

Appendix A

Annual Town Meeting Reports from Committees

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Shutesbury Elementary School

Finance Committee

Shutesbury Board of Health Report to Annual Town Meeting – 06/27/2020

Obviously, the novel coronavirus now devastating the entire world has been a major concern of the Board of Health for several months, almost to the exclusion of all else. On March 2, some members of the board and other town officials participated in a large tabletop exercise involving all the Emergency Dispensing Site teams of the Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition, the scenario of which was an epidemic of a novel influenza. As states of emergency were declared and in-person meetings gave way to virtual ones, we reviewed the procedures for isolation and quarantine and adopted weekly meetings until the end of June. Anticipating the eventual development of a vaccine, we took inventory of supplies needed to stand up an Emergency Dispensing Site and began to develop a plan for a drive-through EDS.

With financial assistance from the Department of Public Health, we have begun to buy supplies and equipment for this purpose; nevertheless, many uncertainties about the near future have led us, once again, to decide against holding a flu clinic in the fall. Some less urgent activities, such as the semi-annual water testing day, were put on hold. Much of our time was and is spent in keeping informed on the evolving situation through call-ins, webinars, and virtual meetings of other public-health entities; and much more is spent in dispensing information, both through general town-wide messaging and consultations with town boards, with representatives of the library, the church, the Post Office, the Lake Wyola Association, and other citizens with questions or concerns. We are in the process of taking a significant role in making this most unusual of Annual Town Meetings as safe as we can make it. Thus far, our town has been fortunate in having very few confirmed cases; the board has had little to do in case investigation and contact tracing. Lack of crowding has played its part, but much credit must go to our very sensible citizens.

Until the global pandemic came on the scene, this board's primary public health concerns had to do with insect-borne diseases, and we have not forgotten these very real concerns. Warning signs about tick-borne illnesses, such as Lyme Disease, have now been installed at several trailheads throughout town, and more are awaiting installation. The board strongly supports joining the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District, which requires a vote by Town Meeting; we have sought, and received, approval from the Finance Committee for the initial funding. We cannot emphasize enough that by joining the PVMCD we are not entering into a contract for spraying pesticides. On the contrary, the PVMCD's role is the collection of data – the location and identification of mosquitoes that carry such deadly diseases as West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. Should disease-bearing mosquitoes be found, the PVMCD can advise us on the most environmentally responsible way of responding to this threat to the public health. We are absolutely convinced that this is the best way to avoid the necessity of spraying pesticides.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Rotondi, Chair; Catherine Hilton, clerk; Norene Pease, Arleen Read, Al Werner, members.

Broadband Committee/MLP Board - June 2020 Report

In January we were just installing broadband to the last homes in Shutesbury when the first reports of Covid19 started coming in from China. Within three months it was apparent that broadband service was even more critical than we had anticipated to facilitate education, work and livelihood, health, information and social connections.

With so many people using the network it's been a great test of its overall capacity and we're happy to report that the network has performed beautifully. Even during peak usage we have more than enough bandwidth and during recent widespread power outages the network stayed active. We have generators to run all the equipment and constant system monitoring and redundancy to make sure this critical service is available whenever residents need it.

Broadband does have an item on the Town Meeting warrant to approve our enterprise fund annual budget. An enterprise fund is budget-within-a-budget and is designed to manage the finances of any special municipal services which charges a fee to users. Broadband is different from other town departments because it generates its own revenue.

Thanks to our 87% take rate of Shutesbury households using the service, we have enough money in our budget to not only operate sustainably but also to pay the town back for construction debt with no impact on taxes. You will notice the debt service line in our annual budget to do this. There is a second and final portion of construction debt that we will need to decide how to handle next year when that loan is due. But the first half of the incurred debt will be paid using subscriber fees so it does not impact taxes.

You may notice the second largest line item in our budget is for maintenance and upkeep. This is a projected estimate of what we will need to pay for maintenance and repairs using available data from similar networks. We do carry insurance on all the lines and equipment, but a very large ice storm, hurricane, wind storm or other event could cause tens of thousands worth of damage - in addition to the everyday repairs that a network needs. This is why the maintenance

budget is a big portion of the budget; we want to make sure we have enough to handle any unexpected network needs without raising your monthly subscriber rates.

At the end of the fiscal year if there is money left over from our projected budget it will go into an earned revenue account in our enterprise fund that is designed to manage excess funds. We can then use these funds for emergency maintenance reserves, system upgrades or to lower rates. Any excess revenue earned from broadband fees cannot be used for non-broadband purposes, such as to buy a fire truck or support town's general funds. This is state law regarding enterprise fund operations.

There is lots of great information and answers to common questions posted on our website. <https://www.shutesbury.org/broadband/faq>. If you have questions or concerns please contact us at broadband@shutesbury.org.

Thanks for your continued support of our very own ShutesburyNET municipal broadband network.

Gayle Huntress

Town of Shutesbury

Municipal Light Plant Manager

413.887.8505

broadband@shutesbury.org

M.N. Spear Memorial Library Report for Town Meeting, June 27, 2020
Operating Budget Fiscal Year 19

Town appropriated budget:	\$73,981
Dog tax appropriation:	\$1,660
Additional funding from the following:	\$27,051
• Spear Expendable Trust	
• The Friends of the M.N. Spear Memorial Library	
• The Shutesbury Cultural Council	
• The Community Network for Children	
• The New Salem Academy	
• The Council on Aging	
• State Aid to Public Libraries	
Total:	\$102,692

Return on investment

Circulation Fiscal Year 19 Total circulation: 37,061 items

In FY 19 Library users borrowed 8,409 children's books from the Library, a retail value of \$84,090.

Library users also borrowed 6,579 adult books, a retail value of \$131,580.

In FY 19, the Library offered 256 programs with 3,059 participants. The value of these free programs compared to the average cost of a movie ticket is \$27,531.

Number of Library Card Holders

1,305 Shutesbury residents have library cards, 72% of the Town's population.

Saving for a new Shutesbury Library

Since 2012, the Trustees and Friends of the Library have been raising and saving for a future new library project.

Privately raised funds	\$220,704.57
Town Meeting appropriated funds	<u>\$202,700.00</u>
Total	\$423,404.57

This total has been growing steadily every year. At Town Meeting last year, we reported the following:

Privately raised funds	\$205,117
Town Meeting appropriated funds	\$177,700

The Library's response to COVID-19

On Thursday, March 12, 2020, the Library cancelled all programming. On Tuesday, March 17, 2020, the Library was closed to the public.

The Library building is closed but Library services continue.

Programs

By the first week of April, the Library had created a Zoom account and began offering weekly online programs including ukulele lessons and fitness classes. The Library has also installed StoryWalks© on the Town Common and in the field behind Town Hall giving families a local destination for a safe socially distanced activity. The stories have been changed regularly and will continue through October.

Instead of in-person Summer Reading Programs, the Library is creating "take-home kits" for children and families.

Online resources

The Library promoted and expanded its online resources, including digital books available through Overdrive, and digital video through Kanopy and Hoopla. On April 1, 2020, a new digital video platform, Acorn TV, was added to the Library's online offerings.

Use of Overdrive, often via an app called Libby, has increased 26%.

Digital streaming has more than doubled, largely due to the addition of Acorn TV.

Curbside pickup

With the exception of a brief period, the Library's physical collection has been available to Shutesbury library users through curbside pickup. Inter-library loan was suspended on March 17th, limiting availability to items in the Spear Library collection. Occasionally the Library director has been able to arrange to have volunteers pick up items from other libraries such as large print books and children's books to enhance the small local collection. Inter-library delivery resumed on June 22, 2020. Inter-library loan will be slow and inconsistent as libraries across the state work through the backlog.

Senior Mobile Nutrition Program

The Library has partnered with the Council on Aging and the Amherst Survival Center to provide a free monthly delivery of food to Shutesbury Seniors in need. The first delivery is scheduled for July 1, 2020. For more information, contact the library director, 259-1213 or library.director2shutesbury.org or JoAnn at 259-1235.

Planning for reopening

The Library director and Library Trustees are developing a reopening plan in accordance with guidance from Governor Baker and the Board of Health.

Planning Board Report on Three Zoning Articles (June 27, 2020 Shutesbury Annual Town Meeting)

All three zoning articles were developed and are sponsored by the Planning Board. The Planning Board, after holding a public hearing on June 22, 2020, recommends passage of the articles, as follows:

Article #15 – Proposed Amended Solar Bylaw

With four Major Ground-Mounted Solar Electric Installations soon to be proposed in Shutesbury, the Planning Board seeks to amend its existing solar bylaw to ensure the Town has adequate control through the special permitting process.

- The purposes section adds emphasis to the protection of large blocks of forest land for their ecological and other natural resource benefits as stated in the Master Plan.
- Commercial forestry is prohibited on the land required for carbon sequestration (for the life of the project).
- The wildflower meadow currently required in and around the solar panels designed to be better habitat for pollinators.
- Protection of historic resources and properties is improved.
- Construction access is required to be from more suitable paved roads, or from unpaved roads with a Planning Board approved waiver, with concurrence from Select Board. (To improve the language now in the warrant, Planning Board will seek a floor amendment to strike and replace Section 8.10-3, H.)
- Lots for solar installations must meet the Town's road frontage requirements.

- A maximum of 9 Major Ground-Mounted Solar Installations is set town wide (with a map showing where).
- Added special permit criteria to include minimization of “incompatible appearance from the roadway.”
- To determine location of wetland resources on the site, applicants shall use DEP’s standard method – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation (ANRAD).
- Ground alterations, drainage facilities, and solar panels must be located over 100 feet from wetlands or hydrologic features.

Article #29 – Proposed Amended Sign Bylaw

Given that the sign bylaw has not been substantively updated in approximately 25 years, a Planning Board review uncovered opportunities to amend the existing sign bylaw to bring it into legal compliance, create more flexibility for signs on private property, and establish regulations for signs on public property.

- Allows commercial signs by right (currently limited to agricultural or horticultural).
- Allow signs off premises with approval of the other land owner (currently not allowed).
- Eliminates the temporary sign category to comply with the 2015 Supreme Court ruling in Reed v. Town of Gilbert; expands other categorical uses of signs.
- Expands allowed sign size for retail/consumer commercial and accessory signs.
- Establishes distance regulation that will allow signs to be 5 feet from a road’s “travelled lane,” even in town-owned right of way.
- Creates regulations regarding signs on town property.
- Establishes safety considerations as a factor for sign location.
- Establishes an 8:00 PM limit for illuminated signs.

Article #30 – Proposed Amended Open Space Design Bylaw

Based on the Planning Board’s experience with this bylaw since 2008, and statewide improvements to this class of bylaws, the Planning Board seeks to amend the existing bylaw to bring it into synch with current best practices.

- • Purposes section better emphasizes ecologic benefits of protected open space.
- • For an improved review process, require a special permit instead of site plan review for proposed developments that are not subdivisions.
- • For these non-subdivision developments, allow Planning Board to assess the conservation benefits versus detriments of permitting a greater number of dwelling units than would otherwise be possible.
- • To make more consistent with accepted zoning practice, round fractional units down instead of up.
- • Clarify that proposed percentage increases in open space are based on whole parcel area.
- • Stipulates that open space must be configured as separate parcels from the building lots.
- • To provide other acceptable forms of open space preservation in the event a Conservation Restriction is not feasible.

Record Storage Advisory Committee

On 10/16/19 The Record Storage Advisory Committee reported its findings to the Select Board after two years of research and discussion. Currently our town's records are being stored under conditions that make them inaccessible, likely to deteriorate and mold, and take up much needed office space. We were prepared to bring photographs to this Town Meeting to illustrate the problems with record storage in Shutesbury.

The committee created a chart of possibilities and measured them according to record storage criteria. While we did not recommend a specific solution, the report, as a result of our investigation and discussion, provides a starting place for informed discussion and investment in our stewardship of Shutesbury's records. The report and chart can be found on the Record Storage Advisory Committee's web page: <https://www.shutesbury.org/node/1431>

Respectfully,

Susie Mosher - Chair of the Record Storage Advisory Committee

Recycling and Solid Waste Committee Report June 2020

This has been quite a year for the RSWC. We received a \$500 grant from the Mass Department of Environmental Protection. We will receive another \$500 grant this year, and we also hope to receive a larger Rewards Dividend Program grant which could be as much as \$1,500 from the DEP, which is always welcome. We also participated in the negotiations for a new contract with the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Springfield, where our recyclables go, and worked with a group of municipalities to negotiate a new contract with Community Eco Power (formerly Covanta) where our trash will go. Both these contracts will take effect on July 1st.

Due to poor markets for recyclables internationally, for the first time ever the Town will be charged to process recyclables. Our region's ability to market recyclables internationally has fallen, but it is anticipated that domestic markets will slowly increase reuse of recycled materials, which will eventually reduce recycling disposal costs to the Town. It is still absolutely in the Town's best interests to continue recycling.

Our biggest challenge was devising a protocol for distributing trash bags that kept both RSWC members and Shutesbury residents safe from the coronavirus. We came up with a plan that was pretty elaborate – requiring two volunteers at every distribution date, but it has worked well and everyone stayed safe. We were able to use a new shed for RSWC use, which helped make the delivery of bags safer for all.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel Bulky Waste Day for the first time because of the pandemic, but our collaborative agreement with Leverett that allows Shutesbury residents to use the Leverett Transfer Station has been a great success. Although the pandemic has also kept the swap shops at the LTS closed, Shutesbury folks have been able to dispose of bulky waste there. The RSWC had a booth at Celebrate Shutesbury, and had great fun testing and educating residents on their recycling knowledge. Clarification regarding what is recyclable, LTS stickers, bag distribution dates, trash and recycling pick up schedules, the recycling quiz, and lots more information is available on the RSWC webpage: <https://www.shutesbury.org/recycling>

The Recycling and Solid Waste Committee

Gary Bernhard - Recycling Coordinator, Meryl Mandell – Chair, Ron Essig, Gail Fleischaker, Ezzell Floranina, Marla Killough, Liz Lacy, Sue Quigley, Steve Rice, Peg Ross

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMHERST-PELHAM REGIONAL SCHOOLS HIGHLIGHTS 2019-2020

Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, 2019-2020 was a school year like no other. What began as a presumed two-week school closure on March 16 evolved into a full school closure for the remainder of the year. Despite the challenges of implementing distance learning with no prior notice or planning, we were committed to maintaining the core mission of the Amherst-Pelham Regional Schools to “provide all students with a high-quality education that enables them to be contributing members of a multiethnic, multicultural, pluralistic society.” To that end, I am pleased to share the following highlights:

- Following a national search, Amherst Regional High School welcomed Gene Jones, the new permanent Principal, this year. In addition, Victoria Stewart was hired as the new Athletic Director and Michael Gallo-O’Connell joined the district as the new Food Services Director. Overall, there were 40 new staff members hired by ARPS this year, with 18 of them (45%) identifying as persons of color. That percentage matches the diversity of the district’s students exactly, which is the first time the district has achieved this important goal.
- The new mathematics curriculum for grades 6-12 was successfully implemented this year. The district now uses Open Up Resources for grades 6-8 and CPM for grades 7-12.
- With Governor Baker’s ban on vaping in September, the district offered multiple opportunities for students and families to learn more about the dangers of vaping as well as ways to support students who were addicted to this extremely harmful habit.
- The Grade Span Advisory Committee completed their work of reviewing the feasibility of moving sixth grade to the ARMS building in January.
- On November 5, the district had a full program of 29 workshops related to diversity, equity, and social justice that included all district employee groups. It included keynote speaker Elijah Oyenuga who spoke about matters related to making our schools welcoming and supportive to transgender students.
- For the first time this year, ARPS was excited to recognize our students for their bilingualism and biliteracy by awarding the MA State Seal of Biliteracy and Biliteracy Pathway Awards. Students who earn these awards demonstrate high levels of proficiency in English and a partner language. Four students earned the Biliteracy Achievement Award, two earned the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy, six earned the Massachusetts States Seal of Biliteracy with Distinction, and two students were chosen for a \$1500 Seal of Biliteracy Scholarship Award based on their academic achievement, community service and overall growth as a student.
- The ARHS Volleyball, Boys Soccer, Boys Cross Country, Girls Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football and Golf teams all made it to post-season play this year with outstanding individual

and team performances. The Hurricanes football team went all the way to the state championship, playing the championship game in Gillette Stadium.

□ Once schools closed in March, the district implemented distance learning based on DESE guidance, necessitating that students have access to the appropriate technology in order to access lessons. The District distributed more than 400 Chromebooks, as well as internet hotspots for students who did not have internet access. Special thanks to the district PGOs for their incredible fundraising efforts to support purchase of the hotspots.

□ Students who are transitioning from elementary to middle school and from middle to high school were unable to visit their new schools as usual this year. The ARMS and ARHS principals worked with the IT Department to develop virtual tours of each school in order to provide students with the opportunity to learn about the schools they will be attending in the fall.

□ Finally, congratulations to the 14 graduates from Shutesbury in the class of 2020:

Kalesiah Bushell

Mary Carlson-Belanger

Acadia Case

Cody Cousland

Henry Foster

Violeta Foster

Noah Johansson

Noelle Karlovich

Sofia McNerney

Austin Paczkowski

Ian Saporito

Elijah Shersnow

Aidan Thomas-Paquin

Guokai Xu

Shutesbury School Committee Report — Town Meeting, June 27, 2020

The 2019-2020 school year brought unexpected challenges for Shutesbury Elementary School, but the School Committee is proud of the response of our staff and administrators. When schools closed in March, teachers and paraprofessionals quickly switched to teaching in a new way, with some unfamiliar tools and uncertain expectations. The custodial staff cleaned and sterilized the building. The food service staff provided meals for our community. The staff worked tirelessly to meet the needs of kids and families while adjusting to changes in their own lives. As we move forward towards fall, many questions remain. As of this writing, the state has yet to outline the options for instruction. We do know that there is likely to be considerably less funding from the state for which Principal Mendonsa, Director of Finance Turner, and Superintendent Culkeen are already planning. We also know that there will be a need for purchasing protective equipment such as masks and gloves. Mr. Turner has been working with other communities to try to buy these items in bulk to save money. There may be changes in

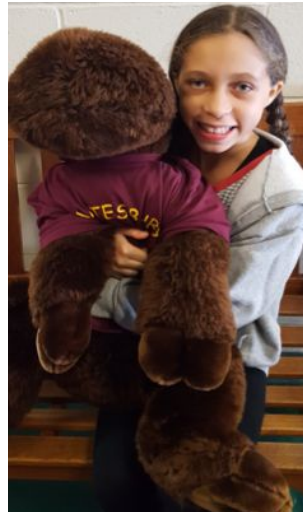
transportation costs as the number of students allowed on the buses will be limited. There may also be technology needs as we work to ensure access to remote learning for all families.

In response to the increase in costs and decrease in funding, our Union 28 Central Office has made concerted efforts to reduce the expenses of that office. The Central Office staff has offered to forego their Cost of Living Adjustments. They have also decided to disband the office, housing staff at the various schools. This change will save Union 28 approximately \$10,000 in rent, insurance, and cleaning costs. The Shutesbury School Committee appreciates their willingness to share the financial burden of this crisis and their creativity in finding ways to save. Shutesbury Elementary School is a school that provides for the emotional, social, and educational needs of the children. The Shutesbury School Committee works hard to balance the educational needs of our students and the financial needs of our town. As always, we thank you for your support.



Shutesbury Elementary School

23 West Pelham Road, Shutesbury, MA 01072 Phone: (413) 259-1212 Fax: (413) 259-1531



Shutesbury Elementary School FY 20

Shutesbury Elementary School continues to be a joyful, creative and exceptional elementary school. Lots of information and communication (including our remote learning plan and website) can be found on our school website www.shutesburyschool.org.

Remote Learning

Between March 13 and June 12, 2020, Shutesbury Elementary School operated remotely/virtually. SES teachers went above and beyond to connect with students and families and provide daily meaningful and engaging lessons and assignments. These lessons and assignments included virtual meets, recorded videos, written and video assignments, phone calls, and even letter writing. SES worked to loan technology to students who needed it to access curriculum and learning. We created a stellar food program to support students and families during the remote learning time at home.

The school conducted several surveys during this time to assess needs and gather feedback. We also spent a lot of time planning to support students and families in learning in the coming year. SES will institute a 1:1 technology device program in the fall. Students will be assigned and will travel to and from school with a technology device that will help and support learning at home and in school.

Shutesbury Elementary School assures that all programs, activities and employment opportunities are offered without regard to race, color, gender, gender identity, age, creed, homelessness, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability and pregnancy or pregnancy related conditions.

Shutesbury Finance Committee Fiscal Year 21 Budget Report

Shutesbury FY 21 Budget Expenses and Revenue Sources

Expenses

Total budget expenses: \$6,601,165

Revenue Sources

Residential taxes *	\$4,792,497
Commercial, Industrial and Personal Property taxes	\$225,000
Local Receipts (Excise tax, court fees, etc.)	\$253,153
PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes DCR, ToA)	\$351,000
Estimated State aid **	\$482,732
Free Cash (cash reserves) ***	\$476,357
WPAT Septic Betterment Loan	<u>\$ 20,425</u>
Total Revenues	\$6,601,164

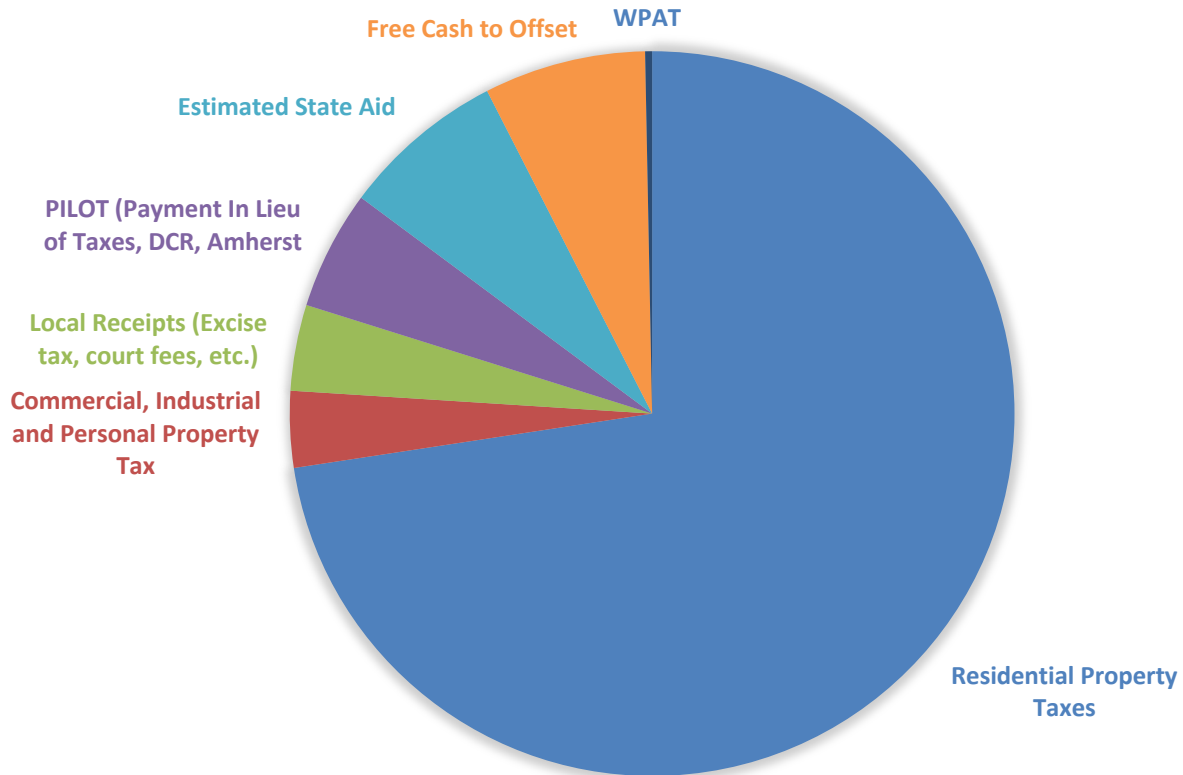
* Estimated Tax rate:

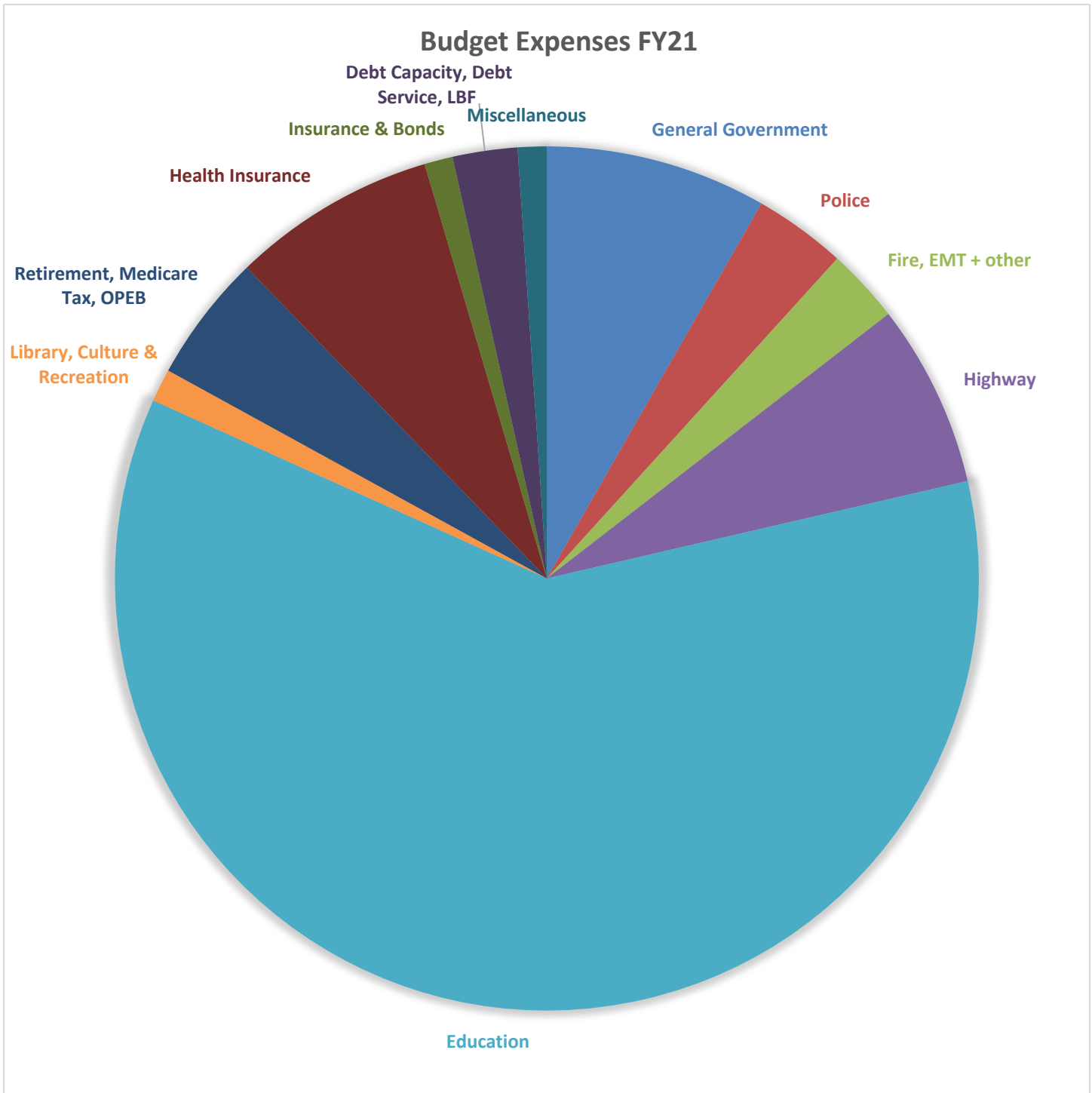
Total levy / assessed valuation * 1000
 $\$5,057,497 / \$223,454,454 = \$22.63$
 (current rate \$24.04)

** State aid: Estimated reduction of 30%

*** FY 20 free cash applied to Reduce
 Taxes and Cover Loss in State Aid
 One time use of free cash to give tax
 relief

Revenue Sources FY21





We have prepared a balanced budget for FY21

1. Significant Operating Increases and Decreases Compared to the FY20 Budget:

- A. Total Budget Increase: \$11,781
- B. Elementary School: \$21,362 budget Increase
- C. Elementary Transportation (regional bus contract): \$21,583 budget Increase
- D. Health Insurance: \$30,059 Budget Increase
- E. Town Employees Salary (excluding schools): \$17,294 Increase

- F. Retirement County: \$10,829 increase
- G. Regional School: Level funded regional budget from FY20, the change in assessment method moving closer to Statutory at 45%, created a \$99,771 Decrease for Shutesbury
- H. Transfer to the Unemployment fund of \$15,000 from Free Cash

2. Larger Projected Revenue Increases/Decreases:

- A. Net Tax Levy Used in FY21 Budget:
 - 1) Tax Levy 2.5% increase: \$135,797
 - 2) Portion of Tax Levy increase not used for FY21 budget: \$119,661
 - 3) Increase to Added to Excess Levy Capacity: \$367,338
- B. New Growth including Solar PILOT: \$119,661
- C. State Aid: Anticipated 30% Decrease, minus \$ 256,357 to be covered by free cash
- D. Total Projected Annual Tax Decrease of **\$350** on average home of \$242,448.

3. Cash Reserves Summary, beginning balances

- A. Free Cash (as of 7/1/2019) \$1,389,680
- B. Capital Stabilization: \$239,002
- C. Stabilization: \$269,431

4. Finance Committee FY21 warrant article capital expenses recommended:

- A. Funded from Free Cash: \$ 37,100**
 - 1) Elementary - floors \$ 25,000
 - 2) Elementary - conf room doors \$ 7,200
 - 3) Police - radar gun, breathalyzer \$ 2,200
 - 4) Fire Dept - door openers \$ 2,700

B. Addition to Reserves from Project and Revolving Fund Returns:

- 1) Fund 30 transfers \$ 95,644
- 2) SREC account closure \$ 54,423

5. Cash Reserves if all warrant articles pass (Section 4 above):

- A. Free Cash \$ 1,083,863
- B. Capital Stabilization: \$ 351,697
- C. Stabilization: \$ 282,299

6. Upcoming Capital Projects –

- A. Culvert on Locks Pond Road (by dam), \$500,000 grant received
Additional funds needed to complete the project \$500,000
- B. Elementary school roof – grant funding denied \$1,000,000
- C. Paving – School \$50,000
- D. Capital Plan Upcoming Needs, dump truck, police cruiser, backhoe, and fire vehicle

7. OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) Trust Fund

- A. Actuarial liability: \$2,300,000
- B. Saved so far: \$595,505 before FY21 funding
- C. Annual funding from operating budget: \$50,000
- D. State gives towns 30 years to fund their liability

8. Thoughts on the future

- A. Continued maintenance to 40+ year old school building
- B. Storage of Public Records/Need for Additional Space
- C. Grant funding to add to the Library Building Fund
- D. Invest in projects that reduce operating costs (i.e. solar photovoltaic systems)
- E. School costs:
 - 1) Elementary and Regional school Covid-19 requirements are unknown, but they definitely will increase expenses. The town has been designated to receive up to \$156,410 of Cares Act money, on a reimbursement basis. We have requested reimbursement of \$9,001 to date. The town will work with the elementary and regional to help support their expenditures for Covid-19 related items and services.
 - 2) Ongoing loss of grant funds for early childhood education.
 - 3) Towns in region unable to agree on a long-term school budget assessment allocation method
 - 4) The region's health insurance costs