

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
COUNTY OF FRANKLIN**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
SATURDAY MARCH 27, 2021**

Pursuant to a warrant signed by the Erving Selectmen and duly posted, as directed by the vote of the Town, the legal voters met at the Erving Elementary School, 28 Northfield Road, Erving, Massachusetts, on Saturday March 27, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. We met outside, with people social distancing by 6 feet and wearing face masks, and others remained in their cars. All voters were given two sheets of paper, one that had AYE written on it and the other had NAY which were used for every vote. The Town conducted the following business. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard K. Peabody at 10:07 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present. He then thanked everyone that worked so hard to make this meeting possible and as safe as possible. The Moderator read the call and the Officer's return, and lead the body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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**FY2021 FINANCIAL ARTICLES**

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**ARTICLE 1: AMENDED FY2021 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET**

The Town voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty-two Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$122,000.00) from Free Cash for to amend the FY2021 General Operating Budget, approved at the Annual Town Meeting on July 11, 2020 in Article 6, by the following itemized amounts, for the purpose of public safety operating expenses.

Line	Divisions	Amount	Proposed Amendment	New Total
1	General Government	\$ 1,053,813.00	\$0.00	\$1,053,813.00
2	Public Safety	\$ 931,150.00	\$122,000.00	\$1,053,150.00
3	Public Works	\$ 620,518.00	\$0.00	\$620,518.00
4	Health & Human Services	\$ 235,835.00	\$0.00	\$235,835.00
5	Culture & Recreation	\$ 287,322.00	\$0.00	\$287,322.00
6	Benefits	\$ 1,704,067.00	\$0.00	\$1,704,067.00
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,832,705.00</b>	<b>\$122,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,954,705.00</b>

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

*Article Information: Approval of this article would appropriate the sum of \$122,000 from Free Cash to support current fiscal year operating expenses in the Police Department. The Town has undergone unanticipated changes in Department Staffing that included the retirements of 2 employees and the hiring and training of new officers. All of these expenses exceed the established appropriation and could not have been anticipated in the FY2021 budget planning process. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## FY2021 CAPITAL ARTICLES

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### ARTICLE 2: DECORATIVE STREETLIGHT REPAIR PROJECT

The Town voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$40,000.00) from Free Cash into line-item 01-424-901-57800 Streetlight Repair / Replace for the purpose of engineering, assessing, designing and purchasing equipment, supplies, and services to repair decorative streetlights.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (5), Nay (0)]

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would appropriate \$40,000 from certified Free Cash for the engineering assessment and re-design. Any excess appropriation will be used towards the repair of the decorative streetlights on West Main Street, East Main Street, and Lillian's Way but will not be sufficient to complete the project. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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### ARTICLE 3: CHURCH STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ENGINEERING PROJECT

The Town voted by majority to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Ninety-five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$195,000.00) from Free Cash for the purpose of engineering, permitting, and consulting services on the repair or replacement of the Church Street bridge.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would appropriate \$195,000 from certified Free Cash for the engineering, permitting, and related services for the repair or replacement of the Church Street bridge. This appropriation is for engineering tasks through conceptual design, public participation, an opinion of probable cost, finalizing the construction plans, provide for bid support and construction administration services. This appropriation does not fund the actual construction of the bridge. The cost of such work cannot be known until this phase is complete. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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### ARTICLE 4: PURCHASE OF SOLAR POWERED MESSAGE BOARD

The Town voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) from Free Cash for the purpose of purchasing a new mobile solar powered messaging board and trailer to be used for public works and public safety messaging.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would appropriate \$20,000 from certified Free Cash for the purpose of purchasing a second solar powered mobile messaging board. The Town previously acquired 1 board in FY2020 that has proven to be useful for notifying the public of traffic pattern changes and to monitor speed. The proposed unit would be similar to the unit previously purchased. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## **ARTICLE 5: WASTEWATER EMERGENCY GENERATOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR POTW#1**

The Town voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$120,000.00) from Retained Earnings in the Wastewater Enterprise Fund for the purpose of engineering, permitting, purchasing and installation of a new emergency power generator for POTW#1.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: [Vote: Aye (), Nay ()]

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: [Vote: Aye (), Nay ()]

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would appropriate \$120,000 from certified retained earnings in the Wastewater Enterprise Fund for the engineering, permitting, purchasing, installation and related services of a new emergency power generation for the Erving Wastewater Treatment Plant (POTW#1). The existing emergency generator was original to the construction of the plant and failed unexpectedly in the fall of 2020. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT- RESCIND BORROWING AUTHORIZATION**

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### **ARTICLE 6: RESCIND BORROWING AUTHORIZATION FOR ERVING CENTER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

The Town voted unanimously to rescind the borrowing authorized, in Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant from October 03, 2020, in the sum of Seventeen Million, Nine Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$17,940,000.00) for the purpose of constructing and equipping belt drying technology for processing and drying of solids at the Erving Center Wastewater Treatment Plant (POTW#2), at 47 East Main Street.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: [Vote: Aye (), Nay ()]

***Article Information:** Approval of this article would rescind the borrowing authority granted in Article 3 of the October 03, 2020 Special Town Meeting. The application to the State Revolving Loan Fund was unsuccessful and Erving Industries has confirmed that it is not currently feasible to use the Town's borrowing authority for the project. Approval of this article requires a majority vote.*

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## **ACQUISITION OF LAND**

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### **ARTICLE 7: TO ACQUIRE PARCEL (17 MOORE STREET)**

The Town voted unanimously to authorize the Select Board to acquire by eminent domain, purchase, gift, deed or otherwise in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 79 from the former Erving School District 3 or its successor in title, the following described parcel and buildings thereon recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Book 320, Page 64, for general municipal purposes.

SUBMITTED BY: Select Board

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: Approval [Vote: Aye (4), Nay (0), Absent (1)]

**Article Information:** *Approval of this article would authorize the Select Board to acquire parcel ID 4-5-16 which is the parcel of land that the former public library at 17 Moore Street exists on. A review of the deeds of the property demonstrates that the property was owned by Erving School District 3. Authorizing the Select Board to use eminent domain should allow the Town to use the property for any public use without a concern about the title history. Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.*

30 registered voters attended this meeting. The meeting was dissolved at 10:45 a.m.

A true copy, ATTEST: 

Richard W. Newton  
Erving Town Clerk