

MARCH 29, 1998

the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all contracts and agreements as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Article, or take any other action with respect thereto.

Board of Selectmen

Background: Police Station Project – Please see the attached color pages at the back of this book for complete information on this project.

Bylaw Committee Report: No report.

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 8-0-0 to recommend the approval of Article 5.

ARTICLE 6 To see what sum the Town will raise by borrowing, or from the tax levy, or transfer from available funds, or otherwise, and appropriate for the purpose of constructing additions, remodeling, reconstructing and making extraordinary repairs to the Arthur W. Coolidge Junior High School on Birch Meadow Drive, including the costs of original furnishings and equipment, engineering and architectural fees, inspection fees, relocation costs, contingencies and related expenses incidental thereto and necessary in connection therewith, said sum to be expended by and under the direction of the School Committee; and to see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to file applications for a grant or grants to be used to defray all or any part of the cost of said school renovations and additions and related matters, and to see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to enter into all contracts and agreements as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Article, or take any other action with respect thereto.

School Committee

Background: See attached report.

Bylaw Committee Report: No report.

Finance Committee Report: Action pending.

ARTICLE 7 To see what sum the Town will raise by borrowing, or from the tax levy or transfer from available funds, or otherwise, and appropriate for the replacement of boilers and/or burners and for the abatement and/or removal of asbestos at any or all of the following locations: Birch Meadow School, 27 Arthur B. Lord Drive; and the Reading Memorial High School, 62 Oakland Road, Reading Massachusetts; such appropriation to include all engineering fees and preparation costs required to complete the purpose of this Article, all moneys to be spent under the direction of the Reading School Committee, or take any other action with respect thereto.

School Committee

Background: In April 1997, Town Meeting approved two bond issues, one for \$1,850,000 to repair and renovate Reading Memorial High School, and one for \$600,000 to complete repair and renovation of the Birch Meadow School. The School Department

contracted with Siebe Environmental Controls, Inc. to do work related to the heating systems at the High School and Birch Meadow. Work is well underway at both schools. Unfortunately, the actual costs of asbestos abatement and demolition of old and installation of new boilers have far exceeded original estimates. There is need for an additional appropriation of \$100,000 to complete the job at Birch Meadow and \$600,000 to complete the job at the High School, for a total request of \$700,000.

With the additional \$700,000 appropriation, the heating systems will be able to be completely modernized, including abatement of asbestos. Energy management control systems to control heat delivery have already been installed. Complaints regarding wide fluctuations of heat will be greatly reduced and oil consumption will be lessened.

The School Committee requested the \$700,000 bond issue in its capital expenditure program. The amended Capital Improvements Plan includes this request in its financing plan, with borrowing to commence in FY 1998. SBAB reimbursement will be sought, but is not reflected in the capital plan due to uncertainties in the timing of reimbursement.

Bylaw Committee Report: No report.

Finance Committee Report: The Finance Committee voted 7-0-0 to recommend approval of Article 7.

ARTICLE 8 To see if the Town will vote to instruct its State Representatives and State Senator to file a Home Rule Petition with the General Court and pass said petition in substantially the form of the following, or take any other action with respect thereto.

“AN ACT



RELATIVE TO A CERTAIN RETIRED EMPLOYEE OF THE TOWN OF READING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1.

Notwithstanding any special or general law, rule or regulation to the contrary the town of Reading is hereby authorized to grant Louis Bacigalupo a superannuation retirement allowance in accordance with Chapter 32 of the General Laws equal to 2.1% of either (i) the average annual rate of regular compensation received by Mr. Bacigalupo during any period of three consecutive years of creditable service for which such rate of compensation was highest, or (ii) the average annual rate of regular compensation received by Mr. Bacigalupo during the period or periods, whether consecutive or not, constituting his last three years of creditable service preceding retirement, whichever is the greater, multiplied by the number of years of creditable service.