

# Town of Southwick, Massachusetts

454 College Highway, Southwick, MA 01077

## STM Warrant with Explanations May 15, 2012

**\*\*\*NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT REPRESENTS THE ACTUAL WARRANT SIGNED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND POSTED BY THE CONSTABLE AT SOUTHWICK TOWN HALL, SOUTHWICK POST OFFICE AND SOUTHWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY.\*\*\***

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**  
*Article Explanations*  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Tuesday, May 15, 2012**  
**6:30 p.m.**

Special Town Meeting, Tuesday, May 15, 2012, 6:30 p.m. at the Southwick Tolland Regional High School, Feedings Hills Road, in the Auditorium.

**HAMPDEN SS.** To either of the Constables of the Town of Southwick in the County of Hampden:

### 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, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. then and there for the Special Town Meeting and to act on the following articles:

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the following amounts: \$20,050 from the General Fund Salary Reserve Account, \$1,200 from the Water Salary Reserve Account, \$10,000 from the Water Retained Earnings Account, \$600 from the Sewer Salary Reserve Account, \$10,000 from the Sewer Retained Earnings Account and \$1,600 from the EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Salary Reserve for a total of \$43,450 to be used for the following Salary accounts, or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen's Administrative Assistant	\$700	Director of Health Service	\$700
Selectmen's Clerical	\$300	Board of Health Clerical	\$100
Finance Committee Clerical	\$100	Council on Aging Director	\$600
Town Accountant	\$1,000	Council on Aging Clerical Staff	\$500
Assistant Town Accountant	\$700	Library Director	\$1,050
Town Clerk/Treasurer/Collector	\$1,000	Assistant Library Director	\$800
Asst Town Clerk/Treasurer/Collector	\$700	Library Part Time Staff	\$1,300
Town Clerk/Treas/Collector Clerical	\$400	Park & Recreation Clerical	\$200
Conservation Coordinator	\$400	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$20,050</b>
Planning Board Planner	\$500		
Planning Board Clerical	\$200	DPW Director Water	\$200
Building & Grounds Supervisor	\$800	DPW Special Assistant Water	\$200
Custodial	\$1,000	DPW Supervisor Water	\$400
Town Hall Part Time	\$2,000	DPW Water Part Time Clerical	\$400
Police Department Secretary	\$700	DPW Water Overtime	\$10,000
Police Department Records Clerk	\$200	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,200</b>

Police Department Cross. Guard	\$100		
Building Inspector	\$900	DPW Special Assistant Sewer	\$200
Emergency Management Director	\$200	DPW Supervisor Sewer	\$400
Emergency Management Asst Dir.	\$150	DPW Sewer Overtime	\$10,000
Animal Control	\$1,500	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,600</b>
DPW Director Highway	\$700		
DPW Special Assistant Highway	\$200	EMS FF/EMT	\$1,600
DPW Supervisor Highway	\$300	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,600</b>
Cemetery Clerical	\$50	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,450</b>

Requested by the Board of Selectmen, Water Commissioners and Sewer Commissioners

**ARTICLE 1 EXPLANATION: This Article:**

**1. Transfers current year funds from existing Salary Reserve and Retained Earnings Accounts to cover a 1.5% wage adjustment for approximately 40 non-union staff members.**

**2. This fiscal year the sewer department has had many required repairs and service calls on the six sewer pump stations that are an integral part of the sewer infrastructure. Failure of the pump motors, loss of prime, short circuited control panels, and worn bearings and impellers are but a few of the problems. Each service call requires a minimum of four hours of overtime expense if the problem occurs after normal work hours or on weekends. The funds will be used to cover the current deficit in this line item, and will allow overtime use for the rest of the fiscal year.**

**3. This fiscal year the water department has experienced a higher than normal use of the overtime account due to weekend emergencies, normal pump and well readings, need for employees to be present during the projects of the new well, College Highway reconstruction, and the booster pump replacements. Each emergency response requires 2 people due to confined space safety issues. The funds will be used to allow overtime use for the completion of projects and normal pump and well readings through the rest of the fiscal year. These funds will balance the current deficit in these accounts and give us operational and salary funds to carry us through the rest of fiscal year 2012.**

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from available funds the sum of \$645,000.00 to the following operations accounts, or take any other action relative thereto.

October 29, 2011 Storm Debris Removal Services	\$625,000.00
Sewer Contracted Services	\$ 20,000.00

Requested by the Board of Selectmen

**ARTICLE 2 EXPLANATION: This Article requests funds to:**

- Accommodate Town's projected 25% share of the estimated \$2.5M clean up for the October 29, 2011 storm. Substantial reimbursement requests have been submitted to FEMA to begin the process of capturing 75% reimbursement and the Selectmen have been working with State Legislators for funding to recover Town's portion of the expenses.**
- Sewer funds needed since this fiscal year the Sewer Department has had many required repairs and service calls on the six sewer pump stations that are an integral part of the sewer infrastructure. Failure of the pump motors, loss of prime, short circuited control panels, and worn bearings and impellers are but a few of the problems. Many of the service calls require the use of hired specialist involving electrical needs and pumps. The funds will be used to cover the current deficit in this line item, and will allow the use of hired specialists for the rest of the fiscal year.**

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to re-appropriate funds originally voted and approved under the May 17, 2011 Annual Town Meeting FY2012 water budget for refurbishing and painting of the existing water tank totaling \$100,000.00, for the following purposes: (1) designing and permitting a new replacement water tank at a cost of \$55,000.00, and (2) purchasing a gate box/curb stop vacuum at a cost of \$10,000.00; the remainder of the funds totaling \$35,000.00 shall revert back to the Water Division Retained Earnings Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Requested by the Southwick Water Commissioners

**ARTICLE 3 EXPLANATION:** *The DEP issued an Administrative Consent Order that requires replacement of the 35-year old 1 million gallon steel water storage tank by July 1, 2014. The original plan was to refurbish the old steel tank but the refurbishment cost estimate is \$750,000.00 and will last only another 15 years. Cloning the recently completed (50-year minimum expected life) concrete 2nd one million gallon water storage tank will cost \$55,000.00 to design and permit and \$1,000,000.00 to construct. The requested gate box/curb stop vacuum will be used to clean accumulated soil, sand and debris in water gate boxes and curb stops that render them inoperable.*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$49,950.00 from General Fund Salary Reserve Account, \$10,050.00 from Winter Roads Salaries Account, \$20,000.00 from DPW Road Machinery Operations Account, and \$2,000.00 from Free Cash totaling \$82,000.00 for the purpose of providing supplemental funding to the Council on Aging Senior Center Addition Project or to take any other action relative thereto.

Requested by the Council on Aging and  
Board of Selectmen

**ARTICLE 4 EXPLANATION:** *This is a request to transfer \$82,000.00 in existing funds needed to cover the difference in the bids received to commence the Senior Center Addition Project. Re-bidding the project will not yield any savings as grant money would need to be used to re-design, advertise and produce construction drawings. Also, the delay would push the work into late fall-early winter where weather conditions could impact the work schedule for completion.*

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer the sum of \$10,000.00 to the Other Post Employment Benefits Trust fund established under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 32B, Section 20 or take any other action on the matter on request of the Board of Selectmen.

Requested by Town Accountant

**ARTICLE 5 EXPLANATION:** *These are year end available funds to initially fund the Post Employment Benefit Trust Fund established at an earlier Town Meeting. The Town currently pays for post employment health care expenses on a pay as you go basis. This type of fund that was authorized by recent State law in last few years provides a tool for municipalities to recognize the liability and begin to cover future costs.*

Given under our hands at said Southwick this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April the year of the Lord two thousand and twelve.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Fred B. Arnold, II, Chairman

Arthur G. Pinell, Vice-Chairman

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Russell S. Fox, Clerk

HAMPDEN SS.,

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Southwick by posting up attested copies of the same three (3) public places in said Town fourteen (14) days before the date thereof, as within directed.

Constable of Southwick, MA

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Kelly A. Magni

A TRUE COPY  
ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK, SOUTHWICK, MA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle L. Hill, Town Clerk

POSTED: TOWN HALL, POST OFFICE, AND LIBRARY