



**OFFICE OF THE  
TOWN CLERK  
TOWN HALL  
511 MAIN STREET  
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313  
(978) 649-4514 x222  
FAX (978) 649-4371  
CSkerrett@dunstable-ma.gov**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
JULY 30, 2020**

After determining that a quorum was present, the Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Town Moderator, Rafael Glod. The Tellers were John Callahan, Lianne Crestin, Jon Swift, Brad Warmesley, Geoff Neiley and Brian Poitra were sworn in by Town Clerk Carol Skerrett. The check-in table was staffed by Kaitlyn Skerrett and Mary Dow. The Pledge of Allegiance was admirably led by members of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts. The Moderator introduced the elected officials. A brief welcoming statement was made by Board of Selectmen Chair Leah Basbanes thanking the community for their commitment in doing their part to contain the Covid 19 virus by wearing facial coverings, limiting social gatherings and following social distancing recommendations. As a result, the Town has a low number of confirmed Covid cases which as of this week saw zero new cases. A motion was made and seconded to allow non-voting members to sit at the tables.

The Moderator read the following prior to entertaining any motions.

"As the first item of business, I request that Town Meeting adopt a rule of this Town Meeting to provide that any motion requiring a two-thirds favorable vote, by statute or otherwise, shall be determined and declared by the Town Moderator and a count shall not be taken unless requested by the Town Moderator or requested by seven or more voters in attendance."

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

This meeting would dispense with the reading of greetings as it was not required by state statute or bylaw. The Moderator announced the Town Administrator would make all the motions if no objections. Hearing no objections, Town Administrator Brian Palaia would read the motions.

Article 1. Motion made and seconded that the Town accept the 2020 Annual Town Report as printed.

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

## FISCAL YEAR 2020

Article 2. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash the sums necessary to pay the following unpaid bills of FY2019:

Small Water Systems        \$450.00

*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

4/5ths Majority Vote  
Voted in the Affirmative Unanimously

Article 3. Motion made and seconded that the Town fix the salaries of the elected officers of the Town as provided by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Section 108, for Fiscal Year 2021, beginning July 1, 2020, as follows, or take any action in relation thereto.

Town Clerk                \$34,831        \$37,315        \$38,210

*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 4. Motion made and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate \$11,275,735 to fund the various departments, boards, committees, commissions, and other operating expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2021, beginning July 1, 2020, in the sums listed at lines 1 through 75 in the printed budget handout made available at this meeting,

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

And further, I move that the Town appropriate the sum of \$128,400 from Water Enterprise revenues to operate the Water Department, in the amount listed in the requested budget shown on the cover of the printed budget handout available at this meeting for Fiscal Year 2021, beginning July 1, 2020

*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

<b>General Government</b>	
Town Administrator - 120	
Salaries	140,236
Operations	3,280
Total	143,516
Selectmen – 122	
Salaries	0
Operations	14,630
Total	14,630
Fincom – 131	150
Reserve Account – 132	30,000
Accountant - 135	
Salaries	31,185
Operations	22,700
Total	53,885
Assessors - 141	
Salaries	48,255
Operations	24,055
Total	72,310
Treasurer - 145	
Salaries	71,614
Operations	23,417
Total	95,031
Town Legal Professional - 151	30,000
Dog Program – 160	650
Town Clerk - 161	
Salaries	41,210
Operations	1,950
Total	43,160
Elections – 162	
Salaries	7,000
Operations	17,000
Total	24,000
Registrar - 163	225

Conservation - 171	
Salaries	14,446
Operations	2,000
Total	16,446
Planning Board - 175	
Salaries	14,446
Operations	1,350
Total	15,796
Zoning Board - 176	
Salaries	0
Operations	1,316
Total	1,316
Town Hall - 192	
Salaries	5,650
Expenses	39,400
Total	45,050
Town Reports – 195	3,025
Town Engineer – 199	10,000
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	
<b>Salaries</b>	<b>374,267</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>224,923</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>599,190</b>
<b>Public Safety</b>	
Police Department - 210	
Salaries	927,498
Operations	244,250
Total	1,171,748
Fire Department - 220	
Salaries	148,960
Operations	67,100
Total	216,060
Inspector – 241-243	
Salaries	61,290
Operations	3,500
Total	64,790

Emergency Management - 291	2,900
Forestry Public Works - 294	22,235
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>1,477,733</b>
<b>Salaries</b>	<b>1,137,748</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>339,985</b>
<b>Schools</b>	
GDRSD – 300	
District	6,475,665
Debt	212,690
GLRVTS - 300	
GLRVTHS	283,795
Debt	34,786
Essex - 300	
Tuition	0
Transportation	0
<b>TOTAL REGIONAL &amp; VOCATIONAL</b>	<b>7,006,936</b>
<b>Public Works</b>	
Highway Department - 422	
Salaries	242,144
Operations	227,282
Total	469,426
Snow Removal - 423	
Salaries	56,175
Operations	229,710
Total	285,885
Street Lights – 424	11,500
Transfer Station – 433	
Salaries	
Operations	12,430

Cemetery - 491	
Salaries	11,966
Operations	8,450
Total	20,416
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS</b>	
<b>Salaries</b>	<b>310,285</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>489,372</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>799,657</b>
<b>Human Services</b>	
Board of Health - 510	
Salaries	12,821
Operations	11,930
Total	24,751
Town Nurse Assessment - 522	4,305
Mental Health Assessment - 523	2,000
Council on Aging - 541	
Salaries	9,000
Operations	11,500
Total	20,500
Veterans Affairs - 543	
Salaries	5,805
Operations	24,472
Total	30,277
<b>TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES</b>	
<b>Salaries</b>	<b>27,626</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>54,207</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>81,833</b>
<b>Library, Parks and Recreation</b>	
Library Operations - 610	
Salaries	115,601
Operations	60,886
Total	176,487
Library Consortium and Other - 611	13,300
Technical Expense and Other - 620	26,700

Recreation Department - 631	6,400
Parks Department – 650	61,000
Memorial Day Committee – 692	700
<b>TOTAL LIBRARY AND RECREATION</b>	
<b>Salaries</b>	<b>115,601</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>168,986</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>284,587</b>
<b>Debt and Interest</b>	
Long Term Debt – 710	249,000
Long Term Interest – 715	23,375
Temporary Loan Interest – 725	3,300
<b>TOTAL DEBT AND INTEREST</b>	<b>275,675</b>
<b>Insurance and Assessments</b>	
County Retirement System – 911	293,124
Unemployment Compensation - 913	0
Group Health Insurance – 914	307,000
Medicare Town Share – 919	30,000
Bldg./Vehicle Liab. Ins. – 945	120,000
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE &amp; ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>750,124</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR</b>	<b>11,275,735</b>

Article 5. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash \$252,320 to meet the appropriations of Fiscal Year 2021, beginning July 1, 2020.  
*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 6. Motion made and seconded that the Town amend the General Bylaws by adopting a new Transfer Station Revolving Fund verbatim as printed under Article 6 of the warrant for this meeting, except that the new text under column B shall read "Board of Health".

*(Chart included for reference)*

A. Revolving Fund	B. Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	C. Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	D. Program or Activity Expenses Payable From Fund	E. Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable From Fund	F. Other Requirements/ Reports	G. Fiscal Years
<u>Transfer Station</u>	<u>Transfer Station</u>	<u>Receipts collected from trash collection and barrels</u>	<u>Trash Collection and Trash Bin Sales</u>	<u>None, other than as set forth in this Bylaw and by Town Meeting vote.</u>	<u>None, other than as set forth in this Bylaw and by Town Meeting vote.</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2020 and subsequent years</u>

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 7. Motion made and seconded that the Town set the annual expenditure limits for Fiscal Year 2021 for all revolving funds established by the General Bylaws as set forth under Article 7 of the warrant for this meeting.

*(Listed below for reference)*

Cemetery	\$8,500
Recreation	\$7,000
COA Transport	\$5,000
Permit Application Fees	\$5,000
Approval Not Required Plans	\$15,000
Transfer Station	\$120,000

*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 8. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash \$35,623 for the purpose of paying off the debt related to the purchase of Backhoe for the Highway Department.

*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative



Article 9. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash \$15,000 for the purpose of replacing the police department computer server.  
*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 10. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash \$15,000 for the purpose of repairing the Fire Department and Highway Department Building.  
*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 11. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash \$69,986 for the replacement of a fire truck.  
*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 12. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash \$15,000 for the replacement of the roof at the Library.

*The ADVISORY BOARD does not recommend support of this Article.*

*During discussion, the Advisory Board stated they received a verbal quote for \$12,000 when the request was made to place this on the warrant. A written quote has not been received.*

Motion made and seconded that this article be tabled indefinitely. The Moderator asked for any discussion to ensure the voters knew the definition of this language.

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative to Table Indefinitely

Article 13. Motion made and seconded that the Town transfer from Free Cash \$78,830 for to fund the Dunstable portion of the School District's capital assessment for Fiscal Year 2021.  
*ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 14. Motion made and seconded that the Town appropriate from the Community Preservation revenue the following sums for the following purposes:

- Principal payment on Ferrari Farm Note, the sum of \$80,000.
- Interest on Ferrari Farm Note, the sum of \$20,080.
- Administrative Expense, the sum of \$15,000.
- Open Space Reserve, the sum of \$30,000.
- Historic Reserve, the sum of \$30,000.
- Community Housing Reserve, the sum of \$30,000.
- Balance to Undesignated, \$105,587.

*CPC, ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 15. Motion made and seconded that the Town appropriate from the Community Preservation Undesignated Reserve account the amount of \$152,000 and \$30,000 from the Open Space Reserve to rehabilitate the tennis court located at Swallow Union School playing fields and Woodward Preserve.

*CPC, ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 16. Motion made and seconded that the Town appropriate from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve account the amount of \$3,000 for the preservation of an historic town well at O Pond Street.

*CPC, ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 17. Motion made and seconded that the Town appropriate from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve account the amount of \$6,000 to complete repairs and painting of exterior building features at Town Hall.

*CPC, ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 18. Motion made and seconded that the Town adopt Article 18 verbatim as printed in the Warrant.

*(Text from the warrant for reference:)*

*Authorization to Purchase Emery Property: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase, eminent domain, or otherwise, certain real property together with any improvements thereon known as the Emery property located at 102 High Street, identified as a portion of Assessor's Parcel 17-120, and being a portion of the premises described in a deed dated June 15, 2011, recorded with Middlesex North District Registry of Deeds, Book 25052, Page 229, containing 71.79 acres, more or less, as shown on a plan entitled dated January 20, 2020 and revised February 12, 2020 on file with the Town Clerk; and to fund the costs of such acquisition of said property, to appropriate the sum of \$320,000, and to meet said appropriation:*

- 1. Transfer from the Community Preservation Act Fund the sum of \$118,000 from the CPA Undesignated Fund and Open Space Fund to be applied to the purchase;*
- 2. Transfer from the Timber Fund the sum of \$10,000; and*
- 3. Authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8C of the Massachusetts General Laws or any other law, the sum of \$192,000.00 in anticipation of a reimbursement under a grant of the Massachusetts LAND Grant program (Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 132A, Section 11), also known as the Self-Help program;*

*provided, however, that the authorization, appropriation, and transfers approved by this article shall only take effect if the Town obtains said grant from the Massachusetts LAND Grant program, also known as the Self-Help program; or take any action in relation thereto.*

*CPC, CONSERVATION COMMISSION AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend support of this article.*

2/3 Vote Required  
2/3 Majority Vote Declared by Moderator

Article 19. Motion made and seconded that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a petition with the General Court to enact special legislation authorizing the use of

certain real property to accommodate improvements to Main Street, including by not limited to portions of the real property located at 510 – 511 Main Street, 437 Main Street, 427 Main Street, and o Main Street (Central Cemetery), as may be required by the provisions of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition.

*The ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 20. Motion made and seconded that the Town adopt Article 20 verbatim in printed in the warrant.

*The ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend this Article.  
(Text from the warrant as reference):*

*Solar PILOT Authorizations: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Assessors to negotiate and enter on behalf of the Town payment in lieu of taxes agreements for solar energy facilities to be located at (i) o Blodgett Road and o Lowell Street, Assessors Parcels 21-3-0 and 22-50-0, and (ii) o Pleasant Street and o Groton Street, Assessors Parcels 8-39-0, 8-43-0, and 13-103-0, as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H, or take any action in relation thereto.*

*The ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend this Article.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 21. Motion made and seconded that the Town adopt Article 21 verbatim in printed in the warrant.

*The ADVISORY BOARD, BOARD OF SELECTMEN, and PLANNING BOARD  
recommend this Article.  
(Text from the warrant as reference):*

*River's Edge Street Acceptance aka Chapman Street: To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way a certain existing roadway known as Chapman Street, as shown on a plan of land entitled, "As-built Plan Located on River's Edge Estates." prepared by Stamski and McNary, Inc., last revised January 6, 2020., and on file with the Town Clerk said roadway having been laid out by the Board of Road Commissioners and approved by the Planning Board; and further to authorize the Board of Road Commissioners and the Board of Selectmen to accept on behalf of the*

*Town any deeds or releases of interests in real property from any parties necessary or sufficient for such roadway; or take any other action in relation thereto.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Article 22. Motion made and seconded that the Town adopt Article 22 verbatim in printed in the warrant.

*The ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend this Article.  
(Text from the warrant as reference)*

*Greater Lowell Vocational Regional School District Regional Agreement: To see if the Town will vote to accept the amendments to Section 1 of the Greater Lowell Vocational Regional School District's Regional Agreement, approved by the Greater Lowell Vocational Regional School Committee on January 10, 2019 and ordered by the United States District Court of Massachusetts pursuant to a Consent Decree issued on June 3, 2015; or take any other action in relation thereto.*

Article 23. Motion made and seconded that the Town adopt Article 23 verbatim in printed in the warrant.

*The MONUMENTS AND MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend this Article.  
(Text from warrant as reference):*

*Relocation of English Monument: To see if the Town will vote to approve the relocation of the English Monument as recommended by the Monuments and Memorials Committee and the Board of Selectmen, as shown on a map titled "Proposed English Monument Relocation" on file with the Town Clerk; or take any action in relation thereto.*

Article 24. Motion made and seconded that the Town adopt Article 24 verbatim in printed in the warrant.

*The MONUMENTS AND MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, ADVISORY BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN recommend this Article.  
(Text from warrant as reference):*

*Relocation of the Rockwell Monument: To see if the Town will vote to approve the relocation of the Rockwell Monument as recommended by the Monuments and Memorials Committee and the Board of Selectmen, as shown on a map titled "Proposed Rockwell Monument Relocation on file with the Town Clerk; or take any action in relation thereto.*

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Motion made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

Motion made and seconded to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 8:18 pm.

Majority Vote Required  
Voted in the Affirmative

**Quorum Certificate**

In accordance with The Town of Dunstable's Town Meetings, Town Elections & Records Bylaw, I hereby certify that the quorum for an Annual or Special Town Meeting is 50 registered voters of the Town of Dunstable.

Total number of voters checked in at the Annual Town Meeting of June 30, 2020: 111

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol A. Skerrett".

Carol A. Skerrett  
Town Clerk CMMC