

Hanover Advisory Committee
550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 11, 2017 – 6:00 pm
Advisory Committee Hearing Room
Hanover Town Hall

Opening:

The meeting was opened at 6:02 pm by Edward Hickey, Chairman.

Committee Attendees:

Edward Hickey
Emmanuel Dockter
Wayne Moores
Angela Blanchard
Jerry O’Hearn
Gavin Little-Gill
Joan Port-Farwell

Absent

Brandon Freeman
Sandra Hayes

Other Attendees:

Anthony Marino, Assistant Town Manager
Chelsea Stevens, Acting Finance Director
Steve Freeman, Hanover resident

Warrant for Annual Town Meeting Motion and Commentary Review:

Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Angela Blanchard made a motion to re-open Articles 1 through 7 for reconsideration. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motions for Articles 1 through 7 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the commentary for Articles 1 through 7 as written. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 8 – Transfer Fund from Overlay Reserve

The Committee discussed the possibility of putting the funds for this article towards sick leave buyback. This discussion was the result of an amount restriction in the language of the two sick leave buyback warrant articles. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to appropriate from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of \$200,000 to the School Sick Leave Buyback Fund and the sum of \$100,000 to the Town Sick Leave Buyback Fund. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. Angela Blanchard recused herself from this vote. The remaining Committee members were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 9 – Appropriate CPA Revenues for FY18

Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 9 as written. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 12 – Special Education Expenses

The Committee reviewed the commentary for Article 12 proposed by the Hanover School Committee. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 11 – Water Enterprise Budget

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 11 as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21

Jerry O'Hearn made a motion to re-open Articles 13, 14, 15 and 17 for reconsideration. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 13, 15 and 16 as written. This was seconded by Jerry O'Hearn. Angela Blanchard recused herself from this vote. The remaining Committee members were in favor, and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 14 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 23, 24 and 25

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 23, 24 and 25 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 27 and 28

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 27 and 28 as written. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 30 – Veteran's Memorial Project

Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 30 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41 as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 42 – Town Hall Meeting Rooms

Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 42 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 43 and 44

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 43 and 44 as written. This was seconded by Jerry O'Hearn. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 48 – Zoning By-law – Recreational Marijuana

Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 48 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 49 – Amend Zoning By-law, Section 6.11.20

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 49 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 22 – Reduce CPA Surcharge

Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 22 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 50 – Town Civic Campus

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 50 as written. This was seconded by Jerry O’Hearn. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 51 – Restoration Town Hall

Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 51 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 52 – Veterans Honor Garden

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 52 as written. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 53 – Multi-Use Recreational Facility

After a brief discussion regarding the change of location for this project, Angela Blanchard made a motion to make the motion for this article at Town meeting. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 54 – Historical and Cultural Resources

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 54 as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62 as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Warrant for Special Town Meeting Motion and Commentary Review:**Articles 1, 2 and 3**

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 1, 2 and 3 as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 4 – Triennial Revaluation

The Committee discussed the possibility of putting the funds for this article towards sick leave buyback. This discussion was the result of an amount restriction in the language of the two sick leave buyback warrant articles. The Committee decided to support this article as presented. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 4 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 5 and 6

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 5 and 6 as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 7, 8 and 9

Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 7, 8 and 9 as written. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 10 – Snow and Ice Expenses

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Articles 10 as written. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Warrant for Annual Town Meeting Motion and Commentary Review:

Article 46 – Aggregation Vote 1

The Committee discussed Article 46 and feels that more information should be gathered. Angela Blanchard made a motion to refer Article 46 to the BOS for further study. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Angela Blanchard made a motion to accept the commentary proposed by Chairman Ted Hickey as written. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 47 – Aggregation Vote 2

Angela Blanchard made a motion to refer Article 47 to the BOS for further study and to accept the proposed commentary as written. This was seconded by Emmanuel Dockter. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 29 – Zoning Board Appointment

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion for Article 29 as written. This was seconded by Jerry O'Hearn. Angela Blanchard recused herself from this vote. The remaining Committee members were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 26 – Repave Areas Cedar School

The Committee discussed Article 26 and their concerns that specific areas to be paved are not specified in the article. Emmanuel Dockter would like "phase 1" to be specific to the areas in most need of repair. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to not accept Article 26 and take no further action. This was seconded by Wayne Moores. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Emmanuel will draft proposed commentary for review at the Committee's next meeting. Later in the meeting, Tony Marino stated that Town Manager Troy Clarkson was open to the Committee putting specific areas to be paved in their motion; however, the Committee declined to reconsider their motion at that time.

Article 31 – Sylvester Reuse Study

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 31 as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 32 – Classification and Compensation Plan

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion and commentary for Article 32 as written. This was seconded by Jerry O'Hearn. Angela Blanchard recused herself from this vote. The remaining Committee members were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 45 – Technology Upgrades

The Committee discussed Article 45 regarding the need for physical computer servers. Gavin Little-Gill would like to see a cloud based options consideration. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to fund Article 45 with \$65,000 instead of the \$100,000 requested. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the commentary as written. This was seconded by Wayne Moores. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Articles 56 and 57

The Committee discussed their concerns with Articles 56 and 57 as it relates to the specific amount of \$50,000 being listed in the article for each. In prior years, funding articles for school and town sick leave buyback did not list a specific amount. The funding amount of an article cannot be increased by more than 10 percent in the motion so this limits the amount of funding for these important Town liabilities to \$55,000 each. Chairman Ted Hickey informed the Committee of his efforts to encourage the Board of Selectmen to reconsider the article language; however, the Selectmen declined to modify the articles. The committee discussed funding school and town sick leave buyback from Annual Warrant Article 8 and Special Warrant Article 4 (see those articles for details). Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to fund Article 56 for \$55,000. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. Angela Blanchard recused herself from this vote. All remaining Committee members were in favor, and the motion passed. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to fund Article 57 for \$55,000. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. Angela Blanchard recused herself from this vote. All remaining Committee members were in favor, and the motion passed.

Article 10 – General Fund Operating Budget

The Committee reviewed and discussed the changes they proposed at their prior meeting to Article 10. Tony Marino stated he would like the Committee to reconsider the proposed reduction of \$60,000 from the Community Services Department. The Committee declined to make changes at this time. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the motion for Article 10 as presented. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed. Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to accept the commentary as presented. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor, and the motion passed.

Next Meetings

The Committee's next meetings will be held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 6:00 pm and Monday, May 1, 2017 at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment

Emmanuel Dockter made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

ARTICLE 1. ACCEPT REPORTS IN ANNUAL TOWN REPORT

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Officers and Committees as printed in the Annual Town Report, or take any other action relative thereto.

Advisory Committee

We move that the Town accept the 2016 Annual Report as written.

Commentary: *This Article implements a routine housekeeping procedure accepting the Annual Town Report.*

ARTICLE 2. ACCEPT REPORTS OF COMMITTEES & STATE OFFICIALS

To see if the Town will vote to hear reports of the Committees and State Officials and act thereon, or take any other action relative thereto.

Advisory Committee

We move that the Town vote to hear the reports.

After reports: We move that the Town accept the reports provided under Article 2.

Commentary: *Not applicable. Reports to be made at Town Meeting.*

ARTICLE 3. AUTHORIZE TREASURER TO ACCEPT TRUST FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize its Treasurer to accept such trust funds as may be placed in his or her hands during the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018, or take any other action relative thereto.

Treasurer/Collector
Finance Director

We move that the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to accept trust funds for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018.

Commentary: *This Article implements a routine housekeeping procedure allowing the Treasurer/Collector to accept trust funds that are donated to the Town during the fiscal year.*

ARTICLE 4. AUTHORIZE TREASURER TO DISPOSE OF TAX TITLE LAND

To see if the Town will vote to authorize its Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to dispose of such parcels of real estate as may have been, or may be taken by the Town under Tax Title foreclosure proceedings, or take any other action relative thereto.

Treasurer/Collector
Board of Selectmen

We move that the Town authorize the Treasurer/Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to dispose of tax title property.

***Commentary:** This Article allows the Treasurer/Collector to sell property that the Town has acquired through the tax title foreclosure process. The Advisory Committee observes that the Town currently has tax liens on 47 parcels in Town, with an approximate value of \$1,000,000. We recommend that the Treasurer/Collector and Town Manager explore more aggressive enforcement of tax liens and realization of revenues in connection therewith.*

ARTICLE 5. ENTER INTO COMPENSATING BALANCE AGREEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize its Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

Treasurer/Collector

We move that the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to execute compensating balance agreements for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018.

***Commentary:** This Article implements a routine housekeeping procedure allowing the Town Treasurer/Collector the option to enter into compensating balance agreements as a method of cash management. Maintaining minimum balances at financial institutions can lead to reduced cost and fees and in some cases better interest rates. This Article provide the Treasurer/Collector flexibility to structure financial accounts in the best interest of the Town's finances.*

ARTICLE 6. ASSUME LIABILITY TO ALLOW STATE DEP WORK

To see if the Town will vote to assume liability in the manner provided by Section 29 and 29A of Chapter 91 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as most recently amended, for all damages that may be incurred by work to be performed by the Department of Environmental Protection, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** Each year, the Town is required by the State to assume responsibility for liability and damages which may be incurred by the State while improving, developing, maintaining and protecting tidal and non-tidal rivers. This Article will acknowledge and accept that responsibility.*

ARTICLE 7. SET PAY FOR ELECTIVE OFFICERS

To see if the Town will vote to fix the pay of its elective officers as required by law as follows, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Clerk: \$63,189.00 annually
Moderator: \$100 for Annual Town Meeting
\$100 for Special Town Meeting

Advisory Committee
Town Manager

We move that the Town set the pay of its elective officers for fiscal year 2018 required by law as follows:

Town Clerk: annual salary to be \$63,929 per year which includes any amounts due under MGL, c.41, §Section 19G.
Moderator: \$100 for Annual Town Meeting, and \$100 for Special Town Meeting.

***Commentary:** The position of Town Clerk is an elected, paid position within the Town government. The salary offered by the Town is posted and known by all candidates who decide to run for this office. The current Town Clerk believes that the salary for this position is below that of Town Clerks in surrounding Towns. The Advisory Committee has taken this into consideration in each of the previous three years, recommending increases of 2% in FY2015, 6% in FY2016 and 5% in FY2017. These recommendations have been implemented by vote of Town Meeting.*

For FY18, the Town Clerk has requested a 26% increase in annual salary. The Town Manager has recommended a 2% increase in line with other Town employees. The Advisory Committee has been presented raw data suggesting that the salary offered by the Town for the Town Clerk position is lower than many surrounding towns. We believe that a more comprehensive evaluation of the scope of services provided and staffing levels needed to support different town clerks in the region should be considered before making dramatic changes in the salary offered to the Town Clerk position. The Advisory Committee is recommending a 3.2% increase for the Town Clerk's annual salary for FY18. We note that the Town Clerk's position will be evaluated in more detail as part of the Classification and Compensation Plan proposed by Article 32. To the extent that more significant increases in the compensation for this position are appropriate, the Advisory Committee recommends that a decision be deferred pending the outcome of the study.

ARTICLE 8. TRANSFER FUNDS FROM OVERLAY RESERVE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer [\$200,000] from the Overlay Reserve to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
Finance Director

We move the Town vote to appropriate from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of [\$200,000] to the School Sick Leave Buyback Fund and the sum of [\$100,000] to the Town Sick Leave Buyback Fund.

***Commentary:** The overlay account is a special account, established and funded annually with financial requirements determined by the Board of Assessors. The overlay account is used to fund abatements and exceptions. After a request from the Board of Selectmen as required by law, the Board of Assessors met on February 16, 2017 and determined that the overlay account balance of \$763,703.52 was more than necessary to cover anticipated abatements and exceptions. As a result, the Board of Assessors voted to release the sum of \$370,900 to the overlay surplus account. Amounts in the overlay surplus may be appropriated at town meeting for any purpose for which a town may expend funds. At the close of the fiscal year, any balance in the overlay surplus account becomes part of the free cash calculation in July 1 of the following fiscal year.*

Sick leave buyback is a contractual benefit available to School and Town employees enabling them to “cash in” unused sick leave upon retirement or separation from employment. This creates a contingent liability for the Town that could be fiscally damaging to the Town when the liabilities arise. The best way to manage this liability is through the funding of a reserve, which is a practice that the Town has engaged for many years. Over the past 5 years, the average annual transfer into the School Sick Leave Buyback has been \$126,800, however, the annual expenditures going out of the over School Sick Leave Buyback over the same period has been \$103,945. Similarly, the average annual transfer into the Town Sick Leave Buyback has been \$92,000, however, the annual expenditures going out of the over Town Sick Leave Buyback over the same period has been \$74,255. Stated simply, the we are not making up significant ground on this growing liability because average net increase to the School Sick Leave Buyback and the Town Sick Leave Buyback has been \$22,855 and \$17,745, respectively.

As we project these costs into the future, the projected liability, as of the end of fiscal year 2016, associated with the School Sick Leave Buyback is \$1,851,172 and the current balance of the reserve against this liability is only \$333,745. Similarly, the projected liability, as of the end of fiscal year 2016, associated with the Town Sick Leave Buyback is \$1,006,919 and the current balance of the reserve against this liability is only \$588,849. Between the two sick leave buyback programs, the Town’s projected liabilities exceed reserves by \$1,935,496. The Advisory Committee strongly recommends that the Town aggressively increase efforts to enhance these two reserves.

As we will discuss in connection with Articles 58 and 59, the Advisory Committee was prevented by a decision of the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen from providing this Town Meeting the ability to further appropriate free cash to supplement the transfer described in this Article.

ARTICLE 9. APPROPRIATE CPC REVENUES FOR FY2018

To see if the Town will vote as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee to appropriate the Town's Community Preservation Revenues for Fiscal Year 2018 as follows:

- I. 10% of the said revenues to be set aside for future appropriation for open space (other than open space for recreational use);
- II. 10% of the said revenues to be set aside for future appropriation for historic resources;
- III. 10% of the said revenues to be set aside for future appropriation for community housing;
- IV. 5% of the said revenues to be set aside for administrative expenses; and
- V. the remainder of said revenues to be set aside for future appropriation for any purposes permissible under the Community Preservation Act, Chapter 44B;

said funds to be expended for the purposes stated herein within the scope proposed and approved by the Community Preservation Committee and for the purposes approved by this Town Meeting, by the Town Manager, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee

We move that the Town vote to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund FY2018 estimated annual revenues the sum of \$58,199 to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2018; and further to reserve for future appropriation from the Community Preservation Fund FY2018 estimated revenues the sum of \$116,399 for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space excluding land for recreational use; \$116,399 for the acquisition, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources; \$116,399 for the acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing; \$330,383 for the creation of a budgeted reserve and \$426,208 to provide for Community Preservation Fund debt obligations.

***Commentary:** The Community Preservation Act requires that a minimum of 10% of the annual revenues of the fund must be set aside in each of the three categories of open space and recreational use, historic resources and community housing and an administrative budget of 5%. The budgeted reserve is set up as an additional annual reserve and may be used to fund any eligible Community Preservation projects. This Article also provides funds to support debt payments on previously approved projects.*

ARTICLE 10. GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$57,294,547 for a total General Fund Operating Budget, to provide for a reserve fund and to defray the expenses of the Town, and for the purposes listed in the budget document, and to meet said appropriation transfer the sum of \$16,000 from the Cemetery Graves & Foundations account, and transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Sale of Cemetery Lots account, and transfer the sum of \$38,947 from the Title V

Betterment Program, and transfer the sum of \$933,095 from the Ambulance Receipt Reserved account and raise \$56,296,505 from the 2018 Tax Levy, or take any other action relative thereto.

Advisory Committee
Town Manager

<i>Summary of Vote</i>			
	Town Manager Proposed	Advisory Committee Recommended	Difference
General Government:			
Salaries	\$275,035	\$275,035	
Expenses	\$218,900	\$248,900	\$30,000
Finance Department:			
Salaries	\$831,667	\$776,016	(\$55,651)
Expenses	\$205,453	\$165,293	(\$40,160)
Community Services:			
Salaries	\$1,426,047	\$1,426,047	
Expenses	\$475,128	\$460,104	(\$15,024)
Police:			
Salaries	\$3,591,810	\$3,591,810	
Expenses	\$254,887	\$254,877	
Fire:			
Salaries	\$2,724,985	\$2,724,985	
Expenses	\$270,754	\$270,754	
Hanover Public Schools	\$26,665,115	\$27,165,115	\$500,000
South Shore Vocational	\$725,406	\$797,804	\$72,398
Public Works:			
Salaries	\$1,251,699	\$1,231,699	(\$20,000)
Expenses	\$1,356,305	\$1,356,305	
Facilities:			
Salaries	\$2,002,274	\$1,952,274	(\$50,000)
Expenses	\$1,730,876	\$1,720,876	(\$10,000)
Snow & Ice	\$387,000	\$387,000	
Debt	\$5,013,619	\$5,013,619	
Town Wide Expenses	\$7,647,487	\$7,647,487	
Transfers	\$240,100	\$167,702	(\$72,398)
Total General Fund Operating Budget	\$57,294,547	\$57,633,712	(\$339,165)
Free Cash	\$ -	\$500,000	\$500,000
Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ -	
Cemetery Graves & Foundations	\$16,000	\$65,000	\$49,000
Sale of Cemetery Lots	\$10,000	\$10,000	

Title V Receipts Reserved Account	\$38,947	\$38,947	
Ambulance Receipt Reserved Account	\$933,095	\$933,095	
<i>Less Total Transfers</i>	\$998,042	\$1,547,042	\$549,000
To be raised by the 2018 Tax Levy	\$56,296,505	\$56,086,670	(\$209,835)

We move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$57,633,712** for a total General Fund Operating Budget, to provide for a reserve fund and to defray the expenses of the Town, and for the purposes listed in the budget document, and to meet said appropriation transfer the sum of \$500,000 from Free Cash, and transfer the sum of **\$65,000** from the Cemetery Graves & Foundations account, and transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Sale of Cemetery Lots account, and transfer the sum of **\$38,947** from the Title V Betterment Program, and transfer the sum of **\$933,095** from the Ambulance Receipt Reserved account and raise **\$56,086,670** from the 2018 Tax Levy.

***Commentary:** The Advisory Committee reviewed the budget department by department, compared each line item to the actual historic annual spending for the past five fiscal years, and questioned spending that seemed over-budgeted. Committee liaisons worked with department heads, requesting additional information and supporting documents on many of the line items. The Advisory Committee held public meetings with each of the department heads to review their requests and attempt to identify possible savings.*

*The Advisory Committee ultimately recommended changes to the Town Manager's proposed budget resulting in a reduction of \$209,835 in the amount that will be necessary to be raised by the 2018 Tax Levy. This reduction stems primarily from the tightening of the budget and cutting budgeted line items which are excessive in comparison to actual historic. If approved by Town Meeting, this recommendation is expected to result in a relatively small, but meaningful, reduction in the taxes assessed to residents, as compared to the Town Manager's budget proposal. **[Discuss quantifying?]***

The Advisory Committee is recommending two notable increases in spending. First, we recommend an increase of \$30,000 to General Government Expenses for additional legal services requested by the Fireworks Site Focus Committee. This will enable the Town to engage outside legal counsel with extensive experience environmental mitigation projects similar to the Fireworks remediation project. The Fireworks project is too complex, large and important to the Town to not engage the expertise that has been requested by the Fireworks Site Focus Committee.

The Advisory Committee also recommends that the Hanover Public Schools operating budget be increased by \$500,000, to be funded from certified free cash. This increase is proposed to replace the historical practice of funding Special Education expenses through a separate town meeting warrant article. Specifically, over the past three years, the town meeting has approved a specific warrant article, funding from free cash, in the amounts of \$500,000 for FY2015 and FY2016 and \$450,000 in FY2017. The Advisory Committee and the Board of Selectmen are in agreement that there is no benefit to funding Special Education operating expenses through a

stand-alone article and that incorporating these costs in to the operating budget more clearly reflects the reality of the situation.

Free Cash is a municipal finance term that deserves some explanation, as we will be using the term, or some variation of the term, repeatedly over the course of town meeting and nothing about it is intuitive. It should also be noted that as used in connection with the town meeting warrant, references to “General Fund Free Cash”, “free cash”, “certified free cash”, “Certified Free Cash”, and “undesignated fund balance”, all mean essentially the same thing. Free cash is a revenue source that results from the calculation, as of July 1st, of the Town’s remaining, unrestricted funds from its operations of the previous fiscal year based on the balance sheet as of June 30. Thus, in layman’s terms, free cash available as a revenue source at this town meeting is “left-over” monies from fiscal year 2016, certified as of July 1, 2016. Free cash includes (a) tax revenue and other receipts from fiscal year 2016 in excess of what was estimated during the fiscal year 2016 budget process, (b) turn backs of unspent amounts in departmental budget line items for fiscal year 2016, and (c) unexpended free cash from fiscal year 2015. Free cash is not permitted to be used until after an audited balance sheet is reviewed and certified by the State. The Town’s current certified free cash amount is \$2,543,589.

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue, through its Technical Assistance Bureau, “recommends that communities understand the role free cash plays in sustaining a strong credit rating and encourages adopt policies on its use. Under sound financial policies, a community strives to generate free cash in an amount equal to three to five percent of its annual budget. This goal helps deter free cash from being depleted in any particular year, which enables the following year’s calculation to begin with a positive balance. To do this, the community would orchestrate conservative revenue projections and departmental appropriations to produce excess income and departmental turn backs.” As noted above, the Board of Selectmen have implemented a free cash policy and our current free cash balance is well within the recommended levels.

As an unpredictable nonrecurring revenue source, it is generally recommended that the use of free cash be limited to paying one-time expenditures, funding capital projects, or replenishing reserves. Incorporating free cash into revenue source projections for next-year operating expenses should generally be avoided. As noted in our commentary to Article 8, we will be proposing additional funding of the School Sick Leave Buyback reserve with free cash earmarked for appropriations that are not approved by this town meeting. We will make a specific motion in connection with Articles 58 and 59 reflecting this approach.

[NOTE: Let’s discuss whether this detail should be presented, or just available should questions arise. The Committee recommended a decrease of \$55,651 from the Finance Department Salaries. This reduction is comprised of a decrease of \$21,564 for an unfilled senior clerk position in the Accounting office, a decrease of \$35,277 for an unfilled administrative assistant position in the Treasurer office, an increase of \$740 for the Town Clerk’s salary as addressed in Article 7, and an increase of \$450 to the administrative assistant position in the Town Clerk’s office to correct a salary increase to 2% that was incorrectly calculated at 1%.

The Committee recommended a decrease of \$40,160 from the Finance Department Expenses to correct for line items that have been budgeted but not expended since Fiscal Year 2013.

The Committee recommended a decrease of \$15,024 from the Community Services Department Expenses to correct for line items at the John Curtis Library that have been budgeted but not expended since Fiscal Year 2013.

The Committee recommended an increase of \$72,398 to the South Shore Vocational Institute to account for the updated billing since the preparation of the Town Manager's proposed budget.

The Committee recommended a decrease of \$20,000 from the Public Works Salaries to [THIS EXPLANATION NEEDS TO BE ADDED].

The Committee recommended a decrease of \$50,000 from the Facilities Salaries to correct primarily for excess overtime that has been budgeted but not used since Fiscal Year 2013.

The Committee recommended a decrease of \$10,000 from the Facilities Expenses to correct primarily for excess equipment maintenance that has been budgeted but not used since Fiscal Year 2013.

The Committee recommended a decrease of \$72,398 in Transfers to [THIS EXPLANATION NEEDS TO BE ADDED].

The Committee recommended an increase of \$49,000 to be transferred from Cemetery Graves & Foundations funds towards the Total General Fund Operating Budget to remain consistent with the transferred amount for the last three Fiscal Years given the continued consistent collections from this source.]

ARTICLE 11. WATER ENTERPRISE BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$3,242,470 from Water Enterprise receipts to defray Water Enterprise direct costs and that \$463,395 as appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget, be used for Water indirect costs, all to fund the total costs of operations of the Water Enterprise as follows, or take any other action relative thereto.

Advisory Committee
Town Manager

Personal Services	\$ 1,564,918
Other Expenses	\$ 1,334,000
Debt Service	\$ 343,552
Appropriate for Direct Costs	\$ 3,242,470
Indirect Costs - Reimburse General Fund for Shared Expenses	\$ 463,395

Total Cost - Water Enterprise	\$ 3,705,865
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We move that the Town vote to appropriate \$3,242,470 from Water Enterprise receipts to defray Water Enterprise direct costs and that the \$463,395 as appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget be used for the Water indirect costs, all to fund the total costs of operations of Water Enterprise. Each item is to be expended by the Town Manager in accordance with Chapter 67 of the Acts of 2009 Town Manager Act for the purposes identified and those purposes only, and each item to be considered a separate appropriation for that purpose only.

Commentary: *The Advisory Committee recommends a total Water Enterprise Budget of \$3,242,470 for direct expenses. The indirect costs act as a reimbursement to the General Fund for the expenses related to the Water Enterprise but paid for out of the General Fund. Some examples of these expenses are the town share of health insurance and retirement costs for the Water Department employees.*

ARTICLE 12. SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENSES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for School Special Education Expenses to be expended by the School Committee for this purpose, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
School Committee

We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.

Commentary: *As noted in connection with Article 10, the School Special Education expenses are in the nature of regular operating expenses and have been moved to the School's operating budget. As such, there is no need for the appropriation proposed by this Article.*

ARTICLE 13. PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEE TRAINING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate from available funds \$30,000.00, for public safety employee training, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used for public safety employee training. Said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager for the purposes stated herein.

Commentary: *This Article provides funds necessary for training that is above and beyond the training funded through the Public Safety budgets. The departmental budgets allow for the mandatory training needed. This Article provides funds to allow both the Fire Chief and the Police Chief to have their employees trained in more specialized areas. We support the recommendations of the Fire Chief and Police Chief as to the need for additional training. In*

future years, the Advisory Committee recommends that the amounts necessary for this type of specialized training be incorporated into the appropriate Public Safety budget and eliminate the practice of using a separate town meeting article for this purpose.

ARTICLE 14. APPROPRIATE/TRANSFER FUNDS - TOWN HALL CUPOLA

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from General Fund Free Cash \$45,000.00 and transfer \$179,500.00 from the Insurance Proceeds Account to complete the repair and restoration of the Town Hall cupola, said funds to be expended by the Town Manager, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

APPROPRIATE FROM:	GENERAL FUND FREE CASH	\$ 45,000
TRANSFER FROM:	INSURANCE PROCEEDS ACCOUNT	\$179,500
	TOTAL	\$224,500

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** This Article allows the transfer of insurance proceeds received in connection with the damage to the Town Hall cupola. In addition, this Article appropriates the sum of \$45,000 from certified free cash to fund the amounts necessary to complete the restoration above and beyond the insurance proceeds. The Advisory Committee recommends that the Town of Hanover complete the repair/restoration of the Town Hall cupola.*

ARTICLE 15. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – AERIAL LADDER REPLACEMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from the undesignated fund balance or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$325,000.00, or another sum, for the purchase an aerial ladder truck; appropriation to include equipping and training costs. Said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager and the Fire Chief, or take any other action relative thereto.

Fire Chief
Town Manager

We move the Town vote to borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$325,000.00, or another lesser sum, for the purchase of an aerial ladder truck; appropriation to include equipping and training costs. Said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager and the Fire Chief.

***Commentary:** The need to replace the Town's 1989 aerial ladder truck has been included in the Town's capital improvement plan for many years. With an anticipated price tag in excess of \$1,000,000, this capital item and its impact on the Town's finances have been a longstanding*

concern. Through the diligent work of the Fire Department, in October 2016, the Town was awarded a grant in the amount of \$932,381 from the Aid to Firefighter's Grant Program to be used towards the cost of a new aerial ladder truck. The grant award is contingent on the Town acquiring the ladder truck specified in the application, the additional cost of which is authorized by this Article through a borrowing. The principal and interest will be paid from the ambulance receipts reserve account thereby reducing the impact of this borrowing on the tax levy.

The Advisory Committee strongly recommends that the Town take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the grant award to replace an aerial ladder truck that has exceeded its useful life.

ARTICLE 16. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – IV INFUSION PUMPS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from the undesignated fund balance or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$24,000.00, or another sum, for the purchase of three (3) intravenous infusion pumps. Said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager and the Fire Chief, or take any other action relative thereto.

Fire Chief
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$24,000 from the ambulance receipt reserve fund for the purchase of three (3) intravenous infusion pumps. Said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager and the Fire Chief.

Commentary: This Article authorizes a transfer of funds from the ambulance receipt fund to be used to acquire three intravenous infusion pumps. The Fire Department must comply with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health requirement that all Advanced Life Support ambulances carry the intravenous pumps no later than December 31, 2017. The devices allow precise dosage administration of life saving medicine to patients. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Fire Chief.

ARTICLE 17. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – POLICE VEHICLES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from the undesignated fund balance or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, or any other enabling act, the sum of \$132,000.00, or another sum, to the Public Safety Vehicle Account authorized under Article #32 of the 1983 Annual Town Meeting. The amount will be for the purchase, lease, or lease purchase and equipping of two (2) marked police vehicles and one (1) unmarked police vehicle and to authorize related trade-ins or to be sold by sealed bid, said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager, or take any other action relative thereto.

Police Chief
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$132,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used for the purpose set forth in this Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates \$132,000 from free cash to acquire police vehicles in continuance of the Police Department's systematic replacement and recycling of high mileage vehicles to ensure that the vehicles are on-line and available for police use. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Police Chief and notes the police vehicles to be replaced are used around the clock and have met their expected useful life.*

ARTICLE 18. ESTABLISH PEG ACCESS & CABLE RELATED FUND

To see if the Town will vote to accept General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F^{3/4}, which establishes a special revenue fund known as the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, to reserve cable franchise fees and other cable-related revenues for appropriation to support PEG access services and oversight and renewal of the cable franchise agreement(s), the fund to begin operation for fiscal year 2018, which begins on July 1, 2017, and to authorize the Town Accountant to transfer the balance in the current Cable Services Revolving Fund to the accepted PEG Access and Cable Related Fund on July 1, 2017 and to appropriate the sum of \$350,000 from the PEG Access & Cable Related Fund for the purpose of monitoring compliance of the cable operator with the franchise agreement, preparing for renewal of the franchise license, and providing local cable access services and programming for the Town of Hanover in FY18, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
Finance Director

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** This Article implements a routine housekeeping procedure establishing a reserve fund that is used to pay all of the cable access activities to include staffing, equipment purchase and to fund educational classes in partnership with the Hanover High School.*

ARTICLE 19. AMEND GENERAL BYLAWS - ESTABLISH AND AUTHORIZE DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hanover General Bylaws by adding a new Section 6-31 to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain Town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E^{1/2}, and add this section to the table of contents, or take any other action relative thereto.

6-31 DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

1. Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by Town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of

programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E^{1/2}.

2. Expenditure Limitations. A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:
 - A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.
 - B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
 - C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Town Meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the Board of Selectmen and the finance committee.
3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this bylaw shall be credited to the general fund.
4. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E^{1/2} and this bylaw, the laws, charter provisions, bylaws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of Town monies and the expenditure and payment of Town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this bylaw. The Town Accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the town accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.
5. Authorized Revolving Funds.

The Table establishes:

- A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a Town department, board, committee, agency or officer,
- B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund,
- C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant,
- D. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used,
- E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund,
- F. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and
- G. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law/ordinance.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
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Revolving Fund	Spending Authority	Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses	Requirements/ Reports	Fiscal Year
LIBRARY	Community Services Director	Late Fines	Expenditures may include salaries, benefits, facility and all those in support of programs			Fiscal years that begin on or after July 1, 2017.
RECREATION FUND	Community Services Director	Program Fees	Expenditures may include salaries, benefits, facility and all those in support of programs			Fiscal years that begin on or after July 1, 2017.
GATRA	Community Services Director	Fees related to transportation programs	Expenditures may include salaries, benefits, facility and all those in support of programs			Fiscal years that begin on or after July 1, 2017.
FORGE POND PARK	Community Services Director	Fees related to programs	Expenditures may include salaries, benefits, facility and all those in support of programs			Fiscal years that begin on or after July 1, 2017.
FLU CLINIC	Community Services Director	Receipts from Medicare / Medicaid Billing	Expenditures may include salaries, benefits, facility and all those in support of programs			Fiscal years that begin on or after July 1, 2017.
Public Safety Vehicles	Police Chief	Proceeds from Sale of Public Safety Vehicles	Furnishings, equipment, and training relating to Public Safety Vehicles.			Fiscal years that begin on or after July 1, 2017.

Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** Revolving funds are for programs or services with the intent that the money generated from those programs or services will replenish the fund. This article re-authorizes existing funds. Revolving funds are the best way to verify that these programs are self-supporting.*

ARTICLE 20. SET LIMITS ON REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote to set the limits on the Revolving Funds set forth in Section 6-31 of the Town of Hanover General Bylaws in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E^{1/2} as follows, or take any other action relative thereto.

Revolving Fund	Limit on Spending
Library	\$15,000
Recreation Fund	\$250,000
GATRA	\$95,000
Forge Pond Park	\$20,000
Flu Clinic	\$15,000
Public Safety Vehicles	\$250,000

Town Manager
Finance Director

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** This Article establishes limits on spending from various revolving funds. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Town Manager as to the specific spending limit amounts.*

ARTICLE 21. SUPPLEMENT BOND/NOTE COSTS

To see if the Town will vote to supplement each prior vote of the Town that authorizes the borrowing of money to pay costs of capital projects to provide that, in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied, or take any other action relative thereto.

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** This purpose of this Article is to address a technical issue that arises when refinancing existing debt of the Town. The Massachusetts Municipal Modernization Act, which was enacted and became effective on November 7, 2016, requires net premium proceeds from financing be applied to capital projects. Because prior town meeting articles authorizing debt financing did not anticipate the change in law, they did not include provisions allowing for this treatment of net premiums. This Article effectively updates and revises the prior articles, thereby providing the Town with the flexibility to resize future borrowings and use the premium for the project being financed without further town meeting action. The Advisory Committee recommends passage to ensure that opportunities to refinance on more favorable terms are not slowed or missed as a result of this technical issue.*

ARTICLE 22. REDUCE CPA SURCHARGE

To see if the Town will vote to reduce the Community Preservation Act surcharge from 3% to 2% in accordance with MGL Ch. 44B, Sections 3 and 16, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

[NOTE: AdCom needs to finalize debate on this issue and vote it. The commentary reflects one view expressed at our April 1st meeting.]

We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.

***Commentary:** The Advisory Committee has been and continues to be critical of the priorities reflected by the types of projects coming from the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for town meeting vote. In particular, providing for affordable housing – a core objective of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) – has been shortchanged relative to other uses such as the creation of open space and recreation. Developing and maintaining affordable housing alternatives has been identified as a priority for the Town continually, yet over the history of the Town's use of the CPA funding mechanism only 11% of CPA funds allocated by the Town have been used for this purpose. Reducing the CPA surcharge from 3% to 2% will severely limit the ability of the Town to use funds derived from the CPA to address this need.*

The proposed surcharge reduction would result in very modest reductions in residential tax bills. For example, someone owning a residence with an assessed value \$471,362 (the average in Hanover) would see an annual savings of \$61.35 if the surcharge reduction is approved. Reducing the surcharge would also decrease the amount of the State matching funds associated with the CPA funds.

Rather than reducing the surcharge, the Advisory Committee recommends that the CPC and the town meeting voters take a new approach to approving proposed projects. If the project is not

addressing a high priority need of the Town, we recommend that the CPC refrain from approving the project and, if they do approve them for presentation to Town Meeting, the residents reject such appropriations. CPA funds are not required to be spent in any given year. The State matching funds are earned when the Town collects the surcharge, not when we spend it. With discipline and resolve, the Town could go several years without spending any CPA funds. At that time, with several million dollars available, the Town would be positioned to utilize the accumulated funds to take on high priority needs such as enhancing affordable housing options.

ARTICLE 23. ROUTE 53 STUDY COMMITTEE DISSOLUTION

To see if the Town will vote, to dissolve the Route 53 Committee which is no longer needed due to the completed zoning amendments and ongoing work of the Hanover Planning Board, or take any other action relative thereto.

Route 53 Corridor Joint Study Committee

Motion to be made at town meeting by the Board of Selectmen.

Commentary: *The Advisory Committee supports the dissolution of this committee.*

ARTICLE 24. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM STORAGE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$27,000.00 or any other sum, by creating a storage area of approximately 2,000 square feet in the High School by installing access into the void area beneath the Auditorium seating and installing associated systems for use, including fire sprinkler and alarm, electrical, and shelving, or take any other action relative thereto.

Facilities Engineering Manager
Town Manager

We move the Town vote to appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$27,000 to be used as set forth in this Article.

Commentary: *This Article appropriates free cash to be used to convert unfinished space located beneath the seats in the High School Auditorium into storage space. The storage space is needed for various school activities, including storing large sets and other materials needed for theater productions which are presently being disassembled and stored off-site. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Facilities Engineering Manager and School Superintendent and recommends passage of this Article.*

ARTICLE 25. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – KITCHEN EQUIPMENT MIDDLE & CEDAR SCHOOLS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$64,000.00 or any other sum, for replacement of capital kitchen equipment, including refrigeration, dishwashers and ovens, at the Middle and Cedar Schools, or take any other action relative thereto.

Facilities Engineering Manager
Town Manager

We move the Town vote to appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$64,000 to be used as set forth in the Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to replace kitchen equipment that is past its useful life span. The sum of \$34,000 is proposed to be used to replace the stainless steel serving line equipment at the Middle School. The serving line is original to the school construction and is in such poor condition that it may pose a safety issue to cafeteria workers. The remaining sum of \$30,000 is proposed to be used to insulate the walls of the Cedar School walk-in refrigerator and replace related equipment. The proposed work will increase energy efficiency and reduce the likelihood of food spoilage due to maintenance issues. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Facilities Engineering Manager and School Superintendent and recommends passage of this Article.*

ARTICLE 26. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – REPAVE AREAS CEDAR SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$110,000.00 or any other sum, for Phase 1 of plans to repave the parking lots and travel ways at Cedar School, or take any other action relative thereto.

Facilities Engineering Manager
Town Manager

We move the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$110,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used as set forth in this Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used for Phase 1 of a three phase project to repave the parking lot at the Cedar School. Overall, the pavement at Cedar School is in poor condition and is becoming a safety and aesthetic issue. The Facilities Engineering Manager has committed that Phase 1 will include the portion of the parking lot behind the Cedar School near the gymnasium entrance, as it is in the worst state of disrepair and represents the highest safety concern. The Advisory Committee supports Phase 1 of the repaving work and recommends passage of this Article.*

ARTICLE 27. APPROPRIATE FUNDS - TOWN HALL HVAC UNITS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$68,000.00 or any other sum, to replace and install 13 office and conference room HVAC units in the 1977 section of Town Hall, or take any other action relative thereto.

Facilities Engineering Manager
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$68,000 to be used as set forth in this Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used for the replacement of 13 individual HVAC units within the 1977 Section of Town Hall. The units are 40 years old and have exceeded their useful life. Many of the present units no longer operate and those still operational are costly to repair and maintain. Replacement of the HVAC units will result in improved efficiency and performance and will reduce operating and maintenance costs. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Facilities Engineering Manager and recommends passage of this Article.*

ARTICLE 28. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – KITCHEN HV UNIT HIGH SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$25,000.00 or any other sum, to retrofit the kitchen HV unit at the High School to add components to enable cooling, or take any other action relative thereto.

Facilities Engineering Manager
Town Manager

We move that the Town not accept this Article and take no further action.

***Commentary:** The Advisory Committee met with the Facilities Engineering Manager and the School Superintendent regarding this request. We have concluded that it is not in the best interest of the Town to proceed with this project at this time.*

ARTICLE 29. MGL CH. 268A § 21A - ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENT

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 268A, Section 21A, to appoint one of its members to perform Zoning Board of Appeals duties, whose duties are uncompensated; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Motion to be made at town meeting by the Board of Selectmen.

[Commentary: The Advisory Committee appreciates the hours of time volunteered by members of all appointed and elected committees and boards throughout Town. Volunteering on the Board of Selectmen is a particularly intense time commitment and great responsibility. We look to the Board of Selectmen to be leaders of our Town government, establishing the policies that will shape the Town for decade to come. While we commend the willingness of Mr. Delaney to generously contribute his time and efforts to multiple facets of our Town government, including both his position as a Selectman and the Chair of the Board of Assessors, the Advisory Committee does not believe it is in the best interest of the Town to have a member of the Board of Selectmen serving on additional committees and/or boards. We do not recommend passage of this Article.]

OR

[Commentary: The Advisory Committee supports the main motion of the Board of Selectmen.]

ARTICLE 30. TRANSFER FUNDS – COMPLETE VETERAN’S PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$21,806.75 from Article 40 of the 2015 Annual Town Meeting, for the purposes of completing the Veteran’s Memorial project at B. Everett Hall Field, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$21,806.75 from Article 40 of the 2015 Annual Town Meeting, for the purposes of completing the Veteran’s Memorial project at B. Everett Hall Field.

[Commentary: During the 2015 Annual Town Meeting an amount equal to \$25,000 was appropriated for the purpose of funding the design of the Veteran’s Memorial project. Through the diligent efforts of Ray Miller and the Veteran’s Memorial Committee, the design work was completed at a cost of \$3,193.25. This article allows the previously approved but unused balance of \$21,806.75 to be used toward completing the project. The Advisory Committee supports the efforts of the Veteran’s Memorial Committee and recommends passage.]

ARTICLE 31. TRANSFER FUNDS - SYLVESTER RE-USE STUDY

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$30,000 from certified free cash to conduct a formal study of redevelopment options for the Sylvester School and/or the Salmond School, said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
Sylvester School Redevelopment Committee

[NOTE: Chris Martin tells me that they plan to ask the BOS to revise their Article. We may need to update before we vote.]

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 from Certified Free Cash to engage a consultant to assist in studying the redevelopment options for the Sylvester School and/or the Salmond School, said funds to be expended at the direction of the Town Manager.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to implement the recommendation of the Sylvester School Redevelopment Committee and authorizes the Town Manager to engage a consultant to assist with the development of options for attracting affordable housing developers who will seek to monetize state and/or Federal tax incentives to help finance a private investment in the property, while retaining control over the historical significance of the building.*

ARTICLE 32. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – CLASSIFICATION & COMPENSATION PLAN

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Certified Free Cash, the sum of \$25,000 to fund a classification and compensation plan for Department Heads and non-union employees, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used for a classification and compensation plan for Department Heads and non-union employees.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used by the Board of Selectmen to engage a consultant to conduct a review of the current organization structure, classification and compensation for Department Heads and non-union employees, including the Town Clerk. The Advisory Committee concurs with the Board of Selectmen's request and supports this initiative. We anticipate that this effort will help identify opportunities for enhanced efficiency and cost savings.*

ARTICLE 33. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – LARGE DUMP TRUCK

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$190,000, or another sum, to purchase and equip a large dump truck, said purchase and equipping to be done at the direction of the Town Manager who is authorized to sell or make appropriate trade-ins, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$190,000 from Certified Free Cash to purchase and equip a large dump truck, said purchase and equipping to be done at the direction of the Town Manager who is authorized to sell or make appropriate trade-ins.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to implement the planned replacement of a 20 years old dump truck/sander with an equivalent vehicle. The Advisory Committee met with the Director of Public Works and is satisfied that the existing vehicle has exceeded its useful life.*

ARTICLE 34. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – PICKUP TRUCK WITH PLOW

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$41,000, or another sum, to purchase and equip a 4x4 Pickup Truck with Plow, said purchase and equipping to be done at the direction of the Town Manager who is authorized to sell or make appropriate trade-ins, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$41,000 from Certified Free Cash, to be used as set forth in the Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to implement the planned replacement of a nine-year old F250 4x4 pickup with an equivalent vehicle. Consistent with the Department of Public Works vehicles rotation plan, the vehicle being replaced by the acquisition will be moved to the water treatment facility and a 2006 pickup truck will be taken out of service and sold. The Advisory Committee met with the Director of Public Works and is satisfied that this proposal is in the best interest of the Town.*

ARTICLE 35. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – DAM INSPECTION/DESIGN

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$30,000, or another sum, to inspect the Curtis Crossing Dam and/or the Forge Pond Dam, develop plans and specification for the repair of said dam and if possible make such repairs, perform dam inspection/design, and enter into agreement with the Town of Pembroke who will assist in the costs for the Curtis Crossing Dam as they share ownership, said work to be done at the direction of the Town Manager, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used as set forth in this Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to perform inspection, design and repair work to the Curtis Crossing Dam and the Forge Pond Dam. The Curtis Crossing Dam, located in the vicinity of Luddams Ford, is jointly owned by the Towns of Hanover and Pembroke. After meeting with the Director of Public Works, the Advisory Committee is satisfied that the work to be performed pursuant to this proposed expenditure is necessary to bring the dams into compliance with current State Dam Safety Standards. Deficiencies were identified with the Forge Pond Dam and Curtis Crossing Dam in 2006. Work to address the deficiencies was deferred while the Town addressed higher priority needs with the Hackett's Pond Dam and Factory Pond Dam. Further delay is not in the best interest of the Town.*

ARTICLE 37. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – 2.5 TON VIBRATORY ROLLER

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$40,000.00, or another sum, to purchase and equip a 2.5 Ton Vibratory Roller, said purchase and equipping to be done at the direction of the Town Manager who is authorized to sell or make appropriate trade-ins, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used as set forth in the Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to implement a planned replacement of a 21-year old roller with an equivalent piece of equipment. The vehicle is a specialty vehicle used to compact utility patches and pothole repairs. The Advisory Committee is satisfied that the existing roller has reached the end of its useful life and should be replaced.*

ARTICLE 38. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – TRACTOR

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$40,000.00, or another sum, to purchase and equip a tractor, said purchase and equipping to be done at the direction of the Town Manager who is authorized to sell or make appropriate trade-ins, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$32,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used as set forth in the Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used for the purchase and equipping of a tractor for the cemetery and public grounds, replacing a Ford tractor that is at the end of its useful life. The Advisory Committee met with the Director of Public Works and encouraged him to consider additional alternatives to the initial proposal. Based on this meeting, a revised proposal was made for a slightly smaller tractor resulting in a cost reduction of \$8,000.*

ARTICLE 39. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – WATER MAIN UPGRADES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Water Revenues, appropriate from available undesignated Water Revenue Balances, appropriate from available funds, re-appropriate from the unexpended balances of previous Town Meeting articles, and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$200,000.00, or another sum, to replace and or reinforce the existing water main on Main Street from Plain Street to the center of Town with a 12-inch water main, said work to be done at the direction of the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works, who are authorized to apply for and accept any Federal or State assistance that may be available, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the sum of \$200,000 be and hereby is appropriated to pay costs to replace and or reinforce the existing water main on Main Street from Plain Street to the center of Town with a 12-inch water main, and for the payment of any and all other costs incidental and related thereto, said work to be done at the direction of the Town Manager and director of Public Works, who are authorized to apply for an accept any Federal or State assistance that may be available for the project, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(5) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

***Commentary:** This Article authorizes the Town Manager to cause the Town to borrow funds to be used for the first year of a multi-year project to reinforce the water mains on Main Street from Plain Street to the center of Town. This work was identified as a need and recommended in the 2001 Water Master Plan and will be performed in advance of the planned asphalt overlay on Main Street. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Director of Public Works to proceed with this project.*

ARTICLE 40. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – WATER TREATMENT PLANTS

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Water Revenues, appropriate from available undesignated Water Revenue Balances, appropriate from available funds, re-appropriate from the unexpended balances of previous Town Meeting articles, and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$2,800,000.00, or another sum, to modify the Pond Street Water Treatment Plant, Beal Water Treatment Plant, Broadway Water Treatment Plant, and Old and New Union Street Standpipes, and the Walnut Hill Standpipe in

accordance with the recommendations in the water treatment capital improvement plan, said work to be done at the direction of the Town Manager, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the sum of \$2,800,000 be and hereby is appropriated to modify the Pond Street Water Treatment Plant, Beal Water Treatment Plant, Broadway Water Treatment Plant, and Old and New Union Street Standpipes, and the Walnut Hill Standpipe in accordance with the recommendations in the water treatment capital improvement plan, and for the payment of any and all other costs incidental and related thereto, said work to be done at the direction of the Town Manager and director of Public Works, who are authorized to apply for an accept any Federal or State assistance that may be available for the project, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(5) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor.

***Commentary:** This Article authorizes the Town Manager to cause the Town to borrow funds to implement improvements to the Town's water treatment plants and water storage tanks and has been recommended by the Director of Public works. As noted last year, the upgrades and improvements are necessary to ensure that the Town comply with Federal regulations and an Administrative Consult Order between the Town and the State. The Director of Public Works has worked diligently with the Town's engineering consultant to reduce the financial impact of the proposed improvements and was able to reduce the projected cost from \$4,000,000 to \$2,800,000. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Director of Public Works.*

ARTICLE 41. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – WATER SERVICE VAN

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds and/or borrow in accordance with Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws the sum of \$35,000, or another sum, to purchase and equip a water service van, said purchase to be done at the direction of the Town Manager and the Director of Public Works, who are authorized to sell or make appropriate trade-ins, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Town Manager

We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.

***Commentary:** While this vehicle will eventually need to be replaced, the Advisory Committee met with the Director of Public Works and reviewed the vehicle history and usage and jointly determined that the purchase of a new water service van can be deferred to a future year.*

ARTICLE 42. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – TOWN HALL MEETING ROOMS

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate from available funds, borrow or transfer from certified free cash, the sum of \$35,000 to complete renovations to the Selectmen's meeting room and the second floor meeting room in the Hanover Town Hall, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

We move the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$35,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used as set forth in the Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to implement a key phase of the long term plan to increase the efficiency of the hearing rooms in Town Hall and add additional meeting space with the installation of a moveable wall in the Selectmen's meeting room. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Town Manager.*

ARTICLE 43. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – PHASE II MASTER PLAN

To see if the Town will vote, to appropriate \$30,000.00 U.S. dollars, from "Certified Free Cash" to "conduct phase II of Hanover 300 Master Plan, which will be directed with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), to promote a vision for Hanover's future development and preservation." Within the scope approved, and for the purposes approved by this Town Meeting, said funds to be expended for the purposes stated herein by the Town Manager, under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Planner
Town Manager

We move the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,000 from Certified Free Cash to be used as set forth in the Article.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to allow the master Plan Committee to complete phase II of its overall Hanover 300 Master Plan. The Master Plan committee has been working with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council to complete this work. The Town's share of \$30,000 will pay for half of the Phase II master plan work with a grant from the State in the amount of \$30,000 to pay the other half.*

ARTICLE 44. ADOPT MGL CH. 90 §17C, §18B – SPEED LIMITS

To see if the Town will adopt as local options Massachusetts General Law Chapter 90 §17C establishment of 25-miles per hour speed limit in thickly settled or business districts, and §18B establishment of designated safety zones, or take any other action relative thereto.

Motion to be made at town meeting by the Board of Selectmen.

***Commentary:** The Advisory Committee supports the motion of the Board of Selectmen.*

ARTICLE 45. APPROPRIATE FUNDS - TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, from certified free cash, the sum of \$100,000.00, to upgrade or replace obsolete hardware including, but not limited to, firewalls, switches, wireless access points, servers, desktops and laptops, or take any other action relative thereto.

Director of Technology

[NOTE: We need to finalize our vote on this item, along with the appropriate amount and approach.]

We move that the Town vote to appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of [\$65,000] to be used as set forth in this Article. [We further move to form a committee for further study and report back to the next Annual Town Meeting. Said temporary committee will be known as the Information Technology Study Committee and will be comprised of five citizens at-large of the Town, two to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, two to be appointed by the School Committee, and one to be appointed by the Moderator.]

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates free cash to be used to upgrade and replace certain Town-wide technology with an anticipated lifespan of more than five years. The Advisory Committee has concluded that the proposed upgrades are necessary and appropriate, but we believe that they can be completed at a reduced cost. Specifically, the proposal to spend \$65,000 to upgrade six school servers appears high. [With respect to future technology upgrade requests, the Advisory Committee recommends that a study committee be established to evaluate the current information technology capabilities of the Town, the current and projected needs and the development of a long-term strategic plan for identifying and prioritizing future technology upgrades].*

ARTICLE 46. AGGREGATION VOTE 1

To see if the Town will vote to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, and further, to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through deregulation and restructuring of the electric utility industry;
Whereas, citizens of Hanover have a substantial economic and social interest at stake, and;
Whereas the Town of Hanover hereby finds that it may be in the interest of the electric ratepayers, both residential and commercial/industrial, to enter into an aggregation agreement,
Be it therefore resolved that the Town of Hanover hereby:

Publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business communities, and;

Will negotiate and enter into a contract for power supply independently. If such a contract is affected, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose any alternatives they desire, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to refer this Article to the Board of Selectmen for further study.

OR

We move to refer this Article to a newly created committee for further study and report back to the next Annual Town Meeting. Said temporary committee will be known as the Electrical Aggregation Study committee and will be comprised of five citizens at-large of the Town, two to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen and three to be appointed by the Moderator. The Town Manager, or his designee, shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of this committee.

***Commentary:** This Article and the next Article would formally begin the Town down a path to implement an electrical load aggregation program and to become an aggregator, as permitted under State law. Load aggregation is the formation of a group of consumers into a single buying pool for the direct purchase of electricity supply. If the Town were to become an aggregator, each participating resident would ultimately enter into a service agreement directly with the supplier chosen by the Town. As an aggregator, the Town's primary role is to act as a catalyst or agent, introducing interested customers to a suitable supplier. The Town would determine the service constituents want to acquire, solicits bids, and chooses a supplier. If approved and formed the Town, in its role as aggregator and its participants enter a service agreement with the chosen supplier. Once the contracts are entered, the Town's aggregator role is monitoring and overseeing the contract.*

A primary reason often cited for establishing a municipal load aggregation is to provide constituents with a service they want in a manner they cannot obtain competitively from other sources. This is a worthy goal, however, the Advisory Committee is concerned that there has yet to be a full evaluation of the impact of implementing a load aggregation program on Town personnel and resources. Further, the Advisory Committee has not been made aware of the involvement of key participants in this decision making process – specifically the consumers. The opportunity to select an electricity supplier on behalf of consumers is a new phenomenon. We do not believe that it is in the best interest of the Town to charge down this path without a full exploration of the costs and resources to be incurred by the Town, and a rigorous community involvement effort. If there is interest in this proposal, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Board of Selectmen form a citizens committee to involve the community, while bringing relevant local expertise into the discussion process. Rather than rushing this measure to Town Meeting, we suggest that a appointment of a citizens committee on municipal aggregation would be a way to start the evaluation process by having the committee examine, and report on, available electricity supply purchasing opportunities.

ARTICLE 47. AGGREGATION VOTE 2

To see if the Town will vote, in accordance with G.L. c. 164, §134, to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load for interested electric utility customers in the Town of Hanover; and authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement or agreements for services to facilitate the sale and purchase of electric energy and other related services, for terms of more than three years, which independently, or through inter-municipal agreements with other municipalities or other political subdivisions of the Commonwealth on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deem in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all actions necessary to administer and implement such agreements; provided, however, that if the Board of Selectmen determines that such an arrangement is in the best interest of the Town, its residents and businesses, any agreement for such purposes shall include a provision securing individual consumers the ability to "opt out" at their discretion so as to be able to choose from among any available alternative power supply service; or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

We move that the Town vote to refer this Article to the Board of Selectmen for further study.

***Commentary:** The Advisory Committee opposes this Article for the reasons noted in our commentary to the previous Article.*

ARTICLE 48. ADD ZONING BYLAW – RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaws by adding the following new section, or take any other action relative thereto.

"6.16.0 TEMPORARY MORATORIUM." and further to amend the Table of Contents to add Section 6.16. "Temporary Moratorium" and the ensuing parts as proposed herein.

"6.16.0 Temporary Moratorium on the Sale and Distribution of Recreational Marijuana

A. Purpose

By vote at the State election on November 8, 2016, the voters of the Commonwealth approved a law regulating the cultivation, distribution, possession and use of marijuana for recreational purposes. The law provides that it is effective on December 15, 2016 and the Cannabis Control Commission is required to issue regulations regarding implementation by March 15, 2018.

Currently under the Zoning Bylaw, Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers are not a permitted use in the Town and any regulations promulgated by the State Cannabis Control Commission are expected to provide guidance to the Town in regulating Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers. Further, the ballot measure establishes an important provision that requires ballot action by the Town prior to the adoption of zoning.

The regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers raise novel and complex legal, planning, and public safety issues and the Town

needs time to study and consider the regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and address such novel and complex issues, as well as to address the potential impact of the State regulations on local zoning and to undertake a planning process to consider amending the Zoning Bylaw regarding regulation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and other uses related to the regulation of recreational marijuana. The Town intends to adopt a temporary moratorium on the use of land and structures in the Town for Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers so as to allow the Town sufficient time to engage in a planning process to address the effects of such structures and uses in the Town and to adopt provisions of the Zoning Bylaw in a manner consistent with sound land use planning goals and objectives.

B. Definitions

"Manufacture", to compound, blend, extract, infuse or otherwise make or prepare a marijuana product.

"Marijuana accessories", equipment, products, devices or materials of any kind that are intended or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing marijuana into the human body.

"Marijuana cultivator", an entity licensed to cultivate, process and package marijuana, to deliver marijuana to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers.

"Marijuana establishment", a marijuana cultivator, marijuana testing facility, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of licensed marijuana-related business.

"Marijuana product manufacturer", an entity licensed to obtain, manufacture, process and package marijuana and marijuana products, to deliver marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to transfer marijuana and marijuana products to other marijuana establishments, but not to consumers.

"Marijuana products", products that have been manufactured and contain marijuana or an extract from marijuana, including concentrated forms of marijuana and products composed of marijuana and other ingredients that are intended for use or consumption, including edible products, beverages, topical products, ointments, oils and tinctures.

"Marijuana testing facility", an entity licensed to test marijuana and marijuana products, including certification for potency and the presence of contaminants

"Marijuana retailer", an entity licensed to purchase and deliver marijuana and marijuana products from marijuana establishments and to deliver, sell or otherwise transfer marijuana and marijuana products to marijuana establishments and to consumers.

C. Temporary Moratorium

For the reasons set forth above and notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary moratorium on the use of land or structures for Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers. The moratorium shall be in effect through December 31, 2018. During the moratorium period, the Town shall undertake a planning process to address the potential impacts of recreational marijuana in the Town, consider the Cannabis Control Commission regulations regarding Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and related uses, once issued, determine whether the town shall, if in its power, restrict any, or all, licenses for Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers, determine whether the town will prohibit on-site consumption at Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and shall consider adopting new provisions of the Zoning Bylaw to address the impact and operation of Recreational Marijuana Establishments and Marijuana Retailers and related uses.

D. Severability

The provisions of this by-law are severable. If any provision, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this By-law or the application thereof to any person, establishment, or circumstances shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or application of this bylaw.”

Board of Selectmen
Town Manager

Motion to be made at town meeting by the Planning Board.

Commentary: *The Advisory Committee supports the Planning Board’s motion.*

ARTICLE 49. AMEND ZONING BYLAW, SECTION 6.11.20

To see if the Town will vote to amend Zoning Bylaw 6.11.20 in the manner described below, or take any other action relative thereto.

Village Planned Unit Development Section 6.11.20: Area and Dimensional Regulations:

Amend the Hanover Zoning Bylaw, Section 6.11.20 F. (VPUD) Area and Dimensional Regulations Requirements, by deleting this subsection and replacing it with the following:

To be inserted in place of Section 6.11.20.F.

- F. A buffer area shall be provided around the entire perimeter of a parcel of land that is the subject of a VPUD Special Permit in accordance with the following:
1. The buffer area shall be continuous and shall be of a minimum width of not less than fifty (50) feet.
 2. The buffer area shall be landscaped with natural vegetation, new plantings, or a combination, which shall include groundcover, shrubs, and trees in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of this Zoning Bylaw, except to the extent that

the requirements of that section are reduced by the Planning Board upon the request of the Special Permit applicant.

3. Access roads or driveways or pedestrian paths may be allowed to cross the buffer area as shown on the approved plans.

The buffer area shall apply to a VPUD except to the extent that the requirements of this subsection are reduced, amended or waived by the Planning Board for good cause shown, consistent with the purposes of Section 6.11.0 (Village Planned Unit Development) of this Zoning Bylaw.

Planning Board

Motion to be made at town meeting by the Planning Board.

***Commentary:** The Advisory Committee supports the motion of the Planning Board..*

ARTICLE 50. TWO OFF PREMISE LIQUOR LICENSES

To see if the Town will vote to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to allow for two (2) off-premises liquor licenses, notwithstanding Section 17 of Chapter 138, as follows: two (2) beer and wine licenses, said licenses to be restricted and site-specific to particular businesses situated at the property known as the “Hanover Mall”/located at 1775 Washington Street, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE WITHDRAWN APRIL 10, 2017

ARTICLE 51. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – TOWN CIVIC CAMPUS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate from the undesignated fund balance or borrow in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws or any other enabling act, the sum of \$436,113.00 dollars U.S., for the “restoration and development of the proposed landscaping plan creating a civic campus within the historical Hanover Town Center”. Within the scope approved by the Board of Selectmen and Hanover Town Hall Task Force for the purposes approved by this Town Meeting, said funds to be expended for the purposes stated herein by the Town Manager, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee
Historical Commission

We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.

***Commentary:** As noted in our commentary relative to the proposal to decrease to the Community Preservation Act surcharge, the Advisory Committee does not believe it is in the best interest of the Town to use CPA funds for expenditures that do not address a high priority need*

of the Town. While a reconfigured and landscaped area surrounding Town Hall would be nice to have, it does not address a compelling need.

ARTICLE 52. APPROPRIATE FUNDS - RESTORATION TOWN HALL

To see if the Town will vote, Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) Chapter 44B (Community Preservation), and the Hanover General Bylaws, Section 4-19, to appropriate \$202,200.00 dollars U.S., from the Town's Community Preservation Fund (CPF) and to appropriate \$202,200.00 dollars U.S from Certified Free Cash for the "restoration of the structural integrity and exterior of the historic Hanover Town Hall", said monies will fund the installation of HVAC within historic Town Hall and residing the 1977 edition of Town Hall. Within the scope approved by the Community Preservation Committee and for the purposes approved by this Town Meeting, said funds to be expended for the purposes stated herein by the Town Manager, under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee
Historical Commission

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** Contrary to the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the Town voted at the 2015 Annual Town Meeting to undertake a major renovation of Town Hall without a full understanding of the overall costs or the sources to fund it. With the renovation now underway and additional costs identified, it is not in the best interest of the Town to leave the project incomplete. As such, we recommend approval of this Article and hope that there are not many additional Town Hall renovation costs identified.*

ARTICLE 53. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – VETERAN'S HONOR GARDEN

To see if the Town will vote, Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) Chapter 44B (Community Preservation), and the Hanover General Bylaws, Section 4-19, to appropriate \$75,000 U.S. dollars, from the Town's Community Preservation Fund (CPF) to "include landscaping, walkways, lightings, grading and plantings to the development of the Hanover Veterans Honor Garden", Within the scope approved by the Community Preservation Committee, and for the purposes approved by this Town Meeting, said funds to be expended for the purposes stated herein by the Town Manager, under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee
Historical Commission
Veterans Memorial Committee

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** This Article appropriates CPA funds to be used to complete the Veteran's Honor Garden. The Advisory Committee observes that through prior Town Meetings the residents have identified this project as a high priority need of the Town. As such, we support the recommendation of the Veterans Memorial Committee and the Community Preservation Committee.*

ARTICLE 54. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – MULTI-USE RECREATIONAL FACILITY

To see if the Town will vote, Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) Chapter 44B (Community Preservation), and the Hanover General Bylaws, Section 4-19, to appropriate \$150,000.00 U.S. dollars, from the Town's Community Preservation Fund (CPF) for "the development of a multi-use recreational facility to include a proposed street/deck hockey facility and inclusive playground. The location of said facility shall be developed in correlation with the 2017 Hanover Open Space and Recreational Plan being conducted by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), to promote open space networks and public spaces in the Town of Hanover. Within the scope approved by the Community Preservation Committee, and for the purposes approved by this Town Meeting, said funds to be expended for the purposes stated herein by the Town Manager, under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee
Parks and Recreation Committee
Build the Boards Committee

We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.

OR

Motion to be made at Town Meeting.

***[Commentary:** As noted in our commentary relative to the proposal to decrease the Community Preservation Act surcharge, the Advisory Committee does not believe it is in the best interest of the Town to use CPA funds for expenditures that do not address a high priority need of the Town. While another recreational facility would be nice to have, it does not address a compelling need. [We should add something about all the unresolved questions.]]*

OR

***[Commentary:** Commentary to be provided at Town Meeting.]*

ARTICLE 55. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – HISTORICAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

To see if the Town will vote, Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) Chapter 44B (Community Preservation), and the Hanover General Bylaws, Section 4-19, to appropriate \$16,240.00 dollars U.S., over the course of three fiscal years totaling \$48,720.00 dollars U.S., from the Town's Community Preservation Fund (CPF) to "to support the updating of the

community-wide inventory of historical and cultural resources in the Town of Hanover”, within the scope approved by the Community Preservation Committee and for the purposes approved by this Town Meeting, said funds to be expended for the purposes stated herein by the Town Manager, under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee
Historical Commission

We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.

***Commentary:** As noted in our commentary relative to the proposal to decrease the Community Preservation Act surcharge, the Advisory Committee does not believe it is in the best interest of the Town to use CPA funds for expenditures that do not address a high priority need of the Town.*

[ARTICLE 56. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

To see if the Town will vote to approve the Tax Increment Financing Agreement between the Town, and PREP Hanover Real Estate LLC, substantially in the form as is on file with the Town Clerk (the “TIF Agreement”), pursuant to GL c. 40, §59, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to submit a Certified Local Incentive Only Application and the TIF Agreement to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council, all relating to the project as described in the TIF Agreement to be located at 1775 Washington Street known as the Hanover Mall, and to take such other actions as may be necessary to obtain approval of the Certified Local Incentive Only Application and to implement the TIF Agreement, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE WITHDRAWN 4/10/17.

ARTICLE 57. AMEND BYLAWS – TOWN OWNED/OCCUPIED BUILDINGS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the By-Laws of the Town of Hanover by adding thereto the following provisions:

Color of Town owned or occupied buildings:

- a. All Town owned or occupied buildings, now existing or hereafter constructed, that are situated within the Town center, as designated as a National Historic District, shall have an exterior color of white.
- b. Trim such as window blinds or shutters shall be a color as determined by the Board of Selectmen.
- c. The following buildings shall be exempt from the provision of this by law. All buildings of brick construction and the Stetson House;

or take any other action relative thereto.

By Petition: Ann Beers
Margaret Parfumorse
Clayton Parfumorse
Mary Walsh-Raab
Richard Farwell

Motion to be made at Town Meeting by Petitioners.

***Commentary:** [In light of the fact that ballot question has been added to allow the residents to decide the Town Hall color and the potential for confusion and costs incurred by the Town in connection with inconsistent results between this Article and the ballot question, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Town not adopt this Article.]*

ARTICLE 58. SCHOOL SICK LEAVE BUYBACK FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$50,000 from the Overlay Reserve to the School Sick Leave Buyback Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Advisory Committee
Town Manager

Motion to be made at Town Meeting

OR

We move the Town vote to appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$55,000 to the School Sick Leave Buyback Fund.

***Commentary:** As noted previously, sick leave buyback is a contractual benefit available to School employees enabling them to “cash in” unused sick leave upon retirement or separation from employment. This creates a contingent liability for the Town that could be fiscally damaging to the Town when the liabilities arise. The best way to manage this liability is through the funding of a reserve, which is a practice that the Town has engaged over the past several years. Despite these efforts, the projected liability, as of the end of fiscal year 2016, associated with the School Sick Leave Buyback is \$1,851,172 and the current balance of the reserve against this liability is only \$333,745. As such, our current projected liabilities are \$1,517,427 greater than our reserves. The Advisory Committee strongly recommends that the Town aggressively increase efforts to enhance the School Sick Leave Buyback Fund.*

With respect to both this Article 58 and Article 59, the Advisory Committee had intended to provide town meeting with a recommendation to transfer to the applicable reserves some significant amount of certified free cash that had been earmarked for capital appropriations but that was no longer needed because town meeting did not approve the proposed appropriation. We discovered late in the process that the language of the Articles provided by the Town Manager prevented us from recommending more than \$55,000 be transferred under these

Articles. We brought this issue before the Board of Selectmen on April 10th to request that they allow us to amend our article and that request was denied, with Selectman O'Rourke and Selectman Delaney voting against our request and Selectman Tuzik abstaining. The Advisory Committee is disappointed that this vote limited the ability to even offer the residents here tonight the option of more aggressively funding the School Sick Leave Buyback Fund and or the Town Sick Leave Buyback Fund.

ARTICLE 59. TOWN SICK LEAVE BUYBACK FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$50,000 from the Overlay Reserve to the Town Sick Leave Buyback Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Advisory Committee
Town Manager

Motion to be made at Town Meeting

OR

We move the Town vote to appropriate from Certified Free Cash the sum of \$55,000 to the Town Sick Leave Buyback Fund.

Commentary: As noted previously, sick leave buyback is a contractual benefit available to Town employees enabling them to "cash in" unused sick leave upon retirement or separation from employment. This creates a contingent liability for the Town that could be fiscally damaging to the Town when the liabilities arise. The best way to manage this liability is through the funding of a reserve, which is a practice that the Town has engaged over the past several years. Despite these efforts, the projected liability, as of the end of FY2016, associated with the Town Sick Leave Buyback is \$1,006,919 and the current balance of the reserve against this liability is only \$588,849. As such, our current projected liabilities are \$418,070 greater than our reserves. The Advisory Committee recommends that the Town increase efforts to enhance the Town Sick Leave Buyback Fund using certified free cash.

ARTICLE 60. APPROPRIATE FUNDS - VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Health Imperatives' VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS request \$1,500 from the Town of Hanover for services provided to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence in Fiscal Year 2017.

By Petition: Jonathan Adams
Denis Blais
Kim Leigh
Margaret Knight
David Downes

We move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,500 from Certified Free Cash to fund services provided to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence in FY 2018.

Commentary: *Advisory Committee supports this modest funding from free cash for health imperatives related to such an important issue.*

**ARTICLE 61. ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF MA GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 60A,
SECTION 1, PARAGRAPH 7**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of MA General Laws, Chapter 60A, Section 1, Paragraph 7, which provides for an excise tax exemption for former Prisoners of War, or take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

Commentary: *The Advisory Committee supports this Article as it will allow the Board of Assessors to grant excise tax exemptions to our Veterans who are former Prisoners of War. The projected financial impacts are anticipated to be modest.*

ARTICLE 62. TOWN CLERK FEE SCHEDULE

To see if the Town will amend the Town Clerk's Office fee schedule, that is currently on-file with the Town Clerk, so that the new schedule shall add the following fees:

Personal Kennel License	\$50
Commercial Breeder's Kennel License	\$75
Commercial Boarding or Training Kennel License	\$100

And abolish the current fees, as follows:

Kennel License (not more than 4 dogs)	\$10
Kennel License (5-10 dogs)	\$25
Kennel License (more than 10 dogs)	\$50

or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Clerk

We move that the Town amend the Town Clerk's Office fee schedule, that is currently on-file with the Town Clerk, so that the new schedule shall add the fees as printed in the Warrant.

Commentary: *The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Town Clerk.*

ARTICLE 63. ACCEPT CHAPTER 90 ROAD GRANT MONIES

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager to accept such sums of money as may be distributed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

through the Chapter 90 highway grant program, so-called, funds to be expended by the Town Manager in accordance with the guidelines and requirements of the Massachusetts Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen
Town Manager
Director of Public Works

We move that the Town vote to accept this Article as printed in the Warrant.

***Commentary:** This Article authorizes the Town Manager to accept Chapter 90 funds as allocated by the State legislature for highway improvements in the Town.*

ARTICLE 64. ACCEPT STREETS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following streets as public ways, or take any other action relative thereto:

Saddle Lane: The entire length of Saddle Lane, as shown on a plan entitled “Roadway As Built Plan of Saddle Lane in Hanover, Mass” prepared by AABerg Associates, Inc., dated February 1, 2007. A copy of which is on file in the office of the Hanover Department of Public Works.

Planning Board
Director of Public Works

Motion to be made at Town Meeting by the Director of Public Works

ARTICLE 1. PAYMENT OF PRIOR YEAR EXPENDITURES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum(s) of money or transfer from any available funds, or to transfer from other accounts, to pay such accounts as may be presented against the Town for which an appropriation does not exist, or take any other action relative thereto.

Best Plumbing Specialties, Inc.	\$233.59
Jon Jolles	\$1,750.00
Jon Jolles	\$1,750.00

Finance Director

We move that the Town vote to transfer \$3,733.59 to pay certain unpaid bills, as identified in the chart below:

SOURCE				USE	
Description	TM Ref	Art#	Amount	Description	Amount
Transit Cargo Van	ATM 2015	30	\$ 680.00	FY16 Best Plumbing Specialites Inc.	\$ 233.59
Portable Light Tower	ATM 2014	31	\$ 315.98	FY16 Jon Jolles	\$ 1,750.00
Electronic Message Board	ATM 2014	30	\$ 2,737.61	FY16 Jon Jolles	\$ 1,750.00
			\$ 3,733.59		\$ 3,733.59

Commentary: *This Article implements a routine housekeeping procedure allowing the Finance Director to pay invoices presented for payment after the close of the fiscal year. Pursuant to State law, a town meeting vote is required to accept and pay these outstanding invoices.*

ARTICLE 2. RESCIND COMPLETED PROJECTS BORROWING AUTHORIZATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the following borrowing authorizations for projects completed under budget or no longer needed, as stated below, or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Director

Need Chart inserted

We move that the Town vote to adopt this Article.

Commentary: *This Article implements a routine housekeeping procedure to allow the closeout of completed projects and/or purchases where there are no additional expenses to fund.*

ARTICLE 3. TRANSFER MEALS TAX TO OPEB TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the meals tax funds collected to the OPEB Trust Fund for the Fiscal Year 2017, or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Director

We move that the Town vote to transfer the meals tax funds collected during FY17 to the OPEB Trust Fund.

***Commentary:** This Article implements an ongoing housekeeping procedure. Article 37 of the May 7, 2012 Annual Town Meeting adopted the meals tax. It further intended that these receipts to go into an OPEB Trust Fund. Town Counsel has advised that because the receipts are General Fund revenue a transfer of the receipts needs to be done on an annual basis.*

ARTICLE 4. APPROPRIATE FUNDS – TRIENNIAL REVALUATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, or borrow, the sum of \$70,200.00 to fund the triennial revaluation that is required by the Department of Revenue in order for the Commissioner of Revenue to certify that the Town is assessing property for local tax purposes in a way in which meets legal standards for FY18, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
Finance Director

We move the Town vote to appropriate from the Overlay Surplus Account the sum of \$70,200 to be used as set forth in this Article.

***Commentary:** This Article provides from an appropriation from the overlay surplus account to be used to fund a revaluation, as required by the Department of Revenue. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Finance Director.*

ARTICLE 5. TRANSFER FUNDS - HANOVER SCHOOLS BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from certified free cash the sum of \$140,635.00 to the Hanover Public Schools budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

We move the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$140,635 from Certified Free Cash to be made available for the FY2017 Hanover Public Schools operating budget.

***Commentary:** When the School Department operating budgets are established, the amount of Chapter 70 education aid that will be made available by the State is uncertain. Late in fiscal*

year 2016, the Town received State aid in an amount \$140,635 more than anticipated. The aid amount was deposited in the General Fund per Department of Revenue requirements, and became part of the free cash calculation. This Article appropriates an amount equal to the Chapter 70 funds received to be used by the School Department for current year operating costs.

ARTICLE 6. DISPOSITION – BROADWAY FIRE STATION - 207 BROADWAY, MAP 57 LOT 57

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of the property located at 207 Broadway, Hanover Assessors Map 57/Lot 57 on such terms as the Board, in its discretion, determine to be in the best interest of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Motion to be made at town meeting by the Board of Selectmen.

***Commentary:** The Advisory Committee supports the main motion of the Board of Selectmen.*

ARTICLE 7. CREATE WIND TURBINE STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to establish under Chapter 40, Section 5B of the Massachusetts General Laws, a Wind Turbine Stabilization Fund for the purpose of accepting funds from a variety of sources, said fund to be used exclusively to defray all costs associated with the Wind Turbine, or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Director
Town Manager

[We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.]

We move the Town vote to establish under Chapter 40, Section 5B of the Massachusetts General Laws, a Wind Turbine Stabilization Fund for the purpose of accepting funds from a variety of sources, said fund to be used exclusively to defray all costs associated with the Wind Turbine.

***Commentary:** This Article creates a stabilization fund that is intended to create a dedicated source of funds for the ongoing repair and maintenance for the Town's wind turbine. The town received a settlement from Hanover Insurance when it took possession of the turbine last year, and the net proceeds from that settlement will stay in the fund to address the need for future major repairs, if they occur. The stabilization fund was suggested by the Town Manager as a vessel for these funds, such that Town Meeting will have a role in future appropriations. The Advisory Committee Supports the recommendation of the Town Manager.*

ARTICLE 8. TRANSFER FUNDS – WIND STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer funds in the amount of \$153,515.00 from the General Fund to the Wind Turbine Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
Finance Director

[We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.]

We move the Town vote to transfer funds in the amount of \$153,515.00 from the General Fund to the Wind Turbine Stabilization Fund.

***Commentary:** This Article provides for a transfer of the amount of the settlement from Hanover Insurance from the general fund, where it was deposited, to the stabilization fund created in Article 7, making the resources available for ongoing maintenance and repairs to the town's wind turbine. The settlement was the result of more than a year's worth of negotiation and resulted in the conclusion of the contract and transfer of ownership from the insurance company to the town. The settlement was approved unanimously by the Board of Selectmen. The Advisory Committee Supports the recommendation of the Town Manager.*

ARTICLE 9. TRANSFER FUNDS – WATER CAPITAL PROJECT FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$86,556.88 from the Wind Turbine Stabilization Fund to the Water Capital Project Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
Finance Director

[We move that the Town not accept this article and take no further action.]

We move the Town vote to transfer \$86,556.88 from the Wind Turbine Stabilization Fund to the Water Capital Project Fund.

***Commentary:** This Article implements the final piece in the settlement related to the Town's wind turbine. This transfer will cover expenses incurred by the town during the settlement process. These expenses including repairs and maintenance to the turbine during the settlement discussions and were an approved part of the settlement approved by the Board of Selectmen. The Advisory Committee Supports the recommendation of the Town Manager.*

ARTICLE 10. TRANSFER FUNDS – SNOW & ICE EXPENSES

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds, in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, the sum of \$150,000 to meet deficits or unforeseen costs for Snow & Ice Removal, or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager
Director of Public Works

We move that the Town vote to adopt this Article.

Commentary: *This Article appropriates from free cash \$150,000 to be used to pay overages in the Department of Public Works operating budget for snow and ice removal. As a result of higher than normal snow and ice events this year, salaries and expenses associated with the town's snow and ice budget exceeded the originally budgeted amount for fiscal year 2017 by 39%. The Advisory Committee supports the recommendation of the Director of Public Works.*

DRAFT