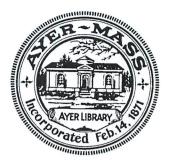
Town of Ayer

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT



Aver Town Hall ~ Great Hall 1 Main Street, Ayer, MA 01432 May 11, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Middlesex, ss.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Aver qualified to vote in Town Elections and Affairs to meet at the Great Hall in the Ayer Town Hall located at 1 Main Street, Ayer Massachusetts on Monday, the Eleventh (11th) day of May, 2015, at seven o'clock in the evening (7:00 p.m.) then and there to act on the following articles:

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereof to the Town Clerk before the date appointed for said meeting.

Given under our hands this 21st day of April AD 2015.

Christopher R. Hillman, Chairman

Jannice L. Livingston, Vice Chairman

J. Luca, Clerk

AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Any persons needing disability related assistance (such as signing, etc.) at the Town Meeting please contact the Selectmen's Office at 978-772-8220 before April 27, 2015. We shall make every reasonable effort to assist you. Large print version of the text of this warrant is available upon request.

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ARTICLE 1: TOWN ELECTIONS

The Town Elections are the first article of business and were held on Monday, April 27, 2015.

ARTICLE 2: REPORTS

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the reports of the several Town of Ayer Officers and Committees that may be ready to report, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

- 1. Finance Committee
- 2. Personnel Board
- 3. Town Accountant/Finance Manager
- 4. Community Preservation Committee

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 3: PAY PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amount(s) to pay unpaid bills of Fiscal Year 2014, as authorized under General Laws Chapter 44, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto:

Department	Vendor	Amount
Police DPW (Stormwater) Sewer Water Police Liability Ins.	Gervais Ford Atlantic Broom USA Blue Book USA Blue Book Brigham & Women's Hospital	\$321.37 \$455.00 \$106.22 \$782.46 <u>\$34.00</u>
	Total:	\$1,699.05

Explanatory Note: This article would authorize the funding per MGL Chapter 44 for the payment of prior year bills as indicated by the article.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) April 21, 201	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) April 21, 2015	4/5 th Vote Required

ARTICLE 4: SALARIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of elected officers of the Town of Ayer, as provided by Section 108, Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

	FY-15 SALARY	FY-16 SALARY	% OF CHANGE
Moderator	\$ 500	\$ 500	0%
Selectmen: Chair	\$2,506	\$2,506	0%
Selectmen: Members (2)	\$2,235	\$2,235	0%
Assessor: Chair	\$2,480	\$2,530	2%

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	FY-15 SALARY	FY-16 SALARY	% OF CHANGE
Assessors: Members (2)	\$2,210	\$2,254	2%
Treasurer	\$61,984	\$63,224	2%
Town Clerk	\$27,443	\$27,992	2%
Tax Collector	\$33,542	\$34,213	2%
Tree Warden	\$5,728	\$5,843	2%

Explanatory Note: This article is required – Town Meeting sets the salaries of elected officials pursuant to MGL c. 41, Section 108. The Personnel Board has recommended a 2% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for FY 2016. The Moderator and the Board of Selectmen have declined a 2% increase.

Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 5: CONTRACT FUNDING – APPOA Police Patrolmen Officers Contract (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018)

To see if the Town will vote to fund the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Ayer and the Ayer Police Patrolmen Officers Association (APPOA) for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018, and to raise and appropriate from available funds such sum or sums of money required to fund the collective bargaining agreement, or take any other action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Per MGL Chapter 150 E, Union Contracts are subject to the appropriation of funds by Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen and APPOA reached a Memorandum of Agreement on March 30, 2015 for a three year contract in the total estimated amount of \$210,649 over three years (FY 2016 to FY 2018). The FY 2016 estimated total cost of the Contract is \$44,732. Presentation to be made at Town Meeting.

Board of Selectmen:Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015Finance Committee:Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 6: CONTRACT FUNDING – APPOA Police Dispatchers Contract (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018)

To see if the Town will vote to fund the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Ayer and the Ayer Police Patrolmen Officers Association (APPOA) Communications Dispatchers Division for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018, and to raise and appropriate from available funds such sum or sums of money required to fund the collective bargaining agreement, or take any other action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Per MGL Chapter 150 E, Union Contracts are subject to the appropriation of funds by Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen and APPOA- Dispatchers Division reached a Memorandum of Agreement on April 13, 2015 for a three year contract in the total estimated amount of \$161,645 over three years (FY 2016 to FY 2018). The FY 2016 estimated total cost of the Contract is \$47,411. Presentation to be made at Town Meeting. Board of Selectmen:Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015Finance Committee:Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 7: OMNIBUS BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds, the following sum or sums of money for the Omnibus items, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto:

Dept. 100: General Government Dept. 200: Finance Dept. 300: Public Safety Dept. 400: Public Works Dept. 500: Human Services Dept. 600: Management Support

Sponsor:	Finance Committee Recommends (5-0) on	April 21, 2015
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

Note – Refer to Omnibus Budget Insert

ARTICLE 8: FY 2016 AYER SHIRLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$9,803,576 required to fund the Town's FY 2016 assessment for the Ayer Shirley Regional School District, and appropriate the sum of \$1,011,879 for the Town's portion of the ASRSD High School Building Project debt service, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Ayer Shirley Regional School Committee	
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 9: FY 2016 NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$705,284 required to fund the FY 2016 assessment for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Nashoba Valley Technical Vocational Scl	hool Committee
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

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FY2016 Omnibus Budget

	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016			
	Actual	Approved	Proposed	Difference		Notes
Department 100 - General Government						
Department 100 - General Government						Includes pay adjustments (FY15 under-budgeted and added duties) for
01 Selectmen	\$159,943	153,280	176,422	23,142	15.10%	Assistant to T.A., add'l overtime for executive session minutes
02 Town Counsel	\$97,389	85,000	90,000	5,000	5.88%	
03 Town Clerk	\$70,262	73,702	77,132	3,430	1 659/	Includes clerical union contractual cost, and approximately \$2,000 for additional training costs and other expenses
04 Moderator	\$70,202 \$562	500	500	5,450	4.03%	
05 Parking Tickets	\$879	950	1,000	- 50	5.26%	
05 Tarking Tickets	\$673	950	1,000	50		Increase in heating for Town Hall, Police & Fire Stations \$8,200, increases
						to repairs & maintenance for the 3 bldgs \$6,200 (offset to some extent by
06 Public Buildings & Property Maintenance	\$245,720	299,301	305,792	6,491		decreases in electric due to solar net metering)
07 Registrations & Elections	\$17,500	12,973	13,896	923		Increase in postage \$500 and other costs
08 Postage	\$15,497	19,000	19,000	-	0.00%	
09 American Legion	\$600	600	600	-	0.00%	
10 Memorial Day	\$1,855	2,000	2,000	-	0.00%	
11 4th of July Celebration	\$5,000	10,000	10,000	-	0.00%	
12 Communications Committee	\$0	700	700	-	0.00%	
13 Personnel Board	\$0	100	100	-	0.00%	
Department 100 Total	615,207	658,106	697,142	39,036	5.93%	
Department 200 - Finance						
Department 200 - Finance						Includes unused vacation buyout \$7,258 for retiring assistant and related
01 Town Accountant	\$163,461	169,658	182,667	13,009		legal ad costs and training for replacement \$2,700
			ŕ	,		
						Includes pay adjustment (FY15 under-budgeted) and additional costs for
02 Benefits & Payroll		50,900	65,713	14,813		training, supplies, etc.
03 Computer Support - Financial Systems	\$33,403	44,245	44,340	95	0.21%	
04 Assessors	\$148,791	165,286	167,988	2,702		Year 2 of 3 year cyclical reinspection compliance program
05 Tax Collector	\$105,391	87,706	90,569	2,863		\$1,300 increase in expenses (in addition to 2% cola)
06 Treasurer	\$111,995	67,892	69,402	1,510		\$2,796 increase in expenses, mostly supplies
07 Health & Life Insurance	\$1,497,936	1,324,105	1,428,725	104,620		Increase in premiums just below 10%
08A Property & Liability Insurance	\$122,677	144,151	154,241	10,090	7.00%	
08B Workers Compensation	\$46,594	53,753	57,515	3,762	7.00%	
08C Fire & Police Accident subtotal	\$85,516	161,953	173,289	11,336	7.00%	
suoioiai	254,787	359,857	385,045	25,188	7.00%	
09 Unemployment Compensation	\$28,285	15,511	15,511	-	0.00%	
10 County Retirement Assessment	\$1,107,165	1,344,155	1,343,292	(863)	-0.06%	
11 Notes & Bonds(Principal)	\$966.000	949,520	906,520	(43,000)	-0.08%	
12 Interest	\$283,299	232,733	199,624	(33,109)	-4.53% -14.23%	
13 Tax Title	\$283,299	8,000	8,000	(55,109)	-14.23%	
14 FICA Medicare	\$74,005	78,887	81,648	2,761	3.50%	
15 Finance Committee (Advisory Board)	\$571	200	500	300	150.00%	
16 Reserve Fund	(\$88,555)	300.000	150,000	(150,000)	-50.00%	
Department 200 Total	4,690,950	5,198,655	5,139,544	(150,000)	-1.14%	
	,,0,0,,00	5,170,000	0107074	(37,111)	-1.14 /0	

FY2016 Omnibus Budget

	FY2014	FY2015				
	Actual	Approved	FY2016 Proposed	Difference		Notes
Department 300 - Public Safety	Actual	Аррготса	Proposed	Difference		Notes
01 Police Department	\$1,748,445	1,991,834	2.099.481	107,647	5 400/	Contractual in second and time seconds alade \$20,022
	31,740,445	1,771,054	2,099,481	107,047	5.40%	Contractual increases, new part-time records clerk \$20,033
	1 1					Includes \$5,000 for add'l vehicle maintenance, \$5,000 for boat, \$2,500 for
						snow blower and \$1,100 for add'l education expenses & contractual
02 Fire Department	\$1,312,270	1 470 790	1 522 020		0.000/	increases & \$7,500 unused sick buyback (per contract) for retiring
03 Building Department	\$1,312,270 \$37,566	1,479,789 88,291	1,523,829	44,040		firefighter
04 Emergency Management	\$3,681	9,560	89,701 9,611	1,410 51	1.60% 0.53%	
05 Animal Control Officer (Dog Officer)	\$11,829	13,039	13,270	231	0.55%	
06 Animal Inspector	\$354	1,000	2,600	1,600		Increase in duties
07 Tree Warden	\$17,799	20,997	21,112	115	0.55%	increase in dunes
Department 300 Total	3,131,944	3,604,510	3,759,604	155,094	4.30%	
•			0,702,001	155,654	4.0070	
Department 400 - Public Works						
						Includes \$10,000 for roof repairs for garage and shed, \$5,000 for replacing
Al Dublic Wester Administration						signs, \$4,000 for Main St improvements, \$19,691 increase for snow
01 Public Works - Administration 02 Public Works - Street Lighting	\$1,000,235	1,075,673	1,141,767	66,094		removal & contractual increases
02 Funct works - Street Lighting 03 Care of Graves	\$66,990 \$2,500	76,400 2,500	74,000	(2,400)	-3.14%	
Department 400 Total	1,069,725	1,154,573	2,500 1,218,267	-	0.00%	
Department 400 Total	1,003,723	1,134,373	1,210,20/	63,694	5.52%	
Department 500 - Human Services						
01 Council on Aging	\$110,455	126,502	128,609	2,107	1.67%	
02 Board of Health	\$14,845	16,054	17,094	1,040		Increase for add'l cost of placing legal ads for public hearings
03 Nashoba Assoc Board of Health	\$23,606	23,606	24,551	945	4.00%	merease for add i oost of plasmig fogat ads for plasme nearmigs
			,			Includes \$5,040 for paying lifeguards and seasonal part-timers \$1 more per
04 Parks Department	\$118,073	126.096	100.000			hour in order to adjust pay to keep par with the expected increase in the
05 Ayer/Shirley Youth Football & Cheerleading	\$118,073	126,086 4,000	133,386 4,000	7,300		minimum wage rate
06 Little League	\$4,000	4,000	4,000	-	0.00% 0.00%	
07 Veterans Agent	\$9,716	19.039	19,192	153	0.00%	
08 Veterans Benefits	\$144,803	168,000	168,000	155	0.00%	
	0111,000	100,000	100,000	-		Includes increase in hours for Assist. Children's Librarian from 19
						hours per week to 36 hours per week at a net cost of \$10,359. Also
						includes wage increases and \$3,000 increase in book expense to
09 Library	\$464,511	478,263	496,882	18,619		meet state certification requirements
10 Disabilities Comm.	\$541	700	700	-	0.00%	
Department 500 Total	894,550	966,250	996,414	30,164	3.12%	
Department 600 - Management Support						
01 Conservation Commission	\$14,813	19,922	25,817	5,895	29.59%	Increase staff hours from 15 per week to 19 per week
02 Economic & Community Development	\$30,627	33,255	34,959	1,704	5.12%	
03 Historical Commission	\$50	750	750	-	0.00%	
04 Montachusett Reg. Plan. Comm.	\$2,112	2,219	2,274	55	2.48%	
05 Mngmt Support (printing & reporting)	\$6,242	6,500	8,500	2,000	30.77%	Increase in expenses for public hearing notices and supplies
	i ()	1	I	l	1	

FY2016 Omnibus Budget

	FY2014 Actual	FY2015 Approved	FY2016 Proposed	Difference		Notes
						Also includes \$4,500 for cellular booster for the Fire Station and \$3,000
06 Information Technology	\$81,088	115,897	123,411	7,514	6.48%	for hardware replacements
Department 600 Total	134,932	178,543	195,711	17,168	9.62%	
Total Summary by Department						
Dept 100 - General Government	615,207	658,106	697,142	39,036	5.93%	
Dept 200 - Finance	4,690,950	5,198,655	5,139,544	(59,111)	-1.14%	
Dept 300 - Public Safety	3,131,944	3,604,510	3,759,604	155,094	4.30%	
Dept 400 - Public Works	1,069,725	1,154,573	1,218,267	63,694	5.52%	
Dept 500 - Human Services	894,550	966,250	996,414	30,164	3.12%	
Dept 600 - Management Support	134,932	178,543	195,711	17,168	9.62%	
Total Operating Budgets	10,537,308	11,760,637	12,006,682	246,045	2.09%	

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ENTERPRISE FUND ARTICLES

Handouts will be provided at Town Meeting with further detail on Articles No. 10-14

ARTICLE 10: SOLID WASTE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the following funds to operate the solid waste department:

Direct costs of \$406,378 of which \$234,130 is to come from solid waste revenue, \$27,358 is to come from solid waste retained earnings and \$144,890 is to come from the tax levy, and **indirect costs** of \$101,338 to come from the tax levy; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	April 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 11: AMBULANCE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the following funds to operate the ambulance department:

Direct costs of \$121,872 is to come from ambulance revenue, and indirect costs of \$336,156 of which \$293,828 is to come from ambulance revenue and \$42,328 from ambulance **retained** earnings; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 12: SEWER

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the following funds to operate the sewer department:

Direct costs of \$2,385,556 of which \$2,360,847 is to come from sewer revenue and \$24,719 to come from the tax levy and indirect costs of \$302,879 of which \$287,879 is to come from sewer revenue and \$15,000 is to come from sewer **retained earnings**; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	April 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 13: WATER

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the following funds to operate the water department:

Direct costs of \$1,657,760 of which \$1,557,760 is to come from water revenue and \$100,000 is to come from water **retained earnings**; and indirect costs of \$242,012 of which \$152,012 is to come from water revenue and \$90,000 is to come from retained earnings (free cash); or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 14: STORMWATER

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the following funds to operate the stormwater department:

Direct costs of \$159,050 of which \$159,050 is to come from the tax levy; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

REVOLVING FUND ARTICLES

Recommend Moving Articles 15 through 20 together by consent.

ARTICLE 15: COMMUNICATIONS FUND

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, for the purpose of supporting the town website, printing and mailing various newsletters, and other town-wide informational mailings from the **Communications Committee**. Receipts to be credited to the account shall be revenues from ads placed in said mailings and on the Town website. The Communication Committee is authorized to expend monies from this fund. In no event shall total expenditures from the Communications Revolving Fund exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) in Fiscal Year 2016, and provided further that no Board, Department or Officer shall be authorized to expend in any one fiscal year from all Revolving Funds under its direct control more than one percent of the amount raised by taxation by the Town in the most recent fiscal year for which a tax rate has been certified under Section Twenty Three of Chapter Fifty Nine, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	I.T. /Communications Committee	
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simp

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 16: FIRE ALARM FUND

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, for the purpose of **Fire Alarm Repairs and Replacement**. Receipts to be credited to the account shall be Fire Alarm Box Assessment Fees and Fines for Needless and

May 2015 Annual Town Meeting Ayer, Massachusetts Page 6 of 19 False Alarms. The Fire Chief is authorized to expend monies from this fund. In no event shall total expenditures from the Fire Alarm Revolving Account exceed thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) in Fiscal Year 2016, and provided further, that no Board, Department or Officer shall be authorized to expend in any one fiscal year from all Revolving Funds under its direct control more than one percent of the amount raised by taxation by the Town in the most recent fiscal year for which a tax rate has been certified under Section Twenty Three of Chapter Fifty Nine, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Fire Chief	
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 17: HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E 1/2, for the purpose of **Hazardous Materials Expense**. All receipts from a Haz-Mat incident shall be from billed services, and will be used for replacement of supplies and expenses. The Fire Chief will be authorized to expend monies for this fund. In no event shall total expenditures from the Haz-Mat Revolving Account exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in Fiscal Year 2016, and provided further, that no Board, Department or Officer shall be authorized to expend in any one fiscal year from all Revolving Funds under its direct control more than one percent of the amount raised by taxation by the Town in the most recent fiscal year for which a tax rate has been certified under Section Twenty Three of Chapter Fifty Nine, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Fire Chief	
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 18: FOURTH OF JULY FUND

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, for the purpose of a **4th of July Revolving Fund**. Receipts to be credited to the Account shall be from vendor fees, and shall be used for purchasing and promoting the event. The 4th of July Committee, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to expend money from this fund. In no event shall total expenditures from the 4th of July Revolving Fund exceed twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) in Fiscal Year 2016 and provided further, that no Board, Department or Officer shall be authorized to expend in any one fiscal year from all Revolving Funds under its direct control more than one percent of the amount raised by taxation by the Town in the most recent fiscal year for which a tax rate has been certified under Section Twenty Three of Chapter Fifty Nine, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015Finance Committee:Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 19: DPW INSPECTION FEES FUND

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E 1/2, for the purpose of a **Department of Public Works Inspection Revolving Fund**. Receipts to be credited to the fund shall be from development fees or contributions, and shall be used for the purpose of funding inspections of road construction, drainage facilities, and water and sewer line installations. The Superintendent of Public Works shall be authorized to expend money from this fund. In no event shall total expenditures from the Department of Public Works Inspection Revolving Fund exceed one-hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in Fiscal Year 2016 and provided further, that no Board, Department or Officer shall be authorized to expend in any one fiscal year from all Revolving Funds under its direct control more than one percent of the amount raised by taxation by the Town in the most recent fiscal year for which a tax rate has been certified under Section Twenty Three of Chapter Fifty Nine, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto

Sponsor:	DPW Superintendent	
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 20: TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E 1/2, for the purpose of a **Town Hall Maintenance Fund.** Receipts to be credited to the fund shall be from fees assessed for use of Town Hall facilities and may be used for costs related to operation, maintenance, repair and/or reconstruction at Town Hall and its grounds. The Board of Selectmen shall be authorized to expend money from this fund. In no event shall total expenditures from the Town Hall Maintenance Fund exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in Fiscal Year 2016 and provided further, that no Board, Department or Officer shall be authorized to expend in any one fiscal year from all Revolving Funds under its direct control more than one percent of the amount raised by taxation by the Town in the most recent fiscal year for which a tax rate has been certified under Section Twenty Three of Chapter Fifty Nine, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto

Sponsor:Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015Finance Committee:Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015Simple Majority Vote Required

BORROW ARTICLE

ARTICLE 21: CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sums set out in the Warrant and hereby listed for the purposes of funding the following equipment, services and public works projects as contained in the **Capital Budget**, each sum hereafter to be voted on separately, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

<u>Department</u>	Item	Amount
<u>DPW–Water Enterpris</u>	e Meter Radio Read System Water Main Replacements	\$50,000 \$150,000
DPW-Sewer Enterprise	Meter Radio Read System Radio Telemetry System	\$50,000 \$30,000
DPW-Solid Waste	Resurfacing Parking Lot	\$175,000
Fire-Ambulance	Purchase and Equip New Ambulance	\$250,000
Sponsor:	Capital Planning Comm.; Board of Selectmen R on April 21, 2015	ecommends (3-0)
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Two-Thirds Vote Required

TRANSFER ARTICLES

ARTICLE 22: UNEXPENDED BALANCE TRANSFER – GROVE POND WATER TREATMENT PLANT GARAGE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the unexpended balance of \$21,190 from Article 19 (Backwash pump replacement Spec Pond) of the FY2012 Annual Town Meeting and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sum of \$153,810 to construct a garage at the Grove Pond Water Treatment Plant, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: This article would transfer the unexpended balance of \$21,190 for the backwash pump replacement at Spec Pond and authorize the borrowing in the amount of \$153,810 for a total amount of \$175,000 for the construction of a garage at the Grove Pond Water Treatment Plant.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Two-Thirds Vote Required

ARTICLE 23: WATER ENTERPRISE TRANSFER – CONSTRUCTION OF PINGRY HILL WATER STORAGE TANK

To see if the Town will transfer the sum of \$48,000 from the Water Enterprise Retained Earnings (Free Cash) (collected from Willow Road Development, LLC) to provide funds for the construction of the Pingry Hill Water Storage Tank and related water distribution system improvements, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

May 2015 Annual Town Meeting Ayer, Massachusetts Page 9 of 19 Explanatory Note: This article would transfer the sum of \$48,000 in certified water enterprise retained earnings as collected from the Willow Road Development, LLC to provide funds for the construction of the Pingry Hill Water Storage Tank (which has a total cost of \$250,000).

Sponsor:Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015Finance Committee:Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015Simple Majority Vote Required

RAISE AND APPROPRIATE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 24: CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the following sums hereby listed for the purpose of funding the following equipment, services and public works projects as contained in the Capital Budget, each sum hereafter to be voted on separately, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto:

GENERAL FUND

DPW-Administration	Fuel Station Maintenance & Canopy	\$75,000
DPW-Highway	East Main St Design	\$150,000
Information Technology	Digitize records Workstations & software	\$17,000 \$10,000
Police	Replace cell check monitor & upgrade remaining entry doors	\$20,000
Facilities Maintenance	Carpet for Town Hall offices	\$26,028
Library	Interior/exterior painting Interior/exterior door replacement	\$28,700 \$32,347
	Total	\$359,075.00

Sponsor:	Capital Planning Comm.; Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0)	
-	on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Two-Thirds Vote Required

ARTICLE 25: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to update the Town's Comprehensive Plan, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: The Town's Comprehensive Plan is subject to review and update every ten years. The last update was in 2005. This article would provide the funding for the Comprehensive Plan Committee to update the Comprehensive Plan.

Sponsor:Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015Finance Committee:Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 26: GRANT AGREEMENT FOR SANDY POND SCHOOLHOUSE ASSOCIATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Sandy Pond Schoolhouse Association for the use of said funds for the purpose of completing the Sandy Pond Schoolhouse historic designation for the general public benefit; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: The Sandy Pond Schoolhouse Association is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization responsible for the maintenance and programs of the historic Sandy Pond Schoolhouse. This Article would authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement with the Association for the one-time amount of \$5,000. These funds will be used to complete the historic designation of the schoolhouse.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	April 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 27: UDAG REPLENISHMENTS

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the following amounts to replenish the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) account:

Costs related to Police Dept. 111F Medical Bills	\$17,000
Appraisal costs related to the Old Fire Station	<u>\$ 1,800</u>

Total: \$18,800

Or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: This article would replenish the Town's UDAG Fund in the amounts set forth in the article. These funds were used from the UDAG's unrestricted funds for purposes that did not have a repayment mechanism in place.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	April 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 28: ADDITIONAL PONDS SURVEY CONTRACT COSTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,032 to provide additional funds to meet the ponds survey contracted amount, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Funding for the Comprehensive Ponds Survey was previously authorized by Town Meeting to come from the DPW and Conservation Commission. Upon review, a shortfall of \$8,032 in the total amount owed on the Contract became evident.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	April 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 29: GASB 45 COMPLIANCE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,650 to fund the actuarial costs associated with required updating of GASB 45 (disclosure requirements for post-employment benefits), or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Every two years, the Town is required under GASB 45 (disclosure requirements for post-employment benefits) to conduct an actuarial cost analysis.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 30. GASB 45/ OPEB (Post-Employment Benefits) FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$577,585 to meet the Town's obligations under the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 45 to fund the Town's future obligation for the cost of other postemployment benefits (OPEB) or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: This article would authorize the Town's OPEB funds in the amount of \$577,585 to be deposited in the State Retiree Benefit Trust SRBT (per Article 30 of the 2014 Town Meeting).

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 31. STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$577,585 or such other sum or sums of money, with \$433,189 to be credited to the Stabilization Fund under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, and \$144,396 to be credited to the Capital Stabilization Fund per the Town's Financial Policies or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on Ap	ril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Two-Thirds Vote Required

May 2015 Annual Town Meeting Ayer, Massachusetts Page 12 of 19

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 32: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

To see if the Town will hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2016 Community Preservation Act budget, and appropriate from the estimated FY 2016 Community Preservation Fund revenues:

• A sum of money equal to five percent, and not-to-exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2016.

And further, to reserve for future appropriation from the estimated FY 2016 Community Preservation Fund revenues the following sums of money, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for each of the following purposes:

- A sum of money equal to \$128,759, more or less, for acquisition, creation and preservation of open space excluding land for recreational use, and
- A sum of money equal to \$20,470, more or less, for acquisition, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources, and
- A sum of money equal to \$20,470, more or less, for acquisition, creation and preservation and support of community housing.

Or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Disbursement required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under M.G.L. Chapter 44B for the estimated FY 2016 Community Preservation Fund revenues.

Sponsor:	Community Preservation Committee	
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 33: AYER FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORICAL PHOTO RESTORATION PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Community Preservation Fund (FY2016) Balance Reserved for Historic Resources the sum of \$20,000 to the Ayer Fire Department for the purpose of funding the restoration, replication and digitally archiving of historical fire department photos and frames to be later shared for the public to view; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: To support the Ayer Fire Department in their efforts to restore historical photos and frames for the benefit of the Town and other fire departments globally.

Sponsor:	Community Preservation Committee	ee
Historical Commission:	Recommends	Simple Majority Vote Required
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 20	015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 20	015

ARTICLE 34: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND FY 2016 TRANSFER OF FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Community Preservation Fund FY2016 estimated annual revenues, the sum of \$30,000 and reserve said sum for future appropriation by the Community Preservation Committee for general open space purposes; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Due diligence for future appropriations by the Community Preservation Committee for general open space purposes.

Sponsor:	Community Preservation Committee	
Board of Selectmen:	Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015	
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

GENERAL BUSINESS ARTICLES

ARTICLE 35: PURCHASE AND ACQUISITION OF LAND – 0 PARK STREET

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase, and/or eminent domain, for general municipal and fire station purposes, a parcel of land located at 0 Park Street as identified on Assessors Map 26 as Parcel 20, funding therefore to be derived from existing federal Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) funds; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any and all agreements and execute on behalf of the Town any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purpose of this article; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: 0 Park Street is adjacent to the Fire Station and is needed for the purposes of a permanent flood remediation solution as well as to resolve an easement issue which impacts the Fire Station driveway. The Board of Selectmen have executed a purchase and sales agreement with the private property owners as well as conducted a Phase I Environmental Analysis of the property. Funding would come from the Town's unrestricted UDAG funds. The Fire Chief will make a detailed presentation at Town Meeting. Purchase of the land subject to passage of this article.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 36: ACCEPTANCE OF THE RICHARD T. FLETCHER 1987 TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to accept the gift of funds as specified in the provisions of the Richard T. Fletcher 1987 Trust in accordance with the specific language of the trust, Article Second as follows:

(b) Disposition of Remainder. The remainder of the trust property, including any legacies above which have lapsed, shall be distributed, subject to the following Continuing Trust provision of this ARTICLE SECOND, to such of the following individuals as are then living and in such of the following institutions as are then in existence, in the percentages specified. ...

(16) 5% to the TOWN OF AYER, MASSACHUSETTS, one-fifth thereof for the specific use of each of the following Town Departments:

- (A) Police Department;
- (B) Fire Department and Ambulance Service, in equal shares;
- (C) Junior-Senior High School;
- (D) Planning Board; and
- (E) Historical Commission.

The transfer by the trustees under this Paragraph (16) shall be to the TOWN OF AYER, and it is understood that the funds will be taken into the Town's General Fund as required by law. The Donor wishes, however, that the Town Meeting appropriate the funds equally to the above-specified Departments, to be used by them in addition to their regularly budgeted funds and not in replacement thereof. Any funds so appropriated shall be expended in the discretion of each Department as constituted at the time such funds are made available for expenditure, in each case for the Department's regular Town purposes. If for any reason any portion of this gift is not so appropriated by the Town Meeting or is not otherwise made available to any one or more of the specified Departments, then the Donor wishes that such portion be appropriated equally to the remaining above-specified Departments, to be used in accordance with the Donor's wishes stated above, and that such portion be appropriated equally to the remaining above-specified Departments, to be used in accordance with the Donor's wishes stated above, and otherwise that the Town will use such portion of this gift in a manner that will help reduce the tax rate for its citizens or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Per the terms of the 1987 Richard T. Fletcher Trust, the Ayer Town Meeting needs to formally vote to accept the Trust valued at \$128,089.

Sponsor:

Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 37: ADOPTION OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 40, SECTION 22F

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 22F, to authorize municipal boards and officers to fix reasonable fees for issuance of licenses, permits and certificates and for services rendered or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: The adoption of M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 22F by Town Meeting would authorize

May 2015 Annual Town Meeting Ayer, Massachusetts Page 15 of 19 Town boards and officers to establish reasonable fees for issuance of licenses, permits and certificates and for services rendered within their respective jurisdictions, with the proceeds remaining with the Town.

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	pril 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 38: ELIMINATION OF THE STORMWATER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to eliminate the Stormwater Enterprise Fund effective July 1, 2016, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Upon the vote of the Board of Selectmen on March 24, 2015 at the conclusion of the Stormwater Public Hearing, the Board voted 2-1 to fund the Town's stormwater needs through the General Fund as opposed to an Enterprise Fund

Sponsor:	Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on A	April 21, 2015
Finance Committee:	Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015	Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 39: ACQUISITION OF LAND ON SNAKE HILL ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase, and/or eminent domain, for public open space recreational purposes in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 45, Section 14, or otherwise, and to accept a deed of a fee interest in the following described parcel of land located on the easterly side of Snake Hill Road in the Ridge View Heights Subdivision now or formerly owned by B. Duke Pointer and Richard Roper, and J. Paul Routhier as Trustees of the Ridge View Realty Trust, described as follows:

The parcel of situated in the easterly side of Snake Hill Road, and southerly of land now or formerly of the Boston and Maine Railroad, in Ayer, Middlesex County, Massachusetts and being shown as "Parcel 'H-1' " on a plan entitled: "Plan of Land in Ayer, Mass. Prepared for Crabtree Development, LLC, Scale: 1" = 40', January 2011, David E. Ross Associates, Inc." endorsed by the Ayer Planning Board on February 3, 2011, and recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 64 of 2011. Parcel H-1 contains 43,101 square feet of land according to said plan of land. Reference is hereby made to said plan of land for a more particular description of Parcel H-1.

And to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out such acquisition, including, but not limited to the creation of easements, storm water drainage and snow melt easement areas, the acceptance of public access and egress easements within Snake Hill Road, and licenses for purposes of performing all work related to the storm water drainage features, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

May 2015 Annual Town Meeting Ayer, Massachusetts Page 16 of 19 Explanatory Note: This parcel of land will be developed for public open space recreational purposes.

Sponsor:Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015Finance Committee:Recommends (5-0) on April 21, 2015Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 40. ACCEPTANCE OF DRAINAGE EASEMENTS WITHIN RIDGE VIEW HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain or by any combination of same, or otherwise, for general municipal purposes, including, but not limited to, drainage purposes, easements in the following described lots and parcels of land located on the northerly side of Littleton Road in the Ridge View Heights Subdivision:

Those portions of Lots S, T, U, V and X shown as "Proposed Drainage Easement" on the plan of land entitled: "Plan of Land in Ayer, Mass. Prepared for Crabtree Development, Corp. Scale: 1" = 50', January 2011, David E. Ross Associates, Inc." and recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 1046 of 2007 (which plan has been amended to show Lots T-1, U-1 and V-1 on the plan of land entitled: "Plan of Land in Ayer, Mass. Prepared for Crabtree Development, Corp. Scale: 1" = 20', September 2008, David E. Ross Associates, Inc." and recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 57 of 2009 and amended to show Parcels X-2 and X-3 on the plan of land entitled: "Plan of Land in Ayer, Mass. Surveyed for Crabtree Development, LLC, Scale: 1" = 40', August 2013, David E. Ross Associates, Inc." and recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds as Plan No. 836 of 2013).

And to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out such acquisition, including, but not limited to the creation of easements, and storm water drainage easements, for purposes of performing all work related to the storm water drainage features, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor:

Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 41: BYLAW AMENDMENT: BYLAW XLI AUTOMATIC FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS (Adopted 1/23/92; Amended 5/10/10)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Ayer Bylaw XLI Automatic Fire Alarm Systems by adding the following Bylaw language to be entitled "Section 11 – Rapid Entry Systems for the Fire Department":

SECTION 11 - RAPID ENTRY SYSTEMS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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- A. Any building other than a residential building of fewer than six (6) units which has a fire alarm system or other fire protection system shall provide a secure key box installed in a location accessible to the fire department in the event of an emergency. This key box shall contain the keys to the fire alarm control panels, elevators and any other keys necessary for access to fire protection equipment.
- B. The key box shall be a type approved by the Chief of the Ayer Fire Department or his designee and shall be located and installed as approved by the Chief or his designee.
- C. All existing buildings shall be required to comply within twelve (12) months of the effective date of this bylaw amendment.
- D. All newly constructed buildings regardless of use or occupancy, except residential dwellings under six (6) units, shall install a key box system.

Or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

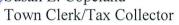
Explanatory Note: This amendment to the bylaw would add the above stated section to the bylaw providing rapid entry systems for the Fire Department in applicable buildings.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen Recommends (3-0) on April 21, 2015

Simple Majority Vote Required

A True Copy Attest:

MARCopland Date April 21, 2015 Susan E. Copeland



As directed in the foregoing warrant, I have this day posted three attested copies in three public places, one of which was the Town Hall at least fourteen days before said meeting, all as herein directed.

Date 19 11 21 015 relient Wid

Richard W. Skoczylas, Constable

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