

Annual Town Meeting WARRANT TOWN OF HUDSON



Monday, May 4, 2015

**Finance Committee
Report and Recommendations**

Finance Committee Preamble**To The People of Hudson, Greetings:**

The finance committee has reviewed the warrant articles and we have made our recommendations.

The budget increase for FY 2016 over FY 2015 is 1.59%. This increase compares very favorably to FY15 1.56%, FY14 2.44% and FY13 at 2.94%. Personnel expenses continue to drive the increase. Our largest department continues to be the School Department with more than 50% of the annual budget.

In order to have a sustainable annual budget without relying on proposition 2½ overrides, we need to keep personnel expenses in check while at the same time providing a high level of service from all departments. Town departments in many cases are operating with the same or fewer personnel than they did twenty years ago even as the town has grown. It is highly likely that we will have to continue debt exclusions from time to time in order to maintain our basic infrastructure.

Over the past ten years we have seen an increasing reliance on our tax levy. In 2005 the tax levy accounted for 56% of our total budget revenue compared with 62.1% for this fiscal year. State revenues (education aid and local aid) have remained relatively flat from 2005 to 2016. The state education portion of revenue has increased, however, there has been a corresponding decrease on the local aid side .As a result the town has \$1.5 million less in net general aid than it did 10 years ago.

In order to add certainty to the budgeting process, the Executive Assistant has submitted a five-year projection that can be used as a guide in the coming years. One significant change with regard to local aid and education aid will be our commitment to fixed appropriation levels submitted to the May Town Meeting, which will enable us to avoid having to make mid-stream adjustments based on variable grants of local aid.

While we are aware of our increasing reliance on our tax levy, we would point out of the 31 surrounding towns in the Metro-West corridor, only 5 communities have a lower tax burden. It is a challenge to maintain a high level of service within all departments, including the school department, while at the same time maintaining reasonable tax rates. Looking forward, expected increases in residential and commercial growth should enable us to maintain our low rates. As the economy continues to grow, local growth should follow, and the expanded tax base will add revenue without adding burden to our existing taxpayers.

The Finance Committee:

John Parent, Chairman, Justin Provencher, Vice Chairman
Guy Beaudette, Claudinor Salomão, Barbara Rose,
Michael Downey, Manuel A. Chaves, Steven Domenicucci, Robert Clark

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TOWN WARRANT

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss.

To either of the constables of the Town of Hudson in the County of Middlesex,
Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to
notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hudson, qualified to vote in elections and in
Town affairs, to assemble in the Hudson High School, Brigham Street, in said Town on

MONDAY, the Fourth day of

MAY

in the year 2015

at 7:30 o'clock in the evening. Then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1 FY16 Budget

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the
Town as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as
amended, and raise and appropriate a sum of money therefore to provide funds needed to
defray the usual and necessary expense of the Town for the fiscal year beginning on July
1, 2015 and ending on June 30, 2016; and raise and appropriate or take from available
funds the money needed to carry into effect the provisions of this article, or take any action
relative thereto.

Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Department		FY13 Actual	FY14 Actual	FY15 Budget	EA Request	Selectmen Recommend	Fin Com Recommend
1 Board of Selectmen	Personnel	9,000	8,850	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
2 Board of Selectmen	Expenses	4,420	4,121	4,585	4,585	4,585	4,585
Selectmen Total		13,420	12,971	13,585	13,585	13,585	13,585
3 Executive Assistant	Personnel	339,142	327,348	347,078	353,382	353,382	353,382
4 Executive Assistant	Expenses	6,796	5,741	10,250	10,250	10,250	10,250
5 Election & Town Meeting	Personnel	42,729	10,127	42,785	22,660	22,660	22,660
6 Election & Town Meeting	Expenses	7,718	5,690	10,480	11,650	11,650	11,650
7 Community Development	Personnel	113,138	116,870	121,290	125,670	125,670	125,670
8 Community Development	Expenses	4,385	2,260	3,310	3,310	3,310	3,310
9 Legal Services	Expenses	207,884	157,361	164,000	164,000	164,000	164,000
10 Building Maintenance	Personnel	51,688	52,934	55,256	56,288	56,288	56,288
11 Building Maintenance	Expenses	170,051	202,948	166,424	167,520	167,520	167,520
12 Personnel Expense	Expenses	14,216	9,110	9,753	9,753	9,753	9,753
Exe. Assistant Total		957,747	890,389	930,626	924,483	924,483	924,483
13 Finance/IT Department	Personnel	629,604	621,877	574,740	587,409	587,409	587,409
14 Finance/IT Department	Expenses	133,553	140,357	133,178	141,646	141,646	141,646
Finance/IT Total		763,157	762,234	707,918	729,055	729,055	729,055
15 Town Clerk/Registrar	Personnel	134,952	139,915	145,736	148,961	148,961	148,961
16 Town Clerk	Expenses	10,799	11,244	11,676	11,776	11,776	11,776
Town Clerk Total		145,751	151,159	157,412	160,737	160,737	160,737
17 Moderator	Expenses	110	110	110	110	110	110
18 Finance Committee	Expenses	231	236	881	881	881	881
19 Board of Assessors	Personnel	25,900	26,667	27,477	27,917	27,917	27,917
20 Board of Assessors	Expenses	79,295	79,468	85,350	85,450	85,450	85,450
21 Board of Appeals	Personnel	342	153	255	259	259	259
22 Board of Appeals	Expenses	1,000	737	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700
23 Conservation Comm.	Personnel	36,297	36,892	37,444	38,154	38,154	38,154
24 Planning Board	Personnel	286	194	510	518	518	518
25 Planning Board	Expenses	5,900	5,789	6,600	6,700	6,700	6,700
26 Municipal Light Board	Personnel	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900	3,900
27 Econ. Develop. Comm.	Personnel	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
28 Econ. Develop. Comm.	Expenses	1,479	1,224	9,479	1,479	1,479	1,479
29 Fort Meadow Comm.	Expenses	2,792	2,500	2,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
30 Lake Boon Comm.	Expenses	1,728	0	1,988	7,066	7,066	7,066
31 Historical District Comm.	Expenses	500	450	600	800	800	800
Board & Com Total		161,760	160,320	181,094	182,734	182,734	182,734
32 Police Department	Personnel	2,754,138	2,767,762	2,867,339	2,858,622	2,858,622	2,858,622
33 Police Department	Expenses	298,072	298,890	339,060	346,809	346,809	346,809
Police Dept. Total		3,052,210	3,066,652	3,206,399	3,205,431	3,205,431	3,205,431

<u>Department</u>		<u>FY13 Actual</u>	<u>FY14 Actual</u>	<u>FY15 Budget</u>	<u>EA Request</u>	<u>Selectmen Recommend</u>	<u>Fin Com Recommend</u>
34 Fire Department	Personnel	2,505,296	2,641,732	2,734,928	2,778,322	2,778,322	2,778,322
35 Fire Department	Expenses	302,585	297,983	302,072	294,520	294,520	294,520
Fire Dept. Total		2,807,881	2,939,715	3,037,000	3,072,842	3,072,842	3,072,842
36 Inspections Dept.	Personnel	152,336	154,456	155,261	159,753	159,753	159,753
37 Inspections Dept.	Expenses	6,753	8,017	8,930	9,309	9,309	9,309
Insp. Dept. Total		159,089	162,473	164,191	169,062	169,062	169,062
38 DPW Snow & Ice	Personnel	194,480	224,231	116,265	116,265	116,265	116,265
39 DPW Snow & Ice	Expenses	357,607	410,295	210,688	210,688	210,688	210,688
40 Public Works	Personnel	2,712,864	2,878,628	2,918,866	2,974,277	2,974,277	2,974,277
41 Public Works	Expenses	2,801,816	3,318,589	3,318,025	3,005,644	3,005,644	3,005,644
DPW Total		6,066,767	6,831,743	6,563,844	6,306,874	6,306,874	6,306,874
42 Board of Health	Personnel	100,339	101,894	135,287	142,002	142,002	142,002
43 Board of Health	Expenses	29,809	35,167	37,700	37,200	37,200	37,200
BOH Total		130,148	137,061	172,987	179,202	179,202	179,202
44 Council on Aging	Personnel	197,261	219,964	229,230	225,281	225,281	225,281
45 Council on Aging	Expenses	35,329	35,359	37,952	38,251	38,251	38,251
COA Total		232,590	255,323	267,182	263,532	263,532	263,532
46 Veterans' Services	Personnel	60,523	61,487	63,628	66,023	66,023	66,023
47 Veterans' Services	Expenses	63,284	66,381	65,800	66,800	66,800	66,800
Veterans' Total		123,807	127,868	129,428	132,823	132,823	132,823
48 Library	Personnel	494,816	504,769	513,105	529,661	529,661	529,661
49 Library	Expenses	201,847	191,872	204,971	208,050	208,050	208,050
Library Dept. Total		696,663	696,641	718,076	737,711	737,711	737,711
50 Recreation	Personnel	225,789	228,507	244,771	257,340	257,340	257,340
51 Recreation	Expenses	61,185	62,693	65,915	66,574	66,574	66,574
Recreation Dept. Total		286,974	291,200	310,686	323,914	323,914	323,914
52 Debt Service	Expenses	6,143,793	6,024,904	5,938,202	6,442,437	6,442,437	6,442,437
Debt Total		6,143,793	6,024,904	5,938,202	6,442,437	6,442,437	6,442,437
53 Pensions	Expenses	3,731,090	3,905,580	4,161,202	4,404,987	4,404,987	4,404,987
Pension Total		3,731,090	3,905,580	4,161,202	4,404,987	4,404,987	4,404,987
54 Group Health Ins.	Expenses	3,295,520	3,965,500	3,954,427	4,198,000	4,198,000	4,198,000
55 General Insurance	Expenses	591,684	551,437	699,268	715,115	715,115	715,115
Insurance Total		3,887,204	4,516,937	4,653,695	4,913,115	4,913,115	4,913,115

¹ Recommend that \$225,000.00 be taken from Light & Power Surplus Account and be applied to Line 53, Contributory Retirement and Pensions.

<u>Department</u>		<u>FY13 Actual</u>	<u>FY14 Actual</u>	<u>FY15 Budget</u>	<u>Committee Request</u>	<u>Selectmen Recommend</u>	<u>FinCom Recommend</u>
56 Assabet Valley	Expenses	1,674,178	1,887,535	1,947,185	\$2,012,149	\$2,012,149	\$2,012,149
Assabet Valley Total	Expenses	1,674,178	1,887,535	1,947,185	\$2,012,149	\$2,012,149	\$2,012,149
57 Hudson Schools	Personnel	27,039,371	28,349,006	28,986,859	\$29,772,147	\$29,772,147	\$29,772,147
58 Hudson Schools	Expenses	3,398,749	3,599,985	3,950,402	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000
Schools Total		30,438,120	31,948,991	32,937,261	\$33,772,147	\$33,772,147	\$33,772,147
59 Schools Transportation	Expenses	1,500,055	1,537,556	1,572,151	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000
Transportation Total	Expenses	1,500,055	1,537,556	1,572,151	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000
Hudson Schools Total		31,938,175	33,486,547	34,509,412	\$35,372,147	\$35,372,147	\$35,372,147
Total Operations		62,972,404	66,307,252	67,770,124	\$69,546,820	\$69,546,820	\$69,546,820

ARTICLE 2 FY16 Capital Plan

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the sums needed to purchase items of equipment, and make Capital Improvements requested by the various departments, by transferring the sum of \$116,587.63, said amount having been appropriated under various articles as noted below, and taking from Available Funds the sum of \$787,612.37 to carry into effect the provisions of this article as described below; or take any other action relative thereto.

Department:	Project:	Amount:	Source of Funds:	
DPW	Roadway Reconstruction	\$300,000	*Available Funds Transfers (see note)	5-2
	4WD 1-Ton Utility Body	\$66,778	Available Funds	7-0
	4WD 1-Ton Dump	\$72,963	Available Funds	7-0
	Sander and Plow	\$155,867	Available Funds	7-0
Executive Assistant	Upgrade Computers & Software	\$10,000	Available Funds	7-0-1
Planning/Community Development	Comprehensive Revisions to Protective Zoning By-Laws	\$100,000	Available Funds	7-0
Police	Police Cruisers (3)	\$115,992	Available Funds	7-0
School Department	Mulready – Replace Fire Alarm & Intercom	\$40,000	Available Funds	6-0-2
	Mulready – Patch & Sealcoat Parking Lot	\$12,600	Available Funds	6-0-2
	HHS – Stucco Repair / Coping Stones	\$30,000	Available Funds	6-0-2
Total Capital:		\$904,200		

* Transfer \$32,500 from Article 4 (11/21/11)

Transfer \$5,175 from Article 20 (5/3/10)

Transfer \$10,000 from Article 17 (5/4/09)

Transfer \$68,912.63 from Article 2 (5/3/04)

\$183,412.37 from Available Funds

Executive Assistant, Director of Public Works, Police Chief, Planning Director, Community Development Director, School Department, Board of Selectmen

Article 2: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$787,612.37 be taken from available funds, the sum of \$32,500 be transferred from Article 4 of the November, 2011 Town Meeting, the sum of \$5,175 be transferred from Article 20 of the May, 2010 Town Meeting, the sum of \$10,000 be transferred from Article 17 of the May, 2009 Town meeting, the sum of \$68,912.63 be transferred from Article 2 of the May, 2004 Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 3 Fire Rescue Vehicle

To see if the Town will vote to borrow and appropriate pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 7, clauses (9) and (9A), as amended or any other enabling authority the sum of \$551,250 for the purchase of a fire rescue vehicle; and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue any bonds or notes necessary thereto; or take any action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant
Fire Chief
Board of Selectmen

Article 3: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that \$551,250 be borrowed.

ARTICLE 4 Fire Station 1 Structural Repairs

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$7,948.81, and transfer the sum of \$168,316.93 from the balance remaining under Article 7 of the May 2003 Town Meeting, and transfer the sum of \$100,274.58 from the balance remaining under Article 6 of the May 2004 Town Meeting, and transfer the sum of \$42,659.68 from the balance remaining under Article 4 of the May 2008 Town Meeting, for the repair and improvement of Fire Station 1; Total Cost; \$319,200.

Or take any action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant
Fire Chief
Board of Selectmen

Explanation: The floor of the apparatus bay in Fire Station 1 needs replacement as it has developed cracks and spalling.

Article 4: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$7,948.81 be taken from available funds, the sum of \$168,316.93 be transferred from Article 7 of the May 2003 Town Meeting, the sum of \$100,274.58 be transferred from Article 6 of the May 2004 Town Meeting, and the sum of \$42,659.68 be transferred from Article 4 of the May 2008 Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 5 Design and Construction of Roof for the Mulready School

To see if the Town will vote to borrow and appropriate pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 7, clauses (3), (3A), and (21) as amended or any other enabling authority the sum of \$1,500,000. Said sum to be used for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new roof for the Mulready School; and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue any bonds or notes necessary thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept any state and/or federal aid that may be available therefore, including Massachusetts School Building Authority assistance; or to take any action relative thereto.

Explanation: We expect the MSBA to fund at least 50% of the cost of this project. We will only borrow the net amount needed, approximately \$750,000. A similar warrant article was withdrawn at the November 2014 town meeting. It was discovered that the appropriation was not sufficient to comply with MSBA funding requirements.

Executive Assistant
School Committee
Board of Selectmen

Article 5: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$1,500,000 be borrowed.

ARTICLE 6 Asbestos Removal at the Mulready School

To see if the Town will vote to borrow and appropriate pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 7, clause (31) as amended or any other enabling authority the sum of \$325,000. Said sum to be used for the removal asbestos at the Mulready School; and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue any bonds or notes necessary thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept any state and/or federal aid that may be available therefore, including Massachusetts School Building Authority assistance; or to take any action relative thereto.

Explanation: The MSBA program under which the roof is being replaced will not fund asbestos removal, so this action requires a separate appropriation.

Executive Assistant
School Committee
Board of Selectmen

Article 6: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$325,000 be borrowed.

ARTICLE 7 Gates Pond Water Filtration Upgrade

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$200,000 from the balance remaining under Article 7 (to replace Gates Pond water line) of the May 2003 Town Meeting to further improve the Gates Pond facility by purchasing and installing variable frequency drives and backwash pumps and incidental lighting and cosmetic improvements; or to take any action relative thereto.

Explanation: This article does not raise additional funds or affect any budgets, it merely transfers left over funding from a closed project to one that funds similar needs.

Executive Assistant
Director of Public Works
Board of Selectmen

Article 7: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$200,000 be transferred from the balance remaining under Article 7 of the May 2003 town meeting.

ARTICLE 8 Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to adopt a Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures or transfers, to be made to the departments only by vote of the Finance Committee, as provided for in Chapter 40, Section 6 of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended, and to raise and appropriate a total of \$100,000 to carry into effect the provisions of this article; or take any action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Article 8: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$100,000 be raised and appropriated.

ARTICLE 9 Youth Sports

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,500 to support Youth Sports, administered through the Park Commission, or take any action relative thereto.

Director of Recreation / Park Commission
Board of Selectmen

Article 9: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$4,500 be raised and appropriated.

ARTICLE 10 Cable Television Receipts

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to deposit any payments required of any Hudson Cable Television Licensee for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016. Said payments shall constitute the Hudson Cable Television Services Fund and shall be utilized, for the purposes set forth and in accordance with the terms and conditions specified within the license agreements between the licensee and the Town. And further to see if the Town will authorize the Executive Assistant to expend those funds with the approval of the Board of Selectmen; or take any other action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Article 10: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 11 Community Preservation Reservation of Funds

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the **Community Preservation** annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses and other expenses in fiscal year 2016, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses	\$ 27,220.15
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Reserves:

From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 54,440.30
From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$ 54,440.30
From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$ 54,440.30
From FY 2016 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$ 353,861.95

Or take any action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee
Board of Selectmen

Article 11: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 12 Joint Dispatch Offset Receipts

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$403,000, said sum to be utilized to offset the cost of operating and maintaining a joint Police and Fire dispatch system through June 30, 2016, and such sum to be offset, in the aggregate, by the estimated receipts from public safety fees paid by the Highland Commons Shopping Center, all in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E as authorized in Article 14 of the Town Meeting of May 2, 1988; or take any action relative thereto.

Fire Chief, Police Chief
Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Article 12: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 13 Revolving Fund Articles

To see if the Town will vote to establish and authorize the use of revolving fund accounts pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E 1/2 as amended for the purposes, maximum expenditure, and authority to spend as outlined in the table below. Funds expended for these purposes may be used independently or in conjunction with other public or private funds provided for these same purposes.

Title	Max Amount	Source of Fees and Use of Funds	Authority to Expend Funds
Hazardous Materials Revolving Fund	\$20,000	Applying fees received for services provided at hazardous material release incidents, contingency planning activities, site assessments, and public training for replacement of equipment, materials, and the costs of labor involved with personnel through June 30, 2016.	Fire Chief

Fire Alarm Revolving Fund	\$30,000	Applying fees received from users of the services provided by the Fire Department's Fire Alarm Division for the extension of the Municipal Fire Alarm System through June 30, 2016.	Fire Chief
Infiltration and Inflow Revolving Fund	\$400,000	Applying fees received for Sewer Extension Permits to the reduction of Infiltration and Inflow into the Wastewater Collection System throughout the Town and expending funds for technical assistance and or direct mitigation of existing sources of Infiltration and Inflow through June 30, 2016.	DPW Director
Real Estate Tax File Revolving Fund	\$15,000	Applying fees received for Electronic Real Estate Tax Files to the printing of Real Estate Tax Bills and for the printing, stuffing and mailing of Real Estate Tax Bills through June 30, 2016.	Finance Director
Inspections Fees Revolving Fund	\$125,000	Applying fees charged to the recipients of inspections to be utilized to fund the cost of providing plumbing, electrical, and building inspections by part-time qualified inspectors through the period ending June 30, 2016.	Building Commissioner
School Department Professional Development Revolving Fund	\$20,000	Applying fees charged to the recipients of Professional Development Program services within the Hudson Public Schools to hire instructors, purchase instructional materials, reimburse travel and lodging costs, and other expenses as incurred in the development and operation of these programs through June 30, 2016.	Superintendent of Schools
Senior Citizens Program Revolving Fund	\$40,000	Applying fees received from participants in the Senior Citizen Programs and Activities provided by the Hudson Senior Center to hire instructors, purchase materials, and pay for other expenses as incurred in the development and operation of these programs and activities through June 30, 2016.	Council On Aging
Public Health Revolving Fund	112,000	Applying fees received for public health programs to pay for the Inspection of Nail Salons, and Rental Dwellings, the inspection and regulation of Solid Waste Haulers and providers of dumpsters, and the review of Septic System inspection reports through June 30, 2016.	Board of Health
Tobacco Control Revolving Fund	\$6,000	Applying fees received from licensed sellers of tobacco products to provide education, inspections, enforcement, and the administration of tobacco control programs through June 30, 2016.	Board of Health
Affordable Housing Revolving Fund	\$90,000	Applying fees and reimbursements received from neighboring Towns participating in the Regional Housing Consultant Services project to hire consultants, purchase services and materials and other related expenses through June 30, 2016.	Community Development Director

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant, Fire Chief, Finance Director, DPW Director, Building Commissioner, School Committee, Council on Aging, Board of Health, Community Development Director, Board of Selectmen

Article 13: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 14 Light and Power Surplus Account

To see if the Town will appropriate the receipts of the Light and Power Department for the operation, maintenance, expenses, repairs and construction for the Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, as defined in Section 57 and 58, Chapter 164 of the General Laws (1921) of Massachusetts, as thereafter amended, and that if there shall be any unexpended balance as of December 31, 2015, an amount not to exceed \$225,000 of the same shall be transferred to the Light and Power Surplus Account.

Municipal Light Board
Board of Selectmen

Article 14: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 15 Annual Town Reports

To hear the reports of the Town Officers, Boards and Committees and to act thereon.

Board of Selectmen

Article 15: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 16 Borrowing In Anticipation of Revenue

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer/Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, as amended, and to issue a note or notes therefore, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, as amended; or take any action relative thereto.

Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Article 16: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 17 Chapter 90 Roadway Funds

To see if the Town will vote to take from available funds the sum of \$297,481 for construction, reconstruction and improvements of Town roads as requested by the Board of Selectmen to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts pursuant to the Town of Hudson's Chapter 90 apportionment for Fiscal Year 2015; or take any action relative thereto.

Explanation: Former Governor Patrick released only \$200 million of the \$300 million transportation bond bill that funded the Chapter 90 program in 2015. Current Governor Baker immediately released the remaining \$100 million, and the article above represents Hudson's portion of that additional \$100 million.

Executive Assistant
Director of Public Works
Board of Selectmen

Article 17: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article.

ARTICLE 18 Forest Avenue/Main St./Wilkins St. & Main St./Cox St./Glendale Road Traffic Analysis

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$25,000 dollars for the purpose of providing a Traffic Engineering Analysis and Signal Warrant Report for the Forest Avenue/Main Street and Wilkins Street Intersection and the Main Street/Cox Street and Glendale Road Intersection; Or take any action relative thereto.

Director of Public Works
Police Chief, Fire Chief
Building Commissioner
Planning Director
Board of Selectmen

Article 18: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$25,000 be raised and appropriated. Vote 7-0-1.

ARTICLE 19 Accept a Portion of Washington Street as a Town Way

To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept as discontinuance by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Transportation, a section of State highway known as a portion of Washington Street in the Town of Hudson beginning at the intersection of Brigham Street at station 0+00.00 and ending at station 23+91.47 along the baseline of said highway and shown on a plan, a copy of said plan being on file with the Town Clerk's Office, entitled "Mass Dept. of Transportation Plan of Road in the Town of Hudson, Middlesex County, Altered and Laid out as a State Highway by the Mass. Dept. of Transportation, Highway Division, September 15, 2011, Layout No. 8155," recorded as Plan number 688 of 2011 at the Middlesex County registry of Deeds, South District; a section of State highway known as a portion of Washington Street in the Town of Hudson beginning at station 23+91.63 and ending at station 35+95.69 along the Auxiliary Baseline "B" of said highway and shown on a plan, a copy of said plan being on file with the Town

Clerk's Office, entitled "Mass Dept. of Transportation Plan of Road in the Town of Hudson, Middlesex County, Altered and Laid out as a State Highway by the Mass. Dept. of Transportation, Highway Division, September 15, 2011, Layout No. 8257," recorded as Plan number 689 of 2011 at the Middlesex County registry of Deeds, South District; a total distance of approximately .68 miles along the baseline of said highway.

And further to see if the Town will vote to take from available funds the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to carry out the provisions of this article; Or take any action relative thereto.

Community Development Director
Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Article 19: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$100 be taken from available funds. Vote 7-0-1.

ARTICLE 20 Authorize Participation in MassDOT Program

To see if the Town of Hudson will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 90-I, Section 1, as amended, the Complete Streets Program, to allow the Town to participate in, apply for, and receive funding pursuant to said section and Section 6121-1318 of the Session Laws, Chapter 79 of the Acts of 2014; or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Development Director
Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Article 20: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article. Vote 7-0-1.

ARTICLE 21 Appropriate for Parking Improvements

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$15,000 said sum to be used to pay for the cost of making downtown parking improvements by adding lines to better delineate parking spaces, provide parking maps and information, update signage within the downtown, and take other steps as may be necessary to improve downtown parking; or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Development Director
Executive Assistant
Board of Selectmen

Article 21: The Finance Committee unanimously recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$15,000 be taken from available funds.

ARTICLE 22 Sesquicentennial Committee

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of funding Sesquicentennial events where said events have been approved by a majority vote of the Sesquicentennial Steering Committee or take any action relative thereto.

Sesquicentennial Committee
Board of Selectmen

Article 22: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$20,000 be taken from available funds. Vote 7-0-1.

ARTICLE 23 Petitioned Article: Addictions Referral Center

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$5,000.00 to assist the Addictions Referral Center in Marlboro in its efforts to provide assistance to persons from Hudson and surrounding communities who have problems with alcohol and/or other substance abuse, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Executive Assistant and the Board of Selectmen, or take any action relative thereto.

Petitioned by Ernie Kapopoulos, et. Al

Article 23: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$5,000 be taken from available funds. Vote 7-0-1.

ARTICLE 24 Petitioned Article: Revolving Fund for Non-Municipal Detail Work

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$50,000 dollars to supplement a revolving fund as provided for in Chapter 44, Section 53C of the General Laws, or take any action relative thereto.

Petitioned by Robert Merrill, et. Al

Article 24: The Finance Committee recommends the adoption of the subject matter of this article and that the sum of \$20,000 be taken from available funds. Vote 7-1-0.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

And you are also directed to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the several designated polling places in their respective precincts in said Hudson, to wit:

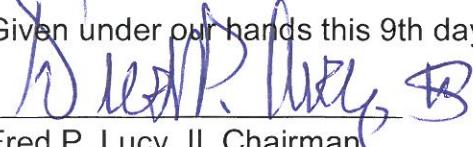
Precinct I	Hudson High School, 69 Brigham Street
Precinct II	Glen Road Community Center, 4 Glen Road
Precinct III	David J. Quinn Middle School, 201 Manning Street
Precinct IV	Joseph P. Mulready School, 306 Cox Street
Precinct V	Forest Avenue School, 136 Forest Avenue
Precinct VI	Auditorium, Town Hall, 78 Main Street
Precinct VII	Auditorium, Town Hall, 78 Main Street

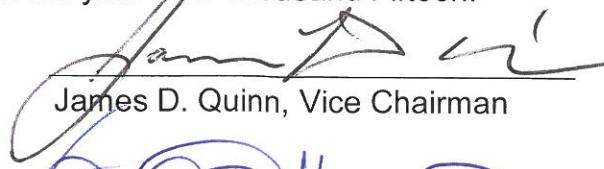
On Monday, May 11, 2015, at seven o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to choose by ballot the following Town Officers for the ensuing year:

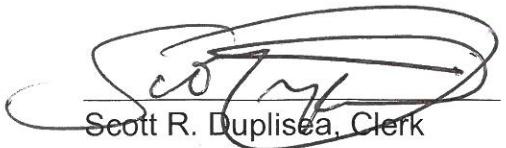
Selectmen, two for three years; Moderator, one for one year; School Committee, three for three years; School Committee, one for one year (To fill a vacancy); Trustees of Susan Cox, Joseph S. Bradley, J.J. Angell, Sarah A. Brown, George E.D. and Abigail E. Wilkins, Addie E. Cahill, Helen M. Lewis, Mary E. Tacey, Maude A. Whitney and Clara E. Houghton Funds, one for three years; Housing Authority One for three years (To fill a vacancy) Municipal Light Board, one for three years; Park Commission, one for three years; Board of Health, one for three year; Library Trustees, one for three years; Planning Board, two for three years; Cemetery Commission, one for three years; Constable, one for three years; Board of Assessors, one for three years and Vocational Regional District School Committee Member, one for four years.

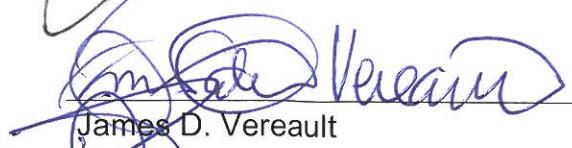
And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up copies attested by you in the following places: one at the Post Office, one at the Town House, one at the Office of the Town Clerk, and in six other public places in said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting and by publication in a newspaper published in said Town. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk on or before time of holding said meeting.

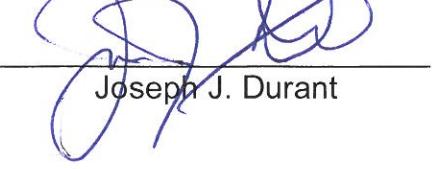
Given under our hands this 9th day of March in the year Two Thousand Fifteen.


Fred P. Lucy, II, Chairman


James D. Quinn, Vice Chairman


Scott R. Duplisea, Clerk


James D. Vereault


Joseph J. Durant

INTRODUCTION TO TOWN MEETING

The Town Meeting is a deliberative assembly, charged with considering a number of questions of varying complexity in a reasonable period of time, and with full regard to the rights of the majority.

AUTHORITY

The three elements of authority at Town Meeting are a quorum of 150 registered voters or more, the Moderator and the Town Clerk.

The Moderator presides at and regulates the proceedings, decides all questions of order, and makes declarations of all votes. No one may speak on an issue without being recognized by the Moderator. It is his responsibility to approve the distribution of materials, and persons wishing to do so must seek his permission. The Moderator appoints Tellers and alternates for the purpose of counting votes of the meeting.

THE WARRANT

All matters to be considered at Town Meeting must be published in the Town Meeting Warrant, which is the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen. The Finance Committee reviews the warrant, making recommendations on items of business to be presented. In accordance with the by-laws, all articles in the Warrant are considered in the order in which they appear in the Warrant, unless the Town Meeting, after reasons have been stated. The Moderator has full discretion to decide whether or not the motion to change the order of articles will be entertained.

PARTICIPATION

All remarks should be limited to the subject then under discussion. It is improper to indulge in references to personalities. The Moderator may request any person to keep silent. If after warning from the Moderator, a person refuses to be silent or persists in other disorderly behavior, the Moderator may order a person to withdraw and if he fails to withdraw, may order a police officer to remove such person from the Meeting. Each individual who speaks to the Meeting should make an effort to be as brief as possible out of consideration for others attending the Meeting and the need to give adequate time to all matters coming before it.

CLASSIFIED MOTIONS

Pursuant to section 8 of article II of the by-laws of the Town of Hudson, when a question comes before Town Meeting certain motions shall be received and have precedence in the following order:

PRIVILEGED MOTIONS: These are motions that have no connection with the main motion before the Town Meeting, but are motions of such importance that they are entitled to immediate consideration. These motions have the privilege of temporarily setting aside the main business before the Town Meeting.

TO ADJOURN (decided without debate):

TO FIX THE TIME FOR ADJOURNMENT:

SUBSIDIARY MOTIONS: These are motions that are used to modify or dispose of the main motion being considered. Their existence as motions depend on the main motion to which they are subordinate.

TO LAY ON THE TABLE (decided without debate)

FOR THE PREVIOUS QUESTION (decided without debate)

TO COMMIT

TO AMEND

TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY

All motions may be withdrawn by the maker if no objection is made.

INFORMATION ON MOTIONS

A motion is the means of bringing a proposal or question before the Meeting for consideration. When put forward it is a motion; after is seconded and acknowledged by the Moderator, it becomes the question or proposal; and if it is approved by the Meeting, it becomes a resolution. Generally, no motion shall be entertained unless the subject is contained within a warrant article. The Moderator shall determine whether a motion is within the "scope of the article," that is, whether the warrant gives adequate notice that the action proposed by the motion might be taken at the Meeting. Articles only give notice and do not initiate action; motions do. Motions may be withdrawn; articles may not be.

Some motions avoid a final determination by the Meeting. A motion to commit or refer sends the matter to an existing board or committee or one to be established. The motion to postpone indefinitely disposes of the question without bringing it to a direct vote. The motion to postpone indefinitely should not be confused with the motion to lay on the table which only temporarily delays a vote.

Pursuant to article II, section 3 of the Town of Hudson by-laws, no vote of Town Meeting shall be reconsidered except upon notice by an individual who voted with the majority thereon given within one hour of such vote at the same or succeeding session. If the individual who gives notice does not immediately make such motion, then a motion to reconsider may be made by another individual voter who voted with the majority.

Pursuant to section 4 of article II, no article in the Warrant shall be again taken into consideration after disposed of unless ordered by a vote of two-thirds of the voters present and voting. Pursuant to section 5 of article II, no voter shall speak more than twice upon any question without obtaining leave of Town Meeting except to correct an error or explain a point, nor until all other individuals who have not spoken and so desire have been given the opportunity to speak. Pursuant to section 6 of article II, all motions must be reduced to writing before being submitted to the Town Meeting if required by the Moderator.

Pursuant to section 9 of article II, a motion to receive the report of a committee shall put the report before Town Meeting but not discharge the committee. A vote to accept or adopt such report with or without amendment shall discharge the committee.

Pursuant to section 10 of article II, a 150-voter quorum is required to conduct business at Town Meeting. However, no quorum is needed for a motion to adjourn.

Pursuant to section 11 of article II, articles in a warrant shall be considered in order, except that the Moderator upon request and for reasons stated, may entertain a motion to consider an article out of regular order.

Pursuant to section 12 of article II and in addition to the authority already specified above, the Moderator may administer the oath of office to a town officer chosen at Town Meeting. If a vote declared by the Moderator is immediately questioned by seven or more voters, then the Moderator must verify the vote by polling voters or dividing the Town Meeting. If a two-thirds vote of Town Meeting is required by State Statute, the count shall be taken and the vote recorded by the Town Clerk. However, if the vote is declared to be unanimous, a count is not needed and the Town Clerk shall record the vote as unanimous unless immediately questioned by seven or more voters.

TOWN FINANCE TERMINOLOGY

The following terms are used from time to time in the Annual Report and Town Meeting. In order to provide everyone with a better understanding of the meaning, the following definitions are offered:

SURPLUS REVENUE: (Sometimes referred to as Excess and Deficiency Account). This fund is the amount by which the Cash, Accounts Receivable, and other assets exceed the liabilities and reserves.

AVAILABLE FUNDS: (Often called "Free Cash") This fund represents the amount of money remaining after deducting from the Surplus Revenue all uncollected taxes for prior years, taxes in litigation and court judgments. This fund is certified annually by the State Bureau of Accounts and may be used to defray town costs by a vote of the Town Meeting.

OVERLAY: The overlay is the amount raised by the Assessors in excess of appropriations and other charges for the purpose of creating a fund to cover tax abatements and exemptions granted and to avoid fractions in the tax rate.

RESERVE FUND: This is a fund established by the voters at the annual town meeting and may consist of direct appropriations or transfers. Transfers from the Reserve Fund are initiated by the Executive Assistant and require the approval of the Finance Committee. The use of the Reserve Fund is restricted to "extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures".