

# Annual Town Meeting

## May 2, 2016 (FY17)

Moderator Michael Seele introduces Michael Hayes from the Electronic Voting Study Committee. He presents the committee's findings and concerns thus far. The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY to a non-binding vote to further study the feasibility of incorporating electronic voting for future Town Meetings.

The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:49 p.m. by Moderator Michael M. Seele. He asked for the count of voters. . Detective Officer Daniel Connolly announced the count of the voters present was 243, constituting the quorum requirement of 50 voters. The meeting pledged allegiance to the flag and Pastor Carolyn Tryggstad of the Joy in Christ Lutheran Church gave the invocation. A moment of silence was held for deceased Town employees who died in 2015. Assistant Town Clerk Mary R. Holland swore in the following tellers: Lawrence Roache, 26 Acorn Rd., Daniel P. Cullity, 4 Locust Hill Ln., Joseph P. Drier, 7 Oakdale Farm Rd. and Michael F. Hayes, 18 Diane Ter. She then read the warrant. Moderator Seele went over the rules governing town meeting. Moderator Seele acknowledged the Finance Committee on their service to the town.

At 7:58 P.M. Moderator Michael Seele adjourned the Annual Town Meeting and opened the Special Town Meeting. **The Special Town Meeting is recorded in a separate document.** Special Town Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. and the Annual Town Meeting was reconvened.

### **Article 1**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to bring in their vote for the following Town Officers: Two Selectmen for Three Years; One Assessor for Three Years; Two PK-12 Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Committee Members for Three Years; Two Department of Public Works Commissioners for Three Years; Two Public Library Trustees for Three Years; One Whitman Housing Authority member for Five Years; Three Planning Board Members for Five Years; One Board of Health Member for Three Years; One Board of Health Member (to fill vacancy) for One Year and to choose all other necessary officers.

The polls for the election of officers will be opened in said Town Hall at nine o'clock in the forenoon on said Saturday, the 21st day of May, 2016, and kept open until five o'clock in the evening. Both of which days will constitute the Annual Meeting and this call is issued in accordance with the vote of the Town passed January 29, 1902.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

**Article 2**

To determine how much money the Town will raise and appropriate for General Government, Protection of Persons and Property, Health and Sanitation, Public Works, Veterans' Benefits, Education, Library, Recreation and Unclassified, specifying what appropriations shall be taken from the receipt of a department, or take any action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee

The following Line Items were questioned: 1, 5, 7, 52, 64, 110, 117, 130, 135, 172, 187, 224, 229, 232, 258 and 410. The one line item that was amended was Line Item 187. All other line items were voted unanimously

**For continuity in recording Article 2 is listed at the end of this recording**

**Article 3**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, as authorized by MGL C 44 §53E ½ to continue for fiscal year 2017, the following Revolving Accounts for purposes as indicated and limited as set forth below or take any action relative thereto:

Revolving Account Description / Name	Source of Receipts	Use of Funds	Receipts Limit	Disbursed by
Council on Aging Revolving Account	Minibus Fares and Program Fees	Defray Council on Aging Expenses	\$10,000.00	Director, Council on Aging
Library Fines and Fees Revolving Account	Library Fines	Defray Library Expenses	\$20,000.00	Board of Library Trustees
Passport Fees Revolving Account	Sale of Passport Photographs	Defray Expenses for Photo Supplies	\$3,000.00	Treasurer-Collector
Fire Alarm Revolving Account	Construction, Repair and Maintenance of Town Municipal Fire Alarm System	Defray Cost to Maintain and Repair Town Fire Alarm System	\$10,000.00	Fire Chief
Planning Board Revolving Account	Fees Paid on Submission of Plans to the Planning Board	All expenses except Personnel Salaries	\$75,000.00	Planning Board by Majority Vote
Police Department Revolving Account (Marijuana Fines)	Fines assessed under MGL C. 42 §21D	Police Training and Equipment	\$10,000.00	Chief of Police

Proposed by disbursing departments  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 4**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, as authorized by M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to establish for Fiscal Year 2017 an Animal Adoption revolving account to be used exclusively for the receipt of funds paid in connection with the adoption of animals from the Town Kennel and earmark such funds for the payment of associated expenses for the care and treatment of animals offered for adoption, as disbursed by the Animal Control Officer, said expenses not to exceed \$1,000.00, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 5**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, pursuant to MGL C 44 § 53 E ½ to establish for Fiscal Year 2017 a Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (SEMLEC) Revolving account for the receipt of grant funds paid to the Town by the Council and earmark such funds to pay for training expenses for members of the Whitman Police Department, such funds to be disbursed by the Chief of Police and not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

Proposed by the Chief of Police  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

**Article 6**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$3,800.00 to fund Whitman's participation in the South Shore Recycling Cooperative's hazardous waste disposal program, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Health  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 7**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$6,623.20 from the Reserve for Appropriation Title V Loans Account to make fiscal year 2017 debt payments, with any funds remaining from this appropriation at the end of the fiscal year to be returned to the Reserve for Appropriation Title V Loans Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Treasurer-Collector  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 8**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$140,000.00 to be added to the Other Post-employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (OPEB) Account (such appropriation to be funded from meals tax revenue), or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Treasurer-Collector and Town Administrator  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 9**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$235,472 from available Chapter 90 funds for the purpose of resurfacing and/or applying surface treatments to various Town streets and ways or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Public Works Commissioners  
Finance Committee voted 6-0 to recommend.

**Article 10**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$9,500.00 to purchase and install a dump truck body and lift mechanism to replace an existing 1995 body, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Public Works Commissioners  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 11**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$51,500.00 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account to pay for costs associated with regional fire dispatch under an inter-municipal agreement, with any unexpended funds to be returned to the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 12**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to raise and appropriate \$7,786.88 to purchase six Tasers and associated equipment for use by the Police Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of Police  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 13**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$2000 from the Reserve for Appropriation Motor Vehicle Fine Account for the purchase of two mobile data terminals for new cruisers. Any funds not expended from this appropriation shall be returned to the Reserve for Appropriation Motor Vehicle Fine Account.

Proposed by the Chief of Police  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 14**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$8,000.00 for the purchase and implementation of network access control software to enhance network security for all town networks, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology  
Finance Committee voted 6-0 to recommend

**Article 15**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$7,000.00 for the purchase of a new multifunction copier/printer in the Assessor's office to replace a nine-year-old copier, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology  
Finance Committee voted 6-0 to recommend.

**Article 16**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$6,000.00 for the purchase of a wireless network controller to replace the existing wireless controller that was installed in 2010, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology  
Finance Committee voted 6-0 to recommend.

**Article 17**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$5,495.00 to purchase replacement batteries for the Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) battery backup system that provides power protection for the police department network and dispatch center, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Director of Technology  
Finance Committee voted 6-0 to recommend.

**Article 18**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to amend the Town's By-Laws by adding Article XXXVIII, Yard Sale Permits, as follows:

Yard Sale Permits

Yard Sale Permit Bylaw

It is the intent of this by-law that a mechanism be provided to place reasonable and appropriate controls on the activity of offering for sale secondhand articles within residential areas of the Town of Whitman (hereinafter "Town"). It is also the intent of this by-law to ensure that groups, individuals or corporations who or which customarily engage in the sale of secondhand articles as a business are limited to those locations within the Town that are designated by the Zoning bylaws for such business activities.

Town of Whitman citizens are advised that additional state laws and regulations may apply to the conduct of such sales activities, including but not limited to sales and use tax regulations. These laws and regulations may require additional permits and licensing.

Yard sales may be held in the Town pursuant to a permit granted by the Office of the Selectmen, subject to the following conditions:

(1) Subject to any additional limitations imposed by state laws or regulations, the number of garage/yard sales an owner or resident or qualified organization may conduct shall be limited to three per calendar year.

(2) All material available for the sale shall originate from the premises on which the sale takes place or from other residential properties in the immediate neighborhood.

(3) No sign or advertising device shall be placed within any street right-of-way, including freestanding signs, or any sign affixed to street signs, traffic and regulatory warning signs or any utility poles within such right-of-way. No such sign or advertising device shall be placed on any public tree. Signs shall not be displayed more than 48 hours prior to the start of the sale and must be removed within 24 hours after the conclusion of the sale. All signs shall meet the Town's sign bylaw standards.

(5) No person customarily engaged in the business of conducting second hand sales shall participate in any way in a garage sale directly or indirectly unless said garage/yard sale is conducted on said person's property and then, only providing that none of the material is brought in from outside sources for purpose of resale.

(6) Such sale shall not exceed two consecutive days' duration. The hours of operation for any yard sale shall be limited to between 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM, unless terminated earlier at the direction of the Whitman Police Department. All unsold items or objects shall be stored out of public view by 7:30 PM.

(7) The permittee shall be responsible for orderly parking and traffic flow. If parking or traffic flow conditions create a threat to the safety of the public, the yard sale shall be terminated at the request of the Whitman Police Department.

(8) No yard sale event shall be held at a time or place so that it creates a public nuisance, violates any other provision of the Town's by-laws, creates unreasonable noise or disturbance, and/or negatively impacts or interferes with any other public event in the community.

The permittee must apply at least four (4) days prior to the commencement of the yard sale. The Board of Selectmen shall establish a fee schedule for the permit. The owner shall be responsible for obtaining a permit for each yard sale and for compliance with this bylaw. Tenants renting a home and seeking a yard sale permit must present written authorization from the property owner to hold a yard sale prior to being granted a permit.

The Whitman Police Department is authorized to enforce this yard sale by-law by issuing non-criminal citations as provided by M.G.L. c.40, §21D and by Article XVIII of these by-laws. Failure to comply with this bylaw will result in a fine of \$25 for the first offense and \$100.00 for the second and each subsequent offense.

Proposed by the By-law Study Committee

### **Article 19**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to make the following changes to Article XXVII, Dog Control Regulations, of the Town's by-laws:

Delete Section XX, as it currently reads, in its entirety:

Article XXVII Section XX—Release of Dogs from Custody

~~Current By-Law:—A dog which has been picked up and in the custody of the Animal Control Officer will not be released to its owner or keeper unless the following fees have been paid.~~

- ~~A. A pickup fee of \$10.00~~
- ~~B. A fee of \$3.00 per day for each day the dog has been in the Animal Control Officers care (see MGL Ch 140 s 151A)~~

- ~~C. If not licensed, a paid receipt from the office of the Town Clerk showing proper license fee (under section II) has been paid and that all late fees have been paid.~~
- ~~D. All fines assessed must be paid.~~

And replace with the following:

#### Article XXVII Section XX Release of Dogs from Custody

A dog, which has been picked up and in the custody of the Animal Control Officer, will not be released to its owner or keeper unless the following fees have been paid.

- A. A pickup fee of \$30.00
- B. A fee of \$10.00 per day for each day the dog has been in the Animal Control Officers care (see MGL Ch140 s151A)
- C. If not licensed, a paid receipt from the office of the Town Clerk showing proper license fee (under section II) has been paid and that all late fees have been paid.
- D. All fines assessed must be paid within 21 days, if such fines are applicable.

#### Article XXVI "Pit Bull Terriers:"

Delete Article XXVI, as it currently reads, in its entirety:

~~No person shall keep or maintain within the boundary limits of the Town of Whitman, the breed of dogs known as American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Pit Bull Terrier, or Bull Terrier, unless the same is restrained on the private property of the owner in a secure area so that the animal cannot gain access to public areas, or private property of others.~~

~~Any owner transporting a "pit bull" on the public ways for medical or veterinary care shall properly restrain and muzzle the animal. Any such dog, not properly restrained and not wearing a muzzle shall constitute a public nuisance and be banned within the limits of the Town of Whitman.~~

~~*Section 2. Violations and Penalties.* Any person who violates this by law shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$50.00 for each offense, and the said dog shall be banned from the limits of the Town. Each subsequent offense shall be considered a separate offense under this by-law.~~

Section XVIII of Article XXVII, Fines and Penalties:

Delete Section XVIII of Article XXVII, as it currently read, in its entirety:

#### Article XXVII Section XVII

~~Fine and Penalites: Any owner or keeper of a dog who shall fail to comply with any provisions of this by-law and laws governing dogs, shall be fined as follows~~

##### A Violation of Leash Law

~~1<sup>st</sup> offense \$15~~

~~2<sup>nd</sup> offense \$25~~

~~3<sup>rd</sup> offense \$30~~

~~4<sup>th</sup> offense \$50~~

~~B Dog Bite – the Animal Control Officer must make judgment to the severity and provocation of the bite to determine processing and procedure of this violation~~

~~1st offense \$15~~

~~2<sup>nd</sup> offense \$ 25~~

~~3<sup>rd</sup> offense \$30~~

~~C Dog found in School Yard~~

~~Additional to Section XVII, subsection D \$10.00~~

~~D SAME AS A~~

~~E. Failure to comply with an order of restraint in accordance with MGL 140 Sec 16B \$25~~

~~F. Failure to comply with notice to kill or confine in accordance with MGL Ch 164~~

~~G. Failure to vaccinate dog against rabies in accordance with MGL Ch 140 Sec 145B~~

**And replace Section XVIII of Article XXVII as follows:**

The fine schedule for each offense shall be set at as forth with respect to the violation of state law in which the amount assessed by the Commonwealth will be cited. Offenses of the section shall apply within the calendar year.

A. Violation of the Leash law/ Dog at Large

1<sup>st</sup> Offense \$30.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense \$50.00

3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent offenses \$100.00

B. Dog Bite – the Animal Control Officer must make judgment to the severity and provocation of the bite to determine processing and procedure of this violation

1<sup>st</sup> offense – written warning

2<sup>nd</sup> offense \$30 and a nuisance/dangerous dog hearing

3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent offenses \$60 and a nuisance/dangerous dog hearing

C. Dog found in school yard

Additional to Section XVIII, subsection B

1<sup>st</sup> offense – written warning

2<sup>nd</sup> and subsequent offenses \$50

E. Failure to comply with order of restraint in accordance with MGL Ch. 140 Sec 168  
\$25.00

F. Failure to comply with notice to kill or confine in accordance with MGL Ch. 140 Sec 164, a fine not less than \$25.00 and a police officer, constable or animal control officer may euthanize the dog in a humane manner if it is found outside the enclosure of its owner or keeper and not under the owner or keeper's immediate care.

G. Failure to vaccinate against rabies in accordance with MGL Ch. 140 Sec 145B \$100.00

Proposed by Whitman Animal Control Officers



## **Article 20 Withdrawn**

## **Article 21– PASSED OVER**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$25,000.00 to fund a consultant to assist the Town in creating a 40-R district for economic development, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Economic Development Committee  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to not recommend.

## **Article 22**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund consulting fees for potential solar energy projects on municipal properties in the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Economic Development Committee  
Finance Committee Voted 5-2 to recommend.

## **Article 23**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate outside the levy limit \$483,046.08 to pay Whitman-Hanson Regional School District debt payments, which debt was authorized by article 7 of the May 7, 2002 Annual Town Meeting and the May 18, 2002 Debt Exclusion Vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Treasurer-Collector  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

## **Article 24**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$87,192.50 and transfer \$100,000.00 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account to make payment on debt authorized by Article 41 of the May 19, 1998 Annual Town Meeting for the purposes of renovations additions and remodeling to the various town capital projects, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Treasurer-Collector and Fire Chief  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

## **Article 25**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to transfer \$610,539 from Free Cash and raise and appropriate \$194,113.50 to make payment of \$804,562.50 on debt authorized by Article 1 of the November 17, 2008 Special Town Meeting for the construction of a new Police Station and the renovation of the Town Hall and Fire Station, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Treasurer-Collector  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 26 – ARTICLE DEFEATED**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000.00 to provide a 10% matching grant for the creation of a dog park, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to not recommend.

**Article 27A**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$33,400.00 to pay for costs associated with the following capital expenditures, or take any other action relative thereto:

Replacement of the Air Conditioning System at the Senior Center	\$18,000.00
Repair and epoxy floor in the Town kennel	\$6,000.00
Install fencing at the Town kennel and repair run gates	\$9,400.00

Proposed by the Facilities Director  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend

**Article 27B**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$12,500.00 and transfer from Sewer-Water Enterprise Retained Earnings \$12,500.00 to fund the cost of site evaluation, test borings, related engineering and design costs and other costs associated with the potential construction of a modular steel building for the Department of Public Works, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed jointly by the Department of Public Works Commissioners and the Buildings, Facilities and Capital Expenditures Committee  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

**Article 28**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$39,626.82 to purchase and install a document storage system in the Town Hall, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Town Administrator  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to not recommend

**Article 29**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$25,000.00 from Sewer-Water Enterprise Retained Earnings to purchase water meters, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Department of Public Works Commissioners  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

**Article 30**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$28,000.00 from Sewer-Water Enterprise Retained Earnings to replace an existing Sewer department truck body, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Department of Public Works Commissioners  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 31**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to appropriate \$43,000.00 from Sewer-Water Retained Earnings to purchase a 2016 Chevrolet 2500HD 4 wheel drive pickup truck with plow, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Department of Public Works Commissioners  
Finance Committee voted 6-2 to recommend.

**Article 32**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to appropriate \$148,000.00 from available Chapter 90 funds to purchase a 35,000 GVW six wheel dump truck or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Board of Public Works Commissioners  
Finance Committee voted 6-0 to recommend.

**Article 33**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to appropriate \$31,566.98 from the Reserve for Appropriation Motor Vehicle Fine Account to make the following lease purchase payments:

The third of three payments for 2014 Ford interceptor	\$15,834.29
The second of three annual payments for 2015 Ford Taurus S	\$11,332.69
One year continuation of a Harley Davidson Motorcycle lease	\$ 4,400.00

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of Police  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 34**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$40,275.00 for the purchase of 45 bullet proof vests for Police Department use (half of which will be reimbursed through government grant), or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of Police  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 35**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to transfer \$28,572.73 from the Reserve for Appropriation Motor Vehicle Fine Account for the first of three annual payments to lease purchase and equip two 2016 Ford interceptor SUV vehicles For Police Department use or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of Police  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

**Article 36 – Radios - Withdrawn**

**Article 37**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$70,000.00 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account for the purchase of new ambulance stretchers and structure systems for two ambulances used by the Fire/Rescue, with any unexpended funds to be returned to the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 38**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$35,000.00 from the reserve for appropriation ambulance account to purchase new vehicle extraction tools (Jaws of Life) for use by the Fire/Rescue Department, with any unexpended funds to be returned to the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 39**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$10,000.00 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account to purchase semiautomatic defibrillators for the Fire/Rescue Department and various Town buildings, with any unexpended funds to be returned to the reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account, or take any other action relative thereto

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 40**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$45,141.26 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account to pay the fourth and final lease payment for a 2012 ambulance or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 41**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$70,926.90 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account for the second of seven payments to lease purchase and equip a new pumping engine as approved at the May 5, 2015 annual town meeting, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 42**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to appropriate \$37,000.00 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account to purchase protective equipment included but not limited to protective vests, survival suits, ice rescue and other firefighting equipment for use by the Fire/Rescue Department, with any unexpended funds to be returned to the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0-1 to recommend.

**Article 43 – PASSED OVER**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$50,000.00 from the Reserve for Appropriation Ambulance Account to pay a down payment for the lease purchase of an ambulance, with five subsequent annual payments of \$45,183.71 each beginning July 1, 2017, or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Chief of the Fire Department  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

**Article 44 – Article Withdrawn**

**Article 45 – Article Withdrawn**

**Article 46**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$335,000 for repairs to a portion the Duval School roof as noted below:

- A. \$35,000.00 to fund an engineering and design phase of the damage and repairs needed;
- B. \$300,000 to fund the repair project for the roof, such appropriation subject to favorable review for partial funding by the Massachusetts School Building Authority. In the event MSBA does not approve funding for the roof repairs, and the Town chooses through its Board of Selectmen to not proceed with repairs, the remaining funds shall be transferred to the Town Capital Stabilization Account for future appropriation.

Proposed by the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

**Article 47**

Request to replace univents at the Middle School – **Article Withdrawn**

**Article 48**

Request to replace fire panels and detectors at three Whitman Schools – **Article Withdrawn**

**Article 49**

Request to replace roof-top units at Middle School – **Article Withdrawn**

**Article 50**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$13,000.00 to replace carpets in the office and library area at Whitman Middle School and Conley Elementary School or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

#### **Article 51**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$14,000.00 to purchase acoustical sound material to be installed by district maintenance personnel in the gymnasiums of the Conley School and the Duval School or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

#### **Article 52**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to raise and appropriate \$96,822.00 to pay the Town of Whitman's share of the cost (\$165,000 x 58.68%) to the School District to reconstruct the tennis courts at the regional high school or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

#### **Article 53**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to raise and appropriate \$26,404.00 to pay the Town of Whitman's share (\$45,000 x 58.68%) of the cost to repair sections of the main entrance and gym entrance walkways at the Whitman-Hanson Regional High School or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

#### **Article 54**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to raise and appropriate \$15,525.00 to pay the Town of Whitman's share (\$26,000 x 58.68%) of the cost to replace the bleacher chair lift at the turf field at the Whitman-Hanson Regional High School or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by Whitman-Hanson Regional School Committee  
Finance Committee voted 7-0 to recommend.

#### **Article 55**

The Town voted IN THE MAJORITY, to raise and appropriate, outside the levy limit of Proposition 2 ½, so called, One Million, Seven Hundred Sixty Two Thousand, Five Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars (\$1,762,588.00), to be added to Article 2, Budget Line 175 – the Whitman-Hanson Regional School District Operating Expense, voted this date, thereby approving the District's submitted budget for Fiscal Year 2017, **provided** that this additional appropriation shall be contingent on the approval of a Proposition 2½ levy limit override under General Laws Chapter 59, §21C(g).

Proposed by the Whitman Hanson Regional School District School Committee  
Finance Committee voted 8-0 to recommend.

## **Article 56**

The Town voted UNANIMOUSLY, to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134 and, further, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through the restructuring of the electricity market; and

WHEREAS, citizens of Whitman have a substantial economic and social interest in terms of greater customer choice and opportunities for savings in this restructured market; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Whitman hereby finds that it may be in the interest of its citizens who are electric ratepayers, both residential and commercial/industrial, to develop and secure such approvals and enter into appropriate agreements with consultants, experts and attorneys in connection with the establishment and operation of an electricity aggregation plan.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town of Whitman hereby:

Publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business electric customers and to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended; and

To negotiate and enter into such contracts for power supply pursuant to the plan or services for such plan, with the understanding that if a power supply contract is executed, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate in the aggregation plan and, instead, to choose any electricity alternatives they desire and, further, to take such other action relative hereto as may be appropriate and necessary.

Proposed by the Board of Selectmen

## **Article 57 –PASSED OVER**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Town Capital Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

## **Article 58 – PASSED OVER**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Town Technology Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

## **Article 59 – PASSED OVER**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Town's Regional Schools Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

**Article 60 – PASSED OVER**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be added to the Town Stabilization Account or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by the Finance Committee

The Town meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m. There were 326 total voters checked off of the voting list.

A TRUE RECORD, ATTEST:

Mary R. Holland

ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK – WHITMAN