

Special Town Meeting
October 2, 2023

Moderator Sean J. Kealy called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM in the auditorium of the Middle School with Joseph Campbell, Robert Hayes and Frank Milisi appointed and sworn in as tellers.

Town Counsel was Katherine Feodoroff from Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Town Meeting and a moment of silence was observed in memory of Arthur P. Brasill Sr, Jean F. Croghan, Russell King, John A. Norton Jr. and Lucy, the School comfort dog. A quorum was declared present with 162 voters in attendance. The Moderator, Sean Kealy announced that he would be using Town Meeting Time as the guide for the Town Meeting.

The Moderator asked for a motion to request the Town Meeting allow the Moderator to declare 2/3 and 9/10 majority of a voice vote. Motion was made by Sean Kealy and 2nd by Robert Hayes
Voted: Aye, voice to allow the Moderator to declare 2/3 and 9/10 majority of a voice vote.

The Finance Committee as well as the Select Board introduced themselves to the Town Meeting. Kevin Sullivan, the chairman of the Finance Committee was recognized and welcomed back from his yearlong tour of duty from the Reserves by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,378.41 to pay the following unpaid bills from the prior fiscal years:

Unpaid Bill #	Department	Vendor	AMOUNT	Funding Source
1	Select Board	Laura Brown, Esquire	\$ 827.00	Free cash
2	Camp Kiwanee	Bay Copy	\$ 234.92	Free cash
3	Police	PatrolPC	\$ 316.49	Free cash
	TOTAL		\$ 1,378.41	

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Select Board

Explanation: These funds are needed to pay prior fiscal year bills received after the close of the fiscal year. This requires a 9/10 majority vote.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice declared 9/10 by Moderator to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,378.41 to pay unpaid bills from the prior fiscal years as printed in the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage and Personnel Bylaws, Article 2 - 12, Classification and Compensation by deleting Section 11B in its entirety and inserting the new Sections 11B as follows:

SECTION 11 A: PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

	7/1/2023	10/2/2023
A Director of Elder Affairs	35,000 to 75,000	35,000 to 75,000
B <i>Town Accountant</i>	45,000 to 95,000	<i>75,000 to 95,000</i>
Town Accountant – Part-Time hourly rate	24.00 to 41.00	24.00 to 41.00
C <i>Inspector of Buildings – Full-time Salary</i>	51,700 to 75,000	<i>51,700 to 80,000</i>
Inspector of Buildings – Part-time hourly rate	35.00 to 45.00	35.00 to 45.00
D Health Agent	40,000 to 70,000	40,000 to 70,000
E Conservation Agent – Full Time	35,000 to 89,000	35,000 to 89,000
Conservation Agent – Part-time hourly rate	28.00 to 45.00	28.00 to 45.00
F Library Director	70,000 to 90,000	70,000 to 90,000
G <i>Town Planner</i>	45,000 to 90,000	<i>70,000 to 105,000</i>
H Town Planner/Conservation Agent	45,000 to 75,000	45,000 to 75,000
I Informational Technology Director	60,000 to 115,000	60,000 to 115,000
J Recreation Director **	30,000 to 50,000	30,000 to 50,000
K Grant Writer/ Procurement Administrator	50,000 to 70,000	50,000 to 70,000

SECTION 11 B: ADMINISTRATIVE AND/OR FULL TIME

	7/1/2023	10/2/2023
A Executive Assistant	28.00 to 38.00	28.00 to 38.00
B Assistant to Police Chief	18.00 to 40.00	18.00 to 40.00
C Veterans' Agent ~ Annual salary	55,000 to 62,000	55,000 to 62,000
D Animal Control Officer ~ Annual Salary	17,000 to 28,000	17,000 to 28,000
E Van Drivers/Aide *	15.00 to 17.00	15.00 to 17.00
F Social Day Care Coordinator *	15.00 to 21.00	15.00 to 21.00
G Camp Kiwanee Caretaker **	15.00 to 25.00	15.00 to 25.00
H Library/Senior Center Custodian	22.00 to 26.00	22.00 to 26.00
I Facilities Manager	70,000 to 80,000	70,000 to 80,000

SECTION 11 C: PART TIME POSITIONS

		7/1/2023	10/2/2023
A	Assistant Inspector of Building	22.00 to 30.00	22.00 to 30.00
B	Gas Inspector	22.00 to 30.00	22.00 to 30.00
C	Plumbing Inspector	22.00 to 30.00	22.00 to 30.00
D	Wiring Inspector	22.00 to 30.00	22.00 to 30.00
E	Civil Defense Director ~ Annual Salary	900 to 1,300 yr.	900 to 1,300 yr.
F	Police Matron	18.00 to 30.00	18.00 to 30.00
G	Outreach/Seniors *	15.00 to 22.00	15.00 to 22.00
H	Assistant Coordinator *	15.00 to 22.00	15.00 to 22.00
I	Volunteer Services Intergenerational Coordinator*	15.00 to 19.00	15.00 to 19.00
J	Senior Center Support Staff *	15.00 to 17.00	15.00 to 17.00
K	Back-up Van Driver *	15.00 to 17.00	15.00 to 17.00
L	<i>Animal Inspector</i>	1,000 to 1,600	<i>1,000 to 3,500</i>
M	Election Clerk	15.00 to 17.00	15.00 to 17.00
N	Election Officer	15.00 to 17.00	15.00 to 17.00
O	Election Warden	15.00 to 17.00	15.00 to 17.00
P	<i>Registrar of Voters</i>	15.00 to 17.00	<i>15.00 to 20.00</i>
	Assistant Caretaker **	15.00 to 25.00	15.00 to 25.00
R	<i>Sealer of Weights & Measurers ~ Annual Salary</i>	2,500 to 3,500 yr.	<i>2,500 to 4,200</i>
S	Milk Inspector	150 to 300 yr.	150 to 300 yr.
T	Assistant Veterans Agent	15.00 to 15.00	15.00 to 15.00
U	<i>Committee Clerical/Administrative Support Staff</i>	15.00 to 15.00	<i>15.00 to 25.00</i>
V	Emergency Clerical Labor	15.00 to 15.00	15.00 to 15.00
W	Transfer Station Attendant	15.00 to 21.00	15.00 to 21.00
X	Camp Kiwanee Event Coordinator	15.00 to 25.00	15.00 to 25.00
Y	Facilities Manager Part Time Hourly Rate	15.00 to 25.00	15.00 to 25.00
Z	Public Buildings Custodian	18.00 to 24.00	18.00 to 24.00
AA	Assistant Health Agent	15.00 to 22.00	15.00 to 22.00
BB	Student Police Officer	25.00 to 40.00	25.00 to 40.00
CC	Part-time Police Officers/Special Police Officers	25.00 to 90.00	25.00 to 90.00
DD	Civilian Traffic Control Agent	25.00 to 90.00	25.00 to 90.00
EE	Information Technology Assistant	28.00 to 35.00	28.00 to 35.00
FF	Administrative Assistant to the Select Board and to the Town Administrator	17.00 to 34.00	17.00 to 34.00

SECTION 11 D: SEASONAL POSITIONS **

	7/1/2023	10/2/2023
A Beach Director	15.00 to 25.00	15.00 to 25.00
B Water Safety Instructor	15.00 to 25.00	15.00 to 25.00
C Lifeguards	15.00 to 25.00	15.00 to 25.00
D Boat Coordinator	15.00 to 16.00	15.00 to 16.00
E Boating Instructor	15.00 to 20.00	15.00 to 20.00
F Concession Worker	15.00 to 16.00	15.00 to 16.00
G Recreation Assistant	15.00 to 16.00	15.00 to 16.00
H Security/Gate Attendants	15.00 to 16.00	15.00 to 16.00

* Positions are funded through the Multi-Service Senior Center's revolving account or grants

** Positions are funded through the Recreation Commission's Enterprise Fund.

SECTION 11 E: CALL FIREFIGHTERS/OFFICERS

Position	Start 10/3/22	10 yrs.	15 yrs.	20 yrs.	25 yrs.
Call Firefighter in training	\$16.00	0	0	0	0
Probationary Firefighter	\$18.00	0	0	0	0
Call Firefighter	\$22.00	+ 2%	+2%	+2%	+ 2%
Call Fire Lieutenant	\$24.00	+2 %	+ 2%	+ 2%	+ 2%

\$500.00 stipend will be paid in June of each fiscal year to those call firefighters who successfully complete and maintain the certification of an EMT recognized by the State and approved by the Fire Chief. Paramedics will receive a \$1,000.00 stipend.
or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Select Board & the Wage and Personnel Board

Explanation: The changes to the Compensation Plan are in ***bold italicized*** text. Increases have been made to the positions to remain competitive in the market for staffing (recruitment and retention).

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

Bruce Young asked in relation to the Proposed change in the Town Planner's Salary range in Section G of Section 11A "Professional Salaries for the Town Planner, could someone please explain in detail the new Employment agreement with the Town Planner, that had a direct effect on this amendment being proposed, as well as the Salary increase in Article 3 and at least one other Article in this Town Meeting Warrant. The Town Administrator, Lisa Green explained that when the Town Planner gave his resignation, the Planning Board together with the Select Board decided to ask Town Meeting for an increase in the salary line to retain the Town Planner. Laura Fitzgerald-Kemmett explained even if the Town Planner had decided to leave, the Town would

need to increase the salary anyway in order to attract and keep a qualified Town Planner.

VOTED Aye, voice to amend the Wage and Personnel Bylaws, Article 2 - 12, Classification and Compensation by deleting Section 11A – 11E in its entirety and inserting the new Sections 11A – 11E as printed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$114,000, to supplement appropriations previously voted at the Annual Town Meeting of May 2023 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023 for various Town Departments; or take any other action relative thereto.

Line	Department	Item	AMOUNT	Funding Source
1	FY2024 Budget supplement	Planning Salary	\$ 12,000	Free Cash
2	FY2024 Budget supplement	Norfolk Agricultural High School	\$ 63,000	Free Cash
3	FY2024 Budget supplement	Bristol Agricultural High School	\$ 39,000	Free Cash
	TOTAL		\$ 114,000	

Proposed by the Select Board

Explanation: The purpose of this article is to supplement a number of line items in the current fiscal year's budget (FY24) 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.

Finance Committee recommends.

Informational Explanations:

Line 1 – is to supplement the salary line for the Town Planner

Line 2 – is to provide transportation for a student to Norfolk County Agricultural High School.

Line 3 – is to provide transportation for two students attending Bristol County Agricultural High School.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

Bruce Young spoke on Line 1, wanting to know since the additional \$12,000 increase in Salary proposed for the Town Planner in this Article contains a \$7,000 increase that was granted to the Town Planner and he is already receiving retroactive to July 1st. can someone please explain how you were able to give him that increase if the Town Meeting in May only approved \$83,000 for the Town Planner, and that \$7,000 was not included in the Planning Board budget for his Salary. Town Counsel, Katherine Feodoroff explained that the Town Planner was only paid up to the \$90,000 from the original wage scale and will be retro actively paid.

Frank Milisi spoke on Line 2, asking why it is costing the Town double for One student going to

Norfolk Aggie compared to two students going to Bristol Aggie. Town Administrator, Lisa Green explain that Hanson has to pay for a student that has been taken out of our Town by DCF and is now residing in another Town, unfortunately the Town of Hanson is still responsible for the transportation costs.

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$114,000, to supplement appropriations previously voted at the Annual Town Meeting of May 2023 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023 for various Town Departments, as printed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to borrow from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust or otherwise the sum of \$500,000 for the purpose of financing the following water pollution abatement facility projects: repair, replacement and/or upgrade of septic systems, pursuant to agreements with Board of Health and residential property owners, including without limitations all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws or otherwise; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Health & Treasurer/Collector

Explanation: We are seeking an additional \$500,000 from the Trust for another round of betterments. Requires a 2/3 vote, as it is borrowing.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice declared 2/3 by Moderator to borrow from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust or otherwise the sum of \$500,000 for the purpose of financing the following water pollution abatement facility projects: repair, replacement and/or upgrade of septic systems, pursuant to agreements with Board of Health and residential property owners, including without limitations all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws or otherwise.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$8,951.45 to fund the of Plymouth County Outreach (“PCO”) to fund prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery programs as further detailed in the Massachusetts State Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Police Department

Explanation: The Opioid Settlement funds will be used to support the outreach work of Plymouth County Outreach (PCO). Plymouth County Outreach (PCO) is a collaboration of the 27 municipal police departments in Plymouth County. They provide a safe gateway to substance use information, resources, and support for those suffering from substance abuse disorder.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Robert Hayes

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$8,951.45 from Free Cash to fund the Plymouth County Outreach to fund prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery programs as further detailed in the Massachusetts State Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the town will authorize, under General Laws Chapter 44, Section 21C, upon the recommendation of the Select Board, a lease purchase financing agreement for the lease of body worn cameras, associated software, and support, equipment, a capital asset the improvement of which may be financed by the issuance of debt under G.L. c. 44, the term of such agreement not to exceed 5 years, the useful life of the equipment as determined by the Select Board, and the Police department shall be authorized to enter into such agreement on behalf of the Town, and to appropriate by transfer \$17,995 from Free Cash for the first year payments; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Police Department

Explanation: These funds will be used to lease 25 Body Worn Cameras, software, support, and storage of data. This funding covers year one of a 5-year lease. Police currently do not have body worn cameras. Body worn cameras are increasing being used in policing. Their use offers the public, victims, police officers, and alleged perpetrators more transparency in the criminal justice system. Subsequent years will cost \$15,516 for year 2 through 5. This requires a 2/3 majority vote.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice declared 2/3 by Moderator to transfer \$17,995 from Free Cash for the first-year payment of lease purchase financing agreement authorized by the Town under General Laws Chapter 44, Section 21C, for the lease of body worn cameras, associated software, and support, equipment, a capital asset the improvement of which may be financed by the issuance of debt under G.L. c. 44.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanson General Bylaws, Part 4 - Articles Dealing with Miscellaneous Issues, Article 4, Enforcement, by adding the following new subsection 3-17 to Section 3, Fine Schedule

General By-Law or Section	Enforcement Officer	Amount
Article 3-17: Enforcement Of The Fire Code	Fire Department	1st Offense: \$100.00 2nd Offense: \$500.00 3rd Offense: \$1000.00 (Pursuant to MGL Ch 148A, 527 CMR 1.00) Owners and/or Tenants Are Subject to A Fine of \$20.00 Per Day Per Offense

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Department

Explanation: This addition to article 4 of the general by-laws allows the Fire department to enforce the fire codes. The purpose is to enforce requirements and controls to safeguard life, property, and public welfare from the hazards of fire and explosion created by the storage, handling or use of substances, materials or devices, or from conditions, or materials hazardous to life, property, and the public welfare as prescribed in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapters 22D and 148.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Robert Hayes

VOTED Aye, voice to amend the Town of Hanson General Bylaws, Part 4, Enforcement, by adding the following new subsection 3-17 to Section 3, Fine Schedule, as listed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$73,560 to fund the overtime costs necessary to maintain adequate staffing levels at the Fire Department for FY2024; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Department

Explanation: These funds are being requested to cover the overtime costs of maintaining four Firefighter/paramedics on duty while our new hires attend recruit training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. Due to a clerical error the May article stated FY 2023 instead of FY 2024.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer the sum of \$73,560 from Free Cash to fund the overtime costs necessary to maintain adequate staffing levels at the Fire Department for FY2024.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Ambulance Account the sum of \$395,000 to purchase and equip an ambulance; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Department

Explanation: These funds will be used to purchase and equip an Ambulance. Build time is 18-24 months.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$395,000 from the Ambulance Account to purchase and equip an ambulance.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Ambulance Account the sum of \$20,000 to pay for ambulance billing; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Department

Explanation: These funds will be used to pay Comstar our Ambulance billing company.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$20,000 from the Ambulance Account to pay for ambulance billing.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$536 to Article 6 of the October 2013 Special Town Meeting; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

Explanation: This transfer is requested to replenish funds in place for Emergency Management such as providing an emergency shelter for our residents and open heating, cooling, and charging centers. These funds will stay in place from year to year for this purpose.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$536 from Free Cash to Article 6 of the October 2013 Special Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) the sum of \$28,000 and from Free Cash the sum of \$15,457 to install generator adapters to the Hanson Fire and Police Stations; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

Explanation: This funding will allow the installation of adapters to connect an “Outside Generator” to be used to power these facilities in the event of a power outage and the failure of the backup Generator that is installed at each location.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) the sum of \$28,000 and from Free Cash the sum of \$15,457 to install generator adapters to the Hanson Fire and Police Stations.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$11,765 from Water surplus to install generator adapters to the Hanson Water Department well field; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Fire Chief

Explanation: This funding will allow the installation of adapters to connect an “Outside Generator” to be used to power this facility in the event of a power outage and the failure of the backup Generator that is installed at each location.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$11,765 from Water surplus to install generator adapters to the Hanson Water Department well field.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer \$55,000 from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve to fund exterior repairs of the Hanson Group Home, located at 53 West Washington Street, Hanson, further identified as Assessors Map/Lot #: 92-0-20A-0, and to place a permanent deed restriction on said property, as presented to Town Meeting and recommended by the Community Preservation Committee. The use of the funds shall be consistent with both Community Preservation Act funding guidelines and restrictions as well as M.G.L., c. 44, §55C. Said project to be under the supervision of the Town of Hanson Community Preservation Committee, with all expenses subject to final review and approval by the Community Preservation Committee prior to submittal for payment; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Community Preservation Committee

Explanation: Hanson Group Home is an existing 8-unit home for disabled low-income individuals in need of support services. The property is owned and managed by NeighborWorks Housing Solutions (NHS), a local non-profit organization. NHS is requesting CPC funds to assist with completing exterior improvements to the home, which include a complete roof replacement and vinyl siding replacement and associated fascia repairs, wood trim, and gutters to assure the water tightness and integrity of the housing.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

Corinne Cafardo asked why the nonprofit that takes care of this residence isn't raising the money themselves.

John Kemmett asked why the Hanson Housing Authority hasn't approved of the CPC paying for this work. Kevin Keane from the Housing Authority stated that they have no comment, the Housing Authority doesn't know enough about it at this time.

Town Counsel, Katherine Feodoroff explained that CPC funds can be used for preservation of a housing property not rehabilitation and this would fall under the preservation category.

Noelle Humphries from the nonprofit Neighborhood Works Housing Solutions that owns and manages the residence spoke of why they are requesting monies from CPC to maintain 53 West Washington Street. The Residence has 8 units that go towards the amount of affordable housing that is required by the State.

Motion was made by Melinda Smith and seconded by Robert Hayes to Table Article 14.

VOTED Aye, voice to Table Article 14.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to approve an amendment of the Hanson General Personnel Classification and Compensation Bylaw, Vacation Leave, Section 12D(g) to allow employees to carry over up to ten (10) days of unused vacation leave with the approval of the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board which approved vacation leave carry over must be used prior to the end of the employee's annual anniversary date, by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:

g. Employees will be allowed to carry over not more than five (5) days of unused vacation time. With the approval of both the Wage and Personnel Board and the Select Board, employees may be allowed to carry over a total of not more than ten (10) days of unused vacation leave. Any approved vacation carry-over days must be used prior to the employee's next annual anniversary date, following the date of the approved carry over. The decision of the Boards shall be final and shall not be subject to any grievance procedure.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Wage and Personnel

Explanation: This amendment allows the Wage and Personnel and Select Board to approve vacation carry over of up to ten (10) days, with approval of both the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board. As the bylaw stands, vacation carry over limit is five (5) days. This amendment will provide flexibility when an employee is not able to use all vacation leave within the one-year time frame due to staffing or other department conditions.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to approve an amendment of the Hanson General Personnel Classification and Compensation Bylaw, Vacation Leave, Section 12D(g), by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in place Section 12D(g) as printed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to approve an amendment of the Hanson General Personnel Classification and Compensation Bylaw, Vacation Leave, Section 12D(7), with the approval of the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board, to grant a newly hired employee up to fifteen (15) days of vacation leave and/or for the purposes of employee retention up to five (5) days of additional vacation leave for existing employees, by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:

7. The Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board shall be permitted to authorize granting a newly hired employee up to fifteen (15) days of vacation leave. Employees granted additional vacation leave based on prior experience shall not have their vacation leave increased until they have five (5) years of continuous service for the Town of Hanson, at which time they may be granted additional days of vacation leave. In addition, for the purpose of employee retention, the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board shall be permitted to authorize granting existing employees up to an additional five (5) days of vacation leave, only if the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board deems the granting of said additional vacation days to be in the best interest of the Town. The decision of the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board shall be final and shall not be subject to any grievance procedure.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Wage and Personnel

Explanation: This amendment provides flexibility to the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board to grant vacation leave to new employees, to attract experienced and talented candidates. In order to be competitive and retain employees, this amendment also provides flexibility to the Wage and Personnel Board and Select Board to grant additional vacation leave to existing employees.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

Bruce Young requested someone to read the actual bylaw as it reads right now. Town Administrator, Lisa Green came to the podium and read the existing bylaw as well as the amended change to this bylaw. Mr. Young expressed that he would not be voting for this Article because he believes that it will open up the flood gates to having other employees not under the Classification and Compensation Bylaw looking for this same benefit. None of the Union Contracts have this benefit.

VOTED Aye, voice to approve an amendment of the Hanson General Personnel Classification and Compensation Bylaw, Vacation Leave, Section 12D(a)(7) by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in place Section 12D(a)(7) as printed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$322,283 as specifically identified below to be expended for the following capital equipment for Whitman Hanson Regional School District:

Line	Department	Item	AMOUNT	Funding Source
1	WHRSD	Network Switches for Hanson Middle school and Indian head	\$ 29,572	Free Cash
2	WHRSD	Network Switches for Whitman-Hanson regional high school	\$ 62,626	Free Cash
3	WHRSD	Touchview Panels for Hanson Middle school and Indian head	\$ 158,928	Free Cash
4	WHRSD	Touchview Panels for Whitman-Hanson regional high school	\$ 71,156	Free Cash
TOTAL ALLOCATION			\$ 322,283	

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Select Board and the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanations:

Line 1 – The network switches at the Indian Head Elementary School and the Hanson Middle School are at end of life and are no longer supported. Eight network switches are estimated to be purchased at the cost of \$3,696.50 for each switch. This article (if approved) will fund the purchase and installation of 8 network switches at Indian Head and Hanson Middle.

Line 2 – The network switches at the Whitman-Hanson Regional High School are at end of life and are no longer supported. Forty-three network switches are estimated to be purchased at the cost of \$3,696.50 for each switch. This article (if approved) will fund Hanson's portion (FY23 percentage = 39.4%) of the purchase and installation of 43 network switches at the Regional High School.

Line 3 – The Promethean Boards or Smart Boards at the Indian Head Elementary School and the Hanson Middle School are at end of life and do not support current or future curriculum platforms. Sixty-six interactive panels are estimated to be purchased at the cost of \$2,408 per panel. This article (if approved) will fund the purchase and installation of 66 TouchView Interactive Panels at Indian Head and Hanson Middle.

Line 4 – The Promethean Boards or Smart Boards at the Whitman-Hanson Regional High School are at end of life and do not support current or future curriculum platforms. Seventy-five interactive panels are estimated to be purchased at the cost of \$2,408 per panel. This article (if approved) will fund Hanson's portion (FY23 percentage = 39.4%) of the purchase and installation of 75 TouchView Interactive Panels at the Regional High School.
Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash \$303,136.58 to be expended for capital equipment as printed in the Warrant for the Whitman Hanson Regional School District: with changes of amount expended to each line- Line 1 \$34,628.40, Line 2 \$73,334.29, Line 3 \$131,470.00 and Line 4 \$63,703.89 with a total of \$303,136.58.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) \$125,000 as specifically identified below to be expended for the following capital equipment project for Hanson Parks & Fields:

Line	Department	Item	AMOUNT	Funding Source
1	Parks and Fields	Infield Mix dirt	\$ 125,000	ARPA
TOTAL ALLOCATION			\$ 125,000	

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Select Board and the Capital Improvement Committee

Explanations:

Line 1 – Hanson Parks & Fields is requesting a sum of \$125,000 to convert the infield dirt to Native Premium infield mix on fields located at the Botieri Field Complex, LZ Thomas Field and Robinson Street Complex. There are six athletic fields in total. This project will allow for optimal field playability and safety, minimizing the excessive amount of volunteer hours currently needed, and the Town to compete with surrounding communities for local tournaments and field rental opportunities. Should the fields need to be relocated, the Native Premium infield mix at the Botieri Field Complex, LZ Thomas Field and Robinson Street softball field can be repurposed to new fields.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Robert Hayes

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) \$125,000 for the capital equipment projects as printed in the Warrant for Hanson Parks & Fields, to convert the infield dirt to Native Premium infield mix.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to amend General By-law, Article 2-9 “Financial”, section 3E “Authorized Revolving Funds” to add the following revolving fund to the Table:

Fund	Revenue Source	Authority to Spend Funds	Use of Funds	Fiscal Years	Expense Limit
Conservation Mitigation	Mitigation Fees	Conservation Commission	Mitigation for Buffer Zone Disturbance	Fiscal Year 2023 and Subsequent Years	\$ 10,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: In certain cases when applying for a permit under the Wetlands Protection Act or the Hanson Wetlands Protection By-law, the applicant is not able to avoid disturbance to the 50-foot no-touch buffer as required by the by-law. In these cases, mitigation is required for the variance, usually in the form of additional plantings (shrubs, trees). Sometimes however, the applicant is unable to place additional plantings on the lot; this revolving fund allows the Conservation Commission to accept funds in lieu, and to use the funds to place plantings on Town-owned property where they will be valuable for conservation purposes.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Robert Hayes

Phil Clemons from the Conservation Commission spoke for the Article, that it will maintain the environmental quality of the Town while giving the Town another tool to facilitate the process of applying for a permit quicker for the applicants.

The Finance Committee Chair, Kevin Sullivan explained that the Finance Committee do not recommend this Article because they would like to reduce the amount of revolving funds as a matter of accounting purpose.

Kathleen Marini spoke against the Article because she feels it puts a burden on owners of small lots trying to put septic systems on their properties and motioned for it to be passed over, however the motion failed to carry.

VOTED Aye, voice to amend General By-law, Article 2-9 “Financial”, section 3E “Authorized Revolving Funds” to add the Conservation Mitigation revolving fund to the Table, as printed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to place the properties identified as Assessors Map 67, Lots 15 and 15A into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission for open space protection under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: These lots on the northern side of West Washington Street bracket the Shumatuscacant River and are the historical site of a dam that served the 1700s Moore’s Forge and later mill activities. The lots are an important wetland and riverine resource that provides

stormwater storage, treatment, and aquifer recharge, as well as wildlife habitat. The parcels identified in the article are currently Town-owned. Article 97 protection will ensure this resource area is protected for the foreseeable future.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Robert Hayes

VOTED Aye, voice declared 2/3 by Moderator to place the properties identified as Assessors Map 67, Lots 15 and 15A into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission for open space protection under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to place the properties identified as Assessors Map 88, Lots 7 and 8 into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission for open space protection under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: The lots are an important wetland resource that provides stormwater storage, treatment, and aquifer recharge, as well as wildlife habitat. These parcels are a large part of the Zone II recharge area for the new well off Old Pine Drive. In addition, these parcels are one of the headwaters of Oldham Pond, and they contain Spring Brook and another tributary stream. These streams and Oldham Pond are Class A waters (i.e., contributing to a surface water supply), and they are part of a cold-waterfishery (the Herring Brook watershed), one of the few in Southeastern Massachusetts. The parcels identified in the article are currently Town-owned. Article 97 protection will ensure this resource area is protected for the foreseeable future.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice declared 2/3 by Moderator to place the properties identified as Assessors Map 88, Lots 7 and 8 into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission for open space protection under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$30,000 to replenish the Conservation Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Conservation Commission

Explanation: The Conservation Fund supports the Commission's efforts to carry out its care and custody responsibilities for open space and recreation areas. These efforts include trail building and maintenance; provision of signage, notices, and other information; property enhancements, such as mowing, invasive vegetation removal, and site clean-up; wildlife habitat and stream improvements; removal of encroachments; establishment of bounds and survey recordings; and equipment rental as necessary to support these activities.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joe Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash \$30,000 to replenish the Conservation Fund.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$55,000 from the sum appropriated at the October 3, 2020 Special Town Meeting Article 11 (Compactor Replacement) to supplement the FY 2024 budget voted at the May 1, 2023 Annual Town meeting as follows:

Line	Item	AMOUNT
67	Salaries	\$ 15,000
68	Expenses	\$ 40,000
TOTAL ALLOCATION		\$ 55,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Health

Explanation: It is projected out the 430 Solid Waste (Line 67) Salaries need to be increased from \$116,515 to \$131,515 and the Expenses (Line 68) be increased from \$212,300 to \$252,300.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer \$55,000 from the sum appropriated at the October 3, 2020 Special Town Meeting Article 11 (Compactor Replacement) to supplement the FY 2024 budget lines 67 and 68 voted at the May 1, 2023 Annual Town meeting, as printed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Camp Kiwanee retained earnings the amount of \$50,000 to supplement Camp Kiwanee salaries; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Camp Kiwanee Commission

Explanation: When the budget was established it was not known that Cranberry Cove would be open for swimming, swim lessons, and kayak rentals. The amount of \$50,000.00 is the cost to pay for the Cove staff (Beach Director, Life Guards, Gate Keepers) for the season.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Camp Kiwanee retained earnings the amount of \$50,000 to supplement Camp Kiwanee salaries.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 for masonry work to replace the brickwork in the front walkway and front patio area at the Library/Senior Center to improve safety and maintain the aesthetics of the building, and repair rear entrance walkways at the Library/Senior Center; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Board of Library Trustees

Explanation: The front walkways and front patio area at the Library/Senior Center have become uneven and brick areas are extremely slippery during wet and icy conditions. The areas pose a tripping hazard and need to be replaced with a safer alternative that also maintains the aesthetics of the building. The edges of the rear entrance walkways are crumbling and need to be repaired.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 for masonry work to replace the brickwork in the front walkway and front patio area at the Library/Senior Center to improve safety and maintain the aesthetics of the building, and repair rear entrance walkways at the Library/Senior Center.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$19,588 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the purchase and installation of three (3) 7-tier rotary filing cabinets, two (2) shelving units with 125 shelf guides in the Select Board and Town Administrator's office; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Select Board

Explanation: The Select Board office is in need of a larger filing storage system that is able to be secured to protect access to confidential files. The current filing cabinets do not offer the ability to secure confidential files and are not sufficient to house the number of files and documents retained in the Select Board and Town Administrator's office.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer the sum of \$19,588 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the purchase and installation of three (3) 7-tier rotary filing cabinets, two (2) shelving units with 125 shelf guides in the Select Board and Town Administrator's office.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$76,000 for Stormwater Management and MS4 Permit related items; or to take any other action thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Department

Explanation: This money will be used for engineering, mapping, inspections, testing, screening, surveying and preliminary study for the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) and used in the formulation of town regulations that are required for compliance with the Town's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit issued and mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (This is a reduction of \$10,000.00 from last year's funding request).

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$76,000 for Stormwater Management and MS4 Permit related items.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,500 for the purchase of a 48-inch, 22 horse power, commercial Scag Zero Turn Mower. (per state bid FAC pricing); or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Department

Explanation: This mower will be used for the mowing of town fields, Islands, town ballfields and at other town facilities the Highway Department currently maintains. Two of three mowers currently in use are approaching, or over 10-years old, one of which is not of commercial grade, and are in a deteriorating state of use. These two mowers are in constant need of repair to aging decks and mechanisms. Another, more reliable mower is necessary as our newest mower is already 3-years old and has a 72-inch deck which is primarily used for the larger open areas. This also has been an extremely taxing mowing season on the equipment with the unusually wet spring and summer.

Finance Committee does not recommend.

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,500 for the purchase of a 48-inch, 22 horse power, commercial Scag Zero Turn Mower.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$110,000 to provide funding for the roadway surface crack sealing of Route 58 from the Halifax town line to the Whitman town line; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Highway Department

Explanation: Route 58 was last reconstructed by the state over 25 years ago. The roadway is showing much longitudinal cracking and should be sealed. This will help preserve the road from further damage from water and moisture infiltration, freezing expansion and contraction, as well as preventing the infiltration of non-compressible materials into the pavement. It could prolong the life expectancy of the road for approximately 3-5 years and lessen the incident of potholes and ongoing patching of this road. The cost of milling and resurfacing of this road will be a much costlier proposition and could currently approach five to six million dollars, depending on asphalt and drainage improvement costs, or approximately sixteen to nineteen years' worth of the Town's Chapter 90 funding.

Finance Committee does not recommend

Motion: Sean Kealy

Second: Joseph Weeks

VOTED Aye, voice to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$110,000 to provide funding for the roadway surface crack sealing of Route 58 from the Halifax town line to the Whitman town line.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way, Alden Way, Gray Lane and Stringer Lane as laid out by the Select Board pursuant to G.L. c. 41 and c.82, as shown on a plan entitled “Definitive Subdivision Plan of Alden Way” prepared by SITEC Inc. 13 Welby Road New Bedford, MA. 02745 dated April 22, 1997 last revised on July 14, 1997 and recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds as Plan 803 of 1997 in Plan Book 40, Pages 652-659; as modified by a plan entitled “Modification of Definitive Subdivision Plan of Stringer Lane” prepared by SITEC Inc. 13 Welby Road New Bedford, MA. 02745 dated February 3, 1998, and recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds as Plan 701 of 1998 in Plan Book 41 Page 706; and as modified by a plan entitled “Modification of Definitive Subdivision Plan of Gray Lane” prepared by SITEC Inc. 13 Welby Road New Bedford, MA. 02745 dated November 20, 1998, and recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds as Plan 20 of 1999 in Plan Book 41 Page 956, copies of which are on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and further that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase, take by eminent domain or otherwise, easements in any land necessary for laying out and acceptance of said ways, and any appurtenant drainage, utility or other easements related to said ways; and further, to accept gifts and grants therefor, and to transfer \$10,000 from Article 38 of the May 1, 2023 Annual Town Meeting for this purpose and any expenses related thereto; and to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this vote; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Select Board

Explanation: A citizen’s petition previously was filed to accept the above-referenced streets as public ways. The Town Meeting overwhelmingly voted in favor of accepting these roads at the May 1, 2023 Town Meeting. However, the Town Meeting article failed to reference all of the appropriate plans which describe the accurate and current locations of the roads. This Article is intended to correct the previous vote and allow the Town to accept the roads accurately in their current locations.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Robert Hayes

VOTED Aye, voice declared 2/3 by Moderator to accept Gray Lane, Stringer Lane and Alden Way as public ways and further to approve Article 30 as printed in the Warrant

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to accept as Town public ways, Litchfield Lane and Proudfoot Way and to see if the Town will further vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain an easement to use said street for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Hanson:

Litchfield Lane as shown on a plan entitled “As-Built Plan “Stonewall Estates” Litchfield Lane, Hanson, Mass.” (Sheet 1 and 2), Dated: December 21, 2004, revised: September 19, 2005, revised: December 20, 2005 (Sheet 2 only), prepared by Robert C. Bailey Co., Land Surveyors 199 Plymouth Street, Pembroke, Mass., copies of which are on file in the office of the Town Clerk

Proudfoot Way as shown on a plan entitled “As-Built Plan “Stonewall Estates” Proud Foot Way, Hanson, Mass.” (Sheet 3), Dated: December 21, 2004, revised: September 19, 2005 prepared by Robert C. Bailey Co., Land Surveyors 199 Plymouth Street, Pembroke, Mass., copies of which are on file in the office of the Town Clerk

and further that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase, take by eminent domain or otherwise, easements in any land necessary for laying out and acceptance of said ways, and any appurtenant drainage, utility or other easements related to said ways; and further, to accept gifts and grants therefor; and to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this vote; or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Select Board

Explanation: These streets were accepted at the 2006 May Town Meeting as Article 26. The Town of Hanson did not take title within the 120 days after the close of the town meeting as required under MGL Chapter 82, Section 24 thus requiring a new town meeting vote.

These streets have been constructed in accordance with Town standards and the Planning Board and Highway Surveyor have recommended acceptance. The subdivision control law contemplates that towns will accept as public ways all such roads, which are constructed in conformance with local standards while they are still in good condition.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Sean Kealy
Second: Robert Hayes

VOTED Aye, voice declared 2/3 by Moderator to accept Litchfield Lane and Proudfoot Way as public ways and further to approve Article 31 as printed in the Warrant.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to have a Warrant for the finalization of Litchfield Lane and Proud Foot Way (the roads that comprise “Stonewall Estates”) on the Agenda for the Hanson Town Meeting on October 2, 2023. The Citizens move to have the warrant heard and passed. *The Hanson Select Board approved the road as a public way in 2005/2006, per the Town Planner, but failed to file the necessary paperwork thereafter.

Please see additional information listed in the Information Warrant.

Citizens’ Petition

proposed by Michael P. Bulger and 110 others.

Finance Committee recommends.

Motion: Laura Fitzgerald-Kemmett

Second: Robert Hayes

VOTED Aye, voice to Passover Article 32.

Voted Aye, voice to adjourn sine die the meeting Motion: Sean Kealy, Second: Robert Hayes at 8:08 PM.

A true copy of the vote, Attest:

Elizabeth Sloan, CMC, CMMC
Town Clerk