



BRIDGEWATER TOWN COUNCIL

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

7:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held virtually via Zoom.

To attend via video, click on the link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82787726737>

To attend via phone, dial: 1(646) 876-9923

Meeting ID: 827 877 267 37

MEETING AGENDA

Disclosure: Pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain Covid-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, this meeting of the Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater will be fully remote and accessible to the public through remote participation to the greatest extent possible. There will be no in person attendance permitted. Citizens who wish to tune in to the meeting may do so via Zoom or Facebook Live.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) October 5, 2021
- b) October 12, 2021

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

C. PROCLAMATIONS

D. CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

E. APPOINTMENTS

- a) Historical Commission Alternate Member– Geoffrey A. Merriman

F. HEARINGS - *None*

G. LICENSE TRANSACTIONS - *None*

H. PRESENTATIONS

I. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Mitchell School Update (*Standing Item*)
- b) COVID-19 Update
- c) Status of Dwell-85

J. DISCUSSIONS

K. COMMITTEE REPORTS

L. LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

- a) Ordinance D-FY21-011: General Ordinance - Amend Article II Sec 2-1. Composition; Eligibility; Term of Office (*Councilor Gallagher*)
At their meeting held on 10/12/2021, the Rules and Procedures Committee voted to recommend approval as amended. This measure may not be considered this evening as it requires advertising.
- b) Ordinance D-FY21-012: General Ordinance - Admin Code Change Part II CH. 1 Article II Section 2 (*Councilor Gallagher*)
At their meeting held on 10/12/2021, the Rules and Procedures Committee voted to recommend approval as amend. This measure may not be considered this evening as it requires advertising.
- c) Order O-FY22-014: The Adoption of the Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program (PCOT) (*Town Manager*)
The Budget and Finance Committee meet 10/19/2021, their disposition will be provided upon receipt. The Finance Committee voted to recommend approval at their meeting held on 10/13/21. This measure may be finally considered this evening upon receipt.
- d) Order O-FY22-015: General Fund Free Cash Allocation to Trust Funds (*Town Manager*)
The Budget and Finance Committee meet 10/19/2021, their disposition will be provided upon receipt. The Finance Committee voted to recommend approval at their meeting held on 10/13/21. This measure may be finally considered this evening upon receipt.

M. OLD BUSINESS

N. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Ordinance D-FY22-013: Discontinuance of the Abandoned Portion of Lakeside Drive (*Councilor Sousa*)
- b) Ordinance D-FY22-014: Adoption of Precinct Map (*Councilor Moore, Councilor Gallagher, Councilor Wood*)
- c) Resolution R-FY22-002: FY23 Budget Resolution (*Councilor Wood*)
- d) Resolution R-FY22-003: Clear Title to the Town Common (*Councilor Wood*)
- e) Order O-FY22-016: Capital Appropriation Memorial Building Project (*Town Manager*)
- f) Order O-FY22-017: Transfer Order OSLGC Pump (*Town Manager*)
- g) Order O-FY22-018: Plymouth American Rescue Plan Act Votes (*Town Manager*)
- h) Order O-FY22-019: Eminent Domain Order of Taking for Summer Street Property (*Councilor George*)

O. CITIZEN COMMENTS

P. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) *Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) (2): To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.*

R. ADJOURNMENT



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, October 19, 2021

Council Ordinance: D-FY21-011

Introduced By:	Councilor Dennis Gallagher
Date Introduced:	June 29, 2021
First Reading:	June 29, 2021
Second Reading:	August 3, 2021
Third Reading:	October 19, 2021
Amendments Adopted:	(1)
Date Adopted:	
Date Effective:	

Proposed Ordinance D-FY21-011

General Ordinance - Amend Article II Sec 2-1. Composition; Eligibility; Term of Office

WHEREAS, an amendment to Article II, Section 2-1 of the Bridgewater Town Charter;

ORDERED, that the Town Council assembled votes to amend the Town Charter, Article II, Section 2-1 to read as follows:

There shall be a Town Council consisting of **nine (9) members** which shall exercise the legislative powers of the town. ~~XXX of these members are to be known as district councilors, shall be nominated and elected by and from the voters of the XXX districts into which the town is divided and XXX of the members to be known as councilors at large, shall be nominated and elected by and from the voters at large.~~ **Each of the districts into which the town is divided shall have a single member to be known as a district councilor, whom shall be nominated and elected by and from the voters of their respective districts. The remaining members shall be known as councilors-at-large and shall be nominated and elected by and from voters at large.**

EXPLANATION:

This begins the process of what we know will be some change in the makeup of the precincts in Bridgewater due to the recent census. The Town Clerk will make a recommendation to the Council as to what the makeup should be, but the Council will have the final say. This puts the issue in committee so discussions can begin to take place as the timeline for this process will be tight.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
Rules and Procedure Committee	Vote 2-0 to recommend approval as amended.



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Ordinance: D-FY21-012

Introduced By:	Councilor Dennis Gallagher
Date Introduced:	June 29, 2021
First Reading:	June 29, 2021
Second Reading:	August 3, 2021
Third Reading:	October 19, 2021
Amendments Adopted:	(1)
Date Adopted:	
Date Effective:	

Proposed Ordinance D-FY21-012

General Ordinance – Admin Code Change: Part II, CH. 1 Article II, Section 2

WHEREAS, In accordance with the provisions of the Bridgewater Home Rule Charter relative to amendments to the Administrative Code, it is therefore;

ORDERED, that the Town Council assembled votes to amend the Bridgewater Administrative Code, Part II, CH. 1 Article II, Section 2 to read as follows:

There shall be **nine (9) members** of the Bridgewater Town Council, one Councilor elected from each district and the remaining elected at-large. ~~The total councilors shall be an uneven number.~~ The Bridgewater Town Council shall exercise all the legislative powers of the Town.

Explanation:

This would put the admin code in line with the charter change.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
Rules and Procedures Committee	Vote 2-0 recommend approval as amended



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Order: O-FY22-014

Introduced By:	Town Manager
Date Introduced	October 5, 2021
First Reading:	October 5, 2021
Second Reading:	October 19, 2021
Amendments Adopted:	None
Third Reading:	
Date Adopted:	
Date Effective:	

Order O-FY22-014

THE ADOPTION OF THE PLYMOUTH COUNTY OPEB TRUST PROGRAM (PCOT)

WHEREAS the Town of Bridgewater (the “Town”) has accepted the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; and

WHEREAS Plymouth County sponsors the Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program (PCOT); and

WHEREAS the Town is eligible to participate in PCOT, a program designed to fund post-employment benefits for its employees as specified in the Town’s policies and/or applicable collective bargaining agreements; and

WHEREAS it is determined to be in the best interest of the Town to adopt the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust (the “OPEB Fund”), a tax-exempt trust performing an essential governmental function within the meaning of Section 115 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, and the relevant statutory provisions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS the Town has authorized investment of the OPEB Fund in accordance with the prudent investor rule under the provisions of Chapter 203C of the Massachusetts General Laws; and

WHEREAS the Town’s adoption and operation of the OPEB Fund has no effect on any current or former employee’s entitlement to post-employment benefits; and

WHEREAS the terms and conditions of post-employment benefit entitlement, if any, are governed by contracts separate from and independent of the OPEB Fund; and

WHEREAS the Town’s funding of the OPEB Fund does not, and is not intended to, create any new vested right to any benefit nor strengthen any existing vested right; and

WHEREAS the Town reserves the right to make contributions, if any, to the OPEB Fund.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town Council of the Town of Bridgewater (the “Council”) hereby approves participating in the Plymouth County OPEB Trust Program (PCOT); and
2. The Council hereby adopts the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan Trust, including the Public Agencies Post-Retirement Health Care Plan, effective 30 days after the date of

Roll Call Vote

acceptance; and

3. The Council hereby appoints the Treasurer/Collector or his/her successor or his/her designee as the Town's Plan Administrator for the OPEB Fund. The Plan Administrator shall act on behalf of the Town in all matters relating to the Town's participation in the OPEB Fund, including, but not limited to, authorizing the investment of OPEB Fund assets in PCOT's investment pool, providing directions to the Trustee and/or the Trust Administrator, and authorizing contributions and disbursements from the Town's trust assets; and
4. The Council hereby appoints the PCOT Investment Committee for the oversight of investments; and
5. The Town's Plan Administrator is hereby authorized to execute the legal and administrative documents on behalf of the Town and to take whatever additional actions are necessary to maintain the Town's participation in the OPEB Fund and to maintain compliance of any relevant regulations issued or as may be issued.

Explanation: The Finance Director recommends the adoption of this to be the best investment method for funds the Town appropriates towards its outstanding Other Post-Employment Benefits liability. The Plymouth County OPEB Trust has outperformed other public investment vehicles over time and is comprised of almost 30 municipal entities throughout southeast Massachusetts.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
• Budget and Finance Committee • Finance Committee	• • 6-0 vote to recommend.



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Order: O-FY22-015

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: October 5, 2021
First Reading: October 5, 2021
Second Reading: October 19, 2021
Amendments Adopted: None
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-015

TRANSFER ORDER – GF FREE CASH ALLOCATION TO TRUST FUNDS

ORDERED pursuant to Section 6-4 of the Town of Bridgewater Charter, that the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to appropriate and transfer **from** below schedule Source of Funds **to** below schedule of Use of Funds:

Source of Funds	Account No.	GL Account Description	Amount
GENERAL FUND UNDESIGNATED BALANCE	09905990-596120	TRANS OUT TO TRUST FUNDS	\$ 4,288,020.00
Total:			\$ 4,288,020.00
Use of Funds	Account No.	GL Account Description	Amount
GF STABILIZATION TRUST FUND	80054-497000	TRANSFER FROM GF	\$ 146,553.00
CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND	80104-497000	TRANSFER FROM GF	\$ 3,191,467.00
OPEB STABILIZATION FUND	80114-497000	TRANSFER FROM GF	\$ 100,000.00
EMPLOYEE LIABILITY STABILIZATION FUND	80044-497000	TRANSFER FROM GF	\$ 500,000.00
OTHER ONE TIME UNFORESEEN STABILIZA	80134-497000	TRANSFER FROM GF	\$ 350,000.00
Total			\$ 4,288,020.00

Explanation: Recommended Allocation of the General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Certified Free Cash) to the established Trust Funds as noted in above.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
- Budget and Finance Committee - Finance Committee	6-0 vote to recommend.



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Ordinance: D-FY22-013

Introduced By: Councilor Sousa
Date Introduced: October 19, 2021
First Reading: October 19, 2021
Second Reading:
Third Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Proposed Ordinance D-FY22-013

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE ABANDONED PORTION OF LAKESIDE DRIVE

WHEREAS, a portion of Lakeside Drive has been abandoned and unused for decades and;

WHEREAS, a portion is now part of the parking lot for the boat ramp;

WHEREAS, a portion beyond that runs through the land owned by Claremont Lake Bridgewater;

WHEREAS, the Bridgewater Town Council has the authority to discontinue the way pursuant to G.L. c.81: 81 and Section 2-2 of the Town Charter;

ORDERED, that the council vote to abandon that portion of the way, in accordance with the exhibit listed below. This way will become the property of the state which owns the boat ramp and Claremont Lakeside Bridgewater, LLC. will take ownership of the portion of the way, abutting parcels 11 through 14 and parcels 29 through 39 shown on the Town of Bridgewater Assessor's Map 83.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER
TOWN COUNCIL

IN RE: PETITION FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF THE ABANDONED PORTION OF
LAKESIDE DRIVE

To the Honorable Town Council of the Town of Bridgewater:

NOW COMES Councilor Frank Sousa, who respectfully requests that the Council order that a certain portion of Lakeside Drive, more particularly described below, be discontinued pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, Section 81. For reasons therefore, the Petitioner states that the portion of Lakeside Drive proposed to be discontinued has gone unused for decades, is not necessary to the Town, and is burdensome to its abutters. The Petitioner further relies upon the information discussed below and the Exhibits submitted herewith.

The Petitioner and the Land Proposed to be Discontinued

Claremont Lakeside Bridgewater, LLC ("Claremont") is title owner of Parcels 11 through 14 and Parcels 29 through 39 as shown on the Town of Bridgewater Assessors' Map 83. Exhibit 1 (highlighted in yellow for convenience). Those Parcels front on both sides of the southwesterly portion of Lakeside Drive, from its junction with Pleasant Street (Route 104) to Parcels 28 and 40. Parcels 28 and 40 are owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and are currently used as the boat ramp for access to Lake Nippenicket and a parking lot for those utilizing the boat ramp. The Commonwealth's land is highlighted in green on Exhibit 1. There are no other owners fronting on that portion of Lakeside Drive that the Petitioner is seeking to discontinue.

Enclosed herewith are satellite photos of the relevant portion of Lakeside Drive, showing that the road is not visible on the ground. Exhibit 2. The portion of Lakeside Drive that the Claremont fronts on is now a grassed area that is partially fenced off. The portion of Lakeside Drive on which the Commonwealth's land fronts is entirely paved over as a parking lot. The land is no longer used as a way and has not been so used for decades. It appears that the only remnant of the way is a curb cut on Route 104 that has a fence running across it. Otherwise, this portion of Lakeside Drive has disappeared.

Legal Status of Lakeside Drive

Lakeside Drive, as originally laid out, ran from what is now Old Pleasant Street (formerly Pleasant Street) northward along the shoreline of the lake. Exhibit 3. This is still shown on Assessors' Map 83, Exhibit 1. In the 1960s and 1970s, as part of the project constructing Route 24, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts took land via eminent domain and laid out Route 104 from Route 24 to the Raynham town line. That Route became what is now known as Pleasant Street and resulted in the renaming of the original Pleasant Street to Old Pleasant Street. See Exhibit 1. Also resulting from the layout of Route 104 was the renaming of that portion of Fruit Street lying north of Pleasant Street to Lakeside Drive. Exhibit 4. Previously, Fruit Street connected Lakeside Drive to [Old] Pleasant Street. Exhibit 3. Now, Fruit Street terminates east of Route 104, with the northern extension of the road being renamed Lakeside Drive. This

reconfiguration of Pleasant Street, Route 104, and Fruit Street rendered that portion of Lakeside Drive along Claremont's and the Commonwealth's properties obsolete and effectively abandoned.

Proposal

It is requested that the Town formally discontinue the abandoned portion of Lakeside Drive which fronts on the Commonwealth's and Claremont's land. Accompanying this Petition as Exhibit 5 is a proposed Road Abandonment Plan with a property description of the exact area proposed to be discontinued. The Town Council has the authority to discontinue the way, pursuant to G. L. c. 82, § 81 and Section 2-2 of the Town Charter. It appears to have been the intent of the Town to do so when it renamed the northern extension of Fruit Street to Lakeside Drive, which apparently coincided with the abandonment of that part of the Lakeside Drive adjacent to the Commonwealth's and Claremont's properties. However, despite great efforts by the various Town departments, nobody can locate a vote of the Town or any other action legally discontinuing the way.

Considering the size, shape, and location of the various parcels at issue, as well as the current use of the way by Claremont and the Commonwealth, it is highly unlikely that the Town would ever need or desire to reconstruct the way. Under the current circumstances, the existence of the way creates confusion with regard to the rights and obligations of those fronting on it and results in the town's records indicating the presence of a road, where there is actually a parking lot, a fence, a house, a shed, and a yard. Discontinuing the way will resolve these conflicting uses.

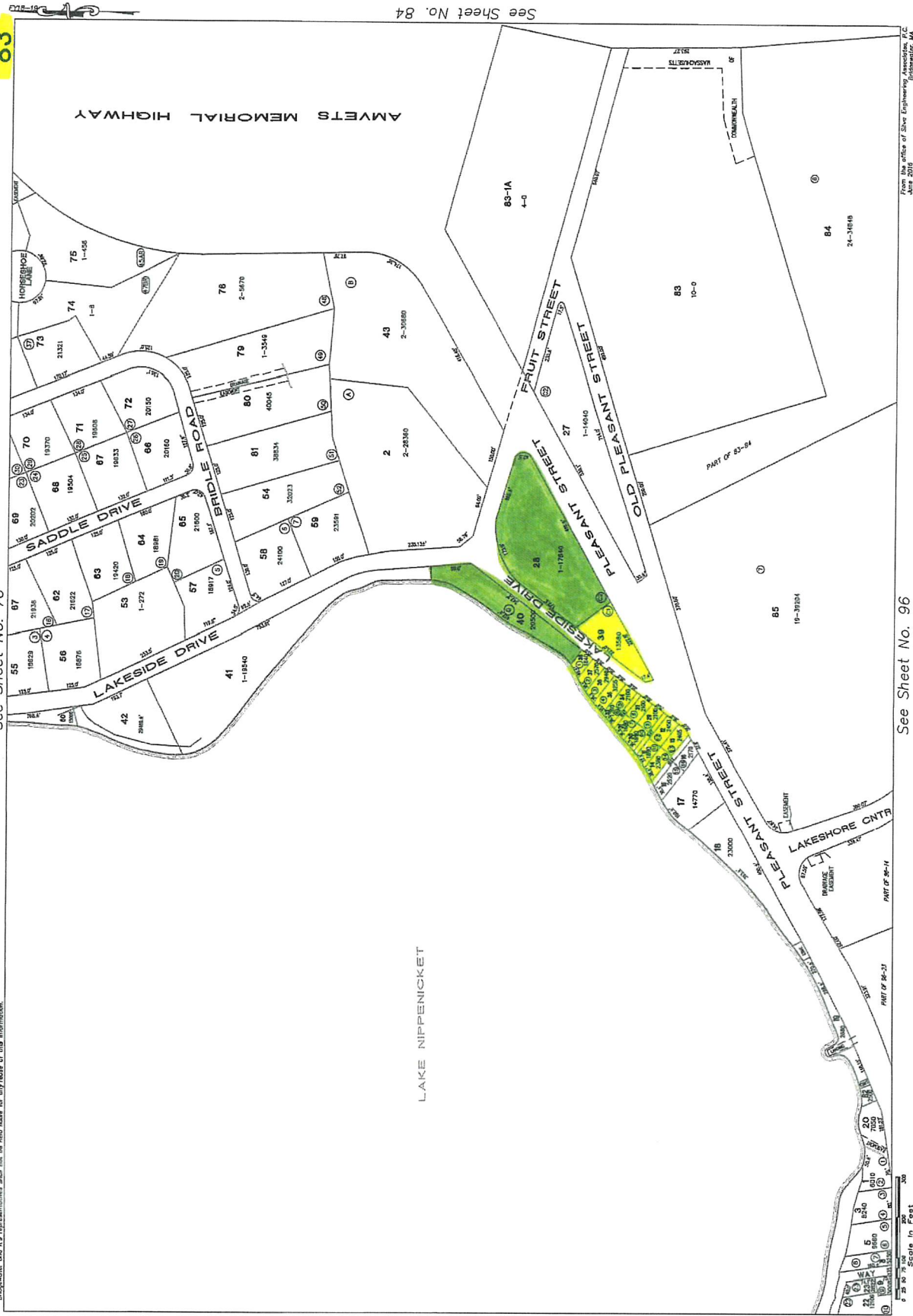
Accordingly, discontinuing the way would benefit both the Town and those abutting the way and I hereby move that such action be taken.

EXHIBIT 1

NOTE: These maps are not intended for use in connection with any engineering project. The Town of Bridgewater and its representatives shall not be held liable for any use of this information.

See Sheet No. 70

83



See Sheet No. 82

See Sheet No. 84

See Sheet No. 96

From the office of State Engineering Association, Inc.
June 2016

EXHIBIT 2

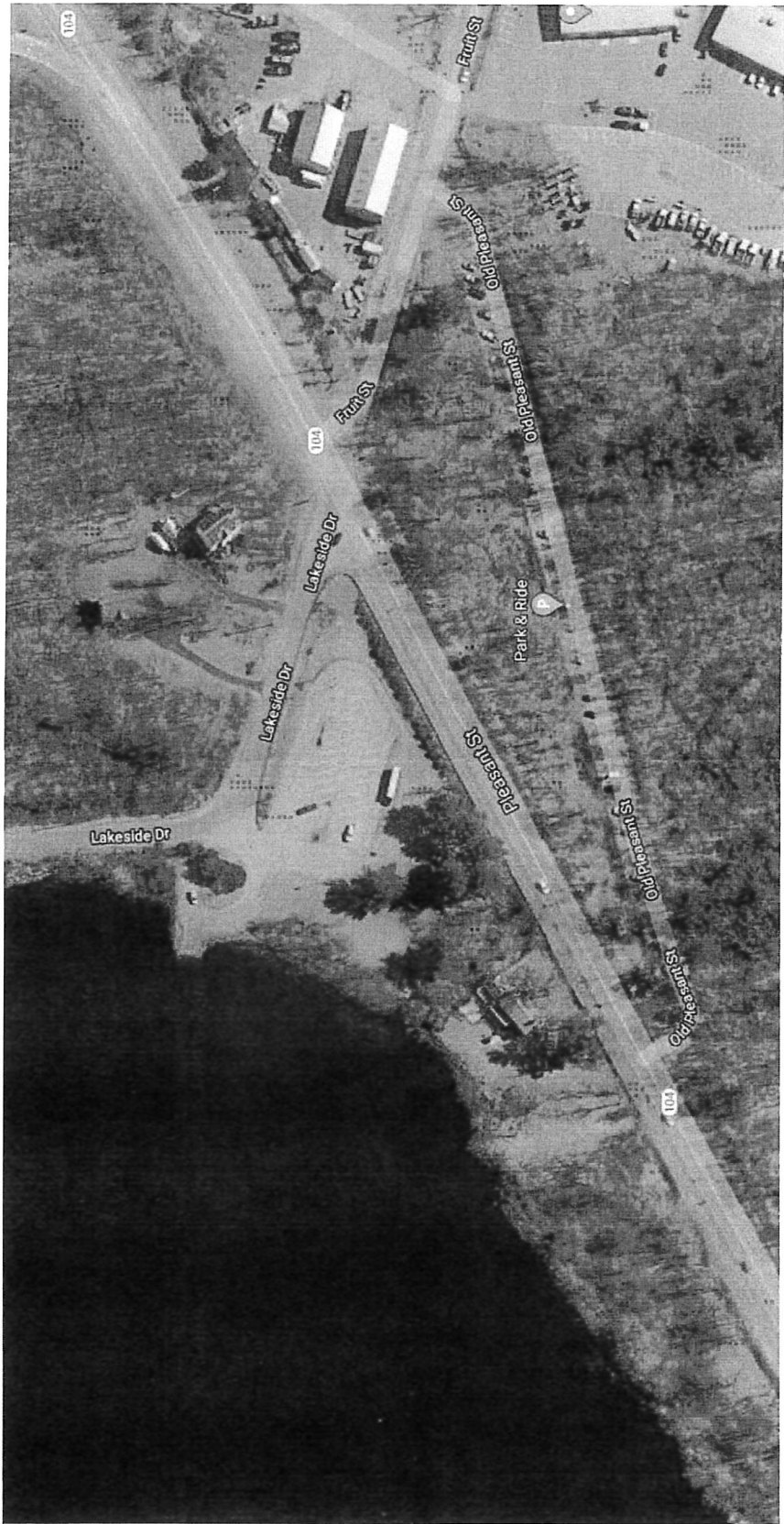


EXHIBIT 3

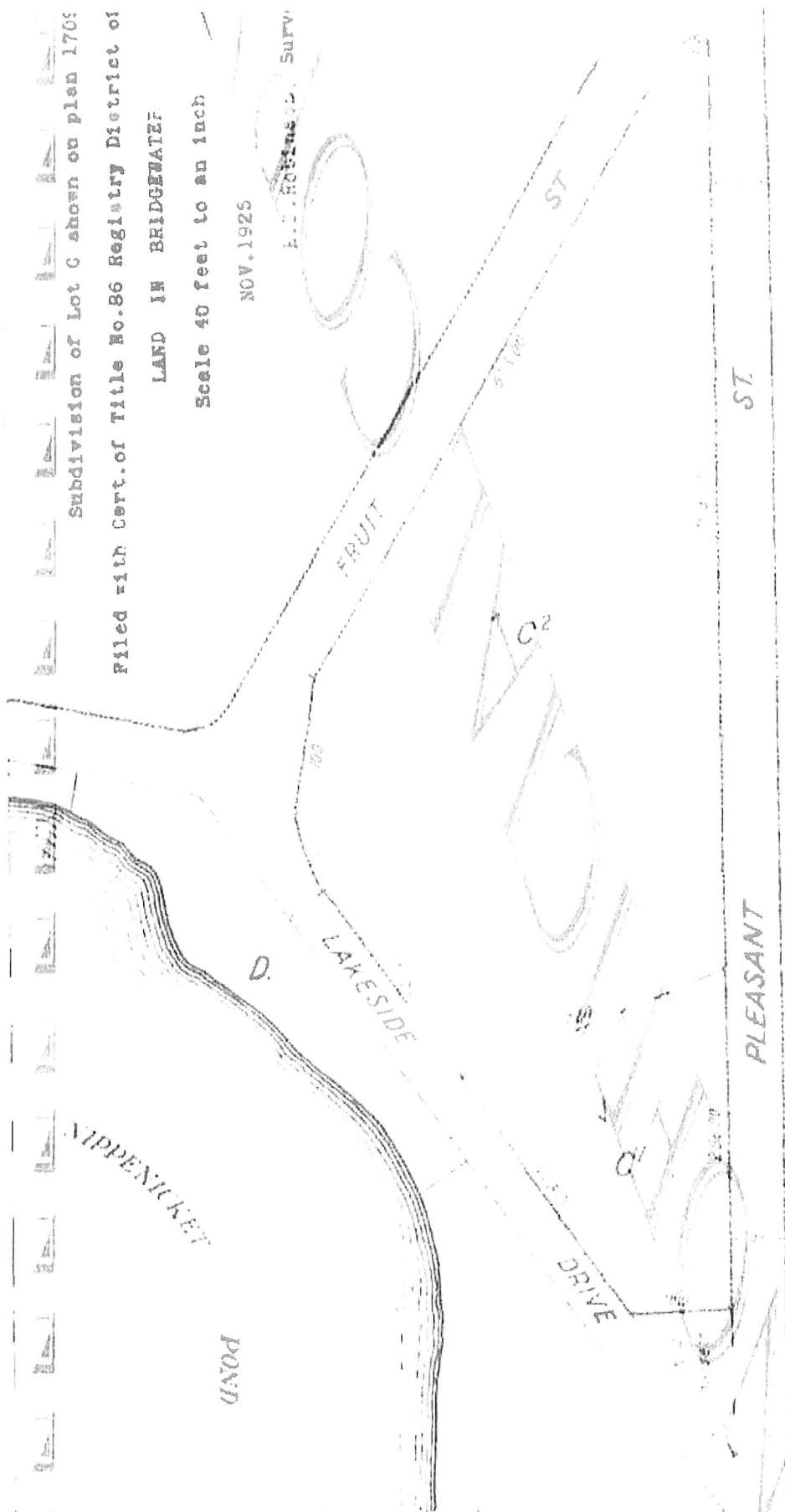
Subdivision of Lot C shown on plan 170:
 Filed with Cert. of Title No. 86 Registry District of

LAND IN BRIDGEWATER

Scale 40 feet to an inch

NOV. 1925

E. F. ROBINSON, SURV.



A.

THIS PLAN FILED WITH
 CERTIFICATE NO. 86

Separate certificates of title may be issued
 for lots C and C' as shown hereon
 By the Court

Copy of part of plan
 filed in
 LAND REGISTRATION OFFICE
 MAR 29 1926
 Scale of this plan 100 feet to an inch

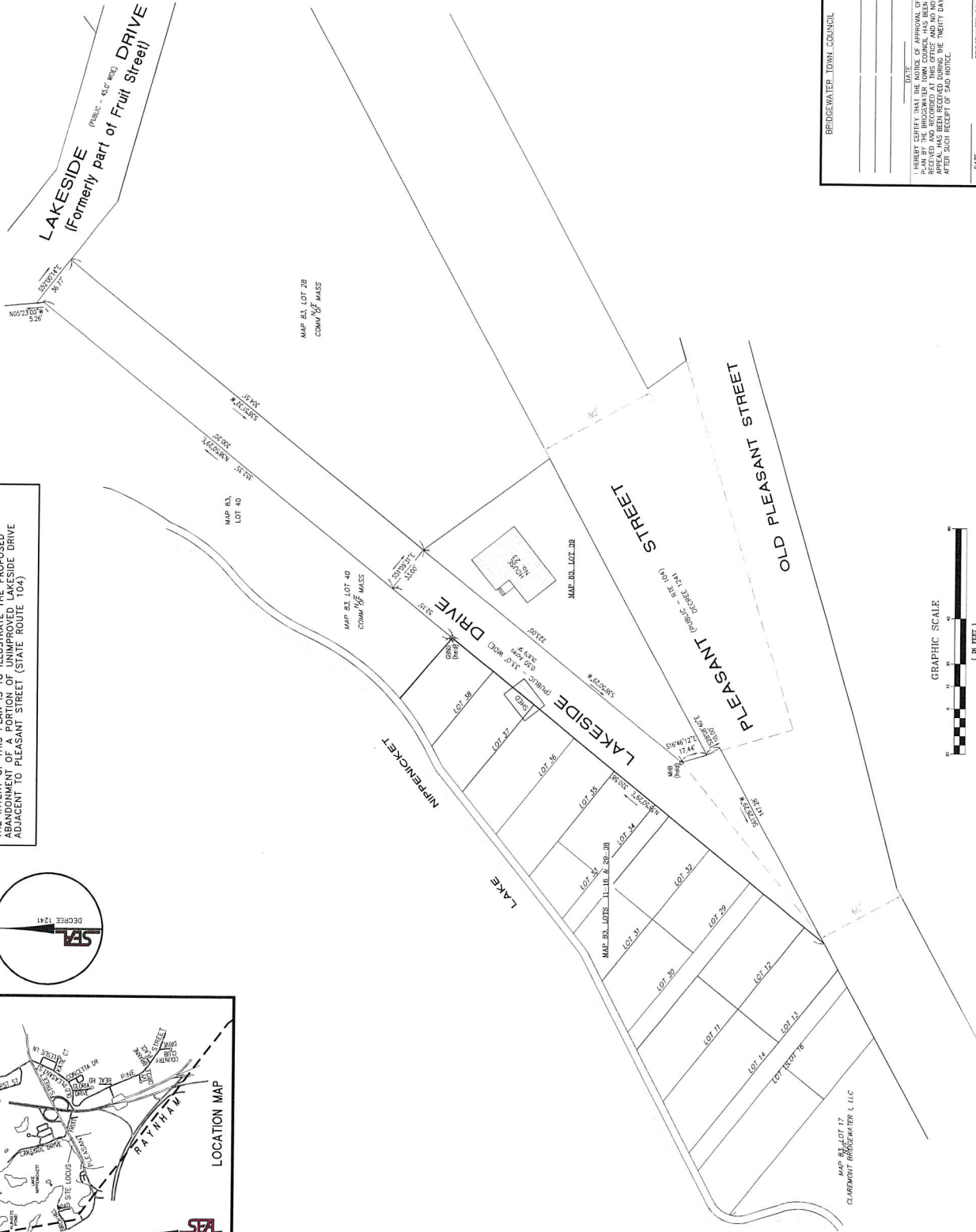
EXHIBIT 4



EXHIBIT 5



THE INTENT OF THIS PLAN IS TO ILLUSTRATE THE PROPOSED ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF UNIMPROVED LAKESIDE DRIVE ADJACENT TO PLEASANT STREET (STATE ROUTE 104).



BRIDGEWATER TOWN COUNCIL

BRIDGEWATER TOWN CLERK

DATE _____

(IN FEET)

10

FOR REGISTRY USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS, OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

[illegible]

PLAN REFERENCES:

1. MAP AND LOT NUMBERS REFER TO THE BRIDGEWATER ASSESSORS MAP AND LOT NUMBERS
2. FIELD SURVEY PERFORMED BY SILVA ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES FROM 2009-2021
3. LAND COURT PLAN 1709B
4. PLAN BK 4, PG 965
5. PLEASANT ST DECREE 1241
6. MASS HIGHWAY LAYOUT 3947

"ROAD ABANDONMENT PLAN"

SITE:

LAKESIDE DRIVE

BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

PREPARED FOR:

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER



CIVIL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS
& ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS
1615 BEDFORD STREET
BRIDGEWATER, MA. 02324
PHONE (508) 697-3100 FAX (508) 697-3130
www.silvaeng.com

SCALE	DRAWN	DATE	ACAD FILE	SHEET
1"=30'	LP5	9/22/2021	90732 PLGRM	1

PROPOSED DESCRIPTION OF AREA OF LAKESIDE DRIVE TO BE DISCONTINUED

BEGINNING at a point on the north side of Pleasant Street at the intersection of Pleasant Street and Lakeside Drive;

THENCE running Northerly $38^{\circ}50'29''$ E, 320.58 feet along the northern side of said Lakeside Drive to a turn;

THENCE running Northerly $05^{\circ}23'00''$ W, 5.26 feet to a turn;

THENCE running Southerly $52^{\circ}00'1431''$ E, 36.77 feet to a point on the southern side of said Lakeside Drive to a turn;

THENCE running Southerly $38^{\circ}51'32''$ @, 223.00 feet along the southern side of said Lakeside Drive to a turn;

THENCE running Southerly $38^{\circ}50'29''$ W, 223.00 along the southern side of said Lakeside Drive feet to a turn;

THENCE running Southerly $16^{\circ}46'12''$ E, 17.44 feet along the southern side of said Lakeside Drive to a turn;

THENCE running Southerly $28^{\circ}08'40''$ E, 10.00 feet along the southern side of said Lakeside Drive to a point on the north side of Pleasant Street at the intersection of Pleasant Street and Lakeside Drive to a turn;

THENCE running Southerly $61^{\circ}26'29''$ W, 147.28 feet along said Pleasant Street to the point of beginning



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Ordinance: D-FY22-014

Introduced By: Councilor Moore, Gallagher, Wood
Date Introduced: October 19, 2021
First Reading: October 19, 2021
Second Reading:
Third Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Proposed Ordinance D-FY22-014

ADOPTION OF TOWN PRECINCT MAP

Whereas, Mass General Law requires that each precinct established shall contain, as nearly as may be, an equal number of inhabitants, but not more than four thousand inhabitants; and

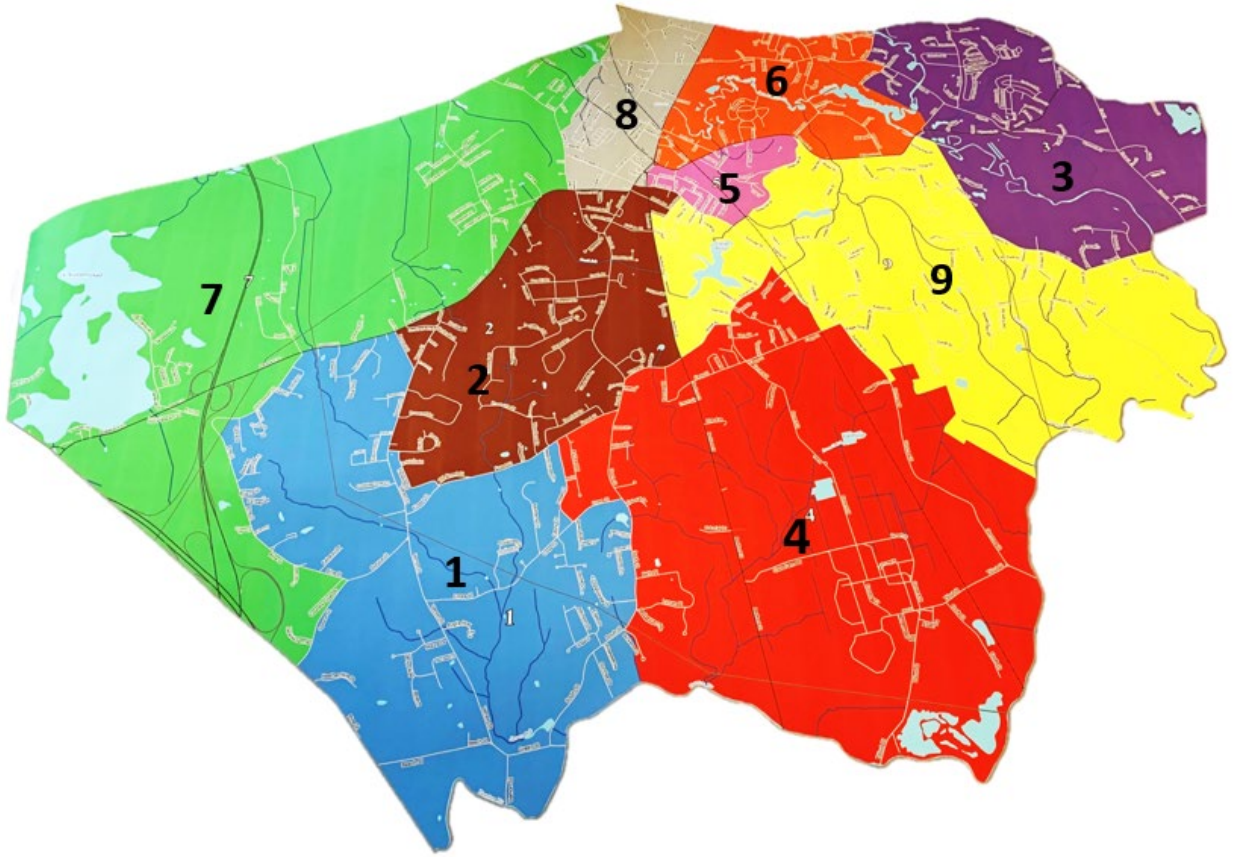
Whereas, the Town of Bridgewater has exceeded the maximum allowable population for seven (7) precincts and must therefore redefine its precincts to be population-proportional and below the four thousand inhabitant limit; and

Whereas, Mass General Law requires an official description of the precincts so established, together with a statement of the number of inhabitants residing in each precinct as nearly as such number may be determined; and

Whereas, Mass General Law requires that an official map of the precincts be prepared;

Therefore, the Town of Bridgewater shall be divided into nine (9) precincts as visualized on the official map (Exhibit A) and with the following number of precinct inhabitants as nearly as such number may be determined:

<i>Precinct 1</i>	<i>3,178</i>	<i>Precinct 2</i>	<i>3,210</i>	<i>Precinct 3</i>	<i>3,218</i>
<i>Precinct 4</i>	<i>3,122</i>	<i>Precinct 5</i>	<i>3,291</i>	<i>Precinct 6</i>	<i>3,093</i>
<i>Precinct 7</i>	<i>3,027</i>	<i>Precinct 8</i>	<i>3,211</i>	<i>Precinct 9</i>	<i>3,283</i>



Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Resolution: R-FY22-002

Introduced By: Councilor Wood
Date Introduced: October 19, 2021
First Reading: October 19, 2021
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Resolution R-FY22-002

FY2023 BUDGET RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: A methodical and disciplined approach to the operating budget is warranted.

RESOLVED: Pursuant to establishing guidelines and priorities for the Town Manager to develop the Annual Budget, the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to adopt the following Policy Guidelines for the Town Manager to use in creating the FY 2023 Budget:

The Town Council is adopting these budget policy guidelines pursuant to Section 6-1 of the Bridgewater Home Rule Charter. Based on these guidelines, the Town Manager will develop budgetary goals and the Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2023.

Introduction

The following financial principles set forth the framework for our overall fiscal planning and management of the Town of Bridgewater's resources and are designed to ensure the Town's sound financial condition, now and in the future.

Sound Financial Condition is defined as:

- Cash Solvency - the ability to pay bills in a timely fashion
- Budgetary Solvency - the ability to annually balance the budget
- Long Term Solvency - the ability to pay for future costs
- Service Level Solvency - the ability to provide needed and desired services
- Reserve Solvency – the ability to adapt and respond to economic conditions
 - Capital Solvency – the ability to assess, maintain, and replace our capital assets
- Bond Rating- maintain or improve current bond rating A2

To this end we will adhere to the following financial policies.

Financial Policies and Guidelines:

The Town will adopt their Multi-Year forecast for fiscal years 2023-2027 and a Capital Improvement Program, prior to the submission of the FY Town Managers FY 2023 Budget. This will give the Town a broader more forwarding looking perspective to better understand the budgetary cost drivers and our revenue capacity. Projecting forward will allow us to foresee where a structural deficit may exist when building out our operating budget for the ensuing year.

The following will be applied in preparing the FY 2022 Budget.

1. The town will avoid budgetary practices that balance current expenditures at the expense of meeting future year's expenses, such as postponing maintenance and upkeep of our facilities and equipment.
2. Recurring operating costs will be funded by recurring sources of revenue. In addition, to budget prudently and plan for contingencies the town sets the following reserve objectives for FY 2023:
 - a. Unreserved Fund Balance (free cash) for FY 2023 (07/01/2023) will be targeted at 1.5% of the 2022 operating budget and used only for one-time expenditures such as capital improvements, capital equipment, unexpected or extraordinary expenses such as unbudgeted snow and ice removal expenses and/or to meet the stabilization reserve policy objectives.
 - b. The Town will maintain a Stabilization Fund as its main financial reserve in the event of an emergency, unforeseen circumstances, or an extraordinary need. It shall be the goal of the town to achieve and maintain a balance in the Stabilization Fund equal to 10% of its operating budget.
3. Revenue:
 - a. Revenue Estimating: the revenues will be estimated conservatively, using an objective analytical approach. The goal is to predict revenues as accurately as possible while erring on the side of caution.
 - b. The Town will use methodologies established that best fit the accuracy of specific forecasting, in other words, different methods for different revenue types: Property Tax, Local Aid, Local Receipts, and Other Available Funds.
 - c. Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation: A five-year forecast will be used to determine available funds to support, proportionately, the ensuing years Fire Department operating budget and capital requirements for the Ambulance Fleet. (See Exhibit A)
 - d. For FY 2023 the projected revenue surplus shall be set at 1.5% of the 2022 operating budget. Revenue surpluses are essential to continue the annual funding of the Stabilization Fund at the 10% level, fund capital purchases of machinery, equipment, and vehicles, capital building improvements, infrastructure and engineering costs, unfunded sick leave buyback, and outstanding OPEB liability.
4. Expenditures: See Exhibit B
 - a. Estimating Major Cost Drivers: This compilation will address the increases necessary to fund the major budgetary cost drivers - salaries and benefits - which support our current service levels.
 - b. Maintenance of Capital Assets: The Town will compile a budget that will maintain capital assets and infrastructure to protect the Town's investment. The Town will compile a budget that will maintain our assets to protect the Town's investment, support and provide services, community, and economic development.

- Mach/Equip/Vehicles
- Software
- Infrastructure
- Land & Land Improvement
- Building & Building Improvements

FY 2023 Town Manger's Budget Objectives

1. Continue the Town's efforts within all departments to obtain grant funding from federal, state, and other sources in order to offset capital expenditures.
2. Review cost implication of contracted services vs. staffing in various departments.
3. Continue to enhance the Town's website and use other technologies as cost effective means for delivering information and services, increasing public awareness, and encouraging public feedback.
4. Submit a budget which maintains the Towns current service level and a budget which will meet the Town Managers service priorities.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
• Budget & Finance Committee • Finance Committee	• •



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Resolution: R-FY22-003

Introduced By: Councilor Wood
Date Introduced: October 19, 2021
First Reading: October 19, 2021
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Resolution R-FY22-003

Clear Title to the Town Common

WHEREAS, The Bridgewater Town Common is an iconic part of Bridgewater's history, and

WHEREAS, the Common has existed as a public place for generations, and

WHEREAS, prior reviews of the ownership of the Common show that title may be clouded, and

WHEREAS, any grant funded improvements to the Common or the areas surrounding it will require certification that the Town has fee simple ownership of the Common and the streets around it, NOW THEREFORE, the Town Council assembled resolves that the Town Manager should arrange to conduct a review of the ownership of the Common by a qualified party with all due haste to determine if further action is required to secure fee simple ownership in the Town Common.

Explanation: While the Common has been used as a public space for generations, it is possible that there are areas of the Common with "clouded" title, meaning other interests may be held by long deceased parties. When the Town begins to make any state or federal grant funded improvements to the Common, the Town must certify that the Town has full ownership of the property. By conducting a title exam now, the Town will know the ownership status and can initiate appropriate action to clear title prior to applying for grant funding.



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Order: O-FY22-016

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: October 19, 2021
First Reading: October 19, 2021
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-016

CAPITAL APPROPRIATION MEMORIAL BUILDING PROJECT

ORDERED, that the Town Council assembled vote to:

pursuant to Section 6-4 of the Town of Bridgewater Charter, that the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to appropriate and transfer \$400,000 from the Sources as outlined below:

FUND		SOURCES OF FUNDING	Amount
6100	SWR RESERVES SPECIAL PURPOSE	SWR RESERVES FOR SPECIAL PURPOSE	\$ 100,000.00
6200	WTR RESERVES SPECIAL PURPOSE	WTR RESERVES FOR SPECIAL PURPOSE	\$ 100,000.00
8010	CAPITAL STABILIZATION	CAPITAL STABILIZATION	\$ 200,000.00
Total			\$ 400,000.00

Project#	USES OF FUNDING		Amount
192-09	MEMORIAL BLDG CAPTL PROJ FUN	MEMORIAL BLDG CAPITAL	\$ 400,000.00
			\$ 400,000.00

Explanation: Due to escalating construction costs, the renovation project general construction bids came in higher than expected. These funds will fully fund the project and a generous contingency in the event of unanticipated issue needing to be addressed during construction. Any unused funds will be returned to the funding source proportionally.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Order: O-FY22-017

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: October 19, 2021
First Reading: October 19, 2021
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-017

TRANSFER ORDER – OSLGC PUMP

ORDERED, that the Town Council assembled vote to:

pursuant to Section 6-4 of the Town of Bridgewater Charter, that the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to appropriate and transfer \$120,000 from OSLGC Retained Earnings.

Explanation: Replacement is needed for 25 year old pump station.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Order: O-FY22-018

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: October 19, 2021
First Reading: October 19, 2021
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-018

PLYMOUTH AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT VOTES

ORDERED; That the Finance Director is authorized to approve, finalize, and submit on behalf of the Town any such ARPA Grant application and to make all representations and certifications required to be made on behalf of the Town to complete each such application, with such approval, representations, and certifications to be evidenced by the signature of the Finance Director on such application; and if any such ARPA grant is awarded, the Town Manager shall be the recipient of such grant on behalf of the Town.

Explanation: The Town may apply to Plymouth County for grants for certain eligible purposes to be funded from a grant received by Plymouth County pursuant to the American Rescue Plan Act. The County will receive applications for such grants through its online portal. The County requires evidence of Town authorization before granting access to the portal. The following votes will authorize one Town official to supply the County with all supporting data for each application and another Town official to approve the application and make the required representations and certifications on behalf of the Town to complete and submit the applications.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Council Order: O-FY22-019

Introduced By:	Councilor George
Date Introduced	October 19, 2021
First Reading:	October 19, 2021
Second Reading:	
Amendments Adopted:	
Third Reading:	
Date Adopted:	
Date Effective:	

Order O-FY22-019

EMINENT DOMAIN ORDER OF TAKING FOR SUMMER STREET PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgewater wishes to create additional downtown parkland and passive recreational space for the people Bridgewater for the public purpose of improving the living experience of residents of Bridgewater who live in the downtown area and providing outdoor passive recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

Ordered, that by the Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater as follows:

1. That the Town of Bridgewater, by right of eminent domain, pursuant to the applicable provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 79 and Chapter 121B and also Chapter 610 of the Acts of 1967 and of any and every power granted or implied, hereby takes for itself in fee simple for the purposes set forth or referred to, the Property located in the Town of Bridgewater presently known as 46 Summer Street more particularly described as Parcel 1 in a Plan recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 14, Page 625 and in a Deed recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds at Book 3351, Page 458, together with any and all easements and rights and privileges as specifically referred to if any, but not limited thereto, and all claims, rights and interests of any kind or nature therein, whether vested or otherwise, including the trees, buildings, structures, bridges, overhead bridges, standing upon or affixed thereto, including air rights and the fee, if any, in all streets and passageways in said area and rights, if any, either contiguous or nearly contiguous and adjacent or nearly adjacent to the Properties taken hereby.
2. It is further ordered that in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, awards are made by the Town of Bridgewater for damages, if any, sustained by the owner or owners and all other persons including mortgagees of record having any and all interest in each parcel.
3. It is further Ordered that a copy of this Order of Taking and related plans, if any, be recorded at the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, and the Land Registration Section thereof, if applicable, in compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 79.
4. The Parcel (known as 46 Summer Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324) being taken, is specified as Parcel 1 in a Plan recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 14, Page 625.

NOT FOR ACTION – FIRST READING ONLY

Explanation: To take by Eminent Domain, a certain parcel of Land in the Town of Bridgewater for Municipal Purposes, namely, to create parkland and open space for the benefit of all Bridgewater residents.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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