

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

WORCESTER, SS.

To either of the Constables of the TOWN OF WESTMINSTER 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 said Town qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the

**WESTMINSTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
9 ACADEMY HILL ROAD  
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS**

on

**SATURDAY, May 4, 2024  
AT 10:00 A.M.**

then and there to vote on the following articles:

### CUSTOMARY ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a contract with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation or other appropriate state agency for the construction and maintenance of public highways for the ensuing fiscal year, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 40, section 4 of the General Laws to authorize the Select Board to enter into any and all contracts on behalf of the Town for the ensuing fiscal year unless otherwise provided by law, on such terms and conditions as it deems to be in the best interests of the Town, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

ARTICLE 3. To hear reports of any committees appointed to act on Town affairs or in its behalf. (majority vote required).

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 44, section 53E1/2 to set the following spending limits for each Revolving Fund authorized under Chapter 28-9 of the Town Bylaws for FY2025, or act in relation thereto (majority vote required):

- 1 Hazardous Materials Recovery - \$12,000
- 2 Agricultural Commission Programs - \$10,000
- 3 Public Health Clinic and Emergency Response - \$25,000
- 4 Private Road Maintenance - \$10,000

### OPERATING BUDGETS

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to establish one (1) full-time Assistant Health Agent position, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

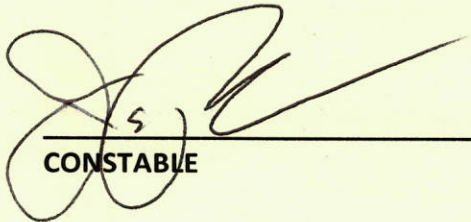
DATED 4/9/2024

Worcester, s.s.

**PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT, I HAVE NOTIFIED AND WARNED THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF WESTMINSTER BY POSTING ATTESTED COPIES OF THE SAME AT:**

**TOWN HALL, 11 SOUTH STREET  
U.S. POST OFFICE, 6 NICHOLS STREET**

**FOURTEEN DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF THE TOWN MEETING, AS WITHIN DIRECTED.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CONSTABLE

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to enact special legislation to change the office of Town Clerk from elected to appointed, as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition; or do or act in relation thereto.

*An Act Establishing the Appointed Office of Town Clerk in the Town of Westminster.*

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

*SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 of chapter 41 of the general laws or any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be established in the town of Westminster the appointed position of town clerk. The town clerk shall be appointed by and may be removed by the select board, and such appointment to be for a term not to exceed three years. The town clerk shall have all the powers and duties and be subject to the liabilities and penalties imposed by law on town clerks.*

*SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1 above, any incumbent, in the office of the town clerk upon the effective date of this act shall continue to hold said office and to perform the duties thereof until the appointment of a town clerk to perform said duties pursuant to the terms of this act, unless he or she sooner vacates such office. Thereafter, appointments to the position of town clerk shall be made in accordance with Section 1.*

*SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.*

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of appointed and elected officers, provide for a Reserve Fund, and determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, for the ensuing fiscal year, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$26,836,512)

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2025, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$TBD)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2025, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$TBD)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Solid Waste Transfer Facility Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2025, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$TBD)

CUSTOMARY MONEY ARTICLES

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for the following purposes, or act in relation thereto (majority vote required):

Westminster Cultural Council  
Conservation Fund, as provided in Section 8C of Chapter 40 of the General Laws  
Agricultural Commission, as provided in Section 8L, Chapter 40 of the General Laws

(Amounts requested: \$4,000 for Cultural Council; \$5,000 for Conservation Fund; \$1,500 for Agricultural)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to fund a portion of the cost of retaining a professional consultant to perform the revaluation of real and personal property in the Town as required under Massachusetts General Laws, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$50,000)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to reduce the Fiscal Year 2025 tax rate, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$230,000)

NON-CAPITAL MONEY ARTICLES

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Ambulance Receipts, a sum of money for Paramedic Training to be spent under the direction of the Fire Chief, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$33,000)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be spent under the direction of the Board of Assessors for software upgrades, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$10,000)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money for a plow for the Cemetery Department; said sum to be spent under the direction of the Cemetery Superintendent, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required).

(Amount requested: \$11,000)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash sum of money to be spent under the direction of the Town Administrator for a Building and Equipment Maintenance Fund, or act in relation thereto. (majority vote required)

(Amount Requested: \$100,000)

CAPITAL ARTICLES

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be spent for the following capital equipment and/or projects, including related incidental costs, or act in relation thereto. (2/3 vote required).

18	Department	Amount Requested	Funding Source
18-01	DPW - Road Maintenance	\$300,000.00	Raise and Appropriate
18-02	DPW - Road Improvement Program	\$500,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Roads)
18-03	DPW - Oakmont Ave Culvert Project	\$500,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Roads)
18-04	DPW - Replace 2005 Mack CV713	\$390,000.00	Capital Equipment Stabilization
18-05	DPW - Septic System Replacement	\$125,000.00	Water & Sewer Enterprise/Capital (fmr Bldg)
18-06	DPW - Replace Old Salt Shed Dome	\$125,000.00	Capital Equipment Stabilization
18-07	DPW - Replace 2014 Ford F350	\$115,000.00	Capital Equipment Stabilization
18-08	DPW - Water Pumping Station-Hager Park	\$150,000.00	Water Enterprise Fund
18-09	Police - Replace 2019 Chevy Tahoe	\$67,300.00	Capital Equipment Stabilization
18-10	Police - Replace 2018 Ford Interceptor	\$67,300.00	Capital Equipment Stabilization
18-11	Fire - Replace 2008 Ford F550	\$275,000.00	Capital Equipment Stabilization
18-12	Cemetery - Woodside & Whitmanville Paving	\$30,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Building)
18-13	Cemetery - Utility Detection Radar Kit	\$23,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Building)
18-14	Tech - Computer Replacement	\$50,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Tech)
18-15	Tech - Network Phases 1/2 Town Hall	\$21,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Tech)
18-16	Library - Fire Panel Replacement	\$18,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Building)
18-17	Meetinghouse Projects (New Boiler)	\$400,000.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Building)
18-18	Districtwide Capital Projects	\$19,688.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Building)
18-18	Overlook Projects	\$32,916.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Building)
18-20	Oakmont Projects	\$23,898.00	Capital Equipment (fmr Building)

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow a sum of money to be spent under the direction of the Fire Chief to replace 2001 Engine 2, or act in relation thereto. (2/3 vote required).

(Amount Requested: \$750,000)

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow a sum of money to be spent under the direction of the Fire Chief for one (1) Tanker truck in the Fire Department, or act in relation thereto. (2/3 vote required).

(Amount Requested: \$517,000)

AND YOU ARE DIRECTED to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the Town Hall and the U.S. Post Office 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 8th day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-four.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather M. Billings

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*4/8/2024*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Melissa A. Banks

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*4/8/2024*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Salvatore J. Albert

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

SELECT BOARD