MEDWAY DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE

2026 Fall Town Meeting

Monday, November 9, 2026 · 7:00 PM
Medway High School Auditorium, 88 Summer Street

AT A GLANCE

A short warrant with one very large item

14
articles in one session

$6.4M
in dollar amounts across the warrant

$4.0M
in Article 2 alone, 62% of the total

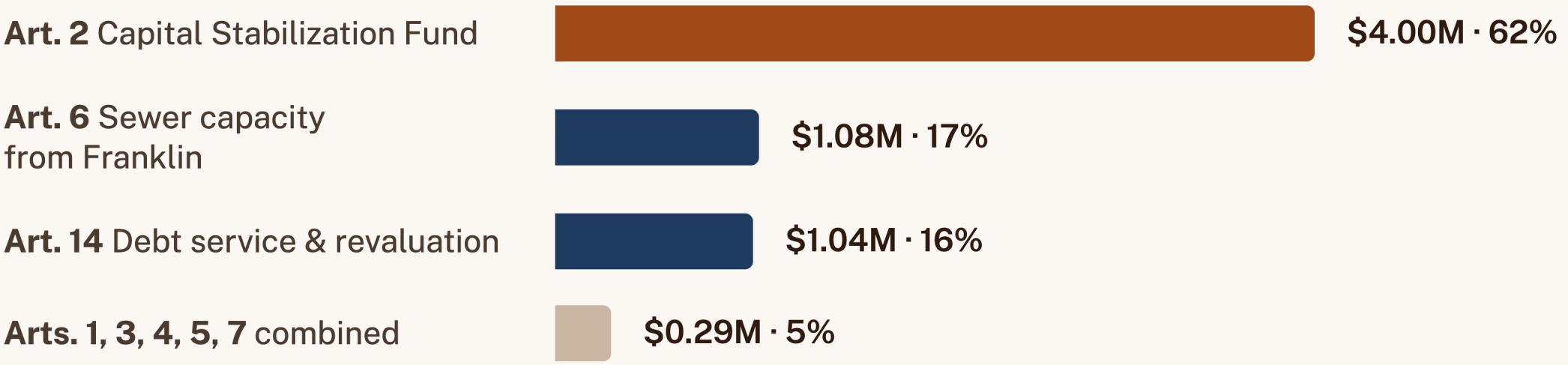
3
articles without a full “Approve” (12, 13, 14)

Four zoning articles (9, 10, 11, 13) generally need a **two-thirds** vote. Paying last year’s bills (Article 1) needs **nine-tenths**.

Source: Signed Fall Town Meeting warrant, October 23, 2026 · 2

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Three articles hold 95% of the dollars



Total of all dollar amounts on the warrant: $6,407,047. Bars are drawn to scale.

Source: Signed Fall Town Meeting warrant · 3

ARTICLES 2–5 · FREE CASH

About $4.27M of last year’s surplus is put to use

Article	What it does	Amount
2	Into the Capital Stabilization Fund	$4,000,000
3	Into the General Stabilization Fund	$100,000
4	Into the Special Education Stabilization Fund	$64,000
5	Fire radio grant match, Housing Production Plan, Senior Center fire panel	$103,533

The Town Manager put FY27 Free Cash at about **$7.7M**, which would leave roughly **$3.4M** after this warrant.

Sources: Warrant; Select Board minutes, Oct 5, 2026 (Town Manager’s Report) · 4

ARTICLE 2 · $4,000,000 · MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

Town officials have tied this transfer to the proposed Municipal Complex

What it’s for

Per the Town Manager, to offset future debt payments on the major municipal facilities project, and to help with rising vehicle and equipment costs.

What it doesn’t do

It does not approve the project. It moves money into a reserve. Spending from that reserve takes a separate two-thirds Town Meeting vote.

What comes next

Funding to build the Municipal Complex is expected to be voted on in **spring 2027**.

Source: Select Board minutes, Oct 5, 2026 (Town Manager’s Report; Municipal Complex contracts) · 5

ARTICLE 2 · QUESTIONS WORTH ASKING

What we don’t know yet

1. If Free Cash is about $7.7M, what is planned for the roughly $3.4M left over?
2. How much of the Municipal Complex’s future debt is this reserve meant to cover, and over how many years?
3. What will the Capital Stabilization Fund balance be after this transfer?
4. If the project is not approved in spring 2027, what would this money be used for?

A note on the minutes: the draft Oct 5 minutes say $4,167,000 to “facility stabilization”; the approved minutes say $1 million to “general stabilization.” The warrant, which is what Town Meeting votes on, says $4,000,000 to Capital Stabilization (Art. 2) and $100,000 to General Stabilization (Art. 3).

Sources: Select Board minutes, Oct 5, 2026 (approved and draft); warrant · 6

ARTICLE 6 · $1,075,000 · SEWER CAPACITY

Buying 150,000 gallons a day of sewer capacity from Franklin

Full cost: $1,575,000 at $10.50 per gallon, negotiated down from $15.07. Brings Medway to just over 1.1 million gallons per day.



$500,000
39 Main St. development agreement account

$800,000 from sewer savings, to be paid back by the Heritage on Main developer at building and occupancy permits

$275,000
sewer savings

Article 6 is the $1,075,000 from sewer savings (retained earnings), not taxes. Officials described it as planning for long-term growth, not a current need.

Sources: Warrant; Select Board minutes, Sep 21 and Oct 5, 2026 · 7

ARTICLE 14 · $1,040,000 · RAISED ON THE TAX LEVY

$1M more for this year’s debt payments, $40K for revaluation

Rough estimate

≈ $26

per $100,000 of assessed value, about 1.8% of last year’s levy

Assessed value	About
$500,000	$129
$600,000	$155
$700,000	$181
$800,000	$207

An illustration, not a tax-bill projection. FY27 rates and values aren’t set, and the effect depends on room under the Prop 2½ limit. Finance Committee: no recommendation yet when the warrant was signed.

Sources: Warrant; FY26 levy $56,364,170 (FinCom report); FY26 rate $14.00/$1,000 (Assessing Dept.) · 8

ARTICLES 1, 7, 8 · ROUTINE BUSINESS

Small items, mostly reusing approved money

Art.	What it does	Amount
1	Pays two unpaid DPW fuel bills from last year. Needs a 9/10 vote.	$1,407.48
7	Moves leftovers from 2022 and 2024 library ventilation projects to Library HVAC repairs. No new money.	$23,106.64
8	Lets the remaining Medway Link Trail CPA balance be used on any Town trail project. No new money.	$17,496.78

Select Board and Finance Committee recommend **Approve** on all three.

Source: Signed Fall Town Meeting warrant · 9

ARTICLES 9–11 · ZONING · TWO-THIRDS VOTE

Three zoning updates from the Planning Board

9 · Nonconforming uses

Follows state law. Permits protected 24 months (was 12). Homes nonconforming only for lot size or frontage can expand without a ZBA finding if they meet height and setbacks. Unused uses keep status 4 years (was 2).

10 · Trail signs

Adds a sign category for trails in residential districts. Small wayfinding and trail-marker signs need no permit. One freestanding and one projecting sign per trail parking area.

11 · Housekeeping

Cleans up two definitions, updates a state clean-energy permitting reference, and simplifies the Oak Grove Park design guideline reference.

Select Board and Finance Committee recommend **Approve** on all three.

Source: Signed Fall Town Meeting warrant · 10

ARTICLES 12–13 · CITIZENS' PETITIONS

Two petitions on automated license plate readers

Article 12

Amend General Bylaws
(Municipal ALPR Ban)

Recommendation	
Select Board	Disapprove
Finance Committee	No Position
Vote needed	Majority

Article 13

Amend Zoning Bylaws
(Private ALPR Ban)

Recommendation	
Select Board	Disapprove
Finance Committee	Disapprove
Vote needed	Two-thirds

Full warrant text for both articles is on the website.

Source: Signed Fall Town Meeting warrant · 11

WHAT'S NEXT

See you at Town Meeting

Monday, November 9 · 7:00 PM

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Spring 2027

Expected votes on funding for the Municipal Complex

Every article, with full text and board recommendations:
townmeeting.medwaydemocrats.org