

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
April 8, 2008

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ARTICLE 1
Fiscal 2008 Omnibus Budget
(Town Administrator)

To determine what sum or sums of money the Town will appropriate and raise, or transfer from available funds, for the operation of the government of the Town of Natick, including debt and interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008), and to see what budgets for Fiscal 2008 will be reduced to offset said additional appropriations, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 2
Fiscal 2009 Omnibus Budget
(Town Administrator)

To determine what sum or sums of money the Town will appropriate and raise, or transfer from available funds, for the operation of the government of the Town of Natick, including debt and interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009), or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3
Stabilization Fund
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds for the purpose of supplementing the stabilization fund under Article 22 of the warrant for Annual Town Meeting of 1961, as authorized by Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended, or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 4
Fiscal 2009 Morse Institute Library Budget
(Morse Institute Library Trustees)

To see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, for the maintenance and operation of the Morse Institute Library, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

ARTICLE 5
Fiscal 2009 Bacon Free Library Budget
(Bacon Free Library Trustees and Bacon Free Library Maintenance Committee)

To see what sum of money the Town will raise, borrow or transfer for maintenance of the Bacon Free Library, or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 6
Elected Officials Salary
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town of Natick for the fiscal year which begins on July 1, 2008 as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended.

ARTICLE 7
Collective Bargaining
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, the funds necessary to implement the Terms of Agreements reached between the Town and the following collective bargaining units:

- a) International Brotherhood of Police Officers, Local 622

Or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 8
Personnel Board Pay Plan
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 108A of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, will vote to amend the by-laws by adding to Article 24, Section 3, a new paragraph deleting certain position titles, adding new position titles and effecting changes in the salary ranges as presently established and will provide the money necessary therefore, or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9
Capital Equipment
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and raise, or otherwise provide, a sum or sums of money as may be required for capital equipment for the various departments of the Town of Natick, determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10
Capital Improvement
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and raise, or otherwise provide, a sum or sums of money to implement a Capital Improvement Program, to protect the physical infrastructure of the Town of Natick, determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11
Lease and/or Repair
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and raise, or otherwise provide, a sum or sums of money as may be required for the lease and/or repair of equipment for various departments of the Town of Natick, determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12
Funding for Feasibility Study for High School
(School Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to implement the Feasibility Study required by the Massachusetts School Building Authority for the replacement/renovation of Natick High School; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13
School Bus Transportation Subsidy
(School Committee)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for the purpose of operation and administration of the school bus transportation system, and to reduce or offset fees charged for students who elect to use the school bus transportation system for transportation to and from school; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 14
Inflow & Infiltration Removal
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money to be expended by the Department of Public Works for the planning, study, design and/or repair of the Town's sewer system to identify and/or prohibit extraneous flow in the form of infiltration and inflow into the sewer system; and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 15
Long-Term Lease of Eliot School: Home Rule Petition, Authorization for Lease
(Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact legislation which, notwithstanding the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 3 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or any general law or special law to the contrary, would authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue a Request for Proposals to lease for a term not to exceed fifty years the property at 5 Auburn Street in Natick, MA, which is now or formerly the site of the Eliot Elementary School, and which would authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease for said property for a term not to exceed fifty years, provided that the General Court may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 16
Middlesex Garage Developer Selection
(Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease for a term not to exceed ninety-nine years of the property at 20 Middlesex Avenue,

Natick, which is now or formerly the site of the Middlesex Avenue parking garage, for the purpose of construction, operation and management of a facility which would provide public parking, residential use and/or commercial use, and parking associated with said residential use and/or commercial use, or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 17
Report of West Natick Fire Station Study Committee
(Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to hear a report of and accept the findings and recommendations of the West Natick Fire Station Study Committee, and, further, to see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of conducting an environmental assessment of the Town-owned property and the privately owned properties that comprise the proposed site of a new Fire Station #4; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 18
Acquisition of Land – West Natick Fire Station
(Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire a parcel of land from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, said parcel being shown on Town of Natick Assessors' Map 25 as Parcel 251A, or to acquire an easement or other interest in or across said parcel, the purpose of said acquisition being to make possible the development of a new Fire Station #4; and, further, to see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for the purposes of this article; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 19
West Natick Fire Station Funding for Preliminary Design
(Board of Selectmen)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of funding preliminary design work for a new Fire Station at the present location of Fire Station #4 and/or on adjoining properties; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 20
Appropriation of Dedicated Funds to Affordable Housing Trust Fund

(Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$40,000 to the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund from funds having been received pursuant to Planning Board decision no. 5-03 regarding the application of Edgewater Development Associates, Inc. for property located at 85 Park Avenue/746 Worcester Road; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 21

Appropriation of Mall Mitigation Funds: Upgrade Fire Department Radio System
(Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of providing matching funds for a Fire Department grant to facilitate an upgrade to their radio system to UHF; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 22

Appropriation of Mall Mitigation Funds: Design of Route 135/Speen Turning Lane
(Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of funding design work for a turning lane from Route 135 westbound onto Speen Street northbound; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 23

Increase Fees Recreational Camps and Motels
(Board of Health)

To see if the Town will, in accordance with Chapter 140, Section 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws, authorize the Board of Health to increase the annual license fees for recreational camps and motels as follows:

	Current Fee	New Fee
Recreational Camps	\$100	\$375
Motels	\$ 50	\$150

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24
Unpaid Bills

(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide such sums of money as may be required for the payment of unpaid bills of previous years, incurred by the departments, boards and officers of the Town of Natick, or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 25
Re-authorization of Revolving Funds
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the use of revolving funds previously established pursuant to votes of Town Meeting; to determine: 1) the programs and purposes for which each such revolving fund may be expended; 2) the departmental receipts which shall be credited to each such revolving fund; 3) the board, department or officer authorized to expend money from each such revolving fund; and 4) a limit on the total amount which may be expended from each such revolving fund in the fiscal year which begins on July 1, 2008; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 26
Re-authorization of Revolving Fund: Sassamon Trace Golf Carts
(Town Administrator)

To see if the town will vote to authorize the use of revolving funds previously established pursuant to votes of Town Meeting for the restoration and rehabilitation of golf carts owned by the town at Sassamon Trace Golf Course; to authorize the Recreation Director, under the supervision of the Town Administrator, to expend money from such revolving fund; to determine a limit on the total amount which may be expended from such revolving fund during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008.

ARTICLE 27
Re-authorization of Revolving Fund: Natick Mall Inspectional Services
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the use of revolving funds previously established pursuant to votes of Town Meeting to utilize fees received for inspection services and code compliance services for commercial construction projects and residential construction projects at the Natick Mall for the purpose of providing such services for the foregoing construction projects and administrative costs related thereto; to authorize the Building Department to expend money from such revolving

fund; to determine a limit on the total amount which may be expended from such fund during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 28

Establish Revolving Fund: Senior Center Building Maintenance & Improvement (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, to establish a Senior Center Revolving Fund in order to utilize money received from building rental fees and donations for the purpose of funding maintenance of the Senior Center building and its successors, by whatever name such building or buildings are identified, and improvement projects for such building or buildings; to authorize the Director of Human Services and Council on Aging, under the supervision of the Council on Aging and the Town Administrator, to expend money from such revolving fund; to determine a limit on the total amount which may be expended from such revolving fund during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 29

Increase Personal Property Tax Exemptions (Board of Assessors)

To see if the Town will vote to increase the Personal Exemption Amounts by 30% under the provisions of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986 as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988 which provides for "Optional Additional Property Tax Exemptions" allowing an annually determined, uniform increase in the amount of exemption in General Laws, Chapter 59 Section 5 Clauses 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37A, and 41C (elderly person, disabled veteran, or blind person).

ARTICLE 30

Acceptance of MGL c59, clause Fifth B; Property Tax Exemption for Veterans' Organizations (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause Fifth B, added by Chapter 499, Section 1 of the Acts and Resolves of 1987, which would exempt from taxation the real and personal estate belonging to or held in trust for the benefit of incorporated organizations of veterans of any war in which the United States has been engaged, to the extent of seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000.00), if used and occupied by such association,

and if the net income from said property is used for charitable purposes; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 31

Acceptance of MGL, c59, clause Fifth C; Additional Property Tax Exemption for
Veterans' Organizations
(Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of legislation which would increase the amount of exemption from taxation for the real and personal estate belonging to or held in trust for the benefit of incorporated organizations of veterans of any war in which the United States has been engaged, whether such legislation is identified as Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause Fifth C, or is identified by some other designation; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 32

Natick High School Team Nickname/Mascot
(Susan Lamont, et al)

To ask the Town of Natick to vote to overturn the decision of March 5, 2007, of the Natick School Committee, to discontinue the Town of Natick Team Nickname/Mascot to be the "Redmen", by voting that the Natick Finance Committee withhold any part of the School Committee's budget, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, for the 2008/2009 school year, involving funding for any change away from the use of "Redmen" for the Town of Natick Public Schools.

ARTICLE 33

Street Acceptance: Jennison Circle
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to accept Jennison Circle and any appurtenant easements as laid out and filed with the Town Clerk, and as shown on the street acceptance plan on file with the Town Clerk:

Jennison Circle

ARTICLE 34

Establish Charter & By-Law Review Committee
(Town Moderator)

To see if the Town will establish a Charter and By-Law Review Committee, as provided for under Section 7-6 of the Natick Home Rule Charter, or take other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 35
Report of Community/Senior Center Study Committee
(Community/Senior Center Study Committee – Building Committee)

To hear a report by the Building Committee, said committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen on February 5, 2007 as a sub-committee, to the main committee.

The report is to provide an updated status concerning a proposed new Natick Senior/Community Center as well as, Community and Recreation facilities in combination with a Senior Center pursuant to Article 31 of the Annual Spring Town Meeting of 2005.

ARTICLE 36
Cochituate Rail Trail Task Force Report
(Cochituate Rail Trail Task Force)

To hear a report by the Cochituate Rail Trail Task Force.

ARTICLE 37
Natick 360 Strategic Plan Report
(Board of Selectmen)

To hear a report presented by the Natick 360 Strategic Planning Oversight Committee.

ARTICLE 38
Natick 360 Hear and Receive a Report
(Natick 360 Strategic Planning Oversight Committee)

Shall the Town hear, receive and place on file the report from the Natick 360 Strategic Planning Oversight Committee, without ratification of any action taken or authorization of any action proposed?

ARTICLE 39
Amend Zoning By-Laws – Covered Open-Air Front Porches
(George Richards, Kenneth Soderholm, et al)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by adding the following new paragraph to Section IV-A (General Requirements – Intensity Regulations)

The Intensity Regulations requiring minimum front yard set backs in residential districts shall not apply to a Covered Open-Air Front Porch, provided that no portion of the Covered Open-Air Front Porch shall be (i) enclosed by screen, glass or building walls; (ii) of a depth (including all roof lines and columns, but not stairs) greater than ten (10) feet or one-third (1/3) of the height of the principal residential structure to which it is attached, whichever is less; (iii) located closer to the front lot line than a distance in feet equal to sixty (60%) percent of the applicable front yard set back requirement; and (iv) (with the exception of the applicable front set back requirement) constructed in compliance with all other requirements of the underlying zone including, without limitation, side yard set back and lot coverage requirements.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Laws by adding the following definition to Section 22 – DEFINITIONS:

COVERED OPEN-AIR FRONT PORCH: For purposes of paragraph ___ of Section IV-A, a first-floor, ground level single-story covered structure attached to the front exterior of a principal residential structure, no portion of which may extend beyond the side walls of the front of such principal residential structure, which has direct access to street level, and which the building inspector determines, following review of adequate plans, complies with the following additional requirements:

Exterior Materials: The exterior materials shall be consistent or complementary in color, texture, and quality with those visible at the front of the principal residential structure, and otherwise consistent or complementary to neighboring structures and neighborhood character.

Base: The base (from grade to deck level) shall not be solid, but shall be screened by lattice with openings no larger than two inches by two inches.

Railings and Balusters: Railings no higher than 36" above the porch deck (unless a greater height is required by the State Building Code), and balusters evenly spaced so as to leave at least fifty (50%) percent of the perimeter length of the railings open, shall be permitted.

Roof: The roof shall be properly scaled and proportioned to the roof and architecture of the principal residential structure, have no less than a 3/12 slope, shall be attached to the front building wall of the principal residential structure. No second floor balcony, deck or enclosed construction of any kind shall be permitted above the roof.

ARTICLE 40

Home Rule Petition: Increase Number of Available Liquor Licenses
(Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to enact legislation which, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 11 and Section 17 of Chapter 138 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or any other general law or special law to the contrary, would authorize the licensing authority of the Town of Natick to issue additional licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises, provided that the General Court may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition; or otherwise act thereon.

ARTICLE 41
Committee Article
(Board of Selectmen)

To hear and act upon the reports of the several Town officers and reports of committees authorized by vote of any further Town Meeting and to authorize a sum of money for the purpose thereof.