



**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MAY 19, 2025**

TOWN MEETING SUMMARY SHEET

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 19, 2025**

Worcester, ss:

To either of the Constables in the Town of Winchendon, in the County of Worcester,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Winchendon qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the MURDOCK MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL, 3 Memorial Drive, off Elmwood Road in said Winchendon on

**MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025
AT 7:00 P.M.**

We met at the Murdock Middle/High School at 7:00pm. Due to long line waiting to check in, the Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm with a quorum present of 815 voters. Tim Zessin was present representing Town Counsel-KP Law.

then and there to act on the following articles:

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee, the annual report of the Selectmen and of any other officers or committees required to report to the Town, or act in relation thereto.

(usual and customary article)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Finance Committee Chairman Tom Kane gave presentation of the town's finances.

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority vote to hear and act on the reports of the Finance Committee.

Yes-79% No-21% 7:33pm

ARTICLE 2

To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$24,418.92 for payment of bill from the prior year as follows:

Walgreens Invoice#500095990 \$7,221.34 April 2024

Walgreens	Invoice#500096550	\$9,361.68	May 2024
Walgreens	Invoice#500099111	\$7,835.90	June 2024

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Four Fifths Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by 4/5ths vote to transfer from FY25 Health Insurance Line Item the sum of \$24,418.92 for the payment of bills of a prior fiscal year as printed in Article 2 of the warrant.

Yes-81% **No-19%** **7:41pm**

ARTICLE 3

To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$293,987 to fund the deficit in the Snow and Ice Account for FY25, or take any other action relative thereto

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 3 due to Free Cash not being certified.

Yes-86% **No-14%** **7:42pm**

ARTICLE 4

To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$00.00 to fund the other operating costs of FY25, or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 4 due to Free Cash not being certified.

Yes-89% **No-11%** **7:43pm**

ARTICLE 5 Appropriation Retained Earnings – Water Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of \$50,000 from Water Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to cover additional expenses for FY25, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 5 due to Free Cash not being certified.

Yes-86% No-14% 7:47pm

ARTICLE 6 Appropriation Retained Earnings – Wastewater Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of \$75,000 from Wastewater Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to cover additional expenses for FY25, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 6 due to Free Cash not being certified.

Yes-87% No-13% 7:48pm

ARTICLE 7 Appropriation Retained Earnings – Transfer Station Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of \$100,000 from Transfer Station Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to cover additional expenses for FY25, including trash compactors, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 6 due to Retained Earnings not being certified.

Yes-80% No-20% 8:04pm

REVOLVING FUNDS AUTHORIZATION ARTICLE

ARTICLE 8

To see if the town will vote to fix the maximum amount to be spent during fiscal year 2026 beginning on July 1, 2025, for the revolving funds for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 E1/2, or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Department, Board, Committee</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>
	<u>Agency or Officer</u>	<u>Spending Limit</u>
Agriculture	Agriculture Commission	\$ 1,000
Large Copy Fees	Planning & Development	\$ 1,000
Restitution Fees	Land Use	\$ 1,000
Extended Day	School	\$10,000
Damaged books	School	\$ 5,000
Summer School	School	\$ 1,000
Recycling	Board of Health	\$ 1,000
Composting	Board of Health	\$ 1,000
Arts Lottery	Arts Lottery Commission	\$ 7,500
Wetland Fees	Conservation	\$20,000
Library copy Fees	Librarian/Library Trustees	\$ 8,000
Library Material	Librarian/Library Trustees	\$ 8,000
Student parking	School	\$ 5,000
Community Development	Town Manager	\$25,000
Block Program Income		

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On an amended motion duly made and seconded, vote to increase the Agriculture spending limit to \$10,000, the vote failed. Yes-47% No-53% 8:12pm

Further discussion continued.

On a motion duly made and seconded, another vote was taken to have the Agriculture spending limit back up for vote. Yes-76% No-24% 8:18pm

On an amended motion duly made and seconded, vote to increase the Agriculture spending to \$10,000 came back for another vote. Yes-78% No-22% 8:19pm

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was Passed by Majority to amend Agriculture spending to \$10,000 and fix the amount to be spent during fiscal year 2026 beginning on July 1, 2025, for the revolving funds for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with Massachusetts Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 as printed in Article 8 of the warrant.

Yes-85% No-15% 8:19pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 9 Senior Tax Work-Off

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds the sum of seven thousand seven hundred dollars (\$7,700) for the Senior Tax Work-off Program, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

*Voted: On an amended motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to increase the sum to \$11,000
Yes-63% No-37% 8:31pm*

*Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 to fund the FY2026 Senior Work Off Program.
Yes-76% No-24% 8:32pm*

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET ARTICLE

ARTICLE 10 General Government with \$2.9 Million Override

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds the sum of \$19,684,155.00 for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or act in relation thereto.

(usual and customary article)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 4-0-1 FINANCE COMMITTEE: NOT RECOMMEND 5-0-2

Town of Winchendon Summary of Other Available Funds

Cemetery Trust	\$3,444
Title V Liens Redemption	\$16,747
Infrastructure Investment Fund	\$20,000
Water Indirect Costs	\$255,154
Wastewater Indirect Costs	\$146,443
Transfer Station Indirect Costs	\$26,802
PEG Access Indirect Costs	\$5,326

Homeless Transportation	\$20,000
TOTAL OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$ 493,916.00

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Detail of Appropriations

	FY 25	FY 25	FY 26
	TM BUDGET	THRU 12/31/24	TM BUDGET
School Transportation	\$ 1,625,220	\$ 564,313	\$ 1,755,000
Total School Transportation	\$ 1,625,220	\$ 564,313	\$ 1,755,000
Selectmen			
Expenses	\$ 24,750	\$ 3,203	\$ 26,750
Total Selectmen	\$ 24,750	\$ 3,203	\$ 26,750
Town Manager			
Personnel	\$ 270,600	\$ 127,696	\$ 277,600
Expenses (including Legal)	\$ 64,590	\$ 20,440	\$ 387,590
Total Town Manager	\$ 335,190	\$ 148,136	\$ 665,190
Finance Committee			
Personnel	\$ 1,500	\$ 725	\$ 1,500
Expenses	\$ 181,160	\$ 45,343	\$ 186,700
Total Finance Committee	\$ 182,660	\$ 46,068	\$ 188,200
Accounting			
Personnel	\$ 155,580	\$ 72,962	\$ 155,580
Expenses (including OPEB)	\$ 8,750	\$ 800	\$ 8,750
Total Accounting	\$ 164,330	\$ 73,762	\$ 164,330
Assessor			
Expenses	\$ 107,660	\$ 56,207	\$ 122,060
Total Assessor	\$ 107,660	\$ 56,207	\$ 122,060
Collector/Treasurer			
Personnel	\$ 188,390	\$ 97,271	\$ 188,390
Expenses	\$ 98,160	\$ 39,389	\$ 103,560
Total Collector/Treasurer	\$ 286,550	\$ 136,660	\$ 291,950
Information Technology			
Personnel	\$ 85,900	\$ 39,497	\$ 85,900

Expenses (including DP)	\$ 113,300	\$ 64,492	\$ 123,300
Total Information Technology	\$ 199,200	\$ 103,989	\$ 209,200
Communication Committee			
Personnel	\$ 2,420	\$ -	\$ 2,420
Expenses	\$ 9,900	\$ 1,107	\$ 13,500
Total Communication Committee	\$ 13,320	\$ 1,107	\$ 15,920
Town Clerk (including Registrars)			
Personnel	\$ 125,710	\$ 90,036	\$ 125,710
Expenses	\$ 94,685	\$ 10,031	\$ 68,325
Total Town Clerk	\$ 220,395	\$ 100,067	\$ 194,035
Planning and Community Development (including Conservation and ZBA)			
Personnel	\$ 112,980	\$ 47,871	\$ 112,980
Expenses	\$ 27,505	\$ 1,868	\$ 27,510
Total Planning and Comm Dev	\$ 140,485	\$ 49,739	\$ 140,490
Town Hall			
Personnel	\$ 57,450	\$ 27,458	\$ 57,450
Expenses	\$ 86,650	\$ 21,220	\$ 88,450
Total Town Hall	\$ 144,100	\$ 48,678	\$ 145,900
Police (including dispatch and animal control)			
Personnel	\$ 1,878,380	\$ 973,174	\$ 1,878,380
Expenses	\$ 215,830	\$ 111,550	\$ 265,830
Total Police	\$ 2,094,210	\$ 1,084,724	\$ 2,144,210
Fire (including ambulance)			
Personnel	\$ 1,349,675	\$ 701,838	\$ 1,400,855
Expenses	\$ 263,700	\$ 116,590	\$ 327,700
Total Fire	\$ 1,613,375	\$ 818,428	\$ 1,728,555
Land Use			
Personnel	\$ 121,540	\$ 60,114	\$ 115,330
Expenses	\$ 7,650	\$ 4,079	\$ 7,650
Total Land Use	\$ 129,190	\$ 64,193	\$ 122,980
Emergency Management			
Personnel	\$ 2,670	\$ 1,235	\$ 2,670
Expenses	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,107	\$ 1,450
Total Emergency Management	\$ 4,020	\$ 2,342	\$ 4,120

DPW (including highway, fleet maint., street lighting)

(also including landfill, cemetery, tree trimming)

Personnel	\$ 957,100	\$ 472,973	\$ 986,420
Expenses	\$ 492,850	\$ 286,277	\$ 535,350
Total DPW	\$ 1,449,950	\$ 759,250	\$ 1,521,770

DPW Snow and Ice

Personnel	\$ 70,000	\$ 16,411	\$ 70,000
Expenses	\$ 160,000	\$ 105,087	\$ 160,000
Total DPW Snow and Ice	\$ 230,000	\$ 121,498	\$ 230,000

Health (including outside service and visiting nurse)

Personnel	\$ 58,070	\$ 29,972	\$ 58,070
Expenses	\$ 15,220	\$ 3,458	\$ 15,520
Total Health	\$ 73,290	\$ 33,430	\$ 73,590

Council on Aging

Personnel	\$ 199,560	\$ 88,218	\$ 199,560
Expenses	\$ 34,290	\$ 12,425	\$ 76,850
Total Council on Aging	\$ 233,850	\$ 100,643	\$ 276,410

Veterans Services

Personnel	\$ 23,600	\$ 11,280	\$ 23,600
Expenses	\$ 163,180	\$ 55,550	\$ 163,180
Total Veterans Services	\$ 186,780	\$ 66,830	\$ 186,780

Library

Personnel	\$ 205,925	\$ 100,772	\$ 205,925
Expenses	\$ 62,075	\$ 33,481	\$ 90,030
Total Library	\$ 268,000	\$ 134,253	\$ 295,955

Recreation

Personnel and expenses	\$ 55,130	\$ 16,359	\$ 66,130
Total Recreation	\$ 55,130	\$ 16,359	\$ 66,130

Historic Commission

Expenses	\$ 1,000	\$ 600	\$ 1,100
Total Historic Commission	\$ 1,000	\$ 600	\$ 1,100

Debt service principal and interest

Expenses	\$ 857,600	\$ 459,944	\$ 1,185,000
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Total Debt	\$ 857,600	\$ 459,944	\$ 1,185,000
State Assessments			
Expenses	\$ 1,126,690	\$ 507,457	\$ 1,090,030
Total State Assessments	\$ 1,126,690	\$ 507,457	\$ 1,090,030
Employer Expenses (pension, workers' comp, unemploy, also health insurance, life insurance, medicare)			
Expenses	\$ 5,565,100	\$ 3,745,495	\$ 6,236,500
Total Employer Expenses	\$ 5,568,100	\$ 3,745,495	\$ 6,236,500
Property/Liability Insurance			
Expenses	\$ 381,000	\$ 403,093	\$ 402,000
Total Property/Liability Insurance	\$ 381,000	\$ 403,093	\$ 402,000
	TOTAL	\$ 17,712,045	\$ 9,650,468
			\$ 19,684,155

***Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, it was Passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 10
Yes-88% No-12% 8:33pm***

ARTICLE 11 General Government with \$1.9 Million Override

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds the sum of \$19,284,155.00 for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or act in relation thereto.

(usual and customary article)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Town of Winchendon Summary of Other Available Funds

Cemetery Trust	\$3,444
Title V Liens Redemption	\$16,747
Infrastructure Investment Fund	\$20,000
Water Indirect Costs	\$255,154
Wastewater Indirect Costs	\$146,443
Transfer Station Indirect Costs	\$26,802

PEG Access Indirect Costs	\$5,326
Homeless Transportation	\$20,000
TOTAL OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$ 493,916.00

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Detail of Appropriations

	FY 25 TM BUDGET	FY 25 THRU 12/31/24	FY 26 TM BUDGET
School Transportation	\$ 1,625,220	\$ 564,313	\$ 1,755,000
Total School Transportation	\$ 1,625,220	\$ 564,313	\$ 1,755,000
Selectmen			
Expenses	\$ 24,750	\$ 3,203	\$ 26,750
Total Selectmen	\$ 24,750	\$ 3,203	\$ 26,750
Town Manager			
Personnel	\$ 270,600	\$ 127,696	\$ 277,600
Expenses (including Legal)	\$ 64,590	\$ 20,440	\$ 337,590
Total Town Manager	\$ 335,190	\$ 148,136	\$ 615,190
Finance Committee			
Personnel	\$ 1,500	\$ 725	\$ 1,500
Expenses	\$ 181,160	\$ 45,343	\$ 186,700
Total Finance Committee	\$ 182,660	\$ 46,068	\$ 188,200
Accounting			
Personnel	\$ 155,580	\$ 72,962	\$ 155,580
Expenses (including OPEB)	\$ 8,750	\$ 800	\$ 8,750
Total Accounting	\$ 164,330	\$ 73,762	\$ 164,330
Assessor			
Expenses	\$ 107,660	\$ 56,207	\$ 122,060
Total Assessor	\$ 107,660	\$ 56,207	\$ 122,060
Collector/Treasurer			
Personnel	\$ 188,390	\$ 97,271	\$ 188,390
Expenses	\$ 98,160	\$ 39,389	\$ 103,160
Total Collector/Treasurer	\$ 286,550	\$ 136,660	\$ 291,550
Information Technology			
Personnel	\$ 85,900	\$ 39,497	\$ 85,900

Expenses (including DP)	\$ 113,300	\$ 64,492	\$ 123,300
Total Information Technology	\$ 199,200	\$ 103,989	\$ 209,200
Communication Committee			
Personnel	\$ 2,420	\$ -	\$ 2,420
Expenses	\$ 9,900	\$ 1,107	\$ 13,500
Total Communication Committee	\$ 13,320	\$ 1,107	\$ 15,920
Town Clerk (including Registrars)			
Personnel	\$ 125,710	\$ 47,871	\$ 125,710
Expenses	\$ 94,685	\$ 1,868	\$ 68,325
Total Town Clerk	\$ 220,395	\$ 49,739	\$ 194,035
Planning and Community Development (including Conservation and ZBA)			
Personnel	\$ 112,980	\$ 47,871	\$ 112,980
Expenses	\$ 27,505	\$ 1,868	\$ 27,510
Total Planning and Comm Dev	\$ 140,485	\$ 49,739	\$ 140,490
Town Hall			
Personnel	\$ 57,450	\$ 27,458	\$ 57,450
Expenses	\$ 86,650	\$ 21,220	\$ 88,450
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Police (including dispatch and animal control)			
Personnel	\$ 1,878,380	\$ 973,174	\$ 1,878,380
Expenses	\$ 215,830	\$ 111,550	\$ 215,830
Total Police	\$ 2,094,210	\$ 1,084,724	\$ 2,094,210
Fire (including ambulance)			
Personnel	\$ 1,349,675	\$ 701,838	\$ 1,400,855
Expenses	\$ 263,700	\$ 116,590	\$ 277,700
Total Fire	\$ 1,613,375	\$ 818,428	\$ 1,678,555
Land Use			
Personnel	\$ 121,540	\$ 60,114	\$ 115,330
Expenses	\$ 7,650	\$ 4,079	\$ 7,650
Total Land Use	\$ 129,190	\$ 64,193	\$ 122,980
Emergency Management			
Personnel	\$ 2,670	\$ 1,235	\$ 2,670
Expenses	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,107	\$ 1,450
Total Emergency Management	\$ 4,020	\$ 2,342	\$ 4,120

DPW (including highway, fleet maint., street lighting)

(also including landfill, cemetery, tree trimming)

Personnel	\$ 957,100	\$ 472,973	\$ 986,420
Expenses	\$ 492,850	\$ 286,277	\$ 535,350
Total DPW	\$ 1,449,950	\$ 759,250	\$ 1,521,770

DPW Snow and Ice

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Personnel and expenses	\$ 55,130	\$ 16,359	\$ 66,130
Total Recreation	\$ 55,130	\$ 16,359	\$ 66,130

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Expenses	\$ 1,000	\$ 600	\$ 1,100
Total Historic Commission	\$ 1,000	\$ 600	\$ 1,100

Debt service principal and interest

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Expenses	\$ 381,000	\$ 403,093	\$ 402,000
Total Property/Liability Insurance	\$ 381,000	\$ 403,093	\$ 402,000
	TOTAL \$ 17,712,045	\$ 9,650,468	\$ 19,284,155

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was duly made and seconded to vote on Article 12 before Article 11. Yes-27% No-73% motion failed at 8:56pm.

After further discussion, on an amended motion duly made and seconded a voted was taken to amend the school transportation line item to zero to make the users pay. Yes-19% No-81% amendment failed at 9:14pm.

Upon further discussion, on a motion duly made and seconded it was Passed by Majority to vote on Article 11 as printed in the warrant.

Yes-61% No-39% 9:32pm

ARTICLE 12 General Government

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds the sum of \$18,221,055 for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or act in relation thereto.

(usual and customary article)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Town of Winchendon Summary of Other Available Funds

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GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

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Total Selectmen	\$ 24,750	\$ 3,203	\$ 14,750
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Personnel	\$ 270,600	\$ 127,696	\$ 270,600
Expenses (including Legal)	\$ 64,590	\$ 20,440	\$ 77,590
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Finance Committee			
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Expenses	\$ 181,160	\$ 45,343	\$ 131,700
Total Finance Committee	\$ 182,660	\$ 46,068	\$ 133,200
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Expenses	\$ 107,660	\$ 56,207	\$ 122,060
Total Assessor	\$ 107,660	\$ 56,207	\$ 122,060
Collector/Treasurer			
Personnel	\$ 188,390	\$ 97,271	\$ 188,390
Expenses	\$ 98,160	\$ 39,389	\$ 103,160
Total Collector/Treasurer	\$ 286,550	\$ 136,660	\$ 291,550

Information Technology					
Personnel	\$ 85,900	\$ 39,497	\$ 85,900		
Expenses (including DP)	\$ 113,300	\$ 64,492	\$ 123,300		
Total Information Technology	\$ 199,200	\$ 103,989	\$ 209,200		
Communication Committee					
Personnel	\$ 2,420	\$ -	\$ 2,420		
Expenses	\$ 9,900	\$ 1,107	\$ 13,500		
Total Communication Committee	\$ 13,320	\$ 1,107	\$ 15,920		
Town Clerk (including Registrars)					
Personnel	\$ 125,710	\$ 47,871	\$ 112,980		
Expenses	\$ 94,685	\$ 1,868	\$ 27,505		
Total Town Clerk	\$ 220,395	\$ 49,739	\$ 140,485		
Planning and Community Development					
(including Conservation and ZBA)					
Personnel	\$ 112,980	\$ 47,871	\$ 112,980		
Expenses	\$ 27,505	\$ 1,868	\$ 27,505		
Total Planning and Comm Dev	\$ 140,485	\$ 49,739	\$ 140,485		
Town Hall					
Personnel	\$ 57,450	\$ 27,458	\$ 57,450		
Expenses	\$ 86,650	\$ 21,220	\$ 105,650		
Total Town Hall	\$ 144,100	\$ 48,678	\$ 163,100		
Police (including dispatch and animal control)					
Personnel	\$ 1,878,380	\$ 973,174	\$ 1,878,380		
Expenses	\$ 215,830	\$ 111,550	\$ 215,830		
Total Police	\$ 2,094,210	\$ 1,084,724	\$ 2,094,210		
Fire (including ambulance)					
Personnel	\$ 1,349,675	\$ 701,838	\$ 1,378,675		
Expenses	\$ 263,700	\$ 116,590	\$ 234,700		
Total Fire	\$ 1,613,375	\$ 818,428	\$ 1,613,375		
Land Use					
Personnel	\$ 121,540	\$ 60,114	\$ 115,330		
Expenses	\$ 7,650	\$ 4,079	\$ 7,650		
Total Land Use	\$ 129,190	\$ 64,193	\$ 122,980		
Emergency Management					
Personnel	\$ 2,670	\$ 1,235	\$ 2,670		

Expenses	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,107	\$ 1,450
Total Emergency Management	\$ 4,020	\$ 2,342	\$ 4,120
DPW (including highway, fleet maint., street lighting)			
(also including landfill, cemetery, tree trimming)			
Personnel	\$ 957,100	\$ 472,973	\$ 985,920
Expenses	\$ 492,850	\$ 286,277	\$ 464,030
Total DPW	\$ 1,449,950	\$ 759,250	\$ 1,449,950
DPW Snow and Ice			
Personnel	\$ 70,000	\$ 16,411	\$ 70,000
Expenses	\$ 160,000	\$ 105,087	\$ 160,000
Total DPW Snow and Ice	\$ 230,000	\$ 121,498	\$ 230,000
Health (including outside service and visiting nurse)			
Personnel	\$ 58,070	\$ 29,972	\$ 58,070
Expenses	\$ 15,220	\$ 3,458	\$ 15,220
Total Health	\$ 73,290	\$ 33,430	\$ 73,290
Council on Aging			
Personnel	\$ 199,560	\$ 88,218	\$ -
Expenses	\$ 34,290	\$ 12,425	\$ -
Total Council on Aging	\$ 233,850	\$ 100,643	\$ -
Veterans Services			
Personnel	\$ 23,600	\$ 11,280	\$ 23,600
Expenses	\$ 163,180	\$ 55,550	\$ 163,180
Total Veterans Services	\$ 186,780	\$ 66,830	\$ 186,780
Library			
Personnel	\$ 205,925	\$ 100,772	\$ -
Expenses	\$ 62,075	\$ 33,481	\$ -
Total Library	\$ 268,000	\$ 134,253	\$ -
Recreation			
Personnel and expenses	\$ 55,130	\$ 16,359	\$ -
Total Recreation	\$ 55,130	\$ 16,359	\$ -
Historic Commission			
Expenses	\$ 1,000	\$ 600	\$ 1,100
Total Historic Commission	\$ 1,000	\$ 600	\$ 1,100

Debt service principal and interest					
Expenses	\$ 857,600	\$ 459,944	\$ 1,185,000		
Total Debt	\$ 857,600	\$ 459,944	\$ 1,185,000		
State Assessments					
Expenses	\$ 1,126,690	\$ 507,457	\$ 1,090,030		
Total State Assessments	\$ 1,126,690	\$ 507,457	\$ 1,090,030		
Employer Expenses (pension, workers' comp, unemploy, also health insurance, life insurance, medicare)					
Expenses	\$ 5,565,100	\$ 3,745,495	\$ 6,216,500		
Total Employer Expenses	\$ 5,568,100	\$ 3,745,495	\$ 6,216,500		
Property/Liability Insurance					
Expenses	\$ 381,000	\$ 403,093	\$ 402,000		
Total Property/Liability Insurance	\$ 381,000	\$ 403,093	\$ 402,000		
	TOTAL	\$ 17,712,045	\$ 9,650,468	\$ 18,221,055	

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, it was passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 12
Yes-78% No-22% 9:35pm

A motion was made and seconded to reconvene the Annual Town Meeting until the next evening.
Yes-9% No-91% motion failed at 9:40pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE

ARTICLE 13 Water Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,363,000 for direct costs of the Water Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and that indirect costs of \$255,154 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Water Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to appropriate the sum of \$1,363,000 for direct costs of the Water Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and that indirect costs of \$255,154 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Water Receipts

Yes-78% No-22% 9:41pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE

ARTICLE 14 Wastewater Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,293,483 (Wastewater Receipts of \$1,133,483 and Betterment Revenues of \$160,000) for the direct costs of the Wastewater Treatment Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and that indirect costs of \$146,443 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Wastewater Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to appropriate the sum of \$1,293,483 (Wastewater Receipts of \$1,133,483 and Betterment Revenues of \$160,000) for the direct costs of the Wastewater Treatment Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and that indirect costs of \$146,443 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Wastewater Receipts.

Yes-80% NO-20% 9:44pm

USUAL/CUSTOMARY TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 15 Transfer Station Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$307,000 from Transfer Station Receipts for direct costs of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025; and that indirect costs of \$26,802 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Transfer Station Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to appropriate the sum of \$307,000 from Transfer Station Receipts for direct costs of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025; and that indirect costs of \$26,802 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Transfer Station Receipts.

Yes-86% No-14% 9:47pm

USUAL/CUSTOMARY
CABLE PUBLIC ACCESS ENTERPRISE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 16 Cable Public Access Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$125,674 for the direct costs to operate the Public, Education, and Governmental Access Media enterprise for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and that indirect costs of \$5,326 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by PEG Access receipts, or take any other action thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconeded, Passed by Majority to appropriate the sum of \$125,674 for the direct costs to operate the Public, Education, and Governmental Access Media enterprise for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and that indirect costs of \$5,326 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by PEG Access receipts.

Yes-82% No-18% 9:58pm

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY EDUCATION BUDGET ARTICLE

ARTICLE 17 School Department Budget-with \$2.9 Million Override

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$18,451,070 for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the School Committee)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Not Recommend 5-2

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to Pass Over Article 17.

Yes-94% No-6% 9:49pm

ARTICLE 18 School Department Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$18,051,070 for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the School Committee)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 4-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 5-2

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$18,051,070 for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025.

Yes-73% No-27% 9:51pm

ANNUAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL ASSESSMENT ARTICLE

ARTICLE 19 Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$633,000 to fund the Town's assessment for its share of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 4-0-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to raise and appropriate the sum of \$633,000 to fund the Town's assessment for its share of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025.

Yes-88% No-12% 9:55pm

ARTICLE 20 NON PROFIT ASSISTANCE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds the sum of twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500) as a grant to the non-profit, Community Action Committee, Inc., in consideration of the numerous services provided to the Town, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 4-0-1

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds the sum of twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500) as a grant to the non-profit, Community Action Committee, Inc., in consideration of the numerous services provided to the Town.

Yes-87% NO-13% 9:57pm

CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 21-FEASIBILITY STUDY BORROWING

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of Winchendon Public Schools' School Building Committee to pay costs related to a feasibility study and schematic design for the potential replacement of windows, roofs, and doors at Toy Town Elementary, 175 Grove Street, Winchendon, MA 01475 and Memorial Elementary, 32 Elmwood Road, Winchendon, MA 01475 and the potential replacement of the roof at Murdock Middle High School, 3 Memorial Drive Winchendon, MA 01475, for which feasibility study the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"). The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. Or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(2/3 Vote Required)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 5-1-1
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:**

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by 2/3 Majority to appropriate Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the purpose of paying costs of a feasibility study and schematic design for the potential replacement of windows, roofs, and doors at Toy Town Elementary, 175 Grove Street, Winchendon, MA 01475 and Memorial Elementary, 32 Elmwood Road, Winchendon, MA 01475 and the potential replacement of the roof at Murdock Middle High School, 3 Memorial Drive, Winchendon, MA 01475, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of Winchendon Public Schools' School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA.

Yes-81% No-19% 10:01pm

ARTICLE 22 Appropriation - Capital Improvements for Fiscal Year 2026 – Free Cash and or Borrowing

To see if the Town will appropriate \$500,000 to pay costs of boiler improvements at the Murdock Middle/High School, to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise provided; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Department	Description	Amount
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School	Boiler at Murdock Middle High School	\$500,000
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(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee)

(2/3 Vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by 2/3 Majority to appropriate the sum of \$500,000 to pay costs of boiler improvements at the Murdock Middle/High School, and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, s7(1), or any other appropriate enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

Yes- 82% No-18% 10:11pm

ARTICLE 23 Capital Improvements Fiscal Year 2026 – Grants

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$74,000 and that the Town be authorized to accept any available grant funds, for the purposes of funding the following capital requests, or take any other action relative thereto.

Department	Description	Amount	Funding Source
Police	Police Cruiser Replacement	\$74,000	911 Grant

(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee)

(Majority vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 6-1

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to appropriate the sum of \$74,000 to fund the purchase and equipping of a new police cruiser, including all incidental and relatd costs, and to meet this appropriation, that the Town be authorized to accept a 911 Grant in the amount of \$74,000.

Yes-91% No-9% 10:12pm

FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 24 – Transfer To Stabilization, OPEB, and Separation Benefits

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash, Raise and/or Appropriate the sum of \$200,000 to the Stabilization Fund, OPEB, and Separation Benefits, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: No Recommendation at this time 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: No Recommendation at this time 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to Pass Over Article 24

Yes-93% No-7% 10:13pm

GENERAL BUSINESS ARTICLES

REQUEST TO CONVEY TOWN PROPERTY (two-thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 25 –Conveyance of Land at 4 Summer Drive

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from such person, board or commission currently having care, custody and control for such purposes as it is currently held to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes, including the purpose of conveyance, the parcels of land located at 4 Summer Drive, identified as Assessors' Parcel numbers 5B3-0-160, 5B3-0-0158, and 5B3-0-0153 and believed to be more particularly described in that deed recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 6691, Page 156, as acquired by the Town pursuant to a Judgement in Tax Lien Case recorded with said Registry in Book 59058, Page 182 (Parcels 5B3-0-160 and 5B3-0-158) and that Affidavit recorded with said Registry in Book 35041, Page 229 (Parcel 5B3-0-153), and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey all or a portion of such land or any interest therein upon such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Selectmen deem appropriate, and to take such additional action as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purposes of this vote, including but not limited to execution of instruments and documents to convey said property, or act in relation thereto

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: RECOMMEND 7-0

An amendment was presented on the floor to Pass Over this article until the Fall Meeting. The Vote to amend failed. Yes-20% No-80% 10:20pm

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by 2/3 Majority to transfer from such person, board or commission currently having care, custody and control for such purposes as it is currently held to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes, including the purpose of conveyance, the parcels of land located at 4 Summer Drive, identified as Assessors' Parcel numbers 5B3-0-160, 5B3-0-0158, and 5B3-0-0153 and believed to be more particularly described in that deed recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 6691, Page 156, as acquired by the Town pursuant to a Judgement in Tax Lien Case recorded with said Registry in Book 59058, Page 182 (Parcels 5B3-0-160 and 5B3-0-158) and that Affidavit recorded with said Registry in Book 35041, Page 229 (Parcel 5B3-0-153), and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey all or a portion of such land or any interest therein upon such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Selectmen deem appropriate, and to take such additional action as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the

purposes of this vote, including but not limited to execution of instruments and documents to convey said property.

Yes-78% No-22% 10:28pm

GENERAL BYLAW ARTICLES

(two-thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 26 – GENERAL BYLAW AMENDMENT

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Winchendon as recommended by the Board of Selectmen as shown below with text to deleted crossed out:

§ 62-1. Notice; service of warrant. [Added 2-7-1922; amended 6-14-1999; 5-17-2021 ATM by Art. 22]

Every Town Meeting shall be notified by posting attested copies of the warrant calling the same at the Town Hall, Library and in a public place in each precinct in Winchendon at least seven days before the Annual Town Meeting and at least 14 days before a Special Town Meeting. ~~A postcard with information on how and where a copy of the warrant can be obtained and where it can be viewed (electronically and/ or in person) shall be mailed to each household owned or occupied by a registered voter of the Town. Immediately upon the posting of the warrant, copies shall be provided to citizens on request and the warrant shall be posted on any Town electronic bulletin board and on the Town website.~~

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds Vote)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to amend Section 62-1 of the General Bylaws of the Town of Winchendon as printed in Article 26 of the Warrant as shown above.

Yes-62% No-38% 10:33pm

ARTICLE 27-Hero Act

To see if the Town will vote to accept the new local option, Clause 22J under MGL Chapter 59, Section 5 (enacted by Section 23 of Chapter 178 of the Acts of 2024), that would provide an additional exemption up to 100% of the amount of the tax exemption granted to Veterans on their domiciles, or take any action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to accept General Laws Chapter 59, section 5, Clause 22J, providing an additional exemption in an amount equal to 25 percent of the tax exemption granted to veterans on their domiciles.

Yes-91% No-9% 10:38pm

ARTICLE 28- REGULATED TECHNOLOGIES/ADVANCED RECYCLING BAN (AKA INCINERATOR BAN)

This Moratorium when enacted prohibits for a Period of 12 Months Waste Plastics Incineration, AKA Pyrolysis, Advanced Recycling, Gasification, or other high-heat waste facility, treatment or handling or solid waste or waste plastic involving or intending to involve mechanical treatment, heat, or solvents. It further prohibits transport into town of solid waste or waste plastic or stockpiling solid waste or waste plastic or any plastic for the purpose of what is now defined under law as incineration.

WHEREAS, The residents of the town of Winchendon will not tolerate new toxic threats anywhere in town; and

WHEREAS, a waste plastic incinerator plant involves 24/7 operation in the vicinity of densely populated neighborhoods, schools, churches, farms, senior living facilities, health care centers, conservation land and/or state forest; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence demonstrates that use of heat or solvents to incinerate/break down waste plastic releases or threatens to release hazardous pollutants into the environment (e.g. dioxin crude, contaminated hydrocarbon fuels, benzene, PFAS, PDBE, heavy metals); and

WHEREAS, waste plastic incineration and associated handling emits pollution, releases micro plastic dust and contaminants into the environment, involves noise pollution, release of odiferous, noxious gasses, excessive diesel exhaust from trucks, trains, and other machinery used to handle waste plastic, and would be a nuisance to the town and the region, and a blight on its historical character; and

WHEREAS, stockpiling, treating, or handling of large quantities waste plastic related to its incineration, or resultant flammable oils or gasses at any proposed plant presents unacceptable fire and explosion danger to the region and state beyond effective combined response capacity of fire departments of use polymers, plastic, or recovered feedstock into fuels, chemical feedstocks, monomers, oligomers, hydrocarbons, waxes, lubricants feedstocks, fuels, monomers, oligomers, or hydrocarbons.

Section 1: Definitions

"Hydropyrolysis": a process through which materials are exposed to heat in the presence of hydrogen, converting carbon-based materials to synthetic fuels, chemical feedstocks, waxes, lubricants, or other substances and solid residues, slag, ash, char, liquid wastes, and/or wastewater.

"Incineration": any high heat treatment or solid waste incineration units per Clean Air Act section 129 of the clean air act, and including incineration of trash, refuse, or waste plastic.

"Plastic": a synthetic material made from linking monomers through a chemical reaction to create a polymer chain, including material derived from either petroleum or a biologically based polymer, such as corn or other plant sources and includes the thousands of chemicals added for appearance or performance, many of them toxic. Up to 40% plastic is used in tires. Therefore tires are a plastic material.

"Waste Plastic" includes, "Post-use polymer", "Recovered Feedstock", "Raw Material", "Material", "Feedstock", "Recyclable Plastic", tires, or any polymers discarded or to be discarded, and means a plastic or polymer previously used in industrial, commercial, medical, agricultural, or domestic activity.

"Pyrolysis": a process through which materials are exposed to heat in the absence of oxygen, converting carbon-based materials to synthetic fuels, chemical feedstocks, waxes, lubricants, or other substances and solid residues, slag, ash, char, liquid wastes, and/or wastewater.

"Recovered feedstock": material derived and separated from solid waste, segregated solid waste, recyclable materials, medical, domestic, or construction and demolition (C&D) debris for use as a feedstock or raw material in a high- heat waste facility.

"Solvolysis": a process through which materials are combined with a solvent and subjected to heat and/or high pressure.

"Treatment": any method, technique, or process—such as neutralization—designed to alter the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of solid waste. This includes, but is not limited to, the application of heat, radiation, solvents, salts, acids, alkalis, catalysts, and other chemical agents.

Section 2: Prohibition on New High-Heat Waste Facilities

Notwithstanding any other law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, no permit or license shall be issued for the construction or operation of a new high-heat waste facility or incineration facility, and no application for a permit or license for such a facility shall be granted or issued by the town for a period of twelve months.

(Submitted by the Town Manager) **(Majority Vote Required)**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to impose a 12-month moratorium on waste plastics incineration, AKA pyrolysis, advanced recycling, gasification, or other high-heat waste facility, treatment or handling of solid waste or waste plastic involving or intending to involve mechanical treatment, heat, or solvents; and further to prohibit the transport into town of solid waste or waste plastic or stockpiling solid waste or waste plastic or any plastic for the purpose of what is now defined under law as incineration.

Yes-91% No-9% 10:42pm

ARTICLE 29 –Contaminated Soils

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following general bylaw to be inserted as Article III in Chapter 237 of the Town Code, or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE III CONTAMINATED SOILS

Section 237-1: Purpose

This Bylaw is adopted to protect the public and the environment from the deleterious and harmful effects of certain contaminated soils that may be imported into, transported through, or used within the Town. This Bylaw shall not apply to any contaminated soils that are disposed as solid waste at an active lined landfill, that are recycled at a soil recycling facility, or that are transported through the Town for such purposes, as these activities are subject only to limited regulations pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Sections 31A and 31B.

Section 237-2: Definitions

Terms used in this Bylaw are defined as follows. Terms not defined herein shall have their normal English meanings, unless the context indicates otherwise.

Active Lined Landfill- a landfill that is currently operating and permitted in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 150A, and 310 CMR 19.000 et seq., and which is accepting solid waste for disposal.

COMM-97 Soils - any contaminated soils as defined and discussed in Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Policy #COMM-97-001, entitled "Reuse and Disposal of Contaminated Soil at Massachusetts Landfills".

Daily Cover - shall be as described in 310 CMR 19.130(15)(c).

Dispose(d)/Disposal - the dumping and abandoning of solid waste at an active lined landfill, without said solid waste being reused as daily cover, intermediate cover or grading and shaping a material pursuant to 310 CMR 19.130(15).

Grading and Shaping Material- shall have the definition for that term as provided in the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's July 6, 2001 Memorandum entitled "Revised Guidelines for Determining Closure Activities at inactive Unlined Landfill Sites".

Intermediate Cover- shall be as described in 310 CMR 19.130(15)(d).

Soil Recycling Facility- shall be as described in Section 9.1 of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Policy # WSC-94-400, entitled "Interim Remediation Waste Management Policy for Petroleum Contaminated Soils".

Solid Waste - shall have the definition as provided in 310 CMR 19.006.

Section 3:

COMM-97 Soils, including their importation into, transport through and use within the Town, constitute a public nuisance that may be harmful and dangerous to person and property, and may be injurious to public health and the environment, including, without limitation, through the creation of airborne dust and particulate, and by leaching into public and private drinking and groundwater supplies.

Section 4: **Prohibition of Contaminated Soils**

In order to protect the public health and environment, the importation into, transport through, and use within the Town of COMM-97 Soils is prohibited. This prohibition applies to any use of COMM-97 Soils, including, but not limited to, as daily cover, intermediate cover or grading and shaping material at any landfill.

Section 5: **Prohibition of Nuisance Trade**

Any for-profit business that utilizes COMM-97 Soils may result in public nuisances, may be harmful to the inhabitants of the Town, may be injurious to their property, and may be dangerous to the public health and the environment. Therefore, any such business is considered to be a nuisance trade and, pursuant to all applicable authority, including but not limited to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Sections 31 and 143, is prohibited from being established, operated or undertaken in any manner within the Town. This prohibition applies, without limitation, to any for-profit business that either is engaged by the owner of an inactive, unlined landfill, or purchases such a landfill, in order to cap and close the same, where any portion of said capping and closure activities, including the grading and shaping of any such landfill, utilizes COMM-97 Soils.

Section 6: **Severability**

The provisions of the Bylaw are severable. If any court of competent jurisdiction determines that any provision is in violation of the laws, constitutions or regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the United States of America, the remaining provisions shall not be affected thereby and shall continue in full force and effect.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: on an amended motion duly made and seconded, Passed by Majority to amend Chapter 237 (Solid Waste) of the General Bylaws of the Town of Winchendon by adding a new section after Section II (Disposal and Recycling) banning the use of contaminated soils in the town, as printed in Article 29 of the Warrant. Strike the clause "transport through" from the first sentence of Section 4 and by adding the following sentence to the end of Section 4: Transportation through the Town on State Highways is permitted to ensure proper disposal and remediation. Additionally, the removal of Comm-97 solids from the Town is permitted to ensure proper disposal and remediation.

Revised:

ARTICLE 29 –Contaminated Soils

Amended to:

ARTICLE III CONTAMINATED SOILS

Section 237-1: Purpose

This Bylaw is adopted to protect the public and the environment from the deleterious and harmful effects of certain contaminated soils that may be imported into, transported through, or used within the Town. This Bylaw shall not apply to any contaminated soils that are disposed as solid waste at an active lined landfill, that are recycled at a soil recycling facility, or that are transported through the Town for such purposes, as these activities are subject only to limited regulations pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Sections 31A and 31B.

Section 237-2: Definitions

Terms used in this Bylaw are defined as follows. Terms not defined herein shall have their normal English meanings, unless the context indicates otherwise.

Active Lined Landfill- *a landfill that is currently operating and permitted in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 150A, and 310 CMR 19.000 et seq., and which is accepting solid waste for disposal.*

COMM-97 Soils - *any contaminated soils as defined and discussed in Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Policy #COMM-97-001, entitled "Reuse and Disposal of Contaminated Soil at Massachusetts Landfills".*

Daily Cover - *shall be as described in 310 CMR 19.130(15)(c).*

Dispose(d)/Disposal - *the dumping and abandoning of solid waste at an active lined landfill, without said solid waste being reused as daily cover, intermediate cover or grading and shaping a material pursuant to 310 CMR 19.130(15).*

Grading and Shaping Material- *shall have the definition for that term as provided in the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's July 6, 2001 Memorandum entitled "Revised Guidelines for Determining Closure Activities at inactive Unlined Landfill Sites".*

Intermediate Cover- *shall be as described in 310 CMR 19.130(15)(d).*

Soil Recycling Facility- *shall be as described in Section 9.1 of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Policy # WSC-94-400, entitled "Interim Remediation Waste Management Policy for Petroleum Contaminated Soils".*

Solid Waste - *shall have the definition as provided in 310 CMR 19.006.*

Section 3:

COMM-97 Soils, including their importation into, transport through and use within the Town, constitute a public nuisance that may be harmful and dangerous to person and property, and may be injurious to public health and the environment, including, without limitation, through the creation of airborne dust and particulate, and by leaching into public and private drinking and groundwater supplies.

Section 4: Prohibition of Contaminated Soils

In order to protect the public health and environment, the importation into and use within the Town of COMM-97 Soils is prohibited. This prohibition applies to any use of COMM-97 Soils, including, but not limited to, as daily cover, intermediate cover or grading and shaping material at any landfill.

Transportation through the Town on State Highways is permitted to ensure proper disposal and remediation. Additionally, the removal of Comm-97 soils from the town is permitted to ensure proper disposal and remediation.

Section 5: Prohibition of Nuisance Trade

Any for-profit business that utilizes COMM-97 Soils may result in public nuisances, may be harmful to the inhabitants of the Town, may be injurious to their property, and may be dangerous to the public health and the environment. Therefore, any such business is considered to be a nuisance trade and, pursuant to all applicable authority, including but not limited to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Sections 31 and 143, is prohibited from being established, operated or undertaken in any manner within the Town. This prohibition applies, without limitation, to any for-profit business that either is engaged by the owner of an inactive, unlined landfill, or purchases such a landfill, in order to cap and close the same, where any portion of said capping and closure activities, including the grading and shaping of any such landfill, utilizes COMM-97 Soils.

Section 6: Severability

The provisions of the Bylaw are severable. If any court of competent jurisdiction determines that any provision is in violation of the laws, constitutions or regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the United States of America, the remaining provisions shall not be affected thereby and shall continue in full force and effect.

Yes-96% No-4% 10:46pm

ZONING BYLAW ARTICLES
(two-thirds vote required)

ARTICLE 30 – Multi-Family Wording

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Winchendon Zoning Bylaw, Article XI Residential Development, Section 300-11.10 Maximum Number of Dwelling Units, subsection H, to delete the language in strikethrough as follows, or act in relation thereto.

H. The Board may, by special permit, allow any number of units per building or more than one residential building per lot on lots in the R10 and PD Zones, ~~provided the maximum number of dwelling units is not exceeded.~~

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-third Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: Recommend 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Recommend 7-0

Voted: On a motion duly made and seconded, Passed by 2/3 Majority to amend Subsection H of Section 300-11.10 (Maximum Number of Dwelling Units) of Article XI (Residential Development) of the Town of Winchendon Zoning Bylaw, as printed in Article 30 of the warrant.

Yes-84% No-16% 10:53pm

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 10:53pm.

registered voter resides or by publication of the same in a newspaper of local distribution as required by said bylaws.

Hereof, fail not and make due return of said warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands and seal this 28th day of April 2025.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Rick Ward

Rick Ward, Chairman

Andrew Beauvais

Andrew Beauvais, Vice-Chairman

Audrey LaBrie

Audrey LaBrie

Melissa Blanchard

Melissa Blanchard

Erika Eitland

Erika Eitland

I have this day posted the within warrant as therein directed:

David Welsh

PRINT CONSTABLE NAME

D. Welsh

SIGN CONSTABLE NAME

05/7/25

DATE:

FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Town Hall
109 Front Street

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. To file a complaint of Discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9410

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK

I CERTIFY that I have posted the Annual Town Meeting to be held on May 19, 2025 at the following locations:

Precinct 1 Hyde Park Community Building
67 Hyde Park Drive

Precinct 1A Winchendon Town Hall
109 Front Street

Beal's Memorial Library
50 Pleasant Street

Precinct 2 Waterville Plaza
16 Main Street

Precinct 3 Ipswich Community Center
108 Ipswich Drive

CONSTABLE



Date 05/7/25