

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, MARCH 6, 1972

The voters of Boxford met at the Masconomet Regional District High School on March 6, 1972. After the meeting had been called to order by William J. Greenler, Jr. a moment of silent prayer was observed. The articles of the warrant were disposed of as follows:

Article 1. VOTED to accept the reports of the Town Officers and Committees as printed in the Town Report.

Article 2. VOTED to accept the printed proposed budget with the following changes: Police Department \$81,116.00; Tree Warden \$3,500.00; Regional District School \$911,608.41; Chapter 81 Maintenance \$2,913.00; Snow Removal and Sanding \$35,000.00.

Article 3. VOTED to appropriate \$4,500.00 for the Maintenance of Road Machinery, said amount to be transferred from the Road Machinery Fund.

Article 4. VOTED to appropriate \$25,000.00 for the Reserve Fund, said amount to be transferred from Overlay Reserve.

Article 5. VOTED to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1972 and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, and renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44 of the General Laws.

Article 6. VOTED to pass over.

Article 7. VOTED to use money refunded from the County on account of dog licenses for libraries of the town.

→ Article 8. VOTED unanimously to amend Section 2 of Article 15 passed by Town Meeting of March 6, 1967, the by-law relative to paid holidays by deleting Section 2 in its entirety and substituting therefor: "Employees of the Town who

have worked 1,000 hours during the six months immediately preceding New Year's Day, Washington's Day, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, shall be entitled to leave on such days without loss of pay equivalent to eight hours of work. If such 1,000 hours worked were at different rates of pay, the pay for such holiday shall be apportioned and prorated accordingly. Employees who shall have worked at least 500 hours, but less than 1,000 hours during the six months immediately preceding said holidays shall be entitled to leave with pay on such holidays equivalent to four hours of work similarly apportioned if earned at different rates of pay.

↘ Article 9. VOTED to amend the by-law regarding the Finance Committee to provide for terms of three years.

Article 10. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$15,000.00 for improvement and surfacing of the westerly end of Herrick Road in part, and for any land taking that may be necessary therefor.

Article 11. VOTED to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,250.00 to be used in conjunction with allotments from the State and County under Chapter 90 Construction, to be used for Construction on Washington Street, Ipswich Road, and Main Street.

Article 12. VOTED to appropriate \$41,778.00 from Surplus Revenue to meet the State and County allotments for highways, said amount when reimbursed to be credited to Surplus Revenue.

Article 13. VOTED to transfer the unexpended balance of the amount voted March 2, 1970 for highway land-taking on Washington Street into an account entitled "Highway Land-taking Account" to be administered by the Selectmen.

Article 14. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 for a second-hand pick-up truck to replace the old fire engine for use of the Highway Department.

Article 15 VOTED to raise and appropriate \$500.00 for repairs to the water system and plumbing at the Community House.

Article 16. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$6,000.00 to purchase cab and chassis for Highway Department.

Article 17. VOTED to pass over.

Article 18. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$485.00 to purchase a generator for the Communications Department.

Article 19. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$2,400.00 for drug education and prevention, such fund to be administered by the Board of Health.

Article 20. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for the purpose of preparing architectural drawings and cost estimates for a new Police Department building, to be administered by a building committee appointed by the Selectmen as provided in the "Plan for Future Town Facilities" accepted in 1968, and consistent in principle with the general concept and siting therein, said drawings and estimate to be presented to the Town no later than the 1973 Annual Town Meeting.

Article 21. VOTED to pass over.

Article 22. VOTED to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell one of the present Police cruisers and to raise and appropriate \$3,570.00 to purchase and equip a new cruiser-ambulance for the Police Department.

Article 23. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$1,300.00 for a police cruiser radio.

Article 24. VOTED to pass over.

Articles 25 and 26. VOTED 134 - 69 by hand vote that the West Boxford Library be re-established in the Gardner Morse School building; that the Town raise and appropriate \$30,000.00 to be used for re-modeling and furnishing this building; and that a building committee be appointed by the Selectmen, consisting of five persons including at least two trustees of the Boxford Town Library, and at least one member of the Town Facilities Planning Committee.

Article 27. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$1,500.00 to be added to the Conservation Fund.

Article 28. VOTED to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,000.00 for the purchase of Highway equipment to be used in conjunction with the Highway Department and the Sanitary Landfill operation.

Article 29. VOTED to pass over.

Article 30. VOTED to rescind the by-law relative to fees of the Plumbing Inspector.

Article 31. VOTED 77 - 45 by hand vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,500.00 for the use of the assessors in completing the assessors' map.

Article 32. VOTED to raise and appropriate \$20,000.00 to be added to the Stabilization Fund.

Article 33. VOTED to adjourn at 12:15 A.M.

Approximately 400 voters attended the meeting.

A true record.

Attest:

E. LAURENCE COLBY,
Town Clerk

BUDGET ADOPTED FOR 1972

General Government:

Selectmen	\$ 2,850.00
Assessors	3,850.00
Treasurer	5,050.00
Town Clerk	1,000.00
Accountant	9,000.00
Collector of Taxes	2,600.00
Registrars	1,000.00
Elections	1,825.00
Town Counsel	1,400.00
Conservation Commission	65.00
Appeal Board	500.00
Planning Board	800.00
Building Inspector	1,100.00
Electrical Inspector	1,200.00
Gas Inspector	700.00
Plumbing Inspector	1,000.00
Finance Committee	235.00
Board of Health	19,403.00
Inspector of Animals	50.00
Child Guidance Center	1,700.00
Recreation Committee	725.00
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	\$ 56,053.00

Protection of Persons and Property:

Dog Officer	\$ 825.00
Police	81,116.00
Fire Department	21,880.00
Communications	27,068.00
Tree Warden	3,500.00
Moth Suppression	1,400.00
Dutch Elm Disease Control	2,500.00
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	\$138,339.00

Aid and Relief:

Veterans Benefits	\$ 5,000.00
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Schools and Libraries:

Schools — Town	\$562,982.00
Regional District School	911,608.41
Town Libraries	30,345.00
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	\$1,504,935.41

Highways:

Selectmen's Highway Fund	\$ 2,000.00
Chapter 81 Maintenance	2,913.00
Snow Removal & Sanding	35,000.00
Street Lighting	1,500.00
Vacation Account	2,200.00
Sick Benefit	500.00
Operational Expense	3,000.00
Road Machinery Maintenance	3,500.00
General Highway Department	2,000.00
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	\$52,613.00

Buildings and Grounds:

Salary	\$ 1,000.00
Town Halls & Buildings	4,675.00
Ballfields & Public Grounds	3,150.00
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	\$ 8,825.00

Unclassified:

Town Forest	\$ 100.00
Civil Defense	200.00
Insurance	3,200.00
Memorial Day	600.00
Soldiers Graves	225.00

Brookside Cemetery	100.00
Mt. Vernon Cemetery	100.00
Boxford Village Cemetery	300.00
Harmony Cemetery	200.00
Town Reports	2,000.00
Clerical	1,500.00
Selectmen's Contingent Fund	2,000.00
Interest on Maturing Debt and Temporary Loan	11,409.00
School House Notes	34,000.00
Group Hospital & Life Insurance	7,600.00
Water & Drainage Committee	4,500.00
Historic District Comm.	100.00

\$ 68,134.00

Total Budget \$1,833,999.41

Additional Items:

Article 10	\$15,000.00
Article 11	7,250.00
Article 14	1,000.00
Article 15	500.00
Article 16	6,000.00
Article 18	485.00
Article 19	2,400.00
Article 20	5,000.00
Article 22	3,570.00
Article 23	1,300.00
Articles 25 - 26	30,000.00
Article 27	1,500.00
Article 28	36,000.00
Article 31	11,500.00
Article 32	20,000.00

\$ 204,505.00

Total to be Raised and Appropriated \$2,038,404.41

TRANSFERS

Article 3	\$ 4,500.00
Article 4	25,000.00
Article 12	41,778.00
Total Transfers	<u>\$11,278.00</u>

A true record

Attest:

E. LAURENCE COLBY,
Town Clerk

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, DECEMBER 4, 1972

A special Town Meeting of the voters of Boxford was called to order at 7:40 P.M. at the Masconomet Regional High School on December 4, 1972, with 393 voters present. After a moment of silent prayer the Moderator, William J. Greenler, read the notice as published and the return of service. Appointed as counters for the meeting were Mrs. Beatrice Wheeler and Messrs. John Benson, Vernon Hawkins and Donald Scutiére.

The articles of the warrant were disposed of as follows:

Article 1. VOTED to transfer from available funds the sum of \$209.00 to certain employees of the Town libraries, being unpaid vacation and/or sick pay accrued in prior years, from the following accounts: Ch. 616, 1969—\$37.58; Town Garage 1968 \$52.07; Generator 1972 \$1.85; Police cruiser radio 1972 article \$15.45; Community House plumbing \$102.05. Unanimously by voice vote.

Article 2. VOTED to transfer from available funds \$1,607.50 for debt on the School bus contract of Mr. James Price, the transfers to be from the following accounts: Herrick Road, East End, 1971 \$781.98; Community House plumbing 1972 \$90.49; Bulldozer article 1972 \$395.00; Veterans Benefits, budget item 1972 \$340.03. Unanimously by voice vote.

Article 3. VOTED to transfer from budget funds the sum of \$850.00 for a radio for the new Highway truck, transfers to be from the following 1972 accounts: Appeal Board \$250.00; Veterans Benefits \$459.97; Police Department \$140.03. Unanimously by voice vote.

Article 4. VOTED to transfer from 1972 budget funds the sum of \$1,900.00 to be used by the Board of Health for constructing a loading platform and shelter for recycling materials at the Town's sanitary landfill site, transfers to be from the following accounts: Town Accountant \$1,875.00; Police Department \$25.00. By hand count 201 affirmative, 62 opposed.

Article 5. VOTED to direct the Conservation Commission to spend a sum not exceeding \$1,000.00 for the purpose of obtaining an appraisal of the parcel of land known as the

"Wildcat" area, 279 acres located south of Ipswich Road and lying between Stiles Pond and Herrick Road, in order to file a preliminary application for Self-Help Funds with the Department of Natural Resources of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. By hand count, 186 affirmative, 150 opposed.

Article 6. VOTED to transfer from the Police Department account funds to the following accounts: \$250.00 to Treasurer; \$600.00 to Highway Operational; \$125.00 to Recreation Committee; \$276.72 to Selectmen; \$300.00 to Communications. By voice vote.

Article 7. VOTED to appropriate the sum of \$1,512.00 received as State Aid for Libraries for the use of the Boxford Town Library. By voice vote.

Article 8. VOTED to postpone indefinitely action on a proposed by-law controlling digging or filling on or adjacent to public ways. By voice vote.

Article 9. VOTED to amend the Town by-laws by adding the following:

1. The term "family swimming pool" as used herein shall mean a swimming pool located in the Town and used or intended to be used solely by the owner, operator, lessee, or tenant thereof and his family, and by persons invited or allowed to use it without payment of any fee or charge in the form of money or other consideration for the privilege of using it.

2. Every family swimming pool having a depth of eighteen inches or more shall be enclosed by a fence or wall not less than five feet high constructed, erected and maintained so that no persons, whether children or adults, may pass under or through it except by opening a door or gate therein, which shall be equipped with a self-closing and self-latching device and shall be kept securely closed at all times when not in actual use. A dwelling house or accessory building may be used as part of such an enclosure, and no self-closing and self-latching device shall be required on any door of a dwelling house so used. Every person in possession of land on which a family swimming pool having a depth of eighteen inches or more is situated, either as owner, purchaser, mortgagee, lessee

or tenant, shall cause a fence or wall to be constructed, erected and maintained as herein provided, and shall cause any door or gate therein to be equipped and kept closed in accordance with the provisions hereof. This section shall apply to every family swimming pool having a depth of eighteen inches or more erected or installed at any time, whether before or on or after the effective date of this by-law, except that it shall not apply to any such swimming pool in existence on such effective date until April 15, 1973.

The following amendment was offered on the floor, moved and seconded, and accepted by voice vote:

3. An exception to the requirement that the swimming pool itself be fenced may be granted by the Board of Selectmen with the advice of abutting property owners upon application of the party responsible for the pool for as long as it appears that by the nature of the surroundings, its siting or location, or the premises on which it is located, it does not constitute an appreciable hazard.

The article as amended was passed by hand vote 208 in favor, 132 opposed.

Article 10. VOTED to amend the zoning by-law of the Town by adding after Section VI-E-4 the following:

"Section VI-E-5. The Selectmen may grant permits for signs no larger than 50 square feet, relating to some non-profit, charitable public event, to be erected for not more than thirty days at a location and in a manner approved by the Selectmen."

By hand count 328 affirmative, 3 opposed.

Article 11. Motion to rezone the area bounded by Service Road, Route 95, Ipswich Road and Route 97 from B-2 to R-A failed. The vote by hand count was 174 in favor, 160 opposed, failing of the required two-thirds.

Article 12. VOTED to amend the official Zoning map by lowering the boundary elevation of the conservancy district bordering Pye Brook in the vicinity of Pye Brook Lane from 80 feet to 70 feet. Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Article 13. Motion to direct the Selectmen to pursue C.A.T.V. service for the Town of Boxford, voted down, by voice vote.

Article 14. VOTED to accept Adams Road, Section No. 2, as a public way. Unanimous, by voice vote.

Article 15. VOTED to accept Chaplin Road and Chaplin Circle as shown on a plan Sec. 2, Eagle Nest. Unanimous, by voice vote.

Article 16. VOTED to accept a deed, for no consideration, of Chaplin Circle including a 250 foot square surrounding the turn-around as shown on a plan of Section No. 2 of Eagle Nest Hill (October 1972, Morse & Martin, C.E.). Unanimous, by voice vote.

Article 17. VOTED to appropriate \$2,400.00 for the maintenance of Road Machinery, said amount to be transferred from the Road Machinery Fund. Unanimous, by voice vote.

Article 18. VOTED to include in the March ballot for Town election the question(s): "Shall the Town vote to have its Selectmen act as a board of Public Works, establish a Division of Public Works and appoint a Director of Public Works." By hand count, 88 affirmative, 34 opposed.

There being no further business to come before the meeting under Article 19, it was moved and

VOTED to adjourn.

Adjourned at 10:55 P.M.

E. LAURENCE COLBY,
Town Clerk

Tellers:

Mary Edwards

Helen McLaughlin

Louise Sullivan

Patricia Wheeler