Town Meeting WARRANT





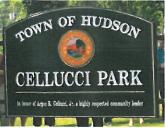












Town of Hudson
Monday, November 17, 2014
Finance Committee
Report and Recommendations

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE 1	CHAPTER 90 ROADWAY FUNDS	4
	STABILIZATION FUND	
ARTICLE 3	SCHOOL BUDGET ADJUSTMENT	4
ARTICLE 4	NON-UNION COST OF LIVING	5
ARTICLE 5	TAX INCREMENT FINANCING WITH HUDSON LOCK	5
ARTICLE 6	SENIOR TAX CREDIT PROGRAM	6
ARTICLE 7	FARLEY SCHOOL HVAC AUTOMATED SYSTEM	6
ARTICLE 8	HUDSON HIGH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS	6
ARTICLE 9	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF ROOF FOR THE MULREADY SCHOOL	7
ARTICLE 10	MAIN STREET AND LEWIS STREET TRAFFIC ANALYSIS	7

Finance Committee Preamble

To: The People of Hudson, Greetings,

The finance committee has reviewed the warrant articles and we have made our recommendations.

We do have additional comments regarding the following articles, Article 7 and 8 (Farley and Hudson High projects) It is important to note that neither of these articles requires raising any new funds. Rather, excess funding from completed capital school projects are being utilized for new school capital projects. Savings in the old projects were generated by utilizing in-house staff rather than contractors and favorable bidding results. The finance committee unanimously recommends the passage of these articles.

Article 9 (Mulready roof) The Mulready School was constructed in 1964-65. The roof has been in "failed" condition in roofing evaluation reports since 1999 and has been diligently repaired by trained in-house staff on an annual repair program. The roof at this location is a 1988 EPDM(single sheet rubber) installation over the original 4 ply built-up tar and gravel system where only the original pea stone was removed. Due to the existence of the old roof the location of a new leak is difficult to detect. The school department has maintained this 50 year old building to keep the facility operational. The work requested will eliminate a potential hazard at this school and allow future work to be completed to improve the air quality and implement technology and safety upgrades while we seek funding for other less critical building envelope issues. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) has approved moving this project into the feasibility phase after rejecting two previous requests in 2012 and 2013. We anticipate that the MSBA percentage of participation will be 50% or greater. As a requirement of MSBA, we need to authorize-full funding of the project, even though our actual participation will be less than authorized. If all goes as planned, the actual replacement will occur during the summer 2015 school break. In the interim, the facilities department will continue to repair as needed. The finance committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article.

Article 10 (Traffic Light). Though it may seem obvious that this location needs a traffic light, the State requires we provide a Traffic Engineering Analysis and Signal Warrant Report. The finance committee unanimously recommends the passage of this article.

Respectfully Submitted,

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

John Parent, Chairman, Justin Provencher, Vice Chairman Guy Beaudette, Claudinor Salomão, Barbara Rose, Michael Downey, Manuel A. Chaves, Steven Domenicucci, Robert Clark

TOWN WARRANT THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS Middlesex, ss.

To any of the constables of the Town of Hudson in the County of Middlesex, Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hudson, qualified to vote in elections and on Town affairs, to assemble in the Hudson High School, Brigham Street, in said Town on

MONDAY, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF

NOVEMBER, 2014

at 7:30 o'clock in the evening. Then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1 Chapter 90 Roadway Funds

To see if the Town will vote to take from available funds the sum of \$594,963 for construction, reconstruction and improvements of Town roads as requested by the Board of Selectmen to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts pursuant to the Town of Hudson's Chapter 90 apportionment for Fiscal 2014; or take any action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works Executive Assistant Board of Selectmen

Article 1: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$594,963 be taken from available funds.

ARTICLE 2 Stabilization Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000, said sum to be transferred to the Stabilization Fund; Or take any action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant Board of Selectmen

Article 2: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$25,000 be raised and appropriated.

ARTICLE 3 School Budget Adjustment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and add to the amount appropriated at the Town Meeting held on May 5, 2014 under Line 59, Hudson Schools Expenses, by the sum of \$269,417, said amount representing sixty percent (60%) of the increase in state aid approved by the legislature from that used in preparing the budget; or take any action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant Board of Selectmen

Article 3: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$269,417 be raised and appropriated.

ARTICLE 4 Non-Union Cost of Living

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$41,062, said sum representing the cost of a 1.5 % cost of living adjustment to the pay of non-union employees for the current fiscal year; said amount to be added to the following Article 2 line items as approved at the Town meeting held on May 5, 2014; or take any action relative thereto.

Department	Line Item	Amount
Executive Assistant	3	\$2,719
Community Development	7	\$2,081
Building Maintenance	10	\$769
Finance	13	\$5,751
Police	33	\$6,133
Fire	35	\$3,352
Inspections	37	\$1,581
Public Works	41	\$8,059
Health	43	\$1,907
Conservation	23	\$551
Council on Aging	45	\$1,061
Town Clerk	15	\$2,190
Veterans	47	\$893
Library	49	\$4,005
Planning Board	25	\$7
Zoning Board of Appeals	21	\$3

Executive Assistant Board of Selectmen

Article 4: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$41,062 be raised and appropriated. Vote 5-0-1

ARTICLE 5 Tax Increment Financing with Hudson Lock

To see if the Town will vote to: (a) approve the signing of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement by and between Hudson Lock, LLC and the Town of Hudson, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 23A, sections 3A through 3H, as amended; for a term of twenty years, for the land at 81 Apsley Street, Hudson, containing approximately 4.53 acres, as shown on Assessor's Map 18, Parcels 203, 151, and 237; a draft of said TIF being on file with the Hudson Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk; (b) authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute said TIF Agreement, and any documents relating thereto, and (c) to take such other actions as are necessary or appropriate to implement those documents; or take any other action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant
Director of Community Development
Board of Selectmen

Article 5: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 6 Senior Tax Credit Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of compensating senior citizens for services rendered to the Town pursuant to an agreement for service to be formulated and approved by the Board of Selectmen. Said sum to be spent under the direction of the Executive Assistant and the Board of Selectmen; or take any action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant Senior Center Director Board of Selectmen

Article 6: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$10,000 be raised and appropriated.

ARTICLE 7 Farley School HVAC Automated System

To see if the Town will transfer \$40,000 from the balance remaining under Article 2 (for a new roof on the pitched sections of the Farley School) of the May 2012 Town Meeting and \$15,000 from the balance remaining under Article 2 (for the application of a restorative membrane to the Forest Avenue School) of the May 2013 Town Meeting to a new project to purchase and install a new HVAC automated system in the Farley School; total cost \$55,000; or take any action relative thereto.

Explanation:

This article does not raise any new funds, but uses excess funding from completed capital school projects and utilizes them for a new school capital project. Savings in the old projects were generated by utilizing in-house staff rather than contractors and favorable bidding results.

Executive Assistant Board of Selectmen

Article 7: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 8 Hudson High School Improvements

To see if the Town will transfer \$46,000 from the balance remaining under Article 2 (for the application of a restorative membrane to the Forest Avenue School) of the May 2013 Town Meeting, and \$14,000 from the balance remaining under Article 2 (for building improvements at the Hudson High School) of the May 2012 Town Meeting to a new project to replace the cafeteria floor in Hudson High School; total cost \$60,000; or take any action relative thereto.

Explanation:

This article does not raise any new funds, but uses excess funding from completed capital school projects and utilizes them for a new school capital project. Savings in the old projects were generated by utilizing in-house staff rather than contractors and favorable bidding results.

Executive Assistant Board of Selectmen

Article 8: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 9 Design and Construction of Roof for the Mulready School

To see if the Town will vote to borrow and appropriate the sum of \$770,000 pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7, Clauses (3), (3A), (21) and (31) or any other general or special law. Said sum to be used for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new roof for the Mulready School; and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue any bonds or notes necessary thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept any state and/or federal aid that may be available therefore, including Massachusetts School Building Authority assistance; or to take an action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant Board of Selectmen

Article 9: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$770,000 be borrowed and appropriated.

ARTICLE 10 Main Street and Lewis Street Traffic Analysis

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of providing a Traffic Engineering Analysis and Signal Warrant Report for the Main Street and Lewis Street Intersection; Or take any action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works Board of Selectmen

Article 10: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$25,000 be taken from available funds.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up copies attested by you in the following places: one at the Post Office, one at the Town House, one at the Office of the Town Clerk, and in six other public places in said Town, Fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting and by publication in a newspaper published in said Town.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk on or before time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 6th day of October signed by the Selectmen in the year Two Thousand and Fourteen.

Fred P. Lucy, II, Chairman

James D. Quinn, Vice Chairman

Scott Duplisea, Clerk

James D. Vereault

Joseph J. Durant

INTRODUCTION TO TOWN MEETING

The Town Meeting is a deliberative assembly, charged with considering a number of questions of varying complexity in a reasonable period of time, and with full regard to the rights of the majority.

AUTHORITY

The three elements of authority at Town Meeting are a quorum of 150 registered voters or more, the Moderator and the Town Clerk. The Moderator presides at and regulates the proceedings, decides all questions of order, and makes declarations of all votes. No one may speak on an issue without being recognized by the Moderator. It is his responsibility to approve the distribution of materials, and persons wishing to do so must seek his permission. The Moderator appoints Tellers and alternates for the purpose of counting votes of the meeting.

THE WARRANT: All matters to be considered at Town Meeting must be published in the Town Meeting Warrant, which is the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen. The Finance Committee reviews the warrant, making recommendations on items of business to be presented. In accordance with the By-Laws, all articles in the Warrant are considered in the order in which they appear in the Warrant, unless the Town Meeting votes otherwise, after reasons have been stated. The Moderator has full discretion to decide whether or not the motion to change the order of articles will be entertained.

PARTICIPATION: All remarks should be limited to the subject then under discussion. It is improper to indulge in references to personalities. The Moderator may request any person to keep silent. If after warning from the Moderator, a person refuses to be silent or persists in other disorderly behavior, the Moderator may order a person to withdraw and if he fails to withdraw, may order a police officer to remove such person from the Meeting. Each individual who speaks to the Meeting should make an effort to be as brief as possible out of consideration for others attending the Meeting and the need to give adequate time to all matters coming before it.

CLASSIFIED MOTIONS: Pursuant to section 8 of article II of the By-Laws of the Town of Hudson, when a question comes before Town Meeting certain motions shall be received and have precedence in the following order:

PRIVILEGED MOTIONS: These are motions that have no connection with the main motion before the Town Meeting, but are motions of such importance that they are entitled to immediate consideration. These motions have the privilege of temporarily setting aside the main business before the Town Meeting.

TO ADJOURN (decided without debate); TO FIX THE TIME FOR ADJOURNMENT; SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS: These are motions that are used to modify or dispose of the main motion being considered. Their existence as motions depend on the main motion to which they are subordinate; TO LAY ON THE TABLE (decided without debate);

FOR THE PREVIOUS QUESTION (decided without debate); TO COMMIT; TO AMEND; TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY

All motions may be withdrawn by the maker if no objection is made.

INFORMATION ON MOTIONS: A motion is the means of bringing a proposal or question before the Meeting for consideration. When put forward it is a motion; after is seconded and acknowledged by the Moderator, it becomes the question or proposal; and if it is approved by the Meeting, it becomes a resolution. Generally, no motion shall be entertained unless the subject is contained within a warrant article. The Moderator shall determine whether a motion is within the "scope of the article," that is, whether the warrant gives adequate notice that the action proposed by the motion might be taken at the Meeting. Articles only give notice and do not initiate action; motions do. Motions may be withdrawn; articles may not be.

Some motions avoid a final determination by the Meeting. A motion to commit or refer sends the matter to an existing board or committee or one to be established. The motion to postpone indefinitely disposes of the question without bringing it to a direct vote. The motion to postpone indefinitely should not be confused with the motion to lay on the table which only temporarily delays a vote.

Pursuant to article II, section 3 of the Town of Hudson By-Laws, no vote of Town Meeting shall be reconsidered except upon notice by an individual who voted with the majority thereon given within one hour of such vote at the same or succeeding session. If the individual who gives notice does not immediately

make such motion, then a motion to reconsider may be made by another individual voter who voted with the majority.

Pursuant to section 4 of article II, no article in the Warrant shall be again taken into consideration after disposed of unless ordered by a vote of two-thirds of the voters present and voting. Pursuant to section 5 of article II, no voter shall speak more than twice upon any question without obtaining leave of Town Meeting except to correct an error or explain a point, nor until all other individuals who have not spoken and so desire have been given the opportunity to speak. Pursuant to section 6 of article II, all motions must be reduced to writing before being submitted to the Town Meeting if required by the Moderator.

Pursuant to section 9 of article II, a motion to receive the report of a committee shall put the report before Town Meeting but not discharge the committee. A vote to accept or adopt such report with or without amendment shall discharge the committee.

Pursuant to section 10 of article II, a 150-voter quorum is required to conduct business at Town Meeting. However, no quorum is needed for a motion to adjourn.

Pursuant to section 11 of article II, articles in a warrant shall be considered in order, except that the Moderator upon request and for reasons stated, may entertain a motion to consider an article out of regular order.

Pursuant to section 12 of article II and in addition to the authority already specified above, the Moderator may administer the oath of office to a town officer chosen at Town Meeting. If a vote declared by the Moderator is immediately questioned by seven or more voters, then the Moderator must verify the vote by polling voters or dividing the Town Meeting. If a two-thirds vote of Town Meeting is required by State Statute, the count shall be taken and the vote recorded by the Town Clerk. However, if the vote is declared to be unanimous, a count is not needed and the Town Clerk shall record the vote as unanimous unless immediately questioned by seven or more voters.

TOWN FINANCE TERMINOLOGY

The following terms are used from time to time in the Annual Report and Town Meeting. In order to provide everyone with a better understanding of the meaning, the following definitions are offered:

SURPLUS REVENUE: (Sometimes referred to as Excess and Deficiency Account). This fund is the amount by which the Cash, Accounts Receivable, and other assets exceed the liabilities and reserves.

AVAILABLE FUNDS: (Often called "Free Cash") This fund represents the amount of money remaining after deducting from the Surplus Revenue all uncollected taxes for prior years, taxes in litigation and court judgments. This fund is certified annually by the State Bureau of Accounts and may be used to defray town costs by a vote of the Town Meeting.

OVERLAY: 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 and exemptions granted and to avoid fractions in the tax rate.

RESERVE FUND: This is a fund established by the voters at the annual town meeting and may consist of direct appropriations or transfers. Transfers from the Reserve Fund are initiated by the Executive Assistant and require the approval of the Finance Committee. The use of the Reserve Fund is restricted to "extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures".