

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF WALES
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MAY 15, 2024**

HAMPDEN, SS

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Wales who are qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at the WALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 41 Main Street, in said Wales on **Wednesday, the 15th day of May, 2024 at 6:00 pm**, or as soon thereafter as the subject matter of this warrant can then and there be reached, to act on the following Articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1 To hear and act upon the reports and recommendations of Town Officers; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2 To hear and act upon the reports and recommendations of Committees; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to transfer from any available funds the sum of \$117.12 to the Fire Unpaid Bills Account for the purpose of funding the payment of a prior year unpaid invoice; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 4 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from any available funds a sum sufficient to defray expenses of the Town, on a departmental basis, for the fiscal year 2025 period; and further to fix the salary and compensation of the following elective officers of the Town of Wales, as provided by M.G.L. c. 41, § 108, as amended: Moderator, Selectmen, Assessors, Treasurer, Collector, Town Clerk, Planning Board and Board of Health for fiscal year 2025; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 5 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$4,000.00 from Certified Free Cash for an audit of the Town's finances, including any and all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 6 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,167.00 from Certified Free Cash for the Board of Assessors to undertake property revaluations, including any and all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 7 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$2,000.00 from Certified Free Cash for dam inspections, including any and all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 8 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$5,000.00 from Certified Free Cash to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 9 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$500.00 from Certified Free Cash to the Wales Community Events Gift Account for the purpose of supporting Wales Olde Home Day, including any and all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 10 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, § 4, and to renew any note or notes as may be given in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44, § 17; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 11 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to enter into compensating balance agreements with bank offices having their principal offices in the Commonwealth during the fiscal year 2025, as permitted by M.G.L. c. 44, § 53F; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 12 To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize an Offset Receipt Account, said amount not to exceed ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000.00) more or less, for the operation of the TRANSFER STATION provided, however, that pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E, such costs shall be offset by the estimated receipts from the fees charged to users of the services provided by the transfer station; or take any other action thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 13 To see if the Town will vote to fix the maximum amount that may be spent during fiscal year 2025 beginning on July 1, 2024 for the revolving funds established in the General Bylaws, Chapter 3, Section 5 for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, § 53E½, as follows:

| Revolving Fund | Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer | Limit on Spending |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Building Inspections | Building Commissioner | \$50,000.00 |
| Plumbing, Heating and Gas Inspections | Plumbing/Heating/Gas Inspector | \$50,000.00 |
| Cemetery Services | Cemetery Commission | \$3,000.00 |
| Planning | Planning Board | \$3,000.00 |
| Conservation | Conservation Commission | \$1,500.00 |
| Zoning | Zoning Board | \$1,000.00 |
| Animal Control | Animal Control Officer | \$2,000.00 |
| Library | Library Trustees or Director | \$1,000.00 |
| Board of Health | Board of Health | \$5,000.00 |
| Electrical | Electrical Inspector | \$50,000.00 |
| Police – Pistol Permits | Chief of Police | \$4,000.00 |
| Council on Aging | Council on Aging | \$3,500.00 |
| Highway – Driveway Permits | Road Commissioner | \$1,000.00 |

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 14 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the total sum of \$15,000.00 from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, said funds to be expended during the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 under the direction of the Cable Advisory Committee for necessary and expedient cable related purposes consistent with the license agreement, of which the sum of \$13,000.00 is the estimated license revenue to be received during FY2025 in accordance with the license agreement and the sum of \$2,000.00 shall be appropriated from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund available balance; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 15 To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum sufficient from Certified Free Cash to the General Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 16 To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum sufficient from Certified Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 17 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$61,500.00 from the General Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding the second year of a multi-year Tax Map Maintenance Project, including any and all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee

ARTICLE 18 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the total sum of \$10,000.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding the following capital purchases/projects, including all costs incidental and related thereto:

| Department | Purchase/Project | Amount |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| Board of Selectmen | Information Technology | \$10,000.00 |

; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee

ARTICLE 19 To see if the Town will vote to borrow a sum sufficient up to \$700,000.00 for the replacement of Wales Elementary School Roof Sections A, C and D and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; and that to meet said appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, be authorized to borrow said sum of money under M.G.L. c. 44 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds and notes therefore; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee

ARTICLE 20 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, the fee simple title to and/or permanent and/or temporary easements in, on, under, over, across and along the parcels of land located on or near Monson Road, Wales, and shown on plans entitled “Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Monson Road in the Town of Wales Hampden County”, dated April 10, 2024, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended from time to time and/or replaced by an easement plan, and land within 200 feet of said parcels, for the construction, reconstruction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of a bridge, rights of way, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, driveways, retaining walls, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding and landscaping and other structures and/or appurtenances, and for all purposes incidental or related thereto; and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any and all agreements and take any and all related actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes; or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

And you are further required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Wales who are qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet at the WALES SENIOR CENTER, 85 Main Street, in said Wales on **Wednesday, the 22th day of May, 2024 at 12:00 pm until 8:00 pm**, then and there to act on the remaining article:

ARTICLE 21 To cast their vote on a ballot for the following officers:

- (1) Board of Select member for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Board of Assessor member for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Board of Assessor member for a one-year term (2025)
- (1) Board of Health member for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Cemetery Commissioner for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Library Trustee member for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Planning Board member for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Planning Board member for a two-year term (2026)
- (2) School Committee member for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Constable for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Moderator for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Tax Collector for a three-year term (2027)
- (1) Treasurer for three-year term (2027)
- (1) Tantasqua Representative for a three-year term (2027)

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof in at least three (3) conspicuous places in the Town.

Hereof, fail not, and make return of the warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting, as aforesaid. Given under our hands this thirtieth day of April, two thousand and twenty four.

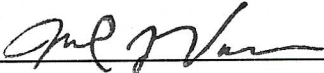
WALES BOARD OF SELECTMEN



John A. Grasso, Chairman



William J. Matchett III, Vice Chairman



Michael J. Valanzola, Clerk

**KP LAW, P.C.
TOWN COUNSEL**

Attest: A True Copy
Posted at Town Website, Wales Senior Center, Town Offices, Library, Post Office



Constable

May 8, 2024
Date