

COPY OF THE WARRANT  
and  
THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
of the  
FINANCE COMMITTEE



to be acted upon at the

Annual Town Meeting  
Halifax Elementary School  
Monday, May 11, 2015  
7:30 p.m.

Special Town Meeting  
Halifax Elementary School  
Monday, May 11, 2015  
8:00 p.m.

and the

Annual Town Election  
Halifax Elementary School  
Saturday, May 16, 2015  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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*Bring this copy with you to the Town Meeting*

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## "CITIZEN'S CHECK LIST"

To be considered on each vote:

1. ***IS IT NECESSARY?*** Or is it something that is not really needed or perhaps already being provided by a private or public group?
2. ***CAN WE AFFORD IT?*** Remember, there is no limit to what we would like, but there is a limit to what we can afford.
3. ***WHAT WILL IT COST ULTIMATELY?*** Many proposals are like icebergs - only a small fraction of the total cost is apparent on the surface.
4. ***HOW WILL IT AFFECT BASIC LIBERTIES?*** If it imposes unreasonable or illegal restraints on your life or that of others, it should be vigorously opposed.
5. ***IS IT IN THE BALANCED BEST INTEREST OF ALL?*** If it is designed to benefit a small group of special interests, while taking unfair advantage of others, work for its defeat.
6. ***IS IT A "FOOT IN THE DOOR" PROPOSITION?*** Compromising a little now may bring an oppressive burden later, either in more regulations or more taxes or a combination of both.
7. ***DOES IT PLACE TOO MUCH POWER IN THE HANDS OF ONE INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP?*** Once decisive power is granted to a non-elected public official, a commission or a municipal authority, the private citizens lose effective control.
8. ***DOES IT RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE MINORITY?*** This is a cornerstone of our Republic.
9. ***IS ITS APPEAL BASED ON EMOTIONAL PROPAGANDA OR FACTS?*** The farther a proposition gets away from facts, the more critical one should be.
10. ***DOES IT SQUARE WITH YOUR MORAL CONVICTIONS?*** If so, fight for it. If not, oppose it.





**TOWN OF HALIFAX**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Halifax Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen held a joint meeting in November to discuss the overall needs of the Town and the proposed FY16 Town Budget. We agreed to try to maintain the same services provided by the town departments considering the current economic climate (which has not changed over the previous few years) and the ability for the town's residents to afford the property tax bills.

Shortly after that meeting, we were advised to expect large increases in both the Special Education Tuition and Transportation budget lines. These are budget lines that neither the School Committee nor the Town has any control over. At that point it was decided that our budget requests to the town departments needed to be amended to reflect contractual obligation changes only.

Once again, the Finance Committee spent a lot of time discussing the sustainability of the Town of Halifax's budget. In the course of these discussions, major concerns arose among members concerning the Silver Lake total assessment for the three towns increasing at 6.3% year over year. Although there is an overall increase for the three towns, Halifax is not seeing an increase in its share of the assessment due to this year's population drop and a decrease in the net minimum contribution. The Finance Committee is concerned about the ability for the towns to afford the following year's assessment without major cuts to the Silver Lake Regional School system. When looking over the Silver Lake Operating budget please note that it is inclusive of \$516,000 in spending out of the Excess and Deficiency account on a list of capital items for the FY16 budget.

The Finance Committee is recommending spending the Prop 2 ½ increase for this year (\$346,750) as well as the estimated new growth of (\$196,000) and the excess capacity (\$207,633.) This total is an increase of \$750,383 and we are estimating an increase of state aid over last year of \$31,612. For a total recommended increase in spending of \$781,995.

For the largest increases to the budget from last year see Article 4 Line 76 Special Needs Tuitions (\$335,664); Line 74 Elementary – Schools Costs (\$123,561); Line 151 Plymouth County Retirement (\$74,285); Line 126 Veterans Benefits (\$60,000); Line 77 Special Needs Transportation (\$57,960). These 5 items add up to \$651,470 in increased spending.

*If the town meeting votes the Finance Committee recommendations as printed in this warrant.*

Personal & Property Taxes	\$15,196,939.97		
Average Home Value (FY16)	\$276,714	Est. Avg. Tax Bill	\$5,412.53
Average Home Value (FY15)	\$274,774	Avg. Tax Bill	\$5,217.00
Est. FY16 Total Town Value	\$777,136,590		
Est. FY16 Tax Rate (per \$1,000)	\$19.56		

FY2016 – FY2015 = **\$194.57 Increase 3.7%**

The printed budget does not support the Wage and Personal Article 2 across the board wage increase of 1.5%.

We are still facing a large and growing unfunded liability (OPEB) and we are recommending a small contribution \$35,000 to that obligation.

The Finance Committee can only *recommend* a budget; the *actual* 2016 budget will be determined by taxpayer vote at Town Meeting.

Please exercise your right to vote at the Annual Town Meeting on May 11, 2015 at 7PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gordon C Andrews, Chairman  
Nikki Newton, Vice Chairman  
Margaret Fitzgerald, Clerk  
Stuart Hall  
Julianne Crawford  
Linda Braga

**HALIFAX SCHOOL DEPARTMENT  
BUDGET 2015-2016**

	2014 - 2015 BUDGET	2015- 2016 BUDGET	% INCR/DCR
<b>REGULAR DAY</b>			
1100 SCHOOL COMMITTEE	\$23,875.00	\$25,975.00	8.80%
1200 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE	\$134,426.09	\$142,576.38	6.06%
2200 PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE	\$252,792.03	\$259,634.72	2.71%
2300 TEACHING	\$2,822,295.59	\$2,852,781.20	1.08%
2350 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	0.00%
2400 TEXTBOOKS	\$41,000.00	\$35,000.00	-14.63%
2450 INSTR. HARD & SOFTWARE	\$34,663.00	\$27,780.00	-19.86%
2500 LIBRARY	\$52,738.95	\$53,235.56	0.94%
2600 AUDIO VISUAL	\$4,185.00	\$4,185.00	0.00%
3100 ATTENDANCE	\$75.00	\$75.00	0.00%
3200 HEALTH	\$56,967.68	\$58,018.48	1.84%
3310 TRANSPORTATION	\$241,800.00	\$250,872.00	3.75%
3440 FOOD SERVICE	\$1.00	\$1.00	0.00%
4110 CUSTODIAL	\$218,832.70	\$216,996.92	-0.84%
4120 HEATING	\$66,500.00	\$86,500.00	30.08%
4130 UTILITIES	\$73,050.00	\$78,800.00	7.87%
4210 MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS	\$500.00	\$500.00	0.00%
4220 MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS	\$121,500.00	\$126,000.00	3.70%
4230 MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
5300 LEASE	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
7300 ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	\$1,440.00	\$1,058.00	-26.53%
7400 REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	\$8,498.00	\$9,268.20	9.06%
<b>TOTAL REGULAR DAY</b>	<b>\$4,171,140.04</b>	<b>\$4,245,257.46</b>	<b>1.78%</b>
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>			
9221 SUPERVISION	\$48,249.52	\$50,665.13	5.01%
9223 TEACHING	\$621,194.39	\$629,046.27	1.26%
9227 GUIDANCE	\$86,164.28	\$87,007.99	0.98%
9228 PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	\$52,500.00	\$101,970.00	94.23%
9273 ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>\$808,108.19</b>	<b>\$868,689.39</b>	<b>7.50%</b>
<b>LESS: RENTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>(\$11,137.50)</b>	
<b>TOTAL WITHOUT OUT OF DISTRICT SPED</b>	<b>\$4,979,248.23</b>	<b>\$5,102,809.35</b>	<b>2.48%</b>
<b>OUT OF DISTRICT SPED EDUCATION</b>			
9233 TRANSPORTATION	\$387,886.57	\$445,846.62	14.94%
9290 PROGRAMS WITH OTHERS	\$1,107,918.36	\$1,443,582.86	30.30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,495,804.93</b>	<b>\$1,889,429.48</b>	<b>26.32%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,475,053.16</b>	<b>\$6,992,238.83</b>	<b>7.99%</b>
<b>OUT OF DISTRICT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>\$153,000.00</b>	<b>\$159,000.00</b>	<b>3.92%</b>

**SILVER LAKE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BUDGET 2015-2016**

		2014 - 2015 BUDGET	2015 - 2016 BUDGET	% INC/DCR
<b>REGULAR DAY</b>				
1101	SCHOOL COMMITTEE	\$139,350	\$139,350	0.00%
1201	SUPERINTENDENTS' OFFICE	\$981,217	\$1,006,644	2.59%
2101	SUPERVISION	\$690,498	\$721,942	4.55%
2201	PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE	\$856,267	\$871,878	1.82%
2300	TEACHING	\$9,445,724	\$9,710,926	2.81%
2350	PROFESSIONAL DEV.	\$62,400	\$64,900	4.01%
2400	TEXTBOOKS	\$67,401	\$24,914	-63.04%
2450	INST. HARD & SOFTWARE	\$473,643	\$319,064	-32.64%
2500	LIBRARY	\$233,851	\$236,341	1.06%
2600	AUDIO VISUAL	\$10,500	\$9,603	-8.54%
2700	GUIDANCE	\$827,722	\$882,239	6.59%
3200	HEALTH	\$100,539	\$108,050	7.47%
3300	TRANSPORTATION	\$924,588	\$942,543	1.94%
3500	ATHLETICS	\$62,800	\$57,800	-7.96%
4110	CUSTODIAL	\$1,027,489	\$1,049,709	2.16%
4130	UTILITIES	\$888,860	\$922,860	3.83%
4210	MAINTENANCE/GROUNDS	\$121,650	124,750	2.55%
4220	MAINTENANCE/BUILDINGS	\$410,225	\$413,175	0.72%
4230	MAINTENANCE/EQUIPMENT	\$141,750	\$143,600	1.31%
5100	RETIREMENT	\$799,807	\$843,047	5.41%
5200	INSURANCE	\$2,678,528	\$2,802,896	4.64%
5300	LEASE	\$5,880	\$5,880	0.00%
5400	DEBT SERVICE	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
7300	ACQUISITION/EQUIPMENT	\$10,500	\$70,450	570.95%
7400	REPLACEMENT/EQUIPMENT	\$66,200	\$17,698	-73.27%
<b>TOTAL REGULAR DAY</b>		<b>\$21,027,389</b>	<b>\$21,490,258</b>	<b>2.20%</b>
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>				
2210	SUPERVISION	\$270,761	\$274,157	1.25%
2300	TEACHING	\$1,112,656	\$1,121,866	0.83%
2280	PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	\$50,461	\$91,505	81.34%
2330	TRANSPORTATION	\$52,853	\$61,510	16.38%
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>		<b>\$1,486,731</b>	<b>\$1,549,038</b>	<b>4.19%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$22,514,120</b>	<b>\$23,039,296</b>	<b>2.33%</b>
<b>CAPITAL PLAN 2015-2016</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$516,000</b>	



**TOWN OF HALIFAX  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT  
MAY 11, 2015**

*Please note that except for Articles 1 through 4, the actual order in which articles will be voted upon will be determined by lottery under the Town's by-laws, Chapter 47. Articles 1 through 4 will be voted upon first, in that order, then all other articles will be voted in an order based on a lottery. The Moderator, at the Moderator's discretion, shall determine whether an article so chosen is contingent upon any articles yet to be acted upon and, if so, shall determine which articles must be acted upon and in which order before having Town Meeting act on the article chosen. Otherwise, the article numbers shown below are used to identify the articles.*

ARTICLE 1 To hear and act on the reports of the Town Officers and Committees.

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 2 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage and Personnel By-Law as recommended by the Wage and Personnel Board or take any action thereon:

What follows is the list of amendments recommended by the Wage and Personnel Board. A list of other proposed amendments either not voted upon or not recommended is available in the Selectmen's Office, on the Town's website:

[http://www.town.halifax.ma.us/Pages/HalifaxMA\\_Bcomm/Selectmen/townmeetings/town](http://www.town.halifax.ma.us/Pages/HalifaxMA_Bcomm/Selectmen/townmeetings/town)

and at the Town Meeting. The Town's practice is that, in addition to the amendments recommended by the Wage and Personnel Board, these proposals can be brought up at Town Meeting – Charlie Seelig, March 16, 2015.

Except for the following proposed amendments to the Wage and Personnel By-Law, the Wage and Personnel Board recommends that all positions and provisions in the By-Law remain unchanged.

- 1) To grant all non-union Wage and Personnel employees an across the board wage increase of 1.5%.

**(SEE NEXT PAGES)**

**Pay Rate Chart Reflecting 1.5% Increase  
Grades & Steps**

<b>Grade 2</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	13.60	14.32	15.08	15.88	16.70	17.21
To:	13.80	14.53	15.31	16.12	16.95	17.47
<b>Grade 4</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	15.23	15.96	16.72	17.50	18.35	18.90
To:	15.46	16.20	16.97	17.76	18.63	19.18
<b>Grade 6</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	16.95	17.68	18.39	19.16	19.94	20.53
To:	17.20	17.95	18.67	19.45	20.24	20.84
<b>Grade 7</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	18.53	19.25	19.99	20.76	21.55	22.20
To:	18.81	19.54	20.29	21.07	21.87	22.53
<b>Grade 8</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	20.09	20.84	21.56	22.36	23.16	23.86
To:	20.39	21.15	21.88	22.70	23.51	24.22
<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	55,074.00	56,632.00	58,233.00	59,877.00	61,571.00	63,419.00
To:	55,901.00	57,482.00	59,107.00	60,776.00	62,495.00	64,371.00
<b>Grade 11</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	61,647.00	63,228.00	64,850.00	66,510.00	68,216.00	70,262.00
To:	62,572.00	64,177.00	65,823.00	67,508.00	69,240.00	71,316.00
<b>Grade 12</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	72,261.00	73,829.00	75,430.00	77,068.00	78,742.00	81,104.00
Holiday:	3,332.00	3,401.00	3,476.00	3,552.00	3,626.00	3,735.00
Grand Total:	75,593.00	77,230.00	78,906.00	80,620.00	82,368.00	84,839.00
To:	73,345.00	74,936.00	76,562.00	78,224.00	79,923.00	82,321.00
Holiday:	3,382.00	3,452.00	3,528.00	3,605.00	3,681.00	3,791.00
Grand Total:	76,727.00	78,388.00	80,090.00	81,829.00	83,604.00	86,112.00
<b>Grade 14</b>	<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>	<b>Step 6</b>
From:	78,897.00	80,507.00	82,152.00	83,828.00	85,538.00	88,104.00
To:	80,081.00	81,715.00	83,385.00	85,086.00	86,822.00	89,426.00

**Grade "U" Unclassified**

**Administrative Clerical**

Registrar of Voters	From	12.60	To	12.79
Election Workers	From	12.11	To	12.29
Assessing Listers	From	12.08	To	12.26
Water Inspector	From	34.63	To	35.15
Veterans Agent/Service Officer	From	13,968.00	To	14,178.00
Assistant Building Inspector	From	2,011.00	To	2,042.00

**Police Department**

Special Duty Officer	From	22.50	To	22.84
Police Matron	From	16.49	To	16.74

<b>Communications Department</b>		<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	<b>Step 5</b>
Part Time Dispatcher	From:	16.49	17.11	17.73	18.76	19.33
	To:	16.74	17.37	18.00	19.04	19.62
<b><u>Fire Department</u></b>		<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	
Call Firefighter	From:	17.24	17.75	18.29	18.83	
	To:	17.50	18.02	18.56	19.11	
Call Firefighter EMT	From:	18.61	19.17	19.75	20.34	
	To:	18.89	19.46	20.05	20.65	
Call Firefighter EMT-I	From:	18.96	19.53	20.11	20.72	
	To:	19.24	19.82	20.41	21.03	
Call Firefighter EMT-P	From:	19.39	19.97	20.57	21.19	
	To:	19.68	20.27	20.88	21.51	
		<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	
Call Lieutenant	From:	18.65	19.21	19.78	20.38	
	To:	18.93	19.50	20.08	20.69	
Call Lieutenant EMT	From:	20.14	20.74	21.37	22.01	
	To:	20.44	21.05	21.69	22.34	
Call Lieutenant EMT-I	From:	20.51	21.13	21.76	22.41	
	To:	20.82	21.45	22.09	22.75	
Call Lieutenant EMT-P	From:	20.98	21.61	22.26	22.92	
	To:	21.29	21.93	22.59	23.26	
		<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	
Call Captain	From:	20.18	20.79	21.41	22.05	
	To:	20.48	21.10	21.73	22.38	
Call Captain EMT	From:	21.80	22.45	23.12	23.82	
	To:	22.13	22.79	23.47	24.18	
Call Captain EMT-I	From:	22.20	22.87	23.55	24.26	
	To:	22.53	23.21	23.90	24.62	
Call Captain EMT-P	From:	22.70	23.39	24.09	24.81	
	To:	23.04	23.74	24.45	25.18	
		<b>Step 1</b>	<b>Step 2</b>	<b>Step 3</b>	<b>Step 4</b>	
Call Deputy Chief	From:	22.16	22.83	23.51	24.22	
	To:	22.49	23.17	23.86	24.58	
Call Deputy Chief EMT	From:	23.94	24.66	25.39	26.16	
	To:	24.30	25.03	25.77	26.55	
Call Deputy Chief EMT-I	From:	24.38	25.11	25.86	26.64	
	To:	24.75	25.49	26.25	27.04	
Call Deputy Chief EMT-P	From:	24.93	25.68	26.45	27.25	
	To:	25.30	26.07	26.85	27.66	
<b><u>Parks and Recreation</u></b>						
Director/Instructor - 2	From	19.34		To	19.63	
Supervisor	From	15.35		To	15.58	
Assistant/Instructor - 1	From	10.82		To	10.98	
Life Guard	From	14.22		To	14.43	
Aide/Helper	MA Minimum Wage					

**Other**

Recycling Laborer/				
Heavy Equipment Operator	From	21.72	To	22.05
Cemetery Superintendent	From	10,305.00	To	10,460.00
Inspector of Animals	From	2,900.00	To	2,944.00
Sealer of Weights & Measures	From	2,442.00	To	2,479.00

- 2) Under Section 35.14, Letter G, replace the following:

The Board from time to time shall review the work of all positions covered by the plan, such reviews to be scheduled so that all positions will be reviewed at intervals of not more than three years.

With the following:

The Board shall review the work of all positions covered by the plan; such reviews will only be performed at the request of the Department Head and/or Employee.

- 3) Add to the Wage and Personnel By-law, Section 35.16:

(D) All newly appointed employees shall be required to successfully complete a probationary period to begin immediately upon the employee's starting date and to continue for a six (6) month period. The probationary period shall be utilized to help new employees achieve effective performance standards. The probationary period shall be used by the appointing authority to observe and evaluate the employee's conduct, performance, and work habits. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the termination of an employee prior to the conclusion of the probationary period.

- 4) Under Article V – Classification Schedule letter D, Grade 7, replace the following:

(7) Library Director Assistant

With the following:

(7) Assistant Library Director

- 5) Under Article V – Section 35-22.1 E), Grade 8, add the following:

(4) Senior Treatment Plant Operator

- 6) Under Article V, Section 35-22.1 J) Grade U (Unclassified), (5) Other, add the following:

(aa) Seasonal Laborer and assign a wage rate equivalent to a Grade 2, Step 1.

- 7) Under Article V, Section 35-22.1 J) Grade U (Unclassified), (5) Other, replace the following:

(x) Computer Network Manager

With the following:

(x) Technical Support Specialist and assign a wage rate equivalent to a Grade 7, Step 1.

- 8) In Appendix A – Unclassified - Other, replace the following:

Inspector of Animals \$2,900

With the following:

Inspector of Animals \$5,180

- 9) Add the following to the Wage and Personnel By-law, Section 35-33:

All Department Heads are encouraged to provide paid time and, if necessary, costs including fees and transportation, for all employees in their departments to attend at least three (3) hours of training each fiscal year and employees are encouraged to request and attend said training. Said training may be held on-site, on-line, or off-site and may include topics of specific interest to the department and/or topics of interest across some or all departments. Said training shall not incur overtime expenses.

- 10) Add the following to the Wage and Personnel By-law, Section 35-28.1, Access to the non-union sick bank:

11) Any otherwise qualified employee who has either a) exhausted all sick leave and is using sick leave from the sick bank on June 30<sup>th</sup> of a fiscal year; or b) was on sick leave on June 30<sup>th</sup> of a fiscal year and continued to be on sick leave in the following fiscal year until all sick leave was exhausted shall remain eligible for grants of sick leave from the Sick Leave Bank Board in the following fiscal year.

Proposed by the Wage and Personnel Board

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to determine the salaries of several elective Town Officers, July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 or take any action thereon:

	<u>2012-2013</u>	<u>2013-2014</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>	<u>2015-2016</u>
Moderator	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Town Clerk	\$36,741	\$37,293	\$37,853	\$47,316
Selectmen (ea)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Treasurer-Collector	\$62,945	\$63,890	\$64,849	\$64,849
Assessors (ea)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
Highway Surveyor	\$66,779	\$67,781	\$68,798	\$68,798

Proposed by the Finance Committee

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 4 Operating Budget.

To determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, to defray charges and expenses to the Town, including debts and interest or take any action thereon.

**(SEE NEXT PAGES)**

Proposed by the Finance Committee

**Finance Committee Recommends**

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16
<b>General Government</b>					
1	Moderator – Salary	200	200	200	200
2	Selectmen - Salary	4,500	4,500	4,500	4,500
3	Town Administrator - Salary	85,768	87,051	88,357	88,604
4	Selectmen - Clerical	65,384	69,998	69,559	72,401
5	Selectmen - Expense	4,141	3,730	4,100	4,100
6	Law	41,792	35,177	42,200	42,200
7	Town Hall - Electricity	12,099	12,802	12,800	14,900
8	Town Reports	6,877	7,194	5,600	5,700
9	Audit	18,500	23,000	20,000	20,000
10	Finance Committee - Clerical	2,036	3,039	4,433	4,661
11	Finance Committee - Expense	316	352	359	359
12	Accountant - Salary	64,808	67,457	70,769	70,762
13	Accountant - Clerical	45,175	46,165	46,858	47,032
14	Accountant - Expense	1,498	801	1,625	1,625
15	Data Processing	43,392	45,077	60,000	70,760
16	Assessors - Salary	4,500	4,218	4,500	4,500
17	Principal Assessor/Appraiser	68,200	70,909	62,229	63,829
18	Assessors - Clerical	71,174	62,485	65,038	62,169
19	Assessors - Expense	9,852	9,560	10,900	13,750
20	Office Machines - Expense	7,059	4,506	7,700	7,500
21	Treasurer - Clerical	50,557	54,491	57,226	59,760
22	Treasurer - Expense	4,976	4,399	6,500	6,500
23	Treasurer - Tax Title	1,972	1,242	2,500	2,500

(A)

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16
24	Treasurer - Banking & Payroll Expense	5,985	6,005	6,100	6,200
25	Clerk - Salary	36,741	37,293	37,853	47,316
26	Clerk - Clerical	29,143	25,559	30,960	32,648
27	Clerk - Expense	4,144	5,321	5,370	5,370
28	Elections and Registration	19,388	9,276	14,337	12,910
29	Treasurer-Collector Salary	62,945	63,890	64,849	64,849
30	Collector - Clerical	60,936	61,871	60,221	63,242
31	Collector - Expense	12,521	14,700	12,922	14,850
32	Wage and Personnel - Clerical	2,162	2,272	4,620	4,843
33	Wage and Personnel - Expense	235	229	250	250
34	Recruitment and Employment Costs	5,975	3,248	6,000	7,500
35	Conservation Commission - Expense	741	903	1,225	1,225
36	Conservation Commission - Agent	708	0	0	0
37	Planning Board - Expense	160	667	2,109	2,109
38	Board of Appeals - Expense	820	840	825	825
39	Regulatory - Clerical	61,303	64,776	68,378	69,496
40	Building Committee - Clerical	10,364	10,560	10,720	10,758
41	Building Committee - Expense	379	438	450	450
42	Town Buildings - Custodial	137,803	143,199	161,732	164,990
43	Town Buildings - Expense	54,924	59275	31,467	30,850
43A	Town Buildings – Preventative Maintenance			31,750	43,240
44	Town Buildings - Snow & Ice Expense	379	0	3,000	3,000
	<b>Total General Government</b>	1,122,532	1,128,675	1,203,091	1,255,233



Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16
	<b>Public Safety - Police</b>				
45	Police - Chief Salary	119,162	96,500	98,420	100,629
46	Police - Wages	818,189	811,744	911,492	938,585
47	Police - Training	4,368	8,338	8,700	8,700
48	Police - Clerical	41,454	42,877	42,875	43,031
49	Police - Expense	73,764	57,630	62,485	62,485
50	Police - Station Maintenance	17,732	18,421	19,173	24,100
51	Police - Cruiser Maintenance	13,697	11,345	14,000	14,000
	<b>Total Police</b>	1,088,366	1,046,855	1,157,145	1,191,530
	<b>Public Safety - Fire</b>				
52	Fire - Chief Salary	95,200	104,102	98,919	101,664
53	Fire - Clerical	37,449	38,124	38,844	38,979
54	Fire - Wages	554,231	560,835	587,955	587,955
55	Fire - Retainers/Incentives	7,906	0	0	0
56	Fire - Training	47,889	52,784	57,627	57,627
57	Fire - Expense	26,553	29,018	30,000	30,000
58	Fire - Station Maintenance	11,410	11,686	11,783	13,533
59	Fire - Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance	24,908	27,435	24,065	24,065
60	Fire - Medical Supplies	14,998	15,764	15,000	20,000
61	Ambulance Billing	6,416	6,928	7,500	7,500
	<b>Total - Fire</b>	826,960	846,676	871,693	881,323

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16
<b>Public Safety - Other Public Safety</b>					
62	Emergency Management	1,449	392	1,545	1,545
63	Building Inspector - Wages	61,807	62,731	63,672	58,233
64	Building Inspector, Assistant - Wages	1,951	1,981	2,011	2,011
65	Building Inspector - Expense	4,345	4,740	4,750	4,750
66	Sealer of Weights and Measures - Salary	2,300	2,405	2,442	2,442
67	Sealer of Weights and Measures - Expense	416	567	802	612
68	Animal Control Officer - Salary	3,104	11,911	16,908	16,908 (B)
69	Animal Control Officer - Expense	1,987	2,841	4,616	4,616 (B)
	<b>Total Other Public Safety</b>	77,359	87,568	96,546	87,958
70	Communications Center - Wages	217,766	261,682	273,436	281,336
71	Communications Center - Clerical	3,101	946	0	0
72	Communications Center - Expense	2,171	2,583	2,500	3,000
	<b>Total Communications</b>	223,038	265,211	275,936	284,336
	<b>Total Public Safety</b>	2,215,723	2,245,310	2,401,320	2,445,147
<b>Schools</b>					
74	Elementary School	4,684,473	4,936,191	4,979,249	5,102,810
75	Vocational Education	68,310	111,652	153,000	159,000
76	Special Needs - Tuition	1,142,405	1,193,673	1,107,919	1,443,583
77	Special Needs - Transportation	279,658	315,487	387,887	445,847
78	Silver Lake Assessment	3,939,451	4,047,897	4,165,867	4,127,189

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16
79	Silver Lake Assessment - Debt	518,487	535,771	550,882	529,728 (C)
	<b>Total Schools</b>	10,632,784	11,140,671	11,344,804	11,808,157
	<b>Public Works - Highway</b>				
80	Highway - Surveyor Salary	66,779	67,781	68,798	68,798
81	Highway - Wages	260,947	266,358	283,433	284,110
82	Highway - Clerical	33,747	35,037	38,583	38,981
83	Highway - Expense	5,020	4,834	4,971	4,971
84	Highway - Barn Maintenance	9,270	9,228	10,100	10,100
85	Highway - Equipment	55,735	45,344	48,500	48,500
86	Highway - Town Roads	73,418	70,645	74,355	74,355
87	Highway - Snow and Ice	177,307	177,262	177,509	177,509
88	Street Lights	21,184	21,549	21,945	27,300
89	Traffic Lights	5,178	4,056	5,500	5,500
90	Tree Warden Salary	0	0	1	1
91	Tree Maintenance	3,213	3,496	3,500	3,500
92	Insect and Pest Control	0	0	1	1
	<b>Total - Highway</b>	711,798	705,590	737,196	743,626
	<b>Public Works - Cemetery</b>				
93	Cemetery - Superintendent Salary	10,001	10,152	10,305	10,305
94	Cemetery - Wages	65,047	65,549	67,609	67,809
95	Cemetery - Supplies and Equipment	5,201	5,260	5,770	5,770
	<b>Total - Cemetery</b>	80,249	80,961	83,684	83,884

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16	
<b>Public Works - Water</b>						
96	Water - Superintendent Salary	73,077	75,636	65,977	67,636	
97	Water - Wages	173,702	168,935	174,315	188,895	
98	Water - Clerical	41,604	42,410	43,766	43,920	
99	Water - Supply	149,759	155,909	167,432	182,100	
100	Water - Distribution	1,473	0	0	0	
101	Water - Insurance	23,961	41,219	49,200	50,237	
102	Water - Retirement	5,411	6,452	11,000	13,000	
103	Water - Legal Fees	313	0	1,500	1,500	
104	Water - Meters	19,805	19,980	20,000	25,000	
105	Water - Gas & Oil	11,358	11,608	13,750	13,750	
106	Water - Vehicle/Equipment Maintenance	5,028	6,704	7,500	9,000	
107	Water - Tower/Wells Maintenance	23,126	19,547	25,000	25,000	
	<b>Total - Water</b>	528,617	548,400	579,440	620,038	(D)
<b>Public Works - Solid Waste Management</b>						
108	Recycling Office - Clerical	25,232	25,752	26,831	27,218	
109	Recycling Office - Expense	2,274	2,146	2,610	2,890	
110	Recycling Center - Wages	67,344	67,505	71,009	78,442	
111	Recycling Center - Expense	19,239	23,589	37,685	24,400	
112	Hazardous Waste Collection	3,849	8,332	9,800	12,335	
113	Trash Collection/Disposal	188,635	188,088	215,356	219,902	
	<b>Total Solid Waste Management</b>	306,573	315,412	363,291	365,187	(E)
	<b>Total Public Works</b>	1,627,237	1,650,363	1,763,611	1,812,735	

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16
<b>Health and Human Services</b>					
114	Board of Health – Clerical	38,266	39,277	39,872	39,872
115	Board of Health – Expense	4,353	3,646	7,455	7,395
116	Board of Health – Inspections	61,707	62,631	63,669	63,669
117	Board of Health - Nursing Service	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
118	Landfill – Engineering & Monitoring	10,739	12,700	14,047	14,047
119	Inspector of Animals	2,814	2,857	2,900	2,900
120	Council on Aging – Wages	143,950	150,056	169,443	173,263
121	Council on Aging – Expense	8,448	8,785	8,880	8,880
122	Pope's Tavern – Electricity	2,223	2,043	2,200	2,500
123	Veterans' Agent – Salary	9,347	13,761	13,968	13,968
124	Veterans' Agent - Expense	703	819	1,269	1,269
125	Veterans' Service Officer	1,082	0	0	0
126	Veterans' Benefits	98,648	117,350	130,000	190,000
127	Housing Authority	0	0	1	1
128	ADA Expense	0	0	1	1
	<b>Total Health and Human Services</b>	389,280	480,925	461,705	524,765
<b>Culture and Recreation</b>					
129	Library - Director Salary	50,395	58,167	60,709	62,481
130	Library - Wages	137,222	153,149	160,656	161,758
131	Library - Expense	93,044	84,367	84,953	84,953
132	Youth and Recreation - Wages	13,042	13,233	13,437	14,437
133	Youth and Recreation - Expense	13,216	9,994	13,216	13,216

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16	
134	Youth and Recreation - Director	15,747	15,983	16,224	16,224	
135	Parks - Wages	0	0	104	100	
136	Parks - Expense	442	287	450	450	
137	Cable Television	0	0	1	1	
138	Patriotic Celebrations	0	0	500	400	
139	Historical Commission	2,052	1,683	2,499	2,499	
140	Historic District Commission	201	560	446	446	
141	Holidays in Halifax	3,284	3,395	3,395	3,395	
142	Beautification Committee - Expense	0	0	500	500	
143	Website Committee - Expense	4,082	4,082	2,950	3,050	
	<b>Total Culture and Recreation</b>	332,727	344,900	360,040	363,910	
	<b>Debt Service</b>					
144	Debt - Water Extension Project	99,345	96,075	92,700	89,250	(F)
145	Debt - School/Library Project	310,338	0	0	0	
146	Debt - Police Station	159,570	153,630	147,555	141,345	(G)
147	Debt - Water Pollution Abatement Trust	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400	(I)
148	Debt - Water Pollution Abatement Trust II	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	(J)
149	Debt - Landfill Capping	134,469	126,000	122,625	118,688	(H)(K)
150	Interest on Temporary Loans	6,282	0	5,000	5,000	
	<b>Total Debt Service</b>	730,404	396,105	388,280	374,683	
	<b>Fixed Costs</b>					
151	Plymouth County Retirement	840,177	874,375	934,616	1,008,901	(L)

Item#	Account Description	Expended FY13	Expended FY14	Budget FY15	Recommended FY16
152	Group Insurance - Town Share	874,745	862,162	882,460	887,560
153	Medicare - Town Share	103,319	107,636	104,935	106,865
154	Insurance	252,618	244,381	253,300	254,000
155	Telephone	28,836	26,068	29,200	29,200
156	Gas & Oil - All Departments	149,381	129,365	140,650	140,650
157	Heating - All Buildings	45,371	49,674	78,650	78,650
	<b>Total Fixed Costs</b>	2,294,447	2,293,661	2,423,811	2,505,826
	<b>Total Operating Costs</b>	19,345,134	19,680,610	20,791,662	21,090,456
(A)	From Solid Waste Revenue	6,167	6,333	6,666	6,666
(A)	From Water Fund/Revenue	6,167	6,333	6,666	6,666
(B)	From Dog Fund	16,411	16,411	21,274	21,524
(C)	Under Debt Exclusion	518,487	535,771	550,882	529,728
(D)	From Water Fund/Revenue	528,617	548,400	579,440	620,038
(E)	From Solid Waste Fund Revenue	306,573	315,412	363,291	365,187
	From Solid Waste Fund Retained Earnings			215,356	21,447
(F)	From Water Retained Earnings	99,345	96,075	92,700	89,250
(G)	Under Debt Exclusion	159,570	153,630	147,555	141,345
(H)	Under Debt Exclusion	134,469	126,000	122,625	118,688
(I)	From Abatement Trust Revenue	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400
(J)	From Abatement Trust Revenue	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
(K)	From Fund Balance Reserved for Bond Premium		754	683	601
(L)	From Water Fund/Revenue	45,000	46,000	46,000	46,000

ARTICLE 5 To see if the Town will vote to continue the following Revolving Funds for certain Town departments under the Massachusetts General Laws or regulations cited for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 or take any action thereto.

Revolving Fund	Authorized to Spend Fund	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY2016 Spending Limit
Conservation Commission	Conservation Commission	Fees for review of permits, postage and advertising	Consulting Services, postage and ads	\$20,000
Board of Health Consulting	Board of Health	Fees for review of permits	Consulting services	\$30,000
Recycling bins	Highway Surveyor	Fees for purchase of bins	Purchase of bins	\$5,000
Earth Removal Review	Board of Selectmen	Fees for review of permits	Consulting services	\$15,000
Planning Board Consulting	Planning Board	Fees for review of permits	Consulting services	\$50,000
Building Inspector Consulting	Building Inspector	Fees for review of permits	Consulting services	\$15,000
Youth & Recreation Programs	Youth and Recreation	Fees for Programs	Youth and Recreation Programs	\$80,000
CPR Classes	Fire Chief	Fees for Classes	CPR instructors and materials	\$5,000
ZBA Consulting	Zoning Board of Appeals	Fees for review of permits, postage and advertising	Consulting services, postage, legal ads	\$15,000
Library computer, printers and copier	Library Director	Computer/printer/copier fees	Computer/printer/copier supplies	\$5,000
Selectmen Legal Advertising	Board of Selectmen	Payments for Legal ads	Legal ads	\$1,500
COA Elderbus	Council on Aging	Transportation fees & donations	Elderbus operation including wages	\$10,000
Inspector Wages	Building Inspector	Fees for permits	80% for plumbing, gas and wiring inspectors wages; remainder to general fund	\$50,000
Concession Stand	Board of Selectmen	Use, lease and utility payments	Maintenance, repairs, replacement, utility costs	\$10,000
Solar Projects	Board of Selectmen	Fees and payments from project applicants	Consulting and legal costs	\$10,000

In all cases, all the revolving funds are authorized under MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

**Finance Committee Recommends**



ARTICLE 6 To see if the Town will vote to establish a Revolving Fund under the jurisdiction of the Library Director in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws to pay for any lost and/or damaged items belonging to the Holmes Public Library; all revenues derived from any payments for these items are to be deposited in said fund and the Board of Library Trustees is authorized to expend money from said fund, and said fund to have a spending limit of \$1,000 or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Library Trustees

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$75,000 to the Reserve Fund to cover extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures during Fiscal Year 2016 in accordance with Chapter 40, Section 6 of the Massachusetts General Laws, and to transfer from available funds the sum of \$25,000 to the Water Department Reserve Fund or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 between IAFF, Local 3159 (Firefighters) and the Town of Halifax, specifically adding the title of full-time lieutenant to the list of positions covered under the agreement or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 between IAFF, Local 3159 (Firefighters) and the Town of Halifax other than the provisions in Article 7 or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 10 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 between AFSCME AFL-CIO Union Council 93, Local 1700 (Dispatchers) and the Town of Halifax or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 between AFSCME AFL-CIO Union Council 93, Local 1700 (Highway/Cemetery) and the Town of Halifax or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 12 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 between IBPO, Local 309 (Sergeants) and the Town of Halifax or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement for Fiscal Year 2016 between the Halifax Association of Police Patrolmen and the Town of Halifax or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 14 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$150 for the use of the Trustees for County Cooperative Extension Service and authorize the Selectmen to appoint a Town Director within fifteen days as provided in revised Chapter 128, Section 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 15 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$142,000 to pay for a public access studio and programming for Fiscal Year 2016 and to establish a separate annual line item for this purpose.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 16 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$0 to meet the Town's share and to appropriate the sum of \$270,025 from available funds under Chapter 11 of the Acts of 2015 as the State's share of the cost of work under Chapter 90, Section 34(2)(a) of the General Laws, for the purposes as set forth in the memorandum of agreement with the Massachusetts Highway Department including maintaining, repairing, improving, and constructing town and county ways and bridges, sidewalks adjacent to said ways and bridges, bike ways and other projects eligible for funding as a "transportation enhancement project" as described in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, P.L. 102-240, salt storage sheds, public use off-street parking facilities related to mass transportation, for engineering services and expenses related to highway transportation enhancement and mass transportation purposes, for care, repair, storage, purchase, and long-term leasing of road building machinery, equipment and tools, and for the erection and maintenance of direction signs and warning signs or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 17 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$150,000.00 for the maintenance of Town roads or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 18 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,500 to support South Coastal Counties Legal Services, Inc.'s continued free legal services in civil matters to elders, low-income families and their children, or take any action thereon.

Proposed by Carl Tolman, et al

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 19 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,500 to support South Shore Women's Resource Center for domestic violence intervention and prevention services for its residents, or take any action thereon.

Proposed by Ida Hathaway, et al

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 20 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,500 to support South Shore Community Action Council's work with residents in Halifax, or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 21 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$500,000 to pay additional costs for repairing, repainting and renovating the Halifax Water Department water tower in addition to the appropriation of \$1,100,000 from Article 18 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 14, 2012 otherwise take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 22 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000 for the Assessors FY2017 Triennial Revaluation Account or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 23 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$335 to pay for annual licensing fees to pay copyrighted music, recorded or live, on Town property, and to establish an annual line item for this purpose, or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Halifax Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 24 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$300 to pay patriotic and holiday banners and associated materials and equipment and installation of same or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Halifax Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 25 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,599 to purchase an HP printer Model #M725DN or equivalent for the Assessors' Department or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 26 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$80,000 to purchase and equip with miscellaneous police equipment two (2) new marked police vehicles to be used for patrol, or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Police Chief

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 27 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,800 to purchase and install a telephone in the Town Hall elevator or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 28 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,785 to purchase a staff laptop computer for the Children's Librarian, two desktop computers and public use scanner or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Library Trustees

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 29 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$35,000 to the "Other Post Employment Benefits Liabilities Irrevocable Trust Fund" or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 30 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$26,200 for computer equipment for the Halifax Elementary School including two network switches, one drive array/storage unit, two printers and one air conditioner for the School's computer room or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Elementary School Committee

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 31 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$216,000 to purchase and configure a recycling truck and associated recycling receptacles or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 32 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to contract with a consultant to review the Town's property and liability insurance policies and make recommendations for any changes or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 33 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 to purchase and install a new furnace in the Halifax Town Hall or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 34 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$9,800 to replace the windows in the Municipal and School Building Committee/Water Department building or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 35 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 to repair the aerial man lift or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 36 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,620 to purchase an iPad and associated software for the Municipal and School Building Committee or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 37 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$9,200 to sealcoat, fill cracks, and stripe the parking lots of Town Hall or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 38 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$9,500 to repair and paint the bay ceilings in the Halifax Fire Station or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 39 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$6,350 to replace flooring in the Halifax Highway Barn or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 40 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000 to replace and repair radios and pagers at the Halifax Fire Department or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Fire Chief  
**Finance Committee Recommends**

ARTICLE 41 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$15,000 to purchase new turn-out gear for the Halifax Fire Department or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Fire Chief  
**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 42 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$4,750 to purchase ice rescue equipment for the Halifax Fire Department or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Fire Chief  
**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 43 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$30,000 to purchase a new monitor and defibrillators for the Halifax Fire Department or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Fire Chief  
**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 44 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$15,000 to purchase eight automated external defibrillators for the Halifax Fire and Police Departments or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Fire Chief and Police Chief  
**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**



ARTICLE 45 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow \$750,000 to purchase or lease to own for a term of up to or more than five years at \$154,767.17 per year and to fully equip an aerial platform truck for use by the Halifax Fire Department, and to authorize the Fire Department or the Board of Selectmen to enter into a purchase or lease/purchase agreement on such terms and conditions as the Board deems in the best interest of the Town, and to take other action as necessary to effectuate the purposes of this vote; or take any action relating thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 46 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$7,500 for additional hours for the Conservation Commission secretary for wetlands protection work and review or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 47 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,500 for a new computer at Pope's Tavern/Halifax Council on Aging or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Council on Aging

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 48 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,000 for a new office phone system for Pope's Tavern/Halifax Council on Aging or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Council on Aging

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 49 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,350 to create computer network, interface and backup system for Pope's Tavern/Halifax Council on Aging or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Council on Aging

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 50 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$10,000 to replace and install new windows at the Halifax Recycling Center or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Municipal and School Building Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 51 To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 16G ½ which would establish a stabilization fund for the Silver Lake Regional School District or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Silver Lake Regional School Committee  
**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 52 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Halifax, Chapter 167-15 (Zoning – Floodplain District regulations) by replacing the current paragraph A:

A. Floodplain District. The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The underlying permitted uses are allowed, provided that they meet the following additional requirements, as well as those of the Massachusetts State Building Code dealing with construction in floodplains. The Floodplain District includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Halifax designated as Zone A, and A1 to A30AE, on the Town of Halifax, Plymouth County Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and the Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The map panels of the Plymouth County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Halifax are panel numbers 25023C0194J, 25023C0213J, 25023C0214J, 25023C0218J, 25023C0306J, 25023C0307J, 25023C0308J, 25023C0309J, 25023C0326J, 25023C0327J and 25023C0328J, dated July 17, 2012. The exact boundaries of the District may be defined by the one-hundred-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Plymouth County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, dated July 17, 2012, on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board and Building Inspector. These maps, as well as the accompanying Town of Halifax Plymouth County Flood

Insurance Study, are incorporated herein by reference. The Floodplain District is shown as an overlay district on the Town of Halifax Zoning Map.

With the following:

- A. Floodplain District. The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The underlying permitted uses are allowed, provided that they meet the following additional requirements, as well as those of the Massachusetts State Building Code dealing with construction in floodplains. The Floodplain District includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Halifax designated as Zone A, and A1 to A30AE, on the Town of Halifax, Plymouth County Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) and the Flood Boundary and Floodway Maps issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The map panels of the Plymouth County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Halifax are panel numbers 25023C0194J, 25023C0213J, 25023C0214J, 25023C0218J, ~~25023C0306J, 25023C0307J,~~ ~~25023C0308J, 25023C0309J,~~ 25023C0326J, 25023C0327J and 25023C0328J, dated July 17, 2012 and panel numbers 25023C0306K, 25023C0307K, 25023C0308K, and 25023C0309K, dated July 16, 2015. The exact boundaries of the District may be defined by the one-hundred-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Plymouth County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report, dated ~~July 17, 2012~~ July 16, 2015, on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board and Building Inspector. These maps, as well as the accompanying Town of Halifax Plymouth County Flood Insurance Study, are incorporated herein by reference. The Floodplain District is shown as an overlay district on the Town of Halifax Zoning Map.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 53 To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5K, allowing the Board of Selectmen to establish a property work-off program for taxpayers over 60 years old, said program to begin on July 1, 2015 (Fiscal Year 2016) or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Council on Aging

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 54 To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 81U, paragraph 12 which reads as follows:

In any town which accepts the provisions of this paragraph, the proceeds of any such bond or deposit shall be made available to the town for expenditure to meet the cost and expenses of the municipality in completing the work as specified in the approved plan. If such proceeds do not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, the expenditure may be made without specific appropriation under Section 53 of Chapter 44; provided, however, that such expenditure is approved by the Board of Selectmen. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to cities or to towns having town councils or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Planning Board

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 55 To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$118,296.31 or the full amount of the security deposit for the Two River Farms subdivision in order to perform work on the roads and associated infrastructure of the Two River Farms subdivision as allowed under MGL Chapter 41, Section 81U, paragraph 12 or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Planning Board

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 56 To see if the Town will vote amend Chapter 167-28, paragraph A of the Code of the Town of Halifax which reads:

A. Applicants shall submit an original and eight (8) copies of their site plan to the Town Clerk, who shall give the applicant a dated receipt. Within four (4) days, the Town Clerk shall transmit one (1) copy each to the

Planning Board, the Board of Health, the Building Inspector, the Highway Surveyor, the Water Commissioners, the Zoning Administrator, the Board of Appeals and the Conservation Commission and shall transmit written notice of the availability of the plans to the Fire and Police Departments. Within thirty (30) days of filing such application, the review boards and officers shall evaluate the application and the site plan with regard to the conditions and standards set forth in this chapter and related agency regulations and policies and shall submit comments to the Planning Board.

And replace it with the following:

- A. Applicants shall submit an original and ~~eight (8)~~ nine (9) copies of their site plan to the Town Clerk, who shall give the applicant a dated receipt. Within four (4) days, the Town Clerk shall transmit one (1) copy each to the Planning Board, the Board of Health, the Building Inspector, the Highway Surveyor, the Water Commissioners, the Zoning Administrator, the Board of Appeals, ~~and~~ the Conservation Commission and the Board of Selectmen and shall transmit written notice of the availability of the plans to the Fire and Police Departments. Within thirty (30) days of filing such application, the review boards and officers shall evaluate the application and the site plan with regard to the conditions and standards set forth in this chapter and related agency regulations and policies and shall submit comments to the Planning Board or take any action thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 57 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Halifax by adding the following:

Chapter 55-3 Use of e-cigarettes

The use of e-cigarettes and like devices is prohibited with buildings and structures owned by the Town of Halifax, within 100 feet of the entrances to said buildings and structures, and any other property owned by the Town where the smoking of tobacco products is prohibited.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 58 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Halifax by amending Chapter 156-2 (Trailers – Hearing upon renewal; notice) by replacing the current Chapter 156-2:

Before approval for a renewal is given, a public hearing shall be held by the Selectmen. Two notices of such hearing shall be given by the Board of Selectmen, at the expense of the applicant, at least ten (10) days prior thereto by an advertisement in an official publication of, or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Halifax. A copy of said notice shall be given to the applicant who shall notify, by certified mail, all owners on land directly abutting said location, including those across the street, as appearing in the most recent tax list certified by the Board of Assessors. Proof of notice to the abutters must be provided by the applicant to the Board no later than at the time of the public hearing. If a renewal is granted by the Selectmen, the Board can extend that renewal for an additional ninety (90) days without requiring another public hearing.

With the following:

Before approval for a renewal is given, a public hearing shall be held by the Selectmen. Two notices of such hearing shall be given by the Board of Selectmen, at the expense of the applicant, at least ten (10) days prior thereto by an advertisement in an official publication of, or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Halifax. A copy of said notice shall be given to the applicant who shall notify, by certified mail, all owners on land directly abutting said location, including those across the street, as appearing in the most recent tax list certified by the Board of Assessors. Proof of notice to the abutters must be provided by the applicant to the Board no later than at the time of the public hearing. ~~If a renewal is granted by the Selectmen, the Board can extend that renewal for an additional 90 days without requiring another public hearing.~~

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 59 To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 21A which reads as follows:

Section 21A. In any city or town which accepts this section, an assessor or assistant assessor who has completed the necessary courses of study and training and has been awarded a certificate by the International Association of Assessing Officers as a certified assessment evaluator or who has been awarded a certificate by the Association of Massachusetts Assessors as a certified Massachusetts assessor shall receive as compensation from such city or town, in addition to the regular compensation paid by such city or town for services in such office, an amount equal to ten per cent of such regular compensation; provided, however, that in no event shall such additional compensation exceed one thousand dollars annually, if such assessor or assistant assessor is employed on a full-time basis, or five hundred dollars, if such assessor or assistant assessor is employed on a part-time basis. An assessor who has been awarded both certificates referred to above shall receive such additional compensation for only one of such certificates. In order to qualify for such additional compensation, an assessor or assistant assessor shall submit proof that he has been awarded either or both of the aforesaid certificates to the mayor or the board of selectmen of such city or town. The additional compensation herein provided shall be prorated for any twelve (12) month period in which an eligible person does not hold the office of assessor or assistant assessor for twelve consecutive months.

Said acceptance to go into effect on July 1, 2015

Or take any other action thereon.

Proposed by Board of Assessors

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 60 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,000 to implement the acceptance of MGL Chapter 59, Section 21A or take any other action thereon.

Proposed by Board of Assessors

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 61 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Halifax, Chapter 112-4 (Junk Dealers and Collectors – Expiration of License; Revocation) by replacing the current Chapter 112-4:

Each license under this chapter shall expire on April 30<sup>th</sup> following the date of issuance and may be revoked by the Selectmen at any time at their discretion.

With the following:

Each license under this chapter shall expire on ~~April 30<sup>th</sup>~~ December 31<sup>st</sup> following the date of issuance and may be revoked by the Selectmen at any time at their discretion.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 62 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Halifax by adding the following:

Right to Farm By-Law

Section 1 Legislative Purpose and Intent

The purpose and intent of this By-law is to state with emphasis the Right to Farm accorded to all citizens of the Commonwealth under Article 97, of the Constitution, and all state statutes and regulations there under including but not limited to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40A, Section 3, Paragraph 1; Chapter 90, Section 9, Chapter 111, Section 125A and Chapter 128, Section 1A. We the citizens of Halifax restate and republish these rights pursuant to the Town's authority conferred by Article 89 of the Articles of Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution, ("Home Rule Amendment").

This General By-law encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agriculture-based economic opportunities, and protects farmland within the Town of Halifax by allowing agricultural uses and related activities to function with minimal conflict with abutters and Town agencies. This By-law shall apply to all jurisdictional areas within Town.

Section 2 Definitions

The word "farm" shall include any parcel or contiguous parcels of land, or water bodies used for the primary purpose of commercial or non commercial agricultural, or accessory thereto.

The words "farming" or "agriculture" or their derivatives shall include, but not be limited to the following:



- Farming in all its branches and the cultivation and tillage of the soil; dairying;
- Production, cultivation, growing, and harvesting of any agricultural, aquacultural, floricultural, viticultural, or horticultural commodities;
- Growing and harvesting of forest products upon forest land, and any other forest or lumbering operations;
- Raising of livestock including horses;
- Keeping of horses as a commercial enterprise or for personal non commercial use; and keeping and raising of poultry, swine, cattle, ratties (such as emus, ostriches and rheas) and camelids (such as llamas and camels), and other domesticated animals for food and other agricultural purposes, including bees and fur-bearing animals.
- "Farming" shall encompass activities including, but not limited to, the following:
  - Operation and transportation of slow-moving farm equipment over roads within the Town;
  - Control of pests, including, but not limited to, insects, weeds, predators and disease organisms of plant and animals;
  - Application of manure, fertilizers and pesticides;
  - Conducting agriculture-related educational and farm-based recreational activities, including agritourism provided that the activities are related to marketing the agricultural output or services of the farm;
  - Processing and packaging of the agricultural output of the farm and the operation of a farmer's market or farm stand including signage thereto;
  - Maintenance, repair, or storage of seasonal equipment, or apparatus owned or leased by the farm owner or manager used expressly for the purpose of propagation, processing, management, or sale of the agricultural products; and
  - On-farm relocation of earth and the clearing of ground for farming operations.

### Section 3 Right To Farm Declaration

The Right to Farm is hereby recognized to exist within the Town of Halifax. The above described agricultural activities may occur on holidays, weekdays, and weekends by night or day and shall include the attendant incidental noise, odors, dust, and fumes associated with normally accepted

agricultural practices. It is hereby determined that whatever impact may be caused to others through the normal practice of agriculture is more than offset by the benefits of farming to the neighborhood, community, and society in general. The benefits and protections of this By-law are intended to apply exclusively to those commercial agricultural and farming operations and activities conducted in accordance with generally accepted agricultural practices. Moreover, nothing in this Right to Farm By-law shall be deemed as acquiring any interest in land, or as imposing any land use regulation, which is properly the subject of state statute, regulation, or local zoning law.

#### Section 4 Disclosure Notification

Within thirty (30) days after this By-law becomes effective, the Select Board shall prominently post in the Town Hall and make available for distribution the following disclosure:

"It is the policy of this community to conserve, protect and encourage the maintenance and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food, and other agricultural products, and also for its natural and ecological value. This disclosure notification is to inform buyers and occupants that the property they are about to acquire or occupy lies within a town where farming activities occur. Such farming activities may include, but are not limited to, activities that cause noise, dust and odors. Buyers and occupants are also informed that the location of property within the Town may be impacted by commercial agricultural operations including the ability to access water services for such property under certain circumstances."

In addition to the above, copies of this disclosure notification shall be available in a public area at the Town Hall.

#### Section 5 Resolution of Disputes

Any person who seeks to complain about the operation of a farm may, notwithstanding pursuing any other available remedy, file a grievance with the Select Board, the Zoning Enforcement Officer, or the Board of Health, depending upon the nature of the grievance. The filing of the grievance does not suspend the time within which to pursue any other available remedies that the aggrieved may have. The Zoning Enforcement Officer or Select Board shall forward a copy of the grievance to the Agricultural Commission or its agent,

which shall review and facilitate the resolution of the grievance, and report its recommendations to the referring Town authority within an agreed upon time frame.

The Board of Health, except in cases of imminent danger or public health risk, shall forward a copy of the grievance to the Agricultural Commission or its agent, which shall review and facilitate the resolution of the grievance, and report its recommendations to the Board of Health within an agreed upon time frame.

#### Section 6 Severability Clause

If any part of this By-law is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remainder of this By-law. The Town of Halifax hereby declares the provisions of this By-law to be severable.

Proposed by Theresa Carman, et al

#### **Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

ARTICLE 63 To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Halifax by adding the following:

#### Agricultural Commission By-law

To see if the Town will vote to establish an Agricultural Commission to represent the Halifax farming community. Said Commission once appointed shall develop a work plan to guide its activities. Such activities include, but are not limited to the following: shall serve as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Halifax; shall promote agricultural-based economic opportunities in Town; shall act as advocates, educators, and/or negotiators on farming issues; shall work for preservation of prime agricultural lands; and shall pursue all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community.

The Commission will consist of seven members from the active farming community of Halifax, appointed by the Board of Selectmen: three members for a term of three years; two members for a term of two years, and three thereafter; and two members for a one-year term, and three years thereafter. Up to five alternates may also be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, each for one- year terms, and/or any other action relative thereto.

Guiding Principles for Commission Appointment: Member should: represent Town geographically, represent the

diversity and scale of agricultural businesses, represent the diversity of the Town's population, encourage next generation farmers. The overall intent is to be inclusive not exclusive.

Mission: Promote agricultural-based economic opportunities; preserve, revitalize, and sustain the Halifax agricultural industry, and encourage the pursuit of agriculture as a career opportunity and lifestyle.

Proposed by Theresa Carman, et al

**Finance Committee Recommendation at Town Meeting**

**And on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to meet at the Halifax Elementary School:**

ARTICLE 64 To see if the Town will vote to elect one Board of Assessors member for a term three years, a Town Clerk for a term of three years, one Board of Health member for a term of three years, two Holmes Public Library Trustees for terms of three years, one Holmes Public Library Trustee for a term of two years, one Holmes Public Library Trustee for a term of one year, one Housing Authority member for a term of five years, one Park Commission member for a term of three years, one Planning Board member for a term of five years, two Halifax Elementary School Committee members for a term of three years, one Silver Lake Regional School Committee member for a term of three years, one Board of Selectmen member for a term of three years, one Water Commissioner for a term of three years, one Treasurer-Collector for a term of three years and one Moderator for a term of three years.

Question 1: Do you request that the State Legislature nullify the 2010 decision of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to adopt the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks which incorporate the Common Core State Standards, and returning the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks to the pre-2010 Massachusetts State Standards?

Yes \_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_