

**PROCEEDINGS
SEMI-ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
October 16, 2017**

On October 16, 2017, Town Clerk, Kevin Poirier, opened the Semi-Annual Town Meeting at 7:10 pm by announcing , “with 79 RTM members present, we have a quorum.”

Town moderator , Deborah Kohl, led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.
She then called for a moment of silence for the Men and Women service in our Armed Forces.

Town moderator, Deborah Kohl, read the warrant

**NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH WARRANT
FOR THE REPRESENTATIVE SEMI ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Monday October 16, 2017

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Bristol, ss.

To either Constables of the Town of North Attleborough:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the legal voters of the Town of North Attleborough to meet at the North Attleborough Middle School Cafetorium, in said North Attleborough on:

Monday the 16th of October 2017, A.D.

At 7:00 P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles to wit:

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the Richards Memorial Library, and Town Hall at least twenty-one days before the time of said meeting. Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk on or before the time of said meeting.

Given our hands and seal of the town of North Attleborough on this August 31, 2017.

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael Lennox, Chairman
Keith Lapointe, Vice-Chairman
John C. Rhyno
Paul Belham
Patrick Reynolds

Moderator read the return:

BRISTOL, ss.

Pursuant to this within warrant, I have notified the inhabitants of the Town of North Attleborough within described, to meet at the time and place for the purpose within mentioned by posting an attested copy of this warrant in Town Hall Lobby, Richards Memorial Library and Town Website twenty-one (21) days before the time of said meeting.

Chief John J. Reilly, Constable
Town of North Attleborough

Robert Nerz (P7) made a motion as follows:

I move that the Town Meeting Adopt the Bourne Amendment: That any motion to increase the amount of money recommended for and article must specify where the additional monies will come from.

Motion seconded

Motion carried.

Robert Nerz (P7) made a motion as follows:

I move that the Town Meeting adopt the procedural rule: That the count of a super majority vote, when declared obvious by the Moderator, shall not be taken unless requested by seven or more RTM members.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried.

ARTICLE 1 – APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO VARIOUS OPERATING BUDGETS B.O.S.

To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to supplement various Fiscal Year 2018 departmental operating budgets. Said sum to be funded from free cash or transfer from available funds. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

This article is being submitted to facilitate the operating expenses for various departments for the fiscal year.

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 7-1

MAJORITY ROLL CALL VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate \$527,475.00 from Free Cash to supplement various Fiscal Year 2018 departmental operating budgets as follows:

AMOUNT:	TRANSFERRED TO:	REASON
\$27,000.00 to	Line 122 B - Board of Selectmen Expenses	Wage & Classification Study
\$20,000.00 to	Line 122 B - Board of Selectmen Expenses	General Maintenance/Utilities of Allen Avenue School
\$30,000.00 to	Line 122 B - Board of Selectmen Expenses	Economic Development Contracted Position
\$1,455.00 to	Line 171 A – Conservation Commission Salaries	Clerical Position Step Change
\$17,620.00 to	Line 152 A - Human Resources Salaries	Part-Time Position to Full-Time
\$430,000.00 to	Line 300 A - School Salaries and Expenses	School Supplement
\$1,400.00 to	Line 292 A - Animal Control Salaries	Increase in Part-Time Wages (Hourly Rate)

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: The Committee feels this additional funding is warranted.

The RTM members unanimously approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

ARTICLE 2 – APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO THE BETTERMENT STABILIZATION B.O.S.

To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to the Betterment Stabilization Fund. Said sum to be funded from Free Cash or transferred from available funds. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

There is an annual appropriation made to the Betterment Stabilization Fund as a result of the free cash certification.

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate \$55,990.00 from Free Cash into the Betterment Stabilization Fund.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: As stated in the purpose and justification.

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

ARTICLE 3 – APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS

B.O.S.

To see if the town will vote to appropriate \$185,000 for various capital projects and equipment as shown below, to be expended under the direction of Town Board/ Official indicated. Said sum to be raised by General Tax or available funds; and provided further that any funds appropriated hereunder shall remain within the capital budget under the jurisdiction of the Town Board/ Official indicated, until expended or released, unless transferred by Town Meeting. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

<u>Department</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1. Fire	Protective Gear and Breathing Apparatus	\$45,000
2. Fire	HQ Station Window Replacement	\$15,000
3. School	Upgrade to Energy Efficient Lighting	\$50,000
4. School	HS Media Center Furniture	\$40,000
5. Park & Rec.	Blower Sander	\$10,000
6. Historical Comm.	Mann/ Draper Cemetery Restoration	\$25,000
	Total	\$185,000

FY 2018 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN OVERVIEW OF ITEMS DELAYED TO OCTOBER SATM

1. \$45,000 Protective Gear and Breathing Apparatus Fire Department

This would replace SCBA air packs and multiple sets of protective clothing. It is required by Collective Bargaining Agreement and NFPA standards. This represents about 20% replacement of the protective clothing.

*Estimated Life for the Breathing Apparatus is 5 years
Estimated Life for the Protective Gear is 10 years*

2. \$15,000 HQ Station Window Replacement Fire Department

The FY2014 CIP fund \$85,000 for windows, doors and siding for all 3 Fire Stations. Station 2 and 3 have all new windows and doors. And the siding was replaced at Station 2. Approx. half of all the windows at HQ Station 1 have been purchased thru this article and most of the first floor windows have been replaced. The additional 15 windows are needed for the second floor replacements. All of the window replacements at HQ have been completed by Fire Dept. personnel and the remaining windows will be replaced by our Firefighters during the next calendar year. This work is being done voluntarily by our employees and is a huge cost savings to the Town. The cost of HQ window project would be at least double if removal and installation expenses were included.

Estimated Life is: 20 years

3. \$50,000 Upgrade to Energy Efficient Lighting Phase II Schools

The lighting in a majority of the districts buildings is original and in poor condition. Bulbs and ballasts are continually being replaced and repaired. The annual cost to the district is costly and an inefficient way to spend School department funds. This can be eliminated with the installation of new energy efficient lighting throughout the buildings. This project is expected to pay for itself in three years of savings due to utility cost avoidance.

Estimated Life is: 25 years

4.	\$40,000	HS Media Center Furniture	Schools
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The District needs to respond to the latest NEASC accreditation report and this is just one on a long list of needs the district is facing regarding capital improvement for the continued NEASC accreditation. The Furniture in the HS Media Center is original to the building and is in very poor condition.

Estimated Life is: 25 years

ITEMS DELAYED TO OCTOBER SATM (CONT'D)

5.	\$10,000	Blower Stander	Park & Rec
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This will allow the staff to save many hours of work and will save on injuries as they will be riding it not walking. It is very portable and can be used for all our locations.

Estimated Life is: 10-15 years

6.	\$25,000	Mann/Draper Cemetery Restoration	Historical Commission
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The Mann/Draper Cemetery is in need of restoration as the Stone Wall has deteriorated and Gravestones are missing from this historic site. This assessment covers basic preservation recommendations for the cemetery including repair of the stone wall which in its current condition is unstable and poses a collapse hazard.

Estimated Life is: 50 years

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY ROLL CALL

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate \$185,000.00 for various capital projects and equipment as shown, to be expended under the direction of Town Board/Official indicated. To meet said appropriation, \$173,600.00 is to be taken from Free Cash and the balance of \$11,400.00 to be re-appropriated to the Mann/Draper Cemetery Restoration from remaining funds in the following articles:

- \$8,500.00 911 Software – Article 4 of the June 2, 2014 STM
- \$2,900.00 Pool well Installation – Article 8 of the October 9, 2009 SATM

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: These items are either contractual obligations or necessary improvements to the Town’s infrastructure.

The RTM members unanimously approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

ARTICLE 4 – APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO PAY PRIOR YEARS’ BILLS

B.O.S.

To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum of money needed to pay prior year(s) bills. Said sum to be from Free Cash or transferred from available funds. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

Invoices received after the close of the fiscal year are paid through this article.

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That consideration of this article be indefinitely postponed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: At the time of voting there were no prior years’ bills.

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

ARTICLE 5 - UNITED STEEL WORKERS CONTRACT

HUMAN RESOURCES

To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to supplement the budgets of various departments for the purpose of financing any changes made in the Personnel By-laws, as a result of collective bargaining and otherwise for salary increases for United Steelworkers of America, and to determine how said appropriation shall be raised, whether by taxation, transfer from available funds or otherwise. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

To fund contract effective July 1, 2016

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate \$44,985.00 to supplement the budgets of various town departments, if necessary, for the purpose of financing any changes made in the Personnel By-laws, as a result of collective bargaining and otherwise for salary increases for United Steelworkers of America. To fund this appropriation, \$30,960.00 to be transferred from Free Cash and the following dollar amounts transferred from their respective retained earnings accounts into their salary line items as follows: \$7,555.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings, \$5,751.00 from Water Retained Earnings and \$719.00 from Solid Waste Retained Earnings

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: As stated in the purpose and justification

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

ARTICLE 6 – LABORERS’ CONTRACT

HUMAN RESOURCES

To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to supplement the budgets of various departments for the purpose of financing any changes made to the Personnel By-laws, as a result of collective bargaining and otherwise for salary increases for Laborers Local 272 and to determine how said appropriation shall be raised, whether by taxation, transfer from available funds or otherwise. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

To fund Memorandum of Agreement effective 7/1/17

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate \$31,557.00 to supplement the budgets of various departments, if necessary, for the purpose of financing any changes made to the Personnel By-laws, as a result of collective bargaining and otherwise for salary increases for Laborers Local 272. To fund this appropriation, \$14,418.00 to be transferred from Free Cash and the following dollar amounts to be transferred from their respective retained earnings accounts into their salary line items as follows: \$6,659.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings, \$10,480.00 from Water Retained Earnings.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: As stated in the purpose and justification.

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

ARTICLE 7 – APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO THE GENERAL STABILIZATION

B.O.S.

To see if the town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to the General Stabilization Fund. Said sum to be funded from Free Cash or transferred from available funds. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

This article is submitted to return funds to the General Stabilization Account per the Town’s Free Cash policy.

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 7-1

2/3 MAJORITY ROLL CALL

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to transfer \$714,885.00 from Free Cash into the General Stabilization account.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: The Committee feels it’s important to continuing contributing to the Stabilization Account.

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

**ARTICLE 8 – APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM WATER RETAINED EARNINGS
TO WATER ENTERPRISE BETTERMENT STABILIZATION FUND**

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$31,460.00 from Water Retained Earnings to the Water Enterprise Betterment Stabilization Fund. Said sum is the collected FY17 Revenue for special assessments/betterments. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

The Department of Revenue has recommended the use of a special purpose Stabilization Funds as a mechanism to help communities manage debt. This article will apply the prior fiscal year collected revenues from betterments, via a vote of retained earnings, to offset the upcoming year’s annual debt payments associated with the water betterment program.

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$31,460.00 from Water Retained Earnings to the Water Enterprise Betterment Stabilization Fund. Said sum is the collected FY17 Revenue for special assessments/betterments.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: As stated in the purpose and justification.

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

**ARTICLE 9 – APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM SEWER RETAINED EARNINGS
TO SEWER ENTERPRISE INFILTRATION AND INFLOW REMOVAL
PROGRAM STABILIZATION FUND**

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$189,190 from Sewer Retained Earnings to the Sewer Enterprise Infiltration and Inflow Removal Program Stabilization Fund Said sum is the collected FY17 for the Sewer Infiltration and Inflow Capacity Fee. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

These funds were collected in FY2017 for the specific purpose of funding for the removal of Infiltration and Inflow from the system to accommodate the new flows. These funds will be appropriated to the Stabilization Fund to mitigate costs of future Infiltration and Inflow projects, which reduces extraneous groundwater and rain water flows from our sewer system. The removal of these flows lower or transport and treatment costs within the system.

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY ROLL CALL VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$189,190 from Sewer Retained Earnings to the Sewer Enterprise Infiltration and Inflow Removal Program Stabilization Fund Said sum is the collected FY17 for the Sewer Infiltration and Inflow Capacity Fee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: As stated in the purpose and justification.

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

**ARTICLE 10 – APPROPRIATION FROM SEWER RETAINED EARNINGS
TO SEWER ENTERPRISE BETTERMENT STABILIZATION FUND**

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$113,064.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings to the Sewer Enterprise Betterment Stabilization Fund. Said sum is the collected FY17 Revenue for special assessments/betterments. Or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

The Department of Revenue has recommended the use of a special purpose Stabilization Funds as a mechanism to help communities manage debt. This article will apply to prior fiscal year collected revenues from betterments, via a vote of retained earnings, to offset the upcoming year’s annual debt payments associated with the Sewer Betterment Programs.

FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE: 8-0

MAJORITY ROLL CALL VOTE

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$113,064.00 from Sewer Retained Earnings to the Sewer Enterprise Betterment Stabilization Fund. Said sum is the collected FY17 Revenue for special assessments/betterments.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REASON: As stated in the purpose and justification.

By a majority vote, the RTM members approved the Finance Committee’s recommendation.

By a majority vote the RTM members approved a motion to adjourn Sine Die at 7:40pm on October 16, 2017.