

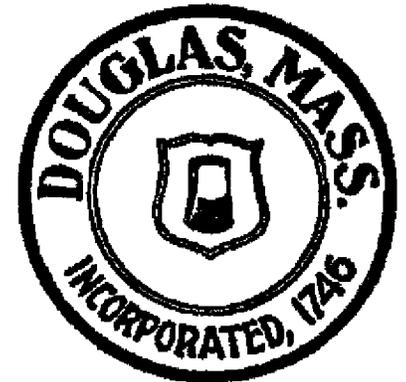
**Town of Douglas Voter Information Bulletin
Special Town Meeting
Wednesday, April 19, 2000**

7:00 PM

Douglas Middle/ High School Auditorium

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Article 1. Sewer Treatment Facility Design Study

To see if the Town will vote to borrow, subject to approval of a debt exclusion ballot on March 14, 2000, the sum of \$430,000 for design services to upgrade and expand the capacity of the Douglas Wastewater Treatment Facility, and related sewer line extensions, including the payment of interest and all costs incidental and related thereto, to be spent under the direction of the Water and Sewer Commissioners and to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow for a period of up to 30 years under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7 or any other lawful authority, or to take any other action related thereto.

Article 2. Water Use Restriction Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to amend its general by-laws, or to take any other action related thereto, to add a new Article V – Regulation of Property, Section 5 - Water Use Restrictions, as follows:

Section 5. Water Use Restrictions

a. Authority

This Bylaw is adopted by the Town under its police powers to protect public health and welfare and its powers under M.G.L. c.40, §§21 et seq. and implements the Town's authority to regulate water use pursuant to M.G.L. c. 41, §69B. This bylaw also implements the Town's authority under M.G.L. c. 40, §41A, conditioned upon a

declaration of water supply emergency issued by the Department of Environmental Protection.

b. Purpose

The purpose of this bylaw is to protect, preserve and maintain public health, safety and welfare whenever there is in force a State of Water Supply Conservation or State of Water Supply Emergency by providing for enforcement of any duly imposed restrictions, requirements, provisions or conditions imposed by the Town or by the Department of Environmental Protection.

c. Definitions

1. "Person" shall mean any individual, corporation trust, partnership or association, or other entity.

2. "State of Water Supply Emergency" shall mean a State of Water Supply Emergency declared by the Department of Environmental Protection under M.G.L. c.21G, §15-17.

3. "State of Water Supply Conservation" shall mean a State of Water Supply Conservation declared by the Town pursuant to section 4 of this bylaw.

4. "Water Users or Water Consumers" shall mean all public and private users of the Town's public water system, irrespective of any person's responsibility for billing purposes for water used at any particular facility.

d. Declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation

The Town, through its Water and Sewer Commissioners, may declare a State of Water Supply Conservation upon a determination by a majority vote of the Board that a shortage of water exists and conservation measures are appropriate to ensure an adequate supply of water to all water consumers. Public notice of a State of

Water Conservation shall be given under this bylaw before it may be enforced.

e. Restricted Water Uses

A declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall include one or more of the following restrictions, conditions, or requirements limiting the use of water as necessary to protect the water supply. The applicable restrictions, conditions or requirements shall be included in the public notice required herein:

1. Odd/Even Day Outdoor Watering: Outdoor watering by water users with odd numbered addresses is restricted to odd numbered days. Outdoor watering by water users with even numbered addresses is restricted to even numbered days.

2. Outdoor Watering Ban: Outdoor watering is prohibited.

3. Outdoor Watering Hours: Outdoor watering is permitted only during daily periods of low demand, to be specified in the declaration of a State of Water Supply Conservation and public notice thereof.

4. Filling Swimming Pools: Filling of swimming pools is prohibited.

5. Automatic Sprinkler Use: The use of automatic sprinkler systems is prohibited.

f. Public Notification of a State of Water Supply Conservation; Notification of DEP

Notification of any provision, restriction, requirement or condition imposed by the Town as part of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the Town, or by such other means reasonably calculated to reach and inform all users of water of the State of Water Supply Conservation. Any restriction imposed hereunder shall not be effective until such notification is provided. Notification of the State of Water Supply Conservation shall also be simultaneously provided to the

g. Termination of a State of Water Supply
Conservation; Notice

1. A State of Water Supply Conservation may be terminated by a majority vote of the Board of Water Commissioners, upon a determination that the water supply shortage no longer exists.

2. Public notification of the termination of a State of Water Supply Conservation shall be given in the same manner required herein.

h. State of Water Supply Emergency;
Compliance with DEP Orders

Upon notification to the public that a declaration of a State of Water Supply Emergency has been issued by the Department of Environmental Protection, no person shall violate any provision, restriction, requirement, condition of any order approved or issued by the Department intended to bring about an end to the State of Emergency.

i. Penalties

Any person violating this bylaw shall be liable to the Town in the amount of \$50.00 for the first violation and \$100 for each subsequent violation which shall inure to the Town. Fines shall be recovered by indictment, or on complaint before the District Court, or by non-criminal disposition in accordance with section 21D of chapter 40 of the general laws. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

j. Severability

The invalidity of any portion or provision of this bylaw shall not invalidate any other portion or provision thereof.

**Article 3. Water/Sewer Debt and
Interest Account**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$8,257 from the Fund Balance Reserve for Water Well Bond Charges to the Water/Sewer Debt and Interest Account, or to take any other action related thereto.

Article 4. Tax Collector's Expense

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$1,500 from the Tax Collector's Tax Taking Account (001-159) to the Tax Collector's Expenses (001-146), or to take any other action related thereto.

**Article 5. Town Accountant's
Personal Services**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Available Funds (Free Cash) the sum of \$3,740 to the Town Accountant's Personal Services Account to fund an employment contract negotiated by the Board of Selectmen retroactive to July 1, 1999, or to take any other action related thereto.

**Article 6. Martin Road Recreation
Appropriation**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Available Funds (Free Cash) the amount of \$5,000 to the Martin Road Project (630.002) to supplement private and existing Town funding to complete the construction of a soccer field at the Martin Road Recreational Park, or to take any other action related thereto.

**Article 7. Recreation Commission
Capital Equipment**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Available Funds (Free Cash) the amount of \$7,500 to the Recreation Commission to purchase a tractor mower to maintain the Martin Road Recreational Park

fields and grounds, or to take any other action related thereto.

Article 8. Fire Department Expenses

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Fire Dept. Wages and Salaries, the amount of \$8,000 to Fire Department Expenses for the purchase of firefighter uniforms (\$4,500), the purchase of a polytank for the forestry truck (\$2,500), and for additional utilities expenses (\$1,000), or to take any other action related thereto.

Article 9. Discontinuance of Dale Road

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue Dale Road, also known as Bailey Road, between Oak Street and Northwest Main Street, as a public way pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 82 §21 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or to take any other action related thereto.

Article 10. Scenic Roads

To see if the Town will vote to amend its general by-laws, or to take any other action related thereto, to add a new Article V – Regulation of Property, Section 6- Scenic Roads, as follows:

Section 6. Scenic Roads

The purpose of this bylaw is to set forth the process and criteria by which any public way may be recommended to a town meeting for designation as a scenic road as provided for under MGL Chap 40 Section 15C. This bylaw further ensures that:

- i. Ways will be recommended for designation as scenic roads on stated criteria.
- ii. Ways so designated will not be altered without following proper procedures and without adherence to proper considerations.
- iii. Ways so designated will not be altered by the decision of any person, organization, or agency other than the planning board.

Provided further, however, that all current property owners on any public way being considered for designation as a scenic road, shall be notified by registered letter of any public hearing held in conformance with MGL Chapter 40 Section 15C.

a. Definitions

In the absence of contrary meaning established through legislative or judicial action pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 15C, the following terms contained in that statute shall be defined as follows:

1. CUTTING OR REMOVAL OF TREES

"Cutting or removal of trees" shall mean the removal of one (1) or more trees, trimming of major branches or cutting of roots.

2. REPAIR, MAINTENANCE, RECONSTRUCTION, OR PAVING WORK

"Repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving "work" shall mean work done within the right-of-way by any person or agency, public or private. (Within this definition is any work on any portion of the right-of-way which was not physically commenced at the time the road was designated as scenic road.) Construction of new driveways or alteration of existing ones is also included, insofar as it takes place within the right of way.

3. ROAD

" Road" shall mean a right-of-way of any way used and maintained as a public way including the vehicular traveled way plus necessary appurtenances with the right-of-way such as bridge structures, drainage systems, retaining walls, traffic control devices, and sidewalks, but not intersecting streets or driveways. When the boundary of the right-of-way is in issue so that a dispute arises as to whether or not certain trees or stonewalls or portions thereof are within or without the way, the trees or stonewalls, shall be presumed to be within the way until the contrary is shown.

4. SCENIC ROAD

"Scenic Road" shall mean a road so designated pursuant to M.G. L Chapter 40, Section 15C and these regulations.

5. TEARING DOWN OR DESTRUCTION OF STONE WALLS

"Tearing down or destruction of stone walls or a portion thereof shall mean the unpermitted destruction of a stone wall or portion thereof or the unpermitted temporary removal and replacement of stone walls or a portion thereof at the same location with the same materials.

6. TREES

(a) "Trees" shall include a tree whose trunk has a diameter of one and one-half (1 1/2) inches or more as measured one (1) foot above ground.

(b) "Public shade trees" shall mean all trees within any public way or on the boundaries thereof.

b. Criteria for Designation of a Scenic Road

1. The Planning Board, Conservation Commission, or Historical Commission shall, in determining which roads or portions of roads should be submitted to town meeting for designation as a scenic road.

The following criteria should be considered:

- (a) Ways bordered by trees of exceptional quality.
- (b) Ways bordered by stone walls.
- (c) Ways bordered by any other natural or man-made features of aesthetic value.
- (d) Ways for which any alteration is being planned or is likely to be planned in the future.
- (e) Ways for which any alteration would lessen the aesthetic value or natural or man-made features bordering them.

c. Notification of Designation As A Scenic Road

Upon the designation, by Town Meeting of any roads or portions of road as a scenic road, The Planning Board shall take the following steps within sixty (60) days of such designation:

1. Notify all municipal departments that may take any action with respect to such road.
2. Notify the State Department of Public Works.
3. Publish in the local paper, by an informal article, that the road (or roads) have been so designated.
4. Indicate such designation on all maps currently in use by municipal departments.
5. Notify all utility companies or other such parties which may be working on the border of such roads.
6. Notify abutters as they appear on the most recent tax list by regular mail.

d. Procedures

1. Filing

Any person, organization, state, or municipal agency seeking the written consent of the planning board regarding the cutting or removal of trees or tearing down or destruction of stone walls, or portions thereof on a scenic road shall file a request with the planning board together with the following:

- (a) The text of a legal notice identifying the location of the proposed action in terms enabling readers to locate it with reasonable specificity on the ground without need for additional plots or references, and describing in reasonable detail the proposed changes to trees and stone walls.
- (b) A statement of purpose, or purposes, for the changes proposed.
- (c) A list of owners as of latest tax map of properties located in whole or in part within on hundred feet (100') of the proposed action.

(d) Except in the case of Town agencies, a deposit sufficient to cover the cost of advertising and notifications.

(e) Any further explanatory material useful to adequately inform the Planning Board.

2. Notice

The Planning Board shall, as required by statute, give notice of its public hearing by advertising twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area. This notice shall contain a statement as to the time, date, place, and purpose of the hearing with a reasonable description of the action proposed by the applicant. Copies of this notice shall also be sent to the Selectmen, the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission, Town Engineer, Tree Warden, Department of Public Works and the owners of property within one hundred feet (100') of the proposed action.

3. Timing of Notice

The first publication of the notice shall be as soon as feasible after the Planning Board receives the request from the applicant, and shall in all cases be at least fourteen (14) days before the hearing. The last publication shall occur, as required by statute, at least seven (7) days prior to the hearing.

4. Timing of Hearing

The Planning Board shall hold a public hearing within sixty (60) days of the planning board meeting at which a properly filed request is received. The date and time of the public hearing shall be set outside of normal weekday work hours 8:00 AM-5 PM., Monday through Friday so as to encourage maximum citizen participation.

5. Timing of Decision

The Planning Board shall make a decision on the request within twenty-one (21) days of the public hearing.

6. Public Shade Tree Act

Notice shall be given and Planning Board hearings shall be held in conjunction with those held by the Tree Warden acting under MGL Chapter 87. The consent of the Planning Board to a proposed action shall not be regarded as inferring consent by the Tree Warden, or vice versa. The Planning Board decision shall contain a condition that no work should be done until all applicable provisions of the Public Shade Tree Law, MGL Chapter 87, have been complied with.

e. Considerations

The Planning Board's decision on any application for proposed action effecting scenic roads shall be based on consideration of the following:

1. Preservation of natural resources.
2. Environmental Values.
3. Historical Values.
4. Scenic and aesthetic characteristics.
5. Public Safety.
6. Compensatory actions proposed, such as replacement of trees or walls.
7. Other sound planning consideration.

f. General

The planning board may adopt more detailed regulations for carrying out the provisions hereunder.

g. Violations

A violation of this by-law shall be punishable on a 1st offense by a fine of \$50, upon a 2nd offense by a fine of \$75, and upon a third or additional offense by a fine of \$200 for each offense.

Article 11. Signs

To see if the Town will vote to amend its general by-laws, or to take any other action related thereto, to regulate signs within the Town of Douglas by inserting a new Article 10 - Signs, as follows:

Article 10. Signs

Purpose

This Bylaw is adopted for the regulation of signs within the Town of Douglas. Created to protect and enhance the visual environment, diminish visual confusion, enhance the character of the town, and stimulate responsible business activity without unduly restricting lawful enterprise.

It is in the Town's best interest to provide the towns people and traveling public with information and guidance concerning public accommodations, facilities, commercial services and points of scenic, cultural, historic, educational, recreational, and religious interest.

It is the policy of this Town, and purpose of this bylaw to prohibit and control the indiscriminate use of outdoor advertising, in an effort to better serve the public and enhances the natural rural charm of our community.

10.1 DEFINITIONS When used in this article, and in this article only, the following words shall have the meaning set forth below.

10.1.1 Sign: Any symbol, message, design or device designed to be visible from the exterior and used to advertise, identify or inform about any product, premises, person or activity.

10.1.2 Sign Structure: The supports, uprights, braces and framework of the sign.

10.1.3 Erected: Attached, constructed, reconstructed, altered, enlarged or moved. Erected shall not mean repainted, cleaned, repaired or maintained except where a structural change is made. Altered includes changes in the lettering or symbols on the sign.

10.1.4 Projection: The distance a sign extends beyond the structure to which it is attached.

10.1.5 Business Premises: That space put to any use permitted in a business district.

10.1.6 Industrial Use: Any use permitted in an industrial district.

10.1.7 Business Center: Any aggregation of two (2) or more stores or industrial uses, which share a parking area in common.

10.1.8 Street: Any public way or private ways open to the public.

10.1.9 Parking Area: A public or private parking area for motor vehicles.

10.1.10 Wall Sign: Any sign attached to or erected against the wall of a structure with the display surface of the sign in a plane parallels to the plane of the wall, which does not project more than twelve (12) inches from the face of the structure.

10.1.11 Freestanding Sign: Any sign that is not attached to, erected on or supported by a building.

10.1.12 Roof Sign: Any sign attached to or erected on the roof of a structure.

10.1.13 Individual Letter Sign: Any sign made up of separate self-contained letters.

10.1.14 Projecting Sign: Any sign other than a wall sign suspended from or supported by a structure and projecting out therefrom.

10.1.15 Temporary Sign: Any sign intended to be used for fewer than three (3) months.

10.1.16 Directional or Informational Sign: Any sign erected near a street or driveway area necessary for the safety and direction of vehicle or pedestrian traffic. Directional or informational signs may not advertise, identify or promote any product, person, premises or activity.

10.1.17 Business Center Identifier Sign: A sign, which contains the place, name of a business center.

10.1.18 Directory Sign: Any sign listing the name and location of the occupants of a site or building.

10.1.19 Electric Sign: Any sign illuminated by incandescent or florescent lamps or luminous tubes.

10.1.20 Holiday Decorations: Any embellishment or ornament normally associated with the celebration of a holiday.

10.1.21 Changeable, Message/Movable Sign: Any sign intended to announce a changing product, sale or other temporary condition within a premises and capable of being moved without dismantling.

10.2 ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS

10.2.1 PERMITS REQUIRED:

10.2.1.1 No sign shall be erected except as provided by this section of the by law.

10.2.1.2 Application for a sign permit shall be made in writing upon forms furnished by the building inspector together with a scale drawing showing the construction, the method of installation or support, colors, dimensions and position of the sign, method of illumination and such other relevant information as may be requested. The application must be signed by both the owner of the premises where the sign is to be located and the owner of the sign acknowledging responsibility for compliance with the by law. An application, which is incomplete, as determined by the building inspector, shall be returned to the applicant.

10.2.1.3 Within thirty (30) days after application for a permit has been made the building inspector shall grant or deny the application. If thirty (30) days elapse without action by the building inspector, the permit applied for shall be deemed approved.

10.2.1.4 A sign permit fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) shall be paid to the Town of Douglas for each permit granted.

10.2.1.5 A sign permit shall become null and void if the work for which the permit was issued has not been completed within a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the granting of the permit. The applicant shall notify the building inspector of completion of work under a permit within ten (10) days of completion.

10.2.1.6 All signs erected under this by law shall be erected in the exact location and manner described in the permit. The permit number shall be assigned and recorded by the building inspector.

10.2.2 EXCEPTIONS

10.2.2.1 No sign lawfully erected before the effective date of this bylaw shall be required to comply with the requirements of this by law as to size or location.

10.2.2.2 Any sign erected before the effective date of this by law, which after said date either:

(A) advertises, calls attention to or identifies products, persons or activities which have no longer been sold, located or carried at the premises for a period of six (6) months;

(B) has not been repaired or properly maintained with sixty (60) days after notice to that effect has been given by the building inspector, shall be brought into compliance with the requirements of this by law or removed.

10.2.2.3 No permit shall be required for a sign in a residential district, erected in accordance with the provisions of section 10.4.1 of this by law other than that allowed by section 10.4.2.5 if it is determined that the building design precluded effective use of a wall mounted directory sign.

10.2.2.4 No permit shall be required for any sign erected by the Town of Douglas or by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any agency thereof.

10.2.2.5 No permit shall be required for a sign in a business district erected in accordance with section 10.4.2.4 or sections 10.4.2.8 to 10.4.2.10 of this by law.

10.2.2.6 No permit shall be required for holiday decorations when displayed within forty five (45) days prior to and ten (10) days after the holiday that which they are specifically identified and which do not advertise or promote the interests of any person, premise or activity.

10.2.2.7 Signs endorsing candidates or issues for public elections may be displayed as temporary or portable signs, providing they are not more than four (4) feet in area. Such signs shall not require a permit or permit fee. Such signs shall not be erected or displayed so as to endanger public safety. Such signs shall not be erected on trees or telephone poles.

10.2.3 ENFORCEMENT

10.2.3.1 The building inspector shall inspect every sign within thirty (30) days after it is erected to determine whether the sign has been erected in accordance with the provisions of the permit thereof and shall order the removal or modification of any sign erected or maintained in a manner inconsistent with such permit. Thirty (30) days notice in writing shall be given to the owner of such sign, and to the owner of the premises on which such sign is located to remove the sign or modify it so as to be in accordance with the provisions of the permit. Immediate removal may be ordered for any sign requiring a permit, which is erected without first obtaining such permit.

10.2.3.2 Any sign owner or owner of property on which a sign is located who violates, or permits a violation of this by law shall be subject to a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) a day, if the violation

continues more than thirty (30) days later of: (1) the date of the notice referred to in section 10.2.3.1 above, or (2) the date of conclusion of any appeal therefrom.

10.3 GENERAL REGULATIONS

10.3.1 SIGN DIMENSIONS: The area of a sign shall be the area of the smallest rectangle within which the entire sign can fit, excluding structural supports which do not contribute through shape, color, or otherwise to the sign's message, but including any separate surface, board, frame or shape on or within which the sign is displayed. The dimensions of a sign shall be the length and width of such a rectangle. The height of a sign shall be measured to the highest point of the sign including any structural or ornamental projections above the sign proper, from the average ground level above which the sign is located. A two-sided sign with messages on opposite sides (back to back) will be deemed to one sign. A sign with faces at any angle to each other shall be deemed to consist of several sign, one for each direction faced.

10.3.2 ELECTRIC SIGNS:

10.3.2.1 Internally illuminated and neon signs are not permitted within residential districts.

10.3.2.2 No red or green lights shall be used on any sign if the sign is located so that such lights could create a driving hazard.

10.3.2.3 Internally illuminated signs, luminous signs and signs illuminated from an external source directed solely toward said sign are the only permitted methods of illumination. The light from any sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed or shall be maintained at a sufficiently low level of intensity and brightness that it shall not cast glare beyond the perimeter of the property on which the sign is located, nor affect the safe vision of operators of vehicles moving on public ways. Only white lights shall be used for external illumination.

10.3.3 INSTALLATION:

10.3.3.1 No sign shall be erected that shall in any way create a traffic hazard, nor shall it in any way obscure or confuse traffic control.

10.3.3.2 No sign, or sign structure, may project beyond the property line except in cases where a sign projects over a public way and must conform to state code.

10.3.3.3 Letter, figures, characters or representatives in cutout or irregular form, maintained in conjunction with, attached to, or superimposed upon any sign, shall be safely and securely built or attached to the sign structure.

10.3.3.4 Signs shall be designed, constructed and erected in accordance with the state building code.

10.3.3.5 All signs shall be erected on the same lot as the premises; person or activity they are intended to advertise, call attention to or identify except as provided in section 10.3.3.6.

10.3.3.6 Six (6) signs measuring not greater than three (3) square feet each calling attention to a location concerned with the sale of agricultural and/or horticultural products may be displayed at locations within the Town of Douglas approved by the building inspector. No permit shall be required for these signs.

10.3.4 MAINTENANCE:

10.3.4.1 The owner shall maintain every sign in a safe and well-maintained condition. Every freestanding sign shall be kept free and clear of all obnoxious substances, rubbish, weeds and visual obstructions.

10.3.5 PROHIBITED SIGNS:

10.3.5.1 Moving signs, flashing signs, revolving signs, signs consisting of pennants, ribbons, streamers, spinners, revolving beacons, search lights and

animated signs illuminated to create the illusion of motions are prohibited in all districts.

10.4 REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS:

The regulations and restrictions set forth in this article shall apply to each sign in the zoning district in which it is erected irrespective of foregoing regulations and restrictions.

10.4.1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS: No permit shall be required for the following signs, but each must be registered with the building inspector.

10.4.1.1 One wall sign or free standing sign which does not exceed six (6) square feet in area, having the name of the occupant or the designation of any authorized occupation permitted in the district, or both shall be permitted.

10.4.1.2 One wall sign or freestanding sign which does not exceed six (6) square feet in area and advertises the rental, lease, or sale of the premises; provided however such sign shall be removed within seven (7) days of the rental, lease or sale of the premises.

10.4.1.3 Temporary signs not exceeding six (6) square feet in area may be erected to warn against danger or call attention to a sale, promotion or special activity. Sign must be removed within seven (7) days after activity ends.

10.4.1.4 The size and design of a sign identifying a subdivision shall have Planning Board approval.

10.4.2 BUSINESS DISTRICTS: No sign shall be permitted in a business district except as follows:

10.4.2.1 There shall be no more than two (2) exterior signs for each business premise, not including directional, informational, directory or secondary signs,

except as provided herein. The exterior sign may be a wall sign, individual letter sign, roof sign, freestanding or projecting sign. If the premises has an entrance in a wall other than the premises front, there may be a secondary sign affixed to such wall, and if the premises has a wall other than the premises front, that faces upon a street or parking area, there may be a secondary sign affixed to such wall whether or not such wall contains an entrance to the premises; provided, however, that no premises shall have more than two secondary signs in any event. The display surface of each of the secondary signs shall not exceed eight (8) square feet.

10.4.2.2 The surface area of a freestanding sign shall not be more than twenty four (24) square feet. A wall sign, individual letter sign, or in the case of a one story building only, a roof sign shall not exceed four (4) feet overall in height. A wall sign, or individual letter sign on the exterior wall or roof sign on the first floor of a building, shall not exceed an area of one (1) square foot for each lineal foot of that wall. No such sign shall exceed forty (40) feet overall in width or extend beyond the full width of the premises wall on which it is mounted. The length of signs on premises occupying other than the first floor of a building shall not exceed eight (8) feet. No sign shall project above the highest line of such roof except that the sign may reach but not project above the top of the parapet wall.

10.4.2.3 A projecting sign shall not project more than six (6) feet and shall not contain more than twenty-four (24) square feet of display surface. A sign which projects over a sidewalk may not contain more than twelve (12) square feet of display surface.

10.4.2.4 Directional or informational signs not over four (4) square feet in size shall be allowed. Directional or informational signs may not be located at height over six (6) feet above ground level if mounted on a

building wall nor seven (7) feet above ground level if free standing.

10.4.2.5_ In addition to the signs permitted under section 10.4.2.1, there may be one directory sign listing occupants or tenants of the building affixed to the exterior wall of the building at each entrance to the building. A directory sign shall not exceed an area determined on the basis of four (4) square foot for each occupant or tenant of the building.

10.4.2.6 Any business may divide the total display area of the one exterior sign affixed to the front wall of the building, to which they are entitled as herein above provided, into separate operations or departments of the business; provided, however that the total of the width of the separate signs shall not exceed the maximum width permitted under this by law for a single exterior sign on such wall.

10.4.2.7 The standard type of gasoline pump, bearing thereon in usual size and form, the name or type of gasoline and the price thereof shall not be deemed to be a sign under this by law.

10.4.2.8 During construction of a new building a free standing sign may be erected on the premises to identify the building, the owner, the contractor, the architect, or the engineers provided, such sign shall not exceed thirty two (32) square feet in area, or ten (10) feet in width or height. Such sign shall be removed within seven (7) days of issuance of an occupancy permit.

10.4.2.9 In addition to signs otherwise permitted, one (1) wall sign or freestanding sign, not to exceed twelve (12) square feet in area, advertising the rental, lease or sale of a premises shall be permitted. Such sign shall be temporary and shall be removed within seven (7) days of the rental, lease or sale of the premises.

**Special Town Meeting
Wednesday, April 19th, 7:00PM
Douglas Middle/High School Auditorium**

Summary of Articles:

Article 1. Sewer Treatment Facility Design Study: This article would fund the design of improvements to the Sewer Treatment Plant. The Plant is at capacity and will be expected by the State to upgrade treatment standards as a condition to renewing its discharge permit. The requested funding will allow the Water and Sewer Commissioners to contract for engineering services to prepare a facility plan necessary to establish eligibility for 0% construction financing.

Article 2. Water Use Restriction Bylaw: The Water and Sewer Commissioners seek bylaw authorization to declare future States of Water Supply Conservation or Emergency and to issue fines for violation of watering restrictions.

Article 3. Water/Sewer Debt and Interest Account: This article would transfer funds within the Water/Sewer Enterprise Fund to correct the amount appropriated for debt service.

Article 4. Tax Collector's Expense: This article would transfer funds within the Tax Collector's accounts to pay for additional mailings.

Article 5. Town Accountant's Personal Services: This article would appropriate \$3,740 to fund a retroactive employment contract obligation.

Article 6. Martin Road Recreation Appropriation: This article would appropriate \$5,000 to supplement \$16,000 transferred at a previous Special Town Meeting and a number of private donations to complete the funding needed to construct a new soccer field.

Article 7. Recreation Commission Capital Equipment: This article would appropriate \$7,500 to purchase a tractor mower requested to maintain additional fields.

Article 8. Fire Department Expenses: This article would transfer \$8,000 within the Fire Department to purchase firefighter uniforms, equipment and additional utilities expense.

Article 9. Discontinuance of Dale Road: This article would discontinue Dale Road – an unimproved public way running between Oak and Northwest Main Streets.

Article 10. Scenic Roads: This article would enact a general bylaw to establish procedures and criteria for designating scenic roads and doing work affecting trees or stonewalls within the public way of such designated streets.

Article 11. Signs: This article would enact a general bylaw regulating the placement of signs with the intent of enhancing the character of the Town and diminishing visual confusion.

Town of Douglas

29 Depot Street

Douglas, MA 01516

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