

**Board of Selectmen  
February 10, 2016  
7:01 Regular Session**

Present: Paul Healey, Chairman; Paul Gannon; Mary Power; Betty Foley; Assistant Town Administrator

**Questions from the public regarding items no on the agenda**

There were no questions from the public.

**Discussion of Proposed Warrant Articles:**

**ARTICLE S- Health and Wellness Center** - *Will the Town raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for architectural and engineering design development for a renovation and expansion project known as HAWC (Health and Wellness Center) to support the High School health, wellness, physical education and athletic curricula while providing increased and improved space for such purposes, or act on anything relating thereto? (Inserted at the request of the School Committee).*

Mr. Andrew Shafter and Mr. Ray Estes discussed the details of Article S. Mr. Estes explained that the health curriculum and enrollment has expanded, in addition to students needing more credits to graduate. A Power Point presentation was presented which is available in the Selectmen's Office.

Mr. Healey requested a copy of the updated health curriculum. He questioned the number of sports scholarships that have been granted to Hingham students in the past five years. The question of whether or not there will be private participation in funding this project was also raised.

Ms. Power requested an update on the current usage and enrollment numbers for the facilities. She questioned what the participation numbers will look like in this new space, specifically during after school hours. Ms. Power requested this information before their next meeting.

**Discussion of Article LL -Solar Panels at the Landfill** - *Will the Town authorize, but not require, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, § 15A and all other applicable laws, the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement to transfer, in part, the care, custody, management and control, from the Board of Selectmen to the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant of a portion of a parcel of land consisting of the surface of the capped landfill being located on Town of Hingham Assessor's Map 106-0-7, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to effect said partial transfer of said parcel of land, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the town, for the limited purpose of allowing the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant to enter into a License, Lease and/or other Agreement with a third party for the construction, operation and maintenance of a solar generating facility on said parcel of land to generate electricity for distribution by the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant, or act on anything relating thereto? (Inserted at the request of the Hingham Municipal Light Plant)*

Mr. Paul Heanue, General Manager, Hingham Light Plant and Ms. Deidre Lawrence discussed Article LL. Mr. Heanue explained this article would allow Hingham Municipal Light Plant to enter into an agreement with a vendor for the sole purpose of erecting a solar array on the top of the landfill. He stated the electricity generated would go directly into the grid, benefiting rate payers. Ms. Lawrence added the Request for Proposals ("RFP") would define the requirements for the facility.

*Laura Burns, 96 Hersey Street and Co-Coordinator of 350 MA South Shore, Hingham-Hull Green Energy Group.* Ms. Burns stated that she and the group she represents are in full support of this project. Numerous residents in the audience raised their hands in agreement with her statement.

*Ann Fanton, of 46 Ridgewood Crossing.* Ms. Fanton has questions and concerns she would like addressed before Town Meeting, such as dimensions, drawings, glare possibilities and visual impact. She also questioned if the land is transferred as stated in the Article to the Light Company, what happens to the land if the Light Company decides to do something else with it?

*Phill Doster, Linden Ponds* asked how Linden Pond residents can explore solar and wind power because numerous residents are in favor of this type of project.

**Article FF-Town Administrator Special Act-** *Will the Town authorize, but not require, the Board of Selectmen to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth to enact special legislation relating to the Town Administrator in substantially the following form provided that the General Court may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition:*

Ms. Karen Johnson and Mr. Charlie Cristello, TA Bylaw Committee discussed Article FF. Ms. Johnson explained that the TA Bylaw committee was constituted in 2014 to review and make recommendations with respect to Executive Governance and best practices in the administration of Town Governance through a Town Administrator. She explained in the fall of 2015, the Town Administrator By-law Committee was charged with drafting a Town Administrator Special Act. Based on extensive research conducted by the committee, they concluded a Special Act would put the town in the best position to hire a high caliber Town Administrator and maintain its Triple Aaa rating.

She further explained the Special Act would make three changes to the By-law: (1). It would require the Board of Selectmen to enter into an employment contract with the Town Administrator; (2) it would place the responsibility for civil service hiring in the Fire Department with the Town Administrator; and (3) it would allow the Board of Selectmen to hire an interim TA while a search is conducted for a new candidate, if they chose to do so.

Ms. Power requested the vote be deferred to allow time for input from residents. She recommended that everyone keep a long term perspective on what's the best interest of the Town.

Mr. Gannon does not see the need to make changes to the existing By-Law, at this time.

Mr. Healey noted it is important to remember how the TA By-Law Committee got established and it was because the Town as a whole saw the need for changes to be made.

The Committee will be meeting with the Advisory Committee on the February 23, 2016 and again with the Board on February 25, 2016 for further discussion of this Article.

**Article W-Amend General By-Law re: Sewer Appropriation-** *Will the town amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, by amending Article 23, entitled "Sewer Appropriation By-Law", by adding after subsection (b)(iii) new subsections (c), (d) and (e) as follows:*

*"(c) The Board of Health may, but is not required to, submit an advisory statement indicating the public health and environmental needs for said project;*

*(d) The Board of Sewer Commissioners may, but is not required to, submit an advisory statement indicating the scope and constraints of said project;*

*(e) Such other information as the Advisory Committee deems appropriate." or act on anything related thereto?*

*(Inserted by the Hingham Sewer Commission & Hingham Board of Health).*

Mr. Steve Dempsey and Mr. Kirk Shilts discussed Article W. Ms. Power explained that this Article speaks to the expansion of Sewer Service.

Voted- Will the town amend the General By-laws of the Town of Hingham, adopted March 13, 1939, as heretofore amended, by amending Article 23, entitled "Sewer Appropriation By-Law", by adding after subsection (b)(iii) new subsections (c), (d) and (e) as follows:

*"(c) The Board of Health may, but is not required to, submit an advisory statement indicating the public health and environmental needs for said project;*

*(d) The Board of Sewer Commissioners may, but is not required to, submit an advisory statement indicating the scope and constraints of said project;*

*(e) Such other information as the Advisory Committee deems appropriate*

A unanimous vote.

**Votes:**

Voted- To appoint Mr. Andrew Mooradian to the Historical Commission for a three-year term ending on June 30, 2018. A unanimous vote.

Voted- To appoint Mr. David Alschuler as the Town Representative to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council for a three year term ending June 30, 2018. A unanimous vote.

### Selectmen/ Town Administrator's Report

Mr. Gannon congratulated the Hingham Wrestling Team for their undefeated season.

Mr. Power commented on correspondence that has been received regarding the Water Company. She reported there will not be a Warrant Article at this year's Town Meeting regarding the purchase of the Water Company. Article P requests funds for legal services.. That Article will be taken up by the BOS on February 25<sup>th</sup> at a public hearing. Similar to all warrant articles, it will also be taken up by the Advisory Committee.

Mr. Healey thanked everyone for showing up tonight. He explained that they will be meeting tomorrow as well to keep up with the proposed Warrant Articles. Mr. Healey encouraged everyone to attend Lincoln Day on February 13, 2016.

The Open Session Adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Diane Picot

Approved March 24, 2016

The Chair states: The Board will enter into Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property because discussion of this matter in open session may have a detrimental effect of the negotiating position of the town including Barnes Wharf, Boston Gold and Lehner properties. The Board will not return to *Open Session. Roll call vote. A unanimous vote.*

*Documents: (A complete meeting packet of supporting documentation is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's Office).*

1. HHS Health and Wellness Center (HAWC), project Genesis and Development.
2. Email form Pat Granahan showing support for Article LL.