



**TOWN OF WESTPORT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MINUTES
MAY 6, 2025
WITH
FINANCE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS**

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Karen Raus, Chair Cynthia
Brown, Vice-Chair Gary J.
Carreiro
Duncan Law
Zachary Lebreux
Albert Lees
Hugh M. Morton
Christopher Thrasher**

TOWN MODERATOR

Kurt Hayes

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS

**Shana M. Teas, Chair
Richard W. Brewer, Vice-Chair
Manuel Soares Jr.
Craig J. Dutra
Jake McGuigan, Clerk**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

James K. Hartnett

TOWN CLERK

Kristin M. Stinson

Annual Town Meeting, May 6, 2025

Message from the Finance Committee

Westport has been operating with a Chronic Structural Deficit for years.

Expenses outpacing revenues is a structural deficit, and Westport has been in this chronic situation for many years.

The Town has cut or limited its personnel while increased responsibilities, postponed maintenance, cut back on services, failed to adopt necessary technology. The Town has not maintained recommendation level of stabilization funding. Lacking available resources, the Town has not addressed many of its long-term capital needs: including Town properties and building needs, and equipment.

All major Revenue components are not keeping up with the demands for Town services.

- Property Taxes are constrained due to Proposition 2 ½ and previous overrides have not been successful.
- State Aid Receipts (Local Aid) growth has been limited.
- Local Receipts are tied to economic conditions and Westport has limited ability to grow them.
- There are few new sustainable revenue sources, and opportunities are limited.

Required Expenses and Assessments are increasing

Westport faces growing demands to increase expenditures in all its municipal services. The Town must comply with additional required unfunded state and federal mandates. Inflation increases costs of goods and services and raises compensation levels in order to compete.

Departments are lacking resources to continue vital services

There are not sufficient revenues to support these needed expenditures. Virtually every department in all of Westport's sectors of its General Government, Public Safety, Schools, Public Works and Facilities, Human Services, Culture and Recreation are lacking the resources to adequately provide needed services to our Town residents.

Chronic Deficit will continue in future years

As we look ahead to FY2027, the fiscal outlook does not improve. In fact, the structural deficit grows each year. Revenue growth continues to be limited and expense increases are dictated by growth, inflation and other mandates that outpace available funds.

Both the Town Departments and School have growing demands, and are further challenged higher inflation. This lack of funding means, in addition to the deficiencies in the operating budget, the Town must delay routine maintenance, and defer capital expenditures. The Town is not able to address its long-term needs, such as adequately addressing its long-term liabilities, and its long-term Town Property needs, nor is it able to fund the Stabilization Fund to recommended levels. The Town continues to rely on using free cash (one-time funds) to support and balance the operating budget.

The Finance Committee is working with the Select Board and the School Committee to adopt a 5-year operating, a 5 year- capital plan, and free cash usage plan.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Karen Raus, Chair
Cynthia Brown, Vice-Chair
Gary Carreiro
Duncan Law
Zachary Lebreux
Al Lees
Hugh Morton
Christopher Thrasher

RULES OF WESTPORT TOWN MEETING

Rules of Town Meeting exist to guarantee an orderly, dignified, fair discussion of issues leading to informed votes and good decisions. We all deserve the respect and courtesy of our neighbors and owe them the same. All rules will be politely, but firmly enforced for the benefit of all.

Addressing the Meeting

Wait to be recognized (given the floor) by the Moderator.

Begin by stating your name.

- Speak only to the motion before the meeting at the moment.
- No personal speech; you may not speak about other persons or to other persons. You may reference the ideas of others and comment on them. You may not reference the person or comment on his or her character, motivation, etc.
- Rude or disrespectful speech will not be tolerated.
- While all may speak on a motion as many times as they like, no one may speak twice until everyone who wishes to, has spoken once.
- Speakers are limited to five minutes.
- Ten-minute presentations are allowed by prior arrangement with the Moderator. Such presentations must be supported by written or projected visual aids.

Questions

Speakers may ask a question of another person in the hall, but that question must be addressed through the Moderator. For example "I have a question through Moderator (or the chair) for Town Counsel". Dialogue between two persons is not allowed.

Calling the Question

A speaker may not participate in debate and finish their comments with a motion to call the question. Such a motion must be the only thing the speaker says on that trip to the microphone.

Amendments

VERY simple amendments to a motion that change only a word or two or a number can be moved verbally. All other amendments must be presented to the Moderator in writing.

Handouts

Printed information can be left on the table by the door for voters to read if the following rules are followed:

- Must be approved in advance by the Moderator.
- Must be left on the table for optional pick up. May not be distributed by hand.
- Must identify the author(s).
- Must be informational.
- Must conform to rules of Town Meeting speech.

No other literature may be distributed within the High School building.

Reconsideration

Announcement of intent to reconsider will be accepted as a "point of order". Proponents of reconsideration must convince the Moderator that reconsideration will offer some significant value to the meeting beyond re-stacking the hall or re-hashing work already done or the motion to reconsider will be disallowed.

Further rules of Town Meeting are found in Westport's By-Laws and in the book Town Meeting Time, published by the Massachusetts Moderator's Association.

**TOWN OF WESTPORT
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MAY 6, 2025**

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the constables of the Town of Westport in said County:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Westport qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to assemble at the Westport Middle High School, 400 Old County Road, Westport, MA 02790, on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., and then and there to act on the following articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money necessary for the purpose of paying outstanding bills from prior fiscal years, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town pass over Article 1 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends pass over, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 7:25pm

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 4 of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting by transferring from available funds and/or various line items within the current appropriations such sums of money necessary to supplement the budgets of various departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, as follows, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

FROM:	TO:	AMOUNT
Police Personnel Services	Police Expenses	\$ 25,000
Elections Personnel Services	Elections Expenses	\$ 10,000
Council on Aging Personnel Services	Council on Aging Expenses	\$ 6,000
Health Insurance	Town Hall/Annex Expenses	\$ 10,000
Health Insurance	Legal Expenses	\$ 15,000
Animal Control Personnel Services	Animal Control Expenses	\$ 4,000
Animal Control Personnel Services	Transfer Station Personnel Services	\$ 5,000
Animal Control Personnel Services	Transfer Station Expenses	<u>\$ 19,000</u>
	TOTAL	\$ 94,000

MOTION: *I move that the Town amend the vote taken under Article 4 of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting by making the transfers between line items of the FY2025 budget listed in the warrant under Article 2. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 7:28pm

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected Town Officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, as follows, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

Moderator	\$ 973
Select Board – Chair	\$ 7,713
Board Members (4)	\$ 30,262
Assessors - Board Members (3)	\$ 21,132
Board of Health – Members (3)	\$ 10,997
Town Clerk	\$ 85,000
TOTAL	\$ 156,077

MOTION: *I move that the Town fix the salaries of elected Town Officers for FY2026 as printed in the warrant under Article 3. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 7:30pm

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money considered necessary to defray the Town’s expenses for a twelve month period beginning July 1, 2025, and appropriate the same to several departments, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the amounts of money set forth in the printed report of the Finance Committee in the columns entitled “FY26” be appropriated for the several purposes therein itemized, each item being considered a separate appropriation and that the same be expended only for such purposes and, further, that the sum of \$80,000 be added to the expense appropriation for Westport Community Schools in Line 300, thereby increasing the total appropriation for the Westport Community Schools to \$23,734,943, and, further, that these appropriations be funded as follows:*

\$ 54,454,439	Taxation – Raise & Appropriate
\$ 15,888	Waterways Fund
\$ 100,471	Septic Program – Monies Reserved for Debt Payments
\$ 90,000	Enterprise Indirect Cost Transfer
\$ 25,000	Wetlands Fund
\$ 15,000	Cemetery Sale of Lots Account
\$ 40,000	Cemetery Perpetual Care Interest Account
\$ 15,000	Transfer Station Receipts Reserved
\$ 14,500	Community TV Reserved

\$ 480,000	Free Cash
\$55,250,298	TOTAL

(Second)

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Note: Updated budget information was added after print and before the meeting adjusting Line 300 with an increase of \$80,000. This change was explained and reflecting in the reading of the budget.

Hold on Item 433

Vote on items not held: Carried Unanimously, 7:38pm

Discussion on Item 433:

MOTION TO AMEND: I move to amend the request for the transfer station, Item 433 -- \$352,725 with an additional \$21,500 to \$373,925 with the additional \$21,500 to come out of receipts. (Second)

Vote on amended item: Carried, 7:47pm

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the cost of various capital expenditures including equipping vehicles, site clearing and demolition required for projects, and all other incidental and related costs, in accordance with the Town's Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Improvement Planning Program, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation, as follows, to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

Item	Project Description	Cost	Funding Source(s)
A.	Cemetery Cemetery Expansion	\$300,000	Free Cash
B.	Information Technology Server Cluster	\$ 85,000	Free Cash
C.	Council on Aging Passenger Van	\$ 20,000	Free Cash
D.	Council on Aging Elevator Repair	\$ 25,000	Free Cash
E.	Police (3) Cruisers	\$256,000	Free Cash
F.	Fire Cascade System	\$ 75,000	Free Cash
G.	School Security Upgrades	\$235,000	Free Cash
H.	School Elementary School Generators	\$325,000	Free Cash
I.	Fire Fire Truck	\$500,000	Free Cash
J.	Fire Fire Truck	<u>\$450,000</u>	Assessor Overlay
Total		\$2,271,000	

MOTION: I move that the Town transfer from Free Cash and the Assessor Overlay the amounts specified in Article 5 of the warrant for the capital expenditures listed, in accordance with the Town's Capital Improvement Planning Program, including equipping vehicles, site clearing and demolition required for projects, and all other incidental and related costs, with each item being considered a separate appropriation. (Second)

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Hold on Item A.
Hold on Item B.

Vote on items not held: Carried Unanimously, 7:48pm

Discussion on Items A and B.

Vote on amended item: Carried, 7:51pm

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board to borrow from time to time in anticipation of revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 4, and to issue a note or notes, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes therefore, 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 G.L. c. 44, § 17, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 6 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 7:57pm

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$187,701 to operate the Marine Services Enterprise for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, as follows, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries	\$ 82,106
Expenses	\$ 48,595
Capital Outlay	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
Total	\$132,701
Indirect Costs	\$ 55,000

and that \$187,701 be raised as follows:

User Charges	\$187,701
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SELECT BOARD/DIRECTOR OF MARINE SERVICES

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 7 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 7:58pm

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$442,500 to operate the Waterline Enterprise for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, as follows, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries	\$ 2,500
Expenses	<u>\$425,000</u>
Total	\$427,500

Indirect Costs	\$ 15,000
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and that \$442,500 be raised as follows:

User Charges	\$287,500
Waterline Enterprise	
Retained Earnings	\$155,000

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 8 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:00pm

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$169,830 to operate the Town Beaches Enterprise for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, as follows, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries	\$ 95,580
Expenses	<u>\$ 54,250</u>
Total	\$149,830

Indirect Costs	\$ 20,000
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and that \$169,830 be raised as follows:

User Charges	\$169,830
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BEACH COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 9 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:02pm

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the Cable Television Special Revenue Fund the sum of \$233,049 to fund the Community Television budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, as follows, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries	\$233,049
Expenses	\$ 41,650
In-Direct Costs	<u>\$ 14,500</u>
Total	\$233,049

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town appropriate the following sums to fund the Community Television budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025:*

Salaries	\$176,899
Expenses	\$ 41,650
In-Direct Costs	<u>\$ 14,500</u>
Total	\$233,049

and that \$233,049 be transferred from the Cable Television Special Revenue Fund. (Second)

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:04pm

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 53E½ and **ARTICLE LXVII, REVOLVING FUNDS, Section 6704** of the Town’s By-Laws to establish new annual spending limits for the revolving funds set forth below, with such limits to apply from fiscal year to fiscal year unless revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 in any fiscal year as follows:

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Maximum Expenditure</u>
Fire Department – Ambulance, Ambulance Equipment or Ambulance Expenses	\$195,000.00

and/or take any other action relative thereto.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 11 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:05pm

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 53E½, to establish FY2026 expenditure limits for the Revolving Funds set forth in Sections 6706 and 6707 of the Town By-Laws and, further, to authorize such expenditure limits to apply from fiscal year to fiscal year unless otherwise revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 in any fiscal year, as follows, as follows, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Maximum Expenditure</u>
Council on Aging – Programs	\$ 55,000.00
Council on Aging – Social Day Care	\$155,000.00
Council on Aging – Outreach	\$ 10,000.00
Council on Aging – Transportation	\$ 55,000.00
Fire Department – Ambulance, Ambulance Equipment or Ambulance Expenses	\$195,000.00
Fire Department – Haz Mat Equipment or Related Expenses	\$ 40,000.00
Electrical, Plumbing and Gas Inspectors & Assistant Building Inspector – Fees for Inspections Performed, Mileage, Schooling, Clerical, Assistant Building Inspector Wages & Equipment	\$ 85,000.00
Planning Board/Zoning Board of Appeals – GIS Database Maintenance	\$ 20,000.00
Police Department – Cruisers, Associated Equipment or Cruiser Related Expenses	\$ 50,000.00
Westport Economic Development Task Force – Farmer’s Market Expense & App	\$ 6,000.00
Board of Health – Vaccine Purchases, Supplies & Expenses	\$ 20,000.00
Library – Programs & Operations, Purchasing & Maintaining Books & Tech	\$ 5,000.00
Energy Conservation – Energy Conservation Projects & Services including Consultants	\$200,000.00

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 12 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:09pm

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Community Preservation budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund a sum or sums of money to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025; and further to reserve for future appropriation a sum or sums of money for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space including land for recreational use, and in connection with such recreational land, for the restoration and rehabilitation of the same; a sum or sums of money for acquisition, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources; and a sum or sums of money for the acquisition, creation, and preservation of community housing; and further, to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund a sum or sums of money for Community Preservation projects or purposes, all as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, and, as appropriate, to authorize the Select Board to accept any restrictions or other interests in land for the within purposes, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

CPA Funding Sources for FY’26 Annual Town Meeting

OPEN SPACE/RECREATION

Town Bicentennial Park Playground Improvements	\$250,000
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Source of Funding:	
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$250,000
Westport Youth Athletic Association – Senior League	\$150,000
Source of Funding:	
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$150,000
Westport Biking/Walking Path – South Coast Northern Scenic Greenway Feasibility Study 2025	\$ 12,000
Source of Funding:	
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$ 12,000

COMMUNITY HOUSING

Westport Affordable Housing Trust	\$300,000
Source of Funding:	
Community Housing Reserves	\$100,000
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$200,000

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Westport Grange	\$ 8,225
Source of Funding:	
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$ 8,225
Westport Point United Methodist Church	
Community Center Preservation and Rehabilitation	\$298,000
Source of Funding:	
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$208,000
Historic Preservation Reserves	\$ 90,000

ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS	\$ 40,000
Source of Funding	
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$ 40,000

FY26 BUDGETED RESERVES	\$100,000
Source of Funding:	
FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues	\$100,000

MOTION: *I move that the Town vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues and available funds the amounts recommended for the purposes defined and the sources specified in the written recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee, as printed in Article 13 of the warrant except for Community Housing – Westport Affordable Housing Trust, which shall be funded by appropriating \$100,000 from FY26 Estimated Fund Revenues and by appropriating \$200,000 from Undesignated Reserves, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation; provided, however, that the amounts appropriated for the Westport Youth Athletic Association, the Grange #131, the Westport Biking/Walking Community, the Westport Affordable Housing Trust and the Howland Hall Community Center Preservation and Rehabilitation projects shall be provided as grants; and, further, that the Select Board shall be authorized to enter into grant agreements for such purposes upon such terms and conditions as the*

Select Board shall deem appropriate or to execute any and all documents needed to effectuate this vote. (Second)

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried, 8:13pm

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to increase the Local Room Occupancy Excise from the rate of 4 percent to the rate of 6 percent of the total amount of rent for each occupancy, pursuant to G.L. c. 64G, § 3A, which statutory provision was first accepted by the Town under Article 22 of the 1993 Annual Town Meeting on June 8, 1993, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 14 as printed in the warrant. (Second)

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously 7-0.

Discussion:

MOTION TO AMEND: I move to amend the article to go into effect January 1st, 2026. (Second)

Vote on motion to amend: Carried, 8:23pm

Vote to approve motion as amended: Carried, 8:27pm

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from the Municipal Waterways Fund the sum of \$27,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping the Skiffs for the Marine Services Department, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

DIRECTOR OF MARINE SERVICES

MOTION: I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 15 as printed in the warrant, with the sum of \$27,000.00 to be transferred from the Municipal Waterways Fund. (Second)

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:29pm

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$60,900, the balance of funds raised under Article 16 of the 2021 Annual Town Meeting, to the Board of Assessors for the purpose of software upgrades and to fund the fees and expenses necessary to update the Revaluation Program mandated by G.L. c. 40, § 56, as it may be amended from time to time, to place the Town on a 100% valuation basis, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 16 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried, 8:30pm

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$500,000 for the purpose of financing water pollution facility projects and to repair, replace, and/or upgrade septic systems, pursuant to agreements between the Board of Health and residential property owners, including without limitations all costs incidental and related thereto, as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; and further, to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust or otherwise, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF HEALTH/SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town appropriate the sum of \$500,000.00 for the purpose of financing the repair, replacement, and/or upgrade of septic systems, pursuant to agreements with Board of Health and residential property owners, including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in G.L. c. 29C, § 1; and, as funding therefor, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow said sum pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §§ 7 and 8 or G.L. c. 29C, through the Community Septic Management Program offered through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust, or any other enabling authority; and to authorize the Select Board or Board of Health to apply for, accept, and expend any grants that may be received for such purposes, and to execute all documents as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this article. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried with 2/3 Vote, 8:34pm

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of \$15,000.00 for the purpose of conducting one or more Household Hazardous Waste Collection events for residents of Westport and properly disposing of the hazardous materials, including all incidental and related expenses, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF HEALTH/FIRE DEPARTMENT

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 18 as printed in the warrant, with the sum of \$15,000.00 transferred from Free Cash. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:35pm

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Transfer Station Receipts Reserve the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping one (1) replacement roll-off container and light-duty equipment for the Transfer Station, including all incidental and related expenses, and/or take any other action relative

thereto to support the operation of the Transfer Station.

BOARD OF HEALTH

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 19 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:36pm

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote under Article 16 of the May 3, 2022 Annual Town Meeting warrant, which created a Tax Title Collection Revolving Fund pursuant to the provisions of G.L.

c. 60, § 15B, such that funds credited to the Tax Title Collection Revolving Fund shall be available for expenditure by the Treasurer/Collector for tax collection and related purposes as provided by said § 15B, and, in connection therewith, to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to expend such funds as are in said account and available for expenditure, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 20 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

SELECT BOARD: Recommends

Carried Unanimously, 8:38pm

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 60, § 15B to establish a new annual spending limit for the Tax Title Collection Revolving Fund in the amount of \$75,000, with such limit to apply from fiscal year to fiscal year unless revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 in any fiscal year, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 21 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:39pm

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure from the Estate of Kurt G. Christ and Janice M. Cardillo, or from the then current owner(s), pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 60, § 77C, to acquire two parcels of land lying off Briggs Road, being shown on Assessor's Map 29 Parcels 6 and 7, said properties described in deeds recorded with the Bristol County Registry of Deeds in Book 1832, Page 143 and Book 3616, Pages 255 & 257, respectively, which are subject to tax takings held by the Treasurer/Collector for unpaid real estate taxes, said parcel to be under the care, custody, control, and management of the Select Board for general municipal purposes and for the purposes of conveyance, and to authorize the Select Board to accept and record the deed and convey said parcels, on such terms and

conditions as the Select Board deems appropriate, and, further, to take any and all actions and execute any and all document necessary or convenient to consummate the foregoing transactions, provided the Select Board determines that the deed and the acceptance shall comply with the provisions of G.L. c. 60, § 77C, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 22 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:44pm

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorization to borrow the amount of \$83,500 approved under Article 33 of the 2006 Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of acquiring land, or interests in land, for the purposes of open space, recreation, conservation, agricultural preservation and protection of environmental resource areas, which borrowing authorization is no longer needed for the purposes for which it was initially approved, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

TREASURER/COLLECTOR/AGRICULTURAL OPEN SPACE TRUST COMMITTEE

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 23 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 8:46pm

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to amend the **TOWN OF WESTPORT BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS**, “**ARTICLE III FINANCE COMMITTEE**”, by inserting the following new section:

0301.1. No elected officer shall be eligible to serve on the Finance Committee.

and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 24 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Discussion:

MOTION TO AMEND: *I move that Article 24, Section 0301.1 be amended to state “No person receiving monetary compensation from the town of Westport shall be eligible to serve on the finance committee.”. (Second)*

Discussion:

Call to Question: Vote, Carried by 2/3, 8:57pm

Vote on motion to amend: Not Carried, 9:02pm

Call to Question: Vote, Carried by 2/3, 9:06pm

Vote to approve motion as printed on warrant: Carried, 9:07pm

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to amend the **TOWN OF WESTPORT BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS, "ARTICLE XXXI RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS AND RESIDENCY PREFERENCE"**, by deleting "**RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS AND**" from the article title, deleting sections 3101 and 3102, and renumbering section 3103 as section 3101, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE XXXI

RESIDENCY PREFERENCE

~~3103.~~**3101.** Whenever a person is to be employed to fill a full-time opening or position for the Town, the employing officer or board shall give preference in the original hiring to a resident of the Town, providing such resident possesses qualifications desired for such position, that are equal to those qualifications of any non-resident applicant.

This By-Law shall apply only to the original hiring of new employees and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the promotion or assignment of any new or present employee.

and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 25 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Makes no recommendation, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 9:09pm

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Westport **ZONING BY-LAWS** by adding a new section, Short Term Rentals (STR), and making other related amendments as follows:

Item 1.

Amend **SECTION 3 DEFINITIONS** by inserting the following definition in alphabetical order:

Short Term Rental: A short term rental is a dwelling that is not a hotel, motel, lodging house or bed and breakfast, where at least one room or unit is rented not to exceed 31 consecutive days. A short-term rental includes an apartment, house, cottage, and condominium. It does not include property that is rented out through tenancies at will or month-to-month leases. It also does not include time-share property or bed and breakfast (see definition of bed and breakfast).

Item 2.

Amend **SECTION 5.1 TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS** by inserting the following use under the **BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL** section in alphabetical order:

X = Prohibited unless allowed in Underlying District

Y = Allowed By-Right

N = Prohibited

SPBA = Special Permit Board of Appeals

SPPB = Special Permit Planning Board

SPA-PB = Site Plan Approval Planning Board

USES	RESIDENTIAL/AGRICULTURAL	BUSINESS
Short Term Rental (see Section 9.10)	Y	Y

Item 3.

Add a new **SECTION 9.10 SHORT TERM RENTAL** to read as follows:

9.10 SHORT TERM RENTAL

9.10.1 Purpose

The short term rental zoning bylaw provides for administration and enforcement of Westport short term rentals in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of both the occupant(s) of those rental units and the general public, and to maintain the quality of life in residential neighborhoods. This bylaw provides for the orderly operation of short term rentals, recognizing their historic role in Westport's economy.

9.10.2. Permit

The owner of a short term rental business must annually have a Short Term Rental permit granted pursuant to ARTICLE LXXI of the **BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF THE TOWN OF WESTPORT, MASSACHUSETTS**.

9.10.3 General Requirements

A short term rental is permitted in accordance with Section 5.1 Table of Use Regulations and subject to the following requirements:

- A.** Guestroom(s) must be provided within a legal dwelling unit.
- B.** The owner shall adhere to applicable bylaws, laws, rules, regulations, and codes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Town of Westport including but not limited to registering with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.
- C.** Short term rentals in the Residential/Agricultural district are for residential uses only. Commercial uses, including but not limited to event spaces or beverage promotion, are not permitted in the Residential/Agricultural district.

9.10.4 Violation Provisions

Violations of Section 9.10 of this bylaw will be subject to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, sec. 21D, regarding Non-Criminal disposition, as adopted by the Town of Westport. Any owner who fails to comply with any provision of this section shall be subject to the actions identified in Section 2.1 for each offense, where each day of noncompliance is considered a separate offense.

and/or take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 26 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Makes no recommendation, 7-0.

Carried by 2/3 Vote, 9:20pm

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to amend the **TOWN OF WESTPORT BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS** by adding the following “**ARTICLE LXXI SHORT TERM RENTAL PERMIT BY-LAW**”:

ARTICLE LXXI

SHORT TERM RENTAL PERMIT BY-LAW

7101. PURPOSE

It is the intent and purpose of these By-Laws to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the community by regulating the conduct of short term rental businesses.

7102. GENERAL

Short term rentals are considered to be a business. No person shall engage in operating a short term rental business without obtaining a permit from the Select Board. The Select Board is authorized to promulgate regulations to effectuate the permitting of short terms rentals under this article.

7103. DEFINITIONS

Short Term Rental

A short-term rental is a dwelling that is not a hotel, motel, lodging house or bed and breakfast, where at least one room or unit is rented out not to exceed 31 consecutive days. A short-term rental includes an apartment, house, cottage, and condominium. It does not include property that is rented out through tenancies at will or month-to-month leases. It also does not include time- share property or bed and breakfast (see definition of bed and breakfast in the Town of Westport Zoning Bylaws).

7104. PERMIT

The permit for short term rental businesses shall be annual and subject to a fee determined by the Select Board.

7105. PERMIT APPROVAL PROCESS

The annual permit shall be issued only with a written application granted by the Select Board.

7106. RENEWAL PERMIT

Permits may be renewed annually by submitting an updated permit application form.

7107. TRANSFERS OF PERMIT

Whereas the permits issued hereunder are issued to a specific person and location, any change of ownership or change of location will require a new permit application.

7108. STANDARDS

7108.1 The Select board shall make their decision on the issuance of any permit hereunder with regard for the promotion of health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town.

7108.2 In this regard the Select Board may impose conditions applicable to each individual permit.

7109. PENALTY

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of these By-Laws or the conditions imposed at the time of issuance of the permit shall be subject to forfeiture of the permit.

7110. INVALIDITY

The invalidity of any section shall not affect the validity of any other section of these By-Laws.

and/or take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD/SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 27 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Makes no recommendation, 7-0.

Call to Question: Vote, Carried by 2/3, 9:24pm
Carried, 9:24pm

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Westport **ZONING BY-LAWS** by amending **Section 9.5 Accessory Apartment**, and making other related amendments, as follows:

Item 1.

Amend **SECTION 3 DEFINITIONS**, by striking the term “**Accessory Apartment**” and definition thereof and replacing it with the following:

Accessory Dwelling Unit - A self-contained housing unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a principal dwelling, subject to otherwise applicable dimensional and parking requirements, that:

1. Maintains a separate entrance, either directly from the outside or through an entry hall or

corridor shared with the principal dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress;

2. Is not larger in gross floor area than 1/2 the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller; and
3. Is subject to such additional restrictions as may be imposed by a municipality, including, but not limited to, additional size restrictions and restrictions or prohibitions on short-term rental, as defined in section 1 of chapter 64G; provided, however, that no municipality shall unreasonably restrict the creation or rental of an accessory dwelling unit that is not a short-term rental.

Item 2.

Amend **SECTION 5.1 TABLE OF USE REGULATIONS** by deleting “Attached Accessory Apartment (see Section 9.5.1)” and “Detached Accessory Apartments (see Section 9.5.2)” under the **ACCESSORY USES** section and adding the following in their place:

X = Prohibited unless allowed in Underlying District

Y = Allowed By-Right

N = Prohibited

SPBA = Special Permit Board of Appeals

SPPB = Special Permit Planning Board

SPA-PB = Site Plan Approval Planning Board

USES	RESIDENTIAL/AGRICULTURAL	BUSINESS
Accessory Dwelling Unit (see Section 9.5)	Y	Y

Item 3.

Add a new provision to **SECTION 8.3.1 OFF-STREET PARKING** to read as follows:

8.3.1 OFF-STREET PARKING

<u>Use</u>	<u>Minimum Requirements</u>
Accessory Dwelling Unit	1 Parking Space

Item 4.

Amend **SECTION 9.5 ACCESSORY APARTMENT** to read as follows:

9.5 ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT

9.5.1 PURPOSE AND INTENT

Purpose and Intent: The intent of permitting an accessory dwelling unit is to:

1. Enable the production of more types of housing that accommodate a variety of ages, incomes, and abilities.
2. Provide homeowners with a means of obtaining companionship, security, services, and income, thereby enabling them to stay more comfortably in homes and neighborhoods they might otherwise be forced to leave.

3. Develop housing units in neighborhoods that are appropriate for households at a variety of stages in their life cycle.
4. Provide housing units for persons with disabilities.
5. Protect stability, property values, and the residential character of a neighborhood.

9.5.2 ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT

An Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) is a self-contained housing unit on the same lot as a principal dwelling. An ADU shall not to exceed nine hundred (900) square feet or ½ the gross floor area of the principal dwelling, whichever is smaller. For the purposes of Section 9.5, gross floor area is defined as set forth in 760 CMR 71.02.

One accessory dwelling unit shall be allowed by right providing the following criteria are met:

- a. If an external staircase is needed to reach an accessory apartment, this staircase must, to the extent possible, be enclosed and not change the general appearance of a single-family house.
- b. An accessory dwelling unit must conform to the height and setback requirements for the district in which it is located.
- c. To maintain the single-family character of the neighborhood, to the extent possible, a principal dwelling with an attached ADU shall maintain the exterior appearance of a single-family dwelling.
- d. There shall be no more than one accessory dwelling unit on one lot.
- e. Off-street parking spaces shall meet the requirements of Section 8.3 of these bylaws.
- f. The Zoning Board of Appeals may allow may grant reasonable and necessary accommodations relative to accessory dwelling units for persons with disabilities and limited mobility.
- g. Use of an accessory dwelling unit as a short-term rental as defined in G.L. c. 64G is prohibited.

and/or take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 28 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Makes no recommendation, 7-0.

Discussion:

MOTION TO AMEND: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 28 as printed in the warrant and, further, to add, in Item 3, after the words “1 Parking Space”, the following text: “(only if all portions of the Lot are located outside a 0.5 mile radius of a Transit Station, as defined by 760 CMR 71.02)” (Second)*

Vote on Amendment: Carried, 9:33pm

Vote on Article: Carried, 9:33pm

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Laws, as follows:

By adding under Schedule A – Cable Advisory, the following:

Position	Group	Hours	Pay Basis	Type
Production Assistant	8	-20	Hourly	PT

and/or take any other action relative thereto.

CABLE ADVISORY/PERSONNEL BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town adopt the provisions of Article 29 as printed in the warrant. (Second)*

FINCOM: Makes no recommendation, 7-0.

Carried Unanimously, 9:35pm

ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to accept the layout, as a public way, of Granite Post Road, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain land or rights in land within said way as so laid out, for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Westport, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

BY PETITION

MOTION: *I move that the Town accept as a public way, the roadway known as Granite Post Road Extension as heretofore laid out by the Select Board and shown on a plan of land entitled “Roadway Layout Plan of Granite Post Road in Meadowbrook Farms (Phase III), Westport Massachusetts,” dated January 22, 2023, prepared by Boucher & Associates Inc., and on file with the Town Clerk, and authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase and/or eminent domain, the fee to and/or easement in Granite Post Road for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Westport and any drainage, utility and/or easements related thereto. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action, 6-0, 1 abstention.

Carried Unanimously, 9:38pm

ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town will vote to accept the layout, as a public way, of Maya Way, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain land or rights in land within said way as so laid out, for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Westport, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

BY PETITION

MOTION: *I move that the Town accept as a public way, the roadway known as Maya Way as heretofore laid out by the Select Board and shown on a plan of land entitled “Medeiros Farm, Definitive Subdivision*

Plan of Land in Westport, Massachusetts” dated February 1, 2007 and revised July 20, 2007, prepared by Sitec, Inc., and on file with the Town Clerk, and authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase and/or eminent domain, the fee to and/or easement in Maya Way for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Westport and any drainage, utility and/or easements related thereto. (Second)

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 7-0.

Carried, 9:40pm

ARTICLE 32

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund and/or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town transfer \$350,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 6-0.

Carried Unanimously, 9:40pm

ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Capital Stabilization Fund and/or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town transfer \$300,000 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action unanimously, 6-0.

Carried Unanimously, 9:41pm

ARTICLE 34

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Special Education Reserve Fund and/or take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

MOTION: *I move that the Town transfer \$175,000 from Free Cash to the Special Education Reserve Fund. (Second)*

FINCOM: Recommends affirmative action, 5-1.

**Call to Question: Vote, Carried by 2/3, 9:48pm
Carried, 9:48pm**

MOTION TO DISSOLVE THE MEETING

Carried, 9:49pm

Fiscal Year 2026								
Article 4 Annual Town Meeting								
Proposed Budget								
		FY25	FY25	FY25	FY26	FY26	FY26	
		Salary	Expense	Total	Salary	Expense	Total	% of Total
		<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Budget</u>
GENERAL GOVERNMENT								
114	Moderator	\$ 944	\$ -	\$ 944	\$ 973	\$ -	\$ 973	0.00%
122	Selectmen	\$ 339,123	\$ 52,100	\$ 391,223	\$ 399,514	\$ 52,000	\$ 451,514	0.82%
131	Finance Committee	\$ 3,500	\$ 750	\$ 4,250	\$ 3,500	\$ 800	\$ 4,300	0.01%
132	Reserve Fund	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	0.27%
135	Town Accountant	\$ 149,941	\$ 82,080	\$ 232,021	\$ 155,233	\$ 81,574	\$ 236,807	0.43%
141	Assessors	\$ 250,541	\$ 44,243	\$ 294,784	\$ 256,431	\$ 36,370	\$ 292,801	0.53%
147	Treasurer/Collector	\$ 330,348	\$ 151,900	\$ 482,248	\$ 339,877	\$ 158,400	\$ 498,277	0.90%
151	Legal	\$ -	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	0.27%
152	Personnel Board	\$ 1,000	\$ 300	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,000	\$ 300	\$ 1,300	0.00%
155	Information Technology	\$ 86,800	\$ 355,110	\$ 441,910	\$ 88,654	\$ 366,360	\$ 455,014	0.82%
161	Town Clerk	\$ 128,401	\$ 8,820	\$ 137,221	\$ 140,101	\$ 7,820	\$ 147,921	0.27%
163	Registrar of Voters	\$ 100,394	\$ 21,115	\$ 121,509	\$ 74,566	\$ 15,515	\$ 90,081	0.16%
171	Conservation	\$ 132,218	\$ 6,470	\$ 138,688	\$ 135,826	\$ 6,770	\$ 142,596	0.26%
175	Planning Board	\$ 220,226	\$ 37,390	\$ 257,616	\$ 229,546	\$ 37,390	\$ 266,936	0.48%
176	Appeals Board	\$ 10,765	\$ 3,700	\$ 14,465	\$ 10,765	\$ 3,900	\$ 14,665	0.03%
191	High School Upkeep	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	.27%
192	Town Hall/Annex	\$ 48,000	\$ 166,050	\$ 214,050	\$ 49,925	\$ 166,050	\$ 215,975	0.39%
193	Property Insurance	\$ -	\$ 600,000	\$ 600,000	\$ -	\$ 726,000	\$ 726,000	1.31%
198	Town Farm	\$ -	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,400	\$ -	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,400	0.00%
		\$ 1,802,201	\$ 1,917,428	\$ 3,719,629	\$ 1,885,911	\$ 2,111,649	\$ 3,997,560	7.23%
PUBLIC SAFETY								
210	Police Department	\$ 3,950,384	\$ 387,150	\$ 4,337,534	\$ 4,193,840	\$ 438,470	\$ 4,632,310	8.38%
220	Fire Department	\$ 2,360,128	\$ 284,550	\$ 2,644,678	\$ 2,575,589	\$ 284,550	\$ 2,860,139	5.17%
241	Building Department	\$ 204,926	\$ 11,100	\$ 216,026	\$ 293,865	\$ 12,050	\$ 305,915	0.55%
244	Sealer of Weights & Measures	\$ 4,413	\$ 800	\$ 5,213	\$ 4,546	\$ 800	\$ 5,346	0.01%
292	Animal Control	\$ 85,443	\$ 22,790	\$ 108,233	\$ 92,896	\$ 23,790	\$ 116,686	0.21%
297	Shellfish	\$ 80,378	\$ 8,525	\$ 88,903	\$ 82,106	\$ 8,525	\$ 90,631	0.16%
298	Parking Tickets	\$ -	\$ 17,890	\$ 17,890	\$ -	\$ 17,890	\$ 17,890	0.03%
		\$ 6,685,672	\$ 732,805	\$ 7,418,477	\$ 7,242,842	\$ 786,075	\$ 8,028,917	14.53%
SCHOOLS								
300	Westport Community Schools	\$ -	\$ 22,651,207	\$ 22,651,207	\$ -	\$ 23,734,943	\$ 23,734,943	42.94%
360	Regional School Assessments	\$ -	\$ 2,145,000	\$ 2,145,000	\$ -	\$ 2,075,000	\$ 2,075,000	3.75%
		\$ -	\$ 24,796,207	\$ 24,796,207	\$ -	\$ 25,809,943	\$ 25,809,943	46.70%
PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES								
421	Highway Dept	\$ 801,958	\$ 303,665	\$ 1,105,623	\$ 806,144	\$ 321,575	\$ 1,127,719	2.04%
423	Snow & Ice (Storm Account)	\$ 30,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 150,000	0.27%
424	Street Lights	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	0.02%
433	Transfer Station	\$ 146,281	\$ 196,225	\$ 342,506	\$ 186,800	\$ 187,425	\$ 374,225	0.68%
491	Cemetery Department	\$ 195,000	\$ 39,750	\$ 234,750	\$ 202,354	\$ 39,750	\$ 242,104	0.44%
492	Veteran's Graves	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	0.00%
		\$ 1,173,239	\$ 674,640	\$ 1,847,879	\$ 1,225,298	\$ 683,750	\$ 1,909,048	3.45%
HUMAN SERVICES								
511	Board of Health	\$ 425,522	\$ 25,690	\$ 451,212	\$ 445,507	\$ 25,690	\$ 471,197	0.85%
541	Council on Aging	\$ 192,585	\$ 50,385	\$ 242,970	\$ 191,564	\$ 50,385	\$ 241,949	0.44%
543	Veterans Services	\$ 58,940	\$ 364,075	\$ 423,015	\$ 75,000	\$ 339,535	\$ 414,535	0.75%
549	Commission on Disabilities	\$ 200	\$ 800	\$ 1,000	\$ 200	\$ 800	\$ 1,000	0.00%

Fiscal Year 2026
Article 4 Annual Town Meeting
Proposed Budget

		FY25 Salary	FY25 Expense	FY25 Total	FY26 Salary	FY26 Expense	FY26 Total	% of Total
		<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Budget</u>
		\$ 677,247	\$ 440,950	\$ 1,118,197	\$ 712,271	\$ 416,410	\$ 1,128,681	2.04%
CULTURE & RECREATION								
610	Library	\$ 312,754	\$ 31,725	\$ 344,479	\$ 323,872	\$ 31,850	\$ 355,722	0.64%
630	Recreation	\$ 70,509	\$ 2,000	\$ 72,509	\$ 72,624	\$ 2,000	\$ 74,624	0.14%
691	Historical Commission	\$ -	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,750	\$ -	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250	0.00%
		\$ 383,263	\$ 35,475	\$ 418,738	\$ 396,496	\$ 36,100	\$ 432,596	0.78%
DEBT SERVICE								
710	Principal Payments	\$ -	\$ 3,086,130	\$ 3,086,130	\$ -	\$ 3,093,252	\$ 3,093,252	5.60%
751	Interest Payments	\$ -	\$ 2,007,792	\$ 2,007,792	\$ -	\$ 1,921,304	\$ 1,921,304	3.48%
		\$ -	\$ 5,093,922	\$ 5,093,922	\$ -	\$ 5,014,556	\$ 5,014,556	9.07%
Assessments								
820	SRPEDD	\$ -	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750	\$ -	\$ 3,751	\$ 3,751	0.01%
		\$ -	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750	\$ -	\$ 3,751	\$ 3,751	0.01%
PENSION & INSURANCE								
911	Pension Assessment	\$ -	\$ 3,560,395	\$ 3,560,395	\$ -	\$ 3,815,090	\$ 3,815,090	6.90%
914	Health & Life Insurance	\$ 100,000	\$ 4,782,000	\$ 4,882,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 5,031,656	\$ 5,131,656	9.28%
		\$ 100,000	\$ 8,342,395	\$ 8,442,395	\$ 100,000	\$ 8,846,746	\$ 8,946,746	16.19%
		\$ 10,821,622	\$ 42,037,572	\$ 52,859,194	\$ 11,562,818	\$ 43,708,980	\$ 55,271,798	100.00%
Total FY25 budget			\$ 52,859,194					
TOTAL FY26 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET					\$ 55,271,798		\$ 2,412,604	4.56%
Recommended Funding Sources					\$ 54,454,439	Taxation – Raise & Appropriate		
					\$ 100,471	Septic Program – Monies Reserved for Debt Payments		
					\$ 25,000	Wetlands Fund		
					\$ 15,000	Cemetery Sale of Lots Account		
					\$ 40,000	Cemetery Perpetual Care Interest Account		
					\$ 36,500	Transfer Station Receipts Reserved		
					\$ 15,888	Waterways Fund		
					\$ 90,000	Enterprise Indirect Cost Transfer		
					\$ 14,500	Community TV Reserved		
					\$ 480,000	Free Cash		
					\$ 55,271,798	Total		