



**TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2022  
7:00pm – Murdock High School**

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING SUMMARY SHEET**

<b>ARTICLE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>
1	Committee Report	N/A	N/A
2	Supplemental Downtown Streetlight Improvements	\$100,000	Free Cash
3	Supplemental Library Phase 2 Repairs	\$145,000	Free Cash
4	Supplemental FY23 Highway Materials – Pleasant/Summer/Island	\$95,000	Free Cash
5	Fire Station Design	\$618,750	Debt Exclusion
6	Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	\$9,560,000	30 yr borrowing
7	Fund OPEB Trust Account	\$110,593	Free Cash
8	Fund Contractual Separation Pay-outs	\$50,000	Free Cash
9	Fund Stabilization Account	\$80,000	Free Cash
10	Finance Committee Reserve for Energy Costs	\$50,000	Free Cash
11	Town Charter Amendment	N/A	N/A

**FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium, 109 Front Street**

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
OCTOBER 24, 2022**

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, OCTOBER 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
AT 7:00 P.M.**

then and there to act on the following articles:

*Met at the Murdock Middle/High School Auditorium at 7pm with a quorum of 181 voters present. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted. Attorney Lauren Goldberg was present representing Town Council KP Law. Moderator Grout announced CART service captioning was being provided by Stefanie Farrell. Town meeting rules were read by Moderator Grout. Prior to starting with the articles, Chairman Audrey Labrie called Executive Assistant Linda Daigle to the front of the auditorium and presented Linda with a proclamation honoring her for over 20 years of service and 40 town meetings with the Town of Winchendon. Linda will be retiring at the end of December.*

**REPORTS AND COMMITTEES**

**ARTICLE 1**

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

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 RECOMMEND      FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND**

*Finance Chairman Tom Kane read the Finance Committee report.*

**VOTED:** *Approved by Majority that the vote to hear and act on the report of the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen.*

**Yes: 96% No: 4% Passed by Majority at 7:21pm**

**CAPITAL ARTICLES**

**ARTICLE 2**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 for the purchase of Supplemental Downtown Streetlight Improvements.

(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee)(Majority Vote Required)

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*Special Town Meeting Warrant  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2022*

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 RECOMMEND FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 4-0 RECOMMEND

***VOTED: Approved by Majority that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 for Supplemental Downtown Streetlight Improvements as presented, including all incidental and related expenses.***

***Yes: 85% No: 15% Passed by Majority at 7:23pm***

### ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$145,000 for Phase 2 Library Repairs.

(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee)(Majority vote required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 RECOMMEND FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 5-0 RECOMMEND

***VOTED: Approved by Majority that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$145,000 for Supplemental Library Phase 2 Repairs as presented including all incidental and related expenses.***

***Yes: 82% No: 18% Passed by Majority at 7:25pm***

### ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$95,000 to supplement the FY23 Highway Materials line for the purposes of infrastructure improvements on Pleasant Street, Summer Street, and Island Road.

(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 5-0 RECOMMEND FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 4-0 RECOMMEND

***VOTED: Approved by Majority that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$95,000 for Supplemental FY23 Highway Materials for Pleasant Street, Summer Street, and Island Road as presented.***

***Yes: 89% No: 11% Passed by Majority at 7:27pm***

### ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow the sum of \$618,750 to fund design services for a new Fire Station; provided, however, that if the Town votes hereunder to borrow funds for this purpose, such vote shall be contingent upon approval by the voters at an election that the amounts needed to repay the debt and interest on such borrowing shall be excluded from the limitations on the tax levy imposed by Proposition 2 ½, so called, or take any other action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Capital Planning Committee) (2/3 Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND

CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 5-0 RECOMMEND

***VOTED: Approved by 2/3 Majority that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$618,750 to fund design services for a new Fire Station including all incidental and related expenses and, further, as funding therefor, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow said funds pursuant to G.L. c. 44, ss7 or 8 or any other enabling authority and issue bonds and notes of the Town therefor; provided, however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be contingent upon approval by the voters at an election that the amounts needed to repay the debt and interest on such borrowing shall be excluded from the limitations on the tax levy imposed by Proposition 2 ½, so called.***

***Yes: 88% No: 12% Passed by 2/3 Majority at 7:59pm***

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$9,560,000.00, which shall be expended to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing a replacement of the main water line from the Ashburnham-Winchendon Water Filtration Plant, and the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow this amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §8(5), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; and that all or any portion of the amount authorized to be borrowed by this vote may be borrowed through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the "Trust") and any appropriate official or officials of the Town are hereby authorized to execute any agreements with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, that may be required in connection with any such loan obtained through the Trust, or take any action relative thereto.

(submitted by the Town Manager)

(2/3 Vote Required)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND

***Voted: Approved by 2/3 Majority that the Town vote to appropriate \$9,560,000.00, which shall be expended to pay costs of designing, constructing, equipping and furnishing a replacement of the main water line from the Ashburnham-Winchendon Water Filtration Plant, including all costs as presented and, as defined in G.L. c. 29C, s1; to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow \$9,560,000.00 under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, s 7 or 8, and/or G.L. c. 29c and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust established pursuant to G.L. c. 29C (the "Trust"), and in connection therewith to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid or principal forgiveness available for the project or for the financing thereof, and that Select Board is authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection to expend all funds available for the project.***

***Yes: 83% No: 17% Passed by 2/3 Majority at 8:13pm***

## FINANCIAL ARTICLES

### ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$110,593 to the OPEB Trust Account that was established to mitigate the Town's liability for Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Finance Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND**

***Voted: Approved by Majority that the Town vote to Transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$110,593 to the OPEB Trust Account as presented.***

***Yes: 88% No: 12% Passed by Majority at 8:14pm***

### ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 13D relative to establishing a reserve fund for future contractual separation payments upon the termination of a town employee or officer's employment, and further to see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to such a Reserve Account established to mitigate the Town's liability for Contractual Separation Pay-outs, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Finance Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND**

***Voted: Approved by Majority that the Town vote to accept the provisions of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 13D relative to establishing a reserve fund for future contractual separation payments upon the termination of a town employee or officer's employment, and further to vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to said account established to mitigate the Town's liability for Contractual Separation Pay-outs.***

***Yes: 83% No: 17% Passed by Majority at 8:21pm***

### ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$80,000 to the Stabilization Fund, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Finance Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND**

***Voted: Approved by Majority that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$80,000 to the Stabilization Fund.***

***Yes: 91% No: 9% Passed by Majority at 8:22pm***

**ARTICLE 10**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to supplement the Finance Committee Reserve in response to escalating energy and inflationary costs, or act in relation thereto.

(submitted by the Finance Committee) (Majority Vote Required)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: RECOMMEND 5-0 FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND**

*Voted: Approved by Majority that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 to supplement the Finance Committee Reserve Account in response to escalating energy and inflationary costs.*

*Yes: 89% No: 11% Passed by Majority at 8:24pm*

**OTHER ARTICLES**

**ARTICLE 11**

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 Bylaw Review Committee in a document entitled, "Proposed Charter Changes Oct. 2022", on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town's website at <http://www.townofwinchendon.com/>, with text to be inserted underlined and text to be deleted crossed out; revisions include but are not limited to ministerial and clerical clarifications, internal consistency and references to and updates based upon state law and other matters; or act in relation thereto.

(Submitted by Charter Bylaw Review Committee) (Two-Thirds vote required)

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN: 3-2 NOT RECOMMEND FINANCE COMMITTEE: 5-0 RECOMMEND**

*Voted: Failed by 2/3 Majority that the Town vote pursuant to G.L. c. 43B, s 10(a) to amend the Town Charter as recommended by the Charter Bylaw Review Committee in a document entitled, "Proposed Charter Changes Oct. 2022", on file in the office of the Town Clerk and available on the Town's website at <http://www.townofwinchendon.com/>, with text to be inserted underlined and text to be deleted crossed out; revisions include but are not limited to ministerial and clerical clarifications, internal consistency and references to and updates based upon state law and other matters.*

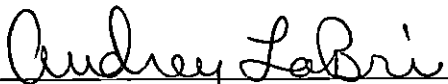
*Yes: 59% No: 41% Failed by 2/3 Majority at 8:30pm*

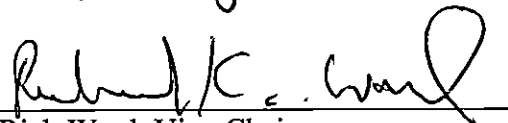
*A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:30pm*

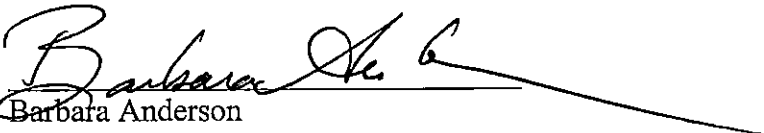
You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the several places designated by the bylaws of the Town of Winchendon fourteen days at least before the time of holding such meeting and by mailing a notice with information on how and where a copy of the warrant can be obtained and where it can be viewed (electronically and/or in person) to be mailed to each household owned or occupied by a registered voter of the Town. Immediately upon posting of the warrant, copies shall be provided to citizens on request and the warrant shall be posted on any Town electronic bulletin board and on the Town website 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 26th day of September 2022.

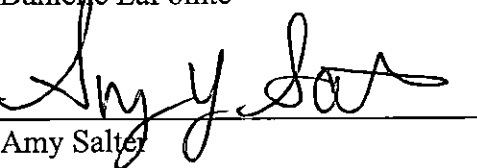
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN:**

  
Audrey LaBrie, Chair

  
Rick Ward, Vice-Chair

  
Barbara Anderson

  
Danielle LaPointe

  
Amy Salter

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

  
PRINT CONSTABLE NAME

  
SIGN CONSTABLE NAME

  
DATE: 10/5/22

**FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00 PM**  
**Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Auditorium, 109 Front St.**

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