# TOWN OF HOLLISTON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 4, 2015

The Annual Holliston Town Meeting of May 4, 2015 was held at the High School Auditorium and was brought to order by Moderator, Kevin Clancy at 7:33 PM, with a quorum of 174 and growing.

Prior to the start of regular business, the Moderator called for a moment of silence in remembrance of former Town Clerk Nancy Norris, local business owner Lou Paltrineri, and Animal Control Officer Cheryl Rudolph, he then read the warrant and went over the preliminary rules for Town Meeting then read the following Motion as required by the Town By-Laws.

#### PRIOR TO ARTICLE 1

**MOTION:** Moved that the following non-resident and non-voting Town officials, consultants to committees and petitioners be allowed to speak during the course of this Annual Town Meeting:

Scott Moles Health Director/Agent
Leslie McDonnell Library Director
Sharon Emerick Town Accountant
Kathryn Peirce Principal Assessor
Building Inspector

Brad Jackson Superintendent of Schools

Sara Ahern Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Sean Reese DPW Director
Karen Sherman Town Planner
John Moore Police Chief
David Gatchell Police Lieutenant
Charles Corman Technology Director
Charles Katuska Conservation Agent

Jonathan Evans Keefe Tech Superintendent-Director

Maureen Chlebek McMahon Associates

Richard Todd Barber Catharine Snyder

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Our By-laws require that the Town Meeting vote to allow non-residents and non-voters to address the Town Meeting

**VOTE:** Passed by unanimous voice vote.

**ARTICLE 1.** To hear and act on the report of the Selectmen.

**MOTION:** Moved that the Annual Report of the Town for the 12 month period ending June 30, 2014, be accepted.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Kevin Conley, 44 Cranberry Lane, commented that the Selectmen were pleased with the new Department of Public Works and the director Sean Reese. He also noted that the Police Dept. has added new staff, the Fire Dept. got a new Engine 3, a new Senior Center Director, and new management at the Golf Course restaurant.

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 1 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 2.** To hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee.

**MOTION:** Moved that the Annual Report of the Finance Committee be received and laid on the table and that motions offered in the report be accepted as motions before this meeting as the articles and the budget are taken up.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Ken Szajda, 676 Fiske St. and Chairperson of the Finance Committee, gave a presentation updating Town Meeting on the finances of the town.

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 2 as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, subject to the approval of the Selectmen, to sell property acquired through foreclosure of tax titles by the Town and other real estate, after first giving notice of the time and place of the sale by posting such notice of sale in some convenient place in the Town, by publishing such notice of such sale in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town and by posting such notice on a Holliston Cable Access Television (HCAT) bulletin board and on the Town's website at least fourteen (14) days before the sale. The Treasurer shall also give notice of such sale to the Executive Director of the Holliston Housing Authority, the Chair of the Holliston Housing Trust and the Chair of the Holliston Housing Committee or its subsequent equivalent by first class letter at least forty-five (45) days before the sale. The Treasurer may hold a public auction and may reject any bid which s/he deems inadequate, and any such advertisement, notice or indication that real property is to be offered for sale by the Town of Holliston, or any department, commission, or other subdivision of the Town shall include the following statement: "Buyers should be aware that the Town of Holliston does not guarantee this property to be in conformity with existing zoning bylaws."

Whenever the proceeds of the sale or other disposal of real estate, other than that acquired through tax title foreclosure, by the Town of Holliston exceed five hundred dollars, the same shall be applied to the payment of indebtedness incurred in acquiring such real estate or shall be added to the sinking fund, if any, from which said indebtedness is payable, or if no such indebtedness is outstanding will be applied to the Town's Capital Expenditure Fund as established by Chapter 46 of the Acts of 1993. The proceeds of a sale in excess of five hundred dollars of any park land by the Town shall be used only by the Town for acquisition of land for park purposes or for capital improvements to park land; or take any action relative thereto.

MOTION: Moved that this Article be approved as presented in the Warrant.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION: None** 

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 3 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 4**. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Consolidated Personnel By-law Section 29, Job Classification Plan, by reflecting those revisions, deletions and/or additions to be effective as of July 1, 2015; or take any action relative thereto. (**Town Administrator**)

# SECTION 29, JOB CLASSIFICATION PLAN (Full-time Permanent Positions)

POSITION	GRADE	POSITION	GRADE
Administrative Assessor	400	Head Dispatcher	400
Assistant Clerk	200	Head of Circulation, Library	400
Assistant Director, Library	400	Library Page	100
Assistant, Town Clerk	400	Matron, Police	100
Assistant, Treasurer/Collector	400	Outreach Manager	400
Cataloger, Library	300	Principal Clerk	300
Children's Librarian	400	Reference Librarian	400
Committee Clerk	100	Senior Clerk	300
Crossing Guard	100	Technician, Library	100
Dispatcher	200	Van Driver	100

MOTION: Moved that this Article be approved as presented in the Warrant.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 4 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 5**. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Consolidated Personnel By-law Section 30, Job Compensation Plan, to reflect the rates listed below, and the inclusion of any new rates resulting from reevaluation or new or revised positions to be effective as of July 1, 2015; or take any action relative thereto. (**Town Administrator**)

SECTION 30, JOB COMPENSATION PLAN, PART I, SCHEDULE B, HOURLY RATES

GRADE	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7
100	15.60	16.59	17.29	17.72	18.07	18.83	19.23
200	18.50	19.68	20.50	21.01	21.43	22.33	22.81
300	19.08	20.30	21.15	21.66	22.11	23.03	23.52
400	21.97	23.37	24.34	24.94	25.45	26.51	27.08
500	23.85	25.36	26.42	27.07	27.62	28.77	29.39

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to amend the Consolidated Personnel By-law Section 30, Job Compensation Plan, by implementing the rates shown in the Article effective July 1, 2015.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 5 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for unpaid bills from prior years; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Voted by unanimous voice vote to indefinitely postpone Article 6 as stated in the Motion.

**ARTICLE 7**. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of supplementing various accounts of the Town's fiscal year 2015 annual budget, previously voted by the Town under Article 14 of the Warrant for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting and under Article 2 of the Warrant for the October 27, 2014 Special Town Meeting; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to transfer \$114,000 from Water Surplus to the fiscal year 2015 DPW-Water budget line item 58000-Debt Service.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 7 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 8**. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to hold a public auction for the purpose of disposing of surplus departmental equipment; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of a 2004 Ford Crown Victoria.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 8 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Highway Department, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to use and expend sums received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as reimbursements under the Chapter 90 State Aid to Highways program for further construction, reconstruction and improvements, including surface treatments of approved public ways within the Town; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Highway Department, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to use and expend sums received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as reimbursements under the Chapter 90 State Aid to Highways program for further construction, reconstruction and improvements, including surface treatments of approved public ways within the Town.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 9 as stated in the motion.

- **ARTICLE 10**. To see if the Town will vote, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E1/2, as amended, to reauthorize the following revolving accounts for fiscal year 2016:
- 1. an ambulance fee revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of fees for ambulance services and from which account expenditures for labor, materials, supplies and equipment associated with the provision of ambulance services in the Town may be made in an amount not to exceed \$391,812;
- 2. a Council on Aging fee revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of fees for the use of the Senior Center and from which account expenditures for Senior Center expenses may be made in an amount not to exceed \$5,000;
- 3. a Composting Kit revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received from the sale of composting kits and from which account expenditures for purchasing composting kits may be made in an amount not to exceed \$3,000;
- 4. a Response and Recovery fee revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of fees and reimbursements for response to natural and man-made emergencies and from which account expenditures for planning, response, recovery and mitigation efforts by Town departments may be made in an amount not to exceed \$10,000;
- 5. an abutter's list fee revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of fees for abutter's lists and from which fund expenditures for preparing and issuing abutter's lists, including technologies, may be made in an amount not to exceed \$5,000;
- 6. a Building Inspection revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of all fees received by the Building Inspection department for plumbing, gas and wiring permits and from which account expenditures reasonably related to inspectional services for plumbing, gas and wiring may be made in an amount not to exceed \$70,000;
- 7. a Town Hall revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of all fees for rental of the Town Hall facility and from which account expenditures reasonably related to maintaining the Town Hall for purposes of rental may be made in an amount not to exceed \$25,000;
- 8. a Senior Center Van Services revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of all fees, reimbursements and contracted receipts for use of the Senior Center van and transportation program and from which account expenditures reasonably related to maintaining the Senior Center van service and transportation program may be made in an amount not to exceed \$10,000;
- 9. an Agricultural Commission programs revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment for all programs and activities of the Agricultural Commission and

from which account expenditures reasonably related to the programs and activities of the Agricultural Commission may be made in an amount not to exceed \$10,000;

- 10. a Sealer of Weights and Measures revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received for Sealer of Weights and Measures services and from which account expenditures related to the services of the Sealer of Weights and Measures may be made in an amount not to exceed \$5,000;
- 11. a fluorescent bulb recycling revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received from recycling fluorescent bulbs and from which account expenditures for recycling fluorescent bulbs may be made in an amount not to exceed \$3,000;
- 12. a banner revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of fees for banners over Washington Street and from which account expenditures for placing the banners may be made in an amount not to exceed \$5,000;
- 13. an accident fee revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of fees for motor vehicle accident investigations and from which account expenditures for investigating motor vehicle accidents may be made in an amount not to exceed \$5,000;
- 14. an inoculation revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received for reimbursement for inoculations and from which account expenditures for inoculations may be made in an amount not to exceed \$20,000;
- 15. a cost of prosecution account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of fees for court imposed penalties and from which account expenditures for the costs of prosecution may be made in an amount not to exceed \$30,000; and
- 16. a nutrition revolving account into which shall be deposited receipts received for nutrition programs at the Senior Center and from which account expenditures for nutrition programs at the Senior Center may be made in an amount not to exceed \$10,000;

provided that expenditures from said accounts shall require the approval of the Board of Selectmen and expenditures in excess of the amounts stated shall require the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town authorize the revolving accounts as described in Article 10 for fiscal year 2016.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 10 as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E1/2 as amended, to authorize the creation of a Wetlands Application Filing Fee account into which shall be deposited receipts received as payment of filing fees for wetlands determinations and from which account expenditures for the costs of wetlands determinations may be made with the approval of the Board of Selectmen in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 during fiscal year 2016, except that expenditures from said account in excess of said \$30,000 may be authorized by vote of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee; or take any action relative thereto. (Conservation Commission)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town authorize the revolving account as described in Article 11 for fiscal year 2016.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION: None** 

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 11 as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E1/2 as amended, to authorize the creation of a False Alarm Fee account into which shall be deposited receipts received as penalties for false alarms and from which account expenditures for the costs of monitoring alarms may be made with the approval of the Board of Selectmen in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 during fiscal year 2016, except that expenditures from said account in excess of said \$15,000 may be authorized by vote of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee; or take any action relative thereto. (Police Chief)

MOTION: Moved that this article be indefinitely postponed.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to indefinitely postpone Article 12 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 13**: To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, section 15B as amended, and authorize the creation of a Tax Title revolving fund into which shall be deposited any fees, charges and costs incurred in the process of redemption of tax titles and sales of real property acquired through foreclosure of tax titles and from which account expenditures for the costs of tax titles and tax takings may be made with the approval of the Board of Selectmen; or take any action relative thereto. (**Treasurer/Collector**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town authorize the revolving account as described in Article 13 for fiscal year 2016.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 13 as stated in the motion

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, authorizing the Board of Assessors to grant an increase of twenty percent (20%) to all exemptions from property taxes excluding those granted under clause 18 of section 5 of Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015; or take any action relative thereto. (Board of Assessors)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, authorizing the Board of Assessors to grant an increase of twenty percent (20%) to all exemptions from property taxes excluding those granted under clause 18 of section 5 of Chapter 59 of the General Laws for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 14 as stated in the motion

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the interest rate per annum from 8% to 6% under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, section 5, clause 41A, which regulates tax deferral for homeowners 65 years or older, pursuant to the authority contained in Chapter 136 of the Acts of 2005, thereby amending said clause 41A; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Assessors**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of clause 41A of section 5 of General Laws Chapter 59, as amended by Chapter 136 of the Acts of 2005, amending the interest rate per annum from 8% to 6% for tax deferrals for homeowners 65 years or older, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015.

### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 15 as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of section 51 of Chapter 184 of the Acts of 2002, amending the income requirements under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, section 5, clause 41C, or take any action relative thereto. (Board of Assessors)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept the provisions of section 51 of Chapter 184 of the Acts of 2002, amending the income requirements under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, section 5, clause 41C, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2015.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Parashar Patel, 3 Metcalf Dr., asked for an explanation. John Cronin, 40 Holly Ln., explained that this is a standard annual article that sets standards for income levels for people seeking exemptions.

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 16 as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 17. To see what money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds to meet expenses and outlays to Town departments, salaries of Town Officers, sundry and miscellaneous but regular expenditures, for a Reserve Fund, Conservation Fund, Stabilization Fund, and to appoint trustees or caretakers or authorize the Selectmen to appoint caretakers of the cemeteries of the Town not otherwise provided for, for the ensuing year; or take any action relative thereto. (Omnibus Budget)

**MOTION:** The budget amounts in the recommended column will be discussed and voted individually.

### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** The Moderator read the omnibus line by line and each budget was seconded, discussed if needed and voted on:

\$214,926
35,600
2,300
200,000
\$452,826
\$ 1,475
0
50
\$ 1,525
103,701
28,725

### TOTAL		
51000 Personnel Services         \$172,3           52000 Purchased Services         25,6           54000 Supplies & Materials         1,0           TOTAL         \$199,0           Treasurer/Collector         01138           51000 Personnel Services         \$260,35           52000 Purchased Services         46,75           54000 Supplies & Materials         7,00           TOTAL         \$314,11           Other Financial Administration         01149           57810 Reserve for Transfers         \$212,67           TOTAL         \$212,67           Technology         01154           51000 Personnel Services         4,65           52000 Purchased Services         4,65           54000 Supplies & Materials         7,90           TOTAL         \$97,81           TOTAL         \$97,81           TOTAL         \$97,81           TOTAL         \$133,2:           52000 Purchased Services         6,97           54000 Supplies & Materials         1,90           TOTAL         \$133,2:           52000 Purchased Services         4,07           54000 Supplies & Materials         3,99           TOTAL         \$18,88           Ont		550 \$132,970
\$260,35 \$2000 Purchased Services \$54000 Supplies & Materials TOTAL  Other Financial Administration 01149 \$7810 Reserve for Transfers TOTAL  Technology 01154 \$51000 Personnel Services \$54000 Supplies & Materials \$52000 Purchased Services \$4,65 \$52000 Purchased Services \$4,65 \$54000 Supplies & Materials \$52000 Purchased Services \$54000 Supplies & Materials \$1000 Personnel Services \$54000 Supplies & Materials \$1,93 \$142,16  Elections 01162 \$1000 Personnel Services \$54000 Supplies & Materials \$1000 Personnel Services \$54000 Purchased Services \$54000 Purchased Services \$54000 Purchased Services \$54000 Purchased Services \$54000 Supplies & Materials \$1000 Personnel Services \$54000 Supplies & Materials \$1000 Personnel Services \$4,07 \$51000 Personnel Services \$4,07 \$51000 Personnel Services \$52000 Purchased Services \$4,07 \$51000 Personnel Services \$52000 Purchased Services	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials	\$172,34 25,66 1,00 <b>\$199,01</b>
57810 Reserve for Transfers         \$ 212,67           TOTAL         \$212,67           Technology 01154         \$1000 Personnel Services           52000 Purchased Services         4,65           54000 Supplies & Materials         7,90           58000 Capital         7,90           TOTAL         \$ 97,81           Town Clerk 01161         \$ 1000 Personnel Services           52000 Purchased Services         6,97           54000 Supplies & Materials         1,92           TOTAL         \$ 142,16           Elections 01162         \$ 10,82           51000 Personnel Services         4,07           52000 Purchased Services         4,07           54000 Supplies & Materials         3,98           TOTAL         \$ 18,88           Conservation Commission 01171         \$ 18,88           TOTAL         \$ 18,88           Conservation Commission 01171         \$ 1000 Personnel Services           52000 Purchased Services         \$ 45,83           52000 Purchased Services         \$ 73,08           54000 Supplies & Materials         50           TOTAL         \$ 79,98           Zoning Board of Appeals         50           51000 Personnel Services         \$ 6,340	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials	\$ 260,359 46,758 7,000 <b>\$ 314,11</b> 7
\$1000 Personnel Services \$2000 Purchased Services \$4,65 \$4000 Supplies & Materials \$58000 Capital \$7,900  TOTAL \$97,81  Town Clerk 01161 \$1000 Personnel Services \$2000 Purchased Services \$4,07 \$54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL \$133,23 \$52000 Purchased Services \$6,97 \$54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL \$142,16  Elections 01162 \$1000 Personnel Services \$52000 Purchased Services \$4,07 \$54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL \$18,88  TOTAL \$18,88  TOTAL \$18,88  FOTAL \$10,000  Forsonnel Services \$10,82 \$1	57810 Reserve for Transfers	
\$1000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL  Elections 01162 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL  Elections 01162 51000 Personnel Services 54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL  Conservation Commission 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL  Planning Board 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL  Planning Board 51000 Personnel Services 54000 Supplies & Materials  TOTAL  Solution  TOTAL  TOTAL  Solution  TOTAL  TOTAL  Solution  TOTAL  Solution  TOTAL  TOTAL  TOTAL  TOTAL  Solution  TOTAL  TOTAL  TOTAL  Solution  TOTAL  TOTAL  TOTAL  TOTAL  Solution  TOTAL  TO	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials 58000 Capital	\$ 84,853 4,652 400 7,906 \$ <b>97,811</b>
51000 Personnel Services       \$ 10,82         52000 Purchased Services       4,07         54000 Supplies & Materials       3,98         TOTAL       \$ 18,88         Conservation Commission       01171         51000 Personnel Services       2,40         54000 Supplies & Materials       65         TOTAL       \$ 48,88         Planning Board       01172         51000 Personnel Services       5,40         52000 Purchased Services       6,40         54000 Supplies & Materials       50         TOTAL       \$ 79,98         Zoning Board of Appeals       51000 Personnel Services       4,200         52000 Purchased Services       4,200         54000 Supplies & Materials       150         TOTAL       \$ 10,690         Public Buildings       01192         51000 Personnel Services       0         52000 Purchased Services       0         52000 Purchased Services       0         52000 Repair & Maintenance       60,000	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials	\$ 133,258 6,97 1,938 <b>\$ 142,16</b> 7
51000 Personnel Services       \$ 45,83         52000 Purchased Services       2,40         54000 Supplies & Materials       65         TOTAL       \$ 48,88         Planning Board       01172         51000 Personnel Services       5,40         52000 Purchased Services       6,40         54000 Supplies & Materials       50         TOTAL       \$ 79,98         Zoning Board of Appeals       01173         51000 Personnel Services       \$ 6,340         52000 Purchased Services       4,200         54000 Supplies & Materials       150         TOTAL       \$ 10,690         Public Buildings       01192         51000 Personnel Services       \$ 0         52000 Purchased Services       \$ 0         52000 Repair & Maintenance       60,000	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials	\$ 10,829 4,075 3,980 <b>\$ 18,88</b> 4
51000 Personnel Services       \$ 73,08         52000 Purchased Services       6,40         54000 Supplies & Materials       50         TOTAL       \$ 79,98         Zoning Board of Appeals       01173         51000 Personnel Services       \$ 6,340         52000 Purchased Services       4,200         54000 Supplies & Materials       150         TOTAL       \$ 10,690         Public Buildings       01192         51000 Personnel Services       \$ 0         52000 Purchased Services       \$ 0         52000 Repair & Maintenance       60,000	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials	
51000 Personnel Services       \$ 6,340         52000 Purchased Services       4,200         54000 Supplies & Materials       150         TOTAL       \$ 10,690         Public Buildings       01192         51000 Personnel Services       \$ 0         52000 Purchased Services       205,292         53000 Repair & Maintenance       60,000	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials	6,400 500
51000 Personnel Services \$ 0 52000 Purchased Services 205,292 53000 Repair & Maintenance 60,000	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials	\$ 6,340 4,200 150
1,000	51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services	205,292

TOTAL	\$ 266,292
Employee Benefits 01194 51750 Insurance 51780 Benefits TOTAL	\$4,913,895 3,542,867 <b>\$8,456,762</b>
Police Department 01210 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repairs & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials 58000 Capital Outlay TOTAL	\$2,331,291 112,855 26,994 15,250 3,461 \$2,489,851
Auxiliary Police 01211 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repairs & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials TOTAL	\$ 5,580 190 7,264 \$ 13,034
Fire Department 01220 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials 58000 Capital TOTAL	\$733,720 47,150 20,800 12,250 12,500 <b>\$816,420</b>
Building Inspection 01251 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials TOTAL	\$124,245 2,600 700 <b>\$127,545</b>
Sealer of Weights & Measures 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials TOTAL	\$ 0 \$ 0 \$ <b>0</b>
Emergency Management 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials 57000 Other Expense TOTAL	\$ 10,305 72 300 <b>\$ 10,677</b>
Animal Control 01292 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials TOTAL	\$ 0 38,000 0 \$ 38,000
Schools 01300 51000 Personnel Services \$ 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials 55000 Fuels 56000 Intergovernmental 57000 Other Expenses 58000 Capital Outlay TOTAL \$	24,281,105 2,435,703 832,717 465,585 104,000 2,464,472 326,815 141,973 <b>31,052,370</b>

Keefe Technical School: 01371 57000 Intergovernmental TOTAL	\$ 783,665 <b>\$ 783,665</b>
Highway Department 01420 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials 58000 Capital TOTAL	\$ 757,395 82,896 27,664 65,953 352,973 \$ 1,286,881
Street Lighting 01424 52120 Street Lighting TOTAL	\$ 60,000 <b>\$ 60,000</b>
Solid Waste 01433 52120 Solid Waste TOTAL	\$ 1,029,710 \$ <b>1,029,710</b>
Wastewater Treatment 01440 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance TOTAL	\$ 71,800 1,500 \$ <b>73,300</b>
Other Public Works 01499 54000 Motor Vehicle Fuels TOTAL	\$ 144,232 <b>\$ 144,232</b>
Board of Health 01512 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials TOTAL	\$ 121,934 9,300 700 \$ <b>131,934</b>
Council on Aging 01541 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials TOTAL	\$ 153,190 39,550 4,000 11,500 \$ 208,240
Youth Services 01542 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials 57000 Other Expenses TOTAL	\$ 116,385 3,841 500 0 \$ <b>120,726</b>
Veterans' Services: <b>01543</b> 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 54000 Supplies & Materials 56000 Intergovernmental 57000 Benefits <b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 0 0 0 21,087 31,350 \$ <b>52,437</b>
Library <b>01610</b> 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials	\$ 309,310 70,631 9,581 78,481

TOTAL	\$ 468,003
Park Commission 01650 51000 Personnel Services TOTAL	\$ 100,548 <b>\$ 100,548</b>
Debt Service 01710 52000 Purchased Services 57600 Debt Service TOTAL	\$ 3,123 \$ 5,299,375 \$ 5,302,498
Ambulance 26231 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials 58000 Capital TOTAL	\$ 335,603 88,275 13,750 21,300 2,100 \$ 461,028
Dept. of Public Works 60150 51000 Personnel Services 52000 Purchased Services 53000 Repair & Maintenance 54000 Supplies & Materials 56000 Intergovernmental 57000 Debt Service 58000 Capital TOTAL	\$ 525,380 381,000 73,000 225,000 3,600 854,522 10,000 \$2,072,502

**DISCUSSION:** Gary Donlin, 45 Alberta Ln, asked why the Employees Benefits account had such a large increase. KenSzajda, Chair of the Finance Committee, explained that the OPEB Trust that was previously done in a separate line item is now part of this budget. Beth Greely, 1038 Washington St., asked what the cost saving would be on the School Utilities with the new energy saving measures that have been taken. Mr. Szajda answered that it would be approximately \$150,000 per year. Cathy Snyder would like to make an Amendment to increase the budget by \$33,000, for the English Language Learner program.

**Motion to Amend**: to transfer \$33,000 from the Stabilization Fund to the school Personnel budget.

#### Seconded

Brad Jackson, Supt. of Schools, noted that this has been a very difficult budget process and that this position is administrative and not take away from the students who participate in this program.

Vote on Amendment: failed by hand count vote of 13-Yes to 264-No Richard Todd Barber, of Ashland and formerly of 95 Overlook Drive where his children still reside and he still pays taxes, is concerned about the cuts in the Drama Dept. again. His son was bullied in Middle School and has since flourished in High School largely due to the confidence he has gained through the Drama Dept. His fear is that if cut this year, it won't come back next year with the expected override. Ben Rutberg, 284 South St. and a Senior at Holliston High School, spoke of his time in the Drama Program and the benefits to himself and many kids. He feels that cutting the position to ½ time would be devastating to the program, and finding a qualified teacher would be very

difficult. He also feel that if cut by only  $\frac{1}{2}$  time it wouldn't be as bad. He then made a motion to amend the article

**Motion to Amend:** To transfer from the Stabilization Fund to the School Personnel account the amount of \$61,770.

#### Seconded

Carol Emmons, 1207 Highland St., made a presentation on the budget and how they arrived at these figures and cuts. David Allen, 140 Goulding St., said we're not going to find a qualified teacher for \$12,000 yr., Holliston should support the arts. Several more people spoke on saving the Drama Program.

**Vote:** The motion failed by a hand count vote of 96-Yes to 189-No Beth Greeley, 1038 Washington St., made a motion to amend the Article as follows:

**Motion to Amend:** To transfer \$20,590 from the Stabilization Fund to the School Personnel account.

# Seconded

Parashar Patel, 3 Metcalf Cir., since the enrollment is down, what is this teacher going to do with the remainder of their time. Several more residents spoke for and against this amendment until the discussion got too personal and inappropriate.

**Vote:** The motion failed by a hand count vote of 60-Yes to 205-No Mark Shultz, 21 Wedgewood Dr., spoke about the \$300 annual water surcharge, and although he agrees that this is necessary, he would like to see alternative funding. Jay Leary, 146 Karen Cir., explained that the people who use more water, simply pay more. Jim Pond, 18 Temi Rd., when the infrastructure is repaired, will the rates go down? Mr. Leary responded that this will be ongoing and most likely not come down. John Cronin, 40 Holly Ln., would like to see a more detailed program for the replacement of the water main infrastructure, this is too broad and the money needs to be ear marked for this purpose, and feels the \$300 surcharge is too high.

**VOTE**: As read each article was voted on and passed by at least majority voice vote to accept the Motions in Article 17 as read.

The Moderator adjourned the meeting to May 5, 2015

The second night of the Holliston Annual Town meeting, May 5, 2015 was brought to order by Moderator Kevin Clancy at 7:32 pm with a quorum of 102 and growing.

**ARTICLE 18**. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the Capital Expenditure Fund; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION:** Moved that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$750,000 and appropriate \$147,000 from Overlay Reserve for the Capital Expenditure Fund.

### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION: None** 

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to Article 18, as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 19**. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of capital expenditures, including replacement and new vehicles and equipment, for the School, Police, Fire and Public Works departments, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade or sell used equipment toward part of the purchase price; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION:** Moved that the Town vote to appropriate \$470,000 from the Capital Expenditure Fund for energy efficiency improvements to school buildings, appropriate \$150,000 from the Capital Expenditure Fund to repair the high school track, appropriate \$140,000 from the Capital Expenditure Fund for a trackless multi-purpose tractor with snow blower for the Department of Public Works, appropriate \$45,000 from Water surplus for a pickup truck for the DPW, and authorize the trade-in or sale at auction of used DPW vehicles.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION: None** 

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 19, as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the fiscal year 2016 community preservation budget and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of community preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year; or take any action relative thereto. (Community Preservation Committee)

**MOTION**: Move to allocate \$452,025 from the estimated FY2016 Community Preservation Act surcharge receipts in the following four reserves in the amounts specified:

Community Housing Reserve	\$ 45,202.50
Open Space Reserve	\$ 45,202.50
Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 45,202.50
Community Preservation Fund Budget Reserve	\$316,417.50
Total	\$452,025,00

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION: None** 

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept the above motion in Article 20.

**MOTION:** Move to allocate \$132,448.00 under the Community Preservation Act from state matching funds distributed in November, 2014 in the following four reserves in the amounts specified:

Community Housing Reserve	\$ 13,244.80
Open Space Reserve	\$ 13,244.80
Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 13,244.80
Community Preservation Fund Budget Reserve	
Total	\$ 92,713.60
	\$132,448.00

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION: None** 

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept the above motion in Article 20.

**MOTION:** Move to allocate interest received in FY2015 the following reserves in the amounts specified:

Community Housing Reserve	\$ 800.00
Open Space Reserve	\$ 800.00
Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 800.00
Community Preservation Fund Budget Reserve	1140 (02/2014) (04/2014)
y and rund budget reserve	\$5,600.00
	\$8,000.00

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept the above motion in Article 20.

**MOVE**: To appropriate up \$55,000 from the fiscal 2015 Open Space (Recreation) Reserve to assist the Parks and Recreation Department with the acquisition of additional playground equipment for Stoddard Park

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Kristen Hedrick, 45 Adam Wheeler Rd., the residents have requested playground equipment, appropriate for 2-5 year olds. The Park Commission has put \$18,000 towards this, the Highway Dept. will assist with the installation, and Celebrate Holliston has donated a piece of equipment. John Varrell, 928 Washington St., asked why there weren't any funds being allocated for records preservation. Frank Chamberlain, 333 Hollis St, explained that those funds would come from a different portion of the CPA and that records preservation was an ongoing project.

**VOTE**: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept the above motion in Article 20.

**MOVE**: To appropriate \$250,000 for fiscal 2016 from the Community Preservation Fund Budget Reserve to support the Holliston Housing Trust's programs to provide affordable housing in Holliston and for the administrative and contract support of thereof.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Chamberlain, noted that the Housing Trust is currently working on a Single Family Homebuyers program and a Habitat For Humanity program.

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept the above motion in Article 20.

**ARTICLE 21.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the Stabilization Fund; or take any action relative thereto. **(Board of Selectmen)** 

**MOTION:** Moved that the Town vote to appropriate \$690,000 from Free Cash and appropriate \$210,000 from Overlay Reserve for the Stabilization Fund.

### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to Article 21, as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 22.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the reserve fund for the future payment of accrued liabilities for compensated absences due any employee upon termination of employment; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

MOTION: Moved that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE**: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to indefinitely postpone Article 22 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 23.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the Capital Expenditure Fund for the purpose of paying the remaining debt on the purchase of a Fire Department ladder truck; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to appropriate \$205,000 from the Capital Expenditure Fund for the final payment on the ladder truck during fiscal year 2015.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 23 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 24.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to seek special legislation substantially as follows:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF HOLLISTON TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. The town of Holliston is hereby authorized to pay one-half of the premium costs payable by the surviving spouse of an employee or retired employee for group general, or blanket hospital, surgical, medical, dental or other health insurance for a period of one year from the date of death of the employee or retired employee.

SECTION 2. Should the town of Holliston accept the provisions of section nine D, nine D1/2 or nine D3/4 of Chapter 32B of the General Laws, said acceptance shall supersede the provisions of this act.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.;

and raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose stated in the proposed special legislation; or take any action relative thereto. (Board of Selectmen)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to file special legislation as stated in the Article.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Jay Marsden, 32 Wendy Lane, stated that this was an emotional issue and that he and all the Selectmen have a great amount of respect for every Town Employee. Currently a Surviving Spouse can continue their Health Insurance Benefits, at 100% of the premium. He explained in detail how this, and the next 2 Articles would affect the Town: Article 24 would authorize the Town to contribute 50% of the Surviving Spouse's Health Benefit for a period of 1 year, limiting the Town's liability and providing the ability to budget for it. Article 25, would allow the Selectmen to decide what percentage the Town would contribute to the Health Benefit, not to exceed 50%. However, this would remain in effect for the life of the spouse, with no set

end date. Once this was adopted, the town could not rescind this policy. Article 26, in the opinion of the Board of Selectmen, is the least favorable option. This option would allow a Surviving Spouse to continue their Health Benefit for the remainder of their life, at 50% of the premium.

John Beck, 69 Wingate Rd., said with the unpredictable high costs of Health Care, this would not make sense fiscally. Pam Zicko, 180 Fiske St., asked if someone whose spouse passed away years ago could be eligible for this benefit. Ken Szajda, 676 Fiske St., said that a spouse could apply for this. Gary Donlin, 45 Alberta Ln., stated that the trend in Corporate America right now is to reduce employee benefits, and for the Town to enrich ours is unrealistic. He also noted that there are tax benefits for people who provide their own health insurance. John Gagnon, 110 Norfolk St., is a Firefighter in town, and said if he died his family would not be covered. Mr. Szajda, said it's really difficult to put personal feelings aside on this issue. However, he has made plans to cover his family if he died prematurely, as most people do. Mark Shultz, 21 Wedgewood Dr., asked what the Finance Committee's recommendations were on the 3 Articles. Mr. Szajda said the Finance Committee unanimously voted to Indefinitely Postpone Articles 24, 25 and 26. Steve Garry, 43 Greenview Dr., wants the Town to come up with something that could help the family, at least until the children have grown.

Ken Szajda, 676 Fiske St., Made a motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 24.

MOTION: To Indefinitely Postpone Article 24.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Michelle Zeamer, 583 Winter St., said that this Article isn't about an individual, it's about retirees and their benefits, and we need to keep the financial impact in mind. Denise Moore, 196 Marked Tree Rd., introduced herself as the petitioner of Article 26, and wants the Town to contribute to surviving spouse's benefits. Jim Richard, 64 Beatrice Ln., would like to see us negotiate something to help a family out. Mr Marsden explained that Article 25 would offer the room for negotiation, where Articles 24 and 26 would be an all or nothing option that the town would be locked into to by the State. Pat Duffy, 5 Regency Dr., suggested that Holliston residents being as philanthropic and giving as they are, that maybe a fund raiser could help this family through the next 5 years. Andy Porter, 228 Rolling Meadow Dr., spoke against indefinite postponement, he feels we should deal with this tonight and find the money to approve Article 26. Mr. Szajda, believes that we could bring this back as a carefully crafted Article in the Fall, where all parties could be satisfied.

**VOTE**: Motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 24 passed by hand count vote. Yes: 157 No: 73

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of section 9D3/4 of Chapter 32B of the General Laws and provide that the Town pay an amount up to one-half of the premium costs payable by the surviving spouse of an employee or retired employee for group general or blanket hospital, surgical, medical, dental or other health insurance, and raise and

appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for this purpose; or take any action relative thereto. (Board of Selectmen)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 25.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** John Beck, 69 Wingate Rd., doesn't want to revisit this issue in the future, he feels we should vote on it tonight. He feels we should vote no on both Articles 25 and 26, the town cannot afford this benefit due to other issues within the town, such as water and the schools. Josh Santoro, 51 Dean Rd., asked how much this would cost. Mr. Szajda said there is no way to know and we would never be able to get out of it once we approved it. Gary Donlin, 45 Alberta Ln., didn't know the whole reason for this when he spoke earlier, he just looked at the figures and didn't want the Town to commit to this benefit. Realizing now, that there is a human side to it he still feels we should vote no on Articles 25 and 26, and revisit 24 in the spring with a solution to both the human and fiscal side of this issue.

**VOTE**: The Motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 25 was defeated by voice vote.

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept section 9D3/4 of Chapter 32B of the General Laws and that the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,851 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of paying the Town's share of health insurance premiums for surviving spouses during fiscal year 2016.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Doug Foss, 1225 Washington St., asked where the figure of \$23,851 came from. Jay Leary, 146 Karen Cir., said that number is the amount needed to pay for the 6 surviving spouses currently receiving health benefits from the Town, for this year only. Mr. Foss, said that this figure could be much bigger than the 6 people currently using this benefit, because other surviving spouses could sign on with the Town's insurance. Anne Fraser Zegel, 511 Washington St., asked if the \$23k was for each person or all 6. Mr. Leary explained that the \$23k would cover all 6 surviving spouses.

**VOTE**: Article 25 was defeated by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 26.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of adopting MGL Chapter 32B Section 9D for the purpose that it will "pay one-half of the amount of the premium to be paid by the surviving spouse of an insured employee or a retired employee for hospital, surgical, medical, dental and other health related insurance continued as provided in section nine B"; or take any action relative thereto. (**By Petition**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept section 9D of Chapter 32B of the General Laws and that the Town appropriate the sum of \$23,851 from the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of

paying the Town's fifty percent share of health insurance premiums for surviving spouses during fiscal year 2016.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Andy Porter, 228 Rolling Meadow Dr., made a motion to indefinitely postpone Article 26.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Porter spoke in favor of indefinite postponement, to give the petitioner her "day in court". Jay Marsden, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, would like to see the Town vote this down and craft legislation in Article 24, that will encompass compassion and financial sustainability.

**VOTE:** The motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 26 failed.

VOTE: Article 26, as stated in the original motion, was defeated by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 27.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of roadway and streetscape improvements, including traffic signals and engineering costs, in the downtown area; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that \$1,700,000 is appropriated for the purpose of roadway and streetscape improvements, including traffic signals and engineering costs and including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$1,700,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this vote; provided, however, that this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitations on total taxes imposed by General Laws, Chapter 59, section 21C the amounts required to pay the principal of and the interest on the borrowing authorized hereunder.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Kevin Conley, 44 Cranberry Ln., introduced Maureen Chlebek of McMahon Associates who reviewed the Downtown traffic Study, from the Special Town Meeting of Oct. 27, 2014. David Ullenbruch, 180 Fiske St. and owner of a downtown business, made a motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 27.

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to indefinitely postpone Article 27.

# **SECONDED**

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ullenbruch, understands the need for lights in the area, but not at the cost of losing parking spaces, because it will have a detrimental effect on the businesses. He wants to maintain the downtown that we already have. Jay Leary, 146 Karen Circle, wants the town to just make a decision, this has been studied and discussed for years and opposes indefinite postponement. Mark Shultz, 21 Wedgewood Dr., feels that we should have a plan in place to vote on, not two alternative plans. Geoff Zeamer, 583 Winter St. and Chair of the Planning Board, said that he too is guilty of having this plan ill-defined. The original plan for the downtown improvement didn't eliminate any parking spaces or adversely affect the downtown businesses. Somehow, it got more complex and he feels it needs to go back to the original simple plan of just putting up lights and keeping the downtown the way it is. He does agree with the safety issues the police have raised, and feels those changes are necessary. Stacey Raffi, 20 Arthur St., would like to see the Board of Selectmen work with McMahon Assoc. to come up with a more definitive plan for the Town to vote on. Jay Marsden, 32 Wendy Ln., said that he is also President of the Holliston Business Assoc., and stated that the intention of this was never to negatively affect the businesses. The plan was to both improve pedestrian safety and address the flow of through traffic. They hired professionals to assist in making a plan, which they came up with two to choose from, and it is time to move forward with a plan. Mary Greendale, 57 Roy Ave., created a downtown vision survey that 767 people responded to and 94% of those said they wanted to preserve the look of downtown. She gave a presentation showing parking and traffic flow of other towns. She feels that this is a start, but more planning needs to be done for a long term vision of the downtown. Kevin Rokus, 86 Goulding St., asked that if this was postponed, how long would these plans last before needing to be redone. Ms. Chlebek said these are only 10% complete, and they would be completed in phases, the next being 20%. William George, 62 Persis Place, and former Police Chief, said that he has been in town for over 40 years and was involved in the study in 1995. He feels very strongly that from a safety perspective traffic lights are needed at both Hollis and Central Streets. Anne Louise Hanstad, 8 Cassandra Ln., agrees that lights might be needed, but does not want sidewalks reduced and parking spots removed, and would like more information on the plan. Mr. Leary, restated that there have been multiple public presentations and meetings on this issue.

**VOTE**: The motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 27 was defeated by a hand count. Yes - 50 No - 117

DISCUSSION: Mary Greendale, 57 Roy Ave., made a motion to amend Article 27, as follows:

MOTION TO AMEND: Move that we establish a Downtown Streetscape Improvement Committee to be comprised of a community development person, a land use planner, traffic engineer, a downtown property owner, a downtown retailer, a member of the Planning Board, member of the Board of Selectmen, and two at large members, to be appointed by the Planning Board. And that the Town transfer from the Stabilization Fund or other available funds the amount of \$12,000 to purchase two lighted pedestrian signs and to wire them to the overhead signals at the crosswalk at Central and Washington Street on both sides.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Ken Szajda, 676 Fiske St., wanted to clarify that this amendment would be in place of the original motion for an override, Moderator Clancy concurred. Michelle Zeamer, 583

Winter St., asked if changing the lights from yellow to red had been considered. Ms. Greendale responded that it has been considered by a traffic engineer, but it would cost considerably more. Barbara Gardner, 114 Jennings Rd., would like to see the original motion stand and add this new motion to it, therefore keeping the plan for lights and not wasting more time on a study. Jay Marsden, 32 Wendy Ln., said that if we vote down this motion a new one could be made to incorporate both motions. Geoff Zeamer, 583 Winter St., would like to pass this motion and not incorporate the two. Ken Szajda, Chair of the Finance Comm., made note that the \$12,000 could be funded through the DPW/Highway budget, and not come from the Stabilization Fund.

**VOTE:** Amended motion was defeated by voice vote.

**DISCUSSION:** Mary Greendale made a motion to amend Article 27 as follows:

MOTION TO AMEND: Moved that \$1,700,000 is appropriated for the purpose of roadway and streetscape improvements, including traffic signals and engineering costs and including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$1,700,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this vote; provided, however, that this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitations on total taxes imposed by General Laws, Chapter 59, section 21C the amounts required to pay the principal of and the interest on the borrowing authorized hereunder.

And; that the Town establish a Downtown Streetscape Improvement Committee to be comprised of a community development person, a land use planner, traffic engineer, a downtown property owner, a downtown retailer, a member of the Planning Board, member of the Board of Selectmen, and two at large members, to be appointed by the Planning Board. And that the Town purchase and install two lighted pedestrian signs and to wire them to the overhead signals at the crosswalk at Central and Washington Street on both sides.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Pat Duffy, 5 Regency Dr., asked if it was possible to separate them so that we could get the pedestrian lights before going to town Election for the override money. The Moderator explained that only the override money would have to wait for the election. Ms. Duffy then asked what if the residents don't want to vote for the override but do want the enhancement to the pedestrian lights. The Moderator said that she could make another amendment to supplant the original motion and only vote on Ms. Greendale's addition to the motion. Ellen George, 62 Persis Pl., opposes not voting for the override, because she feels it would be another 20 years before there would be lights downtown. She suggested there be two phases and that the lights be phase one and the Streetscape Committee be phase two. She said that people want safety more than anything in the downtown area. Doug Foss, 1225 Washington St., summarized the options that are before Town Meeting.

**VOTE:** Amended motion was defeated by voice vote.

**DISCUSSION:** Doug Foss, 1225 Washington St., made a motion to amend Article 27 as follows:

MOTION TO AMEND: That the town establish a Downtown Streetscape Improvement Committee to be comprised of a community development person, a land use planner, traffic engineer, a downtown property owner, a downtown retailer, a member of the Planning Board, member of the Board of Selectmen, and two at large members, to be appointed by the Planning Board. And that the Town purchase and install two lighted pedestrian signs and wire them to the overhead signals at the crosswalk at Central and Washington Street on both sides.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** John Varrell, 928 Washington St., commented that this committee doesn't have a clear charge, it's late and we have lost sight of the intentions of this article. He would like to have this motion defeated and bring up the committee another time. Just vote on the original motion of whether we want lights or not, and if we do vote for the lights, then form a committee to design the remaining 90% of the plan.

**VOTE:** Motion to Amend Article 27 passed by a hand count vote. Yes: 82 No: 51

**MOTION:** That the town establish a Downtown Streetscape Improvement Committee to be comprised of a community development person, a land use planner, traffic engineer, a downtown property owner, a downtown retailer, a member of the Planning Board, member of the Board of Selectmen, and two at large members to be appointed by the Planning Board. And that the Town purchase and install two lighted pedestrian signs and wire them to the overhead signals at the crosswalk at Central and Washington Street on both sides.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Kevin Conley, 44 Cranberry Ln., would like to make an amendment to Article 27 to include the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board as appointing authority to the two at large appointees, as follows.

MOTION TO AMEND: That the town establish a Downtown Streetscape Improvement Committee to be comprised of a community development person, a land use planner, traffic engineer, a downtown property owner, a downtown retailer, a member of the Planning Board, member of the Board of Selectmen, and two at large members to be appointed by the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. And that the Town purchase and install two lighted pedestrian signs and wire them to the overhead signals at the crosswalk at Central and Washington Street on both sides.

# **SECONDED**

**VOTE:** Motion to Amend Article 27 passed by a hand count vote. Yes: 84 No: 44

**MOTION:** That the town establish a Downtown Streetscape Improvement Committee to be comprised of a community development person, a land use planner, traffic engineer, a downtown property owner, a downtown retailer, a member of the Planning Board, member of the Board of

Selectmen, and two at large members to be appointed by the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. And that the Town purchase and install two lighted pedestrian signs and wire them to the overhead signals at the crosswalk at Central and Washington Street on both sides.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Article 27 passed by voice vote as amended above.

The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 11:30 pm to May 6, 2015

The third night of the Holliston Annual Town meeting, May 6, 2015 was brought to order by Moderator Kevin Clancy at 7:38 pm with a quorum of 100 and growing.

**ARTICLE 28.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for a pilot study of public water supply well #5; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to appropriate \$70,000 from Water Surplus for the purpose of a pilot study of public water supply well #5.

### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** Jillian McAuley 544 Central St., asked what information this study would provide that we don't already have. Sean Reese, DPW Director, said that this study will tell us what type of water filtration system we will need to improve the water quality. Additionally it will tell us the cost effectiveness of building a new plant vs. expanding an existing plant. This is a first step to improving the water quality in that area of town.

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 28 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 29.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for replacement of water mains on Pinecrest Road; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to appropriate \$416,000 from Water Surplus for the purpose of replacing water main on Pinecrest Road.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Sean Reese, DPW Director explained that this is to update the water infrastructure, as the other utilities have updated theirs. This is our first Highway/Water project going forward.

**VOTE**: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 29 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 30.** To see if the Town will vote to provide that a portion of the revenue realized from the leasing of space on Town owned water storage facilities shall be deposited into the Water Enterprise Fund; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to designate that the revenue realized from the leasing of space on Town owned water storage facilities for wireless communications antennae shall be divided so that one-third of the revenue is deposited into the Capital Expenditure Fund, one-third is deposited into the Open Space Fund and one-third is deposited into the Water Enterprise Fund.

# **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION: None** 

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 30 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 31.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or borrow a sum of money for the purpose of purchasing and renovating the property shown as Lots 64 and 65.1 of Block 6 on Assessors' Map 4, located at 1750 Washington Street, for use by the Park Commission, Youth and Family Services and Veterans' Services for offices and programs. **(Board of Selectmen and Park Commission)** 

**MOTION**: Moved that \$1,725,000 is appropriated for the purchase and renovation of the property with the buildings thereon shown as Lots 64 and 65.1 of Block 6 on Assessors' Map 4, located at 1750 Washington Street, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$1,725,000 under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this vote; provided, however, that this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitations on total taxes imposed by General Laws, Chapter 59, section 21C the amounts required to pay the principal of and the interest on the borrowing authorized hereunder.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Melissa Kaspern, 109 Robert Rd., gave a presentation on the condition of the Flagg School, where the Park and Recreation Dept. and Youth and Family Services are located, and the need for this new building. Margaret Fitzpatrick, 169 Norfolk St. explained how it would benefit Youth and Family Services. John Givner, 210 Lowland St., explained how it would benefit Veteran's Services. Ms. Kaspern explained how it would benefit the Park and Rec. Dept. She also said that the cost to renovate Flagg School was estimated at \$8.5 million, which they were looking to Town Meeting in May 2016 to decide. However, the mold condition forced

them to evacuate the building. They did look into lesasing which would be from \$100,000 - \$200,000 per year, depending on the location. Frank Chamberlain, 333 Hollis St., asked why the Historical Commission hasn't been included in the plans, because they were housed at Flagg School. Ms. Kaspern said that they did include the Historical Commission in the original plans, but not including them in this discussion was an oversight due to the timeliness of the purchase of the building. Suzanne Nersessian, 12 Partridge Way, made a motion to postpone to a date certain.

**MOTION:** To postpone Article 31 to October 26, 2015.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Suzanne Nersessian, 12 Partridge Way, would like to consider a few points before we make this decision; the cost associated with this purchase, our associated debt cost, and the estimated cost to refurbish the building. We have not seen any proposal of this or the potential overruns of the build out and how the town would cover those. Also, there is no budget set for the cost of this, including maintenance, insurance and all other costs associated with ownership. Additionally with the purchase of this building the town will lose the tax revenue. She would like us to consider all the aspects of acquiring this building before going into significant debt. Ms. Kaspern, said that they did look into annual costs of maintaining the building and found that it would be feasible to maintain, including contributions from the Veterans District. John Cronin, 40 Holly Ln., asked if CPC funds could be used since the Historical Commission would be housed there. Mr. Chamberlain said he would look into it. Ken Szajda, 676 Fiske St., thinks this is a fortuitous opportunity for the town, in that if we no longer have a use for the building we could sell it as a commercial building, opposed to a school that is built as a school and really wouldn't be marketable for anything else. He said the Park Commissioners have done their due diligence, and feels that the Town is getting a really good deal. Jay Marsden, 32 Wendy Ln., agrees with Mr. Szajda that this is a good opportunity for the Town. He also said that the Flagg School is too far gone to repair and they have looked at alternative locations that just don't compare to this building. Mark Shultz, 21 Wedgewood Dr., said this building is available now, and if we postpone this decision it could be too late. Martha Devoe, 35 Robin Hill Rd., asked that with the price tag of \$1.27 million to demolish the building, are we looking to spend that money or just let it crumble, and realistically it would be added to the cost of the new building. Mr. Szajda responded that he has no doubt that the Flagg School will be demolished, and has started talking to the School about funding to pay for the demolotion. Debra Frey, 615 Winter St., is echoing a common theme from the Finance Committee of "Understand the total cost". She is very concerned that what we are really faced with is both the cost of the new building and the demolition cost, and this decision is being rushed.

**VOTE:** Motion to postpone Article 31 to a time certain, was defeated by voice vote.

**DISCUSSION:** Carl Damigella, 448 Underwood St., asked if we could roll the demo cost into this Article and make it a lump sum, because the School will likely be looking for the demolition money down the road. The moderator, after discussion with Town Council, said that would be out of order, because it is beyond the scope of this Article. Mr. Marsden said that we have full ownership of Andrews School and the proceeds of the sale of Andrews could go towards the demolition cost. John Varrell, 928 Washington St., is opposed to the purchase of this building because it is not the best fit, and he would like to preserve the Andrews School as it was a WPA project and historical landmark in town and we could possibly use CPC funds for it.

**VOTE:** Article 31 passed by hand count vote, as stated in the original motion. Yes -  $143 ext{No} - 7$ 

**ARTICLE 32.** To see of the Town will vote to amend the Town of Holliston General By-Laws by adding the following new Article XLIII:

# ARTICLE XLIII ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Section 1. MEMBERSHIP. The Town shall have an Economic Development Committee consisting of seven (7) members appointed in June by the Town Administrator, subject to the right of the Board of Selectmen to reject an appointment or appointments, by majority vote, within fifteen (15) days of notice of appointment from the Town Administrator, for a term of three years (3) each and so appointed that no more than three (3) nor less than two (2) shall expire in any one (1) year.

Section 2. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. The Committee shall have the power to proactively promote and encourage the development of Holliston's commercial, village commercial and industrial tax base.

The Committee shall explore ways to support existing businesses and encourage them to stay and expand in Holliston. It will maintain an ongoing dialogue with business owners and owners of commercial/industrial properties on a proactive basis to understand how the Town can work with them to achieve their plans.

The Committee shall pursue grants with other departments as appropriate.

The Committee shall strive to market the Town as a good place to do business by seeking ways to create a business-friendly environment, a streamlined permitting, licensing and approval process and a centralized informational source on business opportunities, on commercial and industrial real estate options, on public and private grants and tax incentives and support/encourage housing that is revenue positive to the Town.

The Committee shall file a written report of its work annually with the Town Administrator, the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board. Said report shall be included in the Annual Report of the Town. (Board of Selectmen)

MOTION: Moved that the Town vote to amend the General By-laws as stated in the Article.

#### **SECONDED**

**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice call vote to accept Article 32 as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 33**. To see of the Town will vote to amend the Town of Holliston General By-Laws by altering Section 1 of Article IV Finance Committee as follows (Note: Strikethrough text is proposed to be deleted. Bold, italic text is new.):

Section 1. The Town shall have a Finance Committee, consisting of seven (7) members, elected appointed by the Moderator for a term of three (3) years each, and so elected appointed that the term of no more than three (3) nor less than two (2) shall expire in any one (1) year.; or take any action relative thereto. (Board of Selectmen)

MOTION: Moved that the Town vote to amend the General By-laws as stated in the Article.

#### SECONDED

**DISCUSSION:** Dan Alfred, 315 High St., made a motion to amend the article to have the Board of Selectmen appoint instead of the Moderator. The amendment failed unanimously by voice vote. David Aronson, 95 Westfield Dr., recognizes how difficult it can be to run for office, but also recognizes that it's even more difficult to be on the Finance Committee, therefore making it easier to run. Michelle Zeamer, 583 Winter St., was an elected member of the Board of Health and ran un-opposed for 2 terms, on her 3<sup>rd</sup> term she had opposition because someone didn't like a decision she made. Ultimately she lost that election, because the people didn't like a decision she made. That is how our government is supposed to work, you work for the people who elect you. Barbara Gardner, 114 Jennings Rd., doesn't want to give up her right to vote, for any reason. She feels that an elected member would be more responsive to a citizen than an appointed member, because they would be more beholden to their constituents. Kevin Conley, 44 Cranberry Ln., suggested a hybrid system of both elected and appointed members, as an alternative.

**VOTE:** Article 33 was defeated by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 34.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to seek special legislation substantially as follows:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF HOLLISTON TO ENACT A SENIOR PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. With respect to each qualifying parcel of real property classified as Class one, residential in the town of Holliston there shall be an option for a senior tax deferral of the property tax equal to the total amount of the increase in the property tax that would otherwise be assessed without this deferral beginning with the first year of application for this deferral and continuing in each year of successful reapplication for this deferral. The deferral shall be applied to the domicile of the taxpayer only. For the purposes of this act, "parcel" shall be a unit of real property as defined by the assessors under the deed for the property and shall include a condominium unit.

- Page 2
- SECTION 2. A person who seeks to qualify for the deferral under section 1 shall, before the deadline established by the board of assessors, file an application, on a form to be adopted by the board of assessors, with the supporting documentation of the applicant's income and assets as described in the application. The application shall be filed each year for which the applicant seeks the deferral.
- SECTION 3. The board of assessors may deny an application if they find the applicant has excessive assets that place them outside of the intended recipients of the senior tax deferral created by this act. Real property shall qualify for the deferral under section 1 if all of the following criteria are met:
- (a) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by a person whose prior year's income would make the person eligible for the circuit breaker income tax credit under subsection (k) of section 6 of chapter 62 of the General Laws;
- (b) the qualifying real property is owned by a single applicant age 65 or older at the close of the previous year or jointly by persons either of whom is age 65 or above at the close of the previous year and if the joint applicant is 60 years of age or older;
- (c) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by the applicant or joint applicants as their domicile;
- (d) the applicant or at least one of the joint applicants has been domiciled in the town of Holliston for at least 20 consecutive years before filing an application for the exemption;
- (e) the board of assessors has approved the application; and
- (f) the applicant executes a senior real estate tax deferral and recovery agreement with the board of assessors on behalf of the town. The said agreement shall provide:
- (i) that no sale or transfer of such real property may be consummated unless the taxes which would otherwise have been assessed on the real property as is so deferred have been paid, with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum;
- (ii) that the total amount of such taxes due, plus interest, for the current and prior years does not exceed fifty per cent of the full and fair cash value of such real property;
- (iii) that upon the demise of the owner of such real property, the heirs-at-law, assignees or devisees shall have first priority to said real property by paying in full the total taxes which would otherwise have been due, plus interest; provided, however, if such heir-at-law, assignee or devisee is a surviving spouse who enters into a tax deferral and recovery agreement under this clause, payment of the taxes and interest due shall not be required during the life of such surviving spouse. Any additional taxes deferred, plus interest, on said real property under a tax

deferral and recovery agreement signed by a surviving spouse shall be added to the taxes and interest which would otherwise have been due, and the payment of which has been postponed during the life of such surviving spouse, in determining the fifty per cent requirement of subparagraph (ii);

- (iv) that if the taxes due, plus interest, are not paid by the heir-at-law, assignee or devisee or if payment is not postponed during the life of a surviving spouse, such taxes and interest shall be recovered from the estate of the owner; and
- (v) that any joint owner or mortgagee holding a mortgage on such property has given written prior approval for such agreement, which written approval shall be made a part of such agreement.

SECTION 4. The deferral under this act shall be in addition to any other exemption allowable under the General Laws.

SECTION 5. No exemption shall be granted under this act until the Department of Revenue certifies a residential tax rate for the applicable tax year where the total exemption amount is raised by a burden shift within the residential tax levy.; or take any action relative thereto. (**Board of Selectmen**)

MOTION: Moved that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

DISCUSSION: Kevin Conley, 44 Cranberry Ln., would like to bring this back in the fall.

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice vote to Indefinitely Postpone Article 34, as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 35.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody and control of a certain parcel of property known as "Warren Woods II", shown as Lot 125 of Block 1 on Assessors' Map 14 and located off of Robert Road and Meadowbrook Lane, acquired as open space in 2014, to the Conservation Commission; or take any action relative thereto. (**Conservation Commission**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to transfer the care, custody and control of the parcel of property known as "Warren Woods II", shown as Lot 125 of Block 1 on Assessors' Map 14 and located off of Robert Road and Meadowbrook Lane to the Conservation Commission.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 35, as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 36.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody and control of certain parcels of property shown as Lot 21 of Block 6 on Assessors' Map 4 located off of Washington Street, Lot 39 of Block 1 on Assessors' Map 1 located off of Boynton Road, and Lots 4 and 5 of Block 3 on Assessors' Map 8 located off of Howard Street, to the Conservation Commission; or take any action relative thereto. (**Conservation Commission**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to transfer the care, custody and control of the parcels of property shown as Lot 21 of Block 6 on Assessors' Map 4 located off of Washington Street, Lot 39 of Block 1 on Assessors' Map 1 located off of Boynton Road, and Lots 4 and 5 of Block 3 on Assessors' Map 8 located off of Howard Street, to the Conservation Commission.

**DISCUSSION: None** 

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 36, as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 37.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Holliston Zoning Bylaws at Section VI-J Design Advisory Committee by deleting the section in its entirety as well as deleting referral to the Design Advisory Committee from Section VII Site Plan Review at 4. Procedure for Approval; or take any action relative thereto. (**Planning Board**)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to amend the Town of Holliston Zoning By-laws as stated in the Article.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 37, as stated in the motion.

**ARTICLE 38.** To see of the Town will vote to amend the Town of Holliston Zoning By-Laws at Section V-K Village Center Commercial District by altering the 3. Design Guidelines section as follows (Note: Strikethrough text is proposed to be deleted. Bold, italic text is new.):

- 3. <u>Design Guidelines</u> Only permitted uses determined by the Building Inspector to comply with at least six of the following eight guidelines may be allowed without a special permit:
- a. Not less than half the area of the required front yard shall be landscaped, and any existing trees of 3" trunk diameter (measured at four feet above grade) shall be preserved.
- b. The majority of off-street parking shall be provided to the rear of the front line of the building.
- c. If new construction, the design need not *shall* be imitative of an historical style.

- d. If alteration of or addition to an existing structure, the change shall employ materials, colors, and textures as well as massing, size, scale and architectural features which show consideration of the original structure. Distinctive features, finishes and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a historic property shall be preserved.
- e. The size and detailing of architectural elements shall reflect domestic, rather than monumental scale.
- f. Except for windows and minor trim, the building shall avoid the appearance of reflective materials such as porcelain enamel or sheet metal. Doors and windows should have a solid appearance with substantial sills, rails, mullions, muntins and frames.
- g. Predominant wall materials shall have the appearance of wood, brick or stone painted or coated in a non-metallic finish.
- h. Signs shall not comprise an area greater than 15% of a building's street façade nor shall they obscure architectural details of historic structures. Permanently affixed window signs shall not occupy more than 10% of the window surface area.

<u>Procedure</u> - At the time of application for a building permit, applicant shall also provide *the* Building Inspector with a list of the Design Guideline items that will be adhered to pursuant to requirements of this Section V-K. Those applications for building permits involving interior construction or alteration only, or involving exterior construction or alteration *not subject to Site Plan Review under the provisions of Section VII(2)(b)* and which, in the opinion of the Building Inspector, meet at least six of the eight Design Guidelines set forth in Section V-K, shall be processed by the Building Inspector. A copy of the approved application, the applicant's Design

Guidelines and the Building Permit shall be provided by the Building Inspector to the Design Advisory Committee within three (3) days of issuance of the Building Permit.

Determinations by the Building Inspector are subject to appeal to the Board of Appeals by any party having standing, as provided at Section 8 of Chapter 40A, General Laws.

Applicants not meeting at least six of the eight Design Guidelines may apply for a Special Permit from the Special Permit Granting Authority Planning Board.; or take any action relative thereto. (Planning Board)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to amend the Town of Holliston Zoning By-laws as stated in the Article.

**DISCUSSION:** None



# TOWN OF HOLLISTON PLANNING BOARD

703 Washington Street Holliston, MA 01746 (508)429-0635



April 30, 2015

Kevin Clancy, Town Moderator c/o Liz Greendale, Town Clerk 703 Washington Street Holliston, MA 01746

RE: Planning Board Report: Articles 37 and 38

Dear Mr. Clancy:

With regard to the proposed Zoning By-Law amendments, I would respectfully report that the Planning Board held a public hearing as required by MGL, c. 40A, s. 5 on April 9, 2015. The members voted unanimously to recommend support of the proposed articles as written in the Warrant.

With regard to Article 37, the current Section VI-J creates a Design Advisory Committee under an outdated regulatory framework. Rather than amend this provision and create an additional committee, the Planning Board recommends deletion. I would note that the Board has enacted regulations under its authority granted in the Zoning By-Laws since 1997. The most recent "Performance Standards for Nonresidential Development" were developed with the assistance special land use counsel and were adopted in December 2014. These regulations include detailed standards within the Village Center Commercial District. The Planning Board also utilizes provisions of the Mass. General Laws c. 44, s. 53G to hire multi-disciplinary peer review consultants at the expense of developers to aid the Board members in their review process.

I would also like to note that Article 38 specifically refers to 8 "Design Guidelines" to be interpreted by the Building Inspector in evaluating whether a Special Permit is required for a project/use. Most projects would be required to complete Site Plan Review with the Planning Board at a minimum and would be subject to the Planning Board's Regulations noted above.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, Board members will be present at Town Meeting.

Sincerely,

Juffrey Zeamer 28

Chairman

cc

Liz Greendale, Town Clerk

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 38, as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way, Connolly Way (Sta. 0+00 to end), as shown on the plan entitled "Acceptance Plan 'Connolly Way' Station 0+00 to 9+00, Holliston, MA" dated August 12, 2014, prepared by GLM Engineering Consultants, Inc., 19 Exchange, Holliston, MA 01746, such way having been laid out as a Town Way by the Board of Selectmen; or take any action relative thereto. (Planning Board)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept Connolly Way as a public way as described in the Article and laid out by the Board of Selectmen.

DISCUSSION: Pam Zicko, 180 Fiske St., asked where Connolly Way is.

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 39, as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 40. To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way, Rocky Woods Trail (Sta. 0+00 to end), as shown on the plan entitled "Rocky Woods Trail, Road Acceptance Plan in Holliston, MA" dated October 8, 2014, prepared by Precision Land Surveying, Inc. 32 Turnpike Road, Southborough, MA 01772, such way having been laid out as a Town Way by the Board of Selectmen; or take any action relative thereto. (Planning Board)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept Rocky Woods Trail as a public way as described in the Article and laid out by the Board of Selectmen.

**DISCUSSION: None** 

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 40, as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 41. To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way, Courtland Pines Drive (Sta. 0+00 to end), as shown on the plan entitled "Acceptance – As Built Plan Courtland Pines Drive Station 0+10 to 4+51, Plan of Land in Holliston, MA" dated March 11, 2015, prepared by Colonial Engineering, Inc., 11 Awl Street, Medway, MA 02053, such way having been laid out as a Town Way by the Board of Selectmen; or take any action relative thereto. (Planning Board)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept Courtland Pines Drive as a public way as described in the Article and laid out by the Board of Selectmen.

**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 41, as stated in the motion.

ARTICLE 42. To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way, Indian Ridge South (formerly James Road) in the Clearview Estates II Definitive Subdivision (Sta. 0+25 to 10+51.55), as shown on the plan entitled "Layout Plan of Land in Holliston, MA" dated March 13, 2014, prepared by Guerriere & Halnon, Inc., 333 West Street, Milford, MA 01757, such way having been laid out as a Town Way by the Board of Selectmen and will further vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain, rights sufficient to use Indian Ridge South for all purposed for which public ways are used in the Town of Holliston; or take any action relative thereto. (Planning Board)

**MOTION**: Moved that the Town vote to accept Indian Ridge South as a public way as described in the Article and laid out by the Board of Selectmen.

**DISCUSSION:** Paul LeBeau, 147 Karen Cir., this is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time this has been before the Town, and there have been title issues in the past, which the Planning Board feel can be resolved with the bond money.

VOTE: Unanimously passed by voice vote to accept Article 41, as stated in the motion.

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:06 PM.

True Record, ATTEST:

Efizabeth T. Greendale, Town Clerk