

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Real Estate market continued to soar during calendar year 2002 with residential home sales outpacing assessments by as much as 30%. The average sale price of the 31 single-family homes sold was \$288,000. The average sale price of the 9 vacant land sales was \$135,000.

Interim adjustments have become the standard rather than the exception in order to keep assessments reflective of fair market value. This year's adjustment focused on land values, raising assessments of base lots by 10 - 20%. Although the tax rate increased by 11%, from 13.64 to 15.15 per thousand, 9.8% of that increase was attributable to the first year of repayment of the Dennett School debt exclusion.

Fiscal year 2004 will be the next Triennial Revaluation year, as mandated by state statutes. The Board will therefore be seeking competitive bids in late spring of 2003 for work to begin in January, 2004.

TOWN VALUE BY CLASS

RESIDENTIAL		\$ 245,962,200
96.18%		
COMMERCIAL	\$	8,558,400
3.17%		
INDUSTRIAL	\$	7,884,300
2.92%		
PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$	7,351,968
2.73%		
TOTAL TAXABLE PROPERTY		\$269,756,868

PLYMPTON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
May 15, 2002

The Plympton Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Paul S. Scribner at 8:15 P.M. at the Dennett Elementary School. The Town Clerk Nancy J. Butler read the return of the warrant.

The tellers were Lenore s. Swanson and Helen Reynolds and there were 100 registered voters present. Town Counsel was Richard Bowen.

Article 1. Voted: (On the motion of Richard L. Springer)
The Town vote to transfer from free cash **\$7545.49** to pay unpaid bills from fiscal year 2002.

Unanimous

Article 2. Voted: (On the motion of Carolyn Northon)
The Town vote to transfer **\$12,425.99** from the Fiscal 2002 Triennial Revaluation Account (Article 5 voted May 17, 2000) to CAMA Upgrade Computer Account (Article 13 voted May 13, 1998) for the purpose of purchasing additional hardware, software, licensing fees, installation costs, and support associated with the upgrading of the State CAMA System.

Unanimous

Article 3. Voted: (On the motion of Chief David Rich)
The Town vote to transfer **\$11,721** from the Ambulance Revolving Account to the Fire EMS Account, Line 61A.

Unanimous

Article 4. Voted: (On the motion of Carolyn Northon)
The Town vote to transfer from Line 35 Group Health voted May 16, 2001 **\$500** to Line 24 Treasurer's Banking Services, **\$2000** to Line 38 Town Share Medicare, **\$1500** to Line 82 Interest/Loan/Refunds, and **\$700.00** to Line 16 Computer Services.

Unanimous

Article 5. Voted: (On the motion of Richard L. Springer)
The Town vote to transfer from free cash **\$46,606.98** to cover the under-funding of the FY02 Silver Lake Regional School District Budget.

Unanimous

Article 6. Voted: (On the motion of D. Howard Randall, Jr.) The Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of **\$8,215.50** to the Blanket Insurance line from the Annual Town Meeting of May 16, 2001 to cover increased insurance costs for fiscal year 2002.

Unanimous

Voted: (On the motion of D. Howard Randall, Jr.) The Town vote to adjourn the Special Town Meeting.

Unanimous

Special Town Meeting adjourned at 8:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy J. Butler, CMC
Town Clerk, Plympton

A true copy,
ATTEST:

Nancy J. Butler, CMC
Town Clerk, Plympton

PLYMPTON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
December 4, 2002

The Plympton Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator William L. Slater, at 7:05 p.m. at the Plympton Town House. The Moderator welcomed everyone and introduced himself, the Finance Committee, the Selectmen, and the Town Clerk.

The tellers were Lenore S. Swanson and Carolyn Northon and there were 53 registered voters present. The Town Clerk Nancy J. Butler read the return of the warrant.

Mr. Slater led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and asked for a moment of silence for all members of our community who have passed on since our last meeting, including a member of our Assessor's office, John Anderson.

Article 1. Voted: (On the motion of Richard Springer) The Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$24,427.49 to pay unpaid bills from fiscal year 2002.

Unanimous

Article 2. Voted: (On the motion of Joseph Colanino) The Town vote to amend the sum of \$26,000 to \$24,000 to vote to transfer from free cash to purchase and equip a vehicle to replace the 1992 Ford Crown Victoria.

Declared majority

(On the motion of Richard Springer) The Town vote to amend the Town vote to transfer \$18,000 from the May 2002 Annual Town Meeting, Article 29, Fire Administration Federal Assistance Grant and to transfer \$6,000 from free cash to purchase and equip a vehicle to

replace the 1992 Crown Victoria for the fire department.

Amendment fails

(On the motion of David Batchelder) The town vote to take a paper ballot.

Amendment fails

Voted: (On the motion of Richard L. Springer) The Town vote as amended to transfer from free cash the sum of \$24,000 to purchase and equip a vehicle to replace the 1992 Ford Crown Victoria.

Declared majority

Motion passes

Article 3. Voted: (On the motion of James Mulcahy) The Town vote to amend the sum of \$15,200 to \$13,700 to purchase and equip a vehicle to replace a 1989 Chevrolet pickup truck.

Unanimous

Article 3. Voted: (On the motion of Christine M. Joy) The Town vote as amended to transfer from free cash the sum of \$13,700 to purchase and equip a vehicle to replace a 1989 Chevrolet pickup truck.

Unanimous

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Article 29 of the May 2002 Town Meeting the sum of \$18,000 and to authorize the Fire Chief to enter into a lease/purchase agreement not to exceed two (2) years, to purchase and equip a 2003 emergency vehicle for the Fire Chief to replace the 1992 Ford car and to purchase and equip a 2003 pickup truck for the Highway Surveyor to replace the 1989 Chevrolet truck; said purchase not to exceed \$41,200 with the first payment of \$18,000 (first of two payments) due upon delivery. The second payment shall not be due before July 1, 2003, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Fire Chief
Highway Surveyor**

Article 4. Voted: (On the motion of Christine M. Joy)
The Town vote to pass over Article 4.

Unanimous

Article 5. Voted: (On the motion of Christine M. Joy)
The Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4950 for costs associated with compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Storm water Management Regulations.

Declared majority

Motion passes

Article 6. Voted: (On the motion of Joseph Freitas) The
Town vote to amend the sum of \$6,000 to \$3,000 to
transfer from free cash to the Harry Jason Jr. Park
Development Committee.

Article 6. Voted: (On the motion of Joseph Freitas) The
Town vote as amended to transfer from free cash the sum of
\$3,000 for the Harry Jason Jr. Park Development
Committee.

Declared majority

Motion carries

Article 7. Voted: (On the motion of Richard L. Springer)
The Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$2500
to purchase uniforms and equipment for the new Police
Chief.

Declared majority

Motion carries

Article 8. Voted: (On the motion of Richard L. Springer)
The Town vote to transfer from free cash the sum of
\$10,800 to be added to Line 66, Police Chief Salary, that
was voted at the May 15, 2002 Town Meeting.

Unanimous

Voted: (On the motion of Richard L. Springer) The Town vote to dissolved the Special Town Meeting.

Unanimous

Meeting dissolved at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy J. Butler, CMC/CMMCK, Town Clerk

As of January 1, 2003, the Assessors' Office had viewed over 160 properties having outstanding building permits, which included 16 new starts of single-family homes. The Board also acted on 239 applications for property tax exemptions, real and personal property tax abatements, and motor vehicle excise tax abatements. The Board welcomed Carolyn Fontaine, appointed to fill the unexpired term of member John Anderson. John passed away in November, having served this Board for 20 years. His knowledge and dedication will be sadly missed.

Assessors' office hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Monday evenings 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David B. Batchelder, Chairman
George I. Thompson, Clerk
Carolyn G. Fontaine, Member