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# Annual Town Meeting Warrant

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**Wednesday, May 08, 2024**

**Time: 7:00 PM | Location: Erving Elementary School**

*Please bring this copy with you to the  
Annual Town Meeting.*

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Town of Erving, should contact the office of the Select Board as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The office of the Select Board is located at 12 East Main Street, Erving, MA 01344.

Email: [administrator@erving-ma.gov](mailto:administrator@erving-ma.gov) | Phone: (413) 422-2800

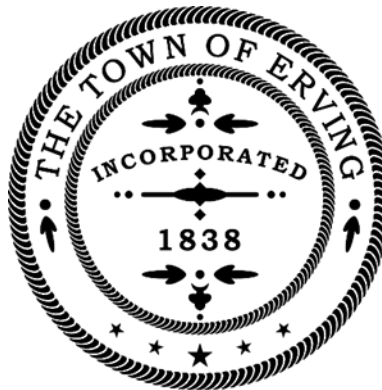
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## Erving's FY 2025 Proposed Operating & Capital Budget

Is available for review at

[www.erving-ma.gov/budgets](http://www.erving-ma.gov/budgets)

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Franklin, ss.

Town of Erving Constables, Town Clerk, and Administrative Assistant: In the name of the Commonwealth, you are directed to notify and warn the said inhabitants qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in the **Erving Elementary School** located at **28 Northfield Road, Erving, MA** on

**Wednesday, May 08, 2024, at 7:00 PM,**

then and there to vote on the following articles in the Warrant:

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## ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS

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**Monday, May 06, 2024**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Erving:

Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Erving, qualified to vote in town affairs to meet in the meeting room at the **Town Hall**, 12 East Main Street in Erving Center on **Monday, May 06, 2024, at 10:00 AM** then and there to bring their votes for the following town offices and ballot questions:

- One (1) Select Board Member for three (3) years
- One (1) Assessor for three (3) years
- One (1) Town Clerk for three (3) years
- One (1) Library Trustee for three (3) years
- One (1) Moderator for one (1) year
- Two (2) School Committee members for three (3) years
- One (1) School Committee member for one (1) year
- One (1) Tree Warden for one (1) year
- One (1) Constable for three (3) years
- One (1) Planning Board member for three (3) years
- One (1) Recreation Commission member for three (3) years
- One (1) Board of Health member for three (3) years

### **Question 1: Debt Exclusion**

Shall the Town of Erving be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to demolish the structures and conduct necessary site clean up, to make a safe and clean site at the former IP Mill?

**The polls will close at 8:00 PM.**

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## GENERAL ARTICLES

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### ARTICLE 1: ACCEPTANCE OF THE CALENDAR YEAR 2023 TOWN REPORT

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officers for the calendar year 2023 or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

*Article Information:* Approval of this article will accept the calendar year 2023 Town Report as presented. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

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### ARTICLE 2: AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL OR STATE GRANTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for Federal or State grants and to expend any monies received and in anticipation of being received, as set forth by the appropriate grant application, and to follow the appropriate procedures, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

*Article Information:* Approval of this article will allow the Select Board to apply for, receive, and take actions to comply with the requirements of grants throughout the year. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

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### ARTICLE 3: AUTHORIZATION TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town to dispose of any Town property that is declared surplus by the Select Board or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

*Article Information:* Approval of this article will allow the Select Board to dispose of Town owned property that is determined to be surplus in accordance with the Town's surplus property policy. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

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## FISCAL YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGET

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### ARTICLE 4: AMEND FY2024 ELECTED OFFICIAL COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Elected Official Compensation, as is detailed in the table below, approved in Article 6 of the May 10, 2023 Annual Town meeting, by an additional Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-three Dollars and Forty Cents (\$14,863.40)

for a fixed sum of One Hundred Seventy-seven Thousand One Hundred Seventy-five Dollars and Ninety Cents (\$177,175.90) and vote that the following salary and compensation be paid from this sum to the following Elected Officials of the Town, as provided by Section 108, Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended, or take any other action relative thereto:

	Original Detail	Proposed Amendment	Amended Wage Total	Wage per Member	Chair Stipend
<b>Assessor (3)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 11,718.00	\$ 3,881.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Board of Health (3)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 3,075.00	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Library Trustees (3)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 3,075.00	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Moderator (1)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 350.00		
<b>Planning Board (5)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 5,075.00	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Recreation Commission (5)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 5,075.00	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>School Committee (5)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 7,090.00	\$ 1,403.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Select Board/Water Commissioners (3)</b>	\$ 12,451.00	\$0.00			\$250.00
<b>from Water Department</b>	\$ 879.00				
<b>Total Salary</b>			\$ 13,330.00	\$ 4,360.00ea	
<b>Tax Collector (1)</b>	\$ 17,304.00	\$2,126.00			
<b>Certification Award</b>	\$ 1,000.00				
<b>From Water Department</b>	\$ 2,026.00				
<b>Total Salary</b>			\$22,456.00		
<b>Town Clerk (1)</b>	\$25,956.00	\$3,174.60			
<b>From Census Work</b>	\$ 1,000.00				
<b>Total Salary</b>			\$30,130.60		
<b>Treasurer (1)</b>	\$60,827.00	\$9,562.80			
<b>Certification Award</b>	\$ 1,000.00				
<b>From Water Department</b>	\$ 1,875.00				
<b>Total Salary</b>			\$ 73,264.80		
<b>Tree Warden (1)</b>		\$0.00	\$ 2,536.50		
<b>Total Elected Official Salary</b>			<b>\$177,175.90</b>		

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

Article Information: This article outlines the compensation amounts for elected officials. This proposed change for the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer salaries is related to the revised compensation scheduled for FY2024 and the funding will be sourced from the existing special article that was approved at the Annual Town Meeting and does not require a change to the current tax levy limit. Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.

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## FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING BUDGET

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### ARTICLE 5: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO COMPENSATING BALANCE AGREEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer and Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements for Fiscal Year 2025 as permitted by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44 Section 53F, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *Approval of this article will allow the Treasurer and Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements with Massachusetts banking institutions. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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### ARTICLE 6: FY2025 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Million Five Hundred Ninety-eight Thousand, Six Hundred Eighty-three Dollars and No Cents (\$6,598,683.00) in the following itemized amounts, all for municipal purposes, or take any other action relative thereto:

Line	Divisions	Amount
1	General Government	\$ 1,486,731.00
2	Public Safety	\$ 1,269,849.00
3	Public Works	\$ 834,472.00
4	Health & Human Services	\$ 314,292.00
5	Culture & Recreation	\$ 434,423.00
6	Assessments	\$ 62,100.00
7	Benefits	\$ 2,196,816.00
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,598,683.00</b>

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *Detailed budget information for each department, that comprises each line-item above, is available in the Fiscal Year 2025 Town of Erving Proposed Operating and Capital Improvement Budget. A copy of the document is available on the municipal website ([www.erving-ma.gov](http://www.erving-ma.gov)) and can be picked up at Town Hall. Approval of this article will establish the FY2025 operating budget in the categories identified above. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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**ARTICLE 7: FY2025 ELECTED OFFICIAL COMPENSATION**

To see if the Town will vote to fix the sum of One Hundred Eighty-one Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-six Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$181,436.50) for Elected Officials' salaries for Fiscal Year 2025, and vote that the following salary and compensation be paid from this sum to the following Elected Officials of the Town, as provided by Section 108, Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended by Chapter 540 of the Acts of 1947, or take any other action relative thereto:

	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Wage Total</b>	<b>Wage per Member</b>	<b>Chair Stipend</b>
<b>Assessor (3)</b>		\$ 11,718.00*	\$ 3,881.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Board of Health (3)</b>		\$ 3,075.00*	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Library Trustees (3)</b>		\$ 3,075.00*	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Moderator (1)</b>		\$ 350.00*		
<b>Planning Board (5)</b>		\$ 5,075.00*	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Recreation Commission (5)</b>		\$ 5,075.00*	\$ 1,000.00ea	\$75.00
<b>School Committee (5)</b>		\$ 7,090.00***	\$ 1,403.00ea	\$75.00
<b>Select Board/Water Commissioners (3)</b>	\$ 12,451.00*			\$250.00
	from Water Department	\$ 879.00**		
	<b>Total Salary</b>	\$ 13,330.00	\$ 4,360.00ea	
<b>Tax Collector (1)</b>	\$ 21,486.00*			
	Certification Award	\$ 1,000.00*		
	From Water Department	\$ 2,026.00**		
	<b>Total Salary</b>	\$24,512.00		
<b>Town Clerk (1)</b>	\$29,460.00*			
	From Census Work	\$ 1,000.00*		
	<b>Total Salary</b>	\$30,460.00		
<b>Treasurer (1)</b>	\$ 72,265.00*			
	Certification Award	\$ 1,000.00*		
	From Water Department	\$ 1,875.00**		
	<b>Total Salary</b>	\$ 75,140.00		
<b>Tree Warden (1)</b>		\$ 2,536.50		
<b>Total Elected Official Salary</b>		<b>\$181,436.50</b>		

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

***Article Information:** This article outlines the compensation amounts for elected officials. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

*\*funding for this compensation is raised & appropriated in the omnibus budget in article 6.*

*\*\*funding for this compensation is raised & appropriated in the Water Enterprise Fund, article 11.*

*\*\*\* funding for this compensation is raised & appropriated in Article 8.*



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## ARTICLE 8: FY2025 ERVING ELEMENTARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FUNDING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Million Seven Hundred Ninety-six Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-two Dollars and No Cents (\$3,796,522.00) for the expense and operation of the Erving Elementary School for Fiscal Year 2025 or take any other action relative thereto.

Line	Description	Amount
1	School Committee Stipend	\$7,090.00
2	Elementary Education Expenses	3,789,432.00
Grand Total		\$3,796,522.00

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

*Article Information: This article provides funding for the Erving Elementary School. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## ARTICLE 9: FY2025 SECONDARY EDUCATION FUNDING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Four Hundred Nine Thousand Forty-seven Dollars and No Cents (\$1,409,047.00) for secondary education and expenses for Fiscal Year 2025 or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: School Committee

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

*Article Information: This article provides funding for Erving's secondary education costs of sending students in grades 7 through 12 to other districts, excluding the Technical School. The development of this budget is a best estimation of the number of Erving students who may attend the Gill-Montague District for the coming school year. Actual decisions about a student's education aren't known until the start of the school year and as a result this budget may require a supplemental funding request in the future. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## ARTICLE 10: FY2025 FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL FUNDING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Thirteen Thousand Seventy-two Dollars and No Cents (\$513,072.00) for secondary education and expenses at the Franklin County Technical School for Fiscal Year 2025 as itemized below or take any other action relative thereto.

Line	Account #	Description	Amount
1	001-320-100-32000-519200	School Committee Stipend	\$1,403.00
2	001-320-200-32000-532000	Tuition Services	\$497,816.00
3	001-320-200-32000-578000	Capital Expenses	\$13,853.00
Grand Total			\$513,072.00

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *This article provides funding for Erving's assessment to the Technical School and establishes the salary for Erving's representative to the Technical School Committee. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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**ARTICLE 11: FY2025 WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand, Nine Hundred Sixty-five Dollars and No Cents (\$110,965.00) to the Water Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2025 Water Department operations. Said money to be raised from receipts, revenues, and funds from any source derived from the activities of the Erving Water Department or take any other action relative thereto.

Estimated Revenue	
User Charges	\$76,500.00
Administrative Fees	\$21,680.00
Fees for Testing, Hydrants, Final Reads, and Backflow Testing	\$10,785.00
Investment Income	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Estimated Revenues</b>	<b>110,965.00</b>
Proposed Expenditures	
Salary & Wages	\$43,710.00
Ordinary Expenses	\$64,400.00
Estimated Retained Earnings	\$2,855.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$110,965.00</b>

SUBMITTED BY: Water Commissioners

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *This article approves the operating budget for the water department and will allow the department to raise the necessary funds through water receipts and other activities. As an enterprise fund, unspent revenue at the close of the fiscal year will remain with the fund. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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**ARTICLE 12: FY2025 WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Ninety-nine Thousand, Three Hundred Seventy-three Dollars and No Cents (\$1,099,373.00) to the Wastewater Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2025 Wastewater operations or take any other action relative thereto.

Estimated Revenue	
Town of Montague and other receipts	\$242,138.00
Town of Erving (raise & appropriate)	\$857,235.00
<b>Total Estimated Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,099,373.00</b>

Proposed Expenditures	
Salary & Wages	\$297,226.00
Ordinary Expenses	\$411,902.00
Debt Service	\$390,245.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,099,373.00</b>

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

***Article Information:** This article approves the operating budget for the wastewater department and will allow the Town to raise the necessary funds through the means stated. As an enterprise fund, unspent revenue at the close of the fiscal year will remain with the fund. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## FISCAL YEAR 2025 CONTINUING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS & SPECIAL ARTICLES

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### ARTICLE 13: RAISE & APPROPRIATE FOR CONTINUING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Eighteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$318,000.00) for the continuing annual appropriations and special articles itemized below for the purposes stated or take any other action relative thereto.

Line	Dept.	Account #	Description	Amount
1	Assessors	001-141-900-14110-530500	Legal Services	\$35,000.00
2	Assessors	001-142-900-14210-530610	Appraisal Services	\$35,000.00
3	Town Buildings	001-192-900-19210-524100	Building Maintenance	\$30,000.00
4	Miscellaneous	001-199-900-19910-531100	Advertising in Around Town	\$8,000.00
5	Highway	001-422-900-42210-524060	Bridge Maintenance Services	\$5,000.00
6	Highway	001-422-900-42211-524050	Highway Maintenance Services	\$50,000.00
7	Highway	001-429-900-42915-585050	DPW Wheel Loader Lease	\$55,000.00
8	Benefits	001-919-900-91910-517990	Transfer to OPEB Trust Fund	\$100,000.00
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>\$318,000.00</b>

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

***Article Information:** The FY2025 continuing appropriation & special article plan outlined above is a continuation of the sound financial planning that the Town has engaged in over the past few years. The amounts requested are consistent with previous appropriations and allow the Town to meet the service obligations for the stated purposes. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

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### ARTICLE 14: APPROPRIATE FOR FY2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$215,000.00) for the FY2024 capital improvement project(s) itemized below and related expenses, by transferring Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$215,000.00) from the Capital Stabilization Fund, with the condition that all unspent funds are returned to the Capital Stabilization Fund upon completion of the project, subject to Select Board approval, or take any other action relative thereto.

Line	Dept.	Account #	Description	Amount
1	Town Buildings	001-192-900-19213-582010	Door Access & Security System	\$165,000.00
2	Fire	New Account	Extrication Equipment	\$50,000.00
Grand Total				\$215,000.00

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

*Article Information: The proposed request is an amendment to the approved FY2024 capital improvement plan. The additional requested funding will allow the project for the proposed security upgrades at the Police Station to be completed as well as Elementary School. Additionally, the appropriation will allow the Fire Department to upgrade their extrication equipment for responding to car accidents. Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.*

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### ARTICLE 15: APPROPRIATE FOR FY2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$230,000.00) for the FY2025 capital improvement projects itemized below and related expenses, by transferring Two Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$230,000.00) from the Capital Stabilization Fund, with the condition that all unspent funds are returned to the Capital Stabilization Fund upon completion of the project, subject to Select Board approval, or take any other action relative thereto.

Line	Dept.	Account #	Description	Amount
1	Planning	New account	Open Space & Recreation Plan	\$25,000.00
2	Planning	New account	Hazard Mitigation Plan	\$25,000.00
3	Highway	001-429-900-42910-585000	Plow Truck	\$100,000.00
4	Info. Systems	001-155-900-15510-585100	Computer Replacement	\$35,000.00
5	Recreation	New account	Veterans Field Feasibility Study	\$45,000.00
Grand Total				\$230,000.00

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** The FY2025 capital improvement plan presented above is the result of the work of the Capital Planning Committee after reviewing requests made by departments. Some requests are “recurring requests” that appear annually to maintain a consistent investment while other capital requests are one-time requests. Details about all proposed capital improvement projects, funding sources, and explanations are available for review in the FY2025 proposed Operating & Capital Improvement Budget book. Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.

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#### **ARTICLE 16: APPROPRIATE FOR FY2025 WASTEWATER CAPITAL PROJECTS**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Wastewater Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings the sum of Sixty-three Thousand Six Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$63,600.00) for the capital improvement project(s) itemized below, and related expenses, subject to Select Board approval, or take any other action relative thereto.

<b>Line</b>	<b>Account #</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	New account	Security Fencing	\$63,600.00
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$63,600.00</b>

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** Approval of this article would appropriate \$63,600 for the Wastewater Department to fund the installation of security fencing at the Erving-side Wastewater Treatment Plant (POTW1). Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

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#### **DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUND ANNUAL SPENDING LIMITS**

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#### **ARTICLE 17: REVOLVING ACCOUNT SPENDING LIMITS**

To see if the Town will vote to fix the maximum amount that may be spent during Fiscal Year 2025, beginning on July 1, 2024, for the revolving funds established in Town bylaws for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies, or officers in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, as follows:

<b>Revolving Fund</b>	<b>Department/Board/Committee/ Agency or Officer</b>	<b>FY2025 Spending Limit</b>
Food Service	Council on Aging	\$10,000.00
Facility Use	Council on Aging	\$10,000.00
Library Use and Fees	Board of Library Trustees	\$10,000.00
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	Select Board	\$15,000.00

or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** Approval of this article would establish the FY2025 spending limits in the above referenced revolving funds in accordance with Town bylaw and with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

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## STABILIZATION FUND ARTICLES

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### ARTICLE 18: APPROPRIATION FOR THE CAPITAL STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Twenty-seven Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-seven Dollars and No Cents (\$827,967.00) into the Capital Stabilization Fund, sourced by transferring Seven Hundred Forty-seven Thousand One Hundred Ten Dollars and No Cents (\$747,110.00) from Free Cash, and by transferring the remaining balance of Eighty Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-seven Dollars and No Cents (\$80,857.00) in the exhaust capture system project account (001-192-900-19212-582010), or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** Approval of this article would transfer the sum of \$827,967 from the sources listed and deposit the sum into the Capital Stabilization Fund for use on future capital projects that will require Town Meeting approval. The exhaust capture system at Fire Stations 1 and 2 has been installed, the remaining funds are the result of a competitive bid process. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

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### ARTICLE 19: APPROPRIATION FOR THE GENERAL STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty Thousand, Sixty-seven Dollars and No Cents (\$130,067.00) into the General Stabilization Fund or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** Approval of this article would appropriate the sum of \$130,067 into the General Stabilization Fund. This article is meant to replenish funds used from the General Stabilization Fund for the construction of the Erving Public Library. This is the final of five (5) planned deposits into General Stabilization related to the project. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.

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### ARTICLE 20: TO APPROPRIATE FOR OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND USE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum Thirty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$30,000.00) from the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund for the purpose of municipal action that assists with opioid use disorder treatment, supporting people in treatment and recovery, connecting people to care, reducing the harm caused by opioid use, addressing the needs of criminal-justice-involved-persons, supporting pregnant or parent women and their families, including babies with neonatal abstinence syndrome, and preventing the misuse of

opioids/implementing prevention education, or some combination of these aims, beginning July 1, 2024, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *Approval of this article would appropriate \$30,000 from the Stabilization Fund that receives the National Opioid Settlement funds to be used towards preventative and mitigating efforts of the effects of opioids. The Select Board will work with the Board of Health and other municipal stakeholders regarding the implementation of the program. Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.*

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### COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION

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#### ARTICLE 21: TO APPROPRIATE FOR COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$25,000.00) from the PEG Access Cable Revenue account for the purpose of operating the Town's local cable access channel as itemized below, beginning July 1, 2024, or take any other action relative thereto.

Line	Account #	Description	Amount
1	240-159-200-15905-530000	Professional Contracting Services	\$20,000.00
2	240-159-200-15905-574000	Insurance Premiums	\$2,000.00
3	240-159-900-15910-578000	Equipment to Televisе Meetings	\$3,000.00
Grand Total			\$25,000.00

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *Approval of this article would appropriate \$25,000 from the PEG Access Cable Revenue account for the Select Board to use to operate the Town's community access television channel. Revenue in this account is received quarterly from Comcast from user fees in accordance with the Cable franchise agreement. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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### MULTI-YEAR CONTRACT AUTHORIZATIONS

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#### ARTICLE 22: AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN A 10 YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a ten (10) year contract, commencing in Fiscal Year 2025 with the Town of Montague for the treatment of wastewater, subject to the Select Board's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board



FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

**Article Information:** *Approval of this article would authorize the Select Board to sign a ten (10) year agreement with the Town of Montague for the treatment of wastewater. The towns have long shared an arrangement that allows the wastewater from the village of Millers Falls in Montague to be conveyed to the Erving Wastewater Treatment Plant #1 for treatment, in exchange for a contractually agreed upon fee. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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**ARTICLE 23: AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN A 10 YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE FCRHRA**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a ten (10) year contract, commencing on July 1, 2024, with the Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority, for the provision of administrative services for the Town's Community Development Block Grant activities and the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program, subject to the Select Board's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *Approval of this article would authorize the Select Board to sign a ten (10) agreement with the Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority for the administration of the Town's Community Development Block Grant activities and the Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund program. The Town and the Authority have long had a professional services arrangement for these activities and the current agreement expires this year. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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**ARTICLE 24: AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN A 99 YEAR LAND LEASE WITH RURAL DEVELOPMENT INC.**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a ninety-nine (99) year contract, commencing in Fiscal Year 2025, with Rural Development Incorporated, for the lease of real property on Care Drive to allow the construction of affordable housing, subject to the Select Board's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

**Article Information:** *Approval of this article would authorize the Select Board to sign a ninety-nine (99) year land lease for the purpose of developing affordable housing, with parcel A providing age-restricted housing for individuals aged 62 or older, and upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town. The Town identified the need and the goal of developing Senior Housing in the Town's 2002 Master Plan and the Town has continued to work towards that goal on Care Drive. The Town has conducted multiple procurements and*



*has secured an advantageous proposal that has been reviewed publicly by the Select Board and Senior Housing Committee. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

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### ARTICLE 25: TO AUTHORIZE DISPOSITION OF LAND ON CARE DRIVE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the board or officer currently having control for current purpose for which the property is held to the Select Board, for the purpose of disposition by lease, sale, or otherwise, the care, custody, management and control of the property located on Care Drive and shown as parcels A and B on \_\_\_\_\_; and to authorize the Select Board to rent, convey, or otherwise dispose of all or a portion of said property pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30B, Section 16 for the purposes of affordable housing, with parcel A restricted for housing for individuals aged 62 or older, and to authorize the Select Board to take such actions and execute such documents and agreements as are necessary to effectuate the purpose of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

CAPTITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would authorize the Select Board to lease, convey, or otherwise dispose of all or a portion of said property pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws for the purpose of affordable housing, with parcel A restricted for individuals aged 62 or older, and upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town. The Town identified the need and the goal of developing Senior Housing in the Town's 2002 Master Plan and the Town has continued to work towards that goal on Care Drive. The Town has conducted multiple procurements and has secured an advantageous proposal that has been reviewed publicly by the Select Board and Senior Housing Committee. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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### ARTICLE 26: TO AUTHORIZE ACQUISITION OF PARCEL A

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire by eminent domain, or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board shall determine, the following described parcel:

Beginning at an unmarked point in the easterly sideline of The French King Highway at Station 21+70.34, 40' Right, said point marking the northwesterly corner of land now or formerly of the Town of Erving; thence, along said French King Highway N 07°40'58" E to a MA Highway Bound; thence, S 80°42'08" E 40.01' +/- to a point at the center of a headwall; thence 174' +/- along the centerline of a dry brook and land now or formerly of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts to a 1.5" iron pipe at the centerline of said dry brook (Tie Course N 87°56'45" E 202.92'); thence, 410' +/- along centerline of said dry brook and land now or formerly of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts to a point in the centerline of said dry brook and land now or formerly of Frank Prondecki ( Tie Course S 70°45'22" E 357.05' ) ; thence, 310' +/- along the

centerline of said dry brook and land now or formerly of Frank Prondecki to a point in the westerly sideline of land now or formerly of The Vermont Central Railroad ( Tie Course S 50°08'54" E 180.92' ); thence, S 81°41'33" W 69.70' along the westerly sideline of said land now or formerly of The Vermont Central Railroad to a 5/8" rebar at the top of a ravine, said point being the northeast corner of land now or formerly of the Town of Erving; thence, 755' +/- ( Tie Course N 79°35'05" W 636.87' ) along the top of said ravine and said land now or formerly of the Town of Erving to the point of beginning. Containing 1.217 acres of land +/- and being Parcel "A" as shown on plan titled "PLAN OF LAND TO BE TAKEN BY THE TOWN OF ERVING" by Daniel Salls Land Surveying dated March 05, 2024;

and further to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out said acquisitions and other acts authorized herein; or take any action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would authorize the Select Board to acquire a parcel of land related to the parcel taken by the Town, in 1996, that is now used as the Police Station. During a recent survey of the Police Station parcel, a discrepancy in the deed language was discovered that dates to all deed transactions related to the property, after 1926. The area in question that is being referred to as "Parcel A" on the proposed plan for taking is largely the ravine on the property, between the Police Station and the MassDOT Highway Facility. The plan for the proposed taking is on file in the Town Clerk's office. Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.*

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## DEBT EXCLUSION EXPENDITURE

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### ARTICLE 27: BORROWING AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE FORMER IP MILL SITE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Three Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$3,700,000.00), for the purpose of demolishing the structures and related site preparation services at the former IP Mill site, and to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7 (3) of the General Laws, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore. conditioned on the approval of a debt exclusion ballot question, or take any other action relative thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would appropriate the sum of \$3,700,000 to allow the Town to demolish the structures and complete site preparation activities at the former IP Mill site. Approval of this article would authorize the Treasurer to borrow the funding necessary for*

*the project, conditioned on the approval of the debt exclusion question on the election ballot. If the debt exclusion question is passed, it will authorize the Town to raise & appropriate, beyond the limits of Proposition 2 ½ for the life of the debt service. The Select Board, Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee have met for over a year and have held discussions with citizens to arrive at the recommendation to demolish the structures. The total cost to demolish the site is estimated to be \$4.3 Million and the Town has successfully received a \$600,000 grant for the project. The Town has attempted to sell the property through a request for proposals process three times. If approval of this article at the Town Meeting or the ballot question at the Town Election fails, then the Select Board, Finance Committee, and Capital Planning Committee will request the Treasurer to auction the property to the highest bidder. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

In addition, you are hereby directed to serve the above warrant and to post attested copies as directed by vote of the Town at least seven (7) days before said meeting. Fail not and make do return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk for the day of said meeting.

Given under our hands this **1st day of April 2024**.



Jacob A. Smith, Chairman



Scott Bastarache



James Loynd

*Erving Select Board*

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### POSTING REQUIREMENT CERTIFICATION

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FRANKLIN SS

TOWN OF ERVING

I have served the above warrant by posting attested copies, as directed by vote of the Town, at least seven (7) days before the time of holding said meeting.

4/22/2024

Date



Authorized Signature

Town of Erving  
12 East Main Street  
Erving, Massachusetts 01344

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage Paid  
ECRWSS  
EDDM Flat

# Town of Erving

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*

LOCAL  
POSTAL CUSTOMER  
ERVING MA 01344

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## Annual Town Meeting Warrant

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**Wednesday, May 08, 2024**

**Time: 7:00 PM | Location: Erving Elementary School**

*Please bring this copy with you to the  
Annual Town Meeting.*

In past years, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to partner with other groups at the school to allow for childcare assistance. At this time, we are unable to provide a childcare option at the Annual Town Meeting.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Town of Erving, should contact the office of the Board of Selectmen as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.

The office of the Board of Selectmen is located at 12 East Main Street, Erving, MA 01344.

Email: [administrator@erving-ma.gov](mailto:administrator@erving-ma.gov) | Phone: (413) 422-2800