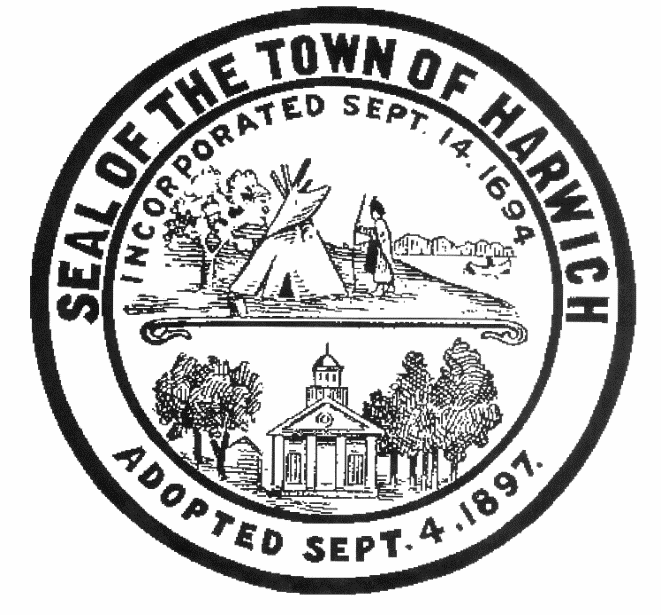
***COMPLETE***

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**♠♠♠♠**

# MAY 2, 2016

****

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

**WARRANT**

**♠♠♠♠**

**MAY 3, 2016**

**with**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**May 3, 2016**

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**VOTING PROCEDURES**

I A quorum, 150 registered voters, must be present in order to conduct business. The only motion in order when no quorum is present is a motion to adjourn.

II A two-thirds majority of the Town Meeting shall be required for inclusion of any Capital Outlay, unless it was included in the Capital Outlay Plan adopted at the preceding Town Meeting.

III All motions introduced at the Town Meeting shall be in writing when required by the Moderator.

IV Voters are limited to two times speaking on any one question; the total time speaking not to exceed 10 minutes.

V Only registered voters shall occupy the meeting “floor”.

VI No voter will be allowed to speak until he or she is recognized by the Moderator.

VII Motion requiring more than a simple majority to pass:

1. To reconsider a vote on a motion – ¾ majority (this motion must be made prior to the next adjournment of the meeting).
2. To consider articles in an order other than as appears on the warrant – ¾ majority.
3. To pay unpaid bills –4/5 majority at the Annual Town Meeting, 9/10 majority at a Special Town Meeting.
4. To move the previous question (terminate debate) – ¾ majority.

VIII Quorum cannot be questioned after a motion has been made and seconded.

**MOTION CHART** Section 1-211

(Application of Rules is indicated by an X)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Motions | Debatable | Non  Debatable | Amendable | Non  Amendable | Second  Required | Second Not  Required | Majority  Vote | 2/3 Vote | ¾ Vote | | May  Reconsider | Cannot  Reconsider |
| Adjourn |  | X |  | X | X |  | X |  |  |  | | X |
| Adjourn  (in a time certain) | X |  | X |  | X |  | X |  |  | X | |  |
| Amendment | X |  | X |  | X |  | X |  |  | X | |  |
| Adopt a  Resolution | X |  | X |  | X |  | X |  |  |  | | X |
| Accept & Adopt | X |  | X |  | X |  | X1 |  |  | X | |  |
| Postpone  Indefinitely | X |  |  | X | X |  | X |  |  | X | |  |
| Previous Question  Terminate Debate |  | X |  | X | X |  |  |  | X |  | | X |
| Reconsider 2 | X |  |  | X | X |  |  |  | X |  | | X |
| Consider Articles  Out of Order | X |  | X |  | X |  |  |  | X |  | | X |
| Point of Order |  | X |  |  |  | X |  |  |  |  | |  |
| 1. Unless a greater than simple majority required by General Laws of Town of Harwich by-laws. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. See section 1.207 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| THE CHART BELOW SHOWS THE AMOUNT OF MONEY REQUIRED TO CHANGE THE FY 2016 TAX RATE. | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TAX RATE CHANGE IN $/1000 | | |  | DOLLARS REQUIRED | | |
|  | $ 0.01 |  |  |  | $48,140 |  |
|  | $ 0.05 |  |  |  | $240,700 |  |
|  | $ 0.10 |  |  |  | $481,401 |  |
|  | $ 0.15 |  |  |  | $722,101 |  |
|  | $ 0.20 |  |  |  | $962,802 |  |
|  | $ 0.25 |  |  |  | $1,203,502 |  |
|  | $ 0.30 |  |  |  | $1,444,203 |  |
|  | $ 0.35 |  |  |  | $1,684,903 |  |
|  | $ 0.40 |  |  |  | $1,925,604 |  |
|  | $ 0.45 |  |  |  | $2,166,304 |  |
|  | $ 0.50 |  |  |  | $2,407,005 |  |
|  | $ 0.55 |  |  |  | $2,647,705 |  |
|  | $ 0.60 |  |  |  | $2,888,405 |  |
|  | $ 0.65 |  |  |  | $3,129,106 |  |
|  | $ 0.70 |  |  |  | $3,369,806 |  |
|  | $ 0.75 |  |  |  | $3,610,507 |  |
|  | $ 0.80 |  |  |  | $3,851,207 |  |
|  | $ 0.85 |  |  |  | $4,091,908 |  |
|  | $ 0.90 |  |  |  | $4,332,608 |  |
|  | $ 0.95 |  |  |  | $4,573,309 |  |
|  | $ 1.00 |  |  |  | $4,814,009 |  |

**MUNICIPAL FINANCE TERMS**

APPROPRIATION: An authorization granted by the Town Meeting to make expenditures and to incur obligations for specific purposes.

AVAILABLE FUNDS: Available funds refer to other funds available for appropriation by the Town Meeting, such as Wetland Protection funds, Cemetery Lot sales and Perpetual Care Interest and old article balances returned to revenue.

OVERLAY, ALSO CALLED ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS:

The overlay is the amount raised by the Assessors in excess of appropriations and other charges for the purpose of creating a fund to cover tax abatements granted and avoiding fractions in the tax rate. It cannot exceed 5% of the levy.

FREE CASH: Certified each year by the Director of State Bureau of Accounts, this is the portion of the fund balance which is available for appropriation by a Vote of Town Meeting. It is not cash, but rather is the approximate total of cash and receivables less current liabilities and earmarked reserves.

TRANSFER: The authorization to use an appropriation for a different purpose; in most cases only the Town Meeting may authorize a transfer.

RESERVE FUND: This fund is established by the voters at an Annual Town Meeting only and is composed of an appropriation (not exceeding 5% of the tax levy of the preceding year). Transfers from the Reserve Fund are within the exclusive control of the Finance Committee, and are for “extraordinary or unforeseen” situations, normally emergencies.

STABILIZATION FUND: This is a special reserve for future expenditures. The aggregate amount in the fund shall not exceed, at any time, 10% of the valuation in the preceding year. Money may be voted into the fund by a majority vote at Town Meeting. Money may be appropriated from the fund only by a two-thirds vote at Town Meeting for any municipal purpose.

CHERRY SHEET: An annual statement received from the State Department of Revenue detailing estimated receipts for the next fiscal year from various State Aid accounts and estimated charges payable by the assessors in setting the tax rate. Named for the cherry colored paper, which the State traditionally has printed it on.

**PROPOSITION 2 ½ TERMS**

Chapter 59, Section 21C of the Massachusetts General Laws commonly referred to as Proposition 2 ½ (Prop. 2 ½) or the Tax Limiting Law for Cities and Towns in Massachusetts.

LEVY: The property tax levy is the revenue a Town can raise through real and personal property taxes. The property tax levy is the largest source of revenue for the Town.

LEVY CEILING: This is the maximum the levy limit can be. The ceiling equals 2.5% of the Town’s full and fair cash value.

LEVY LIMIT: The Maximum the levy can be in a given year. The limit is based on the previous year’s levy limit plus certain allowable increases.

LEVY LIMIT INCREASE: The levy limit automatically increases each year by 2.5% of the previous year’s levy limit.

NEW GROWTH: New construction and new parcel subdivision may also increase the Town’s levy limit.

OVERRIDE: A community can permanently increase its levy limit by successfully voting at a referendum to exceed the limits. A community may take this action as long as it is below the levy ceiling.

GENERAL OVERRIDE: A general override ballot question can be placed on a referendum if a majority of the Board of Selectmen vote to do so. If the ballot question is approved by a majority of the voters, the Town’s levy limit is permanently increased by the amount voted at the referendum. The levy limit increase may not exceed the Town’s levy ceiling. Override questions must be presented in dollar terms and specify the purpose.

DEBT EXCLUSION: This override ballot question can be placed on a referendum by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Selectmen. If a majority of the voters approve the ballot question the Town’s levy limit is increased only for the amount voted at the referendum for the life of that debt only. The levy limit increase may exceed the Town’s levy ceiling.

CAPITAL OUTLAY EXPENDITURE EXCLUSION: This override ballot question can be placed on a referendum by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Selectmen. If a majority of the voters approve the ballot question the additional amount for the payment of the capital project cost is added to the levy limit or levy ceiling only for the year in which the project is being undertaken.

CONTINGENT VOTES: Chapter 634 of the Acts of 1989 permits a Town Meeting to appropriate funds contingent upon passage of a referendum question (OVERRIDE). A contingent vote does not automatically result in an override referendum. An override referendum can only be called by the Board of Selectmen. If a referendum is called by the Selectmen it must take place within forty-five days of the Town Meeting vote.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**TOWN OF HARWICH**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**May 2, 2016**

BARNSTABLE, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Harwich in said county,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Community Center Gymnasium, 100 Oak Street in said Town on May 2, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

Hereof fail not to make return of the Warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 7th day of March, 2016

s/Peter S. Hughes, Chair

s/Linda A. Cebula, Vice Chair

s/Michael D. MacAskill

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

A true copy Attest:

s/ David A, Robinson

Constable

DATE: April 12, 2016

By virtue of this Warrant I have this day notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Harwich, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet in the Community Center, 100 Oak Street in said Town on Monday, the 2nd of May, 2016 at the time and place for the purpose herein named by posting up attested copies thereon in the four (4) Post Office buildings and in the Community Center in the Town of Harwich, which covers all four precincts, at least fourteen (14) days before the time of said meeting as within directed, and causing an attested copy thereof to be published in the Cape Cod Chronicle published in Barnstable County and having its circulation in the Town of Harwich.

s/David A. Robinson

Constable

The Moderator, Michael D. Ford, Esq. called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM when a quorum of 150 was met, having 330 registered voters were in attendance. Before town business began, Town Clerk, Anita N. Doucette read the Warrant and Return of Warrant.

The May 2016 Harwich Annual Town Meeting was held in the Community Center on 100 Oak Street, the Town Meeting began with:

**ARTICLES**

TOWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 1 To choose various Town Officers and Committees. Customary Article

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS CUSTOMARY ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

At this time the Moderator, Michael D. Ford, Esq, made the following appointments:

**TOWN MODERATOR FINANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – MAY 2, 2016**

**ARTICLE I**

I hereby appoint Jon Chorey to a three year term expiring June 30, 2019.

I hereby appoint Laura Gillespie-Lee to a three year term expiring June 30, 2019

I hereby appoint Noreen Donahue to a three year term expiring June 30, 2019

I hereby appoint James B. Stinson Esq. to a three year term as a Trustee, of the Caleb Chase Trust Fund.

I hereby appoint David Riquinha, Building Commissioner, as the Surveyor of Wood and Lumber.

I reserve the right to make all other appointments at a later time.

Dated: May 2, 2016 s/Michael D. Ford, Esq.

Town Moderator

The tellers for the first night of Town Meeting were: Allin P. Thompson, Larry Brophy, Jonas Robinson, and Harold Gabriel.

REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 2 To hear reports of all Town Officers and Committees for the year 2016. Customary Article

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS CUSTOMARY ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

At this time, Dana DeCosta, read the report of the Finance Committee.

ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of the elected officials of the Town for fiscal year commencing July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017 as follows and to act fully thereon. Estimated cost: $84,697

Selectmen (5) $1,500 (each)

Moderator $300

Town Clerk $75,397

Water Commissioners (3) $500 (each)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS CUSTOMARY ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman – Finance Committee)I move that this article be accepted and adopted as follows:

Selectmen (5).………………………. $1,500 each

Moderator …………………………... $ 300

Town Clerk………………………….. $75,397

Water Commissioners (3)…………… $500 each

Duly seconded

**ACTION**: Motion carried.

TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be required to defray Town charges for Fiscal Year 2017, and to act fully thereon. (BUDGET – SEE APPENDIX B). Estimated cost: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION**: (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as amended by adjusting Appendix B Revenues Lines 17 Cable Fund to read $129,237, Line 20 FEMA $13,736 and revise Line 26 Total Revenue to $59,564,757 otherwise as printed in the warrant Appendix B under column titled Town Meeting Budget FY 2017, **Total Town** less Line Items # (102, 104 and 105) are Unappropriated State, Commission and County Assessments and the sum of $32,547,577 be appropriated for this purpose. That to raise this appropriation, the sum of $31,363,951 be raised and appropriated, and that $587,382 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund operating budget and allocated to the Water Enterprise Fund for funding, and that $129,237 be transferred from the Cable Fund, and that

$221,108 be transferred from the Betterment Funds, and that $125,000 be transferred from Overlay Surplus, and that $13,736 be transferred from the FEMA Fund and $107,163 be transferred Harbor Capital Fund.

Further to transfer from the adopted budget $100,000 out of Line 109 Group Health Insurance into the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund created under Article 46 of the 2013 ATM.Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

MONOMOY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be required to pay for the Monomoy Regional School District Assessment for Fiscal Year 2017, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Monomoy Regional School Committee and Superintendent. Estimated cost: $24,058,302

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED TO FUND THE ANNUAL OPERATION OF THE MONOMOY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR FY 17, AND THAT $24,058,302 BE RAISED FOR THIS PURPOSE AND FURTHER OF THAT TOTAL $224,724, WHICH IS EQUAL TO THE CAPITAL NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT, BE FUNDED FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted and the town raise and appropriate $ 23,833,578 with additional said sum of $224,724 to be transferred from Free Cash for Capital Items to the Monomoy Regional School District Budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

TOTAL Budget: $24,058,302 Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared

.

CAPE COD REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money as may be required to pay for the Cape Cod Regional Technical High School District Assessment for Fiscal Year 2017, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Cape Cod Regional Technical High School District. Estimated cost: $1,437,053

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED TO FUND THE ANNUAL OPERATION OF THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL AND THAT $1,437,053 BE RAISED AND APPROPRIATED FOR THIS PURPOSE. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted and the town raise and appropriate the sum of $1,437,053 to pay its assessed share of the Cape Cod Technical Regional School District Budget for Fiscal Year 2017.Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

WATER BUDGET

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be required to defray Water Department Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Water Commissioners and Superintendent. Estimated cost: $3,939,879

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED AND THAT $3,939,879 BE TRANSFERRED FROM WATER RATE COLLECTIONS TO BE USED TO FUND THE ANNUAL OPERATION OF THE WATER DEPARTMENT. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted and the sum of $3,939,879 be raised and appropriated from Water Department Receipts to operate the Water Enterprise Fund for this purpose:

Salaries 1,187,998

Expenses 1,319,351

Debt 845,148

Indirect Costs 587,382

Total 3,939,879 Duly seconded

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

ADOPT THE CAPITAL PLAN

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Capital Plan for the ensuing seven year period as adopted last year by the Town Meeting with new fiscal year 2023 as proposed by the Board of Selectmen and set forth below or as amended by vote of the Town Meeting, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen.

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0**

**MOTION**: (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

AMEND THE PERSONNEL BY-LAW

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Law by adding new language as follows:

Part 4 – Compensation and Classification Plans – ADD NEW SECTION TO COMPENSATION***:***

***First Increment for New Employees - Employees entering the service of the Town shall be employed at the first step in the appropriate salary grade. If the Town Administrator and his/her designee consider that the applicant’s education, training, and/or experience justifies a higher entry level, the new employee may be assigned to a higher step.***

Part 8 Vacations - ADD NEW PARAGRAPH TO SECTION (c):

***If the Town Administrator and/or appointing authority consider that the applicant’s education, training, and/or experience warrant it, and/or that recruitment of a well-qualified candidate warrants it, the new employee, at the discretion of the Town Administrator and his/her designee, may be considered to have advanced time in service for purposes of placement on the vacation schedule. This provision shall be retroactive to July 1, 2015.***

And by deleting the following language in Part 9 – “Sick Leave”,

1. An employee who uses 5 days or less of sick leave in a fiscal year will receive a bonus of $325 in the following year.

And replacing it with the following language: (effective July 1, 2017)

1. ***An employee who uses 5 days or less of sick leave in a fiscal year will receive a***

***bonus of $350 in the following year.***

And to act fully thereon. By Request of the Town Administrator

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED TO BRING THE PAY AND BENEFITS IN LINE WITH OTHER TOWN EMPLOYEES UNDER CONTRACT. VOTE: YES-6, N0-0**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

CAPITAL ITEMS FUNDED FROM FREE CASH – ITEMS UNDER $50,000

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money to fund the items in the table below, and further to authorize the Selectmen to accept grant monies for chest compression system\* and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen. Estimated cost: $89,900

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | Fire Chief's Vehicle | 42,000 |  |
| 2. | Chest Compression System | 5,900 | Match $53,100 grant\* |
| 3. | Fire Air Compressor | 12,000 |  |
| 4. | Harwich Port Parking Lot | 30,000 |  |

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $89,900 FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS TO PURCHASE A NEW FIRE CHIEF VEHICLE, A FIRE AIR COMPRESSOR, A CHEST COMPRESSION SYSTEM THAT IS ALSO SUPPORTED BY GRANT FUNDS, AND TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HARWICH PORT PARKING LOT. THESE ITEMS DID NOT MEET THE FUNDING THRESHHOLD TO BE INCLUDED ON THE CAPITAL PLAN. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $89,900 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR FUND

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money as may be required to defray costs related to Facility Maintenance and Repair for FY 17, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen. Estimated cost $561,000.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | Middle School Maintenance | 125,000 |
| 2. | Fire Station Flooring | 50,000 |
| 3. | Fire Boiler | 130,000 |
| 4. | Library Smoke/Heat Detectors | 29,000 |
| 5. | Transfer Station Roof | 122,000 |
| 6. | Dredging | 85,000 |
| 7. | Library Fire Sprinkler | 15,000 |
| 8. | Library Painting (Inter./Ext.) | 5,000 |

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $561,000 FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS TO PAY FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS OF THE LISTED ITEMS.**

**VOTE: YES-6, N0-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $561,000 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

FUND NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT AMBULANCE

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sufficient sum of money to purchase or lease one ambulance for the Fire Department; and further to authorize the Town to enter into a lease purchase agreement in excess of four years; and to act fully thereon.  By request of the Fire Chief. Estimated cost: $290,000

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $290,000 FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS TO PURCHASE A NEW AMBULANCE AS A SCHEDULED REPLACEMENT FOR AN OLDER UNIT IN THE EXISTING FLEET. VOTE: YES-6, N0-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to purchase and equip one new Ambulance for the Fire Department and the sum of $290,000 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose, and to further authorize the Fire Chief to trade-in applicable vehicle toward purchase price. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

SUPPLEMENT LANDSCAPE RECLAMATION FROM GOLF CAPITAL

IMPROVEMENT FUND

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Golf Capital Improvement Fund to supplement the ongoing landscape reclamation (restoration of areas adjacent to primary turf with necessary tree removal at Cranberry Valley Golf Course as outlined in the USGA 2015 report to the Town and the Golf Committee, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Golf Director and Golf Committee. Estimated cost: $35,000.

*Explanation: The distribution of these monies corresponds to revenue already collected for like projects collected from golf membership fees not at the expense of the general taxpaying public.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED AND THAT $35,000 BE FUNDED FROM THE GOLF IMPROVEMENT FUND. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to supplement ongoing landscape reclamation at Cranberry Valley Golf Course and that the Town transfer $35,000 from Golf Capital Improvements Receipts Reserve Fund. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

APPROVE USE OF THE GOLF IMPROVEMENT FUND TO CONSTRUCT NEW TEES

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sufficient sum of money from the Golf Improvement Fund to construct five new “Forward Tees” in conjunction with the USGA initiative known as “playing it forward”, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Golf Director and the Golf Committee. Estimated cost: $30,000.

*Explanation: The distribution of these monies corresponds to revenue already collected for like projects collected from golf membership fees not at the expense of the general taxpaying public.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED AND THAT $30,000 BE FUNDED FROM THE GOLF IMPROVEMENT FUND. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to construct new forward tees at Cranberry Valley Golf Course and that the Town transfer $30,000 from Golf Capital Improvements Receipts Reserve Fund Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

ESTABLISH NEW CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE REVITALIZATION FUND AT CRANBERRY VALLEY GOLF COURSE

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to establish a new Capital Fund to be known as the *“Capital Infrastructure Revitalization Fund”*at Cranberry Valley Golf Course pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, 5F, to be funded by a new surcharge on all green fees collected in the amount of $2 and a $1 surcharge on all cart fees starting in 2016 golf season, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Golf Director and the Golf Committee

*Explanation: Expenditures from the fund can be used for Infrastructure improvements (CVGC infrastructure as listed: Club House facilities, Maintenance facilities, and everything else that supports revenue generation. This includes water resources, energy resources, mechanicals, septic, property boundary strategies, our car park, and maintenance of roads throughout the property), including future debt payments along with design, planning and construction phases as they present themselves.*

*There is no secret to staying ahead of the competition in today’s ever competitive Municipal golf market. The HGC is meeting the challenge and is dedicated not only to recognizing immediate needs, but also in long range strategies that look to the future. How to pay for these projects without creating hardship on the entire Town, keeping balance with goals of the Town, and being good stewards of this valuable resource demand good planning.*

*Currently the golf operation uses two funds: The Golf Improvement Fund (Chapter 40, 5F) - dedicated to projects that directly address needs associated with on course improvements (major tree removal, tee box renovation etc.) in correlation with USGA recommendations, and a Pro Shop Revolving Fund designed to address needs associated with the operation of the Pro Shop business.*

*There is no direct funding mechanism to address Infrastructure improvements. Therefore, the committee will seek to establish this new fund. The estimated revenue collected will generate roughly $50,000 dedicated for these purposes. Expenditures from this fund shall be subject to the joint approval of the Harwich Golf Committee and the Director of Golf and the Town Administrator*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF FUTURE CAPITAL NEEDS OF CRANBERRY VALLEY GOLF COURSE. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0, ABSTAIN-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to establish a new Capital Fund to be known as the *“Capital Infrastructure Revitalization Fund”*at Cranberry Valley Golf Course pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, 5F at Cranberry Valley Golf Course. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

***Ballot Question #1***

RECONSTRUCTION OF SAQUATUCKET MUNICIPAL MARINA

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sufficient sum of money to fund the reconstruction of the Saquatucket Municipal Marina docks, piles and services, to include a handicap accessible ramp system that brings the marina in compliance with the American with Disability Act (ADA) and dredging of approximately 12,500 cubic yards of material to bring the marina within permitted depth, and to act fully thereon. The appropriation authorized by this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2 ½ ) the amounts required to pay the principal of any interest on any borrowing authorized under this article, and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept any State, Federal or private grant monies available for this purpose. By request of the Harbormaster. Estimated cost: $7,000,000.

*Explanation*: *The current docks at Saquatucket Harbor are over 30 years old and are well beyond their useful life. The wood decking and framing is worn & splintered, the connecting hardware is rusted, bent and failing, and the foam flotation is saturated and deteriorated. The current docks are extremely unstable and pose a safety concern for the hundreds of patrons that transit the docks on a daily basis; of particular concern are the large groups of people that walk the docks to go to and from the large passenger boats that operate out of Saquatucket Harbor. In addition, the existing fire suppression piping system is not functional, the antiquated bubbler system is ineffective, the aging plumbing system requires constant repair, and the main electrical lines that bring power to the slip pedestals are brittle and worn, posing a fire hazard.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $7,000,000 FROM DEBT EXCLUSION. THIS APPROPRIATION WILL PROVIDE FOR THE COMPLETE REBUILD OF THE WATERSIDE DOCKS, PILES, AND SERVICES. THE EXISTING DOCKS AND WATERSIDE WALKWAYS HAVE REACHED THE END OF THEIR USEFUL LIFE AND ARE NOT ADA COMPLIANT. THE APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZED BY THIS VOTE SHALL NOT TAKE EFFECT UNTIL THE TOWN VOTES TO EXEMPT FROM THE LIMITATION ON TOTAL TAXES IMPOSED BY G.L. C.59, §21C PROPOSITION**

**2 ½). VOTE: YES 6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee)I move that the Town appropriate the sum of $7,000,000 to fund the reconstruction of the Saquatucket Municipal Marina docks, piles and services, to include a handicap accessible ramp system that brings the marina in compliance with the American with Disability Act (ADA) and dredging of approximately 12,500 cubic yards of material to bring the marina within permitted depth; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow $7,000,000 and to issue bonds and notes therefor pursuant to General Laws chapter 44, sections 7 or 8, or any other enabling authority; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out the project; provided, however, that the appropriation and borrowing authorized by this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2 ½ ) amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote, provided further that while the entire borrowing authorized by this vote will be a general obligation of the Town, it is the intent of the Town that approximately three-fourths of the annual payment of principal and interest on the bonds will be paid from harbor receipts; and provided further that the amount authorized to be borrowed by this vote shall be reduced to the extent of all grant funds received by the Town on account of this project, including a Seaport grant of $1,000,000, which has already been approved for this project. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was ruled to have received the necessary 2/3 vote, the motion carried.

SAQUATUCKET HARBOR LANDSIDE RENOVATIONS – ENGINEERING DESIGN

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sufficient sum of money to fund the engineering design and associated permitting for Saquatucket Harbor landside renovations, to include the old Downey Property, per the proposed site plan proposed by the Saquatucket Harbor Development Committee, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Harbormaster.

Estimated cost: $250,000.

*Explanation: The main objectives of the plan are to improve the safety of public access, improve the efficiency of harbor operations, and enhance the character, beauty, and attractiveness of the harbor for boaters and non-boaters alike. The plan includes a new Harbormaster Office, a leased waterfront Café restaurant, leased seasonal vendor shacks, and a boardwalk with seating areas that overlook the marina. In addition, on the former Downey Property the plan calls for creative landscaping to enhance the appearance of the area and a sidewalk leading from town. A new multi-purpose building will be located on the property that will serve as a consolidated ticketing office for the four Passenger Boat owners, a Harbormaster Department maintenance facility, and leased office space. Much needed increase of vehicle parking spaces (approx. 80) will be available during the summer boating season, and the same area will be utilized for winter boat storage in the off-season.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $250,000 FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS. THIS EXPENDITURE WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO DESIGN THE LANDSIDE IMPROVEMNETS THAT ARE LISTED ON THE CAPITAL PLAN FOR FY 18 WITH AN ESTIMATED COST OF $2,500,000 TO MAKE THE ACTUAL IMPROVMENTS. THE FINAL DESIGN WILL HAVE TO COMPLY WITH EXISTING PARKING AND SEPTIC ALLOWANCES AND REGULATIONS. VOTE: YES-5, NO-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to fund the engineering design and associated permitting for Saquatucket Harbor landside renovations, to include the old Downey Property, per the proposed site plan proposed by the Saquatucket Harbor Development Committee and the sum of $250,000 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The motion carried.

***Ballot Question #2***

ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow in accordance with Ch.44 of the M.G.L., or any other enabling authority, the sum of $700,000 to fund the Road Maintenance Program as requested in the Capital Plan for FY17. The appropriation authorized by this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by M.G.L. c.59 § 21c (Proposition 2 ½) the amounts required to pay the principal of and the interest on any borrowing authorized under this article, and to act fully thereon. By request of the DPW Director. Estimated cost: $700,000.

*Explanation*: *The capital request for road maintenance is for $700k for FY 17, which we anticipate being augmented by approximately $700k in Chapter 90 funds. The capital project request form lists 5 years of our road maintenance plan with cash flows of approximately $1.4M each year and has our 5 year Road Maintenance Plan attached.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $700,000 FROM DEBT EXCLUSION. THIS EXPENDITURE WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDS FOR THE DPW TO CONTINUE MAINTAINING TOWN ROADS AS REQUIRED BY TOWN RESIDENTS. THE APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZED BY THIS VOTE SHALL NOT TAKE EFFECT UNTIL THE TOWN VOTES TO EXEMPT FROM THE LIMITATION ON TOTAL TAXES IMPOSED BY G.L. C.59, §21C (PROPOSITION 2 ½). VOTE: YES-7, NO-0**

**MOTION:** (Dana DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that the Town appropriate the sum of $700,000 to fund the Road Maintenance Program for Fiscal Year 2017, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow $700,000 and to issue bonds and notes therefor pursuant to General Laws chapter 44, sections 7 or 8, or any other enabling authority; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out the project; provided, however, that the appropriation and borrowing authorized by this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2 ½ ) amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was ruled to have received the necessary 2/3 vote, the motion passed.

PURCHASE AND EQUIP VEHICLES FOR THE DPW

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sufficient sum of money to purchase and equip the following vehicles:

One Ton Dump Truck (Highway) $ 65,000.00

Mack Tractor (Disposal) $ 150,000.00

MSW (Trash) Trailer (Disposal) $ 70,000.00

Barber Surf Rake (Beaches) $ 31,500.00

and to further to authorize the trade-in or sale of the following old vehicles toward the purchase price, where the Board of Selectmen find that the vehicles cannot be utilized elsewhere in Town:

1999 Ford F-350 Dump Truck

1998 Mack Ch613 Tractor

2006 Barber Surf Rake

and to act fully thereon. By request of the DPW Director. Estimated cost: $316,500.

*Explanation:* *One Ton Dump Truck - The current 1999 Ford dump truck has approximately 136,000 miles on it, is in poor condition, and is a front line vehicle used for snow removal and moving personnel and equipment.*

*Mack Tractor - The current 1998 Mack CH613 tractor has over a half million miles on it and is an extremely important piece of equipment, as it hauls all of the Town’s MSW (trash) and C&D off Cape on a daily basis.*

*MSW (Trash) Trailer - The request for a new MSW trailer is to augment the three existing trailers and improve operational efficiency. A fourth MSW trailer would eliminate the need to haul a full trailer immediately and allow more flexibility in managing the Town’s MSW.*

*Barber Surf Rake – The current 10 year old unit broke at the beginning of the season and was not worth repairing. Barber leased us a new Surf Rake for $13,500 for the season and has agreed to apply those fees towards the purchase price of a new one.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $316,500 FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS, TO REPLACE A ONE TON DUMP TRUCK, A MACK TRACTOR, AND BARBER SURF RAKE, AND TO ADD A TRASH DISPOSAL TRAILER INCREASING THE NUMBER OF TRAILERS FROM 3 TO 4. THE 4TH TRAILER WILL HELP MEET THE NEW CLOSING HOURS OF OPERATION AT THE OFF CAPE DIPOSAL FACILITY AND ALLOW FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY IN MANAGING THE TOWN’S SOLID WASTE. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $316,500 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was unanimous vote, so declared.

PURCHASE AND EQUIP NEW EQUIPMENT FOR THE DPW

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sufficient sum of money to purchase and equip the following:

Gator Turf Utility Vehicle (Park) $ 20,235.00

Walker Mower (Park) $ 13,300.00

(2) John Deere Mowers (Highway) $ 9,674.00

Hi-Track Skid Steer Loader $ 65,000.00

Certified Articulating Lift $ 80,000.00

and to act fully thereon. By request of the DPW Director. Estimated cost: $188,209.

*Explanation*: *Gator Turf Utility Vehicle - The current 1999 Gator is in extremely tough shape and is used daily between April and October to move materials (infield mix, stone dust, loam, etc.) needed to maintain the ball fields, as well as for maintenance on the bike path.*

*Walker Mower – The current 2007 48” Walker mower is used to maintain town buildings, parks (excluding ball fields), and memorial squares. It is used daily while grass is growing and is requiring a fair amount of repairs ($1,988 over the past 2 years) to keep it going.*

*(2) John Deere Mowers – The roadsides throughout Town are a tough environment on the two 2008 John Deere units currently being used for roadside mowing. They are no longer worth spending money on for repairs and maintenance.*

*Hi-Track Skid Steer Loader – This request is to augment our existing hi-track, which is utilized constantly. Maintenance and other projects always end up waiting for it to become available. It is used by every division within the DPW and the Water Department for everything from grading and loading to stump grinding, brush cutting and snow removal. There is nothing wrong with the existing unit, but the demand for its use far exceeds its availability.*

*Certified Articulating Lift - With the Town’s desire to allocate more resources towards facility maintenance, it has become evident that we should consider purchasing a certified articulating lift. I make this assertion for several reasons including the servicing of buildings lights, gutters and exhaust systems, the repair of anything on buildings where a ladder is not a safe approach, and other DPW maintenance functions. Renting a lift is an expensive proposition at approximately $700 per day and often takes weeks to line up, while repairs wait. Although spending approximately $80k on a used piece of equipment appears to be expensive, it would increase efficiency and dramatically improve safety for our employees.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED AND THAT $188,209 BE FUNDED FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS TO REPLACE VARIOUSE SMALL EQUIPMENT ITEMS USED BY THE DPW AND TO ADD A HI-TRACK SKID STEER LOADER AND A CERTIFIED ARTICULATING LIFT. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $188,209 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The motion carried.

PURCHASE NEW EXCAVATOR FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sufficient sum of money to purchase a John Deere 2016 85G Excavator, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Water Commissioners and Superintendent. Estimated cost: $125,000.

*Explanation*: *This new machine will lift a much heavier payload. Allowing us the versatility to do water main projects as well as water service installations. This piece of equipment will be paid for by the Enterprise Fund.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED AND THAT $125,000 BE TRANSFERRED FROM WATER RATE COLLECTIONS TO BE USED TO FUND A NEW EXCAVATOR THAT WILL ALLOW THE WATER DEPARTMENT TO INSTALL SMALL WATER MAIN REPLACEMENTS AS WELL AS WATER SERVICE INSTALLATIONS INHOUSE WITHOUT HAVING TO FARM THIS WORK OUT TO THIRD PARTY SUPPLIERS. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted and that $125,000 be transferred from Water Retained Earnings for purchase and equip one new Excavator for the Water Department and to further authorize trade in, sale or re-purpose of a Water Department vehicle. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Themotion carried.

REPLACEMENT OF THE LOTHROP AVENUE WATER STORAGE TANK

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the remaining balance of $1,400,000 authorized to be borrowed under Article 10 of the May 2013 Special Town Meeting for the purpose of replacing the Lothrop Avenue water storage tank and further to appropriate an additional sum of money to complete the tank replacement project, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, or borrowing or otherwise provided, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Water Commissioners and Superintendent. Estimated cost: $1,600,000.

*Explanation: The Lothrop tank was constructed in 1986. The most recent tank inspection on July 13, 2013 indicated serious corrosion activity. The vicinity of this tank to seawater increases the corrosion rate. The lowest qualified bid for water tank rehabilitation, received February 6, 2014, came in at $2.211M. Replacement of this tank with a new pumped storage system is estimated to cost $1.6M. Replacement vs. rehabilitation at this time is more cost effective.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED AND THAT $1,600,000 BE TRANSFERRED, RAISED, BORROWED, TAXED, OR OTHERWISE PROVIDED FROM WATER RATE COLLECTIONS TO BE USED TO FUND A NEW WATER STORAGE TANK WHICH IS LESS EXPENSIVE THEN THE 2014 BIDS TO REHABILITATE THE EXISTING TANK. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to transfer the remaining $1,400,000 from the appropriation voted under Article 10 of the 2013 Special Town Meeting and that $800,000 be transferred from Water Retained Earnings for the purpose of replacing the Lothrop Avenue water storage tank and further to including the payment of all other costs incidental and related to this project. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) SYSTEM

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money to fund the replacement of the existing Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Water Commissioners and Superintendent. Estimated cost: $300,000.

*Explanation: The SCADA system is comprised of the computer program and hardware that is used to control and monitor the entire water system. The existing SCADA system was developed approximately 15 years ago and most of the infrastructure is original. The typical life span of the equipment in place is between 10-15 years, and the existing software that was utilized to program the system is no longer supported by the manufacturer. The appropriation will fund the development of a new interface program and replace all hardware that has come to the end of its useful life.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED AND THAT $300,000 BE TRANSFERRED FROM WATER RATE COLLECTIONS TO BE USED TO FUND A NEW SYSTEM THAT WILL REPLACE THE 15-YEAR-OLD EXISTING SYSTEM WHICH HAS REACHED THE END OF ITS USEFUL LIFE AND IS NO LONGER SUPPORTED BY THE MANUFACTURER. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted and that $300,000 be raised from Water Retained Earnings for purchase of a replacement of the existing Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System and further to including the payment of all other costs incidental to this project. Duly seconded

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF CHATHAM

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow the sum of $9,000,000, or any other sum, to pay the entrance fee costs that the Town will be required to make for the connection of the Town’s wastewater collection system to the Town of Chatham’s wastewater treatment plant, including all costs incidental and related thereto, pursuant to an inter-municipal agreement between the Towns of Harwich and Chatham, to be entered into by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40, Section 4A; provided  that any borrowing authorized hereunder shall be contingent on the passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion vote, and provided further that the payment of said amount and the issuance of debt therefor shall be in accordance with the schedule of payments anticipated to be set forth in the inter-municipal agreement, a copy of which will be on file with the Office of the Town Clerk prior to Town Meeting; and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen. Estimated cost: $9,000,000.

*Explanation:*

*The Town’s Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan evaluated multiple scenarios and recommended a program that utilizes two treatment facilities. One is to be located in-town at the former landfill and current site of the Department of Public Works. The second one was to be located in East Harwich. Working with CDM Smith the Town’s wastewater consultant, both in-town and out-of-town treatment options were evaluated with the Town ultimately recommending utilization of capacity that currently exists in the Chatham wastewater treatment facility. This plan was considered the most favorable for the Town and was actively pursued by the Board of Selectmen. The two Towns have been working on in Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) that would allow for wastewater generated in the East Harwich area to be transported to the Chatham wastewater treatment facility to be processed. The IMA works out the details of the amount of flow Harwich can send into the facility and the net portion of the original cost to construct the Chatham facility. It is anticipated the amount of flow would be up to 300,000 gallons per day and cost would be up to $9 million payable over multiple installments. Funding for the IMA would be done through a debt exclusion in which authorization will be given for up to the $9 million with partial payments given over time based upon flow.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be indefinitely postponed. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The article was indefinitely postponed.

ENACT A SEWER USE GENERAL BY-LAW

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to enact a Sewer Use General By-law, governing the establishment, construction and operation of a wastewater collection and treatment system, a copy of which will be on file with the Office of the Town Clerk prior to Town Meeting; and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen.

*Explanation:*

*The Town’s Inter-Municipal Agreement with Chatham calls for Harwich to promulgate and utilize Sewer Use Regulations that are compatible with the regulations in place in the Town of Chatham. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection calls for these regulations to be in place as part of the functioning of the wastewater treatment facility. The Sewer Use Regulations are designed to be dynamic in the sense that general elements will be included in the regulations with discretion given to the governing body to create or modify regulations on more specific detailed interconnection activities such as pipe size and design elements to facilitate compatibility with the existing technology of the current Chatham facility.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be indefinitely postponed. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The article was indefinitely postponed.

RESERVE FOR FUTURE APPROPRIATION AMOUNTS FROM FY 2017

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND ESTIMATED ANNUAL REVENUES

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to reserve for future appropriations amounts from the FY 2017 Community Preservation Act Fund estimated annual revenues as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee as follows:

• A sum of money for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space;

• A sum of money for the acquisition, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources;

• A sum of money for the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing; and

• A sum of money for the Community Preservation Act Fund FY 2017 Budgeted Reserve; and to act fully thereon.

By request of the Community Preservation Committee.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that the Town transfer from FY 16 estimated revenue Community Preservation Fund the sum of $165,362 for the Historic Reserve Fund, $165,362 for the Open Space Reserve Fund and $165,362 for the Community Housing Reserve Fund. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 26:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOP0TED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

FUND LAND BANK DEBT SERVICE

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, $633,400 to fund the Debt Service on the outstanding Land Bank Debt. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Town Administrator. Estimated Cost: $633,400

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED WITH THE AMOUNT OF $633,400 BE TRANSFERRED FROM COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT FUNDS TO THE TOWN OPERATING BUDGET TO PAY THE ON GOING LAND BAND DEBT. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move to appropriated from Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, $633,400 to fund the Debt Service on the outstanding Landing Land Bank Debt. Any Funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 27:

COMMUNITY PRESERNATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

RESTORATION OF THE CHASE LIBRARY FIREPLACE HEARTH AND BASE

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, $3,100 to fund the restoration of the original fireplace hearth, firebox base and foundation at the Chase Library and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement with the Chase Library. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Chase Library Trustees. Estimated Cost: $3,100

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,100. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $3,100 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Historic Reserve), for this purpose. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 28:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-5, NO-1, Abstained - 2

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

RESTORATION OF HARWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARTIFACTS

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, $11,000 to fund the restoration of an 18th Century Cannon and a 19th Century Millstone maintained by the Harwich Historical Society and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement with the Harwich Historical Society. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Harwich Historical Society. Estimated Cost: $11,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $11,000. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $11,000 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Historic Reserve), for this purpose.

CPC Recommendation on Article 29:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION:** The motion carried.

RESTORATION OF APPEARANCE OF THE ALBRO HOUSE

AND ACCESSIBILITY MODIFICATIONS

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, $18,700 to fund the restoration of elements of the front porch, addition of a rear porch and access ramp and modifications to four (4) doors of the Town owned Albro House. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Historic District/Historical Commission. Estimated Cost: $18,700.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $18,700. VOTE: YES-5, NO-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $18,700 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Historic Reserve), for this purpose. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 30:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-6, NO-2

**ACTION**: The motion carried.

UPDATE OF TOWN HISTORICAL PROPERTY INVENTORY

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, $20,000 to fund continuing work on the inventory of structures in Harwich that are at least 99 years old, specifically adding 60 parcels to the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS) and performing more detailed work on a cluster of properties within the inventory. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Historic District/Historical Commission. Estimated Cost: $20,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $20,000. VOTE: YES-5, NO-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $20,000 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Historic Reserve), for this purpose. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 31:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

WEST HARWICH SCHOOLHOUSE PRESERVATION AND REHABILITATION

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, $203,500 to have certain specific work performed on the interior and exterior of the West Harwich Schoolhouse. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and Town Administration and Planning Department. Estimated Cost: $203,500.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Angelo LaMantia, Selectman)I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $203,500 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Historic Reserve), for this purpose. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 32:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-7, NO-1

A motion was made and seconded to terminate debate, this motion required a ¾ majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

**ACTION**: A stand count was taken, YES 135 NO 141, the motion did not carry.

HISTORIC RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF BURIAL CRYPTS

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, $25,000 to repair and restore four (4) burial crypts in Mount Pleasant and Island Pond Cemeteries. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Harwich Cemetery Commission. Estimated Cost: $25,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $25,000. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $25,000 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Historic Reserve), for this purpose. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 33

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

The Moderator, Michael D. Ford, Esq., stepped down on this Article, Peter Hughes, Chairman, Board of Selectmen was the acting Moderator.

SOUTH HARWICH MEETINGHOUSE RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, $100,000 to fund the final work of restoring the South Harwich Meetinghouse and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement with the Friends of the South Harwich Meetinghouse, Inc., which shall include the acquisition of an historic preservation restriction by the Town. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and Friends of the South Harwich Meetinghouse, Inc.

Estimated Cost: $100,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $100,000. VOTE: YES-5, NO-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $100,000 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Historic Reserve), for this purpose.

Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 34

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

WHITEHOUSE FIELD FENCING REPLACEMENT

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, $57,128 to replace the fencing around Whitehouse Field. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Harwich Recreation and Youth Commission. Estimated Cost: $57,128.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $57,128. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee)I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $57,128 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Undesignated Fund Balance), for this purpose.

Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 35

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

QUEEN ANNE ROAD BIKE TRAIL CROSSING LIGHTS

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, $29,700 to install a solar powered traffic light system where the Cape Cod Rail Trail crosses Queen Anne Road. Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Harwich Bikeways Committee. Estimated Cost: $29,700.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $29,700. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $29,700 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Undesignated Fund Balance), for this purpose.

Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 36

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-7, NO-1

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

BROOKS PARK EXPANSION/IMPROVEMENT PHASE 3

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, $188,000 to resurface 4 tennis courts, half basketball court, tennis practice wall, picnic pavilion, ADA footpath and 20-30 t-base parking spaces at Brooks Park . Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Harwich Recreation and youth Commission. Estimated Cost: $188,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $188,000. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $188,000 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Undesignated Fund Balance), for this purpose.

Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 37

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

PURCHASE OF LAND FOR OPEN SPACE PURPOSES – ACQUIRE MARINI PROPERTY AT MUDDY CREEK HEADWATERS

ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift, and/or eminent domain, a perpetual conservation restriction pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.184, §§31-33, for open space and watershed protection purposes under the provisions of G.L. c. 40, §8C, on certain parcels of land situated on Church Street in East Harwich and Chatham, containing 17 acres, more or less, in the aggregate, which parcels are shown as Lot 1, Lot 2, Lot 3, and Parcel 4 on a plan recorded with the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 614, Page 7, and further described in a deed recorded with said Deeds in Book 19792, Page 85, with the care, custody, control and management of such conservation restriction to be vested with the Conservation Commission; to appropriate from the Community Preservation Act Funds-Open Space Reserve, the Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Reserve, and/or estimated annual revenues under G.L. c.44B, the so-called Community Preservation Act, the sum of $800,000 for the foregoing acquisition and costs incidental or related thereto, including, without limitation, costs of appraisals and closing costs; to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission to apply for, accept, and expend any grants and/or reimbursement of funds which may be provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to defray all or a portion of the foregoing costs, including, but not limited to, funding under the Self-Help Act (G.L. c.132A, §11), the Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund (P.L. 88-568, 78 Stat 897), and/or other federal and state programs in any way related to the scope of this article, and to accept a gift of funds from the Harwich Conservation Trust and/or any other source, provided that any such grant and/or reimbursement funds shall be returned upon receipt to the Community Preservation Act fund from which said sum was appropriated, after first reimbursing the Harwich Conservation Trust for its contribution towards the Town’s local match; and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or Conservation Commission to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the foregoing purposes; provided, however, that no funds appropriated hereunder shall be expended until the Town shall have received gift funds in the amount of $300,000 from the Harwich Conservation Trust and/or others for the Town’s local match,, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and the Real Estate and Open Space Committee. Estimated cost: $800,000

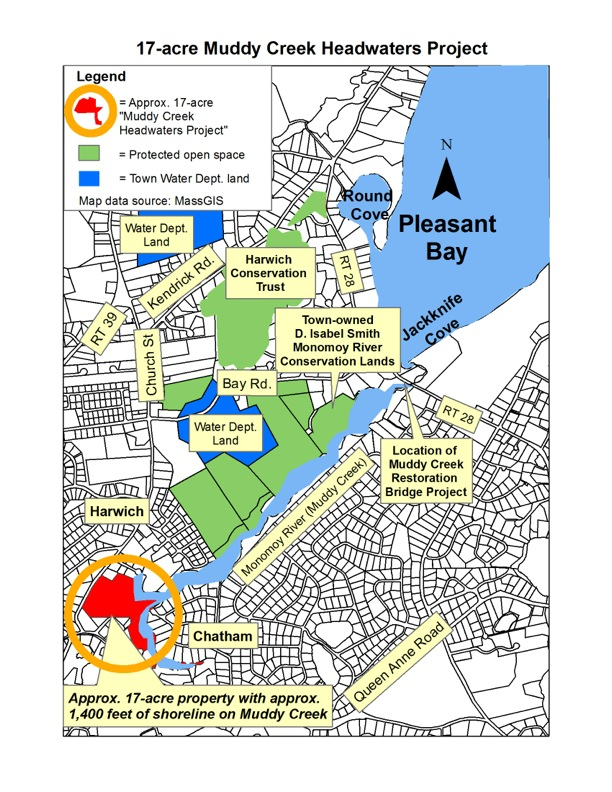
**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee)**:** I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed and the sum of $500,000 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund with $150,000 from Open Space Reserve and $350,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance, further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a gift from HCT of $300,000, for this purpose, provided that the any grant reimbursements shall be returned to the Undesignated Fund Balance and that any grant funds remaining shall be returned to the Open Space Reserve. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 38

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED December 10, 2015: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, declared.



HISTORIC BROOKS FREE LIBRARY RESTORATION

ARTICLE 39: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, $540,000 to have certain specific work, including architectural services, paint stripping and painting, column and selective wood repairs, to be performed on the historic portion of the Brooks Free Library building (the so-called Brooks Block and Bank Building). Any funds left unspent from this Article are to be returned to the Community Preservation Act Funds-Undesignated Fund Balance, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee and Brooks Free Library Trustees. Estimated Cost: $540,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED IN THE AMOUNT OF $540,000. VOTE: YES-5, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee)I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and the sum of $540,000 be transferred from the Community Preservation Fund (Undesignated Fund Balance), for this purpose.

Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 39

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED February 11, 2016: YES-5, NO-1

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

REPEAL OF ARTICLE 42 OF MAY, 2007 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - FUND RENOVATIONS AT OLD RECREATION

BUILDING AND WEST HARWICH SCHOOL

ARTICLE 40: To see if the Town will vote to rescind actions taken under Article 42 of the May 2007 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of $32,760, and return such sum of funds appropriated in said Article to the Harwich Community Preservation Act Fund – Historic Reserve, and to act fully thereon. These funds were intended for restoration of the windows at the West Harwich School which will now be done from the funds appropriated by Article 32 of the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting. By request of the Community Preservation Committee. Estimated turnback: $32,760

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to partially rescind the West Harwich School portion of Article 42 of the May 2007 Annual Town Meeting and return the sum of $32,760 related to the West Harwich School portion to the Harwich Community Preservation Act Fund – Historic Reserve. Duly seconded

CPC Recommendation on Article 40

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTED January 14, 2016: YES-8, NO-0

**ACTION:** The motion did not carry.

ACCEPTANCE OF GENERAL LAWS CHAPTER 111, §26G

ARTICLE 41: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 26G, to allow a member of the Board of Health who is also a septic system installer to work in the Town in their trained profession, provided that they do not act as the inspector for such work and further that such work is inspected by an inspector from another municipality or a special inspector appointed by the Board of Selectmen as specified in the statute, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS LOCAL OPTION ALLOWS THE BOARD OF HEALTH MORE FLEXIBILITY IN PROVIDING A NEEDED SERVICE. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman, Finance Committee) I move that this article be indefinitely postponed. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** This article was indefinitely postponed.

# ADOPT M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5, CLAUSE 56 – PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVISTS

# ARTICLE 42: To see if the Town will vote to adopt MGL Chapter 59, §5, Clause 56. Upon acceptance of this section by the Town, the Board of Assessors may grant, real and personal property tax abatement up to 100% of the total tax assessed to members of the Massachusetts National Guard and to Reservists on active duty in foreign countries for the fiscal year they performed such service subject to eligibility criteria to be established by the Board of Assessors. The authority to grant abatements under this section shall expire after 2 years of acceptance unless extended by a vote of the city or town. Said change to take effect FY 2017 and act fully thereon. By request of the Harwich Veteran’s Agent and Board of Assessors

*Explanation: This local option for the National Guard and Reservists must be renewed every two (2) years.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS ARTICLE SUPPORTS MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVISTS. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was unanimous vote, so declared.

AMEND M.G.L. CHAPTER 59, §5, Clause 41C – SENIOR EXEMPTION

# ARTICLE 43: To see if the Town will vote to support the Harwich Board of Selectmen’s request to the State Legislator to pass a bill amending the Senior Exemption (as provided in Chapter 59, §5 Clause 41C) amount from a maximum of $1000.00 to a maximum of $1,500.00 as a local option for all cities and towns and/or as a home rule petition for the Town of Harwich, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Harwich Board of Assessors.

*Explanation: The Board of Assessors would like advocate for most vulnerable citizens of the Commonwealth. We feel that the senior citizens of our community and all others in the Commonwealth are struggling. We would like for this article be approved by the Legislation. This article is for our most vulnerable residents over 65 who have income and assets not exceeding:*

*Income Assets*

*Single $24,849 $40,652*

*Married $37,274 $55.897*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THE EFFORT TO GET THE STATE TO INCREASE THE EXEMPTION FOR SENIORS. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to file a Home Rule Petition authorizing an increase in the maximum senior exemption allowed under General Laws Chapter 59, §5, Clause 41C in the amount of $1500.00 as follows:

### AN ACT RELATIVE TO A SENIOR EXEMPTION FOR THE TOWN OF HARWICH

### *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1.  Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 41C of section 5 of chapter 59 of the general laws, or of any other general or special law to the contrary, the Board of Assessors in the Town of Harwich is hereby authorized to grant a senior exemption in the amount of $1500.00 to individuals meeting the qualifications contained in clause 41C of section 5 of chapter 59.

SECTION 2. In the fiscal year in which this Act takes effect, the Town of Harwich is hereby authorized to reimburse those eligible for a senior exemption under clause 41C of section 5 of chapter 59 of the general laws in the amount of $500.00.

SECTION 3.  This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Provided however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill prior to the enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve amendments which shall be within the public purposes of the petition. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

CREATE SUPPLEMENTAL SENIOR EXEMPTION

ARTICLE 44: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds to provide a sufficient sum of money to grant an additional $500.00 exemption to each Senior Exemption granted by the Board of Assessors to a maximum of $1,500.00, and to act fully thereon. (Subject to funding). By request of the Harwich Board of Assessors. Estimated cost: $40,000 requested (FY15 80 exemptions granted).

*Explanation: The Board of Assessors would like advocate for the most vulnerable citizens of the Town of Harwich, our senior citizens of our community are struggling. This article is to provide real estate tax relief for residents over 65 who have income and assets not exceeding:*

*Income Assets*

*Single $24,849 $40,652*

*Married $37,274 $55.897*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. IF THE STATE DOES NOT ACT IN TIME ON THE ABOVE ARTICLE THE FINANCE COMMITTEE SUPPORTS PROVIDING AN INCREASED SENIOR EXEMPTION WITH AVAILABLE FUNDS. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $40,000 be transferred from Free Cash in order to provide an additional exemption of $500.00 for seniors eligible under General Laws Chapter 59, §5, Clause 41C, provided, however, that no funds may be expended unless and until the Home Rule Petition authorized by Article 43 is approved for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

DOOR TO DOOR CANVASSING SOLICITATION BY-LAW

ARTICLE 45: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Harwich under the General By-Laws by adding a new by-law under Chapter 214 – Peace and Good Order as follows, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Chief of Police.

**§214.4 - Temporary Transient Business: Door-to-Door Canvassing and Solicitation.**

**Title.**

This by-law shall be known as the “Door-to-Door Canvassing and Solicitation By-law Law of the Town of Harwich.”

**Purpose.**

This by-law, adopted pursuant to Article 89 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, establishes registration requirements and specific operational requirements for persons intending to engage in door-to-door canvassing or solicitation in the Town of Harwich in order to protect its citizens from disruption of the peaceful enjoyment of their residences and from the perpetration of fraud or other crimes; and, to allow for reasonable access to residents in their homes by persons or organizations who wish to communicate either commercial or non-commercial messages.

**Definitions.**

For the purpose of this By-law, the following definitions shall apply:

“Soliciting” shall mean and include any one or more of the following door-to-door activities:

1. selling, or seeking to obtain orders for the purchase of goods or services, including advertising in any type of publication, for any kind of consideration whatsoever;
2. selling, or seeking to obtain prospective customers for application for purchase of insurance of any kind;
3. selling, or seeking to sell subscriptions to books, magazines, periodicals, newspapers or any other type of publication;
4. seeking to obtain gifts or contributions of money, or any valuable thing for the support or benefit of any association, organization, corporation or project wholly or in part for commercial purposes or by a professional solicitor or commercial co-venturer for a charitable or other non-commercial organization; and
5. seeking to obtain information on the background, occupation, economic status, political affiliation, attitudes, viewpoints, or the like of the occupants of a residence for the purpose of selling or using such data, wholly, or in part, for commercial purposes.

“Canvassing” shall mean and include any one or more of the following door-to-door activities:

1. person-to-person distribution of literature, periodicals, or other printed materials for commercial purposes, but shall not include placing or dropping off printed materials on the premises;
2. seeking to enlist membership in any organization for commercial purposes; and
3. seeking to present, in person, organizational information for commercial purposes.

“Residence” shall mean and include every individual dwelling unit occupied for residential purposes by one or more persons.

“Registered solicitor” shall mean any person who has obtained a valid certificate of registration from the Town as required by this Bylaw.

“Charitable Organization,” “Professional Solicitor” and “Commercial Co-venturer” shall be defined as set forth in Chapter 68, Section 18, of the General Laws.

**Registration.**

Every person or organization intending to engage in soliciting or canvassing door-to-door in the Town of Harwich must apply for a permit with the Chief of Police by filing a registration application form with the Chief of Police. Applications for individual registration shall be filed at least ten business days in advance. Applications for organizational registration shall be filed at least three business days in advance.

Organization application forms shall include the following information:

1. The name and address of the organization applying for registration, and the names and addresses of the organizations’ principal officers. If the organization is a charitable organization, a certification that the most recent Annual Registration Statement required to be filed with the Attorney General’s Division of Public Charities has been so filed.

If the organization is a Professional Solicitor or a Commercial Co-venturer for a charitable organization, a copy of the contract with the charitable organization must be provided with this application. Failure to include a copy of the contract with the charitable organization under such circumstances will render the application incomplete and no action will be taken thereon;

1. The name, title and phone number, IRS or Social Security (optional) number and valid driver’s license or other government-issued photo identification of the persons filing the application form;
2. The names and addresses of the person(s), if any, who will be directly supervising the solicitation or canvassing operation in the Town of Harwich;
3. A list of the names, addresses, dates of birth of all individuals who will be employed in solicitation or canvassing by the applicant;
4. Period of time for which certificate of registration is needed (note: no certificate may be granted for longer than a 60-day period);
5. Names of the last three communities (if any) in which the organization has conducted a solicitation or canvassing operation, complete with the date issued and date expired; and
6. Insurance information and license, if applicable.

Individual registration forms shall be required for all individuals, including those who are affiliated with an organization registered hereof. Individual registration forms shall contain the following information:

1. Name and address of the present place of residence and length of residence at that address; if less than three years residence at present address, the address of residence(s) during the past three years;
2. Date of birth;
3. Name, address and telephone number of the person or organizations whom the applicant represents and the length of time the applicant has been associated with or employed by that person or organization. If the individual is a professional solicitor or a commercial co-venturer for a charitable organization, a copy of the contract, if any, with the charitable organization must be provided with this application. Failure to include a copy of the contract with the charitable organization under such circumstances will render the application incomplete and no action will be taken thereon;
4. Period of time for which certificate of registration is needed (note: no certificate may be granted for longer than a 60-day period);
5. Name of the last three communities (if any) in which the applicant has solicited or canvassed door-to-door, complete with the date of issue and expiration date;
6. Valid driver’s license or other government issued photo identification; and
7. Make, model and registration number of any vehicle to be used by the applicant while soliciting or canvassing.

**Registration Fee.**

The registration fee shall be established and adjusted from time to time by the Board of Selectmen, as necessary. The registration fee shall accompany each application required by this By-law.

**Registration Cards.**

The Chief of Police, after a review, but in no event more than ten (10) business days after receipt of a fully-completed application, shall furnish each person with a registration card which shall contain the following information:

1. The name of the person;
2. A recent photograph of the person;
3. The name of the organization (if any) which the person represents;
4. A statement that the individual has been registered with the Town of Harwich Police Department but that registration is not an endorsement of any individual or organization; and
5. Specific dates or period of time covered by the registration.

Persons engaged in solicitation or canvassing as defined in this By-law must display their Town issued registration card on the outermost portion of their clothing at all times while soliciting or canvassing and show such card to any person solicited or upon the request of any police officer.

Registration cards are valid only for the specific dates or time period specified thereon and in no case for longer than 60 days.

The Police Chief shall routinely grant registrations without further inquiry but shall refuse registration to an organization or an individual whose registration has been revoked for violation of this Bylaw within the previous two-year period or who has been convicted of murder/manslaughter, rape, robbery, arson, burglary/breaking and entering, felony assault, or larceny over $250, as such persons pose a substantial degree of dangerousness to minors and other persons vulnerable to becoming victims of the violent crimes so listed. The Police Chief shall also refuse to register a person who is a sex offender required to register with the Sex Offenders Registry Board and who is finally classified as Level 2 or Level 3 Sex Offender, as such persons have been found to have a moderate to high risk of re-offense and pose a substantial degree of dangerousness to minors and other persons vulnerable to becoming victims of sex crimes.

**Exceptions.**

Registration shall not be required for officers or employees of the Town, County, State or Federal governments when on official business.

Individual registration shall not be required for minors under the age of 18, except in connection with canvassing or soliciting on behalf of a profit organization, newspaper carriers excepted.

Nothing in this By-law shall be construed to impose any registration requirement or otherwise restrict or in any way regulate any activity for religious, political, newspaper distribution or public policy purposes or other non-commercial purposes, regardless of whether such activity includes acts that would otherwise constitute soliciting or canvassing.

**No Solicitation List.**

A No Solicitation List shall be established and maintained by the Harwich Police Department. Residents may submit their property for inclusion on the list without charge.

Upon approval and issuance of a Town of Harwich registration card required under this By-law, each registered entity or individual shall be provided with a copy of the No Solicitation List and may not solicit or canvass at such premises.

**Duties of Persons Going Door-to-Door.**

Upon going into any residential premises in the Town of Harwich, every solicitor, canvasser or other person must first examine any notice that may be posted prohibiting solicitation or other activities. If such a notice is posted, the solicitor, canvasser or other person shall immediately and peacefully depart from the premises.

Any solicitor, canvasser or other person who has gained entrance to any residence, whether invited or not, shall immediately and peacefully depart from the premises when requested to do so by the occupant.

Immediately upon gaining entrance to any residence, each Solicitor or Canvasser as defined in this Bylaw must do the following:

1. Present his registrationcard for inspection by the occupant;
2. Request that the occupant read the registration card; and
3. Inform the occupant in clear language of the nature and purpose of his business and, if he is representing an organization, the name and nature of that organization.

**Restrictions on Methods of Solicitation, Canvassing, or Other Door-to-Door Activities**

It shall be unlawful for a solicitor, canvasser or other person to do any of the following:

1. Falsely represent, directly or by implication, that the solicitation, canvassing or other activity is being done on behalf of a governmental organization, or on behalf of any municipal employee or elected official;
2. Solicit, canvass or conduct any other activity at any residence where there is a posted sign prohibiting the same, without express prior permission of an occupant;
3. Solicit, canvass or conduct any other activity at any residence without express prior permission of an occupant, before 9:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m. where there is no sign posted otherwise limiting solicitation or the hours of solicitation or such other activities;
4. Utilize any form of endorsement from any department head currently employed or serving the Town of Harwich; and
5. Solicit, canvass or conduct any other activity at any residence in a threatening, abusive or illegal fashion.

**Penalty.**

Any person or organization who shall violate any of the provisions of this Bylaw or any applicable state or federal laws governing soliciting or canvassing, including, but not limited to Chapter 68 of the General Laws, shall be subject to a fine not to exceed $300.00 for each offense. When enforced through the non criminal disposition procedures pursuant to Chapter 40, section 21D of the General Laws, the penalty shall be $100 for the first offense, $200 for the second offense, and $300 for the third offense and each subsequent offense. Each day that a violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

Any person or organizationwho for himself, herself, itself, or through its agents, servants or employees is found after investigation by a police officer to have:

1. violated any provision of this Bylaw, or any applicable state or federal laws governing soliciting or canvassing, including but not limited to Chapter 68 of the General Laws; or
2. knowingly provided false information on the registration application shall have his, her or its registration revoked by the Chief of Police by written notice delivered to the holder of the registration in person, or sent to the holder by certified mail at the address set forth in the application.

**Appeals.**

Any person or organization who is denied registration or whose registration has been revoked may appeal by filing a written notice of appeal with the Board of Selectmen. Such appeal must be filed within 5 days after receipt of the notice of denial or revocation. The Board of Selectmen shall hear the appeal at its next scheduled meeting after the filing of the written notice of appeal, provided, however, that if the Board of Selectmen fails to make a determination within 30 days after the filing of the appeal, the registration shall be deemed granted or reinstated as the case may be.

**Severability.**

Invalidity of any individual provision of this Bylaw shall not affect the validity of the Bylaw as a whole.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. AT THE PRESENT TIME THERE ARE NO BY-LAWS IN PLACE TO HELP PROTECT OUR CITIZENS. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

BUILDING/STRUCTURE HEIGHT IN FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

ARTICLE 46: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Harwich, Chapter 325 Zoning by adding the bold and underlined language as set forth below and to act fully thereon. By request of the Building Commissioner and Planning Board.

325-2 Word usage and definitions.

BUILDING/STRUCTURE HEIGHT - The height of a building or structure shall be calculated by averaging the distance between the lowest pre-existing grade point at the base of the building/structure and the top of said structure, and the distance between the highest pre-existing grade point at the base of the structure and the top of said structure. A structure shall include such elements as a rooftop deck, fence, railing, widow’s walk, or other rooftop structure, parapet, or other attached structure. A cupola not larger than four (4) feet in width and chimneys shall be exempt from the above requirements if they do not extend more than four (4) feet in height above the roof. For developed lots, pre-existing grade shall be determined by calculating the average of existing high and low grade points at the base of the existing/original building or structure and top of said structure, where the highest point is at a minimum of eight (8) inches below the top of foundation.

*[NEW]* **For a building or structure located in the special flood hazard area, height shall be measured from the Base Flood Elevation in AE Zones rather than from pre-existing grade. In the AO or VE Zones, height shall be measured from the Base Flood Elevation in the closest AE Zone rather than from pre-existing grade.**

*Explanation: New FEMA flood maps were adopted in 2014 expanding boundaries of the flood hazard area and raising the base flood elevation for many properties. Homes may continue to exist in flood hazard areas, but renovations or reconstruction require flood proofing measures including raising the first floor above the base flood elevation. The proposed by-law amendment follows similar language in such coastal towns as Dennis, Sandwich and Scituate. Without the amendment, many homes in flood hazard areas would have to be reduced in height to meet base flood elevation requirements combined with the requirement to measure height from pre-existing grade. Approximately 1000 homes in the AE flood zone in Harwich are impacted by the building height requirement. Far fewer homes exist in AO and VE zones. The AO zone does not include measurements for base flood elevation. The VE or velocity zone has a much higher sensitivity to flooding, and new construction in that zone is not encouraged.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THE ADOPTION OF THIS AMENDMENT WILL HELP PROVIDE HEIGHT RELIEF FOR STRUCTURES IN THE NEW FLOOD ZONES. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman, Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded.

At this time Peter de Bakker read the report of the Planning Board as follows:

On Tuesday, March 22, 2016 the Planning Board held a duly advertised and scheduled public hearing. All members of the public having an interest in the proposed article were welcomed to attend and give comment. There was no public comment. The Board voted unanimously to recommend this article be adopted at Town Meeting

Respectfully submitted

Harwich Planning Board

**ACTION:** This motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE 47: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Harwich, Chapter 325 Zoning by striking out language and by adding bold and underlined language as set forth below and to act fully thereon. By request of the Building Commissioner and Planning Board.

(A) CONSTRUCTION SIGNS

325-29 Additional requirements for specific signage.

**G.** *[NEW]* **Construction Signs. One (1) temporary wall or ground sign not more than eight (8) square feet indicating the construction, remodeling or rebuilding of a certain structure for a permitted use shall be allowed on the parcel on which the structure is located. The sign shall not be illuminated and shall be removed immediately upon final inspection.**

(B) TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS IN THE CH-1 DISTRICT

325-7 C. Existing lots in a CH-1 District which complied at the time of layout with applicable provisions of zoning bylaws, if any, may be used for single-family residential purposes as set forth above and may be used for *[NEW]* **two-family residential purposes and**nonresidential purposes as established in the Table of Use Regulations provided that:

1. Said lots have 100 feet of frontage and 10,000 square feet of area;
2. The buildings to be located thereon are set back at least 10 feet from side and rear lot lines and at least 25 feet from street lot lines and the buildings to be constructed on said lot will not exceed the maximum site coverage restrictions of the zoning bylaw in effect when the lot was created or, if no such restrictions applied, coverage of buildings shall not exceed 35% of said lot for lots between 10,000 square feet and 15,000 square feet and 25% for lots over 15,000 square feet;
3. Said lots are buildable under other applicable provisions of the lot …

Table 2 Area Regulations

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| District | Use | Lot Area | Lot Frontage | Front | Side | Rear |
| CH-1 | Single-family dwelling | 40,000 | 150 | 25 | 20 | 20 |
|  | *[NEW]* **Two-family dwelling** | **40,000** | **150** | **25** | **20** | **20** |
|  | Any other permitted use | 20,000 | 100 | 25 | 10 | 10 |

(C) GUESTHOUSES

325-2. Word usage and definitions.

~~GUESTHOUSE. A building in which living space, with or without common cooking facilities, is let for compensation to four or fewer persons, but not including a hotel or motel.~~

325-39. Off-street parking schedule.

Residential Uses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lodging house, hotel, motel, inn, ~~guest house,~~ bed and breakfast | 1.25 per guest room or suite |

Table 1, Use Regulations

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Paragraph I – Residential Uses | | | | | | | |
|  |  | RM | RH-1 | RH-2 | CV | CH-1 | WR |
| ~~5~~ | ~~Guest houses~~ | ~~S~~ | ~~P~~ | ~~P~~ | ~~P~~ | ~~P~~ | ~~S~~ |

Table 2, Area Regulations

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| District | Use | Lot Area  (square feet) | Lot Frontage  (contiguous feet) | Front  (feet) | Side  (feet) | Rear  (feet) |
| ~~RM~~ | ~~Guest house~~ | ~~40,000 plus 2,000 per rental unit~~ | ~~150~~ | ~~25~~ | ~~20~~ | ~~20~~ |
| ~~RH-1~~ | ~~Guest house~~ | ~~40,000 plus 2,000 per rental unit~~ | ~~150~~ | ~~25~~ | ~~20~~ | ~~20~~ |
| ~~RH-2~~ | ~~Guest house~~ | ~~40,000 plus 2,000 per rental unit~~ | ~~150~~ | ~~25~~ | ~~20~~ | ~~20~~ |
| ~~CV~~ | ~~Guest house~~ | ~~40,000 plus 2,000 per rental unit~~ | ~~150~~ | ~~25~~ | ~~10~~ | ~~10~~ |
| ~~CH-1~~ | ~~Guest house~~ | ~~40,000 plus 2,000 per rental unit~~ | ~~150~~ | ~~25~~ | ~~20~~ | ~~20~~ |

*Explanation: Proposed amendments include (A) construction signs, (B) two-family dwellings in the CH-1 District, and (C) guesthouses.*

1. *Sign amendments in 2009 removed any reference to construction signs, and the current Code of the Town of Harwich does not permit construction signs. The proposed by-law will re-establish language from an earlier version of the Zoning By-Law.*
2. *Although two-family dwellings are allowed in the Commercial Highway 1 (CH-1) District by Special Permit (S), two other pertinent sections of the Zoning By-Law omit any reference to them. In Table 2, minimum lot area for single-family dwellings in the CH-1 District is 40,000 sq. ft. while minimum lot area for “any other permitted use” is only 20,000 sq. ft. Typically “any other permitted use” refers to non-residential uses. The proposed by-law amendment will treat two-family dwellings the same as single-family dwellings rather than as non-residential uses. A similar by-law amendment for Section 325-7 C will allow existing lots to be used for two-family dwellings along with other permitted single-family and non-residential uses.*
3. *In most residential districts, the Zoning By-Law allows one single-family dwelling per 40,000 square feet. Current options for additional residential use of a property include an “accessory building, residential – with bedrooms” or a “single-family dwelling with accessory apartment”, both requiring a special permit. The current definition of “guesthouse” appears to allow another residential option for “a building in which living space, with or without common cooking facilities, is let for compensation to four fewer or fewer persons, but not including a hotel or motel.” There does not appear to be a current restriction on the number of guesthouses that may be built per lot. The proposed by-law amendment closes that apparent loophole by removing “guesthouse” from the list of uses. Buildings to be let for compensation still include lodging house, bed-and-breakfast, inn, motel and hotel.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS AMMENDMENT FIXES A COUPLE OF SMALL HOUSE KEEPING AREAS OF THE ZONING BY-LAW AND RESRICTS THE NUMBER OF GUEST HOUSES THAT CAN BE BUILT ON A PROPERTY. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move subsection A (Construction Signs) and subsection B (Two-Family Dwellings) of this article be accepted and adopted with the following change: add the following language after the last word in the first sentence of Article 47, Section A (Construction Signs) “located”: “with written permission of the property owner.” Duly seconded

At this time Peter de Bakker read the report of the Planning Board as follows:

On Tuesday, March 22, 2016 the Planning Board held a duly advertised and scheduled public hearing. All members of the public having an interest in the proposed article were welcomed to attend and give comment. There was one member of the public who commented on Section (B). The Board voted unanimously to recommend that Section (A) Construction Signs and Section (B) Two-Family Dwellings in the CH-1 District be adopted at Town Meeting. The Board did not vote to recommend this Section (C) Guesthouses.

Respectfully submitted

Harwich Planning Board

**ACTION**: This motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was ruled to have received the necessary 2/3 vote, the motion carried.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HARWICH HOME RULE CHARTER

ARTICLE 48: To see if the Town will vote to propose the following amendments to the Harwich Home Rule Charter, to be approved by the voters at the next annual Town election as follows (Deletions shown in strike through and new text shown as underlined):

1. **Amend Chapter 3 section 6, Powers of Appointments, by adding a new sentence to the end of Section 3-6-2 as follows:**

All appointments made shall be for the full term of that position (or, in the case of a position vacated prior to the end of a term, for the full remainder of the unexpired term).

2. **Amend Chapter 4 as follows:**

**Amend two subsections of Section 4-3-2 relating to the powers of the Town Administrator as follows:**

4-3-2 The town administrator shall devote full working time to the duties of that office, shall not become a candidate for, or hold, any elective office during the term of appointment; and shall not engage in any business activity during the term, except with the written consent of the board of selectmen. The town administrator shall:

(i) Be responsible for the purchasing of services, supplies, materials and equipment for all town divisions, departments, and offices, excepting those for ~~the school department,~~ the water department and the Brooks Free Library. The Town Administrator shall execute all contracts for goods and services on behalf of the divisions and departments under the jurisdiction of the Town Administrator, subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen may delegate its approval authority to the Town Administrator for certain classes of contracts.

(k) Develop, keep, and annually update a full and complete inventory of all property of the town, ~~except school property~~, both real and personal.

**Amend Section 4, Responsibilities for Appointments, by adding a new subsection:**

4-4-3 The town administrator shall appoint the harbormaster and any assistant harbormasters.

3. **Amend Chapter 5 as follows:**

**Amend Section 5-3-1 as follows:**

Division of ~~Highways and Maintenance~~ Public Works

5-3-1 A division of ~~highways and maintenance~~ public works shall be established under the direction of an appointed officer, to be known as the director of public works ~~highways and maintenance~~.

**Amend Section 5-5-1 as follows:**

Fire Department

5-5-1 ~~A fire department shall be established under a fire chief, who shall be appointed by the board of selectmen~~. The fire department shall be organized and operated as a so-called strong chief department under the provisions of section 42 of chapter 48 of the General Laws.

4. **Amend Chapter 10 Section 10-3-1 Definitions as follows:**

(f) Committee. The word “committee” shall mean any town agency which has been charged with performing a specified function on behalf of the town but without statutory authority, except for the  ~~the school committee,~~ finance committee and capital outlay committee, which function under statutory authority;

And to act fully thereon. By request of the By-Law and Charter Review Committee.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS FIXES SEVERAL AREAS OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER.**

**VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move to accept and adopt as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** This motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

AMEND THE HARWICH HOME RULE CHARTER CHAPTER 3, SECTION 6

ARTICLE 49: To see if the Town will vote to propose the following amendment to the Harwich Home Rule Charter, to be approved by the voters at the next Annual Town Election as follows (Deletions shown in strike through and new text shown as underlined)

Refer to Chapter 3, Section 6 and add the following text to 3-6-2:

The board of selectmen shall also have the power to appoint members and up to two alternates (to the extent permissible by general law) of policy-making town agencies enumerated in chapter 7 and other agencies that are in existence on the effective date of this charter and for whom no other method of appointment is provided in this charter. Unless otherwise provided, the board shall also appoint members and up to two alternates (to the extent permissible by general law) of other agencies as may be hereafter established by general law, charter, by-law, vote of the town meeting or vote of the Board of Selectmen.

And to act fully thereon. By request of the By-Law and Charter Review Committee.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS ARTICLE GIVES THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MORE FLEXIBILITY IN APPOINTMENTS BY ALLOWING UP TO TWO ALTERNATES TO BOARDS AS ALLOWED BY GENERAL LAW. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move to accept and adopt as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** This motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

AMEND THE HARWICH HOME RULE CHARTER – CHAPTER 7, SECTION 7-14-2

ARTICLE 50: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Harwich Home Rule Charter, Chapter 7 APPOINTED TOWN AGENCIES, Section 7-14-2 by adding “***water dependent structure”*** as set forth below:

7-14-2 The waterways committee shall be responsible for the development of regulations for all waterways and **water dependent structures** including marine ramps, docks, piers, moorings, and aquaculture.

and to act fully thereon. By Request of the Harwich Waterways Committee

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS AMENDMENT DEFINES STRUCTURES ON THE WATER.**

**VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move to accept and adopt as printed in the warrant to be approved by the voters at the next Annual Town Election.

Duly seconded

**ACTION:** This motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

RECONSTRUCTION OF GINGER PLUM LANE

THROUGH PRIVATE ROAD BETTERMENT

ARTICLE 51: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sufficient sum of money to repair Ginger Plum Lane in Harwich, subject to repayment through the use of a private way betterment assessment program, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen. Estimated cost: $223,650.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS ALLOWS THE OWNERS ALONG GINGER PLUM LANE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THEIR ROAD THROUGH THEIR OWN TAX BILLS. VOTE YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move to accept and adopt as printed in the warrant and that $223,650 be appropriated for this purpose, that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said sum pursuant to Chapter 300 of the Acts of 2014, and to issue bonds and notes therefor. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** This motion required a 2/3 majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE

CHASE LIBRARY AND HARWICH PORT LIBRARY

ARTICLE 52: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of $20,000 to help defray the expenses of the Chase Library and the Harwich Port Library; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Chase Library and Harwich Port Library Trustees, and to act fully thereon. By Petition. Estimated cost: $20,000.

*Explanation: Chase Library and Harwich Port Library are free, publicly supported libraries. Town funds have been appropriated either through the general budget or by articles since 1911 (Chase) and 1926 (Harwich Port). These funds are essential for continued operation and for the customary State reimbursements.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-5, NO-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $20,000 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

PROMOTE THE TOWN OF HARWICH

ARTICLE 53: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sufficient sum of money for the Harwich Chamber of Commerce to promote the Town and its businesses and to advance economic development initiatives for and with the Town of Harwich. Said monies to be used to manage and fulfill year-round visitor/resident/business information services, to promote and market the Town, to generate and initiate materials and activities that encourage the establishment, growth and sustainability of businesses in Harwich, and to implement economic development objectives and activities in partnership with the Town, and to act fully thereon. By Petition. Estimated cost: $25,000.

*Explanation:*

*For more than 57 years, Harwich Chamber of Commerce (HHC) has worked in the best interest of Harwich and for the people living in, working in and visiting the Town of Harwich. Since 1995, the citizens of Harwich through the Annual Town Meeting, have voted to fund warrant articles submitted by the Harwich Chamber of Commerce in support of its work promoting the community, providing needed informational services, and developing and advancing economic sustainability and development strategies. We are again requesting the Town’s support for the Chamber’s efforts in:*

*(a) Providing year-round informational services to visitors, residents, second homeowners, and businesses*

*(b) Promoting the Town of Harwich, thereby bringing much needed income into the community*

*(c) Support of the Chamber’s efforts, in partnership with the Town of Harwich, to develop and implement economic development initiatives to benefit the Town as defined by objectives in the Town’s Local Comprehensive Plan.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $25,000 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

SUPPLEMENT ANNUAL ALLOCATION OF MASS CULTURAL

COUNCIL FOR LOCAL CULTURAL COUNCIL GRANTS

ARTICLE 54: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money to supplement the Massachusetts Cultural Council annual allocation for grant awards to artists, performers and interpretive scientists who bring events to local venues which enhance the cultural experience of Harwich citizens of all ages, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Harwich Cultural Council. Estimated Cost: $3,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-5, NO-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $3,000 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

AMEND THE HARWICH HOME RULE CHARTER – ESTABLISH A CHARTER ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION

ARTICLE 55: To see if the Town will vote to propose the following amendment to the Harwich Home Rule Charter, to be approved by the voters at the next annual Town election, and to act fully thereon. By Petition.

***Chapter 6, Section 9: The Charter Enforcement Commission***

**6-9-1** There shall be a charter enforcement commission consisting of five members and elected for three-year overlapping terms so arranged that the term of at least one member shall expire each year.

**6-9-2** A vacancy on the commission may be filled by the remaining members of the commission, but only until the next annual election when a new member can be elected to fill the unexpired term.

**6-9-3** The commission shall take action only after receiving a written petition filed by a voter or voters alleging a violation of this charter by reason of an act or failure to act of any individual(s) or board serving in an elected or appointed capacity, including any employee of the Town of Harwich.

**6-9-4** The petition shall state the specific section of this charter which is subject of the violation, the individual(s) or board responsible for the violation, and the act or failure to act resulting in the violation.

**6-9-5** The petition shall be filed by delivery to the town clerk, who shall note the date of its receipt on the petition and mail a copy to each member of the commission within one week of its receipt.

**6-9-6** Within three weeks of the receipt of a petition by the town clerk,

the chairman shall set a time and date for the hearing, and shall mail notice of the hearing to the town clerk who shall post and publish the notice, and to the petitioner and the individual(s) or board named in the petition. The hearing date shall be not less than three weeks nor more than eight weeks from the date of the receipt of the petition by the town clerk.

**6-9-7** At the hearing the commission shall allow any person to address the commission as to the merits of the petition.

**6-9-8** Within three weeks of the hearing, the commission shall vote whether there has been a violation of this charter as alleged in the petition, and shall mail a notice of its vote to the town clerk, who shall post a copy of the vote for a period of four weeks, and to the petitioner and the officer or board named in the petition.

**6-9-9** If the commission shall vote that there has been a violation of this charter as alleged by the petition, and if following its vote there continues to be a violation, the commission may file a petition with the Superior Court.

**6-9-12** The town shall establish a fund to enable the commission to pay the costs and expenses, including fees for independent attorney(s), fees related to the filing of a complaint with the Superior Court and other reasonable expenses as may from time to time be required in order to fulfill the responsibilities of the Commission.

**6-9-13** Sections 6-9-3 through 6-9-11 shall not limit the right to seek enforcement of this charter as otherwise provided by law.

**6-9-14** This amendment will be in effect on the first day of July following adoption by voters; and the selectmen, town clerk, board of registrars and other elections officers will include the election of the five Charter Enforcement Commissioners in the next following annual town election, at which time two members will be elected for three year terms; two for two year terms, and one for a one year term. Annually thereafter, at the annual town election, there shall be elected commissioners to fill the positions whose terms are about to expire, each to be elected to terms of three years.

**6-9-15** Upon certification of the initial election of the five Charter Enforcement Commissioners, the Town Clerk shall within 30 days call the first meeting of the Commission for purposes of organization. The Commission will choose from its membership a Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk.

**6-9-16** Within 90 days of the initial organizational meeting, the Commission will adopt, by vote of at least three of the five members, Rules of Procedure which may thereafter from time to time, be amended by majority vote.

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE INDEFINETLY POSTPONED. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE BELIEVES THE SYSTEMS IN PLACE AT THE PRESENT TIME ARE SUFFICIENT WITHOUT STARTING A NEW PARALLEL SYSTEM AT ADDITIONAL EXPENSE. WE BELIEVE THE CREATION OF A CHARTER ENFORCEMENT COMMISSION WILL ULTIMATELY HAVE A CHILLING EFFECT ON THE NUMBER OF APPLICANTS FOR TOWN POSITIONS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS, AS WELL AS ELECTED POSITIONS.**

**VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Sandra Hall) I move that Article 55 be accepted and adopted as printed in the Warrant. Duly seconded

A motion was made and seconded to terminate debate, it required a ¾ majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

**ACTION:** This motion required a 2/3’s majority vote to pass, the motion did not carry.

At 10:35pm on Monday, May 2, 2016 a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Annual Town meeting until 7:00pm Tuesday May 3, 2016.

On Tuesday, May 3, 2016, the Moderator, Michael D. Ford, Esq. called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and at 7:05pm after a quorum of 150 registered voters had been reached, having 174 registered voters in attendance.

The tellers for the seconded night of Town Meeting were: Allin P. Thompson, Harold Gabriel, Jonas Robinson and Tom Evans

Dana DeCosta presented the Hall of Fame recipients in recognition to David Scannell and Anna Small Stokes.

The meeting began with:

ENACT A GENERAL BY-LAW–

DEMOLITION OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

ARTICLE 56: To see if the Town will vote to enact a General By-Law as follows:

DEMOLITION OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS

No Town funds shall be appropriated or otherwise made available through a grant agreement with a private party or public entity for an affordable housing project for the Judah Chase House and or barn located at 97 Route 28 in West Harwich unless the Board of Selectmen first enters into a grant agreement which prohibits the grant recipient from demolishing any building or subdividing the property. Furthermore, no such funds shall be made available to a private or public affordable housing entity for a project that will in any way jeopardize, compromise, or destroy the historic fabric of any building or structure on the site, nor compromise, divide, or partition the land on which they stand, or to act in any manner thereon. By Petition.

**THE FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE INDIFINETLY POSTPONED AS IT TARGETS A SINGLE PRIVATE HOME WITH FINACIAL RESTRICTIONS WITHOUT CAUSE. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that the article be indefinitely postponed. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The article was indefinitely postponed.

APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF TOWN PARCEL

TO CEMETERY DEPARTMENT TO

DEVELOP A PET CEMETERY AND PET CREMATORY

ARTICLE 57: To see if the Town will vote to dedicate and designate a parcel of land containing 2.25 acres, more or less, located at 276 Queen Anne Road, containing 2.25 acres, shown on Assessors Map 69 as Parcel M1, and being a portion of the premise acquired by the Town pursuant to order of taking recorded with the Barnstable Registry of Deeds in Book 11666, Pages 103-105, for cemetery purposes, including, without limitation, for the development of a pet crematory and pet cemetery, with the Cemetery Commissioners having the care, custody, management and control of said property, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Cemetery Commission.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

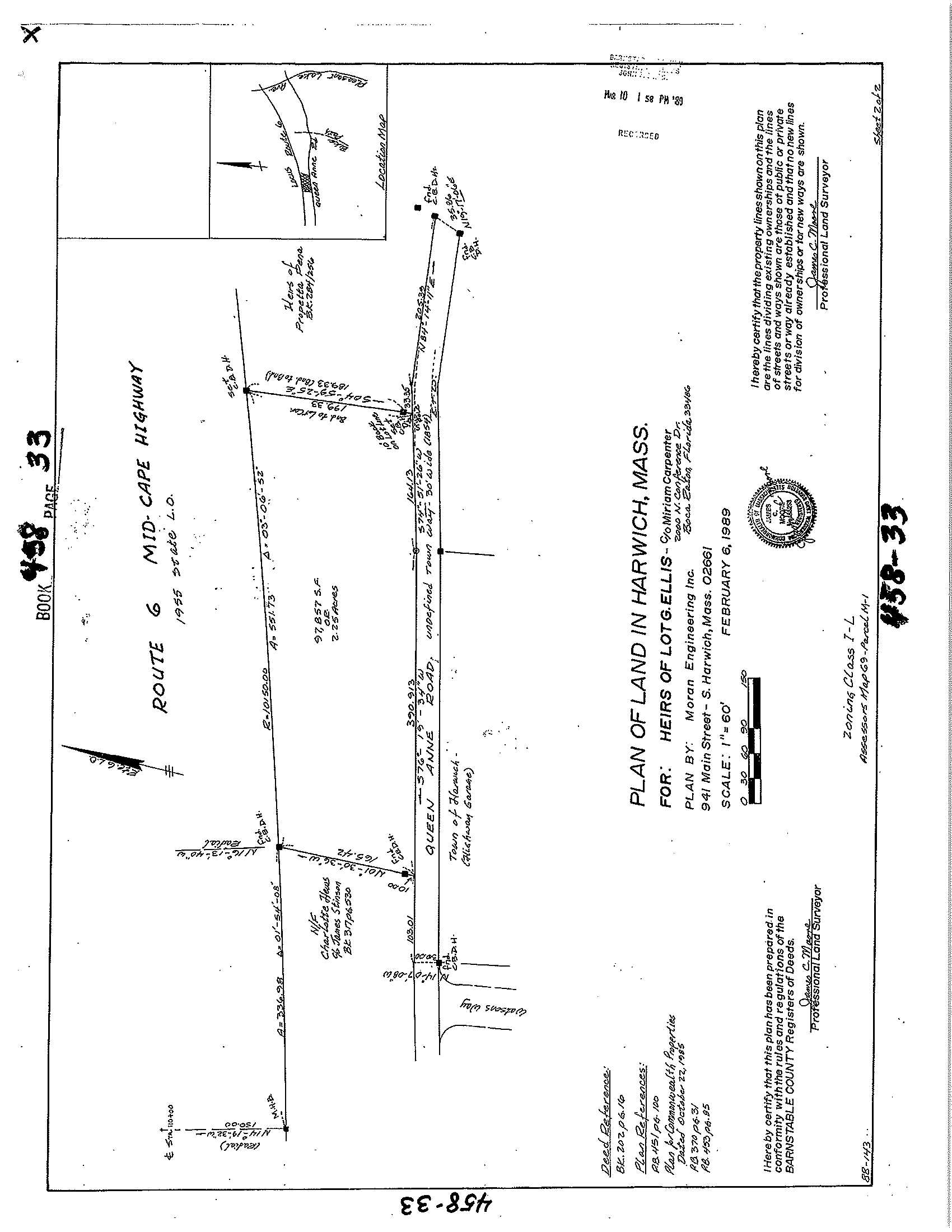
**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded

**AMENDMENT TO THE MAIN MOTION: (**Suzanne Martell) I move that the motion be amended to read as follows: That the Article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant except that the development of a pet cemetery be deleted. Duly seconded

**ACTION ON THE AMENDMENT:** The Amendment did not carry.

A motion was made and seconded to terminate debate, this required a ¾’s majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

**ACTION ON THE MAIN MOTION**: This required a 2/3’s majority vote to pass, a standing count was taken YES 104, NO-38, the motion carried.



DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS AUTHORIZATION

ARTICLE 58:       To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving funds for certain town departments under M.G.L. Ch. 44, § 53E ½ for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016; and to act fully thereon.  By request of the Board of Selectmen

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Revolving Fund** | **Authorize to Spend Fund** | **Revenue Source** | **Use of Fund** | **FY 17**  **Spending Limit** | **Disposition of FY16 Fund balance** |
| Golf | Director,  Golf Committee & ATA | Golf Lessons and Pro Shop Sales | Pro Shop expenses, clubhouse and kitchen maintenance, modernization, and lessons instructor | $200,000 | Available for expenditure |
| Council on Aging | Director &  Council on Aging | Fees from health, recreation, nutrition and education programs | Health, recreation, nutrition and education programs | $125,000 | Available for expenditure |
| Cemetery | Administrator &  Cemetery Commission | 90% of Lot Sales, 100 % of all Cemetery Services and Fees | Maintenance of town cemeteries | $50,000 | Available for expenditure |
| Community Center | Director &  Facilities Committee | Fees from use of the weight room | Weight Room Equipment (and repair) | $50,000 | Available for expenditure |
| Recreation | Director &  Rec & Youth Commission | Fees from recreation and youth programs | Recreation and youth programs | $120,000 | Available for expenditure |
| Albro House | Town Planner & Historic District/Hist. Commission | Fees from receipts of lease or fees for short term rooms use and rental | Restorations, maintenance, care and support of town-owned property | $10,000 | Available for expenditure |
| ADA | Town Administrator | Receipts of parking penalty fees | Interpreter services or accommodations required under ADA | $2,500 | Available for expenditure |

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** Motion carried.

ESTABLISH A WETLANDS REVOLVING FUND

ARTICLE 59: To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund, effective FY 2017 under M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the purpose of upholding the interests of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Harwich Wetlands Protection Bylaw, such as for consultants and wetland and buffer zone management and restoration projects, with monies generated by the Town portion of the Notice of Intent filing fees credited to the revolving fund, expenditures approved by the Conservation Administrator and the Conservation Commission in the amount not to exceed six thousand dollars ($6,000.00), and to act fully thereon. By request of the Conservation Commission.

*Explanation:*

*This revolving fund was never properly established under M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½.*

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-5, NO-1.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

STABILIZATION FUND

ARTICLE 60: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from surplus revenue or available funds a sufficient sum of money to be added to the Stabilization Fund, and act fully thereon. By the request of the Board of Selectmen. Estimated cost: $1,328,500.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $1,728,500 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

OPEB TRUST FUND

ARTICLE 61: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the balance of funds in the multi-use stabilization fund into the **O**ther **P**ost **E**mployment **B**enefits Trust Fund, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen. Estimated cost: $300,000

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be indefinitely postponed. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** This article was indefinitely postponed.

FUND PRIOR YEAR’S UNPAID BILLS

ARTICLE 62: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money to pay unpaid bills of prior years as provided for in M.G.L. Ch. 44, Section 64, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Finance Director/Accountant. Estimated cost: $25,000

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted and that $25,000 be transferred from Free Cash for the purpose of funding a retired firefight medical bills under Massachusetts general law chapter 40 section 100B. Duly seconded

**ACTION**: This motion required a 4/5 majority vote to pass, it was a unanimous vote, so declared.

COMPENSATING BALANCE AGREEMENT

ARTICL 63: To see if the Town will vote to authorize its Treasurer to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements with banking institutions for Fiscal Year 2017 pursuant to Chapter 44, § 53F of the General Laws and to act fully thereon. Customary Article.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS CUSTOMARY ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted. Duly seconded

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

LIABILITY TIDAL/NON-TIDAL RIVERS

ARTICLE 64: To see if the Town will assume the liability in the manner provided by § 29 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 516 and 524, Acts of 1950, for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Department of Public Works of Massachusetts, for improvement, development, maintenance and protection of tidal and non-tidal rivers, streams, harbors, tide waters, foreshore and shores along a public beach outside of Boston Harbor, including the Merrimack and Connecticut Rivers in accordance with § 11 of Chapter 91 of the General Laws and to authorize the Selectmen to execute and deliver a bond of indemnity to the Commonwealth and to act fully thereon. Customary Article.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS CUSTOMARY ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The motion carried

At this time, the Moderator, Michael D. Ford, Esq. made the following appointment:

**TOWN MODERATOR FINANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – MAY 2, 2016**

**ARTICLE 1**

I hereby appoint Mr. Robert J. Furtado to the Cape Cod Regional Technical High School District Committee to a three year term expiring June 30, 2019.

HERRING FISHERIES

ARTICLE 65: To see what action the Town will take in regard to the Herring Fisheries and to act fully thereon. Customary Article.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS CUSTOMARY ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE: YES-7, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** The motion carried.

At 7:55pm a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting.

At 8:00 pm on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, the Moderator, Michael D. Ford Esq, called the Special Town Meeting to order. Before the Special Town Meeting began the Town Clerk, Anita N. Doucette read the Warrant and Return of Warrant.

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**TOWN OF HARWICH**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

**MAY 3, 2016**

BARNSTABLE, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Harwich in said county,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Community Center Gymnasium, 100 Oak Street in said Town on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at 8:00 P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

Hereof fail not to make return of the Warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 28th day of March, 2016

s/Peter S. Hughes, Chair

s/Linda A. Cebula, Vice Chair

s/Jannell M. Brown, Clerk

s/Michael D. MacAskill

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

A true copy Attest:

s/ David A, Robinson

Constable

DATE: April 12, 2016

By virtue of this Warrant I have this day notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Harwich, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet in the Community Center, 100 Oak Street in said Town on Monday, the 3rd of May, 2016 at the time and place for the purpose herein named by posting up attested copies thereon in the four (4) Post Office buildings and in the Community Center in the Town of Harwich, which covers all four precincts, at least fourteen (14) days before the time of said meeting as within directed, and causing an attested copy thereof to be published in the Cape Cod Chronicle published in Barnstable County and having its circulation in the Town of Harwich.

s/David A. Robinson

Constable

The Special Town Meeting began with:

FUND THE SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money to fund the Fiscal Year 2016 Snow and Ice Deficit Account, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Board of Selectmen. Estimated cost $ 250,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS NO RECOMMENDATION PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION (NRPFI). FINCOM VOTES NRPFI WHEN, AT THE TIME THE WARRANT IS PRINTED, IT HAD INSUFFICIENT OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION TO MAKE AN INFORMED RECOMMENDATION. IT DOES NOT IMPLY A NEGATIVE FINCOM VIEW, ONLY AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTICLE SO VOTED. FINCOM WILL MAKE ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATION AT TOWN MEETING AFTER HAVING RECEIVED FURTHER INFORMATION. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted and that $250,000 be transferred from Free Cash for this purpose.

Duly seconded

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

REPEAL OF ARTICLE 9 OF MAY, 2011

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING:

ACQUISITION OF TAX TITLE PROPERTIES

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to rescind actions taken under Article 9 of the May 2011 Special Town Meeting in the amount of $50,000, and return such sum of funds appropriated in said Article to the Harwich Community Preservation Act Fund – Undesignated Fund Balance, and to act fully thereon. These funds were intended, to be used for professional/legal services related to the potential acquisition of specific properties that are in tax title or owners unknown, which would qualify for CPA funding, and that the Community Preservation Committee has made a finding that the specific properties qualify for a CPA purpose. This objective will now be funded from the funds appropriated by Article 3 of the May 2016 Special Town Meeting. By request of the Community Preservation Committee. Estimated amount returned: $50,000

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS MONEY WAS NEVER SPENT AND IS BEING APPROPRIATED IN THE NEXT ARTICLE IN A DIFFERENT WAY SO IT WILL BE BETTER SUITED TO COMPLETE THE TASK. VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant and that $50,000 be transferred from article 9 of the May 2011 special town meeting to the Harwich community preservation act fund- undesignated fund balance. Duly seconded

At this time Robert Cyrus MacCready, Chairman read the report of the Community Preservation Committee as follows:

These 2 Articles #2 and #3 in the Special Town Meeting Warrant are intended to first rescind the original 2011 Article and then appropriate the same funds to be administered within CPC Admin with, what is expected to be, a more viable path to fulfilling the intent.

The Community Preservation Committee Voted, on March 10, 2016, YES 7, NO-0 in support of both of these Articles.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Cyrus MacCready, Chair

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

FUND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTIES IN TAX TITLE, OWNERS UNKNOWN OR OTHER DISPUTE

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Community Preservation Fund-Undesignated Reserve, $50,000 for administrative costs of the Community Preservation Committee, to be used for professional/legal services related to the potential acquisition of specific properties that are in tax title or owners unknown and/or other related disputes, which would qualify for CPA funding, and that the Community Preservation Committee has made a finding that the specific properties qualify for a CPA purpose, and to act fully thereon. By request of the Community Preservation Committee.

Estimated Cost: $50,000.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. VOTE YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted as printed in the warrant to appropriate from Community Preservation Fund-Undesignated Reserve, $50,000 for administrative costs of the Community Preservation Committee, to be used for professional/legal services related to the potential acquisition of specific properties that are in tax title or owners unknown.

Duly seconded

At this time Robert Cyrus MacCready, Chairman read the report of the Community Preservation Committee as follows:

These 2 Articles #2 and #3 in the Special Town Meeting Warrant are intended to first rescind the original 2011 Article and then appropriate the same funds to be administered within CPC Admin with, what is expected to be, a more viable path to fulfilling the intent.

The Community Preservation Committee Voted, on March 10, 2016, YES 7, NO-0 in support of both of these Articles.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert Cyrus MacCready, Chair

**ACTION**: It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

FUND BUDGET SHORTFALLS

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money to fund shortfalls in various budget transfers; and to act fully thereon. By request of the Town Administrator and Town Accountant. Estimated Cost:

**FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THIS ARTICLE BE ACCEPTED AND ADOPTED. THIS MONEY WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM AN ACCOUNT WITH A SURPLUS WHICH IS ALLOWED BUT NEEDS TOWN MEETING APPROVAL. THE ADDITIONAL COSTS ALSO HAS CORRESPONDING ADDITIONAL REVENUE WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE NEXT TOWN MEETING.**

**VOTE: YES-6, NO-0.**

**MOTION:** (Dana A. DeCosta, Chairman-Finance Committee) I move that this article be accepted and adopted to transfer $165,000 from the Health Insurance Account to the DPW solid waste account to offset shortages due to large volume of municipal solid waste and construction debris. Duly seconded

**ACTION:** It was a unanimous vote, so declared.

At 8:15pm on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Special Town meeting.

**THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WERE PASSED AT THE**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**MAY 2, 2016**

**CUSTOMARY ARTICLES**

Article 1. Town Officers and & Committees

Article 2. Reports of Town Officers & Committees

Article 63. Compensating Balance Agreement

Article 64. Liability Tidal/Non Tidal Rivers

Article 65. Herring Fisheries

**CAPITAL PLAN**

Article 8. Adopt the Capital Plan

**PERSONNEL BY-LAW**

Article 9. Amend the Personnel By-Law

**AMEND TOWN CHARTER**

Article 48. Proposed Amendments to the Harwich Home Rule Charter-

Various Amendments

Article 49. Proposed Amendments to the Harwich Home Rule Charter-

Chapter 3, Sec 6 Alternate Members

Article 50. Proposed Amendments to the Harwich Home Rule Charter-

Chapter 7, sec7-14-2

**AMEND THE GENERAL BY-LAWS**

Article 45. Amend General By-Laws to add New Door to Door Sales By-Law

**ADOPT MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW**

Article 42. Adopt M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 56-Personal Property Tax

Abatement.

Article 43. Adopt M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, and Clause 41 C – Senior Exemptions

**CEMETERY**

Article 57. Transfer Parcel of Town-Owned Land to the Cemetery Department

for a Pet Cemetery and Crematory

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Article 58. Annual Revolving Fund Authorization

Article 59. Establish a Wetlands Revolving Fund

Article 61. OPEB Trust Fund

**APPROPRIATIONS VOTED UNDER ARTICLES**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**MAY 2, 2016**

**FROM TAX LEVY**

Article 4. Town Operating Budget $ 31,363,951.00

Article 5. Monomoy Regional School District Budget 23,833,578.00

Article 6. Cape Cod Regional Technical School District Budget 1,437,053.00

**FROM FREE CASH**

Article 5. Monomoy Regional School District Budget $ 224,724.00

Article 10. Capital Items Funded From Free Cash 89,900.00

Article 11. Facility Maintenance and Repair Fund 561,000.00

Article 12. Fund New Ambulance 290,000.00

Article 17. Saquatucket Harbor Landside Renovations–Engineering Design 250,000.00

Article 19. Fund New Vehicles for DPW 316,500.00

Article 20. Fund New Equipment for DPW 188,209.00

Article 44. Create Supplemental Senior Exemption 40,000.00

Article 52 Defray Costs for Chase and Harwich Port Libraries 20,000.00

Article 53. Promote the Town of Harwich 25,000.00

Article 54. Supplement Annual Allocation of Mass Cultural Council 3,000.00 Article 60. Stabilization Fund 1,728,500.00

Article 62. Fund Prior Year’s Unpaid Bills 25,000.00

**FROM OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS**

Article 4. Town Operating Budget

Cable Fund 129,237.00

Betterment Funds 221,108.00

Overlay Surplus 125,000.00

FEMA Fund 13,736.00 Harbor Capital Fund 107,163.00

Article 13. Supplement Landscape Reclamation from Golf Capital

Improvement fund 35,000.00

Article 14. Approve the Use of the Golf Improvement Fund to

Construct New Tees 30,000.00

Article 22. Replacement of Lothrop Avenue Water Storage Tank 1,400,000.00

**BORROWING**

Article 51**.** Ginger Plum Lane Private Road Betterment 223,650.00

**DEBT EXCLUSION**

Article 16. Reconstruction of Saquatucket Municipal Marina 7,000,000.00

Article 18. Fund Road Maintenance 700,000.00

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS**

Article 27. Fund Land Bank Debt 633,400.00

Article 28. Restoration of the Chase Library Fireplace and base 3,100.00

Article 29. Restoration Harwich Historical Society Artifacts 11,000.00

Article 30, Restoration of Appearance of the Albro House-Accessibility 18,700.00

Article 31. Update the Town Historical Property Inventory 20,000.00

Article 33. Historic Restoration and Preservation of Burial Crypts 25,000.00

Article 34. South Harwich Meeting House Restoration and Preservation 100,000.00

Article 35. Whitehouse field fencing replacement 57,128.00

Article 36. Queen Anne Road Bike Trail Crossing Lights 29,700.00

Article 37. Brooks Park Expansion/Improvement Phase 3 188,000.00

Article 38. Purchase of Land for Open Space Purposes – Marini Property 500,000.00

Article 39. Brooks Free Library Restoration 540,000.00

**WATER ENTERPRISE**

Article 4. Town Operating Budget 587,382.00

Article 7. Water Department Budget 3,939,879.00

Article 21. Fund the purchase of a New Excavator 125,000.00

Article 22. Replacement of Lothrop Avenue Water Storage Tank 800,000.00

Article 23. Replace existing Supervisory Control and 300,000.00

Data Acquisition System (SCADA)

**THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WERE PASSED AT THE**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

**MAY 3, 2016**

Article 2. Repeal of Article 9 of May, 2011 Special Town Meeting: Acquisition of

Tax Title Properties

Article 3. Fund Administrative Costs of the Community Preservation Committee for

Acquisition of Properties in Tax Title, Owner Unknown of Other Disputes.

**APPROPRIATIONS VOTED UNDER ARTICLES**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

**MAY 3, 2016**

**FREE CASH**

Article 1. Fund the Snow and Ice Deficit $250,000.00

**OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS**

Article 4. Fund Budget Shortfall 165,000.00

**SAMPLE**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**TOWN OF HARWICH**

**ANNUAL ELECTION BALLOT**

**MAY 17, 2016**

**BARNSTABLE, ss:**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Harwich in said County,

**Greetings:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Community Center Gymnasium, 100 Oak Street, in said Town on Tuesday, May 17, 2016, then and there to act on the following ballot:

POLLS WILL BE OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. and CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.

To choose on one (1) ballot the following Town Officers and Committees: two (2) Selectman for three (3) years; one (1) Housing Authority Member for five (5) years; one (1) Housing Authority Member to fill a four (4) year unexpired term; one (1) Town Clerk for three (3) years; one (1) Monomoy Regional School Committee Member for three (3) years;two (2) Library Trustees for three (3) years; one (1) Water Commissioner for three (3) years.

**BALLOT QUESTIONS**

1. Shall the Town of Harwich be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued to fund the reconstruction of the Saquatucket Municipal Marina docks, piles and services, to include a handicap accessible ramp system that brings the marina in compliance with the American with Disability Act (ADA) and dredging of approximately 12,500 cubic yards of material to bring the marina within permitted depth?

***Ballot Question 1 Explanation/Comments:*** *The current docks at Saquatucket Harbor are over 30 years old, well beyond their useful life, and pose a safety concern for the hundreds of patrons and visitors that use the docks on a daily basis. Of particular concern are the large groups of people that walk the docks to go to and from the large passenger boats that operate out of the harbor. A fiscal year 2017 capital project is being requested to replace the dock system; this includes all floats, piles, electrical service, plumbing, fire suppression, bubbler system, and wireless internet. The addition of a handicap accessible ramp system is an important part of the project, bringing the municipal marina into compliance with both the American with Disability Act and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board requirements. Dredging of shoaled areas within the harbor to permitted depths is also a major part of the total project that has been estimated at $7 million by Bourne Engineering. The town was recently awarded a $1 million MA Seaport Economic Council grant to fund the east dock portion of the project. The ballot question for debt exclusion would finance the remaining $6 million balance. The project will be financed over a 20 year term with approximately 75% of the debt service funded from harbor revenues, as supported by Administration.*

YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Shall the Town of Harwich be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued to fund the Road Maintenance Program as requested in the Capital Plan for Fiscal Year 17?

YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NON-BINDING ADVISORY BALLOT QUESTION REGARDING THE HARWICH MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Board of Selectmen is evaluating options for the re-use or sale of the Harwich Middle

School Building, which currently costs the town $125,000 annually for maintenance, and is seeking voter input on four options, any of which will require a future action of town meeting.  **Please vote for only one option**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1. Do you favor retention of the Harwich Middle School Building changing the use to a mixed municipal-private use such as a relocated town hall and private organization leased area for community activities, which has an estimated cost of $11,476,000 for a full upgrade of the available 79,700 square feet of space and an estimated annual operation and maintenance cost of $250,000? No additional town employees are included in these cost estimates and this option includes the sale of the existing town hall. |
|  | 1. Do you favor demolition of the Harwich Middle School Building and retention of the land for a future general municipal use which has a current estimated cost to the Town of $800,000 for demolition and site restoration? |
|  | 1. Do you favor the sale of the Harwich Middle School Building and the land for affordable or senior housing purposes to an outside developer, for which the Town previously received an offer for $672,000, with real estate taxes estimated at $20,000 to 30,000 per year? |
|  | 1. Do you favor the retention of the Harwich Middle School Building, to be leased or sold as is for the purpose of a self-sustaining private organization cultural and/or community center, or educational use? |

***Option 1******Explanation/Comments:*** *25,840 square feet within the older section of the Middle School would be renovated for use as Town Hall at approximately $250 per square foot for a total of $6,460,000. This would allow for fuller renovation of HVAC, roof, windows, etc. 50,160 square feet associated with the gymnasium, auditorium, cafeteria and other spaces would be renovated for approximately $100 a square foot for a total of $5,016,000. This would provide minimal renovations to include window replacement, but no HVAC. The total for renovations is estimated at $11,476,000. The annual building maintenance costs of the Middle School have been estimated at $250,000 per year based on the prior use(s) of the building. This contemplates the sale or lease of the current Town Hall and Albro House properties, including related parking. Assuming these properties sold for $1,200,000 (Town Hall) and $300,000 (Albro House) for a total of $1,500,000, the net capital cost would be $9,976,000. As a 20-year debt exclusion in the first year this would have a $59.67 impact on a tax bill for the median priced house of $348,700. Currently the Town is budgeting $125,000 per year for upkeep and insurance associated with the building and grounds.*

***Option 2 Explanation/Comments:*** *Demolition costs do not include environmental remediation of the building. The area would be loamed and seeded for a lawn area and the land would remain for future General Municipal Use. Currently the Town is budgeting $125,000 per year for minimal upkeep and insurance for the building and grounds.*

***Option 3 Explanation/Comments:*** *Two separate Middle School Committees reviewed proposals for the Middle School that focused on affordable or senior housing. The Stratford Capital Group submitted the sole response to a formal RFP issued by the first committee for 56 housing units of affordable workforce housing at a total purchase price of $672,000. This proposal was not accepted, in part, due to location of several new buildings beyond the footprint of the existing school. The second Middle School Committee subsequently placed limits both on the number of potential housing units and where they could be built. The Wise Living Company responded with a proposal to build 40 units of senior housing with 25% designated as affordable to be built entirely within the existing footprint of the Middle School. Since this was an informal proposal, no purchase price was stated. This second proposal is the best current example of affordable or senior housing if the town chooses to go forward with a housing option.*

***Option 4 Explanation/Comment:*** *If the building and land were to be leased for the purposes of a private not-for-profit cultural and/or community center use which could include programs in such fields as photography, the visual arts in multimedia, choreography, the culinary arts, creative writing, lectures, stage productions, design and decorating, dance, recording, song writing, poetry, jewelry making, pottery, sculpture, music, arts and crafts, comedy nights, talent shows, fund raising events, and film production, for all ages and for all hours of the day, including after school and summer programs. It could also be used for educational purposes. The building would be leased as is and the lessee would responsible for all operating expenses. In addition, routine maintenance of the buildings and grounds would be the responsibility of the lessee. Any and all modification would require Board of Selectmen approval with all costs borne by the lessee. To support future major maintenance the lessee would contribute up to $50,000 per year to a reserve fund for major maintenance, depending on the lease agreement.*