

Select Board

April 11, 2023

Present:

- Select Board: Mr. Bill Ramsey, Chair, Ms. Liz Klein, and Mr. Joseph Fisher
- Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator
- Ms. Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator for Finance
- Mr. Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator for Operations

7:00 PM: Call to order

Mr. Ramsey called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

“This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.”

No one indicated that they were recording the meeting.

He announced that Select Board members participating in the meeting were himself, Bill Ramsey, Ms. Liz Klein, and Mr. Joseph Fisher.

The Select Board members attended and participated in a remote Public Information Session via Zoom regarding the April 24, 2023 Annual Town Meeting. Various speakers presented materials explaining the proposed operational override that will be addressed and voted on at the Town Meeting on April 24, 2023 and at a subsequent ballot vote on April 29, 2023. Also in attendance were members of the School Committee (Ms. Michelle Ayer and Ms. Nes Correnti) and Dr. Margaret Adams, School Superintendent. The goal of the session was to give residents a comprehensive understanding of the proposed override and implications for school and municipal operations in the event that it does not pass. Questions were asked by the following residents:

- Sky Thaxter, 246 Main Street
- Laura Marwill, 30 Summit Drive
- Gail Faring, 14 Cross Street
- Mike Jones, 65 Pleasant Street
- Michael Driscoll, 15 South Lane
- Mary Louise Madigan, 2 Summit Drive

Topics discussed included post-pandemic school staffing levels, school enrollment numbers, out of district school expenses, the selling of Town-owned properties, the Senior Means Tested Tax Relief Program, an assessment of town-owned properties and possible revenue opportunities, the cost per student in Hingham Schools, special education needs at the schools, major drivers to school budget increases, new growth and economic initiatives in town, among others.

Ms. Michelle Ayer, Chair of the School Committee, encouraged residents to ask questions of Select Board and School Committee members at their “coffee chats” scheduled for Saturday, April 15 from 8:00am-10:00am at various locations around town.

Additional information regarding the proposed override can be found at www.hingham-ma.gov/override. Questions about the override can be sent to override@hingham-ma.gov.

Vote: Mr. Fisher made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Klein seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Klein: yes

Mr. Fisher: yes

Mr. Ramsey: yes

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Documents: A complete meeting packet of supporting documentation is on file and available for public review in the Select Board office