

**Certification of Vote
Town of New Salem
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Annual Town Meeting
June 19, 2019**

Moderator Cameron Dunbar called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

ARTICLE 1: To hear the reports of Town Officers and Committees or take any action in relation thereto.

MOTION: I move the Town accept the reports of Town Officers and Committees as written in the 2018 Annual Report

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will fix the salaries of all elected officials for the ensuing year as follows, or take any action in relation thereto.

Office	FY 2019	FY 2020
Selectboard (3 members)	\$5122	\$5276
Town Clerk	\$7286	\$7505
Assessors (3 members)	\$4905	\$5053
School Committee (5 members)	\$6858	\$7064
Constable	\$ 229	\$ 236
Moderator	\$ 130	\$ 134
Board of Health (3 members)	\$4065	\$4187

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with approval of the Selectboard, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws Chapter 44, Section 4; and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year; and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any action in relation thereto.

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 4: To Review, Discuss, Debate and Vote upon the Annual Appropriations in Support of the Town’s Operation for FY 2020—July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, or take any action in relation thereto. The proposed Annual Appropriations are as follows:

Desc.	Request
Town Meeting – Article 4	
Non-School	
General Government	
Selectboard	\$9,112
Town Coordinator	\$26,586
Finance Committee	\$200
Accountant	\$23,566
Assessors	\$25,876
Treasurer	\$24,869
Tax Collector	\$19,250
Legal Expenses	\$10,000
Personnel Board	\$380
Constable	\$236
Town Clerk	\$9,756
Election, Registration, Moderator	\$9,535
Copier Maintenance	\$500
School Committee	\$7,064
Council on Aging	\$600
Cell Phone and Air Cards	\$6,600
Certified Comp.-Treasurer and Collector	\$2,000
Certified Comp.-Assessor’s Clerk	\$500
Short Term Borrowing	\$5,000
Franklin County Assessment FRCOG	\$8,751
Landfill Monitoring	\$5,200
General Government Subtotal	\$195,581
General Highway	
Highway Salaries	\$178,501
Highway Expenses	\$67,750
General Highway Subtotal	\$246,251
Insurance	
General Insurance	\$41,000
Group Life & Health Insurance	\$76,625
Insurance Subtotal	\$117,625
Miscellaneous	
Reserve Fund	\$20,000
Town Reports	\$1,600

Franklin County Retirement Assessment		\$55,602
Payroll Taxes		\$8,200
Stabilization Fund		\$50,000
Capital Stabilization Fund		\$50,000
Unemployment Acct		\$6,000
Miscellaneous Subtotal		\$191,402
Miscellaneous Boards		
Conservation Comm		\$528
Planning Board		\$1,875
Zoning Board of Appeals		\$300
Lawn & Cemetery Maintenance		\$11,191
Veterans Services		\$1,778
Veterans Benefits		\$9,500
Library	Salaries	\$37,400
Library	Expenses	\$23,973
Library Bldg. Maint.		\$1,500
Recreation Comm		\$560
Historical Comm		\$702
Memorial Day Cmte		\$540
Old Home Day		\$1,350
Technology Fund		\$5,500
MLP Manager		\$3,000
Energy Committee		\$100
Miscellaneous Boards subtotal		\$100,238
Property Maintenance		
Purch/Repair Equipment		\$3,500
Town Bldg Repairs & Maint		\$27,226
Property Maintenance subtotal		\$30,726
Public Safety		
Police Dept	Salaries	\$79,327
Police Dept	Expenses	\$34,990
Fire Dept	Salaries	\$52,525
Fire Dept	Expenses	\$47,590
Reverse 911 (Connect CTY)		\$1,386
FD & PD Comm Equipment Maint		\$2,593
Ambulance Service		\$40,612
Emergency Management		\$2,177
Animal Control		\$3,594
Franklin County Solid Waste District		\$3,344
Animal Inspector		\$346
Board of Health	Salaries	\$19,116
Board of Health	Expenses	\$58,370
Building Inspector		\$8,780
Public Safety subtotal		\$354,750

Non-School subtotal	\$1,236,573
Schools	
Swift River School	\$895,325
Swift River Transportation	\$177,438
Mahar Regional School	\$630,316
Franklin Cty Tech School	\$101,765
Schools subtotal	\$1,804,844

Subtotal for Article 4 ----- \$3,041,417

MOTION: I move the Town appropriate the sum of \$3,041,417 in support of the Town’s operation for FY2020, and to meet this appropriation by transferring the sum of \$236,941 from Free Cash, and raising \$2,804,476 through taxation.

2nd

Passed unanimously

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into Compensating Balance Agreements during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, as permitted by General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F, or take any action in relation thereto.

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of Swift River School Building Committee for the replacement of windows and doors at the Swift River School located at 201 Wendell Rd, New Salem, MA 01355. The project will involve the complete replacement of all exterior windows and doors, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program and for which the Town has applied for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”). The Town acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA’s Board of Directors votes to invite the Town to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.

MOTION: I move that the Town of New Salem appropriate the amount of six hundred eighteen thousand, nine hundred ninety three (\$618,993) Dollars for the purpose of paying costs of the replacement of windows and doors at the Swift River School located at 201 Wendell Rd, New Salem, MA 01355. The project will involve the complete replacement of all exterior windows and doors. including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the “Project”), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational

program, and for which the *Town of New Salem* has applied for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended under the direction of the *Swift River School Building Committee*. To meet this appropriation the *New Salem / Wendell Union School Committee*, is authorized to borrow said amount under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The *Town of New Salem* acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and if the MSBA’s Board of Directors votes to invite the Town to collaborate with the MSBA on this proposed repair project, any project costs the *Town of New Salem* incurs in excess of any grant that may be approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the *Town of New Salem*; [provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2½)]; and that, if invited to collaborate with the MSBA on the proposed repair project, the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the *Town of New Salem* and the MSBA.

2nd

Passed

Yes 52

No 1

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to enter into a five (5) year contract, commencing on July 1, 2019 with F. M. Kuzmeskus to provide school transportation services for the Town, subject to the School Committee’s determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town and subject annually to Town Meeting approval for funding for these services and/or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 to cover New Salem’s portion of Swift River School Capital Expense request, or take any action in relation thereto.

MOTION: I move the Town transfer the sum of \$5,000 from Capital Stabilization to cover New Salem’s portion of Swift River School Capital Expense

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$4,000.00 for the Assessor’s revaluation expense, or take any action in relation thereto.

MOTION: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the Assessors’ revaluation expense

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,500 for the Professional Services fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the Professional Services Fund.

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,000 for the Town's Independent Audit expense, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the Town's Independent Audit Expense

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$725.60 to pay a Treasurer's Department bill of prior year, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$725.60 to pay a Treasurer's Department bill of prior year

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$17,654 for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY20 Mahar construction/reconstruction project payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,654, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY20 Mahar Construction/reconstruction project payment.

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,673 for the FY20 Franklin County Tech School debt payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,673 for the FY20 Franklin County Tech School Debt Payment

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$57,000 to be used by the Highway Department for expenses related to snow removal and winter road maintenance, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,000 to be used by the Highway Department for expenses related to snow removal and winter road maintenance

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,182 from Free Cash to the FY19 Snow/Ice Account to cover additional costs associated with snow and ice removal in FY19, or take any action in relation thereto.

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$11,156 for Cost of Living Adjustments/pay increases for non-elected employees, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,156 for Cost of Living Adjustments/pay increases for non-elected employees

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$12,390 for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the Library construction project loan payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,390 for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the Library construction project loan payment

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,500 for the Town's OPEB Actuarial Expenses, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the Town's OPEB Actuarial Expenses

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$25,000 for the Town's OPEB Liability Trust, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the Town's OPEB Liability Trust

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 to be used for Fire Department Turnout Gear, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be used for Fire Department Turnout Gear

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of 1,500 to pay for Fire Department Service Physicals, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to pay for Fire Department Service Physicals

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 to pay for Fire Department OSHA required equipment, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to pay for Fire Department OSHA required equipment

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$750 to be used by the Highway Department for expenses related to Hoisters Licensing and mandated CDL medical exams, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$750 to be used by the Highway Department for expenses related to Hoisters Licensing and mandated CDL medical exams

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$53,385, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY2020 loan payment on the Fire Truck, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$53,385, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY2020 loan payment on the Fire Truck

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$40,000, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion to pay for FY20 Broadband Debt, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY20 Broadband debt

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$7,300 to pay for Library interior renovation/maintenance, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town transfer the sum of \$7,300 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to pay for Library interior renovation/maintenance

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$8,000 to pay for South side door repairs to Library, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 to pay for South side door repairs to Library

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$17,547, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY2020 loan payment on the roof/boiler project and hazardous material remediation at Swift River School, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,547, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY2020 loan payment on

the roof/boiler project and hazardous material remediation at Swift River School

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$29,755 for the Highway Barn loan payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,755 for the FY20 Highway Barn Loan Payment

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$50,000 for the Vehicle Replacement Stabilization Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the Vehicle Replacement Stabilization Fund

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 for Town Tree Maintenance/Removal/Replanting Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Town Tree Maintenance/Removal/Replanting Fund

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 for the Tree Warden Expense Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: I move the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the Tree Warden Expense Fund

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to apply for, accept and expend any Federal, State or private grant monies on behalf of the Town (such as Library Aid, Cultural Council, Incentive Aid, Community Development Fund, Green Communities Grants, Public Safety Grants, Foundations, etc.), or take any action in relation thereto.

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to declare certain items as surplus, and to trade in or sell surplus equipment, or take any action in relation thereto.

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to amend the size of the Personnel Board to three members, or take any action in relation thereto.

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving fund expenditure limits for FY20 as shown in the table below or take any action in relation thereto.

Fund	Annual Expenditure Limit
Wiring, Plumbing, Gas Inspections	\$6,000
Fire Chief Inspections	\$2,000
Library Expenses	\$2,000
Board of Health Agent Inspections	\$12,000
Recreation Commission Expenses	\$2,000
Town Clerk Dog Licensing	\$4,000
Recycling Program/Solid Waste	\$10,000

So Moved

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$13,000 to pay for the CAMA upgrade, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: to pass over this article

2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 39: To see if the town will vote to transfer the Police Department Cruiser payment of \$11,801 that was intended for Short Term Borrowing costs back into vehicle stabilization, or take any action in relation thereto.

Motion: to change ‘Short Term Borrowing’ to ‘Loan Payment’

2nd

Passed
Vote on amended article
Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 40: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a ten (10) year contract with the option for a five (5) year extension, commencing on July 1, 2020 with the qualified vendor selected by MassDEP through a competitive bid process for recycling processing services for the Town, subject to the Selectboard's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town and subject to Town Meeting approval in the Spring of 2020 for funding these services and/or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

So Moved
2nd

Passed Unanimously

ARTICLE 41: To see if the Town will vote to pass the following resolution, or take any action in relation thereto:

Resolution authored by Represent US Supporting State and Federal Legislation to Limit the Influence of Money in Politics and Promote Free and Fair Elections

WHEREAS, the unregulated influence of money has degraded the fairness and efficacy of our elections at every government level; and

WHEREAS, free and fair elections are essential to the health of our democracy and demand our efforts to protect them; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to counter this threat to our democracy, a non-partisan grassroots movement known as "Represent US" is working for legislative reforms through local chapters including Represent Western Mass;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the citizens of the Town of New Salem, Massachusetts that we support legislation that will forestall the influence of money in our elections through measures such as limiting the access of lobbyists, mandating full transparency in campaign financing, adopting public campaign financing, instituting automatic voter registration, ending gerrymandering, and instituting ranked choice voting, to encourage civic participation and ensure fair representation in this most vital of our democratic institutions.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that the citizens of the Town of New Salem implore our elected representatives in Boston, State Senator Jo Comerford and Representative Susannah Whipps, and in Washington, Senator Edward Markey and Senator Elizabeth Warren, and Representative James McGovern (or their successors) to lead this effort to enact these initiatives in Massachusetts and in

the U.S. Congress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Town of New Salem is hereby directed to give notice to the above representatives by sending a certified copy of this resolution to each of them.

Motion: to pass over article

2nd

Yes 9

No 32

Motion to pass over fails

Motion to remove paragraph 3 which includes the language ‘WHEREAS, in an effort to counter this threat to our democracy, a non-partisan grassroots movement known as “Represent US” is working for legislative reforms through local chapters including Represent Western Mass

2nd

Yes 30

No 6

Motion to amend article passes

Vote on amended article

Yes 25

No 16

Amended Article Passes

Motion to adjourn at 9:05

2nd

Passed unanimously

54 of 702 voters present.

**Stacy Senflug
Town Clerk**