



**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
November 14, 2016**

Worcester, ss:

To either of the Constables in the Town of Winchendon, in the County of Worcester,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Winchendon qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the MURDOCK MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL, 3 Memorial Drive, off Elmwood Road in said Winchendon on

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Met at Murdock Middle/High School at 7:00 p.m. Meeting was called to order by Moderator Richard Morin Sr. with a quorum present. Brian Riley was present representing Town Counsel Kopelman and Paige.

then and there to act on the following articles:

**REPORTS AND COMMITTEES
(majority vote required)**

ARTICLE 1 - Committee Reports

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the reports of the Finance Committee, or and any other Board or Committee, or act in relation thereto. (usual and customary article)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 7-0 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED to hear the Finance Committee Report

**TOWN CHARTER ARTICLE
(two-thirds vote required)**

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c.43B, §10(a) to amend the Town Charter as recommended by the Charter Review Committee in a document entitled, "2016 Proposed Charter Revisions", on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town's website at <http://www.townofwinchendon.com/Pages/index>, with text to be inserted underlined and text to be deleted shown in the margins; revisions include but are not limited to: ministerial and clerical amendments such as grammar, capitalization, gender neutrality, internal consistency, and references to and updates based upon state law; as well as certain substantive revisions, such as establishing terms for elected officials beginning on July 1, clarifying the recall process, clarifying authority of Town Manager as Chief Procurement Officer, clarifying appointing and removal authority of Board of Selectmen and Town Manager, authorizing the Town Manager to sign warrants for payment, addressing the term of appointment of a temporary Town Manager, requiring published written notice of the availability of school and town budget and budget summaries and posting of such documents on website, requiring periodic

review of charter and by-laws in alternating five-year intervals, and other matters; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by Charter Bylaw Review Committee)

(Two-thirds vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-1 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED (Two-Thirds) the document 2016 Proposed Charter Revisions.

**GENERAL BUSINESS ARTICLES
(majority and/or two-thirds vote required)**

ARTICLE 3 - Royalston Road North Bridge Project (anticipated use of Chapter 90 funds)

To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way a portion of Royalston Road North, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and shown on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Road at Bridge No. W-39-015 Royalston Road North in the Town of Winchendon, Massachusetts," dated June 14, 2016, prepared by BSC Group, Inc., said plan on file with the Town Clerk, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift, purchase, and/or eminent domain for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Winchendon the fee to or easements in the portion of Royalston Road North as shown on the aforesaid plan, and any drainage, utility, access, and/or other related easements; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 7-0 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED (Two-thirds) to accept Plan of road at Bridge No. W-39-015 Royalston Road North as printed in this warrant.

ARTICLE 4 - Royalston Road North Bridge Project (anticipated use of Chapter 90 funds)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, permanent and temporary easements located in the Town of Winchendon in certain parcels of land adjacent to and/or contiguous to Royalston Road North, as depicted on certain plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of North Royalston Road Over Tarbell Brook (Bridge No. W-39-015)," revised through September 9, 2016, on file with the Town Clerk, and the permanent and temporary easements in parcels of land located within 200 feet of said parcels, as such additional areas may be shown on said plans, and as said plans may hereinafter be amended, for public way purposes, including, without limitation, permanent highway easements and permanent and temporary easements for the construction of improvements and structures, and other related purposes, all to facilitate the North Royalston Road Over Tarbell Brook Bridge reconstruction project; and, to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow, or any combination thereof, a sum of money as funding for such acquisitions and related costs and expenses; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 7-0 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED – the Royalston Road North Bridge Project as printed in this warrant.

ARTICLE 5 – Acceptance of Portion of Toy Town Lane as a Public Way

To see if the Town will vote to accept as a public way a portion of Toy Town Lane as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and shown on a plan of land entitled “AS Built Plan Toy Town Heights Definitive Subdivision Winchendon MA,” dated September 6, 2016, prepared by Edmund J. Boucher, R.L.S., said plan on file with the Town Clerk and authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift, purchase, or eminent domain, the fee to or easements in the portion of Toy Town Lane as shown on the aforesaid plan for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Winchendon, and any drainage, utility, access, and/or other related easements, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 7-0 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED (Two-Thirds) to accept a portion of Toy Town Lane as a public way on said plan and as printed in this warrant.

**FINANCIAL ARTICLES
(9/10th vote required)**

ARTICLE 6 – Payment of Bills of a Prior Fiscal Year

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$55,328.76 for the payment of bills of a prior fiscal year for the Winchendon Public Schools as follows:

Name	Year	Invoice Amt
Devereux	2013	150.00
Pearson	2014	4,814.32
National Grid	2010	11,146.40
National Grid	2009	15,592.39
National Grid	2008	3,274.08
National Grid		33.32
MIAA	2014	40.00
MIAA	2014	20.00
MIAA	2014	190.00
Mass Agression Reduction Ctr	2010	300.00
Mass Agression Reduction Ctr	2010	450.00
Education, Inc.	2015	133.00
Central Mass Special Ed Collab	2014	14,702.69
Advanced Electrical	2014	382.56
Follett	2014	3,000.00
Mid-Wach Secondary School	2015	1,100.00
Total Prior Year Bills		55,328.76

or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Superintendent of Schools)

(Nine-tenths vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0-1 Recommend

VOTE: DISAPPROVED

**FINANCIAL ARTICLES
(simple majority required)**

ARTICLE 7 – FY17 Budget Article

To see if the Town will vote to amend the FY17 Operating Budget as voted under Article 7, 8, 9, and 10 of the May 16, 2016 Annual Town Meeting by reducing certain line items and increasing other line items, as follows:

<u>General Fund</u>		
Police Expenses – Electricity	Increase by	\$ 6,000
Town Hall Expenses – Water	Increase by	\$ 1,000
Town Asst Collector/Treasurer	Increase by	\$ 2,628
PT Grant Admin	Increase by	\$ 469
TH Building Supervisor	Increase by	\$ 216
Building Inspector	Increase by	\$ 1,928
COA Van Driver	Increase by	\$ 103
COA Custodian	Increase by	\$ 53
Sr Library Tech	Increase by	\$ 1,463
Library Tech	Increase by	\$ 635
Fleet Mechanics	Increase by	\$ 278
Health Insurance – Employer	Decrease by	\$ (14,773)
Net Budgetary Change		<u>\$ -</u>
Debt Service	Decrease by	\$ (117,000)
Total General Fund Adjustments		<u>\$ (117,000)</u>
<u>Water Fund</u>		
Indirect Costs	Decrease by	\$ (212,854)
Debt Service	Decrease by	\$ (41,400)
Total General Fund Adjustments		<u>\$ (254,254)</u>
<u>Sewer Fund</u>		
Indirect Costs	Decrease by	\$ (230,435)
<u>Transfer Station</u>		
Indirect Costs	Decrease by	\$ (26,740)
Total Adjustments All Funds		<u>\$ (628,429)</u>

or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-1 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED (majority) to amend the FY16 Operating Budget as voted under Article 7 of the May 16, 2016 Annual Town Meeting as set forth in the warrant under the columns entitled "General Fund" and "Debt Service", thereby decreasing the amount to be raised and appropriated under said Article 7 accordingly; and further, to amend the Water Enterprise Fund budget approved under Article 8 of said 2016 Annual Town Meeting by reducing the appropriation for debt service as printed in the warrant.

ARTICLE 8 - Authorize Use of Water Retained Earnings to Offset Water Rates

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of \$152,000 to offset FY17 water rates; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-1 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED to transfer the sum of \$152,000 from Water Retained Earnings to offset water rates.

ARTICLE 9 – Authorize the Use of Free Cash to Reduce Tax Rate

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$200,000 to offset the FY17 tax rate, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 4-3 Recommend

VOTE: APPROVED to authorize the transfer, the sum of \$200,000 from Free Cash to offset the FY17 property tax rate.

ARTICLE 10 – Library Accessibility Project - To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds including the Stabilization Fund, or borrow the total sum of \$140,000 for designing and constructing accessibility upgrades to the Beals Memorial Library, including any necessary furnishings and equipment and all incidental and related costs; or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by Board of Library Trustees)

(Two-thirds vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 4-1 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-1 Recommend

VOTED: (Two-Thirds) to transfer the sum of \$140,000 from Free Cash for upgrades to Beals Memorial Library.

TOWN PROPERTY ARTICLES

ARTICLE 11 - Transfer Management of Town Forest to the Winchendon Conservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of approximately 87.32 acres of Town-owned land located on Town Farm Road, shown as a portion of Lot 39 and Lot 99 on Assessor's Map 11, and believed to be a portion of the premises described in a deed recorded in Book 2620, Page 295 at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, from such board and for such purpose as said land is presently held to the Conservation Commission for conservation purposes pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section

8C, and by such transfer, restrict, designate and dedicate such land for conservation purposes so that the land shall be protected under Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution; further, to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend from the Conservation Fund and Open Space Preservation Appraisal and Survey Revolving Fund, in accordance with the authority granted to it under M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 8C, a sum not to exceed \$25,000 for the due diligence and field work necessary to effect said transfer including, but not limited to, title examination, survey and baseline documentation and related costs and expenses; to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or Conservation Commission to submit an application for reimbursement of a portion of the costs of due diligence and field work from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the Landscape Partnership Grant program, pursuant to Chapter 286 of the Acts of 2014, Sec. 2, 2000-7058, provided, however, that the transfer of said land to the Conservation Commission shall be conditioned upon the Town of Winchendon receiving a Landscape Partnership Grant for a portion of the costs of said due diligence and field work; and further, that it is anticipated that an amount equal to any reimbursement received from said Landscape Partnership Grant shall be appropriated at a future Town Meeting to reimburse expenditures from the Conservation Fund and Open Space Preservation Appraisal and Survey Revolving Fund for such purposes; and to authorize the Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town to effect said transfer and accept reimbursement under the Landscape Partnership Grant program, or act in relation thereto. (Submitted by the Conservation Commission)

(Two-thirds vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 Recommend

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 7-0 Recommend .

VOTE: APPROVED (Two-Thirds) transfer management of land to the Conservation Commission as printed in this warrant.

You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the several places designated by the bylaws of the town of Winchendon fourteen days at least before the time of holding such meeting and by mailing a copy of this warrant to each household in Winchendon in which a registered voter resides or by publication of the same in a newspaper of local distribution as required by said bylaws.

Hereof, fail not and make due return of said warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands and seal this 24th day of October 2016.

It was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Attest:

***Judy A. LaJoie
Town Clerk***

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Barbara Anderson

Barbara Anderson, Chair

Audrey LaBrie

Audrey LaBrie, Vice Chair

Amy Salter

Amy Salter

Michael Barbaro

Michael Barbaro

Austin Cyganiewicz

Austin Cyganiewicz

I have this day posted the within warrant as therein directed:

PRINT CONSTABLE NAME

SIGN CONSTABLE NAME

DATE:

<p style="text-align: center;">FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 7:00 PM Town Hall, 109 Front Street</p>

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. To file a complaint of Discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, DC 20250-9410.