

May 11, 2013 Annual Town Meeting Minutes

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order by the Town Moderator, Mr. Edward J. Ryan, Jr. in the town hall auditorium at 9:30 A.M. There were 97 town meeting members present out of 120 elected town meeting members.

ARTICLE 1.

The Town voted 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, 2014, 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.

Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 2.

The Town voted 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 2014, as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 (F), or take any other action relative thereto.

Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 3.

The Town voted to authorize the Selectboard to defend all suits that may be brought against the Town during Fiscal Year 2014 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.

Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 4.

The Town voted 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.

Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 5.

The Town voted 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.

Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

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FISCAL YEAR 2014 OPERATING BUDGET

ARTICLE 6.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,500, 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.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 7.

The Town voted 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, Assessors, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 8.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$19,850,438, or a greater or lesser sum, for the support and maintenance of its schools, for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 9.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds in the Landfill Enterprise Fund, Waste Water Treatment Plant Enterprise Fund, Ledges Golf Club Enterprise and Cable Studio Account, the sum of \$32,400, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding wage and merit increases for non-unit employees for Fiscal Year 2014, and to reflect and implement said wage and merit increases in Personal Services for covered employees and the Stipend Administration Plan, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 10.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$1,829,008, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Personal Services and Expenses of General Government for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

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ARTICLE 11.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$2,560,820, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Protection of Persons and Property for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 12.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$7,500, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the police Line of Duty Self-Insurance trust Fund Account for FY2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 13.

The Town voted to transfer the sum of \$25,214, or a greater or lesser sum, from Cable Studio Account to the General Fund for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 14.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$3,882,942, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Department of Public Works for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 15.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$100,007, 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 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

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ARTICLE 16.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$317,907, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Council on Aging for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 17.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$215,300, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Veterans and Soldiers Benefits in FY 2014 under Chapter 115 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 18.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$521,655, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the South Hadley Library for FY 2014 or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 19.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$31,753, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Gaylord Library in FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 20.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$29,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of auditing the Town's accounts for Fiscal Year 2013 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.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

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ARTICLE 21. The Town voted to transfer from available funds in the Cable Studio Account the sum of \$121,282, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Cable Studio Personal Services and Expenses for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 22. The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$6,933,262, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding FY 2014 Unclassified Accounts, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 23.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$65,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Worker's Compensation Self-Insured Trust Fund for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 24.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$93,191, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding Health and Sanitation for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 25.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$3,192,696, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding its Maturing Debt and Interest Account for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 26.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$5,500, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Connecticut River Channel Marking and Safety Committee for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

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ARTICLE 27. The Town voted to transfer from available funds in the Treasury, and/or appropriate from the Golf Enterprise Fund Receipts, the sum of \$1,297,460, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Ledges Golf Club for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 28.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$900, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Canal Park Committee for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 29.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$5,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Conservation Land Acquisition Account for FY 2014, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 30.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$11,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the revaluation of real property, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 31.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury, the sum of \$89,214, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of establishing an Energy Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

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FISCAL YEAR 2014 CAPITAL BUDGET

ARTICLE 32.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$50,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purchase of a new minibus for the Council on Aging, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 33.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$30,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purchase of 2 mowers for the DPW Parks Division, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 34.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$50,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purchase of a 1-ton Dump truck for the DPW Highway Division, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 35.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$81,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for the purchase of a permit tracking system, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

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ARTICLE 36.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the WWTP Enterprise Fund the sum of \$300,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for a new sewer main on Newton St, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 37.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the WWTP Enterprise Fund the sum of \$20,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for a paint gravity thickener tank for the WWTP, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 38.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Cable Studio Account the sum of \$40,000, or a greater or lesser sum, for an upgrade of the Audio/Video for the Town Hall Auditorium, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

ARTICLE 39.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$100,000, for the purpose of funding the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article.
Capital Planning Committee unanimously supported this article.
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion Carried.

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ARTICLE 40.

The Town voted to reauthorize the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, 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 2014 for the continued support and maintenance of Buttery Brook Park, or take any other action relative thereto.

Appropriation Committee unanimously supported this article
Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 41.

The Town voted to allow five (5) residents of South Hadley under the age of 18, as nominated by the Youth Commission with an effort to represent all five (5) precincts, to participate as youth liaisons with speaking privileges at Town Meeting; or take any other action relative thereto.

Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 42.

The Town voted to declare the South Hadley Public Library building located at 27 Bardwell Street surplus property on the date that the building is no longer used to house the Library services; or take any other action relative thereto.

Unanimous Affirmative Vote – Motion carried

ARTICLE 43. (Petition Article)

Language submitted as follows:

The purpose of this warrant is to conserve the remainder of Map 1 Parcel 10 and dedicate it to the Conservation Commission.

Warrant

In 1978, a parcel of land connected to the Bynan Conservation area was purchased by the town. The property was acquired with a self-help grant from the state of Massachusetts. This is recorded at the registry of deeds (Map 10 parcel 1). The land is a total of 62 acres minus 40 acres designated to the landfill. At the November 2012 town meeting, a decision by town meeting members determined that the town would allow Advanced Disposal to set the boundaries of the Bynan land. This was completed in January 2013 and is recorded at the registry of deeds (PB 228 page 112 & 113). This town meeting decision has left an additional 16 (plus or minus) acres undesignated.

The Town defeated the vote that the land known as the Bynan Conservation Area, being the remainder of Map 10 Parcel 1, also the PB 228 pg 112 less the land designated to the landfill as

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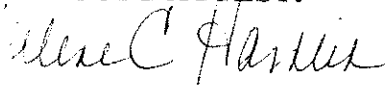
per PB 207 pg 40 that this undesignated land be dedicated to the Conservation Commission for the conservation purposes set out under G.L. Ch. 40 8C.

Motion defeated.

The Moderator declared that the warrant portion of the meeting had concluded. He then announced that Tom Terry, Nancy Knadler and Heather Wartel were reappointed to another three year term as Appropriation Committee Members.

After several community service announcements the meeting was adjourned at 2:58P.M.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:



Carlene C. Hamlin, Town Clerk/Treasurer