

RESULTS OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 9, 2023

210 VOTERS ATTENDED

Moderator, Dario Nardi, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. More than a quorum of 25 were present. He declared that the Warrant was properly posted and returned. He explained the procedures of the meeting. The Moderator led with the Pledge of Allegiance then the following action was taken on articles:

ARTICLE 1: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept the reports of Town Officers and all standing and special committees as printed in the 2022 Annual Report.

ARTICLE 1: VOTED – YES 144 – NO 13 – TOTAL = 157 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 2: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint all necessary Town Officers not previously chosen by ballot

ARTICLE 2: VOTED – YES 122 – NO 47 – TOTAL = 169 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 3: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to add a new full-time Fire Fighter / EMT position and to *raise and appropriate* \$46,071.00 for compensation for FY 2024

ARTICLE 3: VOTED – YES 159 – NO 29 – TOTAL = 188 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 4: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to move the Planning Board Secretary in conjunction with the Building Department secretary from grade C-3 to grade A-1 and to *raise and appropriate* \$2,865.00 for compensation for FY2024.

After lengthy conversation both for, and against this Article, a motion was made to move question. **2/3rd vote required**

ARTICLE 4: TO MOVE THE QUESTION: VOTED – YES 107 – NO 85 – TOTAL- 192
MOTION DEFEATED

More debate followed until a vote was made on the motion.

ARTICLE 4: VOTED – YES 92 – NO 102 – TOTAL 194 - MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 5: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to move the Building Department Secretary in conjunction with the Planning Board Secretary from grade C-3 to grade A-1 and to *raise and appropriate* \$3,174.00 for compensation for FY2024.

ARTICLE 5: VOTED – YES 81 – NO 106 – TOTAL = 187 – MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 6: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to create a new position of Facilities Maintenance Manager, grade BM-2, to the wage compensation plan and to *raise and appropriate* \$50,918.00 for compensation for FY 2024.

ARTICLE 6: VOTED – YES 22 – NO 160 – TOTAL = 182 – MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 7-1: (FIRST OF FOUR) MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate*, the follow sums of monies to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by G.L. c.41, ss108, of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended, and to operate the following departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023:

SELECTMEN A

Moderator	\$500.	
Selectmen's Salaries	\$15,000.	
Selectmen's Expense	\$7,000.	
Electrical Inspector Salary	\$5,000.	
Electrical Inspector Exp.	\$200.	
Alt. Electrical Inspector	\$300.	
Facilities Custodian Salary	\$36,419	
Selectmen's Secretary	\$3,000.	
Shepard Building Expense	\$50,000.	
Town Hall Repair/Maintenance	\$15,000.	
Technology Annual Fees/Supplies	\$40,800.	
Computer Hardware/Software	\$5,000.	
Selectmen Matching Grant Purch. Service	\$20,000.	Hold #1
Town Report	\$3,000.	
Publish Special Town Meeting	\$120.	
Memorial Day/Vet Program	\$4,500.	
Selectmen Baseball	\$500.	
Selectmen Basketball	\$500.	
Selectmen Softball	\$500.	
Selectmen Soccer	\$500.	
Selectmen Football	\$500.	
Parking Clerk Salary	\$900.	
Parking Clerk Expense	\$200.	
Parking Clerk Service Bureau Expense	\$100.	
Generator Expense	\$7,000.	
Fire/Police American Tower Lease	\$26,928.	Hold #2
Fire/Police SBA Tower Lease	\$20,136.	
Fire/Police Hamden Communications	\$18,000.	
Copier Lease	\$14,000.	
Boiler Maintenance	\$10,000.	
Selectmen Secure Tax Foreclosed Prop.	\$4,000.	
Municipal Financial Software	\$4,130.00	
Regional Dispatch	\$129,741.	
SELECTMEN A TOTAL		\$443,474.

BENEFITS

County Retirement Assess.	\$569,286.	
Medicare	\$44,300.	
Medical Insurance	\$520,000.	
Dental Insurance	\$20,000.	
Retiree Med. Ins.	\$60,000.	
Life Insurance	\$1,475.	
Unemployment Insurance	\$10,000.	
BENEFITS TOTAL		\$1,225,061.

DEBT

Debt Retirement	\$110,610.
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Interest/Short Term Debt	\$13,482.	
Principal Short Term Debt	\$50,000.	
DEBT TOTAL		\$174,092.

SELECTMEN B

Selectmen/Town Admin. Assistant	\$55,412.	
Selectmen/Town Admin. Assistant Exp.	\$500.	
SELECTMEN B TOTAL		\$55,912.

SELECTMEN C

Town Administrator Salary	\$90,000.	
Town Administrator Expense	\$4,000.	
SELECTMEN C TOTAL		\$94,000.

SELECTMEN D

Law Dept. Expense	\$75,000.	
Board of Appeals	\$500.	
Economic Development Comm.	\$100.	
Historical Commission	\$5,000.	
Cultural Council	\$2,126.	
Street Lighting	\$20,000.	
Street Light Maintenance	\$20,000.	
Hydrant Rental Prec. A	\$39,625.	
Hydrant Rental Prec. B	\$14,899.	
Regional Planning	\$1,535.	
Insurance (Liability)	\$114,000.	
Insurance (Workmen's Comp.)	\$46,000.	
SELECTMEN D TOTAL		\$338,785.

SELECTMEN TOTAL	\$2,331,324.
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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Reserve Account	\$40,000.	
Finance Committee Expense	\$2,000.	
FINANCE COMMITTEE TOTAL		\$42,000.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Town Accountant Salary	\$60,737.	
Chief Procurement Officer Stipend	\$.	
Assistant Town Account Salary	\$5,000.	
Accountant Expense	\$4,250.	
Municipal Audit	\$40,000.	
Procurement Expense	\$2,000.	
Actuarial Services	\$750.	
ACCOUNTANT TOTAL		\$112,737.

ASSESSORS

Assessors Salaries	\$9,000.	
Assistant Assessor Salary	\$51,361.	
Assessors Clerk Salary	\$16,530.	
Assessors Expense	\$12,000.	
Mapping	\$6,000.	
Revaluation Expense	\$6,000.	
Appraisal Service	\$4,000.	

ASSESSORS TOTAL		\$104,891.
TREASURER		
Treasurer's Salary	\$56,000.	
Treasurer's Stipend	\$1,000.	
Treasurer's Clerk Salary	\$17,883.	
Treasurer's Expense	\$12,097.	
Tax Taking Property	\$11,000.	
Bank Charges/ Service Charges	\$1,100.	
TREASURER TOTAL		\$99,080.
TAX COLLECTOR		
Tax Collector Salary	\$56,000.	
Tax Collector Stipend	\$1,000.	
Tax Collector Clerical Salary	\$12,950.	
Tax Collector Expense	\$11,000.	
Collector Tax Taking Expense	\$4,000.	
TAX COLLECTOR TOTAL		\$84,950.
TOWN CLERK		
Town Clerk Salary/RAO	\$55,620.	
Town Clerk Stipend	-	
Assistant Town Clerk Salary	\$24,823.	
Town Clerk Expense	\$2,730.	
Advertise New By-Laws	\$50.	
Registrars for Listing	\$6,000.	
Elections & Registrations	\$12,500.	
Presidential Election	\$12,500.	
TOWN CLERK TOTAL		\$114,223.
PLANNING BOARD		
Planning Board Clerical Salary	\$14,808.	
Planning Board Expense	\$2,500.	
PLANNING BOARD TOTAL		\$17,308.
CONSERVATION COMMISSION		
Conservation Comm. Clerical Salary	\$9,000.	
Conservation Commission Expense	\$7,100.	
CONSERVATION TOTAL		\$16,100.
BUILDING INSPECTOR		
Building Inspector Salary	\$15,358.	
Building Inspector Clerical Salary	\$13,367.	
Building Inspector Expense	\$2,000.	
BUILDING INSP. TOTAL		\$30,725.
FORESTER		
Forester Salary	\$6,000.	
Forestry Expense	\$10,000.	
Pesticides	\$500.	
FORESTER TOTAL		\$16,500.
VETERAN'S AGENT		
Veteran's Agent Salary	\$3,600.	

Veteran Expense	\$1,800.	
Veteran Benefits	\$90,000.	Hold #3
VETERAN'S AGENT TOTAL		\$95,400.
TOTAL GENERAL GOV'T A		\$3,065,238.

AT THIS TIME A VOTE WAS TAKEN ON ALL UNHELD ITEMS-(THIS EXCLUDES SELECTMAN A & VETERANS, WHICH BOTH HAD HOLDS)

ARTICLE 7-1: (FIRST OF FOUR): VOTED – YES 94 – NO 52 – TOTAL = 146
MOTION CARRIES

At this time the Moderator declared we would address held items, one at a time, first being Selectman A. Once the questions were answered for Selectman A and no changes were requested, the following vote was taken:

ARTICLE 7-1: SELECTMAN A - \$443,474.00:

VOTED – YES 113 – NO 57 – TOTAL = 170 – MOTION CARRIES

Next held item was from Veterans section. Once the questions were answered for Veterans and no changes were requested, the following vote was taken:

ARTICLE 7-1 VETERANS- \$95,400.00:

VOTED – YES 159 – NO 24 – TOTAL = 183 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 7-2: (SECOND OF FOUR) I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate*, the follow sums of monies to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Town as provided by G.L. c.41, ss108, of the Massachusetts General Laws as amended, and to operate the following departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023:

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Officer Salary	\$10,000.	
Animal Control Vehicle Stipend	---	Hold #1
Animal Control Expense	\$5,500.	
ANIMAL CONTROL TOTAL		\$15,500.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Salary	\$99,132.	
Police Chief Education Stipend	9,913.	
Police Salaries	\$499,327.	
Supplemental Salaries	\$226,420.	
Police Clerk Salary	\$30,081.	
Police Expense	\$75,840.	
Police Clothing	\$14,500.	
Police School Expense	\$23,897.	
Firearms Registration	\$500.	
Police Maintenance & Utilities	\$23,000.	
Police Rental Lease	---	Hold #2
POLICE DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$1,002,610.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief/EMT Salary	\$84,000.
Fire Chief Stipend	\$5,000.
FF/EMT Salary-Full-Time Positions	\$197,412.

Overtime FF/EMT	\$22,000.	
Fire Dept. Salary – Call Positions	\$60,300.	
Fire Department Expense	\$47,000.	
Vehicle Maintenance & Expense	\$23,000.	
Training	\$4,000.	
Personal Protection Equipment	\$5,000.	
Health & Wellness	\$3,000.	
Ambulance Call Payroll	\$58,000.	
Ambulance EMS Hourly Wage	\$25,860.	
Ambulance Training Payroll	\$7,500.	
EMS Stipend	\$61,200.	
Ambulance Expense	\$30,000.	
EMS Training	\$7,000.	
Billing and Reporting	\$18,000.	
Advanced Life Support	\$50,000.	
Equipment Testing	\$4,000.	
Radio/Pager Equipment	\$2,000.	
Emergency Mgmt. Director Stipend	\$500.	
Emergency Management Expense	\$2,500.	
FIRE DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$717,272.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Surveyor Salary	\$71,547.	
Highway Salaries	\$299,750.	
Highway Secretary Salary	\$18,684.	
Overtime	\$5,000.	
Highway Expense	\$70,000.	
Machine Maintenance & Operation	\$62,500.	
Drainage	25,000.	
Resurfacing	\$45,000.	
Sidewalks	\$10,000.	
Trash Disposal	\$800.	
Beaver Removal	\$3,000.	
Signs	\$3,000.	
Snow and Ice Salaries	\$24,560.	
Snow & Ice Expense	\$110,000.	
Tree Work	\$15,000.	
HIGHWAY DEPT. TOTAL		\$763,841.

CEMETERY

Cemetery Clerk Stipend	\$1,500.	
Cemetery Salaries	---	
Cemetery Supplies	\$5,000.	
CEMETERY TOTAL		\$6,500.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Health Board Salaries	\$5,400.	
Health Board Secretary Salary	\$37,284.	
Health Board Expense	\$5,000.	
Sharps Program	\$500.	
Vaccines	\$500.	
Comins Pond Testing	\$1,600.	
Town Waste and Recycle Hauling	\$11,000.	

Rabies Control	\$500.	
Health Agent - Visiting Nurse	\$1,000.	
Health Agent – Appointed	\$8,000.	
Animal Inspector	\$1,200.	
Landfill Operation	\$28,200.	
Landfill Engineering	\$21,000.	
Landfill Monitor Wells	\$56,000.	
Landfill Supplies	\$2,000.	
Landfill Leachate	\$12,000.	
Landfill Remove Vegetation	---	
BOARD OF HEALTH TOTAL		\$191,184.

COUNCIL ON AGING

COA Salary (Director)	\$58,239.	Hold #3
COA Lunch Coordinator Salary	\$29,438.	
COA Custodian Salary	\$13,968.	
COA - PT General Helper Salary	\$15,093.	
COA Van Driver	\$12,332.	
COA Expense	\$27,000.	
COA Maintenance	\$3,500.	
Senior Van and Transportation	\$2,000.	
Elder-Bus Subsidy	\$2,000.	
Tri-Valley Services	\$957.	
COUNCIL ON AGING TOTAL		\$164,527.

LIBRARIES

Warren Library	\$111,022.	Hold #4
West Warren Library	\$102,695.	
LIBRARIES TOTAL		\$213,717.

PARKS

Park Commissioners Salaries	\$6,000.	
Park Salary (Staff)	\$13,620.	
Park Expense	\$23,155.	Hold #5
Comins Pond Salary (Staff)	\$19,240.	
Comins Pond Expense	\$900.	
Summer Recreation	\$1,800.	
PARKS TOTAL		\$64,715.

TOTAL GENERAL GOV'T B	\$3,139,866.
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	\$6,205,104.

ARTICLE 7-2: (SECOND OF FOUR) UNHELD ITEMS :

VOTED – YES 133 – NO 33 – TOTAL = 166 – MOTION CARRIES

Once all questions were answered and no changes were requested, the Moderator declared he would go back to past practice, and vote the held items together as one vote.

ARTICLE 7-2: (SECOND OF FOUR) UNHELD ITEMS:

VOTED – YES 163 – NO 29 – TOTAL = 192 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 7-3: (THIRD OF FOUR) I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate, \$58,776.00 for the assessment for the Vocational Education Tuition and Transportation for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	
TUITION	\$20,076.
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	
TRANSPORTATION	\$38,700.

TOTAL VOCATIONAL	
EDUCATION	\$58,776.

ARTICLE 7-3: (THIRD OF FOUR) VOTED – YES 130 – NO 37 – TOTAL = 167
MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 7-4: (FOURTH OF FOUR) I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate*, \$441,706.00 for the assessment for the Pathfinder Regional Technical Vocational School for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

PATHFINDER RVTHS	
PATHFINDER ASSESSMENT	\$441,706.

ARTICLE 7-4: (FOURTH OF FOUR) VOTED – YES 149 – NO 29 – TOTAL = 178
MOTION CARRIES

GRAND TOTAL
BUDGETS:

\$6,705,586.

ARTICLE 8: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to appropriate, the following sums of money to finance the Sewer Enterprise account for the Fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023:

Sewer Commissioners Salaries	\$ 4,500.00
Debt Services	\$ 21,293.00
Wages	\$294,516.24
Purchased Services	\$211,000.00
Purchased Supplies	<u>\$ 92,654.00</u>
Total O & M	\$623,963.24

And that **\$623,963.24** to be raised as follows: **\$544,723.60** from Sewer Receipt Account and **\$79,237.64** from the Sewer Retained Earnings Account.

Total O&M	\$623,963.24
Estimated Indirect Cost Calculation	<u>\$208,569.84</u>
Need to raise total	\$832,533.08

ARTICLE 8: VOTED – YES 112 – NO 57 – TOTAL = 169 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 9: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town transfer from Self Contained Breathing Apparatus Capital Stabilization the sum of \$200,000.00 for the purchase of SCBA packs and bottles.
2/3rds vote required

ARTICLE 9: VOTED – YES 160 – NO 15 – TOTAL = 175 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 10: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: : I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate* the following sums for the FY2024 Quaboag Regional School District:

Warren Minimum Local Contribution	\$2,886,067.00;
Above Minimum Contribution	\$ 110,000.00;
Transportation	\$ 888,994.00;
Total Operating Assessment	\$3,885,061.00;
<u>Debt Service for capital payments</u>	<u>\$ 160,748.00;</u>
Total Quaboag Regional School District Assessment	\$4,045,809.00.

And further, that this appropriation shall be reduced by Warren’s pro-rata share of any state aid for regional school transportation allocated to the district in excess of \$888,994.00.
After a very lengthy discussion on the motion, the following vote was taken.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO LET SUPERINTENDENT MAUREEN BINIENDA ADDRESS THE MEETING – MODERATOR DECLARED THAT A MOTION WASN’T NECESSARY BECAUSE IT WAS STATUTORY.

ARTICLE 10: VOTED – YES 77 – NO 102 – TOTAL = 179 MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 11: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to investigate the feasibility of creating a Department of Public Works (DPW) from the following departments: Wastewater Treatment Plant, Park and Recreation Department, Cemetery Commission, and Highway Department.

Non-binding question.

ARTICLE 11: VOTED – YES 58 – NO 42 – TOTAL = 100 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 12: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: : I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate* the sum of \$9,520.00 to purchase wreaths for the Wreaths Across America project.

ARTICLE 12: VOTED – YES 56 – NO 39 – TOTAL = 95 MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 13: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to repeal in its entirety Town of Warren General Bylaw Article X, Section 6, Residential Requirement for certain Town employees of the Town of Warren General BY-LAWS and to re-number Article X to reflect that as follows:

~~Section 6. Residential Requirement for Certain Town Employees All persons, not under Civil Service employed and paid by the Town as laborers, trucking equipment operators, custodians of any Town building, police officers and clerical workers shall be residents of the Town or shall reside within fifteen (15) miles of a Town boundary. Any such employee removing from the Town or from within fifteen (15) miles of a Town boundary shall thereupon terminate his employment. This By Law shall not apply to persons employed on the date this By Law becomes effective.~~

ARTICLE 13: VOTED – YES 65 – NO 25 – TOTAL = 90 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 14: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* the Town of Warren Personnel BY-LAWS Section II – Management Rights, Subsection D. Maintenance by deleting the portion shown in strikeout and adding the bolded portion as follows:
D. Maintenance: The ~~Administrative Secretary to the Board of Selectmen~~ **Town Administrator** shall periodically review the Personnel BY-LAWS and communicate any necessary changes to the Personnel Board. The Personnel Board will decide if an article shall be placed on the Town Meeting Warrant.

ARTICLE 14: VOTED - YES 56 – NO 28 – TOTAL = 84 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 15: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* the Town of Warren Personnel BY-LAWS Section IX – Vacations by deleting the portion shown in strikeout and by adding the bolded portion as follows:

- A. Annual Vacation with pay will be granted in accordance with the following schedule:
- 1. Vacation time is accrued based on the employee's start date, not hire date.**
- ± Full Time Positions:
- a. Less than one year of employment – one half (1/2) day per month not to exceed **the employee's regular work week** ~~five working days~~.

ARTICLE 15: VOTED – YES 74 – NO 16 – TOTAL = 90 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 16: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town will vote to *amend* the Town of Warren Personnel BY-LAWS Section X- Leaves of Absence by deleting the portion shown in strikeout and adding the bolded portion as follows:

B. Bereavement Leave:

1. An employee of the Town shall be entitled to be excused from work time with pay for up to five days with the approval of the department head for each instance to attend to funerals and other personal business caused by a death in the immediate family. The members of the immediate family shall include the following: Mother, Father, **Mother/Father-in-law**, Sister, Brother, Spouse, Child, **Son/Daughter-in-law**, Grandchild, Grandparent, or any other relative living within the household of said employee.
2. An employee of the Town shall be entitled to be excused from work time with pay for up to three days with the approval of the department head for each instance to attend to the funerals and other personal business caused by the death of a ~~mother/father-in-law~~, brother/sister-in-law, ~~son/daughter-in-law~~, niece/nephew.

ARTICLE 16: VOTED – YES 80 – NO 14 – TOTAL = 94 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 17: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$30,000.00 for office/building improvements and related expenses for the Shepard Building and the Senior Center, including but not limited to flooring, upgraded office furniture, painting, improvements to the buildings.

ARTICLE 17: VOTED – YES 66 – NO 25 – TOTAL = 91 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 18: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* the Town of Warren General Bylaw Financial Affairs Article V Section 5 Revolving Funds M.G.L. c.44 §.53E ½ G Cable Advisory Committee by raising the amount authorized to be expended to \$30,000.00 and to reauthorize spending limits in all remaining funds as printed in the warrant.

Revolving Fund	Fiscal Year Spending Limit
Building Department	\$35,000.00 with any balance in excess of \$1,000.00 remaining in said fund at close of Fiscal Year to be returned to the General Fund
Town Clerk	\$2,000.00 with the balance in excess of \$500.00 remaining in said fund at the close of the Fiscal Year to be returned to the General Fund
Board of Health Plumbing and Gas Inspectors	One half of fees from inspections to a limit of \$7,000.00 with any balance in excess of \$1,000.00 remaining in said fund at close of the Fiscal Year to be returned to the General Fund
Board of Health	\$6,000.00 with any balance in excess of \$1,000.00 remaining in said fund at close of the Fiscal Year to be returned to the General Fund
Cable Advisory Committee	\$20,000.00 \$30,000.00

ARTICLE 18: VOTED – YES 58 – NO 26 – TOTAL = 84 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 19: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, which may be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid-litigation settlement documents, a document prepared by the Substance Abuse Bureau of the Commonwealth’s Office of Health and Human Services Department, found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download> entitled “Abatement Strategies”, and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to adopt the last paragraph of said §5B and dedicate to such fund, without further appropriation, 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town; and further, to transfer from available funds a sum of money equal to that received by the Town from opioid litigation settlements resulting from the Town’s participation in the national Opioid Multi-District Litigation into said Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund.

2/3rds vote required

ARTICLE 19: VOTED – YES 84 – NO 12 – TOTAL = 96 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 20: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to establish a management assessment study for the Quaboag Regional School District.

Non-Binding question

ARTICLE 20: VOTED – YES 50 – NO 38 – TOTAL = 88 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 21: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* the Town of Warren General Bylaw, Article II, Town Meetings, Section 1 by deleting the *strikeout* and adding the **bolded** language as follows:

Date and Quorum for Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Election shall be held on the 1st Tuesday in May of each year. The Annual Town Meeting shall be held on the ~~2nd Tuesday in May of each year.~~ **the first Thursday in June of each year.**

After a resident pointed out that the first week in June is very busy at Q.R.H.S due to senior graduation activities, a motion was made to *amend* Article 21 as follows:

ARTICLE 21 AMENDED: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to amend the motion regarding Article 21 to hold the annual town Meeting the 2nd Thursday of June of each year.

ARTICLE 21 VOTE TO AMEND: VOTED – YES 80 – NO 11 – TOTAL = 91
MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 21 AS AMENDED: VOTED – YES 80 – NO 7 – TOTAL = 87
MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 22: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Chapter 218, Section 15 of the Acts of 2016 (the “Act”); and establish an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (the “OPEB Fund”), with the Treasurer serving as Custodian of the OPEB Fund (the “Custodian”), as printed in the warrant; and to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000.00 into said OPEB Fund as follows:

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Chapter 218, Section 15 of the Acts of 2016 (the “Act”); and establish an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (the “OPEB Fund”), with the Treasurer serving as Custodian of the OPEB Fund (the “Custodian”), all in accordance with the Act; designate the Treasurer/Custodian as the Trustee of the OPEB Fund, with all the powers and responsibilities identified under the Act and this vote; authorize the Treasurer/Custodian, as Trustee, to employ investment consultant(s), as well as outside custodial service(s) to hold the monies in the Fund, and to pay for those services from the OPEB Fund; authorize the investment of the OPEB Fund under the prudent investor rule established under G.L. c. 203C; authorize the Treasurer/Custodian, as Trustee, to execute any and all documents necessary to utilize outside custodial service(s) and/or investment consultant(s), including but not limited to trust agreements, participation agreements, investment agreements, and administrative services agreements; designate the Treasurer/Custodian as the “Plan Administrator”, as may be necessary to utilize outside custodial service(s) and authorize the Treasurer/Custodian acting as Plan Administrator to take any other actions permitted or required by law; and to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000.00 into the OPEB Fund EB Fund.

ARTICLE 22: VOTED – YES 64 – NO 15 – TOTAL = 79 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 23: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: : I move that the Town accepts accounts in trust, the income of which is to be expended for the perpetual care maintenance of burial lots at Pine Grove Cemetery for certain individuals per the 1909 Plan of said cemetery.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Lot #</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Timothy Russo	Section F – Lots 40 & 41	\$ 600.00
Timothy Russo & Jennifer Laurence-Russo	Section F – Lot 42	\$ 300.00
Timothy Russo & Jennifer Laurence-Russo	Section F – Lots 43 & 44	\$ 600.00
Henry Guerin	Section F – Lot 45	\$ 300.00
Frank & Nancy Rozzen	Section F – Lots 37 & 38	\$ 600.00
Alan, Cheryl & James McKeon	Section C – Lots 2 & 3	\$ 600.00
Tracey Shields Mazur	Section A – Lot 16	\$ 300.00
K & D Snow	Section A – Lots 104 & 105	\$ 600.00

ARTICLE 23: VOTED – YES 70 – NO 2 – TOTAL = 72 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 24: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2024 as permitted by G.L. c. 44 s53F.

ARTICLE 24: VOTED – YES 59 – NO 1 – TOTAL = 60 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 25: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$12,000.00 for FY 2024 Fireworks and related expenses.

ARTICLE 25: VOTED – YES 65 – NO 18 – TOTAL = 83 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 26: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to establish a Parks and Recreation Department Capital Stabilization Account for future improvements to Town Parks including but not limited to the purchase of new playscape equipment.

2/3rd vote required

ARTICLE 26: VOTED – YES 66 – NO 13 – TOTAL = 79 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 27: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000.00 to the Parks and Recreation Department Capital Stabilization Account.

ARTICLE 27: VOTED – YES 74 – NO 10 – TOTAL = 84 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 28: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* Town of Warren General Bylaw Article X Section 15 (A) by deleting the portions shown in strikethrough and adding the bolded portions as follows:

A. Tax Collector to Furnish Information The Tax Collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessments, betterments and other municipal charges, hereinafter referred to as the Tax Collector, shall ~~annually~~ **monthly** furnish to each department, board, commission or division, hereinafter referred to as the licensing authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation, or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges for not less than a ~~twelve (12)-month~~ **sixty day** period and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or a pending petition before the Appellate Tax Board.

ARTICLE 28: VOTED – YES 66 – NO 9 – TOTAL = 75 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 29: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* Town of Warren General By-Law Change Article IX section 14 (C) for building/house numbers by deleting the current section 14 (C) and replacing in its entirety as follows:

CURRENT

~~Numbering of Buildings and Dwellings~~

~~C. Size~~

~~Building numbers shall be of permanent weatherproof material, shall be at least three (3) inches tall and two and one half (2-1/2) inches wide, and shall be clearly visible from the roadway.~~

PROPOSED

Numbering of Buildings and Dwellings

C. Size

When replacing existing building/house numbers or for new construction building/house numbers, the numbers shall be of permanent weatherproof material, shall be at least four (4) inches in height and facing the street. Numbers must be put under lighting and use numbers with a contrasting background so they will be visible from the roadway during the day and at night.

ARTICLE 29: VOTED – YES 17 – NO 57 – TOTAL = 74 – MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 30: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *amend* the Town of Warren Zoning Bylaw Sections 12.3.2.9 and 12.3.5.5 of the Solar Energy By-Laws as follows with deleted portions shown in ~~strikeout~~ and added portions in bold. A copy of the Bylaw as amended is on file with the Town Clerk's office and can be viewed during regular business hours as follows:

Section 12.3.2.9

9. ~~Written confirmation from the Board of Assessors and the Collector of Taxes that all Real Estate, Rollback and Conveyance taxes, liens – including Chapter 61 liens, betterments, and special assessments are satisfied in full~~ **Written confirmation from the Board of Assessors and the Collector of Taxes that all Real Estate, Rollback and Conveyance taxes, liens, betterments, and special assessments are satisfied in full, and that all associated land has been removed from Chapter 61.**

And add a new Section 12.3.5.5 as follows:

5. Coverage shall be reviewed annually prior to the anniversary of the insurance policy and updated as necessary based upon inflation benchmarks and cost fluctuations. Confirmation of this update must be submitted to the Building Inspector.

2/3rds vote required

ARTICLE 30: VOTED – YES 54 – NO 15 – TOTAL = 69 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 31: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, Section 58, to impose, as a municipal charges lien, for costs incurred by the Town for Large Solar Energy Facility Decommissioning Fees.

ARTICLE 31: VOTED – YES 60 – NO 6 – TOTAL = 66 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 32: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *raise and appropriate* the sum of \$5,000.00 to fund the ground maintenance work to be performed by the Highway Department in the parks, cemeteries, and common areas.

ARTICLE 32: VOTED – YES 67 – NO 6 – TOTAL = 73 – MOTION CARRIES

After Article 32 was finished, a motion was made by a resident to reconsider Article 10.

ARTICLE 10: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO RECONSIDER:

ARTICLE 10 TO RECONSIDER: VOTED – YES 26 – NO 51 – TOTAL = 77
MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 33: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept funds made available from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for highway projects approved by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Highway Division.

ARTICLE 33: VOTED – YES 71 – NO 1 – TOTAL = 72 – MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 34: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town transfer the sum of \$1,500.00 from receipts reserved for appropriation sale of cemetery lots to the cemetery purchase service line to replace a waterline at Pine Grove Cemetery.

ARTICLE 34: VOTED – YES 67 – NO 5 – TOTAL = 72 – MOTION CARRIES

Business of the meeting being completed, a motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting at 10: 40PM.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:


Laura J. Stockley

Town Clerk

