STM Doings

# Town of Southwick SPECIAL TOWN MEETING COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS May 15, 2007 6:30 p.m.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, James Putnam at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at the Southwick-TollandRegional High School, Feeding Hills Road in the Auditorium, with approximately 281 registered voters in attendance.

The following registered voters were appointed as tellers for the meeting:

Cal Chunglo		
Doug	Moglin	

Butch LaBombard Charlie Dunlap

A motion was made and seconded to allow the following non-voters on to the town meeting floor:

Linda Carr, Town Accountant Michelle L. Hill, Town Clerk Jeff Neece, DPW Director Thomas Scanlon, Town Auditor Rob Levesque, Lake Front Project Carol DellaGiustina, Assistant Accountant Kenneth Albano, Town Counsel Attorney Richard Girard, Veterans Agent Fred Dupere, Labor Counsel Attorney

# **UNANIMOUS**

#### **GREETINGS**:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town qualified to vote in elections and town affairs to meet and assemble at the SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM ON Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. then and there for the Special Town Meeting and to act on the following articles:

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the warrant in its entirety and to act upon each Article separately.

**ARTICLE 1.** Town of Southwick voted to appropriate and transfer from available funds the sum of \$3,130.00 for the following salary accounts

Asst Assessor\$2,330.00Part Time Assessor Clerk\$400.00Animal Control Salary\$400.00

Or take any other action relative thereto.

PASSED MAJORITY **ARTICLE 2.** Town of Southwick voted to appropriate and transfer from Available funds the sum of \$84,221.00 for the following operations accounts

Town Hall Utilities	\$4,680.00	Public Safety Utilities	\$19,000.00
Ice/Snow Removal	\$45,000.00	Sewer IMA Debt Payment	\$14,541.00
Library Utilities	\$1,000.00		

Or take any other action relative thereto.

### PASSED MAJORITY

**ARTICLE 3.** Town of Southwick voted to require that the Selectmen have a video of all Annual Town Meetings and Special Town Meetings shown on Southwick's Cable Channel 15. The video shall be shown for a period of 7 days immediately following said town meeting.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

FAILED		
92	NO	
82	YES	

**ARTICLE 4.** Town of Southwick voted to require that the annual budget be made available to citizens no later than 7 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting. The budget would be online via the Southwick web site and in print at the Town Hall.

The Budget must include:

- a. The percentage change of individual line items from the previous year's budget.
- b. A percentage comparison of the overall departmental budgets (in relation to the Massachusetts state averages for all towns).
- c. A summary by department of changes from the previous year's budget and list of projected capital expenditures in excess of \$5,000.00.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

PASSED MAJORITY

**ARTICLE 5.** Town of Southwick voted to replace Chapter 24, Section 2 of the Southwick Bylaws.

**Existing:** § 24.2. Powers and duties.

The Finance Committee shall investigate the cost of maintenance and expenditures of all Town offices and departments and report to each Town Meeting its recommendations as to all Articles in the warrant involving the expenditures of money or the disposition of any property of the Town.

Proposed: § 24.2. Powers and duties.

STM Doings

The Finance Committee shall investigate all proposals in the articles of the warrant for any Town meeting that shall in any way affect the finances of the Town and recommend to the Selectmen and Town at lease 7 days prior to the time of said meeting a course of action thereon. Said recommendation shall include a 1 paragraph summary of the article, as well as the pros and cons of each Article. The Finance Committee shall consider all matters relating to the appropriation, the borrowing and the expenditure of money by the Town, its indebtedness, the administration of its various offices and departments, and may make recommendations to the Town or to any board, officers or committee relative to the municipal fiscal affairs. In general, it shall make recommendations to the Town in regard to any financial business of the Town. In the discharge of its duties, the Committee shall bv majority vote assign one or more individual members of the Committee free access to all books of record and account, bills and vouchers on which money has been or may be paid from the Town Treasury, contracts, agreements, and any other documents (printed or electronic) relating to financial matters of the Town.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

#### PASSED MAJORITY

**ARTICLE 6.** Town of Southwick voted to require that all scheduled board and committee meetings shall be posted on the Town's website no later than 2 days in advance of said meeting and require that the minutes of all meetings shall be posted on the Town website no later than 14 days after the meeting for which they were approved.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

PASSED MAJORITY

A Motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 7:55 PM.

# UNANIMOUS

A TRUE COPY OF ATTEST:

Michelle L. Hill, Town Clerk