



Town of Hinsdale

Town Administrator
39 South St.
Hinsdale, MA 01235
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Annual Town Meeting – May 11, 2022 Order of Business

Berkshire, SS

To One of the Members of the Police Department of the Town of Hinsdale:

Greetings,

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Hinsdale qualified by law to vote, to meet in Kittredge School, 80 Maple Street, Hinsdale, MA, on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

Article

1. To choose a moderator to preside over the meeting if the elected Moderator is not present.
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2. To see if the Town will accept Hinsdale's allotment of funds appropriated for FY23 by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of General Laws. These funds are to pay for costs allowed by applicable legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges; with any unspent funds to carry over from year to year until spent by the Town; these sums are to be reimbursed to the Town by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action thereon.

(This article allows the Town to accept our share of State Chapter 90 funds, which is **\$153,050.00** for FY23.)

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

3. To see if the Town will vote to:
 - a. Set the salaries of all elected officials of the Town for FY23 as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended, or take any other action thereon (These salaries total **\$18,900**, and are included in the Article 3b departmental totals, below.)

Elected Officials	FY22	FY23	Select Board	Finance
Assessors (3)*	\$1500	\$1500	Y	Y
Moderator	\$100	\$100	Y	Y
Select Board Chair	\$3,000	\$3,000	Y	Y
Select Board (2)	\$2,800	\$2,800	Y	Y
Town Clerk	\$7,034	\$10,000	Y	Y
Tree Warden	\$1,500	\$1,500	Y	Y

- b. Raise and appropriate or transfer from available treasury funds, the sum of \$2,499,156 for the operating expenses of the Town for FY23 as follows, or any other amount, or take any other action thereon.

Department/Account	FY22	FY23	SB	Finance
Legal Counsel	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Y	Y
Moderator	\$ 100	\$ 100	Y	Y
Select Board & Admin	\$ 137,120	\$ 143,506	Y	Y
Board of Assessors	\$ 72,750	\$ 74,250	Y	Y
Treasurer	\$ 53,759	\$ 62,400	Y	Y
Tax Collector	\$ 27,856	\$ 5,000	Y	Y
Town Clerk/Elections	\$ 14,842	\$ 19,480	Y	Y
Accounting & Auditing	\$ 70,233	\$ 68,364	Y	Y
Finance Committee	\$ 300	\$ 300	Y	Y
Planning Board	\$ 500	\$ 500	Y	Y
Conservation Committee	\$ 16,400	\$ 17,285	Y	Y
Insurances & Bonds	\$ 88,000	\$ 89,400	Y	Y
Health/Dental Insurance	\$ 169,000	\$ 260,000	Y	Y
County Retirement	\$ 158,647	\$ 181,221	Y	Y
Medicare	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,500	Y	Y
Reserve Fund	\$ 20,000	\$ 30,000	Y	Y
Gas/Diesel	\$ 35,000	\$ 38,500	Y	Y
Unemployment	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	Y	Y
Town Buildings	\$ 94,390	\$ 103,900	Y	Y
General Government	\$1,000,897	\$1,135,706	Y	Y
Public Works/DPW	\$ 396,368	\$ 416,833	Y	Y
Unaccepted Roads	\$ 15,000	\$ -	Y	Y
Winter Roads	\$ 97,500	\$ 97,500	Y	Y
Cemeteries	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,500	Y	Y
Street Lights	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,600	Y	Y
Town-wide Mowing	\$ 21,030	\$ 21,030	Y	Y
Public Works	\$ 551,898	\$ 558,463	Y	Y

Department/Account	FY22	FY23	SB	Finance
Police Department	\$ 339,666	\$ 402,513	Y	Y
Fire Department	\$ 85,600	\$ 88,600	Y	Y
Ambulance Service	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	Y	Y
Emergency Management	\$ 5,450	\$ 4,000	Y	Y
Building Inspector	\$ 17,100	\$ 17,570	Y	Y
Gas Inspector	\$ 200	\$ 200	Y	Y
Tree Warden	\$ 11,500	\$ 16,500	Y	Y
Public Safety	\$ 461,516	\$ 531,383	Y	Y
Board of Health	\$ 14,400	\$ 15,300	Y	Y
Veterans Services	\$ 35,300	\$ 26,800	Y	Y
Lake Management	\$ 26,200	\$ 20,200	Y	Y
Animal/Dog Officer	\$ 6,710	\$ 6,892	Y	Y
Transfer Station/Waste	\$ 94,843	\$ 99,585	Y	Y
Landfill Monitoring	\$ 15,000	\$ 0	Y	Y
Council on Aging	\$ 3,075	\$ 3,000	Y	Y
Visiting Nurse (VNA)	\$ 2,856	\$ 3,142	Y	Y
Health&Human Services	\$ 198,384	\$ 174,919	Y	Y
Public Library	\$ 78,165	\$ 83,885	Y	Y
Beautification Team	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	Y	Y
CSX Land Rental	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200	Y	Y
Berkshire Reg Planning	\$ 1,620	\$ 1,600	Y	Y
Sports/Rec	\$ 500	\$ 500	Y	Y
Community Center	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	Y	Y
Culture and Recreation	\$ 92,985	\$ 98,685	Y	Y
Total Operating Budget	\$ 2,295,474¹	\$ 2,499,156	Y	Y

See the footnotes below

c. To see if the Town will vote to approve FY23 Educational Expenses as follows:

- i. **Central Berkshire Regional School District (CBRSD) Assessment** budget of **\$2,568,569** as part of the total amount for educational expenses, and to raise and appropriate that amount for FY23, or take any other action thereon.
- ii. **Central Berkshire Regional School District's (CBRSD) Capital** budget of **\$271,298** as part of the total amount for educational expenses, and to raise and appropriate that amount for FY23, or take any other action thereon.
- iii. **Vocational School Transportation** costs of **\$79,626** as part of the total for educational expenses, and to raise and appropriate that amount for FY23, or take other action thereon.
- iv. **Vocational School Tuition** costs of **\$156,976** (5 Smith + 3 McCann) = 8 @ \$19,622/student = Total Voc. Tuitions) as part of the Town's total for educational expenses, and to raise and appropriate that amount for FY23, or take any other action thereon.

Education Costs	FY22	FY23	SB	Finance
CBRSD Assessment	\$ 2,466,553	\$ 2,568,569	Y	N
CBRSD Capital	\$ 274,845	\$ 271,298	Y	Y
Voc School Transportation	\$ 76,194	\$ 79,626	Y	Y
Voc School Tuition	\$ 149,432	\$ 156,976	Y	Y
Total	\$ 2,967,024	\$ 3,076,469	Y	Y

¹ This total is off approximately \$10k due to funds carried forward from FY21.

- d. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$19,677** as follows for Debt and Interest, or take any other action thereon.

Debt & Interest Table	FY22	FY23	SB	Finance
Town Hall Loan, Principal	\$8,270	\$8,270	Y	Y
Interest-Long Term Debt	\$9,907	\$9,907	Y	Y
Interest-Short Term Debt	\$1,500	\$1,500	Y	Y
Total	\$19,677	\$19,677	Y	Y

4. To see if the Town will vote to transfer **\$34,270.77** from Free Cash to balance the Fiscal Year 2022 Winter Road Maintenance budget line, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

5. To see if the Town will:

- a. Vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$81,374** for the Sewer I Operating Expenses, the amount of which will be offset with fees collected from those users, or take any other action thereon.

Sewer I	FY22	FY23	%	SB	Finance
Salaries	\$12,224	\$16,244	34%	Y	Y
Expenses	\$65,150	\$65,150	0%	Y	Y
Total	\$77,374	\$81,374	5%	Y	Y

- b. Vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$14,882** for the Sewer II Operating Expenses, the amount of which will be offset with fees collected from those users, or take any other action thereon.

Sewer II	FY22	FY23	%	SB	Finance
Expenses	\$14,448	\$14,882	2%	Y	Y
Total	\$14,448	\$14,882	2%	Y	Y

- c. Vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$171,047** for the Sewer III Operating Expenses, the amount of which will be offset with fees collected from those users, or take any other action thereon.

Sewer III	FY22	FY23	%	SB	Finance
Salaries	\$28,197	\$35,808	25%	Y	Y
Expenses	\$131,300	\$135,239	3%	Y	Y
Total	\$159,497	\$171,047	7%	Y	Y

- d. Vote to transfer from available funds in the Sewer Betterment Reserve, the sum of **\$101,669 (\$45,709 for Plunkett and \$55,960 for Ashmere)** for Sewer Phase III Loan payments or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$233,481** as follows for the Hinsdale Water Department Operating Expenses, the amount of which will be offset with fees collected from Water users, or take any other action thereon.

Water Department	FY22	FY23	%	SB	Finance
Salaries	\$69,067	\$76,972	9%	Y	Y
Expenses	\$40,550	\$40,550	0	Y	Y
Bond Payments	\$109,459	\$115,959	9%	Y	Y
Total	\$219,076	\$233,481	9%	Y	Y

7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,240** from Sewers I, II, III, and Water users to be offset by fees for the Town to purchase and install the *SoftRight* software module to enhance customer billing and service, including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Department	Amount	Split	SB	Finance
Sewer I	\$1,540	16.5%	Y	Y
Sewer II	\$1,540	16.5%	Y	Y
Sewer III	\$3,080	33.5%	Y	Y
Water	\$3,080	33.5%	Y	Y
Total	\$9,240	100%	Y	Y

8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$32,500** from Free Cash for Infrastructure and Engineering Expenses for FY23 or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to transfer the sum of **\$150,000** from Free Cash to the Transfer Station budget to pay for the costs to cap the former landfill in excess of the allotted ARPA funds, including all costs incidental or related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$54,387.56** from Free Cash to make the second of five annual payments on a lease-to-own truck the Town agreed to purchase at the FY21 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

11. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$11,300** from Free Cash to restore the Maple Street Cemetery Mausoleum, prune the shrubbery overgrowth throughout the site, and purchase computer software to improve cemetery record keeping, including all costs incidental or related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

12. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$4,600** from Free Cash to pay for the new website software and site development, including all costs incidental or related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

13. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$21,000** from Free Cash to pay for the anticipated overage in the Town Waste General Expense account due to the increases in waste management costs, including all costs incidental or related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$15,000** from Free Cash to pay for the removal of dead, dying, and hazardous trees, located across town as identified and ranked by the consulting Arborist, including all costs incidental or related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$3,000** from Free Cash to pay expenses for one Part-time Police Officer to attend the State-mandated Police Officer's bridge training program, required of all part-time officers across the Commonwealth, or take any actions thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

16. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$7,000** from Free Cash to pay the cost of the State-mandated biennial high-hazard dam inspections for Belmont and Plunkett Reservoirs, including all costs incidental or related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$57,049.30** as the first of ten annual payments of a loan financing, or lease to purchase agreement, totaling **\$570,493.00**, to purchase and equip a new tanker truck for the Hinsdale Fire Department, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: N

18. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$216.08** from Free Cash to cover an outstanding FY21 Northeast Paving/Lenoxdale Plant Invoice # 68001426, received on September 7, 2021, or take any other action thereon. *(Northeast Paving has acknowledged this charge was late due to their staffing shortage. Approval requires a 4/5th vote.)*

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

19. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$1,178.50** from Free Cash to cover an outstanding FY21 Invoice (#Q2, 2021) from Howard Laboratories, Inc. in Hatfield, MA, received on August 27, 2021, or take any other action thereon. *(Howard Labs has acknowledged the bill was late due to their staffing difficulties. Approval requires a 4/5th vote.)*

Please Note: This Article shall be corrected on the floor of the ATM, it is a Water Department charge and the funds will come from the Water Reserve account, not Free Cash. BG.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

20. To see if the Town will vote to deposit **\$50,000** from Free Cash into the Town Capital Stabilization Account, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

21. To see if the Town will vote to deposit **\$50,000** from Free Cash into the Town Road Stabilization Account, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

22. To see if the Town will vote to deposit **\$50,000** from Free Cash into the Town Stabilization Account, or take any other action thereon.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

23. To see if the Town will vote to accept **G.L. c. 258 § 13**, to require the Town to indemnify and save harmless municipal officers, elected or appointed from personal financial loss and expense in the event that they are named in litigation arising out of their actions or omissions when acting within the scope of their official duties or employment, or take any other action thereon.

Please Note: In addition to a required vote of a Town Meeting, the statute also requires that the voters at an Annual Town Election accept the following question:

Shall the town vote to accept the provisions of section thirteen of chapter two hundred and fifty-eight of the General Laws which provides that the town shall indemnify and save harmless municipal officers, elected or appointed, from personal financial loss and expense including reasonable legal fees and costs, if any, in an amount not to exceed one million dollars, arising out of any claim, demand, suit or judgment by reason of any act or omission except an intentional violation of civil rights of any person under any law, if the official at the time of such act or omission was acting within the scope of his official duties or employment?

Therefore, if this passes at the ATM 2022, the question will appear on the May 2023 Election Ballot for final approval.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

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24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court for the enactment of special legislation entitled "An Act Authorizing the Town of Hinsdale to Continue the Employment of Susan Rathbun" as set forth below, provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill unless the Select Board approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Select Board to approve such amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or take any other action thereon or in relation thereto:

An Act Authorizing the Town of Hinsdale to Continue Employment of Susan Rathbun

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

Section 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, Susan Rathbun, the Chief of Police in the Town of Hinsdale, who would be subject to mandatory retirement on the last day of the month in which she turns 65 years old, may continue to serve in such a position until **February 2, 2027**, or until the date of her retirement or non-reappointment, or the date she is relieved of her duties by the Town, whichever occurs first; provided however, that no deductions shall be made from the regular compensation of Susan Rathbun pursuant to Chapter 32 of the General Laws for any service subsequent to her reaching the age of 65 in connection with her service to the Town for retirement purposes; provided further, that she is mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of her office; provided further, that the Town may at its own expense require that Susan Rathbun be examined by an impartial physician designated by the Town to determine such capability; and provided further, that Susan Rathbun shall, upon retirement, receive a superannuation retirement allowance equal to that which she would have been entitled had she retired at the age of 65.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: NA

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25. To see if the Town will vote to affirm the following petition, or take any other action thereon:

This (citizens) petition addresses the long-overdue road improvements needed to major thoroughfares in the Town of Hinsdale, MA. The undersigned asks that the Select Board of Hinsdale, MA, be charged with developing and adopting a plan to make major thoroughfares safe, passable, and durable for all Hinsdale Residents. These thoroughfares include Peru Rd., New Windsor Rd., Frank and George Schnopp Rds, and East Washington Rd (including Fassell Road). We recommend that funds be secured through a Bond, and perhaps State Grants, in an amount

sufficient to repair the long-neglected parts, including culverts and road surfaces, to withstand residential/emergency/school buses and other vehicular traffic and weather. We believe these repairs and restorations are required to create safe and livable streets for all residents, business owners, and service providers. Furthermore, we ask that the plan be presented to Town Residents by year's end, with adoption to start in 2023.

26. To see if the Town will vote to set FY23 spending limits for the following revolving funds established by the Town's General Bylaws, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, as indicated in the table below, with such table limits to be applicable from fiscal year to fiscal year unless Town Meeting votes to change the same prior to the start of such fiscal year, or take any other action thereon.

Revolving Fund Limits	FY22	FY23
Grave Openings	\$10,000	\$10,000
Plumbing Inspector Fees	\$6,000	\$6,000
Electrical Inspector Fees	\$6,000	\$6,000
Animal Control Fees	\$2,000	\$2,000
Planning Board Fees	\$3,000	\$3,000
Zoning Board Fees	\$6,000	\$6,000
Library	\$500	\$500
Fire Department	\$3,000	\$3,000
Council on Aging	\$2,000	\$2,000
Police Programs	\$5,000	\$5,000

Select Board: Y

Finance Committee: Y

27. To notify and warn all residents of the Town qualified by law to vote in Elections, to meet in the Hinsdale Town Hall, 39 South Street on Saturday, May 14, 2022, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. to choose and elect the Town Officers listed below. Vote is by simple majority rule unless otherwise noted.

Election - May14, 2022	Opening(s)	Term in Years
Select Board	1	3
Select Board	1	2
Assessor	1	3
Assessor	1	2
Assessor	1	1
Finance	3	3
Finance Committee	1	2
Planning Board	1	5
Planning Board	1	4
Planning Board	1	2
Tree Warden	1	3

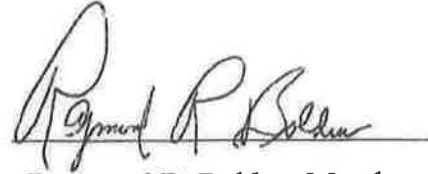
AND YOU ARE HEREBY directed to serve the Warrant by posting up three (3) attested copies thereof, as required by the By-Laws of said Town of Hinsdale, at least seven (7) days before holding said meetings. Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding said meetings.

Given under our hands this 2nd Day of May 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Handwritten signature of Richard B. Scialabba in cursive script.

Richard B. Scialabba, Chair


Handwritten signature of Raymond B. Bolduc in cursive script.

Raymond B. Bolduc, Member

RETURN OF SERVICE
TOWN OF HINSDALE
BERKSHIRE COUNTY,

SS:

On the date above written, I have served this warrant posting attested copies thereof at the Town Hall,
and such other places as the Select Board deems appropriate, but not less than three (3) in the Town.


_____, Hinsdale Police Officer
Signature

Elizabeth Zipp

Print Name

5/3/22

Date