



Town of Dighton

Annual Town Meeting

Warrant

Monday, June 10, 2024
7:00 PM

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Auditorium
2700 Regional Road
North Dighton, MA 02764



Town of Dighton
979 Somerset Avenue
Dighton, MA 02715

May 22, 2024

Dear Residents of Dighton:

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I am pleased to submit the accompanying Town of Dighton Annual Town Meeting Warrant. This year's Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 10, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Auditorium**, located at 2700 Regional Road, North Dighton.

First and foremost, the accompanying Annual Town Meeting Warrant includes the Town's proposed Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget. The Town's budget development process is carefully-constructed and shaped by meetings between the Selectmen, the Finance Committee, the Town's financial team; developed with input from department heads, boards and committees, and feedback from Dighton residents.

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Overview

Efforts to plan for the next fiscal year have once again centered on a conservative, zero-base justified budget framework initiated by the Board of Selectmen and extended to all departments, boards and committees. We are continuing to adapt to significant fiscal challenges shaped by a variety of outside factors that have required thoughtful and careful attention.

While the proposed Fiscal Year 2025 operating budget continues investments in education and core public safety and municipal services, the Town faces significant structural funding challenges that will continue to grow throughout the next year and into Fiscal Year 2026 and beyond. These challenges specifically relate to limited new available revenues to fund dramatically increasing education, education capital assessment, and solid waste costs.

The lion's share of Dighton's Fiscal Year 2025 challenges center on the fact that next year's D-R assessment increase has more than doubled—by more than \$500,000 at \$1.1 million—when compared to the year-to-year assessment increases that the Town has had the ability to fund during the last six years, which completely crowds out net new projected year-to-year available revenues of \$885,000.

Also of note is the fact that Fiscal Year 2025 is the second year of the Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School (B-P) building project debt service being assessed, next year in the amount of \$217,000, which is expected to increase by more than \$400,000 to approximately \$630,000 in Fiscal Year 2026. The proposed budget being recommended in Article 5 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant relies on funding this year's B-P capital debt assessment with free cash, but it is unlikely the Town will have the same ability to fund the increased debt assessment with free cash in Fiscal Year 2026.

Proposed Warrant Articles

As you review the proposed Warrant, you will note Article 13 that seeks to strengthen senior tax exemption opportunities for Dighton seniors by lowering the age for eligible residents from 70 to 65 years of age. The Warrant also includes annual Community Preservation Committee (CPC) recommended Articles and various

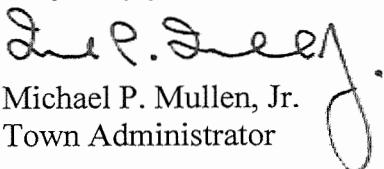
capital funding requests which have been reviewed and prioritized by the Capital Outlay Committee and recommended by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. These include:

- Article 18, which proposes to dedicate an additional \$75,000 to help raise necessary funds needed for the phased, multi-year planned Main Street reconstruction and sidewalk installation project;
- Article 20, which seeks \$15,000 to fund Old Somerset Avenue drainage improvements;
- Article 22, which would fund \$45,000 first year of a lease/purchase agreement for an excavator to replace a 1995 Highway Department backhoe;
- Article 27, for \$32,500 to fund e-911 compatible telephone system upgrades at Dighton Elementary School, Dighton Middle School, and Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School;
- Article 28, which seeks \$85,000 for the purchase of a new equipped Dighton Police Department cruiser; and
- Article 29, which seeks \$15,000 to fund Conservation Commission legal expenses for appeals, complaints and related expenses.

The Annual Town Meeting Warrant also includes proposed new General Bylaws relating to Chief of Police and Deputy Chief of Police hiring processes, a proposed update to the Commission on Disability Bylaw, updates to the Town's Parking Bylaw, proposed Payment In Lieu of Tax (PILOT) Agreements, and a proposed Citizens Petition in Article 37.

We look forward to seeing you at Dighton's June 10, 2024 Annual Town Meeting. Please feel free to reach out to the Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator's Office at (508) 669-6431 if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,


Michael P. Mullen, Jr.
Town Administrator

| Article | Department | Description | Amount |
|---------|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| 1 | Reports | Town Officials & Capital Outlay | N/A |
| 2 | Appointments | Appoint Officials & Committees | N/A |
| 3 | Prior Year Bills | To Pay Prior Year Bills | \$3,569.16 |
| | | Police - NAPA | \$96.49 |
| | | Transfer Station - Police Detail | \$254.82 |
| | | BOS - Police Detail | \$372.79 |
| | | Historical Commission - B-P RTS (Sign) | \$38.00 |
| | | BOS - National Grid | \$2,807.06 |
| 4 | Elected Officials | Salaries | \$ |
| 5 | Budget Appropriations | Annual FY2025 Appropriations | \$ |
| 6 | Sewer Enterprise Fund | Annual FY2025 Appropriations | \$ |
| 7 | Sewer | Sewer Capital Re-Appropriation | \$125,000.00 |
| 8 | Town Accountant | Fund FY24 Snow and Ice Deficit | \$88,000.00 |
| 9 | All | Authorize Revolving Funds | N/A |
| 10 | All | Revolving Fund Spending Limits | N/A |
| 11 | BOS | Chapter 90 Land Takings | N/A |
| 12 | BOS | BOS Land Takings in Conjunction w/Projects | N/A |
| 13 | BOS | Senior Tax Exemption-Adjust Eligibility Limits | N/A |
| 14 | CPC | Annual FY2025 Appropriations | \$ |
| 15 | CPC | Broad Cove Nature Trail Improvements | \$62,500.00 |
| 16 | CPC | Historical Property Identification | \$3,500.00 |
| 17 | TA/BOS | Deposit to Capital Stabilization Fund | \$50,000.00 |
| 18 | Highway | Main Street Reconstruction | \$75,000.00 |
| 19 | Highway | Enclosed Trailer | \$15,000.00 |
| 20 | Highway | Drainage Upgrades/Old Somerset Avenue | \$15,000.00 |
| 21 | Highway | Town Garage Bathroom Modification | \$10,000.00 |
| 22 | Highway | Excavator First Year Payment | \$45,000.00 |
| 23 | Highway | Line Striping Machine | \$8,545.00 |
| 24 | Highway | Security Cameras | \$3,000.00 |
| 25 | Cable Committee | Channel 9 Upgrades | \$40,000.00 |
| 26 | Town Clerk | Election Poll Pads | \$6,300.00 |
| 27 | D-R School District | e911 Compatible Phone & System Upgrades | \$32,500.00 |
| 28 | Police | Fully Equipped Police Cruiser | \$85,000.00 |
| 29 | Conservation Comm | Legal Expenses | \$15,000.00 |
| 30 | BOS/TA | Add Bylaw Police Chief Hiring Process | N/A |
| 31 | BOS/TA | Add Bylaw Deputy Chief | N/A |
| 32 | COD | Bylaw Change to Article XXXIX | N/A |
| 33 | Treasurer | Bylaw Change to Article XXVII | N/A |
| 34 | Highway | Add Bylaw Prohibited Parking | N/A |
| 35 | Assessors | PILOT Agreement 1420/1522 Williams Street | N/A |
| 36 | Assessors | PILOT Agreement 2320 Williams Street | N/A |
| 37 | Citizens | Citizens Petition | N/A |
| 38 | | Other Lawful Business | N/A |



Town of Dighton

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Warrant

June 10, 2024

BRISTOL, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Dighton in the County of Bristol,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Dighton qualified to vote in elections and Town Affairs to meet in the Dighton Rehoboth Regional High School Auditorium on Monday, the tenth day of June, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.; then and there to act on the following articles, viz.

ARTICLE 1. To hear reports of the Town Officials and the Capital Outlay Committee and act thereon.

ARTICLE 2. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint all necessary Town Officials and Town Committees not otherwise provided for by statute, or act thereon.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the amount of \$3,569.16 to pay prior year bills, or take any other action relative thereto.

| Prior Year Bills | Department | Amount |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| NAPA Auto Parts | Police | \$96.49 |
| Police Detail | Transfer Station | \$254.82 |
| Police Details | Board of Selectmen | \$372.79 |
| Bristol-Plymouth RTS | Historical Commission | \$38.00 |
| National Grid | Town Offices | \$2807.06 |
| | Total | \$3,569.16 |

*Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash*

ARTICLE 4. To act relative to establishing the salaries of Town Officials for Fiscal Year 2025 in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, or act thereon.

| Elected Officials | FY25 Budget Request | Finance Committee Recommendations | Board of Selectmen Recommendations |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| Board of Assessors | | | |
| Chairman | \$4,952.55 | \$4,952.55 | \$4,952.55 |
| Member | \$4,952.55 | \$4,952.55 | \$4,952.55 |
| Member | \$4,952.55 | \$4,952.55 | \$4,952.55 |
| | | | |
| Board of Selectmen | | | |
| Chairman | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 | |
| Member | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 | |
| Member | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 | |
| | | | |
| Tree Warden | \$269.10 | \$275.83 | \$275.83 |
| | | | |
| Moderator | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| | | | |
| Town Clerk | \$77,592.50 | \$77,592.50 | \$77,592.50 |
| | | | |
| Town Collector | \$39,729.00 | \$39,729.00 | \$39,729.00 |
| | | | |
| Town Treasurer | \$39,729.00 | \$39,729.00 | \$39,729.00 |
| | | | |
| Planning Board | | | |
| Chairman | \$2,295.04 | \$2,239.06 | \$2,239.06 |
| Member | \$2,295.04 | \$2,239.06 | \$2,239.06 |
| Member | \$2,295.04 | \$2,239.06 | \$2,239.06 |
| Member | \$2,295.04 | \$2,239.06 | \$2,239.06 |
| Member | \$2,295.04 | \$2,239.06 | \$2,239.06 |
| | | | |
| Sewer Commissioners | | | |
| Chairman | \$3,444.52 | \$3,360.49 | \$3,360.49 |
| Member | \$2,285.84 | \$2,230.09 | \$2,230.09 |
| Member | \$2,285.84 | \$2,230.09 | \$2,230.09 |

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to raise by taxation and/or transfer from available funds the appropriation necessary to defray Town Charges and Assessments as considered by the Finance Committee or act thereon.

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025**

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|-----|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| | GENERAL GOVERNMENT | | | | |
| 113 | TOWN MEETING | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$2,700.00 | \$2,300.00 | \$2,300.00 | \$2,300.00 |
| | Expenses | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$4,200.00 | \$3,800.00 | \$3,800.00 | \$3,800.00 |
| | | | | | |
| 114 | MODERATOR | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$500.00 | \$ | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| | | | | | |
| 122 | BOARD OF SELECTMEN | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$121,340.00 | \$103,141.68 | \$103,458.86 | \$103,458.86 |
| | Expenses | \$71,640.00 | \$88,285.00 | \$88,285.00 | \$88,285.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$192,980.66 | \$191,426.68 | \$191,743.86 | \$191,743.86 |
| | | | | | |
| 124 | TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$166,650.00 | \$176,679.00 | \$176,814.42 | \$176,814.42 |
| | Expenses | \$14,321.00 | \$15,920.00 | \$14,698.35 | \$14,698.35 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$180,971.00 | \$192,599.00 | \$191,512.77 | \$191,512.77 |
| | | | | | |
| 131 | FINANCE COMMITTEE | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$3,595.00 | \$3,595.00 | \$3,595.00 | \$3,595.00 |
| | Expenses | \$405.00 | \$355.00 | \$355.00 | \$355.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$4,000.00 | \$3,950.00 | \$3,950.00 | \$3,950.00 |
| | | | | | |
| 132 | RESERVE FUND | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 | \$50,000.00 | \$55,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 | \$50,000.00 | \$55,000.00 |
| | | | | | |
| 135 | TOWN ACCOUNTANT | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$136,583.60 | \$143,081.50 | \$143,081.50 | \$143,081.50 |
| | Expenses | \$36,375.00 | \$32,500.00 | \$32,500.00 | \$32,500.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$172,958.60 | \$175,581.50 | \$175,581.50 | \$175,581.50 |
| | | | | | |
| 141 | BOARD OF ASSESSORS | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$192,342.85 | \$196,741.69 | \$196,741.69 | \$196,741.69 |
| | Expenses | \$27,700.00 | \$31,700.00 | \$31,700.00 | \$31,700.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$220,042.85 | \$228,441.69 | \$228,441.69 | \$228,441.69 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 145 | TOWN TREASURER | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$78,385.00 | \$81,322.89 | \$81,072.89 | \$81,072.89 |
| | Expenses | \$30,850.00 | \$34,400.00 | \$30,700.00 | \$34,400.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$109,235.00 | \$115,722.89 | \$111,772.89 | \$115,472.89 |
| 146 | TOWN COLLECTOR | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$78,485.00 | \$81,322.89 | \$81,322.89 | \$81,322.89 |
| | Expenses | \$23,350.00 | \$25,350.00 | \$24,350.00 | \$25,350.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$101,835.00 | \$106,672.89 | \$105,672.89 | \$106,672.89 |
| 151 | TOWN COUNSEL | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 |
| 155 | DATA PROCESSING | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$71,733.33 | \$70,373.58 | \$65,373.58 | \$65,373.58 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$71,733.33 | \$70,373.58 | \$65,373.58 | \$65,373.58 |
| 158 | TAX TITLE FORECLOSURE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$25,000.00 | \$25,000.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$25,000.00 | \$25,000.00 | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| 161 | TOWN CLERK | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$165,203.60 | \$141,776.20 | \$141,776.20 | \$141,776.20 |
| | Expenses | \$9,444.00 | \$10,075.00 | \$9,675.00 | \$9,675.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$174,647.60 | \$151,851.20 | \$151,451.20 | \$151,451.20 |
| 162 | ELECTIONS | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$15,439.00 | \$16,518.10 | \$16,518.10 | \$16,518.10 |
| | Expenses | \$16,062.40 | \$25,987.00 | \$25,987.00 | \$25,987.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$31,501.40 | \$42,505.10 | \$42,505.10 | \$42,505.10 |
| 163 | REGISTRATION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$600.00 | \$600.00 | \$600.00 | \$600.00 |
| | Expenses | \$7,952.00 | \$8,052.00 | \$7,702.00 | \$7,702.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$8,552.00 | \$8,652.00 | \$8,302.00 | \$8,302.00 |
| 171 | CONSERVATION COMMISSION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$64,539.56 | \$65,422.76 | \$65,391.61 | \$65,391.61 |
| | Expenses | \$5,000.00 | \$6,000.00 | \$4,100.00 | \$4,100.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$69,539.56 | \$71,422.76 | \$69,491.61 | \$69,491.61 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|-----|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 174 | DIGHTON TRAILS COMMITTEE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$900.00 | \$800.00 | \$800.00 | \$800.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$900.00 | \$800.00 | \$800.00 | \$800.00 |
| 175 | PLANNING BOARD | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$43,264.91 | \$45,059.66 | \$44,779.77 | \$44,779.77 |
| | Expenses | \$19,045.29 | \$19,087.17 | \$16,087.17 | 18,587.17 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$62,310.20 | \$64,146.83 | \$60,866.94 | \$63,366.94 |
| 176 | BOARD OF APPEALS | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$28,661.92 | \$29,849.71 | \$29,671.82 | \$29,671.82 |
| | Expenses | \$11,200.00 | \$11,200.00 | \$8,700.00 | \$8,700.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$39,861.92 | \$41,049.71 | \$38,371.82 | \$38,371.82 |
| 179 | AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,500.00 | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,500.00 | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| 189 | DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| 192 | PUBLIC BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$201,740.00 | \$255,140.00 | \$250,140.00 | \$255,140.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$201,740.00 | \$255,140.00 | \$250,140.00 | \$255,140.00 |
| 195 | TOWN REPORTS | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 |
| | TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT | \$1,787,509.12 | \$1,863,135.83 | \$1,823,777.85 | \$1,840,977.85 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|-----|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| | PUBLIC SAFETY | | | | |
| 210 | POLICE DEPARTMENT | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$1,703,384.68 | \$1,727,741.90 | \$1,714,741.90 | \$1,722,741.90 |
| | Expenses | \$243,340.00 | \$256,130.89 | \$245,587.89 | \$254,587.89 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,946,724.68 | \$1,983,872.79 | \$1,960,329.79 | \$1,977,329.79 |
| 215 | COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$374,288.13 | \$392,941.59 | \$378,741.39 | \$378,741.59 |
| | Expenses | \$36,200.00 | \$36,700.00 | \$34,100.00 | \$34,100.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$410,488.13 | \$429,641.59 | \$412,841.59 | \$412,841.59 |
| 220 | FIRE DEPARTMENT | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$657,492.67 | \$669,249.47 | \$669,249.47 | \$669,249.47 |
| | Expenses | \$103,240.00 | \$107,038.50 | \$104,538.50 | \$107,038.50 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$760,732.67 | \$776,287.97 | \$773,787.97 | \$776,287.97 |
| 231 | AMBULANCE SERVICES | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$665,798.26 | \$677,555.06 | \$677,555.06 | \$677,555.06 |
| | Expenses | \$130,988.00 | \$138,316.50 | \$135,316.50 | \$135,316.50 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$796,786.26 | \$815,871.56 | \$812,871.56 | \$812,871.56 |
| 241 | BUILDING INSPECTION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$133,531.20 | \$154,690.32 | \$154,690.32 | \$154,690.32 |
| | Expenses | \$37,180.00 | \$36,780.00 | \$29,980.00 | \$29,980.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$170,711.20 | \$191,470.32 | \$184,670.32 | \$184,670.32 |
| 242 | GAS INSPECTION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$6,750.00 | \$6,750.00 | \$6,750.00 | \$6,750.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$6,750.00 | \$6,750.00 | \$6,750.00 | \$6,750.00 |
| 243 | PLUMBING INSPECTION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$7,750.00 | \$7,750.00 | \$7,750.00 | \$7,750.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$7,750.00 | \$7,750.00 | \$7,750.00 | \$7,750.00 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|------------|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 244 | WEIGHTS AND MEASURES | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| 245 | ELECTRICAL INSPECTION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| 292 | ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$45,900.00 | \$46,990.44 | \$46,990.44 | \$46,990.44 |
| | Expenses | \$12,250.00 | \$14,025.00 | \$13,025.00 | \$13,025.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$58,150.00 | \$61,015.44 | \$60,015.44 | \$60,015.44 |
| 294 | FORESTRY | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$269.10 | \$275.83 | \$275.83 | \$275.83 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$269.10 | \$275.83 | \$275.83 | \$275.83 |
| 299 | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$5,500.00 | \$6,000.00 | \$4,500.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$5,500.00 | \$6,000.00 | \$4,500.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| | TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY | \$4,185,362.04 | \$4,300,435.50 | \$4,245,292.50 | \$4,264,792.50 |
| 300 | EDUCATION | | | | |
| | DIGHTON-REHOBOOTH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$11,796,654.00 | \$12,913,479.00 | \$12,913,479.00 | \$12,913,479.00 |
| | BRISTOL COUNTY AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$239,916.50 | \$279,906.48 | \$279,906.48 | \$279,906.48 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|-----|--|------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| | BRISTOL-PLYMOUTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,468,434.00 | \$1,437,737.00 | \$1,437,737.00 | \$1,437,737.00 |
| | Out of District Obligation | | \$100,216.00 | \$100,216.00 | \$100,216.00 |
| | TOTAL EDUCATION | \$13,505,004.50 | \$14,731,338.48 | \$14,731,338.48 | \$14,731,338.48 |
| | HIGHWAY | | | | |
| 422 | HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$648,485.91 | \$605,103.86 | \$599,485.86 | \$599,485.86 |
| | Expenses | \$172,410.00 | \$187,466.00 | \$183,466.00 | \$183,466.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$820,895.91 | \$792,569.86 | \$782,951.86 | \$782,951.86 |
| 423 | SNOW AND ICE CONTROL | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$13,250.00 | \$13,250.00 | \$13,250.00 | \$13,250.00 |
| | Expenses | \$36,750.00 | \$36,750.00 | \$36,750.00 | \$36,750.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$50,000.00 | \$50,000.00 | \$50,000.00 | \$50,000.00 |
| 429 | DIGHTON-BERKLEY BRIDGE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,000.00 | \$1,600.00 | \$1,600.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,000.00 | \$1,600.00 | \$1,600.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| 432 | STREET CLEANING/STORMWATER | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$64,283.47 | \$149,135.04 | \$149,135.04 | \$149,135.04 |
| | Expenses | \$98,191.14 | \$110,071.61 | \$98,071.61 | \$98,071.61 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$162,474.61 | \$259,206.65 | \$247,206.65 | \$247,206.65 |
| | TOTAL HIGHWAY | \$1,034,370.52 | \$1,103,376.51 | \$1,081,758.51 | \$1,081,758.51 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|-----|--|---------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| | SANITATION | | | | |
| 433 | WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$769,500.00 | \$792,600.00 | \$783,600.00 | \$783,600.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$769,500.00 | \$792,600.00 | \$783,600.00 | \$783,600.00 |
| 435 | TRANSFER STATION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$22,775.90 | \$22,329.66 | \$22,329.66 | \$22,329.66 |
| | Expenses | \$73,740.83 | \$86,127.83 | \$81,232.83 | \$81,232.83 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$95,516.73 | \$108,457.49 | \$103,562.49 | \$103,562.49 |
| | TOTAL SANITATION | \$866,016.73 | \$901,057.49 | \$887,162.49 | \$887,162.49 |
| | OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL | | | | |
| 491 | CEMETERY | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$25,840.00 | \$30,021.50 | \$30,021.50 | \$30,021.50 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$25,840.00 | \$30,021.50 | \$30,021.50 | \$30,021.50 |
| | TOTAL OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL | \$25,840.00 | \$30,021.50 | \$30,021.50 | \$30,021.50 |
| | HUMAN SERVICES | | | | |
| 510 | BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS AND INSPECTIONS | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$155,765.56 | \$157,265.75 | \$154,917.00 | NO MOTION MADE |
| | Expenses | \$4,900.00 | 4,900.00 | \$4,000.00 | |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$160,665.56 | \$162,165.75 | \$158,917.00 | \$ |
| 541 | COUNCIL ON AGING | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$148,656.80 | \$165,649.20 | \$165,649.20 | \$165,649.20 |
| | Expenses | \$18,668.62 | \$12,783.00 | \$12,783.00 | \$12,783.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$167,325.42 | \$178,432.20 | \$178,432.20 | \$178,432.20 |
| 543 | VETERANS' SERVICES | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$40,142.01 | \$52,460.81 | \$52,460.81 | \$52,460.81 |
| | Expenses | \$50,750.00 | 70,550.00 | \$70,050.00 | \$70,050.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$90,892.01 | \$123,010.81 | \$122,510.81 | \$122,510.81 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|------------|---|---------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 549 | COMMISSION ON DISABILITY | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$3,060.00 | | | |
| | Expenses | \$2,000.00 | \$600.00 | \$450.00 | \$450.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$5,060.00 | \$600.00 | \$450.00 | \$450.00 |
| | | | | | |
| | TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES | \$423,942.99 | \$464,208.76 | \$460,310.01 | \$301,393.01 |
| 610 | PUBLIC LIBRARY | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$230,229.60 | \$238,436.27 | \$238,436.27 | \$238,436.27 |
| | Expenses | \$76,351.00 | \$79,765.00 | \$78,765.00 | \$79,765.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$306,580.60 | \$318,201.27 | \$317,201.27 | \$318,201.27 |
| 630 | PARKS AND RECREATION | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$20,500.00 | \$21,000.00 | \$21,000.00 | \$21,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$20,500.00 | \$21,000.00 | \$21,000.00 | \$21,000.00 |
| 691 | TOWN HISTORIAN | \$250.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$250.00 | \$250.00 |
| 691 | HISTORICAL COMMISSION | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,400.00 | \$1,400.00 | \$1,150.00 | \$1,150.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,400.00 | \$1,400.00 | \$1,150.00 | \$1,150.00 |
| 698 | CABLE COMMISSION | | | | |
| | Personnel | \$20,000.00 | \$30,000.00 | \$30,000.00 | \$30,000.00 |
| | Expenses | \$16,000.00 | \$18,280.00 | \$18,280.00 | \$18,280.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$36,000.00 | \$48,280.00 | \$48,280.00 | \$48,280.00 |
| | TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION | \$364,730.60 | \$390,881.27 | \$387,881.27 | \$388,881.27 |
| | | | | | |
| | DEBT SERVICE | | | | |
| 710 | MATURING PRINCIPAL ON LONG TERM DEBT | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$241,668.00 | \$241,668.00 | \$241,668.00 | \$241,668.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$241,668.00 | \$241,668.00 | \$241,668.00 | \$241,668.00 |
| 751 | INTEREST ON LONG TERM DEBT | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$121,175.00 | \$109,425.00 | \$109,425.00 | \$109,425.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$121,175.00 | \$109,425.00 | \$109,425.00 | \$109,425.00 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|-----|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 752 | INTEREST ON SHORT TERM DEBT | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| | TOTAL DEBT | \$362,843.00 | \$351,093.00 | \$351,093.00 | \$351,093.00 |
| | STATE & COUNTY CHARGES | | | | |
| 820 | STATE ASSESSMENTS & CHARGES | \$78,496.00 | \$81,932.00 | \$81,932.00 | \$81,932.00 |
| 830 | COUNTY ASSESSMENTS & CHARGES | \$121,192.00 | \$124,221.00 | \$124,221.00 | \$124,221.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$199,688.00 | \$206,153.00 | \$206,153.00 | \$206,153.00 |
| | EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | | | | |
| 911 | RETIREMENT & PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,048,324.00 | \$1,109,468.00 | \$1,109,468.00 | \$1,109,468.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,048,324.00 | \$1,109,468.00 | \$1,109,468.00 | \$1,109,468.00 |
| 914 | GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$1,332,436.25 | \$1,370,348.00 | \$1,355,348.00 | \$1,370,348.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$1,332,436.25 | \$1,370,348.00 | \$1,355,348.00 | \$1,370,348.00 |
| 915 | GROUP LIFE INSURANCE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$2,000.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| 916 | EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$88,000.00 | \$95,000.00 | \$95,000.00 | \$95,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$88,000.00 | \$95,000.00 | \$95,000.00 | \$95,000.00 |

TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year 2025

| # | Department | Current Fiscal Year | Fiscal Year 2025 Request | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Finance Committee | Fiscal Year 2025 Recommendation By Board of Selectmen |
|-----|---|------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 919 | OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$35,000.00 | \$35,000.00 | \$35,000.00 | \$35,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$35,000.00 | \$35,000.00 | \$35,000.00 | \$35,000.00 |
| 920 | TUITION | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$3,000.00 | \$9,000.00 | \$9,000.00 | \$9,000.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$3,000.00 | \$9,000.00 | \$9,000.00 | \$9,000.00 |
| | TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | \$2,508,760.25 | \$2,620,816.00 | \$2,605,316.00 | \$2,620,816.00 |
| | SETTLEMENTS AND COURT JUDGEMENTS | | | | |
| 940 | SETTLEMENTS | | | | |
| | Expenses | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| 941 | COURT JUDGEMENTS | | | | |
| | Expenses | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| | TOTAL SETTLEMENTS AND COURT JUDGEMENTS | -0- | -0- | -0- | -0- |
| 945 | LIABILITY INSURANCE | | | | |
| | Expenses | \$240,200.00 | \$251,608.00 | \$251,608.00 | \$251,608.00 |
| | TOTAL APPROPRIATION | \$240,200.00 | \$251,608.00 | \$251,608.00 | \$251,608.00 |
| | TOTAL LIABILITY INSURANCE | \$240,200.00 | \$251,608.00 | \$251,608.00 | \$251,608.00 |
| | GENERAL FUND TOTALS | \$25,504,267.75 | \$27,214,125.34 | \$27,061,712.61 | \$26,955,995.61 |

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to approve the following sums to be expended under the direction of the Board of Sewer Commissioners for the operation and maintenance of the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action relative thereto.

| | | Finance Committee Recommendations | Board of Selectmen Recommendations |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Direct Costs | | | |
| Salaries | \$125,551.16 | \$125,355.62 | \$125,355.62 |
| Expenses | \$196,600.00 | \$196,600.00 | \$196,600.00 |
| Capital Expenses | \$50,000.00 | \$50,000.00 | \$50,000.00 |
| Indirect Costs | \$20,274.55 | \$20,274.55 | \$20,274.55 |

The above appropriations will be funded as follows:

\$299,800.00 through sewer receipts and \$92,430.17 transferred from Sewer Enterprise retained earnings totaling **\$392,230.17**.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends
Finance Committee Recommends*

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will vote to re-appropriate the sum of \$125,000.00 from the FY24 Sewer Enterprise Fund operating budget to fund a planned Somerset Avenue pump station upgrade project and related costs, or take any other action relative thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends
Finance Committee Recommends*

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will vote to Raise and Appropriate and/or transfer from free cash a sum of \$88,000.00 to fund the FY24 Snow and Ice deficit, or take any other action relative thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash*

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to amend the town bylaws Article XXXVI, Section 5, Authorized Revolving Funds to add and establish the following revolving funds, or take any other action relative thereto.

| Department Fund | Department, Board or Committee Authorized to Spend | Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund | Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund | Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable to Fund | Other Requirements Reports | Fiscal Years |
|--|--|--|--|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Police Cruiser Insurance Reimbursement | Dighton Police Chief | Repairs Directly Related to Insurance Claims | Insurance Payments | | | Fiscal Year 25 and Subsequent Years |
| Council on Aging Programs and Meals Fees | COA Director | Program Vendor's Invoices and Meal Expenses | Fees Charged for Programs and Meals | | | Fiscal Year 25 and Subsequent Years |
| Insurance Reimbursement | Town Administrator | Repairs Directly Related to Insurance Claims | Insurance Payments | | | Fiscal Year 25 and Subsequent Years |
| Municipal Building Insurance Fund | Board of Selectmen | Repairs Directly Related to Insurance Claims | Insurance Payments | | | Fiscal Year 25 and Subsequent Years |

***Board of Selectmen Recommends
Finance Committee Recommends***

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will, pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 as most recently amended, establish fiscal year limitation on expenditures from the revolving funds established by the Town of Dighton General Bylaws, Article XXXVI.

"Departmental Revolving Funds", with such limitations for FY25 as follows:

| Revolving Fund | | FY25 Spending Limit |
|--|---|---------------------|
| Trustees of the Dighton Public Library | Copying, Faxing and Printing Services | \$5,000.00 |
| Trustees of the Dighton Public Library | Fines and monies collected for overdue, lost or damaged materials | \$8,000.00 |
| Council on Aging Board | Fees, Charges and Receipts for Services rendered by Prime Time | \$150,000.00 |

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------|
| Police Department Detail Cruiser Usage Fund | Revenue from Detail Cruiser Usage Fees | \$25,000.00 |
| Police Department Firearms Training Range Outside Usage | Revenue from the Outside Usage of the DPD Firearms Training Range | \$15,000.00 |
| Police Department Youth and Community Policing Engagement Fund | Donations and Other Revenue | \$15,000.00 |
| Police Cruiser Insurance Reimbursement Fund | Insurance Payments | \$100,000.00 |
| Parks and Recreation Field Usage | Fees Charged and Monies Received for Field Use, Recreational Programs | \$15,000.00 |
| Council on Aging | Fees Charges for Programs and Meals Offered by the Council on Aging | \$15,000.00 |
| Insurance Reimbursement | Insurance Payments | \$200,000.00 |
| Municipal Building Insurance Fund | Insurance Payments | \$200,000.00 |

***Board of Selectmen Recommends
Finance Committee Recommends***

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to make changes in grade, take land by purchase or eminent domain, and to settle damages from land taken in conjunction with the Fiscal Year 2025 Highway Program under Chapter 90, and the town road improvement program, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to grant to the Board of Selectmen the authority to obtain whatever parcels or easements as necessary, to make changes in grade, take land by purchase or eminent domain and to settle damages from land taken in conjunction with highway maintenance or road or bridge reconstruction projects, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to adjust the eligibility limits for the senior tax exemption available under the provisions of G.L. c.59, §5 clause 41C ½ by reducing from 70 to 65 the requisite age of eligibility, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Act annual reserves in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for the committee administrative expenses, Community Preservation projects and other expenses in the fiscal year 2025, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation, or take any action relative thereto.

Appropriations:

From FY2025 estimated revenues for the CPC Administrative expenses: \$6,900.00

Reserves:

From FY 2025 estimated revenues for Historic Resources: \$13,800.00

From FY 2025 estimated revenues for Community Housing: \$13,800.00

From FY 2025 estimated revenues for Open Space: \$13,800.00

From FY 2025 revenues for budget reserve: \$89,700.00

Community Preservation Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$5,000.00 from CPA Fund Balance Reserved for Open Space and \$57,500.00 from CPA Unreserved/Undesignated Fund Balance, for a total of \$62,500.00, to be expended by the Community Preservation Committee, for the Broad Cove Nature Trail project phase 1, conducted by the Dighton Trails Committee, Project completion and expenditure of funds shall be in accordance with Step 7 of the Town of Dighton Community Preservation Committee's application and guidelines, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$3,500.00 from the CPA Fund Balance Reserved for Historic Resources to be expended by the Community Preservation Committee for the community wide historic properties survey, conducted by the Dighton Historical Commission, to identify ten (10) historical properties in the West Dighton area of Town. Project completion and expenditure of funds shall be in accordance with Step 7 of the Town of Dighton Community Preservation Committee's application and guidelines, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds \$50,000.00 to be deposited into the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds the amount of \$75,000.00 to be combined with pre-existing ATM Article #20 of June 15, 2023 and expended by the Highway Superintendent to fund Main Street reconstruction, repaving, sidewalk construction and related work, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the amount of \$15,000.00 to be expended by the Highway Superintendent to purchase one enclosed trailer and related equipment, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the amount of \$15,000.00 to be expended by the Highway Superintendent to fund drainage upgrades and associated repairs on Old Somerset Avenue, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum not to exceed \$10,000.00 to be expended by the Highway Superintendent to fund bathroom modifications and related repairs at the highway garage, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, the amount of \$45,000.00 to be expended by the Highway Superintendent to fund the first-year payment of a lease/purchase agreement for one excavator and to fund any related equipment, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, the amount of \$8,545.00 to be expended by the Highway Superintendent for the purchase of a line striping machine and any related accessories, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to re-appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 from Special Article Account #010-2-122-0000-22-5301, Point-of-Sale System, initially approved for the purchase of a Point-of-Sale System for the Transfer Station, in Article 11 of the Special Town Meeting on November 1, 2022, to be expended by the Highway Superintendent for the purchase of security cameras at the Transfer Station (865 Tremont Street) and the Highway Department Garage (2011 County Street) and any related accessories, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends
Finance Committee Recommends***

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from PEG Access & Cable Related Fund Account #240-330-698-3300-3022-40 the amount of \$40,000.00 to be expended by the Cable Committee to upgrade the Channel 9 broadcast server by replacement, purchase and installation of live stream equipment for mobile use and in Dighton Public School locations and any related equipment, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from PEG Access
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from PEG Access***

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the amount of \$6,300.00 to be expended by the Town Clerk for the purchase of poll pads and any related accessories, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds an amount not to exceed \$32,500.00 for the purposes of reimbursing the actual cost, upon completion and inspection, up to the appropriation of the following FY25 Capital Improvement Plan items as submitted by the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District.

Item #1: Phone system upgrade to make current system compliant with e911 capabilities for Dighton Middle School, Dighton Elementary School and proportionate share of Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School,

or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Available Funds
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Available Funds***

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the amount of \$85,000.00 to be expended by the Police Chief for one fully equipped police vehicle including computer, firearm (Patrol Rifle), radio, antenna and any accessories relative thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$15,000.00 to be expended by the Conservation Commission for legal and related expenses of litigation and administrative appeals in which the Conservation Commission, the Town of Dighton and/or relevant town officials are parties, or take any other action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Transfer from Free Cash
Finance Committee Recommends Transfer from Free Cash***

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to accept a proposed Police Chief Hiring Process Bylaw, to be inserted as a new section under Article IV of the General Bylaws, as follows:

Chief of Police; Vacancies

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 97A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Town of Dighton will have a Chief of Police.

The Chief of Police shall serve for a term not to exceed three years, as per Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41 Section 97A. The incumbent may be reappointed as many times as the Board of Selectmen determines. The Chief of Police of the Town of Dighton **shall be** selected from within the active ranks of the Dighton Police Department. The minimum qualifications include having attained or currently enrolled in attaining an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement Public Administration or related field, and 10 years' experience, no less than five, of which must be in a progressively responsible management or supervisory position.

In the absence of three qualified applicants from the supervisor ranks, or for reasons approved by the majority of the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Selectmen may include in the selection process any qualified Dighton Police Candidate. The Police Chief position shall only be posted externally in the instance of the Town receiving fewer than three internal, qualified applications from the Ranks of the Dighton Police Department. An external posting for police Chief shall be subject to the approval of the

Board of Selectmen. Approvals by the Board of Selectmen shall require a majority vote.

A screening committee will be used to conduct interviews. Screening committees are subject to Open Meeting Law and interviews must be conducted at a duly posted meeting in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A. The screening committee shall submit no fewer than two candidates to be interviewed by the Board of Selectmen in a public meeting. No member of the Board of Selectmen or the Town Administrator shall be a member of the screening committee. Excluding finalists, all applications for the Chief of Police shall be submitted in confidence.

The appointment of the Chief of Police shall be made by the Board of Selectman from the qualified candidates.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will adopt a new Deputy Chief of Police hiring process Bylaw, to be inserted as a new section under Article IV of the General Bylaws as follows:

Deputy Chief of Police; Establishment/Vacancies

The Board of Selectmen shall have the power to appoint a Deputy Chief of Police. The Deputy Chief of Police shall act as the Chief of the Police in their absence.

The Deputy Chief of Police **shall be selected** from within the active ranks of the Dighton Police Department. The minimum qualifications include having attained or currently enrolled in attaining an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement Public Administration and 8 years' experience, no less than three of which must be in a progressively responsible management or supervisory position.

In the absence of three qualified applicants from the supervisor ranks, or for just cause, the Board of Selectmen may include in the selection process any qualified Dighton Police Candidate if the Police Chief requests approval from the Board of Selectmen to consider for selection of additional qualified candidates. Such approval shall require a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen. The Deputy Chief of Police shall only be posted externally in the instance of the Town receiving fewer than three internal, qualified applications from the Ranks of the Dighton Police Department.

A screening committee will be used to conduct interviews. Screening committees are subject to Open Meeting Law and interviews must be conducted at a duly posted meeting in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A. The screening committee shall be assembled by the Chief of Police and appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The screening committee shall submit no fewer than two candidates to be interviewed by the Board of

Selectmen in a public meeting. The Screening Committee shall have the ability to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. No member of the Board of Selectmen or the Town Administrator shall be a member of the screening committee. Excluding finalists, all applications for the Chief of Police shall be submitted in confidence.

The appointment of the Deputy Chief of Police shall be made by the Board of Selectmen from the qualified candidates.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article XXXIX of the General Bylaws, Municipal Commission on Disability, at the recommendation of The existing members of said commission, by striking out the existing bylaw language in its entirety and replacing the same as follows:

Article XXXIX. MUNICIPAL COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

CHAPTER 1: ESTABLISHMENT

Commissions on Disability are established by vote of Town Meeting to promote the inclusion and integration of persons with disabilities in the activities, services and employment opportunities or in the community.

Applicable Laws:

- MGL chapter 40 section 8J, gives municipalities the authority to establish commissions;
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires inclusion and integration of persons with disabilities in the programs, services and employment opportunities of organizations and agencies that receive federal money;
- Amendment Article 114 of the Massachusetts Constitution prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under any service or program within the Commonwealth;
- The regulations of the Architectural Access Board require access in newly built and renovated buildings.

DIGHTON COMMISSION ON DISABILITY

CHAPTER 2: TITLE AND PURPOSE

The name of this commission is the Commission on Disability (hereafter referred to as the Dighton Commission on Disability).

The purpose of the Dighton Commission on Disability is to coordinate or carry out programs in coordination with programs of the Massachusetts Office on Disability in order to bring about full and equal participation in all aspects of life in the Town of Dighton Massachusetts for people with disabilities.

The purpose of these by-laws is to establish principles and

procedures for the governance of this Commission.

CHAPTER 3: POWERS AND DUTIES

- a. Research local problems of people with disabilities.
- b. Coordinate the activities of other local groups organized to meet the needs of people with disabilities.
- c. Review and make recommendations about policies, procedures, services and activities of departments and agencies of the Town of Dighton - as they affect people with disabilities.
- d. Work in cooperation with the departments and agencies of the Town of Dighton, inclusive of the ADA coordinator, to bring about maximum participation of people with disabilities.
- e. Initiate, monitor, and promote legislation at the city, state and federal level which advances the equal status of people with disabilities and ensure that appropriate regulations are adopted and enforced pursuant to such legislation.
- f. Encourage public awareness of disability issues.
- g. Provide information, referral, guidance and advice to individuals, businesses, organizations and public agencies in all matters pertaining to disability.
- h. Recruit and recommend prospective Commission members to the Board of Selectmen, at least one month prior to making recommendations, the Commission shall solicit nominations and ensure that said nominations reflect different disabilities.
- i. File an annual report, which shall be printed in the Town of Dighton report.
- j. Take such action as the Commission considers appropriate to ensure the equal access status of persons with disabilities.
- k. Receive gifts of property, both real and personal in the name of the Town subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen; such gifts are to be managed and controlled by the Commission.

CHAPTER 4: MEMBERSHIP

- a) The Commission shall consist of five members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The majority of members shall consist of people with disabilities. One of the members may be a member of the immediate family of a person with a disability. One member shall be either an elected or appointed official of the Town of Dighton.
- b) The members shall initially serve the following terms:
 - 1) One (1) member shall serve a one-year term.
 - 2) Two (2) members shall serve two-year terms.
 - 3) Two (2) members shall serve three-year terms.
 - 4) After the initial term, all members shall serve three-year terms.
- c) Resignation shall be made by notifying the chairperson in writing.

- d) If any member is absent from three regularly scheduled meetings in any one calendar year, a recommendation shall be made to the Board of Selectmen that they be removed from the Commission, unless any or all absences have been excused for good cause by the chairperson. Good cause shall include, but not limited to: illness, a death in the family, weather, and professional responsibilities.
- e) The Board of Selectmen shall fill any vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment.
- f) Any members of said Commission may, after a public hearing, if so requested, be removed for cause by the appointing authority.
- g) Members shall get the approval of the Commission prior to making statements or joining activities on behalf of the Commission.
- h) All members shall have full voting rights.

CHAPTER 5: OFFICERS

- a) The officers shall include a chairperson, vice chairperson and a secretary.
- b) Officers shall be elected annually by the majority vote of the Commission.
- c) One member may hold more than one office.

DUTIES

The chairperson shall:

- a) Develop the agenda in coordination with the other officers;
- b) Preside over all meetings;
- c) Appoint subcommittees as needed.
- d) Authorize expenditures as needed.

The vice chairperson shall perform all the functions of the chairperson.

The secretary shall:

- a) Keep records of all meetings attendance, minutes, and correspondence.
- b) Post notice of all meetings forty-eight (48) hours before each meeting at the Town Clerk's office;

- c) Provide notice of meetings and minutes of the prior meeting to the members in compliance with the Open Meeting Law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

CHAPTER 6: MEETINGS

- a) Regular meetings shall be held at least six (6) times a year.
- b) A quorum shall consist of three (3) members.
- c) Meeting minutes will be amended and approved at the next meeting.
- d) Special meetings can be called by the chairperson or by any three (3) members.
- e) Decisions will be made by a majority of those members present, unless where otherwise noted in these by-laws.
- f) Notice of meetings will be sent to the members in compliance with the Open Meeting Law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- g) Meetings shall adhere to Robert's Rule of Order.

(Special Town Meeting November 01, 2021)

CHAPTER 7: AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended at any duly constituted meeting of the Commission by two consecutive meetings with two-thirds vote of those members present provided written notice of the proposed amendment is distributed to each member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. All amendments proposed and passed by a two-thirds vote of the commission shall also require the amendment be placed on the warrant for an annual or special town meeting. A passing vote of the quorum present at an annual or special town meeting shall be required for the by-law amendment to be adopted by the Town of Dighton.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to amend paragraph (a) of the LICENSES & PERMITS OF DELINQUENT TAXPAYERS bylaw by revising it to provide as follows, with underlined language to be inserted and words with strikethroughs to be deleted:

The tax collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessments, betterments and other municipal charges, hereinafter referred to as the tax collector, shall annually, OR MORE OFTEN AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE TAX COLLECTOR, furnish OR MAKE ELECTRONICALLY AVAILABLE to each department, board, commission or division, hereinafter referred to as the licensing authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation, or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges for not less than a twelve-month 60 DAY period, and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or a pending petition before the appellate tax board.

or take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article XV of the General Bylaws, Parking Regulations, as follows:

Article XV, Section 3 Prohibited Parking, Starting with "B"

No person shall park a motor vehicle on any street between the hours of 12 Midnight and 6:00 a.m., on any street from November 1st of each year to April 1st of the following year.

No person shall park a vehicle on any of the following streets at any time.

- A. SPRING STREET, both sides, from Summer Street to Lincoln Ave.
- B. ~~PARK STREET, on south side between Spring Street and Mt. Hope Street~~
- B. CEDAR STREET, both sides, from Purchase Street to Smith Street.
- C. WILLIAMS STREET, both sides, from Taunton City Line to Wheeler Street.
- D. WILLIAMS STREET, No parking on both sides of the road within 200' of all intersections, also 200' on both sides of the following intersecting roads to Williams Street: Wheeler, Tremont, Maple, Horton, Center, Wellington, Main, Cedar & Old Williams Streets.

(STM 07/30/1984)

~~No person shall park a vehicle on any of the following street, between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.~~

- A. ~~ANDREWS STREET~~
- B. ~~BEDFORD STREET~~
- C. ~~MT. HOPE STREET~~
- D. ~~(REPEALED atm 06/01/2015) PEARL STREET~~
- E. ~~PROSPECT STREET, between Mt. Hope Street & Summer Street~~

(Amended ATM 06/01/2015)

Except in spaces on the east side of Pearl Street immediate to the west front of St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church, designated by a yellow painted curb, which the Chief of Police shall have authorized to be reserved during masses for parishioner parking by conspicuous placing of temporary "Church Parking Only" sign/safety cones, no person shall park a vehicle on Pearl Street between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. There shall be no parking anywhere on Pearl Street if a parking ban is imposed for snow removal or any other public safety emergency" or act thereon.

(ATM 06/01/2015)

Section #4 THREE HOUR PARKING

~~No person shall park a vehicle for more than three hours on the north side of Park Street from Spring Street to Mt. Hope Street~~

Propose to eliminate Three-hour parking and description. Leave "Section #4" blank for future use.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 45 as amended by Chapter 8 of the Acts of 2021, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement with MA CS Dighton LLC., a limited liability company with a principal place of business at 100 California Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California or its assigns for a period of Twenty (20) years, and to approve said agreement under which MA CS Dighton LLC., with a principal place of business at 100 California Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, California, or its assigns will pay the Town a sum of money per year relative to a parcel of land containing 14.89 acres located at 1420 Williams Street, Dighton, MA 02715, more particularly shown on Assessor's Map 11, Lot 9 and a parcel of land containing 9.73 acres located at 1522 Williams Street, Dighton, more particularly shown on Assessor's Map 11, Lot 8.1, related to the construction and operation of a Photovoltaic solar facility with an expected nameplate total capacity of approximately 3.75 megawatts ("MW"), alternating current ("AC") said Tax Agreement on file in the Town Clerk's office, or take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5. Clause 45 as amended by Chapter 8 of the Acts of 2021, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement with ISM Solar Dighton 2, LLC with a principal place of business at 180 Harbor Drive, Suite 217, Sausalito, CA 94965, or its assigns for a period of twenty (20) years, and to approve said agreement under which ISM Solar Dighton 2, LLC, with a principal place of business at 180 Harbor Drive, Suite 217, Sausalito, CA 94965, or its assigns will pay the Town a sum of money per year relative to a 11.64 +/- acre parcel of land located at 2320 Williams Street, Map 18, Lot 9, related to the construction and operation of a Photovoltaic solar facility with an expected nameplate capacity of approximately 2.0 megawatts ("MW"), alternating current ("AC") said Tax Agreement on file in the Town Clerk's office, or take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen Recommends

ARTICLE 37. CITIZENS PETITION

To see if the town will vote "To repeal Section 3 of Article IV of the General Town Bylaws of the Town of Dighton, Massachusetts. This will eliminate the position of Town Administrator."

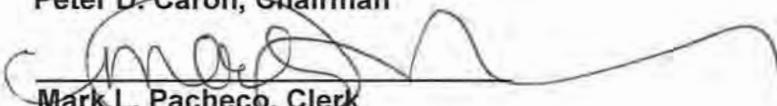
ARTICLE 38. To act upon any other business that lawfully may be introduced at said meeting. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

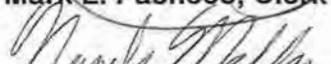
Board of Selectmen Recommends

Given under our hands this _____ day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-four, and of the independence of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the two hundred and forty eighth.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Peter D. Caron, Chairman

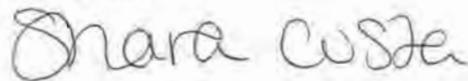

Mark L. Pacheco, Clerk


Nicole L. Mello, Member

A true copy

Attest:

TOWN CLERK



Posted as directed:

CONSTABLE



Date:

5-23-24

Town of Dighton



RETURN OF SERVICE

I have served this Warrant for the June 10, 2024 Dighton Annual Town Meeting by posting attested copies in the vestibule of Dighton Town Hall, North Dighton Post Office, Dighton Post Office, Dighton Water District - Williams Street, Dighton Fire Station and 207 Main Street on Thursday, May 23, 2024 at least seven days before the date set for the Annual Town Meeting

Michael Thibodeau

Constable

Date: 5-23-24

IMPORTANT UPDATE

Transfer Station Sticker Fee and Rate Changes

Please be advised that increases in the Transfer Station Sticker Fee and Rates take effect on July 1, 2024 per approval of the Board of Selectmen.

New Fiscal Year 2025 stickers are available for a cost of \$30.00 which will be in effect from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

Residents who have purchased a Calendar Year 2024 sticker will be assessed an additional \$15 for an updated Fiscal Year 2025 sticker for use of the Transfer Station after July 1, 2024. A mailing will be going out to current sticker holders and additional town outreach is planned.

Due to significant cost increases being incurred by the Town, the Transfer Station will no longer accept trailer loads or truck loads of miscellaneous and/or demolition debris as of and after July 1, 2024. Yard waste will continue to be accepted for transfer station sticker holders.

Please find the accompanying updated Transfer Station Fee Rate Schedule as most recently approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Effective 7/1/24

CURRENT TRANSFER STATION RATES

DIGHTON RESIDENTIAL USE ONLY * ONLY ITEMS ORIGINATED FROM DIGHTON
774-872-0103 or 774-218-5339 - *Emergency or After hours*

Hours of Operation: Friday 9:00 am - 11:00 am Saturday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

One-year sticker to transfer station \$30.00 (**Must be affixed to the vehicle**) (plus fees for disposal)

One day pass to transfer station \$15.00 (plus fees for disposal)

A Proof of Residency Is Required w/License, Registration or Utility Bill

Unauthorized Use \$1,000 fine

Unacceptable Waste

Propane tanks, Lead-acid batteries, Paints, Oils, Barrels, Cement blocks, Bricks, Blacktop,
Sheet rock, Roofing material, Automotive seats, Gas tanks, Transmissions,
Tree butts, Trunks, and Stumps

All Hazardous Materials are Banned

GENERATED COMMON HOUSEHOLD WASTE IS UNACCEPTABLE
NO CURBSIDE BAGS

Fees for Disposal per Item

| | | | | | |
|------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------|
| Air Conditioner | \$ 30.00 | Laptop | \$ 10.00 | Stove | \$ 10.00 |
| Barbeque Grill | \$ 10.00 | Love Seat / Recliner | \$ 10.00 | Television-Console | \$ 40.00 |
| Box Spring | \$ 40.00 | Mattress-K, Q, T, D | \$ 40.00 | Television-Tabletop | \$ 20.00 |
| Computer Monitor | \$ 10.00 | Mattress-crib | \$ 20.00 | Tire (Car) | \$ 10.00 |
| Computer Tower | \$ 10.00 | Mattress-rejected | \$ 125.00 | Tire (truck) | \$ 15.00 |
| Desk / Table | \$ 10.00 | Microwave | \$ 10.00 | Tire (tractor) | \$ 20.00 |
| Dishwasher | \$ 10.00 | Ottoman | \$ 10.00 | Toilet or Sink | \$ 10.00 |
| Dryer | \$ 15.00 | Refrigerator* | \$ 30.00 | Washer | \$ 15.00 |
| DVD Player | \$ 10.00 | Rigid Plastic | \$ 10.00 | Water Heater | \$ 15.00 |
| File Cabinet | \$ 10.00 | Sectional Couch | \$ 40.00 | VCR | \$ 10.00 |
| | | Sofa / Couch | \$ 20.00 | | |

** Refrigerator doors must be removed*

Miscellaneous Items may be accepted at the discretion of the Attendant

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Miscellaneous Metals – Full Load | \$50.00 |
| Miscellaneous Metals – Partial Load | \$10.00 |

Residential Yard Waste / Recyclables

Free disposal with sticker

Textiles & Books

Free disposal with sticker

Prices are subject to change without notice

Town of Dighton
Dighton, Massachusetts 02715

PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. Postage Paid
Taunton, MA
Permit No. 612

Important
Official Notice of:
2024 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

***** **ECRWSS *******
Residential Customer
Dighton, MA 02715

*Please bring this Warrant with you to the
Annual Town Meeting*

*Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School Auditorium
2700 Regional Road
North Dighton, MA 02764
Monday, June 10, 2024*