

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 24, 2016**

Attendance	
Precinct A:	103
Precinct B:	123
Precinct C:	121
Precinct D:	156
Total -----	503

In accordance with the Warrant, as posted, the inhabitants of the Town of Wilbraham, qualified to vote in Town affairs, met in Minnechaug Regional High School on Monday, October 24, 2016. At 7:09 PM Moderator George Reich noted a quorum was present and called the meeting.

Moderator Reich welcomed all and asked attendees to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance before the call of the meeting was read by Town Clerk Beverly J. Litchfield.

**ARTICLE 1. Approval to Amend the Zoning By-Law – Planning Board Recommends.
Accessory Building or Structure Definition.**

Passing by a declared two-third vote to amend the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law as printed in Article 1 of the Warrant.

Vote to amend section 1.3 of the Wilbraham Zoning By-Law by deleting the existing definition of "Accessory Building or Structure" and by substituting therefor a new definition to read as follows: "Accessory Building or Structure. A building or structure that is customarily incidental and subordinate to a lawful principal building and/or principal use, and which is located on the same lot or on an adjoining lot under the same ownership and is not attached to the principal building by any covered or roofed structure."

Presentation made by Planning Board Chairman to clear up any confusion on what was being voted on this evening. Question and answer session followed.

**ARTICLE 2. Approval of Appropriation from the Waste Water Enterprise Fund – Finance
Committee Recommends.**

Passing by a majority vote that \$50,000 is appropriated from the retained earnings of the Wastewater Enterprise Fund for the purchase of a backup generator.

**ARTICLE 3. Approval to Amend the HWRSD Agreement. Finance Committee
Recommends.**

Passing by a majority vote to amend the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School District Agreement between the Towns of Wilbraham and Hampden, Massachusetts as printed in Article 3 of the Warrant.

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Agreement between the Towns of Wilbraham and Hampden, Massachusetts with Respect to the Formation of A Regional School District at

I.) Section III by adding the following paragraph 4 after the current Section

B.3: Introductory Paragraph:

“4) Students in grades six through eight may be assigned to the unified Middle School located in Wilbraham, irrespective of their residence, during the school years beginning in 2017 and ending in 2022, subject to extension as may be allowed in this agreement or through further amendment of this agreement.”

So that Section IV.D.3 shall read as follows:

“All expenses in the nature of capital outlay for the leased elementary and middle schools such as the cost of acquiring land, the cost of constructing, reconstructing, and adding to buildings, and the cost of remodeling or making extraordinary repairs to a school building or buildings, including without limitation the cost of the original equipment and furnishings for such buildings or additions, plans, architects’ and consultants’ fees, grading and other costs incidental to placing school buildings and additions and related premises in operating condition as well as payment of principal and interest on bonds, notes or other obligations issued by a Member Town(s) to finance capital costs shall be the responsibility of the town(s) in which the elementary and /or middle school(s) is located, provided, however, that during such time as students of both Member Towns attend a unified middle school, expenses in the nature of capital outlay for the unified middle school shall be apportioned to the Member Towns as provided in Section E for Operating Costs, subject to the provisions of Section IX.A herein.”

At Section IX by adding the following to Section IX.A:

“The lease between the Regional School District and the Member Towns for the middle schools shall continue with expense allocations modified as follows: Operating expenses and expenses in the nature of capital outlay, including those incurred for the unified middle school and maintenance expenses for the Thornton Burgess School in Hampden, shall be apportioned to the Member Towns as provided in Section IV.E of the Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Hampden shall bear no responsibility for any roof replacement at the unified middle school, and provided further that any capital expenditures unrelated to the unification of the middle school shall be apportioned to Hampden on a pro rata basis based upon the occupancy years of the Hampden students at the middle school and the reasonably life expectancy of the capital improvement.”;

or to take any other action relative thereto.

Explanation: Under this article the Town would amend the Hampden Wilbraham Regional School District Agreement so to allow students in grades 6-8 to cross town lines to attend a unified, regional middle school, located at the current Wilbraham Middle School for the next 5 years, which would also include the Towns jointly assuming operational expenses (i.e. capital outlay, maintenance and buildings) relative to said

middle school unification. The agreement would terminate in 2022, if another vote is not taken.

Finance Committee Recommendation: Finance Committee Recommends approval of this Article.

Presentation made by school officials, Neil Gile and Peter Dufresne. Question and answer session followed.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

A true attest copy:


Beverly J. Litchfield, MMC/CMMC
Town Clerk of Wilbraham