

## **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

### **TOWN OF HAMPDEN**

#### **Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**County of Hampden**

**Town of Hampden**

**TO:** The Constables of the said Town of Hampden in said County:

**Greetings:** In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hampden qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at The Bethlehem Baptist Church, 123 Allen Street, Hampden, Massachusetts on Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

**Article 1. COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE & TECHNICAL UPGRADE**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to purchase necessary computer hardware, software and technical support to upgrade the Town's Information Technology, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 2. OUTREACH PROGRAM FUNDS FOR SENIOR CENTER**

To see if the town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds, a sum of money to replace funding previously provided by the State, to the Outreach Program at the Senior Center, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 3. STORMWATER REPORTING FUNDING**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money to satisfy State mandated Stormwater Reporting requirements, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 4. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO HAMPDEN-WILBRAHAM REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AGREEMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section III, Paragraph B of the Regional Agreement, by adding a new subparagraph providing that "Effective with the start of the 2019-2020 school year, students in grade 8, regardless of their town of residence, will attend school and receive their education at Minnechaug Regional High School. Effective with the start of the 2022-2023 school year, students in grade 7, regardless of

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their town of residence, will attend school and receive their education at Minnechaug Regional High School.”, or take any action relative thereto.

**Article 5. POLICE DISPATCH BUDGET**

To see if the Town will vote to amend and reduce the following fiscal year 2019 budget line items,

- 57.2 Police general salaries
- 57.4 Police general expense
- 7.2 Employee benefits

as they relate to the Regional Dispatch Project voted at Annual Town Meeting , May 14, 2018, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 6. NON-BARGAINED SALARY ADJUSTMENTS**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from unappropriated available funds to various non-bargained salary accounts for salary rate adjustments, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 7. CITIZEN’S PETITION**

To see if the Town will vote to direct the Hampden Selectmen to take all necessary steps to revive the lawsuit brought by the Town against the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School Committee that was the subject of the Settlement Agreement signed by the Hampden Selectmen Chair and the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School Committee Vice-Chair. These steps shall include but are not necessarily limited to the Selectmen’s requesting immediately, but in no event more than 30 days from the date of the Hampden Town meeting (October, 2018), that the Superior Court vacate the judgment of dismissal in that case as described in the Settlement Agreement, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 8. CITIZEN’S PETITION**

To see if the Town will vote that prior to entering any future settlement agreements with the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School Committee relative to school issues, the Hampden Selectmen will hold a duly convened Town Meeting where a discussion and vote on the matter will be held, or take any other action relative thereto.

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**Article 9. TEMPORARY MORATORIUM – SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS**

To see if the Town will vote to put in place a one-year moratorium on ground-mounted Solar Energy Systems for non-residential, non-personal, and/or commercial use as currently permitted by the Hampden Zoning Bylaws by adding a new section to 7.16 (Solar Energy Systems) of the Hampden Zoning Bylaws. This moratorium excludes the instance whereby the Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute a lease for commercial solar installation at the capped landfill at the Transfer Station at the Annual Town Meeting on 4/27/15. The moratorium also excludes solar energy system projects already approved by the Planning Board.

**ADD NEW SECTION to 7.16 (Solar Energy Systems) of Hampden Zoning Bylaws: TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS**

Notwithstanding any other provision of the Zoning Bylaw to the contrary, the Town hereby adopts a temporary, one-year moratorium on the new use of land for ground-mounted, non-residential, non-personal, and/or commercial use Solar Energy Systems effective immediately upon Town vote. This moratorium excludes the instance whereby the Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute a lease for commercial solar installation at the capped landfill at the Transfer Station at the Annual Town Meeting on 4/27/15. The moratorium also excludes solar energy system projects already approved by the Planning Board. During the moratorium one-year period, the Town shall conduct a bylaw review of towns of similar size, undertake a planning process that addresses the potential impacts of solar energy systems in Hampden, consider the long-term objectives for solar energy systems and their impact on health, safety, and welfare of Hampden’s citizenry, and to determine how the Town shall reasonably regulate solar energy systems and, finally, to amend the Zoning Bylaws Section 7.16 accordingly.

**Article 10. SCHOOL LITIGATION LEGAL EXPENSES**

To see if the town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money for legal and/or professional fees for the purpose of modifying the regional school agreement or resolving other outstanding regional school issues, or take any action relative thereto.

**Article 11. REDUCING TAX RATE**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from unappropriated available funds a sum of money for the purpose of reducing the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2018, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 12. GENERAL STABILIZATION ACCOUNT**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from unappropriated available funds into the General Stabilization Account, or take any other action relative thereto.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy thereof at each of the five places designated by the Town. Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at or before the time of the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands this \_\_\_ of October 2018.

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Vincent J Villamaino

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John D Flynn

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Norman Charest

Board of Selectmen

I \_\_\_\_\_, Constable for the Town of Hampden, have on this date, October \_\_\_ 2018 posted copies of the warrant for the Town Meeting to be held on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in all five places as designated by the Town of Hampden.

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Constable, Town of Hampden