

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**  
**APRIL 25, 2016**

Special Town Meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Town Moderator, Wayne C. Perkins, who declared a quorum present in the Middleborough High School Auditorium.

The Moderator invited Reverend Bruce Smith, Pastor of the Central Congregational Church to offer the invocation.

The Veterans' Council led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Moderator then introduced the following two students from the Burtwood School of Performing Arts who sang the National Anthem: Isabella Generazo, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at the Nichols Middle School and student at the Burtwood School of Performing Arts and Zack Lowell a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at the Nichols Middle School and student of Burtwood School of Performing Arts. The Moderator acknowledged and thanked the members of the Middleborough High School Student Council for acting as pages and counters for the evening and their leader Paul Branagan for allowing them to participate.

The Moderator introduced Jane Lopes of the Historical Commission who made the following presentation:

*Each year the Historical Commission tries to honor the efforts of property owners who have preserved significant historic buildings in our town.*

*Earlier this month, at the grand opening of the Oliver House, we presented a Preservation Award to members of the Oliver family in recognition of their efforts over the years to preserve the 18th century estate that now belongs to the Town. Hopefully our stewardship of this beautiful house and the land surrounding it will be even more successful.*

*Tonight the Commission would like to express its appreciation, on behalf of the Town, to the owners of two pieces of property that had fallen into disrepair and faced an uncertain future. That's especially true of the historic Star Mill complex on East Main Street. As our Vice Chairman and Town Historian Michael Maddigan relates in his Recollecting Nemasket column:*

*Arguably, the Star Mill is the most significant nineteenth-century industrial structure remaining at Middleborough and it is reflective of an era when Middleborough was evolving rapidly from Plymouth County's leading agricultural town into an important center of manufacturing and transportation. It is architecturally significant as a building designed by Solomon K. Eaton (1806-72), a regionally important architect who was also responsible for the design of Middleborough Town Hall and other significant buildings throughout southeastern Massachusetts, many of which are listed upon the National Register of Historic Places. The Star Mill complex is not only the sole remaining industrial structure remaining from the period of Middleborough's mid-19th century industrialization, but it is likely one of the few brick mill structures from this era remaining in Plymouth County.*

*Now owned by the Heritage Companies, the Star Mill complex houses 69 stylish loft apartments. The buildings have been completely renovated and are listed on the National Register.*

*The six cemeteries that make up the historic Rock Cemetery have been overseen by the Rock Cemetery*

*Association since 1907. The cemetery itself dates back to the 18th century. On the north side of Highland Street, adjacent to the west section of the cemetery, is a mortuary chapel that was built in 1925. Michael Maddigan tells us that the Mortuary Chapel was constructed to a design by local architect Wilson G. Harlow of Middleborough who also designed the original Central Fire Station on North Main Street in Middleborough as well as the original portion of the Mayflower Co-operative Bank on South Main Street. The chapel assumed the functions of the earlier cemetery receiving tomb while providing a suitable place to hold burial services.*

*The cemetery association has restored the chapel, which is now used for worship services by St. Andrew's Traditional Anglican Church.*

*Tonight we present certificates of appreciation to Barbara Kiley for the Heritage Companies and to Henry Tinkham of the Rock Cemetery Association in deep appreciation and gratitude for making it possible for present and future generations to admire these buildings and learn about their town's history through them.*

Allison J. Ferreira, Town Clerk, presented certificates of appreciation to Arthur L. Turcotte for appreciation of his 50 years of service as an Election Officer/Election Warden for the Town of Middleborough and Richard A. Roth for appreciation of his years of service as a member of the Board of Registrars for the Town of Middleborough from 2013 through 2016.

Voted unanimously to allow as necessary the following non-resident individuals to address Town Meeting: Robert G. Nunes, Town Manager; Steven Dooney, Town Accountant; Lance Benjamino, Fire Chief; Joseph Silva, Water Superintendent; Christopher Peck, DPW Director; Kathleen Piatelli, School Department Business Manager; Ellen Driscoll, Chief Technology Director for the Middleborough Public Schools; Jane Kudcey, Director of the Office of Economic and Community Development; Ruth Geoffroy, Planning Director; Paul Branagan, Principal of the Middleborough High School; Robert Buker, Health Officer; Jason Bloom, Library Director and further for approval of taking a voice vote first on those votes requiring a super majority.

Before any action was taken, the Moderator asked if everyone had a copy of the articles and the budget book. He stated copies were available in the lobby. In addition, he noted the budget pages and motions would be projected on the screen for Town Meeting. He reminded those in attendance to turn off all cell phones and pagers; a motion to amend must be in writing for the record allowing time for those to write out the amendment if needed; anyone who would like to address the meeting to use the microphone stating their name and address to be recognized by the Moderator; debate and questions are healthy but to maintain order should be directed through the Moderator and as always maintain civility as Town Meeting is not the place for personal attacks or derogatory comment.

The Moderator certified that the warrant had been posted, served and returned in a proper fashion by Police Chief Joseph M. Perkins.

The following act on was taken:

**ARTICLE 1:** The following was voted unanimously:

Voted unanimously to transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$90,000.00 to Veterans Department, number 543, Account 57700, Medical & Cash Aid.

- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$347,000.00 to DPW – Highway, number 422, Account 0159293, snow removal.
- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$4,000.00 to Town Manager, number 123, Account 542400, Printing.
- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$20,186.24 to Board of Selectmen, number 122, Account 511101, Regular Pay.
- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$7,500.00 to Town Manager, number 123, Account 511103, Regular Pay.
- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$8,946.36 to Police Department, number 210, Account 524100, Building Maintenance.
- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer \$10,000.00 from School Transportation, number 900, Account 530403, \$10,000.00 from School Transportation, number 900, Account, 530404, \$10,000.00 from School Transportation, number 900, Account 530405, \$10,000.00 from School Transportation, number 900, Account 530406 and \$60,000.00 from School Transportation, number 899, Account 511165 to School Department, number 313, Account 563150, school tuition collaborative.
- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$2,763.00 to Assessors, number 141, Account 511101, Regular Pay.
- Further voted unanimously the Town transfer from Employee Fringe Benefits department, number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, the total sum of \$15,000.00 to Unclassified, number 950, Account 035302, Audit.

**ARTICLE 2:** Voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$111.52 from Employee Fringe Benefits department number 919, Health and Life Insurance, Account 517400, in order to pay previous year's unpaid bill, number 01.951, Account 005301.0.0.

**ARTICLE 3:** Voted unanimously to transfer \$30,000.00 from Free Cash to the Highway Department for street repairs.

**ARTICLE 4:** Voted unanimously to transfer \$20,000.00 from Free Cash to the Building Department to raze an abandoned town owned structure located on Cambridge Street, MAP ID 50I, Parcel 3472.

**ARTICLE 5:** Voted unanimously to transfer \$400,000.00 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.

**ARTICLE 6:** Voted unanimously to appropriate the sum of one million one hundred sixty four thousand two hundred fifty seven (\$1,164,257.00) dollars for the Memorial Early Childhood Center Roof Replacement Project, 219 North Main Street Middleboro, MA, 02346 which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children for at least 50 years [*alternatively, if a repair project which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program*], said sum to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee, and to meet said appropriation, the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectman, is authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority; that the Town of Middleborough acknowledges that the Massachusetts School Building Authority's ("MSBA") grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town of Middleborough incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town of Middleborough; provided further that any grant that Town of Middleborough may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) 56.26 percent (%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town of Middleborough and the MSBA.

**ARTICLE 7:** Voted unanimously to authorize and establish a revolving fund pursuant to General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for Fiscal Year 2016 (7/1/15 – 6/30/16) for the Oliver Estate Advisory Committee established by vote under Article 25 of the warrant for the October 5, 2015 Special Town Meeting for a program for the Oliver Estate property which program includes holding open houses, tours, celebrations and other events from which revenue is derived from entry and parking fees, advertising charges, vendor fees, sale of food and other items and from other sources. All revenue received or derived from or in connection with program activities shall be credited to the revolving fund with the Board of Selectmen authorized to expend from the fund for purposes of the fund and program including expenses incurred in connection with the program activities and for maintenance, operation, rehabilitation and use of the property including construction costs and engineering and consultant fees and expenses incurred in connection with such maintenance, operation, rehabilitation or use of the property, with a limit of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) in total amount which may be expended from the fund.

**ARTICLE 8:** Voted unanimously to transfer \$10,627.30 from Free Cash to replace and offset the transfer of funds from the donations account of the Old Tourism Committee to the General Fund, for the use of the New Tourism Committee established by vote under Article 24 of the warrant for the October 5, 2015 Special Town Meeting to pay expenses incurred by the New Tourism Committee in connection with carrying out its program which includes sponsoring and/or holding events, celebrations, promotions and other activities.

**ARTICLE 9:** Voted unanimously to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, debt services, community preservation projects and other expenses in Fiscal Year 2016, which each item to be considered a separate appropriation as follows – from FY2016 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve \$7,334.00, from FY 2016 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve \$7,334.00 and from FY 2016 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve \$7,334.00.

**ARTICLE 10:** Voted by majority vote to postpone indefinitely Article 10.

Voted unanimously to dissolve the meeting at 7:44 PM.

A true copy, attest:

---

ALLISON J. FERREIRA  
Town Clerk