

**TOWN OF NORTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 11, 2015**

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator William A. Gouveia at 7:00 PM at the Norton High School Auditorium. He led the crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Moderator recognized State Representative Jay Barrows in the audience.

The Moderator reviewed some pre-meeting rules:

- I ask everyone to please find a seat for this meeting.
- If you are not a registered voter in the Town of Norton, you are welcome to visit but you must sit in the appropriate section. If you are a registered voter, please sit anywhere else, because your vote will not be counted if you are sitting in the non-voting section.
- If you wish to address this meeting, you must do so only after being recognized by the Moderator. There is a microphone located in the back and one in the front. When speaking, please identify yourself by name and address for the record. Please try and keep your remarks brief and to the point, and confine them only to the matter under consideration at the time.
- All speakers at this meeting will be treated with courtesy by the Moderator and everyone else in the room. No speaker will be allowed to use the meeting for personal attacks on any individual. All remarks will be directed towards the Moderator, and although questions to be asked of individuals will be allowed, cross-examination type discussions from the floor will not be allowed.
- In recognizing people to speak, the Moderator will call upon those who have not yet spoken on a topic before recognizing those who have already spoken. The Moderator will recognize motions to move the question, but if in the Moderator's opinion there are still people waiting to speak who may add to the discussion, the Moderator will exercise his authority to not accept a motion to move the question under those circumstances.
- If a standing vote is required, you will be instructed to stand at your seats until your vote is counted. If a ballot vote is required, you will be given instructions by the Moderator as to how to proceed.
- If you wish to make an amendment to any motion, you must do so in writing and present it to the Moderator.
- I remind you all that no motion to reconsider any article will be accepted by the Moderator until at least three articles following the article being reconsidered have been acted upon by this meeting. If the article is one of the last three on the warrant, I will accept any motions to reconsider them prior to adjourning.
- There may be requests this evening to allow non-voters to speak on certain articles. This must be done by a Motion voted upon by this meeting. While it is the right and the decision of the meeting to allow or not allow non-residents to speak, please keep in mind they may have information to add to the discussion.

The Town Clerk read the call and return of service as written in the warrant.

ARTICLE 2 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of any funds allotted, or to be allotted, by the Commonwealth and/or County for the construction, reconstruction and improvement of Town roads, and appropriate such sum or sums so allotted by the Commonwealth for the purpose of road and other municipal improvements within the Town of Norton which are eligible for reimbursement, subject to conditions detailed by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90.

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 3 **LOST FOR LACK OF MOTION** (Separation Expenses)

ARTICLE 4 **LOST FOR LACK OF MOTION** (Collective Bargaining Agreements)

ARTICLE 5 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from the Water Pollution Abatement Trust Program Reserve for Appropriation Account to support administrative costs of said program.

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 6 **LOST FOR LACK OF MOTION** (Hazardous Waste Collection)

ARTICLE 7 **LOST FOR LACK OF MOTION** (Engineering/Design Rail Trail Project)

ARTICLE 8 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2, of the General Laws, to continue the existing revolving funds, all as written in Article 8 of the May 11, 2015, Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

ARTICLE 8 as printed in the Warrant:

237 MANSFIELD AVENUE (WENDELL JACKSON PROPERTY) REVOLVING FUND (CONTINUE)	
Authorized to Spend:	Board of Selectmen
Revenue Source:	Fees and other funds associated with use of the property commonly known as the Wendell Jackson property and located at 237 Mansfield Avenue, Norton, Massachusetts, including but not limited to revenue resulting from leasing or licensing of the property, or public parking on the property for access to the Norton Reservoir
Use of Fund:	Expenses directly related to use, rental, development, and maintenance of the property, including creating and providing access to the Norton Reservoir
Spending Limit:	\$60,000.00
Fund Balance Disposition:	Balance available for expenditure in the following fiscal year

FORESTRY REVOLVING FUND (CONTINUE)	
Authorized to Spend:	Norton Conservation Commission and Norton Tree Warden
Revenue Source:	Fees and other funds in connection with the sale and harvest of timber and other forestry products from conservation and Town-owned land
Use of Fund:	Creation and implementation of Forest Stewardship Plans and other forestry projects within the Town of Norton
Spending Limit:	\$30,000.00
Fund Balance Disposition:	Balance available for expenditure in the following fiscal year
HOME COMPOSTING BIN DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM REVOLVING FUND (CONTINUE)	
Authorized to Spend:	Board of Health
Revenue Source:	To receive revenue from home composting bin sales or donations to the Home Composting Bin Distribution Program
Use of Fund:	For the purchase of additional Compost Bins, advertising, administrative expenses, or other such expenses as are directly related to furthering the Town's Home Composting Bin Distribution Program, and should funds remain in this account after demand for compost bins has been satisfied, such funds may be used for public education on home composting, or another solid waste program approved by MassDEP
Spending Limit:	\$2,000.00
Fund Balance Disposition:	Balance available for expenditure in the following fiscal year
RECYCLING REVOLVING FUND (CONTINUE)	
Authorized to Spend:	Highway Superintendent
Revenue Source:	To receive fees for processing recycled materials, including but not limited to white goods, newspapers, tires, etc.
Use of Fund:	To support recycling activities such as the operation of the Recycling Center; public education efforts; seminars, workshops, information for the Highway Department; studies, and reports on recycling issues
Spending Limit:	\$10,000.00
Fund Balance Disposition:	Balance available for expenditure in the following fiscal year
CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TECHNICIAN(S) REVOLVING FUND (CONTINUE)	
Authorized to Spend:	Norton Fire Department
Revenue Source:	To receive funds from the Southeastern Massachusetts Fire Chief's Hazardous Materials Committee and other available sources for hazardous materials incidents attended by the Department's Hazardous Materials Technician(s)
Use of Fund:	To fund salaries and expenses related to the Norton Fire Department's Certified Hazardous Materials Technician(s)
Spending Limit:	\$10,000.00
Fund Balance Disposition:	Balance available for expenditure in the following fiscal year
COUNCIL ON AGING REVOLVING FUND (CONTINUE)	
Authorized to Spend:	Council on Aging Department
Revenue Source:	To receive fees from programs
Use of Fund:	To fund expenses for programs
Spending Limit:	\$5,000.00
Fund Balance Disposition:	Balance available for expenditure in the following fiscal year

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 9 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote to transfer \$25,000.00 from Free Cash for tree services, including but not limited to the removal of hazardous trees, stump removal, and performance of additional preventative and emergency services Town wide, including crane rentals and other expenses.

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 10 (Requires 2/3 Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote to borrow the amount of \$879,400.00 for the Norton Reservoir Dam spillway improvement project, including but not limited to modifications to the embankments for overtopping protection, secondary spillway, gatehouse, gates and operating mechanisms, foundation walls, outlet and miscellaneous concrete repairs, and other incidental costs associated with the Project, and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen or Conservation Commission, as appropriate, to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments to effectuate the foregoing, including such restrictions and covenants in favor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as may be required in connection with the project; and further, to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum under G.L. c.44, §§7 or 8 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds and notes therefor.

DECLARED VOTED BY 2/3 BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 11 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote to transfer and appropriate \$120,000.00 from Sewer Enterprise Retained Earnings to cover the costs of completing the MEPA review process with an Environmental Impact Report regarding the Town of Norton’s CWMP.

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 12 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the total amount of \$3,254,754.00 be appropriated for the operation of the Water Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2016 from Water Enterprise Receipts (including but not limited to user charges, lease revenue, interest, and miscellaneous revenues), with \$2,978,277.00 of said sum being appropriated hereunder for direct costs of the Enterprise, and \$276,477.00 of said sum to be appropriated in the General Fund under Article 16 for indirect costs and allocated to the Water Enterprise Fund for funding, as follows:

\$ 718,486.00	Personal Services
\$1,128,200.00	Other Charges and Expenditures
\$1,131,591.00	Debt Service
<u>\$ 276,477.00</u>	Indirect Costs – Charged to Enterprise Fund from General Fund and raised under Article 16
\$3,254,754.00	Total for Fiscal Year 2016 - Water

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 13 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the total amount of \$1,081,821.00 be appropriated for the operation of the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2016 from Sewer Enterprise Receipts (including but not limited to fees, charges, interest, and miscellaneous revenues), with \$1,011,847.00 of said sum being appropriated hereunder for direct costs of the Enterprise, and \$69,974.00 of said sum to be appropriated in the General Fund under Article 16 for indirect costs and allocated to the Sewer Enterprise Fund for funding, as follows:

\$ 161,267.00	Personal Services
\$ 850,580.00	Other Charges and Expenditures
<u>\$ 69,974.00</u>	Indirect Costs – Charged to Enterprise Fund from General Fund and raised under Article 16
\$1,081,821.00	Total for Fiscal Year 2016 - Sewer

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 14 **LOST FOR LACK OF MOTION** (Capital Improvements Fund)

ARTICLE 15 (Requires 2/3 Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town appropriate the total sum of \$579,432.00, for the purchase, or lease with an option to purchase, for periods of time up to or in excess of three years, the following new and/or replacement capital items for various Town Departments and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto as set forth in the Finance Committee’s Recommendations set forth in the Chart entitled, “Article 15 Proposed FY16 Capital Budget”; and, to meet said appropriation, to transfer \$294,432.00 from Capital Improvements Account and \$285,000.00 from Water Enterprise Retained Earnings:

POLICE DEPARTMENT (210)	Police Line Cruiser Replacements (Two)	\$ 69,000.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT (220)	Squad #1 (Year 3 of 5)	\$ 75,000.00
HIGHWAY (420)	2011 Ptrblt dump truck (Kansas Bank) 5 of 5	\$ 32,648.00
HIGHWAY (420)	Sweeper (Mercedes-Benz Fin svc.) 3 of 5	\$ 48,834.00
LIBRARY (610)	Replace Roof	\$ 68,950.00
SUBTOTAL:		\$ 294,432.00
WATER (450)	Service Truck Replacement	\$ 135,000.00
WATER (450)	Uni-Directional Flushing Program	\$ 150,000.00
SUBTOTALWATER PROJECTS:		\$ 285,000.00

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 16 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town raise and appropriate the amount of \$48,089,447.00, raise from Sewer receipts the amount of \$69,974.00, and raise from Water receipts the amount of \$276,477.00 to fund the Town’s FY16 Operating Budget and to fix the salary compensation of the elected official of the Town, all as presented in the Finance Committee’s recommendation as written in the May 11, 2015, Warrant under Article 16, and further, to transfer the amount of \$1,384,888.00 from the following funds for a total appropriation for the Fiscal Year 2016 operating budget of \$49,820,786.00:

Free Cash	\$	600,000.00
Hicks Fund	\$	100,000.00
Ambulance Receipts	\$	500,000.00
Dog Fund	\$	19,200.00
Septic Betterments	\$	60,000.00
Overlay Surplus	\$	75,000.00
Wetlands Protection	\$	8,000.00
Debt Exclusion Premium	\$	22,688.00
	\$	1,384,888.00

DECLARED VOTED BY MAJORITY BY THE MODERATOR

Note: Budget worksheets were projected on the screen for Town Meeting to see as there were changes to pages 2, 6 and 9 of the worksheets in the printed warrant. Changes were the inclusion of Web Committee, allocation for School Department and the grand totals.

FY 2016 Operating Budget			
<u>Board of Selectmen (122)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	52,513.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	1,915.00
Totals		\$	54,428.00
<u>Town Manager (123)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	211,010.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	11,720.00
Totals		\$	222,730.00
<u>Finance Committee (131)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	1,710.00
Totals		\$	1,710.00
<u>Reserve Fund (132)</u>			
- Appropriation		\$	150,000.00
Transfers	502		
Totals		\$	150,000.00

<u>Town Accountant (135)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	183,603.00
Purchase Of Services	520	\$	24,500.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	2,850.00
Totals		\$	210,953.00
<u>Assessors (141)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	136,923.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	34,254.00
Totals		\$	171,177.00
<u>Treasurer/Collector (147)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	194,758.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	47,730.00
Totals		\$	242,488.00
<u>Legal Services (151)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	80,000.00
Totals		\$	80,000.00
<u>Data Processing (155)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	-
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	146,303.00
Totals		\$	146,303.00
<u>Web Committee (156)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	-
Totals		\$	-
<u>Tax Title Foreclosure (158)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	45,000.00
Totals	570	\$	45,000.00
<u>Town Clerk (161)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	43,528.00
Salary - Elected Official	511	\$	61,475.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	4,315.00
Totals		\$	109,318.00
<u>Elections (162)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	550.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	24,140.00
Totals		\$	24,690.00
<u>Conservation Comm (171)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	88,393.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	10,850.00
Totals		\$	99,243.00
<u>Planning Board (175)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	83,750.00

Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	3,950.00
Totals		\$	87,700.00
<u>SE REG Plan & Econ Dev (176)</u>			
Assessment	560	\$	3,151.00
Totals		\$	3,151.00
<u>Zoning Bd Of Appeals (177)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	300.00
Totals		\$	300.00
<u>Industrial Development Commission (182)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	-
Totals			\$0.00
<u>Municipal Bldg Maint (192)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	204,450.00
Totals		\$	204,450.00
<u>Town Report (195)</u>			
Printing	520	\$	2,100.00
Totals		\$	2,100.00
<u>Postage -All Depts (199)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	33,000.00
Totals		\$	33,000.00
<u>Police Department (210)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	2,561,378.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	198,100.00
Totals		\$	2,759,478.00
<u>Fire Department (220)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	3,108,096.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	161,000.00
Total		\$	3,269,096.00
<u>Emergency Medl Serv (230)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	89,900.00
Totals		\$	89,900.00
<u>Emergency Planning (240)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	6,250.00
Totals		\$	6,250.00
<u>Inspection Dept (241)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	154,250.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	12,765.00
Totals		\$	167,015.00

<u>Sealer Weights (244)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	2,000.00
Totals		\$	2,000.00
<u>Communication Center (290)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	600,769.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	114,664.00
Totals		\$	715,433.00
<u>Animal Control (292)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	51,708.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	14,485.00
Totals		\$	66,193.00
<u>Tree Warden (294)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	2,000.00
Totals		\$	2,000.00
<u>School Department (300)</u>			
Operating Budget		\$	25,000,000.00
Totals		\$	25,000,000.00
<u>Southeastern Reg Voc (306)</u>			
Assessments	560	\$	1,143,974.00
Totals		\$	1,143,974.00
<u>Reg Agricultural Sch (308)</u>			
Assessments	560	\$	32,623.00
Totals		\$	32,623.00
<u>Highway (420)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	630,765.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	93,550.00
Surface Treatment	580	\$	12,000.00
Repairs to Private Ways	581	\$	1,000.00
Totals		\$	737,315.00
<u>Snow Removal (423)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	80,000.00
Totals		\$	80,000.00
<u>Street Lighting (425)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	115,000.00
Totals		\$	115,000.00
<u>Sanitary Landfill (438)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	6,700.00
Reserve Fund Supplement			
Totals		\$	6,700.00
<u>Board of Health (510)</u>			

Personnel Services	510	\$	124,917.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	7,975.00
Totals		\$	132,892.00
<u>Public Health Nurse (522)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	31,300.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	10,050.00
Totals		\$	41,350.00
<u>Council on Aging (541)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	34,542.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	8,500.00
Reserve Fund Supplement			
Totals		\$	43,042.00
<u>Veterans Agent (543)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	52,025.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	3,305.00
Veterans Benefits	579	\$	230,000.00
Reserve Fund Supplement			
Totals		\$	285,330.00
<u>Library (610)</u>			
Other Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	370,800.00
Totals		\$	370,800.00
<u>Recreation (630)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	7,344.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	10,000.00
Totals		\$	17,344.00
<u>Historical Comm (691)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570		\$0.00
Totals			\$0.00
<u>Memorial & Vets Day (692)</u>			
Other Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	1,500.00
Totals		\$	1,500.00
<u>Historical Dist Comm (693)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570		\$0.00
Totals			\$0.00
<u>Maturing Debt (711)</u>			
Maturing Principal on LT Debt	590	\$	1,580,869.00
Repayment of Temporary Loans	594	\$	109,697.00
Totals		\$	1,690,566.00

<u>Interest (750)</u>			
Interest on Long-Term Debt	590	\$	533,862.00
Interest on Notes	594	\$	21,928.00
Reserve Fund Supplement			
Totals		\$	555,790.00
<u>Employee Benefits (910)</u>			
Personnel Services	510	\$	2,243,522.00
Other Personnel Services	511	\$	7,146,375.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	374,125.00
Totals		\$	9,764,022.00
<u>Unemployment Comp (911)</u>			
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	80,000.00
Totals		\$	80,000.00
<u>Miscellaneous (940)</u>			
Fuel Expenses	540	\$	172,000.00
Charges & Expenditures	570	\$	584,432.00
Totals		\$	756,432.00
GRAND TOTALS		\$	49,820,786.00

ARTICLE 17 (Requires Majority Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.60A, §1, paragraph 8, as most recently amended by Section 17 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, allowing cities and towns to exempt from the motor vehicle excise Massachusetts residents who are on active military duty outside of the Commonwealth, applying to calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2015.

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 18 (Requires 2/3 Vote)

Motion was made by Peter Carignan, Chairman of the Finance Committee, that the Town vote to amend the Norton Zoning Bylaw, Article XIII - Flood Plain District, as set forth in Article 18 of the May 11, 2015, Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

ARTICLE 18 as printed in the Warrant:

In Section 13.1.1, in the second sentence of the first paragraph that begins with the words “The District includes...”, delete the words “AH, A0, A99, V, VE”, and insert “or” between “A” and “AE”;

and also, in Section 13.1.1, delete the first sentence of the second paragraph that begins with the words “The map panels of the Bristol County FIRM...” and replace that sentence with the following sentence:

“The map panels of the Bristol County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Norton are panel numbers 25005C0039F, 25005C0043F, 25005C0044F, 25005C0109F, 25005C0127F, 25005C0131F, 25005C0132F, 25005C0134F, 25005C0136F, 25005C0137F, 25005C0141F, 25005C0151F, and 25005C0153F dated July 7, 2009, and panel numbers 25005C0107G, 25005C0126G, 25005C0128G, 25005C0129G, 25005C0133G dated July 16, 2015.”;

and also, in Section 13.1.1, in the second sentence of the second paragraph that begins with the words “The exact boundaries...” delete “July 7, 2009.” and replace with “July 16, 2015.”;

and, in Section 13.1.2 delete the words “A1-30”;

and, in Section 13.3, in the definition of “Area of Special Flood Hazard”, delete the following words: “as identified in maps entitled XXXX and dated XXXX”;

and, in Section 13.3, delete the definition for “Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)” and delete the definition for “Flood Boundary and Floodway Map”;

and, in Section 13.4.1(a), delete the words “currently 780 CMR 120.G, “Flood Resistant Construction and Construction in Coastal Dunes”, and replace with the words “currently 780 CMR”;

and, delete all the words of Section 13.4.4(b) and replace with the following:

“In Zones along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the Bristol County FIRM encroachments are prohibited in the regulatory floodway which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.”

Joanne Haracz, Chair of the Planning Board reported that the Planning Board met on this article on at their April 21st meeting and voted 5 – 0 in favor of Recommendation of Article 18.

DECLARED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE MODERATOR

ARTICLE 19

LOST FOR LACK OF MOTION (Stabilization Fund)

The Annual Town Meeting was recessed during Article 16 at 8:02 PM for the Special Town Meeting and reconvened at 8:20 PM.

The Annual Town Meeting was declared adjourned at 9:02 PM.

ATTEST:

Danielle M. Sicard
Town Clerk