

Proposed Budget-Fiscal Year 2010
For Period: July 2009 – June 2010
Finance Committee
Town of Hanson, Massachusetts
Prepared for Town Meeting May 4, 2009

Michael J. Kelly, Chairman
Sean J. Kealy, Vice Chairman
Manny Depina, Clerk
Peggy O'Toole
Stephen McKinnon
Antonio "Pepper" Santalucia

This time last year State Treasurer Timothy Cahill stated in a Boston Globe article that cities and towns need to start saving to weather the coming economic storm.

"No matter how bad this year was, 2009 is going to be worse".

As it turns out, the State Treasurer was absolutely right. Fortunately, the citizens of Hanson showed great fiscal restraint at the 2008 town meeting. We maintained an adequate amount of money in the stabilization fund that allowed us to make some needed capital expenditures, and gave the town flexibility to manage unknown or unanticipated expenses as the economy worsened.

Sadly, the economy today is far worse than anyone predicted it would be a year ago. The state has cut local aid dramatically. During the last few months, the town has cut an additional \$142,113.00 from the FY2009 budget, resulting in emergency spending cuts. Even worse, if next year's budget were to contain anticipated fixed costs, wage increases, and expenditures to maintain the same level of services (a level services budget), there would be a deficit of **\$602,603**. That would require spending almost all of our stabilization fund. The Finance Committee rejected such spending early in the budgeting process. Spending down the stabilization fund so

dramatically would: hurt the town's ability to borrow money; prevent any capital improvements in the near future—even in the case of an emergency, and would leave us with an inadequate “rainy day fund” to potentially fund next year's budget.

That final reason may be the most important—while the global and national economies may recover during the upcoming months, it will take much longer for the recovery to affect state local aid. We anticipate even deeper local aid cuts next year—not just to the town—but also the Whitman-Hanson School District, which so far has not had its state aid cut.

Tonight, we must preserve as much of the stabilization fund as possible to assure funding basic services and prevent widespread layoffs for both the town and schools in FY 2011.

To accomplish this will require more painful cuts. Hundreds of hours went into developing this budget by the Town Accountant, Selectmen and staff, Finance Committee, and every town department. The budget before you includes the following:

- No wages or benefits at all for part time elected officials (selectmen, members of elected boards, moderator, etc.). Although these expenditures were traditionally small, the positions will now be voluntary.
- A wage freeze for department heads and non-union town employees.
- Level funding of union wages. This means that the Town Administrator and Selectmen will have to ask the union employees to also accept a wage freeze. If this does not happen, layoffs will take place to make up the difference.
- A cut to the expense lines of every department of approximately 10%.
- Level service funding of the Whitman-Hanson School District at \$6,521,954.00

The Finance Committee worked hard to prevent deep cuts to the school budgets. The Whitman-Hanson School District provided us with two budgets during a very lengthy meeting in February. One was a level service budget and another provided a 2% increase in funding. Given the deep cuts outlined above, and the fact that the schools have not had their state funding cut at all so far, we did not

feel it was responsible to recommend increasing their budget even by a modest 2%. This is especially true given the fact that the school's level service budget includes wage increases for both administrators and union school employees. The School district will also receive about \$500,000.00 in Stimulus Funding this year. We hope—but can not demand—that the schools follow the town's example and avoid layoffs through voluntary wage freezes by all employees. Ultimately, school funding was an important priority and is one of the only parts of the budget that was not significantly decreased.

South Shore Regional School District proposed budget for 2010 is \$26,466.00 less than 2009. This was accomplished by cutting expenses and renegotiating wage increases with the staff.

These measures leave us with a deficit of **\$398,953**. We recommend using funds recently received from the MBTE settlement to balance the books. Although we are uncomfortable using one time funds to finance the budget, it is preferable to spending down the stabilization fund.

On a positive note, the fiscal restraint shown by the town over the last few years puts us in a more stable and stronger position than many towns in our area.

Going forward, we have recommended several steps to the Selectmen that may make the town operations more efficient and save money in future budgets. These include:

- Consider restructuring town departments and boards for greater efficiency;
- Have an outside agency perform an energy audit of all town buildings;
- Take advantage of the free consulting services from the Department of Revenue's Division of Local Services to audit each department's finances and operations making recommendations on how they can be run more efficiently;
- Maximize the use of town assets, and consider selling unused or valuable assets, such as the old police station, to bring some money back into the general fund;

- Negotiate job sharing with other towns;
- Consider reducing the number of hours a week departments are open.

We hope that you will understand that the cuts made in this budget were not easy to make but were absolutely necessary. We also hope you will join us in not just spending for 2010, but saving for what may be an even more difficult 2011. We hope you will vote to adopt the budget as recommended by the Finance Committee.

	FY 08	FY 09	FY10	FY 10	FIN COM	
	EXPENDED	APPR.	Requested	TA Recommended	RECOMMEND	\$ Diff vs 09 appr.
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	4,102,949	3,882,599	4,274,722	3,979,084	3,921,991	39,392
109. 330-5334 South Shore Vo-Tech	488,580	517,102	537,955	537,955	537,955	20,853
110. 330-5320 Other Tuition & Transp.	24,550	65,441	65,441	110,385	110,385	44,944
111. 310-5331 Non-Mandated Busing	87,415	108,574	119,867	119,867	119,867	11,293
112. 320-5925 Exempt Debt. & Int.	456,548	123,210	345,801	345,801	345,801	222,591
113. 320-5320 Whitman Hanson Regional	6,385,260	6,630,430	6,652,393	6,652,393	6,521,954	(108,476)
TOTAL EDUCATION	7,442,353	7,444,757	7,721,457	7,766,401	7,635,962	191,205
SUB TOTAL	16,856,684	17,099,329	17,980,837	17,570,149	17,225,797	126,468

WATER DEPARTMENT

114. 450-5111 Board Members Wages	7,813	7,813	7,813	0	0	(7,813)
115. 450-5112 Water Superintendent	62,073	63,935	63,935	65,853	63,935	0
116. 450-5113 Water Other Wages	226,911	248,156	254,520	254,520	248,156	0
117. 450-5114 Water Dept. Reimburse to Town	96,315	102,095	102,095	102,095	102,095	0
118. 450-5201 Water Dept. Expenses	359,941	403,384	479,164	479,164	276,384	(127,000)
118A 450-5307 Water Legal	3,592	25,000	25,000	25,000	10,000	(15,000)
119. 450-5925 Water Dept Debt & Int	331,095	362,845	349,896	349,896	349,896	(12,949)
TOTAL	1,087,740	1,213,228	1,282,423	1,276,528	1,050,466	(162,762)

GRAND TOTAL	17,944,424	18,312,557	19,263,260	18,846,677	18,276,263	(36,294)
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Additions: Articles				563,350	563,350	0
Capital Improvements	146,800				SEE WARRANT	0
Court Settlement						0
Articles-Supprt Organizations						0
Retirement-Buy Outs						0
Other Articles						
Sub-total	18,091,224	18,312,557	19,263,260	19,410,027	18,839,613	527,056
Minus Water Dept.	1,087,740	1,213,228	1,282,423	1,276,528	1,050,466	(162,762)
TOTAL NET REQUESTED	17,003,484	17,099,329	17,980,837	18,133,499	17,789,147	689,818
AVAILABLE REVENUE					17,789,147	

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	EXPENDED	APPR.	Requested	TA Recommended	RECOMMEND	\$ Diff vs 09 appr.
FIXED COSTS						
1. 710-5914 Maturing Debt	178,499	118,733	118,974	118,974	118,974	241
2. 710-5912 Debt Exclusion	0	254,000	280,000	280,000	280,000	26,000
3. 750-5915 Interest Exp. Debt	57,872	53,169	47,309	47,309	47,309	(5,860)
4. 750-5925 Interest Debt Exclusion	210,460	171,699	176,887	176,887	176,887	5,188
5. 911-5174 Plymouth County Retirement*	756,466	835,922	864,761	864,761	864,761	28,839
6. 914-5172 Town Benefits	1,199,046	1,240,000	1,260,000	1,260,000	1,260,000	20,000
7. 945-5740 Town Insurance	206,299	229,836	229,836	229,836	229,836	0
8. 913-5173 Unemployment	4,156	15,360	15,360	15,360	35,360	20,000
TOTAL FIXED COSTS	2,612,798	2,918,719	2,993,127	2,993,127	3,013,127	94,408
TOWN SERVICES						
9. 132-5201 Reserve Fund	45,000	50,000	50,000	40,000	50,000	0
10. 125-5790 Town Vehicles	67,967	63,500	65,500	65,500	36,922	(26,578)
10A. 420-5210 Town Gasoline	121,038	100,000	113,700	103,360	103,360	3,360
11. 122-5342 Printing	4,528	6,000	6,000	4,860	4,860	(1,140)
12. 155-5303 Computer Services	73,908	81,000	81,000	81,000	81,000	0
13. 155-5341 Postage	26,000	26,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	(1,000)
14. 151-5301 Legal	103,336	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	0
15. 122-5271 Copier Supplies	9,683	13,500	10,935	10,935	10,935	(2,565)
16. 155-5300 Engineering	0	4,000	3,240	3,240	3,240	(760)
16A 155-5302 Demolition	0	0	0	0	0	0
16B 155-5313 Harvester	0	1,500	1,215	1,215	1,215	(285)
17. 155-5310 Town Audit	5,499	23,500	24,000	24,000	24,000	500
TOTAL TOWN SERVICES	456,959	449,000	460,590	439,110	420,532	(28,468)
MAINTENANCE OF TOWN BUILDINGS						
18. 197-5201 Utilities	237,553	215,000	215,000	215,000	215,000	0
19. 192-5113 Town Bldgs Custodial Wages	75,968	76,555	80,832	80,832	76,555	0
20. 192-5201 Town Hall Expenses	19,873	19,760	19,760	19,760	17,784	(1,976)
21. 210-5795 Police Dept. Bldg. Mainten.	9,630	22,230	22,230	22,230	20,007	(2,223)
22. 220-5795 Fire Dept. Bldg. Mainten.	7,500	7,500	10,500	7,500	6,750	(750)
23. 541-5116 Elder Affairs Custodian	0	0	0	0	0	0
24. 541-5795 Eld. Aff. Bldg. Mainten.	0	0	0	0	0	0
25. 610-5116 Library Custodian	0	0	0	0	0	0

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	EXPENDED	APPR.	Requested	TA Recommended	RECOMMEND	\$ Diff vs 09 appr.
26. 610-5795 Library Bldg. Mainten.	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL TOWN BUILDINGS	350,524	341,045	348,322	345,322	336,096	(4,949)
TOWN GOVERNMENT						
27. 114-5113 Moderator Wages	382	382	382	0	0	(382)
28. 122-5110 Selectmen Board Wages	7,813	7,813	7,813	0	0	(7,813)
29. 122-5111 Selectmen Other Wages	43,141	44,235	45,562	45,562	44,235	(0)
30. 122-5114 Selectmen Clerical Wages	582,579	614,023	614,517	614,517	598,988	(15,035)
31. 122-5201 Selectmen Expenses	6,116	9,500	9,500	7,696	8,550	(950)
32. 124-5112 Town Administrator Wages	87,550	90,176	92,881	92,881	75,000	(15,176)
33. 124-5201 Town Administrator Expenses	797	1,000	1,000	810	900	(100)
34. 131-5790 Finance Committee Expenses	1,068	1,500	1,210	985	1,000	(500)
35. 135-5112 Town Accountant Wages	61,800	63,654	65,564	65,564	63,654	0
35A 135-5112 Interim Wages	0	0	0	0	0	0
36. 135-5201 Town Accountant Expenses	920	1,580	1,580	1,580	1,422	(158)
37. Assessor's Board Wages	4,927	4,927	4,927	0	0	(4,927)
38. Assessor's Other Wages	66,832	68,827	70,891	70,891	68,827	0
39. 141-5201 Assessors Expenses	6,944	8,966	8,966	8,966	8,069	(897)
40. 145-5112 Treas/Collector Wages	58,849	63,654	65,564	65,564	63,654	0
41. 145-5118 Treas/Col Certification	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
42. 145-5201 Treas/Collector Expense	7,435	7,680	6,221	6,221	6,912	(768)
43. 145-5190 Treas Contracted Charge	1,125	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0
44. 161-5112 Town Clerk Wages	55,167	56,820	56,820	58,525	56,820	0
44a 161-5118 Clerk's Certification	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
45. 161-5201 Town Clerk Expenses	4,329	4,551	2,576	4,551	4,096	(455)
46. 162-5114 Election Wages	4,304	8,713	2,574	2,574	2,574	(6,139)
47. 162-5790 Election Expenses	7,418	9,910	4,990	4,990	4,990	(4,920)
48. 163-5113 Registrars Wages	6,735	7,700	6,237	6,237	6,237	(1,463)
49. 163-5201 Registrars Expenses	2,061	2,200	1,782	1,782	1,782	(418)
50. 171-5790 Conservation Expenses	3,997	3,726	3,353	3,353	3,726	0
51. 172-5112 Conservation Agent Wages	0	48,183	49,628	49,628	48,183	0
52. 172-5201 Conservation Agent Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
52A 175-5113 Planning Bd. Wages	7,813	7,813	7,813	0	0	(7,813)
53. 175-5201 Planning Board Expenses	3,325	2,994	2,694	2,694	2,993	(1)
54. 176-5201 Appeals Board Expenses	800	800	648	648	720	(80)
55. 186-5112 Town Planner Wages	67,738	69,770	71,863	71,863	69,770	0
56. 186-5790 Town Planner Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	0
56A 186-5118 Town Planner Stipend	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0

	FY 08	FY 09	FY10	FY 10	FIN COM	
	EXPENDED	APPR.	Requested	TA Recommended	RECOMMEND	\$ Diff vs 09 appr.
57. 241-5112 Building Inspector Wages	57,932	57,932	65,000	30,000	30,000	(27,932)
58. 241-5113 Bldg Inspector Other Wages	1,102	1,102	1,102	1,135	1,130	28
59. 241-5201 Building Inspector Expenses	4,037	4,037	4,583	4,043	3,600	(437)
60. 242-5112 Gas Inspector Wages*	5,085	5,085	5,085	5,238	5,085	0
61. 242-5201 Gas Inspector Expenses	850	850	1,250	850	450	(400)
62. 243-5112 Plumbing Inspector Wages	6,249	6,249	9,300	6,436	6,405	156
63. 243-5790 Plumbing Inspector Expenses	975	975	1,280	975	540	(435)
64. 244-5112 Sealer of Weights Wages	2,814	2,884	2,970	2,970	2,884	0
65. 244-5790 Sealer of Weights Expenses	449	400	400	400	360	(40)
66. 245-5112 Wire Inspector Wages	22,432	22,432	22,432	23,104	22,993	561
67. 245-5790 Wire Inspector Expenses*	1,400	1,400	1,520	1,400	1,238	(162)
68. 293-5112 Animal Control Wages	25,054	25,680	26,450	26,450	25,680	0
69. 293-5790 Animal Control Expenses	1,800	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,170	(130)
70. 297-5112 Tree Dept. Wages	2,546	2,609	3,000	2,687	2,609	0
71. 297-5790 Tree Dept. Expenses	3,000	3,500	15,000	15,000	3,500	0
72. 430-5112 Disposal Area Wages	39,093	39,114	41,959	41,959	40,737	1,623
73. 430-5201 Disposal Area Expenses	1,235	1,000	1,408	1,100	900	(100)
74. 430-5291 Disposal Area Operations	190,935	210,475	275,502	254,783	180,475	(30,000)
75. 511-5111 Health Board Wages	4,927	4,927	4,927	0	0	(4,927)
76. 511-5113 Health Board Other Wages	53,622	57,776	59,509	59,509	57,776	0
77. 511-5201 Health Board Expenses	6,899	6,000	10,408	6,000	5,400	(600)
78. 511-5882 VNA Services	4,500	4,500	4,635	4,635	3,221	(1,279)
79. 541-5112 Elder Affairs Wages	41,136	46,313	46,313	47,007	46,313	0
80. 541-5113 Elder Affairs Other Wages	35,365	37,417	38,836	15,577	15,577	(21,840)
81. 541-5201 Elder Affairs Expenses	9,899	13,850	13,404	13,350	12,465	(1,385)
82. 541-5882 Elder Affairs VNA Services	7,560	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400	0
83. 543-5113 Veterans Agent Wages	12,472	12,846	17,989	13,231	12,846	0
84. 543-5114 Veterans Clerical	7,097	7,274	7,492	7,492	7,274	0
85. 543-5790 Veterans Expenses	2,650	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,250	(250)
86. 543-5770 Veterans Benefits	15,000	20,000	23,690	15,000	15,000	(5,000)
86A.548-5790 Patriotic Observance	1,000	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,000	0
87. 544-5790 Care of Soldiers Graves	1,500	1,500	2,000	1,500	1,500	0
88. 610-5112 Librarian Wages	47,272	51,780	53,333	53,333	51,780	0
89. 610-5114 Library Other Wages	50,427	54,545	65,023	56,199	54,569	24
90. 610-5201 Library Expenses	76,566	78,448	79,550	78,448	74,848	(3,600)
91. 632-5113 Recreation Wages	30,256	38,012	38,012	38,012	38,012	0
91A 636-5201 Parks & Fields	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	9,000	(1,000)

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	EXPENDED	APPR.	Requested	TA Recommended	RECOMMEND	\$ Diff vs 09 appr.
91B 649-5790 Thomas Mill Committee	0	0	0	0	0	0
91C 650-5790 Town Forest Committee	0	0		0	0	0
TOTAL TOWN GOVERNMENT	1,891,100	2,063,209	2,182,618	2,047,105	1,898,089	(165,120)
PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS						
HIGHWAY						
92. 420-5112 Highway Surveyor Wages	66,974	68,983	71,052	71,052	68,983	0
93. 420-5113 Highway Dept. Wages	320,075	309,780	337,941	321,716	320,075	10,295
94. 420-5201 Highway Expenses	27,166	26,950	26,950	26,950	25,950	(1,000)
95 420-5850 Lease Payments	0	0	0	0	0	0
96. 420-5840 High. Road Repair & Drain	28,122	21,000	26,000	26,000	21,000	0
97. 420-5292 Highway Snow Operations	296,836	75,000	163,500	75,000	75,000	0
98. 420-5532 Street Signs & Lines	13,840	14,000	18,000	18,000	14,000	0
99. 4205533 Street Sweeping	33,756	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	0
SUB-TOTAL	786,769	539,713	667,443	562,718	549,008	9,295
POLICE DEPARTMENT						
100. 210-5112 Police Chief Wages	89,534	92,220	94,986	94,986	92,220	0
101. 210-5113 Police Other Wages	1,374,638	1,381,611	1,421,527	1,396,527	1,381,611	0
101A 210-5113 Other Wages-Quinn Bill	92,506	92,906	92,955	92,955	92,906	0
102. 210-5201 Police Expenses	88,500	98,325	98,325	98,325	81,600	(16,725)
SUB-TOTAL	1,645,178	1,665,062	1,707,793	1,682,793	1,648,337	(16,725)
103. 215-5115 Com. Center Dispatchers	260,269	245,269	254,324	254,324	251,638	6,369
104. 215-5201 Com. Center Expenses	25,000	24,400	26,240	24,400	23,424	(976)
SUB-TOTAL	285,269	269,669	280,564	278,724	275,062	5,393
FIRE DEPARTMENT						
105. 220-5112 Fire Chief Wages	80,744	83,166	85,660	85,660	83,166	0
106. 220-5110 Firefighters-F/T Wages	1,153,021	1,173,021	1,294,324	1,217,021	1,217,021	44,000
107. 220-5113 Firefighters-P/T Wages	41,363	41,363	58,363	41,363	41,363	0
108. 220-5201 Fire Dept. Expense	69,085	69,085	106,035	69,285	68,285	(800)
108A 220-5850 Equipment Outlay	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0
108B 220-5850 Lease Purchase	33,020	33,020	66,040	33,020	33,020	0
108C 220-5525 Education Fire safety	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	4,729	(1,771)
SUB-TOTAL	1,385,733	1,408,155	1,618,922	1,454,849	1,449,584	41,429

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