

**HOLLISTON FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 14, 2014**

The Committee convened in Room 105 at the Town Hall at 7:04 PM. Present from the Committee were Chairman Ken Szajda, Vice Chairperson Michelle Zeamer, Dan Alfred, Charlie Kaslow, Bill Dowd, Beth Liberty and Brendan Shea.

1. Minutes – Moved by Bill Dowd, Seconded by Dan Alfred to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2014 meeting as most recently circulated with a change Ken Szajda made. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried.
2. Landfill Testing proposal for Town Meeting – DPW Director Sean Reese and Health Director Scott Moles were present to explain the Article on the Town Meeting Warrant regarding required testing of recycled yard waste, street sweeping collections and catch basin material at the Landfill. Scott explained that the State Department of Environmental Protection had instituted new rules for re-using these materials. In order for them to be used, the Town is required to obtain a Beneficial Use Determination (BUD) and conduct testing on the materials. The total cost of instituting this new requirement is approximately \$25,000 made up of engineering services, testing and a State fee. According to Sean, this is required in order for the Town to continue to use the approximately 700 cubic yards of material generated every year. Doing so allows the Town to avoid the cost of purchasing loam for street projects and landfill cap maintenance. Sean and Scott both indicated that this a necessary process and cost in order to continue to use the Recycling Center. The Committee took the proposal under advisement.
3. Community Preservation Committee (CPC) proposals for Town Meeting – Frank Chamberlain, Chairman of the CPC was present to describe and explain the projects approved for action at Town Meeting. As of this date, the CPC had approved two new requests and is recommending modifications to two prior approved projects. The approved projects are:
  - a. \$488,000 which will be combined with \$100,000 from the Open Space Fund to purchase approximately 33 acres of land at 34 Rogers Road. The property had recently become available and was deemed by the Open Space Committee as an important addition to the Town's open space.
  - b. \$690,000 for the purchase of the CSX rail trail property from Cross St. to Hopping Brook Road. This is another significant section of former rail bed that is part of the developing rail trail. The money will be used to acquire the property (\$660,000) and perform necessary pre-closing legal and environmental work (\$30,000).

The modifications to prior approvals that are being sought are:

- a. A new a broader motion to permit the Trails Committee to use the remaining balance on the previously approved \$79,000 for legal and survey work on the trail on trail construction and safety improvements.
- b. A revised motion to permit \$100 of the funds previously approved for the construction of kiosks on the Wenakeening Trails to be used for the placement of trail maps within the kiosks.

In response to questions from the Committee Frank reported that:

- a. There was a house on the Rogers Road property that could become the basis of a future affordable housing proposal.

- b. The relatively large total dollars approved will significantly lower CPC balances, but the CPC believed the proposals were important community priorities, and merited approval. Further, annual CPA tax additions and a partial state match will continue to allow the CPC to be ready for future opportunities.
- c. He was unsure how approval of the rail trail property acquisition would affect the money authorized, but not appropriated for the Holliston Rail Trail in the state's Environmental Bond Bill, but he believed that this action by the Town may be viewed positively as local support and participation in the project.
- d. The Trails Committee used less than \$10,000 of the \$79,000 appropriated last year, but that was due to aggressive use of volunteered professional services and some unintended limitation in the wording of the Town Meeting motion. The CPC concluded that the Trails Committee had significant safety and construction challenges with the trail and that repurposing the remaining balance would allow the Trails Committee to continue progress on the trail.
- e. Even though the annual lease on the section of Rail Trail to be purchased is only \$100, the lease terms prohibit improvements. Purchasing the trail is necessary in order to bring it up to the same conditions as are present on the sections already purchased. The \$100 lease is also a short-term arrangement to allow use of the trail during purchase negotiations and would likely be unavailable on a long-term basis.

Frank also reported that there was a late request from the Housing Trust for an additional \$100,000 to supplement a \$200,000 appropriation in May to enable the Trust to acquire more affordable housing units. Frank said the Trust has a number of ways to either acquire units or help buyers purchase units and the CPC has looked favorably on these requests in the past, but it was decided to put the matter to a vote at a later meeting with more members present. He promised to advise the Finance Committee as soon as a vote was taken. Ken Szajda said this may be an item the Finance Committee will have to deal with after the Finance Committee's report goes to print.

- 4. Review of Budget Spreadsheet – Ken Szajda pointed out that he had circulated the most recent version of the spreadsheet just prior to the meeting. Accounting for votes already taken by the Committee and an updated estimate of Free Cash in the amount of \$974,000, the spreadsheet revealed a “surplus” of approximately \$529,000. Based on that, Moved by Bill Dowd, Seconded by Dan Alfred that the Finance Committee recommend that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purposes stated in Article 10. (Landfill BUD) Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried. There was a brief discussion about how much to place in Stabilization. Dan Alfred suggested \$500,000 and there was an early consensus on that. Moved by Bill Dowd, Seconded by Dan Alfred that the Finance Committee recommend that the Town appropriate \$500,000 for the Stabilization Fund. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried.
- 5. Warrant Articles – The Committee reviewed the most recent draft Warrant (Attachment I).
  - a. Article 3. DPW Budget Retitling and Water Enterprise Fund. Bill Dowd reported that he had received additional information on this subject from Town Administrator Paul LeBeau. Bill said that while he was inclined to support Article 3, he reminded the Committee that it had committed to an examination of the Water finances before the DPW was formed and that it was still needed. The Committee agreed and Ken Szajda indicated that this effort could be scheduled after Town Meeting. Moved by Dan Alfred, Seconded by Michelle Zeamer that the Finance Committee recommend favorable action on Article 3 as stated in the Warrant. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried.

- b. Article 4. Free Cash. Based on a report from Town Administrator Paul LeBeau that the amount of Free Cash the Town is seeking to certify is \$974,000, Moved by Dan Alfred, Seconded by Michelle Zeamer that the Finance Committee recommend that the Town appropriate \$974,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of making the funds available for appropriation, subject to revision if the amount certified by the State is different. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried.
- c. Article 5. Stabilization. After a brief discussion confirming a consensus reached at an earlier meeting, Moved by Bill Dowd, Seconded by Dan Alfred that the Finance Committee recommend that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 to the Stabilization Fund. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried.
- d. Article 8. Capital. While the Committee has completed its work on this Article, Bill Dowd pointed out that Selectmen Jay Leary had expressed concerns at both last week's Finance Committee meeting and last week's Selectmen's meeting that the Finance Committee hadn't even voted on several of the proposed Capital projects. Bill reported that he had been at the Selectmen's meeting and had pointed out that none of the unfunded projects had even been moved by a member of the Committee and so no vote could occur. Bill suggested that in future years, the Committee deal with every proposed Capital project as though it was part of the Article and then be required to either vote on funding or vote on postponement. This would ensure that every sponsoring board, committee or department head would receive definitive action by the Finance Committee. Dan Alfred expressed reservations about that approach and wasn't sure it was necessary. There was general interest in looking at the idea further before our next Capital votes. Selectmen Jay Leary reiterated his position that the Finance Committee appeared to be venturing into areas beyond its scope, and was not willing to go on record with its positions. Ken Szajda disagreed with Jay and spoke about the Finance Committee's role and responsibilities. He asked Jay if he would prefer that the Committee vote on all the unfunded Capital Projects. Jay replied that he would and that as far as he knew, none of the sponsors of unfunded projects had been communicated with by the Committee. After further discussion, Jay said actual voting was up to the Committee. Bill Dowd pointed out that if the only role of the Finance Committee was to determine if there was enough money to pay for things, you didn't need 7 people for that. All that would take is a person with a computer. Again Bill pointed out that the Finance Committee is the only place in Town before Town Meeting where proposals get rationalized across the various boards and committees. Only the Finance Committee has to decide between Schools, Town, Library, Park etc. before Town Meeting convenes. After a lengthy discussion, Charlie Kaslow indicated that he supported Bill's suggestion and asked if there was a consensus of the Committee to adopt it. There was not. However, there was a consensus to look at this idea further in the future.
- e. Article 9. Community Preservation Committee. After a brief discussion, Moved by Dan Alfred, Seconded by Michelle Zeamer that the Finance Committee recommend that the Town appropriate \$488,000 from the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose laid out in Article 13 and \$690,000 from the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose laid out in Article 12. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried. Further action on CPC proposals may be needed depended on actions by the CPC prior to Town Meeting.
- f. Article 12. Rail Trail land acquisition. After a brief discussion, Moved by Dan Alfred, Seconded by Michelle Zeamer that the Finance Committee recommend favorable action on Article 12. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried.

g. Article 13. Rogers Rd. land acquisition. After a brief discussion, Moved by Dan Alfred, Seconded by Charlie Kaslow that the Finance Committee recommend favorable action on Article 13. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the motion carried.

6. Warrant Message – The Committee reviewed the draft Warrant message from the FinCom as shown in Attachment I. Several changes were suggested and Ken Szajda incorporated them into the final version that will be published and made available to residents.
7. Capital Planning – Ken Szajda reported that the Capital Inventory template was being circulated and was already being worked on in the DPW. Ken also reported that he had offered to attend a Department Heads meeting to explain the template and talk about the importance of developing a thorough Capital Plan.
8. Financial Policies – Beth Liberty reported that there was really no update. Work is continuing.
9. Adjournment – At 9:47 PM moved by Dan Alfred, seconded by Michelle Zeamer to adjourn the meeting. Seven in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved\_\_\_\_\_10/21/14\_\_\_\_\_

**Town of Holliston, Massachusetts****Draft October 14, 2014****Report of the****FINANCE  
COMMITTEE****for the****October 27, 2014 Special Town Meeting****To the Citizens of the Town of Holliston:**

The Finance Committee respectfully submits this warrant and associated articles for your consideration.

**Financial Update**

The October Special Town Meeting is our opportunity to work with actual information on a number of significant assumptions that we used in May, and finalize our FY15 spending plan. Here are the key updates since our last report in May:

1. Local Aid – State revenue continues to be uneven, leading to continued uncertainty in local aid forecasts. Final net local aid for FY15 came in \$11,555 below our final forecast; this difference has no meaningful impact on the FY15 budget.
2. Free Cash – At the close of each fiscal year on June 30, a final accounting of actual revenues and expenses is made and is compared with the revenue assumptions and appropriations voted by the Town. Any excess funds (such as revenue that exceeded targets or appropriations that were not completely expended) become “Free Cash” that can be applied to the following fiscal year’s budget. The estimated Free Cash amount is \$1.2 million.
3. Reserves – One of the Finance Committee’s financial priorities had been to build our reserves (defined by the bond rating agencies as the sum of the Stabilization Fund and Free Cash) to the 8.1% level, just above the 8% level considered “strong” by bond rating agencies. Maintaining strong reserves is key to Holliston’s bond rating – our rating directly impacts our debt borrowing costs. The Town’s non-OPEB reserves (Stabilization and estimated Free Cash) currently stand at approximately \$3.789 million, which is 7.1% of the FY14 Omnibus budget.
4. OPEB Trust Fund – A year ago, the Finance Committee recommended and Town Meeting voted to seek special legislation authorizing the Town to establish a separate trust for our Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liabilities. These liabilities are primarily related to health insurance benefits the Town provides its retirees. The

legislation has been enacted into law. Holliston is currently holding \$4.8 million in the new OPEB Trust. This, combined with a projected \$1,500,000 annual appropriation over the next 23 years should bring the Town to full funding of this obligation.

### Capital Spending

For several years the Finance Committee recommended an ongoing annual commitment of \$350,000 per year for capital purchases. In FY13, that was increased to \$486,000, in FY14 it was increased to \$550,000 and in FY15 it was increased to \$625,000. Although capital purchases are usually approved at the Special Town Meeting, due to seasonal issues two capital purchases were approved in May totaling \$151,000, leaving \$474,000 for capital expenditures in FY15. Requests submitted to the Finance Committee totaled approximately \$1.08 million.

The Committee evaluated each capital proposal both on its own, and in the context of all the requests. In Article 8, the Finance Committee is recommending the following capital expenditures:

• Replacement of two Police Department cruisers	\$ 79,332
• Replacement of Police Department vehicle	\$ 27,665
• Replacement of Police Department computers and software	\$ 54,130
• Purchase of chrome books for the Adams Middle School	\$214,337
• Wireless access for school system	\$ 54,000
• Replacement of backhoe for DPW	\$ 91,000
• Replacement of one ton dump truck for DPW	\$ 50,000
• Replacement of Fire Department pagers	\$ 23,000
• Replacement of Fire Department vehicle	\$ 50,000
• Repairs to accessible ramp at the Senior Center	\$ 3,000
• Exterior painting at the Public Library	\$ 15,000
• Fire Department Pumper	\$175,000
Total	\$836,464

The recommended spending in excess of \$474,000 is funded from free cash and existing monies in the capital expenditure fund.

One of the Finance Committee priorities going forward is an update and expansion of the Town's Capital Plan to better track and plan for long term capital needs. The Finance Committee will be working with all Town boards and committees on this effort in the coming months so that we have a better view of capital needs in future years.

### Warrant Articles

The Finance Committee recommendations appear with each article in the warrant.

Recommendations of note include:

- Budget adjustments to the Fire Department (\$8,000) and the Library (Article 2);
- Using free cash to offset the amount of revenue raised through property taxes (Article 4);
- Capital recommendations outlined above (Article 8);

- Establishment of Enterprise Fund for the Water Department (Article 3). Note that this article is just the implementation of Article 14 from the October 28, 2013 STM that was approved last year.
- Indefinite postponement of the \$275,000 for the downtown traffic study (Article 11). The Finance Committee feels that the town should consider and approve a financial plan for the entire project amount, estimated to be approximately \$1.5 million, before moving forward with the study.

As always, the Finance Committee is indebted to the many Town officials and employees whose efforts make this process and report possible. We also would like to commend the other elected and appointed committees with whom the Finance Committee interacts on an ongoing basis for all their cooperative efforts.

### HOLLISTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

Kenneth S. Szajda, Chair  
William F. Dowd, Clerk  
Charles M. Kaslow  
Brendan T. Shea

Michelle F. Zeamer, Vice-Chair  
Daniel G. Alfred  
Elizabeth F. Liberty

#### Fund balances available **prior** to the Finance Committee recommendations:

Available for Appropriation (estimate)	\$ 17,395	Golf Course Capital	\$ 102
Ambulance Funds	\$ 40,761	Open Space Fund	\$ 122,213
Capital Expenditure Fund	\$2,230,467	Overlay Reserve	\$ 0
Community Preservation Fund	\$1,647,526	Stabilization Fund	\$2,590,800
Conservation Fund	\$ 15,134	Water Surplus	\$ 603,150
Free Cash (estimate)	\$ 974,000		

#### Fund balances available **after** the Finance Committee recommendations:

Available for Appropriation	\$ 0	Golf Course Capital	\$ 102
Ambulance Funds	\$ 40,761	Open Space Fund	\$ 122,213
Capital Expenditure Fund	\$1,479,003	Overlay Reserve	\$ 0
Community Preservation Fund	\$1,647,526	Stabilization Fund	\$2,590,800
Conservation Fund	\$ 15,134	Water Surplus	\$ 603,150
Free Cash (estimate)	\$ 0		

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Middlesex, ss.  
Town of Holliston

To any Constable of the Town of Holliston, Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Holliston who are qualified to vote in Town Affairs to meet in the High School Auditorium on:

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2013**

at 7:30 p.m. to act on the following Articles, to wit:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for unpaid bills from prior years; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN RAISE AND APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$14,202.89 AND APPROPRIATE \$2,157.64 FROM WATER SURPLUS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING INVOICES FOR SERVICES FROM PRIOR FISCAL YEARS (SIX IN FAVOR, MR. DOWD OPPOSED). The invoices include copier services, testing services, legal services, computer services, recycling services, supplies and building repairs.**

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of supplementing various accounts of the Town's fiscal year 2015 annual budget, previously voted by the Town under Article 14 of the Warrant for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN INCREASE RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$8,000 FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET, REDUCE THE LIBRARY PERSONAL SERVICES BUDGET BY \$1,878, INCREASE THE LIBRARY SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS BUDGET BY \$1,878; ALL AS SHOWN IN THE RECOMMENDED CHANGE COLUMN BELOW (UNANIMOUS).**

DEPARTMENT	CURRENT FY15 BUDGET	RECOMMENDED CHANGE	NEW FY15 BUDGET
FIRE DEPARTMENT 53000	20,800	8,000	28,800
LIBRARY 51000	304,801	(1,878)	302,923
LIBRARY 54000	75,496	1,878	77,374

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the fiscal year 2015 Omnibus Budget, previously voted under Article 14 of the Warrant for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, to reflect the creation of a Department of Public Works and a water enterprise fund; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**(PENDING) THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN RETITLE THE HIGHWAY, SNOW & ICE AND WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGETS TO DPW -HIGHWAY, DPW- SNOW & ICE, DPW – MOTOR VEHICLE FUELS AND DPW – WATER, AND DESIGNATE A WATER ENTERPRISE BUDGET AS FOLLOWS:**

DEPARTMENT	CURRENT FY15 BUDGET	RECOMMENDED CHANGE	NEW FY15 BUDGET
DPW – WATER 51000	735,681	0	735,681
DPW – WATER 52000	379,000	0	379,000
DPW – WATER 53000	72,000	0	72,000
DPW – WATER 54000	228,000	0	228,000
DPW – WATER 56000	3,600	0	3,600

DPW – WATER 57000	853,656	0	853,656
DPW – WATER 58000	6,000	0	6,000
DPW – WATER INDIRECT EXPENSE	0	103,195	103,195
DPW – WATER RECEIPTS	0	2,381,132	2,381,132
DPW – WATER RETAINED EARNINGS	0	170,000	170,000

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of reducing the amount of money to be raised through property taxes for fiscal year 2015; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING. Final figures were not available prior to the printing deadline for this Report. The Finance Committee expects to recommend a transfer of Free Cash of approximately \$974,000; the final, exact amount of Free Cash will be available at the time of Town Meeting.**

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the Stabilization Fund; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**(PENDING) THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN RAISE AND APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$                      FOR THE STABILIZATION FUND (SIX IN FAVOR, ONE ABSENT).**

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the Capital Expenditure Fund; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$85,000 FOR THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUND (SIX IN FAVOR, MR. DOWD OPPOSED).**

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to hold a public auction for the purpose of disposing of surplus departmental equipment; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of capital expenditures, including replacement and new vehicles and equipment, for the Public Works, Police, Fire, School, Library, Public Buildings, Technology and Council on Aging departments, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell used equipment toward part of the purchase price; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$175,0000 FROM THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUND FOR A FIRE DEPARTMENT PUMPER ENGINE AND RESCIND THE BORROWING AUTHORIZATION FOR THIS**

**PURPOSE PREVIOUSLY VOTED UNDER ARTICLE 7 OF THE WARRANT FOR THE OCTOBER 28, 2013 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING (SIX IN FAVOR, ONE ABSENT); APPROPRIATE \$23,000 FROM THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUND FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT PAGERS (UNANIMOUS); APPROPRIATE \$3,000 FROM THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUND FOR REPAIRS TO THE ACCESSIBLE RAMP AT THE SENIOR CENTER (UNANIMOUS); APPROPRIATE \$79,332 FROM THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUND FOR TWO POLICE CRUISERS (SIX IN FAVOR, MR. DOWD OPPOSED); APPROPRIATE \$91,000 FROM THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUND FOR A BACKHOE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (FIVE IN FAVOR, MESSRS. DOWD AND KASLOW OPPOSED); APPROPRIATE \$214,337 FROM THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUND FOR CHROME BOOKS FOR THE ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL (UNANIMOUS); APPROPRIATE \$15,000 FOR EXTERIOR PAINTING AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY (UNANIMOUS); APPROPRIATE \$50,000 FOR A ONE TON DUMP TRUCK FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (UNANIMOUS); APPROPRIATE \$54,130 FOR COMPUTERS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT (UNANIMOUS); APPROPRIATE \$54,000 FOR WIRELESS ACCESS FOR THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT (UNANIMOUS); APPROPRIATE \$50,000 FOR A VEHICLE FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT (SIX IN FAVOR, MR. DOWD OPPOSED); AND APPROPRIATE \$27,665 FOR A VEHICLE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT (FIVE IN FAVOR, MESSRS. DOWD AND KASLOW OPPOSED).**

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the fiscal year 2015 Community Preservation budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of community preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year; or take any action relative thereto. **(Community Preservation Committee)**

**(PENDING) THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN APPROPRIATE THE SUM OF \$ (SIX IN FAVOR, ONE ABSENT).**

**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 engineering, consulting and testing services for the preparation of and submittal to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection of a Beneficial Use Determination covering materials at the Marshall Street recycling area; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Health)**

**(PENDING) THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT (SIX IN FAVOR, ONE ABSENT).**

**(Request - \$25,000)**

**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 completing a traffic analysis design, for

downtown Holliston; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen and Planning Board)**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT (UNANIMOUS).**

**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise, borrow and/or appropriate the sum of \$720,000 for the acquisition by gift, negotiated purchase or eminent domain of a parcel of land of approximately 1.9 miles in length and approximately 15.5 acres owned by CSX Transportation, shown as lands of the abandoned sections of the former railroad right of way and easements on the Holliston Assessor's maps, shown as parcels 001.0-0001-0050.3, 0050.6 and 0050.7 to be managed and controlled in accordance with Chapter 45, Section 3 for active recreation purposes, and to meet said appropriate with funds transferred and/or borrowed in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 293, the Community Preservation Act and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority, and that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to file on behalf of the Town of Holliston any and all applications deemed necessary under the PARC Act (301 CMR 5.00) or any other applications for funds in any way connected with the scope of this acquisition, and the Board of Selectmen be authorized, as they deem appropriate, to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments including conveyance of a perpetual conservation restriction in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 184 as required by Section 12(a) of Chapter 44B or Chapter 293 Section 10 of the Acts of 1998 as amended, as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Holliston to affect said purchase, or take any action relative thereto. **(Holliston Trails Committee)**

**(PENDING)THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN (SIX IN FAVOR, ONE ABSENT).**

(Request: \$720,000.)

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to acquire two parcels of land for open space purposes, pursuant to section 14 of Chapter 61A of the General Laws, shown as Lots 17 and 18 of Block 4 on Assessors' Map 12, located at 34 Rogers Road; to determine whether such acquisition shall be by borrowing, by transfer of available funds, by appropriation of Community Preservation funds or by some combination thereof; or take any action relative thereto. **(Open Space Committee)**

**(PENDING)THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE TOWN (SIX IN FAVOR, ONE ABSENT).**

(Possible request: \$550,000.)

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town will vote to rescind the borrowing authorization previously voted under Article 9 of the Warrant for the October 28, 2013 Special Town Meeting regarding property acquisition; or take any action relative thereto. **(Treasurer/Collector)**

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FAVORABLE ACTION  
(UNANIMOUS).**

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to delete Article XXX, Conservation Commission, from the Town of Holliston General By-laws and insert the following new Article XXX, Wetlands Protection, in place thereof:

**ARTICLE XXX  
WETLANDS PROTECTION**

**I. Purpose**

The purpose of this bylaw is to protect the wetlands, water resources, flood prone areas, and adjoining upland areas in the Town of Holliston by controlling activities deemed by the Holliston Conservation Commission likely to have a significant or cumulative effect on resource area values, including but not limited to the following: public or private water supply, groundwater supply, flood control, erosion and sedimentation control, storm damage prevention, water quality, prevention and control of pollution, fisheries, wildlife, wildlife habitat, rare species habitat including rare plant and animal species, agriculture, aquaculture, and recreation values, deemed important to the community (collectively, the "resource area values protected by this bylaw").

This bylaw is intended to utilize the Home Rule authority of the Town so as to protect the resource areas under the Wetlands Protection Act (G.L. Ch.131 §40; the "Act") to a greater degree, to protect additional resource areas beyond the Act recognized by the Town as significant, to protect all resource areas for their additional values beyond those recognized in the Act, and to impose in local regulations and permits additional standards and procedures stricter than those of the Act and regulations thereunder (310 CMR 10.00), subject, however, to the rights and benefits accorded to agricultural uses and structures of all kinds under the laws of the Commonwealth and other relevant bylaws of the Town of Holliston.

**II. Jurisdiction**

Except as permitted by the Conservation Commission no person shall commence to remove, fill, dredge, build upon, discharge into, or otherwise alter the following resource areas:

- A. Any wetlands, marshes, wet meadows, bogs, swamps, vernal pools, springs, banks, reservoirs, lakes, ponds of any size, beaches, and any lands under water bodies and/or intermittent or perennial streams, brooks and creeks;
- B. lands adjoining the resource areas specified in Section II.A out to a distance of 100 feet, known as the buffer zone;
- C. perennial rivers, streams, brooks and creeks;
- D. lands adjoining the resource areas specified in Section II.C out to a distance of 200 feet, known as the riverfront area;
- E. any lands subject to flooding or inundation by groundwater or surface water;

Collectively the areas specified in Sections II.A-E, constitute the "resource areas protected by this bylaw". Said resource areas shall be protected whether or not they border surface waters.

**III. Exemptions and Exceptions**