

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – FY2019

Town of Rowe

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Monday, May 14, 2018

Town Clerk: *Kathy Sprague*
Moderator: *Robert Clancy*
Constable: *Henry Dandeneau*
Tellers: *Marge Morse, Rebecca Richardson, Joann Semanie, Susan Williams*

The Annual Town Meeting was held on Monday, May 14, 2017 at the Rowe Elementary School, 86 Pond Road. The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Moderator Clancy. There were approximately 70 registered voters and 15 audience members present at the beginning of the meeting.

Moderator Clancy asked for a moment of silence for Rowe Residents who had passed in 2017/2018; Norma Brown, Charles Stetson, Howard Crowningshield, David Wayne and Hal Dandeneau.

Moderator Clancy swore in the following registered voters as tellers for the meeting Marge Morse, Rebecca Richardson, Joanne Semanie, and Susan Williams.

After the reading of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant Greeting Moderator Clancy opened the meeting for articles.

A motion was made and seconded to take Article 35 out of order. Motion Passed by Show of Hands

A motion was made and seconded to table Article 35. Motion Defeated by Show of Hands

ARTICLE 35: A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to amend the general by-laws of the Town of Rowe by removing Article VII Section 5, and replacing that section with the following, or take any other action relative thereto.

1. Special Events

- (A) For purposes of this section, the term "Special Event" shall mean
- i. any gathering, event, or performance occurring outdoors to which 30 or more persons attend where the nature of the gathering, event, or performance may impact the peace and quiet of the neighborhood, or may impact traffic or public safety
 - ii. any gathering, event, or performance occurring indoors where the nature of the gathering, event, or performance may impact the peace and quiet of the neighborhood,
 - iii. any reproduction of audio through amplified means, or the playing of any musical instrument(s) including vocal music, regardless of number of persons in attendance,
 - iv. municipal functions or other approved activities occurring on town property are excluded from this definition
- (B) No Special Event shall be held within the Town without a permit issued by the Selectmen or designee.
- (C) An application for such a permit shall be submitted to the Selectmen or designee twenty-eight (28) days prior to the Special Event in question. Said application must include three residents of the Town of Rowe as signatory sponsors, and must detail the reasonably expected activities related to the Special Event.
- (D) The Selectmen, Police Chief, and Fire Chief and other town officials as the Selectmen shall deem appropriate shall meet jointly to consider each application for such a permit. At the joint meeting, the Selectmen shall have the authority to:
- i. Prescribe public safety and health regulations for the Special Event.
 - ii. Prescribe the hours during which the Special Event may be held.
 - iii. Require a bond or other security as compensation to the Town or its citizens for damage, which may result from the Special Event.

- iv. Determine the amount of a fee to be charged for the permit; said fee to be based on and not to exceed the anticipated expense to the Town of Rowe.
 - v. Choose to deny the permit if the application was submitted fewer than twenty-eight (28) prior to the Special Event in question, or if fewer than three Town of Rowe resident signatories are listed on the application.
 - vi. Approve the permit, listing on said permit restrictions or conditions as deemed appropriate by the Selectmen
 - vii. Special Events occurring on town property or at town facilities are also subject to the rules and policies that apply to that property or facility.
- (E) If a Special Event occurs without an approved permit, or if the activities of that Special Event violate the conditions or restrictions listed on an approved permit, violators may be fined provided in Town of Rowe By-Laws or General Laws.
2. Disturbing and Unnecessary Noise
- (A) Except as otherwise provided herein, the creation of any unreasonably loud, disturbing, or unnecessary noise in the Town is prohibited unless permitted as described in this section.
 - (B) The following acts, among others, are declared to be unreasonably loud, disturbing, or unnecessarily noisy and in violation of this section, but said examples shall not be deemed to be exclusive, namely:
 - i. The sounding of any horn or signal device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus or other vehicle while not in motion, except as a danger signal if another vehicle is approaching apparently out of control, or if in motion as a danger signal after or as brakes are being applied and deceleration of a vehicle is intended; the creation by means of any such signal device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound, including unmuffled vehicles, and the sounding of such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time.
 - ii. Construction, excavation, or other work performed outdoors using heavy machinery or power tools before sunrise or after sunset. The Selectmen may approve exceptions to this provision if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the town.
 - iii. A Special Event, as defined in this section, without an approved permit or in violation of the conditions or restrictions of an approved permit
3. Emergency response personnel, when acting in response to a state of emergency or when in performance of their duties, are exempt from the provisions outlined in this section. Any person may be exempt from a provision outlined in this section when such a situation arises that, for safety of that person or others against immediate and apparent harm, loss of property, or loss of life, would require action in violation of the provisions stated herein.

Recommended by Rowe Select Board

Article 35 Defeated Unanimously by a Show of Hands.

The proposed bylaw amendment will be reviewed by the bylaw committee and presented at public hearings prior to resubmission for Town approval.

ARTICLE 1: A motion was made and seconded to act on reports of the Town officers and committees.

Article 1 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 2: A motion was made and seconded to choose all necessary officers not elected by ballot for the ensuing year.

Article 2 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 3: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to set the salary compensation for all elected officials of the town as provided by M.G.L. c. 41, section 108, to be made effective from July 1, 2018 as contained in the budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 3 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 4: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to amend Article II, Section I of the General by-Laws by changing the Tax Collector's position from Elected to Appointed, or take any action in relation thereto.

**Article 4 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

ARTICLE 5: A motion was made and seconded 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, and compensation for elected and appointed officials for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Administration

General Administration	\$117,500.00
Municipal Audit	8,000.00
Executive Secretary	46,865.00
Administrative Assistant	7,086.00
Town Hall Custodian Wages	18,034.00
Moderator Stipend	439.00
Select Board Stipends	5,928.00
Legal	6,000.00
Tax Collector Stipend	7,938.00
Tax Collector Operations	7,605.00
Treasurer Stipends and Wages	20,722.00
Treasurer Operations	8,010.00
Town Clerk Stipend	13,497.00
Town Clerk Expenses	5,709.00
Conservation Commission	1,750.00
Council on Aging	3,800.00
Energy Committee	00.00
Veteran's Services	2,700.00
FRCOG Services	24,785.00
Town Accountant	16,368.00
<u>Town Accounting Expenses</u>	<u>2,050.00</u>
Subtotal General Government	\$324,786.00

Assessor's Office

Assessors' Stipends and Wages	15,554.00
<u>Assessors' Operations</u>	<u>9,400.00</u>
Subtotal Assessors	\$ 24,954.00

Planning Board

Planning Board	1,025.00
Planning Board Consulting and Legal Expenses	5,000.00
<u>Planning Board Goal Post</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>
Subtotal Planning Board	\$ 18,025.00

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT FROM TAXATION

\$ 367,765.00

Recommended by Rowe Select Board

Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)

Article 5 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 6: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$20,000.00** to be used as a **Reserve Fund** pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 6 for the extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 6 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 7: A motion was made and seconded 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 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Highway Department

DPW Salary and Wages	\$ 300,110.00
DPW Operations	205,476.00
<u>Winter Roads</u>	<u>68,612.00</u>
Subtotal Highway Department	\$574,198.00

Other Public Works & Facilities

Street Lighting	\$ 5,500.00
Municipal Light Plant	1,000.00
<u>Dam Maintenance/Repair</u>	<u>1,200.00</u>
Subtotal Other Public Works & Facilities	\$ 7,700.00
Cemetery	\$ 15,000.00

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES FROM TAXATION **\$ 596,898.00**

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

**Article 7 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 8: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **Appropriate** from available funds the sum of **\$142,616.00** 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.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 8 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 9: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Safety** for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Police Department	
Police Salaries	\$52,351.00
Police Operations	<u>9,745.00</u>
Subtotal Police Department	\$62,096.00

Fire Department	
Fire Department Stipends	\$ 32,793.00
Fire Department General Operations	<u>33,888.00</u>
Subtotal Fire Department	\$66,681.00

Emergency Management	
Emergency Management Director	\$ 3,864.00
Emergency Management Operations	<u>1,000.00</u>
Subtotal Emergency Management	\$4,864.00

Animal Control and Inspection	
Animal Control Stipends	\$1,657.00
Animal Inspector	532.00
Regional Dog Kennel	<u>350.00</u>
Subtotal Animal Control	\$2,539.00

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FROM TAXATION **\$136,180.00**

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 9 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 10: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Health and Sanitation** for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Health Department Stipends and Wages	\$76,192.00
Board of Health Operations	\$ 61,676.00

TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION FROM TAXATION **\$ 137,868.00**

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 10 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 11: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a revolving fund with a limit of \$1,000.00 for fiscal year 2019 to accept receipts related to the Town's **Emergency Dispensing Site**, for the operation of the Town's Emergency Dispensing Site in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2020, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Requested by the Board of Health
Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 11 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 12: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of \$5,000.00** for fiscal year 2019 to accept receipts **related to the Town's recycling program and expenditures** for the operation of the Town's solid waste and recycling programs, membership in and services in the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, and the purchase of recycled content or environmentally preferable products, to be under the authority of the Board of Health, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2020, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Requested by the Board of Health
Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 12 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 13: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of \$6,000.00** for the 2019 fiscal year to accept receipts from the Insurance Billing for the purpose of **providing vaccine services**, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2020, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Requested by the Board of Health
Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 13 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 14: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will to vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Public Schools** for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

School Committee Stipend	\$ 4,564.00	
Rowe School Budget		
Rowe School Pre K-6 Operating Budget	\$ 1,173,746.00	
Rowe School Secondary 7-12	\$ 410,598.00	
TOTAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM TAXATION		\$ 1,588,908.00

A request was made from the floor to allow Principal Bill Knittle and Superintendent Jon Lev to answer questions pertaining to the FY19 School Budget. Request was granted by show of hands.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (2-0-1)*

**Article 14 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 15: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of \$10,000.00** for the 2019 fiscal year

to accept fees for **School Programs** for the purpose of offsetting department costs, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2020, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Requested by the Rowe School Committee
Recommended by the Finance Committee (2-0-1)*

**Article 15 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 16: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the **Rowe Town Library** for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Library Salaries and Wages	\$ 39,836.00	
Library Operations	\$ 29,664.00	
TOTAL ROWE TOWN LIBRARY FROM TAXATION		\$ 69,500.00

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 16 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 17: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the **management and operation of Pelham Lake Park** for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Park Wages	\$93,707.00	
Operation and Maintenance	\$ 19,000.00	
TOTAL PARK FROM TAXATION		\$ 112,707.00

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

**Article 17 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 18: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Culture and Recreation** items for 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Gracy House Operations	\$ 2,000.00	
Gracy House Materials	\$ 500.00	
Beautification Committee	\$ 500.00	
TOTAL GRACY HOUSE and BEAUTIFICATION FROM TAXATION		\$ 3,000.00

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 18 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 19: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the sum of \$5,000.00 for Old Home Day Fireworks for 2019 for **Old Home Day**, or take any action in relation thereto:

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

**Article 19 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 20: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE to the Old Home Day Revolving Fund** the sum of \$2,000.00 for 2019, or take any action in relation thereto:

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

**Article 20 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 21: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Old Home Day Committee**, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to use a **revolving fund with a limit of \$5,000.00** for the 2019 fiscal year to accept departmental receipts generated by Old Home Day activities and programs for the purpose of **defraying expenses of Old Home Day**, in which any remaining funds may be rolled over into a similar revolving fund for fiscal year 2020, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

**Article 21 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 22: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **RAISE and APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **Pensions and Insurance** for the 2019 fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto:

Franklin County Retirement Assessment	\$137,449.00
Unemployment Insurance	1,000.00
Group Health/Dental/Life Insurance	600,976.00
FICA/Medicare Tax – Town Share	55,000.00
TOTAL PENSION & INSURANCE FROM TAXATION	\$794,425.00

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (2-0-1)*

**Article 22 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 23: A motion was made and seconded to **TABLE** Article 23 to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$29,010.00** to be used to reduce the FY2019 Tax Rate, or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by Rowe Select Board

The motion to Table Article 23 Passed Unanimously by Show of Hands

ARTICLE 24: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from the **Overlay Surplus Account** the sum of **\$58,163.00** reduce the FY2019 Tax Rate, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 24 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 25: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be used to Update Town Website & Hosting, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (2-1-0)*

**Article 25 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 26: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$3,000.00** to be used to establish GASB 34 Capital Asset and Infrastructure Inventory, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 26 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 27: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$ 3,000.00** to be used to establish a GASB 45 OPEB, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 27 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 28: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$17,600.00** to be used for the Assessor's Quintennial Revaluation/Annual Update, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 28 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 29: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$7,000.00** to be used for an Assessor's Utility Transmission & Distribution Valuation Project, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 29 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 30: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from the **CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND**, the following sums for **capital repairs and improvements**, or take any action in relation thereto:

DPW – Truck	\$ 31,000.00	
DPW – Lawn Tractor 54” cut diesel	\$ 17,000.00	
LIBRARY – Replace Handicap Ramp	\$ 1,200.00	
TOWN HALL – Heating/Cooling 2 nd Floor	\$ 10,000.00	
TOWN HALL – ENERGY EFFICIENT FRONT DOOR	\$6,000.00	
TOTAL CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND		\$65,200.00

Note: Two-thirds vote is required to pass Articles removing sums from Stabilization funds.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

**Article 30 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 31: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from **PARK VEHICLE REPAIR FUND** the sum of **\$5,000.00** to be used for a new account, the DPW Truck Purchase Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee*

Article 31 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 32: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$164,656.00** to the Stabilization Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 32 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to accept the following amendments to the Mohawk Trail Regional Agreement (note: the amendments below are to be effective July 1, 2018):

Strike the following language in Section I(A):

A member appointed by the Rowe School Committee would serve as a non-voting member of the Committee as described in Section IX (G) of this Agreement.

Strike the following language in Section III(F):

The Committee shall accept for enrollment in the District High School, pupils from the Town of Rowe on a tuition basis and upon such terms as are set forth in Section IX of this Agreement. The Committee may accept for enrollment in the regional district schools pupils from towns other than the member towns and the Town of Rowe on a tuition basis and upon such terms as it may determine. In either case, income received by the District from tuition

pupils shall be deducted from the total operating costs in the next annual budget to be prepared after the receipt thereof, prior to apportionment under Section IV of this Agreement to the member towns.

and replace said language with the following:

Pursuant to Chapter 371 of the Acts of 1993, the Committee shall accept for enrollment in the District Middle/High School, all pupils from the Town of Rowe in grades seven through twelve on a tuition basis and upon such terms as are set forth in the tuition agreement entered into by the Committee and the Rowe School Committee. Such pupils shall include all Rowe pupils who are entitled to attend the District Middle/High School irrespective of the specific and particular educational needs of any pupil from said Town of Rowe, and irrespective of whether such education for any pupil from said Town of Rowe is provided at the District High School or at any other school as may be approved by said Committee (note: Rowe shall be financially responsible for resident pupils who choose to attend a vocational school). The Committee may accept for enrollment in the regional district schools pupils from towns other than the member towns and the Town of Rowe on a tuition basis and upon such terms as it may determine. In either case, income received by the District from tuition pupils shall be deducted from the total operating costs in the next annual budget to be prepared after the receipt thereof, prior to apportionment under Section IV of this Agreement to the member towns.

Strike the entirety of Section IX as follows, and renumber the remaining Sections:

SECTION IX

EDUCATION OF PUPILS FROM THE TOWN OF ROWE

(A) Special Education Pupils from the Town of Rowe

The Committee shall provide for the education of all pupils from the Town of Rowe in grades seven through twelve who are entitled to attend the District High School irrespective of the specific and particular educational needs of any pupil from said Town of Rowe, and irrespective of whether such education for any pupil from said Town of Rowe is provided at the District High School or at any other school as may be approved by said Committee.

(B) Transportation of Pupils from the Town of Rowe

The Committee shall provide for the transportation of pupils from the Town of Rowe who are entitled to attend the District High School, to and from said District High School to the extent that such transportation is provided for pupils from member towns who are entitled to attend said District High School. The Committee shall provide for the transportation of pupils from the Town of Rowe who are entitled to attend the District High School, to and from any other school as may be approved by said Committee to the extent that such transportation is provided for pupils from member towns who are entitled to attend said District High School, to and from any other school as may be approved by said Committee.

The Town of Rowe shall bear the cost of transportation for elementary pupils attending the Rowe elementary school.

(C) Tuition Basis for Pupils Grades 7-12 from the Town of Rowe

The cost of tuition to the District High School for each pupil in grades seven through twelve who attends the District High School or any other school as may be approved by the Committee, and who resides in the Town of Rowe shall be paid by said Town of Rowe to the District during the fiscal year when each such pupil is actually in attendance. The basis of the cost of tuition to the District High School or any other school as may be approved by said Committee for each fiscal year shall be established as follows: The total Maintenance and Operating Budget for said District High School as defined in Subsection VI(D) of this Agreement, for that fiscal year, reduced by the anticipated amounts of receipts from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be used by the Committee to defray such budgeted maintenance and operating charges for that fiscal year, and further reduced by the anticipated

amounts of surplus revenue from the District treasury to be used by the Committee to defray such budgeted maintenance and operating charges for that fiscal year, and further reduced by the amounts received from towns paying tuition to the district, consistent with the terms of Subsection III(F) of this Agreement; the balance (viz. the net operating and maintenance budget for said fiscal year) to be divided by the total enrollment of pupils in the District High School from member towns as of October 1 of the previous fiscal year and the resulting balance further divided by one and one-tenth (1.1); the final balance to equal the cost of tuition for one pupil for one complete school year.

(D) Reduction of the Cost of Tuition for Pupils Resident in the Town of Rowe

In the event the Committee reduces the net operating and maintenance costs assessed to the member towns for any fiscal year, by reduction of the Operating and Maintenance Budget for said fiscal year or by the application of additional amounts of revenue, irrespective of the source thereof, to reduce the net operating and maintenance costs assessed to said member towns for that fiscal year, the cost of tuition to the Town of Rowe for the education of its pupils during said fiscal year shall be likewise reduced in accordance with the provisions of Subsection IX(D).

(E) Schedule of Payment of Tuition Costs by the Town of Rowe

The Town of Rowe shall pay for the tuition of its pupils to the District High School, or any other school as may be approved by the Committee, such amounts as are in accordance with the provisions of Subsection IX (D), and shall make such payments twice each fiscal year at the following time: 1) not later than January 31 of each fiscal year; 2) not later than June 30 of each fiscal year.

(F) Payment of Capital Costs by the Town of Rowe

The Town of Rowe shall have the opportunity to pay a portion of capital costs as defined in Subsection IV (B) for capital projects at District High School. The Committee shall negotiate the rate of a voluntary contribution with the Rowe School Committee at the time of each capital project.

(G) Representation on the Committee

The School Committee of the Town of Rowe may appoint one of its members to represent the Town of Rowe at meetings of the Committee. The Committee shall allow such representative all powers of discussion, debate and deliberation including, but not limited to, participation in such meetings of the Committee while in executive session, but such representative shall not have the power to vote on any matter which comes before the Committee.

(H) Administrative Support Services for Rowe Pupils Grade K-6

The Town of Rowe shall have the opportunity to utilize the services of the Superintendent of Schools and central administration, and Director of Pupil Services who also directs special education, for administration of the Rowe Elementary School and bear the costs thereof.

(I) Distribution of Assets in the Event of Dissolution of the District

In the event of the dissolution of the District, its assets shall be distributed to the member towns and the Town of Rowe on the basis of each town's respective aggregate payment of capital cost to the District.

*Recommended by the School Committee
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)
Recommended by Rowe Select Board*

**Article 33 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 34: A motion was made and seconded 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 for the purposes of bridge repair and construction, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Article 34 Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

ARTICLE 36: A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to amend the General By-laws of the Town of Rowe Article III Section 11 or take any other action relative thereto:

In accordance with Chapter 39 §16 of General Laws there shall be a Finance Committee consisting of five members which shall consider all municipal questions relating to appropriations and may consider any municipal question for the purpose of making reports and recommendations to the Town. This committee shall submit its recommendations and report to each town meeting, annual or special. Two members of said committee shall be elected on each of two consecutive years and one on the third year by ballot at each annual town election. No member of the Board of Selectmen or the School Committee shall be eligible to serve on said committee. Members of the Finance Committee holding other town offices or positions must recuse themselves on all matters pertaining to that department. The Finance Committee shall have the powers and duties delegated to it by said Section 16 and other applicable laws including the duty of submitting a budget with the approval of the Selectmen for the Omnibus article at the annual Town Meeting and such recommendations shall be printed on the annual Town Meeting warrant.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

**Article 36 Passed By Show of Hands
Not Unanimous**

ARTICLE 37: A motion was made and seconded to **TABLE** Article 37 to see if the Town will adopt the following Non Substantive Bylaw, or take any action relative thereto: The Town Clerk is authorized, only after consultation with the Select Board for purposes of clarity, to assign appropriate numbers or letters to bylaw sections, subsections, paragraphs, and sub-paragraphs, and also to make non-substantive editorial revisions to the bylaw for the purpose of ensuring consistent, appropriate sequencing, numbering, and non-substantive edits, provided that such editorial revisions shall be identified by a footnote or other convention without Town Meeting Approval.

*Recommended by Rowe Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee (3-0-0)*

Motion to TABLE Article 21 was defeated by a Show of Hands

**Article 37 Passed by Teller Count
Yes – 22
No - 21**

ARTICLE 38: A motion was made and seconded to transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

- Board of Selectmen Chair, Jennifer Morse reminded people of the following upcoming events:
 - Annual Town Election this Saturday, May 19th. Polls open from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

- Rowe Fire, Police and North Adams Ambulance will be having an open house at the Station on Saturday, May 19 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Touch a Truck, File of Life Folders, Smoke Detector Information and More.
- Mr. Paul McLatchy Jr. requested that consideration be given to the poor acoustics of the school gym when planning future Town Meetings.
Jean Claude Van Itallie volunteered his services in helping to plan a more acoustically friendly seating arrangement for future meetings.
- Paul McLatchy III, Bylaw Committee Representative, requested, a sense of the Meeting regarding the mailing of Town Reports as the current cost ranges between \$700 - \$1000. Show of hands indicated leaning towards continued mailing of Annual Town Reports.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Passed Unanimously By Show of Hands

Respectfully Submitted:

Katherine Sprague
Rowe Town Clerk
May 14, 2018

A true copy, Attest:


Town Clerk