



**Warrant Annual Town Meeting
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Hampden, ss.
Town of Blandford**

TO: One of the Constables in the Town of Blandford, in said County and State

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of Blandford qualified to vote in elections and town affairs to meet at the Blandford Town Hall, One Russell Stage Road, Blandford, Massachusetts on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 7 P.M., then and thereto to act on the following matters:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to accept the **reports of the Town Officials** and act thereon; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority Vote.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to **create a Capital Projects Stabilization Fund** pursuant to G.L. c. 4, Sec. 5B for the purpose of funding building, infrastructure and equipment upgrades; and to thereto \$126,628 from the Capital Projects account (account # 015920.000); or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires 2/3 Majority Vote. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$ 1,463,284.00 for the **Gateway Regional School District assessment**, for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$275,000 for **Vocational Education** (account #015301.000) for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$30,950 for the **transportation expenses for Vocational Education** (account #015302.000) for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to **transfer from Education Stabilization** the sum of \$16,974 to the Gateway Regional School District assessment account (#015300.000) for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires 2/3 Majority Vote. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,449,064, more or less, to defray **the expenses of the Town** for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024; or take any other action relative thereto.

(See proposed Departmental Budgets).

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to **borrow money** from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 44, sec. 4, and to issue a note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with G.L. c. 44, sec. 17; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000 to the general-purpose **Stabilization Fund**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000 to the **Building Project Stabilization Fund** account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000 to be deposited into the **Library Building Stabilization Fund**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$20,000 for the ongoing **ash tree removal project** including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$18,000 for expenses incurred by the Town that were to be reimbursed by a **Service Incentive Grant (SIG)**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$8,500 for expenses incurred for **COVID-related expenditures of the Town that were to be reimbursed by FEMA** or take any other action relative thereto.

Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000 for replacement of fire department **turnout gear and self-contained breathing apparatus** including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$302,999 to pay off the **road bond debt**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$245,000 for the costs of Owners Project Manager (OPM) and design services through schematic design for the new **Fire/Highway Facility project**, or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to pay costs of purchasing and equipping a new **brush truck and a new pumper engine** for the use of the Fire Department,

including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §7(1) or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, the amount authorized to be borrowed hereunder to be reduced to the extent of any grants, gifts or other funds received by the Town to offset the cost of the equipment authorized to be purchased by this vote; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Requires 2/3 Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Library Stabilization Fund the sum of \$15,000 for **masonry repairs to the library** or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires 2/3 Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$698,487 from **Water Department Receipts** to operate the Water Department for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024; or take any other action relative thereto.

(See proposed departmental budget).

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Water Department Retained Earnings** the sum of \$10,000 to the **Water Department Utilities** (account #225450.002) for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Department Retained Earnings the sum of \$75,000 to the **Water Department Capital Expenses** Account (#225450.028); or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from **Broadband Receipts** the sum of \$279,707 to operate the Municipal Light Plant for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024, or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee Recommendation:

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Broadband Retained Earnings the sum of \$100,000 to the **Municipal Light Plant Stabilization Fund**; or take any other action relative thereto.; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Broadband Retained Earnings the sum of \$125,000 to pay toward the principal of the **broadband debt**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Broadband Retained Earnings the sum of \$40,000 to the **Broadband Capital Account**; or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority. Hear Finance Committee recommendations:

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Clerk to make non-substantive **ministerial corrections and revisions** only to the grammar, formatting, and numbering of the Town's General Bylaws, or take any other action relative thereto.

Requires Simple Majority.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws

Chapter 40, Section 8J, establishing a five-member **Commission on Disability**; or take any other action thereof.

Requires Simple Majority.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to amend Town Bylaw, Article X. Highways, Section 8. Offenses and Penalties, by deleting the following language as contained therein:

A. Any person using a public way to transport loads in excess of ten (10) tons, shall post with the Town a bond or cash in the amount of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) dollars per mile. The bond shall include transportation routes that will be utilized. Said public way shall be inspected by the highway superintendent to determine the cost of repair by the hauler, for damages caused by transportation of loads, which shall be borne by the hauler.

And further, to insert in place thereof the following language:

A. Any person using a public way to transport loads in excess of ten (10) tons for a five-day period or more, shall post with the Town a bond or cash in the amount of two thousand (\$2,000) dollars per mile. Said public way shall be inspected by the highway superintendent to determine the cost of repair by the hauler, for damages caused by transportation of loads, which shall be borne by the hauler.

or take any other action relative thereto.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

Town of Blandford, Massachusetts, Hampden County SS

To the Constables of Chief of Police of the Town of BLANDFORD

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Town Elections to vote at:

Blandford Town Hall
1 Russell Stage Road
Blandford

On Saturday, the tenth day of June 2023 from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. for the following candidates:

- ASSESSOR for ONE YEAR
- ASSESSOR for THREE YEARS
- BOARD of HEALTH for THREE YEARS
- CEMETERY COMMISSIONER for THREE YEARS
- FENCE VIWER for TWO YEARS
- FIELD DRIVER for THREE YEARS
- LIBRARY TRUSTEE for THREE YEARS
- MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD for THREE YEARS
- PLANNING BOARD for FIVE YEARS
- PLANNING BOARD for FIVE YEARS
- PLANNING BOARD for FIVE YEARS
- SCHOOL COMMITTEE for THREE YEARS

SELECT BOARD for THREE YEARS
TOWN CLERK for THREE YEARS
WATER COMMISSIONER for THREE YEARS

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town of Blandford this ____ Day of _____, 2023.

Blandford Select Board:

I have served this warrant as directed:

Constable
