



Town of Reading



**Annual Town Meeting
June 15, 2020**

**For the PAC Audience
use RPS GUEST**

WiFi password: none





2020 Annual Town Meeting Overview

Articles for Town Meeting Consideration

- 4 – Amend the 2020-2030 Capital Improvement Plan
- 5 – Amend the FY20 Budget
- 7 – Appropriate/Transfer FY20 Funds to OPEB Trust
- 10 – Authorize Debt for Sturges Sewer Station Improvements
- 16 – Authorize FY21 Chapter 90 Funds (State Road funding)
- 17 – Adopt FY21 Budget
- 3 – Instructions were accepted in writing in advance



2020 Annual Town Meeting Overview

Articles NOT for Town Meeting Consideration

Not Needed

- 2 – Reports were accepted in writing and included in the Warrant Report
- 6 – Prior Year Bills
- 18 – Remove Town Meeting members

Defer to November 2020 Town Meeting

- 8 – Revolving Funds (legislation allows FY20 carryover)
- 9 – Affordable Housing Trust Fund
- 11 – Debt authorization Gazebo Circle (Water)
- 12 – Debt authorization MWRA loans (Water)
- 13,14,15 – Debt authorization Downtown Improvements (Water, Sewer, Storm Water)



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 4

Adds, removes or changes items in the FY20-30 Capital Improvements Program – does not authorize any funding for these items:

FY20 General Fund: no changes

FY20 Enterprise Funds: \$110,000 in total

Water: +\$30,000 Unidirectional Flushing Program

***Sewer: +\$40,000** (Portable Pump costs shared)

***Storm Water: +\$40,000** (Portable Pump costs shared)

**note there are sufficient funds in Sewer and Storm Water so these are not in Article 5*



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 4 (continued)

FY21 General Fund: -\$630,000 vs. Nov. '19 Town Meeting CIP (revisit additional funding at November '20 Town Meeting)

- \$ 25,000 Funding to study parks & field capacity (Rec Comm)
- \$ 25,000 DPW Compressor (moved up from FY22)
- \$ 285,000 items removed or reduced (details in a moment)
- \$ 395,000 items deferred until FY22 (details in a moment)

FY21 Enterprise Funds: +\$510,000 Water; +\$125,000 Sewer

- \$ **450,000** Downtown Water main design (Water - **\$50k lower June '20**)
- \$ 60,000 Replace pickup truck (moved up from FY22, Water)
- \$ 100,000 Downtown Sewer main design (Sewer)
- +\$ 25,000 Increase funding for sewer projects to \$75,000 (Sewer)

FY22 – various changes made in all funds



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 5

Authorizes these changes to FY20 General Fund budget:

Line	Description	Decrease	Increase
B99 Benefits	Health Insurance Premiums -\$73,000 111F Pending Retirement wages \$73,000		\$0
E99 Vocational Education	Essex North (enrollment) +\$35,000 <i>(new June '20)</i>		\$35,000
F99 FINCOM Reserves	Prepare for year-end Covid-19 transfers if needed (surplus goes to Free Cash)		\$200,000
G92 Admin Services Exp.	Legal services (Covid-19)		\$60,000
H91 Public Services Wages	Support staff (vacancies)	\$65,000	



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 5

FY20 General Fund budget (continued):

Line	Description	Decrease	Increase
H92 Admin Services Exp	Prof Svc (plumber) +\$10,000 Veteran's Benefits -\$35,000	\$25,000	
J91 Public Safety wages	Fire/EMS OT \$50,000 (covid-19) Police OT \$25,000 (") Dispatch OT \$25,000 (")		\$100,000
K92 Public Works exp	Highway Outsourced Repairs (Fire trucks)		\$50,00
L91 – Library wages	Sick/vacation buyback		\$10,000
	Subtotals	\$90,000	\$455,000
	Net Operating Expenses		\$365,000
	From Free Cash		\$365,000



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 5

FY20 Enterprise Funds:

Line	Description	Decrease	Increase
W99 (Water)	Unidirectional flushing \$30,000 Prof Services \$22,000 Brass Fittings \$15,000 Parts & Supplies \$15,000		\$82,000
	Subtotals	\$0	\$82,000
	Net Operating Expenses		\$82,000
	<u>Possible Revenue deficit</u>		<u>\$450,000</u>
	From Water Reserves		\$532,000
			\$82,000

X99 (Sewer)	Net Operating Expenses		\$0
	Possible Revenue deficit		\$430,000
	From Sewer Reserves		\$430,000



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 7

Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)

First: \$125,000 appropriate in General Fund

(\$575,000 is already appropriated)

Then: move these funds to the Trust

\$700,000 General fund (partial of ~\$2.5 million required)

\$ 55,000 Water Enterprise Fund

\$ 22,000 Sewer Enterprise Fund

\$ 7,000 Storm Water Enterprise Fund

\$784,000 in total



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 10

Debt Authorization – \$2.0 mil. Sturges Sewer Station

Review of all 12 wastewater pump stations in 2010 prioritized the order

Complete: West Street; Batchelder; Charles

Future: 8 remaining stations – not urgent

Sturges: location @South Street/Pine Ridge Road

Initial startup 1964 – aging station, only 2 of 3 pumps are operating

Electrical system out of date

**Recent discovery of reportable levels of chemical benzopyrene and acenaphthylene – another reason to act now not November '20*



2020 Annual Town Meeting

Article 16

Chapter 90 Allocation

Authorize appropriation by borrowing in anticipation of Ch. 90 and accept Ch.90 at whatever level is ultimately available.

- Enables Chapter 90 funds to be used for road improvements
- Chapter 90 funding is a reimbursement program
- Funds need to be appropriated in anticipation of receipt of Chapter 90 funds
- No debt has ever been sold in anticipation of Chapter 90
- ~\$600,000 is expected to be received