



TOWN OF CONCORD

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Town Manager's Budgetary Priorities

March 16, 2015

The Honorable Board of Selectmen:

With the FY16 Town Manager's Proposed Enterprise Budget Book, I have identified six general goals that the programs and services of the Town Government should strive to achieve. These goals set the priority of what is to be funded in this budget. The goals are as follows:

1. Preserve the health and safety of residents and visitors and protect their property,
2. Enhance residents' quality of life,
3. Preserve the Town's character,
4. Promote the sustainability of resources,
5. Ensure quality operational and financial management, and
6. Maintain the Town's infrastructure

This presentation attempts to align these goals with funding levels. Although many aligned programs and services are well-established and proposed funding has been maintained or modified slightly from last year, there are several new initiatives being proposed. The section below highlights current and new programs and services.

Enhance Residents' Quality of Life

The Town of Concord strives to offer community-oriented recreation programs and facilities that help to enhance the residents' quality of life. New to the Enterprise Budget Book this year is information about the Recreation Department which hosts a variety of programs including summer camps, after-school day care, and fitness/sports programs. Likewise, the Beede Swim & Fitness Center is a well-maintained facility in which members have access to several pools, fitness areas, and personal trainers.

Promote Sustainability of Resources

The Concord Municipal Light Plant has taken the lead in ensuring that the Town is a "Green Community" through sustainable energy practices. Close to 17% of all the Light Plant's purchased power (kilowatt hours) comes from renewable energy sources. Additionally, the Light Plant has implemented a Conservation and Renewable Energy surcharge (CARES) that provides assistance to customers for more energy efficient fixtures and appliances.

Maintain the Town's Infrastructure

Maintaining the Town's infrastructure is done through the careful planning and practices of the Light, Water, and Sewer Enterprises. All of these enterprises provide quality services at a reasonable cost while investing in their infrastructure. According to the 2014 Town Residential Survey, 89% of residents polled indicated that electricity rates were a "good bargain" or "reasonably priced". Also 89% responded that water prices were either a "good bargain" or "reasonably priced". Similarly, 83% indicated that sewer rates were either a "good bargain" or "reasonably priced".

Sincerely,

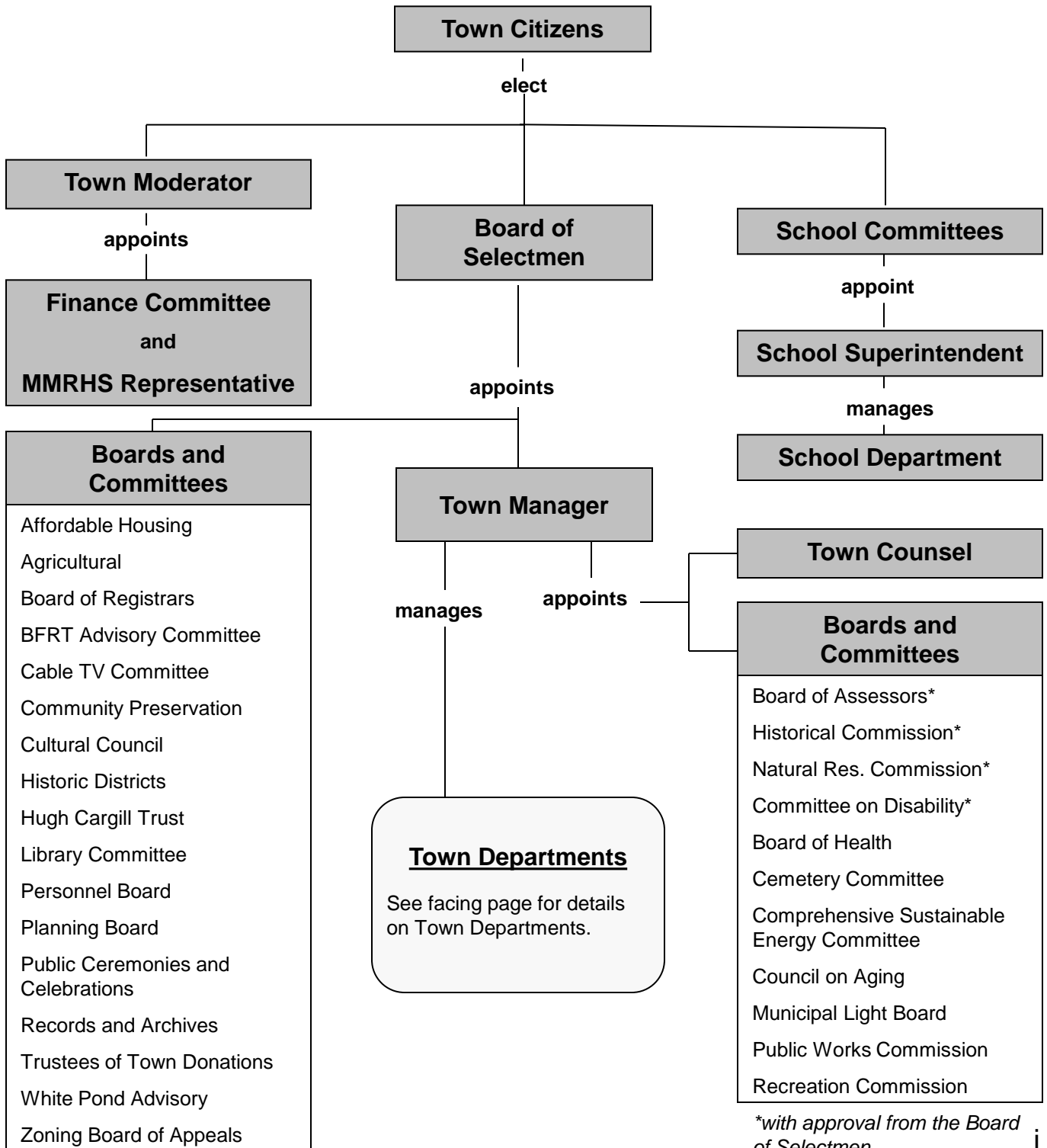
Christopher Whelan
Town Manager

Town Government Mission Statement:

The mission of Concord's Town Government is to enhance the quality of life of Concord residents by providing efficient, effective, and innovative services, protecting the Town's character, and being a responsible steward of Town resources.

The chart below outlines how Concord citizens, either through elections or by sitting on boards and committees, influence the operations of their government.

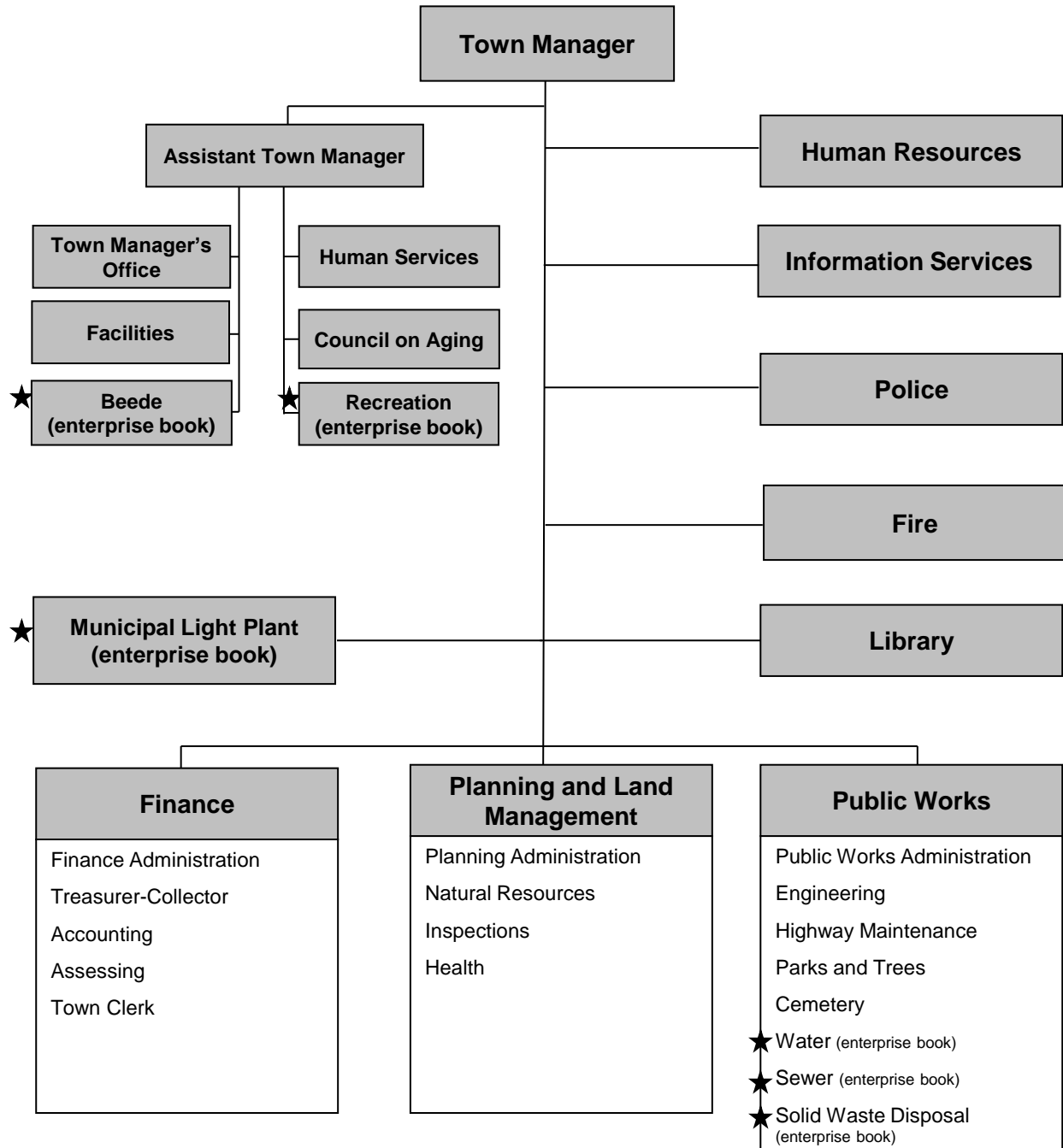
On the facing page, the chart shows how Town Government is structured to carry out the wishes of its citizens.



The Town Manager oversees Town Departments, including the following 5 business-type activities:

- The Concord Municipal Light Plant;
- The Water Division;
- The Sewer Division;
- The Beede Swim and Fitness Center;
- Recreation Department and;
- The Solid Waste Disposal Division.

In this budget book, the above 6 business-type activities are presented (marked by ★ in the chart below). The Light Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, and Swim and Fitness Fund are all Enterprise Funds, while the Solid Waste Fund is a Special Revenue Fund (see page II-1, “A Note on the Solid Waste Fund”). Likewise the Recreation Fund is a Revolving Fund.



Budget Book Guide

Section I – Letter of Transmittal

The Letter of Transmittal is an introduction to the budget book by the Town Manager. Included in the letter is summary information about each of the four enterprise funds (Light, Water, Sewer, and Swim and Fitness) the one special revenue fund (Solid Waste Disposal) and the (Recreation) revolving fund. The letter highlights some of the major changes budgeted for in the coming year.

Section II – Budget Summary

The Budget Summary contains charts, schedules, and narratives that describe the FY16 Enterprise Budgets. The level of detail presented in this summary section allows the reader to grasp the big picture relating to the enterprise operations' recent past, present, and near future.

Section III – Light Fund

The Light Fund presentation provides the charts and narratives necessary to understand the operations and plans of the Concord Municipal Light Plant. At the end of Light Fund section there is an operational overview of the new Telecommunications Division.

Section IV – Water Fund

The Water Fund presentation provides the charts and narratives necessary to understand the operations and plans of Concord's Municipal Water Services Division.

Section V – Sewer Fund

The Sewer Fund presentation provides the charts and narratives necessary to understand the operations and plans of Concord's Municipal Sewer Services Division.

Section VI – Solid Waste Fund

The Solid Waste Fund presentation provides the charts and narratives necessary to understand the operations and plans of Concord's Solid Waste Disposal Division.

Section VII – Swim and Fitness Fund

The Swim and Fitness Fund presentation provides the charts and narratives necessary to understand the operations and plans of Concord's Beede Swim and Fitness Center.

Section VIII – Recreation Fund

The Recreation Fund presentation provides the charts and narratives necessary to understand the operations and plans of Concord's Recreation Department.

Section IX – Appendix

The Appendix contains information describing the budgeting process (including a calendar of events), as well as relevant excerpts from the most recent Audited Financial Statements and a glossary of terms used throughout the book.

Table of Contents

Letter of TransmittalSection I

Budget SummarySection II

Budget Overview 1
 Management Policies 2
 Financial Health 4
 Operating Summaries 6
 Capital Spending 7
 Useful Definitions 8

Budget Detail – Light FundSection III

Overview 1
 Electricity Rates 3
 Revenues and Expenditures 4
 Supplemental Information..... 13
 Telecommunications 17

Budget Detail – Water Fund Section IV

Overview 1
 Water Rates 3
 Program Highlights 4
 Revenues and Expenditures 6
 Capital Spending 12
 Financial Statements 14
 Supplemental Information..... 15

Budget Detail – Sewer Fund Section V

Overview 1
 Sewer Rates 3
 Program Highlights 4
 Revenues and Expenditures 6
 Financial Statements 11
 Debt Service 12
 Capital Spending 13
 Supplemental Information..... 15

Budget Detail – Solid Waste Fund..... Section VI

Overview 1
 Collection and Disposal 2
 Performance Measures 3
 Revenues and Expenditures 5
 Supplemental Information 10

Budget Detail – Swim and Fitness Fund..... Section VII

- Overview 1
- Operations and Memberships2
- Programs, Features, and Fees4
- Revenues and Expenditures 6
- Financial Statements 10
- Capital Spending 12
- Fund Balance Charts 15
- Proforma..... 16

Budget Detail – Recreation Fund Section VIII

- Overview 1
- Strategic Plan2
- Programs, Features & Fees 4
- Revenues and Expenditures 8
- Performance..... 11

Appendix Section IX

- Budget Process and Calendar/Schedule 1
- Excerpts from Concord’s Financial Statements 5
- Glossary 8