

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss. Officer's Return, Reading:

By virtue of this Warrant, I, on March 4, 2011 notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Reading, qualified to vote on Town affairs, to meet at the place and at the time specified by posting attested copies of this Town Meeting Warrant in the following public places within the Town of Reading:


- Precinct 1 J. Warren Killam School, 333 Charles Street
- Precinct 2 Peter Sanborn Place, 50 Bay State Road
- Precinct 3 Reading Police Station, 15 Union Street
- Precinct 4 Joshua Eaton School, 365 Summer Avenue
- Precinct 5 Town Hall, 16 Lowell Street
- Precinct 6 Austin Preparatory School, 101 Willow Street
- Precinct 7 Reading Library, Local History Room, 64 Middlesex Avenue
- Precinct 8 Wood End School, 85 Sunset Rock Lane

The date of posting being not less than fourteen (14) days prior to April 5, 2011, the date set for the Local Election in this Warrant.

I also caused a posting of notice of this Warrant will be published on the Town of Reading website on March 4, 2011.


Alan W Ulrich, Constable

A true copy Attest:


Laura Gemme, Town Clerk

**TOWN WARRANT
(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Middlesex, ss.

To any of the Constables of the Town of Reading, Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Reading, qualified to vote in the Local Elections and Town affairs, to meet in the following place designated for the eight precincts in said Town, namely:

Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8
Reading Memorial High School, Hawkes Field House, Oakland Road

TUESDAY, the FIFTH DAY OF APRIL, A.D., 2011
from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. to act on the following Articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1 To elect by ballot the following Town Officers:

A Moderator for one year;
Two members of the Board of Selectmen for three years;
One member of the Board of Assessors for three years;
Two members of the Board of Library Trustees for three years;
One member of the Municipal Light Board for three years;
Two members of the School Committee for three years; and
Sixty Eight Town Meeting Members shall be elected to represent each of the following precincts:

Precinct 1 Eight members for three years;
Precinct 2 Eight members for three years;
One member two years;
Precinct 3 Eight members for three years;
Two members two years;
Precinct 4 Eight members for three years;
Precinct 5 Eight members for three years;
Precinct 6 Eight members for three years;
One member two years;
Precinct 7 Eight members for three years; and
Precinct 8 Eight members for three years.

To vote on the following two questions:

Question 1:

Shall the Town of Reading approve the amendments to Article 4 of the Reading Home Rule Charter, proposed by the November 8, 2010 Subsequent Town Meeting, which are summarized below:

Article 4 – Appointed Boards and Committees

Section 4-10 (a) This section will be deleted to eliminate the Land Bank Committee.

Section 4-10 (b) This section is relettered as Section 4-10 (a).

Section 4-10 (c) This section is relettered as Section 4-10 (b).

Yes _____ No _____

Question 2:

Shall the Town of Reading approve the amendments to Article 2 of the Reading Home Rule Charter, proposed by the November 8, 2010 Subsequent Town Meeting, which are summarized below:

Article 2 – Representative Town Meeting

Section 2-15: Referendum Procedure This amendment clarifies the process for filing a referendum petition to submit an affirmative vote of the Town Meeting to the voters in the form of a ballot question, and establishes the form of the petition to be circulated for signatures. The amendment requires that the ballot question be set forth at the top of each petition form and be identical to the ballot question that will appear on the official ballot. Circulators may make additional copies of the petition form but each copy must be an exact duplicate. The petition form must have language advising voters that it may not be altered in any way, and that no extraneous markings may appear on the petition form or the signatures on that petition form may be invalidated. Extraneous markings do not include signatures and addresses. The petition form must also include language advising that only the signatures of registered voters will be valid, that the petition form should not be signed more than once, and that they may authorize another person to write their name and address on the petition form if they are physically unable to do so. The back of each petition form shall instruct voters to read the signer information on the front before signing. In addition to certifying signatures, the amendment authorizes the Board of Registrar of Voters to examine the petition forms for alterations and extraneous markings.

In addition, the separate paragraphs of Section 2-15 have been given lettered subsections.

Yes _____ No _____

and to meet at the Reading Memorial High School, 62 Oakland Road, in said Reading on

MONDAY, the TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF APRIL A.D., 2011

at seven-thirty o'clock in the evening, at which time and place the following Articles are to be acted upon and determined exclusively by Town Meeting Members in accordance with the provisions of the Reading Home Rule Charter.

ARTICLE 2 To hear and act on the reports of the Board of Selectmen, Town Accountant, Treasurer-Collector, Board of Assessors, Director of Public Works, Town Clerk, Tree Warden, Board of Health, School Committee, Contributory Retirement Board, Library Trustees, Municipal Light Board, Finance Committee, Cemetery Trustees, Community Planning & Development Commission, Town Manager and any other Official, Board or Special Committee.

Board of Selectmen

Background: This article appears on the Warrant for all Town Meetings. At this Annual Town Meeting, the following report(s) are anticipated:

- State of the Town (Board of Selectmen)
- Financial Update (Finance Committee)

Finance Committee Report: No Report

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 3 To choose all other necessary Town Officers and Special Committees and determine what instructions shall be given Town Officers and Special Committees, and to see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate by borrowing or transfer from available funds, or otherwise, for the purpose of funding Town Officers and Special Committees to carry out the instructions given to them, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: This Article appears on the Warrant of all Town Meetings. There are no known Instructional Motions at this time. The Town Moderator requires that all proposed Instructional Motions be submitted to the Town Clerk in advance so that Town Meeting Members may be "warned" as to the subject of an Instructional Motion in advance of the motion being made. Instructional Motions are normally held until the end of all other business at Town Meeting.

Finance Committee Report: No Report

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 4 To see if the Town will vote to amend the FY 2011 - FY 2020 Capital Improvements Program as provided for in Section 7-7 of the Reading Home Rule Charter and as previously amended, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: This Article is included in every Town Meeting Warrant. Town Bylaws prohibits Town Meeting from approving any Capital Expenditure unless the project is included in the Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Bond ratings agencies also want to ensure that changes to a long-term CIP are adequately described. The following changes are proposed to the 2011-2020 CIP:

- Library renovation/expansion project (described further in Article 12);
- Add \$100k cemetery garage design study (FY13); \$1.5 mil. project (FY14) as debt;
- Street sweeper moved from FY12 to FY11;
- Several items beyond FY12 were advanced or deferred as capital priorities have changed. These are also included in the CIP in Article 11 – the FY 2012-FY 2021 Capital Improvements Program.

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 9-0-0 at their March 28, 2011 meeting to recommend the subject matter of this Article. Placing items in the capital improvement program is a prerequisite but does not authorize spending funds towards these items.

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to amend one or more of the votes taken under Article 12 of the Warrant of the Annual Town Meeting of April 26, 2010 as amended under Article 4 of the warrant of the Subsequent Town Meeting of November 10, 2010; and to see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate by borrowing or transfer from available funds, or otherwise, as the result of any such amended votes for the operation of the Town and its government, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Finance Committee

Background: The following budget amendments are proposed for the FY11 budget:

General Fund – Wages and Expenses

<u>Account Line</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
E99	Vocational Education (Minuteman)		\$27,000
G92	Town Admin Expenses (Legal \$10k; P&C Insurance \$30k)	\$40,000	
K91	Community Services Wages (sick/vacation buyback)		\$10,000
K92	Community Services Expenses (animal disposal \$3k; Veteran's benefits \$20k)		\$23,000
M93	Public Works: Snow & Ice *		\$502,000
M95	Public Works: Rubbish	\$125,000	
N91	Public Safety (Fire) Wages		\$100,000
U99	School department (energy)	\$250,000	
	Subtotals	\$415,000	\$662,000
	Net from Operating Transfers and Available Funds (Free Cash)		\$237,000
	From Town Sick/Vacation Stabilization Fund		\$10,000

* Does not include any Snow/Ice Expenditures from April 1 snow-storm.

Enterprise Funds – Wages and Expenses

<u>Account Line</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Y99	Storm Water – Street Sweeper (capital)		\$142,000
Y99	Storm Water		
	Jet/VAC Truck (capital)	\$21,000	
	General Drainage (capital)	\$55,000	
	Project specific Drainage (capital)	\$40,000	
	Equipment Rental (expenses)	\$ 1,000	
	Subtotals	\$117,000	\$142,000
	Net Transfer From Storm Water Reserves (3/29 balance \$275,590)		\$25,000

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 9-0-0 at their March 30, 2011 meeting to recommend the subject matter of this Article. Transfers between wage and expense line items and from free cash are necessary to balance the FY11 budget. Note the snow & ice budget is through March 30, 2011 and is more than fully responsible for the need to use general fund reserves this year. In the Storm Water Enterprise Fund, an attractive trade-in allowance for the old Street Sweeper is a high priority, and several drainage projects will be deferred until July 2011 to accommodate the purchase of a new Street Sweeper in FY11 instead of FY12 as previously planned.

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 6 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the payment during Fiscal Year 2011 of bills remaining unpaid for previous fiscal years for goods and services actually rendered to the Town, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: There are no known prior year's bills and, therefore, it is likely that this Article will be **indefinitely postponed.**

Finance Committee Report: No report

Bylaw Committee Report: No report

ARTICLE 7 To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate by borrowing, whether in anticipation of reimbursement from the State under Chapter 44, Section 6, Massachusetts General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority or from the tax levy, or transfer from available funds, or otherwise, for highway projects in accordance with Chapter 90, Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: The purpose of this Article is to make Chapter 90 funds for road improvements available to the Town. The Article authorizes expenditures upon receipt of the grant. The FY 2012 Chapter 90 allocation is anticipated to be \$593,943. This amount represents a \$133,637 increase over the previous year's allotment. The expectation is that the State will formally release the amount prior to the April 25 Annual Town Meeting.

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 9-0-0 at their March 28, 2011 meeting to recommend the subject matter of this Article. The FY 2012 Chapter 90 allocation is \$593,943, up nearly 30% when compared to FY 2011 as the State directs more funding to road improvements.

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

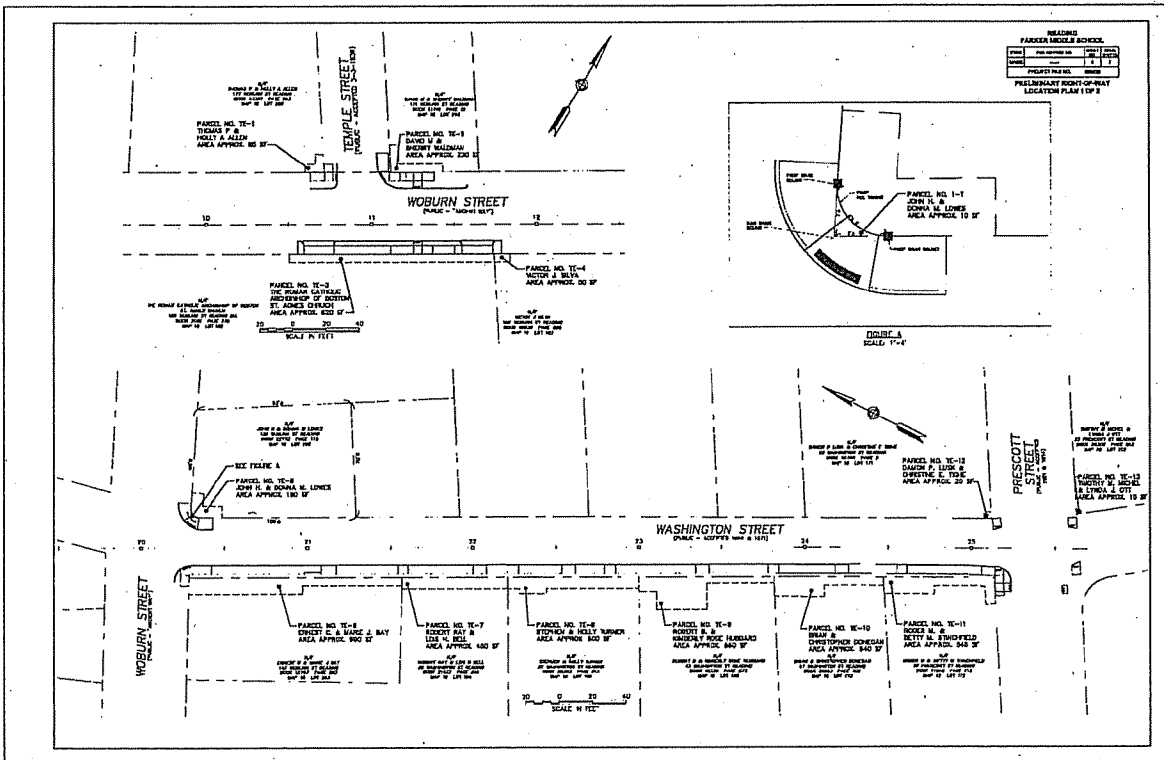
ARTICLE 8 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, permanent and temporary construction easements upon and over a portion of certain properties located at Woburn Street, Sunnyside Avenue, Washington Street, Prescott Street and Fairview Avenue, as shown on a plan entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Highway Division, Safe Routes to School, Parker Middle School, Woburn Street-Washington Street-Sunnyside Avenue, Preliminary Right of Way in the City of Reading, Middlesex County, 25/75% Submission, November 3, 2010" a copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate, for the purpose of constructing and maintaining sidewalks; and, further, to see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds, accept gifts or borrow a sum of money for this purpose and any expenses related thereto, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acquisition, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

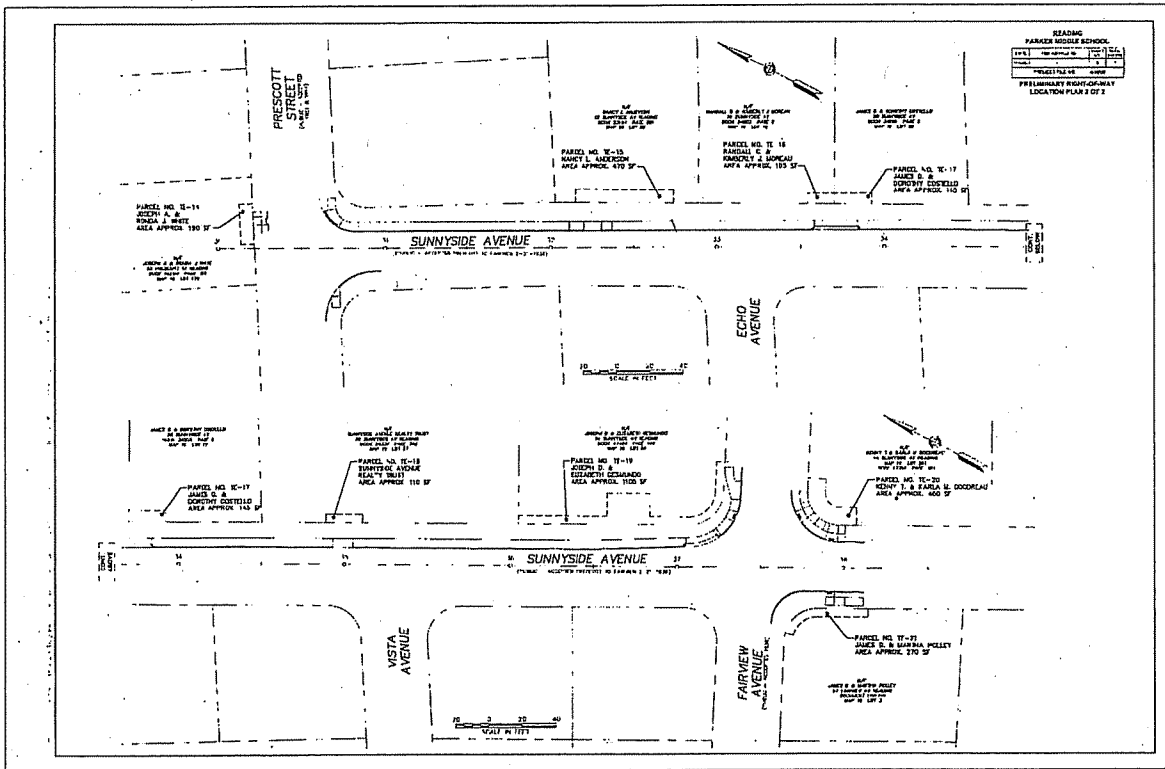
Background: The purpose of this Article is to authorize the Board of Selectman to acquire the temporary and permanent easements necessary to construct the Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Program Project (SRTS). The SRTS project is a 100% federally funded infrastructure program with an estimated value of \$350,000, administered through MassRides of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation. The program creates and enhances safety for school pedestrian and bicycle access. The Parker Middle School project received approval in 2008 and includes improvements to:

- ◆ the Woburn Street and Temple Street Intersection;
- ◆ a new sidewalk and curb along the westerly side of Washington Street from Woburn Street to Prescott Street; and
- ◆ a new sidewalk and curb along the easterly side of Sunnyside Avenue from Prescott Street to Fairview Avenue.

The extent of the proposed improvements and the required easements are depicted on the plans below.



Temple/Woburn Street intersection and Washington Street (above) and Sunnyside Ave (below)



To facilitate construction of these improvements it is necessary to acquire temporary easements from 21 property owners along the project; and 1 permanent easement at the intersection of Washington Street and Woburn Street. The temporary easements enable the minor re-grading of driveways, walkways and properties which are necessary to construct the improvements. The permanent easement is necessary to reconstruct the existing sidewalk which is presently located within private property.

A complete listing of the easements is as follows:

Safe Routes Temporary Easement List

Address	Name	Parcel Number (ROW)	Square Footage
177 Woburn St.	Thomas P. and Holly A. Allen	TE - 1	85
171 Woburn St.	David M. and Sherry Waldman	TE - 2	220
180 Woburn St.	St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church	TE - 3	620
166 Woburn St.	Victor J. Silva	TE - 4	50
136 Woburn St.	John H. and Donna M. Lowes	TE - 5	190
142 Woburn St.	Ernest C. and Marie J. Bay	TE - 6	990
35 Washington St.	Robert Ray and Lois H. Bell	TE - 7	450
37 Washington St.	Stephen and Holly Turner	TE - 8	600
43 Washington St.	Robert B. and Kimberly Rose Hubbard	TE - 9	860
47 Washington St.	Brian and Christopher Donegan	TE - 10	540
37 Prescott St.	Roger M. and Betty M. Stinchfield	TE - 11	545
52 Washington St.	Damon P. Lusk and Christiner E. Tighe	TE - 12	20
32 Prescott St.	Timothy M. Michel and Lynda J. Ott	TE - 13	10
65 Prescott St.	Joseph A. and Ronda J. White	TE - 14	190
12 Sunnyside Ave.	Nancy L. Anderson	TE - 15	470
16 Sunnyside Ave.	Randall G. and Kimberly J. Moreau	TE - 16	105
20 Sunnyside Ave.	James G. and Dorothy Costello	TE - 17	145
28 Sunnyside Ave.	Sunnyside Avenue Realty	TE - 18	110
34 Sunnyside Ave.	Joseph D. and Elizabeth Gesmundo	TE - 19	1105
44 Sunnyside Ave.	Kenny T. and Karla M. Goodreau	TE - 20	450
57 Fairview Ave.	James D. and Martha Polley	TE - 21	270

Safe Routes Permanant Easement List

136 Woburn St.	John H. and Donna M. Lowes	SW - 1	25
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The easements are in the process of being appraised and a complete listing of the acquisition cost is expected to be available prior to the April 25 Annual Town Meeting.

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 0-0-8 at their March 28, 2011 meeting not to recommend the subject matter of this Article. The Committee was unable to take a position on this article because valuations on properties subject to the easements were not yet available.

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 9 To see if the Town will vote to accept the following roads as public ways pursuant to M.G.L. c.82, in accordance with the layouts adopted by the Board of Selectmen and on file with the Office of the Town Clerk:

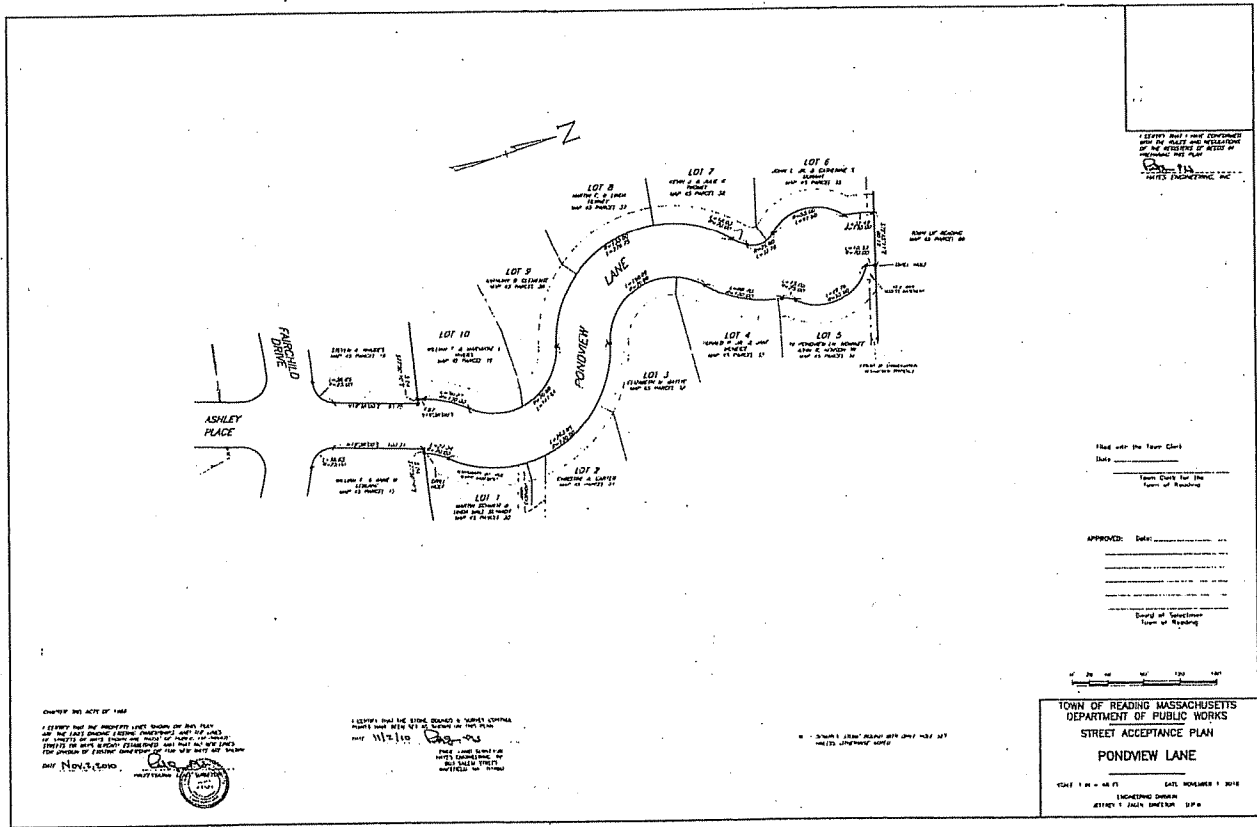
- Pondview Lane

and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept deeds of easement and for the fee in said roads; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase, or take such ways in fee or rights of easement by eminent domain under the provisions of M.G.L. c.79;, or to acquire said lands in fee or rights of easement therein by purchase, gift or otherwise, and to assess

betterments therefore pursuant to M.G.L. c.80; and to see what sum the Town will raise by borrowing, or from the tax levy, or transfer from available funds, or otherwise, and appropriate for the acquisition of said lands or easements therein or for payment of any eminent domain damages and for the construction of said ways, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: The purpose of this Article is to accept the report of the Board of Selectmen upon the laying out of Pondview Lane; and to authorize the Board of Selectman to accept Pondview Lane as a public way. The construction of Pondview Lane is completed and all subdivision requirements have been met. The developer has maintained fee ownership of the road and therefore, the estimated betterment cost for acceptance of the roadway is \$1.00 per property owner fronting on the street, or \$10.



Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 9-0-0 at their March 28, 2011 meeting to recommend the subject matter of this Article. The current and ongoing additional costs to maintain the roadway are anticipated to be minimal.

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 10 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, or exchange, or dispose of, upon such terms and conditions as they may determine, various items of Town tangible property, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: Following is a list of surplus vehicles that are scheduled to be disposed of in FY 2012. Town Meeting approval is required for disposition of tangible property with a value of \$5000 or more. It is unlikely that any of these items have a value that exceeds that amount, but to be safe, Town Meeting approval is requested. Disposition could be through trade in, auction, or other sale.

- Taurus (1999) – Police
- Crown Victoria (2007) – Police
- Ford Pickup (1989) – DPW/Parks 136k miles
- Ford Explorer (2000) – DPW/Engineering 108k miles
- Ford F350 Pickup (1997) – DPW/Water 74k miles
- Ford F350 Pickup (2006) – DPW/Sewer 90k miles
- Ford F250 Pickup (2001) – DPW/Sewer 105k miles
- Elgin Pelican (John Deere) Sweeper (2005) –2658 hours run

Town Meeting members may be interested in how we disposed of tangible personal property that was authorized last year. Last year we disposed of the following vehicles:

- Ford/Horton ambulance (2000) \$4,000 trade-in allowance (Fire ambulance)
- Ford Expedition (1998) \$1,000 trade-in allowance (Police Ford Expedition)
- Ford Econoline Van (1996) \$1,000 trade-in allowance (Police Ford Expedition)
- Ford E250 Cargo Van (2001) \$500 trade-in allowance
- Melrose Bobcat Front End Loader (1987) \$1,500 trade-in allowance
- Warco Motor Grader (1952) – **still available!**
- International dump truck (1990) \$2,500 trade-in allowance
- Int'l dump truck w/ catch basin cleaner (1998) \$15,000 trade-in allowance

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 9-0-0 at their March 30, 2011 meeting to recommend the subject matter of this Article. This Article authorizes the disposal of aging vehicles.

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 11 To see if the Town will vote to approve the FY 2012 – FY 2021 Capital Improvements Program as provided for in Section 7-7 of the Reading Home Rule Charter, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: Please see the Blue Pages in the Appendix of this Warrant Report for the FY 2012 – FY 2021 Capital improvements Program.

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 9-0-0 at their March 30, 2011 meeting to recommend the subject matter of this Article. This Article established the Capital Improvements Program, and any projects to be funded must first appear on the CIP before they are eligible to be funded. A ten-year capital plan is a prudent fiscal tool that facilitates long range planning and project prioritization. The plan provides the maximum amount the Town can fund each year and stay within the FINCOM guide-lined amount.

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

ARTICLE 12 To see if the Town will vote to approve the preliminary design for the renovation and expansion of the Reading Public Library design as shown on the architectural schematics included in the background materials, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Library Board of Trustees

Background: The Fall Town Meeting authorized the Library Trustees to apply for a state construction grant through the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to upgrade and make more efficient use of space to serve the needs of a growing patronage. Much has changed in library services over the past 27 years. Since its relocation to the Highland School site in 1984, the Reading Public Library has seen the introduction of computers, DVDs, and numerous other media formats. Interlibrary loan requests have grown exponentially, and the meeting room has been in constant demand. The community's use of the library has doubled in immeasurable ways and skyrocketed in many others. The library trustees have studied current building deficiencies and projected needs, with the goal of serving the community for many years to come. The trustees are committed to preserving as much of the "feel" of the current library as possible while enhancing its accessibility, functionality and flexibility.

Beacon Architectural Associates, working in conjunction with Adams & Smith Architects, has prepared a proposal that calls for rearrangement of existing internal space, major capital improvements to the exterior (such as masonry and window replacements) and a 7,596-square-foot expansion on the hill at the easterly side toward School Street.

This article does not involve financial consideration. Part of the grant process includes acceptance by Town Meeting of a plan that would upgrade and expand the current facility. Funding of any improvements, if a grant is approved, will require separate Town Meeting and voter approval.

**Detailed information on the proposed improvements is included
In a separate attachment to this report**

Finance Committee Report: No Report

Bylaw Committee Report: No Report

Article 13 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease of the existing indoor ice skating rink known as the Burbank Ice Arena, and the parking areas and accompanying land, all known as 51 Symonds Way, Reading, Massachusetts, and shown as lot 54 and a part of Lot 56 on Reading Assessors' Map 41, to a non-profit organization, organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and that has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be an organization qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and that has at least ten years of experience in the operation of a skating rink, for the purpose of operating an ice skating rink, with usage preference for the residents of the Town, for an initial term of ten (10) years, with up to two options to extend the lease term for up to ten years each; with the net income from the rinks operations, after deducting (a) operational, maintenance and repair costs and expenses, and (b) the funding of a cash reserve fund to cover capital replacements and contingencies, to be paid to the Town of Reading, Massachusetts, such

