

Questions and Answers for January 29, 2020 Meeting of Ways & Means Committee

Prior Funding Plan

- A. What were the contents of order 19-043 "Authorization to fund South Middle School"? And why was 19-043 withdrawn?

Order 19-043 was a request for borrowing authorization in an amount not to exceed \$86,585,919.00 to fund the new South Middle School. The request was made with the understanding that the amount borrowed would be reduced by reimbursements received from the MSBA, which totaled at least 53.96% of eligible costs. *See Order 19-043*. The Motion was withdrawn because the Town will not be funding the South Project within the existing operating budget. The Motions filed on January 21, 2020 include a borrowing authorization for South Middle School that is subject to and contingent on an affirmative vote of the Town on the debt exclusion.

- B. Please provide an explanation as to what changed between November 5th, when then-Mayor Sullivan sent a letter to the Council stating that South could be funded without a debt exclusion, and now.

The prior plan for South Middle School did not include a debt exclusion and sought to fund the project within the existing operating budget, similar to how the East Middle School project was funded; however, the Town cannot sustain the type of debt required to fund the South Middle School project and maintain the necessary operational budget required to continue providing services to the citizens of Braintree. Additionally, the project scope has changed and costs have escalated from the original plan for a renovation/addition. These costs cannot be incorporated into the operating budget without resulting in financial deficits over time. Based on revenue projections through FY25, including property/tax growth, state aid, local receipts and other financing sources (i.e., free cash, trust fund/accounts and account surplus), the Town would begin to incur budgetary shortfalls in FY22 that would increase over time with an estimated shortfall of \$3,351,622 in FY25.

This question will be further addressed throughout the meeting by Mayor Kokoros and his staff. Additionally, Town Auditor Shawn McGoldrick will be in attendance to discuss concerns raised in his January 14, 2020 memo to Council President Hume. *See January 14, 2020 Memo from Shawn McGoldrick to Shannon Hume.*

Financing

- A. What is the interest rate the Town would be paying and who is financing company?

Based on a bond issue date of 6/1/2020, the estimated interest rate is 3.25%. The estimated costs are based on a debt schedule provided by the Town's financial advisor, Hilltop Securities. The process would include going out to bid competitively on the bonds in order to obtain the lowest rate at the time of borrowing.

B. Have we exhausted all avenues to attain federal and state funding to assist in this process?

The Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) grant program for school building construction and renovation projects is a non-entitlement competitive program. The MSBA's Board of Directors approves grants based on need and urgency as expressed by the City, Town, Regional School District or independent agricultural and technical school and validated by the MSBA. Once the MSBA Board of Directors invites a District to participate in the MSBA's grant program, the District and the MSBA work together, in a collaborative process, to complete the project.

The School Department will continue to submit Statements of Interest for the various programs, including the replacement of school roofs and design and development of the high school, all of which are eligible for reimbursement. More information on eligible programs can be found at <https://www.massschoolbuildings.org/>.

There are no federal grant programs for school construction that would be available to the Town of Braintree.

C. What is the reimbursement percent that neighboring communities like Weymouth, Quincy, Holbrook, and Abington?

Eligibility for reimbursement, and the amount of reimbursement, by the MSBA varies by project and community. The MSBA uses a specific formula that includes consideration of local economic metrics for each community. Braintree's base reimbursement rate for the South Middle School project is 50.58. Recent projects in Abington and Weymouth were funded with base rates of 55.63 and 56.25, respectively. Base rates are adjusted for each project based on what the MSBA approves as both credits (green construction points) and eligible costs.

D. The Auditor's report cited depleting the Braintree School Building Authority Trust Fund as a major financial risk. By asking us to approve the \$1.7mm for the design and development plans for South, we will nearly deplete the fund. This puts us in a bind: we need to make good on our contractual obligations, but there are many anticipated and unanticipated expenses for which we will need money. How Trust Fund currently funded? What is the plan to replenish the fund and how long do we anticipate it will take to get us back to \$2mm? Are we better off including this expense in the debt exclusion proposal? What are the pros and cons of each approach?

The Braintree School Building Authority (BSBA) Stabilization Fund was created in conjunction with the FY2018 budget to accumulate and manage funds for school building repairs, renovations and new construction and to match the funding formula provided by the MSBA. Funds transferred into the account were to come from an excess tax levy capacity of \$600,000 for 3 years for a total of \$1,800,000; current tax levy funds of \$420,000 for five years for a total of \$2,100,000; interest income earned on the balance in the account; MSBA direct reimbursements to the Town for funds already expended; and possible use of excess town funds over stated reserve levels over a 5 year period to reach the target balance. The Fund was intended

to serve as the source for debt service payments in years 4 and 5 of repayment, which will not be necessary if additional revenue through the debt exclusion is received.

Payment for the design and development plans for South fall within the intended purpose of the Fund. Additionally, the work completed to date was necessary in order to move forward in partnership with MSBA for the grant. The balance will remain in the account and will continue to accrue interest. The Town can choose to deposit additional funds as needed in the future.

E. The Auditor's report expounds eight concerns with funding South without a debt exclusion. Does the debt exclusion alleviate any other financial pressures the town is facing or may face in the future or does it only ensure that we will avoid the risks outlined by the Town Auditors? In other words, are there other collateral benefits?

If the debt service required to fund South Middle School was included in the operating budget, payment would take precedence over other operating expenses and is valued at \$2,930,000.00 per year for a 30 year term. The total cost, including principal and interest would be \$87,900,000.00. Funding the four projects with the additional revenue provided by a debt exclusion incorporates a comprehensive view of Town wide needs and allows the Town to maintain operations within the operating budget and without infringing on other services. It would also help maintain the balance of available free cash, which has historically been used to fund capital projects, overtime expenditures and snow and ice removal costs in excess of appropriated funds.

F. How were the term limits determined for each bond? Can the calculations be provided on the per household costs provide the spreadsheet or calculator used?

Term limits for borrowing are based on statutory limits connected to the use life for each project. *See Debt Schedule Summary Sheet and Supporting Calculations.*

G. Can the Mayor's office provide household costing for shorter term limits to show annual costs etc.?

As noted above, the maximum term limits are set by statute. The terms included for the identified projects are the maximum term allowed for the type of work proposed. If the terms were shorter, the annual tax impact would increase.

H. What are our other options for funding South? What services would have to be cut to fund South? Is selling some unused town property an option?

As detailed above, a debt exclusion is the way to fund the South Middle School Project. The Town is considering options for the sale of property, including 44 Allen Street; however, this is a one-time revenue source and would only provide a small amount of the funding necessary for these projects.

I. If the debt exclusion goes through and it is out there for 30 years does the Town get to borrow from it to cover other costs?

No. The funds received through the debt exclusion are limited to the projects specifically identified in the ballot questions.

Tax Calculations

- A. I am wondering if there's any plan in place to permit a measure of tax relief for senior citizens who demonstrate financial need. In particular, I am focused on possible relief for increased taxes to pay for the debt exclusion should that be passed. Has a decision been made on this?

Eligible seniors currently have exemption up to \$1,000 per Clause 41C (Eligibility requirements include 65 or older, maximum income of \$34,392.77 (married) or \$22,927.48 (single) and maximum estate/savings \$63,866.31 (married) or \$45,721.33 (single)). The Town can, with the approval of the Town Council, increase the exemption amount to \$1200 to cover the increase for those eligible for the exemption. Eligible seniors also have an exemption up to \$175 available under Clause 17 (Eligibility requirements include 65 or older and a maximum estate/savings of \$47,791.72 (married or single)). The exemption provides a lesser benefit than the Clause 41C exemption, but is less restrictive in eligibility. The exemptions resulting from Clause 41C and Clause 17 eligibility are covered by the Town through an overlay account that is created specifically to cover tax exemptions. The FY20 balance of the fund is \$1,201,000 and the account has a 5 year average balance of \$1,123,600.

Eligible seniors also currently have a deferral option under Clause 41A (Eligibility requirements include 65 or older and a maximum income of \$40,000 (married or single)). Those currently receiving a 41A deferral benefit would not see an increase in their taxes and instead the additional costs would be deferred along with the existing tax obligations. The total amount of taxes become due upon death or sale and the deferral program provides a reduced interest rate when payment becomes due.

The Town also offers a Senior Citizen Municipal Service Program to assist homeowners over the age of 60 with real estate tax obligations while allowing the senior to contribute knowledge and experience to the various departments within the Town. Work hours are calculated at the minimum wage rate and accrued to equal the maximum abatement amount of \$750. This credit is then applied to the resident's tax bill.

B. Cost per household broken down by each Debt exclusion question

- South Middle School
 - i. Amount: \$55,588,631
 - ii. Years: 30 years
 - iii. Annual debt service: \$2,930,000
 - iv. Estimated impact on residential tax rate: \$0.30
- Elementary School Roofs
 - i. Amount: \$5,000,000
 - ii. Years: 20 years
 - iii. Annual debt service: \$342,500
 - iv. Estimated impact on residential tax rate: \$0.04

- BHS Feasibility Study
 - i. Amount: \$1,500,000.00
 - ii. Years: 5 years
 - iii. Annual debt service: \$328,750
 - iv. Estimated impact on residential tax rate: \$0.04
- School Security Improvements
 - i. Amount: \$1,000,000
 - ii. Years: 10 years
 - iii. Annual debt service: \$119,737
 - iv. Estimated impact on residential tax rate: \$0.02

C. Can you please explain in more detail the calculation on the average appraised property being roughly \$500K? How many properties in total are used for this? Is it the average or is it the median?

The average residential property in Town is valued at \$502,593.93. This calculation is based on 12,073 parcels with a total residential value of \$6,067,816,568.

D. What tax relief or discount will be provided for residents reliant on SSI or other fixed incomes?

In addition to the age based relief described above, residents can apply for a Clause 18 Hardship to reduce all or a portion of the taxes assessed on a residential property. Requirements include establishing that taxes cannot be paid because (1) you were called into active military service (not including initial enlistment), or (2) you are older and suffer some physical or mental illness, disability or impairment. Qualifications are established locally by the board of assessors. The hardship exemption 18 provides assistance to those taxpayers who, in the judgement of the Board of Assessors, are unable to fulfil their tax obligations by reason of age, infirmity and financial condition.

E. How does the commercial property play into this? What about the long term viability of our largest source of tax revenue – the South Shore Plaza? Have revenue forecast models been developed that lay out different revenue scenarios should the SSP seriously falter or close down, as we’ve seen happen all across the South Shore? What is the plan should this occur? How would we continue to finance the debt?

Commercial taxes will also be subject to a temporary increase if the debt exclusion passes. The following is a breakdown based on the average commercial property value:

Average commercial property value: \$2,807,390

- Actual FY2020 rate: 21.80
- Estimated FY2021 rate: 22.65
- Estimated increase in rate: \$0.85
- Estimated increase in annual taxes: \$2,386.28

See Debt Schedule Summary Sheet and Supporting Calculations.

The South Shore Plaza is our largest commercial tax payer, but only makes up 4.25% of the total assessed value, including both residential and commercial tax payers. If a business closes, a property becomes vacant or there is a market change after the assessment date of January 1, then the next fiscal year assessment would note the market change. Any market reduction in value would be calculated with all other market changes to the overall tax base before the final tax rate is calculated. This past year we had commercial values outpacing the residential so the commercial share increased. Because the total tax base is nearing \$8 billion dollars it takes a large shift in values to have a significant impact from year to year.

- F. From the wording provided it looks to be that residents can vote for one portion of the debt exclusion and not another. Can you please confirm.

Each project would appear on the ballot separately and residents will be able to vote in favor of or against each individual project. The MSBA will not allow non grant program items to be put into the same question. This means that both South Middle School and elementary roof replacement must be stand-alone questions even though we have not yet received approval for MSBA roof replacement funding.

Long Term Planning

- A. How does the proposed debt exclusion help us reach our long term educational capital plan?

Background

One of the biggest challenges faced by the Braintree Public Schools (BPS) is managing our steady growth in enrollment. In the fall of 2006, the schools opened with 5,053 students in grades K-12; as of September 2018, that number stood at 5,984. The BPS currently services almost 5,900 students from pre-Kindergarten to 12th grade in one preschool center based at Braintree High School, a Kindergarten center, six neighborhood elementary schools (all serving grades 1-5 with four housing one section of full day Kindergarten, and one serving two sections), two grade 6-8 middle schools and one grade 9-12 high school.

With the exception of the opening of a previously closed building to serve as our Kindergarten center, the BPS has accommodated for the additional 900+ students through the reconfiguration of existing spaces. As a result, many of our schools do not have media/library spaces, specialized small group instructional rooms, or classrooms for art, music and other content areas.

As part of an effort to plan for a long-term solution for space constraints at the elementary level, a study was commissioned and provided by house architect Habeeb & Associates in May of 2012. This study presented five options with multiple subsets and included both short and long-term solutions. Most of the options included upgrades and additions to all 6 elementary schools, while one option included building a 7th elementary school, and the final option proposed

building four new elementary schools over a 10 year period of time. The primary long-term solution, which did not include any construction or renovations to East Middle School, South Middle School or Braintree High School, was estimated to approach \$125,000,000 in 2012.

In March of 2013, the BPS submitted a Statement of Interest to the MSBA for renovations to East Middle School (EMS), one of two grade 6-8 middle schools that serves approximately 730 students. At that time, the goal of the project was to upgrade systems, technology, windows, fire protection and provide other improvements in order to create a safer and more efficient building. The study was well underway during the fall and winter of 2015 when the BPS decided to approach the MSBA about the feasibility of moving 5th graders from the respective sending elementary schools to EMS as part of a system-wide comprehensive strategy to alleviate enrollment driven space constraints at the elementary level. While considering this option, the BPS also received notice from the MSBA that the previously submitted Statement of Interest for Liberty Elementary School would not be forwarded to the Eligibility phase. This notification gave further support to the idea of mitigating space constraints at the elementary level through two building projects at the middle school level that would accommodate all grade five students, as opposed to the multiple elementary building projects outlined in the 2012 Habeeb study.

The new BPS grade configuration plan moves all grade five students to our two middle schools, primarily utilizing the same districting pattern that is currently in place. After receiving support from the MSBA in late January of 2016 to explore an addition to EMS, the proposal for reconfiguring our six elementary schools to serve grades 1-4, and our two middle schools to serve grades 5-8, was adopted by the School Committee after two public hearings in the late winter of 2016. At that time the EMS project re-entered the MSBA Eligibility Period and was eventually approved. As part of our adopted comprehensive plan to address enrollment driven space constraints system-wide, the BPS submitted a Statement of Interest to the MSBA in the spring of 2016 for consideration of a project to expand South Middle School to also accommodate grade 5 students.

In total, removing grade 5 students from our elementary schools will free up over 20 classrooms and allowing the use of that space to accommodate our current and projected enrollment.

B. What's the plan if not all questions pass? plan based on each question if it doesn't and doesn't pass? If none pass?

If the question for South Middle School does not pass, and no other funding source is realized, the district will forfeit the MSBA grant funds of \$31,000,000 as they are designated specifically for the approved South Middle School 5-8 project. The school administration is reviewing options for consideration by the School Committee in this circumstance.

For all other questions, if the items do not pass the funding would need to be found elsewhere. There are currently no identified funds or funding methods for roof replacements, security upgrades or a feasibility study for the high school.

C. What is the long term plan for the district, especially Braintree High School?

The BPS has submitted for MSBA funding for Braintree High School for two years in a row and will submit once again this April. The MSBA will notify the BPS by January 2021 as to whether we will be invited for funding consideration.

D. Are you concerned that once you get this debt exclusion that you can't ask people for more money to fund other critical projects? What is the capital plan for other buildings like the Fire Station Headquarters and our elementary schools?

During the transition, and continuing to the present day, the Mayor has been conducting a thorough review of the Town's finances and completing an assessment of our capital needs. This has led to the conclusion that a new South Middle School cannot be funded within the existing operating budget and a debt exclusion is necessary. In addition to addressing the needs of South Middle School, a debt exclusion allows the Town to address other demands within the school system through the temporary tax increase while maintaining availability of funds to cover other significant departmental capital needs. The Town is also in the process of preparing the annual Capital Budget, including a five year Capital Improvement Program component, to ensure sound fiscal and capital planning across all town departments.

E. What happens if this doesn't pass? Do any the schools close? What happens to the fifth grade moving up to South? How do we reconcile having two different middle school experiences in different parts of town? **What is Plan B?**

School administration is reviewing options and will submit those for review and deliberation to the school committee as the body responsible for the operation of school buildings and the districting of students.

South Middle School

A. Can you provide information as to what the Old South Middle School will be used for and the estimated costs associated it going forward after the new school is built? How will funding be provided to either: maintain the building long term or demolition costs depending on the answer for use.

The Town is committed to using the existing facility for educational purposes and the BPS is considering the use of the "old South Middle School" within its long-term plan. Approximately 12 years ago, South Middle School participated in a green energy project with funding from the MSBA for improvements including boilers, windows and fire suppression. If the Town were to discontinue the use of the building as a school within the terms of the bonds for that funding, money must be returned to the MSBA either through payment or a reduction in the pending funding grant for South Middle School. The value of this repayment, known as a clawback, is approximately \$700,000.00. In the alternative, if the building were sold to a private developer

the Town would be responsible for a pro-rated clawback and restrictions would remain intact as to the potential use of the building. Regarding demolition, the estimated cost is approximately \$2,000,000.

B. What guarantees will there be to ensure construction does not go over budget?

The MSBA project funding agreement approves the total amount of money dedicated to the project and is the ceiling for available funds. The Town utilizes a project manager to oversee all aspects of design and construction and the current cost estimates are on target to stay within the budget.

Timelines

A. What are the deadlines to:

- Provide a recommendation to the full council from W&M?
- Full Council vote?
- Town wide vote-election?

The public hearing on the motions relating to the special election and borrowing authorizations has been advertised for February 4, 2020. The vote by the full council must be taken 35 days before the election, which has been proposed for March 28, 2020, in order to stay on schedule with the MSBA. Based on the meeting schedule, February 4, 2020 is the last scheduled meeting where the vote can be held and meet the statutory deadline.

B. Why rush? Is the \$30mm of MSBA funding worth rushing this town-wide vote before we know what our long-term funding plans are for BHS and our other buildings and thereby risking overall initiative failure? If it succeeds, will we be able and willing to go back to the voters for a 2nd debt exclusion to fund BHS?

If the Town loses the funding awarded by the MSBA, costs related to the South Middle School project would have to be paid by exclusively by the Town for the project to be completed. The estimated debt service to bond the additional \$30,997,288.00 would cost the Town \$1,635,000 per year for 30 years, including principal and interest. The total cost to the Town for the additional borrowing would be \$49,050,000.00.

Also, if a school district fails to approve funding for a proposed project within the deadline, a plan must be submitted to the MSBA no later than 10 business days following the failed vote that: (1) presents the vote results, (2) explains the school district's understanding of the reason(s) for the failed vote, and (3) sets forth the school district's plan to remedy the failed vote and a suggested timeline for such a remedy. The MSBA will review the plan and determine whether it can continue to set aside MSBA funds for the proposed South project. However, a failed local vote likely will result in the school district being required to submit a new Statement of Interest to the MSBA and await a second invitation from the MSBA to enter the feasibility study phase of the MSBA's process. More information on the MSBA "Failed Vote Policy" can be found at <https://www.massschoolbuildings.org/sites/default/files/edit>

MSBA

- A. If it is voted to not move forward with the debt exclusion or it does not pass the residents vote will the 31MIL in MSBA funding be lost permanently or can we reapply later on for the same project?

If a school district fails to approve funding for a proposed project within the deadline, a plan must be submitted to the MSBA no later than 10 business days following the failed vote that: (1) presents the vote results, (2) explains the school district's understanding of the reason(s) for the failed vote, and (3) sets forth the school district's plan to remedy the failed vote and a suggested timeline for such a remedy. The MSBA will review the plan and determine whether it can continue to set aside MSBA funds for the proposed project. However, a failed local vote likely will result in the school district being required to submit a new Statement of Interest to the MSBA and await a second invitation from the MSBA to enter the feasibility study phase of the MSBA's process. More information on the MSBA "Failed Vote Policy" can be found at https://www.massschoolbuildings.org/sites/default/files/edit_contentfiles/Guidelines_Forms/Vote_Requirements/Policy_Statement_revote_fail_feas_study.pdf

- B. Can you clarify the difference between a Statement of Interest (SOI) and a Feasibility Study?

Submitting a SOI is the first critical step in the MSBA's program to partially fund the construction, renovation, addition or repair of municipally or regionally owned school facilities located in cities, towns and regional school districts. The SOI allows districts to inform the MSBA about deficiencies that may exist in school facilities and how those deficiencies inhibit the delivery of the educational program. There is no financial obligation to the district or the MSBA with an SOI, it is simply a request for consideration of funding.

- C. If the MSBA invites the school system for consideration of eligibility based on the SOI, the school district has 270 days to complete preliminary requirements and are then considered for entry into the Feasibility Phase. At that time, the school district must successfully procure Owner's Project Management and Designer services in accordance with the procedures outlined by the MSBA. The Feasibility Study documents our educational program, generates an initial space summary, documents existing conditions, establishes design parameters, develops and evaluates alternatives, and recommends the most cost effective and educationally appropriate preferred solution to the MSBA Board of Directors for their consideration. During this phase, the Owner's Project Manager will submit on behalf of the District and its Designer a Preliminary Design Program and a Preferred Schematic Report. How many SOI's have been submitted for Braintree High School? Based on that was the high school set as the #1 priority for any of them?

We have submitted two with a third to be submitted this April. Because we are already working with the MSBA on East and South Middle Schools, the MSBA will not allow us to identify BHS as our #1 priority.

- D. Can you explain the SOI process getting voted on and the next step that typically happens? Do you have to be invited from a SOI to the next step of a feasibility study?

See explanation above.

- E. Is Braintree going to have to submit another SOI or do we just submit the Feasibility Study in lieu of the SOI even though we were not invited to provide one from any of SOI's?

As it relates to the high school, we will submit a new SOI in April 2020 for consideration by the MSBA. If invited for eligibility, the feasibility study will be incorporated into the collaboration with the MSBA.

- F. How was it determined to use 1.5MIL for the study, understanding that, the cost is based on the size of the school. Was it based on South/East costs or other?

The estimate is based on similar projects that are currently in the MSBA pipeline.

- G. How many times have we asked for an extension from the MSBA? Is there a limit to getting and spending MSBA money? Will MSBA be unwilling to work with the Town again if we are unable to pass this debt exclusion?

The Town has requested one extension from the MSBA on the South Middle School project. Extensions are considered on a case by case basis and all Statement of Interest submissions are considered on their own merit as part of the MSBA competitive grant process. We cannot speak for the MSBA as to future projects.

Security

- A. Has a security assessment been done on each school and if so can these assessments be provided?

A full security assessment has not been done. Emergency officials mapped the high school approximately 5 years ago, but the purpose was for how they would respond to an event. Video surveillance consultants have assessed the best locations for new equipment.

- B. If a security assessment for each school was done – how old is it and is it still valid with the ever-changing scenarios that have been happening?

As noted above, a full assessment has not been done.

- C. If no assessment on each school has been done – will this be accomplished as part of the debt exclusion funding?

A portion of the funds will be used to fund an assessment. The cost for an assessment is typically based on square footage and would likely range from \$80,000 to \$120,000 to complete. The remaining funds would be used to implement the recommendations by priority.

- D. What specific security enhancements are being proposed as part of the debt exclusion?

Determination of the specific enhancements would be determined by a security assessment.

- E. If an assessment was done are the enhancements based on the existing assessments?

As noted above, a full assessment has not been done.

- F. technology is constantly changing - how confident are we that the money for this security, which seems small for 6-8 schools (assuming new south and east will already have it) will be enough to keep up with technology and then once you purchase the items they are most likely outdated within 3 years so then what?

The focus of the enhancements is to build out robust and flexible infrastructure that is capable of handling future equipment upgrades and expansion.

School Roofs

- A. Where did the debt exclusion amount originate from? Does the town have estimated costs for each roof?

The replacement cost estimates for each of the roofs is based on cost per square foot using a range of \$22.50/sf and \$27.50/sf.

- B. How long would the roofs be warranted for and what is their life expectancy once replaced?

Life expectancy for roofs today is approximately 20 years, which serves as the basis for the bond term.

- C. If the MSBA votes to participate in the roof replacements and part of the funding ultimately comes from them, what will happen to the debt funds received?

The Town is requesting authorization to borrow \$5,000,000.00 to complete the roof repairs; however it will not sell the permanent financing until the MSBA makes a determination on the Statements of Interest forms being submitted in February. If the Town is awarded any reimbursement, that number would be subtracted from the total authorized amount and residents would only be responsible for the tax increase resulting from the Town's balance due.

- D. If the debt exclusion passes do all 5 roofs get replaced this year? If it does not pass where does the money come from to replace those roofs?

It is possible that all five roofs could be replaced this summer, but the timing of the vote and the availability of the funding may impact the ability to bid the projects. It would be more likely that one or two roofs could be completed this summer with the remaining roofs scheduled for subsequent summers.

BHS Feasibility Study

- A. If the study shows that the school needs to be replaced or massively renovated, how will the Town pay for that?

The Town will be responsible for the appropriation of funds necessary for any redevelopment of the high school. The project is eligible for funding through the MSBA and the Town will be submitting a Statement of Interest to the MSBA in April 2020 utilizing the process detailed above.