

**SECTION 7.** For the purposes of this act, the word "official" shall mean a town department head, permanent, temporary or acting, including the superintendent of schools, and all members of municipal boards, committees, including the school committee, and commissions which recommend, authorize or approve the expenditure of funds, and the word "emergency" shall mean a major disaster, including, but not limited to, flood, drought, fire, hurricane, earthquake, storm or other catastrophe, whether natural or otherwise, which poses an unexpected and immediate threat to the health and safety of persons or property.

**SECTION 8.** (a) In any year during which bonds, notes or an amortization amount authorized under this act remain outstanding, the commissioner of revenue shall not certify the annual tax rate of the town of Southbridge until an audit report for the preceding fiscal year has been received and accepted by the commissioner. The audit report shall be prepared by a certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and shall include accompanying financial statements.

(b) In any year during which bonds, notes or an amortization amount authorized under this act remain outstanding, the town shall submit to the commissioner quarterly reports presenting a budget to actual comparison of revenues and expenditures. The written reports shall be submitted within 30 days after the conclusion of each fiscal quarter and shall be in such form and include such information and detail as the commissioner may prescribe.

(c) In any year during which bonds, notes or an amortization amount authorized by this act remain outstanding, the town shall not issue any bond, note or other form of indebtedness without written notification to, and the approval of, the commissioner.

**SECTION 9.** This act shall take effect upon its passage and, except for section 5, shall expire 5 years after its effective date.

Approved January 5, 2005.

## **Chapter 476. AN ACT RELATIVE TO ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.**

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 129 of the acts of 1920 is hereby repealed.

**SECTION 2.** Section 15 of chapter 452 of the acts of 1948, as appearing in section 1 of chapter 233 of the acts of 1993, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, the word "forthwith" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- within 21 calendar days.

**SECTION 3.** Section 55 of said chapter 452, as appearing in section 3 of chapter 342 of the acts of 1983, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 2, the word "thirteenth" and inserting in place thereof the following word:- twenty-third.

**SECTION 4.** Said section 55 of said chapter 452, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out, in line 3, the word "eighth" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- nineteenth Tuesday at 5:00 P.M.

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**SECTION 5.** The first paragraph of section 55A of said chapter 452, as appearing in section 4 of chapter 342 of the acts of 1983, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 5, the word "eleventh" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- twenty-first Tuesday preceding the preliminary election nor after 5:00 P.M. on the nineteenth.

**SECTION 6.** The fourth paragraph of said section 55A of said chapter 452, as so appearing, inserted by section 4 of said chapter 342, is hereby amended by striking out the portion of the form headed "Signatures of Nominators" and inserting in place thereof the following portion of the form:-

SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	CURRENT RESIDENCE	WARD PRECINCT	RESIDENCE OF REGISTRATION
(To be signed by the nominator in person with the nominator's name precisely as given when the nominator registered to vote)	(If the nominator's current residence is not the address at which the nominator shall complete the column title "Residence of Registration")		(If the nominator is not registered to vote at the "Current Residence then the nominator shall complete the column)

**SECTION 7.** The third paragraph of section 56 of said chapter 452, as appearing in section 5 of said chapter 342, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 4, the word "eighth" and inserting in place thereof the following word:- eighteenth.

**SECTION 8.** Section 57 of said chapter 452, as appearing in section 6 of said chapter 342, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 15, the words "thirty-fourth day" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- thirteenth Tuesday.

**SECTION 9.** Section 57A of said chapter 452, as appearing in section 2 of chapter 376 of the acts of 1951, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 6, the words "twenty-eighth day" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- twelfth Tuesday.

**SECTION 10.** Section 57B of said chapter 452, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 5, the words "twenty-eighth day" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- twelfth Tuesday.

**SECTION 11.** The second sentence of the first paragraph of said section 57B of said chapter 452, as appearing in chapter 257 of the acts of 1952, is hereby amended by striking out the words "twenty-ninth day", the first time they appear, and inserting in place thereof the following words:- twelfth Tuesday.

**SECTION 12.** Said second sentence of said first paragraph of said section 57B of said chapter 452, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking out the words "said twenty-ninth day" and inserting in place thereof the following words:- the day following the twelfth Tuesday.

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**SECTION 13.** Section 59 of said chapter 452, as appearing in section 9 of chapter 342 of the acts of 1983, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "FOR", in line 9, the following words:- UP TO.

**SECTION 14.** This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved January 5, 2005.

**Chapter 477. AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND  
IN THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH.**

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding section 53 of chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other special or general law to the contrary, the town of Plymouth may establish a special account to be known as the Town of Plymouth Economic Development Fund. There shall be credited to the fund all amounts constituting payments in lieu of taxes on real property received by the town pursuant to written tax increment financing agreement, approved by town meeting and the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council in accordance with section 59 of chapter 40 and other applicable laws, as well as any other funds specifically designated in such agreements.

**SECTION 2.** The amounts credited to the fund may, without further appropriation by the town, be expended by a majority vote of the board of trustees of the Plymouth Regional Economic Development Foundation Inc., the foundation, created pursuant to chapter 180 of the General Laws.

**SECTION 3.** The fund may be expended only for the following economic development purposes:-

(a) feasibility studies, economic data gathering, and payment of consultants to compile reports relative to economic development activities that will foster increased tax revenues to the town of Plymouth and create quality employment opportunities for its residents;

(b) marketing and promotion of economic development activities that will enhance the town's workforce, the ability to attract commerce or new businesses to the town;

(c) matching grants or funding of the construction, installation, improvements and related expenditures, of infrastructure related to projects of development that will leverage future developments resulting in quality employment opportunities and increased tax revenues; and

(d) general operations of the foundation, purchasing of literature, software or other products that would assist the economic development efforts of the town and the foundation.

**SECTION 4.** The foundation shall make an annual report on all expenditures from the fund on a date to be determined by the town manager. The foundation shall provide the