

RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
May 6, 2017

The warrant was returned to the Town Clerk 8:30 AM.

With a quorum present, the Moderator Nancy Chew called the meeting to order at 9:50 AM.

The warrant showed it had been properly served.

The motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the warrant, and so voted.

The rules of the meeting were read.

The motion was made and seconded to allow the moderator to declare a two-thirds vote, and so voted.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

Article 1. The motion was made and seconded to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$120,000 to extinguish the deficit incurred in the Winter Operations budget in the current fiscal year.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Article 2. The motion was made and seconded to accept the provisions of the last paragraph of MGL Chapter 41, Section 111F, as added by Section 60 of the Municipal Modernization Act (Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016).

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Article 3. The motion was made and seconded to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 90, Sections 17C and 18B, as added by Sections 193 and 194 of the Municipal Modernization Act (Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016).

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Article 4. The motion was made and seconded to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 59, s. 57A.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Article 5. The motion was made and seconded to approve the \$4,109,125 borrowing authorized by the North Middlesex Regional School District, for the purpose of paying costs of a window, door, minor structural repairs and leaks, and HVAC replacement project at Hawthorne Brook Middle School, located at 64 Brookline Road, Townsend, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "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, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended at the direction of the School Building Committee; that the Town acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Project costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member municipalities; provided further that any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-seven and eleven hundredths percent (57.11%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that the approval of the District’s borrowing by this vote shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt its allocable share of the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2 ½); and that the amount of borrowing authorized by the District shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA.

The motion was made and seconded to combine the vote on Articles 5, 6, and 7.

VOTE TO COMBINE ARTICLES 5, 6 AND 7:: PASSED

The motions for Article 6 and 7 were read:

Article 6. The motion was made and seconded to approve the \$4,581,166 borrowing authorized by the North Middlesex Regional School District, for the purpose of paying costs of roofing, siding, HVAC, and interior repairs at the Squannacook Early Childhood Center, located at 66 Brookline Road Townsend, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the “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, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended at the direction of the School Building Committee; that the Town acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Project costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member municipalities; provided further that any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-seven and eleven hundredths percent (57.11%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that the approval of the District’s borrowing by this vote shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt its allocable share of the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2 ½); and that the amount of borrowing authorized by the District shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA.

Article 7. The motion was made and seconded to approve the \$8,977,987 borrowing authorized by the North Middlesex Regional School District, for the purpose of paying costs of the Varnum Brook Elementary School roof, window, and HVAC replacement Project, located at 10 Hollis Street, Pepperell, Massachusetts, including the payment of all costs incidental or

related thereto (the “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, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”), said amount to be expended at the direction of the School Building Committee; that the Town acknowledges that the MSBA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Project costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member municipalities; provided further that any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-seven and eleven hundredths percent (57.11%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that the approval of the District’s borrowing by this vote shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt its allocable share of the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2 ½); and that the amount of borrowing authorized by the District shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA.

VOTE ON ARTICLES 5, 6, AND 7: PASSED

Article 8. The motion was made and seconded to approve the borrowing by the North Middlesex Regional School District (the “District”) of \$210,000 a portion of the amount originally authorized to be borrowed to pay costs of the District’s High School Project (the “Project”), which amount is no longer needed to complete the Project, to pay costs of designing and renovating an existing maintenance garage facility located on the site of the Project, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto. The costs of this additional Project element are the sole responsibility of the District and are not eligible for reimbursement from the MSBA.

VOTE: YES – 126 NO – 97 PASSED

Article 9. The motion was made and seconded to approve the borrowing by the North Middlesex Regional School District (the “District”) of \$1,800,000 a portion of the amount originally authorized to be borrowed to pay costs of the District’s High School Project (the “Project”), which amount is no longer needed to complete the Project, to pay costs of designing and constructing a new artificial turf field to be located on the site of the Project, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto. The costs of this additional Project element are the sole responsibility of the District and are not eligible for reimbursement from the MSBA.

VOTE: DEFEATED

The motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 11:35 AM.

Tiffany Call, *Ashby Town Clerk*