

**Town of Hopedale - Special Town Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday June 19, 2018 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening**  
**in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School**

The inhabitants of the Town of Hopedale qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs met in the Dennett Auditorium of the Junior/Senior High School on Tuesday June 19, 2018. The meeting was called under the Warrant dated the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018 which was posted in accordance with Town By-Laws. Moderator Eugene Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM. There were two hundred twenty (220) registered voters recorded as present [a quorum being fifty (50) registered voters].

Moderator Eugene Phillips swore in Ernie Chaplin, James Morin, Michael Collins and Gerard Small as tellers.

Privileges of the floor were extended to the following:

Steven Sette, Town Administrator  
Stephanie L'Etalien, Town Treasurer/Collector  
Lauren Goldberg, Town Counsel  
Karen Crebase, School Superintendent  
Mark Giovanella, Police Chief  
Thomas M. Daige, Fire Chief  
Ann Fields, Director of Bancroft Memorial Library  
Bob DePonte, Department of Public Works  
Robert Speroni, Building Commissioner  
Linda Hixon, LHDSC  
Zach Washburn, LHDSC

Moderator Eugene Phillips made some comments regarding the meeting tonight: informed all non-voting individuals need to be seated up front to the left of the podium, if an amendment is made to any motion there are amendments sheets that need to be filled out and submitted to the Town Clerk, the Moderator explained that Article 5 will be asking to approve a by-law for a Historical District which is outlined on the yellow paper, he asked that residents read the by-law associated with Article 5 in case a motion to dispense with the reading of the warrant was made, many of the votes taken tonight will require a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote and he explained the Moderator, per town by-law, has the authority to declare that vote, and he also congratulated the girls and boys tennis teams along with the girls soft ball team who won the Districts and will be moving on to the states.

Moderator Eugene Phillips led the Town Meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked the residents to pause for a moment of silence for all the residents that have passed before us.

Karen Crebase, Superintendent of Schools, gave a brief presentation about the school's budget. She went on to highlight where the school stands as far as budgets and stated that Hopedale is rated as one of the top performing schools in the Blackstone Valley among school districts.

Thomas A. Wesley, Selectman and member of the Urban Renewal Downtown Revitalization Committee, gave a presentation of the plan update, this including what the Urban Renewal Plan is, a timeline of when plan will begin, and the next steps including the first of a public hearing to be held in July. Members of this committee are very excited with the plans which hope to encourage growth and revenue for the town.

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman Chairman, informed the residents of the plans moving forward concerning the budgets for the Town. The Selectman delayed action on financial articles from the Annual Town Meeting to this Special Town Meeting to allow time to properly analyze and address the Town's financial situation for not only this year, but the next couple years. They have worked closely with the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, School Committee, Town Administrator and other Town financial officials to come up with various options for the Town.

The one that they have decided to present first does not require an override, and instead involves moving certain current Town and School capital items to a proposed borrowing and having the School Committee, with its full agreement and cooperation, pledge a non-recurring funding source to help the Town close its budget gap. This plan is what residents are being asked to address under Article 4. If Article 4 passes, they will then offer the operating budget for FY19 set forth on the handout entitled "FY19 Budget with Reductions".

If this Town Meeting chooses not to approve Article 4, they will be presenting the reduced budget for FY19 and also requesting approval of an override budget, so that we are able to provide residents with the services to which they are accustomed. The override purpose and amount are as shown on the handout under the column entitled "Override Budget" (OVR). As such, they are asking for residents to vote first on Article 4 so they know how to proceed on Article 2. The Selectman would like residents to vote yes on the motion to take Article 4 before Article 2.

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to change the order of consideration of Article 4 and take it prior to Article 2.

***The motion was seconded and carried.***

**Article 1:** Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to vote, pursuant to the Personnel Administration Bylaw, Chapter XXII-B, to amend the Classification and Compensation grid for non-union Town employees as stated in Article 9 of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, and to raise and appropriate to adjust by 2% the annual salary paid to each employee as suggested by and adopted in Article 9 of the May 20, 2014 Annual Town Meeting and authorize the Town Accountant to allocate such funds to appropriate departments.

***The motion was seconded and carried.***

**Article 4:** Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to appropriate the sum of \$2,500,000 for the purchase and equipping of the capital items and projects listed below in the amounts and for the purposes specified, and for all incidental and related expenses, with each line to be considered a separate appropriation, and, to the extent applicable to authorize lease purchase agreements for periods up to or in excess of three years, as follows:

DEPARTMENT	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Police	100,000	Cruisers/cruiser equipment
Town Clerk	25,000	Voting Machines
Library	150,000	Building Repairs
Fire	375,000	Vehicle Engines/Pumper
Highway	500,000	Road Equipment including Front End Loader, Backhoe, Pickup Truck, Dump Truck
Highway/Parks	25,000	Lawn Mower
Highway	1,100,000	Town Road Construction/reconstruction
School	225,000	Building, HVAC, Boiler, HVAC Lighting, Bus Lease, IT Needs, Security upgrades, Flooring.

and as funding therefor, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum in accordance with G.L. c.44, §§7 or 8 or any other enabling authority and issue bonds and notes therefor, and further, that any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance therefor, may, in accordance with G.L. c.44, §20, be applied to the payment of costs approved hereunder, thereby reducing by a like amount the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs.

*The motion was seconded and carried, 2/3rd majority.*

**Article 2:** Karla J. Hopkins, Finance Committee Chairman, moved to raise and appropriate \$14,427,287 transfer from overlay reserves \$75,000, transfer \$237,091 from Certified Free Cash, and utilize \$158,956, from so-called "School Choice" funds with the approval and cooperation of the School Committee, to defray Town charges for FY 2019 as contained in the handout entitled "FY19 Budget with Reductions".

**Karla read each line item in the FY 19 Budget and all line items without holds were seconded and carried.** Residents placed holds on Elections Salary and Wages Permanent, Zoning Board Salaries Permanent, Computer, and Fire. There was some discussion regarding Zoning Board Salaries and \$500.00 was added which increased the line item to \$1,400.00, **Karla moved to amend Article 2 to raise and appropriate an addition \$500.00 to be added to the Salary Line from \$900 to \$1,400.00 making the total of the Zoning Board \$5,780.00. After each held item a vote was taken and each was seconded and carried.**

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote a sum of money to be authorized to fund the Ambulance Department Budget for fiscal year 2019 by offset receipts, or take any other action related thereto.

*Motion to pass over this article was made and seconded.*

**Article 5:** Suzan Ciaramicoli, Local Historic District Study Committee, moved to vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40C, §3, to amend the General Bylaws by inserting the new bylaw as contained in this meeting's handout, Local Historic Districts, to regulate the establishment of historic districts in the Town.

*The motion was seconded and carried, 2/3rd majority.*

**Article 6:** Suzan Ciaramicoli, Local Historic District Study Committee, moved that the following (6) proposed Local Historic Districts be presented individually and approved individually; they are single building districts, 1.) 12 Hopedale Street (Little Red Shop); 2.) 405 South Main Street (Harmony Hall-Green Store, now known as The Community Bible Chapel); 3.) 25 Hopedale Street (Draper Corporation Headquarters, now known as Atria Draper Place); and the following multiple property districts, 4.) the Hopedale Center District (multiple properties, both Town Owned and private); 5.) the Seven Sisters District (multiple properties); and 6.) the Bancroft Park District (multiple properties) not to include 80 Bancroft Park and 12 Rear Bancroft Park.

Suzan Ciaramicoli, Local Historic District Study Committee, moved to vote to approve the following proposed Local Historic District 6-1.) 12 Hopedale Street (Little Red Shop)

*The motion was seconded and carried, 2/3rd majority.*

Suzan Ciaramicoli, Local Historic District Study Committee, moved to vote to approve the following proposed Local Historic District 6-2.) 405 South Main Street (Harmony Hall-Green Store, now known as The Community Bible Chapel)

***The moderator called for a standing vote and the motion failed. 97 opposed 59 in favor.***

Steve Sette, Town Administrator, made a motion to amend the existing motion and pass over this article, as the owners of the building have requested they be taken out of consideration. 6-3. 25 Hopedale Street (Draper Corporation Headquarters, now known as Atria Draper Place. Owner of Atria Draper Place asked the Town to remove them from the Historic District Proposal.

***The motion was seconded and carried majority vote.***

Brian Keyes, Board of Selectman, moved to amend the existing motion and pass over this article. 6-4.) The Hopedale Center District (multiple properties, both Town Owned and private) The Hopedale Community Center and Draper Gym properties asked to be removed from the Historic District Proposal.

***The motion was seconded and carried majority vote.***

Moderator Eugene Phillips, moved to vote to approve the following proposed Local Historic District 6-5.) the Seven Sisters District (multiple properties) – after numerous comments were expressed with the concern of approving properties of those residents that were not present, Moderator Eugene Phillips took a vote, motion failed.

***The motion failed.***

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman Chair, moved to vote to approve the following proposed Local Historic District 6-6.) The Bancroft Park District (multiple properties) not to include 80 Bancroft Park and 12 Rear Bancroft Park. After much discussion residents again had concern for approving a district that wasn't represented by the residents at this meeting. Louis J. Arcudi III made an amendment to pass over this section of the article.

***The motion was seconded and carried majority vote.***

Louis J. Arcudi III, Board of Selectman Chairman, moved to amend Article 6 to add 12 Hopedale Street, Little Red Shop as a Local Historic District hereunder to the by-law approved under Article 5.

***The motion was seconded and carried unanimous.***

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer certain sums of money from certain accounts to others to adjust the fiscal year 2018 operating budget, or take any other action related thereto.

***Motion to pass over this article was made and seconded.***

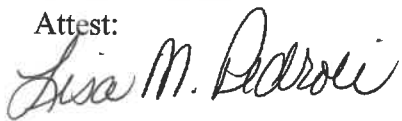
**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds a sum of money to pay prior year bills (pre-7/1/17), or take any other action related thereto.

***Motion to pass over this article was made and seconded.***

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 9:15 pm.

A True Record

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa M. Pedrolu".

Lisa M. Pedrolu, Town Clerk