

**Special Town Meeting Minutes**  
**May 6, 2019**

Town Moderator Steve Doherty, called the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting to order on May 6, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium, 298 Central Street, Saugus, MA with 45 members present. A quorum was met.

Color Guard from Lynn English Junior ROTC presented the colors at 7:32pm

Joyce Rodenhiser from precinct 1 and Peter Rossetti from precinct 2 were appointed and sworn in as tellers at 7:32 p.m.

Pastor Bob Laroe will give the Blessing at 7:35pm

Moderator Comments: There is Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting tonight. Do I have a motion to suspend the Annual Town Meeting to take up the Special Town Meeting?

Any discussion - none.

Seconded at 7:37pm

Unanimous vote yes at 7:37pm

Town Clerk, Ellen Schena, called the roll at 7:37 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.	P	CONNORS, A.	P	COSTELLO, M.	P
COTTAM, J.	P	CURRIE, K.	P	DEVLIN, F.A.	P
DIGIROLAMO	P	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.	A	MARCHAND, W.	P	MCCABE, K.	P
MCCARTHY, S.	A	MORESCHI, C.	P	NICKOLAS, G.	P
PAOLINI, M.	P	POLITANO, K.	A	PRIZIO, P	P
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		

44 Members present + Moderator, a quorum is met.

Moderator Doherty informs Town Meeting Bill Leuci and Kim Politano reached out stating they were unable to attend.

Acceptance of the Minutes from the previous session(s). at 7:38pm

Unanimous acceptance.

Reports from Committees; Finance Committee Report at 7:39p.m.

Ken DePatto speaks for the Finance Committee at 7:41PM stating the Finance Committee reviewed 8 articles and has recommendations on all 8 articles. Article 1 is on Stabilization Fund and Article 2 is for OPEB, both articles represent SNP Bonding company stating the town is structural free budget. Article 3 is on LED Lights based on National Grid program grant which cover most of the cost. Article 4 is based on the Town Equipment that is unsafe and needs replacement. This is a borrowing articles. The rest are bonding articles. All the bonding articles are being paid from the tax levy.

No other Committee Reports.

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 1 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 7:45.p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 1.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be transferred to the Stabilization Fund. (Town Manager)

No Discussion on Article 1.

**Article as voted:** Voted to recommend the sum of \$1,500,000.00 be transferred to the Stabilization Fund. The source of funding

for this appropriation is certified free cash.

**Article 1 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 7:45 p.m.**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 2 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 7:46p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be transferred to the OPEB Trust (Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust). (Town Manager)

Rick Lavoie Precinct 7 speaks at 7:46pm asking what percentage does the OPEB need to get to?

Town Manager Scott Crabtree speaks at 7:47pm on the liability of the Town's retirement fund. OPEB is a liability trust and the last accuracy is \$140 million which needs to be funded. This \$150,000.00 is a token. Other towns haven't even started or just starting with this trust.

Steve Divirgilio Precinct 10 speaks at 7:50pm states that the plan is mathematically impossible to fully fund at current tax levy. The real way to solve it is cost mitigation.

**Article as voted:** Voted to recommend the sum of \$150,000.00 be transferred to the OPEB Trust (Other Post-Employment Benefits). The source of funding for this appropriation is certified free cash

Call for the vote at 7:51pm

**Article 2 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 7:51 p.m**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 3 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 7:53.p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for retrofitting street lighting to LED, 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)

Rick Lavoie Precinct 7 asks at 7:53pm if the lights are just for roadways or parks and playgrounds included?

Town Manager Scott Crabtree speaks at 7:54pm that this is just roadways. All the fixtures and lights in 2012 were all new. People were complaining it was too bright going into the houses. This would retro-fit the entire fixture based on a National Grid formula and this is part of a grant and incentives. The town would have some options on the fixtures. It should take less than a year. It will save on electricity and maintenance

Jean Bartolo Precinct 6 speaks at 7:56pm asking when will this start?

Town Manager Scott Crabtree answers at 7:56pm that after Town Meeting an audit will be done on what is needed and will start before the end of the fiscal year.

**Article as voted:** Voted to recommend that \$1,035,000.00 is appropriated for retrofitting street lighting to LED, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said sum under G.L. c.44, §7(1) or any other enabling authority; that the Board of Selectmen and the Town Manager are each individually authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the projects; that the Board of Selectmen or the Town Manager is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out the projects; and that any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Call for the vote at 7:58pm

**Article 3 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 7:59 p.m.**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 4 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 8:01p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money for purchasing various equipment for town departments, including the payment costs incidental or related thereto; and 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 \$820,000.00 be appropriated for purchasing various equipment for town departments, including the payment costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow said amount under G.L. c.44, §7(1) or any other enabling authority; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this project. Any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Call for the vote at 8:01pm

**Article 4 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 8:02 p.m.**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 5 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 8:02p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of developing a Town-wide Master Plan, 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)

Peter Rossetti Precinct 2 speaks at 8:02pm stating he is also on the Planning Board and he is for the Master Plan which would give some direction to the town and have a plan for the future. We really need to look at the town, services, capacity and what can we do in the future. A lot of issues coming, a master plan would be a good start. The zoning needs to be looked at and with the communication between departments in the town. Please support this article.

Town Manager Scott Crabtree speaks at 8:04pm to continue after the last speaker and Planning Board Chairman. The town needs smart development and how to balance it. The last Master Plan was in 1988. This would allow us to get grant application - MAPC. How this effects Police, Fire, infrastructure, etc and having a document that will lay all this out. He encourages Town Meeting to support this.

Al Dinardo Precinct 4 speaks at 8:06pm he serves on the Aggregate Closure Committee which they are in charge with seeing closure of the Aggregate Quarry. This will probably be the last big parcel on Route 1. Please support this article and asks Town Meeting keep an eye on this property.

Martin Costello Precinct 10 speaks at 8:09pm asking is there anything in the old master plan that is still governing at the present time or do we have to start at square one?

Town Manager Scott Crabtree speaks at 8:10pm indicating they would be reviewing the old Master Plan from 1988 to see if any relevance. Part of this is to gain goals and policies; economic development, services and facility representations. There will be public discussion on what is needed in the infrastructure. I don't think any cost savings from 1988, maybe if it was 5 years old but it's too old. Smart growth to the town, try to balance and good communication within the town.

Chris Reilly, 7 Oceanview Ave speaks at 8:15pm he agrees with the town needs a Master Plan, however he is concerned what he reads in the local paper what the plan will definitely include. Asking the Town Manager; what will be definitely in the plan?

Town Manager Scott Crabtree replies at 8:16pm it will be consistent with other master plans that other communities already have. Will be hiring a consultant to help with what the master plan.

**Article as voted:** Voted to recommend the sum of \$150,000.00 to be used to fund the completion and/or update of a Town-wide Master Plan for the Town of Saugus. The source of funding for this appropriation is certified free cash.

Call for the vote at 8:18pm

**Article 5 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 8:19 p.m.**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 6 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 8:20.p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for reconstruction or construction of Town storm drains, 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 that the Town appropriates the following unexpended amounts of money that were initially borrowed to finance the associated projects that are now complete and for which no further liability remains, to pay a portion of the costs of the drainage project at the Winter Street Cemetery, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, as permitted by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws:

Town Meeting Vote Date and Article Number	Purpose	Amount Originally Appropriated	Amount Unexpended
12/11/01 - Art. 14	Storm drain repairs	\$1,000,000.00	\$41,978.17
05/01/06 – Art. 22	Howard Street/Clifton St Drainage	\$103,000.00	\$20,836.09
05/19/08 – Art. 32	Dale Street Drainage design	\$100,000.00	\$8,762.07
05/22/09 – Art. 28	Western Avenue Storm Drain	\$65,000.00	\$5,904.42
05/16/16 – Art. 25	Elm Street Drainage	<u>\$1,200,000.00</u>	<u>\$12,519.25</u>
	Total:		\$90,000.00

Call for the vote at 8:20pm

**Article 6 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 8:21 p.m.**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 7 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 8:21.p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of making expenditures on behalf of the Town of Saugus Tree Farm. (Town Manager)

Discussion: None

**Article as voted:** Voted to recommend that the Town appropriates a sum of \$10,000.00 for expenditures at the Tree Farm. The source of funding for this appropriation is certified free cash.

Call for the vote at 8:22pm

**Article 7 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 8:22p.m.**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Mr. Jones moves Article 8 to the floor for consideration as recommended.

Seconded at 8:22.p.m.

**Article as written:**

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of repairing or replacing Town guard rails, including 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 that the Town appropriates a sum of \$120,000.00 for the replacement of the existing guard rail in several areas in Town. The source of funding for this appropriation is certified free cash.

**Article 8 passed as recommended, by unanimous voice vote at 8:23p.m.**

Moderator asks for a motion to adjourn the 2019 Special Town Meeting on May 6, 2019.  
Motion called for an Adjournment at 8:23pm

Seconded at 8:23 p.m.

Unanimous voice vote at 8:23p.m. to adjourn sine die.

Respectfully submitted

Ellen Joyce Schena  
Town Clerk