

# 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 Hanson Middle School, Liberty Street in said Hanson on Monday the Third day of October 2016 at 7:30 o'clock in the afternoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

**ARTICLE 1:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash or available funds to pay unpaid bills from Fiscal Year 2016 or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** There are a few unpaid bills from various departments, which were received after the end of fiscal year 2016. *Requires a 9/10 vote.*

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds or raise and appropriate a sum of money to supplement appropriations previously voted at the Annual Town Meeting of May 2016 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016 for various Town Departments, or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** The purpose of this article is to supplement a number of line items in the current fiscal year's budget (FY17) in order to fund a number of additional expenses. A detailed handout will be presented to the voters at Town meeting outlining in detail these expenses.

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$300,000 from the ambulance account to purchase an ambulance, medical equipment and a power stretcher system or take any action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

**Explanation:** These funds will be used to purchase an F-550 Ambulance, medical equipment and a power loading stretcher system.

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Free Cash and/or available funds a sum of money to be added to Stabilization or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

**Explanation:** This money will be used to increase the Stabilization Fund. A stabilization fund is a mechanism for setting aside money either for unforeseen needs or for capital projects. Such a fund is intended to equalize the effect of capital expenditures over time and to provide a “rainy day” fund. The dollar amount appropriated under this article will increase the Stabilization Fund to \$1,094,080, which represents 5% of the operating budget. The Town’s target has been to maintain close to 5% which is the industry standard minimum amount for Stabilization Funds as recommended by our auditors and will help to maintain a positive bond rating for future borrowing purposes. Estimated \$25,000.

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Free Cash and/or available funds a sum of money to be added to the Regional Schools Capital Stabilization fund as established by the October 2014 Special Town Meeting or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This Stabilization Fund sets asides funds for the exclusive use of paying for capital improvements to the Hanson School Buildings and the Whitman Hanson Regional High School. Estimated \$10,000.00

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to Borrow or transfer from free cash or available funds a sum of money for the demolition and remediation of the former Plymouth County Hospital building or take any the action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** These funds will be used for the engineering, remediation of hazardous materials and demolition of the former Plymouth County Hospital. Estimated cost \$1,800,000.00

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Free Cash or available funds to the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Account or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** These funds will be used start the process for events commemorating the Town's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Estimated amount \$15,000.

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$3,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of scanning Planning Board subdivision, approval not required plans, as-built plans, and easement descriptions into electronic format or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Planning Board

**Explanation:** These funds will be used to cover the expense incurred for scanning plans and other municipal documents into electronic format.

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and/or available funds the sum of eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500.00) for the purpose of purchasing a speed monitoring trailer or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Police Chief

**Explanation:** The new speed monitoring trailer will replace an over 10 year old model that has reached the end of its usable life.

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Free Cash or available funds the sum of twenty-four thousand dollars (\$24,000) for the continued upgrade of the radio repeater and radio systems or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Police Chief

**Explanation:** The current repeater utilizes shared equipment with the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department. This equipment is over 20 years old. These upgrades will allow Hanson Police and Fire to have their own antenna system. The upgrade is part of a continuing effort to upgrade the whole radio system. This equipment is crucial to the

public safety network in Town. This will also allow us to purchase portable radios to meet the various public safety needs of various departments.

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Free Cash or any available funds a sum of money to purchase and equip a Commercial Zero turn radius mower 72” for the Highway Department to mow all Town properties, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor

**Explanation:** This mower will allow the Highway Department to maintain with more efficient operations, in place of the 1977 Kobuta and the Trackless being kept for sweeping and snow blowing and roadside mowing. Estimated cost: \$12,000.00

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Free Cash or available funds, a sum of money to purchase and equip a Portable Lighting Plant, which would be used for emergency use when additional lighting is needed, as well as Town functions, by all Town Departments, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Surveyor, Police Chief & Fire Chief

**Explanation:** This Portable Plant Light will benefit an additional lighting in an emergency situation or for Town functions. Estimated cost: \$20,000

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to ratify a collective bargaining agreement between the Hanson Water Department Board of Water Commissioners and AFSCME Local 1700 Water Union and further to appropriate a sum of monies through water revenues, to be added to the amount appropriated under Article 5 Line 90, Salaries, for the purpose of funding the first year of the three year contract for the period beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017 or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

**Explanation:** This article is to fund the salary line for the settlement of the Water Department’s FY17 Union Contract. Estimated amount \$10,820.00

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$245,100.00 from water surplus to pay for water purchase from the City of Brockton, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

**Explanation:** This money will pay for the remainder of the bill owed to the City of Brockton for using their water during the rehabilitation of the water tank on High Street.

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of monies from Water Revenues to purchase a new truck for the water department or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

**Explanation:** This truck will replace the 1996 Ford International vehicle that is twenty years old and costing the water department hundreds of dollars to repair.

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from surplus a sum of monies for Engineering purposes to update the water department's master plan or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

**Explanation:** This money will be used to update the water department's master plan which was last updated in 2008.

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from Free Cash or available funds the sum of \$5,000 to replenish the Conservation Fund for open space management and related conservation purposes or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

**Explanation:** The task of *implementing* the Open Space & Recreation Plan is currently one of the more important responsibilities of the Conservation Commission. Some of the goals of the OSRP are to: acquire land or conservation restrictions to permanently protect open space; provide a linked system of open space, trails and greenways that are accessible to the public; improve public access, such as the creation of parking spaces at open space parcels, the control of invasive species at open space parcels; and to provide passive recreation information by providing signs for existing municipal space. Several of these important goals were accomplished in 2016 aided by the use of Conservation Funds.

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the amounts appropriated to Article 34 of the October 2014 Special Town Meeting Indian Head Roof or available funds a sum of money to fund the following school repair projects or take any other action in relation thereto.

Item	Description	Amount	Selectmen Recommendation	Funding Source
1	Maquan Ceiling	\$26,000	Recommend	Oct. 2014 STM Art. 34 IH Roof
2	Maquan Boiler	\$5,542	Recommend	Oct. 2014 STM Art. 34 IH roof
3	Maquan Driveway	\$15,000	Recommend	Oct. 2014 STM Art. 34 IH roof
4	Maquan Steam Valves	\$10,870	Recommend	Oct. 2014 STM Art. 34 IH roof
5	Maquan Water Heater	\$30,000	Recommend	Oct. 2014 STM Art. 34 IH roof
6	Middle School Water Heater	\$30,000	Recommend	Oct. 2014 STM Art. 34 IH roof
7	Indian Head Paint removal	\$15,000	Recommend	Oct. 2014 STM Art. 34 IH roof
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$132,412</b>		

Proposed by the School Committee

**Explanation:** *Item 1 – Maquan* - Removed plaster ceilings in both boys and girls bathrooms on first floor and repaired leaking sewer pipes, removed 22 asbestos elbows and reinstalled 2x2 acoustical ceilings. These funds are to reimburse the School District for funds previously expended. *Item 2 Maquan* The Boiler # 1 door is completely deteriorated due to excess heat on a long duration of time. These funds are to reimburse the School District for funds previously expended. *Item 3 Maquan* - The faculty parking lot and parent pick up need significant repairs. *Item 4 Maquan* - The (2) steam valves are leaking above the boiler. *Item 5 – Maquan* - To replace the hot water heater with an energy efficient hot water heater. The existing hot water heater was a temporary fix. *Item 6 Middle School* - To replace the current PVI 175 gallon water heater with an energy efficient water heater. It was installed in 1999 and has outlived its useful life. Estimated cost: \$ 30,000.00 *Item 7 – Indian Head* - To remove the lead paint from stairwells.

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Recreation Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to the amounts appropriated in May 2016 Annual Town Meeting, Article 11, Item 8 – Recreation – Replace System, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** These additional funds are needed for the engineering and installation of a new septic system. Estimate \$25,000

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Recreation Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to the amounts appropriated in May 2016 Annual Town Meeting, Article 7 to fund the position of Recreation Director or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** These funds will be used to fund the position of Recreation Director for the period of January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017.

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the provision of MGL Chapter 60A, Section 1, which governs Motor Vehicle Excise Tax and exemptions thereto or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

**Explanation:** This is a local option governing Motor Vehicle Excise Tax and exemptions for military personnel.

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to amend Hanson General Bylaws Article 3 – 8 by adding a new Section 7, as follows:

***“All-terrain vehicles on Town property***

- 1. No person shall operate a motorized all-terrain vehicle, snow mobile, dirt bike or other similar motorized off-road utility vehicle as may be defined under G.L. c. 90B on any Town-owned property without the express written permission of the Board of Selectmen.*
- 2. Fines for violations of this bylaw shall be \$100.00 for the first offense and \$300 for each additional offense. The Selectmen or their designee shall have the authority to issue fines via non-criminal disposition. Fines shall be in addition to any available equitable means of enforcement.”*

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This new by-law will prohibits the use of all terrain vehicles on town property in accordance with Mass. General Law Chapter 90B and 323CMR 3.00.

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 8J or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This statute establishes a Commission on Disabilities which consists of at least five but not more than nine members as appointed by the Board of Selectmen to address federal and state disability laws.

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, Section 22G or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This statute authorizes the funds received from fines for handicap parking violations to be allocated to the commission on disabilities.

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson General By-laws Article 2 – 19 Parks and Fields Commission by adding to the end of the first paragraph in Section 1 the following:

“One member of the Board of Selectmen may serve as a member of the Parks and Field Commission.”

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This amendment will allow a Selectman to serve on the Commission.



**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson General By-laws Article 2 – 1 General Provisions Governing All Departments, Board, Committees Commissions and Elected Officers, Section 15 by deleting subsections, A, B, C and D and replacing the last sentence of the first paragraph, which presently state: “This By-law shall provide that:” with the following: “The procedures to be followed in the implementation of this by-law shall be those procedures contained within G.L. c.40, Sec. 57, as may be amended”. The full text of the by-law, as amended, shall be as follows:

*Sec. 15. The Town of Hanson may deny any application for, or revoke or suspend any local license or permit including renewals and transfers issued by any Board, Officer, Department for any person, corporation or business enterprise who had neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees assessments, betterments, or any other municipal charges. The procedures to be followed in the implementation of this bylaw shall be those procedures contained within G.L. c.40, Sec. 57, as may be amended”*

*This section shall not apply to the following licenses or permits; open burning, section thirteen of Chapter Forty-eight; Bicycle permits, Section Eleven A of Chapter Eighty-five; Sales of Articles for Charitable purposes, Section Sixty-nine of Chapter One Hundred and Forty-nine; Clubs, Associations dispensing food or Beverage Licenses, Section Twenty-one E of Chapter One Hundred Forty; Dog License, Section One Hundred Thirty-seven of Chapter One Hundred and Forty; Fishing, Hunting, Trapping License, Section Twelve of Chapter One Hundred and Thirty-one; Marriage Licenses, Section Twenty-eight of Chapter Two Hundred and seven; and Theatrical Events, Public Exhibition permits, Section One Hundred and Eighty-one of Chapter One Hundred and Forty. (Sections are MGL).*

Or take any of action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen.

**Explanation:** This is a housekeeping article. The Town accepted MGL Ch. 40, Section 57 on May 22, 1986. In May 1991 Town Meeting established a by-law reflecting the exact verbiage of the State Statute. However, amendments have been made to the statute creating a disparity between the by-law and the statute.

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will vote to have an elected Committee known as the Memorial Field Trustees become a committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen, such vote being conditioned upon passage of the voters at the next annual Town election.

Proposed by Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** For several years the many of the elected positions on the Trustees of Memorial Fields have been unfilled. Many times no one takes out nomination papers for the open seats resulting in write in candidates who are elected by very few votes and are unwilling to serve. The Parks & Fields Commission has taken over the maintenance and scheduling of activities of the field. Currently there are two vacancies on the Trustees of Memorial Field.

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning By-law, Section 6 by adding subsection **M Large-Scale Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations and subsection N Land-Based Wind Energy Facilities.**

Also proposed, as part of this article, to see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning Bylaw, **Section 7.B. Area, Frontage and Yard Requirements** to include setback requirements for large-scale ground mounted solar photovoltaic installations and to include setback requirements for land-based wind energy facilities; and to amend the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning By-law, **Table of Contents Section** to reflect these amendments to the zoning by-laws.

A copy of the proposed changes to the Town of Hanson, County of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Land Use Regulations Zoning By-laws may be viewed at the office of the Town Clerk, Hanson Town Hall, 542 Liberty Street, Hanson, MA, and/or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** The purpose of these by-laws is to provide standards for the placement, design, construction, operation, monitoring, modification and removal of large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations and land-based wind energy facilities that address public safety, minimize impacts on scenic, natural and historic resources and provides adequate financial assurance for the eventual decommissioning of such facilities and meets Criteria 1 of the Green Communities Grant Program which provides annual grants and loans to communities that qualify and has received designation as a Green Community from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. Becoming designated as a Green Community provides grant funding to a municipality to support all or a portion of the cost of:

- Studying, designing, construction and implementing energy efficiency activities including, but not limited to, energy efficiency measures and projects;
- Procuring energy management services;
- Adopting energy efficiency policies; and,
- Siting activities related to and construction of renewable energy generating facilities on municipally-owned properties.

***Requires 2/3 Vote***

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, fifteen 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 13th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.

James J. McLean  
Ronald A. Whitcomb

William R. Scott  
Donald A. Howard  
Selectmen of Hanson

A true attest copy

Robert Sloan  
Town Clerk

August A. Lil  
Constable

September 14, 2016  
Date

9/14/16  
Date