

TOWN OF LINCOLN, MASSACHUSETTS

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: Saturday, March 28, 2015: 9:30 a.m.
ANNUAL ELECTION: Monday, March 30, 2015: 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

2015 WARRANT



TOWN OF LINCOLN

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MIDDLESEX, ss

To either of the Constables of the Town of Lincoln in said County:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth you are hereby required to notify the legal voters of said Town of Lincoln qualified to vote at Town Meeting for the transaction of Town Affairs to meet for the annual election at the Smith School Gymnasium on Monday, the thirtieth day of March, 2015 next, starting at 7:30 a.m., then and there to act on the following Article 1, **and also to meet for the annual town meeting in the Donaldson Auditorium in said Lincoln on Saturday, the twenty-eighth day of March, 2015 at 9:30 a.m., then and there to act on the following articles, except Article 1**, by posting a copy of this Warrant, by you attested, in said Town, seven days at least before the 28th day of March next.

The polls for voting the ballot on Monday, March 30, 2015 will be opened at 7:30 a.m. and will be closed at 8:00 p.m.

Any person requiring this warrant in a larger print format, or anyone requiring handicap related assistance at the town meeting, please contact the Selectmen's Office at 781-259-2601 prior to Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Every reasonable attempt will be made to provide the necessary assistance.

Note: Town meeting shall be continued to Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Donaldson Auditorium, if needed.

ARTICLE 1

To bring in their votes for one or more members for each of the following offices;

- Board of Assessors for three years
- Board of Health for three years
- Board of Selectmen for three years
- Cemetery Commission for three years
- Commissioner of Trust Funds for three years
- DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park Trustee for four years
- Housing Commission for three years
- Housing Commission for one year
- Lincoln Sudbury Regional District School Committee, two seats for three years
- Parks and Recreation Committee for three years
- Planning Board for three years
- School Committee, two for three years
- Trustee of Bemis for three years
- Water Commission for three years

And to consider the following questions:

1. Shall the Town of Lincoln be allowed to assess an additional \$750,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of conducting a Feasibility Study to develop building project renovation or repair choices for the Lincoln School, located at Ballfield Road, including all costs incidental and related thereto, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015?

YES NO

2. Shall the Town of Lincoln be allowed to assess an additional \$75,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for development of a campus master plan for the Ballfield Road school complex, to include an evaluation of traffic/circulation, site accessibility, safety, parking, wetlands, zoning set-backs, septic and building locations, including all costs incidental and related thereto, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015?

YES NO

ARTICLE 2

To bring in their votes for any Committees, Commissioners, Trustees, and other officers required by law to be elected by ballot or otherwise.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 3

To receive and act upon the reports of the Town Officers, Committees, Commissioners and Trustees.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of the several elective officers of the Town and to determine whether any Department, Board or Committee shall be authorized to employ for additional compensation any of its members and to fix additional compensation of such members; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 59, Section 5C½ of the Massachusetts General Laws, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions by 100 percent to all persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C1/2, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C or 43 of Chapter 59, Section 5 of the Massachusetts General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

Assessors

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or otherwise, to fund the Town's Senior Tax Work-off Program, as established pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5K, as it may be amended from time to time; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, or otherwise, to fund the Town's Veteran Tax Work-off Program, as established pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5N, as it may be amended from time to time; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the necessary and expedient purposes of the Town; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee

ARTICLE 9

To receive and act upon a report of the Capital Planning Committee, and to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, including stabilization funds, by borrowing or any combination thereof, to purchase various capital items, or to fund capital projects as recommended by the Capital Planning Committee, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Capital Planning Committee

ARTICLE 10

To receive and act upon a report from the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2016 Community Preservation Budget, and to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies for the administrative expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, the payment of debt service, the undertaking of Community Preservation projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year, and to determine whether such sums shall be raised from the Community Preservation Fund, transferred from available funds, borrowed, or any combination thereof; or take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will support the proposal of the Grade Eight Warrant Article Group to clear underbrush, invasive plants and other growth in an area adjacent to the Smith School playing field which is used as a school garden and an emergency evacuation area for students, and to vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds; or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens Petition

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or any combination thereof, to be used for the repair and maintenance of certain Lincoln School Campus classrooms and buildings, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

School Committee

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or any combination thereof, to be used for the repair and maintenance of certain Town buildings, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or any combination thereof, to be used for the repair and maintenance of the Lincoln Library, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Library Trustees

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds (including any amount appropriated under Article 8 that exceeds the final Lincoln assessment voted by the Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School Committee for the fiscal year 2016, in accordance with law), by borrowing or any combination thereof, to add funds to the Debt Stabilization Fund, so called, previously established in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B at the March 26, 2011 Annual Town Meeting, Article 19, for the purpose of funding future debt service obligations; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or any combination thereof, to add funds to the Group Insurance Liability Fund established by Chapter 474 of the Acts of 2008, which Fund will help offset the Town's so-called "other post-employment benefits" liability established by Statements 43 and 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or any combination thereof, to add funds, representing Lincoln's proportionate share of the contribution recommended by the LSRHS School Committee, to the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School District Retirees Health Insurance Trust Fund, established by the acceptance of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Chapter 68, section 57 of the Acts of 2011, for Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School, which Fund will help offset the High School's so-called "other post-employment benefits" liability established by Statements 43 and 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend such sum or sums of money that may be available under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 90 or any other state roadway reimbursement programs and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a contract with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow in anticipation of 100% reimbursement of said amounts; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of money equal to the state reimbursement amount for Special Education Medicaid expenses to supplement the FY16 Lincoln School operating budget; or take any other action relative thereto.

School Committee

ARTICLE 20

To receive and act on a recommendation from the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee with regard to the presentation of the annual Bright Light Award, and to transfer from Free Cash the necessary funds to support this award; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Cemetery Perpetual Care account a sum of money for the repaving of certain roadways, the installation of an electrical conduit, and an update to the maintenance area at the Lexington Road Cemetery; including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

Cemetery Commissioners

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the Cemetery Sale of Lots account a sum of money for the repaving of certain roadways, the installation of an electrical conduit, and an update to the maintenance area at the Lexington Road Cemetery; including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

Cemetery Commissioners

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from the Highway Insurance Reimbursement Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account to fund replacement of equipment storage units; including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize revolving accounts previously established by vote of the Town under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for the following purposes: school bus fees, preschool tuitions, ambulance services, fire alarm maintenance fees, firearms licenses fees, housing rental income, recycling program, Codman Farmhouse lease fees and parks and recreation fees; said fees of the revolving accounts to be expended by the authorized entity without further appropriation; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from Water Enterprise Retained Earnings for the purchase of water meter reading hardware and associated computer components, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Water Commissioners

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from Water Enterprise Retained Earnings for the cleaning and rehabilitation of the Tower Road well screen, pump and motor, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Water Commissioners

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from Free Cash or any other source of funds a sum of money to reduce the total amount to be raised by taxation pursuant to the votes previously taken under Article 8 of this Warrant, or any other article of this Warrant authorizing the appropriation of funds; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to rescind excess borrowing authorization of \$23,000, from the \$140,000 borrowing approved under Article 14 of the March 26, 2002, Annual Town Meeting to replace the gutter system on the Town Office building; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to hear a status report from the Selectmen regarding their continuing investigation of options for improved facilities for the Council on Aging, the Parks and Recreation Department and other community organizations; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or any combination thereof, for the purpose of conducting a Feasibility Study to develop building project RENOVATION choices for the Lincoln School, located at Ballfield Road, including all costs incidental and related thereto, to MEET LONG-RANGE FACILITIES NEEDS, INCLUDE EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS, and RESPECT THE CURRENT CAMPUS CONFIGURATION, and further, NOTING that pursuing these project goals will likely require a MINIMUM Town contribution of \$30 million; provided, however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be made contingent upon the approval by the voters of the Town at an election of a "capital outlay exclusion" in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 21C (i½), otherwise known as Proposition 2½, so-called, or take any other action relative thereto.

School Committee

ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town, in order to financially support a COMPREHENSIVE RENOVATION of the Lincoln School which addresses LONG-RANGE FACILITIES NEEDS AND EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS, will vote to seek a partnership with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) by supporting the School in filing a Statement of Interest with the MSBA; or take any other action relative thereto.

School Committee

ARTICLE 32

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or any combination thereof, for the purposes of conducting a Feasibility Study to assist the School Committee in developing REPAIR project choices that address the FACILITIES NEEDS of the Lincoln School, including all costs incidental and related thereto; provided, however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be made contingent upon the approval by the voters of the Town at an election of a "capital outlay exclusion" in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 21C (i½), otherwise known as Proposition 2½, so-called, or take any other action relative thereto.

School Committee

ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of money from taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof, for development of a campus master plan for the Ballfield Road school complex, to include an evaluation of traffic/circulation, site accessibility, safety, parking, wetlands, zoning set-backs, septic and building locations, including all costs incidental and related thereto; provided, however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be made contingent upon the approval by the voters of the Town at an election of "capital outlay exclusion" in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 21C (i½), otherwise known as Proposition 2½, so-called, or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen &
School Committee

ARTICLE 34

To see if the Town will vote, consistent with Section VII of the existing "Agreement With Respect to the Establishment of a Technical and Vocational Regional School District" for the Minuteman Regional Vocational School District, to accept the amendments to said Agreement which have been initiated and approved by a vote of the Regional School Committee on March 11, 2014 and which have been submitted as a restated "Regional Agreement" bearing the date of March 11, 2014 to the Board of Selectmen of each member town; or take any other action relative thereto.

Minuteman High School Committee

ARTICLE 35

To see if the Town will vote to:

(1) transfer the land commonly known as the Town Landfill, located at the corner of Route 2A (North Great Road) and Mill Street, and shown as Assessors Map 115, Lot 19, from the Board of Selectmen for active and passive recreation purposes to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes including active and passive recreation and closed landfill and also for leasing for solar energy purposes; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to lease said land or any interest therein to a solar energy provider for the installation and operation of solar energy facilities, on such terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, and to take such other action as may be necessary to effectuate said transfer and lease, including but not limited to seeking an amendment to the landfill closure approval as issued by the Department of Environmental Protection and the filing of a home rule petition with the General Court for purposes of authorizing the transfer consistent with the provisions of Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution; and

(2) authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a renewable energy power purchase and/or net metering credit purchase agreement, including an agreement for power and net metering credits generated by a solar energy facility, for a term of up to twenty-five (25) years, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interests of the Town; and

(3) authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into an agreement for payments-in-lieu-of-taxes ("PILOT") pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), and Chapter 164, Section 1, or any other enabling authority, for both real property and personal property associated with a privately owned and operated solar energy facility to be located on the Town's landfill property as shown on Assessor's Map 115, Lot 19 for a term of up to twenty-five (25) years on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interest of the Town; and

(4) authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute instruments and take all actions as may be necessary on behalf of the Town of Lincoln to undertake the purpose of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

Selectmen

ARTICLE 36

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws by inserting a new Section 19 in Article 11 (Miscellaneous), the intent of which is to regulate and limit the use of leaf blowers, substantially as on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

Leaf Blower Committee

ARTICLE 37

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Section 10.2 (the B2 Service Business District at Lewis Street) by expanding the range of permitted uses to include retail stores, banks, shoe repair, laundry, other similar retail service establishments, and rail or bus station or terminals, substantially as on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board

ARTICLE 38

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Section 15.3.2.1 (e) (parking requirement for service and retail businesses) by relaxing the parking requirement from 1 parking space per 140 square feet of gross floor area to 1 parking space per 250 square feet of gross floor area, substantially as on file with the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board

ARTICLE 39

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Sections 13.5 (exterior lighting) and 23 (definitions) by revising residential exterior lighting standards to make them more compatible with newly emerging technology and to incorporate "dark sky" principles, substantially as on file with the Town Clerk, or take any action relative thereto.

Planning Board

ARTICLE 40

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Section 6.1 (d) to allow commercial greenhouses, keeping of pets and farm animals and sale of produce by lessees or licensees as permitted uses, substantially as on file with the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.

Agricultural Commission

ARTICLE 41

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-Law, Section 6.2 (d) and (e), to alter the list of uses currently requiring a special permit, substantially as on file with the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.

Agricultural Commission

ARTICLE 42

To see if the Town will support a resolution, the full text of which is available at the Town Clerk's Office, urging the Town's financial officers to review their investment portfolios to identify any direct or indirect investments in fossil fuel companies (defined for the purposes of this Resolution as any of the two hundred publicly traded companies with the largest coal, oil and gas reserves as measured by the gigatons of carbon dioxide that would be emitted if those reserves were extracted and burned), and to adopt policies to divest from such existing public equities, corporate bonds, or other direct holdings in the fossil fuel companies within five years and to preclude any new direct investments in fossil fuel companies in the future. And further, to request that the Town's officials support proposed legislation requiring divestment of statewide retirement funds, including those held and managed on the Town's behalf by the Middlesex County Retirement System, from fossil fuel companies; or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens Petition

ARTICLE 43

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation as set forth below authorizing the Board to issue a license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises to Blazes, Inc., at a location to be determined, as described below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition; or take any other action in relation thereto.

An Act Authorizing the Town of Lincoln to Grant a License for the Sale of All Alcoholic Beverages to be Drunk on the Premises

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 11 of chapter 138 or of any other general or special law to the contrary, the Board of Selectmen of the town of Lincoln is hereby authorized to issue a license to Blazes, Inc. for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises at a location to be determined in the town of Lincoln, under the provisions of section 12 of chapter 138. The license shall be subject to all of said chapter 138 except for said section 17, and to any regulations and guidelines adopted by the Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission relative to the service of alcoholic beverages.

The Board of Selectmen shall not approve the transfer of the license to any other location once said location is approved, provided that the license may be granted by the Board of Selectmen at the same location if an applicant for the license files with the board of selectmen a letter from the department of revenue indicating that the license is in good standing with the department and that all applicable taxes have been paid. If the license granted under this section is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use, such license shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto, to the Board of Selectmen and the

Board of Selectmen may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location and under the same conditions as specified in this section.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 11 and 11A of chapter 138 of the General Laws as to the time and manner of voting on the question of issuing the license set forth above, this act shall be submitted for its acceptance to the qualified voters of the town of Lincoln following the effective date of this act at an annual or special town election in the form of the following question:

“Shall an act passed by the General Court in the year 2015, entitled ‘Authorizing the Town of Lincoln to Grant a License for the Sale of All Alcoholic Beverages to be Drunk on the Premises’, be accepted?”

Below the ballot question shall appear a fair and concise summary of the ballot question prepared by town counsel and approved by the Board of Selectmen.

If a majority of the votes cast in answer to the question is in the affirmative, the town shall be taken to have authorized the issuance to Blazes, Inc. of a license to sell all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises, but not otherwise.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

Citizens Petition

ARTICLE 44

To see if the Town will vote (1) to support HD 1988, An Act for a U.S. Constitutional Amendment and Amendments Convention, submitted to the Massachusetts General Court calling on Congress to propose a Constitutional Amendment stating that: (a) U.S. Constitutional rights are the rights of natural persons only, and (b) Congress and the states shall place limits on political contributions and expenditures to ensure that all citizens have access to the political process, and recognize that the spending of money to influence elections is not protected free speech under the First Amendment; and provides further that if Congress does not propose this Constitutional Amendment within six months of the passage of this bill, then this bill constitutes a Petition of the Commonwealth to the Congress to call a Convention for the purpose of proposing Amendments to the U.S. Constitution as soon as two-thirds of the states have applied for a Convention; and (2) to ask that our Board of Selectmen transmit copies of this Warrant Article and HD 1988 to our State and Federal elected officials, or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens Petition

ARTICLE 45

To see if the Town will vote to support a resolution that urges Town boards, commissions and committees to consider, in relevant cases, and report in their minutes, the impact of their decisions on Climate Change; or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens Petition

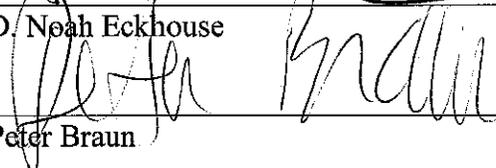
Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings, thereon to the Town Clerk, at or before the time for the meeting aforesaid. Given under our hands this the 25th day of February 2015.



Renel Fredriksen, Chair



D. Noah Eckhouse



Peter Braun

Board of Selectmen