

**Town of Whately
Annual Town Meeting
April 25, 2017**

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-fifth 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

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 on July 1, 2017, in accordance with the provisions of G.L., c. 44, § 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 G.L. c. 44, § 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 of Massachusetts during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017, as permitted by G.L. c. 44, § 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 to authorize the Town Treasurer with 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 amend the General Bylaws of the Town by inserting a new Part I: Chapter 46, Revolving Funds, to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain Town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under G.L., c. 44, § 53E½ as follows, in italics:

CHAPTER 46 - REVOLVING FUNDS**§ 46-1. Purpose.**

This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by Town, departments, boards, committees, agencies and officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½

§ 46-2. Expenditure Limitations.

A department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

(A) Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund.

(B) No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.

(C) The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Annual Town Meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the Selectboard and Finance Committee.

§ 46-3. Interest.

Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund.

§ 46-4. Procedures and Reports.

Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½ and this by-law, the laws, by-laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures that govern the receipt and custody of Town monies and the expenditure and payment of Town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The Town Accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to the fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to each fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the Town Accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

§ 46-5. Authorized Revolving Funds.

The Table below establishes:

(A) Each revolving fund authorized for use by a Town department, board, committee, agency or officer;

(B) The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund;

(C) The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant;

(D) The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used;

(E) Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund;

(F) Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund; and

(G) The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

Revolving Fund	Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	Other Requirements/ Reports	Fiscal Years
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	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees	At the end of each fiscal year, monies in excess of \$2,000 shall revert to the General Fund	Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
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	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees		Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
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	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees		Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Public Hearings Revolving Fund	Town Clerk	Fees for costs of public hearings	Costs related to hearings: advertising, recording fees, and other expenses	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees		Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Cordwood Sales Revolving Fund	Tree Warden, Highway Superintendent	Revenues from the sale of cordwood	Purchase of replacement trees on Town property.	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees.		Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Cemetery Commissioners Revolving Fund	Cemetery Commissioners	Opening Graves Fees	Costs of contractor expenses for digging graves and Commissioners' expenses for burial	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees		Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
Trench Permit	Highway Superintendent, Police Department	Trench Permit Fees	Costs of enforcement of Trench Permit Regulation	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees		Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years
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.	Funds may not be spent for the salaries of any full-time employees		Fiscal Year 2018 and subsequent years

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 6.

To see if the Town will vote to establish spending limits for the Town's Revolving Funds as established by Chapter 46 – Revolving Funds of the General Bylaws of the Town or otherwise for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017 as follows:

Revolving Fund	FY18 Spending Limit
Dog Licensing and Control Revolving Fund	\$2,000
Recreation Revolving Fund	\$20,000
Library Revolving Fund	\$1,000
Public Hearings Revolving Fund	\$2,500
Cordwood Sales Revolving Fund	\$2,500
Cemetery Commissioners Revolving Fund	\$1,000
Trench Permit	\$1,000
Recycling and Solid Waste Revolving Fund	\$15,000

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 7.

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries or compensation of the elected officers of the Town for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017 as follows:

Position	Amount (\$) (2.5% COLA)
Moderator	\$123.58
Selectboard – Chair	\$1,884.65
Selectboard – Member	\$1,730.17
Town Clerk	\$21,464.79
Assessors – Chair	\$1,884.65
Assessors – Member	\$1,730.17
Water Commissioners	\$741.51
School Committee	\$357.26
Elector: Oliver Smith Will	\$10.64
Board of Health – Chair	\$895.98
Board of Health – Member	\$741.51
Constables	\$14.01/hour
Cemetery Commissioners – Sextons	\$14.35/hour
Opening Graves Fee	\$600/grave

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Selectboard

Article 8.

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$161,425** 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 on July 1, 2017 as follows:

Enterprise Fund (EF)	FY 18
Water Department	
I. Revenues	
User Fees	\$161,425.00
Enterprise Available Funds	
Investment Income	
Total Revenue	\$161,425.00
II. Expenses	
Direct Expenses	
Salaries	\$32,841.00
Operations	\$96,090.00
Total Direct Expenses	\$128,931.00
Indirect Expenses	
Selectboard & Administration	\$1,996.00
Legal Counsel/Financial Advisor	\$508.00
Audit	\$405.00
Town Building Operations	\$1,808.00
Town Accountant	\$601.00
Harper's Payroll	\$104.00
Treasurer/Collector	\$6,392.00
Property/Liability Insurance	\$3,850.00
Health Insurance	\$8,454.00
Medicare & Social Security	\$1,320.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$622.00
Life Insurance	\$0.00
Retirement	\$5,034.00
Town Vehicles Fuel	\$1,400.00
Total Indirect Expenses Appropriated for the General Fund	\$32,494.00
Total Expenses	\$161,425.00

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

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

Article 9.

To act on the report of the Finance Committee on the Fiscal Year 2018 Town Operating Budget and to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, money for the operation of the Town's departments, boards, committees, agencies and officers, for the payment of debt service and for all other necessary and proper expenses for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017 as follows:

(Note: Water Department Enterprise Fund costs are appropriated in Article 9)

Proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Budget

The Finance Committee recommends that the amounts shown in the column captioned "FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget" be raised or appropriated or transferred from available funds for Fiscal Year 2018 operating purposes, debt service and other town expenses.

Town Operations

General Government (GG)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Selectboard & Administration	\$97,390.00	\$97,790.00
Legal Counsel/Financial Advisors	\$24,794.00	\$24,892.00
Town Offices-Supplies	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00
Audit	\$5,335.00	\$13,095.00
Town Report	\$500.00	\$500.00
Town Building Operations	\$60,178.00	\$58,432.00
Town Clerk	\$31,486.00	\$32,279.00
Town Accountant	\$18,973.00	\$19,409.00
Harpers Payroll	\$5,149.00	\$5,096.00
Accounting Software	\$750.00	\$750.00
Treasurer/Collector	\$52,383.00	\$51,709.00
Tax Takings	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Assessors	\$37,138.00	\$34,701.00
Planning Board	\$1,982.00	\$2,107.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$2,250.00	\$2,289.00
Finance Committee	\$470.00	\$150.00
Moderator	\$150.00	\$150.00
Conservation Commission	\$500.00	\$500.00
Historical Commission	\$200.00	\$200.00
Agricultural Commission	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Computer - IT	\$3,000.00	\$5,200.00
Connect CTY	\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00
Website & Email Hosting	\$1,500.00	\$3,750.00
Housing Committee	\$200.00	\$200.00
Municipal Building Committee	\$800.00	\$800.00
Subtotal	\$356,978.00	\$365,849.00

Cultural, Recreation, Services (CRS)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Tri-Town Beach District	\$4,440.00	\$4,850.00
Recreation Commission	\$12,125.00	\$11,200.00
Cemetery Commission	\$5,814.00	\$6,586.00
Library	\$64,296.00	\$66,480.00
South County Senior Center	\$15,701.00	\$12,888.00
Veterans	\$7,815.00	\$8,535.00
Local Council on Aging	\$500.00	\$500.00
Subtotal	\$110,691.00	\$111,039.00

Public Health (PH)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Board of Health	\$2,523.00	\$2,680.00
Health Agent - Foothills Health District	\$14,025.00	\$14,025.00
Solid Waste	\$38,647.00	\$39,686.00
Hazardous Waste	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Franklin County Solid Waste Management District	\$5,994.00	\$6,218.00
Subtotal	\$62,189.00	\$63,609.00

Public Safety (PS)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Fire Department	\$61,090.00	\$63,632.00
Ambulance - South County EMS	\$101,783.00	\$86,502.00
Police Department	\$181,832.00	\$191,098.00
Quinn Bill Incentive	\$4,700.00	\$5,176.00
Animal Control	\$4,223.00	\$4,783.00
Animal Inspection	\$500.00	\$509.00
Emergency Management	\$1,360.00	\$1,200.00
Franklin County Inspection Services	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Subtotal	\$362,988.00	\$360,400.00

Public Works (PW)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Highway Department		
Highway Salaries	\$125,164.00	\$128,864.00
General Highways	\$78,900.00	\$78,900.00
Winter Roads	\$124,167.00	\$126,008.00
Road Machinery	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00
Garage Maintenance	\$7,560.00	\$7,560.00
Trees	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Subtotal	\$361,791.00	\$367,332.00

Insurance & Benefits (IB)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Property & Liability Insurance	\$45,834.00	\$44,275.00
Group Health Insurance	\$426,972.00	\$371,546.00
Medicare & Social Security	\$26,350.00	\$28,680.00
Workers Compensation Insurance	\$15,408.00	\$16,178.00
Life Insurance	\$2,134.00	\$1,000.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$12,500.00	\$16,000.00
Franklin County Retirement	\$149,628.00	\$162,756.00
Police & Fire Injured on Duty Insurance	\$14,000.00	\$14,700.00
OPEB Liability	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Division of Medicaid Assistance	\$1,655.00	\$1,700.00
Subtotal	\$719,481.00	\$681,835.00

Unclassified (U)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Temporary Loan Interest	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Reserve Fund	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG)	\$18,708.00	\$19,530.00
Physicals & Tests	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Town Vehicles Fuel	\$26,600.00	\$26,600.00
Educational Incentives	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Subtotal	\$70,308.00	\$71,130.00

Total Town Operations	\$2,044,426.00	\$2,021,194.00
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School Operations

Schools (S)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Whately Elementary School		
Operating	\$1,599,454.00	\$1,640,256.00
Transportation		
Fixed Assets		
Subtotal Whately Elementary School	\$1,599,454.00	\$1,640,256.00
Frontier Regional		
Operating	\$899,904.00	\$915,939.00
Existing Capital Costs		
Transportation	\$9,543.00	\$12,844.00
Subtotal Frontier Regional	\$909,447.00	\$928,783.00
Franklin County Technical School		
Operating	\$119,136.00	\$162,118.00
Subtotal Franklin County Technical School	\$119,136.00	\$162,118.00
Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School		
Tuition		\$0.00
Transportation		\$0.00
Subtotal Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School		\$0.00

Total School Operations	\$2,628,037.00	\$2,731,157.00
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Debt

Debt (D)	FY17 Finance Committee Recommended Budget	FY18 Finance Committee Recommended Budget
Long Term Debt		
Frontier Bond		\$0.00
Dump Truck		\$0.00
Elementary Roof		\$0.00
Town Offices	\$36,000.00	\$0.00
Subtotal	\$36,000.00	\$0.00
Short Term Debt		
Dump Truck	\$50,625.00	\$0.00
Dump Truck 2	\$53,000.00	\$49,046.00
Fire Truck	\$88,000.00	\$86,237.00
Subtotal	\$191,625.00	\$135,283.00
Total Debt	\$227,625.00	\$135,283.00

Water Department Salaries - Plowing Town Lots	\$3,224.00	\$3,305.00
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TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	\$4,903,312.00	\$4,890,939.00
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CHANGE FY17 TO FY18: **-\$12,373.00** **-0.25%**

Or take any other action relative thereto

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Selectboard

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Recommended Appropriations (Articles 10 to 14)

Article 10.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$30,000 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) to pay for the purchase and installation of a new communications system, including but not limited to new intercoms, clocks and telephones, at the Whately Elementary School, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee

Article 11.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$7,500 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) to pay for the purchase and installation of new information technology hardware, software and services to upgrade and increase the security of the Town's network, computers and e-mail systems, so as to enable the saving and recovery of critical data and increase workplace efficiency, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee

Article 12.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$9,750 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) to pay for the purchase and installation of a mixed paper compactor at the transfer station, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

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

Article 13.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$61,000 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) to pay for the purchase of protective equipment 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 the Capital Improvement Planning Committee

Article 14.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Water Department Enterprise Fund - 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 Improvement Planning Committee
Recommended by the Water Commissioners

Article 15.

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c. 40 § 5B, a separate Stabilization Fund to be known as the "Vehicle Stabilization Fund," the purpose of which is to reserve such sums of money as Annual or Special Town Meeting shall vote to appropriate into it for the future purchase of town vehicles; and further vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) into the Vehicle Stabilization Fund authorized by vote under this article, or take any other actions relative thereto.

Two-thirds vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard
Finance Committee - No Recommendation (See Article 16)

Article 16.

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c. 40 § 5B, a separate Stabilization Fund to be known as the "Police Cruiser Replacement Stabilization Fund," the purpose of which is to reserve such sums of money as Annual or Special Town Meeting shall vote to appropriate into it for the future purchase of a police cruiser; and further vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) into the Police Cruiser Replacement Stabilization Fund authorized by the vote under this article, or take any other action relative thereto.

Two-thirds vote required

Not Recommended by the Selectboard (See Article 15)
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 17.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,000 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) to be added to the Capital Stabilization Fund, as established in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40 § 5B, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

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

Community Preservation Committee Recommended Appropriations (Articles 18 to 22)

Article 18.

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 2018 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 on July 1, 2017, including debt service for any approved Community Preservation project, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Appropriations:

From FY18 estimated revenues for committee administrative expenses \$7,500

Reserves:

From FY18 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve \$15,000

From FY18 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve \$15,000

From FY18 estimated revenues for Affordable Housing Reserve \$15,000

From FY18 estimated revenues for Budgeted Reserve \$14,500

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

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

Article 19.

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c. 44B, to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserves the sum of \$5,000 as the Town's match for a permanent Agricultural Preservation Restriction on 12 acres of land on Long Plain Road, Assessor's Parcel ID 21-0-5, currently owned by Richard E. Smith, Robert F. Smith and William J. Smith, 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 Community Preservation Committee
Recommended by the Selectboard
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Recommended by the Agricultural Commission**

Article 20.

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c. 44B, to appropriate and transfer from the Community Preservation Fund Housing Reserves the sum of \$15,000 to the Whately Affordable Housing Trust Fund, said transfer to be subject to and contingent upon the execution of a grant agreement between the Town of Whately and the Whately Affordable Housing Trust for the receipt and expenditure of such sum, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Housing 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 Unreserved Fund Balance \$227,000, from the Community Preservation Fund FY17 Budgeted Reserves \$30,000 and from the Community Preservation Fund FY18 Estimated Revenues \$83,000 for a total of \$340,000 for the rehabilitation of the Town Hall; such work to be done under the direction of the Selectboard and to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, or take any other action relative thereto

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Historical Commission

Recommended by the Municipal Building Committee

Article 22.

To see if the Town will vote to borrow up to \$400,000 for the rehabilitation of the Town Hall and to authorize the treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard in consultation with the Community Preservation Committee, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose as authorized under the Community Preservation Program pursuant to G.L. c. 44B § 11, or any other enabling authority, for a period not to exceed 20 years, with all expenditure of such appropriation to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, or take any other action relative thereto

Two-thirds vote required

Recommended by the Community Preservation Committee

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Historical Commission

Recommended by the Municipal Building Committee

Article 23.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the Town House (Town Hall) land, located at 194 Chestnut Plain Road, Whately and having an Assessor's Parcel ID of 39-0-26, from the Selectboard for the purpose of a town hall, to the Selectboard for the purpose of a town hall and community center and for the purpose of conveying a perpetual historic preservation restriction encumbering said Town House (Town Hall) land and the building thereon to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by and through the Massachusetts Historical Commission; and to authorize the Selectboard to convey such restriction on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, as the Selectboard deems appropriate, and to take all action and execute all documents necessary in connection therewith; or take any other action relative thereto.

Two-thirds vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Historical Commission

Recommended by the Municipal Building Committee

Article 24.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$315,000 from available funds (Account #259-001-3560 - Sale of Land Received Available for Appropriation) to pay for the rehabilitation of the Town Hall; such work to be done under the direction of the Selectboard and to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Recommended by the Historical Commission

Recommended by the Municipal Building Committee

Article 25.

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) to pay for the benefits payout of a retiring Town employee, in accordance with the personnel policies of the Town, 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 appropriate the sum of \$100 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) for transfer to the Smith Charities as a contribution to be used for an historic building study of the Smith Charities building located at 51 Main Street, Northampton, MA, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

Recommended by the Selectboard

Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 27.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to transfer the sum of \$200,000 from available funds (FY16 Free Cash) to reduce the tax levy for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2017, 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 Selectboard to negotiate and enter into an agreement for the payment in lieu of personal property taxes (PILOT Agreement) with Nexamp, Inc. or its subsidiary, in accordance with G.L. c. 59, § 38H and G.L. c. 164, § 1, and any other enabling authority, for the proposed solar electric generating facility to be located on a lot with Assessor's Parcel ID 20-0-22 (134 Christian Lane) currently owned by Jeffrey & Shelly Kocot, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

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

Article 29.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to negotiate and enter into an agreement for the payment in lieu of personal property taxes (PILOT Agreement) with Nexamp, Inc. or its subsidiary, in accordance with G.L. c. 59, § 38H and G.L. c. 164, § 1, and any other enabling authority, for the proposed solar electric generating facility to be located on a lot with Assessor's Parcel ID 21-0-15 (Off Christian Lane) currently owned by Wayne & Scott Hutkoski, or take any other action relative thereto.

Majority vote required

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

Article 30.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for special legislation to allow John LaSalle, 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 seventy, or until the date of his retirement or non-appointment, whichever occurs first; provided that no deductions from the regular compensation of said John LaSalle shall be made under G.L. c. 32 subsequent to his reaching the age of sixty-five 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

Articles Submitted by Petition (Articles 31 & 32)**Article 31. (as submitted)**

To see if the Town will vote to pass the following resolution:

Whereas the influence of money in political campaigns exerts an undue influence on electoral outcomes that weakens the democratic principle of one person one vote and;

Whereas the recent general election has made it clear that our election system is subject to novel forms of manipulation and influences it was never designed to resist and;

Whereas the practice of gerrymandering and apportionment of political districts by partisan committees distorts democratic representation and ensures continuance of domination of the electoral process by incumbents of the majority party and;

Whereas current party rules and election laws do not adequately address issues of conflicts of interest on the part of candidates for public office.

We instruct our elected representatives at both the state and national levels to

Stop the Corrosive Influence of Money on Politics by:

- Prohibiting politicians from raising money from lobbyists. Members of Congress and candidates for federal office/state office may not accept contributions in connection with an election from a lobbyist.
- Prohibiting lobbyists from bundling campaign contributions in connection with an election for public office.
- Closing the "Revolving Door "by extend the existing revolving door limitations applicable to Members of Congress and congressional staff to 5 years for former Members, and 5 years for former congressional staffers who are either (1) paid at a rate of 75% or more of a Member's salary, or (2) whose duties are not primarily secretarial in nature. And by prohibiting Members of Congress and senior congressional staff from negotiating or having any arrangement concerning prospective private employment, including engaging in any preliminary or exploratory discussions regarding such employment, while a Member of Congress or senior congressional staff. (This applies to federal representatives.)
- Prohibiting Members of Congress from engaging in political fundraising and soliciting between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day in which their House of Congress is in session and is not adjourned or in recess for that entire day, and during any other hours in which the Member's House of Congress or any committee or subcommittee thereof of which they are a member is conducting business. (Applicable to federal representatives.)
- Prohibiting candidates for elected office from not revealing financial information including income tax statements.
- Requiring automatic electronic disclosure of political fundraising and expenditures over \$200.
- Enacting the Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections (DISCLOSE) Act of 2015, S. 229, H.R. 430, 114th Cong, to end dark and grey money.
- Require disclosure of bundlers of contributions. Require incumbent federal officials and candidates for federal office to disclose the identity of any individual who is authorized by or known to the official or candidate to collect and transmit contributions to their campaign committee or leadership PAC, regardless of whether or not the individual is a lobbyist.

Minimize the Likelihood of Conflicts of Interest by:

- Instituting an "open books" policy for candidates for public office.
- Requiring candidates provide complete transparency with regard to their financial interests including, but not limited to, disclosure of their state and federal income taxes.

End Gerrymandering by:

- Transferring all authority over redistricting to an independent, fully transparent commission that must follow strict guidelines to ensure accurate representation for all voters, regardless of political party, and to be in full compliance with the Voting Rights Act.

Let all voters participate in open primaries

- By making all candidates for the same office compete in a single, open primary in which all registered voters may participate. The four candidates with the most votes will proceed to the general election. On the primary ballot, allow candidates to display their party preference, and allow parties to display their chosen nominee(s). Establish meaningful thresholds for the number of signatures required to be collected by volunteers in order for a candidate to appear on the ballot.

Let voters rank their top candidates using ranked choice voting and avoid spoilers

- By using ranked choice voting in all elections so voters may rank candidates in order of preference and not be concerned about voting for "spoiler" candidates.

Fix the Federal Election Commission's Coordination Regulations

- The FEC's current coordination regulations permit extensive collaboration between candidates and supposedly "independent" Super PACs. Amend the Federal Election Campaign Act to create reasonable presumptions of coordination under which an expenditure made by a Super PAC is treated as a contribution to the candidate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the citizens of the Town of Whately, Massachusetts that we support tough new anti-corruption laws to close loopholes in Massachusetts' campaign finance regulations that currently allows unregulated out-of-state money to infiltrate state and local elections; and we support the goals outlined in the American Anti-Corruption Act to remove the corrupting influence of money on our political system. The Act prohibits politicians from taking campaign money from special interest groups including private industries and unions; increases transparency for campaign funding; empowers all voters through a tax rebate voucher to contribute to the candidates they support; prohibits representatives and senior staff from all lobbying activity for five years once they leave office; and places limits on superPACs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the citizens of the Town of Whately implores our elected representatives in Boston, State Senator Rosenberg and Rep. Kulik and in Washington, Sen. Edward Markey and Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Rep. James McGovern (or their successors) to lead this effort to enact these initiatives in Massachusetts and in the U.S. Congress.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Town of Whately is hereby directed to give notice to the above representatives by sending a certified copy of this resolution to each of them.

Or taken any other action relative thereto.

Majority Vote Required

By Petition

Article 32. (as submitted)

To see if the Town will vote to pass the following resolution:

WHEREAS climate change poses a serious threat to the Town of Whately in terms of the economy, public health, and the environment;

AND WHEREAS as a result of climate change, the Northeast is experiencing warming temperatures and a large increase in the amount of rainfall measured during heavy precipitation events;

AND WHEREAS more frequent heat waves in the Northeast are expected to increasingly threaten human health through more heat stress, droughts, and air pollution;

AND WHEREAS sea level rise and more frequent heavy rains are expected to increase flooding and storm surge, threatening people and infrastructure, necessitating increased costs for damage control;

AND WHEREAS as temperatures rise, agriculture will likely face reduced yields, potentially damaging livelihoods and the regional economy;

AND WHEREAS Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend will significantly reduce carbon emissions, create jobs, grow the economy, save lives, and protect households from higher energy prices;

AND WHEREAS most economists, from conservative to liberal, agree that the most cost-effective way to cut carbon pollution is to add a fee that steadily raises the price of fossil fuels,

AND WHEREAS legislation addressing climate change should not economically burden Whately and its citizens;

AND WHEREAS Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend will protect lower and middle-income households, as two thirds of families will break even or receive more in dividends than they would pay for in higher living expenses;

AND WHEREAS Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend will create jobs, as the dividend puts money back into local economies;

AND WHEREAS Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend is a market-based solution in which a desired cap is put on carbon emissions along with a fee levied on carbon-based fuels as they come out of the ground or as they are imported, with all monies returned in equal per person shares to households as a dividend, thus leveraging market forces that encourage investments in increased energy efficiency and alternate sources of energy by both industry and consumers;

AND WHEREAS Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend will employ a "border adjustment" to protect domestic businesses. The "border adjustment" will use import/export fees and rebates to neutralize any impact to the cost of domestically produced products, and incentivize other states to adopt a comparable carbon fee;

AND WHEREAS in the absence of federal Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts can pass state Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend (or "Rebate"),

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWN OF Whately calls upon the Massachusetts Legislature and the United States Congress to implement Carbon Fee, Cap and Dividend (or "Rebate"), placing a cap on carbon emissions along with a fee on carbon-based fuels that rises as necessary to ensure the desired cap is met gradually and predictably, and returning all fees collected, minus administrative costs, to households.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT UPON PASSAGE the Whately Town Clerk shall mail copies of the resolution and vote to the President of the United States, Donald Trump; the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Paul Ryan; the House Minority leader, Nancy Pelosi; the Majority and Minority leaders of the U.S. Senate, Mitch McConnell and Charles Schumer; the U.S. Senators representing Massachusetts, Edward Markey and Elizabeth Warren; the Congressperson representing our district, Jim McGovern; the Governor of Massachusetts, Charlie Baker; the Massachusetts Senate President, Stan Rosenberg; the Speaker of the Massachusetts House, Robert DeLeo; and the state senator and state representative from our district, Stan Rosenberg and Stephen Kulik.

Or taken any other action relative thereto.

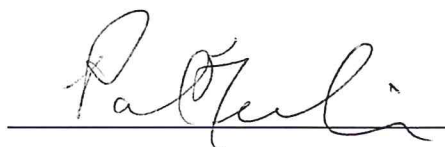
Majority Vote Required

By Petition

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the Town Hall, Town Office Building, Post Office, and the S. W. Dickinson Library in said Whately, 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.

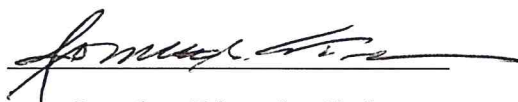
Given under our hands this 10th day of April in the year two thousand and seventeen.



Paul Newlin, Chair



Frederick Orloski, Vice Chair



Jonathan Edwards, Clerk

Selectboard
Town of Whately

A true copy.

Attest:

Constable