

**2012 Spring Annual Town Meeting
Wilson Middle School
Marshall Lebowitz Town Meeting Hall
April 10, 2012
First Session**

The First Session of the 2012 Spring Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by the Town Moderator, Frank W. Foss, who declared a quorum present. The Moderator welcomed residents, taxpayers, town officials, Town Meeting Members and interested parties to the First Session of 2012 Spring Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Foss presented the official, duly posted warrant signed by the Board of Selectmen with the officer's return thereon to the Town Clerk to be entered into the official record of the town. The Moderator asked that all recently elected or appointed members of Town Meeting stand to take the oath of office. The oath was given to all new Town Meeting Members and the hall remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Father Paco, from St. Stephen's Parish in Framingham, gave an invocation followed by a moment of silence in recognition of all the men and women serving on our behalf throughout the world.

The Moderator introduced the officials present on stage and in the well of the auditorium. The following people were present: Diane Packer, Town Clerk; Jonathan Freedman, Finance Committee Chair; James Everett, Finance Committee Secretary; Martha White, Town Administrator; John Flynn, Town Counsel; and Paul Joseph, Chair of the Board of Selectmen.

The Moderator reviewed the general rules and procedures of Town Meeting. He indicated that all residents and taxpayers of the town and town officers and employees, whether or not residents, have the same right to speak as Town Meeting Members; however they do not have the right to submit motions for consideration at Town Meeting, nor vote on any matter before Town Meeting. Non-residents may only speak at Town Meeting after approval by Town Meeting Members. The proceedings of Town Meetings shall be governed by ***Town Meeting Time***, the Town of Natick Home Rule Charter, the Natick By-Laws and the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

All motions offered for consideration of Town Meeting shall be in writing if required by the Moderator; and all motions involving the expenditure of money shall be in writing when required by any Town Meeting Member. No person shall speak upon any article more than once when any other person desires to be heard, nor more than twice on the same question without permission of Town Meeting; and no person shall speak more than ten (10) minutes at one time without permission of Town Meeting. Consistent with the Natick By-Laws, once a member is recognized, it is the practice of Town Meeting to first ask questions, then propose a motion and/or debate the highest ranking motion. This practice is unchanged. Once a speaker is called upon by the Moderator the speaker's time will begin. Time expended asking questions will be considered part of the speaker's time, pursuant to the Natick By-Laws. Responses to the speaker's question will not be considered part of the speaker's requisite time. Each speaker will be limited to three questions, whether or not they are stated singularly or in a compound question and divided by the Moderator. When a question on an article is before Town Meeting, motions shall be received and have precedence as listed in the table entitled "Precedence of Motions," found in the Natick By-Laws, the Town Meeting Member Handbook and ***Town Meeting Time***. Any person having a monetary or equitable interest in any matter under discussion at a Town Meeting, and any person employed by another having such an interest, shall disclose the fact of his/her interest or employment before speaking thereon. The motion for the previous question shall not be entertained by the Moderator if three or more persons, who have not previously spoken to the question, are seeking recognition. By rule, indefinite postponement shall be considered a negative main motion and may be entered by the Moderator whenever any main motion or subsidiary motion is in order. This shall not change the order of precedence of motions as specified in Article 3, Section 6 of our By-Laws or any other practice regarding indefinite postponement as specified in our Charter, the Natick By-Laws or ***Town Meeting Time***. Without objection, the preceding statements were accepted as rules of 2012 Spring Annual Town Meeting.

At that time the Moderator suggested a motion to waive the reading of articles and motions. Moved by Mr. Freedman, seconded by Mr. Sidney to waive reading the text of all 2012 Spring

Annual Town Meeting warrant articles and move to waive reading the text of motions, excluding the amounts to be appropriated and sources of said amounts to be appropriated when motions are provided in the text of Recommendations of the Natick Finance Committee publications. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

The Moderator made several announcements regarding events taking place in the community over the next few weeks.

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Gath to allow Chief Hicks to speak at Town Meeting. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Chief Hicks rose to provide background and information on a specific event which happened in February and to offer several resolutions, two for the citizens and two for the Police Officers who responded to the situation. The Moderator requested that Matthew Satalino come to the podium. Chief Hicks read the following resolution, signed by the Board of Selectmen, recognizing Mr. Satalino.

WHEREAS, it has been a custom of the Town of Natick to recognize from time to time the efforts and service of citizens, elected and appointed officials; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Satalino took it upon himself on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 to come to the aid of a distressed citizen, and

WHEREAS, Matthew Satalino alerted and remained in constant contact with the Natick Public Safety Dispatch Center updating responding officers to the situation allowing the Natick Police Department to orchestrate their position, and

WHEREAS, Matthew Satalino has, through his quick actions and concern for human life prevented a tragedy allowing the Natick Police Department to pull said citizen to safety prior to the scheduled freight train passing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Natick 2012 Town Meeting acknowledges and thanks Matthew Satalino for his quick actions on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

FURTHER that Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen hereby praise Matthew Satalino as his efforts have contributed greatly to making the Town of Natick a better place for all its citizens.

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Mr. Glater that the resolution be read into the record. Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Mr. Glater to waive the reading of the motion. ***Both motions passed unanimously.***

The Moderator requested that Joseph Mariano come to the podium. Chief Hicks read the following resolution, signed by the Board of Selectmen, recognizing Mr. Mariano.

WHEREAS, it has been a custom of the Town of Natick to recognize from time to time the efforts and service of citizens, elected and appointed officials; and,

WHEREAS, Joseph Mariano took it upon himself on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 to come to the aid of a distressed citizen, and

WHEREAS, Joseph Mariano engaged said citizen in conversation as she was hanging by her hands over the railing of the Speen Street railroad bridge all while trying to allow the Natick Police Department to orchestrate their position, and

WHEREAS, Joseph Mariano has, through his quick actions and concern for human life prevented a tragedy assisting Patrol Officer Keven Kelley to pull said citizen to safety prior to the scheduled freight train passing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Natick 2012 Town Meeting acknowledges and thanks Joseph Mariano for his quick actions on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

FURTHER that Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen hereby praise Joseph Mariano as his efforts have contributed greatly to making the Town of Natick a better place for all its citizens.

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Mr. Glater that the resolution be read into the record. Ms. Ball moved, seconded by Mr. Glater to waive the reading of the motion. ***Both motions passed unanimously.***

The Moderator called Patrol Officer Keven J. Kelley to the podium. Chief Hicks read the following resolution, signed by the Board of Selectmen, recognizing Patrol Officer Kelley

WHEREAS it has been a custom of the Town of Natick to recognize from time to time the efforts and service of citizens, elected and appointed officials; and,

WHEREAS Patrol Officer Keven J. Kelley is a 7 year veteran of the Natick Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Keven J. Kelley in his duties as a member of the Natick Police Department on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 came to the aid of a distressed citizen and

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Kelley, maneuvered into position while Officer Richardson engaged said citizen in conversation as she was hanging by her hands over the railing of the Speen Street railroad bridge, and

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Kelley has, through his quick actions and concern for human life prevented a tragedy upon direction of Patrol Officer Ronald Richardson moved in and pulled said citizen to safety prior to the scheduled freight train passing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Natick 2012 Town Meeting acknowledges and thanks Patrol Officer Keven J. Kelley for his quick actions on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

FURTHER that Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen hereby praise Patrol Officer Keven J. Kelley as his efforts have contributed greatly to making the Town of Natick a better place for all its citizens.

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Mr. Glater that the resolution be read into the record. Ms. Ball moved, seconded by Mr. Glater to waive the reading of the motion. ***Both motions passed unanimously.***

The Moderator called Patrol Officer Ronald D. Richardson to the podium. Chief Hicks read the following resolution, signed by the Board of Selectmen, recognizing Patrol Officer Richardson.

WHEREAS, it has been a custom of the Town of Natick to recognize from time to time the efforts and service of citizens, elected and appointed officials; and,

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Ronald D. Richardson is a 25 year veteran of the Natick Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Ronald D. Richardson took it upon himself in his duties as a member of the Natick Police Department on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 to come to the aid of a distressed citizen and

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Richardson, engaged said citizen in conversation as she was hanging by her hands over the railing of the Speen Street railroad bridge all while orchestrating fellow Officers in their position, and

WHEREAS, Patrol Officer Richardson has, through his quick actions and concern for human life prevented a tragedy directed in a fleeting moment Officer Kelley and Joseph Mariano to pull said citizen to safety prior to the scheduled freight train passing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Natick 2012 Town Meeting acknowledges and thanks Patrol Officer Ronald D. Richardson for his quick actions on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

FURTHER that Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen hereby praise Patrol Officer Ronald D. Richardson as his efforts have contributed greatly to making the Town of Natick a better place for all its citizens.

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Mr. Glater that the resolution be read into the record. Ms. Ball moved, seconded by Mr. Glater to waive the reading of the motion. ***Both motions passed unanimously.***

Mr. Ostroff moved, seconded by Mr. Freedman, to recognize Paul Joseph, Chair of the Board of Selectmen, to address Town Meeting to deliver a citation. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

The Moderator requested Randy Brewer come to the podium. Mr. Joseph read the following citation, signed by the Board of Selectmen, recognizing Randy Brewer.

WHEREAS, Randy Brewer has served the citizens of Natick as a the Station Manager at Natick Pegasus for seven years; and

WHEREAS, Randy is a lifelong resident of Natick, who has been involved with public access television since he was a student at Kennedy Middle School, and who through his time at Pegasus has overseen the television production of thousands of meetings and countless public events, and

WHEREAS, Randy was first appointed by the Board of Selectmen in December 2000 to the Cable Public Access Board, later to become the Board of Directors for Natick Pegasus in 2002, leaving the Board to work as the Government Channel Coordinator; and becoming Station Manager in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Randy is a tireless worker who has contributed to a better informed citizenry about the workings of Town Government, about Natick's many community events and activities, and about the people and places that make Natick a special place to live;

NOW THEREFORE the Natick Board of Selectmen congratulates Randy Brewer for the dedication of the 2011 Natick Annual Town Report in honor of his dedication, professionalism, pioneering spirit and enthusiasm, and for his success in connecting the community through public access cable television.

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Mr. Glater that the citation as read be approved. Ms. Ball moved, seconded by Mr. Glater to waive the reading of the motion. ***Both motions passed unanimously.***

The Moderator requested that Town Meeting allow the Town Administrator ten minutes to provide the body with a State of the Town presentation. Town Meeting agreed without objection. Ms. White made this presentation to Town Meeting.

**ARTICLE 1: Authorization to Reorganize Certain Town Departments
(Town Administrator)**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Administrator, pursuant to Article 6, Section 6-1 of the Natick Home Rule Charter, to reorganize certain Town departments, or otherwise act thereon.

RECOMMENDATION: By a vote of 12-0-0 on March 6, 2012, The Finance Committee recommends favorable action with regard to the subject matter of Article 1.

MOTION: (majority vote required)

Moved by Mr. Everett, seconded by Mr. Freedman that the Town vote to authorize the Town Administrator, pursuant to Article 6, Section 6-1 of the Natick Home Rule Charter, to reorganize certain Town departments, namely the offices of the Collector/Treasurer, Assessors, and Comptroller by consolidating said offices within a new Town agency to be known as the Finance Department, under the direction of the Deputy Town Administrator/Finance Director.

Mr. Haugland raised a point of order regarding the appropriateness of hearing Article 1 because of procedural issues regarding the posting and hearing of this article by the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee. The Moderator requested some information from Mr. Flynn, Town Counsel; Mr. Joseph, Chair of the Board of Selectmen; and Mr. Freedman, Chair of the Finance Committee. The Moderator ruled that it was appropriate to hear Article 1 at this time. The Moderator reinforced that under Article 6, Section 6-1 of the Natick Home Rule Charter, Town Meeting is only permitted to approve or disapprove the article as written. No amendments are permitted.

Mr. Sidney moved, seconded by Ms. Salamoff to permit Ms. White fifteen minutes to address this article if necessary. *The motion passed by majority vote.*

Ms. White made a presentation regarding this article and considerable discussion ensued on this article. Mr. Pierce moved, seconded by Mr. Hughes to end debate on the question. *The motion to end debate passed by a two-thirds vote.*

A vote was taken and the moderator announced the vote would be counted. *The main motion under Article 1 passed by majority vote 98 to 53.*

ARTICLE 2: Authorization to Consolidate General Government and School Department Functions (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the consolidation of general government and school department facility maintenance and management functions pursuant to MGL Chapter 71, Section 37M; further to authorize the Town Administrator, pursuant to Article 6, Section 6-1 of the Natick Home Rule Charter, to reorganize the Town Department of Public Works, or otherwise act thereon.

RECOMMENDATION: By a vote of 14-0-0 on March 20, 2012, The Finance Committee recommends favorable action with regard to the subject matter of Article 2.

MOTION: (majority vote required)

Moved by Mr. Everett seconded by Mr. Freedman that the Town vote to authorize the consolidation of general government and school department facility maintenance and management functions pursuant to MGL Chapter 71, Section 37M.

Ms. White spoke to this article. At the Moderator's request, Mr. Flynn clarified to Town Meeting members that they could approve, disapprove or modify this plan as it is presented under MGL Chapter 71, Section 37M not the Home Rule Charter, Article 6, Section 6-1. Mr. Connolly asked if this section of the law had been accepted by Town Meeting. This section of the law was accepted by a vote of the 2010 Fall Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Connolly moved, seconded by Mr. Yang postponement of this article until Thursday, April 26, 2012. *The motion to postpone failed.*

Debate on the main motion continued. Mr. Golden moved, seconded by Mr. Pierce to end debate on Article 2. *The motion to end debate passed by a two-thirds vote.*

The main motion under Article 2 passed by majority vote.

ARTICLE 3: Fiscal 2012 Omnibus Budget Article (Town Administrator)

To determine what sum or sums of money the Town will appropriate and raise, or transfer from available funds, for the operation of the government of the Town of Natick, including debt and interest, during Fiscal Year 2012 (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012) and to provide for a reserve fund for Fiscal Year 2012, and to see what budgets for Fiscal 2012 will be reduced to offset said additional appropriations, or otherwise act thereon.

Mr. Everett moved, seconded by Mr. Freedman to postpone Article 3 until Tuesday, April 24, 2012. Ms. White spoke to postponement. *The motion to postpone Article 3 until Tuesday, April 24th passed unanimously.*

ARTICLE 4: Stabilization Fund (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds for the purpose of supplementing the stabilization fund under Article 22 of the warrant for Annual Town Meeting of 1961, as authorized by Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended, or otherwise act thereon.

RECOMMENDATION: By a vote of 13-0-0 on March 22, 2012, The Finance Committee recommends no action with regard to the subject matter of Article 4.

MOTION: (majority vote required)

Moved by Mr. Everett, seconded by Mr. Freedman to take no action on the subject matter of Article 4.

Ms. White spoke to Articles 4, 5 and 6 at this time. She said that the administration is not recommending that any funds be put into the stabilization funds at this time.

The motion to take no action on the subject matter of Article 4 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 5: Capital Stabilization Fund (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds for the purpose of supplementing the Capital Stabilization Fund under Article 2 of the warrant for Fall Annual Town Meeting of 2010, as authorized by Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended, or take otherwise act thereon.

RECOMMENDATION: By a vote of 14-0-0 on March 22, 2012, The Finance Committee recommends no action with regard to the subject matter of Article 5.

MOTION: (majority vote required)

Moved by Mr. Everett, seconded by Mr. Freedman to take no action on the subject matter of Article 5.

The motion to take no action on the subject matter of Article 5 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 6: Operational/Rainy Day Stabilization Fund (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds for the purpose of supplementing the Operational Stabilization Fund established by vote of the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting under Article 4, as authorized by Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended, or otherwise act thereon.

RECOMMENDATION: By a vote of 14-0-0 on March 22, 2012, The Finance Committee recommends no action with regard to the subject matter of Article 6.

MOTION: (majority vote required)

Moved by Mr. Everett, seconded by Mr. Freedman to take no action on the subject matter of Article 6.

The motion to take no action on the subject matter of Article 6 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 7: Authorization to Lease Golf Carts for Greater Than a Three Year Period (Town Administrator)

To see if the Town, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 12(b), will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease for golf carts at the Sassamon Trace Golf Course for a term exceeding three years, or otherwise act thereon.

RECOMMENDATION: By a vote of 13-0-1 on March 20, 2012, The Finance Committee recommends no action with regard to the subject matter of Article 7.

MOTION: (majority vote required)

Moved by Mr. Everett, seconded by Mr. Freedman to take no action on the subject matter of Article 7.

Ms. White spoke to this article.

The motion to take no action on the subject matter of Article 7 passed unanimously.

Mr. Sidney, seconded by Mr. Goldman moved adjournment. *The motion to adjourn passed by a two-thirds vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM until Thursday, April 12th at 7:30 PM.*

A record of the First Session of
2012 Spring Annual Town Meeting
April 10, 2012

Diane Packer, Town Clerk