

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday April 1, 2024 at 5:30 PM**

**REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM**

Please click the link below to join the Zoom Webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84524061510>

Webinar ID: 845 2406 1510

Dial in, (audio only): 929 205 6099 (if dialing in: \*6 - mute/unmute. \*9 - raise hand)

*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and Governor Healey's March 29, 2023 Revised Order extending remote participation by all members in any meeting of a public body, this meeting of the Great Barrington Finance Committee will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on town's website, at [www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org). For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so in the following manner: See instructions at the top of the agenda. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means.*

*Pursuant to MGL, 7C 30A sec. 20(f), after notifying the Chair of the public body, any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting of a public body, or may transmit the meeting through any medium. At the beginning of the meeting, the Chair shall inform other attendees of any such recordings. Any member of the public wishing to speak at the meeting must receive permission of the Chair.*

1. Call to Order and roll call vote
2. Committee Member announcements or statements
3. Approval of Minutes – Finance Committee meetings of Dec 19, 2023 & Jan 17, 2024
4. Town Manager/Accountant Update
5. Review and Discussion of January 2024 Operating Budgets
6. Approval of Minutes: Joint Finance Committee & Selectboard Feb 2024 Budget Meetings & Public Hearing: Feb 6, Feb 7, Feb 13, Feb 14, Feb 20, & Feb 28.
7. Discussion: FY 2025 Budget Meetings  
See: <https://www.townofgb.org/home/news/fy25-proposed-budget-022824>
8. Fire Department Reserve Fund Transfer Request – Discussion & Vote
9. Citizen Speak Time
10. Media Time
11. Adjournment

Town of Great Barrington Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom  
Tuesday December 19, 2023

1. **Call to Order and roll call vote** - P. Orenstein opened the meeting via Zoom at 6:00pm with a roll call: Milena Cerna, “aye,” Madonna Meagher, “aye,” Anne O’Dwyer, “aye,” Philip Orenstein, “aye.”  
Absent: Richard Geiler  
Also in attendance: Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo
2. **Committee Member announcements or statements**  
P. Orenstein confirmed Finance Committee members received the FY25 budget process.
3. **Approval of minutes (September & October 2023)**  
M. Meagher made a motion to approve the September and October Finance Committee meeting minutes; M. Cerna seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.
4. **Town Accountant Budget Update**  
A. Crespo stated the close out of FY23 budgets will be completed by the FY25 budget meetings. A. O’Dwyer asked about budget overages in the year-to-date (FY 24) budget reports. A. Crespo explained many include encumbrances and she has been working with department heads on transferring funds within their operating budgets, There was discussion about how snow and ice supplies are purchased in advance and the budget overage is ultimately covered by free cash. Regarding snow and ice and other overages, A. Crespo stated adjustments would be reflected in the January report. P. Orenstein asked about the trash removal overage – A. Crespo stated Joe Aberdale, DPW Superintendent, is working on correcting this. M. Meagher asked about the YTD spend for Emergency Management and Parks – A. Crespo stated that is likely due to encumbrances and annual expenses paid early in the year. She added average spend across departments is 46.5% YTD, which is where budgets are expected to be in December.
5. **Review and vote on proposed Budget Policy for FY 24 and 25**  
A. O’Dwyer noted past updates by the Finance Committee and suggested the FY 24 version be approved to continue in FY 25 and to be sent to the Selectboard.  
A. O’Dwyer made a motion to approve the Policy and send it to the Selectboard for its approval; M. Cerna seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – M. Cerna asked about the Policy’s reference to the Master Plan and if it is still relevant. E. Mooney stated it is currently being updated by the Planning Board. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.  
  
P. Orenstein stated the Selectboard has made statements regarding Housatonic Water Works and he noted the Finance Committee does not know anything additional.  
  
M. Cerna asked about Southern Berkshire Ambulance providing significant detail to support its FY25 budget request. P. Orenstein stated he has discussed with M. Pruhenski and a substantial budget increase for FY 25 is being requested by SBA.
6. **Citizen Speak Time** – No citizens asked to speak.
7. **Media Time** – No media asked to speak.
8. **Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

Town of Great Barrington Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom  
Wednesday, January 17, 2024

1. **Call to Order and roll call vote** - P. Orenstein opened the meeting via Zoom at 6:00pm with a roll call: Milena Cerna, “aye,” Richard Geiler, “aye,” Madonna Meagher, “aye,” Anne O’Dwyer, “aye,” Philip Orenstein, “aye.”

Also in attendance: Town Manager Mark Pruhenski, Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo

2. **Committee Member announcements or statements** – There were none.

3. **Town Manager Update** – Discussion of reserve fund transfer request and vote

M. Pruhenski provided an update on the FY25 budget process noting he and A. Crespo are meeting with department heads and are on track for the first discussion on February 6. He noted budget binders will be distributed as soon as possible and meetings would be hybrid.

M. Pruhenski presented a request for a Reserve Fund transfer of \$20,235.80 to cover the cost of consultant, DPC Engineering LLC, to conduct a financial evaluation for the acquisition and operation of the Housatonic Water Works system for an initial five-year plan. He noted the study will provide information for the Selectboard to discuss pursuing a purchase and potentially to put to a vote at Town Meeting. M. Pruhenski confirmed the assessment would cover the acquisition, debt service and operation of the water system and that DPC is familiar with HWW and is experienced/qualified to do the work. He added the study would take 4-6 months to complete and will be presented at a Selectboard meeting. He also stated the necessary information/data on HWW is public and HWW is expected to cooperate with the DPC assessment. R. Geiler asked about HWW’s rate-increase case under consideration by the State DPU– M. Pruhenski replied the first intervenors meeting was last week, so it is early in the process.

A. O’Dwyer made a motion to approve the transfer of \$20,235.80 from the Reserve Fund to Contracted Services; R. Geiler seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: Milena Cerna, “aye,” Richard Geiler, “aye,” Madonna Meagher, “aye,” Anne O’Dwyer, “aye,” Philip Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 5-0.

4. Discussion of draft Guide to the Great Barrington Real Estate Tax Bill – possible vote

P. Orenstein stated a draft of the Guide is in the packet and it is intended to help residents understand how their quarterly property taxes – composed of real estate and Great Barrington Fire District taxes and the Community Preservation Act surtax – is calculated and to make it available on the Finance Committee webpage. He added the Guide has been reviewed by Town staff and the Fire District. M. Cerna stated residents also have questions about the assessment process and suggested tackling that perhaps focusing on the process and guiding principles. P. Orenstein stated that might be a separate project and noted it is a very complex matter. M. Meager suggested a link in the document to the Assessor’s Office and R. Geiler suggested adding a sentence stating if residents have questions regarding their assessment to contact the Assessor’s Office directly. R. Geiler stated he would review materials and the recording of the meeting where Ross Vivori, Town Assessor, presented and report back.

- Vivian Orłowski, stated the school district budget significantly impacts the tax bill and that should be added to the Guide – it was clarified that the Guide focuses only on the calculation of the tax bill—and that what contributes to the Town’s tax rate is discussed more during budget seasons and at Town Meetings.

P. Orenstein suggested and the Committee discussed some clarifying language and A. O'Dwyer agreed to update the design/formatting and suggested adding a link to the budget book and meeting schedule.

P. Orenstein noted the agreed upon changes – re- design/formatting; revised top headline - Users Guide to the Taxpayer Receipt Box on the Great Barrington Tax Bill; adding Community Preservation Committee as another authority; and other small changes. It was raised that Alicia Dulin, Treasurer/Collector, asked that dates not be used and A. Crespo stated she would ask A. Dulin to clarify her concerns to the Committee.

P. Orenstein made a motion to approve the Guidelines with changes and subject to A. Dulin's feedback; R. Geiler seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: Milena Cerna, "aye," Richard Geiler, "aye," Madonna Meagher, "aye," Anne O'Dwyer, "aye," Philip Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 5-0.

5. Community Preservation Committee update (Richard Geiler)

R. Geiler presented on projects funded by the CPC in the last cycle noting the budget was \$800,000 and \$2.7 in requests were received. He stated affordable housing was prioritized and received \$533,000 in grants for several projects, \$172,000 was granted for historic and \$95,000 for open space. M. Cerna asked how affordable housing projects are prioritized and she and R. Geiler agreed to discuss.

6. Citizen Speak Time

James Garzon, 84 North Plain Road, stated it is important to provide information on the tax bill and suggested looking at a single tax rate or other options to help residents around tax increases.

7. Media Time – No media asked to speak.

8. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
<b>001 GENERAL FUND</b>							
<b>01122 SELECTBOARD/TOWN MANAGER</b>							
01122 51105 SELECTBOARD	24,500.00	24,500.00	12,249.90	2,041.65	.00	12,250.10	50.0
01122 51108 TOWN MANAGER	155,000.00	155,000.00	86,120.70	11,923.08	.00	68,879.30	55.6
01122 51113 ADMINISTRATION	112,533.00	112,533.00	23,851.43	3,150.00	.00	88,681.57	21.2
01122 51114 COMMITTEE CLERKS	6,000.00	6,000.00	1,840.00	160.00	.00	4,160.00	30.7
01122 51200 INTERN	1,500.00	1,500.00	.00	.00	.00	1,500.00	.0
01122 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	900.00	900.00	40.00	.00	.00	860.00	4.4
01122 51900 CONTINGENCY	22,500.00	22,500.00	.00	.00	13,500.00	9,000.00	60.0
01122 52000 CONTRACTED SERVICES	28,000.00	28,000.00	8,700.00	1,650.00	11,300.00	8,000.00	71.4
01122 52300 PUBLICATIONS	2,500.00	2,500.00	.00	.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	40.0
01122 53020 LEGAL FEES	85,000.00	83,500.00	24,584.38	7,246.56	45,415.62	13,500.00	83.8
01122 53450 ADVERTISING	16,000.00	16,000.00	3,747.50	168.20	10,752.50	1,500.00	90.6
01122 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,500.00	2,500.00	1,134.06	.00	645.93	720.01	71.2
01122 54230 PAPER SUPPLY	2,500.00	3,500.00	1,995.52	.00	1,504.48	.00	100.0
01122 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	10,000.00	11,500.00	4,416.24	.00	280.93	6,802.83	40.8
01122 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,695.10	439.00	.00	1,304.90	73.9
TOTAL SELECTBOARD/TOWN MANAGER	475,433.00	475,433.00	172,374.83	26,778.49	84,399.46	218,658.71	54.0%
<b>01131 FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>							
01131 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	100.00	100.00	.00	.00	.00	100.00	.0
01131 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	200.00	200.00	190.00	.00	.00	10.00	95.0
01131 57800 RESERVE FUND	100,000.00	75,000.00	.00	.00	.00	75,000.00	.0
TOTAL FINANCE COMMITTEE	100,300.00	75,300.00	190.00	.00	.00	75,110.00	.3%
<b>01135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT</b>							
01135 51107 TOWN ACCOUNTANT	106,080.00	106,080.00	60,452.34	8,406.16	.00	45,627.66	57.0
01135 51113 ASSISTANT ACCOUNTANT	53,898.00	53,898.00	30,058.52	4,146.00	.00	23,839.48	55.8
01135 51114 A/P CLERK	2,500.00	2,500.00	.00	.00	.00	2,500.00	.0
01135 53010 AUDIT/ACCTG SERVICES	25,500.00	26,000.00	.00	.00	500.00	25,500.00	1.9
01135 53070 CONSULTANTS (OTHER)	2,000.00	2,000.00	.00	.00	.00	2,000.00	.0

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01135 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	700.00	2,109.39	1,958.17	229.71	54.35	96.87	95.4
01135 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	950.00	950.00	580.26	.00	.00	369.74	61.1
01135 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	150.00	150.00	95.00	.00	.00	55.00	63.3
<b>TOTAL TOWN ACCOUNTANT</b>	<b>191,778.00</b>	<b>193,687.39</b>	<b>93,144.29</b>	<b>12,781.87</b>	<b>554.35</b>	<b>99,988.75</b>	<b>48.4%</b>
<b>01136 TECHNOLOGY</b>							
01136 51107 IT COORDINATOR	6,500.00	6,500.00	2,769.11	173.06	.00	3,730.89	42.6
01136 52400 REPRS & MAINTNCE	25,000.00	24,743.00	5,215.39	2,058.99	3,275.00	16,252.61	34.3
01136 52700 CONTRACTED SERVICES	31,000.00	31,257.00	31,256.00	.00	1.00	.00	100.0
01136 53000 SOFTWARE LICENSES	181,260.00	190,060.00	189,496.21	2,061.06	.00	563.79	99.7
01136 53030 DATA SERVICES	30,000.00	30,000.00	16,711.31	2,143.08	11,296.69	1,992.00	93.4
01136 53400 TELEPHONE	37,000.00	37,880.70	19,384.85	2,628.85	17,388.87	1,106.98	97.1
<b>TOTAL TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>310,760.00</b>	<b>320,440.70</b>	<b>264,832.87</b>	<b>9,065.04</b>	<b>31,961.56</b>	<b>23,646.27</b>	<b>92.6%</b>
<b>01141 ASSESSORS</b>							
01141 51106 PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR	91,978.00	91,978.00	52,425.20	7,290.62	.00	39,552.80	57.0
01141 51109 BOARD OF ASSESSORS	1,200.00	1,200.00	300.00	.00	.00	900.00	25.0
01141 51113 ADMIN ASSESSOR	60,845.00	60,845.00	34,974.45	4,709.93	.00	25,870.55	57.5
01141 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	850.00	850.00	.00	.00	.00	850.00	.0
01141 53010 CONTRACTED SERVICES	42,000.00	42,000.00	29,775.00	500.00	6,075.00	6,150.00	85.4
01141 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,500.00	2,500.00	816.27	104.75	286.55	1,397.18	44.1
01141 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	1,000.00	1,000.00	179.69	39.69	27.77	792.54	20.7
01141 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	250.00	250.00	135.00	.00	.00	115.00	54.0
<b>TOTAL ASSESSORS</b>	<b>200,623.00</b>	<b>200,623.00</b>	<b>118,605.61</b>	<b>12,644.99</b>	<b>6,389.32</b>	<b>75,628.07</b>	<b>62.3%</b>
<b>01146 COLLECTOR/TREASURER</b>							
01146 51106 COLLECTOR/TREASURER	86,861.00	86,861.00	49,422.36	7,008.52	.00	37,438.64	56.9
01146 51107 ASST COLLECTOR	56,460.00	56,460.00	31,487.02	4,343.03	.00	24,972.98	55.8
01146 51108 ASST TREASURER	49,816.00	49,816.00	27,933.67	3,800.16	.00	21,882.33	56.1
01146 51113 FINANCIAL CLERK	1,040.00	1,040.00	.00	.00	.00	1,040.00	.0
01146 51114 PRKING CLRK STIPEND	1,200.00	1,200.00	.00	.00	.00	1,200.00	.0
01146 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	600.00	600.00	600.00	.00	.00	.00	100.0

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01146 53000 TX TITLE LITIGATION	25,000.00	27,334.00	7,493.00	1,694.00	4,841.00	15,000.00	45.1
01146 53010 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	20,000.00	20,500.00	3,373.09	.00	17,126.91	.00	100.0
01146 53430 POSTAGE	20,000.00	22,500.00	13,063.44	2,982.40	8,619.36	817.20	96.4
01146 53800 FINANCIAL SERVICES	2,000.00	2,000.00	156.00	.00	594.00	1,250.00	37.5
01146 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,000.00	2,900.00	842.38	430.62	1,558.61	499.01	82.8
01146 54202 OFFICE EQUIPMENT	7,500.00	3,000.00	1,366.58	.00	747.65	885.77	70.5
01146 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	1,000.00	2,500.00	1,370.00	.00	785.72	344.28	86.2
01146 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	100.00	200.00	.00	.00	.00	200.00	.0
<b>TOTAL COLLECTOR/TREASURER</b>	<b>274,577.00</b>	<b>276,911.00</b>	<b>137,107.54</b>	<b>20,258.73</b>	<b>34,273.25</b>	<b>105,530.21</b>	<b>61.9%</b>
<b>01152 HUMAN RESOURCES</b>							
01152 51106 HUMAN RESOURCES MGR	39,312.00	64,312.00	12,600.00	.00	.00	51,712.00	19.6
01152 51910 LANGUAGE STIPEND	2,000.00	2,000.00	557.67	76.92	.00	1,442.33	27.9
01152 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	500.00	500.00	233.00	233.00	300.00	-33.00	106.6
01152 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	430.00	430.00	.00	.00	.00	430.00	.0
01152 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	301.00	301.00	.00	.00	.00	301.00	.0
<b>TOTAL HUMAN RESOURCES</b>	<b>42,543.00</b>	<b>67,543.00</b>	<b>13,390.67</b>	<b>309.92</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>53,852.33</b>	<b>20.3%</b>
<b>01161 TOWN CLERK/ELECTIONS</b>							
01161 51106 TOWN CLERK	66,222.00	66,222.00	37,739.03	5,247.84	.00	28,482.97	57.0
01161 51108 ELECTION WORKERS	6,850.00	6,850.00	.00	.00	.00	6,850.00	.0
01161 51109 REGISTRAR	2,112.00	2,112.00	1,100.00	176.00	.00	1,012.00	52.1
01161 51113 ASST TOWN CLERK	41,673.00	41,673.00	23,103.16	3,205.59	.00	18,569.84	55.4
01161 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	500.00	500.00	600.00	.00	.00	-100.00	120.0
01161 51910 ELECTION & TOWN MEETIN	1,000.00	1,000.00	120.21	22.90	.00	879.79	12.0
01161 52450 R/M EQUIP	3,905.00	4,933.00	3,441.75	195.00	300.00	1,191.25	75.9
01161 52470 PUBLICATIONS	6,200.00	5,172.00	3,747.00	.00	1,420.00	5.00	99.9
01161 52700 RECORD PRESERVATION	3,600.00	3,530.00	3,130.00	3,130.00	300.00	100.00	97.2
01161 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,500.00	3,500.00	632.50	40.76	2,867.50	.00	100.0
01161 55300 ELECTIONS	6,100.00	6,100.00	.00	.00	6,100.00	.00	100.0
01161 55800 OTHER SUPPLIES	3,100.00	3,100.00	1,080.45	.00	2,006.80	12.75	99.6
01161 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	4,500.00	4,485.00	954.28	279.25	1,585.00	1,945.72	56.6
01161 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	350.00	435.00	200.00	50.00	225.00	10.00	97.7
<b>TOTAL TOWN CLERK/ELECTIONS</b>	<b>149,612.00</b>	<b>149,612.00</b>	<b>75,848.38</b>	<b>12,347.34</b>	<b>14,804.30</b>	<b>58,959.32</b>	<b>60.6%</b>
<b>01171 CONSERVATION</b>							
01171 51112 CONSERVATION AGENT	43,056.00	43,056.00	24,519.00	3,312.00	.00	18,537.00	56.9

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01171 51113 BOARD CLERK	800.00	800.00	260.00	40.00	.00	540.00	32.5
01171 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	300.00	300.00	.00	.00	.00	300.00	.0
01171 52470 LAND MAINT/TRAIL CREAT	4,000.00	4,000.00	.00	.00	.00	4,000.00	.0
01171 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	750.00	750.00	16.35	16.35	105.45	628.20	16.2
01171 57100 TRAINING	700.00	700.00	.00	.00	.00	700.00	.0
01171 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	375.00	375.00	271.00	.00	.00	104.00	72.3
<b>TOTAL CONSERVATION</b>	<b>49,981.00</b>	<b>49,981.00</b>	<b>25,066.35</b>	<b>3,368.35</b>	<b>105.45</b>	<b>24,809.20</b>	<b>50.4%</b>
<b>01175 PLANNING BOARD</b>							
01175 51113 PLANNING BD CLERK	5,200.00	5,200.00	2,900.00	400.00	.00	2,300.00	55.8
01175 53100 TRAINING	100.00	100.00	.00	.00	.00	100.00	.0
01175 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	100.00	100.00	.00	.00	.00	100.00	.0
01175 57300 DUES/SUBSCRIPTIONS	50.00	50.00	.00	.00	.00	50.00	.0
<b>TOTAL PLANNING BOARD</b>	<b>5,450.00</b>	<b>5,450.00</b>	<b>2,900.00</b>	<b>400.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>2,550.00</b>	<b>53.2%</b>
<b>01176 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS</b>							
01176 51113 ZBA CLERK	1,000.00	1,000.00	.00	.00	.00	1,000.00	.0
01176 53100 TRAINING	50.00	50.00	.00	.00	.00	50.00	.0
01176 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	100.00	100.00	.00	.00	.00	100.00	.0
01176 55860 SUBSCRIPTIONS	100.00	100.00	.00	.00	.00	100.00	.0
<b>TOTAL ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>.0%</b>
<b>01177 PLANNING/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>							
01177 51107 ASST TWN MGR/PLNNR	130,000.00	130,000.00	72,500.00	10,000.00	.00	57,500.00	55.8
01177 51112 STIPEND-AFF HOUSING	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,120.00	160.00	.00	880.00	56.0
01177 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	600.00	600.00	600.00	.00	.00	.00	100.0
01177 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	500.00	500.00	131.98	131.98	100.45	267.57	46.5
01177 56410 CONTRACTED SERVICES	2,000.00	2,000.00	.00	.00	.00	2,000.00	.0
01177 56411 ECON DEVELOPMENT	30,000.00	30,000.00	8,977.51	3,615.01	16,022.49	5,000.00	83.3
01177 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,089.66	.00	.00	410.34	72.6
01177 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	660.00	660.00	.00	.00	.00	660.00	.0
<b>TOTAL PLANNING/COMMUNITY DEVEL</b>	<b>167,260.00</b>	<b>167,260.00</b>	<b>84,419.15</b>	<b>13,906.99</b>	<b>16,122.94</b>	<b>66,717.91</b>	<b>60.1%</b>

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
<b>01192 PUBLIC BUILDINGS</b>							
01192 51106 CREW LEADER	60,003.00	60,003.00	32,677.20	4,507.20	.00	27,325.80	54.5
01192 51115 HCC CUSTODIAN	7,800.00	7,800.00	3,900.00	650.00	.00	3,900.00	50.0
01192 51135 WORKING FOREMAN	67,133.00	67,133.00	39,648.80	5,468.80	.00	27,484.20	59.1
01192 51137 LABORER/OPERATOR	228,690.00	228,690.00	136,720.02	17,087.84	.00	91,969.98	59.8
01192 51147 LABORER/LANDSCAPER	56,482.00	56,482.00	.00	.00	.00	56,482.00	.0
01192 51301 OVERTIME	17,680.00	17,680.00	5,707.14	410.16	.00	11,972.86	32.3
01192 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	600.00	600.00	600.00	.00	.00	.00	100.0
01192 51910 STIPENDS	700.00	700.00	.00	.00	.00	700.00	.0
01192 52010 CEMETERY CONT SERV	.00	.00	700.00	.00	1.00	-701.00	100.0
01192 52110 ELECTRICITY	125,000.00	125,000.00	43,583.36	.00	56,416.64	25,000.00	80.0
01192 52120 GAS/OIL - HEATING	110,000.00	110,000.00	30,325.98	9,142.15	29,475.80	50,198.22	54.4
01192 52310 WATER/SEWER	29,548.00	30,348.00	3,774.51	981.45	34,025.49	-7,452.00	124.6
01192 52410 REPAIRS-BLDG/GROUNDS	65,000.00	65,302.62	70,703.26	1,680.51	8,837.31	-14,237.95	121.8
01192 52450 EQUIP MAINT/REPRS	.00	5,000.00	922.70	.00	358.27	3,719.03	25.6
01192 52700 CONTRACTED SERVICES	75,000.00	67,500.00	65,817.13	16,966.20	9,017.02	-7,334.15	110.9
01192 52740 CLOTHING & UNIFORMS	.00	2,500.00	.00	-180.00	1,000.00	1,500.00	40.0
01192 52920 TRASH REMOVAL	3,500.00	3,500.00	2,609.12	-5,532.78	390.88	500.00	85.7
01192 54300 PARK/CMTRY SUPPLIES	20,000.00	20,500.00	12,689.24	560.96	3,159.47	4,651.29	77.3
01192 54500 CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	15,000.00	15,000.00	7,377.38	801.87	.00	7,622.62	49.2
01192 54601 NEW TREES	20,000.00	20,000.00	4,025.40	351.00	.00	15,974.60	20.1
01192 55200 COURTHOUSE BLDG MNTNCE	15,000.00	23,994.68	12,238.58	.00	673.00	11,083.10	53.8
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC BUILDINGS</b>	<b>917,136.00</b>	<b>927,733.30</b>	<b>474,019.82</b>	<b>52,895.36</b>	<b>143,354.88</b>	<b>310,358.60</b>	<b>66.5%</b>
<b>01210 POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>							
01210 51117 POLICE CHIEF	121,181.00	121,181.00	69,170.93	9,540.82	.00	52,010.07	57.1
01210 51120 SERGEANTS	273,826.00	262,968.86	137,229.92	21,326.42	.00	125,738.94	52.2
01210 51121 PATROLMEN	1,050,282.00	1,040,282.00	572,728.31	85,869.54	.00	467,553.69	55.1
01210 51122 CO-RESPONDER	12,000.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.0
01210 51125 ADMINISTRATIVE ASST	58,344.00	58,344.00	32,538.00	4,488.00	.00	25,806.00	55.8
01210 51128 COMM OUTREACH OFFCR	10,000.00	10,000.00	4,817.30	.00	.00	5,182.70	48.2
01210 51131 PRKNG CNTRL OFFCR	20,000.00	20,000.00	12,460.47	1,806.00	.00	7,539.53	62.3
01210 51300 OVERTIME	143,000.00	187,307.14	184,744.12	13,878.13	.00	2,563.02	98.6
01210 51302 OFFICER IN CHARGE PAY	.00	.00	33.00	22.00	.00	-33.00	100.0
01210 51410 HOLIDAY PAY	74,521.00	74,521.00	28,700.27	9,151.66	.00	45,820.73	38.5
01210 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	5,950.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	.00	.00	.00	100.0
01210 51900 EDUCATION/TUITION	7,000.00	7,000.00	3,678.44	.00	.00	3,321.56	52.5

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01210 51910 STIPEND	3,000.00	3,000.00	.00	.00	.00	3,000.00	.0
01210 51920 UNIFORM ALLOWANCE	21,375.00	21,375.00	18,000.00	.00	.00	3,375.00	84.2
01210 51930 TRAINING/EDUCATION	75,000.00	65,000.00	34,168.76	5,181.77	.00	30,831.24	52.6
01210 52450 EQUIPMNT MAINT/REPRS	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,003.50	.00	22.50	974.00	51.3
01210 52900 CARE OF PRISONERS	1,250.00	1,250.00	85.48	47.28	154.52	1,010.00	19.2
01210 53810 EVENTS	2,000.00	2,000.00	448.45	115.40	.00	1,551.55	22.4
01210 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	7,500.00	7,500.00	1,700.21	443.01	4,370.97	1,428.82	80.9
01210 54201 OFFICE EQUIPMENT	1,500.00	3,602.00	2,102.00	.00	.00	1,500.00	58.4
01210 54202 ADDTL EQUIPMENT	1,500.00	3,900.00	3,883.45	1,200.00	.00	16.55	99.6
01210 54800 VEHICLE SUPPLYS/REPRS	22,000.00	22,762.75	10,270.62	520.36	5,546.63	6,945.50	69.5
01210 55840 UNIFORMS	17,000.00	17,199.00	9,992.91	1,098.00	3,501.66	3,704.43	78.5
01210 55850 CRIME PRVNTION/AMMO	14,000.00	19,096.00	9,322.74	4,021.74	5,200.15	4,573.11	76.1
01210 55860 SUBSCRIPTIONS	7,425.00	7,425.00	7,374.65	.00	.00	50.35	99.3
01210 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	30,916.00	30,951.00	23,365.67	5,401.01	1,932.15	5,653.18	81.7
01210 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	3,604.00	3,604.00	2,340.00	440.00	901.50	362.50	89.9
<b>TOTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>1,986,174.00</b>	<b>1,996,768.75</b>	<b>1,174,659.20</b>	<b>164,551.14</b>	<b>21,630.08</b>	<b>800,479.47</b>	<b>59.9%</b>

### 01220 FIRE DEPARTMENT

01220 51113 CLERICAL	25,958.00	25,958.00	10,131.61	1,788.63	.00	15,826.39	39.0
01220 51117 FIRE CHIEF	111,280.00	111,280.00	48,988.42	8,230.76	.00	62,291.58	44.0
01220 51127 FIREFIGHTERS	160,000.00	160,000.00	85,960.14	11,945.34	.00	74,039.86	53.7
01220 51129 FIRE INSPECTORS	239,000.00	239,000.00	101,467.27	14,119.24	.00	137,532.73	42.5
01220 51300 OVERTIME	57,500.00	57,500.00	24,148.83	3,185.68	.00	33,351.17	42.0
01220 51410 HOLIDAY PAY	16,250.00	16,250.00	4,647.59	2,624.41	.00	11,602.41	28.6
01220 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	300.00	300.00	.00	.00	.00	300.00	.0
01220 52450 EQUIPMNT MAINT/REPRS	60,000.00	60,000.00	26,301.45	24.78	24,666.20	9,032.35	84.9
01220 52700 COMMUNICATIONS	5,000.00	5,000.00	1,891.00	.00	780.00	2,329.00	53.4
01220 53800 HYDRANT RENTALS	116,000.00	119,713.34	61,507.66	21,470.48	57,905.68	300.00	99.7
01220 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,000.00	1,000.00	564.48	.00	205.52	230.00	77.0
01220 55810 FIREFGHTNG SUPPLIES	30,000.00	30,000.00	11,625.24	892.18	7,151.51	11,223.25	62.6
01220 55811 FIRE PREVENTION	1,100.00	1,100.00	503.98	503.98	196.02	400.00	63.6
01220 55860 SUBSCRPTONS	3,200.00	3,200.00	3,049.50	.00	.00	150.50	95.3
01220 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	10,000.00	10,000.00	5,150.49	3.00	2,285.51	2,564.00	74.4
01220 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	2,100.00	2,100.00	990.00	.00	565.00	545.00	74.0
<b>TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>838,688.00</b>	<b>842,401.34</b>	<b>386,927.66</b>	<b>64,788.48</b>	<b>93,755.44</b>	<b>361,718.24</b>	<b>57.1%</b>

### 01230 COMMUNICATIONS/EMERG MGMT

01230 51107 SALARIES	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,267.25	442.30	.00	1,732.75	65.3
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# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01230 52450 EQUIPMENT MAINT/RPRS	6,500.00	6,835.45	5,272.45	120.00	1,563.00	.00	100.0
01230 52700 CONTRACTED SERVICES	10,611.00	10,611.00	7,579.99	.00	2,750.00	281.01	97.4
01230 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	350.00	214.50	141.93	85.49	.00	72.57	66.2
01230 58500 ADDTNL EQPMNT	2,000.00	3,939.90	1,969.18	.00	.00	1,970.72	50.0
<b>TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS/EMERG MGM</b>	<b>24,461.00</b>	<b>26,600.85</b>	<b>18,230.80</b>	<b>647.79</b>	<b>4,313.00</b>	<b>4,057.05</b>	<b>84.7%</b>
<b>01241 BUILDING INSPECTOR</b>							
01241 51107 BUILDING INSPECTOR	72,192.00	72,192.00	46,640.91	9,230.76	.00	25,551.09	64.6
01241 51108 ASST INSPECTOR	59,280.00	59,280.00	24,642.10	6,454.38	.00	34,637.90	41.6
01241 51113 CLERK	44,554.00	44,554.00	22,276.80	856.80	.00	22,277.20	50.0
01241 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	1,450.00	1,450.00	1,150.00	.00	.00	300.00	79.3
01241 52000 CONTRACTED SERVICES	3,600.00	3,600.00	.00	.00	.00	3,600.00	.0
01241 52411 PROPRTY SECURITY	2,400.00	2,400.00	.00	.00	.00	2,400.00	.0
01241 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,460.00	2,460.00	1,196.54	.00	252.00	1,011.46	58.9
01241 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	4,400.00	4,523.80	1,759.43	1,207.04	.00	2,764.37	38.9
01241 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	300.00	300.00	.00	.00	.00	300.00	.0
<b>TOTAL BUILDING INSPECTOR</b>	<b>190,636.00</b>	<b>190,759.80</b>	<b>97,665.78</b>	<b>17,748.98</b>	<b>252.00</b>	<b>92,842.02</b>	<b>51.3%</b>
<b>01292 ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER</b>							
01292 51107 ANIMAL CNTRL OFFCR	11,000.00	11,000.00	6,346.05	846.14	.00	4,653.95	57.7
01292 53000 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	500.00	500.00	.00	.00	.00	500.00	.0
01292 55800 OTHER SUPPLIES	100.00	100.00	.00	.00	.00	100.00	.0
01292 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	250.00	250.00	.00	.00	.00	250.00	.0
<b>TOTAL ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER</b>	<b>11,850.00</b>	<b>11,850.00</b>	<b>6,346.05</b>	<b>846.14</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>5,503.95</b>	<b>53.6%</b>
<b>01422 DPW-HIGHWAY</b>							
01422 51110 DPW SUPERINTENDENT	109,200.00	109,200.00	62,919.27	8,784.62	.00	46,280.73	57.6
01422 51113 ADMINISTRATIVE ASST	42,697.00	42,697.00	25,531.18	3,588.43	.00	17,165.82	59.8
01422 51115 TREE WARDEN	7,800.00	7,800.00	3,900.00	650.00	.00	3,900.00	50.0
01422 51120 HGHWY SUPERINTENDNT	90,002.00	90,002.00	53,630.57	7,334.46	.00	36,371.43	59.6
01422 51134 MECHANIC	67,024.00	67,024.00	36,505.20	5,035.20	.00	30,518.80	54.5
01422 51135 WORKING FOREMAN	72,821.00	72,821.00	40,195.68	5,468.80	.00	32,625.32	55.2

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01422 51136 LABORER/DRIVER	174,958.00	174,958.00	94,406.24	12,047.20	.00	80,551.76	54.0
01422 51138 RECYCLING CTR STAFF	17,680.00	17,680.00	9,255.51	1,356.00	.00	8,424.49	52.4
01422 51139 EQUIPMENT OPERATORS	196,022.00	196,022.00	106,912.00	14,716.80	.00	89,110.00	54.5
01422 51300 SNOW & ICE OVERTIME	71,500.00	71,500.00	35,610.24	30,020.61	.00	35,889.76	49.8
01422 51301 OVERTIME	20,800.00	20,800.00	9,982.97	900.12	.00	10,817.03	48.0
01422 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	5,250.00	5,250.00	4,350.00	.00	.00	900.00	82.9
01422 51910 STIPENDS	1,800.00	1,800.00	.00	.00	.00	1,800.00	.0
01422 52110 STREET LIGHTS	148,000.00	158,543.29	108,865.63	18,523.55	16,426.98	33,250.68	79.0
01422 52450 EQUIP MAINT/REPRS	100,000.00	104,715.49	45,221.66	13,130.50	13,271.10	46,222.73	55.9
01422 52490 STREET MAINT/REPAIRS	180,000.00	284,017.50	158,723.19	1,457.03	33,207.23	92,087.08	67.6
01422 52700 CONTRACTED SERVICES	80,000.00	80,205.00	44,276.10	17,299.98	9,058.98	26,869.92	66.5
01422 52701 TRASH HAULING	65,000.00	70,925.73	40,567.73	498.80	26,594.09	3,763.91	94.7
01422 52702 HAZ WASTE CLLCTN	6,000.00	6,000.00	5,807.78	5,807.78	1,100.00	-907.78	115.1
01422 52740 CLOTHING & UNIFORMS	30,000.00	33,597.25	14,247.00	1,530.64	7,299.53	12,050.72	64.1
01422 53050 LANDFILL MONITORING	24,700.00	24,700.00	105.00	.00	5,900.00	18,695.00	24.3
01422 53085 POLICE DETAILS	7,500.00	7,500.00	448.00	.00	.00	7,052.00	6.0
01422 53810 TREE SERVICES	115,000.00	115,000.00	55,556.46	7,777.00	44,557.80	14,885.74	87.1
01422 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,500.00	2,500.00	1,448.66	205.28	381.79	669.55	73.2
01422 54810 GAS & DIESEL	135,000.00	135,000.00	48,758.03	9,378.20	43,526.96	42,715.01	68.4
01422 55300 PUBLIC WRKS SUPPLYS	35,000.00	35,000.00	2,868.24	1,285.01	1,429.42	30,702.34	12.3
01422 55700 SNOW & ICE SUPPLIES	150,000.00	284,615.00	165,234.68	9,288.81	288,990.74	-169,610.42	159.6
01422 55805 SAFETY SUPPLIES	4,000.00	4,000.00	.00	.00	.00	4,000.00	.0
01422 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	2,500.00	2,500.00	399.30	4.50	1,827.70	273.00	89.1
01422 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	500.00	500.00	350.00	.00	.00	150.00	70.0
01422 58541 HWY GRGE REMEDITION	.00	11,375.00	.00	.00	11,375.00	.00	100.0
<b>TOTAL DPW-HIGHWAY</b>	<b>1,963,254.00</b>	<b>2,238,248.26</b>	<b>1,176,076.32</b>	<b>176,089.32</b>	<b>504,947.32</b>	<b>557,224.62</b>	<b>75.1%</b>
<b>01511 BOARD OF HEALTH</b>							
01511 51129 HEALTH AGENT	67,626.00	67,626.00	37,682.00	5,202.00	.00	29,944.00	55.7
01511 51130 HEALTH INSPECTOR	52,998.00	52,998.00	25,186.48	3,421.60	.00	27,811.52	47.5
01511 51131 ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1,000.00	1,000.00	576.90	76.92	.00	423.10	57.7
01511 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	300.00	300.00	300.00	.00	.00	.00	100.0
01511 52700 CONTRACTED SERVICES	11,205.00	11,205.00	8,860.00	.00	1,840.00	505.00	95.5
01511 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	3,400.00	3,400.00	2,207.50	252.45	700.00	492.50	85.5
01511 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	200.00	200.00	.00	.00	200.00	.00	100.0
01511 57800 SUPPLIES	3,500.00	4,000.00	1,231.99	44.70	2,359.40	408.61	89.8
<b>TOTAL BOARD OF HEALTH</b>	<b>140,229.00</b>	<b>140,729.00</b>	<b>76,044.87</b>	<b>8,997.67</b>	<b>5,099.40</b>	<b>59,584.73</b>	<b>57.7%</b>
<b>01528 COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>							
01528 57800 HUMAN SERVICES	25,000.00	25,000.00	.00	.00	.00	25,000.00	.0

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES	25,000.00	25,000.00	.00	.00	.00	25,000.00	.0%
<b>01541 COUNCIL ON AGING</b>							
01541 51106 COA DIRECTOR	69,706.00	69,706.00	38,874.51	5,362.00	.00	30,831.49	55.8
01541 51109 VAN DRIVERS	40,560.00	40,560.00	22,520.50	2,281.50	.00	18,039.50	55.5
01541 51113 ADMIN ASSISTANT	25,958.00	25,958.00	11,207.95	2,400.63	.00	14,750.05	43.2
01541 51115 CUSTODIAN	9,933.00	9,933.00	4,915.50	678.00	.00	5,017.50	49.5
01541 51128 OUTREACH SALARIES	.00	3,640.00	4,131.00	648.00	.00	-491.00	113.5
01541 51200 COORDINATOR(P/T)	3,640.00	.00	558.00	.00	.00	-558.00	100.0
01541 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	400.00	400.00	.00	.00	.00	400.00	.0
01541 52450 EQUIP MAINT/REPRS	5,000.00	5,113.74	1,001.20	104.23	712.54	3,400.00	33.5
01541 52700 ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION	10,000.00	10,000.00	8,337.37	1,336.39	1,935.52	-272.89	102.7
01541 53810 ACTIVITIES	7,950.00	7,776.72	1,120.37	260.00	1,730.00	4,926.35	36.7
01541 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,000.00	3,000.00	619.99	187.06	1,305.01	1,075.00	64.2
01541 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,254.17	51.35	560.00	-414.17	129.6
01541 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	450.00	623.28	623.28	.00	.00	.00	100.0
TOTAL COUNCIL ON AGING	177,997.00	178,110.74	95,163.84	13,309.16	6,243.07	76,703.83	56.9%
<b>01543 VETERAN AFFAIRS</b>							
01543 52710 VETERANS SERVICES	23,000.00	23,000.00	11,500.00	.00	8,625.00	2,875.00	87.5
01543 52715 VFW LEASE	21,600.00	21,600.00	16,200.00	12,600.00	5,400.00	.00	100.0
01543 54300 SUPPLIES	5,500.00	5,500.00	.00	.00	.00	5,500.00	.0
01543 57700 VETERANS BENEFITS	65,000.00	64,999.56	19,808.57	2,868.30	.00	45,190.99	30.5
01543 57701 VETERANS DISTRICT	44,375.00	44,375.44	44,375.44	.00	.00	.00	100.0
TOTAL VETERAN AFFAIRS	159,475.00	159,475.00	91,884.01	15,468.30	14,025.00	53,565.99	66.4%
<b>01610 LIBRARIES</b>							
01610 51143 HEAD LIBRARIAN	72,800.00	72,800.00	15,808.53	4,214.65	.00	56,991.47	21.7
01610 51145 ASST LIBRARIANS	106,603.00	106,603.00	31,019.20	4,099.20	.00	75,583.80	29.1
01610 51146 LIBRARY CLERKS	215,260.00	215,260.00	107,165.85	13,048.00	.00	108,094.15	49.8
01610 51148 LIBRARY CLERKS - PT	92,293.00	92,293.00	11,029.78	3,043.52	.00	81,263.22	12.0
01610 51420 LONGEVITY PAY	2,000.00	2,000.00	1,300.00	.00	.00	700.00	65.0

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01610 52400 EQUIP MAINT & REPRS	3,000.00	3,000.00	1,324.13	377.52	1,670.87	5.00	99.8
01610 54200 OFFICE SUPPLIES	13,000.00	13,000.00	5,502.64	319.84	3,462.36	4,035.00	69.0
01610 55800 NONPRINT MATERIALS	26,000.00	26,000.00	10,102.40	2,736.68	10,167.71	5,729.89	78.0
01610 55801 SUBSCRIPTIONS	27,000.00	27,000.00	12,894.26	2,618.18	7,396.68	6,709.06	75.2
01610 55860 BOOKS/SUBSCRIPTIONS	62,000.00	62,000.00	17,978.64	3,946.32	41,987.18	2,034.18	96.7
01610 55861 PROGRAMMING SUPPLYS	3,300.00	3,300.00	386.31	.00	871.59	2,042.10	38.1
01610 57100 TRAVEL/TRAINING	1,400.00	1,400.00	.00	.00	.00	1,400.00	.0
01610 57300 DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	1,010.00	1,010.00	345.00	.00	.00	665.00	34.2
<b>TOTAL LIBRARIES</b>	<b>625,666.00</b>	<b>625,666.00</b>	<b>214,856.74</b>	<b>34,403.91</b>	<b>65,556.39</b>	<b>345,252.87</b>	<b>44.8%</b>
<b>01650 PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b>							
01650 54201 PARK IMPROVEMENTS	10,000.00	10,000.00	1,525.00	.00	801.00	7,674.00	23.3
01650 57803 LAKE MANAGEMENT	5,000.00	5,000.00	.00	.00	250.00	4,750.00	5.0
01650 57805 YOUTH PROGRAMMING	110,000.00	117,324.00	93,673.60	.00	11,235.10	12,415.30	89.4
01650 57810 WASTE MANAGEMENT	7,500.00	7,500.00	.00	.00	.00	7,500.00	.0
<b>TOTAL PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b>	<b>132,500.00</b>	<b>139,824.00</b>	<b>95,198.60</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>12,286.10</b>	<b>32,339.30</b>	<b>76.9%</b>
<b>01691 VARIOUS BOARDS/COMMISSIONS</b>							
01691 52400 HISTORICAL COMMISSION	7,000.00	7,000.00	4,625.00	.00	.00	2,375.00	66.1
01691 52700 HISTORIC DISTRICTS COM	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,570.92	.00	.00	1,429.08	71.4
01691 57800 AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIO	2,000.00	2,000.00	300.00	.00	.00	1,700.00	15.0
01691 57810 DUBOIS COMMITTEE	5,000.00	5,000.00	.00	.00	.00	5,000.00	.0
01691 57830 TRANSPORTATION COMMITT	1,000.00	1,000.00	896.50	702.50	1.00	102.50	89.8
<b>TOTAL VARIOUS BOARDS/COMMISSIO</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>	<b>9,392.42</b>	<b>702.50</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>10,606.58</b>	<b>47.0%</b>
<b>01693 CELEBRATIONS</b>							
01693 51910 BAND CRDTNR STIPEND	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	.00	.00	.00	100.0
01693 57800 CELEBRATIONS	9,000.00	9,000.00	3,535.19	271.06	3,000.00	2,464.81	72.6
01693 57810 BAND PROGRAMS	6,500.00	6,500.00	2,725.00	.00	.00	3,775.00	41.9
<b>TOTAL CELEBRATIONS</b>	<b>16,500.00</b>	<b>16,500.00</b>	<b>7,260.19</b>	<b>271.06</b>	<b>3,000.00</b>	<b>6,239.81</b>	<b>62.2%</b>
<b>01752 DEBT SERVICE</b>							
01752 59100 LONG TERM PRINCIPAL	1,660,000.00	1,660,000.00	635,000.00	.00	.00	1,025,000.00	38.3

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
01752 59120 LONG TERM INTEREST	605,750.00	605,750.00	178,355.00	36,490.00	.00	427,395.00	29.4
01752 59130 SHORT TERM INTEREST	210,000.00	210,000.00	162,133.65	.00	.00	47,866.35	77.2
01752 59150 DEBT ISSUANCE COSTS	20,000.00	20,000.00	122,269.46	120,394.46	.00	-102,269.46	611.3
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	2,495,750.00	2,495,750.00	1,097,758.11	156,884.46	.00	1,397,991.89	44.0%
<b>01911 RETIREMENT</b>							
01911 51750 MEDICARE	86,900.00	86,900.00	54,205.30	7,901.61	.00	32,694.70	62.4
01911 51760 RETIREMENT FUND	1,070,583.00	1,070,583.00	530,620.50	2,126.28	.00	539,962.50	49.6
TOTAL RETIREMENT	1,157,483.00	1,157,483.00	584,825.80	10,027.89	.00	572,657.20	50.5%
<b>01945 INSURANCE</b>							
01945 51710 WORKERS COMP	50,000.00	50,000.00	36,106.59	.00	2,678.00	11,215.41	77.6
01945 51740 HEALTH/LIFE INS	1,755,830.00	1,755,080.00	1,058,189.63	156,660.97	1,538.77	695,351.60	60.4
01945 51741 DEDUCTIBLES	10,000.00	10,000.00	.00	.00	.00	10,000.00	.0
01945 57400 GENERAL INSURANCE	140,000.00	138,745.00	122,245.41	170.00	.00	16,499.59	88.1
01945 57425 PUBLIC SAFETY INS	85,000.00	86,255.00	86,225.00	.00	.00	30.00	100.0
01945 57500 MEDICAL SERVICES	10,000.00	12,000.00	8,287.96	450.50	4,574.04	-862.00	107.2
01945 59610 ALLOCATION FROM WW	-283,677.00	-283,677.00	-141,838.50	.00	.00	-141,838.50	50.0
TOTAL INSURANCE	1,767,153.00	1,768,403.00	1,169,216.09	157,281.47	8,790.81	590,396.10	66.6%
TOTAL EXPENSES	14,619,519.00	14,944,794.13	7,763,405.99	986,775.35	1,072,165.12	6,109,223.02	
GRAND TOTAL	14,619,519.00	14,944,794.13	7,763,405.99	986,775.35	1,072,165.12	6,109,223.02	59.1%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Allison Crespo \*\*

# TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



## FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

			ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
<b>060 WASTEWATER TREATMENT</b>									
<b>60442 WASTEWATER TREATMENT</b>									
60442	51133	SUPERINTENDENT	94,468.00	94,468.00	51,469.23	7,099.21	.00	42,998.77	54.5
60442	51134	MECHANIC	65,710.00	65,710.00	33,521.00	5,035.20	.00	32,189.00	51.0
60442	51136	LABORERS	55,287.00	55,287.00	30,706.80	4,236.80	.00	24,580.20	55.5
60442	51137	LABORERS/DRIVERS	57,177.00	57,177.00	31,881.62	4,380.81	.00	25,295.38	55.8
60442	51139	EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	63,496.00	63,496.00	36,540.80	4,865.60	.00	26,955.20	57.5
60442	51140	PLANT OPERATOR	71,378.00	71,378.00	39,648.80	5,468.80	.00	31,729.20	55.5
60442	51141	ASST PLANT OPERATOR	67,123.00	67,123.00	37,798.42	5,658.41	.00	29,324.58	56.3
60442	51200	CLERICAL	20,745.00	20,745.00	9,848.84	1,291.57	.00	10,896.16	47.5
60442	51300	OVERTIME	36,400.00	36,400.00	18,680.88	2,895.97	.00	17,719.12	51.3
60442	51420	LONGEVITY PAY	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,900.00	.00	.00	.00	100.0
60442	51910	STIPENDS	700.00	700.00	.00	.00	.00	700.00	.0
60442	52110	ELECTRICITY	212,000.00	212,000.00	72,292.84	8,564.99	65,707.16	74,000.00	65.1
60442	52120	GAS/OIL	33,400.00	33,400.00	5,458.25	3,414.75	14,541.75	13,400.00	59.9
60442	52310	WATER	5,500.00	6,035.77	2,329.38	625.93	2,150.89	1,555.50	74.2
60442	52400	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	109,000.00	129,542.59	43,223.63	2,773.48	34,329.62	51,989.34	59.9
60442	52740	UNIFORMS RENTAL	9,000.00	9,000.00	3,552.44	463.08	4,555.09	892.47	90.1
60442	52800	CONTRACTED HAULING	205,000.00	219,000.00	75,829.84	.00	95,747.16	47,423.00	78.3
60442	52801	CONTRACTED SERVICES	35,000.00	35,065.00	16,357.56	644.50	15,497.75	3,209.69	90.8
60442	52900	COLLECTION SYSTEM	61,000.00	64,850.28	36,906.58	17,543.35	25,432.64	2,511.06	96.1
60442	53050	ENGINEERING/ARCHITECTU	15,000.00	17,500.00	2,500.00	.00	.00	15,000.00	14.3
60442	53085	POLICE DETAILS	5,000.00	10,000.00	7,392.00	.00	.00	2,608.00	73.9
60442	53410	TELEPHONE	4,000.00	4,000.00	991.26	219.96	828.74	2,180.00	45.5
60442	53430	POSTAGE	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	1,500.00	.00	.00	100.0
60442	54200	OFFICE SUPPLIES	3,000.00	3,855.00	1,804.08	898.90	378.30	1,672.62	56.6
60442	54800	VEHICULAR SUPPLIES	6,760.00	6,760.00	2,028.51	120.00	1,271.49	3,460.00	48.8
60442	54810	GASOLINE	20,000.00	20,000.00	4,947.96	600.57	10,008.44	5,043.60	74.8
60442	55800	CHEMICALS/SUPPLIES	140,000.00	140,000.00	44,818.23	.00	47,881.77	47,300.00	66.2
60442	55840	SAFETY EQUIPMENT	5,980.00	5,980.00	2,194.85	503.58	3,755.15	30.00	99.5
60442	57100	TRAVEL/TRAINING	4,000.00	5,275.00	2,366.00	.00	2,434.00	475.00	91.0
60442	57400	GENERAL INSURANCE	45,000.00	45,000.00	38,924.47	.00	.00	6,075.53	86.5
60442	57401	WORKERS COMP INS	10,000.00	10,000.00	11,825.53	.00	.00	-1,825.53	118.3
60442	57402	HEALTH/LIFE INS	169,430.00	169,430.00	231.00	.00	269.00	168,930.00	.3
60442	57403	SS/MEDICARE	7,500.00	7,500.00	.00	.00	.00	7,500.00	.0
60442	57404	RETIREMENT	99,111.00	99,111.00	52,103.88	.00	.00	47,007.12	52.6
60442	57406	UNFUNDED EE BENEFITS	5,100.00	5,100.00	.00	.00	.00	5,100.00	.0
60442	57407	TRANSFER TO GENERAL FU	283,677.00	283,677.00	141,838.50	.00	.00	141,838.50	50.0
60442	59100	LONG TERM PRINCIPAL	537,869.00	537,869.00	517,868.91	407,868.91	.00	20,000.09	96.3

FY24 BUDGET REPORT - THRU 01/31/24

FOR 2024 07

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
60442 59120 LONG TERM INTEREST	198,000.00	198,000.00	153,055.79	72,577.89	.00	44,944.21	77.3
60442 59130 SHORT TERM INTEREST	15,000.00	15,000.00	10,854.91	.00	.00	4,145.09	72.4
60442 59150 DEBT ISSUANCE COSTS	42,000.00	42,000.00	9,494.32	4,747.16	6,600.00	25,905.68	38.3
TOTAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT	2,824,711.00	2,873,334.64	1,557,187.11	563,999.42	331,388.95	984,758.58	65.7%
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,824,711.00	2,873,334.64	1,557,187.11	563,999.42	331,388.95	984,758.58	
GRAND TOTAL	2,824,711.00	2,873,334.64	1,557,187.11	563,999.42	331,388.95	984,758.58	65.7%

\*\* END OF REPORT - Generated by Allison Crespo \*\*

Selectboard and Finance Committee Joint FY25 Budget Meeting #1  
via Zoom and in person at 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA  
Tuesday, February 6, 2024

1. Call to Order - Chairman Bannon opened the meeting at 6:00pm with Selectboard members Steve Bannon, Leigh Davis, Ben Elliott, Eric Gabriel, Garfield Reed and Finance Committee members Milena Cerna, Madonna Meagher, Anne O'Dwyer, Philip Orenstein present. Absent: Richard Geiler. Also present: Town Manager Mark Pruhenski, Assistant Town Manager Chris Rembold, Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo and other department heads as noted below.
2. Budget Overview–Town Manager Presentation – M. Pruhenski presented an overview/summary of the FY25 budget. He stated among the highest priorities is public safety, new regional building/inspector services and investing in infrastructure. He presented information on revenue sources/estimates and proposed expenditures noting an expected 12.9% increase this year due to increases in fixed costs. He covered historical operating and capital budgets; highlighted important capital projects especially those aimed at maintaining an aging infrastructure and special articles. He noted this was a very challenging budget to draft and many difficult decisions were made in discussions with department heads.

P. Orenstein stated he is the interim Executive Director for the Community Development Corporation of South Berkshire and where there are any potential conflicts with his role on the Finance Committee he will follow the Conflict of Interest Law and recuse.

3. Departmental Budgets
  - a. Selectboard/Town Manager – M. Pruhenski presented stating the only change is \$20,000 in contracted services for public relations will become a part-time position, but the budgeted amount will remain the same as last year.
  - b. Finance Committee/Reserve Fund – M. Pruhenski presented stating there is no change from last year, but noted the reserve is not keeping pace with the budget.
  - c. Town Accountant – A. Crespo presented stating the budget includes the standard salary increase and an increase in the cost of accounting and auditing services.
  - d. Technology – Alicia Dulin, Treasurer/Collector, presented stating the only budget increase is for the IT consultant's rates and expenses for required upgrades/licenses. She noted the IT Director position was cut in budget discussions. The staff and Selectboard discussed the IT Director position and staff emphasized the importance of having a dedicated position to effectively and efficiently manage/monitor the system
  - e. Assessors' Office – Ross Vivori, Principal Assessor, presented stating there is one significant increase in his budget for contracted services for the required recertification in FY25 as large scale data collection and statistical analysis occurs every five years.
  - f. Collector/Treasurer – A. Dulin presented her budget is level except for salary increases. She noted there will be a postage increase over the next fiscal year and it is an election year so there will be additional mailings. She also noted she had requested a part-time payroll clerk, but it was eliminated from the budget. She confirmed there are funds set aside for any tax and title litigation.
  - g. Human Resources – Sophia Bletsos, HR Director, presented stating the only increase in her budget is for training. M. Pruhenski stated S. Bletsos had transitioned to full time on November 1 and has been leading recruiting, retention, onboarding and other important efforts.

- h. Town Clerk – Jenn Messina, Town Clerk, presented stating budget increases are due to having three elections this year requiring staffing and equipment maintenance.
  - i. Building Inspectors – M. Pruhenski stated the Town has transitioned to a shared Building Department with three other towns and Great Barrington is hosting four employees – three local inspectors and Matt Kollmer, Building Commissioner, covering salary/benefits. He added that the Town will be reimbursed by each town based on the number of permits – though there will be a year’s delay in the reimbursement – he added this is a three-year agreement among the towns. He noted that overall, the Town will be spending less for building inspections. An additional budget increase is for weights and measures which was underfunded last year. It was noted that the fee schedule will be looked into and compared to other towns.
  - j. Health Department - Rebecca Jurczyk, Health Agent, presented stating there is a budget increase for potential legal services and independent water in Housatonic. It was discussed whether to require Housatonic Water Works to pay for testing – Ruby Chang, Board of Health member, stated it is important for the Board of Health to do the testing directly/independently of HWW rather than issuing a Cease and Desist order which could prolong the process. M. Pruhenski stated legal expenses could be covered in the Town’s current legal budget. It was agreed it is important to get information on standards for water testing from the DEP.
  - k. Debt Service – A. Crespo presented and provided details on budget increases for loan interest payments and new bond issuance, noting the majority of the increase is due to payments on existing debt. She stated there has been an increase in the amount borrowed and an increase in interest rates. S. Bannon stated borrowing can be approved at Town Meeting and incurred years later and added that more projects means incurs more borrowing and the Town needs to keep up infrastructure and services. A. Crespo clarified that bonds/borrowing covers multiple projects, but they are tracked internally by project. It was discussed that a debt schedule/more information on payments over multiple years would be helpful.
  - l. Retirement – A. Dulin presented stating the contribution amount is provided by Berkshire County Retirement and Medicare. P. Orenstein noted an increase in retirement contribution is good and it is close to being fully funded.
  - m. Insurance – A. Dulin presented stating the budget reflects a 7% increase in health insurance and M. Pruhenski stated there is no significant increase from the Town’s insurance company.
4. Citizen Speak Time
- a. Michelle Loubert, 70 Division Street, asked about salary levels and suggested they be researched. M. Pruhenski stated salaries have been researched and updated.
  - b. James Garzon, 84 North Plain Road, stated taxes are high and that should be a focus.
5. Media Time – No media asked to speak.
6. Adjournment - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

Selectboard and Finance Committee Joint FY25 Budget Meeting #2 via Zoom  
and in person at 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA  
Wednesday, February 7, 2024

1. Call to Order - - Chairman Bannon opened the meeting at 6:00pm with Selectboard members Steve Bannon, Leigh Davis, Ben Elliott, Eric Gabriel, Garfield Reed and Finance Committee members Milena Cerna, Madonna Meagher, Anne O'Dwyer, Philip Orenstein present. Absent: Richard Geiler  
Also present: Town Manager Mark Pruhenski, Assistant Town Manager Chris Rembold, Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo and other department heads as noted below.
2. Departmental Budgets
  - a. Conservation Commission – The budget was reviewed and there was no discussion.
  - b. Planning Board – C. Rembold presented stating the budget is level but for one minor increase.
  - c. Zoning Board of Appeals - C. Rembold presented stating the budget is level funding, but it varies year to year.
  - d. Planning/Community Development – C. Rembold presented stating the budget increase is due to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission annual assessment being moved to this budget from another line and contracted services for outreach and education for Lake Mansfield which is required for a matching grant. He also noted another items stating that under the grant for BRPC consultants to work with the Cultural District, the Town is required to contribute towards the cost.
  - e. Buildings and Grounds – Joe Aberdale, DPW Superintendent presented noting increases in the budget for consulting services for Town cemeteries, equipment maintenance/repair, supplies, etc. He also noted unanticipated expenses from last year for the Town Hall elevator upgrade and other items. J. Aberdale stated the department would track expenses by building to help show needs and costs.
  - f. Highway – J. Aberdale presented noting a decrease in street light costs and some increased costs for new tools for repairs; police details; street maintenance and bridge repair. It was discussed how police details are determined.
  - g. Council on Aging – Joan Peters, Director, presented stating the budget is level other than standard salary increases. She noted the change in staffing for the MicroTransit Program and the increase in use by seniors. C. Rembold explained the increase from two to four full-time staff to cover increased hours and address staffing difficulties. He also stated ARPA funds were used to match the State grant for this program this year, but are no longer available so funds are included in the budget to cover the required match – but he noted the plan is to cover the cost through fare revenue and contributions for the service from other towns. He added the Town has also applied for a MassDOT innovation grant that could also be used to cover the staffing cost. He clarified that the program is in its pilot year and how costs are allocated to the participating towns over time is being evaluated.
  - h. Libraries – Dawn Jardine, Director, presented stating the library is increasing staffing and hours post-COVID. Regarding budget, D. Jardine noted significant increases in the cost and use of digital books/materials and she explained local residents get books much faster if purchased by the Town. She clarified that what is purchased is based on demand and popularity. She also noted budget items for additional technology; non-print materials such as DVDs and audio books and high value items such as kids toys that can be shared. Patrick Hollenbeck, Library Board, stated private funds are needed to offset increased costs.
  - i. Parks and Recreation – J. Aberdale presented noting budget increases for staff support; equipment repair and the Lake Mansfield swimming area/youth programming.
  - j. Wastewater – J. Aberdale presented budget increases for contracted services, mail and training. The use of retained earnings was discussed and it was noted that there have been some large, unexpected expenses which have been covered by retained earnings.

k. Capital – C. Rembold provided an overview of the capital budget by department and category of funding and a five-year capital plan. He noted the Town does not borrow for lower cost/shorter lifespan items as it is generally reserved for larger projects. He stated the total capital budget is \$12.9m and noted capital needs will be significant over the next few years. He also stated that \$10m was eliminated from the original budget request. The capital budget was reviewed by department with DPW having the most significant/larger scale projects. Highlights included Police Department Officer shields; Fire Department car replacement and partial funds for a new engine; DPW replacement vehicles and equipment; grounds/buildings architecture engineering evaluation/repair; and street, bridge and culvert annual maintenance/repair. J. Aberdale stated, based on the asset management plan, five key Town buildings have \$659,000 in immediate needs and he detailed the work to be done this year. J. Aberdale emphasized the importance of keeping up infrastructure and building repair/maintenance to avoid deterioration and higher costs in the future. Maintenance work on Route 183 was described along with a long-term plan for major work/repairs by the State and South Main Street road/sidewalk work was described as a Town rather than a State project to avoid additional design expense and delay. In addition, J. Aberdale described planned upgrades for multiple Town parks and the Wastewater pump stations. It was discussed that it was more logical to borrow for large Wastewater projects, but smaller/pressing expenses can be covered by retained earnings. Regarding Transit, C. Rembold stated there is a need for two new vehicles for the MicroTransit Program to cover when BRTA vehicles are out of service – but he noted the Town has applied for grants to cover 80% of the cost. He also clarified that operating costs are shared with the other towns in the program.

### 3. Citizen Speak Time

- a. Sharon Gregory asked what is covered in the FY25 articles - S. Bannon replied articles are voted on separately at Town Meeting and the proposed articles are included in the budget materials.
- b. James Garzon, 84 North Plain Road, suggested using retained earnings instead of borrowing and that the name of each department head should be printed on their budget.

### 4. Media Time – No media asked to speak.

### 5. Adjournment - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

Selectboard and Finance Committee Joint FY25 Budget Meeting #3 via Zoom and in Person  
at 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024

1. Call to Order - Chairman Bannon opened the meeting at 6:00pm with Selectboard members Steve Bannon, Leigh Davis, Ben Elliott, Eric Gabriel, Garfield Reed and Finance Committee members Milena Cerna, Madonna Meagher, Anne O'Dwyer, Philip Orenstein present. Absent: Richard Geiler. Also present: Town Manager Mark Pruhenski, Assistant Town Manager Chris Rembold, Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo and other department heads as noted below.
- S. Bannon stated there will need to be another budget meeting and it was scheduled for February 20 at 6:00pm.
2. Departmental Budgets
  - a. Police Department – Chief Sorti presented stating the most significant increase is for ongoing six-day per week parking enforcement which has increased the number of tickets and revenue. He added that other increases are due to the accreditation process, vehicle supplies, software subscriptions, and other annual expenses. He also stated there is a new line for interpreter services. It was discussed the Department is down five officers, but three are coming on and two to be hired.
    - i. Eileen Mooney asked about the co-responder role and Chief Sorti replied it is now being covered by Community Impact funds.
  - b. Fire Department – M. Pruhenski and Chief Turner presented stating there are increases in full-time fire fighters, equipment and costs for repairs/maintenance. He noted new line items that were previously one line item under firefighting supplies.
  - c. Emergency Management – Chief Sorti presented stating there are small increases for the stipend and additional equipment.
  - d. Animal Control – It was stated the budget is the same as last year and there were no questions.
  - e. Community Services – M. Pruhenski presented stating these are mini grants to a wide range of nonprofits serving residents – he added funding has been cut by \$5,000 this year.
  - f. Veterans' Affairs – M. Pruhenski stated the was a request for an increase for the VFW lease, but level funding is being recommended. Tom Beasley, Director of Veterans' Services, clarified that costs for veterans' programs are apportioned to the Town and benefits depends on the number of vets helped in Great Barrington.
  - g. Boards and Commissions – M. Pruhenski stated the was a request for increased funding, but was scaled back to stay close to a level budget. Don Howe, Chair, Historic District Commission and Malcolm Fick, Chair, Historical Commission, presented on the multiple preservation and restoration projects and priorities lead by the Commissions as well as the work of the Historical Society. D. Howe stated the District is requesting \$26,000 to maintain key Town monuments and clarified its role in ensuring work is done appropriately and M. Fick stated the \$17,000 request from the Historical Commission is for additional monument preservation and archival work. It was discussed that the three historical entities work together, but have separate missions and areas of focus – with the Historical Society being a private group.
  - h. Celebrations & Events – M. Pruhenski stated the budget was reduced by \$4,000 this year requiring reductions in Town contributions to some local events.

- i. Berkshire Hills Regional School Assessment – Peter Dillon, Superintendent, Berkshire Hills Regional School District, presented an overview regarding changes in the District’s operating and capital budgets and stated the assessment to Great Barrington reflects a 3.54% increase. There was discussion about enrollment trends, planned vocational programs and staffing shifts. P. Dillon clarified that budget increases are predominantly due to salaries/benefits. He note there will be a public hearing on the budget on February 29 and that it is available online and in hardcopy at the library.
- j. Special Articles – M. Pruhenski stated there are 12 special articles and not many are recommended as they are funded by free cash. He continued to describe the five recommended articles:
  - Community Impact funding; vocational tuition/transportation for two students; emergency medical services; cannabis-related legal fees; courthouse upgrades.
    - i. Community Impact - Amana Timpane made a request for \$1m to be allocated from Community Impact funding for Railroad Street Youth Project for the addition of a second floor to house youth substance use and prevention counseling/programming. She confirmed there are rough plans for the project and total cost will be \$1.6m. It was clarified that this is a request to add \$1m to the budget.  
M. Pruhenski confirmed there has been increased demand for funding and that how the Town is using Community Impact funds aligns with established criteria for its use. It was clarified that the Town Manager receives recommendations from the Community Impact Committee and he makes final decisions – and if funds are not used, it goes to free cash.
    - ii. Vocational Tuition/Transportation – It was clarified that costs have gone down due to the purchase of a van that is also used for the MicroTransit program.
    - iii. Emergency Medical Services – Kevin Wall presented providing information on operations and finances and the multiple challenges including retaining staffing, which limits expansion of services, and Medicare reimbursement. It was clarified that the State does not consider EMS an essential service so there is no State funding available. He noted the service model will need to change to make it sustainable. It was confirmed that the participating towns are all getting the same increase and that there has been considerable effort to raise funds through individuals and grants. S. Bannon stated the current model does not cover costs and this is a nationwide problem – he noted the Towns and EMS need to work together to address the issue. It was agreed that financial questions would be addressed at the next meeting.
    - iv. It was agreed the \$15,000 would be combined with Community Impact Funding and the amount would be adjusted.
    - v. Courthouse Upgrades – Joe Aberdale, Superintendent, DPW, presented stating that a new 10-year lease is being negotiated and the State has requested improvements as part of that process. He noted that over the lease term the cost of improvement will be recouped. He clarified the Town is awaiting the State’s proposal for the new lease rate. The nature of the improvements related to the lease were discussed in detail and compared to immediate needs identified in the building assessment. P. Orenstein asked to calculate the cost of upgrades vs the financial benefit of continuing to have the Courthouse in Town. J. Aberdale stated he would provide information on how the lease will cover the cost of the improvements.

- vi. Ramsdell Library – M. Pruhenski stated this article was not recommended. Pat Hollenbeck

and Ruby Chang, Library Board, asked that \$150,000 be restored for Ramsdell capital improvements. They stated the library is also a gathering place for the community that provides access to resources. It was clarified that the \$150,000 would allow the library to apply for a State grant and there would be continuous fundraising efforts. It was discussed that there should be a comprehensive fundraising plan.

3. Citizen Speak Time – No citizens asked to speak.

4. Media Time – No media asked to speak.

5. Adjournment - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 8:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

Selectboard and Finance Committee Joint FY25 Budget Meeting #4 via Zoom and in person  
 at 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA  
 Wednesday, February 14, 2024

1. Call to Order - Chairman Bannon opened the meeting at 6:00pm with Selectboard members Steve Bannon, Leigh Davis, Ben Elliott, Eric Gabriel, Garfield Reed and Finance Committee members Milena Cerna, Madonna Meagher, Anne O'Dwyer, Philip Orenstein present. Absent: Richard Geiler. Also present: Town Manager Mark Pruhenski, Assistant Town Manager Chris Rembold, Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo and other department heads as noted below.
2. Review and Discussion
  - S. Bannon stated at this meeting there would be a vote on recommendations on the budget to bring to the Finance Committee public hearing and then to a final vote for the Town Meeting warrant.
    - a. Special Articles – S. Bannon stated they would start with the five Articles recommended by the Town Manager and then others could be raised for consideration.
      - i. Community Impact - The Railroad Street Youth Project request was discussed and it was clarified that the organization rents the building for \$300/month from the nonprofit Great Barrington Youth Foundation and rent money is used for maintenance. The building is also deed restricted to use for youth services, and if it is not used for those purposes, it reverts to the Town. It was clarified if \$1m is added to the Community Impact budget for this project, and ultimately it is not allocated, it goes back to free cash. The value of having consolidated youth substance use/prevention services and using Community Impact funds for these purposes was discussed.
        - Michelle Loubert, 70 Division Street expressed concerns if the building is sold and asked about using of Community Impact funds as it could potentially be challenged
        - Bob Redpath, 190 Castle Hill Avenue, asked about the skate park – it was clarified that is not in the Town budget.
        - Buddy Atwood, 370 Maple Avenue, stated the building is for use for youth and it reverts to the Town if that changes.
    - P. Orenstein stated he would recuse.
    - A. O'Dwyer made a motion to support Community Impact funding for \$1.5m from the Community Impact portion of free cash and that \$1m be set aside for the Railroad Street Youth building on the recommendation of the Community Impact Committee and approval of the Town Manager; M. Meagher seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0 with P. Orenstein abstaining.
    - L. Davis made a motion to support Community Impact funding for \$1.5m from the Community Impact portion of free cash and that \$1m be set aside for the Railroad Street Youth building on the recommendation of the Community Impact Committee and approval of the Town Manager; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 4-0 with G. Reed abstaining.
      - ii. Vocational Tuition/Transportation
        - A. O'Dwyer made a motion to recommend \$80,000 for the Vocational Tuition and Transportation Special Article; M. Cerna seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.
        - L. Davis made a motion to recommend \$80,000 for the Vocational Tuition and Transportation Special Article; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.
      - iii. Legal Fees
        - It was discussed and agreed that \$15,000 should be taken out of Community Impact

funding and Special Article 8, Legal Fees, should be eliminated.

P. Orenstein made a motion to strike Special Article 8 with the intention that it be included under Community Impact funding; A. O'Dwyer seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.

L. Davis made a motion to strike Special Article 8 with the intention that it be included under Community Impact funding; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

#### iv. Courthouse Upgrades

M. Pruhenski shared information on the last 10-year lease terms and payments. It was clarified that \$200,000 is for are for improvements requested by the State and for which the Town will be compensated and \$241,000 is under the capital budget is for general maintenance and repairs which are all capital expenses, but for \$76,000. It was discussed that making repairs/improvements is important to preserving the building. It was suggested that perhaps there could be adjustments to the lease over the term.

A. O'Dwyer made a motion to approve the Special Article for Courthouse Upgrades for \$200,000 from free cash; M. Cerna seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0 with P. Orenstein abstaining.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the Special Article for Courthouse Upgrades for \$200,000 from free cash; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion—there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

S. Bannon asked if there are other Special Articles to discuss.

#### v. Ramsdell Library

Pat Hollenbeck and Ruby Chang, Library board members, asked for funding of \$150,000 to make the Library sustainable with the addition of State support – and to ultimately, put to a Town Meeting vote. There was discussion about the Town's liability if State/private fundraising is not sufficient to cover costs and it was stated it is hard to raise money without Town support. C. Rembold stated the Town maintains the building to keep it usable and functional and the plan being proposed is to transform/modernize the building and usage. It was noted that the Town will continue to maintain the building so it will not deteriorate. It was clarified that if the State does not provide funding, Town funds go back to free cash.

P. Hollenbeck confirmed the State is supportive of libraries serving multiple purposes, such as a community space, so they are more broadly usable. There was discussion about fundraising and its challenges in the current environment and at such high dollar amounts as needed for the project. Concerns were raised about the Town being responsible if there are funding gaps. It was confirmed that funds would be requested in phases. The benefits/concerns in investing and upgrading the library and its impact on taxes/budget were discussed.

P. Orenstein made a motion to not fund the planning and design phase for Ramsdell Library. The motion was not seconded.

A. O'Dwyer made a motion to fund \$150,000 from free cash for the planning and design phase for Ramsdell Library; M. Meagher seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “no.” Motion passed 3-1.

L. Davis made a motion to fund \$150,000 from free cash for the planning and design phase for Ramsdell Library; B. Elliott seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Motion passed 4-1 with S. Bannon voting no.

M. Pruhenski stated at some point it will need to be determined if the \$150,000 would be reduced from the portion of general funds free cash applied to the tax rate or lower

the portion of general funds free cash that is remaining.

v. Emergency Medical Services – Joe Krejci responded to questions regarding revenue and expenses; ambulances/vehicles in use and fundraising efforts. P. Orenstein asked about the 2022 audit and stated the Finance Committee would need to review financial and operational information before approving funding. It was clarified that the audit hold up was with the auditor and the final should be available within the next week. It was confirmed the operating model would be reevaluated.

A. O’Dwyer made a motion to support funding for Emergency Medical Services pending receipt of the audit; M. Cerna seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.

L. Davis made a motion to support funding for Emergency Medical Services pending receipt of the audit; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion–there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

A. O’Dwyer stated we are in this situation because we have not funded stabilization funds and asked that be discussed in the future.

#### b. Operating Budget

i. P. Orenstein stated for the Building Inspector, reimbursements from other towns should be netted out. S. Bannon stated it is funded through free cash and it goes back to free cash.

ii. A. O’Dwyer stated debt service, insurance and salary increases are obligations/set payments – and asked to figure out what is that cost/percentage re: the overall increase. It was stated that a substantial part of the increase is due to debt service, insurance and contractual salary increases. It was confirmed there is just over \$1m in free cash.

It was stated that there may need to be significant cuts to the operating and perhaps the capital budget and a target percentage increase was discussed that would be acceptable for the Town and residents. It was discussed that the impact of cuts to the operating budget should be considered and suggested that M. Pruhenski work on those scenarios. M. Pruhenski stated significant cuts have already been made and additional sizable cuts will require reducing staff and services.

P. Orenstein made a motion to ask the Town Manager to put together hypothetical cuts to the operating budget at \$100,000, \$250,000 and \$500,000; M. Cerna seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – A. O’Dwyer stated \$500,000 is too much. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “no,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” Motion passed 3-1.

L. Davis made a motion to ask the Town Manager to put together hypothetical cuts to the operating budget at \$100,000, \$250,000 and \$500,000; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – E. Gabriel stated \$500,000 is too drastic. Motion passed 3-2 with S. Bannon, B. Elliott and G. Reed voting “aye” and L. Davis and E. Gabriel voting “no.”

#### c. Capital Budget

i. Police Department – The request for a new cruiser and for shields was discussed regarding the purpose/use, number and cost. Chief Sorti stated he would evaluate whether the life of the cruiser could be extended by one year.

A. O’Dwyer made a motion to support the budget as it stands for \$183,050, but to reserve the right To find out about the cruiser before the public hearing; P. Orenstein seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “no,” M. Meagher, “no,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” Motion failed: 2-2.

L. Davis made a motion to support the budget as it stands for \$183,050, but to reserve the right

To find out about the cruiser before the public hearing; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – it was raised that shields are important for officer safety. Motion passed: 4-1 with L. Davis voting “no.”

M. Meagher made a motion to fund one cruiser and to cut the shields. The motion was not seconded

A. O’Dwyer made a motion to fund the shields and one cruiser; P. Orenstein seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “no,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “no.” Motion failed: 2-2.

S. Bannon stated the Selectboard vote stands and the Finance Committee will revisit.

ii. Fire Department – The advance payment for the replacement of Engine 2 and the replacement of Car 1 was discussed and it was confirmed that its life cannot be extended.

P. Orenstein made a motion to fund the Car 1 replacement, but not the Engine 2 reserve payment;

A. O’Dwyer seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – it was confirmed that the cost of replacing Engine 1 in 2028 will be \$800,000 and that its lifespan is 25 years.

P. Orenstein withdrew his motion

P. Orenstein made a motion to approve the Fire Department capital request as presented; M. Cerna seconded.

P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the Fire Department capital request as stated; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – E. Gabriel stated he understands the need, but the funds can be used elsewhere more immediately. Motion failed: 3-2 with S. Bannon and B. Elliott voting “aye,” and L. Davis, E. Gabriel and G. Reed voting “no.”

E. Gabriel made a motion to approve the Car 1 replacement; L. Davis seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Motion passed: 4-1 with S. Bannon voting “no.”

S. Bannon stated the Finance Committee vote takes precedence and it will be noted the Selectboard did not recommend the Engine 2 payment.

iii. Wastewater – It was stated that wastewater is retained earnings and borrowing is for the pump station.

P. Orenstein made a motion to approve the Wastewater capital request as stated; A. O’Dwyer seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the Wastewater capital request as stated; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

iv. Transit – C. Rembold stated the Town is taking possession of a vehicle so \$23,000 can be removed from the budget.

P. Orenstein made a motion to allocate \$22,000 for the transit vehicle capital request; A. O’Dwyer seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.

L. Davis made a motion to allocate \$22,000 for the transit vehicle capital request; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

v. DPW – J. Aberdale explained the requested parks improvement items and noted there are \$95,000 in additional CPA funds for Grove Street.

P. Orenstein made a motion to approve the parks improvement equipment capital request of \$58,000 from the tax levy; A. O’Dwyer seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the parks improvement equipment capital request of \$58,000 from the tax levy; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

S. Bannon stated that Tuesday's meeting would start at 5:00pm.

3. Citizen Speak Time

- a. Name unintelligible – stated shields are only useful for small caliber bullets
- b. James Garzon, 84 North Plain Road, thanked the Selectboard and Finance Committee for their work on the budget.

4. Media Time – No media asked to speak.

5. Adjournment - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 9:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

Selectboard and Finance Committee Joint FY25 Budget Meeting via Zoom  
and in Person at 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024

1. Call to Order – Chairman Bannon opened the meeting at 5:00pm with Selectboard members Steve Bannon, Leigh Davis, Ben Elliott, Eric Gabriel, Garfield Reed and Finance Committee members Milena Cerna, Richard Geiler, Madonna Meagher, Anne O’Dwyer, Philip Orenstein present.  
Also present: Town Manager Mark Pruhenski, Assistant Town Manager Chris Rembold, Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo and other department heads as noted below.
2. FY 25 Budget Review and Discussion
  - R. Geiler stated he has listened to the budget meetings and is familiar with the information being presented.
    - a. Capital Budget
      - i. Police Department

S. Bannon stated the Finance Committee should vote regarding the Police Department budget and noted the Selectboard approved \$183,050 with a 4-1 vote at the last meeting. Police Officer Adam Carlotto stated one of the new police cruisers can wait for replacement until next year and one radio can also be deducted.

A. O’Dwyer made a motion to approve the Police Department Capital budget request for \$113,050; R. Geiler seconded. P. Orenstein asked for any discussion – M. Meagher asked about the need for shields - it was discussed that it is life-saving protective equipment and it was debated if it is essential especially in such a tight budget year. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “no,” R. Geiler, “aye,” M. Meagher, “no,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” Motion passed: 3-2.
      - ii. DPW

C. Rembold reviewed the budget for vehicles and equipment; buildings and grounds and streets and bridges - he noted expense funding (borrowing, free cash, etc.) and proposed cuts for each line item. Multiple revisions were made to scale back/delay projects such as the Senior Center kitchen, Town Hall campus and some street engineering projects such as South Main Street. It was stated that road engineering is required to be eligible for state funds and that immediate maintenance/ upgrades to Town buildings has to be addressed to prevent further deterioration. It was noted there is \$750,000 in the budget for the Habitat for Humanity project. P. Orenstein stated it is important to know what is previously authorized borrowing in addition to what is being proposed for FY25 – and the cost/impact of borrowing and debt service was discussed. P. Orenstein noted that debt service is 20% of the general fund budget.

        - o Jim Bailey, Housatonic, stated for the Habitat for Humanity project, that infrastructure funding was to come from the State not taxpayers.

Vehicles and Equipment

A. O’Dwyer made a motion to recommend the DPW vehicles and equipment capital budget request as discussed; M. Cerna seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” R. Geiler, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 5-0.

L. Davis made a motion to recommend the DPW vehicles and equipment capital budget request as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

### Buildings and Grounds

R. Geiler suggested funds for Ramsdell be removed pending funding/feedback from the State. It was discussed that engineering should not be cut. The courthouse work was discussed further and Joe Aberdale, DPW Superintendent explained the work under this capital request that is to be borrowed and improvements requested under the lease agreement that will come from free cash.

A. O'Dwyer made a motion to fund the DPW capital request for buildings and grounds with reductions as discussed; M. Cerna seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked for any discussion – P. Orenstein stated funds for architectural/engineering should not be cut. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” R. Geiler, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “no.” Motion passes: 4-1.

L. Davis made a motion to fund the DPW capital request for buildings and grounds with reductions as discussed. The motion was not seconded.

E. Gabriel made a motion to fully fund architecture/engineering at \$425,000 and other budget items as recommended by staff; B. Elliott seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Motion passed 3-2 with L. Davis and G. Reed voting “no.”

Streets, Bridges and Culverts – it was noted that \$3.5m was removed as well as \$100,000 for engineering.

P. Orenstein made a motion to reduce the Streets, bridges and culverts capital budget by \$3.6m; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “no,” R. Geiler, “aye,” M. Meagher, “no,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” Motion passes: 3-2.

L. Davis made a motion to reduce the engineering budget by \$100,000; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Motion failed 3-2 with S. Bannon, E. Gabriel and B. Elliott voting “no.”

E. Gabriel made a motion to fully fund the engineering line and take other reductions as proposed; B. Elliott seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – it was noted that Town is awaiting potential grant funding. Motion passes 4-1 with L. Davis voting “no.”

### b. Operating Budget

M. Pruhenski, as requested, presented three tiers of hypothetical budget reductions of \$100,000, \$250,000 and \$500,000. He recommended that free cash remain at \$1m where it is currently due to reductions in the operating budget and revenue not being as strong as in the past. He also stated that for the Building Department, town partners will be billed before June 30. Regarding cuts for the three tiers, he noted to achieve these cuts both program expenses and staff/FTEs would have to be reduced. He also shared information on the impact of these cuts on the tax rate noting that lowering the budget increase percentage provides only nominal reductions in the actual tax rate ranging from 5-25 cents. It was confirmed that for the the Town would be reimbursed for Building Department expenses. There was consensus that there should not be cuts in staff/FTEs and there was discussion about cutting budget for youth programs and veterans. S. Bannon stated the hypothetical cuts shows the biggest issue is debt service and revenue.

It was agreed that there should be a review/discussion of the operating budget and any cuts prior to the public hearing. It was suggested that the cuts at tiers two and three should be discussed as well as tier one youth and veterans proposed cuts. Each line item cut was detailed and discussed in depth to determine if it should be accepted, revised or restored.

E. Gabriel made a motion to remove from the list of budget cuts technical software for \$15,000, economic development for \$10,000, Council on Aging transportation for \$10,300, Council on Aging activities for \$3,200, VFW lease for \$21,600 and American Legion lease for \$23,000 and the salary line for \$278,350; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – L. Davis asked for clarification on DPW items. All in favor: 5-0.

L. Davis made a motion to remove DPW street and bridge maintenance for \$17,200 and property security and safety for \$24,000; B. Elliott seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Motion passed 4-1 with G. Reed voting “no.”

A. O’Dwyer made a motion to remove from the list of budget cuts technical software for \$15,000, economic development for \$10,000, Council on Aging transportation for \$10,300, Council on Aging activities for \$3,200, VFW lease for \$21,600 and American Legion lease for \$23,000, salary line for \$278,350, DPW street and bridge maintenance for \$17,200 and property security and safety for \$24,000; R. Geiler seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked for any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: M. Cerna, “aye,” R. Geiler, “aye,” M. Meagher, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye.” All in favor: 4-0.

It was stated there was a \$123,000 cut to the operating budget.

3. Citizen Speak Time – No citizens asked to speak

4. Media Time – No media asked to speak.

5. Adjournment - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

Finance Committee FY25 **Public Hearing** and Selectboard and Finance Committee Joint FY25 Budget Meeting via Zoom and in Person at 334 Main Street Great Barrington MA  
Wednesday February 28, 2024

1. Call to Order – Finance Committee Chairman Phil Orenstein opened the meeting at 6:00pm with Finance Committee members Richard Geiler, Anne O’Dwyer, Philip. Orenstein present. Selectboard members Steve Bannon, Leigh Davis, Ben Elliott, Eric Gabriel, Garfield Reed were present.  
Also present: Town Manager Mark Pruhenski, Assistant Town Manager Chris Rembold, Financial Coordinator Allison Crespo and other department heads as noted below.

Michelle Loubert, 70 Division Street, asked about conflicts of interest regarding affordable housing related budget items. P. Orenstein replied he intended to recuse and will determine how to proceed as voting progresses.

2. Public Hearing on Proposed FY25 Budget

A. O’Dwyer stated after the public hearing the budget and special articles will be discussed and voted on – and then will go to Town Meeting. She stated the public hearing is being conducted in compliance with the Great Barrington Town Bylaw Article 2, Section 74 that requires the Finance Committee to hold a public hearing on Town expenditures and to hear public input on the proposed budget by the Selectboard and Finance Committee.

- R. Geiler made a motion to open the public hearing; P. Orenstein seconded. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

M. Pruhenski provided a budget overview noting the expense management challenges and concern for the impact on taxpayers. He noted changes in revenue projections and lower than expected that State revenue requiring any additional increases to be offset by reductions elsewhere. He also recommended that there not be any additional use of free cash. He stated there are three notable changes since the last meeting – a change in funding source for Special Article Courthouse Improvement to the Sale of Real Estate account instead of free cash; \$10,556 opioid settlement funds received be moved to a special revenue fund for recovery services and related uses; and a debt schedule has been created showing impact over time. He added that the tax levy is now \$3,077,375 which is a decrease of \$201,725 – and that the tax rate increase has gone from \$1.46 to \$1.14 and the budget percentage increase has gone from 12.9% to 8.2%.

- a. Public Input

- Sharon Gregory suggested the budget and capital expenditures be reduced due to a concern about tax increases. She added that capital expenditures should be spread out and CPA funds used to support Ramsdell Library.
- Eileen Mooney asked for copies of information that was shared at the meeting.
- Jan Wojcik, 253 Long Pond Road, stated Town buildings and infrastructure should be maintained, especially Ramsdell Library.
- Richard Zucco, 17 Highland Drive, asked for support for the increase in the VFW budget noting the impacts of COVID including lost revenue and increased operating expenses.
- M. Loubert expressed concerns about Town budget/expenses related to projects for South Main Street, Habitat for Humanity, Railroad Street Youth and the Firehouse – noting the impact on resident taxes.

- Robert Redpath, 190 Castle Hill Avenue, asked about CPA and Community Impact funds noting Town departments should release cannabis business impact statements and the Town should be applying for CPA funds. M. Pruhenski replied Town departments do apply/receive CPA funds, as appropriate, based on CPA funding priorities, and that projects in progress are discussed at the Selectboard priority planning meetings.  
P. Orenstein clarified that affordable housing projects pay substantial property taxes.
- Chris Pichard, 83 Hollenbeck Ave, stated tax increases should be managed now and into the future.
- James Bailly, Housatonic, objected to cuts to the veterans budget request and to \$750,000 in funding for the Habitat for Humanity project which should be funded through the State.

R. Geiler made a motion to close the public hearing; P. Orenstein seconded. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

### 3. Selectboard-Finance Committee Joint Meeting.

S. Bannon called the meeting to order. He stated the voting would be in four parts: operating budget, capital budget, special articles and school assessment.

#### a. Operating budget

##### i. Selectboard/Town Manager – a \$6,000 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Selectboard/Town Manager for \$473,409 including the reductions as discussed; P. Orenstein seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Selectboard/Town Manager for \$473,409 including the reductions as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

##### ii. Finance Committee – A \$100 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Finance Committee for \$100,200 including the reduction as discussed; P. Orenstein seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – P. Orenstein stated the budget is the Reserve Fund. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Finance Committee for \$100,200 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

##### iii. Town Accountant

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Town Accountant for \$204,425; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

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L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Town Accountant for \$204,425; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

##### iv. Technology

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Technology for \$330,500; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Technology for \$330,500; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

v. Assessors – A \$1,500 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Assessor for \$234,611 including the reduction as discussed; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Assessor for \$234,611 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

vi. Treasurer/Collector – a reduction of \$500 was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Treasurer/Collector for \$275,931 including the reduction as discussed; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Treasurer/Collector for \$275,931 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

vii. Human Resources – A reduction of \$200 was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Human Resources for \$78,934 including the reduction as discussed; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Human Resources for \$78,934 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

viii. Town Clerk – A reduction of \$400 was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Town Clerk for \$158,944 including the reduction as discussed; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Town Clerk for \$158,944 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

ix. Conservation

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Conservation for \$47,173; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Conservation for \$47,173; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

x. Planning Board

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Planning Board for \$5,610; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for the Planning Board for \$5,610; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xi. Zoning Board

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Zoning Board for \$1,250; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for the Zoning Board for \$1,250; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xii. Planning and Community Development

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Planning and Community Development for \$180,510; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Planning and Community Development for \$180,510; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – L. Davis asked about the \$25,000 for economic development consulting – C. Rembold clarified the Town has used Berkshire Regional Planning as a consultant, but it can be used for any consulting services and he provided examples of past strategic projects. L. Davis made an amended motion to reduce the economic development line to \$15,000; G. Reed seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – E. Gabriel expressed concerns about reducing economic development funding as it is important to the Town. Motion failed: 3-2 with S. Bannon, B. Elliott, E. Gabriel voting "no." E. Gabriel made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Planning and Community Development for \$180,510; B. Elliott seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Motion passed: 3-2 with L. Davis and G. Reed voting "no."

xiii. Buildings and Grounds – a reduction of \$20,000 was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Buildings and Grounds for \$1,003,838 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Buildings and Grounds for \$1,003,838 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xiv. Police Department – a reduction of \$5,000 was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Police Department for \$2,138,261 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Police Department for \$2,138,261 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xv. Fire Department – a \$1,000 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Fire Department for \$897,477 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Fire Department for \$897,477 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xvi. Emergency Management – a \$500 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Emergency Management for \$24,461 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Emergency Management for \$24,461 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xvii. Building Inspector – M. Pruhenski described the shared Building Department

arrangement noting Great Barrington is the host for the program/four employees and will bill the four participating towns. P. Orenstein asked about a potential decrease in the number of permits – M. Pruhenski replied it is a percentage share based on the number of permits issued. A. O'Dwyer stated the reimbursement by the other towns goes into free cash to offset the Town's contribution. L. Davis

asked if this could be funded out of free cash. M. Pruhenski and C. Rembold cautioned against allocating additional free cash even though it will be reimbursed and noted the impact on free cash for next year. Best practices around maintaining free cash, especially as a cushion due to the tight budget and to preserve the Town's bond rating was discussed. P. Orenstein asked about charging interest to the participating towns – M. Pruhenski replied it is not in the signed agreement. He noted the towns can be billed quarterly, if needed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Building Inspector for \$473,901; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for the Building Inspector for \$473,901; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. Motion passed: 3-2 with L. Davis and G. Reed voting "no."

xviii. Animal Control – an \$800 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Animal Control for \$11,000 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Animal Control for \$11,000 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xix. Highway Department – a \$37,700 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Highway Department for \$1,990,234 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Highway Department for \$1,990,234 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xx. Health Department – a \$700 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Health Department for \$146,443 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Health Department for \$146,443 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – it was confirmed that legal expenses were removed. All in favor: 5-0.

xxi. Council on Aging – a \$300 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Council on Aging for \$246,766 including the reduction as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Council on Aging for \$246,766 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xxii. Veterans – allocating the requested additional \$8,400 was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Veterans for \$176,429 including the additional \$8,400 as requested; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, "aye," A. O'Dwyer, "aye," P. Orenstein, "aye." All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Veterans for \$176,429 including the additional \$8,400 as requested; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xxiii. Library – a \$2,300 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Library for \$654,955 including the reduction as discussed; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for the Library for \$654,955 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xxiv. Parks and Recreation – M. Pruhenski suggested that funds to cover the additional \$8,400 allocated to Veterans could come from time off for lifeguards and the skate park. He clarified that the parks would remain open. A \$52,800 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Parks and Recreation for \$83,825 including the reduction as discussed; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Parks and Recreation for \$83,825 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xxv. Boards and Commissions – a \$2,000 reduction was discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Boards and Commissions for \$21,000 including the reduction as discussed; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Boards and Commissions for \$21,000 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xxvi. Celebrations and Events

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Celebrations and Events for \$12,500; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Celebrations and Events for \$12,500; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xxvii. Debt Service – P. Orenstein stated there is a historical summary for debt service including what was previously authorized and being approving this year. He asked that Town staff communicate when projects previously authorized are undertaken.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Debt Service for \$3,378,034; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Debt Service for \$3,378,034; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

xxviii. Retirement

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Retirement for \$1,230,281; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Retirement for \$1,230,281; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## xxix. Insurance

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Insurance for \$1,797,506; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Insurance for \$1,797,506; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0

## xxx. Wastewater

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 budget for Wastewater for \$3,153,295; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve FY25 budget for Wastewater for \$3,153,295; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## b. Capital Budget

## i. Police Department – It was discussed that one cruiser and radio was removed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for the Police Department for \$104,675 including the reductions as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for the Police Department for \$104,675 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## ii. Fire Department – There was a discussion about partially funding the new engine this year.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for the Fire Department for \$167,000 with \$67,000 borrowed and \$100,000 free cash; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – it was debated whether to partially fund the new engine this year. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “no,” P. Orenstein, “no.” Motion failed: 2-1 with A. O'Dwyer and P. Orenstein voting “no.”

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for the Fire Department for \$67,000 including the reductions as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for the Fire Department for \$67,000 including the reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## iii. DPW – S. Bannon asked about the status of grants for the Habitat for Humanity project - C. Rembold replied there is no update and bids have not been opened.

Removing \$750,000 from the reserve fund for the project was discussed and it was noted that if the situation changes it can be discussed again and voted on at a subsequent Town Meeting. Removing an additional \$3,600 was also discussed.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for the DPW for \$4,358,684 including reductions as discussed; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for the DPW for \$4,358,684 including reduction as discussed; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – G. Reed asked what is the plan if bids are high – it was stated that staff would try to reduce costs or look for other funds. All in favor: 5-0.

## iv. Parks

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for Parks for \$153,000; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – it was noted that \$95,000 is being funded through CPA. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for Parks for \$153,000; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – G. Reed asked what is the plan if bids are high – it was stated that staff would try to reduce costs or look for other funds. All in favor: 5-0.

## v. Transit

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for Transit for \$22,000; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – it was noted that the budget had previously been reduced from \$45,000. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for Transit for \$22,000; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## vi. Wastewater

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for Wastewater for \$2,650,000; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 capital budget for Wastewater for \$2,650,000; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## c. Special Articles – S. Bannon stated the five Town Manager recommended and the one Selectboard recommended Special Articles would be voted on.

## i. Community Impact

P. Orenstein recused. It was stated the Finance Committee cannot vote on this Special Article with only two members voting.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Community Impact for \$1,500,000; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## ii. BHRSD Vocational Tuition and Transportation

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for BHRSD Vocational Tuition and Transportation for \$80,000; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for BHRSD Vocational Tuition and Transportation for \$80,000; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## iii. Emergency Medical Services

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Emergency Medical Services for \$205,326; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – P. Orenstein stated the 2022 financial audit was received. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Emergency Medical Services for \$205,326; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

## iv. Courthouse Improvements – S. Bannon stated there is a change in the funding source to the Sale of Real Estate account.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Courthouse Improvements for \$200,000 from the Sale of Real Estate account; A. O'Dwyer seconded. A. O'Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O'Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Courthouse Improvements for \$200,000 from the Sale of Real Estate account; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

v. Ramsdell Library – M. Pruhenski suggested partially funding this out of the Sale of Real Estate account.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Ramsdell Library for \$150,000 with \$125,000 from the Sale of Real Estate account and \$25,000 from free cash; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Ramsdell Library for \$150,000 with \$125,000 from the Sale of Real Estate account and \$25,000 from free cash; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – S. Bannon stated his concern about the lack of a solid plan to raise \$2-3m, and if not, the Town may be responsible for making up the difference. It was discussed that Ramsdell is an important project and the Town can decline to fund any additional expenses. P. Orenstein stated he would not support another request for funds. All in favor: 5-0.

vi. Opioid Settlement Funds

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Opioid Settlement Funds received in 2023 in the amount of \$10,556.32; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 Special Article for Opioid Settlement Funds received in 2023 in the amount of \$10,556.32; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – there was none. All in favor: 5-0.

d. School Assessment – S. Bannon stated whatever is voted tonight is predicated on the School Committee public hearing tomorrow and if there is a change in the amount we will have to revote.

R. Geiler made a motion to approve the FY25 School Assessment for \$21,040,872; A. O’Dwyer seconded. A. O’Dwyer asked if any discussion – there was none. Roll call vote: R. Geiler, “aye,” A. O’Dwyer, “aye,” P. Orenstein, “aye.” All in favor: 3-0.

L. Davis made a motion to approve the FY25 School Assessment for \$21,040,872; E. Gabriel seconded. S. Bannon asked for any discussion – it was noted the increase is under 4%. All in favor: 5-0.

3. Citizen Speak Time – No citizens asked to speak.

4. Media Time

a. Shaw Izikson, Berkshire Edge, asked for the bottom line on budget cuts – S. Bannon replied that information is not available right now, but it will be on the Town website, He also asked about next steps – S. Bannon replied one item needs a Finance Committee vote, but otherwise, the budget goes to Town Meeting for vote.

b. Eileen Mooney asked for clarification on the result of the Building Inspector and Fire Department capital votes.

5. Adjournment - Chairman Bannon adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk

Mark Pruhenski  
Town Manager

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## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

### RESERVE FUND TRANSFER REQUEST

December 29, 2023

TO: Finance Committee  
FROM: Scott Turner, Fire Chief  
RE: Reserve Fund Transfer Request

I respectfully request a reserve fund transfer for \$10,000 to fund apparatus repairs. Requested funding is for repair of the cooling core on Engine 3, replacing the leaking fuel cell on Engine 2 and purchasing rear shock mounts on Ladder 1. Engine 2 is currently out of service and Engine 3 received a minor repair which will only last approximately one or two weeks if used minimally.

	ACCOUNT NAME	ORG	OBJ	AMOUNT
From:	Reserve Fund	01131	57800	\$10,000
To:	Repair/Maintenance	01220	52450	\$10,000

Department Head Signature: 

Date: 3-13-24

Town Accountant: 

Date: 3/13/24

Town Manager: 

Date: 3-13-24

Finance Committee:

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