

Town of Hanson
542 Liberty Street, Hanson, MA 02341

May 2002 Annual Town Meeting

Annual Town Meeting
May 6, 2002

Moderator Charles W. Mann called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. in the auditorium of the Middle School with James Armstrong, Donald Bernier, Joseph Westfield and Robert Hayes appointed and sworn in as tellers.

Charles O'Donnell was appointed and sworn in as Assistant Moderator to serve in the gymnasium, the second Town Meeting room, used for the additional Town Meeting attendees that could not be seated in the filled-to-capacity auditorium.

Town Counsel was Richard Bowen from Kopelman and Paige.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Town Meeting and Kristen Merlin sung the National Anthem.

There was a quorum present with 472 voters attending the meeting.

Congressman Stephen Lynch was introduced to the meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 7:55 p.m. to open the Special Town Meeting and will reconvene upon the dissolution of the Special Town Meeting

The meeting reconvened at 9:17 p.m. and recessed for a short break.

The meeting reconvened at 9:27 p.m.

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 **2001** Town Report.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to hear reports of the various Town Officers, Committees, Special Committees.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Capital Improvement Program as presented to the Board of Selectmen by the Capital Improvement Committee or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the
Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: This article accepts the six-year capital improvement plan and matrix submitted by the Capital Improvement Committee.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye, voice the 6 year Capitol Improvement Plan as presented.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into Compensating balance agreements during Fiscal 2003 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.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into Compensating balance agreements during Fiscal 2003 as permitted by Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F.

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

		FY01	FY02
Moderator	371.00	380.00	
Selectmen			
Chairman	1,991.00	2,041.00	
Member	1,408.00	1,443.00	
Town Clerk	45,020.00	46,370.00	
Tree Warden	1,149.00	1,183.00	
Assessors			
Chairman	1,991.00	2,041.00	
Member	1,408.00	1,443.00	
Member	1,408.00	1,443.00	
Highway Surveyor	53,712.00	55,592.00	
Water Commissioners			
Chairman	1,991.00	2,041.00	
Member	1,408.00	1,443.00	
Board of Health			
Chairman	1,991.00	2,041.00	
Member	1,408.00	1,443.00	
Member	1,408.00	1,443.00	
Planning Board			
Chairman	1,991.00	2,041.00	
Member	1,408.00	1,443.00	

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: The above represents a 3% increase for the Town Clerk a 3.5% increase for the Highway Surveyor, as full-time employees, and a 2.5% increase the remaining elected, part-time officials for **FY2003**.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to fix the Salary and Compensation of all Elected Officers and Committees of the Town as printed in the warrant.

Article 5 was taken up before the meeting was recessed and discussion on **Article 5** will resume at the second session, Tuesday, May 7, 2002.

VOTED Aye at 11:25 p.m. to recess until 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 7, 2002, in the auditorium of the Middle School.

**Annual Town Meeting
(second session)
May 7, 2002**

Moderator Charles W. Mann called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Middle School with James Armstrong, Joseph Westfield, Robert Hayes, Donald Bernier and Mark Gallivan appointed and sworn in as tellers. Charles O'Donnell served as Assistant Moderator in the gymnasium for the voters who could not be seated in the auditorium.

A quorum was present with 365 voters in attendance.

Town Counsel was Richard Bowen from Kopelman and Paige.

Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Daniel K. Webster recognized and presented a citation and floral bouquet to retiring Selectman Judith A Murdoch for her 25 years of public service to the Town of Hanson.

Moderator Charles W. Mann recognized and thanked the Technology Staff of the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District for their assistance in setting up the audio and visual communication system between the auditorium and gymnasium.

Article 6 and Article 9 were voted upon before Article 5 .

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and raise by taxation a sum of \$11,578.00 to pay a legal judgment or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This payment represents the tenth of ten payments as agreed through a legal settlement concerning the Charles George Trucking Law Suit. (Hazardous Waste Cleanup)

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$11,139 from the Stabilization Fund to pay a legal judgement.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and raise by taxation or transfer from free cash a sum of money to fund retirement buy-outs or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Treasurer/Collector

Explanation: This will fund the Buy-Outs for employees as they retire (i.e. sick time, vacation, etc.) Estimated amount is **\$12,000.00**

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to Pass Over.

ARTICLE 5: To determine what sums of money the Town will appropriate and raise by taxation, transfer from free cash, transfer from Town Ambulance Funds, Water Department Revenue, Conservation Notice of Intent Fund, Overlay Surplus, and Stabilization Fund to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including Debt and Interest and to provide for a reserve fund for the **2003 Fiscal Year** or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This article refers to the FY 2003 Annual Budget Lines

VOTED Aye, the following FY 2003 Budget Appropriations
(The source of funding is raise and appropriate unless otherwise noted)

FY 2003

FIXED COSTS

1. 710-5914 Maturing Debt	\$	185,000	
2. 710-5912 Debt Exclusion		95,000	
3. 750-5915 Interest Exp. Debt		137,565	
4. 750-5925 Interest Debt Exclusion		33,250	
5. 911-5174 Plymouth County Retirement		220,310	
	150,000	Free Cash	
	46,842	Overlay Surplus	
6. 914-5172 Town Benefits		585,270	
7. 945-5740 Town Insurance		162,000	
8. 913-5173 Unemployment		<u>15,360</u>	
TOTAL FIXED COSTS		1,630,597	

TOWN SERVICES

9. 132-5201 Reserve Fund		45,000	
10. 125-5790 Town Vehicles		65,500	
11. 122-5432 Printing	6,500		
12 155-5303 Computer	72,500		
13 155-5341 Postage	27,000		
14. 151-5301 Legal	75,000		
15. 122-5271 Copier Supplies	14,000		
16. 155-5300 Engineering	15,000		
16A155-5302 Demolition	2,500		
16B155-5313 Harvester	7,500		
17. 155-5310 Town Audit		<u>15,000</u>	
TOTAL TOWN SERVICES		345,500	

MAINTENANCE OF TOWN BUILDINGS

18. 197-5201 Utilities	145,000		
19. 192-5113 Town Hall Custodian		58,735	

20. 192-5201 Town Hall Expenses	22,000
21. 210-5795 Police Dept. Bldg. Mainten.	8,000
22. 220-5795 Fire Dept. Bldg. Mainten.	7,500
23. 541-5116 Elder Affairs Custodian	0
24. 541-5795 Eld. Aff. Bldg. Mainten.	0
25. 610-5116 Library Custodian	0
26. 610-5795 Library Bldg. Mainten.	<u>0</u>

TOTAL TOWN BUILDINGS

241,235

TOWN GOVERNMENT

27. 114-5113 Moderator Wages	382
28. 122-5111 Selectmen Board Wages	7,813
29. 122-5111 Selectmen Board Other Wages	38,900
30. 122-5114 Selectmen Clerical Wages	354,367
30A112--5114 Retirement Buy-out	0
31. 122-5201 Selectmen Expenses	7,125
32. 124-5112 Executive Secretary Wages	65,776
33. 124-5201 Executive Secretary Expenses	1,700
34. 131-5790 Finance Committee Expenses	2,000
35. 135-5112 Town Accountant Wages	53,511
36. 135-5201 Town Accountant Expenses	1,125
37. 141-5111 Assessors Board Wages	4,927
38. 141-5113 Assessors Other Wages	57,649
39. 141-5201 Assessors Expenses	9,690
40. 145-5112 Treas/Collector Wages	53,855
40a145-5118 Treas/Collector Certification	1,000
41. 145-5201 Treas/Collector Expenses	6,450
42. 145-5201 Treas Contracted Charges	25,155
43. 145-5380 Treas-Tax Title Charges	0
44. 161-5112 Town Clerk Wages	46,371
44a 161-5118 Town Clerk Certification	1,000
45. 161-5201 Town Clerk Expenses	4,785
46. 162-5114 Election Wages	8,786
47. 162-5790 Election Expenses	9,400
48. 163-5113 Registrars Wages	9,500
49. 163-5201 Registrars Expenses	2,500
50. 171-5790 Conservation Expenses	1,100 Notice of Intent Fund
51. 172-5112 Conservation Agent Wages	19,116
52. 172-5201 Conservation Agent Expenses	600 Notice of Intent Fund
52A175-5113 Planning Board Wages	7,813
53. 175-5201 Planning Board Expenses	3,250
54. 176-5201 Appeals Board Expenses	800
55. 186-5112 Town Planner Wages	58,430
56. 186-5790 Town Planner Expenses	500
56A186-5201 Town Planner Stipend	2,000
57. 241-5112 Building Inspector Wages	44,234
58. 241-5113 Bldg Inspector Other Wages	1,019
59. 241-5201 Building Inspector Expense	3,837
60. 242-5112 Gas Inspector Wages	4,562
61. 242-5201 Gas Inspector Expenses	900
62. 243-5112 Plumbing Inspector Wages	5,601
63. 243-5790 Plumbing Inspector Expenses	1,000
64. 244-5112 Sealer of Weights Wages	2,500
65. 244-5790 Sealer of Weights Expenses	500
66. 245-5112 Wire Inspector Wages	19,050
67. 245-5790 Wire Inspector Expenses	1,400
68. 293-5112 Animal Control Wages	21,611
69. 293-5790 Animal Control Expenses	4,100

70. 297-5112 Tree Dept. Wages	1,178
71. 297-5790 Tree Dept. Expenses	1,100
72. 430-5112 Disposal Area Wages	35,116
73. 430-5113 Disposal Area Expenses	1,011
74. 430-5291 Disposal Area Operations	245,510
75. 511-5111 Health Board Wages	4,927
76. 511-5113 Health Board Other Wages	46,721
77. 511-5201 Health Board Expenses	6,675
78. 511-5882 VNA Services	4,500
79. 541-5112 Elder Affairs Wages	36,050
80. 541-5113 Elder Affairs Other Wages	36,561
81. 541-5201 Elder Affairs Expenses	14,725
82. 541-5882 Elder Affairs VNA Services	10,400
83. 543-5113 Veterans Agent Wages	10,758
84. 543-5114 Veterans Clerical	6,183
85. 543-5790 Veterans Expenses	1,500
86. 543-5770 Veterans Benefits	15,000
86A543 Patriotic Observance	1,000
87. 544-5790 Care of Soldiers Graves	1,000
88. 610-5112 Librarian Wages	48,190
89. 610-5114 Library Other Wages	72,547
90. 610-5201 Library Expenses	62,000
91. 632-5113 Recreation Wages	59,085
91A636-5201 Parks & Fields	15,000
91B636 Thomas Mill Committee	1,500
91C636 Town Forest Committee	<u>1,000</u>

TOTAL TOWN GOVERNMENT **1,716,927**

EDUCATION

92. 320-5320 Whitman-Hanson Regional	4,956,370
92A320-5925 Exempt Debt & Int	639,021
93. 330-5790 South Shore Vo-Tech	414,670
94. 330-5320 Other Tuition & Transp.	135,792
95. 310-5331 Non-Mandated Busing	<u>91,723</u>

TOTAL EDUCATION **6,237,576**

PUBLIC SAFETY

96. 210-5112 Police Chief Wages	79,171
97. 210-5113 Police Other Wages	1,097,265
98. 210-5201 Police Expenses	<u>82,500</u>

SUB-TOTAL **1,258,936**

99. 215-5115 Com. Center Dispatchers	164,590
100. 215-5201 Com. Center Expenses	9,300
100A215-5850 Lease Purchase Radio Equip	<u>0</u>

SUB-TOTAL **173,890**

101. 220-5112 Fire Chief Wages	72,100
102. 220-5110 Firefighters-F/T Wages	679,866
	260,354Ambulance Fee Fund
103. 220-5113 Firefighters-P/T Wages	32,500
104. 220-5201 Fire Dept. Expense	53,000
104A220-5850 Equipment Outlay	6,000

104B220-5850 Lease Purchase 26,880 Ambulance Fee Fund

SUB-TOTAL 1,130,700

105. 420-5112 Highway Surveyor Wages	55,592
105a420-5117 Stipend	0
106. 420-5113 Highway Dept. Wages	266,672
107. 420-5201 Highway Expenses	24,150
107A420-5850 Loader Lease Payment	28,433
108. 420-5210 Town Gasoline	68,250
109 420-5840 Highway Road Repair & Drain.	21,000
110. 420-5292 Highway Snow Operation	75,000
111. 420-5532 Street Signs & Lines	14,000
112. 420-5533 Street Sweeping	<u>16,000</u>

SUB-TOTAL 569,097

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY 3,132,623

SUB-TOTAL 13,304,458

WATER DEPARTMENT

113. 450-5111 Board Members Wages	7,813
114. 450-5112 Water Superintendent	51,523
115. 450-5113 Water Other Wages	168,400
116. 450-5114 Water Dept. Clerical	38,500
117. 450-5201 Water Expenses	391,000
117B450-5301 Water Legal	50,000
118. 450-5925 Water Dept. Debt & Interest	<u>225,285</u>

TOTAL 932,521

GRAND TOTAL \$14,236,979

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from free cash a sum of money for the implementation of the GASB 34 program or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: These funds will be use for necessary consultation services and software required for the implementation of GASB 34, a mandated inventory system, which will require the Town Accountant to inventory and value all assets of the Town which exceed \$10,000, including such things as streets. This mandated program will take several years to finish and should begin in FY03. The estimated cost for the consultation services and software \$27,600.00.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash a sum of \$27,600.00 for the implementation of the GASB 34 program.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation and/or transfer from free cash and/or transfer from Stabilization Fund the sum of Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) dollars for the purpose of Storm Water Management Planning or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Drainage Committee

Explanation: This article will set the foundation for consultant assistance in preparing workshops for Storm Water Planning, regulatory review, financial advocacy (loan/grant) and preliminary culvert mapping, to address the Environmental

Protection Agency requirements for Phase 11 Storm Water Management.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to raise and appropriate by taxation the sum of \$3,840.00 and transfer the sum of \$16,160.00 from Free Cash for the purpose of Storm Water Management Planning.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Ambulance Fee Collection Fund, a sum of money to Article 5, Line 13, postage of the May 2002 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto:

Proposed by Treasurer/Collector

Explanation: This money is a reimbursement to the postage account for postage used to mail all ambulance bills. Estimated amount is **\$1,000.00**

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to appropriate and transfer from Ambulance Fee Collection Fund, \$1,000.00 to Article 5, line 13, Postage of the May 2002 Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation, transfer from Free Cash and/or transfer \$100,000.00 from Stabilization Fund and transfer the following:

May 1998 A.T.M. Article 10, Repairs to Playground	\$ 6.07
Oct. 1998 S.T.M. Article 14, Eld. Affairs Van	1,056.80
May 1999 A.T.M. Article 17, Snow Plow	453.50
May 1999 A.T.M. Article 22, Sports Storage House	8.11
May 2000 A.T.M. Article 13, Highway Tractor	558.95
May 2000 A.T.M. Article 14, Police Computers	719.00
May 2000 A.T.M. Article 16, Kiwanee Restrooms	443.83
May 2000 A.T.M. Article 21, Pol. Telephone System	18.00
Oct. 2000 S.T.M. Article 7, Lib Handicapped Access	5.00
Oct. 2000 S.T.M. Article 10, Maquan School Roof	84,032.48

these sums of money to be added to the Capital Improvement Fund or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: This article sets up the funding for the Capital Improvement Articles. This article is presented every year.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer \$100,000.00 from Stabilization and transfer the articles printed in the warrant to the Capital Improvement Fund.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund a sum of money to purchase and install a CAMA computer system in the Assessor's Office or take any other action in relation thereto under the direction of the Board of Assessors.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: The CAMA system in place in the Assessors' office operates on the PICK operating system. It was developed in the mid nineteen-eighties. It is not compatible with any Windows programs. In order to study the sales and calculate assessment/sales ratios, a separate database had to be developed. It has become extremely cumbersome and time consuming to have to maintain an assessment file, a billing file and a sales file. Also, the current system cannot and will

never be able to interact with GIS. The contractor who currently maintains the CAMA system has developed a Windows based CAMA system and has converted most of their contracted communities to the new program. It is becoming unprofitable for the contractor to maintain the PICK system for only a couple of Towns. It is a matter of time before there will be no support for the old system.

It appears prudent to act before we are in a crisis situation of having to find a vendor and convert our data within a limited time frame. We are approaching our re-certification year and feel very strongly that this is the optimum time to convert to the Windows based CAMA system. The estimated cost is \$39,200.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund \$39,200.00 to purchase the CAMA System for the Assessor's office.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund a sum of money to purchase and install a sprinkler system in the Camp Kiwanee Lodge under the direction of the Recreation Commission or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: Last year we funded the water line for the Camp and this is the second phase of the project. The sprinkler system for the lodge will result in better fire protection to preserve this valuable asset and will likely reduce insurance premiums as well. The estimated cost is \$55,800.00

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund \$55,800.00 to purchase and install a sprinkler system in the Camp Kiwanee Lodge.

ARTICLE 14: To see the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund a sum of money to purchase six gas heater for the Highway Department under the direction of the Highway Surveyor or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: The current heaters have been malfunctioning and this causes a health and safety issue for the department. The estimated cost is \$30,000.00

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer for the Capital Improvement Fund \$10,000.00 to purchase and install 6 gas heaters for the Highway Department.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund a sum of money to fund the lease/purchase of Personal Protective Equipment for the Fire Department under the direction of the Fire Chief or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: This is to fund a three-year lease/purchase to replace 30 unsafe and non-compliant self-contained breathing apparatus and equipment within the department. The estimate cost for the project is \$112,000 with the first payment being approximately \$43,500. There is a possibility that a grant will be received that will reduce the town's participation to 10% of the original contract price.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund \$43,500.00 as the first year payment of a 3-year lease/purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus and equipment for the Fire Department.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund a sum of money to purchase and install automatic doors for handicap accessibility at the Hanson Senior Center and Public Library under the direction of the Board of Selectmen or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: This is necessary to comply with ADA requirements, and the estimated cost is \$19,000. The current doors are too heavy to meet the standards of the ADA.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to transfer from the Capital Improvement Fund \$19,000.00 to purchase and install automatic doors for handicap accessibility at the Hanson Senior Center and Library.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and raise by taxation or transfer from free cash and/or Stabilization and/or available funds a sum of money for the purchase and installation of a Network/MIS system for the Town Departments or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This network system will contact all the Town Department through a secure connection. It is estimated that the system will cost \$55,000 and it will connect the Police Department, the Fire Department, Town Hall, Highway Department, the Senior Center, the Library and the Water Department. This will allow all departments to access public data and coordinate their work.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer a sum of money from Free Cash and/or Stabilization and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be added to the 1998 May Annual Town Meeting, Article 9, Sidewalks or take any other action.

Proposed by the
Street Safety & Dev. Committee

Explanation: This article will provide construction funds to create an additional 7,000 linear feet of sidewalk along a portion of Route 27. The estimated amount \$80,000.00.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

VOYED Aye, voice to Pass Over

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer a sum of money from Free Cash and/or Stabilization and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the construction of intersection improvements as to Roller Coaster Road, Old Cross Street and Crescent Street and Maquan Street or take any other action.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen
And the Private Road Oversight Comm.

Explanation: The estimated amount \$75,000.00. This intersection improvement will improve the line of sight at the intersection and reduce the number of access points to improve public safety. As a result of approving this article, it will be necessary to layout the intersection as a public way.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

VOTED Aye 173, Nay 115 (2/3's not achieved-motion defeated) to transfer from Stabilization the sum of \$60,000.00 for the construction of intersection improvements as to Roller Coaster Road, Old Cross Street, Crescent Street and Maquan Street.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from free cash and/or Stabilization a sum of money to be expended for permit tracking software or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This software will provide a mechanism that will permit all the regulatory functions of Town Hall to keep track of all the parcels of land within the town and all pending actions. This software would allow each Board, Committee, Commission and Department to access vital information on a 24/7 basis. Cost of software is \$12,000 - \$14,000 and an annual maintenance fee of \$2,000 without the utilization of user fees.

Finance Committee does not recommend

VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town of Hanson will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$3,500.00 to contract with South Shore Women's Center for domestic violence intervention and prevention services for its residents or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Susan Thornton, 38 others and the
South Shore Women's Center

Explanation: This article is voted every year. These funds are used to assist the needs of women and children in the Town of Hanson affected by domestic violence.

Finance Committee does not recommend

VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,000.00 to support Legal Services for Cape Cod and Islands, Inc. continued provision of free legal services in civil matters to low-income families and their children, or taken any other action in relation thereto:

Proposed by Mary Smiley, 17 others and Legal Services for Cape Cod
and Islands, Inc.

Explanation: This article is voted every year. The funds are used to assist low-income families and their children with legal services.

Finance Committee does not recommend

VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to accept the Local Acceptance Early Retirement Initiative Legislation now pending in the General Court or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This will permit municipal employee with at least 10 years of service and having reached age 55, to retire earlier than normally permitted. If approved, the Board of Selectmen will have the authority to define and limit the classification of employees eligible for retirement and the number of employees eligible for retirement.

Finance Committee refers to Town Meeting

VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to allow a cost of living adjustment to increase the exemption granted to certain senior citizens and surviving spouses and minors under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17D, for fiscal year 2003, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

Explanation: In 2002 the Town Meeting voted to accept the amendment created by Section 1 of Chapter 181 of the Acts of 1995 that allowed an annual cost of living increase for the recipients of Clause 17D exemptions. The Town must vote the percent of the Consumer Price Index increase annually.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to allow 100% of the 4.3% cost of living adjustment to increase the exemption amount granted to certain senior citizens and surviving spouses and minor children under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17D, for fiscal year 2003.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41D, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

Explanation: Communities have the option of annually increasing the amount of income and assets certain senior citizens may have to qualify for an exemption under MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C (Current income ceiling \$13,000/\$15,000; current asset limits \$28,000/\$30,000). Income for a single elderly property owner would increase from \$13,000 to \$13,637 annually. The income for an elderly married couple would increase from \$15,000 to \$15,735 annually. The assets for a single person would increase from \$28,000 to \$29,372 and a married couple could have assets of \$32,823, up from the current \$30,000 limit. The exemption amount will remain the same at \$500.00

There will be no additional State reimbursement if these increases are adopted.

Finance Committee recommends.

VOTED Aye unanimous to accept Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 59, section 5, Clause 41D, by allowing 100% of the 4.4% cost of living adjustment for Fiscal year 2003.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continuation of a revolving fund under the provisions of G. L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the use by the Hanson Board of Assessors, such funds to be used for the purchase and maintenance of maps. The receipts generated through over the counter sale of these maps shall be credited to the revolving account. The Board of Assessors is authorized to expend from the fund for the stated purpose without further appropriation subject to the restrictions contained in G. L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ an amount not to exceed \$ 1,500.00. Expenditures shall not be made or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

Explanation: To purchase and maintain maps and to help defray the cost of providing updated assessors maps to various Town Departments.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous Article 26 as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continuation of a revolving fund under the provisions of

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½ for the purpose of Hanson Public Library operations including purchase, repair and maintenance of the copy machine(s), equipment and copy machine(s) supplies, printers and printing supplies, and the replacement of lost and damaged library materials. The following receipts generated shall be credited to the fund:

Receipts from charges to the public for the use of the copy machine(s) and fines and fees charged for lost, damaged and overdue library materials.

The Board of Library Trustees is authorized to expend from the account for its stated purpose without further appropriation subject to the restrictions contained in G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ an amount of money not to exceed \$5,000.00. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time or take any other action relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Library Trustees

Explanation: This article will allow money that is received from the use of the library copier and money received from fines and fees charged for damaged, lost and overdue library material to be used for the purchase, repair and maintenance of the copy machine(s), equipment and supplies.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous to authorize the continuation of a revolving fund under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½ for the purpose of Hanson Public Library operations including purchase, repair and maintenance of the copy machine(s), equipment and copy machine(s) supplies, printers and printing supplies, and the replacement of lost and damaged library materials. The following receipts generated shall be credited to the fund:

Receipts from charges to the public for the use of the copy machine(s) and fines and fees charged for lost, damaged and overdue library materials.

The Board of Library Trustees is authorized to expend from the account for its stated purpose without further appropriation subject to the restrictions contained in G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½ an amount of money not to exceed \$5,000.00. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continuation of a revolving fund established under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, section 53E ½ for the use of Hanson Senior Center/Library operations to include repairs, maintenance of the facility, purchases, repairs and maintenance of equipment, additional utility expenses, janitorial and staff reimbursement. The following receipts generated shall be credited to the fund:

Receipts from deposit and hourly use charges imposed upon any group or individual that has with prior approval agreed to the use and fee regulations as set forth by the Council for Elder Affairs and the Board of Library Trustees.

The Council for Elder Affairs or the Board of Library Trustees is authorized to expend from the account for its stated purpose without further appropriation subject to the restrictions contained in G.L. c. 44 Section 53E ½ an amount of money not to exceed \$3,000.00. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Library Board of Trustees
And the Council of Elder Affairs

Explanation: This article will allow money that is received from the deposits and use fees charged other groups and individuals for the use of the Senior Center/Library facilities, to be used for the purchase, repair and maintenance of equipments, additional utility expense and janitorial service.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under the provisions of G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E

1/2 for the use by the Parks and Fields Commission for the sport programs including maintenance and equipment. The receipts will be generated through a recycling program at the Hanson Transfer Station. The Parks and Fields Commission is authorized to expend from the fund for the stated purpose without future appropriation subject to the restrictions contained in G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2 an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Parks and Fields Commission

Explanation: This article is voted every year. The article provides the Parks and Fields Commission the ability to generate funds through a recycling program. The funds are used for the sports programs.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye unanimous Article 29 as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continuation of a revolving fund established under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, section 53E 1/2 for the use of the Trustees of Memorial Field. Such funds to be used for the purpose of maintaining, and making improvements to Memorial Field. The receipts generated through use of field fees and gifts shall be credited to the Revolving Fund. The Trustees of Memorial Field are authorized to expend from the Fund for the stated purpose without further appropriation subject to the restrictions contained in M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2, an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Trustees of Memorial Field

Explanation: This article is voted annually to allow the Trustees of Memorial Field to receive field fees and gifts for the purpose of maintaining and improving the field.

Finance Committee recommends

Voted Aye unanimous as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey three (3) acres, more or less, of the former Plymouth County Hospital land identified as Lot 1, on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land Located on High Street & Pierce Avenue Hanson, Massachusetts prepared for Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. 101 Walnut Street, Watertown, Mass. September 11, 2001, Scale 1" = 8"', on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen determine to be satisfactory, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: The Town issued a Request For Proposal in February 2001, that indicated that the Town was interested in selling approximately 18 acres of the former Plymouth County Hospital site. The Town, in consultation with its engineering firm had determined that the 18 acres was an optimal design to allow for 3 phases of development. The successful bidder responded in April 2001, with a proposal for 45 Independent Living Units and 75 Assisted Living Units. The Zoning By-law Committee worked through the summer and fall of 2001 to create a Zoning By-law that would permit elderly restricted housing generally in the Town of Hanson. That Zoning By-law was presented to the October 2001 Special Town Meeting and did pass.

When the successful bidder began to lay out the proposed project, honoring the Zoning By-law crafted months after their bid, they determined that they were unable to construct the proposed 45 Independent Living Units and 75 Assisted Living Units due to a design requirement of 30 feet between buildings. In order for them to meet the Zoning By-law and meet their proposal of the 45 Independent Living Units and 75 Assisted Living Units, it will be necessary for them to obtain an additional 3 acres of land.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

VOTED Aye 278, Nay 45 (2/3's achieved, motion successful) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey 2.575 acres, more or less, of land of the former Plymouth County Hospital land identified as Parcel A, on a plan of land entitled "Plan

of Land Showing Parcel A, Located off High Street, Hanson, Massachusetts prepared by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. 101 Walnut Street, Watertown, Mass. May 7, 2002, Scale 1" = 80', on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen determine to be satisfactory.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to amend that Town of Hanson General Bylaws Article 1-1, Town Meeting, by deleting section 6 in its entirety and in its place insert a new section 6 as follows:

“Section 6: No action shall be acted upon at any Town Meeting unless there are present fifty or more registered voters of the Town.”

Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Carole T. McCormack and
44 registered voters

Finance Committee refers to Town Meeting

VOTED Nay, voice to amend that Town of Hanson General Bylaws Article 1-1, Town Meeting, by deleting section 6 in its entirety and in its place insert a new section 6 as follows:

“Section 6: No action shall be acted upon at any Town Meeting unless there are present fifty or more registered voters of the Town.”

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody and control to the Hanson Conservation Commission for Conservation purposes in accordance with M.G.L. c.40, s8c the following described land: Land in said Hanson on Holmes Street, shown as Lot 8 on Assessors' Map 57, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Betty Dahlberg and 17 others

Explanation provided by Petitioners: This parcel of town-owned land was voted conservation land in 1998 by the Hanson Board of Selectmen and then voted unanimously by the May 3, 1999 Annual Town Meeting to be named the Carolyn Moore Ready Conservation Area. This article will ensure that this conservation land will have strong legal protection. *2/3 VOTE*

Selectmen's Note: The above explanation mistakenly indicates that the Board of Selectmen voted this property as conservation land in 1998. The Board of Selectmen only voted the name, and did that on May 3, 1999.

Finance Committee refers to Town Meeting

VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to approve a debt in the amount of \$49,181,800.00 as authorized by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee for constructing and equipping a new high school on land presently owned by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District, on Franklin Street located behind the existing high school building, provided that any debt so authorized by the District shall be contingent upon a Town vote to exempt the amounts required to pay such debt from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the PK Whitman-Hanson
Regional School Committee

Explanation: This article is for the construction of a new Regional High School with the financing to be exempt from Proposition 2 ½.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTE Aye, voice to approve a debt in the amount of \$49,181,800.00 as authorized by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee for constructing and equipping a new high school on land presently owned by the

Whitman-Hanson Regional School District, on Franklin Street located behind the existing high school building, provided that any debt so authorized by the District shall be contingent upon a Town vote to exempt the amounts required to pay such debt from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½.

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, outside the levy limit, to the Reserve for Appropriation – School Debt Exclusion Reserve Account a sum of money for the purpose of making debt payments on debt issued by the Whitman Hanson Regional Schools, which debt was authorized by Article 34 of the May 6, 2002 Annual Town Meeting and Question 1 of the May 18, 2002 Annual Town Elections or take any action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Treasurer/Collector

Explanation: This article will provide funding source for the High School Building Project subject to the acceptance of previous article and Question 1 to be voted at the May 18, 2002 Annual Town Elections.

Finance Committee recommends

VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over.

ARTICLE 36: To bring 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, a Trustee of Memorial Field for two years, two Trustees of Public Library for three years, a members of the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Committee PreK-12 for three years, a 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 the town's apportioned share of the bond issued by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District for the purpose of constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new district high school located in the towns of Whitman and Hanson, including costs incidental and related thereto?

Yes _____

No _____

SEE: Town Election, May 18, 2002

Voted Aye, voice at 10:00 p.m. to recess until Saturday, May 18, 2002, at 9:00 a.m. in the Maquan School Cafeteria to take up Article 36 and to dissolve the meeting upon the closing of the polls.

A true copy, Attest:

**Sandra E. Harris, CMC, CMMC
Town Clerk**