

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF WEBSTER
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MAY 9, 2022

Worcester, ss

To either of the Constables in the County aforesaid:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Webster aforesaid who are qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the Bartlett High School Auditorium, 52 Lake Parkway, in said Webster on **Monday, May 9, 2022 at 7:00 PM** then and there to act on the following Articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1. REPORTS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

To hear and act upon the report and recommendations of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 2: FY2023 GENERAL FUND ANNUAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of elected officials, provide for a reserve fund, and determine what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate including appropriations from any available funds to defray the charges and expenses of the Town including debt and interest for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 3: FY2023 SEWER ANNUAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from any available funds a sum sufficient to operate the Sewer Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 4: FY2023 WATER ANNUAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from any available funds a sum sufficient to operate the Water Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 5: AUTHORIZE SHORT-TERM BORROWINGS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the consent of the Board of Selectmen, to temporarily borrow a note or notes, or make an inter-fund advance from available funds, in anticipation of revenue from taxation, bonds, or grants, and to repay said sums within the current fiscal cycle; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 6: DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c 44, §53E1/2, as most recently amended, to set FY 2023 spending limits for such Revolving Funds as follows:

REVOLVING FUND	FY 2023 SPENDING FUND
Board of Health Inspections (Fund 3531)	\$15,000.00
Senior Center (Fund 3516)	\$8,000.00
Nuisance Properties (Fund 3530)	\$100,000.00
Inspectional Services (Fund 3534)	\$50,000.00
Composting Facility (Fund 3525)	\$13,000.00
Recreation (Fund 3521)	\$105,000.00

; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 7. GENERAL FUND PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from any available funds in the Treasury, a sum sufficient to the Town Administrator Unpaid Bills account for the purpose of funding the payment of prior years' unpaid invoices; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 8. SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from any available funds in the Treasury, a sum sufficient to the Sewer Unpaid Bills account for the purpose of funding the payment of prior years' unpaid invoices; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 9. WATER ENTERPRISE FUND PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from any available funds in the Treasury, a sum sufficient to the Water Unpaid Bills account for the purpose of funding the payment of prior years' unpaid invoices; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 10. APPROPRIATE TO THE STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash, \$2,000,000 to the Stabilization Fund; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 11. FUND SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT S

To see if the Town will vote to or transfer from any available funds in the Treasury, a sum sufficient to the DPW Snow and Ice accounts; or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval .

ARTICLE 12. FUND UNANTICIPATED COSTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from any available funds in the treasury, a sum sufficient for the purpose of funding costs as listed in the table below, including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any action thereon.

Department	Project	Amount
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Finance Director	Ineligible COVID-19 Grant Expenditures	\$100,000
Finance Director	IRS levies, penalties & interest	\$100,000

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 13. APPROPRIATION FOR TOWN CAPITAL PROJECTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from any available funds in the treasury, a sum sufficient for the purpose of funding capital purchases/projects as listed in the table below, including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any action thereon.

Department	Project	Amount
Conservation	Memorial Beach Rain Garden	\$25,000
Police	Police Chief Vehicle and Associated Repair and Maint. Costs to Rotate Chief's Vehicle, Town Administrator's Vehicle & Highway Pickup Truck	\$70,000
Police, Fire, SWCCC	Mobile Radios for Police and Fire Dept.'s	\$288,200
Fire	Breathing Air Compressor (Replacement)	\$85,000
Highway	1 Pickup Truck and 2 Super Duty Pickups	\$200,000
Highway	Plow for 10-Wheel Truck	\$53,000
Recreation	Refurbish May St. Park	\$105,000

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 14. APPROPRIATION FOR SEWER CAPITAL PROJECTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Sewer retained earnings, a sum sufficient for the purpose of funding capital purchases/projects as listed in the table below, including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any action thereon.

Project	Amount
Waste Water Treatment Plan Aeration System Rehab.	\$1,009,000
Closed Circuit Televised Video	\$85,000
1/2 Cost of Pickup Truck (Remainder from Water Fund)	\$15,000
Replace Generator Thompson Rd. Pump Station	\$65,000

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 15. APPROPRIATION FOR WATER CAPITAL PROJECTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water retained earnings, a sum sufficient for the purpose of funding capital purchases/projects as listed in the table below, including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any action thereon.

Project	Amount
Demolish Clearwell at Station 1	\$100,000
Station 1 Replace Transformer, Unit Heater 1 & 2 & Well Pump 4	\$75,400
1/2 Cost of Pickup Truck (Remainder from Sewer Fund)	\$15,000
2022 Utility Truck	\$85,000
2022 Dump Truck	\$85,000

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 16. SPECIAL ACT H.3967

Motion to approve and support H.3967- An Act authorizing certain members of the Webster Fire Department to buy-back eligible retirement service time - as filed in the 192nd Session of the Legislature

Section 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the Webster Retirement Board shall credit Chris W. Jolda, a member of the Webster Retirement System, with creditable service for the period of 1/1/1977 to 7/1/2012, inclusive, for employment with the Town of Webster Rescue Service, for the purpose of determining retirement benefits pursuant to sections 5 or 10 of chapter 32 of the General Laws. Before the date that any retirement allowance becomes effective Chris W. Jolda, shall pay into the annuity savings fund of the Webster Retirement System in one (1) sum or installments, upon such terms and conditions as the Webster Retirement Board may prescribe, an amount equal to the retirement contributions such member would have otherwise paid into the Webster Retirement System from his regular compensation for such previous service, plus buyback interest.

Section 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the Webster Retirement Board shall credit Kevin P. Adams, a member of the Webster Retirement System, with creditable service for the period of 4/1/1990 to 7/1/2012, inclusive, for employment with the Town of Webster Rescue Service, for the purpose of determining retirement benefits pursuant to sections 5 or 10 of chapter 32 of the General Laws. Before the date that any retirement allowance becomes effective Kevin P. Adams, he shall pay into the annuity savings fund of the Webster Retirement System in one (1) sum or installments, upon such terms and conditions as the Webster Retirement Board may prescribe, an amount equal to the retirement contributions such member would have otherwise paid into the Webster Retirement System from his regular compensation for such previous service, plus buyback interest.

Section 3. Chris W. Jolda and Kevin P. Adams shall have a period of 5 years from the passage of this act in order to exercise the buy-back options as authorized in Section 1 and Section 2 of this bill.

Sponsored by the Board of Selectmen - The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

ARTICLE 17. REPAIRS TO WORLD WAR II AIRCRAFT OBSERVATION POST

To see if the Town will transfer from Free Cash, \$30,000 for the purpose of renovating, constructing improvements, remodeling, reconstructing, making extraordinary repairs to the World War II Aircraft Observation Post located at the Veterans Memorial Athletic Field, Ray Street, Webster; including but not limited to costs for construction, furnishing and equipping, as well as all other costs incidental or related thereto' or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Veterans Office - The Board of Selectmen refer to Sponsor.

ARTICLE 18. RETIREE COST OF LIVING INCREASE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize an increase in the maximum base amount upon which a retiree's cost of living adjustment is calculated from \$16,000.00 to \$18,000.00 pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 32, Section 103(j); or take any action thereon.

Sponsored by the Webster Contributory Retirement Board - The Board of Selectmen refer to Sponsor.

ARTICLE 19. STAR VOTING

To see if the Town will vote to approve the Town Clerk to establish STAR Voting for the next and following general elections as well as have the Finance Committee appropriate funds to

finance the implementation of STAR Voting and appropriate funds to Educate the Citizens of Webster of this new voting system. Furthermore, approval of this article will amend Section 3-1(c) of this Town Charter, as follows:

“(c) Election - The regular elections for Town office shall be held annually on such date as may from time to time be fixed in the by-laws of the Town.

1. Date of Election

0. The Regular Elections for the Town office shall be held annually on such date as may for time to time be fixed in the by-laws of the Town.

2. Use of Star Voting

0. STAR voting as conducted in the manner set forth in section 3-1(c)(3) of this charter shall be used to determine the winner or winners in all votes and elections under the jurisdiction of the City of Webster.
1. The manner of voting set forth in section 3-1(c) may be referred to as “Star voting” or “Score Then Automatic Runoff voting.”
2. When a nomination for an election to an office is determined by STAR voting, the winner of the nomination or election shall be determined in the manner set forth in section 3-1(c)(3).

3. Procedure for STAER Voting - As follows in this order:

0. The ballot shall provide the voter the option to score each candidate for an office from zero to five
1. A voter may score each candidate for an office from zero to five independently of how the voter scores any of the other candidates for the elected office. By giving a candidate a score of zero, the voter indicates no preference or the least preference for that candidate. By giving a candidate a score of five, the voter indicates the highest preference for that candidate.
2. The vote tally system or counting board shall add the total scores given to each candidate by each voter. In performing this calculation, the vote tally system or counting board shall give a candidate a score of zero if the voter did not select a score for a candidate.
3. For each office for which a candidate appears on the ballot, the two candidates who receive the highest total score, as calculated under paragraph (3.3) of section 3-1(c)(3), shall advance to a second runoff round of voting tallying in the manner described in paragraph (3.5) of section 3-1(c)(3).
4. Each ballot cast shall be tallied to determine, for each office, which of the two candidates identified in paragraph (3.4) of section 3-1(c)(3) receives the vote of each voter that cast a ballot in the election. For the purpose of vote tallying under this subsection:
 0. The candidate who received the higher score from a voter, as calculated under paragraph (3.3) and (3.4) of section 3-1(c)(3), shall receive the vote from that voter.
 1. If the two candidates received the same score from a voter, neither candidate may receive the vote of that voter.
 2. The individual who receives the most votes, as calculated under this subsection, is nominated or elected to the office.
5. When more than one person is to be nominated or elected to a single office, there shall be a successive round of vote tallying after the individual who has received the most votes, as calculated under paragraph (5) of section 3-1(c)(3), is determined.

6. The two candidates of the remaining candidates who receive the highest total score, as calculated under paragraph (3.6) of section 3-1(c)(3), shall run off in another round of voting tallying in the manner described in paragraph (3.5) of section 3.1(c)(3). This process continues until all positions are filled.
7. When STAR voting is used to determine the winner of an election to a nonpartisan office, a nominating election for the nonpartisan office shall not be held and the names of all of the candidates who have filed nominating petition or declaration of candidacy shall appear on the ballot at the general election for the nonpartisan office.
8. The Board of Selectmen shall, by ordinance, establish rules for the orderly administration of the election using STAR Voting as described in section 3-1(c), including rules to determine the prevailing candidate in case of a tie-vote at any stage of STAR Voting ”

Citizens Petition - The Board of Selectmen refer to Sponsor.

ARTICLE 20. SPECIAL ACT OF LEGISLATION

Notwithstanding Section 17 of Chapter of Chapter 138 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the Licensing Authority of the Town of Webster may grant a license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to have a package store under section 15 of said Chapter 138 to G & R Corporation, at 421 South Main St. in Webster, MA. The License shall be subject to all of said Chapter 138, except said section 17. The Licensing Authority shall not approve the transfer of the license to any other person, organization, corporation or location but it may grant the license to a new applicant at the same location if the applicant files a letter from the Department of Revenue indicating that the licensee is in good standing with the Department and all applicable taxes have been paid. Upon the issuance of the License authorized in this act, G & R Corp, shall return to the Licensing Authority the license it currently holds for the Wine and Malt Beverages sale.

If the License granted under this act is canceled, revoked, or no longer in use, it shall be returned physically with all of the legal rights, privileges, and restrictions pertaining thereto the Licensing Authority and the Licensing Authority may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location under the same terms and conditions as specified in the act.

Citizens Petition - The Board of Selectmen refer to Sponsor.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by publishing attested copies thereof in a newspaper published within the Town of Webster at least seven (7) days preceding the meeting and by posting attested copies thereof with the Town Clerk and filing in the Public Library

Thereof fail not and make due return of your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding said meeting. Given under our hands this Twelfth Day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-two.

TOWN OF WEBSTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

Randall V. Becker, Chairman

Earl Gabor, Vice Chairman

Lisa Kontoes, Secretary

Thomas Klebart, Selectman