Proposed Town Meeting Rule on Capital Expenditures

The following procedure shall be followed upon the making of a second on any motion to authorize a capital expenditure on any warrant article unless the article is by citizen’s petition:

1. The Committee on Finance and Taxation shall report on whether the purpose of the capital expenditure is included in the three-year capital plan for the Town as required by Article 3, Section 3 of the Town Charter in the Annual Reports for the current and prior years. If not, the Committee on Finance and Taxation shall also report on whether the proposed capital expenditure has been identified as an emergency by a vote of four Selectmen for departments under their supervision, or four members of the School Committee for the School Department.

2. If the purpose of the proposed capital expenditure does not appear in the three-year capital plan from the current and prior years according to Article 3, Section 3 of the Town Charter, and the proposed expenditure has not been identified as an emergency by the Selectmen or School Committee as stated above, then the Moderator shall announce that a motion to dismiss the article may be made by any Member of Town Meeting as the next order of business. If no such motion is made, or if such motion is defeated, then the article shall be considered as in the ordinary course.