

TOWN OF STURBRIDGE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT



TANTASQUA REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL June 5, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

The Special Town Meeting opened with 40 registered voters in attendance the Town Moderator quickly reviewed the rules of the meeting and the Acceptance of the Warrant

Passed Yes 40 No 0

ARTICLE 40 SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL DEFICIT

Passed Yes 38 No 2

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to fund the Snow and Ice Removal account for FY 2023, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

That the Town vote to transfer the sum of THIRTY-ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT AND 99/100 DOLLARS (\$31,868.99) from Free Cash for the purpose of funding the Snow and Ice Removal account for FY 2023. Voted: 7 – 0 – 0.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

That the Town vote to transfer the sum of THIRTY-ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY-EIGHT AND 99/100 DOLLARS (\$31,868.99) from Free Cash for the purpose of funding the Snow and Ice Removal account for FY 2023. Voted: 3 – 0 – 0.

<i>Summary: This article will fund the snow and ice removal deficit in fiscal year 2023. The Town can deficit spend each year for all costs related to snow and ice removal.</i>
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ARTICLE 41 UNPAID BILLS OF A PREVIOUS YEAR

(9/10ths VOTE REQUIRED)

Passed Yes 35 No 2

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year; or take any action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

That the Town vote to transfer the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO AND 04/100 DOLLARS (\$7,152.04) from Free Cash for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. Voted: 7 – 0 – 0.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

That the Town vote to transfer the sum of SEVEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO AND 04/100 DOLLARS (\$7,152.04) from Free Cash for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. Voted: 3 – 0 – 0.

Summary: The following invoices were not submitted timely for payment in a previous fiscal year. The services were received by the Town and payment is due.

National Grid - \$7,152.04

ARTICLE 42

UNPAID BILLS OF A PREVIOUS YEAR

(9/10 vote required

Passed Yes 37 No 1

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Sewer Reserve Fund Balance for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year; or take any action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

That the Town vote to transfer from the Sewer Reserve Fund Balance the sum of FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY-TWO AND 72/100 DOLLARS (\$58,192.72) for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. Voted: 7 – 0 – 0.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

That the Town vote to transfer from the Sewer Reserve Fund Balance the sum of FIFTY-EIGHT THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY-TWO AND 72/100 DOLLARS (\$58,192.72) for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. Voted: 3 – 0 – 0.

Summary: The following invoices were not submitted timely for payment in a previous fiscal year. The services were received by the Town and payment is due.

National Grid - \$58,192.72

ARTICLE 43

TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM FREE CASH FOR OPIOID PROGRAM

Passed Yes 37 yes No 3

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of FIFTY-FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$54,639.00) the purposes of an Opioid Prevention and Recovery program; or take any action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

That the Town vote to approve the article as written. Voted: 8 – 0 – 0.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

That the Town vote to approve the article as written. Voted: 3 – 0 – 0.

Summary: As part of a national settlement with pharmaceutical companies and pharmacies, municipalities in Massachusetts have received funds. Currently, those funds go into the General Fund, but to date have no dedicated expenditure line item. This article would allow the Town to spend funds as determined by a team of staff members on Opioid education, prevention, and recovery programs. As appointed by the Town Administrator, the team includes: Town Administrator, Library Director, Fire Chief, Police Chief, Recreation Coordinator, patrolman, social worker from Police Department and a part-time library employee along with some experts who assist.

ARTICLE 44

TRANSFER FUNDS FROM FREE CASH TO SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Passed Yes 38 No 3

Substitute Motion to Read #13002 -53000 Burgess School Committee

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$200,000.00) to the school department; or take any action relative thereto.

Sponsor: ~~Tantasqua Regional School District~~ Burgess School Committee

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

That the Town vote to approve the article as written. Voted: 8 – 0 – 0.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

That the Town vote to approve the article as written. Voted: 3 – 0 – 0.

Summary: Due to unanticipated and unavoidable out-of-district special education placements for Sturbridge students, tuition costs for the current school year will be at least \$400,000 higher than budgeted.

Kevin Smith Motion to adjourn the Special Town Meeting

Mike Hager 2nd

Passed Yes 32 No 4

The Special Town Meeting Adjourned at 7:24 PM