May 4, 2017

Dear Town Meeting Members,

This is the usual Yellow Sheet that we send to all Town Meeting Members prior to Special Town Meeting. We hope that you will find the information useful in your deliberations on Monday, May 8, 2017.

ARTICLE 1. This article asks your permission to begin the process to amend the Town Charter, established under the provisions of the Chapter 197 of the Acts of 1914, to separate the position of Town Clerk & Accountant into two separate positions: Town Clerk and Town Accountant. The article and motion specifically request that you authorize this Board to petition the Legislature to amend the original Act to allow us to do so.

We think that the time has come to separate the two essentially independent functions. The Town Clerk has jurisdiction over the Elections and Registration process, licensing, and related functions. The Town Accountant is in effect our Chief Financial Officer and his responsibilities have virtually nothing to do with the duties and responsibilities of the Town Clerk.

The issue came into focus when our then Town Clerk & Accountant Robert Thornton retired two years ago: none of the candidates for the job had any experience whatsoever with the Town Clerk function, and some were hesitant to assume those duties. We believe that several viable candidates simply did not even apply because they assumed that they were totally unqualified.

Norwood is the only community in the Commonwealth with a combined Town Clerk and Accountant.

In actual fact, the Assistant Town Clerk has long been responsible for most of the Town Clerk’s responsibilities, including elections, and both the current Town Clerk & Accountant, Tom McQuaid and his predecessor, Bob Thornton (who were both hired for their financial expertise), have endorsed the separation of these functions.

The proposed split would not take effect until July 1, 2018 – which falls in Fiscal Year 2019. There will undoubtedly be some issues involving compensation, especially involving the new Town Clerk; we will be working with the Personnel Board to classify the position. However, we do not anticipate any changes in staffing of either office.
ARTICLE 2. The Massachusetts Legislature recently enacted and the Governor signed into law Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, the "Municipal Modernization Act". Section 86 of the Act (there are over 250 separate sections) makes several changes in the law governing Revolving Funds. In particular, it requires that cities and towns adopt an ordinance or bylaw specifically authorizing existing and any new revolving funds through enactment of a general bylaw. We have two long-standing revolving funds that are affected: one at the Library and the other at the Council on Aging.

The proposed bylaw will authorize these existing revolving funds, in compliance with the Act. We need to continue to authorize the annual spending limits at the Annual Town Meeting (Article 11 in this year's Annual).

The motion to be offered follows:

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen:**

Voted: to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Norwood by adding the following article, entitled "Revolving Funds", the number of the article to be assigned by the Town Clerk.

**Article 2**

**Revolving Funds**

Pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, the following revolving funds are hereby established.

A. Morrill Memorial Library Revolving Fund

**Section 1.** The programs or activities for which the revolving fund may be expended are programs offered by the Morrill Memorial Library (the Library); replacement of books, CD’s, DVD’s, audiobooks and other materials lost or damaged by patrons; and incidental costs associated with services for patrons such as faxing, color printing, tax documents printing, microfilm printing, accepting passport applications, performing notary public services, and other new services to patrons that the Library offers during hours when it is open.

**Section 2.** The departmental receipts in connection with those programs or activities that shall be credited to the revolving fund are program fees, reimbursement at the Library and through the Minuteman Library Network for lost and damaged materials, fines for overdue materials, and fees for services, including...
without limitation passport applications, microfilm, printing, color printing, and faxing.

Section 3. The board, department or officer authorized to expend from the revolving fund is the Library Director.

B. Council on Aging Revolving Fund

Section 1. The programs or activities for which the revolving fund may be expended are all programs sponsored by the Council on Aging.

Section 2. The departmental receipts in connection with those programs or activities that shall be credited to the revolving fund are receipts from general programs held by the Council on Aging, from lunch and special events, and from exercise classes.

Section 3. The board, department or officer authorized to expend from the fund is the Council on Aging Director.

Adoption of this bylaw will bring us into compliance with the provisions of the statute.

ARTICLE 3. This article requests an additional $50,000 to supplement the Veterans’ Office account for Direct Relief and the related Medical Services and Drugs line items. The budget for these three accounts totals $234,000.

Direct Relief provides emergency and transitional funding to Veterans and their families, to the widows and other dependent survivors of Veterans, and to the families of those on active duty. Medical Expenses pays for medical costs of those without insurance. Another line item pays for prescription drugs.

Demand for Veterans Assistance has been increasing, along with the numbers of Veterans and their families and survivors. The Veterans’ Office currently provides or has provided assistance to some 125+ individuals and families during this fiscal year. The Veterans Officer’s responsibilities are three-fold: to provide financial assistance in cases of documented need; to transition Veterans receiving assistance to other programs that may be available to them; and to provide social services or referrals to other social service agencies when and where needed.

Last year, we spent $226,300 for Direct Relief and the two related medical accounts, and $210,433 in F.Y. 2015. Medical and Drug reimbursements were barely on the radar screen a few years ago, but last year they accounted for some $50,000 of those
expenditures, as the costs (and availability) of insurance premiums and copays and deductibles have soared.

We project that our total costs this year will be about $300,000. The Finance Commission has already provided an additional $10,000 from the Reserve Fund.

An important reminder: 75% of our expenditures for Veterans’ Assistance is reimbursed by the Commonwealth. Unfortunately, the law does not allow reimbursements to be used to directly offset our expenditures.

**ARTICLE 4.** This article was developed by the Budget Balancing Committee after it analyzed the best options to fund a shortfall in the Fiscal 2018 School budget. Utilizing Free Cash of $300,000, Fiscal 2017 GIC Health Insurance Savings of $295,000, and $108,158 from the Fiscal 2017 Medicare Part “D” Subsidy, the plan will provide an additional $703,158 to the Norwood Public Schools to supplement next year’s budget. The idea is to allocate these funds to the current Fiscal 2017 School budget, to allow prepayment of Fiscal 2018 Special Education (SPED) tuitions as allowed by law. This will free up funds for Fiscal 2018 that would otherwise have been needed for SPED. Such freed-up funds will be available for teacher retention and other programs.

The Selectmen, the Finance Commission and the School Committee have all concurred with the Budget Balancing Committee’s plan. While we remind Town Meeting Members that the School Committee has autonomy over the bottom line of its budget and could use these funds for other purposes, we expect that the plan will be followed.

**ARTICLE 5.** This article seeks your approval to continue funding the OPEB (“Other Post-Employment Benefits”) Trust Fund. The amount requested is $100,000.

Town Meeting adopted M.G.L. Chapter 32B section 20 in May of 2009. This law allows the Town to set aside funds for the payment of future non-pension benefits for retirees (principally health and dental care costs). No actual contributions were made until the February 24, 2014 Special Town Meeting approved a $250,000 contribution.

A history of contributions is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Town Meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02-2014</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>Special Town Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07-2014</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>Annual Town Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12-2014  250,000  Special Town Meeting  
07-2015  250,000  Annual Town Meeting  
12-2015  128,360  Special Town Meeting  
05-2016  50,000  Special Town Meeting  
07-2016  250,000  Annual Town Meeting  
Total Appropriations $1,428,360  
Earnings through 4/17  95,651  
Balance $1,524,011  

The Finance Commission has recommended and you have approved a $250,000 contribution at every Annual Town Meeting since 2014, and it will recommend that you do so again at this year’s Annual. The Finance Commission further recommends that any unspent funds appropriated for health insurance remaining at the close of a given fiscal year also be transferred to the OPEB account. Your approval of this article fulfills this recommendation. This strategy helps ensure a favorable bond rating, which in turn results in lower borrowing rates for the Town.

The most recent actuarial study computes our total unfunded OPEB liability at $105,712,615 as of June 30, 2015. If this article is funded, our Trust will have an approximate balance of $1,624,011. By law, the OPEB liability must be recalculated every two years.

The funds will come from the Medicare Part D subsidy which is coupled with the current year’s Health Insurance account. Both the Selectmen and the Finance Commission support this action; it was also part of the Budget Balancing Committee’s package of recommendations.

ARTICLE 6. This article has been requested by the Treasurer / Collector. It requests that you appropriate $395,000 from Free Cash for the payment of Interest on a recent bond refinancing.

In the annual budget process for Debt Service (principal and interest payments on borrowings), the Town of Norwood’s standard plan is to delay borrowing on new capital items authorized by Town Meeting until after January 15th of the following calendar year. This in essence sets up a “free cash flow year”. That is, during the year in which new capital outlay is authorized, no interest or principal is due because the first payments are not due until July 15th of the next fiscal year. Of course, this method also adds a year of financing at the far end.

In July, 2016 the Treasurer refunded (refinanced at lower rates) approximately $43,000,000 of outstanding bonds. By doing so, Treasurer Robert Marsh saved taxpayers approximately $5.2 million in interest payments over the life of the loan.
Because interest rates were so low, Peter Frazier, VP of First Southwest (our bond financial advisor), recommended that we include the amounts authorized under the Capital Outlay article at the May, 2016 Annual Town Meeting (‘new money’) in the refinancing package. The refunding was completed on July 28, 2016. However, in doing so, the Town incurred interest expense payable in January, 2017 that was not anticipated during the Fiscal 2017 budget approval process. This early borrowing is the primary driver for the $395,000 request.

Ironically, the Treasurer’s office turned back $491,657 of unspent Interest appropriation at the end of last year (Fiscal 2016), largely due to a refinancing. That turn-back increased our Free Cash amount to $4.3 million. Had all the timing worked perfectly, we could have held back $395,000 to handle this year’s (Fiscal 2017) additional interest payment. Since our Free Cash number is higher due to the turn-back, we request Free Cash as the source of this Article.

ARTICLE 7. This article requests an additional $15,600 for three accounts under the Treasurer’s jurisdiction:

Salaries: $10,500 – the shortfall is due to turnover in the office, including the departure of Treasurer & Collector Robert Marsh.

Incidentals - Banking Services: this item, budgeted at $19,900, is projected to have a shortfall of $1,100.

Ambulance Collection Agent: $4,000. Our Ambulance Service, operated by the Fire Department, contracts with a private vendor to bill and collect ambulance charges. It is their responsibility to prepare and mail invoices, deal with Medicare, Medicaid and private insurers, and to collect payment. In return, they are paid 4% of collections but the funds required must be appropriated (it is not a revolving fund). Fees were increased for the first time in several years, effective this past July 1st, and as a result, collections have increased substantially over the same period last year. We anticipate that the total will reach $1,200,000 for the full year, compared to $1,038,000 last year. As a result, additional funds will be required to compensate the vendor.

ARTICLE 8. The Permanent Building Construction Committee (PBCC) is requesting that you authorize $18,500 for anticipated legal costs related to on-going litigation involving the construction of the now-complete Public Works Yard.

The original project to construct a new Public Works facility was funded by the February 24, 2014 Special Town Meeting with an appropriation of $16,800,000. Public Works occupied the new facility in August, 2015.
In the fall of 2015, the PBCC received a “fourth-party” claim from the project’s General Contractor as a defense against a claim filed by a subcontractor for alleged damages; the subcontractor’s claim named the General Contractor (and the Contractor’s insurance carrier), not the Town. The General Contractor then added the Town as a defendant in the event that the subcontractor prevailed in its suit. The PBCC believes that the claim, at least as it involves the Town, is entirely without merit. Nevertheless, the suit still required a defense, and Town Meeting appropriated $60,000 in November, 2015 for special legal services for this purpose.

The case is currently before Superior Court. The PBCC believes that it is nearing the end of the legal process and is requesting these additional funds to pay for additional funds to complete litigation.

We believe that the PBCC is doing an excellent job and that they deserve your support.

ARTICLE 9. This article requests $10,000 to supplement the Town’s Legal Services account.

The total appropriation for Town Counsel is $134,500. There are three sub-accounts: the annual “Retainer”, which covers all routine services, including advice to Boards and Officers of the Town and attendance at meetings (such as this Town Meeting), is fixed by contract at $57,500. The line item for “Litigation”, which covers lawsuits and civil actions, is budgeted at $65,000, and is more or less on target. The third item is for “Outside Counsel”, used for specialized services other than Town Counsel. It is budgeted this year at $12,000 and has been used primarily for specialized counsel related to the negotiations with Comcast and Verizon for renewal of their expiring cable contracts (Norwood Light Broadband’s contract was renewed last year).

Most of the request ($7,500) for additional funds is for cable negotiations, which are conducted under our overall direction by the Cable Communications Commission. The Cable Commission has used the law firm of Epstein & August for many years. The firm also serves as counsel on cable matters in a number of other communities.

The Comcast contract was finalized earlier this year, and negotiations with Verizon are on-going.

The balance of the request ($2,500) will supplement the Litigation line item, in case it is needed.

Total expenditures were $116,092 in F.Y. 2015 and $183,469 in F.Y. 2016. This year’s expenditures will total about $145,000 if you approve this request.
ARTICLE 10. This article requests an additional $50,000 for the Selectmen’s Collective Bargaining account.

The original appropriation was $105,000. All of the union contracts in General Government are in the last year of three-year agreements and expire on June 30th of this year. The Selectmen negotiate with seven separate bargaining units: Clerical, Public Works, Public Safety (civilian), Electric Light, Fire, Police Patrol Officers and Police Superior Officers. (The Library Trustees negotiate with an 8th unit covering Library employees).

The process is time-intensive. Most negotiating sessions involve multiple meetings over months-long periods, and both sides employ Counsel at every session. The General Manager, the Human Resources Director, department heads and a representative of this Board attend virtually every session.

So far this year, we have reached agreement at least in principal (as of this writing) with five of our seven units (the Library unit has also settled their contract). Negotiations will continue into the new fiscal year if any contracts remain unsettled.

Provision to pay for these contracts is made in Article 1 of the Annual, which is usually acted on at or near the end of the Warrant, to provide time to finalize any pending agreements and to provide information to the Finance Commission and to Town Meeting.

Expenditures were $91,836 in F.Y. 2015 and $72,500 in F.Y. 2016.

ARTICLE 11. This article requests a total of $478,484 to pay the Snow & Ice deficits incurred by the Public Works Department, the School Department, and the Airport this past winter, broken down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>Shortfall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>$550,000</td>
<td>$831,718</td>
<td>$281,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>205,266</td>
<td>185,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>41,500</td>
<td>11,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals:</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>$1,078,483</td>
<td>$478,484</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many of our expenses are more or less fixed. Public Works still must stock up on winter supplies, particularly road salt, well in advance. And in a typical winter,
sanding and salting operations may cost as much or more than actual plowing expenses.

In answer to the perennial question: Yes, we (the Board of Selectmen) have (again) increased the DPW Snow & Ice request in next year's (FY '18) Public Works Snow & Ice budget to $575,000, closer to the recent average of $698,000. Our goal is to increase the annual appropriation until we reach an amount closer to this average.

The requested source of funds is Free Cash.

ARTICLE 12. This article requests $50,000 to undertake badly-needed repairs of the Robert H. Ivatts Tennis Courts, adjacent to the Coakley Middle School. The courts are one of two public tennis facilities in the community (the other is at the rear of the High School), and the only one that is lighted. The courts are in poor condition, and one of them is currently shut down.

We propose to fill the cracks and resurface all four courts. Some of the money ($10,000) will also be used to install new light fixtures (on the existing poles) to reduce the "spillover" that lights up the entire area, and to add new on-site controls to allow us to shut the lights off in bad weather, etc. (the current lights are on a fixed manual timer located in the Coakley building).

We have been asked about the status of the hockey rink that was proposed for the site; we think it unlikely that the State will consider it for a number of reasons. In any event, the State agency involved in the Rink project (the Division of Conservation & Recreation of the Mass. Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs) has promised a decision by the end of April.

Even if the State were to select this site and the Tennis Courts had to be relocated, we think it would be some time before construction is started – at least two years, probably longer. Our proposal is not to undertake a complete re-build of the facility; we simply want to make it safe and useable for its intended purpose.

We are putting this before you at this Special rather than at the Annual so that we begin work as soon as possible, rather than waiting until after July 1st.

ARTICLE 13. This is the usual article for Unpaid Bills; i.e., unpaid obligations from a prior fiscal period for which there is no valid purchase order or other source of funds.

The total amount owed is $2,686. Of this total, $886 is for two custodial bills ($133.34), a small gasoline balance ($43), and misc. telephone charges ($709.30).
An additional $1,800 is for Longevity owed to two Airport employees (budgeted but never paid – the funds were turned back).

State law requires a nine-tenths vote for passage at a Special Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 14.** This article requests that you authorize this Board of Selectmen to borrow $500,000 from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to 1) continue our on-going water main cleaning and lining program and to replace aging parts of the distribution network ($380,000); and 2) install mixing equipment in our 4 million gallon water storage tank on Bellevue Ave. ($120,000).

The cleaning and lining project is a continuation of our long-standing program to upgrade our local water distribution mains to eliminate rusty water complaints and water pressure problems. Cast iron water pipes laid before 1960 were generally unlined. Over time, these pipes become encrusted with rust in a process called tuberculation, as the oxygen in the water combines with the elemental iron in the pipe itself.

This causes two problems:

First and foremost, tuberculation slowly reduces the inside diameter of the pipe, which in turn reduces its carrying capacity, resulting in reduced water pressure in the area affected. In extreme cases, flows can be reduced to a trickle.

Second, tuberculation frequently causes rusty water problems, especially on side streets and during periods of low water demand, as iron scaling breaks off the inside of the pipe and floats "downstream". You frequently see this effect on an extreme scale when fire hydrants are opened or during a water break, reversing established water flow patterns. Although not a health problem, rusty water is certainly an esthetic problem, and can stain laundry.

Today, new water lines are laid using cement-lined ductile iron pipe. The cement lining prevents direct contact between the water and the iron in the pipe.

Next year's project calls for cleaning and lining of 1,100 feet of 6-inch water main on Nichols St., between Vernon St. and Nahatan St.; and 1,600 feet of 6-inch water main on Cottage St., between Maple St. and Prospect St.

The second portion of the funds, totaling $120,000, will be used to install a mixing unit in the Water Department's 4-million gallon storage tank off Bellevue Ave. This mixing unit will allow water at the bottom of the tank to constantly mix with incoming water. This will prevent any "stale water" problems that might occur during periods of low water demand.
The total of $500,000 is to be borrowed from the M.W.R.A. through its interest-free Local Water System Assistance Program. The amount will be repaid through water rates over a ten-year period beginning in F.Y. 2019.

ARTICLE 15. This article requests that you authorize the Selectmen to expend $2,360,000 through a combined grant and loan from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, in order to fund our continuing efforts to repair older parts of the Town’s sewer system.

The Town has been engaged for a number of years in the rehabilitation of parts of our sewer system that are contributing to the pollution of the Meadowbrook, and to a lesser extent, of other local streams. Most sewer systems built prior to the 1960’s used clay pipes, laid end-to-end in 3-foot sections. As time passes, these clay pipes tend to crack, and the joints between the sections begin to deteriorate. The result is leakage of raw sewage out of the sewer lines (“exfiltration”) and into the storm drainage system, which in turn eventually empties into local waterways. Of course, the reverse also occurs: in high ground-water areas or during very wet times of the year, extraneous groundwater leaks into the sewer lines (“infiltration”), adding to sewer flows and ultimately to sewage-treatment costs.

The borrowing authorization we are requesting will continue our program of cleaning and lining sewer pipes. The process is far less expensive and far less disruptive than replacing the pipes, although we have had to do that occasionally as well.

We recently completed work (financed by previous MWRA and Mass. Clean Water Trust loans) on street mains and associated sewer services in the Nichols St./Nahatan St./Railroad Ave. areas. The authorization sought by this article is for work that will begin in the fall, focusing in the Walpole St./Walnut Ave./Elliot St. neighborhood.

The Town is subject to a Consent Order with Environmental Protection Agency which requires that the Town take action to eliminate pollution of the Meadowbrook caused by the sewer system. The Consent Order includes a time-line through the year 2024, and requires that detailed compliance report be filed with the EPA annually.

The financing package provided through the MWRA incorporates a 75% grant ($1,770,000) coupled with a 25% loan ($590,000, repayable over ten years).
ARTICLE 16. This article requests that you approve a new General Bylaw establishing the Town's Community Preservation Committee (CPC). The Town adopted the Community Preservation Act at the Special Town Meeting in May of 2016 and approved it at ballot in November. The Community Preservation Act requires, pursuant to MGL 44b, that we now adopt a local bylaw that sets forth:

1. The number of people on the committee, how long their terms will be and who they represent;
2. The roles and responsibilities of the committee; and
3. Requirements for voting.

The State law also requires that the local Community Preservation Committee include representatives from the following local boards & committees:

- Planning Board
- Conservation Commission
- Historic Commission
- Housing Authority
- One member of the Board of Selectmen, or their designee (in their capacity as Parks Commissioners).

In addition to the 5 members listed above, the proposed Bylaw provides for 2 At-large members appointed by the Board of Selectmen, filling out the 7 member Community Preservation Committee.

The other elements of the proposed Community Preservation Bylaw, laid out in the enabling legislation, are as follows:

1. Committee to Conduct a Needs Assessment:

   - Determine the Town's priorities for open space, historic resources, community housing, and outdoor recreation projects.

   - Consult with existing municipal boards, including the Conservation Commission, Historical Commission, Planning Board, Board of Selectmen or their designee (in their capacity as Parks Commissioners), and the Housing Authority to assess the Town's community preservation goals.

   - The Town department heads and committees involved with recreation, conservation, affordable housing and historic preservation shall also assist the Community Preservation Committee in the development of the Needs Assessment.
• Hold public hearings to obtain public input.

2. Committee to Make Recommendations on Expenditures to Town Meeting:

• Review proposals for Community Preservation Projects, and recommend projects and the amount of expenditures to be made from the Community Preservation Fund.

• Project expenditures shall be based on legitimate written cost estimates.

3. Committee to Make Recommendations on the Community Preservation Fund:

• At the Annual Town Meeting, recommend amounts to be set aside each year for future use, with minimums established by the enabling legislation: 10% historic preservation, 10% housing, and 10% parks & recreation.

4. Amendments – allows for future amendments to the bylaw.

5. Severability – allows the bylaw to go into effect if any provision is not approved by the Attorney General.

The Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board strongly support enactment of this proposed Bylaw.

ARTICLE 17. Articles 18 and 19 deal with amendments to the Town’s Zoning Bylaws and General Bylaws, respectively, and are explained in detail below. Articles 18 and 19 seek to implement the prohibition on recreational marijuana establishments approved by the Town at ballot in November. This Article 17 would allow a temporary moratorium “just in case”; that is, in case the Attorney General does not approve a total prohibition of recreational marijuana establishments, and disapproves any positive action taken by Town Meeting on Articles 18 and 19, or in case Articles 18 and 19 do not pass.

This article proposes to amend the Zoning Bylaw by inserting a new section, 7.6 Marijuana Establishments that will establish a temporary moratorium on recreational marijuana establishments until December 31, 2018. This moratorium will provide time for the Planning Board to write a Zoning Bylaw amendment to regulate recreational marijuana establishments such as growing facilities and retail stores. This article also includes an amendment to the Zoning Bylaw, section 11 Definitions and to the Table of Contents. Town Counsel, has been tracking recent developments related to the passage of the November 8, 2016 ballot question that legalized the use of recreational marijuana. The State Cannabis Control
Commission is charged with writing State regulations for the new recreational marijuana industry. The problem is that the regulations have yet to be written. Town Counsel has recommended that the Town draft zoning regulations to control where marijuana establishments can be located and other associated regulations to protect public health and safety from the potential impacts of recreational marijuana, as a back up to a total prohibition of recreational marijuana establishments.

The Planning Board held a public hearing on March 27, 2017 to accept public comments on the proposed Bylaw amendment. No one attended the hearing. At the close of the hearing the Planning Board voted 4-0 to recommend approval of the Bylaw amendment.

ARTICLE 18. This article will amend the Town’s Zoning Bylaw by inserting a new section, 7.7 Marijuana Establishments Prohibited.

This new section will specifically state that all recreational marijuana establishments will be prohibited in the Town of Norwood. This new section of the Bylaw will not impact or change the current section of the Zoning Bylaw, section 7.5 Medical Marijuana. At the April 3, 2017 election, Town residents voted 2,413 to 764 on a ballot question that expressed voters desire to enact a Town General Bylaw and a Zoning Bylaw that would prohibit recreational marijuana establishments from locating in the Town. Town Counsel has recommended the enactment of both Zoning and General Bylaws to protect the town from the potential impacts of recreational marijuana establishments.

On April 24, 2017 the Planning Board held a public hearing to accept public comment on the proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment. No one attended the public hearing. The Planning Board unanimously voted, 3-0 to recommend approval of the Zoning Bylaw amendment.

The Board of Selectmen strongly supports the Planning Board’s recommendation.

ARTICLE 19. This article will amend the Town’s General Bylaws by inserting a new Article, XXXXV - Marijuana Establishments Prohibited. This new General Bylaw will specifically prohibit all recreational marijuana establishments in the Town of Norwood.

This new Bylaw will not impact or change either of the existing Bylaws: Article XXXXII Public Consumption of Marijuana or Tetrahydrocannabinol, or Article
XXXIV Medical Marijuana. Medical Marijuana is governed by an entirely different set of statutes and is not affected.

At the April 3, 2017 Town election, residents voted 2,413 to 764 on a ballot question that expressed voters desire to enact a Town General Bylaw and a Zoning Bylaw that would prohibit recreational marijuana establishments from locating in the Town. Again, Town Counsel has recommended the enactment of changes to both our General and Zoning Bylaws to protect the town from the potential impacts of recreational marijuana establishments.

Again, the Board of Selectmen strongly supports enactment of this Bylaw.

**ARTICLE 20.** This zoning article has been withdrawn by the Petitioner.

**ARTICLE 21.** This zoning article has been withdrawn by the Petitioner.

**ARTICLE 22.** This article is sponsored by the Planning Board, which has prepared the following summary.

The Article will amend the Zoning Bylaw’s sign regulations contained in section 6.2 Signs. The reason for the proposed amendments to the sign regulations is to make the Bylaw consistent with the rulings in the 2015 U.S. Supreme Court decision of Reed vs Gilbert Arizona. In this landmark Supreme Court case, the court ruled that Zoning Bylaws and ordinances cannot regulate the content of signs. It is permissible for communities to regulate the size, height, type, location, illumination and materials of signs with zoning regulations, but communities cannot regulate the content of signs. The Planning Board sought the guidance of Town Counsel to review the sign regulations and recommend changes to make the Norwood Zoning Bylaw consistent with the rulings of the Supreme Court. The Bylaw amendment also proposes to amend the definition of sign in section 11 of the Zoning Bylaw.

The Planning Board held a public hearing on the proposed amendment to the Zoning Bylaw on 3/27/17. No one attended the hearing. The Planning Board unanimously voted to recommend approval of the Bylaw amendment to Town Meeting Members.

The article as presented in the Warrant has been presented twice: once in a “red-lined” edit version, which highlights the specific changes to the existing Bylaw (which are scattered throughout the Bylaw), and a second time with the final, amended version, which is what you will be asked to actually vote on.
ARTICLE 23. This article has been withdrawn by the School Department.

ARTICLE 24. NPATV and the Friends of the Norwood Council on Aging are proposing to build a two-bay detached garage on Town property just behind the Senior Center at the Savage Center. As proposed, the building would be 800 s.f and will house two vehicles: the NPATV van which contains very valuable equipment, and the Senior Center bus. NPATV will contribute $40,000 to the $80,000 cost and “the Friends” will donate $25,000. The remaining $15,000 would be the responsibility of the Town.

Norwood Board of Selectmen

William J. Plasko, Chairman
Helen Abdallah Donohue
Paul A. Bishop
Allan D. Howard
Thomas F. Maloney
ARTICLE 12

Tennis Court Repairs
ARTICLE 12
Tennis Court Repairs
ARTICLE 15
SEWER LINING
Phase 5
May 1, 2017

Board of Selectmen
Town of Norwood
Norwood, MA 02062

Re: Senior Center Garage

Dear Members of the Board,

Please be advised that the Friends of the Norwood Council on Aging will donate $25,000 under M.G.L. C. 44 Sec. 53A toward the construction of a garage to be located as a detached building on Norwood land near the Senior Center. This donation is subject to approval by Town Meeting as Article 24 of the Special Town Meeting scheduled for May 8, 2017.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

William McCoy, President
Friends of the Norwood Council on Aging
May 2, 2017

Board of Selectmen
Town of Norwood
566 Washington St.
Norwood, MA 02062

Re: Senior Center Garage

Dear Members of the Board,

Please be advised that Norwood Public Access Television, Inc. will donate $40,000 under M.G.L. C. 44 Sec. 53A toward the construction of a garage to be located as a detached building on Norwood land near the Senior Center. This donation is subject to approval by Town Meeting as Article 24 of the Special Town Meeting scheduled for May 8, 2017, and the execution of a lease agreement that is acceptable to both parties.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Murphy
President
Norwood Public Access Television, Inc.