

Select Board

January 13, 2026

Present:

- Select Board: Mr. Bill Ramsey, Chair, Ms. Liz Klein, and Ms. Julie Strehle
- Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator
- Ms. Katie Dugan, Assistant Town Administrator for Finance

Call to order:

6:02 PM: Ms. Klein 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 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.”

No one indicated that they were recording the meeting.

FY27 Departmental Budget Requests

Mr. Mayo noted that the 3.5% cap applies to the overall municipal budget, and he will ensure the proposed budget stays within that limit.

- **Select Board**

Mr. Mayo explained the Select Board budget, noting a 3.5% increase, including \$10,000 for unforeseen needs such as appraisals or event support.

- **Town Hall**

Mr. Mayo explained the Town Hall budget requesting a 0.3% increase due to anticipated increases in utility costs

- **Town Meeting**

Mr. Mayo advised that the Town Meeting budget includes funding for one Town Meeting, two nights, as vendors must be booked in advance in order to be prepared should Town Meeting extend beyond one night.

- **Legal Services**

Mr. Mayo explained the Legal Services budget.

- **Reserve Fund**

Mr. Mayo explained that the Reserve Fund is calculated at 0.75% of total annual expenditures to cover unforeseen expenses.

- **General Insurance – Property and Liability**

Mr. Mayo explained that staff asked the Town’s insurance broker to seek more cost-effective options for property and liability insurance. Following a competitive process, a lower-cost option was secured, resulting in an approximate 6.5% reduction from the prior year’s budget.

- **Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)**

- **Contributory Retirement**

Mr. Mayo explained the Contributory Retirement is set by an actuarial table expected to be fully funded by 2035.

- **Workers' Compensation**

Mr. Mayo advised the Workers' Compensation budget is flat funded and is an annual unknown expenditure.

Public Comment

No members of the public came forward.

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

The Select Board meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

Documents:

1. FY27 Departmental Budget requests packet