



Town of Great Barrington Massachusetts

TOWN MEETING

May 7, 2018



Thank You to ...

Members of our Town who are generous with their time and talents, who are dedicated to public service for our community, who serve as elected officials, board members, committee and commission members, volunteers and active citizens.



Get Involved

Elected

- **Selectboard**
- **School Committee**
- **Board of Health**
- **Constables**
- **Finance Committee**
- **Housing Authority**
- **Library Trustees**
- **Moderator**
- **Planning Board**
- **Zoning Board of Appeals**

Appointed

- **Agricultural Commission**
- **Board of Assessors**
- **Board of Registrars**
- **Cable Advisory Committee**
- **Cemetery Commission**
- **Community Preservation Committee**
- **Conservation Commission**
- **Council on Aging**
- **Cultural Council**
- **Design Advisory Committee**
- **Energy Committee**
- **Fence Viewers**
- **Historical Commission**
- **Historic District Commission**
- **Lake Mansfield Task Force**
- **Parks Commission**
- **Tree Committee**



Know the Process

Summer 2015:

Welcome new members.

Set strategy and plans.

Fall 2015:

Develop policy proposals.

Prepare budget with Town Departments.

Winter 2016:

Select Board and Finance Committee Budget Review Meetings.

Spring 2016:

Public Budget Hearing, Mini Town meeting, Annual Town Meeting and Town Elections.



Town Meeting Articles

Financial	Articles	1 -10
Community Preservation	Articles	11-12
Land Easements	Articles	13-17
Zoning By Laws	Articles	17-20
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	Article	21
Citizen Petition: Container	Article	22
Amend Polystyrene Bylaw	Article	23
Citizen Petitions	Articles	24 - 27



Financial Articles

Revolving Funds	Article	1
Elected Officials	Article	2
Chapter 90 Funds	Article	3
Town Capital Budget	Article	4
Town Operating Budget	Article	5
Wastewater Treatment Budget	Article	6
BHRSD Operating & Capital	Article	7
Fund Transfers	Articles	8, 9, 10



What are the Town's funding programs?

Town Revolving Funds:

- *Article 1: Cost of services offset by fees*

Capital Improvement Program:

- *Articles 3, 4, : Taxes, bonds and grants*

Town Operations:

- *Article 5: Taxes, state funds, grants and user fees*

Wastewater Treatment Plant:

- *Article 6: Enterprise program, fully funded by sewer users*

Regional School District Assessment

- *Article 7: Town school assessment.*



Town Funding

Revenue FY19

Tax Levy	\$23,304,382
State Receipts	\$1,114,751
Local Receipts	\$1,525,000
Stabilization and Transfers	\$250,000
Free cash from FY17	\$1,542,504
Total Revenue (Assumed)	\$29,857,343



Town Budget

Town Budget	Expenditure	Warrant Articles
Town Capital Budget	\$3,047,045	Article 4
Town Operating Budget	\$11,342,723	Article 5
BHRSD Assessment	\$16,155,297	Article 8
State Assessments, Overlay	\$232,617	No article needed
Total Appropriations	\$30,783,682	



Tax Rate: Tax Levy / Assessed Value

Projected Tax Rate:

Tax Levy	\$23,304,382
Total Assessed Value (prior yr)	1,440,219,751
Projected Tax Rate	\$16.18 per \$1000 of AV



Article I: Revolving Funds

Authorize use of revolving funds for the following:

- Plumber Inspector (\$13,000)
- Wire Inspector (\$40,000)
- Gas Inspector (\$12,000)
- Cemetery (\$5,000)



Article 2: Elected Officials

- Fix the annual salaries of Selectboard members to \$2,500 per year. 5 members x \$2,500 each = \$12,500 total

The Town's Capital Program

Streets and Sidewalks

Buildings

Vehicles

Parks

Bridges

Article 3 and 4

Town's Capital Budget

Article 3 – Chapter 90	\$420,000
Article 4 – Capital appropriation	\$3,XXXXX
Borrowing	\$534,500
Chapter 90	\$420,000
CPA	??????\$160,000
Grants	\$1,589,545
Available Funds	\$463,000



Article 4: Capital Program

Article 4: Appropriate \$3,047,045 for:

Building Improvements - \$290,000

- Town Hall: Roof Replacement, Front Steps, Office and Carpet
- Mason and Ramsdell Library Improvements
- Police Station, painting

Vehicles

- 2 Police Cruisers
- 1 Highway Dump Truck
- 1 Cemetery Dump Truck
- 1 Highway Skid Steer

Article 4: Capital Program

Equipment

- I Antennae Replacement
- Information Technology Upgrades

Road / Street Sidewalk Improvements

- Division Street, Christian Hill Road, Bridge Street and crack sealing.
- Engineering

Parks

- Olympian Meadow Improvements



Article 5 – Operating Budget

	Expenditures
General Government	\$1,507,635
Public Safety	\$2,284,176
Public Works	\$2,116,679
Public Health	\$120,857
Community Services	\$412,670
Cultural Recreation	\$594,253
Insurance	\$1,736,331
Debt	\$1,475,000
Retirement	\$819,000
Misc./ Celebrations / Fund Transfer	\$45,433
TOTAL PROPOSED OPERATING	\$11,112,034



Article 6: Wastewater Treatment Plant

Authorize the WWTP to operate as an Enterprise Fund
and utilize sewer fees to pay for full cost of system



Wastewater Treatment Plant

Total Operating Budget: \$2,045,358

Highlights

▪ Salaries	\$420,368
▪ Expenses	\$620,450
▪ Insurance / Benefits	\$238,911
▪ Misc. / Transfers	\$108,629
▪ Debt Service:	\$657,000



WWTP Capital Program

All funds for current and future phases have been authorized by prior Town Meetings

No dollars are proposed for the capital program for the WWTP

Phase II WWTP Awarded, with interest free loan, savings of about \$1M.

Article 7 – Reallocation of Library Construction funds

- ✓ Appropriate and transfer \$155,919 of unexpended funds from the completed Mason Library project to be used for any repairs, construction, remodeling, for any Town Library that meets capital borrowing criteria.



Article 9 – Allocation of “free cash”

Article 11: Requests authorization to use free cash to reduce the tax levy for FY2017.

Free cash balance at vote:	\$3,077,000
Reduce the rate by:	\$2,450,000
Remaining:	\$627,000

- ✓ Use 80% annually to reduce the tax levy.
- ✓ Remaining free cash balance is held as contingency, but may only be used with authorization in special Town Meeting.



Article 10 – Police Revolving Fund

Article 10: Requests \$15,000 to add to the Police Revolving Fund for Special Details. This brings revolving fund to \$25,000.



Article 11 – Snow and Ice

Article 11: Appropriate \$90,000 to reduce the deficit in the snow and ice budget.

The END