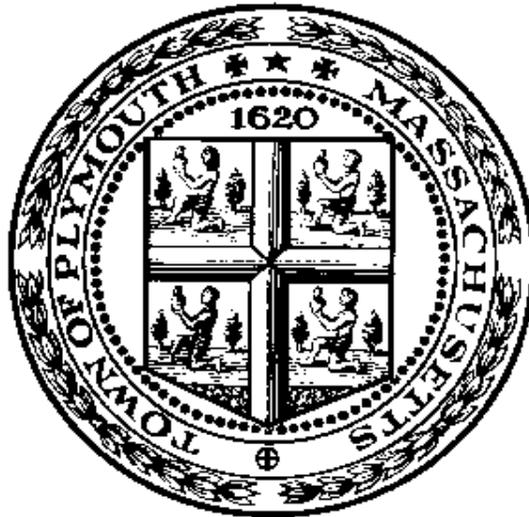


TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

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**SUPPLEMENT I**  
**TO THE**  
**REPORT**  
**& RECOMMENDATIONS**  
**OF THE**  
**ADVISORY AND FINANCE**  
**COMMITTEE**



**Presented at the**  
**April 2, 2016**

**ANNUAL & SPECIAL**  
**TOWN MEETING**

**SPRING TOWN MEETING**  
**April 2, 2016**  
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# TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

11 Lincoln Street  
Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360  
FAX (508) 830-4062  
(508) 747-1620

TO: Board of Selectmen  
Advisory and Finance Committee  
Town Meeting

FROM: Pamela D. Hagler, Procurement Officer

DATE: January 29, 2016

RE: Capital Improvements Committee Recommendation

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As required by Bylaw 38, Capital Improvements, the Capital Improvements Committee met on January 28, 2016, to review the following articles for Town Meeting consideration:

- Article 15 - Acquisition of Land, Design, Construct, and Equip New Fire Station
- Article 16D CPC - Purchase Land off Black Cat Road
- Article 16E CPC - Purchase Land off Hedges Pond Road
- Article 16F CPC - Purchase Land off Fisherman's Lane and Ship Pond Marsh
- Article 16G CPC - Purchase Land off Little Sandy Pond Road and Livingston Drive
- Article 23 - Improvements to Private Roads

The Committee voted to move these articles forward for Town Meeting action.



## **ATM ARTICLE 7A-E (REVISED):**

**ARTICLE 7A:** To see what action the Town will take to provide a reserve fund and to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, toward defraying charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, for the ensuing twelve month period beginning July 1, 2016, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**RECOMMENDATION: Approval \$197,522,205 (Unanimous, 8-0-1).**

**ARTICLE 7B:** To see what action the Town will take to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, toward defraying charges and expenses of the Town for the water enterprise and debt and interest, for the ensuing twelve month period beginning July 1, 2016, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**RECOMMENDATION: Approval \$3,509,750 (Unanimous, 9-0-0).**

**ARTICLE 7C:** To see what action the Town will take to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, toward defraying charges and expenses of the Town for the sewer enterprise and debt and interest, for the ensuing twelve month period beginning July 1, 2016, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**RECOMMENDATION: Approval \$4,499,399 (Unanimous, 9-0-0).**

**ARTICLE 7D:** To see what action the Town will take to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, toward defraying charges and expenses of the Town for the solid waste enterprise and debt and interest, for the ensuing twelve month period beginning July 1, 2016, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**RECOMMENDATION: Approval \$2,205,124 (Unanimous, 13-0-0).** *No change from original recommendation.*

**ARTICLE 7E:** To see what action the Town will take to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, toward defraying charges and expenses of the Town for the airport enterprise and debt and interest, for the ensuing twelve month period beginning July 1, 2016, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**RECOMMENDATION: Approval \$2,608,646 (Unanimous, 13-0-0).** *No change from original recommendation.*

### **ARTICLES 7A-E: Total Recommendations: \$210,345,124**

The Advisory & Finance Committee recommends Town Meeting approve Articles 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D and 7E comprising the FY2017 Operating Budget of \$210,345,124. This represents a decrease of \$1,264,873 from the original recommendation printed in the Report & Recommendations of the Advisory & Finance Committee. The School Committee voted to reduce its budget by \$155,660 (7A). Debt was reduced by \$1,109,213: \$62,792 from the General Fund (7A), \$19,493 from the Water Enterprise Fund (7B) and \$1,026,928 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund (7C). The Board of Selectmen are in agreement with the proposed budget, which reflects an increase of \$7.3 million (3.6%) over the FY 2016 Revised Budget.

## ROLL CALL VOTING CHART

**Y** - For  
**N** - Against  
**A** - Abstain  
**X** - Absent  
**Ch** - Chair did not vote

<b>ARTICLES</b>		<i>Kevin Canty</i>	<i>Betty Cavacco</i>	<i>Harry Helm</i>	<i>Shelagh Joyce</i>	<i>Ethan Kusmin</i>	<i>Mike Lincoln</i>	<i>Marcus McGraw</i>	<i>Patricia McPherson</i>	<i>Christopher Merrill</i>	<i>John Moody</i>	<i>Patrick O'Brien</i>	<i>Harry Salerno</i>	<i>Marc Sitrice</i>	<i>Scott Stephenson</i>	<i>Robert Cote</i>	<b>VOTE TOTAL</b> FOR-AGAINST-ABSTAIN
<b>7A</b>	Reserve Fund Budget	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Ch	X	A	Y	Y	X	<b>8 - 0 - 1</b>
<b>7B</b>	Water Enterprise Budget	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Ch	X	Y	Y	Y	X	<b>9 - 0 - 0</b>
<b>7C</b>	Sewer Enterprise Budget	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Ch	X	Y	Y	Y	X	<b>9 - 0 - 0</b>
<b>7D</b>	Solid Waste Enterprise Budget	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Ch	X	Y	Y	Y	X	<b>9 - 0 - 0</b>
<b>7E</b>	Airport Enterprise Budget	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Y	X	Y	Ch	X	Y	Y	Y	X	<b>9 - 0 - 0</b>

**TOWN OF PLYMOUTH - FY2017 OPERATING BUDGET (Revised)**

3/16/2016

ITEM #	DEPARTMENT/CATEGORY	2016 Original Budget	2016 Revised Budget	2016 Expended	2017 Advisory & Finance Recommendation	\$\$\$ Over/Under 2017 to 2016 Revised Budget
<b><u>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES</u></b>						
<b>TOWN MANAGER</b>						
1	Personal Services	498,082	501,437	287,112	506,558	5,121
2	All Other Expenses	420,200	420,200	235,685	423,560	2,360
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>918,282</b>	<b>921,637</b>	<b>522,798</b>	<b>930,118</b>	<b>7,481</b>
<b>PROCUREMENT</b>						
3	Personal Services	163,525	165,890	112,067	170,772	4,882
4	All Other Expenses	315,763	315,763	208,481	234,417	(84,461)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>479,288</b>	<b>481,653</b>	<b>320,548</b>	<b>405,189</b>	<b>(79,579)</b>
<b>HUMAN RESOURCES</b>						
5	Personal Services	220,399	224,802	144,977	218,885	(5,917)
6	All Other Expenses	87,645	87,645	32,245	112,750	(9,004)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>308,044</b>	<b>312,447</b>	<b>177,222</b>	<b>331,635</b>	<b>(14,921)</b>
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>						
7	Personal Services	295,647	297,212	191,531	315,502	18,290
8	All Other Expenses	201,890	201,890	89,517	201,510	(380)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>497,537</b>	<b>499,102</b>	<b>281,047</b>	<b>517,012</b>	<b>17,910</b>
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE</u></b>						
<b>ALL DIVISIONS</b>						
9	Personal Services	1,725,795	1,750,990	1,193,322	1,887,939	136,949
10	All Other Expenses	622,589	622,589	422,020	770,304	134,240
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>2,348,384</b>	<b>2,373,579</b>	<b>1,615,342</b>	<b>2,658,243</b>	<b>271,189</b>
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES</u></b>						
<b>COUNCIL ON AGING</b>						
11	Personal Services	312,256	317,039	209,429	360,053	43,014
12	All Other Expenses	75,732	75,732	50,723	102,500	25,657
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>387,988</b>	<b>392,771</b>	<b>260,152</b>	<b>462,553</b>	<b>68,671</b>
<b>VETERANS SERVICES</b>						
13	Personal Services	109,102	110,404	77,121	115,830	5,426
14	All Other Expenses	860,125	860,125	435,541	810,625	(59,500)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>969,227</b>	<b>970,529</b>	<b>512,662</b>	<b>926,455</b>	<b>(54,074)</b>
<b>DISABILITIES</b>						
15	All Other Expenses	250	250	-	250	-
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>LIBRARY</b>						
16	Personal Services	1,234,494	1,242,658	835,490	1,163,549	(79,109)
17	All Other Expenses	476,958	546,958	388,027	480,644	(66,314)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>1,711,452</b>	<b>1,789,616</b>	<b>1,223,517</b>	<b>1,644,193</b>	<b>(145,423)</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>						
18	Personal Services	353,832	358,662	241,265	398,600	39,938
19	All Other Expenses	16,320	16,320	4,589	16,770	450
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>370,152</b>	<b>374,982</b>	<b>245,854</b>	<b>415,370</b>	<b>40,388</b>
<b>1749 COURT HOUSE</b>						
20	Personal Services	13,159	13,159	5,688	15,175	2,016
21	All Other Expenses	6,825	6,825	1,667	6,825	(667)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>19,984</b>	<b>19,984</b>	<b>7,355</b>	<b>22,000</b>	<b>1,349</b>

**TOWN OF PLYMOUTH - FY2017 OPERATING BUDGET (Revised)**

3/16/2016

ITEM #	DEPARTMENT/CATEGORY	2016 Original Budget	2016 Revised Budget	2016 Expended	2017 Advisory & Finance Recommendation	\$\$\$ Over/Under 2017 to 2016 Revised Budget
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONAL SERVICES</u></b>						
<b>ALL DIVISIONS</b>						
22	Personal Services	864,475	875,342	564,712	896,864	21,522
23	All Other Expenses	48,706	48,706	39,676	49,206	(19,163)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>913,181</b>	<b>924,048</b>	<b>604,388</b>	<b>946,070</b>	<b>2,359</b>
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT</u></b>						
<b>PLANNING &amp; DEVELOPMENT</b>						
24	Personal Services	447,787	453,793	321,848	474,950	21,157
25	All Other Expenses	309,511	309,511	234,260	343,060	33,549
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>757,298</b>	<b>763,304</b>	<b>556,108</b>	<b>818,010</b>	<b>54,706</b>
<b>REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY</b>						
26	All Other Expenses	21,340	21,340	21,340	21,977	637
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>21,340</b>	<b>21,340</b>	<b>21,340</b>	<b>21,977</b>	<b>637</b>
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY</u></b>						
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>						
27	Personal Services	9,873,501	9,883,064	6,391,188	10,209,963	326,899
28	All Other Expenses	338,139	338,139	187,633	456,014	100,851
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>10,211,640</b>	<b>10,221,203</b>	<b>6,578,821</b>	<b>10,665,977</b>	<b>427,750</b>
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>						
29	Personal Services	9,750,303	9,761,827	6,992,289	10,518,073	756,246
30	All Other Expenses	252,998	252,998	160,805	268,798	(10,759)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>10,003,301</b>	<b>10,014,825</b>	<b>7,153,094</b>	<b>10,786,871</b>	<b>745,487</b>
<b>EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>						
31	All Other Expenses	69,900	69,900	17,958	69,900	-
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>69,900</b>	<b>69,900</b>	<b>17,958</b>	<b>69,900</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>PARKING ENFORCEMENT</b>						
32	Personal Services	33,361	33,361	23,437	33,361	-
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>33,361</b>	<b>33,361</b>	<b>23,437</b>	<b>33,361</b>	<b>-</b>
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF MARINE &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS</u></b>						
<b>ALL DIVISIONS</b>						
33	Personal Services	810,941	824,483	575,049	902,150	77,667
34	All Other Expenses	106,250	106,250	36,349	112,600	(84,097)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>917,191</b>	<b>930,733</b>	<b>611,398</b>	<b>1,014,750</b>	<b>(6,431)</b>
<b><u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</u></b>						
<b>ALL DIVISIONS</b>						
35	Personal Services	4,571,764	4,593,274	2,983,786	4,765,627	172,353
36	All Other Expenses	1,215,055	1,215,055	759,428	1,341,830	64,981
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>5,786,819</b>	<b>5,808,329</b>	<b>3,743,214</b>	<b>6,107,457</b>	<b>237,334</b>
<b>TOTAL TOWN DEPARTMENTS</b>		<b>36,724,619</b>	<b>36,923,593</b>	<b>24,476,256</b>	<b>38,777,391</b>	<b>1,574,833</b>

**TOWN OF PLYMOUTH - FY2017 OPERATING BUDGET (Revised)**

3/16/2016

ITEM #	DEPARTMENT/CATEGORY	2016 Original Budget	2016 Revised Budget	2016 Expended	2017 Advisory & Finance Recommendation	\$\$\$ Over/Under 2017 to 2016 Revised Budget
<b><u>FIXED COSTS</u></b>						
<b>Salary Reserve Account</b>						
37	Personal Services	-	539,093	10,019	-	(539,093)
38	Personal Services	100,000	100,000	-	575,000	475,000
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>639,093</b>	<b>10,019</b>	<b>575,000</b>	<b>(64,093)</b>
<b>Fuel and Utilities</b>						
39	All Other Expenses	1,894,000	1,894,000	951,039	1,820,050	(74,258)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>1,894,000</b>	<b>1,894,000</b>	<b>951,039</b>	<b>1,820,050</b>	<b>(74,258)</b>
<b>Finance Committee Reserve Account</b>						
40	Reserve Fund	130,000	60,000	-	150,000	90,000
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>90,000</b>
<b>Tax Title Foreclosures</b>						
41	All Other Expenses	365,202	365,202	9,575	315,202	(82,755)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>365,202</b>	<b>365,202</b>	<b>9,575</b>	<b>315,202</b>	<b>(82,755)</b>
<b>Medicaid Program</b>						
42	Personal Services	187,453	187,453	133,650	197,276	9,823
43	All Other Expenses	55,300	55,300	17,854	55,300	(26,149)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>242,753</b>	<b>242,753</b>	<b>151,504</b>	<b>252,576</b>	<b>(16,326)</b>
<b>Out of District Transportation</b>						
44	All Other Expenses	29,500	29,500	11,079	29,500	-
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>11,079</b>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Snow &amp; Ice Removal</b>						
45	All Other Expenses	510,000	1,510,000	1,177,972	535,000	(975,000)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>510,000</b>	<b>1,510,000</b>	<b>1,177,972</b>	<b>535,000</b>	<b>(975,000)</b>
<b>Member Benefits</b>						
46	All Other Expenses	5,592,454	5,592,454	3,958,822	5,638,550	(1,480)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>5,592,454</b>	<b>5,592,454</b>	<b>3,958,822</b>	<b>5,638,550</b>	<b>(1,480)</b>
<b>Pensions</b>						
47	All Other Expenses	10,575,494	10,575,494	10,575,493	11,397,079	821,585
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>10,575,494</b>	<b>10,575,494</b>	<b>10,575,493</b>	<b>11,397,079</b>	<b>821,585</b>
<b>Unemployment Compensation</b>						
48	All Other Expenses	200,000	200,000	200,000	125,000	(75,000)
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>(75,000)</b>
<b>Member Insurance</b>						
49	All Other Expenses	31,541,090	31,541,090	20,971,735	32,042,763	501,673
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>31,541,090</b>	<b>31,541,090</b>	<b>20,971,735</b>	<b>32,042,763</b>	<b>501,673</b>
<b>OPEB Trust Funding</b>						
50	All Other Expenses	650,000	650,000	650,000	711,950	61,950
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>650,000</b>	<b>650,000</b>	<b>650,000</b>	<b>711,950</b>	<b>61,950</b>
<b>Compensated Absences</b>						
51	All Other Expenses	125,000	125,000	125,000	150,000	25,000
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>25,000</b>
<b>All Town Insurance</b>						
52	All Other Expenses	983,510	983,510	963,153	1,140,155	156,645
	<b>Total Budget Request</b>	<b>983,510</b>	<b>983,510</b>	<b>963,153</b>	<b>1,140,155</b>	<b>156,645</b>
<b>TOTAL FIXED COSTS</b>		<b>52,939,003</b>	<b>54,408,096</b>	<b>39,755,392</b>	<b>54,882,825</b>	<b>367,942</b>

**TOWN OF PLYMOUTH - FY2017 OPERATING BUDGET (Revised)**

3/16/2016

ITEM #	DEPARTMENT/CATEGORY	2016 Original Budget	2016 Revised Budget	2016 Expended	2017 Advisory & Finance Recommendation	\$\$\$ Over/Under 2017 to 2016 Revised Budget
<b>NON-ENTERPRISE DEBT</b>						
53	All Other Expenses	12,499,491	13,562,463	4,495,278	13,759,731	197,268
<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE</b>		<b>12,499,491</b>	<b>13,562,463</b>	<b>4,495,278</b>	<b>13,759,731</b>	<b>197,268</b>
<b>PLYMOUTH SCHOOLS</b>						
54	School Budget Request	84,166,901	85,199,071	51,566,327	90,102,258	3,939,707
<b>TOTAL SCHOOL REQUEST</b>		<b>84,166,901</b>	<b>85,199,071</b>	<b>51,566,327</b>	<b>90,102,258</b>	<b>3,939,707</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>		<b>186,330,014</b>	<b>190,093,223</b>	<b>120,293,253</b>	<b>197,522,205</b>	<b>6,079,750</b>
<b>AIRPORT BUDGET</b>						
<b>AIRPORT OPERATING</b>						
55	Personal Services	490,175	493,681	300,721	509,431	15,750
56	All Other Expenses	2,282,415	2,282,415	982,284	2,099,215	(183,200)
<b>Total Airport Operating</b>		<b>2,772,590</b>	<b>2,776,096</b>	<b>1,283,005</b>	<b>2,608,646</b>	<b>(167,450)</b>
57	Indirect Cost	194,979	194,979	194,979	194,979	-
<b>Total Airport</b>		<b>2,967,569</b>	<b>2,971,075</b>	<b>1,477,984</b>	<b>2,803,625</b>	<b>(167,450)</b>
<b>SEWER BUDGET</b>						
<b>SEWER OPERATING</b>						
58	Personal Services	282,147	285,326	225,371	346,165	60,839
59	Other Expenditures	2,025,633	2,025,633	1,270,655	2,024,311	(48,013)
60	Sewer Enterprise Debt	2,191,444	2,212,137	1,933,300	2,128,923	(83,214)
<b>Total Sewer Operating</b>		<b>4,499,224</b>	<b>4,523,096</b>	<b>3,429,325</b>	<b>4,499,399</b>	<b>(70,388)</b>
61	Indirect Cost	288,161	288,161	288,161	293,124	4,963
<b>Total Sewer</b>		<b>4,787,385</b>	<b>4,811,257</b>	<b>3,717,486</b>	<b>4,792,523</b>	<b>(65,425)</b>
<b>WATER BUDGET</b>						
<b>WATER OPERATING</b>						
62	Personal Services	1,068,529	1,071,607	759,047	1,123,375	51,768
63	Other Expenditures	1,231,610	1,231,610	504,834	1,246,458	(47,510)
64	Water Enterprise Debt	1,186,892	1,176,521	212,965	1,139,917	(36,604)
<b>Total Water Operating</b>		<b>3,487,031</b>	<b>3,479,738</b>	<b>1,476,846</b>	<b>3,509,750</b>	<b>(32,346)</b>
65	Indirect Cost	1,240,540	1,240,540	1,240,540	1,293,076	52,536
<b>Total Water</b>		<b>4,727,571</b>	<b>4,720,278</b>	<b>2,717,386</b>	<b>4,802,826</b>	<b>20,190</b>
<b>SOLID WASTE BUDGET</b>						
<b>SOLID WASTE OPERATING</b>						
66	Personal Services	315,689	315,689	169,342	314,354	(1,335)
67	Other Expenditures	1,961,554	1,828,414	1,039,055	1,890,770	(76,147)
<b>Total Solid Waste Operating</b>		<b>2,277,243</b>	<b>2,144,103</b>	<b>1,208,397</b>	<b>2,205,124</b>	<b>(77,482)</b>
68	Indirect Cost	268,198	268,198	268,198	294,914	26,716
<b>Total Solid Waste</b>		<b>2,545,441</b>	<b>2,412,301</b>	<b>1,476,595</b>	<b>2,500,038</b>	<b>(50,766)</b>
<b>TOTAL ENTERPRISE OPERATING</b>		<b>13,036,088</b>	<b>12,923,033</b>	<b>7,397,573</b>	<b>12,822,919</b>	<b>(347,666)</b>
<b>TOTAL FY2017 APPROPRIATION</b>		<b>199,366,102</b>	<b>203,016,256</b>	<b>127,690,826</b>	<b>210,345,124</b>	<b>5,732,084</b>
<b>TOTAL ENTERPRISE INDIRECTS</b>		<b>1,991,878</b>	<b>1,991,878</b>	<b>1,991,878</b>	<b>2,076,093</b>	<b>84,215</b>

## **ATM ARTICLE 15:**

ATM ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for the purchase and acquisition of land for general municipal purposes, and to design, construct, and equip a new Fire Station thereon, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action necessary to carry out the purposes of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Advisory & Finance Committee does not have a recommendation at this time. Town management continues to aggressively pursue a site for a replacement fire station in North Plymouth and may reach an agreement in time for Town Meeting. The Advisory & Finance Committee will review any agreement reached by management and will advise Town Meeting accordingly.

## ATM ARTICLE 27:

ATM ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw, as on file with the Town Clerk, by adding a new section entitled, “Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Facilities”, that identifies solar energy facility site locations, selection criteria and evaluation criteria as well as amending associated definitions, procedures, and schedules, or take any other action relative thereto.

ENERGY COMMITTEE

**RECOMMENDATION: Not Approve (Unanimous, 0-10-0).**

The Advisory & Finance Committee recommends Town Meeting NOT approve Article 27. Town Meeting approval of this article would establish a new bylaw establishing standards for the installation of commercial-grade ground-mounted solar facilities. While the Committee agrees that a bylaw addressing such facilities is needed, it was concerned about some gaps in the bylaw proposed. Specifically, the Committee is concerned about the inadequacy of language relating to financial surety to protect the Town financially for the cost of decommissioning and site restoration at the completion of its useful life or in the event of abandonment. The Committee also raised concern about the absence of language relating to limitations on the clear-cutting of trees and other natural vegetation in the course of site development for the project.

<b>ROLL CALL VOTING CHART</b>																	
ARTICLES		Kevin Canty	Betty Cavacco	Harry Helm	Shelagh Joyce	Ethan Kusmin	Mike Lincoln	Marcus McGraw	Patricia McPherson	Christopher Merrill	John Moody	Patrick O'Brien	Harry Salerno	Marc Sirrico	Scott Stephenson	Robert Cote	<b>VOTE TOTAL</b> FOR-AGAINST-ABSTAIN
<b>Y - For</b>																	
<b>N - Against</b>																	
<b>A - Abstain</b>																	
<b>X - Absent</b>																	
<b>Ch - Chair did not vote</b>																	
<b>27</b>	Ground Mounted Solar - Amend Zoning Bylaw	N	N	N	N	N	X	N	X	Ch	N	X	N	X	N		<b>0 - 10 - 0</b>

FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING BOARD TO AMEND THE ZONING BYLAW TO CREATE GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC HEARING: February 17, 2016  
February 24, 2016

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS: March 7, 2016

VOTE: On March 7, 2016, the Planning Board voted (4-0) to support the following amendment to Town Meeting:

NEED AND JUSTIFICATION:

Massachusetts General Laws (Chapter 40A §3) states that “No zoning by-law shall prohibit or unreasonably regulate the installation of solar energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the collection of solar energy, except where necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.” Therefore, the Town cannot prohibit the construction of solar energy systems but can establish **reasonable** regulations.

Recently, the Town has permitted a growing number of commercial-scale, ground-mounted solar facilities but currently we have no standards covering the proper installations of such facilities.

This amendment establishes reasonable standards and protections for neighboring residential areas and the Town as a whole.

The amendment includes provisions that

- Only apply to ground mounted facilities;
- Require site plan review by the Planning Board.
- Prohibit large scale commercial solar facilities (over forty acres);
- Establishes natural vegetated buffers and screening measures;
- Requires security controls to limit unauthorized access;
- Establishes removal and decommissioning provisions; and
- Includes stormwater standards.

The following solar facilities are exempt from this amendment:

- Rooftop systems;
- Ground mounted system under 1,500 square feet in size
- Systems located on agricultural land and used for energy generation for the agricultural use; and
- Systems located on already disturbed area in commercial and industrial districts.

INTENT:

The intent of this bylaw is to promote, by-right, subject to Site Plan Review, in all Districts, the generation of solar energy while preserving the natural environment and supporting reduction of Plymouth’s carbon footprint.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To be inserted:

**205-3 Definitions**

ACTIVELY OCCUPIED – As applied to the site of a GMSPS, that portion of a Development Site that contains the solar array, accessory structures, interconnection infrastructure and internal vehicle access roads.

DISTURBED AREA – Land which, due to human activity or as a result of natural forces, including but not limited to fire or flooding, is devoid of significant naturally occurring vegetation, the topography of which has been significantly altered or destabilized by any means.

GRID – Power transmission system used to transfer electricity from generation facilities to commercial and residential electric loads.

GROUND-MOUNTED – A solar energy system installed directly on the ground through various ground-mounting technologies which may include fixed, passive tracking or active tracking metal racking.

GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM (GMSPS) – A ground-mounted, solar energy system that is either:

1. Located on land in agricultural use as defined in G. L. c.128, § 1A and used primarily for the accessory generation of energy for the operation of the agricultural use, or:
2. Installed for the principal purpose of selling generated electricity to the grid.

**205-77. Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Systems**

A. **Intent.** The intent of this bylaw is to promote, by-right, subject to Site Plan Review, in all Districts, the generation of solar energy while preserving the natural environment and supporting reduction of Plymouth’s carbon footprint.

**B. Location and Area Requirements.**

1. Site Plan Review is not required for a GMSPS that:
  - a. Actively occupies 1,500 square feet or less of land and has a total GMSPS height of less than 8 feet from final grade;
  - b. is located on agricultural land, and used primarily for the accessory generation of energy for the operation of the agricultural use; or

c. is located on a Development Site consisting primarily of Disturbed Area, and, if located within any of the following Districts, provided a minimum 200-foot Buffer is in place along each Lot line that abuts a Residential District:

- I. Airport (AP)
- II. Arterial Commercial (AC)
- III. General Commercial (GC)
- IV. Highway Commercial (HC)
- V. Light Industrial (LI)
- VI. Light Industrial/Waterfront (LI/WF)
- VII. Mixed Commerce (MC)

2. Prohibited. A GMSPS that actively occupies more than forty (40) acres in area.

C. **Standards.** The following standards apply to all GMSPS:

1. **Setback** – A GMSPS site and construction thereon shall conform to the dimensional and intensity requirements set forth in Table 5 of the Zoning Bylaw.
2. **Design** –
  - a. **Lighting** – High efficiency lighting, such as LED, or equivalent, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall comply with the requirements of §205-65 Prevention of Light Pollution.
  - b. **Utility Connections** – Cabling and utility connections within the GMSPS shall be placed underground.
  - c. **Security** – The GMSPS must be physically secured by measures including, but not limited to, appropriate fence material, construction, locking devices and surveillance equipment.
  - d. **Signage** –
    - i. Required: A sign complying with Sign bylaw §205-19 shall identify the owner and operator, if not the same, and provide the following information: business name for any company or other entity owning and/or operating the installation, with the business address and name of a contact person for each; electric utility or other safety warnings and a 24-hour emergency contact phone number.
    - ii. Prohibited: Any advertising display.
  - d. All emergency vehicle access ways shall conform to dimensional requirements of the Plymouth Fire Department.
  - e. Screening, as defined in §205-3, shall be installed to shield residences from a GMSPS.
  - f. Buffers as defined in §205-3 are required as follows:
    - i. A minimum of 50 feet for 1 to 2 Megawatt (MW) systems;
    - ii. A minimum of 100 feet for systems greater than 2 MW.

3. **Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts.**

- a. Clearing of native vegetation on any undeveloped or land in its natural state shall be limited to that necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the GMSPS. Effective internal storm water management and erosion control features shall be maintained at all times during and post-construction. Installed fencing shall maintain a minimum distance of 8 inches from final grade for small wildlife passage.
- b. Stormwater management controls shall comply with Plymouth's Stormwater Design Guidelines. Percolation tests will be required if no stormwater system controls are provided.
- c. Management of all vegetated areas within the GMSPS shall be maintained throughout the life of the project through mechanical means and without the use of chemical herbicides.

4. **Information Required with Zoning Permit for all GMSPS.**

- a. **Landscape Plan** – A landscape plan prepared by a Registered Landscape Architect is required and shall include location of existing significant trees, shrubs and grasses to remain and all proposed additions, identified by specimen size and species at installation. Low growth vegetation shall be planted and maintained in areas under GMSPS rack equipment.
- b. **Materials** – Manufacturer's specifications for a proposed GMSPS shall be provided for all equipment and attendant facilities and include documentation of the major system components to be used, including panels, mounting system, rated name plate capacity, colors, inverter and interconnection details.
- c. **Safety** – The GMSPS Owner or Operator shall submit a copy of the project summary, electrical schematic, and Development Site plan to the Building Commissioner, with a copy for review by the Fire Chief. Instructions to de-energize the system shall be made available to public safety personnel. The owner or operator shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries throughout the life of the GMSPS.
- e. **Financial Surety** – Except for a municipally owned GMSPS, a project designed to generate in excess of 2MW shall require a performance guarantee in the form of a cash bond to cover the cost of GMSPS removal in the event the town must remove the installation and stabilize the Development Site with loam and seed in an amount approved by the Building Commissioner.

5. **Other Requirements.**

- a. **Modification** – A substantial modification to a GMSPS shown on an approved Site Plan shall require Site Plan modification in compliance with the standards and procedures applicable to the original application.

- b. **Segmentation** – Adjacent parcels in the same ownership or control shall be deemed to be one parcel for purpose of calculating the area limitation of §B.2 above.
- c. **Abandonment** – A GMSPS shall be deemed abandoned when it fails to operate or its operations are discontinued for more than one year without the written consent of the Building Commissioner; or if the Building Commissioner has determined that the installation is a hazard to public safety and the conditions have not been corrected within three (3) months.
- d. **Site Restoration** – A GMSPS must be removed by its owner at the end of its useful life or when its use has been discontinued or abandoned as provided herein, and shall be removed by the owner or operator within 150 days from the date of discontinuation of operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Building Commissioner by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinuation and provide detailed plans and schedule for GMSPS removal.

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

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Timothy Grandy, Chairman

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Kenneth Buechs

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Marc Garrett

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Malcolm MacGregor

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Paul McAlduff

BEING A MAJORITY OF THE PLANNING BOARD

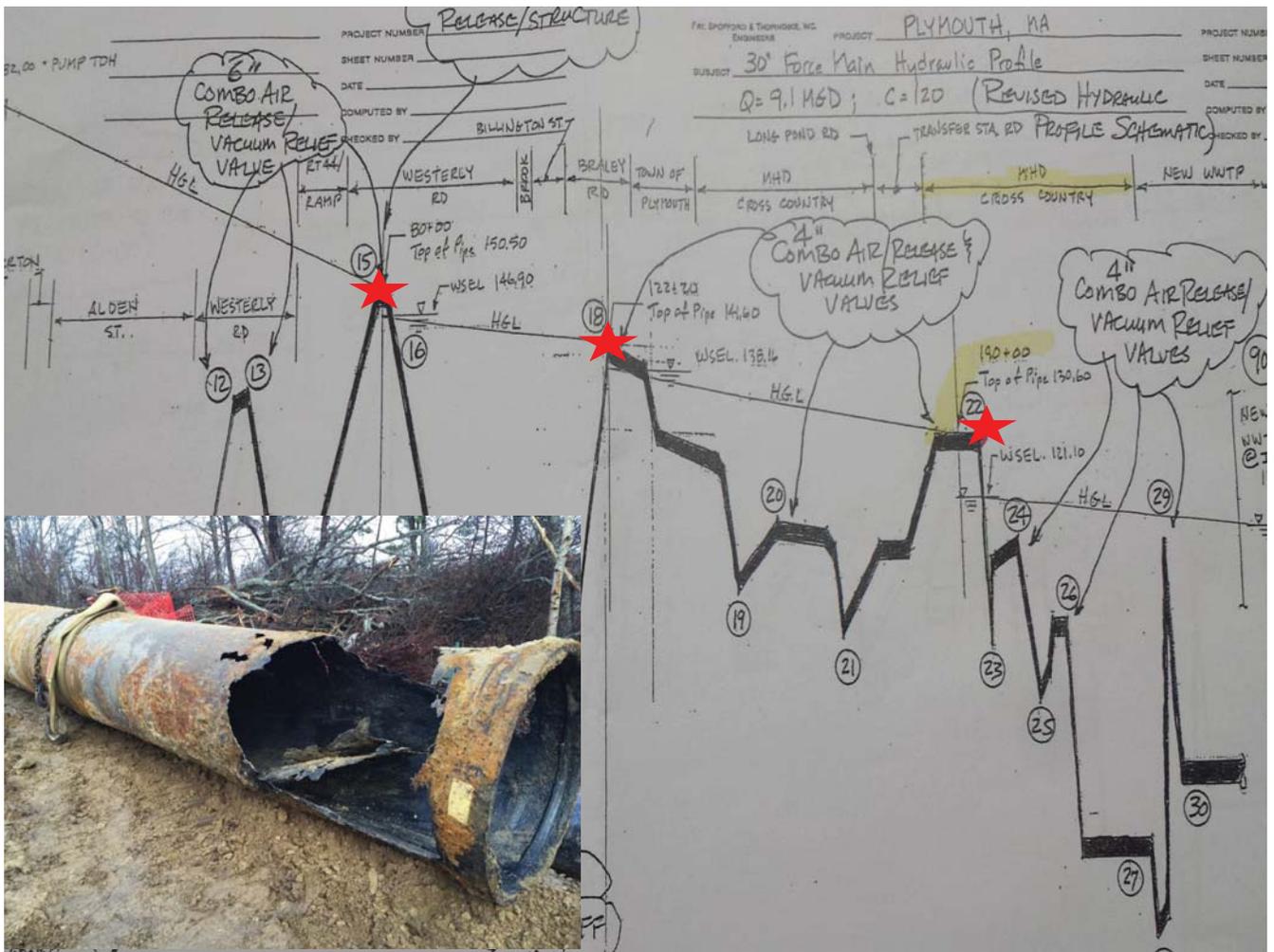
DATE SIGNED BY THE PLANNING BOARD: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE FILED WITH TOWN CLERK: \_\_\_\_\_

cc: Town Clerk  
 Board of Selectmen  
 Advisory and Finance Committee







# Project Update

## A. Bypass Pipe:

- C. Brito Construction Co. Inc. has installed approximately 4.5 miles of parallel 18" HDPE bypass pipes connecting Water Street PS to the WWTP
- Existing 30-inch DI pipe is fully bypassed. Pipe cleaning and CCTV inspection is ongoing with National Water Main Cleaning Co.
- Bypass pumps and pipes are being monitored around the clock.

## B. Pipe Cleaning/Inspection:

- National Water Main has completed cleaning and CCTV inspection of approximately 13,000 feet of the existing 30" DI force main as part of the force main assessment. Remaining 11,000 linear of pipe is being cleaned.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Pipe/Redundancy Benefits

- A redundant pipe is essentially a built-in bypass pipe for emergencies
- Allows for Town to perform maintenance and cleaning on either of the Force Mains (i.e., cleaning/inspecting)
- A 24" pipe will increase velocities in the pipe resulting in a decreased detention time

# SATM -ART 8-\$48.2 Million

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Slipline Existing 30-inch Ductile with 24-inch HDPE Pipe

Remove Existing Bypass

Develop Detailed Design and Permit new 24-inch secondary force main

Install New 24-inch secondary plastic forcemain

Restoration work

## **COST ESTIMATE BREAKDOWN**

Emergency Response Costs-	\$7,597,393.63
Pipe Assessment-	\$1,191,000.00
New Pipe Work-	\$22,967,250.00
Restoration-	<u>\$3,438,045.00</u>
	Subtotal-\$35,193,688.63
Engineering/Contingencies-	\$12,979,427.68
	<u>Total- \$48,173,116.31</u>