

Town of Rowe



Annual Town Meeting & Election Voter Information Guide

Special Town Meeting:

Monday, May 8, 2023

6:30 pm

Rowe Elementary School

Town Meeting:

Monday, May 8, 2023

7:00 pm

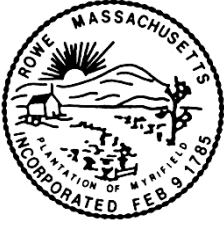
Rowe Elementary School

Town Election:

Saturday, May 13, 2023

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Rowe Elementary School Gymnasium



Town of Rowe

FRANKLIN COUNTY
MASSACHUSETTS
01367

Settled as Myrfield 1763 ▪ Incorporated as Rowe 1785

321 Zoar Road
P.O. Box 462
Rowe, Massachusetts 01367
www.rowe-ma.gov

Rowe Finance Committee

April 19, 2023

Greetings fellow residents of Rowe;

The Finance Committee has completed the Fiscal Year 2024 recommendations for this year's Annual Town Meeting. Loretta Dionne, Lauren Werner, Marilyn Wilson, Wayne Zavotka, and I toiled countless hours to give the residents the solid recommendations from a good cross-section of volunteers.

The Town of Rowe is in great financial shape. Towns in Massachusetts are struggling and will continue to struggle as they do not have the financial strength such as we do. The Town has saved monies (in stabilization accounts) to help weather the rough seas of inflation.

This year the town's budget grew 13.72%. It is an unusually high number due to a number of factors. Last year we explained that the road resurfacing project would result in cost to each of us for five years. This is the first of those years. The Budget without the roads increases just under 3.97%. This is the first of two or three budget cycles that this town will need to adjust to the national inflationary pressures.

With standard Capital items on this year's expenses, the Finance Committee is recommending the use of "Capital Reserves" for the purchase of a Tanker Truck Body to house the Tanker we received on loan from the Federal Government. The tank has another 20 years of life, and we need this truck as a tool to knock down a fire. We are also recommending the use of "Free Cash" or previous years surplus for a new roof on the Public Safety building.

The Finance Committee would encourage all to attend this year's Town Meeting on May 8th at the School, it is your decision that determines the final expenditures of your town.

Daniel Pallotta, Chairman

Special Town Meeting:

Monday, May 8, 2023

6:30 pm at the Rowe Elementary School

FRANKLIN, SS.

To either Constable of the Town of Rowe in the County of Franklin,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Rowe, qualified to vote in the elections and town affairs, to meet at the **ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** in said Rowe on **MONDAY, the EIGHTH day of May 2023 at 6:30 P.M.** in the evening, then to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from the **Pelham Lake Tennis Court 2022 Summer Usage** account 03-630-5701-03200 to the **FY 23 Rehabilitate Tennis Courts** account 84-630-5400-84137 the sum of \$3,875, or take any action thereto:

Explanation: The existing fencing is under the current contract to be moved and then returned to the same footprint surrounding both courts. It has been decided that while the equipment is there that additional funds should be obtained to remove the second (beyond repair) court. That will necessitate reconfiguring the existing fencing to fit around just the one new court.

Requested by the Park Commission
Recommended by Finance Committee 4-0-0

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from the **UTV and Accessories** account 03-630-5400-03203 to the **FY 23 Rehabilitate Tennis Courts** account 84-630-5400-84137 the sum of \$2000, or take any action thereto.

Explanation: Removing the second court was not within the scope of the original contract. To remove it will cost an additional \$4,900. This transfer will help to cover that cost.

Requested by the Park Commission
Recommended by Finance Committee 4-0-0

ARTICLE 3: To see if the town will vote to **TRANSFER** from the **UTV and Accessories** account 03-630-5400-03203 to the **Park Operations** account the sum \$2000, or take any action thereof:

Explanation: Originally \$7000 was put in the UTV account for a set of tracks to enable the vehicle to be used in the winter for grooming. It was later decided that a used snowmobile for \$2,000 would be cheaper and more efficient for the grooming of the trails in the winter.

Requested by the Park Commission
Recommended by Finance Committee 4-0-0

ARTICLE 4: To see if the town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **CAPITAL STABILIZATION** to expand the appropriation from the previously approved articles rebuild the second tennis court \$45,000, or take any action thereof:

Requested by the Park Commission
Recommended by Finance Committee 3-1-0
Not Recommended by The Board of Selectmen 3-0-0
A 2/3 majority vote is required for a Capital Stabilization vote

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from the **DPW Summer Employment (01-422-5120)** to the **Park Wages (01-630-5150)** the sum of \$28,500.00, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: It was agreed at last year's Annual Town Meeting that the park would be receiving the summer youth employment funding for hiring youths since the DPW "Grasshopper" program did not run last year due to lack of applicants.

Requested by the Park Commission
Recommended by Finance Committee 4-0-0

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from the **Free Cash** the sum of \$3,000.00 to the FD/EMS Personnel Payroll (01-220-5186) to cover a shortfall, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: Additional funding is required due to the extra emergency occurrences this year

Requested by Fire Chief
Recommended by Finance Committee 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 0-0-0

ARTICLE 7: To transact any other business of a lawful and pertinent nature that may come before the meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the **Rowe Town Hall** and the **Rowe Transfer Station** in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of the Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time of said meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 13th Day of April, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

ROWE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Charles Sokol, Chair
Joanne Semanie, Vice-Chair
Edward Silva, Selectmen

Town Meeting:

Monday, May 8, 2023

7:00 pm at the Rowe Elementary School

Franklin, SS.

To either constable of the Town of Rowe in the County of Franklin,

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Rowe, qualified to vote in the elections and town affairs, to meet at the **ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** in said **ROWE**, on **MONDAY**, the **EIGHTH** day of **MAY 2023** at **7:00 P.M.** in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To act on reports of the Town Officers and Committees.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize, pursuant to M.G.L. c.44 §53E½ and the Town of Rowe General Bylaws, the following sums for **REVOLVING FUNDS**, or take any action in relation thereto:

Revolving Fund	Entity Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fees, Charges, or Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	Fiscal Years
Emergency Dispensing Site	Board of Health	Receipts Related to the Emergency Dispensing Site Operations	Dispensing medicines or medical supplies during an emergency	Limit of \$1,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024
Recycling Program	Board of Health	Receipts Related to the Recycling Program	Operation of solid waste and recycling programs, membership in and services of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, and the purchase of recycled content or environmentally preferable products	Limit of \$5,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024
Vaccine Services	Board of Health	Receipts from Insurance Billing	Vaccine Services	Limit of \$6,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024
School Programs	School Committee	Fees for School Programs	Offset Department Costs of School Programs	Limit of \$10,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024
Old Home Day	Old Home Day Committee	Receipts Generated by Old Home Day Activities and Programs	Expenses of Old Home Day	Limit of \$2,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024
Refuse Garden	Board of Health	Receipts Related to the Refuse Garden Operations	Operation of the town Refuse Garden	Limit of \$5,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024 and Subsequent Years

Planning Board Legal/ Consulting	Planning Board	Receipts Related to Fees for Special Permits and Other Work of the Planning Board	Legal consultation and representation	Limit of \$50,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024 and Subsequent Years
Park Programs	Park Commission	Receipts Related to Park Programs	Operation of programs run by the Pelham Lake Park	Limit of \$2,000.00	Fiscal Year 2024 and Subsequent Years

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to **AUTHORIZE** the **BOARD OF SELECTMEN** to apply for, accept, and expend federal and state grants as may be available, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to **AUTHORIZE** the **TREASURER** to enter into compensating balance agreements during the 2024 fiscal year, pursuant to M.G.L. c.44 §53F, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums and to set the stipends/salary compensation for all elected officials of the town as provided by M.G.L. c.41 §108, to be made effective from July 1, 2023, as follows or take any action in relation thereto:

Elected Boards & Committees:

Board of Assessors (3)	\$5,354.00
Board of Health (3)	\$4,938.00
Board of Selectmen (3)	\$5,928.00
School Committee (3)	\$4,564.00

Elected Town Officers

Constable.....	\$549.00
Moderator	\$439.00
Town Clerk.....	\$13,835.00

TOTAL ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES FROM TAXATION\$35,607.00

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$100,000.00** for the purpose of paying down **PRINCIPAL ON THE BROADBAND DEBT, RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$120,000.00** for the purpose of paying down **PRINCIPAL ON THE TOWN ROAD PAVING PROJECT, APPROPRIATE** from the **ASSESSOR’S OVERLAY SURPLUS ACCOUNT** the sum of **\$250,000.00** for the purpose of paying down **PRINCIPAL ON THE TOWN ROAD PAVING PROJECT,** and to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$68,343.00** for **INTEREST ON INDEBTEDNESS** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0
ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **THE CONDUCT OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT,** including the

charges and expenses of the various town offices, for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Administration

General Administration.....	\$138,937
Municipal Audit.....	\$8,000
Executive Secretary.....	\$72,052
Administrative Assistant to the Boards.....	\$36,259
Town Hall Custodian Wages.....	\$13,760
Custodian Expenses.....	\$4,775
Maintenance Supervisor.....	\$10,430
Legal.....	\$18,000
Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary.....	\$62,588
Treasurer/Tax Collector Operations.....	\$20,250
Assistant Town Clerk Stipend.....	\$1,200
Town Clerk Expenses.....	\$5,393
Conservation Commission.....	\$1,880
Council on Aging.....	\$3,800
Goal Post Editor Wages.....	\$6,676
Goal Post Operations.....	\$2,500
Veteran's Services.....	\$4,765
FRCOG Services.....	\$32,423
Sick Time Payout.....	\$5,000
Town Accountant.....	\$46,619
<u>Town Accountant Expenses.....</u>	<u>\$4,283</u>
 Subtotal Administration.....	 \$499,590

Board of Assessors

Assessors' Clerk Wages.....	\$12,880
Assessors' Reval/Annual Updates.....	\$24,000
<u>Assessors' Operations.....</u>	<u>\$14,650</u>
Subtotal Board of Assessors.....	\$51,530

Planning Board

Planning Board Operations.....	\$1,500
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TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT FROM TAXATION..... \$552,620

***Explanation:** 40% of the Town Accountant's salary is paid by the Town of Monroe through a shared services agreement.

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$30,000.00** to be used as a **RESERVE FUND**, pursuant to M.G.L. c.40, §6 for the extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the operation and maintenance of **PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Highway Department

DPW Salaries and Wages	\$305,937
DPW Operations.....	\$230,929
<u>Winter Roads.....</u>	<u>\$72,100</u>
Subtotal Highway Department	\$608,966

Other Public Works & Facilities

Street Lighting	\$6,000
Municipal Light Plant Manager Stipend.....	\$13,000
<u>Dam Maintenance/Repair.....</u>	<u>\$1,200</u>
Subtotal Other Public Works & Facilities	\$20,200

Cemetery Commission

Cemetery Operations.....	\$15,250
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TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES FROM TAXATION \$644,416

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **ANY AVAILABLE FUND** the sum of **\$140,978.17** for the maintenance, repair, improvement, and construction of town highways, or any other purpose allowed under Chapter 90, which amounts shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through funds made available by Chapter 90 or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PUBLIC SAFETY** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Police Department

Police Salaries.....	\$67,266
Police Officer Training.....	\$10,000
<u>Police Operations</u>	<u>\$13,000</u>
Subtotal Police Department.....	\$90,266

Fire Department

Fire Department Stipends & Wages.....	\$37,536
<u>Fire Department Operations.....</u>	<u>\$56,829</u>
Subtotal Fire Department	\$94,365

Emergency Management

Emergency Management Stipends	\$3,864
Emergency Management Operations.....	\$1,000
<u>Generator Maintenance.....</u>	<u>\$3,500</u>
Subtotal Emergency Management	\$8,364

Animal Control and Inspection

Animal Control Stipends	\$1,449
Animal Control Relief Officer.....	\$508
Animal Inspector Stipend.....	\$532
<u>Regional Dog Kennel</u>	<u>\$350</u>
Subtotal Animal Control.....	\$2,839

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FROM TAXATION..... \$195,834

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PUBLIC HEALTH** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Public Health

Health Department Stipends and Wages.....	\$80,281
Board of Health Operations	\$69,857

TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH FROM TAXATION..... \$150,138

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PUBLIC SCHOOLS** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Education

Rowe School PreK-6 Operating Budget..... \$1,158,568
Rowe School Secondary 7-12..... \$606,895

TOTAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM TAXATION.....\$1,765,463

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 3-1-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **ROWE TOWN LIBRARY** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Rowe Town Library

Library Wages..... \$50,200
Library Operations..... \$26,539

TOTAL ROWE TOWN LIBRARY FROM TAXATION \$76,739

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF PELHAM LAKE PARK** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Pelham Lake Park

Park Wages..... \$137,303
Park Operations..... \$23,130

TOTAL PELHAM LAKE PARK FROM TAXATION \$160,433

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **CULTURE AND RECREATION** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Culture and Recreation

Beautification \$500

TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION FROM TAXATION \$500

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PENSIONS AND INSURANCE** for the 2024 Fiscal Year or take any action in relation thereto:

Pensions and Insurance

Franklin County Retirement Assessment..... \$177,380
Unemployment Insurance..... \$20,000
Group Health/Dental/Life Insurance \$623,000
Medicare Tax – Town Share..... \$27,000

TOTAL PENSIONS AND INSURANCE FROM TAXATION \$847,380

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the following sums for **SPECIAL PROJECTS** or take any action in relation thereto:

FIRE DEPT	New Roof for Safety Complex	\$255,000
POLICE DEPT	Taser	\$1,600
ADMIN	Septic Systems Pumped	\$1,685
ASSESSORS	Consultant/Legal Support	\$25,000

TOTAL SPECIAL PROJECTS FROM FREE CASH \$283,285

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of \$10,000 to develop specifications and estimate for removal of the structure known as the Gracy House, or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **CAPITAL STABILIZATION** the following sums for **SPECIAL PROJECTS** or take any action in relation thereto:

FIRE DEPT	Fire Truck Chassis	\$340,000
TOTAL SPECIAL PROJECTS FROM CAPITAL STABILIZATION.....		\$340,000

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0
A 2/3 majority vote is required for a Capital Stabilization vote*

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from **FREE CASH** a sum \$21,457 to **CAPITAL STABILIZATION**, or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0

ARTICLE 22: To see if the town will vote to amend the General By-Law to add Town Administrator as one of the positions appointed by the Board of Selectmen and to add the following to The Town of Rowe General Bylaws Article III GENERAL GOVERNMENT Section E. The Officers for the Town appointed by the Board of Selectmen. In addition the following:

To the extent permitted by law and except as otherwise provided by law or these bylaws, The Selectmen are authorized and empowered, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 23A, of the Massachusetts General Laws, to appoint a town administrator for a term of three years and to remove them at their discretion or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to allow, a Town of Rowe call firefighter, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, to serve in such position until the age of 70, or until the date of his retirement or non-reappointment, whichever occurs first; provided, however that no deductions from the regular compensation of shall be made under chapter 32 of the General Laws subsequent to his reaching the age of 65 in connection with his service to the Town for retirement or pension purposes; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve such amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0

ARTICLE 24: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the **ROWE TOWN HALL** and **ROWE TRANSFER STATION** in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of the warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time of said meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 13th day of April in the year **TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-THREE.**

ROWE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Charles Sokol, Chair

Joanne Semanie, Vice-Chair

Edward Silva, Selectmen

Article	ITEM	FY22 TOTAL	FY23 TOTAL	FY24 Proposed	Dollar +/-	% CHANGE
#5	ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES:					
	Elected Boards and Committees					
	Board of Assessors Stipend	\$ 5,354.00	\$ 5,354.00	\$ 5,354.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Board of Health Stipend	\$ 4,938.00	\$ 4,938.00	\$ 4,938.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Board of Selectmen Stipend	\$ 5,928.00	\$ 5,928.00	\$ 5,928.00	\$ -	0.00%
	School Committee Stipend	\$ 4,564.00	\$ 4,564.00	\$ 4,564.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Elected Town Officers					
	Constable	\$ 549.00	\$ 549.00	\$ 549.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Moderator	\$ 439.00	\$ 439.00	\$ 439.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Town Clerk	\$ 13,835.00	\$ 13,835.00	\$ 13,835.00	\$ -	0.00%
	TOTAL ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES	\$ 35,607.00	\$ 35,607.00	\$ 35,607.00	\$ -	0.00%
#6	DEBT:					
	Interest on Indebtedness (Broadband & Roads)	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 68,343.00	\$ 65,143.00	2035.72%
	Principal Payment on Broadband	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Principal Payment on Roads			\$ 370,000.00		New Spending
	TOTAL DEBT	\$ 102,150.00	\$ 103,200.00	\$ 538,343.00	\$ 435,143.00	421.65%
#7	GENERAL GOVERNMENT:					
	Administration:					
	General Administration Operations	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	IT- Hardware/Software	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)	-16.67%
	Town Officers Expenses	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	IT - Consultant	\$ 14,172.00	\$ 14,172.00	\$ 18,960.00	\$ 4,788.00	33.78%
	Townwide Notification- Blackboard Connect	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Municipal Ops & Maintenance	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	7.89%
	TH Fuel Oil	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	33.33%
	TH Electricity	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	14.29%
	TH Elevator Maintenance	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Bonding & Insurance	\$ 65,030.00	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 56,227.00	\$ 1,227.00	2.23%
	Print Town Reports	\$ 550.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ (250.00)	-50.00%
	Administration Subtotal	\$ 135,752.00	\$ 129,672.00	\$ 138,937.00	\$ 9,265.00	7.14%

Article	Item	FY22	FY23	FY24 Proposal	Dollar +/-	% CHANGE
#7	General Government CONTINUED					
	Municipal Audit	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Executive Secretary Wages	\$ 50,469.00	\$ 56,227.00	\$ 72,052.00	\$ 15,825.00	28.14%
	Admin Assistant to the Boards Wages	\$ 43,706.00	\$ 42,033.00	\$ 36,259.00	\$ (5,774.00)	-13.74%
	Muni Ctr Custodian Wages	\$ 19,422.00	\$ 13,260.00	\$ 13,760.00	\$ 500.00	3.77%
	Custodian Expenses	\$ 4,775.00	\$ 4,775.00	\$ 4,775.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Maintenance Supervisor			\$ 10,430.00		New Spending
	Legal Expenses	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	125.00%
	Sick Leave Buy-Back		\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	New Spending
	Treasurer/Collector Operations	\$ 7,997.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 20,250.00	\$ 11,250.00	125.00%
	Treasurer/Collector Wages	\$ 28,397.00	\$ 45,240.00	\$ 62,588.00	\$ 17,348.00	38.35%
	Asst. Town Clerk Stipend	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Town Clerk Ops	\$ 685.00	\$ 685.00	\$ 685.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Board of Registrars	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Election/Registration	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 4,470.00	\$ 3,658.00	\$ (812.00)	-18.17%
	Dues/Education	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Town Clerk Operations Subtotal	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 6,205.00	\$ 5,393.00	\$ (812.00)	-13.09%
	Conservation Commission Operations	\$ 1,180.00	\$ 1,810.00	\$ 1,880.00	\$ 70.00	3.87%
	Council on Aging	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Goal Post Stipend	\$ 6,304.00	\$ 6,432.00	\$ 6,676.00	\$ 244.00	3.79%
	Goal Post Operations	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Veterans' Administrative Operations	\$ 4,769.00	\$ 4,731.00	\$ 4,665.00	\$ (66.00)	-1.40%
	Veterans Benefits	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Veterans Services Subtotal	\$ 4,869.00	\$ 4,831.00	\$ 4,765.00	\$ (66.00)	-1.37%
	FRCOG Regional Service Assessment	\$ 14,565.00	\$ 23,727.00	\$ 23,750.00	\$ 23.00	0.10%
	FRCOG Statutory Assessment	\$ 847.00	\$ 1,380.00	\$ 1,381.00	\$ 1.00	0.07%
	FC Emergency Communications Systems	\$ 1,491.00	\$ 1,432.00	\$ 1,442.00	\$ 10.00	0.70%
	FRCOG Cooperative Purchase	\$ 1,391.00	\$ 1,043.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 57.00	5.47%
	FRCOG Reg. Emerg. Planning Committee	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ -	0.00%
	FCCIP Building Inspection Program	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,600.00	\$ -	0.00%
	FRCOG Services Subtotal	\$ 23,044.00	\$ 32,332.00	\$ 32,423.00	\$ 91.00	0.28%

Article	Item	FY22	FY23	FY24 Proposal	Dollar +/-	% CHANGE
#7	General Government CONTINUED					
	Town Accountant Wages	\$ 44,373.00	\$ 45,482.00	\$ 46,619.00	\$ 1,137.00	2.50%
	Accounting Expenses	\$ 400.00	\$ 420.00	\$ 4,283.00	\$ 3,863.00	919.76%
	General Administration Subtotal	\$ 419,748.00	\$ 460,299.00	\$ 499,590.00	\$ 39,291.00	8.54%
	ASSESSORS:					
	Assessors Clerk Wages	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 12,880.00	\$ (120.00)	-0.92%
	Assessors Operations	\$ 9,900.00	\$ 7,950.00	\$ 14,650.00	\$ 6,700.00	84.28%
	Assessors Reval/Annual Updates	\$ 22,600.00	\$ 28,600.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ (4,600.00)	-16.08%
	Subtotal Assessors	\$ 44,500.00	\$ 49,550.00	\$ 51,530.00	\$ 1,980.00	4.00%
	PLANNING BOARD:					
	Planning Board Operations	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 466,248.00	\$ 511,349.00	\$ 552,620.00	\$ 41,271.00	8.07%
#8	RESERVE FUND:					
	Reserve Fund	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	50.00%
	TOTAL FINANCE COMMITTEE	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	50.00%
#9	PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES WAGES:					
	Highway Department:					
	Superintendent Salary	\$ 80,958.00	\$ 82,982.00	\$ 85,538.00	\$ 2,556.00	3.08%
	DPW - Highway Wages	\$ 212,075.00	\$ 217,377.00	\$ 220,399.00	\$ 3,022.00	1.39%
	Highway Dept. Salary and Wages Subtotal	\$ 296,033.00	\$ 329,059.00	\$ 305,937.00	\$ (23,122.00)	-7.03%
	DPW General Operations	\$ 31,761.00	\$ 32,555.00	\$ 33,370.00	\$ 815.00	2.50%
	DPW - Heating - Pellet Fuel	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,663.00	\$ 6,830.00	\$ 167.00	2.51%
	DPW - Electricity	\$ -				
	DPW - Fuel Town Vehicles	\$ 44,957.00	\$ 46,081.00	\$ 47,233.00	\$ 1,152.00	2.50%
	DPW - Road Surface Maintenance	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 92,250.00	\$ 99,556.00	\$ 7,306.00	7.92%
	DPW - Annual DPW Projects	\$ 41,820.00	\$ 42,866.00	\$ 43,940.00	\$ 1,074.00	2.51%
	Highway Dept. Operations Subtotal	\$ 215,038.00	\$ 220,415.00	\$ 230,929.00	\$ 10,514.00	0.0477009278

Article	Item	FY22	FY23	FY24 Proposal	Dollar +/-	
#9	Public Works and Facilities CONTINUED					
	DPW - Snow & Ice (Winter Roads)	\$ 68,612.00	\$ 68,612.00	\$ 72,100.00	\$ 3,488.00	5.08%
	DPW Subtotal	\$ 584,683.00	\$ 619,586.00	\$ 608,966.00	\$ (10,620.00)	-1.71%
	Other Public Works:					
	Street Lighting	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 500.00	9.09%
	Municipal Light Plant Manager Stip.	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 7,400.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 5,600.00	75.68%
	Dam Maintenance/Repair	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Other Public Works Subtotal	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 14,100.00	\$ 20,200.00	\$ 6,100.00	43.26%
	Cemetery:					
	Cemetery Maintenance/Repair	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,250.00	\$ 15,250.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Subtotal Cemetery	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,250.00	\$ 15,250.00	\$ -	0.00%
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 614,183.00	\$ 648,936.00	\$ 644,416.00	\$ (4,520.00)	-0.70%
#11	PUBLIC SAFETY:					
	Police Department					
	Police Chief	\$ 27,764.00	\$ 32,874.00	\$ 34,112.00	\$ 1,238.00	3.77%
	Police Officers Wages	\$ 29,083.00	\$ 32,167.00	\$ 33,154.00	\$ 987.00	3.07%
	Police Department Salaries Subtotal	\$ 57,347.00	\$ 65,041.00	\$ 67,266.00	\$ 2,225.00	3.42%
	Police Dept. Operations	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 12,700.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 300.00	2.36%
	Police Officer Training		\$ 10,325.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ (325.00)	-3.15%
	Police Department Subtotal	\$ 67,547.00	\$ 88,066.00	\$ 90,266.00	\$ 2,200.00	2.50%
	Fire Department:					
	Fire Chief Stipend	\$ 10,507.00	\$ 10,825.00	\$ 11,232.00	\$ 407.00	3.76%
	Fire Dept./EMS Personnel Payroll	\$ 25,215.00	\$ 25,846.00	\$ 26,304.00	\$ 458.00	1.77%
	Fire Department Stipend & Wages	\$ 35,722.00	\$ 36,671.00	\$ 37,536.00	\$ 865.00	2.36%
	Fire Dept. General Operations	\$ 28,752.00	\$ 31,900.00	\$ 38,129.00	\$ 6,229.00	19.53%
	Fire Department Shared Chief Vehicle	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Fire Heating Oil	\$ 4,440.00	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 3,600.00	81.82%
	Fire Electricity	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Emergency Medical Equipment	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 500.00	20.00%
	Fire Department Operations Subtotal	\$ 43,392.00	\$ 46,500.00	\$ 56,829.00	\$ 10,329.00	22.21%
	Subtotal Fire Department	\$ 79,114.00	\$ 83,171.00	\$ 94,365.00	\$ 11,194.00	13.46%

Article	Item	FY22	FY23	FY24 Proposal	Dollar +/-	
#11	Public Safety CONTINUED					
	Emergency Management:					
	Emergency Management Director	\$ 3,864.00	\$ 3,864.00	\$ 3,864.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Emergency Management Operations	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Generator Maintenance	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Emergency Management Subtotal	\$ 8,364.00	\$ 8,364.00	\$ 8,364.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Animal Control Officer	\$ 649.00	\$ 649.00	\$ 1,449.00	\$ 800.00	123.27%
	Animal Control Officer Relief	\$ 508.00	\$ 508.00	\$ 508.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Animal Control Stipends Subtotal	\$ 1,157.00	\$ 1,157.00	\$ 1,957.00	\$ 800.00	69.14%
	Animal Inspector	\$ 532.00	\$ 532.00	\$ 532.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Reg. Dog Control Adoption Ctr. Membership	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Animal Control Subtotal	\$ 2,039.00	\$ 2,039.00	\$ 2,839.00	\$ 800.00	39.23%
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$ 157,064.00	\$ 174,640.00	\$ 195,834.00	\$ 21,194.00	12.14%
#12	HEALTH & SANITATION:					
	Transfer Station Attendants Wages	\$ 17,980.00	\$ 16,407.00	\$ 16,607.00	\$ 200.00	1.22%
	Snow Removal Hours	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	BOH Clerk Wages	\$ 8,168.00	\$ 13,036.00	\$ 12,880.00	\$ (156.00)	-1.20%
	FRCOG Health Agent Assessment	\$ 6,246.00	\$ 5,521.00	\$ 5,797.00	\$ 276.00	5.00%
	Town Nurse Wages	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 43,997.00	\$ (3.00)	-0.01%
	Physician's Stipend	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Health Depart. Stipends and Wages Subtotal	\$ 77,394.00	\$ 79,964.00	\$ 80,281.00	\$ 317.00	0.40%
	Hazardous Waste Collection	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Refuse Garden Operation	\$ 31,500.00	\$ 33,509.00	\$ 35,050.00	\$ 1,541.00	4.60%
	FCSWMD Assessment	\$ 8,195.00	\$ 8,195.00	\$ 8,417.00	\$ 222.00	2.71%
	BOH Operations	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Mosquito Control District	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Health Services Operations	\$ 7,390.00	\$ 7,390.00	\$ 7,390.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Board of Health Operations Subtotal	\$ 66,085.00	\$ 68,094.00	\$ 69,857.00	\$ 1,763.00	2.59%
	TOTAL HEALTH & SANITATION	\$ 143,479.00	\$ 148,058.00	\$ 150,138.00	\$ 2,080.00	1.40%

Article	Item	FY22	FY23	FY24 Proposal	Dollar +/-	
#13	EDUCATION:					
	Rowe School - K-6	\$ 974,589.00	\$ 1,004,449.00	\$ 988,399.00	\$ (16,050.00)	-1.60%
	NBSU Central Office Budget (Rowe Shared Exp)	\$ 135,730.00	\$ 131,538.00	\$ 138,600.00	\$ 7,062.00	5.37%
	Rowe K-6 Transportation	\$ 36,208.00	\$ 37,294.00	\$ 38,415.00	\$ 1,121.00	3.01%
	Elementary School Subtotal	\$ 1,146,527.00	\$ 1,173,281.00	\$ 1,165,414.00	\$ (7,867.00)	-0.67%
	Mohawk High School Buses	\$ 36,208.00	\$ 37,294.00	\$ 38,415.00	\$ 1,121.00	3.01%
	Late Buses	\$ 18,520.00	\$ 19,076.00	\$ 19,650.00	\$ 574.00	3.01%
	Mohawk Tuitions	\$ 310,125.00	\$ 295,000.00	\$ 400,380.00	\$ 105,380.00	35.72%
	FC Tech School Tuitions	\$ 138,600.00	\$ 165,000.00	\$ 141,604.00	\$ (23,396.00)	-14.18%
	7-12 Subtotal	\$ 503,453.00	\$ 516,370.00	\$ 600,049.00	\$ 83,679.00	16.21%
	TOTAL EDUCATION	\$ 1,649,980.00	\$ 1,689,651.00	\$ 1,765,463.00	\$ 75,812.00	4.49%
#14	LIBRARY:					
	Library Director Wages	\$ 24,597.00	\$ 28,590.00	\$ 29,776.00	\$ 1,186.00	4.15%
	Library Staff Wages	\$ 19,378.00	\$ 21,260.00	\$ 20,424.00	\$ (836.00)	-3.93%
	Library Wages Subtotal	\$ 43,975.00	\$ 49,850.00	\$ 50,200.00	\$ 350.00	0.70%
	Library Operations	\$ 23,201.00	\$ 20,453.00	\$ 20,053.00	\$ (400.00)	-1.96%
	Library - Heating Oil	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,635.00	\$ 1,435.00	119.58%
	Library - Electricity	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Library CWMARS Mini-net Membership	\$ 949.00	\$ 1,024.00	\$ 1,051.00	\$ 27.00	2.64%
	Library Operations Subtotal	\$ 28,150.00	\$ 25,477.00	\$ 26,539.00	\$ 1,062.00	4.17%
	TOTAL LIBRARY	\$ 72,125.00	\$ 75,327.00	\$ 76,739.00	\$ 1,412.00	1.87%
#15	PARK:					
	Park Manager Salary	\$ 51,620.00	\$ 62,587.00	\$ 62,963.00	\$ 376.00	0.60%
	Summer Youth			\$ 25,000.00		New Spending
	Park Employee Wages	\$ 59,342.00	\$ 46,206.00	\$ 49,340.00	\$ 3,134.00	6.78%
	Park Wages Subtotal	\$ 110,962.00	\$ 108,793.00	\$ 137,303.00	\$ 28,510.00	26.21%
	Park Operations	\$ 23,500.00	\$ 22,550.00	\$ 23,130.00	\$ 580.00	2.57%
	TOTAL PARK	\$ 134,462.00	\$ 131,343.00	\$ 160,433.00	\$ 29,090.00	22.15%

Article	Item	FY22	FY23	FY24 Proposal	Dollar +/-	
#16	Culture and Recreation:					
	Beautification	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.00%
	TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	0.00%
#17	PENSIONS & INSURANCE:					
	Franklin Regional Retirement	\$ 151,240.00	\$ 160,749.00	\$ 177,380.00	\$ 16,631.00	10.35%
	Unemployment Insurance	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	Group Medical/Medicare Insurance	\$ 655,000.00	\$ 620,000.00	\$ 623,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	0.48%
	FICA/Medicare Tax - Town Share	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ -	0.00%
	TOTAL PENSIONS & INSURANCE	\$ 853,240.00	\$ 827,749.00	\$ 847,380.00	\$ 19,631.00	2.37%
#18	Free Cash - Special Project Requests:					
	Fire Department	New Roof		\$ 255,000.00		New Spending
	Police Department	Taser		\$ 1,600.00		New Spending
	Administration	Septic Pumping	FD/GH/TH	\$ 1,685.00	Dollar +/-	0.00%
	Assessors	Legal Support/ Consultation		\$ 25,000.00		New Spending
	TOTAL FREE CASH PROJECTS			\$ 283,285.00		New Spending
#19	Free Cash:					
	Gracy House – Removal	Estimate and Specifications		\$ 10,000.00		New Spending
	TOTAL			\$ 10,000.00		New Spending
#20	Capital Stabilization - Special Projects:					
	Fire Department	Fire Truck Chassis		\$ 340,000.00		New Spending
	TOTAL CAPITALIZATION			\$ 340,000.00		New Spending
#21	Transfer of Free Cash Funds:					
	To Transfer leftover FREE CASH funds to TRANSFER to CAPITAL STABILIZATION			\$ 21,457.00		New Spending
	TOTAL TRANSFER			\$ 21,457.00		New Spending

2023 Town of Rowe Annual Election Ballot
Saturday, May 13, 2023
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Rowe Elementary School

*Candidate for Re-election

All races include spaces for write-in votes.

Board of Assessors – 3 Years

- Frederick Williams*

Board of Health – 3 Years

- Daniel Poplawski*

Board of Health – 2 Years (Unexpired Term)

- Kathleen Atwood

Board of Selectmen – 3 Years

- Joanne Semanie*

Cemetery Commission – 3 Years

- Joanne Semanie*

Constable – 3 Years

- Henry Dandeneau*

Finance Committee – 3 Years x 2 Seats

- Loretta Dionne*
- Daniel Pallotta*

Finance Committee – 1 Year (Unexpired Term)

- Marilyn Wilson

Library Trustee – 3 Years

- Rebecca Bradley*

Library Trustee – 2 Years (Unexpired Term)

- Lauren Werner

Park Commission – 3 Years

- Laurie Pike*

Park Commission – 2 Years (Unexpired Term)

- Walter Quist

Planning Board – 5 Years

- *Write-In*

Planning Board – 3 Years (Unexpired Term)

- *Write-In*

School Committee – 3 Years

- Susan Zavotka*

Town Clerk – 3 Years

- Kevin Balawick
- Margaret Pallotta

Note: This is for informational purposes only. A true specimen ballot may be viewed on the town website at: https://rowe-ma.gov/files/2023_Ballot_Specimen.pdf

Other Election Information

Voting by mail has been permanent for local elections through state legislation. In-person voting will take place from 10:00-2:00 on Saturday, May 13th at the Rowe Elementary School.

Results will be posted at the town hall and on the website the night of the election. All individuals elected, even incumbents, will need to be sworn in by the town clerk or moderator after the election is over.

Town of Rowe

P.O. Box 462

Rowe, MA 01367

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
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EDDM Retail

LOCAL POSTAL
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