

Record of Action
Annual Town Meeting
May 10, 2022

Pursuant to the foregoing Warrant, the legal voters of the Town of Ipswich met at the Ipswich Middle/High School in said Town of Ipswich on, Tuesday, May 10, 2022. A quorum was present (495 present/200 required), and the meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Mr. Thomas R. Murphy, at 7:16 P.M. Unless otherwise noted, all votes cast with electronic voting.

ARTICLE 1 – Consent Calendar

Requested By: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote:

- (1) To fix the annual salary and compensation of all elected Town Officers as follows: Town Moderator: \$250.00; Select Board: member \$750.00; Chairperson \$1,000.00; School Committee: member \$ 200.00;
- (2) To transfer the sum of \$324,000 as a payment-in-lieu of taxes from the Electric Light Department;
- (3) To hear reports from the Public Safety Building Committee, Public Safety Property Reuse Committee, and the Open Space Committee;
- (4) To establish the following expenditure limitations for the revolving funds authorized in § 15-29 of the Town Bylaws for FY2023:
 - a. Town Wharf Revolving Fund: \$12,000;
 - b. Beautification Fund: \$5,000;
 - c. Public Health Fund: \$5,000;
 - d. Sanitary Housing Fund: \$7,000;
 - e. Food Inspectional Services Fund: \$25,000;
 - f. Council on Aging Fund: \$100,000;
 - g. Historical Commission Fund: \$5,000;
 - h. Town Hall Custodial Services Fund: \$20,000;
 - i. Shellfish Enhancement Fund: \$15,000;
 - j. Electric Vehicle Charging Fund: \$1,000;
 - k. Health Reimbursement Fund: \$85,000;
 - l. Crane Beach Maintenance Fund: \$50,000; and
 - m. Paving and Sidewalk Repair Fund: \$40,000.
- (5) To raise and appropriate \$50,000 and transfer said sum to the Crane's Beach Maintenance Fund;
- (6) To authorize the payment of any unpaid bills from prior years, if necessary;
- (7) To amend the Town's action taken under Article 3 of the May 15, 2021 Annual Town Meeting (FY 2022 Municipal Operating Budget) by transferring from available funds, if necessary; and
- (8) To appropriate a sum of \$437,089, or a greater or lesser sum, from the state for highway improvements under the authority of M.G.L. Chapter 90, or any such applicable laws, and to authorize the Select Board, if necessary, to apply for, accept and borrow in anticipation of state aid for such projects.

MOTION:

I move to set the salaries of elected officials; transfer funds from the Electric Light Department; hear reports from committees and continue listed committees as standing committees of Town Meeting; amend section 15-29 of the General Bylaws and establish expenditure limitations of revolving funds; to appropriate the sum of \$437,089 under the authority of M.G.L. Chapter 90 and to authorize the Select Board to borrow in anticipation of state aid for such projects, all as set forth in Article One of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Select Board Recommend: 5-0

Finance Committee Recommend: 8-0
School Committee Recommend:4-0

ACTION: Yes: 322 No: 13. Article 1 carries by the necessary majority.

ARTICLE 2 – Finance Committee Election

Submitted By: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to appoint one [1] member of the Finance Committee for three [3] years from any nominees to be put forward at Town Meeting, or to take any action relative thereto.

Moderator to call for nominations from the floor.

Select Board Recommend: RATM
Finance Committee Recommend: RATM
School Committee Recommend: RATM

ACTION: Walter Hartford was nominated from the floor and elected to serve as a member of the Finance Committee for a term of three years. Yes: 391 No: 8

ARTICLE 3 - FY 2023 Municipal Budget

Submitted By: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the reports of the Select Board and Finance Committee relative to the Fiscal 2023 municipal budget totaling **\$28,699,444**, and to raise, appropriate, transfer money from available funds, and change the purpose of the unexpended balances of prior appropriations, all to be used for the ensuing year’s operations, including the compensation of elected Town officers, and to authorize the Town to enter into lease-purchase contracts for equipment having a term of five years or less; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: An annual operating budget must be adopted and funded for Fiscal Year 2023 which begins July 1, 2022. A budget was adopted by the Select Board and submitted to the Finance Committee as required under the Town Charter and general by-laws. Detailed budget information is available on the town website at www.ipwichma.gov

MOTION:

I move to appropriate the sum of \$28,699,444 for the FY2023 municipal budget to be expended as follows:

General Government	\$883,635
Finance	\$1,071,554
Planning	\$651,295
Public Safety	\$5,752,149
Public Works	\$4,986,404
Community & Cultural Services	\$1,648,577
Benefits & Other Misc.	\$5,920,456
General Fund Total	\$20,914,070

For a General Fund Total of \$20,914,070 including waterways; and

Water Department	\$4,851,235
Wastewater Department	\$2,799,983
Sanitation, Solid Waste, Recycling	\$134,157
	\$7,785,375

Total Municipal Budget **\$28,699,444**

And that the following sums be raised and appropriated or transferred to fund the FY2023 budget:

Septic Loan Program \$33,740

Tourism Account	\$2,000
Debt Premium	\$1,046
Overlay Surplus	\$150,000
Waterways Improvements	\$117,631
Raise and Appropriate	\$20,475,496
Water Receipts	\$4,851,235
Wastewater Receipts	\$2,799,983
Sanitation, Solid Waste & Recycling	\$134,157
Total Funding Sources	\$28,699,444

Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 6-1
School Committee Recommend: 4-0

ACTION: Yes: 397 No: 24. Article 3 carries by the necessary 2/3rds vote.

ARTICLE 4 – FY 2023 School Budget

Submitted By: *School Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the reports of the School Committee and Finance Committee relative to the Fiscal 2023 School Department budget totaling **\$34,930,486**, and to raise, appropriate, transfer money from available funds, and change the purpose of the unexpended balances of prior appropriations, all to be used for the ensuing year's operations, including entering into lease-purchase agreements having a term of five years or less for a school bus and/or for other purposes; and to act upon a request to reauthorize existing revolving funds pursuant to state law; or to take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION:

I move to transfer \$150,000 from the Overlay Surplus account; to transfer \$1,879,121 from the Education Stabilization Fund; and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,901,365 for a total of \$34,930,486 to fund the FY 2023 School Budget as set forth in Article Four of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 8-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0

ACTION: Yes: 346 No: 33 Article 4 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 5 – FY 2023 Whittier Regional High School Budget

Submitted By: *Whittier RVTHS Representative*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$590,000 or a greater or lesser sum, to cover the Town's share of the ensuing year's annual operating and debt service expenses of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School; or to take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION:

I move to raise and appropriate the sum of \$590,000 to pay the Town's share of the ensuing year's annual operating and debt service expenses of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 381 No: 10. Article 5 carries by the necessary majority.

ARTICLE 6 – FY 2023 Essex County Technical Institute Budget

Submitted By: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$335,000, or a greater or lesser sum, to cover the Town's share of the ensuing year's annual operating and debt service expenses of the Essex County Technical Institute; or to take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION:

I move to raise and appropriate the sum of \$335,000 to pay the Town's share of the ensuing year's annual operating and debt service expenses of the Essex County Technical Institute.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 372 No: 8 Article 6 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 7 - Transfer of FY22 Appropriated Budget Funds to Educational Stabilization Fund

Submitted By: *School Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to allow the School Department to transfer available funds from the FY22 Appropriated Budget to the Educational Stabilization Fund.

Summary: The School Committee believes that there are unused funds available in the FY22 Appropriation. The intent is to transfer these available funds into the Educational Stabilization Fund for use by the School Department in future years.

MOTION:

I move to transfer the sum of \$1,330,000 from the FY 2022 School Budget to the Education Stabilization Fund.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 372 No: 13 Article 7 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 8 – Stabilization Funding

Submitted By: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$290,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

MOTION:

I move to transfer the sum of \$290,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 363 No: 14 Article 8 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 9 - Other Post-Employment Benefits Funding

Submitted By: Select Board

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,635 and to transfer the sum of \$686,960 from Free Cash and to transfer said sums to the OPEB Trust Fund, or take any action relative thereto.

MOTION:

I move to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,635 and to transfer the sum of \$686,960 from Free Cash and to transfer said sums to the OPEB Trust Fund.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0**

ACTION: Yes: 397 No: 22 Article 9 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 10 – Annual Capital Plan

Submitted By: Select Board and School Committee

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,428,507, from Overlay Surplus the sum of \$40,000, from the Waterways fund the sum of \$30,000, and raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,025 for the following purposes, and that any remaining funds be transferred to the Capital Stabilization Fund:

IT:

Computer/Hardware Replacement	\$50,000
Firewall Upgrade/Redundancy	\$8,000
Upgrade New Phone System (Over 10 yrs. old)	\$40,000
Fire Department Request for new Hardware	\$10,000
Server Room Protection from Sprinklers	\$15,000
Poll Pads for Town Clerks Office	\$3,500
Munis Content Manager	\$8,667

SCHOOLS:

Wind Turbine Gear Box Set-Aside (Year 5 of 7)	\$20,000
Technology: User Equipment	\$150,000
Flooring & Carpet (District)	\$20,000
Roof Repairs (District)	\$35,000
LED Lighting Conversion – HS Tennis Courts	\$25,000
Interior/Exterior Painting	\$15,000
Sewer Injector Pumps (Doyon)	\$20,000
Master Clock Replacement (Doyon)	\$11,500
Rekey Building Systems (Doyon)	\$20,000

Replace Drinking Fountain (Doyon)	\$7,000
Master Clock Replacement (Winthrop)	\$11,500
Rekey Building Systems (Winthrop)	\$20,000
Replacement of Flooring (MS/HS)	\$75,000
HVAC Duct Cleaning (MS/HS)	\$50,000
Interior/Exterior Painting (MS/HS)	\$20,000
Site Paving and Curbing (MS/HS)	\$50,000
Air Compressor Replacement (MS/HS)	\$16,500
PAC Center Stage Floor Repairs (MS/HS)	\$65,000

BUILDINGS:

Roofing Repairs – Town Wide	\$20,000
Front Façade Upgrade (Town Hall)	\$25,000
LED Lighting Conversion – HS Tennis Courts	\$25,000
Repair Iron Fence (Library)	\$22,000
Bialek Park Gazebo, Picnic, Toddler Area	\$15,000

EQUIPMENT:

Central Street TIP Project – Final Engineering	\$120,000
PW-93 (DPW - 1 Ton Truck)	\$84,865
Ford F550 (Cemetery & Parks)	\$60,000
52” Exmark Mower (Cemetery & Parks)	\$15,000
PPE (Fire - Replace Existing – 10 yrs. old)	\$24,000
Air Monitoring Equipment (Fire)	\$10,000
Replace Fire Chief Command Vehicle	\$79,000
Ladder Truck Set Aside	\$50,000
Police Cruisers (2 Hybrid Cruisers)	\$95,000
Install new Communications Tower (Public Safety)	\$127,000
Replace Navionics in Harbors Boat (Waterways Fund)	\$21,500
Replace Non-skid decking in Harbors Boat (Waterways - Fund)	\$8,500

Or to take any action relative thereto.

MOTION:

I move to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,428,507; to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,025; to transfer from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of \$40,000; and to transfer from the Waterways Fund the sum of \$30,000; for a total capital spending of \$1,568,532 to fund the capital budget as set forth in Article Ten of the warrant for this town meeting, and that any remaining funds be transferred to the Capital Stabilization Fund.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 411 No: 20. Article 10 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 11 – Home Rule Petition – Amend Charter – Section 6. Town Manager

Submitted By: *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to amend the Town Charter, Chapter 620 of the Acts of 1966, as amended, as set forth below, and further to authorize the General Court to make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, except that the Select Board may approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TOWN CHARTER OF IPSWICH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 6 of the Charter of the Town of Ipswich is hereby amended as follows:

[Note: ~~strikethrough~~ = language to be deleted, ***bold italics*** = new language]

The Select Board shall appoint a town manager for a term of three (3) years. The town manager, shall be a person especially fitted by education, training and experience to perform the duties of the office. The town manager shall be appointed without regard to the town manager's political beliefs. The Select Board may reappoint an incumbent town manager for successive, three-year terms of office, as the board may determine to be in the best interests of the Town. ~~The town manager shall not be a required to be a resident of the Town or of the Commonwealth when appointed or during the town manager's initial term; provided, however, that if reappointed, the town manager shall be required to reside in the town not more than twelve (12) months after the beginning of the town manager's second term of office and throughout all successive terms of office.~~ Before entering upon the duties of the office, the town manager shall be sworn to the faithful and impartial performance thereof by the chairman of the Select Board, the town clerk or a justice of the peace. The town manager shall execute a bond in favor of the town for the faithful performance of the town manager's duties in such sum and with such surety or sureties as may be fixed or approved by the Select Board.

Or take any action relative thereto.

Summary: This article would remove the Ipswich residency requirement for the Ipswich Town Manager. Currently, the Town Manager is required to reside in the Town of Ipswich within four years of starting employment. Very few communities have Town Manager residency requirements. The intent of this article is to allow Ipswich to both attract and retain qualified Town Managers.

MOTION: I move to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to amend the Town Charter, Chapter 620 of the Acts of 1966, as amended, as set forth in Article Eleven of the warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 402 No: 58 Article 11 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 12 – Override – School Operating Budget

Submitted By: School Committee

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an additional sum of one million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$1,800,000) for the purposes of funding a portion of the Town's Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022; provided, however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon the approval by the voters at an election of a Proposition 2 ½, so called, override allow the Town to raise the funds appropriated hereunder outside the limits established by MGL chapter 59, Section 21C. Or take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: By approving Article 12 at both Town Meeting and at the Ballot on May 17, 2022, the Town would be funding a "level services" budget, indicating that no large-scale programs or service cuts or

staff reductions would occur. The School is facing significant increases for uncontrollable costs, including salaries and benefits.

MOTION: I move to raise and appropriate an additional sum of one million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$1,800,000) for the purposes of funding a portion of the Town's Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022; provided, however, that this appropriation shall be contingent upon the approval by the voters at an election of ballot question under MGL chapter 59, section 21C(g) ("Proposition 2½"), allowing the Town to raise the funds appropriated hereunder outside the limits established by MGL chapter 59, Section 21C.

**Select Board Recommend: 4-1
Finance Committee Recommend: 5-3
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 394 No: 82 Article 12 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 13 – Rescinding Prior Water Tank Painting Article

Submitted By: *Select Board as Water Commissioners*

To see if the Town will vote to rescind a \$900,000 portion or a lesser sum of the unissued amount that was authorized in part to be borrowed by a vote of the Town passed at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 14, 2013 (Article 10) for the purpose of painting the Town Hill Water Tank but which amount is no longer needed for the purpose for which it was initially approved; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Summary: The Town authorized the borrowing of \$900,000 under Article 10 of the 2013 Annual Town Meeting for the painting of the Town Hill Water Tank. The tank was not painted and those funds have not been borrowed. Approval of this article will rescind the \$900,000 of the unissued amount that was authorized to be borrowed at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 14, 2013 (Article 10).

MOTION: That the Town hereby votes to rescind \$900,000 of the unissued amount that was authorized in part to be borrowed by a vote of the Town passed at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 14, 2013 (Article 10) for the purpose of painting the Town Hill Water Tank but which amount is no longer needed for the purpose for which it was initially approved

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 8-0**

ACTION: Yes: 226 No: 2 Article 13 carries by a simple majority vote.

ARTICLE 14 – Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrade & Design Work

Submitted By: *Select Board as Wastewater Commissioners*

To see if the Town will vote:

(1) to appropriate the sum of \$6,000,000 to survey, design, permit and construct improvements to the aeration system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto; and

(2) to raise this appropriation by authorizing the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board (Board of Sewer Commissioners), to issue bonds or serial notes under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, as amended, or any other borrowing authority.

(3) to take any other action relative thereto

(2/3rds majority and ballot vote)

Summary: This article will authorize the Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$6,000,000 to upgrade sewer infrastructure within the Town of Ipswich. Funds are anticipated to be used for engineering and construction of improvements to the aeration system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The aeration system is a critical component to the Town's biological treatment process and includes equipment that is past its useful life. Failure of this system will result in incomplete treatment of wastewater and violations of federal discharge permit parameters.

MOTION: I move that \$6,000,000 is appropriated to pay costs of surveying, designing, permitting and constructing improvements to the aeration system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto: that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board (Board of Sewer Commissioners) is authorized to borrow \$6,000,000 under Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws or any other borrowing authority; and that the Select Board is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 8-0**

ACTION: Yes: 222 No: 6 Article 14 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 15: Land Disposition – 161 Topsfield Road

Submitted By: Town Manager/Planning Director

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Ipswich Select Board to dispose of a portion of a parcel of land in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B, the Massachusetts Uniform Procurement Act, which conveyance shall be subject to a covenant requiring the use of the parcel for affordable housing purposes, and convey a separate portion of the same parcel of land to the Ipswich Conservation Commission, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 8C, so that the land shall be permanently protected under Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Said parcel of land is known as 161 Topsfield Road (also known as Assessor's Map 52B, Lot 12A).

Summary: 161 Topsfield Road is a 28.8 acre parcel. The parcel is located in the RRA Zoning District. The Town acquired the parcel through a tax title taking in 2016. The parcel appears to offer opportunity for building nearest Topsfield Road. This article would authorize the Select Board to dispose of a portion of the parcel with frontage on Topsfield Road for building housing. The Select Board has expressed an interest in the potential for affordable housing (potentially up to two units) in the front parcel. The article would also authorize the Select Board to transfer care, custody and control of a separate parcel behind the buildable parcel to the Conservation Commission.

MOTION: I move to authorize the Select Board to convey a portion of a parcel of land, which parcel is known as 161 Topsfield Road (Lot 12A on Assessor's Map 52B), in accordance with G.L. c. 30B, the Massachusetts Uniform Procurement Act, subject to a covenant requiring that portion of the parcel be used for affordable housing purposes.

ACTION: Yes: 142 No: 87 Article 15 fails to carry by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 16: Accept CDP Plan – Revise existing language

Submitted By: Planning Board

[Note: ~~strikethrough~~ = language to be deleted ***bold italics*** = new language]

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Ipswich Community Development Plan as updated for 2021-2036 and to amend the Town's General Bylaw as shown below:

Part I: General Bylaws – Administrative / General Administrative Provisions

Article II Conformance with Community Development Plan

[Adopted 10-20-2003 TM, approved by Attorney General 1-22-2004 (Ch. XI, § 11, of the 1973 Bylaws)]

Chapter § 15-3 Documentation by Town boards and commissions.

When taking actions and/or making decisions relative to land use or other subjects ***related to community planning*** ~~addressed by the 2003 Community Development Plan (CDP), Town Bboards, and Ceommissions, Committees and Department staff~~ shall ***evaluate and consider the goals of the then-current Ipswich Community Development Plan, and shall*** indicate in their ***actions and*** decisions ~~and/or minutes~~ whether or not said action or decision ~~was is or is not~~, in their opinion, consistent with the CDP. ~~If a Board or Commission indicates that its action or decision is consistent with the CDP, then it shall also provide its reason for such determination in its decision and/or minutes. If a Board, or Commission, Committee, or Department staff indicates that its action or decision is not consistent with the CDP goals or the then-current CDP Implementation Plan, then it shall explain its rationale for taking such action in its decision and/or minutes.~~

Summary: The revisions to the Town's General Bylaw "Conformance with the CDP" were supported and recommended by the CDP Steering Committee at its meeting on January 24, 2022. The article requests that the Town 1) adopt the 2021-2036 CDP and 2) update the Town's General Bylaw as written.

In early 2019, a Community Development Plan (CDP) Steering Committee was appointed and convened to guide the process to update components of the Town's 2008/2013 CDP and to develop a new 15-year Community Development Plan. The Town hired JM Goldson, LLC consultants to help with a thorough data review and needs assessment, and to hold public forums and conduct public surveys. In 2020, Goldson LLC worked with the CDP Steering Committee and the community to identify goals and strategies to achieve the community's 15-year vision.

The CDP Steering Committee members and Planning Department staff have presented the final 2021-2036 Community Development Plan to many Town boards, committees, and community partners over the past year, including to the Tri-Board (Select Board, School Committee, and Finance Committee) at their December 14, 2021 meeting. Next steps will be for the Select Board and Planning Board to convene a CDP Implementation Committee to revise the draft implementation plan and begin active implementation of the Plan.

This article was also recommended unanimously by the Planning Board on February 17, 2022.

MOTION: I move to amend the Ipswich General Bylaws as set forth in Article Sixteen of the warrant for this town meeting.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 7-0-1
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 179 No: 13 Article 16 carries by the necessary majority vote.

After Article 16, a vote was taken to question the quorum. After a count of votes via the electronic clickers, a quorum was found to be present, and Town Meeting continued.

ARTICLE 17: Open Space Bond Authorization List Submitted By: *Open Space Committee*

To see if the Town will add the following two parcels to the Open Space Parcels List (as referenced in Article 18 of the Warrant for the April 3, 2000 Annual Town Meeting), on file in the office of the Director of Planning and Development and in the office of the Town Clerk, said changes having been placed on file in the office of the Director of Planning & Development and in the office of the Town Clerk by March 4, 2022.

- (1) Land now or formerly of the Swicker Karen L TRS and Louise M Swicker Trust, at 39 Mile Lane, also known as Parcel ID 29B 007 0, consisting of approximately 9.8 acres;
- (2) Land now or formerly of Whipple Anastas, Martha TC and Whipple, Andrea L. et al., at 3 Candlewood Road, also known as Parcel ID 63B 003 0, consisting of a total of approximately 31 acres.

Summary: This article would add two new parcels to the list of properties that could be acquired through the Open Space Bond Authorization. The Open Space Bond is funded through a \$10 million bond issue, approved by Article 18 of the Warrant for the April 3, 2000 Annual Town Meeting, and subsequently increased by \$5 million in 2011 by Article 19 of the Warrant for the May 10, 2011 Annual Town Meeting.

All parcels to be potentially purchased through the Open Space Bond Program must be added to the Open Space Bond Parcel List by vote of Town Meeting, per Article 18 above. The two parcels being proposed for addition to the Bond List are:

- 1) 39 Mile Lane – 9.8 acres;*
- 2) 3 Candlewood Road -- 31 acres.*

39 Mile Lane directly abuts Ipswich Water Supply Land to the north/northeast (Mile Lane Well and Bull Brook Reservoir) and the Mile Lane Recreation Complex to the west. The proximity of this parcel to the Mile Lane Well and Bull Brook Reservoir make it an important area for conservation and water supply protection.

3 Candlewood Road fronts Essex Road and is the location of the previous Candlewood Golf Course. This property is proximate to both the Essex Road well and Fellows Road well and therefore make this an important area for conservation and water supply protection.

The parcels would be considered in whole or in part for acquisition by the Open Space Bond Fund for the purposes of conservation and water supply protection, should the opportunity arise.

MOTION: I move that the Town approve Article Seventeen as printed in the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 8-0
School Committee Recommend: RATM**

ACTION: Yes: 185 No: 5 Article 17 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 18: Amend General Bylaws – Chapter 35 – Town Boards, Committees & Commissions

Submitted By: TGSC Ad Hoc Committee

Add Article X Town Government Study Committee.

Section 35-42 Establishment and Membership.

The Town Government Study Committee was permanently established by the December 10, 1962, Town Meeting unanimous approval of Warrant Article 17. The Committee shall hence forth consist of five members with staggered three-year terms. The Select Board, Finance Committee, and School Committee shall each appoint one committee member or designee. Town Meeting shall appoint two at-large Committee members. The Committee shall post sixty-day public notice of Town Meeting at-large appointment vacancies and submit the Town Meeting warrant article for an appointment to the Committee. Should no one be appointed at Town Meeting, the first vacancy will be appointed by the Town Moderator and any second vacancy will be appointed by the Town Manager.

Section 35-43 Responsibilities.

The Select Board and Town Meeting will refer topics to the Committee for review and recommendation. The Committee makes annual reports and recommendations regarding these referred topics to the Select Board and Town Meeting on matters pertaining to Town Charter and Town Bylaws. The Committee will perform periodic broad review of Town government structure and may recommend Charter or bylaw changes or the filing of special acts with the State Legislature be considered, after conducting a public hearing thereon during a Select Board meeting.

Section 35-44 Quorum.

A quorum of the Town Government Study Committee shall consist of no fewer than three members.

Summary: The Town Government Study Committee has served the Town for 60 years. The motion under this Article would reform the committee to five members and change their appointment from being solely a Select Board responsibility to multiple appointing authorities: the Select Board, the Finance Committee, the School Committee, and two at large positions, the goal being to have broader representation and a fuller complement of members. This requires a simple majority vote.

MOTION: I move to amend the Ipswich General Bylaws as set forth in Article Eighteen of the warrant for this town meeting.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: 8-0
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Yes: 177 No: 14 Article 18 carries by the necessary 2/3rd vote.

ARTICLE 19 – Town Government Study Committee Appointments

Submitted By: TGSC Ad Hoc Committee

To see if the Town will vote to appoint one [1] Town Government Study Committee member for a two [2] year term and one [1] Town Government Study Committee members for a three [3] year term, or to take any action relative thereto. These appointments shall take effect upon Attorney General approval under MGL Chapter 40 Section 32 of General Bylaw Chapter 35- Town Boards, Committees and Commissions, Article X Town Government Study Committee.

Summary: The Ad Hoc Committee established in the 2021 Special Town Meeting proposed this Article to allow the meeting to appoint two members of the TGSC as reformed under Article 18: one for a one-year term and the other for a two-year term. Only if the vote under Article 18 passes, the Town Moderator will entertain nominations from the floor for these two positions, one at a time. He will then allow nominees an opportunity to address the meeting and take a vote; the nominee with the most votes will take the position. This requires a simple majority vote.

Moderator to call for nominations from the floor.

**Select Board Recommend: 5-0
Finance Committee Recommend: RATM
School Committee Recommend: 4-0**

ACTION: Gary Champion was nominated from the floor and elected to serve the three year term. Yes: 115 No: 41.

There were no nominations from the floor for the two year term.

A motion was made and carried by voice vote to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 10:35 P.M.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Amy S. Akell, MMC/CMMC
Town Clerk