

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE
TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH'S
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

May 9th, 2016

Foxborough Advisory Committee

Mission Statement

The Foxborough Advisory Committee (also known as AdCom) is responsible for providing recommendations to the Town residents on department budgets and Town Warrant articles as part of the Town Meeting process. In preparation for Town Meeting, the Advisory Committee reviews each department's budget and researches all Warrant Articles. This is done by meeting with each department head, holding public meetings for discussion and question opportunities and thoroughly researching each of the topics. Following this process, the committee then takes a vote and collectively puts forth a recommendation to the town residents at the Town Meeting.

Members

Term Expires

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| John Chlebek (Chairman) | June 2017 |
| Kristin Papianou (Vice Chairman) | June 2017 |
| Tracey Vasile | June 2017 |
| Javed Hussain | June 2017 |
| Larry Thomas | June 2016 |
| Bernard Dumont | June 2018 |
| Heidi Krockta | June 2016 |
| Susan Dring | June 2016 |
| Christopher Calnan | June 2016 |
| Patrick Mosesso | June 2016 |

SUMMARY OF TOWN WARRANT RECOMMENDATIONS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
May 9, 2016

| Article No. | Article (AdCom Presenter) | Recommendation |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Article 1 | Annual Town Elections | N/A |
| Article 2 | Annual Town Reports | N/A |
| Article 3 | Reports of Committees | N/A |
| Article 4 | Operating Budget (Chlebek) | Approval |
| Article 5 | CIP Budget (Krockta) | Approval |
| Article 6 | Water Infrastructure (Dumont) | Approval |
| Article 7 | Burrell School Renovation (Thomas) | Approval |
| Article 8 | Revised Consolidated Personnel By-Law 2017 (Vasile) | Approval |
| Article 9 | Dispatcher Contract (Calnan) | Approval |
| Article 10 | DPW Contract (Calnan) | Approval |
| Article 11 | FY' 16 Operating Budget Adjustments (Dumont) | Approval |
| Article 12 | Department Revolving Funds Authorization (Krockta) | Approval |
| Article 13 | Fund Qualified OPEB Trust (Dumont) | Approval |
| Article 14 | Expend Highway Funds (Calnan) | Approval |
| Article 15 | Liquor License Request – Route One Node (Chlebek) | Approval |
| Article 16 | Liquor License Request – Downtown Node (Chlebek) | Approval |
| Article 17 | Liquor License Request – Rte. 140/Foxborough Blvd. Node (Chlebek) | Approval |
| Article 18 | Abandon Liberty Place (Dring) | Approval |

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|------------|---|-----------|
| Article 19 | Amend Sewer Service Area Map (Vasile) | Approval |
| Article 20 | Ella G. Hill Playground (Dring) | Approval |
| Article 21 | Affordable Housing Trust (Dring) | Approval |
| Article 22 | Chestnut Green/DCAMM Land (Dring) | Approval |
| Article 23 | Accept Lawton Lane as a Public Way (Hussain) | Approval |
| Article 24 | Accept Mann Lane as a Public Way (Hussain) | Approval |
| Article 25 | Accept Plimpton Road as a Public Way (Hussain) | Approval |
| Article 26 | Accept Carleton Lane as a Public Way (Hussain) | Approval |
| Article 27 | Accept Sullivan Way as a Public Way (Hussain) | Approval |
| Article 28 | Amend Code of Town of Foxborough Signs (Vasile) | Approval |
| Article 29 | Amend Chapter 88 Definitions (Vasile) | No Action |
| Article 30 | Electrical Aggregation (Thomas) | Approval |
| Article 31 | Cell Tower Lease (Thomas) | Approval |

ARTICLE 4: OPERATING BUDGET

Board of Selectmen

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 4:

VOTE OF 9-0-0

Approval of this article provides the ability to determine compensation for elected officials, as well as the mechanism to provide funding for the various boards, officers, commissions, and departments of the town for Fiscal Year 2017.

ARTICLE 5: CIP BUDGET

Board of Selectmen

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 5:

VOTE OF 7-0-0

The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Budget which was developed and recommended by the CIP Committee (Bill Keegan – Town Manager, GinnyCoppola– Board of Selectmen, John Chlebek – Advisory Committee Chairman, Debra Spinelli – School Superintendent and Roger Hill – DPW Director, & Randy Scollins - Finance Director). The CIP Committee is responsible for reviewing spend requests for major non-recurring tangible assets (greater than \$25,000) with a lifespan of greater than 5 years. The total amount of the FY '17 CIP Budget in this article is \$3,411,280, which is an increase from the FY '16 CIP Budget of \$2,372,955.

ARTICLE 6: WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 6:

VOTE OF 7-0-0

The Board of Water & Sewer Commissioners are requesting appropriation of funds to allow for necessary improvements to water infrastructure including:

- Installation of a new treatment plant at 25 Pumping Station Road;
- Replacement of Wells 1, 2A and 3;
- Installation of a new water main feeder from the plant to Mechanic Street;
- Replacement or relining of the existing main from the Plant to Payson Road;
- Extension of water mains; and
- Improvements to the building at 25 Pumping Station Road

The tank on Main Street is the oldest in Town (1937) and yields low water pressure. Wells 1 and 2A are shallow and experiencing low flow and magnesium issues. Well 3 has been closed since 1969 due to a cracked casing. There are other sites in this location which, through testing, have been identified as productive Well sites (up to a million gallons a day). The new water mains and green sand treatment plant will result in stronger flow and fewer black water issues. The work is estimated at \$16.5M and would be financed via a bond at a favorable rate. The treatment plant is projected to be operational by 2018.

Approval of Article 7 will allow the Town to move forward with the long anticipated renovation of the Burrell Elementary School. This school was constructed in 1967 and over the years there have been a number of maintenance projects performed on it. This includes a new roof in 1980, a major renovation of the cafeteria kitchen in 1998, major roof repairs in 2003 and paving and curbing work performed around the school in 2012. There have also been a number of Asbestos Abatement projects over the past 10 years.

The school currently faces a number of major issues which need to be addressed. These include ADA compliance issues and a large number of mechanical and electrical issues. Also, the roof needs to be replaced, the windows and doors replaced and the building insulation increased.

The Massachusetts School Building Assistance Authority (MSBA) exists to provide reimbursements to cities and towns for eligible school construction projects. During the past 3 years the Town has submitted Statements of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority indicating that we wished to get into the MSBA capital pipeline with a project to renovate the Burrell. This year, on March 30, the MSBA invited Foxborough to move forward in the process into what is called the Eligibility Period. This is a 270 day period during which a number of concrete steps need to be taken such as the formation of a School Building Committee and providing documentation describing the Foxborough School District's maintenance practices. Also required during the 270 day Eligibility Period is a vote at Town Meeting to authorize the funding of a Feasibility Study. The amount being requested is \$700,000. In order for the Burrell renovation project to move forward Town Meeting must authorize the spending of this amount for the Feasibility Study.

Over the past several months, the Personnel Wage Board has been working closely with the Assistant Town Manager to refine the Personal By-law and its structure. Throughout the process, the goal has been to address many of the concerns or drawbacks with the current by-law including:

- ✓ Changes – where the policies currently reside in the by-law itself, the need to bring any changes to a Town Meeting for approval which often results in a lengthy delay in enacting the changes
- ✓ Clarify – the need to provide clarity in certain sections where there is ambiguity
- ✓ Clean-up – the need to have a single and cohesive document that addresses all personnel policies written in a standard format

The new Personnel By-law would address all of these changes by:

- ✓ Having the policies reside in a policy handbook versus the by-law itself which would not require changes to be voted on at a Town Meeting; this would allow for changes to be made in a more

timely manner and via a clearly-articulated process for requesting and securing approval for a change

- ✓ Providing an opportunity to provide clarification on current policies where the underlying intent or details is not clearly articulated
- ✓ Providing an opportunity to integrate all personnel policies into a single document using a standard format; this format would also be used for any new policies adopted in the future

This proposed by-law would provide both the Town of Foxborough and the employees it would cover with policies that are easy to understand, easy to administer and easy to change/add to in a timely manner and whenever the need arises. It would also clearly outline the defined process for initiating a policy change.

ARTICLE 9: DISPATCHER CONTRACT

Board of Selectman

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 9:

VOTE OF 10-0-0

This article addresses the funding for the collective bargaining agreement negotiated with the Foxboro Public Safety Dispatchers Association by the Town of Foxborough. Negotiations are for the two year term from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018.

The Advisory Committee feels the contract has been negotiated to favorable terms for everyone involved on both sides and asks the citizens of Foxboro to support this funding article.

Of note:

- Grievance and arbitration procedures are brought in line with other existing town contracts.
- COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) at a yearly 2% increase.
- Performance evaluations are being introduced to advance salary schedule.
- Shift differential policy for second, third and training shifts.
- Health Insurance has been updated to reflect the agreed policy of the Town and Public Employee Committee.
- Tuition Policy introduced to reimburse employees for courses, up to \$1500 per semester.

ARTICLE 10: CIP: DPW CONTRACT

Board of Selectman

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 10:

VOTE OF 8-0-0

This article addresses the funding for the collective bargaining agreement negotiated with the Foxboro Highway and Water Employees Union (AFSCME) by the Town of Foxborough. Negotiations are for the two year term from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018.

The Advisory Committee feels the contract has been negotiated to favorable terms for everyone involved on both sides and asks the citizens of Foxboro to support this funding article.

Of note:

- Sick leave accrues at a rate of 1.5 days per month to a maximum of 264 working days
- Each employee shall receive one 3-season and one heavy winter coat on a biennial scale.
- Provide training for up to three employees to qualify for a Class A CDL license. Employees may be compensated \$1 hourly.
- Sick leave buyback for unused leave due to retirement shall be paid on a percentage scale based on length of employment. From 15%-20%-25% based on respective 10-15-20 years of employment.
- Working out of Classification - Entitles an employee working at a higher grade/class to 5% of their current rate after three consecutive days and a rate negotiation if acting in a management position for more than two consecutive weeks.
- COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) at a yearly 2% increase.
- New Positions: Water Technician V and Working Supervisor for Equipment Maintenance
- Performance evaluations are being introduced to advance salary schedule.
- Grievance and arbitration procedures are brought in line with other existing town contracts.
- Heat Clause clarified to state that in an extreme heat index of 105 degrees the supervisor will consult with the DPW director to determine if the day's assignment should be changed.

ARTICLE 11: FY '16 OPERATING BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS **Town Manager**
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 11: **VOTE OF 10-0-0**

This article is requesting budget adjustments for the Inspection Department (#241) headed by Commissioner Bill Casbarra and for the Highway/Public Works Department headed by DPW Director Roger Hill.

The \$125,000 budget adjustment related to the Inspection Department is due to increased inspections by part-time inspectors – associated with higher than anticipated development activity.

The \$3,500 budget adjustment related to the Highway/Public Works Department is due to electrical work at the Payson Road Laundry building.

The budget adjustments requested would amend the already-voted Article 4 of the May 11, 2015, FY 2016 Annual Operating Budget – and funding for these increased amounts would come from local receipts.

The Advisory Committee recommends approval of these two budget adjustments.

ARTICLE 12: DEPARTMENT REVOLVING FUNDS AUTHORIZATION Town Manager
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 12: **VOTE OF 7-0-0**

As required by State Law, an annual vote at Town Meeting is required to authorize and reauthorize the Spending Authority, Revenue Sources, Use of Funds and Spending Limits for established and new revolving funds. The Spending Limits, as listed, are in line with the projected balances of said accounts for FY '17. This year a new revolving account is being established in order to properly segregate and account for the contributed funds by seniors for senior programs through the Council On Aging. The Conservation Revolving account for rental property maintenance is not being reauthorized due to the Conservation department exiting their home rental activity.

ARTICLE 13: FUND QUALIFIED OPEB TRUST Board of Selectman

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 13: **VOTE OF 7-0-0**

The purpose of this article is for the Town of Foxborough to continue with its annual practice of funding the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund.

In Foxborough and other Massachusetts municipalities, the two primary unfunded liabilities are for Pension Benefits and OPEB -- which is dedicated for retiree health benefits. While there is currently no legal requirement to fund the OPEB, the good practice of its annual funding contributed to a significant reduction of the OPEB unfunded liability by 64%, or by \$39.5M, over six years: from \$62.2M at fiscal year-end 2009 to \$22.7M for the fiscal year ended June 2015.

The Town established a funding schedule to fully-fund this liability by at least fiscal year 2038, if not sooner – and can do so with committing to its actuarially calculated Annual Required Contribution (ARC).

As per the voted policy of the Board of Selectmen on November 8th, 2011, the Meals-Tax Receipts have been designated to be a dedicated annual funding source for the OPEB liability – and, if not sufficient, Water & Sewer receipts should help fund the OPEB.

The Advisory Committee recommends approval of this annual funding of the liability.

ARTICLE 14: EXPEND HIGHWAY FUNDS Town Manager
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 14: **VOTE OF 7-0-0**

This article's purpose is to see if the Town will authorize the Town Manager to expend any funds received from the State and/or County for construction, reconstruction, or any other highway improvements or related activities. A vote at Town Meeting to approve this Article authorizes the Town Manager to accept and spend funds provided by the State and/or County for highway expenditures. This

vote is to ensure that the Town accepts the respective State/County funds for such expenditures and that the Town Manager spends these funds accordingly.

ARTICLE 15: LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST – ROUTE ONE NODE Board of Selectman
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 15: **VOTE OF 7-3-0**

This article will allow for up to four additional liquor licenses within the Route One Node. The Route One Node runs the entire stretch of Route One within Foxborough. Any licenses granted as a result of this article are limited now and in the future to the Route One Node.

The Economic Development Committee has reviewed the potential for development along the Route One corridor as well as the licenses available in surrounding communities. The approval of these licenses is viewed as a tool in what is perceived as an area with tremendous growth opportunities. The general intent is to use these licenses in concert with potential zoning changes as well as sewer improvements to optimize the ability to attract and stimulate development along the most undeveloped stretch of Route One between Providence and Boston.

Developing this high-potential corridor, through a comprehensively planned initiative, promotes Foxborough as a prime location for both new and expanding businesses. Businesses seek out locations with the infrastructure to support their needs including hotels, restaurants, and transportation.

Approval of this article will better position Foxborough to take advantage of its commercial growth potential, increase the tax base, and to attract more jobs to the community.

ARTICLE 16: LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST – DOWNTOWN NODE Board of Selectman
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 16: **VOTE OF 8-2-0**

This article will allow for up to three additional liquor licenses in the Downtown Node. Any licenses granted as a result of this article are limited now and in the future to the Downtown Node.

The Economic Development Committee has identified the potential issuance of liquor licenses within this Node as a tool in attracting development to the Downtown area. Studies of liquor licenses in-hand within surrounding communities show Foxborough to be at a disadvantage. Developers could be inclined to pursue opportunities in adjacent competing areas due to the fact that the process to obtain licenses is lengthy.

Approval of this article will position the Town to implement the Downtown Revitalization per the Master Plan. Resulting development would increase the tax base and potentially act as a catalyst for additional interest in this important area of Foxborough.

ARTICLE 17: LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST – SOUTH RTE. 140/FOXBOROUGH BLVD. NODE

Board of Selectman

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 17: VOTE OF 7-3-0

This article will allow for up to two additional liquor licenses in the South Route 140/Foxborough Boulevard Node. Any licenses granted as a result of this article are limited now and in the future to that Node.

The Economic Development Committee recognizes this area as having growth potential due to its proximity to an interchange with I-95 as well as developable land along the Route 140 corridor. Hotel rooms planned for the node as well as the ability to attract commercial development are seen as key factors in having liquor licenses available within this node.

Studies of liquor licenses in-hand within surrounding communities show Foxborough to be at a disadvantage. Developers could be inclined to pursue opportunities in adjacent competing areas due to the fact that the process to obtain licenses is lengthy.

Approval of this article will enhance the potential for locating new or expanding existing businesses within the Town in an area having significant potential. Resulting development would increase the tax base and offer the possibility of attracting more jobs to the community.

ARTICLE 18: ABANDON LIBERTY PLACE Board of Selectman

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 18: VOTE OF 8-0-0

The purpose of this article is to abandon a portion of Liberty Place. If you are standing on South Street, Liberty Place is the street to the right of Town Hall. On paper, this street starts at South Street and continues into what is now the parking lot of Town Hall. If this article is approved, the street will end after the last house on Liberty Place and will not continue into the parking lot. This change is needed to build the new Town Hall which is being built on the current Town Hall parking lot.

ARTICLE 19: AMEND SEWER SERVICE AREA MAP Water and Sewer Department

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 19: VOTE OF 10-0-0

The purpose of this article is to incorporate the parcel listed in the article (47 Mechanic Street) into the Sewer Service Area Map and to amend the Sewer Service Area Map accordingly. This Article is presented in accordance with the authority of the Water and Sewer Commissioners to adopt rules and regulations for amending the Sewer Service Area Map annually by vote of Town Meeting. Acceptance of this article

will permit this address to tie into the Town sewer system with all costs to be borne by the parcel owner.

ARTICLE 20: ELLA G. HILL PLAYGROUND Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 20: VOTE OF 8-0-0

The purpose of this article is to appropriate funds in the amount of \$74,758 to improve the Ella G. Hill Playground. The Ella G. Hill playground, located at the corner of Community Way and Pratt Street (off Cocasset Street), has been in disrepair for years. Sharon Wason applied for a grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environment Affairs (EEA) to improve the playground with a new fence, park benches and tables, and new playground equipment. The Town has been awarded the grant; however, it is a reimbursement grant at 58% of cost. Once the project is complete, the Town will be reimbursed \$43,360 from the EEA. The Town also has \$10,000 from a developer which is to be used for the playground. The remaining \$21,398 will come from free cash.

ARTICLE 21: AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 21: VOTE OF 8-0-0

The purpose of this article is to continue the Affordable Housing Trust which is due to expire on July 1, 2016. In lieu of building affordable housing in Chestnut Green, the developer gave the Town \$320,000 to put towards affordable housing. At the 2013 Town Meeting, the Affordable Housing Trust was created to oversee the money. The \$320,000 has not yet been spent. If approved, this article will continue the Affordable Housing Trust for another 3 years.

ARTICLE 22: CHESTNUT GREEN/DCAMM LAND Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 22: VOTE OF 8-0-0

If approved, this article will change the use of a parcel of land located at Chestnut Green. This parcel was given to Foxborough by the State of Massachusetts for recreational purposes. Currently, two rundown buildings from the State Hospital (the laundry building and the paint shop) are on the parcel. The land is unsuitable for recreation; therefore the Town would like to change the use of the land so that it may be sold. In addition to receiving funds for the property if sold, the Town will also be spared the expense of both repairing the buildings and mitigating any possible chemical waste.

ARTICLE 23: ACCEPT LAWTON LANE AS A PUBLIC WAY Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 23: VOTE OF 8-0-0

The purpose of this article is to see if the Town will vote to accept Lawton Lane as a public way. If this article is approved, the Town will accept responsibility for the maintenance of Lawton Lane. Street acceptance requests are initiated by the developer then approved by The Planning Board if all obligations are met. These obligations include sufficient width, suitable grades, adequate construction and installation of municipal services. The town would then be responsible for maintenance of the roadway and all related infrastructure.

ARTICLE 24: ACCEPT MANN LANE AS A PUBLIC WAY Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 24: **VOTE OF 8-0-0**

The purpose of this article is to see if the Town will vote to accept Mann Lane as a public way. If this article is approved, the Town will accept responsibility for the maintenance of Mann Lane. Street acceptance requests are initiated by the developer then approved by The Planning Board if all obligations are met. These obligations include sufficient width, suitable grades, adequate construction and installation of municipal services. The town would then be responsible for maintenance of the roadway and all related infrastructure.

ARTICLE 25: ACCEPT PLIMPTON ROAD AS A PUBLIC WAY Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 25: **VOTE OF 8-0-0**

The purpose of this article is to see if the Town will vote to accept Plimpton Road as a public way. If this article is approved, the Town will accept responsibility for the maintenance of Plimpton Road. Street acceptance requests are initiated by the developer then approved by The Planning Board if all obligations are met. These obligations include sufficient width, suitable grades, adequate construction and installation of municipal services. The town would then be responsible for maintenance of the roadway and all related infrastructure.

ARTICLE 26: ACCEPT CARLETON LANE AS A PUBLIC WAY Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 26: **VOTE OF 8-0-0**

The purpose of this article is to see if the Town will vote to accept Carleton Lane as a public way. If this article is approved, the Town will accept responsibility for the maintenance of Carleton Lane. Street acceptance requests are initiated by the developer then approved by The Planning Board if all obligations are met. These obligations include sufficient width, suitable grades, adequate construction and installation of municipal services. The town would then be responsible for maintenance of the roadway and all related infrastructure.

ARTICLE 27: ACCEPT SULLIVAN WAY AS A PUBLIC WAY Planning Board
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 27: **VOTE OF 8-0-0**

The purpose of this article is to see if the Town will vote to accept Sullivan Way as a public way. If this article is approved, the Town will accept responsibility for the maintenance of Sullivan Way. Street acceptance requests are initiated by the developer then approved by The Planning Board if all obligations are met. These obligations include sufficient width, suitable grades, adequate construction and installation of municipal services. The town would then be responsible for maintenance of the roadway and all related infrastructure.

ARTICLE 28: AMEND CODE OF TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH – SIGNS Board of Selectman
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 28: **VOTE OF 8-2-0**

At the Fall 2014 Special Town Meeting, the Advisory Committee recommended approval on and the Town supported amending the existing town by-law regarding signs and other advertising devices. The

reasons for those changes was to make the then-current by-law less complicated, easier to understand and less ambiguous. While those changes did accomplish those goals, it was known that they were only the first step in a long-overdue process and that other changes to the by-law would be needed.

Within this article, the Board of Selectman, on behalf of the Billboard Advisory Committee and the Zoning Board of Appeals, are requesting the following changes to the Special Sign Permits section of the Sign By-Law:

- Deletion of the existing subsection i which currently reads “Any public benefit that the Town of Foxborough may realize from the proposed sign” and replacing it with “Any benefit that the Town of Foxborough, residents of the Town of Foxboro, and the general public may realize from the proposed sign.”
- Addition of a new subsection that will state “With respect to a Special Sign Permit for a billboard, whether there is a demonstrated need for the billboard”.

The purpose of these two changes is to provide additional clarity within the by-law itself and to clearly articulate two of the criteria that will be used in considering and granting special sign permits. While there were members of the Advisory Committee who did not feel this wording provided the clarity that was intended, the majority of members did feel that the requested changes, while not perfect in nature, were another positive step towards the goals of the changes approved at Fall 2014 Special Meeting and, as a result, voted to recommend approval of this article.

ARTICLE 29: AMEND CHAPTER 88 DEFINITIONS Historical Commission
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO ACTION ON ARTICLE 29: **VOTE OF 8-0-0**

At the request of the Historical Commission, the Advisory Committee voted no action on this article. It is the expectation of both the Historical Commission and the Advisory Committee is that it will be brought forward to the Town for consideration at a future Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 30: ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION Board of Selectman
ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 30: **VOTE OF 9-0-0**

Approval of Article 30 would allow the town to enter into an agreement to buy electric power on behalf of all power consumers within the town’s borders. Consumers within the town would automatically be participants in the agreement but would be able to “opt-out” from the agreement if they wished.

By voting yes on this article you are giving the town the authority to act as an aggregator of the entire electric load within the boundaries of the town. Working with a broker, the town would identify, compare and choose among competing suppliers of electricity. Because of the increased purchasing power of the town as aggregator, individual consumers of electricity in town may experience lower power costs. Whether individuals remain in the program or choose to opt-out, individual bills will be sent out as before and individuals will be responsible for payment.

A number of towns in Massachusetts have chosen to become municipal aggregators of electric power. Examples include Westborough and Chelmsford. Both towns negotiated rates that were below the basic service rates of their current supplier.

ARTICLE 31: CELL TOWER LEASE

Town Manager

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 31:

VOTE OF 9-0-1

The town has evaluated the existing communications tower behind the Public Safety building to determine if it could support the addition of cellular telephone equipment. After determining that the structure could support the additional equipment the town solicited bids from parties interested in placing their cellular equipment on the tower. The highest bidder was Verizon. They offered to pay \$27,600 annually with a 2 percent increase each year for a period of 30 years. Approval of this article will allow the town to accept the Verizon bid and place their equipment on the tower.