TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Resolution Concerning Lost and Unaccounted For Gas

WHEREAS... “Unaccounted For Gas” (UFG) or “Lost And Unaccounted For Gas (LAUF) represents the difference between the total gas from all sources and the total gas accounted for as sales, interchange, and use and includes leakage or loss by other means, discrepancies in measuring or monitoring, variations of temperatures or pressures and other variants, and

WHEREAS... The cost of UFG is typically passed down from providers to consumers, and

WHEREAS... There are 20,000 unrepai red gas leaks (“UGLs”) in the Commonwealth including 121 UGLs in Wellesley, and

WHEREAS... UFG exceeds 8 billion cubic feet per year (worth more than $50 million), and

WHEREAS... Methane, the primary ingredient of UFG, is a precursor to ozone formation that can decrease lung function and aggravate asthma, and

WHEREAS... Methane’s impact on climate is estimated at up to 21 times more than carbon dioxide, and

WHEREAS... Leaking gas in the ground is harmful to vegetation and can kill valuable shade tress by depriving roots of oxygen, and

WHEREAS... Massachusetts House Bill (H2870), “An Act relative to protecting consumers of gas and electricity from paying for leaked and UFG”, seeks to protect all gas and electricity customers from paying for UFG, and

WHEREAS... H2870 will provide economic incentive to gas providers to mitigate loss, pushing development of improved technologies and practices, as well as to reduce heat-trapping gasses released during transportation, distribution, and storage, which have an impact on global warming, and

WHEREAS... Massachusetts House Bill (H2871), “An Act Relative to Gas Leak Repairs During Road Projects” seeks to require all gas leaks to be repaired when a road is opened up for a construction project,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED... That the Town of Wellesley Board of Selectmen supports H2870 and H2871, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED... That the Wellesley Town Clerk forward an engrossed copy of this resolution to the elected Wellesley delegation of the House and Senate
as well as the House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo and Senate President Stanley C. Rosenberg on behalf of the entire Wellesley Board of Selectmen

Read and adopted 2/29/16 
Attest: Kathleen Nagle, Town Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Town of Wellesley

David Murphy, Chair
Ellen Gibbs
Barbara Searle

Marjorie Freiman
Jack Morgan

Barbara D. Dean