



Annual Town Meeting
May 9, 2023
Norris School
34 Pomeroy Rd, Southhampton, MA

The Annual Town Meeting was held on May 9, 2023, Town Moderator, Robert Floyd, opened the meeting at 7:00pm with a quorum of fifty present, 176 registered voters were in attendance. There were twenty observers. The workers were Cindy Palmer, Eileen Hamel, Marion Hamel, Jane Howard, Susan Seybolt, Jane Howard and Sabina McCarthy.

After the pledge of allegiance, which was led by Commander Richard Leclerc, a brief moment of silence, welcome message, and reading a disclosure statement, Mr. Moderator proceeded to read the warrant, and return the warrant. He announced that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded. Mr. Moderator read an introduction to town meeting guidelines. It was motioned and seconded, and all voted unanimously to move forward with all articles. Moderator then asked for a motion on Article 1.

Article 1- Christine Fowles moved, and Maureen Groden seconded that the Town vote to transfer/appropriate \$222,266.00 from Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Article 1 passed unanimously.

***Moderator allowed Lucille Dalton to motion, and it was seconded to move Articles 24 Community Preservation Funding and Article 25-27 up between Articles 7 and 8 to allow those who were there with small children to not have to stay too late. Mrs. Dalton did state that she had hoped they would stay if possible but understood it was a school night. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously to move forward with all articles.**

Article 2 -Maureen Groden moved, and Francine Tishman seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$190,512.00 from Free Cash to the Operational Stabilization Account.

Article 2 passed unanimously.

Article 3- Francine Tishman moved, and Joy Piper seconded that the Town vote to transfer. \$63,504.00 from Free Cash to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Account.

Article 3-passed unanimously.

Article 4-Joy Piper moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a five-year contract for postage machine lease at Town Hall for all Town Departments presented in Article 4 of the Warrant for the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting

Article 4 passed unanimously.

Article-5 Jon Lumbra moved, and Christine Fowles seconded that the Town vote to transfer/appropriate from the Operational Stabilization Account an amount of \$350,387.00 to be used in the Operational Base Budget A for the Hampshire Regional School District Assessment for the Town of Southamptton for FY 2024 as presented in Article 5 of the Warrant for the May 9, 2023 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 5 passed unanimously meeting two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 6-Christine Fowles moved, and Joy Piper seconded that the Town raise and appropriate \$19,729,580.47 to fund all municipal departments and the public schools during fiscal year 2024, as shown in the Town’s Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 and to fix the salaries for all elected officials as shown and identified in the Column Labeled Base Budget A FY 2024 Budget, from taxation, \$17,500 from WPAT loan and \$125,000 from Ambulance Fees, and \$350,387.00 from Operational Stabilization. With these three different funding sources the total Operating Budget for FY 2024 is \$20,222,467.47.

Article 6-The Moderator read each budget line separately to be voted on:

- **General Government** \$869,379.24-passed unanimously.
- **Public Safety** \$2,142,437.42-passed unanimously.
- **Education portion was separated between:**
 - Norris \$5,391,699.18-passed unanimously.
 - Hampshire Regional \$5,602,791.00-FAILED 80 Nay 65 Yay
- **Public Works** \$1,064,411.88-passed unanimously.
- **Health & Human Services** \$168,639.64-passed unanimously.
- **Culture & Recreation** \$193,393.13-passed unanimously.
- **Employee Benefits** \$2,536,934.42-passed unanimously.
- **Debt Service-Principal** \$434,543.00-passed unanimously.
- **Debt Service-Interest** \$135,515.62-passed unanimously.

Total \$20,222,467.47

Article-7- Maureen Groden moved, and Francine Tishman seconded that the Town vote to raise and appropriate a supplemental sum of money of Three Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Five Dollars and Twenty-Nine Cents (\$332,555.29) for the purposes of funding the following departments and accounts in the operating budget for the Town: Fire/EMS Department, Police Department, Fire/EMS Department, and associated Employee Benefits for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, provided, however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of a Proposition 2 ½, so-called, override question, allowing the Town to raise the additional amount appropriated hereunder, outside the limits imposed by said Proposition 2 ½, all in accordance with M.G.L. c.59, §21C(g).

****Moderator went over the two items in which the override was covering which were Public Safety and Employee Benefits**

Public Safety \$300, 820.09 voted and passed by majority.

Employee Benefits \$ 31, 735.20 voted and passed unanimously.

• General Government	\$869,379.24
• <u>Public Safety</u>	<u>\$2,443,257.51 - \$300,820.09 Difference from budget A</u>
• Education	\$12,677,213.12
• Public Works	\$1,064,411.88
• Health & Human Services	\$168,639.64
• Culture & Recreation	\$193,393.13
• <u>Employee Benefits</u>	<u>\$2,568,669.62 - \$ 31, 735.20 Difference from Budegt A</u>
• Debt Service-Principal	\$434,543.00
• <u>Debt Service-Interest</u>	<u>\$135,515.62</u>
Total	\$20,555,022.76

Article 7-passed unanimously.

Article 8- Francine Tishman moved and Joy Piper seconded that the Town vote the budget of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund as presented in Article 8 of the Warrant for the May 9, 2023 Annual Town Meeting with \$212,833 being raised from Transfer Station Enterprise Revenues and \$19,975 to be appropriated in General Fund (Indirect Costs).

Wages	\$38,008.00
Operating Expenses	\$143,150.00
Environmental Compliance	\$11,700.00
<u>Indirect Cost</u>	<u>\$19,975.00</u>
Total	\$212,833.00

And that \$205,775.00 be raised from Transfer Station Enterprise Revenues \$7,058 to be taken from retained earnings and \$19,975 to be appropriated in General Fund (Indirect Costs): or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 8- passed unanimously.

Article 9- Joy Piper moved and Jon Lumbrá seconded see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds One Million Twenty Thousand Six Hundred Ten Dollars and Fifty-Six Cents (\$1,020,610.56) to operate the Water Enterprise, according to the following budget:

Salaries & Wages	\$305,376.24
Operating Expenses	\$228,635.32
Capital Outlay	\$ 35,000.00
Indirect Costs	\$157,599.00
Debt Services	\$ 294,000.00
Total	\$ 1,020,610.56

And that \$923,354.88 be raised from Water Enterprise Revenues, \$97,255.68 from retained earnings, and \$157,599.00 be appropriated in General Fund (Indirect Costs).
or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 9 -passed unanimously.

Article 10- Jon Lumbrá moved and Christine Fowles seconded that the Town vote to transfer an amount totaling \$11,000 within the Police Department operating budget accounts as listed in Article 10 of the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting Warrant, said sums to come from the FY 2023 accounts listed.

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>Reason</u>
\$3,000	Ed Incentive Account	Police Overtime Account	Unexpected Staff Shortages
\$3,000	Ed Incentive Account	Building Expense Acct	Unexpected Energy Costs
\$4,000	Ed Incentive Account	Police Wage Account	Unexpected Training Costs
\$1,000	Comm. Exp. Account	Police Wage Account	Unexpected Training Costs

Article 10 passed unanimously.

Article 11- Christine Fowles moved and Maureen Groden seconded that the Town vote to transfer an amount totaling \$2,759.20 within the Library Department operating budget accounts as listed in Article 11 of the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting Warrant, said sums to come from the FY 2023 accounts listed.

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>Reason</u>
\$398.17	Library Maintenance Account	Library Utilities	Unexpected Energy Costs
\$861.0	Library Wages	Library Utilities	Unexpected Energy Costs
\$1,500.00	Health Insurance	Library Utilities	Unexpected Energy Costs

Article 11-passed unanimously.

Article 12: Christine Fowles moved, and Maureen Groden seconded that the Town vote to transfer an amount totaling \$4,876.85 within the Town Wide and Municipal Department operating budget accounts as listed in Article 12 of the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting Warrant, said sums to come from the FY 2023 accounts listed.

<u>Amount</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>Reason</u>
\$1,205.39	T.H Custodial Acct	Photocopy Lease & Paper	Unexpected time to receive new. expensive copier
\$ 171.46	Admin. Expenses	Photocopy Lease & Paper	“
\$2,000.00	Health Insurance	Town Hall Gas & Elec.	Unexpected energy costs
\$1,500.00	Health Insurance	Town Hall Expenses	Unexpected repairs

said sums to come from the FY 2023 accounts listed above; or to take any other action relative.

Article 12 passed unanimously.

Article-13- Francine Tishman moved and Joy Piper seconded that the Town vote to transfer an amount totaling \$6,181.33 within the Employee Benefits Operating Budget, Workers Compensation from the Health Insurance Budget Account, said sums to come from the FY 2023 accounts as listed in Article 13 of the May 9, 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 13 passed unanimously.

Article-14- Joy Piper moved and Francine Tishman seconded that the Town vote to transfer an amount totaling \$13,000.00 to the Accounting Independent Audit Budget account from the accounts as listed in Article 14 of the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Article 14- passed unanimously.

Article-15- Jon Lumbra moved and Christine Fowles seconded that the Town vote to transfer/appropriate an amount totaling \$102,468.33 from Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation within the Fire/EMS Department Operating Budget accounts, \$250.00 to EMS Certification, \$27,500.00 to Ambulance/EMS Expense Account, \$2,500.00 to Fire/EMS Building Expense Account, \$48,314.66 to EMT Wages and \$22,153.67 to Fire Department Wages for the FY 2023 budget.

Article 15 passed unanimously.

Article-16-Christine Fowles moved, and Maureen Groden seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to a Town Hall Capital Account to fund the necessary code upgrade repairs to the Town Hall elevator.

Article 16 passed unanimously meeting two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 17- Maureen Groden moved and Christine Fowles seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$73,000.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to a Police Capital Account to fund the purchase of a Ford F-150 or equivalent pickup truck to be equipped as a cruiser as a replacement for an existing police cruiser.

Article 17 passed unanimously meeting the two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 18- Francine Tishman moved and Joy Piper seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$38,000.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to a Fire/EMS Capital Account to fund the purchase and installation of a Vehicle Exhaust Extraction Equipment to be installed at the 204 College Highway Fire/EMS Station.

Article 18 passed unanimously meeting two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 19- Joy Piper moved and Jon Lumbra seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$16,672.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to a Norris Elementary Capital Account to fund the repair & painting of the North Wing lockers.

Article 19 passed unanimously meeting two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 20- Jon Lumbra moved and Joy Piper seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$16,750.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to a Town Hall Capital Account to fund the replacement and installation of repairs to the Town Hall concrete main entrance and sidewalk and accessible walkway.

Article 20 passed unanimously meeting two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 21- Joy Piper moved and Maureen seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to take all necessary and appropriate action to establish and to maintain, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 164 (sections 34 and 47C) of the General Laws and in accordance with the rules, regulations and orders of the Department of Public Utilities and the Department of Telecommunications & Cable, a municipal lighting plant for all purposes allowable under the laws of the Commonwealth, including without limitation the operation of a telecommunications system and any related services.

Article 21 passed unanimously meeting two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 22- Maureen Groden moved and Francine Tishman seconded that the Town vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, which may be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid-litigation settlement documents, a document prepared by the Substance Abuse Bureau of the Commonwealth’s Office of Health and Human Services Department, found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download> entitled “Abatement Strategies”, and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to adopt the last paragraph of said §5B and dedicate to such fund, without further appropriation, 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town.

Article 22 Failed 60 Nays 18 Yay

Article-23- Francine Tishman moved and Joy Piper seconded that the Town vote to set the limitation on expenditures for each Revolving Fund be established according to Article 23 of the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting.

Article 23 passed unanimously.

Article-24 Sierra Simmons moved, and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee for fiscal year 2024 and to allocate sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund as presented in Article 24 of the Warrant of the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting.

Administrative Expenses.....

\$7,500

Reserves:

From FY24 Estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve \$51,925

From FY24 Estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve.... \$51,925

From FY24 Estimated revenues for Pomeroy Meadow Rd. Land \$53,800

(Pomeroy Meadow Land purchase is only a memo item, and will fulfill the 10% requirement

for Open Space Reserve.) or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 24- passed unanimously.

Article-25-Sierra Simmons moved and Christine Fowles seconded that the Town transfer the sum of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000) from Community Preservation Funds to the Conservation Commission for continued improvement of the Manhan Meadows Sanctuary trail system by completing the foot bridge over the Manhan River, said funds to be transferred from Community Preservation Surcharges–Undesignated Account.

Article 25- passed by majority.

Article 26- Sierra Simmons moved and Christine Fowles seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of sixty-five thousand (\$65,000) dollars from Community Preservation Surcharges to the Southampton Greenway Committee for the Town's local matching share of a Mass Trails Grant for the design process of the Greenway bicycle & pedestrian path, said funds to be taken from Community Preservation Surcharges – Open Space/Recreation Account.

Article 26-passed by majority.

Article 27- Sierra Simmons moved and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to transfer the sum of two hundred forty-one thousand, four hundred nineteen dollars and thirty-six cents (\$241,419.36) from Community Preservation Surcharges to the Southampton Park Commission Committee to construct a fully accessible playground at Labrie Field, said funds to be taken from Community Preservation Surcharges – Undesignated Account.

Article 27 passed unanimously.

Article 28- Joy Piper moved and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to name the East St. Bridge, in memory of John V. Garstka and provide signage thereto as set forth in Article 28 of the Warrant for the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting or take any action thereto.

Article 28 passed unanimously.

Article 29- Jon Lumbra moved and Joy Piper seconded that the Town vote to name the new accessible playground at Labrie Field, 'Maddie's Magical Playground' in memory of Maddie Schmidt and provide signage thereto as set forth in Article 29 of the Warrant for the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting or take any action thereto.

Article 29 passed unanimously.

Article 30- Christine Fowles moved and Maureen Groden seconded that the Town vote to renumber and recaption the General Bylaws of the Town by (a) assigning a chapter/article number to each of the General Bylaws; (b) renumbering each section of each bylaw accordingly; (c) inserting chapter, article, section and subsection titles; and (d) updating internal references to reflect the new numbering system, all as set forth in the Final Draft of the Code of the Town of Southampton, dated March 2023 and Article 30 of the Warrant for the May 9, 2023 Annual Town Meeting or take any action thereto.

Article 30 passed unanimously.

Article 31- Maureen Groden moved and Francine Tishman seconded that the Town accept all the changes in the Town’s General Bylaws as presented in the Final Draft of the Code of the Town of Southamptton, dated March 2023 and as set forth in Article 31 of the Warrant for the May 9, 2023 Annual Town Meeting or take any action thereto.

Article 31- passed unanimously meeting simple majority requirement.

Article 32- Francine Tishman moved and Joy Piper seconded that the Town vote to amend the Southamptton Zoning Map, ZBL Section III-B, by changing the zoning designation of a parcel of land consisting of 14.7 +/- acres and located at the Southwest corner of College Highway and Valley Road, also identified on Assessors’ Map 39, Parcel 26, and as shown on a plan prepared by Heritage Surveys, Inc., “Proposed Zone Change Area, Industrial Park (I-P) to Commercial Highway (C-H), Map 39 Parcel 26, Eugene R. Labrie, College Highway and Valley Road, Southamptton MA”, from the present zoning designation of Industrial Park (I-P) to Commercial Highway (C-H).

Article 32- passed by majority with five nays meeting two-thirds majority requirement.

Article 33- Joy Piper moved and Jon Lumbra seconded that the Town vote to adopt the renumbering and revision of the Zoning Bylaw of the Town as set forth in the Final Draft of the Zoning Bylaw dated March 2023, said renumbering and revision of the Zoning Bylaw having been done under the direction of the Planning Board, and being a compilation and comprehensive update of the present Zoning Bylaw, including amendments thereto. All Zoning Bylaws, as amended, heretofore in force shall be repealed, except that such repeal shall not affect any suit or proceeding pending as the result of an existing law, as presented in Article 33 of the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting.

Article 33 passed unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Annual Town Meeting at 9:22pm

A true copy Attest,

**Lucille A Dalton
Town Clerk**

The Annual Town Meeting can be found on the Southamptton Town website under the Southamptton TV link.

Speakers on articles:

Hrhs School Comm Chair Kim Schott

Jessica McConnell

Randall Kemp-Highway Superintendent

Vicki Moro-Finance Committee

Tammy Walunas

Juliet Locke

Jennifer Capshaw

Diane Rondeau

Todd Baker

Chief Ian Illingsworth

Chief John Workman

Town Administrator Ed Gibson

Park Commissioner Dylan Mawdsley

Selectboard Member Jon Lumbra

Selectboard Member Maureen Groden

Selectboard Member Francine Tishman

Greenway Committee Chair Aaron Tauscher

Jennifer Roberge

Art Lawrence

Kaitlin Rooks

Mark Kassis

John Sheehan

Johanna Douglas

Sierra Simmons

Michael Buehl

Handouts:

Zoning Board Map for Article 32

Zoning By law Changes 33

FY 24 Budget 6

Greenway Design Article 26

General By Laws Handout Article 31