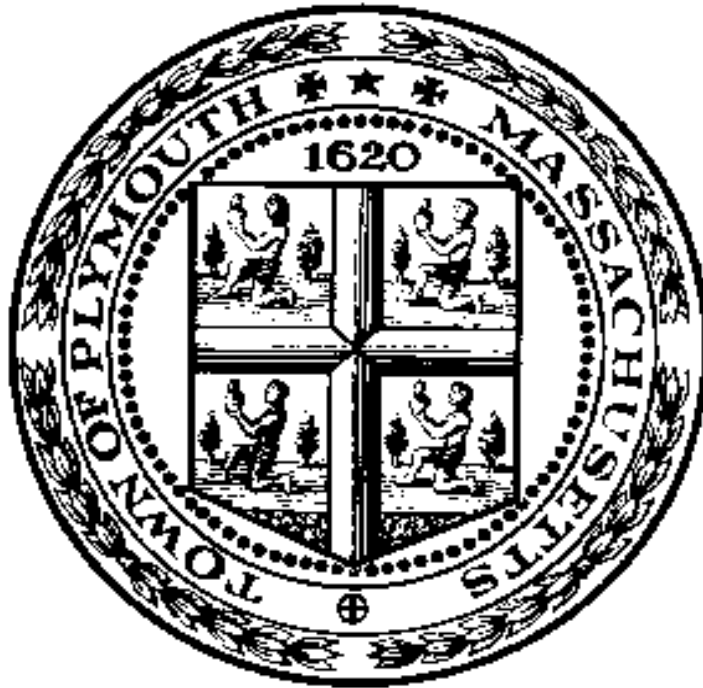


TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

MINUTES BY ARTICLE
OF THE
ADVISORY AND FINANCE
COMMITTEE



Presented at the
October 21, 2023

FALL
TOWN MEETING

FALL 2023 TOWN MEETING
Advisory and Finance Committee Minutes by Article

September 6, 2023

Article 2A Supplemental Budget – General Fund

Ms. Lynne Barrett, Finance Director, announced that the DPW Facilities/Maintenance had withdrawn their request for an electrician and tools/equipment to support this position. Therefore, the Sub-Committee D supplemental amount being requested is decreased to \$670,777 and Article 2A total is \$1,038,201.

Chairman Nearman discussed the articles and advised the committee that Article 2 items would be voted by Sub-Committee.

Sub-Committee A

Mr. Dunn asked if the support staff for the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) was their request or the Town making that decision for them. Derek Brindisi, Town Manager, advised that the Town has noticed that these big Committees need support and they wish to provide them with support. Mr. Lawlor asked the Town Manager if they had consulted directly with the CPC about the support staff. Mr. Brindisi replied, yes, it was brought to the committee and the vote passed. Mr. Lawlor asked if the 20 hours/week was enough. Mr. Brindisi said he thought it would be. Mr. Lawlor asked how the hiring process would be conducted. Mr. Brindisi advised that CPC would have input as to the responsibilities but the Town will decide where the position falls within the Town classifications. Further, Mr. Brindisi said the Town will advertise the position and hire the appropriate person according to the Town guidelines. Ms. Richards asked if it would be a union position. Mr. Brindisi replied yes. Ms. Richards asked why the position would be under the Town Manager budget. Mr. Brindisi said it was because he was leading this charge. He said that later it may be moved to a more appropriate department for oversight. Ms. Richards is concerned with how this position will satisfy both Committee needs. Ms. Shaw said that funding for a new position should be during the budget process not Fall Town meeting. Mr. Brindisi said that CPC had already funded for a part-time position and if they don't combine them now the part-time person may not want to go full-time and he would prefer to hire one full-time employee than 2 part-time employees. Ms. Rogers asked if there was a legal conflict to having a support person employed by the Town. Mr. Brindisi said many other Towns have support for CPC. Ms. Rogers asked if CPC wants a Town employee for their support. Mr. Brindisi said that doesn't matter the Town is the hiring authority. Mr. Pizarro asked if they have support now and have, they asked for support in the past. Mr. Brindisi said they don't currently have support but have asked the Town for certain reports and other clerical services and the Town Manager recognizes they have needs and would like to hire a person to prepare their reports and provide other tasks that they ask for.

Mr. Howard asked if the adjustment to Article 2A was the elimination of the electrician and tools for the Facilities department. Mr. Brindisi replied yes. Mr. Howard advised that the Capital Improvement Committee (CIC) had just considered this Facilities capital item earlier in the day. Ms. Barrett advised that the decision happened after the CIC meeting.

Ms. Shaw asked for an explanation on the salary requests. Mr. Brindisi said that one of his goals was to start a quality improvement process so he formed a quality improvement council, consisting of 3 current employees, that receive and review requests from departments for assistance with process improvement. The council pulls the problem apart and comes up with solutions. In the last year they have solved 4 problems and he appreciates that they have taken on this secondary duty and would like to reward each of these employees with a \$1,000 annual stipend. Ms. Richards asked who the 3 employees were and asked why the Department Heads aren't solving these problems. Mr. Brindisi advised that Department Heads have full responsibilities already and that the council members are from different departments and work to identify the problem, solve the problem, and come up with solutions. He said there can be a breakdown in the process and it needs to be challenged by someone with no vested interest.

Ms. Shaw asked about the Town Clerk salary increases. Ms. McElreath explained that she was upgraded to a Department Head and that entitled her to vacation buy back which had not been budgeted and this would increase the budget for that. Additionally, there was an increase in hourly rate for poll workers and wardens which hadn't been budgeted for so the Election salaries budget needs to be increased. Ms. Shaw asked about the Election Equip Rental for voting. Ms. McElreath advised it was for printing addresses on the Vote by Mail ballots and would save on manual addressing costs.

Mr. Howard asked why the Inspectional Service budget was coming up now and not during the budget process. Mr. Brindisi advised that Inspectional Services has an Article 5 Blight/Nuisance bylaw on the Fall Town Meeting that if approved will need enforcement. The Inspectional Services request is to enforce the bylaw and remediate the problem. The \$125,000 is not for staff but compliance enforcement such as contract services to take a building down. Mr. Dunn asked if Article 5 Blight bylaw didn't pass would the \$125,000 be returned to free cash. Mr. Brindisi replied that the \$125,000 wouldn't be used if Article 5 failed and would be returned to free cash at the end of the year.

Ms. Shaw motioned to separate Line item #3, Salaries - COPC Support in the amount of \$25,000 from Sub-committee A. Ms. Rogers second. Ms. Shaw stated that new positions should be handled during the budget Sub-Committee process and everyone has proper notice of the agenda and the appropriate Sub-Committee can evaluate the request. Mr. Zupperoli asked for clarification on what the vote meant. Mr. Nearman said the vote is to separate the COPC salary request from the Sub-Committee A vote. Motion carried 11-2-0. Ms. Rogers would like to see a job description for this position prior to budgeting for it and would like to revisit this in the spring.

Ms. Butler motioned to approve Sub-Committee A without the \$25,000 Line item #3, Salaries -COPC Support. Mr. Lalley second. Mr. Lalley would like input from people out of the department, such as the quality council, as this can help resolve an issue before it can get worse. Motion carried unanimously (13-0-0)

Mr. Howard motioned to approve Sub-Committee A Line 3 Salaries - COPC Support. Mr. Dunn second. Mr. Zupperoli likes the idea of a combined position of the CPC and COPC and feels that putting it off to the spring doesn't do either of these committees any good. Mr. Lalley supports this request and feels a full-time position is necessary. Motion carries 7-6-0.

Sub-Committee B

Ms. Butler asked about the OT amount of \$8,834 for the Charter Committee and why they were paying so much for OT. Ms. Barrett, Finance Director, advised that David Golden, Charter Committee Chair, met with Ms. Barrett regarding providing support for the Charter Committee and based on the meetings scheduled from now to June 30 they came up with a budget. The same person that provided support to the Charter Commission will provide support to Charter Committee.

Mr. Lawlor asked Mr. Young, IT Director, to explain the \$86,097 Open Gov Annual Maintenance package to the committee. Mr. Young advised that this pertains to the Town online permitting and payment system hadn't been budgeted for year two. The department of Inspectional Services took care of the first-year billing in their budget for this system and the communication regarding this being moved to the IT department in year two was missed and therefore it wasn't budgeted by either department. Mr. Lawlor noted that there were two levels of service and which did the Town have. Mr. Young responded that the Town has premium service and is getting premium service. The difference between the two levels of service is response time and a dedicated contact person. Mr. Lawlor asked how often the Town uses the service and Mr. Young said that it was used 5 times that day and all 5 calls were in the urgent category. Ms. Rogers said it was her understanding that this was something that was already contracted but needed to be paid. Mr. Young responded yes.

Mr. Lalley motioned to approve Sub-Committee B. Mr. Howard second. Motion carried unanimously (13-0-0)

Mr. Lawlor sees that we need support for this product but noted that the standard service has a 1-hour response for urgent calls, which is the same as premium service so the only difference he equates to premium service is the dedicated contact person. Mr. Lawlor feels the cost for this dedicated contact is pretty steep. Ms. Richards supports this service, which is vital to the smooth operation of the online system.

Sub Committee C

Ms. Barrett, Finance Director, spoke, on behalf of the Police Chief, that all of Sub-Committee C items are related to the transfer of the dispatchers to the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department (PCSD). The changes are to move the budgeted funds to the appropriate line item to pay the contractual commitment for the dispatchers salaries and benefits to the PCSD. These transfers have a net effect of zero.

Mr. Young motioned to approve Sub-Committee C. Mr. Lawlor second. Motion carried unanimously 13-0-0.

Sub-Committee D

Mr. Nick Faiella, Parks & Forestry Superintendent, advised that he is requesting an increase of \$10,000 to his budget for specialized graffiti removal services. Mr. Faiella showed pictures of the graffiti at the skate park but noted that it occurred all around town. Mr. Lee Hartmann, Planning Director, added that there is a town effort, through an internal committee, to report these vandalism's to town property and private property to the police, provide better lighting and security cameras, and not just to clean up the mess but minimize the occurrences. Ms. Butler asked if there were security camera's at the skate park. Mr. Hartmann said there were but they hoped to get more on private businesses around town utilizing monies from the Visitor's Center next year.

Ms. Barrett presented the Snow & Ice increase request. She is recommending the FY24 budget be increased to a level/average that previously has been spent from this line item. If the increased budget amount isn't all expended it flows back to free cash at the end of the year.

Mr. Rogers motioned to approve Sub-Committee D. Mr. Dunn second. Motion carried unanimously, 13-0-0

Sub-Committee E

Ms. Barrett advised that positions had been cut from the library during the budget process but not this position. The library director, Kelsy Casey, indicated in her memo that the upgrades to the Munis software caused significant problems when they were inputting their FY24 budget and multiple times their progress was erased and they had to start over. Unfortunately, a Library Technician position was excluded from the salary line item, though it was included for other benefit line items, and it went unnoticed. This was a clerical error and needs to be budgeted.

Mr. Hartmann advised that this line item, Consulting Services, got cut in 2010 and they are requesting to re-establish it. The consulting services will support numerous projects across all divisions of the Planning and Development Department. Mr. Hartmann provided a list of projects that would benefit from the technical services and expert opinions of professional consultants. Ms. Rogers asked for example of what a consultant would cost for a specific project. Mr Hartmann said it varies but the work for the Historic District that they need would be approx. \$7,000 and the average would be \$5,000 to \$10,000. Engineering services would be higher. Mr. Cabana asked how they have been managing since 2010 without this position. Mr. Hartmann advised that they beg, borrow, and steal and have gotten assistance from the Old Colony Planning Council. Some things they have been able to do in-house and some things they have had to say no to.

Mr. Cabana made a motion to approve Sub-Committee E. Ms. Rogers second. Motion carried unanimously 13-0-0.

Article 2B Supplemental Budget – Enterprise Fund

Mr. Peter Gordon, Water Superintendent, is requesting a budget increase of \$100,000 due to increase in the cost of chemicals. Mr. Doug Pinard, Wastewater Superintendent, is requesting a budget increase of \$100,000 for utilities, \$156,000 for chemicals, \$100,000 for biosolids and \$200,000 for monitoring equipment rental costs. Both were available for questions. Ms. Butler motioned to approve. Mr. Zupperoli second. Mr. Howard asked if these costs would come from the Enterprise budgets. Both replied yes. Motion carried unanimously 13-0-0.

Article 4 Capital Improvements

Ms. Lynne Barrett, Finance Director, made some introductory remarks about the Capital process. She advised that fall capital requests have to meet certain criteria such as emergency in nature, timing requirement for a grant match or ordering of an item now due to the length of time for delivery, and the overall timing was better for Fall Town Meeting than waiting till Spring Town Meeting. She advised that the capital items were reviewed by the Capital Improvements Committee last week and ranked. The spreadsheet of the ranked requests was emailed to the A&F for review. She advised that Department Heads were available to answer any specific questions on the Capital items. Mr. Lalley asked a procedural question regarding if an item isn't recommended by the A&F could it be considered for the Spring Town Meeting. Ms. Barrett advised that the item could still be considered for Fall Town Meeting by a motion from someone other than the A&F.

Mr. Howard noted that on the ranking spreadsheet the last 3 items are Enterprise items and are self-funded from the Enterprise fund.

Ms. Strawn asked for an explanation on the CMOM program. Doug Pinard, Wastewater Superintendent, advised that CMOM is a requirement that the Town has with the EPA. It is on the 5 and 10-year Capital Plan and this request is for Phase II. Mr. Pinard advised that in years 4 and 5 he has larger amounts to cover any substantial repairs that are identified during the inspection.

Mr. Lalley motioned to vote the Enterprise capital items separately. Ms. Butler second. Motion carried 10-3-0, Ms. Shaw, Ms. Strawn and Mr. Zupperoli opposed.

Mr. Young motioned to approve the Enterprise Fund Capital requests as presented. Mr. Lalley second. Motion carried unanimously (13-0-0).

Ms. Shaw asked for an explanation on the Town Wharf Extension – Mr. Chad Hunter, Harbormaster, briefed that they are requesting \$664,500 to extend the working length of the wharf from 220 feet to 295 feet. A 65-foot concrete floating dock and gangway would be added to the North end of the wharf. Due to increased demand for dock space from the visiting tall ships, commercial dockage, transient boaters, and short-term cruise ship berthing the extension is a prudent idea. They are requesting this now for two reasons the first is the hope that it can be completed by Spring for the 2024 boating season and the second there is construction at the boat ramp that will be utilizing similar equipment which they hope will save money. Ms. Shaw asked if this extension is just for cruise ships. Mr. Hunter said they used the cruise ship for the design since it is the biggest ship they will ever have in the port and therefore want to be sure that it can support that but it can be used for anything. Ms. Shaw asked for confirmation that the work could be done in the winter. Mr. Hunter replied yes. Mr. Lalley asked if there was a direct dockage fee for the wharf and would the expected revenue increase after the extension whether direct or indirect. Mr. Hunter advised that there is a direct dockage fee by everyone that uses the pier and any tourism by boats or ships would have an increase to indirect revenue. Mr. Lalley asked why this wasn't an Enterprise Fund. Ms. Barrett advised that there are certain criteria for Enterprise funds and this doesn't meet the requirements.

Mr. Green asked how the Dark Orchard Trail fit the criteria Ms. Barrett discussed for Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Gould advised that by doing the design work over the winter we would be setting ourselves up for grant funding in the spring for the construction.

Mr. Cabana asked if the source of the phosphate had been identified at Herring Pond. Mr. Gould advised that a few years back a watershed study of Little and Great Herring Pond revealed that the majority of phosphorus was coming from Little Herring Pond by way of private septic systems from homes. Mr. Cabana asked if other evaluations of ponds in town would be done. Mr. Gould advised that in addition to two at this Town Meeting, Herring Pond and Savery Pond, a half dozen evaluations have been done on ponds in town.

Mr. Lawlor asked for an explanation on the new fire engine. Chief Foley said the costs have been out of control so the

earlier the engine is ordered the sooner the price is locked in and saves money. They are requesting \$925,596 to replace engine 5 out of Manomet. The current build time is 24 to 30 months on new fire engines and he said that an opportunity may be available to “jump the line”, due to a redesign of the diesel engine causing shortages of availability, and by locking in the cost this fall to avoid future price increases. The national standards support the replacement.

Mr. Zupperoli motioned to approve Article 4 all items except the Enterprise fund items. Mr. Cabana second. Mr. Lalley commended Mr. Hunter for planning the design of the extension now while other construction was being done. Motion carried unanimously (13-0-0).

October 4, 2023

B.d

Article 4 A1 Downtown Corridor Heat Island Mitigation & Beautification Correction

Ms. Butler briefed the committee on the situation. The A&F received the Capital Request form in their meeting packet, along with the backup, and none of that has changed. However, prior to the meeting they received a Capital Improvement Committee (CIC) spreadsheet of the ranked articles. This spreadsheet listed the wrong requested amount for Article 4A1. Since the spreadsheet is in A&F Book of Recommendations and the accompanying tables the Committee is being asked to reaffirm that they approved \$126,400 for Article 4A1, which is the amount on CIC Request Form.

Ms. Barrett, Finance Director, apologized that this wasn't caught, and said that the Capital Improvement Committee reviewed and ranked the projects based on the Capital Request forms and backup and when the information was put into the spreadsheet the next day the amount for Article 4A1 was listed incorrectly.

Mr. Zupperoli made a motion to reaffirm that the Article 4A1 project is \$126,400. Ms. Strawn second. Motion carried unanimously. 11-0-0

September 7, 2023

Article 5 Blight/Nuisance Bylaw Ch 137

Mr. Nick Mayo, Building Commissioner, briefed the committee that this bylaw's intent is to clean up nuisances properties around town for various reasons, safety, property values and general well-being of the town. The bylaw will support already existing state building code, sanitary code, Title V regulations, fire code, etc. This bylaw goes beyond the other jurisdictions because it allows the town to enforce property management scenarios. Ms. Richards asked how this bylaw would affect the private property sector. Mr. Mayo said this applies to all properties in town. Ms. Richards asked about several different scenarios and how the town would enforce the bylaw. Mr. Mayo said that they would seek compliance and work with the homeowner to manage the situation. However, if the homeowner was unwilling to work with the town on compliance, they would send a cease-and-desist order but this bylaw is not designed to give the average property owner a hard time. Ms. Richards asked how the town would get a mortgage company, bank, or management company accountable for a property in foreclosure. Mr. Mayo said that they had a separate article for Town Meeting requesting funding for \$125,000 to manage the costs associated with these clean & lien situations. The town would step in, if necessary, and remedy the problem and then lien the property for the cost. Mr. Mayo said they are working out the process with the Tax Collector because this is new and a work in progress. Ms. Richards asked about liability to the town if the something goes wrong. Mr. Mayo said there are always liability issues and they would have to address the issue at that time. Ms. Richards said she had reservations and didn't think this was ready for Town Meeting. Mr. Lalley noted the bylaw didn't include an appeal process to dispute a nuisance finding or violation if someone disagreed with the finding. He asked Mr. Mayo to explain how an appeal would be accomplished. Mr. Mayo said that the standard zoning and building board of appeals process would apply. Mr. Lalley asked about nuisances on town property. Mr. Mayo said that would be on the town to cleanup but this bylaw does not apply to municipal, state, or federal property. Ms. Rogers wanted to confirm that the intent of the article is for buildings such as Bert's and not the elderly community that can't mow their lawns. Mr. Mayo said it is intended for really egregious property issues and severe situations. Mr. Young asked for an example of a previous situation where this would have been helpful to have in place. Mr Mayo said this bylaw helps streamline problem resolution and the appeals process is quicker. Ms. Butler asked if this would help with vulgar signs. Mr. Mayo said not at all that is freedom of speech and covered under the 1st Amendment

rights. Mr. Green asked if a property had a large area of stagnant water, and people started complaining, how would this be resolved without the owner potentially getting the levy or fines. Mr. Mayo said if the property owner isn't willing to work with the town to resolve the issue the town would issue a cease & desist to abate the nuisance and if necessary, the nuisance would be investigated, notice sent of the action the town would be taking to hire someone with expertise on removing stagnant water, and upon completion the town would lien the property. Ms. Richards asked about a drainage easement. Mr. Mayo said that if someone had a legal right to something it would be reviewed by the town's legal counsel for advice. Mr. Young motioned to approve Article 5 to Town Meeting. Ms. Butler second. Ms. Rogers recognizes that this is a step in the right direction to streamline existing conditions and not burden unmown lawns. Mr. Lawlor doesn't feel this is intended to be a harassment article and used Burt's as an example of an issue that needs addressing and he supports this. Ms. Richards feels the intent isn't just commercial and could be for fallen fences, overgrowth, and smaller homeowner problems. She is not going to support this and feels that big corporations don't care about the fines but small homeowners could suffer and most of these issues could be handled by the Board of Health. Mr. Nearman supported this bylaw and noted that Mr. Mayo indicated the town would work with homeowners and commercial businesses and is a positive step. Mr. Howard noted that the fines are set by the state not the town. Motion carried 10-1-0, Ms. Richards opposed.

Article 6 Bylaw Amendment (Swimming Pools)

Mr. Nick Mayo, Building Commissioner, said the swimming pools are under the current state building code and this bylaw is old and outdated and should be rescinded. Mr. Mayo said that he has heard questions about what happens retroactively regarding existing pools if this bylaw got rescinded and the answer is they would still be subject to the requirements of the rescinded bylaw and they would still be required to keep their fences or barriers. Mr. Zupperoli motioned to approve Article 6. Mr. Lalley second. Motion carried unanimously 11-0-0.

August 23, 2023

Article 8 Master Plan, Lee Hartmann, Planning & Development

Chairman Nearman advised that this request is for a comprehensive Town Plan. Mr. Grandy, Planning Board Chair, and Steve Bolotin, Planning Board Vice Chair, were in attendance. Mr. Bolotin advised that this article is for planning the future of Plymouth. The most important planning document is the Master Plan and the current plan was adopted in 2006. The Plymouth Planning Board, in conjunction with the Master Plan Task Group, has developed a scope of services for the next Plymouth Master Plan titled "Charting Plymouth's Future Together". They want the focuses on public input and implementation plan. The cost to the Town will be \$430,000 and another \$70,000 will come from the Commonwealth of Mass. This is a complex process that will take up to two years from hiring the consultants. Mr. Howard asked what will prevent the cost from increasing. Mr. Bolotin said that the consultants will know the budget and bid accordingly based on that. Ms. Richards asked if we are limiting ourselves by locking in \$500,000. Mr. Hartmann, Director of Planning, feels that the Town can attract qualified consultants at this price. Mr. Dunn motioned to approve Article 8 funding of \$430,000 to Town Meeting. Mr. Cabana second. Ms. Strawn noted that she was part of the task force and supports this project. Mr. Pizarro was also part of the task group and feels that the execution is important. Motion carries unanimously 15-0-0.

August 30, 2023

Article 9A Housing: Habitat for Humanity

Mr. Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, advised that Habitat for Humanity is partnering with the Town of Plymouth Office of Community Development to renovate an existing 20 x 28 cottage at 47 Indian Ave. by expanding the building to a two story 3-bedroom single-family home. They are requesting \$100,000 in CPC funding. There will be a deed restriction placed on the property once the property has been sold restricting the property to be affordable in perpetuity. The estimated cost of the project is \$289,630.

Mr. Dunn motioned to recommend Article 9A to Town Meeting. Mr. Lawlor second. Motion carried unanimously (14-0-0).

Article 9B Housing: Plymouth Housing Authority

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, advised that Plymouth Housing Authority is requesting additional CPC funding of \$381,525 to complete the restoration of the 3 units of rental housing at the Oak St. School. This phase of the project is estimated at \$1,028,896. Mr. Keohan said the 3 units are restricted affordable housing units and are being designed for seniors with special mobility requirements that need overnight assistance. Mr. Young asked who would be staffing the building after it is complete. Mr. Keohan advised that the Housing Authority would handle the application and qualification process. Mr. Young restated the question, who would take care of the occupants. Mr. Keohan advised that the occupants are self-sufficient but there would be an evening person available for assistance. Ms. Butler has concerns about the responsibilities of the person staying there at night. Mr. Keohan advised that it wouldn't be a medical person but an evening position for assistance to the residents. Ms. Butler wants to make sure that the lease agreement is clear to the occupant that overnight assistance is not a medical position. Mr. Howard asked if these are apartments. Mr. Keohan replied yes. Mr. Howard asked who would receive the proceeds from Article 9A and Article 9B. Mr. Keohan advised that Art. 9A is being sold and the proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity and Art. 9B are rental units and the rents go to the Plymouth Housing Authority. Deed restrictions are placed on the properties and rental units restricting the property to be affordable in perpetuity.

Ms. Butler motioned to recommend Article 9B to Town Meeting. Mr. Howard second. Motion carried unanimously (14-0-0).

Article 9C Historical: Old Russell Library

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, advised this is a historical preservation project for the restoration of the old Russell Library. The Building was built originally as a library in 1899. Previous CPC funds (2007) were utilized to purchase the building and then CPC funds (2017) were used for ADA compliance improvements to the building. This request is for a \$443,942 grant to The Plymouth Center for the Arts for the façade and structural work. The estimated cost of the project is \$631,492. The Center for the Arts has a 100-year lease with the Town beginning in 2007 with the option for another 100 years. Ms. Eileen Pacheco, Board of Directors & Development Committee Co-Chair, described the Center for the Arts commitment to the cultural and historical experience for all who visit. She noted that the center has been entrenched in Plymouth for over 50 years, offering many classes and community activities.

Ms. Pacheco said they initiated a 20-year Systems Replacement Plan (SRP) project in 2022 to identify and prioritize capital maintenance needs using a grant from the Mass Cultural Council. Items identified in the SRP, in combination with priorities identified by their Board of Directors, Facilities Committee and Finance Committee, are the basis for this project.

Mr. Howard motioned to recommend Article 9C to Town Meeting. Ms. Strawn second. Mr. Zupperoli feels this is a great use of the building and a great project. Mr. Lalley appreciates the maintenance plan they initiated and their stewardship of the property. Motion carried unanimously (14-0-0).

Article 9D Historical: Pilgrim Hall

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, advised that the Pilgrim Hall Museum is the oldest Museum in North American. The Pilgrim Hall Museum is requesting a grant for \$3.2 million from CPC to address issues with the roof & skylight, interior display lighting, and upgrades to the heating & cooling system. The estimated cost of the project is \$5,267,000. These renovations are necessary to protect and display historical artifacts. Protecting the largest collection of archives, manuscripts, documents, photographs, and historical artifacts covering over 400 years.

Mr. David Peck discussed the specifications of the RFP for the roof, which in sections of the slate roof, is crumbling. The architect, Spencer Preservation Group, discussed the aging roof and the leaking 1914 skylight. They are recommending a full roof replacement to make the building watertight and preserve the structure and its contents with a new 100-year-life-roof, a replicated skylight feature will be roofed with copper sheathing to provide longer-term weather protection for the building and collections, an innovative lighting feature will be installed recreating the visual appearance of the skylight without the danger of leaking or harmful ultra-violet light to the historic artworks and artifacts, a replacement of the heating and cooling system with an efficient and historically sensitive AC system to provide proper climate control for preservation of the integrity of this very important 400-year history of Plymouth.

Ms. Donna Curtin, Executive Director, outlined what happens next. She said the art needs to be moved with the greatest care by a specialized removal process prior to the roof repairs. While the artwork is in storage, they will also remodel the display areas in conjunction with the other renovations.

Mr. Lalley asked what the concern was by the one CPC member who voted against the project. Mr. Keohan advised that it had to do with the restrictions and matching funds. Mr. Zupperoli noted that the \$3.2 million opens up the Museum to seek additional grants. Mr. Nearman asked what the total cost of the project was. Ms. Curtin stated \$5.27 million. Ms. Rogers asked what the Museum makes annually. Ms. Curtin advised \$900,000 a year. Ms. Strawn asked if Plymouth residents got free entry. Ms. Curtin advised that currently there is no waived entry fee, but if the CPC wanted to make that a point it would be welcomed. Ms. Strawn said she is trying to wrap her head around the different components of the project and if they all comply with the CPC requirements. Mr. Keohan said that the amount of the CPC Grant is covering eligible items and those items that are not eligible for CPC funding are being funded by other funding sources including grants, foundation gifts, sponsorships, and donations. Ms. Rogers asked about the lost revenue in the budget. Ms. Curtin advised that the Museum will be closed for 9 months and entrance fees are a big part of their revenue and it needs to be replaced. Ms. Shaw asked if repairs would be sufficient and Ms. Curtin advised that patches and repairs have been done but the facilities plan found that replacement was necessary. Mr. Green asked how the \$3.2 million correlates to other projects. Mr. Keohan advised that it is not the biggest grant and discussed some other large projects. Mr. Howard is concerned about the Towns spending and asked if alternative materials for the slate roof were considered. Mr. Howard would like the cost estimate and would like alternative materials costs. Ms. Curtin advised that there are 3 restrictions on the property and one of those restrictions dictates that replacement must be with like kind. She advised that slate would be 100 years and asphalt would be 30 years. Mr. Lalley motioned to recommend Art. 9D to Town Meeting. Mr. Zupperoli second. Mr. Dunn supports this project and the previous projects this committee has accomplished for the Town, such as the Forefathers Monument. Mr. Green supports. Mr. Zupperoli supports and noted that access to the whole building is important. Ms. Strawn feels that this is a very valuable asset to the Town, however, she is concerned about the level of borrowing and can't support this amount. Mr. Lawlor supports it, because it is all about tourism and what this brings to the Town. Mr. Young said his family came to Plymouth for history and anything the Town can do to preserve history and bring tourism is a win. Ms. Rogers is concerned with the amount of the borrowing request compared to the annual revenue estimate. Ms. Shaw feels that as the Finance Committee member she needs to be concerned with the Town Finances and can't support this amount. Motion carried 10-4-0.

Article 9E Open Space: Land off Rocky Pond Rd

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, advised that Article E is requesting CPC funding in the amount of \$175,000 to purchase 50.2 acres of defunct cranberry bogs situated at 36R Rocky Pond Road, and to authorize the Select Board to grant a conservation restriction on the property. This parcel abuts 67 acres of Town conservation land and lies within areas designated as ecologically significant. Mr. Keohan said that the property contains a coastal plain pond, a potential vernal pool, and core habitat components. David Gould, Director DMEA, noted that the property is within a significant water supply area for groundwater and surface water protection. Mr. Howard asked if the vernal pools have been certified yet. Mr. Gould replied, no. Ms. Shaw motion to recommend Article 9E to Town Meeting. Mr. Young second. Ms. Strawn commended Mr. Gould for his restoration of cranberry bogs. Motion carried unanimously (14-0-0).

Article 9F Open Space: Land Rocky Hill Rd

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, advised that Article F is requesting CPC funding in the amount of \$1,210,000 to purchase 23.6 acres off Rocky Hill Rd, with 900 feet of frontage on Plymouth Bay. Mr. Keohan advised that this unique oceanfront property is the point at Manomet point and would allow Plymouth residents walking trails with incredible views of Cape Cod bay. The property will have a parking area, trailhead, hiking and; therefore, shouldn't pose a burden to Town staff or budgets. The current owner removed the building. Mr. Keohan said the purpose would be passive recreation and the vista is the attraction. Ms. Butler viewed the property and it is very interesting and she feels that a portion of the property should be sold as a home lot to recoup the CPC funds and bring in tax dollars. Mr. Keohan advised that when CPC funds are used for an acquisition a conservation restriction is required on the property and therefore can't be sold for building. There is an existing hiking trail and they are not planning to expand on the trails or create access to the beach. Mr. Lawlor advised that the view of the ocean is minimal since the thicket is prohibitive to the vista. Mr. Keohan advised that in different seasons the vista would change. Mr. Gould noted various trees on the property that are not

native to Plymouth and are specular. Mr. Howard asked about access. Mr. Gould noted that the parking area would be open daily but that there would be gates to prevent driving deep into the property. Ms. Rogers asked about emergency vehicle access, if necessary. Mr. Gould said there was adequate access for emergency vehicles and they would have access to the gates. Mr. Green asked about work improvements to the site. Mr. Gould said minimal work would be necessary. Mr. Pizarro asked about the Conservation Restriction. Mr. Gould advised that his dept. manages open space and there would be a conservation restriction recorded. Mr. Lawlor motioned to approve Article 9F to Town Meeting. Mr. Dunn second. Ms. Butler can't support \$1.2 million for land that is so dense it would be hard to walk and feels there is better use of this land and that the Town should derive some income from it. Mr. Zupperoli feels this is a bargain for \$1.2 million. Mr. Howard feels the property is spectacular and supports the acquisition. Mr. Dunn feels that protecting this waterfront property is a good thing. Mr. Lawlor supports this and feels it is a steal. Motion carries (13-1-0).

Article 9G Recreation: Hedges Pond Demolition

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, said that Article 9G is requesting CPC funding in the amount of \$157,500 for demolition of 7 cabins at Hedges Pond Recreational and Preserve due to the presence of lead paint and poor structural integrity of the cabins. Mr. Keohan advised that the camping experience was a motivation for Hedges Pond park. Mr. Howard asked why there were two costs. Mr. Gould advised that they are awaiting the tests results of the TCLP lead analysis and that the two costs are, in worst case, the test is positive they want to have the funds available for additional clean-up. Mr. Gould advised that if the test is negative the funds won't be spent. Mr. Gould noted that the disposal of the buildings is expensive and that is why the Town requested CPC funds to remove the buildings. Mr. Nearman asked if the CPC would be back for removal of the remaining buildings in the future. Mr. Keohan stated, yes. Ms. Rogers motioned to recommend Article 9G to Town Meeting. Mr. Cabana second. Motion carried unanimously (14-0-0).

Article 9H Reduce Borrowing for Stephens Field

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, is requesting to use CPC available funds of \$1,487,154 to reduce the final borrowing commitment for the renovations to Stephens Field. Stephens Field is a great park that CPC has been renovating. CPC continues to work to reduce their debt. Mr. Dunn motioned to approve Article 9H to Town Meeting. Mr. Howard second. Motion carried unanimously (14-0-0).

Article 9I FY24 Annual Budget

Bill Keohan, CPC Chair, advised that they are budgeting \$161,563, 4% of the estimated 2024 CPA revenue, for administrative costs. Mr. Keohan discussed the budget process for CPA and the required percentages from the 2024 estimated revenues. Mr. Lalley motioned to recommend Article 9I to Town Meeting.

Mr. Zupperoli noted that the information presented is a lot and a summary of the highlights and lowlights would be beneficial at the beginning of each article.

There was a discussion on the merits of a support person for the CPC, though this item is not included in the articles presented tonight.

Mr. Keohan advised that they work to provide as much information as possible regarding their articles and backup and he doesn't feel that they are in a position to withhold information.

Mr. Dunn feels this was well put together and very detailed and appreciates all the work that went into it and wouldn't change a thing. Ms. Shaw would like presenters to provide as much information as possible and she doesn't want a summary. Mr. Young also feels that the more info the better as a new member. Ms. Rogers feels all too often we ask people to provide more information so she is grateful to get all the information ahead of time. Mr. Zupperoli said he is only requesting a summary, not less info, and thanked Mr. Keohan for this thorough submission. Ms. Shaw noted that each Article submission included a memo with a summary & intent section on it.

Ms. Barrett, Finance Director, advised that the motion should include a 10% aside for Community Housing for \$403,908 and the administrative budget of \$161,583 only since the required spending for the other categories has been satisfied. Mr. Young motioned to recommend Art 9I to Town Meeting. Ms. Shaw second. Motion carried unanimously (14-0-0).

September 7, 2023

Article 10 Land Donation

Fire Chief Neil Foley is seeking approval to accept land donated by A.D. Makepeace on Bourne Road for a proposed new fire station. Mr. Foley briefed on the status of both fire stations being renovated. He noted that to meet the growth needs of Plymouth they need to expand now to meet the future needs of the town. The current Bourne Fire Station-4 only has two bays for fire equipment/trucks, one bathroom, and one shower. He advised that in 2021 the Building Committee recommended abandoning the current location of station 4 and building a new station to meet the expanding needs of South Plymouth.

In February 2023 A.D. Makepeace pledged to donate this 2.33 acres parcel across from 220 Bourne Road. Mr. Foley is extremely appreciative of A.D. Makepeace for this donation. He advised that this parcel is in an excellent location to meet current and future needs, has greater visibility from the road, than the current location, increasing safety when fire apparatus enters the roadways, initial surveys found it suitable for construction, and its near a water distribution system, eliminating the need for complex groundwater pumps to supply the station and its fire suppression system.

Mr. Dan Gorczyca, A.D. Makepeace, said that anytime the private sector can work with the public sector for the common good, and it's feasible, it's fantastic.

Mr. Howard asked if this was a straight-out gift. Mr. Foley said it was a gift. Mr. Howard asked if the lot size was sufficient of increased equipment and trucks. Chief Foley said their design team looked at those variables, and others, including whether the new station 5 footprint would fit on the donated land and it will and then some. Ms. Rogers asked on an average shift how many personnel are on staff. Mr. Foley said usually 3 at the current station but they want the space to have two companies, which would be 8 to 10 personnel, to sufficiently meet future needs.

Mr. Zupperoli made a motion to approve Article 10. Mr. Lalley second. Ms. Rogers supports this article and would like staff more thoughtfully placed at the new location. Mr. Dunn thanked the Chief and A.D. Makepeace. Mr. Zupperoli is thankful that this was pursued. Motion carried 11-0-0.

Article 11 Create EV Charging Fund

Mr. Mark Reil, Climate and Resiliency and Sustainability Planner, advised that have been working diligently to provide more charging stations around town. They recently added 4 new charging stations and in July 2023 began charging for this service. The fees collected will be utilized to maintain the stations, pay the electric bill, and hopefully expand. Mr. Lalley asked if this was to be self-sufficient. Mr. Reil said yes, the intent was to not impact the town budget. Mr. Green made a motion to approve Article 11. Mr. Dunn second. Motion carried unanimously 11-0-0.

August 23, 2023

Article 13 Conveyance of Tax Title Property to Parks & Forestry - Open Space, Open Space Committee

Mr. Brian Harrington, Open Space Committee, briefed that they are requesting to transfer the care, custody, management, and control of the 4 listed parcels from the Town Treasurer to Parks & Forestry for open space and recreational purpose. Mr. Harrington advised that the parcels are largely contiguous with existing parks department land, largely forested for strategic wildlife habitat and passive recreation. Chairman Nearman asked for an explanation of how properties end up in tax title. Patrick Farah, Planning Dept, advised that properties end up in tax title when the owner of record stops paying taxes on their property. The Town does its due diligence to collect the taxes and after a long process it ends up in tax title. Ms. Richards asked if a title search has been done on these properties to determine if there are any restrictions on the properties. Mr. Farah advised that Town Counsel will review the properties and titles for restrictions. Ms. Richards suggested that the title examination be done when the property goes into tax title. Mr. Lalley asked if the Parks Dept. had done a site evaluation. Mr. Farah said that they had visited the site. Mr. Lalley made a motion to approve Article 13 to Town Meeting. Ms. Butler second the motion. Ms. Shaw is concerned that a title examination hasn't been done and for that reason she can't vote in favor. Ms. Strawn advised that the Committee has

historically approved tax title transfers as requested whether a title examination has been done or will be done. Mr. Farah didn't have the answer as to whether the title examination had been done and he will get the answer from the Town Treasurer. Ms. Butler would like more information also. Motion carried 10-4-1, Mr. Cabana abstained.

Article 14 Tax Title to Conservation Commission, Open Space Committee

Mr. Brian Harrington, Open Space Committee, advised that they are requesting to transfer the care, custody, management, and control of the two listed parcels from the Town Treasurer to Conservation Commission. Mr. Harrington advised that the parcels are contiguous with existing conservation land. Mr. Howard asked how much frontage was on Shallow Pond. Mr. Farah advised approx. 20 feet and goes to the Briggs estate. Mr. Green asked about the prior use of the land. Mr. Farah advised that he was unsure. Ms. Butler asked if there was a road. Mr. Farah advised there wasn't. Ms. Strawn motioned to approve. Ms. Shaw second the motion. Motion carried 12-2-1.

Article 15 Nip Ban Bylaw, Open Space Committee

Chairman Nearman noted that as a runner he sees the nips littered along the Plymouth roads.

Ms. Deb Iaquinto, Open Space Committee Member, introduced the article though their content expert, Ken Stone, would present the article. She noted for the record that he is not a member of the committee. Mr. Stone presented a PowerPoint presentation and emphasized that they are opposed to the container. The proposed bylaw would prohibit the sale of any bottle or container of alcohol that is 100 ml or less in size by any establishment within the Town of Plymouth. He advised that over a 4-day period volunteers collected 14,000 littered nips. Nips are a major source of litter since they are too small to recycle and sorting equipment doesn't capture them. Mr. Stone advised that State legislature has continually failed to pass a deposit on nips to deter littering. Mr. Stone noted research demonstrating plastics in the environment are a risk to human health and wildlife, are not biodegradable, and leach toxins into the environment. Mr. Stone suggested that Nip Bans have proven effective in reducing nip littering in other towns and gave examples. Additionally, they feel nips encourage alcoholic abusive behavior. A nip ban is a harm reduction strategy to reduce alcohol-related health and safety risks and related expenses to town safety services. A nip ban will not be a "disaster" for liquor stores and Mr. Stone sited a few examples of towns and cities that have implemented the ban without store closures.

Ms. Shaw asked how much money this will save on DPW and Public Safety services. Mr. Stone doesn't know how much would be saved but if the Fire Dept. and ambulance call outs are reduced it has to have a savings. Ms. Shaw asked where the bylaw language came from and had Town Counsel reviewed it already. Mr. Stone advised that he used the language from other towns' bylaws that passed and yes, the language has been approved by Town Counsel. Ms. Shaw has concerns with the language and definitions and feels that it could have a more widespread impact than is intended and as written could ban shots. Mr. Stone advised that this language has been approved by the Attorney General's office for other towns and our Town Counsel. Ms. Shaw asked Mr. Stone to get the approved bylaw language from another Town's to the committee. He said he would.

Ms. Butler asked how many Massachusetts towns have passed nip bans and how many failed? Mr. Stone said 12 passed and 2 failed.

Mr. Howard favors the bylaw but is concerned about the enforcement. Mr. Stone indicated that the Liquor Licensing is responsible for enforcing the bylaw and nobody wants to lose their liquor license over nips.

Mr. Lawlor said the committee wants to get the most accurate information when considering articles. He asked Mr. Stone to clarify individual freedom to consume alcohol will not be restricted. Mr. Stone said that you won't be able get alcohol in a miniature or quarter pint size but you will be able to get it in all other sizes. It's the balance between individual freedom and the greater good. Mr. Lawlor asked about the number of nips collected during the cleanup and if they were actually counted. Mr. Stone advised that they had counted them. Mr. Lawlor asked why there were illustrations from 3 towns that don't have nip bans. Mr. Stone advised that they were in the presentation to illustrate the litter problem with nips. Mr. Lawlor asked if the statements in the presentation were subjective. Mr. Stone said some are subjective but not many. Mr. Lawlor asked if a nip ban will stop litter. Mr. Stone replied no but it will reduce it. Mr. Lawlor asked if there was figure on the reduction to safety expenses. Mr. Stone said he did not have a figure.

Mr. Dunn asked if the nip ban results in an increase in purchase of larger size bottles. Mr. Stone was unsure but the larger size bottles are recyclable.

Ms. Richards is opposed to the nip ban because she feels that the litter problem is more complex and she doesn't support targeting only one source of litter. She asked Mr. Stone why it was just nip bottles. Mr. Stone said it is because nips are a big single source of litter. He compared it to the ban on just plastic bags which has been successful in a short period of time. Additionally, she is opposed to limiting the consumer on the size they can buy. Ms. Richards feels littering is the problem.

Mr Pizarro asked if there was public comment from local purveyors. Mr. Stone replied, no. Mr Pizarro said 3 purveyors came to the Board Health meeting earlier in August and were against the ban saying it would ruin them and that they felt this ban will hurt them personally not just business wise. Mr. Pizarro feels that this ban is regressive from the standpoint that not everyone can afford the cost of larger sized bottles but they can afford the cost of the small nips. He supports the merits of litter and plastics in our environment but not the items he mentioned.

Ms. Strawn has been involved for 13 years in the Town Wide Clean Up and they have only been auditing the nips for 2 years. She can vouch for the 14,000 nips counted because she was there and she hopes this ban will be approved.

Mr. Dunn advised that he doesn't support the ban because when other towns banned them the sales increased in neighboring towns.

Mr. Young is concerned that the bylaw doesn't say nips but says any alcohol 100 ml or less in size and that could be interpreted as anything other than nips.

Mr. Green feels that the ban will be a little nudge in the right direction and that could be good.

Ms. Rogers can't support for many reasons, the language, prohibitive nature of the ban, choosing which litter to ban.

Mr. Zupperoli feels that the committee supported the bag ban and the fur ban and should be consistent in what they support.

Ms. Shaw feels the definitions aren't clear enough for the intent of the bylaw.

Ms. Butler feels litter needs to be all or nothing. Its just another encroachment on the public and punishing citizens that want a smaller size. It's the littering that needs to be enforced.

Mr. Lawlor is opposed to the ban and read his various reasons, which were noted previously, to the committee and Mr. Stone.

Mr. Zupperoli motioned to recommend Article 15 to Town Meeting. Mr. Lalley second. The motion failed 7-8-0. Mr. Cabana, Mr. Green, Mr. Howard, Mr. Nearman, Mr. Pizarro, Ms. Strawn, and Mr. Zupperoli favored.

September 13, 2023

Article 16 Harbormaster Petition

Police Chief Dana Flynn advised that the Town Manager reorganized the Harbormaster employees under the Police Dept. Chief Flynn said that he was concerned with the liability of two departments carry firearms and following different rules and training standards and as a result they were assigned to the Police Dept. The reorganization resulted in a request to reclassify the full-time employees to Group 4, sworn special police officers, due to their completion of the Police Officer Standards and Training which provides them with the full law enforcement authority throughout the town. He said that they are not civil service employees. Mr. Young supports this legislation. Mr. Lalley asked if there is a hire

and retention issue with these employees. Chief Flynn replied no. Ms. Richards asked if the employees are supportive of this reclassification. Mr. Hunter, Harbormaster, advised that they are a unique group and have fought to be reclassified statewide. Ms. Richards asked if they have authority on the ponds. Mr. Hunter replied yes.

Mr. Lalley motioned to approve Article 16 to Town Meeting. Mr. Zupperoli second. Motion carried unanimously (13-0-0).

Article 17 Holtec Pilot – Postponed.

Mr. Brindisi told the committee that they are negotiating, through counsel, some additional details with Holtec and that is why it is being postponed. Mr. Nearman asked if this would be done for Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Brindisi said they hoped to have this agreement executed for Town Meeting.

August 23, 2023

Article 18 Solar Pilot - 17 Plymouth St

Mr. Nearman advised that the committee is voting on the tax agreement only. He read a presentation from Ms. Lynne Barrett, Finance Director, who had a previous commitment. The agreement is for 17 Plymouth St for a 5-acre floating solar array on a 12-acre agricultural reservoir. Mr. Hartmann stated the PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) was on the equipment.

Ms. Butler asked some questions that were outside the scope of the article and Mr. Hartmann advised that the project has already been approved and the committee is voting on the tax agreement only. Mr. Pizarro motioned to recommend Article 18 to Town Meeting. Mr. Lawlor second. Motion carried unanimously 15-0-0.

Article 19 Solar Pilot - Long Pond Park & Ride

Mr. Green asked how the Town could tax the State. Mr. Hartmann wondered the same thing when he read the article but he replied that if the State entered into and signed the PILOT agreement then it was appropriate. Mr. Howard motioned to recommend Article 19 to Town Meeting. Mr. Green second. Motion carried 14-0-1, Mr. Lalley abstained.

September 6, 2023

Article 21 Amendment to April 2023 Annual Art 9 A38 – Funding Source

Ms. Barrett advised that at Spring Town Meeting a Town Meeting member made a motion to change the funding source for Art 9 A38 to use an account on the Burke's Law report. The report indicated a balance of \$10,000 but the verified amount after Town Meeting was \$145, which left a deficit of \$9,855. This article is to fund the \$9,855 deficit from Sale of Lots and fix the motion. Our consultant was notified of the erroneous report calculations and the problem was rectified.

Ms. Richards motioned to approve Article 21. Mr. Pizarro second. Motion carried unanimously 13-0-0.

Article 22 Amendment to April 2023 Annual Article 13 – Promotion Fund

Ms. Barrett advised that this was just a cut and paste error and the recommendation of the Advisory & Finance Committee was \$1,246,406 but the motion that got voted was \$1,109,928. Mr. Lalley motioned to approve Article 22. Ms. Rogers second. Motion carried unanimously 13-0-0.

September 13, 2023

Article 23 Opioid Settlement

Mr. Derek Brindisi briefed the committee on the class action lawsuit against the national opioid manufacturers. Since that settlement the town has been awarded 4 million dollars over a 15-year period. The town received the first allocation this year for \$239,092.09. This special purpose article is to appropriate \$239,092.09 from free cash to administer the opioid funds. The goal is to issue the money in mini grants through an application process that will be led by the new Health and Human Services Department, seek applications, and redistribute these funds back to these

organizations so they can continue to provide these services.

Mr. Green noted that the amount on the memo was missing a digit and should be corrected for accuracy.

Ms. Richards asked if there is a listing of the programs that would be getting these funds. Mr. Brindisi advised that they are working with organizations that provide these services to the public to make them aware of the application process and encourage them to apply. The applications will be reviewed and if their services meet the goal of the grant an award will be made. Ms. Richards asked if the organization that provides the co-response support to the Police Dept could apply for this grant. Mr. Brindisi said the Chief is in regular communications with the organization to ensure the program continues. Mr. Pizarro asked if all of the funds have to be transferred from the General Fund to the special account. Mr. Brindisi said no but they must be used for those specific purposes such as drug addiction prevention and mental health services.

Mr. Cabana motioned to approve Article 23 to Town Meeting. Mr. Dunn second. Ms. Richards has done research on opioid addiction and is supportive. Motion carried unanimously (13-0-0).

September 7, 2023

Article 24 Citizen Petition – Solar Systems

Attorney Timothy Angly, on behalf of the citizen petitioners, they are requesting to amend §207-11 Ground-mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems of the zoning bylaw. They are looking to put a financial surety bond on projects exceed 8 feet above grade. The purpose of this is to ensure that if the solar project gets abandoned or should get loose and cause damage there is a means to have it removed or the damage covered. The second thing they are requesting is that the notification process include more neighbors and not just abutters. A neighbor two properties away may be affected, even though they aren't abutters, either by having to view the system, the system obstructs their view, or it isn't appealing and they want to have a say in the matter. They are looking to increase from 300 feet to 700 feet the abutter notification process. Mr. Howard, liaison to the Energy Committee, said the Energy Committee sent feedback they wanted included and asked if it was included. Attorney Angly said that they incorporated some of the feedback. Mr. Howard feels that the Financial Surety wording is unclear and doesn't feel it includes the Energy Committee feedback. Ms. Richards asked relating to the screening where it would go. Attorney Angley said the screening would go where it is best suited to screen the sight from the neighbor. Mr. Lalley doesn't understand why its only for solar, other projects also obstruct views or aren't appealing, so he won't support. Mr. Young motioned to approve Article 24. Mr. Lawlor second. Mr. Howard won't support and feels that the 700 feet is intended specifically for one neighbor and an amendment should be done with the Energy Commission input for all citizens. Motion carried 5-4-2.