

# Town Meeting

**PLYMOUTH, SS.**

**To either of the Constables of the Town of Hanson, in the County of Plymouth  
GREETINGS,**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hanson, qualified to vote in Town affairs, and elections, to meet in the Auditorium of the Middle School (off Liberty Street), in said Hanson on Monday the **First day of May, 2017** at 7:30 o'clock in the afternoon to act on the articles in this warrant and furthermore to meet in the Maquan School Auditorium and Cafeteria, on School Street, in said Hanson on Saturday, the **Twentieth of May, 2017** at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, to bring in their votes for Town Officials as stipulated in **Article 33** of this warrant.

**ARTICLE 1:** To hear reports of the various Town Officers, Committees, Special Committees, and act thereon.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** The Reports voted on are those published in the **2016** Town Report.

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal 2018 as permitted by Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Treasurer/Collector

**Explanation:** Every year this article is voted. It simply allows the Treasurer/Collector to maintain accounts using credits instead of money to pay for banking charges.

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$20,000 from overlay surplus for the Treasurer/Collectors tax title account or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Treasurer/Collector

**Explanation:** This money will be used to cover the costs incurred for filing and advertising properties with delinquent taxes, and also to pay any legal fees resulting from this process.

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**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to fix the Salary and Compensation of all paid Elected Officers and Committees of the Town as follows:

	FY17	FY18
Town Clerk	\$65,887.00	\$67,187.00
Tree Warden	\$2,995.00	\$3,055.00

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

**Explanation:** This article sets the salaries limits for the elected officials.  
Article 5 funds the salaries.

**ARTICLE 5:** To determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation, transfer from free cash, transfer from Town Ambulance Funds, Water Department Revenue, Water Surplus, Title V Special Revenue Fund, MWPAT Loan Repayments Receipts Reserved for Appropriation, Conservation Notice of Intent Fund, Overlay Surplus, Fund Balance Reserved for Reduction of Future Excluded Debt, and Election Fund Ch. 503, Acts of 1983 to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including Debt and Interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for the **2018 Fiscal Year** or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This article refers to the FY 2018 Annual Budget Lines

**ARTICLE 6:** To determine whether the Town will appropriate and raise by taxation or transfer from other available funds an additional sum of money for paying the Town's assessed share of the Fiscal Year 2018 operating budget of the Whitman Hanson Regional School District; provided, however, that the amounts raised and appropriated hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters at an election of a so-called Proposition 2 ½ override question in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 21C(g) of the General Laws or take any other action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This article also requires the voter approval of the ballot question at the May 20, 2017 Annual Town Election. If so approved, the funds will be added to the Whitman Hanson Regional School budget.

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**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund collective bargaining agreements with any one or more of the following employee organizations for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017:

1. Hanson Municipal Employees, AFSCME, Council 93, Local 1700,  
Hanson Administrative Professionals Union
2. Hanson Police Dispatchers, AFSCME, Council 93, Local 1700,  
Hanson Police Dispatchers Union
3. Hanson Permanent Firefighter's Association, A.F.L.-C.I.O., Local 2713
4. Hanson Highway Employees, AFSCME Council 93, Local 1700,  
Hanson Highway Union
5. Hanson Police Officers, Hanson Police Relief Association/MassCop Local 408

or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This article will fund collective bargaining agreements for positions in each of the contracts to be noted in the motion to be made at Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Recreation Department during fiscal year 2017, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F ½.

<b>Estimated Revenues</b>	<b>FY 17</b>	<b>FY 18</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Program Receipts (fees)	\$278,000	\$291,600
Retained Earnings	\$ 35,000	-----
Taxation	<u>\$ 28,184</u>	<u>\$</u>
Total Budgeted Revenues:	\$341,184	\$291,600

<b>Estimated Expenses</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
Salaries	\$184,184	\$179,600	Program Revenues
Expenses	\$138,000	\$ 87,000	Program Revenues
Indirect Costs	<u>\$ 19,000</u>	<u>\$ 25,000</u>	Program Revenues
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$341,184	\$291,600	

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Recreation Commission

**Explanation:** Recreation program cost now shown in this Enterprise Fund budget. With the exception of the Administrative Assistant position, all costs related to the operation of Camp Kiwanee are projected to be offset by the program revenues. All surpluses of this account at the end of the year will remain within the account.

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**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Transfer Station during fiscal year 2017, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F ½ .

<b>Estimated Revenues</b>	<b>FY17</b>	<b>FY 18</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Program Receipts (fees)	\$220,750	\$220,750
Retained Earnings	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000
Taxation	<u>\$100,553</u>	<u>\$ 85,465</u>
Total Budgeted Revenues:	\$346,303	\$326,215

<b>Estimated Expenses</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
Salaries	\$116,877	\$115,289      \$43,500 Program Revenue \$20,000 Retained Earning <u>\$51,789 Taxation</u>
Expenses	\$195,750	\$177,250      Program Revenue
Indirect Costs	<u>\$ 33,676</u>	<u>\$ 33,676</u> Taxation
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$346,303	\$326,215

or take any other action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Board of Health

**Explanation:** The total cost of operating the Transfer Station is \$326,215. A portion of the Salaries \$51,789 and expenses \$33,676 will come from general taxation. The balance of expenses \$240,750.00 will be paid through the Enterprise Fund.

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from **Fiscal Year 2018 Community Preservation Fund estimated** annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2018, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

**Appropriations:**

From FY 2018 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses      \$ 10,000

**Reserves:**

From FY 2018 estimated revenues for Historic Resource Reserve	\$25,000
From FY 2018 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$25,000
From FY 2018 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$25,000
From FY 2018 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$150,000

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee



**Explanation:** This article ensures that Hanson's Community Preservation Accounts are compliant with the Community Preservation Act which requires that a certain portion of the CPA funds be set aside for open space projects, community housing projects, historical projects and recreation projects. In addition, it sets aside money for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee.

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$25,000 from the Community Housing Reserve to the Hanson Housing Authority for the purposes of developing a Housing Production Plan or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

**Explanation:** The Housing Production Plan (HPP) will assist the Hanson Housing Authority in addressing the town's need for affordable housing. This plan is developed locally and, if adopted, can influence and inform how, when, and where affordable housing is built in town. Development of an HPP begins with a needs and demand assessment, an identification of housing stock, a review of demographics, an assessment of development constraints, a solicitation of public input, the establishment of housing goals, and ultimately the adoption of the plan by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen.

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$10,000 from Historic Resources Community Preservation Fund for the purposes of repairing and painting the exterior of the town-owned Schoolhouse #4 located at 565 Main St., Hanson, MA or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

**Explanation:** This single-story wood frame structure was built in 1845, and is the town's oldest surviving schoolhouse. This structure currently serves as a museum and meeting space operated by the local historical society. Repairing and painting this structure will insure that part of Hanson's rich history will be enjoyed by future generations.

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**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$8,000 from Open Space Reserve to the Conservation Commission for the purposes of improving access and passive recreational opportunities at the town-owned Poor Meadow Brook Conservation area or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

***Explanation:*** This property is currently owned by the town and under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission would like to enhance the taxpayers opportunities for enjoyment of this property. Improvements will include but not be limited to; improving the parking area, improving site signage, providing for ADA access , and increasing accessibility of the paths.

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Capital Improvement Program as presented by the Capital Improvement Committee or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Comm.  
And Board of Selectmen

***Explanation:*** This is the annual article which approves the Capital Improvement matrix for the next fiscal year.

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and/or transfer from available funds to various department Capital Accounts for the following items or take any other action in relation thereto.

Line	Dept.	Item	FY18 CIP Report	Town Admin. Recommendation	Funding Source
1	Fire Department	Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Bottles	\$68,960		Free Cash
2	Fire Department	Replace Car 2	\$60,000		Free Cash
3	Selectmen	Security Access at Town Hall	\$60,000		Free Cash

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4	<b>Highway</b>	Purchase dump truck with sander	\$275,000		Free Cash
5	<b>School – Maquan &amp; Indian Head</b>	Update Security Cameras	\$60,000		Free Cash
6	<b>School – Indian Head</b>	Replace Roof Top Unit above kitchen	\$45,000		Free Cash
7	<b>School – Indian Head</b>	Original Ceiling removal	\$40,000		Free Cash
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$608,960</b>		

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee &  
Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** *Item 1-* After 15 years the SCBA Bottles are deemed unusable by the National Fire Protection Association and cannot be refilled. They were last refilled in November 2002 *Item 2* – Purchase & Equip a new vehicle to replace Car 2 - a 2009 Ford Explore which will be declared surplus *Item 3* Security card access to the Town Hall entrances *Item 4* New heavy duty 10 wheel dump truck *Item 5* Replace aging security cameras system. Replace existing and add additional interior and exterior cameras for better coverage of the school and grounds. The existing security cameras were originally installed in 1997. The cameras are very problematic and are in need of replacement. *Item 6-* The current roof top unit above kitchen has intermittently failed ignition which has led to high levels of CO2 in the school. *Item 7–* Remove the original (1951) plaster and metal lath ceilings that were damaged beyond repair from the 1999 renovation. Install new acoustic ceiling where needed.

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from available funds \$271,016 to Capital Accounts for the following Whitman Hanson Regional High School items or take any other action in relation thereto.

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Line	Dept.	Item	FY16 CIP Report	Town Admin. Recommendation	Funding Source
1	School – High School	Turf Field Replacement	\$171,913		Free Cash
2	School – High School	Roadway Repair	\$84,945		Raise & Appropriate
3	School – High School	Replace Hot Water heaters	14,158.00		Raise & Appropriate
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$271,016</b>		

**Explanation:** *Item 1* – Turf field installed in 2005 and the entire field needs to be replaced due to high usage and seam failure. Turf Warranty = 8 years. Typical turf field life expectancy = 10 years. *Item 2* - Condition of the existing entrance roadway sections are in poor shape and it needs to be replaced. We are starting to see a deterioration of asphalt beyond repair. *Item 3* - Replace the current water heater for kitchen and boys/girls locker room area with energy efficient unit. The water heater is not functioning properly. It is periodically leaking and showing signs of fatigue in the tank. This is the only water heater that services this area.

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and enter into a contract for the expenditure of any allocated or to be allocated funds by the Commonwealth and/or County for the construction, reconstruction and improvements of Town roads. Said sum of money to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, or to take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This article is a requirement of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the Town of Hanson to accept state funding, including Chapter 90 funding for accepted roadways. This article authorizes use of funds which will be 100% reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The budget approved each fiscal year by the legislature and governor establishes the total funding available for Chapter 90 local transportation aid for that year. These funds are then apportioned to the 351 Massachusetts towns and cities.

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from free cash and/or available funds a sum of money to be used to advance the Maquan Street/Route 14 Reconstruction project from the Project Review Committee (PRC) review or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

***Explanation:*** The Maquan Street/Route 14 Reconstruction Project is ultimately anticipated to include improvements to traffic circulation and safety, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and roadway flooding along Maquan Street from Liberty Street (Route 58) and Indian Head Street to the Pembroke Town Line, a distance of approximately 1.2 miles and link pedestrian and bicycle accommodations from the existing Indian Head School, Maquan Elementary School, Hanson Public Library and sports fields with Maquan Street and its abutting neighborhoods.

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to replenish the Conservation Fund for open space management and related conservation purposes or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

***Explanation:*** The task of *implementing* the Open Space and Recreation Plan is currently one of the more important responsibilities of the Conservation Commission. Some of the goals of the OSRP are to: acquire land or conservation restrictions to permanently protect open space; provide a linked system of open space, trails and greenways that are accessible to the public; improve public access, such as the creation of parking spaces at open space parcels; and provide passive recreation information by providing maps of public lands, installing kiosks at open space parcels, and providing signs for existing municipal open space. Several of these important goals were accomplished in 2013 aided by the use of Conservation Funds.

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to approve and authorize, as provided in MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½, the retention of grants and fees generated by the Hanson Conservation Commission's Forestry Stewardship Program, to be used to manage and maintain the Town's forests located on various Conservation Lands, on a year round basis and to establish a revolving fund for such purposes, from which the Conservation Commission will be authorized to make expenditures and shall have an upper limit of an amount of \$15,000, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

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***Explanation:*** Such a fund will be useful in better enabling the Conservation Commission to do its job of managing its properties for public enjoyment and benefit. Forest stewardship includes many details such as marking of trails, wildlife habitat improvement, reduction of problems such as invasive species, poison ivy, and hazardous dead trees, maintenance of gates to prevent unauthorized vehicular access, and more. This fund will mean fewer requests for taxpayers to provide funds for public forest management.

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$75,000 from Water Revenues to be added to the funds appropriated under Article 16, Water Meters of the October 6, 1997 Special Town Meeting for the purpose of purchasing new water meters and related equipment for the water department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

***Explanation:*** This meter replacement is the continuing program designed to maintain accurate reading records.

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$70,000 from Water Surplus to purchase a new truck for the water department or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

***Explanation:*** This truck will replace the 2008 Ford F350 dump truck that has over 100,000 miles.

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$20,000 from Water Revenues to be added to the 1992 Town Meeting Water Emergency Fund Article 15 or take any other action thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

***Explanation:*** This article is basically to replenish the Emergency Line which is used for unexpected expenses that are not budgeted for in the general budget line.

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$150,000 from Water Surplus to purchase a new backhoe for the water department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

***Explanation:*** This will replace the 1999 Backhoe that the water department currently has. This backhoe is almost twenty years old and time to upgrade.

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will transfer \$100,000 from Water Surplus to replace several water gates throughout the town's water system that are not working properly or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

***Explanation:*** Various gates in town are over 50 years old and do not operate properly. This article is basically to have a contractor come in and replace them.

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts Land Use Regulations **Zoning By-law, Section 6** by adding subsection **N Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations** to designate requirements for as-of-right siting of renewable or alternative energy generating facilities, as set forth below; and

Also to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning By-law, **Table of Contents Section** to reflect these amendments to the zoning by-laws, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

## **N Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations**

### **1. Purpose**

The purpose of this by-law is to promote the creation of new large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations by providing standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of such installations that address public safety, minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources and to provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such installations.

The provisions set forth in this section shall apply to the construction, operation, and/or repair of large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations.

### **2. Applicability**

This section applies to large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations proposed to be constructed after the effective date of this section. This section also pertains to physical



modifications that materially alter the type, configuration, or size of these installations or related equipment.

### 3. Definitions

**As-of-Right Siting:** As-of-Right Siting shall mean that development may proceed without the need for a special permit, variance, amendment, waiver, or other discretionary approval. As-of-right development may be subject to site plan review to determine conformance with local zoning ordinances or by-laws. Projects cannot be prohibited, but can be reasonably regulated by the building inspector, consistent with G.L. c.40A and this By-law.

**Building Inspector:** The inspector of buildings, building commissioner, or local inspector, or person or board designated by local ordinance or by-law charged with the enforcement of the zoning ordinance.

**Building Permit:** A construction permit issued by an authorized building inspector; the building permit evidences that the project is consistent with the state and federal building codes as well as local zoning by-laws, including those governing ground-mounted large-scale solar photovoltaic installations.

**Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation:** A solar photovoltaic system that is structurally mounted on the ground and is not roof-mounted, and has a minimum nameplate capacity of 250kW DC.

**On-Site Solar Photovoltaic Installation:** A solar photovoltaic installation that is constructed at a location where other uses of the underlying property occur.

**Rated Nameplate Capacity:** The maximum rated output of electric power production of the Photovoltaic system in Direct Current (DC).

**Site Plan Review:** Review by the Site Plan Review Authority to determine conformance with local zoning ordinances or by-laws. After approval, any modification to the approved plan requires review and approval by the Site Plan Review Authority.

**Site Plan Review Authority:** For purposes of this by-law, Site Plan Review Authority refers to the Town of Hanson Planning Board.

**Setback:** A setback shall be measured from the property line to the area of disturbance of the existing conditions for the purpose of constructing a solar facility.

**Zoning Enforcement Authority:** The person or board charged with enforcing the zoning ordinances or by-laws.

### 4. General Requirements for all Large-Scale Solar Power Generation Installations

The following requirements are common to all solar photovoltaic installations to be sited in designated locations.

#### a. Compliance with Laws, Ordinances and Regulations

The construction and operation of all large scale solar photovoltaic installations shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal requirements, including but not limited to all applicable safety, construction, electrical, and communications requirements. All

buildings and fixtures forming part of a solar photovoltaic installation shall be constructed in accordance with the State Building Code.

b. **Building Permit and Building Inspection**

No large scale solar photovoltaic installation shall be constructed, installed or modified as provided in this section without first obtaining a building permit.

- c. **Minimum Lot Size:** The minimum lot size shall be 5 acres for projects located within the Agricultural – Recreation, Residential A, Residential AA and Residential B zoning districts. The minimum lot size shall be 4 acres for projects located within the Business, Commercial – Industrial and Flexible Use Zoning Districts.

**5. Site Plan Review**

a. **General**

All plans and maps shall be prepared, stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in Massachusetts.

b. **Required Documents**

Pursuant to the site plan review process, the project proponent shall provide the following documents:

- I. A site plan showing:
  - i. Property lines and physical features, including roads, for the project site;
  - ii. Proposed changes to the landscape of the site, grading, vegetation clearing and planting, exterior lighting, screening vegetation or structures;
  - iii. Blueprints or drawings of the solar photovoltaic installation signed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts showing the proposed layout of the system and any potential shading from nearby structures;
  - iv. One or three line electrical diagram detailing the solar photovoltaic installation, associated components, and electrical interconnection methods, with all National Electrical Code compliant disconnects and over-current devices;
  - v. Documentation of the major system components to be used, including the PV panels, mounting system, and inverter;
  - vi. Name, address, and contact information for proposed system installer;
  - vii. Name, address, phone number and signature of the project proponent, as well as all co-proponents or property owners, if any;
  - viii. The name, contact information and signature of any agents representing the project proponent;
  - ix. Drainage plans complying with all best management practices and storm water management guidelines.
- II. Zoning district designation for the parcel(s) of land comprising the project site (submission of a copy of a zoning map with the parcel(s) identified is suitable for this purpose);
- III. Proof of liability insurance; and
- IV. Description of financial surety that satisfies Section 13.C.

The Site Plan Review Authority may waive documentary requirements or require additional materials as it deems appropriate.

**6. Site Control**

The project proponent shall submit documentation of actual or prospective access and control of the project site sufficient to allow for construction and operation of the proposed solar photovoltaic installation.

**7. Operation & Maintenance Plan**

The project proponent shall submit a plan for the operation and maintenance of the large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation, which shall include measures for maintaining safe access to the installation, storm water controls, as well as general procedures for operational maintenance of the installation.

**8. Utility Notification**

No large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation shall be constructed until written evidence has been given to the Site Plan Review Authority that the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the installation is to be located has been informed of the solar photovoltaic installation owner or operator's intent to install an interconnected customer-owned generator. Off-grid systems shall be exempt from this requirement.

**9. Dimension and Density Requirements**

**a. Setbacks**

For large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations, front, side and rear setbacks from the property line shall be as follows:

- I. **Front yard:** The front yard depth shall be at least one hundred (100) feet; fifty (50) feet of this setback requirement shall be vegetated with evergreen plantings of a minimum height of six (6) feet with plant spacing to accomplish the requirement of shielding the array from view.
- II. **Side yard:** Each side yard shall have a depth at least fifty (50) feet; this setback requirement shall be vegetated with evergreen plantings of a minimum height of six (6) feet with plant spacing to accomplish the requirement of shielding the array from view. Where the lot abuts a Conservation-Recreation or Residential district, the side yard setback requirement shall not be less than one hundred (100) feet.
- III. **Rear yard:** The rear yard depth shall be at least fifty (50) feet; this setback requirement shall be vegetated with evergreen plantings of a minimum height of six (6) feet with plant spacing to accomplish the requirement of shielding the array from view. Where the lot abuts a Conservation-Recreation or Residential district, the rear yard setback shall not be less than one hundred (100) feet.

**b. Appurtenant Structures**

All appurtenant structures to large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations shall be subject to reasonable regulations concerning the bulk and height of structures, lot area, setbacks, open space, parking and building coverage requirements. All such appurtenant structures, including but not limited to, equipment shelters, storage facilities, transformers, and substations, shall be architecturally compatible with each other. Whenever reasonable, structures should be shaded from view by vegetation and/or joined or clustered to avoid adverse visual impacts.

**10. Design Standards**

**a. Lighting**

Lighting of solar photovoltaic installations shall be consistent with local, state and federal law. Lighting of other parts of the installation, such as appurtenant structures, shall be limited to that required for safety and operational purposes, and shall be reasonably shielded

from abutting properties. Where feasible, lighting of the solar photovoltaic installation shall be directed downward and shall incorporate full cut-off fixtures to reduce light pollution. The Planning Board may waive requirements for permanently installed lighting where necessary to prevent light pollution to neighboring properties.

**b. Signage**

Signs on large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations shall comply with a municipality's sign by-law. A sign consistent with a municipality's sign by-law shall be required to identify the owner and provide a 24-hour emergency contact phone number. Solar photovoltaic installations shall not be arranged or used for displaying any advertising except for reasonable identification of the manufacturer or operator of the solar photovoltaic installation.

**c. Utility Connections**

Reasonable efforts, as determined by the Site Plan Review Authority, shall be made to place all utility connections from the solar photovoltaic installation underground, depending on appropriate soil conditions, shape, and topography of the site and any requirements of the utility provider. Electrical transformers for utility interconnections may be above ground if required by the utility provider.

**11. Safety and Environmental Standards**

**a. Emergency Services**

The large-scale solar photovoltaic installation owner or operator shall provide a copy of the project summary, electrical schematic, and site plan to the local Fire Chief. Upon request the owner or operator shall cooperate with local emergency services in developing an emergency response plan. All means of shutting down the solar photovoltaic installation shall be clearly marked. The owner or operator shall identify a responsible person for public inquiries throughout the life of the installation. Controlled access chain link fencing, a minimum of eight feet in height, shall be installed to prevent unauthorized access to the installation, including solar panels, appurtenant structures, equipment structures, storage facilities, transformers and substations and the like. A copy of the key to access the installation or an alternate arrangement shall be provided to the Hanson Police and Fire Departments for emergency purposes.

**b. Land Clearing, Soil Erosion and Habitat Impacts**

Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation or otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations, and by-laws. All plans may be subject to peer review by the Permit Granting Authority's consulting engineer.

**12. Monitoring and Maintenance**

**a. Solar Photovoltaic Installation Conditions**

The large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation owner or operator shall maintain the facility in good condition. Maintenance should include, but not be limited to, painting, structural repairs, and integrity of security measures. Site access shall be maintained to a level acceptable to the local Fire Chief and Emergency Medical Services. The owner or operator shall be responsible for the cost of maintaining the solar photovoltaic installation and any access road(s), unless accepted as a public way.

**b. Modifications**

All material modifications to a solar photovoltaic installation made after the issuance of the required building permit shall require approval by the Site Plan Review Authority.

**13. Abandonment or Decommissioning**

**a. Removal Requirements**

Any large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with Section 13.b of this by-law shall be removed. The owner or operator shall physically remove the installation no more than 150 days after the date of discontinued operations. The owner or operator shall notify the Site Plan Review Authority by certified mail of the proposed date of discontinued operations and plans for removal. Decommissioning shall consist of:

- I. Physical removal of all large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations, structures, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site.
- II. Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
- III. Stabilization or re-vegetation of the site as necessary to minimize erosion. The Site Plan Review Authority may allow the owner or operator to leave landscaping or designated below-grade foundations in order to minimize erosion and disruption to vegetation or may hold funds to secure vegetation for one or two year growing seasons.

**b. Abandonment**

Absent notice of a proposed date of decommissioning or written notice of extenuating circumstances, the solar photovoltaic installation shall be considered abandoned when it fails to operate for more than one year without the written consent of the Site Plan Review Authority. If the owner or operator of the large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation fails to remove the installation in accordance with the requirements of this section within 150 days of abandonment or the proposed date of decommissioning, the town may enter the property and physically remove the installation.

**c. Financial Surety**

Proponents of large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic projects shall provide a form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the cost of removal in the event the town must remove the installation and remediate the landscape, in an amount and form determined to be reasonable by the Site Plan Review Authority, but in no event to exceed more than 125percent of the cost of removal and compliance with the additional requirements set forth herein, as determined by the Permit Granting Authorities consulting engineer. Such surety will not be required for municipally – or state-owned facilities. The project proponent shall submit a fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal, prepared by a qualified engineer. The amount shall include a mechanism for calculating increased removal costs due to inflation. The surety shall be bound by a suitable agreement that is subject to the review and approval of the Permit Granting Authority, in consultation with Town Counsel.

Submitted by Hanson Planning Board

**Explanation:** The purpose of this by-law is to promote the creation of new large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations by providing standards for placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of such installations that address public safety, minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources and to provide adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such installations. Requires 2/3 Vote

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations **Zoning By-law, Section 7.B.** by adding subsection 7 to designate access requirements for driveways in excess of 150 feet in length that provide the principal means of vehicular access from a street to a one or two family residential structure as follows:

### **7. LOT ACCESS**

*Driveways that are in excess of 150 feet in length that provide the principal means of vehicular access from a street to a one or two family residential structure shall be subject to the following regulations:*

*The driveway shall have a minimum width of 12 feet with a 2-foot clear zone on each side of the driveway. (16 feet overall)*

*The driveway shall have an unobstructed vertical clearance of 13 feet, 6 inches.*

*Driveways in excess of 250 feet in length shall be provided with an approved area for turning around fire apparatus.*

*Driveways, including bridges and other supporting structure of driveways, must be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be provided with an all-weather driving surface.*

*The grade of the driveway may not exceed 10% at any point.*

Also to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning By-law, **Table of Contents Section** to reflect these amendments to the zoning by-laws, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Hanson Planning Board and Fire Chief

**Explanation:** The purpose of this bylaw is to identify the minimum access requirements for emergency vehicles (fire and ambulance) for one or two family dwellings located on deep parcels. Emergency personnel try their best to respond to calls in a timely manner, often while negotiating difficult terrain. Planning for access by emergency vehicles improves safety for homeowners and their families by providing for a more efficient



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response by firefighters and other emergency personnel arriving on the scene. This is especially important in the more rural areas, where response times may be longer. An ambulance or a fire truck is wider, longer, and taller than a personal vehicle. Many of these vehicles have radio antennas and other equipment fastened to the roofs that can be damaged from low hanging tree limbs. In some cases, low hanging tree limbs may make it physically impossible for emergency vehicles to even reach your residence. *Requires 2/3 Vote*

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning By-law **Zoning By-law, Section 6** by adding subsection **M Temporary Moratorium on the Sale and Distribution of Marijuana** and;

Also to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning By-law, **Table of Contents Section** to reflect these amendments to the zoning by-laws, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

### **Section 6.M. Temporary Moratorium on the Sale and Distribution of Marijuana**

**1. Purpose:** By vote at the State election on November 8, 2016, the voters of the Commonwealth approved a law regulating the cultivation, distribution, possession and use of marijuana for recreational purposes. The law provides that it is effective on December 15, 2016 and the Cannabis Advisory Board is required to issue regulations regarding implementation by September 15, 2017.

Currently under the Zoning Bylaw, Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers are not a permitted use in the Town and any regulations promulgated by the State Cannabis Advisory Board are expected to provide guidance to the Town in regulating Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers. Further, the ballot measure establishes two important provisions that require ballot action by the Town prior to the adoption of zoning. First, the Town must, by ballot, determine whether it will issue licenses for Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and second, by ballot that cannot occur prior to November 6, 2018, the next biennial state election, on whether to allow on-site consumption of marijuana products should the Town decide to allow licenses for such facilities.

The regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers raise novel and complex legal, planning, and public safety issues and the Town needs time to study and consider the regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and address such novel and complex issues, as well as to address the potential impact of the State regulations on local zoning and to undertake a planning process to consider amending the Zoning Bylaw regarding regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and other uses related to the regulation of recreational marijuana. The Town intends to adopt a temporary moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for Recreational Marijuana



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Establishments and Marijuana Retailers so as to allow the Town sufficient time to engage in a planning process to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to adopt provisions of the Zoning Bylaw in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives.

### 2. Definitions

"Manufacture", to compound, blend, extract, infuse or otherwise make or prepare a marijuana product.

"Marijuana accessories", equipment, products, devices or materials of any kind that are intended or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing marijuana into the human body.

"Marijuana cultivator", an entity licensed to cultivate, process and package marijuana, to deliver marijuana to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers.

"Marijuana establishment", a marijuana cultivator, marijuana testing facility, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of licensed marijuana-related business. (k) "Marijuana product manufacturer", an entity licensed to obtain, manufacture, process and package marijuana and marijuana products, to deliver marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana and marijuana products to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers.

"Marijuana products", products that have been manufactured and contain marijuana or an extract from marijuana, including concentrated forms of marijuana and products composed of marijuana and other ingredients that are intended for use or consumption, including edible products, beverages, topical products, ointments, oils and tinctures.

"Marijuana testing facility", an entity licensed to test marijuana and marijuana products, including certification for potency and the presence of contaminants.

"Marijuana retailer", an entity licensed to purchase and deliver marijuana and marijuana products from marijuana establishments and to deliver, sell or otherwise transfer marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to consumers.

### 3. Temporary Moratorium.

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers. The moratorium shall be in effect through June 30, 2019. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to address the potential impacts of recreational marijuana in the Town, consider the Cannabis Advisory Board regulations

regarding Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and related uses, determine whether the town shall restrict any, or all, licenses for Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers, determine whether the town will prohibit on-site consumption at Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and shall consider adopting new provisions of the Zoning Bylaw to address the impact and operation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and related uses.

4. Severability. The provisions of this by-law are severable. If any provision, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this By-law or the application thereof to any person, establishment, or circumstances shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or application of this bylaw."

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

***Explanation:***

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 2-9 of the Town of Hanson General Bylaws by adding a new Section 3 to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain Town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under G.L. c. 44 §53E1/2 or take any other action in relation thereto, in the Town of Hanson as follows:

Sec. 3A Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by Town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of these programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E1/2.

Sec. 3B. Expenditure Limitations. A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

- (a) Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund, (except for those employed as school bus drivers).
- (b) No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
- (c) The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Town meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the select board and finance committee.

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

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Sec. 3D Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, §53E1/2 and this by-law, the laws, charger provisions, by-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of Town monies and the expenditure and payment of Town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The Town accountant auditor shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the Town Accountant auditor provides the department, board, committee agency of officer on appropriations made for its use.

Sec. 3E. Authorized Revolving Funds. The Table establishes:

- a. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer
- b. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend for each fund.
- c. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the town accountant.
- d. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,
- e. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditure from each fund,
- f. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and
- g. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

FUND	REVENUE SOURCE	AUTHORITY TO SPEND FUNDS	USE OF FUND	FISCAL YEARS
Assessors	Counter Sales of Maps	Board of Assessors	Purchase and Maintenance of maps including GIS	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Parks & Fields	Recycling, rental fees, repair reimbursement & donations	Parks & Fields	Parks & Fields maintenance and equipment	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Library	Fines, Fees and Copier Charges	Board of Library	Library operations, Copier, Purchase, maintenance, repairs & supplies. Printer Supplies. Replacement of lost or damaged books	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Senior Center Programs	Events, programs and Education Seminars	Director of Elder Affairs	Senior Center Operations Events, programs, seminar training and reimbursement	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Senior Center Fees	Program Fees	Director of Elder Affairs	Supportive day care program	
			Engineering, surveying, legal &	

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Conservation Commission	Wetlands Fees	Conservation Commission	environmental consulting and expenses related to the administration and enforcement of the Town of Hanson Wetland Protection Bylaw 3-13 and the Rules & Regulations related thereto	
Nathaniel Thomas Mill	Rental Fees	Conservation Commission	Maintenance & Repairs of building and grounds	

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** There are the annual revolving accounts which have been consolidated into one article to streamline the warrant process. Additional uses have been added to the Conservation Commission revolving account.

**ARTICLE 30:** To see if the Town Will vote to appropriate and raise by taxation or borrow from Massachusetts Clean Water Trust or otherwise the sum of \$500,000 for the purpose of financing the following water pollution abatement facility projects: repair, replacement and/or upgrade of septic system, pursuant to agreements with Board of Health and residential property owners, including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29c of the General Laws or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Richard Edgehille and 21 others

**ARTICLE 31:** To see if the Town will vote Health Imperatives' Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) programs request \$1,500 from the Town of Hanson for services provided to survivor of sexual assault and domestic violence in Fiscal Year 2017

Proposed by Adele Vigneau and 14 others

**ARTICLE 32:** To ask the Town of Hanson to vote to raise or appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$3,500 to contract with the South Shore Women's Resource Center for domestic violence intervention and prevention services for its residents

Proposed by Noel Constantino and 13 others

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**ARTICLE 33:** To bring in their votes for the following offices: A Moderator for one year, two Selectmen for three years, an Assessor for three years, a Board of Health member for three years, a Cemetery Commissioner for three years, a member of the Planning Board for five years, a Constable for one year, two Trustees of Memorial Field for three years, two Trustees of Memorial Field for two years, two Trustees of the Public Library for three years, a member of the Whitman- Hanson Regional School District Committee PreK-12 for three years, a Water Commissioner for three years, two Water Commissioners for one year and two questions.

**Question 1:**

Shall the Town of Hanson vote to have its elected Memorial Field Trustees become an appointed Committee of the town?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

**Question 2**

Shall the Town of Hanson be allowed to assess an additional (TBD) in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of paying the Town's assessed share of the Fiscal Year 2018 operating budget of the Whitman Hanson Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

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And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof, at the Town Hall, the Fire Station, the public stores, and Post Offices, seven days at least, before the said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place above-mentioned.

Given under our hands, this 11th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.

**Selectmen of Hanson**

James McGahan  
James McGahan, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth Mitchell, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donald Howard, Clerk

William R. Scott  
William Scott, Member

Bruce A. Young  
Bruce Young, Member

**A true attest copy**

E. H. Sloan  
Town Clerk

Gregory R. Loh  
Constable

April 13, 2017  
Date

4/13/17