

Town of Medway

Report of the Finance Committee to the Annual Town Meeting



May 12, 2025

Special Town Meeting – 7:00 PM
Annual Town Meeting – 7:30 PM

Table of Contents

Fiscal Year 2026 – July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026

This booklet includes the Warrant for the Special and Annual Town Meetings, the recommendations of the Medway Finance Committee (FinCom) and its Report to the Town.

Section	Page #
I. Report of the Finance Committee.....	3
II. Warrants	
Special Town Meeting.....	6
Annual Town Meeting.....	8
III. Fiscal Year Summary	23
General Fund – Article 6.....	27
Enterprise Funds – Articles 7-9.....	31
IV. Finance Committee Subcommittee Reports	
Education Subcommittee Report.....	32
General Government Subcommittee Report.....	33
Public Works Subcommittee Report.....	33
Public Safety Subcommittee Report.....	36
Health and Human Services Subcommittee Report.....	38
Library Subcommittee Report.....	39
Planning and Economic Development Board Subcommittee Report.....	39
Affordable Housing Committee/Trust Subcommittee Report.....	40
Parks and Recreation.....	40
Facilities Task Force Report.....	41
V. Definitions and Glossary	
How Town Meeting Operates.....	42
Regulations for a Consent Calendar.....	42
Glossary.....	43

This report is available on the Town of Medway website: <https://medwayma.gov/>

I. Report of the Finance Committee

Budget Summary

Medway's FY2026 budget increases 8.61% from \$66.55 million in FY2025 to \$72.28 million in FY 2026. This an increase of \$5.73 million or approximately 8.6%. The majority of that increase represents an increase in funding for our public education. The FY 2026 budget represents a \$3.72 million increase in public education funding split between Medway Public Schools (\$2.65 million increase) and our regional schools (\$1.07 million increase). Debt servicing (11.76%) and Public Safety (10.93%) represent the other major increases in the FY 2026. By percentage of the budget:

- Public Education accounts for 51% of the total budget
 - o Medway Public Schools represents 93% of our Public Education spend at 47% of the total town budget.
- Assessments and Employee Benefits account for 17% of the total town budget.
 - o Notably this includes payments for our school employees, fire, and police in addition to other town employees and assessments from Norfolk County
- Public Safety accounts for 12% of the total budget
 - o With most of that being split between Police and Fire.
- Debt Servicing accounts for 7% of the total budget.
 - o This includes payments for buildings and properties used by various town departments.

Those four expense categories account for approximately 87% of Medway's FY2026 budget. Hopefully that helps answer the question of where your tax dollars are going.

FY2026 – A Look Ahead

Of course no budget is as simple as the numbers. There are people and stories behind each of those numbers and departments. Like many towns, Medway faces a number of challenges as we try to balance important competing needs while be respectful of the amount of taxes we pay. What makes Medway great is the way we come together as a community to meet challenges. The FY2026 budget is a clear example of this successful collaboration. Make no mistake, FY2026 budget required difficult conversations and hard choices, but together the Town's leadership, the Selectboard, the School Committee, School leadership, and the Finance Committee were able to come together with a budget that provides for significant increases in funding for both our Public Safety Departments and our schools.

The various reports that follow are attempts to give more commentary on the needs facing our various departments. Our Police and Fire Departments face greater demands than ever before, and at the same time our schools needed to receive additional funds to ensure our children get the education that is so important. We have competing facility needs that we will continue to work to address, but the FY2026 budget represents a significant step to continue down the path of collaboration that will help the Town address those competing needs together.

There are exciting things coming in FY2026. The increase in funding for our schools should help restore some important positions to help support our children as they continue to face post pandemic challenges. That funding should also help the schools address the reality that Medway is a changing town which presents opportunity but also challenges for our students. At the same time, the Building Committee has been established to determine how we will utilize the former Medway Block property on Main Street. It is important to remember that at the Fall Town Meeting, the Town voted to approve funding to begin the demolition and containment work on that property. So while you will soon see construction vehicles on that property, it does not mean a decision has been made on what will be built there. Instead it is the start of the work we approved last Fall.

The Finance Committee, Town Manager and Select Board recognize that the Town is facing some major capital and outlay needs in the years to come. Inflation levels are felt across all departments and functions in Town which makes meeting current levels of service more expensive with longer delivery times. State aid is on the downward projection for the FY2025 and further out. Construction costs continue to rise at rates previously unforeseeable placing the Town in a position where it needs to balance short-term needs without ignoring long-term building needs that will continue to get more expensive. Additionally, Medway faces the challenge of needing to anticipate vehicle replacements further in the future as manufactures are taking longer and longer to fill orders. Both rising construction costs and vehicle replacement delays put a premium on planning for and anticipating the Town's future needs while providing services for Medway's current residents.

The Finance Committee supports the direction and plans represented in this year's budget request and feels that the residents can look forward to a continued high level of performance and service delivery from all departments. In building the budget for FY2026, Medway continues to employ a balanced approach to planning that balances short term needs with the long term demands our community will face in the coming years and decades. Town departments develop their needs on a priority basis, while taking into consideration the financial realities and limitations that exist today. Each department started with a level-service approach as the baseline, the Town then identified areas where improvements could be made to enhance the services for residents while maintaining fiscal responsibility. The FY2025 budget follows the approach in prior years of including increases to stabilization funds. Medway continues to receive the highest bond rating from Standard & Poor's (S&P) on our general obligation (GO) debt, a AAA rating with a stable outlook. Medway is one of only a handful of communities in Massachusetts with the highest investment grade AAA rating. This means that the Town can easily meet its financial commitments and access capital at favorable interest rates when going out to issue bonds.

As we continue to plan for the future needs of the Town, Medway needs its citizens to be involved in discussing and deciding where our Town will go and the best way to get there. While our citizens may not always agree on what Medway should look like in the future, we appreciate that the goal of each citizen is to make Medway the best that it can be. Town Meeting and service on Town boards and committees are tremendous opportunities to make your opinion known and to positively affect the future. The Finance Committee encourages more citizens to take advantage of these opportunities.

FY2025 – A Look Back

FY2025 represented a continued return to more normalcy as we moved post pandemic. The Town of Medway continues to express our gratitude to the Police, Fire, DPW and Health Departments, our Town employees, and the School Department for all of their efforts this past year. Medway is a Town that continues to be on solid fiscal ground as a result of the planning and collaboration of the Select Board, Finance Committee, School Committee, and the Town's financial leadership team. During FY2025, there were several notable developments and achievements in Town:

- Initial steps were taken to repurpose both the former Medway Block property and VFW started
- Continued the work of the Facilities Committee to address municipal facilities needs
- Construction of a new centralized water treatment plant and well
- Strong increases in funds transferred to the Capital Stabilization Fund to help fund future expenditures that will be necessary to renovate/build municipal buildings to address identified needs
- Continued expansion of Fire and Police personnel to meet growing public safety needs
- Continued benefits from negotiated new healthcare contracts lowering overall costs while keeping quality care for Town employees

FY2025 continued the use of approximately \$3.7 million from the annual payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT agreement) from the Exelon plant for residential tax relief, debt service, road & sidewalk improvements, and funding of the Town's OPEB liability.

Spring 2025 Town Meeting Materials

Included in this booklet are:

- May 12, 2025, Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrants
- Select Board's and Town Manager's Omnibus Budget recommendations that represent how tax receipts,

free cash and other revenue sources will be appropriated for Fiscal Year 2026 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

- Subcommittee Reports from the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee, consisting of 9 registered voters (with 2 current openings) each serving a 3-year term, is pleased to present its annual report on the operating budget and all articles contained in the Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting warrants to the citizens of Medway. The Finance Committee's omnibus budget supports the recommendations of the Select Board's budget allocations.

Respectfully submitted by your Finance Committee,

Brian Cowan – Chair, James Sullivan – Vice Chair, Bruce Carbone – Clerk, Nicholas Fair, Matthew McCabe, Larry Muench, Richard Parrella

II. Warrants

TOWN OF MEDWAY WARRANT FOR MAY 12, 2025 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

NORFOLK ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Medway

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet at the **Medway High School, 88 Summer Street**, on **Monday, May 12, 2025**, at 7:00 PM, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: (Prior Year Bills)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$240 from the Fiscal Year 2025 Human Resources Pre-employment Physicals Account for the purpose of paying prior year, unpaid bills of the Town, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 2: (Free Cash Transfer: Snow and Ice Deficit)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from available funds and/or Certified Free Cash for the purpose of funding the Snow & Ice Fiscal Year 2025 appropriation deficit, or act in any manner relating thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Pass Over

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Pass Over

ARTICLE 3: (Repurpose Borrowing – Matching Grant Funds for Stormwater Project)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the \$250,000 borrowing authorized under Article 13 of the May 8, 2023 Annual Town Meeting for completing a water, wastewater, and stormwater asset management plan, the funds for which are no longer needed, to purchase and implement infrastructure asset software to undertake stormwater and culvert asset analysis, including to provide matching funds for a reimbursable grant from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and all other incidental and related expenses, to authorize the Select Board to accept the full amount of said grant and to take all actions and execute all documents necessary in connection therewith, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 4: (Borrowing – Sewer Betterment)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$300,000 for the purpose of funding the Town’s sewer betterment program, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; and further, to authorize the Select Board to apply for, accept, and expend any county, state or federal grant for this purpose, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 5: (Repurpose Monetary Articles: School Projects)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$90,217.90 from the funds authorized under the prior Town Meeting Articles as shown in Table 1 below, which amounts are no longer needed for such purposes, to the project and in the amount listed in Table 2 below, or act in any manner relating thereto.

TABLE 1

Town Meeting Date	Article	Description	Transfer From Amount
5/13/24 Annual	7	McGovern Cafeteria Air Conditioning	\$81,721.15
5/13/24 Annual	7	Replace 2014 Ford 250	8,496.75
Total			\$90,217.90

TABLE 2

Town Meeting Date	Article	Description	Transfer To Amount
New Project		Heating and Cooling Upgrades District-wide	\$90,217.90
Total			\$90,217.90

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 6: (Grant of Utility Easement – Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston St)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to grant to Verizon New England Inc. and NStar Electric, or their nominees, permanent utility easements in, on, under and over a portion or portions of the Town Middle School property located at 45 Holliston Street, as shown on Easement “Attachment ‘A’”, on file with the Town Clerk, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board shall deem to be in the best interests of the Town, and, in connection therewith, to transfer the care, custody and control of said portion(s) from the School Committee exclusively for school purposes to the School Committee for such purposes and to the School Committee and Select Board for the purpose of granting the foregoing easements, and to authorize the Select Board and/or School Committee to take all actions and execute all documents necessary in connection therewith, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article #	Description
1	Borrowing, CPA and Athletic Stabilization Transfers: Hanlon Track and Field Construction
2	Borrowing: Sports Field Needs Study
3	CPA Fund Appropriation – Pavilion at Cassidy Field
4	Debt Stabilization Fund Transfer
5	Transfer from Ambulance Receipts to General Fund
6	Appropriation: FY26 Operating Budget
7	Appropriation: FY26 Water Enterprise Fund
8	Appropriation: FY26 Sewer Enterprise Fund
9	Appropriation: FY26 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
10	Free Cash Appropriation: Capital and Other Items
11	Transfer from Ambulance Receipts to Capital Items
12	Raise & Appropriate: Roads & Sidewalks
13	Solid Waste Enterprise Retained Earnings Transfer: Recycling Center Wall
14	Borrowing: McGovern School Bathroom Upgrades
15	Borrowing: High School Boiler Replacement
16	Free Cash Transfer: Medway Redevelopment Authority
17	Appropriation: OPEB Trust
18	Appropriation: General Stabilization
19	CPA Fund Appropriation: Miyawaki Mini-Forest at Idylbrook
20	CPA Fund Appropriation: Ide House Repair Project
21	CPA Fund Appropriation: Trail Development
22	Appropriation: Community Preservation Committee
23	Accept MGL c.44, sec. 54(b) – Trust Fund Investments
24	Amend General Bylaws: Revolving Funds; Authorize FY26 Spending Limits
25	Accept Public Ways: Little Tree and Rustic Roads
26	Amend Zoning Bylaws: Housekeeping
27	Amend Zoning Bylaws: Accessory Dwelling Units
28	Amend Zoning Bylaws: Floodplains
29	Citizens' Petition: ID to Vote at Town Meetings

TOWN OF MEDWAY
WARRANT FOR MAY 12, 2025
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

NORFOLK ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Medway

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town who are qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet at the **Medway High School, 88 Summer Street, on Monday, May 12, 2025**, at 7:30 PM, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: (Borrowing, CPA and Athletic Stabilization Transfers: Hanlon Track and Field Construction)
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds \$2,629,500 for the purpose of funding the replacement of the Hanlon track and field, as well as replacement of light fixtures, fencing, and associated equipment, all as located or to be located at Medway High School, including engineering, design, project management, and site preparation costs, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; and as funding for this appropriation, to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board to borrow \$1,687,000 under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7, or any other enabling authority, and to transfer \$642,550 from Community Preservation Act funds for the payment of costs for the replacement of light fixtures, fencing, and associated equipment engineering, design, project management and site preparation but specifically excluding the cost of acquisition of artificial turf, and to transfer \$300,000 from the Athletic Stabilization fund; or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 2: (Borrowing: Sports Field Needs Study)
To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds \$500,000 for the purpose of funding a feasibility study to determine the number, cost and location of sports fields needed in town to accommodate pre-K through grade 12 sports programming, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: To be determined

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve if Article 1 Fails; Pass Over if Article 1 Passes

ARTICLE 3: (CPA Fund Appropriation – Pavilion at Cassidy Field)
To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$115,000 from available Community Preservation Act funds for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a pavilion at Cassidy Field, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 4: (Debt Stabilization Fund Transfer)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$21,800 from the Debt Stabilization Fund to the Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget for the purpose of offsetting a portion of the cost of debt exclusion projects, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 5: (Transfer from Ambulance Receipts to General Fund)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$795,000 from Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2026 General Fund Operating Budget, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 6: (Appropriation: FY26 Operating Budget)

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town, provide for a Reserve Fund, and determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriation from available funds, to defray charges and expenses of the Town including debt and interest, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 7: (Appropriation: FY26 Water Enterprise Fund)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,450,046 for the maintenance of the Water Department Enterprise Fund in Fiscal Year 2026 as follows, or act in any manner relating thereto.

Direct Costs

	Amount
Salaries	\$ 1,113,395
Expenses	908,300

Debt	2,926,319
Direct Costs Total	\$ 4,948,014

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs consisting of health insurance, workers' compensation, Medicare, liability insurance, administrative and operational services.

Indirect Costs Total	\$502,032
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Total	\$5,450,046
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And further that the above listed appropriations be funded as follows:

Fees for Service [User Fees]	\$5,215,046
Retained Earnings	235,000
Total	\$5,450,046

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 8: (Appropriation: FY26 Sewer Enterprise Fund)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,091,991 for the maintenance of the Sewer Department Enterprise Fund in Fiscal Year 2026 as follows, or act in any manner relating thereto.

Direct Costs

	Amount
Salaries	\$ 318,078
Expenses	1,386,600
Debt	198,999
Direct Costs Total	\$1,903,677

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs consisting of health insurance, workers' compensation, Medicare, liability insurance, administrative and operational services.

Indirect Costs Total	\$188,314
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Total	\$2,091,991
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And further that the above listed appropriations be funded as follows:

Fees for Service [User Fees]	\$2,070,092
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Sewer Betterment Transfer	21,899
Total	\$2,091,991

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 9: (Appropriation: FY26 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,934,953 to operate the Solid Waste/Recycling Department Enterprise Fund in Fiscal Year 2026 as follows, or act in any manner relating thereto.

Direct Costs

	Amount
Salaries	\$ 74,590
Expenses	1,658,000
Debt Service	46,831
Direct Costs Total	\$1,784,421

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs consisting of health insurance, workers' compensation, Medicare, liability insurance, administrative and operational services.

Indirect Costs Total	\$150,532
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Total	\$1,934,953
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And further that the above listed appropriations be funded as follows:

Trash Recycling Fees/Bag Revenues	\$1,634,953
Retained Earnings	300,000
Total	\$1,934,953

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 10: (Free Cash Appropriation: Capital and Other Items)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,619,608 from Certified Free Cash for the purpose of funding the following capital and other items, including associated engineering, personnel, maintenance, and legal service costs, and for the payment of all other costs incidental or related thereto:

Project	Dept	Cost
Roads and Sidewalks	DPW	\$750,000

Replace 210 - 2014 International	DPW	260,000
Replace 230- 2012 Backhoe	DPW	154,000
Community Farm Pavilion	DPW	19,000
Grass Trimmers (2), Backpack Blowers (2), 52" Stander Mowers (2)	DPW	25,300
Route 109/Richard Rd Engineering Study to determine cause of flooding	DPW	100,000
Replace High School Parking Lights	DPW	200,000
Replace 713- Parks & Rec Veh (2015 Ford Escape)	DPW	70,000
Replace 313 - 2011 Ford F-250	DPW	90,000
Replace 345- 2014 Smithco Tractor	DPW	47,000
Automated External Defibrillators (AED) and Training Mannequin Replacement	Fire	218,000
New Turnout Gear	Fire	225,000
New Hoses and Nozzles	Fire	100,000
Technology Equipment for Town and School Operations	IS	75,000
Security Systems Improvements at Middle School	IS	25,000
Infrastructure Equipment for Town Operations: Network, Servers, Data Storage, and Telecom	IS	50,000
Electronic Control Weapon (ECW) Replacement	Police	27,929
Emergency Communications Equipment of Mobile and Portable Radio Equipment	Police	43,814
Mobile Operations Trailer for Transport of Specialty Vehicles	Police	48,300
District: Sidewalk Replacement	School	41,265
Replace 2014 Facilities Vehicle	School	50,000
Free Cash Total		<u>\$2,619,608</u>

Or act in any manner relating thereto.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 11: (Transfer from Ambulance Receipts to Capital Items)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation the sum of \$225,000 for the purpose of purchasing replacement heart monitors and Lund University Cardiopulmonary Assist System (LUCAS) machines, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 12: (Raise & Appropriate: Roads & Sidewalks)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$800,000 for the purposes of making repairs to various roads, sidewalks, bridges, and related appurtenances, and to fund, as needed, design, engineering, and construction management services, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 13: (Solid Waste Enterprise Retained Earnings Transfer: Recycling Center Wall)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Solid Waste Enterprise Fund retained earnings the sum of \$35,000 for the purpose of funding the replacement of a retaining wall at the Recycling Center, including engineering and construction costs and for the payment of all other incidental and related costs or act in any manner relating thereto.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 14: (Borrowing: McGovern School Bathroom Upgrades)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$525,000 for the purpose designing and constructing student and staff bathroom upgrades at the McGovern Elementary School, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SCHOOL DEPT

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 15: (Borrowing: High School Boiler Replacement)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$425,250 for the purpose of replacing a failing boiler at Medway High School, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SCHOOL DEPT

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 16: (Free Cash Transfer: Medway Redevelopment Authority)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$215,000 from Certified Free Cash to be expended by the Medway Redevelopment Authority for the purpose of funding any legal, appraisal, surveying, environmental investigations, title reviews, and other technical costs associated with land acquisition in the Oak Grove Urban Renewal Area, and for other

administrative expenses of the Redevelopment Authority, including but not limited to insurance and legal fees, or act in any manner related thereto.

MEDWAY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 17: (Appropriation: OPEB Trust)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$300,000 to the Town of Medway Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust account, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 18: (Appropriation: General Stabilization)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$100,000 to be allocated to the General Stabilization Fund, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 19: (CPA Fund Appropriation – Miyawaki Mini-Forest at Idylbrook)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$50,000 from available Community Preservation Act funds for the purpose of funding the establishment of a Miyawaki mini-forest at Idylbrook Field, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **To be determined**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **To be determined**

ARTICLE 20: (CPA Fund Appropriation – Ide House Repair Project)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$1,250,000 from available Community Preservation Act funds for the purpose of funding the construction phase of the preservation, repair and restoration of the historic Ide House at 158 Main Street, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 21: (CPA Fund Appropriation – Trail Development)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$350,000 from available Community Preservation Act funds for the purpose of funding trail development at the Charles River, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or act in any manner relating thereto.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: To be determined

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: To be determined

ARTICLE 22: (Appropriation: Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee for the Fiscal Year 2026 Community Preservation budget and to appropriate, or reserve for later appropriations, monies from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of community preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2026, as follows:

CPA Administration:	
CPC Expenses	\$15,000
CPC Salaries	5,000
CPC Debt Expense	391,175
Total Direct Costs	\$411,175

Reserves:	10% of Estimated Fund Revenues
Open Space	\$146,394
Community Housing	\$146,394
Historical Preservation	\$146,394

or act in any manner relating thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 23: (Accept MGL c. 44, sec. 54(b) – Trust Fund Investments)

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 54(b), to allow trust funds held in the custody of the Town to be invested under the standards of the Massachusetts Prudent Investor Act of Chapter 203C, or act in any manner relating thereto.

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 24: (Amend General Bylaws –Revolving Funds; Authorize FY26 Spending Limits)

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to amend the General Bylaws Article 27, Revolving Funds, Section 27.1, by inserting new revolving funds as shown in **bold** as follows:

Program or Purpose	Authorized Representative or Board to Spend	Department Receipts
Sidewalk construction	Dept. of Public Works	Sidewalk mitigation payments
Planting Trees	Dept. of Public Works	Tree mitigation payments received by Planning Board
Cemetery Upkeep	Dept. of Public Works	Burial Fees, Donations
Student Electronic Device Repair	School Department	Payments on behalf of students for electronic device repair

And to set the Fiscal Year 2026 spending limits for revolving fund as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY2026 Spending Limit
Self-supporting parks and recreation services, including salaries and benefits	\$690,000
Dial-a-ride van service for seniors and disabled; shuttle service to Norfolk commuter rail station, and other necessary transportation services	\$130,000
Library printer, copier and fax expenses	\$3,200
Library meeting room	\$1,000
Thayer Homestead partial self-support of property, including salaries and benefits	\$95,000
Tobacco license compliance inspections	\$2,500
School Transportation	\$300,000
Tree Preservation	\$30,000
Sidewalk construction	\$20,000
Planting Trees	\$20,000
Cemetery	\$50,000
Student Electronic Device Repair	\$25,000

or act in any manner relating thereto.

SELECT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 25: (Accept Public Ways – Little Tree and Rustic Roads)

To see if the Town will vote to accept as public ways, the following streets as laid out by the Select Board and as shown on a plan or plans on file in the office of the Town Clerk, said acceptance of the streets shall include utilities, except for sewer utility infrastructure; no sewer infrastructure will be accepted by the Town pursuant to these street acceptances:

- Little Tree Road in its entirety from Station 0+00 at its intersection with Milford Street to its end at Station at 10+44.82
- Rustic Road in its entirety from Station 0+00 at its intersection with Summer Street to its end at Station 6+26.33.

As shown on a plan entitled “Little Tree Road and Rustic Road at Speroni Acres in Medway, Massachusetts, Street Acceptance Plan”, dated June 17, 2024, prepared by Tetra Tech,

And further to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, and to accept the deed or deeds to the Town of easements in said streets and any associated drainage, utility or other easements for said streets, except that no easements for sewer utilities are authorized, and to appropriate a sum of money for this purpose and any related expenses;

And further to authorize the Select Board and town officers to take any and all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article;

Or act in any manner related thereto.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: To be determined

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: To be determined

ARTICLE 26: (Amend Zoning Bylaws: Housekeeping)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw as follows, new language shown in bold, deleted language shown in strikethrough:

1. Amend Section 3.2.B by adding a new subsection 6:

B. Powers. The Board of Appeals shall have the following powers:

1. To hear and decide appeals in accordance with G.L. c. 40A, § 8, as amended.
2. To hear and decide, in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40A, § 9, applications for special permits when designated as the special permit granting authority herein.
3. To hear and decide, in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40A, § 6, applications for special permits to change, alter, or extend lawfully pre-existing non-conforming uses and structures to the extent allowed by Section 5.5.
4. To hear and decide petitions for variances in accordance with G.L. c. 40A, § 10, including variances authorizing a use or activity not otherwise permitted in a particular zoning district.
5. To hear and decide applications for comprehensive permits for construction of low or moderate income housing, as set forth in G.L. c. 40B, §§ 20-23.

6. To act on appeals under G.L. c. 41, §81Y and 81Z.

2. Amend Section 5.5.B

B. Commencement of Construction or Operation. Construction or operations under a building permit or special permit shall conform to any subsequent amendments to this Zoning Bylaw, unless the use or construction is commenced within a period of not more than twelve months after the issuance of the permit and in any case involving construction, unless such construction is continued through to completion as continuously and expeditiously as is reasonable. **Construction or operations under a special permit or site plan approval shall conform to any subsequent amendments to this Zoning Bylaw or of any other local land use regulations unless the use or construction is commenced within a period of 3 years after the issuance of the special permit or site plan approval and, in cases involving construction, unless such construction is continued through to completion as continuously and expeditiously as is reasonable. For the purpose of the prior sentence, construction involving the redevelopment of previously disturbed land shall be deemed to have commenced upon substantial investment in site preparation or infrastructure construction, and construction of developments intended to proceed in phases shall proceed expeditiously, but not continuously, among phases.**

3. Amend Section 5.6.5.G.4:

4. Where practicable, surface parking shall be located to the rear or side of the principal building and shall not be located ~~not~~ within the minimum setback between the building and any lot line adjacent to the street or internal access drive. No surface parking shall be located between the front building line of a residential building and the front lot line.

Or act in any manner related thereto.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 27: (Amend Zoning Bylaws: Accessory Dwelling Units)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by:

1. Amending Section 2, Definitions, by deleting the definition of “Accessory Family Dwelling Unit” and inserting a new definition, to appear in alphabetical order, entitled, “Accessory Dwelling Unit” as follows:

Accessory Dwelling Unit: a self-contained housing unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a principal dwelling, subject to applicable dimensional and parking requirements, that: (i) maintains a separate entrance, either directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the principal dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress; (ii) is not larger in gross floor area than one-half the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller.

2. Amending Section 5.4, Table 1: Schedule of Uses, as follows:

TABLE 1: SCHEDULE OF USES													
	AR-I	AR-II and AR-III	VR	CB	VC	NC	BI	EI	ER	WI	Form-Based Districts		
											OGV C	OGB P	OGN
C. RESIDENTIAL USES													
Accessory Uses													
Accessory family dwelling unit, subject to Section 8.2	SP Y	SP Y	SP Y	N	SP Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N Y

3. Deleting Section 8.2, Accessory Family Dwelling Unit, in its entirety, and replacing it with a new Section 8.2, Accessory Dwelling Unit, as follows:

8.2. ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT

A. Purposes. The purposes of this sub-section are to:

1. establish appropriate regulations for Accessory Dwelling Units to provide suitable housing in compliance with G.L. c. 40A, §3A and 760 CMR 71.00;
2. provide opportunities to support residents who wish to age in place; and
3. maintain the residential character of neighborhoods.

B. Applicability. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) are allowed by right in single-family residential zoning districts as provided by G.L. c. 40A, §3 subject to the requirements of this sub-section 8.2, and other applicable sections of the Zoning Bylaw. The provisions of this sub-section 8.2 shall apply in case of inconsistency with other sections of the Zoning Bylaw.

C. Basic Requirements.

1. A principal dwelling unit shall be as defined in 760 CMR 71.00. An accessory dwelling unit shall be located within:
 - a. a principal dwelling unit; or
 - b. an addition to a principal dwelling unit; or
 - c. a separate structure on the same lot as a principal dwelling unit.

2. There shall be no more than one accessory dwelling unit associated with a principal dwelling unit. An ADU must remain on the same lot as and in common ownership with the principal dwelling and must remain accessory and subordinate thereto.

3. Use of an ADU for short term rental as defined by G.L. c. 64G is prohibited.

4. The gross floor area of an accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed one-half the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller.

5. ADU's are subject to the requirements of Table 2: Dimensional and Density Regulations for a single-family dwelling, except in the OGN district, where ADU's are subject to the requirements of Section 9, Oak Grove Park Districts; and except that minimum lot size requirements are not applicable to the extent provided in 760 CMR 71.03(3)(b).1.

6. There shall be at least one designated off-street parking space for the ADU in addition to parking for the occupants of the principal dwelling unit, provided, however, that no additional parking space to serve the ADU shall be required if the lot on which the ADU is located is within 0.5 miles of a transit or bus station. The off-street parking space shall be located in a garage or driveway, and shall have vehicular access to the driveway.

D. An Accessory Family Dwelling Unit created by special permit under the prior version of Section 8.2 which meets the definition of an Accessory Dwelling Unit contained in this current version of Section 8.2 shall automatically be converted to an Accessory Dwelling Unit hereunder.

Or act in any manner related thereto.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Approve

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Approve

ARTICLE 28: (Amend Zoning Bylaws: Floodplains)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 5.6.1, Flood Plain District, of the Zoning Bylaw as follows, new language shown in bold, deleted language shown in strikethrough:

1. Amend Section 5.6.1.C:

C. Applicability. The Flood Plain District includes: All special flood hazard areas within the Town of Medway designated as Zone A or AE on the Norfolk County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) dated ~~July 16, 2015~~ **July 8, 2025** issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. These maps indicate the 1%-chance regulatory floodplain. The exact boundaries of the District may be defined by the 100-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Norfolk County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) with an effective date of **July 8, 2025**~~July 16, 2015~~. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning and Economic Development Board, Conservation Commission, Building Department and Board of Assessors.

2. Amend Section 5.6.1.E.6:

6. If the Town acquires data that changes the base flood elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas, the Town will, within 6 months, notify FEMA of these changes by submitting the technical or scientific data that supports the change(s.) Notification shall be submitted to: FEMA Region 1 Risk Analysis Branch Chief, ~~99 High Street, 6th floor, Boston, MA 02110~~, copy to: Massachusetts NFIP State Coordinator, MA Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, ~~251 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02114~~.

3. Amend Section 5.6.1.G.4:

In ~~A A1-30, AH, and AE Zones~~, **Zones**, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone's regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready.

3. Delete Section 5.6.1.K in its entirety:

~~**K. Special Permits.** The Board of Appeals may grant a special permit for any of the following upon finding that the purposes of the Flood Plain District have been met.~~

~~1. A special permit from the Board of Appeals shall be required for construction on any lot in a commercial or industrial district when a portion of the lot is overlaid by the Flood Plain District.~~

~~2. Determination of Flooding and Suitability:~~

~~a. The Board of Appeals may grant a special permit for a use permitted in the underlying district if the Board determines that:~~

~~i. The proposed use of such land will not interfere with the general purposes for which the Flood Plain District has been established, and will not be detrimental to the public health, safety and/or welfare; and~~

~~ii. The proposed use or structure will comply with all other provisions of the underlying district within which the land is located.~~

~~b. The Board of Appeals shall refer such special permit applications to the Planning and Economic Development Board, Conservation Commission, and Board of Health for review and comment, and shall not act until these agencies have reported their recommendations or thirty five days have elapsed after such referral and no report has been received.~~

~~c. Any special permit granted hereunder shall be conditional upon receipt of all other permits or approvals required by local, state, or federal law.~~

~~3. No construction requiring a public utility, including electric, water, gas, and telephone lines or waste disposal or drainage facilities, shall be permitted unless the Board of Appeals determines that all such utilities are located, elevated, and constructed so as to minimize or eliminate flood damage and that methods of disposal of sewage, refuse, and other wastes and methods of providing drainage are adequate to reduce flood hazards.~~

~~4. Special permit application, review, and decision procedures shall be in accordance with Section 3.4 of this Zoning Bylaw and the rules and regulations of the Board of Appeals.~~

And re-letter Sections 5.6.1.L through N as Sections 5.6.1.K through M.

Or act in any manner related thereto.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

ARTICLE 29: (Citizens' Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws by adding a section:

Presentation of Identification

Any and all registered voters shall be required to show some form of identification prior to voting at all Town Meetings. Such identification shall preferably contain a photograph but, at the very least, shall be sufficient to verify the full name and address of the voter. Sufficient forms of identification include, but are not limited to, the following: Massachusetts driver's license, passport, student I.D., utility bill or statement, library card, credit or debit card statement, lease or rental contract, mortgage or other bank statement, property tax bill or statement.

CITIZENS' PETITION

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: **Approve**

III. FISCAL YEAR SUMMARY Fiscal Year 2024-2026 Revenues and Expenditures

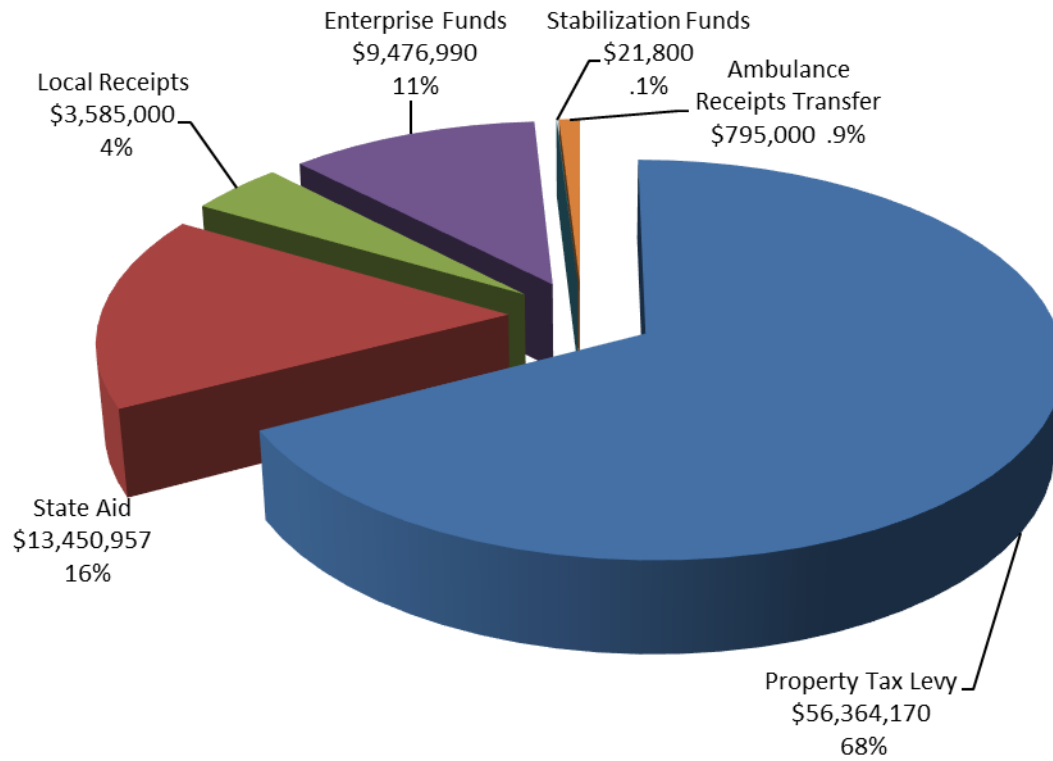
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY26
Revenues	Actuals	ATM Est. Revenues	Select Board Budget	FIN COM Budget
Property Tax Levy	\$ 48,620,027	\$ 51,357,752	\$ 56,364,170	\$ 56,364,170
State Aid	\$ 12,537,924	\$ 12,993,737	\$ 13,450,957	\$ 13,450,957
Local Receipts	\$ 5,965,392	\$ 3,418,402	\$ 3,585,000	\$ 3,585,000
Stabilization Funds	\$ 75,000	\$ 39,000	\$ 21,800	\$ 21,800
Ambulance Receipts Reserved Transfer	\$ 750,000	\$ 767,000	\$ 795,000	\$ 795,000
Subtotal:	\$ 67,948,343	\$ 68,575,891	\$ 74,216,927	\$ 74,216,927
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY26
Expenses	Actuals	ATM Budget	Select Board Budget	FIN COM Budget
EDUCATION TOTAL	\$ 31,932,139	\$ 33,007,395	\$ 36,727,962	\$ 36,727,962
GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTALS	\$ 3,098,781	\$ 3,460,030	\$ 3,606,935	\$ 3,606,935
TOWN WIDE GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTAL	\$ 14,460,212	\$ 17,004,355	\$ 17,991,150	\$ 17,991,150
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL	\$ 2,330,977	\$ 2,971,181	\$ 3,154,768	\$ 3,154,768
PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL	\$ 6,975,168	\$ 8,112,359	\$ 8,726,123	\$ 8,726,123
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES TOTAL	\$ 485,882	\$ 545,536	\$ 580,047	\$ 580,047
CULTURE AND RECREATION TOTAL	\$ 1,270,226	\$ 1,465,063	\$ 1,490,041	\$ 1,490,041
Total Town Meeting Appropriation:	\$ 60,553,385	\$ 66,565,919	\$ 72,277,026	\$ 72,277,026
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY26
Expenditures Not Requiring Appropriation	Actuals	ATM Budget	Select Board Budget	FIN COM Budget
Tax Title	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ 360,108	\$ 391,981	\$ 398,273	\$ 398,273
Cherry Sheet Charges	\$ 896,389	\$ 890,239	\$ 862,506	\$ 862,506
Overlay	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
Enterprise IDC Offset	\$ (771,776)	\$ (792,248)	\$ (840,878)	\$ (840,878)
Total	\$ 794,721	\$ 809,972	\$ 739,901	\$ 739,901
Total Operating Budget	\$ 61,348,106	\$ 67,375,891	\$ 73,016,927	\$ 73,016,927
MONETARY ARTICLES				
Stabilization Transfer	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
Roads & Sidewalks	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000
Transfer to OPEB Trust	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
Total Monetary Articles	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000
Total Appropriated and Non Appropriated Budget	\$ 62,548,106	\$ 68,575,891	\$ 74,216,927	\$ 74,216,927
Revenues (from Above)	\$ 67,948,343	\$ 68,575,891	\$ 74,216,927	\$ 74,216,927
General Fund Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 5,400,238	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Fiscal Year 2024-2026 Revenue and Expenditures (Cont.)

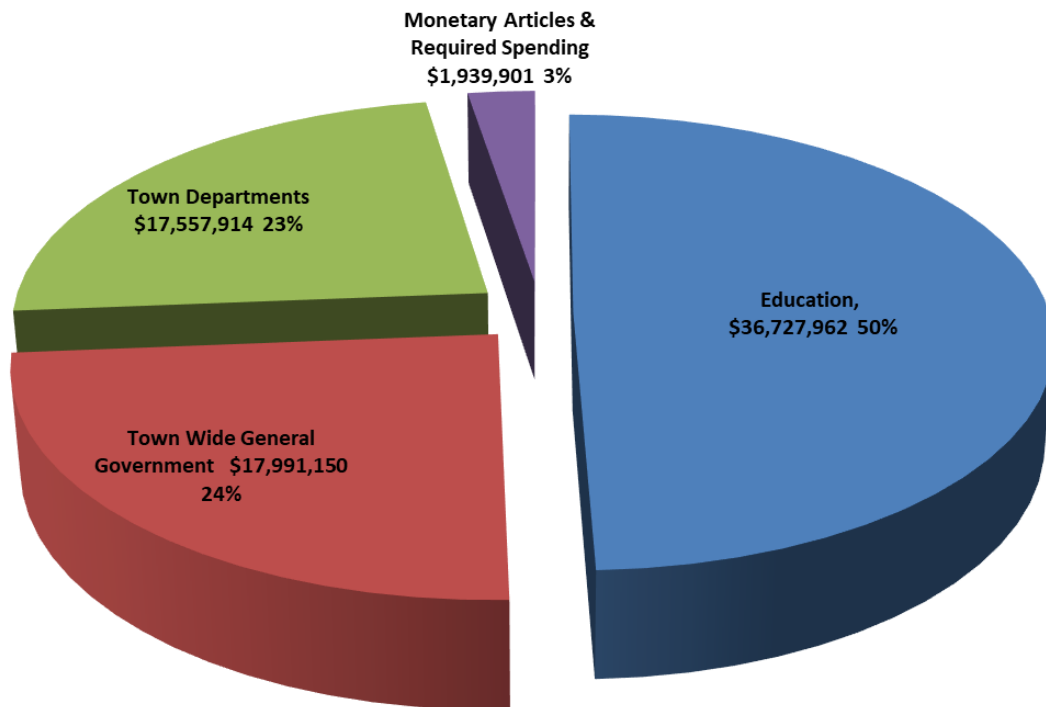
Enterprise Funds	FY24 Actuals	FY25 ATM Budget	FY26 Select Board Budget	FY26 FIN COM Budget
SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND- 431				
Total Solid Waste Revenue	\$ 1,663,488	\$ 1,821,866	\$ 1,934,953	\$ 1,934,953
Total Solid Waste Expenses	\$ 1,970,440	\$ 1,821,866	\$ 1,934,953	\$ 1,934,953
SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND - 440				
Total Sewer Revenue	\$ 1,957,773	\$ 2,040,739	\$ 2,091,991	\$ 2,091,991
Total Sewer Expenses	\$ 1,871,578	\$ 2,040,739	\$ 2,091,991	\$ 2,091,991
WATER ENTERPRISE FUND - 450				
Total Water Revenue	\$ 4,749,534	\$ 5,438,224	\$ 5,450,046	\$ 5,450,046
Total Water Expenses	\$ 5,001,727	\$ 5,438,224	\$ 5,450,046	\$ 5,450,046
Sub-Total Enterprise Funds - Revenues	\$ 8,370,795	\$ 9,300,829	\$ 9,476,990	\$ 9,476,990
Sub-Total Enterprise Funds - Expenses	\$ 8,843,745	\$ 9,300,829	\$ 9,476,990	\$ 9,476,990
Total Revenues All Sources	\$ 76,319,138	\$ 77,876,720	\$ 83,693,917	\$ 83,693,917
Total Budget All Funds	\$ 71,391,850	\$ 77,876,720	\$ 83,693,917	\$ 83,693,917

FY26 Revenues

General Fund \$74,216,927 + Enterprise \$9,476,990 =
Total Revenues \$83,693,917



FY26 General Fund Expenditures
Total Budget = \$74,216,927



ARTICLE 6 – OMNIBUS BUDGET

		FY24	FY25	FY26	FY26
		Actuals	ATM Est. Revenues	Select Board Budget	FIN COM Budget
Revenues					
	Property Tax Levy	\$ 48,620,027	\$ 51,357,752	\$ 56,364,170	\$ 56,364,170
	State Aid	\$ 12,537,924	\$ 12,993,737	\$ 13,450,957	\$ 13,450,957
	Local Receipts	\$ 5,965,392	\$ 3,418,402	\$ 3,585,000	\$ 3,585,000
	Stabilization Funds	\$ 75,000	\$ 39,000	\$ 21,800	\$ 21,800
	Ambulance Receipts Reserved Transfer	\$ 750,000	\$ 767,000	\$ 795,000	\$ 795,000
	Subtotal:	\$ 67,948,343	\$ 68,575,891	\$ 74,216,927	\$ 74,216,927
		FY24	FY25	FY26	FY26
		Actuals	ATM Budget	Select Board Budget	FIN COM Budget
Expenses					
EDUCATION - 300					
	Salaries	\$ 23,023,074	\$ 25,400,000	\$ 27,540,800	\$ 27,540,800
	Expenses	\$ 7,503,128	\$ 6,176,000	\$ 6,688,162	\$ 6,688,162
	Total	\$ 30,526,202	\$ 31,576,000	\$ 34,228,962	\$ 34,228,962
	Tri-County Voc - New Facility Assess	\$ -	\$ 62,708	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000
	Tri-County Voc - Regional Assess	\$ 1,375,753	\$ 1,328,687	\$ 1,459,000	\$ 1,459,000
	Total	\$ 1,375,753	\$ 1,391,395	\$ 2,459,000	\$ 2,459,000
	Norfolk County Agricultural	\$ 30,184	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
EDUCATION TOTAL		\$ 31,932,139	\$ 33,007,395	\$ 36,727,962	\$ 36,727,962
TOWN ADMINISTRATION - 122					
	Salaries	\$ 453,358	\$ 478,546	\$ 493,561	\$ 493,561
	Expenses	\$ 27,694	\$ 34,080	\$ 34,300	\$ 34,300
	Total	\$ 481,052	\$ 512,626	\$ 527,861	\$ 527,861
HUMAN RESOURCES - 125					
	Salaries	\$ 79,656	\$ 88,000	\$ 90,500	\$ 90,500
	Expenses	\$ 46,182	\$ 55,350	\$ 54,900	\$ 54,900
	Total	\$ 125,838	\$ 143,350	\$ 145,400	\$ 145,400
COMMUNICATIONS - 129					
	Salaries	\$ 74,185	\$ 82,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000
	Expenses	\$ 15,511	\$ 18,360	\$ 17,710	\$ 17,710
	Total	\$ 89,696	\$ 100,360	\$ 102,710	\$ 102,710
FINANCE COMMITTEE - 132					
	Expenses	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400
	Reserve Fund - 132	\$ 19,970	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
	Total	\$ 21,070	\$ 101,400	\$ 101,400	\$ 101,400
TOWN ACCOUNTANT - 135					
	Salaries	\$ 248,202	\$ 263,447	\$ 277,511	\$ 277,511
	Expenses	\$ 44,338	\$ 55,265	\$ 54,715	\$ 54,715
	Total	\$ 292,540	\$ 318,712	\$ 332,226	\$ 332,226
ASSESSORS - 141					
	Salaries	\$ 200,740	\$ 219,750	\$ 226,193	\$ 226,193
	Expenses	\$ 23,833	\$ 32,644	\$ 30,900	\$ 30,900
	Total	\$ 224,573	\$ 252,394	\$ 257,093	\$ 257,093
TREASURER/COLLECTOR - 145					
	Salaries	\$ 289,781	\$ 307,950	\$ 332,258	\$ 332,258
	Expenses	\$ 62,373	\$ 65,500	\$ 68,350	\$ 68,350
	Total	\$ 352,154	\$ 373,450	\$ 400,608	\$ 400,608
LEGAL - 151					
	Expenses	\$ 143,938	\$ 130,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
	Total	\$ 143,938	\$ 130,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
MIS/TECHNOLOGY - 155					
	Salaries	\$ 249,905	\$ 265,769	\$ 321,443	\$ 321,443
	Expenses	\$ 501,025	\$ 544,770	\$ 543,990	\$ 543,990
	Total	\$ 750,930	\$ 810,539	\$ 865,433	\$ 865,433

ARTICLE 6 – OMNIBUS BUDGET (cont.)

Expenses		FY24 Actuals	FY25 ATM Budget	FY26 Select Board Budget	FY26 FIN COM Budget
TOWN CLERK - 161					
	Salaries	\$ 156,304	\$ 172,233	\$ 178,330	\$ 178,330
	Expenses	\$ 4,551	\$ 6,668	\$ 9,468	\$ 9,468
	Total	\$ 160,855	\$ 178,901	\$ 187,798	\$ 187,798
ELECTIONS - 162					
	Salaries	\$ 5,588	\$ 18,468	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,100
	Expenses	\$ 19,181	\$ 27,810	\$ 8,150	\$ 8,150
	Total	\$ 24,769	\$ 46,278	\$ 12,250	\$ 12,250
REGISTRAR - 163					
	Salaries	\$ 672	\$ 1,512	\$ 672	\$ 672
	Expenses	\$ 6,849	\$ 7,050	\$ 7,050	\$ 7,050
	Total	\$ 7,521	\$ 8,562	\$ 7,722	\$ 7,722
CONSERVATION - 171					
	Salaries	\$ 92,206	\$ 113,917	\$ 119,358	\$ 119,358
	Expenses	\$ 2,311	\$ 4,674	\$ 4,724	\$ 4,724
	Total	\$ 94,517	\$ 118,591	\$ 124,082	\$ 124,082
PLANNING BOARD - 175					
	Salaries	\$ 83,620	\$ 87,947	\$ 90,500	\$ 90,500
	Expenses	\$ 5,602	\$ 7,650	\$ 7,400	\$ 7,400
	Total	\$ 89,222	\$ 95,597	\$ 97,900	\$ 97,900
ZONING BOARD - 176					
	Expenses	\$ 417	\$ 800	\$ 700	\$ 700
	Total	\$ 417	\$ 800	\$ 700	\$ 700
ENERGY COMMITTEE - 178					
	Expenses	\$ 248	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 500
	Total	\$ 248	\$ 1,000	\$ 500	\$ 500
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - 182					
	Salaries	\$ 162,952	\$ 177,845	\$ 188,627	\$ 188,627
	Expenses	\$ 2,929	\$ 3,775	\$ 3,775	\$ 3,775
	Total	\$ 165,881	\$ 181,620	\$ 192,402	\$ 192,402
FACILITY PRJ'S & IMPROV-193					
	Expenses	\$ 72,790	\$ 85,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
	Total	\$ 72,790	\$ 85,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
ANNUAL TOWN REPORT - 195					
	Expenses	\$ 770	\$ 850	\$ 850	\$ 850
	Total	\$ 770	\$ 850	\$ 850	\$ 850
GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTALS		\$ 3,098,781	\$ 3,460,030	\$ 3,606,935	\$ 3,606,935
DEBT SERVICE - 700					
	Long Term Principal & Interest	\$ 3,802,973	\$ 4,407,132	\$ 5,085,758	\$ 5,085,758
	Short Term Interest	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
	Total	\$ 3,802,973	\$ 4,432,132	\$ 5,105,758	\$ 5,105,758
UNCLASSIFIED					
	Property/Liability Insurance - 194	\$ 410,737	\$ 490,200	\$ 507,000	\$ 507,000
	Medicare - 910	\$ 520,525	\$ 570,000	\$ 596,000	\$ 596,000
	Life Insurance - 910	\$ 6,136	\$ 7,560	\$ 7,560	\$ 7,560
	Retirement - 911	\$ 3,702,320	\$ 3,734,463	\$ 3,727,669	\$ 3,727,669
	Workers Comp - 912	\$ 189,880	\$ 240,000	\$ 272,000	\$ 272,000
	Unemployment Insurance - 913	\$ 73,373	\$ 105,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 105,000
	Health Insurance - 914	\$ 5,754,268	\$ 7,425,000	\$ 7,670,163	\$ 7,670,163
	Salary Reserve		\$ -		
	Total	\$ 10,657,239	\$ 12,572,223	\$ 12,885,392	\$ 12,885,392
TOWN WIDE GENERAL GOVERNMENT TOTAL		\$ 14,460,212	\$ 17,004,355	\$ 17,991,150	\$ 17,991,150

ARTICLE 6 – OMNIBUS BUDGET (cont.)

Expenses	FY24 Actuals	FY25 ATM Budget	FY26 Select Board Budget	FY26 FIN COM Budget
DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS				
DPW Salaries - 422	\$ 749,781	\$ 1,115,225	\$ 1,163,549	\$ 1,163,549
DPW Expenses - 422	\$ 492,614	\$ 534,500	\$ 534,000	\$ 534,000
Street Lighting Expenses - 424	\$ 32,500	\$ 33,000	\$ 33,500	\$ 33,500
Road Repair Expenses - 421	\$ 121,679	\$ 131,000	\$ 136,000	\$ 136,000
Building Maintenance Sal - 192	\$ 146,593	\$ 161,256	\$ 164,243	\$ 164,243
Building Maintenance Exp - 192	\$ 174,840	\$ 176,500	\$ 186,000	\$ 186,000
Traffic Signals Expenses - 293	\$ 4,542	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Tree/Moth Agent Salary - 294	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Total	\$ 1,726,549	\$ 2,160,481	\$ 2,226,292	\$ 2,226,292
SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL - 423				
Salaries	\$ 68,995	\$ 65,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000
Expenses	\$ 288,659	\$ 470,600	\$ 483,000	\$ 483,000
Total	\$ 357,654	\$ 535,600	\$ 563,000	\$ 563,000
STORMWATER MGMT- 425				
Expenses	\$ 246,774	\$ 275,000	\$ 295,000	\$ 295,000
Total	\$ 246,774	\$ 275,000	\$ 295,000	\$ 295,000
CEMETERY COMMISSION - 491				
Salaries			\$ 48,476	\$ 48,476
Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000
Total	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 70,476	\$ 70,476
PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL	\$ 2,330,977	\$ 2,971,181	\$ 3,154,768	\$ 3,154,768
FIRE - 220				
Salaries	\$ 2,386,001	\$ 2,754,994	\$ 3,106,125	\$ 3,106,125
Expenses	\$ 340,381	\$ 443,465	\$ 435,965	\$ 435,965
Total	\$ 2,726,382	\$ 3,198,459	\$ 3,542,090	\$ 3,542,090
POLICE - 210				
Salaries	\$ 3,086,784	\$ 3,343,028	\$ 3,539,032	\$ 3,539,032
Expenses	\$ 316,673	\$ 480,845	\$ 521,700	\$ 521,700
Total	\$ 3,403,457	\$ 3,823,873	\$ 4,060,732	\$ 4,060,732
POLICE/FIRE COMMUNICATIONS - 215				
Salaries	\$ 394,442	\$ 505,977	\$ 533,934	\$ 533,934
Expenses	\$ 31,862	\$ 38,978	\$ 37,593	\$ 37,593
Total	\$ 426,304	\$ 544,955	\$ 571,527	\$ 571,527
ANIMAL CONTROL - 292				
Expenses	\$ 57,791	\$ 110,710	\$ 90,300	\$ 90,300
Total	\$ 57,791	\$ 110,710	\$ 90,300	\$ 90,300
BUILDING INSPECTOR - 241				
Salaries	\$ 348,232	\$ 412,447	\$ 440,764	\$ 440,764
Expenses	\$ 13,002	\$ 21,915	\$ 20,710	\$ 20,710
Total	\$ 361,234	\$ 434,362	\$ 461,474	\$ 461,474
PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL	\$ 6,975,168	\$ 8,112,359	\$ 8,726,123	\$ 8,726,123
HEALTH DEPARTMENT - 510				
Salaries	\$ 112,965	\$ 125,919	\$ 130,694	\$ 130,694
Expenses	\$ 22,486	\$ 24,700	\$ 31,575	\$ 31,575
Total	\$ 135,451	\$ 150,619	\$ 162,269	\$ 162,269
COUNCIL ON AGING - 541				
Salaries	\$ 179,991	\$ 200,429	\$ 215,900	\$ 215,900
Expenses	\$ 49,485	\$ 62,850	\$ 63,200	\$ 63,200
Total	\$ 229,476	\$ 263,279	\$ 279,100	\$ 279,100
VETERANS SERVICES - 543				
Expenses	\$ 120,955	\$ 131,638	\$ 138,678	\$ 138,678
Total	\$ 120,955	\$ 131,638	\$ 138,678	\$ 138,678
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES TOTAL	\$ 485,882	\$ 545,536	\$ 580,047	\$ 580,047

ARTICLE 6 – OMNIBUS BUDGET (cont.)

Expenses		FY24	FY25	FY26	FY26
		Actuals	ATM Budget	Select Board Budget	FIN COM Budget
PARKS DEPT - 650					
	Salaries	\$ 450,629	\$ 551,590	\$ 519,183	\$ 519,183
	Expenses	\$ 133,603	\$ 162,750	\$ 161,950	\$ 161,950
	Total	\$ 584,232	\$ 714,340	\$ 681,133	\$ 681,133
LIBRARY - 610					
	Salaries	\$ 309,214	\$ 346,751	\$ 423,117	\$ 423,117
	Expenses	\$ 185,565	\$ 166,235	\$ 164,466	\$ 164,466
	Total	\$ 494,779	\$ 512,986	\$ 587,583	\$ 587,583
RECREATION - 630					
	Salaries	\$ 91,132	\$ 97,037	\$ 77,625	\$ 77,625
	Expenses		\$ -		
	Total	\$ 91,132	\$ 97,037	\$ 77,625	\$ 77,625
TRAILS MAINTENANCE - 651					
	Expenses	\$ 2,585	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
	Total	\$ 2,585	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
SUNSHINE GROUP - 654					
	Salaries	\$ 52,309	\$ 61,000	\$ 61,000	\$ 61,000
	Expenses	\$ 20,691	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,000
	Total	\$ 73,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000
MEMORIAL COMMISSION - 670					
	Expenses	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
	Total	\$ 4,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
HISTORICAL COMMISSION - 691					
	Expenses	\$ 1,166	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200
	Total	\$ 1,166	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200
COMMUNITY EVENTS/PRGS - 692					
	Expenses	\$ 14,332	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500
	Total	\$ 14,332	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500
CULTURAL COUNCIL - 695					
	Expenses	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
	Total	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
CULTURE AND RECREATION TOTAL		\$ 1,270,226	\$ 1,465,063	\$ 1,490,041	\$ 1,490,041
Total Town Meeting Appropriation:		\$ 60,553,385	\$ 66,565,919	\$ 72,277,026	\$ 72,277,026
Expenditures Not Requiring Appropriation		FY24	FY25	FY26	FY26
		Actuals	ATM Budget	Select Board Budget	FIN COM Budget
	Tax Title	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
	Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ 360,108	\$ 391,981	\$ 398,273	\$ 398,273
	Cherry Sheet Charges	\$ 896,389	\$ 890,239	\$ 862,506	\$ 862,506
	Overlay	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
	Enterprise IDC Offset	\$ (771,776)	\$ (792,248)	\$ (840,878)	\$ (840,878)
	Total	\$ 794,721	\$ 809,972	\$ 739,901	\$ 739,901
Total Operating Budget		\$ 61,348,106	\$ 67,375,891	\$ 73,016,927	\$ 73,016,927
MONETARY ARTICLES					
	Stabilization Transfer	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
	Roads & Sidewalks	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 800,000
	Transfer to OPEB Trust	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
	Total Monetary Articles	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 1,200,000
Total Appropriated and Non Appropriated Budget		\$ 62,548,106	\$ 68,575,891	\$ 74,216,927	\$ 74,216,927
Revenues (from Above)		\$ 67,948,343	\$ 68,575,891	\$ 74,216,927	\$ 74,216,927
General Fund Surplus/(Deficit)		\$ 5,400,238	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

FISCAL YEAR 2026 ENTERPRISE BUDGETS – ARTICLES 7-9

Enterprise Funds	FY24 Actuals	FY25 ATM Budget	FY26 Select Board Budget	FY26 FIN COM Budget
SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND- 431				
<i>Solid Waste Residential Fees/Bag Fees</i>	\$ 1,663,488	\$ 1,821,866	\$ 1,634,953	\$ 1,634,953
<i>Solid Waste Retained Earnings</i>			\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
Total Solid Waste Revenue	\$ 1,663,488	\$ 1,821,866	\$ 1,934,953	\$ 1,934,953
<i>Solid Waste Salaries</i>	\$ 165,291	\$ 57,385	\$ 79,590	\$ 79,590
<i>Solid Waste Benefits & Indirect Costs</i>	\$ 137,187	\$ 140,037	\$ 150,532	\$ 150,532
<i>Solid Waste Expenses</i>	\$ 1,617,906	\$ 1,576,000	\$ 1,658,000	\$ 1,658,000
<i>Debt Expense</i>	\$ 50,056	\$ 48,444	\$ 46,831	\$ 46,831
Total Solid Waste Expenses	\$ 1,970,440	\$ 1,821,866	\$ 1,934,953	\$ 1,934,953
SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND - 440				
<i>Sewer Fees for Service</i>	\$ 1,936,192	\$ 2,019,476	\$ 2,070,092	\$ 2,070,092
<i>Sewer Betterment Transfer</i>	\$ 21,581	\$ 21,263	\$ 21,899	\$ 21,899
Total Sewer Revenue	\$ 1,957,773	\$ 2,040,739	\$ 2,091,991	\$ 2,091,991
<i>Sewer Salaries</i>	\$ 247,187	\$ 286,204	\$ 318,078	\$ 318,078
<i>Sewer Benefits & Indirect Costs</i>	\$ 159,601	\$ 159,048	\$ 188,314	\$ 188,314
<i>Sewer expenses</i>	\$ 1,232,084	\$ 1,369,600	\$ 1,386,600	\$ 1,386,600
<i>Debt Expense</i>	\$ 232,706	\$ 225,887	\$ 198,999	\$ 198,999
Total Sewer Expenses	\$ 1,871,578	\$ 2,040,739	\$ 2,091,991	\$ 2,091,991
WATER ENTERPRISE FUND - 450				
<i>Water Fees for Service</i>	\$ 4,749,534	\$ 5,200,000	\$ 5,215,046	\$ 5,215,046
<i>Water Retained Earnings</i>		\$ 238,224	\$ 235,000	\$ 235,000
Total Water Revenue	\$ 4,749,534	\$ 5,438,224	\$ 5,450,046	\$ 5,450,046
<i>Water Salaries</i>	\$ 837,586	\$ 1,060,621	\$ 1,113,395	\$ 1,113,395
<i>Water Benefits & Indirect Costs</i>	\$ 474,988	\$ 493,163	\$ 502,032	\$ 502,032
<i>Water expenses</i>	\$ 810,618	\$ 895,400	\$ 908,300	\$ 908,300
<i>Debt Expense</i>	\$ 2,878,535	\$ 2,989,040	\$ 2,926,319	\$ 2,926,319
Total Water Expenses	\$ 5,001,727	\$ 5,438,224	\$ 5,450,046	\$ 5,450,046
Sub-Total Enterprise Funds - Revenues	\$ 8,370,795	\$ 9,300,829	\$ 9,476,990	\$ 9,476,990
Sub-Total Enterprise Funds - Expenses	\$ 8,843,745	\$ 9,300,829	\$ 9,476,990	\$ 9,476,990
Total Revenues All Sources	\$ 76,319,138	\$ 77,876,720	\$ 83,693,917	\$ 83,693,917
Total Budget All Funds	\$ 71,391,850	\$ 77,876,720	\$ 83,693,917	\$ 83,693,917

IV. FINANCE COMMITTEE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Subcommittee Report

For FY26, the Finance Committee recommends that the Town fund the Medway Public Schools (MPS) Operational Budget from Town Appropriation in the amount of \$34,228,962. This represents a \$2.65 million or 8.4% increase over FY25. That is almost 3 times the increase from FY24 to F25, and was a needed infusion of funding to our schools. Reaching this \$2.65 million increase required a lot of hard work by the School Committee, School leadership, the Selectboard, Town leadership, and the Finance Committee. This collaboration was an important step in getting our schools to the funding level they need.

The Massachusetts State Aid Cherry Sheet as proposed in Governor Healey's FY26 budget in January indicates that the Chapter 70 State Aid for education will increase by approximately \$160,000 (about a 1% increase), and is consistent with the "hold" harmless funding provided by the State to local school districts. It cannot be overstated that the lack of substantive increase in the Chapter 70 money Medway receives annually is one of, if not the single, greatest financial challenges our town faces. Addressing this issue by our officials at the Commonwealth level could provide much needed funding and assistance for our schools.

In total, the Medway School Committee has proposed a FY26 operating budget of \$37,574,728. This represents a substantial and meaningful increase funding from the Town. As a result, for the first time in a number of years the Education Department is able to staff. To that end, FY26's budget includes an increase of 9.1 FTEs (fulltime equivalents). These include a combination classroom teachers and critical support personnel to help ensure all of our children have the opportunity to meet their potential regardless of their needs. As with previous years, the Education Department will carry forward a portion of the Circuit Breaker receipts received in the prior fiscal year for use in FY25. Historically, the goal of the Education Department has been to carry forward the full amount of Circuit Breaker funds received in a given year for use in the following year. However, current funding and budget needs have prevented this from occurring the last couple of years. As a result, we will use not just FY25's remaining Circuit Breaker Funds, but also a portion of FY26's. For FY26, the school will use \$878,401 from FY25 Circuit Breaker and \$750,000 from FY26 for a combined amount of \$1,933,401, which, when combined with the proposed Town Appropriation of \$34,228,962, and other offsets will complete the funding required for the FY25 operating budget.

	Final Budget FY2025	Budget FY2026
Salaries	\$24,559,308	\$27,063,131
Out of District Tuition	\$1,173,592	\$1,442,747
Transportation	\$1,555,167	\$1,401,535
Facilities	\$2,514,679	\$2,6525,373
Other	\$1,773,254	\$1,696,176
Town Funded MPS Operational Budget	\$31,576,000	\$34,228,962
Total Offsets including Circuit Breaker	\$3,440,763	\$3,345,766
Grand total MPS operating budget	\$35,016,763	\$37,574,728

Medway's education budget also includes assessments from the Tri-County Vocational Technical Regional School District (Tri-County) and the Norfolk County Agricultural High School (Norfolk). Medway is one of 12 communities belonging to the Tri-County district and our FY25 assessment is \$1,459,000. The Tri-County board derives this assessment following Commonwealth formulas and using a similar process as MPS uses to develop its budget. Additionally, for FY26, Medway's assessment for construction of the new Tri-County approved by the citizens will be \$1,000,000. This number is an increase of almost \$840,000 over FY25, and it may grow more in the future. These amounts for Tri-County are outside of the \$34,228,962 in the general fund allocated for our schools.

The Medway Public Schools, its mission and programs are important to the character of our Town. The schools are a source of great pride for Medway, and a crucial part of what makes Medway a great place to live. We are proud of the successes our students continue to have in the classroom, at athletics in the arts, and in their many other activities. As a community, we are indebted to all who work and volunteer in our schools. In particular we are thankful for the leadership of Dr. Pires, the school administration, and School Committee have shown as they work find ways to provide for our students and balance competing needs. It is incumbent on all of us to continue to support them and work to find ways to provide them the resources they need to continue to provide for our Town's children.

Respectfully submitted by the Finance Committee Education Subcommittee

General Government Subcommittee Report

The General Government portion of the budget is comprised of those departments that handle the policymaking, financial, and administrative functions for the Town. They include the following departments/committees:

Town Manager	Human Resources	Communications
Finance Committee	Town Accountant	Assessors
Treasurer/Collector	Legal	MIS/Technology
Town Clerk	Elections/Registrar	Conservation
Planning Board	Zoning Board	Energy Committee/Management
Facility Projects	Annual Town Report	Community Development

In addition, debt service and unclassified expenses fall under the umbrella of the General Government portion of the budget as outlined in Town Wide General Government section. Also included in this section are the insurance and benefit costs for the Town and all of its employees (Municipal and School), as well as debt service expenses that are part of our bonded capital items. Listed below is the current debt schedule for the Town.

Debt is classified as excluded or non-excluded. Excluded debt is a temporary tax increase - 'excluded' from the limits of Proposition 2 ½ - that is used to pay debt service costs (principal plus interest) on money borrowed to finance a specific project. Debt exclusions require a 2/3 affirmative vote from Town Meeting and a subsequent majority ballot vote. In general, Medway issues excluded debt with a 20-year term. Non-excluded debt is debt service costs paid within the 2 ½ tax levy.

The Subcommittee would also like to report that the Town has several established stabilization accounts to provide financial security for the Town. During FY25, the Town of Medway continued to remain financially stable. Medway's improved financial performance and currently strong reserve levels has helped the Town manage its financial obligations, which has helped maintain the Town's bond rating at AAA. By implementing strict controls and adopting a conservative approach, the Town is well positioned for FY26 and beyond.

Respectfully submitted by the Finance Committee General Government Subcommittee

Public Works Subcommittee Report

The Department of Public Works is responsible to the residents, businesses, and visitors of Medway for maintaining, operating and proactively managing the public infrastructure that supports our thriving community. This infrastructure consists of more than 100 miles of residential and urban roadways containing bridges, sidewalks, curbs, traffic signals, street lighting, guardrail fencing, surface and sub-surface storm water systems, sanitary wastewater systems, public water supply systems, and public shade trees. This infrastructure along with municipal buildings, parks, vehicles, and solid waste management all together well define the overall quality of life in the community.

The Department is organized into the following Divisions: Administration & Finance, Engineering and Facilities, Parks Division, Highway & Fleet Maintenance, Water & Sewer and **newly formed Cemetery Division**. The Town has assumed responsibility for maintaining the Evergreen Cemetery on Cottage St. after the previous owners relinquished responsibility for it.

The proposed FY26 DPW budget reflects a modest increase over FY25, driven mostly by contractual O/T rate increases and the addition of personnel to maintain the Evergreen Cemetery mentioned above.

Responsibilities for each Division are described in more detail below.

Administration and Finance

The primary function of the staff within this division is to provide first customer contact, administrative and financial support to the numerous and varying Department programs, as well as interact and actively supporting Town goals and objectives. Each operational function of the Department's activities has an extensive administrative component which must be completed in a concise and controlled manner to ensure deadlines are met and that program milestones are achieved. Many of the Department's initiatives have associated financial and regulatory reporting requirements. This Division manages and supports these major activities to name a few:

- Private Trash Program Renewals
- Permitting and Licensing
- Call Log/Work Order System maintenance
- Solid Waste/Recycling operations and Regulatory Reporting
- Roadway & Sidewalk construction and roadway maintenance
- Monitor residential water accounts to provide notice of service leaks and of outdoor watering violations
- Work with internal and external focus groups to support a series of initiatives in water, wastewater, solid waste, road construction and stormwater to provide better overall water resource management.
- Administer State/Federal grants for the department

Engineering and Facilities

Supports the Town's commitment toward upgrading and expanding its public infrastructure, managing numerous significant infrastructure projects and initiatives simultaneously. The proper management of capital initiatives requires staffing charged with phased project oversight ranging from planning to beneficial use or a "cradle to grave" management approach.

Another significant component to this unit is the management of building and grounds maintenance for the Town's fifteen (15) public facilities, including all State mandated inspections.

Additionally, work performed within this function area ranges from minor repairs to extensive reconstruction and rehabilitation of town owned building structures. These include renovations and upgrades to Police & Fire Dept buildings, Senior Center, Thayer Homestead, Choate Park, Community Farm and many others. These services rendered by DPW often offer significant savings over use of 3rd party contractors.

Water and Sewer

The Water and Sewer Division is responsible all operation and maintenance activities necessary to maintain the level of service expected from our customers as well as regulatory authorities on a 24/7/365 from our public water and sewer utilities. Our water system consists of pumping facilities located at four (4) drinking-water well sites, where three of the four well sites are directed to the new treatment plant facility put into service in May of 2024. The fourth well has treatment onsite and pumps into the system.

Being a groundwater system, the Town treats its raw water at the new \$20M Populatic St. Water Treatment facility has improved water quality by removing iron and manganese from the source water. The facility includes additional space for future PFAS treatment, which will be required under the new National Primary Drinking Water Regulation proposed by the EPA. All of these treatment processes require daily manual monitoring by certified staff as well as with the Department's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. Drinking water is pumped to two (2) water storage tanks having a combined capacity of 2.8 million gallons.

The wastewater system is comprised of approximately forty-four miles of gravity sewer that discharges into the treatment facility operated by the Charles River Pollution Control District. Through its recent sewer extension project, the Department now operates and maintains a sewer pump station located in the Trotter Drive Industrial Park area.

The geographic disbursement of these complex and dated systems throughout the Town's eleven square miles creates a particular challenge to the relatively small Water and Sewer Division. The general deferment of capital investment in these systems during recent decades is cause for an infrastructure which demands high levels of maintenance and attention. Fortunately, in recent years, Master Plans have been conducted which identify infrastructure needs based on the risk and consequence of failure. Through the use of advanced technology and thoughtful prepared scheduling of human and equipment resources, the Water and Sewer Division is able to meet the needs and demands of its diverse systems while providing residences and businesses with the highest level of customer service possible.

Parks Division

The Parks Division continues to include the management of solid waste collection and disposal, resource recycling and reuse, the managed care and maintenance of the Town's parks and fields, as well as grounds care and maintenance of all municipal buildings including schools. The Department maintains reliance on the Board of Health for assistance with regulatory policy setting and enforcement. Included within the Parks Division is the managed care of the Town's fifty-five (55) acres of passive and active recreational areas under the jurisdiction of the Board of Park & Recreation Commissioners. Also held within this unit is the oversight of the Town's street and shade tree program managed by the Department's statutory Tree Warden designee.

Highway

This Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of all public ways encompassing approximately one hundred (100) miles of roadway, consisting of approximately 280 lane miles. Maintenance of this transportation network includes all portions of Town right-of-way including roadways, sidewalks, storm water drainage systems, street lighting, signage, and traffic control devices. Daily work is scheduled and assigned based upon a balance between planned projects and customer service response. A majority of the Department's heavy equipment is operated and dispatched from within this unit. As such, its activities are broad in scope and diverse in function. This division is responsible for the management of winter storm operations including the hiring of supplemental contract equipment in accordance with the Town's snow and ice policy and budget. In FY26, DPW will continue implementation of its seven-year road improvement program.

Stormwater

Over the last 20 years, significant attention has been focused on the impacts of stormwater on water quality, nowhere is this truer than in Medway as we are in the highly sensitive Charles River Watershed. The DPW, through its Engineering & Highway Divisions, continues to work with the Conservation Commission and their agent to continue to develop and refine our stormwater regulations and practices. Water quality testing continues, and the Department is working to complete the electronic mapping of the drainage system.

- ☐ Continued updating GIS mapping and inspections of all stormwater outfalls and associated structures
- ☐ Advanced Stormwater inspection program per our MS4 Permit
- ☐ Completing Stormwater BMP inspections
- ☐ Submitted Phosphorous Control Plan
- ☐ Began design work for stormwater BMPs across Town.

Fleet Maintenance

Activities within the Fleet Maintenance group include service to those units assigned to the Police, Fire, Ambulance, Council on Aging, and Department of Public Works. It is understood that these divisions engage in continual operations and service to the Town twenty-four hours a day. As such, it is imperative that the core equipment utilized by these divisions remain operating at all times. Work is performed in accordance with local, state and federal standards associated with emissions, fuel criteria, safety and operational protocols. Staff hold credentials allowing them to work on a full line of vehicles and equipment ranging from small engine repair, light duty equipment, medium rated vehicles to a full array of heavy equipment consisting of complex

mechanical, hydraulic and electrical components. Preventive and regular maintenance is scheduled while emergency/reactive service is prioritized based upon the risk and consequence of equipment failure. Each approach is tracked and monitored utilizing a computerized workorder management system.

- ☐ Inspected and repaired all municipal emergency generators
- ☐ Assisted in supplying temporary power for Town events
- ☐ Performed State Inspection vehicles and equipment
- ☐ Performed snow contractor inspections

Respectfully submitted by the FinCom Public Works Subcommittee

Public Safety Subcommittee Report

Medway Police Department

The mission of the **Medway Police Department (MPD)** is to maintain a safe community through a balance of community partnership, respect, fairness, trust, and tactically sound policing. The stated vision that the Medway Police Department will provide exceptional public safety service through a problem-solving partnership between our community and our committed workforce which strives to improve the quality of life for our residents, visitors, and business partners. MPD has seen improved community service and outreach programs, with positive citizen response. During FY25, MPD created a new drone unit to assist with missing persons and community search.

The Department, led by Chief William Kingsbury, provides a vital and increasingly complicated role in protecting the citizens of Medway, now and for the future. The department is currently made up of senior officers in administrative and command positions with officers in mid-career manning supervisory & specialty positions and younger officers in position to advance as more senior officers retire.

FY25 personnel changes/promotions:

- Lt. Jeff Watson who will retire end of June 2025 after 37 years of service.
- Peter Fasolino to Lieutenant.
- Bill White to Sargent.
- Lauren Swarthout to Detective Sargent.
- Christopher Ballou to Detective.
- John Meincke to Administrative

Proposed FY26 Budget drivers:

- Planning to add a full-time School Resource Officer (SRO). The demand for this service at our schools has grown well beyond the capacity of current staffing of 1 person.
- Increased officer Education and Training budget to meet state and other requirements of Police Reform Bill.
- Budget to replace aging front-line cruiser and two additional EV Administrative cars
- Increased Electricity budget to meet expected needs
- Salary increases per contracts

Outlook/Headwinds for future:

- Overtime, officer replacement due to injury, added cost of scheduling and paying is a serious problem.
- Unfunded state mandates and requirements
- Program costs have escalated dramatically.
- New Civil Service regulation will have a strong effect on hiring and officer promotion.

Medway Fire Department

The mission of the **Medway Fire Department** is to protect and to save the lives, property, and environment of the citizens of Medway from emergencies and disasters through fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency medical services, hazardous materials mitigation, and public education. Chief Jeffrey Lynch and Deputy Chiefs Michael Fasolino and Paul Molla continue to provide strong leadership for both the Town's Fire Department and EMS Services.

FY25/26 personnel changes/promotions:

- Hired Paul Molla our new Community Risk Reduction Deputy Chief. Deputy Chief Molla comes from Franklin Fire with over 20 years' experience.
- Chief Lynch's retirement is set for September 2025
- Deputy Chief Michael Fasolino to become the new Chief in September 2025, a testament to the leadership and succession planning within the Department.
- Firefighter Alyssa Perella was appointed EMS Coordinator (Full time position)
- Three new hires, Mark MacDonald, Jessica Roberts and Colin Campbell have successfully passed their Paramedic testing.
- One new Career Firefighter Paramedic was hired to replace FF Perella. Michael Wainwright came from Wrentham Fire with over 15 years' experience.

With exception of the full time EMS Coordinator, these were not incremental headcount for the Department. Recruiting and retention continues to be a challenge in a strong and competitive labor market.

Proposed FY26 Budget drivers:

The proposed Fire Department operating budget for FY26 will increase by ~10%, mostly due to:

- Contractual salary increases and additional overtime needed to cover growing call volume and personnel absences on medical leave and other work-related absences.
- Increased training budget to meet contractual obligations
- Increased cost to resupply ambulances due to rising call volume and as hospitals continue to cut back on these historical offerings.

Outlook/Headwinds for future:

- The biggest concern facing the Department is the ability to satisfy its mission of providing life-saving emergency services and care to the residents of Medway. Dramatic increases in emergency call volume over the past few years has strained current staffing which hasn't grown accordingly.
- There were over 3,000 emergency calls (Ave. 9 calls/day) in CY24, with ~40% being simultaneous calls. With insufficient staffing, the Department relies on mutual aid from surrounding towns which delays response time (assuming they have a unit available). It is common to call several surrounding partners before finding an available ambulance.
- Town demographics (aging population) and new developments like BESS will continue to drive call volume and potential for more labor-intensive emergency services
- See "benchmarking" data below to show how Medway's Emergency Calls/person is much higher than most surrounding towns, directly impacting service to the community.
- This will need to be addressed in future budget cycles.

Call Volume & Staffing Comparison

Town	Total Calls	Staffing	Calls per Person
Sutton	657	4	164.25
Stow	1067	5	213.40
Medfield	1549	16	96.81
Holliston	1818	0	N/A
Norfolk	2001	15	133.40
Maynard	2094	20	104.70
Millis	2572	17	151.29
Ashland	2719	24	113.29
Medway	3027	20	151.35
Wrentham	3105	30	103.50
Bellingham	3356	32	104.88
Norton	3521	40	88.03
Franklin	5579	54	103.31

Animal Control Department

The **Animal Control Department** is a shared service with the Town of Millis. Both municipalities currently fund the budget for this service according to usage. The proposed budget for animal control in FY26 is \$90,300 a decrease of ~\$20,000 from FY25 which included the purchase of a new Animal Control vehicle.

The Subcommittee would like to thank Chief Kingsbury, Chief Lynch and Deputy Chiefs Fasolino and Molla for their guidance and input during this budget preparation. We are also extremely grateful for our Police and Fire Departments for their complete dedication to serving our residents. The residents of Medway are proud of our public safety leadership and staff charged with serving and protecting the Town.

Respectfully submitted by the Public Safety Subcommittee

Health and Human Services Subcommittee Report

The **Medway Council on Aging (COA)** is dedicated to assessing the needs of and providing services to residents ages 50 and older. Their mission is to advocate for an improved quality of life for older adults through educational, social, and recreational activities. The Senior Center provides many social and enrichment activities including; assisting seniors in navigating the complex challenges of aging, to determine eligibility for fuel and nutrition assistance programs, finding and securing appropriate health insurance, transportation for medical appointments, property tax relief, along with many events and day trips to foster enjoyment and community.

During the past year, both long-term employees of the Outreach Department retired and two new team members joined the Center. Despite these transitions, the department continued to succeed in their mission and assisted over 350 clients. Their role encompasses explaining community programs and benefits, generating the COA Newsletter, assisting with applications, guiding Medway residents through available services, and advocating for their well-being.

The COA annual expenditures are on budget and overseen by Director Courtney Riley. When someone in the community reaches out, the dedicated team including Assistant Director Judi Notturmo, the Outreach Department and reliable volunteers join together to provide whatever is needed in the moment or direct those in need to the proper department.

The **Board of Health** Director Derek Kwok reported that the Health Department budget is on track this year without any large expenses or budget line increases as compared to last year.

However, there are currently two areas that are requiring more intense oversight:

- a. The nurse for the Natick/Walpole Visiting Nurses Association left their position and that organization will no longer be filling that role in offering public health nursing services to municipalities (Medway included). It was difficult but Director Kwok was successful in securing a similar service to finish out this fiscal year and meet the State mandated requirements under SAPHE 2.0, but next year's services have not been secured. It may be in the best interests of each town to bring in their own public health nurse or share that position with another neighboring community. An analysis is ongoing and recommendations will be shared when completed.
- b. The second issue is the observed increase in sharps disposal at the police station and the associated increase in costs for such services. It is believed this increase may be due to the new/increased use of injectable weight loss medications.

The **Veterans Services** budget is comprised of our share of the Metrowest Veterans District Agent salary, expenses such as grave markers and flags, and administration of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 115 benefits to residents or survivors in Medway.

Respectfully submitted by the Health and Human Services Subcommittee

Library Subcommittee Report

The FY 2026 proposed Medway Public Library budget is \$587,583, an increase of 15% from the FY 2025 budget. Much of this increase is driven by the addition of a new full-time adult programming librarian, with a January 2026 expected start date. Currently, the library has four full-time employees and eleven part-time employees. Personnel costs make up the bulk of the Library's budget at 72% of proposed FY 2026 expenditures. The next largest category is books and periodicals, which represent 15% of the library's budget, or \$88,000. Spending on books and periodicals for FY 2026 is in line with actual spending in FY 2024 and the current FY 2025 budget. The library budget also includes \$3,000 for programming. The library is overseen by the Library Board of Trustees, a five member board elected to three-year terms. The library receives financial and volunteer support from the Friends of the Medway Library, including additional support for library programs.

The library continued to serve as a hub for the community in the current fiscal year, offering a wide variety of programming for all ages such as toddler activities, family yoga, book discussions, game nights, and a free summer lunch program. The Makerspace entered its seventh year, offering programming such as a monthly mending workshop. The additional full-time staff member proposed in the FY 2026 budget will continue to allow the library to expand its offerings and service to residents. For example, in November 2024 the library extended Friday hours by two hours and now closes at 4:00 p.m. The library revamped its website this year, added a museum pass to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and created a Library of Things (objects other than books that the library lends out).

Respectfully submitted, Library Subcommittee

Planning and Economic Development Board Subcommittee Report

The Planning and Economic Development Board (PEDB) is made up of five members elected to five-year terms. Working collaboratively with the town's Community Preservation Committee, Design Review Committee, Economic Development Committee, and Master Plan Committee, the PEDB provides planning, support, coordination, and advice on issues involving land use planning, zoning, economic development, and smart growth.

At the November 2024 Fall Town Meeting, the town approved changes to the zoning bylaw to bring the town into compliance with the state MBTA Communities Act. The town received approval from the Attorney General relating to the MBTA bylaw and is, as of March 2024, waiting for the compliance certificate from the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities.

The PEDB three zoning articles before the May 2025 Town Meeting:

- *Housekeeping Amendments*: These changes update the zoning bylaw to conform with an older state law regarding appeal of subdivision permitting decisions, and a 2024 state law about the time period allowed for applicants to begin construction.
- *Flood Plain Bylaw*: This will update the bylaw to utilize the most current Federal Emergency Management Agency flood maps. This ensures compliance with state and federal requirements and allows residents to be eligible for flood insurance. The amendment eliminates a paragraph about flood plain special permits to ensure internal consistency with other parts of the bylaw that do not require these permits.
- *Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)*: These amendments bring the zoning bylaw into compliance with state law allowing ADUs (granny flats) by right in single-family zoning districts, and eliminate the requirement that ADUs be occupied by the owner or by family members. The use of ADUs for short-term rentals is prohibited.

The May 2025 Town Meeting warrant also includes an article to accept the streets of Little Tree Road and Rustic Road (also known as Speroni Acres), making them public ways that are maintained by the town. These roads will require around half a million dollars of repair, which the town plans to incorporate into the usual schedule of public works spending. The warrant article specifies that the sewer infrastructure for this subdivision, which is a private system tied into the town sewer, is not being accepted.

Respectfully submitted, Planning and Economic Development Subcommittee

Affordable Housing Committee and Affordable Housing Trust Subcommittee Report

The Affordable Housing Committee and the Affordable Housing Trust are each made up of five members appointed by the Select Board. The committee is charged with providing oversight and guidance to help the town meet its affordable housing goals, while the trust has oversight over town funds dedicated to affordable housing. These funds come from payments from developers in lieu of affordable housing set asides, Community Preservation Act funds authorized at town meeting, and other sources. The two groups meet monthly in joint sessions.

Medway's affordable housing surpasses the state-mandated 10% minimum, which means Medway can assert application of local zoning bylaws if challenged by a developer. Three projects - Glen Brook Way, 39 Main Street, and Timber Crest - met milestones which will ensure this standard is met at least until the 2030 census.

The town's Community Housing Coordinator, John Douglas Havens, retired in 2024 after many years of devoted service to the community. Rather than hire a new Community Housing Coordinator, the trust and the town will join the SWAP/TRIC Shared Housing Services Office (SHSO) at the beginning of FY 2026. The SHSO will provide any needed affordable housing support, such as compliance monitoring and assisting with affordable housing lotteries.

The trust also authorized \$20,000 for a feasibility study of 72A and 72B Main Street (between the Charles River Bank and Carquest Auto Parts). This will be an engineering study to determine the number of potential affordable housing units that could be built on this land, which is currently owned by the town. No final determination has been made about these parcels, and any potential projects will receive multiple rounds of state, town, and Select Board input.

Respectfully submitted, Affordable Housing Subcommittee

Parks and Recreation Subcommittee Report

Medway Parks and Recreation is made up of a director, first hired in 2018, and an assistant director, hired three years ago. The town budget includes half of the salaries for the director and assistant director, funded at \$77,625 in FY 2026. This is a decrease from the FY 2025 budget, which had included half of the director salary and the full assistant director salary. The remaining salary for these two employees is paid out of the department's

programmatic revolving fund. Each athletic field in town has a revolving fund, in addition to a revolving fund for Parks and Recreation programs. These funds receive revenue from field rentals and program fees, and support the operations and maintenance of the fields and the staffing and expenses of programming. A five-member Parks Commission, consisting of three elected and two appointed members, oversees the department and approves funding and scheduling requests. The Parks Division of the Department of Public Works plays a key role in maintaining and improving the town's parks and fields.

In FY 2024, the department ran 802 programs with 8,890 registered participants, a substantial increase from the FY 2023 totals of 632 programs and 6,825 registered participants. Activities continued to be robust, including the summer concert series at Oakland Park, the pumpkin walk (which drew 5,000 visitors last year), an ever-growing holiday lights competition, and an egg hunt.

In January 2025, Parks and Recreation took over the VFW building on Holliston Street. The town purchased the building in 2017, and leased the space back to the Post 1526. The town and the Post agreed not to renew the lease, although the Post still has space in the building for meetings. Parks and Recreation will run camps at the building starting this summer, and the building will also host programs and community events. The department plans to work to renovate the building to fit the needs of the department and the residents.

Respectfully submitted, Parks and Recreation Subcommittee

Facilities Task Force Report

The Facilities Review Committee is comprised of representatives of the Select Board, Finance Committee, School Committee, Capital Improvement Committee, and members of the community at-large. The committee is responsible to analyze all Town of Medway facilities to determine their current condition and identify short-term and long-term needs. This effort was accomplished through meetings and walkdowns of all structures with building managers and user groups, along with a review of detailed documentation for each building provided by a contracted consulting firm. The firm was tasked with performing in-depth reviews of all town owned structures, documenting all findings, and providing recommendations to address the findings.

Phase 1 was completed which identified the Fire Station, Police Station, and Town Hall as the highest priority structures. Based on current and future program needs along with the condition of each of the buildings, the recommendation is for the Town to design and construct new buildings for each of these three departments. The current structures and their locations do not support their respective missions and renovation or expansion will not solve the problems. The committee presented their findings to the Select Board which led to the formation of the Municipal Complex Building Committee to oversee design of the new public safety campus on the former Medway Block property.

Next steps are for this committee to review and investigate Phase 2 buildings from the report and determine long-term and short-term solutions for those structures to better serve the current and future needs of each department. Once the review of Phase 2 buildings has been completed, the committee will present its findings to the Select Board and community in general.

Respectfully submitted by the Facilities Task Force Subcommittee

V. DEFINITIONS AND GLOSSARY

How Town Meeting Operates

The Town Moderator conducts Town Meeting. No one may speak unless recognized by the Moderator. If you wish to speak, first raise your hand. When recognized, stand up, speak clearly and direct your question or comment to the Moderator. If you wish to make an amendment or motion but are unsure of the phrasing, state the substance of the comment and request assistance from the Moderator.

The Articles are addressed in the order that they appear in the Warrant. The Moderator summarizes each Article aloud and then recognizes a member of the Finance Committee who verbalizes the Finance Committee's recommendation in the form of a motion either *in favor* or *against*. The Moderator then asks if there is any discussion on the motion. During the discussion, motions can be made by registered Town voters to either amend or dismiss the motion of the Finance Committee. If the discussion on any matter continues for a lengthy time, anyone in attendance may request to "move the question." The request, if supported by a favorable 2/3rd vote has the effect of stopping discussion on the matter and requiring an immediate vote on the motion.

When discussion is finished on an amendment or main motion, the Moderator calls for a voice vote (except in cases where the law requires a count). The Moderator judges by the sound of the voices whether the motion passes or fails and announces the result. Any seven persons may question the Moderator's decision by standing and requesting a count.

Once the article has been acted upon, anyone may move to reconsider that action at any time during the session at which it was passed. However, if less than one-hour elapses prior to adjournment to the next session, then additional time (up to one hour) is allowed during the next nightly session for reconsideration. A favorable 2/3rd vote is required to pass a motion for reconsideration. After the time to move for reconsideration elapses, an Article can only be acted upon again by putting it on the Warrant for a future Town Meeting.

The Omnibus Budget is handled differently than the others. This contains the various operating budgets for the Town boards and departments as listed by numbered line items. The Moderator first reads the titles and all of the line items in turn. Anyone with a question concerning a particular line item or wishing to amend the amount recommended by the Finance Committee, should call out "pass" when the Moderator reads that particular line. If no one "passes," an omnibus motion without discussion will automatically approve the recommended amount. After all line items have been read, the Moderator asks for discussion and motion on each item that was "passed."

If all articles cannot be covered in one evening, a motion will be made to continue the Town Meeting on the following evening, as if there had been no interruption.

Regulations for Consent Calendar

Eligibility for Consent Calendar:

- Article must be printed in a form to enable action to be taken in the form of a "short motion" i.e., "I move that Article 2 be passed as printed in the Warrant." If additional information is needed in order to take action under the article, such as inserting a sum of money, the article will not be eligible under the Consent Calendar.
- There must be a unanimous agreement as to the action to be taken between the sponsors and the Finance Committee and all other interested Boards and Citizens. The appearance of agreement will enable the article to be put on the Consent Calendar.
- In the event that articles on the Consent Calendar include those for "affirmative" action and those for "dismissal," the Consent Calendar will be subdivided into those two parts.

Procedure for Consideration of Consent Calendar:

- No debate will be allowed on any article on the Consent Calendar.
- At the Town Meeting, each article on the Consent Calendar will be clearly identified by number.

- An Article on the Consent Calendar will be removed from the Consent Calendar on the request of any voter present at the Town Meeting, and then be considered in the usual manner.
- All articles not removed from the Consent Calendar will be passed in one short form action e.g., “I move that Articles 2, 21, 24, 33, be passed as printed in the Warrant.”

Glossary

[Reference: Municipal Finance Glossary, April 2007, Massachusetts Department of Revenue/Division of Local Services]

Appropriation: An authorization granted by a town meeting, city council or other legislative body to expend money and incur obligations for specific public purposes. An appropriation is usually limited in amount and as to the time period within which it may be expended.

Cherry Sheet: Named for the cherry colored paper on which they were originally printed, the Cherry Sheet is the official notification to cities, towns and regional school districts of the next fiscal year's state aid and assessments. The aid is in the form of distributions, which provide funds based on formulas and reimbursements that provide funds for costs incurred during a prior period for certain programs or services.

Exclusion: A temporary increase to the Town's levy limit. There are two types of exclusions: capital outlay expenditure exclusion and debt exclusion.

Capital Outlay Expenditure Exclusion: A temporary increase in the tax levy to fund a capital project or make a capital acquisition. Exclusions require two-thirds vote of the select board or city council (sometimes with the mayor's approval) and a majority vote in a community-wide referendum. The exclusion is added to the tax levy only during the year in which the project is being funded and may increase the tax levy above the levy ceiling.

Debt Exclusion: An action taken by a community through a referendum vote to raise the funds necessary to pay debt service costs for a particular project from the property tax levy, but outside the limits under Proposition 2½. By approving a debt exclusion, a community calculates its annual levy limit under Proposition 2½, then adds the excluded debt service cost. The amount is added to the levy limit for the life of the debt only and may increase the levy above the levy ceiling.

Fiscal Year (FY): Since 1974, the Commonwealth and municipalities have operated on a budget cycle that begins July 1 and ends June 30. The designation of the fiscal year is that of the calendar year in which the fiscal year ends.

Free Cash: Remaining, unrestricted funds from operations of the previous fiscal year including unexpended free cash from the previous year, actual receipts in excess of revenue estimates shown on the tax recapitulation sheet, and unspent amounts in budget line items. Unpaid property taxes and certain deficits reduce the amount that can be certified as free cash. The calculation of free cash is based on the balance sheet as of June 30, which is submitted by the community's auditor, accountant, or comptroller. Important: free cash is not available for appropriation until certified by the Director of Accounts.

Levy: The amount a community raises through the property tax. The levy can be any amount up to the levy limit, which is re-established every year in accordance with Proposition 2½ provisions.

Levy Ceiling – A levy ceiling is one of two types of levy (tax) restrictions imposed by MGL Ch. 59 §21C (Proposition 2½). It states that, in any year, the real and personal property taxes imposed may not exceed 2½ percent of the total full and fair cash value of all taxable property. Property taxes levied may exceed this limit only if the community passes a capital exclusion, a debt exclusion, or a special exclusion. (See Levy Limit)

Levy Limit: A levy limit is one of two types of levy (tax) restrictions imposed by MGL Ch. 59 §21C (Proposition 2½). It states that the real and personal property taxes imposed by a city or town may only grow each year by 2½ percent of the prior year's levy limit, plus new growth and any overrides or exclusions. The levy limit can exceed the levy ceiling only if the community passes a capital expenditure exclusion, debt exclusion, or special exclusion. (See Levy Ceiling)

Net Assets Unrestricted (formerly Retained Earnings) – An equity account reflecting the accumulated earnings of an enterprise fund that may be used to fund capital improvements, to reimburse the general fund for prior year subsidies, to reduce user charges and to provide for enterprise revenue deficits (operating loss).

Override: A vote by a community at an election to permanently increase the levy limit. An override vote may increase the levy limit no higher than the levy ceiling. The override question on the election ballot must state a purpose for the override and the dollar amount.

Retained Earnings – (See Net Assets Unrestricted)

Revolving Fund: Allows a community to raise revenues from a specific service and use those revenues without appropriation to support the service. For departmental revolving funds, MGL Ch. 44 §53E½ stipulates that each fund must be reauthorized each year at annual town meeting or by city council action, and that a limit on the total amount that may be spent from each fund must be established at that time. The aggregate of all revolving funds may not exceed ten percent of the amount raised by taxation by the city or town in the most recent fiscal year, and no more than one percent of the amount raised by taxation may be administered by a single fund. Wages or salaries for full-time employees may be paid from the revolving fund only if the fund is also charged for all associated fringe benefits.

Special Revenue Fund: Funds, established by statute only, containing revenues that are earmarked for and restricted to expenditures for specific purposes. Special revenue funds include receipts reserved for appropriation, revolving funds, grants from governmental entities, and gifts from private individuals or organizations.

Stabilization Fund: A fund designed to accumulate amounts for capital and other future spending purposes, although it may be appropriated for any lawful purpose (MGL Ch. 40 §5B). Communities may establish one or more stabilization funds for different purposes and may appropriate into them in any year an amount not to exceed ten percent of the prior year's tax levy. The total of all stabilization fund balances shall not exceed ten percent of the community's equalized value, and any interest shall be added to and become a part of the funds. A two-thirds vote of town meeting or city council is required to establish, amend the purpose of, or appropriate money into or from the stabilization fund. (See DOR IGR 04-201)

Town Accountant: Responsible for maintaining the Town's Operating Accounts. Among the responsibilities of this position are recording financial transactions involving the sources and uses of cash, as well as issuing regular financial reports of balances and of activity for these accounts.

Town Assessor: Responsible for the valuation of all taxable property, setting the Town's property tax rate, revaluation of all taxable property as mandated, and overseeing the overlay reserve account for tax exemptions (credits) and abatements (refunds).

Town Manager: Appointed by the Select Board and is responsible for managing day-to-day operations of the Town.

Town Meeting: A Town Meeting is a public forum where registered voters have the opportunity to express their views and vote on certain matters of significance to the administration of the Town, including matters related to spending money. The primary purpose of the Annual Town Meeting is to decide the amounts of money to be allocated to each of the Town's primary operating accounts.

Town Treasurer/Collector: Responsible for the actual handling of the Town's money, as well as mailing property tax bills, collecting taxes, issuing payroll checks to Town employees, paying vendors and safeguarding cash on hand and on deposit.

Please bring this copy of the Report to Town Meeting

This report is available on the Town of Medway website: <https://medwayma.gov>

**EVERY MEDWAY VOTER IS URGED TO ATTEND AND
PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING:**

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, May 12, 2025, 7:00 PM

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, May 12, 2025, 7:30 PM