

# TOWN OF ACTON

## ABSTRACT OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD JANUARY 13, 1998

Number of Registered Voters attending the Town meeting -- 942

**Moderator Donald MacKenzie called the meeting to order on Tuesday, January 13, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.**

After welcoming the attendees to the special town meeting, the Moderator gave a brief review of Town meeting rules and regulations.

The Moderator introduced F. Dore Hunter, Chairman of the Board of Selectman. Mr. Hunter introduced Town Counsel, the Town Manager, members of the Board of Selectman and the Assistant Town Manager. The Moderator introduced the Town Clerk and Thomas Mackey, Chairman of the finance Committee. Mr. Mackey introduced the members of the Finance Committee.

After a few announcements, Mr. MacKenzie read the motion for Article 1.

### **ARTICLE 1 LOCAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATIONS** (2/3 Vote Required)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$21,000,000, or any other sum of money, for constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new four-section elementary school as well as for an addition or additions to the Merriam School and for remodeling, reconstructing, or making extraordinary repairs to the Merriam School, including, as to each project, costs incidental and related thereto, and to determine whether to raise this appropriation by borrowing or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**MOTION: MR. ZELIKOW** moves that \$12.2 million be appropriated for constructing, originally equipping and furnishing a new four section elementary school and that \$8.8 million be appropriated for constructing an addition or additions to the Merriam School and for remodeling, reconstruction or making extraordinary repairs to the Merriam School, including as to each separate project costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$12.2 million and \$8.8 million respectively under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or Chapter 645 of the Acts of 1948 as amended; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to petition the General Court for an act to permit the first principal payment on such borrowing to be not later than five (5) years from the date of issue and the last principal payment to be not later than twenty five years from the date of issue; and that the School Committee is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out these projects, provided, however, that no debt may be incurred under this vote, except for up to \$750,000 as to the new elementary school construction project and up to \$550,000 as to the Merriam School addition and renovation project for planning and other preliminary expenses, until the State Department of Education has included the Town's application for a state school construction grant as to each respective project on its list of completed project applications, showing the priority assigned, and provided that this vote shall not take effect with respect to each respective project until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2 1/2) amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote for such project.

( CONTINUED )

*VOTE*

*YES 594*

*NO 277*

*TOTAL VOTE 871*

**MOTION: Mr. F. Dore Hunter** moves to adjourn the Special Town Meeting at 10:20 p.m.

**MOTION CARRIES**

Tellers present at this meeting were Marjorie Brown, William Cady, Isabella Choate, Brewster Conant, Edward Ellis, Thomas Geagan, Carolyn Gray, Cornelia Huber, Charles Husbands, Charles Kadlec, Kimberly Powers, Peter Robinson, Allen Warner, John Whittier, and Mary Prendiville.