



**Article: 65**

**Warrant Article Title:**  
CAPITAL BUDGET

**Warrant Article Text:**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to defray the expense of purchasing, leasing, or bonding of capital equipment, infrastructure, buildings or other projects of the Town or to acquire real property for municipal purposes; to appropriate a sum of money to fund previously incurred or future Town debt, to acquire land for said projects where necessary by purchase, eminent domain taking or otherwise, determine how the money shall be raised including the possibility of borrowing any or all of the same, or the transfer of funds from any previous appropriation, determine how such money shall be expended; or take any action related thereto.

**Requested By:**

the Select Board, and at the request of the Town Manager and the Capital Planning Committee

**Report Excerpt:**

[Capital Planning Committee] As always, the vote on the Capital Budget specifically covers Fiscal Year 2027 only, not the Five-Year Capital Plan. The vote comprises nine separate sections:

1. To reappropriate unspent funds carried forward from prior years' completed projects that were financed by bonds, with specific dollar amounts;
2. To pay for the current year new acquisitions or projects using funds obtained directly from the tax levy (cash), with

specific dollar amounts;

3. To pay the debt service on capital acquisitions that were financed by prior years' bonds, with specific dollar amounts;
4. To pay for new acquisitions using sources of funds other than the tax levy, with specific dollar amounts;
5. To authorize bonds to pay for new acquisitions, for which the debt service will be paid for in future fiscal years, with specific dollar amounts;
6. To authorize the Town to seek external grants and funds for capital purposes;
7. To authorize the carrying-over in the capital budget of any unspent funds to be used for capital appropriations in future years;
8. To authorize the Town Manager, in certain cases and under certain conditions, to transfer and spend unencumbered funds that are no longer needed for their original purpose; and
9. To offset the capital plan with bond premiums, if available.

We respectfully ask for your approval of Article 65, the Capital Budget Vote for Fiscal Year 2027, as printed in this report

[The Finance Committee] adopts in its entirety the recommended vote of the Capital Planning Committee as set forth in the 2026 Annual Town Meeting Report of the Capital Planning Committee, and further votes to appropriate the sums identified therein for the capital purposes described; and that such appropriations shall be funded by transfers from available funds, by amounts raised through taxation, and/or by borrowing, as set forth in said Report.

**Vote Language:**

- (1) That the sum of \$435,658.91 is hereby transferred from amounts previously appropriated and borrowed under the

following warrant articles and for the purposes set forth below:

Item	Amount to be transferred	From <u>Original</u> Purpose	Warrant Article	Meeting Date
1.1	\$806.23	Capital Outlay	36	5/16/2016
1.2	\$450.34	Building Renovations	58	5/08/2019
1.3	\$92,828.54	Building Renovations	51	5/19/2021
1.4	\$91,500.00	Classrooms	38	5/01/2023
1.5	\$73.80	Library Lighting	38	5/01/2023
1.6	\$250,000.00	Classrooms	40	5/06/2024
	\$435,658.91	Total		

which amounts are no longer needed to complete the projects for which they were initially borrowed, to pay costs of the following:

Item	Amount to be Paid	For <u>New</u> Purpose
1.7	\$ 435,658.91	Roof Top Units Schools
	\$ 435,658.91	Total

as permitted by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws.

**(2)** That the sum of \$5,069,194 be and hereby is appropriated for various capital projects and equipment as shown below, and expended under the direction of the Town Manager:

Item	Amount	Project	Department
2.1	\$ 11,250	Poll Pad Replacement Plan	Clerk's Office
2.2	\$ 52,500	Firefighter Protective Gear	Community Safety - Fire
2.3	\$ 41,000	Overhead Doors - Highland Station	Community Safety - Fire
2.4	\$ 20,000	Plymovent Conversion	Community Safety - Fire
2.5	\$ 5,830	RAD-57 Carbon Monoxide Meters	Community Safety - Fire
2.6	\$ 70,000	Vehicle Replacement - #1023 2014 Ford Explorer	Community Safety - Fire
2.7	\$ 120,000	Vehicle Replacement Program	Community Safety - Police
2.8	\$ 75,000	Community Center WC Lift Replacement	Facilities
2.9	\$ 80,000	Elevator Replacement - Community Safety Building	Facilities
2.10	\$ 25,000	Jarvis House Wall Replacement	Facilities

2.11	\$ 75,565	Municipal Building Energy Efficiency Projects	Facilities
2.12	\$ 100,000	Townwide ADA Accessibility Upgrades	Facilities
2.13	\$ 140,200	APS Instructional Space Visual Displays	Information Technology
2.14	\$ 167,300	Educator 1:1 Devices	Information Technology
2.15	\$ 125,000	Network Infrastructure	Information Technology
2.16	\$ 40,000	Network Resilience	Information Technology
2.17	\$ 31,200	Paraprofessional Chromebooks	Information Technology
2.18	\$ 253,100	Student Devices	Information Technology
2.19	\$ 170,000	Town Software Upgrades & Standardization	Information Technology
2.20	\$ 45,600	MLN Equipment Schedule	Library
2.21	\$ 50,000	Design and Engineering Consultant – Traffic Calming	Planning

2.22	\$ 226,283	Accessibility Improvements (Override 2019)	Public Works – Highway
2.23	\$ 205,000	Mobility Improvements (Override 2023)	Public Works – Highway
2.24	\$ 67,092	Roadway Reconstruction	Public Works – Highway
2.25	\$ 551,403	Roadway Reconstruction Override 2011	Public Works – Highway
2.26	\$ 20,000	Sander Body	Public Works – Highway
2.27	\$ 65,000	Sidewalk Ramp Installation	Public Works – Highway
2.28	\$ 634,900	Sidewalks and Curbstones	Public Works – Highway
2.29	\$ 15,000	Snow Plow Replacement	Public Works – Highway
2.30	\$ 50,000	Traffic Signal Upgrades	Public Works – Highway
2.31	\$ 85,000	3/4 Ton Pickup (1 w/Liftgate, 1 w/Plow)	Public Works - Natural Resources
2.32	\$ 20,000	Enclosed Trailer	Public Works - Natural Resources
2.33	\$ 20,000	Mower 60" Deck	Public Works - Natural Resources

2.34	\$ 40,000	Mower 72" Deck	Public Works - Natural Resources
2.35	\$ 70,011	Photocopier Replacement Program	Purchasing
2.36	\$ 50,000	ADA Study Implementation Program	Recreation
2.37	\$ 10,000	Feasibility Study	Recreation
2.38	\$ 50,000	Playground Audit and Safety Improvements	Recreation
2.39	\$ 108,160	All Schools - Boilers	Schools
2.40	\$ 175,000	All Schools - EMS Upgrade	Schools
2.41	\$ 100,000	All Schools - Photocopier Lease Program	Schools
2.42	\$ 450,000	All Schools - RTU Upgrades	Schools
2.43	\$ 175,000	All Schools - Security Updates	Schools
2.44	\$ 17,800	All Schools Energy Conservation Projects (ECM)	Schools
2.45	\$ 100,000	Brackett and Dallin Sidewalk and Retaining Walls	Schools
2.46	\$ 15,000	Communication Upgrades	Schools

2.47	\$ 50,000	Ottoson Cafeteria Stairs	Schools
	\$ 5,069,194	Total Cash Expenditure	

**(3)** That the sum of \$21,050,232 be and hereby is appropriated for debt service of the Town, and expended under the direction of the Town Manager, \$20,057,920 of said sum to be raised by general tax and \$219,015 from the Antenna Fund, \$678,028 from capital carryforwards, \$65,000 from Recreation Enterprise Funds, and \$30,269 from Rink Enterprise Funds, for a total of \$992,312 to be raised by transfers and capital carryforwards:

General Fund Debt Service	
	\$
Total Non Exempt Debt Service	7,391,606
	\$
Exempt Debt Service	12,472,788
	\$
New Estimated Debt	1,185,838
	\$
Total Debt Service Appropriation	21,050,232
Less	
<i>Antenna Fund</i>	<i>\$ (219,015)</i>
<i>Capital Carryforwards</i>	<i>\$ (678,028)</i>
<i>Recreation Enterprise</i>	<i>\$ (65,000)</i>
<i>Rink Enterprise</i>	<i>\$ (30,269)</i>

<i>Total Other Financing Sources</i>	\$ (992,312)
NET General Fund Debt Service	\$ 20,057,920
Cash Capital	\$ 5,069,194
TOTAL NET Capital Appropriation	<hr/> \$ 25,127,114

(4) That the various capital projects and equipment purchases shown below shall be undertaken and financed by grants or other funds as shown below, such grants to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

Item	Amount	Project	Department
4.1	\$ 150,000	Parmenter ADA/Bathroom Design & Upgrades	Facilities
4.2	\$ 500,000	Columbarium Expansion	Public Works - Cemetery
4.3	\$ 1,282,572	Chapter 90 Roadway	Public Works - Highway
4.4	\$ 350,000	Drainage Rehab - Regulatory Compliance (Ch-308)	Public Works - Water/Sewer
4.5	\$ 50,000	Hydrant and Valve Replacement Program	Public Works - Water/Sewer

4.6	\$ 900,000	Sewer System Rehabilitation	Public Works - Water/Sewer
4.7	\$ 12,500	Trench Box	Public Works - Water/Sewer
4.8	\$ 1,500,000	Water System Rehabilitation	Public Works - Water/Sewer
4.9	\$ 75,000	New Vehicle	Recreation
	\$ 4,820,072	Total Other Expenditure	

**(5)** That the sum of \$6,863,923 be and hereby is appropriated for extraordinary repairs to public facilities, acquisition of land and the purchase and installation of equipment and for costs incidental and related thereto as follows:

Item	Amount	Project	Department
5.1	\$ 460,000	Rescue Ambulance Replacing #1032	Community Safety - Fire
5.2	\$ 300,000	All FD HVAC Equipment Replacement	Facilities
5.3	\$ 150,000	All Municipal Building Fire Alarms	Facilities
5.4	\$ 125,000	Central Station Exterior Waterproofing & Exterior Envelope Repairs	Facilities
5.5	\$ 918,923	Police Cooling Tower & HVAC Equipment	Facilities

5.6	\$ 250,000	Police Station Envelope Restoration	Facilities
5.7	\$ 600,000	Rink Roof and Skylights	Facilities
5.8	\$ 250,000	Town EV Charging Infrastructure	Facilities
5.9	\$ 300,000	Town Hall Envelope Restoration	Facilities
5.10	\$ 130,000	Vehicle Replacement	Facilities
5.11	\$ 700,000	Veterans Memorial Park	Health & Human Services
5.12	\$ 130,000	1 Ton Dump Truck w-Plow-Sander	Public Works - Highway
5.13	\$ 285,000	44,000 GVW, 4WD Truck w-Sander	Public Works - Highway
5.14	\$ 250,000	AHS Football Field LED Lighting Upgrades	Schools
5.15	\$ 600,000	All Schools - Fire Alarm Upgrade	Schools
5.16	\$ 390,000	All Schools - Playground Renovation and Upgrades	Schools
5.17	\$ 750,000	Gibbs School Roof Replacement	Schools
5.18	\$ 275,000	School Elevator Upgrades	Schools
	\$6,863,923	Total Bond Expenditure	

and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow not exceeding the sum of \$6,863,923 under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44 and any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager.

- (6)** That the Town Manager is authorized and directed to apply for and accept any further federal, state or other grants that may be available for any one or more of the foregoing projects and equipment.
- (7)** Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that monies are not expended for the purposes delineated above, then the Comptroller is authorized and directed not to transfer these excess funds to available funds, but said funds shall remain and be accounted for in the warrant article pending further vote of the Town Meeting, except as otherwise provided by law, and,
- (8)** That any amounts appropriated under Sections (2 or 5) above for a particular purpose under any section of Chapter 44 and not needed for such purpose may be expended by the Town Manager, with the approval of the Capital Planning Committee, for any other purpose listed in Sections (2 or 5) above under the same section of Chapter 44.
- (9)** That any premium received by the Town 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 Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

## Finance Committee Report