

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF WESTFORD  
WARRANT**

Middlesex, ss.

To the Constable of the Town of Westford, in said County,

**GREETINGS:**

You are required in the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, to notify and warn all inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections, and also in Town affairs, to meet at the Westford Academy Gymnasium at 30 Patten Road on the following date:

**Saturday, March 25, 2023**

*(voter registration deadline, Friday, March 15, 2023 at 5:00 pm)*

at 10:00 o'clock in the morning, then and there to act upon the following articles:

**REPORTS**

**ARTICLE 1: Accept Town Reports**

*Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to accept the Reports of Town Officers, Boards and Committees for the Fiscal Year 2022;

Or act in relation thereto.

**FINANCIAL - FISCAL YEAR 2023**

**ARTICLE 2: Approve Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Supplemental Appropriations**

*Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds sums of money in order to adjust the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budgets;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 3: Appropriate for Perchlorate Expenses**

*Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, or any combination thereof, a sum of money for the purpose of providing funds to address associated issues regarding perchlorate contamination;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 4: Appropriate Opioid Settlement Funds**

*Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, or any combination thereof, amounts received from Statewide Opioid Settlements between the Massachusetts Attorney General and non-bankrupt opioid industry participants, for the funding of prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery programs as further detailed in the Massachusetts State Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements; said funds to be expended under the direction and with the approval of the Select Board pursuant to grant agreements with one or more individuals or non-profit entities that provide a public purpose of support and stimulation for the residents of Westford, and to authorize the Select Board to enter into such agreements upon terms and conditions that the Board deems in the best interests of the Town;

Or act in relation thereto.

**CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS - FISCAL YEAR 2023**

**ARTICLE 5: Approve Capital Appropriations**

*Capital Planning Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$12,534,838 (TWELVE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY EIGHT DOLLARS), or any other sum, to provide for the following capital requests and all costs incidental and related thereto, and, further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this vote:

<i>DEPARTMENT</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>	<i>PURPOSE</i>
Technology	\$36,000	Town computer replacements
Technology	\$392,338	School computer replacements
Technology	\$100,000	Server & storage replacements
Public Buildings	\$2,000,000	Supplemental appropriation for HVAC energy conservation improvements at the Cameron Senior Center, including related building improvements and costs related to acquisition, furnishing, equipping and use of temporary alternative space; and also including the authority to enter into a lease for temporary alternative space.
Fire	\$300,000	Architectural and engineering for the Fire Department Station 4 (Nabnasset) addition, renovation, or replacement
Fire	\$2,150,000	Tower 1 (2002) vehicle replacement, purchase and equip
Schools	\$95,000	Stony Brook Middle School front entry patio replacement
Schools	\$191,000	Nabnasset parking lot and walking path improvements
Schools	\$34,000	Wide area mower, purchase and equip
Schools	\$40,000	Electric vehicle for the Facilities Department, purchase and equip
Engineering	\$500,000	Boston Road Reconstruction Project Non-Participating Costs
Engineering	\$550,000	Expanded Town Hall parking lot
Engineering	\$50,000	Stony Brook Bridge replacement project
Highway	\$65,000	Vehicle replacement – ¾ Ton 4x4 pickup truck with plow, purchase and equip
Highway	\$80,000	Vehicle replacement – 1-Ton dump truck with plow, purchase and equip
Highway	\$260,000	Vehicle replacement – 6-wheel dump truck (swap loader), purchase and equip
Wastewater	\$450,000	Abbot Elementary School wastewater treatment plant tank rehabilitation
Parks & Grounds	\$65,000	Vehicle replacement – ¾ Ton 4x4 pickup truck with plow, purchase and equip
Water Enterprise	\$71,500	Vehicle replacement – 4x4 utility truck with plow, purchase and equip
Water Enterprise	\$65,000	Electric vehicle replacement – express van, purchase and equip
Water Enterprise	\$150,000	Pilot study for PFAS treatment
Water Enterprise	\$2,000,000	Boston Road reconstruction project
Water Enterprise	\$1,045,000	Francis Hill water storage tank rehabilitation
Water Enterprise	\$80,000	Supplemental Appropriation for the Depot Street Well Replacement
Stormwater Enterprise	\$100,000	Expanded Town Hall parking lot

Stormwater Enterprise	\$165,000	Design for the culvert replacement on Acton Road approximately 150 feet south of Greenwood Road
Stormwater Enterprise	\$1,500,000	Construction for the Blue Brook and Pond Brook culvert replacements

Or act in relation thereto.

<b>ARTICLE 6: Appropriate Funding for the Construction of a New Municipal Building Located at 51 Main Street</b>	<i>Select Board</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$12,400,000 (TWELVE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS) for the following purposes relating to the construction of a new municipal building at 51 Main Street:

1. To demolish the existing building;
2. To design, bid, construct, furnish and equip a new building on the same site;
3. To transfer equipment, supplies and infrastructure from various locations to the new building;
4. To reroute and extend fiber optic cables and equipment to Town-owned buildings located at 30 Patten Road (Westford Academy) and 39 Town Farm Road (Rogers Fire Station); and
5. To secure current technology offices at 1 East Prescott Street.

And all costs incidental and related thereto; and to meet this appropriation, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow said sum pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 44, Section 7 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; provided that any borrowing or expenditure hereunder shall be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion ballot question vote pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 59, Section 21C; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Select Board; and to authorize the Select Board to execute all documents and take all actions necessary to effectuate the purposes of this vote;

Or act in relation thereto.

<b>ARTICLE 7: Appropriate Funding for the Lloyd G. Blanchard MSBA Roof Replacement</b>	<i>School Committee</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for the purpose of paying the costs of replacing the roof at the Lloyd G. Blanchard Middle School, 14 West Street, Westford, MA 01886, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"). The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. Any grant that the Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) forty-eight-point zero five percent (48.05%) of eligible approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA;

Or act in relation thereto.

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS**

<b>ARTICLE 8: Approve Community Preservation Committee Recommendations</b>	<i>Community Preservation Committee</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2023 Community Preservation budget and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money not exceeding 5% of the Fiscal Year 2023 estimated annual revenues to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2023; and further to reserve for future appropriation a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund for open space, historic resources, community housing

purposes, and outdoor recreation, and further to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund or borrow pursuant to MGL c. 44B, Section 11, or any other enabling authority, a sum or sums of money for Community Preservation projects or purposes, including acquisition of interests in land, all as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee;

Or act in relation thereto.

**FINANCIAL-FISCAL YEAR 2024**

**ARTICLE 9: Amend the Wage and Classification Plan** *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Pay Classification Plan for non-unionized municipal employees, effective July 1, 2023;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 10: Authorize Revolving Funds** *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL c. 44, Section 53E ½ as most recently amended by Section 86 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, to establish limitations on expenditures from the revolving funds established by Chapter 138 of the General Bylaws, entitled, "Revolving Funds" as follows:

Revolving Account	FY 2024 Expenditure Limit
Lease of Town Buildings: 65 & 73 Main St & 170 Plain Rd	\$150,000
Electric Vehicle Charging Station Revolving	\$10,000
Recycling Revolving	\$40,000
Recreation Field Maintenance	\$150,000
Senior Center Fitness Room	\$25,000
Senior Center Programs	\$50,000
School Parking	\$80,000
School Bus/Transportation	\$950,000
East Boston Camps Maintenance	\$80,000
Immunizations and Clinical Services	\$100,000
Community Gardens	\$15,000
Town Forest Management	\$25,000

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 11: Approve Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget** *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or any combination thereof, for the operation and maintenance of Town Departments for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and that such sums be expended for such purposes under the direction of the respective Town Officers, Boards and Committees;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 12: Appropriate Chapter 90 Local Transportation Funds for Roadway Maintenance**

*Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the proceeds due to the Town under the provisions of MGL c. 90 for the purposes set forth in said Chapter;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 13: Appropriate Funds from Water Enterprise Other Post Employment Benefits Stabilization Fund to the Water Enterprise Budget**

*Water Commissioners*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Water Enterprise Other Post Employment Benefits Stabilization Fund to Water Enterprise expenses to pay for the Fiscal Year 2024 retiree benefits;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**ARTICLE 14: Authorize the Select Board to Accept Easements**

*Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote authorize the Select Board, during Fiscal Year 2024, to accept any and all easements for sidewalk, drainage, utility purposes, public access to trails, or other public purposes as they may deem in the Town's best interests;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 15: Authorize the Select Board to Accept Easements on Groton Road**

*Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board shall determine, permanent and/or temporary easements on the parcels of land shown on plans entitled "TOWN OF WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS, GROTON ROAD OVER BLUE BROOK CULVERT REPLACEMENT" revised through December 2, 2022, as said plans may be amended, said plans on file with the Town Clerk, for public way purposes, including, but not limited to, the construction, alteration, maintenance, improvement, repair and/or replacement of a culvert system, sidewalk(s), and for drainage, utility and slope work, traffic improvements, driveway reconstruction and grading, tree protection and landscaping; and, further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out said acquisitions and other acts authorized herein;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 16: Authorize the Select Board to Accept Easements on Old Lowell Road**

*Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board shall determine, permanent and/or temporary easements on the parcels of land shown on plans entitled "TOWN OF WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS, OLD LOWELL ROAD OVER POND BROOK CULVERT REPLACEMENT" revised through November 29, 2022, as said plans may be amended, said plans on file with the Town Clerk, for public way purposes, including, but not limited to, the construction, alteration, maintenance, improvement, repair and/or replacement of a culvert system, sidewalk(s), and for drainage, utility and slope work, traffic improvements, driveway reconstruction and grading, tree protection and landscaping; and, further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out said acquisitions and other acts authorized herein;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 17: Authorize the Select Board Acquire Easements for the Boston Road Reconstruction Project**

*Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to: (a) authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase, eminent domain or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems appropriate, the fee to and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under and over certain parcels of land abutting and/or near Boston Road and Crown Road for the reconstruction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of the roadway, rights of way, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, driveways, retaining walls, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding and landscaping and other structures and/or appurtenances to enable the Town to undertake the Boston Road Reconstruction Project and for any and all purposes and uses incidental or related thereto, all as approximately shown on plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Boston Road in the Town of Westford Middlesex County," dated January 3, 2023, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, as said plan may be amended from time to time and/or incorporated into an easement plan; (b) transfer the care, custody and control of the portions of the Town-owned properties or property interests shown on the aforesaid plans from the board or officer having custody of the same for the purposes for which such properties are currently held to the Select Board for said public way purposes, and, if applicable, authorize the Select Board to submit a petition to the General Court to permit the aforesaid use under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution; and (c) authorize the Select Board to enter into any and all agreements and take any and all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes, including, but not limited to, dedicating the Town-owned parcels to the foregoing purposes;

Or act in relation thereto.

**GENERAL BYLAW AMENDMENT**

**ARTICLE 18: Change the Time of Annual Town Meeting**

*Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 51, Section 51.1 B of the Westford General Bylaws relating to the time of the Annual Town Meeting, as shown below, with additions shown in **bold** and deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~;

B. Date and time of Annual Town Business Meetings. All other business of the Annual Town Meeting shall be considered at **9:00** ~~10:00~~ A.M. on the fourth Saturday in March, **or, subject to limitations in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 9, at such other date and/or time of day as the Select Board deems appropriate.** ~~except that if the Select Board determines that such date conflicts with the traditional observance of a religious holiday, the Select Board may delay the Annual Town Meeting to a subsequent Saturday that does not conflict with any religious holiday.~~

Or act in relation thereto.

**ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

**ARTICLE 19: Amend the Zoning Bylaw to regulate Indoor and Outdoor Commercial Recreation and Winter Commercial Recreation in additional zoning districts, and to establish a Commercial Recreation Overlay District related to Kimball Farm and Nashoba Valley Ski Area**

*Planning Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend Appendix A of the Zoning Bylaw to allow Indoor and Outdoor Commercial Recreation and Winter Commercial Recreation in certain zoning districts by Special Permit from the Planning Board, and related changes; and

To see if the Town will vote to amend Sections 2.1, 3.2.2 and 8 (Districts, Accessory Uses in Nonresidential Districts, Special Districts) of the Zoning Bylaw to establish a Commercial Recreation Overlay District to allow Indoor and Outdoor Commercial Recreation, Winter Commercial Recreation,

and certain accessory uses in the overlay district by Special Permit from the Planning Board, and related changes;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 20: Amend the Zoning Bylaw to Add 7 Carl Thompson Road to the Residence A Zoning District** *Citizens' Petition*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by amending the Town of Westford Zoning Map by adding the parcel identified as #7 Carl Thompson Road (Assessor's Parcel ID 077 0029 0000) to the Residence A zoning district;

Or act in relation thereto.

**CARE AND CUSTODY OF TOWN LAND**

**ARTICLE 21: Transfer Custody of a Parcel on River Street from the School Committee to the Recreation Commission** *Recreation Commission*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and management of the following parcels from the School Committee to the Recreation Commission for general recreation purposes:

Parcel ID	Acres	Street Address
062 0102 0000	31.00	15 River Street, American Legion Fields

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 22: Accept Byrne Place as a Public Way** *Select Board*

To see if the Town will vote to accept Byrne Place as a Town public way as shown on a plan entitled "Street Acceptance Plan Byrne Place Town of Westford, Massachusetts," dated September 21, 2022, prepared by LandTech Consultants, as said plan may be amended, said plan on file with the Town Clerk, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82, as heretofore laid out by the Select Board, and further to authorize the Select Board to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, an easement in said way for all purposes for which public ways are used and maintained;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 23: Ensure the APR on Drew Garden Property is Enforced** *Agricultural Commission*

That the Town request the Select Board to take action in calendar year 2023 to enforce the Drew Garden agricultural preservation restriction (APR) held by the Town of Westford on the land at 66-68 Boston Road, said APR having been voted by Town Meeting in October 1996 in order to continue the historic agricultural use of this land in perpetuity; and further, that the Select Board work with the Agricultural Commission, the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition and the present owner of 66-68 Boston Road to create and implement an agricultural plan to begin with the 2024 growing season and to continue thereafter; and further, that the Town appropriate \$15,000, or some other sum, to cover any legal or consulting expenses incurred;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**ARTICLE 24: Authorize the Select Board to Petition the General Court for 1 (One) Additional Chapter 138 Section 15 Alcohol Beverages Retail License to be Exercised by Nab One Stop Shop Inc. Located at 60 Brookside Road** *Citizens' Petition*

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court for 1 (one) additional Alcohol Beverages Retail License to be exercised by Nabs One Stop Shop Inc. or related entity or its successor and/or assign, located at 60 Brookside Rd, Westford. Said license not to be transferred to any other location, provided, however, that the general court may make clerical or


editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or take any action in relation thereto.

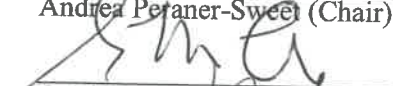



And you, Constable, are directed to serve this warrant by posting a true and attested copy thereof at the Town Hall, Library and at each Post Office in said Town of Westford at least fourteen (14) days prior to the time of holding said meeting.

THEREOF FAIL NOT and make return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of holding the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 28 day of February in the Year of our Lord 2023.

  
Andrea Petaner-Sweet (Chair)

  
G. Thomas Clay (Vice-Chair)

  
John H. Cunningham (Clerk)

  
J. Scott Hazelton

  
Anita Tonakarn-Nguyen

**A TRUE COPY  
ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable of Westford

**DATE:**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE SERVED THE FOREGOING WARRANT BY POSTING A TRUE AND ATTESTED COPY THEREOF AT THE TOWN HALL, LIBRARY AND AT EACH POST OFFICE IN THE SAID TOWN OF WESTFORD AT LEAST FOURTEEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE TIME OF HOLDING SAID MEETING.**