

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF GRAFTON

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 10, 2010 MINUTES

The Annual Town Meeting for the Town of Grafton was held on Monday, May 10, 2010 in the John F. Kennedy Memorial Auditorium of the Grafton Memorial Senior High School at 7:30 p.m.

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 7:32 p.m. and welcomed all present. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Brook Padgett led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Trahan called for a moment of silence in memory of Lou Boersma who served on the Housing Authority for many years.

Town Clerk, Maureen Clark read the return of the warrant.

Mr. Trahan pointed out the locations of the emergency exits from the auditorium and advised all present of the procedures used during Town Meeting.

The Moderator congratulated all winners from the Annual Election May 3, 2010 and recognized others for their long service to the town:

Maureen A. Clark, reelected as Town Clerk is in her 30th year as Clerk; Peter Adams was reelected to his 3rd term as Selectmen; David Ross, who was elected to the Board of Selectmen after serving on the Finance Commission for 5 years; Daryl Rynning and Teri Turgeon who were reelected to the School Committee; Elected to the Planning Board were Stephen Qualey and Heath Christensen; he thanked Peter Parsons and Christopher Courchesne for their service to the Planning Board; Board of Library trustees members elected were Henry Poler, Dana Wilson and Charles Vilee; he thanked William Armstrong for his service to the Library Trustees; and recognized George Mahassel for his reelection to the Housing Authority.

The Moderator moved to appoint Dan Concaugh, 53 Old Upton Road as deputy moderator and the Town Meeting body ratified the appointment.

Mr. Trahan then recognized the presence of State Representative George N. Peterson who gave a brief statement on the financial state of the State of Massachusetts and the expected revenue the Town can expect to receive from the State. Town Counsel Ginny Kremer was introduced.

Mr. Trahan noted that there are openings on the Finance Committee by the election of David Ross to the Board of Selectmen and due to the fact that Doris Metivier and Sandra Merrill would not seek reappointment.

David Libbey of 44 George Hill Road, Chairman of the Finance Committee gave the State of the Town address.

ARTICLE 1. HEAR REPORTS OF OFFICES, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Upon motion of Brook Padgett, it was voted to accept the reports of the several Town Officers, Boards, and Committees as printed in the 2009 Town Report without ratification of any action or authorization of any action.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 2. APPOINT TRUSTEE OF NELSON PARK AND LIBRARY

Upon motion of Mary Ann Cotton, it was voted to appoint William Kuck as a Trustee of the Nelson Park and Memorial Library and Building Fund for a term of three years.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 3. TOWN'S SHARE OF NET OPERATING COSTS – BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Upon motion of Anthony Yitts, 54 George Hill Road to raise and appropriate \$1,021,066 for the Town's share of the net operating costs of the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2010.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 4. BLACKSTONE VALLEY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL – PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST

Upon motion of Anthony Yitts, it was voted to transfer \$71,089 from the Blackstone Valley Stabilization Fund to fund the principal and interest costs for FY11 to be incurred by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District for its capital expansion project.

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

ARTICLE 5. AMEND TOWN OF GRAFTON – PERSONNEL BY-LAW

Upon motion of Peter Adams, it was voted to amend Article 20 - PERSONNEL BY-LAW as printed in the Warrant of this Town Meeting, and insert the following sentence at the end of the Section 4-1, Title – Personnel By-Law:

The Personnel Advisory Committee shall review any position changes or additions and will provide their recommendation to the Board of Selectmen.

After a standing count of 74 affirmative and 73 against, the Moderator declared the motion carried.

Maureen Clark read the Town's proposed FY 2011 budget.

ARTICLE 6. FY11 BUDGETS

After holding on the Police Department budget and the Building Inspector's budget, motion was made by Christopher LeMay to raise and appropriate \$37,457,383.00 and to transfer \$25,590 from Free Cash and to transfer from Sewer Receipts \$1,045,869, and to transfer from Sewer Betterments \$369,850 as recommended by the Town Administrator as shown in the Finance Committee's printed report for the several Town Departments for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2010.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Upon motion of Mr. LeMay, it was voted to raise and appropriate from taxation, \$1,794,651 for the Police Department budget, allocated as follows:

Salaries	\$1,647,001.00
Expenses	144,650.00
Equipment	3,000.00
Total	\$1,794,651.00

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Upon motion of Mr. Lemay, it was voted to raise and appropriate from taxation, \$156,322 for the Building Inspector's Department budget, allocated as follows:

Salaries	\$152,447.00
Expenses	3,875.00
Total	\$156,322.00

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Motion was then made by Mr. LeMay to take Article 45 out of order. He recognized Rebecca Wilson of Brigham Hill Road for her hard work in getting this article on the warrant.

The Moderator declared the motion to take Article 45 out of order as carried.

ARTICLE 45. CITIZEN PETITION –AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Upon motion of Amy Navin, 12 Glen Street, it was voted to adopt a new By-Law for the establishment of an AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION as described below.

PURPOSE: The mission of the Agricultural Commission, hereinafter “the Commission”, is to represent the Town of Grafton’s agricultural community and interests. The Commission once appointed shall develop a work plan to guide its activities. Such activities include, but are not limited to the following: serve as facilitators for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Grafton; promote agriculture-based economic opportunities in the Town; act as mediators, advocates, educators, and/or negotiators on farming issues for established Town Committees and Departments; and pursue all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community.

MEMBERSHIP: The Commission shall consist of five members who shall be Grafton residents, appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The initial term of two members shall be three years, of two members shall be two years, and of one member shall be one year. After the initial term, the term of a member shall be three years. The Board of Selectmen may appoint two alternates and any number of non-voting advisory members without residency restrictions. The term of an alternate member shall be one year. The Board of Selectmen shall fill a vacancy based on the unexpired term of the vacancy in order to maintain the cycle of appointments. The Commission may recommend appointees to fill vacancies, or to the any other action relative thereto.

Motion was then made by Ms. Navin that Rebecca Wilson be allowed to speak to Town Meeting.

The Moderator declared the motion carried and Ms. Wilson gave a short presentation.

The Moderator then declared the original motion to establish an Agricultural Commission carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 7. POSITION CLASSIFICATIONS AND COMPENSATION PLAN

Motion was made by David Ross to pass over this Article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 8. Purchase of Police Cruisers

Upon motion of Chief Normand Crepeau, 26 Barbara Jean Street it was voted to transfer \$52,710 from Free Cash to purchase and outfit two (2) Police Cruisers for the Police Department.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 9. FUND FY11 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE BUDGET

Upon motion of Brook Padgett it was voted to transfer \$464,000 from Free Cash for the purposes of funding the FY11 Capital Expenditure Plan.

Municipal Center	Gym heater	\$30,000
Schools (SGES)	Convert locker room to art room	\$35,000
Highway	Pavement management program upkeep	\$10,000
	Replace one-ton truck #31	\$60,000
	Asphalt hot box	\$29,000
	Reconstruct North Street (MTA to Wesson)	\$300,000
	TOTAL	\$464,000

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 10. ZONE CHANGE CREEPER HILL ROAD

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

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 11. CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

Upon motion of Mary Ann Cotton, it was voted to establish a Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40B, Section 5B, to be used exclusively for the annual capital expenditures by Town departments and to transfer \$150,000 from Free Cash to fund said account.

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

ARTICLE 12. \$10/HALF DAY; \$20/WHOLE DAY ATTENDANCE AT HEARINGS OR MEETINGS – BOARD MEMBERS

Upon motion of Peter Adams, it was voted that any persons, except full-time employees of the Town who are being paid a salary or hourly compensation and anyone else collecting from the Town an hourly rate at the time of attendance, all as determined by the Town of Grafton personnel policies, who have been authorized by a vote of the multiple member body so requesting their presence, who is subsequently approved by the Board of Selectmen to attend any meeting or hearing in the interest of the Town, to be paid out of the budget of the multiple member body so requesting their presence at the rate of not less than Ten Dollars (\$10) for half day and not more than Twenty Dollars (\$20) for a whole day of attendance plus expenses for such attendance.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 13. AUTHORIZE BOARD TO ACCEPT & ENTER INTO CONTRACTS

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay, it was voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept, and enter into contracts for the expenditure of any funds allotted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the construction, reconstruction or improvements of public roads.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 14. FIRE DEPARTMENT INSURANCE SUPPLEMENT

Upon motion of David Ross, it was voted to transfer One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) from Free Cash to Account #1-800-6220-5861 Fire Department Insurance Supplement established under Article 15 of the March 16, 1987 Special Town Meeting.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 15. FUNDING FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FROM WRTA

Upon motion of Michelle Drumm, 175 Providence Road, it was voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to request funding of transportation services from the WRTA, and to contract for and provide elderly bus services for the Town of Grafton for the period of July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 16. AUTHORIZE TREASURER/COLLECTOR TO BORROW MONEY

Upon motion of Brook Padgett, it was voted to authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 2010, in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and amendments thereto, and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, and amendments thereto.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 17. SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

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

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Mr. Trahan stepped down from the podium for Article 18 and Mr. Concaugh took over as Moderator.

ARTICLE 18. ONE GRAFTON COMMON

Upon motion of Peter Adams, it was voted reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the revolving account pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ entitled "One Grafton Common" for the purposes of receiving rents from the Old Town Hall at One Grafton Common and to expend the same for the maintenance and upkeep of the building under the supervision of the Town

Administrator and that expenditures from same shall not exceed Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000).

The Deputy Moderator declared the motion carried.

Mr. Trahan returned to the podium at this time.

ARTICLE 19. TOWN COMMON REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay it was voted to transfer \$2,700 from Free Cash to a continuing appropriation account entitled "Town Common Repairs and Maintenance" to be expended by the Parks and Cemetery Department.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 20. UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

Upon motion of David Ross, it was voted to transfer \$80,000 from Free Cash to Account #84-145-623 "Unemployment Compensation" for the purposes of paying Unemployment Compensation expenses of the Town.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 21. SCHOOL DEPARTMENT – REVOLVING ACCOUNT – STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Upon motion of Teri Turgeon , 17 Nelson Street, it was voted to reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the School Department revolving account pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ entitled "Staff Development" for the purposes of receiving payments from outside sources for cooperative training workshops and to be used to pay all expenses related to said workshops including but not limited to consultant, material supply, and meal expenses with a limit of this account to be no more than \$10,000.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 22. SCHOOL DEPARTMENT – REVOLVING ACCOUNT – EARLY CHILDHOOD

Upon motion of Teri Turgeon, it was voted to reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the School Department revolving account pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ entitled "Early Childhood" for the purposes of receiving payments for tuition and to be used to pay expenses related to early childhood programs, including but not limited to personnel costs, materials, books, and supplies with a \$90,000 limit that may be spent from such account in the ensuing fiscal year.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 23. SCHOOL DEPARTMENT – REVOLVING ACCOUNT – OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Upon motion of Teri Turgeon, it was voted to reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the School Department revolving account pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ entitled "Out-of-District Student Transportation" for the purposes of receiving payments for out-of-district student transportation, with a \$30,000 limit, said funds to be expended by the School Committee.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 24. COUNCIL ON AGING REVOLVING FUND – ELDER BUS TRANSPORTATION

Upon motion of Michelle Drumm, it was voted to reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the Council on Aging revolving fund pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ entitled “Elder Bus Transportation” for the purposes of receiving outside payments for elder bus transportation with a limit that may be spent from such account in the ensuing year of Thirty-five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000).

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 25. CONSERVATION COMMISSION – REVOLVING ACCOUNT – FILING FEES

Upon motion of Dan Kallin, 20 South Street, it was voted to reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the revolving account pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ entitled “Conservation Revolving Fund” for the purposes of administering the filing fee provision of the Wetlands Protection By-Law, and further that the Conservation Commission may expend same without appropriation for expenses reasonably related to its duties and responsibilities as provided therein and that expenditure from same shall not exceed Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) in the fiscal year.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 26. AMEND PERSONNEL BY-LAW – PERSONAL TIME

Upon motion of Brook Padgett, it was voted to amend ARTICLE 20 PERSONNEL BY-LAW, SECTION 4-15 as printed in the Warrant of this Town Meeting.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 27. FIRE DEPARTMENT REVOLVING FUND – FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM REVIEW

Upon motion of Michael Gauthier, 17 Main Street, it was voted to reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the revolving fund pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ entitled “Fire Sprinkler System Review” for the purpose of receiving outside payments for fire sprinkler system review with a Ten Thousand Dollar (\$10,000) limit, or any other sum said funds to be expended by the Grafton Fire Department.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 28. BOARD OF HEALTH REVOLVING ACCOUNT – MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT

Upon motion of Ernest Peters, it was voted to reauthorize the Town Accountant to continue the Board of Health revolving account pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ entitled “Vaccine Administration Reimbursement” for the purposes of receiving payments from Medicare Part 855B and other third party providers for the distribution of influenza and pneumococcal vaccines with a Three Thousand Dollar (\$3,000) limit that may be spent from such account for immunization administration in the ensuing fiscal year.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 29. LONG RANGE SIDEWALK

Upon motion of Mary Ann Cotton, it was voted to transfer \$20,000 from Free Cash to Account #1-800-6420-5865 Long Range Sidewalk Account.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 30. LONG RANGE DRAINAGE

Upon motion of Peter Adams, it was voted to transfer \$20,000 from Free Cash to Account #1-800-6420-5863 Long Range Drainage Account.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 31. TRANSPORTATION BOND BILL

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay, it was voted to appropriate \$382,233 for State-Aid Highway purposes as requested by the Board of Selectmen to be reimbursed from the Commonwealth under the provisions of the Transportation Bond Bill so-called and amendments thereto for construction, reconstruction and improvements including surface treatments and other work incidental to the above.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 32. REAUTHORIZATION OF EXCESS BORROWING PROCEEDS – FIRE STATION TO HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

Upon motion of Mary Ann Cotton, it was voted to transfer \$350,000 from unexpended borrowings for the new Fire Station to be used for the construction, equipping, and furnishing of a new Grafton Memorial High School to be located at 24 Providence Road, thus lowering the overall borrowing necessary for the high school by the amount of such transfer.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee had reconsidered and now supports this Article in the amount of \$350,000.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 33. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – OPERATING BUDGET

Upon motion of John Stephens, 17 Millbury Street, it was voted to appropriate \$10,000 from fiscal year 2011 Community Preservation revenues for the purpose of funding the operating budget of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC).

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee had reconsidered and now supports this Article in the amount of \$10,000.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 34. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – PELL FARM BOND PAYMENT

Upon the motion of John Stephens, it was voted to appropriate \$19,913 from FY11 Community Preservation Fund revenues for the purpose of making the second year interest payment on the \$1.2 million bond issued for the purchase of the Pell Farm property.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee had reconsidered and now supports this Article in the amount of \$19,913.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Mr. Trahan called for a two-minute recess at this time.

Upon returning to session, Mr. Trahan stepped down from the podium for Article 35 and Deputy Moderator Mr. Concaugh took over.

ARTICLE 35. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – GRAFTON TOWN HOUSE

Upon motion of Jennifer Thomas, 67 Upton Street, it was voted to appropriate \$42,586 from Community Preservation Reserve for Historic Purposes and \$350,681 from Community Preservation undesignated fund balance for the purposes of making the Grafton Town House handicap accessible while preserving the historic structure in accordance with Massachusetts Historical Commission requirements as requested by the Grafton Town House Oversight Committee with such funds to be offset by any outside grant funding obtained for the purpose of this project and with such approval to expire on June 30, 2012.

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

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 36. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

Upon motion of Jennifer Thomas, it was voted to transfer Thirty-nine Thousand Three Hundred Four Dollars (\$39,304) from the CPA Affordable Housing Reserve account to the Grafton Affordable Housing Trust, such funds to be used in accordance with the CPA guidelines for community housing.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Mr. Trahan moved took Article 39 out of order.

ARTICLE 39. CITIZEN PETITION - EASEMENT – FISHERVILLE REDEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC

Upon motion of Phil Gauthier, 17 Main Street, it was voted to accept an easement on land owned by Fisherville Redevelopment Company, LLC to be used for creation of a public park at the former Fisherville Mill Site.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 37. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – FISHERVILLE PARK

Upon motion of Jennifer Thomas, it was voted to appropriate the sum of \$31,000 from the Reserve for Community Preservation Purposes, \$125,000 from Community Preservation undesignated fund balance, and \$144,000 from FY11 Community Preservation Fund revenues for the purposes of creating the Fisherville Park as requested by the Fisherville and Farnumsville Streetscape Committee with such funds to be expended only after any outside grant funds and with such approval to expire on June 30, 2012.

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

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 38. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE – DOCUMENT CONSERVATION AND STORAGE

Upon motion of Jennifer Thomas, it was voted to pass over this article.

Mr. Libbey advised that the Finance Committee had not changed its stand on this Article.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 40. CITIZEN PETITION - GRAFTON 275TH CELEBRATION

Upon motion of John Stephens, it was voted to transfer \$13,000 from Free Cash for the Grafton 275th Celebration Revolving Fund pursuant to General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53-I.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 41. CHANGEABLE ELECTRONIC VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS

Upon motion of David Ross, it was voted to pass over this article.

Steve Qualey read the Planning Board report.

The Moderator declared the motion carried

ARTICLE 42. CITIZEN PETITION – ROAD ACCEPTANCE - GLENWOOD LANE

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

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

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 43. CITIZEN PETITION – ROAD ACCEPTANCE – MAGNOLIA LANE

Upon motion of Christopher LeMay, it was voted to decree, layout and make public the roadway known as Magnolia Lane in Magnolia Farms subdivision in Grafton.

Peter Adams read the report of the Board of Selectmen.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

ARTICLE 44. CITIZEN PETITION – ROAD ACCEPTANCE – NORTH GRAFTON ESTATES I AND II

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

Ms. Cotton read the report of the Board of Selectmen.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting at 10:48 p.m.

The Moderator declared the motion carried.

A true copy,
Attest:

Maureen A. Clark, Town Clerk
Grafton, MA