

**Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833**  
**Ph. (978) 352-5755 □ Fax (978) 352-5727**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**  
**Memorial Town Hall**  
**5/5/14**  
**5:00 PM – General Meeting, 1st floor meeting room**  
**Georgetown Middle/High School**

---

**Selectmen Present:** Stephen Smith, Chairman; C. David Surface; Philip Trapani; Gary Fowler; Stuart M. Egenberg, Clerk(6:15PM)

**Others Present:** Michael Farrell, Town Administrator; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

**Absent:**

---

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 5:12PM

**Warrant & Minutes**

Warrant to be signed

**Board Business**

Mr. Smith stated that the board was meeting early to make their recommendations on the town meeting articles.

*Special Town Meeting*

Article 1: Adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2014 operating budget (STM14-01)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article STM14-01. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 2: Reserve Fund for Accrued Liabilities (STM14-02)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article STM14-02. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion.**

Mr. Surface asked what departments the funds would be for being put into this account. Mr.

Farrell stated two School retirees and one Police retiree. Discussion

**The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 3: Information Technology Assessment for School Department (STM14-03)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article STM14-03. Mr. Surface seconded the motion.**

Mr. Surface stated that the Schools are getting \$25K to see what is needed for technology and then in their budget \$75K for the Technology position. Mr. Fowler stated that the FinCom asked for the study to be done.

**The vote was 2-2 and did not pass.**

Article 4: Highway Department-Road Maintenance (STM14-04)

**Mr. Surface moved to recommend Article STM14-04. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion.** Mr. Trapani stated that the funds are needed and that the Highway will also be receiving \$45K from the MassDOT.

**The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 5: Synthetic Turf Field Soil Mitigation (STM14-05)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article STM14-05. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 3-0-1 vote. Mr. Fowler abstained**

*Annual Town Meeting*

Article 2: Middle/High School (ATM14-02)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-02. Mr. Surface seconded the motion.** Mr. Surface stated that this article will have a tax impact. Mr. Fowler stated that he is not in favor of the funding for this article. He stated that he has asked the board to meet to find another funding source. Mr. Surface stated that they do not have the funds to take \$380K out of the budget. Mr. Fowler asked how many new employees we have. Mr. Farrell stated on the town side one and a half time position and the schools three and a half time position. Mr. Fowler stated that he cannot see the tax burden to residents. Mr. Surface stated that the board can look to see if we can fund a different way next year. He stated that this year there are too many projects. Mr. Trapani agrees that they should look at options to fund. Mr. Surface asked about Plan Design funds. Mr. Farrell stated that they have already been used elsewhere. Mr. Smith stated that approval will be decided at the polls. Mr. Fowler stated that when pass by a close percentage he would be happy but it is usually not that way.

**The motion was approved by a 3-1 vote.**

Article 3: General Operating Budget/Reserve Fund (ATM14-03)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-03. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 3-1 vote.**

Article 6: Water Department Operating Budget (ATM14-06)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-06. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 7: Water Department Budget (ATM14-40)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-06. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 8: Fire Department Ambulance Operating Budget (ATM14-07)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-07. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Consent Calendar ATM14-08 to ATM14-16

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend the Consent Calendar Article ATM14-08 to ATM14-16. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 18: Fire Department, Ladder Truck Payment (ATM14-17)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-17. Mr. Surface seconded the motion. Discussion on the funds coming from the Stab Fund and paying back in the fall if possible.**

**The motion was approved by a 3-1 vote.**

Article 19: Fire Department, Rehabilitation of Ambulance 11 (ATM14-41)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-41. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 21: Heat Pump Replacement Middle High Schools (ATM14-19)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-19. Mr. Surface seconded the motion. Mr. Farrell stated that this article has been reduced to \$25K so the School can replace 5 units and FinCom stated they would fund the rest next year.**

**The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Mr. Fowler stated that he would like to see the town keep funds and earmark for larger projects. Mr. Trapani sked if these were on a 5-year plan with CIP. Mr. Farrell stated that he only had a 5-year plan from the Fire Department.

Article 23: Replace Car-1 - Fire Department (ATM14-21)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-21. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 22: Replace Town Hall Fence (ATM14-20)

**Mr. Surface moved to recommend this article be passed over Article ATM14-20. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Discussion that the rod iron fence is very expensive to replace but it would be good to put up something that looks better than what is there now.

Article 24: Exhaust System Expansion – Fire Department (ATM14-22)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-22. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 25: One-Ton Dump Truck – Highway Department (ATM14-23)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-23. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 26: MHS Parking Lot Stairs (ATM14-24)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend this article be passed over Article ATM14-24. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 27: Police Radar Units (ATM14-25)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-25. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

Article 28: Local Option Meals Excise (ATM14-26)

**Mr. Surface moved to recommend Article ATM14-26. Mr. Trapani seconded the motion.** Mr. Surface stated that we all go to other towns and eat in their restaurants and pay the Meals Tax and we have the restaurant at the golf course, and two new restaurants in town.

**The motion had a 2-2 vote and did not pass.**

Article 29: Easement 104 Elm Street (ATM14-27)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-27. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.**

6:05PM

**Mr. Trapani moved to recess so members could register for Town Meeting. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

6:15PM Meeting reconvened and Mr. Egenberg joined the meeting.

Article 30: Personnel By-law Amendment (ATM14-28)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-28. Mr. Smith seconded the motion.** Mr. Surface stated that there is some value in a Personnel Board. Mr. Farrell stated that the Selectmen will become the Personnel Board. Mr. Smith stated that it is time to catch up to the modern world. He stated that the Town Administrator is capable to handle all issues. He stated that he does not like putting HR issues in non-professionals hands. He stated if this is not efficient then they can always go back. Mr. Fowler stated that new positions would have gone to the Personnel Board. Mr. Farrell stated now that would go to the Selectmen. Mr. Fowler stated that he would like to see them keep some type of Personnel Board. He stated that he was not sure if he would want the TA to do the reviews. Mr. Trapani stated that he feels he should do the reviews as they are not day to day. He stated that HR is a core function. Mr. Egenberg stated that the board would still review the evaluations. Mr. Farrell stated that they would.

**The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.**

Article 31: Community Preservation Committee (ATM14-29)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-29. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Article 32: Community Preservation Committee Bylaw Amendment (ATM14-30)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-30. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion.** Mr. Smith stated that this amendment addresses accounting issues in the article that delay the process and are not required. Mr. Egenberg stated that CPC will still review the bills. Mr.

Farrell stated that they will get the bills after they are approved by the authority who was awarded the funds. Mr. Smith stated CPC can track the funds without giving approval. Mr. Farrell stated that some funds go to non-town departments. Mr. Farrell stated he is comfortable with the CPC not approving bills. Mr. Smith stated that the town can manage \$23M they can manage \$3M. Mr. Fowler stated that the CPC may amend the article and they are trying to catch up on wording in the bylaw. Mr. Egenberg stated that they can amend and strike the wording to approve expenditures by CPC.

**The motion was not approved by a 1-4 vote.**

Article 33: FINGERPRINTING BY-LAW (ATM14-31)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-31. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Article 34: §165 - 69 Accessory Apartments (ATM14-32)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend this article be passed over Article ATM14-32. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Article 35: Solar Energy Facilities (ATM14-35)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend this article be passed over Article ATM14-29. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Article 36: Registered Marijuana Dispensary (ATM14-37)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-37. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion. Mr. Egenberg stated that this can restrict where the dispensary can go. Mr. Fowler stated that he went to the hearing and they could do better on the article but did their best.**

**The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Article 37: §165 - 7 Definitions (ATM14-33)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-33. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0-1 vote.**

Article 38: §165 - 11 Use Regulations and Intensity of Use Schedule (ATM14-34)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend the article be passed over Article ATM14-34. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 4-0-1 vote.**

Article 39: Street Acceptance – Harmony Lane (ATM14-39)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-39. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

Article 40: Amend Zone Designations of Map 10B, Lot 34 aka 5 Elm St-Citizen Petition (ATM14-38)

**Mr. Trapani moved to recommend Article ATM14-38. Mr. Egenberg seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a 5-0 vote.**

BoS Minutes  
May 5, 2014

**Mr. Trapani moved to adjourn to Town Meeting. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:50PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.