

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF DUNSTABLE  
WARRANT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - May 13, 2024**



Middlesex, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Dunstable in the County of Middlesex:

**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 town affairs, to meet at Swallow Union Elementary School, 522 Main Street in said Dunstable on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 7:00 PM, and thereafter continuing from day to day until completed, with a back-up date of May 20, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the event that inclement weather or other circumstances require a postponement, then and there to act on the following articles:

**REPORTS**

**ARTICLE 1 - Reports:** To hear and act upon the reports of Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Commissioners, and Trustees, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

**FISCAL YEAR 2023**

**ARTICLE 2 - Unpaid Bills of FY23:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash (Surplus Revenue) a sum of money for the purpose of paying unpaid bills of FY2023, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

**FISCAL YEAR 2024**

**ARTICLE 3 – Transfer to Water Enterprise Fund:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from available funds to the Water Enterprise Fund a sum of money for the purpose of funding operating expenses or other purposes as deemed necessary by the Board of Water Commissioners for FY2024, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Water Commissioners and Advisory Board

## FISCAL YEAR 2025

**ARTICLE 4 - Operating Budget:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, or any combination thereof, to fund the various departments, boards, committees, commissions, and other operating expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2025, beginning July 1, 2024, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Advisory Board

**ARTICLE 5 - Free Cash Transfer for FY25:** To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash (Surplus Revenue) to meet the appropriations of Fiscal Year 2025, beginning July 1, 2024, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Advisory Board

**ARTICLE 6 - Revolving Fund Expenditure Limits:** To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to set the annual expenditure limits for Fiscal Year 2025 for all revolving funds established by the General Bylaws, as follows, or take any action in relation thereto:

Cemetery	\$10,000
Recreation	\$7,000
COA Transport	\$3,500
Permit Application Fees	\$5,000
Approval Not Required Plans	\$15,000
Transfer Station	\$155,400

Sponsored by the Advisory Board

**Article 7 - Capital Improvements for Municipal Departments:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for remodeling, reconstructing, and making repairs to existing Town buildings, infrastructure, and the purchase of necessary equipment, including all incidental and related costs, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

**ARTICLE 8 – Water System Infrastructure Improvements:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Retained Earnings the sum of \$35,000 for design, repair, replacement, construction, and installation of various water infrastructure and associated work, including all incidental and related costs, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Water Commissioners and Board of Selectmen

**ARTICLE 9 - Community Preservation Committee Recommendations:** To see what transfers or other actions the Town may vote with respect to any recommended action of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 10 – Removal of Invasive Weeds at Lake Massapoag:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including CPA funds, a sum of money for the continued removal of invasive weeds in Lake Massapoag, including all incidental and related costs, based upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 11 – Renovation of Wells at Larter Field:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including CPA funds, the sum of \$11,940 for the renovation of wells at Larter Field, including all incidental and related costs, based upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 12 – Town Center Trail Loop Feasibility Study:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including CPA funds, the sum of \$20,000 for consulting services to develop a feasibility study and concept design for the Dunstable Town Center Trail Loop project, based upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 13 – Union School Building Restoration and Rehabilitation:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including CPA funds, borrow pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44B, Section 11, (the Community Preservation Act), or any other applicable statute, or otherwise provide a sum of money not to exceed \$1,132,750 to restore and rehabilitate the exterior of the Union School Building, including all incidental and related costs, based upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 14 – Town Hall Chimney and Roof Repairs:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including CPA funds, the sum of \$20,000 for repairs to the Town Hall chimney and roof, including all incidental and related costs, based upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 15 – High Street Property Conservation Restriction:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including CPA funds, the sum of \$300,000 to purchase through the Conservation Commission on behalf of the Town a conservation restriction for open space and conservation purposes on a 29.8-acre +/- tract of real property adjacent to 346 High Street identified on Assessors Map 15 Parcels 2 and 3B, and shown as “Parcel B” and “Assessor Parcel ID: 15-2” on a plan recorded in the North Middlesex Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 251, Plan 34, which is on file with the Town Clerk, based upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, and further, to determine whether the town will seek and/or accept any gifts or grants therefor, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 16 – Construction of Tennis Courts at Larter Field:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, including CPA funds, an additional \$140,875 for the purpose of constructing new tennis courts at Larter Field, including all costs incidental and related thereto, based upon the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Community Preservation Committee

**ARTICLE 17 - Chapter 90 Funds:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate any sums of money received by the Town under provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90 for the purposes authorized by Chapter 90, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

**ARTICLE 18 – Establishment of an Elderly and Disabled Taxation Fund for the purpose of defraying real estate taxes of elderly and disabled persons of low income:** To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 3D to establish aid to the elderly and disabled through a taxation fund to be used for the purpose of defraying the real estate taxes of low income elderly and disabled citizens and establish an Elderly and Disabled Taxation Fund Committee under said Section 3D to administer the provisions contained herein, including the identification of citizens to receive such aid, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

**ARTICLE 19 – Municipal Electrical Aggregation:** To see if the Town will vote to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 164, Section 134, and further, to authorize the Select Board, or its designee, to research, develop, and participate in a contract or contracts to aggregate the electricity load of the residents and

businesses in the Town, independently or in joint action with other municipalities, and to enter into agreements with consultants, experts, and attorneys in connection with the establishment and operation of an electricity aggregation plan, and to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended, retaining the right of individual residents and businesses to opt out of the aggregation, or take any action in relation thereto.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen

And furthermore, in the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of Dunstable who are qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Dunstable Public Library on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 between the hours of 12:00 o'clock noon to 8:00 PM, to cast their ballots for the following officers:

Select Board, one position for three years; Board of Assessors, one position for three years; Board of Assessors, one position for two years; Board of Health, one position for three years; Board of Road Commissioners, one position for three years; Constables, two positions for one year; Cemetery Commissioners, one position for three years; Board of Water Commissioners, one position for three years; Board of Water Commissioners, one position for one year; Planning Board, one position for five years; Commissioners of Trust Funds, one position for three years; Advisory Board, two positions for three years; Advisory Board, one position for 2 years; GDRSD School Committee, one position for three years, Library Trustees, one position for three years; Town Moderator, one position for three years.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant, by posting attested copies thereof, one at the Post Office and one at the Town Hall in said Dunstable seven days at least before the time of holding such Town 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 the meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, two thousand and twenty-four.

DUNSTABLE SELECT BOARD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kieran Meehan

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leah D. Basbanes

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Mikol

A true copy.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brynn Durno, Town Clerk

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

I have served this warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one at the Post Office and one at the Town Hall \_\_\_\_\_ days before said meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable