

Town of Southwick
FINCOM Explanations
Special Town Meeting @ 5/19/09

Article 1:

This represents a transfer of funds from the existing Salary Reserve account to cover the full time EMT's overtime payments. There is no additional spending involved, merely a reallocation from the reserve account. Any unused reserve account funds are returned to the town as free cash.

Article 2:

These 5 items are additional appropriations to prevent account overruns at year end. The amount appropriated for the snow/ice removal activities was inadequate, resulting in a deficit balance that will be covered by the \$200,000. The sewer billing is always a quarter behind, and FY 08 billing was not encumbered. This appropriation will allow the current June quarter estimate of \$50,000 to be encumbered; in essence we are expensing five (5) quarters this year. The water testing produced some false positives (as noted in a prior Special Town Meeting), therefore additional testing was required to resolve these issues, estimated to be \$5,000. Unexpected water main repairs resulted in the budgeted repaving amount being inadequate by an estimate amount of \$10,000. Ambulance billings to insurance providers or Town residents are provided by a third party. The contract stipulates a percentage of the billings as the fees for the third party billings. This year the billings and related fees exceeded estimates, therefore an additional amount of \$1,200 is required. All of the above amounts were incurred this fiscal year and therefore should be funded this year.

Article 3:

This article is to approve the purchase of a new ambulance for \$185,000. This action was noted at a prior Special Town Meeting when the Town authorized the replacement of the defective rescue vehicle. Now that all issues surrounding the original and replacement rescue vehicles have been resolved, the needs for a new ambulance can be addressed. Since this is an older unit, reliability and maintenance concerns dictate we not prolong this acquisition.