

MINUTES

STM 10/28/19

7:00 P.M.

TOWN OF HAMPDEN

Minutes

Town of Hampden, Special Town Meeting, Thornton W. Burgess School,
Wilbraham Road, Hampden, Monday, October 28, 2019.

Moderator Richard Green opened the meeting at 7:pm attendance 114

Article 1 PURCHASE OF A POLICE CRUISER

The Town voted to transfer \$51,500 from unappropriated available funds to the Police Department for the purchase of a new police cruiser.

Advisory favorable **A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator**

Article 2 FUNDING FOR THE TREE WARDEN

The Town voted to transfer \$100,000 from unappropriated available funds to the Tree Warden for removal of dead and hazardous trees in the public way.

Advisory favorable **A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator**

Article 3 SOLAR BYLAW

The Town voted to amend the Zoning By-Law by striking section 6.25 from the Table of Uses and inserting sections 6.25.1 and 6.25.2 and repealing Section 7.16 in its entirety and replacing it with a new Section 7.16, Solar Energy System(s), all as presented in Article 3 of the Warrant for this October 28, 2019 Special Town Meeting.

Advisory favorable **A 2/3rds Vote declared by the Moderator**

The Town then voted to amend the main motion by amending the language of the solar bylaw by striking the beginning words of the first sentence of Section 7.16.5, subsection (7) which now read:

“An underground water storage tank with a capacity of no less than thirty thousand (30,000) gallons...”

By inserting in their place:

“An underground water storage tank or tanks with a total capacity of no less than thirty thousand (30,000) gallons...”

A 2/3rds Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 4 FIRE STATION EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT

The Town voted to transfer \$38,000 from unappropriated available funds to the Fire Department for the purchase of new extraction equipment.

Advisory favorable **A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator**

Article 5 POLICE AND FIRE RADIO SYSTEM

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$200,000 to partially offset the cost of a new Police and Fire radio system, and further, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow \$317,443 and to issue bonds or notes to fund this purchase.

Advisory favorable **A 2/3rds Vote declared by the Moderator**

Article 6 SOLAR TAX AGREEMENT: 296 AMES ROAD

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into a payment in lieu of personal property taxes agreement for a term of twenty years for the solar photovoltaic

energy generating facility located at 296 Ames Road upon such terms as the Board of Selectmen shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 7 SOLAR TAX AGREEMENT: 0 THRESHER ROAD

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into a payment in lieu of personal property taxes agreement for a term of twenty years for the solar photovoltaic energy generating facility located at 0 Thresher Road upon such terms as the Board of Selectmen shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 8 CPA FUNDING FOR NEW WELL IN MEMORIAL PARK AND
FENCE REPLACEMENT

The Town voted to appropriate or reserve \$10,000 from the Community Preservation Fund, as requested by the Parks and Recreations Commission, the repair of the well and associated equipment at Memorial Park.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

The Town voted to appropriate or reserve \$24,740 from the Community Preservation Fund, as requested by the Cemetery Commission, for the replacement and rehabilitation of the fence located at Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 9 FIRE CHIEF SALARY

The Town voted to transfer \$20,000 from unappropriated available funds to the Fire Department, 01-220-5110-01 account, to provide a salary for the Fire Chief.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 10 SALARY FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

The Town voted to transfer \$10,000 from unappropriated available funds to the Fire Department, 01-220-5110-02 account, for stipends for Fire Department Officers.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 11 COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES

The Town voted to accept Chapter 40, Section 8J of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 12 WEST BROOK PHASE II

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase for the sum of \$207,250 the parcel known as West Brook Phase II consisting of 23.45 +/- acres owned by Russell and Laura J. Morton as described on Assessors Map18, Parcel 001- 002, to be placed in the custody of and managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission of the Town of Hampden in accordance with Chapter 40, Section 8C for Conservation and passive outdoor recreation purposes and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of Board of Selectmen, to borrow \$132,640 under the provisions of M.G.L. chapter 44 for the purchase, where any gifts, donations or grants shall be used to offset the purchase amount, the order of offset to be at the

discretion of the Board of Selectmen and that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to file on behalf of the Town of Hampden any and all applications deemed necessary under the LAND grant program or any other applications for funds in any way connected with the scope of this acquisition.

Advisory favorable

A 2/3rds Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 13 CONSERVATION RESTRICTION - WEST BROOK PHASE II

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen with the consent of the Conservation Commission to grant to the Minnechaug Land Trust or any other organization qualified and willing to hold such a restriction, a Conservation Restriction on the property known as West Brook Phase II in accordance with M.G.L. c. 184 as required by Section 12(a) of section 44B of Chapter 293 or Section 10 of the Acts of 1993 as amended, as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Hampden to affect said purchase.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 14 WEST BROOK PHASE II POTENTIAL OFFSET FUNDING

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file on behalf of the Town of Hampden any and all applications for funds, including any and all deemed necessary under the LAND grant program or any other applications for funds in any way connected with the scope of the acquisition of West Brook Phase II to be used to offset the costs of the acquisition.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 15 REDUCING THE TAX RATE

The Town voted to transfer \$406,120 from unappropriated available funds to General Revenue to reduce the property tax rate for Fiscal 2020.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 16 RECISSION OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (5/13/19) ARTICLES

The Town voted to rescind Article 17, Police/Fire Radio System Assessment, and Article 19, Senior Center Expansion Feasibility Study, from the May 13, 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 17 AMENDING ARTICLE 10 FROM THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (5/13/19)

The Town voted to take no action on Article 17.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 18 TRANSFER TO THE GENERAL STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

The Town voted to take no action on Article 18.

Advisory favorable

A Majority Vote declared by the Moderator

Article 19 TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

The Town voted to transfer \$300,000 from the General Stabilization Account to the General Fund to reduce the tax rate in Fiscal 2020.

Advisory favorable

A 2/3rds Majority declared by the Moderator

A motion to adjourn the Meeting passed by a declared Majority vote at 8:11pm