

**MINUTES -- ANNUAL TOWN MEETING -- 4/28/03**

Moderator, Richard Patullo opened the meeting at 7:20. Attendance 193

Article 1  
REPORTS                      The Town voted by a declared majority that the Annual Reports, as contained in the Annual Town Report for the year 2002 be accepted as printed.

Article 2  
BUDGET                        The Town voted by majority that the sums of money shown in the column entitled Fiscal 2004 Recommended of the Supplementary Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Committee, with the exception of an additional \$9,000 for line 23.1, Transfer Station Operations, be granted and appropriated for the specific purposes designated and that the same be expended only for such purposes. Each number being considered a separate appropriation and that the Town raise and appropriate such sums as may be required to defray said charge for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 2004, subject to a positive Proposition 2 ½ referendum vote.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Accountant</b>	
	1.1 Salary	20,656
	1.2 Clerical	0
	1.3 Expenses	<u>0</u>
	<b>Total Accountant</b>	<b>20,656</b>

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Advisory Committee</b>	
	2.1 Clerical	1,711
	2.2 Expenses	<u>200</u>
	<b>Total Advisory</b>	<b>1,911</b>
	*1 \$125 Art.3 STM	

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Appeals, Board of</b>	
	3.1 Clerical	1,868
	3.2 Expenses	<u>160</u>
	<b>Total Appeals</b>	<b>2,028</b>

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Assessors, Board of</b>	
	4.1 Salaries	12,207
	4.2 Clerical	11,368
	4.3 Expenses	1,500
	4.4 Data Processing	0
	4.5 Software Support Fees	3,500
	4.6 Mapping Maintenance	900
	4.7 Computer Maint. & Supp.	0
	4.8 Field Review	<u>1,200</u>
	<b>Total Assessors</b>	<b>30,675</b>
	*2 \$714 Art.3 STM	

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Building Department Expenses</b>	
	5.1 Code and General Enforcement	400
	5.2 Commissioner and Expenses	<u>0</u>
	<b>Total Building Dept.</b>	<b>400</b>

<b>6.0</b>	<b>County Retirement</b>	<b>173,670</b>
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<b>7.0</b>	<b>Insurance/Employee Benefits</b>	
	7.1 Property and Liability	59,538

7.2 Employee Benefits	141,519
7.3 Unemployment Compensation	2,000
7.4 Longevity	5,800
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>208,857</b>

\*3 \$20572 Art 8 STM

<b>8.0 Law and Claims</b>	
8.1 General	24,400
<b>Total Law</b>	<b>24,400</b>

<b>9.0 Moderator</b>	
9.1 Salary	0
9.2 Expenses	100
<b>Total Moderator</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>10.0 Planning Board</b>	
10.2 Clerical	5,304
10.3 Expenses	535
<b>Total Planning Board</b>	<b>5,839</b>

<b>11.0 Registrars, Board of (Voters)</b>	
11.1 Salaries	742
11.2 Election Expenses	1,100
11.3 Street Lists	1,900
<b>Total Registrars</b>	<b>3,742</b>

<b>12.0 Selectman</b>	
12.1 Salaries	6,117
12.2 Administrative Asst.	26,755
12.3 Secretarial	14,036
12.4 Expenses	1,600
12.5 Legal Advertising	400
12.6 Computer Study Committee	0
12.7 Temporary Help	0
<b>Total Selectman</b>	<b>48,908</b>

\*4 \$762 Art. 3 STM

\*5 \$406 Art.3 STM

\*6 \$313 Art 11 STM

<b>13.0 Tax Collector</b>	
13.1 Salary	23,402
13.2 Clerical	5,302
13.3 Expenses	2,100
13.4 Computer Maintenance	4,175
13.5 Tax Title Work	350
13.6 Tax Title Admin.	0
<b>Total Tax Collector</b>	<b>35,329</b>

<b>14.0 Town Clerk</b>	
14.1 Salary	23,402
14.2 Clerical	3,086
14.3 Expenses	1,000
14.4 Town Publications	0
<b>Total Town Clerk</b>	<b>27,488</b>

<b>15.0 Town Report</b>	<b>3,000</b>
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<b>16.0 Treasurer</b>	
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16.1 Salary	28,480
16.2 Clerical	6,837
16.3 Expenses	750
16.4 Certifying Notes	100
16.5 Interest on Loans (short term)	2,500
16.6 Tax Title Expense	700
16.7 Payroll Service	5,524
16.8 Bank Service Charges	250
16.9 Tax Title Admin.	0
<b>Total Treasurer</b>	<b>45,141</b>
*7 \$2539 Art 4 STM	
<b>17.0 Veterans' Benefits</b>	<b>7,125</b>
<b>18.0 Greater Springfield Senior Services</b>	<b>467</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>639,736</b>

**GENERAL TOWN SERVICES**

<b>20.0 Academy Hall Maintenance</b>	<b>1,200</b>
<b>21.0 Cemetery Commission</b>	
21.1 Clerical	585
21.2 Expenses	80
21.3 Maintenance	0
<b>Total Cemetery Commission</b>	<b>665</b>
*8 \$16 Art 3 STM	
<b>22.0 Conservation Commission</b>	
22.1 Clerical	1,241
22.2 Expenses	450
<b>Total Conservation Commission</b>	<b>1,691</b>
<b>23.0 Transfer Station</b>	
23.1 Operation	0
23.2 Monitoring/Testing	14,400
<b>Total Transfer Station</b>	<b>14,400</b>
<b>24.0 School Buildings Repairs</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>25.0 Insect Pest Control</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>26.0 Library</b>	
26.1 Salaries	
26.2 Expenses	
26.3 Books and Periodicals	
<b>Total Library</b>	<b>97,508</b>
<b>27.0 Town Events</b>	<b>800</b>
<b>29.0 Office Equipment</b>	
29.1 Acquisition	500
29.2 Maintenance	7,000
29.3 Supplies	5,000

	29.4 Postage	9,778
	<b>Total Office Equipment</b>	<b>22,278</b>
<b>30.0</b>	<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	
	30.1 Salaries	6,300
	30.2 Operating Expenses	6,300
	30.3 Capital Improvements	0
	30.4 Baseball	0
	30.5 Softball	0
	30.6 Girls Soccer	0
	30.7 Boys Soccer	0
	30.8 Basketball	0
	30.9 Director's Salary	30,875
	<b>Total Parks and Recreation</b>	<b>43,475</b>
	*9 \$139 Art. 3 STM	
	*10 \$762 Art. 3 STM	
<b>31.0</b>	<b>Public Grounds</b>	<b>31,098</b>
<b>32.0</b>	<b>Town House Maintenance</b>	
	32.1 Custodian	16,434
	32.2 Maintenance and Repairs	6,000
	32.3 Heat and Utilities	29,600
	<b>Total Town House Maintenance</b>	<b>52,034</b>
<b>33.0</b>	<b>Tree Warden</b>	
	33.1 Expenses	0
	33.2 Planting Trees	0
	<b>Total Tree Warden</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>34.0</b>	<b>Ambulance</b>	<b>12,329</b>
<b>35.0</b>	<b>Gasoline</b>	<b>25,000</b>
<b>36.0</b>	<b>Street Lighting</b>	<b>15,100</b>
<b>37.0</b>	<b>Council on Aging</b>	
	37.1 Director's Salary	29,076
	37.2 Clerk	21,528
	37.3 Expenses	1,822
	37.4 Temporary Help	0
	<b>Total Council on Aging</b>	<b>52,426</b>
	*11 \$7200 Art 7 STM	
<b>38.0</b>	<b>Senior Center</b>	
	38.1 Custodial	8,164
	38.2 Utilities	13,665
	38.3 Building Maintenance	5,000
	38.4 Grounds Maintenance	0
	<b>Total Senior Center</b>	<b>26,829</b>
	*12 \$261 Art 3 STM	
<b>39.0</b>	<b>Historical Commission</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Total General Town Services</b>		<b>397,033</b>

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

<b>40.0</b>	<b>Superintendent's Salary</b>	<b>58,868</b>
<b>41.1</b>	<b>Paving</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>42.0</b>	<b>Highway Maintenance</b>	<b>72,220</b>
<b>43.0</b>	<b>General Highway Expense</b>	<b>78,883</b>
<b>44.0</b>	<b>Snow and Ice Removal</b>	<b>37,224</b>
<b>45.0</b>	<b>Street Sweeping and Catch Basin Cleaning</b>	<b>16,000</b>
<b>46.0</b>	<b>Other Highway Accounts</b>	
	46.1 Highway Engineering	0
	46.2 Road Machinery Maintenance	10,000
	46.3 Town Garage Maintenance	4,600

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<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>277,795</b>
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**PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY**

<b>50.0</b>	<b>Animal Inspection</b>	
	50.1 Salary	1,808
	50.2 Expenses	240
	50.3 Rabies Management	0
	<b>Total Animal Inspection</b>	<b>2,048</b>
<b>51.0</b>	<b>Civil Defense Supplies</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>52.0</b>	<b>Dog Officer</b>	
	52.1 Animal Control Account	8,272
	52.2 Dog Damage Fund	300
	<b>Total Dog Officer</b>	<b>8,572</b>
	* \$3101 Art 2 STM	
<b>53.0</b>	<b>Fire Department</b>	
	53.1 Fire Chief Salary	847
	53.2 Fire Chief Expenses	1,000
	53.3 Operation	22,038
	<b>Total Fire Department</b>	<b>23,885</b>
<b>54.0</b>	<b>Forest Fires</b>	<b>1,333</b>
<b>55.0</b>	<b>Forest Fire Warden</b>	<b>557</b>
<b>56.0</b>	<b>Health, Board of</b>	
	56.1 Salary	3,583
	56.2 Expenses	3,000
	56.3 Septic Review	0
	56.4 Well Testing	0
	56.5 Water District	0
	56.6 Roadside Animal Removal	0
	<b>Total Board of Health</b>	<b>6,583</b>
<b>565.5</b>	<b>Water District</b>	

565.1 Operations	5,952
565.2 Testing	5,322
<b>Total Water District</b>	<b>11,274</b>
<b>57.0 Police</b>	
57.1 Chief's Salary	61,500
57.2 Salaries	631,965
57.3 Maintenance of Cruisers	7,889
57.4 Other Expenses	33,466
57.5 New Cruisers	0
57.6 Training	17,929
57.7 Equipment	0
57.8 Career Incentive Pay (Quinn Bill)	74,500
57.9 Additional Officer	0
*13 \$457 Art 3 STM	
*14 \$1068 Art 10 STM	
*15 \$12703 Art 9 STM	
<b>58.0 Other Police Accounts</b>	
58.1 Election and Town Meetings	871
58.2 Towing Clerk	250
58.3 WMLEC	250
<b>59.0 Parking Clerk</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Police</b>	<b>828,620</b>
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<b>TOTAL PROTECTION</b>	<b>882,882</b>

**SCHOOLS**

<b>69.0 Regional School District</b>	
69.1 Assessment	5,276,528
69.2 Teacher Deferral	7,616
<b>Total Regional School District</b>	<b>5,284,144</b>
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>7,481,590</b>
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<b>70.0 Local Government Debt</b>	
70.1 Principal	292,570
70.2 Interest	29,850
70.3 School Debt	59,397
70.5 Highway Loader	0
<b>Total Local Government Debt</b>	<b>381,817</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>7,863,407</b>

Article 3                    The Town voted by a declared 2/3 vote to transfer \$ 0 (zero dollars)  
STABILIZATION            from the Stabilization Fund, said funds to be made available in calculating  
FUND                            the Fiscal year 2004 tax levy.

Article 4                    The Town voted by a declared majority to take no action on this article.  
PREVIOUS  
BILLS

Article 5  
REVOLVING  
ACCOUNT  
ASSESSOR

The Town voted by majority to authorize the Town, acting through its Board of Assessors to establish a revolving fund, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving and expending monies from fees collected, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Board of Assessors to defray the costs of equipment and supplies connected with public documents, said fund not to exceed \$750 for the fiscal year 2004.

Article 6  
REVOLVING  
ACCOUNT  
B.O.H.

The Town voted to authorize the Town, acting through its Board of Health, to establish a revolving fund, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving and expending fees paid for issuance of licenses, permits and inspections, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payment from the fund to be expended by the Board of Health to defray salaries of part-time employees, said funds not to exceed \$21,000 for the fiscal year 2004. A majority vote was declared.

Article 7  
REVOLVING  
ACCOUNT  
BUILDING

The Town voted to authorize the Town, acting through its Board of Selectmen, to establish a revolving fund for the Building Department, from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving fees paid for issuance of building permits, inspection fees, including weights and measures, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Board of Selectmen to defray salaries and expenses of part-time employees of the Building Department and consultants, said fund not to exceed \$25,000 for the fiscal year 2004. A majority vote was declared.

Article 8  
REVOLVING  
ACCOUNT  
LIBRARY

The Town voted by majority to authorize the Town, acting through its Library Trustees, to establish a revolving fund, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving fines paid for overdue, lost and/or damaged materials, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Library Trustees to defray the costs of repairs and supplies and to purchase books and materials, said fund not to exceed \$4,500 for the fiscal year 2004.

Article 9  
REVOLVING  
ACCOUNT  
B.O.H.

The Town voted by a declared majority to authorize the Town, acting through its Board of Health, to establish a revolving fund for the operation of the Transfer Station, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving proceeds from the sale of recyclable materials, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Board of Health to defray salaries of part-time employees of the Board of Health, said fund not to exceed \$6,500 for the fiscal year 2004.

Article 10  
REVOLVING  
ACCOUNT  
B.O.H.

The Town voted to authorize the Town, acting through its Board of Health, to establish a revolving fund, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving proceeds from the sale of trash bags, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Board of Health to defray salaries of part-time employees, and to defray the cost of disposal of non-recyclable and recyclable materials, said fund not to exceed \$90,000 for the fiscal year 2004. A majority vote was declared.

Article 11  
REVOLVING  
ACCOUNT  
COA

The Town voted by majority to authorize the Town, acting through its Council on Aging, to establish a revolving fund, separate from the General Fund, in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the purpose of receiving proceeds from classes, programs and other fees, said funds to be deposited with the Town Treasurer, and with payments from the fund to be expended by the Council on Aging to defray the costs of

classes, supplies and other necessary expenses, said fund not to exceed \$20,000 for the fiscal year 2004.

- Article 12  
HIGHWAYS  
STATE AID
- The Town voted to accept any monies as made available through Chapter 90 funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of local aid fund distribution pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws and be allowed to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement. The vote was unanimous.
- Article 13  
CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION  
RESTRICTED  
FUND
- The Town voted to approve the Conservation Commission's use and expenditure of fees received from the filing of Notices of Intent in order to defray its expenses as allowed under Section 54 of Chapter 287 of the Acts of 1989 amending Chapter 131, Section 40. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 14  
CONSERVATION  
FUND
- The Town voted by a declared majority to take no action on this article.
- Article 15  
LIBRARY  
ADDITIONAL  
STATE AID
- The Town voted that in Fiscal year 2004, if additional state aid for the Library is received, this money will be made available for Library Trustees to use at their discretion. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 16  
HIGHWAY  
VEHICLE
- The Town vote to raise and appropriate and/or authorize the Town Treasurer, to borrow, under MGL Chapter 44 \$86,500 for the purchase of a Highway Department Dump Truck, and to the extent such funds are raised through borrowing, subject to exclusion of the bonded indebtedness from Proposition 2 ½, so called. A 2/3 vote was declared.
- Article 17  
POLICE  
VEHICLE
- The Town voted to take no action on this article.  
A majority vote was declared.
- Article 18  
HIGH SPEED  
COPY MACHINE
- The Town voted to transfer from available unappropriated funds \$3,800 for the purchase of a high-speed copy machine for the Town House. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 19  
ASSESSOR
- The Town voted to increase the amount of the exemption granted to eligible applicants for a tax exemption by 50% for \$500 to \$750 as authorized by General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C (as amended by Chapter 184 Section 51 of the Acts of 2002) effective FY 2004. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 20  
PAY PHONE  
SERVICE
- By a vote of 59 to 31, the Town voted to transfer from available unappropriated funds \$1,000 to pay for the line rate for the Custom pay Phone Service at the Town House on Main Street, Hampden.
- Article 21  
DOG  
VIOLATIONS
- The Town voted by majority to amend the General Bylaws of the Town, as described in article 21, after a motion was made and passed by majority to amend section 21.1d to read, in part, "or to bark between ten (10) pm and six (6) am"
- Article 22  
MUNICIPAL FEES  
AND CHARGES
- The town voted to accept the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 22F which concerns the establishment of fees for licenses, permits or certificates by municipal boards or officers. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 23  
GENERAL  
BY-LAW
- The Town voted to amend the General By-laws by adding the section as described in Article 23. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 24  
WEIGHTS AND
- The Town voted to amend the General By-law by adding the section as described in Article 24. A majority vote was declared.

## MEASURES

- Article 25  
ZONING  
BY-LAW
- The Town voted to amend the Zoning By-law as described in Article 25. A 2/3 vote was declared.
- Article 26  
ZONING  
BY-LAW
- The Town voted to amend the Zoning By-law as described in Article 26. A 2/3 vote was declared.
- Article 27  
COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION  
COMMITTEE
- The Town voted by a declared majority to hear the report and recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee
- Article 28  
RESEVE  
FUND
- The Town voted to raise and appropriate or transfer \$0 (zero)for the Reserve Fund. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 29  
STABILIZATION  
FUND
- The Town voted to take no action on this article  
A 2/3 vote was declared.
- Article 30  
REDUCING  
TAX RATE
- The Town voted to take no action on this article.  
A majority vote was declared.

At 10:40pm a motion to continue the ATM to June 2, 2003 carried by a declared majority.

Moderator Richard Patullo reconvened the meeting at 7:05pm on June 2, 2003.

- Article 3  
STABILIZATION  
FUND
- The town voted to reconsider the motion on Article 3.  
A majority vote was declared.
- The Town voted to transfer \$100,000 from the Stabilization Fund, said funds to be made available in calculating the Fiscal Year 2004 tax levy.  
A 2/3 vote was declared.
- Article 2  
BUDGET
- A motion to table discussion was passed by a declared 2/3 vote.
- The Town voted that the sums of money shown in the column entitled Fiscal 2004 Recommended Revised 6/2/03 and Recommendations of the Advisory Committee be raised and appropriated for the specific purposes designated and that the same be expended only for such purposes. Each number being considered a separate appropriation and that the Town raise and appropriate such sums as may be required to defray said charge for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 2004. A majority vote was declared.
- Article 16  
HIGHWAY  
VEHICLE
- A motion to table discussion was passed by a declared 2/3 vote.
- The Town voted to authorize the Town Treasurer to borrow under

MGL Chapter 44, \$86,400 for the purchase of a Highway Department Dump Truck and also voted to transfer from available funds \$15,000 of insurance proceeds to be set aside for the initial payment of said purchase. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Article 27  
COMMUNITY  
PRESERVATION  
COMMITTEE

The Town voted to accept the Community Preservation Committee recommendations of the 2nd years appropriation in the amount of \$20,000 for the purchase of Minnechaug Mountain as initially voted on October 21, 2002 and all other monies collected through C.P.A. (including state matching funds) be rolled over for distribution at future town meetings. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

The meeting closed at 7:50pm.