

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF BELLINGHAM**

FALL SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Thursday, October 16, 2008

7:30 p.m.

BELLINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL

October 4, 2008

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Joseph E. Collamati, Jr.
Carol Dill
Roland A. Lavallee, Vice Chairman
Henri J. Masson
Gary E. Maynard, Chairman
Toni A. Picariello, Secretary/Clerk
Raymond Szczepan

MODERATOR

Scott A. Ambler

TOWN CLERK

Ann L. Odabashian

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Mary E. Chaves
Dawn Davies
Lloyd W. "Skip" Goodnow, Jr.
Richard J. Martinelli
Jerald A. Mayhew

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Francis E. Cartier
Cheryl Gray
Ronald L. Martel
Michael J. O'Herron
Stephen R. Patrick

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Denis C. Fraine

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Marilyn A. Mathieu

*Printed by Alternative Printing-Bellingham High School
508-966-4185*

TOWN MEETING GLOSSARY

CHERRY SHEET	A financial statement from the State that itemizes State aid and assessments to the Town.
ENTERPRISE FUND	A fund where expenditures are restricted for operating, capital, and debt costs of a particular service (such as water and trash). It allows a community to recover the total costs of a service through user fees or the user fees may be supplemented by taxation. The budget for an enterprise fund is not autonomous, it must be voted annually at Town Meeting. An enterprise fund balance can be carried over from year to year.
FISCAL YEAR	The Town operates on a fiscal year that begins on July 1 and ends on June 30.
FREE CASH	Funds certified by the state as appropriated in previous years but not expended. It can result from higher than anticipated revenue receipts and/or lower than anticipated expenditures.
OVERLAY RESERVE	A Board of Assessors fund used to cover tax abatements and statutory exemptions.
RESERVE FUND	A Finance Committee fund used for extraordinary and unforeseen expenditures during the year.
REVOLVING FUND	A fund created to allow specific programs to use fees collected to defray the expenses of the program. A revolving fund does not have to be appropriated each year. However, the fund does have to be reauthorized annually at Town Meeting.
STABILIZATION FUND	Establishes source for funding future capital projects or other lawful spending. A withdrawal from the Stabilization Fund requires a 2/3 vote from Town Meeting.
TAX STABILIZATION FUND	A fund established by the voters of the town of Bellingham to mitigate the future loss of revenue from the power plants; this fund will ensure that the town of Bellingham can continue to provide services to its citizens and maintain its infrastructure in a responsible and prudent manner.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF BELLINGHAM**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
ON THE WARRANT ARTICLES FOR THE FALL SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Thursday, October 16, 2008**

ARTICLE 1. AMEND ARTICLE 1.

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 1 of the 2008 May Annual Town Meeting by reducing, adding to, deleting, amending appropriations or transferring funds from various sources into items within Article 1; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

The Finance Committee RECOMMENDS the following transfers:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Transfer from</u>	<u>FinCom Vote</u>
CFO	To balance budget	\$200,000	Ambulance Receipts Reserve	Recommended Vote: 6/0
CFO	To balance budget	\$200,000	Stabilization Fund	Recommended Vote: 6/0
CFO	To balance budget	\$200,000	Overlay Surplus	Recommended Vote: 6/0
		\$600,000.00		

Commentary: These transfers are needed to balance the FY2009 budget that was voted for under Article 1 of the Annual Town Meeting held May 2008.

ARTICLE 2. CAPITAL OUTLAY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money which shall not exceed 3.0 million dollars and to determine how such appropriation shall be raised, whether by transfer of available funds, by taxation, by borrowing or otherwise, and if by borrowing to authorize the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds or notes of the Town therefore for the purpose of financing the purchase, construction, reconstruction and/or engineering costs associated with various capital outlay items or improvements proposed by Town Departments, Boards or Committees; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

The Finance Committee's recommendations are as follows:

The Capital Improvement Committee's (CIC) recommendations are as follows:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Suggested Funding</u>	<u>FinCom Vote</u>	<u>CIC Vote</u>
CFO	Financial Software Upgrade	\$75,000	Overlay Surplus	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 5/0
DPW	Filtration Plant Treatment Alternative	\$50,000	Water Retained Earnings	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 5/0
DPW	Well 1 & 2 (Cross Street) Rehab/Aux Power	\$175,000	Water Retained Earnings	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 5/0
DPW	Dams-Phase II Study	\$70,000	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 5/0
DPW	Supplemental Chapter 90 Road Funds	\$150,000	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 3/0
DPW	Sewer Infiltration & Inflow (I & I)	\$106,000	Sewer Retained Earnings	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 3/0
Fire Department	Ambulance	\$220,000	Borrowing	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 3/0
Police Department	Roof Repair	\$55,000	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 5/1	Recommended Vote: 3/0
School Department	School-Building Security System	\$55,985	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 6/0	Recommended Vote: 3/0
		\$956,985.00			

Commentary:

- *Filtration Plant – This is behind Stall Brook School. The water coming out of the filtration plant is discolored; this update will ensure clean water. These are Wells 7 & 8.*
- *Wells 1 & 2: The plan is to centralize control of the wells, putting all controls in a Corrosion Control building. Once centralized, auxiliary power can be added. The DPW will also update the wellhead on Well #1 which is off Cross Street.*
- *Dams – The state is requiring that the Town do a study on repairs to three dams in Town: Caryville Dam, Jenks Reservoir Dam and Crystal Lake Dam.*
- *Chapter 90 Road Funds – This money would complete ongoing projects, such as: Hartford Avenue Improvements, Lake Street Culvert, Westminster Street, crack sealing roads, Bungay Brook Culvert, Pulaski Blvd. leveling, Scott Hill Blvd., and Andrew Street.*
- *Sewer I & I – The funds will be used to pay consultants to begin a program that includes sewer flow evaluation, flow metering, flow isolation, pipe and manhole inspection and leak repair.*
- *Ambulance – This will be replacing the 2002 International Ambulance.*
- *Police Station Roof Repair – This amount will be used to completely strip and rebuild the roof on the Police Station.*
- *Security System – This is a video/intercom/door security system for the front doors in the following schools: South, Macy, Stall Brook, High School, Middle*

ARTICLE 3. NON-CAPITAL OUTLAY EXPENDITURES

(Expenditures of Less Than \$50,000)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money which shall not exceed \$1,000,000 and to determine how such appropriation shall be raised, whether by transfer of available funds, by taxation, by borrowing or otherwise, and if by borrowing to authorize the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds or notes of the Town therefore for the purpose of financing the purchase of various non-capital outlay items or improvements proposed by Town Departments, Boards or Committees; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

The Finance Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Suggested Funding</u>	<u>FinCom Vote</u>
Conservation Commission	Land Acquisition Trust	\$10,000	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 5/1
DPW	Replace BW 3-Pickup Truck with Plow	\$30,000	Water Retained Earnings	Recommended Vote: 6/1
DPW	Replace BW 10-Pickup Truck with Plow	\$30,000	Sewer Retained Earnings	Recommended Vote: 6/1
DPW	MIS/GIS Mapping	\$10,000	Overlay Surplus	Recommended Vote: 6/0
Parks Commission	Riding Lawnmower	\$14,390	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 5/0
Police Department	2 Marked Cruisers	\$64,000	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 6/0
School Department	Lunch Equipment	\$14,500	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 6/0
		\$172,890.00		

Commentary:

- *Land Acquisition - The ConCom can use the money in this account for land appraisals, Town's portion of matching grants, surveys and to purchase land. In order to purchase land, they would have to go to Town Meeting.*
- *MIS/GIS Mapping – This is an ongoing project which will map underground water pipes, sewer pipes, graves in the cemeteries, etc.*
- *Lunch Equipment – This amount will replace some cafeteria equipment (i.e., freezer, oven, refrigerator, etc.) at the following schools: South, Macy, Stall Brook, and Primavera Center*

ARTICLE 4. AMEND ARTICLE 3. WATER ENTERPRISE

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 3 of the 2008 May Annual Town Meeting by reducing, adding to, deleting, amending appropriations or transferring funds from various sources into Article 3; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

**The Finance Committee RECOMMENDS transferring \$50,000
from Water Retained Earnings Account to the Water Reserve Fund.**

VOTE: 6/0

ARTICLE 5. STREET ACCEPTANCE – STONEHEDGE ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to accept as a Public Way a road, the easements appurtenant thereto, identified as Stonehedge Road being shown on a Plan entitled “The Woodlands Definitive Subdivision Plan of Land in Bellingham, Massachusetts for Pentad Realty Trust, Leo L. Mayewski Tr. Scale 1” = 40’, July 28, 1987, David E. Beede EPLS Reading, Massachusetts duly recorded with Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 362 as Plan 1526 of 1987, and as more particularly described in a Deed on file at the office of the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the Deed thereto; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Douglas R. Porter and Doreen Porter, 3 Stonehedge Road, Bellingham)

Finance Committee RECOMMENDS this article

Vote: 6/0

Conservation Commission recommends this Article.

DPW recommends this Article.

Commentary: This road is located off of Maple Street. The Town will take the balance of the bond to help fund any necessary work on the road.

ARTICLE 6. LAND ACCEPTANCE

To see if the Town will vote to accept certain parcels of land lying within and without Pine Acres Estate, belonging now or formerly to Leo A. Dalpe and Germaine S. Dalpe, Trustees of the Germaine Realty Trust, specifically the following:

Parcel A containing 3.086 acres, more or less, and the twenty (20) foot sewer easement, both shown on Plan duly recorded with Norfolk Deeds in Book 539 of 2005 as Plan No. 55 and Parcel D containing 10.5 acres, more or less, shown on Plan duly recorded with Norfolk Deeds in Book 539 of 2005 as Plan No. 58; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Atty. Richard Cornetta, 4 West Street, Franklin, MA)

The Finance Committee will make their recommendation on the Town Meeting Floor.

The DPW recommends this Article.

The Conservation Commission does not recommend this Article.

Commentary: The parcels are land locked and were promised to the town as open space when the Pine Acres Sub-Division was approved.

ARTICLE 7. PACKAGE STORE ALL ALCOHOL LICENSE

To see if the Town will vote to direct the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature to enact legislation granting the Board of Selectmen the authority to issue additional Package Store All Alcohol License for Antoine H. Khoury, 3 Mechanic Street.

Notwithstanding any General or special law or any rule or regulation to the contrary, the local alcohol licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of said license to any other location. Said license may be re-issued by the local alcohol licensing authority at the same location if any applicant for said license files with said authority a letter in writing from the Department of Revenue indicating that said license is in good standing with said Department and that any and all applicable taxes have been paid.

If the license granted under this section is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use, such license shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges, and restrictions pertaining thereto, to the local alcohol licensing authority. Notwithstanding Section 17 of the Chapter 138 of the General Laws, or any other General or Special law to the contrary, the local alcohol licensing authority may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location and under the same condition specified in the preceding paragraph; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Petition: Antoine Khoury, Khoury Industries, 5 Mechanic Street, Bellingham)

The Finance Committee RECOMMENDS authorizing the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature for a Package Store All Alcohol License.

VOTE: 4/2

Commentary: This Article is to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature to issue Bellingham an addition liquor license. The Petitioner is looking for the license for a package store that will be located at the shopping center at the corner of Rte. 126 and Rte. 140, which the Petitioner is renovating.

ARTICLE 8. REVISION TO TOWN BYLAW ARTICLE 19.03 WATER USE RESTRICTIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 19.03 of the General Bylaw by deleting the existing Article 19.03 and replacing it with the following:

Article 19.03. Water Use Restriction

This Bylaw is intended to regulate the use of water supplied by the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Section 19.03.010. Purpose

The purpose of this bylaw is to protect, preserve and maintain the public health, safety and welfare whenever there is in force a State of Water Supply Conservation or State of Water Supply Emergency by providing for enforcement of any duly imposed restrictions, requirements, provisions or conditions imposed by the Town or by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Section 19.03.020. Definitions

"State of Water Supply Conservation" shall mean: a State of Water Supply Conservation declared by the Board of Selectmen or DPW Director pursuant to Section 19.03.030

"State of Water Supply Emergency" shall mean: a State of Water Supply Emergency declared by the DEP under MGL Chapter 21G section 15 - 17

"Water Users" shall mean: all public and private users of the Town's public water system, irrespective of any person's responsibility for billing purposes for water used at any particular facility

Section 19.03.030. Declaration of State Of Water Conservation

The Board of Selectmen may declare a State of Water Conservation upon an affirmative vote of the majority of the members.

The DPW Director may declare a State of Water Conservation if:

- a. The level of water in the Chestnut Street Stand pipe falls to 65 feet
- b. The demand for water has exceeded the actual pumping capacity of the system for a period longer than four (4) days; or
- c. A mechanical failure has occurred removing one (1) or more of the Town's wells from operation
- d. The DEP requires conservation conditions related to the Town's registered or permitted water withdrawals under the Massachusetts Water Management Act.

Public notice of a State of Water Conservation must be given under Section 19.03.050 before it may be enforced.

Section 19.03.040. Restricted Water Uses

A declaration of a State of Water Conservation issued by the Board of Selectmen or the DPW Director may include one (1) or more of the following restrictions,

conditions, or requirements restraining the use of water for non-essential purposes as necessary to protect the water supply, which shall be included in the public notice required under Section 19.03.050.

- a. Odd/Even Lawn Watering: Lawn watering at facilities with odd numbered addresses is permitted only on odd numbered days. Lawn watering at facilities with even numbered addresses is permitted only on even numbered days.
- b. One Week Day Outdoor Watering: Outdoor watering by water users is allowed on the day which Town Trash Collection is scheduled for pick up.
- c. One Weekend Day Outdoor Watering: Outdoor watering by water users with odd numbered addresses is restricted to Saturdays. Outdoor watering by water users with even numbered addresses is restricted to Sundays.
- d. Outdoor Watering Hours: Outdoor watering is permitted only during off-peak hours, to be specified in the declaration of a State of Water Conservation and public notice.
- e. Hand Held Hose Watering: Outdoor watering by water users is allowed but only if a hose is continuously attended. No lawn sprinklers or automatic sprinkler systems allowed.
- f. Outdoor Watering Ban: Lawn watering, and all other forms of non-essential outdoor water use, is prohibited.
- g. Filling Swimming Pools: Filling of swimming pools is prohibited.
- h. Automatic Lawn Sprinkler Use: The use of automatic lawn and garden sprinkler systems is prohibited.

Section 19.03.050. Public Notification of State of Water Supply Conservation

Notification of any provision, restriction, requirement or condition imposed by the Town as part of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall be:

- o Published in a paper of general circulation in the Town,
- o Posted on the local cable television government information scroll,
- o Posted on the Bellingham Department of Public Works and Town Home web page, or
- o Such other means reasonably calculated to reach and inform all users of water of the State of Water Supply Conservation.

Any restriction imposed under Section 19.03.040 shall not be effective until such notification is provided.

Notification of the State of Water Supply Conservation shall also be simultaneously provided to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Section 19.03.060. Termination of State Of Water Supply Conservation; Notice

A State of Water Supply Conservation may be terminated by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen, upon a determination that the water supply shortage no longer exists. Public notification of the termination of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall be given by:

- Announcement on televised meeting of the Board of Selectmen,
- Issuance of a Press Release to papers of general circulation in the Town
- Removal of posting from the local cable television government information scroll, and posting of termination.
- Removal of the notice from the Bellingham Department of Public Works and Town Home web page, and posting of termination ,or
- Such other means reasonably calculated to reach and inform all users

Section 19.03.070. State Of Water Emergency; Compliance with DEP Orders

Upon notification to the public that a declaration of a State of Water Supply Emergency has been issued by the Department of Environmental Protection, no person shall violate any provision, restriction, requirement, condition of any order approved or issued by the Department intended to bring about an end to the State of Emergency.

Section 19.03.080. Penalties

Any person violating this By-Law shall be liable to the Town in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50) for the first violation and one hundred dollars (\$100) for each subsequent violation, which shall inure to the General Fund. Each day of violation represents an independent violation. Fines shall be recovered by complaint before the District Court. Each separate issuance of a citation pursuant to Article 19.03 shall constitute a separate violation.

Section 19.03.090. Severability

The invalidity of any portion or provision of this bylaw shall not invalidate any other portion or provision thereof;

or act or do anything related thereto.

(DPW)

The Finance Committee RECOMMENDATIONS this Article.

Vote: 6/0

The Conservation Commission recommends this Article.

Commentary: Per DPW: “The modifications changed a lot of text but are fairly minor in substance. Our existing and proposed bylaw is based on the model made available by the Mass Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP). The revisions also take into account the fact that our need for future use restrictions will likely be driven less by our ability to

pump enough water to meet demand and more by MDEP requirements of our Water Management Act withdrawal permits.”

ARTICLE 9. PULASKI BOULEVARD PROJECT TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS

I move that the Town vote to allow the Selectmen to purchase, or take by eminent domain, and raise and appropriate a sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to fund the purchase and all legal recording cost associated with obtaining all temporary construction easements related to the Pulaski Boulevard Roadway Improvement project (Orchard Street to the Franklin town line) and adjacent storm drainage improvements as shown on the plans entitled “The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Department Roadway Reconstruction of Pulaski Boulevard in the Town of Bellingham, Norfolk County Right-of-Way Plans” drafted by BETA Group, Inc and as listed on the Pulaski Boulevard Temporary Easement Table both of which to be delivered to the Town Clerk’s Office fourteen (14) days before the date of the town meeting and available for viewing, or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: DPW)

The Finance Committee will make their recommendation on Town Meeting Floor.

Vote: 5/1

The Conservation Commission recommends this Article.

Commentary: Per DPW: “The project will require that work be performed just off the Town right of way along the edge of the road. Temporary Construction Easements (TCE) are the areas at the edge of the right of way where the contractor will be required to match the grade with the improvements being done on the Town roads and sidewalks. The work within a TCE typically involves reconstruction of a portion of [a property owners] driveway, regrading and loaming and seeding lawns, and/or removal and replacement of fences or walls. ...These TCE’s will automatically expire at the end of five years...” These easements would be needed for property along Pulaski Boulevard from the Franklin Town line to Orchard Street.

ARTICLE 10. REVISION TO TOWN ZONING BYLAW SECTION 4900 WATER RESOURCE DISTRICTS

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 4900 Water Resource Districts of the Zoning Bylaws by deleting subparagraph 4980 (iii) “Uses and Activities Requiring A Special Permit”, which now reads:

- iii. any use that will render impervious any lot or parcel more than 30%. A system for groundwater recharge must be provided which does not degrade groundwater quality. For non-residential uses, recharge shall be by storm water infiltration basins, or similar system covered with natural vegetation, and dry wells shall be used only where other methods are infeasible. For all non-residential uses, all such basins and oil, grease, and sediment traps

to facilitate removal of contamination shall precede wells. The owner shall permanently maintain any and all recharge areas in full working order.

and replacing it with the following:

- iii. any use that will render impervious any lot or parcel more than 15% or 2,500 square feet, whichever is greater.

Should any use create the need for a Special Permit under this paragraph, the applicant must show plans to construct and maintain a system for groundwater recharge that does not degrade groundwater quality.

- a. For non-residential uses and subdivisions of land,
 - i. A Stormwater Permit Application must be obtained as noted in the Planning Board Procedural Rules.
 - ii. The Massachusetts Wetlands Regulations related to Stormwater recharge and treatment must be adhered to.
- b. For Residential Single Lot or Parcel Uses, which are included in a Special Permit filing, as part of a subdivision plan approval filing with the Planning Board, no individual lot or parcel Special Permit must be obtained.
 - i. The owner shall permanently maintain any and all recharge areas in full working order.
- c. For Residential Single Lot or Parcel Uses that are not included in a Special Permit filing as part of a subdivision plan approval filing with the Planning Board.
 - i. Recharge shall be by stormwater open infiltration basins, or similar system covered with natural vegetation, and dry wells shall be used only where other methods are infeasible.
 - ii. The owner shall permanently maintain any and all recharge areas in full working order.

or act or do anything related thereto.

(By: DPW)

The Finance Committee recommends PASSING OVER this Article, per DPW.

Vote: 6/0

ARTICLE 11. CONTRACTS AND PURCHASES

To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 9.02 of the Town By-Laws and to enact in lieu thereof the following:

Article 9.02: Contracts and Purchases

All Contracts entered into by the Town which are subject to Federal or State bidding requirements shall be awarded only after there has been full compliance with such requirements. In all other cases, except in cases of public calamity or extreme necessity, whenever any work is required to be done for the Town or any Contract for labor or materials, or both, is to be made in behalf of the Town, for a amount exceeding the sum of \$25,000, the Town officer having the matter in charge shall publicly advertise for bids, and may require that a bond with satisfactory sureties for the faithful performance of such Contract shall be furnished, but no Contract shall be split, separated or divided for the purpose of reducing the amount thereof below said sum of \$25,000. For Contracts in an amount between \$24,999 and \$5,000, the Town officer shall submit proposals for the same from three (3) or more reliable parties, regularly engaged or employed in such work or business. So far as practicable, Contracts for less than \$5,000 shall be made or awarded in such a manner as to secure the benefit of reasonable competition., or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: School Superintendent)

The Finance Committee RECOMMENDS this Article with the following amendment:

Any project/item that would cost \$10,000 to \$24,999 would require 3 written proposals (phone calls are not acceptable).

Vote: 6/0

Commentary: *The existing By-law requires that the Town go out to bid for projects/items \$10,000 or more. It is being requested that this proposed By-law replace the existing so that the Town would now bid on projects/items costing \$25,000 or more. Any project/item that would cost \$10,000 to \$24,999 would need 3 written proposals. This is in-line with M.G.L. c.30B.*

ARTICLE 12. STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of funding the Stabilization Fund; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Finance Committee)

The Finance Committee recommends PASSING OVER this Article.

Vote: 6/0

ARTICLE 13. TAX STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of funding the Tax Stabilization Fund; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

**The Finance Committee recommends PASSING OVER this Article
per Board of Selectmen.**

Vote: 6/0

ARTICLE 14. PURCHASE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money and to authorize the D.P.W. Director, in conjunction with other Town Departments, to purchase surplus government equipment for the Town; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

The Finance Committee does NOT RECOMMEND this Article

Vote: 6/0

Commentary: The DPW is requesting \$5,300 be added to the Surplus account to allow the purchase of a new used truck to update their fleet. This money came from the sale of scrap steel. The FinCom believes this money should be added to the General Fund.

ARTICLE 15. EMINENT DOMAIN TAKING

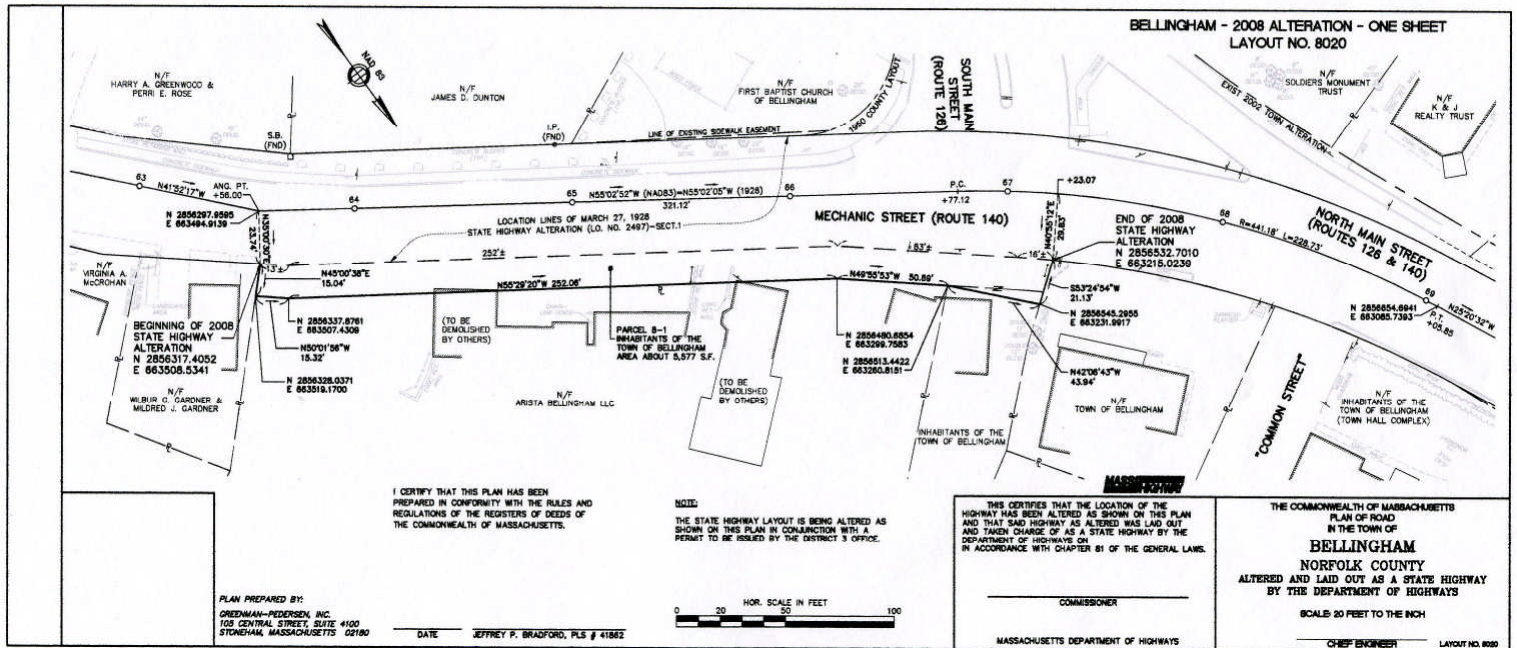
To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to vote to enter into an agreement for the full settlement of all claims for damages resulting from an eminent domain taking by the MassHighway Department, said taking being of a parcel of land containing 5577 square feet off Mechanic Street (Route 140) as shown on a "Plan of Road in the Town of Bellingham" by Greenman-Federsen, Inc., Stoneham, Massachusetts, and to accept the sum of zero in full settlement; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

The Finance Committee RECOMMENDS this Article.

Vote: 6/0

Commentary: The State is actually taking this land from the Town. This was part of the widening on Route 140 for the Town Center/Signal in front of Town Hall access road and Walgreens. We received land from the developer in order to provide it to the State for the widening. See page 16 for map.



ARTICLE 15. UNPAID BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate or transfer a sum of money for the payment of certain unpaid bills; or act or do anything in relation thereto.

(By: Board of Selectmen)

The Finance Committee RECOMMENDS the following:

<u>Department</u>	<u>Payment to:</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Transferred from:</u>	<u>FinCom Vote:</u>
DPW	Allied Waste Services	\$6,671.00	Trash Enterprise	Recommended Vote: 5/0/1 abstention
Zoning Board Appeals	Deutsh, Williams, Brooks	\$3,681.50	Free Cash	Recommended Vote: 6/0
		\$10,352.50		

**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING
THE FALL TOWN MEETING**