



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TOWN OF HUBBARDSTON

MINUTES - SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2019

CENTER SCHOOL

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the voters of the Town of Hubbardston assembled at the Center School gymnasium to act on the articles in said warrant. Present were Moderator Rene Lafayette; Board of Selectmen members Daniel Galante (Chair), Jeffrey Williams, Richard Haddad, Patrick Girouard and Kris Pareago; Town Clerk Laurie Reed; Finance Committee members Susan Rayne (Chair), Shannon Erb and Charles Reed; Town Administrator Ryan McLane and representative for Town Counsel, Carolyn Murray.

A total of 50 registered voters were checked in by Marcia Howlett and Shonna Larson. A quorum of 50 voters was present throughout the meeting.

Moderator, Rene Lafayette, called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Lafayette and announced the meeting was being recorded and asked that all cell phones be silenced.

The following actions were taken on the article presented in the aforesaid warrant:

ARTICLE 1. Motion. Mr. Galante moves: That the Town vote to amend the vote taken on Article 1 of the August 22, 2019 Special Town Meeting warrant, Operating Budget, by approving the budget line adjustments as set forth in the handout provided to voters at this Town Meeting.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee

Second: Richard Haddad

The Chair recognized Town Administrator, Ryan McLane to discuss the handout given to voters. Proposed budget adjustments include;

Budget Cover Sheet – Projected Local Receipts:

Projected Local Receipts: Increase revenue projection for the Building Department by **\$2,100.00**

General Government:

Line 2: Eliminate the proposed Human Resources Consulting Services for a total cost of **\$4,000.00**

Other General Government:

Line 44: Reduce the Finance Committee Reserve by \$5,000.00 from \$35,000.00 to **\$30,000.00**

Other Emergency Services:

Line 68: Reduce the Rutland Regional Dispatch Assessment projection by **\$560.00**

Growth Management:

Line 73: Increase the line by **\$2,100.00** to accommodate the new regional agreement for FY20-22

Planning Board:

Line 81: Reduce the Assistant hours from 18 hours per week to 16 hours per week for a total reduction of **\$1714.00**

Education:

Line 86: Increase the Quabbin Regional School Assessment by **\$14,293.00** to meet the certified assessment

Public Works Expenses:

Line 93: Reduce the line by **\$2,275.00**

Line 94: Reduce the line by **\$788.00**

Discussion: Laura Foley questioned why there were reductions in Article 1 and a transfer of funds in Article 2. Question was addressed by Town Administrator, Ryan McLane who explained the difference between funding in the Operating Budget and Free Cash.

[The Moderator read each line listed above and total to provide voters the opportunity for discussion on any given line item. Total operating buget \$9,303,301]

Vote: Motion Carries; Unanimous Affirmative Vote

ARTICLE 2. Motion. Mr. Williams moves: That the Town vote to transfer the amount of Seventy Five Thousand **(\$75,000.00)** from Free Cash to fund the design for the reconstruction and related improvements for the Main Street section of Route 68 in Hubbardston's Town Center.

Recommended by: Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee

Second: Patrick Girouard

Board of Selectmen and Town Center Committee Chair, Daniel Galante was recognized to speak on behalf of the article.

Discussion: Alice Livdahl questioned the details of the Worcester North Project. Question was answered by Daniel Galante .

Vote: Motion Carries; Unanimous Affirmative Vote

Seeing no other business before him, the Moderator adjourned the Special Town Meeting at 8:23pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Laurie J. Reed
Town Clerk

(Town Seal)