

Comments from Vice-Chair Sparrell

- I wish I could be there today, but COVID has hit my house.
- This is democracy in action, and it is wonderful to see everyone participating. Thank you for coming!
- Thank you to those folks who put in so much effort to make this event happen. It may be routine, but there is a lot that goes into a Town Meeting.
- Special thanks to the Town Administrator and my colleagues on the Select Board. It is an honor to serve with John and Tina and I learn from them every week.

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

**May 9, 2022
Town Meeting**

Welcome

2020 CENSUS: GROWING POPULATION

- 2020 Census data
 - Population in 2020 = 14,996
 - 1450 new residents since 2010
 - 75% of the population is over 18 years old
 - Biggest 10-year change in total population since 1980
 - Holliston is growing in diversity

2020 CENSUS: GUIDES STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Looking at this year, additional staffing is needed
 - 26th police officer
 - Assistant Building Inspector
 - Grounds division
- Looking ahead, additional staffing resources will be considered
 - Fire and EMS
 - Town Engineer
 - Assessor's department

STRATEGIC PLANNING: PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Study of Fire and Emergency Medical Services**
 - Comprehensive study of service level, service delivery model, facilities, and equipment
 - Evaluate existing on-call model; make recommendations for community to weigh
- **Study of Police and Fire Dispatch model**
 - Assess feasibility of a Regional Emergency Communications Center for Holliston and surrounding towns
 - Present optimization of current service model

STRATEGIC PLANNING: INFRASTRUCTURE

- Feasibility study of new Department of Public Works facility
 - Improving operations and efficiency within the department
 - Address deficient facilities at Arch Street and Central Street
- Accelerated water main replacement planning
 - Water service improvements to resident homes and businesses
 - Article 31 addresses #1 priority project from Stantec study
- Sidewalk infrastructure planning
 - Greater access to the community for people of all ages and abilities

STRATEGIC PLANNING: INFRASTRUCTURE

- The plan to date has included:
 - Coordination with MA Department of Transportation
 - Coordination with State Representatives on American Rescue Plan funding and legislative earmarks
 - Preparing State and Federal grant applications
 - Town Meeting approval on downtown crosswalk, sidewalk projects

STRATEGIC PLANNING: INFRASTRUCTURE FY23

- Leverage State and Federal funding opportunities
- The plan forward will develop an approach for:
 - Annual investment in maintaining existing sidewalk infrastructure
 - Annual funding for new sidewalk infrastructure
 - Annual funding for accelerated water pipe replacement
 - Pursue new DPW facility

Funding requests for projects will be presented at
October Town Meeting

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

New Revenue, Funding and Economic Activity

GRANT FUNDING

Shared Streets and Spaces

- Applied for \$150,000

Green Communities

- Applied for \$200,000

Complete Streets Tier III

- Applied for \$400,000

Safe Routes to School Infrastructure grant

- Upcoming application

Home Town grant, Mass Trails grant, Office of Travel and Tourism grant

- Applied for funding, to offset
to Blair Square project

Safe Streets For All – Federal Infrastructure Bill

- New grants aimed at Vision
Zero goals

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT - HOLLISTON

Equity Focused Services	\$1,782,920	40.0%
Support Public Health Response	\$557,162	12.5%
Addressing Negative Economic Impacts	\$289,724	6.5%
Infrastructure	\$1,782,920	40.0%
Administrative	\$44,573	1.0%
Total	\$4,457,299	100.0%

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT – HOLLISTON

Holliston Public Schools

- Free full day Kindergarten
- Tutoring
- Revenue replacement:
Transportation

Youth and Family Services

- Temporary mental health
clinician
- Programming for LGBTQ youth

Council on Aging

- Survey of 55+ community
- Home repairs to improve aging
in place

Parks, Rail Trail

Economic development

- Consultant services

Holliston Public Library

- Expansion of online resources

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT – MASSACHUSETTS

- Downtown recovery grant preliminary award of \$298,000
 - More details to come with a timeline and allowable use of funds
- Water and sewer infrastructure funding of \$650,000 applied to:
 - SCADA system and miscellaneous improvements
 - Finalize Town Hall Septic project

NEW ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

- Host community agreements: Cultivation and Manufacturing
 - Bringing new business into Holliston's industrial parks
- Alcohol license fee relief in December 2021
 - \$5,000 in pandemic support to restaurants
- Community Profile Video
 - Widely viewed on social media and local, regional websites
- Rail Trail commercial licenses
 - \$4,000 new revenue to maintain extraordinary usage of Trail

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

Project Updates

PROJECTS: 9 GREEN ST, BLAIR SQUARE, TOWN HALL

- 9 Green Street
 - Ready to bid, waiting on alternate funding
- Blair Square
 - Looking for approval to use Community Preservation Funds, article 32
 - Seeking additional grant funding
- Upper Town Hall septic
 - Completed project, rentals have commenced

PROJECTS: DOWNTOWN SEWER, DAMS

- Downtown sewer district
 - Funded through ARPA, waiting for feasibility report from Lombardo Associates
- DPW buildings
 - Replace failing buildings, considering new locations
 - Feasibility study completed by Weston and Sampson
- Factory and Houghton Pond Dams
 - Cost analysis report by PARE will guide decision on repairing or removing dams

PROJECTS: WASHINGTON STREET

- MA Department of Transportation
 - State funded improvements to Washington Street in Summer 2022
 - New and improved crosswalks and sidewalks from Pine Street to Summer Street

PROJECTS: WATER

- Water Treatment Facility
 - AAA bond rating applied to \$8.125 million debt saving \$100,000 for rate payers over 25-year life of borrowing
 - Water to start flowing from the facility in Summer 2022



TOWN OF HOLLISTON

Warrant

NEW LOOK

FY2023 Expenditures/Budget Tracking - Thru Level 4
May 9, 2022 - Annual Town Meeting (Level 5)

FY2023 Expenditures/Budget Tracking - Thru Level 4 May 9, 2022 - Annual Town Meeting (Level 5)						Level 1			Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	FY22-23 +/-				
						Request Fiscal Year 2023	Change (\$) FY 2022 to FY2023	Change (%) FY 2022 to FY2023	TA Rec. Fiscal Year 2023	BOS Rec. Fiscal Year 2023	FinC Rec Fiscal Year 2023	FC Rec FY2022 to FY2023 (\$)	FC Rec FY2022 to FY2023 (%)			
1 Actual Fiscal Year 2018	2 Actual Fiscal Year 2019	3 Actual Fiscal Year 2020	4 Actual Fiscal Year 2021	Budget Fiscal Year 2022												
GG	01122	SELECT BOARD (01122)	289,545	332,040	362,272	430,164	403,416	(1,199)	-0.30%	402,971	402,971	402,971	(1,644)	-0.41%	-0.48% 0.00% 0.00% 5.37% 15.11% 3.52% 35.12%	
GG	01152	HUMAN RESOURCES (01152)	-	-	-	-	139,228	28,342	25.56%	140,930	140,930	140,930	30,044	27.09%		
GG	01131	FINANCE COMMITTEE (01131)	899	1,632	210	210	1,525	2,664	1,139	74.69%	2,664	2,664	2,664	1,139		74.69%
GG	01132	RESERVE FUND (01132)	146,929	144,213	56,575	195,112	325,000	-	0.00%	325,000	325,000	325,000	-	0.00%		
GG	01135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT (01135)	140,455	141,208	164,786	174,577	180,125	186,828	6,703	3.72%	188,023	188,023	188,023	7,898		4.38%
GG	01141	BOARD OF ASSESSORS (01141)	201,497	206,409	231,201	219,533	260,680	288,792	28,112	10.78%	261,225	261,225	261,225	545		0.21%
GG	01145	TREASURER/COLLECTOR (01145)	317,752	310,703	363,258	361,901	365,355	370,029	4,674	1.28%	371,696	371,696	371,696	6,341		1.74%
GG	01155	TECHNOLOGY (01155)	215,475	259,274	264,176	254,452	294,421	316,957	22,536	7.65%	318,551	313,551	313,551	19,130		6.50%
GG	01161	TOWN CLERK (01161)	146,732	151,407	154,593	152,009	173,810	173,993	183	0.10%	174,788	174,788	174,788	978		0.56%
GG	01162	ELECTIONS (01162)	9,837	22,830	17,166	35,938	14,534	47,231	32,697	224.97%	47,231	47,231	47,231	32,697		224.97%
LU	01171	CONSERVATION COMMISSION (01171)	30,376	49,950	53,001	54,436	55,518	56,547	1,029	1.85%	64,046	64,046	64,046	8,528		15.36%
LU	01175	PLANNING BOARD	117,283	83,858	94,254	100,080	105,599	107,632	2,033	1.93%	111,438	111,438	111,438	5,839		5.53%
LU	01176	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (01176)	5,638	8,339	9,229	8,478	11,055	11,189	134	1.21%	11,151	11,151	11,151	96		0.87%
LU	01182	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (01182)	10,435	9,310	11,366	788	14,067	14,000	(67)	-0.48%	14,000	14,000	14,000	(67)		-0.48%
GG	01192	PUBLIC BUILDINGS (01192)	236,607	272,551	273,520	332,600	-	-	0.00%	-	-	-	-	0.00%		
GG	01199	SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR (01199)	-	-	-	47,738	50,000	50,000	-	0.00%	50,000	50,000	50,000	-		0.00%
PS	01210	POLICE (01210)	2,608,693	2,648,623	2,823,591	2,931,610	3,204,926	3,466,546	261,620	8.16%	3,377,087	3,463,492	3,377,087	172,161	5.37%	
PS	01211	AUXILIARY POLICE (01211)	13,249	13,096	13,764	13,517	13,902	16,002	2,100	15.11%	16,002	16,002	16,002	2,100	15.11%	
PS	01220	FIRE (01220)	747,171	729,181	797,851	799,340	948,748	966,436	17,688	1.86%	972,537	972,537	972,537	23,789	2.51%	
PS	01231	AMBULANCE (01231)	430,852	411,406	390,260	394,805	587,084	607,730	20,646	3.52%	607,738	607,738	607,738	20,654	3.52%	
LU	01241	BUILDING INSPECTION (01241)	130,941	142,880	163,601	144,289	168,079	226,194	58,115	34.58%	227,112	227,112	227,112	59,033	35.12%	
PS	01291	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (01291)	10,223	7,463	7,743	11,276	22,589	17,161	(5,428)	-24.03%	17,061	17,061	17,061	(5,528)	-24.47%	
PS	01292	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (01292)	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	-	0.00%	38,000	38,000	38,000	-	0.00%	

NEW LOOK

LU	01182	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (01182)	10,435	9,310	11,366	788	14,067	14,000	(67)	-0.48%	14,000	14,000	14,000	(67)	-0.48%
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GG	01199	SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR (01199)	-	-	-	47,738	50,000	50,000	-	0.00%	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	0.00%
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PS	01244	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (01244)	40,333	7,463	7,743	44,336	33,600	43,464	(6,436)	-24.82%	43,464	43,464	43,464	(6,436)	-24.82%

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OMNIBUS BUDGET

- The Select Board identified 2 new budget request priorities
 - 26th police officer
 - Grounds and Maintenance Division

HOLLISTON POLICE

- Increases in complexity of calls
- Increases in number of calls
- Long-standing identified staffing needs
 - Ideal timing with candidates graduating from Academy Fall 2022
- Staffing HPD initiatives in response to a changing community
 - Traffic enforcement
 - Mental health response
 - Community policing

GROUNDS DIVISION: DPW

- Reorganization within the Parks and Highway Departments
- Creates 3 new staff positions
- Re-aligns duties into new division from Parks, Schools, and Highway
- Commits to sustained, maintenance of well-loved, well-used Town assets
 - Parks
 - Fields
 - Building grounds
 - Public cemeteries
 - Rail Trail tree management

CANNABIS INDUSTRY

- Article 3
 - Creates a dedicated fund to receive existing cannabis revenue
- Article 4
 - Adopts local option to collect cannabis revenue
- Article 5
 - Directs cannabis revenue to newly created (article 4) fund

CANNABIS INDUSTRY

- Articles 6-8
 - Revisits voters' decision to ban retail sales in Holliston by addressing delivery and courier businesses

*Holliston currently allows cultivation and manufacturing

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

- Article 24
 - Means tested property tax exemption
 - Greater assistance to low-income seniors

CAPITAL SPENDING

- Article 29
 - Continues practice of maintaining Town-owned equipment and buildings
 - Provides essential equipment to maintain a safe supportive learning environment in Holliston Public Schools
 - Finance Committee and Capital Sub-Committee vetted, then recommended requests

FISCAL YEAR 2022 NEW STAFF

- Assistant Town Administrator/Human Resources Director
- Principal Assessor
- Deputy Director of the DPW
- Benefits Specialist
- Assistant Building Inspector
 - Paid from Building Inspection revolving fund with \$150,000 spending limit, as established in article 26

FAREWELLS

- Kathy Peirce, Principal Assessor
- Leslie McDonnell, Director of Library Services
- Peter Barbieri, Elected and Appointed Official
 - Select Board
 - Board of Assessors
 - Economic Development Committee

HELLO'S ?

- Always looking for new volunteers for elected and appointed positions
 - Over 30 boards and committees touching every area of life in Holliston
 - Community Volunteer Database



Thank you for your time tonight!