



**WARRANT**

For

**Annual Town Meeting**

April 6, 2019

9:00 a.m.

Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School  
Auditorium

**Annual Town Election**

April 11, 2019

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Gymnasium

**Please note:** The appendices are available at Town Hall, on-line at [www.hamiltonma.gov](http://www.hamiltonma.gov), and at the meeting. They were omitted from the warrant mailing to save on printing and postage costs.

## **Town By-Laws**

### **CHAPTER II**

#### **RULES AND PROCEDURE OF TOWN MEETINGS**

**SECTION 1.** All articles in the warrant shall be taken up in the order of their arrangement, unless otherwise decided by a two-thirds vote, except that unanimous consent shall be required for inclusion of an Article in a "Consent Motion" group of Articles that will be taken up by the meeting for voting on the group.

**SECTION 2.** In case of motions to amend, or to fill out blanks, the one expressing the largest sum or the longest time shall be put first, and an affirmative vote thereon shall be a negative vote on any smaller sum or shorter time.

**SECTION 3.** The report of a committee shall be deemed properly before a meeting if a request for its acceptance is included in an article of the warrant and a copy is published in the Special Report or is filed with the Town Clerk fifteen days prior to the meeting. A vote to accept a final report shall discharge the committee but shall not be equivalent to a vote to carry out its recommendations. A vote on recommendations included in a committee report shall only be in order under an article to that effect in the warrant. A vote to accept a report of progress shall continue the committee under its original authority unless otherwise specified.

**SECTION 4.** If an article of the Warrant has once been acted upon and disposed of, it shall not be again considered at the meeting except by a two-thirds vote.

**SECTION 5.** No money shall be appropriated from the Stabilization Fund except by a 2/3 vote at a Town Meeting.

**SECTION 6.** Only registered voters of the Town shall be admitted and entitled to vote at any Annual or Special meeting provided that upon prior request the Moderator may admit to the meeting persons who are not registered voters and in his discretion may permit them to speak on a subject. Any person so permitted to speak at a meeting shall announce his full name and address to the meeting.

**SECTION 7.** Motions at Town Meeting shall be made orally, but the Moderator may require any motion also to be submitted in writing. Unless otherwise directed thereby the Moderator shall appoint all committees created by the vote of the Town.

**SECTION 8.** The conduct of all Town Meetings not prescribed by law or by the foregoing rules shall be determined by the rules of practice contained in the most current edition of Town Meeting Time, A Handbook of Parliamentary Law.

**SECTION 9.** On matters requiring a two-thirds vote, either by statute or these By-Laws, a count need not be taken and the vote need not be recorded unless the vote declared is immediately questioned by seven or more voters as provided in General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 15.

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***Please note:*** The appendices are available at the Town Hall, on-line @ [www.hamiltonma.gov](http://www.hamiltonma.gov) and at the meeting. They were omitted from the warrant mailing to save on printing and postage costs.

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**ESSEX, SS**

**TO THE CONSTABLE OF THE TOWN OF HAMILTON:**

**GREETINGS:**

**In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hamilton qualified to vote in election and town affairs, to meet at the Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School in said town, on Saturday, the sixth day of April, in the year Two Thousand Nineteen (April 6, 2019) at nine o'clock in the morning (9:00 a.m.), then and there to act on the following articles.**

**SECTION 1: ELECTIONS, REPORTS, PROCEDURES**

<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 1-1</b></p> <p><i>Election of Officers</i></p>	<p>To elect the following Town and School District Officers at the Annual Town Election on Thursday, April 11, 2019 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Hamilton-Wenham Recreation Gymnasium.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Moderator for one year</li> <li>• Two members of the Board of Selectmen for three years</li> <li>• Assessor for three years</li> <li>• Three members of the Planning Board for three years</li> <li>• Housing Authority for five years</li> <li>• Hamilton-Wenham Public Library Trustee for three years</li> <li>• Three members of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School Committee for three years</li> </ul>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 1-2</b></p> <p><i>Reports</i></p>	<p>To hear reports of Town Officers and selected committees and to take action thereon or relative thereto. Reports will appear in the Town Report for Calendar Year 2018.</p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 1-3</b></p> <p><i>Article for Consent Motion</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will consolidate in one consent motion containing the motions for those articles that, in the opinion of the Moderator, are not controversial and can be passed without debate, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p>

**SECTION 2: FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-1</b></p> <p><i>Prior Year Bills</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum of money to pay any unpaid bills incurred in prior years, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. <i>(Expected request \$5,750.00)</i></p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article provides for payment of a prior year bill which was not submitted prior to the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2018</i></p>
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	<p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact:</i></b> Payment of this bill will have a negligible effect on the tax rate.</p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (5-0) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-2</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Compensation/ Classification Table</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will amend the Personnel By-law by adopting changes to the classification and compensation table, or take any action thereon, or relative thereto. [The Proposed Compensation/Classification Table appears as <b>Appendix A</b> to the 2019 Appendix Book.]</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>The Classification/Compensation table reflects a 2% cost of living increase for settled contracts and non-union employees. Collective Bargaining Agreements under negotiations are identified as such and do not reflect any cost of living increases. This table also reflects three new proposed positions: Human Resources Director, Assistant DPW Director and School Resource Officer.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact:</i></b> <i>There is no direct tax rate impact of the Compensation/ Classification Table; it is simply one part of a formula used to determine the various wages and salaries contained within the budget.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen recommends ?? The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-3</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Capital Expenditures</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds money for the purpose of capital expenditures and further, to authorize the Town Manager to administer and expend funds from said accounts, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. (<i>Expected request \$308,003.00</i>)</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article would provide funds for various projects contained within the Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Projects Plan. This article represents projects utilizing the tax levy or available funds. Please refer to Appendix B to the 2019 Warrant Book.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</i></b> <i>The requested funds represent approximately \$0.18 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$107 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (4-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-4</b></p> <p align="center"><i>General Town Departmental Appropriations</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, money to defray the expenses of schools and all other Town expenses for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. (<i>Expected requests Town - \$12,261,701 and School Districts - \$19,352,094</i> )</p> <p>[The proposed budget appears as <b>Appendix B</b> to the 2019 Appendix Book.] [The approved school budget appears as <b>Appendix C</b> to the 2019 Appendix Book.]</p>

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	<p><b>Brief Summary:</b> This article is to approve the general operating budget for the Town and Schools. The Town budget request is based on level services plus an addition of three new positions (Human Resources Director, Assistant DPW Director and School Resource Officer) with an increase in expenses (not including HWRSD and reserve transfers) of 6.2%.</p> <p>The HWRSD budget request represents an increase of total school spending by over \$1.4 million -- an increase of 4.1% or \$762,969 for Hamilton.</p> <p>The ENSTSD budget represents an increase of total school spending by over \$1.3 million – a decrease of 4.4% or \$9,326 for Hamilton.</p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen recommends ?? The Finance and Advisory Committee (4-0) recommends favorable action.</b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-5</b></p> <p><i>School District Capital Expenditures</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds money for the purpose of capital expenditures as approved by the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District or take any action thereon or relative thereto. (Expected request \$0.00)</p> <p><b>Brief Summary:</b> This article funds capital expenditures for the School District.</p> <p><b>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact: None.</b></p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends NO action.</b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-6</b></p> <p><i>Water Enterprise Budget</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will approve the FY’20 Water Enterprise Budget or take any action thereon or relative thereto. (Expected request \$1,844,184.00)</p> <p>[The proposed budget appears as <b>Appendix D</b> to the 2019 Appendix Book.]</p> <p><b>Brief Summary:</b> The FY20 operating budget for the Water Enterprise represents an increase of \$23,888 or 1.3%. Retained earnings in the amount of \$177,684 were used to balance the budget. The Town has not adjusted water rates since February 5, 2015 and the need to use retained earnings to balance the budget is an indication that rates will need to be adjusted in the near future.</p> <p><b>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</b> The Water Department is supported by water fees; adoption of the budget will not impact the tax rate. Current water rates will not be impacted.</p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-7</b></p> <p><i>Annual Financial Actions</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will authorize the following financial actions, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p>A. To transfer a sum of money from the Cemetery Sale of Lots and Graves Fund to be used for cemetery purposes (Expected request \$2,000.00);</p> <p>B. To transfer a sum of money from the Clark Property Fund to the Conservation</p>

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	<p>Fund (<i>Expected request \$4,000.00</i>);</p> <p>C. To transfer a sum of money from the Water Enterprise Fund to the General Fund to be used for indirect expenses (<i>Expected request \$419,630.00</i>);</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article occurs annually as part of the budget process.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact:</i></b> <i>The proposed transfers from the Cemetery Sale of Lots and Graves and Water Enterprise Funds will reduce the estimated tax rate by approximately \$0.25 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$147 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
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<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-8</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Community Preservation Budget</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will act on the Report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2020 Community Preservation Budget and specified other projects and appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from community preservation fund annual revenues, specific reserves or other available funds for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of community preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p align="center">[The Budget appears as <b>Appendix E</b> of the 2019 Appendix Book.]</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>The Community Preservation Budget supports many requests made by different groups and organizations each year. Please refer to Warrant Appendices for list of projects.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</i></b> <i>The Community Preservation Budget is allocated from a 2% surcharge on to the property tax plus State matching funds. This is noted as a separate line item on your tax bill.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen recommends ???. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
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<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-9</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Annual Budget for Revolving Funds</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E ½, will set the limit on the total amount that may be expended from each revolving fund established under Ch. XXXIV of the General Bylaws for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article authorizes the fiscal year 2020 expenditure caps on the Town’s revolving funds, per MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2. It is anticipated that the Town will be asked to approve a cap of \$300,000 for Recreation and Parks, \$125,000 for the Pool, \$20,000 for the Council on Aging, and \$20,000 for the Emergency Dispensing Services and Clinics revolving funds.</i></p>
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	<p><b>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</b> <i>This article sets the cap on spending within the individual Revolving Funds, as noted above. The money within those funds is raised through fees generated by the services those departments provide and are not from the General Fund. There is no Tax Rate Impact as a result of this vote.</i></p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen recommends ?? The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-10</b>  <i>Hamilton Development Corporation</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Hamilton Development Corporation, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. <i>(Expected request is \$74,880.00)</i></p> <p><b>Brief Summary:</b> <i>At the 2010 Annual Town Meeting the Town accepted the provisions of M.G.L.c.64L, Section 2(a) to impose a local meals excise tax. At the same meeting the Town approved that such funds were to be used for the purpose of supporting economic development in the downtown commercially zoned district.</i></p> <p><b>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</b> <i>The proposed transfer means that funds generated by the meals tax cannot be applied to other projects or programs in the Town’s annual budget, as a result the estimated tax rate will increase by approximately \$0.04 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$26 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400</i></p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen (5-0) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-11</b>  <i>OPEB Trust Fund</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of funding the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. <i>(Expected request is \$125,000.00)</i></p> <p><b>Brief Summary:</b> <i>This article proposes to appropriate \$125,000 towards the Town’s unfunded liability for health and life insurance benefits of both current and future retired employees. Appropriations for this liability were first made at the 2010 Annual Town Meeting. Governmental Accounting Standards requires all local governments to account for other post-employment benefits (OPEB) using an accrual methodology over participants’ active working career. The Town’s most recent actuarial study (as of July 1, 2017) indicated that the Town had an actuarially determined unfunded liability of approximately \$7.7 million. The Town has already set aside approximately \$522k for this long-term liability.</i></p> <p><b>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</b> <i>The allocation of these funds to the OPEB Trust Fund , will increase the estimated tax rate by approximately \$0.07 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$42 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</i></p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen (5-0) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-12</b></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Patton Homestead Fund to fund Fiscal Year 2020 operating</p>

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<p><i>Patton Homestead Operating Budget</i></p>	<p>costs, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. (Expected request is \$86,343.00)</p> <p>[The budget appears as <b>Appendix K</b> to the 2019 Appendix Book.]</p> <p><b>Brief Summary:</b> Request to transfer from available funds the costs of Director and Homestead supports &amp; maintenance costs. Separately there is a \$42,292 transfer back to the General Fund for support costs resulting in a net impact of \$43,051. A Special Fund was created in 2018 in response to a Citizens’ Petition to provide increased transparency on Patton Homestead spending, the reason for these transfers. Background: i) The Town accepted the gift of the Patton Homestead in 2012 and sold 4 acres in 2015 for housing that generated \$1.25m for maintenance &amp; support of which \$156k was for affordable housing and \$500k is reserved for recreational fields; ii) the property from the gift that was sold generates approximately \$150k annually for our General Fund; iii) the full-time Director who started in February with an office at the Homestead, joins the Hamilton Historical Society, the Wenham Museum and Patton and Holbrook families' archives; iv) Patton Homestead Inc., an independent non-profit agreed with the Town last summer to advocate on behalf of the Patton Homestead, fundraise for capital and programming needs, and work with the Town in developing a strategic plan.</p> <p><b>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</b> The allocation of these funds to the Patton Homestead will increase the estimated tax rate by approximately \$0.05 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$29 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen (3-1-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) voted to make no recommendation on this article.</b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-13</b></p> <p><i>Stabilization Fund</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. (Expected request is \$322,654.00)</p> <p><b>Brief Summary:</b> This article requests an appropriation to be added to the Stabilization Fund. This fund may be used for any purpose in the future, but requires a vote of Town Meeting in order to transfer and spend any of these funds. The Town has approved a policy to maintain a minimum balance of 5% of the current general fund operating budget in its general stabilization fund and to annually appropriate a minimum of 0.5% of general fund operating revenues to this fund until the target minimum balance is met. The requested amount represents 1% of the general fund operating revenues. The Town has already set aside approximately \$830k to this fund, representing 2.6% of general fund operating revenues.</p> <p><b>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</b> None, as it is anticipated that the funds will come from Certified Free Cash.</p> <p><b>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</b></p>

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<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-14</b></p> <p><i>Capital Stabilization Fund</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will establish a Capital Stabilization Fund for the special purpose of funding capital budgets and all incidental and related costs, and further to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds money to fund this special purpose Stabilization Fund, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. <i>(Expected request is \$579,122.00)</i></p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article creates and transfers funds to a special purpose stabilization fund to accrue funds for future capital expenditures. These funds should be used to pay outright for moderate-range capital expenditures and thereby preserve debt capacity for major, higher-dollar purchases or projects. The Town has approved a policy to maintain a minimum balance equal to the total annual asset depreciation calculated under the requirements of the Government Accounting Standards Board’s Statement 34 (approximately \$1.3 million per FY18 Financial Statements).</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</i></b> <i>None, as it is anticipated that the funds will come from Certified Free Cash.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-15</b></p> <p><i>Grant Appropriations</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds money to fund old grant deficits and close out funds, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. <i>(Expected amount is \$4,396.94)</i></p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>The purpose of this housekeeping article is to fund and close an old grant deficit (prior to fiscal year 2014) related to the E911 Support &amp; Incentive grant.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact:</i></b> <i>None, as it is anticipated that the funds will come from Certified Free Cash.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-16</b></p> <p><i>Personnel Service and Union Contracts</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds money as may be necessary to fund cost items contained in contracts for personnel services with any individual and/or union, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. <i>(Expected request is \$87,415.00)</i></p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article requests an appropriation of \$87,415 to fund Collective Bargaining Agreements under negotiations, cost of living increases and any reclassification of non-union employees.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</i></b> <i>The allocation of these funds will increase the estimated tax rate by approximately \$0.05 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$29 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-17</b></p>	<p>To see if the Town will amend its action taken under Article 2015/4 2-14 of the</p>

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<p align="center"><i>Debt – Water Distribution System</i></p>	<p>warrant at the Annual Town Meeting held on April 11, 2015, which vote authorized the borrowing of \$5,000,000 to pay costs of water distribution system improvements, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, so that such funds may, in addition, be borrowed and expended to pay costs of additional phases of the water distribution system and facilities, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article permits funds from previously authorized debt to be used for further improvements to the water distribution system, and water storage and treatment facilities. Funds will be used to continue efforts to optimize the water quality and aged infrastructure in Hamilton.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</i></b> <i>None, as the article does not seek an appropriation or new borrowing.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (4-0-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-18</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Debt – Water Treatment Plant</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,500,000, or some other amount, to pay costs of water treatment plant improvements project, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article authorizes borrowing to fund improvements to the water treatment plant for the purposes of construction and implementation of a new organic removal system and plant addition designed to remove organics present in the groundwater found at the Town’s well sources. The current plant, as originally designed, does not remove organics from the source water. Providing treatment to remove the organics pre-filtration will allow the Water Treatment Facility to more effectively process the public drinking water. Failure to remove these organics prior to filtration could likely result in increased levels of disinfection by-products in the drinking water. With this new upgrade at the plant, operational staff will be able to reduce levels prior to distribution.</i></p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact:</i></b> <i>The allocation of these funds will not increase the tax rate as the debt would be funded through Water Enterprise Fund borrowing. It is likely that borrowing would have an impact on the future water rates.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen and the Finance and Advisory Committee recommend ??</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-19</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Debt – Chebacco Road Paving Project</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,000,000, or some other amount, to pay costs of paving Chebacco Road, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>This article authorizes borrowing to fund paving Chebacco Road to the Manchester-by-the-Sea town line. This project is included within the Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Projects Plan and is expected to be funded through long term borrowing.</i></p>

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	<p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact</i></b> : The budget includes an estimate for the first year interest costs which will increase the estimated tax rate by approximately \$0.01 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$9 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (4-1) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 2-20</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Town Hall Improvements</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will appropriate \$75,000, or some other amount, to pay costs of Town Hall OPM and design services, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> This article authorizes borrowing to fund the costs of an Owner’s Project Manager and design services for the improvements to Town Hall. These funds in conjunction with the \$150,000 CPC appropriation will allow the Town to advance the design utilizing OPM and Design service. Funding will allow the Town to complete the Design Development phase and provide a complete proposal to a future Town Meeting.</p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact</i></b> : The allocation of these funds will increase the estimated tax rate by approximately \$0.0 per \$1,000 assessed valuation, or \$26 tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (5-0) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee will make a recommendation at Town Meeting.</i></b></p>

**SECTION 3: PLANNING /ZONING ACTIONS**

<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 3-1</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Sign Bylaw</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Bylaw Section 6.3 “Signs” by deleting the current text and replacing it with the text set forth in Appendix F to the 2019 Appendix Book or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p>[The proposed bylaw appears as <b>Appendix F</b> to the 2019 Warrant Book.]</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> The article seeks to amend the sign bylaw to conform to constitutional requirements.</p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 3-2</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Inclusionary Housing Bylaw</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Bylaw Section 8.3 “Inclusionary Housing” by revising the text as set forth in Appendix G to the 2019 Appendix Book or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p>[The proposed bylaw appears as <b>Appendix G</b> to the 2019 Warrant Book.]</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> The article seeks to amend the inclusionary housing bylaw to conform to current DHCD guidance.</p>

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	<b><i>The Board of Selectmen will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b>
<b>ARTICLE 2019/4 3-3</b>  <i>Wireless Facilities Bylaw</i>	<p>To see if the Town will amend the Zoning Bylaw by renumbering the current Section 7.3 “Wind Energy Facilities” as Section 7.4 and inserting a new Section 7.3 “Small Wireless Facilities in Public and Private Rights of Way and Upon Public and Private Property” with the text set forth in Appendix H to the 2019 Appendix Book or take any action thereon or relative thereto or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p>[The proposed bylaw appears as <b>Appendix H</b> to the 2019 Warrant Book.]</p> <p><b><i>Brief Summary:</i></b> <i>The article seeks to amend the zoning bylaw to regulate small wireless facilities to the extent permitted by federal law.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen will make a recommendation at Town Meeting. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>

**SECTION 4: TOWN BY-LAW AMENDMENTS**

<b>ARTICLE 2019/4 4-1</b>  <i>Affordable Housing Trust Bylaw</i>	<p>To see if the Town will amend the Town Bylaws Chapter XXXII “Hamilton Affordable Housing Trust” by striking the current language of Sections 3 and 7 and substituting therefor the language set forth in Appendix I of the 2019 Warrant Book or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p>[The proposed bylaw appears as <b>Appendix I</b> to the 2019 Warrant Book.]</p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen recommends ?? The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
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**SECTION 5: OTHER APPROPRIATIONS AND ACTIONS**

<b>ARTICLE 2019/4 5-1</b>  <i>Establish OPEB Trust</i>	<p>To see if the Town will accept the provisions of Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Section 15 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, establishing an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund; to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer to execute a declaration of trust creating an expendable trust for the purpose of holding monies appropriate to such fund; to designate the Treasurer at the trustee of such trust; to authorize the transfer of any and all monies currently held for the purpose of paying retiree health and life benefits to such trust; and to authorize the trustee to invest and reinvest the monies pursuant to the “prudent investor rule” of G.L. c. 203C, §§ 1-11 or otherwise as permitted by law, or take any action thereon or relative thereto.</p> <p><b><i>Summary:</i></b> <i>The Town’s acceptance in 2011 of M.G.L. c. 32B, § 20 was done correctly for the time, and the town has established an OPEB Fund. However,</i></p>
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**Annual Town Meeting – April 6, 2019**

	<p><i>the statute (Section 20) was amended by the Municipal Modernization Act in 2016, after DOR ruled that the previous Section 20 did not authorize towns to execute true trust agreements that meet the GASB standards, because Towns that wanted to execute trust agreements also had to obtain a special act authorizing them to do so.</i></p> <p><i>The new statute (Section 20) allows a town to execute a trust agreement, but the new statute must be accepted to benefit from this change even if the town had previously accepted Section 20. The motion before you is really just an update on what Town Meeting had intended in 2011 and will allow the town to execute a trust agreement that satisfy our auditors. Additionally, creating a true irrevocable trust will also provide greater protection for funds that the Town has set aside to meet its OPEB obligations, in case a creditor ever tries to make a claim against the Town.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen (5-0) recommends favorable action. The Finance and Advisory Committee (5-0) recommends favorable action.</i></b></p>
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**SECTION 6: CLOSING FINANCIAL ACTIONS**

<p><b>ARTICLE 2019/4 6-1</b></p> <p><i>Free Cash Application</i></p>	<p>To see if the Town will reserve, appropriate, and authorize the Assessors to use available certified free cash to reduce the tax rate for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019, or take any action thereon or relative thereto. (<i>Expected request \$_____.</i>00)</p> <p><b><i>Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Rate Impact :</i></b> <i>Adoption of this article will reduce the estimated tax rate by approximately \$0.__ per \$1,000 assessed valuation or \$__ tax assessment on the average home valued at \$600,400.</i></p> <p><b><i>The Board of Selectmen recommends ?? The Finance and Advisory Committee recommends removing this item form the warrant or taking no action.</i></b></p>
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**Annual Town Meeting – April 6, 2019**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Given under our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2019.*

***HAMILTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN***

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Shawn M. Farrell, Chair*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Scott F. Maddern*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Jeffrey M. Hubbard*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Allison M. Jenkins*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*William Olson*

*Hamilton, Massachusetts*

*I have this day served this warrant as directed by Chapter 1, Section 1b of the Town By-laws.*

*Constable*



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**POSTAL PATRON**

*Visit our website at [www.hamiltonma.gov](http://www.hamiltonma.gov)*

*Please join us*

*Saturday, April 6, 2019*

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

*Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School  
Auditorium*

*9:00 a.m.*

**DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT**

**Please bring this warrant with you to the Town Meeting. Thank you.**

