



TOWN OF BERKLEY

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Debt Exclusion

May 7, 2022 Annual Town Election Ballot question; Shall the Town of Berkley be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond and/or note issued in order to fund certain capital expenditures, namely two (2) police cruisers for the Police Department, two (2) plow sanders, a water trailer, a lift and a street sweeper for the Highway Department, a new heating system for the Public Safety Building and two (2) tabulators for the Town Clerk, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto?

This is a 2-vote process; if passed on Saturday May 7, 2022 it will be placed on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant on Monday June 6, 2022.

Below is the list of equipment and other expenses that the Debt Exclusion, if it passes, would fund; and, as to aging equipment, what will be replaced:

2 Police Cruisers to replace 2 2013 Ford Interceptor SUVs; both vehicles as of 2/17/2022 were approaching 100,000 miles. The recommendation for police cruisers has a shelf life of 100,000 miles

Water Trailer for the Highway Department to assist the street sweepers that use between 600 to 900 gallons of water per day. The equipment that was used previously was a 1951 Ford fire truck which has been decommissioned due to safety reasons.

2 Six Wheel Large Plow and Sanding Trucks these will be replacing a 1973 Ford and 1988 Ford.

Street Sweeper the Town currently has 2 this equipment will be replacing a 1986 street sweeper

Public Safety Building heating system, our current system is from 1997 and was not built for a commercial building. During the winter months the system failed on several occasions.

2 Tabulators for the Town Clerk to replace 2 current tabulators that are over 20 years old

The above equipment and maintenance needs will cost the Town approximately \$1,000,000.00. The Board of Selectmen as well as the Town Administrator is looking to purchase some of the above mentioned items, through the ARPA Federal Grant the Town has received. This could reduce the amount the Town will need to borrow, which will be determined prior to Town Meeting. The estimated Tax increase on a 3-year debt exclusion, with an estimated 3% interest rate at today's FY22 real estate valuation is approximately \$0.34/thousand or \$34.00/one hundred thousand.

Example: Average valuation house for FY22 is \$421,062 estimated tax increase \$143.16/year \$35.79/quarter or \$11.93/month these are all approximate numbers based on today's tax rate and valuation.

A “no” vote at either Annual Town Election and/or Annual Town Meeting means the Town will not move forward with bond for the purchase of the above-mentioned items

A “yes” vote at both Annual Town Election and Annual Town Meeting means the Town will move forward to secure bonding in the purchase of the above-mentioned items.