

**TOWN OF SOMERSET, MA
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 19, 2014**

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by the Town Moderator, Lucia Casey. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Moderator followed by a moment of silence for deceased Town employees.

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be added to the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

A motion was made by Selectman Berube and seconded by Selectman Setters that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus. Discussion follows by Mr. Berube. In the absence of further discussion, the Moderator calls for a vote. Motion carries by a unanimous vote in the affirmative to accept Article 1 as written and recommended.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money for the purpose of paying a prior year salary for one school department employee and to determine how said sum shall be appropriated or be transferred from available funds in the Treasury.

A motion was made by Arastou Mahjoory, SSC, and seconded from the floor that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,118.20 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus. Discussion followed by Mr. Mahjoory. In the absence of further discussion the Moderator calls for a vote. The Moderator notes that this must be a 9/10th and therefore, calls for a standing counted vote of the body. 237 total votes: Yes: 138, No: 99, the motion fails.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money for the purpose of paying for McKinney Vento transportation costs incurred in FY 14 by the school department and to determine how said sum shall be appropriated or be transferred from available funds in the Treasury. The funds will be reimbursed in total by the State of Massachusetts Department of Education (DESE) in the following fiscal year.

A motion was made by Mr. Mahjoory and seconded by Lori Rothwell, SSC, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$92,000.00 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Account #01-300-400-5511, Undesignated Surplus. Discussion followed by Mr. Mahjoory. Following brief discussion, the Moderator calls for the vote and declares that the motion carries by a majority vote in the affirmative.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money for the purpose of reimbursing the school department for Medicaid reimbursement received by the Town for services provided by the school department to students and to determine how said sum shall be appropriated or be transferred from available funds in the Treasury. The funds will be received in full by the Town through the efforts and filings done by the School Department.

A motion is made by Mr. Mahjoory, SSC and seconded by Michael Botelho, SSC, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$114,347.08 for the purposes of this article and that said sum be transferred from Account #01-300-400-5511, Undesignated Surplus. Discussion followed by Mr. Mahjoory, Brian Michaud, Town Accountant Joseph Bolton, Denise Wilder, Patti Steele, A&F Chair Christopher Godet, Business Manager Marc Furtado. A motion was made by Melissa Terra, SSC, and seconded by Mr. Mahjoory to amend Article 4 to read the amount of \$57,173.54 and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus. Discussion follows by A&F member Dominic Raffa, Mrs. Coray, Mr. Mahjoory, A&F Member Bruce Coray, Marc Furtado. In the absence of further discussion the Moderator calls for a vote on the motion to amend. Unable to determine by a voice vote, she calls for a standing vote. The Moderator declares that the motion to amend fails by majority. The Moderator calls for further discussion on the original motion. Discussion follows by Mr. Godet, Mr. Furtado, Mrs. Rothwell, Mr. Raffa, Mr. Bamford, Mr. Coray, Mr. Bolton, Mrs. Coray, and again Mr. Bolton. In the absence of further discussion, the Moderator calls for a vote. The motion fails by a majority vote as declared by the Moderator.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money in addition to the amount previously appropriated under Article 11 of the May 20, 2013, Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of supplementing the Somerset-Berkley Regional School District assessment for the current (2013-2014) fiscal year, or to take any other action relative thereto.

A motion is made by Mr. Richard Peirce, SBRSC, and seconded by Julie Gagliardi, SBRSC, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$86,078.00 for the purposes of paying a supplemental assessment for the Somerset Berkley Regional School District for the current 2014 fiscal year as

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assessed to the Treasurer of the Town of Somerset and that said sum be transferred from Undesignated Surplus. Discussion follows by Mr. Peirce. In the absence of further discussion, the Moderator calls for a vote. The motion carries by a unanimous vote in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Steven Rivard and seconded on the floor to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 6:52 p.m.

Attendance 295

A true copy attest;

Dolores Berge, Town Clerk