

Annual Town Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2019
3rd Session

Town Moderator Steve Doherty, called the Annual Town Meeting 3rd Session to order on June 3, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 298 Central Street, Saugus, MA with 43 members present. A quorum was met.

Joyce Rodenhiser from precinct 1 and Peter Rossetti from precinct 2 were appointed and sworn in as tellers at 7:30 p.m.

Town Clerk, Ellen Schena, called the roll at 7:32 p.m.

Town Meeting Member name	Present/ Absent	Town Meeting Member name	Present/ Absent	Town Meeting Member name	Present/ Absent
BARTOLO, J.	P	BRAZIS, K	A	BROWN, W.	P
CAMUSO, R	P	CANTERBURY, M	P	CICOLINI, J.	P
COBURN, J.	A	CONNORS, A.	P	COSTELLO, M.	P
COTTAM, J.	P	CURRIE, K.	P	DEVLIN, F.A.	P
DIGIROLAMO	A	DINARDO, A.	P	DIVIRGILIO, S.	P
DOHERTY, S.	P	DUNN, S.	P	FALASCA, T.	P
FISHER, R.	P	FOWLER, J.	P	GOODWIN, P.	P
GROARK, L.	P	HORLICK, S.	P	JONES, C.	P
KELLY, D.	P	LAVOIE, R.	P	LEUCI, W.	A
LOPRESTI, A.	P	MARCHAND, W.	P	MCCABE, K.	P
MCCARTHY, S.	P	MORESCHI, C.	P	NICKOLAS, G.	P
PAOLINI, M.	A	POLITANO, K.	P	PRIZIO, P	A
RANDO, P	P	RODENHISER, J.	P	ROSSETTI, P.	P
SERINO, M.	P	SPENCER, B.	P	STEWART, W.	P
SWEEZEY, S.	P	TRAVERSE, T.	P	THOMPSON, R.	P
WALLACE, R.	P	WHITCOMB, M.	P	WHYTE, C.	P
WITTEN, R.	P	WORTHLEY, J.	P		

43 Members present + Moderator, a quorum is met.

Pledge of Alliance

Making the Motion this Evening: Mr. William Brown Precinct 6

Town Moderator mentions those Town Meeting Members (DiGiroloma, Paolini and Leuci) unable to attend and touched base to let us know.

Reports from Committees; Finance Committee Report.

Ken DePatto Chairman Finance Committee speaks at 7:35pm about the 3 Articles; Article 13, 14 and Article 2 the Budget. Article 14 the Finance Committee didn’t want to make a recommendation since they needed more information for the Insurance adjustor and the State. This could have significant financial impact so they didn’t feel comfortable on making a recommendation until more information is available. Article 2 is the Budget and it is a sustainable budget and structurally sound.

No other committees.

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. William Brown moves Article 9 to the floor for consideration as recommended.
Seconded at 7:39pm

Article as written:

Article 2. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town charges for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2020. (Town Manager)

Article as voted: Voted to recommend to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,575,250 for the School Department Operating Budget and \$60,447,061 for the Municipal Town Department Operating Budget totaling \$90,022,311 for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2020. Funding to be provided from the tax levy, available funds, local aid, and estimated receipts.
Discussion: None

Town Moderator states he will go thru Department by Department, not by line item. If there is one you want to question in Department, yell out “HOLD”.

Town Moderator HOLD, Town Manager HOLD, Accounting HOLD, Human Resources HOLD, Information Technology HOLD, Police Department HOLD.

Call from Jean Bartolo Precinct 6 to “Hold” on the School Department budget at 7:46pm

Matthew Canterbury Precinct 6 speaks at 7:46pm asking about the Town Manager budget line about Truancy.

Town Manager speaks at 7:47pm put this money in the Town managers budget dealing with the Truancy issues...coordinating with the police and the schools. Finding those people that do not belong in the district. Not a full staffed budget

Matthew Canterbury Precinct 6 speaks at 7:48pm asking about the Accounting budget line with the Human Resources Benefits position in Accounting why not in the HR department.

Town Manager speaks at 7:49pm that the position is a liaison between 2 departments. Someone that can work in both the Accounting and HR side. If someone is on payroll getting benefits or not. Like an Audit each month. This is happening in many communities.

The Human Resources “Hold”. No one wanted to speak.

Bill Brown Precinct 6 speaks at 7:51pm about his “Hold” on Information Technologies. In 2015 it was decided to farm out to a consulting firm. \$295,000, is that the consulting firm that was hired.

Town Manager speaks at 7:53pm the consultant is a firm is at \$100,000.00 annually. The other budget items are expenses that have to do with Software, Licensing and Munis system. In the last year, we are not on the Melrose Server but now in the Cloud Munis system. This is more streamlined.

Bill Brown Precinct 6 speaks at 7:55pm on the Police Department “Hold”, details that we are going to hire 3 traffic people for the sole purpose for ticketing drivers wondering about the study in progress on this.

Town Manager speaks at 7:56pm on the traffic study will be having a public meeting on the published data on what has been found. There were delays. Doing an operationally study with a consulting firm to make an assessment on the Police Department looking at traffic issues. Hiring more officers for the traffic and want to see what the study shows on how to handle the traffic.

Town Moderator budget...no one wants to speak.

Call for the “Hold” on the School Department.

Jean Bartolo Precinct 6 speaks at 7:59pm the school budget requested \$29,763,989.00 and given is \$29,575,250.00 and they are short \$188,739.00 is there any way we can take money from the stabilization fund or free cash to stabilize the school budget.

Town Manager speaks at 8:00pm for clarification the town always talks in an operating format; there are town different things, one is the operating budget and the other is the schedule 19. In most communities the health benefits, schedule 19 and the fixed cost are the \$1 million plus. The relationship and budgets are much different than many years ago.

Jean Bartolo Precinct 6 speaks at 8:03pm asking to try and give more. Have to balance their budget.

Ryan Fisher Precinct 9 speaks at 8:03pm is based off a \$688,000 increase and we are only getting \$500,000.00 what will be cut?

Dr. David DeRuosi Superintendent of Schools speaks at 8:04pm once the budget is approved they do their best to limited the impact on academics.

Town Manager speaks at 8:05pm all the departments could use more money, let's ask for “X” and try to get what they need. It's a compromise and try to do the best they can do. Last year they helped with Chromo books which was a one-time thing.

Rick Lavoie Precinct 7 speaks at 8:06pm asking about the line item on custodial staff? With the talk on privatization want to know the clarity on what will happen.

Dr. David DeRuosi Superintendent of Schools speaks at 8:07pm at this moment are not able to speak about town personnel at this time. The bottom line item when the budget is approved the Superintendent must work with in that budget. He would need to back to the School Committee to how to manage the line item.

Ron Wallace Precinct 5 speaks at 8:09 why the Special Ed portion was down almost \$78,000 from last year.

Dr. David DeRuosi Superintendent of Schools speaks at 8:10pm, Special Education is broken down into different factors. Some of the out of district placements are now coming back since the school district are able to work/accommodate them. The SPED line item can flux. The State funds the Town for out of district kids.

Brenton Spencer Precinct speaks at 8:11pm where is the Charter Schools in this budget? What does the town pay for those that go to the Charter Schools?

Town Manager speaks at 8:12pm that it is something that is paid for through the cherry sheets, so it doesn't show up on the budget. Deducted and added through local add and he is unsure of the number.

Dr. David DeRuosi Superintendent of Schools speaks at 8:12pm when the child goes to the Charter Schools the state

allows/funding to the fullest. The Charter Schools is a hit to the town budget. Every child that doesn't go to the public schools is a financial hit to the district's budget.

Town Manager re-answers that in FY 2019 it was \$475,000.00.

Town Moderator	\$1.00
Board of Selectmen	\$55,065.00
Town Manager	\$744,028.00
Finance Committee	\$105,000.00
Accounting	\$629,65.00
Assessors	\$404,717.00
Treasurer/Collector	\$428,748.00
Legal Counsel	\$399,120.00
Human Resources	\$171,938.00
Information Technology	\$337,500.00
Town Clerk	\$149,175.00
Election & Registration	\$149,275.00
Conservation Commission	\$52,072.00
Planning Board	\$40,573.00
Board of Appeals	\$30,181.00
Planning & Economic Development	\$189,894.00
Public Safety-Police Department	\$8,046,272.00
Public Safety-Fire Department	\$5,486,700.00
Code Enforcement-Building Inspection	\$176,336.00
Code Enforcement-Gas & Plumbing Inspection	\$47,616.00
Code Enforcement-Sealer of Weights & Measures	\$13,382.00
Code Enforcement-Electrical Inspection	\$48,041.00
Public Safety-Emergency Management	\$25,000.00
Public Safety-Animal Control	\$61,541.00
Harbor Master	\$0.00
Public Safety-Dispatcher	\$785,655.00
Vocational Education-Regional Schools	\$3,665,000.00
Department of Public Works	\$5,321,516.00
Engineering Department	\$98,220.00
Building Maintenance & Grounds	\$1,416,546.00
Health Department	\$228,199.00
Council on Aging	\$262,697.00
Veteran Services	\$423,493.00
Handicap Commission	\$950.00
Fair Housing Commission	\$300.00
Library	\$687,906.00
Youth & Recreation	\$138,140.00
Lobsterman Landing	\$16,931.00
Celebrations	\$2,000.00
Debt Services Principal	\$2,685,000.00
Debt Services Interest LTD	\$3,118,913.00
Debt Services Interest STD	\$50,000.00
Employee Benefits	\$22,926,440.00
Other Insurances	\$817,055.00
Transfer & Other Financing Sources	\$60,447,061
School Department	\$29,575,250.00
TOTAL:	\$90,022,311.00

Call for the vote at 8:14pm. There were some nay votes so call for a roll call vote.

Roll Call vote at 8:14pm

Town Meeting Member name	YEA/ NAY	Town Meeting Member name	YEA/ NAY	Town Meeting Member name	YEA/ NAY
BARTOLO, J.	Y	BRAZIS, K	A	BROWN, W.	Y
CAMUSO, R	Y	CANTERBURY, M	Y	CICOLINI, J.	Y
COBURN, J.	A	CONNORS, A.	Y	COSTELLO, M.	Y
COTTAM, J.	Y	CURRIE, K.	Y	DEVLIN, F.A.	Y
DIGIROLAMO	A	DINARDO, A.	Y	DIVIRGILIO, S.	ABSTAIN
DOHERTY, S.		DUNN, S.	Y	FALASCA, T.	Y
FISHER, R.	Y	FOWLER, J.	Y	GOODWIN, P.	ABSTAIN
GROARK, L.	Y	HORLICK, S.	Y	JONES, C.	Y
KELLY, D.	Y	LAVOIE, R.	N	LEUCI, W.	A
LOPRESTI, A.	Y	MARCHAND, W.	Y	MCCABE, K.	Y
MCCARTHY, S.	Y	MORESCHI, C.	Y	NICKOLAS, G.	ABSTAIN
PAOLINI, M.	A	POLITANO, K.	Y	PRIZIO, P	A
RANDO, P	Y	RODENHISER, J.	Y	ROSSETTI, P.	Y
SERINO, M.	Y	SPENCER, B.	N	STEWART, W.	Y
SWEEZEY, S.	Y	TRAVERSE, T.	Y	THOMPSON, R.	Y
WALLACE, R.	N	WHITCOMB, M.	Y	WHYTE, C.	Y
WITTEN, R.	Y	WORTHLEY, J.	Y		

Majority vote 37 yeas, 3 nays and 3 abstain and 6 absent.

Article 2 has passed by majority roll call vote at 8:18pm.

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. William Brown moves Article 13 to the floor for consideration as recommended.
Seconded at 8:18pm

Article as written:

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for construction and reconstruction of various streets and sidewalks, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto. (Town Manager)

Discussion: None

Article as voted: Voted to recommend the sum of \$285,000.00 for construction and reconstruction of various streets and sidewalks, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto. The source of funding for this article is July 1, 2018 certified free cash.

Call for the vote at 8:53pm

Article 13 passed, as by Unanimous voice vote yeas at 8:18pm

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. William Brown moves Article 14 to the floor for consideration as recommended.
Seconded at 8:20pm

Article as written:

Article 18: To see if the Town of Saugus will vote to approve: The Saugus Contributory Retirement Boards’ vote on March 26, 2019 to accept Section 20A of Chapter 32, any civil action brought against a member of a retirement board, such member shall be indemnified for all expenses incurred in the defense thereof and shall be indemnified for damages to the same extent as provided for public employees of chapter two hundred and fifty eight; provided, however that the claim arose out of acts performed by such member or members while acting within the scope of his official duties; and provided, further, that no member of a retirement board shall be indemnified for expenses incurred in the defense action, or damages awarded in such action, in which there is shown to be a breach of fiduciary duty, an act of willful dishonesty or an intentional violation of law by such member. (Saugus Contributory Retirement System)

M.G.L. Chapter 32 Section 20A:

In any city, town or other entity which accepts the provisions of this section, in a city, by a vote of the city council with the approval; of the mayor; in a town, by a vote of the town meeting; in a municipality having a town council form of government, by a vote of the town council; and in any other entity having a retirement board subject to the provisions of this chapter, by a

vote of the governing board if such entity, any civil action brought against a member of a retirement board, the defense or settlement of which action is made by an attorney employed by the retirement board, such member shall be indemnified for all expenses incurred in the defense thereof and shall be indemnified for damages to the same extent as provided for public employees in chapter two hundred and fifty-eight; provided, however, that the claim arose out of acts performed by such member or members while acting within the scope of his duties; and provided, further, that no member of a retirement board shall be indemnified for expenses incurred in the defense if an action, or damages awarded in such action, in which there is shown to be a breach of fiduciary duty, an act of willful dishonesty or an intentional violation of law by such member.

Matthew Canterbury Precinct6 speaks at 8L21pn is directors or officers insurance is offered to municipalities like corporations.

Town Manager speaks at 8:21pm that the town has insurance that covers boards and commissions. The finance committee is speaking about indemnification and if down the road our insurance company can cover them when they are no longer on the board. Wish someone was here on it to speak on it since it's not his article.

Steve Divirgilio Precinct 10 speaks at 8:23pm he wants to remind everyone in the room, administration and the residents that this plan pays out what it takes in. On the pension board one person is listed as indefinite, is that really the case?

Town Manager speaks at 8:23pm that he is unsure if he the right person to answer this, but never heard of an indefinite appointment. It sounds like something that isn't correct

Martin Costello Precinct 10 speaks at 8:24pm the aspect of indemnification. Why this should be referred to another meeting.

Ken DePatto answers at 8:25pm these are all the reason why the FC members didn't what to make a recommendation until more information is given. Is the Insurance Carrier forced to accept the MGL Statue or will they drop the town. With all these questions is to step back and get more knowledge from people who deal with this on a regular bases. To give the Finance Committee more time to get more information to make a recommendation. But to make a recommendation blinding is irresponsible.

Article as voted: Voted to recommend referral to the next Special or Annual Town Meeting, whichever comes first, when information is available?

Call for the question at 8:28pm

Article 14 passed, as by Unanimous voice vote yea at 8:18pm

Town Moderator states petition for another Special Town Meeting. Please watch for that.

Motion to adjourn the 2019 Annual Town Meeting on June 3, 2019.

Seconded at 8:29pm

Unanimous voice vote to adjourn at 8:29pm sine die.

Respectfully submitted

Ellen Joyce Schena
Town Clerk