acct # 0060-440-5700-0000 for the purpose of paying Webster Sewer Department for the Webster True-up.

FAA recommends that Article 10 be approved as printed in the Warrant. Motion was made and seconded.

ARTICLE 10: (Water Sewer Commissioners) – Approved by Majority vote to transfer Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$250,000.00) from Retained Earnings Acct #0060 000 3590 0001 to Sewer Engineering Acct # 0060-440-5702-0000 for the purpose of Design and Bidding services for Potash Brook Interceptor.

Mike Mayotte made a motion to adjourn at 7:28 pm. Motion was seconded. Unanimously passed.

Brought to order at 7:02 p.m.

Adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Voters Present: 83

Action Taken on Articles 1-10

A True Copy,



Attest:

Lori A. Smith, Dudley Town Clerk