

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
WARRANT FOR SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TRANSACTION OF TOWN BUSINESS
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020 - 7:00 P.M.**

RECEIVED

20 APR -3 AM 11:39

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
DOREEN A. CESRONE

WORCESTER, ss:

To any Constable of the Town of Northbridge in said County.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify the Inhabitants of the Town of Northbridge, qualified to vote in Town elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Northbridge Middle School Auditorium on Linwood Avenue, in Whitinsville, in said Northbridge, Massachusetts, on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 7:00 o'clock P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the unexpended appropriated funds of one or more of the departments of the Town the following sums of money and authorize the payment of prior year bills; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 2: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the votes taken under Article 3 of the 2019 Spring Session of the Annual Town Meeting (May 7, 2019), and under Article 1 of the 2019 Fall Session of the Annual Town Meeting (October 22, 2019), appropriations and transfers under the Omnibus Budget Article; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3: (Finance Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the Health Insurance Stabilization Fund such sums of money, not to exceed \$47,316,912, to defray the necessary and usual expenses of the several departments of the Town for FY 2021, beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the Retained Earnings Account of the Sewer Enterprise Fund a sum of money to operate the Sewer Enterprise Operation of the Department of Public Works for FY 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from the Retained Earnings Account of the Water Enterprise Fund a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise Operation of the Department of Public Works for FY 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money and such additional funds as may become available from the Commonwealth's Department of Transportation, Chapter 90 Bond Issue proceeds, to be used by the Department of Public Works for the repair and maintenance of Town roads in conformance with MGL and further to see if the Town will vote to meet said appropriation by borrowing and to authorize the Treasurer/Collector, with approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor in anticipation of the receipt of said State Aid; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for FY 2021, pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the M.G.L.; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to set the FY21 spending limits for the Town's revolving funds under section 5-113 of the Northbridge Code as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2021 Spending Limit
Playgrounds and Recreation	\$20,000
Food Health and Safety	\$25,000
Compost Site	\$10,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from the Pine Grove Cemetery Trust to fund operations of the Pine Grove Cemetery for FY 2021 beginning July 1, 2020 and ending on June 30, 2021, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10: (Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve for future appropriation from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues, the amounts of money recommended by the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee for community preservation projects in the categories of Historic

Resources, Community Housing, Open Space & Recreation, and Budgeted Reserve, and other expenses for the Fiscal Year 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11: (Community Preservation Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the Community Preservation Fund revenues to the Northbridge Community Preservation Committee for expenses associated with the implementation of the Community Preservation Act, including but not limited to clerical assistance, office supplies, property surveys, appraisals, attorney fees, and other professional services, recording fees, printing and all other necessary and proper expenses for the Fiscal Year 2021; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12: (Board of Assessors)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$137,700 from the Overlay Surplus to be expended by the Board of Assessors for the revaluation of properties in the Town of Northbridge in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40 section 56, Chapter 58 sections 1 and 1A, and the regulations of the Department of Revenue; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: (Board of Health)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$63,000 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) to comply with the Immediate Response Action Plan submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for activities at the Quaker Street Landfill; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and/or transfer from the Retained Earnings Account of the Sewer Enterprise Fund, the amount of \$100,000 to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works for the purpose of replacing the Primary Logic Controller System; and the amount of \$100,000 to be expended under the direction of the Director of Public Works, to replace Three (3) Rockdale Raw Sewage Pumps; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and/or transfer the amount of \$29,000 from the Retained Earnings Account of the Water Enterprise Fund, and the sum of \$181,068.62 from unexpended balances of the Water Department Capital Accounts (\$46,605.59 from Capital Account 61000215-589005; \$2,684.00 from Capital Account 61000505-589005; \$45,000 from Capital Account 61000814-530000; \$65,000 from Capital Account 61001809-530000; and \$21,779.03 from Capital Account 61000920-530000), for a total of \$210,068.62, to the existing Water Department Capital Account (61002016-XXXXXX) for the purpose of financing water infrastructure repairs, including the replacement of water mains, within the streets of Linwood Avenue, Court Street, Jon Circle, and Edgemere Avenue; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to fund the capital projects shown below by appropriating and transferring the total sum of \$651,445 from the sources and accounts designated below, specifically: \$452,184 from the undesignated fund balance (free cash), \$22,500 from Ambulance Receipts, \$54,440 from unexpended Pine Grove Operations Account balances, and \$122,321 from unexpended capital account balances:

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Town-Wide Sidewalk Maintenance Program	Public Works	\$25,000
TIP Design Services (Rockdale Intersection)	Public Works	\$103,349
1-Ton Dump Truck with Plow and Sander Box	Public Works	\$83,000
Replace Fire Department Car 1	Fire Chief	\$22,500
Zero-Turn Lawn Mower	Public Works	\$5,310
Two (2) Lawn Mowing Tractors	Public Works	\$17,000
Linwood Playground Basketball Court Upgrades	Parks & Recreation	\$100,000
Town Hall Conference & Meeting Room Upgrades	Town Manager	\$25,000
Replace Town Hall First Floor Carpeting	Public Works	\$15,000
Replace the Town's Voting Machines	Town Clerk	\$40,000
Town Meeting Voting Trackers	Town Clerk	\$16,025
TOTAL		\$452,184
TOTAL FROM FREE CASH		\$452,184

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Replace Fire Department Car 1	Fire Chief	\$22,500
TOTAL		\$22,500
TOTAL FROM AMB. RECEIPTS		\$22,500

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tree and Stump Removal	Pine Grove Cemetery	\$10,000
Zero-Turn Lawn Mower	Pine Grove Cemetery	\$6,690
Replace Fencing along Lasell Property Line	Pine Grove Cemetery	\$37,750
TOTAL		\$54,440
TOTAL FROM PINE GROVE ACCOUNTS		\$54,440

\$9,145.84 from Account 01021811-5XXXXX
\$45,294.18 from Account 01021910-XXXXXX

<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Green Community Projects Application	Town Planner	\$10,111
TIP Design (Rockdale Intersection)	Public Works	\$64,752
F350 Pick-up Truck with Plow	Public Works	\$43,000
Police Station Drainage Evaluation	Public Works	\$4,458

TOTAL **\$122,321**

TOTAL FROM UNEXPENDED ACCOUNT BALANCES **\$122,321**

\$30,070.85 from FY16 Building Maintenance Account 01021604-530000
\$4,458.08 from FY17 Building Maintenance Account 01021715-5XXXXX
\$6,659.33 from Town Energy Project Capital Account 01021819-587936
\$64,752.75 from Town-wide Pavement Account 01021914-585315
\$10,480 from Heavy Dump Truck Account 01021914-585002
\$5,900 from Police Department Assessment Account 01022017-585316

or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from the Town Building Maintenance Fund, established pursuant to Chapter 438 of the Acts of 2012, for maintenance of Town-owned buildings and facilities in Fiscal Year 2021, the following sums of money: \$4,889 for Green Communities Energy Efficiency Projects Application; and \$10,000 for Municipal Buildings Cellular Alarm Upgrades; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18: (School Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer the sum of \$40,000 from the Town Building Maintenance Fund, established pursuant to Chapter 438 of the Acts of 2012, for maintenance of Town-owned buildings and facilities in Fiscal Year 2021, for the purpose of replacing existing stairway treads at the Northbridge High School, and to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) the amount of \$27,000 for the purposes of repairing sprinkler pipe systems at the Northbridge High School; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19: (School Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be expended under the direction of the Northbridge School Committee for the Northbridge Middle School boiler project, which includes all work related to replacing steam boilers, hot water heaters, and making code required ADA (521CMR) accessibility upgrades to the Northbridge Middle School, located at 171 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, MA, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), with the Town's acknowledgement that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-eight point fifty-eight percent (58.58%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20: (School Committee)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Superintendent of the Northbridge Public Schools, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to enter into Memorandum(s) of Understanding ("MOU") with the Department of Children and Families, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in order to obtain Federal Title IV-E reimbursements(s) for foster care transportation and to provide that payments for such foster care transportation under such MOU(s) may be made from such reimbursement(s) as a result of the foster care transportation being performed without appropriation of said reimbursement(s), pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 70, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to grant to National Grid (electric), and also to Eversource (propane), a perpetual right and easement to construct, reconstruct, operate, maintain, replace and remove, lines, cables and appurtenances for the transmission of intelligence and telecommunications upon, over, under and across a portion of the Town-owned land located at 21 Crescent Street, the site of the Balmer School; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee to take any and all action necessary for the purpose of accomplishing such easement conveyance; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22: (Board of Selectmen)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the unexpended appropriated funds of one or more of the departments of the Town a sum of money for the purpose of financing the design and construction of a new Fire Station at 1681 Providence Road, including design services, permitting, and site improvements, said sum to be expended under the direction of the Building, Planning and Construction Committee, and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer/Collector, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to borrow said sum under M.G.L. Chapter 44, section 7(3) and 3(A), as amended, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and to authorize the Building, Planning and

Construction Committee to take any action necessary to carry out this construction and renovation project provided, however, that no debt shall be incurred hereunder unless and until the Town first votes to exempt from the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2½, so-called), the amounts required to pay the principal and interest of said debt; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23: (Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to amend its zoning bylaws by adding a Planned Unit Development Bylaw as follows: (attached); or to take any other action related thereto.

The purpose and intent of the Planned Unit Development Bylaw is to:

- A. Provide housing opportunities to meet the needs of a population which is diversified with respect to the number of persons per household age and income.
- B. Ensure that the development of additional housing units does not detract from the livability, scale, character or economic value of existing neighborhoods.
- C. Provide greater flexibility and design freedom in the development of those tracts which lend themselves to planned unit development and promote a high standard in the design and development of sites and individual buildings.
- D. Encourage the preservation of open space for conservation, outdoor recreation or park purposes in conjunction with residential development.
- E. Encourage the preservation and minimum disruption of the existing natural attributes of land, minimize impacts on environmentally sensitive lands.
- F. Permit comprehensive and integrated development of tracts by allowing a mixture of land uses combined to form a planned interrelationship of residential and commercial opportunities.
- G. Assure that the development allowed will be compatible with surrounding land uses and will not have an adverse impact on traffic and public services.
- H. Promote the efficient and economic provision of public facilities and services such as utilities, streets and recreational opportunities.

173-63-1. Authorization

For land in an Industrial Two (1-2) zoning district, the Planning Board may grant a special permit for the construction of a Planned Unit Development in accordance with the provisions of this bylaw. For the purpose of this by-law, a Planned Unit Development is defined as an area of land developed as a single entity with a mixture of residential and commercial uses in a variety of building types and designs.

173-63-2. Permitted Uses.

The uses permitted in a Planned Unit Development may include all uses permitted in the Table of Use Regulations in the Residential, Community Facilities, and Retail and Service categories except automobile junk yards and open storage of abandoned vehicles; horse racing facilities; airports and landing strips.

173-63-3. Development Standards

- A. Tract size. The minimum area for a Planned Unit Development is twenty (20) acres.
- B. Density. The total number of residential units in a Planned Unit Development may not exceed eight (8) units per acre.
- C. Open Space. At least twenty (20%) percent of the entire area of the land must be maintained as open space for active or passive recreational uses.
- D. Interior Ways. Access within the Planned Unit Development must be provided by vehicular ways with a minimum pavement width of 22 feet. Any way proposed as a public way must comply with subdivision control rules and regulations.
- E. Conventional Subdivision. If the Planned Unit Development includes a conventional residential subdivision, individual lots must comply with the dimensional requirements for the Residential Four (R-4) zoning district.
- F. Utilities. All utility services must be underground.
- G. Parking and Loading. Parking and loading facilities must comply with applicable by-law requirements unless specifically waived or reduced by the Planning Board.

173-63-4 Procedures.


- A. Preliminary Plan. Prior to the submission of a formal application for a Planned Unit Development special permit, the applicant may submit a preliminary plan to the Planning Board. The Planning Board shall distribute the preliminary plan to applicable local boards and officials for comment and may make recommendations to the applicant for changes to the plan.
- B. Site Plan. The application for a special permit shall be accompanied by a plan that complies with the requirements for a site plan set forth in 5 173-49.1 of the Zoning By-laws, provided that the Planning Board may waive requirements not applicable or required for the proposed Planning Unit Development.
- C. Subdivision. If ways with the Planning Unit Development are proposed as public ways, the applicant must simultaneously submit an application and plan for approval under the subdivision control rules and regulations.
- D. Process. Applications for a Planned Unit Development special permit shall be processed by the Planning Board in accordance with 5173-47.

- E. Site Plan Review. Every application for a Planned Unit Development special permit shall be simultaneously treated as an application for site plan review and all requirements of 5173-49-1 shall be applicable, including application and review fees.
- F. Conditions. In addition to any conditions imposed pursuant to the general provisions of 5 173-47, a special permit for a Planned Unit Development must include conditions to ensure that use of required open space is properly restricted and that open space, roadways and other improvements are properly maintained for the duration of the development.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the Whitinsville Post Office ~~and the Salvation Army~~, in Whitinsville, all in Precinct 1; ~~Gary's Variety and the Northbridge Post Office in Northbridge, all in Precinct 2; Town Clerk's Office and 1 Quickstop in Whitinsville, all in Precinct 3; and the Whitinsville Social Library and Town Hall Annex in Whitinsville, all in Precinct 4; twenty-eight (28) days at least before the time and place of meeting aforesaid.~~

WHEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of the warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting. GIVEN under our hand this 23rd day of March in the year Two Thousand Twenty.

SELECTMEN OF NORTHBRIDGE


James J. Athanas, Chairman


Alicia M. Cannon, Vice Chairman

Charles Ampagoomian, Jr.


Thomas J. Melia

Daniel J. Nolan

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
DOREEN A. CLORONE

RECEIVED
20 APR - 3 AM 11:39

WORCESTER, SS Northbridge

Date: 4.3.2020

By virtue of this warrant I have this day notified the inhabitant of the Town of Northbridge qualified to vote in town elections and town affairs to meet at the time and place and for the purpose stated in said warrant by posting attested copies thereof as within directed.



Constable, Town of Northbridge