

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON  
FISCAL YEAR 2022  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RESULTS  
MAY 5, 2021**

**Article 1:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 9A of Chapter 200A of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Section 65 of Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010, which provides an alternate and simplified procedure for disposing of abandoned funds (often referred to as unclaimed checks or “tailings”) held by the Town.

**Article 1 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 2:** To see if the Selectmen shall be an agent for the Town in defense of any suits for, and on behalf of the Town, and to adjust all claims for damage against the Town, and to choose an agent, or pass any vote thereon.

**Article 2 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, and to issue a note or notes therefore payable within one year, in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44 of the General Laws, also temporary loans under Provision 6A, Chapter 44 of the General Laws.

**Article 3 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to fix the annual salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as provided by Section 108, Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended, all salaries to be effective as of July 1, 2021:

a. Town Clerk -----	\$8,684.00
b. Selectmen - Chairperson-----	\$2,570.00
c. Selectmen - Clerk-----	\$2,570.00
d. Selectmen – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Member-----	\$2,570.00
e. Moderator-----	\$ 75.00

**Article 4 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,469.00 for Elected Officers’ salaries.

**Article 5 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$187,091.00 for general government accounts to be appropriated as follows:

a. Reserve Account -----	\$20,000.00
b. Town Counsel Yearly Retainer -----	\$ 4,000.00
c. Legal Expenses -----	\$ 5,000.00
d. Administrative Assistant Salary -----	\$17,680.00
e. Selectmen’s Expenses -----	\$ 3,000.00
f. Planning Board Expenses -----	\$ 500.00
g. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission-----	\$ 440.00
h. Assessors - Chairperson-----	\$ 4,052.00

i. Assessors - Clerk-----	\$ 3,648.00
j. Assessors' Consulting Services-----	\$13,623.00
k. Appraisal services (504 Public Utility) -----	\$ 2,000.00
l. Assessors' Expenses-----	\$ 2,000.00
m. Assessors' Computer Services -----	\$ 3,715.00
n. Tax Map Maintenance-----	\$ 3,300.00
o. Appointed Treasurer Salary-----	\$16,000.00
p. Treasurer's Expenses -----	\$ 3,200.00
q. Treasurer's Tax Title Expense -----	\$ 2,000.00
r. Interest and Issuance on Short-Term Notes-----	\$ 3,000.00
s. Insurance (Workman's Comp. & general property)---	\$18,000.00
t. Medicare Taxes for Town Employees-----	\$ 4,568.00
u. Auditing Expenses-----	\$ 6,000.00
v. Accounting Officer Salary -----	\$16,240.00
w. Accounting Officer Expenses-----	\$ 250.00
x. Accounting Software (Vadar)-----	\$ 3,575.00
y. Appointed Tax Collector Salary-----	\$15,000.00
z. Assistant Tax Collector's Salary -----	\$ 2,000.00
aa. Tax Collector's Expenses -----	\$ 4,500.00
bb. Tax Collector's Tax Title Expenses -----	\$ 1,000.00
cc. Town Clerk's Expenses -----	\$ 3,000.00
dd. Clerk of Board of Registrars-----	\$ 100.00
ee. Computer Support – Accessible Voting-----	\$ 1,200.00
ff. Records Preservation Account -----	\$ 2,500.00
gg. Town Reports -----	\$ 1,000.00
hh. Finance Committee Expenses -----	\$ 200.00
ii. Moderator's Expenses -----	\$ 50.00
jj. Conservation Commission-----	\$ 300.00
kk. Zoning Enforcement Officer's Expense Account-----	\$ 250.00
ll. Zoning Board of Appeals Expenses-----	\$ 200.00

**Article 6 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4A of Chapter 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with other cities, towns, and political subdivisions for the group purchasing of supplies, commodities, and services that the town is authorized by law to purchase, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$800.00 as the town's share of the expenses for the administration of the Berkshire Region Group Purchasing program for Fiscal Year 2022.

**Article 7 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$109,001.00 for Capital Costs of the Central Berkshire Regional School District to be appropriated as follows:

a. Becket-Washington School (Debt Exclusion) FY25----	\$29,497.00
b. Wahconah Regional High School – Doors, FY29-----	\$ 3,872.00
c. Kittridge Windows, FY22-----	\$ 376.00
d. Security Updates, FY25-----	\$ 373.00
e. Wahconah Regional High School –Sidewalk, FY22----	\$ 446.00
f. WRHS Building Project (Debt Exclusion), FY47-----	\$74,437.00

**Article 8 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to approve the Central Berkshire Regional School District budget for the 2022 fiscal year, as adopted on March 11, 2021, by two thirds vote of the Regional School Committee, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$729,950.00 for the operation of the Central Berkshire Regional School District to be appropriated as follows:

- a. Minimum Contribution----- \$520,140.00
- b. Transportation Assessment-----\$ 28,971.00
- c. Basic Budget Balance----- \$180,839.00

**Article 9 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,276.00 for Vocational Education Tuition to be appropriated as follows:

- a. Vocational Education Tuition-----\$ 0.00
- b. Vocational Education Transportation Operator----- \$ 0.00
- c. Vocational Education Transportation Maintenance----- \$ 4,400.00
- d. Vocational Education Vehicle Insurance----- \$ 876.00

**Article 10 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 563,834.00 for the Highway Department to be appropriated as follows:

- a. Salaries ----- \$144,850.00
- b. Winter Road Overtime----- \$ 13,938.00
- c. Non-Winter Overtime----- \$ 5,808.00
- d. Road & Bridge Maintenance----- \$ 80,000.00
- e. Winter Snow & Ice Removal----- \$105,000.00
- f. Engineering Consultation----- \$ 8,100.00
- g. Tree Work----- \$ 13,200.00
- h. Fuel----- \$ 20,000.00
- i. Machinery Repair----- \$ 25,000.00
- j. General Maintenance, Tools & Supplies-----\$ 35,000.00
- k. Highway Department Operating Expenses-----\$ 18,000.00
- l. Highway Equipment Insurance-----\$ 15,672.00
- m. Health, Dental, Life Insurance (town share)-----\$ 48,000.00
- n. Berkshire County Retirement-----\$ 31,266.00

**Article 11 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$72,978.00 for health and safety accounts to be appropriated as follows:

- a. Becket Fire Department – fire protection ----- \$ 15,760.00
- b. Becket Firemen’s Association ----- \$ 250.00
- c. Police Salary----- \$ 12,176.00
- d. Police Department Expenses ----- \$ 4,434.00
- e. Police Department Telecommunication----- \$ 4,056.00
- f. Police Coverage for Pumpkin Walk ----- \$ 0.00
- g. Police and Fire Department Insurance----- \$ 8,200.00

h. Enhanced 911 -----	\$ 10,195.00
i. Animal Control Officer Reimbursements -----	\$ 800.00
j. Animal Control Officer Expenses -----	\$ 250.00
k. Board of Health Expenses -----	\$ 5,250.00
l. Health Agent (Berkshire Public Health Alliance)-----	\$ 4,207.00
m. Public Health Nurse-----	\$ 2,100.00
n. Building Inspector Salary -----	\$ 5,200.00
o. Building Inspector Expenses -----	\$ 100.00

**Article 12 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,893.00 for services to the Washington community to be appropriated as follows:

a. Sons and Daughters Reunion -----	\$ 600.00
b. Historical Commission -----	\$ 400.00
c. Veteran's Aid -----	\$ 7,230.00
d. Veteran's Services Inter-Municipal Agreement-----	\$ 2,250.00
e. Council on Aging -----	\$ 1,500.00
f. Donation to the Becket Athenaeum Operating-----	\$ 9,163.00
g. Donation to the Becket Athenaeum Capital-----	\$ 2,000.00
h. Washington TRACKS -----	\$ 2,250.00
i. Becket Beach-----	\$ 2,500.00
j. Wired West Dues -----	\$ 1,000.00

**Article 13 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,693.00 for operation of the Solid Waste Transfer Station to be appropriated as follows:

a. Operating Expenses-----	\$34,110.00
b. Attendant Labor-----	\$ 9,083.00
c. Facility Maintenance-----	\$ 1,500.00

**Article 14 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 39,190.00 to pay notes and interest due on the following:

a. Culverts, FY33-----	\$28,300.00
b. 5500 Plow & Sander, FY23-----	\$ 7,435.00
c. Last-Mile Fiber Network, FY34 (debt exclusion)-----	\$ 3,455.00

**Article 15 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 31,283.00 for the following buildings, grounds, and equipment accounts:

a. Town Buildings Operating Expenses-----	\$13,000.00
b. Town Hall Repair and Maintenance-----	\$ 5,500.00
c. Custodian Reimbursement-----	\$ 3,713.00
d. Maintenance Coordinator Reimbursement-----	\$ 570.00
e. Town Office Equipment and Support-----	\$ 2,500.00
f. Town Offices Supplies and Services-----	\$ 1,000.00

- g. Historical Properties Repairs and Maintenance----- \$ 1,000.00
- h. Stained Glass Restoration – St. Andrew’s Chapel----- \$ 1,500.00
- i. Town Park----- \$ 2,500.00

**Article 16 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will appropriate from the Stabilization Fund the sum of \$42,780.00 to cover a required principal payment on the Town’s Broadband Fiber Network debt. (Two-thirds vote required.)

**Article 17 passed by 2/3 majority vote: Yes 31 / No 0**

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$3,715.00 to cover a prior year expense for FY20 incurred under Assessors Computer Expenses for Tyler Technologies software licensing.

**Article 18 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$35,000.00 to replace pins & bushings and perform other needed repair on the Highway Dept. front-end loader.

**Article 19 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00 to remove dying ash trees that present a liability along Town roads and public ways.

**Article 20 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$8,000.00 to replace the roof on the Town Park gazebo.

**Article 21 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 22:** To see if the Town will transfer the sum of \$30,300.00 from Free Cash into the Stabilization Account. (Two-thirds vote required.)

**Article 22 passed by 2/3 majority vote: Yes 31 / No 0**

**Article 23:** To see if the Town will vote to set the limit on the total amount that can be expended from each of the town’s established revolving funds, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E½, as follows:

- a. Electrical Inspector: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,500.00
- b. Gas & Plumbing Inspector: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00
- c. Fire Inspector: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00
- d. St. Andrew’s Chapel Rentals and Maintenance: Expenditures not to exceed \$4,000.00
- e. Washington Town Park: Expenditures not to exceed \$6,000.00
- f. Washington Council on Aging Donations: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00
- g. Washington Historical Commission: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00

**Article 23 passed unanimously by voice vote**

**Article 24:** To see if the Town will choose all other Town Officers not required by law to be chosen by ballot: 2 Field Drivers (Edwin Neumuth, Dominic Sinopoli), 2 Fence Viewers (Patricia Drugmand, Kermit Pruyne), 1 Surveyor of Lumber (Sean Connors), 1 Measurer of Wood and Bark (Sean Connors), 1 Sexton (Richard Grillon), and 1 Assistant Sexton (Virginia Pillozzi). All nominations for the above-mentioned officers to be made from the floor.

**Article 24 passed unanimously by voice vote**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Allison Mikaniewicz", written in a dark ink.

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Allison Mikaniewicz

Town Clerk

Washington

May 6, 2021