

**Town of New Marlborough
Fiscal Year 2023
At-A-Glance**

FY 2023 Proposed Budget (within Levy Limit-no override necessary)

Total Budget	\$ 6,203,583	(2.2% increase v. FY 22)
Town		(8.9% increase v. FY 22)
Operating	\$ 3,270,383	
Capital	\$ 216,000	(includes \$150,000 appropriation to the Stabilization Account)
School	\$ 2,717,200	(2.5% decrease v. FY 22)

Breakdown of Budget Increase/Decrease v. 2022:

Town Operations	+ \$	281,258
School	- \$	(68,667)
Debt	- \$	(1,852)
One Time Appropriations (non-capital)	+ \$	12,685
One Time Appropriations (capital)	- \$	<u>(89,758)</u>
Net Budget Increase	+ \$	133,666

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**Capital**

|                       |                     |                        |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Stabilization Balance | \$ 802,314          |                        |
| Certified Free Cash   | <u>\$ 725,363</u>   |                        |
|                       | \$ 1,527,677        |                        |
| Amount Reserved       | <u>\$ (677,156)</u> | (per State guidelines) |
| Available for use     | \$ 850,521          |                        |

Capital Requests:

|                                        |            |                          |
|----------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Capital Road Projects                  | \$ 500,000 | Borrow (2/3 vote)        |
| Ambulance                              | \$ 260,000 | Stabilization (2/3 vote) |
| Highway Truck (19.5 GVW +snow removal) | \$ 150,000 | Free Cash                |
| Highway Loader/Backhoe                 | \$ 150,000 | Free Cash                |
| Reimburse Summer Storm damage (FY 22)  | \$ 52,918  | Free Cash                |
| Fire Department Rescue Tools           | \$ 41,000  | Raise in Tax Rate        |
| Right of Way-Keyes Hill Road Bridge    | \$ 25,000  | Raise in Tax Rate        |

One Time Expenses

|                                    |           |                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Police Radios                      | \$ 22,000 | Raise in Tax Rate |
| Police Body and Cruiser Cameras    | \$ 11,500 | Raise in Tax Rate |
| Hartsville Erosion (Land donation) | \$ 4,000  | Raise in Tax Rate |

Submitted by the Board of Selectmen, April 29, 2022

# Debt Service Schedule

|                          | <u>FY21</u>    | <u>FY22</u>    | <u>FY23</u>    | <u>FY24</u>    | <u>FY25</u>    | <u>FY26</u>    | <u>FY27</u>   |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Fire Truck (2026)        | 68,200.00      | 66,000.00      | 63,800.00      | 61,600.00      | 59,400.00      | 57,200.00      | -             |
| Grader (2029)            | 44,200.00      | 42,900.00      | 41,600.00      | 40,300.00      | 39,000.00      | 37,700.00      | 36,400.00     |
| Hatchery Road (2026)     |                | 46,916.00      | 48,564.00      | 42,592.00      | 41,728.00      | 40,864.00      | -             |
| School Roof/Boiler(2032) | 61,789.00      | 55,601.00      | 50,542.00      | 60,000.00*     | 60,000.00*     | 60,000.00*     | 60,000.00*    |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>174,189</b> | <b>211,417</b> | <b>204,506</b> | <b>204,492</b> | <b>200,128</b> | <b>195,764</b> | <b>96,400</b> |

\*School Roof/Boiler amounts estimated after FY 23

## **Historic Structure Demolition Pause Bylaw 2022**

### **Overview**

The beauty of New Marlborough is reflected not only in our scenic vistas but also in our historic buildings. Who hasn't marveled at the beauty of our small villages and surrounding landscapes?

Our history includes the muster of Revolutionary War troops in front of the Old Inn on the New Marlborough Green as well as numerous political, religious and industrial histories associated with structures that are an important part of both our democratic traditions and cultural values. The way our town looks and our history are also key elements in the attraction we have for tourists and second home owners who are an important part of our economy. Our historical buildings are a critical resource to the Town of New Marlborough.

The Historical Commission has developed this bylaw after two years of public hearings and input from the community, the Planning Board and the Selectmen seeking to balance the importance of historic preservation with sensitivity to the rights of the homeowner.

### **Why is now the right time to pursue a bylaw that would temporarily pause a demolition of an Historical Structure to allow investigation of other alternatives that preserve the structure?**

In New Marlborough and across all of Berkshire County rapid development is now occurring. A number of towns have seen beautiful historic structures demolished literally overnight with no community input or discussion by a new owner or developer who had little understanding of the local or regional historical importance of the building. Once an historic structure is demolished it can never be recovered and that part of the town's history is lost forever.

Demolition Pause/Delay bylaws have been adopted by 50% of all towns across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (150 towns and cities). In Berkshire County, Williamstown, Becket, Stockbridge, Sheffield, Lenox, North Adams, and Pittsfield have all passed Historical Structure Demolition Pause Bylaws. Our close neighbor Sheffield recently passed their bylaw after a beloved historic school house was abruptly demolished with no public input. In Stockbridge two historic buildings were recently saved after the Demolition Pause Bylaw gave the new owners the opportunity to reconsider demolition and choose to reuse the buildings instead. Demolition Pause bylaws have provided a window of opportunity to successfully preserve historical structures across Berkshire County and the Commonwealth.

### **What this Bylaw Does**

Establishes a Committee of two members of the New Marlborough Planning Board, two members of the New Marlborough Historical Commission and one community member appointed by the Selectmen, who in collaboration with the Building Inspector determines if a structure slated for demolition is of historical significance.

Defines buildings of historical significance as being built prior to 1901 and being part of the historical, architectural, cultural, political or economic heritage of the town of New Marlborough, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the nation.

Provides for a nine month pause in demolition if an owner desires to demolish a structure found to be of significant historical importance.

Defines demolition of an historic structure at 40% or more so that existing homeowners of such structures can renovate without this delay.

Establishes a public hearing to obtain community input on the proposed demolition of a significant historical structure.

Assists the owner in determining if alternatives that allow preservation of the historical structure are possible.

Allows the owner to demolish the structure after nine months if no alternatives for preservation are practicable.

Provides for enforcement of the bylaw through the New Marlborough Building Inspector.

**What this Bylaw DOES NOT DO**

**X** This bylaw Does NOT establish historic districts.

**X** This bylaw DOES NOT ban demolition of structures built before 1901.

**X** This bylaw DOES NOT restrict renovation of the interior or exterior of historic structures.

**X** This bylaw DOES NOT regulate the appearance of historical structures.

**X** This bylaw DOES NOT delay demolition of any structure deemed unsafe by the building inspector.

## **Planning Board Summaries of Proposed Bylaws**

### **Dark Sky Protection**

#### **What:**

- A General Bylaw (administrative) requiring new exterior light fixtures to be “fully shielded” (to limit upward light escape).
- Applies to new construction, renovations and replacement of a light fixture on a house/garage/barn.
- Existing exterior lights are grandfathered until replaced.
- Does not apply to lighting for flagpoles displaying the United States flag.

#### **Why:**

- Protect the rural character of the town.
- Protect the natural beauty of a dark sky; ability to see stars, planets and constellations unimpeded.
- Promote the use of advanced lighting technology.
- Balance economic development, human and animal safety and the town’s natural character.

#### **How:**

- Encourages, **but does not require**, that “old” fixtures become fully shielded within five years.
- Limits color temperatures to 2,700 Kelvin (warm colors).
- Restricts certain types of exterior lights (e.g., sky beams, lasers, flashing lights, architectural up-lighting, electronic displays) unless approved by Special Permit.
- Commercial properties required to extinguish lights by 11:00 pm or one hour after the close of business.
- Town property:
  - Requires adaptive controls (timers, dimmers) for all new exterior lighting.
  - Requires 11:00 lighting curfew (or within one hour of occupancy) if outdoor lights are not adaptively controlled.
  - Requires existing outdoor lighting to comply with bylaw within one year.

### **Protection Against Light Trespass**

#### **What:**

- A General Bylaw (administrative) to protect property owners from the intentional or unintentional light or glare of another property to the extent it constitutes a public hazard or nuisance.

#### **Why:**

- There have been several complaints about this issue.

#### **How:**

- The goal is always to resolve disputes amicably amongst neighbors, but if that does not happen, the Select Board will be given the discretion to determine if a light trespass constituting a public hazard or nuisance exists.

- The town will have the right to bring a civil action to enforce the bylaw and to seek injunctive relief and/or a civil penalty of \$100 per day if corrective action is not taken.

### **Solar [Photo]voltaic Installations (Amendment)**

#### **What:**

- An amendment to Section 8.9.5 of the Protective Bylaws (land-use related) regarding small-scale solar photovoltaic installations.

#### **Why:**

- The existing bylaw language in Section 8.9.5.1 states “A small-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation may be allowed by right after the issuance of a building permit by the Building Inspector.”
- The existing bylaw language regarding ground mounted solar panels was adopted before the Protective Bylaws established and defined a Rural Residential District and a Village Center District.
- Village Center Districts should have some protections relative ground-mounted solar panel installations.

#### **How:**

- The amendment provides that a small-scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installation will be allowed by right in a Rural Residential District after issuance of a building permit by the Building Inspector.
- The amendment further provides that a small-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation in a Village Residential District will require a Special Permit.

Submitted by:

New Marlborough Planning Board

April 28, 2022

# New Marlborough Council on Aging

No One expects to go to the hospital, but sometimes this happens.

There are three forms that “made ahead” can be helpful when this happens. Here is a very brief description of the forms:-

**Health Care Proxy** allows the patient to name someone to make decisions about the patient’s medical care if that patient can no longer speak for herself/himself.

**HIPAA Authorization and Release** specifies certain people to receive all medical and related information necessary to make informed decisions regarding the patient’s health .

**MOLST** this form allows the patient to list goals for clinically appropriate care and treatment preferences as the disease progresses. This reflects the patient’s treatment preferences.

The Council on Aging plans to have a luncheon in June or July when these forms will be available and a speaker will be present to inform and help those informing more fully about these forms.

All are welcome to attend the luncheon. So watch the New Marlborough website for further information about the date and time!.

