

REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Bylaws of the Town provide for an Advisory Committee, consisting of five members appointed by the Moderator, whose charge is to study the subject matter of all articles and to make recommendations on all articles pertaining to appropriations, expenditures, incurring of debt and any other article deemed appropriate.

This has been a particularly challenging year for the Town. Faced with continuing cuts in state aid, an unstable economy and an increase in expenditures for our local services, the Advisory Board has tried to proceed cautiously and conservatively in discussing various appropriations for the upcoming year.

An educationally sound school system, the acquisition of equipment for the highway department, maintenance of local services and improvements to the Town's infrastructure remain a top priority for the Advisory Board. The input of residents is an invaluable part of the process. To this end, the Advisory Board will hold a public hearing on the warrant articles to be voted on at the annual Town Meeting on Monday, March 29, 2004 at Town Hall.

The residents are the appropriating body for the town. That is the primary purpose of the annual town meeting. The appropriation for each department along with the impact on town services is decided at the annual town meeting. Please make every effort to attend. It is the residents that make the final decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Crowley
Elizabeth deSousa, Chair
Richard Fadus
Peter Nossal
Kathy Pessolano, Co-Chair
Ellen Moriarty