

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE
RESULTS OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 29, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Moderator Mark N. Poirier, who declared a quorum. There were 246 registered voters in attendance.

A motion was duly made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

A motion was duly made and seconded to waive Chapter 5, Section 8, of the Town Bylaws to allow the following nonresidents to participate in discussion at the Annual Town Meeting: Patrick J. Costello, Esq., Louison, Costello, Condon & Pfaff LLP; Lauren Zahorsky, Acting Town Accountant; Julie Hebert, Consultant; Patricia Salamone, Assistant Assessor; Lisa Cheever, Library Director;; Gino Carlucci, TGC Associates, Franklin, MA; Jeffrey McClure, P.E., Associate, Weston & Sampson; Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent-Director, Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District; Allen W. Himmelberger, Superintendent of Schools; and the Millville Representatives of the B-M Regional School District.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

A motion was duly made and seconded to take all votes requiring a two-thirds majority in the same manner as when a majority vote is required (as permitted by G. L. Ch. 39, Section 15, as amended by Acts of 1996, Ch. 448, Section 2).

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 1. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to authorize the Collector to use all means of collecting taxes that a Treasurer may use when appointed Collector.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 2. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 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.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 3. Finance Committee Chairman John Wozniak moved 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, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, 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. The motion was seconded.

Mr. Wozniak then read all department salary and expense totals. The following department totals were held: Assessors, Education BMR, Library, and County Retirement. The Moderator called for a vote on all non-held items.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE TO APPROVE ALL NON-HELD ITEMS

01114 MODERATOR		
SALARIES	\$550	
EXPENSES	0	
TOTAL	\$550	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01122 SELECTMEN		
SALARIES	\$26,434	
EXPENSES	\$50,850	
TOTAL	\$77,284	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01123 ADMINISTRATION		
SALARIES	\$191,908	
EXPENSES	\$14,500	
TOTAL	\$206,408	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01131 FINANCE COMMITTEE		
SALARIES	\$3,000	
EXPENSES	\$6,300	
TOTAL	\$9,300	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01132 RESERVE FUND		
TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND	\$100,000	
TOTAL	\$100,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01133 CAPITAL OUTLAY COMMITTEE		
SALARIES	\$1,500	
EXPENSES	\$1,600	
TOTAL	\$3,100	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT		
SALARIES	\$117,648	
EXPENSES	\$15,260	
TOTAL	\$132,908	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

Ryan Somberger of 63 Glenside Drive questioned the 15% increase in the salary for the Assessors Administrative Assistant. Town Administrator Daniel Keyes said the increase is contractual. The calculation was incorrect for last year, plus the employee receives a step increase and a 3% raise.

01141 ASSESSORS		
SALARIES	\$109,889	
EXPENSES	\$55,800	
TOTAL	\$165,689	MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

01145 COLLECTOR/TREASURER		
SALARIES	\$122,350	
EXPENSES	\$27,750	
TOTAL	\$150,100	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01151 TOWN COUNSEL		
EXPENSES	\$135,000	
TOTAL	\$135,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01155 DATA PROCESSING		
EXPENSES	\$145,000	
TOTAL	\$145,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01158 COPIER		
EXPENSES	\$25,487	
TOTAL	\$25,487	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01159 BONDS & INSURANCE		
EXPENSES	\$224,201	
TOTAL	\$224,201	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01161 TOWN CLERK		
SALARIES	\$133,478	
EXPENSES	\$20,600	
TOTAL	\$154,078	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01162 ELECTIONS		
SALARIES	\$26,000	
EXPENSES	\$11,510	
TOTAL	\$37,510	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01163 BOARD OF REGISTRARS		
SALARIES	\$2,250	
EXPENSES	\$4,250	
TOTAL	\$6,500	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01171 CONSERVATION COMMISSION		
SALARIES	\$3,745	
EXPENSES	\$480	
TOTAL	\$4,225	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01175 PLANNING BOARD		
SALARIES	\$8,320	
EXPENSES	\$18,011	
TOTAL	\$26,331	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01176 ZONING BOARD		
SALARIES	\$4,682	
EXPENSES	\$3,707	
TOTAL	\$8,389	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

01182 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
SALARIES	\$1,500	
EXPENSES	\$3,500	
TOTAL	\$5,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01184 CENTRAL MASS PLANNING		
EXPENSES	\$2,522	
TOTAL	\$2,522	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01190 GENERAL		
EXPENSES	\$154,500	
TOTAL	\$154,500	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01192 PUBLIC BUILDING MAINT		
EXPENSES	\$337,525	
TOTAL	\$337,525	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01195 TOWN REPORT		
EXPENSES	\$3,000	
TOTAL	\$3,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01210 POLICE DEPARTMENT		
SALARIES	\$1,572,683	
EXPENSES	\$206,232	
TOTAL	\$1,778,915	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01211 POLICE DISPATCHERS		
SALARIES	\$233,798	
EXPENSES	\$2,700	
TOTAL	\$236,498	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01220 FIRE DEPARTMENT		
SALARIES	\$1,007,492	
EXPENSES	\$39,800	
TOTAL	\$1,047,292	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01231 AMBULANCE SERVICE		
SALARIES	\$5,869	
EXPENSES	\$52,000	
TOTAL	\$57,869	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01241 MUNICIPAL INSPECTOR		
SALARIES	\$75,991	
EXPENSES	\$3,500	
TOTAL	\$79,491	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01243 PLUMBING/GAS INSPECTOR		
SALARIES	\$16,020	
EXPENSES	\$1,133	
TOTAL	\$17,153	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

01244 SEALER WEIGHTS/MEASURES		
EXPENSES	\$2,000	
TOTAL	\$2,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01245 ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR		
SALARIES	\$16,020	
EXPENSES	\$650	
TOTAL	\$16,670	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01291 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
SALARIES	\$500	
EXPENSES	\$16,750	
TOTAL	\$17,250	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01292 ANIMAL CONTROL		
SALARIES	\$18,100	
EXPENSES	\$7,900	
TOTAL	\$26,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01294 FORESTRY		
SALARIES	\$6,981	
EXPENSES	\$18,200	
TOTAL	\$25,181	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the BMR Education budget. Participants in the discussion were Board of Selectmen Chairman Daniel Keefe; Superintendent Allen Himmelberger; School Committeewoman Tammy Lemieux; Mark Ullucci, 45 Glenside Drive; and James Watson, 5 Fairway Lane.

A motion was duly made and seconded to move the question.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE TO MOVE THE QUESTION

01300 EDUCATION - B. M. R.		
EXPENSES	\$9,002,440	
TOTAL	\$9,002,440	MAJORITY VOICE VOTE
01301 BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOC		
SALARIES	\$1,500	
EXPENSES	\$867,299	
TOTAL	\$868,799	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01303 VOCATIONAL TUITION		
EXPENSES	\$524,192	
TOTAL	\$524,192	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01412 ENGINEERING		
EXPENSES	\$15,000	
TOTAL	\$15,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

01420 PUBLIC WORKS SUPT		
SALARIES	\$30,600	
EXPENSES	\$0	
TOTAL	\$30,600	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01421 HIGHWAY LABOR		
SALARIES	\$296,627	
TOTAL	\$296,627	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01422 HIGHWAY OPERATIONAL		
EXPENSES	\$44,189	
TOTAL	\$44,189	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01423 SNOW & ICE REMOVAL		
SALARIES	\$27,500	
EXPENSES	83,172	
TOTAL	\$110,672	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01424 STREET LIGHTING		
EXPENSES	\$109,375	
TOTAL	\$109,375	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01428 MECHANICAL REPAIRS		
EXPENSES	\$77,500	
TOTAL	\$77,500	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01429 CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE		
EXPENSES	\$630,000	
TOTAL	\$630,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01432 STREET CLEANING		
EXPENSES	\$3,000	
TOTAL	\$3,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01433 WASTE COLLECTION		
SALARIES	\$0	
EXPENSES	\$587,394	
TOTAL	\$587,394	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01434 RECYCLING		
SALARIES	\$157,811	
EXPENSES	\$57,800	
TOTAL	\$215,611	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01510 BOARD OF HEALTH		
SALARIES	\$21,092	
EXPENSES	\$61,145	
TOTAL	\$82,237	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01541 COUNCIL ON AGING		
SALARIES	\$203,450	

EXPENSES	\$12,520	
TOTAL	\$215,970	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01543 VETERANS		
SALARIES	\$5,683	
EXPENSES	\$136,920	
TOTAL	\$142,603	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

Mary Lou Branchaud, the Chair of the Library Board of Trustees moved to amend the Finance Committee's recommendation to read as follows:

That the Town vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash or any other source of funding the sum of \$26,118.00 to restore Line #51140 Part-Time Wages, for a Salary Total of \$285,970.00 and a Department Total of \$502,350.00 or take any other action related thereto.

The motion was seconded, and Ms. Branchaud read a prepared statement in support of her motion. A lengthy discussion ensued, and the participants included Finance Committee Chairman John Wozniak; Ms Branchaud; Library Director Lisa Cheever; Warren Pisani, 7 Rivers Edge Road; and Kevin Giroux, 64 Glenside Drive.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the amendment.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE AMENDMENT

01610 LIBRARY DEPARTMENT		
SALARIES	\$285,970	
EXPENSES	\$216,380	
TOTAL	\$502,350	123 YES 83 NO MAJORITY HAND COUNT VOTE

A motion was duly made and seconded to reconsider the Library Department Budget.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE NOT TO RECONSIDER

01650 PARKS		
SALARIES	\$89,038	
EXPENSES	\$54,000	
TOTAL	\$143,038	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01691 HISTORICAL COMMISSION		
EXPENSES	\$2,000	
TOTAL	\$2,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01692 MEMORIAL DAY/INDEPENDENCE DAY		
SALARIES	\$1,800	
EXPENSES	\$8,300	
TOTAL	\$10,100	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01710 RETIREMENT OF DEBT		
EXPENSES	\$869,148	
TOTAL	\$869,148	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

01751 LONG TERM DEBT/INTEREST		
EXPENSES	\$265,011	
TOTAL	\$265,011	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01752 SHORT TERM DEBT/INTEREST		
EXPENSES	\$6,500	
TOTAL	\$6,500	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01810 CHERRY SHEET ASSESSMENTS		
EXPENSES	\$45,387	
TOTAL	\$45,387	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

Regarding the "hold" on County retirement, no one rose to speak on the matter.

01911 COUNTY RETIREMENT		
EXPENSES	\$747,271	
TOTAL	\$747,271	MAJORITY VOICE VOTE
01913 UNEMPLOYMENT COMP		
EXPENSES	\$50,000	
TOTAL	\$50,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01914 HEALTH INSURANCE		
EXPENSES	\$720,031	
TOTAL	\$720,031	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01915 LIFE INSURANCE		
EXPENSES	\$3,250	
TOTAL	\$3,250	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01916 MATCHING MEDICARE		
EXPENSES	\$71,015	
TOTAL	\$71,015	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01918 COMPENSATED BALANCES		
EXPENSES	\$10,000	
TOTAL	\$10,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01919 COMPENSATED ABSENCES		
EXPENSES	\$7,500	
TOTAL	\$7,500	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
01960 CAPITAL TRUST		
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL TRUST	\$2,023,692	
TOTAL	\$2,023,692	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$23,851,428	
WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE		

60132 SEWER RESERVE FUND		
59610 SEWER RESERVE FUND	\$50,000	
TOTAL TRANSFER	\$50,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
60441 SEWER SALARIES		
SALARIES	\$164,052	
TOTAL SALARIES	\$164,052	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
60442 SEWER MAINTENANCE		
EXPENSES	\$199,892	
TOTAL	\$199,892	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND		
EXPENSES	\$26,579	
TOTAL	\$26,579	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
60443 SEWER WOONSOCKET REGIONAL		
EXPENSES	\$484,448	
TOTAL	\$484,448	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
TOTAL SEWER	\$924,971	
61132 WATER RESERVE FUND		
59610 WATER RESERVE FUND	\$50,000	
TOTAL TRANSFER	\$50,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
61450 WATER DEPARTMENT LABOR		
SALARIES	\$169,923	
EXPENSES	\$0	
TOTAL	\$169,923	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
61451 WATER ADMINISTRATION		
SALARIES	\$76,084	
TOTAL	\$76,084	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
61452 WATER CONST & MAINTENANCE		
EXPENSES	\$533,090	
TOTAL	\$533,090	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND		
EXPENSES	\$39,479	
TOTAL	\$39,479	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
61710 WATER RETIREMENT OF DEBT		
EXPENSES	\$160,000	
TOTAL	\$160,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
61751 WATER LONG TERM DEBT INTEREST		
EXPENSES	\$19,050	
TOTAL	\$19,050	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

61820 MASS FED SAFE DRINKING WTR ASSESSMENT		
EXPENSES	\$2,000	
TOTAL	\$2,000	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
TOTAL WATER	\$1,049,626	
TOTAL WATER/SEWER ENTERPRISE	\$1,974,597	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND & WATER & SEWER BUDGETS	\$25,826,025	

The Moderator stated a motion was in order to approve the funding sources for Article 3.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,826,025 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, 2018, and ending June 30, 2019, and that said appropriation shall be funded as follows:

That \$ 18,382,973	raised from FY'19 Taxation net Estimated Overlay (Abatements & Exemptions)
That \$ 1,716,987	raised from FY'19 Projected State Revenue net State Offsets and State Charges
That \$ 1,525,000	raised from FY'19 Estimated Local Receipts
That \$ 1,613,734	transferred from Capital Trust
That \$ 310,000	transferred from The Ambulance Receipts Reserved Fund
That \$ 2,595	transferred from the Septic Loan Betterment Receipts Reserved Fund
That \$ 1,974,597	raised from FY'19 Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund Revenues
That \$ -	transferred from the Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund Certified Retained Earnings
That \$ 66,058	transfer from Water/Sewer Enterprise Funds Indirect Cost Reimbursement
That \$ -	transferred from Stabilization
That \$ 234,081-	use of Free Cash
That \$ -	use of Overlay
	UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

A motion was duly made and seconded to reconsider Article 3 in its entirety.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE NOT TO RECONSIDER

ARTICLE 4. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 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 set by town meeting to be paid in 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) 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.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 5. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to authorize the members of the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District School Committee to be compensated for their services as such members and to set the amount of said compensation to be paid in three (3) 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 said dates.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 6. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 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 improvement of public ways and street drainage systems and to determine how such sums 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 approval of the Board of Selectmen.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 7. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 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.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 8. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to authorize expenses from the Library Revolving Fund, established pursuant to Article IV, amount of \$3,000 during Fiscal Year 2019.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

Mr. Wozniak read his committee's motion regarding Article 9, which was seconded. Mr. Watson, who is also Chair of the Capital Outlay Committee stated that that committee had followed the recommendations of the Finance Committee on all capital items that will be discussed at tonight's meeting.

ARTICLE 9. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$45,000 to purchase one 2018 Ford F-450 Chassis extended cab for the Fire Department.

133 YES 46 NO
MAJORITY HAND-COUNT VOTE

ARTICLE 10. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$45,000 to purchase one 2018 Ford F-450 Chassis extended cab for the Parks and Recreation Department.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

Mr. Wozniak read the Finance Committee’s motion regarding Article 11, which was seconded, and a lengthy discussion ensued regarding the requested fire alarm system at the BMR High School.

Participants in the discussion were Stephen Hawley, 16 Residential Lane; John Holmes, 52 Glenside Drive; Brian Melson, 6 Laurel Lane; Superintendent Allen Himmelberger; Fire Chief Michael Sweeney; Jeff Silverstein, 300 Main Street; and Scott Hebert, 12 Milk Street.

ARTICLE 11. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of \$162,648 to install a fire alarm system at the Blackstone/Millville Regional High School.

180 YES 10 NO
SECRET BALLOT VOTE TO APPROVE

ARTICLE 12. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$65,344 to purchase a Sigcom TRX50 Legacy Migration Upgrade Emergency Reporting System.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

Mr. Wozniak read the Finance Committee’s motion regarding Article 13, which was seconded, and a lengthy discussion ensued regarding the Polaris Gator vehicle requested.

Participants in the discussion were Ryan Sornberger, 63 Glenside Drive; Police Chief Ross Atstupenas; Jeff Silverstein, 300 Main Street; Warren Pisani, 7 Rivers Edge Road; John Holmes, 52 Glenside Drive; Fire Chief Sweeney; and Carolyn Powers, 156 Mendon Street.

ARTICLE 13. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$41,273 to purchase a Polaris Gator vehicle for Police & Fire Department.

111 YES 45 NO
MAJORITY HAND-COUNT VOTE

ARTICLE 14. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to approve an extension of the term of the Fire Chief’s employment agreement through July, 2022.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

Mr. Wozniak read the Finance Committee’s recommendation and motion on Article 15, which was seconded, and a discussion followed. Participants in the discussion were Timothy Rodrick, 29 Glenside Drive, and Selectman Chairman Dan Keefe who indicated that this piece of equipment could also be used by other departments in town.

ARTICLE 15. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$68,000 for a new skid steer for the Recycling Department.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

Mr. Wozniak read the Finance Committee's recommendation and motion on Article 16, which was seconded. It was noted that the amount read tonight for the sweeper differed from the amount in the original article. Town Administrator Keyes stated that the amount was revised from \$280,000 to \$225,000. Mr. James Watson asked if there needed to be an amendment. Town Counsel Patrick Costello stated that because the amount is substantially less, there should be no need to revote.

ARTICLE 16. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$225,000 for a sweeper for the Department of Public Works.

109 YES 40 NO

SECRET BALLOT VOTE TO APPROVE

ARTICLE 17. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted 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.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 18. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of money in the amount of \$209,623, from Water Sewer retained earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$20,025, and from Overlay Surplus a sum of money in the amount of \$20,352, totaling \$250,000 as the Town's investment into the SRBT Fund; all in consideration of the fact that the Town has established an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund ("OPEB Trust Fund") in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Chapter 68, section 57 of the Acts of 2011 (the "Act") and that in accordance with the Act the Town has designated the Town Treasurer/Collector to serve as custodian of the Town's OPEB Trust Fund relative to establishment of an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 19. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus a sum of money in the amount of \$217,000 for study, inspection, design and repair services relative to town bridges, roadways and walkways in need of repair, upgrade or replacement..

104 YES 18 NO

SECRET BALLOT VOTE TO APPROVE

ARTICLE 20. This article was passed over.

Original Article:

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the vocational Tuition budget line item (#01303-53300) the sum of \$2,504.70 for the purpose of reimbursement of student transportation costs to Angela Laplante or take any other action in relation thereto.

Mr. Wozniak read the Finance Committee's recommendation and motion on Article 21. The motion was seconded, and discussion followed. Participating in the discussion were Jeff Silverstein, 300 Main Street; Town Administrator Daniel Keyes; and Warren Pisani, 7 Rivers Edge Road.

ARTICLE 21. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to accept G.L. c.64N, section 3, to impose an excise on the retail sales of marijuana for adult use at the rate of 3%.

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 22. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Stabilization the amount of \$198,500 for a reimbursable grant to repair the Elm Street bridge as part of the second round of Municipal Small Bridge Program.

114 YES 7 NO

TWO-THIRDS SECRET BALLOT VOTE TO APPROVE

ARTICLE 23. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from available Water & Sewer Enterprise retained earnings a sum of money in the amount of \$100,000 to purchase and install a generator for the Bellingham Road water tanks and a replacement sewer pump for Staples Lane, including all costs and expenses incidental thereto.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 24. The Moderator stated that there would be no discussion on this article because Town Counsel has deemed it not to be a legal article and has indicated that it should be passed over.

Original Article

To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Blackstone Board of Selectmen to authorize the end of School Taxes for town residents that have paid taxes to the Town of Blackstone for twenty years or more and are over the age of sixty-two or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 25. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$54,696.08 into the Stabilization Fund.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MODERATOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Finance Committee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>
Jacob W. St. Amant	3 yrs. Expiring ATM 2021
Kathryn M. Sweeney	3 yrs. Expiring ATM 2021
Amy C. Walsh	3 yrs. Expiring ATM 2021

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to dissolve the warrant and to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

Claudette C. Dolinski

Claudette C. Dolinski
Town Clerk of Blackstone