

TOWN OF HOPEDALE - ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs met on the lawn of the Community House located at 43 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, MA 01747 on Tuesday July 21, 2020. The meeting was called under the Warrant dated the 6th day of July 2020 which was posted in accordance with Town By-Laws. Moderator Eugene Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. There were three hundred twenty-nine (329) registered voters recorded as present [a quorum being fifty (50) registered voters].

Privileges of the floor were extended to the following:

Thomas M. Daige, Fire Chief
Mark Giovanella, Police Chief
Brian Riley, Town Counsel
Karen Crebase, School Superintendent
Stephanie L'Etalien, Town Treasurer/Collector
Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick, BVT School Superintendent
Diana Schindler, Town Administrator

Eugene N. Phillips, Moderator, asked for a motion to dispense the reading of the warrant.

The motion was seconded and carried.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon the report of the Selectmen and other offices, departments, or committees of said town, or take any other action related thereto.

Brian R. Keyes, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to pass over this article.

The motion was seconded and carried

Thomas A. Wesley, Board of Selectman, gave some brief remarks regarding his 15 years of residency in the Town of Hopedale. Mr. Wesley has sold his home and will be moving so will be resigning as a member of the Board of Selectmen. He thanked the residents for their support over the years and will continue to advocate for the Town of Hopedale until his final day.

Brian R. Keyes, Board of Selectmen Chairman, thanked Selectmen Wesley and said what an honor and privilege it has been while serving with him on the Board of Selectmen. He wanted to recognize the efforts of the people that serve in this community. He started by thanking the First Responders and Fire Chief Daige and Police Chief Giovanella. He also thanked Chris Nadeau, Superintendent of the Highway Dept, for doing an absolute magnificent job, always available and on call. Lastly he thanked Karen Crebase, Superintendent of Schools, and the entire School Dept. for their efforts during these challenging times.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to M.G.L. c.41, §108, to fix the annual salary and compensation for elected Town officers in fiscal year 2021, or take any other action related thereto.

Town Clerk \$ 58,994

Brian R. Keyes, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to fix the annual salary and compensation for elected Town officers in fiscal year 2021. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of monies into and/or out of the Stabilization Fund as provided under M.G.L. c. 40, §5B, or take any other action related thereto.

Samuel J. Hockenbury, Finance Committee Chairman, moved to transfer from available Free Cash, the sum of \$373,000.00 into the Town's Stabilization Fund as provided under M.G.L. c. 40, §5B. The motion was seconded and carried 2/3rd majority

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to approve annual spending limits for FY21 for revolving funds established in the Town Bylaws, in accordance with M.G.L. c.44, s.53E1/2, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020:

| <u>Revolving Fund</u> | <u>FY21 Spending Limit</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Recycling Center | \$ 8,000 |
| Animal Control | \$ 3,500 |
| School Transportation | \$100,000 |
| Inspectional Services | \$ 25,000 |
| Senior Van | \$ 1,000 |
| COA Programs | \$ 10,000 |
| Library Revolving | \$ 2,000 |

or take any other action relative thereto.

| <u>Revolving Fund</u> | <u>FY21 Spending Limit</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Recycling Center | \$ 8,000 |
| Animal Control | \$ 3,500 |
| School Transportation | \$ 100,000 |
| Inspectional Services | \$ 25,000 |
| Senior Van | \$ 1,000 |
| COA Programs | \$ 10,000 |
| Library Revolving | \$ 2,000 |

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectmen, moved to approve annual spending limits for FY21 for revolving funds established in the Town Bylaws, in accordance with M.G.L. c.44, s.53E1/2, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020: The motion was seconded and carried unanimously

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to spend without further appropriation in accordance with M.G.L. c. 131, §40 certain sums as received in filing fees from prior fiscal years, for the fiscal year 2021, or take any other action related thereto.

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectmen, moved to authorize the Conservation Commission to spend without further appropriation in accordance with M.G.L. c. 131, §40 certain sums as received in filing fees from prior fiscal years, for the fiscal year 2021. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow a sum of money in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds, or such additional amount as is anticipated to be so provided, for the purpose of providing road paving/improvement projects, and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and expend such sum or any other sum that is or may be provided to the Town in accordance with M.G.L. c90 or any other state or federal road program for road repairs, or take any other action related thereto.

Brian R. Keyes, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to authorize the Treasurer to borrow a sum of money in anticipation of Chapter 90 State reimbursement funds, or such additional amount as is anticipated to be so provided, for the purpose of providing road paving/improvement projects, and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and expend such sum or any other sum that is or may be provided to the Town in accordance with M.G.L. c90 or any other state or federal road program for road repairs. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available Treasury funds, such sums of money as deemed necessary to defray Town charges for fiscal year 2021 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report, or take any other action related thereto.

Samuel J. Hockenbury, Finance Committee Chairman, gave a presentation to the residents

“Town Meeting Speech July 21st 2020

Good Evening,

My name is Samuel Hockenbury, and for the last two years, I have served as the chair of your Finance Committee. I have been a member for three years. I graduated at Suma Cum Laude from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with degrees in Economics and Political Science. And while at home and looking to sort out my life, I joined the Fin Com. I hoped to learn from the experience and confirm that I wanted a career in public service.

I severely underestimated the potential of the learning experience. When I started, I was determined to learn, ask tough questions, and I psyched myself up to be willing to make cuts. I did not want to be a pushover; I did not want my age leveraged against me. Day one, my mind was blown. I had never heard of proposition 2 1/2, and it's a confusing law. Even though I lived in Hopedale at that point for nearly 23 years and was engaged in my church, school, and scouting, I had no clue all the things that go on in Hopedale. The first-round robin budget day, I was overwhelmed by the information coming at me—things like the overtime and retention issues in public safety. However, I should add the amount of work that they do day to day is not just speeding tickets on 16 and the occasional fire. Our public safety personnel's time is in high demand. The library building requires new everything,

and the Town Hall is in rough shape. Both of those buildings need to be repointed by the way. But the library offers vital services to both the young and old, and the majesty of the interior alone should fill you with pride. The people who work in the Town Hall, they do the necessary grunt work to even offer the services Hopedale provides. They do so diligently and have shown tremendous effectiveness. The highway department informed me that Hopedale has somewhere around 25 miles of road, HOPEDALE. They are doing their best to hold the streets together, and they completed a Mass Works Grant proposal to redo the intersection of 16 and Hopedale Street. This January, the town was presented with the check to get that work done. The efforts that the department put forward paid off, and the people of this town and the surrounding communities will be better off for it. The Council on Aging started a bus service for seniors. This two-year-old program now helps seniors get to and from the grocery store, and helps others get to cancer treatments in Boston. The parks department works in conjunction with the various athletic programs in town to help maintain our open spaces and preserve the jewel that is the Hopedale Parklands. The Board of Health has gone through a transformation in the last few years. And in this current public health crisis, I feel they have proven their worth. And then there is, of course, the school system.

As a product of the Hopedale school system, I am amazed by how this administration has continued to find ways to advance and deepen the curriculum offered. Our graduates have graduated from one of the best schools in the country. I do not say that as a biased alumnus, but US News and World Report did. The report ranked our Junior-Senior High School 54th in Massachusetts and 1,291 of approximately 18,000 high schools nationally or otherwise stated, in the top 7%. School rankings are based on their performance on state-required tests, graduation rates, and how well they prepare students for college. And in terms of per-pupil expenditure, we are among the lowest in the State. That is a credit to the administration, the staff, the faculty, the students, the parents, and frankly, this community. I say these things because when you look at your tax bill, I understand the impotence to say, well, what am I getting for that? I recognize that people feel their taxes are exorbitant. I also realize that the word override being involved in every discussion around the budget for the last three years makes it seem like we're spinning out of control. And it is that fear that has people's backs up.

Let me briefly explain some of the major trends that have gotten us here. Since 2009, the recommended budget in real terms, which means adjusting for inflation, reflects a 20% growth. This growth has been driven in principal by health insurance, union wages, and contracted services like trash. The tax levy has grown by nearly 50% in real terms over the same period, assuming the budget passes. The issue is with current projections of State aid, reflects a 23% drop in real terms. Our local receipts have also declined with time. It is the losses from non-property-tax based revenue sources that have strained our budgets in recent years. Now I can't sit here and say that Hopedale is blameless and lay everything at the feet of the State. Our masterplan is 13 years old and predates the Great Recession of 2008-2009. A 2006 financial analysis report from the State has recommendations that are still relevant today. The good news is, we have a new master planning committee. The new administrator has the experience and ideas to implement the proper financial planning policies the town needs. That does not mean that everything is hunky-dory, but the pieces are in place to move us forward.

We all want what is best for ourselves and this town. There is something special about Hopedale. I have lived here my whole life but compared to the people who are 3rd generation residents, I'm still new here. I have no memory of the mill being anything but an empty building. And while we can talk at great length about Hopedale's past, the good old days, and the mistakes it has made along the way. Tonight, however, is about the here and now. What lies before us, and what does tomorrow bring.

The recommended budget the finance committee voted on, that the Board of Selectmen endorsed, and that I hope this body passes, was a struggle to develop. For me, the tension has been between preserving the shoestring budgets of our departments, paying the bills, surviving the hemorrhaging of receipts from other revenue streams, and not burying the taxpayers with too obscene an invoice. And I know \$1.3 million seems obscene, but I have contemplated overrides over \$2 million during this cycle. There are no right answers. The development of the community, growing out the commercial base, lowering our health insurance costs, potentially finding more work efficiencies, these things are on the need-to-do list. However, this year they didn't make it to the done column. The devastation of the economy from the virus has made this tension all that much harder. This budget demands departments to stop just short of service reduction and job losses. It does not allow for raises, it shrinks expenses by a challenging but not painful 2%, eliminates stipends for elected and appointed officials, and then pays the bills that we owe. That's the budget, that's it. The budget is a 1.6% increase over last year. Last year's budget grew by 3.5%. So, while last year's override seems, in hindsight, to be a reasonable 430k, this year's at three times that covers a

budget that grew at half the rate. That 1.6% growth fits into the calculation of proposition 2 1/2. Had our receipts stayed level, there would be no override with this budget. We suffered at least \$650,000 projected to be lost in State Aid, \$200,000 in free cash is no longer available to float the budget and a loss of \$130,000 in local receipt projections. Just those three revenue streams drying up, amount to more than a million dollars. The increases for BVT, health insurance, and retirement, we found the cuts to pay for them. This year was just awful. What lends itself to hope for the future, is that maybe we don't lose revenue at the same rate for next year, or even get some back. Perhaps the federal government comes through, and we can get more aid than expected. Conceivably, the town can reduce its insurance premium share with employees. Possibly, the cannabis facilities will have a chance to start up soon enough that we can start to count on *some* of that money in next year's budget. Things, however, could also be worse, I don't have the crystal ball to tell you the answer. I have faith that the new administrator with a full year can help start leading the way for the town to get out of this quagmire. I think the Selectboard is energized by bringing business to town and has done work to get the white whale of commercial development in town underway. Or maybe I have been a lousy talisman, and with my leaving this post to pursue graduate studies means everything lines up for Hopedale. I don't know. There are things to be optimistic about, and there are still anxieties too. But let's not get caught up in the idea that Hopedale is broke, or living extravagantly beyond its means, because of proposition 2 1/2. We are the deciders. We get to say what kind of budget we want and what we are willing to pay to make that happen. If this body decides that we are living too large and we need to cut back from what we've been doing, so be it. But I urge you all to look around and think critically about what you want to live without. This budget is the price tag, and I am more than happy to answer every question you all may have to the best of my ability. If I don't know, I will call upon someone who can. I don't want anyone here tonight to feel I tricked them, but I cannot help if you sense this information more generally was designed scared you. The material is scary. I have and will continue to be as honest as possible with you. But together, as a community, we will get through tonight, and we will create a better tomorrow. Thank you."

Samuel J. Hockenbury, Finance Committee Chairman, moved the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,258,361 as deemed necessary to defray town charges for FY 2021 as contained in the Finance Committee Budget Report. Sam read each line item in the FY21 Budget which totaled \$25,344,877.00. Residents placed holds on Coordinator, Reserve Fund, Town Counsel, Town Clerk, Elections, Computer, Police, Building Inspector, Plumbing Inspector, Electrical Inspector, Dog Officer, School Dept, Highway, Health Officer, Library, Debt Service, BVT, Health and Life Ins. Premiums, and other Unclassified Expenses. All line items without holds were seconded and carried. After some discussion on the Town Counsel and Reserve Fund budgets Mr. Michael Bresciani made a motion that was was seconded and carried to reduce Town Counsel by \$10,000.00 bringing it to \$40,000.00 and increase Reserve Fund by \$10,000.00 bringing that line to \$35,000.00. After discussions on all the items put on hold on the Budget that totaled \$25,344,877, a vote was taken, and each was seconded and carried.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town of Hopedale will be allowed to assess an additional amount of funds in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Town's Operational Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1st, 2020, with such additional amount to be contingent upon approval by the voters of the Town at an election of a Proposition 2 ½, so-called, override question, pursuant to G.L. c.59, §21C, or take any other action related thereto.

Samuel J. Hockenbury, Finance Committee Chairman, moved to assess the additional sum of \$1,326,321 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the Town's Contingent Budget (Column B, Recommended FY21 Budget) for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1st, 2020, with such additional amount to be contingent upon approval by the voters of the Town at an election of a Proposition 2 ½, so-called, override question, pursuant to G.L. c.59, §21C. the motion was seconded, a resident made a motion for a paper ballot to be used for the vote which was seconded not carried, Eugene Phillips, Moderator, made a motion to close the

discussion which was seconded and carried, and returned to the original motion which was then seconded, and carried.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to accept Sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, otherwise known as the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, by approving a surcharge on real property for the purposes permitted by said Act, including the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources, the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use, the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing, and the rehabilitation and restoration of such open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created as provided under said Act; to determine the amount of such surcharge on real property as a percentage of the annual real estate tax levy against real property; to determine whether the Town will accept any of the exemptions from such surcharge permitted under Section 3(e) of said Act; or to take any other action related thereto.

Brian R. Keyes, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to accept Sections 3 to 7, inclusive, of Chapter 44B of the General Laws, otherwise known as the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act, by approving a one percent (1%) surcharge on real property for the purposes permitted by said Act, including the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space, the acquisition, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources, the acquisition, creation and preservation of land for recreational use, the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing, and the rehabilitation and restoration of such open space, land for recreational use and community housing that is acquired or created as provided under said Act; and further to exempt from the surcharge the real estate tax on \$100,000 of the assessed valuation of Class One, Residential parcels. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote a sum of money to be authorized to fund the Water Department Budget for fiscal year 2021 by offset receipts, or take any other action related thereto.

Edward J. Burt, Water and Sewer Commissioner, moved to amend the original article which read: to appropriate the sum of \$1,205,032.00 for the Town's Water Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2021, beginning July 1, 2020, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c.44, §53F½, amount to be funded from the following sources:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| User Fees | \$655,718 |
| Assessments | \$460,714 |
| Connection & Other Fees | \$88,600 |
| Total Revenues | \$1,205,032 |

To be expended as follows:

Direct

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Salaries & Wages | \$291,948 |
| Expenses | \$303,040 |
| Capital Outlay | \$32,000 |
| Debt & Interest | \$361,258 |
| Emergency Reserve | \$100,000 |
| Subtotal | \$ 1,088,246 |

Indirect

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Retirement/Pension | \$34,996 |
| Workers Compensation | \$6,199 |
| Medicare | 0 |
| Health Insurance | \$50,307 |
| Liability Insurance | \$9,155 |
| Accounting Dept | \$5,502 |
| Treasurer | \$10,127 |
| Subtotal | \$ 116,786 |

Total Expenditures **\$ 1,205,032**

AMENDED MOTION

Edward J. Burt, Water and Sewer Commissioner, moved to appropriate the sum of \$1,280,031 for the Town's Water Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2021, beginning July 1, 2020, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44 §53F1/2, amount to be funded from the following sources:

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Retained Earnings | \$75,000 |
| User Fees | \$672,528 |
| Assessments | \$460,503 |
| Connection & Other Fees | \$72,000 |
| Total Revenues | \$1,280,031 |

To be expended as follows:

Direct

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Salaries & Wages | \$291,948 |
| Expenses | \$403,040 |
| Capital Outlay | \$32,000 |
| Debt & Interest | \$361,257 |
| Emergency Reserve | \$75,000 |
| Subtotal | \$ 1,163,245 |

Indirect

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Retirement/Pension | \$34,996 |
| Workers Compensation | \$6,199 |
| Medicare | 0 |
| Health Insurance | \$50,307 |
| Liability Insurance | \$9,155 |
| Accounting Dept | \$5,502 |
| Treasurer | \$10,127 |
| Subtotal | \$ 116,786 |

Total Expenditures **\$ 1,280,031**

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote a sum of money to be authorized to fund the Sewer Department Budget for fiscal year 2021 by offset receipts, or take any other action related thereto.

Edward J. Burt, Water and Sewer Commissioner, moved to appropriate the sum of \$1,483,152.00 for the Town's WWTP/Sewer Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 2021, beginning July 1, 2020, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c.44, §53F½, amount to be funded from the following sources: The motion was seconded and carried.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| User Fees | \$893,000 |
| Assessments | \$580,852 |
| Connection & Other Fees | \$9,300 |
| Total Revenues | \$1,483,152 |

To be expended as follows:

Direct

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Salaries & Wages | \$345,515 |
| Expenses | \$465,800 |
| Capital Outlay | \$140,000 |
| Debt & Interest | \$439,699 |
| Emergency Reserve | 0 |
| Subtotal | \$1,391,015 |

Indirect

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Retirement/Pension | \$23,763 |
| Workers Compensation | \$6,199 |
| Medicare | 0 |
| Health Insurance | \$36,991 |
| Liability Insurance | \$9,155 |
| Lock Box | \$500 |
| Accounting Dept | \$5,502 |
| Treasurer | \$10,027 |
| Subtotal | \$92,137 |

Total Expenditures **\$ 1,483,152**

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote a sum of money to be authorized to fund the Ambulance Department Budget for fiscal year 2021 by offset receipts, or take any other action related thereto.

Thomas A. Wesley, Board of Selectman, moved to vote a sum of money to be authorized to fund the Ambulance Department Budget for fiscal year 2021 by offset receipts. The motion was seconded and carried.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town of Hopedale will vote to increase the availability of tax exemptions to senior citizens owning real property pursuant to G. L. Ch. 59 § 5, Clause 41C, as authorized under Section 51 of Chapter 184 of the Acts of 2002 of the General Court, by approving an increase in the value of the tax exemption, from \$758.33 to \$775.77, or take any other action relative thereto.

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman, moved to increase the availability of tax exemptions to senior citizens owning real property pursuant to G. L. Ch. 59 § 5, Clause 41C, as authorized under Section 51 of Chapter 184 of the Acts of 2002 of the General Court, by approving an increase in the value of the tax exemption, from \$758.33 to \$775.77. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town of Hopedale will vote to increase the availability of tax exemptions to surviving spouse, minor child, elderly person owning real property pursuant to G. L. Ch. 59 § 5, Clause 17D, by approving an increase in the value of the tax exemption, from \$254.28 to \$260.13, or take any other action relative thereto.

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman, moved to increase the availability of tax exemptions to surviving spouse, minor child, elderly person owning real property pursuant to G. L. Ch. 59 § 5, Clause 17D, by approving an increase in the value of the tax exemption, from \$254.28 to \$260.13. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay prior year bills, or take any other action related thereto.

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman moved to pass over this motion. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 64N Section 3 which will allow the Town to impose a local sales tax upon the sale or transfer of marijuana or marijuana products by a marijuana retailer operating within the Town to anyone other than a marijuana establishment at a rate not greater than three (3) percent of the total sales price received by the marijuana retailer, or take any other action relative thereto.

Brian R. Keyes, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 64N, Section 3 which will allow the Town to impose a local sales tax upon the sale or transfer of marijuana or marijuana products by a marijuana retailer operating within the Town to anyone other than a marijuana establishment at a rate of three (3) percent of the total sales price received by the marijuana retailer. The motion was seconded and carried.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to enact a chapter of the Town of Hopedale's General Bylaws, to be inserted and numbered sequentially, entitled "Stretch Energy Code" for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy, pursuant to Appendix 115.AA of the Massachusetts Building Code, 780 CMR, the Stretch Energy Code, including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, with an effective date of January 1, 2021, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.

Thomas A. Wesley, Board of Selectman, made a motion to dispense reading the article which was seconded and carried. Mr. Wesley then moved to enact the following chapter, to be inserted and numbered sequentially, into the Town of Hopedale's General Bylaws, draft attached, entitled "Stretch Energy Code" for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy, pursuant to Appendix 115.AA of the Massachusetts Building Code, 780 CMR, the Stretch Energy Code, including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, with an effective date of January 1, 2021, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, this motion was seconded and carried.

Stretch Energy Code
[Article 17, 7/21/2020 ATM]

§ _____. Definitions.

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE (IECC) — The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building energy code created by the International Code Council. It is a model code adopted by many state and municipal governments in the United States for the establishment of minimum design and construction requirements for energy efficiency and is updated on a three-year cycle. Since July 1, 2010, the baseline energy conservation requirements of the Massachusetts State Building Code defaulted to the latest published edition, the IECC 2009, with Massachusetts amendments as approved by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards.

STRETCH ENERGY CODE — Codified by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards as 780 CMR Appendix 115.AA of the 8th edition Massachusetts building code, the Stretch Energy Code is an appendix to the Massachusetts building code, based on further amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to improve the energy efficiency of buildings built to this code.

§ _____. Purpose.

The purpose of 780 CMR 115.AA is to provide a more energy efficient alternative to the base energy code applicable to the relevant sections of the building code for both new construction and existing buildings.

§ _____. Applicability.

This code applies to residential and commercial buildings. Buildings not included in this scope shall comply with 780 CMR 13, 34, or 51 as applicable.

§ _____. Authority.

The Town of Hopedale, seeking to ensure that construction within its boundaries is designed and built above the energy efficiency requirements of 780 CMR, mandate adherence to this appendix.

§ _____. Stretch Code incorporated by reference.

The Stretch Code, as codified by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards as 780 CMR Appendix 115.AA, including any future editions, amendments or modifications, and is herein incorporated by reference into the Town of Hopedale's bylaws.

§ _____. Enforcement.

This bylaw shall be enforced by the Building Commissioner in accordance with 780 CMR.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund capital repairs to the Police Station roof and the Bancroft Memorial Library roof, or take any other action relative thereto.

Samuel J. Hockenbury, Finance Committee Chairman, moved to transfer from available Free Cash the sum of \$12,500.00 to fund capital repairs to the Police Station roof and the sum of \$100,000.00 to fund capital repairs to the Bancroft Memorial Library roof. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.


ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws and its Zoning Map accordingly for Parcels known as 4, 6, and 8 Charlesview Road currently zoned GB-A, which shall be zoned Commercial, or take any other action relative thereto.

Stephen J. Chaplin, Planning Board member, moved to amend the Hopedale Zoning Map parcels known as 4, 6, and 8 Charlesview Road (parcel IDs 24-44-0, 24-43-0, 24-42-0 respectively), currently zoned GB-A, which shall be zoned Commercial. After some discussion the motion was seconded and carried 2/3rd vote.

Eugene Phillips thanked the town residents and town officials for their attendance. A motion to dissolve the Warrant was made and seconded. Meeting was dissolved at 9:06 pm.

A True Record

Attest:



Lisa M. Pedrolu, Town Clerk

