

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF HAMPDEN
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Thornton W. Burgess Middle School, 85 Wilbraham Road, Hampden
Monday, May 9, 2022 at seven o'clock in the evening
Moderator Richard Green opened the meeting at 7:04pm – attendance 92

Article 1 (Don Davenport) TOWN REPORTS

The Town voted that the Annual Reports, as contained in the Annual Town Report for the year 2021, be accepted as printed.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 2 (Advisory) ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

The Town voted that the sums of money shown in the column entitled "Fiscal 2023 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 further, that the Town raise and appropriate such sums as may be required to defray said charges for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Revised 4/19/2022		Fiscal 2023 Draft Recommendations
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
1.0	Accountant	
	1.1 Salary	43,952
	1.2 Assistant	7,000
	1.3 Expenses	10,000
	1.4 Software	7,500
	Total Accountant	68,452
2.0	Advisory Committee	
	2.1 Clerical	5,563
	2.2 Expenses	200
	Total Advisory	5,763
3.0	Appeals, Board of	
	3.1 Clerical	8,130
	3.2 Expenses	300
	Total Appeals	8,430
4.0	Assessors, Board of	
	4.1 Salaries	17,945
	4.2 Principal Assessor	62,579
	4.2.2 Clerical	26,050
	4.3 Expenses	4,250
	4.5 Software Support	9,579

	4.6 Mapping Maintenance	2,100
	4.7 Utility Valuations	8,000
	Total Assessors	130,503
5.0	Building Department Expenses	
	5.1 Code and General Enforcement	23,328
	5.2 Inspector	69,985
	5.3 Clerical	31,920
	5.4 Inspectors Expense	2,000
	5.5 Office Expense	1,860
	Total Building Dept.	129,093
6.0	County Retirement	672,542
7.0	Insurance	
	7.1 Property and Liability	150,000
	7.2 Employee Benefits	350,000
	7.3 Unemployment Compensation	10,000
	7.4 Longevity	300
	Total Insurance	510,300
8.0	8.1 Law & Claims	65,000
9.0	Moderator	
	9.1 Salary	0
	9.2 Expenses	100
	Total Moderator	100
10.0	Planning Board	
	10.2 Clerical	35,773
	10.3 Expenses	1,600
	Total Planning Board	37,373
11.0	Registrars, Board of (Voters)	
	11.1 Salaries	840
	11.2 Election Expenses	17,000
	11.3 Street Lists	3,000
	Total Registrars	20,840
12.0	Selectmen	
	12.1 Salaries	10,749
	12.2 Administrative Asst.	53,385
	12.4 Expenses	15,000
	12.5 Legal Advertising	3,000
	12.6 Mapping Maintenance	2,400
	12.7 Temporary Help	10,000
	12.8 Storm Water Management	45,700
	Total Selectman	140,234

13.0	Tax Collector	
	13.1 Salary	43,086
	13.2 Clerical	29,589
	13.3 Expenses	3,000
	13.4 Computer Maintenance	5,000
	13.5 Tax Title Work	2,500
	Total Tax Collector	83,175
14.0	Town Clerk	
	14.1 Salary	43,086
	14.2 Clerical	34,267
	14.3 Record Officer	12,272
	14.3 Expenses	1,500
	14.4 Town Publications	100
	Total Town Clerk	91,225
15.0	Town Report	3,000
16.0	Treasurer	
	16.1 Salary	50,752
	16.2 Clerical	11,266
	16.3 Expenses	1,200
	16.4 Certifying Notes	1,000
	16.5 Interest on Loans (short term)	0
	16.6 Tax Title Work	11,000
	16.7 Payroll Service	8,000
	16.10 Records Mgt	1,000
	Total Treasurer	84,218
17.0	Veterans' Benefits	20,000
19.0	Town Administrator	95,000
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT		2,165,248

GENERAL TOWN SERVICES

20.0	Academy Hall Maintenance	4,500
21.0	Cemetery Commission	
	21.1 Clerical	16,395
	21.2 Expenses	500
	21.3 Maintenance	15,000
	21.4 Computer Maintenance	1,800
	Total Cemetery Commission	33,695
22.0	Conservation Commission	

	22.1 Clerical	36,817
	22.2 Expenses	1,343
	Total Conservation Commission	38,160
23.0	Transfer Station	
	23.2 Monitoring/Testing	25,000
	Total Transfer Station	25,000
24.0	School Buildings Repairs	15,000
26.0	Library	
	26.1 Salaries, Materials, Books	187,274
	Total Library	187,274
27.0	Town Events	1,500
29.0	Office Equipment	
	29.1 Acquisition	20,000
	29.2 Maintenance	5,000
	29.3 Supplies	10,000
	29.4 Postage	17,000
	29.5 Information Technology	30,000
	29.6 Website	2,500
	Total Office Equipment	84,500
30.0	Parks and Recreation	
	30.1 Salaries	61,497
	30.2 Operating Expenses	8,900
	30.9 Spray park	15,000
	Total Parks and Recreation	85,397
32.0	Town House Maintenance	
	32.1 Custodial	17,000
	32.2 Maintenance and Repairs	30,000
	32.3 Heat and Utilities	40,000
	Total Town House Maintenance	87,000
34.0	Ambulance	353,280
35.0	Gasoline	
	35.1 Purchase	50,000
	36.1 Gasoline Expenses	10,000
	Total Gasoline	60,000
36.0	Street Lighting	25,000
37.0	Council on Aging	
	37.1 Director's Salary	75,318

	37.2 General Salary	107,128
	37.3 Expenses	7,000
	Total Council on Aging	189,446
38.0	Senior Center	
	38.2 Utilities	22,115
	38.3 Building Maintenance	16,153
	Total Senior Center	38,268
39.0	Historical Commission	400
Total General Town Services		1,203,420

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

40.0	Superintendent's Salary	97,480
40.1	Departmental Payroll	278,593
41.0	Tree Warden	
	41.1 Expenses	52,250
	41.1.2 Salary	6,840
	Total Tree Warden	59,090
42.0	Public Grounds	4,385
43.0	Highway Maintenance	
	43.0 Expenses	65,672
	43.1 Paving	250,000
	Total Highway Maintenance	315,672
44.0	General Highway Expense	15,645
45.0	Snow and Ice Removal	100,000
46.0	Contract Services	
	46.1 Street Sweeping	22,800
	46.2 Catch Basin Cleaning	40,900
	Total Contract Services	63,700
47.0	Other Highway Accounts	
	47.1 Road Machinery Maintenance	18,000
48.0	Building Expenses	
	48.1 Expenses and Utilities	15,000
TOTAL HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT		967,565

50.0	Animal Inspection	
	50.1 Salary	2,670
	50.2 Expenses	600
	50.4 Wildlife Control	2,500
	Total Animal Inspection	5,770
51.0	Emergency Management	5,000
51.5	Traffic Control	15,000
52.0	Dog Officer	
	52.1 Animal Control	13,586
	52.2 Dog Damage Fund	500
	Total Dog Officer	14,086
53.0	Fire Department	
	53.1.1 Med Dir Emer Med Svcs	0
	53.1 Fire Chief Salary	30,396
	53.2 Fire Chief Expenses	1,500
	53.3 Operation	51,200
	53.4 Equipment	16,500
	53.5 Training Stipend	32,000
	015540 Fire Officer Stipend	10,924
	53.6 Radio Service Agreement	0
	015537 Call reimbursement	50,000
	015538 FD Salaries	176,893
	015538.1 Clerical	5,101
	015539 Uniforms	3,500
	53.10 EMS Supplies	3,000
	Total Fire Department	381,014
54.0	Forest Fire Control	1,800
56.0	Health, Board of	
	56.1 Salary	0
	56.2 Coordinator	61,606
	56.3 Expenses	1,000
	56.4 Health Nurse	8,700
	Total Board of Health	71,306
56.5	Water District	
	565.1 Operations	10,000
	565.2 Testing	3,000
	Total Water District	13,000
57.0	Police	
	57.1 Chief's Salary	102,500
	57.2 General Salaries	1,057,836

	57.3 Maintenance of Cruisers	14,660
	57.4 General Expenses	118,265
	57.5 New Cruisers	53,000
	57.6 Training	25,428
	57.7 Equipment	9,700
	57.8 Career Incentive Pay (Quinn Bill)	80,256
	57.9 Building Maintenance & Exp	64,548
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		1,526,193
58.0	Other Police Accounts	
	58.1 Election and Town Meetings	3,586
	58.2 Towing Clerk	100
	58.3 WMLEC	300
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		3,986
	Total Police	1,530,179
59.0	Police/Fire Communications	25,950
TOTAL PROTECTION		<hr/>
		2,063,105
SCHOOLS		
69.0	Regional School District	
	69.1 Assessment	7,779,788
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	Total Regional School District	7,779,788
LOCAL DEBT		
70.0	Local Government Debt	
	70.4 Green Meadow Bond	0
	70.7 Infrastructure Roads	0
	70.8 Minnechaug Bond	474,050
	70.9 Minnechaug, retro bond	0
	70.10 Police Dept	219,750
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	Total Local Government Debt	693,800
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GRAND TOTAL		14,872,926

Article 3 (John Flynn) PRIOR YEAR BILLS

The Town voted to take no action on this article.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 4 (Craig Rivest) FY2023 SPENDING LIMITS FOR REVOLVING FUNDS

The Town voted to authorize the following total expenditures for the following revolving funds, in amounts not to exceed the listed amounts, pursuant to General Laws chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the Fiscal Year 2023:

Building Department Fund	\$85,000
Cemetery Commission Fund	\$30,000
Council on Aging Fund	\$21,000

Library Fund	\$ 3,000
Conservation Commission Fund	\$25,000
Planning Board Fund	\$10,000

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 5 (John Flynn) ENTERPRISE FUND TRANSFER STATION

The Town voted to appropriate the following amounts for the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for Fiscal 2023:

\$31,000 for Salaries

\$60,000 for Trash Hauling & MRF Contract

\$1,500 for Miscellaneous Expenses

\$92,500 – Total

And that \$92,500 be raised as follows:

Department receipts: \$92,500

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 6 (Doug Boyd) COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Town voted to appropriate \$29,406 from the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of renovating a playing field at Minnechaug Regional High School, contingent upon passing of Wilbraham's portion at the Wilbraham Town Meeting.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

The Town voted to appropriate \$28,000 from the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of changing the door locks at Centennial Commons.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 7 (Ted Zebert / Judy M-B) 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 in the Town for conservation purposes, if said purchase is voted and approved at an Annual or Special Town Meeting prior to such purchase.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 8 (Don Davenport) CHAPTER 90 - STATE HIGHWAY AID

The Town voted to accept \$251,978 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under General Laws, Chapter 90, Section 34, and be allowed to borrow in anticipation of 100% reimbursement.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 9 (Library - EM) LIBRARY ADDITIONAL STATE AID

The Town voted that in fiscal year 2023, if state aid is received for the Hampden public library, this money will be made available to Hampden Library Trustees for use at their discretion.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 10 (Norm Charest) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR ASSESSORS

The Town voted to accept Chapter 59, Section 21A of the Massachusetts General Laws to create a financial incentive for the Town's assessors to become certified.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 11 (Don Davenport) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR COLLECTORS AND TREASURERS

The Town voted to accept Chapter 41, Section 108P of the Massachusetts General Laws to create a financial incentive for the Town's Treasurers and Collectors to achieve certification

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 12 (Norm Charest) TRANSFER ASSESSORS' STABILIZATION FUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND

The Town voted to close out the Assessors Stabilization Fund and transfer the remaining balance of \$508.32 in said account to the Town's General Fund.

A 2/3 Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 13 (Norm Charest) ASSESSOR'S FUNDING FOR STATE MANDATED PROGRAMS

The Town voted transfer \$50,000 from the Assessors' Overlay reserve to enable the Board of Assessors to comply with Massachusetts Department of Revenue mandated programs.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 14 (John Flynn) SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$11,650 to pay for the School Resource Officer for fiscal year 2022 at Minnechaug Regional High School.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 15 (Craig Rivest) MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT

The Town voted by secret ballot to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take appropriate action to establish and to maintain, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 164 of the General Laws and in accordance with the rules, regulations and orders of the Department of Public Utilities and the Department of Telecommunications & Cable, a municipal lighting plant for all purposes allowable under the laws of the Commonwealth, including without limitation the operation of a telecommunications system and any related services.

Motion carried by Secret Ballot vote: YES – 79 / NO - 10

Article 16 (Don Davenport) SPECIAL ACT FOR A HAMPDEN FIREFIGHTER

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a Special Act with the Massachusetts General Court to permit Hampden firefighter, Peter Hatch, to continue serving past the normal age of 65 until potentially 70 years of age.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 17 (Assessors) LOCAL OPTION RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR VETERANS EXEMPTION

The Town voted to adopt the local option to permit veterans to qualify for veterans' exemptions of Chapter 59, section 5, clauses 22 and 22A through 22F after residing in Massachusetts for one (1) year.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 18 (Don Davenport) PROCEDURE FOR FILLING BOARD & COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Town voted to take no action on this article.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 19 (Tad Brown) CITIZEN'S PETITION

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to investigate and if feasible to negotiate a purchase and sale agreement for certain properties and parcels of land currently known as 2 Somers Road (5.81 acres-Parcel ID 12-40-0) and 16 Somers Road (3.47 acres Parcel ID 12-039-000) and or any portion thereof or take any other action upon terms that the Board of Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

Motion carried by a Majority Vote of: YES-44 / NO - 31

Article 20 (Advisory) ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESERVE FUND

The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$25,000 for the Advisory Committee Reserve Fund for Fiscal 2023.
A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 21 (Advisory) GENERAL STABILIZATION FUND

The Town voted to take no action on this article.
A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

Article 22 (Advisory) REDUCING THE TAX RATE

The Town voted to take no action on this article.
A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

A motion to close the meeting carried by a declared Majority Vote at 8:31pm.