

**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, April 2, 2016**

*(voter registration deadline, Friday, March 11, 2016 at 8:00pm)*

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

**REPORTS**

<b>ARTICLE 1:</b>	<b>Accept Town Reports</b>	<i>Town Manager</i>
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To see if the town will vote to accept the Reports of Town Officers, Boards and Committees for the Fiscal Year 2015;

Or act in relation thereto.

**FINANCIAL - FISCAL YEAR 2016**

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

Or act in relation thereto.

<b>ARTICLE 3:</b>	<b>Approve Fiscal Year 2016 Supplemental Appropriations</b>	<i>Town Manager</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to appropriate various sums in order to supplement operating budgets for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016;

Or act in relation thereto.

<b>ARTICLE 4:</b>	<b>Approve Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Transfers</b>	<i>Town Manager</i>
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To see if the Town will vote to transfer various sums between and among various accounts for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2016;

Or act in relation thereto.

<b>ARTICLE 5:</b>	<b>Appropriate Funds For the Westford Superior Officers Association to Fund the Fiscal Years 2014-2016 Contract Settlement</b>	<i>Town Manager</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 to pay for Police Department personnel expenses required according to the collective bargaining agreement with the Westford Superior Officers Association for fiscal years 2014 through 2016 including wages and benefits awarded by the Joint Labor Management Committee as part of an arbitration settlement;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 6: Appropriate from Insurance Receipts Reserved for Repairs to the Westford Academy Building Located at 30 Patten Road**

*Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from insurance receipts reserved in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 a sum of money for repairs and related expenses caused by water damage at the Westford Academy building located at 30 Patten Road;

Or act in relation thereto.

**CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS - FISCAL YEAR 2016**

**ARTICLE 7: 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 \$5,825,834 (FIVE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR DOLLARS) to provide for the following capital requests and all costs incidental and related thereto:

<i>DEPARTMENT</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>	<i>PURPOSE</i>
Technology	40,000	Network Upgrades
Technology	313,000	School Computer Replacement
Technology	34,000	Town Computer Replacement
Police	127,027	Police Portable Radio Replacement
Fire	130,080	Fire Portable Radio Replacement
Fire	39,800	Deputy Chief Vehicle
Building	23,500	Building Department Vehicle
School	265,000	Phase 2 System-wide Security Cameras
School	46,540	School Plow Truck/Sander
Engineering	35,000	Roadway Safety Audit for 4 High Priority Areas: Carlisle Rd @ Griffin Rd, Concord Rd @ Carlisle Rd, Plain Rd @ Depot St, Abbot Rd @ Town Farm Rd
Engineering	80,000	Stormwater Permit Compliance
Engineering	50,000	Oak Hill/Groton Rd Project Culvert Design
Engineering	1,895,000	Main St. Roadway Reconstruction - G/F
Engineering	125,000	Beaver Brook Rd Culvert Design
Engineering	510,725	Plain Rd Sidewalk & Survey of Concord Rd. Sidewalk
Wastewater Management	30,000	Westford Academy/Crisafulli School Leach Field Testing
Highway	196,310	6 Wheel Plow Truck
Water Enterprise	1,370,000	Main St. Water Distribution System Improvements
Water Enterprise	300,000	Design Engineering for Prospect Hill Water Storage Tank Replacement
Water Enterprise	42,095	Multi-Tool Tractor
Water Enterprise	41,217	SCADA Radio Upgrade
Water Enterprise	100,000	Standby Generator Additional Funding
Ambulance Enterprise	17,365	Infusion Pumps
Ambulance Enterprise	14,175	Liquid Spring Suspension

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 8: Appropriate Funds for Pedestrian and Traffic Improvements to the Town Center** *Board of Selectmen*

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 professional services for the design and implementation of traffic and pedestrian improvements for the Town Center in accordance with recommendations from the Town Center Parking and Traffic Study Committee;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 9: Authorize the Board of Selectmen to Dispose of the Town Farm Building Located at 35 Town Farm Road** *Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance Assessor's Map 24, Parcel 23 (commonly known as the "Town Farm") and property, adjacent thereto, Assessor's Map 24, Parcel 22, being the site of a fire station; and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey all or a portion of said properties, pursuant to General Laws Chapter 30B, §16, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, including acceptance of a historical preservation restriction on the building located upon Assessor's Map 24, Parcel 23 (the Town Farm), said conveyance to be for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate, including nominal consideration;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 10: Authorize the Selectmen to Enter a Lease for the Office and Programming Space for the Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Departments and Appropriate Funds for the First Year of the Lease** *Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease, for a term not to exceed 10 (TEN) years, of a building determined by the Board of Selectmen to be suitable for a site for the Recreation Department and/or other Town departments, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall deem appropriate; and, further, to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds, or any combination thereof, a sum of money to pay the rental for the first year of the lease of said building, and expenses associated with and/or incidental to said lease, including, but not limited to, costs of leasehold improvements reasonably necessary for municipal use, and moving 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 2016 Community Preservation budget and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money not exceeding 5% of the FY2016 estimated annual revenues to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2016; 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 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 2017**

**ARTICLE 12: Authorize Revolving Funds**

*Town Manager*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving funds for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017, 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
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	\$25,000	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	\$673,210	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	\$60,000	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	\$50,000	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 13: Approve Fiscal Year 2017 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, 2016 through June 30, 2017, 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 14: 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 Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 15: 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 16: 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 17: World Flag Resolution** *Citizen Petition*

WHEREAS:

The World Flag is intended to heighten awareness of the responsibility of all people to manage global resources in a sustainable way, regardless of an individual's country of origin, cultural background, spoken language, or religion and,

WHEREAS:

The world's ecosystem knows no sovereignty; we share the resources of the Earth with other living things that rely on us to preserve these resources; when we care for the world's land, water and air in responsible ways, we take steps to preserving our beautiful planet and,

WHEREAS:

The highlight of the World flag is the inclusiveness; it represents two unique characteristics about planet Earth, the environment and the richness of life, which are interconnected in an intricate and a fragile way; the universal symbol serves as a reminder of our individual and our collective responsibilities and,

WHEREAS:

The World Flag is designed by an American scientist Dr. Chaitanya Hiremath in Westford, Massachusetts, USA, inspired by the symbolism of the American Flag, first released on April 14, 2011 during the World Fest Event at the Crisafulli School and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the voters of Westford adopt this World Flag, thereby recognizing this flag as a symbol of inclusiveness that signifies we all share the same planet.

**ARTICLE 18: 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 2017, 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 19: Authorize Board of Selectmen to Acquire Easements for Main Street Improvements**

*Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, permanent and/or temporary easements on the parcels of land shown on plans entitled "Transportation and Water Distribution Improvement Project" (Sheets 7 through 13), dated December 18, 2015, prepared by Tec, Inc., said plans on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended, for public way purposes, including, but not limited to, the construction, alteration, maintenance, improvement, repair and/or replacement of rights of way, driveways, ramps, utilities and/or traffic control devices, and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out said acquisitions;

Or act in relation thereto.

**GENERAL BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

**ARTICLE 20: Westford, Polystyrene Disposable Food Container Restriction**

*Citizen Petition*

To see if the Town will adopt a by-law to prohibit the use of polystyrene food containers for serving or transporting prepared, ready-to-consume food or beverages, including take-out foods and leftovers from partially consumed meals but not including single-use disposal packaging for unprepared foods; to apply to all city departments, as well as individuals, contractors, vendors in a town facility or town property while acting or performing under a town contract, lease, license, permit, grant, or other agreement, and to be enforced by the Town's Health Department with appropriate warnings and fines for noncompliance.

Or act in relation thereto.

**ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

**ARTICLE 21: Amend Section 5.3 Signs, and Section 10.2 Definitions (Sign related definitions)**

*Planning Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 5.3, Signs to clarify what permits are needed from Building Commissioner and to allow for "channel-like" illuminated letters on opaque background by right and adjust figures accordingly, as set forth in a document on file with the Planning Board and Town Clerk;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 22: Amend Section 10.2 Definitions**

*Planning Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 10.2 – Definitions - to remove Section d. under Major Commercial Project, to add a definition of 'Asphalt Manufacturing Plant', to add a definition of 'Heavy Manufacturing', and to revise the definition of 'Light Manufacturing', as set forth in a document on file with the Planning Board and Town Clerk;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 23: Amend Appendix A: Table of Principal Uses**

*Planning Board*

To see if the Town will vote to amend Appendix A - Table of Principal Use Regulations - to add 'Asphalt Manufacturing Plant' and to prohibit Asphalt Manufacturing Plant in all Zoning Districts; to add 'Heavy Manufacturing' to the Table and to prohibit Heavy Manufacturing in all Zoning Districts, as set forth in a document on file with the Planning Board and Town Clerk;

Or act in relation thereto.

**CARE AND CUSTODY OF TOWN LAND**

**ARTICLE 24: Amend Agricultural Preservation Restriction on 66-68 Boston Road Parcel**

*Board of Selectmen*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to amend the Agricultural Preservation Restriction recorded at the Middlesex North Registry of Deeds in Book 10124, Page 169 ("APR 3") and on file with the Town Clerk, in accordance with the agreement between the Town of Westford, by and through its Board of Selectmen, a municipal corporation with a business address of 55 Main Street, Westford, Massachusetts and Ebrahim Masalehdan, an individual with an address of 31 Progress Avenue, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, dated January 12, 2016. The two proposed amendments are as follows:

1. Add the following new subparagraph (7) to Article III, Section A of APR 3 to allow the property owner to make the following use of the subject property:

(7) The construction and operation of up to a 16,500 square foot building with related parking and utilities, to be used for restaurant and banquet hall purposes, as shown on the conceptual plan attached hereto on file with the Town Clerk, provided that said use is related to and in support of the agricultural uses of the two contiguous parcels, which are described in the deeds recorded at the Middlesex North Registry of Deeds at Book 2201, page 621 and Book 2421, page 433. The exercise of the rights retained in this paragraph are expressly contingent upon the aforementioned contiguous parcels being actively engaged in agricultural use and said rights shall be forfeited if the use of said contiguous parcels is abandoned or changed. If the Grantor exercises the rights retained in this paragraph, there will be no change in use or transfer of any interest in the Premises without the express written approval of the Grantee.

2. Add the following to the end of subparagraph 2 of paragraph A of the Right of First Refusal attached to APR 3:

provided, however, that if the Grantor has exercised the rights retained in Article III(A)(7) of the Agricultural Preservation Restriction, as amended, the Grantor shall offer to sell the Premises to the Grantee at the fair market value of the Premises as agricultural land, as determined by a Massachusetts Certified Real Estate Appraiser chosen by the Grantor and Grantee.

And further to authorize the Board of Selectmen, to take all actions, enter into all agreements and execute on behalf of the Town any and all documents as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purposes of this Article;

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 25: Transfer Custody of Parcels on Mark Vincent Drive, Lakeview Street, and Keyes Road from the Tax Possession Sale Committee to the Conservation Commission** *Tax Possession Sale Committee*

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 Conservation Commission for general conservation purposes:

Parcel ID	Acres	Street Address
013 0082 0000	0.92	MARK VINCENT DRIVE
050 0017 0000	0.12	LAKEVIEW STREET
050 0018 0000	0.11	LAKEVIEW STREET
050 0019 0000	0.11	LAKEVIEW STREET
050 0020 0000	0.10	LAKEVIEW STREET
050 0021 0000	0.07	LAKEVIEW STREET
040 0059 0000	0.10	KEYES ROAD
040 0060 0000	0.07	KEYES ROAD

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 26: Transfer Custody of a Parcel on Depot Street from the Tax Possession Sale Committee to the Board of Selectmen** *Tax Possession Sale Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, control and management of the following parcel 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
031 0051 0000	0.24	DEPOT STREET

Or act in relation thereto.

**ARTICLE 27: Rename the Nabnasset Elementary School Gymnasium in Recognition of Frank Bishop** *School Committee*

To see if the Town will vote to name the Nabnasset Elementary School gymnasium the "Frank Bishop Gymnasium" in recognition of his service to the community as a Physical Education Teacher;

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 \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Year of our Lord 2016.

*Kelly Ross*

Kelly Ross (Chair)

Andrea Peraner-Sweet (Vice-Chair)

*Donald Siriani*

Donald Siriani (Clerk)

*Scott Hazelton*

Scott Hazelton

*Mark Kost*

Mark Kost

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.