



## Town of Dighton

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

#### Warrant

June 6, 2022

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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 sixth day of June, 2022 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 \$6,914.15 to pay prior year bills, or take any other action relative thereto.

Prior Years Bills	Department	Funding Source
National Security	Board of Selectmen	\$5,123.70
National Security	Board of Selectmen	\$275.00
National Security	Board of Selectmen	\$425.00
Taunton Yacht Club	Harbormaster	\$182.60
Napa	Police Department	\$22.85
Thompson Reuters	Police Department	\$295.00
Thompson Reuters	Police Department	\$295.00
Thompson Reuters	Police Department	\$295.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$6,914.15</b>

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Raise & Appropriate***  
Finance Committee Recommends Raise & Appropriate

**ARTICLE 4.** To act relative to establishing the salaries of Town Officials for Fiscal Year 2023 in accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, or act thereon.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS	FY23 DEPARTMENT REQUEST	BOS RECOMMENDATION	FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
Chairman	\$5,000.00	\$4,855.44	\$4,855.44
Members (2) Each	\$10,000.00	\$9,710.88	\$9,710.88
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$14,566.32</b>	<b>\$14,566.32</b>
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	FY23 DEPARTMENT REQUEST	BOS RECOMMENDATION	FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
Chairman	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Member	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Member	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>
<b>TREE WARDEN</b>	<b>\$263.82</b>	<b>\$263.82</b>	<b>\$263.82</b>
<b>MODERATOR</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	<b>\$75,000.00</b>	<b>\$73,000.00</b>	<b>\$73,000.00</b>
<b>TOWN COLLECTOR</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>
<b>TOWN TREASURER</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>
PLANNING BOARD	FY23 DEPARTMENT REQUEST	BOS RECOMMENDATION	FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
Chairman	\$2,250.00	\$ 2,239.06	\$2,195.16
Members (2) Each	\$9,000.15	\$8,956.25	\$8,780.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,250.15</b>	<b>\$11,195.31</b>	<b>\$10,975.80</b>
SEWER COMMISSIONERS	FY23 DEPARTMENT REQUEST	BOS RECOMMENDATION	FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
Chairman	\$3,294.60	\$3,294.60	\$3,294.60
Members (2) Each	\$4,372.72	\$4,372.72	\$4,372.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,667.32</b>	<b>\$7,667.32</b>	<b>\$7,667.32</b>

**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 2023**

#	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
	<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>				
113	<b>TOWN MEETING</b>				
	Personnel	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,700.00
	Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>
114	<b>MODERATOR</b>				
	Personnel	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
122	<b>BOARD OF SELECTMEN</b>				
	Personnel	\$99,118.77	\$99,392.80	\$99,392.80	\$99,392.80
	Expenses	\$78,550.00	\$77,050.00	\$77,050.00	\$77,050.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$177,668.77</b>	<b>\$176,442.80</b>	<b>\$176,442.80</b>	<b>\$176,442.80</b>
124	<b>TOWN ADMINISTRATOR</b>				
	Personnel	\$157,690.77	\$160,700.00	\$160,700.00	\$160,700.00
	Expenses	\$9,410.00	\$9,560.00	\$9,560.00	\$9,560.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$167,100.77</b>	<b>\$170,260.00</b>	<b>\$170,260.00</b>	<b>\$170,260.00</b>
131	<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>				
	Personnel	\$3,595.00	\$3,595.00	\$3,595.00	\$3,595.00
	Expenses	\$700.00	\$405.00	\$405.00	\$405.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$4,295.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>
132	<b>RESERVE FUND</b>				
	Expenses	\$42,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$42,000.00</b>	<b>\$55,000.00</b>	<b>\$55,000.00</b>	<b>\$55,000.00</b>
135	<b>TOWN ACCOUNTANT</b>				
	Personnel	\$122,073.65	\$139,382.48	\$139,382.48	\$139,382.48
	Expenses	\$41,240.00	\$27,150.00	\$27,150.00	\$27,150.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$163,313.65</b>	<b>\$166,532.48</b>	<b>\$166,532.48</b>	<b>\$166,532.48</b>
141	<b>BOARD OF ASSESSORS</b>				
	Personnel	\$204,763.02	\$191,545.60	\$191,111.92	\$191,111.92
	Expenses	\$25,050.00	\$27,750.00	\$27,550.00	\$27,550.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$229,813.02</b>	<b>\$219,295.60</b>	<b>\$218,661.92</b>	<b>\$218,661.92</b>
145	<b>TOWN TREASURER</b>				
	Personnel	\$91,222.81	\$77,625.80	\$77,625.80	\$77,625.80
	Expenses	\$36,325.00	\$40,325.00	\$39,700.00	\$39,700.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$127,547.81</b>	<b>\$117,950.80</b>	<b>\$117,325.80</b>	<b>\$117,325.80</b>

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET**  
**For the Fiscal Year 2023**

#	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
<b>146</b>	<b>TOWN COLLECTOR</b>	\$92,322.81	\$77,725.80	\$77,725.80	\$77,725.80
	Personnel	\$21,525.00	\$26,525.00	\$25,600.00	\$25,600.00
	Expenses	<b>\$113,847.81</b>	<b>\$104,250.80</b>	<b>103,325.80</b>	<b>\$103,325.80</b>
<b>151</b>	<b>TOWN COUNSEL</b>				
	Expenses	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>
<b>155</b>	<b>DATA PROCESSING</b>				
	Expenses	\$66,706.28	\$71,706.28	\$71,706.28	\$71,706.28
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$66,706.28</b>	<b>\$71,706.28</b>	<b>\$71,706.28</b>	<b>\$71,706.28</b>
<b>158</b>	<b>TAX TITLE FORECLOSURE</b>				
	Expenses	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>161</b>	<b>TOWN CLERK</b>				
	Personnel	\$132,559.60	\$143,504.20	\$141,504.20	\$141,504.20
	Expenses	\$6,550.00	\$9,450.00	\$9,450.00	\$9,450.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$139,109.60</b>	<b>\$152,954.20</b>	<b>\$150,954.20</b>	<b>\$150,954.20</b>
<b>162</b>	<b>ELECTIONS</b>				
	Personnel	\$3,900.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
	Expenses	\$8,600.00	\$15,900.00	\$15,900.00	\$15,900.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$12,500.00</b>	<b>\$33,900.00</b>	<b>\$33,900.00</b>	<b>\$33,900.00</b>
<b>163</b>	<b>REGISTRATION</b>				
	Personnel	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
	Expenses	\$4,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00	\$5,100.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$4,700.00</b>	<b>\$5,700.00</b>	<b>\$5,700.00</b>	<b>\$5,700.00</b>
<b>171</b>	<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>				
	Personnel	\$57,520.00	\$59,198.00	\$59,198.00	\$59,198.00
	Expenses	\$13,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$71,020.00</b>	<b>\$63,198.00</b>	<b>\$63,198.00</b>	<b>\$63,198.00</b>
<b>174</b>	<b>DIGHTON TRAILS COMMITTEE</b>				
	Expenses	\$2,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>
<b>175</b>	<b>PLANNING BOARD</b>				
	Personnel	\$42,928.53	\$43,819.75	\$43,764.92	\$43,545.40
	Expenses	\$18,264.55	\$18,503.97	\$18,503.97	\$18,503.97
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$61,193.08</b>	<b>\$62,323.72</b>	<b>\$62,268.89</b>	<b>\$62,049.37</b>

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET**  
**For the Fiscal Year 2023**

Number	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
176	<b>BOARD OF APPEALS</b>				
	Personnel	\$28,611.15	\$29,022.40	\$29,022.40	\$29,022.40
	Expenses	\$11,950.00	\$11,950.00	\$11,950.00	\$11,950.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$40,561.15</b>	<b>\$40,972.40</b>	<b>\$40,972.40</b>	<b>\$40,972.40</b>
179	<b>AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION</b>				
	Expenses	\$1,695.00	\$2,695.00	\$2,695.00	\$2,695.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$1,695.00</b>	<b>\$2,695.00</b>	<b>\$2,695.00</b>	<b>\$2,695.00</b>
189	<b>DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION</b>				
	Expenses	-0-	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
192	<b>PUBLIC BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE</b>				
	Expenses	\$189,100.00	\$187,740.00	\$187,740.00	\$187,740.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$189,100.00</b>	<b>\$187,740.00</b>	<b>\$187,740.00</b>	<b>\$187,740.00</b>
193	<b>BUILDING INSURANCE</b>				
	Expenses	\$45,000.00	\$46,000.00	\$46,000.00	\$45,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$46,000.00</b>	<b>\$46,000.00</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>
195	<b>TOWN REPORTS</b>				
	Expenses	\$2,000.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>\$1,715,871.94</b>	<b>\$1,740,922.08</b>	<b>\$1,736,183.57</b>	<b>\$1,734,964.05</b>
	<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>				
210	<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>				
	Personnel	\$1,642,218.49	\$1,747,665.99	\$1,732,576.03	\$1,732,576.03
	Expenses	\$161,500.00	\$177,500.00	\$172,500.00	\$172,500.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$1,803,718.49</b>	<b>\$1,925,165.99</b>	<b>\$1,905,076.03</b>	<b>\$1,905,076.03</b>
215	<b>COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT</b>				
	Personnel	\$359,996.13	\$361,995.45	\$361,995.45	\$361,995.45
	Expenses	\$30,950.00	\$32,020.00	\$32,020.00	\$32,020.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$390,946.13</b>	<b>\$394,015.45</b>	<b>\$394,015.45</b>	<b>\$394,015.45</b>
220	<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>				
	Personnel	\$650,946.60	\$668,526.77	\$668,526.77	\$668,526.77
	Expenses	\$99,802.00	\$101,552.00	\$101,552.00	\$101,552.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$750,748.60</b>	<b>\$770,078.77</b>	<b>\$770,078.77</b>	<b>\$770,078.77</b>

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET**  
**For the Fiscal Year 2023**

#	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
231	<b>AMBULANCE SERVICES</b>				
	Personnel	\$658,911.43	\$677,491.59	\$677,491.59	\$677,491.59
	Expenses	\$130,050.00	\$130,050.00	\$130,050.00	\$130,050.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$788,961.43</b>	<b>\$807,541.59</b>	<b>\$807,541.59</b>	<b>\$807,541.59</b>
241	<b>BUILDING INSPECTION</b>				
	Personnel	\$131,248.38	\$133,104.00	\$133,104.00	\$133,104.00
	Expenses	\$38,130.00	\$38,130.00	\$38,130.00	\$38,130.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$169,378.38</b>	<b>\$171,234.00</b>	<b>\$171,234.00</b>	<b>\$171,234.00</b>
242	<b>GAS INSPECTION</b>				
	Personnel	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
243	<b>PLUMBING INSPECTION</b>				
	Personnel	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
244	<b>WEIGHTS AND MEASURES</b>				
	Personnel	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
	Expenses	\$370.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$1,570.00</b>	<b>\$1,400.00</b>	<b>\$1,400.00</b>	<b>\$1,400.00</b>
245	<b>ELECTRICAL INSPECTION</b>				
	Personnel	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>
292	<b>ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER</b>				
	Personnel	\$23,558.40	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00
	Expenses	\$10,000.00	\$10,750.00	\$10,750.00	\$10,750.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$33,558.40</b>	<b>\$55,750.00</b>	<b>\$55,750.00</b>	<b>\$55,750.00</b>
294	<b>FORESTRY</b>				
	Personnel	\$263.82	\$263.82	\$263.82	\$263.82
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$263.82</b>	<b>\$263.82</b>	<b>\$263.82</b>	<b>\$263.82</b>
295	<b>HARBORMASTER</b>				
	Personnel	\$2,500.00	\$2,653.01	\$2,040.00	\$2,000.00
	Expenses	\$5,800.00	\$11,800.00	\$11,800.00	\$7,800.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$8,300.00</b>	<b>\$14,453.01</b>	<b>\$13,840.00</b>	<b>\$9,800.00</b>
299	<b>EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE</b>				
	Expenses	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET**  
**For the Fiscal Year 2023**

#	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
	<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$3,991,945.25</b>	<b>\$4,184,402.63</b>	<b>\$4,163,699.66</b>	<b>\$4,159,659.66</b>
	<b>EDUCATION</b>				
300	<b>DIGHTON-REHOBOTH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL</b>				
	Capital	\$375,616.00	\$375,616.00	\$375,616.00	\$375,616.00
	Operating	\$10,993,641.00	\$10,993,641.00	\$10,993,641.00	\$10,993,641.00
		<b>\$11,090,846.00</b>	<b>\$11,369,257.00</b>	<b>\$11,369,257.00</b>	<b>\$11,369,257.00</b>
	<b>BRISTOL COUNTY AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL</b>				
	Capital	\$95,674.56	\$95,674.56	\$95,674.56	\$95,674.56
	Assessment	\$51,472.00	\$51,472.00	\$51,472.00	\$51,472.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$101,000.76</b>	<b>\$147,146.56</b>	<b>\$147,146.56</b>	<b>\$147,146.56</b>
	<b>BRISTOL-PLYMOUTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL</b>				
	Expenses	\$1,060,859.00	\$1,081,809.00	\$1,081,809.00	\$1,081,809.00
	<b>TOTAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>\$12,252,705.76</b>	<b>\$12,598,212.56</b>	<b>\$12,598,212.56</b>	<b>\$12,598,212.56</b>
	<b>HIGHWAY</b>				
422	<b>HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE</b>				
	Personnel	\$618,597.73	\$618,004.30	\$618,004.30	\$618,004.30
	Expenses	\$164,700.00	\$162,150.00	\$162,150.00	\$162,150.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$783,297.73</b>	<b>\$780,154.30</b>	<b>\$780,154.30</b>	<b>\$780,154.30</b>
423	<b>SNOW AND ICE CONTROL</b>				
	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
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
429	<b>DIGHTON-BERKLEY BRISGE</b>				
	Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>
432	<b>STREET CLEANING/STORMWATER</b>				
	Personnel	\$127,695.43	\$57,748.10	\$57,748.10	\$57,748.10
	Expenses	\$102,160.00	\$102,160.00	\$102,160.00	\$102,160.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$229,855.43</b>	<b>\$159,908.10</b>	<b>\$159,908.10</b>	<b>\$159,908.10</b>
	<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY</b>	<b>\$1,064,653.16</b>	<b>\$991,562.40</b>	<b>\$991,562.40</b>	<b>\$991,562.40</b>
	<b>SANITATION</b>				
433	<b>WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL</b>				
	Personnel	\$9,226.77	\$9,240.66	\$9,240.66	\$9,240.66
	Expenses	\$730,041.54	\$844,026.00	\$838,026.00	\$838,026.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$739,268.31</b>	<b>\$853,266.66</b>	<b>\$847,266.66</b>	<b>\$847,266.66</b>
	<b>TOTAL SANITATION</b>	<b>\$739,268.31</b>	<b>\$853,266.66</b>	<b>\$847,266.66</b>	<b>\$847,266.66</b>

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET**  
**For the Fiscal Year 2023**

#	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
<b>491</b>	<b>OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL</b>				
	<b>CEMETERY</b>				
	Expenses	\$19,700.00	\$24,700.00	\$24,700.00	\$24,700.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$19,700.00</b>	<b>\$24,700.00</b>	<b>\$24,700.00</b>	<b>\$24,700.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL</b>	<b>\$19,700.00</b>	<b>\$24,700.00</b>	<b>\$24,700.00</b>	<b>\$24,700.00</b>
<b>510</b>	<b>HUMAN SERVICES</b>				
	<b>BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS AND INSPECTIONS</b>				
	Personnel	\$73,364.14	\$80,794.88	\$76,936.40	\$76,936.40
	Expenses	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$74,864.14</b>	<b>\$82,294.88</b>	<b>\$78,436.40</b>	<b>\$78,436.40</b>
<b>519</b>	<b>BOARD OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION</b>				
	Personnel	\$74,186.25	\$75,137.85	\$74,806.00	\$74,527.00
	Expenses	\$4,900.00	\$4,900.00	\$4,900.00	\$4,900.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$79,086.25</b>	<b>\$80,037.85</b>	<b>\$79,706.00</b>	<b>\$79,427.00</b>
<b>541</b>	<b>COUNCIL ON AGING</b>				
	Personnel	\$85,434.60	\$96,537.08	\$96,037.00	\$96,037.00
	Expenses	\$16,225.00	\$19,625.00	\$19,625.00	\$19,625.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$101,659.60</b>	<b>\$116,162.08</b>	<b>\$115,662.00</b>	<b>\$115,662.00</b>
<b>542</b>	<b>PRIME TIME</b>				
	Personnel	\$77,154.71	\$92,763.41	\$92,763.41	\$92,763.41
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$77,154.71</b>	<b>\$92,763.41</b>	<b>\$92,763.41</b>	<b>\$92,763.41</b>
<b>543</b>	<b>VETERANS' SERVICES</b>				
	Personnel	\$41,144.76	\$41,782.00	\$41,782.00	\$41,782.00
	Expenses	\$85,825.00	\$86,825.00	\$76,825.00	\$76,825.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$126,969.76</b>	<b>\$128,607.00</b>	<b>\$118,607.00</b>	<b>\$118,607.00</b>
<b>549</b>	<b>COMMISSION ON DISABILITY</b>				
	Personnel	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
	Expenses	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>\$464,734.46</b>	<b>\$505,365.22</b>	<b>\$490,174.81</b>	<b>\$489,895.81</b>
<b>610</b>	<b>CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>				
	<b>PUBLIC LIBRARY</b>				
	Personnel	\$200,356.06	\$229,685.10	\$227,930.10	\$227,930.10
	Expenses	\$71,374.00	\$72,000.00	\$72,000.00	\$72,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$271,730.06</b>	<b>\$301,685.10</b>	<b>\$299,930.10</b>	<b>\$299,930.10</b>
<b>630</b>	<b>PARKS AND RECREATION</b>				
	Expenses	\$20,700.00	\$20,700.00	\$20,200.00	\$20,200.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$20,700.00</b>	<b>\$20,700.00</b>	<b>\$20,200.00</b>	<b>\$20,200.00</b>

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET**  
**For the Fiscal Year 2023**

#	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
<b>691</b>	<b>TOWN HISTORIAN</b>				
	Expenses	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>
<b>691</b>	<b>HISTORICAL COMMISSION</b>				
	Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>
<b>698</b>	<b>CABLE COMMISSION</b>				
	Personnel	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
	Expenses	\$12,100.00	\$12,100.00	\$12,100.00	\$12,100.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$32,100.00</b>	<b>\$32,100.00</b>	<b>\$32,100.00</b>	<b>\$32,100.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION</b>	<b>\$325,780.06</b>	<b>\$356,335.10</b>	<b>\$354,080.10</b>	<b>\$354,080.10</b>
	<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>				
<b>710</b>	<b>MATURING PRINCIPAL ON LONG TERM DEBT</b>				
	Expenses	\$241,669.00	\$241,668.00	\$241,668.00	\$241,668.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$241,669.00</b>	<b>\$241,668.00</b>	<b>\$241,668.00</b>	<b>\$241,668.00</b>
<b>751</b>	<b>INTEREST ON LONG TERM DEBT</b>				
	Expenses	\$144,675.00	\$132,925.00	\$132,925.00	\$132,925.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$144,675.00</b>	<b>\$132,925.00</b>	<b>\$132,925.00</b>	<b>\$132,925.00</b>
<b>752</b>	<b>INTEREST ON SHORT TERM DEBT</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>
	<b>TOTAL DEBT SERVICE</b>	<b>\$386,344.00</b>	<b>\$374,593.00</b>	<b>\$374,593.00</b>	<b>\$374,593.00</b>
	<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>				
<b>911</b>	<b>RETIREMENT &amp; PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
	Expenses	\$890,368.00	\$897,957.00	\$897,957.00	\$897,957.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$890,368.00</b>	<b>\$897,957.00</b>	<b>\$897,957.00</b>	<b>\$897,957.00</b>
<b>912</b>	<b>WORKERS COMPENSATION</b>				
	Expenses	\$56,375.00	\$57,000.00	\$57,000.00	\$45,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$56,375.00</b>	<b>\$57,000.00</b>	<b>\$57,000.00</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>
<b>914</b>	<b>GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE</b>				
	Expenses	\$1,215,744.39	\$1,312,436.25	\$1,312,436.25	\$1,312,436.25
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$1,215,744.39</b>	<b>\$1,312,436.25</b>	<b>\$1,312,436.25</b>	<b>\$1,312,436.25</b>
<b>915</b>	<b>GROUP LIFE INSURANCE</b>				
	Expenses	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00	\$950.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$950.00</b>	<b>\$950.00</b>	<b>\$950.00</b>	<b>\$950.00</b>
<b>916</b>	<b>EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS</b>				
	Expenses	\$82,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$84,000.00	\$84,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$82,000.00</b>	<b>\$84,000.00</b>	<b>\$84,000.00</b>	<b>\$84,000.00</b>

**TOWN OF DIGHTON BUDGET**  
**For the Fiscal Year 2023**

#	Department	Current Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year 2023 Request	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By BOS	Fiscal Year 2023 Recommendation By Finance Committee
919	<b>OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)</b>				
	Expenses	-0-	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>\$35,000.00</b>	<b>\$35,000.00</b>	<b>\$35,000.00</b>
920	<b>TUITION</b>				
	Expenses	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$2,257,437.39</b>	<b>\$2,399,343.25</b>	<b>\$2,397,343.25</b>	<b>\$2,385,343.25</b>
	<b>SETTLEMENTS AND COURT JUDGEMENTS</b>				
940	<b>SETTLEMENTS</b>				
	Expenses	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>
941	<b>COURT JUDGEMENTS</b>				
	Expenses	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>
	<b>TOTAL SETTLEMENTS AND COURT JUDGEMENTS</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>	<b>-0-</b>
945	<b>LIABILITY INSURANCE</b>				
	Expenses	\$132,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$135,000.00	\$135,000.00
	<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>\$132,000.00</b>	<b>\$135,000.00</b>	<b>\$135,000.00</b>	<b>\$135,000.00</b>
	<b>TOTAL LIABILITY INSURANCE</b>	<b>\$132,000.00</b>	<b>\$135,000.00</b>	<b>\$135,000.00</b>	<b>\$135,000.00</b>
	<b>GENERAL FUND TOTALS</b>	<b>\$23,350,440.33</b>	<b>\$24,163,702.90</b>	<b>\$24,112,816.01</b>	<b>\$24,095,277.49</b>

**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 maintenance of the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2023, or take any action relative thereto:

Direct Costs		BOS Recommendations	Finance Committee Recommendations
Salaries	\$115,353.90	\$115,353.90	\$115,353.90
Expenses	\$193,850.00	193,850.00	\$193,850.00
Capital Expenses	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>\$21,197.61</b>	<b>\$21,197.61</b>	<b>\$21,197.61</b>

The above appropriations will be funded as follows:

\$300,000.00 through sewer receipts and \$180,401.51 transferred from Sewer Enterprise retained earnings totaling \$480,401.51.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 7.** 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, Section XXXVI.

“Departmental Revolving Funds”, with such limitations for FY23 as follows:

REVOLVING FUND		FY23 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

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to sell at public auction and further allow the Board of Selectmen, to sell through the sealed bid process according to M.G.L, Ch. 30B, Section 16, all properties which the Town has legally acquired by Tax Title, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 2022 in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds from Mass Department of Public Works for Fiscal Year 2023 for the purpose of expending funds for capital improvements of local roads under “Transportation Bond Issue” (Chapter 90) of an amount not less than \$303,883.00 or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen 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 2023 Highway Program under Chapter

90, and the town road improvement program, or take any 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 action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, subject to the approval of the Finance Committee, to dispose of used items returned to them, by sale to highest bidder, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town of Dighton will vote to approve of applying the annual Cost of Living Allowance to MA Department of Revenue local property tax exemption for veterans or surviving spouses under Clauses 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, and 22F, per Section 5 of M.G.L., Chapter 59, Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation annual reserves in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for the committee administrative expenses, Community Preservation projects and other expenses in the fiscal year 2023, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2023 estimated revenues for the Committee Administrative expenses: \$5,000.00

Reserves:

From FY 2023 estimated revenues for Historic Resources: \$12,500.00

From FY 2023 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve: \$12,500.00

From FY 2023 estimated revenues for Open Space: \$12,500.00

From FY 2023 estimated revenues for budget reserve: \$82,500.00

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$25,000.00 from the Historic Resources Reserve to be expended by the Community Preservation Commission for the hiring of a preservation consultant to complete the Dighton Community-Wide Survey Project-Phase II to update the listing of

historic resources in town or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 17.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$50,000.00 from the Historic Resources Reserve as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, to be expended by the Town Clerk for the preservation of eight (8) Vital Record Books, to include restoration, long-term storage of books, book scanning and the production of true copies of said vital records or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 18.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$210,000.00 from the Community Preservation Undesignated Fund Balance, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, to be expended by the Dighton Parks and Recreation Commissioners for construction of the North Dighton Playground and accessible pathway to, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 19.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$106,146.76 to be expended by the Fire Chief as the second payment of a seven-year lease purchase of a new fire engine and any necessary accessories or take any action thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Taking No Action***

**ARTICLE 20.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$50,561.92 to be expended by the Highway Superintendent as the third year lease payment on the 2020 Street Sweeper voted in Article 22 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant of June 15, 2020, or take any action relative thereto.

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

**ARTICLE 21.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the amount of \$325,000.00 to fund the purchase of a new Ambulance or the amount of \$122,000.00 to fund the first year's payment of a 3-year lease purchase of a new ambulance and any necessary accessories relative thereto, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends \$122,000.00 from Ambulance Fund  
Finance Committee Recommends \$122,000.00 from Ambulance Fund***

**ARTICLE 22.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 for the purpose of funding a Fire Station feasibility study with said study to include, but not be limited to, an assessment of building and property needs, Fire Department

operational needs, building and property accessibility requirements, and related issues or actions relative thereto, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Taking No Action***

**ARTICLE 23.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum not to exceed \$12,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing and/or repairing two (2) roll-off containers for use at the transfer station, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Raise & Appropriate  
Finance Committee Recommends Raise & Appropriate***

**ARTICLE 24.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$64,000.00 to be expended by the Police Department for the purchase of one fully equipped police vehicle including computer, firearm (Patrol Rifle), radio, antenna and any accessories relative thereto, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Taking No Action***

**ARTICLE 25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$5,000.00 for seal coating of the Dighton Police Station parking lot and any necessary related needs, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Raise & Appropriate  
Finance Committee Recommends Raise & Appropriate***

**ARTICLE 26.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$63,000.00 to be expended by the Highway Department for the purchase of one (1) 1-ton dump truck with plow and all associated accessories, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Taking No Action***

**ARTICLE 27.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, the sum not to exceed \$43,000.00 to be expended by the Highway Superintendent for the replacement of guardrail in the area of Williams Street and Old Williams Street, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Raise & Appropriate  
Finance Committee Recommends Raise & Appropriate***

**ARTICLE 28.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum not to exceed \$170,000.00 to purchase one (1) dump truck with plow, sander and all associated accessories, or take any action relative thereto.

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

**ARTICLE 29.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the total sum of \$90,750.00 to be expended by the Parks and Recreation Commission to install asphalt parking areas and all associated construction relative to at the School Lane Playground, Lane Field Playground and the Tennis/Basketball Court facilities, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Taking No Action***

**ARTICLE 30.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, the property at 207 Main Street, including the buildings and appurtenances thereon, shown on the Assessor's Map 20, Lot 25, containing a total of 0.8 acres more or less, for the purposes of operating the Dighton Public Library at said location, under such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may determine for the purpose of acquiring said property, or take any action relative thereto.

**Discussion:**

The Article authorizes acquisition in accordance with State Law. To fund the acquisition, the Town will use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the purchase and any incidental related expenses.

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

**ARTICLE 31.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money not to exceed \$150,000.00 to fund Library building exterior and interior renovations and land improvements, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends Capital Stabilization  
Finance Committee Recommends Capital Stabilization***

**ARTICLE 32.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money not to exceed \$150,000 to be expended by the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School district to conduct a needs analysis of the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District's 'Dighton Campus', consisting of the Dighton Elementary School and Dighton Middle School, located at 1250 Somerset Avenue and 1250R Somerset Avenue in Dighton, with said analysis to include, but not be limited to, an assessment of building and property needs, an evaluation of enrollment trends, building and property accessibility requirements, and related issues, or take any action relative thereto.

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

**ARTICLE 33.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any contracts and otherwise undertake any and all action necessary to accept a gift of real estate from the owners of real property located at 0 Rear Silvia Way and identified on the Town of Dighton Assessor's Map as Map 12, Lot 27.A, to be used for Open space and Recreation purposes, contingent upon approval and execution of agreement with PMJD Realty, 49 Silvia Way by, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or appropriate to complete the foregoing acquisition, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 34.** To see if the Town will vote to delete in its entirety Section 4200. Flood Hazard Overlay District and replace with a new Section 4200. Floodplain Overlay District and to see if the Town will vote to amend Zoning Bylaws by modifying and adding the following terms and definitions in proper alphabetical order to SECTION VI. DEFINITIONS, or take any action thereon.

**4200. FLOODPLAIN OVERLAY DISTRICT**

**4210. Purpose.**

The purpose of the Floodplain Overlay District is to:

1. Ensure public safety through reducing the threats to life and personal injury
2. Eliminate new hazards to emergency response officials
3. Prevent the occurrence of public emergencies resulting from water quality, contamination, and pollution due to flooding
4. Avoid the loss of utility services which if damaged by flooding would disrupt or shut down the utility network and impact regions of the community beyond the site of flooding
5. Eliminate costs associated with the response and cleanup of flooding conditions
6. Reduce damage to public and private property resulting from flooding waters

**4220. Location**

The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district. The District includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Dighton designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A99, V, or VE on the Bristol County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) dated July 6, 2021 issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The exact boundaries of the District shall be defined by the 1%-chance base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Bristol County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated July 6, 2021. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board, Building Official and Conservation Commission.

All rules of the underlying district(s) shall remain in full force and effect, except where the requirements of the FHOD are more stringent, in which case such requirements shall supersede those of the underlying district.

4221. In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway date, the building department will obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A and as the basis for elevating residential structures to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating nonresidential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways.

**4230. Floodplain Administrator**

4231. Administrator. The Town of Dighton hereby designates the position of Building Commissioner to the official floodplain administrator for the Town.

**4240. Permitted and Special Permitted Uses.**

The following uses of low flood damage potential which cause no obstructions to flood flows shall be permitted provided they do not require structures, fill or storage of materials or equipment:

- a. Agricultural uses such as farming, grazing, truck farming, horticulture, and the like;
- b. Forestry and nursery uses;
- c. Outdoor recreational uses, including fishing, boating, play areas and the like;
- d. Conservation of water, plants and wildlife;
- e. Wildlife management areas; foot, bicycle and horse paths;
- f. Temporary nonresidential structures used in connection with fishing, growing, harvesting, storage, or sale of crops raised on the premises;
- g. Building lawfully existing prior to the adoption of these provisions.

4241. Permits. The Town of Dighton requires a permit for all proposed construction or other development in the floodplain overlay district, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties.

4242. Permits Obtained. The town's permit review process includes the requirement that the proponent obtain all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the floodplain overlay district. The proponent must acquire all necessary

permits, and must demonstrate that all necessary permits have been acquired.

**4243. Special Permit Uses.** Any use permitted as of right or by special permit in the underlying district(s) may be authorized by special permit in the FHOD by the Board of Appeals. No structure or building shall be erected, constructed, substantially improved, reconstructed, or otherwise created or moved, nor shall earth or other materials be dumped, filled, excavated, or transferred within the FHOD, except upon the issuance of a special permit. Such special permits may be subject to conditions to ensure that the purposes of this §4200 are promoted, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. The proposed use shall comply in all respects with the provisions of the underlying district in which the land is located;
- b. All encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements to existing structures and other development are prohibited in the FHOD unless certification by a registered professional engineer is provided by the applicant demonstrating that such encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the 100-year flood;
- c. All development, including structural and nonstructural activities, shall comply with the provisions of G. L. c. 131, §40 and the requirements of the State Building Code.

#### 4250. Floodway Encroachment.

In Zones A, A1-30, and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available Federal, State, local, or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in floodways which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

In Zones AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the Bristol County's FIRM encroachments are prohibited, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development within the adopted regulatory floodway unless it has been demonstrated through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment would not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

#### 4260. Subdivisions

**4261. Subdivision Proposals.** All subdivision proposals and development proposals in the floodplain overlay district shall be reviewed to assure that:

- (a) Such proposals minimize flood damage.
- (b) Public utilities and facilities are located & constructed so as to minimize flood damage.
- (c) Adequate drainage is provided.

4262. Base Flood Elevation Data for Subdivision Proposals. When proposing subdivisions or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres (whichever is less), the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the design plans.

4270. Additional Criteria

4271. Recreational Vehicles.

In A, A1-30, AH, AO, AE Zones, V1-30, VE, and V Zones, all recreational vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone's regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180 consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready.

4272. Protection of Dunes

Alteration of sand dunes is prohibited when the alteration would increase potential flood damage.

4273. Watercourse Alterations or Relocations in Riverine Areas

In a riverine situation, the Building Commissioner shall notify the following of any alteration or relocation of a watercourse:

- Adjacent Communities, especially upstream and downstream Bordering States, if affected  
NFIP State Coordinator
- Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
- 251 Causeway Street, 8th floor, Boston, MA 02114  
NFIP Program Specialist
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I
- 99 High Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110

4274. Requirement to Submit New Technical Data

If the Town/City acquires data that changes the base flood elevation in the FEMA mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas, the Town/City will, within 6 months, notify FEMA of these changes by submitting the technical or scientific data that supports the change(s.) Notification shall be submitted to:

- NFIP State Coordinator  
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation  
251 Causeway Street, 8th floor, Boston, MA 02114
- NFIP Program Specialist  
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region I  
99 High Street, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02110

4275. Variances to Building Code Floodplain Standards.

The Town of Dighton will request from the State Building Code Appeals Board a written and/or audible copy of the portion of the hearing related to the variance, and will maintain this record in the community's files.

The Town of Dighton shall also issue a letter to the property owner regarding potential impacts to the annual premiums for the flood insurance policy covering that property, in writing over the signature of a community official that (i) the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the base flood level will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance up to amounts as high as \$25 for \$100 of insurance coverage and (ii) such construction below the base flood level increases risks to life and property.

Such notification shall be maintained with the record of all variance actions for the referenced development in the floodplain overlay district

**4276. Variances to Local Zoning Bylaws Related to Community Compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).**

A variance from these floodplain bylaws must meet the requirements set out by State law, and may only be granted if: 1) Good and sufficient cause and exceptional non-financial hardship exist; 2) the variance will not result in additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, or fraud or victimization of the public; and 3) the variance is the minimum action necessary to afford relief.

**4280. Disclaimer and Severability**

**4281. Disclaimer of Liability.** The degree of flood protection required by this bylaw is considered reasonable but does not imply total flood protection.

**4282. Severability Section.** If any section, provision or portion of this bylaw is deemed to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court, the remainder of the ordinance shall be effective.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Development:** Means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to building or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

**Floodway:** The channel of the river, creek or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

**Functionally Dependent Use:** Means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59] Also [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]

**Highest Adjacent Grade:** Means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure. [US

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

Historic Structure: Means any structure that is:

- (a) Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (b) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
- (c) Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (d) Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

New Construction: Structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management code, regulation, ordinance, or standard adopted by the authority having jurisdiction, including any subsequent improvements to such structures. New construction includes work determined to be substantial improvement. [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]

Recreational Vehicle: Means a vehicle which is:

- (a) Built on a single chassis;
- (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
- (c) Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (d) Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

Regulatory Floodway: See Floodway.

Special Flood Hazard Area: The land area subject to flood hazards and shown on a Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard map as Zone A, AE, A1-30, A99, AR, AO, AH, V, VO, VE or V1-30. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

Start Of Construction: The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent

construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns.

Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual "start of construction" means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

**Structure:** Means, for floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

**Substantial Repair of A Foundation:** When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 780 CMR. [As amended by MA in 9th Edition BC]

**Variance:** Means a grant of relief by a community from the terms of a flood plain management regulation. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

**Violation:** Means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's flood plain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3 is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

#### ***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 35.** To see if the Town will vote to delete in its entirety Section 5094. Requirements, subsection b. and replace with a new Section 5094. Requirements, subsection b., or take any action thereon.:

## **5090. RETREAT LOTS**

### 5091. Purpose.

The purpose of this section 5090 is to allow the creation of reasonable and safe residential use of backland in a manner which allows for the preservation of the streetscape and rural nature of the town while preserving open – space but enhancing the value of land within the community.

### 5092. Special Permit Granting Authority.

The Planning Board shall be the Special Permit Granting Authority hereunder.

### 5093. Procedure.

The applicant shall file seven (5) copies of the proposed Form A land division plan as well as all other materials required for an application for Special Permit as set forth in section 5300 of this bylaw. At a minimum the Form A shall show:

- a. Property owner
- b. Name of Registered Professional Land Surveyor and stamp
- c. Zoning district
- d. Lot area
- e. Lot dimensions
- f. Regularity factor or buildable area notation
- g. Locus
- h. Notation: "The retreat lot depicted on this Form A shall never be further divided." The plan shall also comply with the standards for Form A plans detailed in the Town of Dighton Subdivision Rules and Regulations and M.G.L. Chapter 41, §81K-GG.

### 5094. Requirements.

A Special Permit shall not be granted unless the Planning Board determines that the following conditions have been met:

- a. Said lot shall be entirely within a residential zoning district.
- b. Said lot shall have a minimum street frontage of forty (40) feet, said line to be measured continuously along a single accepted street or along two (2) intersecting accepted streets if their angle of intersection is greater than one hundred and twenty (120°) degrees, and a width of not less than Twenty (20) feet at all points. The area of said lot shall be 8(+) acres with at least 1 acre being contiguous upland.
- c. A driveway length greater than 100 linear feet shall provide a hammer head or other method of reversing the direction of a vehicle as approved by the Planning Board.
- d. Not more than one single family dwelling shall exist on a single Retreat Lot.

- e. The Retreat Lot shall not be further subdivided. It shall be a condition of the special permit that there is a prohibition against further subdivision. A deed restriction preventing further subdivision (enforceable by the Town of Dighton) shall also be recorded with the plan. No building permit shall issue without proof that the restriction has been recorded.
- f. The following notes shall be placed on the Plan: "The Retreat Lot shown on this plan shall not be further subdivided" and "No building permit shall be issued for the Retreat Lot on this plan until a copy of the recorded deed restriction and special permit is delivered to the Planning Board.
- g. Said lot shall not be further divided. The Form A plan submitted to the Planning Board for endorsement after grant of the special permit pursuant to this section. Prior to granting of the special permit, the proponent shall provide a covenant, in a form acceptable to the Planning Board, prohibiting further division of said retreat lot in perpetuity.
- h. Access from the frontage of said lot to the principal structure on said lot shall be within the boundary lines of said lot and shall not be via a right-of-way or any public or private easement over an adjacent lot.
- i. Frontage of said lot shall be situated entirely on a public way.
- j. Said lot shall comply with the Dighton Zoning Bylaw and Subdivision Rules and Regulations except as indicated in this bylaw.
- k. Existing drainage patterns shall not be disrupted by the construction of a driveway on the Retreat Lot. A grading plan showing existing and proposed conditions may be subject to appropriate conditions or safeguards if deemed necessary by the Planning Board.
- l. Underground utilities shall be provided on retreat lots, unless the Planning Board makes findings in open meeting that underground utilities are not practical due to extreme topographical or environmental constraints and/or safety issues. Above ground utilities shall not be allowed solely for the convenience and/or preference of a petitioner.
- m. The house number of the retreat lot shall be clearly visible at the Street.
- n. In the event the distance from the public way to the house exceed 500 feet, the application shall be accompanied by a letter from the fire chief certifying that the location of the home will comply with public safety and fire safety.

**5095. Additional Criteria.**

No special permit shall issue hereunder until the Planning Board has determined that the Application satisfies the Special Permit criteria set

forth in Section 5320 hereof.

**5096. Creation of the Lot.**

- a. A Form A plan identifying a buildable retreat lot may be endorsed by the Planning Board after the issuance of a special permit by the Planning Board in accordance with this Section.
- b. After the grant of a Special Permit hereunder and the endorsement of a Form A plan by the Planning Board, the Applicant shall provide the Planning Board with recorded copies of the Form A plan and the deed restriction. The recorded plan and deed restriction must be received prior to the issuance of any building permit hereunder.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 36.** To see if the Town will vote to accept Pleasant Street as a public way of the Town, or take any action relative thereto.

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 37.** To see if the Town will vote to delete in its entirety Section 4600. Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations and replace with a new Section 4600. Solar Electric Generating Facilities and to see if the Town will vote to amend Zoning Bylaws by modifying and adding the following terms and definitions in proper alphabetical order to SECTION VI. DEFINITIONS, or take any action thereon.

**4600. SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES**

**4610. Purpose.**

The purpose of this Section is:

- a. to provide standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations (see Section VI. Definitions);
- b. to minimize the adverse impacts of Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations on adjacent properties and residential neighborhoods;
- c. to minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources; and
- d. to provide adequate financial assurance for complete construction of approved plans and for the eventual decommissioning of such installations.

The provisions set forth in this Section shall take precedence over all other provisions of this Bylaw when considering applications related to the construction, operation, and/or repair of Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations.

**4620. Applicability.**

The provisions set forth in this Section shall apply to the construction, operation, repair and/or removal of any Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations proposed after the effective

date of this Section. Such installation may proceed following issuance of a Site Plan Review Approval by the Planning Board in accordance with Section 5400 hereof and the requirements of this Section 4600 as of right as set forth in the Table of Use Regulations without the need for a special permit, variance, zoning amendment, waiver, or other discretionary approval, except that where there is proposed a Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation in a Residential District then said installation shall also be subject to the Special Permit process as set forth in 5300 hereof. Any modification of any existing Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation that materially alters the type, configuration, or size of such facility or related equipment shall also be subject to this Section.

Except as defined hereunder and any system which is mounted on a building and to which the bylaw does not apply, no other solar electric installation shall be permitted in any district.

**4621. Accessory Roof-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations.**

Nothing in this Section 4600 shall be construed to prevent the installation, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40A, s. 3, of accessory roof-mounted solar photovoltaic installations in any district.

**4622. Exemption for Municipal Land.**

Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations shall be allowed to be constructed upon any municipal property meeting the requirements of this bylaw regardless of the Zoning District.

**4630. General Requirements.**

The following requirements are common to all Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations:

**4631. Minimum Lot Size:**

- a. A Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation system may not be located on a parcel of less than eight (8) acres.
- b. A Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation system may not be located on a parcel of land less than the minimum lot size required under this bylaw for the district in which it is located. Notwithstanding the foregoing any Small-Scale Ground Mounted System which exceed a name-plate capacity of 50 KW shall not be located on a parcel of land which is less than two (2) acres.

**4632. Compliance with Laws, Ordinances and Regulations.** The construction and operation of all such proposed Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to, all applicable safety, construction, and environmental, electrical, communications. All buildings and fixtures forming part of a solar electric installation shall be constructed in accordance with the Massachusetts State Building Code.

**4633. Site Plan Review, Building Permit.** No Large-Scale and Small-

Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation shall be erected, constructed, installed or modified as provided in this Section without first obtaining approval from the Planning Board for Site Plan Approval pursuant to Section 5400 and Section 4600 of this Bylaw and without first obtaining a building permit, and all other applicable permits required by law, and paying any required fees. Any Site Plan Review Application must include documentation showing review and approval from the Fire Chief and Police Chief. In the event Site Plan Review is not completed by the Planning Board one year from the date of a completed application as determined by the Planning Board, the application shall be deemed approved. In addition to the above, any Large-Scale and Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation proposed in the Residential District must also receive a Special Permit in accordance with Section 5300 of this bylaw.

4634. Fees. The application for a building permit for a Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation must be accompanied by the fee required in accordance with the Planning Board Fee Schedule.

4635. Special Permit Granting Authority. The Planning Board shall be the Special Permit Granting Authority hereunder.

4640. Submittal to the Planning Board.

An application for Site Plan Review for a Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation shall include the following information. All plans and maps shall be prepared, stamped and signed by a professional engineer licensed to practice in Massachusetts.

- a. Blueprints or drawings of the solar photovoltaic installation signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed layout of the system and any potential shading from nearby structures
- b. A copy of an Interconnection Application filed with the utility including a one- or three-line electrical diagram detailing the solar electric installation, associated components, and electrical interconnection methods, with all National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and overcurrent devices;
- c. Documentation of the major system components to be used, including the electric generating components, transmission systems, mounting system, inverter, etc.;
- d. Name, address, and contact information for proposed system installer;
- e. Name, address, phone number and signature of the project proponent, as well as, all co-proponents or property owners, if any;
- f. The name, contact information and signature of any agents representing the project proponent;
- g. Documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site;
- h. An operation and maintenance plan (see Section 4642);
- i. Proof of liability insurance;

- j. Evidence that the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the installation is to be located has been informed of the applicant's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator. Off-grid systems shall be exempt from this requirement;
- k. Locations of wetlands and Priority Habitat Areas defined by the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP);
- l. Locations of Floodplains or inundation areas for moderate or high hazard dams;
- m. A list of any hazardous materials proposed to be located on the site in excess of household quantities and a plan to prevent their release to the environment, as appropriate;
- n. A detailed impact study for the Utility Interconnection including information on the location and type of any poles, transformers or other electrical components required by the utility to support the proposed solar facility including electrical equipment upgrades outside the facility to allow the site to connect to the grid including any necessary tree trimming. The list of abutters shall include abutters within a 300' radius of these changes;
- o. Documentation by an acoustical engineer of the noise levels projected to be generated by the installation;
- p. Description of financial surety that satisfies Section 4690.

4641. Site Control. The applicant shall submit documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site sufficient to allow for construction and operation of the proposed solar electric installation. Control shall include the legal authority to prevent the use or construction of any structure for human habitation within the setback areas.

4642. Operation and Maintenance Plan. The applicant shall submit to the Planning Board a plan for maintenance of access roads and storm water controls, as well as, general procedures for operational maintenance of the installation.

**4650. Design Standards.**

The following standards shall apply to any Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation.

4651. Lighting. Dark Sky Lighting of Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation, including energy storage systems, shall be consistent with local, state and federal law. Lighting of other parts of the installation, such as accessory structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall not cast measurable light onto adjacent properties or into the night sky. Lighting of the solar electric installation shall be directed downward and shall incorporate full cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution.

4652. Signage. Signs on such installations shall comply with the Town's sign by-law. The following signs shall be required:

- a. Those necessary to identify the owner, provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number, and warn of any danger.
- b. Educational signs providing information about the facility and the benefits of renewable energy.
- c. Installations shall not be used for displaying any advertising except for reasonable identification of the manufacturer or operator of the facility.

4653. Utility Connections. The Planning Board may require as a condition of site plan approval that all utility connections from the solar photovoltaic installation shall be underground, after considering soil conditions, shape, and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground if required by the utility provider.

4654. Roads. Access roads shall be constructed to minimize grading, removal of stone walls or trees and minimize impacts to environmental or historic resources.

4655. Control of Vegetation. Herbicides may not be used to control vegetation at the solar electric installation. Mowing, grazing or using geotextile materials underneath the solar array are possible alternatives. Removal of existing trees on the site should be minimized to the maximum extent feasible; the Planning Board, pursuant to the Special Permit and/or Site Plan Review process, may require that replacement trees be planted outside the Facility unless the owner is subject to the fee requirement in Section 4680.

4656. Hazardous Materials. Hazardous materials stored, used or generated on site shall not exceed the amount for a Very Small Quantity Generator of Hazardous Waste as defined by the MassDEP pursuant to MassDEP regulations 310 CMR 30.000 and shall meet all requirements of the MassDEP including storage of hazardous materials in a building with an impervious floor that is not adjacent to any floor drains to prevent discharge to the outdoor environment. If hazardous materials are utilized within the solar electric equipment, then impervious containment areas capable of controlling any release to the environment and to prevent potential contamination of groundwater are required.

In order to protect water supplies and preserve public safety associated Energy Storage Systems should not be located in the Zone 1 of any public water supply and should be located above the 100-year flood plain. The Energy Storage Systems must be located within a structure with the following features: an acid resistant membrane floor for potential leaks of hazardous materials; a temperature and humidity-maintained environment; a smoke/fire detection system, UL approved monitoring system, fire alarm fire suppression system, a thermal runaway system, and a local disconnect point or emergency shutdown feature.

The building and systems must be approved by the Dighton Fire Chief and must be designed and installed in accordance with all applicable State codes and safety requirements, as well as, safety measures recommended by the National Fire Protection Association. The applicant will provide specialized emergency response funding for training of Dighton Fire Department staff prior to grid inter-connection. Periodic inspections to ensure the integrity of the batteries, other equipment, and the containment systems, may be required as a condition of the Special Permit and the Site Plan Review.

4657. Noise. Noise generated by Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations and associated equipment and machinery shall conform to applicable state and local noise regulations, including the MassDEP's Division of Air Quality noise regulations, 310 CMR 7.10. A source of sound will be considered in violation if the source:

- a. increases the broadband sound level by more than 10 db(A) above ambient; or produces a "pure tone" condition, when an octave band center frequency sound pressure level exceeds the two (2) adjacent center frequency sound pressure levels by three (3) decibels or more.

Said criteria are measured both at the property line and at the nearest inhabited residence. "Ambient" is defined as the background A-weighted sound level that is exceeded 90% of the time measured during equipment hours, unless established by other means with the consent of the MassDEP.

4658. Accessory Structures. All accessory structures to Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations shall be subject to reasonable regulations concerning the bulk and height of structures, lot area, setbacks, open space, parking and building coverage requirements. All building setbacks shall be in conformance with Appendix B. All such accessory structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers, and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. To the maximum extent feasible, structures which are visible or directly adjacent to residentially zoned or occupied properties or which are adjacent to a public way shall be screened from view by landscaping or other means and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts.

4659. Dimensional and Density Requirements; Setbacks.

- a. For Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations, front, side and rear setbacks for system components shall be as follows:
  - I. Front yard. The front yard depth shall be at least 75 feet and shall be measured from the roadway right of way center line; provided, however, that where the lot abuts a Residential district, the front yard shall not be less than 100 feet.

- II. Side yard. Each side yard shall have a depth at least 30 feet; provided, however, that where the lot abuts a Residential district, the side yard shall not be less than 50 feet
- III. Rear yard. The rear yard depth shall be at least 30 feet; provided, however, that where the lot abuts a Residential district, the rear yard shall not be less than 50 feet.
- IV. Abutting properties shall be visually screened to mitigate impacts to the abutting properties. The screening shall consist of any one or combination of the following; distance, location, plantings, existing vegetation and/or fencing.

- b. For Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations, front, side and rear setbacks for system components shall be in accordance with the setbacks required for accessory structures within the district in which it is located, but in all events shall be at least 100 feet from any dwelling on another parcel.
- c. For Energy Storage Installations, in order to secure public safety concerns the following shall be as follows:
  - i. Fire Department must have access to a municipal maintained public water supply within 800 feet of the center point of the Battery Energy Storage System modules, but at no time should be located any closer than 100 feet from nearest Battery Energy Storage System. Adequate water supply shall be determined by the applicable public water supplier and the Dighton Fire Chief.
  - ii. No less than 200 feet from any property line
  - iii. No less than 100 feet from the tree line/vegetative buffer
- d. Waivers: Notwithstanding the aforementioned setback requirements, the Planning Board, as appropriate, shall have the authority to waive setback requirements based on site-specific conditions, and only after review of substantial evidence, including but not limited to, detailed engineering reports or product engineering certification, which demonstrate that safety concerns have been minimized and that setbacks have been complied with to a reasonable extent.

#### 4660. Safety and Environmental Standards

The following standards shall apply to any Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installations.

**4661. Emergency Services.** The Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation owner or operator shall provide a copy of the project summary, electrical schematic, and site plan to the Fire Chief. Upon request the owner or operator shall cooperate with local emergency services in developing an emergency response plan. All means of shutting down the solar photovoltaic installation shall be

clearly marked. The owner or operator shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries throughout the life of the installation.

4662. Unauthorized Access. Installations shall be surrounded by security fencing of at least eight (8) feet or other suitable barrier approved by the Planning Board including locked gates to prevent unauthorized access. Electrical equipment shall be locked where possible. Keys for all locks on the premises must be stored in a Knox Box maintained and approved by the Fire Department for use in the case of an emergency.

4663. Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts. Given the nature of the need for no shadowing and maximum exposure of the solar panels to the sun, clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to that which is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the installation or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations, and bylaws. Such installations shall not occur on any slopes greater than 15% in order to minimize erosion. All facilities must be located at least 100 feet from any wetland or Priority Habitat Area as delineated in accordance with the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act Regulations at 321CMR 10.00 or successor regulation.

#### 4670. Monitoring, Maintenance and Reporting

4671. Solar Electric Installation Conditions. The owner or operator of the Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation shall maintain the facility in good condition. Maintenance shall include, but not be limited to, painting, structural repairs, and integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director. The owner or operator shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar photovoltaic installation and any access road(s), unless accepted as a public way.

4672. Modifications. All material modifications to a solar electric installation made after issuance of the required building permit shall require approval by the Planning Board.

4673. Annual Reporting. The owner or operator of the installation shall submit an Annual Report which certifies compliance with the requirements of this bylaw and their approved site plan including control of vegetation, noise standards, and adequacy of road access. The Annual Report shall also provide information on the maintenance completed during the course of the year and the amount of electricity generated by the facility. The Annual Report shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Dighton Fire Chief, Emergency Management Director, Building Commissioner, Board of Health, Stormwater Committee and the Conservation Commission no later than 45 days after the end of the calendar year.

#### 4680. Abandonment or Decommissioning

4681. Removal Requirements. Any Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with Section 4680 of this bylaw shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning and if not, the town retains the right, after the receipt of an appropriate court order, to enter and remove an abandoned, hazardous or decommissioned Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation. As a condition of Site Plan or Special Permit approval, an applicant shall agree to allow entry to remove an abandoned or decommissioned installation. The cost for the removal will be charged to the property owner in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. 139, Section 3A as a tax lien on the property. The owner or operator shall notify the Planning Board by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

- (a) Physical removal of all Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation, structures, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site, including any materials used to limit vegetation.
- (b) Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
- (c) Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Planning Board may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping or designated below-grade foundations in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation.

4682. Abandonment. Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning or written notice of extenuating circumstances, the solar electric installation shall be considered abandoned when it fails to operate for more than one year without the written consent of the Planning Board. If the owner or operator of the Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation fails to remove the installation in accordance with the requirements of this Section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the Town may enter the property and physically remove the installation.

4683. Financial Surety. The applicant for a Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation shall provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or other form of surety approved by the Planning Board to cover the cost of removal in the event the Town must remove the installation and remediate the landscape, in an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to exceed more than one-hundred twenty-five percent (125%) of the cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, as determined by the applicant and the Town. Such surety will not be required for municipally- or state-owned facilities. The

applicant shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, prepared by a qualified engineer at the time of application for Site Plan Review. The amount shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation.

## SECTION VI. DEFINITIONS:

**Energy Storage:** The capture of energy produced at one time for use at a later time. A device that stores energy is generally called an accumulator or battery. Energy comes in multiple forms including radiation, chemical, gravitational potential, electrical potential, electricity, elevated temperature, latent heat and kinetic.

**Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Electric Installation:** A solar photovoltaic system, including ground mounted hot water collectors or other solar collector, on a parcel of at least eight (8) acres that is structurally mounted on the ground and is not roof-mounted, and has a minimum nameplate capacity of 1 MW DC.

**Small-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Electric Installation:** A solar photovoltaic system including ground mounted hot water collectors other solar collector, on a parcel of land which meets the minimum lot area requirements for the district in which it is located and which system has a nameplate capacity no larger than that which is necessary to provide enough energy sufficient to operate the structure or use located on the same parcel upon which it is located.

### ***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 38.** To see if the Town will vote to increase the current Senior Property Tax Exemption under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00, or take any action relative thereto.

### ***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 39.** To see if the town will vote to amend the Town of Dighton Zoning Bylaw Section VI, Definitions by deleting the existing Kennel, Residential definition in its entirety and replacing it with the following definition Kennel, Residential.

**Kennel, Residential:** A pack or collection of four (4) or more dogs that are owned or kept under single ownership for personal use and enjoyment may be allowed in the residential or business district as a "Matter of Right" if the location of the proposed kennel has a minimum lot size of 35,000 square feet.

If the lot size is less than 35,000 square feet a public hearing will be required with the Board of Health. This also includes a personal kennel as defined in (M.G.L.) Massachusetts General Law C 140 Sect. 136A.

**Note: This section does not apply to properties with three (3) dogs or less.**

**Appendix A shall be amended to reflect these changes.**

***Board of Selectmen Recommends***

**ARTICLE 40. CITIZEN PETITION:**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Dighton Bylaws Article 1, Section 6 by deleting it in its entirely and adding a new Section 6 as follows:

Existing Language: Section 6. If an article of the warrant has once been acted upon and disposed of, it shall not be again considered at the meeting except by a two-thirds vote.

New Language: Section 6. If an article of the warrant has once been acted upon and disposed of, it shall not be again considered at that meeting except by a two-thirds vote. Said article may only be reconsidered prior to a motion to consider the next sequential numbered article on the warrant;

**ARTICLE 41.** 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.

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

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

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**Leonard E. Hull, Jr., Chairman**

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**Peter D. Caron, Clerk**

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**Kenneth J. Pacheco, Member**

A true copy

Attest:

**TOWN CLERK**

Posted as directed:

**CONSTABLE**

Date: