



TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON 2025 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

MEETING WARRANT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 2025

10:00 AM

WILLIAM E. NORRIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
34 POMEROY MEADOW ROAD
SOUTHAMPTON, MA 01073

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Article 1 – Transfer for Health Insurance

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$327,185.00 to the Group Health Active Employees account (01-914-5170): said sum is to be taken from the following named accounts; or take any other action relative thereto.

Account	Amount
Stabilization – Operating (82-200-5698)	\$150,000.00
Stabilization – Capital (82-200-5700-0000)	\$125,000.00
Stabilization – Ambulance (82-200-5698-000)	\$2,185.00
General Highway Wages (01-422-5115)	\$50,000.00

2/3rds vote required

Article 2 – Amendment to Finance Committee Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 35 of the Town's General By-laws, as follows, with additions shown in bold and deleted text shown as stricken through; or take any other action relative thereto:

§ 35-1 Committee established

There shall be a Finance Committee for the Town consisting of five voters of the Town, who shall perform the duties set forth in the following sections of this article and be governed by the provisions thereof. The Committee shall be ~~elected~~ **appointed** as provided in § ~~35-2~~ of this article. Finance Committee members may serve as liaisons to other committees, boards, commissions, and/or ad hoc committees, as needed, to maintain communication and coordination between those bodies and the Finance Committee. Finance Committee members may serve on appointed committees, commissions, boards, or ad hoc committees, with voting rights, unless otherwise stipulated in the Town's bylaws.

§ 35-2 Membership and vacancies.

A. As of the effective date of this by-law amendment, upon adoption of this bylaw ~~expiration of each current Finance Committee members' elected term of office, there shall be elected by the voters~~ **Finance Committee members shall be appointed by the Town Moderator:** two members of the Finance Committee to serve for a term of one year, two members to serve for a term of two years, and one member to serve for a term of three years. ~~At each annual election~~ Thereafter, ~~there shall be an election of Finance Committee member or members~~ **shall be appointed** for terms of three years to succeed the members whose terms may expire that year, or to fill the balance of a term where a vacancy has occurred.

~~B. If after such election there are one or more vacancies on the Finance Committee, the Select Board shall in writing appoint a person or persons to fill such vacancy(ies). Any person so appointed to the Finance Committee shall be a registered voter of the Town. and shall perform the duties of the office until the next annual election or until another is qualified.~~

§ 35-4 Annual Town Report

[Amended 5-9-2023 ATM by Art. 31]

~~The Select Board, before the Annual Town Meeting, shall, at the expense of the Town, make available the Annual Town Report for the use of the residents. The Annual Report will include the report from the Finance Committee of its activities and recommendations, made available in print and online.~~

The Finance Committee shall submit a written report of its activities and any recommendations relative to financial matters for inclusion into the Town's Annual Report.

§ 35-5 Duties and Responsibilities

- A. Review expenditures and commitments of each Town Department, committee or commission on a regular basis and identify significant variance for the Select Board's attention.**
- B. Hold quarterly meetings with the Select Board, Treasurer/Collector, Town Accountant and the Town Administrator to review the Town's financial obligations, revenues and budget status.**
- C. Review departmental budget submissions, hold meetings with the Select Board and make recommendations in preparing the annual budget for approval at the Annual Town Meeting.**
- D. The Finance Committee shall have control over the Town's Finance Committee Reserve Fund, which provides for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures as defined by M.G.L ch. 40 §6.**

§ 35-6 Prohibition from Serving as an Elected Official

No member of the Finance Committee shall be eligible to hold elected office for any position within the Town of Southampton's bylaws.

Article 3 – Repeal Personnel Policy and Procedures Board

To see if the Town will vote to repeal the Town’s Personnel Bylaw, as said by-law was amended by Town Meeting on May 16, 1988, and as it may have been further amended from time to time; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 4 – Update Personnel Policy and Procedures Board

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 61 of the Town's General By-laws, as follows, with additions shown in bold and deleted text shown as stricken through; or take any other action relative thereto:

Section 61-1: Policies and Procedures on file. Adoption of Personnel Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures.

The Town's personnel policies and procedures are contained in a manual titled "Town of Southamptton, Massachusetts, Personnel Policies and Procedures and Wage and Salary Administration Program," which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk. **Insofar as the personnel policies and procedures in existence as of December 6, 2025 reference the Personnel Policies and Procedures Board or PPPB, all authority conferred on the PPPB under the personnel policies and procedures is transferred to the Select Board.**

The Select Board is authorized to adopt and amend personnel rules, regulations, policies and procedures for all town departments and positions excluding employees of the school department.

Article 5 – Unpaid Accounts from Prior Fiscal Years

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money for the payment of unpaid bills of previous years, incurred by the departments, board and officers of the Town of Southampton; or take any other action relative thereto.

Year	Title	Vendor	Amount
FY 25	Legal Fees	Siddall & Siddall	\$1,575.00
FY 25	Assessor Services	Tighe & Bond	\$1,125.00
FY 25	SHARPS Program	SHARPS Program	\$238.17
FY 25	Env. Monitoring	Tighe & Bond	\$2,950.00
FY 25	Police Training	Team One Network	\$700.00
FY 25	Env. Monitoring	Tighe & Bond	\$5,750.00

9/10ths vote required

Article 6 – Transfer for Funding for FY 26 Retained Earnings to Water Enterprise Line

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$60,279.00 from Water Retained Earnings line to the Water Enterprise Fund Line to off-set a deficit as a result of change orders for work done as part of a Hazard Mitigation Project\Water Line Relocation Project in FY 2022; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Amount	From	To	Reason
\$60,279.00	Water Retained Earnings	Water Enterprise Fund	Change orders

Article 7 – Transfer for Conservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to transfer an amount totaling \$19,466.68 from the Land Use Coordinator account (01-125-8115) to the Conservation Agent account (01-171-5115); or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 8 – Transfer for Health Agent

To see if the Town will vote to transfer an amount totaling \$5,907.70 from the Land Use Coordinator account (01-125-8115) to the Health Director/Agent account (01-510-5113); or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 9 – Transfer of Funds from Prior Year Encumbrances to Street Lighting

To see if the Town will vote to transfer an amount totaling \$12,000.00 from Prior Year Encumbrances (01-950-5905-00000) to the Street Lighting Account (01-424-5200-00000) as listed below; or to take any other action relative thereto; or take any other action thereto:

Amount	From	To	Reason
\$12,000.00	Prior Year Enc.	Street Lighting Account	Eversource Invoices

Article 10 – Fee Acquisition of Property at Rattle Hill Road Rear

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board:

(a) to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, a fee simple interest in 40 acres of land, more or less, located at Rattle Hill Road Rear, Southampton, Tax Map 12, Lot 10, and being the premises described in a deed recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 1509, Page 614, to be under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it may hereafter be amended, for conservation and passive recreation purposes, subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution;

(b) to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, including the Community Preservation Act Fund, the amount of \$50,000 for the purpose of funding said acquisition and costs incidental or related thereto, provided, however, that said monies shall not be expended unless the Town receives the amount of \$50,000 from Kestrel Land Trust or other sources for reimbursement of said purchase price;

(c) to authorize the Select Board to grant a conservation restriction on said parcel in compliance with G.L. Chapter 44B, Section 12(a); and, (d) to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 11 – Fee Acquisition of Property at Fomer Road

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board:

(a) to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, a fee simple interest in 27 acres of land, more or less, located at Fomer Road, Southamptton, being all or a portion of Tax Map 27, Lot 23 (3 acres) and all or a portion of Tax Map 27, Lot 3 (24 acres), as approximately shown on the sketch plan on file with the Town Clerk, to be under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it may hereafter be amended, for conservation and passive recreation purposes, subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution;

(b) to transfer the amount of \$426,900 from the Community Preservation Act Fund Open Space Account (remainder of available balance) and the Undesignated Account for the purpose of funding said acquisition and costs incidental or related thereto, provided, however, that such funds shall not be expended unless the Town is approved for a Local Acquisition for Natural Diversity (LAND) Grant from the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services and/or any other such sources, for reimbursement of all of a percentage of the cost of said property;

(c) to authorize the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission to apply for, accept and expend any funds that may be provided by the Commonwealth or other public or private sources to defray all or a portion of the costs of said acquisition, including, but not limited to, grants and/or reimbursement programs in any way connected with the scope of this article, which grants and/or funds so received shall be used to repay all or a portion of the sums transferred from the Community Preservation Act Fund hereunder;

(d) to authorize the Select Board to grant a conservation restriction on said parcel in compliance with G.L. Chapter 44B, Section 12(a); and, (e) to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 12 –PARC Grant Funding for Conant Park Improvements

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$150,000.00 from the Community Preservation Act undesignated fund account for the cost of installing a walking path and spray pad within Conant Park, the land described in the deed of Willard F. Howland and Dorothy P Howland, Book 1296 Page 37 of the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, constituting a gift to the Town from the Harold W. and Dorothy P. Conant Fund, said land to be used solely for park purposes or playground purposes or other recreational purposes in accordance with a vote accepting the gift passed at the Town Meeting held February 9th 1959, and any costs incidental or related thereto, provided, however, that no funds shall not be expended until the Town has received a grant commitment in the amount of \$99,000.00 under the PARC Grant Program (301 CMR 5.00), applied for by Town Administrator Scott Szczebak and designated as “Conant Park Improvements, PARC #6” by the Division of Conservation Services, a reimbursement grant, which funds shall be returned to the Community Preservation Act undesignated fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 13 – Purchase of Glendale Road Property

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board:

(a) to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, a fee simple interest in 2.39 acres of land, more or less, located at Glendale Road, Southamptton, Tax Map 19, Lot 11A, and being the premises described in a deed recorded with the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 13211, Page 336, to be under the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C, as it may hereafter be amended, for conservation and passive recreation purposes, subject to the protections of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution;

(b) to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, including the Community Preservation Act Fund, the amount of \$50,000 for the purpose of funding said acquisition and costs incidental or related thereto, provided, however, that said monies shall not be expended unless the Conservation Commission contributes the amount of \$35,000 from the Hazel Young Memorial Account and/or the Conant Wildlife Account, or other such source to pay the balance of the purchase price;

(c) to authorize the Select Board to grant a conservation restriction on said parcel in compliance with G.L. Chapter 44B, Section 12(a); and, (d) to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.