

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 7, 2016
BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- ARTICLE 1** **Lease of Land for Regional Dog Shelter.** Article 1 would amend a vote taken at the October 1, 2015 special town meeting (Article 20) by authorizing the Board of Selectmen to negotiate a lease of land not to exceed 30 years for the regional dog facility. Under the prior vote the lease was limited to no more than 10 years.
- ARTICLE 2** **Appropriate Funds into Reserve Fund.** Article 2 would appropriate \$8,000 for the purpose of increasing the FY 2016 Reserve Fund.
- ARTICLE 3** **Establish a Special Revenue Account Known as PEG Access and Cable Related Fund.** Article 3 would accept MGL Chapter 44 Section 53F3/4 and allow the Town of establish a special revenue account known as PEG Access and Cable Related Fund. This would enable the Board of Selectmen to reserve cable franchise fees and other cable-related revenues for appropriation to support PEG access services or oversight and renewal of the cable franchise agreement. This fund would begin operation for FY 2017, which begins on July 1, 2016.
- ARTICLE 4** **Matching Funds for Compactor.** Article 4 would appropriate \$12,500 for the purpose of purchasing and installing a compactor for cardboard and paper recyclables at the Town's transfer station. The appropriation requested will pay for the concrete pad and installation of electricity. The compactor itself will be purchased with a grant. The compactor will allow more materials to be placed in the container and will reduce the frequency and cost of hauling away a full container.
- ARTICLE 5** **Software and Database Package for the Selectmen's and Town Clerk's Office.** Article 5 would appropriate \$6,500 for the purpose of purchasing and installing a software and database package for the Selectmen's and Town Clerk's Office. The software will greatly increase the efficiency of these offices in the issuance of licenses. It will enable the Town Clerk and Selectmen's Executive Assistant to generate renewal letters and reports for a variety of licenses under their jurisdiction. It will also streamline the tracking of membership and appointments of individuals to town boards and committees.
- ARTICLE 6** **Supplement the FY 2016 Operating Budget.** Article 6 would appropriate \$26,000 for the purpose of supplementing the FY 2016 budget of the Police Department. The funds are needed to pay for the unanticipated wages for a new police officer during the remainder of this fiscal year, while he attends the Police Academy; the additional cost for attending the Police Academy; and the costs of an Assessment Center for the positions of Lieutenant and Sergeant. The new police officer was hired in advance of an actual anticipated vacancy to save overtime costs that would normally be incurred while the new officer attends the Police Academy.