

2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
Select Board
Town of Hatfield
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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TOWN CLERK
APR 28 2023 PM 3:23

Hampshire, ss.

To either the Police Chief or Town Clerk for the Town of Hatfield in said Hampshire County.

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in Smith Academy Gymnasium, 34 School Street, in said Hatfield on

TUESDAY, THE 9th DAY OF MAY 2023

at 6:30 pm in the evening to take action on all articles except Article 1 and to meet on Tuesday the 16th day of May, 2023 in Memorial Town Hall at seven o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to take action under Article 1.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 1. ELECTIONS

Submitted by Town Clerk

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the following years: one member of the Select Board for a term of three years; one Assessor for a term of three years; two members of the School Committee for a term of three years; one Library Trustee for a term of three years; one Library Trustee for a term of two years; one member of the Planning Board for a term of five years; one Elector under the Will of Oliver Smith for a term of one year; one Cemetery Commissioner for a term of three years; one member of the Board of Health for a term of three years; a Moderator for a term of three years; one member of the Redevelopment Authority for a term of five years; one Member of the Hatfield Housing Authority for the term of 5 years; and a Town Clerk for a term of three years.

BALLOT QUESTION

Shall the Town of Hatfield be allowed to assess an additional \$1,256,611 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of funding the operating budgets of the Town and Public Schools, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023?

Yes _____ No _____

The polls will be open at seven o'clock in the forenoon on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, and kept open until eight o'clock in the evening.

GENERAL TOWN ARTICLES

ARTICLE 2 *(Majority vote)*

Submitted by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for, accept, and expend without further appropriation any State or Federal grants, gifts and awards from any public or private source that become available in Fiscal Year 2024, or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 3 *(Majority vote)*

Submitted by: Town Treasurer

To see if the Town will vote to authorize its Treasurer, subject to the approval of the Select Board, to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for Fiscal Year 2024 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 4 *(Majority vote)*

Submitted by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Massachusetts Department of Public Works under G.L. c. 90 concerning the use of funds made available through the state's Transportation Bond Issue, and to appropriate such sum of money as may be the Town's apportionment of such bond funds in accordance with the said Memorandum of Agreement; or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 5 *(Majority Vote)*

Submitted by: Select Board / Finance Committee

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer or otherwise provide a sum of money, to supplement the Fiscal Year 2023 Snow and Ice Budget for unforeseen expenses; or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 6 *(Majority Vote)*

Submitted by: Select Board / Finance Committee

To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer or otherwise provide a sum of money, to supplement the Fiscal Year 2023 Vocational Tuition and Transportation Budget for unforeseen expenses; or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

FISCAL YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGET AND REVOLVING FUND

ARTICLE 7 *(Majority Vote)*

Submitted by: Select Board/Finance Committee

To see if the Town will vote to act on the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and to raise and appropriate, or appropriate by transfer from the Cable TV Enterprise Fund, Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund, Ambulance Revenue Fund, Ambulance Surplus Fund, School Choice Fund, Cemetery Perpetual Care Interest Fund, Overlay Surplus Fund, Free Cash, Water and Sewer Retained Earnings Fund, Cable TV Retained Earnings Fund and Bond Premium Fund, and other available funds, a sum of money to fund the operation of the Town's departments and all other necessary and proper expenses, and to defray the charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, to set the salaries of all elected officials in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, and to provide a Reserve Fund for the ensuing year, or take any other action relative thereto. *(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)*

ARTICLE 8 *(Majority Vote)*

Submitted by: Select Board / Finance Committee

To see if the Town will vote to act on the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of funding the operating budgets of the Town and Public Schools, and to determine whether to make such appropriation contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 ½ ballot question under General Laws Chapter 59, § 21C; or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 9 (Majority vote)

Submitted by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to set the spending limits for the revolving funds, under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §53 E ½, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 as follows:

REVOLVING FUND	AUTHORIZED TO SPEND FUND	REVENUE SOURCE	USE OF FUND	FY 2024 SPENDING LIMIT
Community Garden	Agriculture Advisory Commission	Plot Fees	Expenditures for Maintenance	\$5,000.00
DPW Motor Grader	DPW Director	Rental Fees	Maintenance and Salaries	\$5,000.00
Hazardous Materials	Fire Chief	Departmental Receipts	Expenditures Regarding Hazardous Materials	\$20,000.00
Tax Title	Treasurer	Departmental Receipts	Expenditures Regarding Tax Title	\$25,000.00
Celebration Fund	Celebration Committee	Town Celebration Events	Expenditures for Events	\$50,000.00
TOTAL SPENDING AUTHORIZED \$105,000.00				

or take any other action relative thereto.
(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 10 (Majority Vote)

Submitted by:

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the following bond authorization projects voted:

- CT River Dike Repairs /Stabilization, Article 37 of the May 13, 2009 Annual Town Meeting
- Smith Academy School Roof & Windows, Article 5 of the May 13, 2014 Annual Town Meeting
- Green Communities Energy Grant, Article 26 of the May 9, 2017 Annual Town Meeting
- Land Purchase, Horse Mountain, Article 9 of the May 9, 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

or take any other action relative thereto.
(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 11 (*Majority Vote*)
Submitted by: School Committee

To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Ch. 71, Section 71F, authorizing the Hatfield School Committee to receive tuition payments for nonresident students; said funds shall be deposited with the Treasurer and held in a separate account and may be expended by the School Committee without further appropriation for expenses incurred in providing special education programs for such nonresident students; or take any other action relative thereto.
(*RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE*)

ARTICLE 12 (*Majority Vote*)
Submitted by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to seek and expend without further appropriation, in cooperation with the City of Northampton, state and/or federal funding for the design of a proposed Connecticut River Greenway multi-use trail, with the City of Northampton designated as the lead community, such trail to run from the intersection of Hatfield Road and Elm Court in Northampton, southward along existing railroad tracks, crossing approximately 750 feet of land owned by the Town of Hatfield, to Damon Road in Northampton; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13 (*2/3 Vote*)
Submitted by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 14 and all other enabling laws, to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift or purchase, or to take by eminent domain, such temporary and permanent easements and rights as shown on a plan dated April 13, 2023, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk's office, as may be necessary in connection with the Route 5 Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvements Project, including without limitation easements for the installation and maintenance of pump stations, force mains, manholes, pipes, conduits and related improvements, as follows:

a permanent easement of approximately 1,000 square feet and a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,750 square feet at 32 West Street

and to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money for such acquisition; or to take any other action in connection therewith.

SUBMITTED BY PETITION

ARTICLE 14 (*Majority Vote*)

Submitted by: Petition

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 Wessagussett (now Weymouth) in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived;

Whereas the Colonial broadsword held 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 1675-75 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 its borders 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 Hatfield shares a rich Native history with tribal Nations such as the Nonotuck and Pocumtuck, who inhabited this area long before the first colonial settlers arrived in 1661;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Hatfield hereby adopts this resolution in support of the work of the Special Commission on the Official Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2021 and appointed by the Governor to commend 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. Jo Comerford and Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa, with the request that they continue their strong support for the work of the aforementioned Special Commission and advocate for a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth.

ZONING BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 15 (2/3 Vote)

Submitted by: Planning Board

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hatfield Zoning Map by changing the portion of Map 219, Lots 93 & 92 shown as Rural Residential to be re-zoned to Business; and to amend Section 2.2 of the Zoning Bylaws by adding, at the end of the first sentence thereof, the following: “and amended by and at the Annual Town Meeting of May 9, 2023 (Warrant Article 15)”; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16 (2/3 Vote)

Submitted by: Planning Board

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hatfield Zoning Map by changing the portion of Map 216, Lot 1; and Map 219, Lot 79 shown as Rural Residential to be re-zoned to Light Industrial; and to amend Section 2.2 of the Zoning Bylaws by adding, at the end of the first sentence thereof, the following: “and amended by and at the Annual Town Meeting of May 9, 2023 (Warrant Article 16)”; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17 (2/3 Vote)

Submitted by: Planning Board

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Hatfield Zoning Map by changing the portion of Map 211 Lots 32.1; 32.2; and 32.3 shown as Rural Residential to be re-zoned to Light Industrial, so that the entire lot is within the Light Industrial district; and to amend Section 2.2 of the Zoning Bylaws by adding, at the end of the first sentence thereof, the following: “and amended by and at the Annual Town Meeting of May 9, 2023 (Warrant Article 17)”; or take any other action relative thereto.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS

ARTICLE 18 *(Majority Vote)*

Submitted by Capital Planning / Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer or otherwise provide a sum of \$15,100 for new laptop computers for the ambulance and two fire trucks; or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 19 *(Majority Vote)*

Submitted by Capital Planning / Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer or otherwise provide a sum of \$55,000 to develop a Forestry Management Plan for the Water Shed; or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ARTICLES

ARTICLE 20 (*Majority Vote*)

Submitted by: Community Preservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2024, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY 2024 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses \$8,250

Reserves:

From FY 2024 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$37,140
From FY 2024 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$37,140
From FY 2024 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$37,140
From FY 2024 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$259,977

or take any other action relative thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 21 (*Majority Vote*)

Submitted by: Community Preservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Historic Resources Reserve account, upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, a sum of up to \$25,000.00 to preserve and restore historic town vital records under the direction of the Hatfield Town Clerk, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee; or take any other action thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 22 (*Majority Vote*)

Submitted by: Community Preservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve account, upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, the sum of \$10,000.00 to preserve and restore shade trees within Hatfield Historic Districts under the guidance of the Hatfield Select Board and Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee; or take any other action thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 23 (*Majority Vote*)

Submitted by: Community Preservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve account, upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, the sum of \$10,000.00 for survey, water quality testing, baseline assessment, core collection, lab testing and preparation of a report on the condition of, and feasibility of rehabilitating and restoring for recreation purposes, the Town-owned Day Pond located at Smith Academy, 34 School Street under the multiple departmental guidance of the Hatfield Select Board, Hatfield School Department, Recreation Department, and Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee; or take any other action thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 24 (*Majority Vote*)

Submitted by: Community Preservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve account, upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, a sum not to exceed \$400,000.00 to create Tennis and Pickleball Courts for recreation on Town-owned land at Hatfield Town Center under the guidance of the Recreation Department, Open Space Committee, and Department of Public Works, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee; or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 25 (*Majority Vote*)

Submitted by: Community Preservation Commission

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Budgeted Reserve account, upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, the sum of \$55,934 for constructing a pavilion in Smith Academy Park, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, under the guidance of the Hatfield Select Board and Open Space Committee, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Community Preservation Committee; or take any other action thereto.

(RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 26 (*2/3 Vote*)

Submitted by Select Board

To see if the Town will appropriate \$55,934, to pay costs of constructing a pavilion in Smith Academy Park, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, which amount shall be expended in addition to the \$40,504 previously appropriated from Community Preservation Act funds for this project; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

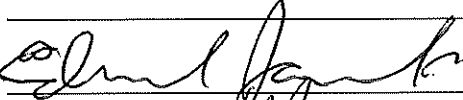
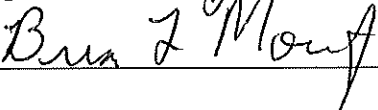
(NOT RECOMMENDED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE)

ARTICLE 27 (*Majority vote*)
Submitted by: Select Board

To see if the Town will vote to hear any and all reports which have to do with the welfare of the Town; or take any other action relative thereto.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in five (5) places in the Town of Hatfield, at least eight days before the time of said meeting. Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Clerk at the time and place of said meeting.

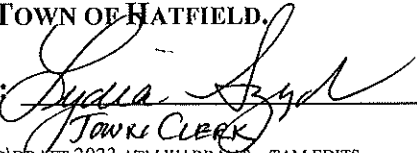
Given under our hands and seals this 28 day of April two thousand twenty-three.

_____	<i>Diana M. Szynal, Chair</i>
	_____ <i>Edmund Jaworski</i>
	_____ <i>Brian F. Moriarty</i>

THE HONORABLE SELECT BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HATFIELD IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

APRIL 28, 2023

I HAVE THIS DAY POSTED TRUE AND ATTESTED COPIES OF THE ABOVE WARRANT IN FIVE PUBLIC PLACES IN THE TOWN OF HATFIELD.

ATTEST:  _____,
TOWN CLERK

C:\HATFIELD\ DRAFT 2023 ATM WARRANT - TAM EDITS