

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 **Seventh day of May, 2012** 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 **Nineteenth of May, 2012** 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 **2011** Town Report.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal 2013 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.

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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.

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:

	FY12	FY13
Town Clerk	\$58,525.00	\$59,988.00
Tree Warden	\$2,609.00	\$2,687.00
Highway Surveyor	\$71,052.00	\$65,000.00

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 appropriate and raise 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, Stabilization Fund, 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 **2013 Fiscal Year** or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

Explanation: This article refers to the FY 2013 Annual Budget Lines

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ARTICLE 6: To determine whether the Town will appropriate and raise by taxation or transfer from free cash or other available funds the additional sum of \$235,766 for paying the Town's assessed share of the Fiscal Year 2013 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 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: This article also requires the voter approval of the ballot question at the May 19, 2012 Annual Town Election. If so approved, the funds will be added to the Whitman Hanson Regional School budget.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Capital Improvement Program as presented to the Board of Selectmen by the Capital Improvement Committee or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen and the
Capital Improvement Committee

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

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$110,000.00 from the amounts appropriated in preceding Article 5, Line 120 Capital Improvement budget to fund the purchase of a dump/sand truck to be operated under the jurisdiction of the Highway Department or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$25,000.00 from the amounts appropriated in preceding Article 5, Line 120 Capital Improvement budget for annual drainage improvement or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

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ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$45,000 from the amounts appropriated in preceding Article 5, Line 120 Capital Improvement to repair the roof on Needles Lodge at Camp Kiwanee or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanation: The installation of fiber optic cabling and all related servers and connecting equipment is necessary to link all of the towns offices and facilities and serve as a platform for future software/hardware technological upgrades.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will appropriate \$390,000 to pay costs of purchasing and equipping a new fire truck, including all costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, borrowing, transfer from available funds or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

Explanation: The fire engine will replace Rescue 1. This will be a one time payment to be funded through a capital exclusion.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from **Fiscal Year 2013 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 2013, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2013 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$ 9,425.00

Reserves:

From FY 2013 estimated revenues for Historic Resource Reserve	\$18,850
From FY 2013 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$18,850
From FY 2013 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$18,850
From FY 2013 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$122,525

or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the
Community Preservation Committee

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ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$35,000 from overlay surplus for the 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 other 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.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, \$3,000 for engineering and planning for repair of the primary spillway concrete structure at the Factory Pond dam including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: The Factory Pond dam was inspected on December 22, 2011, and found to be in poor condition. This inspection follows an inspection in 2006 which rated the dam as in fair condition; thus, deterioration is evident. Factory Pond dam must remain in repair to ensure the contamination contained in the sediment in the pond behind it does not escape. Among the repairs needed are repairs to the concrete spillway behind the Country Ski Shop. This article will fund the necessary engineering evaluation and planning to determine what must be done and how.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to replenish the Conservation Fund for open space management and related conservation purposes or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: The Conservation Fund has been depleted in recent years due to the cost of preparing the Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP), the purchase of conservation signage for open space parcels, and the construction of the Marcus L. Urann Fishermen's Landing boat ramp. 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; and provide passive recreation information by providing maps of public lands, installing kiosks at open space parcels, and providing signs for existing municipal open space. In addition, the OSRP will expire in 2015 and will need to be updated before that time.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to rename the Hanson Town Forest, located on Indian Head Street, as the “Hanson Veterans Memorial Town Forest” or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Town Forest Committee

Explanation: The Hanson Town Forest was established by Town Meeting in 1938 as the town’s first conservation area. In the years since then, several other parcels of town-owned forest land have been designated as conservation areas throughout the town. Each of these newer “town forests” has received a unique identifying name (i.e., Smith-Nawazelski, Webster-Billings, and Brian Gaffey conservation areas). These names memorialize good citizens in an appropriate manner, and also enhance clear communication and good management. Therefore, to replace the generic name “Hanson Town Forest”, we propose the name “**Hanson Veterans Memorial Town Forest**”. We feel this is appropriate because it would honor all veterans – past, present, and future – both with its name and its location directly across the street from the Memorial Auditorium and the commemorative monuments by the flagpole on the Indian Head School grounds. The green, quiet and peaceful forest environment, located in the same neighborhood where our Memorial Day parades form and disperse, will permanently complement the existing man-made memorials in a natural, timeless and appropriate manner. As there are no costs associated with this article, no funding is required.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding a new Article 3 – 20 governing all procedures relative to water supply betterments in the Town of Hanson.

ARTICLE 3 - 20
HANSON WATER DEPARTMENT
WATER SUPPLY BETTERMENT BY-LAW

TITLE

This Article sets forth the purpose, authority, and applicability of the Hanson Water Department Betterment By-Law hereinafter called "By-Law".

PURPOSE

The purpose of the By-Law is to establish a procedure:

- a) For creating water supply betterment zones in accordance with the applicable requirements of GLc 40 § § 42G through I and K.
- b) For a fair and acceptable method of apportioning part or all of the cost among those who benefit from any proposed water supply construction in said zones.
- c) For granting abatements as provided under the applicable sections of GLc 80.

AUTHORITY

This By-Law has been adopted pursuant to the provisions of GLc 40 §§ 42G, 42H, 42I and 42K.

APPLICABILITY

The provisions of this By-Law shall apply and be binding upon all owners of land that benefit from water supply betterments constructed in water supply betterment zones established in accordance with the provisions of the By-Law, except that, if the Town accepts the provisions of GLc 80 § 13B, owners of land affected by the provisions of this By-Law may apply for a deferral thereof with the Board of Water Commissioners.

The provisions of the By-Law shall not apply to land owners located in these zones that do not receive benefit from water supply betterments constructed in these zones, nor shall they apply to construction authorized by the Board for the purpose of maintaining or improving the existing public water supply system.

DEFINITIONS

The following terms used in the By-Law shall be defined as set forth herein. Terms not herein listed shall have definitions as contained in the General Laws or the Hanson Zoning By-Law.

Abutter shall mean any person who owns land that fronts on a public/private way along which a water supply pipe has been installed under the provisions of the By-Law.

Benefit shall mean for the purposes of the By-Law, benefit shall accrue to all property which abuts upon the public/private way in which the water pipes are to be laid for the conveyance or distribution of water in any betterment zone established under the provisions of this By-Law and may also include such property as does not abut upon said public/private way but whose owner requests that the property be supplied by remote means.

Frontage shall mean the length of the front line of a property abutting a public/private way.

Water Main shall mean a pipe laid in the public/private way for the purpose of conveying and distributing water to abutters on said public/private way.

THE BETTERMENT ZONE

In the following, the procedure for establishing a water supply betterment zone is described:

a) Preparation of the Plan

1. The Board of Water Commissioners, hereinafter called the "Board," upon its own motion or upon petition by 50% of all the abutters to the road, plus one more abutter owning land fronting on public/private ways, may determine the advisability of constructing water mains in said public/private ways.
2. If the Board determines that the proposed betterment should proceed, the Board shall issue an "Order of Betterment" wherein it is declared that all costs and damages connected with said betterment shall be assessed upon and apportioned among those

owners of land that receive benefit from the betterment.

3. The "Order of Betterment" shall also contain a record of the Board's vote to proceed with the proposed betterment. Thereafter the Board shall request an approved Engineer to prepare a plan for the construction of water mains in said public/private ways and a cost estimate of that construction. The plan and cost estimate shall be submitted to the Board within six (6) months from the date of the request or such further time as may be requested by said Engineer and granted by the Board.
4. The plan shall at a minimum contain the following information:
 - (a) That portion of each public/private way in which a water main is to be constructed. The plan shall take into consideration and note existing drainage, berms, driveway aprons, trees, utilities, road edge improvements and other items that must be protected, deconstructed and reconstructed, restored, or otherwise considered in defining the conditions of work for the water main installation project. The project design must meet all best waterworks practices and the most current Hanson Water Department specifications for materials and installation. A preliminary plan shall be submitted to the Water Department for design approval.
 - (b) The location of each such water main within the right-of-way.
 - (c) All lots that front on the ways referred to in (a) together with the names of the owners of record of each of said lots as contained in the most recent tax records.
 - (d) The measured frontage of each lot referred to in (c) and reconciled with the Assessor's records.
 - (e) Any land abutting the public/private way in the betterment zone which is registered with the Land Court.

b) Public Hearing

Upon receipt of the plan and cost estimate from the approved Engineer, the Board shall hold a public hearing which shall be advertised in a newspaper of local circulation at least five (5) days prior to the date of said hearing. Additionally, all land owners listed on the plan prepared under the provisions of paragraph a. shall be notified of said hearing by registered mail.

The Board shall determine by majority, which of the four (4) methods of assessment set forth in GLc 40 § 42H or 42K shall be used to apportion the cost of the proposed water betterment.

The record of vote shall be noted in the minutes of the meeting.

Thereafter the Board shall prepare an article for the funding for the proposed water betterment to be appropriated at the Annual or Special Town Meeting.

Where Town-owned land is subject to the special assessment for the proposed water betterment, the amount of said assessment shall be computed and approved by vote of the Board. The Board of Selectmen shall thereupon be notified of the amount of said special assessment that shall not be assessed upon private property owners.

c) Recordation of Water Betterment Plan

In the event that a Town Meeting approves funds for the construction of the water betterment, the Board shall within thirty (30) days of the date of the Town Meeting cause the "Order of Betterment", updated as necessary to include current property ownership information, to be recorded at the Registry of Deeds. In the event that registered land is included in the water betterment zone as indicated on the Order of Betterment, the Order of Betterment, above mentioned documents shall also be filed with the Land Court.

CERTIFICATION OF ASSESSMENT

Upon completion of construction, and in any event no later than six (6) months thereafter, the Board shall certify the actual expenditures incurred in the planning and construction inclusive of debt service and legal fees, and determine the actual assessment to be apportioned on every property owner to receive benefits from the betterment in accordance with the assessing methods selected under the applicable provisions of GLc 40 §§ 42G through 42I and 42K. The certificate of expenditures and the schedule of assessments shall be signed by the majority of the Board and submitted to the Board of Assessors. The Board of Assessors shall thereupon committee such assessments to the Tax Collector who shall notify said persons of the amount assessed by the Water Commissioners.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

All persons assessed under the provisions of this By-Law shall be given the option of paying the amount assessed over a period of up to twenty (20) years at an annual interest on the unpaid balance that may not be greater than two (2%) percent above the interest rate of the water betterment bond issued by the Town as provided under GLc 80 § 13.

ABATEMENTS

The Board shall adopt rules and regulations for hearing and acting on appeals for abatements of assessments levied under the provisions of this By-Law. Such rules and regulations shall be consistent with the provisions of GLc 80 §§ 5 and 6. Said rules and regulations shall be available upon request at the Town Clerk's office.

REASSESSMENTS AND DIVISION

The applicable provisions of GLc 80 to the reassessment of land or the division thereof shall apply to all land assessed under the provisions of this By-Law.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: The purpose of this article is to establish procedures relative to water supply betterments in the Town of Hanson.

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ARTICLE 18:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of constructing a water main extension for Woodbine Avenue Ext. and that to meet this appropriation; the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow this sum and issue bonds or notes therefore under Chapter 44 of the General Laws; and that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from any federal or state loan or aid available for the project or for the financing thereof; to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Sections 42J and 42K; and that the assessment of betterments shall be the methods permitted under Section 42K or 42H of Chapter 40 of the General laws and shall be for up to 100 percent of total cost to the Town or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: This is to provide a new water main down Woodbine Avenue Extension for residents to have town drinking water.

ARTICLE 19:

To see if the Town will transfer \$60,000 from Water Department Surplus to be added to Article 16 Water Meters of the October 6, 1997 Special Town Meeting, for the purpose of buying 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.

ARTICLE 20:

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$150,000 from Water Surplus to fund the purchase and installation of an Emergency Generator for the Crystal Spring Wellfield, including all costs incidental and related thereto or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: Due to the electrical upgrades to the Crystal Spring Wellfield; the existing generator is no longer capable of providing reliable standby power.

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ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$50,000 from Water Surplus to purchase and equip a water service truck or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Water Commissioners

Explanation: This new truck will replace a 1999 Ford F-350 which has an odometer reading of approximately 190,000 miles.

ARTICLE 22: 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 2012 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 12 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	\$20,000
<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 Events, programs, Seminars Training & Reimbursements	Director of Elder Affairs	\$2,500
<i>Senior Center</i> Program Fees	Supportive Day Care Program	Director of Elder Affairs	\$110,000

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.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the use of the Conservation Commission.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: An annual article for a revolving fund for engineering, surveying, legal, and environmental consultant fees and other expenses related to administering and enforcing the Town of Hanson Wetland Protection By-law 3-13 and the rules and regulations related thereto. The receipts credited to the fund shall be those generated according to Part VI, paragraph 6.04 of the Hanson Rules and Regulations of the Wetlands Protection By-Law. The Conservation Commission is authorized to expend from the fund for the stated purpose without future appropriation subject to the restrictions contained in G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ an amount not to exceed \$7,500. Expenditures shall not be made, or liabilities incurred in excess of the balance of the fund at any given time.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to establish an Agricultural Commission to represent the Hanson farming community. Said commission shall serve as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agricultural in Hanson and shall promote agricultural-based economic opportunities in Town. The commission will consist of five members from the active farming community of Hanson appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Two members for a term of three years, two members for a term of two years and three years thereafter and one members for a term of one year, and three years thereafter. Up to three alternates may also be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, each for a one year terms, and or take another action thereto. The appointing authority shall fill a vacancy based on the unexpired term of the vacancy in order to maintain the cycle of appointments, based on the recommendations of the Commission.

The purpose of an agricultural commission is to

- Serves as a local voice advocating for farmers, farm businesses and farm interests
- Provides visibility for farming
- Works with other town boards about issues facing the town that affect agriculture.
- Helps resolve farm related problems or conflicts

or take any other action in relation thereto

Submitted by 14 registered voters

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ARTICLE 25: To bring in their votes for the following offices: A Moderator for one year, two Selectmen for three years, an Assessor for three years, an Assessor for two years, a Highway Surveyor for one year, a Board of Health member for three years, a Cemetery Commissioner for three years, a member of the Planning Board for five years, a member of the Planning Board for four years, a member of the Planning Board for three years, a member of the Housing Authority for five years, a Tree Warden for one year, two Constables for three years, one Trustees of Memorial Field for three years, one Trustees of Memorial Field for two years, two Trustees of the Public Library for three years, a member of the Whitman- Hanson Regional School District Committee PreK-12 for three years, two Water Commissioners for three years, one Water Commissioner for one year and two questions.

1. Shall the Town of Hanson be allowed to assess an additional \$390,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of paying costs of purchasing and equipping a new fire truck, including all costs incidental and related thereto, for the fiscal year beginning July first, 2012?

Yes _____ No _____.

2. Shall the Town of Hanson be allowed to assess an additional \$235,766 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of paying the Town's assessed share of the Fiscal Year 2013 operating budget of the Whitman Hanson Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012?

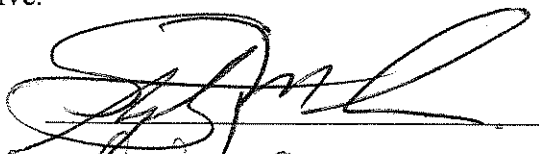
Yes _____ No _____


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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.

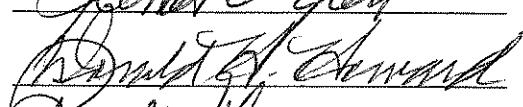
Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place above-mentioned.

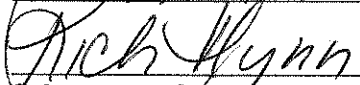
Given under our hands, this 17th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve.





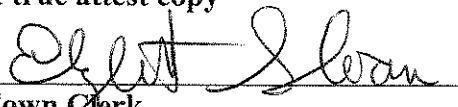






Selectmen of Hanson

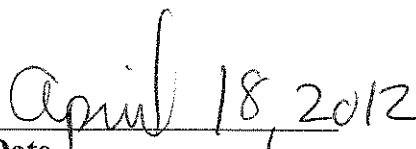
A true attest copy



Town Clerk



Constable



Date

