

RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, MAY 3, 2008

FOR THE TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD, MA

ARTICLE 1. To choose on one ballot for the term of three years:

Selectman	Robert Gazda
Assessor	Gita Jozsef Harris
Library Trustee	Susan Baker Donnelly
Zoning Board of Appeals	Stephen Cummings
Finance Committee	Tamarin Laurel-Paine
Cemetary Commission	Larry Pease
Planning Board	Alan Vint

For the term of two years:

Assessor: Laura Lafreniere

For the term of one year:

Moderator	Joseph Kearns
Constable	Edward Vivier
Town Clerk	Marjorie Batorski
School Committee	Timothy Parker

Ballot Question: Shall the Town of Middlefield be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 21/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to replace the roof on the Town Hall, replace the

Heating controls, and install a heat recovery ventilation system?

Yes:48 No:18 Blank: 8

Article 1. Was passed and every one was elected to office.

At the opening of the meeting, Joseph Kearns led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance, then he read the warrant with article to be discussed and voted upon. He also asked that no one make a visual or voice recording as the Town Clerk was recording and that anyone could have a copy if requested from the town Clerk. There were approximately 50-60- people in attendance.

Article 2. Under this article to hear the reports of Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Assessors, and the School Committee Various officers gave their reports from the floor.

The Chair of the Selectboard, Larry Pease, gave thanks to all who helped to get the hall in shape for the meeting; such as Skip Savery and Matt Radwich who cleaned the floor, and also to Joe Kearns and Skip for replacing some missing and unsightly ceiling tiles.

Also, Larry spoke of the missing members by death from our Town, such Jeremy Bouffard of the military who was killed in action, Don Savery, much loved and respected member of the community, Mary Sternagle, a teacher here in Middlefield, and Bill Cook, who was the last remaining member of the great "Cannon firing". Also, Bill was the oldest citizen of Middlefield.

Chris Monson, Tax Collector, said that this is her last year as Collector, and that she wouldn't be accepting another appointment. From the School Committee, Sam Sico, spoke and said the School Budget had gone down.

Article 3. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the town for Fiscal 2008, as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 541 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; or take any other action relative thereto:

Modeartor	100
Town Clerk	4,000
Assessor, chair	3,000
Assessor, 2 nd	3,000
Assessor, 3 rd	3,000
Selectman, chair	1,500
Selectman, 1 st	1,500
Selectman, 2 nd 1	1,500
Constable, 1 st	90
Constable, 2 nd	90

The vote was taken and the article passed with one nay vote.

Article 4. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriated the salaries and compensation of appointed staff for FY2008.

Treasurer	7,000
Tax Collector	10,000
Selectboard's Secretary	7,5000
Town Accountant	11,000
Assistant Assessor	5,400

It was an unanimous vote and the article passed.

Article 5. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for General Government; or take any other action relative thereto:

Elected Town Officers	17,780
Town Counsel	5,000
Election & Registrations	1,000
Maintenance of Public Buildings	55,000
Insurance and Bonds	40,000
Soc Sec/Medicare Town Share	6,000

Being no discussion, the Article passed by a majority vote with 2 nays.

Article 6. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Expense Accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

Selectboard/Printing	3,500
Assessors	5,500
Annual Interim Certification	1,800
Tax Map Update	4,500
CAMA Software Support	1,550
Treasurer	1,500
Tax Collector	4,000
Tax Title & legal Fees	5,000
Planning Board	500
Town Accountant	1,500
Town Clerk	800
Zoning Board	300
Software Support	1,500
Electric Inspections	500
Plumbing Inspections	100
Constable	150
Conservation Commission	1,300
Communication Commission	300
Board of Health	250

There was some discussion on this article such as why so little for the Plumbing inspection? Answer was that that was a misprint and that the figure will be corrected in June when we have a Special Town Meeting.

Another question was asked. "What does a Constable do?" Answer: a Constable is similar to a Court Officer, and he post warrants etc. A motion was made and seconded to amend the figure of \$4,500.00 for the Tax Map to \$3,000.00. Being no further discussion, the Article passed as amended.

Article 7. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Highways; or take any other action relative thereto:

Highway Dept. Wages	105,000
Holidays and Vacations	9,000
Unemployment Insurance	2,000
Hampshire County Retirement	22,397
Health Insurance	40,000
Fuel	20,000
Snow Removal	35,000
Town Highway Maintenance	35,000
Unpaved Roads Material	15,000
Machinery Maintenance	30,000
Street Lights	500

Being no discussion, the vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 8. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money to the Library, Veterans and Cemetery accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

Library Expenses	2,500
Veterans Agent Expenses	100
War Memorials/Playground	3,500
Cemetery Expenses	3,500

Susan Baker-Donnelly, Library Trustee, spoke of the book sale that the Library was having, and also of the survey that the Library is conducting to held better serve the public with their wants. Being no further discussion, a vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 9. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Protection of persons and Property Accounts; or take any other action relating thereto:

Police Chief's Salary	1,000
Officers' Compensation	1,400
Police Dept. Operating Expenses	7,700
Fire Chief/Forest Fire Warden Salary	500
Fire Dept. Operating Expenses	4,500
Fire Dept. Inspections Salary	300
Fire Dept. Dispatch Service	6,180
Forest Fire	10
Civil Defense	10
Building Inspector Salary	14,145
Electrical Inspector Salary	300

Asst. Electrical Inspector	100
Plumbing Inspector Salary	300
Dog Officer's Salary	400
Dog Officer's Expenses	300
Insect Pest Control Expenses	100

Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was a unanimous vote. The article was passed.

Article 10. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Health & Sanitation; or take any other action relating thereto:

Ambulance	1,200
Hilltown Resource Management	1,872
Disposal Area	30,000
Bd. Of health/Insp Agents	600
Health and Sanitation	10
Lee Visiting Nurse	1,050

Being no discussion, a vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 11. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Debt and Interest; or take any other action relating thereto:

Interest on Short-Term Debt	5,000
Police Cruiser Loan	8,061

No discussion on this article and it was passed unanimously

Article 12. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Miscellaneous Accounts; or take any other action relating thereto:

Council on Aging	1,500
Historical Commission	500
Pioneer Valley Planning	85
Recreation Committee	1,000
Hampshire Council of Govt	682
Agricultural Commission	100
Reserve Fund	5,000

Susan Baker-Donnelly, Chair of the Council on Aging spoke of the need for help, such as cleaning the center, picking up the meals for the lunch, and also picking up the brown bags. There is no salary but a small stipend. Being no further discussion, the vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 13. A motion was made seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of \$337,402.00 for Middlefield's minimum contribution of the budget for the Gateway Regional School District; or take any other action relating thereto:

Dr Hopson, Superintendent of Schools, and Stephanie Fisk, Business Manager, were here to answer any questions. How many children from Middlefield are enrolled at Gateway? Answer: 64 and we have 3 children going to Smith Vocational School. Do we get any assistance from the State? None coming and the Red Circuit Breaker is no longer a viable option. The Moderator said that this was really a bill presented to us by the state and it has to be paid. Being no more discussion, the vote was taken and it was an unanimous vote. The article passed.

Article 14. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$143,763.00 for Middlefield's share of the over-minimum contribution to the budget for the Gateway Regional School District; or take any other action relating thereto:

There was some discussion concerning this article then a vote was taken. It passed with 1 nay vote.

Article 15. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,070.00 for Middlefield's share of the transportation and Debt Service(non-foundation budget) and Construction for the Gateway Regional School District, or take any other action relating thereto:

Discussion on this article: The 20 year bond is being paid off, \$27,577.00 is for transportation, and \$42,128.00 is Capital Debt. After further discussion, the vote was taken and it passed by simple majority, with 1 nay.

Article16. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000.00 for vocational education; or take any other action relating thereto: There was some discussion concerning this article and it was said that that the \$65,000.00 pays for the three students from Middlefield that go to vocational school. Being no further discussion, the Article passed. It was a unanimous vote.

Article 17. It was moved and seconded to see if the approves the establishment of a stabilization fund pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L.,c16G1/2 for the Gateway Regional School District, or take any other action relating thereto:

Dr. Hopson spoke to this article, saying that it is like having money in a savings account, to be used for any expenses such as roof repair on the Middle School.(that roof is going to have to be replaced probably in the next 5 years) and instead of having to come to the towns in the district and hit them a great big expense request, it will be easier on everyone if there is money in a stabilization fund .Any huge expense comes from a special account. There was some discussion before the vote was taken. It was a majority vote with 2 nay votes.

Article 18. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 90 funds; or take any other action relating thereto: Being no discussion, there was a vote taken and it was unanimous.

Article 19. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to request special legislation as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approve amendments to bill before enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; or take any other action relating thereto:

(The above-referenced Act will change the Board of Assessors from an elected to an appointed board, such board to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen for terms of one or more years. The new Board will be established as soon as appointments are made, at which time the elected Board of Assessors will be abolished, and the terms of the incumbent members thereof terminated.)

There was a great deal of discussion concerning this article, both pro and con. The discussion lasted for an hour. The question was called and a standing vote was taken. Yes: 21 No: 26. Article 19 failed.

*Article 20. (see below)

Article 21. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Refunded Dog Tax Fund the sum of \$307.93 to the Library Account; or take any other action relating thereto.

Being no discussion, the Article was voted on unanimously. The article passed.

Article 22. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will accept Franklin Regional Transit Authority as the official transportation agent for the Council on Aging; or take any other action relating thereto:

Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was unanimous. The article passed.

Article 23. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,650.00 to complete the interior appraisal of buildings in the Town of Middlefield; or take any other action relating thereto:

Being no discussion on this, a vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 24. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, which may be spent on the Transfer Station without further appropriation during FY2009. Collected Transfer Station fees may be used for the Transfer Station, for capital equipment, grounds improvement or other related expenses to benefit the Transfer Station. The Selectmen may spend up to \$5,000.00 to cap the old dump on Skyline Trail; or take any other action relating thereto;

Being no discussion, the vote was taken article 24 was passed unanimously.

Article 25. It moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the additional sum of \$5,000.00 to cap the old dump on Skyline trail; or take any other action relating thereto:

Being no discussion, the Article passed unanimously.

Article 26. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 for town/s fiscal audit; or take any other action relating thereto;

Being no discussion, the Article passed unanimously.

Article 27. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to appoint a member of the Board to serve as the assistant assessor at the salary fixed and voted on by the town; or take any other action relating thereto. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend the article to read "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to appoint a member of the board or some other person if the Board so desires, to serve as the assistant assessor at the salary fixed and voted on by the Town; or take any other action relating thereto". A vote was taken on the amended article and it was passed.

Article 28. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to borrow 275,000.00 for up to ten years to replace the roof on the town hall, replace the heating controls, and install a heat recovery ventilation system and a fire alarm system. There was some discussion on this article and Jay Waag-Swift spoke at length. A vote was taken and 24 people were in favor and article 28 passed unanimously.

Article 29. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$,000.00 to develop an improved web site for the town; or take any other action relating thereto.

After discussion, this article was tabled to be brought up again at the special town meeting to be held on June 18, 2008.

Article 30. To transact any other business to come before said meeting. Being none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

***RESULTS OF ARTICLE 20 VOTED ON AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 3,2008**

ARTICLE 20. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to petition the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same to enact a bylaw to enable a holder of an elected office in the town of Middlefield to be recalled therefrom by the registered voters of the town; or take any action relative thereto.

This Article evoked much discussion. Mary Courtney, Selectwoman, said that there was no statutory bylaw for recall in Massachusetts. She therefore composed the following and gave her version to the remaining Selectmen. Copies of this bylaw to be voted on were made available to the audience at the Town Meeting. Ms Courtney then walked thru the proposed bylaw with revisions.

Section 2: In this section, line 1,"Any fifteen (15), there was discussion on the number. Several people thought the number was too small and suggested that the number to be 50 registered voters.

line 9. first 50 registered voters

line 11 recall, malfeasance, misfeasance, etc to be deleted

line 15 fifteen(15) percent changed to 25 percent of registered voters from 15 percent.

A question was asked "Can the same people that sign the recall affidavit be able to sign the recall petition?" Answer: "Yes." Question was called, then a standing vote was taken on the amendments to Section 1. In favor: 22; Not in favor: 20 The amendment was passed.

Section 3.5

Line 7— of filing not less

Line 9 — to the public on written request to the Town Clerk

Section 7

Line 2 delete “nor in the last 6 months of the term”

A motion was made and seconded to accept Article 20 as amended. A standing vote was taken. Yes: 36 No: 4 Article 20 was passed.

RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, MAY 3, 2008

FOR THE TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD, MA

ARTICLE 1. To choose on one ballot for the term of three years:

Selectman	Robert Gazda
Assessor	Gita Jozsef Harris
Library Trustee	Susan Baker Donnelly
Zoning Board of Appeals	Stephen Cummings
Finance Committee	Tamarin Laurel-Paine
Cemetary Commission	Larry Pease
Planning Board	Alan Vint

For the term of two years:

Assessor:	Laura Lafreniere
-----------	------------------

For the term of one year:

Moderator	Joseph Kearns
Constable	Edward Vivier
Town Clerk	Marjorie Batorski
School Committee	Timothy Parker

Ballot Question: Shall the Town of Middlefield be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 21/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to replace the roof on the Town Hall, replace the

Heating controls, and install a heat recovery ventilation system?

Yes:48 No:18 Blank: 8

Article 1. Was passed and every one was elected to office.

At the opening of the meeting, Joseph Kearns led the assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance, then he read the warrant with article to be discussed and voted upon. He also asked that no one make a visual or voice recording as the Town Clerk was recording and that anyone could have a copy if requested from the town Clerk. There were approximately 50-60- people in attendance.

Article 2. Under this article to hear the reports of Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Assessors, and the School Committee Various officers gave their reports from the floor. The Chair of the Selectboard, Larry Pease, gave thanks to all who helped to get the hall in shape for the meeting; such as Skip Savery and Matt Radwich who cleaned the floor, and also to Joe Kearns and Skip for replacing some missing and unsightly ceiling tiles.

Also, Larry spoke of the missing members by death from our Town, such Jeremy Bouffard of the military who was killed in action, Don Savery, much loved and respected member of the community, Mary Sternagle, a teacher here in Middlefield, and Bill Cook, who was the last remaining member of the great "Cannon firing". Also, Bill was the oldest citizen of Middlefield.

Chris Monson, Tax Collector, said that this is her last year as Collector, and that she wouldn't be accepting another appointment. From the School Committee, Sam Sico, spoke and said the School Budget had gone down.

Article 3. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the town for Fiscal 2008, as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 541 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended; or take any other action relative thereto:

Modeartor	100
Town Clerk	4,000
Assessor, chair	3,000
Assessor, 2 nd	3,000
Assessor, 3 rd	3,000
Selectman, chair	1,500
Selectman, 1 st	1,500
Selectman, 2 nd 1	1,500
Constable, 1 st	90
Constable, 2 nd	90

The vote was taken and the article passed with one nay vote.

Article 4. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriated the salaries and compensation of appointed staff for FY2008.

Treasurer	7,000
Tax Collector	10,000
Selectboard's Secretary	7,5000
Town Accountant	11,000
Assistant Assessor	5,400

It was an unanimous vote and the article passed.

Article 5. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for General Government; or take any other action relative thereto:

Elected Town Officers	17,780
Town Counsel	5,000
Election & Registrations	1,000
Maintenance of Public Buildings	55,000
Insurance and Bonds	40,000
Soc Sec/Medicare Town Share	6,000

Being no discussion, the Article passed by a majority vote with 2 nays.

Article 6. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Expense Accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

Selectboard/Printing	3,500
Assessors	5,500
Annual Interim Certification	1,800
Tax Map Update	4,500
CAMA Software Support	1,550
Treasurer	1,500
Tax Collector	4,000
Tax Title& legal Fees	5,000
Planning Board	500
Town Accountant	1,500
Town Clerk	800
Zoning Board	300
Software Support	1,500
Electric Inspections	500
Plumbing Inspections	100
Constable	150
Conservation Commission	1,300
Communication Commission	300
Board of Health	250

There was some discussion on this article such as why so little for the Plumbing inspection? Answer was that that was a misprint and that the figure will be corrected in June when we have a Special Town Meeting.

Another question was asked. "What does a Constable do?" Answer: a Constable is similar to a Court Officer, and he post warrants etc. A motion was made and seconded to amend the figure of \$4,500.00 for the Tax Map to \$3,000.00. Being no further discussion, the Article passed as amended.

Article 7. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Highways; or take any other action relative thereto:

Highway Dept. Wages	105,000
Holidays and Vacations	9,000
Unemployment Insurance	2,000
Hampshire County Retirement	22,397
Health Insurance	40,000
Fuel	20,000
Snow Removal	35,000
Town Highway Maintenance	35,000
Unpaved Roads Material	15,000
Machinery Maintenance	30,000
Street Lights	500

Being no discussion, the vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 8. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money to the Library, Veterans and Cemetery accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

Library Expenses	2,500
Veterans Agent Expenses	100
War Memorials/Playground	3,500
Cemetery Expenses	3,500

Susan Baker-Donnelly, Library Trustee, spoke of the book sale that the Library was having, and also of the survey that the Library is conducting to held better serve the public with their wants. Being no further discussion, a vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 9. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Protection of persons and Property Accounts; or take any other action relating thereto:

Police Chief's Salary	1,000
Officers' Compensation	1,400

Police Dept. Operating Expenses	7,700
Fire Chief/Forest Fire Warden Salary	500
Fire Dept. Operating Expenses	4,500
Fire Dept. Inspections Salary	300
Fire Dept. Dispatch Service	6,180
Forest Fire	10
Civil Defense	10
Building Inspector Salary	14,145
Electrical Inspector Salary	300
Asst. Electrical Inspector	100
Plumbing Inspector Salary	300
Dog Officer's Salary	400
Dog Officer's Expenses	300
Insect Pest Control Expenses	100

Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was a unanimous vote. The article was passed.

Article 10. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Health & Sanitation; or take any other action relating thereto:

Ambulance	1,200
Hilltown Resource Management	1,872
Disposal Area	30,000
Bd. Of health/Insp Agents	600
Health and Sanitation	10
Lee Visiting Nurse	1,050

Being no discussion, a vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 11. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Debt and Interest; or take any other action relating thereto:

Interest on Short-Term Debt	5,000
Police Cruiser Loan	8,061

No discussion on this article and it was passed unanimously

Article 12. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Miscellaneous Accounts; or take any other action relating thereto:

Council on Aging	1,500
------------------	-------

Historical Commission	500
Pioneer Valley Planning	85
Recreation Committee	1,000
Hampshire Council of Govt	682
Agricultural Commission	100
Reserve Fund	5,000

Susan Baker-Donnelly, Chair of the Council on Aging spoke of the need for help, such as cleaning the center, picking up the meals for the lunch, and also picking up the brown bags. There is no salary but a small stipend. Being no further discussion, the vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 13. A motion was made seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of \$337,402.00 for Middlefield's minimum contribution of the budget for the Gateway Regional School District; or take any other action relating thereto:

Dr Hopson, Superintendent of Schools, and Stephanie Fisk, Business Manager, were here to answer any questions. How many children from Middlefield are enrolled at Gateway? Answer: 64 and we have 3 children going to Smith Vocational School. Do we get any assistance from the State? None coming and the Red Circuit Breaker is no longer a viable option. The Moderator said that this was really a bill presented to us by the state and it has to be paid. Being no more discussion, the vote was taken and it was an unanimous vote. The article passed.

Article 14. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$143,763.00 for Middlefield's share of the over-minimum contribution to the budget for the Gateway Regional School District; or take any other action relating thereto:

There was some discussion concerning this article then a vote was taken. It passed with 1 nay vote.

Article 15. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,070.00 for Middlefield's share of the transportation and Debt Service(non-foundation budget) and Construction for the Gateway Regional School District, or take any other action relating thereto:

Discussion on this article: The 20 year bond is being paid off, \$27,577.00 is for transportation, and \$42,128.00 is Capital Debt. After further discussion, the vote was taken and it passed by simple majority, with 1 nay.

Article 16. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000.00 for vocational education; or take any other action relating thereto: There was some discussion concerning this article and it was said that

that the \$65,000.00 pays for the three students from Middlefield that go to vocational school. Being no further discussion, the Article passed. It was a unanimous vote.

Article 17. It was moved and seconded to see if the approves the establishment of a stabilization fund pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L.,c16G1/2 for the Gateway Regional School District, or take any other action relating thereto:

Dr. Hopson spoke to this article, saying that it is like having money in a savings account, to be used for any expenses such as roof repair on the Middle School.(that roof is going to have to be replaced probably in the next 5 years) and instead of having to come to the towns in the district and hit them a great big expense request, it will be easier on everyone if there is money in a stabilization fund .Any huge expense comes from a special account. There was some discussion before the vote was taken. It was a majority vote with 2 nay votes.

Article 18. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 90 funds; or take any other action relating thereto: Being no discussion, there was a vote taken and it was unanimous.

Article 19. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to request special legislation as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approve amendments to bill before enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; or take any other action relating thereto:

(The above-referenced Act will change the Board of Assessors from an elected to an appointed board, such board to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen for terms of one or more years. The new Board will be established as soon as appointments are made, at which time the elected Board of Assessors will be abolished, and the terms of the incumbent members thereof terminated.)

There was a great deal of discussion concerning this article, both pro and con. The discussion lasted for an hour. The question was called and a standing vote was taken. Yes: 21 No: 26. Article 19 failed.

*Article 20. (see below)

Article 21. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Refunded Dog Tax Fund the sum of \$307.93 to the Library Account; or take any other action relating thereto.

Being no discussion, the Article was voted on unanimously. The article passed.

Article 22. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will accept Franklin Regional Transit Authority as the official transportation agent for the Council on Aging; or take any other action relating thereto:

Being no discussion, the vote was taken and it was unanimous. The article passed.

Article 23. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,650.00 to complete the interior appraisal of buildings in the Town of Middlefield; or take any other action relating thereto:

Being no discussion on this, a vote was taken and the article passed unanimously.

Article 24. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, which may be spent on the Transfer Station without further appropriation during FY2009. Collected Transfer Station fees may be used for the Transfer Station, for capital equipment, grounds improvement or other related expenses to benefit the Transfer Station. The Selectmen may spend up to \$5,000.00 to cap the old dump on Skyline Trail; or take any other action relating thereto;

Being no discussion, the vote was taken article 24 was passed unanimously.

Article 25. It moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the additional sum of \$5,000.00 to cap the old dump on Skyline trail; or take any other action relating thereto:

Being no discussion, the Article passed unanimously.

Article 26. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 for town/s fiscal audit; or take any other action relating thereto;

Being no discussion, the Article passed unanimously.

Article 27. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to appoint a member of the Board to serve as the assistant assessor at the salary fixed and voted on by the town; or take any other action relating thereto. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to amend the article to read "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to appoint a member of the board or some other person if the Board so desires, to serve as the assistant assessor at the salary fixed and voted on by the Town; or take any other action relating thereto". A vote was taken on the amended article and it was passed.

Article 28. It was moved and seconded to see if the Town will vote to borrow 275,000.00 for up to ten years to replace the roof on the town hall, replace the heating controls, and install a heat recovery ventilation system and a fire alarm system. There was some discussion on this article and Jay Waag-Swift spoke at length . A vote was taken and 24 people were in favor and article 28 passed unanimously.

Article 29. It was moved and seconded to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$,000.00 to develop an improved web site for the town; or take any other action relating thereto.

After discussion, this article was tabled to be brought up again at the special town meeting to be held on June 18, 2008.

Article 30. To transact any other business to come before said meeting. Being none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

*RESULTS OF ARTICLE 20 VOTED ON AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 3,2008

ARTICLE 20. A motion was made and seconded to see if the town will vote to petition the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same to enact a bylaw to enable a holder of an elected office in the town of Middlefield to be recalled therefrom by the registered voters of the town; or take any action relative thereto.

This Article evoked much discussion. Mary Courtney, Selectwoman, said that there was no statutory bylaw for recall in Massachusetts. She therefore composed the following and gave her version to the remaining Selectmen. Copies of this bylaw to be voted on were made available to the audience at the Town Meeting. Ms Courtney then walked thru the proposed bylaw with revisions.

Section 2: In this section, line 1,"Any fifteen (15), there was discussion on the number. Several people thought the number was too small and suggested that the number to be 50 registered voters.

line 9. first 50 registered voters

line 11 recall, malfeasance, misfeasance, etc to be deleted

line 15 fifteen(15) percent changed to 25 percent of registered voters from 15 percent.

A question was asked "Can the same people that sign the recall affidavit be able to sign the recall petition?" Answer: "Yes." Question was called, then a standing vote was taken on the amendments to Section 1. In favor: 22; Not in favor: 20 The amendment was passed.

Section 3.5

Line 7— of filing not less

Line 9 — to the public on written request to the Town Clerk

Section 7

Line 2 delete "nor in the last 6 months of the term"

A motion was made and seconded to accept Article 20 as amended. A standing vote was taken. Yes: 36 No: 4 Article 20 was passed.