

True and attested copies of the warrants were posted by Constable, Robert Lyons in five of the towns voting precincts and mailed out to town meeting members on April 25 2014. All additional local by-law requirements were met prior to hosting this meeting.

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 9:32am by the Town Moderator, Edward Ryan after he adjourned the Special Town Meeting. It was announced that there were extra copies of the mailed Supplemental Planning Board Information on the back table. There were ninety-two members present out of one hundred and twenty qualified town meeting members. Greetings were read by the Moderator. Dale Johnston and Larry Dubois were appointed tellers for the session.

The following business was transacted:

First order of Business

- *Election of Redevelopment Authority Commission*

An election was held per MGL c121B, Section 5. Four members are elected at the annual town meeting, usually one member per year, except in the case of vacancies, resignations, etc.

Nominations on floor were as follows:

Gerald Judge
Frank DeToma
Imad Zubi
Schley Warren
Anna Symington

The meeting continued while the votes were counted.

Meeting suspended to hear election results at 10:00am.

Gerald Judge – 70
Frank DeToma – 67
Imad Zubi – 66
Schley Warren – 65
Anna Symington – 62

Top four candidates: Judge (5 years), DeToma (4years), Zubi (2 years) & Warren (1 year).
State Appointment will hold the 3 year term.

- ***Reappointment to the Appropriations Committee***

Moderator announced that Jeff Cyr, Greg Sheehan & Richard Constant will serve another three years as members to the Appropriations Committee.

Article 1– Acceptance of Treasurer to Borrow

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members 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.

Article 2- Acceptance of Treasurer Banking

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members 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 2015, as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 (F).

Article 3-Right to Defend

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

The Town voted to authorize the Selectboard to defend all suits that may be brought against the Town during Fiscal Year 2015 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- Acceptance of Grants

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members 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.

Article 5- Acceptance of Chapter 90

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members 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.

Article 6- Consolidation of Ambulance Receipts

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Unanimously supported by Appropriation Committee.

Unanimously supported by Capital Planning Committee.

Town Meeting Members voted to transfer the balance of the “Ambulance Receipts Reserve Fund” (\$509,293) to “Capital Stabilization”.

Article 7- FY15 Operating Budget

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Unanimously supported by Appropriation Committee

Town Meeting Members voted to raise and appropriate and transfer from available funds the sum of \$42,180,661 or a greater or lesser sum, to constitute the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2015, or take any other action relative thereto. (See Appendix A, attached)

Article 8- Chapter 41 Compensation

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members 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 written: Moderator \$1.00, Selectboard Members \$2,000, Board of Assessors \$2,500.

Article 9- COA Van Acceptance/Release

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members voted to accept a gift of a van to be used by the Council on Aging and to recognize the generosity of Paul Bernard in memory of his parents and furthermore release the funds appropriated by vote of Town Meeting held May 11, 2013, Article 32, in the sum of \$50,000 and to return to the Treasury.

Article 10- General Fund Capital

No motion offered.

Article 11- WWTP Capital

No motion offered.

Article 12- Solid Waste Capital

No motion offered.

Article 13- Capital Stabilization

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Voice vote count was a unanimous or an actual 2/3 majority vote. Control sheet attached.

Unanimously supported by Appropriation Committee

Town Meeting Members voted to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury the sum of \$200,000, or greater or lesser sum, for the purpose of funding the Capital Stabilization Fund, (Appendix B, as attached)

Article 14 – Revolving Buttery Brook Account

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members 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 2015 for the continued support and maintenance of Buttery Brook Park not to exceed \$28,000.

Article 15 – Cable Advisory By-Law Control

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members voted to amend the General By-Laws in regard to Article IV, Boards and Committees by amending Section 407 Cable Television Advisory Committee, Subsection 407.1 Duties by deleting the phrase, “and anticipate future cable needs” and substituting the phrase, “and participate in planning and policy development for the Town’s cable operation,” and, further, by amending Subsection 407.2 Membership and Term by changing the minimum number of members to three (3) and the maximum number to seven (7) [the bylaw presently requires the committee to consist of not fewer than five (5) and not more than nine (9) members].

Article 16 – Doyle Land Acquisition

MAJORITY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members voted in the affirmative for discussion purposes only to convey to the Selectboard for their consideration to accept land owned by Steven Doyle at 654 New Ludlow Road (Map and Parcel 10/2) in the amount of 9.8 acres as a gift to the Conservation Commission to be used for recreational purposes.

Article 17 – Multifamily and Multiple Residential Buildings on a Parcel Development

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Moderator declared voice vote count was a unanimous vote. Moderator declared that the article passed by a 2/3 majority vote. Control sheet attached.

Town Meeting Members voted to amend in the Zoning By-Law Section 5 USE REGULATIONS, Subpart (D) Use Regulations Schedule to incorporate several new residential use classifications and provide whether they are permitted by Right, Site Plan Review, and/or Special Permit in various zoning districts, provide for Flexible Development to be permitted subject to Site Plan Review instead of Special Permit, and reclassification of some of the existing residential use classifications as permitted by Site Plan Review and/or Special permit in various zoning districts; and Section 7 SUPPLEMENTAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS, by adding a new Subpart (Z) entitled (Z) Multi-Family and Multiple Dwellings.

Article 18 – B&B Facilities

ORIGINAL ARTICLE - To see if Town Meeting will vote to amend Section 3, DEFINITIONS, Subpart (B) Definitions; Section 5 USE REGULATIONS, Subpart (E) Use Regulations Schedule; and Section 7, SUPPLEMENTAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS, Subpart (R) Bed and Breakfast of the Zoning Bylaw to delete the existing definition of Bed and Breakfast and to establish and define two categories of Bed and Breakfast facilities, identify in which zoning districts each of the categories may be permitted, and to revise the regulations on Bed and Breakfast facilities and to provide for different standards and regulations for the two categories of Bed and Breakfast facilities or take any other action thereto.

Town Meeting voted to amend the original warrant article as follows: To amend Article 18, the provisions of Sections 7, Subpart (R) to allow up to 10 rooms at a Bed and Breakfast only in the Falls Overlay District and up to 5 rooms (down from the original article proposed 10 rooms) along Routes 116 and 202.

MAJORITY VOTED: Moderator was in doubt of voice vote so he called for a standing count. Standing count was 42 members in favor of the amendment and 35 members opposed the amendment. Moderator declared the amendment passed.

Town Meeting then voted to amend Section 3, DEFINITIONS, Subpart (B) Definitions; Section 5 USE REGULATIONS, Subpart (E) Use Regulations Schedule; and Section 7, SUPPLEMENTAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS, Subpart (R) Bed and Breakfast of the Zoning Bylaw to delete the existing definition of Bed and Breakfast and to establish and define two categories of Bed and Breakfast facilities, identify in which zoning districts each of the categories may be permitted, and to revise the regulations on Bed and Breakfast facilities and to provide for different standards and regulations for the two categories of Bed and Breakfast facilities.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Moderator declared voice vote count was a unanimous vote. Moderator declared that the article passed by a 2/3 majority vote. Control sheet attached.

Article 19 – OPEB Trust

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.

Unanimously supported by Appropriation Committee


Town Meeting Members voted to establish a Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) Trust and accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32 B section 20 and furthermore, to raise and appropriate or make available from un appropriated funds or reserves the sum of \$75,000 to said special trust fund. (Appendix C, as attached)

Article 20 – Dedication Ted Belsky**UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: Control sheet attached.**

Town Meeting Members endorsed dedicating a section of land known as (Upper) Canal Park (where Canal intersects West Summit) as Ted Belsky Scenic Overlook and place an appropriate marker in remembrance of the tireless efforts put forth by Ted, for his community and furthermore, to serve as a reminder to future generations of the importance of preservation and civic commitment embodied by Citizen Belsky, or to take any action thereto.

The Moderator announced the conclusion meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 P.M.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Carlene C. Hamlin, Town Clerk