

TOWN OF SAUGUS  
**MASSACHUSETTS**



**Report of the  
Finance Committee**

**Relative to the  
Warrant Articles  
to be presented to the**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**May 10, 2021**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 2 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year, and determine whether the money shall be provided by transfer from available funds; or to see what other action the Town wishes to take in the matter. (Town Manager)

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend the Town make supplementary appropriations in the amount of \$1,041,000.00 to be used in conjunction with the money appropriated under Article 2 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year. The source of funding is \$506,000.00 from interdepartmental transfers and \$535,000.00 from free cash.

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 6 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year, as amended at the December 7, 2020 Special Town Meeting, and determine whether the money shall be provided by transfer from available funds; or to see what other action the Town wishes to take in the matter. (Town Manager)

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend Indefinite Postponement.

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 7 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year, as amended at the December 7, 2020 Special Town Meeting, and determine whether the money shall be provided by transfer from available funds; or to see what other action the Town wishes to take in the matter. (Town Manager)

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend Indefinite Postponement.

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of maintaining positive cash flow (fund balance) in the Compost Facility Revolving Fund. (Town Manager)

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend the Town appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for the purpose of maintaining positive cash flow (fund balance) in the Compost Facility Revolving Fund. The source of funding is the July 1, 2020 certified free cash.

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of funding unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. (Town Manager)

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend the Town appropriate the sum of \$30,491.68 for the payment of unpaid bills of the prior fiscal year. The source of funding is \$25,585.68 from Fiscal Year 2020 Carryover in the General Fund and \$4,906.00 from the July 1, 2020 Water Enterprise Fund Certified Retained Earnings.

**Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow a certain amount at 0% interest from the MWRA Local Pipeline Assistance Program for the purpose of designing and constructing improvements to water pipelines or to take any other action relative thereto.

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow \$2,906,400.00 at 0% interest from the MWRA Local Pipeline Assistance Program for the purpose of designing and constructing improvements to water pipelines or to take any other action relative thereto

**Article 18.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds in the Transportation Infrastructure Fund for the purpose of conducting line painting on various streets in town. This appropriation is in accordance with Act St. 2016, ch 187 s8(c)(i) and MGL c44 s53. (Town Manager)

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend the Town appropriate the sum of \$26,700.10 for purpose of conducting line painting on various streets in town. The source of funding is the Transportation Infrastructure Fund in accordance with Act St. 2016, ch 187 s8c(i) and MGL c44 s53.



**Article 24.** To see if the Town of Saugus will vote to adopt as a local option, the following clauses from Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5. These clauses address property tax exemptions offered to veterans and eligible survivors:

- Twenty-second G. In any city or town that accepts this clause, real estate that is the domicile of a person but is owned by a trustee, conservator or other fiduciary for the person's benefit if the real estate would be eligible for exemption under clause Twenty-second, Twenty-second A, Twenty-second B, Twenty-second C, Twenty-second D, Twenty-second E or Twenty-second F if the person were the owner of the real estate.
- Twenty-second H. Real estate to the full amount of the taxable valuation of real property of the surviving parents or guardians of soldiers or sailors, members of the National Guard and veterans who; (i) during active duty service, suffered an injury or illness documented by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or a branch of the armed forces that was a proximate cause of their death or (ii) are missing in action with a presumptive finding of death as a result of active duty service as members of the armed forces of the United States; provided, however, that the real estate shall be occupied by the surviving parents or guardians as the surviving parents' or guardians' domicile; and provided further, that the surviving parents or guardians shall have been domiciled in the Commonwealth for the 5 consecutive years immediately before the date of filing for an exemption pursuant to this clause or the soldier or sailor, member of the National Guard or veteran was domiciled in the Commonwealth for not less than 6 months before entering service.
- Surviving parents or guardians eligible for an exemption pursuant to this clause shall be eligible regardless of when the soldier, sailor, member of the National Guard or veteran died or became missing in action with a presumptive finding of death; provided, however, that the exemption shall only apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2021. Such exemption shall be available until such time as the surviving parents or guardians are deceased. No real estate shall be so exempt which has been conveyed to the surviving parents or guardians to evade taxation. This clause shall take effect upon its acceptance by any city or town. (Jay Pinette, Saugus Veterans Agent)

**Recommendation:** Voted to recommend the Town adopt as a local option, clause 22G and 22H from Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5.