



**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MAY 20, 2024**

TOWN MEETING SUMMARY SHEET

ARTICLE	DESCRIPTION	COST	SOURCE
	ANNUAL TOWN MEETING		
1	Committee Report – Boston Post Cane Recipient		N/A
2	Rescind prior year Stabilization vote and Dedicate Receipts from Statewide Opioid Settlement to a Special Revenue Fund	N/A	N/A
3	Authorize Revolving Funds	N/A	N/A
4	Senior Tax Work-Off Program	\$7,700	Raise and Appropriate
5	Community Action Committee Non-Profit Support	\$27,500	Raise and Appropriate
6	FY25 General Government Budget	\$17,712,045	Raise/Appropriate and/or Transfer
7	FY25 Water Dept. Enterprise Budget	\$1,288,415	User Fees
8	FY25 Wastewater Enterprise Budget	\$1,406,582.08	User Fees/ Betterment Rev.
9	FY25 Transfer Station Enterprise Budget	\$283,283.75	User Fees
10	Transfer Station Enterprise Fund Appropriation of Retained Earnings for additional FY24 expenses	\$70,000	Transfer Station Retained Earnings
11	FY25 PEG Media Enterprise Budget	\$131,000	Comcast Fees
12	FY25 School Budget	\$17,432,926	Raise/Appropriate and/or Transfer
13	FY25 Monty Tech’s Assessment	\$662,230	Raise and Appropriate
14	Appropriate Surplus Bond Proceeds from Article 13 of the 2022 Annual Town Meeting for DPW Roofs to fund additional DPW Capital Improvements	\$42,982.31	Surplus Funds from Article 13 ATM of May 16, 2022
15	Wastewater Enterprise Fund Appropriation of Retained Earnings for ½ cost to purchase a 6 Wheel Dump Truck	\$110,445	Wastewater Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings
16	Water Enterprise Fund Appropriation – ½ cost of 6 Wheel Dump Truck	\$110,445	Raise/Appropriate and/or Transfer/ and or Borrow
17	Capital Improvements – DPW Truck (\$62K) and Library Exterior Repairs (\$15K)	\$77,000	Free Cash
18	Capital Improvement – Police Cruiser Replacement	\$71,200	Grant
19	Fund Stabilization Account	\$200,000	Free Cash
20	Transfer Free Cash To Opioid Special Revenue received from the Opioid settlements for FY23 and prior) to the Opioid Special Revenue	\$80,949.93	Free Cash received from Opioid Settlement for FY23
21	To change term of borrowing authorization for prior years capital project(s)	N/A	N/A
22	To change term of borrowing authorization for prior years capital project(s)	N/A	N/A
23	Establish a Youth Commission	N/A	N/A
24	Establish a Commission on Disabilities	N/A	N/A
25	PILOT Agreement for Solar Photovoltaic Facility to be located at 875 Spring Street	N/A	Authorize Board to Enter into PILOT Agreement
26	Increase Demand Fee to \$15.00 assessed in Collector/Treasurer’s office	N/A	N/A
27	Convey Town Property to Winchendon Redevelopment Authority, 275-281 Lincoln Ave.	N/A	N/A
28	Zoning Bylaw Amendment to Section 4.1 Flood Plain Conservancy Districts	N/A	N/A
29	Citizen’s Petition – Disallow any permits or projects with Comm-97	N/A	N/A
30	Citizen’s Petition – Refuse any and all permit requests or renewals for earth removal operations	N/A	N/A
31	Citizen’s Petition – Assign the fiscal responsibility of the new water pipe to those who solely rely on these public services	N/A	N/A
32	Citizen’s Petition – Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag & Seal of Massachusetts	N/A	N/A

TOWN OF WINCHENDON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MAY 20, 2024

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, MAY 20, 2024
AT 7:00 P.M.

then and there to act on the following articles:

REPORTS AND COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee, the annual report of the Selectmen and of any other officers or committees required to report to the Town, or act in relation thereto.

(usual and customary article)

(Majority Vote Required)

Board of Selectmen – Boston Post Cane Receptient Recognition

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

OPIOID SETTLEMENT AUTHORIZATION ARTICLES

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 to rescind the vote taken under Article 3 of the Annual Town Meeting of May 15, 2023, which established an Opioid Abatement Stabilization Fund and dedicating 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town to such fund pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 5B, such funds henceforth to be placed in a special revenue fund to be expended without further appropriation for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid litigation settlement documents, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

REVOLVING FUNDS AUTHORIZATION ARTICLE

ARTICLE 3

To see if the town will vote to fix the maximum amount to be spent during fiscal year 2025 beginning on July 1, 2024, for the revolving funds for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 E1/2, or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Department, Board, Committee Agency or Officer</u>	<u>FY 2025 Spending Limit</u>
Agriculture	Agriculture Commission	\$ 1,000
Large Copy Fees	Planning & Development	\$ 1,000
Restitution Fees	Land Use	\$ 1,000
Extended Day	School	\$10,000
Damaged books	School	\$ 5,000
Summer School	School	\$ 1,000
Recycling	Board of Health	\$ 1,000
Composting	Board of Health	\$ 1,000
Arts Lottery	Arts Lottery Commission	\$ 7,500
Wetland Fees	Conservation	\$20,000
Library copy Fees	Librarian/Library Trustees	\$ 8,000
Library Materials	Librarian/Library Trustees	\$ 8,000
Student parking	School	\$ 5,000
Community Development	Town Manager	\$25,000
Block Program Income		

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 4 Senior Tax Work-Off

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds the sum of seven thousand seven hundred dollars (\$7,700) for the Senior Tax Work-off Program, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 5 Non Profit Assistance

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from other available funds the sum of twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500) as a grant to the non-profit, Community Action Committee, Inc., in consideration of the numerous services provided to the Town, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET ARTICLE

ARTICLE 6 General Government

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from other available funds the sum of \$17,712,045 for the operating budget of the Town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, or act in relation thereto.

(usual and customary article)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

**Town of Winchendon
Summary of Other Available Funds**

Cemetery Trust	\$3,444
Title V Liens Redemption	\$16,747
Infrastructure Investment Fund	\$20,000
Water Indirect Costs	\$216,337
Wastewater Indirect Costs	\$135,403
Transfer Station Indirect Costs	\$23,474
PEG Access Indirect Costs	\$5,106
Homeless Transportation	\$20,000
Free Cash	\$350,000
TOTAL OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$ 790,511

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

Detail of Appropriations

	FY 24 TM BUDGET	FY 24 THRU 12/31/23	FY 25 TM BUDGET
School Transportation	\$ 1,655,949	\$ 631,262	\$ 1,625,220
Total School Transportation	\$ 1,655,949	\$ 631,262	\$ 1,625,220
Selectmen			
Expenses	\$ 24,750	\$ 3,240	\$ 24,750
Total Selectmen	\$ 24,750	\$ 3,240	\$ 24,750
Town Manager			
Personnel	\$ 284,753	\$ 195,182	\$ 270,600
Expenses (including Legal)	\$ 60,090	\$ 16,681	\$ 64,590
Total Town Manager	\$ 344,843	\$ 211,863	\$ 335,190

Finance Committee			
Personnel	\$ 1,500	\$ 650	\$ 1,500
Expenses	\$ 181,160	\$ 283	\$ 181,160
Total Finance Committee	\$ 182,660	\$ 933	\$ 182,660
Accounting			
Personnel	\$ 152,006	\$ 69,655	\$ 155,580
Expenses (including OPEB)	\$ 8,750	\$ 80	\$ 8,750
Total Accounting	\$ 160,756	\$ 69,735	\$ 164,330
Assessor			
Expenses	\$ 103,560	\$ 57,760	\$ 107,660
Total Assessor	\$ 103,560	\$ 57,760	\$ 107,660
Collector/Treasurer			
Personnel	\$ 163,098	\$ 78,316	\$ 188,390
Expenses	\$ 71,534	\$ 42,372	\$ 98,160
Total Collector/Treasurer	\$ 234,632	\$ 120,688	\$ 286,550
Information Technology			
Personnel	\$ 83,802	\$ 37,633	\$ 85,900
Expenses (including Data Processing)	\$ 89,900	\$ 61,356	\$ 113,300
Total Information Technology	\$ 173,702	\$ 98,989	\$ 199,200
Communication Committee			
Personnel	\$ 2,417	\$ 14,209	\$ 2,420
Expenses	\$ 7,550	\$ 28,931	\$ 9,900
Total Communication Committee	\$ 9,967	\$ 43,140	\$ 12,320
Town Clerk (including Registrars)			
Personnel	\$ 122,716	\$ 59,434	\$ 125,710
Expenses	\$ 64,091	\$ 9,181	\$ 94,685
Total Town Clerk	\$ 186,807	\$ 68,615	\$ 220,395
Planning and Community Development (including Conservation & Zoning Board of Appeals)			
Personnel	\$ 110,406	\$ 45,077	\$ 112,980
Expenses	\$ 27,005	\$ 16,377	\$ 27,505
Total Planning and Comm Dev	\$ 137,411	\$ 61,454	\$ 140,485
Town Hall			
Personnel	\$ 41,862	\$ 21,920	\$ 57,450
Expenses	\$ 86,650	\$ 24,581	\$ 86,650
Total Town Hall	\$ 128,512	\$ 46,501	\$ 144,100
Police (including dispatch and animal control)			

Personnel	\$ 1,820,810	\$ 939,559	\$ 1,878,380
Expenses	\$ 205,276	\$ 114,379	\$ 215,830
Total Police	\$ 2,026,086	\$ 1,053,938	\$ 2,094,210
Fire (including ambulance)			
Personnel	\$ 1,287,037	\$ 681,342	\$ 1,349,675
Expenses	\$ 217,286	\$ 86,233	\$ 263,700
Total Fire	\$ 1,504,323	\$ 767,575	\$ 1,613,375
Land Use			
Personnel	\$ 100,368	\$ 47,886	\$ 121,540
Expenses	\$ 7,650	\$ 2,194	\$ 7,650
Total Land Use	\$ 108,018	\$ 50,080	\$ 129,190
Emergency Management			
Personnel	\$ 2,666		\$ 2,670
Expenses	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,107	\$ 1,350
Total Emergency Management	\$ 4,116	\$ 1,107	\$ 4,020
DPW (including highway, fleet maint., street lighting)			
(also including landfill, cemetery, tree trimming)			
Personnel	\$ 887,022	\$ 384,344	\$ 957,100
Expenses	\$ 443,650	\$ 272,062	\$ 492,850
Total DPW	\$ 1,330,672	\$ 656,406	\$ 1,449,950
DPW Snow and Ice			
Personnel	\$ 70,000	\$ 8,349	\$ 70,000
Expenses	\$ 160,000	\$ 95,708	\$ 160,000
Total DPW Snow and Ice	\$ 230,000	\$ 104,057	\$ 230,000
Health (including outside service and visiting nurse)			
Personnel	\$ 56,745	\$ 26,977	\$ 58,070
Expenses	\$ 15,215	\$ 5,345	\$ 15,220
Total Health	\$ 71,960	\$ 32,322	\$ 73,290
Council on Aging			
Personnel	\$ 197,110	\$ 92,205	\$ 199,560
Expenses	\$ 32,400	\$ 4,381	\$ 34,290
Total Council on Aging	\$ 229,510	\$ 96,586	\$ 233,850
Veterans Services			
Personnel	\$ 23,011	\$ 10,867	\$ 23,600
Expenses	\$ 163,180	\$ 80,974	\$ 163,180
Total Veterans Services	\$ 186,191	\$ 91,841	\$ 186,780

Library				
Personnel	\$	191,738	\$	91,104
Expenses	\$	57,250	\$	36,008
Total Library	\$	248,988	\$	127,112
Recreation				
Personnel and expenses	\$	8,698	\$	4,297
Total Recreation	\$	8,698	\$	4,297
Historic Commission				
Expenses	\$	1,000	\$	525
Total Historic Commission	\$	1,000	\$	525
Debt service principal and interest				
Expenses	\$	1,153,598	\$	278,592
Total Debt	\$	1,153,598	\$	278,592
State Assessments				
Expenses	\$	1,006,083	\$	333,024
Total State Assessments	\$	1,006,083	\$	333,024
Employer Expenses (pension, workers' comp, unemploy, also health insurance, life insurance, medicare)				
Expenses	\$	4,936,962	\$	3,493,222
Total Employer Expenses	\$	4,936,962	\$	3,493,222
Property/Liability Insurance				
Expenses	\$	354,484	\$	364,910
Total Property/Liability Insurance	\$	354,484	\$	364,910
TOTAL	\$	16,744,238	\$	8,869,774
	\$		\$	17,712,045

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE

ARTICLE 7 Water Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,072,078 for direct costs of the Water Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and that indirect costs of \$216,337 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Water Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE ARTICLE

ARTICLE 8 Wastewater Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,271,179 (Wastewater Receipts of \$1,081,179 and Betterment Revenues of \$190,000) for the direct costs of the Wastewater Treatment Department Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and that indirect costs of \$135,403 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Wastewater Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

**USUAL/CUSTOMARY AND ADDITIONAL
TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE ARTICLES**

ARTICLE 9 Transfer Station Enterprise

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$259,810 from Transfer Station Receipts for direct costs of the Transfer Station Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; and that indirect costs of \$23,474 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by Transfer Station Receipts, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 10 Appropriation Retained Earnings – Transfer Station Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of \$70,000 from Transfer Station Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to cover additional expenses for FY24, including trash compactors, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

CABLE PUBLIC ACCESS ENTERPRISE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 11 Cable Public Access Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$125,894 for the direct costs to operate the Public, Education, and Governmental Access Media enterprise for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and that indirect costs of \$5,106 appropriated in the general government budget be funded by PEG Access receipts, or take any other action thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

USUAL AND CUSTOMARY EDUCATION BUDGET ARTICLE

ARTICLE 12 School Department Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$17,432,926 for the operating budget of the Winchendon Public Schools for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the School Committee)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-1 RECOMMEND
SCHOOL COMMITTEE: 3-0 RECOMMEND

ANNUAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL ASSESSMENT ARTICLE

ARTICLE 13 Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$662,230 to fund the Town's assessment for its share of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44, § 20, to appropriate the sum of \$42,982.31 from the unspent balance of the funds authorized under Article 13 of the May 16, 2022 Annual Town Meeting for DPW Roofs, for the new purpose to fund additional DPW Capital Improvements, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 15 Appropriation Retained Earnings – Wastewater Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$110,445 from Wastewater Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings for one-half (½) of the cost to purchase and equip a 6 Wheel Dump Truck (with the other ½ coming from the Water Enterprise Fund), or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE: 4-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 16 Appropriation Water Enterprise Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow the sum of \$110,445 for one-half (½) of the cost to purchase and equip a 6 Wheel Dump Truck (with the other ½ coming from the Wastewater Enterprise Fund), and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to borrow under and pursuant to MGL, or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE: 4-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 17 Appropriation - Capital Improvements for Fiscal Year 2025 – Free Cash

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$77,000 and that the Town be authorized to accept any available grant funds, for the purposes of funding the following capital requests, or take any other action relative thereto.

Department	Description	Amount
DPW	Vehicle	\$62,000
Library	Exterior Repairs	\$15,000

(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee)

(Majority Vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE: 4-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 18 Capital Improvements Fiscal Year 2025 – Grants

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$71,200 and that the Town be authorized to accept any available grant funds, for the purposes of funding the following capital requests, or take any other action relative thereto.

Department	Description	Amount	Grant Source
Police	Police Cruiser Replacement	\$71,200	911 Grant

(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee)

(Majority vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE: 4-0 RECOMMEND

FINANCIAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 19 – Transfer Free Cash To Stabilization

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$200,000 to the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 20 – Transfer Free Cash To Opioid Special Revenue Fund

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$80,949.93 (which is the amount received from the Opioid settlements for FY23 and prior) to the Opioid Special Revenue Fund, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 21 – To change term of borrowing authorization for prior years capital project

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote of the Town adopted under Article 13 of the Warrant at the May, 2022 Town Meeting, which vote authorized the borrowing of money for various capital expenditures, to change the maximum terms for which each such borrowing could be amortized, or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 22 – To change term of borrowing authorization for prior years capital project

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote of the Town adopted under Article 18 of the Warrant at the May, 2023 Town Meeting, which vote authorized the borrowing of money for various capital expenditures, to change the maximum terms for which each such borrowing could be amortized, or to take any other action relative thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

GENERAL BUSINESS ARTICLES

ARTICLE 23 – Youth Commission

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8E, and establish a Youth Commission, to be known as the Town of Winchendon Youth Commission, and established for the purpose of carrying out programs which may be designed or established to meet the opportunities, challenges, and problems of youth in the Town, and in conjunction with any similar or related programs of any agency of the Commonwealth or any agency of the federal government; said Commission shall consist of seven (7) members, to be appointed by the Town Manager and subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen; and further, the terms of the initial members of said Commission shall be for one, two or three years and so arranged that the terms of approximately one third of the members will expire each year, and their successors shall be appointed for a term of three years each; or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 24 – Commission On Disabilities

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8J, and establish a Commission on Disabilities, to be known as the Town of Winchendon Commission on Disabilities, and established for the purposes set forth in Section 8J; said Commission shall consist of five (5) members, to be appointed by the Town Manager and subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen; a majority of said Commission members shall consist of people with disabilities, one member shall be a member of the immediate family of a person with a disability, and one member of said Commission shall be either an elected or appointed official of the Town; and further, the terms of the initial members of said Commission shall be for one, two or three years, and so arranged that the term of one-third of the members expires each year, and their successor shall be appointed for terms of three years each; or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 25 – PILOT Agreement

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a Tax Agreement for payments-in-lieu-of-taxes ("PILOT") pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), and Chapter 164, Section 1, or any other enabling authority, upon terms and conditions as the Board shall deem in the best interest of the Town, for personal property associated with a solar photovoltaic facility to be located at 875 Spring Street (Parcel Number 9-0-97), and to take all actions necessary to implement such agreement; or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ARTICLE 26 – Increase Demand Fees

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to General Laws Chapter 60, Section 15(2) to increase the Demand Fees in the Collector Treasurer’s office from \$5.00 to \$15.00, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

REQUEST TO CONVEY TOWN PROPERTY

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer a certain parcel of land and buildings situated at 275-281 Lincoln Avenue, Winchendon, consisting of approximately 1.441 acres, and being Map 2D2 0 3, described in an instrument recorded with the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 59532, Page 91, from the purposes for which the property is currently held to the purpose of conveyance, and to convey said property to the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority, on such terms and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, or act in relation thereto.

Said parcel of municipal land is proposed to be transferred for the purpose of resale to further promote community/economic development, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Manager)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

ZONING BYLAW ARTICLES

(Two-thirds Vote Required)

ARTICLE 28 Flood Zoning Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to amend the current Town of Winchendon Flood Zoning Bylaw Section 4.1 Flood Plain Conservancy Districts to incorporate the MA Model Flood Zoning Bylaw to make FEMA compliant as recommended by the Planning Board on March 19, 2024, in a document entitled “Flood Plain Zoning Bylaw FEMA changes” on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town’s website www.townofwinchendon.com, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Planning Board)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 RECOMMEND

PLANNING BOARD: RECOMMEND: 5-0 RECOMMEND

CITIZEN'S PETITION ARTICLES
(Non-binding Referendum)

ARTICLE 29 Citizen's Petition

We the Citizens petition that the Town of Winchendon does not allow any permits or projects with Comm-97 or other contaminated soil to be brought, stored or dumped in Winchendon. As a town endowed with water resources including rivers, aquifers and wetlands, concerns of water contamination for residents and wildlife exceed any short-term economic benefit, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by Citizen's Petition)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 ABSTAIN

ARTICLE 30 Citizen's Petition

That the Town of Winchendon refuse any and all permit requests or renewals for earth removal operations due to concerns of degrading air quality and increasing the risks for respiratory disease, noise pollution and traffic, or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by Citizen's Petition)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 ABSTAIN

ARTICLE 31 Citizen's Petition

To see if the Town will vote to assign the fiscal responsibility of the new water pipe, to those, who solely rely on these public services. Residents who have wells and septic systems, pay to maintain those independently, and should not be given the extra financial burden, of paying for a similar service, that will not directly benefit them. In addition, these residents also financially contribute, to the town's shared community spaces. Lastly, securing additional grants, and ensuring a fiscally responsible contract with Ashburnham, will be helpful in reducing our residents final cost.

(Submitted by Citizen's Petition)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 ABSTAIN

ARTICLE 32 Citizen's Petition

Resolution in Support of Changing the Commonwealth Flag and Seal of Massachusetts

Whereas the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers' first winters on their land;

Whereas members of the Native Nation for whom the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony at Wessagusett (now Weymouth) in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived;

Whereas the Colonial broadsword held by a white hand above the head of the indigenous person on the Massachusetts Flag and Seal is modeled after Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed for that purpose from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

Whereas the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Indigenous leaders that resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675-76 in defense of Native lands against Colonial encroachment;

Whereas the proportions of the body of the Indigenous person on the Flag and Seal were taken from the skeleton of an Indigenous person unearthed in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from an Indigenous man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and the facial features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a "fine specimen of an Indian," though not from Massachusetts.

Whereas the history of relations between Massachusetts since Colonial times and the Native Nations who continue to live within the orders includes the forced internment of thousands of so-called "praying Indians" on Deer Island, in Boston Harbor, where they died by the hundreds of exposure in the winter of 1675, the enslavement of Indigenous people in Boston, Bermuda, and the Caribbean Islands, the offering of 40 pounds sterling as bounty for the scalps of Indigenous men, women and children in Massachusetts beginning in 1686, increased to 100 pounds sterling for the scalps of Indigenous adult males by 1722, half that amount for Indigenous women and children.

Whereas Indigenous people were legally prohibited from even stepping foot into Boston from 1675 until 2004, when that Colonial law was finally repealed;

Whereas the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate government policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, occurred in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to an appreciation of the need for better relations between the descendants of the Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;

Whereas the land area now known as the Town of Winchendon, shares a rich Native history with modern tribal Nations such as the Nipmuc, the Penacook, and the Abenaki, who inhabited this area long before the first colonial settlers arrived, in 1753;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Winchendon hereby adopts this resolution in support of work of the Official Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2021 and appointed by the Governor to recommend changes to the current flag and seal of Massachusetts, and **in support of a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth** that may better reflect our aspirations for harmonious and respectful relations between all people who now call Massachusetts home. The town clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Sen. Nick Collins and Rep. Antonio Cabral, co-chairs of the Joint Commission on State Administration, and to Sen. Jo Comerford, Rep. Jonathan Zlotnik and Rep. Susannah Whipps, with the request that they strongly support for the work of the aforementioned Special Commission and advocate for a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth.

(Submitted by Citizen's Petition)

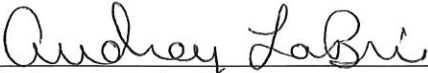
BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0 ABSTAIN

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 seven 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 22nd day of April 2024.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:



Audrey LaBrie, Chairman




Rick Ward, Vice-Chairman

Barbara Anderson



Danielle LaPointe



Melissa Blanchard

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

PRINT CONSTABLE NAME

SIGN CONSTABLE NAME

DATE:

FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 7:00 PM
Town Hall
109 Front Street

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