

Select Board

January 13, 2026

Present:

- Select Board: Mr. Bill Ramsey, Chair, Ms. Liz Klein, and Ms. Julie Strehle
- Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator
- Mr. Art Robert, Assistant Town Administrator for Operations

Call to order:

6:30 PM: Chair Ramsey 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.”

No one indicated that they were recording the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to be approved.

Proclaim Monday, January 19, 2026 as Martin Luther King Jr Day in the Town of Hingham

The Select Board read a proclamation to proclaim January 19, 2026 as Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the Town of Hingham.

Vote: Ms. Klein made a motion to proclaim January 19, 2026 as Martin Luther King Jr. Day in the Town of Hingham. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Consider the request of LSF Hingham, LLC d/b/a Legal Sea Foods, 96 Derby Street, Suite 325, Hingham, for a Change of Hours

Donna Cruz, Paralegal, explained Legal Sea Foods is requesting to change weekend hours to open at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays instead of 11 a.m. to offer brunch service.

Vote: Ms. Strehle made a motion to approve the request of LSF Hingham, LLC d/b/a Legal Sea Foods, 96 Derby Street, Suite 325, Hingham for a Change of Hours on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 AM to 1:00 AM to 10:00 AM to 1:00 AM, in accordance with the Application for a Change of Hours filed on December 19, 2025; subject to the approval of the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission. Ms. Klein seconded. All were in favor.

Appoint the Treasurer/Collector as the Custodian of Disposition of Tax Title Properties

Mr. Mayo explained that under a 2022 law, entities such as the Affordable Housing Trust or Conservation Commission must now purchase tax title properties through an auction rather than receive them by transfer. To facilitate this process, a custodian of disposition must be designated, and it is recommended that Lori Magner, Treasurer-Collector, serve in this role.

Vote: Ms. Klein made a motion that the Select Board for the Town of Hingham does hereby vote to appoint the Town of Hingham Treasurer/Collector as custodian to have the care, custody,

management and control of all real property acquired by foreclosure of tax title and to sell said foreclosed tax title property at public auction all in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 60, § 77B.” Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

FY27 Departmental Budget Requests

- **Treasurer / Collector**
Lori Magner, Treasurer/Collector, presented the FY27 budget request noting a 7% increase in printing services.
- **Town Clerk**
Carol Falvey, Town Clerk, presented the FY27 budget request with a slight increase due to printing costs.
- **Elections**
Ms. Falvey presented the FY27 budget request, noting it is higher than previous years due to three elections: the State Primary, State Election, and the annual Town Election.
- **Human Resources**
Lisa Campbell, HR Director, presented the FY27 budget request noting an increased amount for training, office supplies for open enrollment as well as cost for updated labor law posters.
- **Conservation**
Shannon Palmer, Conservation Officer, presented the FY27 budget request, noting increases for maintenance of conservation land, the commission’s 25% share of the Straits Pond tidal gate in Hull, and higher membership dues.
- **Historic Preservation**
Heidi Gaul, Historic Administrator, presented the FY27 budget request. There were not any additional expense increases. There was an additional request of \$3,728.72 annually for maintenance of the Canterbury Street Cemetery; however, the DPW will absorb the cost.
Diane DeNapoli, 16 Gardner St, asked a question about Veterans graves.
Melissa Fairfield, 39 Leavitt St, asked about plots in the cemetery.
- **Public Works**
Ashley Broyer, DPW Superintendent, presented the FY27 budget request, noting increases in utility costs and license fees for staff to renew required certifications as part of the collective bargaining agreement.
- **Transfer Station / Recycling**
Ms. Broyer presented the FY27 budget request noting there was no request for an increase in expenses.

All departments noted an increase in salaries due to step raises and COLA.

Submit Select Board-sponsored Perennial Warrant Articles for 2026 Annual Town Meeting

The Select Board considered the following perennial warrant articles:

- **Article A: Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund**
- **Article B : Assume Liability for DCR**
- **Article C: Reports of Various Town Committees**
- **Article D: Personnel Board Report**
- **Article E: Salaries of Certain Town Officers**
- **Article F: Budgets**
- **Article G: Stabilization Fund**

- **Article H: Disbursement of Electric Light Department Receipts**
- **Article I: Building Department Revolving Fund**
- **Article K: Transfer of Funds to the Reserve Fund**
- **Article L: Transfer to Municipal Waterways Improvement and Maintenance Fund**
- **Article N: Acceptance and Granting of Easements**

Vote: Ms. Strehle made a motion to submit the following Select Board-sponsored Warrant articles for the 2026 Annual Town Meeting:

- **Article A: Hannah Lincoln Whiting Fund**
- **Article B : Assume Liability for DCR**
- **Article C: Reports of Various Town Committees**
- **Article D: Personnel Board Report**
- **Article E: Salaries of Certain Town Officers**
- **Article F: Budgets**
- **Article G: Stabilization Fund**
- **Article H: Disbursement of Electric Light Department Receipts**
- **Article I: Building Department Revolving Fund**
- **Article K: Transfer of Funds to the Reserve Fund**
- **Article L: Transfer to Municipal Waterways Improvement and Maintenance Fund**
- **Article N: Acceptance and Granting of Easements**

Ms. Klein seconded. All were in favor.

Submit Select Board-sponsored Warrant Articles for 2026 Annual Town Meeting

- **Article P: Construction of Center for Active Living**

Mr. Mayo explained that the article would authorize borrowing, likely as a debt exclusion, to fund the construction of a new Center for Active Living on Bear Cove Park Drive.

Tom Carey, Chair of the HCAL Building Committee, 1131 Main St, noted that the Building Committee reviewed the proposed warrant article earlier that day and unanimously and enthusiastically recommended its inclusion in the upcoming Town Meeting warrant, noting the committee's long-standing work and readiness to present the proposal to Town Meeting.

Several Residents spoke on the warrant:

Nes Correnti, 17 Ward St,

Joe Nevins, 46 Lincoln St

Diane Denapoli, 16 Gardner St

Yvette Kantor, 442 Main St

Don Marsters, 18 Guilford Rd

Virginia Ballou, 219 Hersey St

Vote: Ms. Klein made a motion to submit the Select Board-sponsored Warrant Article P: Construction of Center for Active Living for the 2026 Annual Town Meeting. Ms. Strehle seconded. All were in favor.

Appointments and/or reappointments (for a list of Talent Bank Applicants and Board and Committee vacancies, please visit Hingham-ma.gov/SB)

There were no appointments to be made.

Public Comment

No members of the public came forward.

Select Board/Town Administrator Reports

There were no reports this evening.

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

The Select Board meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Documents:

1. MLK Jr. Day Proclamation
2. Legal Sea Foods – Change of hours packet
3. Tax Title Custodian
4. FY27 Departmental Budgets
5. SB Warrant Article Packet
6. Warrant Article P