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222 pages

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF FALMOUTH

ANNUAL FALL TOWN MEETING

Lawrence School

Lakeview Avenue

Falmouth, Massachusetts

MODERATOR: David T. Vieira

TOWN CLERK: Michael Palmer

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

7:00 p.m.

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1

P R O C E E D I N G S

2

THE MODERATOR: Town Meeting Members

3

please come forward, take your seats. Don't

4

forget to check in this evening. I want to

5

remind all Town Meeting Members that the attendance

6

will be published in the Enterprise. So don't

7

forget to check in.

8

Tonight we're going to begin with the

9

Special Town Meeting. And when we complete the

10

two articles on that, we will go back to the Annual

11

meeting.

12

Okay, this evening, our tellers in the

13

first division will be Mr. Netto. In the second

14

division will be Mr. Dufresne. And in the third

15

division tonight will be Mr. Johnson. Mr. Hampson

16

had a previous engagement that he couldn't break

17

and he won't be with us, so Mr. Johnson will be the

18

third division teller.

19

All Town Meeting Members present please

20

rise for the establishment of a quorum and the

21

tellers will return a count.

22

[Pause.]

23

THE MODERATOR: And our constable this

24

evening will be Mr. Braga.

1 In the first division Mr. Netto.

2 MR. NETTO: 45.

3 THE MODERATOR: 45.

4 In the third division, Mr. Johnson.

5 MR. JOHNSON: 64.

6 THE MODERATOR: 64.

7 In the second division, Mr. Dufresne.

8 MR. DUFRESNE: 97.

9 THE MODERATOR: 97.

10 By a counted vote of 206, we have a  
11 quorum and I call the Special Town Meeting to  
12 order.

13 At this point, will all members and  
14 guests please rise for the presentation of the  
15 colors by Boy Scout Troop 40.

16 [Pause.]

17 THE MODERATOR: Tonight we have all of  
18 Boy Scout Troop 40 to be with us for the Pledge of  
19 Allegiance. Please follow me in the Pledge of  
20 Allegiance.

21 [Pledge of Allegiance taken.]

22 THE MODERATOR: In carrying on with our  
23 tradition with all of us singing the National  
24 Anthem together last night, tonight we have the new

1 school chorus from the North Falmouth Elementary  
2 School. They were just founded last year and this  
3 is their first, debut performance in front of Town  
4 Meeting.

5 And with that, would you please follow us  
6 in the National Anthem with the North Falmouth  
7 School Chorus.

8 [National Anthem sung.]

9 [Ovation.]

10 THE MODERATOR: At this time I'll  
11 recognize the new President and CEO of the Falmouth  
12 Chamber of Commerce Mike Kasparian for the  
13 invocation.

14 MR. KASPARIAN: Heavenly Father, may our  
15 meeting this evening be not only an exercise of  
16 care and concern for our community and its  
17 residents, but also an example of how a community  
18 can agree and disagree and still be a community.

19 We ask you to watch over and protect our  
20 families, our community, our nation and our world.  
21 May your gift of peace become a reality for all.  
22 Amen.

23 THE MODERATOR: At this point we'll have  
24 a moment of silence for our previous members who

1 passed. And for those of you who may not know,  
2 Frank Shephard, a former member, passed last  
3 evening and so we specifically remember Mr.  
4 Shephard and the Shephard family at this time.

5 [Moment of Silence held.]

6 THE MODERATOR: Colors post.

7 At this time the colors will be posted  
8 and Troop 40 will be walking out and the chorus is  
9 going to stay and do another song for us. So.

10 The Boy Scouts were taller than the  
11 elementary school, so I'm going to ask them to go  
12 out first. Thanks, boys.

13 [Applause.]

14 THE MODERATOR: Okay, members may be  
15 seated for another presentation by the North  
16 Falmouth School Chorus.

17 [Whereupon, a song was sung and a standing ovation was  
18 given.]

19 THE MODERATOR: A great way to recognize  
20 National Education Week.

21 [Applause.]

22 THE MODERATOR: At this time, I'll read  
23 the Officers Return of the Warrant.

24 By virtue of this warrant, I have this

1 day notified and summoned the inhabitants of the  
2 Town of Falmouth qualified to vote on town affairs,  
3 as said warrant directs, by posting an attested  
4 copy thereof in Town Hall and in every precinct in  
5 the town. Signed by the Town Constable Paul Byrne.

6 At this time, I'd recognize Madame  
7 Chairman for the dispense of the reading of the  
8 warrant.

9 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: Mr. Moderator, I move  
10 to dispense with the reading of the Warrant, except  
11 for the Officer's Return.

12 THE MODERATOR: Okay, you've all heard  
13 the main motion to dispense with the reading of the  
14 warrant.

15 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

16 [Aye.]

17 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

18 [None opposed.]

19 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it  
20 unanimous.

21 Mr. Clerk, I ask that the warrant become  
22 an official part of the record.

23 At this time the chair would recognize a  
24 motion for non-Town Meeting Members to sit up front



1 with their respective boards or committees.

2 FROM THE FLOOR: So moved.

3 THE MODERATOR: All those in favor  
4 signify by saying aye.

5 [Aye.]

6 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

7 [None opposed.]

8 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it  
9 unanimous.

10 At this time the chair would entertain a  
11 motion for all Town employees who are not residents  
12 of the town to speak on any article before the  
13 Special Town Meeting.

14 FROM THE FLOOR: Moved.

15 THE MODERATOR: So moved.

16 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

17 [Aye.]

18 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

19 [None opposed.]

20 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it  
21 unanimous.

22 We won't use a blanket tonight since  
23 there's only two articles.

24 We'll begin with Article 1, to see if the

1 Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen  
2 to petition the court.

3 Madame Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: Thank you, Mr.  
5 Moderator.

6 I move that the Town vote to authorize  
7 the Board of Selectmen to petition the legislature  
8 for special legislation relative to construction of  
9 the sewer in the Little Pond Service Area for the  
10 following purposes, and further to authorize the  
11 Board of Selectmen to accept changes recommended by  
12 legislative counsel or bond counsel to further  
13 effectuate the purposes of this article.

14 An act to authorize the Board of  
15 Selectmen of the Town of Falmouth to expend  
16 borrowed funds to offset certain costs associated  
17 with the installation of low pressure pumps on  
18 private property in the Little Pond Sewer Service  
19 Area.

20 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of  
21 Representatives in General Court assembled, and by  
22 the authority of same as follows. Notwithstanding  
23 any general or special law to the contrary, the  
24 Board of Selectmen of the Town of Falmouth may

1           expend a sum of money from the funds appropriated  
2           by Article 28 of the April 7, 2014 Annual Town  
3           Meeting held in Falmouth and borrowed under  
4           authority of Mass. General Law Chapter 44, Section  
5           7, paragraph 1, as authorized by said Article 28  
6           for the purpose of reimbursements to certain  
7           property owners in the Little Pond Sewer Service  
8           Area for costs associated with the purchase and  
9           installation of low-pressure pumps on private  
10          property necessary to connect each property to the  
11          Town's sewer and/or wastewater system.

12                        The Board of Selectmen may further  
13           determine the amount of such payments, provided,  
14           however, that the payment shall be the same for  
15           each private property and payment shall follow  
16           installation and inspection of the low pressure  
17           pump by the Town Wastewater Superintendent.

18                        This act shall take effect upon its  
19           passage.

20                        MR. JONES:    For an explanation on this  
21           article.    The proposed special legislation will  
22           allow the Town to utilize a portion of the  
23           previously authorized \$49.82 million wastewater  
24           appropriation to equalize sewer connection costs of

1 low pressure pump residential properties to cost  
2 comparable with residential gravity connections.  
3 It is not a request for additional appropriation.

4 At present, bonded funds may not be used  
5 for this purpose. The actual amount to be  
6 expended for this purpose is not yet known, but  
7 based on prior estimates by the Town's consultant,  
8 approximately \$3.2 million - around \$4500 per pump  
9 installation - has been included within the project  
10 budget.

11 It has been the Board of Selectmen's  
12 articulated goal to equalize typical connection  
13 costs between the gravity and low pressure system  
14 properties, and this legislation will provide the  
15 opportunity to offset some of those costs.

16 THE MODERATOR: Okay, any discussion on  
17 Article 1?

18 Mr. Donahue. With a microphone, please.

19 MR. DONAHUE: Bob Donahue, Precinct 3.

20 If I understand this correctly, the  
21 people will be reimbursed for the cost of putting  
22 in this grinder pump on their property. Will the  
23 electric bill also be assumed by the Town, or will  
24 the people have to pay for the electric themselves?

1           And if so, why?    Thank you.

2                   THE MODERATOR:    Ms. Flynn.

3                   CHAIRMAN FLYNN:    The answer to that is  
4           that the individual home owner will be responsible  
5           for the electricity cost related to the pump.

6                   THE MODERATOR:    Ms. Lichtenstein.

7                   MS. LICHTENSTEIN:    Thank you.    Leslie  
8           Lichtenstein, precinct 8.

9                   It was my understanding that the grinder  
10          pumps specifically were not included in the plan  
11          that we had - or we voted on last spring.    So will  
12          this money come from the six million that was in  
13          the contingency fund?    And if that's the case,  
14          that means half of the contingency fund has already  
15          been spent and we haven't even broken ground on the  
16          project.

17                   Could someone answer that, please?

18                   CHAIRMAN FLYNN:    Yes.

19                   THE MODERATOR:    Ms. Flynn.

20                   CHAIRMAN FLYNN:    Now, the funds for the  
21          reimbursement were included in the original budget,  
22          and as approved on the ballot.

23                   THE MODERATOR:    Okay, further  
24          discussion?    Hearing none, then the - oop.    Mr.

1 Netto? No.

2 Okay. The question will come on the  
3 main motion.

4 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

5 [Aye.]

6 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

7 [None opposed.]

8 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it  
9 unanimous.

10 Article 2, Madame Chairman for a main  
11 motion. This is also to petition the legislature.

12 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: I move indefinite  
13 postponement on Article 2.

14 THE MODERATOR: Okay, we have an  
15 indefinite postponement of Article 2. All those  
16 in favor signify by saying aye.

17 [Aye.]

18 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

19 [None opposed.]

20 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it  
21 unanimous, and that one's indefinitely postponed.

22 And by call of the chair I will dissolve  
23 the Special Town Meeting.

24 All Town Meeting Members present please

1 rise for the establishment of a quorum and the  
2 tellers will return a count.

3 If you have a white Ford F-150, your  
4 lights are on. Plate #62 - it starts with a 6 and  
5 a 2 and there's two more digits. [Laughs.] So,  
6 if you've got a Ford F-150, the lights are on.  
7 Maybe that's 622A?

8 [Pause.]

9 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Netto.

10 MR. NETTO: 45.

11 THE MODERATOR: 45.

12 Mr. Johnson.

13 MR. JOHNSON: 65.

14 THE MODERATOR: 65.

15 Mr. Dufresne.

16 MR. DUFRESNE: 95.

17 THE MODERATOR: By a counted vote of  
18 205, we have a quorum and the Annual Town Meeting  
19 is back in session.

20 At this point, the chair will entertain a  
21 motion to take Article 18 off of the table. We  
22 left the omnibus budget - we put it on the table  
23 last night to go around it.

24 MR. NETTO: So moved.

1 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Netto's going to  
2 make the motion to remove Article 18 from the  
3 table.

4 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

5 [Aye.]

6 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

7 [None opposed.]

8 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it and  
9 Article 18 is removed from the table.

10 Article 18, the main motion that was on  
11 the floor that was put on the table is as printed,  
12 but adding \$200,000 for the line item for  
13 Consolidated Dispatch, and making the necessary  
14 adjustments in the final figure. The final figure  
15 being \$4,179,770.

16 Last night we were prepared to have a  
17 general overview presentation of the Capital  
18 Budget, so I'd recognize the Town Finance Director  
19 Ms. Petit.

20 MS. PETIT: Thank you and good evening.

21 I'm going to stay on this slide just for  
22 a minute. This is our FY 2015 Capital and one time  
23 expenditure plan. I attended most of the precinct  
24 meetings and there was some concern that I wanted



1 to address right off in this Capital Plan.

2 There are some items that you would not  
3 categorize as capital, that is correct. It's  
4 organized in this way because we are using Free  
5 Cash mostly, which is a one time revenue source for  
6 one-time expenditures. And I just want to assure  
7 Town Meeting that we do not categorize some of  
8 these as assets and depreciate them; it's really  
9 just for organizational purposes that we've put  
10 them in one article.

11 The alternative is to pull out ten or  
12 eleven items and just do a bunch of separate  
13 articles, but it's all funded from the same Free  
14 Cash.

15 And we still are looking at putting some  
16 smaller re-occurring Capital items and working them  
17 into the Annual Budget, and hopefully you will see  
18 that in April.

19 First slide, please. So, as I just  
20 stated, Free Cash is a one-time revenue source for  
21 one-time expenditures. So we earmark our one-time  
22 expenditures with Free Cash. We continue to make  
23 progress funding Capital items. Last year we  
24 funded about three million. And this year in this

1 Capital plan it's 4.2. And we continue to move  
2 some of the reoccurring Capital expenses into the  
3 Operating Budget.

4 As you'll notice, last April we did put  
5 some money in for, you know, police cruisers. We  
6 have some money in for, you know, reoccurring IT  
7 Capital items, and in the Fire budget for some  
8 smaller equipment. Just, you know, years ago we  
9 had some in there, so we're trying to, you know,  
10 move that back in but not put too much pressure on  
11 the Annual Budget.

12 Next slide, please. And so really the  
13 highlights in this Capital Plan this evening are  
14 your consolidated dispatcher equipment, the  
15 consolidated dispatcher facilities upgrade, fire  
16 engine, work on some water mains and the Morse Pond  
17 School roof re-coating is in there, too. And  
18 those are some of your larger items.

19 In your warrant booklet you do have  
20 explanations for all the items that have been  
21 requested tonight at Town Meeting and you do have  
22 your ten year Capital Plan in the back of the  
23 warrant booklet.

24 And, with the ten year Capital Plan,

1 that's really just what we're looking at ten years  
2 out. What we really do focus on is what we want  
3 to fund in FY '15 and what we did fund in FY '14.

4 Thank you.

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay, any general  
6 questions?

7 Yes, Ms. Flynn.

8 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: Thank you, Mr.  
9 Moderator.

10 I don't have a question but I wanted to  
11 make a few comments related to consolidated  
12 dispatch. This is not new. Some of you may  
13 remember that early on in Governor Patrick's  
14 administration he proposed to the Commonwealth that  
15 they should consider having three regional dispatch  
16 centers for the entire state. He mentioned that  
17 the State of California has three for the entire  
18 state, and the State of Maryland is now working on  
19 five regional dispatch centers. They have just  
20 completed one which includes the entire Eastern  
21 Shore of Maryland plus all the central part of the  
22 State of Maryland.

23 Obviously in Massachusetts this is an  
24 entirely different approach because we are all

1 governed by home rule, and it isn't as easy to  
2 consolidate services on a state-wide basis as it is  
3 in other states.

4           However, about two years ago the Towns of  
5 Hanover, Hull, Hingham and Norwell got together and  
6 the Town Managers worked together to propose a sub-  
7 regional dispatch center for those four towns.  
8 They were able to obtain \$6 million from the state  
9 to build it and they were to - and they proposed to  
10 staff it with the current dispatchers they had in  
11 each of the towns, to combine them and have them  
12 perform the same services they would as they did in  
13 their own towns.

14           And that's been about -- I think Troy  
15 Clarkson is the Town Manager in Hanover. I don't  
16 think he's here tonight, but he could tell us how  
17 well that has worked in those four towns.

18           So, now for us we are faced with a  
19 situation where our dispatching equipment, our  
20 technology, is on life support and it doesn't have  
21 long to serve its purpose. So that was one of the  
22 reasons why the Town Manager considered  
23 consolidated dispatch.

24           The other reason is that two years ago

1 the Selectmen proposed to the Town Manager that  
2 that should be an objective that he should consider  
3 as a way to continually look to create and provide  
4 efficiencies not only in service but certainly  
5 efficiencies in cost. So last year, when the  
6 Selectmen had their discussion with the Town  
7 Manager on his performance evaluation and goals for  
8 the coming year, that was a goal that the Selectmen  
9 outlined for the Town Manager to complete for this  
10 fiscal year. So that is now why we are bringing  
11 this before you now.

12 Consolidated dispatch really does make  
13 sense and there is an opportunity now with the  
14 planning that has been done by the Town Manager  
15 with both the Police and Fire Departments to make  
16 this work.

17 The important piece truly is the fact  
18 that the equipment is in desperate need of repair  
19 and it makes a lot more sense to have equipment for  
20 one than it does for two. Thank you.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, so we have a  
22 budget here. So what we're going to do is we're  
23 going to do it by sections. And the first section  
24 is General Government, of which the dispatch line

1 item is in.

2 So, any further discussion on any of the  
3 line items within the General Government section of  
4 the Capital Budget?

5 Mr. Clark.

6 MR. CLARK: I think you can officially  
7 put me in the old dog curmudgeon category at this  
8 point in my life. I like the old definition of  
9 capital versus operating, myself. And I  
10 understand that Free Cash is a one time kind of  
11 thing, but I really would rather see a Capital  
12 Budget separated from things like licenses and  
13 training and financial reports and DEP compliance  
14 charges. I just think those don't belong in a  
15 Capital.

16 And I know you've explained it. I'm just  
17 here to register my unhappiness with mixing those  
18 things together. So I chose the licenses here as  
19 a chance to get up and say that. Thank you very  
20 much.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Donahue.

22 MR. DONAHUE: Bob Donahue, precinct 3.  
23 Through you, Mr. Moderator.

24 We are consolidating our Fire Department

1 and our Police Department and the DPW in this  
2 communications system. Have we looked into the  
3 Sheriff? I believe he is offering to have a  
4 central dispatch system and is he prepared to do  
5 that now? And if so, what would the cost of that  
6 be? I assume it'd be on a yearly basis against  
7 the 755, well, \$800,000 that we're talking about to  
8 do it internally rather than going out. Thank you  
9 very much.

10 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Suso.

11 MR. SUSO: Certainly, thank you, Mr.  
12 Moderator. Julian Suso, Town Manager.

13 We have explored that and in fact we're  
14 in ongoing communication with Sheriff Cunningham.  
15 Pardon me, Sheriff Cummings. And we have in fact  
16 visited his dispatch facility. I and several  
17 others in our Internal Review Group has visited a  
18 number of existing dispatch centers, including the  
19 one in Hingham that Selectman Flynn referred to a  
20 few moments ago. As well as others. And, again,  
21 including the Sheriff's.

22 Currently the Sheriff does no dispatching  
23 for police departments. Does perform some  
24 dispatching for a selected number of fire

1 departments on the Cape. Our understanding is  
2 that the Sheriff's Department is from three to five  
3 years away from having the capability to consider  
4 doing that.

5 So the Town is in an imminent situation,  
6 as Selectman Flynn has noted. We must move  
7 forward and make a decision about what the most  
8 cost effective way for this Town to move forward  
9 is.

10 And we have a PowerPoint presentation to  
11 further discuss that, Mr. Moderator, at your  
12 pleasure.

13 THE MODERATOR: Okay, if a member  
14 requests the full presentation, we can do it.

15 Mr. Noonan. Yes?

16 MR. NOONAN: [No mic:] Can we hear the  
17 presentation first?

18 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

19 MR. NOONAN: [No mic:] It may save some  
20 questions.

21 THE MODERATOR: Yes. Sounds good.

22 Mr. Suso.

23 MR. SUSO: Thank you again, Mr.

24 Moderator.



1 Distinguished Members of Town Meeting,  
2 Julian Suso, Falmouth Town Manager.

3 The consolidated communication center, as  
4 Selectman Flynn has noted, has been in discussion  
5 for multiple years; has been a goal throughout this  
6 year specifically delineated by members of the  
7 Board of Selectmen. The Board adopted that goal,  
8 as you note, in 2014 for the calendar year and the  
9 work has been in progress throughout.

10 A consolidation study is underway by  
11 Matrix Consulting. A technical study group has  
12 been convened and has been meeting regularly. It  
13 includes police, fire, marine and environmental  
14 services, Information Technology and Town  
15 management personnel. Also, I should note Public  
16 Works is an integral part of that as well.

17 We have a request before Town Meeting for  
18 Capital funds in the amount of \$755,000 for  
19 equipment replacement for dispatch and  
20 communications and a very necessary \$250,000 for  
21 building improvements to house that important  
22 equipment in a new communications center.

23 Continuing, in 2013, both the Fire Chief  
24 and Police Chief submitted requests to replace

1 their outdated computer-aided dispatch consoles and  
2 related equipment. That's part of our normal  
3 capital planning process. So this has been known  
4 about for multiple years. Both departments have  
5 received end of life notices for their existing  
6 equipment. Replacement is critical and cannot be  
7 delayed.

8 This is a matter of public safety, and  
9 that's why I bring it to you, respectfully, as a  
10 matter of urgency.

11 A study was initiated to evaluate the  
12 potential for a free-standing and stand alone  
13 Communications Department. All affected unions -  
14 and there are multiple ones - involved in this were  
15 invited to impact bargain in a written  
16 communication I transmitted to them in August of  
17 this year. Pursuant to state statute, that impact  
18 bargaining process is underway and ongoing as we  
19 speak.

20 There's a potential for \$100,000 plus  
21 each year savings, operational savings, mostly  
22 attributable to reductions in overtime occurring as  
23 a result of our two existing independent  
24 departmental dispatch operations. So that is a

1 potential cost savings annually that would  
2 supplement the budget that this Town Meeting has to  
3 consider on the revenue side each year.

4 The next center planned for includes four  
5 dispatch locations, four separate stations, with  
6 two full-time dispatchers assigned 24 hours a day,  
7 seven days a week. The organization plan was  
8 presented to and approved by the Board of Selectmen  
9 at their recent November 10<sup>th</sup> regular business  
10 meeting and it will retain jobs within the Town of  
11 Falmouth rather than moving to a regional model,  
12 and maintain the highly qualified and highly  
13 trained dispatchers that we currently have on duty  
14 both in police and fire on the full-time side.

15 Any changes to existing classifications  
16 as a result of our analysis will be bringing  
17 forward and presenting to Town Meeting for your  
18 review and action at your Annual Meeting in April.

19 We have looked at preferred potential  
20 locations, fundamentally the Edward Marks Building  
21 and the Gus Canty Center. I also want to affirm  
22 that early in the process we also did not rule out  
23 existing locations in the Police Department and in  
24 the Fire Department, as we know that's where the

1 two stand-alone locations are currently.

2 More recently we have - still on that  
3 same slide. More recently we've focused on the  
4 Edward Marks Building and Gus Canty, looking at  
5 structure, function, architecture and opportunity.  
6 Also working with an architect and our Building  
7 Commissioner and others. Both are adjacent to the  
8 police station and proximate to fire headquarters,  
9 which is an important element.

10 Gus Canty appears at this point to be  
11 most clearly cost effective. We'll have a few  
12 comments about that yet to come.

13 The features that are within Gus Canty  
14 that are already existent in a primarily vacant and  
15 unused stage area adjacent to the gymnasium, they  
16 are supported by an existing underutilized locker,  
17 shower and restroom facilities already constructed  
18 already within that building, and they also have  
19 access to kitchen facilities.

20 Next slide, please. A comparison of  
21 status quo with the proposed consolidated  
22 communications facility, status quo I mentioned the  
23 capital request which both the Police Chief and the  
24 Fire Chief transmitted through our normal capital

1 budgeting process back in FY 2013. The estimate  
2 for replacement of the two stand-alones in that  
3 Capital Budget: \$1,025,000 for that equipment. Our  
4 estimate continues to be \$250,000 in facilities  
5 support to allow those to be property cited within  
6 a renovated facility.

7 You will note that I'm skipping over to  
8 the right-hand column. Under the proposed  
9 consolidation, a consolidated single-point  
10 equipment is estimated to cost \$755,000, including  
11 equipment and software. So we can all do the math  
12 and see the hundreds of thousands of dollars of  
13 difference there to be considered by Town Meeting  
14 in that decision to move forward.

15 Again, we've noted and it's in your  
16 Capital request a request for consideration of  
17 \$250,000 in facilities, renovation and upgrades.

18 The annual cost for the status quo based  
19 on the previous annual assessment in the budget:  
20 \$889,540 for the status quo. Those operating  
21 costs included \$148,000 in overtime attributable to  
22 the dispatch function alone. The proposed  
23 consolidation estimates \$719,288 in annual  
24 operating cost and an estimated reduction in

1 overtime. We still frankly liberally estimate we  
2 may have up to \$50,000 in overtime with that  
3 consolidated function. But we see annual  
4 opportunity for \$100,000 savings in overtime alone,  
5 not to mention savings which we have not gone into  
6 in detail for operational considerations related to  
7 having a single consolidated facility, manpower  
8 working together side by side: maintenance on a  
9 single package of consoles for dispatch, etcetera,  
10 etcetera. That will be fully articulated as time  
11 goes on.

12 This is a photo you all recognize of the  
13 facade of the Gus Canty Center. This was taken  
14 today. The arrow - the peaked roof section  
15 immediately behind the American flag, that's where  
16 the stage is located. I don't know how many of  
17 you may have seen that stage.

18 Honestly, I'm embarrassed to tell you  
19 that, although I've toured the Gus Canty Center, in  
20 my three years here as Town Manager, including  
21 multiple visits, I had not been on the stage before  
22 and was not aware that it was there. It's  
23 immediately adjacent to the gymnasium. It is very  
24 infrequently used and we have some information on

1 that that we're happy to share at an appropriate  
2 time if that becomes important.

3 But I wanted to show you in terms of the  
4 massing of the building, the stage area is within,  
5 again, that peaked roof section of the Gus Canty  
6 Center and it is a fundamentally an internal space  
7 that does not require separate access to other  
8 areas of the building. It does, however, come in  
9 through the main access doors to the Gus Canty  
10 Center itself.

11 So we can go to the next slide. We have  
12 some more information. On the left is a closer  
13 view of that peaked roof section, which includes  
14 the stage area. It is a high roof, a lot of  
15 natural light there and it has a raised stage like  
16 you see in many elementary schools. Not unlike  
17 the stage here in front of us. Although the stage  
18 there is considerably smaller, but it is the same  
19 concept. It is a raised stage with an open area  
20 underneath. You see there is a sliding door that  
21 drops down and it connects to the existing  
22 gymnasium in the lower level of Gus Canty. So that  
23 is it from the inside as you stand in the  
24 gymnasium.

1                   Two other views of this same stage area.  
2           If you go in the main doors to Gus Canty and either  
3           take the elevator to the lower level or walk down  
4           the flight of stairs that you encounter immediately  
5           when you walk in the door, when you step off the  
6           stairs you see a door to your right. That is the  
7           stand alone doorway to the stage. That takes you  
8           directly to the stage and you do not encounter any  
9           other offices or rooms.

10                   The photograph on the right shows you the  
11           stage itself, the ample natural light that comes  
12           into that area, and again it is a stand alone  
13           facility.

14                   And if you can flip back to the previous  
15           slide just one moment, thank you. And as you will  
16           note, with that existing door closed down, there is  
17           no interaction between the stage and the gymnasium  
18           activities there. Obviously if this alternative  
19           were to be considered ultimately by the Board of  
20           Selectmen for locating a consolidated facility if  
21           this does go forward, there would have to be some  
22           improvements made to this area, including  
23           soundproofing and some adjustments. But  
24           essentially I want to underscore the fact that this



1 is an existing, stand-alone area with adjacent  
2 restrooms, locker rooms, shower and kitchen  
3 facilities that you - you and the taxpayers have  
4 already paid for. It's already in place. It's  
5 already constructed. You don't have to pay for it  
6 again.

7 Next slide, please. This is a sketch  
8 that we've just completed in the last several days  
9 of the - one possible layout of a four console  
10 dispatch operation within that existing stage area.  
11 We're not changing any of the layout on the stage,  
12 we're just merely siting those four consoles and a  
13 related office within that same area. And, as you  
14 can see, there's still considerable remaining area  
15 within the stage itself, allowing for access and  
16 other activities.

17 And you see to the left of that sketch is  
18 a handicapped access ramp and a stairwell down to  
19 that separate access door that we showed you a  
20 photograph of, coming in off the lower level. So  
21 it's a fairly remarkably situated stand alone area.

22 I will confirm there is some extremely  
23 modest use of that stage area, but it is not  
24 regularly used. We've reviewed that in some detail

1 and it - that is the major reason that it is under  
2 primary consideration is it is the lowest cost  
3 alternative to site such a consolidated operation  
4 by far of all those we have considered.

5 So I bring it forward. Again, it's only  
6 a conceptual piece. I'm not asking for Town  
7 Meeting's approval of a location. That ultimately  
8 would be discussed and determined by the Board of  
9 Selectmen from my understanding of their role and  
10 authority under the Charter. But we have some  
11 work to do yet.

12 I have yet to meet with the Recreation  
13 Committee. I know Recreation Chair Sandy Cuny and  
14 I have had a conversation about this and I do have  
15 some work to do in this regard and we want to  
16 respect - fully respect the processes and the  
17 circumstances and the working order in place and we  
18 fully intend to do that.

19 But this is what I'm able to share with  
20 Town Meeting to date as to the limit of our  
21 thinking, and the reason that this has been  
22 identified at this moment as a likely alternative  
23 is, again, strictly due to cost savings which are  
24 considerable based upon the information I've

1 already presented to you.

2           Why don't we jump to the next slide if we  
3 might. This - I thought I would just show Town  
4 Meeting a copy of a letter that I addressed to  
5 Sandy Cuny, the Chairman of the Recreation  
6 Committee. I neglected to meet with Sandy and the  
7 Recreation Committee prior to discussing publicly  
8 with the Board of Selectmen the concept of possibly  
9 using the Gus Canty Center. And as Sandy's aware,  
10 I offered my apology for that. It's not my  
11 intention to slight Sandy as chair or any member of  
12 the Recreation Committee. I value and respect  
13 their role.

14           We are in an expedited public safety  
15 process and there were matters that time dictated I  
16 had to discuss with the Board of Selectmen, and in  
17 moving forward that is a step that I overlooked.  
18 And although I don't expect that you can all read  
19 this letter, in it I extend my apologies to Sandy  
20 and members of the Recreation Committee and my  
21 resolve and willingness to meet with them and  
22 discuss potential impact if this concept at the  
23 Canty Center would be viewed as appropriate to go  
24 forward. And again, that is still unfolding as we

1 speak.

2 Another comment that I'd like to make to  
3 Town Meeting. This forum is really not an  
4 appropriate forum to debate location of a proposed  
5 new department.

6 The reason I raise that is that I want  
7 Town Meeting to understand that, as I've already  
8 noted, we are involved in impact bargaining with  
9 multiple employee unions involved currently in our  
10 two stand-alone dispatch operations. And that is  
11 a collective bargaining process that's governed by  
12 state statute, and part of what we're discussing is  
13 the potential location of this dispatch facility.  
14 And I am, as Town Manager with respect to the  
15 statute, I'm somewhat limited as to what I can say  
16 and how far we can take the concept of location and  
17 the details.

18 But I was happy to reveal what I've  
19 talked about so far and so assure Town Meeting that  
20 my purpose, subject to a concurrence with the Board  
21 of Selectmen and involving as many parties as we  
22 possibly can, and including the Recreation  
23 Committee and others who would care to be involved,  
24 is to bring forward to Town Meeting if we're able

1 to embrace this concept and all the cost savings  
2 that you will realize going forward annually, I  
3 intend to bring forward the most cost-effective  
4 physical solution to Town Meeting.

5 I believe it's our responsibility to be  
6 good stewards of the precious revenue that we're  
7 entrusted with, and that's why we're sharpening our  
8 pencil and taking a look at what's available, what  
9 you've already constructed, and trying to be as  
10 cost-effective as possible.

11 So, I assure you that drives us  
12 fundamentally. And beyond that we are involved in  
13 collective bargaining and that process is going to  
14 take several months going forward.

15 A couple of last comments, Mr. Moderator,  
16 if I may. Just a couple emphases, with the  
17 patience of Town Meeting.

18 Again, the current dispatch equipment is  
19 technologically outdated. We have end of life  
20 notices. There is some urgency to move forward.  
21 If all goes forward as we hope, we would have a new  
22 dispatch operation initiated one year hence,  
23 essentially in January of 2016. That is the  
24 timetable we are on.

1           There are many - this is a complex  
2           process, many steps to take. We're well under way,  
3           but we bring these capital proposals to Town  
4           Meeting in the spirit that we do have a schedule to  
5           meet and we're happy to answer your questions and  
6           appreciate your consideration for what we're trying  
7           to do.

8           There's a proposed new consolidated  
9           Communications Department that would provide  
10          enhanced and expanded services to multiple  
11          departments - we've touched on those - and the  
12          public at a reduced annual operating cost. This  
13          Communications Department requires an exclusive and  
14          dedicated area which supports its important public  
15          safety purpose.

16          The final location decision is ultimately  
17          within the authority of the Board of Selectmen.

18          As Town Manager, I've been working on the  
19          Board's behalf on this important goal for the past  
20          year. The police chief and the fire chief have  
21          been heavily involved in this as well.

22          We've also had the involvement of the  
23          Public Works Director Ray Jack and Marine  
24          Environmental Services Director Greg Frazier.

1           Their functions would also be integrated as an  
2           important part of this facility.    It's not only a  
3           dispatch, a 24 hours, seven day a week dispatch  
4           facility, but a communication center to serve the  
5           public and the residents of the community.

6                        The details related to the final location  
7           of the consolidated department, as I've noted, are  
8           subject of impact bargaining presently underway  
9           with multiple collective bargaining units.

10                      As I've noted, this is a matter of  
11           critical public safety and I bring it to you in  
12           that spirit.

13                      I do appeal to Town Meeting to provide  
14           the funding to allow timely and cost effective  
15           equipment replacement and the funding to allow the  
16           placement and integration of this new equipment  
17           within an existing Town facility.    To delay the  
18           funding necessary is to risk the possibility of  
19           critical equipment failure and to put off the  
20           responsible work necessary to locate and  
21           operationalize this cost-effective public safety  
22           function.

23                      Thank you for the opportunity to bring  
24           this to you and address your questions.

1 THE MODERATOR: Okay, further  
2 discussion.

3 Yes, Ms. Cuny.

4 MS. CUNY: Mr. Moderator, were you going  
5 to go through this by line item or?

6 THE MODERATOR: Or, by section. So  
7 we're in General Government but -

8 MS. CUNY: Okay.

9 THE MODERATOR: - let's focus on  
10 dispatch -

11 MS. CUNY: Thank you.

12 THE MODERATOR: - because this is where  
13 we've ended up.

14 MS. CUNY: Sandra Cuny, precinct 2.  
15 Chairman of the Falmouth Recreation Committee.

16 As you have been told, we didn't know  
17 anything about it. I didn't find out until  
18 precinct 1 and 2 meeting, when Ms. Magnani  
19 appropriated - was going to make a motion for  
20 250,000 because they found a facility. So I  
21 wonder: where's the facility? It's the Gus Canty  
22 Recreational Community Center.

23 And I did see Mr. Suso at the Veteran's  
24 Day ceremony, and I asked, "What area are you



1 looking at?" And he told me the stage area and  
2 behind the stage. And I said, "But we use that."  
3 So we briefly talked and he did write me a letter  
4 the next morning. I told him that I'd like to  
5 bring it before the Recreation Committee because we  
6 happened to have a meeting that following night.

7 So the letter that he wrote me I brought  
8 before the Committee. And I will just read a part  
9 of it. "Thank you for you comments on the topic  
10 during our conversation at yesterday's Veteran's  
11 Day ceremony. The Gus Canty Center is indeed  
12 among two locations we are actively exploring for  
13 the potential future location of this public safety  
14 function. We are also exploring the Eddy Marks  
15 Building. While this remains exploratory, at this  
16 time it appears the Gus Canty location is the more  
17 likely of the two. The space we are considering  
18 within Gus Canty is the little used side stage area  
19 immediately adjacent to the gym. As this is yet  
20 exploratory, we have no firm plans to present at  
21 this time." And he did apologize and he did say  
22 that he would like to meet with us.

23 And so I brought this letter to the  
24 Recreation Committee meeting that night and we

1 discussed it. And what I'd like to do is bring  
2 you some of their thoughts and their comments and  
3 their questions.

4 Why weren't we informed or included in  
5 the discussion? I guess that was the first  
6 question on everybody's mind.

7 The building was built and designed for a  
8 purpose; is this the proper use?

9 They felt the process was not done  
10 properly; it was not transparent.

11 What are the other options? Does it  
12 have to be in this location in town for a reason?

13 They had a number of questions and we  
14 would be happy to meet, but because we had no time  
15 to meet, I had to bring this here tonight.

16 One member said, "I honestly cannot say  
17 if this is a good thing or a bad thing because I  
18 don't know anything about it."

19 What I can tell you is that in that  
20 entire stage area that they want to use has been  
21 used in the past. We've had dance concerts,  
22 musical bands, fund-raising events, the Margaret  
23 Rogers Dance Studio, the jugglers have used it,  
24 Aikido has used it. The after prom high school

1 has used it every year for the last 20 years. And  
2 even the Assistant Director at our meeting said the  
3 recreational summer camp of 150 children on a rainy  
4 day, they've utilized that space because they have  
5 to split up the children for different activities.

6 So while it may not be used on a daily  
7 basis, it has been used and it does serve a  
8 purpose.

9 In doing some of my other homework, I  
10 obtained a copy of the minutes from the Finance  
11 Committee of October 28<sup>th</sup>, and this is when Mr. Suso  
12 went before the Finance Committee to ask that they  
13 change the amount from 50,000 to 250,000 because  
14 they had a site, with the primary focus on the  
15 stage area of the Gus Canty Center.

16 Well, in my letter on November 12<sup>th</sup>, it's  
17 still exploratory, but on October 28<sup>th</sup> I guess it  
18 was definite.

19 The Recreation Committee is an appointed  
20 committee by the Board of Selectmen. We oversee  
21 Falmouth's recreational activities, policies and  
22 programs and yes, we make recommendations to the  
23 Board of Selectmen, which we have not been able to  
24 do as of tonight.

1           If you think, you Town Meeting, you think  
2           this is the best location, then you have a chance  
3           to vote on it tonight. But if you have a shadow  
4           of a doubt, I would hope that you wouldn't. If  
5           you vote yes on the \$250,000, you can rest assured  
6           that this will be placed at the Gus Canty Community  
7           Center. If you vote no, it wouldn't leave any  
8           money in that line item.

9           So at this time I would like to entertain  
10          a motion - an amendment, excuse me, an amendment to  
11          Article 18 in this line.

12          May I do that now, Dave?

13          THE MODERATOR: Yes, go ahead. That's  
14          the one the Clerk has?

15          MS. CUNY: No.

16          THE MODERATOR: No, okay.

17          MS. CUNY: An amendment to Article 18  
18          for the Facilities Improvement Consolidated  
19          Dispatch Line. That the Town vote to keep \$50,000  
20          in this line item until there is further discussion  
21          on a location and a definite plan on where the  
22          dispatch center would go before approving a  
23          facilities upgrade. And that was taking it from  
24          what the Finance Committee originally did in the

1 warrant booklet.

2 And I would hope that the Recreation  
3 Committee would certainly be part of the  
4 discussion. So thank you for your time.

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay, so we're going to  
6 open up discussion on the amendment to bring this  
7 line item down to \$50,000 and have further  
8 discussion on it.

9 So let's start a new list. Mr. Suso,  
10 did you -

11 MR. SUSO: [No mic:] Mr. Moderator,  
12 I'm just available in case -

13 THE MODERATOR: Oh, okay, I didn't know  
14 if you were -

15 MR. SUSO: I apologize.

16 THE MODERATOR: No, that's - I saw you  
17 standing there and I didn't know if you wanted to -  
18 yes, Mr. Netto.

19 MR. NETTO: Joe Netto, precinct 9.

20 I would like to take the podium to speak  
21 in favor of the amendment. I would like Town  
22 Meeting to know that before I speak to you that I  
23 have gone to see the Chief of Police on this issue,  
24 briefly talked to the Fire Chief and have talked to

1 three out of the five Selectmen. So, what you're  
2 about to hear they've already heard and these are  
3 my beliefs.

4 Obviously we cannot get into deep  
5 discussion and detail as to the location because,  
6 as the Town Manager has told us, of collective  
7 bargaining. So I would like to start out with  
8 some history in support of Mrs. Cuny and the  
9 Recreation Department. And it's been told to us,  
10 it's nice to know the decision for the location  
11 rests with the Board of Selectmen. So I'm pretty  
12 sure that the five Board of Selectmen that are  
13 sitting here tonight - I don't know if you were  
14 here, but I know I was here and many of you in 1984  
15 we passed the article to tear down the wooden  
16 structure known as the Gus Canty Center and we  
17 passed that article for 3.5 million dollars to  
18 build the current Gus Canty Center. Approved  
19 recreation facility, as Mr. Dufresne's telling me.  
20 In 1984 we did that at this Town Meeting. And as  
21 I look across the audience, I see many of you I  
22 know were there, and a lot of new faces here  
23 tonight.

24 And we occupied the building in 1988.

1 The article that went for the Prop 2 ½ override was  
2 for a community recreation center located at the  
3 present site. And we built it because it passed.

4 Approximately, what, 13 years after that,  
5 in 2001 - and many of you were probably here - we  
6 put an addition on that community recreation  
7 building known as the Teen Center. So obviously  
8 we have had use of the building. So much so that  
9 after its original construction we had to put an  
10 addition.

11 As far as the actual room that's being  
12 proposed in the presentation, I too have been in  
13 that room, as Mrs. Cuny just said. And to use the  
14 term "underutilized showers" and this and that, I  
15 think is a misconception. I currently am taking a  
16 class at the Recreation Center on Thursday nights.

17 That's the history that when you decide  
18 where you're going to locate this. We asked the  
19 taxpayers to fund this and we told them, "This is  
20 what we're going to do with the building." And I  
21 think this is a big departure from that.

22 Next I'd like to try to segue into the  
23 concept of an emergency communications center  
24 that's a 24/7 operation, 365 days a year. So not

1           only do we have the physical reconstruction of the  
2           plan, but we have also an operational that comes  
3           with a cost.

4                       Fellow Town Meeting Members, I am  
5           wholeheartedly for this consolidation. I don't  
6           question the amount of money, but the process.

7                       When I met as a Town Meeting Member with  
8           the precinct meeting 8 and 9, there was no site.  
9           The process of the precinct meeting is to discuss  
10          this warrant booklet, and something as important as  
11          this should have been decided long before, not the  
12          week before Town Meeting. I think precinct 3 also  
13          met that same night that 8 and 9 met.

14                      I wholeheartedly support Mr. Lowell, who  
15          said according to this Enterprise article of  
16          November 3<sup>rd</sup>, on the Finance Committee, Mr. Lowell  
17          said he would like community input on the site  
18          location before the project goes forward. I think  
19          he's 100 percent correct. This is our community;  
20          we are vastly going to change the use of that  
21          building that the taxpayers gave us the money for.  
22          And it's the process that we're talking about.

23                      In support of Mrs. Cuny's article of  
24          reducing this to 50,000, it's doable. When I



1 asked the Chief of Police, "Could this wait?" He  
2 said, "Yes, but there's no guarantee that the  
3 equipment's going to work." Okay, how long do we  
4 have to wait? Let's just look at the calendar.

5 Five months from today is April. We  
6 will be sitting here; this article could be re-  
7 presented to us in the Special Town Meeting of the  
8 Annual in just five months from now.

9 I would hope you'd support this. I am  
10 for the equipment, I'm for the consolidation. I -  
11 you know how upset I get with the process and to  
12 say I'm sorry later. Let's get the community  
13 involved in this.

14 In the brief discussion - and Chief Dunn,  
15 if I'm wrong, you correct me - in the brief  
16 discussion that I had with Chief Dunn, we came up  
17 with two other ideas. When you put more people  
18 and you add more parts to the pot, you come up with  
19 a better solution.

20 In closing, Folks, I have to give you one  
21 anecdotal historical Town Meeting. We were all  
22 here last night on Article 19. It cost us 435, and  
23 then someone said the asphalt. You know, almost  
24 \$600,000. One of the reasons the location for the

1 current fire station was given was it was going to  
2 save us money.

3 Now, I wanted to put the fire station on  
4 Dillingham Avenue; I lost that argument, and  
5 history's come down. But ask yourself this: 20,  
6 15 years after we built the fire station, those  
7 people that told us it was going to save us money,  
8 add another \$600,000 to the figure. I don't want  
9 that to happen with this article.

10 Let's get a committee together. Let's  
11 look at some alternatives. And if the best  
12 location is this location, and that's what the  
13 input is, we've waited five months. Thank you  
14 very much.

15 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Allegro.

16 MR. ALLEGRO: Mark Allegro, 7<sup>th</sup> precinct.

17 It looks like a wonderful facility, but  
18 it would be helpful, I think for me anyway, to know  
19 just how frequently the stage area is used  
20 currently. The information was a little bit  
21 spotty. If not used on a daily basis, is it used  
22 on a weekly basis? Every couple a weeks? A few  
23 times a month? Because although we would like to  
24 see a facility not re-purposed, and even though it

1 was originally designed and budgeted as a  
2 recreation facility, if it's not really being used,  
3 that weighs into the decision.

4 So, anyone that could answer that would  
5 be appreciated.

6 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Suso.

7 MR. SUSO: I'm certainly happy to answer  
8 that, Mr. Moderator.

9 I have a report from the Recreation  
10 Director and the members of her staff who've  
11 confirmed this. They go on to say the stage room  
12 is not used on a daily basis; there is no pattern  
13 of use. Two small groups use it for practice;  
14 they are a juggling group and a Aikido group -  
15 which is karate with sticks, I guess. They use it  
16 once a week. They are not charged for the use and  
17 they could be moved to the gym area if necessary.

18 On a yearly basis, very few events use  
19 the actual stage. The after prom party uses the  
20 lip of the stage. That event is held in early  
21 May. But not the stage itself.

22 The high school has one dance per  
23 football season on homecoming and they only use the  
24 lip of the stage for their disc jockey, not the

1 stage.

2 Five years ago there was a ballet class  
3 held there, but the teacher retired.

4 The room has been used occasionally over  
5 the years but not heavily. That's the report I  
6 have from the Recreation Department.

7 One additional item, because I don't want  
8 to overlook anything: "Our summer camp may use the  
9 stage for one talent show during the summer. Most  
10 of the time the show is held in Room 1 and not on  
11 the stage, but once during the summer they may use  
12 it for a talent show." And that's the report I  
13 have from the Recreation Department.

14 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Thrasher.  
15 Mr. Noonan, I've got you on the list.

16 MR. THRASHER: Scott Thrasher, precinct  
17 4.

18 I've never been so anxious to talk about  
19 a subject on Town Meeting floor because I wear two  
20 hats here and it's a little difficult for me. But  
21 I'm speaking - excuse me, I'm sorry - I'm speaking  
22 out of concern as a precinct 4 member, Town Meeting  
23 Member and I have to voice my concerns. And this  
24 time I'm not in agreement with the proposal.

1 I've been skeptical at first because it's  
2 something new to me. I used to dispatch. And I  
3 have had a hard time getting information as to  
4 what's going to happen and how it's going to occur.

5 And a study was done, and about a year  
6 ago when I heard about the study I went to the  
7 Selectmen's Meeting and we received a grant I  
8 believe for \$25,000 to do a study. And I  
9 participated in that study. I came in off duty.  
10 I wanted to talk to them. I gave them my name and  
11 phone number, asked them to talk to me. I had  
12 questions, concerns. And I went in and I got to  
13 participate; made me feel good.

14 I still don't have any information;  
15 there's no study out yet. I did talk with Mr.  
16 Suso; within the next 30 days he told me that the  
17 study would be out. So this seems to me as though  
18 we're putting the cart before the horse. I don't  
19 have any information.

20 I'd like to see the recommendations and  
21 if this is supported. And the cost to me, being a  
22 former electrician, I'm thinking, \$250,000, that's  
23 not a lot of money to get a dispatch room ready to  
24 take equipment.

1                   So this is what I've learned since my  
2 precinct meeting.    Because when I was at my  
3 precinct meeting, that's when I found out that it  
4 may go in the Rec building.    And I talked to a  
5 FinCom member; there's not much knowledge of the  
6 study through them, either, who are making the  
7 decisions here.

8                   So, Mr. Suso answered my emails: the  
9 study's not out yet.    I called Ralph Swenson at  
10 the Barnstable County Sheriff's Office.    He's the  
11 Technical Services Director; he's done three to  
12 four combined dispatch centers.    And he's  
13 currently getting ready to re-do the Sheriff's  
14 Department again.    And I threw out what I knew to  
15 him and he was concerned about he thought it was  
16 kind of low.

17                   We need a full standby generator,  
18 wherever it goes.    We need a radio tower.  
19 Everything needs to be hardwired.    It needs to be  
20 stand alone.    You can't have wires connected from  
21 the Fire Station to the dispatch and have a pole  
22 hit and not have communications.

23                   He also mentioned terrorist concerns  
24 because that's the first thing they go for.    I

1 wasn't thinking of things like that. He didn't  
2 think that site - it needs to be a secure area.  
3 That was one of his concerns. And he said I could  
4 reference to him.

5 I asked him to speak, but he's in a -  
6 he's with the Sheriff's Department; he thought -  
7 but he was concerned as a taxpayer where the money  
8 was going.

9 I went and visited the Rec Center. I  
10 looked at the stage. The stage looks great. I  
11 walked in there; I'd never seen it before, either.  
12 And I thought, "Wow, this is a nice space." The  
13 space stand alone for a communications room is  
14 nice. It is.

15 But what concerns me is where are the  
16 rest of the facilities. There's no generator.  
17 There's no generator at all at the Rec Center.  
18 And where's the bathroom? It needs to be close  
19 by. Where's the locker room?

20 How about a bunk room, because when you  
21 go to storm coverage for four days straight, which  
22 has happened in the past, you may need to take a  
23 nap. And four consoles may not be enough.

24 I did call my friend Troy Clarkson,

1 because they have one up in Hanover. And he did  
2 rest my fears is that maybe consolidated dispatch  
3 might be a good thing for the Town. Because I'm  
4 used to the old way: they're in my station. But  
5 he said there needs to be a lot of details to this  
6 plan. There needs to be, you know, where is this,  
7 I mentioned the study. He said the study would be  
8 nice to have. And he said you need Departmental  
9 involvement.

10 And I called - I was reached out to by my  
11 friend Alden Cook; he's a former firefighter. Some  
12 of you might know the old timer. And he works at  
13 Cape & Island EMS still, and he warned me about how  
14 about there are two completely different jobs,  
15 Folks.

16 Police and Fire dispatch are different.  
17 It's not to say they can't share the same room.  
18 It's not to say they can't help each other. But  
19 right now you have an officer on the desk with a  
20 dispatcher; so that's two people. And you have a  
21 dispatcher at the fire station. I got three. And  
22 right now we're talking about two at a dispatch  
23 center. We lost somebody.

24 So, a lot of what I'm hearing raises



1 concerns. Mr. Suso's right, we are on borrowed  
2 time, and that's the rush. I do appreciate that.  
3 I understand that. We've been band-aiding it for  
4 years and we've got filler programs trying to do  
5 our dispatch right now. There is a rush, yes.  
6 But I don't believe these costs are accurate for  
7 the infrastructure and I think we are rushing.

8 I want what's best for public safety, I  
9 do. And I think you should, too. And dispatch is  
10 key. I appreciate the fact he's trying to keep it  
11 in town, because one thing Mr. Clarkson did say is  
12 once it goes regional to the Sheriff's Department,  
13 you will save money. And Mr. Suso is exercising  
14 due diligence in making sure that it does stay  
15 here, and maybe combined dispatch is the way to go.  
16 But let's do it right. Let's do it right. Let's  
17 not spend - 'cuase - let's not spend more money the  
18 wrong way.

19 We can't rush now because things are  
20 failing. We knew they were failing a little while  
21 ago, you know? We need to stay on top of it.  
22 It's a 24/7 operation. 6500 calls a year for the  
23 Fire Department, 30,000 calls a year for the P.D.  
24 right now as it stands, and they're not going down.

1 I'd like to see the study.

2 I support the amendment, because we can  
3 still buy the equipment if we needed to do it as a  
4 filler if something did break.

5 When you go to the Town website, there's  
6 a Current Topics link, and I would love to see a  
7 consolidated dispatch link with information.  
8 Thank you for your time.

9 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Kosins-Long.

10 MR. SUSO: Mr. Moderator, may I respond?

11 THE MODERATOR: Yes, sure. Mr. Suso.

12 MR. SUSO: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

13 I just believe the Town Meeting - I  
14 mentioned to Town Meeting Members that we're  
15 involved in impact bargaining with the collective  
16 bargaining units that are affected by this, and I  
17 believe Town Meeting Members should be aware that  
18 Captain Thrasher, for whom I have great respect, is  
19 a member of the collective bargaining unit that we  
20 are currently involved in impact discussions with.

21 So, please understand my reluctance to  
22 engage in collective bargaining discussions with  
23 250 Town Meeting Members. It disrespects you, it  
24 disrespects state statute, and it's not proper for

1 this forum. So I felt that Town Meeting Members  
2 should be aware of that and should understand it  
3 going forward. Thank you.

4 THE MODERATOR: Ms. Kosins-Long.

5 MS. KOSINS-LONG: Wow. Lot of dirty  
6 laundry tonight, huh?

7 On that note, I don't agree with the  
8 amendment. I propose a second amendment that  
9 takes the facilities improvement consolidation  
10 dispatch and zeros it out until management gets  
11 their collective act together.

12 THE MODERATOR: Okay, so the second  
13 amendment, the amendment on the floor is to zero  
14 out the entire line item on consolidated dispatch.

15 MR. NOONAN: Mr. Moderator, point of  
16 order.

17 THE MODERATOR: Yes, Mr. Noonan, point  
18 of order.

19 MR. NOONAN: John Noonan, precinct 6.

20 Are we allowed just two amendments on  
21 this entire article?

22 THE MODERATOR: No, on the omnibus  
23 budget no more than two amendments per line item,  
24 because it's an omnibus budget, that's the

1 exception to that.

2 MR. NOONAN: Thank you.

3 THE MODERATOR: Yes.

4 Ms. Harper.

5 MS. HARPER: I wanted to make one  
6 clarification to Captain Thrasher's comments, and  
7 they are that we did have an interdepartmental  
8 staff team including Marine Environmental Sciences,  
9 Information Technology, Department of Public Works,  
10 Police and Fire in drafting the budget that the  
11 Finance Committee reviewed. That final budget was  
12 adopted and reviewed by both Deputy Smith in the  
13 Fire Department and Captain Smith in the Police  
14 Department. Both of those had signed off on that  
15 and that following a detailed specifications by  
16 Comptronics, which is the Town's consultant that  
17 provides equipment to both the Police and Fire  
18 Department currently, as well as a quote from  
19 Watson Furnishings that provides furnishings -  
20 actually provided the furnishings for the  
21 Barnstable County Sheriff.

22 THE MODERATOR: Okay, any discussion on  
23 just the amendment to get rid of that line item  
24 completely?

1 Ms. Lichtenstein.

2 MS. LICHTENSTEIN: Thank you. Leslie  
3 Lichtenstein, precinct 8.

4 I know it's very tempting to say we don't  
5 like what's going on, let's just take our ball and  
6 go home. But the Finance Committee did recommend  
7 \$50,000. If we eliminate this money completely,  
8 are we cutting our nose off to spite our face?

9 I mean, it sounds like a consolidated  
10 operation center might be a good idea, and if we  
11 totally eliminate the \$50,000, I mean, does that  
12 really put us behind the eight ball? I'd like to  
13 hear someone from the Finance Committee address  
14 that, please. Thank you.

15 THE MODERATOR: Madame Chairman.

16 MS. MAGNANI: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

17 The Finance Committee originally voted  
18 \$50,000 for this line item because they felt that  
19 they didn't have enough information. And that was  
20 on October 21<sup>st</sup>. On October 28<sup>th</sup> the Town Manager  
21 came to our meeting and did a presentation. And  
22 he explained what he's explained here to you  
23 tonight and the Finance Committee agreed with it  
24 and they voted for it with one abstention.

1 THE MODERATOR: Okay, any further  
2 discussion on this amendment?

3 Ms. Lowell.

4 MS. LOWELL: Maybe everybody's clear on  
5 this, but I think we need to make progress on this,  
6 so I - \$50,000 would be a good half loaf for those  
7 who want to go forward, and so I certainly would  
8 encourage Town Meeting not to vote for zero and  
9 then they can decide whether they want to do the  
10 other option by themselves based on what they've  
11 heard. But please don't vote for zero.

12 THE MODERATOR: Okay, all those in favor  
13 of striking the line item completely signify by  
14 saying aye.

15 [No audible response.]

16 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

17 [No.]

18 THE MODERATOR: It's the opinion of the  
19 chair that the no's have it and we go back to the  
20 other amendment and Mr. Noonan was on my speaking  
21 list for the amendment to go to - go down to  
22 50,000.

23 MR. NOONAN: John Noonan, precinct 6.

24 Sorry. My concern is not just the

1 \$250,000, but it's also the consolidated dispatch  
2 communication equipment radios. Between the two,  
3 we're looking at a million and fifty thousand  
4 dollars that you're asking us to approve and we  
5 have no idea where it's going.

6 I don't think it's a smart thing to do to  
7 spend a million dollars and have no idea where that  
8 money is going to. I think we have to do your  
9 bargaining, come back to the Town Meeting and say,  
10 "This is where we want to put it. This is the  
11 amount of money we need to put the radios in."

12 Finish your conversation with Sheriff  
13 Cummings. Find out if it's going out to the  
14 Sheriff's Department. Or is it going in town.  
15 If it goes out to the Sheriff's Department is it a  
16 different kind of communication radios that we need  
17 because of the distance that it's out of town?

18 There is a number of different items that  
19 should be looked at before your spend a million  
20 dollars. Thank you.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Pinto and then  
22 Ms. Schneider. Mr. Young, I had you on the list  
23 from the main motion. Do you want to go on this  
24 list? Okay.

1 MR. PINTO: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.  
2 Greg Pinto, precinct 9.

3 Many of you probably think I'm going to  
4 call the question, but no.

5 [Laughter.]

6 MR. PINTO: I have a couple of  
7 questions. The first question, Mr. Moderator,  
8 through you either to Town Manager or the Police or  
9 Fire Chief. Is there - could you please give us  
10 the reason why this dispatch facility needs to be  
11 located centrally somewhere along Main Street is  
12 the impression I'm getting. Why does it need to  
13 be there as opposed to you know somewhere else,  
14 anywhere else?

15 MR. SUSO: The primary reason for that  
16 is ease of access to the Police and Fire  
17 Departments that are fundamentally served.

18 MR. PINTO: All right, fair enough.

19 In regard to the underutilized - so-call  
20 underutilized space of the stage, I knew it was  
21 there. I've been on it. I've used it; been a  
22 while. My thought here, though, however, is as we  
23 all know meeting space at times can get difficult  
24 to come by. Last night we approved \$435,000 to



1 purchase property behind the fire station.

2 Once we're done with this budget, we're  
3 going to go to Article 20, where we're going to be  
4 asked to appropriate some more money. Which will  
5 bring the total for that parcel behind the fire  
6 station to \$600,000. I believe last night we were  
7 told we get 28 parking spaces out of that.

8 FROM THE FLOOR: [Inaudible.]

9 MR. PINTO: No, no, no.

10 [Pause.]

11 MR. PINTO: What's that?

12 FROM THE FLOOR: [Inaudible.]

13 MR. PINTO: 20 - thank you very much.

14 I had a slightly lower number, but I've been told  
15 that's 22,400 per parking space.

16 [Laughter.]

17 MR. PINTO: That's a lotta coins for  
18 parking. I hope we're putting in meters.

19 Some of you might know where I'm going  
20 with this. How much would it cost to put some  
21 tables and chairs on the side of that stage, set  
22 'em up if you need a meeting space and turn a  
23 couple lights on? How many parking spaces are  
24 there already paved and painted at Gus Canty

1 Community Recreation Center? We already had  
2 meeting rooms there that we use. I've used those,  
3 too.

4 Last night at the end of Town Meeting, I  
5 said to another Town Meeting Member, "Why do I get  
6 the feeling that we've wasted a lot of money?"

7 Right now, I think that amendment is a  
8 good amendment. Let's keep it at \$50,000. Let's  
9 keep the process moving because I do believe in a  
10 consolidated dispatch center. I believe that's a  
11 good idea. I happen to have a very good friend of  
12 mine who is a sergeant in the Communications  
13 Department up at the Sheriff's office and I know  
14 from talking to him that this is a good idea.  
15 Maybe not at the Recreation Center; that needs to  
16 be explored some more.

17 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Schneider.

18 MS. SCHNEIDER: Barbara Schneider,  
19 precinct 4.

20 Last night we heard several things that  
21 I've pulled together to make you think one more  
22 minute about this amendment which I am in favor of.

23 We heard last night from Ms. Flynn that  
24 in 1964 there was a vision and that that vision was

1 something that was put into play to create what we  
2 have today. We also heard from in a report given,  
3 that one of the three things to be considered for a  
4 senior center is in fact Gus Canty. Why would we  
5 not wait to see what we're going to do if it  
6 involves Gus Canty for the senior center before we  
7 change anything more, something especially this  
8 expensive? Why not look at the big picture and  
9 wait and put all this together then?

10 We don't ever think big enough in this  
11 town and we need to do that, and we need to take a  
12 pause here. I appreciate that Mr. Suso was given  
13 a goal, a personal goal to achieve. He's got us  
14 all thinking. He's got a lot of people talking.  
15 But we're not ready to say where it's going, and  
16 there's a lot of possibilities to be explored.

17 I hope you will support this amendment.

18 THE MODERATOR: Okay, I've got a good  
19 speaker's list here. Mr. Jones, you're next on  
20 that. But I'm going to ask if there's anybody who  
21 wants to speak in favor of this amendment.

22 FROM THE FLOOR: Against.

23 THE MODERATOR: Excuse me, against the  
24 amendment, yeah. Is there anyone who wants to

1 speak against the amendment?

2 Mr. Jones.

3 MR. JONES: Douglas Jones, precinct one.

4 What we're really voting on is not the  
5 location. It's on the idea of a consolidated  
6 dispatch center, and where we're going to put it  
7 will cost money. Mr. Suso has said the Gus Canty  
8 will be the least expensive, with an estimate of  
9 \$250,000. So it will at least cost that.

10 The determination as to where it's going  
11 to go is going to happen later and certainly the  
12 Board of Selectmen will be taking input from the  
13 community, but we're going to have to spend at  
14 least \$250,000. That's what it will cost to Gus  
15 Canty. If we go someplace else, we're going to  
16 need even more money. But the minimal need to be  
17 able to put it someplace and to change whatever  
18 facility we use to house it will be that amount of  
19 money.

20 And then, in April, if we go someplace  
21 else, we may have to come back to get some more.

22 So I would hope that you'd keep it at  
23 least for the 250 so we can move forward with this  
24 process, so we can make sure we have this

1 consolidated dispatch as soon as we possibly can  
2 for the safety of our community. Thank you.

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Young.

4 MR. YOUNG: Bob Young, precinct 5.

5 This subject came up at precinct 5 and  
6 that was the first I heard of it that they were  
7 going to use the Gus Canty for this expanded  
8 communication center and I asked at that meeting if  
9 the Recreation Committee had to vote on that and I  
10 was told they didn't have to, which surprised me.

11 And Barbara stole my thunder. I wanted  
12 to bring up the report for Mr. Vieira: we're going  
13 to put a senior center I there, possibly. One of  
14 the top three sites.

15 Let's pull back on the reins a little bit  
16 and go with the \$50,000 and try to find a site  
17 other than the Recreation building and go with the  
18 original Finance Committee of 50,000. Thank you.

19 FROM THE FLOOR: Question.

20 THE MODERATOR: Okay, I think we're  
21 ready to take a vote on this amendment. The  
22 amendment is on reducing the line item back to  
23 50,000.

24 All those in favor of the reduction

1 signify by saying aye.

2 [Aye.]

3 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

4 [No.]

5 THE MODERATOR: It's the opinion of the  
6 chair that the ayes have it by a majority and the  
7 line item is now 50,000.

8 And further discussion on the General  
9 Government section of the Capital Budget?

10 Ms. Fenwick.

11 MS. FENWICK: Judy Fenwick, precinct  
12 one.

13 I just have a small question on a little  
14 bit more detail on what is meant under the Board of  
15 Selectmen Meeting Room Upgrades. I understand  
16 it's being funded through the easement from the  
17 Mill Road work that Comcast and NStar did, but I'd  
18 just like to know what comprises the \$42,000.

19 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Suso.

20 MR. SUSO: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

21 As Ms. Fenwick has noted, this money was  
22 forthcoming from the - as part of the package of  
23 settlement projects that Town Meeting approved  
24 allowing the easement for the telecommunications

1 cable to the Vineyard to go forward with excavation  
2 at the Mill Road parking lot.

3 What is anticipated is a renovation of  
4 the heavily used Selectmen Meeting Room, including  
5 the internal communications system. Those of you  
6 who've experienced that know that we are not as  
7 high-tech as would be very helpful, given the many  
8 meetings that we have there.

9 We'll be working with our IT Department  
10 and we also may re-arrange, adjust the location of  
11 the furnishings and the way the seating works,  
12 subject to the Board of Selectmen's preferences if  
13 we determine that that will allow the more  
14 efficient functional use of that space.

15 But, bottom line, the equipment there is  
16 well beyond its useful life, including the  
17 furnishings, the chairs, some of them are broken  
18 and not operational, and certainly the very  
19 important audio and video equipment that broadcasts  
20 every meeting of the Board of Selectmen to the  
21 general public is in need of upgrading, as are the  
22 accommodations for the many speakers that come and  
23 present PowerPoint presentations to the Board and  
24 for the public's information.

1                   So it's for a wholesale upgrade of that  
2                   room to better service the communication needs of  
3                   all.

4                   THE MODERATOR:    Okay, further discussion  
5                   in General Government?

6                   Mr. McNamara.

7                   MR. MCNAMARA:    Matt McNamara, precinct  
8                   7.

9                   Just a point of clarification, Mr.  
10                  Moderator.    I know you indicated that each section  
11                  you will allow amendments, but -

12                  THE MODERATOR:    Each line item.

13                  MR. MCNAMARA:    Each?

14                  THE MODERATOR:    Each line item.    We've  
15                  always done that in the omnibus budget for both the  
16                  capital and the -

17                  MR. MCNAMARA:    Each line, but will you  
18                  also entertain an amendment to the overall article  
19                  at the end?

20                  THE MODERATOR:    Well, depending if it's  
21                  within the scope.

22                  MR. MCNAMARA:    Okay.

23                  THE MODERATOR:    Because that should just  
24                  be a consolidation of numbers and funding sources.



1 MR. MCNAMARA: Well, if I might, then,  
2 while I'm here. Peter Clark earlier stated I  
3 think that he was old and a curmudgeon. And I  
4 would tend to agree with him.

5 [Laughter.]

6 MR. MCNAMARA: Actually, I agree with  
7 the point that he was making.

8 [Laughter.]

9 MR. MCNAMARA: And that - but I come at  
10 it a little bit differently. If you look at the  
11 back of our warrant book, there's a definition of  
12 terms, and the definition of the Capital Budget is  
13 an annual appropriation or spending plan for  
14 capital expenditures, tangible assets or projects  
15 that cost at least \$25,000 and have a useful life  
16 of at least five years.

17 Well, if you look at Article 18 in its  
18 entirety, there's \$182,500 in excess of that  
19 definition, and I actually believe that Article 18,  
20 all of these items are beyond the scope of Article  
21 18.

22 Article 18 says to see if the town will  
23 vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose  
24 of funding capital improvements. Not as Ms. Petit

1 stated that for one time only costs. I believe  
2 that what we have before us is Capital improvements  
3 in this article, and to go beyond that and to say  
4 one time only costs is beyond the scope of this  
5 article.

6 So, I don't know whether you would  
7 entertain a motion one by one to pull all of those  
8 out.

9 THE MODERATOR: No, no. This is what  
10 I'll do. I'll make it very clear to the folks  
11 that sit with me on the stage that the paradigm of  
12 the Capital Budget, the definitions as they appear  
13 in the book, should be reflected in the articles  
14 that I see at future town meetings relative to the  
15 Capital Budget, and that one time purchases from  
16 Certified Free Cash would be appropriate to  
17 consolidate into one article at future town  
18 meetings.

19 And the paradigm that you have in your  
20 warrant booklet of the Capital Plan, the terms and  
21 definitions that Mr. McNamara is referring to, are  
22 the paradigm by which this Capital Plan is  
23 developed, and so in the future I think it's clear  
24 from Town Meeting Members and I want it to be clear

1 from the chair to the Board of Selectmen: when you  
2 post the next warrant with a Capital Budget we'd  
3 like to see a Capital Budget that reflects the  
4 definitions that the Working Group that I appointed  
5 had worked out a few years back when Mr. Anderson  
6 chaired. And then I want to go forward and have  
7 an article that has all of your one-time purchases  
8 from Certified Free Cash.

9 So that Town Meeting doesn't get caught  
10 in spending a lot of time arguing about how the  
11 format is, let's just do it that way, and then we  
12 can all agree that's a good way to do it. Okay?

13 MR. MCNAMARA: Okay.

14 Mr. Moderator, one final point. I'd  
15 also suggest that some of these items are not one  
16 time expenditures.

17 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

18 MR. MCNAMARA: Thank you.

19 THE MODERATOR: Ms. Augusta.

20 MS. AUGUSTA: [Inaudible.]

21 THE MODERATOR: You're all set.

22 I saw another hand earlier back there.  
23 Was it - yes, Mr. Bidwell.

24 MR. BIDWELL: Good evening, Todd

1 Bidwell, precinct 4.

2 Through you, Mr. Moderator. This is not  
3 regarding location of the consolidated dispatch,  
4 but rather a question about consolidated dispatch.  
5 And I wondered if either of the Police Chief or the  
6 Fire Chief have any concerns regarding the  
7 consolidation.

8 THE MODERATOR: Chiefs?

9 CHIEF DUNN: Hi, Edward Dunn, your  
10 Police Chief.

11 Concerns. No. I believe it is the way  
12 to go. It will streamline things. As far as on  
13 the Police Department side, it's going to give me  
14 an officer that I can utilize, whether within the  
15 building or on the streets.

16 The only concern I do have is by delaying  
17 it, as we've all said. And I can't speak for the  
18 Fire Chief - or, I could, at this point. As far  
19 as our equipment-wise, it's close to failure. Our  
20 dispatch center did go down last month and it's  
21 held together with band-aids.

22 So, by delaying the process, at some  
23 point this forum here is going to have to spend a  
24 lot of money to get us up and running again so that

1 we can give you services that you need.

2 That's my only concern.

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Chief Sullivan.

4 CHIEF SULLIVAN: Hi, I'm Mark Sullivan,  
5 Fire Chief.

6 I've had discussions with both the Police  
7 Chief and the Town Manager, and I did initially  
8 have some concerns over a combined dispatch center.  
9 And if money and fiscal responsibility weren't an  
10 object, and I had my withers, I would just leave  
11 things the way we are because I think we have a  
12 good system. We have well-trained people. And  
13 there is a difference between dispatching Fire and  
14 Police. But there are some issues and if we do go  
15 to a combined dispatch, then we can - they're not  
16 insurmountable and they can be trained. People  
17 can be trained to do dual roles.

18 But, we have to realize there are two  
19 distinct differences between Police and Fire  
20 dispatching.

21 And I do like the idea of the combined  
22 dispatch. In keeping it in town, it gives our  
23 people that are working here that have jobs that  
24 are good at it and very professional, it'll

1 maintain them in those jobs. And certainly it is,  
2 I believe, a much better option in my opinion than  
3 going to the county and going to any type of  
4 regional outfit, because you do - you get what you  
5 pay for when you go to a regional.

6 You see, all the people that are being  
7 dispatched by the County are smaller communities  
8 and maybe they don't have the needs and the unique  
9 resources that Falmouth has.

10 So, those are the concerns I have, thank  
11 you.

12 THE MODERATOR: Okay, further discussion  
13 of the General Government section?

14 Mr. Noonan.

15 MR. NOONAN: John Noonan, precinct 6.

16 Before I make an amendment, I would like  
17 to ask through you, Mr. Moderator, to the two  
18 chiefs: would the equipment that you are asking us  
19 for of \$755,000, will that equipment be able to be  
20 used whether we go - no matter where we go, our  
21 locations in town? Or will we - is it equipment  
22 specific to the location, or will that equipment be  
23 able to be used anywhere?

24 THE MODERATOR: Chief Sullivan.

1 CHIEF SULLIVAN: I don't believe that it  
2 could be used - I'm not - maybe you can try and  
3 explain the question a little better.

4 THE MODERATOR: Let me try this. Mr.  
5 Noonan? This appropriation is an amount of money  
6 to buy equipment. It doesn't say what equipment  
7 we're buying. So if Town Meeting were to  
8 authorize this, the administration would decide  
9 what equipment they were going to buy based on  
10 where they're going to go.

11 So we're not actually buying equipment.  
12 We're authorizing that amount of money to be used  
13 to purchase consolidated equipment. So the  
14 technical aspect of what equipment we're going to  
15 buy would be done when they know what equipment  
16 they need to buy.

17 MR. NOONAN: So with that answer, what  
18 you're asking us to do is to allow \$755,000 to be  
19 spent so they can put it in a certain location and  
20 then you're going to come back and say to us, "We  
21 need an additional \$600,000 to build a building to  
22 put this equipment in. That we've already spent  
23 \$700,000 on. So you really need to spend the  
24 money to put it somewhere."

1                   So I would suggest that we not spend the  
2 money on the equipment right now until we know  
3 where it's going. And I would like to make an  
4 amendment to that line item to zero that line item  
5 out.

6                   THE MODERATOR: Okay, so dispatch  
7 equipment. This is the \$755,000, to zero out the  
8 line item.

9                   Discussion on zeroing out the line item?  
10 Yes, Ms. Liechtenstein.

11                   MS. LIECHTENSTEIN: Lesley Lichtenstein,  
12 precinct 8.

13                   I have a Question. If we appropriate  
14 this amount of money and we give the Selectmen the  
15 authority to spend it when they need it, if we have  
16 a failure, as both the Police Chief and the Fire  
17 Chief have said we may have, it's my understanding  
18 that the software will no longer be supported.  
19 That's what it means when a system becomes  
20 terminal, the company no longer supports the  
21 software with updates.

22                   If we suddenly lack the software to be  
23 able to run the dispatch centers that we have now  
24 until we've built a new one, wouldn't it be a good



1 idea to have this money already appropriated and  
2 the Selectmen had it in their authority to use it  
3 to get the system that - they could use it to make  
4 sure we have a system that runs until we get  
5 something else?

6 That's my question, thank you.

7 THE MODERATOR: Madame Chairman or Mr.  
8 Suso.

9 MR. SUSO: Yes. Yes, absolutely.

10 I guess I'm on now. Yeah, the answer's  
11 yes. Town Meeting, I would just refer you to the  
12 other option available to you: maintaining two  
13 stand-alone centers, but you'll need to change the  
14 755 to a million, twenty-five thousand. So that  
15 is another option available to you, but I would  
16 hope that you would take our recommendation to go  
17 to consolidation seriously and give us the ability  
18 to act if a catastrophic situation occurs as the  
19 Police Chief has referred to.

20 We have had some episodes.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Mustafa.

22 MR. MUSTAFA: Mr. Moderator, Ahmed  
23 Mustafa, precinct 4.

24 Has anybody given any thought to renting

1 or leasing the radios rather than buying them?  
2 That way there you're getting the best and the  
3 newest item on the market and then you can have  
4 them take that back and rent a newer item. Rather  
5 than purchasing an item and then you've got the  
6 police radios, they've been there over 30 years, so  
7 they definitely are in bad shape.

8 I would strongly suggest you look at  
9 leasing the radio equipment.

10 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Ms. O'Connell.  
11 You're all set.

12 Mr. Pinto.

13 MR. PINTO: Thank you, Mr. Moderator,  
14 Greg Pinto, precinct 9.

15 I guess this question will go through you  
16 to the Town Manager. My warrant booklet says,  
17 "Consolidated Dispatcher Communication Equipment  
18 Radios". Number one, I am - I am - I am  
19 assuming, and please correct me if I am wrong, that  
20 these are not just radios, these are also computers  
21 and computer systems.

22 My question, however, is if there were a  
23 catastrophic failure at the Police Department or  
24 the Fire Department and if we had approved this

1 money, would this money be used to purchase  
2 equipment for a consolidated dispatch center or  
3 would the money then be used to purchase equipment  
4 for the one system that crashed?

5 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Suso.

6 MR. SUSO: As I noted in my  
7 presentation, the Board of Selectmen have voted to  
8 create a consolidated Communications Department. I  
9 would act accordingly.

10 MR. PINTO: Okay, but my point is that  
11 my booklet says that this money is for consolidated  
12 dispatch equipment. It is not listed for police  
13 equipment, it is not listed for fire equipment.  
14 It is listed for consolidated equipment.

15 So if we appropriate this money for  
16 consolidated equipment, will you use it for one or  
17 the other if one or the other crashes -

18 [Telephone rings.]

19 MR. PINTO: I'll wait.

20 [Pause.]

21 MR. PINTO: My point being that we're  
22 being asked to appropriate money for one purpose  
23 and what I think I heard you say was that if  
24 necessary you will take this money and use it for a

1 different purpose.

2 FROM THE FLOOR: No.

3 MR. PINTO: Yes. Because if we're  
4 buying equipment for a consolidated dispatch center  
5 but then it ends up going into say just the police  
6 station, Mr. Suso just explained to us if that  
7 happens and then the Fire Department's equipment  
8 goes down, he's going to need this amount of money  
9 again to replace that equipment and we're going to  
10 end up with two stand alone systems again.

11 MR. NETTO: Point of information.

12 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Suso.

13 MR. SUSO: Yes, Mr. Moderator, I think I  
14 confirmed that the Board of Selectmen has made a  
15 decision. They've created a consolidated -  
16 they've approved the creation of a consolidated  
17 Communications Department and those are my marching  
18 orders. That is how I would proceed.

19 MR. NETTO: Point of information.

20 THE MODERATOR: Joe.

21 MR. NETTO: Joe Netto, precinct 9.

22 I think I'd like to try to clear up this  
23 cloud somewhat with - okay.

24 Mr. Moderator, through you to the

1 chairman of the FinCom.

2 Mrs. Magnani, if I'm not mistaken, if  
3 there was a failure in the communication system  
4 tomorrow in the Fire or Police Department, wouldn't  
5 that come under the Emergency Reserve Fund Transfer  
6 clause of the FinCom so that we would be up and  
7 running, correct, Mr. Moderator?

8 THE MODERATOR: That's what I just told  
9 her, yes.

10 MR. NETTO: That's what we have that  
11 clause for.

12 THE MODERATOR: There's \$325,000 in  
13 there.

14 MS. MAGNANI: Mr. Netto.

15 THE MODERATOR: Madame Chairman.

16 MR. NETTO: Yes, Ma'am.

17 MS. MAGNANI: We have \$325,000 right  
18 now.

19 MR. NETTO: Okay, so there's -

20 MS. MAGNANI: And that's all.

21 MR. NETTO: That's all, but 325,000.

22 So if something happened tomorrow, and I'm not the  
23 electronics expert to repair it, I'm sure that we  
24 have some funds to cover that. And that's another

1 thing Town Meeting Members look at when you spend  
2 money because these are our reserve funds. That's  
3 - we should somehow try to put even more money in  
4 there.

5 Okay, but I thought hopefully this clears  
6 up this grey area that if things fail tomorrow we  
7 have money to fix it. Thank you.

8 THE MODERATOR: Madame Chairman of the  
9 Finance Committee.

10 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Mr. Moderator -

11 THE MODERATOR: I've got you on the  
12 list, I've got you on the list. I've got you on  
13 the list. I've recognized the chair of the  
14 Finance committee.

15 MS. MAGNANI: Oh. Mr. Moderator, I  
16 would like to ask the Police Chief and the Fire  
17 Chief if \$325,000 would take care of a problem with  
18 all of this equipment in either department and can  
19 it be fixed. The companies are telling us they  
20 can't be.

21 CHIEF SULLIVAN: I think that depends on  
22 the problem, Madame.

23 [Laughter.]

24 CHIEF SULLIVAN: I mean, no, I'm not

1           trying to be funny. I mean, it depends on the  
2           amount and the scope of the problem. If you had  
3           a, you know, a hurricane and it wiped out your  
4           whole infrastructure, then no, it wouldn't be  
5           enough money.

6                     If you had, you know, one computer or  
7           maybe if you needed a software program to replace  
8           the CAD, then yeah, that probably would be enough.

9                     THE MODERATOR: On the police side?

10                    CHIEF DUNN: Same answer, it would  
11           depend on the system.

12                    If the console itself goes down for good,  
13           from the prices we got on the console, that might  
14           not be enough. But if it's a software issue with  
15           the console and things like that, like, right now,  
16           they're repairing our console with used parts  
17           because Motorola no longer makes that console. So  
18           it would depend on the situation.

19                    CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Thank you, Chiefs.

20                    THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Moran and then  
21           Ms. Flynn.

22                    MS. MORAN: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

23                    I think we just need to step back to a  
24           few minutes ago. And the vote was, really, as I

1 understood it, to let the Recreation Committee take  
2 a look at this and work with Selectmen. And also  
3 to allow Selectmen to have a chance to look at the  
4 sites.

5 I think what, you know, this is -

6 MR. PINTO: [No mic:] Point of order.

7 Mr. Moderator, we're not talking about  
8 sites. We're talking about equipment.

9 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

10 MS. MORAN: I'm talking about a process,  
11 and the -

12 MR. PINTO: [No mic: inaudible.]

13 THE MODERATOR: Yeah, just let her  
14 finish so we can get off - we've been almost an  
15 hour and a half on one line item.

16 Go ahead.

17 MS. MORAN: So - so, in terms of the  
18 appropriation, this is - this is going to take some  
19 time to put together. And before there is an  
20 emergency, I think we need to think sensibly and  
21 allocate the money as it makes sense, and also give  
22 the Recreation Department and the Selectmen time to  
23 put the plan together cooperatively.

24 THE MODERATOR: Ms. Flynn.



1 MS. FLYNN: Well, I was going to say  
2 something pretty much along the same lines.

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay, then, Mr. Heath -

4 MS. FLYNN: What you indicated tonight  
5 is -

6 [Laughter.]

7 MS. FLYNN: What?

8 THE MODERATOR: If you're going to say  
9 the same thing, I'll go to the next speaker.

10 MS. FLYNN: No. I just -

11 THE MODERATOR: Oh.

12 MS. FLYNN: I just want to say, what  
13 you've indicated tonight is you have some  
14 displeasure with the idea of using the Gus Canty  
15 Center, and we get that. But we need to start  
16 working on a site tomorrow. We can't wait. We  
17 have to get this process moving, whether it's -  
18 whether it's somewhere else, it's up to us to find  
19 it. But please don't withdraw the funding.  
20 Because we may find something in another month or  
21 two and we're going to need the funding for the  
22 equipment.

23 Maybe we don't need money to improve a  
24 site; maybe we do. We can come back to Town

1 Meeting in April. But if the funding isn't there,  
2 we will never be able to move forward on this. So  
3 please support the funding.

4 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Heath.

5 MR. HEATH: [No mic: inaudible.]

6 THE MODERATOR: Yes, with a mic, please.

7 MR. HEATH: Austin Heath, precinct 8.

8 We've talked on this for a long, long  
9 time. There seem to be merit on both sides. We  
10 need to do something. We need to do it very  
11 quickly or we may have a catastrophic collapse of  
12 our communications.

13 On the other hand, this comes before us  
14 as an incomplete product on which we're supposed to  
15 make a decision. It seems to me there's a  
16 sentiment not to put it in the Gus Center.  
17 However, to get started, I think - and I hate to  
18 suggest this - that if we leave it at the \$50,000 -

19 THE MODERATOR: We're on the line item  
20 of \$755,000.

21 MR. HEATH: \$750,000. If we vote that,  
22 they can get started. But until they have the  
23 other appropriation, they can't move too far  
24 forward.

1                   If they get a site and need the money for  
2                   it so that they can install that equipment, we have  
3                   a Special Town Meeting on one subject but at least  
4                   we get started.    Because right now, we can talk  
5                   all night and it's going to be the same thing: both  
6                   sides have merit.

7                   THE MODERATOR:    Okay, so I'm going to  
8                   call the question on the amendment to strike out  
9                   the \$755,000 for the equipment radios.    All those  
10                  in favor of the amendment signify by saying aye.

11   [Aye.]

12                  THE MODERATOR:    All those opposed no.

13   [No.]

14                  THE MODERATOR:    It's the opinion of the  
15                  chair is that the no's have it by a majority and  
16                  this section is not stricken out.

17                                   I'm going to go on to Public Safety, the  
18                                   second section.    Any discussion on the line items  
19                                   under Public Safety?

20                                   Mr. Eastman?    Mr. Hunt.    I'm having  
21                                   trouble because of the light over there.

22                                   MR. HUNT:      Thank you, Mr. Moderator,  
23                                   Carter Hunt, precinct 7.

24                                   I have a question on the Director's

1 Vehicle, a Ford Explorer being replaced with an  
2 Interceptor. I did a little research on the  
3 Interceptor. I'm not quite sure why the Director  
4 of Marine and Environment needs a pursuit vehicle  
5 that can do 131 miles an hour.

6 [Laughter.]

7 MR. HUNT: The question really comes to  
8 - and this really isn't about money, because the  
9 vehicle that I'm suggesting that he probably needs,  
10 which is a pick-up truck, a Ford F-150 crew cab, is  
11 probably more expensive than is currently there in  
12 the line item.

13 However, the pursuit vehicle has no  
14 towing capability, does not have four wheel drive  
15 and it has no hauling capability. And given the  
16 duties of the Marine and Environment, one would  
17 think that they would be using a vehicle more  
18 appropriate such as a pick-up truck for their  
19 activities.

20 Could someone please explain why he needs  
21 a pursuit vehicle that goes 131 miles an hour?

22 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Suso.

23 MR. SUSO: Certainly, Mr. Moderator.

24 With regard to the speed, that is not an issue

1           which we looked at.    There was not a request for a  
2           pick-up truck.    There was a request for a  
3           replacement SUV, and our experience with the new  
4           Ford vehicles has been very good in the Police  
5           side.

6                            The Interceptor sounds pretty  
7           highfalutin.    It's basically a very small SUV or a  
8           large station wagon, depending on how you want to  
9           describe it.    It does get reasonably good gas  
10          mileage, better than most SUV's, and it is a new  
11          technology, a new package that we feel is  
12          appropriate.

13                          It does have all wheel drive; I want to  
14          stress that; which I think is very important and it  
15          has been borne out in use that we've had in the  
16          Police Department so far.

17                          It is the same vehicle that's currently  
18          utilized by the Fire Chief and we've had a good  
19          experience with that.

20                          So we are proposing to standardize, based  
21          upon this new vehicle that's offered by Ford, and  
22          based upon our positive experience with it.    It  
23          also is cost effective as well, we feel.

24                          THE MODERATOR:    Okay, yes, Ms. Murphy.

1 MS. MURPHY: Thank you. Carol Murphy,  
2 precinct 9.

3 I have a question regarding the three  
4 Crown Vic replacements with police Interceptors and  
5 they each have about less than 80,000 miles on  
6 them. They're 2013 vehicles. Where are they  
7 going?

8 THE MODERATOR: Chief.

9 CHIEF DUNN: The vehicles being  
10 replaced, the Crown Vics are not Interceptors.  
11 The Crown Vics are the - what you are used to  
12 seeing, the regular Ford Cruisers. Ford no longer  
13 makes Crown Vics. The two of them that need to be  
14 replaced right now are pretty much dead lined;  
15 they're sitting out behind the station. One needs  
16 a rear end, another one needs a transmission.

17 One of the Interceptors that will be  
18 replaced, the third vehicle, has over 85,000 miles  
19 on it right now. It's one of the first ones that  
20 we received. And we're starting to have - it's  
21 out of warranty and we're starting to have  
22 problems. In fact, it was towed the other day to  
23 the Ford garage because of transmission issues.

24 MS. MURPHY: Okay, thank you. And then

1           there are two other police Interceptors that are  
2           being replaced, also.    So I just wanted to know  
3           where the Interceptors are going.    The used  
4           Interceptors once you get the -

5                    CHIEF DUNN:    The used Interceptors?

6                    MS. MURPHY:    Yes.

7                    CHIEF DUNN:    They're traded in to the  
8           company when we purchase the vehicles.

9                    MS. MURPHY:    Okay, thank you.

10                   THE MODERATOR:   Okay.    Anything else in  
11           this section, in Public Safety?

12                    Mr. Duffany.

13                    MR. DUFFANY:    Thank you.    Michael  
14           Duffany, precinct 6.

15                    I have a question for the Harbormaster  
16           Mr. Frazier.    If the \$50,000 for the dredging, the  
17           inlet dredging is - how far that'll go.    It  
18           doesn't seem like a very significant amount of  
19           money based on the fact that we've been cutting  
20           back for years, now.    I know when I go in and out  
21           of harbors I keep my fingers crossed with all of my  
22           instruments running and eyes in the water.

23                    THE MODERATOR:    Okay, microphone for Mr.  
24           Frazier.

1 HARBORMASTER FRAZIER: Thank you. Greg  
2 Frazier, Harbormaster.

3 We have historically requested \$50,000 in  
4 either the Capital - we also get \$17,000 in the  
5 line item in our budget.

6 To answer your question, we survey the  
7 south-facing inlets every spring and decide, based  
8 on the surveys that come back from the county,  
9 which ones have to be done as a priority and  
10 exhaust that amount of money pretty easily.

11 We could easily double the amount of  
12 money we spend on dredging, but that is the figure  
13 that we've been using for a while.

14 We also do get some money from the Beach  
15 committee, their line item for beach renourishment,  
16 because some places we dredge, like Bourne's Pond  
17 exterior, for instance, that would be beach  
18 renourishment versus navigation dredging. So they  
19 pay for that.

20 MR. DUFFANY: Could I -

21 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Duffany.

22 MR. DUFFANY: - make an amendment to  
23 this to add \$50,000 to this line item for annual  
24 inlet dredging, for the purposes contained in this



1 article.

2 THE MODERATOR: I don't need it in  
3 writing. You can just add it from Free Cash.  
4 Are we good with that, we've got that number there?  
5 Okay.

6 So there's an amendment to add an  
7 additional \$50,000 to make the dredging line item  
8 \$100,000.

9 Discussion on the amendment.

10 Hearing none, the question will then come  
11 on the amendment. All those in favor of the  
12 increase signify by saying aye.

13 [Aye.]

14 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

15 [No.]

16 THE MODERATOR: It's the opinion of the  
17 chair that the ayes have it by a majority.

18 Further discussion on Public Safety.

19 Public Works. Any discussion on the  
20 Public Works section?

21 Mr. Finneran.

22 MR. FINNERAN: Yes, Mark Finneran,  
23 precinct 6.

24 The \$75,000 for water meter replacement,

1 that seems to come up every year, so obviously it  
2 doesn't really fit into this budget. And also,  
3 aren't these water meters - don't they charge for  
4 these water meters when they replace them? So  
5 wouldn't that \$75,000 replace itself on a yearly  
6 basis, so to speak?

7 And secondly, it's my understanding that  
8 the water meters are thrown away and not rebuilt.  
9 I know a lot of places rebuild them in-house and  
10 then in New Hampshire many of the prisons rebuild  
11 these things. Is there not a possible cost  
12 savings available there?

13 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Jack.

14 MR. JACK: These are annualized.  
15 There are 22,000 accounts for the Town. We try to  
16 replace approximately a thousand meters per year in  
17 order to keep the meters under 20 years old. As a  
18 meter gets older, it wears in the owner's favor.  
19 So that means that the Town will consistently lose  
20 money, so it's in the Town's best interest in order  
21 to be able to maintain them at all times.

22 As far as replacing a meter versus  
23 repairing a meter, in the old days, they did that.  
24 And it was relatively cost effective to do so back

1           then.    These are electronic instruments today.

2                    We've converted the system over to radio  
3           reads.  So before, a meter reader had to physically  
4           get to your meter in order to be able to read it.  
5           Now he only has to get within several hundred feet  
6           of your home in order to be able to read the meter.  
7           So it is much, much more effective to maintain  
8           those types of meters today.

9                    Now, with regard to being cost effective  
10          to replace them, it costs money when we send  
11          someone out to your home, make an appointment to  
12          get in.  You have to be there.

13                   We come, go down, take the meter out,  
14          bring it back to the shop, repair it.  In the  
15          meantime, we have to give you a device so that you  
16          can continue to use your water.  Usually that's a  
17          jumper, which means you'll get free water in the  
18          interim.  Then we have to bring the meter back  
19          after we repair it, and the cost of a new meter is  
20          much less than the overall cost of that overall  
21          process.

22                   MR. FINNERAN:  Don't go away, I've got  
23          another question.

24   [Laughter.]

1 MR. FINNERAN: Here under DEP  
2 Compliance, \$10,000. That sounds suspiciously  
3 like a fine. What is that?

4 MR. JACK: Mr. McConarty will be able to  
5 give you more specifics, but the Town over the  
6 years has had a number of waste site cleanup areas,  
7 if you will. There was a leak at the high school,  
8 years ago. There was also a leak that was at the  
9 Public Works facility. There was another site  
10 that was over near the Senior Center. And when  
11 these happen, then the Town has to come under  
12 compliance with the state.

13 That's a long-range plan where we have to  
14 - requires annual monitoring and reporting to DEP.  
15 So that's what the general funding is that you have  
16 seen over the last several years.

17 On this particular line item, for this  
18 year's plan, it would be to try to get one of those  
19 sites off of that list on a permanent basis. And  
20 that would be the DPW facility.

21 THE MODERATOR: Mr. McConarty, anything  
22 to add? No. Okay.

23 MR. MCCONARTY: No. Peter McConarty,  
24 Town Engineer.

1                   That's exactly correct.    We've been  
2                   working with our environmental consultant - well,  
3                   actually the site we're talking about is the Public  
4                   Works facility site and over the years we've had to  
5                   do biannual monitoring through our consultant to go  
6                   through DEP, and we're looking at this additional  
7                   \$10,000 combined with a previous year allotment.  
8                   We're looking to clean this site up and be able to  
9                   take it right off the inventory completely.

10                   So in future years we wouldn't be  
11                   requesting funds for this particular site.

12                   MR. FINNERAN:    What exactly is the  
13                   nature of this violation?

14                   MR. MCCONARTY:    We had - there are  
15                   several sites in town that we've had -

16                   MR. FINNERAN:    I mean the particular one  
17                   at the DPW.

18                   MR. MCCONARTY:    Right, it falls in over  
19                   the past years we've had several sites that had  
20                   underground tank leaks.    The tanks have been  
21                   replaced, but for future years through the  
22                   Department of Environmental Protection we're  
23                   required to do biannual monitoring.    So that's -  
24                   that's what this is.    That's what this will be.

1 And we're trying to take it offline. We're trying  
2 to neutralize the site to take it offline.

3 MR. FINNERAN: Thank you.

4 THE MODERATOR: Okay, anything else  
5 under Public Works?

6 Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Mr. Moderator, through you  
8 to - I'm not sure just who.

9 The police station roof, \$125,000, is  
10 this a bid process? Have we gotten the bids and  
11 this is what the low bid is? Or is this just an  
12 amount of money that we anticipate it's going to  
13 be? Thank you.

14 THE MODERATOR: Yes. Ms. Newton.

15 MS. NEWTON: Shardell Newton, Facilities  
16 Manager.

17 That particular cost was estimated from  
18 what we did at the Recreation Center. The original  
19 bid on the Recreation Center was bid for \$128,000.  
20 The bid came in at \$75,000, so we've asked the same  
21 company to give us a number to put toward the  
22 Police station.

23 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Kapp.

24 MR. KAPP: Thank you, Mr. Moderator,

1 Paul Kapp, precinct 3.

2 Shardell, can you tell us how many square  
3 feet that roof is?

4 THE MODERATOR: Just yell it.

5 MS. NEWTON: [No mic:] I'd have to look  
6 at the estimate.

7 THE MODERATOR: Yeah, okay.

8 MS. NEWTON: [No mic:] To be honest with  
9 you.

10 THE MODERATOR: Not sure.

11 MS. NEWTON: What we did is we took the  
12 three sealed bids that we had from the Recreation  
13 Center and the gentleman that came in at the lowest  
14 bid, we asked him to give us an estimated price.  
15 It could come in conceivably lower. We doubt that  
16 it will come in higher.

17 It's always better to ask for a little  
18 bit more because the Police station's an old  
19 building. They did a roof - they did a 40 square  
20 back in 2005, just a patchwork on it.

21 The Chief can probably tell you a little  
22 more than I can about the history of that roof, but  
23 the problem is, when you get into an older building  
24 like that that was built in the '60's, you never

1 know what comes underneath the roof. We start  
2 ripping stuff apart, we find rot. So, we try to go  
3 to the worst extreme.

4 If you look at last year's Capital Plan,  
5 you'll see that we are going to give you back a lot  
6 of money from the Fire Station paint and the Town  
7 Hall paint because, again, we started in with the  
8 Town Hall and we found a lot of rot, but we did  
9 come in under bid.

10 So I'd hate to come back to Town Meeting  
11 and let you know that we could only do a half a  
12 roof.

13 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Hargraves.

14 MR. HARGRAVES: Peter Hargraves,  
15 precinct 9.

16 And I'm taking the microphone hopefully  
17 in the wake of your direction to separate capital -  
18 capital and expense items. Because I spoke on  
19 that a year ago and I sensed a lot of support and  
20 interest in doing that here.

21 And I'd like to add something for your  
22 consideration as providing direction for the way  
23 this information is presented to us.

24 I chose this moment because the two items



1 that illustrate my point are in the Public Works  
2 arena, here.

3 If you could direct your attention to the  
4 Road Maintenance and Construction. I've been  
5 impressed this year by the improvements that are  
6 very visible around town in improving roads and  
7 maintaining the quality of the striping and just  
8 the general good looks of the place. And we have  
9 spent \$400,000 according to this.

10 The request was 850, but I see that for  
11 this year for the proposed '15 budget we're  
12 spending or we're actually allocating half. And  
13 notice in the out years that the 850 is consist- or  
14 850 is consistently repeated and increased. I  
15 guess there must be an inflation adder there.

16 But I would hate to think, since I feel  
17 one of the primary duties of this body, the elected  
18 officials and the management representatives and  
19 the department heads, is to deliver a sustainable  
20 infrastructure, that we're going to cut in half the  
21 budget to maintain our roads. I think they're not  
22 okay and I applaud the progress and the planning  
23 that I've seen, but I don't know how we can cut  
24 last year's - or this year's spending in half while

1 the out years show four times as much spending.

2 So, I guess I would like to understand  
3 the basis for the figures, and encapsulated in that  
4 is my suggestion. Because I used to be in the  
5 budget game when I was working, and I know when  
6 people are competing for scarce resources that they  
7 tend to inflate their figures. But as we start to  
8 look at Capital planning and expenses and look at a  
9 glide path so that we can sensibly allocate the  
10 priorities of, you know, what we're trying to do  
11 here is delivering a good environment in our town,  
12 then we should have realistic figures in a ten year  
13 format, or else we should address this significant  
14 gap that's illustrated by these numbers.

15 The other one, which is similar and but  
16 even more glaring I think, is in the water mains.  
17 And I understand a little bit about this from the  
18 discussions I had with Mr. Jack, we were talking  
19 about the preliminaries to approving the water  
20 treatment plant. But to say that the request was  
21 950,000 and we're granting 450, and somehow next  
22 year it's realistic to consider that 4,500,000 will  
23 somehow, you know, drop from the sky so we can  
24 properly address our infrastructure, is

1 unrealistic.

2 So I would like to understand the gap  
3 that's represented by these numbers, or are the  
4 numbers just wrong?

5 THE MODERATOR: Yes, Mr. Jack.

6 MR. JACK: They're all very good  
7 questions, and I'm sure everybody would like to  
8 hear a good, solid answer.

9 In defense of the Town overall, budgeting  
10 is a process, whether it's done at the Annual  
11 Operating Budget level or whether it's done at the  
12 Capital level. A lot of times what you see, and I  
13 think I said this several years ago, too, from a  
14 Capital Budget perspective, you are looking at  
15 Capital items, which can be depreciated. And what  
16 the Town has historically done is also look at  
17 annualized capital, or for all intents and purposes  
18 annualized operating expenses. Which you then  
19 have control over and in difficult years you can  
20 scale back on some of those.

21 So, that's really what the planning  
22 process does here. The Town department heads make  
23 the requests, but there are times that we have to  
24 defer to other, more important needs of the Town.

1 And then in other years we may get some of those  
2 requests back.

3 So I think that that's just the overall  
4 view.

5 Specifically with something like water  
6 mains and/or roads, let me spend 350,000 for you  
7 right now on roads. \$100,000 a year to stripe  
8 'em, \$100,000 a year to do crack sealing, which is  
9 just a topical surface application, and another  
10 hundred to a hundred fifty thousand dollars a year  
11 to do the hot patching. And that's depending on  
12 how bad the winter is.

13 Thus far, for \$350,000, we haven't  
14 replaced anything. We have only tried to maintain  
15 it.

16 So the cost of actual resurfacing and  
17 rehabilitation of the roads, sidewalks and curbing  
18 is substantially more than that.

19 If you were to try to fund it annually at  
20 what we really need, you'd be in the \$3 million  
21 range.

22 Similar to the water mains, all right?  
23 We're probably never really going to be able to  
24 catch up with what we actually need to do in order

1 to maintain 400 miles of road - or 400 miles of  
2 water main and 260 miles of Town-owned road.

3 The water mains I think are another very,  
4 very good question. We have a lot of transmission  
5 mains; several years ago, when the state was coming  
6 in to pave many of the major roads in Town, beneath  
7 those major arteries are also major arteries with  
8 regard to the water system. That's where some of  
9 the larger mains are, under the main roads.

10 So we had to come in and pave those.  
11 You put together a \$6.6 million bond and most of  
12 those got done. That is infrequent, but it had a  
13 large-scale impact on improving the overall quality  
14 of the water, as well as the distribution of the  
15 water.

16 Then we will have annualized mains that  
17 our crews will do. To save you a lot of money, we  
18 can put those mains in a lot of times at about half  
19 of the cost, and we used to do that on a regular  
20 basis. Due to the recent economic downturn, we've  
21 had to dramatically scale back on that. You've  
22 had to dramatically scale back on that, because we  
23 simply did not have the money.

24 So this is an attempt to start getting

1 back up to those maintenance and replacement  
2 components of the main, specifically with the  
3 \$450,000 we're talking about. That's for 1300 feet  
4 of six inch main - 16 inch main, and it's going in  
5 at the Jones Road intersection in anticipation of  
6 replacing the main along Main Street, 18,000 feet  
7 of it, over three miles, from Oxbow out to Palmer  
8 Avenue. That was not historically going to be  
9 considered capable of doing that because the cost  
10 on that main was going to be in the \$5 million  
11 range.

12 However, a couple of years ago we were  
13 successful at the state level of getting the Main  
14 Street corridor, which is that whole area that I  
15 just described from Oxbow to Palmer Avenue, under  
16 the Transportation Plan for the state. So now  
17 that is going to be coming to fruition hopefully  
18 within the next two to four years.

19 We're doing a transportation study now of  
20 that entire corridor. The hope is the state will  
21 fund the road repairs and road maintenance on that  
22 by replacing Main Street, if you will.

23 It would be foolish to replace that road  
24 and waste that money of eight and a half million

1 dollars that the state may give the Town - and that  
2 would be given to the Town - without replacing the  
3 110 year old water main that is beneath the road.

4 So, for this year and next year what was  
5 requested was the remainder of the money it would  
6 take to replace that main with a 16 inch main for  
7 18,000 feet of it, but the money this year,  
8 \$450,000, would be to just get that piece in before  
9 the state re-paves the intersection. Because then  
10 we don't want to have to come back afterwards and  
11 go ripping through the new asphalt in order to  
12 replace the main a couple of years from now.

13 So, I understand it may seem a bit more  
14 complicated than it is on paper, okay? But  
15 nonetheless, I can assure you that we always do our  
16 best not only to give you the best service, but  
17 also in deference to the Town, to try to be able to  
18 do what's affordable. And when we can do it.

19 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Hargraves.

20 MR. HARGRAVES: So, I would expect  
21 nothing less than the excellent answer that you  
22 have provided. And I appreciate the work that DPW  
23 does.

24 MR. JACK: Thank you.

1 MR. HARGRAVES: And let me use it for  
2 one last, quick follow-up, then.

3 In my -

4 THE MODERATOR: Quick. Real quick.

5 MR. HARGRAVES: In my request - it will  
6 be fast, I assure you, if I'm not interrupted.

7 In my request to get the financial people  
8 to present this information in a way that we can  
9 address it, let me ask: is there a Capital Plan  
10 that's rolled out from each department and  
11 prioritized so that we can look constructively at  
12 how to allocate our capital resources when we look  
13 at the budget the next time as it's the separated  
14 the way you directed?

15 THE MODERATOR: I believe that's what's  
16 in the warrant, isn't it? It's in the warrant  
17 book.

18 MR. HARGRAVES: So that's all the  
19 Capital Plan, and the four and a half million is  
20 itemized in there and prioritized according to the  
21 other needs in town? That's just the Water  
22 Department. There are lots of other capital  
23 needs. I've heard - I've heard us address them in  
24 all the - in many of the articles leading up to



1 this Article 18, or 19.

2 THE MODERATOR: Yeah, I see Highway  
3 Department, M.E.S., Police; it's in here.

4 MR. HARGRAVES: Let me look at it  
5 closer. I apologize, then -

6 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

7 MR. HARGRAVES: - if it's already  
8 available.

9 THE MODERATOR: Yeah, and so this is  
10 the priority document. We are now voting on what  
11 we want to be the priorities of the larger requests  
12 that are itemized.

13 MR. HARGRAVES: Ah!

14 THE MODERATOR: Anyways, it's in there.

15 MR. HARGRAVES: Okay. I was speaking  
16 to the out years.

17 So, as we get into Capital Planning, this  
18 is a ten year plan. If the out years, then, could  
19 be more substantially documented so that we  
20 understand the nature of - of the out year  
21 expenses. Thank you.

22 THE MODERATOR: Yeah, we go out ten  
23 years in what's in you warrant booklet. I'm  
24 looking at the spreadsheet, here.

1                   Okay, so the question will now - we're  
2 actually Recreation; we didn't get there yet.  
3 Recreation? Yeah, in the middle.

4                   MS. VAN MOOY: Tiffany Van Mooy,  
5 precinct two.

6                   I'm sorry, I didn't realize we were going  
7 on to Recreation. I wanted to go back to Road  
8 Maintenance, Construction and Sidewalks.

9                   THE MODERATOR: Okay.

10                  MS. VAN MOOY: My apologies. I didn't  
11 hear anything about sidewalks, actually. And  
12 maybe you noticed in the newspaper some kids that  
13 are doing a walking school bus, now. And the  
14 sidewalks between Mullen Hall and Morse Pond and  
15 the Lawrence School are in desperate need of  
16 repair.

17                  So, I would love that idea where we added  
18 some money for the dredging. So, could we do an  
19 increase to the sidewalk, here, particularly in  
20 that area for the students? Maybe an amendment  
21 for say an additional \$100,000?

22 [Pause.]

23                  THE MODERATOR: Okay. Okay, so we do  
24 have the flexibility for the amendment from Free

1 Cash for an additional \$100,000 for the road and  
2 sidewalks line item.

3 Discussion on the amendment. Hearing  
4 none, the question will come on the amendment.

5 All those in favor, signify by saying  
6 aye.

7 [Aye.]

8 MR. NETTO: Point of order.

9 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed --  
10 what? What's the point of order.

11 MR. NETTO: Excuse me, Mr. Moderator,  
12 what is the amendment?

13 THE MODERATOR: The amendment is to  
14 increase \$100,000 to the line item for the roadways  
15 and sidewalks. The - the - her interest is  
16 sidewalks, but this line item is roadway and  
17 sidewalks. So it's to increase that line item  
18 \$100,000.

19 All those in favor of the increase,  
20 signify by saying aye.

21 [Aye.]

22 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

23 [No.]

24 THE MODERATOR: It's the opinion of the

1 chair that the no's have it by a majority.

2 Anything else on Public Works?

3 Yes, Mr. Kapp.

4 MR. KAPP: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

5 Paul Kapp, precinct 3.

6 Actually there's two line items, one

7 under Public Works and one under Recreation.

8 Central Park Basketball Court and the Fields Track

9 under Recreation and Trotting Park. Is there any

10 reason why these couldn't be under CPC? Can

11 anybody answer that for me?

12 THE MODERATOR: I don't know what the

13 extent of the work is, but does it meet the

14 criteria for an application to the CPC?

15 Mr. Herbst?

16 MR. HERBST: Ralph Herbst, precinct 8.

17 Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee.

18 I heard the request for the Trotting Park

19 Road and Fields. What was the other one, please?

20 THE MODERATOR: The Basketball Court,

21 Central Park.

22 MR. HERBST: And that's under?

23 THE MODERATOR: It's right above the

24 subtitle of Recreation in the Public Works

1 category.

2 MR. HERBST: It's under Public Works?

3 THE MODERATOR: Yeah, it's right above  
4 the word Recreation. Central Park Basketball.

5 MR. HERBST: Okay, I don't see it. It  
6 doesn't matter, probably. Oh, it's above, okay.  
7 Above Recreation, I see. I was looking across the  
8 other column.

9 No, there's no reason why those items  
10 couldn't be brought before the Community  
11 Preservation Committee under the category of  
12 Recreation. But the Recreation Department, the  
13 DPW entered into a software program that  
14 prioritized the Recreation needs for the next few  
15 years, and I don't have that in front of me and I  
16 don't know whether those particular items are on  
17 that or not.

18 But the answer to your question is they  
19 could possibly be funded with Community  
20 Preservation funds.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, any further  
22 discussion? Recreation section.

23 Schools. Any discussion on Schools?

24 Okay, we have the main motion as amended.

1 Your amendments were around the dispatch, going  
2 back to the \$50,000, and you added a hundred - or,  
3 you added \$50,000 to dredging.

4 Madame Chairman for the new final number  
5 for the main motion.

6 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: I move Article 18 in  
7 the amount of \$4,029,770 from Free Cash. And then  
8 the 44 from the -

9 THE MODERATOR: And \$44,136 -

10 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Yes.

11 THE MODERATOR: - from Article 25 of the  
12 November, 2010 Annual Town Meeting.

13 You've all heard the main motion - Mr.  
14 Pinto.

15 MR. PINTO: [No mic:] Sorry. Is that  
16 four million [inaudible] total number, or is that  
17 [inaudible]?

18 MS. MAGNANI: Just a minute.

19 [Pause.]

20 MS. MAGNANI: I move Article 18 in the  
21 total amount of \$4,073,906.

22 THE MODERATOR: Okay, so the total  
23 amount is the \$4,073,906, and a portion of that is  
24 coming from Article 25 of the November, 2010, which

1 is for \$44,136.

2 Any - you got a question, or, what's the  
3 problem? Take the microphone, please.

4 MS. KAPP: Dale Kapp, precinct 3. Have  
5 you subtracted the 250 that went back down to 50?

6 THE MODERATOR: We subtracted the  
7 200,000 and then we added 50,000 for the -

8 MS. KAPP: Thank you.

9 THE MODERATOR: Yes.

10 Okay, all those in favor of -

11 MR. PINTO: Mr. Moderator, point of  
12 order.

13 THE MODERATOR: Okay, the number is  
14 \$4,073,906 in total, of which \$44,136 will come  
15 from Article 25 of the November, 2010, Annual Town  
16 Meeting and the residual from Certified Free Cash.

17 Mr. Pinto, you have another question?

18 MR. PINTO: Mr. Moderator, I beg to  
19 differ with your numbers.

20 THE MODERATOR: Well, they're not my  
21 numbers.

22 MR. PINTO: All right, then I beg to  
23 differ with the Finance Committee -

24 THE MODERATOR: All right, we're going

1 to take an adjournment and somebody's going to do  
2 the math. Fifteen minutes.

3 MR. PINTO: I already did.

4 [Whereupon, a recess was taken.]

5 THE MODERATOR: All Town Meeting Members  
6 please come forward, take your seats.

7 [Pause.]

8 THE MODERATOR: Article 18, final motion  
9 on Article 18.

10 [Pause.]

11 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Netto, Mr. Dufresne  
12 and Mr. Johnson, okay, good.

13 All Town Meeting Members please rise for  
14 the establishment of the quorum and the tellers  
15 will return a count.

16 [Pause.]

17 THE MODERATOR: Go ahead, just count  
18 them. They're going to keep coming in, Andy.

19 Just count what we have.

20 [Pause.]

21 THE MODERATOR: All right, Tellers,  
22 let's count what we have; they're going to keep  
23 coming in. Yes.

24 [Pause.]



1 THE MODERATOR: In the first division,  
2 Mr. Netto.

3 MR. NETTO: 35.

4 THE MODERATOR: 35.

5 In the third division, Mr. Johnson.

6 MR. JOHNSON: 52.

7 THE MODERATOR: 52.

8 [Pause.]

9 THE MODERATOR: In the second division,  
10 Mr. Dufresne.

11 MR. DUFRESNE: 95.

12 THE MODERATOR: 95.

13 By a counted vote of 182, we have a  
14 quorum and we're back in session.

15 Madame Chairman for the final motion on  
16 Article 18.

17 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Yes, Mr. Moderator, I  
18 move Article 18 in the amount of \$4,029,770.

19 \$3,985,634 will be transferred from Free Cash and  
20 \$44,136 will be taken out of a previous article.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, so that's the  
22 final motion as amended.

23 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

24 [Aye.]

1 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

2 [None opposed.]

3 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it  
4 unanimous.

5 Article 20. Article 20 is a hold by the  
6 Board of Selectmen. The original recommendation  
7 was indefinite postponement.

8 Madame Chair. Oh, sorry, Finance  
9 Committee.

10 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Yes.

11 THE MODERATOR: Is making the Article  
12 20.

13 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Mr. Moderator, I move  
14 that the Town vote to transfer the amount of  
15 \$165,000 from Certified Free Cash for the purpose  
16 of demolishing a building on King Street and  
17 constructing a parking lot, to be expended under  
18 the jurisdiction of the Town Manager.

19 THE MODERATOR: Okay, the main motion on  
20 Article 20 is \$165,000 Certified Free Cash for the  
21 parking lot. Any discussion on Article 20?

22 Hearing none, the question will then come  
23 on the main motion.

24 All those in - whoa, whoa, what do we

1 got? Who? Ms. Hayward, okay.

2 Okay, microphone for Ms. Hayward, please.

3 Yes, with the microphone, please.

4 MS. HAYWARD: Nancy Hayward, precinct 5.

5 This is not related to the finances.

6 What is going to happen to the nine people who live  
7 in that house? Thank you.

8 THE MODERATOR: Kind of beyond the scope  
9 of the article here. That's to do with the person  
10 who owns the building.

11 But if you have an answer, you could -  
12 yeah, does somebody have an answer?

13 MR. JONES: The Human Services  
14 Department has offered to help those people  
15 relocate and find housing for them.

16 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

17 So - Ms. Whitehead.

18 MS. WHITEHEAD: This may be a silly  
19 question, but do they ever consult the neighbors  
20 when they're putting a parking lot next to the next  
21 house when you're doing something like this? Just  
22 a thought.

23 MR. SUSO: Yes.

24 [Laughter.]

1 MS. WHITEHEAD: And then, then an  
2 additional question. In what way do you notify  
3 them that this may happen, or do you have a  
4 hearing? Do you get consult - do you ask them how  
5 they feel about it? As neighbors to the firemen  
6 and the fire station and.

7 MR. SUSO: We have been working  
8 regularly with the primary neighbor.

9 MS. WHITEHEAD: The primary neighbor.  
10 What about the other side of the street or -

11 THE MODERATOR: They're the ones that  
12 are always calling; they don't want us to park on  
13 the street.

14 MS. WHITEHEAD: Well, there's probably  
15 a good reason for that, David, they -

16 THE MODERATOR: Exactly, because there's  
17 no parking.

18 MS. WHITEHEAD: Okay. Just a thought.  
19 You know, it's nice to consult neighbors, one way  
20 or the other. Thank you.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, the question will  
22 come on the main motion of \$165,000 from Certified  
23 Free Cash.

24 All those in favor, signify by saying

1 aye.

2 [Aye.]

3 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed, no.

4 [No.]

5 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it by a  
6 majority.

7 MR. FINNERAN: [No mic:] Mr. Moderator.

8 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Finneran.

9 Microphone for Mr. Finneran.

10 MR. FINNERAN: This is going back to  
11 the Capital Budget. It's just a question. There  
12 was a question about them not meeting the  
13 definition of Capital items, which you satisfied by  
14 asking them to put it in a different article.

15 Also, and I've mentioned this before -  
16 when we used to buy a truck or a car-

17 THE MODERATOR: No, this is - that's -  
18 we're not on - if it's not related to a point of  
19 order, then we can meet -

20 MR. FINNERAN: I -

21 THE MODERATOR: - with the Rules  
22 Committee and talk about rules of Town Meeting at  
23 another time.

24 MR. FINNERAN: Um. I don't know if it

1 is a point of order or not.

2 THE MODERATOR: Did I do something wrong  
3 running the meeting? That is the threshold for a  
4 point of order.

5 MR. FINNERAN: Um.

6 THE MODERATOR: Parliamentarily, did I  
7 do something wrong running the meeting?

8 MR. FINNERAN: Oh, it's for you? I  
9 think - no, it's something they did.

10 THE MODERATOR: Then it's not a point of  
11 order.

12 MR. FINNERAN: Okay. Well, we'll  
13 address it afterwards, then.

14 THE MODERATOR: Exactly.

15 Article 24. This is - the  
16 recommendation initially was indefinite  
17 postponement.

18 Madame Chairman of the Board of Selectmen  
19 for a new main motion.

20 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: Yes, thank you, Mr.  
21 Moderator.

22 I move that the Town vote to authorize  
23 the Board of Selectmen to purchase or take by  
24 eminent domain a parcel of land with one building

1           thereon known as 65 Town Hall Square, Falmouth,  
2           Massachusetts.   Being a part of Assessor's Parcel  
3           47A-08-007-000, now or formerly owned by Robert H.  
4           Ament, et al., Trustees, and being a portion of  
5           land described in a deed recorded in the Barnstable  
6           County Registry of Deeds in Book 5890, page 347.  
7           That the Town appropriate the sum of \$615,000 to  
8           pay costs of the foregoing property acquisition,  
9           and that to meet this appropriation the sum of  
10          \$150,000 shall be transferred from Certified Free  
11          Cash and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval  
12          of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow  
13          the sum of \$465,000 under the authority of Mass.  
14          General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7, paragraph 3, or  
15          any other appropriate authority, upon such terms  
16          and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems  
17          appropriate, and to issue bonds and notes of the  
18          town therefore, said property to be under the  
19          jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen for  
20          municipal purposes, with said sums to be expended  
21          under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen.

22                        THE MODERATOR:   Okay, so the main motion  
23                        has been presented by the Board of Selectmen.   The  
24                        Finance Committee's recommendation is still

1 indefinite postponement but the main motion is on  
2 the floor.

3 Mr. Suso, yeah.

4 MR. SUSO: Thank you, Mr. Moderator,  
5 Julian Suso, Town Manager.

6 This is a picture of 65 Town Hall Square.  
7 I'm sure Town Meeting Members are familiar with it.  
8 It's the parcel immediately adjacent to existing  
9 Town Hall, and it happens that it is - it and the  
10 two companion structures that are part of the same  
11 parcel have been listed for sale for the past few  
12 months.

13 Some facts about 65 Town Hall Square.  
14 This represents a one time opportunity to acquire a  
15 property immediately adjacent to Town Hall in a  
16 highly cost-effective manner. There is a creative  
17 financing package proposed for Town Hall's  
18 consideration as part of the purchase and sale  
19 agreement.

20 It does represent 3,900 square feet. The  
21 agreed-upon sale price is \$615,000, as noted in the  
22 motion by Selectmen Flynn. The Town appraisal,  
23 conducted by a certified appraiser, was for that  
24 same amount: \$615,000.



1                   We have agreed to, subject to Town  
2                   Meeting approval, an advantageous structured  
3                   payment plan that assesses and charges no interest  
4                   to the Town.    The payment would be spread over  
5                   four different fiscal years, with as you note  
6                   \$150,000 to be paid at closing, another \$150,000 in  
7                   the following fiscal year.    And actually a slight  
8                   adjustment in the last two amounts.    The last two  
9                   amounts should be \$157,500 on July 15, 2016 and  
10                  \$157,500 July 15, 2017.    The necessary two times  
11                  5700 bring you to 615.

12                  There is no penalty for early payment;  
13                  that's been negotiated with the sellers, as well.

14                  Next slide.    65 Town Hall Square, the  
15                  potential uses.    Again, this is an existing  
16                  commercially zoned property that would allow the  
17                  relocation of the Town Hall archives that are  
18                  currently spread in several locations in the lower  
19                  level of Town Hall.    They are in harm's way  
20                  because, as most people are now aware, the lower  
21                  level of Town Hall is technically in the flood  
22                  plain.

23                  It would allow the continued use of that  
24                  same commercial building for Human Services that

1 has served as the location of the Human Services  
2 Office for many years. It is currently leased for  
3 approximately \$25,000 per year. It would also  
4 allow that building to be considered for  
5 utilization for one or more additional municipal  
6 offices.

7 For 65 Town Hall Square we want to advise  
8 Town Meeting that a zoning change would also be  
9 required to allow the property to be properly  
10 subdivided and to effectively transfer only the  
11 single commercial structure, which has the address  
12 of 65 Town Hall Square, to the Town. The lot  
13 currently has three structures on it, including the  
14 single commercial building we're talking about now.  
15 That's the one of interest to the Town.

16 Behind it, fronting on the street behind,  
17 are two stand-alone commercial - excuse me. Two  
18 stand-alone residential structures. If subdivided  
19 in the current B3 zone, the newly created parcels  
20 would be non-conforming. The property may be  
21 subdivided within the B1 zone. The owner would  
22 effectuate the process of the zone change request  
23 which must return to Town Meeting in April, 2015  
24 for your approval of that if you determine you

1 decide to go forward this evening.

2 No closing will occur or payments made  
3 until the zoning change would be approved by Town  
4 Meeting in April if that would be your pleasure.  
5 The B1 zone is consistent with the adjacent zoning,  
6 as Odd Fellows Hall is B1, as are the adjacent  
7 apartments located on the adjacent street, Glenwood  
8 Avenue, immediately behind.

9 This is a map of the Town Hall Square  
10 area. You see the Town Hall, which is the dark  
11 shaded property to the center left of the picture.  
12 The commercial building is immediately to the  
13 right. That darker, sort of magenta-shaded area  
14 is all the B3 zone and you see the location of Odd  
15 Fellows Hall along the avenue or alley adjacent,  
16 and Glenwood Avenue to the rear.

17 So, again, there are three separate  
18 parcels, structures on that single property: one,  
19 the commercial building, 65 Town Hall Square; and  
20 two stand-alone residential structures behind it.  
21 The Town is only interested in, and the purchase  
22 and sale, if it would be Town Meeting's pleasure,  
23 only involves the commercial building fronting  
24 directly on Town Hall Square and that was

1 photographed in the initial PowerPoint slide.

2 Don't know if we have another slide after  
3 this. We do not.

4 Again, this is brought to Town Meeting in  
5 the spirit that we have a creative financing  
6 package that has been negotiated. You need only  
7 make payments of \$150,000 per year over four years  
8 to acquire this parcel. That's in recognition of  
9 the fact that, you know, we're bringing two  
10 potential real estate acquisitions to Town Meeting.  
11 At the same time, we recognize that that's a tall  
12 order. It also does provide for potential  
13 borrowing if they - it would be determined that  
14 that would be in the Town's interest.

15 At the moment we anticipate four stand-  
16 alone payments that we would be discussing and  
17 proposing in cooperation with the Finance Committee  
18 to allow this to be acquired in this creative way  
19 over four years and at no additional interest to  
20 the Town.

21 So we bring this for your consideration.  
22 It is not everyday that you have this opportunity  
23 to acquire a commercial building with available  
24 office space immediately adjacent to Town Hall.

1                   We heard some comments last evening about  
2                   the Fire station. We appreciate very much Town  
3                   Meeting's support of allowing us to rectify a major  
4                   problem with the proper utilization of that  
5                   headquarters fire station facility. Comments were  
6                   made by a couple individuals about real estate that  
7                   was available immediately adjacent to that fire  
8                   station in the past and the Town did not move  
9                   forward with an acquisition which might have  
10                  alleviated that and avoided the earlier article  
11                  that we brought to you yesterday.

12                  Here is potentially a similar  
13                  opportunity, and again it's being made available at  
14                  the appraised price and for a creative financing  
15                  package over four years if Town Meeting in your  
16                  wisdom would determine that this would be in the  
17                  Town's strategic interest.

18                  So we bring that to you in that spirit.  
19                  Happy to answer any questions you may have and I  
20                  bring it to you in that spirit as well. Thank  
21                  you.

22                  THE MODERATOR:     Okay, Mr. Dufresne.

23                  MR. DUFRESNE:     Adriene Dufresne,  
24                  precinct 2.

1                   You know it's hard for me to stand here  
2                   and figure out whose brainstorm is this one.

3 [Laughter.]

4                   MR. DUFRESNE:     That building is over a  
5                   hundred years old.     It was once the barn in my  
6                   back yard.     I was born on Glenwood Place.     I've  
7                   been in the building several times.     It's old,  
8                   it's decrepit, it needs a ton of work.

9                   If Mr. Ament wants to get rid of it, you  
10                  know, he probably could ask 150 and save us 450.  
11                  If we buy that building, we are buying a derelict,  
12                  and I would advise the Town Meeting Members please  
13                  vote no on this project.

14                  It's hard for me to even comprehend how  
15                  they even thought about it.     Does anybody -  
16                  anybody in this room - stick your hand up if you've  
17                  been in that building.     Huh?     Do you really think  
18                  it's worth \$600,000?     Huh?

19                  We're talking \$600,000; I don't care how  
20                  you make the payments.     Some of us buy houses and  
21                  our payments are every month.     In this particular  
22                  case they want four payments every year.     It's -  
23                  it just boggles my mind at Mr. Suso's presentation  
24                  is this is the best offer we've had.

1           Years ago, at a much earlier time, we had  
2 a chance to buy the Pafford Building for 75,000.  
3 We had a chance to buy a brick building, the  
4 bookstore on Main Street, for \$175,000 and the guy  
5 was going to put a new roof on it.

6           Thank God we didn't buy the derelicts  
7 that have been offered to us.   Town Meeting  
8 Members have to make some serious decisions; this  
9 is one. If we consider this building and we spend  
10 that kind of money, trust me, it's going to come  
11 back to haunt us.

12           Thank you for listening.

13           THE MODERATOR:   Mr. Latimer, then Mr.  
14 Shearer.

15           MR. LATIMER:   Richard Latimer, precinct  
16 1. I would support this.

17           We're looking at real estate values that  
18 have escalated and there's no stopping it.   The  
19 condition of the building is an important  
20 consideration, but I'm sure that the appraiser took  
21 that into consideration when he appraised the  
22 property at our request.

23           Much more important is the old phrase:  
24 "location, location, location".   And the thing

1 that gets my support is we are in an era of rising  
2 sea levels. All of our municipal records, our  
3 building records are on the first floor right  
4 barely a couple of hundred feet away from a pond.  
5 This building gives us the opportunity to provide  
6 decent storage for that. If there's some  
7 maintenance that will be required down the road,  
8 that's good.

9 At least this is a proactive thing. We  
10 just spent \$400,000 to tear down a building for 23  
11 parking spaces, and this at least give us, as Mr.  
12 Suso said, a proactive way to get at least -  
13 despite the building's condition - get at least the  
14 location right next to Town Hall, where if it needs  
15 some work in the future, it can be done and we've  
16 got the facility.

17 And, you're right, we should have bought  
18 the Pafford building for 75 grand but - but we  
19 didn't. So here we are with this deal; I think we  
20 should take it. Thank you.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Shearer.

22 Then Mr. Suso.

23 MR. SHEARER: Dan Shearer, precinct 6.

24 It's a nice building. My wife's office



1 was in there for a long time. The heat goes to  
2 110, because you can't turn it down. You have to  
3 open the windows all winter and it costs a fortune  
4 to heat.

5 In the summer, you boil to death. It's  
6 a mess.

7 We should - we bought the Odd Fellows  
8 Hall, and we lost every single penny we put into  
9 it, and this building right here, we're going to  
10 put \$42,000 in the meeting room. Every room in  
11 that house will take another \$42,000 to fix up and  
12 make an office out of.

13 We - unless we have positive use of that  
14 building and need it, we should not buy it. Thank  
15 you, it's our money, do what you want.

16 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Suso.

17 MR. SUSO: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

18 I just want to clarify for the record I  
19 assured Town Meeting I would not insult you by  
20 bringing a proposed real estate transaction to you  
21 without having inspected it. I was - I like to  
22 believe that you would assume as much, but I want  
23 to reassure you.

24 In addition to the appraisal which we

1 have in hand, I did a walk-through with the  
2 Building Commissioner and other qualified  
3 individuals, and the assessment of the overall  
4 building -- we walked through all portions of the  
5 building - is it is in good condition. Keep in  
6 mind we have an existing office there, an existing  
7 Town office which we visit periodically and our  
8 Human Services Director is - spends all her days  
9 there, along with members of her staff, and it has  
10 been well maintained.

11 It is going to need continuing  
12 maintenance. It is an office building. It is an  
13 older building, but it is in good condition. And  
14 I bring that message to you having had it reviewed  
15 by qualified staff members.

16 THE MODERATOR: Ms. Buesseler.

17 MS. BUESSELER: Hi, Wendi Buesseler,  
18 precinct 2.

19 Could we please go back to the map that  
20 was showing previously, it was showing the property  
21 in relationship to Town Hall? Yes, that one,  
22 thank you.

23 You had mentioned that one reason why you  
24 were - the interest in this property is because we

1           could take the records out of Town Hall that are of  
2           risk of being flooded if there is a - because the  
3           Town Hall is now in the Flood Zone.    It seems to  
4           me that this property is very, very close in  
5           proximity to Town Hall and I don't know exactly  
6           where the Flood Zone lines are, but it seems  
7           awfully close, and if we had a major hurricane with  
8           a high tidal surge, I think that property would  
9           also be at risk.

10                        I'm just very reluctant to put any money  
11           into property that's at such a high risk.    I don't  
12           think it's good fiscal sense.    I think it would be  
13           better to put our resources elsewhere, much higher  
14           out of the storm surge location.    Thank you.

15                        THE MODERATOR:    Mr. McNamara.

16                        MR. MCNAMARA:    Matt McNamara, precinct  
17           7.

18                        I don't think the reason to buy property  
19           is because it becomes available, but rather because  
20           you need it.

21                        During the Senior Center feasibility  
22           study, we've learned that there are number of  
23           publicly owned buildings in town that are under-  
24           utilized, including schools, the School

1 Administration Building. We heard tonight the  
2 possibility of a Gus Canty, although I don't want  
3 to tread on Sandy Cuny or any of her folks.

4 But we don't have a great track record in  
5 Town Hall Square. We buy property for an adjacent  
6 parking lot to Town Hall and we give it to  
7 affordable housing. A good use, but not the  
8 original use.

9 We are - Dan already brought up Odd  
10 Fellows.

11 Last year, we appropriated \$250,000 for  
12 space utilization issues. I don't know what the  
13 results of that was. I'm not sure this body knows  
14 at this point.

15 In terms of archives, do they need to be  
16 adjacent to Town Hall? Or could those archives be  
17 put anywhere? The Marks Building.

18 Does Human Services need to be in the  
19 building adjacent to Town Hall? In fact, amongst  
20 part of the discussion, it was once stated that it  
21 would be good for Human Services to be away from  
22 the Town Hall Square area for more privacy types of  
23 issues.

24 So, I think before we just buy another

1 building because somebody wants to sell it to us,  
2 we ought to have a good reason to use it and have a  
3 good understanding of what the availability of  
4 space in our public buildings is.

5 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Anderson. I've got  
6 you on the list. Mr. Anderson.

7 MR. ANDERSON: Gary Anderson, precinct  
8 7.

9 This is the second piece of property that  
10 we would take off the tax rolls. Not a  
11 significant number. The combination of the lost  
12 real estate taxes would be about \$9,000 between the  
13 two.

14 I would, however, be interested in the  
15 Finance Committee's position on this, as I  
16 understood the Moderator, Mr. Moderator, you said  
17 that their recommendation was still IP, indefinite  
18 postponement.

19 Could we hear from the Finance Committee  
20 as to their thought process.

21 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Thank you, Mr.  
22 Anderson.

23 THE MODERATOR: Madame Chairman.

24 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: The Finance Committee

1 discussed this article last night at its meeting  
2 before Town Meeting, and it was basically the idea  
3 of buying more property, and it was not unanimous  
4 but it was a majority vote, and maybe some of the  
5 Finance Committee people would like to address it.  
6 Thank you.

7 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Lowell.

8 MR. LOWELL: Nick Lowell, precinct 5 and  
9 the Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee.

10 Yes, we did get a presentation on this  
11 yesterday at a little after six o'clock. It was  
12 the first time that we had a number or we had a  
13 solid plan and my personal feeling was that I  
14 didn't feel like we really knew what we were going  
15 to use the property for.

16 I have never actually been in the  
17 property myself, and I just didn't feel comfortable  
18 with purchasing this right now without having a  
19 much better handle on what was going on, and that's  
20 the reason that I voted against purchasing the  
21 property right now. Thank you.

22 THE MODERATOR: Let's see. Ms.  
23 Lichtenstein was next on the list.

24 Yes, you're on the list. It's a big

1 list.

2 Yeah, Ms. Lichtenstein, yes.

3 MS. LICHTENSTEIN: Leslie Lichtenstein,  
4 precinct 8.

5 I suggest if we need a place for the town  
6 archives that we direct the Selectmen or ask the  
7 Selectmen to look for a piece of property on the  
8 moraine. I don't think we should buy another  
9 piece of property in the 100 year flood plain. I  
10 think that's asking for trouble. Thank you.

11 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Donahue. No,  
12 okay. No. We'll go to the aisle.

13 MS. HOFFSTROFF: Ann Beth Hoffstroff  
14 [sp?], precinct 3.

15 So we're not quite sure what the building  
16 is going to be used for. So let's in fact say -  
17 and I've been in that building many times, at Human  
18 Services, and when the - what was the name of it? -  
19 the Falmouth Health Care Center was there.

20 It's not handicapped accessible. Has  
21 anyone figured in the bathrooms are too small, the  
22 stairways are narrow and windy. The Human Service  
23 Office is really beautiful, but has anybody figured  
24 out if you're going to use that building for public

1 use it has to be A.D.A. approved and accessible to  
2 everybody? And how much would that cost.

3 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Suso.

4 MR. SUSO: Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

5 Two issues. One, we've confirmed that  
6 that building is not in the Flood Plain. Only the  
7 lower level of Town Hall is and of course this  
8 building as you're all aware, is considerably  
9 elevated above the lower level of Town Hall, so it  
10 is not in harm's way in the - or in any Flood Zone.

11 Number two, the building is fully  
12 handicapped accessible from Glenwood Avenue and  
13 includes two handicap parking spaces from that  
14 access point.

15 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Latimer.

16 MR. LATIMER: Thank you, Richard  
17 Latimer, precinct 2 again.

18 Another good reason why this would be a  
19 good purchase is right now it was mentioned that  
20 there would be some four or five thousand dollar  
21 annual tax loss, which would be more than offset by  
22 saving the \$25,000 rent that's now being paid by  
23 the Human Services Committee for space in that  
24 building which we would now own.



1                   And another factor is, the article itself  
2                   says the Selectmen have the option to lease back to  
3                   the grantor, that is to the current owner, a  
4                   portion of the building for office space which  
5                   would involve more income off of the building.

6                   So, it is not a good argument against  
7                   this that simply it's going to be taken off the tax  
8                   rolls where there would be opportunities to get  
9                   monies back on it.

10                   And again: location, location, location.  
11                   Our Town Hall is where it is. This is adjacent to  
12                   the Town Hall. If it's going to need some work in  
13                   the future, it'd be worth putting it in there  
14                   because of the location.

15                   And, as Mr. Suso says, it is considerably  
16                   a taller building and it has much better potential  
17                   for protection. The Building Department records,  
18                   the Electrical Department, all the inspection  
19                   records that are right now on the basement level --  
20                   there's a lot of stuff on the basement level where  
21                   it is at risk. Thank you.

22                   THE MODERATOR: Mr. Peck. No, you're  
23                   all set.

24                   Okay, any further discussion? Yes, in

1 the center. And then we'll be ready to take a  
2 vote.

3 MS. HARRIS: Mary Harris, precinct 5 and  
4 new member of the Finance Committee and among those  
5 who thought indefinite postponement was the right  
6 thing to do.

7 I think location matters a lot, but I  
8 don't see doubling down on a bad location, and  
9 we're aware of what the future brings. I'm  
10 thinking if they can find a buyer for that, we  
11 ought to offer them Town Hall and move our problems  
12 somewhere else.

13 [Laughter and applause.]

14 THE MODERATOR: Okay, this requires a  
15 two-thirds vote. The question will come on the  
16 main motion.

17 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

18 [Aye.]

19 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

20 [No.]

21 THE MODERATOR: It's the opinion of the  
22 chair that the no's have it.

23 Article 25. Madame Chairman of the  
24 Board of Selectmen for the main motion.

1 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: Mr. Moderator, I move  
2 that the Town vote Article 25 as printed, subject  
3 to receipt of a signed agreement.

4 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Who held this  
5 one? Any discussion on this article?

6 Yeah, you have a signed agreement, but  
7 somebody held it, so - huh? Okay. Oh, you held  
8 it up here? We would do it on the blanket, it  
9 could have went.

10 All right, all those in favor, signify by  
11 saying aye.

12 [Aye.]

13 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

14 [None opposed.]

15 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it  
16 unanimous.

17 Article 27.

18 Article 27, Finance Committee for the  
19 main motion.

20 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Mr. Moderator, I move  
21 that the Town vote to authorize the Board of  
22 Selectmen to acquire for nominal non-monetary  
23 consideration a parcel of land 500 feet wide  
24 abutting the Long Pond, and being a portion of

1 13.22 plus or minus acres of land, shown on  
2 Assessor's Map 35 04 004 000CR, now or formerly  
3 belonging to Arthur L. Chute, Executor et al, upon  
4 such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen  
5 deems appropriate, and further to authorize the  
6 Board of Selectmen to do all acts necessary and  
7 proper to effectuate the purposes of this article,  
8 including petitioning the General Court for special  
9 legislation if necessary. Said land to be under  
10 the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen as  
11 additional watershed for Long Pond.

12 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Johnson, you  
13 held this one.

14 MR. JOHNSON: Would you put up the  
15 slide, please.

16 I just wanted - Leonard Johnson, precinct  
17 5 and president of the 300 Committee. The wording  
18 of this article is somewhat confusing. What is  
19 happening is that the Town is involved in this  
20 transaction but the Chute family is donating the  
21 parcel that is outlined up here to the 300  
22 Committee and then the 300 Committee now has an  
23 agreement with the Town to transfer to the Town 500  
24 feet along - okay, there you are, the 500 feet

1 along there.

2 It's similar to what was done when the  
3 Chute family gave us this parcel about seven or  
4 eight years ago and that 500 feet was transferred  
5 to ownership by the Town so that it would protect  
6 Long Pond.

7 So that is what the transaction is all  
8 about. Thank you.

9 THE MODERATOR: Okay, any further  
10 discussion?

11 Hearing none, the question will come on  
12 the main motion as recommended. All those in favor  
13 signify by saying aye.

14 [Aye.]

15 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

16 [None opposed.]

17 THE MODERATOR: The Ayes have it  
18 unanimous.

19 Article 28. Chairman of the Board of  
20 Selectmen for the main motion.

21 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: Mr. Moderator, I move  
22 that the Town vote Article 28 as printed.

23 THE MODERATOR: As printed. This is to  
24 vote to ask the School Committee to rescind their

1 vote to disallow voting at the elementary schools.

2 Mr. Finneran.

3 MR. FINNERAN: Thank you. Mark  
4 Finneran.

5 I'd like to put a positive motion on the  
6 floor for this.

7 THE MODERATOR: The Selectmen --

8 MR. FINNERAN: Oh, they already did.

9 THE MODERATOR: The Selectmen are in  
10 favor of it, so you've got the positive motion.

11 MR. FINNERAN: God bless 'em.

12 And as you can see, it's to see if the  
13 Town will vote to ask the School Committee to  
14 rescind their vote and disallow voting in the  
15 public schools. And the reason why there's a  
16 problem is because it removes the convenience of  
17 local voting for some people in East Falmouth only,  
18 which isn't fair or equitable.

19 There weren't enough handicap parking  
20 spaces. There wasn't enough parking, period. And  
21 the parking that was available, teachers and the  
22 poll workers used. And that just made the matters  
23 worse.

24 And, as many of you saw who were there,

1 it was just downright dangerous.

2 That slide should flip on its own.

3 There.

4 When I first pulled in in the morning,  
5 the last space that was available was taken by this  
6 woman who's a teacher, and you can see her walking  
7 away towards school. This is very early in the  
8 morning as well, and that's Lot C around the back  
9 and you can see that's all filled.

10 I turned the other way and there were  
11 people already parking on the curb and - as you can  
12 see. And this is just seconds later it was filled  
13 up and it remained like this for quite some time.  
14 It was no convenience.

15 Again, this is just moments after that  
16 and you can see Gifford Street, I mean, was  
17 completely filled. Access was just a problem.  
18 It really wasn't good.

19 And the same there. They don't really  
20 show up as well as they did, but you can see that  
21 it's just extremely busy. People went around and  
22 around and around, just as they were in May.  
23 There was nowhere to park. It was dangerous. I  
24 mean, it's fairly illustrated by the pictures.

1                   This is going to be a fairly short  
2 presentation. I think many of you who were there  
3 saw how bad it really was.

4                   And it continues. They're just starting  
5 to park on the side of the road now. And it  
6 didn't take very long before that was all filled  
7 up, too, as you can see. It certainly wasn't a  
8 good location.

9                   And here's in the parking lot again, the  
10 cars are backing up. You can see - oh, there's a  
11 lucky man, right there, he found a space to his  
12 right.

13                  Here are the handicap parking spaces.  
14 Where I circled in red, those aren't handicapped.  
15 The handicap ones are further down, away from the  
16 entrance. There was a lot of complaints about  
17 that. And you can see: they're all filled.

18                  There, I believe, I'm not sure, but  
19 that's one of our Town Meeting Members there, doing  
20 that maneuver he learned on the mean streets of  
21 Chappaquoit.

22 [Laughter.]

23                  MR. FINNERAN: It was a total nightmare.  
24 And that's - slightly after that, you can see this



1 is the first entrance to the school; they're  
2 already parked all the way down towards the light  
3 on Brick Kiln Road.

4 If you brought your Jeep or your truck,  
5 you could drive into the woods. Made it handy.

6 [Laughter.]

7 MR. FINNERAN: But I don't think  
8 anybody really wants to do that.

9 And then, again, there's this side of  
10 Gifford Street. People were crossing the road.  
11 We saw two women almost get hit. There's about  
12 seven cars in a row and if you turn around there's  
13 seven more cars backed up to the street.

14 There was just no parking.

15 This is the back side of the lot. Again,  
16 a lot of those are poll workers' cars and teachers'  
17 cars, but they're using this. And, again here,  
18 they're all basically standing still. And if you  
19 look - it's hard to see on these, but most of these  
20 vehicles have their brake lights on. They're all  
21 the way out into the street. There's a car parked  
22 right across the road, which was also dangerous.

23 You know, again, I mean, it's - the  
24 pictures - see where I got it all red, there,

1           there's a car passing on the left-hand side; it was  
2           almost a head-on collision.    No one got hurt,  
3           luckily, but.

4                     Again, there's the side of Gifford  
5           Street.    I mean, they're just - there was nowhere  
6           to go.    And it was like this all day, although the  
7           Enterprise said it was nice from 7:00 to 8:00, but  
8           I was there on and off all day long and it really  
9           didn't improve until dark.

10                    I mean, every picture tells its own  
11           story, right there.    And more of the same.

12                    FROM THE FLOOR:    Question.

13                    THE MODERATOR:    Yes, go ahead.

14                    MR. FINNERAN:    And there is a  
15           difference in the east side of town and the other  
16           side of town.    And here's just an example of how  
17           that -- the east side was the one that got  
18           disenfranchised from this.

19                    And if you look at question one from the  
20           last election, in East Falmouth it lost by 104  
21           votes, all those precincts, and then, on the other  
22           side of town -- if you could bring that back for  
23           one second - it passed by 700 votes.

24                    So there is a difference on either side

1 of town. And I'm not saying we can't all live  
2 together, but the side on the left definitely got  
3 disenfranchised, and it just wasn't right. And I  
4 think most of you should agree with that.

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Let's keep it on  
6 voter turnout- not - yeah.

7 MR. FINNERAN: Well, voter turnout was  
8 down in double digits, mostly in - or, more so in  
9 the East Falmouth precincts, or especially these  
10 affected precincts.

11 And, like I said, my presentation's going  
12 to be short. And that's it.

13 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Augusta.

14 MS. AUGUSTA: Good evening, I'm Susan  
15 Augusta and I'm Chairman of the Falmouth School  
16 Committee, also precinct 9.

17 In May of 2013, the Town Clerk and the  
18 Superintendent of Schools received a petition  
19 requesting that the Teaticket School no longer be  
20 used as a polling place. Parents, staff and  
21 community members expressed concern regarding the  
22 safety and security of students on Election Day.

23 The Teaticket School community had been  
24 discussing this for several years, noting in

1 particular the increased traffic, parking  
2 difficulties, access to the building, as well as  
3 sometimes inappropriate behavior exhibited by  
4 voters and sign holders which had been witnessed by  
5 the elementary aged students.

6 The Superintendent discussed the topic  
7 with the other principals of the schools where  
8 voting was also taking place and they, too, had  
9 safety concerns.

10 Mr. Palmer and Dr. Gifford met and the  
11 issue was brought to the School Committee in a  
12 posted and publicized meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup>,  
13 2013. Mr. Palmer, as Chief Election Officer,  
14 indicated that if the School Committee decided to  
15 exclude any school buildings as voting sites, the  
16 Board of Selectmen would need to seek out other  
17 sites.

18 Mr. Palmer indicated he had met with Dr.  
19 Gifford and Mr. Driscoll, Falmouth High School  
20 principal, about using the field house at the High  
21 School, as this was a location that could be  
22 secured from the rest of the school.

23 It is the responsibility of the Falmouth  
24 School Committee to ensure the safety and security

1 of its students.

2 Based on the discussion that evening, the  
3 School Committee decided to remove all K through 8  
4 schools as voting sites. The vote was unanimous.

5 We continue to support the use of the  
6 High School as a polling site. As the turnout at  
7 the last election was a fantastic 59 percent, of  
8 course there were some parking issues that will  
9 need to be worked out. At any of the schools,  
10 parking would be an issue particularly during the  
11 time of school opening and dismissal. Thank you  
12 very much.

13 THE MODERATOR: Ms. Tobey.

14 Mr. Finneran, if you'd just want to have  
15 a seat right there.

16 MS. TOBEY: Linda Tobey, precinct 4.

17 I taught at the elementary schools in  
18 Falmouth for 35 years and I was remembering an  
19 experience I had as a child. My parents used to  
20 bring me with them when they voted in the town I  
21 grew up in.

22 So, I live in precinct 4 and when we went  
23 from voting at the fire station to voting at the  
24 elementary school, the East Falmouth elementary, I

1 had the chance to bring my class; every time I  
2 voted, I brought the whole class with me. And  
3 they would line up against the wall and they'd get  
4 the little stickers, and it was a big deal.  
5 They'd never done that before.

6 And then we would also do a little in the  
7 classroom vote. I think it was an important  
8 experience. A lot of children got to enjoy it. I  
9 never heard anybody at our school say that they  
10 felt it was a safety issue. I never felt it was a  
11 safety issue. And, at the precinct meeting,  
12 several people said to me they missed voting at the  
13 school because they missed seeing the children at  
14 the schools. One of the few times they were able  
15 to come into the school and actually see the  
16 children.

17 So, I hope we reconsider this and I hope  
18 we pass this and we're able to do that again. I  
19 think it's a wonderful experience for young  
20 children. Thank you.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Dufresne.

22 MR. DUFRESNE: Fellow Town Meeting  
23 Members, Adriene Dufresne, precinct 2.

24 I hope we would follow the

1 recommendations of the Board of Selectmen. My  
2 comments on this particular issue is I was very  
3 unhappy that the school board chose to deny the  
4 congested neighborhoods of Teaticket and East  
5 Falmouth an access to an easy voting location and  
6 an opportunity for the children of that school to  
7 learn a very important lesson in civics, which is  
8 the importance of the ability to cast a vote for  
9 the people that you want to run the town, the state  
10 or this country.

11 No matter how we vote tonight, it's non-  
12 binding on the autonomous state autonomy of the  
13 School Committee. But it would give the School  
14 Committee some idea of how we as the voting public  
15 felt that the inconvenience that was caused to some  
16 of the elderly people of Teaticket and East  
17 Falmouth in going to a very congested high school  
18 location.

19 So, instead of prolonging this with a  
20 whole bunch of dialogue, let's either vote it up or  
21 down. My personal feeling is no matter what we do  
22 here, the School Committee will only hear your  
23 voices and they can do anything that they want on  
24 school property. It's a state law.

1 THE MODERATOR: Okay, I've got a hand on  
2 the far right, here.

3 MS. WAGGETT: Hi, I'm Tracy Waggett. I  
4 represent precinct 9, and I have four children, all  
5 of which are either attending or have attended  
6 Teaticket School.

7 I am sorry for anybody that finds it  
8 inconvenient to go to the high school, that it's  
9 congested for parking, but Teaticket is not an  
10 acceptable voting place. The parking lot is not  
11 even servicing the school itself, never mind  
12 voters. And it is dangerous. For nine years I  
13 witnesses those inappropriate behaviors: people  
14 coming into where the busses are dropping off  
15 children and not even paying attention to where  
16 they're going and almost running small children  
17 over.

18 So, if it's dangerous for voters at the  
19 high school, I think perhaps that should be  
20 addressed, but it should not be returned to the  
21 School Committee to go back to elementary schools.  
22 Voting does not belong at the schools for safety  
23 reasons of those children that attend those  
24 schools.



1                   And I challenge people who want to see  
2                   the children to volunteer in programs that are for  
3                   the children. We need volunteers; that's where  
4                   you should go. Thank you.

5                   THE MODERATOR: Okay, the gentleman in  
6                   the center.

7                   MR. CALLAHAN: Jim Callahan, precinct 5.  
8                   I just think we should bring back civics  
9                   and democracy into the classrooms.

10                  You know, if there's a concern about  
11                  safety for the school, there's such a thing as an  
12                  in-service day. You can get the voting booths and  
13                  everything for the kids the day before, they could  
14                  go in, see what the process is.

15                  And frankly, if people remember how we  
16                  got rid of smoking and littering, it was through  
17                  the young kids. Get those young kids the day  
18                  before voting, the day before an in-service day,  
19                  and encourage them to bring their parents the next  
20                  day to the school with them to vote. Thank you.

21 [Applause.]

22                  THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Netto.

23                  MR. NETTO: Joe Netto, precinct 9.

24                  That's exactly what I was going to stand

1 up. As a retired school teacher, the state of  
2 Massachusetts requires that you have professional  
3 development days. I'd like to offer a compromise.

4 As past Director of Transportation for  
5 the Town of Wareham, I wholeheartedly agree with  
6 the parent over there.

7 I'm sure everyone in this room when they  
8 go to vote is very civil.

9 As the Director of Transportation, I  
10 hated election days at the elementary school.  
11 You'd have barriers set up and people would ride  
12 over them and traffic was a problem. And with the  
13 tragedy that happened in Connecticut, we have to  
14 realize it could happen here in Falmouth.

15 So my compromise to the School Committee  
16 and to the Board of Selectmen, I support the civics  
17 part of it and the use of public property, is on  
18 the professional development days -- we know the  
19 dates of the election. The School Committee could  
20 synchronize their professional development days  
21 that way. A lot of other communities are already  
22 doing this.

23 So, that's my offer to Mrs. Augusta as  
24 chairman and to the article's proponent Mr.

1 Finneran. Why don't we do that? Why don't both  
2 sides meet halfway? We use a public building,  
3 save the taxpayers money.

4 I vote uptown. I'd go to North Falmouth  
5 to vote. I've never missed an election since I  
6 was 21. But we did have a large turnout and Mr.  
7 Finneran's pictures tell the story that also was a  
8 dangerous situation.

9 So, that's the compromise I offer you.

10 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Magnani.

11 I'll come back to you.

12 Yes, Ms. Magnani.

13 MS. MAGNANI: I'm speaking as Judy  
14 Magnani, precinct 2.

15 Through you, Mr. Moderator, I would like  
16 to ask the Board of Selectmen what they have done,  
17 as they're responsible for voting, to look for  
18 other buildings in this town. There have to be  
19 places where we can have voting without getting it  
20 back into the elementary schools. Thank you.

21 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Clerk.

22 CLERK PALMER: First I'll make just a  
23 comment that this board has no jurisdiction over  
24 the School Committee. We should be addressing all

1 your issues to the School Committee. So you need  
2 to go to a meeting, get on their agenda and address  
3 all your concerns that you have right now to them.

4 They voted to not allow voting in the  
5 elementary schools.

6 As to other locations, several years ago  
7 the principal of the Teaticket Elementary School  
8 came to me and asked if I could search for another  
9 location for voting. I did do a search, I looked  
10 at the School Administration building, which was  
11 unsuitable. I looked at the East Falmouth  
12 library, which is small inside and has access  
13 problems. We looked at the Cape Cod Baptist  
14 Church at one time that we had been using other  
15 churches, and that was for sale and is for sale,  
16 and there wasn't really a church hall there.

17 We looked at - I mean, we had been voting  
18 at the PAL building on Brick Kiln Road and now  
19 that's for sale.

20 We need to make the decision if  
21 something's for sale I can't be called on a Monday  
22 that you can't vote on Tuesday because we're  
23 passing papers.

24 So, by all means, if there are other

1 locations that people would want to bring forward  
2 that can be considered by the Board of Selectmen to  
3 vote at, I'm sure they would listen to that  
4 concern.

5           There are problems at the high school.  
6 Mr. Finneran is showing you those pictures; that  
7 wasn't the entire day, but that was a situation  
8 that did happen. But there are solutions to that  
9 problem. We can eliminate the teachers or have  
10 the teachers cooperate and park in other parking  
11 lots. We can have the poll workers park in other  
12 parking lots. We can close the schools every  
13 other November when we're going to have the largest  
14 turnouts.

15           We had a 60 percent turnout. The  
16 presidential two years from now in November we're  
17 going to have a larger turnout than 60 percent.  
18 And I believe the last presidential election, the  
19 schools were closed. So that's not going to be an  
20 issue at that. If we can close the school every  
21 other November when we're going to have the 60  
22 percent and then the 80 percent when we have  
23 presidential, that would alleviate some of the  
24 problems.

1                   So there are some solutions that we can  
2                   work at.    If anybody has any suggestions of other  
3                   buildings that are large enough and suitable to be  
4                   voting at, that are accessible, that have the  
5                   parking, I'd be happy to bring them back to the  
6                   Board of Selectmen as recommendations for them to  
7                   vote at.

8                   But, just my - my first comment is this  
9                   board has no jurisdiction over what happens in the  
10                  elementary schools; the School Committee does.    If  
11                  you need to address - if you want to send a message  
12                  to them, you need to vote this that we're sending a  
13                  message to them that they should reconsider their  
14                  vote and then that's what this body has done: we  
15                  have voted to ask the School Committee to  
16                  reconsider what they've done.    And if that's what  
17                  we chose to do, we should do that and move on.

18                  THE MODERATOR:    Ms. Moffitt.

19                  MS. MOFFITT:    I would agree with what  
20                  was just said.    The issue is that your vote yes  
21                  will be for the Board of Selectmen to ask the  
22                  School Committee to reconsider their decision about  
23                  having the voting of the high school.

24                  So the vote is not where they're going to

1 be; you're not making that decision. You're  
2 making the decision of whether the Selectmen should  
3 ask the School Committee to rescind their vote.  
4 That's - that's what the yes vote is.

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay, so one last word  
6 from the petitioner and then we're going to vote.

7 MR. FINNERAN: As for the suggestion of  
8 the in-service day, that was actually the last part  
9 of this article and it was left out. I just want  
10 to make that point.

11 THE MODERATOR: Okay. So the question  
12 will come on the main motion to see if the Town  
13 will vote to ask the School Committee to rescind  
14 the vote about disallowing voting at elementary  
15 schools.

16 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

17 [Aye.]

18 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

19 [No.]

20 THE MODERATOR: It's the opinion of the  
21 chair that the ayes have it by a majority.

22 Article 29.

23 MR. FINNERAN: Thank you.

24 THE MODERATOR: The recommendation of

1 the Board of Selectmen is indefinite postponement.

2 Mr. Finneran, would you like to make a  
3 positive motion?

4 MR. FINNERAN: Yes, I would. And,  
5 again, this is going to be a quick one. And it's  
6 just to see if the town will vote to have the  
7 Office of the Town Counsel to provide a litigation  
8 report for each annual Town Meeting, including the  
9 following.

10 The official Town Counsel provide general  
11 legal services of the town and the departments in  
12 the performance of his official duties and  
13 responsibilities. The office staff consists of  
14 Frank Duffy; Patricia Harris, the Associate Town  
15 Counsel; Kimberly Fish, the Town Paralegal.

16 The following report includes cases  
17 reported in previous annual reports and that were  
18 concluded during the reporting period, and active  
19 cases, including the cases commenced during the  
20 reporting period. The reporting period is July 1<sup>st</sup>  
21 2012 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Detailed on any of these  
22 - detailed information on any of these cases may be  
23 obtained by contacting the Town Counsel's office.

24 I'm simply just asking that they be put



1 into the Town Reports every year.

2 During the review of this article, it was  
3 said that they're put in the Town Reports, but  
4 they're actually not. The actual cases are, but  
5 nothing else.

6 I have minutes here from the last four  
7 Town Meetings. We spend a considerable amount of  
8 time on this subject. I've asked questions;  
9 others have. We have to waste Town Meeting's  
10 time, Town Counsel's time, when this thing could  
11 just be expanded and made part of the Annual  
12 Report.

13 And there's things in there now like  
14 Merflix [sp?] versus the Board of Selectmen. I  
15 mean, what does that mean? I mean, there's just  
16 no information here. We don't know how much money  
17 is spent. We don't know how much is paid by  
18 insurance. We basically know nothing other than  
19 the cases exist. And, if the information's  
20 already there, it's needed for an audit, why can't  
21 we have it?

22 The basic - what I'm asking for you is to  
23 tell me why you don't put it out there. Last town  
24 meeting, Town Counsel, when I asked and Mr. Vieira

1 asked him, he said it could be done. If you don't  
2 do it, why not?

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Finneran, your  
4 motion says to make a report at each Annual Town  
5 Meeting. Do our want that language to actually be  
6 in each Annual Report?

7 MR. FINNERAN: Annual Report, Annual  
8 Town Meeting. Somewhere where we can have it.

9 It doesn't necessarily have to be in  
10 this, if they want to make a separate report.

11 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

12 MR. FINNERAN: I mean, it's an either/or  
13 thing, but there's just not enough information and  
14 we're told -

15 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

16 MR. FINNERAN: - that's it there and  
17 it's not.

18 THE MODERATOR: I'm just calling your  
19 attention to the fact that your article says Annual  
20 Town Meeting.

21 MR. FINNERAN: Well, if they chose that  
22 instead, sure. All we want is the information.

23 THE MODERATOR: Okay. So it says  
24 Annual - do you want to make that change, or no?

1 Do you want it to be at the Annual Town Meeting?

2 MR. FINNERAN: Or it can be an  
3 either/or. All I want is the information and  
4 others do, as well.

5 Yeah, sure. You can amend it. Either  
6 way -

7 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

8 MR. FINNERAN: - it'd be satisfactory.  
9 As long as the information is there.

10 THE MODERATOR: Okay, okay. So you  
11 like the wording the way it is.

12 Any discussion on Article 29?

13 Mr. Shearer.

14 MR. SHEARER: Dan Shearer, precinct 6.

15 Long ago I made a motion that at Town  
16 Meeting we heard about overrides. And yes, it was  
17 put in the warrant article. But very few people I  
18 believe really read it. But the main reason I  
19 asked for it, and this article, too, to be at Town  
20 Meeting, is so that we can ask questions. And  
21 that's the most important part. If you have a -  
22 if it's written down and you don't understand it,  
23 why not have it here where we can do it?

24 And I'd still like my report - a report

1 at the meetings as we all voted for; which we  
2 didn't get. Because mine said "at Town Meeting".

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay, any further  
4 discussion on 29?

5 Hearing none, the question will come on  
6 the main motion as printed.

7 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

8 [Aye.]

9 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

10 [No.]

11 THE MODERATOR: All those in favor  
12 signify by standing and the tellers will return a  
13 count.

14 [Pause.]

15 THE MODERATOR: First division, Mr.  
16 Netto.

17 MR. NETTO: 23.

18 THE MODERATOR: 23.

19 Third division, Mr. Johnson.

20 MR. JOHNSON: 27.

21 THE MODERATOR: 27.

22 Second division, Mr. Dufresne.

23 MR. DUFRESNE: 60.

24 THE MODERATOR: 60.

1 All those opposed, signify by standing  
2 and the tellers will return a count.

3 [Pause.]

4 THE MODERATOR: In the first division,  
5 Mr. Netto.

6 MR. NETTO: 11.

7 THE MODERATOR: 11.

8 The second division, Mr. Dufresen.

9 MR. DUFRESNE: 32.

10 THE MODERATOR: 32.

11 In the third division, Mr. Johnson.

12 MR. JOHNSON: 23.

13 THE MODERATOR: 23.

14 By a counted vote of 110 in favor and 66  
15 opposed, the article passes.

16 MR. FINNERAN: Thank you very much.

17 [Applause.]

18 THE MODERATOR: Article 30.

19 Article 30, the recommendation of the  
20 Board of Selectmen is indefinite postponement.  
21 This is to take White Pine Lane as a public way.

22 And is it Ms. Fenwick that held this?

23 MS. SWAIN: I'm holding this, yeah.

24 THE MODERATOR: Oh, Ms. Swain.

1 MS. SWAIN: Brenda Swain, precinct 6.

2 I've been asked by the petitioner to let  
3 her speak. She's not a Town Meeting Member but she  
4 is a resident of Falmouth.

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay, I need a positive  
6 motion on the floor. Do we have a motion for this  
7 article?

8 MR. NETTO: So moved.

9 MS. SWAIN: She wants a positive motion,  
10 as printed. Right?

11 THE MODERATOR: Okay. The way the  
12 language is written, that's going to be the  
13 positive motion?

14 MS. SWAIN: Uh.

15 THE MODERATOR: Okay, we can do as  
16 printed. I'm not going to hold it up if -

17 MS. SWAIN: Wait a minute, no. She  
18 doesn't want indefinite postponement.

19 THE MODERATOR: No, no, no. Yeah, the  
20 way the article is written: Town taking White Path  
21 Lane as public way and finish repairs to road.

22 MS. SWAIN: Yes.

23 THE MODERATOR: Okay, that's the main  
24 motion.

1 MS. FAVREAU: This is the first time  
2 I've done this, so excuse me if I do anything  
3 wrong, could you please correct me.

4 But I have a PowerPoint.

5 THE MODERATOR: Okay. You've got --

6 MS. FAVREAU: I have a PowerPoint  
7 presentation. A petition to accept White Pine  
8 Lane.

9 The residents of White Pine Lane from the  
10 nearby streets have come together to request the  
11 Town to solve the following problems and issues  
12 with White Pine Lane.

13 Also, in 1973 - and I have two of the  
14 copies - and 1978, the neighborhood requested a  
15 Town Way. In 1974 and 1979, the Town Selectmen  
16 signed the request of the layout of the Town Way.  
17 The Town never fulfilled the promise, is the way  
18 we're taking this.

19 Also, as you can see, those are the  
20 signatures of the Selectmen on both of these  
21 things.

22 Also, can we move to the next slide?  
23 The conditions of the road are very poor. The  
24 safety of the children and residents and others are

1 very high dust from the street and aggravating  
2 asthma in children and adults. Damage is done to  
3 the vehicles because of the deep potholes.  
4 Constant maintenance is needed from the DPW to  
5 level the street and fix the deep potholes several  
6 times a year.

7 Getting mail from Sandwich Road with no  
8 sidewalk and three feet of clearance is dangerous.  
9 There's a guardrail in back of the mailboxes that  
10 prevents residents from getting out of the way of  
11 dangerous Sandwich Road. There's been several  
12 accidents right near our street.

13 The mailboxes cannot be removed until the  
14 Town takes over the street.

15 Deep potholes and drop-off points risk  
16 the gas lines to - as in some of the pictures,  
17 you'll see that this is - this is another thing the  
18 Town paved about 300 feet, which is roughly half of  
19 the road. And that's from Sandwich Road to  
20 halfway up.

21 On the paved parts the Town owns a little  
22 parcel of land and also the Housing authority owns  
23 some of the land that was paved. The other parts  
24 of the street you can see goes way up a hill.



1 There, you can see from here Sandwich Road is on  
2 the bottom; the green line, if you count up six  
3 houses, three on each side, that's where the paving  
4 stops, and then four houses is not paved.

5 We're requesting that the - these are  
6 some of the potholes. They're not only in one  
7 area, they're in the middle of the street and  
8 they're also at the top by Lake Shore Drive.

9 This is right by the paved part, right in  
10 front of the - where the Town owns property.  
11 There's a sewage line, so the dirt from the dirt  
12 side of the street is coming down the hill and into  
13 that drainage point.

14 This is outside my driveway. I took a  
15 string and put it across where the road used to be,  
16 and you can see it's about 15 inches of the road  
17 has been worn away from the dirt that's been placed  
18 by the Town.

19 Also, if you look closely, at one point  
20 this road was paved, and somehow along the way  
21 someone took dirt and put it on top of the road. I  
22 don't know why someone would do that, but I've  
23 owned the house since 1987; this is some of the way  
24 that it's eroding away. There's runoff and

1 there's deep holes. Okay.

2 You can see where the runoff is.

3 Underneath that, that's all paved road. We're  
4 asking for the road, okay, to fix the problems.

5 Okay, next slide. This is where the hot  
6 top meets the dirt road. It keeps wearing away,  
7 there. The road is, as you can see, is in  
8 terrible shape. Some of the Town Meeting Members  
9 have told me that they know about this street and  
10 how dangerous it is.

11 Again, runoff. This house in particular  
12 can't use his garage because there's so much mud in  
13 front of it.

14 Okay, next slide, please. The next  
15 thing I want to address is it's a thruway. White  
16 Pine Lane is a private road, but it's connected to  
17 Sandwich Road and Lake Shore Drive which borders  
18 Jenkins Pond. Around the corner from this a few  
19 properties up, there are not one but two sober  
20 houses that are together, and in those houses is -  
21 there's 24 men that are housed there. And their  
22 trucks and their cars -

23 Next slide. They use this road to come  
24 back and forth. So, we not only - we don't have a

1 private road anymore. As you can see, these are  
2 trucks. Every picture I took is not from our  
3 street. These are people that are going all over  
4 the place and on this street.

5 The second picture I want to point out,  
6 we have two special needs busses coming through  
7 this street every day, and even in the summer, and  
8 you can clearly see that road goes straight. That  
9 this bus is trying to navigate through the potholes  
10 and these kids are being tossed all over the place.  
11 And we feel it's very dangerous and that it should  
12 be addressed.

13 This is the dirt, the quality that is  
14 when the cars and the trucks go by the dust is - is  
15 just unbearable. We can't even stay outside.

16 Again, just pictures. I mean, I have  
17 other pictures, but these are just the ones that I  
18 chose to pick.

19 Please. There's another bus trying to  
20 go through this terrible road. And Sandwich Road,  
21 the reason for the mailbox, those are people going  
22 - you can see they're coming in from Sandwich Road,  
23 how dangerous it is. There's no sidewalk to go up  
24 onto that road. They're coming around blindly to

1           come into the street.    There's no visibility.  
2           It's a nightmare up there.    You can see that we  
3           only have three feet of unprotected areas with nine  
4           mailboxes up there.    I took mine out after a close  
5           call.

6                        There's a guardrail right in back of  
7           those mailboxes that we can't even get out of the  
8           way if there's a car coming towards us.    I really  
9           request that you could please consider all the  
10          things that I have told you and help us get this  
11          street paved and under the town's Town Way.    If you  
12          could please take over this street so we can get  
13          our mailboxes out and protect our children.

14                      That's really.

15                      THE MODERATOR:    Okay, at this time the  
16          chair would entertain a motion to extend past  
17          11:00.

18                      FROM THE FLOOR:    So moved.

19                      THE MODERATOR:    So moved.

20                      MS. LICHTENSTEIN:    In George's absence,  
21          I move that we go past 11:00.

22                      THE MODERATOR:    Great, thank you, so  
23          moved.

24                      All those in favor, signify by saying

1 aye.

2 [Aye.]

3 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

4 [No.]

5 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it by the  
6 two-thirds and we'll extend past 11:00.

7 Speakers on Article 30.

8 Ms. Harper.

9 MS. HARPER: Well, I had the great  
10 pleasure of meeting Ms. Favreau and talking with  
11 her about her issues on White Pine Lane. And they  
12 are legitimate issues, but they are not unlike the  
13 many issues that you've seen on the 100 percent  
14 betterment roads that have come before this body  
15 tens and tens of times over the last 15 years.

16 Elizabeth Jean Drive has been waiting  
17 since 2002 to have the Department of Public Works  
18 make similar improvements on Elizabeth Jean Drive.  
19 We expect to make those improvements this coming  
20 year. It is a neighborhood road. Each and every  
21 one of those neighbors is paying 100 percent of the  
22 costs associated with bringing that road to  
23 subdivision standards.

24 We've just completed the Ashumet Valley

1 neighborhood, which I know you've all heard about  
2 in the last several years, as well.

3 We've recommended that that really is the  
4 method that the Town has created to help  
5 neighborhoods take on these issues so that they can  
6 petition through the 100 percent betterment  
7 program, meeting the threshold of providing the  
8 plan and written description, and then we'll take  
9 that on and consider it in due time.

10 It does take a lot of time to get through  
11 that program. Our neighbors have all waited for  
12 that program and we've encouraged Ms. Favreau to  
13 pursue that method for White Pine Lane.

14 THE MODERATOR: I've got the gentleman  
15 in the back and then I'll come back to you. Yeah,  
16 in the back left; I can't really see. I've got a  
17 blind spot with that light up there.

18 MR. SACCHETTI: Dick Sacchetti, precinct  
19 4.

20 And through you, Mr. Moderator, to the  
21 Selectmen. The petitioner has shown us, and I'm  
22 sure the documentation is there, that this road has  
23 in fact been accepted on two other occasions in mid  
24 and late '70's. And if it was accepted then and

1 that work was done in the front part, I would like  
2 to know did the Selectmen ever go back and see if  
3 the error here is that it wasn't transposed onto  
4 the list of accepted streets and therefore it was  
5 accepted but the paperwork didn't follow the  
6 acceptance?

7 I would like a reason why -

8 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Har -

9 MR. SACCHETTI: - it could be accepted  
10 on two occasions and -

11 THE MODERATOR: Let Ms. Harper - no, it  
12 isn't. I don't think Town Meeting ever took its  
13 action.

14 Ms. Harper.

15 MS. HARPER: There's no record of Town  
16 Meeting - only Town Meeting can accept the road.  
17 The Selectmen do not have that authority.

18 THE MODERATOR: So they do the layout  
19 and then Town Meeting has to accept the layout and  
20 Town Meeting never did its part. Yeah.

21 MS. SWAIN: I have copies -

22 THE MODERATOR: Go ahead.

23 MS. SWAIN: Oh, I'm sorry.

24 I have copies from the Clerk's Office

1 that was - that was signed by the Selectmen and  
2 filed in the Town Clerk's Office by the Town Clerk.  
3 Two times. Once in '73 and once in 1978.

4 Also I'd like to point out that Elizabeth  
5 Jean, I went to see it. That street is only used  
6 by the residents. It's not a thruway like my road  
7 is, and that's why I think that the Town should  
8 take over this street.

9 We're talking about 300 feet of pavement.  
10 They already did half the road. They didn't do a  
11 betterment on that road. They didn't - they  
12 didn't - I don't have any betterment and I don't  
13 even think they surveyed it.

14 THE MODERATOR: Mr. McConarty.

15 MS. SWAIN: So for us to do that - and  
16 it's a very poor street. Across the street, I  
17 have a fisherman living there. There's - there's,  
18 like I said, the Housing Authority has someone  
19 there. And there's retirement people. My  
20 husband and I are retired.

21 These are the issues that I think are  
22 being overlooked.

23 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. McConarty.

24 MR. MCCONARTY: Peter McConarty, Town



1 Engineer.

2 Knowing that this article was going to  
3 come up this evening at this Town Meeting, our  
4 office did some research on this roadway and there  
5 is a - there is a history to the roadway for White  
6 Pine.

7 Ms. Favreau is correct that it has come  
8 up in the '70's several times. In 1976, the  
9 Department of Public Works requested from - excuse  
10 me, 1975 - - I have the article, Article 69, the  
11 Department of Public Works requested \$5,000 to do  
12 some drainage repairs on the roadway. It was  
13 approved in 1975.

14 In 1976, the Department of Public Works  
15 did the drainage problem. The reason why half the  
16 roadway is paved is there was a severe flooding  
17 problem on Sandwich Road that was actually going  
18 down Sandwich Road and actually going down White  
19 Pine Lane and flooding out White Pine Lane. So,  
20 that's why the Department of Public Works went in  
21 and they did take easements, they did do a survey,  
22 they did take easements and we did have plans.

23 In 1979, this roadway come up with a list  
24 of other roadways for a betterment and it was Town

1 Meeting voted it as indefinite postponement.

2 So I just wanted to give you a little bit  
3 of history on the project and that's where it sat.  
4 So, it was interesting to see a signed copy of  
5 White Pine Lane because in 1979 Town Meeting,  
6 Article 27 of Town Meeting, 1979, did indefinite  
7 postponement.

8 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

9 Mr. Donahue.

10 MR. DONAHUE: These streets come up from  
11 time to time. I think we had one a year or two  
12 ago and I, very frankly, I blame the DPW. I blame  
13 the Selectmen. My feeling is if you sign off on  
14 something and it should be done. Particularly  
15 situations like this, that it takes almost 30 years  
16 to get something through.

17 MS. SWAIN: It's over 40.

18 MR. DONAHUE: Well, over 40. It's -  
19 it's - it's crazy.

20 I recommend we vote for this. I know  
21 it's an exception to the rule, but I think they  
22 need the relief. And obviously there's no heart  
23 in the DPW or in the Selectmen's Office to take  
24 care of these situations. Thank you.

1 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Mr. Pinto.

2 MR. PINTO: Greg Pinto, precinct 9.

3 Not withstanding the fact that my  
4 grandfather's name was one of those Selectmen's  
5 signatures, I respectfully move the question.

6 THE MODERATOR: Okay. We're ready to  
7 vote on this, anyways.

8 All those in favor of Article 30 as  
9 printed, signify by saying aye.

10 [Aye.]

11 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

12 [No.]

13 THE MODERATOR: All those in favor,  
14 signify by standing and the tellers will return a  
15 count.

16 [Pause.]

17 THE MODERATOR: First division.

18 MR. NETTO: 20.

19 THE MODERATOR: Third division.

20 MR. JOHNSON: 29.

21 THE MODERATOR: 29.

22 Second division.

23 MR. DUFRESNE: 58.

24 THE MODERATOR: 58? 58.

1 All those opposed, signify by standing  
2 and the tellers will return a count.

3 [Pause.]

4 THE MODERATOR: In the first division.

5 MR. NETTO: 17.

6 THE MODERATOR: 17.

7 Second division.

8 MR. DUFRESNE: 34.

9 THE MODERATOR: 34.

10 Third division.

11 MR. JOHNSON: 16.

12 THE MODERATOR: 16.

13 By a counted vote of 107 in favor and 67  
14 opposed, the article - the motion passes.

15 Mr. Jones.

16 MR. JONES: I would like to clarify just  
17 for the entire audience what the effect of passing  
18 this article does. Which it really has no effect.  
19 There's a five step process to getting roads  
20 accepted. The last and fifth step is the vote of  
21 this Town Meeting.

22 The Selectmen can pass this - and this is  
23 what happened in the '70's is the Selectmen did  
24 accept it and Town Meeting in 1979 is the vote that

1 did not accept the road in 1979.

2 We now have to go through the five step  
3 process and I encourage the petitioner to go  
4 through it, but it isn't the vote of this body that  
5 then makes this now happen. It is the other four  
6 steps are going to have to happen first and then  
7 it's going to have to come back to you again before  
8 it can actually be accepted.

9 So don't assume -

10 THE MODERATOR: Okay, so we're going to  
11 leave it at that. Because that's why I asked if  
12 this is the language that the petitioner wanted,  
13 and this is the language that the petitioner put on  
14 the floor.

15 And Article 31 - I'm not writing  
16 articles. It's not my job to write motions on the  
17 floor of Town Meeting, okay? This warrant was  
18 posted months ago, okay?

19 This was the motion that you voted on and  
20 we're going to go onto Article 31, which was held  
21 by Ms. Fenwick.

22 And the main motion from the Board of  
23 Selectmen.

24 MR. NETTO: [No mic: inaudible.]

1 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Netto.

2 MR. NETTO: Selectman Jones, then is  
3 that the same criteria that you're going to use for  
4 when we took the Crane Street in Woods Hole?  
5 Because nothing was said when we passed that on the  
6 blanket.

7 So now all of a sudden we have this five  
8 step process? Is that what we're going to do when  
9 the state made a clerical error and nobody owned  
10 the road? And now we treat the citizens of the  
11 Town of Falmouth this way? The taxpayers?

12 I've been a member of this body and we've  
13 voted taking these roads and they've been taken.  
14 Against the advice of the administrative and the  
15 Selectmen, because that's the way the people felt.  
16 And now we're informed that there's a five step -

17 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

18 MR. NETTO: - hoop that they've got to  
19 jump through?

20 THE MODERATOR: Let's let Mr. Duffy  
21 give a legal answer to this and put an end to it.

22 Okay, Mr. Duffy, what is the legal action  
23 that Town Meeting just took?

24 MR. DUFFY: I'm not sure.

1 [Laughter and applause.]

2 MR. DUFFY: As Mr. Jones has pointed out  
3 to you, there's basically a statutory five step  
4 process. Town Meeting acceptance is the last and  
5 fifth step. So we're beginning at the end.

6 Now, in the case of the Woods Hole  
7 property, I treat that as a little differently.  
8 That's a transfer from the state to the Town.  
9 That just should have happened back then; it's not  
10 subject to the same procedure.

11 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Article 31. The  
12 main motion for Article 31 from the Board of  
13 Selectmen.

14 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: Mr. Moderator, the  
15 Board of Selectmen moves that the Town vote Article  
16 31 as printed.

17 THE MODERATOR: Article 31 as printed.  
18 Ms. Fenwick held this.

19 MS. FENWICK: I'd like to insert one  
20 change, not an amendment, to the article as  
21 printed, asking you to check -

22 THE MODERATOR: Okay, this is going to  
23 have to be an amendment because the Board of  
24 Selectmen put a main motion already on the floor.

1 MS. FENWICK: Okay, all right, then I'd  
2 like to make an amendment.

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

4 MS. FENWICK: And that would be to - on  
5 page 11 of the warrant book. It is about two-  
6 thirds of the way down, section 191-23, second  
7 paragraph, second sentence, begins "Establishment  
8 may" and we would like that sentence now to read:  
9 "Establishments may provide reusable bags at no  
10 charge or charge a reasonable fee for each paper or  
11 other bag as they so desire."

12 And then I'd like to ask the petitioner  
13 Don Mallinson, to address Town Meeting.

14 THE MODERATOR: Okay, do you have that  
15 in writing or -

16 MS. FENWICK: Yes.

17 THE MODERATOR: - can we go through,  
18 it's charge a reasonable fee?

19 [Pause.]

20 THE MODERATOR: Charge a reasonable fee.

21 So striking out "of at least ten cents", okay.

22 Okay, any discussion on the amendment?  
23 Hearing - let's just vote on the amendment, real  
24 quick, that little language that the petitioner



1 wants.

2 All those in favor of the amendment,  
3 signify by saying aye.

4 [Aye.]

5 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

6 [No.]

7 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it by a  
8 majority and that's the new language of the main  
9 motion and the petitioner has the floor.

10 MR. MALLINSON: Good evening, I'm Don  
11 Mallinson. I'm the sponsor of the petition that  
12 led to this article, this article in the Town  
13 Warrant.

14 What you just voted for was to eliminate  
15 a charge of five cents per bag to what is now a  
16 reasonable charge as so desired by the  
17 establishment. So I thank you very much for that  
18 one.

19 All of us in this auditorium are  
20 responsible not just for our own environment but  
21 for the environment for all animal life. And I  
22 make reference to this poor turtle with this  
23 plastic bag hanging out of his mouth, and as  
24 representative of the effect that these plastic

1 bags are having on our environment.

2 And this is what I'm talking about.

3 [Holding up bag.] Your basic check-out or carry  
4 out bag that's provided by the establishment. It's  
5 plastic; has handles on it. And it's the only  
6 plastic bag that this article refers to.

7 There are other plastic bags that are not  
8 covered by this article. This is it.

9 So basically I know that the mind can  
10 absorb only what the rear end can endure. So,  
11 with that in mind, I'm going to cut this short and  
12 we can all go home, I think.

13 So, questions?

14 THE MODERATOR: Okay, discussion.

15 Mr. Latimer.

16 MR. LATIMER: Richard Latimer, precinct  
17 2.

18 I just make an observation that the  
19 entire state of Maryland has similar law and it  
20 works fine.

21 I think it's important that there is an  
22 18 month adjustment period provided for this for  
23 people, customers as well as stores, to adjust to  
24 it. Which makes it a practicable article.

1 Thank you.

2 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Murphy.

3 MR. MURPHY: Thank you, Mr. Moderator,  
4 and thank you Town Meeting.

5 I want to first of all apologize for  
6 being as passionate as I was last night.

7 Sometimes that doesn't come off as passion. But it  
8 shows how much I care about this community and the  
9 community that I chose to live and stay in.

10 I have a lot of problems with this  
11 article and let me explain those to you.

12 First of all, 20 years ago, I was told  
13 that I should use a plastic bag because I needed to  
14 save a tree, not use a paper bag.

15 That being said, we chose to live in this  
16 community and our community is not the same  
17 community as Provincetown, Chatham, Nantucket and  
18 Cambridge, that in fact enacted this same  
19 particular legislation.

20 I counted in my pantry today 22 reusable  
21 bags. I use those bags when I go family shopping.  
22 But that being said, I don't always have the time  
23 to go home and get one of those bags when I stop at  
24 a convenience store, when I stop at a supermarket.

1 And the working folks in this community don't  
2 always plan going to a store. They run in, they  
3 run out.

4 I believe that the folks -- I had asked  
5 to see if I could make an amendment to this motion  
6 and the amendment would be that it would be  
7 required before this bylaw became effective that it  
8 would have to go to the ballot at the annual Town  
9 election. Well, that's impossible to do that  
10 amendment to this. However, I would ask that you  
11 would indefinitely postpone it and have the  
12 Selectmen put this on the ballot.

13 And let me explain in analogy why. In  
14 this community, on Article number 2 or question  
15 number 2, recently at the annual state election,  
16 this community voted almost two to one against  
17 adding an additional deposit or adding an  
18 additional charge to non-carbonated beverages.

19 Alls I say is that we have a great  
20 recycling program in this town. We all should  
21 educate and continue to try to work to strive to  
22 not use these bags. But forcing businesses,  
23 forcing folks that - that have to or sporadically  
24 go without those bags and have a charge - and it is

1 a reasonable charge, but it still would be a charge  
2 - is bearing your will on your neighbors. And I  
3 want to try to do that as much as I possibly can to  
4 use a reusable bag, but I don't think I should bear  
5 my will on somebody else.

6 What's next?

7 I ask that you vote this question down.

8 Thank you.

9 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Allegro.

10 MR. ALLEGRO: Mark Allegro, 7<sup>th</sup> precinct.

11 I have a couple of problems with this  
12 article, and one is the vagueness.

13 And I'm reading the first few sentences  
14 and I see "The production and use of single-use ...  
15 bags have significant impacts on the marine and  
16 land environment". What are the significant  
17 impacts? I see a picture of one turtle with a  
18 piece of bag in his mouth. That doesn't seem to  
19 me a cause for massive legislation in the town.

20 I see it has "significant impacts on  
21 marine and environmental - and the environment of  
22 all coastal communities". Would someone please  
23 describe to me what they are. In the land end of  
24 this, is there a lot of trash on the street? I

1           drove all the way in this evening; I didn't see one  
2           plastic bag in the street.

3                       As for working fine in Maryland. It's  
4           always questionable what works fine in one state,  
5           particularly Maryland. And what does working fine  
6           mean? Another vague statement. Does that mean  
7           that they got away with charging their citizens for  
8           bags? In that sense, perhaps it is working fine.  
9           Is it making a difference? I don't know the  
10          answer to that.

11                      I would remind everybody that most other  
12          dispose - or multiple use bags - and I might add  
13          that these bags are not necessarily single use. I  
14          use them time and again. But other bags that are  
15          multiple use are also often, if not always,  
16          containers of petroleum products as well. So,  
17          it's not like we're eliminating the use of  
18          petroleum products by charging our citizens. And  
19          the charge will be passed on to us through the  
20          stores.

21                      So, I would urge voting against this. If  
22          it's ever brought back with some specific data  
23          indicating the damage, I'd be happy to vote for it.  
24          Thank you.

1 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Heath.

2 MR. HEATH: I oppose this. But simply  
3 because if every town has their own laws, we will  
4 become a place where it's almost impossible to do  
5 business.

6 Maryland passed it for the whole state.  
7 Fine. Every store in Maryland has to comply.  
8 But how is any retailer going to know if they have  
9 more than one town that they do business in and  
10 have a different rule in every town? It becomes  
11 as anti-business as you can get.

12 We should not be, and neither should  
13 Nantucket or Chatham or any Provincetown, be  
14 setting laws if otherwise the retailer is in  
15 compliance with all the state laws.

16 We just can't do that all the time. We  
17 can pass laws of all kinds of things, and no one  
18 will know how - what those laws are.

19 I think doing this on a town level is  
20 just plain wrong, and therefore I urge a vote  
21 against it.

22 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Buessler.

23 MR. BUESSELER: Thank you, Mr.  
24 Moderator. Ken Buessler, precinct 2.

1 THE MODERATOR: Yeah, you're on the  
2 list.

3 MR. BUESSELER: And I'd urge a yes vote  
4 on this for three reasons. I'll just very  
5 quickly. I think we haven't talked about the  
6 scale of the problem. Every year every individual  
7 has come to use about 500 of these bags. A town  
8 this size, we're talking about 1.65 million bags  
9 consumed by the Town of Falmouth. A small amount  
10 of those are getting in the oceans and our beaches.  
11 A lot of them are getting in the waste stream; I  
12 think we don't need that.

13 I think we also need to admit that we  
14 might find them useful for a few minutes, but they  
15 actually harm wildlife, marine life for decades.  
16 They don't go away. They don't degrade. That's  
17 why we don't want them affecting our wildlife.

18 The last point is that I think this town,  
19 this body, in many ways has been pro-environment.  
20 We're putting a lot of money to remove nitrogen  
21 from our estuaries. We had great congratulations  
22 yesterday for Mr. Cavossa for introducing recycling  
23 programs in the hospitals, in Woods Hole.

24 So, if we take all those things together,



1 it's a pretty simple act. Let's enact this ban,  
2 let's do it today. Thank you.

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Mr. Herbst.

4 MR. HERBST: Ralph Herbst, precinct 8.

5 I received, and I suppose most of you  
6 did, too, via email a memo from the Massachusetts  
7 Food Association. Now, that would be an  
8 organization that lobbies for food association and  
9 food distributors. And I read that and I would  
10 like to give you eight reasons why you should  
11 support this.

12 [Laughter.]

13 MR. HERBST: The Massachusetts Food  
14 Association was bragging - if you read it - about  
15 the programs that they've put forward to try and  
16 reduce the number of plastic bags that are  
17 discarded when we shop.

18 First, the Massachusetts Food Association  
19 Program is voluntary. So there's no enforcement  
20 there with their program. And the result is that  
21 they said they got a 33 percent reduction in the  
22 use of those bags. So that leaves 67 percent  
23 still out there. I wouldn't brag about a program  
24 like that.

1           Number three, the effort that they say  
2 they put forth reduce but they don't insist on  
3 there being a reduction in the use of the bags.

4           Then they say - and this is really  
5 hilarious - they say banning plastic bags will hurt  
6 the recycling efforts. Huh? Well, how  
7 ridiculous a statement is that?

8           Then they say cashiers are trained to ask  
9 if you need a bag. That's not true. The cashier  
10 asks you do you want paper or plastic.

11           And they say, number six, organic  
12 recycling program. They talk about an organic  
13 recycling program; it has nothing to do with this.

14           Number seven, think of all the retail  
15 stores that offer plastic bags that are not  
16 supermarkets. Look at your CVS's and so forth.  
17 They're becoming supermarkets but they still -  
18 they're not part of this program.

19           And I asked - my wife uses reusable bags,  
20 and I do, too, that are made from old sails that  
21 are manufactured down in Australia. They're  
22 great.

23           We need to pass this. Thank you.

24           THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Siegel.



1 THE MODERATOR: Yeah. You're next.

2 MS. VAN MOOY: Tiffany Van Mooy,

3 precinct 2. I vote in favor for this.

4 Twenty years ago, plastic - or paper bags  
5 may have been the angle we were going for, but we  
6 know, there's tons of data out there that plastic  
7 bags aren't going anywhere. They're going to  
8 outlive me and you and everybody you've ever met.  
9 They aren't going anywhere, and the sooner we stop  
10 using them the better for my children and yours.

11 And it can be hard to remember to put  
12 those recycle bags in you car, but do that. If  
13 you put them in you car, then they're with you when  
14 you go shopping. But if you forget, it's okay,  
15 because for a small fee you can buy another one.

16 So, please vote for this.

17 THE MODERATOR: Okay, just keep passing  
18 it down. Yeah.

19 MR. MINCER: Right. Tracy Mincer,  
20 precinct 2.

21 I'm a scientist at Woods Hole  
22 Oceanographic and for over three years, now, I've  
23 worked studying plastic marine debris in the  
24 oceans.

1                   And when the wind blows, it can blow a  
2 plastic bag straight into the water. We're a  
3 coastal area, here; we need to be mindful of that.  
4 When a plastic bag floats through the water, it  
5 looks just like a jelly fish, and that's probably  
6 why this turtle went for it. It's one of its  
7 favorite foods.

8                   It takes about a month and a half for a  
9 plastic bag to transport all the way to the center  
10 of what's called The Gyre, just off the coast,  
11 here, of Bermuda. And there it sits for decades  
12 and will turn into a confetti-like substance and  
13 float through the oceans and interact with other  
14 zooplankton. The stuff just doesn't go away.

15                  And so I want to urge everyone to -- that  
16 there's -- first off, there's plenty of data out  
17 there that this stuff persists and it's pernicious  
18 and we, dealing with single use plastics and  
19 getting it out, this is very important.

20                  THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Lowell.

21                  MS. LOWELL: Very quickly, a lot of  
22 things in this world you have to start at the grass  
23 roots. You can't wait for the county, the state,  
24 country, the world to do it. And I think it's

1 perfectly appropriate that we're the grass roots,  
2 so we can do this.

3 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Lichtenstein.

4 MS. LICHTENSTEIN: Leslie Lichtenstein,  
5 precinct 8.

6 The Gyre off of Bermuda isn't very big  
7 yet. California's banning plastic bags because  
8 the Great Plastic Gyre in the Pacific Ocean is  
9 larger than the size of Texas, folks. The one off  
10 Bermuda, hey, is only the size of Massachusetts.  
11 Don't you think we should stop it before it gets to  
12 the size of Texas?

13 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Stecher.

14 FROM THE FLOOR: Question. Vote.

15 MR. STECHER: Bernie Stecher, precinct  
16 3. I'm going to be very quick.

17 Falmouth has always been in the front of  
18 conservation. We were probably one of the first  
19 towns to vote about smoking in the restaurants.  
20 And there was a great hue and cry about all the  
21 money was going to be lost. Now everybody's doing  
22 it and no one's losing any money.

23 This is a real problem. Millions of  
24 gallons of oil are used to make these plastic bags

1 and there is just no reason for it.

2 Europe doesn't use plastic bags. All of  
3 Europe. And, as they said, California's doing  
4 it. We can be the first town aside from  
5 Provincetown to start this, and I don't see why we  
6 can't. Thank you.

7 THE MODERATOR: Ms. Whitehead, anything  
8 new?

9 MS. WHITEHEAD: No, I mean, we should  
10 vote. But I just wanted to say one thing. We  
11 lived in England for a year. I used these bags  
12 every single day; I keep them in my car; I still  
13 use them. And I respect what Kevin Murphy said,  
14 but if I run in for milk, I bring a bag. If I run  
15 in for a loaf of bread, I bring a bag.

16 It's always in the car. I unpack the  
17 bags; I put them right back in the car and it's  
18 easy to do because you get in a habit and it's  
19 great and they're not made of oil, they're made of  
20 cloth and you can wash them and they're fine.

21 So I keep ten in my car at all times.

22 And I think we should vote.

23 FROM THE FLOOR: Vote, vote.

24 THE MODERATOR: Okay. All right, I

1 think so, too.

2 Ready for the main motion. All those in  
3 favor, signify by saying aye.

4 [Aye.]

5 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

6 [No.]

7 THE MODERATOR: It's the opinion of the  
8 chair that the ayes have it by a majority.

9 [Applause and cheers.]

10 THE MODERATOR: Article 36. This is a  
11 Community Preservation Committee. Community  
12 Preservation Committee for the main motion.

13 MR. HERBST: Mr. Moderator, Community  
14 Preservation Committee recommends Article 36 as  
15 printed.

16 THE MODERATOR: As recommended.

17 MR. HERBST: As, well, I haven't  
18 offered a -- a --

19 THE MODERATOR: As recommended.

20 MR. HERBST: Okay, as recommended.

21 THE MODERATOR: Okay, and remember we  
22 made a scribner's change that it's a two bedroom  
23 versus a three bedroom single home. So.

24 Who actually held this?



1 Mr. Donahue.

2 [Pause.]

3 THE MODERATOR: No, he didn't go home  
4 yet.

5 [Laughter.]

6 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Donahue.

7 MR. DONAHUE: Mr. Moderator, Bob  
8 Donahue, precinct 3.

9 I'm questioning on this article the cost  
10 of the Habitat for Humanity's house. I believe  
11 it's going to be \$284,000, and I thought this was  
12 all donated materials, donated labor, donated land,  
13 with a few exceptions maybe for foundation or  
14 furniture, etcetera.

15 Why is it such a large sum for retail?  
16 That does not seem to be a true low income,  
17 moderate income, even, here in Falmouth, that  
18 number. Thank you very much.

19 Most of the homes -- I'll just add one  
20 more thing. Most of the homes in Falmouth are  
21 around \$300,000 today, and up. With few  
22 exceptions.

23 So, everything being donated, why is it  
24 so expensive?

1 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Herbst.

2 MR. HERBST: All right, I invited  
3 representatives from the Habitat for Humanity  
4 organization to be here. They were here last  
5 night, but they couldn't be here tonight.

6 I personally build houses with Habitat  
7 for Humanity in my spare time. The reason that  
8 this is excessive and more expensive than normal is  
9 because the topography of the lot is very unusual.  
10 The lot was donated to Habitat for Humanity, as all  
11 of the property -- almost all of the property that  
12 Habitat for Humanity builds on.

13 Normally, the donations come from the  
14 towns, but in this case the donation for the  
15 property was from a private source. But the  
16 topography of this lot, originally they had hoped  
17 to build three bedrooms on this property, but it  
18 was impossible because there was not only a large  
19 slope, but there's vernal pool on the property.

20 So it's taking an excessive amount of  
21 work to engineer the building on the property. And  
22 so that's the reason why the cost is somewhat  
23 higher than what Habitat normally would charge for  
24 a home of this size.

1 THE MODERATOR: Okay, further discussion  
2 on Article 6? Hearing none, then the question  
3 will come on the main motion as recommended.

4 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

5 [Aye.]

6 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

7 [No.]

8 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it by a  
9 majority.

10 Article 39. Article 39 was also a  
11 Community Preservation Committee article.

12 Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN HERBST: Mr. Moderator, the  
14 Community Preservation Committee recommends Article  
15 39 as recommended.

16 THE MODERATOR: As recommended.

17 This was held by Ms. Whitehead. This is

18 --

19 MS. WHITEHEAD: [No mic: inaudible].

20 THE MODERATOR: Oh, you're all set.

21 Okay.

22 Any further discussion on Article 39?

23 Hearing none, the question will come  
24 on the main motion.

1 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

2 [Aye.]

3 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

4 [No.]

5 THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it by a  
6 majority.

7 Article 42. Mr. Chairman of the  
8 Community Preservation Committee for the main  
9 motion.

10 CHAIRMAN HERBST: Mr. Chairman, the  
11 Community Preservatin Committee recommends Article  
12 42 as recommended.

13 THE MODERATOR: As recommended. This  
14 is a sum of money for the golf course irrigation  
15 system.

16 Who held this?

17 MR. FINNERAN: I held this.

18 THE MODERATOR: Mr. Finneran.

19 MR. FINNERAN: Yes, thank you.

20 My memory may be wrong, but as I recall  
21 when we purchased this country club we were told  
22 two things. That it was going to support itself,  
23 and also that it was going to be used for  
24 tertiarily treated septic - or wastewater, sewer

1 water.

2 It appears to me that neither of those  
3 things are true. Can someone explain that to me?  
4 And how much more are we going to have to put into  
5 this great bargain?

6 THE MODERATOR: Ms. -- whoop. Okay, Mr.  
7 Chairman.

8 CHAIRMAN HERBST: Mr. Moderator, I  
9 would like to defer to the Town management for an  
10 explanation since they were the applicants for this  
11 particular project.

12 THE MODERATOR: Okay, Ms. Harper.

13 MS. HARPER: I will try to do this  
14 briefly, but if I could have a couple of slides,  
15 thank you.

16 And thank you for you patience.

17 You can go to the next slide, please. I  
18 just want to recognize that the golf course has not  
19 required a subsidy from taxpayers since its  
20 acquisition. The property has generated  
21 sufficient revenue to cover its operating costs.

22 Given the changes in the golf industry  
23 over the past decade, revenue generated does not  
24 support capital needs. The Town's financial

1 analyst has reviewed the performance of the course  
2 over the last ten years and determined that the  
3 Town has earned revenue at or above market  
4 expectations.

5 I want to talk a little bit about the  
6 second part of Mr. Finneran's question. This is  
7 just an aerial of the acquisition and I'm going to  
8 just head on two slides ahead. I'm going to skip  
9 the next one.

10 The green area shows the golf course  
11 acquisition. The orange area is what is known as  
12 the Degnan parcel, and that was acquired with AFSE  
13 funds. And that is still available for the use of  
14 the nitrogen mitigation. And then the two red  
15 parcels are open space parcels.

16 Next slide, please. The property has  
17 been part of a very large-scale environmental  
18 stewardship program. There's a conservation  
19 restriction that has been placed on the property in  
20 its entirety.

21 If you recall, when the Town acquired the  
22 property, there was a 300 unit subdivision proposed  
23 for the area. The Town chose as an open space  
24 project to acquire the entire I think it was 238

1 acres in total to prevent the property from being  
2 developed. At the same time, we acquired the golf  
3 course and took on the continued goal of sustaining  
4 that operation as a community recreational amenity.

5 Since the property was acquired by the  
6 Town, we've received an Audubon Cooperative  
7 Sanctuary certificate, an Audubon certificate for  
8 wildlife habitat management and a Falmouth Friendly  
9 Lawn certificate.

10 Now, this presentation can go on for some  
11 time. I don't want to waste the time of Town  
12 Meeting here, so I'll stop at this point unless  
13 there are more questions.

14 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Mr. Young.

15 MR. YOUNG: It's late. Bob Young,  
16 precinct 5. This is our last article.

17 This golf - I'm a member or a former  
18 member of the Golf Committee. I've been on it  
19 nine years. I wasn't on the Acquisition Committee,  
20 but I've been on the regular Golf Committee.

21 This golf course is a real jewel to the  
22 Town of Falmouth. It has provided affordable golf  
23 for our residents and guests and it has operated  
24 for nine years without any assessment to the Town.

1 We haven't asked the Town for any money on this  
2 golf course.

3 It was built by [inaudible] Rabesa with  
4 some associates. Mr. Rabesa took over the golf  
5 course and ran it himself for many years. Sold it  
6 to another partnership and then the Town acquired  
7 it. And we did have a chance to acquire it for  
8 less money than we finally got - we did end up with  
9 it and a nice 27 hole course.

10 It's in fantastic shape and I'm sure a  
11 few of you have played out there. It's a real fun  
12 place to be. The Town has benefitted from a  
13 public/private successful partnership with Billy  
14 Casper Golf and they are bidding again for a new  
15 contract. I'm not part of that group anymore, but  
16 I'm aware of what's going on.

17 The original watering system, what we're  
18 talking about now, is over 40 years old on the old  
19 18 hole course. It's been talked about for many  
20 years and it's been put off and this Community  
21 Preservation Act money will give us a start in  
22 helping to prepare that golf course so it stays in  
23 good condition.

24 We need this help and I think it would be



1 a well spent money from the CPC and I urge you to  
2 support this article and this recreational  
3 facility. Thank you.

4 THE MODERATOR: Okay. Mr. Hargraves.

5 MR. HARGRAVES: You know, I don't like  
6 the lighting in my tennis club and I wonder if the  
7 citizens of Falmouth would care to contribute some  
8 tax dollars to improve that situation. I mean,  
9 this is hyperbolic, I guess, but I think this  
10 article was placed at the end of the warrant to  
11 test our wakefulness and I'm really disappointed  
12 that the authors and supporters of this are tone  
13 deaf to the message that was sent by the voters  
14 when the athletic artificial turf athletic field  
15 was put on the warrant - or on the ballot.

16 We had here for the last two nights  
17 substantial challenge in resources meeting needs  
18 that far exceed those resources. Not to mention  
19 what we haven't addressed, the challenges in our  
20 education budget which wasn't discussed at this  
21 meeting. And I think the business of the Town is  
22 to provide the basic services in education and  
23 public works, safety and health, and it's fine if  
24 we think we can take on a business that will be

1 profitable. I know we've had some fits and starts  
2 in the area of energy generation, but I think if I  
3 heard the Town management correctly, the golf  
4 business is tough and it's not a sustainable  
5 operation financially.

6 And I would urge you to vote against this  
7 foot in the door, this Trojan horse, which is going  
8 to lead, if you look at page one of the Capital  
9 Improvement Program, to another \$572,680 requested  
10 to finish the irrigation project and I just don't  
11 support subsidizing someone's recreational activity  
12 for specialist needs of people who like to play  
13 golf.

14 I don't expect anyone to pay for my  
15 better tennis lighting. The new owner of the  
16 facility has raised the rates and, you know,  
17 increased the prime time hours.

18 So, I think the players ought to pay. I  
19 do not support this.

20 THE MODERATOR: Okay.

21 Mr. Latimer.

22 Can you just pass it down there? Right  
23 in front of you.

24 MR. LATIMER: Richard Latimer, precinct

1 2.

2 I'm one of those people - I'm a  
3 fisherman, fly fisherman, and I agree with Mark  
4 Twain that golf is a good walk ruined. However, I  
5 support this article because it is a great amenity  
6 for those people, those people who do enjoy golf in  
7 this town and others who come to this community.  
8 It's a nice facility. It's an affordable  
9 facility. It keeps the hackers off the trout  
10 streams.

11 But, nonetheless, nonetheless, it is also  
12 an environmental asset to this town. It is green  
13 space. It is green space that is used for a  
14 particular purpose and it does, in the course of  
15 normal, annual maintenance, pay for itself. It  
16 pays for itself in terms of all the mowing and the  
17 normal maintenance.

18 What we're talking about here is a one-  
19 time capital problem that we're replacing a 40 year  
20 old irrigation system. That's not something  
21 that's a burden. It's not like we were going out  
22 and voted to build a new artificial turf field,  
23 which we, you know, didn't already have. This is  
24 an amenity that we already have and I fully support

1 this article. Thank you.

2 THE MODERATOR: Okay, the question will  
3 come on the main motion as recommended.

4 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

5 [Aye.]

6 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

7 [No.]

8 THE MODERATOR: The opinion of the chair  
9 is that the ayes have it by a majority.

10 Madame Chairman of the Board of Selectmen  
11 for notification of the next Town Meeting.

12 CHAIRMAN FLYNN: The Board of Selectmen  
13 have voted to set April 13<sup>th</sup> for the Spring Town  
14 Meeting.

15 THE MODERATOR: Okay, April 13<sup>th</sup> will be  
16 the Spring Town Meeting.

17 Madame Chairman for a main motion.

18 CHAIRMAN MAGNANI: Mr. Moderator, I move  
19 the November 2014 Annual Town Meeting be closed.

20 THE MODERATOR: You've all heard the  
21 main motion to dissolve this meeting.

22 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

23 [Aye.]

24 THE MODERATOR: All those opposed no.

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[None opposed.]

THE MODERATOR: The ayes have it; the  
meeting is dissolved.

[11:45 p.m., whereupon meeting adjourned.]

C E R T I F I C A T E

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

COUNTY OF BARNSTABLE, SS

I, Carol P. Tinkham, a Professional Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate record of Falmouth Fall and Special Town Meeting, taken by me on November 18, 2014. To the best of my ability the within transcript is a complete, true and accurate record of said Town Meeting.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and Notary Seal this 18th day of December, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol P. Tinkham, Notary Public  
My Commission Expires:  
April 21, 2017

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