

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 **Second day of May, 2016** 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 **Twenty First of May, 2016** 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 **2015** Town Report.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal 2017 as permitted by Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Treasurer/Collector

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

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

Proposed by the Treasurer/Collector

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

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

	FY16	FY17
Town Clerk	\$64,595.00	\$65,887.00
Tree Warden	\$2,936.00	\$ 2,995.00

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

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

ARTICLE 5: To determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation, transfer from free cash, transfer from Town Ambulance Funds, Water Department Revenue, Water Surplus, Title V Special Revenue Fund, MWPAT Loan Repayments Receipts Reserved for Appropriation, Conservation Notice of Intent Fund, Overlay Surplus, Fund Balance Reserved for Reduction of Future Excluded Debt, and Election Fund Ch. 503, Acts of 1983 to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including Debt and Interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for the **2017 Fiscal Year** or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This article refers to the FY 2017 Annual Budget Lines

ARTICLE 6: To determine whether the Town will appropriate and raise by taxation or transfer from other available funds the additional sum of \$1,241,141.00 for paying the Town's assessed share of the Fiscal Year 2017 operating budget of the Whitman Hanson Regional School District; provided, however, that the amounts raised and appropriated hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters at an election of a so-called Proposition 2 ½ override question in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 21C(g) of the General Laws or take any other action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: The above will appropriate funds for the following additional Budgeted items which were part of fiscal 2017 Whitman Hanson Regional School Budget which was approved and Certified by a 10-0 vote of the Regional School Committee. :

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Instructional staff (8 positions), Library (5 Positions) and (2) Social workers, (2) Reading Specialists, (2) math specialists, (2) foreign language instructors, (1) Foreign Language program Coordinator, (1) Art teacher, (1) music teacher, (1) wellness instructor, (1) fine arts instructor, (1) music director, and Full Time no cost Kindergarten program, Professional Development improvements, Safety and Security resources (1) Safety and Security Position (3) Duty Aides, and (1) data specialist for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016.

This article also requires voter approval of the ballot question at the May 21, 2016 Annual Town Election. If so approved, the funds will be added to the Whitman Hanson Regional School budget.

ARTICLE 7: To see of the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Recreation Department during fiscal year 2017, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F ½ .

Estimated Revenues	FY 16	FY 17
Item	Amount	Amount
Program Receipts (fees)	\$260,000	\$278,000
Retained Earnings	\$ 18,000	
Taxation	<u>\$ 41,356</u>	<u>\$ 43,184</u>
Total Budgeted Revenues:	\$319,356	\$321,184

Estimated Expenses	Amount	Amount	Funding Source
Salaries	\$157,356	\$159,184	\$125,000 program Revenue \$ 34,184 Taxation
Expenses	\$153,000	\$153,000	Program Revenue
Indirect Costs	<u>\$ 9,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,000</u>	Taxation
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$319,356	\$321,184	

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Recreation Commission

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

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

Estimated Revenues	FY16	FY 17
Item	Amount	Amount
Program Receipts (fees)	\$240,450	\$220,750
Taxation	\$125,701	\$125,553
Retained Earnings		<u>\$ 25,000</u>
Total Budgeted Revenues:	\$365,951	\$371,303

Estimated Expenses	Amount	Funding Source
Salaries	\$112,025	\$116,877 \$25,000 RetainedEarnings \$91,877 Taxation
Expenses	\$220,250	\$220,750 Program Revenue
Indirect Costs	<u>\$ 33,676</u>	<u>\$ 33,676</u> Taxation
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$365,951	\$371,303

or take any other action in relation thereto

Proposed by the Board of Health

Explanation: The total cost of operating the Transfer Station is \$371,303. A portion of the Salaries \$91,877 and expenses \$33,676 will come from general taxation. The balance of expenses \$245,687.00 will be paid through the Enterprise Fund.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from **Fiscal Year 2017 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 2017, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$ 10,000

Reserves:

From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Historic Resource Reserve	\$25,000
From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$25,000
From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$25,000
From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$140,000

or take any other action in relation thereto.

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Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

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

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Capital Improvement Program as presented by the Capital Improvement Committee or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Comm.
And Board of Selectmen

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

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from available funds \$687,868.00 to various department Capital Accounts for the following items or take any other action in relation thereto.

Line	Dept.	Item	FY17 CIP Report	Town Admin. Recommendation	Funding Source
1	Library/Senior Center	Siding replacement, painting & exterior improvements	\$60,000		Free Cash
2	Fire Department	Replace 1955 & 1987 Fire vehicles	\$60,000		Free Cash
3	School – Maquan	Replace with LED Lighting	\$49,664		Free Cash
4	School – Indian Head	Replace with LED Lighting	\$18,279		Free Cash

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5	School – Maquan	Remove insulation and reinsulated piping and fittings	\$37,925		Free Cash
6	School – Maquan	Repair/Replace Roof	\$322,000		Free Cash
7	Highway	Purchase small dump truck	\$65,000		Free Cash
8	Recreation	Replace Septic System	75,000		Retained earnings
		TOTAL	\$687,868		

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee &
Board of Selectmen

Explanation: *Item 1* Siding Replacement, Painting of Trim and exterior repairs at Library/Senior Center. *Item 2* – To purchase and equip a Fire pick up truck which will be used as a backup forest fire vehicle to replace two fire vehicles. *Item 3* – Replace lighting with LED lighting at Maquan School. The current lighting is outdated and not energy efficient. *Item 4* Replace lighting with LED lighting at Indian head School. The current lighting is outdated and not energy efficient. *Item 5* – Remove insulation and reinsulate piping and fittings at Maquan School. *Item 6* – Repair/Replace Roof at Maquan School. *Item 7* - Purchase of Highway truck to replace the one ton Dump truck. *Item 8* – Replace Septic System at Camp Kiwanee

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ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from available funds \$99,738.00 to Capital Accounts for the following Whitman Hanson Regional High School items or take any other action in relation thereto.

Line	Dept.	Item	FY16 CIP Report	Town Admin. Recommendation	Funding Source
1	School – High School	Repair the Tennis Courts	68,178		Raise & Appropriate
2	School – High School	Repair Walkway by Main and Gym entrance	18,594		Raise & Appropriate
3	School – High School	Replace bleacher Chairlift	12,966		Raise & Appropriate
		TOTAL	\$99,738		

Explanation: *Item 1* The courts were resurfaced in 2005 and are severely cracked and heaving. *Item 2* – During the severe 2015 weather, the walkways have heaves and are a hazard. *Item 3* – Replacement parts are no longer available and the lift will fail the state inspection.

ARTICLE 13: 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.

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ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from free cash, overlay surplus and/or available funds a sum of money to fund the FY 2018-2019 Interim year adjustments and the Fiscal 2020 Triennial Recertification of the Town's Real Estate and Personal Property values, as required by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 797 of the Acts of 1979 or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

Explanation: M.G.L. requires that valuations be recertified every three (3) years. All building schedules, land tables, depreciation schedules, etc. are recalculated according to the current real estate market. New income and expense figures are also adopted based on the current commercial/industrial market. Estimated amount \$45,000

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve \$15,000 from the Undesignated Community Preservation Fund balance for the purpose of hiring a Consultant to prepare a Community Preservation Plan for the Community Preservation Committee or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: The Community Preservation Committee would like to hire a Consultant to assist them in preparing a Community Preservation Plan. The Consultant will be required to meet with all relevant boards/committees in addition to meeting with the citizens of Hanson in order to help them determine the areas of need that might benefit from Community Preservation Act funds. After they have gathered the requisite feedback and documentation needed, they will use this information to form the proposed Community Preservation Plan which will serve as a roadmap for Community Preservation Act funding in the future.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from free cash and/or available funds a sum of money to be used to advance the Maquan Street/Route 14 Reconstruction project from the Project Need Form (PNF) stage to the Project Initiation Form (PIF) stage and through the Project Review Committee (PRC) review or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: The Maquan Street/Route 14 Reconstruction Project is ultimately anticipated to include improvements to traffic circulation and safety, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and roadway flooding along Maquan Street from Liberty Street (Route 58) and Indian Head Street to the Pembroke Town Line, a distance of approximately 1.2 miles. It will also include reconstruction of School Street (approximately 0.25 miles

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long) to link pedestrian and bicycle accommodations from the existing Indian Head School, Maquan Elementary School, Hanson Public Library and sports fields with Maquan Street and its abutting neighborhoods.

Work will begin with the **Phase 1 Concept Development (Funding Assistance)** in order to advance the project from the Project Need Form (PNF) stage to the Project Initiation Form (PIF) stage and through the Project Review Committee (PRC) review. These early stages for future State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects include collecting data, performing preliminary evaluations and soliciting public input to further define the project. Assistance will also be provided in filling out the PIF itself for submission to MassDOT as well as meeting with the public and representatives of Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) and Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). The anticipated cost of the Funding Assistance Phase is \$45,000.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$500,000 from Water Surplus to be added to the funds appropriated under Article #23 of the May 4, 2015 Annual Town Meeting for additional water exploration; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: The water department is continuing to expend available funding on additional water supply development. Currently the town only has one well site (Crystal Spring Wells). Several locations are being evaluated, which may require site clearing, access improvements, test drilling, engineering coordination with regulators, and permitting. A stepwise approach will be implemented and evaluated by the Water Commission to rule out infeasible areas.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$75,000 from the Water Surplus to be added to the funds appropriated under Article 16 Water Meters of the October 6, 1997 Special Town Meeting, for the purpose of purchasing new water meters and related equipment for the Water Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

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

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ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 24 of the May 2015 Annual Town Meeting and further vote to raise and appropriate or raise through borrowing \$1,300,000.00 for the installation of new water mains on various streets throughout the Town or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: This is a housekeeping article. The project was approved at the May 2015 Annual Town Meeting. However, the Town's bond counsel requires that pursuant to the Town's bylaws, the project and the amount authorized must be reflected on the Town's Capital Improvement Plan. The updated figures have been included on this year's Capital Improvement Plan and the proper documentation has now been completed. These funds will allow the water department to replace old water mains; eliminate bleeders on dead ends streets; for better water quality. Requires two thirds vote.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to name the intersection of Winter & Liberty Street in the honor of John Ferry or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Veterans' Agent

Explanation: John died in December 2015 at 92 years of age. He was a highly decorated veteran who served his country in World War II and spent his life in Hanson running his businesses and giving back to the Town. We would like to honor John's military service and citizenship by dedicating a Memorial Square in his memory.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and/or available funds a sum of money to provide a marker for the Memorial Square or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by Veterans' Agent

Explanation: If the preceding article is approved, these funds will be used to purchase an appropriate marker and fund expenses associated with the dedication. Estimated amount \$2,000

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ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provision of MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22 through 22F or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

Explanation: This is a local option provision for the requirements of the disabled veterans under MGL, 59 Section 5, Clauses 22 through 22F.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the town will vote to place the Smith-Nawazelski Conservation Area, Assessors Map 20, Parcel 1-1, under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission, for the purpose of wildlife, recreation and forestry, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: The Smith-Nawazelski Conservation Area is 101 acres of gently sloping land between Poor Meadow Brook and Elm Street. It has some 1,500 feet of frontage on Poor Meadow Brook and a narrow network of walking trails, including a portion of the Bay Circuit Trail. It is across the street from the Burrage Pond Wildlife Management Area.

The town acquired the property for conservation and water supply protection. At a Special Town Meeting on October 1, 2007, the Board of Selectmen was authorized to seek legislative approval to grant a Conservation Restriction (CR) to the Department of Fish and Game. Approval was received and the Consensual Order of Taking of Conservation Easement A/K/A Conservation Restriction was recorded on July 1, 2008 at the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds in Book 36140 Pages 173-196. This CR, for which the town was paid \$250,000.00, now requires annual site audits by the state. The state official performing these audits has emphasized that the CR requires management of the property. It is logical for that management to be assigned to the Conservation Commission.

Placing this property under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission will allow the Commission to monitor the site and conduct activities to maintain and support the retention of the site in its natural scenic and open condition for fish and wildlife conservation, native habitat protection, public recreation, protection of scenic views and other conservation uses.

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ARTICLE 24: 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 2017 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”

Source of Funds	Use of Funds	Expended Under Direction of:	FY 17 Limit
<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 Purchase, maintenance, Repair & supplies. Printer Supplies. Replacement of Lost or damaged books	Board of Library	\$7,000
<i>Senior Center</i> Events, programs and Education Seminars	Senior Center Operations	Director of Elder Affairs	\$2,500
<i>Senior Center</i> Program Fees	Supportive Day Care Program	Director of Elder Affairs	\$95,000
<i>Conservation Comm.</i> Wetlands Fees	Engineering, Surveying Legal & Environmental Consulting <i>and Expenses Related to the Administra- tion and Enforcement of the Town of Hanson Wetland Protection By-law 3-13 And the rules & regulation Related thereto</i>	Conservation Commission	\$7,500
<i>Nathaniel Thomas Mill</i> Rental Fees	Maintenance & Repairs of building and grounds	Conservation	\$1,500

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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. Additional uses have been added to the Conservation Commission revolving account.

ARTICLE 25: To bring in their votes for the following offices: A Moderator for one year, a Selectmen for three years, an Assessor for three years, a Town Clerk 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 Tree Warden for three years, two Trustees of Memorial Field for three years, two Trustees of the Public Library for three years, two members of the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Committee PreK-12 for three years, two Water Commissioners for three years, and one question.

Question 1:

1. Shall the Town of Hanson be allowed to assess an additional \$1,241,141 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of paying the Town's assessed share of the Fiscal Year 2017 operating budget of the Whitman Hanson Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016?

Yes _____ No _____

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

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

Given under our hands, this 12th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

Frederic A. Gray
William R. Smith
James G. Mish
Ronald J. Mitchell
Wendell W. Howard
Selectmen of Hanson

A true attest copy
[Signature]
Town Clerk
[Signature]
Constable

April 14, 2016
Date
4/14/16