

TOWN OF PAXTON MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN WARRANT



*Report and Recommendations
of the Finance Committee
For Fiscal Year July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023*

*Annual Town Meeting ~ May 2, 2022, 7:00pm
Cafetorium of the Paxton Center School*

**PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO THE
TOWN MEETING FOR REFERENCE**

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

To the Citizens of Paxton:

Paxton's fiscal process began on January 15th. With the pandemic still in progress, initial meetings were held virtually. However, by March in-person meetings became the norm. After a two year hiatus, it was decided by the Selectboard to return the Annual Town Meeting to May 2nd and for it to be held in the Paxton Center School.

For FY2023, the municipal operating budget is proposed to increase 4.9% above that of FY2022. Major points of interest include the following: 1) Debt service decreased by 5.9% with this account comprising 9% of the municipal budget. 2) Free Cash (that revenue unspent during the previous budget year) was certified at \$689,855, an historically high value. It must be pointed out that, once again, Paxton must utilize 100% of its Free Cash in order to balance the budget. 3) While the Town Employee Insurance account decreased 9% as a result of a change in providers and plans, County Retirement and Accident and Property Insurance increased significantly (9.3% and 40.6%, respectively). 4) With respect to employee compensation, a Cost-Of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) of 3% was awarded to non-contractual employees who did not receive step increases. Employees who would receive a 2.5% step increase were awarded an increase in this value to 3%. 5) The Regional Dispatch account reflects an \$8,000 payment toward a contract for maintaining the fiber-optic cable between Holden and Paxton. Operating expenditures for the Regional Dispatch located in Holden are, once again, covered by a grant. In the future, should this grant not be renewed, the town will be responsible for its share of Dispatch operations. 6) The Municipal Information Service account increased 33% with the implementation of new online permitting software.

As in previous years, expenditures for education are responsible for about 50% of the town's budget. 1) The Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School assessment for FY2023 (\$438,277) increased 36% above that of FY2022 to cover transportation and the minimum local contribution (MLC). 2) The committee for the Wachusett Regional School District (WRSD) approved a budget resulting in a Paxton assessment of \$7,177,576, an increase of only 0.3% (not including debt) from FY2022. This historically low value has not been seen since FY2011 and cannot be assured of being repeated for FY2024.

The total budget (municipal and educational) for Paxton this fiscal year included an historically high value for Free Cash, and an historically low WRSD assessment. Even with this, a shortfall of funding existed. To achieve a balanced budget for presentation to the town, both revenue and expenditures were addressed. On the revenue side, the charge for waste collection was increased to more closely approximate the cost of this service to the town. On the expenditure side, the process proved more difficult because the town generally works on a tight budget. The departments of Police, Fire, Highway and Library implemented a 1% reduction of their requested budgets. Working together, these managers facilitated the attainment of a balanced budget for FY2023. It is recognized that our dependence upon high levels of Free Cash and the unlikely repetition of an exceedingly low WRSD assessment for the next budget year will make achievement of a balanced budget much harder in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Fenton, chair

TOWN OF PAXTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Paxton Center School Cafetorium, West Street, Paxton on May 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1 – Water Department Receipts To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through Water Department receipts, water fees, or water charges, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise, as follows:

Compensation	\$221,488
Expenses	\$741,109
<u>Debt</u>	<u>\$107,158</u>
Total	\$1,069,755

and that \$1,069,755 is raised as follows:

Department receipts	\$1,069,755
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Or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Water Commissioners.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 2 – Police Vehicles

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 21C, of the Massachusetts General Laws to enter into a three year “lease to own” agreement for the purpose of acquiring a SUV and Utility Pick Up Truck for the Police Department in the amount of \$88,500 to replace two existing cruisers/vehicles. with a first year lease payment of \$29,500, and the remaining two annual payments to be raised and appropriated as part of the Police Department budget; or act any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Police Department.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Capital Improvements Committee recommends approval.

Article 3 – Tivnan Field To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$80,000 for the replacement of outdoor lights at Tivnan Field and the basketball court at the Center Field Recreation Area; provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 ½ capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21C (i ½), of the General Laws; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Recreation Commission.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Capital Improvements Committee recommends approval.

Article 4 – New Security System and Cameras at Paxton Center School To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$50,000 to install a new security system and cameras at the Paxton Center School; provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon passage of Proposition 2 ½ capital expenditure exclusion referendum to assess additional real estate and personal property taxes for a single year under Chapter 59, Section 21C (i ½), of the General Laws; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Wachusett Regional School District Committee.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Capital Improvements Committee recommends approval.

Article 5 – New Phone System for Town Buildings To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Depreciation Fund the sum \$27,500 to update/upgrade the telephone systems for the Town Hall, Council on Aging, Department of Public Works, and Richards Memorial Library; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Capital Improvements Committee recommends approval.

Article 6 –Deck for Side Boom Mower To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$18,500 from the Capital Depreciation Fund to purchase a new Side Boom Mower Deck for the Department of Public Works; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Department of Public Works.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Capital Improvements Committee recommends approval.

Article 7 – Water Tank Maintenance To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from retained earnings of the Water Enterprise Fund the sum of \$107,189, or any other sum, to pay for the inspection, maintenance, repair or modification of the Asnebumskit Road Water Storage Tank in accordance with the third year of the existing contract with Suez Advanced Solutions; or act any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Water Commissioners.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 8 – Appropriate Funds to Road Improvement To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$115,971 to the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund, or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 9 – Use Funds from the Road Improvement To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$115,971 from the Road Improvement Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of resurfacing roads, or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 10 – Chapter 90 To see if the Town will vote to accept any funds to be allocated by the Commonwealth under authorization of Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws, (pertaining to Highway Funds); to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contracts for the construction, reconstruction, and improvement of Town roads; and to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of receipt of said funds; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by Selectboard and Director of Public Works.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 11 – Revolving Accounts To see if the Town will vote to set the annual expenditure limits for fiscal year 2023 for all revolving funds established under the General Bylaws, as set forth below, or act in any way thereon:

Council on Aging \$25,000

Recreation \$120,000

Library \$20,000

Paxton Days \$5,000

Article submitted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 12 – Wachusett Greenways To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$1,000, or any other sum, to be used for the expenses for Wachusett Greenways, an eight-town collaborative, said funds to be administered and expended by Wachusett Greenways; or act in any way thereon.

Motion to Raise and Appropriate from Available Funds.

Article submitted by Wachusett Greenways.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 13 - Health Agent To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health, in accordance with Section 21A of Chapter 268A of the Massachusetts General Laws, to appoint a member of said Board to serve as the Town's Health Agent, a position under the supervision of said Board; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Board of Health.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 14 – Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerk To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 19K of the Massachusetts General Laws providing for additional compensation for the Town Clerk upon obtaining certification by the Massachusetts Town Clerks' Association as a certified Massachusetts municipal clerk; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Town Clerk.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 15 – Transfer of Land to Conservation Commission To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Title Custodian to transfer the parcel of Town-owned land consisting of 25.7 acres +/- located off of Wildewood Road and identified in Assessors Map 12 as Prevel 28, from the care, custody, and management of the Tax Title Custodian to the care, custody, and management of the Paxton Conservation Commission for conservation and passive recreation purpose pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8C, and Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution; or and ion any way thereon.

Article submitted by Conservation Commission.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 16 – Amendment to the Regional School Agreement To see if the Town will vote to approve a proposed amendment to the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement, to delete Section 16,Capital Expenditures from Surplus, which currently reads as follows;

Section 16. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES FROM SURPLUS

The Regional District School Committee may authorize capital expenditures from surplus funds for those purposes cited in General Laws, Chapter 71 Section 16, not to exceed \$250,000 in any fiscal year for any single project and provided two thirds of the members of the Committee voting on the question to authorize said expenditure.

And further to approve a proposed amendment to the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement by renumbering Sections 17, 18 and 19 to Sections 16, 17, and 18; or act in anyway thereon.

Article submitted by the Wachusett Regional School District Committee.

Selectboard recommends approval.
Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 17 – Amendment to the Regional School Agreement To see if the Town will vote to approve a proposed amendment to the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71, Section 14E, by changing the language of Section 1 from:

Section 1 MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
1.1.1 The Wachusett Regional District School Committee, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee", shall consist of members from each Member Town, each such member to be a registered voter of the town such member represents. The Member Town with the smallest population as determined in accordance with paragraph 1. shall be entitled to elect two members to the committee, and the other Member Towns shall be entitled to elect members to the Committee on the following basis:

Proportion of Town’s Population Number of Committee to that of Smallest Town Members

1.0 to 1,499	2
1.5 to 2.599	4
2.6 to 3.699	6
3.7 to 4.799	8
4.8 to 5.999	10
6.0 to 6.999	12
7.0 to 7.999	14
8.0 to 8.999	16
9.0 to 9.999	18

For every digit after 9.999, a Member Town shall be entitled to elect one additional member to the Committee. In 1994 and every year thereafter, members shall be elected to serve on the Committee at the annual town meeting of the Member Towns. The method of nomination and election of the members to the Committee from a particular Member Town, shall be the same as if they were candidates for an elective office in such Member Town.

- 1.1.2 All members elected thereafter, except as provided in paragraph 1.1.4, shall be elected for a three (3) year term.
- 1.1.3 The population of the Member Towns shall be determined every five (5) years in accordance with the towns' annual census with the next five (5) year review to be conducted in calendar 2021 and certified by the respective town clerks. Any

increase in membership resulting from population changes shall be elected at the annual town meeting following the review year.

- 1.1.4 In the event of a population change in a Member Town resulting in an increase in the number of members to be elected to the Committee, such increase shall be effective at the annual town meeting following the certification of the census. Initial terms of office shall be established by the Committee so as to equalize the number of expirations for each Member Town per year and secondarily, to equalize the number of expirations each year on the Committee.
- 1.1.5 In the event of a population change in a Member Town resulting in a decrease in the number of members to be elected to the Committee from a Member Town, such decrease shall be effective upon the earliest expiration of the term of office of the Member Town's representation of the Committee.
- 1.1.6 If a vacancy occurs on the Committee, or if there is a failure to elect, the Selectboard of the Member Town to which the vacancy relates shall fill such vacancy by appointment. The person so appointed shall be a registered voter of such town and shall perform the duties of the office until such town's next annual meeting and a successor is qualified; at such annual meeting, a successor shall be elected to fill the balance of the unexpired term.

To:

Section 1. MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

- 1.1 The Wachusett Regional District School Committee, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee," shall consist of a total of sixteen (16) members, each member hereinafter referred to as a "Member." Each Member shall be elected at their respective Member Town elections as detailed in Section 1.1.1. below, and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 71, s. 14E (4). Six (6) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Holden, three (3) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Rutland, three (3) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Sterling, two (2) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Paxton, and two (2) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Princeton. As used in this Agreement, a person shall be deemed to be a "resident" and/or to meet the "residency" requirement for a particular Member Town only if such person is properly registered to vote in the respective Member Town.
- 1.1.1 The decreasing of the size of the School Committee shall occur as follows, commencing at the 2023 town elections. Just one (1) Member from the town of Sterling whose term is to expire in 2023 shall have their seat abolished at the conclusion of their term in 2023. The two (2) Members from the town of Holden whose terms are to expire in 2023 and who have received the least, and second-to-least elective votes shall have their seats abolished at the conclusion of their terms in 2023. The two (2) Members from the town of Holden whose terms are to expire in 2024 and who have received the least, and second-to-least elective votes shall have their seats abolished at the conclusion of their terms in 2024. The Member from the town of Rutland whose term is to expire in 2024 and who received the least elective votes shall have their seat abolished at the conclusion of their term

in 2024. The Committee shall recalculate the weight of each Member's vote, pursuant to Section 1.2, every time the number of Members on the Committee changes at any time for any reason.

- 1.2 To ensure compliance with federal, state, and regulatory laws, the weighted vote of all Members shall be recalculated by the Committee every five (5) years, or recalculated every time the number of members on the Committee changes, based upon Member Town population data taken from most recent Member Town census data, as certified by the Member Town Clerks, and shall be, as nearly as possible, in direct proportion to the population of the member town compared to the population of all member towns combined so that the actual weighted vote of each individual member is as nearly equal to one (1) as possible.
- 1.3 Commencing at the Reorganizational Meeting occurring on or after May 2023, all individual Committee votes, including Subcommittee votes, shall be based upon the allocation of proportional (weighted) votes of individual Committee Members, as detailed in Section 1.7.
- 1.4 Each Member must reside in the Member Town which she or he represents, as described in Section 1.1. Each Member must be elected consistent with the process for the election of Member Town officials in said Member Town and will be elected to open seats during the annual election or a special election in said town. The term of each elected member will begin on the first business day after their election and after being sworn in by the respective Town Clerk. A member who has not otherwise vacated their seat will continue to serve until their successor is elected and sworn.
- 1.5 Except as otherwise stated in Section 1.1.1. in the year first following the acceptance of this Amended Regional Agreement by all Member Towns and the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, hereinafter referred to as the "Commissioner," each member will serve a three (3) year term after being duly elected to a three-year seat at the Member Town's Annual Election.
- 1.6 If a vacancy on the Committee occurs for any reason, the Selectboard from the Member Town involved shall appoint a Member to serve until the next annual town election, at which election a successor shall be elected to serve the balance of the unexpired term, if any. This Section 1.6 shall apply to all Member seats, including those Member seats that are vacated prior to being abolished pursuant to Section 1.1.1.
- 1.7 Commencing at the Reorganizational Meeting occurring on or after May 2023, each Member's vote shall be weighted, as nearly as possible, in direct proportion to the population of the member town compared to the population of all member towns combined so that the actual weighted vote of each individual member is as nearly equal to one (1) as possible. For example, and for illustrative purposes only, if the 2020 Town census figures were used in calculating weighted voting for the sixteen (16) Member Committee, this 2020 data would result in the following weighted voting factors:

Individual Member Weighted Factor per Member Town	Census Population	Percentage of Combined Population	Committee Members	Total Voting Weight
Total 5 Towns	45,438	100%	16	16
HOLDEN	19,905	43.81%	6	7.01
1.16/Member				
PAXTON	5,004	11.01%	2	1.76
0.88/Member				
PRINCETON	3,495	7.69%	2	1.23
0.62/Member				
RUTLAND	9,049	19.92%	3	3.18
1.06/Member				
STERLING	7,985	17.57%	3	2.82
0.94/Member				

- 1.8 The quorum for the transaction of Committee business shall be a majority of the total vote value (i.e., 16.0) of all of the Committee Members as defined in Section 1.7 above. A weighted vote total less than a majority may adjourn but may take no other action.
- 1.9 The quorum for the transaction of each Subcommittee's business shall be a majority of the total vote value of all of the appointed Members to the respective Subcommittee. A weighted vote less than a majority as defined in this Section may adjourn but may take no other action.
- 1.10 Except where otherwise provided by statute, regulation, or by the terms of this Agreement, actions by the Committee will be taken by the weighted vote pursuant to Roberts Rules of Order's protocols that correspond to the particular type of vote being taken.
- 1.10.1 In order to approve the District's annual budget, to approve the incurring of debt, or to apportion among the Member Towns the amounts necessary to be raised in order to support the budget, or any other vote requiring a two-third majority vote by statute or regulation, a combined total of weighted votes equal to or exceeding 66.67% of the weighted vote of the entire Committee (i.e., not merely two thirds of the weighted vote of those present) shall be required.
- 1.11 Except where otherwise provided by statute, regulation, or by the terms of this Agreement, actions by a Subcommittee will also be taken by weighted vote total pursuant to "Roberts Rules of Order's" protocols that correspond to the particular type of vote being taken. For these purposes, a majority vote shall mean an

affirmative vote by more than half of the weighted vote total of the Members present at a properly called meeting of the respective Subcommittee for which a quorum is present.

or act in anyway thereon.

Article submitted by the Wachusett Regional School District Committee.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 18 – Amendment to the Regional School Agreement To see if the Town will vote to approve a proposed amendment to the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement, as follows:

1. By changing the language of Section 11.3 from:

11.3 The Committee may determine by a majority vote to assign pre-kindergarten through grade eight (8) pupils to schools in other than their town of residence in case of an emergency that prevents use of a building in whole or part, for enrollment in special education classes or with parental approval.

To:

11.3 The Committee may determine by a majority vote to assign pre-kindergarten through grade eight (8) pupils to schools in other than their town of residence in case of an emergency that prevents use of a building in whole or in part.

2. By changing the language of Section 11.4 from:

11.4 Parents may request attendance in any of the Member Town schools, subject to approval of the Superintendent.

To:

11.4 Parents/Guardians may request attendance in any of the Member Town schools, subject to approval of the Superintendent or their designee, with the presumption the parents/guardians will be responsible for transportation of the pupil unless otherwise allowed by the Superintendent or their designee.

3. And by adding a new section 11.5 immediately following Section 11.4 as follows:

11.5 The Superintendent or their designee may assign pre-kindergarten through grade eight (8) pupils to schools in other than their town of residence for enrollment in special education classes, with parent/guardian approval, with transportation provided pursuant to Section 6. The Committee will yearly review special education programming and the choice of schools that host district-wide programs.

or act in anyway thereon.

Article submitted by the Wachusett Regional School District Committee.

Selectboard recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 19 - Town Budget To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,512,828 or any other sum, and to further appropriate, from the EMS Receipts Account, the sum of \$310,000 or any other sum, and to further appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$689,855 or any other sum for a total appropriation of \$7,512,683 or any other sum, to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2022, and especially for any and all of the items shown on the attached Budget; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Finance Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

		FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2023
		<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>RECOMMEND</u>
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>				
0100-1114	MODERATOR			
5101	Salary	0	0	0
5400	Purchased Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
0100-1122	SELECTMEN			
5101	Committee Salary	5,936	6,114	6,114
5103	Administrative Secretary	56,327	58,032	60,986
5200	Purchased Services	10,441	10,441	10,441
5400	Supplies	500	600	600
5700	Other Expenses	<u>19,901</u>	<u>20,291</u>	<u>20,291</u>
		<u>93,105</u>	<u>95,478</u>	<u>98,432</u>
0100-1123	TOWN ADMINISTRATOR			
5102	Salary	94,556	130,000	130,000
5103	Car Allowance	1,500	1,500	1,500
5200	Purchased Services	1,100	1,100	1,100
5400	Supplies	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
		<u>97,256</u>	<u>132,700</u>	<u>132,700</u>
0100-1124	MUNICIPAL ASSISTANT			
5102	Salary	19,769	20,374	20,374
		<u>19,769</u>	<u>20,374</u>	<u>20,374</u>
0100-1129	TOWN SERVICES COORDINATOR			
5102	Salary	36,462	37,599	37,599
5200	Purchased Services	2,040	2,040	2,040
5400	Supplies	<u>603</u>	<u>603</u>	<u>603</u>
		<u>39,105</u>	<u>40,242</u>	<u>40,242</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
0100-1131	FINANCE COMMITTEE			
5102	Secretary	0	0	0
5200	Purchased Services	260	260	260
5400	Supplies	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>
		<u>275</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>275</u>
0100-1132	RESERVE FUND			
5700	Fund	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
0100-1135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT			
5102	Salary	30,100	30,992	30,992
5200	Purchased Services	1375	1375	1375
5400	Supplies	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>
		<u>31,875</u>	<u>32,767</u>	<u>32,767</u>
0100-1141	ASSESSORS			
5101	Committee Salary (3)	5,371	5,371	5,532
5102	Administrative Assessor	48,228	45,054	45,054
5200	Purchased Services	3,460	3,460	3,460
5400	Supplies	500	500	500
5700	Other Expenses	25,400	25,575	25,575
5800	Equipment	<u>0</u>		
		<u>82,959</u>	<u>79,960</u>	<u>80,121</u>
0100-1145	TREASURER/COLLECTOR			
5101	Salary	64,927	66,875	66,875
5103	Assistant to Treasurer/Collector	0	0	0
5200	Purchased Services	14,800	15,500	15,500
5400	Supplies	<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,125</u>
		<u>80,852</u>	<u>83,500</u>	<u>83,500</u>
0100-1151	LEGAL SERVICES			
5200	Purchased Services	15,000	15,000	15,000
5201	Chapter 60 Sec. 50B	<u>8,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>
		<u>23,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>
0100-1152	PERSONAL ADVISORY BOARD			
5400	Supplies	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
0100-1155	MUNICIPAL INFORMATION SERVICE			
5101	Salary	25,000	25,000	25,000
5200	Purchased Services	45,432	62,564	62,564
5800	Equipment	<u>0</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
		<u>70,432</u>	<u>93,564</u>	<u>93,564</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
0100-1161	TOWN CLERK			
5101	Salary	43,799	49,587	49,587
5102	Record Keeping/	90	90	90
5103	Assistant Clerk	0	0	0
5200	Purchase Services	1,335	1,340	1,340
5400	Supplies	1,600	1,600	1,600
5700	Other Expenses	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>
		<u>47,274</u>	<u>53,067</u>	<u>53,067</u>
0100-1162	ELECTIONS			
5103	Tellers	1,650	7,000	7,000
5200	Purchased Services	3,450	10,000	10,000
5400	Supplies	1,650	2,600	2,600
5800	Equipment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>6,750</u>	<u>19,600</u>	<u>19,600</u>
0100-1163	REGISTRARS			
5102	Salary	1,700	1,700	1,700
5103	Clerk	250	250	250
5104	Census Taker	500	500	500
5200	Purchased Services	900	900	900
5400	Supplies	<u>850</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
		<u>4,200</u>	<u>3,850</u>	<u>3,850</u>
0100-1171	CONSERVATION COMMISSION			
5102	Salary	5,594	5,594	5,762
5103	Clerk	690	690	711
5200	Purchased Services	1,210	1,210	1,210
5700	Conferences	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
		<u>7,744</u>	<u>7,744</u>	<u>7,933</u>
0100-1177	REGIONAL PLANNING			
5700	Assessment	<u>1,446</u>	<u>1,506</u>	<u>1,506</u>
0100-1183	PAXTON HISTORICAL DISTRICT COMMISSION			
5200	Purchased Services	0	0	0
5400	Supplies	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
		<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
0100-1910	TOWN EMPLOYEE INSURANCE			
5206	Federal Medicare/Social Security	50,000	50,000	50,000
5207	Employee Assistance Program	0	0	0
5208	Premiums Health Insurance	765,500	718,827	718,827
5209	Life Insurance	1,700	1,700	1,700
	Deduction for Premiums	<u>10,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>827,200</u>	<u>770,527</u>	<u>770,527</u>
0100-1911	WORCESTER RET. SYSTM. ASSESSMENT			
5200	Purchased Services	<u>642,115</u>	<u>642,115</u>	<u>701,576</u>
0100-1913	UNEMPLOYMENT	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
0100-1192	PUBLIC BUILDING PROPERTY			
5103	Custodian	0	10400	10400
5200	Purchased Services	15,600	18,645	18,645
5400	Supplies	<u>2,250</u>	<u>3,200</u>	<u>3,200</u>
		<u>17,850</u>	<u>32,245</u>	<u>32,245</u>
0100-1193	INSURANCE AND BONDS			
5200	Premiums	<u>149,900</u>	<u>210,800</u>	<u>210,800</u>
0100-1196	TOWN REPORTS			
5200	Purchased Services	<u>950</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>1,150</u>
0100-1199	TOWN CLOCK			
5200	Purchased Services	400	450	450
5400	Supplies	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>400</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>450</u>
0100-1930	CAPITAL DEPRECIATION FUND			
5810	Capital Depreciation Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
0100-1250	PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING			
5200	Purchased Services	41,500	42,750	42,750
5400	Supplies	<u>3,000</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>4,500</u>
		<u>44,500</u>	<u>47,250</u>	<u>47,250</u>
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT		<u>2,309,388</u>	<u>2,432,364</u>	<u>2,495,129</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
	<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>			
0100-1210	POLICE DEPARTMENT			
5102	Salary - Chief	97,898	100,836	100,836
5103	Compensation	886,152	936,583	925,123
5200	Purchased Services	78,338	48,338	48,338
5400	Supplies	49,914	58,650	58,650
5700	dues	<u>1,650</u>	<u>1,650</u>	<u>1,650</u>
		<u>1,113,952</u>	<u>1,146,057</u>	<u>1,134,597</u>
0100-1215	REGIONAL DISPATCH			
5200	Compensation	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>
0100-1220	FIRE DEPARTMENT			
5102	Salary - Chief	124,249	128,849	128,849
5103	Compensation	192,518	228,601	233,599
5200	Purchased Services	51,326	56,100	52,600
5800	Equipment	<u>46,500</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>29,000</u>
		<u>414,593</u>	<u>443,550</u>	<u>444,048</u>
0100-1232	EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES			
5103	Compensation	618,771	663,000	663,000
5200	Purchased Services	65,800	67,300	67,300
5400	Supplies	21,050	29,500	29,500
5800	Equipment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>705,621</u>	<u>759,800</u>	<u>759,800</u>
0100-1241	BUILDING COMMISSIONER			
5102	Compensation	30,066	30,818	30,968
5103	Local Inspector	3,500	3,500	3,500
5200	Purchased Services	250	325	325
5400	Supplies	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>33,816</u>	<u>34,643</u>	<u>34,793</u>
0100-1243	PLUMBING INSPECTOR			
5102	Compensation	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>	<u>4,000</u>
0100-1245	INSPECTOR OF WIRES			
5102	Compensation	5,573	5,573	5,740
5103	Assistant	400	400	400
5400	Supplies	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>5,973</u>	<u>5,973</u>	<u>6,140</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
0100-1292	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER			
5102	Compensation	8,685	8,685	8,946
5200	Purchased Services	2,618	2,742	2,742
5400	Supplies	<u>175</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>175</u>
		<u>11,478</u>	<u>11,602</u>	<u>11,863</u>
0100-1295	TREE WARDEN			
5101	Salary/Hire	1,464	1,464	1,508
5103	Hourly Paid Employees	0	0	0
5200	Purchased Services	15,699	15,699	5,699
5400	Supplies	50	50	50
5700	Trees	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
		<u>18,213</u>	<u>18,213</u>	<u>8,257</u>
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY		<u>2,307,646</u>	<u>2,433,838</u>	<u>2,411,498</u>
<u>PUBLIC SERVICE</u>				
0100-1421	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT			
5102	Superintendent	79,047	79,047	81,023
5103	Compensation	427,085	427,085	458,343
5200	Purchased Services	176,402	176,402	176,402
5400	Supplies	38,478	38,478	31,700
5700	Type 1 Blacktop	0	0	0
5800	Equipment	<u>13,724</u>	<u>13,724</u>	<u>13,724</u>
		<u>734,736</u>	<u>734,736</u>	<u>761,192</u>
0100-1423	SNOW & ICE			
5130	Overtime	52,633	52,633	53,950
5400	Salt & Sand	130,000	130,000	140,000
5800	Equipment	<u>6,050</u>	<u>6,050</u>	<u>6,050</u>
		<u>188,683</u>	<u>188,683</u>	<u>200,000</u>
0100-1424	STREET LIGHTS			
5200	Electricity	<u>17,722</u>	<u>17,711</u>	<u>17,711</u>
TOTAL PUBLIC SERVICE		<u>941,141</u>	<u>941,130</u>	<u>978,903</u>
<u>SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENT</u>				
0100-1443	WASTE COLLECTION			
5200	Contract	<u>399,860</u>	<u>401,618</u>	<u>408,983</u>
		<u>399,860</u>	<u>401,618</u>	<u>408,983</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
0100-1491	CEMETERY COMMISSION			
5101	DPW Superintendent Salary	3,363	3,363	3,447
5102	Compensation	5,094	5,094	14,238
5200	Purchased Services	1650	1650	1750
5400	Supplies	2,500	2,500	4,900
5800	Equipment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>12,607</u>	<u>12,607</u>	<u>24,335</u>
0100-1510	BOARD OF HEALTH			
5101	Committee Salary	425	425	438
5200	Purchased Services	3,500	3,500	3,500
5400	Supplies	<u>188</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>188</u>
		<u>4,113</u>	<u>4,113</u>	<u>4,126</u>
0100-1515	SANITATION ENGINEER			
5102	Compensation	<u>12,887</u>	<u>12,887</u>	<u>13,274</u>
0100-1519	INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS			
5102	Salary	<u>2101</u>	<u>2101</u>	<u>2164</u>
TOTAL SANITATION & ENVIRONMENT		<u>431,568</u>	<u>433,326</u>	<u>452,882</u>
	<u>HUMAN SERVICES</u>			
0100-1541	COUNCIL ON AGING			
5102	Director	27,438	28,294	28,294
5104	Outreach Coordinator	6,714	6,915	6,915
5103	Van Drivers	21,398	22,040	22,040
5200	Purchased Services	5,700	5,700	5,700
5400	Supplies	4,900	4,900	4,900
5700	Other expenses	<u>1,190</u>	<u>1,190</u>	<u>1,190</u>
		<u>67,340</u>	<u>69,039</u>	<u>69,039</u>
0100-1543	VETERAN'S AID			
5101	Compensation Agent	1,104	1,104	1,137
5200	Purchased Services	100	100	100
5700	Benefits	<u>9,300</u>	<u>9,500</u>	<u>9,500</u>
		<u>10,504</u>	<u>10,704</u>	<u>10,737</u>
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES		<u>77,844</u>	<u>79,743</u>	<u>79,776</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
<u>CULTURE AND RECREATION</u>				
0100-1610	LIBRARY			
5102	Library Director	58,076	52,907	52,907
5104	Children's Librarian	42,825	45,263	45,263
5103	Compensation	43,931	45,254	45,254
5200	Purchased Services	10,274	11,047	13,617
5400	Supplies	39,151	42,814	41,616
5800	Equipment	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>194,257</u>	<u>197,285</u>	<u>198,657</u>
0100-1630	RECREATION			
5102	Recreation Director	26,135	29,615	29,615
5103	Seasonal Employees	0	0	0
5104	Parks Director	0	0	0
5105	Administrative Assistant	2,546	0	0
5200	Purchased Services	0	0	0
5400	Supplies	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>28,681</u>	<u>29,615</u>	<u>29,615</u>
0100-1691	HISTORICAL COMMISSION			
5200	Purchased Services	400	400	400
5400	Supplies	0	0	0
5700	Other expenses	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION		<u>223,338</u>	<u>227,300</u>	<u>228,672</u>
0100-1915	CENTRAL PURCHASING			
5812	Heating Oil	49,400	49,400	49,400
5813	Postage	7,000	10,000	10,000
5814	Telephones	15,500	13,500	13,500
5815	Electricity	72,890	67,750	67,750
5816	Diesel	42,000	42,000	42,000
TOTAL CENTRAL PURCHASING		<u>186,790</u>	<u>182,650</u>	<u>182,650</u>

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
	DEBT SERVICE			
0100-1710	DEBTS NOTES & BONDS			
5760	DPW Building Renovation (40,100)	2,200	2,200	2,200
	school windows replacement (114,500)	6,000	6,000	6,000
	DPW truck and Senior/PCS paving (Feb2021)	45,000	45,000	45,000
	PSC USDA Long Term Loan	50,000	50,000	50,000
	PSC conventional Long Term Loan	306,800	306,800	306,800
	PCS State House Serial Loan (998767)	65,000	0	0
	PSC State House Serial Loan (998767)	10,000	0	0
	Truck/Ambulance (State House Note 366000)	45,000	45,000	45,000
	DPW Backhoe (May 2018)	26,000	26,000	26,000
	DPW Truck (March 2022)	0	41,710	41,710
		<u>556,000</u>	<u>522,710</u>	<u>522,710</u>
0100-1715	INTEREST ON NOTES AND BONDS			
	DPW Building Renovation (40,100)	581	493	493
	school windows replacement (114,500)	1,305	1,065	1,065
	DPW truck and Senior/PCS paving (Feb 2021)	5,672	4,613	4,613
	PSC USDA Long Term Loan	61,250	59,063	59,063
	PSC conventional Long Term Loan	92,759	80,487	80,487
	PCS State House Serial Loan (998767)	2,405	0	0
	PSC State House Serial Loan (998767)	370	0	0
	State House Note 366000	1,485	495	495
	DPW Backhoe (May 2018)	2,470	1,482	1,482
	DPW Truck (March 2022)	0	8,065	8,065
		<u>168,297</u>	<u>155,763</u>	<u>155,763</u>
1752-5715	SHORT-TERM LOAN INTEREST			
	Short Term Interest	<u>1700</u>	<u>1700</u>	<u>1700</u>
17__	STATE HOUSE NOTE FEES			
	Purchased Services	<u>0</u>	<u>3000</u>	<u>3000</u>
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	<u>725,997</u>	<u>683,173</u>	<u>683,173</u>
	SUBTOTAL (TOWN OPERATING BUDGET ONLY)	<u>7,203,712</u>	<u>7,413,524</u>	<u>7,512,683</u>

Article 20 - WRSD Budget To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,177,576 to pay its assessed share of the Wachusett Regional School District Budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2022; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the School Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
1300 WACHUSETT REG. SCHOOL DISTRICT				
5300	Minimum Local Contribution	4,694,011	4,733,160	4,733,160
5320	Regional Agreement Spending Assessment	1,801,230	218,945	218,945
5310	Long-Term Debt Repayment Assessment	217,745	1,698,287	1,698,287
5315	Transportation	436,224	520,517	520,517
	Oil Remediation Debt Assessment	<u>7,230</u>	<u>6,667</u>	<u>6,667</u>
TOTAL WACHUSETT REG. SCHOOL DISTRICT		<u>7,156,440</u>	<u>7,177,576</u>	<u>7,177,576</u>

Article 21 - Bay Path Budget To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$438,277 to pay its assessed share of the Bay Path Regional Technical School Budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2022; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the School Committee.

Board of Selectmen recommends approval.

Finance Committee will make recommendation at Town Meeting.

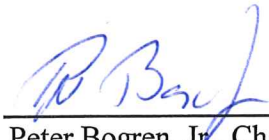
		FY 2022 <u>APPROVED</u>	FY 2023 <u>REQUEST</u>	FY 2023 <u>RECOMMEND</u>
1310 BAY PATH REGIONAL VOC. TECHNICAL SCHOOL				
5300	Bay Path Debt	63,815	63,576	63,576
	Bay Path Assessment	257,694	374,701	374,701
		<u>321,509</u>	<u>438,277</u>	<u>438,277</u>
SUBTOTAL (SCHOOL BUDGETS ONLY)		<u>7,477,949</u>	<u>7,615,853</u>	<u>7,615,853</u>
GRAND TOTAL (TOWN OPERATING & SCHOOL BUDGET)		<u>14,681,661</u>	<u>15,029,377</u>	<u>15,125,582</u>

AND YOU ARE DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS WARRANT by posting attested copies thereof, one of which shall be at the Post Office, as required by By-laws, seven days at least before the day set for holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT and make due return of the Warrant with your doing thereon at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 7th day of April 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Bogren, Jr., Chair



Julia N. Pingitore, Vice Chair



Kirk R. Huehls, Clerk

COPY POSTED AT TOWN HALL 10:53 AM

COPY POSTED AT POST OFFICE 11:02 AM

B/E/H

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VOLUNTEER TO SERVE YOUR TOWN

Good government starts with you? Volunteers are the lifeblood of small towns. They bring talent, energy and vision to our many Boards and Commissions which deliver services to our citizens. If you are interested in serving your community in any capacity, please fill out this form and return it to the Town Administrator, Town of Paxton, 697 Pleasant Street, Paxton MA 01612. Thank you for your interest!

Carol Riches, Town Administrator

~~~~~  
Name:

Home Phone:

Address:

Cell Phone:

E-mail:

  
~~~~~

I am interested in the following areas (check as many as apply):

☐ Planning, Zoning and Development

☐ Conservation & Open Space

☐ Cultural Council & Festivities

☐ Senior Citizens

☐ Youth Groups

☐ Veteran Services

☐ Public Works & Transportation

☐ Public Safety

☐ Finance & Administration

☐ Library

☐ Parks & Recreation

☐ Historic

☐ Cable Access

☐ Celebration Committee

Other: _____

Amount of time available: _____

Present Business Affiliation and Work: _____

Business experience: _____

Education or Special training: _____

Date Appointed

Term Expired

Feel free to attach anything that will help us carefully consider how to match your experience and interests with the needs of the Town. Thank you for thinking of serving your town.

**YOUR TAX DOLLARS
ARE VOTED ON AT
TOWN MEETING**

**YOUR ATTENDANCE
WILL IMPACT ALL
OUR TAXES**