

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SOUTH HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

WARRANT
Hampshire, ss.

TO: Either of the Constables of the Town of South Hadley

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of South Hadley that the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING will be held in the TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM on Saturday, the 12th day of May, 2012, at 9:15 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the subject matter of this warrant can then and there be reached, and the Town Clerk is required to notify and warn the Town Meeting Members then and there to meet and act on the following Articles:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 4 and to renew any note or notes as may be given in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to enter into compensating balance agreements with bank offices having their principal offices in the Commonwealth during Fiscal Year 2013, as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 (F), or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to defend all suits that may be brought against the Town during Fiscal Year 2013 and to prosecute all suits on behalf of the Town, to engage counsel for same, and to settle such suits as they deem advisable, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply for and accept such federal or state grants or monies as may be available and to authorize the Selectboard to expend any funds received there from in accordance with the terms of said grants, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to accept a sum of money for highway improvements under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90 and other applicable law; determine whether the money shall be provided by the tax levy, by transfer from available funds, or by borrowing, or by any combination of these methods; authorize the Selectboard to apply for, accept, expend and borrow in anticipation of state aid for such projects, or take any other action relative thereto.

FISCAL YEAR 2013 OPERATING BUDGET

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,500.00, or a greater or lesser sum, to constitute a Reserve Fund, transfers from which may be voted by the Appropriations Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.
[The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of the following elective officers of the Town of South Hadley as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended: Moderator, Selectboard Members, Clerk/Treasurer, Assessors, Collector, or take any other action relative thereto.
[The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$19,658,322.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the support and maintenance of its schools, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2012, or take any other action relative thereto.
[The Appropriations Committee recommends funding the School Department for FY 2013 in the amount of \$19,636,976, representing a reduction of \$21,346.]

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds in the Landfill Enterprise Fund, Waste Water Treatment Plant Enterprise Fund, and Cable Studio Account, the sum of \$56,612.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding wage and merit increases for non-unit employees for Fiscal Year 2013, including the Clerk/Treasurer and Collector pursuant to Article 7 above, and to reflect and implement said wage and merit increases in Personal Services for covered employees and the Stipend Administration Plan, or take any action relative thereto.
[The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$1,707,469.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Personal Services and Expenses of General Government for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.
[The Appropriations Committee recommends funding General Government in the amount of \$1,653,045. The \$54,424 reduction would eliminate the appropriation for a clerical position (\$20,961), fund the Town Administrator position for one half year at \$50,000, fund the interim Town Administrator position for one half year at \$35,357, fund the Human Resource/Procurement Officer position for one half year at \$26,894 and eliminate funding for the assistant Town Administrator position at this time.]

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$2,515,894.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Protection of Persons and Property for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.
[The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$7,500.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Police Line of Duty Self-Insurance Trust Fund Account for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.
[The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$100,006.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of providing for the removal of snow and ice from town streets, sidewalks and public ways in FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$316,961.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Council on Aging for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$215,300.00 or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Veterans and Soldiers Benefits in FY 2013 under Chapter 115 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$515,020.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the South Hadley Library for FY 2013 or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$12,350.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Gaylord Library in FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$32,000.00 or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of auditing the Town's accounts for Fiscal Year 2012 and for engaging a consultant to perform an actuarial study for compliance with the federally mandated Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) for health insurance for retirees, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Cable Studio Account the sum of \$95,445.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Cable Studio Personal Services and Expenses for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$6,925,259.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding FY 2013 Unclassified Accounts, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$115,321.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Health and Sanitation for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$3,104,525.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding its Maturing Debt and Interest Account for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$5,500.00 or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Connecticut River Channel Marking and Safety Committee for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Cable Studio Account the sum of \$95,445.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Cable Studio Personal Services and Expenses for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$6,890,259.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding FY 2013 Unclassified Accounts, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$115,321.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Health and Sanitation for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$3,104,525.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding its Maturing Debt and Interest Account for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$5,500.00 or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Connecticut River Channel Marking and Safety Committee for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury, and/or appropriate from the Golf Enterprise Fund Receipts, the sum of \$909,720.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Ledges Golf Club for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends funding of \$895,853, representing a reduction of \$13,867.]

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$900.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Canal Park Committee for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$5,000.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Conservation Land Acquisition Account for FY 2013, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$15,000.00, or a greater or lesser sum, for the revaluation of real property, or take any other action relative thereto. [The Appropriations Committee recommends this article.]

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, relating to the exemption of real estate taxes on property of elderly persons, effective for fiscal 2013 to modify the eligibility requirements for elderly as follows:

“Increase income limits to \$17,500.00 for single persons and \$20,000.00 for married couples.”

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to amend its Town By-Law Article II, Section 200 by adding the following paragraph:

“Notwithstanding the above, in any year where there is a Presidential Primary Election, the annual town election shall be held on the same date as that election, but the term of any newly elected Town officer shall only become effective commencing on the first Tuesday in April of that year. “

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53 1/2 , to establish in the Town Treasury a revolving fund, which shall be kept separate and apart from all other monies by the Treasurer, and in which shall be deposited the receipts received that may be spent by the Selectboard or its designee, without further appropriation during FY 2013 for the continued support and maintenance of Buttery Brook Park, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 34. I move that the Town vote, pursuant to the consent voted by the School Committee, that the *care, custody, management and control* of the following land known as the George Hahn/Edwin Warner Arboretum, being a portion of Map 38 Parcel 1, is hereby transferred from the School Committee & Selectboard to the Conservation Commission for the conservation purposes set out under G.L. Ch. 40 §8C.

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to amend in the Zoning Map by changing the designation of a 0.5165+/- acre parcel of land situated at 187 East Street (west side of East Street) and generally identified on Tax Assessor’s Map #32 as Parcel #78 from the present zoning designation of Business A-1 to Business A (any portion of the subject property currently zoned Residence A-1 is to remain in its present zoning designation of Residence A-1) or take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by John Houle)

ARTICLE 36. To see if Town Meeting will vote to authorize the School Committee, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Sections 3 and 4, to enter into a lease (upon such terms and for such length of time as the School Committee deems proper) of surplus building and ground space at the South Hadley High School facility (identified as 153 Newton Street – Assessor’s Map #17 - Parcel #15) for an initial term of at least 5 years and with successive renewal periods, the cumulative of which are not to exceed 25 years for the purpose of leasing said space to one or more commercial cellular communications/wireless carriers for the installation and operation of one or more commercial wireless communications facilities (antennae components of said facilities to be affixed to the existing structure with supporting equipment located in close proximity to the existing structure) and to provide, to the extent allowed by Massachusetts General Laws, that revenues received from such leases are to be placed into a School Building Revolving Fund or similar account and appropriated annually by the School Committee for School Building improvements/operations or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 37. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws, namely Section 501 entitled The Personnel Board, to provide for the appointment of an associate member by inserting the following wording as Section 501.4:

Section 501.4 Associate Member

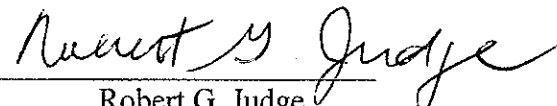
One Associate Member may be appointed to the Personnel Board for a three-year term in the same manner as the appointment of full members. In the absence of one or more of the regular members, the Associate Member may be counted for the purpose of creating a quorum. Further, the Associate Member may fully participate in all discussions of the Personnel Board, but may only vote in situations where one or more of the five (5) regular members are unavailable to do so due to absence or a conflict of interest.

HEREOF fail not and make due return of the Warrant with your doings thereon unto the Town Clerk, on or before the time of holding said meeting.

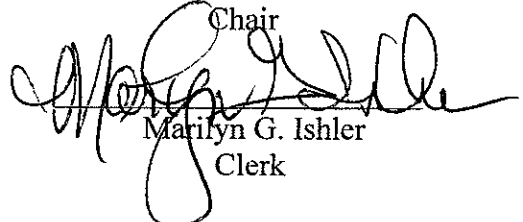
Given under our hands this 24th day of April 2012:



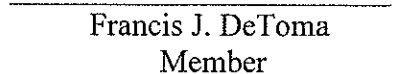
John R. Hine
Chair



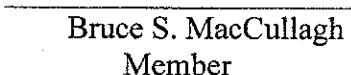
Robert G. Judge
Vice-Chair



Marilyn G. Ishler
Clerk



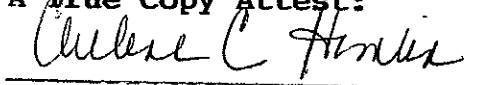
Francis J. DeToma
Member



Bruce S. MacCullagh
Member

**SELECTBOARD
TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY**

A True Copy Attest:



Carlene C. Hamlin, Town Clerk