

**OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2007**

**BOOK ENTRY ONLY**

**Ratings: Moody's, S&P, Fitch: "Aaa," "AAA" and "AAA"**

*In the opinion of Bond Counsel, based on existing statutes and court decisions and assuming continuing compliance with certain covenants and procedures relating to requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not treated as an item of tax preference for purposes of computing the federal alternative minimum tax. Interest on the Bonds may be includable in the calculation of certain taxes under the Code, including the alternative minimum tax on certain corporations, as described under "Tax Exemption" herein. In the opinion of Bond Counsel, based on existing law, interest on the Bonds is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, although the Bonds and the interest thereon may be included in the measure of Massachusetts estate and inheritance taxes and of certain Massachusetts corporate excise and franchise taxes. The Town will designate the Bonds as "Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligations" for purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code. See "Tax Exemption" and "Appendix C – Proposed Form of Legal Opinion" herein.*

**TOWN OF HINGHAM,  
MASSACHUSETTS**

**\$6,514,750**

**General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2007 Bonds**

**Dated:** September 15, 2007

**Due:** September 15, 2008- 2026

The Bonds are issuable only in fully registered form, without coupons, and, when issued, will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as bondowner and nominee of The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") in New York, New York. DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Purchases of the Bonds will be made in book-entry form, in the denomination of \$5,000 or an integral multiple thereof. (See "Book-Entry-Only System" herein) except for one denomination of \$4,750 in the first maturity. U.S. Bank National Association, Boston, Massachusetts, will act as Paying Agent for the Bonds.

Principal of the Bonds will be payable on September 15 in each of the years set forth below. Interest on the Bonds will be payable on September 15, 2008 and semiannually thereafter on March 15 and September 15 in each year until maturity or earlier redemption. So long as DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., is the Bondowner, such payments will be made directly to DTC. Disbursement of such payments to the DTC Participants is the responsibility of DTC. Disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners is the responsibility of the DTC Participants and the Indirect Participants, as more fully described herein.

<u>Due</u> <u>September 15</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Due</u> <u>September 15</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>Interest</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Yield</u>
2008	\$364,750	4.000%	3.400	2018	\$435,000	4.000%	3.720
2009	365,000	4.000	3.400	2019	265,000	4.000	3.800
2010	365,000	4.000	3.400	2020	265,000	4.000	3.860
2011	370,000	4.000	3.410	2021	270,000	4.000	3.910
2012	375,000	4.000	3.420	2022	275,000	4.000	3.960
2013	390,000	4.000	3.430	2023	280,000	4.000	4.010
2014	395,000	4.000	3.450	2024	285,000	4.000	4.050
2015	405,000	4.000	3.490	2025	285,000	4.000	4.090
2016	415,000	4.000	3.560	2026	290,000	4.000	4.120
2017	420,000	4.000	3.630				

The Bonds are subject to redemption prior to maturity, as more fully described herein.

An opinion of Bond Counsel will be attached to the Bonds to the effect that the Bonds are valid general obligations of the Town and that the principal of and interest on the Bonds are payable from taxes which may be levied upon all taxable property in the Town, subject to the limitation imposed by Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws.

The Bonds are offered for delivery when, as and if issued by the Town, subject to the approving opinion of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, Boston, Massachusetts, Bond Counsel. Capital Markets Advisors LLC, New York, New York, serves as Financial Advisor to the Town. It is expected that the Bonds in definitive form will be delivered to DTC or its custodial agent on or about September 21, 2007 against payment in Federal Reserve Funds.

**FIDELITY CAPITAL MARKETS SERVICES**

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts and the purchasers or holders of any of the Bonds. Any statements made in this Official Statement involving matters of opinion, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as opinion and not as representations of fact. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale of the Bonds described herein shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts since the date hereof.

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The scope of engagement of Bond Counsel does not extend to passing upon or assuming responsibility for accuracy or adequacy of any statements made in this Official Statement other than matters expressly set forth as their opinion and they make no representation that they have independently verified the same.

## **BOND ISSUE SUMMARY**

### **TOWN OF HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

**\$6,514,750**

#### **General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2007 Bonds**

The information in this Bond Issue Summary is qualified in its entirety by the detailed information and financial statements appearing elsewhere in this Official Statement. This Official Statement speaks only as of its date and the information herein is subject to change.

**DATE OF SALE:** Thursday, September 13, 2007

**LOCATION OF SALE:** The offices of Capital Markets Advisors, LLC, One Great Neck Road, Suite 1, Great Neck, New York 11021, fax (516) 487-2575 and telephone (516) 487-9817.

**ISSUER:** Town of Hingham, Massachusetts (the "Town")

**ISSUE:** \$6,514,750 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2007 Bonds (the "Bonds")

**DATED DATE:** September 15, 2007

**MATURITY DATE:** The Bonds will mature on September 15, in each of the years 2008 to 2026.

**AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE:** The proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will used to redeem a like amount of bond anticipation notes originally issued to finance various municipal projects under the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 7 of the Massachusetts General Laws. See 'Authorization and Purpose' herein.

**REDEMPTION:** The Bonds are subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities as more fully described herein.

**SECURITY:** The Bonds are valid general obligations of the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts and the principal of and interest on the Bonds are payable, to the extent not paid from other sources, from taxes which may be levied upon all property in the Town, subject to the limitations imposed by Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws.

**RATINGS:** The Bonds are rated Aaa, AAA and AAA by Moody's Investors Services, Inc, Standard & Poor's Corporation and Fitch Ratings, respectively. See "Ratings" herein.

**BASIS OF AWARD:** Lowest True Interest Cost ("TIC") as of the dated date.

**TAX EXEMPTION:** In the opinion of Bond Counsel, the Bonds, including the interest thereon, are exempt from taxation imposed by existing Massachusetts law, although the Bonds or such interest are included in the measure of Massachusetts estate and inheritance taxes and of applicable Massachusetts corporation excise and franchise taxes. Under existing law the interest on the Bonds is not included in gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of computing the alternative minimum tax; however such interest may be included in the measure of certain taxes imposed upon corporations.

**CONTINUING DISCLOSURE:** In accordance with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Town will undertake to provide, or cause to be provided, annual reports and notices of certain material events. See “The Bonds – Continuing Disclosure” herein for a description of this undertaking.

**BANK QUALIFICATION:** The Town will designate the Bonds as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Accordingly, in the opinion of Bond Counsel, a deduction will be allowed to a financial institution for eighty percent of its interest expense allocable to the Bonds.

**PAYING AGENT:** U.S. Bank National Association, Boston, Massachusetts

**LEGAL OPINION:** Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, Boston, Massachusetts will act as Bond Counsel.

**DELIVERY AND PAYMENT:** It is expected that delivery of the Bonds in book-entry form will be made to The Depository Trust Company or its custodial agent on or about September 21, 2007. Delivery of the Bonds will be made against payment in Federal Reserve Funds.

**TOWN OFFICIAL:** For more information concerning the Town and the Official Statement contact Jean M. Montgomery, Town Treasurer/Collector, (781) 741-1408 or Ted C. Alexiades, Finance Director/Town Accountant, Town of Hingham, Massachusetts, (781)741-1470.

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**TOWN OF HINGHAM  
MASSACHUSETTS**

**\$6,514,750**

**General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2007 Bonds**

This Official Statement is provided for the purpose of presenting certain information relating to the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts (the "Town") in connection with the issuance and sale of \$6,514,750 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2007 Bonds. The information contained herein has been furnished by the Town, except information specifically attributed to another government agency or official.

The Bonds are being offered for sale at public bidding on Thursday, September 13, 2007. A Notice of Sale dated August 31, 2007 has been furnished to prospective bidders. Reference is hereby made to the Notice of Sale for the terms and conditions of the bidding.

**THE BONDS**

***Description of the Bonds***

The Bonds will be dated September 15, 2007 and will mature in annual installments on September 15 in each of the years and in the principal amounts as set forth on the cover page of this Official Statement. The Bonds shall bear interest at the rate or rates per annum specified by the successful bidder, payable on September 15, 2008 and semiannually thereafter on March 15 and September 15 of each year until maturity.

The Bonds are issuable only as fully registered bonds, without coupons, and when issued will be registered in the name of Cede & Co., as Bondholder and nominee for The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") in New York, New York. DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Purchases of the Bonds will be made in book-entry form, in the denomination of \$5,000 or an integral multiple thereof, except for one denomination of \$4,750 in the first maturity of the Bonds. Purchasers will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds. So long as Cede & Co., is the Bondowner, as nominee of DTC, references herein to the Bondowners or registered owners shall mean Cede & Co., as aforesaid, and shall not mean the Beneficial Owners (as defined herein) of the Bonds. (See "Book-Entry Only System" herein.)

Principal of and interest on the Bonds will be paid by U.S. Bank National Association, Boston, Massachusetts, as Paying Agent to DTC. So long as DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., is the Bondowner, such payments will be made directly to DTC. Disbursement of such payments to the DTC Participants is the responsibility of DTC and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners is the responsibility of the DTC Participants and the Indirect Participants, as more fully described herein.

***Record Date***

The record date for each payment of interest is the first business day of the month preceding the interest payment date, provided that, under certain circumstances, the Paying Agent may establish a special record date. The special record date may not be more than twenty (20) days before the date set for payment. The Paying Agent will mail notice of a special record date to the bondholders at least ten (10) days before the special record date.

***Authorization and Purpose***

The Bonds are being issued pursuant to Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws and various votes of the Town as described below. Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds will be used to redeem \$6,514,750 outstanding bond anticipation notes of the Town maturing on December 19, 2007 and previously issued to finance the costs of the projects described below.

<u>Authorization Date</u>	<u>Amount Authorized</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Law Cite</u>	<u>Maximum Term</u>	<u>Note Amount Outstanding</u>	<u>Original Issue Date</u>	<u>Amount to Bonds</u>
4/29/03	\$2,300,000	Sewer Construction	Ch. 44, Sec.7 (1)	30 years	\$1,495,000	6/22/04	\$1,495,000
4/26/04	1,700,000	Country Club Irrigation	Ch. 44, Sec.7 (25)	15 years	1,585,000	6/22/04	1,585,000
4/25/06	3,434,750	Fire Station	Ch. 44, Sec.7 (3A)	20 years	<u>3,434,750</u>	6/19/07	<u>3,434,750</u>
					<u>\$6,514,750</u>		<u>\$6,514,750</u>

Component and consolidated amortization schedules for the projects listed above are as follows:

<u>Principal Maturing September 15</u>	<u>\$1,495,000 Sewer Construction</u>	<u>\$1,585,000 Country Club Irrigation</u>	<u>\$3,434,750 Fire Station</u>	<u>\$6,514,750 Total</u>
2008	\$ 55,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 189,750	\$364,750
2009	55,000	125,000	185,000	365,000
2010	60,000	125,000	180,000	365,000
2011	60,000	130,000	180,000	370,000
2012	60,000	135,000	180,000	375,000
2013	65,000	145,000	180,000	390,000
2014	65,000	150,000	180,000	395,000
2015	70,000	155,000	180,000	405,000
2016	75,000	160,000	180,000	415,000
2017	75,000	165,000	180,000	420,000
2018	80,000	<u>175,000</u>	180,000	435,000
2019	85,000		180,000	265,000
2020	85,000		180,000	265,000
2021	90,000		180,000	270,000
2022	95,000		180,000	275,000
2023	100,000		180,000	280,000
2024	105,000		180,000	285,000
2025	105,000		180,000	285,000
2026	<u>110,000</u>		<u>180,000</u>	<u>290,000</u>
	\$1,495,000	\$ 1,585,000	\$3,434,750	\$6,514,750

### ***Book-Entry Only System***

The Depository Trust Company (“DTC”), New York, New York, will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued in fully registered form, registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC’s partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered certificate will be issued for each note bearing the same rate of interest and CUSIP number, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world’s largest depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a “banking organization” within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 2 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and

municipal debt issues, and money market instruments from over 85 countries that DTC's participants ("Direct Participants") deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants' accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC"). DTCC, in turn, is owned by a number of Direct Participants of DTC and Members of the National Securities Clearing Corporation, Government Securities Clearing Corporation, MBS Clearing Corporation, and Emerging Markets Clearing Corporation, (NSCC, GSCC, MBSCC, and EMCC, also subsidiaries of DTCC), as well as by the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange LLC, and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly ("Indirect Participants"). DTC has Standard & Poor's highest rating: AAA. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Purchases of securities under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for such securities on DTC's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each security deposited with DTC ("Beneficial Owner") is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in each security deposited with DTC are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in each security deposited with DTC, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for such securities is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all securities deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC's partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of securities with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of such securities deposited with it; DTC's records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such securities are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments on securities held in book-entry only form by DTC will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the issuer of securities, on payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC or the Town, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the Town, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the securities held by it at any time by giving reasonable notice to the issuer thereof. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, physical certificates are required to be printed and delivered to Beneficial Owners.

The Town may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, physical certificates will be printed and delivered to Beneficial Owners.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained from The Depository Trust Company, and the Town believes such information to be reliable, but the Town takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

### ***Redemption***

The Bonds maturing on or before September 15, 2017 are not subject to redemption prior to maturity.

The Bonds maturing on and after September 15, 2018 are subject to redemption prior to maturity, at the option of the Town, on any date on or after September 15, 2017, in whole or in part and by lot within a maturity, in such amounts and in such order of maturity as the Town may determine, at par, together with interest accrued and unpaid to the redemption date.

So long as DTC is the registered owner of the Bonds, notice of any redemption of the Bonds, prior to their maturities, specifying the Bonds (or the portions thereof) to be redeemed shall be mailed to DTC not more than 60 days nor less than 30 days prior to the redemption date. Any failure on the part of DTC to notify the DTC Participants of the redemption or failure on the part of the DTC Participants or of a nominee of a Beneficial Owner (having received notice from a DTC Participant or otherwise) to notify the Beneficial Owner shall not affect the validity of the redemption. If moneys for the redemption are held by the Paying Agent on the redemption date and if notice of the redemption shall have been duly mailed, then from and after the redemption date interest on the Bonds (or portions thereof) called for redemption shall cease to accrue.

### ***Opinion of Bond Counsel***

A copy of the legal opinion of the firm of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, of Boston, Massachusetts (see Appendix C), will be furnished to the successful bidder. The opinion will be dated and given on and will speak only as of the date of original delivery of the Bonds to the successful bidder.

The scope of engagement of Bond Counsel does not extend to passing upon or assuming responsibility for the accuracy or adequacy of any statements made in this Official Statement other than matters expressly set forth as their opinion and they make no representation that they have independently verified the same.

### ***Tax Exemption***

In the opinion of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, Bond Counsel to the Town ("Bond Counsel"), based upon an analysis of existing laws, regulations, rulings, and court decisions, and assuming, among other matters, compliance with certain covenants, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code"). Bond Counsel is of the further opinion that interest on the Bonds is not a specific preference item for purposes of the federal individual or corporate alternative minimum taxes, although Bond Counsel observes that such interest is included in adjusted current earnings when calculating corporate alternative minimum taxable income.

Bond Counsel is also of the opinion that, under existing law, interest on the Bonds is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, and the Bonds are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. Bond Counsel has not opined as to other Massachusetts tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should be aware, however, that the Bonds are included in the measure of Massachusetts estate and inheritance taxes, and the Bonds and the interest thereon are included in the measure of certain Massachusetts

corporate excise and franchise taxes. Bond Counsel has not opined as to the taxability of the Bonds or the income therefrom under the laws of any state other than Massachusetts. A complete copy of the proposed form of opinion of Bond Counsel is set forth in Appendix C hereto.

Prospective holders to the Bonds should be aware that the statutory framework on which the exemptions from Massachusetts personal income taxes and from Massachusetts personal property taxes described above are based is similar to that at issue in *Department of Revenue of Kentucky v. Davis*, 197 S.W. 3d 557 (Ky. App. 2006), cert. Granted (May 21, 2007), in which the Kentucky court held that a statute which provided more favorable income tax treatment for holders of bonds issued by Kentucky issuers than for holders of out-of-state municipal bonds violated the Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution. Should the United States Supreme Court affirm the holding of the Kentucky court, subsequent Massachusetts judicial decisions and/or legislation designed to ensure the constitutionality of Massachusetts tax law could, amount other alternatives, adversely affect the Massachusetts tax exemption of outstanding bonds, including the Bonds, to the extent constitutionally permissible, or result in the exemption from Massachusetts income tax of interest on non-Massachusetts municipal bonds, either of which could affect the market price of the Bonds.

To the extent the issue price of any maturity of the Bonds is less than the amount to be paid at maturity of such Bonds (excluding amounts stated to be interest and payable at least annually over the term of such Bonds), the difference constitutes "original issue discount," the accrual of which, to the extent properly allocable to each owner thereof, is treated as interest on the Bonds which is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes. For this purpose, the issue price of a particular maturity of the Bonds is the first price at which a substantial amount of such maturity of the Bonds is sold to the public (excluding bond houses, brokers, or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents or wholesalers.) The original issue discount with respect to any maturity of the Bonds accrues daily over the term to maturity of such Bonds on the basis of a constant interest rate compounded semiannually (with straight-line interpolations between compounding dates). The accruing original issue discount is added to the adjusted basis of such Bonds to determine taxable gain or loss upon disposition (including sale, redemption, or payment on maturity) of such Bonds. Holders of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax consequences of ownership of Bonds with original issue discount, including the treatment of purchasers who do not purchase such Bonds in the original offering to the public at the first price at which a substantial amount of such Bonds is sold to the public.

The Code imposes various requirements relating to the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on obligations such as the Bonds. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in interest on the Bonds being included in gross income for federal income tax purposes, possibly from the date of original issuance of the Bonds. The Town has covenanted to comply with such requirements to ensure that interest on the Bonds will not be included in federal gross income. The opinion of Bond Counsel assumes compliance with these requirements. Bond Counsel has not undertaken to determine (or to inform any person) whether any actions taken (or not taken) or events occurring (or not occurring) after the date of issuance of the Bonds may adversely affect the value of, or the tax status of interest on, the Bonds. Further, no assurance can be given that any pending, proposed or future legislation, including amendments to the Code, if enacted into law, or any regulatory or administrative development with respect to existing law, will not adversely affect the value of, or tax status of interest on, the Bonds. Prospective holders of the Bonds are urged to consult their own tax advisors with respect to proposals to restructure the federal income tax.

Although Bond Counsel is of the opinion that interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes, the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, the Bonds may otherwise affect the federal or state tax liability of a holder of the Bonds. Among other possible consequences of ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, the Bonds, the Code requires recipients of certain social security and certain railroad retirement benefits to take into account receipts or accruals of interest on the Bonds in determining the portion of such benefits that are included in gross income. The nature and extent of all such other tax consequences will depend upon the particular tax status of the holder or the holder's other items of income or deduction. Except as indicated in the following paragraph, Bond Counsel expresses no opinion regarding any such other tax consequences, and holders of the Bonds should consult with their own tax advisors with respect to such consequences.

**The Bonds will be designated as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” for the purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Accordingly, in the opinion of Bond Counsel, the deduction will be allowed to a financial institution for eight percent of its interest expense allocable to the Bonds.**

### ***Security and Remedies***

*Full Faith and Credit.* General obligation bonds and notes of a Massachusetts city or town constitute a pledge of its full faith and credit. Payment is not limited to a particular fund or revenue source. Except for “qualified bonds” (see Serial Bonds and Notes below) and setoffs of state distributions (see State Distributions below), no provision is made by the Massachusetts statutes for priorities among bonds and notes and other general obligations, although the use of certain moneys may be restricted.

*Tax Levy.* The Massachusetts statutes direct the municipal assessors to include annually in the tax levy for the next fiscal year “all debt and interest charges matured and maturing during the next fiscal year and not otherwise provided for (and) all amounts necessary to satisfy final judgments”. Specific provision is also made for including in the next tax levy payments of rebate amounts not otherwise provided for and payment of notes in anticipation of federal or state aid if the aid is no longer forthcoming.

The total amount of a tax levy is limited by statute. However, the voters in each municipality may vote to exclude from the limitation any amounts required to pay debt service on indebtedness incurred before November 4, 1980. Local voters may also vote to exempt specific subsequent bond issues from the limitation. (See “Tax Limitations” under Tax Levies below). In addition, obligations incurred before November 4, 1980 may be constitutionally entitled to payment from taxes in excess of the statutory limit.

No provision is made for a lien on any portion of the tax levy to secure particular bonds or notes to bonds and notes generally (or judgments on bonds or notes) in priority to other claims. Provision is made, however, for borrowing to pay judgments, subject to the General Debt Limit (see Debt Limits below). Subject to the approval of the State Director of Accounts for judgments above \$10,000, judgments may also be paid from available funds without appropriation and included in the next tax levy unless other provision is made.

*Court Proceedings.* Massachusetts cities and towns are subject to suit on their general obligation bonds and notes and courts of competent jurisdiction have power in appropriate proceedings to order payment of a judgment on bonds or notes from lawfully available funds or, if necessary, to order the city or town to take lawful action to obtain the required money, including the raising of it in the next annual tax levy, within the limits prescribed by law (see Tax Limitations, below). In exercising their discretion as to whether to enter such an order, the courts could take into account all relevant factors including the current operating needs of the city or town and the availability and adequacy of other remedies. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court has stated in the past that a judgment against a municipality can be enforced by the taking and sale of the property of any inhabitant. However, there has been no judicial determination as to whether this remedy is constitutional under current due process and equal protection standards.

*Utility and Enterprise Receipts, Revolving Funds.* Massachusetts statutes also provide that certain water, gas and electric, sewer and parking meter receipts may be used only for water, gas and electric, sewer and parking and related purposes, respectively and accordingly, moneys derived from these sources may be unavailable to pay general obligation bonds and notes issued for other purposes. A city or town that accepts certain other statutory provisions may establish an enterprise fund for a utility, health care, recreational or transportation facility; under those provisions any surplus in the fund is restricted to use for capital expenditures or reduction of user charges. In addition, subject to certain limits, a city or town may annually authorize the establishment of one or more revolving funds in connection with use of certain revenues for programs that produce those revenues; interest earned on a revolving fund is treated as general fund revenue. Also, the annual allowance for depreciation of a gas and electric plant is restricted to use for plant renewals and improvements, for nuclear decommissioning costs, and costs of contractual commitments, or, with the approval of the State Department of Telecommunications and Energy, to pay debt incurred for plant reconstruction or renewals. Revenue bonds and notes issued in anticipation of them may be

secured by a prior lien on specific revenues. Receipts from industrial users in connection with industrial revenue financings are also not available for general municipal purposes.

*State Distributions.* State grants and distributions may in some circumstances be unavailable to pay general obligations bonds and notes of a city or town in that the State Treasurer is empowered to deduct from such grants and distributions the amount of any debt service paid on “qualified bonds” (see Serial Bonds and Notes, under “Types of Obligations” below) and any other sums due and payable by the city or town to the Commonwealth, or certain other public entities including any unpaid assessments for costs of any public transportation authority (such as the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (the “MBTA”) or a regional transit authority) of which it is a member or for costs of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (the “MWRA”) or the Metropolitan District Commission (the “MDC”) if the city or town is within the territory served by either of those entities, or for charges necessary to meet obligations under the Commonwealth’s Water Pollution Abatement and Drinking Water Loan Programs, including such charges imposed by another governmental unit that provides wastewater or collection treatment services or drinking water treatment and distribution services to the city or town.

If a city or town is (or is likely to be) unable to pay principal or interest on its bonds or notes when due, it is required to notify the State Commissioner of Revenue. The Commissioner shall in turn, after verifying the inability, certify the inability to the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer shall pay the due or overdue amount to the paying agent for the bonds or notes, in trust, within three days after the certification or one business day prior to the due date (whichever is later). This payment is limited, however, to the estimated amount otherwise distributable by the Commonwealth to the city or town during the remainder of the fiscal year (after the deductions mentioned in the foregoing paragraph). If for any reason any portion of the certified sum has not been paid at the end of the fiscal year, the State Treasurer shall pay it as soon as practicable in the next fiscal year to the extent of the estimated distributions for that fiscal year. The sums so paid shall be charged (with interest and administrative costs) against the distributions to the city or town.

The foregoing does not constitute a pledge of the faith and credit of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth has not agreed to maintain existing levels of state distributions, and the direction to use estimated distributions to pay debt service may be subject to repeal by future legislation. Moreover, adoption of the annual appropriation act is often delayed beyond the beginning of the fiscal year and estimated distributions which are subject to appropriation may be unavailable to pay local debt service until they are appropriated.

*Bankruptcy.* Enforcement of a claim for payment of principal of or interest on general obligation bonds or notes would be subject to the applicable provisions of federal bankruptcy laws and to the provisions of other statutes, if any, hereafter enacted by the Congress or the Massachusetts legislature extending the time for payment or imposing other constraints upon enforcement insofar as the same may be constitutionally applied. Massachusetts statutes do not presently authorize the filing of bankruptcy proceedings by its cities and towns.

## ***Ratings***

The Bonds are rated Aaa, AAA and AAA by Moody’s Investors Service, Inc., Standard & Poor’s Corporation and Fitch Ratings, respectively. An explanation of the significance of any rating should be obtained from the respective rating agencies at the following addresses: Moody’s Investors Service, Inc., 99 Church Street, New York, New York 10004; Fitch Ratings, One State Street Plaza, New York, New York 10004; Standard & Poor’s Corporation, 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041. Generally, a rating agency bases its rating on information and materials furnished to it and on investigations, studies, and assumptions of its own. There is no assurance any rating will continue for any given period of time or that a rating will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by a rating agency if, in its judgment, circumstances so warrant. A downward revision or withdrawal of such a rating could have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds, as well as any outstanding bonds.

### ***Financial Advisor***

The Town has retained Capital Markets Advisors, LLC, New York and Great Neck, New York, as Financial Advisor (the “Financial Advisor”) in connection with the issuance of the Bonds. In preparing the Official Statement, the Financial Advisor has relied upon governmental officials, and other sources, who have access to relevant data to provide accurate information for the Official Statement, and the Financial Advisor has not been engaged, nor has it undertaken, to independently verify the accuracy of such information. The Financial Advisor is not a public accounting firm and has not been engaged by the Town to compile, review, examine or audit any information in the Official Statement in accordance with accounting standards. The Financial Advisor is an independent advisory firm and is not engaged in the business of underwriting, trading or distributing municipal securities or other public securities and therefore will not participate in the underwriting of the Bonds.

Requests for information concerning the Town should be addressed to the Town Treasurer, Jean M. Montgomery, c/o Capital Markets Advisors, LLC, One Great Neck Road, Suite 1, Great Neck, New York 11021 (516) 487-9817.

### ***Continuing Disclosure***

In order to assist the Underwriters in complying with Rule 15c2-12 (b) (5) promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Rule”), the Town will covenant for the benefit of owners of the Bonds to provide certain financial information and operating data relating to the City by not later than 270 days after the end of each fiscal year (the “Annual Report”), and to provide notices of the occurrence of certain enumerated events, if material. The covenants will be contained in a Continuing Disclosure Certificate, the proposed form of which is provided in Appendix D herein. The certificate will be executed by the signers of the Bonds, and incorporated by reference in the Bonds.

The Town has previously undertaken in continuing disclosure agreements entered into for the benefit of holders of certain of its general obligation bonds and notes to provide certain annual financial information and material events notices pursuant to Rule 15c2-12(b)(5). To date the Town has not failed, in any material respect, to meet any of its undertakings under such agreements.

**APPENDIX A**

**THE TOWN**

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## THE TOWN

### *General*

The Town of Hingham, Massachusetts (the “Town”), was incorporated in 1635. It is located in Plymouth County, about 15 miles south of Boston. The Town is bordered on the north mostly by the Atlantic Ocean, but also by the Town of Hull. It is bordered on the south by the Towns of Norwell and Rockland, to the east by the Towns of Cohasset and Scituate, and on the west by the Town of Weymouth. Hingham has a population of 21,095 (2006 Town estimate) and occupies a land area of 22.5 square miles. The Town is governed by an open Town Meeting, and Town affairs are administered by a three-person Board of Selectmen, and an appointed Town Administrator.

The Town’s history is reflected in its many antique houses, including “Old Ordinary” on Lincoln Street, which now houses the Hingham Historical Society Museum. Derby Academy, founded in 1784, is the oldest co-educational school in the country and Hingham’s Old Ship Church is the oldest church structure in the country in continuous use as a place of worship. Hingham has created six historic districts which will help the Town maintain its unique character in the future.

The following is a list of principal Town officials. The terms of each official will expire the first Saturday in May of their respective expiration year.

**Table 1**  
**Principal Town Officials**

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Manner of Selection</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Selectman, Chairman	Melissa A. Tully	Elected	2008
Selectman	John A. Riley	Elected	2009
Selectman	Laura Burns	Elected	2010
Town Administrator	Charles J. Cristello	Appointed	Indefinite
Treasurer/Collector	Jean M. Montgomery	Elected	2010
Finance Director/Town Accountant	Theodore C. Alexiades	Appointed	Indefinite
Town Clerk	Eileen A. McCracken	Elected	2009
Town Assessor/Appraiser	R. Lane Partridge	Appointed	Indefinite

Source: Office of the Town Administrator.

### *Municipal Services*

The Town provides general governmental services within its boundaries including police and fire protection, public education, street maintenance, recreation and a municipal golf course (the South Shore Country Club). The Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (“MWRA”) and the Town of Hull through their wastewater treatment facilities provide wastewater treatment services to approximately 30% of the households in the Town. The Hingham Municipal Light Plant, a self-supporting enterprise, provides electric power to the Town, while Aquarion Water Company, a private firm, provides water services to the Town. The Hingham Housing Authority maintains housing for elderly and handicapped residents. The principal services provided by Plymouth County are court facilities, a jail and house of corrections, and registry of deeds.

## ***Education***

The Town's public school facilities include three elementary schools (grades K-5), one junior high school (grades 6-8), and one senior high school (grades 9-12). The Town is in the process of expanding its school capacity through projects which will be funded by the future issuance of bonds.

The table below shows the trend in public school enrollments for the following school years, and enrollment projections for the 2007 school year.

**Table 2**  
**Public School Enrollments**

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>Capacity</u>
Elementary (K-5)	1,713	1,770	1,810	1,808	1,869	1,590
Junior High (6-8)	858	811	824	860	877	770
Senior High (9-12)	<u>967</u>	<u>1,043</u>	<u>1,061</u>	<u>1,056</u>	<u>1054</u>	<u>1,150</u>
Total	<u>3,538</u>	<u>3,624</u>	<u>3,695</u>	<u>3,724</u>	<u>3,800</u>	<u>3,510</u>

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Schools.

## ***Industry and Commerce***

Hingham is a suburb of Boston, and primarily is a residential community. The wholesale/retail trade sector employs the greatest percentage of people, followed by the service sector. The following table sets forth the Town's largest employers, exclusive of the Town itself.

**Table 3**  
**Largest Employers - 2006**

<u>Company</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Approximate Number of Current Employees</u>
Talbot's	Retail Clothing	1,200
Serono Laboratories	Bio-Technology	455
Linden Ponds	Health Care	310
Russ Electric	Manufacturing	250
Stop & Shop	Retail	200
Harbor House Nursing & Rehabilitation	Health Care	200
Black Rock Country Club	Golf	200
Whole Foods	Retail	180
Eat Well	Restaurant	175
Kohl's	Retail	130

Source: Town Accountant for calendar year ended December 31, 2006.

## *Unemployment*

According to data furnished by the Massachusetts Department of Employment and Training for the year ending December 31, 2006, the Town had an average labor force of 10,954, of which 3.7% were unemployed as compared to 5% for the State and 4.6% for the United States. The following table sets forth the Town's average labor force and unemployment rates for calendar years 2002 through 2006, and the unemployment rates for The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the United States for the same periods.

**Table 4**  
**Unemployment Rates**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Town of Hingham</u>		<u>Massachusetts</u>	<u>United States</u>
	<u>Labor Force</u>	<u>Unemployment Rate</u>	<u>Unemployment Rate</u>	<u>Unemployment Rate</u>
2006	10,954	3.7%	5.0%	4.6%
2005	10,546	3.2	4.8	5.1
2004	10,149	3.9	5.2	5.5
2003	10,519	3.8	5.8	6.0
2002	10,661	3.5	5.3	5.8

Source: Massachusetts Department of Employment and Training average annual rates for the calendar year ended December 31, 2006. Data is seasonally unadjusted and based upon place of residence, not place of employment.

## *Building Permits*

The following table sets forth the number of building permits issued and the estimated dollar value of new construction and alterations for fiscal years 2002 through 2006. The estimated dollar values are builders' estimates and are generally considered to be conservative. Permits are filed and estimated valuations are shown for both private construction and Town projects.

**Table 5**  
**Building Permits**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Residential</u>		<u>Non-Residential</u>		<u>Totals</u>	
	<u>No.</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Value</u>
2006	687	\$85,518,014	292	\$30,130,645	979	\$115,648,659
2005	760	74,780,951	302	116,596,153	1062	191,377,104
2004	626	50,729,984	311	20,509,704	937	71,239,688
2003	664	50,477,912	231	33,959,121	895	84,437,033
2002	629	31,516,573	221	13,121,122	850	44,637,695

Source: Town Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006.

## *Transportation and Utilities*

The principal highways serving the Town are State Routes 3, 3A and 228. Bus service within the Town and to neighboring communities is provided by the MBTA. Plymouth and Brockton Bus Lines provide direct bus service regularly to Boston.

The Hingham-Boston Commuter Boat, operated by private concerns, under contract with the MBTA, provides daily ferry service to Boston.

The Town is within a 40-minute driving distance of Boston's Logan International Airport as well as to the municipal airport facilities in Norwood, Marshfield and Middleborough. The Commuter Boat, with via water connections in Boston, also provides access to Logan.

The Town operates its own municipal light company. The Hingham Municipal Light Plant, which has no generation facilities of its own, purchases all of its power requirements for distribution to the Town. The Aquarion Water Company, a private firm, provides water services to the Town. Gas and telephone services are provided by established private utilities.

***Income Levels and Population***

The following table shows the population trends from the past four federal census reports.

**Table 6**  
**Population Trends**

<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
18,845	20,339	19,821	19,882

Source: Federal Bureau of the Census.

The following table compares federal census figures for the Town, the Commonwealth and the United States.

**Table 7**

	<u>Hingham</u>	<u>Massachusetts</u>	<u>United States</u>
Median Age:			
2000	39.7	36.5	35.3
1990	37.6	33.6	32.9
1980	32.6	31.2	30.0
1970	27.5	29.0	28.1
Median Family Income:			
2000	\$98,598	\$61,664	\$50,046
1990	66,386	44,367	35,225
1980	30,157	21,166	19,908
1970	12,729	10,835	9,867
Per Capita Income:			
2000	\$41,703	\$25,952	\$21,587
1990	25,726	17,224	14,420
1980	9,949	7,459	7,313
1970	4,251	3,425	3,139

Source: Town Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2006.

## **PROPERTY TAXATION**

### ***Tax Levy Computation***

One of the principal revenue sources of the Town is the tax on real and personal property. The amount to be levied in each year is the amount appropriated or required by law to be raised for municipal expenditures less estimated receipts from other sources and less appropriations voted from available funds. The total amount levied is subject to certain limits prescribed by law; for a description of those limits, see "Property Tax Limitation" below. As to the inclusion of debt service and final judgments, see "Security and Remedies" above. The estimated receipts for a fiscal year from other sources may not exceed the actual receipts during the preceding fiscal year from the same sources unless approved by the State Commissioner of Revenue. Except for special funds the use of which is otherwise provided for by law, the deduction for appropriations voted from available funds for a fiscal year cannot exceed the "free cash" as of the beginning of the prior fiscal year as certified by the State Director of Accounts plus up to nine months' collections and receipts on account of earlier years' taxes after that date. Subject to certain adjustments, free cash is surplus revenue less uncollected overdue property taxes from earlier years. Although an allowance is made in the tax levy for abatements (see "Overlay" below) no reserve is generally provided for uncollectible real property taxes. Since some of the levy is inevitably not collected, this creates a cash deficiency which may or may not be offset by other items (see "Taxation to Meet Deficits").

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The following table illustrates the details of the calculation of the tax levies for the last five fiscal years:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Total Appropriations <sup>(1)</sup>	\$58,799,716	\$61,524,670	\$62,131,259	\$65,817,382	\$70,151,695
Additions:					
State and County Assessments	1,467,785	1,645,889	1,926,836	2,211,130	2,624,281
Overlay Reserve	550,361	215,200	343,442	376,634	320,781
Other Additions	<u>262,823</u>	<u>199,889</u>	<u>672,280</u>	<u>1,282,207</u>	<u>128,412</u>
Total Additions	<u>2,280,969</u>	<u>2,060,978</u>	<u>2,942,558</u>	<u>3,869,971</u>	<u>3,073,474</u>
Gross Amount to be Raised	<u>\$61,080,685</u>	<u>\$63,585,648</u>	<u>\$65,073,817</u>	<u>\$69,687,353</u>	<u>\$73,225,169</u>
Deductions:					
Local Estimated Receipts:					
Local	6,661,020	7,047,154	7,816,704	7,197,355	9,144,205
Enterprise	1,269,000	1,391,200	1,764,000	1,834,111	1,845,282
Community Preservation Fund	1,273,855	1,466,100	480,000	1,060,396	1,740,200
State Aid <sup>(2)</sup> :					
Current Year	8,690,599	7,464,825	7,685,913	7,980,125	8,670,748
Prior Year's Overestimate	73	0	0	0	0
Available Funds <sup>(3)</sup> :					
Free Cash	2,528,374	3,309,778	1,422,916	2,716,334	1,078,400
Other	<u>1,472,769</u>	<u>1,280,000</u>	<u>1,716,233</u>	<u>1,128,366</u>	<u>592,960</u>
Total Deductions	<u>21,895,690</u>	<u>21,959,057</u>	<u>20,885,766</u>	<u>21,916,687</u>	<u>23,071,795</u>
Net Amount to be Raised	<u>\$39,184,968</u>	<u>\$41,626,591</u>	<u>\$44,188,051</u>	<u>\$47,770,666</u>	<u>\$50,153,374</u>

(1) Includes annual appropriations from taxation voted subsequent to adoption of the annual budget but prior to setting the tax rate.

(2) Estimated by the State Department of Revenue and required by law to be used in setting of the tax rate. Actual state aid payments may vary upward or downward from said estimates, and the State may withhold (generally quarterly) payments pending receipt of State and County assessments.

(3) Transfers from available funds, including "Free Cash" (see "Free Cash" herein), generally made as an offset to a particular appropriation item.

Source: Town Assessor/Appraiser.

### ***Assessed Valuations and Tax Levies***

*Tax Rate and Valuation – General* Property is classified for the purpose of taxation according to its use. The legislature has in substance created three classes of taxable property: (1) residential real property, (2) open space land, and (3) all other (commercial, industrial and personal property). Within limits, cities and towns are given the option of determining the share of the annual levy to be borne by each of the three categories. Until fiscal year 2004, the share required to be borne by residential real property was at least 50 per cent of its share of the total taxable valuation; under legislation enacted in the beginning of 2004, however, cities and towns were authorized to reduce the required share to be borne by residential real property to at least 45 per cent of its share of the total taxable valuation in fiscal year 2004, 47 per cent in fiscal year 2005, 49 per cent in fiscal year 2006 and 50 per cent thereafter. The effective rate for open space must be at least 75 per cent of the effective rate for residential real property. Until fiscal year 2004, the share of commercial, industrial and personal property was limited to not more than 175 per cent of their share of the total valuation; under legislation enacted in the beginning of 2004, however, cities and towns

were authorized to increase the limit on the share of the total taxable valuation of such property to not more than 200 per cent in fiscal year 2004, 197 per cent in fiscal year 2005, 290 per cent in fiscal year 2006, 183 per cent in fiscal 2007, 175 per cent in fiscal year 2008, and, if the share of such property in a particular city or town exceeded 175 per cent in any of the fiscal years 2004 through 2007, 170 per cent in fiscal years 2009 and thereafter. A city or town may also exempt up to 20 per cent of the valuation of residential real property (where use as the taxpayer's principal residence) and up to 10 percent of the valuation of commercial real property (where occupied by certain small businesses). Property may not be classified in a city or town until the State Commissioner of Revenue certifies that all property in the city or town has been assessed at its fair cash value. Such certification must take place every three years.

Related statutes provide that certain forest land, agricultural or horticultural land (assessed at the value it has for these purposes) and recreational land (assessed on the basis of its use at a maximum of 25 percent of its fair cash value) are all to be taxed at the rate applicable to commercial property. Land classified as forest land is valued for this purpose at five percent of fair cash value but not less than ten dollars per acre.

**Table 9**  
**Trends in Assessed Valuation, Tax Rates and Levies**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Real Estate Valuation</u>	<u>Personal Property Valuation</u>	<u>Total Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Tax Rate Per \$1,000 Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Gross Tax Levy</u>	<u>Tax Levy Per Capita</u>
2007	\$5,498,122,000	\$74,475,140	\$5,572,597,140	\$9.00	\$50,153,374	\$2,378
2006	5,127,098,600	65,365,130	5,192,463,730	9.20	47,770,666	2,289
2005	4,374,573,440	61,977,830	4,436,551,270	9.96	44,188,051	2,133
2004	3,827,885,300	69,735,540	3,897,620,840	10.68	41,626,591	2,009
2003	3,362,162,100	54,140,880	3,416,302,980	11.47	39,184,968	1,895
2002	3,210,354,100	53,467,250	3,263,821,350	11.72	38,251,986	1,846

Source: Office of the Town Assessor/Appraiser.

The following is a breakdown of the Town's fiscal 2006 and 2007 real estate valuation by type of property.

**Table 10**  
**Real Estate Valuation**

	<u>2006</u>		<u>2007</u>	
	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Residential	\$4,537,505,927	88.50%	\$4,880,457,430	88.80%
Commercial	383,712,499	7.48	423,901,180	7.70
Industrial	<u>205,880,174</u>	<u>4.02</u>	<u>193,763,390</u>	<u>3.50</u>
Total Real Estate	<u>\$5,127,098,600</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>\$5,498,122,000</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

Source: Office of the Town Assessor/Appraiser.

***Largest Taxpayer***

The following table is a list of the largest taxpayers in the Town based upon taxes assessed for fiscal year 2006.

**Table 11**  
**Largest Taxpayers**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Nature of Business</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>% of Total Levy</u> <sup>(1)</sup>
CNL Retirement ER4 LP	Housing	\$121,999,700	2.2%
Hingham Retail Properties LLC	Mall	99,725,400	1.8
Aquarion Water Co of Mass	Utility	56,047,840	1.0
South Shore Industrial Park	Land & Building	38,103,100	.7
Hewitts Cove Marina LLC	Land	35,451,400	.6
The Talbot's, Inc	Office Manufacturing	26,611,300	.5
Perry Rockland LLC	Office Building	22,390,100	.4
Hingham Resources LLC	Golf	18,600,000	.3
Curtlo LLC	Mall	13,813,700	.3
Hingham Builders LLC	Real Estate	12,082,800	<u>.2</u>
			8.1%

(1) Total 2007 Assessed Valuation of \$5,498,122,000

Source: Office of the Town Assessor/Appraiser.

***State Equalized Valuation***

In order to determine appropriate relative values for the purposes of certain distributions to and assessments upon cities and towns, the Commissioner of Revenue biennially makes a determination of the fair cash value of the taxable property in each municipality as of January 1 of even-numbered years. This is known as the "equalized value".

The following table sets forth the trend in state equalized valuations of the Town.

**Table 12**  
**State Equalized Valuation**

<u>January 1</u>	<u>State Equalized Valuation</u>
2006	\$5,479,432,500
2004	4,273,602,000
2002	3,449,887,600
2000	2,588,869,000
1998	2,191,461,700
1996	2,021,730,100

Source: Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Local assessed valuations are determined annually as of January 1 and used for the fiscal year beginning on the next July 1. The Town's most recent professional revaluation was completed for use in setting the 2007 fiscal year's tax rate and levy.

## ***Overlay***

The Town is authorized by law to increase each tax levy by an amount approved as reasonable by the Commissioner of Revenue for an “overlay” to provide for tax abatements. If abatements are granted in excess of the applicable overlay reserve, the resultant “overlay deficit” is required to be added to the next tax levy. Abatements are granted where exempt real or personal property has been assessed or where taxable real or personal property has been overvalued or disproportionately valued. The assessors may also abate uncollectible personal property taxes. They may abate real and personal property taxes on broad grounds (including inability to pay) with the approval of the State Commissioner of Revenue.

The following table sets forth the amount of the overlay reserve for the last five fiscal years and actual abatements and exemptions granted during the fiscal year against each levy.

**Table 13**  
**Overlay Reserve and Abatements**

Fiscal Year	Net Levy <sup>(1)</sup>	Overlay Reserve		Abatements Granted as of <u>2-22-07</u>
		Dollar Amount	As a % of Net Levy	
2007	\$49,832,593	\$320,781	0.64%	0
2006	47,394,032	376,634	0.79	105,114
2005	43,844,609	343,442	0.78	62,211
2004	41,411,391	215,200	0.52	58,452
2003	38,634,607	550,361	1.42	139,376

<sup>(1)</sup> Net of overlay.

Source: Office of the Assessor/Appraiser.

## ***Tax Collections***

Property tax bills are payable quarterly on August 1, November 1, February 1, and May 1 of each fiscal year. Interest accrues on delinquent taxes currently at the rate of 14% per annum retroactive to the due date. Real property (land and buildings) is subject to a lien for the taxes assessed upon it (subject to any paramount federal lien and subject to bankruptcy and insolvency laws). If the property has not been transferred, an unenforced lien expires on the fourth December 31 after the end of the fiscal year to which the tax relates. If the property has not been transferred by the fourth December 31, an unenforced lien expires upon a later transfer of the property. Provision is made, however, for continuation of the lien where it could not be enforced because of a legal impediment. The persons against whom real or personal property taxes are assessed are personally liable for the tax (subject to bankruptcy and insolvency laws). In the case of real property, this personal liability is effectively extinguished by sale or taking of the property as described below.

The table below compares the Town's net tax collections with its net (gross tax levy less overlay reserve for abatement) tax levies for the most recent fiscal years.

**Table 14**  
**Tax Levy and Collections**

Fiscal Year	Gross Tax Levy <sup>(1)</sup>	Overlay Reserve for Abatements	Net Tax Levy <sup>(2)</sup>	Collections During Fiscal Year Payable <sup>(3)</sup>		Collections Through June 30, 2007 <sup>(4)</sup>	
				Dollar Amount	% of Net Levy	Dollar Amount	% of Net Levy
2007	\$50,153,374	\$320,781	\$49,832,593	\$49,069,892	98.47%	\$49,069,892	98.47%
2006	47,664,933	376,634	47,288,299	46,894,133	99.17	47,237,345	99.89
2005	44,188,051	343,442	43,844,609	43,442,955	99.08	43,844,609	100.00
2004	41,626,591	215,200	41,411,391	41,209,919	99.51	41,411,391	100.00
2003	39,184,968	550,361	38,634,607	38,577,982	99.85	38,634,607	100.00

(1) Includes Real Estate and Personal Property tax.

(2) Net after deduction of overlay reserve for abatements.

(3,4) Actual collections net of refunds. Does not include proceeds of tax titles or tax possessions attributable to each levy or other non-cash credits.

Source: Office of the Treasurer/Collector.

***Tax Titles and Possessions***

Massachusetts law permits a municipality either to sell by public sale (at which the municipality may become the purchaser) or to take real property for non-payment of taxes. In either case the property owner can redeem the property by paying the unpaid taxes, with interest and other charges, but if the right of redemption is not exercised within six months (which may be extended an additional year in the case of certain installment payments) it can be foreclosed by petition to the Land Court.

Upon such foreclosure, a tax title purchased or taken by the municipality becomes a "tax possession" and may be held and disposed of in the same manner as other land held for municipal tax titles by purchase at the public sale or by taking, at which time the tax is written off in full by reserving the amount of tax and charging surplus.

The table below sets forth the amount of tax titles and possessions outstanding at the end of the flowing years.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Tax Titles and Possessions</u>
2007	\$634,568
2006	649,731
2005	649,731
2004	618,368
2003	629,689

Source: Office of Town Treasurer/Collector.

## ***Taxation to Meet Deficits***

Overlay deficits (tax abatements in excess of the overlay included in the tax levy to cover abatements) are required to be added to the next tax levy. It is generally understood that revenue deficits (those resulting from non-property tax revenues being less than anticipated) are also required to be added to the next tax levy, at least to the extent not covered by surplus revenues. Amounts lawfully expended since the prior tax levy and not included therein are also required to be included in the annual tax levy. The circumstances under which this can arise are limited since municipal departments are generally prohibited from incurring liabilities in excess of appropriations except for emergencies, mandated items, contracts in aid of housing and renewal projects and other long-term contracts. In addition, certain established salaries such as civil service must legally be paid for work actually performed, whether or not covered by appropriations.

All revenue and overlay deficits in existence at the time tax rates have been set have been provided for as required by Massachusetts law during the relevant period.

Cities and towns are authorized to appropriate sums, and thus to levy taxes, subject to any overall limits on tax levies, to cover deficits arising from other causes such as “free cash” deficits arising from a failure to collect taxes. This is not generally understood, however, and it has not been the practice to levy taxes to cover free cash deficits. Except to the extent that free cash deficits have been reduced or eliminated by subsequent collections of uncollected taxes (including sales of tax titles and tax possessions), lapsed appropriations, non-property tax revenues in excess of estimates, other miscellaneous items or funding loans authorized by special act, they remain in existence.

## ***Property Tax Limitations***

Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws, commonly known as “Proposition 2 ½”, imposes two separate limits on the annual tax levy of a city or town.

The primary limitation is that the tax levy cannot exceed 2½ percent of the full and fair cash value. If a city or town exceeds the primary limitation, it must reduce its tax levy by at least 15 percent annually until it is in compliance, provided that the reduction can be reduced in any year to not less than 7½ percent by majority vote of the voter, or to less than 7½ percent by majority vote of the voters, or to less than 7½ percent by two-thirds vote of the voters.

For cities and towns at or below the primary limit, a secondary limitation is that the tax levy cannot exceed the maximum levy limit for the preceding fiscal year as determined by the State Commissioner of Revenue by more than 2½ percent, subject to exceptions for property added to the tax rolls or property which has had an increase, other than as part of a general revaluation, in its assessed valuation over the prior year’s valuation.

This “growth” limit on the tax levy may be exceeded in any year by a majority vote of the voters, but an increase in the secondary or growth limit under this procedure does not permit a tax levy in excess of the primary limitation, since the two limitations apply independently.

The applicable tax limits may also be reduced in any year by a majority vote of the voters.

The State Commissioner of Revenue may adjust any tax limit “to counterbalance the effects of extraordinary, non-recurring events which occurred during the base year”.

The statute further provides that the voters may exclude from the taxes subject to the tax limits and from the calculation of the maximum tax levy (a) the amount required to pay debt service on bonds and notes issued before November 4, 1980, if the exclusion is approved by a majority vote of the voter, and (b) the amount required to pay debt service on any specific subsequent issue for which similar approval is obtained. Even with voter approval, the holders of the obligations for which unlimited taxes may be

assessed do not have a statutory priority or security interest in the portion of the tax levy attributable to such obligations.

Voters may also exclude from the Proposition 2½ limits the amount required to pay specified capital outlay expenditures. In addition, the city council of a city, with the approval of the mayor if required, or the board of selectmen of the town council of a town may vote to exclude from Proposition 2½ limits taxes raised in lieu of sewer or water charges to pay debt service on bonds or notes issued by the municipality (or by an independent authority, commission or district) for water sewer purposes, provided that the municipality’s sewer or water charges are reduced accordingly.

In addition, the statute limits the annual increase in the total assessments on cities and towns by any county, district, authority, the Commonwealth or any other governmental entity (except regional school districts, the MWRA and certain districts for which special legislation provides otherwise) to the sum of (a) 2½ percent of the prior year’s assessments and (b) “any increases in costs, charges or fees for services customarily provided locally or for services subscribed to at local option”. Regional water districts, regional sewerage districts and regional veteran districts may exceed these limitations under statutory procedures requiring a two-thirds vote of the district’s governing body and either approval of the local appropriating authorities (by two-thirds vote in districts with more than two members or by majority vote in two-member districts) or approval of the registered voters in a local election (in the case of two-member districts). Under the statute any State law to take effect on or after January 1, 1981 imposing a direct service or cost obligation on a city or town will become effective only if accepted or voluntarily funded by the city or town or if State funding is provided. Similarly, State rules or regulations imposing additional costs on a city or town or laws granting or increasing local tax exemptions are to take effect only if adequate State appropriations are provided. These statutory provisions do not apply to costs resulting from judicial decisions.

The following table sets forth the Town’s tax levies and levy limits under Proposition 2 ½ for the last five fiscal years:

**Table 15**  
**Levy Limits and Tax Levies**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Local Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>Primary Levy limit</u>	<u>Secondary Levy Limit</u>	<u>Actual Tax Levy</u>
2007	\$5,572,597,140	\$139,314,929	\$50,254,813	\$50,153,374
2006	5,192,463,730	129,811,593	47,909,524	47,770,666
2005	4,436,551,270	110,913,782	44,416,176	44,188,051
2004	3,897,620,840	97,440,521	41,642,417	41,626,591
2003	3,416,302,980	85,407,575	39,588,133	39,184,968

Source: Office of the Town Assessor/Appraiser.

***Initiative Petitions***

The Massachusetts Constitution provides a procedure for the filing of petitions, signed by the requisite number of registered voters, to place on the ballot for State elections questions for the enactment of statutes by the voters. Legislation enacted by the voters may subsequently be amended or repealed by the legislative process.

***Education Reform***

State legislation known as the Education Reform Act of 1993, as amended, imposes certain minimum expenditure requirements on municipalities with respect to funding for education and related programs, and may affect the level of state aid to be received for education. The requirements are determined on the basis of formulae affected by various measures of wealth and income, enrollments, prior levels of local spending

and state aid, and other factors. For fiscal years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 the Town met, and for fiscal 2007 expects to meet, the minimum required local contribution.

## TOWN FINANCES

### *Budget and Appropriations Process*

The annual appropriations of the Town are ordinarily made at the Annual Town Meeting which takes place in April. Appropriations may also be voted at special meetings. The Town has an Advisory Committee which submits reports and recommendations on proposed expenditures at town meetings.

The school budget is limited to the total amount appropriated by the Town Meeting, but the school committee retains full power to allocate the funds appropriated, subject to the requirements of the Education Reform Act.

The Town Meeting does not vote general operating appropriations for the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant, but rather authorizes this self-supporting enterprise to make expenditures from receipts. The expenditures are made under the direction of the Hingham Municipal Light Board. (See "Hingham Municipal Light Plant" herein)

State and county assessments, abatements in excess of overlays, principal and interest not otherwise provided for and final judgments are included in the tax levy whether or not included in the budget. Revenues are not required to be set forth in the budget but estimated non-tax revenues are taken into account by the assessors in fixing the tax levy. (See Property Tax above.)

The following table sets forth the trend in operating budgets for fiscal years 2004 through 2008, as voted at Town Meeting. The budgets reflect neither revenues nor state and county assessments and other mandatory items. Also not reflected are expenditures authorized for non-recurring (generally capital) purposes under special warrant articles or transfers occurring subsequent to the Annual Town Meeting.

**Table 16**  
**Budget Comparison**

<u>Appropriations by Department/Category</u>	<u>Fiscal 2004</u>	<u>Fiscal 2005</u>	<u>Fiscal 2006</u>	<u>Fiscal 2007</u>	<u>Fiscal 2008</u>
General Government	\$2,681,996	\$2,785,625	\$3,044,481	\$3,626,281	\$3,696,855
Public Safety	8,054,476	8,380,094	9,339,059	9,832,079	9,921,981
Health and Human Services	635,797	640,322	673,795	699,825	712,241
Public Works	5,464,569	5,694,100	5,559,732	6,121,648	7,187,798
Schools	26,964,075	28,734,595	30,683,851	31,964,897	34,033,844
Culture and Recreation	1,278,114	1,332,372	1,448,454	1,625,817	1,652,570
Unclassified	442,540	501,540	425,297	583,226	449,899
Country Club (Enterprise Fund)	1,391,200	1,364,000	1,434,111	1,445,282	1,796,758
Debt Service	<u>5,308,419</u>	<u>5,198,751</u>	<u>5,235,783</u>	<u>5,112,727</u>	<u>5,045,697</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$52,221,186</u>	<u>\$54,631,399</u>	<u>\$57,844,563</u>	<u>\$61,011,782</u>	<u>\$64,497,643</u>

Source: Adopted Budgets of the Town.

## ***Revenues***

**Property Taxes:** Property taxes are the major source of revenue for the Town. The total amount levied is subject to certain limits prescribed by law, for a description of those limits see “PROPERTY TAXATION – Property Tax Limitation” herein. In fiscal 2007, property taxes totaled \$50,153,374 or 71.45% percent of General Fund Revenues.

**State Aid:** The Town’s state aid entitlement is based upon a number of different formulas, and while said formulas might indicate that a particular amount of state aid is owed, the amount of state aid actually paid is limited to the amount appropriated by the state legislature. The state annually estimates state aid but actual payments may vary from the estimate. In fiscal 2007, distributions from the state to the Town’s general fund totaled \$8,652,974 or 12.33% percent of General Fund Revenues. The Town anticipates distributions from the state of \$9,170,327 in fiscal 2008.

State legislation known as the Education Reform Act of 1993, as amended, imposes certain minimum expenditure requirements on municipalities with respect to funding for education and related programs, and may affect the level of state aid to be received for education. The requirements are determined on the basis of formulas affected by various measures of wealth and income, enrollments, prior levels of local spending and state aid, and for other factors. The Town has appropriated at least the minimum expenditure requirement imposed by the Act.

**Motor Vehicle and Boat Excise:** An excise is imposed on the registration of motor vehicles (subject to exemptions) at a rate of \$25 per \$1,000 of valuation and \$10 per \$1000 of valuation for boats. Valuations are determined by a statutory formula based on manufacture’s list price and year of manufacture. Bills not paid when due bear interest at 12 per cent per annum. Provisions are also made for non-renewal of license and registration by the registrar of motor vehicles for delinquent motor vehicle bills. In fiscal 2007, motor vehicle and boat excise totaled \$3,229,132 or 4.6% of General Fund Revenues.

**Sewer Rates and Service:** The MWRA provides wholesale sewer services to the Town. Sewer users are charged a base \$150.00 per year or an amount based on actual water consumption, whichever is greater. In fiscal year 2007 the sewer use fee was \$7.30 per 100 cubic feet of water used in the North Sewer District and \$6.60 per 100 cubic feet of water used in the Weir River Sewer District. Activities of the Sewer Department are accounted for in a Special Revenue Fund. Sewer user charges were \$1,792,761 in fiscal year 2007 and expenditures were \$1,946,323.

**Electric Rates and Service:** The Town operates the Hingham Municipal Lighting Plant which is accounted for in an enterprise fund. The Light Plan is completely self-supporting, including payments for pensions and depreciation. (See “Hingham Municipal Light Plant”). During calendar year 2007, the Light Plant paid \$451,474 to the Town in lieu of real estate taxes, an amount determined by a formula designed to measure the payment the Light Plant would owe to the Town in real and personal property taxes if it were a taxable entity. (See “Hingham Municipal Light Plant”).

**Country Club:** The Town owns and operates the South Shore Country Club which is accounted for as an enterprise or proprietary fund. The Club is entirely self-supporting. The club returns \$400,000 to the Town annually, a portion of which is used to pay the debt service of the bonds issued to purchase the Country Club. The amount of the debt service payment in 2006 was \$218,050. In fiscal year 2006 Club revenues were \$1,527,265 and Club expenditures were \$1,351,046.

## ***Investments***

Investments of funds of cities and towns, except for trust funds, are generally restricted by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 55. The statute permits the investment of available revenue funds and bond and note proceeds in term deposits and certificates of deposits of banks and trust companies, in obligations issued or unconditionally guaranteed by the federal government or an agency thereof with a maturity of not more than one year, in repurchase agreements with a maturity of not more than 90 days

secured by federal or federal agency securities, in participation units in the Massachusetts Municipal Depository Trust (“MMDT”) or in shares in SEC-registered money market funds with the highest possible rating from at least one nationally recognized rating organization.

MMDT is an investment pool created by the Commonwealth under the supervision of the State Treasurer’s office. According to the State Treasurer the Trust’s Cash Portfolio investment policy is designated to maintain an average weighted maturity of 90 days or less and is limited to high-quality, readily marketable fixed income instruments, including U.S. Government obligations and highly-rated corporate securities with maturities of one year or less. The Trust’s Short Term Bond Fund provides for the management of longer term operating cash and provides an investment option that includes investment-grade fixed income securities.

Trust funds, unless otherwise provided by the donor, may be invested in accordance with Section 54 of Chapter 44, which permits a broader range of investments than Section 55, including any bonds or notes that are legal investments for savings banks in the Commonwealth. The restrictions imposed by Sections 54 and 55 do not apply to city and town retirement systems.

### ***Summary of Significant Accounting Policies***

A copy of the Town’s most recent audited financial statement is available upon request from the Town. The Town’s Audited Financial Statement for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006 reflected that the Town is in compliance with GASB 34.

### ***Annual Audits***

The Town’s accounts are independently audited by the firm of O’Connor & Drew, P.C., Certified Public Accountants. Copies of prior audits are available upon request from the Town.

### ***Financial Statements***

Copies of the Town’s Combined Balance Sheets for fiscal years 2003-2006 are attached hereto as Appendix B. A Comparative Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance for fiscal years 2003-2006 is also attached hereto in Appendix B. This information has been extracted from the Town’s prior annual audits.

### ***Undesignated Fund Balance and Free Cash***

Under Massachusetts law an amount known as “free cash” is certified at of the beginning of each fiscal year by the State Bureau of Accounts and this, together with certain subsequent tax receipts, is used as the basis for subsequent appropriations from available funds, which are not required to be included in the annual tax levy. Subject to certain adjustments, free cash is surplus revenue less uncollected and overdue property taxes from prior years.

The following table sets forth the certified free cash for the most recent fiscal years:

**Table 17**  
**Free Cash**

<u>July 1,</u>	<u>Free Cash</u>
2006	\$5,918,645
2005	3,144,281
2004	3,983,192
2003	2,105,160
2002	5,546,136

Source: Office of the Town Accountant.

### ***Teachers' Salary Deferral***

Legislation enacted in 1991 authorizes cities, towns and school districts to defer the recognition of expenditures made for teachers' salaries for the months of July and August from the fiscal year ending the previous June 30 into the next fiscal year. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as well as the Uniform Municipal Accounting System (UMAS) employed in most Massachusetts municipalities recognize such expenditures when services are rendered. Thus, salaries paid for July and August are recognized when services are rendered during the prior fiscal year. By deferring recognition of salaries in this way, a municipality creates in its financial statements available revenue which may be appropriated for general operating purposes. The law requires that municipalities which elect the deferral must repay the deferral beginning no later than fiscal 1997 and over a period of no more than fifteen years.

The Town of Hingham has elected not to utilize the deferral.

## **HINGHAM MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT**

The Hingham Municipal Light Plant ("Light Plant") has provided continuous electric service to the Town since 1894. It is authorized to operate under provisions of Chapter 164 of the Massachusetts General Laws and certain rules and regulations set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy. An independent elected Board consisting of three Hingham citizens has the responsibility and authority to maintain and operate the Light Plant. The Board appoints a manager who, under the direct control of the Board, and subject to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 164, has full charge of the operation and management of the Light Plant. Bonds issued for electric system improvements are to be paid from operating revenues of the Light Plant.

The Light Plant is completely self-supporting, including accounts for depreciation and pensions. According to Chapter 164, Section 58 of the Massachusetts General Laws, electric rates charged by the Light Plant must be set such that the resulting net earnings, less certain other provisions, do not exceed 8% of the cost of the Light Plant. Excess revenues are required to be refunded to customers.

The Light Plant has transmission and distribution facilities only. The following table sets forth the Light Plant's revenues, expenses, net income, and changes in net assets for calendar years 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 and are reported according to the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statements No. 34. The 2006 Light Plant audit is not yet available. Copies of the Light Plant's audit are available from the town accountant's office or the on the light company's website: [www.hmlp.com](http://www.hmlp.com).

**Table 18**  
**Unappropriated Surplus/Net Assets**

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Beginning Net Assets	\$20,270,792	\$22,090,355	\$22,342,155	\$23,311,952
Operating Revenues	17,010,798	16,677,112	18,636,458	21,461,267
Operating Expenses	<u>15,163,613</u>	<u>16,068,149</u>	<u>17,382,648</u>	<u>20,936,769</u>
Operating Income	1,847,185	608,963	1,253,810	524,498
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>(61,996)</u>	<u>(29,962)</u>	<u>(9,414)</u>	<u>183,576</u>
Income Before Contributions and Transfers	1,785,189	579,001	1,244,396	708,074
		182,299	245,376	4,892,160
Cash Received for Claims and Judgments	552,633	0	0	0
In Lieu of Taxes	(490,000)	<u>(509,500)</u>	<u>(519,975)</u>	<u>(451,474)</u>
Prior Period Adjustment	<u>(28,259)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Ending Net Assets	<u>\$22,090,355</u>	<u>\$22,342,155</u>	<u>\$23,311,952</u>	<u>\$28,460,712</u>

Source: Hingham Municipal Light Plant.

## **INDEBTEDNESS**

### ***Authorization Procedure and Limitations***

Serial bonds and notes are authorized on behalf of the Town by a two-thirds vote at a Town Meeting. Borrowings for certain purposes require state emergency finance board administrative approval. Temporary loans in anticipation of current revenues and certain state and county reimbursements generally may be incurred by the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen.

The general debt limit of the Town consists of a normal debt limit and a double debt limit. The normal debt limit is 5% of the valuation of taxable property as last equalized by the State Department of Revenue. The Town can authorize debt up to this amount without State approval. It can authorize debt up to twice this amount (the double debt limit) with the approval of the State's Municipal Finance Oversight Board.

There are many categories of general obligation debt which are exempt from and do not count against the general debt limit. Among others, these exempt categories include revenue anticipation notes and grant anticipation notes, emergency loans, loans exempted by special laws, certain school bonds and sewer bonds, and subject to special debt limits, bonds for water (limited to 10% of equalized valuation), housing, urban renewal and economic development (limited to 5½%), and electric and gas (subject to a separate limit equal to the general debt limit, including the same doubling provision). Industrial revenue bonds, electric revenue bonds, and water pollution abatement revenue bonds are not subject to these debt limits. The general debt limit and water debt limit apply at the time the debt is authorized.

### ***Types of Obligations***

**General Obligations.** Massachusetts cities and towns are authorized to issue general obligation indebtedness of these types:

**Serial Bonds and Notes.** Serial bonds and notes are generally required to be payable in equal or diminishing annual principal amounts beginning no later than the end of the fiscal year following the date

of issue and ending within the terms permitted by law. Level debt service is permitted for bonds or notes issued for certain purposes, including self-supporting enterprise purposes and certain State-aided school projects, and for those projects for which debt service has been exempted from property tax limitations.

Bonds may be made callable and redeemed prior to their maturity, and a redemption premium may be paid. Refunding bonds or notes may be issued subject to the maximum term measured from the date of the original bonds or notes. Serial bonds may be issued as “qualified bonds” with the approval of the State’s Municipal Finance Oversight Board, subject to such conditions and limitations (including restrictions on future indebtedness) as may be required by the Board. The State Treasurer is required to pay the debt service on qualified bonds and thereafter to withhold the amount of the debt service from state aid or other state payments. Administrative costs and any loss of interest income to the State are to be assessed upon the city or town.

*Bond Anticipation Notes.* Bond anticipation notes must mature within two years, but may be refunded from time to time up to five years from their original date of issuance, provided that (except for notes issued for certain school projects) for each year that the notes are refunded beyond the second year they must be paid in part from revenue funds in an amount at least equal to the minimum annual payment that would have been required if the notes had been issued at the end of the second year. The maximum term of a like amount of the anticipated bonds is measured from the date of original issue of the notes.

*Revenue Anticipation Notes.* Revenue anticipation notes are issued in anticipation of taxes and other revenues. They must mature within one year but, if payable in less than one year, may, under the statute be refunded from time to time up to one year from the original date of issue. The Town has not issued revenue anticipation notes during the past seven fiscal years and does not anticipate any issuance during the current fiscal year.

*Grant Anticipation Notes.* These are issued for temporary financing in anticipation of federal, state and county reimbursements. Generally they must mature within two years but may be refunded from time to time as long as the municipality remains entitled to the grant or reimbursement.

***Long-Term Debt***

The following table summarizes the Town’s long-term debt outstanding as of June 30, 2007

**Table 19**  
**Direct Debt Summary - As of June 30, 2007**

General Obligation Bonds:	
Sewer <sup>(1)</sup>	\$3,581,391
Golf Course <sup>(2)</sup>	200,000
Light Plant <sup>(3)</sup>	300,000
Civic Center (Town Hall)	2,730,000
School <sup>(4)</sup>	29,650,000
Library	1,900,000
General	<u>365,000</u>
Total Direct Debt	<u>\$38,726,391</u>

- (1) Only a portion of this is subject to the debt limit. Includes loans from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust.
- (2) Subject to the debt limit. Debt service on the Golf Course is exempt from the limits of Proposition 2 ½. Paid from Golf Revenue.
- (3) Not subject to the debt limit. Light plant debt is paid by the enterprise fund which is fully self-supported by user charges.
- (4) Not subject to the debt limit. Principal and interest will be reimbursed by the State at the rate of 61% over the life of outstanding school bonds. Grant payments are subject to annual appropriation by the State legislature. The debt service on the school bonds outstanding has been exempted from the limits of Proposition 2 ½.

**Short Term Debt**

The Town currently has the following bond anticipation notes outstanding:

<b>Title</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Maturity Date</b>
\$6,514,750 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, 2007 Series A	6/19/07	12/19/07 <sup>(1)</sup>
\$2,700,000 General Obligation Bond and Grant Anticipation Notes, 2007 Series B	6/19/07	6/19/08

(1) To be redeemed with the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds.

**Debt Ratios**

The following table sets forth the ratio of debt to assessed valuation and per capita debt ratios at the end of the five most recent fiscal years. The table considers the principal amount of general obligation bonds of the Town only. The table does not deduct anticipated state grant payments applicable to the principal amount of outstanding bonds or debt that may be supported in whole, or part, by non-tax revenues. (See “Direct Debt Summary”.)

**Table 20**  
**Debt Ratios**

<u>June 30</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>General Obligation Bonds Outstanding (000’s)</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation (000’s)</u>	<u>Per Capita Debt</u>	<u>Debt as a % of Assessed Valuation</u>
2007	21,095	\$38,726	\$5,572,597	\$1,836	0.69%
2006	21,095	42,282	5,192,464	2,004	0.81
2005	20,872	45,339	4,436,551	2,172	1.02
2004	20,720	48,123	3,897,621	2,323	1.23
2003	20,898	52,357	3,416,303	2,580	1.53

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## *Debt Service Requirements*

The following table sets forth the required principal and interest payments on outstanding general obligation bonds of the Town, inclusive of the Bonds.

**Table 21**  
**Long-Term Debt Service Requirements**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Debt Service</u>
2008 <sup>(1)</sup>	\$3,861,649	\$2,063,457	\$5,925,106
2009	3,287,321	1,903,676	5,190,997
2010	3,292,601	1,754,445	5,047,046
2011	3,303,829	1,603,324	4,907,153
2012	3,284,462	1,466,125	4,750,587
2013	3,050,183	1,366,970	4,417,153
2014	3,141,370	1,183,205	4,324,575
2015	3,145,065	1,029,896	4,174,961
2016	3,161,447	875,986	4,037,433
2017	3,172,937	719,773	3,892,710
2018	3,194,436	567,386	3,761,822
2019	2,831,142	424,980	3,256,122
2020	2,405,922	303,466	2,709,388
2021	2,411,345	183,793	2,595,138
2022	441,776	66,562	508,338
2023	302,216	47,691	349,907
2024	307,664	36,042	343,706
2025	308,122	24,184	332,306
2026	313,589	12,317	325,906
2027	<u>24,066</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>24,307</u>
	\$45,241,142	\$15,633,519	\$60,874,661

(1) For the entire fiscal year.

Source: Town Treasurer

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***Principal Payments by Purpose***

The following table sets forth the principal payments by purpose for the Town's outstanding debt.

**Table 22**  
**Projected Principal Payments by Purpose**  
**(as of June 30, 2007)**

	<u>Sewer<sup>(1)</sup></u>	<u>Light Plant</u>	<u>Civic Center</u>	<u>School<sup>(2)</sup></u>	<u>Golf Course<sup>(3)</sup></u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Total Principal</u>
2008	\$346,899	\$300,000	\$260,000	\$2,150,000	\$200,000	\$150,000	\$90,000	\$3,496,899
2009	302,321		250,000	2,150,000		150,000	70,000	2,922,321
2010	307,601		250,000	2,150,000		150,000	70,000	2,927,601
2011	313,829		250,000	2,150,000		150,000	70,000	2,933,829
2012	299,462		250,000	2,145,000		150,000	65,000	2,909,462
2013	170,183		230,000	2,145,000		115,000		2,660,183
2014	256,370		230,000	2,145,000		115,000		2,746,370
2015	250,065		230,000	2,145,000		115,000		2,740,065
2016	256,447		230,000	2,145,000		115,000		2,746,447
2017	262,937		230,000	2,145,000		115,000		2,752,937
2018	269,436		230,000	2,145,000		115,000		2,759,436
2019	276,142		30,000	2,145,000		115,000		2,566,142
2020	50,922		30,000	1,945,000		115,000		2,140,922
2021	51,345		30,000	1,945,000		115,000		2,141,345
2022	51,776					115,000		166,776
2023	22,216							22,216
2024	22,664							22,664
2025	23,122							23,122
2026	23,589							23,589
2027	24,066							24,066
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,581,391</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$2,730,000</b>	<b>\$29,650,000</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$1,900,000</b>	<b>\$365,000</b>	<b>\$38,726,391</b>

(1) The Town anticipates that all debt service will be paid from departmental revenues.

(2) Principal and interest will be reimbursed by the State at the rate of 61% over the life of outstanding school bonds. Grant payments are subject to annual appropriation of the State Legislature.

(3) Debt service has been excluded from the limits of Proposition 2 ½.

Source: Treasurer

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## ***Overlapping Debt***

The Town of Hingham is located in Plymouth County and is a member of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority.

The following table sets forth the outstanding bonded debt, exclusive of temporary loans in anticipation of bonds or current revenue, of each of the overlapping entities, the Town's estimated gross share of such debt, and the fiscal 2007 assessment payable by the Town.

**Table 23**  
**Overlapping Debt**

<u>Overlapping Entity</u>	<u>Outstanding Debt</u>	<u>Hingham's Estimated Share</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>Fiscal 2007 Assessment</u> <sup>(2)</sup>
Massachusetts Water Resource Authority <sup>(3)</sup>	\$3,584,248,000	0.037%	\$1,263,977
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority <sup>(4)</sup>	n/a	n/a	379,546

(1) Estimated share based upon operating expenses.

(2) FY 2007 dollar assessment based upon total net operating expenses attributable to the Town, inclusive of debt service.

(3) Source: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority ("MWRA"). Sewer debt as of June 30, 2006. The MWRA was established to succeed the waterworks and sewer operations of the Metropolitan Sewerage District, the Metropolitan water district and the Metropolitan Parks District, each district consisting of the City of Boston and other cities and town in the Boston area. The MWRA commenced operations on July 1, 1985. Under its enabling legislation, the MWRA may borrow up to \$4.750 billion for its corporate purposes. Its obligations are secured by revenues of the MWRA. The MWRA assesses member cities and towns, which continue to provide direct retail water and sewer services to users. The cities and towns collect fees from the users to pay all or part of the assessments; some municipalities levy property taxes to pay part of the amounts assessed upon them. Hingham is not a member of the MWRA water division as Hingham receives water from a private company.

(4) Source: Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority ("MBTA"). The MBTA is comprised of cities and towns in the Greater Boston area. As part of its Fiscal Year 2000 annual appropriations act, Chapter 127 of the Acts of 1999 of the Commonwealth, known as "Forward Funding Legislation," the Commonwealth repealed and restated the Prior Act effective July 1, 2000. As of July 1, 2000, the MBTA's 175 member communities are no longer responsible for overlapping debt and are solely responsible for their municipal assessment. The MBTA is no longer authorized to issue general obligation debt and must limit new issues to sales tax and special assessments only.

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## ***Authorized Unissued Debt***

The following table sets forth the authorized unissued debt of the Town following this issue:

**Table 24**  
**Authorized Unissued Debt**  
**(As of June 30, 2007)**

<u>Authorization</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Authorized</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount Issued</u> <u>to Date</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Authorized</u> <u>but Unissued</u>
4/25/95	\$5,320,000	Junior High School Building	\$5,318,927	\$1,073
4/27/98	750,000	Sewer Construction	710,000	40,000
4/27/98	113,100	Sewer- MWPAT	30,000	83,100
4/25/00	124,100	Sewer- MWPAT	0	124,100
4/22/02	980,000	Sewer Repair- Route 3A <sup>(1)</sup>	0	800,000
4/28/03	500,000	Sewer I & I Removal	281,150	218,850
4/29/03	2,300,000	Sewer Construction – Weir River <sup>(2)</sup>	1,495,000	619,800
4/26/04	75,000	Sewer Construction	0	75,000
4/24/06	<u>6,787,467</u>	DPW Public Works Facility	<u>0</u>	<u>6,787,467</u>
Total	<u>\$16,949,667</u>		<u>\$7,835,077</u>	<u>\$ 8,749,390</u>

(1) Remaining \$180,000 of authorization was paid from sewer connection fee revenue in fiscal years 2005, 2006 and 2007.

(2) Remaining \$185,200 of authorization was paid from sewer assessments committed to tax in fiscal years 2006 and 2007.

Source: Treasurer

## ***Contractual Obligations***

Municipal contracts are generally limited to currently available appropriations. A city or town generally has authority to enter into contracts for the exercise of any of its corporate powers for any period of time deemed to serve its best interest, but generally only when funds are available for the first fiscal year; obligations for succeeding fiscal years generally are expressly subject to availability and appropriation of funds. Specific authority remains in relatively few cases for long-term contractual obligations that are not subject to annual appropriation, including contracts for refuse disposal and sewage treatment and disposal. Municipalities may also enter into long-term contracts in aid of housing and renewal projects. There is implied authority to make other long-term contracts required to carry out authorized municipal functions, such as contracts to purchase water from private water companies. Municipal contracts relating to solid waste disposal facilities may contain provisions requiring the delivery of minimum amounts of waste and payments based thereon and requiring payments in certain circumstances without regard to the operational status of the facilities.

Municipal electric departments have statutory power to enter into long-term contracts for joint ownership and operation of generating and transmission facilities and for the purchase or sale of capacity, including contracts requiring payments without regard to the operational status of the facilities.

Pursuant to the Home Rule Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution, cities and towns may also be empowered to make other contracts and leases.

The Town of Hingham has a limited number of contractual obligations, other than those of the Light Plant as described herein, all of which are subject to annual appropriation.

## **RETIREMENT PLAN**

The Massachusetts General Laws (Chapter 32, Sections 1-28) provide for the establishment of contributory retirement systems for state employees, for teachers and for county, city and town employees other than teachers. Teachers are assigned to the separate statewide teachers' system and not to the city and town systems. For all employees other than teachers, this law is subject to acceptance in each city and town. Substantially all employees of an accepting city or town are covered. If a town has a population of less than 10,000 when it accepts the statute, its non-teacher employees participate through the county system and its share of the county cost is proportionate to the aggregate annual rate of regular compensation of its covered employees. In addition to the contributory systems, cities and towns provide non-contributory pensions to a limited number of employees, primarily persons who entered service prior to July 1, 1937 and their dependents. Under the contributory pension law, the obligations of a city or town, whether direct or through a county system, are contractual legal obligations and are required to be included in the annual tax levy.

The Town has established the Hingham Contributory Retirement System. The funding status of the Town's Retirement System is reflected in the Town's Annual Audited Financial Statement.

The amount required to pay the pensions over and above employee contributions and investment income was originally provided on an essentially pay-as-you-go basis but legislation enacted since 1981 has provided for substantial changes in the funding of both State and local retirement systems.

In 1983 legislation was enacted establishing the Pension Reserves Investment Trust ("PRIT") Fund to receive and manage funds to offset future pension costs of state and certain local systems to the extent of their participation in the assets of the PRIT Fund. The law now provides that annual appropriations by the Commonwealth for unfunded pension liabilities will be deposited in the PRIT Fund as of December 31. The law calls for annual State appropriations amounting to at least 1.3 percent of State payroll.

"Excess earnings," or earnings on individual employees' retirement accounts in excess of a predetermined rate are set aside for future, not current, pension liabilities. (Under prior law, local systems had been allowed to use excess earnings to reduce their annual appropriations for benefits paid to retirees.) Each system not joining PRIT is required to establish a pension reserve fund to receive excess earnings. Cities and towns may voluntarily appropriate to the pension reserve fund in any given year up to five percent of the preceding year's tax levy. The aggregate amount in the fund may not exceed ten percent of the equalized valuation of the city or town.

In addition to pension benefits, cities and towns may provide retired employees with payments for a portion of their health care and life insurance benefits. These benefit payments are generally provided on a pay-as-you-go basis.

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The Town's annual contributions to the retirement system as of June 30 for the most recent fiscal years are as follows:

**Table 25**  
**Retirement System Contributions**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Contributing</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	<u>Non-Contributing</u> <sup>(2)</sup>
2007	\$2,955,703	\$31,250
2006	2,829,948	36,000
2005	2,554,985	36,000
2004	2,458,299	36,000
2003	2,099,378	33,000

The foregoing data does not include the retirement system costs or liability attributable to employees of the county or the retirement system costs or liabilities of any other entity of which the Town is a constituent part.

- (1) Includes Municipal Light Department which is paid from electric revenues.  
Does not include the Hingham Housing Authority.
- (2) Fiscal Year appropriation

Source: Hingham Contributory Retirement Board

***Other Post-Employment Benefits***

In addition to pension benefits, cities and towns may provide retired employees with health care and life insurance benefits. The portion of the cost of such benefits paid by cities and towns is generally provided on a pay-as-you-go basis.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (“GASB”) recently promulgated its Statement Nos. 43 and 45, which will for the first time require public sector entities to report the future costs of these non-pension, post-employment benefits in their financial statements. These new accounting standards do not require pre-funding such benefits, but the basis applied by the standards for measurement of costs and liabilities for these benefits is conservative if they continue to be funded on a pay-as-you-go basis and will result in larger yearly cost and liability accruals than if such benefits were pre-funded in a trust fund in the same manner as traditional pension benefits. Although cities and towns that choose to self-insure all of a portion of the cost of the health care benefits they provide to employees and retirees may establish a trust fund for the purpose of paying claims, Massachusetts General Laws do not currently provide cities and towns with general legal authority to establish a trust fund for the purpose of pre-funding this liability in the same manner as traditional pension benefits.

The Town is required to implement the new GASB reporting requirements for other post-employment benefits beginning in fiscal year 2008. The Town has not yet performed an actuarial valuation of its non-pension, post-employment benefit liability, but it expects to do so in time to satisfy the new GASB reporting requirements. The Town plans on hiring an outside firm to perform an actuarial valuation of its post-employment benefit liability within the 2007 fiscal year. The Town is in the process of soliciting bids for an actuarial valuation of its post employment benefit liability and has budgeted \$12,000 for GASB 45.

**EMPLOYEE RELATIONS**

The Town of Hingham employs approximately 1,400 full-time and part-time workers, 895 of whom are employed by the school department, 58 by the police department, 55 by the fire department and the remainder by various other town departments. Town employees (other than managerial and confidential employees) are entitled to join unions and to bargain collectively on questions of wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment. Approximately 520 Town employees are represented by unions,

including 311 teachers and school administrators, 107 police and fire department employees, and 40 school bus drivers and custodians, 29 highway and DPW employees and 26 librarians.

**Table 26**  
**Employees**

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Contract Expiration Date</u> <sup>(1)</sup>
Library- Service Employees International Union, Local 888	6/30/07
Fire- International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 2398	6/30/07
DPW- International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 25	6/30/07
Police- New England Police Benevolent Association, Local 70	6/30/07
Superior- Hingham Superior Officers Union	6/30/07
Dispatch- International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 25	6/30/07
Hingham Public School Janitors' and Bus Drivers' Association	6/30/08
Hingham Administrators Association Affiliated with Massachusetts Association of Professional School Administrators	6/30/07
Hingham Education Association (Teachers)	7/31/10
Hingham Education Association Paraprofessional Unit	6/30/07
Massachusetts Laborers' District Council in Behalf of Local 1139 of the Laborers' International Union, AFL-CIO covering Cafeteria Managers, Assistant Managers and Food Service Technicians	6/30/09

<sup>(1)</sup> The Town of Hingham is currently involved in active negotiations with each of the collective bargaining units whose contracts expired June 30, 2007.

Source: Town Human Resources Department

### **LITIGATION**

At present there are several cases pending in various courts throughout the Commonwealth where the Town is a defendant. In the opinion of Town Counsel, none of the pending litigation is likely to result, either individually or in the aggregate, in final judgments against the Town that would materially affect its financial position.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information may be obtained from the Town's Financial Advisor, Capital Markets Advisors, LLC, One Great Neck Road, Suite 1, Great Neck, New York 11021, (516) 487-9817.

Any statements in this Official Statement involving matters of opinion or estimates, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended as such and not as representations of fact. No representation is made that any of such statements will be realized. This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the Town and the original purchasers or holders of any of the Bonds.

This Official Statement has been prepared only in connection with the sale of the Bonds by the Town and may not be reproduced or used in whole or in part for any other purpose.

**TOWN OF HINGHAM,  
MASSACHUSETTS**

By: /s/ Jean M. Montgomery  
Treasurer/Collector

Dated: September 13, 2007

**APPENDIX B**

**SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**TOWN OF HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET - GENERAL FUND**

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
<b>ASSETS:</b>					
Cash and Equivalents	\$ 7,597,951	\$ 11,193,484	\$ 10,954,608	\$ 11,968,308	\$ 14,054,546
Investments	4,499,561	-	-	-	-
Receivables:					
Property Taxes	1,317,001	1,329,048	1,136,950	1,109,208	1,184,848
Allowance for Abatements	-	-	-	-	(498,538)
Tax Liens	588,441	486,105	454,742	434,510	468,005
Excise Taxes	320,958	184,364	221,050	192,539	394,798
Departmental Revenues	193,394	134,963	148,790	367,186	351,686
Intergovernmental	22,727,339	23,687,409	24,493,676	24,756,572	139,883
User Charges and Liens	2,840,692	1,420,593	1,593,689	1,742,142	1,884,921
Deposit		-	-	-	482,600
Total Assets	<u>\$ 40,085,337</u>	<u>\$ 38,435,966</u>	<u>\$ 39,003,505</u>	<u>\$ 40,570,465</u>	<u>\$ 18,462,749</u>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balance:</b>					
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>					
Warrants Payable	\$ 1,105,591	\$ 738,909	\$ 880,542	\$ 874,710	\$ 1,029,793
Accrued Payroll and Taxes	1,350,580	1,704,468	1,357,648	1,467,629	1,198,506
BAN Payable	20,438	9,902	46,306		
Deferred Revenue	27,623,951	26,851,107	27,579,844	28,249,353	3,593,443
Tax Refunds Payable	<u>401,647</u>	<u>122,129</u>	<u>126,928</u>	<u>216,985</u>	<u>482,600</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 30,502,207</u>	<u>\$ 29,426,515</u>	<u>\$ 29,991,268</u>	<u>\$ 30,808,677</u>	<u>\$ 6,304,342</u>
<b>FUND EQUITY AND OTHER CREDITS:</b>					
Reserved for Encumbrances	\$ 604,116	\$ 632,787	\$ 1,001,956	\$ 1,417,115	\$ 1,467,748
Designated for Future Expenditures	1,078,400	3,713,774	2,249,415	3,913,621	2,995,374
Undesignated	<u>7,900,614</u>	<u>4,662,890</u>	<u>5,760,866</u>	<u>4,431,052</u>	<u>7,695,285</u>
Total Fund Equity and Other Credits	<u>\$ 9,583,130</u>	<u>\$ 9,009,451</u>	<u>\$ 9,012,237</u>	<u>\$ 9,761,788</u>	<u>\$ 12,158,407</u>
Total Liabilities, Fund Equity and Other Credits	<u>\$ 40,085,337</u>	<u>\$ 38,435,966</u>	<u>\$ 39,003,505</u>	<u>\$ 40,570,465</u>	<u>\$ 18,462,749</u>

Sources: Town's Audited Financial Statements

**TOWN OF HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES  
IN FUND BALANCE - GENERAL FUND**

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
Local:					
Taxes	\$ 51,523,864	\$ 48,094,223	\$ 45,732,781	\$ 42,913,930	\$ 41,692,584
Licenses and Fees	2,306,958	2,443,941	1,841,699	783,112	668,304
Intergovernmental	13,337,331	12,940,552	11,723,698	13,379,614	9,376,070
Departmental and Other	2,182,854	1,507,370	1,292,655	-	546,302
Investment Income	933,102	543,407	238,943	366,461	1,193,053
Total Local:	<u>70,284,109</u>	<u>65,529,493</u>	<u>60,829,776</u>	<u>57,443,117</u>	<u>53,476,313</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 70,284,109</u>	<u>\$ 65,529,493</u>	<u>\$ 60,829,776</u>	<u>\$ 57,443,117</u>	<u>\$ 53,476,313</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Current:					
General Government	\$ 2,600,021	\$ 2,547,618	\$ 2,381,834	\$ 2,303,669	\$ 2,242,558
Public Safety	9,400,346	8,560,138	7,995,868	7,953,588	7,384,593
Education	36,272,451	33,944,751	31,203,516	30,053,646	25,190,010
Public Works	4,096,925	4,642,881	4,050,395	4,307,513	3,811,478
Human Services	641,208	591,437	594,119	596,244	525,921
Culture and Recreation	1,436,809	1,417,464	1,343,649	172,076	173,940
Pension	2,587,077	2,290,770	2,206,705	2,125,349	2,105,253
Group Health Insurance	3,289,713	2,752,529	2,502,730	2,085,192	1,857,650
Miscellaneous	1,163,035	1,111,094	938,651	1,100,370	1,086,659
Debt Service:					
Debt Principal	2,910,503	2,879,176	2,872,200	2,897,262	662,632
Debt Interest	2,023,128	2,154,430	2,268,305	2,374,604	3,474,625
Intergovernmental:					
State and County Assessments	<u>2,193,591</u>	<u>1,926,044</u>	<u>1,656,636</u>	<u>1,521,000</u>	<u>1,363,833</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 68,614,807</u>	<u>\$ 64,818,332</u>	<u>\$ 60,014,608</u>	<u>\$ 57,490,513</u>	<u>\$ 49,879,152</u>
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ 1,669,302	\$ 711,161	\$ 815,168	\$ (47,396)	\$ 3,597,161
Other Financing Sources (Uses)					
Bond Proceeds			-	-	739,830
Operating Transfers In	613,891	720,212	521,730	422,000	1,441,683
Operating Transfers Out	(1,709,514)	(1,434,159)	(2,086,449)	(1,210,051)	(4,080,232)
Transfers to Component Unit			-	(1,138,296)	(927,896)
Sale of Assets			-	-	
Total Net Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1,095,623)	(713,947)	(1,564,719)	(1,926,347)	(2,826,615)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues and Other Financing Sources (Uses) Over Expenditures	573,679	(2,786)	(749,551)	(1,973,743)	770,546
FUND BALANCE, Beginning of Year	<u>9,009,451</u>	<u>9,012,237</u>	<u>9,761,788</u>	<u>11,735,531</u> *	<u>11,387,861</u>
FUND BALANCE (DEFICIT), End of Year	<u>\$ 9,583,130</u>	<u>\$ 9,009,451</u>	<u>\$ 9,012,237</u>	<u>\$ 9,761,788</u>	<u>\$ 12,158,407</u>

\* As restated

Sources: Town's Audited Financial Statements

**APPENDIX C**

**PROPOSED FORM OF LEGAL OPINION**

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## EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER &amp; DODGE LLP

111 Huntington Avenue Boston, MA 02199 617.239.0100 fax 617.227.4420 eapdlaw.com

(Date of Delivery)

Town of Hingham  
Hingham, Massachusetts

\$6,514,750  
Town of Hingham, Massachusetts  
Municipal Purpose Loan of 2007 Bonds  
Dated September 15, 2007

We have acted as bond counsel to the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts (the “Town”) in connection with the issuance by the Town of the above-referenced bonds (the “Bonds”). In such capacity, we have examined the law and such certified proceedings and other papers as we have deemed necessary to render this opinion.

As to questions of fact material to our opinion we have relied upon representations and covenants of the Town contained in the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials furnished to us, without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

Based on our examination, we are of the opinion, under existing law, as follows:

1. The Bonds are valid and binding general obligations of the Town and, except to the extent they are paid from other sources, the principal of and interest on the Bonds are payable from taxes which may be levied upon all taxable property in the Town, subject to the limit imposed by Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws.

2. Interest on the Bonds is excluded from the gross income of the owners of the Bonds for federal income tax purposes. In addition, interest on the Bonds is not a specific preference item for purposes of the federal individual or corporate alternative minimum taxes. However, such interest is included in adjusted current earnings when calculating corporate alternative minimum taxable income. In rendering the opinions set forth in this paragraph, we have assumed compliance by the Town with all requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that must be satisfied subsequent to the issuance of the Bonds in order that interest thereon be, and continue to be, excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Town has covenanted to comply with all such requirements. Failure by the Town to comply with certain of such requirements may cause interest on the Bonds to become included in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactive to the date of issuance of the Bonds. Except as expressed in paragraph 4 below, we express no opinion regarding any other federal tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds.

3. Interest on the Bonds is exempt from Massachusetts personal income taxes and the Bonds are exempt from Massachusetts personal property taxes. We express no opinion regarding any other Massachusetts tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds or any tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds under the laws of any state other than Massachusetts.

4. The Bonds are qualified tax-exempt obligations within the meaning of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

This opinion is expressed as of the date hereof, and we neither assume nor undertake any obligation to update, revise, supplement or restate this opinion to reflect any action taken or omitted, or any facts or circumstances or changes in law or in the interpretation thereof, that may hereafter arise or occur, or for any other reason.

The rights of the holders of the Bonds and the enforceability of the Bonds may be subject to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights heretofore or hereafter enacted to the extent constitutionally applicable, and their enforcement may also be subject to the exercise of judicial discretion in appropriate cases.

Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP

**APPENDIX D**

**PROPOSED FORM OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE**

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**PROPOSED FORM OF  
CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATE**

This Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the "Disclosure Certificate") is executed and delivered by the Town of Hingham, Massachusetts (the "Town") in connection with the issuance of its \$5,514,750 General Obligation Municipal Purpose Loan of 2007 Bonds dated September 15, 2007 (the "Bonds"). The Town covenants and agrees as follows:

**SECTION 1. Purpose of the Disclosure Certificate.** This Disclosure Certificate is being executed and delivered by the Town for the benefit of the Owners of the Bonds and in order to assist the Participating Underwriters in complying with the Rule.

**SECTION 2. Definitions.** For purposes of this Disclosure Certificate the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

"Annual Report" shall mean any Annual Report provided by the Town pursuant to, and as described in, Sections 3 and 4 of this Disclosure Certificate.

"Listed Events" shall mean any of the events listed in Section 5(a) of this Disclosure Certificate.

"National Repository" shall mean any nationally recognized municipal securities information repository for purposes of the Rule. The current National Repositories are listed on Exhibit A attached hereto.

"Owners of the Bonds" shall mean the registered owners, including beneficial owners, of the Bonds.

"Participating Underwriter" shall mean any of the original underwriters of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with offering of the Bonds.

"Repository" shall mean each National Repository and each State Depository.

"Rule" shall mean Rule 15c2-12 adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time.

"State Depository" shall mean any public or private depository or entity designated by The Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a state information depository for the purpose of the Rule. (As of the date of this Disclosure Certificate there is no State Depository).

"Transmission Agent" shall mean any central filing office, conduit or similar entity which undertakes responsibility for accepting filings under the Rule for submission to each Repository. The current Transmission Agents are listed on Exhibit A attached hereto.

SECTION 3. Provision of Annual Reports.

(a) The Town shall, not later than 270 days after the end of each fiscal year, provide to each Repository an Annual Report which is consistent with the requirements of Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate. The Annual Report may be submitted as a single document or as separate documents comprising a package, and may cross-reference other information as provided in Section 4 of this Disclosure Certificate; provided that the audited financial statements of the Town may be submitted when available separately from the balance of the Annual Report.

(b) If the Town is unable to provide to the Repositories an Annual Report by the date required in subsection (a), the Town shall send a notice to each National Repository and the State Depository, if any, in substantially the form attached as Exhibit B.

SECTION 4. Content of Annual Reports. The Town's Annual Report shall contain or incorporate by reference the following:

(a) quantitative information for the preceding fiscal year of the type presented in the Town's Official Statement dated September \_\_, 2007 relating to the Bonds regarding (i) the revenues and expenditures of the Town relating to its operating budget, (ii) capital expenditures, (iii) fund balances, (iv) property tax information, (v) outstanding indebtedness and overlapping debt of the Town, and (vi) pension obligations of the Town, and

(b) the most recently available audited financial statements of the Town, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, with certain exceptions permitted by the Massachusetts Uniform Municipal Accounting System promulgated by the Department of Revenue of the Commonwealth.

If audited financial statements for the preceding fiscal year are not available when the Annual Report is submitted, the Annual Report will include unaudited financial statements for the preceding fiscal year and audited financial statements for such fiscal year shall be submitted when available.

Any or all of the items listed above may be incorporated by reference from other documents, including official statements of debt issues of the Town or related public entities, which have been submitted to each of the Repositories or the Securities and Exchange Commission. If the document incorporated by reference is a final official statement, it must be available from the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. The Town shall clearly identify each such other document so incorporated by reference.

SECTION 5. Reporting of Material Events.

(a) The Town shall give notice, in accordance with subsection 5(b) below, of the occurrence of any of the following events with respect to the Bonds, if material:

1. Principal and interest payment delinquencies.
2. Non-payment related defaults.

3.     Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties.
4.     Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties.
5.     Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform.
6.     Adverse tax opinions or events affecting the tax-exempt status of the Bonds.
7.     Modifications to rights of the Owners of the Bonds.
8.     Bond calls.
9.     Defeasances.
10.    Release, substitution or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds.
11.    Rating changes.

It should be noted, however, that as of this date events of the types listed in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, and 10 above are not applicable to the Bonds.

(b)     Whenever the Town obtains knowledge of the occurrence of a Listed Event, the Town shall as soon as possible determine if such an event would be material under applicable federal securities laws and if so, the Town shall promptly file a notice of such occurrence with each National Repository and the State Depository, if any.

SECTION 6. Alternative Methods for Reporting. The Town may satisfy its obligations to make a filing with each Repository hereunder by transmitting the same to a Transmission Agent if and to the extent such Transmission Agent has received an interpretive advice from the Securities and Exchange Commission, which has not been withdrawn, to the effect that an undertaking to transmit a filing to such Transmission Agent for submission to each Repository is an undertaking described in the Rule.

SECTION 7. Termination of Reporting Obligation. The Town's obligations under this Disclosure Certificate shall terminate upon the legal defeasance in accordance with the terms of the Bonds, prior redemption or payment in full of all of the Bonds.

SECTION 8. Amendment; Waiver. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Disclosure Certificate, the Town may amend this Disclosure Certificate and any provision of this Disclosure Certificate may be waived if such amendment or waiver is permitted by the Rule, as evidenced by an opinion of counsel expert in federal securities law (which may include bond counsel to the Town), to the effect that such amendment or waiver would not cause the Disclosure Certificate to violate the Rule. The first Annual Report filed after enactment of any amendment to or waiver of this Disclosure Certificate shall explain, in narrative form, the reasons for the amendment or waiver and the impact of the change in the type of information being provided in the Annual Report.

If the amendment provides for a change in the accounting principles to be followed in preparing financial statements, the Annual Report for the year in which the change is made shall present a comparison between the financial statements or information prepared on the basis of the new accounting principles and those prepared on the basis of the former accounting principles. The comparison shall include a qualitative discussion of the differences in the accounting principles and the impact of the change in the accounting principles on the presentation of the financial information in order to provide information to investors to enable them to evaluate the ability of the Town to meet its obligations. To the extent reasonably feasible, the comparison shall also be quantitative. A notice of the change in the accounting principles shall be sent to each Repository.

SECTION 9. Default. In the event of a failure of the Town to comply with any provision of this Disclosure Certificate any Owner of the Bonds may seek a court order for specific performance by the Town of its obligations under this Disclosure Certificate. A default under this Disclosure Certificate shall not constitute a default with respect to the Bonds, and the sole remedy under this Disclosure Certificate in the event of any failure of the Town to comply with this Disclosure Certificate shall be an action for specific performance of the Town's obligations hereunder and not for money damages in any amount.

SECTION 10. Beneficiaries. This Disclosure Certificate shall inure solely to the benefit of the Owners of the Bonds from time to time, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2007

TOWN OF HINGHAM,  
MASSACHUSETTS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer

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[EXHIBIT A: List of National Repositories and Transmission Agents]  
[EXHIBIT B: Form of Notice of Failure to File Annual Report]