



Annual Town Meeting
May 7, 2019
William E. Norris School
34 Pomeroy Meadow Rd., Southhampton, MA

Town Moderator, Robert Floyd, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present, 171 registered voters were present. The workers were Kristine Canton, Angela Bolduc, Eileen Hamel, and Sarah Pierce.

After the pledge of allegiance which was led by Boy Scout Troop 210 and announced by Liam Galpin, a brief moment of silence, welcome message, and reading a disclosure statement, Mr. Moderator proceeded to read the warrant, and return warrant. He announced that the town meeting was being televised live. Interim Town Clerk Luci Dalton was sworn in to officiate over the meeting. Karl Kuehner was unanimously elected Deputy Moderator for the year until the next Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Moderator read an introduction on town meeting guidelines.

Mr. Moderator then called for a motion for Article 1.

Article 1: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to hear presentations of the Richard C. Allen Educational Awards sponsored by the Southhampton Highway Department and Transfer Station.

Article 1

Randall Kemp, Highway Superintendent, presented the awards to the 3 following recipients:

Olivia Aldrich
Sophie Aldrich
Rebecca Walunas

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Article 2: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to take no action on Article 2

Article 2 passed unanimously to take no action.

Article 3: It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will accept Sections 3 to 7 inclusive, of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, otherwise known as the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, by modifying the surcharge on real property for the purposes permitted by said Act, including the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources, the acquisition, creation, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of land for recreational use, the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing, and the rehabilitation and restoration of such open space and community housing that is acquired or created as provided under said Act; that the amount of such surcharge on real property shall be 1% of the annual real estate tax levy against real property “commencing on first available date according to Mass GL; and that the Town hereby accepts the following exemption[s] from such surcharge permitted under Section 3(e) of said Act: [Property owned and occupied as a domicile by any person who qualifies for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing in the Town, as defined in

section 2 of said Act] \$100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property]. Or take any other action relative thereto.

It was moved and seconded to end debate on Article 3

Vote to end debate was won by majority

Article 3 Failed by majority

A motion was made to move Articles 33 and 34 to be voted on following Article 8, and before Article 9.

A vote was taken and passed unanimously to move the articles. (See video on Southampton TV)

Article 4: It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to adjust the eligibility factors for the property tax exemption for senior citizens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, to be effective for the exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2019 by increasing the income limits to \$20,000 for single and \$25,000 for married couples; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 4 Passes Unanimously

Article 5: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to adjust the eligibility factors for the property tax exemption for senior citizens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, to be effective for the exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2019 by reducing the minimum age requirement from 70 years of age to 65.

Article 5 Passes Unanimously

Article 6: It was moved and seconded see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-Laws of the Town of Southampton to change the title of the “Board of Selectmen” to the “Select Board” as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

1. Amend Article III: 1) by changing the title from “Selectmen” to “Select Board”; 2) by substituting the reference in Section 1 from “Selectmen” to “Select Board”; and 3) by deleting existing Section 7 and replacing it with the following language: “There shall be a Select Board of five members elected for three-year overlapping terms. Such Select Board shall have all the powers and duties of a Board of Selectmen for purposes of any and all federal, state and local laws referring to Board of Selectmen or Selectmen, including but not limited to the Massachusetts General Laws, Code of Massachusetts Regulations and any bylaws and special acts applicable to the Town of Southampton”; and
2. Delete the words “Board of Selectmen” and “Selectmen” in each place in which they appear and insert in their place the words “Select Board”. Or take any other action relative thereto

Article 6 Passes Unanimously

Article 7: It was moved and seconded that the town **take no action** to amend Section 3-A-1 of the Town Personnel By-Law Pertaining to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Board by amending the existing language, as set forth in in Article 7 of the Warrant for the May 7, 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 7 – Vote to take no action passes unanimously

Article 8: It was moved and seconded that the Town raise and appropriate \$17,560,797.03 to fund all municipal departments and the public schools during fiscal year 2020, as shown in the Town’s Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 as shown in the Column Labeled BOS Recommended FY20 Level Funded + 2%.. The Moderator divided the budget into the following groups:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	694,869.55	Passed unanimously
PUBLIC SAFETY	1,909,469.84	Passed unanimously
EDUCATION - NORRIS	4,667,242.28	Passed unanimously
EDUCATION - HRHS	5,219,017.00	Passed by majority
HIGHWAY	861,497.38	Passed unanimously
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	123,648.52	Passed unanimously
CULTURE & RECREATION	169,335.34	Passed unanimously
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2,188,044.23	Passed unanimously
DEBT SERVICE-PRINCIPAL	176,650.00	Passed unanimously
DEBT SERVICE-INTEREST	<u>53,342.89</u>	Passed unanimously

TOTAL FY 2020 BUDGET \$17,560,797.03

All aspects of the FY 2020 Total Operating budget passes unanimously with the exception of Hampshire regional High School budget which passed by majority.

Separate from the above:

It was motioned and seconded to amend the Police Department Budget in the Public Safety Section of the FY 20 Southampton Operating Budget as follows:

Change:

	From	To
Police Chief’s Salary	\$98,838.00	\$106,000
Police Department Wages	\$642,600.00	\$588,354.34
Police Incentive (Quinn Bill)	\$42,717.60	\$34,642.37
Police Department Overtime	\$58,140.00	\$75,059.89
Police Department Expenses	\$62,000.00	\$69,837.00

Rest of Police Department Budget to remain the same:

Police Equipment Maintenance	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00
Regional Lockup Assessment	\$5,502.00	\$5,502.00
Police Department Building Expense	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Building Custodial wages	\$4,595.10	\$4,595.10
Total	\$963,392.70	\$932,990.70 \$30,402.00

Motioned and seconded to amend the Norris Elementary School Operating line account in the Education Section of the FY 2020 Southampton Operating Budget by increasing the Elementary School Operating Budget from \$4,636,840.28 to \$4,667,242.28 and by funding the increase with the \$30,402.00 of available funds created with the amended decrease to the Police Department budget.

Amendment to motion for Public Safety Budget section passes unanimously-decrease of \$30,402.00

Amendment to motion to Norris School Budget passes unanimously-increase of \$30,402.00

Motion to end debate on Hrhs Budget passes by majority.

Hrhs Operating Budget passes majority Ayes (117) Nays (33).

Article 9: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote the budget of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund as presented in Article 9 of the Warrant for the May 7, 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 9 passes unanimously

Article 10: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to approve the budget of the Water Department Enterprise Fund as presented in Article 10 of the Warrant for the May 7, 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Motioned and seconded to amend Article 10 and replace with to increase the salary for the Water Superintendent by giving a 2% raise over the FY2019 amount which will be \$76,021.62 and also to reduce the Water Enterprise FY2020 Budget wages line from \$210,356 to \$199,922 to incorporate that the Superintendents wages do not increase more than 2% over FY19 and also to amend the money to be raised from retained earnings from \$30,189 to \$19,755.

Town voted on amendment to Article 10 by majority

Article 10 Amended motion passes by majority

Article 11: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$20,200 from the WPAT Loan Repayment Account to fund amortization of the WPAT Bonds in the Water Department.

Article 11 passes unanimously

Article 12: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$100,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriations account to the EMs/Ambulance Department Expense account to fund ambulance transportation.

Article 12 passes unanimously

Article 13: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$65,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriations account to the Debt Expense account to fund the repayment of the loan to purchase the newest ambulance.

Article 13 passes unanimously.

Article 14: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$10,000 from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriations account to the Ambulance Stabilization Account.

Article 14 passes unanimously

Article 15: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$35,420.05 from the Operational Stabilization Fund to the Police Expenses and Wages for Recruit Academy for the placement and training and of two new Police Officers during fiscal year 20.

Article 15 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 16: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$35,000.00 from the Operational Stabilization Fund to the Highway Department MS-4 Storm water Management Permit Account to fund the mandated permit requirements for State/Federal compliance in FY 20.

Article 16 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 17: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Hampshire Regional School District to enter into a five-year contract consisting of a three-year base with the option to renew for two additional one-year periods to provide bus transportation as presented in Article 17 of the Warrant for the May 7, 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 17 passes unanimously

Article 18: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a ten-year contract with the option for a five (5) year extension, commencing on July 1, 2020 with the qualified vendor selected by MassDEP through a competitive bid process for recycling processing services for the town, subject to the Select Board's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the town and subject to Town Meeting approval in the Spring 2020 for funding for these services.

Article 18 passes unanimously

Article 19: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to become a member in the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District for a minimum three-year period, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 252, §5A and other applicable sections of said law; and to fund the membership fee transfer/appropriate \$5,000 from Free Cash.

Motion and seconded from the floor to amend to remove "for a minimum three-year period". Amendment passed unanimously

Article 19 passes unanimously

Article 20: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$250,000.00 to purchase a new Dump Truck with plow and sander body for the Highway Department, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow the sum of \$250,000.00 for said appropriation under applicable sections of Chapter 44 Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes therefor, and, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied that may be necessary for that purpose, provided, however, that the appropriation authorized hereunder shall be contingent on the approval by the voters of the town of a so-called Proposition 2-1/2 debt exclusion under General Laws c. 59, section 21C, and authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board, to issue any bonds or notes therefor, and, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7 (9), or any other general or special law.

Article 20 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 21: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$97,800.00 for the Norris Elementary School Building Improvement Project,(said project to include \$9,000 for sink replacement in the science labs/classrooms; \$28,500 to replace carpeting in several classrooms; \$48,500 for the replacement and repair of exterior doors in the school; \$10,500 for repairs and caulking to the roof gutters, drains and roof drain scuppers; and \$1,300 for the repair of the exterior masonry of the building) and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow the sum of \$97,800.00 for said appropriation under applicable sections of Chapter 44 Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes therefor, and, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied that may be necessary for that purpose, provided, however, that the appropriation authorized hereunder shall be contingent on the approval by the voters of the town of a so-called Proposition 2-1/2 debt exclusion under General Laws c. 59, section 21C, and authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7 (9), or any other general or special law.

Article 21 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 22: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$46,672.00 to purchase a new SUV Police Cruiser for the Police Department, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow the sum of \$46,672.00 for said appropriation

under applicable sections of Chapter 44 Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes therefor.

Article 22 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rd majority

Article 23: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$46,186.00 to purchase a new SUV Administrative Vehicle for the Fire Department, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow the sum of \$46,186.00 for said appropriation under applicable sections of Chapter 44 Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds and notes therefor.

Article 23 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 24: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$28,498.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to the Norris School Capital Budget to fund the replacement of the Fire Alarm system at the Norris School.

Article 24 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 25: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$26,000.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to the Norris School Capital Budget to fund the replacement/repair of the concrete sidewalks at the Norris School.

Article 25 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 26: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer/appropriate the sum of \$92,112.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to the Police Dispatch Capital Budget to fund the replacement of the Dispatch Radio Console at the Police Department which serves Police, Fire, EMS and Highway.

Article 26 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 27: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$12,000.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to the Fire Department Capital Budget to fund the replacement of Fire Turnout Gear.

Article 27 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 28: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer/appropriate a total sum of \$44,000.00 (\$20,000.00) from the Capital Stabilization Fund and (\$24,000) from the Operating Stabilization Fund to the Library Department Capital Budget to fund the replacement of the Southampton Edwards Public Library Roof.

Article 28 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 29: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer/appropriate a total sum of \$15,025.00 from Free Cash to the Police Department Capital Budget to fund the replacement of 5 PCs with software licenses and to purchase Microsoft Office and Windows 10 software

licenses for the existing PC's which will not be replaced in the Police Department and Dispatch at this time.

Article 29 passes unanimously

Article 30: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer/appropriate a total sum of \$8,029.00 from Free Cash to the Town Hall Department Capital Budget to fund the replacement of 7 PCs complete with software licenses.

Article 30 passes unanimously

Article 31: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to amend Article XLII of the Town General by Bylaws, pursuant to the provisions of Section 53E1/2 of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as most recently amended, by inserting two new categories to the revolving funds, "Conservation Commission and Fire Chief " and specifying the departmental receipts to be credited to each fund, the departmental purposes or programs for which each fund may be expended, and the entity authorized to expend each fund, with the new language noted in italics, as per Article 31 of the Warrant for the May 7, 2019 Annual Town Meeting and to set the FY spending limits as specified in Article 31.

Article 31 passes unanimously

Article 32: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to set the limitation on expenditures for each Revolving Fund be established according to Article 32 of the May 7, 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 32 passes unanimously

Article 33: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee for fiscal year 2020 and to allocate sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund as presented in Article 33 of the Warrant of the May 7, 2019 Annual Town Meeting

Article 33 passes unanimously

Article 34: It was moved the Town to vote (a) to raise, appropriate, or transfer from available funds, accept gifts and grants and/or borrow the sum of Six Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$660,000.00) for the purpose of acquiring, for the purposes set forth below, certain property located at Pomeroy Meadow Road, Southampton, shown as Lot 1E, Lot 2E, Lot 3E, Lot 4E and Lot 5E on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Southampton, Massachusetts, Surveyed For John & Donna Gwosch," dated December 27, 2018, prepared by Heritage Surveys, Inc., recorded with the Hampshire Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 243, Page 77, containing approximately 14.382 acres of land, or to acquire one or more of the aforesaid Lots for such lesser sum as the Select Board deems to be in the best interests of the Town; provided, however, Lot 2E may be acquired pursuant to the Town's statutory right of first refusal under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 61, Section 8;

(b) that, to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow the sum of Six Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$660,000.00) in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7 and/or Chapter 44B, Section

11, and any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes therefor, and, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied;

(c) that the Select Board and/or the Board of Water Commissioners is authorized to acquire said property by gift, negotiated purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, including pursuant to the Town's statutory right of first refusal pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 61, Section 8, as may be amended, for water supply protection purposes pursuant to Chapter 40, Sections 38, 39B and 41 and subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution; and that said property shall be under the care, custody and control of the Board of Water Commissioners, and further, that pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 15B, before any portion of this property can be transferred from the Town to a different ownership or control, or to a different use, approval of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Control must be obtained;

(d) that the Select Board and/or the Board of Water Commissioners is authorized to apply for, accept and expend any funds that may be provided by the Commonwealth or other public or private sources to defray all or a portion of the costs of said acquisition, including, but not limited to, grants and/or reimbursement from the Commonwealth under a DWSP (Drinking Water Supply Protection) Grant, upon such terms and conditions as the Water Commissioners, with the approval of the Select Board, shall determine to be appropriate, and that said interests in said property be conveyed to the Town, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Sections 38, 39B and 41, as they may hereafter be amended, and other Massachusetts statutes relating to water supply purposes, said property to be managed and controlled by the Water Commissioners; and further that the Select Board and/or the Water Commissioners is authorized to submit on behalf of the Town any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from any state and/or federal programs in aid of water supply land acquisition, including but not limited to, all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from the DWSP Grant Program, and to receive and accept such grants and/or reimbursements for this purpose, and/or any grants or reimbursement programs in any way connected with the scope of this article, and to accept and expend any grants and/or reimbursements that may be provided to defray all or a portion of the costs of said acquisition, and to repay all or a portion of the sum borrowed hereunder; and that the Select Board and/or the Water Commissioners be authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any instruments, including a grant of a perpetual water supply restriction to the Commonwealth, or a non-profit corporation or trust that meets the requirements of General Laws, Chapter 184, §§31-33, as may be necessary to effect said acquisition or obtain such grant;

(e) to authorize the Select Board and the Board of Water Commissioners to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this acquisition and grant of a perpetual water supply restriction;

Article 34 passes unanimously to meet 2/3rds majority

Article 35: It was moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer Two Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$2,762.50) from Community Preservation Funds to the Cook Road Account for the payment of bill from Winding River Land Conservancy, said

funds to be transferred from Community Preservation Surcharges–Open Space Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 35 passed unanimously to meet 4/5ths majority

A motioned and seconded to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting at 10:40pm

Motion to adjourn passes unanimously

Video of Meeting can be found on Southampton Town Website under Southampton TV link.

A true copy of the minutes of the meeting

Attest:

**Lucille A Dalton,
Interim Town Clerk
Town of Southampton**

****The Annual Town meeting is the responsibility of the Town Moderator and the Town's Board of Selectmen. The Town Clerk is only responsible for setting up the workers for checking in and counting, for the swearing in of necessary individuals (i.e. Deputy Moderator) at the Town Meeting, and the recording in written manner of the minutes of the Town meeting. The Town clerk will refer to video if necessary to confirm anything questionable.**