



Public Information Session
Fiscal Year 2018 Budget
April 18, 2017

Key Account Comparisons



	FY 2017	FY 2018	Incr (\$)	Incr (%)
Total Budg	\$4,783,768	\$5,083,753	\$299,985	6.3%
Genl Govt	\$418,523	\$415,384	-\$3,139	-0.8%
Pub Safety	\$166,710	\$203,024	\$36,314	21.8%
Education	\$2,693,671	\$2,826,926	\$133,255	4.9%
Pub Works	\$594,463	\$600,001	\$5,538	0.9%
Human Svcs	\$54,450	\$53,393	-\$1,057	-1.9%
Culture/Rec	\$74,575	\$77,972	\$3,397	4.6%
Debt Svc	\$205,880	\$169,594	-\$36,286	-17.6%
InterGovt	\$51,761	\$54,410	\$2,469	5.1%
Benefits	\$167,975	\$178,578	\$10,603	6.3%
Amb/WWT	\$239,737	\$245,176	\$5,439	2.3%
Capital	\$97,500	\$254,425	\$156,925	160.9%



Capital Items

- \$25,000 Town Hall Steeple/Bldg Repairs
- \$43,500 Highway Pick-Up Truck
- \$15,000 Senior Center Expansion Fund
- \$12,500 Belding Library Restoration
- \$5,000 Town Hall Wiring
- \$3,425 Parks Commission Equipment
- \$100,000 Broadband Development
- \$50,000 Bridge Repairs ("matching" a \$500,000 Small Bridge Repair grant from the Commonwealth)



Why a Debt Exclusion?

- \$100,000 Debt Exclusion article up for vote
- Under consent decree from MA DEP, Ashfield is obligated to close landfill and make improvements to transfer station
- Original estimates were \$100,000 to \$1million!
- \$60,000 encumbered last year; another \$100,000 sought this year
- Only authorization to borrow is being sought: anticipated borrowed funds would not come due until FY2019.

L-T Financial Planning



	FY 17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23
<i>NEEDS</i>							
HWY	130,000	55,500	175,000	140,000	75,000		
FIRE		432,000				425,000	
POLICE	41,000				45,000		
LIBRARY	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500			
TOTAL	183,500	500,000	187,500	152,500	120,000	425,000	
<i>DEBTS</i>							
MTRSD	55,146	59,587	63,484	62,099	60,713	56,407	14,546
AMBUL	12,618	10,584	10,000	9,500	9,000	8,500	14,546
HWY GAR	76,480	75,044	73,606	72,170	70,734	69,298	67,861
HWY EQ	51,900	87,050	50,000?	50,000	???	???	???
TOTAL	196,144	232,265	197,090	193,769	140,447	134,205	96,953

Reserves and Indebtedness



Reserves	Annual Town Meeting 5/2/15	Annual Town Meeting 5/7/16	Annual Town Meeting 5/6/17
Free Cash	\$104,950	\$61,813	\$90,909
Stabilization Fund	\$418,093	\$486,429	\$489,780
Total Reserves	\$523,043	\$548,242	\$580,689
Genl Rev Budget	\$4,556,965	\$4,783,768	\$5,083,753
\$ Annual Incr	--	\$226,803	\$299,985
% Annual Incr	--	4.98%	6.27%
Reserve Margin	11.5%	11.5%	11.4%
ST Debt/Budget	4.8%	2.9%	4.6%
LTD/Budget	3.2%	2.8%	2.6%

MTRSD Towns: Sorted by Property Tax as a % of Median Income



Town	Median Household Income 2010-2014	FY Average Single Family Tax Bill	Property Tax as a Percent of Median Income
Charlemont	\$49,000	\$3,994	8.15%
Colrain	\$46,452	\$3,463	7.46%
Buckland	\$52,356	\$3,748	7.16%
Heath	\$56,458	\$3,641	6.45%
Plainfield	\$57,188	\$3,595	6.29%
Ashfield	\$71,364	\$4,094	5.74%
Hawley	\$68,000	\$3,540	5.21%
Rowe	\$54,375	\$1,298	2.39%
Shelburne	\$54,167		

Future Challenges



- Demographic Trends:
 - Declining School Enrollments
 - Aging Population
- Updating Technology (Broadband)
- Renovation & Maintenance of Buildings
- Maintenance of Roads & Bridges
- Funding Retirement Benefits (incl. OPEB)
- Keeping Ashfield Affordable!