

**WARRANT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2014**

WARRANT – Annual Town Meeting, Tuesday, May 27, 2014

HAMPDEN, ss

To any and all constables in the Town of Holland, County of Hampden

GREETINGS

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Holland qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the Holland Elementary School Auditorium in said Town on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 7:00 PM, then and there to act on all business on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant except the election of such officers and the determination of such matters as are required by law to be determined by ballot, which election shall be held on Monday, June 9 2014, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 8:00 PM, to wit:

**ARTICLE #1** To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing terms: Selectman, (one) 3 yr.; Assessor, (one) 3 yr.; Assessor (one) 2 yr; Board of Health, (one) 3 yr.; Cemetery, (one) 3 yr.; Constable, (one) 3 yr.; Library Trustee, (one) 3 yr.; Planning Board, (one) 5 yr.; School Committee, (two) 3 yr.; Tantasqua Representative (one) 3 yr.; Water Commissioner (one) 3 yr.; or take any other action relative thereto.

**Passed**

**ARTICLE #2** To hear the reports of the Town Officers and outstanding committees, or take any other action relative thereto. **Table introduces themselves. Finance Board Chair, Andy Harhay speaks regarding overall budget and town financial standings.**

**ARTICLE #3** To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. c. 59, §21A that provides for an assessor or assistant assessor to receive an additional compensation for achieving and maintaining the professional development requirements to be certified as a municipal assessor by the Massachusetts Assessors Association, said additional compensation shall be equal to ten percent of such regular compensation; however, that in no event shall such additional compensation exceed \$1,000 annually, if full time and \$500 annually if part time and shall be awarded in accordance with said statute; or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed**

**ARTICLE #4** To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. c. 41, § 108 that provides for a collector or a treasurer to receive an additional compensation for achieving and maintaining the professional development requirements to be certified as a municipal

collector or a municipal treasurer by the Massachusetts Collectors and Treasurers Association, said additional compensation is equal to ten percent of such regular compensation; but not more than \$1,000 per year and shall be awarded in accordance with said statute; or take any action relative thereto. **Amen to add section 108p – passed. Article as amended - passed**

**ARTICLE #5** To see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L., c. 41, § 19K that provides for a Town Clerk to receive an additional compensation for achieving and maintaining the professional development requirements to be certified by the Massachusetts Town Clerks' Association; said additional compensation shall be in addition to the regular annual compensation; but not more than \$1,000 per year and shall be awarded in accordance with said statute or take any action relative thereto. **Passed**

**ARTICLE #6** To see if the Town will vote to establish a stabilization fund, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 40, § 5b, to be titled "Capital Purchase Stabilization" for the purpose of funding the periodic replacement of Town mid-sized Police, Fire and Highway Department licensed vehicles; or take any action relative thereto. **Some discussion to clarify wording. Passed**

**ARTICLE #7** To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all officers of the Town, effective from July 1, 2014, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended and raised and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money thereto, or take any other action relative thereto. **Holds put on the following salary line items: Executive Secretary, Holland Community Center Director, Holland Community Center staff. All other salary line items passed. After some discussion, all items placed on hold are passed.**

**ARTICLE #8** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funds such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the ensuing twelve month fiscal period, or take any other action relative thereto. **repairs: - is a separate article.. Passed. After Motion made to amend to read as follows: raise and appropriate, delete borrow or transfer. Passed. Holds placed on the following line items: Emergency Management, Repair Dam, Circle H land, Police detail training. All other line items passed. Motion made to delete line "preparing grant applications for dam question regarding Circle H land, passed. After discussion regarding Police Detail line item, passed.**

**ARTICLE #9** To see if the Town will vote to re-appropriate and transfer any remaining balance on June 30, 2014 from Fiscal Year 2014 line item, Town Counsel Expense, to be added to the Fiscal Year 2015, Town Counsel Expense, or take any other action relative thereto line item. **Passed**

**ARTICLE #10** To see if the Town will vote to re-appropriate and transfer any remaining balance on June 30, 2014 from Fiscal Year 2014 line item, Dam and Boat Ramp Maintenance, to be added to the Fiscal Year 2015 line item, Dam and Boat Ramp Maintenance, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed**

**ARTICLE #11** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$53,540 from Free Cash to cover the snow and ice deficit, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed**

**ARTICLE #12** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds a sum of money to cover snow and ice deficit, or take any other action relative thereto. **Motion to table – motion passed.**

**ARTICLE #13** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the balance for the FY14 Tax Title Expense account in the amount of \$ **20,000** \_\_\_\_\_, to the FY15 Tax Title Expense account, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed**

**ARTICLE #14** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the balance for the FY14 Land Auction Expense line item in the amount of \$ **10000** \_\_\_\_\_, to the FY15 Land Auction Expense line item, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed**

**ARTICLE #15** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the balance for the FY14 Emergency Management line item in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, to the FY15 Emergency Management line item, or take any other action relative thereto. **Motion to table- some discussion. Motion to table passed.**

**ARTICLE #16** To see if the Town will vote to borrow from available funds \$ **183000** \_\_\_\_\_, for the purchase of a new Dump Truck for the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto. **Some discussion, passed with a 2/3rds vote**

**ARTICLE #17** To see if the Town will vote to approve the following Resolution to Seek Lower Electric Rates in a Competitive Market;

Whereas, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by enacting c. 164 of the Acts of 1997, has established a competitive marketplace through deregulation and restricting of the electric utility industry; and

Whereas, the citizens of the Town of Holland in Hampden County have substantial economic environmental, and social interests at stake; and whereas, Holland's residential and business consumers are interested in reducing their electricity rates;

Be it therefore resolved, that the Annual Town Meeting of Holland grant the Board of Selectmen authority to develop and participate in a contract, or contracts, for power supply and other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities through the Hampshire Council of Governments. If such contracts are to be approved, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose any alternative service they desire; and

Be it further resolved, that the Board of Selectmen may appoint a representative for a committee to oversee such a joint action, or take any other action relative thereto. **Some discussion, passed.**

**ARTICLE #18** To see if the Town will vote to accept and adopt the provisions of M.G.L. c. 40, §22F and thereby authorize town boards or officers empowered to issue a license, permit, certificate, or to render a service or perform work, from time to time, to fix reasonable fees for all such licenses, permits, or certificates issued pursuant to statutes or regulations, however, that in the case a board or officer appointed by an elected board, the fixing of such fee shall be subject to the review and approval of such elected board; or take any action relative thereto. **Some discussion, passed.**

**ARTICLE #19** To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 60, §15, to charge for each written demand issued by the Tax Collector a fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) to be added and collected as part of the tax effective July 1, 2014, or take any action relative thereto. **Motion made to combine articles 19 and 20 to be read as follows; “To see if the Town will vote to charge for each written demand issued by the Tax Collector a fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00), to be collected, pursuant to M.G.L.Chapter 60, Section 15, as part of the tax, and split the fee equally between the Collector and the Town treasury, effective July 1, 2014, or take any action relative thereto.” Details discussed at length.. Motion made to move on the question. Motion seconded. Vote to amend article. Passed. Vote on article as amended. Passed. Recount requested. Passed.**

**ARTICLE #20** To see if the Town will vote to create a bylaw to require all of the demand fees collected by the Tax Collector as part of the tax to be split equally between the Collector and the Town treasury, or take any other action relative thereto. **Motion to table. Motion passed.**

**ARTICLE #21** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000 from Free Cash to replace the flooring in the Town **hall**, or take any other action relative thereto. **Amend to add “hall” to wording. Amendment passed. Article as amended passed.**

**ARTICLE #22** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$44,779 from Free Cash to pay down on the principal of the October 2011 Storm loan, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #23** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$5,221 to pay down the principal of the October 2011 Storm loan, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #24** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$6,500 to fund the grant application to repair the Hamilton Reservoir Dam, or take any other action relative thereto. **Motion made to delete borrow or transfer. Article passes as amended.**

**ARTICLE #25** To see if the Town will vote to approve borrowing a sum of money, not to exceed \$600,000 for the repairs of the Hamilton Reservoir Dam, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passes with a 2/3rds vote, 54/1.**

**ARTICLE #26** To see if the Town will vote to have the funds voted for the General Highway Account expended with the approval of the Selectmen, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #27** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Library Trustees to appoint a Librarian, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #28** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Cemetery Commissioners to draw interest on the Perpetual Care Funds to be used on said lots, and also the interest on General Care Funds to be used for burials and general maintenance, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #29** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tree Warden bill the appropriate utility company, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #30** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend as available funds Highway Chapter 90 Grant monies from Chapter 30/200 in the amount of **\$182000** \_\_\_\_\_ with the approval of the State Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #31** To see if the Town will vote to give Selectmen signatory authority for the execution of license number DACW33-3-68-77 which grants the Town of Holland the right to cross government-owned property at the East Brimfield Dam and Reservoir Project, Massachusetts, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #32** To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize revolving funds for FY15, pursuant to M.G.L. c.44, §53E1/2 of the General Laws, as amended, for the following purposes:

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Authorized to Spend</u>	<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Use of Fund</u>	<u>Spending Limit</u>	<u>Amount to Remain in Fund</u>
Cemetery Commission	Cemetery Commission	Burial Fees	Excavations,Burial Costs,Maintenance	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>0</b>
Library Trustees	Library Trustees	Fines & Book Sale Receipts	Purchase of Books	<b>\$600</b>	<b>0</b>
Electrical Inspector	Electrical Inspector	Permit and Inspection fees	Fees and expenses of electrical insp.	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>0</b>
Plumbing Inspector	Plumbing Inspector	Permit and Inspection fees	Fees and expenses of Plumbing insp.	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>0</b>
Zoning Board of Appeals	Zoning Board of Appeals	All fees	Fees and operating expenses of ZBA	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>0</b>
Fire Dept.	Fire Chief	Permits, Inspection fees, hazardous material fees	Materials and equipment for Fire prevention, public safety, education, and hazardous materials response	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>0</b>
Animal Control Officer(s)	Animal Control Officer(s)	Fines and fees	Food, supplies, fees and expenses of the A.C.O.	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>0</b>
Conservation Commission	Conservation Commission	Fees	Fees and operating expense of Conservation Commission	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>0</b>
Planning Board	Planning Board	Fees	Fees and operating expense of the Planning Board	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>0</b>
Cable Commission	Cable Commission	Fees	Fees and operating expense of Cable Commission	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>0</b>
Building	Building	Permits and	Inspections, clerical	<b>\$24,000</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>

Commissioner	Commissioner	inspection fees	services, and expenses		
Board of Health	Board of Health	Permit and inspection fees	Sanitarian fees, fees for enforcing Health regulations	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
Community Center	Coordinator/ Board of Selectmen	Fees	Expenses	<b>\$10,000</b>	<del><b>\$1,000</b></del> <b>\$2,000</b>

Or take any other action relative thereto. **All pass with the exception of the HCC fund. Holland Community Center Director requests \$2000 to remain in the fund. Motion passes.**

**ARTICLE #33** To see if the Town will vote, in accordance with M.G.L. c.40, §4A, authorize the Board of Health to enter into an Inter Municipal agreement with one or more other governmental units to provide public health services which the Board of Health is authorized to perform, in accordance with an Inter Municipal Mutual Aid Agreement to be entered into between the Town and various governmental units, or take any other action relative thereto. **Passed.**

**ARTICLE #34** To see if the Town will vote on the question whether the town is in favor of adopting a vehicle use policy which would add the position of the Highway Surveyor to the two positions of Fire and Police Chief as a third position with equal rights to use an assigned vehicle despite the fact that the tax code only offers fringe benefit exemptions for the chief positions of emergency departments, such as Fire and Police and not the Highway department, or take any other action relative thereto. **This article is out of order per moderator, legal counsel and M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23c. Therefore, no motion is to be made on this article.**

**ARTICLE #35** To see if the Town will vote to accept to following amendment to the General Bylaws:

The members of the Board of Selectmen (the Board) shall, at the end of every regular meeting, open a phone line for the public so members of the public can call in and ask questions. The number of said phone line shall be posted as part of the televised picture so residents will know what number to dial. The Board shall also answer any questions raised by any member of the public present at the meeting at the same time. Such questions shall be answered on a first come first serve basis to the best ability by any member of the Board. In the unlikely situation not all the questions are being answered within 30 Minutes, the Board shall have the right to adjourn the meeting. Should the

public still have unanswered questions these questions can be answered at the next scheduled Select Board meeting as part of “old business.”

The transmission of the signal to the cable company shall include the audio signal of the caller; the individuals with questions shall be given an opportunity to use a microphone and such audio signal shall be part of the transmission as well. The members of the Board can, but are not required to, answer any questions of individuals who refuse to identify themselves. Individuals need to identify themselves only after raising a question or only if asked by any member of the Board. **This article is out of order per moderator, legal counsel and M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23c. Therefore, no motion is to be made on this article.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.**

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at five (5) conspicuous places in said town, at least seven days (7) before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at a said time and place meeting, as fore said.

Given under this twentieth day of May in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Thirteen.



James Wettlaufer, Chairman

Constable

Michael Kennedy

A True Copy, Attest:

Lynn Arnold, Clerk

Sharon Ashleigh  
Town Clerk