



**THE MEETING WILL START SHORTLY**

# **Warrant Hearing**

**Town Meeting – May 6, 2024,  
Fiscal Update and Articles**

**April 2, 2024**

# **TOWN OF MEDFIELD**

## **WARRANT HEARING AGENDA**

- **Call to Order and Disclosure of Video Recording**
- **Open Warrant Hearing**
- **Warrant Committee Co-Chair Opening Remarks**
- **Presentation on Proposed Operating Budget and Fiscal Status**
- **Review of Warrant Articles**
  - **Public Input – Questions and Comments**
- **Close of Warrant Hearing**

# The Financial Articles Address All Areas of Town Finance

## Tax Bill Impact

**Operating  
Budget**

**Reserve and  
Stabilization  
Accounts**

**Capital Assets**

**Long Term  
Liabilities**

**Service Levels**



**Balance  
Many Needs**

**Town's Finances – Complying With Financial Policies**

## KEY TAKEAWAYS ON THE PROPOSED FY 25 BUDGET

- ❑ Operating Budget is balanced without the need for a Prop 2 ½ override.
- ❑ Prudent use of free cash to fund many important priorities for reserves and stabilization funds.

- **Important disciplines needed to achieve yearly operating budgets that are sustainable within the Prop 2 ½ framework.**
  - ❑ Budgets prepared in accordance with financial policies that are designed so that operating expenditures are covered by current operating revenues, not non-recurring revenue sources
  - ❑ Not using free cash for yearly operating expenditures and limiting use to one-time appropriations and funding of long term OPEB liability.

## FUTURE BUDGET CHALLENGES

**Forecasted overall expenditures continue to outpace revenue growth. Some relief is expected if and when the MSH development is complete. More significant relief is not expected until FY 30, when the pension plan is projected to be fully funded.**

### **Future Budget Years will be more challenging than FY 2025**

- Expiration of Collective Bargaining Agreements, including teachers (expires end of FY 2026) and Town Police and Fire (expires end of FY 2025).**
- Net State Aid is under pressure and has not kept pace with wage inflation and cost increases.**
- Planning for a new Elementary School Building Project continues and will result in a significant increase in property taxes if ultimately approved by Town Meeting and voters.**

# FY 25 Budget – Big Picture

Expenditures - Level Service Budget to maintain existing services

## Needs Based Requests INCLUDED in FY 25 Budget:

- School Department**
  - ✓ Addition of 2 FTEs, and \$459K for SPED Out of District Transportation
- Town Departments**
  - ✓ Addition of .5 FTE for Park & Rec assistant director and .75 FTE for Conservation Commission Agent
  - ✓ Police budget increase of \$246K related to new collective bargaining agreement
- Assumes approximately \$297K in first year savings from negotiations on redesigned Health Care Plans**

# FY 25 Budget – Big Picture

## EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED)

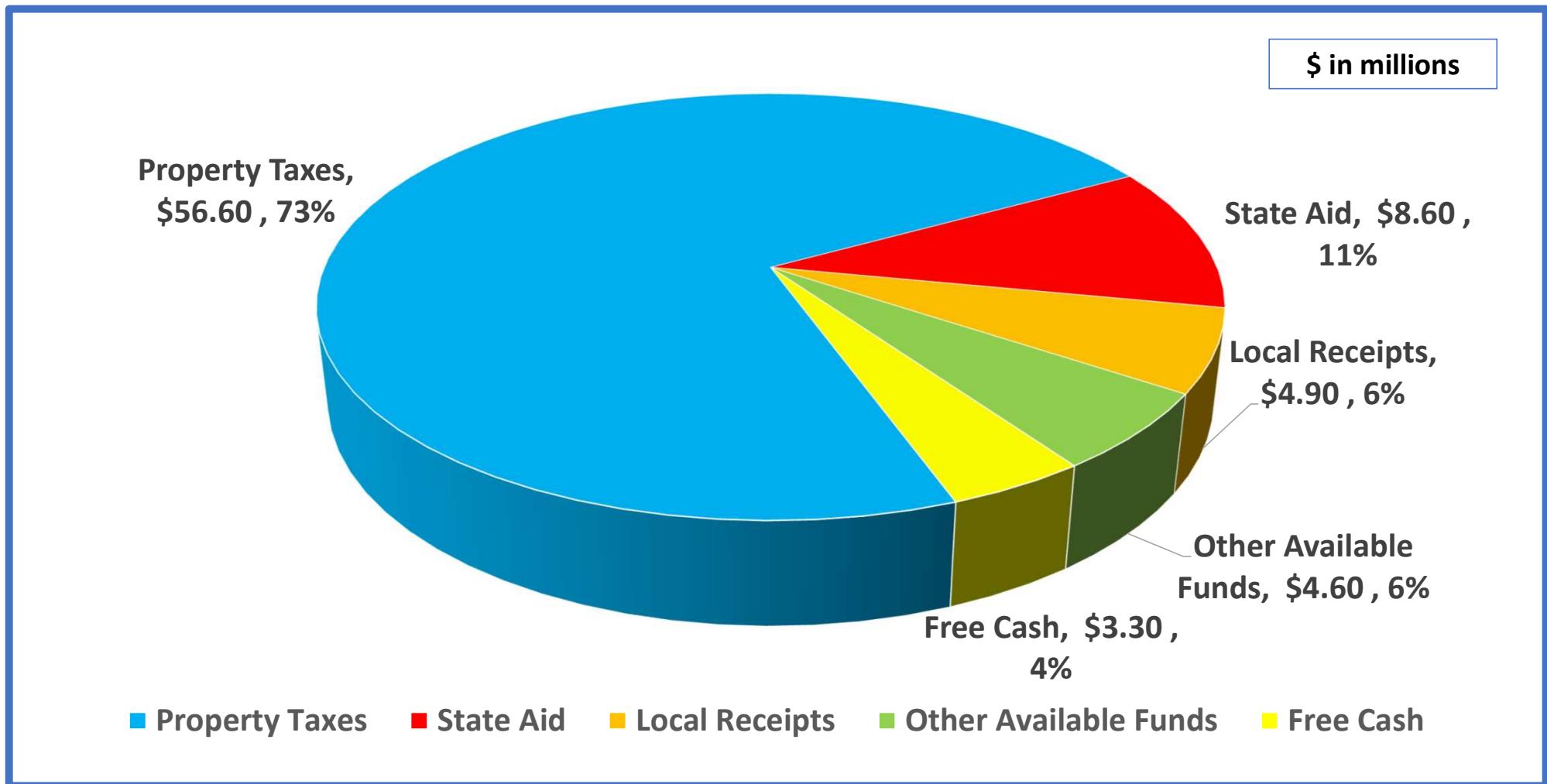
### Needs Based Requests NOT INCLUDED in FY 25 Budget:

- School Department** - \$355K
- Town Departments** - \$169K

## REVENUES

- Assumes New Growth of \$475K**
- Local Receipts Growth of \$565K** (\$179k Departmental Revenue, \$160k Interest Income, \$109k Licenses and Permits, \$100k Motor Vehicle Excise Tax)
- Other revenues assume growth consistent with Medfield's History

# FY 25 Projected Budget Revenue, \$78.0 million



# Property Tax Levy Calculation Per Prop 2 1/2

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 (Estimate)
<b>Property Tax Levy Subject to Prop 2 1/2</b>					
Prior Year Prop 2 1/2 Levy	\$ 44,458,802	\$ 46,047,741	\$ 47,717,256	\$ 49,521,862	\$ 51,283,621
2 1/2 Increase	\$ 1,111,470	\$ 1,151,194	\$ 1,192,931	\$ 1,238,047	\$ 1,282,091
New Growth	\$ 477,469	\$ 518,321	\$ 611,675	\$ 523,712	\$ 475,000
	\$ 46,047,741	\$ 47,717,256	\$ 49,521,862	\$ 51,283,621	\$ 53,040,712
Municipal Building Stabilization Fund	\$ 1,050,625	\$ 1,076,890	\$ 1,103,812	\$ 1,131,407	\$ 1,159,692
<b>Levy Limit (within Prop 2 1/2)</b>	<b>\$ 47,098,366</b>	<b>\$ 48,794,146</b>	<b>\$ 50,625,674</b>	<b>\$ 52,415,028</b>	<b>\$ 54,200,404</b>
<b>Outside Prop 2 1/2</b>					
Debt Exclusions (Exempt Borrowing)	\$ 3,674,665	\$ 3,305,035	\$ 3,129,882	\$ 2,592,050	\$ 2,382,869
<b>Maximum Levy Limit</b>	<b>\$ 50,773,031</b>	<b>\$ 52,099,181</b>	<b>\$ 53,755,556</b>	<b>\$ 55,007,078</b>	<b>\$ 56,583,273</b>
<b>Excess Levy Capacity</b>	<b>\$ (16,601)</b>	<b>\$ (28,580)</b>	<b>\$ (274,077)</b>	<b>\$ (235,826)</b>	<b>Taxes Not Raised</b>
<b>Total Tax Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 50,756,430</b>	<b>\$ 52,070,601</b>	<b>\$ 53,481,479</b>	<b>\$ 54,771,252</b>	<b>\$ 56,583,273</b>
					<b>What we do tax</b>

# A Look At Medfield's Single Family Tax Bill

	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY24	Estimated FY 25
<b>Average Tax Bill Increase</b>	8.9%	2.5%	1.9%	2.1%	3.2%	2.0%	3.3%
<b>Single Family Average Assessed Value</b>	\$ 658,424	\$ 676,528	\$ 692,421	\$ 720,752	\$ 839,765	\$ 903,200	\$ 903,200
<b>Average Tax Bill</b>	\$ 11,766	\$ 12,062	\$ 12,297	\$ 12,555	\$ 12,958	\$ 13,222	\$ 13,659

**Medfield's Ranking in the  
State Average Tax Bill**

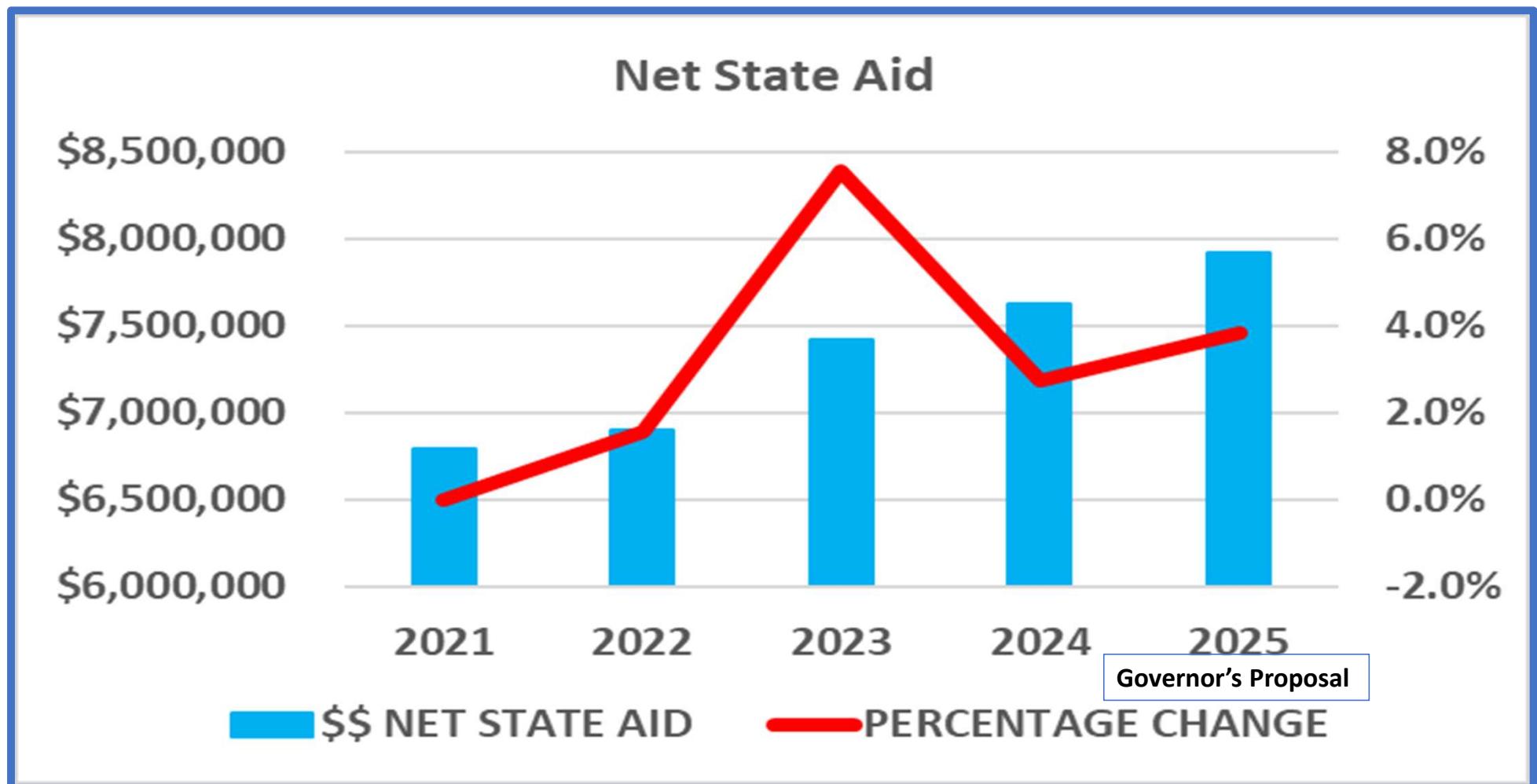
FY12	22
FY13	22
FY14	21
FY15	21
FY16	18
FY17	19
FY18	19
FY19	15
FY20	16
FY21	18
FY22	20
<b>FY23</b>	<b>21</b>

**Sample Single Family Tax Bill**



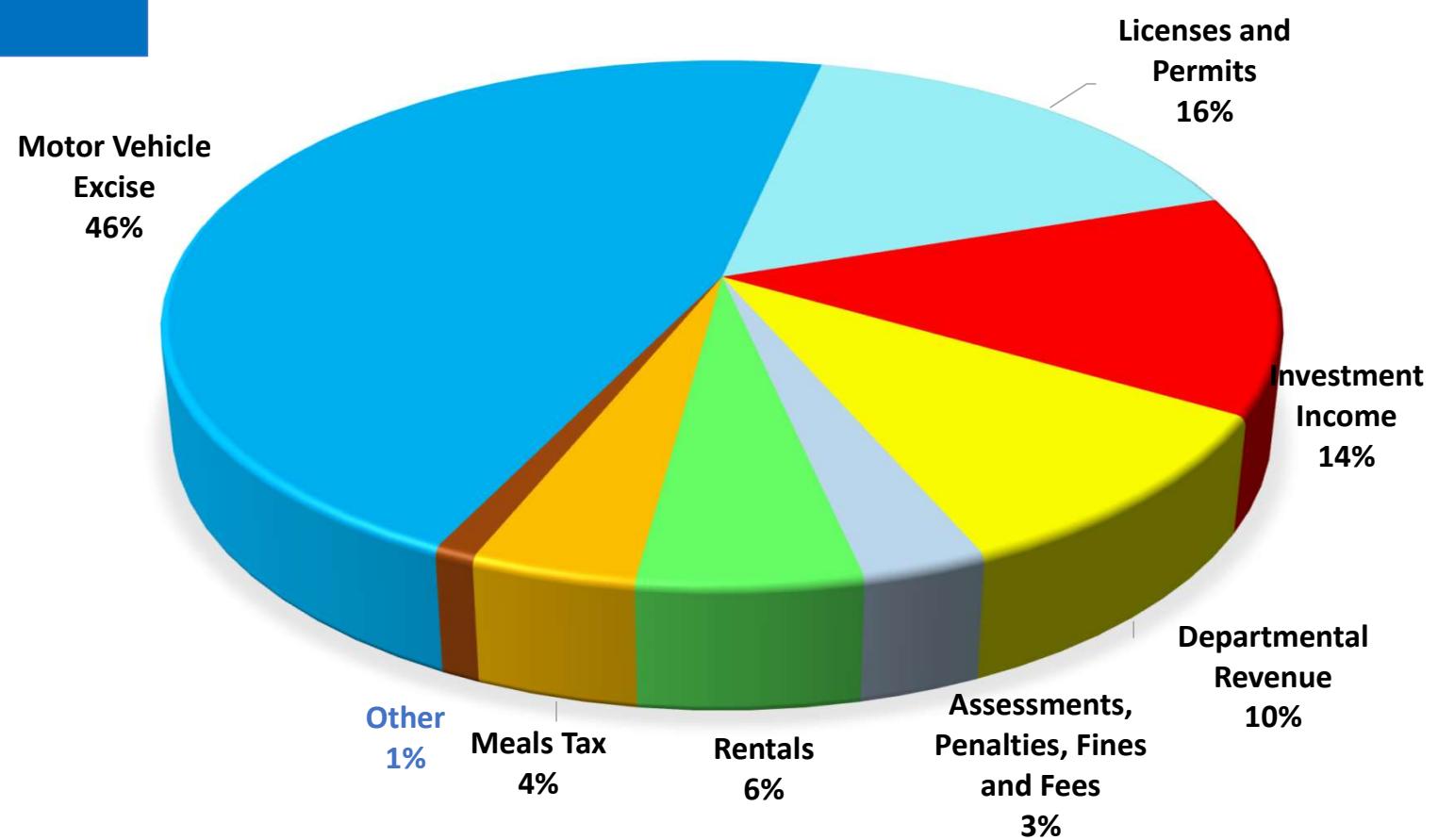
Fiscal Year	Average Tax Bill (\$)
FY14	11,766
FY15	12,062
FY16	12,297
FY17	12,555
FY18	12,958
FY19	13,222
FY20	13,659
FY21	13,659
FY22	13,659
FY23	13,659
FY24	13,659

# Medfield State Aid – Cherry Sheet



# Revenue From Local Receipts

FY 25 Budget - \$4,872,307,  
13.1% increase



## FY 25 Proposed Operating Budget, \$ 72.6M, 3.6% increase

	<u>FY 24</u>	<u>FY 25</u> Proposed	<u>\$\$ Change</u> FY 25 vs FY 24	<u>% Change</u> FY 25 vs FY24
School Operating	\$41,284,139	\$43,240,335	\$1,956,196	4.7%
Municipal Operating	\$13,343,534	\$13,988,744	\$645,210	4.8%
Town and School Employee Benefits	\$9,460,985	\$9,708,962	\$247,977	2.6%
Other	\$1,807,147	\$1,615,516	-\$191,631	-10.6%
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,895,805</b>	<b>\$68,553,557</b>	<b>\$2,657,752</b>	<b>4.0%</b>
Debt Service	\$4,123,378	\$4,015,328	-\$108,050	-2.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70,019,183</b>	<b>\$72,568,885</b>	<b>\$2,549,702</b>	<b>3.6%</b>

GOAL: CONTINUED STABLE AND SUSTAINABLE OPERATING BUDGET GROWTH

## Free Cash Use

**Certified Free Cash – June 30, 2023:** \$5,142,310

**Less FY 25 Articles Proposed Uses of Free Cash:**

<b>Dale Street/Rt 27 Traffic Mitigation Fund (Article 12)</b>	( \$ 98,567)
<b>Special Education Reserve Fund (Article 13 )</b>	( \$200,000)
<b>School Tax Impact Mitigation Fund (Article 14)</b>	( \$900,000)
<b>Capital Stabilization Fund (Article 17 )</b>	( \$700,000)
<b>Elementary School Feasibility Study (Article 19)</b>	( \$650,000)
<b>OPEB Trust Fund (Article 21)</b>	( \$551,250)
<b>Capital Projects P&amp;R and Con. Comm. (Articles 18 &amp; 26)</b>	( \$ 88,000)
<b>Other Revolving, Trust and Economic Vitality Funds and MSH Maintenance/Sec. (Articles 5,7,8,24,25 &amp; 27)</b>	( \$ 90,000)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>( \$3,277,817)</u></b>
<b>Estimated Unused Free Cash</b>	\$1,864,493
<b>Free Cash Required to Meet Policy</b>	<b><u>\$1,818,237</u></b>
<b>Excess</b>	<b>\$ 46,248</b>

# Credit Review



September 2021  
Updated Credit  
Review with Moody's



Rigorous review of  
finances and financial  
practices



Moody's reaffirms  
Town's Aa1 rating



This is a good rating  
for a small  
community



Helps the Town issue  
debt at a lower  
interest rate

Aa1

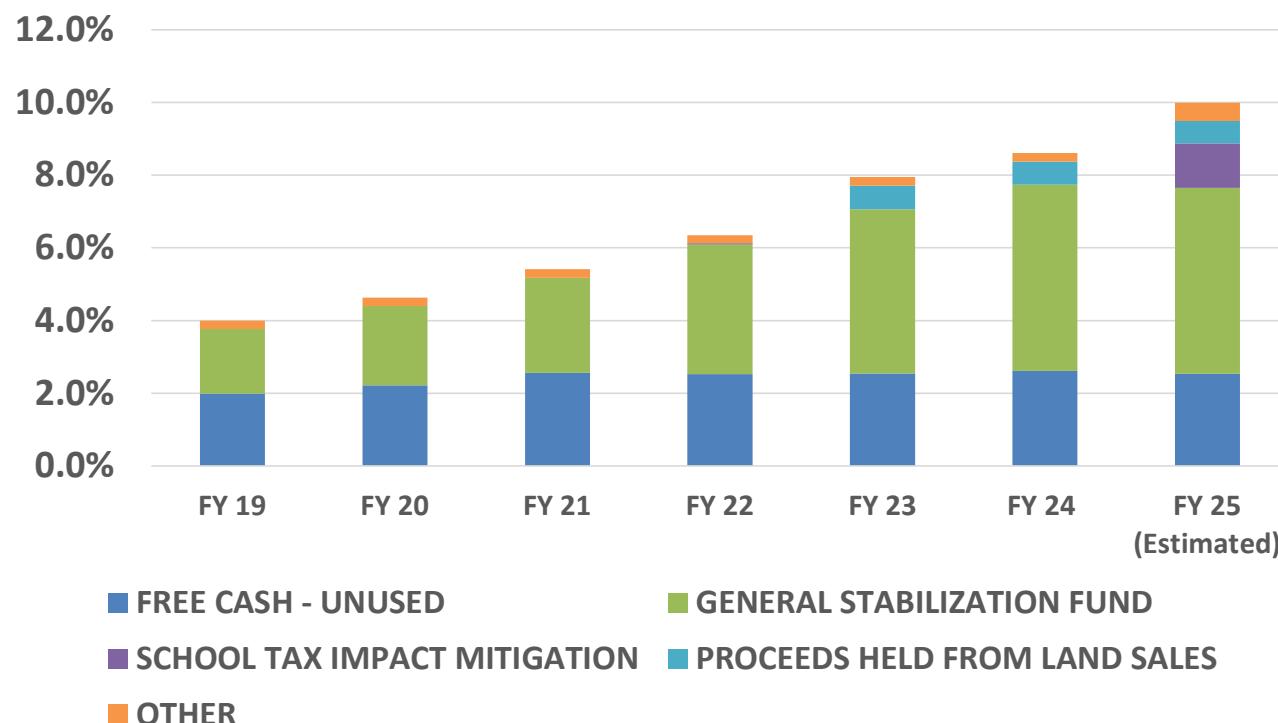
Medfield's Municipal  
Bond Rating

Year	Moody's
2021	Aa1
2020	Aa1
2019	Aa1
2018	
2017	Aa1
2016	

Recent Bond Sale (FY 22): September 2021,  
Water Department, \$10.6 M for 10-20 years at  
1.46%

# Building Up Our Reserves

## RESERVE AS A % OF OPERATING REVENUES (AFTER SUBSEQUENT SPENDING)



### Reserves for :

- ✓ General Economic Downturn
- ✓ New School Tax Impact
- ✓ Unanticipated Extraordinary Special Education Expenses

Reserves are an important component of Credit Rating

## PUBLIC INPUT ON WARRANT ARTICLES

- ✓ All questions and comments should be directed to the Chair.
- ✓ When recognized please state your name and address
- ✓ Please be considerate of time.
- ✓ Questions and comments will first be taken from those present in the room and then from those participating remotely on Zoom
- ✓ Zoom participants should enter the name and address in the “chat” function and we will promote you to comment or ask a question.

# Articles

**Town Meeting Action:** Article 1

**Article 1 – Annual Town Reports (SB)**

## Human Resources

**Town Meeting Action:** Articles 2 to 3

**Article 2 - Elected Official Compensation (SB)**

**Article 3 - Personnel Administration Plan (Personal Board)**

# Financial Articles

## Other Funds

**Town Meeting Action: Articles 4 to 5 (SB)**

**Article 4 – Dissolve Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund**

**Article 5 – Create Departmental Revolving Fund Account: (EV)  
Chargers**

# Revolving Funds

## Town Meeting Action: Articles 6 to 9

Article 6 - Create Departmental Revolving Account: Parks and Recreation ([Parks and Recreation Commission](#))

Article 7 – Create Departmental Revolving Account: Council on Aging ([SB](#))

Article 8 – Appropriate funds to Vaccine Revolving Fund ([Board of Health](#))

Article 9 - Annual Revolving Fund Expenditure Limit Authorization ([SB](#))

# Special Purpose Trusts and Stabilization Funds

**Town Meeting Action: Articles 10 to 14**

**Article 10 - Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Funds (Cemetery Commission/  
DPW Director)**

**Article 11 – Local PEG Access Appropriation (SB)**

**Article 12 – Route 27/Dale Street Traffic Mitigation Special Revenue  
Fund (SB)**

**Article 13 – Establish a Special Education Reserve Fund (SC)**

**Article 14 - Establish an Elementary School Tax Mitigation Stabilization  
Fund (SB, WC, SC, SBC)**

# Municipal Building and Capital Stabilization Funds

**Town Meeting Action: Articles 15 to 18**

**Article 15 – Transfers to the Municipal Building Capital Stabilization Fund (SB)**

**Article 16 – Capital Projects Appropriations: Municipal Buildings (SB)**

**Article 17 - Appropriation to the Capital Stabilization Fund (SB)**

**Article 18 – Capital Projects Appropriations: Non-Buildings (SB)**

## Other Financial Articles

**Town Meeting Action: Articles 19 to 21, and 24-27, 34**

**Article 19 – Elementary School Feasibility Study Funding (SB, SC and SBC)**

**Article 20 – Prior Year Bills (SB)**

**Article 21 - FY 2025 Operating Budget (WC)**

**Article 24 – Appropriate funds to the 375<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Trust Fund (SB)**

**Article 25 - Appropriate funds to the Economic Vitality Fund (SB)**

**Article 26 - Appropriation for Pond Surveys**

**Article 27 - Appropriation for Maintenance and Security at the Medfield State Hospital (SB)**

**Town Meeting Action: Article 34 - Free Cash (SB)**

# Water and Sewer

## Enterprise Fund

### **Town Meeting Action: Article 22**

- FY 2025 Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget ([Water & Sewer Board/DPW Director](#))

## Mount Nebo Water Tower

### **Town Meeting Action: Article 23**

- Rescind Bond Authorization for Mount Nebo Water Tower Painting Project ([Water & Sewer Board/DPW Director](#))

# GENERAL ARTICLES 28 to 30

**Town Meeting Action: Article 28 to 30**

**Article 28 – Town Charter Amendment: Moderator Term (SB)**

**Article 29 – Dog Control Bylaw: Expanded dog leash requirement; exception for “Off-Leash” Areas (SB and Dog Control Bylaw Review Committee)**

**Article 30 - Authorize disposition of Town Owned Land: Hinkley North (SB)**

# ZONING ARTICLES 31-33

**Town Meeting Action: Articles 31-33**

**Article 31 – MBTA Communities Zoning District (Planning Board)**

**Article 32 – Zoning Enforcement Fees (SB)**

**Article 33 – Authorize Select Board name change in Town Bylaws (SB)**

# Thank You For Your Interest in the Town's Finances and Articles before Town Meeting

**MORE IMPORTANTLY THANK YOU FOR BEING AN INVOLVED,  
PARTICIPATORY MEMBER OF OUR LEGISLATURE AT  
TOWN MEETING – MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024**

Additional financial information is available:

**Town Meeting Warrant Book**

**Town Website: [www.town.medfield.net](http://www.town.medfield.net)**

- **FY 25 Municipal and School Budget Summary**
- **FY 24 Municipal and School Departments Annual Budget Detail Book.**
- **Annual financial statements**
- **Financial Policies**
- **Warrant Committee web site**



**Comments or Questions for Warrant Committee?  
email: [warrantcommittee@medfield.net](mailto:warrantcommittee@medfield.net)**



**THE MEETING WILL START SHORTLY**

# **Warrant Committee**

**April 2, 2024**

# Agenda

- Call to order and disclosure of video recording
- Approval of March 12<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes
- 2024 calendar and minute meeting assignments
- Discussion with Select Board on Articles
  - ✓ Hinkley North Disposition Authority
  - ✓ ~~Citizen's Petition—Sale of Property—MSH Chapel and Infirmary~~
- Discussion of Financial Articles and Potential Votes
- Discussion and Potential Vote on Reserve Fund Transfers
- Update from Town Finance
- Informational Items
- Other topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting

# 2024 WARRANT COMMITTEE CALENDAR AND MINUTE RESPONSIBILITY

4/2/2024

Meeting Date - 2024		Minute Responsibility
January 16, 2024 (Public Safety Building)	Town Departments Budget Reviews 1	Ed Vozzella
January 30, 2024	Town Departments Budget Reviews 2	Steve Callahan
February 13, 2024	Town Department Budget Review, Health Care, Final FY 25 Omnibus Budget, Free Cash	Deborah Cartisser
February 27, 2024 (Public Safety Building)	School Dept, Article 14 – Special Education, MBTA Zoning Brief	Emily McCabe
March 12, 2024	Financial Articles Review, Conservation Commission Operating Budget and Articles, Park & Rec Department Revolver Article	Peter Michelson
March 19, 2024 (Public Safety Building)	Articles Review (Town Moderator, Zoning Enforcement Fees, Dog Bylaw, Update to Bylaw for Select Board name change, Citizen's Petition – MSH Chapel Property)	Brent Nelson
April 2, 2024**	Warrant Committee Public Hearing (7:30 PM Start), Articles Review and Discussion with Select Board – Hinkley North Disposition Authority, MSH Chapel Property, Potential Vote on Financial Articles	Pete Saladino
April 9, 2024	MBTA Zoning Warrant Article, Potential Votes on Articles	Jillian Rafter
April 10, 2024 – NO MEETING	FINAL WARRANT REPORT TO PRINTER	
April 23, 2024 (IF NEEDED)	Discussion and Potential Votes on Articles	Bob Sliney
May 6, 2024	Annual Town Meeting	Ed Vozzella
All meetings on Tuesday at 7 pm unless otherwise noted with “**”.		