

**RECORD
TOWN OF GRANBY
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RECONVENED
& SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 05, 2023**

In accordance with the foregoing warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Granby qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, met at the East Meadow School on East State Street on June 05, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

The Moderator, Lynn Snopek Mercier opened the Reconvened Annual Town Meeting at 7:00 p.m. The ATM was called to order at 7:02 pm a quorum was present (30 or more) 58 attended the time of opening.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Select Board Chair, Glen Sexton, and the residents joined in.

The Moderator calls on the Town Clerk, Katherine A. Kelly-Regan, to certify that all the warrants were posted in accordance with the law.

The Clerk responds they have. The warrant for this portion of the Annual Town Meeting was declared to be in order.

The Committees and Boards present at this ATM/STM:

Select Board: Chair, Glen Sexton, Members, Richard Beaulieu, and Crystal Dufresne, All Present, sitting with the Select Board Town Counselor, Brian O'Toole and Town Administrator, Christopher Martin

Finance Committee: Chair, John Libera, Jr., Members, Joseph Furnia, Robert Glesmann, III, Jennifer Mallette, Present and Not Present, Scott Wilson.

School Committee: Chair, Jennifer Bartosz, Members, Michael Durham, Stephanie Parent, Jill Pelletier, and Not Present, George Bahlke
Non-residents representing the School Department, School Superintendent, Steven Sullivan, Business Manager, Todd Dorman, and IT Manager David Lukaskiewicz.

Others in Attendance to support Town Articles: Building Supervisor, Jeremy Carriere, Highway Superintendent, David Desrosiers, Police Chief, Kevin O'Grady, and Fire Chief, Michael O'Neill

Vote Counters & Checkers: Richard Gaj, Sr., Elaine Lafleur, Emily Reed, Susie Slater, and Virginia Snopek.

Microphone runner, Micheline Turgeon

Filmed by Danielle Vishlitzky

Police Officer on Duty: Stephen Marion

Lynn Snopek Mercier, Moderator:

The Moderator now introduces all committees and boards sitting in front at Town Meeting to the far left, the Finance Board; Town Clerk, Town Attorney; Town Administrator; and the Select Board.

“Before I start reading today's Articles, I would like to go over Town Meeting information and procedures.

Please raise your hand if you would like to discuss a motion. When I recognize you, you can then come through the middle aisle to the microphone, or if you are unable to get to the floor a runner will bring the microphone to you. A voter is allowed to ask one question at a time.

This is a legal business meeting and is being recorded, you must state your name and address before commenting.

All discussion and questions must be directed to me, and I will direct your question to the appropriate individual.

Notices and Reports form Boards and Committees:

Lynn Snopek Mercier, Moderator now calls on Crystal Dufresne:

Select Board member Crystal Dufresne, reminds the voters that this weekend is our Charter Days weekend and as of now we only have 14 volunteers and we normally have around 70, we need volunteers. You can go to our Face Book page for contact information. She mentions if we continue to have lack of support from the community we will not be able to hold an event like this anymore. We need the community to start helping.

The Moderator now recognizes the Select Board, Chairman, Glen Sexton

Mr. Sexton thanks the voters who have come out to support the town and he mentions we need to get more residents involved. It's very disappointing to see only a few showing up for town business that affects all of us, and our future.

The Moderator now recognizes John Libera, Jr. Finance Committee Chair.

He explains to the voters that he is speaking now about the Special Town Meeting that will be called in a few moments when we recess from the Reconvened ATM. He tells the voters the Finance Committee is supportive of Articles 1,2,4 & 5 and will bring forward an Amendment on Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting, and he will discuss that at the time of presentation.

The Moderator now recognizes Jennifer Bartosz School Committee Chair.

The Moderator now calls on Jennifer Bartosz School Committee Chair, she thanks the Town Administrator, Chris Martin, and Glen Sexton, Select Board Chair, for working together with Steve Sullivan, School Superintendent, Todd Dorman, School Business Manager, and the School Committee to come up with a budget that will work for the school in FY24 and thankfully there is no need to request any further money at this time. However, she mentions the town does need to come up with solutions for the future besides turning to overrides to maintain the school budget.

Madame Moderator:

She now informs the voters that it's 7:14 p.m. and we are now going to take a short recess from the reconvened ATM to do the STM that is scheduled for 7:10 p.m., as posted accordingly, by our Town By-laws as written in the Special Town Meeting Warrant She calls for a Motion.
Motion 2nd

The Moderator, Lynn Snopek Mercier, opened the Special Town Meeting at 7:16 p.m. with a quorum present, 73 in attendance at the time of opening the STM.

The Moderator calls on the Town Clerk, Katherine A. Kelly-Regan, to certify that all the warrants were posted in accordance with the law.

The Clerk responds they have.

The warrant for this Special Town Meeting was declared to be in order.

She mentions to the voters that all five articles for this Special Town Meeting require a Majority Vote.

The Moderator calls for Article 1 of the STM at 7:18 P.M.

Motion 2nd

ARTICLE 1. move the Town vote to transfer from the Gasoline Department Expense budget the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose of funding the Legal Department Expense budget for FY2023.

Motion 2nd

Short Discussion

Presented by Glen Sexton

Majority Required

Declared by Moderator

Passed-Majority-Show of Hands

ARTICLE 2. move the Town vote to transfer from the Gasoline Department Expense budget the sum of \$12,000 and the Public Buildings Department Personal Services budget the sum of \$13,000 for a total of \$25,000 for the purpose of funding the Public Buildings Department Expense and Capital budgets for FY2023.

Motion 2nd

Short Discussion

Presented by Glen Sexton

Majority Required

**Robert Glesmann, Finance Committee Member Calls for an Amendment to Article 2:
The Amendment:**

We move the Town vote to transfer from the Gasoline Department Expense budget the sum of \$12,000 and the Public Buildings Department Personal Services budget the sum of \$13,000 for a total of \$25,000 for the purpose of funding the Public Buildings Department Expense budget in the amount of \$15,000 and the Public Buildings Department Capital budget in the amount of \$10,000 for FY2023

Motion 2nd

Short Discussion

Amendment Presented by Robert Glesmann, III

Declared by Moderator

Majority Required

Amendment Passes-Unanimous-Show of Hands

Mr. Glesmann explains the Article is the same except the amendment is clarifying where the money will be going and how much in each department.

The Moderator explains to the voters we must vote to accept the amendment first, there is a Motion and it's 2nd. It passes to vote on the Amendment by Majority Vote, Show of Hands-Declared by the Moderator.

The Moderator now explains to the voters we will be voting on Article 2 as presented by Mr. Glesmann as Amended, Article 2 as Amended Passes by Unanimous Vote, Show of Hands-Declared by the Moderator.

ARTICLE 3. move the Town vote to transfer from the Gasoline Department Expense budget the sum of \$15,000, the Snow & Ice Department Personal Services budget the sum of \$40,000, the Snow & Ice Department Expense budget the sum of \$10,000, the Workers' Compensation Expense budget the sum of \$30,000 for a total of \$95,000 for the purpose of funding the Fire Department Personal Services and Expense budgets for FY2023.

Motion 2nd

Long Discussion

Presented by Glen Sexton

Majority Required

Declared by Moderator

Passed-Majority-Show of Hands

Mr. Glesmann, Finance Member questions why the increase?

The Moderator, now asks the voters to vote to let Fire Chief, Michael O'Neill speak since he is not a Granby resident. She tells the voters a Majority Vote is required for him to speak. Motion 2nd a Show of Hands, and it passes Unanimous for Fire Chief O'Neill to speak on the floor.

This discussion goes for awhile the Finance Committee had wanted Chief O'Neill to Do a study to show why this increase was needed.

Chief O'Neill explains the department had to fill the shifts with part-timers because of maturity leave, and another full-timer with injuries causing a short fall to the budget.

After a long discussion Mark Bail, 122 Easton Street, calls to Move the Question.

The Moderator now explains to the voters to move the Question it must be approved By 2/3 of the Voters, this is 2nd and she calls for a Vote.

It passes by 2/3 Vote by Show of Hands -Declared By the Moderator to Move the Question.

Lynn Snopek Mercier, now explains we will vote on Article 3 of this STM as originally drafted. She explains this vote only requires a majority vote. A Vote is taken, Article 3 passes by Majority Vote by Show of Hands- Declared By the Moderator.

ARTICLE 4. move the Town vote to transfer from the Retirement Department Expense budget the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of funding the Health Insurance Department Expense budget for FY2023.

Motion 2nd

No Discussion

Presented by Glen Sexton

Majority Required

Declared by Moderator

Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

ARTICLE 5. move the Town vote to transfer from the Gasoline Department Expense budget the sum of \$1,000 for the purpose of funding the Dog Revolving Fund Expense budget for FY2023.

Motion 2nd

Short Discussion

Presented by Glen Sexton

Majority Required

Declared by Moderator

Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

There is a Short Discussion the question is "What is a Dog Revolving Fund"? Police Chief Kevin O'Grady explains the Dog Revolving Fund is funding for Animal Control. And we have a new dog officer and the new Dog Officer had to go through Animal Control Training.

Madame Moderator moves to adjourn:

MOTION: move to adjourn this Special Town Meeting Motion 2nd

Passed- Unanimous- Show of Hands

The business for this STM is completed and the Moderator officially dissolves the STM at 7:46 P.M.

The Moderator reopens the reconvened Annual Town Meeting.

This portion of the Annual Town Meeting is officially resumed for business at 7:47 P.M.

The first portion of this years ATM was held on May 08, 2023, Articles voted on were Articles 1- 19.

Article 20 will be the first Article to be called on for the second half of this ATM Reconvened on June 05, 2023.

The Moderator now calls on John Libra, Jr. Chairman for the Finance Committee:

Mr. Libera talks about the Budget, and what the town needs to consider for the Future his conclusion.

Conclusion: The days of "business as usual" for Granby are gone. The Town might attempt to delay necessary expenditures, forego Capital investments, postpone maintenance expense, and divert funds from Capital accounts to pay for daily operations, but a day of reckoning is coming. What Granby can't do is ignore the Town's biggest fundamental fiscal problem: what happens if the Jr. Sr. High School building figuratively falls apart? The Town absolutely needs a solution in the next 3-5 years.

Can Granby survive this? Of course, it can, but choices must be made. Operational necessities, service conveniences, Capital needs, and preparing for the future will all make competing demands for the Town's revenue. Granby needs to choose the mix it can live with, and it needs to make its choice well before a financial disaster occurs.

***To read the full Finance report please refer to the Finance Committee and Capital Improvement Committee Reports 2023-2024, or by going on the Website www.granby-ma.gov*

No other reports were given by any other Boards or Committees.

The Moderator now calls for Article 20 of the Reconvened ATM at 7:54 P.M.

Motion 2nd

ARTICLE 20. move the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$539,346, to operate the municipal solid waste department

<i>Wages</i>	\$ 5,000
<i>Expenses</i>	<u>534,346</u>
	\$539,346

and that \$40,305 be raised from municipal solid waste receipts, \$166,000 be raised from Retained Earnings and \$333,041 be raised from Tax Levy.

Motion 2nd

No Discussion

Presented by Crystal Dufresne

Majority Required

Declared by Moderator

Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

This article is to fund the curbside collection program in Town. It also funds the costs of taking our recyclables to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and taking our waste to the McNamara transfer station located in Springfield.

ARTICLE 21. move the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$251,321 to operate the sewer department

<i>Wages</i>	\$ 11,072
<i>Expenses</i>	181,730
<i>Debt</i>	<u>58,519</u>
	\$251,321

and that \$239,021 be raised from sewer receipts and \$12,300 be raised from Retained Earnings.

Motion 2nd

No Discussion

Presented by Crystal Dufresne

Majority Required

Declared by Moderator

Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

This article is to fund the sewer department in Town.

ARTICLE 22 move the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$421,782 to operate the ambulance department

<i>Wages</i>	\$307,332
<i>Expenses</i>	99,284
<i>Capital</i>	<u>15,166</u>
	\$421,782

and that \$421,782 be raised from ambulance receipts.

Motion 2nd

No Discussion

Presented by Crystal Dufresne

Majority Required

Declared by Moderator

Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

This article will fund the ambulance department

ARTICLE 23. move the Town vote to raise, appropriate, or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expense of the Town including debt and interest for the ensuing year and to carry out any vote passed under this article.

Article 23 Presented by John Libera, Jr., Finance Chairman, Items 1-40 Motion 2nd

Majority Vote Required on all Items

Item 19- Fire Department, John Libera, Jr. Finance Committee Chairman presented this Article as the following:

*Item 19-Same Motion
 Personal Services- \$467,506
 Expenses \$57,367
 Capital Outlay \$54,767
Total \$579,660*

This was a different amount from what the Motions were drafted as, and after a long discussion Mark Bail, 122 Easton Street, Motions for an Amendment to Article 23, Item 19, it's 2nd.

The Moderator now explains we need to take a Vote to accept voting on this Amendment, 2nd it Passes by Majority- Declared By Moderator Show of Hands to Vote on Article 23, Item 19 as Amended by Mark Bail.

The Moderator now explains that we are voting on Article 23, Item 19 as Amended by Mr. Bail.

Mr. Bail's Amendment reads:

*Item 19-Same Motion
 Personal Services- \$550,506
 Expenses \$57,367
 Capital Outlay \$54,767
Total \$662,660*

A Vote is taken on the Amendment and this passes by Majority Vote-Show of Hands-Declared By the Moderator

All Items 1- 40 Passed:

Items 1, 2, 4, 6, 13, 14, 15, 19, & 25 Passed- By Majority-Declared By Moderator-Show of Hands

All other Items in Article 23 Passed - By Unanimous-Declared By Moderator- Show of Hands

Item	Budget
1 School Department	
Personal Services	\$7,722,453
Expenses	858,059
<i><u>Passed-Majority Short Discussion</u></i>	<u>\$8,580,512</u>
2 Same Motion Items-2-5	
School Department	
Transportation	\$1,007,950
3 Same Motion	
Moderator	
Salary	\$300
Expenses	2,675
	<u>\$2,975</u>
4 Same Motion	
Selectmen	
Salary	\$10,920
Personal Services	255,229
Expenses	199,000
Capital Outlay	10,000
	<u>\$475,149</u>

5	Same Motion Finance Committee Expenses	\$2,026
	<i>Passed- Majority- Items 2&4</i> <i>Passed-Unanimous Items 3& 5</i>	
6	Same Motion Items 6-9 Town Accountant Personal Services Expenses	\$30,500 31,150 <hr/> \$61,650
7	Same Motion Assessors Salary Personal Services Expenses	\$12,507 43,462 20,865 <hr/> \$76,834
8	Same Motion Town Treasurer Salary Expenses	\$56,189 10,312 <hr/> \$66,501
9	Same Motion Tax Collector Salary Personal Services Expenses	\$55,200 15,000 22,693 <hr/> \$92,893
	<i>Passed-Majority-Item 6</i> <i>Passed-Unanimous-Items 7-9</i>	
10	Same Motion Items- 10-13 Personnel Board Expenses	\$500
11	Same Motion Town Clerk Salary Personal Services Expenses	\$64,818 44,911 3,005 <hr/> \$112,734
12	Same Motion Board of Registrars Personal Services Expenses	\$2,000 37,975 <hr/> \$39,975
13	Same Motion Planner/Conservation Agent Personal Services Expenses	\$88,586 1,900 <hr/>

		\$90,486
	<i>Passed-Unanimous- Items 10-12</i>	
	<i>Passed-Majority-Item 13</i>	
14	Same Motion Items 14-17	
	Board of Appeals	
	Expenses	\$1,640
15	Same Motion	
	Public Buildings	
	Personal Services	\$218,613
	Expenses	787,404
	Capital Outlay	28,745
		<u>\$1,034,762</u>
16	Same Motion	
	Police Department	
	Personal Services	\$1,303,567
	Expenses	\$74,549
	Capital Outlay	1,030
		<u>\$1,379,146</u>
17	Same Motion	
	Auxiliary Police	
	Expenses	\$0
	<i>Passed- Majority-Items 14 &15</i>	
	<i>Passed- Unanimous-Item 16</i>	
	<i>No Vote taken on Item 17</i>	
18	Same Motion- Items 18-21	
	Dispatch	
	Personal Services	\$294,709
	Expenses	51,653
		<u>\$346,362</u>
19	Same Motion- <i>Amended</i>	
	Fire Department	
	Personal Services	\$550,506
	Expenses	57,367
	Capital Outlay	54,787
		<u>\$662,660</u>
	<i>Amendment on</i>	
	<i>Item 19</i>	
	<i>explanation</i>	
	<i>beginning of</i>	
	<i>Article 23</i>	
	<i>Passed as</i>	
	<i>Amended</i>	
20	Same Motion	
	Inspections Department	
	Personal Services	\$101,000
	Expenses	24,890
		<u>\$125,890</u>
21	Same Motion	
	Preventive Inspections-Board of Health	
	Personal Services	\$14,209

Expenses	4,016
	<hr/>
	\$18,225

*Passed-Unanimous- Items 18,20 & 21
Passed-Majority-Item 19 As Amended*

22 Same Motion-Items 22-25

Sealer of Weights & Measures Expenses	\$3,700
--	---------

23 Same Motion

Emergency Management Expenses	\$10,475
----------------------------------	----------

24 Same Motion

Highway Department Personal Services	\$446,587
Expenses	120,150
Maintenance of Roads	352,500
Capital	6,300
	<hr/>
	\$925,537

25 Same Motion

Snow & Ice Control Personal Services	\$85,391
Expenses	59,000
Maintenance of Roads	122,000
Capital	20,000
	<hr/>
	\$286,391

*Passed-Unanimous- Items 22-24
Passed-Majority-Item 25*

26 Same Motion- Items 26-29

Cemetery Personal Services	\$32,904
Expenses	4,400
	<hr/>
	\$37,304

27 Same Motion

Board of Health Salary	\$3,231
Personal Services	44,798
Expenses	13,928
	<hr/>
	\$61,957

28 Same Motion

Council on Aging Personal Services	\$115,106
Expenses	4,525
	<hr/>
	\$119,631

29 Same Motion

Senior Lunch Program	\$20,782
----------------------	----------

Passed-Unanimous- Items 26-29

30	Same Motion-Items 30-34	
	Veterans Services	
	Personal Services	\$23,000
	Expenses	51,300
		<u>\$74,300</u>
31	Same Motion	
	Public Library	
	Personal Services	\$170,271
	Expenses	62,968
	Less Grant In Aid	-18,519
	Net Expenses	<u>44,449</u>
		\$214,720
32	Same Motion	
	Historical Commission	
	Expenses	\$250
33	Same Motion	
	Retirement of Debt	
	Principal on Permanent Debt	\$612,400
34	Same Motion	
	Interest	\$424,673

Passed-Unanimous- Items 30-34

35	Same Motion- Items 35-40	
	Casualty & Liability Insurance	\$297,853
36	Same Motion	
	County Retirement	\$1,594,518
37	Same Motion	
	Workers Compensation	\$157,917
38	Same Motion	
	Unemployment Compensation	\$24,541
39	Same Motion	
	Group Health/Life Insurance	\$1,818,975
40	Same Motion	
	Reserve Fund	\$130,000

Passed-Unanimous- Items 35-40

TOTAL BUDGET **\$20,994,794**

This article is to set the departmental budgets for FY2024.

*The Moderator calls on Select Board member Crystal Dufresne to present
Articles 24-27*

ARTICLE 24 move the Town vote to transfer from the Capital Equipment Needs Stabilization Fund \$152,400 for the purpose of reducing the funding from tax levy for the fiscal year 2024 appropriations.

Motion 2nd

*Short Discussion
Presented by Crystal Dufresne
2/3 Votes Required*

Declared by Moderator
Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

This article is to cover the debt service on purchases that were approved by the Capital Improvement Committee in prior years.

ARTICLE 25. move to see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$600,000 for the purpose of reducing the funding from tax levy for the fiscal year 2024 appropriations or take any other action in regard thereto.

Motion 2nd

*Short Discussion
Presented by Crystal Dufresne
Majority Required*

Declared by Moderator
Passed-Majority-Show of Hands

This article is to use Free Cash to reduce the Tax Levy.

ARTICLE 26. move to see if the Town will vote to transfer from account #30-122-5801-000 Bond Premiums To Be Applied \$11,989.35, or a greater or lesser amount, for the purpose of reducing the funding from tax levy for the fiscal year 2024 appropriations or take any other action in regard thereto.

Motion 2nd

*No Discussion
Presented by Crystal Dufresne
Majority Required*

Declared by Moderator
Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

When the Town borrowed for the East Meadow building project, when the bids came in, there was a bond premium. Per Department of Revenue regulations, this premium must be amortized over the life of the loan to reduce the amount to be raised by the Debt Exclusion vote.

ARTICLE 27. move the Town vote to assess the amounts raised and appropriated under these articles and warrants on the estates and personal property of the Town of Granby.

Motion 2nd

*No Discussion
Presented by Crystal Dufresne
Majority Required*

Declared by Moderator
Passed-Unanimous-Show of Hands

This article allows the Assessors to issue tax bills to the taxpayers in Granby.

The Moderator now motions to adjourn this portion of the ATM

Motion 2nd

All in favor to adjourn the second half of this ATM:

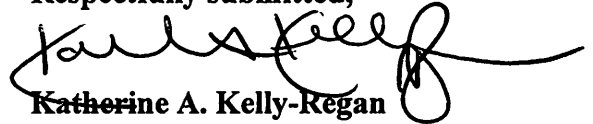
Passed- Unanimous-Show of Hands

The business for this portion of the Annual Town Meeting held on June 05, 2023, Articles 20 – 27, have been voted on, and completed (*first portion of the ATM was voted on May 08, 2023, Articles 1-19*).

The Moderator officially dissolves this year's ATM at 9:23 P.M.

There were 81 voters and 8 non-voters who showed up to support and contribute to the second half of this Annual Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



**Katherine A. Kelly-Regan
Town Clerk, CMMC**