

HOUSE No. 3503

By Ms. Peake of Provincetown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3503) of Sarah K. Peake (by vote of the town) relative to the capital outlay provisions of the charter of the town of Harwich. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand Eleven
—————

An Act Relative to the Charter of the Town of Harwich.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 1: Chapter 9 of the Charter of the Town of Harwich is hereby deleted and
2 replaced with the following:

3 9.6.1 The purpose of the seven (7) year capital outlay plan is to provide the Town with a
4 long-range forecast of the Town’s capital improvement needs, and to attempt to keep debt
5 borrowing levels as even as possible from year to year.

6 9.6.2 A capital outlay shall be defined as the acquisition, construction, or renovation of
7 buildings, equipment or land having a total cost of \$50,000 during any budget year and/or
8 planning funds for any such capital outlays.

9 9.6.3 The Town Administrator and the Capital Outlay Committee shall submit a 7-year
10 capital outlay plan to joint public meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee
11 during the month of December of each year.

12 9.6.4 The Board of Selectmen shall prepare articles to be included in the May annual
13 town meeting warrant, seeking adoption of the seven (7) year capital outlay plan, funding of the
14 current year of the plan.

15 9.6.5 A simple majority vote of the town meeting shall be required to adopt the 7-year
16 capital outlay plan as submitted.

17 9.6.6 If any part of the current year of the plan receives funding support at the annual
18 town meeting, but fails at any necessary debt exclusion, capital exclusion or proposition 2 ½
19 override ballot votes, the unsupported portion shall be returned to the 7-year capital plan in year
20 1 of the next 7-year plan.

21 9-6-7 Any article included in the annual or special town meeting which requests a capital
22 outlay as defined in section 9-6-2 above, but which has not been recommended by the Capital
23 Outlay Committee, Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee shall require a two-thirds
24 majority vote of the town meeting.

25 Section 2. This act shall take effect on passage.