

Common Town Meeting Actions and Quantum of Vote¹

<u>Action</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Statute</u>
Raise and appropriate	Maj.	c.44, §53
Transfer from free cash or other available appropriation	Maj.	c..44, §53; c.44, §33B
Borrow	2/3ds	c.44, §§2, 7, 8
Approval of budgets (if no transfer from stabilization fund)	Maj.	
Transfer from one budget line item to another	Maj.	c.44, §33B
Pay Unpaid Bills of a prior fiscal year at an ATM	4/5ths	c.44, §64
Pay Unpaid Bills of a prior fiscal year at a STM	9/10ths	c.44, §64
Appropriation of funds for acquisition of land or interest therein	2/3ds	c.40, §14
Acquisition of land or an interest therein where no appropriation is necessary	Maj.	c.40, §14
Approve acquisition of land in town by a regional school district	2/3ds	c.71, §16
Take land or easements by eminent domain	2/3ds	c.40, §14; c.45, §19
Acquisition of land or interests in land for conservation purposes or under the Community Preservation Act (unless borrowing is required)	Maj.	c.40, §8C; c.44B
Transfer of municipal land from care, custody and control of one Board to another or to another specific purpose	2/3ds	c.40, §15A
Appropriations from stabilization fund	2/3ds	c.40, §5B
Appropriations to stabilization fund	Maj.	c.40, §5B
Adopt or amend zoning bylaws	2/3ds	c.40A, §5

¹This list is not intended to replace and cannot substitute for review of applicable state and local law, and may be affected by provisions in a special act, charter, or change in General Laws.

Adopt or amend general bylaws	Maj.	c.40, §21
Adopt or amend a bylaw establishing a historic district	2/3ds	c.40C, §3
Approval of proposed amendments to a charter when using Home Rule Procedures Act (G.L. c.43B)	2/3ds	c.43B, §10
Accept a public way generally	2/3ds	c.41, §81Y
Accept as a public way a subdivision road that has been approved by the Planning Board	Maj.	c.41, §81Y
Discontinue a public way generally (unless fee or easement in the way was acquired by eminent domain)	Maj.	c.82, §12
Discontinue a public way where the town has taken a fee or an easement in the road by eminent domain, a two-thirds vote by Town Meeting is required before the fee can be conveyed or easement declared abandoned.	2/3ds	c.40, §15
Acquire land or easements for a public way by purchase or eminent domain (even if the way is a subdivision road that has been approved by the PB)	2/3ds	c.40, §14
Enter into contracts generally	Maj.	c.40, §4
Authorize appropriate board to enter into an intermunicipal agreement (not required by law that TM vote)	Maj.	c.40, §4A
Establish and reauthorize revolving funds and approve bylaw for such purposes	Maj.	c.44, §53E ½; c.40, §21
Establish enterprise funds	Maj.	c.44, §53F ½
Create a Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund	Maj.	c.44, §55C
Accept local option statutes	Maj. (unless otherwise specified)	
Authorize BOS to petition the legislature to enact special legislation	Maj.	
Abandon or discontinue a public project for which borrowing has already occurred (transfer of unspent bond proceeds if project is abandoned and there is no outstanding liability)	2/3ds	c.44, §20



Transfer of unspent bond proceeds if project is complete and additional funds exist	Maj.	c.44, §20
Lease of property held for general municipal use	Maj.	c.40, §3
Lease of town property involving a change in custody and/or use	2/3ds	c.40, §15A
Set the salary/compensation of elected officials at ATM	Maj	c.41, §108
Revise the salary/compensation of elected officials at STM	2/3rds	c.41, §108
Lease/purchase agreement	2/3rds	c.44, §21C