

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF GRAFTON

SEMI-ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

OCTOBER 19, 2009

The Semi-Annual Town Meeting for the Town of Grafton was held on Monday, October 19, 2009 in the John Fitzgerald Memorial Auditorium of the Grafton High School.

Upon order of the Moderator Roger Trahan, 4 Old Upton Road, checkers were stationed at the entrances to the hall, using voting lists on which to check the names of those persons who entered.

The Moderator opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Christopher LeMay led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Trahan pointed out the emergency exits.

Elias Hanna, 58 Brigham Hill Road, of the Economic Development Commission, awarded the Business of the Year Award to Floral Elegance. Accepting the award on behalf of Floral Elegance was owner Beverly McClure.

The Moderator advised all present of the procedures used during Town Meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. LeMay to ratify Mr. Trahan's appointment of Daniel Concaugh, 53 Old Upton Road as Deputy Moderator. The motion carried.

Maureen Clark read the return of the warrant.

ARTICLE 1. HEAR REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEE

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay it was voted that any committee who wishes to make a report be granted 10 minutes to do so.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Richard McCarthy of 190 Old Westboro Road gave a report from the School Building Committee.

ARTICLE 2. BALANCE FY10 BUDGET

Upon motion of Mary Ann Cotton, 40 Pleasant Street, it was voted to transfer:

- \$40,000 from DPW Department Head Salaries to Town Administrator Professional Technical line item;
- \$14,000 from Hydrant Rental line item to Treasurer/Collector Department head salary line item;
- \$10,000 from Engineering Department Head Salaries to Tax Title line item;
- \$30,000 from DPW Department Head Salaries to Unemployment Fund;
- \$10,518 from Sewer Betterments to Interest on Long-Term Debt;

Furthermore, I move that the Town vote to Raise and Appropriate:

- \$6,240 for Interest on Short-Term Debt (for Feasibility Study)
- \$17,437.50 for Interest on Long-Term Debt (for Modulars)
- \$75,000 for Principal on Long-Term Debt (for Modulars)

For the purpose of balancing the FY10 Budget by balancing line items within certain accounts.

David Libbey, Chairman of the Finance Committee, advised that the Committee has reconsidered and now support passage of this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 3. PRIOR FISCAL YEAR BILLS

Upon motion of Peter Adams, it was voted to transfer from Hydrant Rental the following sums of money to pay bills incurred in a prior fiscal year.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------|
| DPW | "Cronatron" | \$542.09 |
| Building Inspector | "Thomas West" | \$176.40 |
| GIS | "Applied Geographic" | \$375.00 |
| Board of Selectmen | "Old Colony" | \$233.94 |
| Board of Selectmen | "Old Colony" | \$123.10 |
| Board of Selectmen | "Old Colony" | \$290.58 |

Total \$1,741.11

The Moderator declared the motion, which required a four-fifths vote, carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 4. AMEND TOWN OF GRAFTON – PERSONNEL BY-LAW

Upon motion of Craig Dauphinais, it was voted to modify the personnel by-law by:

Adopting Sections 4-8, 4-13, 4-19, and 4-23 as printed in the warrant;
Section 4-14 has been omitted;
Section 4-25 has been omitted;

David Libbey, 44 George Hill Road, Chair of the Finance Committee advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered this article and now supports passage.

Craig Brazell, 18 Danielle Drive, Chair of the Personnel Advisory Committee, advised that the Personnel Advisory Committee supports passage of this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 5. EASEMENT BROOK MEADOW VILLAGE

Upon motion of Brook Padgett, it was voted to pass over this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 6. SEWER – TRANSFER TO MINOR SEWER EXTENSION ACCOUNT

Upon motion of Gerald LeBlanc, 106 Elmwood Street, it was voted to transfer \$6,000.00 from Account "GIS Improve Layers", \$87.37 from Account "Arcadia Pump Station", \$8,615.00 from Account "Masonry Block Account" and \$3,450.00 from Account, "Article 9, 5/08-Pickup/Plow" to Account entitled "Minor Sewer Extension".

Mr. Libbey advised that Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 7. SEWER – STAGE 2 PLAN & DESIGN

Upon motion of Gerald LeBlanc, it was voted to transfer \$70,000.00 from the sewer betterments to stage two plan and design.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports this article for \$70,000.00.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 8. SEWER – WATER POLLUTION FACILITY PROJECTS

Upon motion of Gerald LeBlanc, it was voted to appropriate \$650,000 for the purpose of financing the following water pollution facility projects: construction or reconstruction of sewers, sewer systems, and sewage treatment and disposal facilities for stage 2 of the Town's sewer system on North Street, from just below the Grafton Middle School to Stonegate Circle, and Cold Spring Drive; including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; to meet said appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow \$650,000 in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 7, Clause 1; of the Massachusetts General Laws; the Sewer Commissioners are authorized to apply for, accept and expend any state and/or federal funds that may be available for the purposes of this vote, said sums to be expended in addition to the amount appropriated herein, and further the Board of Sewer Commissioners are hereby authorized to assess betterments for the cost to the Town for the cost of installation of said sewers and surface drains on the land owners abutting said ways. Said betterments shall be assessed according to frontage of such land on any way in which a sewer is constructed, and be subject to an interest rate of five percent (5%) that the Board of Sewer Commissioners or other appropriate local body or official is authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to the projects; and that the Board of Sewer Commissioners is authorized to expend all funds available for the projects and to take any other action necessary to carry out the projects.

The Moderator declared the motion carried by the required two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE 9. WRTA SENIOR VAN FUNDING

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay, it was voted to transfer \$2,000 from Hydrant rentals account to the Council on Aging Transportation Revolving account.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports Article 9 for the sum of \$2,000.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Mr. Trahan recognized the presence of our State Representative, Mr. George Peterson.

ARTICLE 10. SENIOR PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM

Upon motion of Michelle Drumm, 175 Providence Road, it was voted to accept Chapter 59, Section 5k, as amended by Chapter 27 of the Acts of 2009, and increase the dollar limit from \$750 to \$1,000 further provide that the amount of such deduction shall be increased from time to time without further town meeting action to the allowable state maximum dollar amount under the Board of Selectmen's authority.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 11. TOWN CLERK – SPECIAL ELECTION

Upon motion of Mary Ann Cotton, it was voted to pass over this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 12. BY-LAW CHANGE – SOLICITING OR CANVASSING

Upon motion of Normand Crepeau, 26 Barbara Jean Street, it was voted to amend Article 12, Section 19 of the General By-laws as printed in the warrant.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 13. CPC – CPA PURPOSES

Upon motion of John Stephens, 81 Potter Hill Road, it was voted to reserve \$255,500 from FY2010 Community Preservation Fund reserves for FY2010 Community Preservation Fund purposes.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports this Article for \$255,500.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 14. CPC - AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE

Upon motion of John Stephens, it was voted to reserve \$39,286 from FY2010 Community Preservation Fund reserves for Community Housing purposes.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports this Article for \$39,286.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 15. CPC - OPEN SPACE RESERVE

Upon motion of John Stephens, it was voted to reserve \$39,286 from FY2010 Community Preservation Fund reserves for Open Space purposes.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports this Article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 16. CPC - HISTORIC PRESERVATION RESERVE

Upon motion of John Stephens, it was voted to reserve the sum of \$39,286 from FY2010 Community Preservation fund reserves for Historic Preservation purposes.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports this Article for \$39,286.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Mr. Trahan stepped down and the Deputy Moderator, Daniel Concaugh took over the meeting.

ARTICLE 17. CPC - GRAFTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ACCESS RAMP

Upon motion of Joann Duncan, 6 Apple Ridge Lane, it was voted to appropriate the sum of \$172,000 from the fund balance for CPA purposes for the purpose of improving handicap accessibility of the Grafton Public Library while preserving the historic structure in accordance with Massachusetts Historical Commission requirements as requested by the Board of Library Trustees with such approval to expire on June 30, 2011.

David Ross, 17 Indian Path, advised that the Finance Committee has reconsidered and now supports passage of this Article for \$172,000.

The Deputy Moderator declared the motion carried.

Mr. Trahan returned to the podium at this time.

ARTICLE 18. CPC - OLD GRAFTON TOWN HOUSE FIRE ESCAPE RESTORATION

Upon motion of Paul Scarlett, 47 Carroll Road, it was voted to appropriate \$75,000 from the CPA undesignated fund balance for the restoration of fire escapes as part of the historic

restoration of the Grafton Town House as requested by the Grafton Town House Oversight Committee with such approval to expire on June 30, 2011.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 19. CPC - OLD GRAFTON TOWN HOUSE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

Upon motion of Paul Scarlett, it was voted to appropriate the sum of \$9,800 from the CPA undesignated fund balance for the completion of design plans and construction specifications for the historical restoration of the exterior of the Grafton Town House as requested by the Grafton Town House Oversight Committee.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 20. CPC – PELL FARM BOND -PAYMENT

Upon motion of Joann Duncan, it was voted to appropriate the sum of \$39,286 from the Open Space Reserve and \$51,932.75 from the fund balance for CPA purposes for the purpose of making the first year interest and principle payment on the \$1.2 Million bond issued for the purchase of the Pell Farm property.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 21. BLACKSTONE VALLEY TECHNICAL SCHOOL STABILIZATION FUND

Upon motion of Peter Adams, it was voted to pass over this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 22. MONEY TO THE STABILIZATION FUND

Upon motion of Craig Dauphinais, it was voted to pass over this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 23. MUNICIPAL CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

Upon motion of Brook Padgett, it was voted to pass over this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 24. AMEND ZONING BY-LAW – RECREATIONAL USES

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay, it was voted to amend the Zoning By-law as printed in warrant of this Town Meeting except for the following:

Section 2.1, Definitions: amend the definition of "Professional Office: to read as follows (new language in bold):

"An office of recognized professions such as doctors, lawyers, massage/muscular therapists **licensed by the appropriate boards/commissions with the town and of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts**, engineers, artists, musicians, designers, and others, who through training are qualified to perform services of a professional nature."

The Moderator declared the motion carried by the required two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE 25. AMEND ZONING BY-LAW – CHANGEABLE ELECTRONIC VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS (CEVMS)

Upon motion of Richard Anderson, 51 Old Upton Road, it was voted to pass over this article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 26. ACCEPT ROADWAYS KNOWN AS CHISWELL ROAD AND COACH HOUSE ROAD – GLENWOOD ESTATES II SUBDIVISION

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay, it was voted to accept the roadways and associated utilities and easements know as Chiswell Road and Coach House Road located in the Glenwood Estates II Subdivision.

Mr. LeMay read the report of the Board of Selectmen.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 27. ACCEPT ROADWAYS KNOWN AS MAGNOLIA LANE IN THE MAGNOLIA FARMS SUBDIVISION

Upon motion of Mary Ann Cotton, it was voted to pass over this article.

Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 28. ACCEPT ROADWAY KNOWN AS BRENDAN DRIVE IN THE HARDING ACRES SUBDIVISION

Upon motion of George Prunier, 85 Millbury Street, it was voted to accept the roadway and associated utilities and easements known as Brendan Drive in the Harding Acres Subdivision as petitioned by more than ten (10) voters of the town.

Peter Adams read the report of the Board of Selectmen.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Motion was made to dissolve the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

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OCTOBER 19, 2009
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A true copy,
Attest:

Maureen A. Clark, Town Clerk
Grafton, MA