

Town of Belmont, Massachusetts



Fiscal Year 2025

FY2025 Final Recommended Budget & Financing Plan

May 16, 2024

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TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
PATRICE GARVIN

ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
JENNIFER HEWITT

May 16, 2024

Dear Town Meeting Members –

Please find attached an extract of the FY2025 Budget Book to aid in your review of the financial articles for the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. Please note that the Override Budget for FY2025, as published on February 2, 2024, remains the main reference document. Minimal changes have been made, in consultation with the Select Board, and reflect the following –

Capital – The capital process was still underway in February, and has since been solidified.

- Revenue available for discretionary capital increased due to identified capital turnbacks (\$246,196) and a reduction in funding dedicated to OPEB (\$112,331), offset by lower available funding from the Capital Endowment (\$16,445 reduction), for a net increase of \$342,082.
- The Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee recommends that \$578,842 of the amount set-aside for discretionary capital should instead be transferred to the Capital Stabilization Fund for use in FY2026 and beyond for large anticipated projects.
- The list of recommended capital and CPA projects is included in Program 8000 of the attached budget document for ease of reference in reviewing articles 7, 21, and 22.

Enterprise – The Select Board reviewed the Water and Sewer enterprise budgets and approved a rate increase for FY2025 at their April 8, 2024 meeting. Copies of the Water and Sewer budgets were not included in the February budget, and are included here for reference in reviewing article 13.

Other Budget Adjustments – Minimal additional changes have been identified which necessitated changes from February. These are –

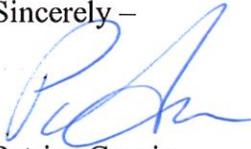
- IT Realignment – Due to anticipated staff retirements, the Police IT network is anticipated to merge with the overall Town network in FY2025. The associated personnel costs (\$72,739) are transferred from the Police Department to Information Technology.
- School Personnel Changes and Related Benefits – Belmont Public Schools recognized some needed staffing realignments which resulted in a net decrease of one benefitted position. This resulted in a shift of \$18,000 from Health Insurance to School Payroll. As planned, we will revisit the MOU for managing Shared Services in the coming months.

The budget packet includes the following sections, replicated from February, and reflecting the changes noted above. The intent is to make the budget more accessible for Town Meeting members, and we welcome further feedback as we strive to enhance our overall budget presentation.

- Overview – One-page summary of revenues and expenses
- Program Summary – Four page summary of expenses by department
- Revenue Executive Summary – Four page summary of anticipated revenues, with description of each main revenue category, summary table of historical and projected revenues, and detail for use of Free Cash.
- Enterprise Budgets – Water and Sewer
- Capital Budget – Detailed project descriptions for Discretionary and Non-Discretionary capital and CPA projects.

Thank you for your ongoing support for the Town of Belmont. We look forward to a vibrant Town Meeting discussion.

Sincerely –



Patrice Garvin
Town Administrator

Summary of Revenues and Expenditures

Revenues	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Estimated	FY2025 Projected
Property Tax Levy	\$ 99,431,844	\$ 102,786,493	\$ 106,234,041	\$ 118,236,512
Levy for Exempt Debt	\$ 12,288,095	\$ 13,719,329	\$ 13,143,693	\$ 14,077,401
Total Tax Levy	\$ 111,719,939	\$ 116,505,822	\$ 119,377,734	\$ 132,313,914
State Aid	\$ 12,454,009	\$ 12,857,194	\$ 14,608,481	\$ 14,773,408
Local Receipts	\$ 9,567,943	\$ 10,800,033	\$ 10,057,902	\$ 8,215,549
Available Funds	\$ 7,854,694	\$ 8,577,788	\$ 11,548,320	\$ 8,226,055
Revenue Offsets	\$ (2,831,921)	\$ (2,919,157)	\$ (3,102,985)	\$ (3,147,380)
Enterprise Receipts	\$ 1,188,000	\$ 1,388,000	\$ 942,487	\$ 1,170,225
Total Revenues	\$ 139,952,664	\$ 147,209,680	\$ 153,431,939	\$ 161,551,770
Spending	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Budget	FY2025 Budget
Belmont Public Schools	\$ 55,259,786	\$ 56,852,294	\$ 63,486,981	\$ 66,885,704
Regional Schools	\$ 1,124,430	\$ 886,383	\$ 746,956	\$ 234,580
Total Education	\$ 56,384,216	\$ 57,738,677	\$ 64,233,937	\$ 67,120,284
General Government	\$ 4,510,315	\$ 5,309,726	\$ 5,219,752	\$ 5,708,750
Public Safety	\$ 12,921,617	\$ 14,219,725	\$ 14,160,201	\$ 14,482,995
Public Services	\$ 9,317,830	\$ 9,711,335	\$ 10,574,116	\$ 9,753,750
Health and Human Services	\$ 3,053,356	\$ 3,233,233	\$ 3,351,359	\$ 3,430,649
Total Municipal Government	\$ 29,803,118	\$ 32,474,019	\$ 33,305,428	\$ 33,376,144
Facilities	\$ 5,739,210	\$ 6,527,027	\$ 7,519,388	\$ 7,573,801
Pension Assessment	\$ 9,662,058	\$ 10,077,954	\$ 10,041,821	\$ 9,873,396
Employee Benefits	\$ 14,001,343	\$ 14,819,363	\$ 15,619,670	\$ 16,065,937
Debt Service	\$ 14,579,196	\$ 15,170,502	\$ 14,642,053	\$ 15,511,944
Other Shared	\$ 435,877	\$ 362,197	\$ 1,172,376	\$ 1,326,725
Total Shared Services	\$ 44,417,683	\$ 46,957,043	\$ 48,995,308	\$ 50,351,803
Capital - Streets	\$ 1,812,460	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 231,801	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765
Capital - Discretionary	\$ 1,757,682	\$ 3,787,495	\$ 1,791,681	\$ 3,173,308
Total Capital	\$ 3,801,943	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 3,939,570	\$ 5,624,894
Other Warrant Articles (OPEB, Stabilization Funds)	\$ 50,000	\$ 579,275	\$ 2,957,695	\$ 5,078,645
Total Spending	\$ 134,456,960	\$ 143,632,011	\$ 153,431,938	\$ 161,551,770
Net Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	N/A	N/A	\$ —	\$ —

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Program 1000: General Government								
1100	Assessors Compensation	\$198,009	\$222,793	\$264,180	\$277,521	\$289,754	\$12,233	4.4%
1100	Assessors Expenses	\$152,607	\$101,282	\$103,777	\$147,500	\$172,500	\$25,000	16.9%
	<i>Subtotal 1100 Assessors</i>	<i>\$350,616</i>	<i>\$324,075</i>	<i>\$367,957</i>	<i>\$425,021</i>	<i>\$462,254</i>	<i>\$37,233</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
1200	Compensation	\$211,922	\$243,923	\$212,677	\$213,664	\$222,019	\$8,355	3.9%
1200	Human Resources Expenses	\$28,791	\$37,089	\$68,839	\$80,450	\$80,450	\$—	—%
1250	Salary Reserve	\$39,899	\$406,299	\$750,450	\$360,949	\$571,980	\$211,031	58.5%
	<i>Subtotal 1200 Human Resources</i>	<i>\$280,612</i>	<i>\$687,311</i>	<i>\$1,031,966</i>	<i>\$655,063</i>	<i>\$874,449</i>	<i>\$219,386</i>	<i>33.5%</i>
1300	IT Compensation	\$391,560	\$342,744	\$394,488	\$433,569	\$524,773	\$91,204	21.0%
1300	IT Expenses	\$537,123	\$757,202	\$956,928	\$980,375	\$1,093,600	\$113,225	11.5%
	<i>Subtotal 1300 IT</i>	<i>\$928,683</i>	<i>\$1,099,946</i>	<i>\$1,351,415</i>	<i>\$1,413,944</i>	<i>\$1,618,373</i>	<i>\$204,429</i>	<i>14.5%</i>
1400	Compensation	\$254,069	\$293,774	\$291,593	\$358,431	\$354,795	\$(3,636)	(1.0)%
1400	Town Accountant Expenses	\$66,600	\$74,621	\$61,873	\$84,600	\$75,930	\$(8,670)	(10.2)%
	<i>Subtotal 1400 Town Accountant</i>	<i>\$320,669</i>	<i>\$368,394</i>	<i>\$353,466</i>	<i>\$443,031</i>	<i>\$430,725</i>	<i>\$(12,306)</i>	<i>(2.8)%</i>
1500	Town Administration Compensation	\$575,361	\$508,807	\$610,987	\$620,057	\$678,248	\$58,191	9.4%
1500	Town Administration Expenses	\$347,762	\$497,827	\$458,191	\$505,040	\$505,040	\$—	—%
	<i>Subtotal 1500 Town Administration</i>	<i>\$923,123</i>	<i>\$1,006,633</i>	<i>\$1,069,177</i>	<i>\$1,125,097</i>	<i>\$1,183,288</i>	<i>\$58,191</i>	<i>5.2%</i>
1600	Town Clerk Compensation	\$336,901	\$327,688	\$383,914	\$391,716	\$409,383	\$17,666	4.5%
1600	Town Clerk Expenses	\$94,400	\$82,805	\$108,280	\$116,445	\$145,085	\$28,640	24.6%
	<i>Subtotal 1600 Town Clerk</i>	<i>\$431,301</i>	<i>\$410,494</i>	<i>\$492,194</i>	<i>\$508,161</i>	<i>\$554,468</i>	<i>\$46,306</i>	<i>9.1%</i>
1700	Treasurer Compensation	\$475,344	\$479,753	\$400,578	\$435,837	\$397,294	\$(38,543)	(8.8)%
1700	Treasurer Expenses	\$120,589	\$133,709	\$242,971	\$213,600	\$187,900	\$(25,700)	(12.0)%
	<i>Subtotal 1700 Treasurer</i>	<i>\$595,933</i>	<i>\$613,462</i>	<i>\$643,549</i>	<i>\$649,437</i>	<i>\$585,194</i>	<i>\$(64,243)</i>	<i>(9.9)%</i>
	Total General Government	\$3,830,936	\$4,510,315	\$5,309,726	\$5,219,752	\$5,708,750	\$488,998	9.4%

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Program 2000: Shared Services								
2110	Pension	\$8,728,097	\$9,662,058	\$10,077,954	\$10,041,821	\$9,873,396	\$(168,425)	(1.7)%
2200	Retiree Health Insurance	\$3,285,759	\$3,529,448	\$3,492,220	\$3,338,181	\$3,532,575	\$194,394	5.8%
2201	Employee Health Insurance	\$9,049,834	\$9,146,575	\$9,886,314	\$10,515,468	\$10,841,911	\$326,443	3.1%
2210	Life Insurance	\$10,234	\$11,077	\$16,721	\$19,425	\$19,425	\$—	—%
2220	Medicare	\$875,330	\$908,544	\$1,065,047	\$1,097,497	\$1,149,397	\$51,900	4.7%
2310	Unemployment	\$142,423	\$62,279	\$76,169	\$193,700	\$90,000	\$(103,700)	(53.5)%
2320	Workers Compensation	\$315,529	\$343,420	\$282,892	\$455,399	\$432,629	\$(22,770)	(5.0)%
	<i>Subtotal Employee Benefits</i>	<i>\$22,407,207</i>	<i>\$23,663,401</i>	<i>\$24,897,317</i>	<i>\$25,661,491</i>	<i>\$25,939,333</i>	<i>\$277,842</i>	<i>1.1%</i>
2400	Liability Insurance	\$511,161	\$435,877	\$350,167	\$744,730	\$794,932	\$50,202	6.7%
2410	Deductible Reserves	\$—	\$—	\$12,030	\$27,646	\$31,793	\$4,147	15.0%
	<i>Subtotal Liability Insurance</i>	<i>\$511,161</i>	<i>\$435,877</i>	<i>\$362,197</i>	<i>\$772,376</i>	<i>\$826,725</i>	<i>\$54,349</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
2450	Warrant Committee Reserve	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$400,000	\$500,000	\$100,000	25.0%
	<i>Subtotal WC Reserve</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>\$400,000</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>25.0%</i>
2500	Facilities Compensation	\$1,603,030	\$1,789,467	\$1,699,333	\$2,293,029	\$2,401,262	\$108,233	4.7%
2500	Facilities Expenses	\$3,637,039	\$3,949,743	\$4,827,695	\$5,226,359	\$5,172,539	\$(53,820)	(1.0)%
	<i>Subtotal 2500 Facilities</i>	<i>\$5,240,068</i>	<i>\$5,739,210</i>	<i>\$6,527,027</i>	<i>\$7,519,388</i>	<i>\$7,573,801</i>	<i>\$54,413</i>	<i>0.7%</i>
	Total Shared Services	\$28,158,436	\$29,838,488	\$31,786,541	\$34,353,255	\$34,839,859	\$486,604	1.4%
Program 3000: Public Safety								
3000	Compensation	\$16,258	\$15,667	\$15,744	\$16,200	\$16,200	\$—	—%
3000	Emergency Mgmt Expenses	\$7,944	\$6,262	\$7,122	\$7,944	\$7,944	\$—	—%
	<i>Subtotal 3000 Emergency Mgmt</i>	<i>\$24,202</i>	<i>\$21,929</i>	<i>\$22,866</i>	<i>\$24,144</i>	<i>\$24,144</i>	<i>\$—</i>	<i>—%</i>
3100	Fire Compensation	\$5,196,516	\$5,445,810	\$5,492,448	\$5,734,377	\$5,909,051	\$174,674	3.0%
3100	Fire Expenses	\$504,023	\$488,621	\$587,183	\$655,850	\$701,650	\$45,800	7.0%
	<i>Subtotal 3100 Fire</i>	<i>\$5,700,539</i>	<i>\$5,934,431</i>	<i>\$6,079,631</i>	<i>\$6,390,227</i>	<i>\$6,610,701</i>	<i>\$220,474</i>	<i>3.5%</i>
3200	Police Compensation	\$5,978,535	\$6,258,108	\$7,288,012	\$6,864,199	\$6,873,634	\$9,435	0.1%
3200	Police Expenses	\$524,815	\$707,148	\$829,216	\$881,630	\$974,515	\$92,885	10.5%
	<i>Subtotal 3200 Police</i>	<i>\$6,503,351</i>	<i>\$6,965,256</i>	<i>\$8,117,229</i>	<i>\$7,745,829</i>	<i>\$7,848,149</i>	<i>\$102,320</i>	<i>1.3%</i>
	Total Public Safety	\$12,228,092	\$12,921,617	\$14,219,725	\$14,160,201	\$14,482,995	\$322,794	2.3%

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Program 4000: Education								
4100	Belmont Public Schools Compensation	\$9,395,499	\$11,507,974	\$46,017,121	\$48,194,771	\$50,905,478	\$2,710,707	5.6%
4100	Belmont Public Schools Expenses	\$42,194,418	\$43,751,812	\$10,835,173	\$15,292,210	\$15,980,226	\$688,016	4.5%
	<i>Subtotal 4100 Belmont Public Schools</i>	<i>\$51,589,917</i>	<i>\$55,259,786</i>	<i>\$56,852,294</i>	<i>\$63,486,981</i>	<i>\$66,885,704</i>	<i>\$3,398,723</i>	<i>5.4%</i>
4200	Regional Schools	\$1,391,511	\$1,124,430	\$886,383	\$746,956	\$234,580	\$(512,376)	(68.6)%
	<i>Subtotal 4200 Regional School Expenses</i>	<i>\$1,391,511</i>	<i>\$1,124,430</i>	<i>\$886,383</i>	<i>\$746,956</i>	<i>\$234,580</i>	<i>\$(512,376)</i>	<i>(68.6)%</i>
	Total Education	\$52,981,428	\$56,384,216	\$57,738,677	\$64,233,937	\$67,120,284	\$2,886,347	4.5%
Program 5000: Public Services								
5100	Planning and Building Compensation	\$734,527	\$719,783	\$768,642	\$849,892	\$656,995	\$(192,897)	(22.7)%
5100	Planning and Building Expenses	\$127,211	\$161,892	\$75,668	\$129,130	\$84,615	\$(44,515)	(34.5)%
	<i>Subtotal 5100 Planning and Building</i>	<i>\$861,738</i>	<i>\$881,675</i>	<i>\$844,310</i>	<i>\$979,022</i>	<i>\$741,610</i>	<i>\$(237,412)</i>	<i>(24.2)%</i>
5200	Public Works Compensation	\$1,950,188	\$2,022,462	\$2,094,539	\$2,312,492	\$2,709,357	\$396,865	17.2%
5200	Public Works Expenses	\$5,044,225	\$5,419,332	\$5,236,793	\$5,758,173	\$5,979,385	\$221,212	3.8%
	<i>Subtotal 5200 Public Works</i>	<i>\$6,994,413</i>	<i>\$7,441,794</i>	<i>\$7,331,332</i>	<i>\$8,070,665</i>	<i>\$8,688,742</i>	<i>\$618,077</i>	<i>7.7%</i>
5300	Recreation Compensation	\$380,922	\$592,637	\$819,886	\$844,439	\$323,398	\$(521,041)	(61.7)%
5300	Recreation Expenses	\$169,974	\$401,724	\$715,806	\$679,990	\$—	\$(679,990)	(100)%
	<i>Subtotal 5300 Recreation</i>	<i>\$550,896</i>	<i>\$994,361</i>	<i>\$1,535,693</i>	<i>\$1,524,429</i>	<i>\$323,398</i>	<i>\$(1,201,031)</i>	<i>(78.8)%</i>
	Total Public Services	\$8,407,046	\$9,317,830	\$9,711,335	\$10,574,116	\$9,753,750	\$(820,365)	(7.8)%
Program 6000: Human Services								
6100	Library Compensation	\$1,359,268	\$1,430,861	\$1,573,631	\$1,665,057	\$1,732,944	\$67,888	4.1%
6100	Library Expenses	\$613,522	\$685,935	\$654,608	\$683,337	\$658,858	\$(24,479)	(3.6)%
	<i>Subtotal 6100 Library</i>	<i>\$1,972,789</i>	<i>\$2,116,796</i>	<i>\$2,228,240</i>	<i>\$2,348,394</i>	<i>\$2,391,802</i>	<i>\$43,409</i>	<i>1.8%</i>
6200	Council on Aging Compensation	\$365,934	\$378,117	\$379,625	\$369,079	\$385,086	\$16,007	4.3%
6200	Council on Aging Expenses	\$20,793	\$24,361	\$19,305	\$36,775	\$37,000	\$225	0.6%
	<i>Subtotal 6200 Council on Aging</i>	<i>\$386,727</i>	<i>\$402,478</i>	<i>\$398,931</i>	<i>\$405,854</i>	<i>\$422,086</i>	<i>\$16,232</i>	<i>4.0%</i>

Program Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

Element	Description	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
6300	Health Compensation	\$401,094	\$419,580	\$509,700	\$449,951	\$468,272	\$18,321	4.1%
6300	Health Expenses	\$121,125	\$114,501	\$96,363	\$147,161	\$148,489	\$1,328	0.9%
	<i>Subtotal 6300 Health</i>	<i>\$522,219</i>	<i>\$534,082</i>	<i>\$606,062</i>	<i>\$597,112</i>	<i>\$616,761</i>	<i>\$19,649</i>	<i>3.3%</i>
	Total Human Services	\$2,881,736	\$3,053,356	\$3,233,233	\$3,351,359	\$3,430,649	\$79,290	2.4%
Program 7000: Debt Service								
7000	Within Levy Debt Service	\$1,639,620	\$1,458,739	\$1,438,989	\$1,415,039	\$1,157,939	\$(257,100)	(18.2)%
7000	Exempt Debt Service	\$13,084,646	\$13,029,464	\$13,731,513	\$13,154,514	\$14,281,505	\$1,126,991	8.6%
7000	Short-term Borrowing Costs	\$—	\$90,993	\$—	\$72,500	\$72,500	\$—	—%
	<i>Subtotal 7000 Debt Service</i>	<i>\$14,724,266</i>	<i>\$14,579,196</i>	<i>\$15,170,502</i>	<i>\$14,642,053</i>	<i>\$15,511,944</i>	<i>\$869,891</i>	<i>5.9%</i>
	Total Debt Service	\$14,724,266	\$14,579,196	\$15,170,502	\$14,642,053	\$15,511,944	\$869,891	5.9%
Capital Expenditures								
8000	Capital - Streets	\$—	\$1,812,460	\$1,857,772	\$1,904,216	\$1,951,821	\$47,605	2.5%
8000	Capital - Sidewalks	\$226,147	\$231,801	\$237,730	\$243,673	\$499,765	\$256,092	105%
8000	Discretionary Capital	\$950,268	\$1,757,682	\$3,787,495	\$1,791,681	\$3,173,308	\$1,381,627	77.1%
	<i>Subtotal 8000 Capital Expenditures</i>	<i>\$1,176,415</i>	<i>\$3,801,943</i>	<i>\$5,882,997</i>	<i>\$3,939,570</i>	<i>\$5,624,894</i>	<i>\$1,685,324</i>	<i>42.8%</i>
	Total Capital Expenditures	\$1,176,415	\$3,801,943	\$5,882,997	\$3,939,570	\$5,624,894	\$1,685,324	42.8%
Other Articles								
	OPEB Contribution	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$579,275	\$552,695	\$440,364	\$(112,331)	(20.3)%
	Capital Stabilization Fund	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$727,500	\$578,842	\$(148,658)	(20)%
	General Stabilization Fund	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$1,677,500	\$—	\$(1,677,500)	(100)%
	Override Mitigation Fund	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$4,059,439	\$4,059,439	—%
	<i>Subtotal Other Articles</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>\$50,000</i>	<i>\$579,275</i>	<i>\$2,957,695</i>	<i>\$5,078,645</i>	<i>\$2,120,950</i>	<i>71.7%</i>
	Total Other Articles	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$579,275	\$2,957,695	\$5,078,645	\$2,120,950	71.7%
Grand Total		\$124,438,354	\$134,456,960	\$143,632,011	\$153,431,938	\$161,551,770	\$8,119,832	5.3%

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Revenue Executive Summary

Town of Belmont, MA

This revenue projection is based on the most current data available; as new information arises, the projections may be revised. The summary below presents Total General Fund Operating Revenues, and Net General Fund Revenues.

- Total General Fund Operating Revenues are from annually recurring and non-recurring revenue sources, including transfers from special revenue funds, and Specialized Stabilization Funds.
- Net General Fund Revenues are Total General Fund Revenues less revenues recommended to be set-aside to fund designated expenses.

In FY2025, Total General Fund Operating Revenues are projected to increase by approximately \$8.12 million, or 5.29%. Net General Fund Revenues, those available to support school and municipal operating budgets, are projected to increase by \$4.69 million, or 3.20%.

General Fund Revenue Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Estimated	FY2025 Projected	FY2024-25 Change	
						\$	%
Property Tax Levy (Table 1A)	\$ 95,854,621	\$ 99,431,844	\$102,786,493	\$106,234,041	\$ 118,236,512	\$12,002,472	11.30 %
Tax Levy, Exempt Debt (Table 1B)	\$ 13,638,294	\$ 12,288,095	\$ 13,719,329	\$ 13,143,693	\$ 14,077,401	\$ 933,708	7.10 %
Combined Property Tax Levy	\$109,492,915	\$ 111,719,939	\$116,505,822	\$119,377,734	\$132,313,914	\$12,936,180	10.84 %
State Aid (Table 2)	\$ 12,253,713	\$ 12,454,009	\$ 12,857,194	\$ 14,608,481	\$ 14,773,408	\$ 164,927	1.13 %
Local Receipts (Table 3)	\$ 8,092,290	\$ 9,567,943	\$ 10,800,033	\$ 10,057,902	\$ 8,215,549	\$(1,842,353)	(18.32)%
Available Funds (Table 4)	\$ 4,357,563	\$ 7,854,694	\$ 8,577,788	\$ 11,548,320	\$ 8,226,055	\$(3,322,265)	(28.77)%
Revenue Offsets (Table 5)	\$(2,838,733)	\$(2,831,921)	\$(2,919,157)	\$(3,102,985)	\$(3,147,380)	\$ (44,395)	1.43 %
Enterprise Receipts (Table 6)	\$ 2,833,000	\$ 1,188,000	\$ 1,388,000	\$ 942,487	\$ 1,170,225	\$ 227,738	24.16 %
Total General Fund Operating Revenues	\$134,190,748	\$139,952,664	\$147,209,680	\$153,431,939	\$ 161,551,770	\$ 8,119,831	5.29 %
Less - Revenues Set-Aside for Designated Purposes	\$ 1,226,415	\$ 3,851,943	\$ 6,462,272	\$ 6,694,286	\$ 10,124,697	\$ 3,430,411	51.24 %
Net General Fund Revenues	\$132,964,333	\$136,100,721	\$140,747,408	\$146,737,653	\$151,427,073	\$4,689,420	3.20 %

Detailed Description:

Property Tax Levy: The FY2025 property tax levy is projected to increase approximately \$12.00 million, or 11.3%, including \$8.4 million from the approved operating Override. The projected levy is a function of the FY2024 levy limit increased by 2.5% per Proposition 2½, plus an increment for new growth. FY2025 new growth will be a function of construction activity for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. FY2025 new growth is projected at \$860,000 based on a review of historical new growth data and recommendations from the Board of Assessors.

Tax Levy - Exempt Debt: When voters approve a debt exclusion for a capital project, the debt service for those projects is tracked separately from the base tax levy. For FY2025, debt service is projected to increase by \$933,708 or 7.10%, primarily due to the initial payments for the first round of debt issued for the new library and skating rink.

State Aid: In recent years, Local Aid has seen minimal increases, with a notable exceptions in FY2023 and FY2024 due to robust state revenues. At this point, an overall State Aid increase of \$164,927 or 1.13% is projected for FY2025, which reflects the initial figures included in the Governor’s budget released on January 24th. Final figures are likely to be known in late June 2024 when the Legislature adopts, and the Governor signs, the FY2025 State budget.

Local Receipts: FY2025 projections for each category of receipt are based on the history of actual collections and projections of 3- and 5-year historical averages. Main areas for adjustment include -

- Recreation program revenue will move out of the General Fund to a new Revolving Fund that will begin in FY2025 and will support a similar level of spending,
- Investment Income has benefited from interest rate increases since mid-2022. In November 2023, Town Meeting transferred an extra \$1 million in FY2024 investment income revenues to stabilization funds. For FY2025, increases to base interest income are projected, but are limited to \$500,000, which is a level that is deemed recurring. Any revenue received above this level should be used for one-time expenses.
- The Town received the first proceeds from Cannabis excise in Fall 2023. FY2025 includes a total of \$20,000 in Other Excise for Cannabis.

Available Funds: In determining an override value for April 2024, town leaders developed a model for projecting the impact of the override over the next three years. That led to a multi-pronged strategy of 1) confirming the recurring amount of Free Cash to be used in the operating budget going forward for both the operating budget and Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) (\$3,000,000), 2) identifying an amount to be set aside from Free Cash into an Override Mitigation General Stabilization Fund (\$3,129,439), and 3) developing a strategy for drawing down that fund over the coming years.

An additional \$1,500,000 in Free Cash is dedicated to capital, with the intent to offset most if not all of the cost to replace the boilers at the Chenery which have reached the end of their useful life. There is a growing recognition that one-time funds should be used for one-time purposes such as capital projects.

Revenue Offsets: Revenue Offsets are projected to increase by approximately \$44,395 or 1.43%. Revenue Offsets represent the set-aside of a portion of projected revenues legally required for particular purposes, including:

- (1) cherry sheet assessments - estimated charges to be levied by the Commonwealth to cover the costs of state and regional services provided to the Town, based on preliminary state budget information; and
- (2) the Assessor's Overlay account which covers the cost of abatements and exemptions granted to property taxpayers.

Enterprise Receipts: This category of revenue represents transfers from the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds and the Belmont Municipal Light Department to the General Fund to cover General Fund expenditures that support the operations of the water, sewer and light departments. In FY2024, Finance staff conducted a detailed review of the water and sewer indirect charges which resulted in a decrease in indirect transfers, which were mostly offset by water and sewer making higher direct contributions for other budget items. This analysis was updated in FY2025 and will be updated in future years to ensure that indirect charges are kept in sync with actual budget situations.

Revenue Summary							
	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Estimated	FY2025 Projected	FY2024-25 Change \$	%
Table 1A: Property Tax Levy							
Tax Levy	\$ 92,590,155	\$ 96,008,913	\$ 99,443,942	\$102,870,712	\$106,318,549	\$ 3,447,837	3.35%
Prop. 2.5%	\$ 2,314,754	\$ 2,400,223	\$ 2,486,099	\$ 2,571,768	\$ 2,657,964	\$ 86,196	3.35%
New Growth	\$ 1,104,005	\$ 1,034,806	\$ 940,671	\$ 876,069	\$ 860,000	\$ (16,069)	(1.83)%
Override/Excess Levy Capacity	\$ (154,293)	\$ (12,099)	\$ (84,219)	\$ (84,508)	\$ 8,400,000	\$ 8,484,508	---
Subtotal	\$ 95,854,621	\$ 99,431,844	\$102,786,493	\$106,234,041	\$118,236,512	\$12,002,472	11.30%
Table 1B: Tax Levy - Exempt Debt							
Exempt Debt	\$ 13,638,294	\$ 12,288,095	\$ 13,719,329	\$ 13,143,693	\$ 14,077,401	\$ 933,708	7.10%
Subtotal - Combined Tax Levy	\$109,492,915	\$111,719,939	\$116,505,822	\$119,377,734	\$132,313,914	\$12,936,180	10.84%
Table 2: State Aid							
Chapter 70	\$ 9,755,929	\$ 9,891,949	\$ 10,158,889	\$ 11,784,535	\$ 11,920,165	\$ 135,630	1.15%
Reimb. - Charter Sch./Voc. Transp.	\$ 28,381	\$ 43,318	\$ 66,832	\$ 91,662	\$ 34,317	\$ (57,345)	(62.56)%
Unrestricted General Govt. Aid	\$ 2,397,629	\$ 2,481,546	\$ 2,615,549	\$ 2,699,247	\$ 2,780,224	\$ 80,977	3.00%
Veterans' Benefits & Exemptions	\$ 71,774	\$ 37,196	\$ 15,924	\$ 33,037	\$ 38,702	\$ 5,665	17.15%
Subtotal	\$ 12,253,713	\$ 12,454,009	\$ 12,857,194	\$ 14,608,481	\$ 14,773,408	\$ 164,927	1.13%
Table 3: Local Receipts							
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax	\$ 3,315,051	\$ 3,647,472	\$ 3,657,004	\$ 3,650,000	\$ 3,650,000	\$ ---	---
Other Excise	\$ 198,767	\$ 328,822	\$ 324,660	\$ 325,000	\$ 345,000	\$ 20,000	6.15%
Penalties & Interest	\$ 357,437	\$ 515,182	\$ 245,001	\$ 330,000	\$ 330,000	\$ ---	---
PILOT's	\$ 35,063	\$ 36,092	\$ 37,059	\$ 36,000	\$ 48,000	\$ 12,000	33.33%
Rentals	\$ 1,530	\$ 6,800	\$ 13,531	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	\$ ---	---
Departmental-Schools	\$ 153,506	\$ 378,935	\$ 150,213	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ ---	---
Departmental-Municipal	\$ 1,955,817	\$ 2,626,950	\$ 3,093,947	\$ 2,809,006	\$ 1,666,175	\$ (1,142,831)	(40.68)%
Licenses & Permits	\$ 1,322,274	\$ 1,556,574	\$ 1,645,498	\$ 1,353,072	\$ 1,371,550	\$ 18,478	1.37%
Fines & Forfeits	\$ 181,101	\$ 200,020	\$ 264,872	\$ 199,324	\$ 199,324	\$ ---	---
Investment Income	\$ 436,171	\$ 156,917	\$ 1,119,249	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 500,000	\$ (750,000)	(60.00)%
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring	\$ 135,575	\$ 114,179	\$ 248,997	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	---
Subtotal	\$ 8,092,290	\$ 9,567,943	\$ 10,800,033	\$ 10,057,902	\$ 8,215,549	\$(1,842,353)	(18.32)%
Table 4: Available Funds							
Parking	\$ 90,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ ---	---
Capital Endowment Fund	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 107,761	\$ 91,316	\$ (16,445)	(15.26)%
Capital Projects Fund - Prior Auth.	\$ 25,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 545,121	\$ 179,029	\$ 246,196	\$ 67,167	37.52%
Free Cash - Operating Budget	\$ 3,792,665	\$ 7,113,925	\$ 5,380,478	\$ 9,693,014	\$ 2,559,636	\$ (7,133,378)	(73.59)%
Free Cash - OPEB Contribution	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 579,275	\$ 552,695	\$ 440,364	\$ (112,331)	(20.32)%
Free Cash - Capital Projects	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 649,699	\$ ---	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	---
Free Cash - General Stabilization	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 950,000	\$ ---	\$ (950,000)	(100.00)%
Free Cash - Override Mitigation	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 3,129,439	\$ 3,129,439	---
Perpetual Care Fund	\$ 25,000	\$ 27,193	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ ---	---
Sale of Town-Owned Property	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 1,042,722	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	---
Overlay Surplus	\$ 235,000	\$ 235,000	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	---
American Rescue Plan Act	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ 163,303	\$ ---	\$ ---	\$ ---	---
Bond/BAN Premium Amortization	\$ 14,898	\$ 13,576	\$ 12,190	\$ 10,821	\$ 204,104	\$ 193,283	1786.14%
Subtotal	\$ 4,357,563	\$ 7,854,694	\$ 8,577,788	\$ 11,548,320	\$ 8,226,055	\$(3,322,265)	(28.77)%
Table 5: Revenue Offsets							
Cherry Sheet Assessments	\$ (1,976,233)	\$ (1,982,588)	\$ (2,089,526)	\$ (2,284,535)	\$ (2,307,380)	\$ (22,845)	1.00%
Overlay (Abatements)	\$ (862,500)	\$ (849,333)	\$ (829,631)	\$ (818,450)	\$ (840,000)	\$ (21,550)	2.63%
Subtotal	\$ (2,838,733)	\$ (2,831,921)	\$ (2,919,157)	\$ (3,102,985)	\$ (3,147,380)	\$ (44,395)	1.43%
Table 6: Enterprise Receipts							
Water	\$ 664,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 244,166	\$ 246,442	\$ 2,276	0.93%
Wastewater (Sewer)	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 248,321	\$ 273,783	\$ 25,462	10.25%
Belmont Municipal Light Dept.	\$ 1,650,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 650,000	\$ 200,000	44.44%
Subtotal	\$ 2,833,000	\$ 1,188,000	\$ 1,388,000	\$ 942,487	\$ 1,170,225	\$ 227,738	24.16%
Gross General Fund Revenues	\$134,190,748	\$139,952,664	\$147,209,680	\$153,431,939	\$161,551,770	\$ 8,119,831	5.29%
Revenues Set Aside for Designated Expenses	\$ 1,226,415	\$ 3,851,943	\$ 6,462,272	\$ 6,694,286	\$ 10,124,697	\$ 3,430,411	51.24%
Net General Fund Revenues Available for Appropriation	\$132,964,333	\$136,100,721	\$140,747,408	\$146,737,653	\$151,427,073	\$ 4,689,420	3.20%

Revenues Set Aside for Designated Expenses: This represents components of Gross General Fund Revenues that are set aside for designated purposes under the proposed Override budget. The proposed purposes are shown in the table below.

Expense Item		Financing Sources		Total	Notes
		Tax Levy	Free Cash		
1	Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)		\$ 440,364	\$ 440,364	Annual contribution to fund the liability for retiree benefits.
2	Pavement Management Program	\$ 1,951,821		\$ 1,951,821	Dedicated funding from prior overrides which grows 2.5% per year.
3	Sidewalk Replacements	\$ 499,765		\$ 499,765	Dedicated funding from prior overrides, plus an additional \$250,000 requested in 2024
4	Discretionary Capital	\$ 1,673,308	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 3,173,308	Capital projects which are authorized by Town Meeting separate from the Operating Budget.
5	Override Mitigation Fund	\$ 930,000	\$ 3,129,439	\$ 4,059,439	Dedication of portion of Override and Free Cash to establish fund for future budget needs
6	Subtotal	\$ 5,054,894	\$ 5,069,803	\$ 10,124,697	
7	Revenue to Support Operating Budget		\$ 2,559,636	\$ 2,559,636	Town Leaders have reached consensus that \$3M in Free Cash is regularly replenished and can be used for the Operating Budget and OPEB
8	Dedicated Opioid Funding		\$ 107,020	\$ 107,020	Opioid Settlement funding embedded in Free Cash
9	Grand Total	\$ 5,054,894	\$ 7,736,459	\$ 12,684,333	
10	Planned Carry Forward		\$ 4,138,078		

Program Overview

The Public Works Water Division maintains the water distribution system to deliver reliable, safe drinking water to the community in adequate quantities for domestic and business use as well as for public safety firefighting. In addition, the Water Division is responsible for compliance with the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Act and Mass DEP regulations.

The Water Division performs all maintenance and repair functions for the Town's 93 miles of water main pipes and 2,743 gate valves in the water distribution system, 825 fire hydrants, and 7,745 individual water service pipes on both a scheduled and emergency basis maintaining a 24-7-365 emergency response capability. Staff also support the Water Advisory Board.

FY2023-24 Achievements

- Continued the 28th year of a 30-year Water Main System Improvement Plan. In FY24, the work underway is Knox St. (at Park Ave. on Knox-Bellington St.), Cushing Ave (Common St – Oak Ave) and Chandler St (Lexington St – Watertown Line).
- Finalized new SMART water meter system town-wide and converted to monthly billing. Smart meters will allow our customers to be more knowledgeable consumers by having immediate access to consumption history.
- Continued annual water system Leak Detection Program, in which a total of 15 leaks were identified and repaired. These repairs help the Water Department reduce unaccounted for water loss. Our unaccounted for water loss for calendar year 2023 was 14% which is almost at the MWRA goal. MWRA's benchmark is for unaccounted for water to be 12% or under.
- Continued efforts in the state mandated annual water system "Cross Connection Control Program" with an internal program utilizing our DPW staff. Using Water Division staff to conduct all surveys as well as the semi-annual testing of backflow devices. This represents a continued budgeted savings of approximately \$15,000 annually.
- Continued annual Hydrant Flushing Program. This program involves 825 hydrants and ensures all Town owned fire hydrants are in full functioning order. This also helps to minimize taste and odor complaints, dislodge biofilm, remove colored water and reduce turbidity.
- Continued weekly Water Quality Testing. (8 pre-approved sites.).
- Continued annual Lead and Copper Sampling is repetitively conducted at 17 Department of Environmental Protection approved sampling sites to assure compliance with water quality regulations.

For a more extensive list of activity please refer to the [Public Works section of the Belmont Annual Report](#).

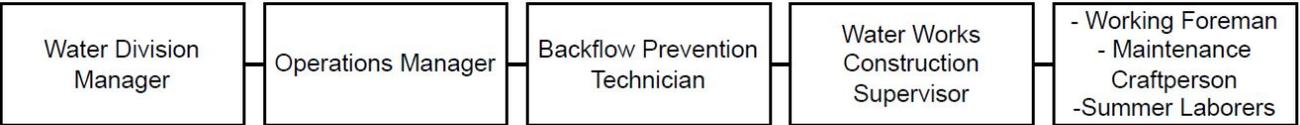
5200 - Public Works Water Division

FY2025 Goals

- Continue to provide management for the administrative functions of water supply, distribution, maintenance, metering, billing and improvement for the water distribution system.
- Continue the implementation of new Water Sewer Billing software.
- Consult with Weston & Sampson Engineers on design of the Water Main Capital Improvement Program.
- Continue to provide resources for water distribution system maintenance, metering, billing and improvement for the water distribution system.
- Continue to initiate Isolation Water Valve Exercising Pilot Program.
- Continue employee training. (Cross Connection Control and Survey , Licensed Water Operators)

Staffing and Structure

The Water Division is made up of 13 full-time employees and 2 summer laborers. The Water division manager oversees the Water operation and distribution.



Position Classification	FTE							
	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Division Manager	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Administrative Assistant IIII	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Operations Manager	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Waterworks Construction Supervisor	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maintenance Craftsperson	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Working Foreman	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Backflow Prevention Technician*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Seasonal Help	0.33	0.33	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
Total	12.33	12.33	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	12.30	13.30

*The Backflow Prevention was added in the FY2025 budget

5200 - Public Works Water Division

Budget Recommendations

The FY2025 budget request for the Water Division is \$7,997,017, which is an increase of \$112,047 or 1.42% from the FY2024 budget.

Compensation and Benefits is \$1,705,387, an increase of \$129,489 or 8.22% due to the addition of a Backflow Prevention Technician and contractual increases.

Expenses are \$6,291,631, a decrease of \$(17,442) or (0.28)%. This increase reflects increases in items such as hydrant replacement and billing, offset by decreases in cash capital, debt service and the MWRA assessment.

The MWRA Assessment is decreasing by \$(13,250) or (0.40)% and reflects the preliminary rates for FY2024. Final rates will not be known until late June 2024.

Water Division Budget Summary

Department Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Compensation & Benefits	\$ 1,349,519	\$ 1,393,960	\$ 1,304,336	\$ 1,575,897	\$ 1,705,387	\$ 129,489	8.22 %
Expenses	\$ 5,388,001	\$ 5,459,406	\$ 6,080,742	\$ 6,309,073	\$ 6,291,631	\$ (17,442)	(0.28)%
Total 5250 Water Division	\$ 6,737,520	\$ 6,853,367	\$ 7,385,078	\$ 7,884,970	\$ 7,997,017	\$ 112,047	1.42 %

Division Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Total 5251 Water Dept. Operating	\$ 2,022,476	\$ 1,928,161	\$ 2,250,268	\$ 2,615,807	\$ 2,842,207	\$ 226,399	8.66 %
Total 5253 MWRA Assessment	\$ 3,040,437	\$ 3,321,668	\$ 3,134,847	\$ 3,279,924	\$ 3,266,674	\$ (13,250)	(0.40)%
Total 5254 Debt Service	\$ 925,867	\$ 867,038	\$ 804,188	\$ 794,488	\$ 784,538	\$ (9,950)	(1.25)%
Cash Capital	\$ 77,750	\$ 210,000	\$ 669,275	\$ 940,100	\$ 848,803	\$ (91,297)	(9.71)%
Indirect Expenses	\$ 664,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 244,166	\$ 246,442	\$ 2,276	0.93 %
OPEB Contribution	\$ 6,990	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 10,485	\$ 8,354	\$ (2,131)	(20.32)%
Total 5250 Water Division	\$ 6,737,520	\$ 6,853,367	\$ 7,385,078	\$ 7,884,970	\$ 7,997,017	\$ 112,047	1.42 %

5200 - Public Works Water Division

Water Dept. Operating Budget Detail

			FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar	Percent	
Org	Object	Description	Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended	Change	Change	
Compensation	6504501	511000	Full-Time Salaries	\$ 754,350	\$ 763,351	\$ 815,319	\$ 867,971	\$ 963,262	\$ 95,291	11.0%
	6504501	511100	Part-Time Salaries	\$ 3,875	\$ 22,468	\$ 43,006	\$ 16,770	\$ 16,770	\$ —	—%
	6504501	513000	Overtime	\$ 174,405	\$ 158,595	\$ 110,334	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ —	—%
	6504501	514000	On-Call Pay	\$ 37,684	\$ 39,581	\$ 43,250	\$ 47,755	\$ 47,755	\$ —	—%
	6504501	514001	Personal Day Paid in lieu time	\$ 827	\$ 421	\$ 1,715	\$ 2,495	\$ 2,495	\$ —	—%
	6504501	514400	Meal Allowance	\$ 360	\$ 320	\$ 120	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	—%
	6504501	514800	Longevity	\$ 7,850	\$ 7,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 8,425	\$ 8,475	\$ 50	0.6%
	6504501	515200	Availability Stipend	\$ 6,227	\$ 6,136	\$ 6,175	\$ 6,760	\$ 6,760	\$ —	—%
	6504501	515500	CDL Stipend	\$ 10,120	\$ 9,455	\$ 9,365	\$ 10,400	\$ 11,700	\$ 1,300	12.5%
	6504501	519001	Working Out of Grade	\$ 3,671	\$ 1,658	\$ 806	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ —	—%
	6504501	519900	Uniform Allowance	\$ 8,389	\$ 7,090	\$ 7,842	\$ 7,910	\$ 8,200	\$ 290	3.7%
	Subtotal Compensation			\$1,007,758	\$1,016,574	\$1,044,432	\$1,120,486	\$ 1,217,417	\$ 96,931	8.7%
Benefits	6504501	517000	Health Insurance	\$ 124,810	\$ 128,555	\$ —	\$ 169,440	\$ 211,360	\$ 41,920	24.7%
	6504501	517101	Health Insurance Retirees	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 50,193	\$ 76,185	\$ 25,992	51.8%
	6504501	517200	Workers Compensation	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 39,045	\$ 20,000	\$ (19,045)	-48.8%
	6504501	517800	Medicare	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 14,632	\$ 15,925	\$ 1,293	8.8%
	6504501	518000	Retirement Fund	\$ 216,950	\$ 248,832	\$ 259,904	\$ 182,101	\$ 164,500	\$ (17,601)	-9.7%
	Subtotal Benefits			\$ 341,760	\$ 377,387	\$ 259,904	\$ 455,411	\$ 487,969	\$ 32,558	7.1%

5200 - Public Works Water Division

Water Dept. Operating Budget Detail

Org	Object	Description	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar Change	Percent Change
			Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended		
6504502	524100	Repair & Maint Backflow Prev	\$ —	\$ 170	\$ 90	\$ 2,735	\$ 2,735	\$ —	—%
6504502	524300	Repair & Maint Bldg/Grounds	\$ 3,000	\$ 13,950	\$ 38,379	\$ 9,310	\$ 9,310	\$ —	—%
6504502	524301	Repair Contractual Services	\$ 2,330	\$ 1,205	\$ 3,567	\$ 1,795	\$ 1,795	\$ —	—%
6504502	524400	Repair & Maint. Vehicles	\$ 21,411	\$ 16,119	\$ 100,800	\$ 27,850	\$ 27,850	\$ —	—%
6504502	524500	Repair & Maint. Office Equip.	\$ 170	\$ 135	\$ 329	\$ 2,490	\$ 2,490	\$ —	—%
6504502	524502	Wat Munis Tyler Tech Maint	\$ 20,648	\$ 21,267	\$ 47,392	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	—%
6504502	529700	Soil Removal & Brush Disposal	\$ 12,415	\$ 10,875	\$ 24,045	\$ 46,350	\$ 48,670	\$ 2,320	5.0%
6504502	530000	Prof. and Tech Services	\$ 12,560	\$ 2,215	\$ 500	\$ 8,200	\$ 38,200	\$ 30,000	365.9%
6504502	530007	Leak Detection MWRA	\$ 18,484	\$ 14,370	\$ 14,250	\$ 17,510	\$ 17,510	\$ —	—%
6504502	530700	Laboratory	\$ 120	\$ 610	\$ 420	\$ 720	\$ 720	\$ —	—%
6504502	530800	Meter Reading	\$ 279,849	\$ 160,254	\$ 312,266	\$ 340,000	\$ 360,000	\$ 20,000	5.9%
6504502	530900	Contract Patch	\$ 51,458	\$ 120,211	\$ 186,000	\$ 191,760	\$ 201,350	\$ 9,590	5.0%
6504502	531600	Police Details	\$ 12,027	\$ 2,726	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,420	\$ 4,420	\$ —	—%
6504502	531700	Employee Training	\$ 725	\$ 1,357	\$ —	\$ 4,245	\$ 4,245	\$ —	—%
6504502	531900	Advertising	\$ 500	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 545	\$ 545	\$ —	—%
6504502	534100	Telephone	\$ 2,424	\$ 2,184	\$ 3,249	\$ 4,690	\$ 4,690	\$ —	—%
6504502	534500	Postage	\$ 162	\$ 359	\$ 216	\$ 320	\$ 320	\$ —	—%
6504502	534700	Printing	\$ 106	\$ —	\$ 255	\$ 530	\$ 530	\$ —	—%
6504502	534800	Prof Services - GIS Maint	\$ 10,448	\$ 9,600	\$ 20,070	\$ 21,630	\$ 21,630	\$ —	—%
6504502	538300	Emergency Tree Damage	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,360	\$ 5,360	\$ —	—%
6504502	538500	Reserve Fund	\$ 16,084	\$ 1,728	\$ 23,470	\$ 83,835	\$ 83,835	\$ —	—%
6504502	569500	Safe Drinking Water Assessment	\$ 7,092	\$ 6,685	\$ 7,193	\$ 8,240	\$ 8,240	\$ —	—%
6504502	571000	In-State Travel	\$ 17	\$ 92	\$ —	\$ 1,515	\$ 1,515	\$ —	—%
6504502	573000	Dues and Membership	\$ 1,022	\$ 906	\$ 2,683	\$ 5,305	\$ 5,305	\$ —	—%
6504502	573100	Licenses & Certifications	\$ 389	\$ 558	\$ 186	\$ 930	\$ 930	\$ —	—%
6504502	573400	Street Opening Permits	\$ 3,400	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Contract Services			\$ 476,841	\$ 387,576	\$ 786,858	\$ 795,285	\$ 857,195	\$ 61,910	7.8%

5200 - Public Works Water Division

Water Dept. Operating Budget Detail

			FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar	Percent
Org	Object	Description	Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended	Change	Change
6504502	542100	Office Supplies	\$ 3,415	\$ 4,016	\$ 2,272	\$ 3,490	\$ 3,490	\$ —	—%
6504502	542200	Computer Supplies	\$ 880	\$ 960	\$ 2,670	\$ 1,815	\$ 1,815	\$ —	—%
6504502	545000	Custodial Supplies	\$ 2,952	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 785	\$ 785	\$ —	—%
6504502	549000	Food Supplies	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 430	\$ 430	\$ —	—%
6504502	553100	Public Works Supplies	\$ 115,892	\$ 66,170	\$ 81,419	\$ 90,465	\$ 90,465	\$ —	—%
6504502	553101	Hydrants & Supplies	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	—%
6504502	553400	Sidewalk Repairs	\$ 34,405	\$ 16,620	\$ 28,155	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,000	\$ —	—%
6504502	553500	Water Meters	\$ —	\$ 20	\$ —	\$ 13,735	\$ 13,735	\$ —	—%
6504502	553600	Water Repair Supplies	\$ 1,143	\$ 12,911	\$ —	\$ 51,745	\$ 51,745	\$ —	—%
6504502	558900	Other Expense	\$ 220	\$ 112	\$ 638	\$ 740	\$ 740	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Supplies			\$ 158,906	\$ 100,808	\$ 115,155	\$ 192,205	\$ 227,205	\$ 35,000	18.2%
Expenses									
6504602	522800	Natural Gas	\$ 12,892	\$ 12,093	\$ 13,572	\$ 13,150	\$ 13,150	\$ —	—%
6504602	522900	Electricity	\$ 13,790	\$ 23,045	\$ 17,280	\$ 14,995	\$ 14,995	\$ —	—%
6504602	548900	Gasoline	\$ 6,582	\$ 7,581	\$ 9,432	\$ 7,725	\$ 7,725	\$ —	—%
6504602	548901	Diesel Fuel	\$ 3,947	\$ 3,098	\$ 3,635	\$ 16,550	\$ 16,550	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Utilities			\$ 37,211	\$ 45,816	\$ 43,919	\$ 52,420	\$ 52,420	\$ —	—%
6504503	585200	Equipment and Wiring	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Minor Capital (Outlay)			\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Expenses			\$ 672,958	\$ 534,201	\$ 945,932	\$1,039,910	\$ 1,136,820	\$ 96,910	9.3%
Total 5251 Water Dept. Operating			\$2,022,476	\$1,928,161	\$2,250,268	\$2,615,807	\$ 2,842,207	\$ 226,399	8.7%

5200 - Public Works Water Division

Water MWRA Assessment Budget Detail

Expenses	Org	Object	Description	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar	Percent
				Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended	Change	Change
	6504502	569400	MWRA Assessment	\$3,040,437	\$3,321,668	\$3,134,847	\$3,279,924	\$ 3,266,674	\$ (13,250)	(0.4)%
	Subtotal Contract Services			\$3,040,437	\$3,321,668	\$3,134,847	\$3,279,924	\$ 3,266,674	\$ (13,250)	(0.4)%
	Subtotal Expenses			\$3,040,437	\$3,321,668	\$3,134,847	\$3,279,924	\$ 3,266,674	\$ (13,250)	(0.4)%
	Total 5253 MWRA Assessment			\$3,040,437	\$3,321,668	\$3,134,847	\$3,279,924	\$ 3,266,674	\$ (13,250)	(0.4)%

Water Debt Service Budget Detail

Expenses	Org	Object	Description	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar	Percent
				Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended	Change	Change
	6504102	591005	MWRA 0% Loan Principal	\$ 596,579	\$ 547,700	\$ 497,700	\$ 497,700	\$ 497,700	\$ —	0.0 %
	6507102	591231	Water Main Principal - \$761K	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ —	0.0 %
	6507512	591231	Water Main Interest - \$761K	\$ 17,913	\$ 16,463	\$ 15,013	\$ 13,563	\$ 11,863	\$ (1,700)	-12.5 %
	6507102	591245	Water Main Principal - \$2.05M	\$ 105,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 105,000	\$ 105,000	\$ —	0.0 %
	6507512	591245	Water Main Interest - \$2.05M	\$ 74,475	\$ 69,225	\$ 66,075	\$ 60,825	\$ 55,575	\$ (5,250)	-8.6 %
	6504102	591403	MWRA Loan Principal	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ —	0.0 %
	6504512	591403	MWRA Loan Interest	\$ 26,900	\$ 23,650	\$ 20,400	\$ 17,400	\$ 14,400	\$ (3,000)	-17.2 %
	Subtotal Debt Service			\$ 925,867	\$ 867,038	\$ 804,188	\$ 794,488	\$ 784,538	\$ (9,950)	(1.3)%
	Subtotal Expenses			\$ 925,867	\$ 867,038	\$ 804,188	\$ 794,488	\$ 784,538	\$ (9,950)	(1.3)%
	Total 5254 Debt Service			\$ 925,867	\$ 867,038	\$ 804,188	\$ 794,488	\$ 784,538	\$ (9,950)	(1.3)%

Program Overview

The Sewer Division is responsible for the maintenance, construction and repair of the sanitary sewer system. This includes 76 miles of main lines, 2,365 manholes, 6,700 service lines to buildings on both public and private ways and three pumping stations. This program is funded by user fees which are based on 100% of metered water consumption. Rates are set annually by the Select Board.

This Division provides services for the collection, transportation and treatment of wastewater for public

health in conformance with Federal and State laws and regulations.

The Sewer Division is also responsible for the maintenance, construction and repair of the storm drain system. This includes 54 miles of main lines, one pumping station and 2,000 catch basins. Local brooks, streams and water bodies receive waters for the storm drain system and the Sewer Division provides maintenance of these resources. This program is funded as part of the sanitary sewer user fee.

FY2023-24 Achievements

- In 2022, 25 individual building connections were videoed to determine the condition and priority for repair. As a part of our ongoing maintenance program 10 sanitary sewer lines were repaired. The Highway Division responded to 201 building service pipeline blockages during the year.
- The annual cleaning of approximately 1,990 stormwater catch basins was completed during the spring by a private contractor. The Sewer Division also repaired 10 catch basins.

For a more extensive list of activity please refer to the [Public Works section of the Belmont Annual Report](#).

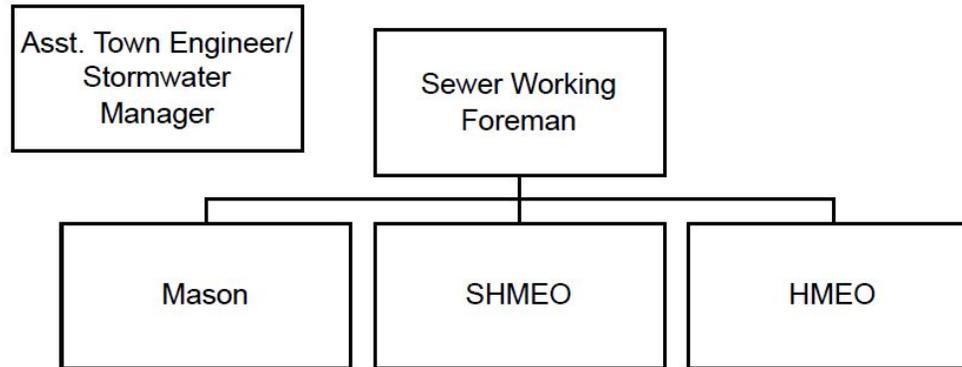
FY2025 Goals

- Provide for the collection and transportation of stormwater in conformance with Federal and State law and regulation to minimize flooding for public safety and convenience.
- The proposed revision of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) "MS-4" permits which is expected to significantly increase the regulation of municipal stormwater discharge into receiving waters. There is concern that these expanded regulations will challenge the Town's ability to fund required engineering investigations and the resulting structural improvements to the stormwater system. One option to fund these expenses would be a user-based enterprise fund. The DPW has been researching the creation of a potential Stormwater Utility Enterprise fund.

Staffing and Structure

The Sewer Division is made up of 13 full-time employees. In FY2024, a Stormwater Manager was added to respond to increasing demands of state and federal stormwater

requirements. The Assistant DPW Director of Operations oversees the Sewer operations.



Position Classification	FTE							
	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
Asst. Town Engineer/ Stormwater Manager*	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Working Foreman	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
SHMEO/Laborer	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Mason	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
HMEO/Laborer	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Total	12	12	12	12	12	12	13	13

Notes

*The Asst. Town Engineer Stormwater Manager was added in FY2024 to help oversee the increasing demands of state and federal stormwater requirements.

5200 - Public Works Sewer Division

Budget Recommendations

The FY2025 budget request for the Sewer Division is \$10,449,565, which is an increase of \$654,533 or 6.68% from the FY2024 budget.

Compensation and Benefits is \$1,436,959, an increase of \$7,634 or 0.53% which is relatively low due to turnover in the department.

Expenses are \$9,012,606, an increase of \$646,899 or 7.73%. The largest contributor to this change is an increase in cash capital items, which were constrained in FY2024 due to a

low fund balance. The FY2025 capital requests reflect the an increase of \$100,000 for sewer line work, a new \$250,000 item for stormwater interventions, and replacement of a dump truck and staff vehicle. There are only modest increases in operating expenses.

While the MWRA Assessment is the largest cost center for Sewer, the preliminary rates for FY2025 reflect a decrease of \$(14,591) or (0.25)%. Final rates will not be known until late June 2024.

Sewer Division Budget Summary

Department Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Compensation & Benefits	\$ 1,384,494	\$ 922,946	\$ 767,535	\$ 1,429,325	\$ 1,436,959	\$ 7,634	0.53 %
Expenses	\$8,438,604	\$ 8,262,413	\$9,793,824	\$8,365,707	\$ 9,012,606	\$ 646,899	7.73 %
Total 5260 Sewer Division	\$9,823,099	\$ 9,185,359	\$10,561,359	\$9,795,033	\$ 10,449,565	\$ 654,533	6.68 %

Division Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Total 5261 Sewer & Stormwater Operating	\$ 1,845,808	\$ 1,389,770	\$ 1,458,688	\$ 2,187,718	\$ 2,217,430	\$ 29,712	1.36 %
Total 5262 MWRA Assessment	\$5,332,639	\$ 5,482,714	\$ 5,677,771	\$ 5,750,128	\$ 5,735,537	\$ (14,591)	(0.25)%
Total 5263 Debt Service	\$ 908,340	\$ 925,124	\$ 915,700	\$ 903,338	\$ 902,901	\$ (437)	(0.05)%
Cash Capital	\$ 1,213,200	\$ 864,250	\$ 1,985,700	\$ 700,000	\$ 1,315,510	\$ 615,510	87.93 %
Indirect Expenses	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 519,000	\$ 248,321	\$ 273,783	\$ 25,462	10.25 %
OPEB Contribution	\$ 4,112	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,527	\$ 4,404	\$ (1,123)	(20.32)%
Total 5260 Sewer Division	\$9,823,099	\$ 9,185,359	\$10,561,359	\$9,795,033	\$ 10,449,565	\$ 654,533	6.68 %

5200 - Public Works Sewer Division

Sewer and Stormwater Operating Budget Detail

			FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar	Percent	
Org	Object	Description	Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended	Change	Change	
Compensation	6604401	511000	Full-Time Salaries	\$ 658,617	\$ 637,936	\$ 643,132	\$ 843,989	\$ 853,470	\$ 9,481	1.1%
	6604401	513000	Overtime	\$ 77,256	\$ 75,756	\$ 83,748	\$ 83,385	\$ 83,385	\$ —	—%
	6604401	514000	On-Call Pay	\$ 11,526	\$ 12,419	\$ 12,626	\$ 16,445	\$ 16,445	\$ —	—%
	6604401	514001	Personal Day Paid in lieu time	\$ 1,951	\$ 553	\$ 857	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ —	—%
	6604401	514400	Meal Allowance	\$ 10	\$ —	\$ 10	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ —	—%
	6604401	514800	Longevity	\$ 5,050	\$ 5,050	\$ 5,050	\$ 6,350	\$ 5,850	\$ (500)	-7.9%
	6604401	515500	CDL Stipend	\$ 15,120	\$ 9,870	\$ 11,740	\$ 15,600	\$ 15,600	\$ —	—%
	6604401	515600	AFSCME Trainer Stipend	\$ 1,004	\$ 1,004	\$ 1,004	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ —	—%
	6604401	519001	Working Out of Grade	\$ 1,447	\$ 1,640	\$ 1,169	\$ 1,795	\$ 1,795	\$ —	—%
	6604401	519900	Uniform Allowance	\$ 9,772	\$ 8,063	\$ 8,200	\$ 9,840	\$ 9,840	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Compensation			\$ 781,752	\$ 752,292	\$ 767,535	\$ 981,104	\$ 990,085	\$ 8,981	0.9%	
Benefits	6604401	517000	Health Insurance	\$ 165,683	\$ 170,654	\$ —	\$ 228,429	\$ 243,815	\$ 15,386	6.7%
	6604401	517101	Health Insurance Retirees	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 54,415	\$ 59,662	\$ 5,247	9.6%
	6604401	517200	Workers Compensation	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 40,326	\$ 20,000	\$ (20,326)	-50.4%
	6604401	517800	Medicare	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 15,590	\$ 13,730	\$ (1,860)	-11.9%
	6604401	517900	Life Insurance	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 200	\$ —	\$ (200)	-100.0%
	6604401	518000	Retirement Fund	\$ 437,059	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 109,261	\$ 109,667	\$ 406	0.4%
Subtotal Benefits			\$ 602,742	\$ 170,654	\$ —	\$ 448,221	\$ 446,874	\$ (1,347)	-0.3%	

5200 - Public Works Sewer Division

Sewer and Stormwater Operating Budget Detail

Org	Object	Description	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
6604402	524502	Wat Munis Tyler Tech Maint	\$ 20,648	\$ 21,267	\$ —	\$ 47,392	\$ 52,250	\$ 4,858	10.3%
6604402	527300	Rental of Construction Equip	\$ 60,615	\$ 56,172	\$ 65,165	\$ 65,165	\$ 65,165	\$ —	—%
6604402	529700	Soil Removal & Brush Disposal	\$ 9,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 58,591	\$ 70,000	\$ 73,500	\$ 3,500	5.0%
6604402	530000	Prof. and Tech Services	\$ 500	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 4,925	\$ 6,222	\$ 1,297	26.3%
6604402	530002	Contractor Labor	\$ 8,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,665	\$ 8,665	\$ —	—%
6604402	530006	Storm Water Regulation	\$ 12,552	\$ 25,286	\$ 51,500	\$ 51,500	\$ 51,500	\$ —	—%
6604402	530900	Contract Patch	\$ 74,905	\$ 77,155	\$ 92,561	\$ 92,561	\$ 97,190	\$ 4,629	5.0%
6604402	531600	Police Details	\$ 3,046	\$ 839	\$ 3,643	\$ 8,010	\$ 8,010	\$ —	—%
6604402	534100	Telephone	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,900	\$ 2,500	\$ 600	31.6%
6604402	538200	Outside Labor	\$ 107,749	\$ 56,834	\$ 89,818	\$ 118,175	\$ 125,369	\$ 7,194	6.1%
6604402	538300	Emergency Tree Damage	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 71,149	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ —	—%
6604402	573400	Street Opening Permits	\$ 375	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 10,200	\$ 10,200	\$ —	—%
6604402	578500	Reserve Fund	\$ 48,196	\$ 90,930	\$ 125,774	\$ 130,050	\$ 130,050	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Contract Services			\$ 356,034	\$ 362,083	\$ 566,201	\$ 628,543	\$ 650,621	\$ 22,078	3.5%
6604402	553100	Public Works Supplies	\$ 102,000	\$ 100,363	\$ 121,003	\$ 122,070	\$ 122,070	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Supplies			\$ 102,000	\$ 100,363	\$ 121,003	\$ 122,070	\$ 122,070	\$ —	—%
6604402	522900	Electricity	\$ 3,280	\$ 4,379	\$ 3,950	\$ 7,780	\$ 7,780	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Minor Capital (Outlay)			\$ 3,280	\$ 4,379	\$ 3,950	\$ 7,780	\$ 7,780	\$ —	—%
Subtotal Expenses			\$ 461,314	\$ 466,825	\$ 691,153	\$ 758,393	\$ 780,471	\$ 22,078	2.9%
Total 5261 Sewer & Stormwater Operating			\$1,845,808	\$1,389,770	\$1,458,688	\$2,187,718	\$ 2,217,430	\$ 29,712	1.4%

5200 - Public Works Sewer Division

Sewer MWRA Assessment Budget Detail

Expenses	Org	Object	Description	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar	Percent
				Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended	Change	Change
	6604402	569400	MWRA Assessment	\$5,332,639	\$5,482,714	\$5,677,771	\$5,750,128	\$ 5,735,537	\$ (14,591)	(0.3)%
				\$5,332,639	\$5,482,714	\$5,677,771	\$5,750,128	\$ 5,735,537	\$ (14,591)	(0.3)%
	Subtotal Expenses			\$5,332,639	\$5,482,714	\$5,677,771	\$5,750,128	\$ 5,735,537	\$ (14,591)	(0.3)%
	Total 5262 MWRA Assessment			\$5,332,639	\$5,482,714	\$5,677,771	\$5,750,128	\$ 5,735,537	\$ (14,591)	(0.3)%

Sewer Debt Service Budget Detail

Expenses	Org	Object	Description	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	Dollar	Percent
				Actual	Actual	Actual	Approp.	Recommended	Change	Change
	6607102	591221	Water Pollution Abatement Loan - Interest	\$ 429,645	\$ 438,438	\$ 447,411	\$ 456,568	\$ 465,914	\$ 9,346	2.0 %
	6607512	591221	Water Pollution Abatement Loan - Principal	\$ 104,322	\$ 95,641	\$ 86,783	\$ 77,743	\$ 68,518	\$ (9,225)	-11.9 %
	6607102	591227	Clean Water Trust Loan - Principal	\$ 103,597	\$ 105,848	\$ 108,149	\$ 110,499	\$ 112,901	\$ 2,402	2.2 %
	6607512	591243	Clean Water Trust Loan - Interest	\$ 36,283	\$ 34,211	\$ 32,094	\$ 29,931	\$ 27,721	\$ (2,210)	-7.4 %
	6607102	591238	Sewer & Stormwater Loan - Principal	\$ 130,000	\$ 130,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 120,000	\$ (5,000)	-4.0 %
	6607512	591238	Sewer & Stormwater Loan - Interest	\$ 23,577	\$ 19,677	\$ 15,777	\$ 12,027	\$ 8,277	\$ (3,750)	-31.2 %
	6607102	591404	MWRA 0% Loan - \$246K	\$ 49,170	\$ 49,170	\$ 49,170	\$ 49,170	\$ 49,170	\$ —	— %
	6607102	591405	MWRA 0% Loan - \$212K	\$ 21,200	\$ 42,400	\$ 42,400	\$ 42,400	\$ 42,400	\$ —	— %
	6607512	558900	Fees - WPAT and MA Clean Water Trust	\$ 10,545	\$ 9,739	\$ 8,916	\$ —	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	— %
	Subtotal Debt Service			\$ 908,340	\$ 925,124	\$ 915,700	\$ 903,338	\$ 902,901	\$ (437)	— %
	Subtotal Expenses			\$ 908,340	\$ 925,124	\$ 915,700	\$ 903,338	\$ 902,901	\$ (437)	— %
	Total 5263 Debt Service			\$ 908,340	\$ 925,124	\$ 915,700	\$ 903,338	\$ 902,901	\$ (437)	— %

8000 - Recommended Capital Investments

Town of Belmont, MA

Appropriation Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Capital - Streets	\$ —	\$ 1,812,460	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 47,605	2.50 %
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 226,147	\$ 231,801	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765	\$ 256,092	105.10 %
Discretionary Capital	\$ 950,268	\$ 1,757,682	\$ 3,787,495	\$ 1,791,681	\$ 3,173,308	\$ 1,381,627	77.11 %
Total Capital Investments	\$ 1,176,415	\$ 3,801,943	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 3,939,570	\$ 5,624,894	\$ 1,685,324	42.78 %



Program Overview

The Belmont Capital plan consists of Non-Discretionary, Discretionary and Enterprise capital projects.

- Non-Discretionary projects are for the Pavement Management Program and Sidewalk Maintenance, both of which were funded by voters via operating overrides in prior years. Funding grows by 2.5% each year, in parallel with Proposition 2½ growth.
- For FY2025, an additional \$250,000 was included in the override request dedicated to Sidewalk Maintenance.
- Discretionary capital funds were set-aside through an earlier override, and also grow by 2.5% each year.

FY2023-24 Achievements

- The Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee, began meeting in October 2022.
- Passed two debt exclusions, one for the new Belmont Public Library and the second for the new Belmont Skating Rink.
- Completed a Townwide tree inventory including tree health assessment and a tree management plan.

FY2025 Goals

- Complete an initial long-term capital plan.
- Identify additional sources of funding to support capital investments.

Staffing and Structure

Staff from Town Administration support the work of the Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee. Departments

- A subset of discretionary projects have previously been funded by within levy debt issuances. As those obligations are paid down, the funding is transferred back to the Capital budget.
- Both Water and Sewer Enterprise also have capital investments in their respective systems, which are funded from user charges.
- The Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee (CCBC) reviews annual requests from Town departments for capital projects.

- A Townwide sidewalk assessment is underway, scheduled for publication and review in late Spring 2024 which will update the sidewalk replacement list.
- Completed a Townwide pavement assessment, which will allow the Town to revisit its pavement management priorities.

- Complete a building assessment for all Town-owned buildings.

work with the CCBC as needed to submit capital requests, respond to questions, and implement the projects.

8000 - Recommended Capital Investments

Town of Belmont, MA

Budget Recommendations

The FY2025 budget request for Capital Investments is \$5,624,894, which is an increase of \$1,685,324 or 42.78% from the FY2024 budget. Separately, a total of \$578,842 is recommended for transfer to the Capital Stabilization Fund, which is expected to support significant capital requests for the Chenery School in FY2026.

- The continued transfer of reductions in Within Levy debt service payments as prior capital projects are paid off, which amounts to \$257,100 in FY2025;
- Inclusion of \$250,000 for Sidewalk Maintenance from the override request; and
- Dedication of \$1,500,000 in Free Cash to offset large capital needs at the Chenery.

The increase is attributable to four main areas -

- The annual increase of 2.5% for the Non-Discretionary and Discretionary capital items;

Capital Budget Summary

Appropriation Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Capital - Streets	\$ —	\$ 1,812,460	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 47,605	2.50 %
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 226,147	\$ 231,801	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765	\$ 256,092	105.10 %
Discretionary Capital	\$ 950,268	\$ 1,757,682	\$ 3,787,495	\$ 1,791,681	\$ 3,173,308	\$ 1,381,627	77.11 %
Total 8000 Capital	\$ 1,176,415	\$ 3,801,943	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 3,939,570	\$ 5,624,894	\$ 1,685,324	42.78 %

Capital Project Summary	FY2021 Actual	FY2022 Actual	FY2023 Actual	FY2024 Approp.	FY2025 Recommended	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Capital - Streets	\$ —	\$ 1,812,460	\$ 1,857,772	\$ 1,904,216	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 47,605	2.50 %
Capital - Sidewalks	\$ 226,147	\$ 231,801	\$ 237,730	\$ 243,673	\$ 499,765	\$ 256,092	105.10 %
<i>Non-Discretionary Capital</i>	\$ 226,147	\$ 2,044,261	\$ 2,095,502	\$ 2,147,889	\$ 2,451,586	\$ 303,697	14.14 %
Discretionary Capital - Tax Levy	\$ 925,268	\$ 1,497,682	\$ 1,549,953	\$ 1,588,702	\$ 1,170,012	\$ (418,690)	(26.35)%
Discretionary Capital - Debt Service				\$ 23,950	\$ 257,100	\$ 233,150	973.49 %
Discretionary Capital - Free Cash				\$ —	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	— %
Discretionary Capital - Turnbacks	\$ 25,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 545,121	\$ 179,029	\$ 246,196	\$ 67,167	37.52 %
<i>Discretionary Capital</i>	\$ 950,268	\$ 1,757,682	\$ 3,787,495	\$ 1,791,681	\$ 3,173,308	\$ 1,381,627	77.11 %
Total 8000 Capital	\$ 1,176,415	\$ 3,801,943	\$ 5,882,997	\$ 3,939,570	\$ 5,624,894	\$ 1,685,324	42.78 %

8000 - Recommended Capital Investments

Town of Belmont, MA

	Department	Project Description	Recommendation	Override	Tax Levy	Free Cash	Ent. Debt	Enterprise
1	Engineering	Pavement Management Program	\$ 1,951,821	\$ 1,951,821				
2	Public Works	Sidewalk Maintenance	\$ 499,770	\$ 499,770				
3	Public Works	Street Tree Planting	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000			
4	Public Works	DPW Parks Equipment	\$ 106,800		\$ 106,800			
5	Public Works	DPW Highway Equipment	\$ 54,508		\$ 54,508			
6	Water Dept.	Water Main Replacement	\$ 1,080,000				\$ 352,000	\$ 728,000
7	Water Dept.	Water Enterprise Equipment	\$ 120,803					\$ 120,803
8	Sewer Dept.	Sewer and Drain Rehabilitation	\$ 800,000					\$ 800,000
9	Sewer Dept.	Stormwater Repairs	\$ 250,000					\$ 250,000
10	Sewer Dept.	Sewer Enterprise Equipment	\$ 265,510					\$ 265,510
11	Facilities	Chenery Boiler Replacement	\$ 1,600,000		\$ 100,000	\$ 1,500,000		
12	Facilities	Chenery Roof & HVAC Replacement - Design	\$ 200,000		\$ 200,000			
13	Facilities	Video Camera Improvements - Town	\$ 137,000		\$ 137,000			
14	Facilities	Gym Resurfacing	\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000			
15	Facilities	School Envelope Repairs	\$ 335,000		\$ 335,000			
16	Fire Dept.	Ambulance Replacement	\$ 110,000		\$ 110,000			
17	Police Dept.	Replace Police Portable Radios	\$ 155,000		\$ 155,000			
18	IT Dept.	Network Redundancy Restoration	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000			
19	IT Dept.	Enhance Town Network - Police Addition	\$ 175,000		\$ 175,000			
20	Assessors	Replace CAMA Database	\$ 125,000		\$ 125,000			
21	CCBC	Project Bid Reserve	\$ 50,000		\$ 50,000			
Total Project Costs			\$ 8,141,212	\$ 2,451,591	\$ 1,673,308	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 352,000	\$ 2,164,313

Capital Projects Funded via Dedicated Override Funds

1. **Pavement Management Program - \$1,951,821 (Tax Levy, Dedicated Override funding):** Reflects annual pavement management program funded from dedicated override funding, adjusted by 2.5% per year. In addition to the dedicated local funding, state Chapter 90 funding is applied to this purpose. In FY2025, \$547,276 is projected to be available from Chapter 90 funding. In addition, the state has started allocating funds from the Fair Share Amendment. Belmont has received \$261,324 from an initial allotment.

General Fund Capital Projects

Public Works

3. **Street Tree Planting - \$50,000 (Tax Levy):** Trees are an under-recognized element of Belmont's overall infrastructure. The Town commissioned a Street Tree assessment which was published in April 2023 ([view here](#)) and will inform where the DPW will focus its tree maintenance efforts, as well as investments in new plantings to replace removed trees and areas where there are gaps in the tree canopy.

4. **DPW Parks Equipment - \$106,800 (Tax Levy):** The DPW Parks Division relies on numerous apparatus to maintain the playgrounds, fields, swimming pool, medians, and other locations around Belmont. A replacement plan for the equipment was developed years ago to ensure that staff had the right tools to be efficient in their tasks, while ensuring the Town was maximizing the useful life. For FY2025, the current schedule would replace a large (19,000 GVW) dump truck, which will also be available during snow storms.

2. **Sidewalk Maintenance - \$499,770 (Tax Levy, Dedicated Override funding):** Sidewalk repair is one of the most common requests from residents and businesses. The Department of Public Works has received countless requests for repair, and has diligently been working through them. The additional \$250,000 from the April 2024 Override vote will certainly help, which is included in this request. So will the results of a sidewalk assessment which will inform the project prioritization going forward. This program was originally funded via an override and grows by 2.5% per year.

5. **DPW Highway Equipment - \$54,508 (Tax Levy):** While the DPW Highway Division operates year-round in many capacities, one of its most recognizable roles is snow removal, and staff work to ensure sufficient equipment and supplies are available when needed. The equipment replacement plan for FY2025 would convert an existing piece of equipment for use during snow operations.

Enterprise Fund Capital Projects

Water Department

6. **Water Main Replacement - \$1,080,000 (Water User Fees/MWRA Loan):** Ongoing water main replacement program which typically addresses 5,000 linear feet of pipe each year. The division has been able to take advantage of zero-interest loans from the MWRA to support its efforts. In addition, a 30-year program to replace unlined mains is nearing completion, and staff have begun planning for the next phase of work.
7. **Water Enterprise Equipment - \$120,803 (Water User Fees):** In FY2025, the water division is requesting a Closed Utility 4WD Truck that will carry supplies for staff deployed to service calls, including meter repairs, backflow prevention work, and pressure tests.

Sewer Department

8. **Sewer and Drain Rehabilitation - \$800,000 (Sewer User Fees):** Reflects annual sewer and stormwater infrastructure evaluation, maintenance, and rehabilitation program, typically conducted in conjunction with the work done for the pavement management program and EPA/DEP mandated work.
9. **Stormwater Repairs - \$250,000 (Sewer User Fees):** Federal and state regulations around stormwater continue to grow, requiring ever increasing local interventions, necessitating a dedicated capital request to highlight the investments being made. These funds will be used for interventions specific to stormwater such as culverts and catch basins.

10. **Sewer Enterprise Equipment - \$265,510 (Sewer User Fees):** The next vehicles on the Sewer Division's equipment replacement schedule are an Emergency Electric Service Van and a large Dump Truck (40,000 GVW). The van is used for service calls for various reasons, including clean-outs, tree root remediation and emergency responses. The dump truck is a workhorse for the division, used extensively in day-to-day operations and also during snow season.

General Fund Capital Projects, cont.

Facilities Department

11. **Chenery Boiler Replacement - \$1,600,000 (\$100,000 Tax Levy, \$1,500,000 Free Cash):** The Chenery Middle School was first opened in September 1997, and its core mechanical infrastructure needs to be refurbished. This is the first of three anticipated projects and would replace the natural gas boilers. The Facilities Department commissioned a study in 2023 to review options for replacing the boilers with non-fossil fuel technology. Staff continue to review options that work within the available capital budget and do not overly stress the utility budget. The \$1.6M request would replace the 30 existing units with 6 high-efficiency natural gas boilers. Electric boilers would cost \$350,000 more to install, and would cost approximately \$500,000 more to run in the short-term than the natural gas equivalent. Staff are investigating whether installing a mix of gas and electric boilers would make sense - both economically and environmentally.

12. **Chenery Roof & HVAC Replacement - Design - \$200,000 (Tax Levy):** Once the boilers are replaced, the Chenery's 17 rooftop HVAC units will need to be updated, followed by a new roof. This request would engage engineering services to design both items and prepare a more detailed construction cost estimate for a request at the 2025 Annual Town Meeting.
13. **Video Camera Improvements - Town - \$137,000 (Tax Levy):** The current video security system used for municipal buildings is aging. The clarity, versatility, and dependability has declined and the main recording device has been maxed out and cannot be expanded. When cameras are replaced, the system works but does not have the best capability. The camera systems at school buildings have been fully updated, this request is the first of two phases to replace municipal equipment.
14. **Gym Resurfacing - \$25,000 (Tax Levy):** The current gym floor at the Winn Brook school is showing signs of wear. The surface is slippery and can cause avoidable injury during competitive sports or running type activity. Based on usage, gym floors should be replaced every 15-20 years. A request for the Burbank school is anticipated for FY2026.
15. **School Envelope Repairs - \$335,000 (Tax Levy):** There are sections of the Winn Brook that have water infiltration during rain events. In 2023, once side of the building was repointed, and that addressed the problem. This request is to repoint the remaining sections to complete the job. If any funds remain, they will be used for the Butler School.

Fire Department

16. **Ambulance Replacement - \$110,000 (Tax Levy):** An ambulance will be ordered once full funding has been authorized; this is the third year in the next 5-year replacement cycle. In July 2023, a new ambulance was delivered and the former frontline vehicle was placed in reserve status. Each ambulance has a 10-year total service period within the department. In order to provide life-saving service the fire department must operate safe and functional apparatus, including ambulances. These vehicles are under extreme use, including transporting patients to hospitals in Boston daily. As an ambulance approaches the 5-year mark, it typically requires more intensive repairs and maintenance. This has an obvious financial impact, but also places the ambulance out of service for ever-increasing periods of time.

Police Department

17. **Replace Police Portable Radios - \$155,000 (Tax Levy):** This is the second phase of a request to replace 75 portable radios for the department. The police department issues radios to each officer as well as to the animal control officer, street traffic control officers and parking control officers. The FY2024 funding was sufficient for 44 radios; the request for FY2025 has been reduced to reflect the same pricing for the remaining 31 units. The radios currently in use were purchased in FY2016 and will have 9 years of use in FY2025, recommended replacement is around 7 years.

Information Technology Department

18. **Network Redundancy Restoration - \$50,000 (Tax Levy):**

The Town of Belmont shares a network between municipal and school operations. As such, there are connections across Town. If any of those connections are broken, the entire network goes down. A redundant network had been built in the past, but recent construction damaged the connections in several areas, reverting the network back to a single point of failure design. This project is anticipated to be phased over three years, and would begin in FY2025. The Town has applied for a competitive state grant, which may offset future capital requests.

19. **Enhance Town Network - Police Addition - \$175,000 (Tax Levy):**

In an effort to consolidate municipal services, the Police Department will transition to the Town's information technology network during FY2025. Many functions will likely be able to be absorbed, but some updates to equipment and other tools will undoubtedly be needed. This request is meant as a hedge against those unanticipated needs to allow for a seamless transition, particularly in recognition of the sensitive nature of the work done by the Police Department.

Board of Assessors

20. **Replace CAMA Database - \$125,000 (Tax Levy):** The Belmont Board of Assessors currently contracts with J.F. Ryan Associates to use their computer assisted mass appraisal (CAMA) system to manage the Belmont property tax assessment process. In a report from the Division of Local Services issued in August 2011, and again in a report from the Collins Center issued in June 2022, recommendations were made to upgrade the CAMA system. This request will implement that recommendation.

Town Administration

21. **Project Bid Reserve - \$50,000 (Tax Levy):** Given the short construction window in school buildings, and the fluidity of the construction market, it is recommended to establish a Bid Reserve. The intent is to apply the Bid Reserve funding to a capital project approved by Town Meeting where bid results exceed available funds, subject to approval by the Comprehensive Capital Budget Committee.

8000 - Recommended FY2025 CPA Projects

Town of Belmont, MA

Community Preservation Committee Projects

The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will likely recommend five (5) projects to Town Meeting for FY2025 funding. Each of these projects was evaluated by the CPC in light of the articulated criteria for eligibility and appropriateness under the Community Preservation Act (CPA).

The projects have been presented at a CPC public hearing held on November 8, 2023 and at its regularly scheduled

meeting on February 14, 2024. The projects will also be presented at Select Board meetings in May 2024; and at the Warrant Committee’s regularly scheduled meeting on May 15, 2024.

More information about these projects and the Belmont CPC can be found on the Town website here: <https://www.belmont-ma.gov/community-preservation-committee>.

<u>Project Sponsor</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>			<u>Funding Category</u>
		<u>Base Project</u>	<u>Bid Reserve*</u>	<u>Total**</u>	
Recreation Department	Chenery Park Design and Engineering	\$ 300,000	\$ —	\$ 300,000	Recreation
Recreation Department	Chenery Park Funding	\$ 1,000,000	\$ —	\$ 1,000,000	Community Housing
Belmont Housing Trust	Fund to Support New Affordable Housing	\$ 275,000	\$ —	\$ 275,000	Community Housing
Belmont Woman’s Club	Homer House Exterior Paint Restoration	\$ 99,000	\$ 21,000	\$ 120,000	Historic Preservation
Engineering Department	Belmont Community Path Phase 1 - Right of Way Acquisition	\$ 160,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 192,000	Recreation

*The Bid Reserve is a new element that is being introduced in FY2025. Many recent projects have suffered from public bids coming in higher than expected and therefore delaying projects for a year or more. The bid reserve is an attempt to prevent this from happening while at the same time ensuring that leftover bid reserve funding will be returned to the CPA Fund balance if it isn’t used.

**The totals above were printed in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant, but may be reduced when the Segment B motions are published.

Community Preservation Act Projects

1. **Chenery Park Design and Engineering - \$300,000:** This project will fund a conceptual design and engineering for the Chenery Parks complex. It will include public meetings, community engagement, and project design.
2. **Chenery Park Funding - \$1,000,000:** This project will set aside funding for the Chenery Park Complex Construction phase. The estimated cost of this project is \$3,000,000. In anticipation of this high project cost the applicant would like to set aside funding in preparation for the project. It is assumed that the rest of the funding will be requested in the FY2026 funding cycle.
3. **Fund to Support New Affordable Housing - \$275,000:** The purpose of this project is to create more affordable housing in town. The Housing Trust is establishing regular funding rounds for developers to apply for in order to create more affordable homes and/or more deeply affordable homes in new developments.
4. **Homer House Exterior Paint Restoration - \$120,000:** This project is necessary to preserve the integrity of the Homer House structure, to prevent interior water damage, and to prevent exterior rotting of the wood. This goal of this painting project is to restore the structure to its original condition and preserve the historic nature of the Homer House. The total includes \$21,000 as a bid reserve that would be used if bids come in higher than anticipated, but would be returned to the fund more quickly if not needed.
5. **Belmont Community Path Phase 1 - Right of Way Acquisition - \$192,000:** The goal of this request is to provide funds to secure temporary or permanent easements require to construct the Belmont Community - Path Phase 1. This funding would make Belmont eligible for the MassTrails Grant program. The program limits awards to \$500,000 and requires a minimum community match of 20%. CPA funds in the amount of \$160,000 represents 25% of the estimated total of \$635,000. The total includes \$32,000 as a reserve that would be used if costs come in higher than anticipated, but would be returned to the fund more quickly if not needed.