

FINAL OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED MARCH 30, 2021
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
\$730,485 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES

Dated
April 15, 2021

Due
June 15, 2021

<u>Number</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Coupon Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>
1	\$ 730,485	0.50%	NRO

Century Bank and Trust Company
Purchaser

The provisions of the accompanying PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND NOTICE OF SALE DATED MARCH 23, 2021, supplemented and modified hereby, are incorporated in and made part of this Final Official Statement.

Hilltop Securities Inc.
Financial Advisor

PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND NOTICE OF SALE DATED MARCH 23, 2021

In the opinion of Locke Lord LLP, Bond Counsel, based upon an analysis of existing law and assuming, among other matters, compliance with certain covenants, interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Interest on the Notes will not be included in computing the alternative minimum taxable income of individuals. Under existing law, interest on the Notes is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, and the Notes are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any other tax consequences related to the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, the Notes. See "Tax Exemption" herein. The Notes will not be designated as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS \$730,485 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES

The Town of Needham, Massachusetts (the "Town"), will receive telephone and electronic bids at Hilltop Securities Inc. (617-619-4400) in the case of telephone bids and via PARITY in the case of electronic bids until 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, March 30, 2021 for the purchase of the following described General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the "Notes").

\$730,485 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (new money). The Notes will be dated April 15, 2021 and will be payable June 15, 2021. Interest will be computed on a 30-day-month/360-day-year basis (60/360). The Notes will not be subject to redemption prior to their stated maturity date.

Bids may be submitted electronically via PARITY pursuant to this Notice of Sale until 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, but no bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified above. To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in PARITY conflict with this Notice of Sale, the terms of this Notice of Sale shall control. For further information about PARITY, potential bidders may contact Hilltop Securities Inc. (617) 619-4400 or PARITY at (212) 404-8102.

The Notes will be issued by means of a book-entry system, evidencing ownership of the Notes in principal amounts of \$1,000 or integral multiples thereof, with the exception of one \$1,485 amount, with transfers of ownership effected on the records of The Depository Trust Company (DTC) and its participants pursuant to rules and procedures adopted by DTC (see "Book-Entry Transfer System"), unless the issuance of a fully registered note certificate is requested by a successful bidder and the issuance of such certificate is approved by the Town. Principal and interest will be payable upon maturity in federal funds at U.S. Bank National Association, Boston, Massachusetts. **Bidders may elect to denominate the Notes as physical registered securities rather than "Book-Entry" securities to be held by DTC, subject to the approval of the Town.**

Bids for the Notes may be submitted for all of the Notes at a single rate of interest in a multiple of one-hundredth (1/100) of one percent (1%). No bid of less than par and accrued interest to the date of delivery will be considered and **no coupon greater than 2.0% will be accepted.** The right is reserved to reject any and all bids not complying with this Notice of Sale and, so far as permitted by law, to waive any irregularity with respect to any bid. The Notes will be awarded on the basis of lowest net interest cost to the Town after deduction of premium, if any. Such cost will be determined by computing the total amount of interest payable on the Notes, at the rate or rates stated, from April 15, 2021 until the maturity of the Notes and deducting therefrom the sum, if any, by which the amount bid for the Notes exceeds the aggregate principal amount of the Notes. In the event two or more bidders submit the same lowest net interest cost for the Notes, the Town Treasurer shall determine the winning bidder(s) by lot from among all such bidders.

An electronic bid made in accordance with this Notice of Sale shall be deemed an offer to purchase the Notes in accordance with the terms provided in this Notice of Sale and shall be binding upon the bidder as if made by a signed and sealed written bid delivered to the Town.

Any bidder who submits a successful bid by telephone in accordance with this Notice of Sale shall be required to provide written confirmation of the terms of the bid by faxing or e-mailing a completed, signed bid form to Hilltop Securities Inc., by not later than 12:00 Noon, Eastern Time, on the date of sale.

The award of the Notes to the successful bidder will not be effective until the bid has been approved by the Treasurer and the Select Board of the Town. In the event that two or more bidders submit the same lowest true interest cost for the Bonds, the Treasurer shall determine the winning bidder by lot from among all such proposals.

A successful bidder for the Notes may request that all of the Notes be issued in the form of one fully registered physical certificate, rather than in book-entry form through the facilities of DTC. The successful bidder seeking the issuance of the Notes in this manner shall bear any and all costs of any re-registration or transfer of Notes from time to time. Any bidder seeking to have the Notes issued in the form of a fully registered physical certificate or certificates, rather than in book-entry

form, shall indicate this preference to the Town at the time of the submission of the winning bid. The Town reserves the right to decline any request to issue the Notes in non-book entry form if it should determine, in its sole discretion, that issuing the Notes in this manner is not in its best interests.

It shall be the condition of the successful bidder's obligation to accept delivery of and pay for the Notes that, contemporaneously with or before accepting the Notes and paying therefor, it shall be furnished, without cost, with (a) the approving opinion of the firm of Locke Lord LLP, Boston, Massachusetts, Bond Counsel to the Town, with respect to the Notes, (b) a certificate in form satisfactory to said firm, dated as of the date of delivery of the Notes and receipt of payment therefor, to the effect that there is no litigation pending, or to the knowledge of the signer or signers thereof, threatened affecting the validity of the Notes or the power of the Town to levy and collect taxes to pay them, and (c) a certificate of the Town's Treasurer to the effect that, to the best of her knowledge and belief, both the Preliminary Official Statement as of its date and as of the date of sale and the Final Official Statement as of its date and as of the date of delivery of such Notes, do not contain any untrue statement of a material fact and do not omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made therein, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

Payment of the principal of and interest on the Notes is not limited to a particular fund or source of revenue nor is any lien or pledge for such payment created with respect to any such fund or source.

Establishment of Issue Price. The following applies to each successful bidder with respect to the portion of the Notes awarded to such successful bidder.

A successful bidder for the Notes shall assist the Town in establishing the issue price of the Notes and shall execute and deliver to the Town on the Closing Date an "issue price" or similar certificate, substantially in the applicable form set forth in Exhibit 1 to this Notice of Sale, setting forth the reasonably expected initial offering price to the public or the actual sale price of the Notes, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, or, if applicable, the amount bid, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgment of the successful bidder, the Town and Bond Counsel. All actions to be taken by the Town under this Notice of Sale to establish the issue price of the Notes may be taken on behalf of the Town by Hilltop Securities Inc. ("Financial Advisor") and any notice or report to be provided to the Town may be provided to the Financial Advisor.

Competitive Sale Requirements. If the competitive sale requirements ("competitive sale requirements") set forth in Treasury Regulation § 1.148-1(f)(3)(i) (defining "competitive sale" for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Notes) have been satisfied, the Town will furnish to the successful bidder on the Closing Date a certificate of the Financial Advisor, which will certify each of the following conditions to be true:

1. the Town has disseminated this Notice of Sale to potential underwriters in a manner that is reasonably designed to reach potential underwriters;
2. all bidders had an equal opportunity to bid;
3. the Town received bids from at least three underwriters of municipal bonds who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds; and
4. the Town awarded the sale of the Notes to the bidder who submitted a firm offer to purchase the Notes at the highest price (or lowest interest cost), as set forth in this Notice of Sale.

Any bid submitted pursuant to this Notice of Sale shall be considered a firm offer for the purchase of the Notes, as specified in the bid. Unless a bidder notifies the Town prior to submitting its bid to the Financial Advisor by telephone at (617) 619-4400, or in its bid submitted via Parity, that it will not be an "underwriter" (as defined below) of the Notes, by submitting its bid, each bidder shall be deemed to confirm that it has an established industry reputation for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds. Unless the bidder has notified the Town that it will not be an "underwriter" (as defined below) of the Notes, in submitting a bid, each bidder is deemed to acknowledge that it is an "underwriter" that intends to reoffer the Notes to the public.

In the event that the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied, the Town shall so advise the successful bidder.

Failure to Meet the Competitive Sale Requirements – Option A – The Successful Bidder Intends to Reoffer the Notes to the Public and the 10% Test to Apply. If the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied and the successful bidder intends to reoffer the Notes to the public, the Successful Bidder may, at its option use the first price at which 10% of the Notes (the "10% test") is sold to the public as the issue price of the Notes. The successful bidder shall advise the Financial Advisor if the 10% test is satisfied as of the date and time of the award of the Notes. The Town will not require bidders to comply with the "hold-the-offering-price rule" set forth in the applicable Treasury Regulations and therefore does not intend to use the

initial offering price to the public as of the Sale Date as the issue price of the Notes if the competitive sale requirements are not met and this option is chosen.

If the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied, then until the 10% test has been satisfied as to Notes or all of the Notes are sold to the public, the successful bidder agrees to promptly report to the Financial Advisor the prices at which the unsold Notes have been sold to the public, which reporting obligation shall continue, whether or not the Closing Date has occurred, until the 10% test has been satisfied for the Notes or until all the Notes have been sold. The successful bidder shall be obligated to report each sale of Notes to the Financial Advisor until notified in writing by the Town or the Financial Advisor that it no longer needs to do so.

By submitting a bid and if the competitive sale requirements are not met, each bidder confirms that: (i) any agreement among underwriters, any selling group agreement and each third-party distribution agreement (to which the bidder is a party) relating to the initial sale of the Notes to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement, as applicable, to report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Notes allotted to it until it is notified by the successful bidder that either the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Notes or all of the Notes have been sold to the public, if and for so long as directed by the successful bidder and as set forth in the related pricing wires and (ii) any agreement among underwriters relating to the initial sale of the Notes to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter that is a party to a third-party distribution agreement to be employed in connection with the initial sale of the Notes to the public to require each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement to report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Notes allotted to it until it is notified by the successful bidder or such underwriter that either the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Notes or that all of the Notes have been sold to the public if and for so long as directed by the successful bidder or such underwriter and as set forth in the related pricing wires.

Sales of any Notes to any person that is a related party to an underwriter shall not constitute sales to the public for purposes of this Notice of Sale. Further, for purposes of this Notice of Sale:

1. "public" means any person other than an underwriter or a related party,
2. "underwriter" means (A) any person, including the successful bidder, that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Town (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the public and (B) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (A) to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third-party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Notes to the public), and
3. a purchaser of any of the Notes is a "related party" to an underwriter if the underwriter and the purchaser are subject, directly or indirectly, to (i) more than 50% common ownership of the voting power or the total value of their stock, if both entities are corporations (including direct ownership by one corporation of another), (ii) more than 50% common ownership of their capital interests or profits interests, if both entities are partnerships (including direct ownership by one partnership of another), or (iii) more than 50% common ownership of the value of the outstanding stock of the corporation or the capital interests or profit interests of the partnership, as applicable, if one entity is a corporation and the other entity is a partnership (including direct ownership of the applicable stock or interests by one entity of the other).

Failure to Meet the Competitive Sale Requirements — Option B — The Successful Bidder Intends to Reoffer the Notes to the Public and Agrees to Hold the Price of Maturities of Notes for Which the 10% Test in Option A Is Not Met as of the Sale Date. The successful bidder may, at its option, notify the Financial Advisor in writing, which may be by email (the "Hold the Price Notice"), not later than 4:00 p.m. on the Sale Date, that it has not sold 10% of the Notes listed in the Hold the Price Notice (the "Unsold Maturities") and that the successful bidder will not offer the Unsold Maturities to any person at a price that is higher than the initial offering price to the public during the period starting on the Sale Date and ending on the earlier of (i) the close of the fifth business day after the Sale Date or (ii) the date on which the successful bidder has sold at least 10% of the applicable Unsold Maturity to the public at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the public. If the successful bidder delivers a Hold the Price Notice to the Financial Advisor, the successful bidder must provide to the Town on or before the Closing Date, in addition to the certification described in Option A above, evidence that each underwriter of the Notes, including underwriters in an underwriting syndicate or selling group, has agreed in writing to hold the price of the Unsold Maturities in the manner described in the preceding sentence.

Failure to Meet the Competitive Sale Requirements and/or the Successful Bidder Does Not Intend to Reoffer the Notes to the Public — Option C. If the successful bidder has purchased the Notes for its own account and will not distribute or resell

the Notes to the public, then, whether or not the competitive sale requirements were met, the offering price certificate will recite such facts and identify the price or prices at which the purchase of the Notes was made.

The purchaser(s) of the Notes will be furnished, without cost, the opinion of Locke Lord LLP, Boston, Massachusetts approving the legality of the Notes. The opinion will also indicate that the Notes and the enforceability thereof may be subject to bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditor's rights and that their enforceability may be subject to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases. The Notes will be valid general obligations of the Town of Needham, Massachusetts, and unless paid from the bond proceeds in anticipation of which they are issued or from any other available moneys, the principal of and interest on the Notes are payable from taxes which may be levied upon all taxable property in the Town, subject to the limit imposed by Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws.

It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on the Notes. The Town assumes no responsibility for any CUSIP Service Bureau charge or other charge that may be imposed for the assignment of such numbers.

THE NOTES WILL NOT BE DESIGNATED AS "QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATIONS" FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 265(b)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED.

Additional information concerning the Town and the Notes is contained in the Preliminary Official Statement dated March 23, 2021 to which prospective bidders are directed. The Preliminary Official Statement is provided for informational purposes and is not a part of this Notice of Sale. The Preliminary Official Statement has been deemed final by the Town except for the omission of the reoffering prices, interest rates, and other terms of the Notes depending on such matters, and the identity of the underwriters, but is subject to change without notice and to completion or amendment in a Final Official Statement. Copies of the Preliminary Official Statement may be obtained from Hilltop Securities Inc., 54 Canal Street, Boston, Massachusetts, 02114 telephone (617-619-4400). Within seven (7) business days following the award of the Notes and receipt of necessary information from the successful bidder(s), five (5) copies of the Final Official Statement will be made available to the successful bidder(s). Upon request, additional copies will be provided at the expense of the requester.

The Notes, in definitive form, will be delivered to DTC or the office of its custodial agent, or to the registered owner if a fully registered certificate or certificates is requested by a successful bidder and approved by the Town, on or about April 15, 2021 for credit to the Town in federal funds.

TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
/s/ Evelyn M. Poness, Treasurer

March 23, 2021

[Issue Price Certificate for Use If the Competitive Sale Requirements Are Met]

Town of Needham, Massachusetts
\$730,485 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes dated April 15, 2021

ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE AND RECEIPT

The undersigned, on behalf of _____ (the "Successful Bidder"), hereby certifies as set forth below with respect to the sale of the above-captioned obligations (the "Notes") of the Town of Needham, Massachusetts (the "Issuer").

1. Reasonably Expected Initial Offering Prices.

(a) As of the Sale Date, the reasonably expected initial offering prices of the Notes to the Public by the Successful Bidder are the prices listed in Schedule A (the "Expected Offering Prices"). The Expected Offering Prices are the prices for the Maturities of the Notes used by the Successful Bidder in formulating its bid to purchase the Notes. Attached as Schedule B is a true and correct copy of the bid provided by the Successful Bidder to purchase the Notes.

(b) The Successful Bidder was not given the opportunity to review other bids prior to submitting its bid.

(c) The bid submitted by the Successful Bidder constituted a firm offer to purchase the Notes.

2. Defined Terms.

(a) *Maturity* means Notes with the same credit and payment terms. Notes with different maturity dates, or Notes with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate Maturities.

(b) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term "related party" for purposes of this certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(c) *Sale Date* means the first day on which there is a binding contract in writing for the sale of a Maturity of the Notes. The Sale Date of the Notes is March 30, 2021.

(d) *Underwriter* means (i) any person, including the Successful Bidder, that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third-party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public).

3. Receipt. The Successful Bidder hereby acknowledges receipt of the Notes and further acknowledges receipt of all certificates, opinions, and other documents required to be delivered to the Successful Bidder, before or simultaneously with the Notes, which certificates, opinions, and other documents are satisfactory to the Successful Bidder.

The representations set forth in this certificate are limited to factual matters only. Nothing in this certificate represents the Successful Bidders interpretation of any laws, including specifically Sections 103 and 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the Treasury Regulations thereunder. The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the Issuer with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Tax Certificate and with respect to compliance with the federal income tax rules affecting the Notes, and by Locke Lord LLP in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the preparation of the Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other federal income tax advice that it may give to the Issuer from time to time relating to the Notes.

Dated: _____, 2021

[NAME OF SUCCESSFUL BIDDER]

By: _____
 Name:
 Title:

SCHEDULE A
EXPECTED OFFERING PRICES
(To Be Attached)

SCHEDULE B
COPY OF SUCCESSFUL BIDDER'S BID
(To Be Attached)

**[Issue Price Certificate for Use If the Competitive Sale Requirements Are
Not Met and the 10% Test to Apply]**

**Town of Needham, Massachusetts
\$730,485 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes dated April 15, 2021**

ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE AND RECEIPT

The undersigned, on behalf of _____, (the “[Successful Bidder] [Representative]”), on behalf of itself [and [NAMES OF OTHER UNDERWRITERS]] hereby certifies as set forth below with respect to the sale and issuance of the above-captioned obligations (the “Notes”) of the Town of Needham, Massachusetts (the “Issuer”).

1. Sale of the Notes. As of the date of this certificate, [except as set forth in the following paragraph,] for each Maturity of the Notes, the first price at which at least 10% of such Maturity of the Notes was sold to the Public is the respective price listed in Schedule A.

[Only use the next paragraph if the 10% test has not been met or all of the Notes have not been sold for one or more Maturities of Notes as of the Closing Date.]

For each Maturity of the Notes as to which no price is listed in Schedule A, as set forth in the Notice of Sale for the Notes, until at least 10% of each such Maturity of the Notes is sold to the Public (the “10% test”) or all of the Notes are sold to the Public, the [Successful Bidder] [Representative] agrees to promptly report to the Issuer’s financial advisor, Hilltop Securities Inc. (the “Financial Advisor”) the prices at which the unsold Notes of each Maturity have been sold to the Public, which reporting obligation shall continue after the date hereof until the 10% test has been satisfied for each Maturity of the Notes or until all the Notes of a Maturity have been sold. The [Successful Bidder] [Representative] shall continue to report each sale of Notes to the Financial Advisor until notified by email or in writing by the Issuer or the Financial Advisor that it no longer needs to do so.

2. Defined Terms.

(a) *Maturity* means Notes with the same credit and payment terms. Notes with different maturity dates, or Notes with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate Maturities.

(b) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term “related party” for purposes of this certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(c) *Underwriter* means (i) any person, including the [Successful Bidder] [Representative], that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third-party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public).

3. Receipt. The [Successful Bidder] [Representative] hereby acknowledges receipt of the Notes and further acknowledges receipt of all certificates, opinions, and other documents required to be delivered to the [Successful Bidder] [Representative], before or simultaneously with the Notes, which certificates, opinions, and other documents are satisfactory to the [Successful Bidder] [Representative].

The representations set forth in this certificate are limited to factual matters only. Nothing in this certificate represents the [Successful Bidder] [Representative]’s interpretation of any laws, including specifically Sections 103 and 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the Treasury Regulations thereunder. The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the Issuer with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Tax Certificate and with respect to compliance with the federal income tax rules affecting the Notes, and by Locke Lord LLP in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the preparation of the Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other federal income tax advice that it may give to the Issuer from time to time relating to the Notes.

Dated: _____, 2021

[SUCCESSFUL BIDDER] [REPRESENTATIVE]

By: _____

Name:

Title:

**SALE PRICES
(To be Attached)**

**[Issue Price Certificate for Use If the Competitive Sale Requirements Are
Not Met and the Hold the Price Rule Is Used]**

**Town of Needham, Massachusetts
\$730,485 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes dated April 15, 2021**

ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE AND RECEIPT

The undersigned, on behalf of _____ (the (“[Successful Bidder][Representative]”), on behalf of itself [and [NAMES OF OTHER UNDERWRITERS]]hereby certifies as set forth below with respect to the sale and issuance of the above-captioned obligations (the “Notes”) of the Town of Needham, Massachusetts (the “Issuer”).

1. Sale of the Notes. As of the date of this certificate, [except as set forth in following paragraph,] for each Maturity of the Notes, the first price at which at least 10% of such Maturity of the Notes was sold to the Public is the respective price listed in Schedule A.

[Only use the next paragraph if the 10% test has not been met as of the Sale Date.]

For each Maturity of the Notes as to which no price is listed in Schedule A (the “Unsold Maturities”), as set forth in the Notice of Sale for the Notes, the [Successful Bidder][Representative] and any other Underwriter did not [and will not] reoffer the Unsold Maturities at a price that is higher than the initial offering price to the Public until the earlier of (i) _____, 2021 or (ii) the date on which the [Successful Bidder][Representative] or any other Underwriter sold at least 10% of each Unsold Maturity at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the Public.

2. Defined Terms.

(a) *Maturity* means Notes with the same credit and payment terms. Notes with different maturity dates, or Notes with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate Maturities.

(b) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term “related party” for purposes of this certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(c) *Underwriter* means (i) any person, including the [Successful Bidder][Representative], that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third-party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public).

3. Receipt. The [Successful Bidder][Representative] hereby acknowledges receipt of the Notes and further acknowledges receipt of all certificates, opinions and other documents required to be delivered to the [Successful Bidder][Representative], before or simultaneously with the delivery of the Notes, which certificates, opinions and other documents are satisfactory to the [Successful Bidder][Representative].

The representations set forth in this certificate are limited to factual matters only. Nothing in this certificate represents the [Successful Bidder’s][Representative’s] interpretation of any laws, including specifically Sections 103 and 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and the Treasury Regulations thereunder. The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the Issuer with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Tax Certificate and with respect to compliance with the federal income tax rules affecting the Notes, and by Locke Lord LLP in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the preparation of the Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other federal income tax advice that it may give to the Issuer from time to time relating to the Notes.

Dated: _____, 2021

[SUCCESSFUL BIDDER][REPRESENTATIVE]

By: _____
Name:
Title:

SCHEDULE A
SALE PRICES
(To be Attached)

**PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
\$730,485 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES**

This Preliminary Official Statement is provided for the purpose of presenting certain information relating to the Town of Needham, Massachusetts (the "Town") in connection with the sale of \$730,485 principal amount of its General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the "Notes"). The information contained herein has been furnished by the Town except information attributed to another source.

Description of the Notes

The Notes will be dated April 15, 2021 and will be payable by U.S. Bank National Association, Boston, Massachusetts, or its successor, as Paying Agent, on June 15, 2021. The Notes are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturity date. The Notes will bear interest payable at maturity, calculated on a 30 day-month/360 day-year basis (60/360), at the rate determined upon their sale in accordance with the Notice of Sale dated March 23, 2021. The Notes will be issued by means of a book-entry system evidencing ownership of the Notes in principal amounts of \$1,000, or integral multiples thereof, with the exception of one \$1,485 amount, with transfers of ownership effected on the records of The Depository Trust Company (DTC) and its participants pursuant to the rules and procedures adopted by DTC, unless the delivery of a fully registered note certificate is requested by the winning bidder and the issuance of such certificate is approved by the Town. See "Book-Entry Transfer System" herein.

Authorization of the Notes and Use of Proceeds

The following table sets forth the purpose, principal amount, total original authorization, statutory reference, date of approval, and article number for the current issue of Notes.

Purpose	This Issue	Original Bond Authorization	Statutory Reference M.G.L.	Dates of Approval	Article No.
Rosemary Recreational Complex	\$ 20,000	\$ 11,000,000	C. 44, s. 7(1) & 44B	5/8/2017	33
High School Expansion Design	9,500	950,000	C. 44, s. 7(7)	5/10/2017	43
High School Expansion Construction	84,000	11,125,000	C. 44, s. 7(1)	10/2/2017	11
Memorial Park Building Construction	90,000	2,918,000	C. 44, s. 7(1)	5/9/2018	30
Public Works Infrastructure Program	5,000	250,000	C. 44, s. 7(1)	5/9/2018	34
Public Works Storage Facility	50,000	3,503,000	C. 44, s. 7(1)	5/14/2018	35
Mitchell School Restroom Upgrades	16,700	676,700	C. 44, s. 7(1)	6/8/2020	23
Wastewater System Rehab.	7,550	600,000	C. 44, s. 8(14)	5/10/2017	48
Water System Rehabilitation Program	12,000	635,000	C. 44, s. 8	5/11/2015	47
Water Distribution System Improvements	35,735	1,300,000	C. 44, s. 8(5)	5/1/2017	51
Water Distribution System Improvements	350,000	4,500,000	C. 44, s. 8(14)	5/6/2019	41
RTS Property Improvements	50,000	645,000	C. 44, s. 7(1)	5/7/2018	37
	<u>\$ 730,485</u>				

Tax Exemption

In the opinion of Locke Lord LLP, Bond Counsel to the Town ("Bond Counsel"), based upon an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings, and court decisions, and assuming, among other matters, compliance with certain covenants, interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). Bond Counsel is of the further opinion that interest on the Notes will not be included in computing the alternative minimum taxable income of Noteholders who are individuals. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any other federal tax consequences arising with respect to the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on the Notes. The Notes will not be designated as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

The Code imposes various requirements relating to the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on obligations such as the Notes. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in interest on the Notes being included in gross income for federal income tax purposes, possibly from the date of original issuance of the Notes. The Town has covenanted to comply with such requirements to ensure that interest on the Notes will not be included in federal gross income. The opinion of Bond Counsel assumes compliance with these requirements.

Bond Counsel is also of the opinion that, under existing law, interest on the Notes is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, and the Notes are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. Bond Counsel has not opined as to other Massachusetts tax consequences arising with respect to the Notes. Prospective Noteholders should be aware, however, that the Notes are included in the measure of Massachusetts estate and inheritance taxes, and the Notes and the interest thereon are included in the measure of certain Massachusetts corporate excise and franchise taxes. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion as to the taxability of the Notes or the income therefrom or any other tax consequences arising with respect to the Notes under the laws of any state other than Massachusetts.

To the extent the issue price of any maturity of the Notes is less than the amount to be paid at maturity of such Notes (excluding amounts stated to be interest and payable at least annually over the term of such Notes), the difference constitutes "original issue discount," the accrual of which, to the extent properly allocable to each owner thereof, is treated as interest on the Notes which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes. For this purpose, the issue price of a particular maturity of the Notes is either the reasonably expected initial offering price to the public, or the first price at which a substantial amount of such maturity of the Notes is sold to the public, as applicable. The original issue discount with respect to any maturity of the Notes accrues daily over the term to maturity of such Notes on the basis of a constant interest rate compounded semiannually (with straight-line interpolations between compounding dates). The accruing original issue discount is added to the adjusted basis of such Notes to determine taxable gain or loss upon disposition (including sale, redemption, or payment on maturity) of such Notes. Noteholders should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of ownership of Notes with original issue discount, including the treatment of purchasers who do not purchase such Notes in the original offering to the public at the reasonably expected initial offering price or, if applicable, the first price at which a substantial amount of such Notes is sold to the public.

Notes purchased, whether at original issuance or otherwise, for an amount greater than the stated principal amount to be paid at maturity of such Notes, or, in some cases, at the earlier redemption date of such Notes ("Premium Notes"), will be treated as having amortizable note premium for federal income tax purposes and Massachusetts personal income tax purposes. No deduction is allowable for the amortizable note premium in the case of obligations, such as the Premium Notes, the interest on which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. However, a Noteholder's basis in a Premium Note will be reduced by the amount of amortizable note premium properly allocable to such Noteholder. Holders of Premium Notes should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the proper treatment of amortizable note premium in their particular circumstances.

Bond Counsel has not undertaken to determine (or to inform any person) whether any actions taken (or not taken) or events occurring (or not occurring) after the date of issuance of the Notes may adversely affect the value of, or the tax status of interest on, the Notes.

Although Bond Counsel is of the opinion that interest on the Notes is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, the Notes may otherwise affect the federal or state tax liability of a Noteholder. Among other possible consequences of ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, the Notes, the Code requires recipients of certain social security and certain railroad retirement benefits to take into account receipts or accruals of interest on the Notes in determining the portion of such benefits that are included in gross income. The nature and extent of all such other tax consequences will depend upon the particular tax status of the Noteholder or the Noteholder's other items of income, deduction, or exclusion. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any such other tax consequences, and Noteholders should consult with their own tax advisors with respect to such consequences.

Risk of Future Legislative Changes and/or Court Decisions

Legislation affecting tax-exempt obligations is regularly considered by the United States Congress and may also be considered by the Massachusetts legislature. Court proceedings may also be filed, the outcome of which could modify the tax treatment of obligations such as the Notes. There can be no assurance that legislation enacted or proposed, or actions by a court, after the date of issuance of the Notes will not have an adverse effect on the tax status of interest on the Notes or the market value or marketability of the Notes. These adverse effects could result, for example, from changes to federal or state income tax rates, changes in the structure of federal or state income taxes (including replacement with another type of tax), or repeal (or reduction in the benefit) of the exclusion of interest on the Notes from gross income for federal or state income tax purposes for all or certain taxpayers. Additionally, Noteholders should be aware that future legislative actions (including federal income tax reform) may retroactively change the treatment of all or a portion of the interest on the Notes for federal income tax purposes for all or certain taxpayers. In all such events, the market value of the Notes may be affected and the ability of Noteholders to sell their Notes in the secondary market may be reduced. The Notes are not subject to special mandatory redemption, and the interest rate on the Notes is not subject to adjustment, in the event of any such change in the tax treatment of interest on the Notes.

Investors should consult their own financial and tax advisors to analyze the importance of these risks.

Book-Entry Transfer System

This section shall apply to Notes issued in book-entry form through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, New York, NY ("DTC").

DTC will act as securities depository for the Notes. The Notes will be issued in fully-registered form registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC's partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully registered Note certificate will be issued for each interest rate, each in the aggregate principal amount bearing such interest rate, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world's largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a "banking organization" within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies. DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has a rating of AA+ from S&P Global Ratings. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of securities deposited with DTC must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Notes on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each security deposited with DTC ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the securities deposited with DTC are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the securities deposited with DTC, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for such securities is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Notes deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of Notes with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the securities deposited with it; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such securities are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor such other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Notes unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC's MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the Town as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Notes are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Principal and interest payments on the Notes will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Town or the Paying Agent, on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC (nor its nominee), the Town or

the Paying Agent, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Town or the Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Notes at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Town or the Paying Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, physical certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The Town may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, physical certificates will be printed and delivered to Beneficial Owners.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that the Town believes to be reliable, but the Town takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

Security and Remedies

Full Faith and Credit. General obligation bonds and notes of a Massachusetts city or town constitute a pledge of its full faith and credit. Payment is not limited to a particular fund or revenue source. Except for "qualified bonds" as described below (see "*Serial Bonds and Notes*" under "TYPES OF OBLIGATIONS") and setoffs of state distributions as described below (see "*State Distributions*" below), no provision is made by the Massachusetts statutes for priorities among bonds and notes and other general obligations, although the use of certain moneys may be restricted.

Tax Levy. The Massachusetts statutes direct the municipal assessors to include annually in the tax levy for the next fiscal year "all debt and interest charges matured and maturing during the next fiscal year and not otherwise provided for [and] all amounts necessary to satisfy final judgments". Specific provision is also made for including in the next tax levy payments of rebate amounts not otherwise provided for and payment of notes in anticipation of federal or state aid, if the aid is no longer forthcoming.

The total amount of a tax levy is limited by statute. However, the voters in each municipality may vote to exclude from the limitation any amounts required to pay debt service on indebtedness incurred before November 4, 1980. Local voters may also vote to exempt specific subsequent bond issues from the limitation. (See "*Tax Limitations*" Under "PROPERTY TAXATION" below.) In addition, obligations incurred before November 4, 1980 may be constitutionally entitled to payment from taxes in excess of the statutory limit.

No Lien. Except for taxes on the increased value of certain property in designated development districts which may be pledged for the payment of debt service on bonds issued to finance economic development projects within such districts, no provision is made for a lien on any portion of the tax levy or any other moneys to secure particular bonds or notes or bonds and notes generally (or judgments on bonds or notes) in priority to other claims. Provision is made, however, for borrowing to pay judgments, subject to the General Debt Limit. (See "DEBT LIMITS" below.) Subject to the approval of the State Director of Accounts for judgments above \$10,000, judgments may also be paid from available funds without appropriation and included in the next tax levy unless other provision is made.

Court Proceedings. Massachusetts cities and towns are subject to suit on their general obligation bonds and notes and courts of competent jurisdiction have power in appropriate proceedings to order payment of a judgment on the bonds or notes from lawfully available funds or, if necessary, to order the city or town to take lawful action to obtain the required money, including the raising of it in the next annual tax levy, within the limits prescribed by law. (See "*Tax Limitations*" under "PROPERTY TAXATION" below.) In exercising their discretion as to whether to enter such an order, the courts could take into account all relevant factors including the current operating needs of the city or town and the availability and adequacy of other remedies. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court has stated in the past that a judgment against a municipality can be enforced by the taking and sale of the property of any inhabitant. However, there has been no judicial determination as to whether this remedy is constitutional under current due process and equal protection standards.

Restricted Funds. Massachusetts statutes also provide that certain water, gas and electric, community antenna television system, telecommunications, sewer, parking meter and passenger ferry fee, community preservation and affordable housing receipts may be used only for water, gas and electric, community antenna television system, telecommunications, sewer, parking, mitigation of ferry service impacts, community preservation and affordable housing and related purposes, respectively; accordingly, moneys derived from these sources may be unavailable to pay general obligation bonds and notes issued for other purposes. A city or town that accepts certain other statutory provisions may establish an enterprise fund for a utility, health care, solid waste, recreational or transportation facility and for police or fire services; under those provisions any surplus in the fund is restricted to use for capital expenditures or reduction of user charges. In addition, subject to certain limits, a city or town may annually authorize the establishment of one or more revolving funds in connection with use of certain revenues for programs

that produce those revenues; interest earned on a revolving fund is treated as general fund revenue. A city or town may also establish an energy revolving loan fund to provide loans to owners of privately held property in the city or town for certain energy conservation and renewable energy projects and may borrow to establish such fund. The loan repayments and interest earned on the investment of amounts in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Also, the annual allowance for depreciation of a gas and electric plant or a community antenna television and telecommunications system is restricted to use for plant or system renewals and improvements, for nuclear decommissioning costs, and costs of contractual commitments, or, with the approval of the State Department of Telecommunications and Energy, to pay debt incurred for plant or system reconstruction or renewals. Revenue bonds and notes issued in anticipation of them may be secured by a prior lien on specific revenues. Receipts from industrial users in connection with industrial revenue financings are also not available for general municipal purposes.

State Distributions. State grants and distributions may in some circumstances be unavailable to pay general obligation bonds and notes of a city or town in that the State Treasurer is empowered to deduct from such grants and distributions the amount of any debt service paid on “qualified bonds” (See “*Serial Bonds and Notes*” under “TYPES OF OBLIGATIONS” below) and any other sums due and payable by the city or town to the Commonwealth or certain other public entities, including any unpaid assessments for costs of any public transportation authority (such as the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority or a regional transit authority) of which it is a member, for costs of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority if the city or town is within the territory served by the Authority, or for charges necessary to meet obligations under the Commonwealth’s Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Loan Programs, including such charges imposed by another local governmental unit that provides wastewater collection or treatment services or drinking water services to the city or town.

If a city or town is (or is likely to be) unable to pay principal or interest on its bonds or notes when due, it is required to notify the State Commissioner of Revenue. The Commissioner shall in turn, after verifying the inability, certify the inability to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall pay the due or overdue amount to the paying agent for the bonds or notes, in trust, within three days after the certification or one business day prior to the due date (whichever is later). This payment is limited, however, to the estimated amount otherwise distributable by the Commonwealth to the city or town during the remainder of the fiscal year (after the deductions mentioned in the foregoing paragraph). If for any reason any portion of the certified sum has not been paid at the end of the fiscal year, the State Treasurer shall pay it as soon as practicable in the next fiscal year to the extent of the estimated distributions for that fiscal year. The sums so paid shall be charged (with interest and administrative costs) against the distributions to the city or town.

The foregoing does not constitute a pledge of the faith and credit of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth has not agreed to maintain existing levels of state distributions, and the direction to use estimated distributions to pay debt service may be subject to repeal by future legislation. Moreover, adoption of the annual appropriation act has sometimes been delayed beyond the beginning of the fiscal year and estimated distributions which are subject to appropriation may be unavailable to pay local debt service until they are appropriated.

Bankruptcy. Enforcement of a claim for payment of principal or interest on general obligation bonds or notes would be subject to the applicable provisions of federal bankruptcy laws and to the provisions of other statutes, if any, hereafter enacted by the Congress or the State legislature extending the time for payment or imposing other constraints upon enforcement insofar as the same may be constitutionally applied. Massachusetts municipalities are not generally authorized by the Massachusetts General Laws to file a petition for bankruptcy under federal bankruptcy laws. In cases involving significant financial difficulties faced by a single city, town or regional school district, however, the Commonwealth has enacted special legislation to permit the appointment of a fiscal overseer, finance control board or, in the most extreme cases, a state receiver. In a limited number of these situations, such special legislation has also authorized the filing of federal bankruptcy proceedings, with the prior approval of the Commonwealth. In each case where such authority was granted, it expired at the termination of the Commonwealth’s oversight of the financially distressed city, town or regional school district. To date, no such filings have been approved or made.

Bank Eligibility

The Notes will not be designated as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” for purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

Opinion of Bond Counsel

The purchaser will be furnished the legal opinion of the firm of Locke Lord LLP, Bond Counsel to the Town. The opinion will be dated and given on and will speak only as of the date of original delivery of the Notes to the successful bidder.

Other than as to matters expressly set forth herein as the opinion of Bond Counsel, Bond Counsel is not passing upon and does not assume any responsibility for the accuracy or adequacy of the statements made in this Official Statement and makes no representation that they have independently verified the same.

Financial Advisory Services of Hilltop Securities Inc.

Hilltop Securities Inc., Boston, Massachusetts, serves as financial advisor to the Town.

Rule 15c2-12

Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission does not apply to this offering of securities.

TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

General

The Town of Needham, Massachusetts is located in Norfolk County, 10 miles southwest of Boston. It is bordered on the west and northwest by the Town of Wellesley, on the north and northeast by the City of Newton, on the east by the West Roxbury section of the City of Boston, on the southeast by the Town of Dedham, and on the south by the Towns of Westwood and Dover. Needham has a population of approximately 28,886 and occupies a land area of 12.6 square miles. Established as a town in 1711, Needham is governed by a representative form of town meeting and by a five-member Select Board. School affairs are administered by a seven-member School Committee and a Superintendent of Schools.

PRINCIPAL TOWN OFFICIALS

Title	Name	Selection/Term	Term Expires
Select Board, Chair	Maurice P. Handel	Elected	2021
Select Board, Vice Chair	Matthew D. Borrelli	Elected	2023
Select Board, Clerk	Marianne B. Cooley	Elected	2023
Select Board	John A. Bulian	Elected	2021
Select Board	Daniel P. Matthews	Elected	2022
Town Manager	Kate Fitzpatrick	Appointed	2023
Director of Finance	David Davison	Appointed	Indefinite
Treasurer/Collector	Evelyn M. Poness	Appointed	Indefinite
Town Accountant	Michelle Vaillancourt	Appointed	Indefinite
Town Clerk	Theodora K. Eaton	Elected	2022
Town Counsel	Miyares and Harrington	Appointed	2022
Superintendent of Schools	Daniel E. Gutekanst	Appointed	2021

Corona Virus (COVID-19) Disclosure

COVID-19 is a new respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus that has not previously been seen in humans. On March 10, 2020, the Governor of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts declared a state of emergency to support the Commonwealth's response to the outbreak of the virus. On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic. On March 13, 2020, the President declared a national emergency due to the outbreak, which has enabled disaster funds to be made available to states to fight the pandemic. On March 15, 2020, the Governor announced emergency actions to help address the spread of the virus, and as a result the Town closed all municipal buildings to the public as of the date of this Official Statement, except by appointment. The Town is adhering to these actions by strictly following the public health recommendations of social distancing guidelines and limiting public gatherings to 10 people or less. Town employees are currently reporting to work as directed and under the discretion of management. Many Town services are available by appointment. The school system is operating on a hybrid basis, one week on and one week off. The Town continues to and expects to continue to maintain all essential functions and services.

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 31, the Town can set up a fund specifically related to COVID-19 expenses. This fund can be used to capture all unbudgeted costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic and deficit spending for these costs, including but not limited to, overtime, cleaning and medical supplies, and IT equipment would be allowed, with the approval of the Commonwealth's Department of Revenue. The Town hasn't created a special fund for COVID-19, but rather is working with existing resources to fund expenses. The Town is also seeking reimbursements for certain COVID-19 related expenses from the State and Federal governments.

The virus and the resulting actions by national, state and local governments is altering the behavior of businesses and people in a manner that will have negative impacts on global and local economies. There can be no assurances regarding the extent to which COVID-19 will impact the national and state economies and, accordingly, how it will adversely impact municipalities, including the Town. These negative impacts are likely to include reduced collections of property taxes and other revenues, including local meals and rooms tax revenue, motor vehicle excise taxes and other fees and charges collected by the Town. Additionally, state aid payments to the Town, which are dependent upon collections by the Commonwealth of income, sales, capital gains and other similar taxes, may be adversely impacted by reduced or delayed collections of those revenue streams. The Town adjusted its FY2021 revenue estimate prior to enacting the Town Budget. The Town reduced its state aid assumption for the year by 6%. Based on the Governor's revised FY2021 budget submission state aid is not expected to be reduced in FY2021. The Town reduced its local receipts estimate for FY2021 by 17%. The Town is continuing to monitor for possible revenue shortfalls and is reviewing expenditure requests to determine which could be deferred.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has affected residents, businesses, civic and private foundations, municipal and school operations, and the entire country. The Town implemented additional spending restrictions during the last quarter of fiscal year 2020 in acknowledgement of the downturn in the economy due to COVID-19. The Town postponed or cancelled

contracts, reduced hours of operations, and made other changes in response to the work restrictions that were imposed by the state to battle the spread of COVID-19. Some resources were diverted from intended projects to meet costs incurred by the Town to address COVID-19 concerns.

Potential purchasers are advised that the rapid economic changes associated with the COVID-19 pandemic are likely to have negatively impacted the most recent employment, income, and related statistics presented herein.

Municipal Services

The Town provides general governmental services for the territory within its boundaries, including police and fire protection, collection, disposal, and recycling of solid waste, public education in grades kindergarten through twelve, water, sewers, streets and recreation. Technical education in grades 9 through 12 is provided by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District.

The Town has implemented a mandatory recycling program in accordance with Section 8H of Chapter 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws. Under this program, begun in fiscal 1991, the Town recycles newspaper, mixed paper, glass, corrugated cardboard, aluminum and steel cans, returnable bottles, clothing, used motor oil, plastic containers and yard waste. The Town's practice has been to introduce new items to the recycling program each year in order to reduce the flow of solid waste tonnage.

Gas and electric services are provided by established private utilities.

The Town's Public Works Department provides water supply, treatment and distribution and sewage collection, to substantially all commercial, industrial and residential users in the Town. In addition certain water and sewer services are provided by the MWRA. See "INDEBTEDNESS - Overlapping Debt".

The principal services provided by Norfolk County are a jail and house of correction and registry of deeds. For additional information on Counties see "INDEBTEDNESS - Overlapping Debt".

Education

The Town operates one pre-school, five elementary schools, two middle schools (High Rock and Pollard), and a senior high school. The Town began constructing a new elementary school in the late fall of 2017 which opened in September 2019. The new building replaces one of the existing elementary schools. The debt for the new elementary school is excluded from the limits of Proposition 2 ½ and a portion of the project will be paid by the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS - OCTOBER 1,

			Actual		
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Elementary (Pre-K and K-5)	2,552	2,676	2,722	2,658	2,520
Middle/Junior High(6-8)	1,297	1,304	1,283	1,390	1,297
Senior High(9-12)	1,659	1,686	1,716	1,658	1,678
Totals	5,508	5,666	5,721	5,706	5,495

The Town is a member of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District, which is located in Lexington, and includes 10 member towns. A new school for the District was recently completed and opened.

Industry and Commerce

Needham is a residential suburb of Boston, located within the Boston Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area. As the table below indicates, the Town's economy has a diverse mix of manufacturing, services, and commercial trades.

Due to the reclassification the U.S. Department of Labor now uses the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as the basis for the assignment and tabulation of economic data by industry.

Industry	Calendar Year Average				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Construction	732	691	737	816	805
Manufacturing	986	993	994	925	814
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	2,297	2,254	2,138	2,223	2,702
Information	1,040	1,099	1,374	1,060	885
Financial Activities	1,607	1,618	1,631	1,549	1,505
Professional and Business Services	5,773	6,118	6,083	6,147	5,435
Education and Health Services	6,724	7,032	7,002	7,261	7,242
Leisure and Hospitality	1,265	1,534	1,584	1,483	1,331
Other Services	749	823	837	785	813
Total Employment	<u>21,173</u>	<u>22,162</u>	<u>22,380</u>	<u>22,249</u>	<u>21,532</u>
Number of Establishments	1,488	1,515	1,503	1,473	1,473
Average Weekly Wages	\$ 1,702	\$ 1,740	\$ 1,829	\$ 1,947	\$ 1,880
Total Wages	<u>\$ 1,907,073,900</u>	<u>\$ 2,041,358,586</u>	<u>\$ 2,166,747,180</u>	<u>\$ 2,292,193,273</u>	<u>\$ 2,146,027,639</u>

Source: Massachusetts Department of Education and Training. Data based upon place of employment, not place of residence.

Transportation

The principal highways serving the Town are State Routes 9, 135 and 128 (I-95). There are four exits off Interstate 95 that provide direct access to Needham. A project to widen Route 128 through Needham was completed in 2019. The MBTA provides commuter rail service on a regular basis to Boston. There are four commuter rails stops physically located in Needham: Needham Heights, Needham Center, Needham Junction and Hersey. The MBTA also provides bus service between Needham and Watertown Square. Established trucking lines provide competitive service locally and to long distance points. The Town is within commuting distance of the airport facilities of Boston's Logan International Airport, the Norwood Municipal Airport, and Hanscom Field in Bedford, Massachusetts.

The following table sets forth the largest employers in Needham, exclusive of the Town itself.

LARGEST EMPLOYERS

Name	Product/Function	No. of Employees Approximate
Trip Advisor	Travel Agency	640
NBC Universal	Broadcasting	345
Coca Cola Bottling	Beverage Distribution	250-499
Dialogic Inc.	Wireless Communication	250-499
North Hill Living Center	Retirement Center	250-499
SharkNinja	Household Appliances	250-499
WCVB Channel 5	Television	250-499
Charles River Center	Assisted Living	250-499
Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital	Health Care	250-499
Briarwood Healthcare	Health Care	100-250
Olin College of Engineering	Education	100-250
VNA Care Network	Ambulatory Health Care	100-250
Walker Home & School	Mental Health	100-250

SOURCE: Individual Employers listed.

Needham Crossing is a multi-million dollar business park located approximately 3 miles northeast of downtown Needham. The business park offers proximity to both State Routes 9 and 128 (Interstate 95) as well as the natural resources such as Cutler Lake Park and the Charles River. A state highway project to widen Route 95/128 from three lanes to four lanes through Needham was completed in 2019. A new and additional exit ramp from the highway fully opened in late 2017. This exit ramp provides an additional access point to Needham Crossing. The Town anticipates these roadway improvements will have an overall positive economic benefit for Needham Crossing. The business park originally contained primarily warehouses and offices and now, over 30 years later, through land use zoning changes, Needham Crossing is unique in its mix of residential, office and other commercial uses that has generated much interest from businesses to locate there.

The Needham Crossing area boasts long term occupants such as Coca Cola, the Sheraton Hotel, and Trip Advisor which built its new world headquarters in the park, and life science companies such as Verastem. The Marriott Residence Inn hotel opened in the park a few years ago, and Homewood Suites by Hilton opened in 2018. BigBelly Solar Inc., a maker of "green" trash cans has doubled the size of its headquarters since moving to the park a few years ago. Euro-Pro, known for its Shark vacuums and Ninja blenders, has recently located to the park near Trip Advisor's new complex. NBC Universal has opened a \$125 million regional headquarters in the Needham Crossing office park.

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

According to the Massachusetts Department of Employment and Training preliminary data, in November 2020, the Town had a total labor force of 15,453 of which 14,675 were employed and 808 or 5.2% were unemployed as compared with 6.2% for the Commonwealth, although it is likely that the COVID-19 pandemic will adversely affect unemployment levels nationwide. The following table sets forth the Town's average labor force and unemployment rates for each of the last five calendar years.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Calendar Year	Town of Needham		
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Rate
2019	16,614	16,273	2.1 %
2018	16,507	16,096	2.5
2017	15,797	15,360	2.8
2016	15,323	14,929	2.6
2015	15,125	14,616	3.4

SOURCE: Mass. Department of Employment and Training, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data based upon place of residence, not place of employment. Monthly data for Town are unadjusted.

Building Permits

The following table sets forth the number of building permits issued and the estimated dollar value of new construction and alterations for calendar years 2016 through 2020. Potential purchasers are advised that the rapid economic changes associated with the COVID-19 pandemic are likely to negatively impact the number and values of building permits applied for and issued in calendar years 2020 and 2021. Permits are filed for both private construction as well as for Town projects.

BUILDING PERMITS

Calendar Year	New Construction				Additions/Alterations				Totals	
	Residential		Non-Residential		Residential		Non-Residential		No.	Value
	No	Value	No.	Value	No	Value	No.	Value		
2020	67	\$ 44,614,400	3	\$ 24,578,350	757	\$ 40,316,155	62	\$ 21,430,214	889	\$ 130,939,119
2019	98	75,913,992	3	40,002,650	691	46,154,265	81	66,296,134	873	228,367,041
2018	93	68,599,710	1	24,141,632	734	51,309,734	108	61,735,191	936	205,786,267
2017	73	123,921,579	1	16,764,964	829	41,865,375	98	52,686,816	1,001	235,238,734 (1)
2016	123	115,587,947	2	11,459,830	1,140	53,170,114	177	54,230,096	1,442	234,447,987

SOURCE: Report of the Building Inspector.

(1) Excludes 89 permits for demolitions with an aggregate value of \$905,000.

Population and Income

The table below illustrates the Town's changes in median age, median family income, and per capita income and that of the Commonwealth and the Country as a whole for the same period according to the federal census.

	POPULATION AND INCOME		
	Needham	Massachusetts	United States
Median Age:			
2010	43.0	39.1	37.2
2000	40.8	36.5	35.3
1990	38.6	33.6	32.9
1980	35.1	31.2	30.9
Median Family Income:			
2010	\$114,365	\$81,165	\$51,144
2000	107,570	61,664	50,046
1990	69,515	44,367	35,225
1980	31,793	21,166	19,908
Per Capita Income:			
2010	\$57,716	\$33,966	\$27,334
2000	44,549	25,952	21,587
1990	27,935	17,224	14,420
1980	11,580	7,459	7,313

SOURCE: Federal Bureau of the Census.

On the basis of the 2010 Federal Census, the Town has a population density of approximately 2,290 persons per square mile.

POPULATION TRENDS

<u>2010</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>
28,886	28,911	27,557	27,901	29,748

SOURCE: Federal Census.

PROPERTY TAXATION

Tax Levy Computation

The principal tax of Massachusetts cities and towns is the tax on real and personal property. The amount to be levied in each year is the amount appropriated or required by law to be raised for municipal expenditures less estimated receipts from other sources and less appropriations voted from funds on hand. The total amount levied is subject to certain limits prescribed by law; for a description of those limits see "Tax Limitations" below.

The estimated receipts for a fiscal year from sources other than the property tax may not exceed the actual receipts during the preceding fiscal year from the same sources unless approved by the State Commissioner of Revenue. Excepting special funds the use of which is otherwise provided for by law, the deduction for appropriations voted from funds on hand for a fiscal year cannot exceed the "free cash" as of the beginning of the prior fiscal year as certified by the State Director of Accounts plus up to nine months' collections and receipts on account of earlier years' taxes after that date. Subject to certain adjustments, free cash is surplus revenue less uncollected overdue property taxes from earlier years.

Although an allowance is made in the tax levy for abatements (see "Abatements and Overlay" below) no reserve is generally provided for uncollectible real property taxes. Because some of the levy is inevitably not collected, this creates a cash deficiency which may or may not be offset by other items (see "Taxation to Meet Deficits" below).

The table below illustrates the manner in which the tax levy was determined for the following fiscal years.

TAX LEVY COMPUTATION

	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020	Fiscal 2021
Total Appropriations(1)	\$ 169,950,342	\$ 190,693,472	\$ 206,353,302	\$ 209,348,682	\$ 212,871,580
Additions:					
State & County Assessments	1,299,850	1,351,898	1,408,970	1,444,320	1,485,423
Overlay Reserve	1,855,476	2,811,893	1,968,110	2,292,140	1,407,265
Other Additions	49,085	290,284	357,264	209,276	336,704
Total Additions	3,204,411	4,454,075	3,734,344	3,945,736	3,229,392
Gross Amount to be Raised	173,154,753	195,147,547	210,087,646	213,294,417	216,100,972
Deductions:					
Local Estimated Receipts: (2)	29,430,576	34,357,315	39,127,045	34,391,865	30,611,425
State Aid:					
Current Year	11,163,358	11,720,547	12,509,090	13,135,749	13,695,326
Available Funds (3)	7,771,029	16,531,797	16,557,525	14,217,067	9,355,420
Total Deductions	48,364,963	62,609,659	68,193,660	61,744,681	53,662,171
Net Amount to be Raised	\$ 124,789,790	\$ 132,537,888	\$ 141,893,986	\$ 151,549,737	\$ 162,438,801

(1) Includes additional appropriations from taxation voted subsequent to adoption of the annual budget but prior to setting of the tax rate.

(2) Includes CPA surcharge tax and state matching funds.

(3) Transfers from other available funds, generally made as an offset to a particular appropriation item.

Assessed Valuations and Tax Levies

Property is classified for the purpose of taxation according to its use. The legislature has in substance created three classes of taxable property: (1) residential real property, (2) open space land, and (3) all other (commercial, industrial and personal property). Within limits, cities and towns are given the option of determining the share of the annual levy to be borne by each of the three categories. The share required to be borne by residential real property is at least 50 per cent of its share of the total taxable valuation; the effective rate for open space must be at least 75 per cent of the effective rate for residential real property; and the share of commercial, industrial and personal property must not exceed 175 percent of their share of the total valuation. A city or town may also exempt up to 20 percent of the valuation of residential real property (where used as the taxpayer's principal residence) and up to 10 percent of the valuation of commercial real property (where occupied by certain small businesses). Property may not be classified in a city or town until the State Commissioner of Revenue certifies that all property in the city or town has been assessed at its fair cash value. Such certification must take place every three years, or pursuant to a revised schedule as may be issued by the Commissioner.

Related statutes provide that certain forest land, agricultural or horticultural land (assessed at the value it has for these purposes) and recreational land (assessed on the basis of its use at a maximum of 25 percent of its fair cash value) are all to be taxed at the rate applicable to commercial property. Land classified as forest land is valued for this purpose at five percent of fair cash value but not less than ten dollars per acre.

A revaluation of all real and personal property in the Town to full and fair cash value was completed for use in fiscal year 2020.

The following table sets forth the trend in the Town's assessed valuations, tax levies, and tax levies per capita.

Fiscal Year	Real Estate Valuation	Personal Property Valuation	Total Assessed Valuation	Tax Levy	Tax Levy Per Capita(1)
2021	\$10,742,368,779	\$ 303,361,700	\$ 11,045,730,479	\$ 162,438,801	\$ 5,623
2020 (2)	10,513,875,793	289,887,680	10,803,763,473	151,549,737	5,246
2019	9,942,091,341	226,725,850	10,168,817,191	141,893,986	4,912
2018	9,657,562,659	228,092,990	9,885,655,649	132,537,888	4,588
2017	9,006,087,416	234,987,080	9,241,074,496	124,789,790	4,320

(1) 2010 Federal Census.

(2) Revaluation year.

The table below sets forth the trend of the Town's tax rates for different classes of property for the following fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	Tax Rate per \$1,000 Valuation	
	Residential Property	Commercial, Industrial & Personal Property
2021	\$13.03	\$25.74
2020	12.49	24.55
2019	12.39	24.42
2018	11.88	23.46
2017	11.89	23.63

Classification of Property

The following is a breakdown of the Town's assessed valuation in fiscal years 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Property Type	2019		2020 (1)		2021	
	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Amount	% of Total
Residential	\$8,846,926,822	87.0 %	\$9,426,422,597	87.3 %	\$9,589,166,123	86.8 %
Commercial	966,634,621	9.5	960,182,252	8.9	1,030,129,606	9.3
Industrial	128,529,898	1.3	127,270,944	1.2	123,073,050	1.1
Personal	226,725,850	2.2	289,887,680	2.7	303,361,700	2.7
Total Real Estate	<u>\$10,168,817,191</u>	<u>100.0 %</u>	<u>\$10,803,763,473</u>	<u>100.0 %</u>	<u>\$11,045,730,479</u>	<u>100.0 %</u>

(1) Revaluation year.

LARGEST TAXPAYERS

The following table lists the eleven largest taxpayers in the Town based upon assessed valuation for fiscal 2021. All of the largest taxpayers are current in their tax payments to the Town, except as noted below.

Name	Nature of Business	Total Assessed Valuation for Fiscal 2021	% of Total Assessed Value
Digital 128 First Avenue, LLC	Data Storage Facility	\$100,306,300	0.99 %
Lofts at Charles River Landing	Residential Apartments Complex	90,007,000	0.89
Babson College	Assisted Living	89,877,200	0.88
Needham Travel Property LLC (1)	Travel Agency	78,688,100	0.77
Needham Residential LLC	Apartments	74,497,000	0.73
BP 140 Kendrick Street Property	Software Design	53,470,400	0.53
MCPF Needham LLC	Real Estate Developer	51,023,200	0.50
MCREF Needham LLC	Apartments	40,662,300	0.40
WCP Needham Cabot LLC	Hotel	35,685,000	0.35
WHC Needham I, LP (1)	Assisted Living and Nursing Home Facility	33,432,700	0.33
Total		<u>\$647,649,200</u>	<u>6.37 %</u>

(1) De minimis amounts due from second quarter of fiscal year 2021 as of December 31, 2020. This is not expected to impact the Town's immediate financial flexibility and is likely to be resolved within the year.

State Equalized Valuation

In order to determine appropriate relative values for the purposes of certain distributions to and assessments upon cities and towns, the Commissioner of Revenue biennially makes a redetermination of the fair cash value of the taxable property in each municipality. This is known as the "equalized value".

The following table sets forth the trend in equalized valuations of the Town of Needham.

January 1,	State Equalized Valuation	% Change
2020	\$11,580,160,100	11.9 %
2018	10,352,941,600	7.0
2016	9,675,551,500	16.7
2014	8,293,426,000	1.9
2012	8,141,495,500	5.3
2010	7,730,432,400	1.2

Abatements and Overlay

The Town is authorized to increase each tax levy by an amount approved by the State Commissioner of Revenue as an "overlay" to provide for tax abatements. If abatements are granted in excess of the applicable overlay, the resultant "overlay deficit" is required to be added to the next tax levy. An abatement granted after a tax payment has been made is accounted for as a refund on the books of the Town. Abatements are granted where exempt real or personal property has been assessed or where taxable real or personal property has been overvalued or disproportionately valued. The assessors may also abate uncollectible personal property taxes. They may abate real and personal property taxes on broad grounds (including inability to pay) with the approval of the State Commissioner of Revenue. But uncollected real property taxes are ordinarily not written off until they become municipal "tax titles" by purchase at the public sale or by taking, at which time the tax is written off in full by reserving the amount of the tax and charging surplus.

The following table sets forth the amount of the overlay reserve for the last five fiscal years and the amounts of abatements and exemptions granted as of June 30, 2020.

Fiscal Year	Net Tax Levy (1)	Overlay Reserve		As a % of Net Levy	Abatements and Exemptions Granted As of June 30, 2020
		Dollar Amount			
2020	\$ 149,257,597	\$ 2,292,140		1.54 %	\$ 261,884
2019	139,925,876	1,968,110		1.41	325,641
2018	129,725,995	2,811,893		2.17	304,434
2017	122,944,314	1,855,476		1.51	409,887
2016	116,282,088	3,009,775		2.59	698,254

(1) Tax levy prior to addition of overlay reserve.

Tax Collections

The Town has accepted a statute providing for quarterly tax payments. Under that statute, preliminary tax payments are due on August 1 and November 1 with payment of the actual tax bill (after credit is given for the preliminary payments) installments on February 1 and May 1 if actual tax bills are mailed by December 31. Interest accrues on delinquent taxes at the rate of 14 percent per annum. Real property (land and buildings) is subject to a lien for the taxes assessed upon it, subject to any paramount federal lien and subject to bankruptcy and insolvency laws. (In addition, real property is subject to a lien for certain unpaid municipal charges or fees.) If the property has been transferred, an unenforced lien expires on the fourth December 31 after the end of the fiscal year to which the tax relates. If the property has not been transferred by the fourth December 31, an unenforced lien expires upon a later transfer of the property. Provision is made, however, for continuation of the lien where it could not be enforced because of a legal impediment. The persons against whom real or personal property taxes are assessed are personally liable for the tax (subject to bankruptcy and insolvency laws). In the case of real property, this personal liability is effectively extinguished by sale or taking of the property as described below.

The following table compares the Town's net tax collections with its net (gross tax levy less overlay reserve for abatements) tax levies for the previous five fiscal years, exclusive of the surcharge of property tax levied under the CPA.

Fiscal Year	Gross Tax Levy (2)	Overlay Reserve for Abatements	Net Tax Levy	Collections During Fiscal Year Payable (1)		Collections as of 6/30/2020 (2)(3)	
				Dollar Amount	% of Net Levy	Dollar Amount	% of Net Levy
2020	\$ 151,549,737	\$ 2,292,140	\$ 149,257,597	\$ 148,734,319	99.6 %	\$ 148,734,319	99.6 %
2019	141,893,986	1,968,110	139,925,876	140,275,654	100.2	141,202,736	100.9
2018	132,537,888	2,811,893	129,725,995	126,073,429	97.2	132,051,524	101.8
2017	124,799,790	1,855,476	122,944,314	123,406,240	100.4	124,045,661	100.9
2016	119,291,863	3,009,775	116,282,088	117,554,391	101.1	118,156,281	101.6

(1) Actual dollar collections, net of refunds. Does not include abatements, proceeds of tax titles or tax possessions attributable to each levy or other non-cash credits.

(2) Exclusive of the property tax levied under the Community Preservation Act.

(3) Collections for current fiscal year are comparable to prior fiscal years.

Tax Titles and Possessions

Massachusetts law permits a municipality either to sell by public sale (at which the municipality may become the purchaser) or to take real property for non-payment of taxes. In either case the property owner can redeem the property by paying the unpaid taxes, with interest and other charges, but if the right of redemption is not exercised within six months (which may be extended an additional year in the case of certain installment payments) it can be foreclosed by petition to the Land Court.

Upon foreclosure, a tax title purchased or taken by the municipality becomes a "tax possession" and may be held and disposed of in the same manner as other land held for municipal purposes. Uncollectible real property taxes are ordinarily not written off until they become municipal tax titles by purchase at the public sale or by taking, at which time the tax is written off in full by reserving the amount of tax and charging surplus.

The table below sets forth the amount of tax titles and possessions and deferred taxes outstanding at the end of the following fiscal years.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Tax Titles and Possessions</u>	<u>Deferred Taxes</u>
2020	\$ 1,229,531	\$ 546,673
2019	971,141	505,512
2018	955,160	439,572
2018	984,558	464,599
2017	1,208,475	470,642

Sale of Tax Receivables

Cities and towns are authorized to sell delinquent property tax receivables by public sale or auction, either individually or in bulk. The Town does not expect to utilize this option at the present time.

Taxation to Meet Deficits

As noted elsewhere (see "Abatements and Overlay" above) overlay deficits, i.e. tax abatements in excess of the overlay included in the tax levy to cover abatements, are required to be added to the next tax levy. It is generally understood that revenue deficits, i.e. those resulting from non-property tax revenues being less than anticipated, are also required to be added to the tax levy (at least to the extent not covered by surplus revenue).

Amounts lawfully expended since the prior tax levy and not included therein are also required to be included in the annual tax levy. The circumstances under which this can arise are limited since municipal departments are generally prohibited from incurring liabilities in excess of appropriations except for major disasters, mandated items, contracts in aid of housing and renewal projects and other long-term contracts. In addition, utilities must be paid at established rates and certain established salaries, e.g. civil service, must legally be paid for work actually performed, whether or not covered by appropriations.

Cities and towns are authorized to appropriate sums, and thus to levy taxes, to cover deficits arising from other causes, such as "free cash" deficits arising from a failure to collect taxes. This is not generally understood, however, and it has not been the practice to levy taxes to cover free cash deficits. Except to the extent that such deficits have been reduced or eliminated by subsequent collections of uncollected taxes (including sales of tax titles and tax possessions), lapsed appropriations, non-property tax revenues in excess of estimates, other miscellaneous items or funding loans authorized by special act, they remain in existence.

Tax Limitations

Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws, also known as "Proposition 2½", imposes two separate limits on the annual tax levy of a city or town.

The primary limitation is that the tax levy cannot exceed 2½ percent of the full and fair cash value. If a city or town exceeds the primary limitation, it must reduce its tax levy by at least 15 percent annually until it is in compliance, provided that the reduction can be reduced in any year to not less than 7½ percent by majority vote of the voters, or to less than 7½ percent by two-thirds vote of the voters.

For cities and towns at or below the primary limit, a secondary limitation is that the tax levy cannot exceed the maximum levy limit for the preceding fiscal year as determined by the State Commissioner of Revenue by more than 2½ percent, subject to exceptions for property added to the tax rolls or property which has had an increase, other than as part of a general revaluation, in its assessed valuation over the prior year's valuation.

This "growth" limit on the tax levy may be exceeded in any year by a majority vote of the voters, but an increase in the secondary or growth limit under this procedure does not permit a tax levy in excess of the primary limitation, since the two limitations apply independently. In addition, if the voters vote to approve taxes in excess of the "growth" limit for the purpose of funding a stabilization fund, such increased amount may only be taken into account for purposes of calculating the maximum levy limit in each subsequent year if the board of selectmen of a town or the city council of a city votes by a two-thirds vote to appropriate such increased amount in such subsequent year to the stabilization fund.

The applicable tax limits may also be reduced in any year by a majority vote of the voters.

The State Commissioner of Revenue may adjust any tax limit "to counterbalance the effects of extraordinary, non-recurring events which occurred during the base year".

The statute further provides that the voters may exclude from the taxes subject to the tax limits and from the calculation of the maximum tax levy (a) the amount required to pay debt service on bonds and notes issued before November 4, 1980, if the exclusion is approved by a majority vote of the voters, and (b) the amount required to pay debt service on any specific subsequent issue for which similar approval is obtained. Even with voter approval, the holders of the obligations for which unlimited taxes may be assessed do not have a statutory priority or security interest in the portion of the tax levy attributable to such obligations. It should be noted that Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 20 requires that the taxes excluded from the levy limit to pay debt service on any such bonds and notes be calculated based on the true interest cost of the issue. Accordingly, the Department of Revenue limits the amount of taxes which may be levied in each year to pay debt service on any such bonds and notes to the amount of such debt service, less a pro rata portion of any original issue premium received by the city or town that was not applied to pay costs of issuance.

Voters may also exclude from the Proposition 2½ limits the amount required to pay specified capital outlay expenditures or for the city or town's apportioned share for certain capital outlay expenditures by a regional governmental unit. In addition, the city council of a city, with the approval of the mayor if required, or the board of selectmen or the town council of a town may vote to exclude from the Proposition 2½ limits taxes raised in lieu of sewer or water charges to pay debt service on bonds or notes issued by the municipality (or by an independent authority, commission or district) for water or sewer purposes, provided that the municipality's sewer or water charges are reduced accordingly.

In addition, Proposition 2½ limits the annual increase in the total assessments on cities and towns by any county, district, authority, the Commonwealth or any other governmental entity (except regional school districts, the MWRA and certain districts for which special legislation provides otherwise) to the sum of (a) 2½ percent of the prior year's assessments and (b) "any increases in costs, charges or fees for services customarily provided locally or for services subscribed to at local option". Regional water districts, regional sewerage districts and regional veterans districts may exceed these limitations under statutory procedures requiring a two-thirds vote of the district's governing body and either approval of the local appropriating authorities (by two-thirds vote in districts with more than two members or by majority vote in two-member districts) or approval of the registered voters in a local election (in the case of two-member districts). Under Proposition 2½ any State law to take effect on or after January 1, 1981 imposing a direct service or cost obligation on a city or town will become effective only if accepted or voluntarily funded by the city or town or if State funding is provided. Similarly, State rules or regulations imposing additional costs on a city or town or laws granting or increasing local tax exemptions are to take effect only if adequate State appropriations are provided. These statutory provisions do not apply to costs resulting from judicial decisions.

The Town of Needham has been in full compliance with Proposition 2½ since its inception. The Town has voted to override Proposition 2½ for operating purposes and to exclude debt service on several occasions for capital projects. Most recently, the Town approved general overrides in 2003 (\$2,459,318), 2006 (\$597,370), 2007 (\$1,128,670) and 2009 (\$1,887,929). In addition, the Town voted to exclude \$15,700,000 principal and the interest thereon for library renovation and expansion, \$62,000,000 principal and the interest thereon for high school renovation and expansion, \$21,000,000 principal and the interest thereon for the High Rock and Pollard School projects, \$27,412,128 principal and the interest thereon for the Newman School renovation project, \$762,500, \$7,000,000 and \$57,542,500 principal and the interest thereon for site acquisition and construction of the Sunita L. Williams School, and \$69,995,000 for the design, construction of a new Police/Fire complex and Fire Station #2 (less any MSBA grants).

Unused Levy Capacity (1)

	Fiscal Year				
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Primary Levy Limit (2)	\$ 276,143,262	\$ 270,094,087	\$ 254,220,430	\$ 247,141,391	\$ 231,026,862
Prior Fiscal Year Levy Limit	142,426,994	134,365,725	126,800,315	118,982,082	113,229,253
2.5% Levy Growth	3,560,675	3,359,252	3,170,022	2,974,599	2,830,797
New Growth (3)	4,551,806	4,697,667	4,394,835	4,841,774	2,919,417
Amended New Growth	-	4,350	553	1,860	2,615
Overrides	-	-	-	-	-
Growth Levy Limit	150,539,475	142,426,994	134,365,725	126,800,315	118,982,082
Debt Exclusions	13,657,093	12,122,344	9,057,029	7,019,086	5,886,862
Capital Expenditure Exclusions	-	-	-	-	-
Other Adjustments	-	-	-	-	-
Tax Levy Limit	164,196,568	154,549,338	143,422,754	133,819,401	124,868,944
Tax Levy	162,438,801	151,549,737	141,893,986	132,537,888	124,789,790
Unused Levy Capacity (4)	1,757,767	2,999,601	1,528,768	1,281,513	79,154
Unused Primary Levy Capacity (5)	\$ 125,603,787	\$ 127,667,093	\$ 119,854,705	\$ 120,341,076	\$ 112,044,780

(1) Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

(2) 2.5% of assessed valuation.

(3) Allowed increase for new valuations (or required reduction) - certified by the Department of Revenue.

(4) Tax Levy Limit less Tax Levy.

(5) Primary Levy Limit less Growth Levy Limit.

Community Preservation Act

The Massachusetts Community Preservation Act (the "CPA") permits cities and towns that accept its provisions to levy a surcharge on its real property tax levy, dedicate revenue (other than state or federal funds), and to receive state matching funds for (i) the acquisition, creation, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of land for recreational use, open space, and affordable housing and (ii) the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources. The provisions of the CPA must be accepted by the voters of the city or town at an election after such provisions have first been accepted by either a vote of the legislative body of the city or town or an initiative petition signed by 5% of its registered voters.

A city or town may approve a surcharge of up to 3% (but not less than 1% under certain circumstances) and may make an additional commitment of funds by dedicating revenue other than state or federal funds, provided that the total funds collected do not exceed 3% of the real property tax levy, less any exemptions adopted (such as an exemption for low-income individuals and families and for low and moderate-income senior citizens, an exemption for \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property or \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of class three, commercial property, and class four, industrial property as defined in Chapter 59, Section 2A of the General Laws, and an exemption for commercial and industrial properties in cities and towns with classified tax rates). In the event that the municipality shall no longer dedicate all or part of the additional funds to community preservation, the surcharge on the real property tax levy of not less than 1% shall remain in effect, provided that any such change must be approved pursuant to the same process as acceptance of the CPA. The surcharge is not counted in the total taxes assessed for the purpose of determining the permitted levy amount under Proposition 2½ (see "Tax Limitations" under "PROPERTY TAXATION" above). A city or town may revoke its acceptance of the provisions of the CPA at any time after 5 years from the date of such acceptance and may change the amount of the surcharge or the exemptions to the surcharge at any time, including reducing the surcharge to 1% and committing additional municipal funds as outlined above, provided that any such revocation or change must be approved pursuant to the same process as acceptance of the CPA.

Any city or town that accepts the provisions of the CPA will receive annual state matching grants to supplement amounts raised by its surcharge and dedication of revenue. The state matching funds are raised from certain recording and filing fees of the registers of deeds. Those amounts are deposited into a state trust fund and are distributed to cities and towns that have accepted the provisions of the CPA, which distributions are not subject to annual appropriation by the state legislature. The amount distributed to each city and town is based on a statutory formula and the total state distribution made to any city or town may not exceed 100% of the amount raised locally by the surcharge on the real property tax levy.

The amounts raised by the surcharge on taxes, the dedication of revenue and received in state matching funds are required to be deposited in a dedicated community preservation fund. Each city or town that accepts the provisions of the CPA is required to establish a community preservation committee to study the community preservation needs of the community

and to make recommendations to the legislative body of the city or town regarding the community preservation projects that should be funded from the community preservation fund. Upon the recommendations of the committee, the legislative body of the city or town may appropriate amounts from the fund for permitted community preservation purposes or may reserve amounts for spending in future fiscal years, provided that at least 10% of the total annual revenues to the fund must be spent or set aside for open space purposes, 10% for historic resource purposes and 10% for affordable housing purposes.

The CPA authorizes cities and towns that accept its provisions to issue bonds and notes in anticipation of the receipt of surcharge and dedicated revenues to finance community preservation projects approved under the provisions of the CPA. Bonds and notes issued under the CPA are general obligations of the city or town and are payable from amounts on deposit in the community preservation fund. In the event that a city or town revokes its acceptance of the provisions of the CPA, the surcharge shall remain in effect until all contractual obligations incurred by the city or town prior to such revocation, including the payment of bonds or notes issued under the CPA, have been fully discharged.

The Town has accepted the Act and set the surcharge rate at 2%. The Town implemented the program in fiscal year 2006 and is utilizing revenues to pay for a variety of municipal projects.

Community Preservation Fund Revenues

Fiscal Year	Property Tax (1)	State Contribution	Total
2020	\$ 2,609,353	\$ 592,379	\$ 3,201,732
2019	2,468,833	438,305	2,907,138
2018	2,300,322	368,739	2,669,061
2017	2,136,893	417,408	2,554,301
2016	2,028,800	579,514	2,608,314

(1) Reflects actual collections.

The CPA Fund had a balance of \$8,588,915 as of June 30, 2020.

Pledged Taxes

Taxes on the increased value certain property in designated development districts may be pledged for the payment of costs of economic development projects within such districts and may therefore be unavailable for other municipal purposes. (See "Tax Increment Financing for Development Districts" under "TOWN FINANCES" below).

TOWN FINANCES

Budget and Appropriation Process

Town Meeting: The annual appropriations of the Town are ordinarily made at the annual meeting, which takes place in May. Appropriations may also be voted at special meetings. The Town has a finance committee, which submits reports and recommendations on proposed expenditures at town meetings.

The school budget is limited to the total amount appropriated by the city council or town meeting, but the school committee retains full power to allocate the funds appropriated. State legislation known as the Education Reform Act of 1993, as amended, imposes certain minimum expenditure requirements on municipalities with respect to funding for education. The requirements are determined on the basis of formulas affected by various measures of wealth and income, enrollments, prior levels of local spending and state aid, and other factors. In each fiscal year, the Town has appropriated at least the minimum expenditure requirement imposed by the Act.

The Town meeting may at any time vote to transfer any amount previously appropriated to any other authorized use by law, and, under certain circumstances and subject to certain limits and requirements, the selectmen of a town, with the concurrence of the finance committee, may transfer amounts appropriated for the use of any department to any other appropriation for the same department or to any other department.

Water and sewer department expenditures are generally included in the budgets adopted by city councils and town meetings but electric and gas department funds may be appropriated by the municipal light boards. Under certain legislation any city or town which accepts the legislation may provide that the appropriation for the operating costs of any department may be offset, in whole or in part, by estimated receipts from fees charged for services provided by the department. It is assumed that this general provision does not alter the pre-existing power of an electric or gas department to appropriate its own receipts.

Enterprises: Beginning with the fiscal 1996 budget, water and sewer operations are accounted for in separate enterprise accounts. Beginning with the fiscal 1999 budget solid waste operations are accounted for in a separate enterprise account. Effective for FY2020, the Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations changed from an Enterprise Fund to General Fund appropriation.

Mandatory Items: Mandatory items, such as state and county assessments, the overlay for abatements, abatements in excess of overlays, principal and interest not otherwise provided for and final judgments are included in the tax levy whether or not included in the budget.

Revenues: Revenues are not required to be set forth in the budget but estimated non-tax revenues are taken into account by the assessors in fixing the tax levy. (See "PROPERTY TAXATION--Tax Levy Computation".)

Budget Trends

The following table sets forth the trend in operating budgets for fiscal years 2017 through 2021, as voted at the town meeting. As such, said budgets reflect neither revenues nor certain mandatory items.

BUDGET COMPARISON (1)

	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2018	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020 (5)	Fiscal 2021
General Government	\$4,294,265	\$4,449,845	\$4,758,257	\$4,966,498	\$5,400,737
Land Use and Development	515,350	541,943	561,423	587,795	616,651
Public Safety	14,493,710	15,295,908	15,736,737	16,495,226	17,047,491
Education(2)	65,952,600	69,156,335	72,020,179	77,090,548	81,835,024
Public Works & Facilities	15,274,299	16,056,178	16,667,383	20,198,110	21,417,143
Health & Human Services	1,493,315	1,698,993	1,863,784	2,050,632	2,299,203
Culture & Recreation	2,193,270	2,148,976	2,417,641	2,653,814	2,935,790
Employee Benefits(3)	25,491,114	28,053,212	30,776,911	31,835,123	33,586,497
Other Operating Expenses	1,816,490	866,200	1,153,880	1,462,290	1,920,795
Debt Service(4)	11,161,839	12,573,958	14,904,503	19,038,470	21,111,388
Reserve Fund	1,541,875	1,862,600	1,859,891	1,881,500	2,077,091
Total Expenditures	<u>\$144,228,127</u>	<u>\$152,704,148</u>	<u>\$162,720,589</u>	<u>\$178,260,006</u>	<u>\$190,247,810</u>

- (1) Budgets reflect only the amount appropriated by Town Meeting and thus do not include county and state assessments and overlay reserve.
- (2) Includes regional vocational school assessment.
- (3) Includes pension and OPEB funding.
- (4) Includes debt excluded from Proposition 2½ as well as estimated debt service on authorized and unissued debt.
- (5) Effective for FY2020, the Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Operations changed from an Enterprise Fund to General Fund appropriation.

Revenues

Property Taxes: Property taxes are the major source of revenue for the Town. The total amount levied is subject to certain limits prescribed by law; for a description of those limits see "PROPERTY TAXATION-- Tax Limitations" above. The table below sets forth the amount of property tax revenue for the following fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	Property Taxes
2020	\$ 150,192,994
2019	141,090,907
2018	132,578,018
2017	124,311,726
2016	118,981,810

State Aid: The Town's state aid entitlement is based upon a number of different formulas, and while such formulas might indicate that a particular amount of state aid is owed, the amount of state aid actually paid is limited to the amount appropriated by the state legislature. The state annually estimates state aid but actual payments may vary from the estimate. The table below sets forth the amount of state aid revenue for the following fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	State Aid
2020	\$13,088,243
2019	11,813,475
2018	11,081,996
2017	10,475,985
2016	10,065,389

Motor Vehicle Excise: An excise is imposed on the registration of motor vehicles (subject to exemptions) at the rate of \$25 per \$1,000 of valuation. The excise is collected by and for the benefit of the municipality in which the motor vehicle is customarily kept. Valuations are determined by a statutory formula based on manufacturer's list price and year of manufacture. Bills not paid when due bear interest at 12 percent per annum. Provision is also made after notice to the owner, for suspension of the owner's operating license or registration by the registrar of motor vehicles. The state annually estimates state aid but actual payments may vary from the estimate. The table below sets forth the amount of motor vehicle excise revenue for the following fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	Motor Vehicle Excise
2020	\$ 5,679,213
2019	6,138,951
2018	5,910,555
2017	5,701,557
2016	5,627,887

Water and Sewer Rates and Services: The Town's Public Works Department provides water and sewer services, accounted for as enterprise funds, to all commercial, industrial and residential users within the Town and charges them on the basis of metered consumption. Water and sewer rates are set by the Select Board. The Town has an ascending block rate schedule ranging from \$3.18 to \$5.24 per 100 cubic feet for water and from \$9.08 to \$11.79 per 100 cubic feet for sewer. Water irrigation rates range from \$5.24 to \$8.32 per 100 cubic feet for water. The rates were effective July 1, 2019.

In fiscal year 2019, water and sewer revenues totaled \$16,127,754 which included \$504,750 in general fund receipts, and expenditures totaled \$14,449,876 including debt service, retirement costs and overhead.

In fiscal year 2020, water and sewer revenues totaled \$15,893,809 which included \$530,467 in general fund receipts, and expenditures totaled \$14,840,568 including debt service, retirement costs and overhead.

Local Options Meals Tax: On November 2, 2009, the Town adopted the local meals excise tax to be effective January 1, 2010. The local meals excise tax is a 0.75% tax on the gross receipts of a vendor from the sale of restaurant meals. The tax is paid by the vendor to the State Commissioner of Revenue, who in turn pays the tax to the municipality in which the meal was sold. The table below sets forth the amount of local option meals tax revenue for the following fiscal years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Local Option Meals Tax</u>
2020	\$ 499,167
2019	543,389
2018	497,446
2017	492,329
2016	490,317

As a result the reduction in economic activity associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, it is likely that revenues from this source will decline in fiscal year 2021.

Room Occupancy Tax: Under this tax, local governments may tax the provision of hotel, motel lodging house rooms and bed and breakfast rooms at a rate not to exceed six percent (6%) of the cost of renting such rooms. The tax is paid by the operator of each establishment to the State Commissioner of Revenue, who in turn pays the tax back to the municipality in which the rooms are located in quarterly distributions. On November 2, 2009, the Town adopted an increase in the room occupancy tax to 6% to be effective January 1, 2010. The table below sets forth the amount of room occupancy tax revenue for the following fiscal years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Room Occupancy Tax</u>
2020	\$ 1,185,706
2019	1,357,713
2018	1,045,862
2017	1,079,169
2016	1,118,325

As a result the reduction in economic activity associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, it is likely that revenues from this source will decline in fiscal year 2021.

Interest and Dividends: The table below sets forth the amount of interest and dividends revenue for the following fiscal years:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Interest & Dividends</u>
2020	\$ 834,163
2019	979,649
2018	434,319
2017	278,831
2016	111,638

State Distributions

In addition to grants for specified capital purposes (some of which are payable over the life of the bonds issued for the projects), the Commonwealth provides financial assistance to cities and towns for current purposes. Payments to cities and towns are derived primarily from a percentage of the State's personal income, sales and use, and corporate excise tax receipts, together with the net receipts from the State Lottery. A municipality's state aid entitlement is based on a number of different formulas, of which the "schools" and "lottery" formulas are the most important. Both of the major formulas tend to provide more state aid to poorer communities. The formulas for determining a municipality's state aid entitlement are subject to amendment by the state legislature and, while a formula might indicate that a particular amount of state aid is owed, the amount of state aid actually paid is limited to the amount appropriated by the state legislature. The state annually estimates state aid, but the actual state aid payments may vary from the estimate.

In the fall of 1986, both the State Legislature (by statute, repealed as of July 1, 1999) and the voters (by initiative petition) placed limits on the growth of state tax revenues. Although somewhat different in detail, each measure essentially limited the annual growth in state tax revenues to an average rate of growth in wages and salaries in the Commonwealth over the three previous calendar years. If not amended, the remaining law could restrict the amount of state revenues available for state aid to local communities.

As a result the reduction in economic activity associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, it is likely that revenues from this source will decline in fiscal year 2021.

State School Building Assistance Program

Under its school building assistance program, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts provides grants to cities, towns and regional school districts for school construction projects. Until July 26, 2004, the State Board of Education was responsible for approving grants for school projects and otherwise administering the program. Grant amounts ranged from 50% to 90% of approved project costs. Municipalities generally issued bonds to finance the entire project cost, and the Commonwealth disbursed the grants in equal annual installments over the term of the related bonds.

Pursuant to legislation which became effective on July 26, 2004, the state legislature created the MSBA to finance and administer the school building assistance program. The MSBA assumed all powers and obligations of the Board of Education with respect to the program. In addition to certain other amounts, the legislation dedicates a portion of Commonwealth sales tax receipts to the MSBA to finance the program.

Projects previously approved for grants by the State Board of Education are entitled to receive grant payments from the MSBA based on the approved project cost and reimbursement rate applicable under the prior law. The MSBA has paid and is expected to continue to pay the remaining amounts of the grants for such projects either in annual installments to reimburse debt service on bonds issued by the municipalities to finance such projects, or as lump sum payments to contribute to the defeasance of such bonds.

Projects on the priority waiting list as of July 1, 2004 are also entitled to receive grant payments from the MSBA based on the eligible project costs and reimbursement rates applicable under the prior law. With limited exceptions, the MSBA is required to fund the grants for such projects in the order in which they appeared on the waiting list. Grants for any such projects that have been completed or substantially completed have been paid and are expected to continue to be paid by the MSBA in lump sum payments, thereby eliminating the need for the MSBA to reimburse interest expenses that would otherwise be incurred by the municipalities to permanently finance the MSBA's share of such project costs. Interest on debt issued by municipalities prior to July 1, 2004 to finance such project costs, and interest on temporary debt until receipt of the grant, is included in the approved costs of such projects. Grants for any such projects that have not yet commenced or that are underway have been and are expected to continue to be paid by the MSBA as project costs are incurred by the municipality pursuant to a project funding agreement between the MSBA and the municipality, eliminating the need for the municipality to borrow even on a temporary basis to finance the MSBA's share of the project costs in most cases.

The maximum of reimbursement rate for new project grant applications submitted to the MSBA on or after July 1, 2007 is 80% of approved project costs. The MSBA promulgated regulations with respect to the application and approval process for projects submitted after July 1, 2007. The MSBA pays grants for such projects as project costs are incurred pursuant to project funding agreements between the MSBA and the municipalities. None of the interest expense incurred on debt issued by municipalities to finance their portion of the costs of new projects are included in the approved project costs eligible for reimbursement.

Investment of Town Funds

Investments of funds of cities and towns, except for trust funds, are generally restricted by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §55. That statute permits investments of available revenue funds and bond and note proceeds in 1.) term deposits and certificates of deposits of banks and trust companies with a maturity date from date of purchase of up to three years; 2.) obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the federal government or an agency thereof with a maturity of not more than one year; 3.) repurchase agreements with a maturity of not more than 90 days secured by federal or federal agency securities; 4.) participation units in the Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust ("MMDT"), or; 5) shares in SEC-registered money market funds with the highest possible rating from at least one nationally recognized rating organization.

MMDT is an investment pool created by the Commonwealth. The State Treasurer is the sole trustee, and the funds are managed under contract by an investment firm under the supervision of the State Treasurer's office. According to the State Treasurer the MMDT's investment policy is designed to maintain an average weighted maturity of 90 days or less and is limited to high-quality, readily marketable fixed income instruments, including U.S. Government obligations and highly-rated corporate securities with maturities of one year or less.

MMDT funds, unless otherwise provided by the donor, may be invested in accordance with §54 of Chapter 44, which permits a broader range of investments than §55, including any bonds or notes that are legal investments for savings banks in the Commonwealth. The restrictions imposed by §54 and §55 do not apply to city and town retirement systems.

A breakdown of the Town's investments may be obtained from the Town Treasurer.

Annual Audits

The Town's financial statements have been audited annually. Copies of audit reports are available at the office of the Town Accountant of the Town of Needham. The Town's financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020 are set forth as Appendix A and have been audited by the firm of Melanson, Heath & Company, P.C., Nashua, New Hampshire.

The attached report speaks only as of its date, and only to the matters expressly set forth therein. The auditors have not been engaged to review this Official Statement or to perform audit procedures regarding the post-audit period, nor have the auditors been requested to give their consent to the inclusion of their report in Appendix A. Except as stated in their report, the auditors have not been engaged to verify the financial information set out in Appendix A and are not passing upon and do not assume responsibility for the sufficiency, accuracy or completeness of the financial information presented in that appendix.

Financial Statements

Set forth on the following pages are Governmental Funds Balance Sheets for fiscal years ended June 30, 2020, June 30, 2019 and June 30, 2018 and the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, and 2016. All said financial statements have been extracted from the Town's audited financial statements.

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
AS OF JUNE 30, 2020 (1)**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Community Preservation</u>	<u>Public Safety Building</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS					
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 44,593,304	\$ 4,907,569	\$ 5,095,463	\$ 15,995,069	\$ 70,591,405
Investments	9,417,500	3,681,346	-	2,560,426	15,659,272
Receivables:					
Property taxes	4,765,333	36,578	-	-	4,801,911
Excises	1,149,336	-	-	-	1,149,336
Departmental	1,112,160	-	-	30,884	1,143,044
Intergovernmental	2,085,444	-	-	362,736	2,448,180
Other	56,273	-	-	-	56,273
Deposits	-	-	-	182,226	182,226
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 63,179,350	\$ 8,625,493	\$ 5,095,463	\$ 19,131,341	\$ 96,031,647
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES					
Liabilities:					
Warrants and accounts payable	\$ 1,654,589	\$ 1,179,025	\$ 3,366,033	\$ 1,293,409	\$ 7,493,056
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	1,138,317	1,138,317
Accrued liabilities	3,892,671	-	-	89,856	3,982,527
Anticipation notes payable	-	-	-	1,200,000	1,200,000
Refunds payable	562,856	-	-	-	562,856
Other liabilities	174,309	-	-	1,615	175,924
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,284,425	1,179,025	3,366,033	3,723,197	14,552,680
Deferred Inflows of Resources:					
Unavailable revenues	8,014,308	36,578	-	393,620	8,444,506
Taxes paid in advance	211,138	-	-	-	211,138
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	8,225,446	36,578	-	393,620	8,655,644
Fund Balances:					
Nonspendable	-	-	-	188,478	188,478
Restricted	792,826	7,409,890	1,729,430	9,012,981	18,945,127
Committed	7,370,979	-	-	7,665,439	15,036,418
Assigned	11,673,908	-	-	-	11,673,908
Unassigned	28,831,766	-	-	(1,852,374)	26,979,392
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	48,669,479	7,409,890	1,729,430	15,014,524	72,823,323
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 63,179,350	\$ 8,625,493	\$ 5,095,463	\$ 19,131,341	\$ 96,031,647

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
AS OF JUNE 30, 2019 (1)**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Community Preservation</u>	<u>Sunita L. Williams School</u>	<u>Public Safety Building</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS						
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 41,606,429	\$ -	\$ 4,583,142	\$ 7,435,741	\$ 16,024,864	\$ 69,650,176
Investments	9,670,699	7,697,896	-	-	2,712,926	20,081,521
Receivables:						
Property taxes	3,294,447	17,395	-	-	-	3,311,842
Excises	943,373	-	-	-	-	943,373
Departmental	612,668	-	-	-	23,110	635,778
Intergovernmental	2,780,592	-	-	-	391,821	3,172,413
Other	10,476	-	-	-	-	10,476
Deposits	-	-	-	-	182,226	182,226
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 58,918,684	\$ 7,715,291	\$ 4,583,142	\$ 7,435,741	\$ 19,334,947	\$ 97,987,805
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities:						
Warrants and accounts payable	\$ 906,255	\$ 119,294	\$ 1,666,688	\$ 1,315,493	\$ 2,509,840	\$ 6,517,570
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	1,245,683	1,245,683
Accrued liabilities	3,174,950	-	-	-	42,009	3,216,959
Anticipation notes payable	-	-	11,100,000	12,000,000	12,860,000	35,960,000
Refunds payable	371,711	-	-	-	-	371,711
Other liabilities	169,017	-	-	-	1,615	170,632
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,621,933	119,294	12,766,688	13,315,493	16,659,147	47,482,555
Deferred Inflows of Resources:						
Unavailable revenues	7,112,334	17,395	-	-	597,157	7,726,886
Taxes paid in advance	143,509	-	-	-	-	143,509
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	7,255,843	17,395	-	-	597,157	7,870,395
Fund Balances:						
Nonspendable	-	-	-	-	160,152	160,152
Restricted	897,985	7,578,602	-	-	7,994,743	16,471,330
Committed	13,600,723	-	-	-	7,401,706	21,002,429
Assigned	13,139,002	-	-	-	-	13,139,002
Unassigned	19,403,198	-	(8,183,546)	(5,879,752)	(13,477,958)	(8,138,058)
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	47,040,908	7,578,602	(8,183,546)	(5,879,752)	2,078,643	42,634,855
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 58,918,684	\$ 7,715,291	\$ 4,583,142	\$ 7,435,741	\$ 19,334,947	\$ 97,987,805

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
AS OF JUNE 30, 2018 (1)**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Community Preservation</u>	<u>Sunita L. Williams School</u>	<u>Rosemary Recreation Complex</u>	<u>Needham High School Expansion</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS							
Cash and short-term investments	\$ 23,289,029	\$ -	\$ 7,164,308	\$ 224,196	\$ 6,230,019	\$ 11,572,106	\$ 48,479,658
Investments	28,988,972	5,661,761	-	-	-	2,821,622	37,472,355
Receivables:							
Property taxes	2,906,442	13,677	-	-	-	-	2,920,119
Excises	985,260	-	-	-	-	-	985,260
Departmental	1,696,211	-	-	-	-	25,736	1,721,947
Intergovernmental	3,475,740	-	-	-	-	1,042,678	4,518,418
Other	18,684	-	-	-	-	-	18,684
Deposits	-	-	-	-	-	134,884	134,884
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 61,360,338	\$ 5,675,438	\$ 7,164,308	\$ 224,196	\$ 6,230,019	\$ 15,597,026	\$ 96,251,325
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES							
Liabilities:							
Warrants and accounts payable	\$ 2,511,800	\$ 45,912	\$ 1,567,462	\$ -	\$ 1,031,272	\$ 1,685,457	\$ 6,841,903
Unearned revenue	-	-	-	-	-	1,255,055	1,255,055
Accrued liabilities	1,273,977	-	-	-	-	37,362	1,311,339
Anticipation notes payable	-	-	16,150,000	7,000,000	7,010,000	1,820,000	31,980,000
Refunds payable	541,984	-	-	-	-	-	541,984
Other liabilities	134,548	-	-	-	-	1,615	136,163
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,462,309	45,912	17,717,462	7,000,000	8,041,272	4,799,489	42,066,444
Deferred Inflows of Resources:							
Unavailable revenues	8,729,719	13,677	-	-	-	1,203,298	9,946,694
Taxes paid in advance	115,222	-	-	-	-	-	115,222
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	8,844,941	13,677	-	-	-	1,203,298	10,061,916
Fund Balances:							
Nonspendable	-	-	-	-	-	188,478	188,478
Restricted	1,013,132	5,615,849	-	-	-	8,131,191	14,760,172
Committed	12,763,756	-	-	-	-	4,261,084	17,024,840
Assigned	16,459,089	-	-	-	-	-	16,459,089
Unassigned	17,817,111	-	(10,553,154)	(6,775,804)	(1,811,253)	(2,986,514)	(4,309,614)
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	48,053,088	5,615,849	(10,553,154)	(6,775,804)	(1,811,253)	9,594,239	44,122,965
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 61,360,338	\$ 5,675,438	\$ 7,164,308	\$ 224,196	\$ 6,230,019	\$ 15,597,026	\$ 96,251,325

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
AS OF JUNE 30, 2020 (1)**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Community Preservation</u>	<u>Public Safety Building</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:					
Property taxes	\$ 150,349,498	\$ 2,609,353	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152,958,851
Excise taxes	5,679,213	-	-	-	5,679,213
Penalties, interest, and other taxes	2,050,592	3,019	-	-	2,053,611
Charges for services	2,812,847	-	-	5,630,247	8,443,094
Departmental	1,585,175	-	-	-	1,585,175
Licenses and permits	2,376,998	-	-	-	2,376,998
Intergovernmental	23,176,245	592,379	-	9,101,388	32,870,012
Investment income (loss)	1,105,210	110,497	-	113,745	1,329,452
Fines and forfeitures	239,211	-	-	-	239,211
Contributions	-	-	-	435,663	435,663
Other	410,840	-	-	64,793	475,633
Total Revenues	189,785,829	3,315,248	-	15,345,836	208,446,913
Expenditures:					
Current:					
General government	6,666,599	1,975,790	-	149,746	8,792,135
Public safety	21,078,179	-	-	466,217	21,544,396
Education	103,940,650	-	-	9,522,074	113,462,724
Public works	21,428,807	-	-	38,624	21,467,431
Building design and construction	800,273	-	-	-	800,273
Health and human services	2,590,784	-	-	835,965	3,426,749
Culture and recreation	3,237,918	-	-	538,078	3,775,996
Employee benefits	790,253	-	-	-	790,253
Other	608,251	-	-	-	608,251
Capital outlay	-	372,853	24,390,818	18,246,084	43,009,755
Debt service:					
Principal	9,542,526	-	-	-	9,542,526
Interest and fiscal charges	3,896,575	-	-	-	3,896,575
Intergovernmental	1,445,490	-	-	-	1,445,490
Total Expenditures	176,026,305	2,348,643	24,390,818	29,796,788	232,562,554
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	13,759,524	966,605	(24,390,818)	(14,450,952)	(24,115,641)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Issuance of bonds	-	-	30,105,000	17,508,000	47,613,000
Issuance of refunding bonds	4,990,000	-	-	-	4,990,000
Premium on bonds	-	-	1,895,000	2,907,408	4,802,408
Premium on refunding bonds	874,887	-	-	-	874,887
Deposit to refunding escrow	(5,908,925)	-	-	-	(5,908,925)
Transfers in	3,010,210	50,000	-	15,728,195	18,788,405
Transfers out	(15,771,425)	(1,185,317)	-	(1,320,336)	(18,277,078)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(12,805,253)	(1,135,317)	32,000,000	34,823,267	52,882,697
Net change in fund balances	954,271	(168,712)	7,609,182	20,372,315	28,767,056
Fund Balances, at beginning of year, as reclassified	47,715,208	7,578,602	(5,879,752)	(5,357,791)	44,056,267
Fund Balances, at end of year	\$ 48,669,479	\$ 7,409,890	\$ 1,729,430	\$ 15,014,524	\$ 72,823,323

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
AS OF JUNE 30, 2019 (1)**

	<u>General</u>	<u>Community Preservation</u>	<u>Sunita L. Williams School</u>	<u>Public Safety Building</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:						
Property taxes	\$ 141,476,623	\$ 2,468,833	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 143,945,456
Excise taxes	6,138,951	-	-	-	-	6,138,951
Penalties, interest, and other taxes	2,408,784	3,189	-	-	-	2,411,973
Charges for services	1,684,919	-	-	-	7,475,916	9,160,835
Departmental	2,052,584	-	-	-	-	2,052,584
Licenses and permits	2,587,095	-	-	-	-	2,587,095
Intergovernmental	21,724,476	438,305	7,252,591	-	6,405,203	35,820,575
Investment income (loss)	1,223,466	384,021	-	-	174,032	1,781,519
Fines and forfeitures	209,162	-	-	-	-	209,162
Contributions	-	-	-	-	472,767	472,767
Other	<u>356,613</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,589</u>	<u>393,202</u>
Total Revenues	179,862,673	3,294,348	7,252,591	-	14,564,507	204,974,119
Expenditures:						
Current:						
General government	6,830,257	2,115	-	-	109,819	6,942,191
Public safety	20,033,593	-	-	-	354,416	20,388,009
Education	98,145,562	-	-	-	12,271,053	110,416,615
Public works	19,923,360	-	-	-	457,303	20,380,663
Building design and construction	645,481	-	-	-	-	645,481
Health and human services	2,461,346	-	-	-	569,605	3,030,951
Culture and recreation	2,987,961	3,480	-	-	548,663	3,540,104
Employee benefits	790,238	-	-	-	-	790,238
Other	556,798	-	-	-	-	556,798
Capital outlay	-	384,506	27,493,314	5,879,752	29,835,802	63,593,374
Debt service:						
Principal	7,722,526	-	-	-	-	7,722,526
Interest	2,282,765	-	-	-	-	2,282,765
Intergovernmental	<u>1,389,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,389,486</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>163,769,373</u>	<u>390,101</u>	<u>27,493,314</u>	<u>5,879,752</u>	<u>44,146,661</u>	<u>241,679,201</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	16,093,300	2,904,247	(20,240,723)	(5,879,752)	(29,582,154)	(36,705,082)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Issuance of bonds	-	-	18,000,000	-	13,000,000	31,000,000
Bond premium	-	-	1,745,331	-	13,221	1,758,552
Transfers in	2,214,458	-	2,865,000	-	18,050,979	23,130,437
Transfers out	<u>(19,319,938)</u>	<u>(941,494)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(410,585)</u>	<u>(20,672,017)</u>
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	<u>(17,105,480)</u>	<u>(941,494)</u>	<u>22,610,331</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,653,615</u>	<u>35,216,972</u>
Net change in fund balances	(1,012,180)	1,962,753	2,369,608	(5,879,752)	1,071,461	(1,488,110)
Fund Balances, at beginning of year, as reclassified	<u>48,053,088</u>	<u>5,615,849</u>	<u>(10,553,154)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,007,182</u>	<u>44,122,965</u>
Fund Balances, at end of year	<u>\$ 47,040,908</u>	<u>\$ 7,578,602</u>	<u>\$ (8,183,546)</u>	<u>\$ (5,879,752)</u>	<u>\$ 2,078,643</u>	<u>\$ 42,634,855</u>

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

**TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
AS OF JUNE 30, 2018 (1)**

	General	Community Preservation	Sunita L. Williams School	Rosemary Recreation Complex	Needham High School Expansion	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:							
Property taxes	\$ 132,578,018	\$ 2,300,322	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 134,878,340
Excise taxes	5,910,555	-	-	-	-	-	5,910,555
Penalties, interest, and other taxes	2,132,175	2,453	-	-	-	-	2,134,628
Charges for services	1,528,075	-	-	-	-	6,967,230	8,495,305
Departmental	1,852,700	-	-	-	-	-	1,852,700
Licenses and permits	2,598,567	-	-	-	-	-	2,598,567
Intergovernmental	20,403,002	368,739	2,017,071	-	-	7,130,486	29,919,298
Investment income (loss)	682,322	(176,907)	-	-	-	154,872	660,287
Fines and forfeitures	192,010	-	-	-	-	-	192,010
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	429,729	429,729
Other	313,342	-	-	-	-	31,347	344,689
Total Revenues	168,190,766	2,494,607	2,017,071	-	-	14,713,664	187,416,108
Expenditures:							
Current:							
General government	5,617,952	5,182	-	-	-	119,117	5,742,251
Public safety	16,842,201	-	-	-	-	1,180,774	18,022,975
Education	86,532,516	-	-	-	-	11,508,817	98,041,333
Public works	8,860,429	-	-	-	-	1,749,368	10,609,797
Maintenance	9,077,653	-	-	-	-	-	9,077,653
Health and human services	1,837,753	-	-	-	-	557,542	2,395,295
Culture and recreation	2,342,237	-	-	-	-	366,142	2,708,379
Employee benefits	12,616,631	-	-	-	-	-	12,616,631
Other	521,244	-	-	-	-	-	521,244
Capital outlay	-	946,647	11,249,083	11,060,244	4,445,253	9,642,658	37,343,885
Debt service:							
Principal	8,139,526	-	-	-	-	-	8,139,526
Interest	2,461,942	-	-	-	-	-	2,461,942
Intergovernmental	1,333,038	-	-	-	-	-	1,333,038
Total Expenditures	156,183,122	951,829	11,249,083	11,060,244	4,445,253	25,124,418	209,013,949
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	12,007,644	1,542,778	(9,232,012)	(11,060,244)	(4,445,253)	(10,410,754)	(21,597,841)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):							
Bond premium	-	-	-	-	-	6,400	6,400
Transfers in	2,007,530	75,000	575,000	1,030,000	2,634,000	6,420,894	12,742,424
Transfers out	(11,262,143)	(1,479,164)	-	-	-	(374,952)	(13,116,259)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(9,254,613)	(1,404,164)	575,000	1,030,000	2,634,000	6,052,342	(367,435)
Net change in fund balances	2,753,031	138,614	(8,657,012)	(10,030,244)	(1,811,253)	(4,358,412)	(21,965,276)
Fund Balances, at beginning of year, as reclassified	45,300,057	5,477,235	(1,896,142)	3,254,440	-	13,952,651	66,088,241
Fund Balances, at end of year	\$ 48,053,088	\$ 5,615,849	\$ (10,553,154)	\$ (6,775,804)	\$ (1,811,253)	\$ 9,594,239	\$ 44,122,965

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MA
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
AS OF JUNE 30, 2017 (1)

	<u>General</u>	<u>Community Preservation Fund</u>	<u>Sunita L. Williams School</u>	<u>Nonmajor Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues:					
Property taxes	\$ 124,517,284	\$ 2,136,893	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 126,654,177
Excise taxes	5,701,527	-	-	-	5,701,527
Penalties, interest, and other taxes	2,156,902	2,307	-	-	2,159,209
Charges for services	1,094,057	-	-	6,228,684	7,322,741
Departmental	1,674,120	-	-	-	1,674,120
Licenses and permits	4,477,430	-	-	-	4,477,430
Intergovernmental	26,506,734	417,108	-	9,360,566	36,284,408
Investment income	389,769	111,618	-	163,439	664,826
Fines and forfeitures	188,756	-	-	-	188,756
Contributions	-	-	355,277	2,704,043	3,059,320
Other	41,949	-	-	37,035	78,984
Total Revenues	166,748,528	2,667,926	355,277	18,493,767	188,265,498
Expenditures:					
Current:					
General government	5,160,845	6,729	-	137,722	5,305,296
Public safety	16,006,396	-	-	251,212	16,257,608
Education	89,570,046	-	-	10,497,497	100,067,543
Public works	8,044,770	-	-	13,004	8,057,774
Maintenance	9,509,897	-	-	-	9,509,897
Health and human services	1,678,736	-	-	444,252	2,122,988
Culture and recreation	2,270,267	81,435	-	778,792	3,130,494
Employee benefits	11,572,484	-	-	-	11,572,484
Other	532,195	-	-	-	532,195
Capital outlay	-	413,073	2,259,693	11,454,082	14,126,848
Debt service:					
Principal	8,102,006	-	-	-	8,102,006
Interest	2,259,034	-	-	-	2,259,034
Intergovernmental	1,309,161	-	-	-	1,309,161
Total Expenditures	156,015,837	501,237	2,259,693	23,576,561	182,353,328
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	10,732,691	2,166,689	(1,904,416)	(5,082,794)	5,912,170
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Issuance of bonds	-	-	-	10,480,000	10,480,000
Bond premium	-	-	-	654,769	654,769
Transfers in	2,383,365	-	-	6,017,269	8,400,634
Transfers out	(4,775,217)	(3,426,313)	-	(642,416)	(8,843,946)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(2,391,852)	(3,426,313)	-	16,509,622	10,691,457
Net change in fund balances	8,340,839	(1,259,624)	(1,904,416)	11,426,828	16,603,627
Fund Balances, at beginning of year, as restated	36,959,218	6,736,859	-	5,788,537	49,484,614
Fund Balances, at end of year	\$ 45,300,057	\$ 5,477,235	\$ (1,904,416)	\$ 17,215,365	\$ 66,088,241

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES & CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
AS OF JUNE 30, 2016 (1)

	General	Community Preservation	Owens Farm Property Acquisition	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES					
Property taxes	\$ 119,108,696	\$ 2,028,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 121,137,496
Excise taxes	5,627,887	-	-	-	5,627,887
Penalties, interest, and other taxes	2,410,193	2,379	-	-	2,412,572
Charges for services	985,609	-	-	5,936,113	6,921,722
Departmental	1,038,922	-	-	-	1,038,922
Licenses and permits	2,314,222	-	-	-	2,314,222
Intergovernmental	10,901,975	579,514	-	5,868,297	17,349,786
Investment Income	197,107	60,537	-	29,325	286,969
Fines and forfeitures	186,517	-	-	-	186,517
Contributions	-	-	-	444,166	444,166
Other	69,941	-	-	29,395	99,336
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 142,841,069	\$ 2,671,230	\$ -	\$ 12,307,296	\$ 157,819,595
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General government	\$ 4,970,776	\$ 40,078	\$ -	\$ 291,004	\$ 5,301,858
Public safety	14,812,811	-	-	83,958	14,896,769
Education	69,073,634	-	-	10,991,245	80,064,879
Public works	7,216,857	-	-	288,061	7,504,918
Maintenance	9,019,331	-	-	-	9,019,331
Health and human services	1,569,348	-	-	472,616	2,041,964
Culture and recreation	2,249,111	19,754	-	872,467	3,141,332
Employee benefits	10,754,691	-	-	-	10,754,691
Other	518,998	-	-	-	518,998
Capital Outlay	-	3,549,305	6,612,955	5,376,915	15,539,175
Debt Service:					
Principal	8,232,133	-	-	-	8,232,133
Interest	2,635,519	-	-	-	2,635,519
Intergovernmental	1,281,985	-	-	-	1,281,985
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	132,335,194	3,609,137	6,612,955	18,376,266	160,933,552
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	10,505,875	(937,907)	(6,612,955)	(6,068,970)	(3,113,957)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Issuance of refunded debt	6,645,000	-	-	-	6,645,000
Bond premium	1,069,480	-	-	-	1,069,480
Transfers in	2,211,732	-	-	4,114,562	6,326,294
Deposit to refunding escrow	(7,607,593)	-	-	-	(7,607,593)
Transfers out	(5,400,996)	(1,132,438)	-	(440,477)	(6,973,911)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	(3,082,377)	(1,132,438)	-	3,674,085	(540,730)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES	7,423,498	(2,070,345)	(6,612,955)	(2,394,885)	(3,654,687)
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING OF YEAR	29,535,720	8,807,204	-	14,796,377	53,139,301
FUND BALANCES - END OF YEAR	\$ 36,959,218	\$ 6,736,859	\$ (6,612,955)	\$ 12,401,492	\$ 49,484,614

(1) Extracted from the audited Financial Statements of the Town.

Free Cash and Unassigned General Fund Balances

Under Massachusetts law an amount known as "free cash" is certified as of the beginning of each fiscal year by the State Bureau of Accounts and this, together with certain subsequent tax receipts, is used as the basis for subsequent appropriations from available funds, which are not required to be included in the annual tax levy. Subject to certain adjustments, free cash is surplus revenue (or, in the Town's case, Unreserved Fund Balance) less uncollected and overdue property taxes from prior years.

The following table sets forth the trend in free cash as certified by the Bureau of Accounts as well as the Unassigned General Fund balance.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Free Cash (July 1)</u>	<u>Unassigned General Fund Balance</u>
2020	\$ 16,665,406	\$ 28,831,766
2019	12,369,898	19,403,198
2018	10,387,871	17,817,111
2017	13,518,622	19,434,334
2016	13,849,687	20,764,847

Stabilization Fund

The Town maintains a stabilization fund, which is accounted for in the Trust Funds. Funded by an appropriation, the Stabilization Fund plus interest income may be appropriated at an annual or special town meeting for any purpose. The following table sets forth the trend in Stabilization Fund balance.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Stabilization Fund Balance (June 30)</u>
2020	\$ 4,635,010
2019	4,187,517
2018	4,128,628
2017	4,001,401
2016	3,946,174

Capital Improvement Fund

The Town continues to provide additional funding to its capital improvement fund, which helps ensure the replacement of capital equipment, however there were no draws on the Town's Stabilization Fund to support any operating or capital expenditures. The following table sets forth the trend in Capital Improvement Fund balance.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Capital Improvement Fund Balance (June 30)</u>
2020	\$ 1,095,016
2019	910,577
2018	747,227
2017	707,506
2016	701,081

Capital Facility Fund

The Capital Facilities Fund exists primarily to fund building improvements. The following table sets forth the trend in Capital Facility Fund balance at June 30.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Capital Facility Fund Balance</u>
2020	\$ 1,918,088
2019	1,886,376
2018 (1)	26,767
2017	1,829,877
2016	1,312,275

- (1) During fiscal year 2018, \$1,817,000 was drawn from the Capital Facility Fund for the High School Expansion project. At the 2018 Annual Town Meeting a transfer of \$1,817,000 back into the Fund was approved. The transfer was comprised of \$1,386,000 from Free Cash and \$431,000 from the fiscal 2019 tax levy.

Athletic Facility Fund

In fiscal year 2013, the Town created a stabilization fund to cover the costs of the eventual replacement of the Town's artificial turf fields. The following table sets forth the trend in Athletic Facility Fund balance at June 30.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Athletic Facility Fund Balance</u>
2020 (1)	\$ 269,698
2019	2,686,229
2018 (2)	4,409,021
2017	3,051,708
2016	2,643,429

- (1) In fiscal 2020 \$2.5 million was appropriated from the Athletic facilities fund to fund synthetic field replacement and related work to various fields throughout Town (Article #38 of the 2019 Annual Town Meeting). \$75,000 was appropriated to the Athletic Facilities Fund from the General Fund (Article # 42 of the 2019 Annual Town Meeting).
- (2) In fiscal 2018 \$1.8 million was appropriated from the Athletic Facility Fund for the Memorial Park building construction (article 30 of the 2018 Annual Town Meeting) and \$550,000 for Athletic Facilities improvement (turf field replacement).

Debt Service Stabilization Fund

In fiscal year 2016, the Town created a stabilization fund the purpose of which is to allow the Town by appropriation to reserve funds to pay the debt service for engineering and design, renovation, reconstruction or construction of Town facilities. The following table sets forth the trend in Debt Service Stabilization Fund balance at June 30.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Debt Service Stabilization Fund Balance</u>
2020	\$ 2,150,062
2019	2,114,506
2018	2,062,952
2017	1,091,874
2016	320,186

Tax Increment Financing for Development Districts

Under recent legislation, cities and towns are authorized to establish development districts to encourage increased residential, industrial and commercial activity. All or a portion of the taxes on growth in assessed value in such districts may be pledged and used solely to finance economic development projects pursuant to the city or town's development program for the district. This includes pledging such "tax increments" for the payment of bonds issued to finance such projects. As a result of any such pledge, tax increments raised from new growth properties in development districts are not available for other municipal purposes. Tax increments are taken into account in determining the total taxes assessed for the purpose of calculating the maximum permitted tax levy under Proposition 2 ½, (see "Tax Limitations" under "PROPERTY TAXATION" above.) The Town has not established any such district.

The Town has a TIF agreement with TripAdvisor, 13 years in total, currently at a 76% exemption that will decline to a 1% exemption effective 2021. The Town also has a TIF agreement with NBC Universal, 10 years in total, with a 70% exemption for the first 4 years that declines to 5% in year 5, and then 1% for years 6 through 10. The exemptions apply only on the new growth value.

INDEBTEDNESS

Authorization Procedure and Limitations

Serial bonds and notes are authorized by a two-thirds vote of the town meeting. Provision is made for a referendum on the borrowing authorization if there is a timely filing of a petition bearing the requisite number of signatures. Refunding bonds and notes are authorized by the Select Board. Borrowings for some purposes require State administrative approval.

When serial bonds or notes have been authorized, bond anticipation notes may be issued by the officers authorized to issue the serial bonds or notes. Temporary debt in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year in which the debt is incurred or in anticipation of authorized federal and state aid generally may be incurred by the treasurer with the approval of the selectmen.

Debt Limits

General Debt Limit. The General Debt Limit of a city or town consists of a Normal Debt Limit and a Double Debt Limit. The Normal Debt Limit is 5 percent of the valuation of taxable property as last equalized by the State Department of Revenue. A city or town can authorize debt up to this amount without state approval. It can authorize debt up to twice this amount (the Double Debt Limit) with the approval of the state Municipal Finance Oversight Board ("MFOB") composed of the State Treasurer, the State Auditor, the Attorney General and the Director of Accounts.

There are many categories of general obligation debt which are exempt from and do not count against the General Debt Limit. Among others, these exempt categories include revenue anticipation notes and grant anticipation notes; emergency loans; loans exempted by special laws; certain school bonds, sewer bonds, bonds for water, gas, electric and telecommunication systems, solid waste disposal facility bonds and economic development bonds supported by tax increment financing; and subject to special debt limits, bonds for housing, urban renewal and economic development (subject to various debt limits). Revenue bonds are not subject to these debt limits. The General Debt Limit applies at the time the debt is authorized. The other special debt limits generally apply at the time the debt is incurred.

Revenue Anticipation Notes. The amount borrowed in each fiscal year by the issue of revenue anticipation notes is limited to the tax levy of the prior fiscal year, together with the net receipts in the prior fiscal year from the motor vehicle excise and certain payments made by the Commonwealth in lieu of taxes. The fiscal year ends on June 30. Notes may mature in the following fiscal year, and notes may be refunded into the following fiscal year to the extent of the uncollected, unabated current tax levy and certain other items, including revenue deficits, overlay deficits, final judgments and lawful unappropriated expenditures, which are to be added to the next tax levy, but excluding deficits arising from a failure to collect taxes of earlier years. (See "Taxation to Meet Deficits" under "PROPERTY TAXATION" above.) In any event, the period from an original borrowing to its final maturity cannot exceed one year.

Types of Obligations

General Obligations. Massachusetts cities and towns are authorized to issue general obligation indebtedness of these types:

Serial Bonds and Notes. These are generally required to be payable in annual principal amounts beginning no later than the end of the next fiscal year commencing after the date of issue and ending within the terms permitted by law. A level debt service schedule, or a schedule that provides for a more rapid amortization of principal than level debt service, is permitted. The principal amounts of certain economic development bonds supported by tax increment financing may be payable in equal, diminishing or increasing amounts beginning within 5 years after the date of issue. The maximum terms of serial bonds and notes vary from one year to 40 years, depending on the purpose of the issue. The maximum terms permitted are set forth in the statutes. In addition, for many projects, the maximum term may be determined in accordance with useful life guidelines promulgated by the State Department of Revenue. Serial bonds and notes may be issued for the purposes set forth in the statutes. In addition, serial bonds and notes may be issued for any other public work improvement or asset not specifically listed in the Statutes that has a useful life of at least 5 years. Bonds or notes may be made callable and redeemed prior to their maturity, and a redemption premium may be paid. Refunding bonds or notes may be issued subject to the maximum applicable term measured from the date of the original bonds or notes and must produce present value savings over the debt service of the refunded bonds. Generally, the first required annual payment of principal of the refunding bonds cannot be later than the first principal payment of any of the bonds or notes being refunded thereby, however, principal payments made before the first principal payment of any of the bonds or notes being refunded thereby may be in any amount.

Serial bonds may be issued as "qualified bonds" with the approval of the state MFOB, subject to such conditions and limitations (including restrictions on future indebtedness) as may be required by the MFOB. Qualified bonds may mature not less than 10 nor more than 30 years from their dates and are not subject to the amortization requirements described above. The State Treasurer is required to pay the debt service on qualified bonds and thereafter to withhold the amount of the debt service paid

by the State from state aid or other state payments; administrative costs and any loss of interest income to the State are to be assessed upon the city or town.

Tax Credit Bonds or Notes. Subject to certain provisions and conditions, the officers authorized to issue bonds or notes may designate any duly authorized issue of bonds or notes as “tax credit bonds” to the extent such bonds and notes are otherwise permitted to be issued with federal tax credits or other similar subsidies for all or a portion of the borrowing costs. Tax credit bonds may be made payable without regard to the annual installments required by any other law, and a sinking fund may be established for the payment of such bonds. Any investment that is part of such a sinking fund may mature not later than the date fixed for payment or redemption of the applicable bonds.

Bond Anticipation Notes. These generally must mature within two years of their original dates of issuance but may be refunded from time to time for a period not to exceed ten years from their original dates of issuance, provided that for each year that the notes are refunded beyond the second year they must be paid in part from revenue funds in an amount at least equal to the minimum annual payment that would have been required if the bonds had been issued at the end of the second year. For certain school projects, however, notes may be refunded from time to time for a period not to exceed seven years without having to pay any portion of the principal of the notes from revenue funds. The maximum term of bonds issued to refund bond anticipation notes is measured (except for certain school projects) from the date of the original issue of the notes.

Revenue Anticipation Notes. These are issued to meet current expenses in anticipation of taxes and other revenues. They must mature within one year but, if payable in less than one year, may be refunded from time to time up to one year from the original date of issue. The Town has not issued revenue anticipation notes during the past twenty fiscal years.

Grant Anticipation Notes. These are issued for temporary financing in anticipation of federal grants and state and county reimbursements. Generally, they must mature within two years but may be refunded from time to time as long as the municipality remains entitled to the grant or reimbursement.

Revenue Bonds. Cities and towns may issue revenue bonds for solid waste disposal facilities, for projects financed under the Commonwealth’s Water Pollution Abatement or Drinking Water Revolving Loan Programs and for certain economic development projects supported by tax increment financing. In addition, cities and towns having electric departments may issue electric revenue bonds, and notes in anticipation of such bonds, subject to the approval of the State Department of Telecommunications and Energy.

DIRECT DEBT SUMMARY As of June 30, 2020 (1)

Long-Term Debt Outstanding:

Within the General Debt Limit:

Schools	\$ 34,628,000
Sewers & Drains	4,471,108
Other Inside General	69,266,000

Total Within the General Debt Limit	\$ 108,365,108	
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Outside the General Debt Limit:

Schools	\$ 17,280,000
Water	5,512,925
Sewer	618,729
Other Outside General	4,004,000

Total Outside the General Debt Limit	27,415,654	
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This Issue of Bonds (new money) dated April 14, 2021	21,000,000	*
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Total Long-Term Debt Outstanding	156,780,762	
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Short-Term Debt Outstanding:

Bond Anticipation Notes Outstanding (2)	2,800,000
New Money Bond Anticipation Notes to be dated April 15, 2021 (3)	730,485
To be retired with revenue funds of the Town	(2,800,000)
Total Bond Anticipation Notes Outstanding (3)	730,485

Total Direct Debt:	\$ 157,511,247	
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*Preliminary, subject to change.

(1) Principal amount only. Excludes lease and installment purchase obligations, overlapping debt, unfunded pension liability and other post-employment benefits liability.

(2) Payable April 15, 2021.

(3) To be payable June 15, 2021.

Debt Ratios

The following table sets forth debt as a percentage of assessed valuation and per capita debt at the end of the following fiscal years. The table considers the principal amount of general obligation bonds of the Town. The table does not deduct anticipated state grant payments applicable to the principal amount of outstanding bonds or debt that may be supported in whole, or part, by non-tax revenues.

Fiscal Year End	General Obligation Bonds Outstanding	Population (2010 Federal Census)	Local Assessed Valuation	Per Capita Debt	Debt as a % of Assessed Valuation
2020	\$ 135,780,762	28,886	\$ 10,803,763,473	\$ 4,701	1.26 %
2019	99,468,508	28,886	10,168,817,191	3,443	0.98
2018	78,242,389	28,886	9,885,655,649	2,709	0.79
2017	86,146,163	28,886	9,241,074,496	2,982	0.93
2016	85,544,217	28,886	9,068,188,822	2,961	0.94

Principal Payments by Purpose

The following table sets forth the principal payments by purpose for the Town's outstanding bonds as of June 30, 2020.

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS As of June 30, 2020

Year	General	School	Water	Sewer	Total (1)
2021	\$ 7,821,000	\$ 5,553,000	\$ 632,379	\$ 543,649	\$ 14,550,028
2022	4,789,000	5,435,000	628,169	509,816	11,361,985
2023	4,478,000	5,032,000	623,974	495,117	10,629,091
2024	4,463,000	4,942,000	509,795	395,644	10,310,439
2025	4,228,000	4,302,000	510,633	402,222	9,442,855
2026	3,952,000	3,563,000	446,488	320,942	8,282,430
2027	3,942,000	3,103,000	447,359	327,809	7,820,168
2028	3,587,000	2,693,000	448,248	334,825	7,063,073
2029	3,577,000	2,313,000	236,029	336,993	6,463,022
2030	3,232,000	1,603,000	236,953	344,317	5,416,270
2031	3,162,000	1,603,000	237,898	351,800	5,354,698
2032	3,107,000	1,598,000	190,000	359,446	5,254,446
2033	3,107,000	1,598,000	185,000	367,258	5,257,258
2034	2,935,000	1,045,000	180,000	-	4,160,000
2035	2,565,000	1,045,000	-	-	3,610,000
2036	2,315,000	720,000	-	-	3,035,000
2037	2,315,000	720,000	-	-	3,035,000
2038	2,290,000	720,000	-	-	3,010,000
2039	2,125,000	720,000	-	-	2,845,000
2040	1,895,000	720,000	-	-	2,615,000
2041	1,005,000	720,000	-	-	1,725,000
2042	1,000,000	720,000	-	-	1,720,000
2043	460,000	720,000	-	-	1,180,000
2044	460,000	720,000	-	-	1,180,000
2045	460,000	-	-	-	460,000
TOTAL	\$ 73,270,000	\$ 51,908,000	\$ 5,512,925	\$ 5,089,837	\$ 135,780,762

(1) \$65,252,500 of principal and \$19,128,047 of interest has been voted exempt from Proposition 2½, subject to the limits imposed by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws.

Debt Service Requirements

The following table sets forth the required principal and interest payments on the outstanding general obligation bonds of the Town as of June 30, 2020, including debt service subsidies expected to be received from the MSBA.

GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT As of June 30, 2020 (1)

Fiscal Year	Outstanding		Less MSBA	Total Net Debt	Cumulative % Retired
	Principal	Interest	Subsidies	Service	
2021	\$ 14,550,028	\$ 4,775,316	\$ (695,148)	\$ 18,630,196	10.7 %
2022	11,361,985	4,241,678	(695,148)	14,908,515	19.1
2023	10,629,091	3,793,368	(695,148)	13,727,311	26.9
2024	10,310,439	3,365,375	-	13,675,815	34.5
2025	9,442,855	2,958,812	-	12,401,666	41.5
2026	8,282,430	2,596,437	-	10,878,867	47.6
2027	7,820,168	2,284,789	-	10,104,958	53.3
2028	7,063,073	1,986,640	-	9,049,712	58.5
2029	6,463,022	1,716,363	-	8,179,385	63.3
2030	5,416,270	1,479,078	-	6,895,348	67.3
2031	5,354,698	1,290,374	-	6,645,072	71.2
2032	5,254,446	1,110,872	-	6,365,318	75.1
2033	5,257,258	930,226	-	6,187,484	79.0
2034	4,160,000	778,003	-	4,938,003	82.0
2035	3,610,000	669,859	-	4,279,859	84.7
2036	3,035,000	581,319	-	3,616,319	86.9
2037	3,035,000	499,406	-	3,534,406	89.1
2038	3,010,000	414,894	-	3,424,894	91.4
2039	2,845,000	332,334	-	3,177,334	93.5
2040	2,615,000	256,003	-	2,871,003	95.4
2041	1,725,000	182,975	-	1,907,975	96.7
2042	1,720,000	125,650	-	1,845,650	97.9
2043	1,180,000	72,300	-	1,252,300	98.8
2044	1,180,000	33,300	-	1,213,300	99.7
2045	460,000	6,900	-	466,900	100.0 %
Total	<u>\$ 135,780,762</u>	<u>\$ 36,482,273</u>	<u>\$ (2,085,444)</u>	<u>\$ 170,177,591</u>	

(1) \$65,864,000 of principal and \$19,136,322 of interest has been voted exempt from Proposition 2½, subject to the limits imposed by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws.

Authorized Unissued Debt and Prospective Financing

Following delivery of the Bonds, the Town will have the following authorized debt which has not been bonded:

Amount	Purpose	Original Authorization
\$ 12,000	Water System Rehabilitation (1)	\$ 635,000
9,884,492	School Construction (2)	57,542,500
35,735	Water Distribution System Improvements (1)	1,300,000
107,500	Recreation Complex	11,000,000
9,500	High School Engineering	950,000
7,550	Sewer Pump Station Improvements (1)	600,000
84,000	Needham High School Reconstruction & Expansion	11,125,000
128,000	Memorial Park Fieldhouse Construction	2,918,000
5,000	Infrastructure Improvements and Repairs	250,000
2,403,000	Public Works Storage Facility Design & Construction	3,503,000
585,000	RTS Property Repairs	645,000
13,502,000	Public Safety Building & Fire Station #2 Construction (3)	66,245,000
4,500,000	Water Distribution Improvements	4,500,000
<u>\$ 31,263,777</u>		

(1) Debt service on water and sewer authorizations is expected to be paid entirely from the Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund.

(2) The Town voted to exclude debt service on bonds and notes for the Hillside School project, including site acquisition, from the limitations of Proposition 2 ½.

(3) The Town voted to exclude debt service on bonds and notes for the Public Safety Building and Fire Station #2 construction projects from the limitations of Proposition 2 ½.

Overlapping Debt

The Town is a member of the MWRA, the MBTA and the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District. The following table sets forth the outstanding bonded debt, exclusive of temporary loans in anticipation of bonds or current revenue, of Norfolk County, the MWRA, the MBTA and the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District, and the Town's estimated gross share of such debt and the estimated fiscal year 2021 dollar assessment for each (except as noted below).

Overlapping Entity	Outstanding Debt	Needham's Estimated Share (1)	Fiscal 2021 Dollar Assessment (2)
Norfolk County (3)	\$ 16,130,000	7.000 %	\$ 450,557
Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (4)			
Water	1,982,967,000	0.419	660,552
Sewer	3,227,492,000	1.312	4,171,288
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (5)	5,475,549,153	0.420	699,904
Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District (6)	93,985,000	N/A	1,099,935

(1) Estimated share based on debt service only.

(2) Estimated dollar assessment based upon total net operating expenses, inclusive (where applicable) of debt service.

(3) SOURCE: Norfolk County Treasurer. Debt as of June 30, 2020. County expenses including debt service on county bonds are assessed upon the cities and towns within the county in proportion to their taxable valuation as last equalized by the State Commissioner of Revenue. Amounts shown are based on the most recent equalized valuations. Legislation was enacted in 1997 abolishing the county governments of Franklin and Middlesex Counties as of July 1, 1997, with their assets, functions, debts and other obligations being assumed by the Commonwealth. The legislation also abolished the county governments of Hampden and Worcester counties as of July 1, 1998. Legislation enacted in 1998 abolished the county governments of Hampshire, Essex and Berkshire counties as of January 1, 1999, July 1, 1999 and July 1, 2000, respectively. The legislation also requires the state secretary for administration and finance to establish a plan to recover the Commonwealth's expenditures for the liabilities and other debts assumed and paid by the Commonwealth on behalf of an abolished county. Unless these provisions are changed by further legislation, the state treasurer shall assess upon each city and town within the jurisdiction of an abolished county an amount not exceeding or equal to the county tax paid by each such city and town for the fiscal year immediately prior to the abolishment of the county until such expenditures by the Commonwealth are recovered. It is possible that similar legislation will be sought to provide for the abolishment of county government in all the remaining counties.

- (4) SOURCE: MWRA. Debt as of June 30, 2020. The MWRA provides wholesale drinking water services in whole or in part to 48 cities, towns and special purpose entities and provides wastewater, collection and treatment services to 43 cities, towns and special purpose entities. Under its enabling legislation, as amended, the MWRA may borrow up to \$6.1 billion for its corporate purposes. Its obligations are secured by revenues of the MWRA. The MWRA assesses member cities, towns and special purpose entities, which continue to provide direct retail water and sewer services to users. The cities, towns and special purpose entities collect fees from the users to pay all or part of the assessments; some municipalities levy property taxes to pay part of the amounts assessed upon them.
- (5) SOURCE: MBTA. Debt as of June 30, 2020. The MBTA was created in 1964 to finance and operate mass transportation facilities within the greater Boston metropolitan area. Under its enabling act, the MBTA is authorized to issue bonds for capital purposes, other than refunding bonds, and for certain specified purposes to an outstanding amount, which does not exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$3,556,300,000. In addition, pursuant to certain of the Commonwealth's transportation bond bills, the MBTA is authorized to issue additional bonds for particular capital projects. The MBTA also is authorized to issue bonds of the purpose of refunding bonds. Under the MBTA's enabling act debt service, as well as other operating expenses of the MBTA, are to be financed by a dedicated revenue stream consisting of the amounts assessed on the cities and towns of the MBTA and a dedicated portion of the statewide sales tax. The amount assessed to each city and town is based on its weighted percentage of the total population of the authority as provided in the enabling act. The aggregate amount of such assessments is generally not permitted to increase by more than 2.5 percent per year.
- (6) SOURCE: Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District. Debt as of June 30, 2020. Towns may organize regional school districts to carry out general or specialized educational functions. Pursuant to special laws a number of cities may also participate in regional school districts, primarily for vocational education. The operating expenses and debt service of regional school districts are apportioned among the member municipalities in accordance with the agreements establishing the districts subject to the provisions of the Education Reform Act of 1993.

Contractual Obligations

Municipal contracts are generally limited to currently available appropriations. A city or town generally has authority to enter into contracts for the exercise of any of its corporate powers for any period of time deemed to serve its best interest, but generally only when funds are available for the first fiscal year; obligations for succeeding fiscal years generally are expressly subject to availability and appropriation of funds. Municipalities have specific authority in relatively few cases to enter long-term contractual obligations that are not subject to annual appropriation, including contracts for refuse disposal and sewage treatment and disposal. Municipalities may also enter into long-term contracts in aid of housing and renewal projects. There may be implied authority to make other long-term contracts required to carry out authorized municipal functions, such as contracts to purchase water from private water companies.

Municipal contracts relating to solid waste disposal facilities may contain provisions requiring the delivery of minimum amounts of waste and payments based thereon and requiring payments in certain circumstances without regard to the operational status of the facilities.

Municipal electric departments have statutory power to enter into long-term contracts for joint ownership and operation of generating and transmission facilities and for the purchase or sale of capacity, including contracts requiring payments without regard to the operational status of the facilities. The Town does not have an electric light department.

Pursuant to the Home Rule Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, cities and towns may also be empowered to make other contracts and leases.

The Town currently has a twenty year contract expiring June 30, 2028 for transportation and disposal of solid waste. The tipping fee rate is \$69.82 per ton for fiscal year 2020. The cost of this contract was \$617,515 in fiscal 2020 and the Town budgeted \$671,697 for fiscal 2021.

RETIREMENT PLAN

The Massachusetts General Laws provide for the establishment of contributory retirement systems for state employees, for teachers and for county, city and town employees other than teachers. Teachers are assigned to a separate statewide teachers' system and not to the city and town systems. For all employees other than teachers, this law is subject to acceptance in each city and town. Substantially all employees of an accepting city or town are covered. If a town has a population of less than 10,000 when it accepts the statute, its non-teacher employees participate through the county system and its share of the county cost is proportionate to the aggregate annual rate of regular compensation of its covered employees. In addition to the contributory systems, cities and towns provide non-contributory pensions to a limited number of employees, primarily persons who entered service prior to July 1, 1937 and their dependents. The Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission ("PERAC") provides oversight and guidance for and regulates all state and local retirement systems.

The obligations of a city or town, whether direct or through a county system, are contractual legal obligations and are required to be included in the annual tax levy. If a city or town, or the county system of which it is a member, has not established a retirement system funding schedule as described below, the city or town is required to provide for the payment of the portion of its current pension obligations which is not otherwise covered by employee contributions and investment income. "Excess earnings," or earnings on individual employees' retirement accounts in excess of a predetermined rate, are required to be set aside in a pension reserve fund for future, not current, pension liabilities. Cities and towns may voluntarily appropriate to their system's pension reserve fund in any given year up to five percent of the preceding year's tax levy. The aggregate amount in the fund may not exceed ten percent of the equalized valuation of the city or town.

If a city or town, or each member city and town of a county retirement system, has accepted the applicable law, it is required to annually appropriate an amount sufficient to pay not only its current pension obligations, but also a portion of its future pension liability. The portion of each such annual payment allocable to future pension obligations is required to be deposited in the pension reserve fund. The amount of the annual city or town appropriation for each such system is prescribed by a retirement system funding schedule which is periodically reviewed and approved by PERAC. Each system's retirement funding schedule is designed to reduce the unfunded actuarial pension liability of the system to zero by not later than June 30, 2030, with annual increases in the scheduled payment amounts of not more than 4.5 percent. The funding schedule must provide that the payment in any year of the schedule is not less than 95 percent of the amount appropriated in the previous fiscal year. City, town and county systems which have an approved retirement funding schedule receive annual pension funding grants from the Commonwealth for the first 16 years of such funding schedule.

Pursuant to recent legislation, a system (other than the state employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system) which conducts an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2009, or later, may establish a revised schedule which reduces the unfunded actuarial liability to zero by not later than June 30, 2040, subject to certain conditions. If the schedule is so extended under such provisions and a later updated valuation allows for the development of a revised schedule with reduced payments, the revised schedule shall be adjusted to provide that the appropriation for each year shall not be less than that for such year under the prior schedule, thus providing for a shorter schedule rather than reduced payments.

City, town and county systems may choose to participate in the Pension Reserves Investment Trust Fund (the "PRIT Fund"), which receives additional state funds to offset future pension costs of participating state and local systems. If a local system participates in the PRIT Fund, it must transfer ownership and control of all assets of its system to the Pension Reserves Investment Management Board, which manages the investment and reinvestment of the PRIT Fund. Cities and towns with systems participating in the PRIT Fund continue to be obligated to fund their pension obligations in the manner described above. The additional state appropriations to offset future pension liabilities of state and local systems participating in the PRIT Fund are required to total at least 1.3 percent of state payroll. Such additional state appropriations are deposited in the PRIT Fund and shared by all participating systems in proportion to their interests in the assets of the PRIT Fund as of July 1 for each fiscal year.

Cost-of-living increases for each local retirement system may be granted and funded only by the local system, and only if it has established a funding schedule. Those statutory provisions are subject to acceptance by the local retirement board and approval by the local legislative body, which acceptance may not be revoked.

The Town has its own retirement system, the Needham Contributory Retirement System ("NCRS"), a cost-sharing, multi-employer defined benefit public employee retirement system. The pension plan provides pension benefits, deferred allowances, and death and disability benefits. Substantially all employees of the Town are members of the NCRS, except teachers and administrators under contract employed by the school department, who are members of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Teachers Contributory Retirement System, to which the Town does not contribute.

The following table sets forth the trend in the Town's pension appropriations to NCRS:

Year Ending	Contributory	Non-Contributory
June 30, 2021 (budgeted)	\$ 9,513,643	\$ -
June 30, 2020	8,688,258	-
June 30, 2019	7,934,482	-
June 30, 2018	7,332,277	-
June 30, 2017	6,706,800	17,700
June 30, 2016	7,314,235	18,042

The unfunded actuarial accrued liability of the System as of January 1, 2018 was approximately \$71,661,841. The System is 68.80% funded according to the January 1, 2018 actuarial study. The Town's current funding schedule amortizes the unfunded actuarial accrued liability to zero by 2030 as shown below.

(1) Fiscal Year Ended June 30	(2) Employer Normal Cost	(3) Amortization of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (with interest)	(4) Actuarially Determined Contribution (2) + (3)	(5) Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability at Beginning of Fiscal Year	(6) Percent Increase in Contribution from Prior Year
2019	\$ 2,369,250	\$ 5,565,232	\$ 7,934,482	\$ 74,214,132	-
2020	2,461,368	6,226,890	8,688,258	73,625,945	9.50 %
2021	2,557,046	6,956,597	9,513,643	72,285,486	9.50
2022	2,656,420	7,761,019	10,417,439	70,065,233	9.50
2023	2,759,634	8,647,462	11,407,096	66,821,270	9.50
2024	2,866,835	9,623,935	12,490,770	62,391,409	9.50
2025	2,978,176	10,055,129	13,033,305	56,593,116	4.34
2026	3,093,815	10,507,609	13,601,424	49,911,991	4.36
2027	3,213,919	10,980,452	14,194,371	42,261,199	4.36
2028	3,338,659	11,474,572	14,813,231	33,548,601	4.36
2029	3,468,212	11,990,928	15,459,140	23,674,396	4.36
2030	3,602,764	12,530,520	16,133,284	12,530,520	4.36
2031	3,742,507	-	3,742,507	-	(76.80)

Notes:

- Actuarially determined contributions are assumed to be paid on July 1.
- Actuarially determined contribution for fiscal 2019 is set equal to the budgeted amount determined with prior valuation.
- Item (2) reflects 3.5% growth in payroll and a 0.15% adjustment to total normal cost to reflect the effects of mortality improvement due to the generational mortality assumption.
- Projected normal cost does not reflect the impact of pension reform for future hires.
- Amortization payments of unfunded actuarial accrued liability calculated to increase at 4.50% per year after phase-in.
- Projected unfunded actuarial accrued liability does not reflect deferred investment gains.

The foregoing data do not include the retirement system costs or liabilities of any larger entity, such as the county.

For additional information see Appendix A.

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

In addition to pension benefits, cities and towns may provide retired employees with health care and life insurance benefits. The portion of the cost of such benefits paid by cities or towns is generally provided on a pay-as-you-go basis. For the last twelve years, the Town has been appropriating its Annual Required Cost (ARC) to the OPEB fund and pays the annual healthcare costs from the fund.

The following table sets forth the trend in OPEB appropriations.

Fiscal Year	OPEB Contribution
June 30, 2021 (budgeted)	\$ 7,197,713
June 30, 2020	6,906,705
June 30, 2019	6,906,705
June 30, 2018	6,115,455
June 30, 2017	5,568,923
June 30, 2016	5,336,302

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Statement Nos. 74 and 75 require public sector entities to report the future costs of non-pension, post-employment benefits in their financial statements. These accounting standards do not require pre-funding the payment of these costs as the liability for such costs accrues, but the basis applied by the standards for measurement of costs and liabilities for these benefits is conservative if they continue to be funded on a pay-as-you-go basis and will result in larger yearly cost and liability accruals than if the cost of such benefits were pre-funded in a trust fund in the same manner as traditional pension benefits. Cities and towns that choose to self-insure all or a portion of the cost of the health care benefits they provide to employees and retirees may establish a trust fund for the purpose of paying claims. In addition, cities and towns may establish a trust fund for the purpose of pre-funding other post-employment benefits liability in the same manner as traditional pension benefits.

The Town was required to implement the GASB reporting requirements for other post-employment benefits beginning in fiscal year 2009. The Town has hired an outside firm which has completed the actuarial valuation of its post-employment benefit liability. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) for the Town was \$66,648,482 as of June 30, 2018 (net of the balance in the OPEB Trust Fund). The actuarial assumptions reflect a 7.0% investment rate of return. In fiscal year 2002 the Town began funding its post-retirement health insurance liability. The Town's Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) for fiscal year 2020 is \$6,906,705, at an assumed 7.0% discount rate. The balance in the OPEB Trust Fund as of June 30, 2020 was \$42,740,645.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

The Town employs approximately 1,354 full-time equivalent employees (FTE), 945 FTE's employed by the School Department, 145 by the Public Works Department, 63 by the Police Department, 80 by the Fire Department, and the balance by various other Town Departments. Town employees (other than managerial and confidential employees) are entitled to join unions and bargain collectively on questions of wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment. Approximately 1,233 (full and part time) Town employees are represented by unions including public works, general government, police, fire, teachers, and school administrators.

The Building Custodian Tradesman Independent Association (Building Maintenance Division) contract expires on June 30, 2022. The Needham Independent Public Employees Association (Public Works) contract expires June 30, 2021. The contracts with the Needham Firefighters Local 1706 (all units) expired on June 30, 2020. The Needham Police Union contract expired June 30, 2020, and the Needham Police Superior Officers Association contract expired on June 30, 2020. The Needham Independent Town Workers Association (various administrative, professional and technical positions) contract expires June 30, 2021.

The Needham Public Schools have contracts in place with the Needham Education Association Unit A (teachers) through August 31, 2022, with the Needham Education Association Unit B (administrators) through June 30, 2022, with the Needham Education Association Unit C (Non DESE licensed staff) through June 30, 2020, and with the Needham Education Association Unit E (food service workers) through June 30, 2020. The contract with the Needham Education Association Unit D (clerical, secretarial and technical positions) expired June 30, 2020.

Expired contracts are in negotiation.

LITIGATION

At present there are various cases pending in various courts throughout the Commonwealth in which the Town is a defendant. In the opinion of the Town, there is no litigation either pending or threatened, that is likely to result, either individually or in the aggregate, in final judgments against the Town that would materially affect its financial position or its ability to pay its obligations.

March 23, 2021

TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS
/s/ Ms. Evelyn M. Poness, Town Treasurer