

**TOWN OF KITTEERY
TOWN MEETING WARRANT
JULY 14, 2020**

ELECTION RESULTS

Article 2. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$125,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$125,000 when necessary to maintain a positive fund balance in the Compensated Absences account and to pay for accrued vacation and/or sick leave to settle any unpaid benefits owed to retired or terminated employees in the fiscal year?

Vote: Yes 2109 No 360

Explanation:

The purpose of this article is to provide funds from the town's unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) to pay for accrued benefits owed when a municipal employee retires or leaves. The reserve account balance is currently \$38,922. The unassigned fund balance (unencumbered surplus) is currently \$6,313,900.

Article 3. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$25,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$25,000 when necessary for the purpose of paying the town's cost on accepted insurance claims against the town?

Vote: Yes 2149 No 131

Explanation:

The purpose of this article is to provide funds from the town's unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) to pay the deductible and other associated costs on insurance claims that may be made in the fiscal year. The unassigned fund balance (unencumbered surplus) is currently \$6,313,900.

Article 4. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$500,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$500,000 when necessary for the purpose of providing the town's match to federal, state, and non-profit grants?

Vote: Yes 2202 No 278

Explanation:

Grant applications are filed by different town departments to assist with the operations and capital purchases. These grants, if successful, often require a local match to be raised. Legislation is being considered to make additional grants available for infrastructure, economic development, and other projects to offset the impacts of COVID-19. The purpose of this article is to provide funds from the town's unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) when and if necessary, for the purpose of meeting grant match requirements. The unassigned fund balance (unencumbered surplus) is currently \$6,313,900.

Article 5. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$40,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$40,000 when necessary for the purpose of covering shortfalls in the town departments' fuel accounts due to the unpredictable fuel pricing markets?

Vote: Yes 1932 No 361

Explanation:

The purpose of this article is to provide departments, who have exhausted their allocated fuel budgets in the fiscal year, access to funds for fuel needs. The Town Council favored keeping the fiscal year fuel and utility accounts as low as possible, with this article making available surplus funds as a safety net in case of an unstable market for fuel. The unassigned fund balance (unencumbered surplus) is currently \$6,313,900.

Article 6. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$40,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$40,000 when necessary for the purpose of providing for the town's General Assistance Program as required by town, state, and federal laws in the fiscal year?

Vote: Yes 2094 No 210

Explanation:

The General Assistance Program is budgeted from the town's operational budget each year. The program assists town citizens with welfare type services by following very strict state and federal guidelines for income eligibility within the General Assistance Ordinance. The purpose of this article is to create a method for the Town Council to supplement the General Assistance budget if needed. The unassigned fund balance (unencumbered surplus) is currently \$6,313,900.

Article 7. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$50,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$50,000 when necessary for the purpose of paying for emergency repairs and energy efficiency improvements to town-owned facilities that are not contemplated in the regular fiscal year operating budget?

Vote: Yes 2010 No 295

Explanation:

Occasionally, repairs to town facilities are needed that have not been budgeted. In addition, energy efficiency projects are being identified to further save the town funds. The purpose of this article is to allow the Town Council to make unplanned emergency facility repairs and undertake energy efficiency projects that may arise in the fiscal year. The unassigned fund balance (unencumbered surplus) is currently \$6,313,900.

Article 8. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$ 50,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$50,000 for a Municipal Property Tax Assistance program to credit property taxes owed by certain residents that meet the program requirements?

Vote: Yes 2054 No 251

Explanation:

The Senior Tax Credit program allows for taxpayers that qualify to receive a credit on their property taxes each year. The program assists seniors with their property tax obligations. The unassigned fund balance (unencumbered surplus) is currently \$6,313,900.

Article 9. Shall the town vote to authorize the Town Council to transfer up to \$1,000,000 from unassigned funds (unencumbered surplus) and appropriate and expend up to \$1,000,000 to balance the Fiscal Year 2020 budget and fund municipal operations in Fiscal Year 2021?

Vote: Yes 1957 No 337

Explanation:

The purpose of the unassigned fund is to properly support the Town's operations during emergencies and unanticipated events. COVID-19 is such an emergency. This article will allow the Town to utilize its unassigned funds to make up for revenue lost as a result of the economic impact of COVID-19.

