

October 18, 2021 Special Town Meeting

Attendance:

Registered Voters: 1,143

Visitors: 30 (non-voters)

The article below passed by a 2/3 majority vote declared by the Moderator following an electronic vote:

YES: 873

NO: 153

ARTICLE 1 – Elementary Schools Building Project

The Finance and Warrant Commission recommended and the Town voted unanimously in favor by a 2/3 vote in favor taken electronically: YES-873, NO-153, to appropriate Eighty-Four Million Six Hundred Ten Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$84,610,386) to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping, and furnishing a new Paul R. Hanlon Elementary School, to be located at 790 Gay Street, in Westwood, Massachusetts, including costs of site work and all other costs incidental and related thereto (the "Project"), which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children for at least 50 years, and for which the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under G.L. c. 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The amount appropriated by this vote shall be expended in addition to the \$1,750,000 appropriated to pay feasibility study costs related to the Project under Article 14 of the Warrant at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 30, 2018, and the \$1,460,000 appropriated to pay design costs of the Project under Article 13 of the Warrant at the Annual Town Meeting held on May 3, 2021, resulting in a total cost of the Project of \$87,820,386. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town; provided further that any grant that Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) thirty-nine and thirty-five hundredths percent (39.35%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA, and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA. No amounts shall be borrowed or expended pursuant to this vote unless the Town shall have voted to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on the borrowing authorized by this vote from the limitations on taxes imposed by G.L. c. 59, §21C (Proposition 2½). Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.