

# WELCOME!

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**“COOKIES WITH CASS”**

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HOPKINTON TOWN LIBRARY  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019**



# Process & Issues

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WALK THROUGH THE  
TOWN MEETING WARRANT



# Town Meeting Warrant

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“Warning” of the meeting

- General Subject Matter

Prepared by the Select Board

25 Signatures can put a petition Warrant Article on the Warrant

- Must appear as written
- Only enforceable if legal

Some are “Special”



# **2019 Town Meeting Warrant**

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MARCH 12 AND 16, 2019



# Article 1

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in March – March 12, 2019**

**This year:**

- 2 Select Board Members
- 1 Town Clerk/Tax Collector
- 2 Budget Committee Members
- 2 Library Trustees
- 1 Cemetery Trustee
- 1 Trustee of Trust Funds

**Others are Moderator, Town Treasurer, Supervisors of the Checklist**



# **Hopkinton Candidates Forum**

**Wednesday, March 6, 2019 – 6:30 p.m.**

(Snow Date Thursday, March 7)

**Hopkinton Town Hall**

330 Main Street, Hopkinton

**And Streaming Live**

Go to [https://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location\\_id=91&id=21298](https://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location_id=91&id=21298)

**Meet the Candidates**

**Ask Questions**

Of those seeking office in contested Town races

Candidates for Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Chuck Gangel

Carol Harless

Amy O'Brien

Candidates for School Board (1 position)

Norman Goupil

Steve Lux, Jr.

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**Hopkinton  
Rotary**

# Article 2

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## **Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance**

- Allowing detached Accessory Dwelling Units
- Solar Energy Systems Ordinance



We'll look at the  
Expenditure Articles  
together to show the  
total tax impact.

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# Article 3 – Operating Budget

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## **Municipal Budget Act**

- Budget Committee presents budgets

## **Tax Rate Components**

- Municipal – Select Board
- School – School Board
- County – County Commissioners
- Precincts – Precinct Commissioners

**We will look at Town (municipal) only**



# Steps in Creating the Budget

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Department Heads prepare budget requests and work with Town Administrator.

Operating Budget presented to Select Board – Capital Expenses presented to CIP Committee.

CIP Committee recommends to Select Board.

Select Board creates its Budget for presentation to the Budget Committee.

Budget Committee presents its budget to Town Meeting.



# Final Results

## Operating Revenue and Expenses

Net Change in Tax Impact

\$ 145,530

3.71%

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## CRF/Trust Fund Funding

Change in Tax Impact

- \$ 118,000

## Individual Warrant Articles

Change in Tax Impact

- \$ 30,000

## Use of Fund Balance

Change in Tax Impact

\$ 195,000

2019 Estimated to be raised by taxes

\$4,759,894

+\$180,659

3.95%

2019 Estimated Town Portion Tax Rate

\$7.66/thousand

+\$ 0.30

3.95%



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# Let's do the numbers...



# Revenue

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Estimated Revenues of \$3,211,492

- Increase of \$ 13,442 - 0.41%

## Major Drivers:

- Interest & Penalties on Taxes      \$ -20,000
- Motor Vehicle Registrations      20,000
- Ambulance Charges      20,000



# Operating Budget

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Total Operating Budget of \$7,282,386

- Increase of \$158,972 - 2.23%

## Major Drivers:

- |                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| ◦ TC/TC PT Wages    | \$ - 31,291 |
| ◦ Merit Wage Pool   | 70,652      |
| ◦ Health Insurance  | 28,429      |
| ◦ Paving & Shimming | 16,000      |
| ◦ Debt Payments     | - 17,556    |



# Warrant Article for CRF & Trusts

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Total Warrant Articles of \$547,000

- Decrease of \$118,000 - -17.74%

## Major Drivers:

- |                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| ◦ Fire Vehicle Replacement          | \$ 45,000 |
| ◦ Highway Vehicle Replacement       | 20,000    |
| ◦ Police Vehicle Replacement        | - 25,000  |
| ◦ Town Hall Renovations             | - 75,000  |
| ◦ Ambulance                         | - 50,000  |
| ◦ Sewer Equip./Sludge Removal       | - 50,000  |
| ◦ Town Facilities Maintenance Trust | 30,000    |



# Individual Warrant Articles

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Total Individual Warrant Articles \$ 0

- Decrease of \$30,000 - 100.00%





# Use of Undesignated Fund Balance

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Total use of Fund Balance to offset taxes \$135,000

- Decrease of \$195,000 - -59.09%



# Summary of Proposed 2018 Budget

## Tax Rate Impact

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### TO BE RAISED BY TAXES:

<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
\$4,579,235	\$4,759,894	\$ 180,659	3.95%

### TAX RATE:

<u>2018</u>	<u>2019*</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
\$ 7.36	\$ 7.66	\$ 0.30	3.95%

\*-Estimated using 2018 actual property valuation.



# **Articles Covered by those numbers**

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Article 3 – Operating Budget

Article 4 – Appropriation to Capital Reserve Funds

Article 5 – Appropriation to Expendable Trust Funds



# Articles 10 & 11

## Special Revenue Funds

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Pay-by-Bag Fund (\$110,000)

Senior Center Rental Fund (\$910)



# **Articles 6 & 7**

## **Bates Building/TC-TC Office**

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Authorization to sell the Bates Building

Petition Warrant Article to move the Town  
Clerk/Tax Collector office back to the Bates  
Building



# Initial Move

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In October 2018, following advice from Town Counsel and after much deliberation, the Select Board unanimously made the decision to quickly move the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office to the Town Hall. When the decision was first made, the move was to be on a temporary basis (through at least the March Town meeting). Then during the budget process, the Select Board decided to make the move of the office permanent. Understandably, there are questions around this decision.



# Factors Used to Make this Decision

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## **Operational Efficiencies**

- Departments work together

## **Cost Savings**

- Duplication of items

## **Convenience of Town Services in One Location**

- Confusing at times for residents

## **Safety and Security of Employees**

- Employees shouldn't have to work alone

## **Bates Building Back on the Tax Rolls**



# FAQs

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**Was the decision made quickly?**

**How can a part-time position be eliminated?**

**Is there enough parking at the Town Hall?**

**Can we sell the Bates Buildings? I thought it had restrictions on it.**

**Aren't the town archive kept at the Bates Building?**

**Will extensive renovation be required to the Town Hall to accommodate this additional use?**





# Process from here...

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Town Meeting vote

Approval from Probate Court

Assuring that Supervisors of the Checklist and archives are ready for the move

Selling the building.



# **Article 8 – Solar Array at the Transfer Station**

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**GraniteApollo**

**Land jointly owned with Webster**

**17 Mega-watt**

**Lease Payment and PILOT**



# Article 9 – Sale of lot by Dunkin's

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**Land swap with the State**

**Economic Development**

**MTAG Grant**





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## **Article 12: Other Legal Business**

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.



# QUESTIONS

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