

Select Board Special Meeting
(Department FY2024 Budgets)
Monday, March 13, 2023- 7:00 p.m.
Longmeadow High School, Meeting Room A15
535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA
Hybrid Meeting

Select Board Members Present: Chair Josh Levine, Mark Gold, Dan Zwirko, Thomas Lachiusa, Vineeth Hemavathi.

Staff Present: Town Manager Lyn Simmons, Corrin Meise-Munns, Michael Barbieri, Paul Pasterczyk, Lena Vellturo, Paul Healy, Finn McCool, James Leyden, Bari Jarvis, Chief Robert Stocks, Chief John Dearborn, Sean Van Deusen, Nicholas Georgantas, Lisa Okscin.

Chair, Joshua Levine, called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. LCTV was also utilized to broadcast and record the meeting.

Chair Levine confirmed that all members and persons anticipated on the agenda were present and could hear and be heard throughout the meeting. Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless law requires such participation. This meeting allowed for public comment. To view the full recording of the Select Board meeting, please click [here](#).

FY2024 Department Budget Meetings

The following Departments were asked to attend this Special Meeting to discuss their departmental budgets for FY2024 and to answer questions by members of the Select Board: Veterans Services, Planning and Community Development / Building Dept., Health Department, Adult Center, Parks and Recreation Department, Police Department, Fire Department, Department of Public Works, and Finance Department.

Veterans Services: Director of Veterans Services, Lena Vellturo, attended via zoom. Mr. Zwirko questioned why the expenses for the Veterans Benefits are declining. Ms. Vellturo stated that chapter 115 is a needs and assets-based program that Massachusetts requires, and since the pandemic, the level of outreach that was done pre-pandemic was limited and unfortunately, this seems to be a statewide issue. Ms. Vellturo went on to say that, now that the restrictions are being lifted, the intent is to get back to that level of outreach again. Ms. Vellturo spoke about a future presentation in April at the Genesis House for Veterans at that facility being in place. Mr. Gold questioned if the Veterans Benefits lag a year for reimbursement. Ms. Vellturo commented that reimbursement takes about 18 months, and the funds go back into the General Fund once received.

Planning and Community Development / Building Department: Director of Planning and Community Development, Corrin Meise-Munns, and Building Commissioner, Paul Healy, attended. Mr. Gold asked Mr. Healy to explain the benefit of having electrical and plumbing inspectors as Town employees. He also questioned if there was any trouble with hiring these positions. Mr. Healy stated that he believes it is working out great how it is set up now. He went on to say that, the problem before was that these inspectors were paid per-inspection, and for procurement reasons it would be hard to track the permits and inspections. Mr. Gold also asked Mr. Healy to explain how he feels the Code Enforcement Officers are working so far. Mr. Healy commented that it has been efficient to this point and they have cleaned up many violations around Town. Mr. Levine commented that he realizes this is not the intent of the position, but questioned if any money will

be coming in because of having these enforcement officers. Mr. Healy explained that the office collects on fines when applicable, but did not have an estimate at this time for a total. Mr. Levine commented that it was a smart idea to submit the warrant article to implement the code enforcement authority into the current bylaw. Mr. Hemavathi questioned if any trends have been noticed thus far in Town. Mr. Healy responded by stating that most of the violations have to do with boats, trailers, commercial vehicles and cars parked on lawns. Mr. Hemavathi questioned if there has been any feedback or observations so far from the code enforcement officers or in general since the inception of this position. Mr. Healy explained that everyone is very responsive so far and occasionally you will have someone who is not in agreement with the decision. Mr. Healy went on to say that, the officers also provide educational material to people as well to stay proactive in their approach. Most of the time, when someone realizes or has notification that there is a violation, it is corrected very soon after, Mr. Healy added.

Adult Center: Adult Center Director, James Leyden attended via zoom. Mr. Levine spoke about the food pantry and questioned if we have to hire a food pantry manager, how will this fit into the budget. Mr. Leyden explained that this was added to the support staff line item of the Adult Center budget and the plan is to add the position of food pantry manager for the new fiscal year to solidify food pantry operations going forward. Mr. Gold explained to listeners that the Adult Center budget has increased by almost nine percent, and wanted people to understand that we are supporting the Adult Center. Mr. Gold also pointed out the increase in costs that are due to the reduction in support from FOLOCA, and questioned how this plays into budget thinking. Mr. Leyden stated that the increases were due to some of the newly added positions. Mr. Leyden went on to explain that FOLOCA has been supportive in certain areas although they are planning to cut back in other departments because of a reduction in some of their donations. Mr. Leyden stated that we are still able to rely on them for many of our special programs and does not anticipate some of their cutbacks to affect general line items in the Adult Center budget. Mr. Leyden commented that this cutback will not change our programming structure and stated that there is a plan in place to fill the rest of the gaps. Mr. Lachiusa questioned if one of the major reasons in the reduction of donations from FOLOCA was the closing of the gift shop. Mr. Leyden commented that he would assume the closing of the gift shop has had an impact on their finances, but mentioned that they have other fundraising methods as well.

Health Department: Finn McCool, Health Director attended via zoom. Mr. Zwirko questioned with the Opioid Settlement Funds, does the Health Department have any specific plans or projects in mind that will leverage these funds in FY2024. Mr. McCool stated that the department has already started this process. He went on to say that, a sharps drop-off container was just purchased and will be placed at the Adult Center. Mr. McCool explained that people would be able to drop off syringes in a safe manner at no cost. Mr. McCool commented that we are also planning to widen access to opioid overdose reversal treatments as well as doing harm reduction trainings. Medical lock boxes for residents to keep their medical supplies locked safely away from children is also something that the department is exploring, Mr. McCool stated. He went on to explain that the public health nurse and the rest of the team are exploring working on developing a support group for families dealing with opioid use disorder as well as a community based life coach designated to guiding people through some of the issues. Mr. Zwirko questioned how long the Town would be receiving these funds until. Ms. Simmons explained that we would be receiving these funds through 2038 and the biggest portion of the settlement, \$130,000, was received this year and moving forward the Town will receive between \$26,000 – \$32,000 annually. Ms. Simmons also clarified that this was for the first settlement and mentioned that there is a new settlement that we are unsure of how much we are getting at this time. Mr. Pasterczyk added that there would be money coming in from at least four sources with the second settlement. He also explained that he would propose an alternative way of handling that money as we get into the Warrant conversation later on.

Mr. Levine questioned how tight the controls are on these funds. Ms. Simmons explained that there are eligible uses that the spending has to fit into, but pretty broad within that. Mr. Gold questioned where the payments from other Towns in the shared health services agreement show up in the budget, specifically for shared employees. Ms. Simmons explained that the director, public health nurse and staff clerical all existed prior to forming the intermunicipal agreement. Ms. Simmons went on to say that, there are other positions that are part of the intermunicipal agreement which are covered by the Public Health Excellence Grant and shows under special revenue. The revenues from other communities are also going into the special revenue account to offset the total, Mr. Pasterczyk added. Mr. Gold questioned how this account is audited or is reported. Ms. Simmons commented that spending is reported to DPH quarterly. Review also takes place by the Purchasing and Accounting departments as well. Mr. Gold asked when the grant funds expire, will the budget start to show increased costs and where will the revenue from partner communities show up. Mr. Pasterczyk explained that this would be under the General Fund and will be listed under departmental revenue in local receipts. The grant commits three years of funding and every now and then, we request additional funds because we have been one of the more successful shared health arrangements in the state, Ms. Simmons commented. Mr. Levine questioned if there is a mechanism in place for unused drugs to be disposed of. Mr. McCool commented that there is a drop-off container at the Police Station and there are “drug take back days” scheduled throughout the year as well.

Parks and Recreation Department: Bari Jarvis, Parks and Recreation Director attended via zoom. Mr. Levine spoke about the warrant article for sign advertising revenue and questioned if any projections have been done on what kind of income this would bring. Ms. Jarvis explained that we have looked at what the direct cost of the signs would cost the department and have done some benchmarking to see what other communities are doing. Ms. Jarvis went on to say that, we know West Springfield has a viable sign policy through the School Department and explained that it is dependent on how many the department decides to sell. The policy voted at the previous Town Meeting was approved for Turner Park, Bliss Park, and Wolf Swamp Fields. Mr. Levine questioned what the anticipation of use of those funds would be at this time. Ms. Jarvis explained that the warrant article to establish the revolving account for sign revenue is on slate for the 2023 Annual Town Meeting, and this will most likely offset direct costs associated with maintenance. Mr. Gold spoke about the decision in the budget to move a portion of the Assistant Director’s salary to the revolving fund, and questioned what went into this decision. Ms. Jarvis explained that that much of the programming revenue goes into the revolving fund. This would be for daycare, camps, aquatics, and most of the Assistant Director’s time is allocated to these programs and services where the revenues go into revolving. Ms. Jarvis went on to say that, the remaining 50% would come from the general fund. Mr. Gold commented that this works very well when we have a healthy revolving fund but was concerned about what would happen if revenue began to disappear due to unexpected circumstances like the previous pandemic. Mr. Gold cautioned moving things from taxpayer based to fee based for these reasons. Mr. Gold questioned how daycare is currently running what is the forward prospect for this program. Ms. Jarvis stated that the Parks and Rec department has opportunities to create revenue mix within which is valuable not to be completely reliant on the general fund. This is being explored with field maintenance in in other facets of the department, Ms. Jarvis added. Ms. Jarvis went on to say that; daycare is one of the top revenue generators along with the school age programs, camps and aquatics. She explained that we are still recovering since the pandemic but expressed that everything is trending upwards. Mr. Pasterczyk proposed appropriating the full salary within the general fund with the understanding that the daycare will reimburse this fund. Mr. Lachiusa questioned if there was a policy that required the revolving fund to reach or remain at a certain capacity. Mr. Pasterczyk stated that the statute allows for a certain amount of excess to be carried forward.

Police Department: Chief of Police, Robert Stocks attended to discuss the department's budget. Mr. Levine questioned the vehicle replacement and which apparatus was being replaced. Chief Stocks explained that the department has been following a schedule of replacing two cruisers per year. The officers tend to accrue roughly 30,000 miles per year / per cruiser. Chief Stocks detailed that naturally they are running 24/7 and considered the mobile office. With the enhancements of technology and the cars getting better, we tend to get a few more miles out of the cruisers, Chief Stocks added. When the vehicles hit about 115,000 miles they begin to show their age, Chief Stocks explained. He went on to say that, they are maintained quite well but as far as an emergency certified vehicle, they tend to get a little loose. These vehicles can be decommissioned from a police standpoint. In the past, some past vehicles were turned over to another department for non-emergency use, for instance, the Building Department or Department of Public Works, Chief Stocks stated. Mr. Levine questioned if an electric vehicle would last longer from a usage and wear and tear perspective. Chief Stocks explained that there are few departments in the Commonwealth that have gone to a fully electric car, and these vehicles at this point have not proven to be beneficial for Police use in the 24/7 capacity. Administratively, the detective's car or the chief's for example can be used in this facet. Chief Stocks detailed that he has purchased two hybrid vehicles and these cruisers are much more fuel-efficient. The numbers show that the hybrid cruisers are getting 18 miles per-gallon, while a conventional gas cruiser is getting around 12. Chief Stocks did caution that the two hybrids have been more costly to maintain. The current ask for this upcoming fiscal year was \$100,000 for two vehicles to be replaced, and the current Ford Explorer gas model is going for \$42,800, which is up \$6,000 from last year. The hybrid model is about \$45,000, with the same increase. The lead-time can fluctuate and is dependent on the timing and could usually be around five months, Chief Stocks stated. Mr. Lachiusa questioned if the Police Department utilizes the wash stations at the new DPW. Chief Stocks stated that we have a sally port in the station and usually the midnight crew will wash the cruisers. In the wintertime, officers have been instructed to use the DPW facility because there is an undercarriage spray, which benefits the salt buildup on the undercarriage. A discussion ensued about the auctioning process for past cruisers. Chief Stocks also mentioned that we get a \$5,000 credit per purchase of a hybrid cruiser once a year. Mr. Gold commented that the new federal law on electric vehicles gives the equivalent amount of money that an individual would get as a tax credit to municipalities. Mr. Zwirko questioned if there are other areas of interest or other projects that you would have liked to add into the budget. Chief Stocks spoke about staffing shortages and recruitment attention being an area he would like to improve. He went on to say that, he lost two officers to State Police and one to the FBI, and as much as it hurts us in losing staff, it speaks volumes to what the Town provides their employees. Chief Stocks stated that the kitchen remodel is almost complete and hopes to undergo improvements to the fitness room and locker room as well. Mr. Levine questioned when the WESTCOMM assessment state funding would run out. Ms. Simmons stated that FY2025 would be the last year. Mr. Lachiusa spoke about social workers on the police staff and used Pittsfield as an example. Chief Stocks stated this is on his radar and is working towards a grant project that provides funding for a co-responder.

Fire Department: Fire Department Chief, John Dearborn, attended to discuss the Fire Departments budget. Mr. Lachiusa questioned the ruck replacement and which one would be replaced. Chief Dearborn stated that this is three-years out but the ordering process needs to start immediately. The truck being replaced is Engine-1, which is a 2004. Chief Dearborn also stated that Squad-4 is out for refurbishment and is scheduled back in a few weeks. Mr. Levine questioned if there are any other pieces of equipment that have the possibility of being refurbished. Chief Dearborn spoke about the equipment and supply delays that the industry is facing, which is why we have a warrant article to authorize the truck and ambulance replacement three years ahead. A discussion ensued about replacing Engine-1 with a stainless steel body instead of aluminum because it

provides an option down the line to apply a new chassis underneath rather than replacing a truck. Mr. Gold mentioned the truck replacement schedule of replacing one every three years and questioned if this cycle is still used. Chief Dearborn commented that we do adhere to this and we adjust the capital plan every year to coincide with the Fire Truck Investment plan. Mr. Gold questioned how staffing projections look going forward. Chief Dearborn explained that he had two supplemental requests this year for two additional emergency medical staff. He went on to say that, we have seen a 12% increase in emergency medical calls since the pandemic. A discussion ensued about similar staffing shortages and Chief Dearborn was hopeful that in the future modifications could be made to enhance staffing and shift possibilities. Mr. Gold questioned what the Fire Department sees as their need for grants and other opportunities. Chief Dearborn stated that the equipment line item was reduced this year because we are going to be able to support this with grants this year. In the last seven years, the Fire Departments is in receipt of \$2.2 million dollars in grants mostly used for equipment. Chief Dearborn commented that grants are also used to offset capital. A discussion ensued about other emergency management grant opportunities. Mr. Zwirko questioned if there is any feedback on WESTCOMM and their services. Chief Dearborn stated that run response time has improved efficiently and the experience with WESTCOMM since implementation has been one of the largest safety improvements to the department. The Chief also mentioned that both the Police and Fire stations also gained lobby controls and many other areas of technology that we certainly did not have before. One of the biggest benefits is the dispatching capabilities; the Chief went on to say.

Department of Public Works: Sean Van Deusen, DPW Director, Nick Georgantas, Facilities Director, and Lisa Okscin, Business Manager, attended to discuss the DPW FY24 budget. An initial discussion took place about reallocating energy accounts to address net metering credits that we have. Ms. Simmons also stated that we are in negotiations on one of our net metering agreements to cash out as opposed to getting more credits. Mr. Gold spoke about the warranty for the LED lights still in effect. Mr. Zwirko questioned if there is a way on a map we can see if a streetlight is out. Mr. Van Deusen stated that there is a streetlight map but in order for it to be recorded into the system, it would have to be reported as broken or needs repair. Mr. Gold questioned if there is a system between LPD and DPW for reporting outages specifically at night when it is easier to determine if there are in fact broken lights. Chief Stocks stated that there is a standing order in place for officers on the midnight patrol for looking for obvious lights that are out, and will forward to DPW accordingly. Mr. Levine questioned if there are any paving plans on slate for the upcoming year. Mr. Van Deusen discussed hiring the BETA Group to come up with a new pavement management software, which they recently completed for the Town parking lots. We will have formal and specific layout for the five and ten year plans moving forward, he went on to say. Mr. Van Deusen commented that the caveat is that we are simultaneously doing the water and sewer capital plan, and we need this to work cohesively with pavement management so that we are not working backwards or against ourselves. These plans are to be merged together and we will have a better idea of maintaining it. Mr. Gold questioned if a list is maintained on the website to keep residents aware of paving projects. Mr. Van Deusen stated that this is difficult based on the volatility of the asphalt market currently which is based on oil. This five-year plan can be pushed back based on these issues, Mr. Van Deusen commented. The bidding market could affect this as well. A discussion ensued about future pavement management and generating guidelines for identifying the price and need. Ms. Simmons stated that in the next couple of months when BETA completed the pavement management system, DPW is able to overlay the water, and sewer work with this, a presentation can be expected to show all of system. A conversation will then have to take place about budgeting and prioritizing the system. Mr. Gold questioned what we are appropriating the capital funding and chapter 90 money to this current fiscal year. Mr. Van Deusen stated that he looked through the plan with engineering to ensure that the list for next year does

not have the issues in terms of water, sewer, and stormwater. He commented that a comprehensive plan going forward was essential. Mr. Levine spoke about making the plan for this upcoming fiscal year public. The DPW will publish this list on the streets page, Mr. Van Deusen stated. Mr. Levine questioned if there was a similar comprehensive plan for sidewalk management. Mr. Van Deusen stated that there is a similar in-house design that is similar to the one engineering plan BETA is doing for paving currently. Improvements to sidewalks and updating ADA transitions around town is on slate for this spring. Mr. Lachiusa thanked Mr. Van Deusen for the pothole repairs in the Shops area. He questioned how the overtime budget looked for highway administration. Mr. Okscin commented that this is budgeted for on-call time, for instance for a tree being down and for plowing. Mr. Van Deusen stated that staffing has improved tremendously since last year and we do not anticipate having the same issues faced last summer. Mr. Gold spoke about the guardrail replacements and questioned where this stands. Mr. Van Deusen commented that we have caught up to a great regard in this area and some of these can be done cohesively with road projects. Mr. Zwirko asked Mr. Van Deusen to speak about the potholes and manhole covers around town. Mr. Van Deusen stated that this time of year it is tough to do because the plants are cold and using cold mix does not last as long. The issues stemmed from inabilities in the summer and fall to complete patching and Mr. Van Deusen is hopeful this year we can get ahead of the patching because of efficient staffing levels. Mr. Gold questioned tree planting and the current plan going forward. Mr. Van Deusen spoke about increasing this line item in the future and we currently have a hazardous tree removal plan being completed to address other areas. ARPA money has also been used to address hazardous trees. He went on to say that, this has freed up some in-house money to do some plantings in the spring and fall of this year. Mr. Gold commented about the system where people can fund tree planting and there was a time where we would get many of these requests. Mr. Levine questioned the tree-warden position and how the hours would be allocated. Mr. Van Deusen stated that there are plenty of inspections to be done and the tree-warden would be designated to also review projects while they are underway to make sure trees are not being harmed. Pruning and preventative maintenance would be part of this allocation as well including day-to-day interactions with site visits when needed. Mr. Gold spoke about calls from residents about questions on how to address issues when neighbors are not addressing hazardous trees on private property. A discussion ensued about suggesting residents to reach out to their insurance when issues like this occur. Mr. Hemavathi questioned if we are looking for an individual for this position who has significant overlap in conservation as well since this would be part of the newly constructed role. Mr. Van Deusen stated that it is important we look at someone who has a variety of skill sets in these areas. Mr. Gold asked Sean to explain how he feels the field's grounds maintenance is anticipated to work in this first year. Mr. Van Deusen stated that the outsourcing of Wolf Swamp Fields is out to bid and is a situation where they will do the mowing primarily because there is a substantial amount. Mr. Van Deusen went on to say that, we do not know what the maintenance will look like until after the year, and will have a better idea in place on how to maintain internally. Mr. Levine asked if there would be any impacts with the schools budget for athletic fields funding going up and will the DPW be able to keep up with this demand. Mr. Georgantas stated that we would be able to manage this especially since Wolf Swamp fields will be outsourced. Mr. Georgantas spoke about maintenance at Glenbrook fields beginning in April and stated that it would be closed temporarily to hydro seed the entire playing field. Mr. Zwirko questioned if we thought about pushing to the fall because of better growing season. Mr. Georgantas stated that we want to stay in top of this all year long so that the conditions do not get back to how they are currently. A discussion ensued about the sprinkler system being updated as well. Mr. Van Deusen also is hopeful that when SLR finishes the Active Rec Study, we will have a better idea of how to rotate usage and manage maintenance. Mr. Gold questioned how the painting schedule for buildings would be maintained. Mr. Van Deusen commented that we are optimistic that

we will be able to get quite a bit done for the budget amount and have a good jump start with ARPA money to make up for some of the backlog. The plan is to go out to bid this summer for painting. Mr. Georgantas also mentioned that HVAC repair and elevator service are both high-ticketed expense items in the building maintenance budget. Maintenance of the air handlers town-wide will fall under this line item also. Mr. Zwirko asked for explanation on the common areas or trends in building maintenance supply needs. Mr. Georgantas stated that this line item captures many purchases in the facilities department, for instance, the hardware account. You will see increases in this line item due to the increase of costs, as well as the fact that more work will be completed due to having staffing levels back up to standard, Mr. Georgantas added. Mr. Levine questioned the leaf program and was curious what accounted for the dips last year. Mr. Okscin explained that when we contracted with Waste Management for curbside, it was rolled into the contract to do leaf collection. She added that previously, we used our own staff to do this. Mr. Gold questioned if there was any feedback on quarterly billing or sewer rate changes this past year. Ms. Okscin stated that most people were happy to see their summer bills having a cap, versus being unlimited. Other residents have been very happy with the quarterly process. Mr. Gold questioned if we get any indications from Springfield Water on their capital projects. Mr. Van Deusen stated that they are undertaking many projects but they did not extensively speak about an increase in any costs. Mr. Pasterczyk stated that we did receive an estimate for this fiscal year. A discussion ensued about projections and if they estimated, based on an average of years past. Mr. Van Deusen also spoke about Tighe and Bond currently working on our water and wastewater capital plan and mentioned that this will be overlaid with other projects as previously discussed. There is also a grant for stormwater that is happening at the exact same time, he added. Mr. Gold questioned how the long-term capital requirements for stormwater would affect the operating budget. Mr. Pasterczyk stated that there would be an increase in rates from FY23 because of the gradual increase of having the fee pick up the total, but also because of the budget increase, there will be a compounding effect of these two. Mr. Gold questioned how hours are tracked and allocated in different departments of the DPW for budgetary reasons. Ms. Okscin stated that she does track this and will plan to review this over the course of the year.

Finance Department: Mr. Levine questioned if we are only benefiting from the interest rates or if we are affected by rates going up in a short-term perspective. Mr. Pasterczyk commented that we are benefiting but at the same time, we will be going out and issuing short-term bond anticipation notes in May for about five different projects. In this regard, it will hurt a little bit but we will come out ahead of the game as the interest rates rise based on our steady cash flow and reserves, Mr. Pasterczyk added.

2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Update

An updated version of the 2023 Draft Town Meeting Warrant was circulated to the Board and can be found in the Select Board agenda packet, linked under “documents” at the end of these minutes. Mr. Gold suggested including in the DIF article comment, the amount of taxes that exceed the sum of the debt in our East Longmeadow payments. Mr. Gold explained that there is a net revenue to the Town and it may be of interest to see this in the explanation. Mr. Pasterczyk explained that net to the general fund is an excess of \$60,000 for FY23. Mr. Levine questioned what the interest rate was when this was taken out. Mr. Pasterczyk commented that it was about 3 or 3.5 percent. Mr. Zwirko brought up some grammatical errors in Article 5 and in Article 12. These will be updated on the next warrant version. Mr. Gold stated it would be useful to add language into Article 12 about age of the engine and other information that is applicable to support the funding. Mr. Levine also mentioned adding a description for the Jet Truck article to explain what this is for. Ms. Simmons explained that DPW is compiling this information for the next version. Mr. Lachiusa questioned if any educational information would be put out on these articles as well. Ms. Simmons stated that a similar plan for

educational videos that were launched in the last couple of years is in place and will be released in April. Mr. Gold suggested adding in disclosure of funding under the Article 17 CPA playground update article to include additional sources this will be funded from. Mr. Zwirko also suggested moving a portion of the Athletic Field signage article to the description. Mr. Pasterczyk proposed adding in an article to create a stabilization fund for the opioid settlement money that is coming in. Mr. Pasterczyk mentioned to his earlier point that we will be receiving money from four different sources and this would provide ease of tracking and appropriating. Mr. Gold asked if there is a legal constraint for this money and if we did not have a stabilization fund how we would track this out of free cash. Mr. Pasterczyk stated that ideally, it would be in a special revenue account but the State has not approved this yet. The revenue for opioid judgements have been entered into stabilization funds in comparable communities, Mr. Pasterczyk added. Mr. Lachiusa stated that he supports this idea and feels the accessibility of a stabilization fund is important. Ms. Simmons questioned if we waited to do this for the fall meeting, could we transfer the current funds into the stabilization account. Mr. Pasterczyk stated that it would be cleaner to do this July 1 at the beginning of the fiscal year, but we could also transfer at the fall town meeting if necessary. A discussion ensued about restrictions in use and how the DOR considers general revenue expenditures. The Select Board will review and vote on the final version of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant at their meeting on March 20.

Adjourn

Mr. Hemavathi made the motion to adjourn the Select Board Special Meeting at 9:55 p.m. Mr. Zwirko seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned.

Documents

[Select Board March 13 2023 Special Meeting Agenda Packet](#)

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Barbieri