

**Town of Georgetown
Special Town Meeting
Monday, November 15, 2010**

The Special Town Meeting was held at 7 PM in the auditorium of the Georgetown Middle High School.

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM. The return of the warrant was properly served. We have a quorum at this time. The Moderator called to postpone for 15 minutes allowing voters to check in. There is a line waiting to get in.

Non voting members of the audience were recognized. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sandy Gerraughty moved and it was seconded by Harry LaCortiglia to change the order of the articles.

Sandy Gerraughty moved and it was seconded by Robin O'Malley that we adopt a 5 minute speech rule.

Article #2 was voted on first but the articles will remain in order for this report.

ARTICLE 1: School Feasibility Study

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee for a feasibility study for the renovation or replacement of the Penn Brook School, for which feasibility study the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *(STM11-01)*

MOTION: David Surface moved and it was seconded by Evan O'Reilly that the Town appropriates the sum of Seven Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$720,000) to pay costs of a feasibility study for the renovation or replacement of the Penn Brook School, said sum to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said sum under M.G. L. Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority; that the Town acknowledges that the Massachusetts School Building Authority's ("MSBA") grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA.

The Finance Committee voted unanimously to approve this article.

A presentation was given by members of the School Building Committee. Ellen Sinkiewicz, Co-Chair explained the purpose of the study was to see if the building would need renovations

or if we would need a new building. The study should take 12-18 months. The issues involved are energy savings, water usage, ventilation issues and overcrowding.

Michelle Smith, Co-Chair, explained that the rubber roof is approaching 15 years old and would soon need to be replaced. There are also issues with falling snow from the roof, inadequate storage and the gym floor is separating from the concrete. The school is sub-standard according to MSBA standards.

George Comiskey, committee member, stated that the sinks are inefficient and the school has high water usage and the bathrooms are not ADA compliant. The school also needs a new boiler. We've already replaced one but the other one will also need replacing.

Glenn Clohecy, committee member, stated the roof beams are on cinder blocks, the metal windows are deteriorating and the foundation is cracked.

Beverly Enos, Moderator appointed Chris Rich, Assistant Moderator to go into the cafeteria to take the vote count for those voters who were not able to fit into the auditorium.

DISCUSSION: Robert Kelly of Cedar Lane asked if we were going to get a complete set of drawings and not get recharged? Why can't the Supt of Schools go to another town and look at what they may have done? Does the school already anticipate a 1.6 million deficit for FY12 with teachers getting raises? When will you be back for an override?

Ellie Sinkiewicz responded that the plans will be complete.

Carol Jacobs stated one of the aspects of MSBA is that they'll be looking at what other towns have done and we will get a chance to look at them too.

Mike Farrell, Town Administrator stated that 1.6 million was a correct amount and we're just getting started on next fiscal years budget.

John Flaherty of Andover St asked if we were still paying for the Perley & the High School renovations and how much longer.

Mike Farrell explained that yes we were and it will be until 2018.

Donna Clough asked if we were guaranteed the money from the state and Ellie Sinkiewicz responded that we do have approval.

Steve Smith explained that now is the time to do this project as we will be eligible for almost 50% of the funding. If we don't do this now, we will be responsible for 100% of any renovations or new building.

David Surface stated that the state money is based on needs and we've been prioritized. Let's take advantage of this money from the state.

ACTION: By a show of hands, the Moderator declared this article passed by a 2/3 vote.

ARTICLE 2: Village Lane Definitive Subdivision/ Street Acceptance

To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way the roadway known as "Village Lane", as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and shown on a plan of land entitled: "Definitive Plan Village Lane, Georgetown, Massachusetts" prepared by Hancock Survey

Associates, Inc., dated December 19, 1982, with a final revision date of February 19, 1983, and recorded with the Essex South District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 177, Plan 86, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, on behalf of the Town, by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, rights sufficient to use said way for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Georgetown, or to take any other action in relation thereto. (STM11-02)

MOTION: Harry LaCortiglia moved and it was seconded by Evan O'Reilly to accept as a public way the roadway known as "Village Lane", 1900 +/- feet in length, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen as shown on the plans referenced in the warrant which are on file with the Town Clerk and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, on behalf of the Town, by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, rights sufficient to use said ways for all purposes for which public ways are used in Town.

Finance Committee voted unanimously to approve this article.

The Planning Board voted 5-0 to approve this article.

There was no discussion.

By a show of hands, the Moderator declared this passed by a majority vote.

The Moderator called for a motion to adjourn.

Evan O'Reilly moved and it was seconded by Sandy Gerraughty to adjourn tonight's Special Town Meeting.

The time is 8:05 PM

True Copy Attest:

Janice M. McGrane, Town Clerk