

**TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT**

**TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**MAY 13, 2024**

**6:30 P.M.**

**OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL  
HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT  
MAY 13, 2024**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Plymouth, ss

To either of the Constables of Mattapoisett, in said County of Plymouth:

**Greetings:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Mattapoisett qualified to vote in Elections and Town Affairs to meet at the Old Rochester Regional High School, located at 135 Marion Road, in said Mattapoisett on Monday, the thirteenth day of May in the Year 2024 at six thirty in the evening, then and there to act on the following Articles:

**ARTICLE 1: ELECTED OFFICERS' COMPENSATION**

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2025 as follows:

	<b><u>CURRENT</u></b>	<b><u>PROPOSED</u></b>
Moderator	290. <sup>00</sup>	296. <sup>00</sup>
Board of Selectmen, Chairman	5,945. <sup>00</sup>	6,065. <sup>00</sup>
Board of Selectmen, Members – each	5,358. <sup>00</sup>	5,465. <sup>00</sup>
Assessor – each	5,358. <sup>00</sup>	5,465. <sup>00</sup>
Town Clerk	75,000. <sup>00</sup>	77,500. <sup>00</sup>
Board of Health – each	692. <sup>00</sup>	706. <sup>00</sup>
Highway Surveyor	87,500. <sup>00</sup>	89,500. <sup>00</sup>
Mattapoisett School Committee – each	692. <sup>00</sup>	706. <sup>00</sup>
Water/Sewer Commissioner – each	692. <sup>00</sup>	706. <sup>00</sup>
Tree Warden	10,500. <sup>00</sup>	10,710. <sup>00</sup>
Herring Inspector	988. <sup>00</sup>	1,010. <sup>00</sup>

or take any action relative thereto.

**BY VARIOUS BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**ARTICLE 2: GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sums of money to defray general operating expense of the Town for Fiscal Year 2025, including debt and interest, the money to be raised by taxation, borrowing, or transfer from available funds, or take any action relative thereto.

**Amounts to be voted are shown in Attachment “A”.**

**BY VARIOUS TOWN DEPARTMENTS**

**ARTICLE 3: APPROPRIATION FOR OPEB LIABILITIES**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the total sum of \$229,100 to meet the Town’s obligations under the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 45 to fund the Town’s future costs of other post-employment benefits (OPEB) identified by the GASB 45 Report; and as funding therefor, to raise \$200,000 from the Tax Levy, with \$160,000 to be appropriated to the Town of Mattapoisett OPEB Account, and \$40,000 to be paid for the Mattapoisett share of the ORR School Liability, and transfer the sums of \$4,100 from Sewer Retained Earnings and \$25,000 from Water Retained Earnings, to the Town of Mattapoisett OPEB Account for Water and Sewer Enterprise related OPEB Liability, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

**ARTICLE 4: DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUND AUTHORIZATION**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving fund annual expenditure limits for Fiscal Year 2025 as shown in the table below, as set forth in Article 27, Section 27.2(1) of the Town’s General By-laws.

<b>Revolving Fund</b>	<b>FY25 Limit</b>
Public Health Nursing Services	\$5,000
Heritage Days	\$10,000
Local Cultural Council	\$15,000
Wood Waste Recycling	\$10,000
Community Farmer's Market	\$7,500
Library Fines	\$10,000
Private Road Maintenance	\$25,000
Fire Alarm Bylaw Penalties	\$10,000
Public Access Channels	\$200,000

Recreation Fund	\$150,000
COA Programs	\$5,000
School Kiln/Art Project	\$7,500
Center School Clock Maintenance	\$5,000

**BY VARIOUS TOWN DEPARTMENTS**

**ARTICLE 5: ESTABLISH A ROADWAY DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION REVOLVING FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 27 of the Town’s General By-laws to add to the list set forth in Section 27.2(1) to establish a revolving fund, pursuant to MGL c. 44, § 53E½, entitled “Roadway Design and Construction”, for which the receipt of payments of fines and fees for the engineering, design, construction and paving of roadway projects in the Town of Mattapoisett shall be credited to the fund and funds may be expended consistent with the purpose for road paving, roadway repairs, and design and construction of roads in the Town of Mattapoisett, provided that no more than \$200,000 may be expended from the Roadway Design and Construction revolving fund during Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

**ARTICLE 6: ESTABLISH A CONSERVATION COMMISSION REVOLVING FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 27 of the Town’s General By-laws to add to the list set forth in Section 27.2(1) to establish a revolving fund, pursuant to G.L. c. 44, § 53E½, entitled “Conservation Commission”, for which the receipt of payments made by applicants before the Commission for engineering and other applicable fees incurred by the Conservation Commission for processing the requests shall be credited to the fund and funds may be expended by the Conservation Commission, provided that no more than \$30,000 may be expended from the Conservation Commission revolving fund during Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

**ARTICLE 7: CYCLICAL ANNUAL PROPERTY REVALUATION AND TOWN MAPPING**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000 from the Town’s Tax Levy for the purpose of funding the Department of Revenue mandated cyclical revaluation of property in Mattapoisett and mapping updates, including all incidental and related expenses, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

**ARTICLE 8: CYCLICAL ANNUAL OPEB ACTUARIAL REPORT**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,500 from the Town’s Tax Levy for the purpose of funding the mandated actuarial analysis of the Town’s OPEB liability, including all incidental and related expenses, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

**ARTICLE 9: PERSONNEL SCHEDULES**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Mattapoisett Personnel Compensation Schedules, by adding the Personnel Schedules **all as shown in Attachment “B”**, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

**ARTICLE 10: ACCEPTANCE OF REPORT OF CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

To see if the Town will vote to accept a report of the Capital Planning Committee outlining the needs of the various town departments as to both short and long-term capital equipment, improvements, and project needs **all as shown in Attachment “C”**, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 11: CAPITAL PLAN FUNDING**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the total sum of \$1,154,800, with \$729,800 from Surplus Revenue/Free Cash, and \$425,000 from Ambulance Reserve Fund for the purpose of replacing and/or purchasing and /or lease purchasing for terms up to or more than three years, as appropriate, the following items including equipping of vehicles and equipment and as applicable, professional engineering, architectural services, design, site preparation and demolition, installation, including all other incidental and related expenses all as set forth below:

**GENERAL FUND**

Ambulance Replacement ( <i>Ambulance Funds</i> )	\$ 360,000
Ambulance Power Stretcher ( <i>Ambulance Funds</i> )	\$ 40,000
Fire Helmet Replacements	\$ 11,000
Fire Hose Replacements	\$ 18,000
Ford 250 Pickup (Highway Replacement of '07)	\$ 75,000
Annual Road Improvements	\$ 300,000
Paging Sever Rauland (Old Hammondtown)	\$ 32,900
Paging Sever Rauland (Center School)	\$ 32,900

Police UTV & Stretcher (Split with Waterfront)	\$ 25,000
Replace Pump on Forestry 1 (Fire Dept.)	\$ 8,000
Repair/Paint Exterior Trim (Town Hall)	\$ 50,000
Back Building Exhaust Fan (Highway)	\$ 10,000
Water Heater Replacement (Old Hammondtown)	\$ 18,000
Elevator Equipment Upgrade (Library)	\$ 25,000
Water Heater Replacement (Center School)	\$ 18,000
Repair/Replace Fire Doors (Center School)	\$ 26,000
Repair Window Seals (Center School)	\$ 20,000
Replace VCT Flooring (Old Hammondtown)	\$ 25,000

**WATERFRONT ENTERPRISE**

Police/Marine UTV & Stretcher (Split with Police)	\$ 25,000
Docks & Floats	\$ 25,000
Pump-Out Engine/Equipment	\$ 10,000

or take any action relative thereto.

**BY VARIOUS TOWN DEPARTMENTS**

**ARTICLE 12: OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL DEBT AUTHORIZATION FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

To see if the Town will vote to approve the \$12,000,000 indebtedness authorized by the Old Rochester Regional School District for the purpose of paying costs associated with the full conditioning and commissioning of school HVAC equipment and the building automation system, and the upgrade and/or replacement of the building entry locations, emergency exits, and communication capabilities at the District's Junior/Senior High School, located at 135 Marion Road, Mattapoisett, MA, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that is otherwise capable of supporting the required educational program,, and provided, however, that the appropriation and debt authorized hereunder shall be contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt its allocable share of the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2 ½), or take any other action relative thereto.

Question 1: Shall the Town of Mattapoisett be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2½, so-called, the amounts required to pay the Town's allocable share of the bonds issued by the Old Rochester Regional School District to pay costs of making various capital improvements and repairs to the District's Junior/Senior High School, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto?

**BY ORR SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 13: WATER/SEWER BUILDING (INDUSTRIAL DRIVE)**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow, the sum of \$4,700,000 to pay the costs of the design, planning, engineering, and new construction associated with the Mattapoisett Water/Sewer Building, including all incidental and related expenses; and, to authorize the Treasurer, with approval of the Select Board, to borrow a sum of money pursuant to G.L.c.44, §§7 or 8 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds and notes therefore, and, further, that the Select Board be authorized to enter into such contracts and agreements as shall in its judgement be necessary to effectuate the intent of this article, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

**ARTICLE 14: ALLOCATION OF REVENUES COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT**

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the FY2024 Community Preservation Budget, and to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund, FY2025 estimated annual revenues to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Committee for FY2025 and reserve for future appropriation from said annual revenues a sum of money for open space, historic preservation and community housing purposes, as well as a sum of money to be placed in the FY2025 Budgeted Reserve all as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee as follows:

**Appropriate FY2025 Estimated Annual Revenues**

Administrative Expenses	\$ 1,500
Debt Service Expense	\$ 47,711

**Transfer from FY2025 Estimated Annual Revenues for the following Reserve Accounts.**

Housing	\$ 25,933
Historic Preservation	\$ 25,933
Open Space	\$ 25,933
Budgeted Reserve	\$ 117,875

or take any action relative thereto.

**BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 15: CPA FUNDING – MATTAPOISETT HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the CPA Historic Preservation Fund, or other available Community Preservation Fund revenues, the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of entering into a services contract with a preservation consultant to complete the survey plan that is Phase II of the Mattapoisett Historic Resource Inventory Project, including all incidental and related expenses, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 16: WATER RESERVE ACCOUNT**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 from Water Retained Earnings for the purpose of establishing a Water Reserve Fund for unforeseen expenses of the Department in FY2025, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

**ARTICLE 17: SEWER RESERVE ACCOUNT**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings for the purpose of establishing a Sewer Reserve Fund for unforeseen expenses of the Department in FY2025, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

**ARTICLE 18: OAKLAND STREET SEWER SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$120,000.00 of supplemental funding for the purpose of replacing the failing Oakland Street Sewer Main in its entirety including but not limited to, as applicable, professional engineering, architectural services, design, site preparation and demolition, and installation, and all other costs incidental or related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mattapoisett Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to MGL Chapter 44 section 8(7c), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor or take any action relative thereto.

**BY BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

**ARTICLE 19: AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS FOR HIGHWAY TITLE**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Mattapoisett General By-laws to rename the Highway Surveyor as the Highway Superintendent, by deleting, in each instance in which it appears, the words, "Highway Surveyor" and inserting, respectively, the words, "Highway Superintendent" and authorize the Town Clerk to make any non-substantive, ministerial revisions to ensure that gender and numerical issues in related text area revised to properly reflect such change in title, or take any action relative thereto.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

**ARTICLE 20: AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Mattapoisett General By-laws to amend Article 2 as follows, or take any action relative thereto:



2.2 A committee consisting of the Moderator of the Annual Town Meeting, the Chairman of the Select Board, and the Chairman of the School Committee, shall, at the close of the Meeting, appoint a Committee of Finance, as follows:

~~One member from the center, one from the north, one from the east, and one from the west portions of the Town, and three members-at-large.~~ Seven at-large members. Appointments shall be for three years. No person who holds an elective office shall be appointed. Said committee shall, after due consideration, prepare recommendations to present to the Town at the next annual town meeting as to appropriations proper to be made for the several departments and accounts, and may report and make recommendations on all municipal questions for the ensuing year. Should a vacancy occur during the year, it shall be filled by a majority vote of the members of a committee consisting of the Moderator of the Annual Town Meeting, the Chairman of the Select Board, and the Chairman of the School Committee.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

### **ARTICLE 21: AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS FOR HOUSE NUMBERING**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Mattapoisett General By-laws to amend Article 6 as follows, or take any action relative thereto:

6.1 ~~The Select Board Members~~ Administrator of Assessing shall assign a number to every dwelling house, store, office, factory or other building occupied for residential or business purposes which abuts on or faces a public or private way within the Town. If a dwelling house is occupied by two or more families on the ground floor, or there are two or more entrances to such dwelling house, a number shall be assigned for each front entrance or for each family occupying such dwelling. If a business establishment, hotel, lodging house, theater, or any building used for business or residential purposes has one or more entrances abutting upon a public or private way, a number shall be assigned for each entrance.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

### **ARTICLE 22: PUBLIC WORKS IMPROVEMENT ARTICLE AMENDMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 1 as voted at the January 14, 2020 Special Town Meeting by deleting the sentence underlined in the article language below and adding in its place the following, "The Town's share of the project cost shall not exceed \$1,665,000":

- The Town's share of the replacement cost of the bridge north of the bogs on Acushnet Road for \$375,000.
- Road and drainage improvements to Industrial Drive, improvements to the intersection of North Street and Industrial Drive, create a pedestrian crossing signal at the Park and Ride on North Street to the east side of the street, and build a Shared Use Path from North Street to the Mattapoisett/ Marion Town Line, including all engineering, design, bidding, permitting, and construction costs; Town share totaling \$1,665,000.  
The Town's share of the project cost \$1,665,000 must be matched dollar for dollar from Federal and State Grant /Funding sources to be used towards the project.

- Construction of an east entrance to the Mattapoisett Fire Station, and repaving of the Police Station parking lot upon completion of the new Fire Station construction, stormwater control for the Skateboard Park, fencing of drainage structures, and the Town's share for a potential fire apparatus entrance signal system totaling \$275,000.
- Engineering and bidding on upper Pearl Street and Tobey Lane for drainage, roadway and sidewalk improvements projected to be done in the Spring of 2020 totaling \$70,000.
- Design and engineering and bidding of street and stormwater drainage improvement areas including Holly Lane, Wildwood Terrace, Knollwood Drive, North Street and the subdivision streets off North Street totaling \$150,000.

Further that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7 and any other enabling authority and to issues bonds and notes payable therefor.

**BY SELECT BOARD**

**ARTICLE 23: ROAD RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

To see if the Town will vote to create a pro tem Road Reconstruction Committee of 7 members as follows: one member each of the following boards or committees as selected by that Board or Committee: Select Board, Planning Board, Community Preservation Committee, and Tree Committee, and three at large residents, two of whom are design and construction, regional planning, and or project management professionals, and who shall be appointed by the 4 other committee members after review of Notice of Interest from interested citizens; The Committee will review, comment upon, and make recommendations for design and construction of the Main, Water, Beacon, Marion Road project (MASS DOT project # 607440); Ex Officio members shall be the Town Administrator, the Highway Surveyor, the Police Chief, the Fire Chief, the Head of the Water and Sewer Department; The Committee shall serve until the final completion of the project with reappointments per Mass General Law (MGL); The Committee chair shall be elected by the members. The Committee shall have a public outreach and project management role in their actions to solicit and receive information from the project team (the project design engineer, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and Town of Mattapoisett Select Board,) to hold public meetings, and to respond to Town residents and state interests regarding the road project and to inform Town residents of the progress of work, changes, and alterations; The Committee shall work collaboratively with the Selectboard and shall provide oversight and Owner direction of the design and/or construction of the road project, including production of monthly reports, actions leading to approval of the design documents for purposes of obtaining grant funding; Committee decisions shall be made by majority vote and be consistent with the project goals and the physical requirements established by 10 % design submitted to MassDOT and all provisions of Mass General Laws, or take any action relative thereto.


**BY CITIZEN PETITION**

You are hereby notified to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the several places designated in the Town's General By-Laws, namely the Mattapoisett Post Office and the Mattapoisett Town Hall, and the Mattapoisett Library seven (7) days at least before the day appointed for said meeting.

Here of fail not and make do return of this Warrant with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.

**SELECT BOARD**



Jodi L. Bauer



Jordan C. Collyer



R. Tyler Macallister