

**TOWN OF NORTON  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
April 11, 2018**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator William A. Gouveia at 7:00 PM at the Norton High School Auditorium.

Welcome to tonight's Special Town Meeting. I am Town Moderator Bill Gouveia. With me is Town Clerk, Lucia Longhurst.

To begin tonight's meeting, I ask you to please all rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thank you. Now I would first like to go over some of the rules for this meeting in this new venue.

- I ask everyone to please find a seat for this meeting. Standing in the back and on the sides creates problems both on a noise level and in counting standing votes. There are plenty of seats, please find one.
- If you are not a registered voter in the Town of Norton, you are welcome to visit but must sit in the section of seats marked in for that reason. If you are registered voter, please sit anywhere else, because your vote will not be counted if you are sitting in the non-voting section.
- If you wish to address this meeting, you must do so only after being recognized by the Moderator. There are two microphones located up front here. Please move to one of those if you wish to speak and wait to be recognized. When speaking, please identify yourself by name and address for the record. Please try and keep your remarks brief and to the point, and confine them only to the matter under consideration at the time.
- All speakers at this meeting will be treated with courtesy by the Moderator and everyone else in the room. No speaker will be allowed to use the meeting for personal attacks on any individual. All remarks will be directed towards the Moderator, and while I will allow questions to be asked of individuals, I will not allow cross-examination type discussions from the floor.
- In recognizing people to speak, I will endeavor to call upon those who have not yet spoken on a topic before recognizing those who have already spoken. I will recognize motions to move the question, but if in my opinion there are still people waiting to speak who may add to the discussion, I will exercise my authority to not accept a motion to move the question under those circumstances.

- If a standing vote is required, you will be instructed to stand at your seats until your vote is counted. If a ballot vote is required, you will be given instructions by the Moderator and or the town Clerk as to how to proceed.
- If you wish to make an amendment to any motion, you must do so in writing and present it to the Moderator. Please prepare your amendment in writing and bring it to me up here. If you are moving an article that has not been recommended and moved by the Finance Committee, you must also present that motion to the Town Clerk in writing.
- I remind you all that no motion to reconsider any article will be accepted by the Moderator until at least three articles following the article being reconsidered have been acted upon by this meeting. If the article is one of the last three on the warrant, I will accept any motions to reconsider them prior to adjourning. Please be aware that any article you act upon tonight can be reconsidered as few as three articles later.
- There may be requests this evening to allow non-voters to speak on certain articles. This must be done by a Motion voted upon by this meeting. While it is the right and the decision of the meeting to allow or not allow non-residents to speak, please keep in mind they may have information to add to the discussion. All non-voters must approach the moderator if they wish to be heard.

Town Clerk Lucia B. Longhurst read the call and return of service from the Constable as written in the warrant.

### **ARTICLE 1 (Requires 9/10 Vote)**

Motion was made by William Rotondi that the Town votes to transfer the amount of \$9,354.22 from Free Cash to pay the following unpaid bills incurred in a prior fiscal year:

ACCOUNT	DEPARTMENT	VENDOR	AMOUNT
001-171-570	Conservation	Pare Corporation	\$ 3,785.00
001-300-570	School	Town of Norton - Water & Sewer	\$ 1,007.22
001-940-570	Miscellaneous	Berry Insurance	\$ 4,562.00

\$ 9,354.22

**PASSED BY 9/10 VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR**

### **ARTICLE 2 (Majority Vote)**

Motion was made by William Rotondi that the Town vote to accept a deed in lieu of foreclosure from Union Road, LLC, pursuant to the provisions Chapter 60, Section 77C of the General Laws, to a parcel of land located on Union Road, identified by Assessor's Map #26-5-0, containing 3.1 acres, more or less, and described in a deed recorded with Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds in Book 19810, Page 138, which parcel is subject to a tax taking held by the Treasurer for unpaid real estate taxes, said parcel to be in the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission under Chapter 40, Section 8C of the General Laws and held for conservation and passive recreation purposes in perpetuity, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire said parcel and record the deed, provided the Board of Selectmen determines that the deed and the acceptance comply with the provisions of G.L. Chapter 60, Section 77C, and authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or the Conservation Commission to enter into any and all agreements and execute such instruments as may be necessary or convenient for such purposes.

**PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR**

### ARTICLE 3 (2/3 Vote)

Motion was made by William Rotondi that the Town vote to appropriate the additional sum of \$900,000.00, to augment funds appropriated under **Article 6** of the May 12, 2014 Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of financing the planning, design and construction of water mains and other utilities, system upgrades, residuals treatment and a water treatment plant to treat water from Wells 4, 5 and 6 and for related legal, administrative and other pertinent expenses associated with the project including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow the additional sum of **\$900,000.00** and issue bonds or notes therefor under Chapter 44 of the General Laws and/or Chapter 29C of the General Laws, or any other enabling authority; that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town unless the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen determines that they should be issued as limited obligations and may be secured by local system revenues as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C; and in connection therewith the Board of Selectmen and/or Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners are authorized to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid available for the project or for the financing thereof; that the Board of Selectmen and/or Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners is authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection; to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary to carry out the project; and, in accordance with G.L. c.44, §20, authorize any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved hereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, to be applied to the payment of costs approved hereunder, thereby reducing by a like amount the amount to be borrowed to pay such costs.

**Luke Grant, Water/Sewer Commissioner spoke about the importance of this article passing. Various questions were raised by residents regarding the general contractors, and would the water rates go up which Mr. Grant said there possibly would be a 3% increase on the water bills.**

**Michael Yunits, Town Manager explained that this article had already been voted on in a previous Town Meeting and we were here looking to add more money for the project not approve the project.**

**David Heaney, 25 Fletcher Way made a motion to move the question and was voted in favor.**

**PASSED BY 2/3 VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR**

ARTICLE 4 (Majority)

Motion was made by William Rotondi that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$175,000.00 from Free Cash for the purpose of paying the remaining balance of the contract for the Five Year Certification Cyclical Program and its associated costs as mandated by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

**PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR**

ARTICLE 5 (2/3 Vote)

I MOVE that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$425,000.00 for the HVAC Conversion Project for the Norton Public Library, including any incidental and related costs associated therewith, and further, that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said sum pursuant to G.L. c.44, §7(3) or any other enabling authority and issue bonds and notes therefor, and in accordance with G.L. c.44, §20, authorize any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved hereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, to be applied to the payment of costs approved hereunder, thereby reducing by a like amount the amount to be borrowed to pay such costs.

**PASSED BY 2/3 VOTE AS DECLARED BY THE MODERATOR**

At 8:04 p.m. the Special Town Meeting was concluded and the Moderator declared the meeting ADJOURNED.

A true record. ATTEST:

Lucia B. Longhurst  
Town Clerk