

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING FEBRUARY 25, 2008
7:00 P. M.

1076 Registered Voters
48 Voters Attending

The Special Town meeting was opened at 7:00 P.M. by Moderator, Ray Steele at the Gill Town Hall

Article 1: Move the Town vote to amend Motion 5 made at the Special Town Meeting held June 11, 2007 to raise and appropriate the sum of Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Five and no/100 Dollars (\$19,835.00) to increase the Gill-Montague Regional School District budget, including debt, for a total assessment of One Million Three Hundred Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Eight and no/100 Dollars (\$1,303,738.00).

Passed Unanimously

Article 2: Move the Town vote to amend the agreement between the towns of Montague and Gill with respect to the formation of a regional school district by replacing SECTION C OF SECTION III—LOCATION OF REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOLS—which now states:

(C) CLOSING OF SCHOOL(S)

Schools located in the District can only be closed permanently or for a period of one or more school years upon the affirmative vote of at least eight (8) members of the Committee.

And replacing the state language with the following

(C) CLOSING OF SCHOOL(S)

Schools located in the District can only be closed permanently or for a period of one or more school years upon the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the full Committee, and at least a majority of the eligible voters present at a meeting called for such purpose in the member town in which the school is located.

Passed 26 YES 22 NO

Article 3: Move the Town vote to release funds from Gill-Montague Regional School District Debt Reserve to offset Fiscal Year 2008 Gill-Montague Regional School District debt payments in the sum of Nine Thousand, Four Hundred Dollars (\$9,400.00).

Passed Unanimously

Article 4: Move the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 43D of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended pursuant to Section 11 of Chapter 205 of the Acts of 2006 contingent upon the Massachusetts Interagency Permitting Board approving the proposed Priority Development Site in the Town of Gill, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Passed Unanimously

Article 5: Move the Town vote to approve the filing of a formal proposal with the Interagency Permitting Board for the designation as a Priority Development Site for land known as the Mariamante Parcel (Map 224, Lots 34.1 through 34.6), and to apply to said Board for a technical assistance grant in the amount of \$100,000, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Passed Unanimously

Article 6: Move the Town vote to add the following bylaw to create a Capital Improvement Planning Committee to its town bylaws:

Section 1. The Board of Selectmen shall establish and appoint a committee to be known as the Capital Improvement Planning Committee, composed of one member of the Board of Selectmen, one member of the Finance Committee, one member of the Planning Board, the School Superintendent or a member of the School Committee or a designee representing the schools, and one member at large, for a total of five members. The Town Accountant and the Administrative Assistant shall be ex-officio Committee staff members without the right to vote. The Committee shall choose its own officers.

Section 2. The Committee shall study proposed capital projects and improvements involving major non-recurring tangible assets and projects which: 1) are purchased or undertaken at intervals of not less than five years; 2) have a useful life of at least five years; and 3) cost over \$10,000. All officers, boards and committees, including the Selectmen and the School Committee, shall, by January 15 of each year, give to the Committee, on forms prepared by it, information concerning all anticipated projects requiring Town Meeting action during the ensuing six years. The Committee shall consider the relative need, impact, timing and cost of these expenditures and the effect each will have on the financial position of the town. No appropriation shall be voted for a capital improvement requested by a department, board or commission unless the proposed capital improvement is considered in the Committee's annual report, or the Committee shall first have submitted a report to the Board of Selectmen explaining the omission, or the Selectboard has waived this requirement for just cause.

Section 3. The Committee shall prepare an annual report recommending a Capital Improvement Budget for the next fiscal year, and a Capital Improvement Program including recommended capital improvements for the following five fiscal years. The report shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen for its consideration and approval. The Board shall submit its approved Capital Budget to the Annual Town Meeting for adoption by the town.

Section 4. The Capital Improvement Program, after its adoption, shall permit the expenditure on projects included therein of sums from departmental budgets for surveys, architectural or engineering services, options or appraisals; but no such expenditure shall be incurred on projects which have not been so approved by the town through the appropriation of sums in the current year or in prior years, or for preliminary planning for projects to be undertaken more than five years in the future, unless the omission of the proposed capital improvement shall first have been explained by the Committee or the Selectboard has waived this requirement for just cause.

Section 5. The Committee's report and the Selectmen's recommended Capital Budget shall be published and made available in a manner consistent with the distribution of the Finance Committee report. The Committee shall deposit its original report with the Town Clerk.

Motion to Passover Indefinitely - Passed

Article 7: Move the Town vote to adopt Chapter 59, §57C of Massachusetts General Law to establish a quarterly tax payment system.

Motion to Passover--Passed

Article 8: Move the Town vote to transfer funds from Sewer Use Fees to Riverside Sewer System the sum of Sixty Two Thousand Ninety Five and 60/100 Dollars (\$62,095.60) to offset Fiscal Year 2008 sewer expenses including the tax collector's salary as related to collecting sewer fees.

Passed Unanimously

Article 9: Move the Town vote to transfer available funds from the Trash Sticker Revolving Fund to offset the Fiscal Year 2008 budget in the amount of Six Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Seven and 55/100 Dollars (\$6,687.55).

Passed Unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.