

TOWN OF DALTON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
NESSACUS MIDDLE SCHOOL – JUNE 30, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.

The Moderator, Anthony P. Doyle, called the Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Jean M. Gingras and Maureen M. Mitchell were appointed tellers and sworn by Town Clerk, Barbara L. Suriner. There was a total of 123 Registered Voters checked at the door and 34 Non-Voting Residents signed in. The following Precinct count does not include Non-Registered persons:

PRECINCT 1	-	50
PRECINCT 2	-	<u>73</u>
		123

ARTICLE 1. It was moved, seconded and voted that the question be divided to vote first on a transfer of funds from the Capital Stabilization Fund and second to vote on an appropriation and authorization to borrow.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer \$6,600 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the costs related to the Fiscal Year 2015 annual element of the Capital Improvement Program as follows: \$1,600 for the purpose of extending wiring from the Mass Broadband termination box within the Communications Center Equipment Room to the Library and to replace emergency exit lights in the Town Hall, and \$5,000 for the construction of the sidewalk around the Senior Center.

TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town authorize borrowing of \$197,000.00 including borrowing costs associated with said borrowing and all other costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board is authorized to borrow said sums under G.L. c.44, §7(1), (3A), (9) and (21) or any other enabling authority, that the Select Board is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for this program; and that the Select Board is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project and further that said borrowing be for the following purposes: \$42,000 for a Police Department cruiser and \$40,000 for a Highway Department truck including related equipment for said vehicles; \$100,000 for restoration of the historic Hoose House and \$15,000 to repair or replace a defective culvert under Yvonne Drive including professional services necessary to effectuate said projects.

TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 2. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town take no action on this Article.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 3. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate in Fiscal Year 2015, \$227,191 from available funds to be reimbursed by a Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90 Section 34 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 4. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town reduce the sum of money appropriated for Fiscal Year 2014 in anticipation of a Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under Chapter 90 Section 34 of the Massachusetts General Laws from \$340,000.00 to \$226,733.00 in accordance with the recommendation of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 5. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer the following sums of money to fund additional expenses in Fiscal Year 2014: Transfer \$11,000 within Department #210 Police from Expenses to Salaries; transfer \$7,500 from Department #222 Communications Salaries to Department #210 Police Salaries; transfer \$22,995 from Department #420 Highway Salaries to Department #423 Snow and Ice, \$1,362 to Salaries and \$21,633 to Expenses; transfer \$5,000 from Department #222 Communications Salaries to Special Revenue Fund #229 MA 911 Training Grant and a further \$1,000 from Department #222 Communications Salaries to Special Revenue Fund #223 MA 911 Support and Incentive Grant.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 6. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town amend the “Schedule of Compensation for Elected Officials” for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, pursuant to the requirements of MGL Chapter 41 section 108, by increasing the salaries of elected officials as follows: the Town Clerk by \$951, the Select Board Chair by \$86 and other members by \$268 and the Moderator by \$7.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 7. It was moved, seconded and voted that the question be divided to vote first on an amendment to the Town Operating Budget and second on a transfer of funds from the General Stabilization Fund

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town amend the vote taken under Article 3 at the Annual Town Meeting on May 5, 2014, to increase or reduce the sums of money raised and appropriated for several departments as shown in the handout and totaling a reduction of \$23,720 and that the same be expended only for such purposes.

Department	Salaries	Expenses
114 Moderator	\$7	
122 Select Board	\$353	
123 Town Manager, (Town Mgr. & Adm Asst)	\$5163	
135 Town Accountant	\$970	
141 Assessors	\$1,655	
145 Town Treasurer, (Treasurer & Asst. Treas.)	\$1,655	
146 Town Collector (Collector & Asst. Collector)	\$1,645	
154 Recording Secretaries	\$90	
161 Town Clerk, (Clerk & Asst. Clerk)	\$925	
162 Elections	\$162	
163 Registrars	\$122	
175 Planning Board & Board of Appeals	\$490	
192 Building & Property Maintenance	\$1,063	
210 Police Department (non-union employees)	\$4,040	
222 Communications Department (non-union)	\$919	
240 Building Inspector	\$849	
244 Sealer of Weights & Measures	\$26	
247 Animal Inspector	\$74	
292 Animal Control	\$952	
294 Forest Warden	\$49	
295 Emergency Mgt.	\$44	
296 Tree Warden	\$42	
420 Highway Department (non-union)	\$3,239	
449 Sewer Treatment (correct budget error)		(\$60,000)
491 Cemetery Department (non-union)	\$218	
510 Board of Health (expanded hrs. 24-30)	\$8,074	
522 Public Health Nurse	\$121	
541 Council on Aging	\$1,831	
543 Veteran’s Services	\$135	
610 Library	\$649	
650 Parks Maintenance, (non-union)	\$218	
691 Historical Commission,		\$500.00
TOTALS	\$35,780	(\$59,500)

And I further move that, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 121B Sections 19 and 20, the Town may expend from Department #151, Town Counsel, to Fund #024, Dalton Redevelopment Authority, to be used for any expense of said Authority, including but not limited to payment of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Compliance Assurance fees, and liability insurance premiums.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer \$10,000 from the General Stabilization Fund to partially fund the amendment to the Town Operating Budget approved under Article 7 hereinabove.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 8. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town accept the following resolution:

RESOLUTION TO BAN NEW HIGH CAPACITY/HIGH PRESSURE PIPELINES AND TO CHAMPION SUSTAINABLE ENERGY.

Whereas a proposed High-Pressure Pipeline carrying natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing may come through Dalton or neighboring communities, bringing said fuel en route to Dracut, Massachusetts, potentially to be used for electricity generation; and

Whereas said pipeline goes against current Massachusetts commitments to encourage renewable energy development and combat global climate change; and

Whereas said pipeline would destroy as yet undetermined amounts of forest, conservation land and farmland; and

Whereas a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture or devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives; and Whereas the cost of said pipeline would be imposed on Massachusetts citizens as a utility bill tariff, causing Massachusetts citizens to bear the financial and environmental risks associated with the endeavors of a private corporation (Tennessee Gas Pipeline Corporation, TGP, s subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.); and

Whereas, we the citizens of Dalton, Massachusetts choose not to participate in such encumbrances to the life, vibrancy, economic stability, and general well-being to our neighbors in New York and wherever additional oil and gas exploration, extraction and transportation via high pressure pipeline is occurring,

Be it *Resolved*, that the people of Dalton, Massachusetts:

1. Hereby call on our Select Board to stand in opposition to TGP's high capacity/high pressure pipeline and not allow it within our town borders;
2. Hereby instruct our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials to enact legislation and take such other actions as are necessary to disallow such projects that put our physical and environmental health at risk, and to encourage energy efficiency and further exploration of and financial support for renewable energy development and the displacement of fossil fuel use.

The above Article was submitted via a citizens' petition signed by one hundred eighteen (118) registered voters. A minimum of one hundred (100) valid signatures are necessary for a citizens' petition to appear on a Special Town Meeting Warrant. The Article is required to appear exactly as written. Any motion or explanation is typically the responsibility of the petitioner.

CARRIED.

DECLARED MAJORITY.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Barbara L. Suriner, TOWN CLERK
