

**TOWN OF SOMERSET, MA
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to amend its vote on Article 5A of the May 16, 2016, Annual Town Meeting, for the purposes of the General Budget for Fiscal Year 2017, the appropriation for which was originally voted as follows:

from Taxation: \$22,956,898.00
from Municipal Waterways Improvement and Maintenance Fund: \$9,030.00
for a Total Appropriation of \$22,965,928.00

by transferring and appropriating additional sums of money from available funds and by reducing the amount to be raised from taxation by the equivalent amount.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to amend its vote on Article 5A of the May 16, 2016, Annual Town Meeting for the purposes of the General Budget, as follows: by reducing the amount of money to be raised from taxation from \$22,956,898.00 to \$18,548,700.00, a decrease of \$4,408,198.00, and by transferring the amount of \$4,408,198.00 from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Table II Compensation Plan as set forth in the Consolidated Personnel By-law adopted under Article 3 of the Warrant of the Annual Town Meeting of May 19, 1986, as subsequently amended, by substituting and adopting the following retroactive to July 1, 2016.

**Table II
FY 2017 Compensation Plan**

GRADES	STEPS								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
M1	459.14	477.47	497.21	516.36	537.02	558.62	580.89	604.12	628.29
M2	500.46	520.43	541.26	562.88	585.41	608.81	633.15	658.47	684.81
M3	545.48	567.26	589.94	613.53	638.78	663.59	689.02	716.58	745.24
M4	594.58	618.35	643.05	668.73	695.50	723.32	752.26	782.35	813.65
M5	648.07	673.93	700.87	728.90	757.98	788.35	819.83	852.63	886.73
M6	706.35	734.63	763.93	794.44	826.26	859.20	893.66	929.40	966.57
M7	769.84	800.76	832.78	866.08	900.70	936.65	974.11	1013.07	1053.59
M8	839.22	872.54	907.65	943.98	981.71	1020.97	1061.33	1103.78	1147.93
M9	914.81	951.42	989.39	1029.00	1070.10	1112.92	1157.45	1203.74	1251.89
M10	997.10	1037.03	1078.41	1121.48	1166.34	1212.98	1261.53	1311.98	1364.47
M11	1086.88	1130.34	1175.47	1222.50	1271.37	1322.25	1375.09	1430.09	1487.30
M12	1184.60	1232.16	1281.22	1332.50	1385.79	1441.21	1498.78	1558.73	1621.09
M13	1291.31	1338.14	1396.64	1452.46	1510.53	1570.93	1633.76	1699.11	1767.08

M14	1371.80	1426.66	1483.73	1543.09	1604.80	1668.99	1735.76	1805.18	1877.39
M15	1534.19	1595.54	1659.33	1725.63	1794.67	1866.39	1940.99	2018.64	2099.38
M16	1672.26	1739.11	1808.66	1875.79	1956.19	2034.44	2115.73	2200.36	2288.37

The Advisory & Finance Committee will have a recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to amend its vote on Article 4 of the May 16, 2016, Annual Town Meeting, to establish the annual salaries of its elected full-time officers commencing July 1, 2016, as follows:

Town Clerk \$55,482.00

The Advisory & Finance Committee will have a recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds additional sums of money for the following Town Departments, Accounts or purposes:

Appropriation	Personal Services
#122 Selectmen	\$1,131.00
#135 Town Accountant	\$1,789.00
#141 Tax Assessor	\$1,079.00
#145 Town Treasurer/Tax Collector	\$1,333.00
#161 Town Clerk	\$937.00
#192 Town Office	\$851.00
#205 Fire/Police Station	\$392.00
#210 Police Department	\$1,591.00
#220 Fire Department	\$11,009.00
#241 Building Insp/Zoning Agent	\$1,197.00
#242 Gas & Plumbing	\$8,010.00
#420 Highway Department	\$1,299.00
#440 Water Pollution Control	\$3,108.00
#480 Vehicle Maintenance Facility	\$648.00
#510 Board of Health	\$212.00
#541 Council on Aging	\$416.00
#543 Veterans Benefits	\$508.00
#610 Libraries	\$3,320.00
#630 Playground & Recreation	\$448.00
Total:	\$39,278.00

The Advisory & Finance Committee will have a recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of adjusting the compensation of Consolidated Personnel By-law employees of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2017.

The Advisory & Finance Committee will have a recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to amend its vote under Article 1 of the May 18, 1992, Special Town Meeting and vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws chapter 44, Section 53F1/2, to establish the Somerset Water Department and Somerset Water Pollution Control [Sewer] Department jointly as an

“Enterprise Fund” effective in fiscal year 2018, rather than solely the Somerset Water Department as previously voted by the Town.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town so vote.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate and /or transfer from available funds a sum of money for providing for the replacement and installation of new water meters and related remote reading equipment for the Somerset Water Department, including any software, computer system integration, engineering, and/or legal services related thereto, or take any action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,800,000.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from the retained earnings in the Water Enterprise Fund.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate and /or transfer from available funds a sum of money for providing engineering services and making repairs and upgrades to the Screw Pumps and related equipment located at the Somerset Water Pollution Facility, including any engineering, architectural, and/or legal services related thereto, or take any action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$850,000.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from the retained earnings in the Water Enterprise Fund.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be added to the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money necessary to carry out the changes for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 in the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Somerset and Local 80 (Patrolmen) of the New England Police Benevolent Association.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$137,000.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money necessary to carry out the changes for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017 in the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Somerset and Local 108 (Fire and Police Signal Operators) of the New England Police Benevolent Association.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$22,500.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purposes of paying late bills for miscellaneous items incurred during Fiscal Year 2014, Fiscal Year 2015, and Fiscal Year 2016 by the Somerset Public Library, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$447.28 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing a self-check station system for the Somerset Public Library, including any other expenses incidental thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$6,010.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of paying unpaid wages of Fire Department employees for Fiscal Year 2013.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$41,900.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of paying an unpaid bill incurred during Fiscal Year 2013 by the Somerset School Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,924.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of performing capital improvements to the South Elementary School and Chace Street Elementary School by removing asbestos tiles and installing tile flooring, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$106,000.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing ninety (90) voting booths for the Town Clerk's office, including any other expenses incidental thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$22,050.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a new four wheel drive Pick-Up truck (with snow plow) for the Highway Department, including any other expenses relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$39,317.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Table I (Wage & Salary Groups) of the Consolidated Personnel By-law adopted at the May 19, 1986 Annual Town Meeting, and subsequently amended, by inserting the position of "C – Health Agent" under Grade 11, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town so vote.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds an additional sum of money for the purpose of funding the position of Board of Health Agent in Account #510 Board of Health – Personal Services – (line #5113), or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee unanimously recommends that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$34,792.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of conducting a comprehensive pay and classification study of the positions covered under the Consolidated Personnel By-law, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Advisory & Finance Committee does not recommend by a majority that the Town vote to approve this article. (Vote: 6-2)

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's "By-law relative to the manner of giving notice of Town Meetings, Annual or Special", as most recently amended under Article 23 of the March 14, 1955, Annual Town Meeting, in order to correct the period of time for posting notice of a Special Town Meeting to fourteen (14) days to conform with applicable state law, so that the by-law as amended will read as follows:

The manner of giving notice of a Town Meeting shall be by posting attested copies of the warrant relating thereto at five (5) suitable places, one (1) in each precinct in the Town, at least seven (7) days before the holding of an Annual Town Meeting and at least fourteen (14) days before the holding of a Special Town Meeting.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Somerset Zoning By-law by making changes to section 6.10 (Planned Developments) as follows:

By deleting the existing language in the first sentence of section 6.10.1, which presently reads:

For the purposes of this By-law, planned development shall mean the following uses in any district other than a Light Industrial or Limited Business District:

And replacing it with the following:

For the purposes of this By-law, planned development shall mean the following commercial and industrial uses other than in a Light Industrial or Limited Business District:

And by adding the following new subsections d, e, and f after the existing provisions in section 6.10.1:

- d. Use of a lot where there is construction, exterior alteration or expansion, or change of use involving more than five hundred square feet;
- e. Construction, expansion or relocation of a parking lot, the relocation of existing parking spaces, or the relocation of any site entrance;
- f. Any new use that is accessory to the principal use.

The Planning Board will have a recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Somerset Zoning By-law by making the following changes to section 2.0 (Definitions) by adding the following new definition to the By-law:

Lot Width. Lot width is defined as the distance between the sidelines required allowing a circle to be placed between the sidelines. The required circle shall be tangential to the frontage of a given lot and shall be entirely contained within the lot boundaries. For lot frontage requirements of 100 feet, the circle diameter shall be 80 feet.

And by making the following changes to section 5.2 (Table of Dimension Requirements):

--Add "See Note 6" to the table in the horizontal column labeled "Minimum Frontage in Feet" under each category with a 100-foot frontage requirement

--After the Table, under the heading "Notes", add a new Note 6 as follows:

6. With regards to lots with a required frontage of 100 feet, see "Lot Width" definition.

The Planning Board will have a recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 25: "To see if the Town will vote to adopt a "School-day Sidewalk Snow Clearing By-law", as follows:

It is the responsibility of every abutter of a publicly maintained sidewalk to keep sidewalks abutting his or her property free of snow and ice on any day in which public schools are in session. The responsibility includes connecting unimpeded pedestrian access to the sidewalk of adjacent abutters and to any crosswalks and wheelchair- access ramps built into the abutting sidewalk curb, or, in case of sidewalks without adjacent crosswalks or wheelchair access ramps, to abutting street corners.

Any abutter who is both physically and financially unable to clear snow and ice from his or her property shall be absolved of this responsibility after both informing the Town Clerk or his or her physical and financial inability and requesting volunteer assistance to clean snow and ice from his or her property and abutting sidewalks. The Town Clerk shall publicly post all such requests.

Any individual or organization may clear a public sidewalk of snow and/or ice and be held harmless for throwing the removed snow and/or ice onto abutting property if said sidewalk has not been cleared previously as required, and if the removed snow and/or ice is thrown in a reasonably cautious manner to minimize damage, or inconvenience to sidewalk abutters."

as petitioned.