



TOWN OF SPENCER

Office of the Town Clerk

Memorial Town Hall
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Special Town Meeting

June 26, 2014

Memorial Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 p.m. by Moderator Peter J. Adams following the Registrar's announcement that a quorum was present.

Reading of the Return of the Warrant was waived. Meeting was posted in accordance with the law.

The Moderator spoke briefly to the attendees:

In a sense, tonight we are asked to pay the piper to provide for the educational needs of our children. It is appropriate that we decide whether to pay the piper on June 26th.

In the 13th century, the town of Hamelin, Germany was overrun with rats. A piper, dressed in red clothing and claiming to be a rat-catcher offered to rid the town of rats—for a fee. The mayor agreed to pay him if he was successful. The piper played his pipe and lured the rats into the Weser River but the mayor refused to pay the piper for his work. The piper angrily left Hamelin promising to return to take his revenge. On June 26th 1284, while the adults were at church, the piper appeared in Hamelin, played his pipe and lured 130 children from the town, never to return.

While historically it is believed to be true that 130 children did leave Hamelin on June 26th, never to be seen again, the actual events remain muddled in antiquity and folklore. But what has survived for over 700 years is the adage that we pay the piper or suffer the consequences.

The Moderator introduced to attendees, himself, members of the Board of Selectmen, Town Counsel and Town Clerk. He also introduced the Board of Registrars and Assistant Town Clerk. Chairwoman Mary Braney introduced the Finance Committee members present.

The Moderator thanked Spencer Cable Access for broadcasting the meeting and reviewed the ground rules and parliamentary procedure for Town Meetings.

The following articles were acted upon:

Article 1: Majority voted, as a block, provided that any amount stated herein shall be for the use of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2015 in accordance with any conditions stated herein and further provided that any stated amount shall be reduced to any lesser amount which shall subsequently be certified by the school committee and certified to the Town, to:

1. raise and appropriate the sum of Five Million, Seven Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$5,725,754.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Minimum Local Contribution;
2. raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, One Hundred Sixty Thousand, Nine Hundred Sixteen Dollars and No Cents (\$1,160,916.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Transportation;
3. raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand, Three Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars and No Cents (\$252,394.00) for the purposes of paying the costs of Debt Service and Capital Assessments Account #11300-56010 for previously approved building and design projects;
4. raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars and No Cents (\$862,268.00) for the Operating Assessment Account #11300-56000 which represents the amount required for Additional Local Assessment,

provided however that said appropriations are contingent upon an election approval for a so called Proposition 2 ½ Override referendum question.

The following people spoke on this article: Dr. Ted Malvey, Gary Woodbury, Anthony Pepe, Jr., Kevin Hayes, William Shemeth III, Dr. Ralph Hicks, Donald Clough, Susan Terkanian, David Glass.

Article 2: Majority voted to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Seventeen Thousand, Four Hundred Six Dollars and No Cents (\$117,406.00) for the purpose of funding a computer upgrade project for the Spencer East Brookfield Regional School District and to meet said appropriation by transferring said sum from previously certified and available Free Cash.

The following people spoke on this article: Anthony Pepe Jr., William Shemeth III, Kevin Hayes, David Glass.

A motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Meeting.

Majority voted at 8:10 p.m. to dissolve this Meeting.

A total of 198 registered voters attended.

Laura J. Torti
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