

Annual Town Meeting  
July 29, 2020

Moderator Sean J. Kealy called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM at the field of the Whitman Hanson Regional High School with Teresa Santalucia, James Armstrong, John Norton and Joseph Campbell appointed and sworn in to serve as tellers. Barbara Arena was appointed and sworn in as Deputy Moderator with Maeve Kealy Assistant to the Deputy Moderator.

Town Counsel was Katherine M. Feodoroff from Blatman, Bobrowski & Mead.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Town Meeting and a moment of silence was observed in memory of Martin McIssac, Sr., Charles R. O'Donnell, Ed Bates, Ralph Gronlund, Peggy O'Toole-Driscoll, Daniel R. Cavicchi and Lawrence C. House as well as all of those lost to Covid-19 pandemic. The Moderator expressed his condolences to the family of Peggy O'Toole-Driscoll who served as a Finance Committee member for a number of years and who passed way in a tragic fire in Town.

The Moderator indicated that the Town Meeting would be run by the rules of Town Meeting Time.

A quorum was present with 591 voters in attendance.

The Moderator requested a motion to have Town Meeting allow the Moderator to declare a determination of a voice vote of Town Meeting. Motion was made by Sean Kealy, seconded by Robert Hayes, **Vote Aye, voice** to allow the Moderator to declare a determination of a voice vote of Town Meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 6:43PM to open the Special Town Meeting and will reconvene upon the dissolution of the Special Town Meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 6:55PM.

The Moderator, Sean Kealy made a motion, seconded by Matthew Dyer to expedite the consideration of routine times, Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 21 will be considered for approval in a single vote, without debate. He then would read each article's number and description, and if a member of the Meeting requests a "hold", the item would be discussed. Then the articles will be moved as a group as printed in the informational warrant. Voted Aye, voice.

**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 2019 Town Report.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**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 Year 2021 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.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2021 as permitted by Mass. General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F.**

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$20,000 from overlay surplus to pay for the purpose of funding the Treasurer/Collector's 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.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to transfer the sum of \$20,000 from overlay surplus to pay for the purpose of funding the Treasurer/Collector's tax title account.**

**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; or take any other action in relation thereto:

	<b>FY20</b>	<b>FY21</b>
Town Clerk	\$71,297.00	\$71,297.00
Tree Warden	\$3,178.00	\$3,178.00

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator

**Explanation:** This article sets the salaries for the elected officials.  
Article 6 funds the salaries.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to fix the Salary and Compensation of all paid Elected Officers and Committees of the Town as printed in the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will approve the amended Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Agreement on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District

**Explanation:** The Whitman-Hanson School Committee has proposed an amendment to the existing Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Agreement. The final amendment's wording will be distributed before Town Meeting convenes. This article (if approved) will change the District's agreement as outlined in the proposed amendment.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

The Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Kenneth Mitchel explained that if this Article passes then the Town would have a balanced budget. Bruce Young offered an amendment to Article 5 which did not pass.

**VOTED Aye, voice to approve the amended Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Agreement as stated below;**

*The Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee proposes to amend Section 4, E of the 1991 Regional Agreement from the current/existing language to the following new amended language:*

*Current/existing language*

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*E. Apportionment of Operating costs*

*(1) Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Pre-Kindergarten-12*

*Operating costs for the first fiscal year next following the establishment of the regional school district and for every year thereafter shall be apportioned to the member towns on the basis of their respective pupil enrollments in the regional school district.*

*Each member town's share for each fiscal year shall be determined by computing the ratio which that town's pupil enrollment in the regional district on October 1 of the year in which the apportionment is determined bears to the total pupil enrollment from all the member towns in the regional district school on the same date. In the event that enrollment in the regional district school*

*has not been accomplished by October 1 of any year, operating costs shall be apportioned on the basis of the number of pupils in grades Pre-kindergarten through twelve residing in each member town on October 1 of that year and receiving education at such town's expense.*

- (2) *Special operating costs include costs unique to a particular town for maintaining programs or services. These costs will be borne by the particular town*

**Proposed amended language**

**E. Apportionment of Operating costs**

**(1) Apportionment of Operating Costs for *Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Pre-Kindergarten-12* for FY 2021**

*(a) The apportionment of operating costs for the 2021 fiscal year shall be determined by the sum of sections (i) and (ii) below:*

*(i) Fifty percent (50%) of the operating costs for FY2021 shall be apportioned between and assessed to the member towns using the statutory method (MGL c. 70, section 6) Each member town's assessment of its share of said 50% of the operating costs for FY2021 shall be an amount calculated based on the ratio which such member town's minimum local contribution to the regional district bears to the sum of minimum local contributions of all member towns to the regional district.*

*(ii) Fifty percent (50%) of the operating costs for FY2021 shall be apportioned between and assessed to the member towns based on respective pupil enrollments calculated as follows: each member town's assessment of its share of said 50% of the operating costs for FY2021 shall be an amount calculated based upon computing the ratio which such member town's pupil enrollment in the regional district on October 1 of 2019 bears to the total pupil enrollment from all the member towns in the regional district school on October 1, 2019*

- (2) *Apportionment of Operating costs for FY 2022 and thereafter will follow the statutory methodology as defined in 603 CMR 41.00 as follows:*

*(a) The apportionment of operating costs to a member town will equal the member town's Minimum Local Contribution as determined by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education (the "Commissioner") and the member town's share of any other operating costs above the Minimum Local Contributions, referred to in this section as "Above Minimum Contribution.", such share to be calculated as provided in Section E (2)(d), hereinafter.*

*(b) The aggregate Above Minimum Contribution for all member towns is arrived at by subtracting from the Operating Budget the following: Chapter 70 aid, the*

*Aggregate Minimum Local Contributions of all member towns, and other general revenue sources to the District.*

*(c) This formula is illustrated below:*

*Operating Budget (which excludes capital, debt, and transportation)*  
*- (minus) Chapter 70 aid (as calculated by DESE)*  
*- (minus) Aggregate Minimum Local Contributions*  
*of all member towns (as calculated by DESE)*  
*- (minus) Other general revenue sources to the*  
*District*  
*= (equals) Aggregate Above Minimum Contribution for all*  
*member towns*

*(d) Each member town's proportionate share of the Aggregate Above Minimum Contribution for all member towns shall be determined based on the ratio that pupil enrollment in grades Pre-kindergarten through twelve residing in such member town, including out-of-district pupils, bears to pupil enrollment in grades Pre-kindergarten through twelve residing in all member towns in the District, including out-of-district pupils, on October 1 of the preceding fiscal year for which the apportionment will be assessed (the "Enrollment Formula").*

*(e) The total operating costs assessed to each member town will consist of the member town's Minimum Local Contribution and the town's share of Above Minimum Local Contribution calculated under the Enrollment Formula.*

*(3) Special operating costs include costs unique to a particular town for maintaining programs or services. These costs will be borne by the particular member town.*

**Explanation:** The Whitman-Hanson School Committee has proposed the above amendment to the existing Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Agreement. For FY21, 50% of the District's costs will be computed by the "statutory" method and 50% of the District's costs will be computed by the "alternative" method. In FY22 and thereafter, all of the District's costs will be computed by the "statutory" method. This article (if approved) will change the District's agreement to allow for these calculation methods.

**ARTICLE 6:** 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, and Fund Balance Reserved for Reduction of Future Excluded Debt, to defray charges and expenses of the

Town, including Debt and Interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for the **2021 Fiscal Year**; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This article refers to the FY 2021 Annual Budget Lines.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

The Moderator explained that traditionally the Town Meeting goes with the Finance Committee's recommendations but this Town Meeting we are using the Board of Selectmen's recommendations since Article 5 was passed.

**VOTED Aye, voice the following FY 2021 Budget Appropriations as printed in the "Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator Recommends" column of the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant,**

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

**FY 2021**

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT:**

122 SELECTMEN/ADMINISTRATION

1. Salaries	\$ 198,911
2. Expenses	31,600
3. Capital Outlay	

131 FINANCE COMMITTEE

4. Salaries	1,500
5. Expenses	450
6. Reserve Fund	100,000

135 ACCOUNTANT

7. Salaries	116,159
8. Expenses	2,100
9. Audit	33,750

141 ASSESSORS

10. Salaries	177,347
11. Expenses	7,360

#### 145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR

12. Salaries	213,732
13. Expenses	15,550
14. MWPAT Admin Expenses	12,000 MWPAT Title
V Interest	

#### 151 LEGAL SERVICES

15. Expenses	140,000
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#### 155 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

16. Salaries	104,500
17. Expenses	110,600

#### 161 TOWN CLERK

18. Salaries	124,699
19. Expenses	4,055

#### 162 ELECTIONS

20. Salaries	18,317
21. Expenses	14,411

#### 163 BOARD OF REGISTRARS

22. Salaries	8,624
23. Expenses	1,782

#### 171 CONSERVATION COMMISSION

24. Salaries	77,105
25. Expenses	9,805

#### 175 PLANNING BOARD

26. Salaries	105,469
27. Expenses	6,020



176 APPEALS BOARD

28. Salaries	38,200
29. Expenses	750

180 MUNICIPAL COMMITTEES

30. Expenses	0
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190 POSTAGE

31. Expenses	30,000
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192 MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

32. Salaries	54,556
33. Expenses	58,350

196 UTILITIES

34. Expenses	132,000
<b>SUBTOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>1,949,702</b>

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

210 POLICE

35. Salaries	2,367,973
36. Expenses	262,700
37. Capital Outlay	49,000

215 COMMUNICATIONS

38. Salaries	0
39. Expenses	32,590

220 FIRE & AMBULANCE

40. Salaries	1,497,721
	475,000 Ambulance
Fund	
41. Expenses	154,980
	50,000 Ambulance

Fund	
42. Capital Outlay	13,500

241 BUILDING INSPECTION

43. Salaries	87,269
44. Expenses	7,400

242 GAS INSPECTION

45. Salaries	7,103
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243 PLUMBING INSPECTION

46. Salaries	7,103
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244 WEIGHTS & MEASURES

47. Salaries	3,595
48. Expenses	650

245 WIRING INSPECTION

49. Salaries	21,800
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292 ANIMAL CONTROL

50. Salaries	19,380
51. Expenses	4,500

294 TREE WARDEN

52. Salaries	3,242
53. Expenses	20,000

<b>SUBTOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	<b>5,085,506</b>
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**EDUCATION:**

300 WHITMAN-HANSON REGIONAL

54. Operating Assessment	10,764,177
	450,000 Free Cash
55. Transportation Assessment	98,322
56. Debt Assessment	432,522
57. 330 SOUTH SHORE REGIONAL TECH	1,135,420
58. 340 NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL	
<b>SUBTOTAL, EDUCATION</b>	<u>63,268</u> <b>12,943,709</b>

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

410 ENGINEERING

59. Expenses	5,000
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420 HIGHWAY

60. Salaries	518,250
61. Expenses	254,115
62. Snow & Ice	300,000
63. Street Sweeping	45,000

424 TOWN-WIDE FUEL

64. Expenses	<u>95,000</u>
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<b>SUBTOTAL, PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>1,217,365</b>
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**HUMAN SERVICES:**

511 BOARD OF HEALTH

65. Salaries	117,476
66. Expenses	7,525
67. VNA Services	5,600

541 COUNCIL ON AGING

68. Salaries	89,677
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69. Expenses	12,100
70. VNA Services	6,800

543 VETERANS

71. Salaries	22,631
72. Expenses	4,500
73. Assistance	25,000

544 CARE OF SOLDIERS GRAVES

74. Expenses	2,500
<b>SUBTOTAL, HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>293,809</b>

**CULTURE & RECREATION:**

610 LIBRARY

75. Salaries	310,565
76. Expenses	144,902

650 PARK & FIELDS

77. Expenses	20,000
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78. 692 PATRIOTIC OBSERVANCE COMM	2,500
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<b>SUBTOTAL, CULTURE &amp; RECREATION</b>	<b>477,967</b>
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**FIXED COSTS:**

710 DEBT SERVICE

79. Principal	610,000
Rcpts reserved	115,000MWPAT
80. Interest	112,119
Premium reserved	1,727 Debt

81. 911 PLYMOUTH COUNTY RETIREMENT	1,580,196
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82.	913 UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	30,000
83.	914 GROUP INSURANCE	1,884,948
84.	945 RISK MANAGEMENT	<u>271,990</u>
	<b>SUBTOTAL, FIXED COSTS</b>	<b>4,605,980</b>

**SUB TOTAL** **\$ 26,574,038**

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**WATER:**

85. Salaries	551,636 Water Revenue
86. Expenses	452,755 Water Revenue
87. Debt Service	658,229 Water Revenue
88. Indirect Cost	<u>292,496 Water Revenue</u>
<b>SUBTOTAL, WATER</b>	<b>1,955,116</b>

**TOTAL – ALL BUDGETS - GRAND TOTAL** **\$ 28,529,154**

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Recreation Department during Fiscal Year 2021, under the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F ½:

<b>Estimated Revenues</b>	<b>FY 20</b>	<b>FY 21</b>
<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Recommended</u></b>
Program Receipts (fees)	\$218,759	\$142,000
Retained Earnings	\$ 55,086	\$ 0
Free Cash	\$ 0	\$ 87,000
Taxation	\$ 95,750	\$ 0
<b>Total Budgeted Revenues:</b>	<b>\$369,595</b>	<b>\$229,000</b>

**Estimated Expenses**

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Recommended</u></b>	<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>
Salaries	\$193,759	\$142,000	Program Revenues
Expenses	\$ 95,750	\$ 70,000	Free Cash
Debt Service	\$ 55,086	\$ 0	Retained Earnings
Indirect Costs	\$ 25,000	\$ 17,000	Free Cash
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses:</b>	<b>\$369,595</b>	<b>\$229,000</b>	

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Recreation Commission

**Explanation:** Recreation program costs are now shown in this Enterprise Fund budget. This budget will require a General Fund Free Cash subsidy in FY21. All surpluses of this account at the end of the year will remain within the account.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Recreation Department during Fiscal Year 2021, under the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F ½ as printed in the “Finance Committee Recommends” column of the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**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 2021, under the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F ½:

<b>Estimated Revenues</b>	<b>FY20</b>	<b>FY 21</b>
<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Recommended</u></b>
Program Receipts (fees)	\$193,489	\$197,024
Retained Earnings	\$ 61,473	\$ 0
Free Cash	\$ 0	\$176,000
Taxation	<u>\$ 90,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
<b>Total Budgeted Revenues:</b>	<b>\$344,962</b>	<b>\$373,024</b>

<b>Estimated Expenses</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>
<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Recommended</u></b>	<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>
Salaries	\$121,473	\$123,803	Program Revenues
Expenses	\$193,489	\$221,411	Program Revenue & Free Cash
Indirect Costs	<u>\$ 30,000</u>	<u>\$ 27,810</u>	Program Revenues
<b>Total Budgeted Expenses:</b>	<b>\$344,962</b>	<b>\$373,024</b>	

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Health

**Explanation:** The total cost of operating the Transfer Station for FY21 is \$373,024. Salaries, indirect costs, and a portion of Expenses will come from program revenues. The balance of expenses will come from general taxation.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to raise and appropriate the following sums of money to operate the Transfer Station during Fiscal Year 2021, under the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F ½ as printed in the “Finance Committee Recommends” column of the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from Fiscal Year 2021 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 2021, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

**Appropriations:**

From FY 2021 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses: \$10,000

**Reserves:**

From FY 2021 estimated revenues for Historic Resource Reserve: \$30,000

From FY 2021 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve: \$30,000

From FY 2021 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve: \$30,000

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

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

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to appropriate or reserve from Fiscal Year 2021 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 2021, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation as printed in the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**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 Committee  
and Board of Selectmen

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

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to adopt the Capital Improvement Program as presented by the Capital Improvement Committee.**

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

Line	Dept.	Item	FY21 CIP Report	Town Admin/ FinCom Recommendation	Funding Source
1	School- Indian Head & Middle School	Indian Head/Middle School Roof Repairs	\$50,000	Town Administrator Recommends  Fin Com Recommends 4-1	Free Cash
2	Highway	Hydraulic Chipper	\$50,000	Town Administrator	Free Cash



				Recommends  Fin Com Recommends 5-0	
<b>3</b>	<b>Highway</b>	Communications Upgrade	\$45,000	Town Administrator Recommends  Fin Com Recommends 5-0	Free Cash
<b>4</b>	<b>Recreation</b>	Ventilation in Kitchen – Hood and Electric	\$35,000	Town Administrator Recommends  Fin Com Recommends 5-0	Free Cash
<b>5</b>	<b>Recreation</b>	Lodge Wiring	\$50,000	Town Administrator Recommends  Fin Com Recommends 5-0	Free Cash
<b>6</b>	<b>Water</b>	Utility Truck	\$70,000	Town Administrator Recommends  Fin Com Recommends 5-0	Water Surplus
		<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>\$300,000</i></b>		

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee &  
Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** *Item 1* – Repairs to Indian Head and Middle School roofs. *Item 2* – New hydraulic chipper. *Item 3* – Update emergency communications equipment. *Item 4* –

Repair/Replace hood and electric ventilation in Camp Kiwanee kitchen. **Item 5** –  
Replace electrical wiring at Camp Kiwanee lodge. **Item 6** – Purchase new Water truck.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$230,000 from Free Cash and \$70,000 from Water Surplus to various department Capital Accounts as printed in the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to Capital Accounts for the following Whitman-Hanson Regional High School items; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Line	Dept.	Item	FY21 CIP Report	Town Admin. Recommendation	Funding Source
1	School - High School	Guidance and SPED Counseling Area Reconfiguration	\$14,000	Town Administrator Recommends  Fin Com Recommends 5-0	Free Cash
	<b>Total</b>		<b>\$14,000</b>		

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee  
& Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** **Item 1-** Reconfigure Guidance and Special Education areas at High School.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$14,000 from Free Cash to Capital Accounts for the Whitman Hanson Regional High School Guidance and SPED Counseling Area Reconfiguration.**

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$7,000 from the Community Preservation Committee's Historical Resources Reserve Fund to pay for the purchase and placement of historical markers throughout the Town; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

**Explanation:** This article is to fund placement of several historical markers throughout Town.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to transfer the sum of \$7,000 from the Community Preservation Committee's Historical Resources Reserve Fund to pay for the purchase and placement of historical markers throughout the Town.**

**ARTICLE 14:** 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 pursuant to Mass. General Laws Ch. 90 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 take any other 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.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice 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 pursuant to Mass. General Laws Ch. 90 for the construction, reconstruction and improvements of Town roads.**

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to set the spending limits of the following revolving accounts in accordance with Hanson General By-law Article 2 – 9 Section 3 as follows; or take any other action in relation thereto.

<i><b>Fund</b></i>	<i><b>Spending Limit</b></i>
Assessors	\$1,500
Parks & Fields	\$10,000
Library	\$7,000
Senior Center Programs	\$2,500
Senior Center Fees	\$95,000
Conservation Comm.	\$7,500
Nathaniel Thomas Mill	\$1,500

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This article sets the spending limits for the annual revolving accounts.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice vote to set the spending limits of the following revolving accounts in accordance with Hanson General By-law Article 2 – 9 Section 3 as printed in the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause Twenty-second G (inserted by Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2018), known as “An Act Relative to Veterans’ Benefits, Rights, Appreciation, Validation, and Enforcement” or “BRAVE Act”, signed into law on August 28, 2018, which provides for a property tax exemption for any real estate that is the domicile of a person, but is owned by a trustee, conservator, or other fiduciary for the person’s benefit if the real estate would be eligible for exemption under clause Twenty-second or clause Twenty-second A through clause Twenty-second F if the person was the owner of the real estate; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Assessors

**Explanation:** The purpose of this article is to provide real estate property tax relief in the form of an exemption to veterans who would have already been eligible for such exemption under the clause mentioned above, even if the veteran has conveyed the property to a trust. The Town of Hanson expects to receive partial, and in some cases full reimbursement from the Commonwealth for each exemption if adopted.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to accept the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause Twenty-second G (inserted by Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2018), known as “An Act Relative to Veterans’ Benefits, Rights, Appreciation, Validation, and Enforcement” or “BRAVE Act”, signed into law on August 28, 2018, which provides for a property tax exemption for any real estate that is the domicile of a person, but is owned by a trustee, conservator, or other fiduciary for the person’s benefit if the real estate would be eligible for exemption under clause Twenty-second or clause Twenty-second A through clause Twenty-second F if the person was the owner of the real estate.**

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on terms and conditions they determine to be most beneficial to the Town, to enter into a Community Choice Aggregation Program and contract for electric supply for Hanson residents and/or businesses, and to execute and enter into any and all documents necessary to effectuate the same, as per Mass. General Laws Chapter 164 Section 134; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** The purpose of this article is to allow the Town to buy electricity in bulk. Community Choice Aggregation is a process by which municipalities can combine and switch electricity used by households and small businesses to cleaner energy. The Energy Committee will advise the Board of Selectmen and work in conjunction with an energy broker to purchase the energy the Town needs. Residents and businesses can opt out of the program at any time. The electricity purchased will still be billed through National Grid.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

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

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to delete all references to the phrase “Highway Surveyor” in the Town Bylaws and replace those instances with the phrase “Highway Director”; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Personnel Director and Wage and  
Personnel Board

**Explanation:** The Wage and Personnel Board voted to change the title of the “Highway Surveyor” position to the “Highway Director” position. The Town’s General Bylaws still mention the title “Highway Surveyor”. This article will change the phrase “Highway Surveyor” to “Highway Director” everywhere it appears in the Town’s Bylaws.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy  
Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to delete all references to the phrase “Highway Surveyor” in the Town Bylaws and replace those instances with the phrase “Highway Director”.**

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage and Personnel Bylaws, Article 2-12, Classification and Compensation by deleting Section 12E A. in its entirety and inserting a new Section 12E A. as printed below; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Personnel Director and Wage and Personnel Board

**SECTION 12E: SICK LEAVE (7/2020)**

- A. Unlimited sick leave shall be granted for sickness or injury to all employees hired before or on July 28, 2020. All employees with a start date on or after July 29, 2020 shall be granted for sickness or injury the total of one and one quarter (1.25) days of sick leave for each month worked. The maximum amount of sick leave that can be accrued by any employee is 165 days. If a portion of a month is worked, sick leave shall be pro-rated to determine the amount of sick leave accrued for that month. If the employee works less than full-time, the employee’s sick leave shall be pro-rated to determine the amount of sick leave accrued. The Town Accountant shall determine the amount of sick leave due to each employee and transmit the information to the Department Head as soon as practicable. Unused sick leave will be forfeited by the employee when the employee leaves Town employment. At no time will unused sick leave ever become payable by the Town to the employee.

**Explanation:** This change does not affect sick leave provisions for union employees covered by collective bargaining agreements. The current Wage and Personnel Bylaws allow for unlimited sick leave for all covered employees. For employees hired on or after July 29, 2020, this article would change the bylaw to allow for 1.25 days of sick leave for each month worked for full-time employees and would also place a cap of 165 days as the maximum that one employee may accumulate in sick leave. Unused sick leave will be forfeited by the employee when the employee leaves Town employment. At no time will unused sick leave ever become payable by the Town to the employee.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to amend the Wage and Personnel Bylaws, Article 2-12, Classification and Compensation by deleting Section 12E A. in its entirety and inserting a new Section 12E A. as printed in the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by inserting a new Section as follows; or take any other action in relation thereto.

**Non-Substantive Renumbering**

The Town Clerk, or an agent designated by the Town Clerk, shall be authorized to assign appropriate numbers to sections, subsections, paragraphs and subparagraphs of Town general bylaws and zoning bylaws, where no such numbers are approved by Town Meeting, and if such are approved by Town Meeting, after consultation with the Town Administrator, to make non-substantive, editorial revisions to ensure consistent and appropriate sequencing and numbering, provided that such editorial revisions shall be identified by a footnote or other convention, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** Acceptance of this bylaw will allow the Town Clerk to make non-substantive renumbering changes to the Town general and zoning bylaws that were approved at Town Meeting and by the Attorney General's Office.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice vote to amend the General Bylaws by inserting a new Section as printed in the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaw, Article 1-1, Articles Relating to Town Meeting, Section 1A by deleting those portions marked as ~~crossed-out~~, as follows

Sec. 1A.

The Annual Town Meeting shall be held on the first Monday in May at 7:30 o'clock in the afternoon. The primary purpose of this meeting shall be to deal with all financial matters of the Town including revisions of the Classification and Compensation Bylaw, if necessary. The election of Town Officers and the voting upon questions as required by General or Special Law ~~shall be considered as part of the Annual Town Meeting, shall be included in the Warrant for that Annual Town Meeting and~~ shall be held on the third Saturday in May. The hours for the opening and the closing of the polls shall be left to the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.

; or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** The practice of setting the election at the annual town meeting is antiquated and allows for very little flexibility in scheduling.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to amend the General Bylaw, Article 1-1, Articles Relating to Town Meeting, Section 1A by deleting those portions marked as ~~crossed-out~~, as printed in the Annual Town Meeting informational warrant.**

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court to amend Chapter 41 of the Acts of 2006, An Act Establishing a Town Administrator in the Town of Hanson as follows:

**Section 3.** Subsection (h)(8) shall be amended as follows (**underline and bold** is new, ~~cross-out~~ is removed:

(8) Camp Kiwanee caretaker, ~~recreation commission~~ **board of selectmen**

**Section 3.** Subsection (h)(9) shall be amended as follows (**underline and bold** is new, ~~cross-out~~ is removed:

(9) Conservation Agent, ~~conservation commission~~ **board of selectmen**



**Section 3.** Subsection (h)(11) shall be amended as follows (**underline and bold** is new, ~~crossout~~ is removed:

(11) Inspector of Animals, ~~board of health~~ **board of selectmen**

**Section 3.** Subsection (h)(13) shall be amended as follows (**underline and bold** is new, ~~crossout~~ is removed:

(13) Planner, ~~planning board~~ **board of selectmen**

**Section 3.** Subsection (h)(14) shall be amended as follows (**underline and bold** is new, ~~crossout~~ is removed:

(14) Health Agent, ~~board of health~~ **board of selectmen**

**Section 3.** Subsection (h)(16) shall be amended as follows (**underline and bold** is new, ~~crossout~~ is removed:

(16) Administrative and clerical employees in the offices and departments under the jurisdiction of the board of selectmen, **recreation commission, conservation commission, board of assessors, board of health, library trustees,** and town administrator;

And, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** This amendment provides appointment power to a single appointing authority, the board of selectmen to streamline appointments and professionalize offices as is more consistent with employment practice around the state. This amendment modernizes the process. Requires a majority vote.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over Article 22.**

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court, in compliance with Clause (1), Section 8 of Article LXXXIX of the Amendments of the Constitution, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows. The General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Town Administrator approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court. The Town Administrator is hereby authorized to approve amendments that shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition.

## AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE APPORTIONMENT METHOD FOR THE WHITMAN HANSON REGIONAL SCHOOL.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding chapters 70 and 71 of the General Laws or any other general or special law or agreement to the contrary, the Whitman Hanson Regional School District shall assess the member towns of the Regional School District in accordance with this Act.

**SECTION 2.** The Regional School District has the authority to make capital and operating expenditures and to levy assessments against the member towns for capital and operating costs. For the purpose of apportioning assessments levied by the District against the member towns, costs shall be divided into two categories: Capital Costs and Operating Costs. Each assessment, capital and operating, shall be a separate levy by the District to be voted on by the member towns.

**SECTION 3.** Capital costs shall include all expenses in the nature of capital outlay such as the cost of acquiring land, the cost of constructing, reconstructing, and adding to buildings, and the cost of remodeling or making extraordinary repairs to school buildings, including without limitation the costs of the original equipment and furnishings for such buildings or additions, plans, architects' and consultants fees, grading and other costs incidental to placing school buildings and additions and related premises in operating condition. Capital costs shall also include payment of principal of and interest on bonds or other obligations issued by the District to finance capital costs.

**SECTION 4.** Operating costs shall include all costs not included in capital costs as defined in Section 3, but including interest on temporary notes issued by the District in anticipation of revenue.

**SECTION 5.** Capital costs related to the Regional High School shall be apportioned to the member towns annually in February for the ensuing fiscal year on the basis of their respective pupil enrollment in the regional high school. Each member town's share for each fiscal year shall be determined by computing the ratio which that town's pupil enrollment in the regional high school on October 1st of the year in which the apportionment is determined bears to the total pupil enrollment from all the member towns in the regional high school district on the same date. In the event that enrollment

in the regional high school has not been accomplished by October 1st of any year, capital costs shall be apportioned on the basis of the number of pupils in grades nine through twelve residing in each member town of October 1st of that year and receiving education at such town's expense.

**SECTION 6.** Each member town shall be responsible for paying the capital costs (as detailed in Section 3 above for its respective elementary school.

**SECTION 7.** Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Pre-Kindergarten-12 Operating costs for every year shall be apportioned to the member towns on the basis of their respective pupil enrollments in the regional school district. Each member town's share for each fiscal year shall be determined by computing the ratio which that town's pupil enrollment in the regional district on October 1 of the year in which the apportionment is determined bears to the total pupil enrollment from all the member towns in the regional district school on the same date. In the event that enrollment in the regional district school has not been accomplished by October 1 of any year, operating costs shall be apportioned on the basis of the number of pupils in grades Pre-kindergarten through twelve residing in each member town on October 1 of that year and receiving education at such town's expense.

**SECTION 8.** Special operating costs include costs unique to a particular town for maintaining programs or services. These costs will be borne by the particular town.

**SECTION 9.** School Transportation shall be provided by the Regional School District and the cost thereof shall be apportioned to the member towns as an operating cost. The Regional School Committee shall determine on an annual basis whether or not non-mandated busing will be paid for by the Regional School District. If the Regional Committee decides not to provide non-mandated busing, an Article will be presented to the Selectmen's Office of each town for approval by the voters.

**SECTION 10.** Each member town shall pay to the District in each year its proportionate share, as certified by the District Treasurer to the Treasurers of the member towns in accordance with the Regional Agreement of the Capital and Operating Costs. The annual share of each member town shall be paid in such amounts and at such times that at least the following percentages of such annual share shall be paid on or before the dates indicated, respectively:

August 1	25%
November 1	25%
February 1	25%
April 1	25%

**SECTION 11.** This act shall take effect upon its passage.

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Explanation:** The current Whitman-Hanson Regional School District agreement calls for the apportionment of costs by a “per pupil” “alternative” method. This article would direct the Town to submit to the Town’s representatives in the Mass. General Court a home rule petition to allow the Town to continue the use of the “alternative” method of cost assessment in the future.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Kenneth Mitchell

Second: Matthew Dyer

**VOTED Aye, voice to Pass Over Article 23.**

**Voted Aye, voice to dissolve the meeting Motion: Sean Kealy, Second: Matt Dyer at 8:29PM**

**A true copy of the vote, Attest:**

**Elizabeth Sloan, CMC, CMMC  
Town Clerk**