

Annual Town Meeting
May 14, 2012

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Sutton, qualified to vote in Town Elections and in Town affairs, met in the Simonian Center for Early Learning, Boston Road, Monday the Fourteenth day of May, 2012 at 7:30 o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

There were 101 voters and 12 non-voters in attendance.

Wayne Junnila, David Lavalley and Bruce Davis were appointed as Counters.

ARTICLE 1

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

Voted unanimously to receive the reports of the Town Officers and Committees. David Lavalley read the report of the Master Plan Committee.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article, as it is a customary article calling for reports from town officers and committies.

ARTICLE 2

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

Voted unanimously to authorize the Cemetery Commissioners to employ themselves in the work of the several cemeteries and to fix the compensation to be paid from appropriations for said department.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article, as it is the annual authorization allowing the Cemetery Commissioners to employ themselves in the work of their department.

ARTICLE 3

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

Voted unanimously to authorize the Board of Health to employ themselves in the performance of their work necessary to maintain health standards set by their department, and to fix the compensation to be paid from appropriations for said department.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article, as it is the annual authorization allowing the members of the Board of Health to employ themselves in the work of their department.

ARTICLE 4

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

Voted unanimously to appropriate the following sums for the operation of the Sewer Department for fiscal year 2013:

Salary and Wages	\$ 215,893
Operation and Maintenance	<u>\$ 481,626</u>
For a total of	\$ 697,519

And as funding therefor, that the Town vote to raise the \$ 697,519 as follows:

User Fees and Connection Fees	\$ 697,519
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The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article, as it is the annual authorization of the Sewer Department budget.

ARTICLE 5**SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen**

Voted unanimously to appropriate the following sums for the operation of the Transfer Station for fiscal year 2013:

Salary and Wages	\$ 37,788
Operation and Maintenance	<u>\$ 96,975</u>
For a total of	\$134,763

And as funding therefor, that the Town raise the \$ 134,763 as follows:

User Fees	\$ 134,763
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The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article, as it is the annual authorization of the Transfer Station budget.

ARTICLE 6**SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen**

Voted unanimously to fund the operating budget for the fiscal year 2013 period in the following manner:

General Government:	\$ 1,290,396
Public Safety:	\$ 2,213,734
Education:	\$ 14,051,656
Public Works:	\$ 772,429
Health and Human Services:	\$ 234,814
Recreation and Culture:	\$ 192,862
Debt & Interest:	\$ 3,878,018
Insurance & Employee Benefits:	\$ 3,521,263
Transfer to Capital Stabilization Fund	\$ 537,419
For a Total of:	\$ 26,777,005

And that the article be funded in the following manner:

Raise & Appropriate the amount of	\$ 25,693,362
A Transfer from Free Cash	\$ 445,000
A Transfer From Capital Stabilization Fund	\$ 506,730
A Transfer from Other Reserves	\$ 20,174
A Transfer from Sewer Enterprise Fund	
For Indirect Cost	\$ 89,164
A Transfer from Transfer Station Enterprise	
For Indirect Cost	\$ 22,575
For a Total of:	\$ 26,777,005

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this Fiscal 2013 budget article. Faced with the no increase in state aid, the Town Administrator and town-wide staff have offset increased costs by reductions in departments to provide a balanced budget.

ARTICLE 7**SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen**

Voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of \$286,600 for the following purposes relating to the fiscal 2013 Capital Plan:

Department	Purpose	Amount
POLICE	Vehicle Replacement Program	\$ 57,000
HIGHWAY	4 x 4 pickup truck and plow	40,000
SCHOOL	Energy Efficiency Upgrades	15,000
SCHOOL	Generator/IT	30,000
SCHOOL	Continue technology replacement	80,000
POLICE	Cellebrite forensic extraction device	5,100
FIRE	Maintenance engine 2 and others	20,000
SCHOOL	Tile ELE/SCEL classrooms, ELE carpet replacement	27,500
TOWN CLERK	Voting Booths	7,000
FIRE	Backup Generator	5,000
FOR A TOTAL OF		\$ 286,600

And to meet this appropriation, transfer the sum of \$220,000 from the Overlay Reserve, transfer from Capital Stabilization Fund \$31,476 and transfer the sum of \$35,124 from Prior Unspent Capital Plan Borrowings as detailed below; and further that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action to carry out these projects and that any unexpended funds from each of these projects be transferred to the Capital Stabilization fund.

Detail of Prior Unspent Borrowing:

May 9, 2011 ATM	Article 7	Senior Center Roof	\$32,600
May 9, 2011 ATM	Article 7	Fire Chief Vehicle	<u>\$ 2,524</u>
Total			\$35,124

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article, as it is the Fiscal 2013 Capital Plan and an integral part of the town's budget.

ARTICLE 8**SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen**

Voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$120,000 from Free Cash and \$20,000 from Article 9 of the May 9, 2011 Annual Town Meeting, to fund the Fiscal Year 2013 Unemployment Account.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article to cover potential unemployment costs principally due to staff reductions within the school system.

ARTICLE 9

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

Voted unanimously to authorize the following revolving fund accounts under M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, as printed in the warrant.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article, as it is the annual authorization of the town's 53 E ½ accounts.

ARTICLE 10

SPONSOR: Doreen Evangeline

Voted 85 yes and 5 nay on an amended motion to amend the Zoning Bylaw – Section VI.L Accessory Apartments to allow detached units as printed in the warrant and to delete subsection i.

As printed in the warrant (subsection i deleted):

Amend ¶2 sentence #1- An accessory apartment is a dwelling unit constructed within and/or added onto a single family dwelling or a detached accessory building.

Amend b. – Only one (1) accessory apartment shall be allowed per lot.

Amend d. – An accessory apartment shall be designed to maintain the appearance of the single family property of which it is a part, and shall be clearly subordinate to the single family dwelling.

Amend e. – An exterior entrance to the apartment shall be located on the side or rear of the single family dwelling.

Planning Board voted 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining to recommend the article with the elimination of the “within 75’” requirement. Commentary: The Board felt it was reasonable to allow this use in a detached structure as long as the requirement that the use maintain a single family appearance remains. They did not feel the 75’ requirement was necessary as it will just generate numerous waiver requests and as the need to hook the accessory structure into the main homes utilities and septic system will largely limit its separation from the primary residence.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article. The committee recognizes that the Planning Board recommended the passage of this article by a vote of 5-0 and agrees with its recommendation.

ARTICLE 11

SPONSOR: Richard Norlin

Voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$ 5000.00 from the Waterways Improvement Fund (T1106422) duly collected as the dedicated portion of the Massachusetts Boat Excise Tax due the Town of Sutton, said sum to be used for the control of Eurasian Watermilfoil, Fanwort or algae in Lake Singletary.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article.

ARTICLE 12

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

Voted unanimously to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the parcel of land located at 194 Stone School Road, shown on Assessors Map 26 as Lot 7, and described in an Order of Taking recorded with the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 5144, Page 245, from the Board of Selectmen for landfill purposes to the Board of Selectmen for landfill purposes and for the purpose of granting permanent and temporary easements for telecommunications, access and utility purposes, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant said easements on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article as it represents a source of increased cash flow to the Town.

ARTICLE 13

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

Voted by a two thirds vote, 58 yes and 25 nay, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire for general municipal purposes, by purchase, gift, and/or eminent domain, the parcel of land and the improvements thereon located at 489 Central Turnpike, shown on Assessors Map 30 as Lot 38, and described in a deed recorded in the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 40035 Page 84, and to raise and appropriate \$120,000 for the aforesaid acquisition and costs related thereto.

The Finance and Warrant Advisory Committee voted 6-0 to recommend passage of this article as it allows the town to purchase land for municipal use at a reasonable cost.

Meeting dissolved at 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted,
Laura J. Caruso
Town Clerk