

Town of Acton

Annual Town Meeting Warrant



Monday, April 4, 2011

**The Annual Town Meeting will convene at 7:00 PM in the
Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium
36 Charter Road**

Town Manager's Message

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. – Mark Twain

As has been the case for the past two fiscal years, the recession has created so much uncertainty and unpredictability that developing a realistic, practical budget requires the pensive of Professor Dumbledore.

Unfortunately, no such magical apparatus is at our avail and we must rely on our instinct and intuition since no two economists can agree. What is particularly unsettling is the fact that the economic uncertainty is something few have seen in their lifetimes. As a much more seasoned Manager than I stated at this year's ICMA Conference, "When times have gotten tough in the past, I have always relied on my experience; the current situation is something I have never experienced before."

Work on the FY 12 budget commenced in August 2010 amidst this uncertainty. Michael Widmer, the President of the Massachusetts Taxpayer Foundation, has stated that State revenues have "bottomed-out" and will now start to exceed the (lowered) benchmarks. A bill relating to capital gains tax that passed last June uses 5% of the tax revenues as part of the budget process with the remaining 95% post employment benefits and a rainy day fund. While FY 12 will be the worst ever, the long term outlook beyond FY 13 looks better. Widmer stated in a December 14th release, "Despite almost a billion dollars in revenue growth, the state faces a fiscal 2012 shortfall of approximately \$2 billion with no federal stimulus dollars and limited state reserves."

Mr. Widmer also said, "The 2012 budget will require yet another round of cuts in local aid, human services, higher education, and almost all other state programs."

However, based on the bleak economic outlook, some basic policy direction was needed. To that end, the Acton Leadership Group convened to discuss revenue forecasts for FY 12. For those not familiar with the Acton budgeting process, the Acton Leadership Group (ALG) consists of representatives from the Board of Selectmen, School Committees, Finance Committee, and the administration of both the Town and Schools. The primary function of this group is to reach consensus on revenues and to make recommendations to their respective boards as to a split of revenues between the Town and Schools. In November, the ALG met and agreed to the following revenue assumptions:

- Chapter 70 Aid reduced by 10%
- All other Local Aid reduced by 20%
- Local receipts level funded to FY 10 actuals
- Utilization of \$2,000,000 in reserves

The ALG plan also assumed a **2.7%** increase in the Town budget.

Odyssey of the FY 12 Budget

All Departments commenced working on the FY 12 budget during the summer, culminating in October with a two-day budget retreat, commonly known as "On the Hill." Operational budget requests of \$26,557,738 were submitted as well as \$5,893,101 in capital requests. Part of the "On the Hill" process is to have peer review of the capital requests. On the last day of the "Hill", all capital requests are rated by secret ballot into A, B, and C categories, with A being the highest priority. "A" capital priorities totaled \$1,703,780.

Upon conclusion of “The Hill,” the Town Manager convened his budget team, consisting of the Finance Director, Assistant Town Manager, Town Accountant, Principal Assessor/Financial Analyst, HR Director, and IT Director, to discuss, review, and brainstorm over the FY 12 budget. This group met one full day per week through the month of November. The result of all these exercises is the recommended FY 12 budget.

Since the Town Manager’s Budget presentation to the Board of Selectmen in late December, 2010, there have been several key events that have impacted that recommended budget. First, the Governor released his FY 12 State Budget and the ALG changed some of its assumptions in regard to Local Aid, namely that Chapter 70 would be forecasted at 2% below the Governor’s number. Secondly, the Town’s Health Insurance Trust voted final health insurance rates for FY 12, yielding some major savings in what was originally budgeted for employee insurance.

Based on the above, the Board of Selectmen have recommended a FY 12 budget of **\$27,977,904**, which represents a 2.04% increase over FY11. Included in the budget are the following capital items and subsidies:

Subsidy - Ambulance	\$ 271,000
Subsidy - Council on Aging	50,000
Cultural Council	2,000
Shuttle - year 3	75,000
Database/GIS Coordinator	91,000
Engineering Van	26,000
Assessor hours	12,000
Micro film project	60,000
Building Department Vehicle	29,875
NARA Parking Lot Improvements	75,000
Salt Shed	300,000
Permit Tracking System	200,000
Cemetery Heating System	20,000
Emergency Plan and Training	60,000
Council on Aging Air Conditioning	<u>25,000</u>
	\$ 1,296,875

Another major feature of this budget is the identification and inclusion of Public Health Nursing into the Health Department budget. Statutorily, every Town is required to provide Public Health Nursing for things such as mass inoculations, etc. This service has been provided by the Acton Nursing service, but such service has not been billed out, causing in part the operational deficit that we see each year. The proposal contained in this budget is for the Health Department to be billed for these services by the Nursing Service.

This budget also assumes that the State will not meet its obligation under the Quinn bill and no funds are budgeted for labor settlements.

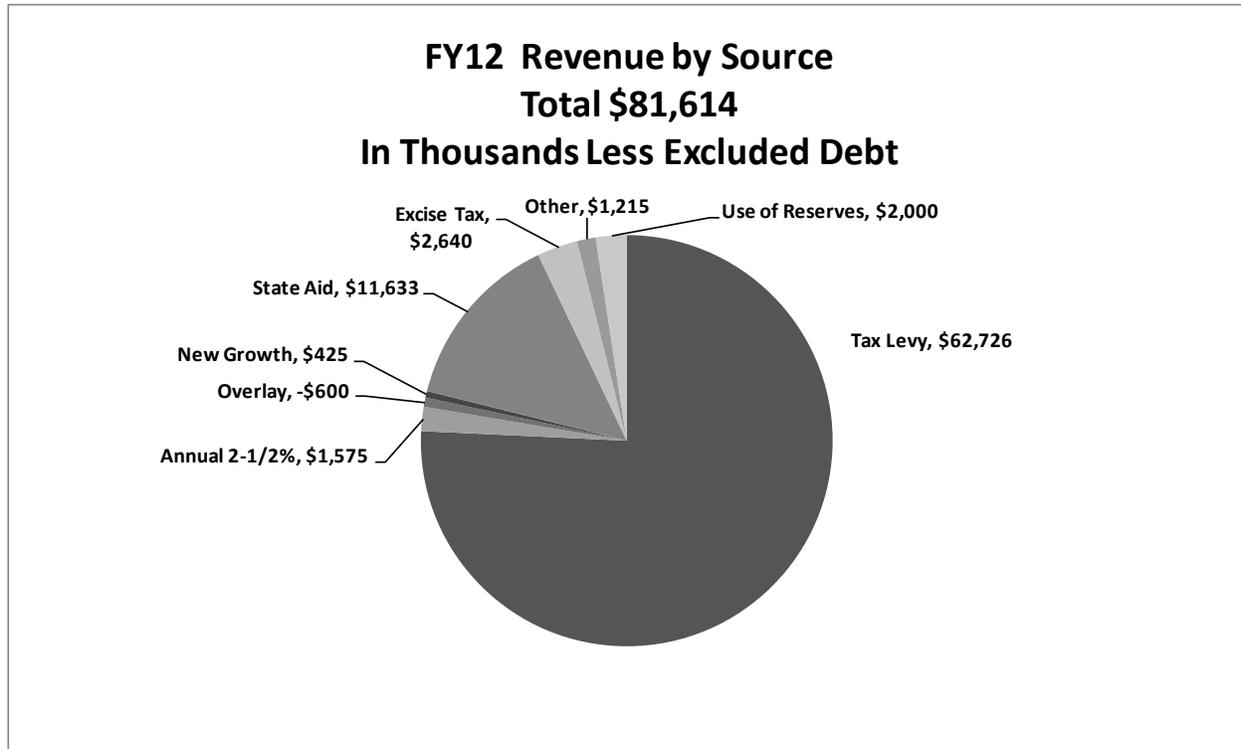
Respectfully Submitted,

Steven L. Ledoux
Town Manager

Budget Overview

The numbers contained in these next few pages for FY12 (the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011) are derived from the Acton Leadership Group plan, which does not include debt service for excluded debt nor Enterprise Funds and Revolving Funds. Because this document only pertains to Acton's revenues and expenses, the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Budget line is shown as 79.81 percent of the budgeted amount, which reflects Acton's share of the total regional school district budget.

What Are Our Sources of Revenue?



More than three-quarters of our revenue comes from local property taxes, which is comprised of three components:

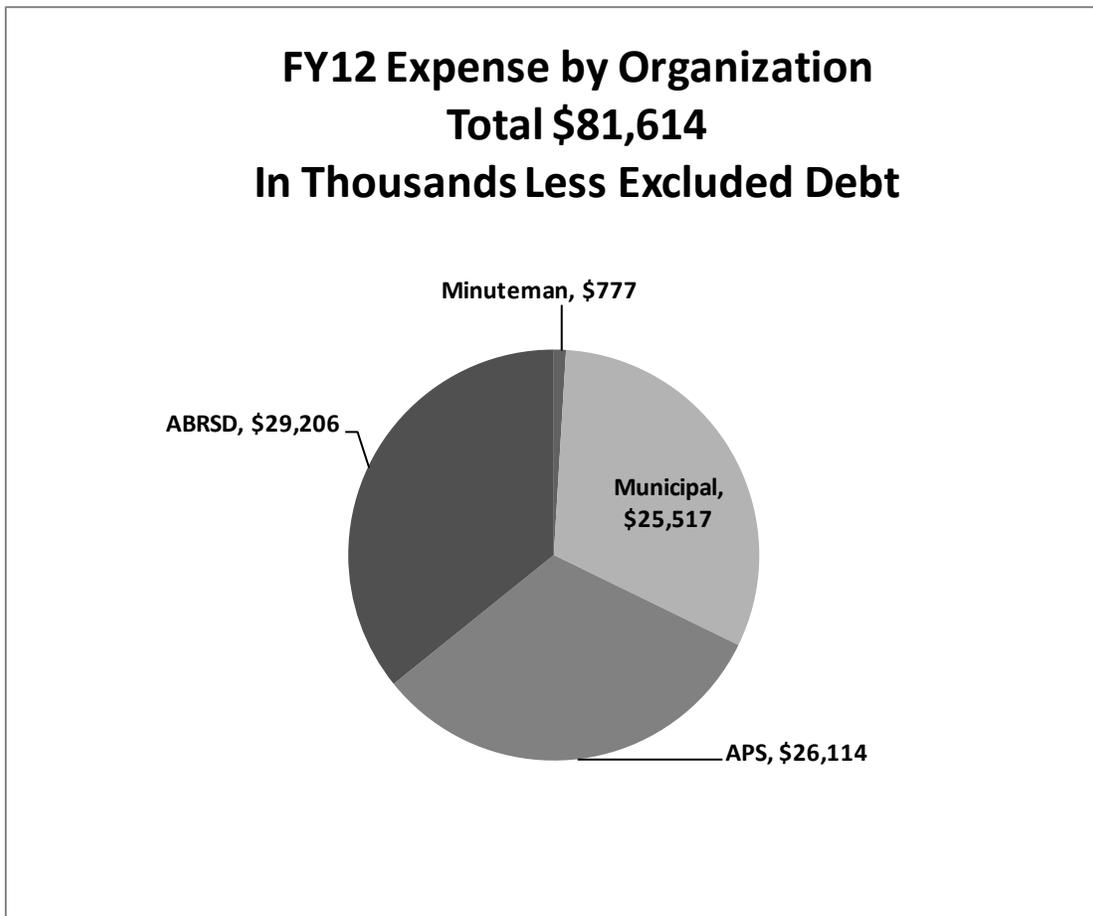
1. **Property Tax Levy** – the existing assessed property taxed at the current rate per thousand
2. **New Growth** – additional assessed value from new homes, additions to homes, and changes in parcels.
3. **Tax Increase** – typically 2-½ percent increase allowed on the property tax levy

State aid, our second largest segment of revenue accounting for nearly 15 percent of the total, consists of education aid and municipal aid. For Acton, education aid (provided through Chapter 70) is the more significant piece, providing Acton Public Schools with slightly more than \$5 million and the Acton-Boxborough Regional system with approximately \$5.4 million. For FY12, unrestricted municipal aid is expected to total slightly more than \$1 million.

Other categories of revenue include excise taxes, which are assessed on motor vehicles and trailers, and account for 3 percent of our total revenue. Fees and interest account for 1 percent of revenue. Acton collects fees for various permits, vital records, and licensing. Interest varies year-to-year depending on the interest rate and the amounts deposited.

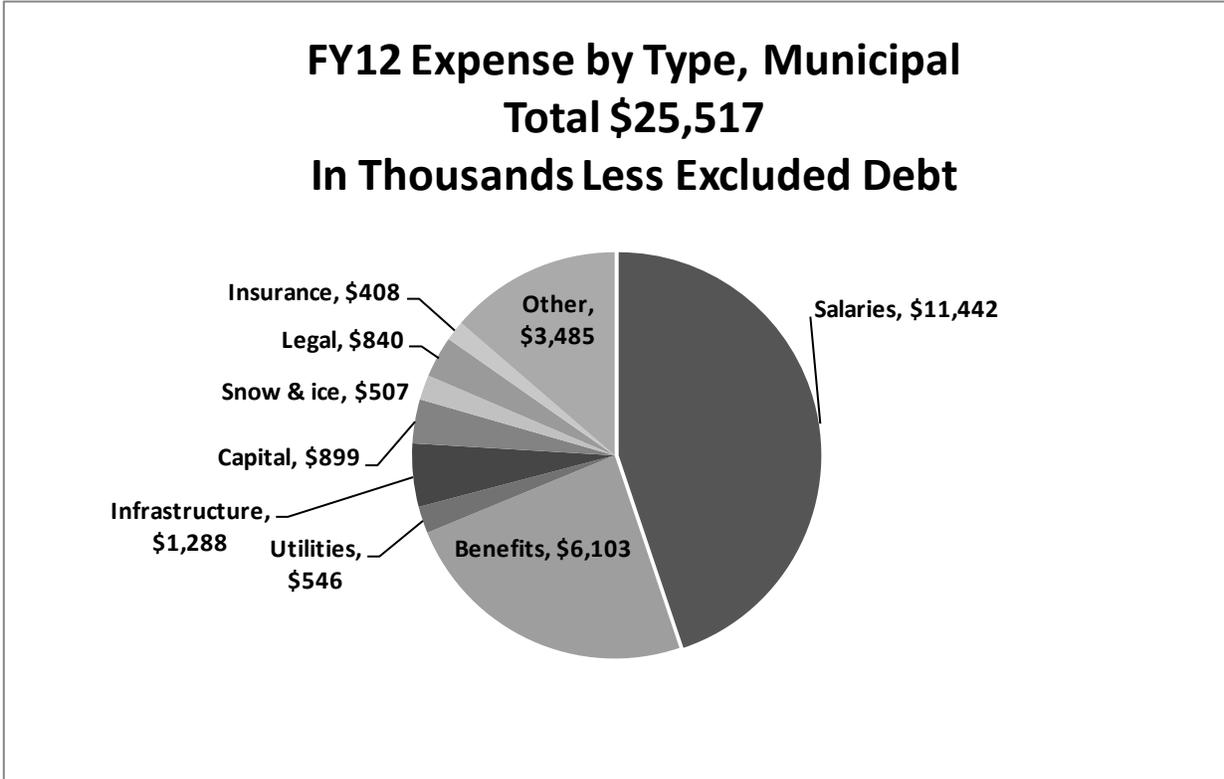
In this year's budget, reserves account for 2 percent of the total revenues. One of the ways in which our town has been able to effectively weather the downturn in the economy (and reductions in state aid and local receipts which are one of the effects of the recession) has been through prudent use of reserves to fill in some of the gaps left by these revenues. We provide more information about our use of reserves in the Fincom Message that follows. These reserves come about from controlling our spending so as to come in under the budgeted expense and by realizing revenue in excess of the budget. In short we save money when we can and use it when it is needed to avoid increasing taxes above the allowable 2-½ percent.

Which Town and School Entities Spend Our Money?



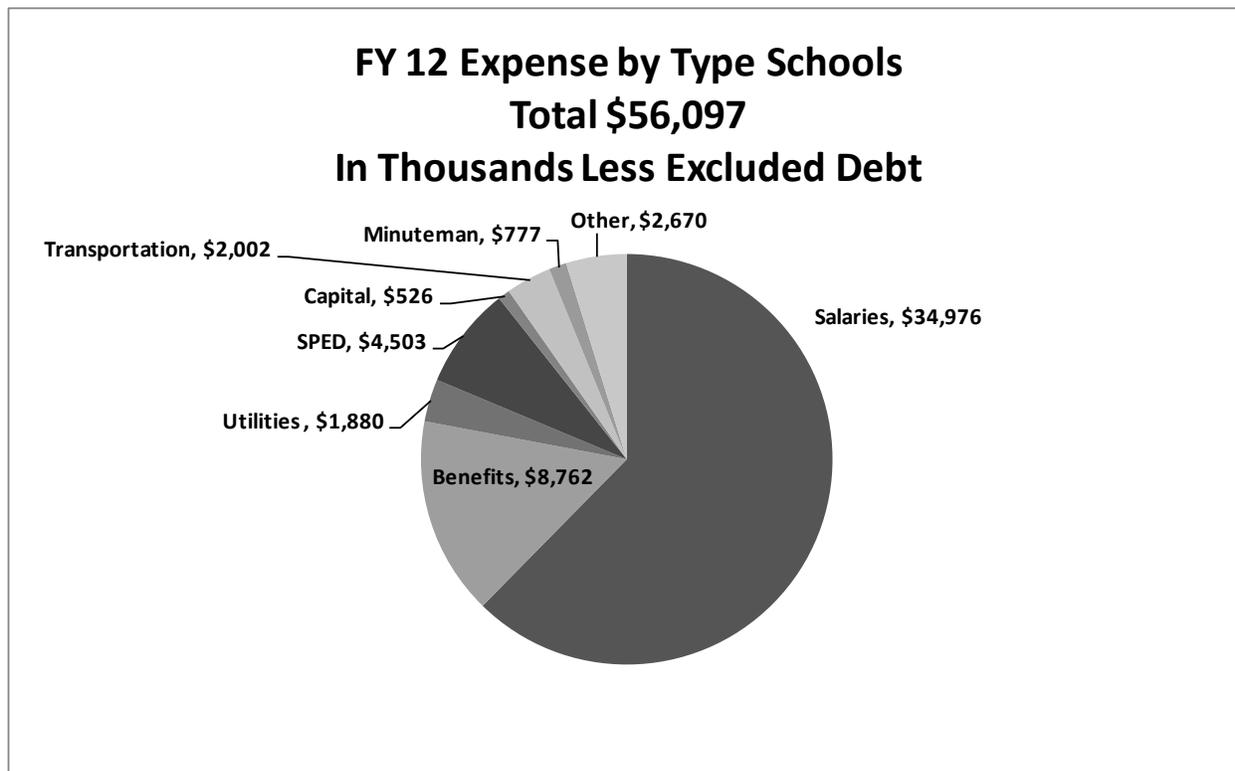
The town's revenues support four budgets within our town. Over two-thirds (69 percent) of our expenditures support education priorities: the Acton Public Schools budget (32 percent of expenditures), Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools assessment (36 percent of expenditures), and Minuteman Regional School District assessment (1 percent of total expenditures). The municipal government (which funds police, fire, highway, library, health, planning and other general government services) accounts for the remaining 31 percent of the total expenditures.

What Does the Municipal Government Spend Our Money For?



Approximately 70 percent of the Town spending goes to salaries and benefits, the cost for the people who provide services to the residents. Health insurance costs for town employees declined overall by approximately \$47,000 over last year’s town meeting budget, partially as a result of changes in collective bargaining agreements and partially because the cost of providing health insurance for employees increased by approximately 4 percent, a much smaller increase than many other municipalities have experienced. This again reflects the cost-efficient management provided by our administration. Infrastructure cost accounts for 5 percent of the spending. This category includes the maintenance and improvement of roads, sidewalks, buildings, grounds, and information technology. Legal services have been increasing the last several years and this year’s allocation for legal services represents approximately 3 percent of the total. Capital accounts for 4 percent of the municipal total.

What Do the Schools Spend our Money For?



As with the town, the largest category is the cost of people to provide services to our students. Salaries and benefits account for more than 77 percent of the total. The next largest category is special education which accounts for almost 8 percent, followed by student transportation at 3 percent. Utility costs (3 percent) have been reduced for the schools by \$217,000 through a combination of conservation measures and a favorable rate for natural gas which has been locked in for the next three years. Capital outlay represents less than 1 percent in the combined school budgets.

Finance Committee's Message

In June 2010, Standard & Poor's affirmed the town of Acton's AAA bond rating, which had been raised the prior year. The ratings agency, in stating its rationale, found that "Acton's operations are stable and that the town's good reserves will allow it to continue to manage through recessionary pressures." Management's proactive and pre-emptive planning in response to monitoring the economic environment, coupled with Acton voter commitment to support town services and the schools, contributed to Acton's receipt of a AAA bond rating, the best possible for a municipality. This highest rating, awarded to only 21 municipalities in Massachusetts and 169 nationwide, allows us to pay a low interest rate when issuing bonds and demonstrates the high quality of our financial management and planning.

We concur that the overall condition of Acton's finances is sound. Although the report was written specifically to evaluate the municipal operations, we believe that the same thing could be said of both our town and school operations and management: "Management will continue to be proactive and make the necessary adjustments to yield consistent financial results despite potential decreases in those revenues that are sensitive to economic conditions."

The FY12 budget and three-year plan presented to Town Meeting preserves key services to our residents, continues to seek ways to lessen the tax burden for our taxpayers, and uses our reserves prudently to weather the economic downturn and conserve those resources for future needs. This budgetary plan reflects a high degree of cooperation and collaboration between the Board of Selectmen, the School Committees, and the Finance Committee, and balances the limited resources of our taxpayers with their desire to sustain necessary services.

FY2011

As budgets were finalized last spring heading into Annual Town Meeting, the Finance Committee developed a plan for positive and negative contingencies in the amount of state aid. This plan, which became known as the "waterfall proposal," provided the budget-making boards with a plan to spend some of the money to avert deep cuts in service, and also provided that Acton's property taxes for FY11 would not increase by the full 2-½ percent allowed. Through cooperation among the Board of Selectmen, the School Committees, and the Finance Committee, \$293,000 was held back from the tax levy, providing a small measure of taxpayer relief in what was otherwise a difficult year for taxpayers. Special Town Meetings in spring and fall approved the use of additional reserves above the level envisioned at last Annual Town Meeting for settled labor contracts for several town bargaining units and for the exploration and purchase of the Caouette land.

In December 2010, the Finance Committee issued a "Point of View" (POV) with respect to FY12 budget planning. We observed that the economy would continue to constrain state finances (including local aid to the town and schools), and that the federal government would no longer provide any form of stimulus aid, which had offered some additional revenue to the town for the last three years. The last package of federal aid, approximately \$775,000 of funds called EdJobs, was announced in August 2010, and we are pleased that the school administrators and School Committees continue to hold this resource in reserve to alleviate budget pressures in FY13. The Finance Committee recommended the following guidelines to prepare the FY12 budget:

1. No operating override
2. Focus on control of labor costs
3. Capital plans should focus on maintaining critical assets
4. Operating entities should target a 0 percent increase over FY11 budgets

5. Use no more than \$2 million of reserves
6. Expect Chapter 70 funding to be 10 percent lower than FY11 levels
7. Maintain the current revenue split (approximately 30 percent to municipal budget and 70 percent to the schools)

Initial “level-service” budgets were developed which attempted to maintain as many services as possible. Most categories of expenses in all budgets were level-funded. The economic conditions of the nation and the state have resulted in volatility and uncertainty, which continues to make developing a reliable multi-year plan for the town’s taxpayers even more elusive this year. Working throughout the year with the members of the Board of Selectmen and the School Committees, through the Acton Leadership Group process, we have made our best effort to develop a multi-year plan that can provide some guidance to Town Meeting members, while recognizing that it is very difficult to predict what will happen in the next few months, let alone nearly 36 months into the future. As we typically label our plan, the numbers are “highly volatile and subject to change.”

Below we lay out our assumptions, and then show the impact that changes in these assumptions might have on our projections.

FY2012

Revenue excluding debt for FY12 is budgeted to be \$81.614 million, which is an increase of \$1.7 million from FY11,¹ or 2.1 percent. The major components of this change are \$1.575 million in property taxes, a decline of \$24,000 in new growth, a projected decline of \$337,000 in all categories of state aid, a small increase in excise taxes (based on the first reports of actual taxes paid for FY11). We anticipate using \$2 million in reserves to balance the budgets presented, which is \$1.2 million less than what we used in FY11 as authorized by several Town Meetings.

Expenses for FY12 are budgeted at \$81.614 million, on what is known as the ALG basis which does not include excluded debt, or debt that has been borrowed outside the limits of Proposition 2-½, but does include Acton’s prorated share of the Regional School budget and Acton’s assessment for the Minuteman Regional School. This total represents an increase of \$1.184 million or 1.5 percent over the FY11 budgets. The main drivers include an increase in salaries of \$797,000 (or 1.8 percent), and collective bargaining contracts for various groups of town and school employees have been in negotiations throughout much of FY11. Areas of the budget that have experienced increases include legal (\$262,000 for town and schools combined) and “all other” (\$285,000). Other drivers of the budgets include decreases in utilities (\$268,000) as a result of favorable rate plans and conservation efforts in town and schools, in health insurance (\$47,000) as a result of changes in employee health insurance costs related to rates and changes in collective bargaining agreements, special education tuition and transportation (\$9,000). Based on the above revenue and expense estimates the average single family tax bill is expected to increase by \$235 or 2.35 percent.

The Finance Committee continues to work on its cost-savings initiatives with representatives from the Board of Selectmen and the School Committees. Some of the strategies suggested through citizen input have already been implemented in the budgets before you at Town Meeting (examples include reduced printing and mailing costs, conservation measures to decrease utility expenses, and using hiring freezes and deferral of capital items as a means to avoid layoffs of personnel). Other initiatives that might offer more significant changes to the way we do business (such as sharing responsibility between town and

¹ In our discussion of FY12, we compare with the Multi-Year plan numbers for FY11, labeled FY11 Recap in the table at the end of this message. These numbers are slightly different than those presented to last spring’s Town Meeting, especially with respect to revenue.

schools for common areas or looking for efficiencies in the way we do business) continue to be investigated and may offer relief in future budget years.

The Standard & Poor's rating report notes the town's healthy reserve balances, which can be used to smooth out some of the volatility which we have experienced with other revenue sources, such as local receipts and state aid. In 2008, the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committees agreed to use a group of twelve communities for comparison purposes to evaluate various budgetary issues; these towns included communities that were similar to us in demographic and financial terms.² In reviewing FY11 data, only three towns (Concord, Westford and Winchester) retained reserves that represented a higher percentage of operating budgets than Acton, whereas two years prior Acton had been in the middle of the group. Our reserve levels (currently at about 10 percent of our operating budget total), prudently dispersed to fill in gaps in revenues so as to sustain services for our citizens, appear to be sufficient to weather the economic downturn that we continue to find ourselves enduring.

We cannot know with certainty in these times the precise changes that will occur with the proposed budgets, but assert that any difference between revenues and expenses will be met through some combination of additional (and unplanned) revenues, implementation of some cost-saving initiatives, continued sound spending management, prudent use of reserves, and possibly reductions in service levels.

FY2013 and FY2014

Revenue Assumptions

For fiscal years FY13 and FY14, the Finance Committee, working collaboratively through the Acton Leadership Group process, developed a plan for the two years after the next budget year which assumed no change in the traditional revenue sources. Specifically, we expect that the property tax levy will increase by the allowable 2-½ percent, that the Commonwealth will continue to fund education through Chapter 70 as currently prescribed, and that other cherry sheet funds will continue to flow to the town and school districts. For FY13, we assume no increase in the total amount of state aid over FY12, although the amounts in various categories may change. The current plan sees the possibility of an increase in state aid of 5 percent by the time we reach FY14, but this increase would still not take us back to the levels we were receiving in FY08.

In accordance with the Point of View and the reserve policy adopted by the Finance Committee in 2010, it is expected that the budgets will call on reserve funds to support spending. In these out-year projections, the use of reserves is projected to be \$1.4 million in FY13 and \$1.8 million in FY14. At the end of the plan total reserves are projected to be \$6.1 million (or approximately 7 percent of the planned operating budget total), assuming that free cash is replenished each year by \$250,000 (from turnbacks or unexpected revenues) and the region's excess & deficiency account is replenished by \$150,000 each year. As a basis of comparison, our reserve levels at the end of FY10 were certified at \$7.9 million, indicating that we have been replenishing our reserve levels as we can through hiring freezes, cost efficiencies, and additional unplanned revenues while using a prudent amount to fund budgets.

Spending Guidelines

Inherent in these projections is the understanding that both the town and school districts will continue to provide the highest possible level of services as efficiently as feasible. While recognizing the constraints

² These towns included Bedford, Canton, Concord, Dedham, Hingham, Milton, Sudbury, Westborough, Westford, Westwood, Wilmington and Winchester.

imposed by statutory requirements and contractual obligations, the Finance Committee expects that expense reductions, with commensurate cost savings, are essential to sustaining service levels.

Spending assumptions for FY13 and FY14 allow for a 3 percent increase each year.³ The operating entities are feeling the strain of three years of modest budgetary increases, and both town and schools indicate that there are many items that are needed. The town has a backlog of maintenance and capital items to be addressed, which include improvements for playgrounds and recreational facilities, HVAC repairs in the fire stations, road and drainage system repairs, and improved facilities for the Council on Aging. The schools have listed technology upgrades, textbook replacements, and additional assistants among their unmet needs. The Acton-Boxborough Regional High School recently completed an on-site evaluation as part of their accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. The report from the visiting committee offers many commendations for the high school, including the financial support that the communities have offered, but points to a number of personnel needs that will need responses.

Other Considerations

The Finance Committee encourages the continuation of matching expenses with other revenues than those generated by the property tax levy including enterprise funds, revolving accounts, and gift funds. This practice will continue to put downward pressure on the reliance of the budgets on this regressive tax.

As with many other communities, the Finance Committee is grappling with the issue of unfunded liabilities, and expects to engage in conversations in the next fiscal year about how to respond to this need to provide funding for pension and retiree health benefits into the future, while maintaining services and salaries for existing programs and employees. The Finance Committee would look forward to working with the Board of Selectmen and School Committees on this topic, as well as developing capital funding plans for future needs of the town's infrastructure and improvements. The continuing decline (and eventual retirement) of debt service for the improvements and building programs initiated in the mid-1990s will offer opportunities to consider new proposals and further infrastructure maintenance. This planning should begin in the next fiscal year.

Finally, it is expected that proposals for new local programs or initiatives be self funding or offset by corresponding reductions in other expense areas. No attempt has been made to predict significant shifts in service delivery triggered by changes in federal or state policies. Similarly, the Finance Committee has not calculated in these projections any large capital expenditures or major changes in service levels such as the closing of a facility.

Timing

Projections for FY13 and FY14 cover the period from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014. Some economists suggest that during this time frame stabilization and some recovery in the overall economy are likely, though the nature and extent of any such recovery is difficult to predict. Some economists predict that there will be significant growth by FY13. It is important for residents to understand that state and local economic activity lags the national activity typically by 12 to 24 months. The Finance Committee acknowledges these factors, but did not incorporate them specifically in our forecast.

³ The School Committee expressed its view that 3.5 percent would be more appropriate to their budgets, but agreed to the overall consensus number of 3 percent. If the multi-year plan used 3.5 percent for expenses, it would result in an increase in expenses of \$400,000 for FY13 and \$800,000 for FY14.

Reliability

These projections raise as many questions as they answer. Because they attempt to analyze the impact of factors outside of our control, these types of forecasts are volatile and do not guarantee either financial condition or delivery of services. For example, the current volatile situation in the Middle East could quickly return us to the recessionary economic climate of two years ago, a situation not even considered a month or two ago. Residents and taxpayers should understand that the elected boards and staff will exercise a level of scrutiny and discipline in managing their budgets that may result in occasional changes in the delivery of program goals in order to meet their core missions.

Multi-Year Plan

Below, we present the multi-year plan which has been developed through the Acton Leadership Group process. These results are sensitive to varying the assumptions. For example, an additional 10 percent reduction in state aid would result in a deficit of \$1.1 million; level funding of state aid, according to the Governor's budget, would result in an additional \$400,000 of revenue. Each additional 1 percent of expense growth would produce a deficit of \$800,000. Conversely, cost reduction initiatives could reduce the cost growth and allow us to replenish reserves.

The Multi Year Plan is not the subject of a vote at Town Meeting. However, the FY12 budgets for the Town and the Acton Public Schools, as well as the assessments for the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District and the Minuteman Regional Vocational School, are to be considered by Town Meeting. The following tables show key budget information for these entities, and show how the various budgets correspond to the Multi Year Plan and the Warrant Articles. This information is presented to allow the town meeting members to be better informed and understand the detail behind the budgets that will be voted at Town Meeting. As in previous years, the Finance Committee will prepare a "scorecard" for Town Meeting members that shows the sources of funding for each financial article on the warrant.

We have employed a new format this year for summarizing the information contained in the Multi-Year Plan. The full detailed workbook will be posted on the Town of Acton website along with the other Town Meeting materials.

*Any projections beyond FY12 require the use of reserves, along with increases in revenues and expense reductions, to balance annual budgets. The **unprecedented volatility** of all of these components, as well as the economy generally, will require adjustments on an ongoing basis as information becomes available to minimize the use of these reserves, thereby conserving the capacity to deliver services going forward. Projections represent the extension of current agreements among the leadership of the town and should be considered illustrative and subject to change.*

Town of Acton Revenues	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
	Recap			
A. Revenues (GROSS)				
Tax Levy (excluding debt exclusion)	\$62,108	\$64,127	\$66,420	\$68,522
State Aid	\$12,010	\$11,633	\$11,633	\$12,214
EdJobs (Acton share of APS & ABRSD for school use in FY13)	\$0	\$0	\$726	\$0
Local Receipts	\$3,788	\$3,854	\$3,924	\$4,023
Debt Exclusion	\$3,098	\$3,073	\$3,034	\$2,929
SBAB Reimbursement	\$1,009	\$1,009	\$1,009	\$1,009
Total Revenues (including debt)	\$82,012	\$83,695	\$86,746	\$88,696
B. Debt Exclusion Debt Service				
APS School Debt Exclusion	\$619	\$611	\$615	\$614
Public Safety Facility Debt Exclusion	\$394	\$483	\$473	\$462
Municipal Debt Exclusion	\$492	\$378	\$343	\$244
JHS/SHS Debt Exclusion	\$1,593	\$1,601	\$1,604	\$1,609
SBAB Reimbursement-Parker/Damon	\$1,009	\$1,009	\$1,009	\$1,009
Total Debt Exclusion/SBAB	\$4,107	\$4,082	\$4,043	\$3,938
C. Available Town Revenues (NET) (A - B)	\$77,905	\$79,613	\$82,703	\$84,759
Town of Acton Expenditures				
Town of Acton Municipal Budget	\$24,545	\$25,136	\$25,974	\$26,762
FY11 ATM Article 13 (April 2010) & STM (June 2010)	\$151			
FY11 Acton Municipal Capacity Not Utilized	(\$11)			
+ Transfer to Acton Municipal for APS Debt	\$309	\$309	\$309	\$309
+ Transfer to Acton Municipal for COPS	\$70	\$72		
Total Municipal Allocation	\$25,064	\$25,517	\$26,283	\$27,071
Percentage change year-to-year		1.81%	3.00%	3.00%
Acton Public Schools Allocation	\$26,289	\$26,495	\$26,588	\$27,395
- Transfer to Acton Municipal for APS Debt	(\$309)	(\$309)	(\$309)	(\$309)
- Transfer to Acton Municipal for COPS	(\$70)	(\$72)	\$0	\$0
Total APS Allocation	\$25,910	\$26,114	\$26,897	\$27,704
Percentage change year-to-year		0.79%	3.00%	3.00%
Town of Acton Portion of ABRSD Allocation	\$28,849	\$29,206	\$30,082	\$30,985
Percentage change year-to-year		1.24%	3.00%	3.00%
Total Minuteman Allocation	\$608	\$777	\$800	\$824
Percentage change year-to-year		27.80%	3.00%	3.00%
Non-Recurring Expenses from Special Town Meeting Votes		\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Oct 25 2010 Caouette Land Purchase</i>	\$170			
<i>Oct 12 2010 Caouette Land Purchase</i>	\$257			
<i>June 14 2010 FY09-10 Fire</i>	\$86			
<i>Article 23 ATM Bridge Work</i>	\$210			
<i>Article 12 Police Sup Past Due</i>	\$31			
D. Town of Acton Expenditures (NET)	\$81,184	\$81,614	\$84,063	\$86,585
E. Subtotal Town of Acton Projected Balance	(\$3,279)	(\$2,001)	(\$1,360)	(\$1,826)
F. Use of Reserves (TOTAL)	\$3,278	\$2,001	\$1,360	\$1,826
G. Total Town of Acton Projected Balance	(\$1)	(\$0)	\$0	\$0

Town of Acton - Tax Impact	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
	Recap			
Existing Valuation ('000s)	\$3,640,774	\$3,640,774	\$3,664,283	\$3,687,253
New Growth value ('000s)		\$23,509	\$22,969	\$22,354
Total Valuation ('000s)	\$3,640,774	\$3,664,283	\$3,687,253	\$3,709,606
Tax Rate	\$18.08	\$18.50	\$19.01	\$19.44
SF Value	\$500,492	\$500,492	\$500,492	\$500,492
SF Tax Bill	\$9,048	\$9,261	\$9,516	\$9,728
% Change	3.16%	2.35%	2.76%	2.23%
\$ Change	\$277.08	\$212.66	\$255.18	\$211.93

Acton Public Schools		\$26,113,719			
Article 15		Summarized Budget			
	FY10 Actual	FY11	% Chg	FY12	% Chg
Salaries Teaching	\$11,549,008	\$12,053,190	4.4%	\$12,068,520	0.1%
Salaries Other	\$4,950,759	\$5,061,430	2.2%	\$5,458,400	7.8%
Health Insurance	\$3,517,487	\$3,628,313	3.2%	\$3,697,937	1.9%
Fringes Other	\$10,815	\$17,000	57.2%	\$17,000	0.0%
Capital & One time Items	\$449,828	\$262,688	-41.6%	\$272,850	3.9%
SPED Tuition	\$2,287,723	\$2,192,407	-4.2%	\$1,920,318	-12.4%
SPED Trans	\$518,060	\$446,033	-13.9%	\$510,715	14.5%
Transportation	\$326,361	\$338,716	3.8%	\$349,236	3.1%
Utilities	\$836,996	\$970,645	16.0%	\$854,212	-12.0%
All other	\$1,039,492	\$940,027	-9.6%	\$964,531	2.6%
Total	\$25,486,529	\$25,910,449	1.7%	\$26,113,719	0.8%
Amount Per Multi Year Plan					
Transfers from Municipal		\$379,000		\$379,000	
Adjusted Plan Amount	█ \$25,486,529 █	26,289,449	3.2%	█ 26,492,719 █	0.8%
Breakdown by Article					
Acton Public Schools Budget				\$26,113,719	

Acton Boxborough Regional School District		\$24,891,336			
Article 16		Summarized Budget			
	FY10 Actual	FY11	% Chg	FY12	% Chg
Salaries Teaching	\$15,373,455	\$15,863,388	3.2%	\$16,006,402	0.9%
Salaries Other	\$5,335,138	\$5,443,539	2.0%	\$5,856,890	7.6%
Health Insurance	\$4,834,294	\$5,639,686	16.7%	\$5,213,338	-7.6%
Fringes Other	\$1,039,856	\$1,019,559	-2.0%	\$1,109,933	8.9%
Capital & One time Items	\$498,830	\$305,113	-38.8%	\$317,206	4.0%
SPED Tuition	\$2,791,612	\$3,301,333	18.3%	\$3,236,257	-2.0%
SPED Trans	\$729,516	\$583,635	-20.0%	\$788,332	35.1%
Transportation	\$576,819	\$626,628	8.6%	\$643,012	2.6%
Utilities	\$1,304,866	\$1,422,403	9.0%	\$1,285,751	-9.6%
All other	\$2,158,691	\$2,130,833	-1.3%	\$2,157,246	1.2%
Sub Total	\$34,643,077	\$36,336,117	4.9%	\$36,614,367	0.8%
Debt	\$1,885,211	\$1,892,293	0.4%	\$1,887,984	-0.2%
Total	\$36,528,288	\$38,228,410	4.7%	\$38,502,351	0.7%
Acton Share ex debt	\$27,368,031	\$28,810,755	5.3%	29,206,000	1.4%
	79.00%	79.23%		79.81%	
Acton Share ex debt		\$28,810,755		29,206,000	1.4%
Amount Per Multi Year Plan		\$28,810,755		\$29,206,000	1.4%
Breakdown by Article					
	Acton Share ex debt			\$29,206,000	
	Regional Debt			\$1,601,199	
	Chapter 70 Base aid			-\$5,283,962	
	Choice/Charter School Assessment			\$267,412	
	Charter School Aid			-\$29,743	
	Regional School Transportation			-\$443,011	
	Transfer from Premium on Loan			-\$558	
	Transfer for Excess and Deficiency			-\$426,001	
Acton Boxborough Regional School Assessment				\$24,891,336	

Town of Acton Municipal Budget
Articles 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, 14, 30

\$27,997,904

	FY10 Actual	FY11 Budget		FY12 Budget	
			% Chg		% Chg
Salaries	\$10,610,999	\$10,756,281	1.4%	\$11,171,387	3.9%
Health Insurance	\$2,463,800	\$3,274,982	32.9%	\$2,645,032	-19.2%
Middlesex Retire	\$2,396,095	\$3,027,429	26.3%	\$2,663,775	-12.0%
Fringes Other	\$800,643	\$733,181	-8.4%	\$793,950	8.3%
Legal	\$858,240	\$550,264	-35.9%	\$840,000	52.7%
Gas & Diesel	\$132,815	\$243,396	83.3%	\$233,396	-4.1%
Snow & Ice ex salaries	\$458,078	\$458,171	0.0%	\$506,585	10.6%
Property Liability Insurance	\$297,784	\$382,500	28.4%	\$407,500	6.5%
Infrastructure Maintenance	\$1,554,852	\$1,230,216	-20.9%	\$1,288,220	4.7%
Inside Debt	\$579,954	\$756,589	30.5%	\$523,354	-30.8%
Utilities	\$531,117	\$596,724	12.4%	\$546,410	-8.4%
All other	\$2,095,981	\$1,889,920	-9.8%	\$2,600,869	37.6%
Subtotal	\$22,780,358	\$23,899,653	4.9%	\$24,220,479	1.3%
Excluded Debt	\$2,556,398	\$2,514,100	-1.7%	\$2,480,550	-1.3%
Subtotal	\$25,336,756	\$26,413,753	4.3%	\$26,701,029	1.1%
AB Cultural Council				\$2,000	
Community Shuttle - Yr 3 Grant Match				\$75,000	
Capital		\$653,282		\$898,875	37.6%
COA Subsidy		\$50,000		\$50,000	0.0%
Nursing Subsidy		\$50,000		\$0	-100.0%
Ambulance Subsidy		\$271,000		\$271,000	0.0%
Total		\$27,438,035		\$27,997,904	2.0%
Amount Per Multi Year Plan		\$27,438,035		\$27,997,904	
Transfers to APS		-\$379,000		-\$381,000	
Less Excluded debt		-\$2,514,100		-\$2,480,550	
Adjusted Plan amount		\$24,544,935		\$25,136,354	2.4%
Breakdown by Article					
Article 11	Town Operating Budget	\$26,413,753		\$26,701,029	
Article 3	Council On Aging	\$50,000		\$50,000	
Article 4	Nursing	\$50,000		\$0	
Article 7	Ambulance Subsidy	\$271,000		\$271,000	
Article 9	AB Cultural Council			\$2,000	
Article 14	Capital Improvements (General Fund Only)	\$653,282		\$898,875	
Article 30	Community Shuttle - Yr 3 Grant Match			\$75,000	
		\$27,438,035		\$27,997,904	