

**Town of Whately
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
April 26, 2016**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Franklin, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Whately in the County of Franklin,
GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the **Whately Elementary School, 273 Long Plain Road in Whately on Tuesday, the twenty-sixth day of April next, at seven o'clock in the evening**, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to accept the Annual Reports of the officers of the Town, and to hear any other reports of the Boards and Committees, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee***

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee***

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to enter into compensating balance agreements with banking institutions having their principal offices in the Commonwealth during Fiscal Year 2017, as permitted by General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee***

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to apply for, accept, and expend any federal, state or private grant monies on behalf of the Town and authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee***

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving funds for certain Town departments under General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee***

Revolving Fund	Authorized to Spend Fund	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY2017 Spending Limit	Disposition of FY17 Fund Balance	Spending Restrictions or Comments
Dog Licensing and Control Revolving Fund	Town Clerk, Animal Control Officer	Dog license fees, fines and late charges	Any lawful expense related to dog licensing, animal control officer operating expenses, or any expense related to the implementation of the Town's Animal Control By-law	\$2,000	\$2,000 of balance available for expenditure, remainder to revert to General Fund	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees
Recreation Revolving Fund	Recreation Commission by majority vote of its membership	Sports program registration fees, building and park rental fees, donations and proceeds from fund-raisers	Any lawful expense related to the activities, programs, and facilities operated by the Recreation Commission	\$20,000	Balance available for expenditure	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees
Library Revolving Fund	Trustees of S. W. Dickinson Memorial Library, by majority vote of its membership	Fees from overdue books and videos and fees from copy machine use	Any lawful expense associated with the activities and programs of the S. W. Dickinson Memorial Library	\$1,000	Balance available for expenditure	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees
Public Hearings Revolving Fund	Town Clerk	Fees for costs of public hearings	Costs related to hearings: advertising, recording fees, and other expenses	\$2,500	Balance available for expenditure.	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees
Cordwood Sales Revolving Fund	Tree Warden, Highway Superintendent	Revenues from sale of cordwood.	Purchase of replacement trees on Town property.	\$2,500	Balance available for expenditure	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees.
Cemetery Commissioners Revolving Fund	Cemetery Commissioners	Opening Graves Fees	Costs of contractor expenses for digging graves and Commissioners' expenses for burial	\$1,000	Balance available for expenditure	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees
Trench Permit	Highway Superintendent and Police Department	Trench Permit Fees	Costs of enforcement of Trench Permit Regulation	\$1,000	Balance available for expenditure	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees
Recycling and Solid Waste Revolving Fund	Solid Waste Committee and Board of Health	Recycling Revenues	Any lawful expense associated with the operation of the Town's solid waste and recycling programs, membership in and services of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District and purchase of recycled content or environmentally preferable products.	\$15,000	Balance available for expenditure	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees
Total Spending:				\$45,000		

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries or compensation of the elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2017 as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY17 (2.0% COLA)
Moderator	\$120.57
Selectmen – Chair	\$1,838.67
Members	\$1,687.97
Town Clerk	\$20,941.26
Assessors – Chair	\$1,838.68
Members	\$1,687.97
Water Commissioners	\$723.42
School Committee	\$348.55
Elector: Oliver Smith Will	\$10.38
Board of Health – Chair	\$874.13
Members	\$723.42
Constables	\$13.67/hr.
Cemetery Commissioners – Sextons	\$12.40/hr.
Opening Graves Fee	\$600.00/grave

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee***

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$140,742.00** or any other sum or sums of money from the Water Department Enterprise Fund to finance the operation of the Water Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 (detail below), or take any other action relative thereto.

I. Water Enterprise Revenues	FY 2017
User Fees	\$140,742.00
Enterprise Available Funds	\$0.00
Investment Income	\$0.00
Total Revenues	\$140,742.00

II. Costs Appropriated for the Enterprise Fund

Direct Costs	
Salaries	\$32,235.00
Operating expenses	\$70,350.00

Total Costs Appropriated for Enterprise Fund \$102,585.00

III. Costs Appropriated for General Fund to be charged to the Enterprise Fund

Indirect Costs	
Health Insurance	\$15,028.00
Medicare & Social Security	1,213.00
Workers Comp. Ins.	592.00
Life Insurance	66.00
Retirement	4,628.00
Property Insurance	3,986.00
Selectmen's Office	1,988.00
Legal Counsel	506.00
Audit	165.00
Town Buildings	1,862.00
Treasurer/Collector Dept.	6,047.00
Accountant	587.00
Harpers Payroll	53.00
Payroll Preparation	36.00
Town Vehicles Fuel	1,400.00

Total Costs Appropriated for the General Fund \$38,157.00
Total Costs \$140,742.00

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee*

Article 8: To act on the report of the Finance Committee on the Fiscal Year 2017 budget and to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, money for the operation of the Town's departments and the payment of debt service and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Note: Water Department Enterprise Fund costs are appropriated in **Article 7**)

Proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget

The Finance Committee recommends that the amounts shown in the column captioned "FY17 Finance Committee Recommendations with Water Removed" be raised or appropriated or transferred from available funds for FY17 department operating purposes, debt service and other Town expenses.

	FY16 Finance Committee Recommendations With Water Removed	FY17 Finance Committee Recommendations With Water Removed
<u>Gen. Govt.</u>		
Selectmen's Office	88,225.00	97,390.00
Legal Counsel	35,030.00	24,794.00
Town Offices-Supplies	0.00	2,750.00
Audit	2,910.00	5,335.00
Town Report	700.00	500.00
Town Bldg. Oper.	26,083.00	60,178.00
Town Clerk	29,686.00	31,486.00
Town Accountant	16,368.00	18,973.00
Harpers Payroll	5,049.00	5,149.00
Payroll Preparation	3,395.00	3,464.00
Acct Software	750.00	750.00
Treasurer/Collector	45,712.00	48,919.00
Tax Takings	5,000.00	5,000.00
Assessors	32,893.00	37,138.00
Planning Board	1,873.00	1,982.00
Zoning Bd. Appeals	1,571.00	2,250.00
Finance Comm.	150.00	470.00
Moderator	150.00	150.00
Cons. Comm.	500.00	500.00
Historical Comm.	200.00	200.00
Agricultural Commission	1,500.00	1,500.00

Computer replacement	2,000.00	3,000.00
Connect CTY	2,400.00	2,600.00
Website Update	200.00	1,500.00
Housing Committee	200.00	200.00
Municipal Building Comm.	800.00	800.00
Sub-Total:	303,345.00	356,978.00

<u>Cult., Rec., Serv.</u>		
Tri-Town Beach	4,440.00	4,440.00
Recreation Comm.	11,900.00	12,125.00
Cemetery Comm.	5,729.00	5,814.00
Library	54,918.00	64,296.00
Senior Center	13,905.00	15,701.00
Veterans	8,990.00	7,815.00
Local Council on Aging	500.00	500.00
Sub-Total:	100,382.00	110,691.00

Public Health

Board of Health	2,577.00	2,523.00
Health Agent	13,719.00	14,025.00
Solid Waste Disp.	38,220.00	38,647.00
Hazardous Waste	1,000.00	1,000.00
FC Waste Dist.	5,721.00	5,994.00
Sub-Total:	61,237.00	62,189.00

Public Safety

Fire	56,575.00	61,090.00
Ambulance	131,887.00	101,783.00
Police	176,852.00	181,832.00
Quinn Bill Incentive	4,607.00	4,700.00
Animal Control	4,176.00	4,223.00
Animal Inspection	492.00	500.00
Emergency Mgt.	1,350.00	1,360.00
FC Inspection Prog.	6,500.00	7,500.00
Sub-Total:	382,439.00	362,988.00

Public Works

Highway Dept.

Salaries	120,037.00	125,164.00
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Gen. Highways	78,000.00	78,900.00
Winter Roads	124,149.00	124,167.00
Road Machinery	20,955.00	21,000.00
Garage Maint.	7,560.00	7,560.00
Trees	5,000.00	5,000.00
Sub-Total:	355,701.00	361,791.00
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<u>Water Dept.</u>		
Salaries	2,990.00	3,224.00
Operations		
Sub-Total:	2,990.00	3,224.00
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<u>Ins. & Benefits</u>		
Prop. & Liab. Ins.	40,737.00	45,834.00
Health Ins. –Town/School	399,744.00	426,972.00
Medicare & Soc. Sec.	25,095.00	26,350.00
Workers Comp. Ins.	14,830.00	15,408.00
Life	1,940.00	2,134.00
Unemp. Ins.	7,000.00	12,500.00
Retirement	139,842.00	149,628.00
Police & Fire Insurance	12,960.00	14,000.00
OPEB Liability	25,000.00	25,000.00
Division of Medicaid Assis.	1,575.00	1,655.00
Sub-Total:	668,723.00	719,481.00
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<u>Unclassified</u>		
Temp. Loan Int.	2,000.00	2,000.00
Reserve Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00
FR Council of Govt.	18,351.00	18,708.00
Physicals & Tests	1,750.00	2,000.00
Town Vehicles Fuel	32,110.00	26,600.00
Vaccinations	0.00	0.00
Educational Inc.(T.Clerk)	1,000.00	1,000.00
Sub-Total:	75,211.00	70,308.00

Total Town Govt.:	1,950,028.00	2,044,426.00
Schools		
<u>Elementary</u>		
Operating	1,564,490.00	1,599,454.00
Transportation		
Fixed Assets		
Sub-Total:	1,564,490.00	1,599,454.00
<u>Frontier</u>		
Operating	910,121.00	899,904.00
Exist. Cap. Costs		
Transportation	13,253.00	9,543.00
Sub-Total:	923,374.00	909,447.00
<u>FC Technical</u>		
Operating	129,910.00	119,136.00
Sub-total:	129,910.00	119,136.00
<u>Smith Vocational Tuition</u>	24,300.00	0.00
Total Schools:	2,642,074.00	2,628,037.00
Total Town & School:	4,592,102.00	4,672,463.00
<u>Long term-Debt</u>		
Frontier Bond	8,540.00	0.00
Town Office Building	0.00	36,000.00
Total Long-Term Debt	8,540.00	36,000.00
Sub-Total:	8,540.00	36,000.00
<u>Short term-Debt</u>		
Dump Truck	52,300.00	50,625.00
Dump Truck 2	0.00	53,000.00
Fire Truck	0.00	88,000.00

Total Short-Term Debt **191,625.00**

Total Operating Budget **4,652,942.00** **4,675,687.00**

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee

The following eleven (11) articles are recommendations of the Capital Planning Committee:

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or borrow the sum of **\$145,000** for the purchase of a dump truck for the Highway Department as part of the 2017 Capital Improvement Plan, and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by General Laws Chapter 44, §7 (9), or any other general or special law, for a period not to exceed 3 years, or take any other action relative thereto.

2/3rds vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Planning Committee

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$13,000** for paving the Highway Department lot to the Salt Shed, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Planning Committee

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$18,000** to purchase an emissions exhaust system for the Fire Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by Capital Planning Committee

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$10,000** to complete repairs to the Police Department building, by installing fencing, lighting, and completing the paving in the parking lot and walkway areas surrounding the building, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Capital Planning Committee

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$35,000** to replace a model year 2009 Cruiser for the Police Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Planning Committee*

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$15,500** for repairs to the roof and gutters, and entrance improvements at the S. White Dickinson Library, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Planning Committee*

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$3,000** to purchase a storage shed for the Blue School Field, located at 219 Christian Lane, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Planning Committee*

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$6,000** to purchase and install padding at the Whately Elementary School gymnasium, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Planning Committee*

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Retained Earnings (Free Cash) the sum of **\$10,000** to complete the purchase of a pump house generator for the Water Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Committee
Recommended by the Water Commissioners*

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Retained Earnings (Free Cash) the sum of **\$5,000** for the replacement of the Water Department Truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

*Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Committee
Recommended by the Water Commissioners*

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Retained Earnings (Free Cash) the sum of **\$15,000** for cleaning and waterproofing the Water Department Storage Tank, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Capital Committee
Recommended by the Water Commissioners*

The following six (6) articles are recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee:

Article 20: To see if the Town will hear and act, pursuant to G.L. c.44B, on the report of the Community Preservation Committee for the Fiscal Year 2017 Community Preservation Budget and vote to appropriate or reserve from the **Community Preservation Fund** a sum of money in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other necessary and proper expenses in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, including debt service for any approved Community Preservation projects, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation;

Appropriations:

From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Committee Administrative Expenses	\$ 7,500
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Reserves:

From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 15,000
From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$ 15,000
From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$ 15,000
From FY 2017 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$ 97,500

or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee*

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c.44B, to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the Community Preservation Fund Budgeted Reserve the sum of **\$16,000** as the Town's match for a permanent Agricultural Preservation restriction on 17.6 acres of farmland located on the west side of Long Plain Road north of the Whately Elementary School, and shown on Assessors' Map 26 as Lot 24, currently owned by Ed and John Smiarowski and Beverly and Donald Wilson, upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard, in consultation with the Agricultural Commission, shall deem appropriate, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee
Recommended by the Agricultural Commission***

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c.44B, to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resources Reserve and the Community Preservation Fund Budgeted Reserve the sum of **\$30,000** for the preservation and repairs of compromised and deteriorating grave stones in Town cemeteries identified in the 2013 Master Plan provided by Gravestone Services of New England; work to be done under the direction of the Cemetery Commissioners, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee
Recommended by the Historical Commission
Recommended by the Cemetery Commissioners***

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c.44B, to appropriate and transfer from the the Community Preservation Fund Budgeted Reserve the sum of **\$84,000** to fund the preparation of bid-ready construction documents, through a formal request for proposals process, for the rehabilitation of the Town Hall building on Chestnut Plain Road, to serve as a community center for social, recreational and cultural use, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

***Recommended by the Selectboard
Not Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee
Recommended by the Historical Commission
Recommended by the Planning Board
Recommended by the Municipal Building Committee***

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c.44B, to close the following CPA accounts, and return the funds to the **following reserves:**

Account #380-182-5821	Archive Vital Records	\$695	Historic Resources Reserve
Account #380-182-5824	Historic Street Signs	\$600	Historic Resources Reserve
Account #380-182-5825	Cemetery Maps	\$250.62	Historic Resources Reserve
Account #380-182-5827	Shelving and Dehumidifier	\$2,500	Historic Resources Reserve
Account #380-182-5822	Town Hall Planning	\$1,988.34	Budgeted Reserve
Account #380-182-5810	Repair Frontier Tennis Courts	\$155	Budgeted Reserve

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

*Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee*

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of **\$115,000** for office renovations at the Whately Town Office Building, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee*

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for special legislation to allow Peter Hannum, a Town of Whately call firefighter, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, to serve in such position until the age of 70, or until the date of his retirement or non-reappointment, whichever occurs first; provided, however that no deductions from the regular compensation of Peter Hannum shall be made under chapter 32 of the General Laws subsequent to his reaching the age of 65 in connection with his service to the Town for retirement or pension purposes; and further provided, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Selectboard to approve such amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to act in the best interests of the Town, to negotiate in order to make changes to the South County Emergency Medical Services (SCEMS) Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA), or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee*

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to transfer from Free Cash the sum of **\$200,000** to reduce the tax levy for FY17, or take any other action relative thereto.


Majority vote required

*Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee*

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the Town Offices, Town Hall, Post Office, and at the S. White Dickinson Memorial Library, in said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this eleventh day of April in the year two thousand and sixteen.


Jonathan Edwards, Chairman

Paul Newlin, Vice-Chairman


Frederick Orloski, Clerk

Selectboard
Town of Whately

A true copy. Attest:

Constable

Franklin, SS:

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Whately by posting attested copies of the same at the Town Offices, Town Hall, Post Office, and S. W. Dickinson Library in said Town, seven days at least before the date of the meeting as within directed.

Constable of Whately

Date