TOWN OF BOXFORD Website: www.boxfordma.gov

Warrant for Annual Town Meeting Saturday, September 12, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Masconomet Regional High School Roberts Field 20 Endicott Road Boxford, MA 01921



Supporting documents for this warrant may be found at:

https://www.boxfordma.gov/atm-documents

PLEASE BRING THIS WARRANT AND WEAR YOUR MASK FOR

THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

September 12, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M.

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING September 12, 2020 - 10:00 A.M.

MASCONOMET REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ROBERTS FIELD

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Essex s.s.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Boxford in said County,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Boxford qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs to meet at the **Masconomet Regional High School, Roberts Field** 20 Endicott Road, Boxford, on **Tuesday the twelfth day of September next at 10:00 A.M.**, then and there to act on the following articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1. To receive and place on file the reports of the Town Officers and Committees without ratification of any action taken or authorization of any action proposed; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2. To **act on the proposed budget** and see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, for the use of several departments for Fiscal Year 2021, to wit: General Government, Financial Administration, Public Safety, Education, Public Works, Health & Human Services, Culture & Recreation, Employee Benefits, Debt Service, and all other necessary proper expenses during said fiscal year; and authorize expenditure of these funds under the direction of the appropriate listed department; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Finance Committee Estimate: **\$35,588,117** The proposed budget is printed on pages 11 and 12 of this warrant. Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of \$150,000 to reduce the tax rate for fiscal year 2021 or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Finance Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article **ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 150E, section 7, will vote to approve the following collective bargaining agreements recently negotiated and ratified by the Board of Selectmen between the Town and the following Unions for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020:

- Teamsters Local 25 International Brotherhood of Teamsters Boxford Police Patrol Officers
- Boxford Police Reserve Association
- American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Council #93, Local 939, Boxford Town Hall/Library Clerical Employees
- Communication Dispatchers and Police Secretarial Employees Association;

Said collective bargaining agreements on file with the Town Clerk; funding for the cost items for these **one-year retroactive agreements** were included in the general operating budget of the Town adopted at the Annual Town Meeting, May 2019; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by Board of Selectmen Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 5. To act on the list of proposed equipment and capital purchases for FY 2021 and see what sums of money the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash, for the use of several departments for fiscal year 2021, and authorize expenditure of these funds for such purposes under the direction of the appropriate listed department and authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of any equipment declared surplus if replaced; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Board of Selectmen Estimate: **\$743,000** Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article Permanent Building Committee recommendations as noted The proposed capital budget is printed on page 10 of this warrant.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to borrow \$388,000 to engage consulting and engineering services to design, seek regulatory permitting approval, provide plans and specifications, conduct competitive construction bidding and undertake other services as necessary, for the Harry Lee Cole School & Spofford Pond School Site Renovation Projects, including any incidental or related expenses, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Elementary School Committee, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Elementary School Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article **ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds \$250,000, to engage services to design, furnish and construct a Metal Truss Fabric Building for the Department of Public Works at 7B Spofford Road, including any incidental or related expenses, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Board of Selectmen Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to borrow and transfer from available funds \$2,800,000 to be expended, under the direction of Permanent Building Committee to pay costs of the Building Envelope Repair, HVAC Replacement, and Library Interior Renovation Project at Boxford Town Hall/Library, 7A Spofford Road, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"); which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the Building and preserve an asset, said amount to be expended under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee; and to meet this appropriation to: 1. Transfer \$450,000 from library stabilization fund; and 2. authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow the remainder of the appropriation amounting to \$2,350,000, pursuant to Chapter 44 of the General Laws, as amended, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of the issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount to be borrowed to pay such cost by a like amount; and to authorize the Chief Procurement Officer and the Permanent Building Committee to enter into any and all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Boxford to affect the construction of said project; provided further that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount received; or take any other action thereon.

> Sponsored and supported by Permanent Building Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to set the **annual curbside solid waste collection fee at \$3.00 for each 32-gallon bag** or container (each use); or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by the Board of Health Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article **ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues** in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, debt service, community preservation projects and other expenses in Fiscal Year 2021, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

<u>Appropriations:</u>	
Sawyer-Richardson Open Space Bond	\$158,150
Lincoln Hall Renovation Bond expense	\$ 45,063
Haynes Land Purchase Bond expense	\$128,750
Aaron Wood Renovation Bond expense	\$ 14,346
Boxford Commons Bond expense	\$154,450
Committee Administrative Expenses	\$ 43,066
Reserves:	
Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 26,724
Community Housing Reserve	\$ 86,132
Budgeted Reserve	\$200,000
a any other action thereon	

or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Community Preservation Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$68,000 in land purchase expense to enable the Town of Boxford to acquire for conservation, open space, and passive recreation purposes as set forth in the General Laws, Chapter 40 Section 8C and subject to the protections afforded under Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept the deed to the Town of fee simple interest or less, of a parcel of land in Boxford, Essex County, Massachusetts, also known as the "Bergstrom Property," the parcel consisting of 14.5± acres of open land bordering Hoveys Pond, identified as Map 9, Lot 1, Parcel 29 in the records of the Boxford Assessors on file with the Town Clerk, together with all rights and easements and subject to all easements; said land to be under the care, custody and control of the Boxford Conservation Commission; and that to fund said purchase, to transfer \$60,000 from the Undesignated Community Preservation Fund balance; the remaining \$8,000 needed for the purchase to be funded through a contribution from BTA/BOLT, Inc.; and that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to grant a perpetual conservation restriction in said parcel of land meeting the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 44B, § 12 and M.G.L. Chapter 184, §§ 31-33, as may be deemed appropriate, and to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Boxford to affect said purchase, said funds to be expended by the Conservation Commission in consultation with the Community Preservation Committee; further, to authorize the Conservation Commission to apply for and accept any grants or gifts for this purpose and additional related legal and closing cost expenses; and further, that the amount authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount received above amounts necessary for additional related costs; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by the Community Preservation Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$25,000 from the Undesignated Community Preservation Fund balance to be deposited into the Conservation Fund established pursuant to the Conservation Commission Act, M.G.L. Ch. 40 s. 8C, for use by the Conservation Commission on projects that satisfy eligibility requirements of both M.G.L. Ch. 40 s. 8C and the Community Preservation Act, M.G.L. Ch. 44B; any expenditure of these deposited funds to be authorized by the Conservation Commission in consultation with the Community Preservation Committee; or take any other action thereon.

> Sponsored and supported by the Community Preservation Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to amend the **Stormwater Management Bylaw**, Town Code Ch. 160, to update a definition of Stormwater Management Standards and to delete an exemption for projects receiving a wetland permit, as follows, with struck-through language deleted, and **bolded** and <u>underlined</u> language inserted; or take any other action thereon:

MASSACHUSETTS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT <u>POLICY</u> **STANDARDS**— The <u>Policy Standards</u> issued by the Department of Environmental Protection, and as amended, that coordinates the requirements prescribed by state regulations promulgated under the authority of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act GL c. 131 § 40 and Massachusetts Clean Waters Act GL c. 21, §§ 23-56, to prevent or reduce pollutants from reaching water bodies and control the quantity of runoff from a site.

§ 160-6. Statement of Jurisdiction.¹

- A. No person shall perform any activity that alters a construction site or hotspot, or results in an illicit discharge, except as authorized by the Conservation Commission in a Stormwater Management Permit or as otherwise provided in this bylaw.
- B. The following exemptions apply to the alteration of a construction site or hotspot
 - (1) Alteration, regardless of square footage, all of which is located outside of the NPDES Phase II Regulated Area and which does not drain to the Boxford municipal separate storm sewer system within the NPDES Phase II regulated area;
 - (2) Normal maintenance and improvement of land in agricultural use as defined by the Wetlands Protection Act regulation 310 CMR 10.04;
 - (3) Stormwater discharges that are authorized under an Order of Conditions issued by the Boxford Conservation Commission pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL c. 131, § 40, and where the Order includes findings by the

Commission that the discharge complies with the Massachusetts Stormwater Management Policy;

- (3) (4) Emergency activities necessary to protect public health or safety, so long as all necessary emergency permits or emergency certifications have been or will be obtained; and,
- (4) (5) Any work or projects for which all necessary approvals and permits have been issued before the effective date of this bylaw.

Sponsored and Supported by Conservation Commission Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$15,000 to fund the Conservation Fund; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by Conservation Commission Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$50,000 to fund the Unemployment Fund; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by Board of Selectmen Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of \$7,150 to fund the biannual, mandated OPEB Actuarial Study; or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by Board of Selectmen Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds the sum of **\$25,000** to engage consulting and engineering services for design plans and specifications, for various capital projects including any incidental or related costs, said funds to be expended under the joint direction of the Board of Selectmen and Permanent Building Committee, or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and supported by Permanent Building Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article Finance Committee recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to:

- 1. **Initiate a municipal aggregation program to aggregate the electrical load** of interested consumers within the boundaries Town independently, or in joint action with other municipalities pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134, or any other enabling legislation; and
- 2. Authorize the Board of Selectmen to (i) enter into one or more agreements with one or more consultants to assist the Town with the development, implementation and administration of such aggregation program for a term most advantageous including authorization for a term of more than three years, and (ii) take any actions and execute any other documents and ancillary agreements necessary, convenient, or appropriate to accomplish the foregoing and to implement and administer the aggregation program and consultant agreements, which agreements and documents shall be on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interests of the Town.

Or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by Sustainability Committee Board of Selectmen recommends adoption of this article

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will **vote to amend the Town General By-Laws** to rename of the "Board of Selectmen" to "Select Board:", as follows, with struck-through language deleted, and **bolded** and <u>underlined</u> language inserted:

Chapter 32, Section 32-1 Election of Members

A <u>Board of Selectmen Select Board</u> of five members shall be elected from the town at large for three-year overlapping terms of office. Two new members shall be elected at the Annual Town Election on May 16, 2000, as follows: one member for a three year term and one member for a one year term. The Board shall exercise general supervision over all matters affecting the interest or welfare of the town. The Select Board shall have all the powers and duties of a board of selectmen under the general laws and any special laws applicable to the Town of Boxford as well as such other powers and duties as are provided in these by-laws.

And further, in each instance in which they appear in the Town Code, to replace the words "Board of Selectmen" or "Selectmen", with the words, "Select Board," and to replace the word "Selectmen" with "Select Board Member", or take any other action thereon.

Sponsored and Supported by Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 20. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at each of the public meeting houses in said Town seven days, at least, before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof, fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this day August of 24th in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty.

Alfred Chair Nax, Vice Chair/Clerk Ma

Charles J. Costello

Peter C. Perkins

Barbara G. Jessel

I have served this warrant by posting attested copies thereof on each of the meeting houses in said Town of Boxford seven days, at least, before the time of holding said meeting.

1 XUN

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

David A. Smallman, Constable West Parish

Date 8-27-2020

John . ARowen, Constable East Parish

2020 Date 08

			Bldg Comm Recommendation
1	Fund Internal Renovation to Improve Facilities for firefighters	\$110,000	Recommend adoption
2	Fund Community Center Repairs	\$80,000	Recommend adoption
3	Fund DPW Various Culvert Projects	\$30,000	Not Applicable
4	Fund DPW Culvert Inventory Plan	\$100,000	Not Applicable
5	 5 Fund DPW Additional Pavement Work 6 Fund Communications Department Dispatch Radio Console 7 Fund DPW Dump/Plow Truck Replacement 		Not Applicable
6			Not Applicable
7			Not Applicable
8	Fund New Turnout Gear for Fire Department \$4		Not Applicable
9	Fund DPW Hybrid SUV to Replacement Current Pickup	\$38,000	Not Applicable
	TOTAL EQUIPMENT & CAPITAL PURCHASES	\$743,000.00	

Proposed Equipment and Capital Purchases for FY 2021

	Actual Expended FY18	Actual Expended FY19	Budget FY20	Proposed Budget FY21	\$ Change FY20 to FY21	% Change FY20 to FY21
General Government						
Selectmen & Administrator	288,716	329,064	324,080	323,007	-1,073	-0.3%
Legal	106,795	94,088	108,361	98,361	-10,000	-9.2%
Technology	205,579	217,946	220,421	220,421	0	0.0%
Town Clerk	103,102	116,518	122,201	127,661	5,461	4.5%
Land Committee	0	0	500	500	0	0.0%
Land Use	79,971	86,030	88,109	87,628	-481	-0.5%
Utilities & General Maintenance	251,412	327,656	292,007	292,007	0	0.0%
Other Insurance	323,750	352,067	421,780	421,780	0	0.0%
Total General Government	1,359,325	1,523,369	1,577,458	1,571,364	-6,094	-0.4%
Financial Administration						
Finance Committee	109	254	1,010	1,010	0	0.0%
Finance Committee Reserve	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	0	0.0%
Municipal Finance Departments	474,788	456,083	483,590	486,645	3,055	0.6%
Total Financial Administration	649,897	631,337	659,600	662,655	3,055	0.5%
Public Safety						
Police Salary	1,215,363	1,221,569	1,269,639	1,262,587	-7,052	-0.6%
Police Non Salary Expenses	74,361	70,762	77,315	88,115	10,800	14.0%
Fire Salary	574,548	600,325	639,954	629,546	-10,408	-1.6%
Fire Non Salary Expenses	89,805	91,842	95,841	95,934	93	0.1%
Building Inspection/Zoning Bd	124,759	131,655	136,646	137,447	801	0.6%
Sealer of Weights & Measures	425	413	431	431	0	0.0%
Animal Inspector	5,744	5,439	5,830	5,830	0	0.0%
Animal Control Officer	38,171	36,555	45,001	44,030	-971	-2.2%
Communications Salary Communications Non Salary	347,381	372,277	375,261	392,038	16,777	4.5%
Exp.	97,599	106,278	108,381	105,694	-2,687	-2.5%
Total Public Safety	2,568,156	2,637,115	2,754,299	2,761,651	7,352	0.3%
Education						
Elementary Schools	11,852,356	12,218,594	12,522,066	12,802,280	280,214	2.2%
Essex NS Ag/Tech School	289,775	293,414	305,011	274,070	-30,941	-10.1%
Masconomet Operational Budget	9,784,970	10,206,544	10,668,997	10,961,352	292,355	2.7%
Total Education	21,927,101	22,718,552	23,496,074	24,037,702	541,628	2.3%

÷

Annual Town Meeting, September 12, 2020

	Actual Expended FY18	Actual Expended FY19	Budget FY20	Proposed Budget FY21	\$ Change FY20 to FY21	% Change FY20 to FY21
Public Works						
Cemeteries	500	500	500	500	0	0.0%
Trash/Recycling Pickup & Disposal	516,117	688,137	661,826	746,826	85,000	12.8%
Snow & Ice Removal	420,172	345,169	133,000	133,000	0	0.0%
Fuel Depot	68,276	73,787	85,000	75,000	-10,000	-11.8%
DPW Salaries	557,271	585,738	609,454	654,667	45,213	7.4%
DPW Non Salary Expense	358,319	359,451	388,364	388,364	0	0.0%
Total Public Works	1,920,655	2,052,782	1,878,144	1,998,357	120,213	6.4%
Human Services						
Board of Health	145,735	145,587	149,980	157,660	7,680	5.1%
Council on Aging	121,418	124,252	158,688	158,794	107	0.1%
Veterans' Benefits	24,447	31,729	35,000	35,000	0	0.0%
HAWC Program	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%
Tri Town Council	29,614	29,614	29,614	29,614	0	0.0%
Total Human Services	323,214	333,181	375,282	383,069	7,787	2.1%
Culture & Recreation						
Library Salaries	332,886	341,953	352,951	351,616	-1,336	-0.4%
Library Non Salary Expense	109,425	117,823	118,319	121,422	3,103	2.6%
Recreation Committee	4,361	4,327	4,425	4,425	0	0.0%
Cultural Council	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	0	0.0%
Historic District Commission	2,775	0	375	375	0	0.0%
Total Culture & Recreation	452,447	467,103	479,070	480,838	1,767	0.4%
Employee Benefits						
Health Insurance (non school)	656,334	686,527	765,107	794,465	29,358	3.8%
OPEB Contribution	350000	350,000	300,000	300,000	0	0.0%
Essex Retirement Assessment	1,149,773	1,268,935	1,339,233	1,423,044	83,811	6.3%
Medicare/Life Ins (Town/School)	175,980	180,552	188,363	195,777	7,415	3.9%
Unemployment Insurance	13,374	14,830	15,000	15,000	0	0.0%
Salary Reserve	15,000	0	76,334	0	-76,334	
Total Employee Benefits	2,360,461	2,500,845	2,684,037	2,728,286	44,250	1.6%
Debt Service						
Non School Debt Service	592,384	656,579	553,133	591,046	37,913	6.9%
Elementary School Debt Service	61,113	285,984	227,907	261,413	33,506	14.7%
Masconomet Debt Assessment	408,977	410,037	409,017	111,736	-297,281	-72.7%
Total Debt Service	1,062,474	1,352,600	1,190,057	964,195	-225,862	-19.0%
Total Budget	32,623,730	34,216,884	35,094,022	35,588,117	494,096	1.4%
		10				

Annual Town Meeting, September 12, 2020

â

Annual Town Meeting, September 12, 2020

BOARD OF SELECTMEN TOWN OF BOXFORD 7A SPOFFORD ROAD BOXFORD, MA 01921

BULK RATE POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #19 BOXFORD, MA 01921

BOXHOLDER BOXFORD, MASS 01921 01885