

**MINUTES – ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 25, 2016 7:PM
THORNTON W BURGESS MIDDLE SCHOOL
WILBRAHAM ROAD, HAMPDEN**

Moderator Robert L Howarth called the meeting to order at 7:07pm Attendance 96

Article 1. TOWN REPORTS

The Town voted that the Annual Reports, as contained in the Annual Town Report for the year 2015, be accepted as printed. Advisory recommended favorable action.

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 2017 Draft Recommendations” of the Supplementary Report 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 charges for the Fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. Advisory recommended favorable action. As follows.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

**Fiscal 2017
Draft
Recommendations**

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

1.0 Accountant	
1.1 Salary	30,410
1.2 Clerical	300
1.3 Expenses (Audit)	5,000
1.4 Computer Upgrade	0
Total Accountant	<hr/> 35,710
2.0 Advisory Committee	
2.1 Clerical	4,300
2.2 Expenses	200
Total Advisory	<hr/> 4,500
3.0 Appeals, Board of	
3.1 Clerical	4,041
3.2 Expenses	200
Total Appeals	<hr/> 4,241
4.0 Assessors, Board of	
4.1 Salaries	15,252
4.2 Assistant Assessor	0
4.2.1 Principal Assessor	39,811
4.2 Clerical	16,706
4.3 Expenses	3,000
4.4 Data Processing	0
4.5 Software Support	7,360
4.6 Mapping	1,650

	Maintenance	
	4.7 Full List Measure	0
	4.8 Field Review	0
	Total Assessors	83,779
5.0	Building Department Expenses	
	5.1 Code and General Enforcement	2,000
	5.2 Inspector and Expenses	47,058
	Total Building Dept.	49,058
6.0	County Retirement	394,947
7.0	Insurance	
	7.1 Property and Liability	94,000
	7.2 Employee Benefits	235,000
	7.3 Unemployment Compensation	2,000
	7.4 Longevity	600
	7.5 FICA	0
	Total Insurance	331,600
8.0	Law and Claims	
	8.1 General	35,000
	Total Law	35,000
9.0	Moderator	
	9.1 Salary	
	9.2 Expenses	100
	Total Moderator	100
10.		
0	Planning Board	
	10.2 Clerical*	14,431
	10.3 Expenses	1,100
	10.4 Software support	0
	Total Planning Board	15,531
	* includes special permits & hearings	
11.	Registrars, Board of (Voters)	
0		
	11.1 Salaries	800
	11.2 Election Expenses	7,500
	11.3 Street Lists	2,000
	Total Registrars	10,300
12.		
0	Selectmen	
	12.1 Salaries	9,600
	12.2 Administrative	42,971

Asst.		
12.3 Secretarial		0
12.4 Expenses		2,000
12.5 Legal Advertising		2,000
12.6 Mapping		
Maintenance		1,800
12.7 Temporary Help		500
Total Selectman		58,871
13.		
0 Tax Collector		
13.1 Salary		33,448
13.2 Clerical		17,477
13.3 Expenses		2,000
13.4 Computer		
Maintenance		3,500
13.5 Tax Title Work		2,500
13.6 Tax Title Admin.		0
Total Tax Collector		58,925
14.		
0 Town Clerk		
14.1 Salary		33,448
14.2 Clerical		13,310
14.3 Expenses		1,000
14.4 Town		
Publications		100
Total Town Clerk		47,858
15.		
0 Town Report		3,000
16.		
0 Treasurer		
16.1 Salary		38,012
16.2 Clerical		9,336
16.3 Expenses		1,100
16.4 Certifying Notes		0
16.5 Interest on Loans		
(short term)		0
16.6 Tax Title		
Expense		11,500
16.7 Payroll Service		6,500
16.8 Bank Service		
Charges		100
16.9 Tax Title Admin.		0
16.10 Records Mgt		1,000
Total Treasurer		67,548
17.		
0 Veterans' Benefits		20,000
18.		
0 Greater Springfield		
Senior Services		0

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,220,968
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GENERAL TOWN SERVICES

20. Academy Hall	
0 Maintenance	3,000
21. Cemetery	
0 Commission	
21.1 Clerical	14,000
21.2 Expenses	600
21.3 Maintenance	16,500
21.4 Computer Maintenance	550
Total Cemetery Commission	31,650
22. Conservation	
0 Commission	
22.1 Clerical	7,456
22.2 Expenses	500
Total Conservation Commission	7,956
23.	
0 Transfer Station	
23.1 Operation	0
23.2 Monitoring/Testing	25,000
Total Transfer Station	25,000
24. School Buildings	
0 Repairs	15,000
26.	
0 Library	
26.1 Salaries	
26.2 Expenses	
26.3 Library Materials	
Total Library	124,051
27.	
0 Town Events	1,200
29.	
0 Office Equipment	
29.1 Acquisition	2,500
29.2 Maintenance	9,000
29.3 Supplies	3,000
29.4 Postage	17,000
Total Office	31,500

Equipment

30.0	Parks and Recreation	
	30.1 Salaries	33,669
	30.2 Operating Expenses	4,500
	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	0
	30.9 Spray park	9,500
	Total Parks and Recreation	47,669
32.0	Town House Maintenance	
	32.1 Custodial	19,000
	32.2 Maintenance and Repairs	11,000
	32.3 Heat and Utilities	45,000
	Total Town House Maintenance	75,000
34.0	Ambulance	0
35.0	Gasoline	
	35.1 Fuel	65,000
	36.1 Gasoline Expenses	10,000
	Total Gasoline	75,000
36.0	Street Lighting	23,000
37.0	Council on Aging	
	37.1 Director's Salary	48,924
	37.2 Clerk	16,738
	37.3 Expenses	3,000
	37.4 Temporary Help	0
	37.5 Outreach Coordinator	18,167
	37.6 Receptionist	10,731
	Total Council on Aging	97,560
38.0	Senior Center	
	38.1 Custodial	11,394

38.2 Utilities	20,534
38.3 Building Maintenance	14,650
38.4 Grounds Maintenance	0
Total Senior Center	46,578
39.0 Historical Commission	400
Total General Town Services	604,564

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

40.0 Superintendent's Salary	85,000
41.0 Tree Warden	
41.1 Expenses	12,580
41.1.2 Salary	5,459
41.2 Tree Planting	0
41.3 Insect Pest Control	0
Total Tree Warden	18,039
42.0 Public Grounds	40,124
43.0 Highway Maintenance	
43.0 Expenses	156,157
43.1 Paving	50,000
Total Highway Maintenance	206,157
44.0 General Highway Expense	112,972
45.0 Snow and Ice Removal	80,000
46.0 Contract Services	
46.0 Contract Services	0
46.1 Street Sweeping	16,800
46.2 Catch Basin Cleaning	40,900
Total Contract Services	57,700
47.0 Other Highway Accounts	
47.1 Road Machinery	18,000

Maintenance	
47.2 Highway	
Engineering	0
47.3 Equipment	
Acquisition	0
Total Other Highway	
Accounts	18,000

48.	
0	Building Expenses
	48.1 Utilities
	10,985

TOTAL HIGHWAY	
DEPARTMENT	628,977

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

50.	
0	Animal Inspection
	50.1 Salary
	2,204
	50.2 Expenses
	240
	50.3 Rabies
	Management
	0
	50.4 Wildlife Control
	2,500
	Total Animal
	Inspection
	4,944

51.	
0	Emergency
	Management
	8,000

51.	
5	Traffic Control
	10,000

52.	
0	Dog Officer
	52.1 Animal Control
	Account
	12,000
	52.2 Dog Damage
	Fund
	700
	Total Dog Officer
	12,700

53.	
0	Fire Department
	53.1 Fire Chief Salary
	0
	53.2 Fire Chief
	Expenses
	1,500
	53.3 Operation
	40,000
	53.4 Equipment
	15,000
	53.5 Training Stipend
	33,000
	53.6 Radio Service
	Agreement
	5,000

	Total Fire Department	94,500
54.0	Forest Fires	2,000
55.0	Forest Fire Warden	0
56.0	Health, Board of	
	56.1 Salary	4,827
	56.2 Clerk Salary	31,895
	56.3 Expenses	<u>1,000</u>
	Total Board of Health	37,722
56.5	Water District	
	565.1 Operations	8,000
	565.2 Testing	<u>2,000</u>
	Total Water District	10,000
57.0	Police	
	57.1 Chief's Salary	84,290
	57.2 General Salaries	1,020,694
	57.3 Maintenance of Cruisers	11,845
	57.4 General Expenses	67,337
	57.5 New Cruisers	36,000
	57.6 Training	27,424
	57.7 Equipment	5,000
	57.8 Career Incentive Pay (Quinn Bill)	70,542
	57.9 Building Maintenance & Exp	<u>59,184</u>
		1,382,316
58.0	Other Police Accounts	
	58.1 Election and Town Meetings	2,705
	58.2 Towing Clerk	100
	58.3 WMLEC	<u></u>

		750
		3,555
59.		
0	Parking Clerk	0
	Total Police	1,385,871
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	TOTAL PROTECTION	1,565,737
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SCHOOLS		
69.	Regional School	
0	District	
	69.1 Assessment	7,329,013
	69.2 Teacher Deferral	0
	Total Regional	
	School District	7,329,013
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	SUB TOTAL	11,349,259
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70.	Local Government	
0	Debt	
	70.1 Principal:	
	Airpacks	44,000
	70.2 Interest	0
	70.3 School Debt	0
	70.4 Green Meadow	
	Bond	219,600
	70.5 Highway Truck	50,000
	70.6 Fire Truck	42,600
	70.7 Infrastructure	
	Roads	400,000
	70.8 Minnechaug	
	BAN/Bond	515,341
	Total Local	
	Government Debt	1,271,541
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	GRAND TOTAL	12,620,800
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Article 3. PREVIOUS BILLS

The Town voted to take no action on Article 3. Advisory recommended no action.
A Four-Fifths (4/5) Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 4. REVOLVING FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

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 2017: Advisory recommended favorable action.

Board of Assessors	\$2,500
Board of Health	\$40,000
Building Department	\$35,000
Library Trustees	\$6,000
Council on Aging	\$30,000
Tax Collector	\$2,500
Fire Department	\$10,000
Cemetery Commission	\$24,000

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 5. REVOLVING FUND REPORTS

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 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017 through December 31, 2016 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 2016 and Fiscal Year 2017 through December 31, 2016. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 6. ENTERPRISE FUND TRANSFER STATION

The Town voted to appropriate the following amounts for the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2017:

- \$25,000 for salaries
- \$50,000 for expenses
- \$75,000 Total

And that \$75,000 be raised as follows:

Department receipts: \$75,000

Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 7. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town voted to accept the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2017 which were to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund the following sums:

1. \$9,250 for the cleaning and restoration of World War I monument located on the village green.
2. \$9,000 for further improvements to the playscape at Memorial Park including features to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
3. \$49,850 for the purchase and conservation of 39 acres of land located off of North Road known as Mount Vision.
4. \$2,560 for the repair and refinishing of 20 pieces of oak furniture located and used within the Hampden Free Public Library.
5. \$300 to pay for the annual dues of the Community Preservation Coalition.

Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 8. CONSERVATION FUND

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$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.

Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 9. HIGHWAY STATE AID

The Town voted to accept \$257,000 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provision of local aid fund distribution, the General Laws Chapter 90, Section 34, and be allowed to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 10. HIGHWAY DUMP TRUCK BODY

The Town voted to allow the Treasurer to raise and appropriate and/or borrow \$25,000 to replace the 1996 Mack dump truck body. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 11. LIBRARY ADDITIONAL STATE AID

The Town voted that, in Fiscal Year 2017, if State Aid is received for the Library, this money will be made available for Library Trustees to use at their discretion. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 12. BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$12,500 into the Assessor's Stabilization Fund, to provide for Department of Revenue mandated programs. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 13. BOARD OF ASSESSORS

The Town voted to transfer from the Assessor's Stabilization Fund \$9,900 for all FY2017 Department of Revenue mandated programs. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 14. GENERAL BYLAW

The Town voted to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Hampden, Chapter ii, Section1, first paragraph in the following way:

Section 1, by deleting "The Annual Town Meeting for the transaction of business shall be held on the last Monday in April at 7:00 pm (Amended April 26, 1999) and inserting, "The Annual Town Meeting for the transaction of business will be conducted on the second Monday in May at 7:00 pm.

Section 2, by deleting "The Annual Town Meeting to elect town officers and to vote on such other matters as may be voted on the official ballot, shall be held on the first Monday in May and inserting, "the Annual Town Meeting to elect town officers and to vote on such other matters as may be voted on the official ballot, shall be held on the third Monday of May".

Advisory recommended favorable action.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 15. MAIN STREET WATER RESOLUTION

The Town voted to transfer from Building Department Revolving Account \$60,000 to cover the cost to settle with landowners and remediate the salt infiltration at 593-595 and 601 Main Street. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 16. WATER RESOLUTION AT FEDERATED CHURCH

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to cover the cost to remediate the salt infiltration at the Federated Church and Parsonage on Main Street. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 17. AMENDMENT TO THE SOLAR ZONING BYLAWS

The Town voted to amend the Solar Zoning Bylaw, Section 7.16 by adding the following:

A Solar Energy System shall be considered Abandoned, if the Solar Energy System has not been removed from the property within 150 days of its deemed Decommission. The Town may enter the property and physically remove and dispose of an Abandoned Solar Energy System and perform landscape remediation to stabilize and re-vegetate the site as necessary to minimize erosion. As a condition of approval, the applicant and landowner shall agree to allow such entry.

Proponents of Solar Energy System may be required to provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the cost of removal and disposal of the Solar Energy System and landscape remediation to stabilize and re-vegetate the site as necessary to minimize erosion, in the event the town must remove the System. The project proponent shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, disposal and landscape remediation, prepared by a qualified engineer. The amount shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal, disposal and landscape remediation, costs due to inflation. The Planning Board shall make the final determination of a reasonable amount and form of the surety which may be reviewed and adjusted every three (3) years.

Advisory recommended favorable action.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 18. LAND PURCHASE WITH GRANT ON MT. VISION

The Town voted to purchase the parcel of land on North Road known as Mt. Vision for the sum of \$49,850, consisting of 39 acres, more or less, as shown on a plan entitled Plan of Property by C.E. Anderson Associates dated August 8, 1979, and identified in the records of the Board of Assessors as Parcel 28-018-000, for conservation and passive recreation purposes, that said land will be conveyed under provisions of MGL Ch. 44B, The Community Preservation Act, to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 8C and that certain Conservation restrictions in favor of the Minnechaug Land Trust will be recorded and remain in place after conveyance to the Town.

Advisory recommended favorable action.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 19. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$11,763.90 to fund the School Resource Officer for FY2016 at Minnechaug Regional High School. Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 20. RESERVE FUND

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$25,000 for the Reserve Fund.
Advisory recommended favorable action.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 21. GENERAL STABILIZATION FUND

The Town voted to take no action on article 21.
Advisory recommended to take no action.

A Two-Thirds 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 22. REDUCING TAX RATE

The Town voted to take no action on article 22.
Advisory recommended to take no action.

A Two-Thirds (2/3) Vote was declared by the Moderator

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.