

The Advisory Board hearing on this warrant will be held on Monday May 4, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall Annex.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester SS.

To a Constable of the Town of PRINCETON in the County of WORCESTER

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of Princeton who are qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at:

**The Town Hall Annex
4 Town Hall Drive**

on **MONDAY, THE ELEVENTH DAY OF MAY 2015**, from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Annual Town Election for the candidates for the following offices:

ONE Selectman for three years

ONE Assessor for three years

ONE Electric Light Commissioner for three years

ONE Trustee of Trust Funds for three years

TWO Planning Board members for three years

ONE Wachusett Regional District School Committee member for three years

ONE Moderator for one year

POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM TWELVE O'CLOCK P.M. TO EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

You are further hereby directed to notify and warn the said inhabitants of the Town of Princeton to meet at the Thomas Prince School, in said Town on **TUESDAY, THE TWELTH DAY OF MAY, 2015** at seven o'clock post meridian to act on the following articles of Town affairs:

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

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote under the provisions of Section 108, Chapter 41, of the Massachusetts General Laws to fix the salaries of the following Town Officers for the ensuing year (FY15), or take any other action relative thereto.

	<u>FY15</u>	<u>FY16</u>
Moderator	\$ 25	\$ 25
Selectmen	\$1,500	\$3,600
Assessors	\$4,500	\$4,500

This article establishes the salaries of paid elected officials

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, including transferring from available funds, Massachusetts School Building Authority reimbursements, and from Overlay Surplus, a sum or sums of money to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, and to provide for a reserve fund for the ensuing fiscal year (FY16), or take any other action relative thereto.

This article establishes the FY16 operating budget for all town departments.

Advisory Board recommendations appear in the extreme right-hand column of the Budget document.

ARTICLE 3

DEPARTMENT	FY15 BUDGET VOTED	FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY16 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY16 AB RECOMMENDS
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:				
Moderator				
Salary	25.00	25.00		
Expense	75.00	75.00		
Sub-Total	100.00		100.00	100.00
Board of Selectmen				
Salaries	1,500.00	3,600.00		
Expense	3,000.00	3,000.00		
Sub-Total	4,500.00		6,600.00	6,600.00

DEPARTMENT	FY15 BUDGET VOTED	FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY16 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY16 AB RECOMMENDS
Annual Audit				
Expense	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Town Administrator				
Salary	93,912.00	95,000.00		
Expense	2,500.00	2,500.00		
Sub-Total	94,571.00		97,500.00	97,500.00
Administrative Assistants				
Salaries	25,500.00	26,300.00		
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Sub-Total	26,500.00		27,800.00	27,800.00
Reserve Fund				
Expense	70,000.00	70,000.00	70,000.00	70,000.00
Town Accountant				
Salary	30,207.00	31,540.00		
Expense	3,881.00	4,521.00		
Sub-Total	34,088.00		36,061.00	36,061.00
Board of Assessors				
Assessors Salaries	4,500.00	4,500.00		
Assessor Clerk Salary	20,804.00	21,600.00		
Principal Assessor Salary	29,074.00	30,271.00		
Info. Tech. Mgr. Salary	13,569.00	13,940.00		
Revaluation Salary	6,624.00	6,775.00		
Expense	12,582.00	17,082.00		
Sub-Total	87,153.00		94,168.00	94,168.00
Treasurer/Tax Collector				
Salary	74,400.00	77,240.00		
Expense	16,170.00	16,170.00		
Sub-Total	90,570.00		93,410.00	93,140.00
Town Counsel				
Expense	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00

DEPARTMENT	FY15 BUDGET VOTED	FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY16 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY16 AB RECOMMENDS
Town Clerk				
Salary	34,575.00	36,130.00		
Certification	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Expenses	5,000.00	5,000.00		
Sub-Total	40,575.00		42,130.00	42,130.00
Elections & Registration				
Salaries	3,700.00	3,200.00		
Expense	5,700.00	4,500.00		
Sub-Total	9,400.00		7,700.00	7,700.00
Conservation Commission				
Salaries				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00		
Sub-Total	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
Planning Board				
Administrative Asst. Salary	18,250.00	18,950.00		
Expense	2,636.00	2,636.00		
Sub-Total	20,886.00		21,586.00	21,586.00
Board of Appeals				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Open Space Committee				
Expense	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Agricultural Commission				
Expense	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Town Building Operations				
Salaries	28,100.00	29,000.00		
Expense	53,095.00	59,000.00		
Sub-Total	81,195.00		88,000.00	88,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	595,538.00		621,055.00	621,056.00

DEPARTMENT	FY15 BUDGET VOTED	FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY16 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY16 AB RECOMMENDS
PUBLIC SAFETY:				
Police/Dispatch				
Police non-union Salaries	150,529.00	155,228.00		
Police Union Salaries	406,900.00	426,126.00		
Dispatch	206,688.00	86,880.00		
Expense	98,100.00	103,200.00		
Sub-Total	862,217.00		771,434.00	771,434.00
Fire Department				
Salaries	120,000.00	139,740.00		
Ambulance Readiness	79,000.00	80,580.00		
Expense	124,974.00	123,974.00		
Emergency Management Exp.	2,340.00	3,000.00		
Sub-Total	326,314.00		347,294.00	347,294.00
Animal Control				
Animal Inspector Salary	500.00	500.00		
Animal Control Salary	0	0.00		
Expense	6,953.00	10,013.00		
Sub-Total	7,453.00	10,513.00	10,513.00	
Emergency Notification System	2,466.00	2,466.00	2,466.00	
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY:	1,198,450.00		1,131,707.00	1,131,707.00
SCHOOLS				
Wachusett Regional School				
Wachusett Min. Contribution	3,650,842.00	3,546,045.00		
Operations Assessment	431,892.00	485,361.00		
Transportation	185,471.00	232,517.00		
Long Term Debt	183,694.00	180,527.00		
Capital Program Assessment	-			
Environmental Clean-up	6,062.00	5,761.00 (incl)		
Sub-total	4,457,961.00		4,444,450.00	4,444,450.00
Montachusett Reg. Vocational	289,698.00	297,890.00	297,890.00	297,890.00
TOTAL SCHOOLS	4,747,659.00		4,742,340.00	4,742,340.00

DEPARTMENT	FY15 BUDGET VOTED	FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY16 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY16 AB RECOMMENDS
PUBLIC WORKS				
Highway				
Salaries	361,100.00	369,282.00		
Expense	267,058.00	267,058.00		
Sub-Total	628,158.00		636,340.00	636,340.00
Snow/Ice Removal				
Expense	190,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00
Road Reconstruction	275,000.00	350,000.00	350,000.00	350,000.00
Street Lights				
Expense	9,614.00	9,614.00	9,614.00	9,614.00
Tree Warden				
Salary	1,473.00	1,503.00		
Expense	12,000.00	12,000.00		
Sub-Total	13,473.00		13,503.00	13,503.00
Cemeteries				
Salaries	28,670.00	34,380.00		
Expense	4,372.00	4,372.00		
Sub-Total	33,042.00		38,752.00	38,752.00
Broadband Committee				
Expense	1,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	1,150,287.00		1,250,209.00	1,250,209.00
HUMAN SERVICES				
Council on Aging				
Salary	15,159.00	15,830.00		
Expense	1,700.00	1,700.00		
Sub-Total	16,859.00		17,530.00	17,530.00
Veterans Services				
Salary	1,500.00	1,500.00		
Expense				

	18,800.00	24,500.00		
Sub-Total	20,300.00		26,000.00	26,000.00
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	37,159.00		43,530.00	43,530.00
DEPARTMENT	FY15 BUDGET VOTED	FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY16 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY16 AB RECOMMENDS
CULTURE & RECREATION:				
Library				
Salaries	105,610.00	110,107.00		
Expense	61,710.00	64,210.00		
Sub-Total	167,320.00		174,317.00	174,317.00
Parks & Recreation				
Salaries	4,526.00	4,715.00		
Expense	4,100.00	4,100.00		
Sub-Total	8,626.00		8,815.00	8,816.00
Historical Commission				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Memorial Day				
Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	178,946.00		186,132.00	186,132.00
Debt & Interest				
Police Cruisers (3)	43,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00	44,000.00
Fire Vehicle	13,000.00			
Bentley Purchase	40,880.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
General Interest/Borrowing Fees	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Thomas Prince/Green Repair	39,700.00	136,000.00	136,000.00	136,000.00
Thomas Prince/PCBs	39,750.00	39,000.00	39,000.00	39,000.00

TOTAL DEBT	191,330.00		274,000.00	274,000.00
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DEPARTMENT	FY15 BUDGET VOTED	FY16 PROPOSED BUDGET	FY16 Sub-Total To Be Voted On	FY16 AB RECOMMENDS
MISCELLANEOUS:				
Retirement	250,077.00	222,643.00	222,643.00	222,643.00
Life & Fringe	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
FICA/Medicare	36,995.00	40,887.00	40,887.00	40,887.00
Health Insurance	320,000.00	340,000.00	340,000.00	340,000.00
Town Insurance	190,000.00	195,000.00	195,000.00	195,000.00
Wachusett Earthday	1,393.00	1,393.00	1,393.00	1,393.00
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	810,465.00	811,923.00	811,923.00	811,923.00
GRAND TOTAL:	8,909,834.00		9,060,896.00	9,060,896.00

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to establish the FY16 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 FY16 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 FY16 ambulance-operating budget is \$52,998.00 for salary and \$41,500.00 for expenses for a total budget of \$94,498.00 any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article establishes the FY 16 receipts reserved for appropriation account from which ambulance operating expenses will be paid.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to establish the FY16 trash operating budget. Receipts for trash disposal services received in FY16 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. The requested appropriation for the FY16 trash-operating budget is \$60,000, of which \$50,000 be appropriated from Solid Waste Enterprise Receipts Reserved Account and \$10,000 be appropriated from Solid Waste Enterprise-Available Retained Earnings. Any balance in said account to be carried forward to subsequent years, or take any other action relative thereto.

The Town pays directly to Wheelabrator Millbury, Inc. where the trash incinerator is located for solid waste disposal. This article allows the town to receive offsetting payments from trash haulers which are deposited into this account.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 6: 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, 2015, or take any other action relative thereto.

Revolving Fund	Authorized to Spend Fund	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	FY 2015 Spending Limit	FY 2016 Spending Limit
Building Department	Bldg. Inspector Town Admin.	Fees from Bldg, Wiring, and Plumbing Permits	To Pay Administrative & Inspector Salary & Expenses	\$78,253	\$78,253
Library	Library Director, Town Admin.	Copy Machine, Fax, Fines and Fees	Defray Operational Expenses	\$5,000	\$5,000
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	\$39,126	\$39,126
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	\$39,126	\$39,126
Princeton Center	Princeton Center Director, Town Admin.	Rental fees	Defray Operational & Maintenance Exp.	\$78,253	\$78,253
Board	Board of Health				

of Health	Town Admin.	Permits & Inspections	Salary & Expense	\$35,000	\$35,000
Cemetery	Cemetery Comm. Chairman, Town Admin.	Burial Fees	Salary & Expense	\$7,500	\$7,500
Fire Department	Fire Chief, Deputy Chiefs, Town Admin.	Fees from Fire Permits	To Pay Administrative & Inspector Salary & Expenses	\$7,500	\$7,500
Total Spending				\$289,758	\$289,758

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay departmental bills from previous years or take any other action relative thereto.

*Approval of this article by the **required 4/5 vote** pays any bills from previous fiscal years recently discovered to be unpaid.*

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to re-allocate among certain line items within the FY15 budget approved under Article 3 of the May 12, 2014 Annual Town Meeting or take any other action relative thereto.

This article relates to addressing the current year (FY15) general fund budget. The intended funding will be inter/intra departmental transfers presented at the Annual Town Meeting.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to either or both of the Town's Stabilization Funds (Infrastructure Stabilization Account #85-5-041-000 and General Stabilization Account # 83-5-041-000) or take any other action relative thereto

*These accounts are the town's savings accounts. Infrastructure Stabilization is strictly used for future capital purchases, infrastructure improvements and projects. General Stabilization may be used for any lawful purpose. **A 2/3 vote is required** to appropriate funds to or from any Stabilization account. The planning number for this article is \$35,000. The actual will be in the motion at town meeting.*

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money 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 in relation thereto.

Approval of this article 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 funding future pension obligations. The anticipated sum for this article is \$101,252.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to the Town Building Maintenance program, Account #03-5-192-204 to defray the costs for materials and repairs to town buildings, and further to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to continue the Grounds Maintenance program, Account 03-5-192-205, or take any other action relative thereto.

This article supports a program to repair, maintain and restore town buildings and grounds. This program will preserve and protect valuable town assets. The anticipated sum for this article is \$80,000.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to contract 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 Board Approves

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease with the Wachusett Regional School District for the premises known as the Thomas Prince School for a term not to exceed ten (10) years, or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this article would authorize the Selectmen to renew the Town's lease with the Wachusett Regional School District for the use of the Thomas Prince School.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) account # 27-5-999-000 a sum of money to the Town Environmental Clean-up Account #03-5-420-201 to fund expenses associated with environmental issues with any town-owned property or take any other action relative thereto.

Approval of this article maintains a source of funds to make response to ongoing and/or unexpected environmental issues. Required monitoring of closed landfill, Town Hall parking area the Highway Garage and the Thomas Prince School for FY 2015 is estimated to cost \$50,000.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 15. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to continue the ongoing restoration of Meetinghouse Cemetery and historic grave stones threatened with erosion, or to take any other action relative thereto.

This project was initially approved by TM in 2007. To date, 90 gravestones have been addressed and 76 more need work, much of it urgent. The Princeton Historical Commission will continue to solicit and employ volunteer efforts and will use this appropriation to help see this important task to completion.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$6,000.00 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation – Cemetery Lots account #27-5-491-000 to the Cemetery Maintenance Expense account #27-5-491-780 for the care and improvement of town cemeteries, or take any other action thereto.

Mass General Laws Chapter 114, Section 15 requires payments for lots to be deposited into a designated account to be used exclusively “for the cost of land, it’s care, improvement and embellishment, or the enlargement of the cemetery.” These funds may be accessed only through appropriation by the Town Meeting.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$50 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.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for town concerts, the expenditure of such funds to be authorized by the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action thereto.

This article funds the summer concerts on the Town Common. The anticipated sum is \$2,000.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund a new computer server for the Police Department, or take any other action thereto.

*This article will replace the present Police Department server which is six years old.
The anticipated sum is \$5,000.*

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for a new mower for the Cemetery Department, or take any action thereto.

*Funding will replace the present Cemetery Department mower which has gone past its useful life.
The anticipated sum for this article is \$6,000.*

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for an election vote tabulator, or take any other action thereto.

The tabulator now being used was purchased in 1996. It is obsolete and replacement parts are no longer being made. Purchasing a new tabulator in FY '16 will allow testing prior to the 2016 Presidential election. The anticipated sum for this article is \$8,000.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for air pack bottle replacements for the Fire Department, or to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money equal to a five (5) percent match of the total FEMA 2014 Assistance to Firefighters Grant, or take any other action thereto.

The majority of the air pack bottles used by the Fire Department will expire in 2016 and become a safety concern. This article will also allow these funds to be used as the required match should the Fire Department's grant application for air packs and other equipment be funded.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for defibrillator replacement for the Fire Department, or take any other action thereto.

The current defibrillators are outdated and will no longer be serviced by the vendor

Advisory Board Approves.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds a sum of money to repair floor tiles at the Thomas Prince School, or take any other action thereto.

Approval of this article will authorize funds for necessary repairs to the Thomas Prince School under the terms of the reauthorized lea

Advisory Board recommendation at Town Meeting

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter IV of the Princeton General Bylaws by the addition of the following section, or take any other action thereto:

Section 6 The Board of Selectmen may provide an employment contract for appointed department heads for a period of up to five (5) years, to provide for the salary, fringe benefits and other conditions of employment, including but not limited to severance pay, relocation expenses, reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of duties or office, liability and disability insurance and leaves of absence."

- (a) Such an employment contract shall prevail over and preempt any provision of any local personnel by-law, rule or regulation covering the subject matter of the employment contract.
- (b) Funding of the employment contract shall be subject to annual appropriation by the Town Meeting.
- (c) Nothing contained in this by-law shall affect the appointment or removal powers of the Board of Selectmen over the Department Heads. This by-law does not grant tenure.
- (d) From time to time the board of Selectmen may adopt rules and regulations relative to the administration of this section.

By approving this addition to the general by-laws the Selectmen would be authorized to enter into employment contracts with department heads.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to use insurance proceeds in an amount in excess of \$20,000., for the repair of the Town Center Building, or take any other action thereto.

Mass General Law requires that the use of insurance proceeds in excess of \$20,000. be authorized by Town Meeting. This will allow insurance proceeds to be used for the repair of water damage to the Center Building.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Princeton Zoning Bylaw by amending Section VI-I-(D) and (E) by substituting “building” for “structure” to read as follows, or take any other action thereto:

- (D) No building or part thereof in any district shall be so located as to extend within fifty (50) feet of a property line where it borders the street right of way line, except that this shall not apply to uncovered steps.
- (E) No new building or part thereof in any district shall extend within ten (10) feet of a side or rear lot line of any lot existing at the time this bylaw was originally adopted, or within thirty (30) feet of a side or rear lot line of any new lot recorded or registered after the adoption of this by-law.

Rationale: “Structure” has a broad definition in the zoning by-laws, and includes such things as walls, tents, fences, signs and flagpoles as well as buildings. Although Section VI currently uses the term “structure,” the Planning Board believes that the intent of Section VI is for the setback of buildings. The amendment is to make the language of Section VI (D) and (E) consistent with that intent.

Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.

Advisory Board Approves

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Princeton Zoning Bylaw by the addition of **SECTION XIX: WORCESTER ROAD VILLAGE OVERLAY DISTRICT** to read as follows, or take any other action thereto:

1. Purpose. The purpose of the Worcester Road Village Overlay District (“VOD”) is to encourage by special permit mixed residential and compatible business uses with a layout and architectural style that is consistent with Princeton’s history and character, set back from Worcester Road with internal pedestrian traffic, as an alternative use and pattern of land development. The VOD will support three goals outlined in the Master Plan: preserve the rural character of Princeton, provide alternative housing, and enhance economic development.
2. Relationship to Other Bylaw Provisions.
 - A. Where the VOD requirements and design standards are different from those set forth in the Zoning Bylaws for the underlying districts, the VOD requirements and design standards shall control for any development under this Section XIX.
 - B. Except as may be specifically provided in this Section XIX, any structure or use in the VOD shall comply with all requirements of the Zoning Bylaws.
3. VOD Boundary. The boundary of the VOD is from the northerly edge of Stage Coach Road along the westerly side of Worcester Road as far north as the Business District on the westerly side of Worcester Road exists or may be extended, to the back of all lots existing at the time of enactment of this Section XIX that have frontage on Worcester Road.
4. Objectives. The VOD is a flexible zoning tool designed to meet the following objectives:
 - A. Encourage a “smart growth” form of business development set back from Worcester Road, rather than a sprawl style of development typified by strip malls.
 - B. Encourage mixed residential and compatible business uses in the same structures and on the same parcels so that there will be more businesses within Princeton available to provide goods and services to residents of Princeton.
 - C. Create a traditional New England village character and land use pattern with mixed residential and compatible business uses.
 - D. Provide opportunities for greater density and intensity of use than are otherwise allowed under the Zoning By-Laws.
 - E. Require that all development within the VOD be designed in a manner that is consistent with Princeton’s Colonial and Nineteenth Century architectural styles.
5. Permitted Uses.
 - A. Uses as of Right.
 1. Any use permitted in a Rural-Agricultural District.
 2. Any use permitted in a Business District, provided that the use is located only in the underlying Business District.
 - B. Uses requiring a Special Permit from the Planning Board under this Section XIX and site plan approval under Section XII of the Zoning Bylaws.

1. A residential use combined with one or more of the following business uses in the same building or on the same parcel:
 - a. retail store
 - b. restaurant, pub, coffee shop, or other similar uses serving food or beverages, but not with a drive through window
 - c. business, professional office, bank or other similar uses
 - d. museum, art gallery, craft store, or other similar uses
 - e. health care clinic, doctor's office, dentist's office, optician, or other similar uses
 - f. bakery, brewery, or other similar uses
 - g. service establishment, but not a gas station, automotive repair, body shop or similar facility, provided that the proposed activities in the service establishment will not be offensive, injurious, or noxious because of noise, vibration, smoke, fumes, dust, odors, danger of explosion, or other characteristics detrimental to an area with mixed residential and business uses.
 - h. place of business of caterer, confectioner, decorator, dressmaker, mortician, craftsman, member of a building trade, or other similar uses
 - i. gymnasium, health club, or other similar indoor recreational uses

When a residential use is combined with a business use as provided in this Section 5.B.1, the residential use shall not be on the ground floor and shall comprise not more than 75% of the gross floor area of a building. There shall be not more than two bedrooms in any residential unit in a building.

2. Hotel, motel, rooming house, boarding house, ski lodge or other similar uses, provided that the building has no more than 20,000 gross square feet.
3. Light manufacturing, research laboratory, or other similar uses, provided that the proposed activities will not be offensive, injurious, or noxious because of noise, vibration, smoke, fumes, dust, odors, danger of explosion, or other characteristics detrimental to an area with mixed residential and business uses, and further provided that the building has no more than 40,000 gross square feet.
4. Retirement home, assisted care facility, extended care facility, nursing home, hospice or other similar uses, provided that the building has no more than 40,000 gross square feet.

6. Requirements.

- A. Multiple Buildings. More than one principal building (and more than one use in a principal building) may be located on a parcel by special permit.

1. No principal building shall be located in relation to another principal building on the same parcel, or on an adjacent parcel, so as to cause danger from fire.
2. All principal buildings on a parcel shall be served by access ways suitable for fire, police, and emergency vehicles.
3. Multiple principal buildings on the same parcel shall be accessible via pedestrian walkways connected to the required parking for the premises and to each principal building.

B. Building Size. No building shall have a footprint of more than 10,000 square feet.

C. Ground Coverage. The ground coverage of all buildings and parking lots on a parcel shall not exceed 75% of the total area of the parcel. The ground coverage of all roadway and driveway areas and associated sidewalks and pedestrian ways shall be excluded from this requirement.

D. Setbacks.

1. All parking areas shall be set back a minimum of 30 feet from the edge of the right of way for Worcester Road.
2. All buildings shall be set back a minimum of 60 feet from the edge of the right of way for Worcester Road.
3. Adjacent residences. All parking areas shall be set back a minimum of 30 feet, and all buildings shall be set back a minimum of 50 feet, from the edge of any parcel adjacent to the VOD that is used for a single family residence.
4. Within a parcel in the VOD, there shall be a distance of at least 20 feet between buildings on the parcel.

E. Height. The top of the roof line of any building shall be no more than 40 feet from ground level. If the building is constructed on sloping land, the height of the top of the roof line shall be measured on the up slope side of the building.

7. Design. The overall goal of design for the VOD is to present the appearance of a traditional New England village center, using elements that reflect the colonial and nineteenth century architectural history of Princeton.

A. The criteria in Section XII of the Zoning By-Laws and in the Rules and Regulations of the Planning Board shall be applied in a manner consistent with the overall goal of design for the VOD.

B. Walls and Fences. Designs may include fieldstone walls. Designs may include split rail fences, picket fences, or similar sight-pervious fences. There shall be no chain link fences, barbed wire fences, or similar structures visible from Worcester Road or from any parcel adjacent to the VOD that is used for a single family residence. There shall be no sight-impervious fences such as stockade fences or board and batten fences except as may be necessary to provide a sight or sound barrier for any parcel adjacent to the VOD that is used for a single family residence.

- C. Sound barrier. Design shall include a reasonable sound barrier for any parcel adjacent to the VOD that is used for a single family residence for noise generated by any non-residential use in the proposed development in the VOD.
- D. Parking. No more than one-third of the required parking for a use shall be located between the building for that use and Worcester Road.

8. Procedures. No building permit shall be issued for construction or alteration of a building or parking area, and no site alteration or removal of vegetation shall take place, until the Planning Board has issued a special permit pursuant to this Section XIX, and approved a site plan pursuant to Section XII. Applications for site plan approval in the VOD shall be submitted in accordance with Section XII and the Rules and Regulations of the Planning Board.

8. Decision. The Planning Board may impose reasonable conditions in granting VOD approval. In making its decision, the Planning Board shall consider the extent to which the proposed plan maintains Princeton's rural agricultural character by:

- A. Locating principal structures to the extent reasonably feasible so that they do not front on Worcester Road.
- B. Minimizing the number of curb cuts on Worcester Road.
- C. Encouraging foot traffic within the VOD.
- D. Minimizing the impact of the proposed uses on any parcel adjacent to the VOD that is used for a single family residence including reasonable restrictions on the hours of operation for non-residential uses in the VOD.
- E. Appropriately screening delivery areas, service entrances, and dumpsters by plantings, topography, or other means when viewed from Worcester Road and when viewed from any parcel adjacent to the VOD that is used for a single family residence.
- F. Providing for landscaping or plantings.

This article adds the text outlining specifications associated with Princeton Zoning Bylaws: SECTION XIX: WORCESTER ROAD VILLAGE OVERLAY DISTRICT. This text was (inadvertently) not included a year ago when SECTION XIX was approved at the May 2014 Annual Town Meeting

Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.

The Advisory Board recommends

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Princeton Zoning Bylaw by the addition of SECTION XX. EARTH REMOVAL and to further amend the Princeton Zoning Bylaw to conform to the new Earth Removal Bylaw as follows, or take any other action thereto:

Add a use in Section III-1-(Q)

- (Q) Subject to a special permit granted by the Planning Board under Section XX of these by-laws, earth removal.

Delete VII-7 which currently provides

7. Removal of Earth:

No more than twenty-five (25) cubic yards of earth materials shall be removed from any parcel of land within the Town without first obtaining permission from the Board of Appeals.

Delete existing definition of Earth Removal in Section X and replace it with the following definition to be consistent with new Section XX

Earth Removal: Extraction of loam, topsoil, sand, gravel, clay, glacial till, silt, rocks, boulders, ledge, and other earth materials pursuant to Section XX of these by-laws.

SECTION XX: EARTH REMOVAL

1. Purpose. The purpose of this bylaw is to regulate the removal of earth materials in a manner that maintains the rural-agricultural character of the Town while permitting landowners to make reasonable and responsible use of their property without having a significantly adverse impact on neighbors, the environment, and the roads and infrastructure of the Town. Upon completion of the removal of earth materials, all disturbed areas shall be graded and re-vegetated and the land shall be in reasonable condition for the uses allowed in the zoning district in which the land is located.
2. Earth Materials. As used in this bylaw, earth materials include but are not limited to loam, topsoil, sand, gravel, clay, glacial till, silt, rocks, boulders, and ledge.
3. Applicability. This bylaw applies to the removal of earth materials from land in any zoning district with the following exceptions:
 - A. Incidental removal of no more than 400 cubic yards in connection with:
 - (i) Excavation for buildings and structures for which a building permit has been issued;
 - (ii) Excavation and site work for driveways and parking areas;
 - (iii) Excavation for installation or replacement of septic systems; and
 - (iv) Excavation in connection with landscaping
 - B. Road construction by the Town or the Commonwealth.
 - C. Road construction or site preparation pursuant to an approved plan for a subdivision.
4. Requirements.

- A. Site Plans. An application for a special permit for removal of earth materials shall include before and after site plans prepared by a registered land surveyor with two foot contour intervals for the entire area from which the applicant seeks to remove earth materials. The site plans shall address the following:
- (i) No earth materials shall be removed to a grade below street level within 50 feet of the edge of the property line next to the street unless the Planning Board specifically finds that such lower grade is consistent with the purpose of this bylaw.
 - (ii) No final slope shall be created steeper than 1:3 unless the Planning Board specifically finds that such steeper slope is consistent with the purpose of this bylaw.
 - (iii) No earth materials shall be removed within 50 feet of adjacent property unless the Planning Board specifically finds that such removal is consistent with the purpose of this bylaw.
 - (iv) Except when earth materials are removed in connection with the creation of a pond in accordance with permits from the Conservation Commission and the Commonwealth, there shall be a minimum of six feet between the bottom of the proposed excavation and the spring high water table.
 - (v) The site plans shall show the location of any temporary structures, and the location of access for vehicles and equipment used during earth removal operations.
- B. Operational Plans. An application for a special permit for removal of earth materials shall include an operational plan that addresses the following:
- (i) Operating only during week days between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., unless the Planning Board specifically finds that different days and hours of operation are consistent with the purpose of this bylaw.
 - (ii) Visually screening operations from adjacent residences.
 - (iii) Phasing of earth removal, grading and re-vegetation so that no more than three acres shall be exposed and worked at one time.
 - (iv) Stockpiling of top soil and loam.
 - (v) Grading and re-vegetation upon the completion of each phase.
 - (vi) Drainage, erosion and siltation control.
 - (vii) Dust control on the site, and on the first 500 feet on the route taken by trucks when leaving the site.
 - (viii) Type and size of equipment to be used on site and to haul earth materials from the site
 - (ix) Measures to shake loose earth materials from trucks before leaving the site.
 - (x) Proposed routes that trucks will follow when hauling earth materials from the site.

(xi) Daily number of trips by trucks hauling earth materials.

- C. Applicants are encouraged to meet informally with the Planning Board prior to applying for a special permit for removal of earth materials. The purposes of a pre-application review are to minimize the applicant's costs for engineering and other technical experts and to solicit guidance from the Planning Board at an early stage in the planning and permitting process. For smaller projects, the Planning Board in its discretion may make reasonable modifications in the information required for site plans and operational plans provided that such modifications are consistent with the purpose of this bylaw.
- D. Except in a business-industrial district, no screening or crushing of earth materials shall be allowed on site.
- E. Explosives shall not be used in earth removal operations unless the Planning Board specifically finds that such use of explosives is necessary and is consistent with the purpose of this bylaw.
- F. No top soil or loam shall be removed from the site unless the remaining stockpiled top soil and loam is sufficient to provide a minimum of 6" of top soil and loam to spread over the disturbed areas for re-vegetation.
- G. The applicant shall post a bond of \$10,000, or such other amount as the Planning Board may determine is reasonably necessary, as surety for the implementation of the plans and the grading and re-vegetation of the site following the conclusion of removal of earth materials. Upon a determination by the Building Inspector that removal has ceased and that the site has been graded and re-vegetated in accordance with the plans, the bond shall be released.
- H. In addition to the Town special permit filing fees, the applicant may be required to pay the reasonable fees for professional review of the applicant's proposal by a registered engineer, registered landscape architect, or other qualified professional retained by the Planning Board to review the applicant's plans.

5. Procedures.

- A. Prior to the commencement of earth removal operations, the applicant shall obtain a special permit from the Planning Board acting as the special permit granting authority pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 40A sec. 9. The Planning Board shall review the application and the plans, and shall request advice and comments from the Highway Superintendent as to the likely impact of the plan on the roads and infrastructure of the town. The Planning Board may request advice and comments from other Town boards.
- B. The Planning Board may impose reasonable conditions to insure that the proposed removal of earth materials is consistent with the purpose of this bylaw.
- C. A special permit to remove earth materials shall be valid for one year and may be extended without a public hearing for successive one year periods upon a determination by the Planning Board that the removal operations have been conducted in accordance with the approved plan. A special permit shall not be extended if there has been no removal of earth materials for two years.

- D. After plans for removal of earth materials have been approved, there shall be no material deviations from the approved plans without written approval from the Planning Board which may require a public hearing.
- E. The Building Inspector shall enforce this bylaw and any special permit issued or extended pursuant to this bylaw.

Rationale: The current bylaws require permission from the Board of Appeals to remove more than 25 cubic yards of earth materials, and provides no guidance for landowners or the Board of Appeals for the regulation of earth removal. The Planning Board has recommended that the Town adopt as Section XX an Earth Removal Bylaw that has a statement of purpose, that deals with incidental removal as well as commercial removal, and that provides standards for the evaluation of an earth removal proposal and the condition of the land following removal. Assuming the Town acts favorably on the recommendation to adopt Section XX, the existing bylaws need to be amended as set forth above to conform to the new earth removal bylaw.

Approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote.

The Advisory Board recommends

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 27th day in April, 2015.

A true copy, ATTEST:

Lynne F. Grettum
Lynne F. Grettum, Town Clerk

Neil A. Sulmasy
Neil Sulmasy, Chairman

Edith M. Morgan
Edith M. Morgan, Clerk

Stan Moss
Stan Moss

Selectmen of the Town of Princeton

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

Date: 04-30-15, 2015

Tim Power
Constable