

MINUTES

HAMPDEN SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Thornton W. Burgess School, Wilbraham Road, Hampden, Monday, October 24th at seven o'clock in the evening. Moderator Richard R Green called the meeting to order at 7:05pm: Attendance: 73

ARTICLE 1

HIGHWAY GARAGE SECURITY SYSTEM

The Town voted to take no action on this article.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 2

CLERICAL SUPPORT FOR THE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The Town voted to take no action on this article.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 3

SPECIAL ACT FOR A POLICE OFFICER OVER AGE 65

The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a petition with the Massachusetts General Court for a special act to permit Hampden police officer James Gormally to continue serving past the normal retirement age of 65 and potentially to 70 years of age where such petition will be in substantially the same form as set forth in Article 3 of the Warrant of for this Special Town Meeting and where the General Court will be permitted to make such amendments as are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition..

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 4

INCREASE FUNDING FOR EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Town voted to transfer from unappropriated available funds \$160,000 to increase the budget for Employee Benefits (Line7.2).

A Unanimous Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 5

GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE

The Town voted to authorize creation of a Government Study Committee, appointed by the Moderator, to review all aspects of Hampden Town government and to issue a report with any recommendations to the Annual Town Meeting in May 2024.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 6

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Town voted to transfer **\$5,000** from unappropriated available funds to increase the budget for Emergency Management (Line 51.0).

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 7

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR LAW AND CLAIMS

The Town voted to transfer **\$75,000** from unappropriated available funds to increase the budget for Law and Claims (Line 8.0)

A Unanimous Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 8

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSES

The Town voted to transfer **\$2,000** from unappropriated available funds for Board of Health Expenses (Line 56.3)

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 9

REIMBURSEMENT FOR MINNECHAUG LAND TRUST

The Town voted to transfer from unappropriated available funds the sum of **\$6,909.26** to reimburse the Minnechaug Land Trust for its payment to Northern Tree, Inc for the removal of dead and dying Town trees at the Town owned South Road entrance to the Minnechaug Mountain Conservation Land.

A Unanimous Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 10

REDUCING THE TAX RATE

The Town voted to take no action on this article.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

ARTICLE 11

TRANSFER TO THE GENERAL STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

The Town voted to transfer \$449,584.74 from unappropriated available funds into the General Stabilization Account.

A Majority Vote was declared by the Moderator

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm passed by a declared majority vote.