

MINUTES -ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – 4/26/10

MODERATOR ROBERT HOWARTH OPENED THE MEETING AT 7:02PM - ATTENDANCE - 98

Article 1. TOWN REPORTS

The Town voted that the Annual Reports, as contained in the Annual Town Report for the year 2009, be accepted as printed.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 2. BUDGET

The Town voted that the sums of money shown in the column entitled “Fiscal 2011 Recommended Available Funds” of the Supplementary Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Committee, as amended, 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 charges for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

Motions were made and passed by declared majority votes to amend the following line items to accommodate actual hours worked for:

12.2 - Selectmen Administrative Assistant - increased to \$41,769

56.2 - Board of Health Clerk Salary - increased to \$23,756

4.2 - Board of Assessors Clerical - increased to \$32,604

26 - Library - increased to \$88,084

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

	Fiscal 2011 Recommendations
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
1.0 Accountant	
1.1 Salary	26,223
1.2 Clerical	150
1.3 Expenses (Audit)	4,500
Total Accountant	30,873
2.0 Advisory Committee	
2.1 Clerical	4,175
2.2 Expenses	200
Total Advisory	4,375
3.0 Appeals, Board of	
3.1 Clerical	3,245
3.2 Expenses	200
Total Appeals	3,445
4.0 Assessors, Board of	
4.1 Salaries	13,877
4.2 Clerical	32,604
4.3 Expenses	2,500
4.4 Data Processing	
4.5 Software Support	5,605
4.6 Mapping Maintenance	2,100
4.7 Full List Measure	
4.8 Field Review	3,000
Total Assessors	59,686
5.0 Building Department Expenses	
5.1 Code and General Enforcement	2,000
5.2 Commissioner and Expenses	

	Total Building Dept.	2,000
6.0	County Retirement	190,313
7.0	Insurance	
	7.1 Property and Liability	84,000
	7.2 Employee Benefits	180,000
	7.3 Unemployment Compensation	2,000
	7.4 Longevity	2,200
	7.5 FICA	
	Total Insurance	268,200
8.0	Law and Claims	
	8.1 General	20,000
	Total Law	20,000
9.0	Moderator	
	9.1 Salary	
	9.2 Expenses	100
	Total Moderator	100
10.0	Planning Board	
	10.2 Clerical	10,433
	10.3 Expenses	550
	10.4 Software support	3,000
	Total Planning Board	13,983
11.0	Registrars, Board of (Voters)	
	11.1 Salaries	800
	11.2 Election Expenses	4,500
	11.3 Street Lists	2,000
	Total Registrars	7,300
12.0	Selectman	
	12.1 Salaries	9,600
	12.2 Administrative Asst.	41,769
	12.3 Secretarial	
	12.4 Expenses	1,600
	12.5 Legal Advertising	500
	12.6 Computer Study Committee	
	12.7 Temporary Help	500
	Total Selectman	53,969
13.0	Tax Collector	
	13.1 Salary	28,842
	13.2 Clerical	10,650
	13.3 Expenses	2,000
	13.4 Computer Maintenance	2,500
	13.5 Tax Title Work	2,500
	13.6 Tax Title Admin.	
	Total Tax Collector	46,492
14.0	Town Clerk	
	14.1 Salary	28,842
	14.2 Clerical	7,630
	14.3 Expenses	711
	14.4 Town Publications	100
	Total Town Clerk	37,283
15.0	Town Report	3,500
16.0	Treasurer	
	16.1 Salary	32,778
	16.2 Clerical	8,051

	16.3 Expenses	900
	16.4 Certifying Notes	100
	16.5 Interest on Loans (short term)	-
	16.6 Tax Title Expense	1,000
	16.7 Payroll Service	6,000
	16.8 Bank Service Charges	100
	16.9 Tax Title Admin.	
	Total Treasurer	48,929
17.0	Veterans' Benefits	25,000
18.0	Greater Springfield Senior Services	350

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	815,798
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GENERAL TOWN SERVICES

20.0	Academy Hall Maintenance	2,500
21.0	Cemetery Commission	
	21.1 Clerical	1,500
	21.2 Expenses	550
	21.3 Maintenance	10,065
	Total Cemetery Commission	12,115
22.0	Conservation Commission	
	22.1 Clerical	6,878
	22.2 Expenses	400
	Total Conservation Commission	7,278
23.0	Transfer Station	
	23.1 Operation	
	23.2 Monitoring/Testing	19,900
	Total Transfer Station	19,900
24.0	School Buildings Repairs	5,000
26.0	Library	
	26.1 Salaries	
	26.2 Expenses	
	26.3 Library Materials	
	Total Library	88,084
27.0	Town Events	800
29.0	Office Equipment	
	29.1 Acquisition	2,500
	29.2 Maintenance	7,000
	29.3 Supplies	3,000
	29.4 Postage	15,000
	Total Office Equipment	27,500
30.0	Parks and Recreation	
	30.1 Salaries	15,331
	30.2 Operating Expenses	1,987
	30.3 Capital Improvements	
	30.4 Baseball	
	30.5 Softball	
	30.6 Girls Soccer	
	30.7 Boys Soccer	
	30.8 Basketball	
	30.9 Director's Salary	
	30.9 Spray park	7,237
	Total Parks and Recreation	24,555

32.0	Town House Maintenance	
	32.1 Custodial	19,000
	32.2 Maintenance and Repairs	8,500
	32.3 Heat and Utilities	42,000
	Total Town House Maintenance	69,500
34.0	Ambulance	0
35.0	Gasoline	55,000
36.0	Street Lighting	19,100
37.0	Council on Aging	
	37.1 Director's Salary	34,676
	37.2 Clerk	12,347
	37.3 Expenses	1,625
	37.4 Temporary Help	
	37.5 Outreach Coordinator	2,350
	Total Council on Aging	50,998
38.0	Senior Center	
	38.1 Custodial	8,707
	38.2 Utilities	16,500
	38.3 Building Maintenance	9,300
	38.4 Grounds Maintenance	
	Total Senior Center	34,507
39.0	Historical Commission	250
Total General Town Services		417,087

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

40.0	Superintendent's Salary	71,966
41.0	Tree Warden	
	41.1 Expenses	8,500
	41.2 Tree Planting	
	41.3 Insect Pest Control	
42.0	Public Grounds	29,256
43.0	Highway Maintenance	114,323
	43.1 Expenses	
	43.2 Paving	
44.0	General Highway Expense	84,529
45.0	Snow and Ice Removal	50,000
46.0	Contract Services	
	46.0 Contract Services	
	46.1 Street Sweeping	37,400
	46.2 Catch Basin Cleaning	
47.0	Other Highway Accounts	
	47.1 Road Machinery Maintenance	14,000
	47.2 Highway Engineering	
	47.3 Equipment Acquisition	
48.0	Building Expenses	
	48.1 Utilities	11,000
TOTAL HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT		420,974

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

50.0	Animal Inspection	
	50.1 Salary	1,997
	50.2 Expenses	240
	50.3 Rabies Management	

	50.4 Wildlife Control	2,500
	Total Animal Inspection	4,737
51.0	Emergency Management	6,000
51.5	Traffic Control	4,960
52.0	Dog Officer	
	52.1 Animal Control Account	14,500
	52.2 Dog Damage Fund	300
	Total Dog Officer	14,800
53.0	Fire Department	
	53.1 Fire Chief Salary	1,015
	53.2 Fire Chief Expenses	1,293
	53.3 Operation	32,114
	Total Fire Department	34,422
54.0	Forest Fires	1,490
55.0	Forest Fire Warden	653
56.0	Health, Board of	
	56.1 Salary	4,266
	56.2 Clerk Salary	23,756
	56.3 Expenses	1,000
	Total Board of Health	29,022
56.5	Water District	
	565.1 Operations	7,489
	565.2 Testing	2,300
	Total Water District	9,789
57.0	Police	
	57.1 Chief's Salary	73,033
	57.2 General Salaries	792,144
	57.3 Maintenance of Cruisers	7,975
	57.4 General Expenses	50,147
	57.5 New Cruisers	32,500
	57.6 Training	19,870
	57.7 Equipment	5,000
	57.8 Career Incentive Pay (Quinn Bill)	66,441
	57.9 Additional Officer	
58.0	Other Police Accounts	
	58.1 Election and Town Meetings	2,245
	58.2 Towing Clerk	100
	58.3 WMLEC	500
59.0	Parking Clerk	
	Total Police	1,049,955
TOTAL PROTECTION		1,155,828
SCHOOLS		
69.0	Regional School District	
	69.1 Assessment	6,321,554
	69.2 Teacher Deferral	7,616
	Total Regional School District	6,329,170
SUB TOTAL		9,138,857
70.0	Local Government Debt	
	70.1 Principal	
	70.2 Interest	

70.3 School Debt	-
70.4 Green Meadow Bond	267,575
70.5 Highway Truck	-
70.6 Fire Truck	37,094
70.7 Infrastructure Roads	233,333
70.8 Minnechaug BAN	1,870
Total Local Government Debt	539,872
GRAND TOTAL	9,678,729

Article 3. PREVIOUS BILLS

The Town voted to take no action on article 3.

A 4/5th Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 4. REVOLVING FUNDS

The Town voted to authorize the Town, acting through its various departments, to establish the revolving funds as listed in Article 4 of the Annual Town Meeting warrant, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2 , separate from the general fund and deposited with the Town Treasurer, for the town departments, sources of receipts, and purposes of payment as printed in Article 4 of the warrant, with the funds in the respective revolving funds not to exceed the following amounts for Fiscal Year 2011:

Board of Assessors:	\$ 2,500
Board of Health:	\$40,000
Building Department:	\$50,000
Library Trustees:	\$ 6,000
Council on Aging:	\$30,000
Tax Collector:	\$ 2,500
Fire Department:	\$10,000

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 5. REVOLVING FUNDS

The Town voted, with respect to each revolving fund established by the preceding vote, to receive from each of those boards, departments and offices having charge of a revolving fund a report showing the total amount of receipts and expenditures for each revolving fund for Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2011 through December 31, 2010 and also showing an amount of the increase, if any, in spending authority granted by the Selectmen and Advisory Committee with respect to such revolving funds during Fiscal Year 2010 and Fiscal Year 2011 through December 31, 2010.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 6 ENTERPRISE FUND TRANSFER STATION

The Town voted to appropriate the following amounts for the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund:

- \$20,000 for salaries
- \$ 80,000 for expenses
- \$ 100,000 Total

And that \$100,000 be raised as follows:

Department receipts \$100,000

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 7 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town failed to get the vote required to revoke its acceptance of General Laws Chapter 44B, Sections 3 to 7, (the Community Preservation Act) as adopted pursuant to Article 18 at the Annual Town Meeting on April 30, 2001 and the referendum on May 7, 2001, this revocation to also be subject to approval by the voters at an election held after May 3, 2010.

The Moderator declared that this motion failed to get the required majority vote needed.

Article 8 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town voted to accept the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

The Town voted to appropriate \$25,000 from the Community Preservation fund to contribute to the purchase of approximately 36 acres, commonly known as Goat Rock, with \$12,500 allocated to historic preservation and \$12,500 allocated to open space as requested by the Minnechaug Land Trust.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

The Town voted to appropriate \$250 from the Community Preservation fund for payment of the annual membership fee in the Community Preservation coalition for fiscal year 2011.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 9. CONSERVATION FUND

The Town voted to transfer from the Overlay Reserve \$1,000 for the Conservation Fund, said fund to be used for the purpose of acquiring available land for the Town for conservation purposes, if said purchase is voted and approved at Annual or Special Town Meeting prior to such purchase.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 10. HIGHWAY STATE AID

The Town voted to accept \$201,604 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of local aid fund distribution, the General Laws Chapter 90, Section 34, and be allowed to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 11. LIBRARY ADDITIONAL STATE AID

The Town voted that, in Fiscal Year 2011, if State Aid is received for the Library, this money will be made available for Library Trustees to use at their discretion.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 12. BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Town voted to transfer from the Overlay Reserve \$10,000 to the Assessors' Stabilization Fund to meet Department of Revenue mandated programs.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 13. BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Town voted to transfer from the Assessors' Stabilization Fund an amount not to exceed \$9,500 for the FY2011 Interim Year services.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 14. DARE PROGRAM

The Town voted to transfer from the Overlay Reserve \$2500 to fund the DARE program at Thornton W. Burgess School.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 15. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Town voted to transfer from the Overlay Reserve \$10,300 to fund the School Resource Officer for FY10 at Minnechaug Regional High School.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 16. GRANTING OF EASEMENT- PERENNIAL LANE:

The Town voted to modify an existing Stormwater Drainage Easement as described in Article 16 for the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 17. GENERAL BYLAW – DEMOLITION BYLAW

The Town failed to get the vote required to amend the General Bylaw by adding Chapter XVI as described in Warrant Article 17 for the April 26, 2010 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

The Moderator declared that this motion failed to get the required majority vote needed.

Article 18. GOAT ROCK ACQUISITION:

The Town voted to purchase the parcel known as Goat Rock for the sum of \$25,000, consisting of 36 acres, more or less, as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Hampden by R. A. Foresi and Associates", dated April 15, 2010 from the Minnechaug Land Trust, for conservation and passive recreation purposes; that said land will be conveyed under provisions of MGL Ch 40, Section 8C, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission; and that certain conservation restrictions in favor of the Minnechaug Land Trust will be recorded and remain in place after conveyance to the Town.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 19. TOWN MEETING REPORTING:

The Town voted to allow news cameras into any and all town meetings, subject to the discretion and/or direction of the Town Moderator.

The motion carried. Voting for 62 / Voting against 34.

Article 20. VOLUNTEER TAX ABATEMENT OPPORTUNITY:

The Town voted to accept G.L. Ch. 59 Section 5K to allow the Selectmen to establish a program to allow taxpayers over 60 years old to volunteer to provide services to the town in exchange for a reduction in real estate tax obligations.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 21. RESERVE FUND

The Town voted to transfer from Overlay Reserve \$25,000 to the Reserve Fund.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 22. STABILIZATION FUND

The Town voted to transfer from Overlay Reserve \$30,350 into the Stabilization Fund.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator.

Article 23. REDUCING TAX RATE

The Town voted to take no action on this article.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator.

A motion to adjourn the meeting carried by a declared majority vote at 9:22PM.