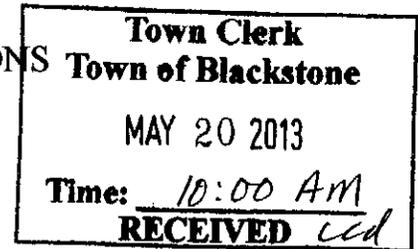


TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 28, 2013
7:30 PM



ARTICLE 1. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the Collector to use all means of collecting taxes that a Treasurer may use when appointed Collector.

ARTICLE 2. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of various obsolete and/or inoperative equipment, scrap materials, etc., or to auction or sell any excess equipment that may be on hand in any Town Department..

ARTICLE 3. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be deemed necessary to fix the salaries of all elected and appointed Town officers and to defray Town expenses for all departments including the Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending on June 30, 2014 and to determine how such sums of money should be raised, whether from the current tax levy, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or otherwise.

ARTICLE 4. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the members of Boards and Committees of the Town of Blackstone to be compensated for their services and to set the amount of said compensation; said compensation set by town meeting to be paid in four (4) equal installments provided, however, that no such installment shall be paid a) to a member who has not attended at least 60% of the meetings of the respective Boards and Committees (excluding, however, any meetings not attended by such member due to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A) in the twelve (12) month period prior to March, June, September, and December, as the case may be, if such member has been a member for twelve (12) or more months prior to each of said dates; or b) to a member who has not attended at least 60% of the meetings of the various Boards and Committees (excluding, however, any meetings not attended by such member due to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A) in the period prior to each of said dates if such member has not been a member for twelve (12) or more months prior to each of said dates.

ARTICLE 5. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the members of the Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee to be compensated for their services as such members and to set the amount of said compensation at \$1,500.00 per member and \$1,800.00 for the Chairman, such compensation to be paid in three equal installments in the months of July, November, and March provided, however, that no such installment shall be paid a) to a member who has not attended at least 60% of the meetings of the District School Committee (excluding, however, any meetings not attended by such member due to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A) in the twelve (12) month period prior to July 1, November 1, or March 1, as the case may be, if such member has been a member for twelve (12) or more months prior to each of said dates; or b) to a member who has not attended at least 60% of the meetings of the District School Committee (excluding, however, any meetings not attended by such member due to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A) in the period prior to each of said dates.

ARTICLE 6. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to TAKE NO ACTION on this article.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to approve in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts general Laws, Chapter 71, Section 16G ½, the District establish a Stabilization Fund effective July 1, 2013, or take any action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Superintendent of Schools)

ARTICLE 7. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to TAKE NO ACTION on this article.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$687,002 for its net operating and capital assessment by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District (the "District") for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2013, which is inclusive of \$56,169, for the debt service associated with Blackstone's previously (2001) voted amount for the District's addition/renovation project, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Submitted Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District)

ARTICLE 8. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to overlay town streets and roads to be determined by the Board of Selectmen, or for the construction, reconstruction and improvements of public ways and street drainage systems and to determine how such sums of money may be raised, whether by advancement from Town Treasury, or by borrowing in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth, or otherwise, by the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 9. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts for the construction, reconstruction and improvements of public ways, street drainage systems and sidewalks throughout the Town.

ARTICLE 10. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote NOT TO APPROVE this article.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$75,000 for a Feasibility Study and Preliminary Architectural Study for a new Senior Center, Community Facility, and Public Safety Center, or take any other action relating thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 11. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain an easement or easements for the purpose of construction, installation, maintenance and repair of municipal drainage, sewer water systems and roadways and to raise and appropriate or transfer from any available funds a sum of money to fund such acquisitions.

ARTICLE 12. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote NOT TO APPROVE this article.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Section 9A, which provides that the Town will pay one-half the amounts of the premium to be paid by a retired employee for group insurance benefits under the first sentence of Section 9 of Chapter 32B, or take any other action related thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 13. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of money not to exceed \$35,000 for the purchase of a 2013 Ford Expedition Command Vehicle for the Fire Department.

ARTICLE 14. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer from Ambulance Receipts Reserved a sum of money not to exceed \$250,000 for the purchase of a new 2013 ambulance.

ARTICLE 15. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to the provisions of G.L. C. 44, §53E1/2 for the purpose of maintaining Library copiers, printers, and facsimile machines and purchasing supplies related thereto; the receipts from use of the Library copiers, printers and facsimile machines shall be deposited into said fund and expended under the direction of the Library Trustees up to the maximum amount of \$1,000 during Fiscal Year 2014.

ARTICLE 16. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote Authorize the Water Enterprise Fund to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$382,000 for the purchase of replacement water meters.

ARTICLE 17. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer a sum of money not to exceed \$160,000 for the purchase of a new 6 -wheel dump truck plow and sander in the amounts specified from each of the following available sources of funds: 50% from Free Cash (\$80,000), 40% from Sewer Enterprise Retained Earnings (\$64,000), and 10 % from Water Enterprise Retained earnings (\$16,000).

ARTICLE 18. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote transfer from Free Cash a sum of money not to exceed \$60,000 for the purchase of a one ton 4-wheel drive dump truck with 9' snow plow.

ARTICLE 19. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the Water Enterprise Fund to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$500,000 for the painting of the water tank at lower Blackstone Street.

ARTICLE 20. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to TAKE NO ACTION on this article.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money not to exceed TO BE DETERMINED BY GRANT AVAILABILITY for the purchase of a new water filtration plant, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 21. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44, Section 20, to re-authorize for the purpose of the design and construction of Well #9, including all costs and expenses related thereto, the balance of funds, in an amount not to exceed \$375,000, previously authorized to be borrowed for the design and construction of Well #8.

ARTICLE 22. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer from Sewer Enterprise Retained Earnings a sum of money not to exceed \$10,500 to purchase a generator for the Elmwood Avenue sewer pump station.

ARTICLE 23. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer from Sewer Enterprise Retained Earnings a sum of money not to exceed \$10,500 to purchase a generator for the Montcalm Avenue sewer pump station.

ARTICLE 24. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to authorize the Recycling Enterprise Fund to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$125,000 for the purchase of operating equipment for the recycling facility.

ARTICLE 25. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote NOT APPROVE this article.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$75,000 for the purpose of design, restoration and/or construction of athletic fields at Veteran's park, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 26. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to raise the Gross Receipts Limit eligibility requirements for a Clause 41C Exemption under Section 5 of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 59, as amended by Chapter 184 Section 51 of the Acts of 2002 from \$18,678 for a single person and \$20,987 for a couple to \$20,000 for a single person and \$30,000 for a married couple, and to raise the Whole Estate Limit eligibility requirements for Clause 41C Exemption from \$32,000 for a single person and \$34,500 for a couple to \$40,000 for a single person and \$55,000 if married.

ARTICLE 27. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of money not to exceed \$55,000 for the purchase and installation of lights on the Little League Field and Soccer Field at Goulet Park.

ARTICLE 28. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote NOT APPROVE this article.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money not to exceed \$30,000 for the repair/replacement of the pavilion roof at Roosevelt Park, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 29. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of money not to exceed \$25,000 to complete a CCTV Improvement Project to allow the Police Department to monitor and record the outdoor gas pump, generator, ball fields, rear parking area, fire department bays, pump stations and water tanks, as well as the interior of the municipal center.

ARTICLE 30. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to amend Section 123.23.2 of the Zoning Bylaws by amending Subsection C, Use Regulations, as shown below, with bold type indicating additions:

C. Use regulations. Within the Village Overlay District, the use requirements of 123-11, Use schedule, for the underlying districts shall continue to apply, except that

- (1) multifamily dwellings may be allowed on special permit from the Planning Board; and
- (2) **within the Commercial "C" District portion, a mix of uses may be allowed without regard to Subsection F of Section 123-12.**

provided that in both cases the development is determined to be village-compatible as specified in Subsection B above.

and to amend Subsection D – Dimensional regulations by adding “in the R-1 portion of the overlay district” to footnote a.

(Submitted by the Planning Board)

ARTICLE 31. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to amend Chapter 109 of the Town Code by: 1) deleting Section 109-4 (Limited Operations), in its entirety, 2) deleting the words “except those qualifying under Section 109-4, Limited Operations,” from the first sentence of Section 109-5, and 3) recodifying current Sections 109-5 through 109-15 to read “Sections 109-4 through 109-14”, respectively; and, further, to amend the soil removal language of Section 109-5. C. to read as follows:

“C. The application or renewal fee shall be \$500 per year of permit validity, plus \$.15 per cubic yard of material to be removed for quantities up to 10,000 cubic yards and \$.25 per cubic yard of material to be removed over 10,000 cubic yards, plus the cost of advertising, notice and engineering/surveyor services to be performed at the discretion of the Selectmen to certify compliance with this chapter.”

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 32. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to enact Chapter 58 of the Town Code, entitled “Stretch Energy Code” for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy, pursuant to Appendix 115.AA of the Massachusetts Building Code, 780 CMR, the “Stretch Energy Code,” including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto.

ARTICLE 33. The Finance Committee recommends, and I so move, that the Town vote to transfer a sum of money to the stabilization fund.