

**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 Abbot School Gymnasium at Depot Street on the following date:

Saturday, March 28, 2015

(voter registration deadline, Friday, March 6, 2014 at 8:00pm)

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

REPORTS

ARTICLE 1:	Accept Town Reports	<i>Town Manager</i>
	To see if the town will vote to accept the Reports of Town Officers, Boards and Committees for the Fiscal Year 2014;	
	Or act in relation thereto.	

FINANCIAL - FISCAL YEAR 2015

ARTICLE 2:	Approve Unpaid Bills from Previous Fiscal Year(s)	<i>Town Manager</i>
	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 to pay for unpaid bills of prior fiscal years for various Town departments in accordance with the provisions of <u>Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 64</u> ;	
	Or act in relation thereto.	

ARTICLE 3:	Approve Fiscal Year 2015 Supplemental Appropriations	<i>Town Manager</i>
	To see if the Town will vote to appropriate various sums in order to supplement operating budgets for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2015;	
	Or act in relation thereto.	

ARTICLE 4:	Approve Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Transfers	<i>Town Manager</i>
	To see if the Town will vote to transfer various sums between and among various accounts for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2015;	
	Or act in relation thereto.	

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ARTICLE 5: 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; the sum of \$200,000 (TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS) for the purpose of providing funds to address associated issues regarding perchlorate contamination;

Or act in relation thereto.

CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS - FISCAL YEAR 2015**ARTICLE 6: Approve Capital Appropriations***Capital Planning Committee*

To see if the Town will appropriate by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$3,396,600 (THREE MILLION THREE HUNDRED NINETY SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS) to provide for the following capital requests:

DEPARTMENT	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Technology	\$410,000	School computer replacement
Technology	\$34,000	Town computer replacement
Technology	\$40,000	Network upgrades
Technology	\$40,000	Server & storage replacements
Technology	\$10,000	Replacement of Police/Fire Avaya Phones
Public Buildings	\$44,000	Town-wide roofing study
Public Buildings	\$400,000	General Building Repairs & Maintenance
Public Buildings	\$10,000	Parkerville School House Repairs
Police	\$18,064	Defibrillators
Schools	\$220,000	Phase 1 System wide Security Cameras
Schools	\$60,000	WA Restroom/Visitor Bleacher Feasibility Study
Schools	\$40,000	1-Ton Utility Truck
Engineering	\$28,000	½-Ton SUV
Engineering	\$105,500	Study & Design for three (3) municipal dams
Engineering	\$647,401	Keyes culvert reconstruction
Highway	\$45,000	One (1) ¾-Ton Truck
Highway	\$100,000	Two (2) 1-Ton Trucks
Highway	\$220,000	Ten-wheel dump truck
Highway	\$225,000	Excavator
Highway	\$44,770	Pleasant St. Drainage Improvements
Highway	\$24,365	Graniteville Rd. Drainage Improvements
Library	\$35,000	Library Feasibility Study Supplemental Appropriation
Recreation	\$25,500	Tennis court repairs & maintenance
Parks & Grounds	\$54,000	Wide area mower and trailer
Water Department	\$80,000	Water Enterprise Master Plan Update
Water Department	\$60,000	Valve Maintenance Trailer
Water Department	\$20,000	Replacement of Spectrophotometers at the Forge Village and Nutting Road Water Treatment Plant Laboratories
Water Department	\$16,000	Roof Repair at Forge Village Water Treatment Plant, Nutting Road Water Treatment Plant, Water Department Maintenance Garage

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Ambulance Enterprise	\$80,000	EKG monitors
Ambulance Enterprise	\$246,000	Replace Ambulance #12
Ambulance Enterprise	\$14,000	Radios for New Ambulance

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7:	Appropriate Funding to Design and Construct a Combined Police and Fire Dispatch Center at the Police Training Room	<i>Board of Selectmen</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; a sum of money for the purpose of designing and constructing a combined police and fire dispatch facility to be located in the Police Department Training Room, including the costs of equipment and furnishings and all other costs incidental and related thereto;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8:	Authorize the Transfer of a Parcel Located on Boston Road and Appropriate Funding to Design and Construct a New Center Fire Station on Boston Road	<i>Board of Selectmen</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of land from the Board of Selectmen currently held for the purposes of recreation, and to convey to the Board of Selectmen to be held for general municipal purposes said land identified as Parcel A in a deed recorded with the Middlesex North Registry of Deeds in Book 7366, Page 211, and shown on a plan entitled "Definitive Subdivision Plan of Land Boston Road Westford, MA," dated August 27, 1993, recorded with the Middlesex North Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 187, Plan 86, on file with the Town Clerk and identified as Parcel No. 22-3-4; and further to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, or any combination thereof, a sum of money for the purpose of designing and constructing a new Center Fire Station on land located on Boston Road, including the costs of equipment and furnishings and all other costs incidental and related thereto; provided that the total appropriation under this vote shall be contingent on the passage of a Proposition 2 and 1/2 debt exclusion vote;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9:	Authorize Clare Circle Improvements/Betterments	<i>Board of Selectmen</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the amount of \$33,000 (THIRTY THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS) for the purpose of resurfacing Clare Circle, performing drainage work, installing bounds and preparing street acceptance plans; the cost thereof to be assessed proportionately against those persons who shall receive a benefit or advantage thereof, using such assessment method as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, any such assessments to bear interest at a rate not to exceed two per cent above the rate of interest chargeable to the Town;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10:	Authorize Transfer of Parcels Located at 12 North Main Street From the Tax Possession Sale Committee to the Board of Selectmen, Authorize Disposition of the Parcels Under Terms and Conditions Determined by the Board of Selectmen, and Appropriate Funds for Environmental Insurance	<i>Board of Selectmen</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of the land described herein and the structures and buildings located thereon from the Tax Possession Sale Committee as held or to be

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acquired by the Tax Possession Sale Committee for the purpose of tax foreclosure disposition, to the Board of Selectmen to be held for the purpose of disposition of a fee or lesser interest therein; said property consisting of parcels 69, 70, 71 and 73 as shown on Assessors Map Number 30 and located at 12 North Main Street; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey said property pursuant to the provisions of General Laws Chapter 30B, §16 on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate, including nominal consideration; and further to raise and appropriate or transfer the sum of \$27,960 (TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SIXTY DOLLARS) for the purpose of providing funds for liability and environmental pollution insurance premiums and related costs;

Or act in relation thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS

ARTICLE 11: Approve Community Preservation Committee Recommendations *Community Preservation Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2015 Community Preservation budget and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money not exceeding 5% of the FY2015 estimated annual revenues to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2015; and further to reserve for future appropriation a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund for open space, historic resources, and community housing purposes, and further to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund or borrow pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 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 2016

ARTICLE 12: Amend the Wage and Classification Plan *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Pay Classification Plan for non-unionized municipal employees, effective July 1, 2015;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13: Authorize Revolving Funds *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving funds for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the following:

Revolving Account	Spending Authority	Revenue Source	Allowed Expenses	Expenditure Limits	Year End Balance
Lease of Town Buildings: 65 & 73 Main St & 170 Plain Rd	Board of Selectmen	Lease payment and other revenues from leased properties	Costs associated with maintenance, repairs and improvements to the leased properties	\$150,000	Available for expenditure next year
Recycling Revolving	Recycling Commission	Sale of bins	Purchase of recycling supplies	\$20,000	Available for expenditure next year

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Recreation Field Maintenance	Recreation Commission	Field user fees/permits	Field maintenance, hiring of necessary personnel and consulting services	\$150,000	Available for expenditure next year
Senior Center Fitness Room	Council on Aging	Fees and gifts received for the Fitness Room	Fitness room maintenance supplies, equipment warranties, training, monitoring and purchase of replacement fitness equipment	\$75,000	Available for expenditure next year
Senior Center Programs	Council on Aging	Program fees	Costs associated for the operation of activities for Cameron to include supplies and wages	\$50,000	Available for expenditure next year
School Parking	School Department	Parking fees	Maintenance and expansion of parking facilities	\$30,000	Available for expenditure next year
School Bus/Transportation	School Department	User bus fees	Student transportation costs	\$648,438	Available for expenditure next year
East Boston Camps Maintenance	Conservation Commission	Revenue received for the lease, rental or licensing of camp facilities and donations received for the support of the East Boston Camps property	Costs associated for the operation and maintenance of the East Boston Camps property located in the Stony Brook Conservation Land	\$50,000	Available for expenditure next year
Immunizations and Clinical Services	Board of Health	Fees received for immunizations and clinical services	Costs of supplies and technical services for immunization and clinical programs	\$45,000	Available for expenditure next year
Community Gardens	Agricultural Commission	Fees and gifts received for use of community gardens	Costs associated with maintenance, improvements, supplies and tools for the community gardens	\$10,000	Available for expenditure next year

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14: Approve Fiscal Year 2016 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, 2015 through June 30, 2016, 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 15: Appropriate Chapter 90 Local Transportation Funds for Roadway Maintenance *Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the proceeds due to the Town under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90;

Or act in relation thereto.

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ARTICLE 16: Appropriate Funds from Water Enterprise Other Post Employment Benefits Stabilization Fund *Water Commissioners*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Water Enterprise Fund to the Other Post Employment Benefits Stabilization Fund;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 17: Accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 73, Section 4 of the Acts of 1986, as Amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988 Related to Property Tax Exemption Increase by 100% for the Blind, Elderly and Disabled Veterans *Board of Assessors*

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 73, Section 4 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, by providing for additional property exemptions for qualified residents who may be blind, elderly, surviving spouses or minors, or who are disabled veterans, and to continue the present percentage increase of 100%;

Or act in relation thereto.

ADMINISTRATIVE

ARTICLE 18: Accept the Provisions of MGL Chapter 40 Section 8J to Create a Disability Commission *Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8J and create a disability commission to cause the full integration and participation of people with disabilities in the Town;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19: Authorize Board of Selectmen to Initiate a Municipal Electricity Aggregation Program for Residents and Businesses *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 164, section 134 to authorize the Board of Selectmen to initiate the process to aggregate the electricity load of the residents and businesses in the Town and for other related services, independently, or in joint action with other municipalities, retaining the right of individual residents and businesses to opt-out of the aggregation;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20: Authorize Board of Selectmen to Lease Former Landfill Site for a Solar Project *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of leasing and granting easements the care, custody and control of a parcel of land containing 17.02 acres, more or less, located off of Cold Spring Road, commonly referred to as the former Westford Landfill, identified by the Board of Assessors as Map 25 Lot 15, which parcel of land will continue to be held for landfill purposes and such other purposes for which said parcel is currently held; and to authorize the Town Manager with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to lease such portion for a 20-year term commencing on the date on which the facility achieves commercial operations, and to grant such access and/or utility easements on said portion as necessary or convenient to serve said facility, and, further, to authorize the Town Manager with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to enter into a power purchase or net metering credit purchase agreement with the owner of said facility for a 20-year term running concurrently with the lease, which lease, easements, and agreements are to be on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, as the Town Manager deems to be in the best interests of the Town, and to authorize the Town Manager to take any actions and execute any documents necessary or appropriate to accomplish the foregoing;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21: Accept the provisions of MGL Ch 71 Sec 71F to Establish a Revolving Fund for Tuition Payments from Non-Resident Students *School Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of MGL Ch 71 Sec 71F to authorize the School Committee to establish a revolving fund for tuition payments from non-resident students;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22: Accept the provisions of MGL CH 200A, Section 9A Disposition of Abandoned Property Including Unclaimed Checks *Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 200A, Section 9A to establish an alternative procedure for disposing of abandoned funds including unclaimed checks held in the custody of the town;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 23: Authorize Board of Selectmen to Accept Easements *Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, during Fiscal Year 2016, to accept any and all easements for sidewalk, drainage, or other utility purposes, as they may deem in the Town's best interests;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 24: Promotion and Support of Affordable Housing Initiatives *Citizen Petition*

To see if the Town will vote that all the town Boards, Committees, Commissions, Sub-committees, Working Groups, et cetera shall support and promote affordable housing initiatives in Westford by drafting a) changes to existing zoning bylaws as well as b) new zoning bylaws, said changes and new bylaws to define, promote, and direct affordable housing opportunities in Westford, including but not intended to be limited to an Inclusionary Housing Bylaw, a Multi-use Overlay Zones Bylaw, a Multi-Family Overlay Zones Bylaw, Restoration and a Redevelopment Bylaw; and further, that these zoning law changes shall be placed on the warrant for the next Annual Town Meeting, in March of 2016;

Or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 25: More Openness and Transparency in local government *Citizen Petition*

To see if the Town will vote that the Town Manager shall expand the notification, accessibility, openness, transparency, and content of the agendas, minutes, and conduct of all meetings of town Committees, Boards, Commissions, Sub-committees, Working Groups, et cetera (hereafter referred to as "Committee" or "Committees") to provide a more accessible, transparent, and complete record of their meetings than the minimum requirements of the State's Open Meeting Law by having the Town Manager and all Committees provide the following:

1. A system of automated electronic notification of meetings and minutes for all Committees, such that residents may submit their name and electronic address to any Committee's list of notification recipients, and thereafter the resident will electronically receive notifications of agendas (that include meeting times, dates, and locations), as well as minutes as they become available and are posted to the town's website;

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2. Each Committee is to have its own "home page" on the town's website which will contain, at the minimum:
 - email links/addresses of members,
 - links/addresses to each of the following folders for each Committee:
 - a. agendas,
 - b. minutes (draft and final versions),
 - c. documents pertinent to the organization's activities and deliberations;
3. Meeting minutes sent to the Town Clerk's office, in accordance with the State's Open Meeting Law, will be posted appropriately to each Committee's folder for minutes on the town's website in a timely manner;
4. Meeting minutes containing information that exceeds the minimum requirements of the State's Open Meeting Law, will include, but will not be limited to, a brief summary of positions, advocacies, arguments, et cetera on all issues discussed and/or voted on in meetings by the participants, as well as the "why" of Committee decisions;
5. All meetings of Committees shall provide for an "open forum" where non-members can bring before the Committee issues, opinions, and information they feel are relevant to that Committee's deliberations;
6. Non-members who attend an Open Meeting of any Committee, shall be permitted to address deliberations that are discussed and/or acted upon that are relevant, and of interest to, the non-member;

Or act in relation thereto.

STREET ACCEPTANCES

ARTICLE 26:	Accept Rome Drive Extension as Public Way	<i>Board of Selectmen</i>
To see if the Town will vote to accept the layout of Rome Drive Extension as a Town public way pursuant to <u>Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 82</u> ;		
Or act in relation thereto.		

CARE AND CUSTODY OF TOWN LAND

ARTICLE 27:	Authorize the Board of Selectmen to Dispose of the Former Graniteville Fire Sub Station Located at 54 Broadway Street	<i>Board of Selectmen</i>
To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of that certain property, consisting of land containing .25 acres, more or less, and the improvements located thereon, known as the Graniteville Fire Station, and described in a deed recorded with the Middlesex North Registry of Deeds in Book 1045, Page 411, with an address of 54 Broadway Street, from the Board of Selectmen for fire station purposes, to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of conveyance, and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey said property pursuant to General Laws Chapter 30B, §16 on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate, including nominal consideration;		
Or act in relation thereto.		

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ARTICLE 28: Transfer Custody of Six Parcels Containing Storm Water Facilities on Rome Drive, Gifford Drive, Tyngsborough Road, Randolph Circle, and Pine Tree Trail from the Tax Possession Sale Committee to the Board of Selectmen *Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, control and management of the following parcels from the Tax Possession Sale Committee presently held for the purpose of tax title sale to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes:

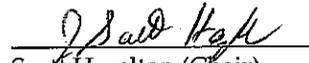
Parcel ID	Acres	Street Address
021 0003 0026	0.7	PARCEL A2 ROME DR
022 0003 0011	0.4	LOT 5 ROME DR
037 0003 0006	0.4	GIFFORD DR
047 0029 0000	2.9	TYNGSBORO RD
059 0007 0004	1.41	8 RANDOLPH CIRCLE
078 0075 0000	0.1	20 PINE TREE TRAIL;

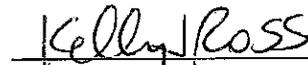
Or act in relation thereto.

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 3rd day of March in the Year of our Lord 2015.


Scott Hazelton (Chair)


Kelly Ross (Vice-Chair)

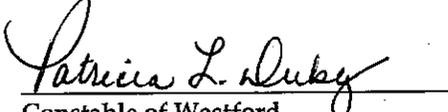

Andrea Peraner-Sweet (Clerk)


Jim Sullivan


Donald Siriani

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST:


Constable of Westford

DATE: 3/11/15

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.