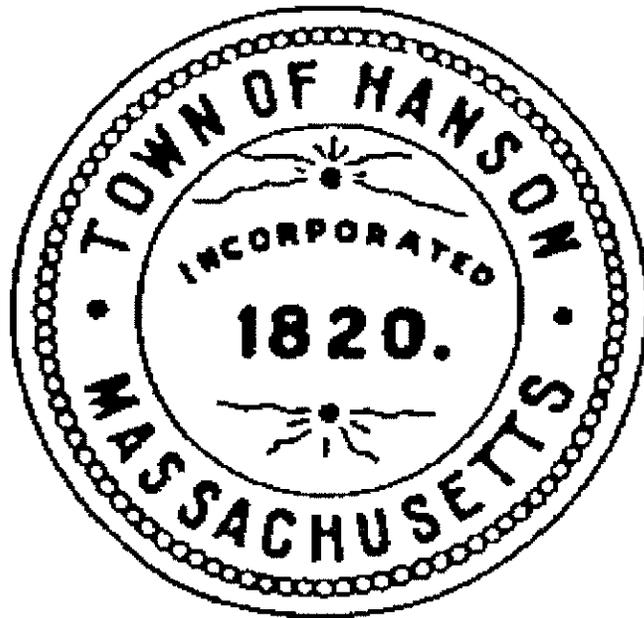


**Town Meeting Informational Warrant
&
Budget Recommendations**

MAY 5, 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Hanson Middle School – 7:30 p.m.

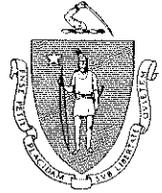


**Prepared by the Town Administrator and Executive Assistant
at the direction of the Board of Selectmen**



Town of Hanson

Board of Selectmen



542 Liberty Street
Hanson, Massachusetts 02341
(781) 293-2131 FAX (781) 294-0884
www.hanson-ma.gov

April 30, 2014

To the Voters at the Hanson **May ANNUAL** Town Meeting:

The enclosed is an informational copy of the warrant for the May 5, 2014 **ANNUAL** Town Meeting for your convenience during the Town Meeting.

This informational warrant provides you with the most current information on each article, including explanations and recommendations. I hope that this will assist you during the meeting.

The legal warrant was posted on the 17th of April 2014, by the Constable of the Town of Hanson, in accordance with state law.

Cordially,

Ron San Angelo,
Town Administrator

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 **Fifth day of May, 2014** 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 **Seventeenth of May, 2014** at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon, to bring in their votes for Town Officials as stipulated in **Article 25** 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 **2013** Town Report.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend*

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal 2015 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.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend*

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

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.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend*

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:

	FY14	FY15
Town Clerk	\$60,888.00	\$62,714.00
Tree Warden	\$2,768.00	\$2,851.00

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.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 5 – 0 – 1 to Recommend*

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, Stabilization Fund, 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 **2015 Fiscal Year** or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This article refers to the FY 2015 Annual Budget Lines

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 6 – 0 to Recommend*

TOWN OF HANSON

General Fund - Fiscal Year 2015

Line #	GENERAL GOVERNMENT: 122 SELECTMEN/ADMINISTRATION	FY2014 BUDGET	Fiscal Year 2015		Funding source(s)
			Department Requested	Selectmen Approved	
			Finance Comm Recommended		
1	Salaries	157,392	156,968	155,966	Taxation
2	Expenses	24,335	31,235	24,935	Taxation
3	131 FINANCE COMMITTEE				
3	Salaries	1,550	1,550	1,550	Taxation
4	Expenses	450	450	450	Taxation
5	Reserve Fund	50,000	50,000	86,187	Taxation
6	135 ACCOUNTANT				
6	Salaries	95,360	95,133	95,133	Taxation
7	Expenses	2,100	2,100	2,100	Taxation
8	Audit	27,000	35,500	35,500	Taxation
9	141 ASSESSORS				
9	Salaries	131,770	137,783	137,188	Taxation
10	Expenses	7,150	7,350	7,350	Taxation
11	145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR				
11	Salaries	172,736	176,015	175,333	Taxation
12	Expenses	6,512	6,800	6,800	Taxation
13	MWPAT Admin Expenses	15,000	15,000	15,000	MWPAT Title V Interest
14	151 LEGAL SERVICES				
14	Expenses	140,000	140,000	140,000	Taxation
15	155 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY				
15	Expenses	114,000	116,000	116,000	Taxation
16	161 TOWN CLERK				
16	Salaries	99,239	103,582	102,974	Taxation
17	Expenses	3,570	3,920	3,920	Taxation

Line #	FY2014 BUDGET	Fiscal Year 2015			Funding source(s)
		Department Requested	Selectmen Approved	Finance Comm Recommended	
162	ELECTIONS				
18	Salaries	12,640	12,526	12,526	Taxation
19	Expenses	11,241	11,241	11,241	Taxation
20	Special Election Expenses	-	-	-	
163	BOARD OF REGISTRARS				
21	Salaries	8,004	7,929	7,929	Taxation
22	Expenses	1,782	1,782	1,782	Taxation
171	CONSERVATION COMMISSION				
23	Salaries	56,769	56,440	56,440	Taxation
24	Expenses	5,154	3,324	3,324	Taxation
175	PLANNING BOARD				
25	Salaries	61,985	61,656	61,656	Taxation
26	Expenses	5,000	4,350	4,350	Taxation
176	APPEALS BOARD				
27	Salaries	32,599	32,599	32,599	Taxation
28	Expenses	720	720	720	Taxation
180	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEES				
29	Expenses	-	-	-	
190	POSTAGE				
30	Expenses	24,000	24,000	24,000	Taxation
192	MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS				
31	Salaries	94,245	49,245	49,245	Taxation
32	Expenses	13,350	13,350	13,350	Taxation
196	UTILITIES				
33	Expenses	94,300	94,300	94,300	Taxation
Subtotal, GENERAL GOVERNMENT		1,501,175	1,449,961	1,479,848	

Fiscal Year 2015

Line #	FY2014 BUDGET	Fiscal Year 2015			Funding source(s)
		Department Requested	Selectmen Approved	Finance Comm Recommended	
PUBLIC SAFETY:					
210 POLICE					
34	1,695,209	1,753,243	1,750,746	1,750,746	Taxation
35	121,358	158,375	147,430	147,430	Taxation
36	60,743	75,250	41,860	41,860	Taxation
215 COMMUNICATIONS					
37	304,513	341,198	341,198	341,198	Taxation
38	25,540	38,550	35,550	35,550	Taxation
220 FIRE & AMBULANCE					
39	1,497,656	1,546,741	1,546,741	1,546,741	\$1,311,741 Taxation \$235,000 Amb. Fund
40	138,752	150,569	150,569	150,569	\$124,815 Taxation Amb. Fund \$25,754
41	46,891	-	-	-	Taxation
241 BUILDING INSPECTION					
42	74,329	76,976	76,657	76,657	Taxation
43	4,000	10,000	10,000	5,000	Taxation
242 GAS INSPECTION					
44	4,391	4,523	4,479	4,479	Taxation
45	-	-	-	-	
243 PLUMBING INSPECTION					
46	4,182	4,307	4,266	4,266	Taxation
47	-	-	-	-	
244 WEIGHTS & MEASURES					
48	3,090	3,183	3,183	3,183	Taxation
49	400	400	400	400	Taxation
245 WIRING INSPECTION					
50	16,727	17,229	17,062	17,062	Taxation
51	-	-	-	-	

Line #	FY2014 BUDGET	Fiscal Year 2015			Funding source(s)
		Department Requested	Selectmen Approved	Finance Comm Recommended	
292	ANIMAL CONTROL				
52	Salaries	28,344	28,069	28,069	Taxation
53	Expenses	2,670	2,670	2,670	Taxation
294	TREE WARDEN				
54	Salaries	2,851	2,824	2,824	Taxation
55	Expenses	5,000	5,000	5,000	Taxation
	Subtotal, PUBLIC SAFETY	4,219,409	4,168,704	4,163,704	
	EDUCATION:				
300	WHITMAN-HANSON REGIONAL				
56	Operating Assessment	7,324,961	7,324,961	7,324,961	Taxation
57	Transportation Assessment	91,817	91,817	91,817	Taxation
58	Debt Assessment	628,531	628,531	628,531	Taxation
59	330 SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL TECH	773,615	773,615	773,615	Taxation
60	340 NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL	244,440	244,440	244,440	Taxation
	Subtotal, EDUCATION	9,063,364	9,063,364	9,063,364	
	PUBLIC WORKS:				
410	ENGINEERING				
61	Expenses	13,000	13,000	13,000	Taxation
420	HIGHWAY				
62	Salaries	428,951	428,290	428,290	Taxation
63	Expenses	133,500	106,500	106,500	Taxation
64	Snow & Ice	180,000	175,000	170,000	Taxation
65	Street Sweeping	26,000	26,000	26,000	Taxation
424	TOWN-WIDE FUEL				
66	Expenses	140,000	140,000	140,000	Taxation
430	SOLID WASTE				
67	Salaries	90,823	90,112	90,112	Taxation
68	Expenses	300,959	261,959	261,959	\$61,959 Taxation Solid Waste fees
	Subtotal, PUBLIC WORKS	1,313,233	1,240,861	1,235,861	

Line #	FY2014 BUDGET	Fiscal Year 2015			Funding source(s)
		Department Requested	Selectmen Approved	Finance Comm Recommended	
HUMAN SERVICES:					
511	BOARD OF HEALTH				
69	Salaries	92,401	91,877	91,877	Taxation
70	Expenses	6,360	6,360	6,360	Taxation
71	VNA Services	500	500	250	Taxation
541 COUNCIL ON AGING					
72	Salaries	51,117	50,621	50,621	Taxation
73	Expenses	9,250	9,250	9,250	Taxation
74	VNA Services	7,800	7,800	6,800	Taxation
543 VETERANS					
75	Salaries	20,880	14,250	14,250	Taxation
76	Expenses	1,500	1,500	1,500	Taxation
77	Assistance	42,500	42,500	42,500	Taxation
544 CARE OF SOLDIERS GRAVES					
78	Expenses	1,800	1,800	1,800	Taxation
Subtotal, HUMAN SERVICES		234,108	226,458	225,208	
CULTURE & RECREATION:					
610	LIBRARY				
79	Salaries	247,941	244,957	244,957	Taxation
80	Expenses	110,498	110,498	110,498	Taxation
630 RECREATION					
81	Salaries	-	-	-	Taxation
650 PARK & FIELDS					
82	Expenses	10,000	10,000	10,000	Taxation
692 PATRIOTIC OBSERVANCE COMM					
83	Expenses	2,000	2,000	2,000	Taxation
Subtotal, CULTURE & RECREATION		370,439	367,455	367,455	

Fiscal Year 2015

Line #	FY2014 BUDGET	Fiscal Year 2015			Funding source(s)
		Department Requested	Selectmen Approved	Finance Comm Recommended	
FIXED COSTS:					
84	502,717	503,130	503,130	503,130	\$395,630 Taxation \$107,500 MW PAT Rcpts Reserved
85	166,162	145,526	145,526	145,526	\$140,806 Taxation \$4,720 Debt Premium reserved
86	1,109,316	1,191,129	1,167,985	1,167,985	Taxation
87	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	Taxation
88	1,442,023	1,560,712	1,480,000	1,480,000	Taxation
89	252,819	278,100	278,100	278,100	Taxation
		3,703,597	3,599,741	3,599,741	
		Subtotal, FIXED COSTS			
		\$ 19,367,236	\$ 20,116,544	\$ 20,135,181	
WATER:					
90	380,719	403,933	403,933	390,731	Water Revenue
91	333,350	351,050	349,450	349,450	Water Revenue
92	205,021	246,053	246,053	246,053	Water Revenue
93	140,000	164,000	145,000	145,000	Water Revenue
		1,165,036	1,144,436	1,131,234	
		Subtotal, WATER			
RECREATION:					
94	111,025	155,385	155,385	155,385	\$125,000 Rec Program Revenue
95	86,975	153,000	153,000	153,000	\$ 30,385 Taxation
96	-	-	-	-	Rec Program Revenue
		308,385	308,385	308,385	
		Subtotal, RECREATION			
		\$ 21,878,746	\$ 21,569,365	\$ 21,574,800	
TOTAL - ALL BUDGETS					
		466,700	466,700	466,700	
		\$ 22,345,446	\$ 22,036,065	\$ 22,041,500	
GRAND TOTAL					

Additions: Articles
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (Art. 6,7,8)

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money from Free Cash for the purpose of making the first annual payment in a three (3) year annual lease payment plan to purchase two (2) police cruisers, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Police Chief

Explanation: This article will fund the purchase of two (2) new Police Department cruisers. The first year lease payment is approximately \$25,000.00

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer a sum of money from Free Cash for the purpose of making the first annual payment in a three (3) year annual lease payment plan to purchase one (1) Town Inspectional vehicle, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

Explanation: This article will fund the purchase of one (1) Town Inspectional vehicle. In the past the inspectional services has utilized old police cruiser which have been taken out of service. These vehicles require considerable repair and at most times are inoperable requiring the inspectors to use their own vehicles. A new vehicle will provide years of reliable service to the staff. The cost for base model all wheel drive Ford Escape is approximately \$25,000. The first lease payment will be \$8,678.00.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Not to Recommend

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Capital Improvement Program as presented by the Capital Improvement Committee and to see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from available funds \$433,000.00 to various department Capital Accounts, or take any other action relating thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee &
Board of Selectmen

Line	Dept.	Item	FY15 CIP Report	Town Admin. Recommendation	Funding Source
1	School	Replace Tile & Hallway at Middle School	\$40,000	\$40,000	Free Cash
2	BOS	Town Hall Restoration/Painting	\$40,000	\$40,000	Free Cash
3	Highway	Drainage	\$25,000	\$25,000	Free Cash
4	Highway	Supervisor Truck	\$45,000	\$45,000	Free Cash
5	School	Middle School Bathroom Partitions	\$26,000	\$26,000	Free Cash
6	School	Seal Middle School driveway	\$29,000	\$29,000	Free Cash
7	Fire	New Ambulance	\$228,000	\$228,000	Amb Receipts
	TOTAL		\$433,000	\$433,000	

Explanation: The purpose of this article is to appropriate funds for the Fiscal year 2015 capital budget.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 5 – 0 Not to Recommend Item 2
Voted 5 – 0 to recommend Items 1, 3 thru 7. Item 3 reduced to
\$10,000*

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 9: To see of the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Recreation Department during fiscal year 2015, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F ½ .

Estimated Revenues	
Item	Amount
Program Receipts (fees)	\$309,000
Total Budgeted Revenues:	\$309,000
Estimated Expenses	
Item	Amount
Salaries	\$125,000
Expenses	\$184,000
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$309,000
Net Profit/Loss:	\$0.00

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Recreation Commission

Explanation: Recreation program costs, which previously were shown in both the General Fund Budget and Revolving Fund budget, will now be 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.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 4 – 3 to Recommend

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town of Hanson will accept the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53F½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, establishing the operation of the Hanson Transfer Station as an enterprise fund effective fiscal year 2015, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Health

Explanation: The Board of Health is recommending that the Transfer Station budget be established as an enterprise fund. Enterprise fund accounting is recommended by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for those municipal operations that are substantially self-supporting services. Enterprise fund accounting will demonstrate to

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

the voters at Town Meeting and the public the full cost (direct, indirect and capital) of operating the Department. If this Article is approved, the voters at Town Meeting will be asked to approve the Transfer Station budget in Article 11

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 6 – 1 Not to Recommend

ARTICLE 11: To see of the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Transfer Station during fiscal year 2015, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F ½ .

Estimated Revenues

Item	Amount
Program Receipts (fees)	\$276,250
Total Budgeted Revenues:	\$276,250

Estimated Expenses

Item	Amount
Salaries	\$ 92,000
Expenses	\$262,000
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$354,000

Net Profit/Loss: **\$0.00**

Proposed by the Board of Health

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 6 – 0 – 1 Not to Recommend

Explanation: The Town of Hanson has a contract in place with Waste Zero that will guarantee the town \$200,000 in revenue during the first year from the sale of Trash bags. This revenue will go directly into a new Enterprise Fund. This fund can only be utilized for operation of the Transfer Station. The total cost of operating the Transfer Station is \$354,000. Salaries of \$92,000 and expenses of \$62,000 will come from general taxation. The balance of expenses \$200,000 will come from the Enterprise Fund.

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from **Fiscal Year 2015 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 2015, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2015 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$ 10,000

Reserves:

From FY 2015 estimated revenues for Historic Resource Reserve	\$21,000
From FY 2015 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$21,000
From FY 2015 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$21,000
From FY 2015 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$137,000

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.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Historic Resource Reserve Community Preservation Fund balance a sum of funds to be used by the Hanson Historical Society to equip and install a fire alarm system in the Hanson Food Pantry Building located at 270 High Street or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the
Community Preservation Committee

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to HOLD*
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 Not to Recommend

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or raise through borrowing \$1,100,000.00 for the cleaning and rehabilitation of the water tank on High Street; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: The water tank has had general maintenance work done every year; however it needs a complete cleaning and rehabilitation which consists of removal of the interior and exterior coatings; and surface preparation; and complete repainting of all interior and exterior surfaces. Requires a 2/3 vote

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 4 – 0 – 1 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 5 – 2 to Recommend*

ARTICLE 15 To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$46,000 from Water Surplus to purchase & equip a new water truck, or take any other action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: This new truck will replace a 2006 Ford F350 which has approximately 135,000 miles on it.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 4 – 0 – 1 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 4 - 3 to Recommend*

ARTICLE 16: 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.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend*

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to approve the establishment of a Stabilization Fund according to Massachusetts General Laws c.71, Sec. 16 G1/2 for the South Shore Regional School District or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the South Shore Regional School District

Explanation: South Shore Vocational High School wishes to establish a Stabilization Fund in order to help address its capital needs. The establishment of a Stabilization Fund provides an option through the budget process to save for capital projects over several years. A stabilization fund helps to stabilize assessment increases and reduce the need to borrow money for capital projects. This article only seeks to establish the fund.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 6 – 0 to Recommend*

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to approve the establishment of a Stabilization Fund according to Massachusetts General Laws c.71, Sec. 16 G1/2 for the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District or take any other action in relation thereto.

Whitman Hanson Regional School Committee

Explanation: On September 11, 2013 the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District School Committee requested to review creating a Stabilization Account for the purpose of allocating funding for District Capital projects which would not be specifically assessed to the member towns. Research was done and on February 26, 2014, the School Committee, in accordance to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71 Section 16G ½ voted unanimously to establish a Stabilization Fund. Chapter 71 Section 16G 1/2 also requires the approval of a majority of the local appropriating authorities (Town Meetings) of the member municipalities. **This is the non-monetary action vote to allow the District to create the fund.**

As a proactive and fiscally responsible regional school district, the primary purpose of a stabilization fund is to give the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District a method to have funds available for planned and unplanned capital expenses (such as building repairs, field replacements, equipment and vehicles) and to avoid the need for further borrowing or assessments to the member municipalities, as authorized under our Regional Agreement. One major expense in the near future is the replacement of the High School Football Field which is estimated to be in excess of \$500,000 to replace. This vote will allow the Regional School District School Committee to be proactive in preparing for major expenses, rather than leaving the uncertainty in annual requests. The account would have funds annually budgeted and deposited as part of our budget process, with

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

the specific intent to ensure a funding source is available and sustainable for capital projects.

A summary of the account activity reports must be sent to the member municipalities annually which include fund balance, withdrawals, and additions for the year.

***Recommendations: Board of Selectmen Voted 4 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 6 – 0 to Recommend***

ARTICLE 19:

To See if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c. 59, Section 5N, authorizing the Board of Selectmen to establish a program to allow Veterans who qualify for participation to volunteer to provide services to the Town in exchange for a reduction in the real property tax obligation of that Veteran on the Veteran's tax bills, in addition to any exemption or abatements to which that person is otherwise entitled, not to exceed \$1,000.00 and not to exceed the current minimum wage of the Commonwealth per hour, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Veterans Agent

Explanation: Effective May 31, 2012, the Legislature created a new local option by which cities and towns may establish programs to allow qualified Veterans to volunteer to provide services to that city or town in exchange for a reduction in real property tax obligations. This is similar to the Senior Citizen Program work-off program that Hanson has adopted. The reduction would be the same as the Senior Citizen Program which is \$750.00 per fiscal year. The rate per hour of services cannot exceed the Commonwealth of Massachusetts minimum wage. The Board of Assessors recommend the amount of \$7,500.00 which would be paid from the overlay account.

***Recommendations: Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend***

ARTICLE 20:

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize the following revolving accounts pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, which shall be kept separate and apart from other monies by the Treasurer, and which shall be deposited receipts received that may be spent only from those sources identified below under “Source of Funds” without further appropriation during Fiscal Year 2014 and as identified below under “Use of Funds”, and shall be expended under the direction of those so indicated. Said annual amount expended from each revolving account shall not exceed the amount indicated below under “Annual Expenditure”

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Source of Funds	Use of Funds	Expended Under	FY 15 Limit
		Direction of:	
<i>Assessors</i> Counter Sales of Maps	Purchase and Maintenance of maps including GIS	Board of Assessors	\$1,500
<i>Parks & Fields</i> Recycling, rental fees Repair reimbursement & Donations	Park & Field Maintenance and equipment	Parks & Fields	\$10,000
<i>Library</i> Fines, Fees and Copier Charges	Library Operations, Copier	Board of Library	\$7,000
	Purchase, maintenance, Repair & supplies. Printer Supplies. Replacement of Lost or damaged books		
<i>Senior Center</i> Events, programs and Education Seminars	Senior Center Operations Events, programs, Seminars Training & Reimbursements	Director of Elder Affairs	\$2,500
<i>Senior Center</i> Program Fees	Supportive Day Care Program	Director of Elder Affairs	\$85,000
<i>Conservation Comm.</i> Wetlands Fees	Engineering, Surveying Legal & Environmental Consulting	Conservation Commission	\$7,500
<i>Nathaniel Thomas Mill</i> Rental Fees	Maintenance & Repairs of building and grounds	Conservation	\$1,500

or take any other action in relation thereto.

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.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 7 – 0 to Recommend*

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.41, s.81U, concerning the use of security funds to complete improvements shown on an approved subdivision plan or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Planning Board

Explanation: In any town which accepts the provisions of this paragraph, the proceeds of any such bond or deposit shall be made available to the town for expenditure to meet the cost and expenses of the municipality in completing the work as specified in the approved plan. If such proceeds do not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, the expenditure may be made without specific appropriation under section fifty-three of chapter forty-four; provided, however, that such expenditure is approved by the board of selectmen.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 5 – 0 – 1 Not to Recommend

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to delete in its entirety the existing Section VI.J.3, Adult Entertainment Overlay District of the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning Bylaw, amended October, 2007, and adopt, in its entirety, a following new Section VI.J.3 Adult Entertainment Overlay District:

3. Adult Entertainment Overlay District

The Adult Entertainment Overlay District is herein established as an overlay district. A plan entitled “Proposed Adult Entertainment Overlay District Plan Job No. P2967” prepared by Land Planning, Inc. of Hanson, Massachusetts is on file in the office of the Town Clerk delineating this district and is hereby part of this by-law.

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Planning Board

Explanation: The purpose of this Article is to amend and re-state a Section of the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning Bylaw, amended October, 2007 Section VI.J entitled Adult Entertainment District. To amend Section VI.J.3 Adult Entertainment Overlay District in order to designate an area for Adult Entertainment. The Adult Entertainment Overlay District is herein established as an overlay district. The article will amend the section of town where these types of are permitted by Special Permit of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Requires 2/3 vote.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 4 – 3 Refer to Town Meeting
Planning Board Voted 4 – 0 to Recommend

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to amend Section VI.J.5.c, Adult Entertainment Uses by Special Permit Criteria of the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning Bylaw, amended October, 2007, and adopt an amended Section VI.J.5.c Adult Entertainment Uses by Special Permit Criteria by deleting the existing language and inserting in its place the following:

Adult entertainment uses shall not be located within:

1. 1,000 feet from the nearest church, school, park, playground, play field, youth center or other location where groups of minors regularly congregate; or
2. 1,000 feet from the nearest establishment licensed under M.G.L. Chapter 138, Section 12; or
3. 1000 feet from the nearest adult entertainment use as defined herein; or
4. 500 feet from the nearest residential zoning district.

The distances specified above shall be measured by a straight line from the nearest property line of the premises on which the proposed adult entertainment use is to be located to the nearest boundary line of a residential zoning district or to the nearest property line of any other designated uses set forth above.

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Planning Board

Explanation: The purpose of this Article is to amend and re-state a Section of the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning Bylaw, amended October, 2007 Section VI.J.5.c entitled Adult Entertainment Uses by Special Permit Criteria. To amend Section VI.J.5.c Adult Entertainment Uses by Special Permit Criteria in order to revise setback distances for Adult Entertainment uses. This amended by-law will increase setback distances from the nearest adult entertainment use from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to one thousand (1000) feet and decrease the setback of Adult Entertainment use from the nearest residential zoning district from one thousand (1000) feet to a setback requirement of five hundred (500) feet from the nearest residential zoning district. Requires 2/3 vote.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend
Finance Committee Voted 4 – 3 to Refer to Town Meeting
Planning Board Voted 4 – 0 to Recommend*

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning Bylaw, amended October, 2007 by adding Section VI.L Special Requirements for Medical Marijuana Facilities. The purpose of this Section VI.L is to allow and regulate the location of Medical Marijuana Facilities by Special Permit of the Board of Selectmen.

Section VI.L Special Requirements for Medical Marijuana Facilities

1. Purposes

- A. To provide for the establishment of Medical Marijuana Facilities in appropriate places and under strict conditions in accordance with the passage of Initiative Petition 11-11 (Question #3 on the November, 2012 state ballot).
- B. To minimize the adverse impacts of Medical Marijuana Facilities on adjacent properties, residential neighborhoods, schools and other places where children congregate, local historic districts, and other land uses potentially incompatible with said Facilities.
- C. To regulate the siting, design, placement, security, safety, monitoring, modification, and removal of Medical Marijuana Facilities.

2. Applicability

- A. The commercial cultivation [unless it meets the requirements for an agricultural exemption under Chapter 40A Section 3], production, processing, assembly, packaging, retail or wholesale sale, trade, distribution or dispensing of Marijuana for Medical Use is prohibited unless permitted as a Medical Marijuana Facility under this Section VI.L.
- B. No Medical Marijuana Facility shall be established except in compliance with the provisions of this Section VI.L.
- C. Nothing in this Bylaw shall be construed to supersede federal and state laws governing the sale and distribution of narcotic drugs.
- D. If any provision of this Section or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of this Section, to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of those provisions to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby, and to this end the provisions of this Section are severable.

3. Definitions

Medical Marijuana Facility – Shall mean a “Medical marijuana treatment center” to mean a not-for-profit entity, as defined by Massachusetts law only, registered under this law, that acquires, cultivates, possesses, processes (including development of related products such as food, tinctures, aerosols, oils, or ointments), transfers, transports, sells, distributes, dispenses, or administers marijuana, products containing marijuana, related supplies, or educational materials

to qualifying patients or their personal caregivers. These facilities shall be located inside a structure or building.

Marijuana for Medical Use – Marijuana that is designated and restricted for use by, and for the benefit of, Qualifying Patients in the treatment of Debilitating Medical Conditions as set forth in Citizens Petition 11-11.

Marijuana – The same substance defined as “marihuana” under Chapter 94C of the Massachusetts General Laws.

4. *Eligible Locations for Medical Marijuana Facilities.*

Medical Marijuana Facilities, other than agricultural operations meeting exemption standards under Chapter 40A Section 3, may be allowed by Special Permit from the Town of Hanson Board of Selectmen on *Assessors Map 59 Lots 17-3, 17-4, 17-5, 17-6, 17-7, 17-8, 17-10, 17-11, 17-12, 17-13, Assessors Map 52 Lot 17-16 and Assessors Map 24 Lot 70* as depicted on a map entitled Proposed Medical Marijuana Distribution Area Overlay District Plan, Job Number P-2967, prepared by Land Planning, Inc. of Hanson, Massachusetts, provided the facility meets the requirements of this Section VI.L.

5. *General Requirements and Conditions for all Medical Marijuana Facilities.*

- A. All non-exempt Medical Marijuana Facilities shall be contained within a building or structure.
- B. No Medical Marijuana Facility shall have a gross floor area of less than 2,500 square feet or in excess of 20,000 square feet.
- C. A Medical Marijuana Facility shall not be located in buildings that contain any medical doctors’ offices or the offices of any other professional practitioner authorized to prescribe the use of medical marijuana.
- D. The hours of operation of Medical Marijuana Facilities shall be set by the Special Permit Granting Authority, but in no event shall said Facilities be open and/or operating between the hours of 8:00 PM and 8:00 AM.
- E. No smoking, burning or consumption of any product containing marijuana or marijuana-related products shall be permitted on the premises of a Medical Marijuana Facility.
- F. No Medical Marijuana Facility shall be located inside a building containing residential units, including transient housing such as motels and dormitories, or inside a movable or mobile structure such as a van or truck.
- G. Signage for the Medical Marijuana Facility shall include the following language: “Registration card issued by the MA Department of Public Health required.” The required text shall be a minimum of two inches in height.

- H. Medical Marijuana Facilities shall provide the Hanson Police Department, Building Commissioner and the Special Permit Granting Authority with the names, phone numbers and email addresses of all management staff and key holders to whom one can provide notice if there are operating problems associated with the establishment.

6. *Special Permit Requirements*

- A. A Medical Marijuana Facility shall only be allowed by special permit from the Town of Hanson Board of Selectmen in accordance with G.L. c. 40A, §9, subject to the following statements, regulations, requirements, conditions and limitations.
- B. A special permit for a Medical Marijuana Facility shall be limited to one or more of the following uses that shall be prescribed by the Special Permit Granting Authority:
 - 1) cultivation of Marijuana for Medical Use (horticulture) except that sites protected under Chapter 40A Section 3 shall not require a special permit;
 - 2) processing and packaging of Marijuana for Medical Use, including Marijuana that is in the form of smoking materials, food products, oils, aerosols, ointments, and other products;
 - 3) retail sale or distribution of Marijuana for Medical Use to Qualifying Patients;
- C. In addition to the application requirements set forth in Sections VI.L.5 and VI.L.6 of this Bylaw, a special permit application for a Medical Marijuana Facility shall include the following:
 - 1) the name and address of each owner of the facility;
 - 2) copies of all required licenses and permits issued to the applicant by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and any of its agencies for the Facility;
 - 3) evidence of the Applicant's right to use the site of the Facility for the Facility, such as a deed, or lease;
 - 4) if the Applicant is a business organization, a statement under oath disclosing all of its owners, shareholders, partners, members, managers, directors, officers, or other similarly-situated individuals and entities and their addresses. If any of the above are entities rather than persons, the Applicant must disclose the identity of the owners of such entities until the disclosure contains the names of individuals;
 - 5) a certified list of all parties in interest entitled to notice of the hearing for the special permit application, taken from the most recent tax list of the town and certified by the Town Assessor;
 - 6) Proposed security measures for the Medical Marijuana Facility, including lighting, fencing, gates and alarms, etc., to ensure the safety of persons and to protect the premises from theft.

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

D. Mandatory Findings. The Special Permit Granting Authority shall not issue a special permit for a Medical Marijuana Facility unless it finds that:

- 1) the Facility is designed to minimize any adverse visual or economic impacts on abutters and other parties in interest, as defined in G.L. c. 40A, §11;
- 2) the Facility demonstrates that it will meet all the permitting requirements of all applicable agencies within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and will be in compliance with all applicable state laws and regulations; and
- 3) the applicant has satisfied all of the conditions and requirements of Sections VI.L.5 and VI.L.6 herein;

E. Annual Reporting. Each Medical Marijuana Facility permitted under this Bylaw shall as a condition of its special permit file an annual report to and appear before the Special Permit Granting Authority and the Town Clerk no later than January 31st, providing a copy of all current applicable state licenses for the Facility and/or its owners and demonstrate continued compliance with the conditions of the Special Permit.

F. A special permit granted under this Section shall have a term limited to the duration of the applicant's ownership of the premises as a Medical Marijuana Facility. A special permit may be transferred only with the approval of the Special Permit Granting Authority in the form of an amendment to the special permit with all information required in this Section 13.

G. The Board shall require the applicant to post a bond at the time of construction to cover costs for the removal of the Medical Marijuana Facility in the event the Town must remove the facility. The value of the bond shall be based upon the ability to completely remove all the items noted in 13.7.2 and properly clean the facility at prevailing wages. The value of the bond shall be developed based upon the applicant providing the Town of Hanson Board of Selectmen with three (3) written bids to meet the noted requirements. An incentive factor of 1.5 shall be applied to all bonds to ensure compliance and adequate funds for the town to remove the tower at prevailing wages.

7. *Abandonment or Discontinuance of Use*

A. A Special Permit shall lapse if not exercised within one year of issuance.

B. A Medical Marijuana Facility shall be required to remove all material, plants equipment and other paraphernalia:

- 1) prior to surrendering its state issued licenses or permits; or
- 2) within six months of ceasing operations; whichever comes first.

Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Planning Board

MAY 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Explanation: The purpose of this Article is to provide for the establishment of Medical Marijuana Facilities in appropriate places and under strict conditions in accordance with the passage of Initiative Petition 11-11 (Question #3 on the November, 2012 state ballot). To minimize the adverse impacts of Medical Marijuana Facilities on adjacent properties, residential neighborhoods, schools and other places where children congregate, local historic districts, and other land uses potentially incompatible with said Facilities. And to regulate the siting, design, placement, security, safety, monitoring, modification, and removal of Medical Marijuana Facilities. Requires 2/3 vote.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 4 – 3 to Refer to Town Meeting
Planning Board Voted 4 – 0 to Recommend

ARTICLE 25: 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 member of the Housing Authority for five years, two Trustees of Memorial Field for three years, two Trustees of the Public Library for three years, one member of the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Committee PreK-12 for three years, and one Water Commissioners for three years and one question:

Question 1:

Shall the Town of Hanson be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay its allocable share of the bond issued by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District for the purpose of paying costs of demolishing and removing the existing Maquan Elementary School located at 38 School Street and the Indian Head Elementary School located at 720 Indian Head Street, and designing, constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new pre-kindergarten through grade 5 Elementary School to be located at 720 Indian Head Street, Hanson, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto ?

Yes _____ No ____.

Recommendations: *Board of Selectmen Voted 5 – 0 to Recommend*
Finance Committee Voted 6 – 0 – 1 to Recommend