

Frequently Asked Questions about
the Special Town Meeting
October 16, 2008
7:00 PM
Town Office Complex

Why do we need a special town meeting? There are several items that require the voter's approval that should not wait until next June.

What is Article #2 for? The June 2008 Town Meeting approved the purchase of the new fire truck called the "Quint". The amounts of funds we may borrow or lease-purchase are capped at \$567,809 leaving the balance as a cash down payment. We have \$150,000 set aside and require **\$151,191** to be transferred from the Town's undesignated fund balance to complete the transaction and down payment. Of this amount, \$50,000 had been approved for the capital expenditure but was returned to the fund balance and the remainder should have been part of the June 2008 warrant articles. Approval of this amount (\$151,191) would bring the undesignated fund balance to the same balance of \$2,516,251 as if it had been part of the June 2008 Warrant Articles. This is well within the standards of 2-3 months of surplus as supported by the Auditors.

Articles #3, #4, & #5 all relate to selling municipal buildings and land...Why?

As part of the Town's efforts to reduce long term tax payers costs, the Select Board and the Manager agreed that each of these buildings are no longer part of the services the Town provides. Rather than carrying them and the related operations or capital repair costs we are requesting voter approval to authorize their sale either through a bid process or by waiving the bid process and allowing the current occupants to purchase these and continue their uses. In two cases we are establishing the condition of a right of first refusal to buy back the building and land for the same selling price and in the case of the town hall annex the value of any improvements, if they choose to cease their use of the building.

Article #6 asks to approve a lot line adjustment...Why? When we completed the expansion of the Depot Street parking lot we found a discrepancy between our survey and the abutter's survey along one section of the lot line. This amounts to .9 of one foot and with the voters approval, it would clean up the deed descriptions for both the Town and the abutter allowing for a clear title. The amount involved is less than 360 square feet.

In all of the Warrant Articles above the Select Board has recommended a "yes" vote.