

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2015

The Annual Town Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. having met the quorum requirement of 25 registered voters (5% quorum; 546 registered voters in Warwick). 139 registered voters were present at the meeting.

The Moderator reminded the Meeting of the adoption of Article 6 at the May 5, 2014 Annual Town Meeting of MGL Chapter 39, Section 15, which provides that on matters requiring a 2/3 vote by statute, a count need not be taken unless the vote so declared is immediately questioned by seven voters.

The Town Moderator asked for and received unanimous consent to combine the “stock articles” and vote as one without the individual motions being read and voted: Articles 1-4.

ARTICLE 1: VOTED unanimously to accept the reports of Town Officers and Committees for 2013.

ARTICLE 2: VOTED unanimously to authorize the Town Treasurer / Tax Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2016 as permitted by General Laws Chapter 44:53f.

ARTICLE 3: VOTED unanimously to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept private, state and federal grants, and to expend any monies received as set forth in the appropriate grant application.

ARTICLE 4: VOTED unanimously to allow town boards and commissions to appoint one of its members to a position under their supervision as allowed by MGL Chapter 268A, section 21A.

ARTICLE 5: VOTED unanimously to authorize the following revolving funds in accordance with **Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½**.

- A. Fees for Board of Health inspections will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay the personnel performing the inspections and related expenses. The fund will be under the authority of the Board of Health and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).
- B. Fees collected for burials by the Cemetery Commission or Board of Selectmen will be deposited into a revolving fund to pay personnel for the purpose of preparing the burial lot(s). The fund will be under the authority of the Cemetery Commission, and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).
- C. Fees and reimbursements for costs of public hearings held by the Selectboard will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay the costs of advertising, recording fees, and expenses related to the hearings. The fund will be under the authority of the Board of Selectmen, and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000).

D. Fees for inspections conducted by the Plumbing and Gas Inspector will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay the Inspector for performing said inspections. The fund will be under the authority of the Board of Selectmen, and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Three Thousand Dollars. (\$3,000).

E. Cleaning deposit fees retained by the Town, related to the use of Town Hall, will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay the Town Hall Janitor for extra cleaning required after the use of Town Hall by any person or group which forfeits its cleaning deposit. The fund will be under the authority of the Board of Selectmen, and expenditures shall not exceed Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015.

F. Funds received from the sale of timber from Town owned land will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay the costs of professional forestry management services and related expenses. The fund will be under the authority of the Forestry Committee and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).

G. Funds received from sale of dog licenses or from loose dog fees collected will be deposited into a revolving fund to pay for expenses incurred for licensing expenses, and the care and kenneling of animals in the custody of the Animal Control Officer. The fund will be under the authority of the Chief of Police and the total expenditures in the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, shall not exceed Seven Hundred Fifty (\$750).

H. Fees collected for Fire Department inspections will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay the personnel performing the inspections and related expenses. The fund will be under the authority of the Fire Department and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).

I. Fees collected by the Planning Board's Zoning Program will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay costs associated with the Planning Board's Zoning Program such as zoning related hearings, zoning public notification, and zoning training of board members. The fund will be under the control of the Planning Board, total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, will be limited to two thousand dollars (\$2,000).

J. Fees from Highway department equipment sharing and inter-municipal rentals, Chapter 90 equipment use, and other highway machinery reimbursement will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to fund highway machinery repairs, upkeep and replacement. The fund will be under the authority of the Selectboard and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

K. Fees for inspections conducted by the Electrical Inspector will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay the Inspector for performing said inspections. The fund will be under the authority of the Selectboard, and total

expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Three Thousand Dollars (\$3000).

L. Fees for capture, transport and boarding of livestock conducted by the Field Driver will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to compensate the Field Driver for service rendered. The fund will be under the authority of the Selectboard and total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing on July 1, 2015, will be limited to Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000).

M. Fees collected by the Zoning Board of Appeals for hearings, applications, and filings will be deposited into a revolving fund and expended to pay costs associated with the Zoning Board of Appeal's Zoning Program expenses such as appeals; cost of expert witnesses; consultants; special permit and variance applications; permit and variance hearings; public notification; and training of ZBA board members and alternates. The fund will be under the control of the Zoning Board of Appeals, total expenditures for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015, will be limited to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

ARTICLE 6: VOTED to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray expenses, the amount estimated by the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2015, for the purposes designated in the budget that follows, or any other amounts for such purposes, which shall not exceed the amounts stated in the column designated "FY 2016 requested". This article shall also act to fix the salaries and compensation of elected officials as required by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 41, Section 108.

Requested salaries and compensation for elected officials:

Moderator	\$125	Selectboard	\$1200
Assessors	\$1500	Town Clerk	\$6170
Tree Warden	\$500	Board of Health	\$1500
Cemetery Commission	\$600		

NOTE: **Amendment FAILED** by voice to reduce the Town Counsel Retainer to \$2,800.

Amendment FAILED by voice to reduce Wages Patrol Officers to \$20,000.

Amendment FAILED to reduce the Ambulance Donation to \$3,000.

AYE – 32

NAY - 76

The total amount voted was \$1,785,451.00.

ARTICLE 7: VOTED unanimously to authorize the Select Board to enter into a five-year contract with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and Waste Management Recycle America, LLC for recycling services at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility.

ARTICLE 8: VOTED to borrow \$25,000 to purchase a used fire engine. (Two thirds vote required) There was one "Nay" vote; the Moderator declared the Article as Passed.

ARTICLE 9: VOTED unanimously to transfer “Free Cash” in the amount of \$58,829 to reduce the FY 2016 tax levy.

ARTICLE 10: VOTED unanimously to transfer \$3063 from Overlay Surplus to reduce the FY 2016 tax levy.

ARTICLE 11: VOTED unanimously to appropriate \$98,000 to the Broadband Enterprise Fund effective July 1, 2015, for operation of the Warwick Broadband Service.

ARTICLE 12: VOTED unanimously to appropriate available Solid Waste funds certified in the amount of \$5,768 to the operation of the FY ‘16 Transfer Station Enterprise Fund.

ARTICLE 13: VOTED unanimously to appropriate a total budget of \$35,000 (inclusive of funds appropriated in Article 12) to the operation of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund effective July 1, 2015.

ARTICLE 14: VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate \$25,000 to the Capital Stabilization Fund. (Two thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 15: VOTED unanimously to transfer from Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$2,800 to provide for SCBA (fire fighter air packs). (Two thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 16: VOTED unanimously to transfer from Capital Stabilization Fund the sum of \$1,900 to provide grant match for purchase of Fire Department mobile radios. (Two thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 17: VOTED unanimously to transfer from Capital Stabilization Fund \$12,400 to outfit and put in service a surplus Mack pumper truck including purchase of a portable holding tank, pump and fittings. (Two thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 18: VOTED unanimously to transfer from Capital Stabilization Fund \$4,600 and re-establish the town clock repair fund. (Two thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 19: VOTED unanimously to transfer from Capital Stabilization Fund \$5,000 to the Town Hall improvement account. (Two thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 20: VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to fund the Warwick Community School Improvement Account established by vote of the Annual Town Meeting held May 3, 2004.

ARTICLE 21: VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to the Revaluation Account.

ARTICLE 22: VOTED unanimously to establish a landfill monitoring fund; and raise and appropriate \$2000 to the fund to pay for post closure monitoring at Warwick’s closed landfill.

ARTICLE 23: VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to audit town accounts.

ARTICLE 24: VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate \$1,500 to purchase a Fire Department electric generator.

ARTICLE 25: VOTED unanimously to raise and appropriate \$1,700 to purchase an AED (defibrillator).

ARTICLE 26: VOTED unanimously to allow time at the beginning of Town Meetings for citizens to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was dissolved at 8:59 p.m. A true record of the action taken.

Rosa Fratangelo
Town Clerk