



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Conway, Massachusetts

**Annual Town Meeting
 June 4, 2022**

AT A LEGAL TOWN MEETING of the inhabitants of the Town of Conway qualified to vote in town affairs, convened at the time and place and for the purpose specified in the warrant, 125 voters were checked at the door and issued electronic voting clickers for the purpose of voting. Tammy Bennett and Sarah Newman served as checkers. The meeting was called to order by the Moderator James Recore, and it was unanimously voted to dispense with the formality of having the warrant read by the Town Clerk. The following actions were taken by those persons in attendance:

ARTICLE 1: Voted that Town Meeting accept the town reports as printed in the Town Annual Report.

ARTICLE 2:

Section A: Voted that the Town approve line items 114 through 900 of Article 2 as presented in the warrant, for a subtotal of **\$2,655,670**.

Section B: Voted that the Town approve line items 300A and 300B of Article 2 as presented in the warrant, for a subtotal of **\$2,086,307**.

Section C: Voted that the Town approve line items 310A, 310B and 310C of Article 2 as presented in the warrant for a subtotal of **\$1,571,659**.

Section D: Voted that the Town approve line items 320A, 320B and 320C of Article 2 as presented in the warrant for a subtotal of **\$183,261**.

Section E: Voted that the Town approve line items 330A and 330B of Article 2 as presented in the warrant for a subtotal of **76,344, and a total in Article 2 of \$6,573,331**.

DEPT #	DEPARTMENT NAME	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023 REC.*	FY22 - 23 CHANGE
114	MODERATOR	\$350	\$350	\$350	\$0
122	SELECTBOARD	\$2,900	\$8,500	\$6,500	-\$2,000
131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$0
132	RESERVE FUND	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0
135	TOWN AUDITS	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$0
141	ASSESSORS	\$10,690	\$12,008	\$12,075	\$67
141	ASSESSORS WAGES	\$49,114	\$61,511	\$60,002	-\$1,509
145	TREASURER-COLLECTOR	\$17,898	\$17,783	\$20,919	\$3,136
145	TREASURER-COLLECTOR WAGES	\$60,337	\$63,391	\$66,531	\$3,140
150	TOWN ADMINISTRATION	\$16,000	\$18,700	\$20,600	\$1,900
150	TOWN ADMINISTRATION WAGES	\$98,787	\$106,380	\$92,040	-\$14,340
151	LEGAL	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$11,000	\$1,000
159	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$34,431	\$37,586	\$42,242	\$4,656
161	TOWN CLERK	\$6,150	\$7,750	\$7,750	\$0
161	TOWN CLERK WAGES	\$34,513	\$37,500	\$40,382	\$2,882
162	REGISTRARS	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,700	\$200
163	ELECTIONS	\$8,100	\$14,300	\$9,600	-\$4,700
170	OPEN SPACE	\$3,100	\$3,100	\$3,100	\$0
171	CONSERVATION COMMISSION	\$853	\$803	\$807	\$4
172	AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$0
175	PLANNING BOARD	\$1,850	\$2,150	\$2,250	\$100
176	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$0
190	PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$0
192	BUILDING MAINTENANCE	\$59,600	\$59,600	\$73,500	\$13,900
192	BUILDING MAINTENANCE WAGES	\$17,833	\$0	\$0	\$0
193	TOWN INSURANCE	\$84,710	\$85,419	\$89,053	\$3,634
210	POLICE	\$18,050	\$18,775	\$19,975	\$1,200

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210	POLICE WAGES	\$110,620	\$116,220	\$119,707	\$3,487
220	FIRE	\$36,005	\$39,805	\$42,005	\$2,200
220	FIRE WAGES	\$36,673	\$39,600	\$41,697	\$2,097
231	AMBULANCE	\$22,400	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0
291	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$4,225	\$4,225	\$4,250	\$25
292	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER	\$3,010	\$3,110	\$3,110	\$0
294	TREE WARDEN	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$0
422	HIGHWAY	\$256,000	\$256,000	\$260,800	\$4,800
422	HIGHWAY WAGES	\$260,781	\$304,873	\$312,883	\$8,010
423	SNOW & ICE	\$103,000	\$103,000	\$103,000	\$0
423	SNOW & ICE WAGES	\$19,830	\$20,834	\$21,459	\$625
433	TRANSFER STATION	\$0	\$0	\$135,048	\$135,048
433	TRANSFER STATION WAGES	\$0	\$0	\$43,260	\$43,260
491	CEMETERY	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$0
512	BOARD OF HEALTH	\$165,131	\$164,559	\$17,992	-\$146,567
512	BOARD OF HEALTH WAGES	\$60,469	\$63,833	\$22,423	-\$41,410
541	COUNCIL ON AGING	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$0
543	VETERANS	\$10,743	\$11,485	\$11,245	-\$241
630	PARKS, RECREATION & TRAILS	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0
635	FOREST & TRAILS	\$0	\$0	\$400	\$400
650	TOWN NEWSLETTER	\$0	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$0
691	HISTORICAL COMMISSION	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$0
710	DEBT SERVICE	\$80,021	\$81,077	\$52,133	-\$28,944
751	DEBT SERVICE INTEREST	\$23,025	\$21,072	\$19,119	-\$1,953
752	SHORT TERM INTEREST	\$1,650	\$1,650	\$100	-\$1,550
830	FRCOG (Town Nurse under Board of Health)	\$56,474	\$56,716	\$56,590	-\$126
900	EMPLOYEE COSTS	\$710,227	\$715,857	\$726,161	\$10,304
	TOTAL	\$2,548,053	\$2,653,025	\$2,655,760	\$2,735
300A	GRAM SCH OPERATING	\$1,868,752	\$1,945,554	\$2,016,647	\$71,093
300B	GRAM SCH TRANSPORT	\$83,520	\$80,689	\$69,660	-\$11,029
310A	FRONTIER REG OPERATING	\$1,473,565	\$1,477,649	\$1,532,073	\$54,424
310B	FRONTIER TRANSPORTATION	\$38,734	\$41,148	\$26,759	-\$14,389
310C	FRONTIER CAPITAL ASSESSMENT			\$12,827	\$12,827
320A	FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL	\$91,432	\$68,814	\$169,670	\$100,856
320B	FCTS TRANSPORTATION	\$2,943	\$2,969	\$7,049	\$4,080
320c	FCTS CAPITAL ASSESSMENT	\$6,698	\$6,228	\$6,542	\$314
330A	OTHER TECHNICAL SCHOOLS	\$18,500	\$39,000	\$49,344	\$10,344
330B	OTHER TECH SCHOOLS TRANSPORTATION	\$12,700	\$23,400	\$27,000	\$3,600
FY 21 to 22: 178,814 2.90%	GRAND TOTAL for Operating Budget:	6,165,362	6,344,176	6,573,331	FY 22-23 229,155 3.49%

**Unanimously approved by the Selectboard and Finance Committee*

ARTICLE 3: Voted that the Town transfer \$82,000 from the Grammar School Capital Stabilization Fund to the general fund for capital expenses of the Conway Grammar School. *(Two-thirds vote.)*

ARTICLE 4: Voted that the Town transfer \$52,000 from free cash to the Conway Grammar School capital stabilization fund.

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- ARTICLE 5:** Voted that the Town approve setting the salaries of elected officials as provided by M.G.L. c. 41, section 108 to be made effective from July 1, 2022, as presented in the budget
- ARTICLE 6:** Voted that the Town transfer \$150,000 from free cash to the **Capital Improvements Stabilization Fund**.
- ARTICLE 7:** Voted that the Town approve the creation of a new **Fire Truck Stabilization Fund**.
- ARTICLE 8:** Voted that the Town transfer \$100,000 from free cash into to the **Fire Truck Stabilization Fund**.
- ARTICLE 9:** Voted that the Town transfer \$7,400 from free cash to the general fund for **two portable speed radar detectors**.
- ARTICLE 10:** Voted that the Town transfer \$27,762 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Fund for a **partial payment for Ambulance Department operational expenses**.
- ARTICLE 11:** Voted that the Town transfer \$60,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved Fund into the **Ambulance Stabilization Fund**.
- ARTICLE 12:** Voted that the Town transfer \$5,000 from free cash to the general fund for **ongoing ambulance training**.
- ARTICLE 13:** Voted that the Town transfer \$3,600 from free cash to the general fund for **Ambulance Department 800 MHz Emergency Pagers**.
- ARTICLE 14:** Voted that the Town transfer \$18,000 from free cash to the general fund for **Fire Department 800 MHz Emergency Pagers**.
- ARTICLE 15:** Voted that the Town transfer \$20,000 from free cash into the **OPEB Trust Fund**.
- ARTICLE 16:** Voted that the Town transfer \$13,867 from free cash to the general fund for **partial debt service for the Highway Garage**.
- ARTICLE 17:** Voted that the Town transfer \$10,000 from free cash to the tax title revolving account to **assist the treasurer in collecting delinquent taxes**.
- ARTICLE 18:** Voted that the Town transfer \$10,000 from free cash to the general fund **compensated absences account**.
- ARTICLE 19:** Voted that the Town transfer \$5,000 from free cash to the general fund to **provide for the testing of diseases in mosquitos**.
- ARTICLE 20:** Voted that the Town pass over the article: "that the Town vote to transfer \$7,984 from free cash to the general fund to pay for **software development for data management modules for the Town Clerk**."
- ARTICLE 21:** Voted that the Town transfer \$5,000 from free cash to the general fund as a partial contribution for **future revaluation work**.
- ARTICLE 22:** Voted that the Town transfer \$5,000 from free cash to the general fund as a **partial contribution to replenish the Grant Match and Administration Account**.
- ARTICLE 23:** Voted that the Town transfer \$2,775 from free cash to the **Field Library** to help ensure its accreditation.
- ARTICLE 24:** Voted that the Town authorize the Treasurer to spend up to \$5,000 from the **Medicaid Revolving Fund** to pay related reimbursement fees.
- ARTICLE 25:** Voted that the Town authorize the **Selectboard to request special legislation allowing Chief Kenneth Ouimette to serve on the Police Department after age 65** until the date of his retirement or until his non-reappointment.
- ARTICLE 26:** Voted that the Town authorize the **Selectboard to request special legislation allowing Randall Williams to serve on the Police Department after age 65** until the date of his retirement or until his non-reappointment.
- ARTICLE 27:** Voted that the Town allow the Selectboard to **apply for, accept, and expend** state, federal and other grants which do not require a town appropriation or town meeting approval.

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ARTICLE 28: Voted that the Town authorize the Selectboard to acquire by eminent domain a **permanent easement** for flood control, public safety, removal of the berm, other municipal purposes related to the South River Flood Resiliency Project and other municipal purposes over the following described parcel: A portion of the property at 69 Main Street, Assessors Tax Map 102 Lot 2.1 owned by South River Trust, John R. Evans, Trustee, that portion of the property lying southerly of the current South River location consisting of 4.3 acres more or less, Franklin County Registry of Deeds Book 2867, Page 169. *(Two-thirds vote.)*

ARTICLE 29: Voted that the Town appropriate, or reserve for later appropriation, monies from the **Community Preservation Fund** as listed in the warrant, with each item considered a separate appropriation.

A: \$63,850 from the Community Preservation Fund, specifically from the Unbudgeted Reserve Account, for grant matching and/or for costs and expenses for land acquisition, rights of way, easements and related costs and expenses for two unnumbered, unbuildable parcels along Shelburne Falls Road, owned by Judith Waldo and the heirs of Mary Boeh, and for a portion of 69 Main Street owned by South River Trust all for flood remediation, public safety, and general municipal purposes; *(two-thirds vote)* and

B: \$42,388 to the Historical Society for the Archibald MacLeish Stone House renovation project [Historic Resources Reserve account]; and

C: \$21,000 to the Cemetery Trustees for Howland and Pine Grove for removal of hazardous trees from the Howland Cemetery [Budgeted Reserve account]; and

D: FY 2023 Annual Revenue:

10% to the Community Preservation Historical Resources Reserve; (\$9,471.64)

10% to the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve; (\$9,471.64)

10% to the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve; (\$9,471.64)

5% from FY 2021 Annual Revenues for Administration of the Community Preservation Committee (\$4,735.82); and the remainder to the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve (\$61,565.69).

ARTICLE 30: Voted that the Town authorize the Selectboard to forward the citizen's petition on the Fair Share Amendment to local legislators.

ARTICLE 31: Voted that the Town amend its General Bylaws on the Form and Conduct of Town Government, The Town Meeting to read as follows:

Section 1: The ANNUAL TOWN MEETING for the election of Town Officers shall be considered the adjournment of the Town Meeting and shall be on the following Thursday after Annual Town Meeting each year.

(Amended – Special Meeting – 17 Oct 2011)

Section 2: All business of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING to be held on the first Saturday in June.

(Amended – Annual Meeting – 5 June 2021)

ARTICLE 32: Voted that the Town amend its General Bylaws on LEGAL to read as follows:

Section 4: The Selectboard may annually appoint a member of the Bar who is in good standing, to serve as Town Counsel for the term of one year from the first day of July following annual Town Meeting, and until his successor is appointed and enters upon the performance of his duties. They shall likewise fill any vacancy in said office for the unexpired term and may employ special counsel to assist said Town Counsel whenever, in their judgment necessity therefor arises.

(Amended – February 1974)

ARTICLE 33: Voted that the Town amend its General Bylaws by adding a new section to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain Town departments, boards, committees and agencies or officers, as set forth in the warrant.

ARTICLE 34: Voted that the Town amend its General Bylaws by replacing the word 'council' with 'counsel' as referenced in the bylaws.

ARTICLE 35: Voted that the Town amend its Protective (Zoning) Bylaws by adopting a new Article 7: Floodplain District which would replace existing Article 7 Section 71: Floodplain District & Section 72 Development Regulations with a new Article 7, Sections 711-7115 as set forth in the warrant.


(Two-thirds vote.)

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At 3:30 p.m., the meeting adjourned until Thursday, June 9, 2022, to the Town Hall between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., to bring in their votes for:

- One member of the Selectboard for three years;
- One Assessor for three years;
- One Assessor for one year;
- Two members of the Board of Health for three years;
- One member of the Frontier Regional School Committee for three years;
- Two members of the Local School Committee for three years;
- One member of the Planning Board of two years;
- One member of the Planning Board for three years;
- Three Constables for three years;
- Town Clerk for three years;
- Moderator for one year.

A true record of the Meeting,
Attest:



Laurie L. Lucier, Town Clerk

