## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TOWN OF PEMBROKE, MASSACHUSETTS



# 2023 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

ATTEND THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2023 7:00 P.M.

PEMBROKE HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING LANE PEMBROKE, MA



#### TOWN OF PEMBROKE SPECIAL FALL TOWN MEETING WARRANT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2023

PLYMOUTH, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Pembroke in the county aforesaid.

GREETING: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Pembroke who are qualified to vote on Town Affairs and Elections therein to meet at the PEMBROKE HIGH SCHOOL, Learning Lane, on TUESDAY, the TWENTY-FOURTH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023 at SEVEN O'CLOCK in the evening, then and there to act on the following:

#### **ARTICLES 1 THROUGH 5**

#### <u>ARTICLE 1 – BALANCE THE CURRENT YEAR'S BUDGET: GENERAL OPERATING</u>

To see if the Town will transfer from surplus revenue and/or other available funds a sum of money to reduce the amount to be raised through taxation for the Town's operating costs for FY 2024 or take any other action relative thereto.

Submitted by the Town Accountant

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

**Favorable Action Favorable Action** 

EXPLANATION: This article is used to balance the current year budget by providing for budget increases to support the Pembroke Public Schools and Oldham Street drainage and flooding and any other shortfall as listed below. This requires a majority vote unless any funds are transferred from a Stabilization Fund.

Description	Funds	Source
Pembroke Public Schools	\$70,000	Free Cash
Oldham Street Drainage	\$10,000	Free Cash
Revenue – Net State Aid/Assessments	\$6,335	Free Cash
Revenue – Net New Growth	\$90,405	Free Cash
Tax Rate	\$23,260	Free Cash
Total	\$200,000	Free Cash

#### ARTICLE 2 – BALANCE THE CURRENT YEAR'S BUDGET: WATER ENTERPRISE,

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Water Enterprise Retained Earnings and/or other available funds a sum of money to supplement funds previously appropriated for the FY2024 the Water Enterprise Budget under Article 3 of the May 2023 Annual Town Meeting, to reduce the amount to be raised through water rates for the Fiscal Year 2024, or take any other action relative thereto.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

**Favorable Action Favorable Action** 

EXPLANATION: This article will balance the current year budget by providing for last year's Water Enterprise shortfalls of \$120,000 and any other shortfall as may become necessary. This requires a majority vote unless any funds are transferred from a Stabilization Fund.

#### <u>ARTICLE 3 – CAPITAL ITEM FUNDING REQUESTS</u>

To see if the Town will transfer from surplus revenue and/or other available funds a sum of money to be expended for capital projects and/or equipment in accordance with the following capital budget schedule which is incorporated by reference herein, or take any other action relative thereto.

DEPARTMENT	PROJECT	REQUEST	FUNDING
DPW – Highway	Ms4 Stormwater Management Program Engineering	\$53,500	Free Cash
DPW – Cemetery	Cemetery Building Repairs: Roof and Siding Replacement, Electrical, Heating	\$50,000	Free Cash
Town Clerk	High Speed Vote Tabulator System	\$25,000	Free Cash
Library	Paving	\$11,000	Free Cash
Town Hall	Front Entry Approach and Walkway Engineering	\$25,000	Free Cash
Town Hall	Gutter, Drainage and Stormwater Engineering	\$75,000	Free Cash

Total \$ 239,500

Submitted by Various Town Departments

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Favorable Action
Favorable Action

EXPLANATION: This article seeks approval and funding of the Town's Capital Plan for Fiscal Year 2024. Borrowing requires a 2/3 vote.

#### <u>ARTICLE 4 – COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE PROJECTS</u>

To see if the town will vote to adopt and approve the following recommendations of the Pembroke Community Preservation Committee for fiscal year 2024, and to see if the town will vote to implement such recommendations by appropriating a sum or sums of money from the Community Preservation Act fund. Each recommendation is to be voted on individually and requires a majority vote. Further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into grant agreement with the entities and for the projects identified below on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deem to be in the best interests of the Town.

**Recommendation A**: To appropriate the sum of \$45,000.00 from the historic resources reserve fund for historic preservation purposes, and that said funds be granted to the Town Manager for the purpose of installing a septic system at Bryantville Meeting House, thereby preserving and rehabilitating this historic resource, or take any other action relative thereto.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Favorable Action Favorable Action

**Recommendation B**: To appropriate the sum of \$124,175.00 from the recreational resources reserve fund for recreational purposes and that said funds be granted to the Town Manager for the purpose of making improvements to boat ramps at town beaches, thereby preserving, rehabilitating and restoring land for recreational use, or take any other action relative thereto.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Favorable Action SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: Favorable Action

**Recommendation C**: To appropriate the sum of \$75,000.00 from the recreational resources reserve fund and that said funds be granted to the Town Manager for the purpose of developing a parks and recreation Master Plan to preserve, rehabilitate, and restore land for recreational use or take any other action relative thereto.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Favorable Action
Favorable Action

**Recommendation D**: To appropriate the sum of \$47,000.00 from the recreational resources reserve fund, and that said funds be granted to the Town Manager for the purpose of making improvements to parking and drainage at the ballfield and playground improvements at Magoun Baseball Field, thereby preserving, rehabilitating and restoring land for recreational use, or take any other action relative thereto.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Favorable Action Favorable Action

**Recommendation E**: To appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 from the open space resources reserve fund, and that said funds be granted to the Town Manager for the purpose of funding an engineering assessment and preliminary plans to install or improve bathrooms at Lage Preserve and Birch St Playground, thereby preserving, rehabilitating and restoring land for recreational use, or take any other action relative thereto.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Favorable Action Favorable Action

**Recommendation F**: To appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 from the recreational resources reserve fund, and that said funds be granted to the Town Manager for the purpose of funding engineering design and plans for fencing and field improvements at Howard Bezanson Field at 128 Center Street, thereby preserving, rehabilitating and restoring land for recreational use, or take any other action relative thereto.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Favorable Action
Favorable Action

Submitted by the Community Preservation Committee

## ARTICLE 5 – ACCEPTANCE OF PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. C. 59, s. 5N: REDUCTION OF PROPERTY TAX OBLIGATION OF VETERAN IN EXCHANGE FOR VOLUNTEERISM

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 59, Section 5N whereby the Select Board may establish a program to allow veterans, as defined in clause Forty-third of section 7 of chapter 4 or a spouse of a veteran in the case where the veteran is deceased or has a service-

connected disability, to volunteer to provide services to that city or town. In exchange for such volunteer services, the city or town shall reduce the real property tax obligations of that veteran on the veteran's tax bills and that reduction shall be in addition to any exemption or abatement to which that person is otherwise entitled; provided, however, that person shall not receive a rate of, or be credited with, more than the current minimum wage of the commonwealth per hour for the services provided pursuant to that reduction; and provided further, that the reduction of the real property tax bill shall not exceed \$1,500 in a given tax year. A city or town, by vote of its legislative body, subject to its charter, may adjust the exemption in this clause by: (i) allowing an approved representative for persons physically unable to provide such services to the city or town; or (ii) allowing the maximum reduction of the real property tax bill to be based on 125 volunteer service hours in a given tax year, rather than \$1,500.

Submitted by the Select Board

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Favorable Action
Favorable Action

EXPLANATION: The intended purpose of this article is to allow the Pembroke Select Board to establish a program to allow veterans to volunteer to provide services in Pembroke and, in exchange for such volunteer services, the town shall reduce the real property tax obligations of that veteran on the veteran's tax bills and that reduction shall be in addition to any exemption or abatement to which that person is otherwise entitled.

Given under our hands and seals this 27<sup>TH</sup> day of September, 2023.

PEMBROKE SELECT BOARD		
Daniel W. Trabucco, Chairman		
Steven Ciciotti, Vice-Chairman		
Tracy		
Tracy Marino, Clerk		
Ins Drank		
John G. Brown, Jr., Selectman		
Michael Hynn		
Richard Flynn, Selectman		

A TRUE COPY ATTEST: Margaret Struzik, Town Clerk

Pursuant to the Warrant for the Special Fall Town Meeting to be held on October 24, 2023, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Pembroke by posting up attested copies of the same at the Town Office Building, Pembroke Center Library, Pembroke Center Post Office, North Pembroke Post Office, Bryantville Post Office, and the Country Corner Store.

POSTED:

Date: 10:10 - 2 023

By: