

Select Board

July 07, 2026

Present:

- Select Board: Mr. Bill Ramsey, and Ms. Julie Strehle
- Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator
- Ms. Katie Dugan, Assistant Town Administrator for Finance
- Mr. Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator for Operations

Call to order:

9:02 AM: Ms. Strehle called the meeting to order and read the following statement:

“This meeting is being held in person and/or remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 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.”

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

Consider approval of four Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages licenses to Harbour Lights Theatre for the Production of Dear Evan Hansen at the South Shore Conservatory on the following days: Thursday, August 6, 2026, Friday, August 7, 2026, and Sunday, August 9, 2026 from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm, and Saturday, August 8, 2026 from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm and 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm

Mr. Mickey White addressed the board and gave a brief explanation of what this event would include and what to expect. Anticipated tickets sales are 300 per night. A police detail is required for this event.

Vote: Mr. Ramsey made a motion to approve four Special (One-Day) Wine and Malt Beverages licenses to Harbour Lights Theatre for the Production of Dear Evan Hansen at the South Shore Conservatory on the following days: Thursday, August 6, 2026, Friday, August 7, 2026, and Sunday, August 9, 2026 from 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm, and Saturday, August 8, 2026 from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm and 8:00 pm to 10:30 pm. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

FY26 Year-End Transfers

Ms. Katie Dugan presented the second round of FY26 Reserve Fund transfers, explaining that the Town is requesting approximately \$1.7 million in transfers from the \$2.7 million Reserve Fund, approximately \$1 million less than originally forecasted. The reduced request was primarily due to lower-than-anticipated special education costs, Town savings, and \$296,234 in Fair Share supplemental state funding for snow and ice expenses. Ms. Dugan reviewed municipal Reserve Fund transfers totaling \$422,825, including requests for Accounting, Select Board, Legal Services, Police, and Town Meeting expenses. She noted that the Legal Services transfer of \$216,766 was the lowest since FY16 due to reduced litigation costs. She also highlighted improved management of Police overtime, which significantly reduced the anticipated transfer request, and explained that first-year operating costs for the new Public Safety Facility will be incorporated into future budgets.

The Board discussed the structural nature of the Legal Services budget and agreed it should continue to be reviewed while maintaining Reserve Fund flexibility for unpredictable expenses.

Ms. Dugan also reviewed shared expense transfers totaling \$1,281,356, including Snow and Ice, Workers' Compensation, Medicare, and Unemployment. The increase in Workers' Compensation was attributed to higher medical, police, and fire-related claims and the Board expressed support for reviewing long-term cost management strategies. Ms. Dugan presented two interdepartmental transfers: \$1,000 for the Assessors Department and \$2,323 for the Treasurer/Collector's Office. She reported that approximately \$1 million of the Reserve Fund is expected to be returned to Fund Balance, along with departmental turnbacks exceeding \$1 million, an estimated \$350,000 Article 4 turnback, and projected FY27 state aid approximately \$343,000 above the original forecast.

Vote:

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to accounting expenses in the amount of \$58,060. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to accounting audit in the amount of \$7,300. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to select board expenses in the amount of \$18,673. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommended transfer from the reserve fund to select board salaries in the amount of \$53,830. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to legal services expenses in the amount of \$216,766. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to police salaries, in the amount of \$15,537. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to police expenses in the amount of \$30,602. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion recommended transfer from the reserve fund to town meeting expenses in the amount of \$22,057. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to snow removal expenses in the amount of \$805,428. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer fund. The reserve fund to workers compensation expenses in the amount of \$360,922. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to Medicare expenses in the amount of \$48,011. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend a transfer from the reserve fund to unemployment expenses \$66,995. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend an inter-departmental transfer from assessors expenses to assessors reevaluation services, in the amount of \$1,000. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to recommend an inter-departmental transfer from fund treasurer expenses to treasurer tax title cost in the amount of \$2,323. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Appointments (for a list of Talent Bank Applicants, please visit [Hingham-ma.gov/SB](https://hingham-ma.gov/SB))

Vote:

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to appoint Heidi Ragon to the historic District commission for a three year term ending June 30th, 2029. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to appoint Thomas Reed to the Conservation Commission for a two year term ending June 30th, 2028. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to appoint Lisa Shetty to the Human Rights Commission for a three year term ending June 30th, 2029. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Public Comment

No members of the public came forward.

Select Board/Town Administrator Reports

Mr. Ramsey recognized the teams that made the road race, parade, and picnic events run smoothly. Mr. Ramsey also congratulated the Strehle family on their upcoming wedding.

Ms. Strehle provided a reminder all that the Weekly Report is posted on the town website and that on Wednesday July 8th there will be a community reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Old Ship Church.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

The Select Board meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Documents:

1. Harbor Lights Theater License Application- Dear Evan Hansen Production
2. End of Year Transfers Spreadsheet
3. Appointments