



# Town of Sutton Fiscal Year 2022 Final Budget Presentation

April 20, 2021

# Fiscal Year 2022 Final Budget Overview

FY 2022 Total Town Budget = \$35,002,055

An increase of \$733,114 or 2.14% over FY 2021 final budget. We were essentially balanced at the preliminary budget.

# Annual Town Meeting

- Town meeting this year is scheduled outside in front of the middle school building for 10 AM Saturday, May 15, 2021. The rain date is Saturday, May 22 at 10 AM.
- We have deferred action at the two previous town meetings and we have a backlog of issues to address.
- In addition to a normal May town meeting with annual budget and capital plan, we will have additional warrant Planning articles.

# FY 2022 Final Budget – Big Picture

- The town is switching healthcare providers from Fallon to MIIA. We received almost a 20% reduction from Fallon's renewal. As of July 1 we will all be enrolled in an Health Savings Accounts or HSA. MIIA's rate is at -6.1% which includes Blue Cross Blue Shield Dental and vision. I would like to thank the IAC and Erin Chinappi for all their hard work in making the switch.
- We have increased the School Appropriation by \$425,000. The Governor's budget proposed additional \$37,710 in Chapter 70 but the House and Senate are looking to add to that number. Special education costs continue to put stress on the school department. BVT had 7 additional students attending and is going up \$199,432, Norfolk Aggie had 1 additional student apply.

# FY 22 Final Budget

- Hatchery Property Sale-Also at town meeting there will be a request to sell the 25 Acre Hatchery property to UNIFIED Global Packaging Group formally known as Atlas Box for \$1,450,000. The town purchased this lot from the State of Massachusetts in 1970 for \$29,500. The town used this property for many years as a gravel pit, but since 2008 it has remained dormant.
- The proceeds from the sale cannot go into the general fund. Because it is the sale of a town asset, we will place the proceeds in a reserved for appropriation acct for a minimum of five years for a capital asset. Our plan is to use the money towards road improvement. These funds along with the typical \$470,000 in Chapter 90 moneys, would allow the town to complete almost \$800,000 worth of roadwork a year for five years.

# Final Budget cont.

- We have a purchase and sale agreement for 6 acres of land across the road from Waters Farm. The total cost will be \$225,000. We will utilize \$80,000 from Conservation Land Acquisition Fund and \$145,000 in Free Cash. This will permanently protect this land from development and benefit Waters Farm.
- We are planning on creating a Health Care Stabilization fund at May town meeting from the surplus in the FY 21 health budget that will be available to help with future spikes in healthcare costs.
- We are looking to add \$250,000 into the Special Education Stabilization account as well as an additional \$445,000 into the OPEB account.

# School Department

- Capital Plan      \$306,000
- Appropriation Increase      \$425,000
- The town will continue to pick up \$75,000 in data processing costs for the School/Town.

# Enterprise funds

- Sewer –user fees remain the same.
- Trash Transfer Station- user fees remain the same.



# Capital Plan

- Total Plan for FY2022 = \$1,472,000
  - School Dept. \$306,000
  - Fire \$150,000
  - Police \$232,000
  - Highway \$491,000
  - Waters Farm \$13,000
  - Town Clerk \$20,000
  - Town \$180,000
  - Sewer \$80,000

## To be allocated from:

- Free Cash \$992,000
- Raise and Approp (New Growth) \$~400,000
- Retained Earning \$80,000

# Big Picture

The town has a solid stabilization fund (\$2,650,000), the other post employment benefits trust (\$2,300,000) and a five year capital plan funded entirely through free cash and New Growth. The School Department will be challenged to get the children up to speed with losing essentially one year of in person time. Special education costs continue to be a concern.

After the town meeting vote on the budget, we will present an updated five-year projection which has been helped by the health plan changes we made starting July 1, 2021.

# Questions?

