

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
FISCAL YEAR 2023**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022 AT 7:00 P.M.**

FRANKLIN, SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Orange, in the County of Franklin:

**GREETING:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote on Town affairs, to meet at Ruth B. Smith Auditorium, located at 6 Prospect Street, in said Orange on Tuesday, the twenty first day in June 2022, at seven in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

The amount of available "Free Cash" for the General Fund, certified by the Director of Accounts is \$1,548,866.00

The amount of "Retained Earnings" for the Water Enterprise Fund, certified by the Director of Accounts is \$279,812.00

The amount of "Retained Earnings" for the Sewer Enterprise Fund, certified by the Director of Accounts is \$399,023.00

**ARTICLE 1: TOWN REPORT**

To see if the Town will accept the reports of the Officers and Committees as printed in the Annual Town Report; or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 2: REVOLVING FUNDS**

To see if the Town will vote to establish the following Revolving Accounts and add these accounts to the Revolving Funds bylaw.

| Revolving Fund          | Authorized to Spend     | Revenue Source                              | Use of Fund   |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Conservation Commission | Conservation Commission | Fees charged by the Conservation Commission | Expenses related to advertising and plan reviews                                    |
| Police Details          | Police Chief            | Detail Administration Fees                  | Covering costs of billing, fuel and expenses on cruisers, traffic safety equipment. |

or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 3: SPENDING LIMITS**

To see if the Town will vote to approve annual spending limits for FY23 for revolving funds established in the Town Bylaws, in accordance with M.G.L. c.44, s.53E1/2, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022:

| Revolving Fund               | FY23 Spending Limit |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Hazardous Spill              | \$ 20,000           |
| Gas Inspector                | \$ 15,000           |
| Plumbing Inspector           | \$ 25,000           |
| Excavation and Trench Permit | \$ 5,000            |
| Airport Fuel                 | \$250,000           |

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Sealer of Weights and Measures | \$ 15,000 |
| Board of Health                | \$ 30,000 |
| Landfill & Recycling           | \$ 30,000 |
| Landfill & Recycling           | \$ 30,000 |
| Dog Fund                       | \$ 50,000 |
| Planning Board                 | \$ 25,000 |
| Council on Aging               | \$ 6,000  |
| Conservation Commission        | \$ 10,000 |
| Police Details                 | \$ 20,000 |

or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 4: BALANCE AGREEMENTS**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements with the approval of the Board of Selectmen during Fiscal 2023 as permitted by M.G.L. c44, §53F; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 5: AUTHORIZE BORROWING**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow in anticipation of the revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 in accordance with the M.G.L. c44, §4; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 6: GRANT APPLICATIONS**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend any state and Federal grants that do not require Town appropriation; or take any other action relative thereto

#### **ARTICLE 7: SALE OF SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY AND REAL ESTATE**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen or their designee to sell or otherwise dispose of surplus or obsolete personal property and surplus real estate of the Town in accordance with Chapter 76 of the *General Bylaws of the Town of Orange* and the procedures required by M.G.L. c.30B §15 and §16; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 8: TRANSFER FROM TRANSFER STATION WINDOW STICKER REVENUE**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$6,000.00 from the Transfer Station Window Sticker Revenue Account to the Landfill Monitoring/Maintenance account in accordance with M.G.L. c.44 §28C (f) to pay for expenditures of the cost of maintenance of inactive landfill or other solid waste facilities; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 9: TRANSFER FROM TRANSFER STATION WINDOW STICKER REVENUE**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 from the Transfer Station Window Sticker Revenue Account to Sanitation part-time wages account in accordance with M.G.L. c.44 §28C (f) to pay for expenditures of the cost of maintenance of inactive landfill or other solid waste facilities; or take any other action relative thereto.

## **ARTICLE 10: WATER ENTERPRISE BUDGET**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$865,228.00 for the Water Enterprise Fund beginning July 1, 2022 in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c.44, §53F½, amount to be funded from the following sources; or take any action relative thereto.

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| User Charges               | \$827,435        |
| Water Liens                | \$23,503         |
| Other Departmental Revenue | \$313            |
| Investment Income          | \$1,977          |
| Development Charges        | \$12,000         |
| Retained Earnings          | \$0              |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>      | <b>\$865,228</b> |

To be expended as follows:

### **Direct Costs**

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Salaries & Wages  | \$295,250        |
| Expenses          | \$258,700        |
| Equipment         | \$37,500         |
| Capital Outlay    | \$27,500         |
| Debt & Interest   | \$97,782         |
| Emergency Reserve | \$15,000         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>   | <b>\$731,732</b> |

### **Indirect**

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Retirement                 | \$47,781         |
| Workers Compensation       | \$7,049          |
| Medicare                   | \$3,276          |
| Health Insurance           | \$51,915         |
| Dental                     | \$2,372          |
| Life                       | \$62             |
| Liability Insurance        | \$3,330          |
| Collecting Dept.           | \$5,150          |
| Accountant/Treasurer Dept. | \$12,561         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>            | <b>\$133,496</b> |

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>Total Expenses</b> | <b>\$865,228</b> |
|-----------------------|------------------|

## **ARTICLE 11: WWTP/SEWER ENTERPRISE BUDGET**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,161,048.00 for the WWTP/Sewer Enterprise Fund for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c.44, §53F½, amount to be funded from the following sources; or to take any other action relative thereto.

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| User Fees                  | \$1,120,848.00        |
| Retained Earnings          | \$0.00                |
| Connection Fees            | \$200.00              |
| <u>Sewer Liens Revenue</u> | <u>\$40,000.00</u>    |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>      | <b>\$1,161,048.00</b> |

To be expended as follows:

|                           | <b>Direct</b>             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Salaries & Wages          | \$298,999.00              |
| Expenses                  | \$284,673.00              |
| Capital Outlay            | \$0.00                    |
| Debt & Interest           | \$438,687.00              |
| <u>Emergency Reserve</u>  | <u>\$10,000.00</u>        |
| <b>Subtotal</b>           | <b>\$1,032,359.00</b>     |
| <br><b>Indirect Costs</b> | <br><b>\$128,689.00</b>   |
| <br><b>Total Expenses</b> | <br><b>\$1,161,048.00</b> |

## **ARTICLE 12: BOOM MOWER 5TH LEASE PAYMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from free cash the sum of \$28,570.00 for the fifth-year payment on a 5-year lease for the Highway Boom Mower, or take any other action relative thereto.

## **ARTICLE 13: ELECTED OFFICERS COMPENSATION**

To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of all elected officers of the town as provided by M.G.L. c.41, §108 effective July 1, 2022, as contained in the budget; or take any other action relative thereto.

## **ARTICLE 14: TOWN BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2023**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022; or take any other action relative thereto. (OMNIBUS BUDGET)

## **ARTICLE 15: TRANSFER FROM AMBULANCE RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account the sum of \$65,719.00 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> payment for the Fire Department Ambulance; or take any other action relative thereto.

## **ARTICLE 16: CAPITAL PLAN BORROWING FY23**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or borrow the sum of \$363,740.00 for the following Capital Projects and to meet such appropriation by authorizing the Treasurer, with the

approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow such sum under M.G.L. Chapter 44, Sec. 7 or with any other enabling authority; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Requires 2/3 majority).

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Radio System Repeaters and Accessories     | \$28,600.00  |
| Public Safety Building Feasibility Study   | \$125,000.00 |
| Town Hall Repairs                          | \$25,000.00  |
| Butterfield School Playground Improvements | \$20,000.00  |
| Head Quarters Boiler Replacement           | \$20,000.00  |
| Line Cruiser                               | \$55,000.00  |
| Station 2 Heating System Repairs/Updates   | \$15,000.00  |
| My Senior Center Touch Screen System       | \$9,140.00   |
| Command Cruiser                            | \$50,000.00  |
| Total Borrowing                            | \$347,740.00 |

#### **ARTICLE 17: TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH – FIREFIGHTER PROTECTIVE CLOTHING**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from free cash the sum of \$16,000.00 to establish an account for the replacement of Fire Dept Firefighter Protective Clothing; or take any action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 18: RESCIND BORROWING**

To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 17 of the June 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 Annual Town Meeting authorizing borrowing of \$242,349 to replace Fire Department self-contained breathing apparatus; or take any action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 19: AMBULANCE RECEIPTS REVOLVING ACCOUNT**

To see if the Town will vote to increase the contribution of revenue produced by the provision of Emergency Medical Services and ambulance service patient care insurance reimbursements into the Ambulance Receipts for Appropriation Account from 10% to 15% effective 7/1/2023 and from 15% to 20% effective 7/1/2024 of all revenue received; or take any action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 20: TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH – BUILDING DEMOLITION FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from free cash \$25,000.00 to establish a Building Demolition Fund for the purpose of paying for clean-up of properties that the Building Commissioner has declared a public hazard or unsafe; or take any action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 21: TRANSFER FROM AIRPORT RUNWAY 14-32 LIGHTING REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE PROJECT**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$29,000.00 from the airport's Runway 14-32 Lighting Replacement Project account (Article 26 of June 2019 ATM) to pay the Town's local share portion of a \$400,000.00 federal and state grant for the Airport Master Plan Update Project; or take any action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 22: TRANSFER FROM AIRPORT REVOLVING FUND TO DESIGN AND PERMITTING OF THE AIRPORT PERIMETER FENCE PROJECT & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 from the airport revolving fund to pay the Town's local share portion of a \$170,000.00 federal and state grant for the design and permitting of the Airport Perimeter Fence Project & Environmental Assessment; or take any action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 23: REDUCE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

To see if the Town will vote to decrease the appointed members on the Conservation Commission from five (5) to three (3); or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 24 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STABILIZATION TRANSFER**

To see if the Town will vote to (a) transfer from Community Development Stabilization, the sum of \$15,000.00 and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to spend said sum for the purpose of hiring a consultant to perform historical survey and planning work, including, without limitation all costs incidental or related thereto; provided, however, that no funds shall be expended until the Town of Orange has received a grant commitment or allocation for a portion of such costs under so-called MHC Survey and Planning Grant and/or under any federal and/or other state program for the foregoing project, and (b) authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or its designee to apply for and accept on behalf of the Town, funds granted under the MHC Survey and Planning Grant and/or any other funds, gifts, grants, under any federal and/or other state program in any way connected with the scope of this Article, and enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the said project on behalf of the Town of Orange; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Requires 2/3 majority)

#### **ARTICLE 25: REDUCE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 2, to reduce the number of members on the Elementary School Committee from the current composition of seven (7) members down to five (5) members; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 26: FLOOD PLAINS BYLAWS**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Orange Flood Plain Zoning Bylaw to revise current section 3320 Flood Plains to update language to reflect current Federal requirements as outlined in the US Code of Federal Regulations- Title 44 Emergency Management; with the proposed amendments being shown more particularly in text placed on file with the Town Clerk and available at Town Meeting, and further that non-substantive changes to the numbering of this bylaw be permitted in order that it be in compliance with the numbering format for the Code of Orange; or to take any action relative thereto.

(Requires 2/3 majority)

#### **ARTICLE 27: HUMAN RESOURCE BYLAW AMMENDMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Human Resource bylaw approved at Annual Town Meeting on June 15, 2015 by removing "be available to hold joint meetings with other boards or meet with individual department heads or other employees to discuss their issues and provide advice and assistance in the process for resolving the issues" in Section 4 paragraph 4.2 bullet 6; or take any other action relative thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 28: BUTTERFIELD SCHOOL ENERGY AUDIT**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,225 from the Community Development Stabilization Fund for consulting services to conduct an Energy Audit of the Butterfield School Building; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Requires 2/3 majority).

**ARTICLE 29: TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH: FINAL PAYMENT ON DEXTER ROOF**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$82,852.00 for the final payment on the Dexter School Roof Loan; or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 30: TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH: FUND TAX TITLE COLLECTIONS**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$80,000 for the legal and advertising costs of collections of the backlogged Tax Title Properties; or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 31: TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH: WAGE STUDY**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$25,000 to do a complete comprehensive wage study under the direction and control of the select board of all town positions including union positions; or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 32: TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH: FUND HIGHWAY PROJECTS**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$105,500 to continue the Highway Road project repairs that are needed in order to make progress in repairing our roads; or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 33: EASMENT FOR WATER AND SEWER PURPOSES FOR NORTH MAIN STREET AND DEXTER STREET**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire a certain permanent easement by gift, deed, take by eminent domain, or otherwise acquire, a portion of a parcel of land situated at 26 Dexter Street, Orange, MA 01364, now or formerly owned by Christopher Colo of 26 Dexter Street, Orange, MA 01364, or his agents, assigns, heirs or devisees, for sewer collection and water distribution purposes including the construction, use, maintenance, and repair of sewer and water lines and a pump station or other facilities required, and other municipal purposes, said land more particularly shown as "E-1" on a plan entitled "Easement Plan, North Main Street & Dexter Street, Prepared for Town of Orange," dated April 6, 2022, by Sherman & Frydryk, Land Surveying, Engineering, and Scientists, a division of Hancock Survey Associates, Inc., to be recorded with the Franklin County Registry of Deeds, and is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the easterly line of Dexter Street and the northerly line of North Main Street, said point being the most southerly corner of land now or formerly of Christopher Colo, as shown on said plan, thence running;

N 16° 10' 31" W      forty-six and 25/100 feet (46.25') along the easterly line of said Dexter Street to a point, thence turning and running;

N 43° 14' 53" E      fifty-nine and 34/100 feet (59.34') within land of said Colo to a point, thence turning and running;

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| N 88° 14' 53" E | fifty-six and 46/100 feet (56.46') within said last-named land to a point on the northerly line of North Main Street, thence turning and running;  |
| S 36° 55' 47" W | forty-four and 05/100 feet (44.05') along the northerly line of said last-named street to a point, thence turning and running;   |
| S 49° 28' 29" W | sixty-seven and 91/100 feet (67.91') along the northerly line of said last-named street to a point, said point also being S 57° 03' 08" E 31/100 feet (0.31') from a reinforcing bar, thence turning and running;                |
| S 31° 23' 29" W | eleven and 75/100 feet (11.75') along the northerly line of last-named street to the point of beginning, having an area of 3,807 square feet, or 0.087 acres, more or less; or take any other vote or votes in relation thereto. |

#### **ARTICLE 34: ACCEPTANCE OF THE HOLTSHIRE ROAD LAYOUT**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the layout of Holtshire Road as a town public way contingent on Franklin County Regional Governmentt executive committee vote to disconinue Holshire Rd as a county public way and further contingent on Select Board laying out Holtshire Rd as a Town public way by the following description:

#### **1896 FRANKLIN COUNTY LAYOUT – HOLTSHIRE ROAD**

BEGINNING at a stone bound at station 0 of the 1896 Franklin County Highway layout, situated on the westerly side of Holtshire Road at the Town Line between New Salem and Orange and running thence:

In a general northerly direction, following various courses, as described in the County Commissioners records in Book 1, Page 141 and including the 1932 alteration shown on a plan on file with said Commissioners in Book of Plans 7, Page 19, the 1946 alteration in Book of Plans 8, Page 19, and the 1954 alteration in Book of Plans 11, Page 22, for a distance of approximately 20,395 feet or 3.86 miles to northerly terminus at station 45 of the layout, at its intersection with the southerly line of West Orange Road (Route 2A).

Said layout being 50' wide and lying easterly of the described courses, except between stations 12 and 18 of the layout, where the easterly line is the flowage line of Lake Mattawa (formerly known as North Pond), as described in aforesaid 1896 layout; or take any other vote or action in relation thereto.

#### **ARTICLE 35: PETITION ARTICLE**

To see if the Town of Orange will vote to have the Orange Select Board annually and immediately after the annual town election, rotate the chair, vice chair, and clerk positions every year.

#### **ARTICLE 36: PETITION ARTICLE**

To see if the Town of Orange will vote to have the BOS implement immediately the rotation of the chair, vice chair, and clerk at their next scheduled meeting after this town meeting on June 21, 2022.

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

Given under our hands this 1st day of June in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

  
Jane M. Peirce

  
Thomas J. Smith

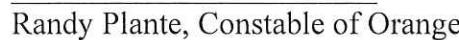
  
Patricia J. Lussier

  
Andrew J. Smith

  
Richard P. Sheridan

Selectmen, Town of Orange

A true copy. ATTEST:

  
Randy Plante, Constable of Orange

**FRANKLIN, SS.**

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Orange, by posting up attested copies of the same at the Town Hall and Post Office in Orange and the Library in North Orange seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

  
Randy Plante, Constable of Orange

  
Date