

Town of Weare
Comments by the Weare Finance Committee

ARTICLE 9

Budget

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-1) The Finance Committee believes that almost all of the budgets have been managed in a fiscally responsible manner. We do believe that the budgeted amount for the police department is excessive and appreciate that the Board of Selectmen has made some reductions in response to our suggestions.

ARTICLE 10

Merit Raises

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 9-0) The Finance Committee supports this article based on the Board of Selectmen's commitment to explore a cost sharing process for the Healthcare Benefits before the end of 2012. The total cost for approving this Article is \$22,000 as it does not guarantee any future year increases. (9/0)

ARTICLE 11

Public works employees

NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 3-6) The Finance Committee believes that a potential 4% increase annually, that could result in a cumulative total increase of \$119,952.81 over three years (\$18,863.78 year 1; \$18,863.78 plus \$20,842.59 year 2; \$18,863.78 plus \$20,842.59 plus \$21,676.29 year 3), is not sustainable to the taxpayers in this economy.

ARTICLE 12

Fire Truck

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) There is no tax impact to the voters for this Article and the Finance Committee believes the Fire Department has been fiscally responsible in seeking equipment that will help to alleviate future costs.

ARTICLE 13

Defibrillator

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 7-1) The Finance Committee believes that having one type of equipment and therefore one set of training is prudent and so we recommend the replacement of the older defibrillator with the same unit as the one replaced last year.

ARTICLE 14

Road Reconstruction

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) The Finance Committee believes that maintaining the road infrastructure in Weare is an essential expense.

ARTICLE 15

Backhoe/Pickup

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 6-2) The Finance Committee believes that replacing this equipment is necessary to maintain safe and more efficient operations at the Department of Public Works.

ARTICLE 16

Trailer/Baler

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) The Finance Committee believes that the replacement of the worn out trailer and baler with safe and more efficient equipment is prudent.

ARTICLE 17

Cruiser

Without Recommendation by the Finance Committee. As amended at the Deliberative Session there is no tax impact associated with this Article.

ARTICLE 18

Communications Fund

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) The Finance Committee believes that the modification of radio systems with updated and more secure versions will be useful to both the police and fire departments.

ARTICLE 19

Computers

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) The Finance Committee supports this article to replace outdated and unsecure computer systems. This will also reduce the budgeted line for computer repairs and maintenance by \$7,200.

ARTICLE 20

Retirement Accrual Fund

NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 3-4) The Finance Committee believes that in this economic time it is not prudent to incur additional tax burden for retirement scenarios that are only possible rather than likely.

ARTICLE 21

Library – Additional Staff Hours

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 7-1) The Finance Committee believes that the additional staff hours are necessary to meet the increased demand for library services.

ARTICLE 22

Cemetery Trust

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) There is no tax impact to the voters for this Article and we believe the work is necessary.

ARTICLE 23

Hazardous Waste Day

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) The Finance Committee believes that the benefit of safely disposing of hazardous waste justifies this expense.

ARTICLE 24

Fireworks

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 6-2) The Finance Committee believes that the benefit to the town for this community event justifies this expense (this one's for Jill).

ARTICLE 25

Conservation Commission

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) The Finance Committee believes that there is an economic benefit to a prudently managed forest.

ARTICLE 28

Finance Committee

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (vote: 8-0) The Finance Committee believes that the changes being requested will improve the ability of this Committee to meet its goals. It will allow more community members the opportunity to serve on this committee and it should improve communications between the Committee and the boards with which it meets.