

True copy. Attest.
Juliette Hays, Egremont Town Clerk
7/5/2023

Town of Egremont, MA
Annual Town Meeting

May 2, 2023

On Tuesday May 2, 2023 at 6:07 pm at The Catamount Lodge on Hillsdale Road, Egremont, Moderator Stephen Cohen called the meeting to order. Moderator Cohen attested to the proper service of the warrant, noted the presence of a quorum, gave instructions for the meeting and introduced Town Officials. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence to honor members of the armed services, fire and police was observed.

All motions were made by members of the Selectboard, or else otherwise noted.

ARTICLE 1: Selectboard member Mary Brazie explained the two questions on the ballot for the upcoming May 9, 2023 Annual Town Election which speaks to debt exclusions to the tax levy for the borrowing for the purchase of a dump truck and fire truck.

ARTICLE 2: Motion made and seconded to raise and appropriate the following sums for the following items. Laura Allen of the Finance Committee spoke to her committee's approval of the budget. Moderator Cohen read the section headings only and voting took place by sections. Questions within the sections are noted.

1. OFFICIALS AND BOARDS	\$ 513,387.00
A. Accounting Officer Expense	1,500.00
B. Accounting Officer	16,104.00
C. Agricultural Commission	800.00
D. Assessors Clerical	3,886.00
E. Assessor's Consulting	39,000.00
F. Assessor's Expense	2,000.00
G. Assessor #1 Salary	5,128.00
H. Assessor #2 Salary	5,128.00
I. Assessor #3 Salary	5,128.00
J. Board of Appeals Expense	100.00

K. Board of Health Expense	3,800.00
L. Board of Health Director	43,096.00
M. Health Alliance Services	11,730.00
N. Building Inspector Salary	36,812.00
O. Asst. Building Inspector	1,500.00
P. Conservation Comm. Expense	1,520.00
Q. Conservation Agent	400.00
R. Conservation Comm. Clerical	3,784.00
S. Constable's Salary	706.00
T. Finance Committee Expense	400.00
U. Grant Administrator	16,675.00
V. Inspectors' Expenses	2,130.00
W. Personnel Director	13,993.00
X. Planning Board Expense	3,650.00
Y. Selectmen Office Administrator	79,573.00
Z. Selectmen Office Expense	13,200.00
AA. Selectman #1 Salary	5,729.00
BB. Selectman #2 Salary	5,316.00
CC. Selectman #3 Salary	5,316.00
DD. Green Committee Expenses	381.00
EE. Town Clerk Expense	8,500.00
FF. Town Clerk Salary	16,460.00
GG. Town Hall Office Clerk	34,237.00
HH. Treasurer/Collector Expense	11,545.00
II. Treasurer/Collector Salary	69,790.00
JJ. Web Administrator	44,370.00

A motion was made and seconded to adjust the figure for item JJ to \$20,880.
Vote taken on adjustment to JJ: defeated by a majority show of hands.

Vote taken: Items within the section carried by unanimous show of hands.

2. TOWN EXPENSES	\$ 300,554.00
A. Animal Control Officer	2,961.00
B. Animal Control Expenses	1,000.00
C. Audit	9,217.00
D. Board of Registrars Salary	50.00
E. Broadband Backup Operations	0.00
F. Compactor Operation	108,995.00
G. Compactor Substitute Wages	1,591.00
H. Computer Expenses	97,513.00
I. Computer Administrator	2,580.00
J. Drug and Alcohol Tests	360.00
K. Egremont Newsletter	3,500.00
L. Election Wages	4,500.00
M. Group Purchasing	1,310.00
N. Geographic Information System	5,300.00
O. High Speed Internet	2,871.00
P. Historical Commission Expense	2,050.00
Q. Inspector of Animals	500.00
R. Legal Expenses	1,500.00
S. Legal Fees	19,000.00
T. Litigation	7,000.00
U. Moderator	365.00
V. Public Health Services	2,470.00
W. School Committee	2,411.00
X. School Crossing Guard	0.00
Y. Southern Berkshire Chamber Commerce	260.00
Z. Town Engineer	4,450.00
AA. Town Report	300.00
BB. Town Telephone	8,400.00

CC. Veteran's Benefits	10,000.00
DD. Zoning Bylaws	100.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by a unanimous show of hands.

3. TOWN MAINTENANCE	\$ 280,747.00
A. Bldg Maint. General Exp.	25,300.00
B. Bldg Maint. Utility Exp.	41,937.00
C. Building Maintenance Wages	15,682.00
D. Maintenance Superintendent	67,714.00
E. Cemetery Maintenance	200.00
F. French Park Maintenance	3,270.00
G. French Park Trail/Forest	5,960.00
H. French Park Overtime Wages	5,000.00
I. French Park Wages	14,304.00
J. Public Lighting	6,900.00
K. Building Improvements	14,900.00
L. Tree Work	40,000.00
M. Tree Warden	7,580.00
O. Cemetery Expense and Maintenance	32,000.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by majority show of hands.

4. HIGHWAYS	\$ 655,469.00
A. Const. & Maint. Wages	5,000.00
B. Construction & Maintenance	206,300.00
C. Vehicle Maintenance/Repairs	62,100.00
D. Highway Union	205,700.00
E. Superintendent Salary	81,369.00
F. Snow & Ice Removal	70,000.00
G. Snow & Ice Removal Wages	25,000.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by unanimous show of hands

5. LIBRARY	\$ 43,664.00
A. Expenses	14,725.00
B. Librarian's Salary	27,841.00
C. Library Substitute Wages	1,098.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by unanimous show of hands.

6. POLICE	\$521,621.00
A. Chief Expenses	3,500.00
B. Chief Salary	97,659.00
C. Collective Bargaining	386,630.00
D. Department Expenses	10,000.00
E. Police Wages-Secretary	10,832.00
F. Vehicle Expenses	13,000.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by unanimous show of hands.

7. FIRE AND EMERGENCY	\$204,296.00
A. Dispatch Facilities	12,317.00
B. Emergency Management	1,600.00
C. Emergency Management Wages	2,820.00
D. Fire Department Expense	66,000.00
E. Firefighters Stipend	38,000.00
F. Forest Fires	1,000.00
G. Fire Dept. Admin./Training	12,000.00
H. Fire Chief Pay	22,664.00
I. Street Number 911	0.00
J. Reverse 911 System	2,250.00
K. So Berk Reg Emergency Plan	500.00
L. So. Berk. Ambulance Squad	45,145.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by unanimous show of hands.

8. DEBT AND INTEREST	\$ 225,428.00
A. Interest Short Term Debt	10,000.00
B. Highway Truck	57,444.00
C. Mt. Washington Rd Eng	90,849.00
E. Rescue Truck	0.00
F. Fire Truck	67,135.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by majority show of hands.

9. HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 106,568.00
A. Brien Center/Mental Health	2,203.00
B. Berk South Community Center	2,000.00
C. Community Health Programs	1,000.00
D. Berk. Comm. Action Council	1,000.00
E. Construct, Inc.	2,000.00
F. Eagle Fund	1,000.00
G. Council on Aging	20,090.00
H. Egremont Garden Club	350.00
I. Elizabeth Freeman Center	500.00
J. Fairview Hospital	1,500.00
K. Housatonic Valley Assoc	500.00
L. Hospice Care	750.00
M. Railroad Street Youth Project	2,500.00
N. Public Transport	65,775.00
O. Literacy Network of So. Berk.	400.00
P. Friends of Prospect Lake	5,000.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by majority show of hands.

10. INSURANCE	\$ 777,448.00
A. Health/Dental	349,238.00
B. Pension	252,750.00
C. Property & Casualty	134,435.00
D. Social Security/Medicare	22,000.00
E. Unemployment	10,000.00
F. Longevity Pay	4,025.00
G. Sick Leave	5,000.00

Vote taken: items within the section carried by majority show of hands.

11. RESERVE FUND	\$ 25,000.00
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A question was asked if these funds were to be taken from overlay surplus or taxes? The answer given was these funds are being asked to be raised from taxes.

Vote taken: motion carried by majority show of hands.

12. SCHOOLS	\$ 2,103,064.00
A. Operating & Transport	2,006,131.00
B. Capital Costs	44,253.00
C. Bond Payment	45,880.00
D. Vocational Education	6,800.00

Vote taken: motion carried by majority show of hands.

TOTAL LINE ITEM BUDGET APPROVED AT MEETING \$ 5,757,246.00

Article 3: Motion made and seconded to appropriate from water revenues the sum of \$345,800 and transfer from water department retained earnings the sum of \$35,000 to operate the Egremont Water Department.

A. Water Debt	\$ 134,000.00
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B. Water Operating Exp	27,500.00
C. Salaries/Wages	102,382.00
D. Utilities	15,000.00
E. Office Expenses	6,000.00
F. Water System Maint., Repair, Replacement, Upgrade	37,500.00
G. Audit	4,750.00
H. Insurance	39,516.00
I. Software	2,500.00
Total	\$ 369,148.00

Necessary funds to be raised as follows:

Water Dept. Revenues	\$ 345,800.00
Retained earnings	35,000.00
Tax Levy subsidy	0.00

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by majority show of hands.

Article 4: Motion made and seconded to have the Selectboard act as Water Commissioners as allowed by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Sections 21, 69A, and 69B.

Vote taken: motion carried by majority show of hands.

Article 5: Motion made and seconded to appropriate \$285,000.00 to purchase a new dump truck for the Highway Department, including the payment of all other costs incidental or related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

The Town Clerk gave instructions to voters as to how to submit their paper ballots.
Secret ballot taken: Moderator announced later in the evening the motion carried by the required 2/3 vote of 131 YES, 20 NO

Article 6: Motion made and seconded to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 55C, allowing the establishment of a housing trust to be known as the Egremont Housing Trust, whose purpose shall be to provide for the creation and preservation of affordable and/or workforce housing in the Town of Egremont for the benefit of low and moderate income households, substantially in a form which is on file with the Town Clerk and available for inspection during regular business hours.

The Finance Committee made no recommendation on this article stating they did not have the needed time to review the financial implications and the language in the proposed bylaw.

Lengthy discussion ensued. Numerous residents spoke in favor. Numerous residents stated they wanted more time to review and make corrections to the bylaw language in Article 7.

Motion made and seconded to postpone indefinitely.

Vote taken to postpone indefinitely: defeated by majority show of hands vote.

Motion made and seconded to amend article by deleting all language following the word "substantially" in the original motion.

Vote taken to amend language in original motion: defeated by majority show of hand vote.

Vote taken on original motion: motion carried by majority show of hands vote.

Article 7: Motion made and seconded to amend the General Bylaws by adding a new Bylaw 21 entitled the Egremont Housing Trust, as spelled out in the warrant with the

exception of ARTICLE III: Trustees... The term of a Trustee shall be two (2) years, except that in order to stagger the terms of the Trustees, three (3) members of the initial Trust Board shall serve for a term of one (1) year... (following is the entire bylaw with the Trustee term changes)

Bylaw 21

EGREMONT MUNICIPAL HOUSING TRUST

Pursuant to M.G.L, c. 44, section 55C there is hereby created a local municipal housing Trust fund to be known as the Egremont Municipal Housing Trust.

ARTICLE I: Name of the Trust

The Trust shall be called the "Egremont Municipal Housing Trust Fund" (the "Trust").

ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of the Trust shall be to provide for the preservation and creation of workforce and affordable housing in the Town of Egremont for the benefit of low and moderate income households. In furtherance of this purpose, the Trustees are hereby authorized, in accordance with the procedures set forth herein, to acquire by gift, purchase or otherwise real estate and personal property, both tangible and intangible, of every sort and description; to use such property, both real and personal, in such manner as the Trustees shall deem most appropriate to carry out such purpose, provided however, that all property held by the Trust and the net earnings thereof shall be used exclusively for the preservation and creation in the Town of Egremont of workforce and affordable housing for the purposes for which this Trust was formed.

ARTICLE III: Trustees

There shall be a Board of Trustees (the "Trust Board") composed of five (5) Trustees, appointed by the Select Board. To the extent possible, the Trust Board should include members with experience in banking, real estate, real estate law, residential development and workplace and/or affordable housing. At least one (1) member of the Trust Board shall be a member of the Select Board. The term of a Trustee shall be two (2) years, except that in order to stagger the terms of the Trustees, three (3) members of the initial Trust Board shall serve for a term of one (1) year. If a vacancy shall occur among the Trustees, it shall be filled by appointment of the Select Board for the unexpired term. A Trustee may be removed by a majority vote of the Select Board. Any Trustee who ceases to be a resident of the Town of Egremont shall cease to be a Trustee hereunder and shall promptly provide a written notification of the change in residence to the Trust Board and to the Town Clerk. Any Trustee may resign by written instrument signed and acknowledged by such Trustee and duly filed

with the Town Clerk. Upon the appointment of any succeeding Trustee and the filing of such appointment the title to the Trust estate shall thereupon and without the necessity of any conveyance be vested in such succeeding Trustee jointly with the remaining Trustees.

Reference to the Trustee shall mean the Trustee or Trustees for the time being hereunder.

ARTICLE IV: Meetings of Trust Board

The Trust Board shall meet at least quarterly at such time and at such place as the Trustees shall determine. Notice of all meetings of the Trust Board shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. A quorum at any meeting shall be a majority of the Trustees.

ARTICLE V: Powers of the Board

The Trust Board shall have the following powers which shall be carried out in accordance with and in furtherance of the provisions of G.L. Chapter 44, Section 55C and inclusive of any future amendments to that section and shall include the following:

1) To accept and receive real property, personal property or money, by gift, grant, contribution, devise or transfer from any person, firm, corporation or other public or private entity, including but not limited to money, grants of funds or other property tendered to the Trust in connection with any ordinance or by-law or any general or special law or any other source, including money from Chapter 44B;

2) To purchase and retain real or personal property, including without restriction investments that yield a high rate of income or no income;

3) To sell, lease, exchange, transfer or convey any personal, mixed, or real property at public auction or by private contract for such consideration and on such terms as to credit or otherwise, and to make such contracts and enter into such undertaking relative to Trust property as the Trust Board deems advisable notwithstanding the length of any such lease or contract;

4) To execute, acknowledge and deliver deeds, assignments, transfers, pledges, leases, covenants, contracts, promissory notes, releases and other instruments sealed or unsealed, necessary, proper or incident to any transaction in which the Trust Board engages for the accomplishment of the purposes of the Trust;

5) To employ advisors and agents, such as accountants, appraisers and lawyers as the Trust Board deems necessary;

6) To pay reasonable compensation and expenses to all advisors and agents and to apportion such compensation between income and principal as the Trust Board deems advisable;

7) To apportion receipts and charges between incomes and principal as the Trust Board deems advisable, to amortize premiums and establish sinking funds for such purpose, and to create reserves for depreciation, depletion or otherwise necessary;

8) To participate in any reorganization, recapitalization, merger or similar transactions; and to give proxies or powers of attorney with or without power of substitution to vote any securities or certificates of interest; and to consent to any contract, lease, mortgage, purchase or sale of property, by or between any corporation and any other corporation or person;

9) To deposit any security with any protective reorganization committee, and to delegate to such committee such powers and authority with relation thereto as the Trust Board may deem proper and to pay, out of Trust property, such portion of expenses and compensation of such committee as the Trust Board may deem necessary and appropriate;

10) To carry property for accounting purposes other than acquisition date values;

11) To borrow money on such terms and conditions and from such sources as the Trust Board deems advisable, to mortgage and pledge Trust assets as collateral;

12) To make distributions or divisions of principal in kind;

13) To comprise, attribute, defend, enforce, release, settle or otherwise adjust claims in favor or against the Trust, including claims for taxes, and to accept any property, either in total or partial satisfaction of any indebtedness or other obligation, and subject to the provisions of this act, to continue to hold the same for such period of time as the Trust Board may deem appropriate;

14) To manage or improve real property; and to abandon any property which the Trust Board determines not to be worth retaining;

15) To hold all or part of the Trust property uninvested for such purposes and for such time as the Trust Board may deem appropriate; and

16) To extend the time for payment of any obligation to the Trust.

The powers and duties enumerated above are intended to encompass all powers and duties of the Trust Board.

ARTICLE VI: Funds Paid to the Trust

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all moneys paid to the Trust in accordance with any Zoning Ordinance or by-law, exaction fee, or private contributions shall be paid directly into the Trust and need not be appropriated or accepted and approved into the Trust. General revenues appropriated into the Trust become Trust property and to be expended these funds need not be further appropriated. All moneys remaining in the Trust at the end of any fiscal year, whether or not expended by the Trust

Board within one year of the date they were appropriated into the Trust, remain Trust property.

ARTICLE VII: Acts of the Trust Board

A majority of the Trust Board may exercise any or all of the powers of the Trust Board hereunder and may execute on behalf of the Trust Board any and all instruments with the same effect as though executed by all the Trustees. No Trustee shall be required to give bond. No license of court shall be required to confirm the validity of any transaction entered into by the Trustees with respect to the Trust Estate.

ARTICLE VIII: Liability

Neither the Trustees, collectively or individually, nor any agent or officer of the Trust shall have the authority to bind the Town, except in the manner specifically authorized herein. The Trust is a public employer and the Trustees are public employees for the purposes of G.L. Chapter 268A. The Trust shall be deemed a municipal agency and the Trustees special municipal employees for the purposes of G.L. Chapter 268A.

ARTICLE IX: Taxes

The Trust is exempt from G.L. Chapter 59 and 62, and from any other provisions concerning payment of taxes based upon or measured by property or income imposed by the Commonwealth or any subdivision thereto.

ARTICLE X: Custodian of Funds

The Town Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Trust. The books and records of the Trust shall be audited annually by an independent auditor in accordance with accepted accounting practices for municipalities.

ARTICLE XI: Governmental Body

The Trust is a governmental body for purposes of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

ARTICLE XII: Board of the Town

The Trust Board is a board of the Town for the purposes of G.L. Chapter 30B and Section 15A of G.L. Chapter 40; but agreements and conveyances between the Trust and agencies, boards, commissions, authorities, departments and public instrumentalities of the Town shall be exempt from said Chapter 30B.

ARTICLE XIII: Duration of the Trust

This Trust shall be of indefinite duration, until terminated in accordance with applicable law. Upon termination of the Trust, subject to the payment of or making provisions for the payment of all obligations and liabilities of the Trust and the Trust Board, the net assets of the Trust shall be transferred to the Town and held for workforce and/or

affordable housing purposes. In making any such distribution, the Trustees may, subject to the approval of the Select Board, sell all or any portion of the Trust property and distribute the net proceeds thereof or they may distribute any of the assets in kind. The powers of the Trustees shall continue until the affairs of the Trust are concluded.

ARTICLE XIV: Authorization

The Trust Board is authorized to execute, deliver, and record with the Registry of Deeds any documents required for any conveyance authorized hereunder.

ARTICLE XV: Rules and Regulations

The Trust Board may adopt such rules and regulations as required to conduct its affairs, and in keeping with the provisions and intent of G.L. Chapter 44, Section 55C.

ARTICLE XVI: Titles

The titles to the various Articles herein are for convenience only and are not to be considered part of said Articles nor shall they affect the meaning or the language of any such Article.

ARTICLE XVII: Records

The Trust Board shall keep a record of its doings and at the close of every fiscal year, make a report thereof to the Select Board. The report shall include a description and source of funds received and expended and the type of workforce and/or affordable housing programs or properties assisted with the funding. The Trust Board shall also provide the Select Board with a copy of the Trust's annual audit.

ARTICLE XVIII: Amendment

This Trust may be amended from time to time by a majority vote of Town Meeting, provided however, that no such amendment shall violate the purposes of this Trust, nor of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 55C.

ARTICLE XIX: Validity

If any provision of this Trust shall be deemed illegal or unenforceable by final Judgment, order or decree by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this Trust shall not be affected thereby.

Discussion ensued.

Motion made and seconded to amend article by adding language which speaks to oversight of Trust members.

Discussion ensued on the amended motion.

Vote taken on motion to amend: defeated by a majority show of hands vote.

Vote taken on original motion: motion carried by an overwhelming majority show of hands vote.

Article 8: Motion made and seconded to : (a) Authorize the Selectboard, on behalf of the Town, to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, permanent and/or temporary easements in certain parcels of land within, adjacent to, and/or contiguous with Mount Washington Road in the locations more or less depicted on a plan entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Mount Washington Road in the Town of Egremont, Berkshire County, Preliminary Right-of-Way," dated 2/28/2023, as it may be amended, a copy of which has been placed on file with the Town Clerk, and permanent and temporary easements located within 200 feet of said parcels, as such additional areas may be shown on said plan, for public way purposes, including, without limitation, drainage, utility, slope, grading, and construction of improvements and structures, and other related purposes, to enable the Town to undertake the Mount Washington Road Reconstruction Project and for any and all purposes incidental or related thereto; (b) Raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 and transfer from Overlay Surplus the sum of \$25,000, for a total sum \$105,000.00, to fund the foregoing and any and all costs incidental or related thereto, including, without limitation, the cost of legal fees, appraisals and any land/easement acquisitions, ; and, further (c) Authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 9: Motion made and seconded pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, which may be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to adopt the last paragraph of said §5B and dedicate to such fund, without further appropriation, 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town; and further, to transfer from available funds a sum of money equal to that received or to be received by the Town from opioid litigation settlements resulting from the Town's participation in the national Opioid Multi-District Litigation into said Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 10: Motion made and seconded to appropriate from the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund all funds being dedicated to said fund to Rural Recovery Resources & South County Recovery Center.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 11: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$8,500.00 to purchase a new sander.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

A question was asked if this was not already included in the purchase of a Highway Department truck last year.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 12: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 to the Police Road Detail Revolving account.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

A question was asked if these funds were not already being asked for in revolving funds in Article 26.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 13: Motion made by Cemetery Commissioner David Campbell and then seconded to transfer from the Hillside Cemetery Perpetual Care, the sum of \$15,000.00, for expansion and repairs at the Town's Cemeteries.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 14: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$9,500.00 to make repairs to French Park.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 15: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$6,000.00 to update a portion of the town's MACRIS historic listings.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Rebecca Turner, Chairman of the Historical Commission spoke to this motion.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 16: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,500.00 to restore historic books and documents in the Archives Room.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Rebecca Turner spoke to this motion.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 17: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000.00 to pay for tree removal on town property.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 18: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$27,500.00 to blacktop the parking lot at the Library.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Charles Proctor spoke to this motion and stated funds would be better spent on blacktopping the driveway up to the Transfer Station.

Vote taken: motion defeated by a hand count vote of 22 YES, 48 NO.

Article 19: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$22,000.00 for half the costs of a new air compressor for the Fire Department.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 20: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,500.00 to replace the Police Department pistols.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 21: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,900.00 to purchase a new Automatic Electronic Defibrillator for the Police Department.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 22: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$90,000.00 to replace the roof at Town Hall.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 23: Motion made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 to make road repairs to Town roads.

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

A question was asked as to whether this funding request was already covered in the Highway Department budget passed earlier in the warrant. Highway Department Superintendent Jim Noe answered by stating this article would supplement what was requested earlier in the warrant.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 24: Motion made and seconded to accept funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges. Current estimate \$150,058.13

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 25: Motion made and seconded to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to the special GASB 45 stabilization fund (for future retiree benefits other than pension).

The Finance Committee recommended approval.

Vote taken: motion carried by unanimous show of hands vote.

Article 26: Motion made and seconded to fix the maximum amount that may be spent during fiscal year 2023 from the revolving funds established in Egremont General Bylaw 24, to be amounts specified in the warrant, such revolving funds to be for the departments, boards, committees, agencies and officers specified in the warrant all in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E $\frac{1}{2}$.

A Revolving Fund	B Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fiscal Year 2024 Spending Limit
French Park	Board of Selectmen and Buildings & Grounds	\$4,000.00
Home Compost Bins	Board of Selectmen and Board of Health	\$2000.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	Zoning Board of Appeals	\$4,000.00
Dog License & donations fund	Town Clerk	\$5,000.00
Inspector Wages	Wiring, Plumbing & Gas Inspectors, Fire	\$60,000.00
Compostable Materials	Green Committee and Board of Health	\$500.00
Recycling Proceeds	Board of Selectmen and Board of Health	\$30,000.00
Planning Board	Planning Board	\$2,500.00
French Park Dog Park	Board of Selectmen and Trustees of French Park	\$5,000.00

A Revolving Fund	B Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fiscal Year 2024 Spending Limit
Wetlands	Conservation Commission	\$5,000.00
Police Road Details	Police road details	\$10,000.00
Transportation	Van service - transportation	\$20,000.00

Motion made and seconded to dissolve the Town Meeting. Motion carried. The Moderator dissolved the meeting at 9:11 pm.

Total Raise and Appropriate	\$ 6,052,246.00
Total Transfer Free Cash	\$ 159,900.00
Total Borrow	\$ 285,000.00
Transfer from Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$ 15,000.00
Transfer Water Dept. Revenue	\$ 345,800.00
Transfer Water Dept Retained Earnings	\$ 35,000.00
Water Department Tax Subsidy (R&A)	\$ 0.00
Transfer from Overlay Surplus	\$ 25,000.00
Total	\$ 6,917,946.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Juliette S. Haas

Egremont Town Clerk

Corrected 7 3 2023

- Jsh