

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 5th, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Moderator James McRae, having met the quorum requirement of 34 registered voters. The following action was taken by the 86 voters present:

**ARTICLE 1: VOTED unanimously to** allow a brief five-minute oral report on progress to date of the Six Town Regional Planning board and its work on a new regional school district formation?

**ARTICLE 2: VOTED unanimously to** approve the proposed changes (attached) to the Franklin Council of Government's Charter? (2/3 vote required)

**ARTICLE 3: VOTED unanimously to** accept the reports of Town Officers and Committees for 2024?

**ARTICLE 4: VOTED unanimously to** authorize the Selectboard to apply for and accept private, state, and federal grants, and to expend any monies received as set forth in the appropriate grant application?

**ARTICLE 5: VOTED unanimously to** allow town boards and commissions to appoint one of its members to a position under their supervision as allowed by MGL Chapter 268A, section 21A?

**ARTICLE 6: VOTED unanimously to** allow the Selectboard to appoint one of its members to a position under their supervision as allowed by MGL Chapter 268A, section 21?

**ARTICLE 7: VOTED unanimously to** grant an ethics exemption under MGL Chapter 268A, section 20 to Selectboard member Brian Snell to be compensated for work as an education planner and teacher for Warwick School District and set compensation at up to \$25 per hour, not to exceed \$15,000 per fiscal year, beginning in July 2025?

**ARTICLE 8: VOTED unanimously to** reauthorize the following spending limits for the revolving funds for certain town departments under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025:

- A. Health Inspections - \$2,000
- B. Cemetery Burial Fund - \$2,000
- C. Public Hearings - \$3,000
- D. Plumbing and Gas Inspections - \$4,000
- E. Building Cleaning - \$2,000
- F. Forestry Committee - \$5,000
- G. Dog Fund - \$2,000
- H. Fire Inspections - \$2,000
- I. Planning Board Zoning Program - \$2,000
- J. Highway Machinery - \$100,000

K. Electrical Inspections - \$5,000  
L. Field Driver - \$2,000  
M. Zoning Board of Appeals - \$10,000  
N. Tree Warden - \$2,000  
O. Recreation Committee - \$5,000  
P. Election - \$1,500  
Q. Senior Lunch - \$20,000  
R. Cafe - \$6,000  
S. Solar and Renewable Energy - \$100,000  
T. Police Detail Vehicle - \$5,000  
U. Police Detail - \$200,000

**ARTICLE 9: VOTED to** raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray expenses, the amount estimated by the Selectboard and the Finance Committee for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2025, for the purposes designated in the budget that follows, or any other amounts for such purposes, which shall not exceed the amounts stated in the column designated "FY 2026 requested"?

This article shall also act to fix the salaries and compensation of elected officials as required by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 41, Section 108.

Requested salaries and compensation for elected officials:

Moderator \$140 (1)	Selectboard \$2400 (3)
Assessors \$1500 (3)	Town Clerk/Webmaster \$17305 (1)
Tree Warden \$1200 (1)	Board of Health \$1500 (3)
Cemetery Commission \$600 (3)	School Committee \$1000 (5)

**ARTICLE 10: VOTED unanimously to** appropriate \$38,000 to operate the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund effective July 1, 2025, and that \$15,000 be raised from taxation and \$23,000 be raised from departmental receipts?

**ARTICLE 11: VOTED unanimously to** appropriate \$100,000 to operate the Broadband Enterprise Fund effective July 1, 2025, and that \$80,000 be raised from departmental receipts and \$20,000 be appropriated from Broadband Free Certified Free Cash?

**ARTICLE 12: VOTED unanimously to** raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to fund the Warwick Community School Improvement Account established by vote of the Annual Town Meeting held May 3, 2004?

**ARTICLE 13: VOTED unanimously to** raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to the Assessor's Revaluation Account?

**ARTICLE 14: VOTED unanimously to** raise and appropriate \$3000 to the Landfill Monitoring Fund established May 4, 2015, to pay for post closure monitoring at Warwick's former landfill?

**ARTICLE 15: VOTED unanimously to** raise and appropriate \$10,000 to audit town accounts?

**ARTICLE 16: VOTED unanimously to** raise and appropriate \$800 to Household Hazardous Waste expense?

**ARTICLE 17: VOTED unanimously to** raise and appropriate \$10,000 for After School and Summer programming for children?

**ARTICLE 18: VOTED unanimously to** approve payment of the prior fiscal year bills from EDP Solar for Net Meter Credits at the school and town hall totaling \$3,877, such payment from existing funding? (90% vote required)

**ARTICLE 19: VOTED unanimously to** transfer \$59,249 from Stabilization to pay off the principal balance in full that is owed on the KIA electric school bus? (2/3 vote required)

**ARTICLE 20: VOTED unanimously to** raise and appropriate \$4,000 to account 01-951-5700-201803 the Environmental Cleanup Fund?

**Article 21: VOTED to** amend the Town of Warwick General Bylaw, entitled "Stretch Energy Code" and replace it with a new General Bylaw entitled "Specialized Energy Code" for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, pursuant to the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23 including Appendices RC and CC, including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, with an effective date of January 1, 2026, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk?

**ARTICLE 22: VOTED unanimously to** authorize the Selectboard to enter into a long-term commitment to Municipal Decarbonization (defined as the elimination of on-site burning of fossil fuels in municipal buildings and vehicles) by 2050 in accordance with Commonwealth of MA climate goals and as they relate to achieving CLIMATE LEADER STATUS?

**ARTICLE 23: VOTED unanimously to** authorize the Selectboard to accept, on behalf of the Town and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 3, the gift of the First Parish Meeting House and known as Unitarian Church located on Town-owned Common at 0 Orange Rd from First Parish and Religious Society to be held and maintained for public purpose including historical preservation, public assembly, cultural programs, and to authorize the Selectboard to take any actions necessary to effectuate said gift, including but not limited to entering any agreements and other paperwork necessary to complete the transfer?

**ARTICLE 24: VOTED unanimously to** authorize the Selectboard to accept, on behalf of the Town and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 3, the gift of

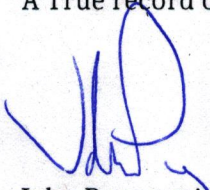
whatever right, title, or interest the First Parish and Religious Society may hold in a parcel of land consisting of approximately 32 acres located on Hastings Pond Road, Book 11111 page 1111 and shown on the Town of Warwick Assessors Map 108 as Lot 104, said interest currently held in the name of the Estate of Wheelock, such acceptance to be without warranty or representation as to title, and to authorize the Selectboard to take any and all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the acceptance and future management of said interest, including but not limited to entering any agreements and other paperwork necessary to complete the transfer such that income be held in a restricted fund and used solely for the maintenance, preservation, repair, and care of the building known as the First Parish Meetinghouse, located on the Town Common?

**ARTICLE 25: VOTED unanimously** to authorize the Selectboard to accept, on behalf of the Town and in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53A and Chapter 40, Section 3, a gift of cash or investments from First Parish and Religious Society to be held in a restricted fund and used solely for the maintenance, preservation, repair, and care of the building known as the First Parish Meetinghouse, located on the Town Common, and to authorize the Treasurer, under the direction of the Selectboard, to establish such a fund and expend monies from it for said purposes?

**ARTICLE 26: VOTED** to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 64G, Section 3A, thereby imposing a local room occupancy excise tax at the rate of six percent (6%), or any other amount, on the total amount of rent for each short-term rental unit within the Town of Warwick, effective as of July 1, 2025 and further, to authorize the Town Treasurer to take any necessary actions to ensure collection and remittance of such tax?

The meeting was dissolved at 9:28 p.m.

A True record of the action taken. Attest:



John Paganetti  
Town Clerk



	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
1							
2	<b><u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u></b>						
3	<b>Moderator</b>						
4	Moderator Salary (stipend)	\$125	\$0	\$125	\$125		
5	Moderator Expense	\$15		\$15	\$15		
6	<b>Total Moderator</b>	<b>\$140</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$140</b>	<b>\$140</b>	0.0%	
7							
8	<b>Selectboard</b>						
9	Selectboard Salary (stipend)	\$2,400	\$2,613	\$2,400	\$2,400		
10	Selectboard Expenses	\$1,700	\$695	\$1,700	\$1,700		
16	Town Coordinator Salary	\$58,393	\$58,846	\$60,261	\$61,768		
17	Town Secretary Salary	\$3,429	\$988	\$3,539	\$3,627		
18	Interns	\$1,000		\$1,000	\$1,000		
19	<b>Total Selectboard</b>	<b>\$66,922</b>	<b>\$63,142</b>	<b>\$68,900</b>	<b>\$70,495</b>	2.3%	
20							
21	<b>Finance Committee</b>						
22	FinCom Secretary Salary	\$500	\$491	\$500	\$513		
23	Fincom Expenses	\$365		\$365	\$365		
26	<b>Total Finance Committee</b>	<b>\$865</b>	<b>\$491</b>	<b>\$865</b>	<b>\$878</b>	1.4%	
27							
28	<b>Reserve Fund</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	0.0%	10
29							
30	<b>Town Accountant</b>						
31	Accountant Services	\$56,000	\$56,578	\$61,600	\$39,380		1
35	Accountant Expenses	\$7,200		\$7,200	\$6,380		
39	<b>Total Town Accountant</b>	<b>\$63,200</b>	<b>\$56,578</b>	<b>\$68,800</b>	<b>\$45,760</b>	-33.5%	
40							
41	<b>Assessors</b>						
42	Assessors' Salary (stipend)	\$1,500	\$750	\$1,500	\$1,500		
43	Clerk Salary	\$9,174	\$10,050	\$9,468	\$9,705		
44	Assessors Expenses	\$9,520	\$8,626	\$9,520	\$9,520		
50	<b>Total Assessors</b>	<b>\$20,194</b>	<b>\$19,426</b>	<b>\$20,488</b>	<b>\$20,725</b>	1.2%	
51							
52	<b>Treasurer</b>						
53	Treasurer Salary	\$31,125	\$31,296	\$32,353	\$37,353		1
54	Assistant Treasurer Salary	\$525		\$525	\$525		
55	Treasurer Expenses	\$5,475	\$7,296	\$5,475	\$7,500		
63	<b>Total Treasurer</b>	<b>\$37,125</b>	<b>\$38,592</b>	<b>\$38,353</b>	<b>\$45,378</b>	18.3%	
64							
65	<b>Tax Collector</b>						
66	Tax Collector Salary	\$18,696	\$18,797	\$19,294	\$19,776		
67	Assistant Tax Collector Salary	\$525	\$0	\$525	\$525		
68	Tax Collector Expenses	\$8,480	\$8,525	\$8,480	\$11,465	35.2%	1
76	<b>Total Tax Collector</b>	<b>\$27,701</b>	<b>\$27,322</b>	<b>\$28,299</b>	<b>\$31,767</b>	12.3%	

	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
1	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
77							
78	Interoffice Supplies						
83	Total Interoffice Supplies	\$2,000	\$1,476	\$2,000	\$2,000	0.0%	
84							
85	Town Counsel Retainer	\$5,400	\$5,700	\$5,400	\$5,400	0.0%	
86	Reserve for Legal	\$5,000	\$5,336	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.0%	
87							
88	Broadband Committee	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500	0.0%	
89							
90	Computer Repair, & Replacement	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	0.0%	
91							
92	Copier						
95	Total Copier	\$1,419	\$1,419	\$1,419	\$1,419	0.0%	
96							
97	Town Clerk						
98	Town Clerk / Webmaster Salary	\$17,079	\$17,451	\$17,305	\$17,738		
99	Town Clerk Expenses	\$5,125	\$2,929	\$5,125	\$5,125		
106	Total Town Clerk	\$22,204	\$20,380	\$22,430	\$22,863	1.9%	
107							
108	Conservation Commission						
113	Total Conservation Comm	\$1,200	\$723	\$1,500	\$1,500	0.0%	
114							
115	Zoning Board of Appeals						
118	Total Zoning Board of Appeals	\$170	\$0	\$170	\$170	0.0%	
119							
120	Planning Board						
125	Total Planning Board	\$250	\$268	\$250	\$250	0.0%	
126							
127	Town Hall Operations						
128	Custodian Salary	\$5,328	\$5,328	\$5,498	\$5,635		
129	Clockwinder Salary (stipend)	\$213	\$0	\$213	\$218		
130	Town Hall Expense	\$15,727	\$15,910	\$15,727	\$15,727		
137	Total Town Hall	\$21,268	\$21,238	\$21,438	\$21,581	0.7%	
138							
139	Town Reports	\$400	\$0	\$400	\$400		
140							
141	Regional Services & Assessment						
142	FRCOG Statutory Assessment	\$4,495	\$4,645	\$4,577	\$4,552		
144	Regional Emergency Planning	\$150		\$150	\$150		
145	Cooperative Purchasing/Highway	\$1,800		\$1,800	\$1,890		
146	Total Regional Services	\$6,445	\$4,642	\$6,527	\$6,592	1.0%	
147							
148	TOTAL GEN. GOVERNMENT	\$349,403	\$268,732	\$359,879	\$349,816	-2.8%	
149							

	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
1	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
150	<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>						
151	<b>Police</b>						
152	Patrol Officers Salary (hourly wages)	\$56,851	\$56,831	\$58,670	\$64,537		1
154	Police Expenses	\$23,232	\$24,150	\$23,232	\$25,000		
162	<b>Total Police</b>	<b>\$80,083</b>	<b>\$80,981</b>	<b>\$81,902</b>	<b>\$89,537</b>	9.3%	
163							
164	<b>Fire Department</b>						
165	Officer & Firefighter Salary (Stipends)	\$18,183	\$19,473	\$18,765	\$21,734		
166	Fire Department Expenses	\$39,291	\$38,505	\$52,332	\$52,332		
179	<b>Total Fire Department</b>	<b>\$57,474</b>	<b>\$57,978</b>	<b>\$71,097</b>	<b>\$74,066</b>	4.2%	
180							
181	<b>Ambulance</b>						
182	Ambulance - Assessment for Services	\$48,509	\$48,509	\$52,030	\$54,056		
183	<b>Total Ambulance</b>	<b>\$48,509</b>	<b>\$48,509</b>	<b>\$52,030</b>	<b>\$54,056</b>	3.9%	
184							
185	<b>Building Department</b>						
186	Building Commissioner Salary	\$9,400	\$9,365	\$9,400	\$9,400		
187	Building Department Expenses	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500		
191	<b>Total Building Inspector</b>	<b>\$10,900</b>	<b>\$9,365</b>	<b>\$10,900</b>	<b>\$10,900</b>	0.0%	
192							
193	<b>Animal Control Officer</b>						
195	Barn & Animal Inspection Salary (stipend)	\$506		\$506	\$519		
196	Animal Control Expenses	\$1,300	\$350	\$1,300	\$3,629		
200	<b>Total Animal Control Officer</b>	<b>\$3,714</b>	<b>\$2,806</b>	<b>\$3,775</b>	<b>\$4,148</b>	9.9%	5
201							
202	<b>Emergency Management</b>						
203	General Expense		\$0	\$100	\$100		
204	Code Red Notification System			\$1,500	\$1,500		
205	<b>Total Emergency Management</b>	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>	0.0%	
206							
207	<b>Tree Warden</b>						
208	Tree Warden Salary	\$853	\$846	\$1,200	\$1,230		
209	Tree Warden Expenses	\$5,300	\$5,075	\$5,300	\$5,300		
212	<b>Total Tree Warden</b>	<b>\$6,153</b>	<b>\$5,921</b>	<b>\$6,500</b>	<b>\$6,530</b>	0.5%	
213							
214	<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>\$206,933</b>	<b>\$205,561</b>	<b>\$227,804</b>	<b>\$240,836</b>	5.7%	
215							

	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
1	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
216	<b><u>PUBLIC WORKS / HIGHWAY</u></b>						
226	Subtotal Highway Garage & Personnel Exp	\$12,090		\$12,332	\$12,332		
227							
238	Subtotal Highway Maintenance	\$59,690		\$60,884	\$60,884		
239							
247	Subtotal Highway Machinery	\$49,834		\$50,831	\$50,831		
248	Total Public Works/Highway Expense	\$121,614	\$142,320	\$124,046	\$124,046	0.0%	6
249							
250	Highway Superintendent Salary	\$66,560		\$60,000	\$63,336		
251	Highway Employees Salary	\$130,000		\$160,160	\$164,164		
253	Overtime Wages	\$1,863		\$12,000	\$12,300		
254	Total Highway Salaries	\$211,785	\$176,148	\$232,160	\$239,800	3.3%	6
255							
262	Total Snow & Ice Removal	\$102,507	\$102,267	\$102,507	\$102,507	0.0%	6
263							
264	TOTAL HIGHWAY	\$435,906	\$420,735	\$458,713	\$466,354	1.7%	6
265							
266	Cemetery Commission	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	0.0%	
267							
268	Street Lighting	\$1,550	\$677	\$1,550	\$1,550	0.0%	
271							
272	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$438,056	\$422,011	\$460,863	\$468,504	1.7%	
273							
274	<b><u>HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES</u></b>						
275	Board of Health						
276	Board of Health Part-time Clerk Salary	\$4,634	\$2,534	\$4,782	\$4,902		
277	BoHealth Elected Officials Salary (stipend)	\$1,500	\$1,415	\$1,500	\$1,500		
278	Board of Health Expenses	\$3,500	\$1,050	\$3,500	\$3,500		
285	Total Board of Health	\$9,634	\$4,999	\$9,782	\$9,902	1.2%	
286							
287	Council on Aging						
289	Total Council on Aging	\$250	\$0	\$250	\$250	0.0%	
290							
291	Veterans Services						
294	Total Veterans Services	\$4,842	\$1,842	\$5,012	\$4,631		
295	TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	\$14,726	\$6,841	\$15,044	\$14,782	-1.7%	
296							



	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
1	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
297	<b><u>CULTURE/RECREATION</u></b>						
298	<b>Library</b>						
299	Salary Librarian	\$22,348	\$22,979	\$25,762	\$26,406		
300	Salary Part-time (hourly wages)	\$1,000	\$1,020	\$1,000	\$1,500		
301	Library Expenses	\$10,201	\$9,201	\$10,201	\$10,201		
317	<b>Net Library</b>	<b>\$33,549</b>	<b>\$33,200</b>	<b>\$36,963</b>	<b>\$38,107</b>	3.1%	
318							
319	<b>Recreation Committee Expense</b>	<b>\$1,320</b>	<b>\$122</b>	<b>\$1,320</b>	<b>\$1,320</b>	0.0%	
333							
334	<b>Grounds Maintenance</b>						
338	<b>Total Grounds Maintenance</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$2,628</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$3,000</b>	0.0%	
339							
340	<b>Celebrations</b>						
341	Celebrations	\$2,000		\$2,000	\$2,000		
342	Memorial Day	\$600		\$600	\$600		
343	Old Home Day	\$600		\$600	\$600		
344	<b>Total Celebrations</b>	<b>\$3,200</b>	<b>\$2,637</b>	<b>\$3,200</b>	<b>\$3,200</b>	0.0%	
345							
346	<b>TOTAL CULTURE/RECREATION</b>	<b>\$41,069</b>	<b>\$38,587</b>	<b>\$44,483</b>	<b>\$45,627</b>	2.6%	
347							

	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
1	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
348	<b>EDUCATION</b>						
349	Early Childhood Support 0-5	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$5,000	0.0%	
352							
353	Franklin County Tech School						
354	FCT School Committee	\$500	\$0	\$500	\$500		
355	FCT Assessment	\$80,014	\$80,014	\$82,128	\$95,050		
356	FCT Capital Projects	\$2,263	\$2,263	\$2,308	\$2,521		
357	Total Franklin County Tech School	\$82,777	\$82,277	\$84,936	\$98,071	15.5%	
358							
359	Pioneer Valley Regional School District						
361	PVRSD Assessment	\$125,991	\$125,916	\$127,000	\$157,002		
366	Total Pioneer Valley Regional School District	\$125,991	\$126,326	\$127,000	\$157,002	24%	8
367							
368	Warwick Community School Building						
369	Custodial Salary	\$29,220	\$25,789	\$29,220	\$29,951		
370	Building Manager Salary	\$1,872		\$1,872	\$1,919		
371	WCS Expenses	\$55,537	\$61,954	\$57,203	\$57,203		
379	Total WCS	\$86,629	\$87,743	\$88,295	\$89,072	0.9%	
380							
386	Warwick School District						
387	Warwick District Expenses (WCS + PVRSD tuition)	\$1,016,788	\$1,016,755	\$1,069,923	\$1,185,497	10.80%	
388	Warwick District School Committee	\$600	\$200	\$1,000	\$1,000		
389	District Budget after Est State Chap.70 Line 476	\$672,208		\$726,708	\$876,207	20.57%	
390	TOTAL EDUCATION	\$1,315,285	\$1,315,801	\$1,376,154	\$1,535,642	11.59%	
392							
393	<b>FIXED COSTS</b>						
394	Short Term Debt						
395	Interest on Short Term Borrowing	\$5,500	\$6,911	\$5,500	\$5,500		
396	Firetruck Received 2025 - Interest				\$20,700		
397	School Vehicle Received 2024 - Interest				\$0		
402	Total Debt Service	\$5,500	\$6,911	\$5,500	\$26,200	376.4%	
403					\$20,700		
404	Insurance & Benefits						
405	Contributory Insurance	\$182,751	\$94,142	\$195,544	\$200,000		1
408	County Retirement	\$67,163	\$67,163	\$71,153	\$75,872		
409	Unemployment Insurance	\$3,600	\$1,374	\$3,000	\$3,000		
410	Liability & Workers Comp Insurance	\$52,584	\$51,929	\$56,265	\$56,265		
411	Bonds & Other Insurance	\$11,210		\$11,210	\$8,492		
417	Total Insurance & Benefits	\$317,308	\$221,890	\$337,171	\$343,629	1.92%	
418							
419	TOTAL FIXED COSTS	\$322,808	\$228,801	\$342,671	\$369,829	7.9%	
421	Total Omnibus Budget	\$2,688,280	\$2,486,334	\$2,826,899	\$3,025,036	7.01%	
422							

	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
1	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
423	<b>WARRANT ARTICLES (for informational purposes)</b>						
424	Article - Stabilization	\$176,679			\$59,249	<i>Article 19</i>	<b>10</b>
427	Article - Assessors Revaluation	\$2,500		\$2,500	\$2,500	<i>Article 13</i>	
433	Article - Offset Transfer Station Deficit	\$5,000		\$15,000	\$15,000	<i>Article 10</i>	
434	Article Warwick Community School Repairs	\$25,000		\$25,000	\$25,000	<i>Article 12</i>	
435	Article - Audit Town Books	\$10,000		\$20,000	\$10,000	<i>Article 15</i>	
438	Article Landfill Monitoring	\$2,000		\$3,000	\$3,500	<i>Article 14</i>	<b>1</b>
439	Article HHW household hazardous waste	\$800		\$800	\$800	<i>Article 16</i>	
442	Afterschool & Summer Kids Programs			\$10,000	\$10,000	<i>Article 17</i>	
443	Environmental Cleanup Acc't -201803				\$4,000	<i>Article 21</i>	<b>7</b>
445	<b>Total Warrants</b>	<b>\$226,979</b>	<b>\$226,979</b>	<b>\$86,300</b>	<b>\$130,049</b>	50.7%	
446						\$43,749	
447	<b>OTHER AMOUNTS</b>						
448							
449	Cherry Sheet Offsets						
450	Cherry Sheet Charges	\$1,166		\$1,759	\$2,037		
451	Snow and Ice Deficit				\$71,240		
452	Overlay						
453	<b>TOTAL OTHER AMOUNTS</b>	<b>\$1,166</b>	<b>\$1,166</b>	<b>\$1,759</b>	<b>\$73,277</b>	increase:	
454						\$71,518	
455	<b>EXPENDITURE SUMMARY</b>						
456							
457	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$349,403	\$268,732	\$359,879	\$349,816	-2.8%	
458	PUBLIC SAFETY	\$206,933	\$205,561	\$227,804	\$240,836	5.7%	
459	PUBLIC WORKS	\$438,056	\$422,011	\$460,863	\$468,504	1.7%	
460	HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES	\$14,726	\$6,841	\$15,044	\$14,782	-1.7%	
461	CULTURE/RECREATION	\$41,069	\$38,587	\$44,483	\$45,627	2.6%	
462	FIXED COSTS	\$322,808	\$228,801	\$342,671	\$369,829	7.9%	
463	<b>TOTAL MUN. GOV. EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,372,995</b>	<b>\$1,170,533</b>	<b>\$1,450,745</b>	<b>\$1,489,394</b>	2.7%	
464							
465	WARRANT ARTICLES	\$226,979	\$226,979	\$86,300	\$130,049	50.7%	
466	OTHER AMOUNTS	\$1,166	\$1,166	\$1,759	\$73,277		
467							
468	<b>TOTAL EDUCATION EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,315,285</b>	<b>\$1,315,801</b>	<b>\$1,376,154</b>	<b>\$1,535,642</b>	11.6%	
469							
470	<b>TOTAL of AMOUNTS TO BE APPROPRIATED</b>	<b>\$2,916,425</b>	<b>\$2,714,479</b>	<b>\$2,914,958</b>	<b>\$3,228,362</b>	9.7%	
471				<b>\$2,913,199</b>			

	A	K	L	M	N	T	U
1	Warwick Town Budget	FY24 Appropriated	FY24 Year-End	FY25 Appropriated	FY26 Proposed	Increase - Decrease FY25 to FY26 Notes	Summary Section
472	<b>REVENUE SUMMARY (Estimated)</b>						
473	Total Cherry Sheet Receipts	\$663,535		\$668,979	\$661,820		
474	Education Receipts	\$380,180		\$418,400	\$425,914		
475	Estimated Choice Out/Charter Adjustment	-\$35,000		-\$74,185	-\$115,624		9
476	Net Chapter 70 Education Receipts	\$345,180	\$345,180	\$344,215	\$310,290	-10.9%	
477	Gen'l Government without library	\$318,355		\$324,764	\$351,530		4
478	Local Receipts	\$100,000		\$100,000	\$100,000		4
480	Spending Articles using Stabilization				\$59,249	Article 19	10
482	Unrestricted CDBG Program Income	\$31,102		\$0	\$52,000		
484	Stab appropriation Town Hall Improvement	\$5,000		\$5,000			
491	Free Cash	\$211,930		\$0	\$169,646		4
492	Net Meter Host Income	\$30,000		\$30,000	\$30,000		4
502	Anticipated Receipts from PVRSD			\$70,000	\$0		
503	<b>SUBTOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$1,041,567</b>		<b>\$873,979</b>	<b>\$1,072,715</b>	18.5%	
504							
505	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,916,425		\$2,914,958	\$3,228,362		
506	SUBTOTAL REVENUES	\$1,041,567		\$873,979	\$1,072,715		
507	FROM TAXATION	\$1,874,858		\$2,040,979	\$2,155,647	5.6%	
508							
509	<b>Estimated Total from Taxation</b>	<b>\$1,874,858</b>		<b>\$2,040,979</b>	<b>\$2,155,647</b>	5.6%	3
510	<b>TAX RATE: Estimated</b>	<b>\$19.90</b>		<b>\$17.70</b>	<b>\$17.99</b>		3
511		<b>Actual: \$16.55</b>		<b>Actual: \$17.78</b>			
512	<b>LEVY LIMIT</b>						
513	Prior Year Base	\$1,977,106		\$2,095,668	\$2,164,774		
514	2.5%	\$49,428		\$52,392	\$54,119		
515	New Growth	\$15,000		\$15,000	\$15,000		
516	Overrides						
517	<b>Subtotal - Levy Limit</b>	<b>\$2,041,534</b>		<b>\$2,163,060</b>	<b>\$2,233,893</b>		
518	Debt Exclusions	\$0					
519	Capital Exclusions						
520	<b>MAX ALLOWABLE LEVY - EST</b>	<b>\$2,041,534</b>		<b>\$2,163,060</b>	<b>\$2,233,893</b>		
521	<b>ACTUAL Levy Limit</b> <i>after</i>	<b>\$2,095,668</b>		<b>\$2,164,774</b>			
522	<i>Fall Tax Rate Set - Assessors &amp; MA DOR</i>	actual		actual			
523							
524	<b>EXCESS CAPACITY (Estimated)</b>	<b>\$166,676</b>		<b>\$122,081</b>	<b>\$78,246</b>		
525	<b>EXCESS CAPACITY (Actual)</b>	<b>\$76,396</b>		<b>\$34,398</b>			
526		actual		actual			
527							
528	<b>Total Assessed Value</b> <i>Estimate at Town Meeting</i>	<b>\$94,201,980</b>		<b>\$115,279,033</b>	<b>\$119,818,678</b>		3
529	<b>ACTUAL Total Assessed Value</b>	<b>\$122,342,705</b>		<b>\$119,818,678</b>			
530		actual		actual			

## **Quick Reference Guide to the Warwick 2025 Omnibus Budget**

All Salary Lines have been increased 2.5% over Fiscal Year 2025 unless otherwise noted

### **General Government (Lines 3 – 148)**

Reserve Fund – 28: Controlled by the Finance Committee, this acts as Warwick's primary contingency resource. Departments are encouraged to budget leanly, knowing that the reserve fund acts as a shared safety valve for true contingencies.

Accountant – 31: Warwick transitioned away from a respected national accounting firm to an individual consultant model for accounting. This is the first year that recognizes the savings in the budget.

Treasurer Salary – 53: the Treasurer's salary raised by \$5,000 to meet regional norms and to retain a valued financial position.

Tax Collector Expenses – 68: The Tax Collector expense budget has risen to reflect increases in supplies and expenses as well as an increase in the portion of the accounting software assigned to this department.

### **Public Safety (Lines 152-214)**

Police Officers Wages – 152: The Finance Committee supports the request to increase hourly wages for police by 10% which will allow for rates between \$23.30 and \$27.30. Part-time officers must now train to the same extent as full-time officers, these rates are still low but recognize the increased requirements and allow Warwick to retain personnel.

Animal Control Officer – 200: Warwick is making a structural change in how it handles animal control. Following the resignation of the longtime Animal Control Officer (ACO), the Town has elected to transition dog and animal control responsibilities to the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

### **Public Works / Highway (Lines 226-272)**

Snow and Ice Removal – 262: Includes overtime wages for winter work, fuel, road treatment materials, and other costs associated with snow plowing and maintaining road safety during the winter months. Expenses can vary widely from year to year. This is the only place a town can overspend and make up the difference the following year (see Line 451).

### **Health / Human Services (Lines 275-295) & Culture / Recreation (Lines 298 – 346)**

No significant changes

### **Education (Lines 354-390)**

Pioneer Valley Regional School District – 366: Warwick continues to pay its proportional share of retiree expenses linked to its former membership in the PVRSD including health insurance premiums for retirees, and other post-employment benefit obligations under state law (largely retirement system contributions). These costs would exist whether Warwick remained in the district or not. Withdrawal only made them more visible in the local budget, not avoidable.

Warwick District Expenses – 387: Please refer to the District handout which outlines the goals, successes and financial objectives of the Warwick School & District. The school budget development followed these guiding principles: maximize savings without impacting student or family educational

experiences, shift salaries where possible from grant funding to the district budget as grants are increasingly unpredictable, offer a 2.5% wage increase to returning educators.

**Fixed Costs (Lines 393-419)**

Firetruck Interest – 396: After initially paying \$200,000 toward the cost of the new firetruck, Warwick still owes \$480,000 and must pay interest on this loan. The intent is to pay this loan back over the next 5 years.

Contributory Insurance – 405: Health insurance rates are up 18% this year but after a few years' experience with the number of employees that utilize town health insurance we have more information to budget for anticipated expenses.

**Total Omnibus Budget (Line 421)**

The 7% increase in this line represents the expenses portion of the budget. Some Warrant articles add to the total cost to taxpayers and the Estimated Revenue in lines 473-503 will offset expenses.

The final tax levy and tax rate will be set in the fall. The information in lines 473 to 510 represent our model for the town in the next year.

**Revenue Summary (Lines 473-503)**

Charter School Adjustment – 475: Some Warwick students attend a Charter school. The state provides reimbursement in the first 3 years but it phases out.

Using Stabilization – 480: the stabilization fund will be tapped for \$59,249 in FY26 to pay off the electric school bus. No appropriation to Stabilization is planned in FY26 due to tight budget conditions. The balance in Stabilization will be \$357,463.

Free Cash – 491: At the December 2024 Special Town Meeting, \$290,000 of Free Cash was voted to support solar panels for the fire station and purchase a used heavy duty plow truck. The Finance Committee recommends using the remainder of last year's Free Cash to lighten the tax burden.

**Estimated Total from Taxation (Line 509)**

Most taxpayers should expect approximately a 5.6% increase in their property tax bill. This reflects the growing cost of services and the need to maintain local operations amid an uncertain funding landscape.