



Town of Ayer
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT

Ayer Shirley Regional High School Auditorium
141 Washington Street
Ayer, MA 01432
May 8, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Middlesex, ss.

GREETINGS:


In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ayer qualified to vote in Town Elections and Affairs to meet at the Auditorium in the Ayer Shirley Regional High School located at 141 Washington Street, Ayer, Massachusetts on Monday, the Eighth (8th) day of May, 2017, at seven o'clock in the evening (7:00 p.m.) then and there to act on the following articles:

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereof to the Town Clerk before the date appointed for said meeting.

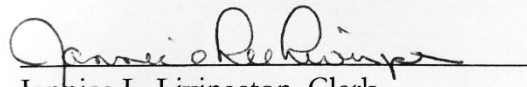
Given under our hands this 18th day of April AD 2017.



Gary J. Luca, Chairman



Christopher R. Hillman, Vice-Chairman



Jannice L. Livingston, Clerk

AYER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Any persons needing disability related assistance (such as signing, etc.) at the town meeting please contact the Selectmen's Office at 978-772-8220 before May 5, 2017. We shall make every reasonable effort to assist you. Large print version of the text of this warrant is available upon request.

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

ARTICLE 1: PAY PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash and appropriate the following amount to pay unpaid bills of Fiscal Year 2016, as authorized under General Laws Chapter 44, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto:

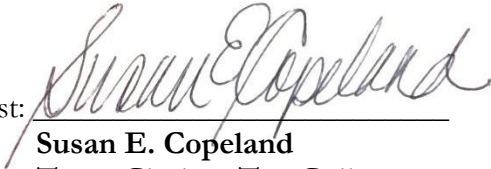
<u>Department</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Police & Fire Accident Insurance	Brigham and Women's	\$2,791.95

Explanatory Note: This article would fund prior year bills incurred by the Town for a Police 111F claim.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

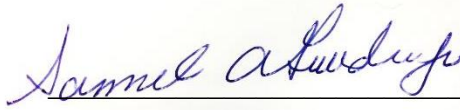
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

9/10ths Vote Required

A True Copy Attest: 
Susan E. Copeland
Town Clerk & Tax Collector

Date: April 21, 2017

As directed in the foregoing warrant, I have this day posted three attested copies in three public places, one of which was the Town Hall at least fourteen days before said meeting, all as herein directed.


Samuel A. Lundy
Constable

Date: April 21, 2017



Town of Ayer
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT

Ayer Shirley Regional High School Auditorium
141 Washington Street
Ayer, MA 01432
May 8, 2017
7:05 P.M.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Middlesex, ss.

GREETINGS:

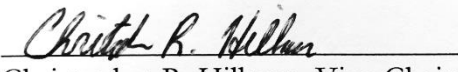
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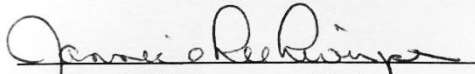
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Gary J. Luca, Chairman



Christopher R. Hillman, Vice-Chairman



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ARTICLE 1: TOWN ELECTIONS

The Town Elections are the first article of business and were held on Monday, April 24, 2017.

ARTICLE 2: SALARIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of elected officers of the Town of Ayer, as provided by Section 108, Chapter 41 off the General Laws, as amended, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

	<u>FY-17 SALARY</u>	<u>FY-18 SALARY</u>	<u>% OF CHANGE</u>
Moderator	\$500	\$510	2%
Selectmen: Chair	\$2,506	\$2,556	2%
Selectmen: Members (2)	\$2,235	\$2,280	2%
Assessors: Chair	\$2,480	\$2,530	2%
Assessors: Members (2)	\$2,210	\$2,254	2%
Treasurer	\$39,240.83	\$40,025.65	2%
Town Clerk	\$32,106.13	\$32,748.25	2%
Tax Collector	\$39,240.83	\$40,025.65	2%
Tree Warden	\$5,960	\$6,079	2%

Explanatory Note: This article is required as Town Meeting sets the salaries of elected officials pursuant to MGL Chapter 41, Section 108. The proposed 2% reflects a Cost of Living Adjustment for all paid elected officials, which has not been adjusted since 2012.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 3: CONTRACT FUNDING: AFSCME 93 Town Hall Clerical Union Contract

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the first year cost items of a collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Ayer and the Town Hall Clerical Union (AFSCME 93) for the period of July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2020, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Per MGL Chapter 150 E, Union Contracts are subject to the appropriation of funds by Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen and AFSCME 93 reached a Memorandum of Agreement on April 18, 2017 for a three year contract. The FY 2018 estimated total cost of the Contract is \$13,125. Memorandum of Agreement available on Town's website (www.ayer.ma.us). Presentation to be made at Town Meeting.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Simple Majority Vote Required

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

FY2018 Omnibus Budget

	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Approved	FY2018 Proposed	Difference		Notes
Department 100 - General Government						
01 Selectmen	\$203,451	\$219,691	\$221,502	\$1,811	0.82%	
02 Town Counsel	\$132,675	\$115,000	\$120,000	\$5,000	4.35%	
03 Town Clerk	\$76,240	\$81,708	\$83,110	\$1,402	1.72%	
04 Moderator	\$500	\$500	\$510	\$10	2.00%	
05 Parking Tickets	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,300	\$300	30.00%	
06 Public Buildings & Property Maintenance	\$257,649	\$314,851	\$338,132	\$23,281	7.39%	includes \$16,140 one time repairs/renovations various buildings
07 Registrations & Elections	\$11,327	\$17,096	\$14,946	(\$2,150)	-12.58%	fewer elections in FY18
08 Postage	\$15,615	\$19,000	\$20,000	\$1,000	5.26%	
09 American Legion	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$0	0.00%	
10 Memorial Day	\$486	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	0.00%	
11 4th of July Celebration	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%	
12 Holiday Lights	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	0.00%	
13 Communications Committee	\$0	\$700	\$0	(\$700)	-100.00%	\$700 moved to Information Technology
14 Personnel Board	\$0	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%	
Department 100 Total	709,543	\$792,646	\$822,600	\$29,954	3.78%	
Department 200 - Finance						
01 Town Accountant	\$176,234	\$180,809	\$195,589	\$14,780	8.17%	includes \$8,400 for GASB 45 (OPEB) update
02 Benefits & Payroll	\$64,808	\$67,466	\$74,872	\$7,406	10.98%	includes \$4,500 for non-union reclass & collective bargaining consulting
03 Computer Support - Financial Systems	\$44,768	\$47,982	\$48,288	\$306	0.64%	
04 Assessors	\$171,563	\$179,735	\$177,786	(\$1,949)	-1.08%	includes \$7,000 decrease in consulting services
05 Tax Collector	\$86,194	\$96,353	\$97,854	\$1,501	1.56%	
06 Treasurer	\$73,306	\$78,306	\$79,412	\$1,106	1.41%	
07 Health & Life Insurance	\$1,300,358	\$1,515,015	\$1,532,673	\$17,658	1.17%	
08A Property & Liability Insurance	\$140,706	\$125,484	\$132,603	\$7,119	5.67%	
08B Workers Compensation	\$33,937	\$46,328	\$56,161	\$9,833	21.22%	
08C Fire & Police Accident	\$173,289	\$185,359	\$185,359	\$0	0.00%	
<i>subtotal</i>	<i>347,932</i>	<i>\$357,171</i>	<i>\$374,123</i>	<i>\$16,952</i>	<i>4.75%</i>	
09 Unemployment Compensation	\$24,510	\$40,000	\$25,000	(\$15,000)	-37.50%	decrease based on FY14 to FY17 actual cost
10 County Retirement Assessment	\$1,343,292	\$1,429,491	\$1,363,375	(\$66,116)	-4.63%	per assessment from Middlesex Retirement System
11 Notes & Bonds(Principal)	\$783,000	\$947,900	\$942,010	(\$5,890)	-0.62%	
12 Interest	\$197,111	\$177,459	\$179,095	\$1,636	0.92%	
13 Tax Title	\$1,532	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	0.00%	
14 FICA Medicare	\$92,118	\$100,000	\$108,000	\$8,000	8.00%	increase based on salary increases and historical actuals
15 Finance Committee	\$176	\$500	\$500	\$0	0.00%	
16 Reserve Fund	\$134,934	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0	0.00%	
Department 200 Total	4,841,836	\$5,376,187	\$5,356,577	(\$19,610)	-0.36%	
Department 300 - Public Safety						
01 Police Department	\$2,016,871	\$2,425,623	\$2,606,205	\$180,582	7.44%	wages increases \$143,851; increase in cost of cruiser \$10,800
02 Fire Department	\$1,573,655	\$1,614,363	\$1,688,656	\$74,293	4.60%	wage increases \$71,618; \$4,000 carpeting for training room
03 Building Department	\$76,939	\$81,983	\$99,936	\$17,953	21.90%	includes addl \$17,544 for full-time inspector
04 Emergency Management	\$11,759	\$12,500	\$12,592	\$92	0.74%	
05 Animal Control Officer (Dog Officer)	\$13,101	\$13,425	\$13,711	\$286	2.13%	
06 Animal/Barn Inspector	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$2,600	\$0	0.00%	
07 Tree Warden	\$38,538	\$44,460	\$44,579	\$119	0.27%	
Department 300 Total	3,733,463	\$4,194,954	\$4,468,279	\$273,325	6.52%	
Department 400 - Public Works						
01 Public Works	\$877,438	\$1,074,755	\$1,120,687	\$45,932	4.27%	includes \$55,000 culvert replacements
02 Snow & Ice Removal	\$207,096	\$262,287	\$300,000	\$37,713	14.38%	to reflect past actual expense
03 Public Works - Street Lighting	\$67,757	\$64,000	\$60,000	(\$4,000)	-6.25%	
04 Care of Graves	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	0.00%	
Department 400 Total	1,154,791	\$1,403,542	\$1,483,187	\$79,645	5.67%	
Department 500 - Human Services						
01 Council on Aging	\$127,618	\$130,757	\$135,828	\$5,071	3.88%	
02 Board of Health	\$15,054	\$17,393	\$17,693	\$300	1.72%	
03 Nashoba Assoc., Board of Health	\$24,551	\$25,440	\$26,711	\$1,271	5.00%	FY18 assessment
04 Parks Department	\$141,091	\$134,587	\$142,776	\$8,189	6.08%	includes \$3,839 adjustment due to minimum wage increase
05 Ayer/Shirley Youth Football & Cheerleading	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%	
06 Little League	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	0.00%	
07 Veterans Agent	\$18,376	\$19,202	\$19,219	\$17	0.09%	
08 Veterans Benefits	\$121,553	\$125,000	\$140,000	\$15,000	12.00%	increased to reflect FY17 actuals
09 Library	\$496,882	\$561,676	\$578,251	\$16,575	2.95%	
10 Disabilities Comm.	\$0	\$700	\$700	\$0	0.00%	
Department 500 Total	953,125	\$1,022,755	\$1,069,178	\$46,423	4.54%	
Department 600 - Management Support						
01 Conservation Commission	\$25,709	\$44,529	\$55,086	\$10,557	23.71%	FY18 is first full year with full time Conservation Agent
02 Economic & Community Development	\$20,085	\$34,296	\$35,852	\$1,556	4.54%	
03 Town Planner	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000	100.00%	new position

FY2018 Omnibus Budget

	FY2016 Actual	FY2017 Approved	FY2018 Proposed	Difference		Notes
04 Historical Commission	\$180	\$750	\$750	\$0	0.00%	
05 Montachusett Reg. Plan. Comm.	\$2,274	\$2,332	\$2,390	\$58	2.49%	
06 Mngmt Support (printing & reporting)	\$6,724	\$48,965	\$49,774	\$809	1.65%	
07 Information Technology	\$123,954	\$134,583	\$149,699	\$15,116	11.23%	
Department 600 Total	178,926	\$265,455	\$368,551	\$103,096	38.84%	
Total Summary by Department						
Dept 100 - General Government	709,543	\$792,646	\$822,600	\$29,954	3.78%	
Dept 200 - Finance	4,841,836	\$5,376,187	\$5,356,577	(\$19,610)	-0.36%	
Dept 300 - Public Safety	3,733,463	\$4,194,954	\$4,468,279	\$273,325	6.52%	
Dept 400 - Public Works	1,154,791	\$1,403,542	\$1,483,187	\$79,645	5.67%	
Dept 500 - Human Services	953,125	\$1,022,755	\$1,069,178	\$46,423	4.54%	
Dept 600 - Management Support	178,926	\$265,455	\$368,551	\$103,096	38.84%	
Total Operating Budgets	11,571,684	\$13,055,539	\$13,568,372	\$512,833	3.93%	

FY18 assessment
includes \$4,028 increase in services to archive social media; \$700 moved from Communication line item; \$5,500 for ClearGov app

ARTICLE 4: OMNIBUS BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sum or sums of money for the Omnibus items, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto:

- Dept. 100: General Government
- Dept. 200: Finance
- Dept. 300: Public Safety
- Dept. 400: Public Works
- Dept. 500: Human Services
- Dept. 600: Education
- Dept. 700: Management Support

Explanatory Note: Please see insert for Omnibus Budget. Finance Manager and Finance Committee will make a presentation on the budget. Omnibus Budget represents a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) as recommended by the Personnel Board and approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen Recommends
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 5: ESTABLISHING AND APPROPRIATING SPECIAL EDUCATION RESERVE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 13E, which allows the establishment of, and appropriation or transfer of money to, a reserve fund to be utilized in the upcoming fiscal years to pay, without further appropriation, unanticipated or unbudgeted costs of special education, out-of-district tuition or transportation, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: This article would establish a Special Education Reserve Fund for the ASRSD.

Sponsor: Ayer Shirley Regional School Committee
Board of Selectmen: Recommends
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 6: FY 2018 AYER SHIRLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,368,599 required to fund the Town’s FY 2018 assessment for the Ayer Shirley Regional School District, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$984,707 for the Town’s portion of the ASRSD High School Building Project debt service, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Ayer Shirley Regional School Committee

For more information, please visit the Town’s website: www.ayer.ma.us

Board of Selectmen: Recommends
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

**ARTICLE 7: FY 2018 NASHOBA VALLEY TECHNICAL
VOCATIONAL SCHOOL ASSESSMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$632,697 required to fund the FY 2018 assessment for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Nashoba Valley Technical Vocational School Committee
Board of Selectmen: Recommends
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

ENTERPRISE FUND ARTICLES

Handouts will be provided at Town Meeting with further detail on Articles No. 8 – 11

ARTICLE 8: SOLID WASTE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the following funds to operate the solid waste department:

Direct costs of \$436,897 of which \$282,000 is to come from solid waste revenue, \$24,968 is to come from solid waste retained earnings and \$129,929 is to come from the tax levy, and indirect costs of \$110,978 to come from the tax levy; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 9: AMBULANCE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the following funds to operate the ambulance department:

Direct costs of \$163,493 is to come from ambulance revenue, and indirect costs of \$356,165 of which \$286,507 is to come from ambulance revenue and \$69,658 from ambulance retained earnings; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

Section 4 - The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Annual Town Meeting or any increase therein as may later be authorized by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee in accordance with G.L. c.44, §53E½.

Section 5 - Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the General Fund.

Section 6 - Authorized Revolving Funds

<u>REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM OR PURPOSE</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT RECEIPTS TO BE CREDITED TO FUND</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE OR BOARD ENTITY AUTHORIZED TO SPEND</u>
FIRE ALARM FUND - fire alarm repairs and replacement	Fire alarm box assessment fees and fines for needless and false alarms	Fire Chief
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND - replacement of supplies and expenses	Fees and charges from Hazardous Materials incidents	Fire Chief
FOURTH OF JULY FUND - purchasing and promoting the event	Receipts from vendor fees	4th of July Committee, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen
DPW INSPECTION FEES FUND - funding inspections of road construction, drainage facilities, and water and sewer line installations	Fees and charges from developers and contributions	Superintendent of Public Works
TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE FUND -costs related to operation, maintenance, repair and/or reconstruction at Town Hall and its grounds	Fees assessed for use of Town Hall facilities	Board of Selectmen

Section 7 - Procedures and Reports - Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, §53E½ and this by-law, all applicable state and local laws and regulations that govern the receipt, custody, expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of revolving funds established and authorized by this by-law.

And, further, to establish the following fiscal year spending limit for such funds:

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
FIRE ALARM FUND	\$ 35,000
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND	\$ 10,000
FOURTH OF JULY FUND	\$ 25,000
DPW INSPECTION FEES FUND	\$100,000
TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE FUND	\$ 10,000

Or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: The provisions of the Municipal Modernization Act include revisions to G.L. c.44, §53E ½. Revolving funds must now be established by bylaw and will not need an annual vote of Town Meeting unless a revolving fund is added/ deleted or a limit needs to be changed.

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Simple Majority Vote Required

BORROW ARTICLE

ARTICLE 13: CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow the sums set out in the Warrant and hereby listed for the purposes of funding the following equipment, services, and public works projects as contained in the **Capital Budget**, each sum hereafter to be voted on separately, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

<u>Department</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DPW - Storm Water	Street Sweeper	\$220,000
Police	Radio Infrastructure (phase II)	\$207,185
Sewer Enterprise	Infiltration/Inflow Improvements	\$243,000
	Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements	\$5,250,000
Ambulance Enterprise	Replace Cardiac Monitor	<u>\$32,000</u>
	Total:	\$5,952,185.00

Sponsor: Capital Planning Committee
Board of Selectmen: Recommends
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Two Thirds Vote Required

DEBT EXCLUSION ARTICLES

ARTICLE 14: AUTHORIZATION FOR DEBT EXCLUSION FOR THE WEST MAIN STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of one million two hundred and thirty thousand dollars (\$1,230,000) for the purpose of replacing the West Main Street bridge, including any design, engineering, and incidental and related costs and expenses; and that to meet this appropriation, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 44, §7 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, provided 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 issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved hereunder in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing by a like amount the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs; provided that any borrowing or expenditure hereunder shall be contingent upon the passage of a debt exclusion ballot question, pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 59 §21C; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Two Thirds Vote Required

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

ARTICLE 15: AUTHORIZATION FOR DEBT EXCLUSION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS CENTER

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of nine hundred thousand dollars (\$900,000) for the construction of the DPW Operations Center, including any design, engineering, and incidental and related costs and expenses; and that to meet this appropriation, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 44, §7 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, provided 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 issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved hereunder in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing by a like amount the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs; provided that any borrowing or expenditure hereunder shall be contingent upon the passage of a debt exclusion ballot question pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 59 §21C; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Two Thirds Vote Required

ARTICLE 16: AUTHORIZATION FOR DEBT EXCLUSION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY STORAGE GARAGE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000) for the construction of the DPW Highway Storage Garage, including any design, engineering, and incidental and related costs and expenses; and that to meet this appropriation, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 44, §7 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, provided 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 issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved hereunder in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing by a like amount the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs; provided that any borrowing or expenditure hereunder shall be contingent upon the passage of a debt exclusion ballot question pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 59 §21C ;said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Two Thirds Vote Required

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

ARTICLE 17: AUTHORIZATION FOR DEBT EXCLUSION FOR THE PARKS DEPARTMENT STORAGE AND MAINTENANCE BUILDING

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) for the construction of the Parks Department Storage and Maintenance Building, including any design, engineering, and incidental and related costs and expenses; and that to meet this appropriation, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 44, §7 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, provided 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 issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved hereunder in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing by a like amount the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs; provided that any borrowing or expenditure hereunder shall be contingent upon the passage of a debt exclusion ballot question pursuant to the provisions of MGL c. 59 §21C; said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
 Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Two Thirds Vote Required

TRANSFER ARTICLES

ARTICLE 18: CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Capital Stabilization the following sums hereby listed for the purpose of funding the following equipment, services and public works projects as contained in the Capital Budget, each sum hereafter to be voted on separately, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto:

Facilities	Fire Station HVAC	\$29,500
Fire Department	Phone System	\$11,000
	Flood Control Engineering	\$20,000
	Replace Training Room Furniture	\$16,000
Planning & Development	Railroad Fence (materials only)	\$15,000
Parks Department	Perimeter Path Survey (Pirone Park)	\$15,000
DPW Highway	Main Street Conceptual Design	<u>\$20,000</u>
	Total	\$126,500

Sponsor: Capital Planning Committee
 Board of Selectmen: Recommends
 Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Two Thirds Vote Required

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

ARTICLE 19: UDAG REPLENISHMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$338,426 from Free Cash to replenish the Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) account for the following:

Street Signs (voted FY15)	\$13,590
Additional 111F Costs (voted FY16)	\$22,597
Environmental Impact – Old Fire Station (voted FY15 and FY16)	\$4,039
Removal of Fuel Tank – Old Fire Station (voted FY16)	\$3,200
Remaining Depot Square and Access Building costs (voted FY16)	<u>\$295,000</u>
Total	\$338,426

Or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: This article will replenish the Town’s UDAG Fund in the amounts set forth in the article. These funds were used from the UDAG’s unrestricted funds for purposes that did not have a repayment mechanism in place.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 20: GASB-45/OPEB (Post-Employment Benefits) FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$133,700 and transfer \$166,300 from Free Cash, totaling the sum of \$300,000, to meet the Town’s obligations under the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 45 to fund the Town’s future obligation for the cost of other post-employment benefits (OPEB), or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

RAISE & APPROPRIATE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 21: FIRST YEAR’S INTEREST–GENERAL FUND BORROWING

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$293,039 required to provide for the first year’s interest charges and associated administrative expenses on all General Fund borrowing/bonding authorized by this Town Meeting, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting Simple Majority Vote Required

For more information, please visit the Town’s website: www.ayer.ma.us

ARTICLE 25: FIRE EQUIPMENT GRANT MATCH

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,794 as the Town’s matching share of a grant to be used for the purchase of fire equipment, and any incidental and related costs and expenses, or take any action thereon or in relation thereto. Funds are to be spent by June 30, 2021; unexpended funds on June 30, 2021, to close and revert to general fund balance.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 26: STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$178,933 and transfer \$282,117 from Free Cash, totaling the sum of \$461,050, or such other sum or sums of money, with \$61,050 to be credited to the Stabilization Fund under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, and \$400,000 to be credited to the Capital Stabilization Fund per the Town’s Financial Policies or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Simple Majority Vote Required

OTHER BUSINESS ARTICLES

ARTICLE 27: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

To see if the Town will hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2018 Community Preservation Act budget, and appropriate from the estimated FY 2018 Community Preservation Fund revenues:

- A sum of money equal to five percent, and not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2018.

And further, to reserve for future appropriation from the estimated FY 2018 Community Preservation Fund revenues the following sums of money, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, for each of the following purposes:

- A sum of money equal to \$81,878, more or less, for acquisition, creation and preservation of open space excluding land for recreational use, and
- A sum of money equal to \$22,595, more or less, for acquisition, preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of historic resources, and
- A sum of money equal to \$22,595, more or less, for acquisition, creation and preservation and support of community housing.

And the remainder sum of \$81,877 for the Community Preservation FY 2018 Budgeted Reserve.

Or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

For more information, please visit the Town’s website: www.ayer.ma.us

**ARTICLE 31: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUND FY 2018
TRANSFER OF FUNDS**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Community Preservation Fund FY 2018 estimated annual revenues, the sum of \$12,000 to be added to that appropriated for the Community Preservation Committee FY 2018 administrative expenses under Article 32, such sum to be used for due diligence, including title searches and related administrative tasks, for potential open space acquisitions; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: Due diligence for future appropriations by the Community Preservation Committee for general open space purposes.

Sponsor: Community Preservation Committee

Board of Selectmen: Recommends

Finance Committee: To report at Town Meeting

Simple Majority Vote Required

**ARTICLE 32: ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONS OF MGL CHAPTER
90, SECTION 17C**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.90, §17C, which allows the Board of Selectmen to establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour in any thickly settled or business district in the Town that is not a state highway; or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: With the passage of the Massachusetts Modernization Act, this article would authorize that the statutory speed limit within a thickly settled or business district will reduce from 30 mph to 25 mph without the need to receive approval from MassDOT. This does not affect areas that are already posted and such postings cannot be changed.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Simple Majority Vote Required

ARTICLE 33: SOLAR LEASE FOR LANDFILL SITE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of the parcel(s) of land located at 100 Groton Harvard Road and known as the “Closed Town Landfill” as shown on Assessors’ Map 13 as Lot 3, from the Department of Public Works for DPW purposes jointly to such board for the purposes for which such land is held and to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of leasing such parcel of land and granting easements on, over or under such parcel of land for the installation of renewable energy facilities; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to (i) lease, through one or more lease agreements, all or a portion of said parcel(s) of land for the installation of one or more renewable energy facilities for terms of up to 30 years commencing on the date on which such facilities achieve commercial operation, as determined by the Board of

For more information, please visit the Town’s website: www.ayer.ma.us

Selectmen; (ii) grant such easements on, over and/or under such parcel of land and any contiguous parcels of land as necessary or convenient to serve the facilities; and (iii) take any actions and execute any other documents or ancillary agreements necessary or convenient to accomplish the foregoing, and to implement and administer the lease agreements and easements, all of which agreements, easements 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 action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: This article would authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease agreement for the Town-owned land located at 100 Groton Harvard Road and known as the "Closed Town Landfill" as shown on Assessor's Map 13 as Lot 3 for the purposes of the Town's solar field project.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Two Thirds Vote Required

ARTICLE 34: SOLAR LEASE DPW WASTEWATER SITE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, and control of the parcel(s) of land located at 25 Brook Street known as the "Closed Wastewater Sludge Landfill" as shown on Assessors' Map 25 as Lot 23, from the Department of Public Works for DPW purposes jointly to such board for the purposes for which such land is held and to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of leasing such parcel of land and granting easements on, over or under such parcel of land for the installation of renewable energy facilities; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to (i) lease, through one or more lease agreements, all or a portion of said parcel(s) of land for the installation of one or more renewable energy facilities for terms of up to 30 years commencing on the date on which such facilities achieve commercial operation, as determined by the Board of Selectmen; (ii) grant such easements on, over and/or under such parcel of land and any contiguous parcels of land as necessary or convenient to serve the facilities; and (iii) take any actions and execute any other documents or ancillary agreements necessary or convenient to accomplish the foregoing, and to implement and administer the lease agreements and easements, all of which agreements, easements 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 action thereon or in relation thereto.

Explanatory Note: This article would authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease agreement for the Town-owned land located at 25 Brook Street known as the "Closed Wastewater Sludge Landfill" as shown on Assessor's Map 25 as Lot 23 for the purposes of the Town's solar field project.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Two Thirds Vote Required

For more information, please visit the Town's website: www.ayer.ma.us

ARTICLE 35: AGREEMENTS FOR PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOTs) FOR SOLAR FACILITIES

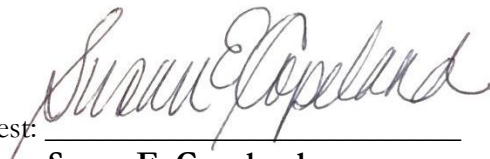
To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to (i) enter into one or more agreements for “payments in lieu of taxes” (or “PILOTs”) pursuant to G.L. c. 59, § 38H(b), or any other enabling authority, for real and personal property taxes with the owners of renewable energy facilities to be installed on Town-owned land at the locations set forth below, each for a term of up to 30 years commencing on the date on which such facilities achieve commercial operation, as determined by the Board of Selectmen, and (ii) take any actions and execute any other documents or ancillary agreements necessary or convenient to accomplish the foregoing and to implement and administer the PILOT agreements, all of which agreements and documents shall be on such other terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interests of the Town:

1. Parcel(s) of land located at 100 Groton Harvard Road and known as the “Closed Town Landfill” as shown on Assessor’s Map 13 as Lot 3; and
2. Parcel(s) of land located at 25 Brook Street known as the “Closed Wastewater Sludge Landfill” as shown on Assessor’s Map 25 as Lot 23.

Or take any action thereon or in relation thereto.

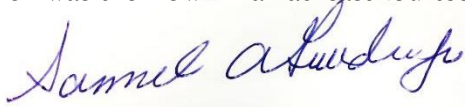
Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Simple Majority Vote Required

A True Copy Attest: 
Susan E. Copeland
Town Clerk & Tax Collector

Date: April 21, 2017

As directed in the foregoing warrant, I have this day posted three attested copies in three public places, one of which was the Town Hall at least fourteen days before said meeting, all as herein directed.


Samuel A. Lundy
Constable

Date: April 21, 2017

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