

Annual Town Meeting

May 7, 2018 (FY19)

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:39 p.m. by Moderator Michael M. Seele. He asked for the count of voters. . Patrolman Kevin J. Harrington announced the count of the voters present was 197, constituting the quorum requirement of 50 voters. The meeting pledged allegiance to the flag and Pastor Joshua Gray of the First Congregational Church gave the invocation. A moment of silence was held for deceased Town employees who died in 2017. Town Clerk Dawn M. Varley swore in the following tellers: Lawrence Roache, 26 Acorn Rd., Michelle Clare LaMattina, 6 River Birch Cir., Christine M. Hadden, 800 Temple St. Warrant was then read by the Town Clerk. Moderator Seele went over the rules governing town meeting. Moderator Seele acknowledged the Finance Committee on their service to the town.

Moderator Seele went over the use of electronic devices and asked the voters if anyone had any questions. Elaine M. Williams of 41 Perry Ave., asked the moderator if his intent was to use the handheld devices for all votes. Moderator Seele said his intention was to use the devices only on 2/3rd votes if the votes were not unanimous or any other voice votes he feels necessary. Elaine Williams asked to make a motion to use the Electronic Devices for all articles on the Town Meeting Warrant. Moderator Seele made reference to the Town bylaws under the Rules for Government of Town Meeting section 4. All votes, unless otherwise provided by law, shall be taken, in the first instance, by a "Yes" and "No" voice vote. Town Administrator Frank Lynam then referred to section 5 that the majority of the Town meeting could make a motion that all votes could be taken by electronic handset voting system. Town Counsel Michelle McNulty clarified that if it was the wish of the voters the motion would have to be made on every article to use Electronic Voting not the on the entire Town meeting. Selectmen Daniel P. Salvucci voiced his concern of having the devices and not using them and he would possibly be looking into a bylaw changing the process.

Article 1

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY for the following Town Officers: One Town Clerk for Three Years; One Selectmen for Three Years; One Assessor for Three Years; Two PK-12 Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Committee Members for Three Years; One Department of Public Works Commissioners for Three Years; Two Public Library Trustees for Three Years; One Planning Board Member for Three Years to fill vacancy; One Board of Health Member for Three Years; and to choose all other necessary officers.

The polls for the election of officers will be opened in said Town Hall at nine o'clock in the forenoon on said Saturday, the 19th day of May, 2018, and kept open until five o'clock in the evening. Both of which days will constitute the Annual Meeting and this call is issued in accordance with the vote of the Town passed January 29, 1902.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

At 7:53 P.M. Moderator Michael Seele adjourned the Annual Town Meeting and opened the Special Town Meeting. **The Special Town Meeting is recorded in a separate document.** Special Town Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. and the Annual Town Meeting was reconvened.

Town Administrator Frank Lynam addressed Town Meeting stating how this year is different because we have to use Capital Stabilization funds. The town can no longer raise enough money to pay for technology, life and health insurance, county retirement, solid waste, etc. They will be looking at the revenues and expenditures to cover costs.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Rick Anderson, talked briefly about the town's financial road map. He shares an analogy from a conference he attended, "The Board of Selectmen drive the car, the Finance Committee plans the route but the Town Meeting decides if we take the trip."

Moderator Seele took a 10 Minute recess so that the voters may look over Article 2 for any questioned line items, at 8:18 ATM was reconvened.

Article 2

To determine how much money the Town will raise and appropriate for General Government, Protection of Persons and Property, Health and Sanitation, Public Works, Veterans' Benefits, Education, Library, Recreation and Unclassified, specifying what appropriations shall be taken from the receipt of a department, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee

A **Motion** was made by Selectmen Daniel Salvucci to use Electronic Voting on Article 2 all questioned lines – The Town Voted in the MAJORITY to use Electronic voting on all questioned lines in Article 2.

The following Line Items were questioned: **5, 6, 7, 26, 35, 67, 117, 123, 133, 138, 145, 156, 161, 170, 172, 197, 227, 245, 252, 256, 404, 405, 410, 414, and 438.** All other line items were voted by Electronic Vote Yes - 158 No – 8.

The questioned lines were taken by Electronic Votes as follows: Line 5, Yes-133 No-70; Line 6, Yes-152 No-52; Line 7, Yes-158 No-41; Line 26, Yes-179 No 29; Line 35, Yes-174 No-38; Line 67, Yes-162 No 35; Line 117, Yes-135 No-60; Line 123, Yes-156 No-48; Line 133, Yes-177 No-31; Line 138, Yes-177 No-13; Line 145, Yes-146 No-59; Line 156, Yes-149 No-50; Line 161, Yes-178 No-30; Line 170, Yes-183 No-21; Line 172, Yes-182 No-24; Line 197, Yes-138 No-61; Line 227 as amended, Yes-186 No-27; Line 245, Yes-182 No-16; Line 252 Yes-186 No 14; Line 256, Yes-166 No-22; Line 404, Yes-160 No-23; Line 405, Yes-169 No-27; Line 410, Yes-140 No-62; Line 414 as amended, Yes-170 No-29; Line 438, Yes-164 No-15.

For continuity in recording Article 2 is listed at the end of this recording

Article 3

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to amend the general by-laws of the town by adding a new section as set forth below to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½, or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

1. Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½.

2. Expenditure Limitations. A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

- A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.
- B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.

C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by town meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the select board and finance committee.

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund

4. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½ and this by-law, the laws, charter provisions, by-laws/ordinances, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of town monies and the expenditure and payment of town/city funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The town accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the town accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

5. Authorized Revolving Funds. The Table establishes:

A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer,

B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund,

C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant,

D. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,

E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund;

F. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and

G. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

A. Revolving Fund	B Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	C Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	D Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	E Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	F Other Requirements /Reports	G Fiscal Years
Animal Control	Board of Health Vote	Fines assessed by Animal Control Officer; Boarding or Adoption Fees	Expenditures related to Animal Control	Not to be used for payment of Salaries		Fiscal Year 2019 and Subsequent Years
Council On Aging	Director, Council on Aging	Minibus Fares and Program Fees	Council On Aging Expenses	None		Fiscal Year 2019 and Subsequent Years
A. Revolving Fund	B Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	C Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	D Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	E Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	F Other Requirements /Reports	G Fiscal Years

Library Fines and Fees	Board of Library Trustees Vote	Late Return Fines and Program Fees	Library Operating Expenses	None		Fiscal Year 2019 and Subsequent Years
Passport & Photo Fees	Director, Council on Aging	Sale of Photos and Passport Acceptance Fees	Any expenditures related to Passport Services	None		Fiscal Year 2019 and Subsequent Years
Planning Board	Planning Board Vote	Fees received on Applications and Plan Review	All expenses of the Planning Board	Not to be used for full time payroll costs		Fiscal Year 2019 and Subsequent Years
Police Department	Police Department	Fines Assessed under MGL C41 §21D and Fees from Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement	Police Training and Equipment Purchases	None		Fiscal Year 2019 and Subsequent Years
Recreation Department	Recreation Commission	Fees Received for All Activities and Recreational Programs	All Recreation Department Expenditures	Shall Not be used to pay Salary Costs for any Full-time Employees		Fiscal Year 2019 and Subsequent Years

Submitted by the Town Administrator Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 4

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to set the following annual spending limits for the revolving accounts authorized by Article 3, or take any other action relative thereto:

Revolving Account	Spending Limit
Animal Control	5,000
Council on Aging	10,000
Library Fines and Fees	20,000
Passport and Photo Fees	3,000
Planning Board	75,000
Police Department	20,000
Recreation Department	30,000

Submitted by the Town Administrator Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 5

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$466,058** outside the Levy limit to pay Whitman Hanson Regional School District debt payments, which debt was authorized by Article 7 of the May 7, 2002 Annual Town Meeting and the May 18, 2002 Debt Exclusion vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Treasurer-Collector Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 6

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY as AMENDED to transfer **\$63,180.00** from **Capital Stabilization** and transfer **\$100,000** from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Receipts Account to make a payment on debt authorized by Article 41 of the May 19, 1998 Annual Town Meeting, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

Article 7

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY as AMENDED to **transfer \$762,562.50** from **Capital Stabilization** to make interest and principal payment on debt authorized by Article 1 of the November 17, 2008 Special Town Meeting for the construction of a new Police Station, and renovations to the Fire Station and Town Hall, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

Article 8

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$6,714.29** from the Reserve for Appropriation Title 5 Loans Account to make Fiscal Year 2019 debt payments, with any balance remaining from this appropriation at fiscal year-end to be returned to said account, or take any other action thereto.

Proposed by the Treasurer-Collector Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 9

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$42,105.55** to fund the second of four (4) annual payments to lease-purchase and equip a 2017 Prinoth/Bombardier model SW4S sidewalk plow, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Public Works Commissioners, Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 10

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$323,364** from available Chapter 90 funds for the purpose of resurfacing and /or installing surface treatments and line painting to streets, on various Town streets or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Public Works Commissioners Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 11

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$21,000** from Sewer-Water Retained Earnings to purchase a Flail Brush Mower for the purpose of clearing various utility easements or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Public Works Commissioners Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 12

The Town Voted IN THE MAJORITY to raise and appropriate **\$3,000** to purchase a sharps collection kiosk for the proper disposal of residents' sharps and to contract with a medical waste transportation company, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Health Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 13

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$70,926.90** from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Receipts Account for the fourth of seven payments to lease purchase and equip a new pumping engine, as approved at the Annual Town Meeting on May 5, 2015, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by The Fire Chief Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 14 – PASSED OVER

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$280,000** to pay for the acquisition of Street Lights from National Grid and related costs to upgrade to LED lights and to meet that appropriation, the Treasurer-Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to the MGL c44 §§ 7 and 8, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the town therefor, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 15

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$50,000** from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Receipts Account for the purchase of a Departmental utility vehicle for the Fire Rescue Department with any unspent funds to be returned to said account, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 16

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$39,599.50** from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Receipts Account for the second of five lease-purchase payments for the 2016 Ambulance, as approved at the Special Town Meeting on May 2, 2016 or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by: The Fire Chief Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 17

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$30,000** from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Receipts Account to purchase personal protective equipment and firefighting gear for use by firefighters, with any unspent funds to be returned to said account, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief. Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 18

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to appropriate **\$17,947.00** from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Receipts Account for a 5% Federal Match for a Grant requested for the replacement of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, with any unspent funds to be returned to said account, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 19

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to

- A. raise and appropriate **\$4,000** for the annual lease cost of a Harley Davidson Motorcycle, and
- B. transfer **\$44,032.99** from the Reserve for Appropriation Motor Vehicle Fine Account to make the following lease/purchase payments:
 - \$13,772.42 for the second of three lease/purchase payments for a police administrative vehicle
 - \$30,260.57 for the 3rd/final lease/purchase payment for two police cruisers

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of Police Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 20

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$16,398.44** and transfer **\$14,860.56** from the Reserve for Appropriation Motor Vehicle Fine Account (total appropriation **\$31,259**) to fund the first of three annual payments to lease-purchase two vehicles for the Police Department , or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of Police Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 21

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** to purchase 30 Microsoft Office 2016 licenses, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 22

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$11,000** for the purchase of a multifunction printer for the town network, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 23

The Town Voted IN THE MAJORITY to raise and appropriate **\$4,700** for the purchase of department header packages providing new theme designs for the police and fire websites, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology and Chiefs of Departments

Proposed by the Director of Technology Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 24

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$8,500** to purchase one hundred (100) remote desktop user licenses to allow remote connection to servers from computers in various town offices, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 25

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$5,000** for the purchase and installation of six (6) video surveillance cameras in the Town Hall entry areas or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 26

The Town Voted IN THE MAJORITY to raise and appropriate **\$11,000** to codify and digitize the Town’s bylaws or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend

Article 27

The Town Voted IN THE MAJORITY AS AMENDED to raise and appropriate **\$17,795.00** to pay cost items for the first year of a two year collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the Office and Professional Employees International Union (Town Hall employees) or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

Article 28 – PASSED OVER

To see if the Town will vote to approve a revised Whitman Hanson Regional School District Agreement, a copy of which is on display in the Town Clerks office and may also be viewed on the Town’s web site (www.whitman-ma.gov), or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District

The Finance Committee voted 3-3-2 (**No recommendation**)

Article S-1

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$35,000** to pay for costs associated with improving security at the Duval School, including but not limited to installation of card access to interior front entry doors, relocation of interior doors and walls, installation of a counter and reconfiguration of the office area with a security window, and reconfiguring of the clinical area to ensure safety for students and staff, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee

The Finance Committee voted 5-1-2 to recommend

Article S-2

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$35,000** to pay for costs associated with improving security at the Conley School,, including but not limited to installation of card access to interior front entry

doors, relocation of interior doors and walls, installation of a counter and reconfiguration of the office area with a security window, and reconfiguring of the clinical area to ensure safety for students and staff, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee

The Finance Committee voted 5-1-2 to recommend

Article S-3

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$35,000** to fund costs to update existing cameras and add additional cameras to the interior and exterior of the Duval School, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee

The Finance Committee voted 3-3-2 (**no recommendation**)

Article S-4

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$15,000** to purchase and install two rooftop units at the Whitman Middle School, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee

The Finance Committee voted 6-0-2 to recommend

Article S-5

The Town Voted UNANIMOUSLY to raise and appropriate **\$5600** to pay for costs to replace two Univents at the Whitman Middle School or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee

The Finance Committee voted 6-0-2 to recommend

Moderator Seele announced that after the Town meeting adjourned he would like to take a vote to see if the voter would like to continue to use the Electronic Devices.

Article S-6

The Town Voted IN THE MAJORITY to raise and appropriate **\$35,892** to pay Whitman's share of the cost to replace existing cameras and add interior and exterior security cameras at the Regional High School (estimated total costs \$ 60,000), or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee

The Finance Committee does not recommend on a 2-4-2 vote

The Town meeting was adjourned at 9:42pm. There were 232 total voters checked off of the voting list.

Town Administrator Lynam addressed the voters with his opinions of the pros and cons of the Electronic Voting Devices.

The Town voted Yes-121 No-29 to continue using the Electronic Voting Devices.

A TRUE RECORD, ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK - WHITMAN