

The upcoming special town meeting is important for the following reasons:

1. Addison needs to pay for obligations already incurred.
2. We have bills from the Town Attorney's that must be paid.
3. Citizens have asked for additional work on town ordinances
4. The State of Maine is constantly enacting and updating statutes here are some (there are many more):
 - a. Shoreland Zoning
 - b. Recreational Marijuana
 - c. Medical Marijuana
 - d. Revised Tax non-payment Foreclosure laws

There are two articles to vote on and both do the same thing

Move funds from the unallocated surplus line to the legal budget line. These are dollars that have been budgeted and raised by taxation but have not been spent. They are leftover from accounts where the actual expenses were less than the amounts estimated.

1. Move surplus funds to legal to pay for currently obligated and billed legal services
2. \$15,000 from surplus to legal to cover costs arising from ongoing Government operations (Judgement against the town on Sand and Salt shed suit, work on ordinance upgrades and new ordinances)

Unfortunately, it is impossible to know in advance, how many people will bring suit against the town or how often violations of our Town Ordinances or State Laws (that we are required to enforce) will be encountered in a year. The budget committee and the Selectmen make their best guess estimate in March. However, some years we are over and, some years we are under on our estimate. This is one of the years when we are under.

Should the Town not need all of the funding that would be in the legal budget item at the end of the year (March town meeting), the remainder will go right back into surplus again, where it came from.