

**2018 Fall Annual Town Meeting
Fine and Performing Arts Center
Marshall Lebowitz Town Meeting Room
Natick High School
October 16, 2018
First Session**

The First Session of the 2018 Fall Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM by 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 2018 Fall 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 Town's official record. The Moderator asked that all recently elected or appointed members of Town Meeting stand to take the oath of office; there were none. The Moderator asked the audience to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and 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 the stage and in the well of the auditorium. The following people were present: Diane Packer, Town Clerk; Patrick Hayes, Finance Committee Chair; Bruce Evans, Finance Committee Secretary; Karis North and Cynthia Amara, Town Counsel, Melissa Malone, Town Administrator; and Amy Mistrot, Chair, Board of Selectmen; Sean O'Brien, Finance Department will be operating the slides and Tim Lathwood, a representative from Option Technologies who will be operating the electronic voting system.

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 by 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 on the matter. 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. Without objection, the preceding statements were accepted as rules of 2018 Fall Annual Town Meeting.

The rules were entered into the record without objection. The Moderator suggested a motion to waive the reading of articles and motions. Moved by Mr. Sidney, seconded by Mr. Gath to waive reading the text of all 2018 Fall 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 (by hand count).***

The Moderator requested that all motions in response to articles be presented to the Moderator and the Town Clerk forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. In addition, the Moderator requested that

motions be presented in writing so that they can be seen on the screen in the meeting room. The Moderator announced that there are revised motions regarding Article 1 which were not received within the 48 hours and that Article 1 would not be heard this evening.

Mr. Ostroff moved, seconded by Mr. Gath presented that the following resolution which, after approval, shall be entered into the Town Meeting records and provided to the Lebowitz family.

Whereas, a previous Annual Town Meeting resolved that wherever Town Meeting convenes, that room shall be known as the Marshall Lebowitz Hall in honor of the late, long serving and treasured leader in the Town of Natick, and

Whereas, Charlotte Lebowitz, a beloved member of our community, passed away in late 2017, and

Whereas, Marshall and Charlotte Lebowitz established an enduring legacy of volunteerism that is reflected in the aspirations and values of the Town,

Now therefore be it resolved that when Town Meeting adjourns on October 16, 2018, we do so in honor of Marshall and Charlotte Lebowitz, and in recognition of the good will and affection with which they are remembered by the community, and further, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Lebowitz family.

The motion to waive the reading of Charlotte Lebowitz Resolution passed unanimously (by hand count). The Charlotte Lebowitz Resolution passed by a majority vote (114-2-1).

Ms. Salamoff, seconded Mr. Krentzman that the Town vote in favor of a resolution to honor Lynda Simkins for her 38 years of service to the Town of Natick as the Director and Executive Director of the Natick Community Organic Farm adopted by the Board of Selectmen October 1, 2018 be read into the records of the 2018 Fall Annual Town Meeting. ***The motion to enter the resolution in the record of Town Meeting passed by a majority vote (hand count).***

WHEREAS Lynda Simkins began working for the Town of Natick as Farm Director in March 1980, thirty-eight years ago, and brought a unique level of leadership: dedication, passion, vision, and mentoring skills, and

WHEREAS Lynda became Executive Director on July 1, 2007, and

WHEREAS the 27-acre farm that was comprised of an unheated barn and a chicken coop, with no running water or toilet, and open fields has been transformed into a 365-day multi-operational certified-organic farm and educational facility for children and adults of all ages, and

WHEREAS under Lynda's leadership the farm changed because of people and people changed because of the farm, and

WHEREAS Lynda's driving focus was the mission: stewarding public productive open land, providing certified-organic vegetables, flowers and seedlings, fresh, local sustainably-raised meats, eggs, wool, honey and fresh maple syrup, and countless opportunities for hands-on education of the community's children and adults, and

WHEREAS while Lynda provided fiscal stability through responsible budget planning, she developed good relationships and resources in the community and championed innovative programs to enhance the operation of the farm, including the use of alternative energy sources such as solar, and

WHEREAS hundreds of Natick school children in grades 1-4 are provided free educational programming that includes subjects such as where food comes from, nutrition, maple sugaring, the water cycle, and help to care for farm animals (2 cows, 6 goats, 6 sheep, 150 chickens, 4 pigs, 165 Thanksgiving turkeys and lots of rabbits), and

WHEREAS preschool-aged children attend the Waldkindergarten program called Forest Gnomes and engage in outdoor woodland play all year long in all types of weather conditions, and

WHEREAS through homeschooling, afterschool programming, and vacation and summer school programming, the Natick Community Organic Farm offers more than 4,200 hours of programming for local youth and the farm benefits from more than 6,700 hours of volunteer help from all ages of Natick citizens, and

WHEREAS Natick teens learn to serve as a capable and dependable work force, learn to market and manage the sale of farm products, and learn maple sugaring and the care of animals as well as life skills, and

WHEREAS Lynda Simkins has turned the Natick Community Farm into a thriving, sustainable, certified-organic farm that is the last working farm in Natick and serves as a model in Massachusetts and in the nation, and

WHEREAS Executive Director Lynda Simkins led the creation of very special educational programs in Natick with the development of the Natick Community Organic Farm for all ages, but most significantly the youngest of our children through young adult, to learn about farm land, its produce, its animals and the life skills for its upkeep, including personal responsibility, sense of accomplishment and contribution to community,

NOW THEREFORE, the Natick Board of Selectmen, hereby honors Lynda Simkins for her outstanding service to the Town of Natick.

ARTICLE 2: Stabilization Fund (Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for the purpose of supplementing the Stabilization Fund established 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.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee recommends the following action:

ARTICLE 2	DATE VOTED	MOTION	QUANTUM OF VOTE
	August 30, 2018	Favorable Action	12-0-0

MOTION: (Requires a majority vote)

Moved by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hayes that the Town vote to appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the Stabilization Fund established 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.

Ms. Malone, Town Administrator gave a presentation on the Town’s financial matters. *The motion under Article 2 passed by a majority vote (118-5-0).*

ARTICLE 3: Operational/Rainy Day Stabilization Fund

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide 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.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee recommends the following action:

ARTICLE 3	DATE VOTED	MOTION	QUANTUM OF VOTE
	August 30, 2018	Favorable Action	12-0-0

MOTION: (Requires a majority vote)

Moved by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hayes that the Town vote to appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the Stabilization Fund established under Article 4 of the warrant for 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting, as authorized by Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended.

Ms. Malone, Town Administrator spoke to Article 3 regarding changing the amount from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

Moved by Mr. Hayes, seconded by Mr. Evans to amend the main motion by deleting the amount of \$250,000 and replacing it with the amount of \$500,000.

The amendment to the main motion passed by majority vote (98-24-2). The amended main motion under Article 3 passed by a majority vote (110-11-3).

ARTICLE 4: Capital Stabilization Fund (Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for the purpose of supplementing the Capital Stabilization Fund established 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 otherwise act thereon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee recommends the following action:

ARTICLE 4	DATE VOTED	MOTION	QUANTUM OF VOTE
	August 30, 2018	Favorable Action	12-0-0

MOTION: (Requires a majority vote)

Moved by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hayes that the Town vote to appropriate \$2,400,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the Capital Stabilization Fund established by the vote of Article 2 of the 2010 Fall Annual Town Meeting, as authorized by chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended.

Motion under Article 4 passed by a Majority vote (81-26-16).

ARTICLE 5: Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Appropriation or Transfer of Funds (Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for, the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund established pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the General Laws as amended by section 15 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016; or otherwise act thereon.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee recommends the following action:

ARTICLE 5	DATE VOTED	MOTION	QUANTUM OF VOTE
	September 13, 2018	Favorable Action	9-0-0

MOTION: (Requires a majority vote)

Moved by Mr. Evans, seconded by Mr. Hayes that the Town vote to appropriate \$441,723 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund authorized by a vote of the 2017 Spring Annual Town Meeting under Article 15, as authorized by Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the General Laws as amended by Section 15 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016.

Moved by Mr. Munnich, seconded by Ms. Adelman-Foster to postpone consideration of Article 5 until the second order of business on Thursday, October 18th. *The motion to postpone further consideration of Article 5 failed (26-89-2).*

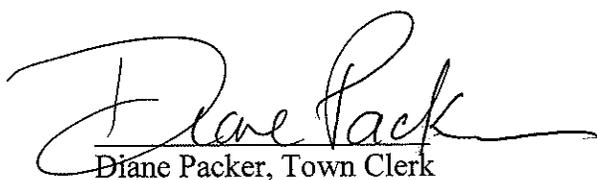
Moved by Mr. Coburn, seconded by Mr. Munnich, to postpone consideration of Articles 1, 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 33 until after Town Meeting has heard a presentation. The presentation shall include:

- A summary of the capital plan
- A snapshot of OPEB liabilities and planning
- A version of the Fee Cash sheet presented tonight showing via a “red line” version the difference between what was available to and voted by the Finance Committee and what is now proposed

Moved by Mr. Sydney seconded by Mr. Gath, to waive the reading of the motion. *The motion to waive the reading of the motion passed by majority vote (hand count). The motion (as printed above) to postpone consideration of Articles 1, 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 33 until October 18th passed by a majority vote (58-45-0).*

Mr. Sidney moved seconded by Mr. Jennett to adjourn. *The motion to adjourn passed by majority vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM until Thursday, October 18, 2018 at 7:30 PM.*

A record of the First Session of
2018 Fall Annual Town Meeting
October 16, 2018



Diane Packer, Town Clerk