

May 15, 2021

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT**

DRAFT v. 7



TOWN WARRANT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 15, 2021

ARTICLE 1. To hear the reports of the Town Officers and any outstanding committees and act thereon.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote under the provisions of Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.), c. 41, §108, to fix the salaries of the following Town Officers for the ensuing year (FY22), or take any other action relative thereto.

	<u>FY 21</u>	<u>FY 22</u>
Moderator	\$ 25	\$ 25
Selectmen	\$3,600 (\$1,200 per member)	\$3,600 (\$1,200 per member)
Assessors	\$1,500 (\$500 per member)	\$1,500 (\$500 per member)

This article establishes the salaries of paid elected officials.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money including debt and interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for the ensuing fiscal year (FY22) or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT	FY21 BUDGET VOTED	FY22 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY22 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY22 AC RECOMMENDS (TBD)
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:				
Moderator				
Salary	25.00	25.00		
Expense	86.00	86.00		
Sub-Total	111.00		111.00	

DEPARTMENT	FY21 BUDGET VOTED	FY22 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY22 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY22 AC RECOMMENDS (TBD)
Board of Selectmen				
Salaries	3,600.00	3,600.00		
Expense	6,150.00	6,085.00		
Sub-Total	9,750.00		9,685.00	
Town Administrator				
Salary	100,000.00	104,040.00		
Special Projects Coordinator Salary		15,699.04		
Expense	3,700.00	3,700.00		
Sub-Total	103,700.00		123,439.04	
Reserve Fund				
Expense	75,000.00	75,000.00	75,000.00	
Town Accountant				
Salary	52,977.00	54,037.00		
Accountant Certification	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Annual Audit Expense	14,500.00	14,500.00		
Expense	8,654.00	7,594.00		
Sub-Total	77,131.00		77,131.00	
Board of Assessors				
Board Salaries	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Department Salary	58,099.13	64,177.35		
Principal Assessor Certification	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Expense	17,490.39	22,556.39		
Sub-Total	78,089.52		89,233.74	
Treasurer/Tax Collector				
Department Salary	102,993.04	105,055.55		
Certification	2,000.00	2,000.00		
Expense	18,692.50	17,942.50		
Sub-Total	123,685.54		124,998.05	
Town Counsel				
Expense	28,000.00	28,000.00	28,000.00	
Information Technology				
Info. Tech. Salary	27,027.00	27,567.54		
Info Tech Expense	30,850.00	47,757.00		
Sub-Total	57,877.00		75,324.54	

DEPARTMENT	FY21 BUDGET VOTED	FY22 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY22 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY22 AC RECOMMENDS (TBD)
Administrative Assistants				
Salaries	25,819.54	26,337.60		
Expense	400.00	400.00		
Sub-Total	26,219.54		26,737.60	
Town Clerk				
Salary	40,092.72	50,290.16		
Certification				
Expenses	5,380.00	5,980.00		
Sub-Total	45,472.72		56,270.16	
Elections & Registration				
Salaries	5,975.00	5,800.00		
Expense	7,805.00	5,805.00		
Sub-Total	13,780.00		11,605.00	
Conservation Commission				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Environmental Action Committee				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Planning Board				
Admin. Asst. Salary	20,964.18	21,416.57		
Expense	1,866.51	1,866.51		
Sub-Total	22,830.69		23,283.08	
Board of Appeals				
Expense	500.00	500.00	500.00	
Open Space Committee				
Expense	500.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Agricultural Commission				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
Town Building Operations				
Salaries	50,776.72	52,812.26		
Expense	70,341.48	72,242.00		
Sub-Total	121,118.20		125,054.26	
TOTAL GENERAL GOV'T.	786,765.21		850,372.47	

DEPARTMENT	FY21 BUDGET VOTED	FY22 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY22 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY22 AC RECOMMENDS (TBD)
PUBLIC SAFETY:				
Police				
Police non-union Salaries	165,118.00	167,373.00		
Police Union Salaries	557,027.00	585,130.00		
Expense	121,536.00	113,547.00		
Sub-Total	843,681.00		866,050.00	
Fire Department				
Salaries	145,384.00	118,984.00		
Expense	137,574.00	133,974.00		
Ambulance Readiness	100,256.00	204,360.00		
Sub-Total	383,214.00		457,318.00	
Regional Services				
Animal Inspector Salary	500.00	500.00		
Animal Control Expense	12,465.56	14,433.00		
Police Dispatch	62,165.00	68,686.00		
Sub-Total	75,130.56		83,619.00	
Emergency Response				
Emergency Mgt. Exp.	3,060.00	3,060.00		
Emergency Notification Sys	3,699.00	3,699.00		
COVID-19 Expenses	12,000.00	12,000.00		
Sub-Total	18,759.00		18,759.00	
Tree Warden				
Salary	1,665.00	1,665.00		
Expense	11,935.00	11,750.00		
Sub-Total	13,600.00		13,415.00	
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY:	1,334,384.56		1,439,161.00	
SCHOOLS				
Wachusett Regional School				
Wachusett Min. Contribution	3,697,913.00	3,631,718.00		
Operations Assessment	1,045,013.00	1,217,827.00		
Transportation	294,015.00	291,783.00		
Long Term Debt	147,641.00	131,293.00		
Sub-total	5,184,582.00		5,272,621.00	
Montachusett Reg. Vocational	429,474.00	425,147.00	425,147.00	
Smith Vocational	60,000.00	61,200.00	61,200.00	
TOTAL SCHOOLS	5,674,056.00		5,758,968.00	

DEPARTMENT	FY21 BUDGET VOTED	FY22 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY22 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY22 AC RECOMMENDS (TBD)
PUBLIC WORKS:				
Highway				
Salaries	388,119.04	388,119.04		
Expense	256,031.79	256,031.79		
Road Reconstruction	350,000.00	350,000.00		
Sub-Total	994,150.83		994,150.83	
Snow/Ice Removal				
Expense	210,000.00	210,000.00	210,000.00	
Street Lights				
Expense	3,095.95	3,500.00	3,500.00	
Wachusett Earthday	1,849.00	1,849.00		
Wachusett Greenway	800.00	800.00	2,649.00	
Environmental				
Expense	19,980.00	26,530.00		
PFA's Monitoring/Testing		262,500.00		
PFA's Water/Filters		37,500.00		
Sub-Total			326,530.00	
Cemeteries				
Salaries	10,000.00	10,200.00		
Expense	26,424.28	33,959.28		
Sub-Total	36,424.28		44,159.28	
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	1,266,300.06		1,580,989.11	
HUMAN SERVICES				
Council on Aging				
Salary	33,506.60	34,507.00		
Expense	61,509.00	65,285.00		
Sub-Total	95,015.60		99,792.00	
Veterans Services				
Salary	3,000.00	3,600.00		
Expense	35,100.00	35,100.00		
Sub-Total	38,100.00		38,700.00	
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	133,115.60		138,492.00	

DEPARTMENT	FY21 BUDGET VOTED	FY22 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY22 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY22 AC RECOMMENDS (TBD)
CULTURE & RECREATION:				
Library				
Salaries	124,712.84	126,028.69		
Expense	67,150.00	71,360.00		
Sub-Total	191,862.84		197,388.69	
MISC/Band Concerts		2,000.00	2,000.00	
Parks & Recreation				
Salaries	10,000.00	11,096.80		
Expense	11,000.00	20,717.88		
Sub-Total	21,000.00		31,814.68	
Historical Commission				
Expense	1,500.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Memorial Day				
Expense	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	216,162.84		243,003.37	
DEBT & INTEREST:				
Police Cruisers	17,000.00	17,000.00	17,000.00	
Thomas Prince/Green Repair	119,900.00	117,700.00	117,700.00	
PFAS Remediation	13,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Broadband Make Ready	121,300.00	118,300.00	118,300.00	
Fire Truck Debt/Int	130,500.00	126,300.00	126,300.00	
Bagg Hall Stab. Debt/Int	18,700.00	41,299.00	41,299.00	
General Interest/Borrowing Fees	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	
TOTAL DEBT	445,400.00		460,599.00	

DEPARTMENT	FY21 BUDGET VOTED	FY22 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY22 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY22 AC RECOMMENDS (TBD)
MISCELLANEOUS:				
Retirement	258,577.00	291,513.00	291,513.00	
Town Insurance	160,000.00	140,000.00	140,000.00	
Health Insurance	348,864.22	347,785.22	347,785.22	
Life & Fringe	8,900.00	8,900.00	8,900.00	
FICA/Medicare	45,137.42	46,040.17	46,040.17	
Wage/Salary Reserve	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	846,478.64		859,238.39	
GRAND TOTAL:	10,702,662.91		11,330,823.34	

This article establishes the FY22 operating budget for town departments. The FY 22 recommended budget is \$11,330,823.34

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 4. RECURRING BUSINESS

- A. To see if the Town will vote to establish the FY22 ambulance operating budget by use of receipts for ambulance services received to date and if necessary by raising and appropriating or by appropriating from available funds. Receipts for ambulance services received in FY22 and all subsequent fiscal years to be deposited into a receipt reserved for appropriation account established in FY01. Appropriations from said account to be made at either the annual or special town meetings for the purpose of maintaining and operating the Town's ambulance service, i.e. salary for ambulance employees, vehicle maintenance, fuel, equipment and operating supplies. The requested appropriation for the FY22 ambulance-operating budget is \$ 47,620 for salary and \$ 70,000 for expenses for a total budget of \$ 117,620 with any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years or take any other action relative thereto.

This establishes the FY22 receipts reserved for appropriation account from which ambulance operating expenses will be paid.

- B. To see if the Town will vote to establish the FY22 trash operating budget. Receipts for trash disposal services received in FY22 and all subsequent fiscal years to be deposited into a trash

enterprise fund account established in FY08. Appropriations from said account to be made at either the annual or special town meetings for the purpose of paying for the proper disposal of solid waste generated within the town. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Town directly pays Wheelabrator Millbury, Inc. which operates the trash incinerator for solid waste disposal. This article allows the town to receive and deposit into this account offsetting payments from trash haulers. \$21,000 is requested for the FY 21 trash-operating budget.

- C. To see if the town will vote to transfer a sum of money from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 01-000-3591-000000 to be deposited in the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund in order to offset future health insurance costs for retirees, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this will authorize a contribution to a trust fund established by the May 2011 Annual Town Meeting to fund future health insurance liabilities for retirees, similar to the way future pension obligations are funded. \$10,000 is requested for FY 22.

- D. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Goodnow Book Expense Account for the purchase of books for the Library, as required by the terms of the Goodnow Deed of Gift, or take any other action thereto.

The Deed of Gift requires an annual payment of \$50.

- E. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 01-000-3591-000000 to the School Septic System Stabilization Fund for the purpose of reserving funds for the replacement and/or repair of the septic system at the Thomas Prince School; or to take any other action relative thereto.

The Town and the Wachusett Regional School District signed a Maintenance Agreement in FY19, which provides for an annual payment in the amount of \$2,047 in FY20, 21, and 22 to the Town of Princeton from the Wachusett Regional School District to be put toward the replacement or repair costs of the septic system at the school. The funds for FY20 were received by the town and by law were required to be deposited to miscellaneous revenue to become part of the FY20 free cash balance. They can now be transferred into this Stabilization Account

- F. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to contract with and accept any grants from the Mass. Department of Transportation-Highway Division for the construction of any road or related work that may be allotted to the Town for the ensuing year or to take any other action relative thereto.

This article authorizes the Selectmen to accept any grants or contracts with the state for road or road-related projects.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 5: DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS AUTHORIZATION					
To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving funds for certain town departments					
under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E 1/2 for the fiscal year					
beginning July 1, 2021, or take any other action relative thereto.					
Revolving Fund	Authorized to Spend Fund	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY 2021 Spending Limit	FY 2022 Spending Limit
Building Department	Bldg. Inspector Town Admin.	Fees from Bldg, Wiring, and Plumbing Permits	To Pay Administrative & Inspector Salary & Expenses	\$55,000	\$55,000
Library	Library Director, Town Admin.	Copy Machine, Fax, Fines and Fees	Defray Operational Expenses	\$4,000	\$4,000
Parks and Recreation (P&R)	P&R Commission Chairman, P&R Director, and Town Admin.	Fees Collected from Recreational Programs	Provide Recreational Programs & Pay Salaries	\$20,000	\$20,000
Parks and Recreation (P&R)	P&R Commission Chairman, P&R Director, and Town Admin.	Fees Collected from Recreational Programs	Maintenance of Parks Pay Salaries	\$30,000	\$20,000
Board of Health	Board of Health Town Admin.	Permits & Inspections	Salary & Expense	\$21,000	\$21,000
Cemetery	Cemetery Comm. Chairman, Town Admin.	Burial Fees	Salary & Expense	\$8,000	\$10,000
Fire Department	Fire Chief, Deputy Chiefs, Town Admin.	Fees from Fire Permits	To Pay Administrative & Inspector Salary & Expenses	\$8,500	\$8,500
Conservation Commission	Conservation Commission Chair, Town Admin.	Lease Payments from Four Corners Hayfields	To Pay for the Upkeep of & Improvements to Conservation Property	\$3,500	\$3,500
Maximum Spending					\$142,000

All departments having revolving accounts were asked to complete a FY22 budget request. The spending limits were adjusted for each account to match revenue anticipated and available for each fund, as well as budgets requested, with minor exceptions. Please note that the Municipal Modernization Act of 2016 changed the procedures for Revolving Funds, requiring that a By-Law be established for revolving funds. A By-Law was established at the May 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 01-000-3591-000000 and from the Town's General Stabilization Account #80-000-5780-801001 to the Public Safety Building Account #33-000-5200-331002 for final design and engineering services, including the production of construction documents, for a new public safety complex to be located on the former Center School Site, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article will authorize the transfer of funds to the Public Safety Building Account for final design and construction documents for the new Public Safety Building. The requested amount is \$152,00 from undesignated fund balance (free cash), and \$218,00 from the General Stabilization Account. There is currently \$480,850.13 in the Public Safety Building Account. \$850,000 of the funds in the Public Safety Building Account will be used for Phase II of the Project, the final design and production of construction documents. Note that voters will be asked at a future date for funds for actual construction.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 01-000-3591-000000 to purchase and install new garage doors at Station 2 in East Princeton; or take any other action relative thereto.

Funds for this project will be used to replace the garage doors, openers, and related equipment at Station 2. The doors are 37 years old and do not meet code. This poses a public safety threat to residents, emergency personnel and equipment. The estimated cost is \$37,350.00

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #01-000-3591-000000 for purchase and installation of an exhaust evacuation system at Station 2 in East Princeton; or take any other action relative thereto.

The National Fire Protection Association Standard 1500, Chapter 9, advocates for the elimination and containment of all vehicle exhaust emissions. This complies with NIOSH's requirement to reduce emissions to the lowest feasible level to limit impact on human life. Voters authorized an exhaust evacuation system at Town Meeting two years ago but the Selectboard authorized the installation of the system in Station 1 instead because of the more urgent need. The estimated cost is \$34,500.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #01-000-3591-000000 to purchase turnout gear for the Fire Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this article will provide funding to purchase 10 sets of turnout gear for the Fire Department. This will replace 10 sets of gear that has expired. This is mandatory per NFPA and NIOSH. The estimated cost is \$30,000. The Town recently received grant funding that will reimburse the Town approximately \$10,000 for turnout gear. The terms of the grant require us to pay up front and be reimbursed.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #01-000-3591-000000 to fund parking lot improvements at the Thomas Prince Elementary School; or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this article will supplement a \$100,000 grant that the Town received under the Small Town Capital Grant Program and will be used for resurfacing and related improvements to the Thomas Prince School parking lot. The additional funds requested is \$24,605.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from undesignated fund balance (free cash) account #01-000-3591-000000 to purchase and install a generator at the Highway Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of the article will provide needed funding to purchase and install an emergency generator at the Highway Department. The estimated cost is \$43,000.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$125,000** to purchase and pay related costs for a new salt barn for the Highway Department and to determine whether to do so by raising and appropriating some or all of said amount from tax levy, by transferring funds from existing accounts, and/or by authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow under G.L. c. 44, § 7(1) or any other enabling authority; or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this article will authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds to purchase and install a new salt barn at the Highway Department. The Town has recently received a \$20,000 grant from DCR toward this project, which will help protect the Wachusett Watershed. The estimated project cost is \$125,000.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will authorize, under General Laws Chapter 44, Section 21C, upon the recommendation of the Selectboard, the following lease purchase financing agreements for the acquisition of equipment that may be acquired through the issuance of debt under G.L. c. 44, the term of such agreement not to exceed the useful life of the equipment or improvement as determined by the Selectboard, and to authorize the departments below to enter into such agreements on behalf of the Town, subject to appropriation for the first year payments of the agreements as stated below, or take any other action relative thereto.

<u>Equipment/Capital Asset</u>	<u>Maximum Term</u>	<u>Authorized Department</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
Pickup Truck w/Plow	5 years	Highway Department	FY 22 Operating

Front End Loader	7 years	Highway Department	FY 23 Operating
Cruiser-Chief/Patrol	5 years	Police Department	FY 23 Operating
Cruiser-Patrol	3 years	Police Department	FY 23 Operating

Approval of this this article will authorize lease purchasing of vehicles and equipment as outlined above. Funding for lease purchases will be included in the department beginning in the FY noted above.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for renovation and restoration of the Princeton Library Clock Tower and to determine whether to do so by raising and appropriating some or all of said amount from tax levy, by transferring funds from existing accounts, and/or by authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow under G.L. c. 44, § 7 or any other enabling authority; or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this article will authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds to restore and repair the historical Clock Tower at the Library. Repairs will address flashing problems on the tower roof and clock face pan flashing, and replacement of the rear roof. Architectural design fees for this project were appropriated at the 2020 Annual Town Meeting. The estimated project cost is \$481,259.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to supplement each prior vote of the Town that authorizes the borrowing of money to pay costs of capital projects to provide that, in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, the premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes thereunder, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bond or notes, may be applied to pay project costs and the amount authorized to be borrowed for each such project shall be reduced by the amount of any such premium so applied.

This article relates to past projects not yet bonded. If the bond premium we receive exceeds the issuance cost, the town would be allowed to use the excess amount to reduce the amount borrowed. Please note this change was part of the 2016 Municipal Modernization Act.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to formalize the name change of the Board of Selectmen to Selectboard, as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves such amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve such amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or to take any other action relative thereto.

An Act Relative to the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Princeton.

Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there shall hereby be established in the town of Princeton a Selectboard, which board shall have the powers and authority of a board of selectmen under any general or special laws.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approval of this article will formally change the name of the Board of Selectmen to Selectboard upon approval of the legislature.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c. 64N, § 3 to impose an excise on the retail sales of marijuana for adult use at the rate of three percent; or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this article will allow the Town to collect a 3% excise on the sale of retail marijuana.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to amend paragraph 1(B) in SECTION VI, AREA, YARD AND HEIGHT REGULATIONS of the Princeton Zoning By-Laws by changing the reference to a minimum area for a building or structure dedicated to municipal use from five (5) acres to two (2) acres so that the provision shall read as follows, or take any other action relative thereto:

This requirement shall not apply to a building or structure dedicated to municipal use or service so long as the lot contains a minimum of two (2) acres and there is actual access by way of easement or otherwise.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to amend paragraph 1 in SECTION VII GENERAL REGULATIONS of the Princeton Zoning By-Laws by adding a provision for principal and accessory uses and structures, or take any other action relative thereto.

1. Any building, use of building, or use of land not herein expressly permitted for the zone in which the building or land is located is hereby forbidden, except a building, use of building, or use of land legally existing at the adoption of this by-law, unless permission is obtained from the Board of Appeals as provided in Section VIII of this by-law.

Proposed additional sentence:

There shall be only one principal use or building on a lot and such accessory uses or buildings as are specifically enumerated in these By-Laws or as are necessarily or customarily incidental and subordinate to the principal use or building.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to amend paragraph 2 in SECTION VII of the Princeton Zoning By-Laws by deleting current Section 2 through and including subsection (D), replacing those provisions with the following provisions, and re-lettering the remaining subsections sequentially; or take any other action relative thereto:

2. Non-conforming Structures, Building Lots, and Uses.

The intent of this section of the by-laws is to permit the continuance of prior lawfully-existing non-conforming structures, building lots, and uses. Any new construction or change of use requires a finding by the Building Inspector that the new construction or change of use complies with the current provisions of the by-laws.

(A) Except as hereinafter provided, these by-laws shall not apply to structures or uses lawfully in existence or lawfully begun, or to a building permit or special permit issued before the first publication of notice of the public hearing required by G.L. c.40A, s.5 at which these zoning by-laws, or any relevant part thereof, were adopted. Such prior, lawfully existing non-conforming structures and uses may continue, provided that there shall be no modification of the structure or use except as provided in this Section VII.

(B) Prior lawfully existing, non-conforming structures.

- (1) A proposed addition or expansion that meets currently-applicable setback requirements and that is not substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing non-conforming structure requires only a building permit.
- (2) A proposed reconstruction on the footprint of a prior lawfully existing, non-conforming structure requires only a building permit.
- (3) A proposed addition or expansion that does not meet currently-applicable setback requirements requires a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals on a finding that the proposed addition or expansion is not substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing non-conforming structure, and Site Plan Review by the Planning Board pursuant to Section XII.
- (4) No proposed addition, expansion, or reconstruction shall be permitted to exceed the currently-applicable height regulations.

(C) New structures in a prior lawfully existing, non-conforming building lot.

- (1) On a lot that has at least 50 feet of frontage and an area of at least 5,000 square feet, a proposed new residence that meets the setback requirements in effect when the lot was created and that meets current height regulations requires only a building permit.

(2) Any other proposed new structure requires a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

(D) Addition, expansion, or change of prior lawfully existing, non-conforming uses.

Any addition, expansion, or change of a prior lawfully existing, non-conforming use requires a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals on a finding that the proposed addition, expansion, or change is not substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the prior lawfully existing non-conforming use, and Site Plan Review by the Planning Board pursuant to Section XII.

(E) Construction or use under a building permit or special permit shall conform to any subsequent amendment of these by-laws unless the construction or use is commenced within a period of not more than twelve (12) months after the issuance of the permit and in cases involving construction, unless such construction is continued through to completion as continuously and expeditiously as is reasonable.

(F) Wherever a prior lawfully existing non-conforming use or structure has been abandoned or not used for a period of two (2) years or more it shall not be re-established and any future use shall conform to these by-laws, unless otherwise authorized by a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals on a finding that the re-establishment of the prior non-conforming use or structure is not detrimental to the neighborhood, and Site Plan Review by the Planning Board pursuant to Section XII.

[then existing sections (E) and (F) are re-lettered as (G) and (H)]

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter III of the General Bylaws, concerning the Advisory Committee, by adding the following sentence to Section 1 as a new paragraph:

The Advisory Committee is established pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 39, Section 16, which states that the Committee “shall consider any or all municipal questions for the purpose of making reports or recommendations to the town;”

or to take any other action in relation thereto.

This Town Bylaw change would incorporate verbatim the relevant operative wording of the Mass General Law that reflects the broad role the Advisory Committee undertakes in serving the town year-round.

Citizen’s Petition

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter III of the General Bylaws, concerning the Advisory Committee, by deleting § 1 thereof and replacing it with the following:

SECTION 1. There shall be an Advisory Committee consisting of seven legal voters of the Town who shall be appointed in the manner hereinafter provided. No paid employee or SelectBoard member of the Town shall be eligible to serve on said committee. Any other elected or appointed officer or public body member of the Town may be so eligible, provided that the SelectBoard shall not appoint such a person without first consulting the Advisory Committee. If an incumbent member of the Advisory Committee becomes an unpaid elected or appointed officer of the Town or is elected or appointed to another public body of the Town (other than SelectBoard), he or she may remain a member of the Advisory Committee if the SelectBoard so votes, following consultation with the Advisory Committee and provided, in the case of an election or appointment to a public body, that no other Advisory Committee member is already serving on the same public body.

Or take any other action in relation thereto.

This Town Bylaw change would enable the Select Board to have the flexibility to appoint an Advisory Committee member to other town boards and/or committees to fulfill time-bound, volunteer roles for quorum, business planning and analysis, subject knowledge, recommendations, and voted decisions.

Citizen's Petition

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 15 and all other enabling authority, to convey to Russell Mason, Trustee of the Robert G. Mason Trust, the fee or some lesser interest, which may include an easement, with respect to a portion the land shown as Lot 2 on Map 11 of the Assessors' Maps, also being a part of Lot 1 as shown on a certain "Plan of Land in Princeton, MA / Hubbardston Road" on file with the Town Clerk, in order to resolve a claim by the said Trustee of adverse possession and/or prescriptive rights, or take any other action relative thereto.

Advisory Committee Opinion: To Be Determined

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof seven days at least before time of said meeting at Bagg Hall, Mechanics Hall and the Princeton Post Office.

Hereof fail not, and make return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of said meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands on this ____ day in _____, 2021.

A true copy, ATTEST:

Nathan Boudreau, Town Clerk

Karen G. Cruise, Chair

Richard C. Bisk

Seal

Matthew Moncreaff

Selectmen of the Town of Princeton

I have this day posted the above warrant at Bagg Hall, Mechanics Hall, and Princeton Post Office.

Date: _____

Constable