

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL
7 MAIN STREET - WHITINSVILLE, MA 01588
March 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Presentation of Retirement Plaque to Captain David Holmes, Northbridge Fire Dept.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

II. PUBLIC HEARING

II. APPOINTMENTS/By the Board of Selectmen (Vote to affirm):

A. Jamie Luchini, Interim DPW Director: **1)** Safety Committee (change status from Alternate Member to Regular Member), **2)** Earth Removal Board, and **3)** Green Energy Committee

B. **1)** Maurice Guilbault, Animal Inspector **2)** Danielle Edmands, Alternate Animal Inspector

IV. CITIZENS' COMMENTS/INPUT

V. DECISIONS:

C. Warrant posting locations/Vote to revise posting locations per the listing in the Selectmen's agenda packet.

VI. DISCUSSIONS

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

D. FY2023 Budget Update

E. SATM Draft Warrant

F. ARPA21 Update

VIII. SELECTMEN'S CONCERNS

IX. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

X. CORRESPONDENCE

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Town Clerk: 2 Hard copies	<input type="checkbox"/>
Web: Post time-stamped copy	<input type="checkbox"/>



Department of Agricultural Resources

251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 www.mass.gov/agr



CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lt. Governor

KATHLEEN A. THEOHARIDES
Secretary

JOHN LEBEAUX
Commissioner

March 7, 2022

RE: NOMINATION OF INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Nominating Authority:

Enclosed is the nomination form for the Inspector of Animals for your city or town. **This form is due back to the Division of Animal Health by April 1, 2022.** The appointment will run from May 1, 2022 until April 30, 2023. If more than one inspector was appointed for your city or town, there is a separate form for each. If you are nominating the same inspector(s) this year, **be sure that all of the contact information is complete and still correct.** Any corrections should be made in the space provided on the right. If you will be nominating a new inspector, that person's information should be entered in the space provided on the right. Submit a separate form for each inspector nominated. Also, be sure that all of your (nominating authority) information is complete and correct. Any changes to your information should be made in the space provided to the right.

Once all of the contact information is confirmed to be correct, all that is needed is to **have the nominee sign the form**, accepting the nomination and swearing to faithfully perform the duties of that office. **The nominee's signature must be notarized.** In many cases the city or town clerk is a notary.

After the nominee's signature has been notarized, simply **return the form to the Division of Animal Health at the address listed at the top of the form.** The Division of Animal Health will send back confirmation of the inspector's appointment. **Please note that regardless of when the most recent appointment was made, it is only valid through April 30, 2022.** This nomination will cover the year starting May 1, 2022 and run until April 30, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Kraft at (617) 626-1810 or Ashley.Kraft@mass.gov.

Thank you,

Michael Cahill, Director
Division of Animal Health



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Agricultural Resources
Division of Animal Health
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114-2151

Nomination of Inspector of Animals

In accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 129, sections 15 and 16, nominating authorities of each city and town are required to nominate one or more inspectors of animals by April 1, 2022. Please complete or make necessary changes and return this form to the above address. The Director will review your nomination and, assuming appointment is confirmed, will return to you a Certificate of Appointment. Please submit one form for each person nominated. Any city or town not in compliance is subject to a penalty of \$500.

City or Town of Northbridge

3/7/2022

To the Director, Division of Animal Health, Department of Agricultural Resources

In accordance with the provisions of section 15 of Chapter 129, General Laws, as amended, the following nomination of inspector of animals for the year ending April 30, 2023 is sent for your approval:

Inspector of Animals

Name: Maurice Guilbault
Mail Address: 7 Main St - Northbridge Board of Health
Whitinsville, MA - 01588
Phone: ~~(508) 234-2072~~ Fax: (508) 234-0821
Email: ~~mguilbault@northbridgemass.org~~
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Inspector: (Note all changes here)
Name: _____
Mail: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____

Nominating Authority

Contact: Adam D. Gaudette
Office: Town Manager's Office
Mail: Northbridge Board of Health 7 Main St
Whitinsville, MA - 01588
P: (508) 234-2095 F: (508) 234-7640
Email: agaudette@northbridgemass.org

Nominating Authority: (Note all changes here)
Contact: _____
Office: _____
Mail: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____

Acceptance of Nomination of Inspector of Animals (must be notarized)

I hereby accept my nomination as Inspector of Animals for the City or Town of Northbridge, and if and when I am appointed, I solemnly swear to faithfully perform the duties of that office, all of which are listed in General Laws Chapter 129, and Massachusetts Regulations 330 CMR 10.00-10.10 (rabies regulations).

Name (print) _____ Signed _____

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester,ss

Date: _____

Then personally appeared the above-named _____ and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his or her free act and deed, before me.

Notary Public

My commission Expires: _____

Appointment of Inspector of Animals (Division of Animal Health use only)

Notice is hereby given that I, Michael Cahill acting under authority of sections 15 and 16 of Chapter 129 of the General Laws, as amended, hereby approve the nomination of _____ as Inspector of Animals for the City or Town of Northbridge, Massachusetts.

Date Approved: _____

Director, Division of Animal Health



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Agricultural Resources
Division of Animal Health
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500
Boston, MA 02114-2151

New Alternate B.2.

Nomination of Inspector of Animals

In accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 129, sections 15 and 16, nominating authorities of each city and town are required to nominate one or more inspectors of animals by April 1, 2022. Please complete or make necessary changes and return this form to the above address. The Director will review your nomination and, assuming appointment is confirmed, will return to you a Certificate of Appointment. Please submit one form for each person nominated. Any city or town not in compliance is subject to a penalty of \$500.

City or Town of Northbridge

3/7/2022

To the Director, Division of Animal Health, Department of Agricultural Resources

In accordance with the provisions of section 15 of Chapter 129, General Laws, as amended, the following nomination of inspector of animals for the year ending April 30, 2023 is sent for your approval:

Inspector of Animals

Name:
Mail Address: 7 Main St - Northbridge Board of Health
Whitinsville, MA - 01588
Phone: Fax:(508) 234-0821
Email:

Inspector: (Note all changes here)

Name: Danielle Edmands
Mail:
Phone: 508-234-3272 Fax:
Email: dedmands@northbridgemass.org

Nominating Authority

Contact: Adam D. Gaudette
Office: Town Manager's Office
Mail: Northbridge Board of Health 7 Main St
Whitinsville, MA - 01588
P: (508) 234-2095 F: (508) 234-7640
Email: agaudette@northbridgemass.org

Nominating Authority: (Note all changes here)

Contact:
Office:
Mail:
Phone: Fax:
Email:

Acceptance of Nomination of Inspector of Animals (must be notarized)

I hereby accept my nomination as Inspector of Animals for the City or Town of Northbridge, and if and when I am appointed, I solemnly swear to faithfully perform the duties of that office, all of which are listed in General Laws Chapter 129, and Massachusetts Regulations 330 CMR 10.00-10.10 (rabies regulations).

Name (print) Signed

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester,ss

Date:

Then personally appeared the above-named and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his or her free act and deed, before me.

Notary Public

My commission Expires:

Appointment of Inspector of Animals (Division of Animal Health use only)

Notice is hereby given that I, Michael Cahill acting under authority of sections 15 and 16 of Chapter 129 of the General Laws, as amended, hereby approve the nomination of as Inspector of Animals for the City or Town of Northbridge, Massachusetts.

Date Approved:

Director, Division of Animal Health

CURRENT POSTING LOCATIONS:*Last revised by the BOS 10.3.16*

- PRECINCT 1:** Whitinsville Post Office
~~Salvation Army (Closed)~~
- PRECINCT 2:** Gary's Variety
Northbridge Post Office
- PRECINCT 3:** 1 Quickstop
Town Clerk's Office
- PRECINCT 4:** Whitinsville Social Library (*Now located in Precinct 5*)
Town Hall Annex (*Now located in Precinct 5*)

REVISED POSTING LOCATIONS:

- PRECINCT 1:** Whitinsville Post Office (*44 Church St., Whitinsville*)
Town Hall Annex (*14 Hill St., Whitinsville*)
- PRECINCT 2:** NCTV Cable Studio (*198 Church Ave., Northbridge*)
Northbridge Post Office (*76 Sutton St., Northbridge*)
- PRECINCT 3:** 1 Quickstop (*206 N. Main St., Whitinsville*)
Town Clerk's Office (*7 Main St., Whitinsville*)
- PRECINCT 4:** Veterans Hall (*875 Hill St., Whitinsville*)
- PRECINCT 5:** Shaw's (*1177 Providence Rd., Whitinsville*)

§ 3-102. Closing, publication and posting of Town Meeting warrants.

A. The warrant for the spring and fall sessions of the Annual Town Meeting shall close not later than at 12:00 o'clock noon on the seventh Friday preceding the date set by bylaw for the said session to convene. The warrant for any Special Town Meeting which is to be called shall close not later than at 12:00 o'clock noon on the fifth Friday preceding the date such Special Town Meeting is to convene. Notwithstanding the date set in any warrant for a Town Meeting, no Town Meeting shall be convened by the Town Moderator until six weeks following the closing of the warrant for an Annual Town Meeting and until four weeks following the closing of the warrant for a Special Town Meeting.

B. Notice of every Town Meeting shall be given at least 28 days before an annual meeting (spring or fall session) and at least 21 days before any special meeting, **by posting a copy of the warrant for such meeting in the office of the Town Clerk, on the town bulletin board, and in at least one public place in each precinct**, by delivering a copy of the warrant to the Town Moderator and to the Chair of the Finance Committee and by publication in a local newspaper of notice of the date, time and place that the Town Meeting will be held, together with a summary, prepared by the Town Manager, of the subject matter of each article contained in the warrant for such meeting sufficient for identification. [Amended 10-24-2006 ATM, Art. 23]



D.

FY2023 BUDGET CALENDAR
for
SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
May 3, 2022

-
- Nov. 22, 2021: BoS Meeting – Budget Goals for FY2023 for the Town Manager
- Dec. 3, 2021: Staff Meeting – Monthly Meeting: Discuss FY2023 Budget Development Process
- Jan. 10, 2022: Department Budgets and Capital Plan Updates due to Town Manager
- Jan. 21, 2022: Staff Meeting – Monthly Meeting: Budget Update
- Jan. 24, 2022: BoS Meeting – **Vote to Close the SATM Warrant on March 4, 2022 (7 Fridays)**
- Feb. 1, 2022: BPCC Meeting – Review & Approve 5-year Capital Improvement Plan Update
- Feb. 1, 2022: Town Manager Submits Capital Improvement Plan to the BoS and FinCom (per Bylaws)
- Feb. 14, 2022: BoS Meeting – Introduce Draft Warrant Articles for Annual Town Meeting Warrant
- Feb. 16, 2022: FinCom Meeting – Preliminary FY2023 Budget Discussion / Introduce Draft Warrant
- Feb. 28, 2022: BoS Meeting – Preliminary FY2023 Budget Discussion and **Vote to Place Articles on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant**
- Mar. 2, 2022: FinCom Meeting – Public Safety Budget Presentations (Police, Fire, and DPW)
- Mar. 4, 2022: Staff Meeting – Monthly Meeting: Preliminary FY2023 Budget Discussion
- Mar. 4, 2022: **Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant Close Date** (at least 7 Fridays prior to SATM)
- Mar. 9, 2022: FinCom Meeting – NPS and BVT FY2023 Budget Presentations
- Mar. 14, 2022: BoS Meeting – Town Manager FY2023 Budget Update
- Mar. 16, 2022: FinCom Meeting – **Public Meeting:** SATM Warrant/FY23 Budget/ARPA Presentation
- Mar. 23, 2022: FinCom Meeting – Final Budget/Capital Plan Presentation & Vote Article Positions
- Mar. 25, 2022: Staff Meeting – Monthly Meeting – Budget and Warrant Update
- Mar. 28, 2022: BoS Meeting – **Vote to Place Questions on the Annual Election Ballot and Vote to Sign SATM Warrant pending Town Counsel Review**
- Apr. 1, 2022: **Last day to Post Warrant as required by Bylaw** (28 days prior to SATM is April 5)
- Apr. 1, 2022: **Last day to publish Town Manager’s Summary** (28 days prior to SATM is April 5)
- Apr. 8, 2022: FinCom Booklet Recommendations to the Town Manager’s Office
- Apr. 11, 2022: BoS Meeting – **Vote Positions on Town Meeting Warrant Articles**
- Apr. 11, 2022: **Last day to notify Town Clerk of Ballot Questions** (at least 35 days prior to Election)
- Apr. 15, 2022: FinCom Booklet to the Printer (mail postcards only – also post on-line when available)
- Apr. 27, 2022: Public Forum on Ballot Questions / Northbridge Town Hall
- May 3, 2022: **Spring Annual Town Meeting**
- May 17, 2022: **Annual Town Election**

FY2023 BUDGET OUTLOOK

TOTAL ADDITIONAL AVAILABLE FUNDS

New Revenues:	<u>FY2022</u>	<u>FY2023</u>	<u>Change</u>
Tax Levy	\$28,220,450	\$29,128,015	\$907,564
State Aid	\$18,864,138	\$18,927,434	\$63,296
Receipts/Other	<u>\$4,873,538</u>	<u>\$4,673,538</u>	(\$200,000)
Total	\$51,958,126	\$52,928,987	\$770,860
New Charges:			
Charges	\$218,999	\$205,123	(\$13,876)
Abatements/Title/Other	\$220,000	\$220,000	\$0
School Choice Offset	\$1,321,549	\$1,190,269	(\$131,280)
Cherry Sheet Offset	\$594,663	\$520,864	(\$73,799)
Charter School Tuition	\$61,452	\$100,478	\$39,026
Other: Library Offset	<u>\$33,992</u>	<u>\$31,331</u>	(\$2,661)
Total	\$2,450,655	\$2,268,065	(\$182,590)

Net Additional Available Funds for FY2023 = \$953,451 (1.93%)

PRELIMINARY OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Operating Budget	FY22 Approved	FY23 Preliminary	\$ Change	% Change	Available Funds \$953,451
BS Valley Tech	\$1,935,163	\$1,899,148	(\$36,015)	(1.86%)	\$989,466
Trade School	\$300,000	\$350,000	\$50,000	16.67%	\$939,466
FinCom Reserve	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	0%	\$939,466
Retirement System	\$1,978,731	\$2,054,691	\$75,960	3.84%	\$863,506
Employee Benefits/ Liability Insurance	\$7,554,441	\$7,602,265	\$47,824	0.63%	\$815,682
Debt Service	\$3,964,293	\$3,964,293	\$0	0%	\$815,682
Northbridge Schools	\$24,739,112	\$25,315,533	\$576,421	2.33%	\$239,261
General Gov Departments	\$8,985,731	\$9,224,992	\$239,261	2.67%	\$0
Total	\$49,507,471	\$50,460,922	\$953,451	1.93%	\$0

NOTES TO BALANCE THE BUDGET:

- With a decrease in the BVT Assessment and favorable Health Insurance Rates, we are able to lessen the use of one time surpluses (Assessors Overlay and Free Cash) by the amount of **\$200,000** from Revenues.
- After budgeting Fixed Costs (BVT, Trade School, Retirement, Benefits/Liability/Debt), the remaining funds available for NPS and General Gov't for FY2023 spending is **\$815,682**.
- Town Manager Budget has proposed an additional **\$576,421** (2.33%) for NPS, which is consistent with available revenue and above recent historic trends.
- Town Manager Budget proposes an additional **\$239,261** (2.67%) for General Government over FY2023.
- Future Adjustments to Debt Service will be offset by Exclusion Revenues.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
WARRANT FOR SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TRANSACTION OF TOWN BUSINESS
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022 - 7:00 P.M.**

DRAFT #6 – 3.9.22

WORCESTER, ss:

To any Constable of the Town of Northbridge in said County,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify the Inhabitants of the Town of Northbridge, qualified to vote in Town elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Northbridge Middle School on Linwood Avenue, in Whitinsville, in said Northbridge, Massachusetts, on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 7:00 o'clock P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the unexpended appropriated funds of one or more of the departments of the Town the following sums of money and authorize the payment of prior year bills; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 2: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the votes taken under Article 3 of the 2021 Spring Session of the Annual Town Meeting (May 4, 2021), and under Article 1 of the 2021 Fall Session of the Annual Town Meeting (October 26, 2021), appropriations and transfers under the Omnibus Budget Article; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3: (Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the Health Insurance Stabilization Fund such sums of money, not to exceed **\$50,460,922** to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for FY 2023, beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the Retained Earnings Account of the Sewer Enterprise Fund a sum of money to operate the Sewer Enterprise Operation of the Department of Public Works for FY 2023; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the Retained Earnings Account of the Water Enterprise Fund a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise Operation of the Department of Public Works for FY 2023; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money and such additional funds as may become available from the Commonwealth's Department of Transportation, Chapter 90 Bond Issue proceeds, to be used by the Department of Public Works for the repair and maintenance of Town roads in conformance with MGL and further to see if the Town will vote to meet said appropriation by borrowing and to authorize the Treasurer/Collector, with approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor in anticipation of the receipt of said State Aid; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for FY 2023, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the M.G.L.; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to set the FY 2023 spending limits for the Town’s revolving funds under section 5-113 of the Northbridge Code as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2023 Spending Limit
Playgrounds and Recreation	\$20,000
Food Health and Safety	\$25,000
Compost Site	\$10,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from the Pine Grove Cemetery Trust to fund operations of the Pine Grove Cemetery for FY 2023 beginning July 1, 2022 and ending on June 30, 2023, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10: (Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve for future appropriation from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues, the amounts of money recommended by the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee for community preservation projects and other expenses for the Fiscal Year 2023, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation; or take any other action relative thereto.

Reserves:

1. a) From FY2023 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve -the sum of \$
2. b) From FY2023 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve -the sum of \$
3. c) From FY 2023 estimated revenues for Open Space & Recreation Reserve -the sum of \$
4. d) From FY 2023 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve -the sum of \$

ARTICLE 11: (Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund reserves to the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee for expenses associated with the implementation of the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to clerical assistance, office supplies, property surveys, appraisals, attorney fees, and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2023; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12: (Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars, (\$150,000) from Community Preservation Funds, (\$73,000 from Open Space and Recreation CPC account and \$77,000 from Undesignated CPC account), such sum to be spent under the direction of the Playground and Recreation Commission for the renovation of the Linwood Basketball complex; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: (Board of Health)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$25,000 to comply with the Immediate Response Action Plan submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for activities at the Quaker Street Landfill; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Pine Grove Cemetery Account 01022010-XXXXXX the sum of \$30,000 for the following cemetery maintenance projects: \$10,000 for Tree and Stump Removal and \$20,000 to make Cemetery Road Improvements, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,111 from the unexpended balance of the Sewer Department Capital Account (60001512-5330000), and/or to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$359,889 from the Retained Earnings Account of the Sewer Enterprise Fund to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works for the following purposes: the sum of \$150,000 for the purpose of funding work recommended as a result of the Town’s Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP) and infiltration & inflow reports for the multi-year program to make physical improvements to the Town’s sewer collection system, including the sealing/replacement of leaking manhole structures and relining/replacement of deficient/cracked/broken sewer lines; the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of undertaking a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) facilities upgrade study; the sum of \$35,000 to purchase a utility pick-up truck; and the sum of \$150,000 to upgrade the WWTP SCADA system; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$696,375 from the Retained Earnings Account of the Water Enterprise Fund, for the purpose of financing water infrastructure repairs, including the replacement of water mains, within the streets of Linwood Avenue, Court Street, and Edgemere Avenue; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Town Building Maintenance Fund, established pursuant to Chapter 438 of the Acts of 2012, for maintenance of Town-owned buildings and facilities in Fiscal Year 2023, the following sums of money: \$35,000 for the Town’s Green Communities Energy Efficiency Projects Application; and \$10,000 to Replace the Entrance Heating Unit at the Town Hall; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18: (School Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$253,447 from the Town Building-Maintenance Fund, established pursuant to Chapter 438 of the Acts of 2012, for maintenance of Town-owned buildings and facilities in Fiscal year 2023, for the following purposes: \$52,519 for updating security cameras at the Middle School and High School; \$81,160 for replacing the intercom and clock system at the High School; \$119,768 for upgrading the network switches at the Middle School and High School; and to transfer the following unexpended amounts from prior year appropriations: \$17,109 from FY 2018 Plaster and Sound Systems at the Middle School account 01021804-XXXXXX for the purpose of updating security cameras at the Middle School and High School, and the amount of \$49,920 from FY 2022 Northbridge Elementary School Modular Classroom Demolition account 0102219-585831 for the purpose of replacing the cafeteria tables at the Middle School, for a total of \$67,029; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to fund the capital projects shown below by appropriating and transferring the total sum of \$1,243,646 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash);

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Master Plan Study	Planning Board	\$ 65,000
Northbridge Elementary School Reuse Study – Add'l Funds	BPCC	\$ 50,000
Sidewalk Maintenance	Public Works	\$ 25,000
Pavement Maintenance	Public Works	\$200,000
Upton Town Line Guardrail	Public Works	\$ 3,489
Field Mower	Public Works	\$ 45,000
Heavy Duty Container	Public Works	\$ 12,000
2-Ton Asphalt Recycler & Hot Box Trailer	Public Works	\$ 40,000
Complete Streets Grant Match	Public Works	\$264,000
Headquarters UST – Phase 1	Fire Department	\$ 5,000
Replace Breathing Apparatus	Fire Department	\$160,000
Fire Department Turn-Out Gear	Fire Department	\$ 70,000
Fire Department Pick-Up Truck	Fire Department	\$ 80,000
Linwood Playground Basketball Court Upgrades	Parks & Recreation	\$200,000
Vital Records Preservation Project	Town Clerk	\$ 8,625

Lasell Field Driveway Curbing	Public Works/NMS	\$ 15,532
TOTAL:		\$1,243,646

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the following unexpended sums from appropriations of prior years for the purposes set forth below: \$9,041.75 from March 2006 Fire Station Site Testing account 01020608-530300; \$81,681 from FY2014 BPC Engineering & Architectural Studies account 01021319-530300; \$7,000 from FY2020 Fire Station Feasibility account 01022017-530000; \$29,325.01 from FY2018 Building Maintenance Projects account 01021812-5XXXXX; \$10,000 from FY 2020 Town Hall Annex Slate Roof Repairs account 010222018-585324; \$4,500 from FY2020 Town Hall Slate Roof Evaluations account 01022018-585310; \$5,256.55 from FY2021 Town Hall First Floor Carpeting account 01022116-585330; \$4,077 from FY2021 DPW Pick-Up Truck with Plow account 01022116-585017; \$480 from FY2022 Northbridge Elementary School Modular Classroom Demolition account 01022219-585831; \$7.36 from FY2019 Northbridge Schools Zero-Turn Mower account 010221919-585016; \$1,226 from FY2020 2 Floor Burnishers account 01022018-585327; \$6,249.92 from FY2018 Plaster and Sound Systems at Northbridge Middle School account 01021804-XXXXXX; and \$7,666.67 from FY2018 Town and Schools Building Energy Improvements account 01021819-587936, for a total of \$166,511.26:

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Upton Town Line Guardrail	Public Works	\$ 26,511.26
Public Gas Conversion (Library)	Public Works/Library	\$ 35,000.00
Public Sewer Conversion (Police Station)	Public Works/Police	\$ 60,000.00
Town Hall Electronic Sign Board	Public Works	\$ 45,000.00
TOTAL:		\$166,511.26

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the unexpended appropriated funds of one or more of the departments of the Town a sum of money for the purpose of financing the design and construction of a new Fire Station at 1681 Providence Road, including design services, permitting, and site improvements, to supplement the appropriation voted under Article 22 of the warrant for the 2020 Spring Annual Town Meeting, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Building, Planning and Construction Committee, and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer/Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. Chapter 44, section 7, as amended, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and to authorize the Building, Planning and Construction Committee to take any action necessary to carry out this construction and renovation project provided, however, that no borrowing shall be made nor debt incurred hereunder unless and until the Town first votes to exempt from the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2½, so-called), the amounts required to pay the principal and interest of said borrowing and debt; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22: (Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash), a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the Whitinsville Post Office, in Whitinsville, in Precinct 1; Gary's Variety and the Northbridge Post Office in Northbridge, all in Precinct 2; Town Clerk's Office and 1Quickstop in Whitinsville, all in Precinct 3; and the Whitinsville Social Library and Town Hall Annex in Whitinsville, all in Precinct 4; twenty-eight (28) days at least before the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

WHEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of the warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting. GIVEN under our hands this 28th day of March in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

SELECTMEN OF NORTHBRIDGE

Charles Ampagoomian, Jr., Chairman

Thomas J. Melia, Vice Chairman

James J. Athanas

Alicia M. Cannon

Russell D. Collins

WORCESTER, SS Northbridge

Date:

By virtue of this warrant I have this day notified the inhabitants of the Town of Northbridge qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the time and place and for the purpose stated in said warrant by posting attested copies thereof as within directed.

Constable, Town of Northbridge



NORTHBRIDGE FIRE STATION PROJECT

TOWN MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

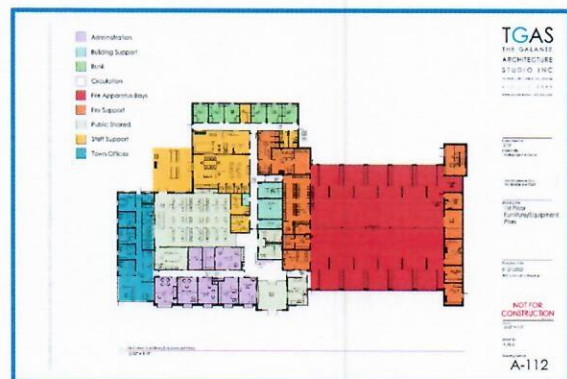
ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRED



- ✓ The Town's voters previously voted to approve the project with **Town Meeting Borrowing Authorization** to borrow up to **\$18,968,000** as well as approving the **Election Ballot Debt Exclusion** in the Spring of 2020.
- ✓ The project is still proposed to be **located at 1681 Providence Road** (Goulet Playground/Riverdale Field).
- ✓ The project still proposes to replace the Main Street Fire Station Headquarters, Rockdale Substation, and Town Hall Annex Offices into **one Headquarters Station** with accompanying storage building.
- ✓ The project site has been cleared and the design is complete. The project will be competitively bid prior to the May 3, 2022, Spring Town Meeting night and **it is estimated that the new cost for the project will be \$23,200,000.**
- ✓ The additional cost is a result of the **dramatic rise in construction costs** (materials and labor) over the past two years as a result of the post pandemic economic conditions in this industry.
- ✓ Thus, in order to build the project, the voters of Town Meeting are being **asked to approve an estimated additional \$4,300,000.** The motion at Town Meeting will be for the exact amount.



SITE LAYOUT PLAN



FLOOR PLAN

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ESTIMATED TAX RATE IMPACTS

**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
TAX RATE IMPACTS BY DEBT EXCLUSIONS**

F.

ALREADY APPROVED:		FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031			
PROJECT	PAYOFF YEAR	2022 PAYMENT	2023 PAYMENT	2024 PAYMENT	2025 PAYMENT	2026 PAYMENT	2027 PAYMENT	2028 PAYMENT	2029 PAYMENT	2030 PAYMENT	2031 PAYMENT			
		TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT			
TURF FIELD PROJECT	2023	\$1,017,701	\$0.50	\$1,017,701	\$0.37	\$765,000								
BVRHS EXPANSION	2025	\$67,916	\$0.03	\$67,916	\$0.03	\$67,916	\$0.03	\$0.03						
POLICE ROOF	2022	\$13,489	\$0.01	\$13,060	\$0.01	\$11,620	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01	\$0.01				
M. SCHOOL ROOF	2022	\$140,233	\$0.07	\$135,826	\$0.07	\$131,306	\$0.06	\$0.06	\$0.06	\$0.06				
DPW BUILDING	2028	\$267,451	\$0.13	\$267,451	\$0.13	\$267,451	\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.13				
NEW NES #1 (\$30 M)	2049	\$2,008,750	\$0.98	\$1,958,750	\$0.95	\$1,908,750	\$0.93	\$0.90	\$0.88	\$0.86	\$0.83	\$0.81	\$0.78	\$0.76
NEW NES #2 (\$7.15 M)	2051	\$402,312	\$0.21	\$435,945	\$0.21	\$423,944	\$0.21	\$0.20	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$0.18	\$0.17	\$0.17
NEW NES #3 (\$14.4 M)	2051	\$0	\$0.00	\$871,890	\$0.42	\$847,888	\$0.41	\$0.40	\$0.39	\$0.38	\$0.37	\$0.36	\$0.35	\$0.34
FIRE STATION (\$19 M)	2048	\$0	\$0.00	\$1,330,000	\$0.65	\$1,307,200	\$0.64	\$0.62	\$0.61	\$0.60	\$0.59	\$0.58	\$0.57	\$0.56
Total Tax from Debt:			\$1.93	\$2.84	\$2.42	\$2.35	\$2.27	\$2.23	\$2.11	\$1.93	\$1.87	\$1.83		
Other 2022 Tax Rate:			\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84	\$11.84
Projected Tax Rate:			\$13.77	\$14.68	\$14.26	\$14.19	\$14.11	\$14.07	\$13.95	\$13.77	\$13.71	\$13.67		

SEEKING APPROVAL:		FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029	FY2030	FY2031	
PROJECT	PAYOFF YEAR	2022 PAYMENT	2023 PAYMENT	2024 PAYMENT	2025 PAYMENT	2026 PAYMENT	2027 PAYMENT	2028 PAYMENT	2029 PAYMENT	2030 PAYMENT	2031 PAYMENT	
		TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	TAX RATE IMPACT	
ADDITIONAL (\$4.3 M) FIRE STATION	2049	\$0	\$0	\$301,000	\$0.15	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.14	\$0.13	\$0.13	\$0.13
Total Projected Tax Rate:			\$13.77	\$14.68	\$14.41	\$14.33	\$14.25	\$14.21	\$14.09	\$13.90	\$13.84	\$13.80

*Assumes FY2022 Values (\$2,055,118,380) & FY2022 Tax Rate (\$13.77)

*Estimated Borrowing Amount for NEW NES #3

*Assumes Fire Station 25 years @ 3.00%

*Will not borrow the additional \$4.3 Million until FY2024

*\$19 Million over 25 years = Avg Impact of \$188.86/year on the average House Value of \$367,400

*\$4.3 Million over 25 years = Avg Impact of \$42.74/year on the average House Value of \$367,400

*\$4.3 Million over 25 years = \$5,977,000 total payments (incl \$1.677 M In interest)

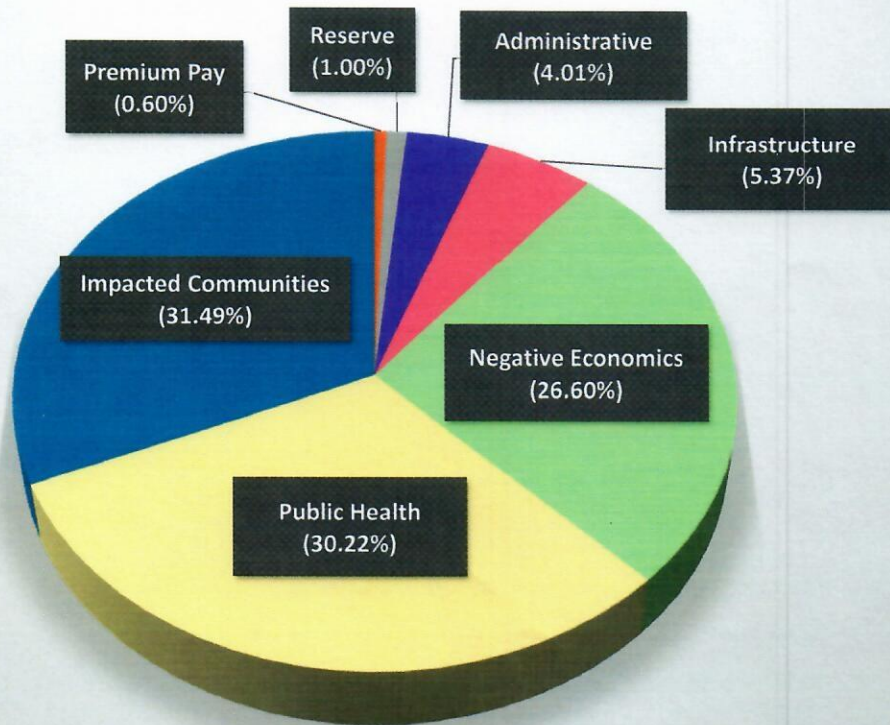
*Original estimate of Total Costs on \$30 M (1st NES Bond + Interest) when approved vs actual costs = \$5,823,33.33 in savings

Department	Project / Item Description	Article #	Request Amount	Not Funded	Free Cash	Water R. Earnings	Sewer R. Earnings	Ambul. Receipts	Building Mainten.	P. Grove Trust	Sewer Transfer	Account Transfer
General Government Projects and Purchases												
Green	Green Community Projects Match	17	\$35,000						\$35,000			
Planning Board	Master Plan Study	19	\$65,000		\$65,000							
BPCC	NES Reuse Study - Add'l Funds	19	\$50,000		\$50,000							
Annex	Entrance Door Replacement		\$17,000	X	HOLD							
Annex	Building Envelope Weatherization		\$22,148	X	HOLD							
BOH	Quaker Landfill	13	\$25,000		\$25,000							
DPW	Sidewalk Replacement Program	19	\$25,000		\$25,000							
DPW	Pavement Maintenance Program	19	\$200,000		\$200,000							
DPW	Guardrail Replacement - Upton Town Line	19/20	\$30,000		\$3,489							\$26,511
DPW	Field Mower (Bagger/Mulcher/High-Dump)	19	\$45,000		\$45,000							
DPW	Heavy Duty Container	19	\$12,000		\$12,000							
DPW	2-Ton Asphalt Recycler & Hot Box	19	\$40,000		\$40,000							
DPW	Hook and Load Catchbasin Cleaner		\$120,000	X								
DPW	Front End Loader		\$210,000	X								
DPW	Complete Streets Match	19	\$264,000		\$264,000							
Fire Dept	Headquarters UST - DEP Phase 1	19	\$5,000		\$5,000							
Fire Dept	Replace Breathing Apparatus	19	\$160,000		\$160,000							
Fire Dept	Purchase New Turnout Gear	19	\$70,000		\$70,000							
Fire Dept	Replace Department Pick-Up Truck	19	\$80,000		\$80,000							
Library	Gas Conversion	20	\$35,000									\$35,000
Pine Grove	Cemetery Tree/Stump Removal	14	\$10,000							\$10,000		
Pine Grove	Cemetery Road Improvements (270 Tons/Yr)	14	\$20,000							\$20,000		
Police Dept	Sewer Connection	20	\$60,000									\$60,000
Recreation	Linwood Playground Basketball Courts	19	\$200,000		\$200,000							
Town Clerk	Vital Records Preservation	19	\$8,625		\$8,625							
Town Hall	Replace Entrance Heating Unit	17	\$10,000						\$10,000			
Town Hall	Electronic Sign Board	20	\$45,000									\$45,000
Public School Projects and Purchases												
Lasell Field	Driveway Curbing/Loam & Seed	19	\$15,532		\$15,532							
MS & HS	Security Camera Upgrades	18	\$69,628						\$52,519			\$17,109
HS	Replace Intercom and Clocks	18	\$81,160						\$81,160			

Public School Projects and Purchases Continued												
MS	Cafeteria Tables	18	\$49,920								\$49,920	
MS & HS	Network Switches	18	\$119,768					\$119,768				
Enterprise Fund Projects and Purchases												
Sewer	WWTP Study	15	\$30,000			\$24,889				\$5,111		
Sewer	Infiltration & Inflow (I&I) Program	15	\$150,000			\$150,000						
Sewer	Ford Ranger	15	\$35,000			\$35,000						
Sewer	SCADA Upgrades	15	\$150,000			\$150,000						
Water	Edgemere Ave, Court St, Linwood Ave	16	\$695,375		\$696,375							
<i>DRAFT (3/9/22)</i>	TOTALS		\$3,260,156		\$1,268,646	\$696,375	\$359,889	\$0	\$298,447	\$30,000	\$5,111	\$233,540.26

ARPA 2021 FUNDING PLAN

PROJECT	PROJECT CATEGORY	EXPANDED CATEGORY	COST
Fire Department (Turn-Out Gear)	1. Public Health	1.7 Capital Investments to meet pandemic operational needs.	\$ 70,000.00
Board of Health (Selef Tets Kits)	1. Public Health	1.2 COVID-19 Testing	\$ 30,000.00
Fire Department (Radio System Infrastr.)	1. Public Health	1.7 Capital Investments to meet pandemic operational needs.	\$ 1,000,000.00
BV Chamber of Commerce (Electronics Curriculum)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.7 Job Training Assistance	\$ 46,000.00
BV Chamber of Commerce (Physical Expansion)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.7 Job Training Assistance	\$ 130,000.00
BV Chamber of Commerce (Classroom Teachers)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.7 Job Training Assistance	\$ 12,650.00
WCC (Town Hall Annex Child Care)	3. Services to Impacted Communities	3.6 Healthy Childhood Environments (Childcare)	\$ 1,000,000.00
Family Continuity (Mental Health Services - VAULT)	1. Public Health	1.10 Mental Health Services	\$ 364,486.00
Fire Department Organizational Strategic Plan	1. Public Health	1.12 Other Public Health Services	\$ 32,500.00
WCC (Gymnasium Renovation Project)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.10 Aid to Non-Profit Organizations	\$ 632,661.00
BVT - Public School (LPKF ProtoMat Milling System)	3. Services to Impacted Communities	3.5 Education Assistance: Other	\$ 28,320.00
Public Schools (Student Chromebooks)	3. Services to Impacted Communities	3.5 Education Assistance: Other	\$ 78,750.00
WCC (Scholarships)	3. Services to Impacted Communities	3.6 Healthy Childhood Environments (Childcare)	\$ 75,000.00
WCC (playground/tennis court renovations)	3. Services to Impacted Communities	3.9 Healthy Childhood Environments (Other)	\$ 362,717.00
Fire Department (Staff Mental Health Program)	1. Public Health	1.10 Mental Health Services	\$ 25,000.00
Town Clerk (Voting Box/Poll Pads)	1. Public Health	1.7 Capital Investments to meet pandemic operational needs.	\$ 10,040.00
Council on Aging/FINE (14-passenger van)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.12 Aid to Other Impacted Industries (Senior Travel)	\$ 60,000.00
Library (Laptops, Book Bike, Self-checkout, etc.)	1. Public Health	1.4 Prevention in congregate settings.	\$ 9,475.00
Planning Department (Mumford River Walk)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.11 Aid to Tourism, Travel or Hospitality	\$ 400,000.00
Planning Dept. (Signage & Wayfinding Program)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.11 Aid to Tourism, Travel or Hospitality	\$ 40,000.00
Planning Dept. (Walking Tour Brochure - Historic)	2. Negative Economic Impacts	2.11 Aid to Tourism, Travel or Hospitality	\$ 5,000.00
Planning Dept. (Rockdale Pocket Park Fixtures)	3. Services to Impacted Communities	3.9 Healthy Childhood Environments (Other)	\$ 25,000.00
DPW Highway Dept. (Bridges: Linwood, Church St Ex)	5. Infrastructure	5.6 Clean Water: Stormwater	\$ 267,868.00
Fire Department Union	4. Premium Pay	4.1 Public Sector Employees	\$ 20,000.00
Police Department Union	4. Premium Pay	4.1 Public Sector Employees	\$ 10,000.00
PROJECT REQUESTS:			\$ 4,735,467.00
Town Accountant Staff (Salary and Benefits - 4 years)	7. Administrative	7.1 Administrative Expenses	\$ 200,000.00
TOTAL SPENDING PLAN:			\$ 4,935,467.00
Reserve for Pandemic Expenses (1. Public Health) as Needed			\$ 50,000.00
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS:			\$ 4,985,467.00



Percentage of Spending by Category

Town Manager's Report for the Period of February 14, 2022 – February 25, 2022

1. Key Meetings Attended:

- Monday, February 28, 2022 – Weekly Fire Station Conference Call with Design Team.
- Monday, February 28, 2022 – Attended the Board of Selectmen Business Meeting.
- Tuesday, March 1, 2022 – Read to a 2nd Grade Class at NES for Community Reading Day.
- Wednesday, March 2, 2022 – Attended the Finance Committee to discuss the FY2023 Budget.
- Thursday March 3, 2022 – Visited the Fire Department for Lt David Holmes last shift day.
- Thursday March 3, 2022 – Participated in the Library's Strategic Plan Meeting.
- Friday, March 4, 2022 – Held a Department Managers Meeting
- Monday, March 7, 2022 – Weekly Fire Station Conference Call with Design Team.
- Tuesday, March 8, 2022 – State Civil Service Hearing for Police Lieutenant promotion.
- Wednesday, March 9, 2022 – Attended the Finance Committee to discuss the FY2023 Budget.
- Wednesday March 9, 2022 – Attended the BPC Meeting for the Fire Station and NES Projects.
- Wednesday, March 9, 2022 – Met with Heather Elster from Whitin Community Centre to discuss ARPA 2021 Projects.
- Thursday, March 10, 2022 – Met with Steve Tyler from HSH and Jamie Luchini to discuss Northbridge infrastructure projects.

2. **Fire Station Project:** The BPC met this past week on March 9th and voted to award the early site package to the low bidder which was JAM Landscaping and Construction out of West Boylston at a price of \$82,190, approximately \$20,000 under budget. The Construction documents are at 100% and will be finalized for advertising next week. The subcontractor bids will be due April 14th and the general contractor bids will be due April 28th so that final numbers are available for Town Meeting.
3. **Northbridge Elementary School Reuse Study:** The BPC voted this past week on March 9th to select Abacus Architects to perform the study. The next step is to enter into an agreement and issue a Notice to Proceed.
4. **Fire Department Radio Communications Study:** The firm CTA has been selected to perform the study and a Notice to Proceed was issued this past week. Chief White and Chief Labrie will next be participating in the project kick-off meeting.
5. **Fire Department Strategic Plan:** The Town Manager and Fire Chief selected the consultant CPSM for this project. The services agreement has been finalized and the Town Manager issued the Notice to Proceed. The Project is expected to be completed in the next 90 days.
6. **Fallon Health Insurance Replacement:** The Town Manager has been working with the Finance Team and NFP to solicit pricing for health insurance plans as Fallon is getting out of the municipal market. IAC has made the final recommendation to award Mass Strategic Health Group (MSHG) as the new provider starting July 1st.
7. **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA):** The Town will be receiving \$4.9M which can be used for projects/programs in response to the recovery effort brought on by the pandemic. The Town Manager provided the recommended Funding Project Plan to the Finance Committee, the Board of Selectmen and has been posted on the Town's website. A public meeting will be held with the Finance Committee on March 16th in conjunction with the meeting for the FY2023 Budget and SATM Draft Warrant.

8. **FY2023 Budget and SATM Warrant:** The SATM Warrant has been closed. The Finance Committee will hold their public meeting next week on March 16th. On March 28th, the Board of Selectmen will vote to sign the Warrant and vote on any Ballot Questions for the Town Election in May.