

SELECT BOARD

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Jonathan L. Beder
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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MEMORANDUM

TO: All interested parties
FROM: Jonathan L. Beder, Town Administrator
cc: Select Board
RE: **Articles 12 & 15**
Date: April 25, 2024

We are writing to provide some additional explanation and an update regarding Articles 12 and 15. In May 2019, Article 13 allocated \$1,120,000 for repairs to the Page Street and Central Street Water Tanks. However, the project didn't start as planned, and the estimated costs increased to \$2,572,000.

As a result, Article 15 was included in the 2024 Warrant to request this new total amount. Additionally, Article 12 requested \$1,950,000.57 for the design of a new municipal complex. To address these needs without taking on additional debt, we decided to repurpose the remaining funds (\$1,110,083.57) from Article 13 to support Article 12 and 15 for two main reasons:

1. Repurposing these funds allowed us to avoid taking on more debt, making both projects financially responsible.
2. Using the MBTE stabilization funds for Article 15 is the most appropriate approach, as we won't need to borrow until fall when the Central Street Tank painting is scheduled, followed by the Page Street Tank in spring 2025. Furthermore, utilizing the MBTE stabilization account for painting of the tanks is a well-served purpose in sustaining resiliency and meeting water demand.

Since the approval of the Warrant, we've received lower-than-expected bids for the tank projects. Consequently, we will reduce Article 15 funding request by approximately \$1.32 million, bringing the new request down to \$1.25M, which reflects actual project costs. We appreciate your understanding and support as we work to complete these important projects for our community. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.