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## TOWN WARRANT

### Annual Town Meeting

April 28, 30, May 5, June 2, 9 and 11 2003

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the Government Channel.

The 244th Annual Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Harrison Gregg at 7:43 p.m. There were 232 town meeting members. 117 checked in and a quorum was declared. The call and return of the warrant was read by Acting Town Clerk, Anna M. Maciaszek. The Moderator was sworn to the faithful performance of his duties. Town meeting members were sworn to the faithful performance of their duties. Articles 1, 2, 3, and 6 were considered on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Consideration of Articles 4 and 5 was postponed until after discussion of Article 36. Frederick Hartwell, Hilda Greenbaum, Nonny Burack, James Pistrang, James Scott and H. Oldham Brooks were sworn as tellers.

#### ARTICLE 1. Reports of Boards and Committees (Select Board)

**VOTED** that the Town hear only those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, Kanegasaki Sister City Committee, La Paz Centro Sister City Committee and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form.

Action taken on 4/28/2003.

#### ARTICLE 2. Zoning Map – Common Land Protection (Planning Board)

**VOTED by a declared 2/3 vote** that the Town amend Sections 4.350 and 4.351 of the Zoning Bylaw by deleting the ~~lined-out~~ language and adding the language in ***bold italics***, as follows:

- 4.350 ***Except in the WP, ARP and FC districts, All*** common land hereunder shall either (1) be conveyed to the Town of Amherst and be accepted by it for park or open space use, or (2) be conveyed to a non-profit organization, the principal purpose of which is the conservation of open space, (3) be conveyed to a corporation or trust owned or to be owned by the owners of the lots or residential units within the development, or (4) be conveyed to a private, non-profit or public entity for the purposes of farming, with a restriction enforceable by the Town of Amherst being recorded which provides that such land shall either be actively farmed or kept in an open and natural state. If such a corporation or trust is utilized, as indicated herein, ownership thereof shall pass with conveyances of the lots or residential units. Under the second and third ownership alternatives listed above, a restriction enforceable by the Town of Amherst shall be recorded providing that such land shall be kept in an open or natural state and not be built upon for residential use or developed for accessory uses such as parking or roadway.
- 4.351 In the ~~FP~~ ***WP, ARP and FC*** ~~D~~districts, ~~that portion of the e~~Common ~~L~~Land ~~which is set aside as permanently preserved farmland and~~ ***and all Unbuildable Land Area (hereinafter within this section collectively referred to as “Common Land”) in a residential development shall be protected by a permanent agricultural preservation restriction recorded on the deed preserved as open space. Said Common Land shall be kept in an open or natural state, or as active farmland, and shall be used and managed so as to protect public water supplies (in the WP and ARP districts) and/or to preserve farmland and related accessory resource-based land uses (in the FC District, and in the WP or ARP districts where appropriate). Common Land shall not be built upon for residential use or developed for accessory uses such as parking or roadway.***
- 4.351.0** Title to this ~~permanently preserved farm~~ ***Common L***Land may remain with the original ~~farmland~~ owner ***or another individual or entity (hereinafter “owner”)***, or ***may*** be conveyed to the Town of Amherst, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a ***corporation or trust functioning as a*** homeowners association, or a non-profit ~~farmland~~ trust or similar conservation organization whose principal purposes include the protection of water quality ***and/or the preservation of farmland and related accessory resource-based land uses, as appropriate.*** ~~The agricultural restriction recorded on the deed shall be enforceable by the Town of Amherst. It shall be kept as active farmland or kept in an open or natural state for future farming uses, and shall not be built upon for residential use or developed for accessory uses such as parking or roadway.~~
- 4.351.1** ***The applicant shall submit a management plan detailing the future use and management of the Common Land. Review and approval of the management plan shall be a condition of the Site Plan Review approval.***

Action taken on 4/28/2003.

#### ARTICLE 3. Zoning Bylaw - Professional Research Park District (Planning Board)

**DEFEATED** [that the Town amend Section 3.359 of the Use Chart (Section 3.3) of the Zoning Bylaw, by deleting the ~~lined-out~~ language and adding the language in ***bold italics***, as follows:

3.359 *Technical or professional office such as architect, engineer, lawyer, financial services, or similar office providing services to clients in person on the premises predominantly by appointment or, administrative business office or similar Business or professional office not providing services to the general public in person on the premises.*

R-0												
R-LD	R-N	R-VC	R-G	R-F	B-G	B-L	B-VC	COM	OP	LI	PRP	FPC
N	N	SP	N	N	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR (SP)	N

Standards & Conditions

*For the purposes of this section, the general public shall be defined as including all persons acting as customers or clients not receiving services by appointment. Exceptions shall be affiliated professionals or consultants conducting business with the office use, salespersons and service contractors (delivery, maintenance, etc.).*

In the R-VC District, the Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit for an *technical or professional office* ~~for professional or office uses not dealing directly with~~ *that provides services by appointment to clients in person on the premises, or, for an administrative business office or similar office that does not provide services to the general public in person on the premises.* The Zoning Board of Appeals may grant a Special Permit providing it finds that, in addition to meeting the provisions of Article 7 and Section 10.38, the proposed office use meets the following conditions:

1. Is located on the ground floor only, and occupies no more than 50 percent of the gross floor area of the structure, exclusive of storage space.
2. Shall be allowed only as a second Principal use, where the first Principal use is a residential use consisting of one dwelling unit.
3. Shares a property line with or is adjacent to another property with a similar use permitted under this section or a property in the B-L, B-VC or COM districts.
4. Employs no more than 5 persons who work on-site.
5. Where located in an existing building, the residential character of the structure and site shall be maintained.]

Action taken on 4/28/2003.

ARTICLE 4. Affordable Housing Restriction (Select Board and Housing Partnership/Fair Housing Committee)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town accept a permanent Affordable Housing Restriction, in accordance with Chapter 184, section 31, of the Massachusetts General Laws, requiring the construction of two (2) units of affordable housing on each of Lots 1 and 7 as shown on a plan entitled “*Preliminary Subdivision Plan, Plan of Land in Amherst, Massachusetts, Prepared for ALANDEV, LLC,*” which are lots situated on the southerly side of Old Belchertown Road and which comprise portions of Parcels 4 and 7 on Assessors’ Map 21B.

Action taken on 6/11/2003.

ARTICLE 5. Petition - Zoning Map - Old Belchertown Road – PRP to R-O (Zahradnik, Palley, Schaffer Bacon)

**VOTED by a declared 2/3rds vote** that the Town amend the Official Zoning Map by rezoning Map 21B/Parcels 4 and 7 and a portion of Parcel 18, from Professional Research Park (PRP) to Outlying residence (R-O).

Action taken on 6/11/2003.

ARTICLE 6. Petition – Special Act – Resident Aliens (V. Morales)

**VOTED YES 142, NO 20** that the town authorize the Select Board to file with the legislature a request for a special act entitled, An Act authorizing local voting rights for permanent resident aliens residing in Amherst, as follows:

**Section 1.** Notwithstanding the provision of section one of chapter fifty-one of the General Laws, or any other general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, resident aliens eighteen years of age or older who reside in Amherst may, upon application, have their names entered on a list of voters established by the town clerk for the town of Amherst and may thereafter vote in any election for local offices and local ballot questions.

**Section 2.** The Select Board of Amherst is authorized to formulate regulations and guidelines to implement the purpose of this act.

**Section 3.** Nothing in this act shall be construed to confer upon permanent resident aliens the right to vote for any state or federal office or any state or federal ballot question.”

Action take on 4/28/2003.

10:05 p.m., April 28, 2003 - The meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, April 30, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 188 town meeting members were checked in.

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The Wednesday, April 30, 2003 session, adjourned from April 28, 2003, was called to order by the moderator at 7:38 p.m. 117 town meeting members checked in and a quorum was declared. Articles 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, and 15 were considered. Consideration of Articles 10 and 11 was postponed until 7:30 p.m. on May 5, 2003.

Deanne Sloan Riddle was sworn as teller. Town Meeting began with Peter Vickery making a motion to reconsider Article 3. The motion for reconsideration was DEFEATED YES 66, NO 100.

ARTICLE 7. Petition – Conservation Land – Wentworth Farm (V. Morales)

**DEFEATED YES 100, NO 75** [that the Town vote the following:

Whereas, 25-30 acres of land bounded by Belchertown Road, Old Farms Road, and land of the Conservation Commission abutting the Fort River and composed of Parcel 46 and portions of Parcels 17 and 18 of Map 18A of the Town Cadastre have been owned by the town and managed by the Conservation Commission since 1983; and,

Whereas, according to state law and a 1998 Division of Conservation Services policy neither town land nor land that has been used or managed as conservation land may be donated as compensation for town conservation land whose purchase has been assisted by state funds if such land is proposed to be withdraw from conservation use; and,

Whereas, there is no parcel of town conservation land or combination of parcels of town conservation land north of the town center that would be suitable for an elementary school site; and,

Whereas, town conservation land may not be used for a school site or any other purpose unless there is no suitable private land available, notwithstanding price or other factors; and,

Whereas, there are private sites north of the town center and elsewhere in town that are available and suitable for an elementary school site; and,

Whereas, because of wetlands and vernal pools, this 25 – 30 acre parcel has only 3 plus buildable acres – which buildable acreage may be itself compromised by being a functional part of the habitat of an endangered species; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Amherst Representative Town Meeting vote to transfer this 25 – 30 acres of land bounded by Belchertown Road, Old Farms Road, and land of the Conservation Commission abutting the Fort River and composed of Parcel 46 and portions of Parcels 17 and 18 of Map 18A of the Town Cadastre which are now informally managed for the town by the Conservation Commission, from the care and custody of the Select Board to the formal management and control of the Conservation Commission under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8C.”]

Action taken on 4/30/2003.

ARTICLE 8. Petition – Town Meeting Improvements Committee (A. Root)

**VOTED** that the town authorize the Moderator to appoint a Town Meeting Improvements Committee consisting of 9 registered voters, at least 5 of whom shall be elected Town Meeting Members from different precincts of the town, to recommend to the Fall 2003 Town Meeting such additions and/or changes in by-laws and other governing acts, rules and regulations so as to improve Town Meeting.

Action taken on 4/30/2003.

ARTICLE 9. Petition – Resolution - Genetically Engineered Food (A. Dunbar)

**VOTED TO DISMISS** [“To see if the town of Amherst will vote to adopt the following resolution to protect our farms, our food and the environment:

Whereas, genetically engineered foods have been shown to cause long-term damage to the environment, the integrity of rural and family farm economics, and can have serious impacts on human health; and,

Whereas, GE crops, which are stringently regulated in over 30 countries, have been found to contaminate their crops through cross-pollination; and,

Whereas, studies have implicated GE crops as a risk to human health, including allergic reactions, stomach lesions and cancer; Now, be it resolved that the Town of Amherst calls upon our Federal Legislators to support the mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered food and seeds, as well as a Massachusetts moratorium on the further growing of GE crops until there is credible and independent scientific evidence that these products are not harmful to our health, the environment, and the integrity of organic crops; And further be it resolved that the Clerk send copies of this resolution to the elected representatives for this town, including the Massachusetts State Legislators, the Governor, and the Commissioner of the Department of Food and Agriculture.”]

Action taken on 4/30/2003.

ARTICLE 10. Petition – Council on Youth (E. Morales)

**VOTED** that the Town establish a Council on Youth to study questions concerning youth and to recommend and support initiatives that address resolving those issues that contribute to putting youth at risk. It would be appointed by town manager and local citizens would be allowed to join through submitting specific written requests made to the council. The council should consist of a minimum of 12 persons. This "Council on Youth" would be made up of at least, one third youth ages 15-20. They could nominate themselves or be nominated by school personnel. The terms of membership would be at least one year to maintain consistency and go to 3-5 years to allow for new membership. Qualifications: representatives from local agencies that are concerned with youth issues; school representation; representative from a university/college group concerned with youth issues; local community members interested in supporting youth; youth interested in taking a leadership role in the community.

Action taken on 5/5/2003.

ARTICLE 11. Petition – Committee for a Teen Center – Skate Park Complex (E. Morales)

**VOTED YES 90, NO 73 to refer the article to Leisure Services and Supplemental Education Comission.**

[“We request that a Task Force/Committee For a Teen Center–Skate Park Complex be established to do the following: A. Develop an Action Plan of all the elements needed in order to build or dedicate a site to a Teen Center-Skate Park Complex for the youth of Amherst. B. Set a timeline for each element to be resolved so that the final product is the establishment of such a youth-friendly complex. This includes: 1) Explore all viable and available, now or in the near future, town owned land or property, centrally located and on a bus line, that could be used for this purpose: for ex.- the Kendrick Park site that has been deeded to the town; the L-shaped piece of land adjacent to the War Memorial Pool leading down to Triangle Street; 2) explore the acquisition or leasing of property from Amherst College or the University of Massachusetts that may be available now or in the near future. 3) Develop a funding strategy and design architecturally sound, working with qualified individuals. The results of the actions listed above will be presented as needed to the Town of Amherst Select Board and any other relevant town department or agency for advice or approval. In other words, the best make-up of this task force would be youth (skate-boarders and others), representatives from relevant youth-concerned departments in the town or schools, local adult allies for youth, a legal consultant, an architect familiar with the construction and

design of skate parks. This task force would be volunteer and by appointment of the town manager, and could provide internship and community service learning credit for students.”]  
Action taken on 5/5/2003.

ARTICLE 12. Simmons Property Conservation Restriction (Conservation Commission)

**VOTED unanimously (declared 2/3 vote)** that the Town (a.) rescind the vote taken on Motion D under Article 8 of the Special Town Meeting of October 28, 2002. And,

(b.) that the Town 1) authorize the Select Board to purchase a parcel of land containing 12 acres, more or less, designated as Parcel 23B-60 of the Town Cadastre, located west of Middle Street, from John and Adele S. Simmons for conservation and passive recreation purposes in accordance with Chapter 40, Section 8C, 2) appropriate \$195,000 for such purchase, 3) transfer \$60,000 from the Community Preservation Fund and authorize the Select Board to accept a Self Help or other grant in the amount of \$135,000 in accordance with Chapter 132A, Section 11, and 4) authorize the Select Board to convey a conservation restriction in accordance with Chapter 184 to the Kestrel Trust.

Action taken on 4/30/2003.

ARTICLE 13. Bylaw Amendment – Human Rights Bylaw (Human Rights Commission)

**VOTED** that the Town amend the Human Rights Bylaw to increase the number of members from seven to nine.  
Action taken on 4/30/2003.

ARTICLE 14. Sidewalk Easement – Amherst Housing Authority (Select Board)

**VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** that the Town authorize the Select Board to acquire at no cost from the Amherst Housing Authority an easement approximately 1,500 square feet in area for the purpose of constructing and maintaining a new public sidewalk and associated utilities and landscaping along the west boundary of the Ann Whalen Apartments property at 33 Kellogg Avenue, which comprises a portion of Parcel 65 on Assessors’ Map 14A.

Action taken on 4/30/2003.

ARTICLE 15. Street Acceptances – Farview Way and Valley Lane (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town establish as Town ways and accept the layout as Town ways, Farview Way and Valley Lane, or any portion thereof, as laid out by the Board of Selectmen on or before April 28, 2003, bound and as described below, and to authorize said Board to take by eminent domain, purchase, or otherwise acquire any fee, easement or other interest in land necessary therefore, no appropriation being required.

FARVIEW WAY: a strip of land 40 feet in width running northerly from Farview Way (a 1952 Town Way) a distance of 210 feet to an unopened roadway easement, being a portion of a street shown on a plan recorded in Plan Book 35 Page 1 in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds.

VALLEY LANE: a strip of land 40 feet in width running westerly from Valley Lane (a 1952 Town Way) a distance of 92 feet, more or less, to Valley Lane (a 1982 Town Way), being a portion of a street shown on a plan recorded in Plan Book 35 Page 1 in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds.

Action taken on 4/30/2003.

10:02 p.m., April 30, 2003 - The meeting voted to adjourn to Monday May 5, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 183 town meeting members were checked in.

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The Monday, May 5, 2003 session, adjourned from April 30, 2003, was called to order by the moderator at 7:46 p.m. 117 town meeting members checked in and a quorum was declared. Articles 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 were considered. Seymour Friedman was sworn as a teller.

ARTICLE 16. Landfill Closing (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town appropriate \$2,200,000 to close and cap cell 3 of the Amherst Sanitary Landfill and to meet such appropriation transfer \$2,200,000 from Solid Waste Fund Surplus.

Action taken on 5/5/2003.

ARTICLE 17. Bio-Stabilization Process for Cell 3 (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously to DISMISS** [To see if the Town will appropriate \$800,000 for the installation of a bio-stabilization process in cell 3 of the Amherst Sanitary Landfill and determine whether such appropriation shall be met by the transfer of available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise and further authorize the application for and acceptance of any gifts, bequests, or grants from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or otherwise and further authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement for said grants.]

Action taken on 5/5/2003.

ARTICLE 18. Comprehensive Site Assessment for Old Landfill (Select Board)

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$50,000 to conduct a Comprehensive Site Assessment study at the old sanitary landfill on Old Belchertown Road and to meet such appropriation transfer \$50,000 from Solid Waste Fund Surplus.

Action taken on 5/5/2003.

ARTICLE 19. Sewer Easement – Chapel Road Sewer (Select Board)

**VOTED** that the Town acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain for construction of a wastewater pumping station, highway, drainage and general utility purposes, a triangular shaped parcel of land bounded northerly by South East Street a distance of more or less 100 feet, southerly by land now or formerly owned by Haneef and Nazrin Sanabdeen a distance of more or less 90 feet and northerly by Mechanic Street a distance of more or less 110 feet.

Action taken on 5/5/2003.

ARTICLE 20. Cushman School Transfer (Select Board and School Committee)

**Voted by a declared 2/3 vote** that the Town authorize the transfer of the care, custody and control of a certain parcel of land situated on the westerly side of Henry Street, being Parcel 94 on Assessors' Map 6A, containing approximately two acres of land, more or less, with a building thereon known as the Cushman School, from the School Committee to the Select Board for the purpose of conveyance or lease of the Cushman School building and either conveyance or lease of a portion of the parcel of land, referred to above, upon which the Cushman School building is situated.

Action taken on 5/5/2003.

ARTICLE 21. Cushman School Conveyance (Select Board)

**VOTED** that the Town authorize the Select Board: 1) to convey the building known as the Cushman School, which is situated on a certain parcel of land on the westerly side of Henry Street, being Parcel 94 on Assessors' Map 6A, 2) to lease a portion of the above-referenced parcel, which portion shall contain one acre, more or less, and 3) to enter into a lease agreement of 99 years on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems reasonable and appropriate.

Action taken on 5/5/2003.

10:04 p.m., May 5, 2003 - The meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, June 2, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 171 town meeting members were checked in.

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The Monday, June 2, 2003 session, adjourned from May 5, 2003, was called to order by the moderator at 7:43 p.m. 115 town meeting members checked in and a quorum was declared. Articles 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, and 30 were considered. Consideration of Articles 26 and 27 was postponed until after discussion of Article 30. Article 26 (Debt Service, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Golf Course Fund, and Transportation Fund) was considered.

ARTICLE 22. Transfer of Funds – Unpaid Bills (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$3,192 to pay unpaid bills of previous years.

Action taken on 6/2/2003.

ARTICLE 23. Authorization for Compensating Balance Accounts (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town accept the provisions of Chapter 44, section 53F of the Massachusetts General Laws, which authorize the Treasurer to enter into written agreements with banking institutions pursuant to which the Treasurer agrees to maintain funds on deposit in exchange for banking services.

Action taken on 6/2/2003.

ARTICLE 24. Optional Tax Exemptions (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town authorize a maximum additional exemption of 100 percent, subject to other statutory limitations, for taxpayers qualifying for exemption in accordance with Chapter 59, Section 5, Clauses 17D, 22, 37A, and 41C.

Action taken on 6/2/2003.

ARTICLE 25. Retirement Assessment (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$2,080,289 for the Hampshire Regional Retirement System assessment.

Action taken on 6/2/2003.

ARTICLE 26. FY 2004 Operating Budget (Finance Committee)

**VOTED** that the Town adopt a comprehensive operating budget for the ensuing year and raise and appropriate money therefore.

DEBT SERVICE

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$1,955,399 for payment of the Town's General Fund indebtedness.

Action taken on 6/2/2003

WATER FUND

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$3,248,056 for the Water Fund and that to meet such appropriation \$3,248,056 be made available from Water Fund revenues of the current year.

Action taken on 6/2/2003

SEWER FUND

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town appropriate \$2,728,348 for the Sewer Fund and that to meet such appropriation \$2,728,348 be made available from Sewer Fund revenues of the current year.  
Action taken on 6/2/2003.

#### SOLID WASTE FUND

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town appropriate \$482,619 for the Solid Waste Fund and that to meet such appropriation \$120,735 be raised by taxation and \$361,884 be made available from Solid Waste Fund revenues of the current year.  
Action taken on 6/2/2003.

#### GOLF COURSE FUND

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$349,508 for the Golf Course Fund and that to meet such appropriation \$82,201 be raised by taxation and \$267,307 be made available from Golf Course revenues of the current year.  
Action taken on 6/2/2003.

#### TRANSPORTION FUND

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$588,527 for the Transportation Fund and that to meet such appropriation \$532,000 be made available from Transportation Fund revenues of the current year and that \$56,527 be transferred from Transportation Fund surplus.  
Action taken on 6/2/2003.

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The Monday, June 9, 2003 session, adjourned from June 2, 2003, was called to order by the moderator at 7:40 p.m. 115 town meeting members checked in and a quorum was declared. Article 26 (General Government, Public Safety, Public Works, Planning/Conservation/Inspections, Community Services, and Library Services) were considered. Peter Shea was sworn as teller.

#### GENERAL GOVERNMENT

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$4,066,095 for General Government, that the salary of the Moderator be fixed at \$100, that of the Select Board at \$300 each, that of the Elector under the Oliver Smith Will at \$20, and that to meet such appropriation \$4,034,095 be raised by taxation and \$32,000 be transferred from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account.  
Action taken on 6/9/2003

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$7,179,309 for Public Safety and that to meet such appropriation \$6,179,309 be raised by taxation and \$1,000,000 be transferred from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account.  
Action taken on 6/9/2003.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

**VOTED** that the Town raise and appropriate \$1,654,697 for Public Works.  
Action taken on 6/9/2003.

#### PLANNING/CONSERVATION/INSPECTIONS

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$786,380 for Planning/Conservation/Inspections.  
Action taken on 6/9/2003.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$1,205,764 for Community Services.  
Action taken on 6/9/2003.

#### LIBRARY SERVICES

**VOTED** that the Town approve the Library Services operating budget of \$1,777,718 and that the Town raise and appropriate \$1,220,654 as its share of that budget.  
Action taken on 6/9/2003.

10:11 p.m., June 9, 2003 - The meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, June 11, 2003 at 7:35 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 161 town meeting members were checked in.

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The Wednesday, June 11, 2003 session, adjourned from June 9, 2003, was called to order by the moderator at 8:23 p.m. 116 town meeting members checked in and a quorum was declared. Article 26 (Elementary Schools and Regional Schools), 27, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 4 and 5 were considered.

#### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$16,470,636 for the Amherst Elementary Schools.  
Action taken on 6/11/2003

#### REGIONAL SCHOOLS

**VOTED** that the Town approve the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District operating and capital budget of \$22,220,587 and that the Town raise and appropriate \$8,707,273 as its proportionate share of that budget.  
Action taken on 6/11/2003.

ARTICLE 27. Reserve Fund (Finance Committee)

**VOTED** that the Town raise and appropriate \$85,000 for the Reserve Fund for FY 2004.  
Action taken on 6/11/2003.

ARTICLE 28. Special Services - Amherst Community Television (Select Board)

**VOTED** that the Town raise and appropriate \$4,000 for Amherst Community Television and related expenses.  
Action taken on 6/2/2003.

ARTICLE 29. Special Services - Human Services (Select Board and Human Services Funding Committee)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$151,995 for the following human services:

- Amherst Survival Center
- Casa Latina Outreach Program
- Family Outreach of Amherst Domestic Violence Response Project
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Family Outreach of Amherst
- Not Bread Alone
- Center for New Americans
- Children's Aid and Family Services
- HomeSharing
- Everywoman's Center
- Amherst Family Center
- First Call For Help
- Men's Resource Center
- Safe Passages
- Service Net/Interfaith Cot Program
- YWCA/Youth Outreach Program
- School-Age Tuition Assistance Fund

Action taken on 6/2/2003.

ARTICLE 30. Special Services - Congregate Housing (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the development and coordination of support services for tenants of congregate housing and related housing units, said program to be fully reimbursed by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.

Action taken on 6/2/2003.

9:11 p.m., June 2, 2003 - The meeting voted to adjourn to Monday, June 9, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 170 town meeting members were checked in.

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ARTICLE 31. Special Services – Transportation Subsidies (Select Board and the Public Transport. Committee)

**VOTED** that the Town endorse subsidized public transit service to the Amity Street/University Drive, Village Park, Echo Hill, Cushman, Orchard Valley and Elf Hill areas of the Town, year-round weekend service on the South Amherst/North Amherst/Belchertown Road routes, elderly and disabled special transportation services, and approve the levying of an assessment by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the Town's proportionate share of the cost of such services.

Action taken on 6/11/2003.

ARTICLE 32. Capital Program - Chapter 90 (Joint Capital Planning Committee)

**VOTED** that the Town authorize the expenditure of \$475,000 of Chapter 90 funds for qualifying purposes and further authorize the Treasurer to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement of these funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Action taken on 6/11/2003.

ARTICLE 33. Capital Program – Equipment (Joint Capital Planning Committee)

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$915,800 to purchase, repair, and/or install new or replacement equipment and to meet such appropriation, raise \$601,000 by taxation, transfer \$35,800 from Ambulance Receipts Reserved For Appropriation, transfer \$211,000 from Article 42 of the FY 03 Annual Town Meeting, and accept \$68,000 in grants.

Action taken on 06/11/2003.

ARTICLE 34. Capital Program - Buildings and Facilities (Joint Capital Planning Committee)

**VOTED** that the Town appropriate \$309,600 to repair and/or improve buildings and facilities and determine whether such appropriation shall be met by taxation, by the transfer of available funds, or otherwise and further to authorize the application for and acceptance of any gifts, bequests, or grants.

Action taken on 6/11/2003.

ARTICLE 35. Stabilization Fund (Select Board)

**VOTED to dismiss** [To see if the Town will appropriate and transfer a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund for FY 2004.]

Action taken on 06/11/2003.

ARTICLE 36. Free Cash (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town appropriate and transfer \$3,360,000 from Free Cash in the Undesignated Fund Balance of the General Fund to reduce the tax levy of the 2004 Fiscal Year.

Action taken on 06/11/2003.

After consideration of Article 5 and the business of the warrant having been completed, the meeting voted to dissolve at 10:41 p.m. on June 11, 2002. 155 town meeting members were checked in.

Attest:

Anna M. Maciaszek  
Acting Town Clerk