

**Town of Hanson**  
**542 Liberty Street, Hanson, MA 02341**

## **May 2009 Annual Town Meeting**

Annual Town Meeting  
May 4, 2009

Moderator Charles W. Mann called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Middle School with Robert Hayes, Michael Glennon and William Clay sworn in to serve as tellers.

Town Counsel was John Goldrosen from the firm of Kopelman and Paige.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Town Meeting and a moment of silence was observed in memory of deceased town officials Robert Baresel, Father Francis J. Crowley, R. Edward Dunham, Donald Ferguson and Glenn Terrell.

The Moderator recognized and introduced State Senator Thomas Kennedy and State Representative Daniel K. Webster to the Town Meeting.

A quorum was declared present with 244 voters in attendance.

Upon request by the town meeting, Town Account Margaret LeMay gave the balance in Free Cash as \$86,253.19, in the Stabilization Fund as \$893,360.23, in the MTBE Settlement fund as \$659,573.00 and in Water Surplus as \$304,934.93.

The meeting was recessed at 7:39 p.m. to open the Special Town Meeting and will reconvene upon the dissolution of the Special Town Meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 8:58 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 **2008** Town Report.

Finance Committee refers to Town Meeting.

**VOTED Aye, voice to hear reports of the various Town Officers, Committees and Special Committees.**

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal 2010 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 refers to Town Meeting.

**VOTED Aye, voice to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance as printed in the warrant.**

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$485,350.00 from the Reserve for appropriation – school debt exclusion reserve account for the purpose of making debt payments on debt issued by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District, which debt was authorized by Article 34 of the May 2002 Annual Town Meeting and subsequent debt exclusion vote on May 18, 2002, or take any other action thereto.

Proposed by the Treasurer/Collector

**Explanation:** This account is used to pay temporary borrowing for the new high school project.

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$485,350.00 from the Reserve for appropriation – school debt exclusion reserve account as printed in the warrant.**

**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:

	<b>FY09</b>	<b>FY10</b>
Moderator	382.00	0

Selectmen

Chairman	2,041.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0

Town Clerk	56,820.00	58,524.00
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Tree Warden	2,632.00	0
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Assessors

Chairman	2,041.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0

Highway Surveyor	68,983.00	71,052.00
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Water Commissioners

Chairman	2,041.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0

Board of Health

Chairman	2,041.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0

Planning Board

Chairman	2,041.00	0
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Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0
Member	1,443.00	0

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.

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice as printed in the warrant and amended with the Tree Warden FY 10 column to read 2,609.**

**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, Stabilization Fund, Fund Balance Reserved for Reduction of Future Excluded Debt and Proceeds from MTBE Settlement to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including Debt and Interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for the **2010 Fiscal Year** or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This article refers to the FY 2010 Annual Budget Lines

**VOTED Aye, voice the following FY 2010 Budget Appropriations and voted Aye 195, Nay 4( 2/3's majority achieved) for the use of Stabilization Funds on line 5.**

(The source of funding is raise and appropriate, by taxation, unless otherwise noted)

#### FY 2010

#### FIXED COSTS

1. 710-5914 Maturing Debt	\$	118,974	
2. 710-5912 Debt Exclusion		280,000	
3. 750-5915 Interest Exp. Debt		47,309	
4. 750-5925 Interest Debt Exclusion		170,243.21	
		6,643.79	Fund balance reserve for
			Reduction of Future Exclude Debt
5. 911-5174 Plymouth County Retirement		411,593.14	
		374,685.99	MTBE
		24,266.87	Stabilization Fund
		54,215.00	Overlay Surplus
6. 914-5172 Town Benefits		1,260,000	
7. 945-5740 Town Insurance		229,836	
8. 913-5173 Unemployment		<u>35,360</u>	
<b>TOTAL FIXED COSTS</b>		<b>3,013,127</b>	

#### TOWN SERVICES

9. 132-5201 Reserve Fund	50,000
10. 125-5790 Town Vehicles	36,922
10A. 420-5210 Town Gasoline	103,360

11. 122-5432 Printing	4,860
12. 155-5303 Computer Services	81,000
13. 155-5341 Postage	25,000
14. 151-5301 Legal	80,000
15. 122-5271 Town Hall Copier Lease/Supplies	10,935
16. 155-5300 Engineering	3,240
16A155-5302 Demolition	0
16B155-5313 Harvester	1,215
17. 155-5310 Town Audit	<u>24,000</u>

<b>TOTAL TOWN SERVICES</b>	<b>420,532</b>
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#### MAINTENANCE OF TOWN BUILDINGS

18. 197-5201 Utilities	215,000
19. 192-5113 Town Buildings Custodial Wages	76,555
20. 192-5201 Town Hall Expenses	17,784
21. 210-5795 Police Dept. Bldg. Mainten.	20,007
22. 220-5795 Fire Dept. Bldg. Mainten.	6,750
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>

<b>TOTAL TOWN BUILDINGS</b>	<b>336,096</b>
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#### TOWN GOVERNMENT

27. 114-5113 Moderator Wages	0
28. 122-5110 Selectmen Board Wages	0
29. 122-5111 Selectmen Board Other Wages	44,235
30. 122-5114 Selectmen Clerical Wages	598,988
31. 122-5201 Selectmen Expenses	8,550
32. 124-5112 Town Administrator Wages	75,000
33. 124-5201 Town Administrator Expenses	900
34. 131-5790 Finance Committee Expenses	1,000
35. 135-5112 Town Accountant Wages	63,654
35A135-5112 Interim Wages	0
36. 135-5201 Town Accountant Expenses	1,422
37. 141-5111 Assessors Board Wages	0
38. 141-5113 Assessors Other Wages	68,827
39. 141-5201 Assessors Expenses	8,069
40. 145-5112 Treas/Collector Wages	63,654
41. 145-5118 Treas/Collector Certification	1,000
42. 145-5201 Treas/Collector Expenses	6,912
43. 145-5190 Treas Contracted Charges	2,000
44. 161-5112 Town Clerk Wages	56,820
44a 161-5118 Town Clerk Certification	1,000
45. 161-5201 Town Clerk Expenses	4,096
46. 162-5114 Election Wages	2,574
47. 162-5790 Election Expenses	4,990
48. 163-5113 Registrars Wages	6,237
49. 163-5201 Registrars Expenses	1,782
50. 171-5790 Conservation Expenses	3,726
51. 172-5112 Conservation Agent Wages	48,183
52. 172-5201 Conservation Agent Expenses	0
52A175-5113 Planning Board Wages	0
53. 175-5201 Planning Board Expenses	2,993
54. 176-5201 Appeals Board Expenses	720

55. 186-5112 Town Planner Wages	69,770
56. 186-5790 Town Planner Expenses	0
56A186-5118Town Planner Stipend	2,000
57. 241-5112 Building Inspector Wages	30,000
58. 241-5113 Bldg Inspector Other Wages	1,130
59. 241-5201 Building Inspector Expense	3,600
60. 242-5112 Gas Inspector Wages	5,085
61. 242-5201 Gas Inspector Expenses	450
62. 243-5112 Plumbing Inspector Wages	6,405
63. 243-5790 Plumbing Inspector Expenses	540
64. 244-5112 Sealer of Weights Wages	2,884
65. 244-5790 Sealer of Weights Expenses	360
66. 245-5112 Wire Inspector Wages	22,993
67. 245-5790 Wire Inspector Expenses	1,238
68. 293-5112 Animal Control Wages	25,680
69. 293-5790 Animal Control Expenses	1,170
70. 297-5112 Tree Dept. Wages	2,609
71. 297-5790 Tree Dept. Expenses	3,500
72. 430-5112 Disposal Area Wages	40,737
73. 430-5113 Disposal Area Expenses	900
74. 430-5291 Disposal Area Operations	180,475
75. 511-5111 Health Board Wages	0
76. 511-5113 Health Board Other Wages	57,776
77. 511-5201 Health Board Expenses	5,400
78. 511-5882 VNA Services	3,221
79. 541-5112 Elder Affairs Wages	46,313
80. 541-5113 Elder Affairs Other Wages	15,577
81. 541-5201 Elder Affairs Expenses	12,465
82. 541-5882 Elder Affairs VNA Services	10,400
83. 543-5113 Veterans Agent Wages	12,846
84. 543-5114 Veterans Clerical	7,274
85. 543-5790 Veterans Expenses	2,250
86. 543-5770 Veterans Benefits	15,000
86A548-5790 Patriotic Observance	1,000
87. 544-5790 Care of Soldiers Graves	1,500
88. 610-5112 Librarian Wages	51,780
89. 610-5114 Library Other Wages	54,569
90. 610-5201 Library Expenses	74,848
91. 632-5113 Recreation Wages	38,012
91A636-5201 Parks & Fields	9,000
91B649-5790 Thomas Mill Committee	0
91C650-5790 Town Forest Committee	<u>0</u>

**TOTAL TOWN GOVERNMENT 1,898,089**

## **PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS**

### **HIGHWAY**

92. 420-5112 Highway Surveyor Wages	68,983
93. 420-5113 Highway Dept. Wages	320,075
94. 420-5201 Highway Expenses	25,950
95. 420-5850 Lease Payments	0
96. 420-5840 Highway Road Repair & Drain.	21,000
97. 420-5292 Highway Snow Operation	75,000
98. 420-5532 Street Signs & Lines	14,000
99. 420-5533 Street Sweeping	<u>24,000</u>

**SUB-TOTAL 549,008**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

100. 210-5112 Police Chief Wages	92,220
101. 210-5113 Police Other Wages	1,381,611
101A. 210-5113 Other Wages-Quinn Bill	92,906
102. 210-5201 Police Expenses	<u>81,600</u>

<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>1,648,337</b>
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103. 215-5115 Com. Center Dispatchers	251,638
104. 215-5201 Com. Center Expenses	<u>23,424</u>

<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>275,062</b>
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**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

105. 220-5112 Fire Chief Wages	83,166
106. 220-5110 Firefighters-F/T Wages	927,021
	290,000 Ambulance Fund
107. 220-5113 Firefighters-P/T Wages	41,363
108. 220-5201 Fire Dept. Expense	68,285
108A220-5850 Equipment Outlay	2,000
108B220-5850 Lease Purchase	33,020
108C220-5525 Fire Safety	<u>4,729</u>

<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>1,449,584</b>
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<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>3,921,991</b>
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**EDUCATION**

109. 330-5334 South Shore Vo-Tech	537,955
110. 330-5320 Other Tuition & Transp.	110,385
111. 310-5331 Non-Mandated Busing	119,867
112. 320-5925 Exempt Debt & Int.	345,801
113. 320-5320 Whitman-Hanson Regional	<u>6,521,954</u>

<b>TOTAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>7,635,962</b>
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<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>17,225,797</b>
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**WATER DEPARTMENT**

114. 450-5111 Board Members Wages	0
115. 450-5112 Water Superintendent	63,935
116. 450-5113 Water Other Wages	248,156
117. 450-5114 Water Dept Reimburse to Town	102,095
118. 450-5201 Water Expenses	276,384
118A 450-5307 Water Legal	10,000
119. 450-5925 Water Dept. Debt & Interest	<u>349,896</u>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,050,466</b>
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<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,276,263</b>
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**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Title V Special Revenue Fund to the General Fund or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Treasurer/Collector

**Explanation:** This fund will be used to pay the administrative costs of the Septic Loan Program in accordance with the Mass. Water Pollution Abatement Trust. \$19,000.

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to transfer the sum of \$19,000.00 from the Title V Special Revenue Fund to the General Fund.**

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Mass. Water Pollution Abatement Trust loan repayments receipts reserved for appropriation to the general fund maturing debt principal line or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Town Accountant and Treasurer/Collector

**Explanation:**~ This money is needed to pay down the debt that is due to the MWPAT. \$50,000

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$50,000.00 from the Mass. Water Pollution Abatement Trust loan repayments receipts reserved for appropriation to the general fund maturing debt principal line.**

**ARTICLE 8:** 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 to approve the Capital Improvement Program as presented to the Board of Selectmen by the Capital Improvement Committee.**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate through taxation and/or transfer from free cash and/or stabilization a sum of \$5,000 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.

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to raise and appropriate through taxation \$5,000 for the Treasurer/Collectors tax title account.**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will adopt a minimum value of \$1000 for the issuance of personal property tax bills, or take other any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: Treasurer/Collector  
Board of Assessors

**Explanation:** M.G.L. Chapter 59, section 5, clause 54 establishes a minimum value of personal property subject to taxation. The value may not be in excess of \$10,000. It has become increasingly expensive to collect many of the smaller bills, as businesses close or move out of Town.

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to accept General Law Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54, and the Town adopt a minimum value of One Thousand Dollars for personal property to be subject to taxation.**

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the **Community Preservation** annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2010, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

**Appropriations:**

From FY 2010 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$ 8,700.

**Reserves:**

From FY 2010 estimated revenues for Historic Resource Reserve \$ 18,318.

From FY 2010 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve \$ 18,318.

From FY 2010 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve \$ 18,318.

From FY 2010 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve \$111,786.

or take any other action thereon.

Proposed by the  
Community Preservation Committee

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to reserve \$175,440.00 from the Community Preservation annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2010, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation as detailed.**

**ARTICLE 12:** 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 and the GIS system. 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:** This revolving fund will subsidize the mapping line so that the assessor's maps can be updated annually

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice Article 12 as printed in the warrant.**

**ARTICLE 13:** 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 the 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 not to exceed \$5000.00. 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 is the annual revolving account article for the library. The receipts generated from copies, fines and fees, and computer printouts are used for the purchase, repair and maintenance of the copy machine(s), equipment and copy machine(s) supplies, printers and printing supplies, as well as the replacement of lost and damaged library materials.

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice Article 13 as written in the warrant.**

**ARTICLE 14:** 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 \$3000.00. 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

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice Article 14 as written in the warrant.**

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the use by the Parks and Fields Commission for the sport programs including building utilization, park and field maintenance and equipment.~ The receipts credited to the fund shall be those generated by a recycling program, building and field rental, reimbursements for repairs and donations.~ 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 ½ an amount not to exceed \$20,000.~ 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 Parks and Fields Commission.

**Explanation~~~~~**This article has been voted every year for the recycling program portion.~ Income sources of field rentals, reimbursements for repairs and donations have been added. Expenditure options have been changed to include parks and field maintenance

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice Article 15 as printed in the warrant.**

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to approve and authorize the continuation of the revolving fund under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53 for the Hanson Council on Aging Supportive Care Program to be used for expenses needed to run said program on a year-round basis. The receipts generated from Supportive Care Program shall be credited to the revolving account. The Director of Elder Affairs is authorized to make expenditures and which shall have as an annual upper limit an amount of \$105,000 or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Council on Aging

Proposed by the Council on Elder Affairs

**Explanation:** This article will allow money that is received from funding supports, deposits, donations, other civic groups

and individuals from the use of the Multi-Service Senior Center program and facility.

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to approve and authorize Article 16 as printed in the Annual Town Meeting warrant.**

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to change Sec. 9 of the Town by laws which limits the number of amusement devices in any licensed establishment to 4. We would like it to read: The Board of Selectmen acting as licensing authority under M.G.L., Chapter 140, s. 177A shall limit then umber of amusement devices in any licensed establishment as they deem appropriate or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Scott Edgehille and 37 others

Finance Committee refers to Town Meeting.

**VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over Article 17.**

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$4,000.00 to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, the Conservation Agent, and managed by the Pembroke Watershed Association for the purpose of algae treatment on Oldham Pond.

Proposed by Mary Ellen Buckley and 23 others

Finance Committee recommends.

**VOTED Aye, voice to raise and appropriate by taxation \$4,000.00 to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, the Conservation Agent, and managed by the Pembroke Watershed Association for the purpose of algae treatment on Oldham Pond.**

**A vote to reconsider Article 5, line 113 failed to receive a 2/3's majority with a vote of Aye, 118, Nay 62.**

**ARTICLE 19:** 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 Constables for three years, one Trustee 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, two Water Commissioners for three years.

**SEE: Town Election, May 16, 2009**

**VOTED Aye, voice at 10:28 p.m. to recess until Saturday, May 16, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the cafeteria of the Maquan School to take up Article 19 and to dissolve the meeting upon the closing of polls at 6:00 p.m..**

A true copy of the vote, Attest:

Sandra E. Harris, CMC, CMMC  
Town Clerk