

**Finance Committee
5 Palmer Road
Plympton, MA 02367**

**Bulk Rate
US Postage Paid
Permit #8
Plympton, MA 02367**

**Resident
Plympton, MA 02367**



**Plympton
Town Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM
Dennett Elementary School**

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Plympton Finance Committee

April 28, 2015

Citizens of Plympton,

The Finance Committee presents to you our budget proposal for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016.

Increases in Education Costs: The Vocational Education budget has increased by \$99,000 and the Special Education budget has increased by \$251,173; the Town has no control over these numbers. The Silver Lake Regional Schools assessment for Plympton increased \$191,275. It is important to note that the Silver Lake budget increase was about 2.5%. The individual assessments for the member towns are calculated using a complex state funding formula which resulted in an 11.2% increase for Plympton, a decrease for Halifax and a minimal increase for Kingston. These education increases alone amount to \$541,448.

Other Departmental Budgets: Facing these large increases, as well as increases in costs such as contracts, salaries, and health insurance, the Finance Committee tried to the extent possible to level fund the departmental budgets with 2% added for salaries (per Wage and Personnel). There are some exceptions to this including some additional funding for the Town Clerk who is providing support services to other boards in addition to her regular Town Clerk duties.

Taxes: Last year, the Finance Committee recommended a budget that spent less than the levy limit or the amount of taxes the town is able to raise. The amount the Town can raise increases by 2.5% plus new growth each year whether you spend to that limit or not. The Finance Committee cautioned last year that leaving 'room' under the levy can result in a larger increases in taxes if spending is not tightly controlled. The Finance Committee has recommended a fiscally conservative budget for those lines over which we have discretion in an attempt to control the total tax increase.

Stabilization funds

The town has two stabilization funds. Regular stabilization is the Town's rainy day account, and should only be used for emergency needs. In 2012 voters approved a Special Act that created another stabilization fund called the Capital Purposes Fund (CPF). Both the regular and capital stabilization funds are automatically funded under the Special Act using a percentage of tax revenue from the industrial park. The Finance Committee has recommended funding \$402,314 from the Capital Purposes Fund for warrant articles and debt and interest in the operating budget.

Paying off debt

The Finance Committee has recommended paying off \$99,028 in outstanding debt from the town barn and school roof using the Capital Purpose Fund (Article 12). This reduces the principal and interest line in the budget going forward and retires debt on old projects.

Where is the Sysco money? The Finance Committee is frequently asked this question – where is the Sysco money? The operating budget of the Town increased from \$7,511,025 in FY 12 to \$9,136,528 in FY 15. Additionally, the residents voted to create the Capital Purposes Fund which diverts some of the Industrial Park revenue but enables us to address capital needs, and likely will allow us to address our Public Safety Building needs without a tax increase.

We wish to thank the various town departments for their cooperation through the budget process.

Plympton Finance Committee

Susan Ossoff, Chair; Mark Gabriel, Secretary; Marilyn Browne; Lisa Hart

Town of Plympton

Budget: FY2016

DESCRIPTION	TM Approved				Requested		Recommended	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15	Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15
10 Blanket Insurance	\$ 105,940	\$ 111,981	\$ 117,000	\$ 123,000	\$ 129,150	5.0%	\$ 125,150	1.7%
15 County Pension	\$ 289,401	\$ 300,248	\$ 311,820	\$ 392,090	\$ 419,959	7.1%	\$ 419,959	7.1%
20 Group Health	\$ 263,311	\$ 280,000	\$ 310,000	\$ 310,000	\$ 341,775	10.3%	\$ 341,775	10.3%
25 Medicare	\$ 55,400	\$ 57,340	\$ 72,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 95,000	5.6%	\$ 95,000	5.6%
30 Unemployment	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0.0%	\$ 1,000	0.0%
TOTAL INSURANCE & PENSION	\$ 715,052	\$ 750,569	\$ 811,820	\$ 916,090	\$ 986,884	7.7%	\$ 982,884	7.3%
100 Agriculture Commission	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.0%	\$ 500	0.0%
105 Board of Appeals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600	0.0%	\$ 600	0.0%
110 Conservation Commission	\$ 129	\$ 129	\$ 6,102	\$ 6,102	\$ 6,102	0.0%	\$ 6,102	0.0%
112 Open Space	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,238	\$ 2,238	\$ 2,238	0.0%	\$ 2,238	0.0%
115 Council on Aging	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,540	\$ 22,630	\$ 27,550	\$ 26,650	-3.3%	\$ 26,650	-3.3%
120 County Extension	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
125 Finance Committee	\$ 1,705	\$ 2,200	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400	0.0%	\$ 1,400	0.0%
130 Historical Commission	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.0%	\$ 500	0.0%
135 Moderator Salary	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.0%	\$ 100	0.0%
140 Planning Board	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.0%	\$ 1,500	0.0%
145 Recreation Committee	\$ 1,545	\$ 1,545	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0.0%	\$ 3,500	0.0%
150 Wage & Personnel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 15,204	\$ 15,214	\$ 39,070	\$ 43,990	\$ 43,090	-2.0%	\$ 43,090	-2.0%
160 Assessors Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
165 Assistant Assessor	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,580	\$ 30,467	\$ 31,076	\$ 31,698	2.0%	\$ 31,698	2.0%
170 Assessors Expense	\$ 24,233	\$ 31,027	\$ 31,569	\$ 34,789	\$ 47,100	35.4%	\$ 38,127	9.6%
TOTAL ASSESSORS	\$ 53,233	\$ 60,607	\$ 62,036	\$ 65,865	\$ 78,798	19.6%	\$ 69,825	6.0%
180 Town Clerk Salary	\$ 30,205	\$ 30,809	\$ 31,733	\$ 32,376	\$ 41,205	27.3%	\$ 38,024	17.4%
185 Certification Compensation	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	0.0%	\$ 1,000	0.0%
190 Town Clerk Expense	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,818	\$ 18,005	\$ 19,072	\$ 22,084	15.8%	\$ 20,132	5.6%
195 Election & Registration	\$ 9,191	\$ 13,865	\$ 7,051	\$ 14,178	\$ 11,768	-17.0%	\$ 11,768	-17.0%
TOTAL TOWN CLERK	\$ 56,396	\$ 61,492	\$ 56,789	\$ 65,626	\$ 76,057	15.9%	\$ 70,924	8.1%
200 Accountant/Auditor	\$ 18,911	\$ 21,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 29,126	\$ 30,537	4.8%	\$ 30,537	4.8%
205 Accountant Expenses	\$ 250	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800	\$ 5,857	109.2%	\$ 5,857	109.2%
210 Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary	\$ 51,930	\$ 59,000	\$ 52,458	\$ 53,507	\$ 54,577	2.0%	\$ 54,577	2.0%
215 Certification Compensation	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%
220 Treasurer/Tax Collector Expense	\$ 34,322	\$ 41,751	\$ 52,580	\$ 52,500	\$ 49,493	-5.7%	\$ 49,493	-5.7%
225 Treasurer Banking Services	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	\$ -	0.0%

Town of Plympton

Budget: FY2016

DESCRIPTION	TM Approved					Requested		Recommended		
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15		Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15	Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15	
TOTAL ACCT. TAX & TREASURER	\$ 111,413	\$ 129,751	\$ 135,838	\$ 137,933	\$ 140,464	\$ 140,464	1.8%	\$ 140,464	1.8%	
230 Selectmen Salaries	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600		\$ 600		
235 Selectmen Expense	\$ 23,000	\$ 25,100	\$ 27,000	\$ 27,540	\$ 31,090	\$ 31,090	-99.5%	\$ 27,090	-99.5%	
240 Town Coordinator	\$ -	\$ 46,400	\$ 47,792	\$ 48,748	\$ 65,786	\$ 65,786	12.9%	\$ 50,323	-1.6%	
245 Computer Maintenance	\$ 24,640	\$ 19,520	\$ 20,314	\$ 20,500	\$ 23,935	\$ 23,935	35.0%	\$ 20,500	3.2%	
250 Memorial Day	\$ 510	\$ 510	\$ 510	\$ 510	\$ 510	\$ 510	16.8%	\$ 20,500	0.0%	
255 Town House	\$ 45,342	\$ 34,584	\$ 16,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	0.0%	\$ 17,000	0.0%	
260 Town Counsel	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	\$ 47,000	0.0%	\$ 47,000	0.0%	
265 Town Reports	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	0.0%	\$ 1,200	0.0%	
270 Utilities	\$ 15,000	\$ 60,750	\$ 54,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 54,500	\$ 54,500	-0.9%	\$ 54,500	-0.9%	
TOTAL SELECTMEN	\$ 158,892	\$ 235,964	\$ 214,416	\$ 218,098	\$ 241,024	\$ 241,024	10.5%	\$ 218,126	0.0%	
280 Health Salaries	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 3	\$ 3	0.0%	\$ 3	0.0%	
285 Health Expenses	\$ 26,455	\$ 28,301	\$ 29,823	\$ 33,669	\$ 38,670	\$ 38,670	14.9%	\$ 34,249	1.7%	
TOTAL BOARD OF HEALTH	\$ 26,458	\$ 28,304	\$ 29,826	\$ 33,672	\$ 38,673	\$ 38,673	14.9%	\$ 34,252	1.7%	
300 Surveyor Salary	\$ 54,155	\$ 55,238	\$ 60,762	\$ 61,977	\$ 63,836	\$ 63,836	3.0%	\$ 63,217	2.0%	
305 Highway Labor	\$ 78,348	\$ 79,915	\$ 121,077	\$ 123,498	\$ 127,192	\$ 127,192	3.0%	\$ 125,968	2.0%	
310 General Highway	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	\$ 89,250	\$ 106,922	\$ 107,185	\$ 107,185	0.2%	\$ 107,097	0.2%	
315 Equipment & Maintenance	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	0.0%	\$ 5,250	0.0%	
320 Cemetery Department	\$ 6,312	\$ 6,359	\$ 8,677	\$ 8,850	\$ 9,115	\$ 9,115	3.0%	\$ 9,027	2.0%	
325 Park Department	\$ 7,460	\$ 7,610	\$ 7,991	\$ 8,151	\$ 8,396	\$ 8,396	3.0%	\$ 8,314	2.0%	
330 Snow & Ice	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	0.0%	\$ 40,000	0.0%	
335 Transfer Station	\$ 151,100	\$ 151,950	\$ 162,000	\$ 162,744	\$ 163,883	\$ 163,883	0.7%	\$ 163,503	0.5%	
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 427,375	\$ 431,072	\$ 495,007	\$ 517,392	\$ 524,857	\$ 524,857	1.4%	\$ 522,376	1.0%	
340 Animal Inspector	\$ 1,875	\$ 1,875	\$ 1,875	\$ 1,875	\$ 1,875	\$ 1,875	0.0%	\$ 1,875	0.0%	
345 Animal Control Officer	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	0.0%	\$ 5,250	0.0%	
350 Animal Control Expense	\$ 3,650	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	0.0%	\$ 5,500	0.0%	
355 Tree Warden Salary	\$ 8,880	\$ 9,057	\$ 9,329	\$ 9,516	\$ 9,516	\$ 9,516	0.0%	\$ 9,706	2.0%	
360 Tree Warden Expense	\$ 5,500	\$ 7,561	\$ 7,561	\$ 7,561	\$ 7,561	\$ 7,561	0.0%	\$ 7,561	0.0%	
TOT. PROTECT PERSONAL PRPRTY	\$ 24,905	\$ 27,743	\$ 29,515	\$ 29,702	\$ 29,702	\$ 29,702	0.0%	\$ 29,892	0.6%	
400 Building Inspector/Dept.	\$ 32,450	\$ 20,280	\$ 20,280	\$ 20,280	\$ 20,280	\$ 20,280	0.0%	\$ 20,280	0.0%	
405 Building Clerical	\$ 8,346	\$ 12,022	\$ 11,209	\$ 11,433	\$ 11,433	\$ 11,433	0.0%	\$ 11,662	2.0%	
410 Plumbing & Gas Inspector	\$ 20,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	0.0%	\$ 7,500	0.0%	
415 Wiring Inspector	\$ 20,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.0%	\$ 10,000	0.0%	
420 Zoning Administrator	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.0%	\$ 5,000	0.0%	

Town of Plympton

Budget: FY2016

Budget: FY2016									
DESCRIPTION	TM Approved				Requested		Recommended		
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15	Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15	
TOTAL BUILDING DEPT.	\$ 84,796	\$ 52,802	\$ 53,989	\$ 54,213	\$ 54,213	0.0%	\$ 54,442	0.4%	
500 Fire Chief Salary	\$ 51,689	\$ 52,723	\$ 62,530	\$ 67,530	\$ 67,530	0.0%	\$ 68,880	2.0%	
505 Fire Services	\$ 66,000	\$ 94,074	\$ 113,884	\$ 113,884	\$ 118,439	4.0%	\$ 115,592	1.5%	
510 Fire/EMS	\$ 61,800	\$ 163,555	\$ 306,255	\$ 306,255	\$ 306,255	0.0%	\$ 311,768	1.8%	
515 Fire Equipment	\$ 13,923	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	0.0%	\$ 12,000	0.0%	
520 Civil Defense(Emerg Mgmt Dir)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 7,000	250.0%	\$ 2,000	0.0%	
TOTAL FIRE/EMS SERVICES	\$ 193,412	\$ 320,352	\$ 496,669	\$ 501,669	\$ 511,224	1.9%	\$ 510,240	1.7%	
550 Police Chief Salary	\$ 63,306	\$ 67,067	\$ 82,000	\$ 93,500	\$ 99,000	5.9%	\$ 99,000	5.9%	
555 Police Services	\$ 555,010	\$ 571,660	\$ 668,405	\$ 681,773	\$ 741,160	8.7%	\$ 673,656	-1.2%	
560 DARE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,200	0.0%	\$ 2,200	0.0%	
565 Police Department	\$ 90,000	\$ 92,800	\$ 99,700	\$ 99,700	\$ 101,750	2.1%	\$ 99,700	0.0%	
570 Motor Vehicles	\$ 54,750	\$ 80,100	\$ 79,910	\$ 59,910	\$ 68,910	15.0%	\$ 68,910	15.0%	
TOTAL POLICE SERVICES	\$ 763,066	\$ 811,627	\$ 930,015	\$ 934,883	\$ 1,014,020	8.5%	\$ 943,466	0.9%	
600 Veterans Agent	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,650	\$ 7,880	\$ 7,880	\$ 8,038	2.0%	\$ 8,038	2.0%	
605 Veterans Administration	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0.0%	\$ 1,000	0.0%	
610 Veterans Benefits	\$ 34,200	\$ 40,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 75,000	-6.3%	\$ 75,000	-6.3%	
615 Veterans Graves	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	0.0%	\$ 350	0.0%	
TOTAL VETERANS	\$ 43,050	\$ 48,000	\$ 69,230	\$ 89,230	\$ 84,388	-5.4%	\$ 84,388	-5.4%	
620 Library Director	\$ 36,625	\$ 40,840	\$ 44,954	\$ 45,853	\$ 46,770	2.0%	\$ 46,770	2.0%	
625 Library Expenses	\$ 75,988	\$ 78,217	\$ 81,056	\$ 84,371	\$ 85,408	1.2%	\$ 85,050	0.8%	
TOTAL LIBRARY	\$ 112,613	\$ 119,057	\$ 126,010	\$ 130,224	\$ 132,178	1.5%	\$ 131,820	1.2%	
700 Elementary School Costs	\$ 1,948,266	\$ 2,035,168	\$ 2,100,831	\$ 2,160,094	\$ 2,184,282	1.1%	\$ 2,184,282	1.1%	
705 Special Education	\$ 556,321	\$ 775,125	\$ 1,121,872	\$ 908,895	\$ 1,160,068	27.6%	\$ 1,160,068	27.6%	
710 Vocational Education	\$ 57,000	\$ 124,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 182,000	\$ 281,000	54.4%	\$ 281,000	54.4%	
TOTAL LOCAL SCHOOLS	\$ 2,561,587	\$ 2,934,293	\$ 3,412,703	\$ 3,250,989	\$ 3,625,350	11.5%	\$ 3,625,350	11.5%	
750 Reg. School Assessment	\$ 1,724,730	\$ 1,696,936	\$ 1,542,259	\$ 1,705,509	\$ 1,896,784	11.2%	\$ 1,896,784	11.2%	
755 Debt & Interest - Reg. School	\$ 161,993	\$ 169,770	\$ 167,813	\$ 176,406	\$ 176,576	0.1%	\$ 176,576	0.1%	
TOTAL REGIONAL SCHOOLS	\$ 1,886,723	\$ 1,866,706	\$ 1,710,072	\$ 1,881,915	\$ 2,073,360	10.2%	\$ 2,073,360	10.2%	
TOTAL ALL SCHOOLS	\$ 4,448,310	\$ 4,800,999	\$ 5,122,775	\$ 5,132,904	\$ 5,698,710	11.0%	\$ 5,698,710	11.0%	

Town of Plympton

Budget: FY2016

DESCRIPTION	TM Approved				Requested		Recommended	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15	Budget FY16	% Chg From FY15
800 RESERVE FUND	\$ 100,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	0.0%	\$ 60,000	0.0%
810 Int/Loan/Refunds	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.0%	\$ 2,500	0.0%
815 Principal & Interest	\$ 83,206	\$ 94,906	\$ 93,966	\$ 117,906	\$ 97,206	-17.6%	\$ 74,000	-37.2%
820 Dennett Debt Exclusion	\$ 91,644	\$ 89,307	\$ 86,969	\$ 84,631	\$ 82,294	-2.8%	\$ 82,294	-2.8%
RF, Int, P&I, Debt Exclusion	\$ 276,850	\$ 226,213	\$ 243,435	\$ 265,037	\$ 242,000	-8.7%	\$ 218,794	-17.4%
TOTAL	\$ 7,511,025	\$ 8,119,766	\$ 8,916,440	\$ 9,136,528	\$ 9,896,282	8.3%	\$ 9,753,692	6.8%

Available Revenue* \$ 9,910,398.00
Recommended Budget \$ 9,753,692.35
Recommended Warrant Articles \$ 341,990.00
Total \$ (185,284.35)

To Be Funded from Capital Fund \$ 402,314.00
Under Allowable Levy* \$ 217,029.65

*estimates

Warrant Articles & Balance Sheet - FY-2016

Article #	Description	Sponsor	Requested	RECOMMENDED*		
				R&A/F Cash	CPF	Reserve Fund
<u>Special</u>						
1	Interim year valuation	Assessors	\$ 2,000			\$ 2,000
2	OPEB Funding	BOS	\$ 20,000			\$ 20,000
3	Police Sick leave buy back	Police	\$ 10,000			\$ 10,000
4	Winnetuxet Dam Repairs	Highway	\$ 10,000			\$ 10,000
TOTAL STM			\$ 42,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,000

<u>Annual</u>						
5	Annual audit	Treasurer	\$ 31,500	\$ 31,500		
8	Triennial Real Property Valuations FY17	Assessors	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000		
9	Police Lease Payments Cruisers	Police	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000		
10	COA Director Stipend	COA	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		
11	First Reponse Fire command lease	Fire	\$ 7,971	\$ 7,971		
12	Debt Reduction (Barn, Roof)	BOS	\$ 99,028		\$ 99,028	
13	2013 Pumper, 2008 Pumper, 2008 EMS	Fire	\$ 104,691		\$ 104,691	
15	Payment to Kingston for SL Shortfall	BOS	\$ 26,500	\$ 26,500		
16	Asphalt Hot Box	Highway	\$ 17,300		\$ 17,300	
17	Safety buildings project manager	BOS	\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000	
TOTAL ATM			\$ 341,990	\$ 95,971	\$ 246,019	\$ -
TOTAL WARRANT ARTICLES			\$ 383,990	\$ 95,971	\$ 246,019	\$ 42,000

*R&A/F Cash means Raise and Appropriate or Free Cash
CPF means Capital Purposes Fund

PROJECTED REVENUE 2015

	ACTUAL 2012	ACTUAL 2013	ACTUAL 2014	ACTUAL 2015	EST 2016
Levy Base	\$ 5,603,619.93	\$ 5,835,325.43	\$ 6,540,660.00	\$ 7,895,844.00	\$ 8,271,331.00
2 1/2 % Increase	\$ 140,090.50	\$ 145,883.14	\$ 163,517.00	\$ 197,666.00	\$ 206,783.00
New Growth	\$ 91,615.00	\$ 556,890.00	\$ 1,191,667.00	\$ 177,821.00	\$ 72,000.00
Sysco	\$ 400,000.00				
Debt Exclusions	\$ 253,637.00	\$ 259,077.00	\$ 254,782.00	\$ 261,037.00	\$ 176,576.00
Total Levy Limit	\$ 6,488,962.43	\$ 6,797,175.57	\$ 8,150,626.00	\$ 8,532,368.00	\$ 8,726,690.00
Cherry Sheet	\$ 794,190.00	\$ 834,249.00	\$ 918,745.00	\$ 980,520.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
Local Est. Receipts	\$ 607,038.00	\$ 846,670.81	\$ 900,800.00	\$ 826,057.60	\$ 825,000.00
sub-total	\$ 1,401,228.00	\$ 1,519,294.00	\$ 1,819,545.00	\$ 1,806,577.60	\$ 1,825,000.00
Additional Sources					
Free Cash	\$ 201,428.00	\$ 393,069.00	\$ 647,321.00	\$ 210,278.00	\$ 303,065.00
Ambulance Fund	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
Capital Stabilization			\$ 63,648.00	\$ 164,691.46	\$ -
Budget Funds Avail				\$ 235,000.00	
Source-Overly Reserve	\$ 7,962.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 100,483.03	\$ 20,000.00
sub-total	\$ 309,390.00	\$ 538,069.00	\$ 855,969.00	\$ 835,452.49	\$ 448,065.00
Total Funds Available	\$ 8,199,580.43	\$ 8,854,538.57	\$ 10,826,140.00	\$ 11,174,398.09	\$ 10,999,755.00
Less:					
Overlay	\$ 75,555.00	\$ 75,073.13	\$ 75,494.30	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
Tax Title-Recap	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Snow & Ice Def.	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 18,745.39	\$ 139,167.42	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
Deficits				\$ 37,013.89	\$ -
Cherry Sh. Chrgs	\$ 58,209.00	\$ 48,460.00	\$ 35,314.00	\$ 53,526.00	\$ 50,000.00
MBTA ASSESS	\$ 17,346.00	\$ 18,405.00	\$ 18,549.00	\$ 18,549.00	\$ 18,549.00
Teach. Deferral					
Direct Expend.	\$ 2,435.00	\$ 2,497.00	\$ 2,576.00	\$ 3,476.00	\$ 3,500.00
Stabilization			\$ 697,768.00	\$ 692,004.00	\$ 727,308.00
2 1/2 % Relief		\$ 76,813.00	\$ -		
sub-total	\$ 318,545.00	\$ 286,154.00	\$ 968,868.72	\$ 1,069,568.89	\$ 1,089,357.00
Total Available --Approp	\$ 7,881,035.43	\$ 8,568,384.57	\$ 9,857,271.28	\$ 10,104,829.20	\$ 9,910,398.00

4/29/2015

PLYMPTON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
May 13, 2015

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

PLYMOUTH SS.

**TO EITHER OF THE CONSTABLES OF OR OFFICER OF THE TOWN OF PLYMPTON
IN THE COUNTY OF PLYMOUTH GREETING.**

*In the name of the **Commonwealth of Massachusetts** you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Plympton qualified to vote in elections and town affairs to meet at the*

**Dennett Elementary School in said Plympton
Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:30 PM**

for the transaction of any business that may legally come before said meeting and then and there to vote on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,000.00 for the purpose of preparing the Fiscal 2016 Interim-Year valuation of the Town or take any other action relative thereto.

**Board of Assessors: Recommended by BOS 3-0
Recommended by Finance Committee**

ARTICLE 2 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$20,000 to fund the Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund established by town meeting vote in accordance with Chapter 32B, Section 20 or take any action relative thereto.

**Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0
Recommended by Finance Committee**

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000 to pay for contractual obligations in a sick leave buy back for a retiring personnel or take any other action relative thereto.

**Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0
Recommended by Finance Committee**

ARTICLE 4 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000 to continue State mandated repairs to the Winnetuxet Street Dam or take any other action relative there to.

**Highway Surveyor: Recommended by BOS 3-0
Recommended by Finance Committee**

ARTICLE 5 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,000.00 from the May, 2014 Annual Town Meeting Article 4, Line 610 Veterans Benefits and transfer \$5,000.00 from the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting Line 20, Group Insurance both to be added to the Buildings & Grounds Maintenance Account or take any other action relative there to.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 6 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Line Item 515 Fire Equipment to Line Item 510 Fire/EMS or take other any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

You are directed to post five (5) copies of this warrant, one at each of the public Bulletin boards at the Plympton Town House, Plympton Public Library, Dennett Elementary School, The Village Cafe and the Plympton Post Office, hereof, fail not and make due return of your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 29th day of April in the Year of Our Lord two thousand fifteen.

Mark Russo, Chairman

Selectmen of Plympton

John Henry

Colleen Thompson, Clerk

Plymouth, ss.

PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT

I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Plympton by posting up attested copies of the same at the Plympton Town House, Plympton Public Library, Dennett Elementary School, The Village Cafe and the Plympton Post Office ___ days before the date of the meeting as within directed.

_____, **Constable of Plympton**

Date

PLYMPTON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
May 13, 2015

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

PLYMOUTH SS.

**TO EITHER OF THE CONSTABLES OF OR OFFICER OF THE TOWN OF PLYMPTON
IN THE COUNTY OF PLYMOUTH GREETING.**

*In the name of the **Commonwealth of Massachusetts** you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Plympton qualified to vote in elections and town affairs to meet at the*

Dennett Elementary School in said Plympton

Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM

for the transaction of any business that may legally come before said meeting and then and there to vote on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1 To hear reports of the town officers and act thereon and to receive and act upon reports of any committees and give authority or instructions, or take any action relative thereto

ARTICLE 2 To see if the Town of Plympton will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into Compensating Balance agreements for FY 2016 as permitted by and in accordance with M.G.L. c.44 §53F, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Treasurer: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage & Personnel Classification Plan effective July 1, 2015 and to pay as wages the following sums, or take any other action relative thereto.

WAGE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FISCAL 2016

2% Merit Increase

	2015	2016
A. Firefighters (Part-time)		
Deputy Chief	25.01	25.51
Captain	23.32	23.79
Lieutenant	22.16	22.60
Firefighter	21.03	21.45
Certified EMT	21.03	21.45

EMT Standby at \$8.32/per hour (calls within that same shift shall be paid at the EMT Rate of pay per hour)

EMT Paramedic Standby at \$10.40/hour

Full Time FF/Paramedic	23.54 - 26.48	24.01 - 27.01
Full Time Lieutenant FF/Paramedic	24.50 - 27.44	24.99 - 27.99

B. Highway Labor

Working Foreman	19.19 - 21.47	19.57 - 21.90
Truck Driver/Laborer	18.33 - 19.57	18.70 - 19.96
Laborer	14.95 - 15.99	15.25 - 16.31

C. Town Labor

Laborer	14.95 - 15.68	15.25 - 15.99
Town Custodian	14.95 - 15.99	15.25 - 16.31
Sr. Disposal Attendant	17.27 - 18.05	17.62 - 18.41
Disposal Attendant	15.39 - 16.14	15.70 - 16.46

D. Clerical/Election Workers

Clerk	10.72 - 12.86	10.93 - 13.12
Senior Clerk/Warden	13.93 - 15.53	14.21 - 15.84

E. Permanent Staff(all departments)

Clerk	13.93 - 15.53	14.21 - 15.84
Senior Clerk	16.08 - 17.42	16.40 - 17.77
Administrative Assistant	18.32 - 21.43	18.69 - 21.86
Asst. to Treasurer/Collector	18.76 - 22.50	19.14 - 22.95
Asst. Town Clerk	18.76 - 22.50	19.14 - 22.95
Asst. Town Accountant		19.14 - 22.95

F. Library

Clerk	11.80 - 14.69	12.04 - 14.98
Circulation Clerk	14.16 - 16.39	14.44 - 16.72
Library Technician	16.08 - 17.42	16.40 - 17.77
Senior Library Technician	18.09 - 21.43	18.45 - 21.86

G. Other Employees

Special Police Officer	14.35	14.64
Police Matron	16.55	16.88

H. Salaried Employees

Library Director	35,986.00 - 45,853.00	36,706.00 - 46,770.00
Assist. Assessor	24,915.00 - 45,008.00	25,413.00 - 45,908.00
Senior Aide	20,000.00 - 22,733.00	20,400.00 - 23,187.00
Veterans Agent	\$7,880.00	8,038.00
Director-Elder Affairs		5,000.00

I. Professional Positions

Health Agent		35.00 - 50.00
Land Use Coordinator	23.46 - 25.50	23.93 - 26.01
Assist. Health Agent		35.00 - 50.00

Wage & Personnel Board: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 4 To see if the Town will fix the compensation of elected officers and to see what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate including appropriations from available funds or borrow to defray charges and expenses of the Town including debt and interest for the ensuing year or to take any other action relative there to.

**Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0
Recommended to Finance Committee**

ARTICLE 5 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the treasury, the sum of \$31,500.00 to conduct financial audits for Fiscal Year 2015 or take any other action relative thereto.

**Town Treasurer: Recommended by BOS 3-0
Recommended by Finance Committee**

ARTICLE 6 To see if the town will vote to borrow, in anticipation of reimbursement a sum of money as the State's share of the cost of work under Chapter 90 section 34-2a of the General Laws or take any other action relative thereto.

Highway Department: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 7 To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to reauthorize revolving funds for certain Town departments and officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time. The funds are as follows: or take any other action relative thereto:

Revolving Fund	Authority to Spend	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY 16 Spending Limit
Recreation Commission	Recreation Commission	Sign Sponsorship Program, fees charged to individuals participating in any Recreation Commission sponsored programs, any donations earmarked for said programs and any private sponsorship of said programs.	The Support of youth sports programs, community activities and special events.	\$20,000
Tax Title	Treasurer/Collector	Miscellaneous and legal fees collected on Tax Title accounts when paid. In addition, said account shall also be credited with miscellaneous fees and legal fees. on Tax Possession from the sale or auction of said Tax Possession.	Processing Tax Titles and Tax Possessions, including legal fees, miscellaneous expenses and salaries of staff in the Treasurer/Collectors department and Land Court fees.	\$20,000

Treasurer: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$14,000.00 for the purpose of preparing the Fiscal 2017 Triennial real property valuation of the Town or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Assessors: Recommended by BOS 3-0

Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$11,000.00 to pay the first year annual lease payment for police patrol vehicle on a lease to own replacement program or take any other action relative thereto.

Police Chief: Recommended by BOS 3-0

Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5000 to be paid to the acting Council on Aging Director for services rendered to the seniors of Plympton as described in the job description accepted by the Wage and Personnel Board or act to do anything in relation thereto.

Council on Aging: Recommended by BOS 3-0

Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$7,971.49 to pay the annual lease payments for the First Response and Fire Command vehicle or take any other action relative there to.

Fire Chief: Recommended by BOS 3-0

Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 12 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money to retire or partially retire debt or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 3-0

Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the total sum of \$104,691.46 to pay the annual lease payments for the 2013 Fire Department Pumper Tanker and the 2008 Smeal Pumper and the 2008 GMC EMS vehicle as part of the lease to own programs or take any other action relative there to.

Fire Chief: Recommended by BOS 3-0

Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 14 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2016, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$5000

Reserves:

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve \$10,000

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve \$10,000

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve \$10,000

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve \$65,000
or take any other action thereon.

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 15 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$26,500.00 to reimburse the Town of Kingston for an imbalance in the FY 2014 Chapter 70 State Aid formula in accordance with an agreement between the Town of Kingston and the Town of Plympton authorized under Article 26 of the May 14, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Silver Lake Regional School Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 16 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$17,300 to purchase and equip an asphalt recycler and hot box or take any other action relative thereto.

Highway Surveyor: Recommended by BOS 3-0
Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 17 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$25,000 to employ an engineering project consultant to review plans, requests for proposal and final bids for construction of public safety facilities and related infrastructure improvements or take any other action relative thereto.

BOS: Recommended by BOS 2-0-1
Recommended by Finance Committee

ARTICLE 18 To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote taken under Article 24 of the May 14, 2014 Annual Town Meeting approving the Silver Lake Regional School District Committee's vote of May 9, 2013 to establish a Stabilization Fund, pursuant to Section 16G ½ of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 2-1

ARTICLE 19 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement with Blue Wave Capital LLC or their assign for a solar facility, the text of which is on file with the Town Clerk's Office or take any action in relation thereto

Assessors: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 20 To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Chapter 656 Section 41 of the acts of 1989 pertaining to authorizing quarterly billing beginning in the fiscal year 2017 and every year thereafter or take any action relative thereto.

Treasurer/Collector: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 21 To see if the town will vote to amend Municipal By-Laws, Article XXI, Rules and regulations Relative to the Control of Dogs in the Town of Plympton", Section 1. Definitions, as follows:

Delete the words "August 31st following to June 30th" and replace with "March 31st following to December 31st". or take any action relative thereto.

Town Clerk: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 22 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, convey or otherwise dispose of the fee or any lesser interests in four parcels of land located on Maple Street and Palmer Road, and shown on Assessor's Map 6 as Parcels 6-3-13, 6-3-14, 6-3-8 and 6-3-8a. Said parcels shall be limited to 2 residential building lots. Proceeds from the sale shall be deposited into the Capital Stabilization Account. Any such disposition to be on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem appropriate, including conformance with any applicable requirements under G.L. c.30B, §16, or take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 2-0-1

ARTICLE 23 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Plympton Zoning Bylaws "Section 6.10 Solar Facilities" by deleting Section 6.10 in it's entirety and replacing it with a new Section 6.10 as recommended by the Solar Bylaw Review Committee and the Planning Board or take any action relative thereto.

6.10 SOLAR FACILITIES.

6.10.1 Purpose.

6.10.1.1 The purpose of this section is to establish general guidelines for the siting of solar photovoltaic facilities, hereinafter referred to as solar facilities. The goals of this section are to:

- a. Promote the health, safety and general welfare of the community by allowing the generation of sustainable energy with as-of-right siting of solar facilities in order to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases, protect environmental resources, and foster sustainable economic development.
- b. Protect, conserve and improve the unique visual quality and historic character of the Town of Plympton while simultaneously supporting the needs of the property owners.
- c. Provide standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of solar facilities. Such siting standards shall address public safety, minimize impacts on natural resources, and provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such facilities.

6.10.1.2 It is not the purpose of this section to prohibit or unreasonably regulate the installation of solar energy systems or the building of structures that facilitate the collection of solar energy per M.G.L. c. 40A, § 3, except where necessary to protect the public health, safety or welfare.

6.10.2 Applicability

6.10.2.1 These requirements apply to all solar facilities proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this section.

6.10.2.2 These requirements also pertain to physical modifications that alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment.

6.10.2.3 These requirements do not apply to minor modifications or maintenance of a solar facility.

6.10.2.4 Solar facilities shall be allowed on parcels of land in any zoning district.

6.10.3 Definitions.

As-of-Right Siting. As-of-Right Siting shall mean that development may proceed without the need for a special permit, variance, amendment, waiver, or other discretionary approval. As-of-right development may be subject to non-discretionary site plan review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with local zoning bylaws. It will also be subject to other board review, including but not limited to the Conservation Commission, where such review is within the boards' jurisdiction, and must meet applicable state and federal law. As-of-right development projects that are consistent with all local bylaws, rules and regulations and with state and federal law cannot be prohibited.

Project site. A parcel or combination of parcels, which the solar facility operator has control of, on which the solar facility is or will be located.

Rated nameplate capacity. The maximum rated output of electric power production equipment in direct current (DC). This output is typically specified by the manufacturer with a "nameplate" on the equipment.

Site plan review. Review by the Planning Board to determine conformance with Plympton's Zoning By-laws. The Planning Board may also request review by other Town Boards, , including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission where such review is within that Board's jurisdiction. .

Solar Energy System. A device or structural design feature, a substantial purpose of which is to provide daylight for interior lighting or provide for the collection, storage and distribution of solar energy for space heating or cooling, electricity generation, or water heating.

Ground-Mounted Solar Energy System. An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the ground and is not roof-mounted; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

Large-Scale Solar Energy System. An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than or equal to 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 250kW DC or greater).

Medium-Scale Solar Energy System. An Active Solar Energy System that occupies more than 1,750 but less than 40,000 square feet of surface area (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 - 250 kW DC).

Roof-Mounted Solar Energy System. An Active Solar Energy System that is structurally mounted to the roof of a building or structure; may be of any size (small-, medium- or large-scale).

Small-Scale Solar Energy System. An Active Solar Energy System that occupies 1,750 square feet of surface area or less (equivalent to a rated nameplate capacity of about 10 kW DC or less).

Solar facility. A facility comprised of one or more solar panels, as well as all access roads and appurtenant structures.

6.10.4 General requirements.

6.10.4.1 Large scale ground mounted solar facilities. Ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed in all zones and permitted only by as-of-right site plan review from the Planning Board pursuant to this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission. The review is subject to the following conditions:

- a. Site plan review. No large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining site plan review approval by the Plympton Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5 of this section, as well as review by other bodies, including but not limited to, review by the Conservation Commission.
- b. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.
- c. Site control. The applicant shall submit with its application for site plan review, documentation of actual or prospective control of the project site sufficient to allow for installation and use of the proposed facility. Notice of change of ownership shall be given to the Planning Board in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.6 of this section.
- d. Parcels without frontage. Projects for landlocked parcels shall be considered as long as the following conditions can be met:
 - i) The owner has demonstrated a permanent easement to a public way
 - ii) The parcel was landlocked prior to May 16, 2012
 - iii) The parcel is a minimum of five (5) acres
- e. Financial surety. The applicant shall provide financial surety documentation if so required by the Planning Board as determined in compliance with subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section.
- f. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all large scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with

all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.

g. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.

6.10.4.2 Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities. Medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of-right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:

a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all medium and small scale ground mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.

b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.

c. Design standards. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.2 design standards and subsection 6.10.5.3 environmental standards where applicable.

d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.

6.10.4.3 Roof mounted solar facilities. Roof mounted solar facilities shall be allowed as-of- right with a building permit in all zones provided that they meet the following conditions:

a. Compliance with laws, ordinances and regulations. The construction and operation of all roof mounted solar facilities shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical and communications requirements.

b. Proof of liability insurance. The applicant shall be required to provide evidence of liability insurance to the building commissioner in an amount sufficient to cover loss or damage to persons and structures occasioned by the failure of the facility.

c. Structural engineering report. A structural engineering report may be required by the building commissioner illustrating the structural integrity of the structure

and its ability to support the proposed roof mounted solar facility.

- d. Monitoring and maintenance. The solar facility shall comply with subsection 6.10.5.5 of this section.

6.10.5 Site plan review.

6.10.5.1 Submittal requirements. The project proponent is required to provide the Plympton Planning Board with the following, which shall then be distributed to the Conservation Commission and other Town Boards:

- a. Application. Two original application forms and a designer's certificate.
- b. Fees. Required fees.
- c. Siting and design. Eight full copies of a site plan. The plan shall be on 24" × 36" sheets at a scale of 1"=40' or 1"=200', as appropriate, on as many sheets as necessary. Site plans shall be prepared by a Massachusetts licensed professional engineer and/or a registered land surveyor, as applicable. The site plan shall include the following:
 - i) Location map. Copy of the most recent USGS quadrangle map, at a scale of 1:25,000, showing the proposed facility site and the area within at least two miles from the facility.
 - ii) Site plan. A one inch equals 200 feet plan of the proposed solar facility site, with contour intervals of no more than ten feet, showing the following:
 - a) Property lines and physical dimensions of the project site and adjacent parcels within 100 feet of the project site;
 - b) Location of permanent structures or buildings on the project site and on adjacent parcels of the project site;
 - c) Location and details of all security measures for the site; and
 - d) Location of all existing and proposed roads, both public and private, on the project site.
 - iii) Project plan. A plan indicating all proposed changes to the landscape of the site, including temporary or permanent roads or driveways, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures shall include the following:
 - a) Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation to be removed or altered, amenities such as lighting or fencing, screening vegetation or structures, and wetlands delineation. Lighting shall be designed to minimize glare on abutting properties and be directed downward with full cutoff fixtures to reduce light pollution;
 - b) Location of the ground mounted solar facility, type of mounting devices, access roads, lighting, ground equipment, fencing, electrical

- infrastructure, and associated equipment;
 - c) Plans for accessory buildings or other structures, and location and details of all planned security measures;
 - d) Layout and details of surfacing for access roads and parking including temporary roads and staging areas; and
 - e) Any existing overhead utility lines.
- d. Operation and maintenance plan. The applicant shall submit a plan for the general maintenance of access roads and stormwater controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the ground mounted solar facility.
- e. Schematics.
- i) Schematic or blueprints of the ground mounted solar facility signed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed structures and any shading from nearby structures;
 - ii) Schematic or outline electrical diagram showing proposed solar panels, associated components and electrical interconnection methods, all with National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
 - iii) Description of the major system components to be used including the photovoltaic panels, mounting system and inverter.
- f. Compliance documents. The applicant will provide the following with the application:
- i) A description of financial surety that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.7.3 of this section;
 - ii) A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal of the solar facility, prepared by a qualified third party expert, which shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation.
 - iii) Proof of liability insurance that satisfies subsection 6.10.4.1.g of this section;
 - iv) Name, address, and contact information for:
 - a) Proposed system installer,
 - b) The landowner,
 - c) The project proponent, as well as all co-proponents; and
 - d) Any agents representing the applicant.
 - v) The Planning Board and the other reviewing bodies, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission may require additional information,

data or evidence as it deems necessary pursuant to the site plan review process.

vi) Evidence of utility notification that satisfies subsection 6.10.5.1.g of this section and 6.10.5.2.7.

g. Notification.

i) Property Owners. List of property owners and their addresses for all parcels of land within 300 feet of the project site, to be obtained from the most recent property list from the Plympton Assessor's Office;

Provide stamped A10 sized envelopes representing twice the number of abutters listed above to be used by the Planning Board to mail notice of the site plan review hearing and notice of decision.

The applicant shall be responsible for the cost of publication of the public hearing notice.

ii) Utility notification. Before installation of the solar facility, the applicant shall inform the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the facility is to be located of its intent to install an interconnected generator and shall satisfy all interconnection agreements.

h. Waiver of documents. The Planning Board reserves the right to waive documentary requirements as it deems appropriate, unless required by another reviewing body, including but not limited to, the Conservation Commission.

6.10.5.2 Design standards.

6.10.5.2.1 Screening.

6.10.5.2.1.1 A ground mounted solar facility shall be screened from abutting properties.

6.10.5.2.1.2 Screening shall consist of landscaping, fence, grassed earthen berm, or some combination of these screening devices. If utilizing a natural buffer, it shall be maintained above the highest level of the solar panels. When a screen consists of plant materials, said materials shall provide screening at the time of planting and be of a type that will be expected to form a year-round, dense screen.

6.10.5.2.1.3 Every abutting agricultural/residential property shall be visually and acoustically screened from the installation through either existing vegetation or new plantings of not less than 8 feet in height at the time of planting staggered at a spacing of no more than 8 feet apart throughout the required setback dimensions. All required plantings shall be maintained throughout the project's life, and replaced as necessary. As an alternate to providing the required screening through vegetation, it

is acceptable to increase the setback to 600 feet on the applicant's property while providing an acceptable alternate screening such as a stockade fence and single row of vegetation in close proximity to the project.

6.10.5.2.1.4 The provided screening shall obscure from view on all sides at least 50%, or 100% if the project is located in the Residential-Agricultural zoning district, of the project from adjacent properties, including upper levels of existing structures at the time of construction, within three years of the start of construction or earthwork activities. Security fences, roadways, and equipment shall not be placed within the required setback, except for that which is required to access the site from an adjacent roadway, or to transmit the generated power to the grid.

6.10.5.2.1.5 Abutting residential uses. When such facility is directly abutting existing residential uses, such screening shall consist of:

- a. Project site of less than two acres: Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.
- b. Project site of between two and five acres: A minimum of 75 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 25 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared in accordance with 6.10.5.3.5.
- c. Project site of greater than five acres: A minimum of 100 feet of vegetation buffer with 50 feet being undisturbed closest to the residential property, and the other 50 feet being allowed to be selectively cleared.
- d. Permit for screening reduction: An applicant may request permission to reduce such buffer requirements in such instances it is determined to not have a detrimental effect to the abutters and in such instances where the buffer will have a detrimental effect on the ability to generate power.

6.10.5.2.1.6 Abutting nonresidential uses including public accepted streets. Screening as determined to be adequate in the form of either vegetation or fencing.

6.10.5.2.2 Control of Vegetation. Mowing or the use of pervious pavers or geo-textile materials underneath the facility is the preferred method of vegetation control. Herbicides may only be used where it can be demonstrated that no danger is posed to groundwater supplies, or to local agricultural activities. The Agricultural Commission and Board of Health are to approve all proposed herbicides.

6.10.5.2.3 Signage. Signs on the solar facility shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.1 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Signage at all site entrances shall be required to identify the owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. These signs shall not be used for the display of any advertising.

6.10.5.2.4 Lighting. Lighting of solar facilities shall comply with the requirements of Section 6.9 of the Plympton Zoning By-laws. Lighting shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be shielded to eliminate glare from abutting properties, shall be directed downward and shall incorporate cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.

6.10.5.2.5 Utility connections. Reasonable efforts should be made to locate utility connections for ground mounted solar facilities underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground, if required by the utility provider. All solar facility installations shall conform to the requirements of the interconnection agreement and/or such further requirements as may be promulgated from time to time, as appropriate and as approved by the connecting utility.

6.10.5.2.6 Appurtenant structures. All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts. Appurtenance structures shall not exceed 15' in height and shall meet the regulations for accessory structures as determined by the Building Department.

6.10.5.2.7 Emergency services. The applicant shall provide a copy of the project summary and site plan to the Plympton Fire and Police Departments. The applicant shall cooperate with the Fire and Police Departments in developing an emergency response plan. All means of disconnecting the solar facility shall be clearly marked, and training required to allow emergency response personnel to safely shut down the facility in event of an emergency provided at no cost to the Town as requested by the Town. Site access shall be conducive to emergency vehicle travel to allow for unimpeded access around the site at all times. Access requirements, not limited to gating, road widths and surfaces, etc. will be reviewed during the site plan review process, with approval being at the discretion of the Fire Chief. The applicant or facility owner shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries or complaints throughout the life of the project.

6.10.5.2.8 Unauthorized access. All solar facilities shall be designed to prevent unauthorized access in compliance with any and all federal, state and local regulations. Electrical equipment shall be locked where possible. Where installed, video surveillance cameras shall be oriented in such a fashion so as to minimize capturing activity outside the solar facility.

6.10.5.3 Environmental standards.

6.10.5.3.1 Land clearing. Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, access to, operation and maintenance of the ground mounted

solar facility or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations and ordinances. Clear cutting is prohibited within the setback area unless pre-approved and with the understanding that trees and/or vegetation of significant size and screening ability will be planted and/or fencing installed in order to mitigate any visual or environmental impact on the abutters and/or the rural nature of the Town.

6.10.5.3.2 Rare and endangered species. The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act and requirements of the Commonwealth of [Massachusetts] Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.

6.10.5.3.3 Wetlands. The applicant shall provide evidence of compliance with the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Massachusetts Rivers Protection Act and the Town of Plympton Wetlands Protection Ordinance. Such evidence is subject to review and approval by the Plympton Conservation Commission.

6.10.5.3.4 Stormwater. The applicant shall demonstrate compliance with all local, state and federal stormwater management laws and regulations.

6.10.5.3.5 Selective Clearing.

6.10.5.3.5.1 Selective clearing may be done with one or more of the following conditions:

- a. If the selective removal of a species of plant, a group of species of plants, a story or group of story in whole or in part does not affect the growth of other trees or plants, and is done according to criteria regarding minimum tree size for harvesting, specifications of the number, spacing and size classes of residual trees per area, and allowable cut.
- b. If vegetation or trees to be cut, trimmed or removed are those that restrict the effective functioning of the solar collectors and/or access to the solar field by routine and/or emergency services

6.10.5.3.5.2 All trees scheduled to be removed shall be visibly marked or flagged by the Contractor prior to seeking confirmation from the Town. The Town agent/Engineer will inspect the identified trees and verify the limits of clearing and thinning prior to the Contractor proceeding with his cutting operation.

6.10.5.4 Action by the Planning Board. Site plan review shall be conducted in accordance with the notice, hearing and filing procedures set forth in [M.G.L.] c. 40A for special permits, except as otherwise set forth in this section. After determining if the site plan is in conformance with the requirements of this Bylaw, and after considering the criteria set forth in this section, the Planning Board may approve, approve with modifications, or or grant leave to withdraw. Approval may be subject to any conditions, modifications and/or restrictions as the Planning Board may deem necessary. Leave to withdraw or disapproval by the Planning Board must be supported by written findings.

6.10.5.5 Monitoring and maintenance.

6.10.5.5.1 Facility conditions. The applicant shall maintain the solar facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include but not be limited to vegetation upkeep, structural repairs and the integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local fire chief, local emergency planning committee and emergency medical services. The project owner shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar facility and any access road, unless accepted as a public way, and the cost of repairing any damage as a result of operation and construction. The project owner shall also be responsible for ensuring that the solar facility does not at any time lower the quality of service supplied to nearby customers or cause safety problems to the interconnected electrical grid.

6.10.5.5.2 Modifications. All modifications to a large scale ground mounted solar facility, other than regular maintenance, made after issuance of the site plan review approval shall require approval by the Planning Board as provided in this section.

6.10.5.6 Change in ownership. If the owner and/or operator of a large scale ground mounted solar facility changes, notice shall be given to the Planning Board with the contact information of the new owner/operator within one month of the change in ownership and/or operations.

6.10.5.7 Abandonment or decommissioning.

6.10.5.7.1 Removal requirements. Any large scale ground mounted solar facility which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with subsection 6.10.9.2 of this section shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Planning Board by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

- a. Physical removal of all solar panels, structures, equipment, security barriers and electrical lines from the site.
 - b. Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
 - c. Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion.
- The Planning Board may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping,

designated below-grade foundations or service roads in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.

6.10.5.7.2 Abandonment. Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning, the large scale ground mounted solar facility shall be considered abandoned when the facility fails to operate for more than one year without written consent of the Planning Board. The Planning Board shall determine in its decision what proportion of the facility is inoperable for the facility to be considered abandoned. If the applicant fails to remove the large scale ground mounted solar facility in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the Town shall have the authority to enter the property and physically remove the facility.

6.10.5.7.3 Financial surety. The Planning Board shall require the applicant for a large scale ground mounted solar facility to provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the estimated cost of removal in the event that the Town must remove the facility, of an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to be less than 75% nor to exceed more than 125 percent of the estimated cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, in accordance with 6.10.5.7. Such surety will not be required for municipally or state owned facilities. The applicant shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, in accordance with 6.10.5.7.

Solar Bylaw Review Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 24 To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53F ½ for the purpose of creating a cable television public access enterprise fund, and, in connection therewith, to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds or cable television related revenues, including but not limited to fees paid to the Town by cable television licensees and any other revenues received by the Town for cable-license or cable-television related services, to be effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015; and further, to transfer from said fund or from previously received cable television license proceeds or otherwise fund a sum of money as a grant for PEG purposes, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement for the expenditure of such funds for cable-related purposes in accordance with law; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen: Recommended by BOS 2-1

ARTICLE 25 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be added to the General Stabilization Account or take any action in relation thereto.

Finance Committee: Recommended by BOS 3-0

ARTICLE 26 To see if the Town will vote to adjourn this Annual Town Meeting until 8:00 am on May 16, 2015 in the Plympton Town House for the sole purpose of conducting the Annual Town Election

To bring in their ballots for the following Town Officers:

- One (1) Selectmen for three (3) years
- One (1) Assessor for three (3) years
- One (1) Assessor for three (2) years (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Assessor for three (1) year (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Board of Health member for three (3) years
- Two (2) Dennett School Committee members for three (3) years
- One (1) Finance Committee Member for three (3) years
- One (1) Finance Committee Member for three (2) years (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Highway Surveyor for three (3) years
- Two (2) Library Trustees for three (3) years
- One (1) Planning Board member for five (5) years
- One (1) Planning Board member for five (1) year (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Silver Lake Regional School Committee for three (3) years
- One (1) Silver Lake Regional School Committee for one (2) years (Unfulfilled term)
- One (1) Tree Warden for three (3) years
- One (1) Town Clerk for three (3) years

and further that this Annual Town Meeting warrant will be dissolved immediately upon the closing of the polls on that date. The polls will be open at 8:00 AM and shall be continuously open for voting until 6:00 PM:

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**You are directed to post five (5) copies of this warrant, one at each of the public bulletin boards at the Plympton Town House, Plympton Public Library, Dennett Elementary School, The Village Cafe and the Plympton Post Office, hereof, fail not and make due return of your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting.**

**Given under our hands this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April in the Year of Our Lord two thousand Fifteen.**

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**Mark Russo, Chairman**

**Selectmen of Plympton**

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**John P. Henry**

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**Colleen Thompson**

**Plymouth, ss.**

**PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT**

**I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Plympton by posting up attested copies of the same at the Plympton Town House, Plympton Public Library, Dennett Elementary School, The Village Cafe and the Plympton Post Office 7 days before the date of the meeting as within directed.**

\_\_\_\_\_, Constable of Plympton \_\_\_\_\_Date