

TOWN OF LINCOLN, MASSACHUSETTS

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: Saturday, May 15, 2021: 9:30 a.m.

2021 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 town meeting at the Hartwell Complex of the Ballfield Board School Campus in said Lincoln on Saturday, the fifteenth day of May, 2021 at 9:30 a.m., then and there to act on the following articles**, by posting a copy of this Warrant, by you attested, in said Town, seven days at least before the 15th day of May next.

Public Health Note: In recognition of the ongoing public health crisis, protective measures are being implemented to enable town meeting to proceed in the safest possible manner. Said measures include: moving to an outdoor venue including a large tent that will permit maximum social distancing, making full use of the so-called "consent calendar" to expedite the voting process, and virtual presentations in advance of town meeting to minimize discussion time during town meeting. Our mitigation plans were developed in consultation with the Lincoln Board of Health and our public health nurse.

Rain Dates: In the event of significant rain, town meeting may be continued to a later time on Saturday, May 15th, or to Sunday, May 16th at the same Hartwell parking lot.

Accommodations: Any person requiring this warrant in a larger print format, or in need of other meeting accommodations is urged to contact the Selectmen's Office at 781-259-2601 prior to Wednesday, May 7, 2021. Every reasonable attempt will be made to provide the necessary assistance.

ARTICLE 1

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

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2

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

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 3

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.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 4

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.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 5

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.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 6

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 7

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 8

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, for the purchase and installation of a replacement public safety radio system, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any action relative thereto.

Capital Planning Committee

ARTICLE 9

To receive and act upon a report from the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2022 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 10

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.

Lincoln School Committee

ARTICLE 11

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.

Board of Selectmen

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 the Lincoln Library, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Library Trustees

ARTICLE 13

To receive and act on a recommendation from the Board of Selectmen 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.

Board of 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 (including any amount appropriated under Article 6 that exceeds the final Lincoln assessment voted no later than July 31st, by the Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School Committee for the fiscal year 2022, 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 15

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 (OPEB)" liability established by Statements 74 and 75 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board; 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, 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 (OPEB)" liability established by Statements 74 and 75 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 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.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 18

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 FY22 Lincoln School operating budget; or take any other action relative thereto.

School Committee

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the PEG Access and Cable Revolving Fund, previously established at the March 19, 2016 Town Meeting, Article 32, to support cable related purposes consistent with the franchise agreement between cable operators and the Town of Lincoln, including, but not limited to: (i) support of public, educational or governmental access cable television services; (ii) monitor compliance of the cable operator with the franchise agreement; and/or (iii) prepare for renewal of the franchise license; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town vote to transfer a sum of money from the town's cable revolving fund to supplement the funds authorized under Article 1 of the December 1, 2018 Special Town Meeting, and Article 8 of the June 13, 2020 Annual Town Meeting, to design, renovate, rebuild, equip and furnish the Lincoln School, located on Ballfield Road, Lincoln, MA, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; provided, however, that said funds from the cable revolving fund shall be used for cable television infrastructure improvements, and associated costs, primarily in the Donaldson Auditorium; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 21

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 6 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 22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or appropriate any remaining bond proceed balances from previously authorized projects in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c.44, s. 20, and/or borrow a sum of money or any combination thereof, to purchase various capital items, and/or to fund capital projects of the Water Department, as recommended by the Water Commissioners, including all costs incidental or related thereto, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow all or a portion of said funds under the provisions of G.L. c.44 or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; that such bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town unless the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen determines that they should be issued as limited obligations and may be secured by local system revenues as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C, as amended, it being the intent of the Town, however, in either such case that the entire principal of and interest on such bonds or notes shall be paid from water rates and/or surplus; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow all or a portion of such amount from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C, as amended and in connection therewith to enter into a financing agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan and for any federal or state aid available for the project or for the financing thereof; that the Board of Selectmen, Board of Water Commissioners or other appropriate local body or officials is authorized to enter into a project regulatory agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection, to expend all funds available for the project and to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out the projects; and that any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, and any prior vote authorizing debt, 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 by this vote in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount, or take any other action relative thereto.

Water Commissioners

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from Water Enterprise Retained Earnings for the purpose of supporting the FY 2021 Water Department operating budget, including all costs incidental and related thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.

Water Commissioners

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's General and Zoning Bylaws to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to the "Select Board," by striking out, in every instance in which they appear in reference to that body, the words "Board of Selectmen" or "Selectmen" and inserting in place thereof the words "Select Board"; and by striking out, in every instance in which they appear in reference to Board members, the word "Selectman" and "Selectmen" and inserting in place thereof the words "Select Board Member" or "Select Board Members"; and further to authorize the Town Clerk to make non-substantive, ministerial revisions to ensure that gender and numerical issues in related text is revised to properly reflect such change in title; provided, however, that regardless of such nomenclature, said board shall constitute a board of selectmen for purposes of the General Laws and of any special law applicable to the Town; or to take any action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen/Citizens' Petition

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to endorse the Board of Selectmen's stated intention to review all Town bylaws and regulations for the purpose of making them gender neutral. If the Town so votes, the Board of Selectmen shall report back to Town Meeting in March of 2022 with any required bylaw amendments and a report regarding other actions that may be required to ensure gender neutral phrasing throughout the Town's bylaws, policies, and regulations; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to Amend Article XV of its General By-Law, titled "Council on Aging," by changing the Council's name to the "Council on Aging and Human Services"; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen/Council on Aging

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General By-Law by adding a new Section, titled Illicit Discharge Control and Stormwater Management By-Law, the purpose of which is to protect water quality and comply with federal requirements, as substantially on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen/Planning Board

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to amend its Zoning By-Law by amending Section 14.3.2 Requirements for an Accessory Apartment by 1) deleting Section 14.3.2 (c) Age of Structure, 2) adding a cap on the number of accessory apartments equal to 5% of all residential units, and 3) requiring a minimum rental term of 30 days where the accessory apartment or principal dwelling is occupied as a rental unit, as substantially on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

Planning Board

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to add a property to the existing Town of Lincoln Historic District under Section 1.1 of Article XXV (Historic District) of the Town of Lincoln General By-Laws, the locations and boundaries of which proposed additions are shown on plans to be filed with the Lincoln Town Clerk and the Massachusetts Historical Commission and to be recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds; or take any other action relative thereto.

Historic District Commission

ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to add a property to the existing Town of Lincoln Brown's Wood Historic District under Section 1.2 of Article XXV (Brown's Wood Historic District) of the Town of Lincoln General By-Laws, the locations and boundaries of which proposed additions are shown on plans to be filed with the Lincoln Town Clerk and the Massachusetts Historical Commission and to be recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds; or take any other action relative thereto.

Historic District Commission

ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town will vote to correct a clerical error pertaining to the Map/Parcel number of one of the properties that were added to the Brown's Wood Historic District (Article XXV of the Town's General Bylaws) pursuant to the March 23, 2019 vote of the Annual Town Meeting, under Article 31; or take any other action relative thereto.

Historic District Commission

ARTICLE 32

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of MGL, c. 40, s. 22F to allow any municipal boards or officers empowered to issue a license, permit, certificate, or to render a service or perform work to fix reasonable fees or charges; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation substantially as on file with the Town Clerk, authorizing the Town to provide a local Property Tax Circuit Breaker program to homeowners who meet certain income and asset tests, and who have resided in Lincoln for at least five years, provided, however, that the program would be 1) implemented by a vote of Town Meeting subsequent to approval by the General Court, and 2) subject to a Town Meeting vote to renew every three years; and, further provided, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court that are within the scope of the general purpose objectives of this petition; or take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 34

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a payment in lieu of taxes ('PILOT') agreement, or Tax Agreement, pursuant to MGL, c. 59, s. 5 or section 38H(b), and c. 164, s. 1, and/or any other enabling authority, with Solar Star Lincoln School, LLC for personal and/or real property taxes associated with the solar photovoltaic facility to be located at the Ballfield Road Campus, 1-8 Ballfield Road, which is shown on Lincoln Assessors' Map 143 as parcel 143-15-0, for a term of up to 25 years, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interest of the Town, and to take any and all actions as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish the purpose of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

Lincoln School Committee

ARTICLE 35

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a payment in lieu of taxes ('PILOT') agreement, or Tax Agreement, pursuant to MGL, c. 59, s. 5 or section 38H(b), and c. 164, s. 1, and/or any other enabling authority, with Solect Energy for personal and/or real property taxes associated with the solar photovoltaic facility to be located at the Minuteman Regional High School Campus, with a principal address of 758 Marrett Road, which is shown on Lincoln Assessors' Map 115 as parcel 115-10-0, for a term of up to 25 years, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interest of the Town, and to take any and all actions as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish the purpose of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

Minuteman Regional High School Committee

ARTICLE 36

To see if the Town will vote to adopt a resolution, substantially as on file with the Town Clerk, in support of various federal, state and local actions to combat climate change; or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens' Petition

ARTICLE 37

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General By-Laws by adopting a new Section, entitled "The Polysterene Reduction By-Law," as substantially on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens' Petition

ARTICLE 38

To see if the Town will vote to petition the General Court for special legislation, as substantially on file with the Town Clerk, for the purpose of requiring Lincoln retail establishments to charge a fee for non-reusable check-out bags; or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens' Petition

ARTICLE 39

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General By-Laws by adopting a new Section, entitled "The Prohibition of Disposable Plastics," as substantially on file with the Town Clerk, which would prohibit food establishments in Lincoln from using and distributing disposable plastic straws, stirrers and splash sticks; or take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens' Petition

ARTICLE 40

To see if the Town will vote to hear reports from the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and Capital Planning Committee on the status of the Community Center project; 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 15th day of April, 2021.



James Craig, Chair



Jennifer Glass



Jonathan Dwyer
Board of Selectmen