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SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
October 30, November 1 & 8, 2000

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the Government Channel.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Harrison Gregg at 7:46 p.m. There were 251 town meeting members. 126 checked in and a quorum was declared. The call and return of the warrant were read by Town Clerk, Margaret Z. Nartowicz. Town board and committee member recognitions were conducted prior to addressing articles in the warrant.

Consideration of Article 8 was postponed to after the disposition of Article 21.

ARTICLE 1. *Reports of Boards and Committees*

Voted that the Town hear only those reports of Town officers, the Finance Committee, and any other Town boards or committees which are not available in written form.

Action taken on 10/30/00.

ARTICLE 2. *Transfer of Funds - Unpaid Bills*

Voted that the Town raise and appropriate \$2,031.33 to pay unpaid bills of prior years.

Action taken on 10/30/00.

BECAUSE prescription costs deny access to lifesaving drugs for many seniors and people with disabilities, with skyrocketing prices that are a hardship to millions...

BECAUSE more than 70 thousand Massachusetts seniors and people with disabilities have been abandoned by HMOs in 1999, leaving many without prescription coverage...

BECAUSE HMOs and insurance plans have reduced and capped prescription coverage...

WE ENDORSE legislation to protect consumers from marketplace medicine.

WE SUPPORT H.R. 664, an act to provide substantial reductions in the price of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries.

WE SUPPORT H.R. 1495, an act to provide coverage for outpatient prescription drugs under the Medicare program.

Action taken on 10/30/00.

ARTICLE 5. *Rescind Nigeria Bylaw*

Voted unanimously that the Town rescind the Human Rights and Democracy in Nigeria Bylaw.

Action taken on 10/30/00.

ARTICLE 6. *Bylaw Amendment – Noise Bylaw*

Voted that the Town add to Section 2 of the Town Noise Bylaw, Exemptions, the following paragraph: d). Noise caused by agricultural, farm-related, or forestry-related activities as defined by M.G.L. Chapter 128, Section 1A, as amended from time to time, including but not limited to the operation of farm equipment, sawmills, harvesting equipment, noises from farm animals, and the like.

Action taken on 10/30/00.

10:05 p.m. The meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, November 1, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 177 town meeting members were checked in.

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The adjourned session of November 1, 2000 was called to order by the moderator at 7:50 p.m. 126 town meeting members checked in and a quorum was declared.

Peter Shea, Ann Grose, James Pistrang, Nonny Burack, H. Oldham Brooks and James Scott were sworn as tellers.