

Annual Town Meeting

May 10, 2016

Boxford's Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Gerald Johnston at 7:04pm with 263 voters in attendance.

ARTICLE 1. To receive and place on file the reports of the Town Officers and Committees without ratification of any action taken or authorization of any action proposed; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen

It was moved by Peter Perkins, and duly seconded, that the Moderator NOT be required to read articles or motions of the warrant verbatim and further that he be authorized to summarize articles and motions as he deems appropriate. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of the following revolving accounts as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, contingent upon an annual report to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of each account for each Fiscal Year:

1) **Recycling Revolving Account** under the direction of the Board of Health and used for the deposit of receipts and fees collected on recyclable materials; said recyclable materials to be determined by a joint vote of the Board of Health and Recycling Committee and to be in compliance with all state health regulations; and, further, to allow the Board of Health, or the Recycling Committee, with the approval of the Board of Health, to expend funds not to exceed **\$35,000** for Fiscal Year 2017 from said account for the operation and maintenance of the Town Recycling Center;

2) **Printing Revolving Account** under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and used for the deposit of receipts and fees collected on the sale of printed official documents as required by law by several of the elected and appointed committees, commissions, and boards as well as legal advertisements which are reimbursed to the Town; and further to allow the Board of Selectmen to expend funds not to exceed **\$2,500** for Fiscal Year 2017 from said account for the costs to the Town for printing supplies, equipment and reimbursable advertising;

3) **Conservation Revolving Fund** under the direction of the Conservation Commission and used for the deposit of receipts collected through fees, including fees collected from applications related to the Town of Boxford Wetlands Protection Bylaw, by direction of the Conservation Commission and further to allow the Conservation Commission, with the written approval of the Selectmen, to expend fees not to exceed **\$20,000** for Fiscal Year 2017 from said account for management of land under Conservation Commission control, and for other Conservation Commission expenses approved by a majority of the Commission;

4) **Council on Aging Transportation Revolving Account** under the direction of the Council on Aging and used for the deposit of receipts collected through fees collected from users of the Council's transportation equipment; and further to allow the Board of Selectmen to expend fees not to exceed **\$2,500** for Fiscal Year 2017 from said account for the maintenance of the Council's transportation equipment and other related expenses including driver compensation as may be approved by a majority of the Council on Aging;

5) **Town Building Rental Revolving Account** under the direction of the Board of Selectmen and used for the deposit of receipts collected from public use of the various Town buildings; and further to allow the Board of Selectmen to expend fees not to exceed **\$5,000** for Fiscal Year 2017 from said account for the ongoing administrative expenses, portion of cleaning expenses, utilities, building maintenance and repairs;

6) **Tick Control Product Revolving Account** under the direction of the Board of Health and used for the deposit of receipts collected for tick control products; and further to allow the Board of Health to expend fees not to exceed **\$10,000** for Fiscal Year 2017 from said account for the purchase of tick control products and associated expenses;

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Mary Anne Nay, and duly seconded, to authorize the establishment of the **revolving** accounts as listed in Article #2 of this warrant, as authorized by Chapter 44, § 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, contingent upon an annual report to the Town on the total receipts and expenditures of each account for each Fiscal Year. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to **petition the Legislature to enact legislation as written below** provided, that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, each individual dwelling unit and/or its occupant(s) at elderly housing complexes in Boxford, owned by non-profit corporations, are entitled to the exemptions provided for in M.G.L. c44B section 3 and M.G.L. c59 section 5. Said exemptions shall be allocated to units in a manner prepared by the Boxford Board of Assessors and approved by the Department of Revenue.

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Community Preservation Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Mary Anne Nay, and duly seconded, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature to enact legislation as written below provided, that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

Notwithstanding any other general or special law to the contrary, each individual dwelling unit and/or its occupant(s) at elderly housing complexes in Boxford, owned by non-profit corporations, are entitled to the exemptions provided for in M.G.L. c44B section 3 and M.G.L. c59 section 5. Said exemptions shall be allocated to units in a manner prepared by the Boxford Board of Assessors and approved by the Department of Revenue. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 150E, section 7, will vote to approve the following collective bargaining agreements recently negotiated and ratified by the Board of Selectmen, between the:

- Town and International Brotherhood of the Teamsters Local #25, Boxford Police Patrol Officers for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019;
- Town and American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Council #93, Local 939, Boxford Public Works Employees for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019;
- Town and American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Council #93, Local 939, Boxford Clerical/Library Employees, for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019;
- Town and the Boxford Communications Dispatchers and Police Secretarial Employees Association, for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019;

Said collective bargaining agreements on file with the Town Clerk; funding for the cost items in the first year of said agreements included in the general operating budget of the Town in Article #7 below; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee to make recommendation at Town Meeting

It was moved by Alfred Vaz, Jr., and duly seconded, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 150E, section 7, to approve the following collective bargaining agreements recently negotiated and ratified by the Board of Selectmen, between the:

- Town and the International Brotherhood of the Teamsters Local #25, Boxford Police Patrol Officers for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019; and
- Town and the Boxford Communications Dispatchers and Police Secretarial Employees Association, for the period July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019;

Said collective bargaining agreements on file with the Town Clerk; funding for the cost items in the first year of said agreements included in the general operating budget of the Town in Article #7 below. This motion passed by a greater than two-thirds voice vote.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to adopt a **new compensation plan for non-union call firefighters** as shown on page 12 of this warrant, funding for estimated costs of said plan included in the general operating budget of Town in Article #7 below; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Personnel Board
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

Tim Feeney moved, and it was duly seconded, to adopt a new compensation plan for non-union call firefighters as shown on page 12 of this warrant, funding for estimated costs of said plan included in the general operating budget of Town in Article #7 below. This motion passed by a greater than two-thirds voice vote.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the **Classification Plan and Compensation Plan** for FY 2017, as submitted by the Personnel Board under Chapter 23 of the Town Code; said Classification Plan and Compensation Plan as printed on pages 13 through 15 of this warrant; funding for estimated costs of said plan included in the general operating budget of Town in Article #7 below; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Personnel Board
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

Tim Feeney moved, and it was duly seconded, to adopt the Classification Plan and Compensation Plan for FY 2017, as submitted by the Personnel Board under Chapter 23 of the Town Code; said Classification Plan and Compensation Plan as printed on pages 13 through 15 of this warrant; funding for estimated costs of said plan included in the general operating budget of Town in Article #7 below. This article passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 7. To **act on the proposed budget** and see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, for the use of several departments for Fiscal Year 2017, to wit: General Government, Financial Administration, Public Safety, Education, Public Works, Health & Human Services, Culture & Recreation, Employee Benefits, Debt Service, and all other necessary proper expenses during said fiscal year; and authorize expenditure of these funds under the direction of the appropriate listed department; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Finance Committee
Estimate: **\$31,988,214**
The proposed budget is printed on pages 16 and 17 of this warrant.
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

Michael White moved, and it was duly seconded, to raise and appropriate \$31,988,214 for the use of several departments for Fiscal Year 2017, to wit: General Government, Financial Administration, Public Safety, Education, Public Works, Health & Human Services, Culture & Recreation, Employee Benefits, Debt Service, and all other necessary proper expenses during said fiscal year; and authorize expenditure of these funds under the direction of the appropriate listed department. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

NOTE: At this time, we anticipate that **Article 8** will be offered as a "contingent appropriation." This means that although the appropriation could be approved at the Annual Town Meeting, that appropriation would be fully contingent upon successful passage of the related Proposition 2½ ballot question. Should the override question fail, the appropriation would be rendered null and void.

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ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$153,000 for the purposes of additionally funding the Fiscal Year 2017 Fire Department Budget to hire two additional full-time career firefighters**, provided that the appropriation authorized herein shall be contingent upon the vote at the Town Election to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 2 ½, so called; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

Alfred Vaz, Jr. moved, and it was duly seconded, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$153,000 for the purpose of additionally funding the Fiscal Year 2017 Fire Department Budget to hire two additional full-time career firefighters, provided that the appropriation authorized herein shall be contingent upon the vote at the Town Election to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 2 ½, so called. This motion passed by a greater than two-thirds voice vote.

ARTICLE 9. To act on the list of proposed capital purchases for FY 2017 and see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, for the use of several departments for fiscal year 2017, and authorize expenditure of these funds under the direction of the appropriate listed department and authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of any equipment declared surplus if replaced; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Board of Selectmen (Numbers 1-9)
Sponsored and supported by the Elementary School Committee (Number 10)
Estimate: **\$365,494**
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Permanent Building Committee Recommendations as noted
The proposed capital budget is printed on page 11 of this warrant.

Peter Perkins moved, and it was duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$365,494 to fund the list of proposed capital purchases for FY 2017 as shown of page 11 of this warrant, for the use of several departments for fiscal year 2017, and authorize

expenditure of these funds under the direction of the appropriate listed department and authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of any equipment declared surplus if replaced. This motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to endorse a draft conceptual “Comprehensive Non-School Municipal Facilities Efficiency Plan” as presented by the Planning Board, which proposes in part as follows:

- Relocate Town Hall administration to a new building at 10 Elm Street and/or at the Community Center.
- Maintain, renovate and expand the library services within the existing Town Hall building.
- Relocate the Council on Aging services by renovating and expanding 188 Washington Street.
- Demolish the addition to the Cummings House and renovate the historic portion for library/cultural purposes.
- Re-purpose the Community Center (4 Middleton Road) to be further evaluated.
- Determine and schedule future 10 year facility needs for Fire Department and DPW.
- Comprehensive long-term financial plan to mitigate taxpayer impact.

A full copy of the “plan” is on file with the Town Clerk; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Planning Board
Finance Committee to make recommendation at Town Meeting
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article
Permanent Building Committee to make recommendation at Town Meeting

Jeff Kruck moved, and it was duly seconded, to endorse a draft conceptual “Comprehensive Non-School Municipal Facilities Efficiency Plan” as presented by the Planning Board, which proposes in part as follows:

- Relocate Town Hall administration to a new building at 10 Elm Street and/or at the Community Center.
- Maintain, renovate and expand the library services within the existing Town Hall building.
- Relocate the Council on Aging services by renovating and expanding 188 Washington Street.
- Demolish the addition to the Cummings House and renovate the historic portion for library/cultural purposes.
- Re-purpose the Community Center (4 Middleton Road) to be further evaluated.
- Determine and schedule future 10 year facility needs for Fire Department and DPW.
- Comprehensive long-term financial plan to mitigate taxpayer impact.

A full copy of the “plan” is on file with the Town Clerk.

Robert Fanning moved, and it was duly seconded, to call the question. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Article 10 passed by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money **to engage consulting and other professional services to assist in preparing and evaluating a proof of concept and conceptual street elevation drawings, and long range financial plan and impacts, of a Non-School Municipal Facilities Efficiency Master Plan**, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee, or take any other action thereon

Sponsored and supported by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen
Estimate: up to \$100,000
Finance Committee to make recommendation at Town Meeting
Permanent Building Committee to make recommendation at Town Meeting

It was moved by Al Vaz, and duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$75,000 to engage consulting and other professional services to assist in preparing and evaluating a proof of concept and conceptual street elevation drawings, and long range financial plan and impacts, of a Non-School Municipal Facilities Efficiency Master Plan, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee.

It was moved by Al Vaz, and duly seconded, to amend Article 11 by replacing the phrase “said funds to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee” with the phrase “said funds to be expended under the direction of the Planning Board.”

It was moved by Michele Delfino, and duly seconded, to call the question.

The motion to call the question passed by a greater than two-thirds vote of 124 yes, 57 no.

The amendment passed by a majority show of hands. The amended article passed by a majority show of hands.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$60,000 for design, construction and other necessary expenses to fund the expansion of library services within the Town Hall building**; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee to make recommendation at Town Meeting

It was moved by Charles Costello, and duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$60,000 for design, construction and other necessary expenses to fund the expansion of library services within the Town Hall building; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. This motion passed by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town in partnership with the Boxford Athletic Association will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum not to exceed **\$25,000 to partially fund the design, and repair of the baseball field at Boy Scout Park, off Cahoon Road; including contributions of volunteer services and private donations;** said project to be under the supervision of the Town Engineer, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee to make recommendation at Town Meeting

It was moved by Charles Costello, and duly seconded, in partnership with the Boxford Athletic Association, to transfer from Free Cash the sum not to exceed \$25,000 to partially fund the design, and repair of the baseball field at Boy Scout Park, off Cahoon Road; including contributions of volunteer services and private donations; said project to be under the supervision of the Town Engineer, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$225,000 to engage consulting and engineering services to design,** seek regulatory permitting approval, provide plans and specifications, conduct competitive construction bidding and other services as necessary, for a **replacement roof on Spofford Pond School,** and to authorize the Elementary School Committee to seek grants, donations and reimbursements to assist in the funding of the project; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Elementary School Committee
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Permanent Building Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by David Rivers, and duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$225,000 to engage consulting and engineering services to design, seek regulatory permitting approval, provide plans and specifications, conduct competitive construction bidding and other services as necessary, for a replacement roof on Spofford Pond School, and to authorize the Elementary School Committee to seek grants, donations and reimbursements to assist in the funding of the project; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$30,913 to engage consulting and engineering services to additionally design, seek regulatory permitting approval, and provide plans and specifications for a stormwater drainage project on Balmoral Road**, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Charles Costello to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$30,913 to engage consulting and engineering services to additionally design, seek regulatory permitting approval, and provide plans and specifications for a stormwater drainage project on Balmoral Road, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.

It was moved to pass over this article. The motion to pass over carried by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$5,000 to additionally fund the Conservation Fund**; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Conservation Commission, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Conservation Commission
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article.

It was moved by Peter Delaney, and duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 to additionally fund the Conservation Fund; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Conservation Commission. This article passed by unanimous voice vote

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$40,000 to additionally fund the Insurance Fund**; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by William Cargill, Jr., and duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$40,000 to additionally fund the Insurance Fund; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$32,000 to fund an existing retirement bonus benefit equal**

to 50% of accumulated, but unused sick days available to two retiring employees with more than twenty-five years consecutive service with the Town of Boxford, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by William Cargill, Jr., and duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$32,000 to fund an existing retirement bonus benefit equal to 50% of accumulated, but unused sick days available to two retiring employees with more than twenty-five years consecutive service with the Town of Boxford, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$6,350 to fund consulting services to assist with the preparation and mandatory update of the Town's other post-employment (OPEB) benefit liability report;** said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Mary Anne Nay, and duly seconded, to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$6,350 to fund consulting services to assist with the preparation and mandatory update of the Town's other post-employment (OPEB) benefit liability report; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to set the **annual curbside solid waste collection fee at \$2.50 for each 32-gallon bag or container (each use);** or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Health
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Louise Kress, and duly seconded, to set **the annual curbside solid waste collection fee at \$2.50** for each 32-gallon bag or container (each use). This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues** in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, debt service,

community preservation projects and other expenses in Fiscal Year 2017, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Sawyer-Richardson Open Space Bond expense	\$186,690
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Lincoln Hall Historic Renovation Bond expense	\$ 51,188
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Haynes Land Purchase Bond expense	\$146,250
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Aaron Wood Renovation Bond expense	\$ 15,246
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses	\$ 46,000

Reserves:

From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 25,566
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$ 91,999
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$ 355,000

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Community Preservation Committee
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Peter Delaney, and duly seconded, to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, debt service, community preservation projects and other expenses in Fiscal Year 2017, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY2017 estimated annual revenues for Sawyer-Richardson Open Space Bond expense	\$186,690
From FY2017 estimated annual revenues for Lincoln Hall Historic Renovation Bond expense	\$ 51,188
From FY2017 estimated annual revenues for Haynes Land Purchase Bond expense	\$146,250
From FY2017 estimated annual revenues for Aaron Wood Renovation Bond expense	\$ 15,246
From FY2017 estimated annual revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses	\$ 46,000

Reserves:

From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 25,566
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$ 91,999
From FY 2017 estimated annual revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$355,000

This article passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$6,363 from the Community Preservation Committee Undesignated Fund to fund the purchase and installation of 7 signs and posts to be placed at various recreational fields in Town**, the appropriated funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Community Preservation Committee
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Peter Delaney, and duly seconded, to appropriate \$6,363 from the Community Preservation Committee Annual Revenues to fund the purchase and installation of 7 signs and posts to be placed at various recreational fields in Town, the appropriated funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee. This article passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$22,500 from the Community Preservation Committee Historic Reserve to partially assist in the funding of the design, permitting and development of plans and specifications for a future addition on the privately owned Catherine Ingalls Boxford Historic Documents Center (CIBHDC), 173A Washington Street**, the appropriated funds to be expended, following the expenditure of \$15,000 by the CIBHDC of private funds, under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Community Preservation Committee
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by Peter Delaney, and duly seconded, to pass over this article. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to **petition the Legislature to enact legislation as written below** provided, that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Town of Boxford School Committee may appropriate or transfer, in any year without further appropriation, money from the school department budget to establish a reserve fund to provide for payment of unanticipated, unbudgeted and extraordinary costs of special education out-of-district tuitions and transportation. The Board of Selectmen may appropriate or transfer in any fiscal year money from the Town budget to fund said reserve fund. Such appropriation or transfer shall be in addition to any appropriation or transfer approved by Town Meeting

from time-to-time to such reserve fund. The balance in the fund shall not exceed 2 per cent of annual net school spending as defined in chapter 70 of the General Laws for the prior fiscal year or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Elementary School Committee
Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article
Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

It was moved by David Rivers, and duly seconded, to authorize the Board of Selectmen **to petition the Legislature to enact legislation as written below** provided, that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Town of Boxford School Committee may appropriate or transfer, in any year without further appropriation, money from the school department budget to establish a reserve fund to provide for payment of unanticipated, unbudgeted and extraordinary costs of special education out-of-district tuitions and transportation. The Board of Selectmen may appropriate or transfer in any fiscal year money from the Town budget to fund said reserve fund. Such appropriation or transfer shall be in addition to any appropriation or transfer approved by Town Meeting from time-to-time to such reserve fund. The balance in the fund shall not exceed 2 per cent of annual net school spending as defined in chapter 70 of the General Laws for the prior fiscal year. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 25. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

It was moved by Peter Perkins to dissolve this meeting. This motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 10:25pm.

A true record.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Phelan, Town Clerk