

**ARTICLE 8**

**REDUCE LEGAL EXPENSES  
(Citizen Petition)**

This citizen's proposal is to reduce the appropriation in the line item 8120 (legal expenses for the town) for fiscal year 2021 from \$410,000 to \$110,000 and increase the amount appropriated for town in line item 8200 (town manager office and human resources) by \$100,000. During FY 14-18 the town (exclusive of the school department) has annually spent on average more than \$620,000 in legal expenses. More than 80% of this legal work is of a routine nature that could be done by in-house counsel.

*(Inserted by the Select Board on behalf of Richard Neumeier and 9 or more registered voters)*

DESCRIPTION: This article seeks Town Meeting approval to hire in-house counsel for legal services for the Town for fiscal year 2021. This proposal would reduce the appropriation in line item 8120, legal expenses for the Town, from \$410,000 to \$110,000 and increase the appropriation in line item 8200 of the Town Manager's budget by \$100,000.