



**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN**  
**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**FOR 2026**

**With**

**FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

**And**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Date of Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting:**

**Time**

**Place**

April 14, 2026

7:00 P.M.

Old Whaling Church

**Date of Annual Election:**

**Time**

**Place**

April 16, 2026

10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Town Hall Meeting  
Room - Entrance from  
South Summer Street  
Parking Lot

*PLEASE BRING THIS REPORT TO THE MEETING*



## **FREE CASH, STABILIZATION FUND AND STATE REVENUES & CHARGES** **(Definitions at back of this booklet)**

Free Cash in the amount of \$11,955,226.00 was certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and made available for appropriation for Fiscal Year 2026. At the Special Town Meeting held on December 9, 2025, the Town appropriated \$2,783,241.24 from Free Cash.

A Special Town Meeting scheduled immediately prior to the Annual Town Meeting on April 14, 2026 includes additional requests from Free Cash totaling \$668,522.00. Articles on the Annual Town Meeting warrant for April 14, 2026 propose appropriations from Free Cash totaling \$4,355,297.00, including \$350,000.00 to the Stabilization Fund. If approved, these appropriations would leave an estimated balance of \$4,159,166.00 in Free Cash for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2026.

The Town's Stabilization Fund balance is \$5,652,103.39 as of this writing.

This year, the Town is also appropriating \$380,000.00 to be invested in the Dukes County Pooled OPEB Trust Fund for Other Post-Employment Benefits. Edgartown's total contributions to the Trust now equal \$3,680,000.00, and the market value of the Town's share of the Trust was \$6,352,457.00 as of June 30, 2025.

JAMES M. HAGERTY  
Town Administrator



On June 9, 2025, S&P Global Ratings assigned a 'AAA' long-term rating to the Town's approximately \$18.2 million Series 2025 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan Bonds and reaffirmed the 'AAA' rating on all existing general obligation debt. The Town's 'SP-1+' short-term rating on bond anticipation notes was also affirmed. The outlook remains stable.

S&P's rating reflects Edgartown's very strong financial management, including conservative budgeting, disciplined reserve policies, and long-term capital planning and forecasting. These practices have supported consis-

tently positive financial performance, with revenues exceeding projections and expenditures remaining below budget, as well as an exceptionally strong tax base.

Maintaining a 'AAA' rating allows the Town to secure the most favorable borrowing terms, resulting in reduced long-term interest costs and continued savings for taxpayers.

James M. Hagerty  
Town Administrator

## FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

To the Honorable Select Board and  
the Citizens of Edgartown:

In cooperation with the Select Board, the Financial Advisory Committee conducted several weeks of hearings and review of the Fiscal Year 2027 operating budget and the articles presented for consideration at the 2026 Annual Town Meeting. During this process the Committee reviewed requests from more than fifty Town departments, boards, committees, and regional entities, as well as a number of capital and policy initiatives.

The proposed Fiscal Year 2027 operating budget represents an overall 8.4% increase from the previous fiscal year. The increase reflects continued cost pressures in several non-discretionary areas, including education, employee benefits, regional assessments, and debt service. The Martha's Vineyard Regional High School assessment increased by 10.7% (\$687,365.45), while Edgartown School salaries increased by 6.5% (\$557,042.94). The Superintendent's Office assessment increased by 8.9% (\$216,317.30). The Town's share of health insurance increased by 8.0% (\$364,735.12). Debt obligations also increased significantly, with interest and debt service rising by 68.4% (\$1,009,634.34), largely due to borrowing associated with the Fire Station project and sewer mains installed along West Tisbury Road. Regional assessments also contributed to the increase, including the Martha's Vineyard Commission assessment, which increased by 13.2% (\$106,764.00)

The warrant also includes two questions that will appear on the ballot. The first asks voters to approve a \$900,090.00 operating override to support the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. The Committee recognizes that a portion of the cost increases outlined above are outside the direct control of the Town, particularly regional assessments, education costs, and debt service obligations. The override is intended to maintain municipal services while addressing these structural cost increases within the constraints of Proposition 2.5.

The second ballot question relates to the proposed acquisition of the Martha's Vineyard Boys & Girls Club

property located at 4 M. Daniels Lane for municipal purposes. The Committee reviewed the proposal in the context of the Town's long-term planning objectives and available funding sources. The acquisition would provide the Town with a centrally located parcel and existing facilities that may support future municipal needs, recreational programming, or elder population community uses. Funding for the purchase is proposed through a combination of available funds, including stabilization, free cash, and a smaller tax levy component subject to voter approval.

Throughout the hearing process the Committee remained mindful of Edgartown's long-standing practice of conservative fiscal management. While costs continue to rise in a number of areas outside of the Town's direct control, the Committee also recognizes the importance of maintaining the Town as a competitive employer in an increasingly challenging labor market, particularly given housing and workforce constraints. The Committee believes the budget presented to Town Meeting reflects a balanced approach to maintaining municipal services, supporting and retaining a qualified workforce, and preserving Edgartown's long-term financial stability. The Committee extends its appreciation to the department heads, boards, and committees that participated in the hearing process, as well as to the Town Administrator and Finance Management Team for their continued assistance in preparing and presenting the Town's financial information.

Respectfully submitted,

DONNA LOWELL-BETTENCOURT, Chair  
LESLIE BAYNES, Assistant Chair  
NEDINE CUNNINGHAM  
PAUL PERTILE  
KATHERINE PUTNAM  
KELLY MCCRACKEN, Alternate  
JOHN O'HARA  
JULIA TARKA  
Edgartown Financial Advisory Committee

**SCHEDULE OF APPROPRIATIONS  
FOR THE  
2027 FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING  
JULY 1, 2026 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027**

	0. Appropriations/ Transfers FY 2026	1. Appropriations Requested FY 2027	2. Appropriations Recommended by Personnel Board (COLA)	3. Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study & COLA
<b><u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u></b>				
<b>MODERATOR</b>				
1. Salary - Elected	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
<b>SELECTBOARD'S DEPARTMENT - TOWN ADMINISTRATOR</b>				
2. Selectman's Salaries (3) - Elected	13,500.00	13,500.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
3. Other Salaries (2 FT, 1 PT)	321,608.20	321,683.37	331,458.51	334,859.86
4. Expense	13,350.00	13,350.00	13,350.00	13,350.00
<b>FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMM.</b>				
5. Expense	14,034.00	14,034.00	14,034.00	14,034.00
6. Reserve Fund	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
<b>TOWN ACCOUNTANT'S DEPT.</b>				
7. Salaries (2 FT)	260,634.95	213,391.72	220,008.07	224,218.00
8. Expense	24,650.00	25,650.00	25,650.00	25,650.00
<b>PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT</b>				
9. Salaries (1 FT)	81,007.33	96,194.16	99,263.52	102,541.68
10. Expense	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
<b>ASSESSOR'S DEPARTMENT</b>				
11. Assessors' Salaries(3)-Elected	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,300.00	3,300.00
12. Other Salaries (3 FT)	269,323.66	294,346.45	303,431.86	313,490.80
13. Expense	56,758.00	80,078.13	80,078.13	80,078.13
<b>TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT</b>				
14. Salaries (2FT)	202,043.92	202,243.53	208,502.31	212,641.77
15. Expense	24,125.00	24,125.00	24,125.00	24,125.00
<b>TOWN COLLECTOR'S DEPT.</b>				
16. Salaries (2 FT)	184,720.88	191,987.12	198,063.20	202,343.60
17. Expense	15,474.54	15,861.41	15,861.41	15,861.41
<b>PERSONNEL BOARD</b>				
18. Salary (1 FT, 1PT)	169,295.04	162,154.08	167,342.76	168,125.76
19. Expense	19,850.00	21,000.00	21,000.00	21,000.00
<b>TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT</b>				
20. Salaries (2FT)	212,863.25	216,191.52	222,956.64	227,153.52

		0. Appropriations/ Transfers FY 2026	1. Appropriations Requested FY 2027	2. Appropriations Recommended by Personnel Board (COLA)	3. Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study & COLA
21.	Expense <b>ELECTION &amp; REGISTRATION</b>	4,620.00	4,620.00	4,620.00	4,620.00
22.	Salaries (3 PT)	10,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
23.	Expense <b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>	10,227.00	14,227.00	14,227.00	14,227.00
24.	Salaries (2 FT, 3S)	208,280.61	186,976.29	192,861.84	198,027.03
25.	Expense <b>PLANNING BOARD</b>	44,821.00	42,828.00	42,828.00	42,828.00
26.	Salaries (1 FT)	99,176.18	92,456.64	95,421.60	99,848.16
27.	Expense <b>ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS</b>	8,100.00	8,100.00	8,100.00	8,100.00
28.	Salary (1 FT)	60,121.35	60,121.35	62,039.70	62,405.10
29.	Expense <b>TOWN HALL AND VISITOR'S CENTER MAINTENANCE</b>	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
30.	Salary (1 S)	8,260.60	8,260.60	8,260.60	8,260.60
31.	Town Hall and Visitor's Center Maintenance <b>COMPUTER SYSTEM MANAGER</b>	160,780.00	164,800.00	164,800.00	164,800.00
32.	Computer System Administrator (1 FT)	142,032.65	142,157.30	146,583.86	149,089.46
33.	Computer System Expense <b>TOWN BUILDING UTILITIES</b>	179,769.36	190,131.65	190,131.65	190,131.65
34.	Library Utilities <b>COUNCIL ON AGING</b>	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
35.	Salaries (5FT 1PT)	453,497.50	464,320.51	478,983.49	488,760.55
36.	Expense <b>HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMIS.</b>	75,089.00	84,574.40	84,574.40	84,574.40
37.	Salaries (1 FT)	78,989.04	82,162.80	84,793.68	85,357.44
38.	Expense <b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
39.	Expense <b>BY-WAYS COMMITTEE</b>	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00
40.	Expense	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
41.	Legal Expense	252,500.00	252,500.00	252,500.00	252,500.00
42.	Tax Title/Foreclosure	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
<b>Total for General Government</b>		<b>3,932,203.06</b>	<b>3,969,727.03</b>	<b>4,055,051.23</b>	<b>4,112,202.92</b>

	0. Appropriations/ Transfers FY 2026	1. Appropriations Requested FY 2027	2. Appropriations Recommended by Personnel Board (COLA)	3. Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study & COLA	
<b><u>PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY</u></b>					
<b>POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>					
43.	Salaries (21 FT 10 S)	3,807,331.77	3,801,351.02	3,914,473.06	3,918,482.02
44.	Expense	452,681.00	472,412.00	472,412.00	472,412.00
<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT / AMBULANCE</b>					
45.	Salaries (11 FT, 3 Chiefs, 26 EMTs, 30 Firefighters)	1,790,712.62	1,877,150.16	1,927,771.79	1,964,288.69
46.	Expense	399,876.72	409,873.64	409,873.64	409,873.64
<b>BUILDING INSPECTOR'S DEPT.</b>					
47.	Salaries (4 FT)	420,396.80	432,692.90	446,494.58	451,818.98
48.	Expense	17,750.00	17,750.00	17,750.00	17,750.00
<b>INSPECTORS (GAS, PLUMBING, WIRE, FIRE, BUILDING, SHORT TERM RENTALS)</b>					
49.	Salaries (7 PT)	175,000.00	175,000.00	175,000.00	175,000.00
50.	Expense	1,550.00	1,550.00	1,550.00	1,550.00
<b>CIVIL DEFENSE/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT</b>					
51.	Salaries	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
52.	Expense	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
<b>ANIMAL CONTROL DEPT.</b>					
53.	Salaries (1 FT, 2 PT)	148,858.40	140,828.99	144,827.51	147,158.24
54.	Expense	17,900.00	17,900.00	17,900.00	17,900.00
<b>FORESTRY DEPARTMENT</b>					
55.	Forest Fire Control/Emergency Service	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
56.	Control Dutch Elm Disease	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
57.	Care of Shade Trees	21,000.00	21,000.00	21,000.00	21,000.00
58.	Planting Shade Trees	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
<b>SHELLFISH DEPARTMENT</b>					
59.	Salaries (4 FT, 2 S)	383,630.47	389,935.82	402,037.86	406,623.11
60.	Expense	120,417.44	123,402.77	123,402.77	123,402.77
	<b>Total for Protection of Persons and Property</b>	<b>7,784,605.22</b>	<b>7,908,347.30</b>	<b>8,101,993.21</b>	<b>8,154,759.45</b>
<b><u>HARBORMASTER</u></b>					
<b>HARBORMASTER'S DEPT.</b>					
61.	Salaries (4 FT, 25 S)	466,913.75	503,704.24	515,196.07	521,728.90
62.	Expense	132,505.00	140,941.89	140,941.89	140,941.89
63.	Marine Adv. Comm. Expense	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00
	<b>Total for Harbormaster Department</b>	<b>601,518.75</b>	<b>646,746.13</b>	<b>658,237.96</b>	<b>664,770.79</b>

		0. Appropriations/ Transfers FY 2026	1. Appropriations Requested FY 2027	2. Appropriations Recommended by Personnel Board (COLA)	3. Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study & COLA
	<b><u>DREDGE</u></b>				
	<b>DREDGE</b>				
64.	Salaries (1 PT, 4 - 6 S)	198,900.00	197,020.80	203,324.64	203,324.64
65.	Expense	163,700.00	130,700.00	130,700.00	130,700.00
	<b>Total for Dredge</b>	<b>362,600.00</b>	<b>327,720.80</b>	<b>334,024.64</b>	<b>334,024.64</b>
	<b><u>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</u></b>				
	<b>HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>				
66.	Salaries (9 FT, 1 PT, 3 S)	1,079,699.94	1,067,237.73	1,094,405.22	1,110,702.06
67.	Street Lights	19,000.00	19,000.00	19,000.00	19,000.00
68.	Snow & Ice	61,287.50	61,287.50	61,287.50	61,287.50
69.	Expense	280,880.82	280,881.00	280,881.00	280,881.00
	<b>Total for Highway Department</b>	<b>1,440,868.26</b>	<b>1,428,406.23</b>	<b>1,455,573.72</b>	<b>1,471,870.56</b>
	<b><u>HEALTH AND SANITATION</u></b>				
	<b>TRANSFER STATION &amp; SITE MAINTENANCE</b>				
8 70.	MV Refuse Dist Assess	578,970.08	590,592.92	590,592.92	590,592.92
	<b>WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT</b>				
71.	Salaries (8 FT)	754,097.36	761,201.52	784,152.81	804,001.34
72.	Expense	688,144.00	701,921.00	701,921.00	701,921.00
	<b>BOARD OF HEALTH</b>				
73.	Salaries (2 FT, 1 PT)	209,332.96	214,372.35	221,240.83	227,230.25
74.	Expense	152,600.14	161,212.14	161,212.14	161,212.14
	<b>Total for Health and Sanitation</b>	<b>2,383,144.54</b>	<b>2,429,299.93</b>	<b>2,459,119.70</b>	<b>2,484,957.65</b>
	<b><u>VETERAN'S SERVICES</u></b>				
	<b>VETERAN'S SERVICES</b>				
75.	Expense	35,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
	<b>Total for Veteran's Services</b>	<b>35,000.00</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>
	<b><u>EDUCATION</u></b>				
76.	Salaries	8,609,428.73	9,166,471.67	9,166,471.67	9,166,471.67
77.	Expense	1,476,529.13	1,448,967.50	1,448,967.50	1,448,967.50
78.	Superintendent's Office	2,429,101.73	2,645,419.03	2,645,419.03	2,645,419.03
	<b>M.V.R.H.S. DISTRICT</b>				
79.	Assessment	6,418,826.76	7,106,192.21	7,106,192.21	7,106,192.21
	<b>Total for Education</b>	<b>18,933,886.35</b>	<b>20,367,050.41</b>	<b>20,367,050.41</b>	<b>20,367,050.41</b>

	0. Appropriations/ Transfers FY 2026	1. Appropriations Requested FY 2027	2. Appropriations Recommended by Personnel Board (COLA)	3. Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study & COLA
<b><u>LIBRARY</u></b>				
<b>EDG. PUBLIC LIBRARY DEPT.</b>				
80. Salaries (9 FT, 3 PT)	843,725.15	904,078.77	931,366.58	941,166.04
81. Expense	384,802.86	408,546.91	408,546.91	408,546.91
<b>Total for Library</b>	<b>1,228,528.01</b>	<b>1,312,625.68</b>	<b>1,339,913.49</b>	<b>1,349,712.95</b>
<b><u>PARK AND BEACHES</u></b>				
<b>PARK AND BEACHES</b>				
82. Salaries (2 FT, 1 PT, 25 - 30 S)	421,188.68	424,918.16	427,982.30	430,529.66
83. Expense	109,675.00	112,307.00	112,307.00	112,307.00
<b>Total for Parks and Beaches</b>	<b>530,863.68</b>	<b>537,225.16</b>	<b>540,289.30</b>	<b>542,836.66</b>
<b><u>KATAMA AIRPORT</u></b>				
<b>KATAMA AIRPORT</b>				
84. Salaries (2 S)	44,296.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
85. Expense	78,900.00	78,900.00	78,900.00	78,900.00
<b>Total for Katama Airport</b>	<b>123,196.00</b>	<b>128,900.00</b>	<b>128,900.00</b>	<b>128,900.00</b>
<b><u>CEMETERY</u></b>				
<b>CEMETERY DEPARTMENT</b>				
86. Salaries (1 PT)	46,422.65	46,794.27	47,945.28	48,164.52
87. Expense	5,563.00	5,693.25	5,693.25	5,693.25
<b>Total for Cemetery</b>	<b>51,985.65</b>	<b>52,487.52</b>	<b>53,638.53</b>	<b>53,857.77</b>
<b><u>UNCLASSIFIED</u></b>				
88. Insurance-Fire, Liability, Workers' Comp	625,000.00	700,000.00	700,000.00	700,000.00
89. Unemployment Comp. Ins.	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
90. Care of Town Clock	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
91. Annual Town Reports	13,500.00	13,500.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
92. Holidays Expense	17,000.00	24,500.00	24,500.00	24,500.00
93. Ponds Area Advisory Committee Expense	2,750.00	2,750.00	2,750.00	2,750.00
94. Care of Town Flags	6,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
95. Internal & External Audits of Town Accounts	67,704.00	69,395.00	69,395.00	69,395.00
96. Christmas Decorations Expense	55,550.00	78,205.00	78,205.00	78,205.00
97. M.V. Comm. Assessment	807,236.00	914,000.00	914,000.00	914,000.00

	0. Appropriations/ Transfers FY 2026	1. Appropriations Requested FY 2027	2. Appropriations Recommended by Personnel Board (COLA)	3. Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study & COLA
98. MV Cultural Council	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
99. Dukes County Regional Housing	153,661.00	176,253.00	176,253.00	176,253.00
100. Beautification Committee	43,575.00	44,660.00	44,660.00	44,660.00
<b>D.C. RETIREMENT SYSTEM</b>				
101. Pension Fund	2,192,323.00	2,250,210.47	2,250,210.47	2,250,210.47
102. Other Post Employment Benefits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>GROUP INSURANCE</b>				
103. Health - Town Share	4,559,189.00	4,923,924.12	4,923,924.12	4,923,924.12
104. Medicare - Town Share	265,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00	300,000.00
105. Life Ins. - Town Share	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
<b>Total for Unclassified</b>	<b>8,835,488.00</b>	<b>9,536,397.59</b>	<b>9,536,397.59</b>	<b>9,536,397.59</b>
<b><u>INTEREST AND DEBT</u></b>				
<b>PRINCIPAL</b>				
106. Wastewater 2011	11,411.00	11,411.00	11,411.00	11,411.00
107. North Wharf 2024	170,000.00	170,000.00	170,000.00	170,000.00
108. MPL 2015 Series B	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
109. MPL 2016	245,000.00	245,000.00	245,000.00	245,000.00
110. M.V. Senior Center Building (County)	49,312.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
111. GOB 2022	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00
112. GOB 2025	0.00	880,000.00	880,000.00	880,000.00
<b>INTEREST</b>				
113. Wastewater 2011	9,270.50	8,899.64	8,899.64	8,899.64
114. North Wharf 2024	71,700.00	63,200.00	63,200.00	63,200.00
115. MPL 2015 Series B	1,062.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
116. MPL 2016	60,025.00	55,125.00	55,125.00	55,125.00
117. M.V. Senior Center Building (County)	1,232.80	0.00	0.00	0.00
118. GOB 2025	375,487.50	777,725.00	777,725.00	777,725.00
119. GOB 2022	74,250.00	64,250.00	64,250.00	64,250.00
120. Interest Temporary Loans	107,225.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
<b>Totals for Interest and Debt</b>	<b>1,475,976.30</b>	<b>2,485,610.64</b>	<b>2,485,610.64</b>	<b>2,485,610.64</b>
<b>Sub-totals</b>	<b>47,719,863.82</b>	<b>51,180,544.42</b>	<b>51,565,800.42</b>	<b>51,736,952.03</b>

	0. Appropriations/ Transfers FY 2026	1. Appropriations Requested FY 2027	2. Appropriations Recommended by Personnel Board (COLA)	3. Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study & COLA
<b><u>WATER DEPARTMENT (FUND 024)</u></b>				
121. Salaries (8 FT)	783,807.84	794,839.76	819,164.96	832,240.02
122. Expense	780,481.70	900,053.11	900,053.11	900,053.11
123. Principal	267,426.01	273,002.48	273,002.48	273,002.48
124. Interest	140,588.06	130,110.41	130,110.41	130,110.41
<b>Total for Water Department</b>	<b>1,972,303.61</b>	<b>2,098,005.76</b>	<b>2,122,330.96</b>	<b>2,135,406.02</b>
<b>Total Appropriations and Transfers for Fiscal Year 2026</b>	<b>49,692,167.43</b>			
<b>Total Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2027</b>		<b>53,278,550.18</b>		
<b>Total Appropriations Recommended by Personel Board (COLA)</b>			<b>53,688,131.38</b>	
<b>Total Appropriations Recommended by Compensation and Classification Study</b>				<b>53,872,358.05</b>

**WARRANT FOR  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2026**

County of Dukes County, ss:

To either of the Constables in the Town of Edgartown in the County of Dukes County, GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Old Whaling Church (Methodist Church) on Main Street in said Edgartown on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of April, Two Thousand Twenty Six at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the Articles in this Warrant:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$18,500.00 to supplement the Town's Fiscal Year 2026 Veterans' Benefits Account pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 115..

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$20,000.00 to be added to the Town's Fiscal Year 2026 Unemployment Insurance Account.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$38,500.00 to engage the Edward J. Collins, Jr. Center for Public Management at the University of Massachusetts Boston to conduct a comprehensive review of Part 1 (Administrative Legislation) of the Town Code, which governs the Town's executive branch and administrative framework, and to provide recommendations to modernize, clarify, and ensure consistency with best practices and applicable law, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$127,693.55 for exterior preservation and renovation work at the Edgartown Lighthouse, including surface preparation, repairs, protective coatings, inspections, and all related materials, equipment, services, and incidental costs.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$13,323.00 from Free Cash, to fund the replacement of batteries and pads for the Town's Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program

Submitted by the Fire Chief

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$91,000.00 to purchase and equip a new town-owned vessel "Pointer" and, further, to authorize the Harbormaster and Select Board to dispose of the existing vessel "Pointer" in the best interest of the Town.

Submitted by the Harbormaster

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$172,500.00 to supplement the Town's Fiscal Year 2026 Snow and Ice Account due to a deficit resulting from the winter season, and to appropriate \$17,500.00 from Free Cash for tree removal resulting from storm damage, which amount is to be added to the Highway Department expense account.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$39,505.00 to supplement the Edgartown Public Library expense account for Fiscal Year 2026, including costs associated with HVAC repairs and maintenance.

Submitted by the Library Trustees

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$130,000.00 from Free Cash for the repair and replacement of the alarm panel and gym electrical panel at the Edgartown School.

Submitted by Edgartown School

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$45,000.00 from the Water Department's surplus to cover the cost of anticipated overage in electrical expenses due to an unforeseen increase in utility rates, and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water users' charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by Board of Water Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to grant an easement to NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy over or across certain Town-owned land located at or near 40 Robinson Road, for the purpose of installing, operating, maintaining, repairing, replacing, and accessing electric utility infrastructure, including but not limited to a riser pole (185/2.5), underground electric facilities (UG 10461), pull boxes (10461/010, 020, and 030), and pad (10461/040), and further to authorize the Select Board to execute any easement agreement and other documents necessary to

effectuate the same, or take any other action relative thereto.

**2/3 VOTE REQUIRED**

Submitted by the Select Board

**NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by publishing an attested copy thereof in one newspaper having general circulation in said Edgartown, fourteen days, at least, before the time of holding said meeting or by posting it in six or more conspicuous places in Town at least fourteen days before the time of said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of the Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 16th day of March in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Six.

MARGARET E. SERPA, Chair  
ARTHUR SMADBECK  
ALEX MORRISON  
Select Board  
Town of Edgartown

**WARRANT FOR  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
APRIL 14, 2026**

County of Dukes County, ss:

To either of the Constables in the Town of Edgartown in the County of Dukes County, GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Old Whaling Church (Methodist Church) on Main Street in said Edgartown on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of April, Two Thousand Twenty Six at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the Articles in the Special Town Meeting Warrant and the Articles in this Warrant, with the exception of Article One.

And to meet again in the Town Hall Meeting Room, entrance from South Summer Street parking lot, in said Edgartown on Thursday, the sixteenth day of April, Two Thousand Twenty Six at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at the polling place, then and there to act on Article One of the Warrant by the election of Officers on the Official Ballot.

The polls for voting on the Official Ballot will be open at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and shall be closed at seven o'clock in the afternoon.

Answer **YES** or **NO** to the following question.

**Question 1.** Shall the Town of Edgartown be allowed to assess an additional \$900,090.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding education costs, external assessments, and municipal operating expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?

**Question 2.** Shall the Town of Edgartown be allowed to assess an additional \$500,000.00 in real estate and personal

property taxes for the purpose of acquiring the property located at 4 M Daniels Lane, identified as Assessor's Parcel No. 20C-141.1, for municipal purposes, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?

**ARTICLE 1.** To elect the following Officers and on the Official Ballot:

1. One Select Board Member for Three Years
2. One Assessor for Three Years
3. One Board of Health Member for Three Years
4. Two Financial Advisory Committee Members for Three Years
5. Two Library Trustees for Three Years
6. One Library Trustees for One Year
7. One Park Commissioner for Three Years
8. One Planning Board Member for Five Years
9. One Edgartown School Committee Member for Three Years
10. One Edgartown School Committee Member for Two Years
11. One Wastewater Treatment Commissioner for Three Years
12. One Wastewater Treatment Commissioner for One Year
13. One Water Commissioner for Three Years

**ARTICLE 2.** To hear reports of the Town Officers and Committees, and to act thereon and to choose all other necessary Town Officers who are elected from the floor of the Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the annual salary scales of the Classification Plan of the Personnel By-law, so that they reflect a 3.2% increase, which is a cost of living adjustment (COLA) becoming effective July 1, 2026. (Column 2 of operating budget)

Submitted by Personnel Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Law Section 25.0 Edgartown Classification and Salary Plan as follows effective July 1, 2026:

Add the position of Planning and Zoning Administrator Grade I.

Submitted by Personnel Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Classification and Compensation Plan under Personnel By-Law Section 25.0 by adopting the schedules and classifications recommended by MGT Impact Solutions, LLC from the 2025 Classification and Compensation Study, effective July 1, 2026. (Link to final report: [www.edgartown-ma.us/departments/personnel](http://www.edgartown-ma.us/departments/personnel)) (Column 3 of operating budget if Article 3 is voted in the affirmative)

Submitted by the Personnel Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the necessary sums of money to defray the general expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2027, beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and to make appropriations therefor as set forth in the Fiscal Year 2027 operating budget; provided, however, that \$900,090.00 of said appropriations shall be contingent upon the passage of a ballot question under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C authorizing the Town to assess an additional \$900,090.00 for said fiscal year, and such contingent appropriations shall have no force or effect unless and until such question is approved by the voters. (Question 1).

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and set aside for later expenditure from the Community Preservation Fund pursuant to Chapter 44B of the Massachusetts General Laws, Fiscal Year 2027 revenues in the following amounts to the following reserves.

\$165,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Open Space Reserve Fund;

\$165,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Affordable Housing Reserve Fund;

\$165,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Reserve Fund;

\$815,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve;

\$40,000.00 to be appropriated to the Community Preservation Administrative Expenses Account.

Submitted by Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2026 Budgeted Reserve to be paid to The Dukes County Regional Housing Authority to fund the Rental Assistance Program for Edgartown Families for Fiscal Year 2027.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Affordable Housing Reserve Fund the amount of \$166,710.00 and from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2026 Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$74,040.00 for a total of \$240,750.00 to fund 50% of the predevelopment costs for the Edgartown Affordable Housing Committee to develop 294 Chappaquiddick Rd. for Affordable Housing purposes.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the amount of \$114,400.00 to fund the PALS program through The Resource Inc. (TRI). The PALS program will provide interest-free loans to Edgartown families earning less than 100% median income to fund emergency needed structural home repairs to ensure safe and sanitary housing conditions.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2026 Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$113,000.00 to be used for Phase 2 in the creation and support of community housing on a parcel of land owned by the Island Autism Group (IAG) located at 515 Lambert's Cove Rd. in West Tisbury. Phase 2 is the building of two 4-bedroom residential buildings for individuals with autism and autism related disorders, and is permanently deed restricted for affordable housing purposes. This is a regional project for qualifying individuals from all six (6) Island Towns who earn 100% or less of the area wide median income.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the amount of \$66,700.00 and the amount of \$46,300.00 for the total of \$113,000.00 to go toward the School Workforce Housing Project at 40 & 48 Old Courthouse Rd., West Tisbury, an 8-unit rental housing development for Island School Employees.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the sum of \$30,000.00 to Harbor Homes to assist in the renovation of their three properties for use as congregate housing. An affordable housing restriction for each property is required to obtain this funding.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Historic Preservation Fund the amount of \$158,800.00 and from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2026 Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$101,200.00 for the total of \$260,000.00 for the restoration of the Town Hall Windows, the installation of inside storm windows and restoration of the weathervane. The Town Hall was built in 1828 and is in the Historic District as well as on the National Registry of Historic Places. This will preserve the historic architecture of town hall and increase energy efficiency of the interior which is an acceptable use of CPA funding.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2026 Budgeted Reserve the sum of \$200,000.00 to go toward the restoration of part of Osborne’s Wharf (finger pier area) in Edgartown Harbor. Osborne’s Wharf is a part of the historic waterfront of Edgartown and was built in the 1840s.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2026 Budgeted Reserve the sum of \$41,300.00 to the Vineyard Preservation Trust for historic restoration to the front and side of the Gazette Building at 34 S. Summer Street. The Gazette Building was built in the late 1700s by Captain Benjamin Smith—a Revolutionary War militia officer, Town Clerk, and County Sheriff.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 17.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the amount of \$25,000.00 for the restoration of historic grave-stones by the Town Cemetery Department.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 18.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Open Space/Recreation Fund the amount of \$15,000.00 for the Conservation Commission and Parks Department to install “Mobi Mats” at Norton Point to create an area that is more accessible on Norton Point.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 19.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Open Space/Recreation Fund the amount of \$25,000.00 for the Conservation Commission and Parks Department to install kayak racks and provide other improvements to various town landings.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 20.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the amount of \$212,275.00 for capital improvements to the Town’s floating docks including: North Wharf, Finger Piers, The Water Barge, Eel Pond and the Chappy Point Dock.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 21.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Open Space/Recreation Fund the amount of \$151,880.00 and from the Community Preservation Fiscal Year 2026 Budgeted Reserve the amount of \$49,120.00 for the sum of \$201,000.00 to go toward funding the adult work out areas of the Robinson Road Recreation Area development.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 22.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Unbudgeted Reserve the amount of \$76,500.00 to Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary to assist in creating an ADA-compliant All Persons Trail which will provide more access to open space and passive recreation to more of the community.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 23.** To see if the Town will vote to close the following Community Preservation Project Accounts and deposit the funds into the designated Community Preservation Funds. The total sum of this article is \$242,730.

Project Account #	Amount	Fund
34106169	\$40,000.00	Historic Preservation
34106156	\$40,000.00	Historic Preservation
34106163	\$30,210.00	Affordable Housing
34106177	\$132,520.00	Affordable Housing
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$242,730.00</b>	

*This Article funds the following one (1) CPC article. If it does not pass, that article will need to be indefinitely postponed.*

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 24.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Affordable Housing Fund the amount of \$132,500.00 for the Island Housing Trust affordable housing project in conjunction with the Town of West Tisbury for 8 units at 401 State Rd. in West Tisbury. The funding includes preference for at least one unit be given to a qualifying Edgartown Resident.

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 25.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$95,000.00 to pay the cost of the Fourth of July Fireworks.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 26.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2026, the sum of \$20,000.00 to provide funds for an integrated pest management program as needed by various departments.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 27.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$350,000.00 to the Town’s General Purpose Stabilization Fund under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, effective for Fiscal Year 2027 beginning on July 1, 2026, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 28.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, from Free Cash, the sum of \$80,000.00 to engage the University of Massachusetts Amherst Donahue Institute to conduct an analysis of the Short-Term Rental market in Edgartown, including housing and tourism data analysis and preparation of findings to inform municipal policy, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 29.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, from Free Cash, the sum of \$100,000.00 for capital improvements at the Edgartown Lighthouse property, including site improvements and the removal and management of invasive plant species, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 30.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$120,000.00, to engage a firm for a comprehensive 20-year Capital Needs Assessment of all town-owned buildings, providing a detailed evaluation of current conditions and a strategic plan for repairs, maintenance, and upgrades.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 31.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, from Free Cash, the sum of \$80,000.00 for HVAC improvements at Town Hall, including system upgrades and related work to improve efficiency, reliability, and building performance, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 32.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the

sum of \$390,000.00 to fund the Town’s Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability.

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 33.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000,000.00 for the purpose of acquiring the property known as the Martha’s Vineyard Boys & Girls Club property, located at 4 M Daniels Lane, Edgartown, Massachusetts, identified as Assessor’s Parcel No. 20C-141.1, together with any buildings and improvements thereon, and to pay costs incidental and related thereto, including but not limited to appraisal, survey, environmental review, legal, recording, and other real estate transaction costs, for municipal purposes; and to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow said sum, or take any other action relative thereto. That \$2,000,000.00 of said sum be appropriated from the Town’s Capital Stabilization Fund established pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B; That \$500,000.00 of said sum be appropriated from Certified Free Cash; And that \$500,000.00 of said sum be raised and appropriated; provided, however, that the appropriation of said \$500,000.00 shall be contingent upon the passage of a ballot question under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C authorizing an override in said amount, and this portion of the appropriation shall have no force or effect unless and until such ballot question is approved by the voters. (Question 2).

**2/3 VOTE REQUIRED**

Submitted by the Select Board

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 34.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$40,000.00 to be used for valuation updates of real and personal property, revaluations, and Department of Revenue Recertification.

Submitted by the Board of Assessors

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 35.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Sale of Cemetery Lots Sold Fund (Fund 3001) the sum of \$30,000.00 for the purchase and installation of shade and screening trees in the New Westside Cemetery for Fiscal Year 2027; and further, to transfer the sum of \$40,000 from said Fund (3001) to a continued appropriation for the expansion of the New Westside Cemetery; or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Cemetery Commission

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 36.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$51,000.00 for the annual rent and taxes for the property known as the “Hall Memorial Park” located at 50 Main Street.

Submitted by the Conservation Commission

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 37.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the remaining balance of \$65,800.00 from Article #32 of the April 8, 2025 Town Meeting for the purpose of funding the Town’s match or in-kind contribution toward planning and future coastal management efforts, including long-term resource protection, adaptation, and planning initiatives.

Submitted by the Conservation Commission

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 38.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$285,000.00 for exterior capital repairs and improvements to the Council on Aging building, including interior repairs, siding replacement, related building envelope repairs, associated exterior work, professional design services, construction administration, and all incidental and related costs associated therewith.

Submitted by the Council on Aging

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 39.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$75,000.00 from Free Cash to fund permitting, engineering, and regulatory compliance costs associated with the Town’s Comprehensive Dredging Permit.

Submitted by the Dredge Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 40.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available Free Cash the sum of \$554,256.00 to support regional human services programs in Fiscal Year 2027, with said funds to be distributed under the direction and control of the Selectboard, provided that this appropriation shall be contingent upon each of the other towns of Dukes County voting to fund their proportionate share of these programs for Fiscal Year 2027, with each of the following items to be considered a separate appropriation:

1. Dukes County Health & Human Services (including the Dukes County Health Care Access and Public Benefits Access programs) – \$234,428.00
2. Harbor Homes Martha’s Vineyard – Homelessness Prevention Program – \$31,021.00
3. Martha’s Vineyard Center for Living – \$213,362.00
4. Martha’s Vineyard Community Services – CORE Program – \$31,641.00
5. Healthy Aging Martha’s Vineyard – \$43,804.00.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 41.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$49,705.00 to support transportation program for Chappaquiddick Older Adults (60+ years old) offered by Healthy Aging MV in collaboration with the Edgartown Council on Aging through Dukes County in accordance with an Inter-municipal Agreement, as the same may be amended from time to time, or take any action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 42.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$59,323.00 to support the Dukes County Veterans Services pursuant to Chapter 128 of the Acts of 1982.

Submitted by Dukes County Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 43.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$28,905.00 for a new handicap ramp at the Dukes County Health Care Access Building at 114 New York Ave, Oak Bluffs, to support the planning, construction, and other related work as necessary.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 44.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$19,270.00 as the apportioned share of the County budget supplemental income revenue. The funding is contingent on all Island towns paying for such costs in Fiscal Year 2027.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Unanimous)**

**ARTICLE 45.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$46,248.00 for the Dukes County Courthouse, 81 Main Street, Edgartown, to support roof repair, trim paint, and related activities as necessary. The funding is contingent on all Island towns paying for such costs in Fiscal Year 2027.

Submitted by the Dukes County Commissioners

**NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Recommended by two members; not recommended by five members)**

**ARTICLE 46.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$55,579.41 to support the maintenance costs of the Martha’s Vineyard Public Safety Communication System in accordance with the Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Communications and Dispatch Services. The funding is contingent on all Island Towns paying for such costs in Fiscal Year 2027 according to the agreed upon dispatch and fixed cost formula.

Submitted by the Dukes County Sheriff

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 47.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$6,720.00, to purchase a Turbodraft fire educator and associated hose for its operation. This will allow for the Fire Department to access water in remote areas from sources previously not accessible.

Submitted by the Fire Chief

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 48.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$59,788.87, to replace two LUCAS CPR compression devices that are beyond their

service life and are no longer supported by the manufacturer.

Submitted by the Fire Chief

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 49.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$100,000.00 to the Fire Truck Stabilization Fund under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, effective for Fiscal Year 2027 beginning on July 1, 2026, or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Fire Chief

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 50.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$15,425.00 to fund the Town of Edgartown's share of the administrative expenses for the All Island School Committee's contract for Adult and Community Education.

Submitted by MV Superintendent's Office and MV Center for Education and Training (MVCET, formerly ACE MV)

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 51.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$87,000.00 for the maintenance and replacement of moorings, buoys, docks, spiles, tie-off stakes, floats, walkways, and equipment necessary for marine operations on Town owned docks and property.

Submitted by the Harbormaster

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 52.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate funds from Receipts Reserved for Waterways, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$10,000.00 for the disposal and associated cleanup of abandoned vessels, gear, and trailers from Town-owned properties and landings.

Submitted by the Harbormaster

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 53.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$400,000.00 for the rebuilding and resurfacing of various Town streets.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 54.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$30,000.00 to clean the catch basins, culverts and other storm water drainage systems.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 55.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept and enter into contracts for the expenditure of any funds allotted by the Commonwealth for the construction, reconstruction, and improvements of the Town infrastructure, and to authorize the Select Board

to borrow in anticipation of the reimbursement of funds. (Chapter 303, Acts of 2008), in the amount of \$389,967.97.

Submitted by the Highway Superintendent

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 56.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$175,000.00 to fund additional per diem inspectors for gas, plumbing, electrical, fire, building, and short-term rental inspections. This appropriation is intended to supplement Line 49 of the operating budget.

Submitted by the Inspector of Buildings

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 57.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$85,000.00 to be used for the rental and maintenance of the portable toilets at South Beach, Robinson Road Recreation Area, and the Park and Ride lot.

Submitted by the Parks Commissioner

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 58.** To see if the Town shall authorize a spending limit of \$500,000.00 to be expended from the Beach Management Revolving Fund for the Fiscal Year 2027 beginning on July 1, 2026 or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Parks Commissioner

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 59.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$161,358.00 to purchase and equip a new police cruiser, and an unmarked police cruiser, and further, to authorize the Chief of Police and Select Board to dispose of existing the cruisers in the best interest of the Town.

Submitted by the Police Chief

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 60.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$110,000.00 to remove invasive vegetation from the Mattakesett Herring Creek for Town Pond health, fish passage, and storm water drainage.

Submitted by the Shellfish Committee

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 61.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$70,000.00 from the Water Department's surplus to fund the replacement of aged water meters so as to improve conservation efforts and water accountability; and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 62.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$90,000.00 from the Water Department's

surplus for improvements necessary for the town's water system in Fiscal Year 2027 including the installation, replacement, cleaning and relining of water mains and appurtenances; installation and replacement of water service lines and water meters; construction equipment; vehicles; construction and restoration of pump stations, wells, water treatment and quality processes; construction and restoration of the office, standpipe and other structures, buildings, grounds and facilities and operations and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 63.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$95,000.00 from the Water Department's surplus to cover the cost of inspecting, cleaning and repairs to a municipal well, and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 64.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 from the Water Department's surplus to cover the cost of water main / water service replacement prior to road reconstruction projects, and for costs incidental and related thereto. This article will have no impact on water user's charges or the tax rate. Water surplus funds will finance this purpose.

Submitted by the Board of Water Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 65.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$28,118.00 to replace the current standard truck bed on the Wastewater Department's Chevrolet Silverado with a service truck bed, and to install emergency warning lights and a backup enunciator for a service vehicle.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 66.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$26,200.00 for the review and update of the Town's Wastewater Rules and Regulations.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 67.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash, for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2027, the sum of \$71,400.00 for the Wastewater Department's Equipment and Collection System Maintenance account.

Submitted by the Wastewater Commissioners

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 68.** To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 61-4 of the General By-laws (also known as the Edgartown Code) by deleting the existing provisions and replacing it with an amended provision, as follows:

Existing Provision: General Bylaws: 61-4. False alarms. Whoever owns a residence or building and has a burglar alarm or fire alarm shall not have more than two (2) false/trouble alarms per calendar year. False/trouble alarms caused by thunder storms, hurricanes, certain power outages and other valid situations, as determined by the Police Chief or Fire Chief, shall be exempt from this section. The Police Chief or Fire Chief will notify the owner and his caretaker (if known) by mail each at his place of residence for each offense. Whoever violates this section shall be punished by a fine of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for the first offense, fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the second through fifth offenses and one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the sixth and subsequent offenses. Municipally owned buildings shall be exempt from this section

Amended Provision: General Bylaws: 61-4. Whoever owns a residence or building that has a reporting burglar alarm or fire alarm that initiates a Fire Department or Police Department dispatch shall not have more than two (2) non-emergency false/trouble alarms per calendar year. False/trouble alarms caused by thunder storms, hurricanes, certain power outages or other situations as determined by the Police Chief or Fire Chief, shall be exempt from this section. False alarms caused by construction, Fire protection system maintenance or systems deemed unreliable shall be addressed by fines issued concurrent with 527-CMR 1 and Chapter 148. The Police Chief or Fire Chief will notify the owner of offenses by mail at the address on file in the Town of Edgartown assessors office. Whoever violates this section shall be punished by a fine of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) for the first offense, two hundred and seventy five (\$275.00) for the second through fifth offenses and three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for the sixth and subsequent offenses. Each dispatch to non-emergency false/trouble alarms constitutes a separate offense. Municipally owned buildings are exempt from this section.

Submitted by the Fire Chief

**RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 69.** To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 55-7 of the General By-laws (also known as the Edgartown Code) by deleting the existing provisions and replacing it with an amended provision, as follows:

Existing Provision: General Bylaws: 55-7. Quorum requirements. At any meeting of the inhabitants of the town qualified to vote in town affairs, the number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum shall consist of a number of voters equivalent to not less than five percent (5%) of

the registered voters of the town as of the time of said meeting, but a number less than a quorum may from time to time adjourn such meetings. This chapter shall not apply to meetings or parts of meetings as are devoted exclusively to the election of town officers

Amended Provision: General Bylaws: 55-7. Quorum requirements. At any meeting of the inhabitants of the town qualified to vote in town affairs, the number of voters necessary to constitute a quorum shall consist of a number of voters equivalent to not less than two and one half percent (2.5%) of the registered voters of the town as of the time of said meeting, but a number less than a quorum may from time to time adjourn such meetings. This chapter shall not apply to meetings or parts of meetings as are devoted exclusively to the election of town officers.

Submitted by the Select Board

**NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR MOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 70.** To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 1.3 of its Zoning Bylaw by changing the defined term “Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)” to “Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU),” putting the new defined term in its correct alphabetic location in Section 1.3, deleting the term “Livable Floor Space,” changing “Livable Floor Space” to “Gross Floor Area” throughout the Bylaw, and making other changes to Section 1.3, as follows, striking the text that is shown as ~~struck through~~ and inserting new text that is shown as underlined, or take any other action relative thereto:

**Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)** As defined in G. L. Ch 40A, § 1A, an Protected Use ADU is a self-contained housing unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a principal dwelling, subject to otherwise applicable dimensional and parking requirements, that: (i) maintains a separate entrance, either directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the principal dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress; (ii) is not larger in gross floor area than ½ the gross floor area of the principal dwelling or 900 square feet, whichever is smaller; and (iii) is subject to such additional restrictions as may be imposed by this Bylaw.

**Cottage Dwelling** A detached one-family dwelling that does not exceed 1,400 sq. ft. of livable gross floor area (~~meaning the heated floor area of the building above finished grade, excluding non-dwelling areas such as attic space or a garage~~).

**Detached bedroom** In any district in Edgartown, a detached bedroom is defined as either a freestanding structure or over or otherwise attached to a non-habitable accessory structure and all of the following:

- a. only one bedroom and bathroom(s) only
- b. no sitting rooms, no entrance alcoves, no hallways
- c. ~~the footprint, measured by the inside perimeter of the proposed livable space, is no larger than 400 square feet (includes bathroom and closets) and including enclosed porches. the footprint is no larger than 400 sq ft of gross floor area~~
- d. plumbing in the bathroom only and limited to one hand sink, one toilet, and one bathtub/shower
- e. no stove or refrigerator

**Gross Floor Area** The sum of the ~~horizontal~~ areas of all stories of a building, ~~or several buildings,~~ as measured from the ~~exterior~~ interior face of exterior walls, or from the center line of ~~a party~~ walls separating two buildings on the same lot. Gross Floor Area for a single lot shall include basements connected by an interior stair, lofts, and intermediate floored tiers, but shall exclude crawl spaces, garage parking areas, attics, enclosed porches and similar spaces, garages, sheds, gazebos, enclosed porches, screen porches, enclosed decks, guest buildings, and other accessory buildings. Gross Floor Area shall not include ~~unfinished basements, crawl spaces, attics, open porches, or open decks.~~<sup>30</sup>

**Guest House** is a subordinate dwelling to the principal dwelling on a lot that is not a Protected Use ADU.

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED

Submitted by the Planning Board

**NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 71.** To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 5.1.C.1, Section 5.1.D.1, and the title of Section 5.1.E of its Zoning Bylaw as follows, striking the text that is shown as ~~struck through~~ and inserting new text that is shown as underlined, or take any other action relative thereto:

#### **5.1.C. Permitted Uses**

1. **Shore Zone:** Only those uses ~~permitted in Section 8.4.A. and~~ which are consistent with the fragile nature of the area such as: ~~outdoor recreation, agriculture, fishing, and conservation purposes.~~
  - a) Fishing and shellfishing, including the raising and cultivation of fish and shellfish.
  - b) Forestry, grazing and farming, nurseries, truck gardening and harvesting of crops including but not limited to such crops as cranberries, marsh hay, seaweed, berries and shrub fruits and trees, and work incidental thereto.
  - c) Conservation of soil, water, plants and wildlife.
  - d) Outdoor activities including hiking, swimming, boating, nature study, fishing, trapping, and hunting.

- e) Drainage works which are part of local flood and mosquito control conducted by an authorized public agency.
- f) Uses accessory to residential or other primary uses, such as flower or vegetable gardens, lawns, pastures, or forestry areas.
- g) Public or publicly authorized beach stabilization projects.
- h) Alterations, renovations, or repair to an existing structure, as defined in the Building Code (780 CMR, 10th Edition).

**5.1.D. Conditionally Permitted Uses**

The Planning Board may grant a Special Permit in accordance with Sec. 17.5.c.

1. **Shore Zone:** The following uses: As in Section 8.4.b. of the Zoning Bylaw except that municipal uses must be associated with beach stabilization or drainage projects.
  - a) Non-residential buildings or structures to be used only in conjunction with fishing, shell-fishing, the growing, harvesting and storage of crops raised on the premises, and the storage of boats and boat equipment.
  - b) Dams, changes in water courses, or other drainage works only as a part of an overall drainage plan constructed or authorized by a public agency.
  - c) The superficial clearing of areas of private beach and filling or replenishment thereof in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 782 and 784, Acts of 1972 and Chapter 91 of the General Laws.
  - d) Fabricated walks or trails, docks, and landings for private use.
  - e) Any relocation or reconstruction of an existing structure, provided the proposed work does not increase the gross floor area of any building by more than 10% of its size as of May 20, 1981.

**5.1.E. ~~Regulations and Restrictions of the Underlying Development Regulations~~**

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED  
 Submitted by the Planning Board  
**NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 72.** To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 2.1.B.11 of its Zoning Bylaw by adding the new text that is show as underlines, or take any other action relative thereto:

More than two, but fewer than six, separate commercial events per calendar year that comprise a gathering of 50 or more persons on a single lot *comprising* three or more acres of land, including the service of food and/or beverages, such as rentals for wedding or graduation parties, other celebrations, or other congregations of persons.

*This conditionally permitted use shall not apply to pre-existing nonconforming commercial uses, nor shall it be construed to permit the increase of a pre-existing nonconforming commercial use lawfully in existence.*

A special permit shall be issued with any conditions imposed by the Board to minimize disruption to the neighborhood, and only upon a finding that the following criteria are satisfied:

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED  
 Submitted by the Petition  
**NEITHER RECOMMENDED NOR NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by publishing an attested copy thereof in one newspaper having general circulation in said Edgartown, seven days, at least, before the time of holding said meeting or by posting it in six or more conspicuous places in Town at

least seven days before the time of said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of the Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 6th day of March in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Six.

MARGARET E. SERPA, Chair  
 ARTHUR SMADBECK  
 ALEX MORRISON

SELECT BOARD  
 Town of Edgartown

# TOWN MEETING PROCEDURE GUIDELINES

**The Moderator** has absolute control of the Town Meeting.

**The General Laws Chapter 39 Section 15:** The Moderator shall preside and regulate the proceedings, decide all questions of order, and make public declaration of all votes. The Moderator recognizes speakers from the floor, and while they are speaking allows no interruptions except when a point of order is raised.

**When a voter wishes to speak** he may rise, say “Mr. Moderator,” and wait for recognition. Then, standing at a microphone, he should give his name. The voter may continue, with due regard to reasonable brevity, as long as he speaks directly to the question under discussion.

## MOTIONS

**MAIN** motions are usually on articles in the Town Warrant. They are made, seconded, then open for consideration. Articles are not always brought before the Meeting in the order of their appearance in the Warrant.

**SECONDARY motions** are motions which refer to main motions. The Meeting is usually limited to the discussion of two secondary motions at one time. Secondary motions usually amend, postpone, or limit consideration.

## AMEND

**Amendments** may be offered by any voter to the motion under discussion, provided the scope of the original motion is not enlarged or altered. Amendments are seconded and discussed; they require a majority vote to carry (pass). An amendment need not be voted upon if the proposed change is agreeable to the proponents of the original motion. Voters are encouraged to submit amendments in writing.

## POSTPONE

1. **To refer to committee “Commit”;** If changes in a main motion are numerous, take much time, or require additional information, it is wise to commit the article to a committee. This secondary motion should specify which board or committee. If proposing a new committee, specify how many members, how appointments are to be made and when the committee should report.
2. **Postpone to a definite time;** defers action on a main motion to a stated hour, usually during the Meeting. At the hour specified, it is returned to the floor when a motion is made that the deferred article be considered.
3. **“Lay on Table”** intends to temporarily lay aside an article. Not debatable; majority vote carries. (To “Take from Table” see RECONSIDERATION.) An article not taken from table before the meeting adjourns is dead. To be considered at a subsequent meeting, it must reappear in the Warrant for that meeting.
4. **“Take no action” “Pass over” “ Postpone indefinitely”** are debatable motions and require majority vote. The intent is to defeat the motion.

## LIMIT CONSIDERATION

1. **Limit Debate:** This secondary motion requests vote to be taken at a specific time. Requires 2/3 majority vote.
2. **“Move the Previous Question”** demands an immediate vote on any motions under consideration. May not be debated or amended. Requires 2/3 vote to carry.

## POINT OF ORDER

**If a voter questions the legality** or propriety of the proceedings, he may rise, interrupt the speaker and say, “Mr. Moderator, I rise to a point of order” or “question of privilege”.

## RECONSIDERATION

**To consider a tabled motion** “Take from Table”. The motion to consider a tabled question requires a majority vote and can be made at any time when no other question is before the Meeting.

### TO RECONSIDER AN ARTICLE ONCE ACTED UPON AND DISPOSED OF

1. **Move to reconsider the vote:** This motion may be made by one who voted on the prevailing side of a motion which has been adopted, rejected or postponed indefinitely and wishes to change his views.
2. **To rescind.** If no one who voted on the prevailing side is willing to move to reconsider, any voter may move to rescind the vote on the main motion. Usually a 2/3 vote is required.

### VOTES ON MAIN MOTIONS

1. Usually majority of those attending carries.

**Exceptions:**

**2/3 majority vote required** borrowing of money; appropriations for land purchase; land purchase for public domain; sale or abandonment of unneeded land; abandonment of projects for which money has been borrowed; appropriation for celebration of settlement or incorporation; zoning by-laws.

**4/5 usually required** payment of a bill for which insufficient appropriations were made in previous year.

## MODERATOR’S RULES REGARDING TOWN MEETINGS

Priority shall be given to Registered Voters of the Town for admission to all Town Meetings, whether Annual or Special meetings. Therefore the following rules shall apply:

1. Prior to admission to the Hall, persons desiring admittance shall check in with the Registrars of Voters who shall be present at the main entrance with Voter Registration Lists.
2. Town officials and voters who desire to have a non-voter present to speak on any article of which he may have special knowledge or expertise should request the Moderator in writing at least seven days prior to the meeting that the non-voter be allowed to be present. The request should briefly state the subject matter and articles to which the non-voter desires to address the meeting. If the Moderator allows the non-voter to be present, he shall so inform the Registrars of Voters.
3. The Registrars of Voters shall admit to the meeting all duly registered voters of the Town and all persons whom the Moderator has informed them to admit.
4. Five minutes prior to the time the meeting is scheduled to begin, if there are sufficient seats for the registered voters present, plus an adequate reserve for later arriving voters, the Registrars may admit non-voters. Admitted non-voters shall not mingle with registered voters. They shall be seated in an area distinguishable from the remainder of the meeting so that the Tellers and Moderator can easily determine those who have a right to vote and those who do not.
5. Non-voters admitted to a Town Meeting shall not address the Meeting without the permission of the Moderator and shall make no remarks or comments during debate or participate in voting.

The Moderator retains the right to have any voter or non-voter removed from the Meeting.

# **TOWN MEETING TERMINOLOGY**

## **CHERRY SHEET**

This is a cherry red form which shows all of the State and County charges and reimbursements to the Town as certified by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

## **RESERVE FUND**

This fund may be established by the voters at an ANNUAL TOWN MEETING or Special Town Meeting and may be composed of (a) an appropriation (not exceeding 5% of the tax levy of the preceding year), (b) money transferred from Overlay Reserve, or (c) both.

Any unexpired balance thereof at the end of the year is closed out to the surplus revenue (E & D) except, however, that from such balance there shall first be deducted and credited back to Overlay Reserve, to the extent possible, a sum equal to that amount, if any, which was appropriated from the Reserve Fund.

Transfers from the Reserve Fund are within the exclusive control of the Financial Advisory Committee.

## **STABILIZATION FUND**

A fund set up by Town meeting vote under the provisions of Section 5b, Chapter 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws, not to exceed 10% of the amount raised in the preceding fiscal year by taxation of Real Estate and Tangible Personal Property. The aggregate amount in the fund at any time shall not exceed 10% of the equalized valuation of the Town. Any interest shall be added to and become a part of the fund. Appropriations from this fund may be made for any purpose. A two-thirds vote is required.

## **SURPLUS REVENUE - FREE CASH**

Generally referred to as Excess and Deficiency, though that phrase nowhere appears in the statutes. This fund represents the amount by which Cash, Accounts Receivable and other floating assets exceed the liabilities and reserves. This amount of the Excess and Deficiency account over and above uncollected taxes of prior years constitutes "Free Cash" or "Available Funds" and is certified to the Town by the Director of Accounts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, effective July first of each year.



**EARLY / ABSENTEE  
OFFICIAL BALLOT  
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
EDGARTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS  
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2026**

*Aaron R. Medina*  
TOWN CLERK

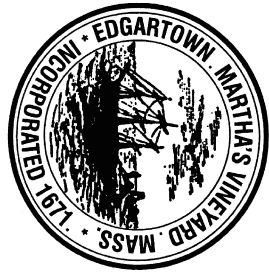
**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●  
 B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.  
 C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name and address on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p align="center"><b>SELECTBOARD</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>JULIA THEODORA TARKA</b>      <input type="radio"/>  <small>24 Clevelandtown Road</small></p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for TWO</p> <p><b>DAVID A. FABER</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>111 North Bog Road</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p><b>DENISE L. SEARLE</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>3 North Bog Road</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>
<p align="center"><b>BOARD OF ASSESSORS</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>ALAN CLYDE GOWELL</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>52 Third Street North</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>LIBRARY TRUSTEES</b></p> <p>One Year                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>MARISA BONIFACE</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>85 Saddle Club Road</small></p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>Two Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>CHRISTOPHER SHANNON GREENE</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>40 Pine Street</small></p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>
<p align="center"><b>BOARD OF HEALTH</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>GRETCHEN ELIOT REGAN</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>24 Louis Field Road</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>PARK COMMISSIONER</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>JANE MARIE VARKONDA</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>21 Meetinghouse Hill</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMISSIONER</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>SCOTT ALLEN ELLIS</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>26 Hye Road</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>
<p align="center"><b>FINANCIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for TWO</p> <p><b>LESLIE JOHN BAYNES</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>433 Edgartown Road</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p><b>DONNA MARIE LOWELL-BETTENCOURT</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>46 Mill Hill Road Ext.</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>PLANNING BOARD</b></p> <p>Five Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>JULIET K. MULINARE</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>4 Tower Lane</small></p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>	<p align="center"><b>WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMISSIONER</b></p> <p>One Year                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>GORDON THOMAS BROWN</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>138 Katama Road</small></p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>
		<p align="center"><b>WATER COMMISSIONER</b></p> <p>Three Years                      Vote for ONE</p> <p><b>DAVID MARTIN BURKE</b>                      <input type="radio"/>  <small>17 Mill Hill Road</small>                      Candidate for Re-Election</p> <p>(Write-in)                      <input type="radio"/></p>
<b>BALLOT QUESTIONS</b>		
<p><b>QUESTION 1.</b> Shall the Town of Edgartown be allowed to assess an additional \$900,090.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding education costs, external assessments, and municipal operating expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?</p> <p align="right">YES   <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="right">NO   <input type="radio"/></p>		
<p><b>QUESTION 2.</b> Shall the Town of Edgartown be allowed to assess an additional \$500,000.00 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of acquiring the property located at <u>4 M Daniels Lane</u>, identified as Assessor's Parcel No. 20C-141.1, for municipal purposes, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026?</p> <p align="right">YES   <input type="radio"/></p> <p align="right">NO   <input type="radio"/></p>		







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