

***TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES***



***Saturday, May 3, 2008
10:00 a.m.
Oakmont Regional High School - Auditorium
9 Oakmont Drive
Ashburnham, MA 01430***

Please bring this warrant with you to the Annual Town Meeting.

**Town of Ashburnham
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Board**

**Fiscal Year 2009
Annual Town Meeting
Oakmont Regional High School - Auditorium
Saturday, May 3, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.**



Prepared by:

**Bill Johnson, Chairman
Leo Janssens II, Vice Chairman
Dottie Munroe, Secretary
Jamie Piedrafite
Frank Lombardo
Marie Zbikowski
Maggie Whitney**

Please review and bring this report to the Annual Town Meeting.

PLEASE COME & VOTE!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1		
	Town Meeting Etiquette.....	3
	Town Meeting Terms & Definitions.....	4
SECTION 2		
	Introduction.....	6
	At Town Meeting.....	6
	FY09 Town Budget.....	7
	Annual Town Meeting Warrant.....	15
SECTION 3		
	FY09 Operating Budget Recommendations.....	22
SECTION 4		
	Volunteer Application Form.....	23

SECTION 1

Town Meeting Etiquette

Arrival Time

Town Meetings have a full agenda so please arrive early. Everyone should be checked in and in their seats by 10:00 a.m.

Attendance

Town Meetings are a proven and valuable means for voters to voice their opinions and directly effect change in their communities. It is your civic duty as a registered voter to fully attend all Town Meetings. It is understandable that unavoidable absences will occur, however, it is not appropriate for town meeting members to attend for the purpose of attendance records or for voting on one or two specific articles and then leaving immediately thereafter. If you must leave prior to the Town Meeting being officially adjourned, please exit as quietly as possible. Remember the meeting is still in progress and someone may be speaking. Also, until the Town Meeting is officially adjourned it is possible that previous articles may be reconsidered.

Speaking and Voting

At Town Meeting, registered voters may speak and vote. Non-voters may speak at the discretion of the Moderator and attendees.

Speaking in the Meeting

If you wish to speak at the Town Meeting, you must be recognized by the Moderator. Stand up, approach the microphone and wait for the Moderator to acknowledge you. When the Moderator acknowledges you state your name and your address.

Speak about the topic being discussed and make your comments to the Moderator and not to individual Town Meeting members. For example, you may say “Mr. Moderator, these are my thoughts on this article”.

It is acceptable to debate a previous speaker’s argument, but do not attack the previous speaker. Refrain from personal references and attacks upon individual persons. It is standard procedure and more courteous to refer to an earlier speaker as “the previous speaker” rather than by name.

Avoid directly debating or questioning a previous speaker, instead express comments or questions to the Moderator. Demonstrations of support or disapproval (clapping or booing) by citizens at Town Meetings are generally counter productive.

Town Meeting Terms & Definitions

Bond Rating – An evaluation of the fiscal soundness of the Town's financial condition determined by an independent rating service such as Moody's. Factors which are taken into consideration are the current debt of the Town, certified Free Cash, and the Stabilization Fund balance. A good bond rating reduces the interest paid on a bond issue. Hence, it is important to make regular contributions to the Stabilization Fund.

Cherry Sheet – An annual statement from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue detailing estimated reimbursements to the Town. Its name derives from the fact that it was once written on cherry colored paper. In this manner the Town receives its share of various state funds and aid accounts, and is charged its share of running state and county government. Although the Cherry Sheet is required to be distributed by the first of March of each year, in actuality it is sent after the Legislature has passed the budget, which may not occur until June. A Town cannot set its tax rate until it has received its cherry sheet and knows its estimated revenues and charges.

Debt Exclusion – A vote by a community at an election to exclude debt service payments for a particular capital project from the levy limit. The amount necessary to cover annual debt service payment is added to the levy limit for the life of the debt only.

Enterprise Funds – Fund which establishes a separate accounting and financial reporting mechanism for municipal services for which a fee is charged in exchange for goods and services. The Town voted water and sewer operations as enterprise funds.

Fiscal Year – The Fiscal Year 2009 runs from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. The number of the fiscal year is that of the calendar year in which it ends.

Free Cash – Money appropriated in the budget but not spent plus local receipts that are higher than anticipated, less any unpaid back taxes. This amount is certified annually by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and thereafter is available for appropriation by a Town Meeting. A simple majority of voters at a Town Meeting is needed to spend these funds.

General Fund – All money, not specifically reserved by statute, taken in or paid out by the Town, including state reimbursements, must go into the General Fund.

Local Receipts – Income derived by the Town from motor vehicle excise taxes, interest, various fees, permits, licenses, etc.

Overlay Reserve – Funds set aside to cover Property Tax Abatements.

Overlay Surplus – Funds in the Overlay Reserve from previous years that are deemed to be greater than what is needed to cover abatements.

Override – A vote by a community at an election to permanently increase the levy limit. An override question on the election ballot must state a purpose for the override and the dollar amount.

Raise and Appropriate – A type of funding for Town expenditures voted at Town Meetings. The funds are raised through taxes, local receipts, and state reimbursements. Funds raised and appropriated in warrant articles are available until a time set by the article or until voted on by a subsequent Town Meeting.

Reserve Fund – A fund, established by each Town Meeting, for extraordinary or unforeseen expenses in the upcoming fiscal year. The Advisory Board alone may transfer money from this fund, thus eliminating the need for frequent special town meetings. The fund may not exceed 5% of the tax levy of the preceding year.

Revolving Fund – Allows a Town to raise revenues from a specific service and use those revenues to support the service without appropriation. For departmental revolving funds, the law stipulates that each fund must be reauthorized each year at the annual town meeting and that a limit on the total amount that may be spent from each fund must be established at that time.

Stabilization Fund – Money voted by past Town Meetings for the purpose of lessening the financial impact to the Town of planned or unanticipated major capital expenditures. A two-thirds vote at a Town Meeting is required to spend these funds.

Underride – A vote by the Town to permanently decrease the tax levy limit. As such, it is the opposite of an override.

SECTION 2

Introduction / Overview

Introduction

Your Ashburnham Advisory Board is pleased to provide every taxpayer with our spending recommendations for Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09). In addition to our recommendations, we will summarize the significant financial issues impacting our town.

Please review this year's budget and compare the FY09 Recommended amounts with the FY08 Approved and FY07 Actual figures. It is important to remember that over the past several years a number of decision have been approved by the Town that will impact this budget and future funding levels.

At Town Meeting

Any participant at the Town Meeting may propose to **REDUCE** or **INCREASE** the amount of an appropriation when it is discussed. Attendees who want to make an alternate motion are encouraged to seek assistance from the Selectmen, Moderator, Advisory Board, or an appropriate town official before introducing the amendment. The issues covered under each motion are complex, especially in sections of the budget that are funded from a variety of sources. If you should propose an amendment, it is essential that you clearly explain what your amendment is intended to accomplish. Please remember that increases in the operating budget will require additional funds to cover the increase. Those funds could bring a reduction elsewhere in the budget, could bring an override or exclusion referendum, or could tap reserves. In general, the amounts of money stated in the spending articles cannot be increased significantly on the floor of Town Meeting. Please consult the Moderator with questions on procedural issues.

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM			
DATE	STABILIZATION	FREE CASH	CAPITAL
2002	\$ 81,075	\$353,838	\$218,895
2003	\$ 85,359	\$138,293	\$189,076
2004	\$151,023	\$502,650	\$179,110
2005	\$114,363	\$447,581	\$132,965
2006	\$144,863	\$214,470	\$312,444
2007	\$ 71,468	\$ 7,087	\$121,915

Per the Board of Assessors, the current tax rate is \$12.93 per \$1,000 of valuation. The valuation of all property in Town which was approved by the Department of Revenue is \$669,584,735.

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 DEPT REQUESTED	FY09 TOWN ADMIN RECOMMEND
<u>Moderator</u>						
1	11114	51100	Salaries & Wages	100 \$	100 \$	100
				100 \$	100 \$	100
<u>Board of Selectmen</u>						
2	11122	51100	Salaries & Wages	3,500 \$	3,500 \$	3,500
3	11122	53000	Prof & Tech Services	226 \$	776 \$	776
4	11122	53210	MRPC Assessment	1,448 \$	1,500 \$	1,500
5	11122	54010	Memorial Day	384 \$	485 \$	485
6	11122	55800	Books	1,511 \$	1,940 \$	1,500
7	11122	57100	Prof Devel & Travel	2,084 \$	1,940 \$	1,500
				10,300 \$	10,141 \$	9,261
<u>Town Administrator</u>						
8	11123	51100	Salaries & Wages	129,937 \$	125,024 \$	125,024
8a	11123	51300	Wages - Overtime	2,120 \$	- \$	-
9	11123	52400	Repairs & Maintenance	- \$	500 \$	450
10	11123	53000	Prof & Tech Services	23,853 \$	15,090 \$	14,637 \$
11	11123	53400	Communications	699 \$	1,800 \$	1,746 \$
12	11123	54300	Minor Equipment	- \$	250 \$	243
13	11123	57100	Prof Devel & Travel	11,143 \$	5,200 \$	4,000
				167,752 \$	144,280 \$	145,217
<u>Advisory Board</u>						
14	11131	57100	Prof Devel & Travel	500 \$	1,455 \$	1,455
14a			Reserve Fund	50,000 \$	50,000 \$	50,000
				50,500 \$	51,455 \$	51,455
<u>Town Accountant</u>						
16	11135	51100	Salaries & Wages	39,741 \$	38,838 \$	38,838
18	11135	53000	Prof & Tech Services	9,500 \$	13,000 \$	15,000
19	11135	54200	Supplies	- \$	300 \$	-
20	11135	57100	Prof Devel & Travel	2,440 \$	3,400 \$	2,440
				51,681 \$	56,278 \$	56,278
<u>Board of Assessors</u>						
21	11141	51100	Salaries & Wages	46,313 \$	55,124 \$	55,124
22	11141	53000	Prof & Tech Services	9,650 \$	13,500 \$	13,250
24	11141	54200	Supplies	203 \$	500 \$	500
25	11141	57100	Prof Devel & Travel	530 \$	1,000 \$	800
				56,696 \$	69,674 \$	69,674

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 DEPT REQUESTED	FY09 TOWN ADMIN RECOMMEND
	<u>Treasurer</u>					
26	11145	51100	\$ 65,877	\$ 68,343	\$ 70,645	\$ 70,645
28	11145	52400	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 291	\$ 291
29	11145	53000	\$ 4,140	\$ 33,906	\$ 83,997	\$ 83,997
30	11145	54200	\$ 2,111	\$ 2,369	\$ 2,298	\$ 2,298
31	11145	57100	\$ 1,192	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,455	\$ 1,455
			\$ 73,320	\$ 106,418	\$ 158,686	\$ 158,686
	<u>Tax Collector</u>					
26a	11146	51100	\$ 39,101	\$ 50,030	\$ 51,714	\$ 51,714
28a	11146	52400	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 100	\$ 25
29a	11146	53000	\$ 3,953	\$ 3,550	\$ 3,550	\$ 3,550
30a	11146	54200	\$ 10,477	\$ 11,000	\$ 10,800	\$ 10,800
31a	11146	57100	\$ 334	\$ 400	\$ 342	\$ 342
			\$ 53,865	\$ 65,280	\$ 66,506	\$ 66,431
	<u>Town Clerk</u>					
33	11161	51100	\$ 36,736	\$ 37,873	\$ 39,124	\$ 39,124
34	11161	52400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
35	11161	53000	\$ 165	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
36	11161	53010	\$ 8,911	\$ 6,450	\$ 12,485	\$ 12,485
38	11161	54200	\$ 397	\$ 600	\$ 500	\$ 500
39	11161	54210	\$ 312	\$ 600	\$ 500	\$ 500
40	11161	57100	\$ 401	\$ 1,000	\$ 900	\$ 900
			\$ 46,922	\$ 46,723	\$ 53,709	\$ 53,709
	<u>Land Use</u>					
41	11179	51100	\$ 97,920	\$ 82,020	\$ 85,050	\$ 85,050
42	11179	53000	\$ 971	\$ 1,000	\$ 970	\$ 970
44	11179	54200	\$ 1,900	\$ 2,315	\$ 2,246	\$ 1,500
45	11179	57100	\$ 1,792	\$ 3,558	\$ 3,451	\$ 2,000
			\$ 102,583	\$ 88,893	\$ 91,717	\$ 89,520
	<u>Town Hall</u>					
46	11192	51100	\$ 35,839	\$ 37,452	\$ 36,321	\$ 36,321
47	11192	51300	\$ 655	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 300
48	11192	52100	\$ 12,642	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
49	11192	52400	\$ 4,907	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,000
52	11192	54200	\$ 1,555	\$ 1,060	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,250
			\$ 55,598	\$ 40,512	\$ 54,121	\$ 52,871
	<u>VMS Building</u>					
50	11192	54101	\$ 35,323	\$ 31,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 25,000
			\$ 35,323	\$ 31,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 25,000

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY09	FY09
			SPENT	BUDGET	DEPT	TOWN ADMIN	RECOMMEND
					REQUESTED		

Non-Departmental

54a	11199	51101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		Employee Pay Raises					
54b	11199	52400	\$ 317	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		Repairs & Maintenance					
54	11199	52422	\$ 5,823	\$ 4,944	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
		Trash Collection					
55	11199	52700	\$ 7,123	\$ 6,024	\$ 5,843	\$ 5,843	\$ 5,843
		Copy Machine					
56	11199	53000	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,818	\$ 1,763	\$ 1,760	\$ 1,760
		Prof & Tech Services					
57	11199	53011	\$ 24,058	\$ 68,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000
		Computer Expense					
58	11199	53150	\$ 3,248	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,900	\$ 2,900	\$ 2,900
		Town Report					
59	11199	53400	\$ 37,524	\$ 22,001	\$ 21,340	\$ 21,340	\$ 21,340
		Communications					
60	11199	53500	\$ 33,267	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000
		Legal Services					
61	11199	54200	\$ 12,806	\$ 9,714	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,200	\$ 9,200
		Supplies					
			\$ 125,509	\$ 139,501	\$ 129,046	\$ 129,043	\$ 129,043

Police

63	12210	51100	\$ 566,354	\$ 603,364	\$ 701,480	\$ 681,480	\$ 681,480
		Salaries & Wages					
64	12210	51150	\$ 11,537	\$ 4,280	\$ 4,280	\$ 4,280	\$ 4,280
		Wages - Coverage					
68	12210	51150	\$ 96,163	\$ 111,418	\$ 116,804	\$ 116,800	\$ 116,800
		Wages - Overtime					
69	12210	52400	\$ 1,603	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
		Repairs & Maintenance					
70	12210	53000	\$ 10,536	\$ 12,950	\$ 15,365	\$ 15,365	\$ 15,365
		Prof & Tech Services					
71	12210	53400	\$ 3,957	\$ 7,300	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500	\$ 8,500
		Communications					
72	12210	53800	\$ 50	\$ 500	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250
		Winchendon Lockup					
73	12210	54200	\$ 6,322	\$ 7,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
		Supplies					
74	12210	54300	\$ 7,356	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
		Minor Equipment					
75	12210	54800	\$ 36,391	\$ 42,000	\$ 49,900	\$ 49,900	\$ 49,900
		Vehicular Supplies					
76	12210	57100	\$ 5,190	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
		Prof Devel & Travel					
		Sub-Total	\$ 745,459	\$ 804,812	\$ 917,079	\$ 896,575	\$ 896,575

Public Safety Building

76a		Energy & Utilities	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 73,790	\$ 73,790	\$ 73,790
		Dumpster	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
		Cleaning Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500
		Sub-Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 88,790	\$ 88,790	\$ 88,790
		TOTAL - POLICE	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,005,869	\$ 985,365	\$ 985,365

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 DEPT REQUESTED	FY09 TOWN ADMIN RECOMMEND
<u>Fire</u>						
77	12220	51100	\$ 250,688	\$ 275,056	\$ 289,582	\$ 345,172
78	12220	51300	\$ 46,094	\$ 61,737	\$ 69,710	\$ 67,267
79	12220	51410	\$ 72,230	\$ 77,000	\$ 85,152	\$ 85,152
80	12220	52100	\$ 6,746	\$ 7,300	\$ 6,140	\$ 6,340
81	12220	52400	\$ 19,680	\$ 20,000	\$ 18,300	\$ 20,000
82	12220	53000	\$ 5,546	\$ 6,900	\$ 6,900	\$ 6,900
83	12220	53400	\$ 3,174	\$ 2,900	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500
84	12220	54200	\$ 13,980	\$ 12,900	\$ 11,500	\$ 12,500
85	12220	54300	\$ 3,937	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
86	12220	54800	\$ 24,048	\$ 25,400	\$ 29,180	\$ 25,080
87	12220	57100	\$ 9,272	\$ 8,950	\$ 7,650	\$ 8,500
			\$ 455,395	\$ 498,143	\$ 526,114	\$ 579,411
<u>Emergency Dispatch</u>						
88	12235	51100	\$ 128,257	\$ 143,963	\$ 150,883	\$ 150,883
89	12235	51150	\$ 12,769	\$ 14,263	\$ 14,636	\$ 14,636
90	12235	51300	\$ 27,193	\$ 34,884	\$ 35,930	\$ 35,930
91	12235	52100	\$ 1,639	\$ 1,150	\$ 1,150	\$ 1,150
92	12235	52400	\$ 1,498	\$ 5,700	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,200
93	12235	53000	\$ 10,974	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200
94	12235	53400	\$ 1,826	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
95	12235	54200	\$ 5,675	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
96	12235	54300	\$ 5,126	\$ 5,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,500
97	12235	57100	\$ 804	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
			\$ 195,761	\$ 212,960	\$ 218,999	\$ 215,999
<u>Inspections</u>						
101	12249	51100	\$ 36,698	\$ 43,512	\$ 36,382	\$ 36,382
102	12249	53000	\$ 665	\$ 708	\$ 274	\$ 233
103	12249	54200	\$ 78	\$ 1,583	\$ 800	\$ 700
104	12249	57100	\$ 3,257	\$ 3,855	\$ 4,888	\$ 4,300
			\$ 40,698	\$ 49,658	\$ 42,344	\$ 41,615
<u>Dog Officer</u>						
105	12292	51100	\$ 18,434	\$ 19,119	\$ 18,941	\$ 18,941
106	12292	52100	\$ 1,657	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200
107	12292	52400	\$ 1,145	\$ 2,150	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
108	12292	53000	\$ 891	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
109	12292	54200	\$ 433	\$ 710	\$ 710	\$ 210
110	12292	54300	\$ 155	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 250
111	12292	57100	\$ 100	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 250
			\$ 22,815	\$ 25,779	\$ 25,451	\$ 24,851

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 DEPT REQUESTED	FY09 TOWN ADMIN RECOMMEND
	<u>Trade & Monty Tech</u>		\$ 403,929	\$ 380,207	\$ 387,776	\$ 387,776
			\$ 403,929	\$ 380,207	\$ 387,776	\$ 387,776
	<u>Ash-West Reg School District</u>					
116	13302	53201	\$ 5,274,590	\$ 5,270,650	\$ 6,039,298	\$ 6,039,298
117	13302	53203	\$ 2,296	\$ 3,618		
118	13302	53204	\$ 388,972	\$ 608,236		
119	13302	53206	\$ 500,038	\$ 455,816		
119a		School Assessment	\$ 19,024	\$ -		
			\$ 6,184,920	\$ 6,338,320	\$ 6,039,298	\$ 6,039,298
	<u>DPW</u>					
121	14420	51100	\$ 429,484	\$ 378,751	\$ 421,315	\$ 421,315
122	14420	51300	\$ 22,919	\$ 62,200	\$ 24,200	\$ 24,200
123	14420	52100	\$ 24,767	\$ 30,700	\$ 29,700	\$ 29,700
124	14420	52400	\$ 170,600	\$ 133,500	\$ 129,500	\$ 129,500
125	14420	53000	\$ 19,962	\$ 14,600	\$ 14,100	\$ 14,100
126	14420	53400	\$ 5,819	\$ 4,900	\$ 4,600	\$ 4,600
127	14420	54200	\$ 131,054	\$ 117,650	\$ 15,120	\$ 15,120
128	14420	54300	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ -
129	14420	54800	\$ 35,277	\$ 43,000	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000
130	14420	57100	\$ 1,840	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
			\$ 841,722	\$ 788,301	\$ 682,035	\$ 682,035
	<u>Snow & Ice</u>					
130a			\$ -	\$ 120,000	\$ 130,000	\$ 130,000
			\$ -	\$ 120,000	\$ 130,000	\$ 130,000
	<u>Board of Health</u>					
147	15510	51100	\$ 980	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,425	\$ 1,425
148	15510	53000	\$ 16,025	\$ 17,300	\$ 16,820	\$ 16,820
149	15510	57100	\$ -	\$ 350	\$ 300	\$ 300
			\$ 17,005	\$ 19,100	\$ 18,545	\$ 18,545
	<u>Conservation Commission</u>					
149a	11178	51100	\$ 22,668	\$ 47,705	\$ 49,318	\$ 49,318
149b	11178	53000	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 400
149c	11178	54200	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 200
149d	11178	57100	\$ 900	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,401	\$ 2,000
			\$ 23,568	\$ 51,005	\$ 52,519	\$ 51,918

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 DEPT REQUESTED	FY09 TOWN ADMIN RECOMMEND
<u>Council on Aging</u>						
150	15541	51100	\$ 26,399	\$ 29,386	\$ 30,382	\$ 30,382
151	15541	52400	\$ 694	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 900
152	15541	53000	\$ 889	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
153	15541	53400	\$ 761	\$ 971	\$ 980	\$ 980
154	15541	54200	\$ 1,818	\$ 1,590	\$ 1,590	\$ 1,590
155	15541	54300	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -
156	15541	57100	\$ 7,549	\$ 4,563	\$ 4,600	\$ 3,000
156a	15541		\$ -	\$ 902	\$ 950	\$ 950
156b	15541		\$ -	\$ 5,502	\$ 5,600	\$ 5,600
			\$ 38,110	\$ 46,264	\$ 46,802	\$ 45,202
<u>Veterans' Services</u>						
157	15543	51100	\$ 2,575	\$ 2,652	\$ 2,652	\$ 2,652
158	15543	53400	\$ -	\$ 35	\$ 35	\$ 35
159	15543	57100	\$ 35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
160	15543	57700	\$ 706	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
			\$ 3,316	\$ 10,687	\$ 10,687	\$ 10,687
<u>Library</u>						
161	16610	51100	\$ 113,467	\$ 124,763	\$ 129,360	\$ 129,360
162	16610	51200	\$ 2,324	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
163	16610	52100	\$ 16,340	\$ 17,671	\$ 12,818	\$ 12,818
164	16610	52400	\$ 10,210	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,700
165	16610	53000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
166	16610	53400	\$ 291	\$ 1,620	\$ 1,620	\$ 1,620
167	16610	54200	\$ 1,815	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
168	16610	54300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
169	16610	55800	\$ 37,278	\$ 37,942	\$ 36,805	\$ 36,805
170	16610	57100	\$ 799	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
			\$ 182,524	\$ 199,696	\$ 198,303	\$ 198,303
<u>Historical Commission</u>						
171	16691	53000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
172	16691	53400	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50
173	16691	54200	\$ 305	\$ 305	\$ 305	\$ 305
174	16691	57100	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 145
			\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 DEPT REQUESTED	FY09 TOWN ADMIN RECOMMEND
	<u>Debt Service</u>					
175	17710	59100	\$ 85,000	\$ 252,864	\$ 119,000	\$ 119,000
176	17710	59150	\$ 48,974	\$ -	\$ 488,928	\$ 488,928
177	17710	59160	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
178	17710	59165	\$ -	\$ 39,090	\$ 115,815	\$ 115,815
179	17710	59170	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
180	17710	59176	\$ 19,854	\$ 19,854	\$ 25,854	\$ 25,854
			\$ 153,828	\$ 311,808	\$ 749,597	\$ 749,597
	<u>Employee Insurance Benefits</u>					
182	19914	51720	\$ 324,703	\$ 396,893	\$ 442,109	\$ 442,109
183	19914	51730	\$ 1,310	\$ 1,451	\$ 1,440	\$ 1,440
184	19914	51750	\$ 43,267	\$ 38,000	\$ 51,053	\$ 51,053
186	19914	51780	\$ 252,275	\$ 283,810	\$ 311,971	\$ 311,971
187	19914	51790	\$ 174,265	\$ 158,128	\$ 176,250	\$ 176,250
188	19914	51800	\$ 5,525	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
		Indirect cost transfers to Enterprise Funds.	\$ 801,345	\$ 883,282	\$ 988,823	\$ (201,570)
	<u>Water Fund</u>					
189	25450	51100	\$ 95,128	\$ 155,970	\$ 150,068	\$ 150,068
190	25450	51200	\$ -	\$ 2,060	\$ 100	\$ 100
191	25450	51300	\$ 15,154	\$ 15,200	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000
192	25450	52100	\$ 6,612	\$ 13,099	\$ 13,120	\$ 13,120
193	25450	52300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
194	25450	52400	\$ 41,498	\$ 26,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
195	25450	52410	\$ 4,910	\$ 3,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000
196	25450	52420	\$ 10,108	\$ 21,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
197	25450	53000	\$ 15,905	\$ 12,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
198	25450	53100	\$ 25,287	\$ 66,904	\$ 70,000	\$ 66,900
199	25450	53400	\$ 10,546	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,500	\$ 7,000
200	25450	54200	\$ 8,015	\$ 8,200	\$ 8,200	\$ 8,200
201	25450	54300	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
202	25450	54800	\$ 2,805	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,000
203	25450	57100	\$ 2,071	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
204	25450	57300	\$ 122,953	\$ 126,087	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000
204a	25450	59170	\$ 107,159	\$ 107,159	\$ 107,159	\$ 107,159
204b	25450	59175	\$ 33,245	\$ 36,274	\$ 36,274	\$ 36,274
			\$ 502,196	\$ 604,753	\$ 610,921	\$ 594,821

TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM

LINE	DEPARTMENT	LINE ITEM	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY09	FY09
			SPENT	BUDGET	DEPT	TOWN ADMIN	RECOMMEND
					REQUESTED	RECOMMEND	
	Sewer Fund						
205	65144	51100	\$ 61,529	\$ 155,970	\$ 150,068	\$ 150,068	
		Salaries & Wages					
206	65144	51200	\$ -	\$ 1,030	\$ 100	\$ 100	
		Wages - Coverage					
207	65144	51300	\$ 11,210	\$ 5,700	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	
		Wages - Overtime					
208	65144	52100	\$ 33,750	\$ 60,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000	
		Energy & Utilities					
209	65144	52400	\$ 38,268	\$ 43,792	\$ 44,000	\$ 44,000	
		Repairs & Maintenance					
210	65144	53000	\$ 18,469	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	
		Prof & Tech Services					
211	65144	53100	\$ 33,616	\$ 85,494	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	
		Pay-in-Lieu Indirect Costs					
212	65144	53400	\$ 2,499	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
		Communications					
213	65144	54200	\$ 1,692	\$ 6,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	
		Supplies					
214	65144	54300	\$ 921	\$ 800	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	
		Minor Equipment					
215	65144	54800	\$ 1,994	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	
		Vehicular Supplies					
216	65144	56920	\$ 252,288	\$ 253,961	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	
		Service Charges					
216A	65144	59160	\$ 219,199	\$ 219,199	\$ 219,199	\$ 219,199	
		Sewer Principal					
216B	65144	59165	\$ 55,094	\$ 55,102	\$ 55,102	\$ 55,102	
		Sewer Interest					
			\$ 730,529	\$ 928,048	\$ 945,969	\$ 945,969	
		TOTAL	\$ 12,172,622	\$ 13,119,836	\$ 13,597,163	\$ 13,396,389	

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

WORCESTER, SS

TO THE CONSTABLES OF THE TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM, IN WORCESTER COUNTY,

GREETINGS:

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, YOU ARE HEREBY DIRECTED TO NOTIFY AND WARN THE INHABITANTS OF SAID TOWN QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN ELECTIONS AND TOWN AFFAIRS TO MEET AT OAKMONT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, 9 OAKMONT DRIVE, ASHBURNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS ON

**SATURDAY, THE THIRD OF MAY, 2008
BEGINNING AT 10:00 A.M.**

THEN AND THERE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES AND RESOLUTIONS:

ARTICLE 1: To accept the reports of several town officers and all outstanding committees, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Board of Selectmen)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or appropriate by transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2008 and to set the salary of elected officials; or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Board of Selectmen and Advisory Board)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

LINE	DEPARTMENT	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMEND	FY09 ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMEND
1	Moderator	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100
2	Board of Selectmen	9,154	10,300	9,261	9,261
3	Town Administrator	167,752	139,280	145,217	145,217
4	Advisory Board	51,500	51,500	51,455	51,455
5	Town Accountant	51,681	53,700	56,278	56,278
6	Board of Assessors	56,696	68,306	69,674	69,674
7	Treasurer	73,320	106,418	158,686	158,686
8	Tax Collector	53,864	65,280	66,431	66,431
9	Town Clerk	46,923	46,723	53,709	53,709
10	Land Use	102,583	88,893	89,520	89,520
11	Town Hall	55,597	40,512	52,871	52,871
12	VMS Bldg.	35,323	31,000	25,000	25,000
13	Non-Departmental	125,509	139,501	129,043	129,043
14	Police, Emergency Dispatch & Public Safe	941,219	1,017,772	1,201,364	1,201,364

LINE	DEPARTMENT	FY07 SPENT	FY08 BUDGET	FY09 TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMEND	FY09 ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMEND
16	Fire	455,395	498,143	528,411	528,411
17	Inspections	40,098	49,658	41,615	41,615
18	Dog Officer	22,816	25,779	24,851	24,851
19	Trade & Monty Tech	403,929	379,476	387,776	387,776
20	Ash-West Regional School District	6,184,920	5,882,504	6,039,298	6,039,298
21	DPW	841,722	788,301	682,035	682,035
22	Snow and Ice			130,000	130,000
23	Board of Health	17,005	19,100	18,545	18,545
24	Conservation Commission	23,568	51,215	51,918	51,918
25	Council on Aging	38,110	45,264	45,202	45,202
26	Veterans' Services	3,316	10,687	10,687	10,687
27	Library	182,525	199,696	198,303	198,303
28	Historical Commission	500	500	500	500
29	Debt Service	153,828	311,808	749,597	749,597
30	Employee Ins. Benefits	801,345	883,282	787,253	787,253
31	Water Fund	502,195	604,753	594,821	594,821
32	Sewer Fund	730,528	928,049	945,969	945,969
	ARTICLE 3 TOTAL	12,173,021	12,542,500	13,396,390	13,396,390

Setting of Elected Salaries under Article 3:

- a. Town Moderator: \$100
- b. Board of Selectmen: Chairman - \$1,300; Clerk - \$1,100; Member - \$1,100
- c. Town Clerk: \$39,124
- d. Board of Health: \$140 per member

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay bills incurred in a prior fiscal year, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: ADVISORY RECOMMEND: TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of \$40,000 from any excess in the Municipal Light Plant Funds to the town treasury, as authorized by its Light Board in accordance with Chapter 164 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Light Department)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for Fiscal Year 2009 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the General Laws, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Treasurer)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 2008, in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Treasurer)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract or contracts with the Massachusetts Highway Department for the construction and maintenance of town roads in conformance with the Massachusetts General Laws, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money if funds become available from the Mass. Highway Department Chapter 90 bond issue proceeds to be used by the Highway Department for the repair and maintenance of town roads in conformance with the Massachusetts General Laws, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by borrowing the sum of \$7,000,000 for the repair and reconstruction of town roads and sidewalks with permanent pavement of a lasting character including but not limited to any and all engineering and inspection fees, to be spent in accordance with the Town's ten (10) year road improvement program, provided that no funds shall be spent and no bonds or notes be issued unless the Town has voted at an election to exempt this expenditure from the provisions of Proposition 2½, so called, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by DPW Director and Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: \$.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$170,000 for the reconstruction of town roads and sidewalks with permanent pavement of a lasting character including necessary engineering and inspection fees, provided that no funds be spent unless the Town has voted at an election to exempt this expenditure from the provisions of Proposition 2½, so called, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: \$.26

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a Revolving Fund, in accordance with G.L. c. 44, Sec. 53E ½, to receive one half of the boat excise revenues collected under G.L. c. 60B, Sec. 2 (i): Said funds to be expended for waterways improvement and maintenance by the Ashburnham Lakes Coalition without further appropriation; said expenditures shall not exceed \$3,000, unless an increase in such limitation is approved by the Board of Selectmen, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Ashburnham Lakes Coalition)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: NO TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a Revolving Fund, in accordance with G.L. c. 44, Sec. 53E ½, to be expended by the Town Administrator, for the purpose of demolishing, removing, securing or otherwise remedying conditions on real property determined to be unsafe or dangerous under G.L. c. 143, Sec. 6, et. seq. or G.L. c. 139, Sec. 3A, including the costs of engineering and legal services related thereto; said fund to be established from money recovered from demolition liens; said expenditures not to exceed \$10,000 unless an increase in such limitation is approved by the Board of Selectmen, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Board of Selectmen)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money for the revaluation of real estate and personal property in the town, including the hiring of consultants or others for the purposes of conducting property valuation updates, building permit inspections, and measurements and valuation of property, and for all expenses related thereto, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Board of Assessors)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: ADVISORY RECOMMEND: NO TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay for legal and other professional services, as well as all other reasonable related expenses, in connection with the collection of certain delinquent taxes owed to the Town, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to transfer custody of a portion of the premises described in a deed from the Ashburnham Cemetery Association to the Town of Ashburnham dated July 28, 1904 and recorded in the Worcester Northern District Registry of Deeds, Book 216, Page 253, being the portion shown as Parcel A on a plan entitled "Proposed Conveyance of a Portion of Town of Ashburnham 'New Cemetery' Land in Ashburnham, Mass." and recorded in the Worcester Northern District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 474, Page 6, consisting of .17 acres, more or less, to the Board of Selectmen for purposes of conveying said property, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey said property to the Trustees of Cushing Academy for consideration of less than \$100.00, or act in relation thereto. *(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen and Town Counsel; this is the small portion of cemetery land for which no deed was found previously and which the Town authorized the Board of Selectmen to take by eminent domain at the last Annual Town Meeting to clear the title. Subsequently, a title company retained by the Town and Cushing identified the deed and Cushing engaged an engineering firm to prepare the plan showing the area so no taking is necessary.)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$90,000 to pay for the architectural services to design plans, drawings, and to prepare bid ready specifications for the renovation of the VMS Building in order to apply for a community development block grant, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by Citizens Petition)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: NO ADVISORY RECOMMEND: NO TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the \$140,000 debt authorization from Article 37 of the Annual Town Meeting dated May 7, 2007 for the purchase of a tractor with boom mower, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by Town Administrator and the Town Treasurer)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer land located at 2-12 River Street (Bresnahan Community Center) consisting of approximately 2.70 acres being the same parcel shown on Assessors Map 62, Parcel 72, to the Board of Selectmen for purposes of sale or lease to a lawfully constituted non-profit entity that will construct a new community use facility, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to so convey or lease said land on such terms and conditions as are in the best interest of the Town, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Bresnahan Scouting & Community Center Building Committee)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$34,000 for the purchase of a new police cruiser, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Police Chief, Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to direct the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator to contact the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, Division of Local Service for the purposes of scheduling a Financial Management Review, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by Citizens Petition)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Bylaws of the Town of Ashburnham at Chapter 5, "Capital Budgeting," as indicated below, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by Citizens Petition)*

- 5.1 *The Board of Selectmen shall establish and appoint a committee to be known as the Capital Planning Committee, composed of one member of the Board of Selectmen, two members of the Advisory Board, one member of the Planning Board, the Town Treasurer/Collector and two citizens at large. The Town Accountant, Treasurer/Collector and Town Administrator shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the Committee. The Committee shall choose its own officers.*
- 5.2 *The Committee shall study proposed capital projects and improvements involving major tangible assets and projects which: 1) have a useful life of at least three years; 2) have a dollar value of \$15,000 or greater.*
- 5.3 *The Committee shall develop policies and procedures, as necessary, to establish and maintain a capital improvement program.*
- 5.4 *All officers, boards and committees shall each year, on or before September 30th of each year, give to the Committee, on the forms prepared by it, information concerning all anticipated projects and capital requests requiring Town Meeting action during the ensuing five years. The Committee shall consider the existing and probable future needs of the town for public improvement and purchases of major equipment, their relationship to the probable future growth of the town, relative needs, impact, timing and cost of these expenditures and the effect each will have on the financial position of the town. No appropriation shall be voted for a capital improvement requested by a department, board or commission at an Annual Town Meeting, or at any Special Town Meeting, unless the Committee has first made a recommendation to such Annual Town or Special Town Meeting with respect to such proposed capital improvement unless the proposed capital improvement is considered in the Committee's report, or the Committee shall first have submitted a report to the Board of Selectmen explaining the omission.*
- 5.5 *The Committee shall prepare an annual report recommending a Capital Improvement Program for the next fiscal year, and Capital Improvement Program including recommended capital improvements for the following five fiscal years after that. The report shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen for its consideration and approval by December 1st of each year. The Board shall submit its approved Capital Budget to the Annual Town Meeting for adoption by the town.*
- 5.6 *Such Capital Improvement Program, after its adoption, shall permit the expenditure on projects included therein of sums from departmental budgets for surveys, architectural or engineering advice, options or appraisals; but no such expenditure shall be incurred on projects which have not been so approved by the town through the appropriation of sums in the current year or in prior years, or preliminary planning for projects to be undertaken more than five years in the future.*

5.7 The Committee's report and the Selectmen's recommended Capital Budget shall be published and made available in a manner consistent with the distribution of the Advisory Board report. The Committee shall file its original report with the Town Clerk.

Or act in relation thereto. (Citizens Petition)

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: NO ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Westminster for shared Animal Control Services on such terms and conditions as are in the best interest of the Town, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Police Chief and Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund in accordance with G.L. c. 44, Sec. 53E½, to be expended by the Police Chief for the purpose of defraying all costs associated with animal control services; said fund to be established from impounding and reclaiming fee receipts; said expenditures not to exceed \$10,000, unless an increase in such limitation is approved by the Board of Selectmen, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Police Chief and Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of monies from available funds for the purpose of moving the Town Offices back to Town Hall and purchasing furniture for the recently refurbished Town Hall, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: ADVISORY RECOMMEND: TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund, in accordance with G.L. c. 44, Sec. 53E½, to be expended by the DPW Director, for the purpose of trash removal, (MSW) from the transfer station; said fund to be established from trash tag receipts; said expenditures not to exceed \$50,000 unless an increase in such limitation is approved by the Board of Selectmen, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the DPW Director)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Bylaws of the Town of Ashburnham at Chapter VIII, Records and Reports by adding the following to the end of Section 1 thereof:

“In addition, all such officers, boards and committees shall file with the Town Clerk copies of all meeting minutes, whether in draft or final approved form, within 45 days following each meeting. Said 45 days shall not include Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays.”, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: YES ADVISORY RECOMMEND: YES TAX RATE IMPACT: N/A

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer, from available funds, a sum of money for the operating budget of the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School District, in addition to the sum voted under Article 2 for said operating budget, provided that no funds shall be expended and no bonds shall be issued unless the Town has first voted at an election to exempt this expenditure from the provisions of Proposition 2½, so-called, and further provided that the Town of Westminster also votes to approve and fund its proportional share of such additional appropriations, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School Committee)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: ADVISORY RECOMMEND: TAX RATE IMPACT: \$ 26

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, by borrowing or otherwise, \$400,000 to be expended under the direction of the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School Building Committee for a feasibility study for the J.R. Briggs Elementary School, located at 96 Williams Road, Ashburnham, Massachusetts, for which the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), which program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need as determined by the MSBA, and which provides that any costs the town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA is the sole responsibility of the town, provided that no funds shall be spent and no bonds or notes shall be issued unless the Town has voted at an election to exempt this expenditure from the provisions of Proposition 2½ so called, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School Committee and the Board of Selectmen: This will allow the school committee to apply for and accept funding from MSBA for the Briggs feasibility study; however, any costs incurred by the Town in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approval or outside of the MSBA guidelines is the sole responsibility of the Town and will not qualify for reimbursement.)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: **YES** ADVISORY RECOMMEND: **YES** TAX RATE IMPACT: **\$.17**

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money into the Capital Improvement Fund, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: ADVISORY RECOMMEND: TAX RATE IMPACT: **N/A**

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money into the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto. *(Requested by the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator)*

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND: ADVISORY RECOMMEND: TAX RATE IMPACT: **N/A**



**TOWN OF ASHBURNHAM
15 OAKMONT DRIVE
ASHBURNHAM, MA 01430**

The success of any local government depends largely on the participation of its citizens volunteers. If you would be interested in serving on one or more of the following town boards or committees, please complete the application below and submit it with a letter of interest and/or resume to: Town Administrator , 15 Oakmont Drive, Ashburnham, MA 01430. For more information, contact Paul Boushell at (978) 827-4100. (Applications are held on file, so there is no need to wait until a vacancy occurs to apply.)

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (Daytime) _____ (Evening) _____

Email Address: _____

Minimum eligibility requirements:

- Must be a registered Ashburnham voter.
- Must live in Ashburnham.

I am interested in serving on the following board(s) and/or committee(s):

____ Advisory Board

____ Conservation Commission

____ Council on Aging

____ Cultural Council

____ Historical Commission

____ Parks & Recreation Commission

____ Zoning Board of Appeals

The following is a list of warrant articles and the recommendations of the Board of Selectmen and the Advisory Board for the May 3, 2008 Annual Town Meeting.

		Selectmen	Advisory	Tax Rate Impact
Art. 1.	Reports of Town Officers and Committees	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 2.	FY09 Budget	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 3.	Prior Year's (FY08)	-	-	N/A
Art. 4.	Light Dep't PILOT payment	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 5.	Compensating Balance Authority for Treasurer	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 6.	Tax Anticipation Note Authority for Treasurer	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 7.	Authority for BOS to Contract with Mass. Highway	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 8.	Authority to Expend Ch. 90 Road Repair Money	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 9.	DPW Director Road Repair Proposal	YES	YES	.17
Art. 10.	Capital Exclusion Override Contingent Vote for Road/Sidewalk Repair Money	YES	YES	.26
Art. 11.	Offset receipt account for Boat Excise Money	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 12.	Offset receipt account for Building Demolition	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 13.	Appropriation for Assessor's Revaluation		NO	N/A
Art. 14.	Appropriation for Legal/Other Expenses re: Delinquent Tax Collection (\$10,000)	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 15	Conveyance of portion of "New Cemetery" land to Cushing	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 16.	Appropriation of \$90,000 for architectural services to design plans for VMS Building renovation.	NO	NO	
Art. 17	To rescind debt authorization from Art.37 of ATM 5/7/07	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 18.	Bresnahan Project	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 19.	Police Cruiser replacement purchase	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 20.	Scheduling a Financial Management Review	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 21.	Amend Bylaws on Capital Budgeting	NO	YES	N/A
Art. 22.	Set up inter-municipal agreement for Animal Control Officer	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 23.	Revolving account for animal control impounding fees	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 24.	Purchase of furniture for Town Hall and cost of move back			N/A
Art. 25.	Revolving fund for trash removal from transfer station	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 26.	Town Bylaw amendment Chapter VIII, Section 1	YES	YES	N/A
Art. 27.	School Budget Override Contingent Vote			.26
Art. 28.	J.R. Briggs Feasibility Study			.61
Art. 29.	Appropriation by transfer into Capital Improvement Fund			N/A
Art. 30.	Appropriation by transfer into Stabilization Fund			N/A
	Total increase for tax rate if all passes:			\$1.30

Current Tax Rate for FY'08 is \$ 12.93