# ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE TOWN OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF WARREN



POPULATION 4,627

AND OF THE
RECEIPTS AND
EXPENDITURES
OF THE YEAR ENDING

**DECEMBER 31, 2023** 

# In Memory of

Name	Branch	War A	Rank
George C. Moring	Army	Korea	Private, 1st Class
Shaun P. Charbonneau	Air Force	Peacetime	Airman Basic
John P. Gill	Army	Korea	Corporal
Marino S. Piazzo	Navy	wwn	Seaman, 1st Class
Edgar H. Buck Jr.	Army	Korea	Corporal
Ernest W. Canterbury	Army	Vietnam	SP5
Howard H. Byfield	Navy	Vietnam	E-4
Robert E. Pollier, JR.	Army	Peacetime	Sergeant
Thomas F. Ventura	Army	Vietnam	SGT E-5
Robert A Shauger	Navy	Vietnam	Chief Gunner's Mate
Donald G. Nickerson	Marine Corps	Korea	Corporal
Peter R. Hastings	Navy	Vietnam	PN2
Arthur Snow III	Marine Corps	Vietnam	Private E-1
George E. Renaud, Jr.	Marine Corps	Korea	Corporal E-4

On behalf of the Town, we would like to thank you and your families for your service.

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# 2023 TOWN OFFICERS

ASSESSORS	TERM EXPIRES
Karen Kelly-Garay	2024
Paula B. Keefe	2025
Bruce Martin	2026
BOARD OF HEALTH	
Charlene T. Farris, Resigned July 20, 2023	2023
Joseph A. Kondrat, Jr., Appointed August 24, 2023	2024
Daniel M. Thibodeau	2025
Donald J. Makowski	2026
BOARD OF SELECTMEN	
Richard J. Eichacker	2024
Derick R. Veliz	2025
David P. Dufresne, Sr.	2026
BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS	
David A. Johnson	2024
Howard H. Moulson	2025
Joan A. Lavigne	2026
CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS	
William A. Brunk	2024
Cynthia A. Baxter	2025
Steven C. Cristol	2026
COLLECTOR OF TAXES	
Kerry A. Schmidt	2025
CONSTABLES	
Marci L. Dineen	2025
James G. Dusty	2025
Roger N. Gagnon	2025
David A. Johnson, Bonded	2025
Donald J. Makowski	2025
DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE	
Regina M. Edmonds	2024
Margaret A. Gorman	2024
Sheila A. Hunkins	2024
Peter H. Krawczyk	2024

HIGHWAY SURVEYOR	TERM EXPIRES
Jeremy R. Olson	2025
HOUSING AUTHORITY	
Barbara A. Keith, Elected	2024
Maryanne Potrzuski - Town Appt. Tenant Board Member, Resigned M	(ay 3, 2023 2025
Robert J. O'Keefe, Elected, Deceased on June 10, 2023	2026
Virginia M. Fleming, Appointed by the State Housing Authority	2026
Maryanne Potrzuski, Elected	2028
MODERATOR	
Dario F. Nardi	2026
PARK COMMISSIONERS	
Suzanne R. Ramsey	2024
Jessie L. Sweeney	2025
Lisa A. Boucher	2026
PLANNING BOARD	
Derick R. Veliz	2024
David P. Dufresne, Sr.	2025
Edward F. Londergan	2026
Drue C. King	2027
Richard J. Eichacker	2028
TOWN CLERK	
Laura J. Stockley	2025
TOWN TREASURER	
Dawn M. Swistak	2025
TREE WARDEN	
Jeremy R. Olson	2024
PATHFINDER VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRI	CT COMMITTEE
John A. Nason, III	2026
QUABOAG REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMI Members from the Town of Warren	TTEE
Jason G. Morgan	2024
Sarah D. Tetreault	2024
Brittany K. Bousquet	2025
Megan E. Sears	2025
Matthew J. Peloquin	2026
Andrew D. Schwenker	2026

Members from the Town of West Brookfield	
Dustin J. Atwood	2024
Gregory S. Morse	2024
Craig R. Burgess	2025
Bryan S. Griffing	2025
Philip J. Landine	2026
Travis L. Mathieson	2026
OFFICERS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF SE	LECTMEN
Accountant, Tammy M. Martin, Resigned December 7, 2023	
Assistant Accountant	Madeline R. Witaszek
ADA Officer	Karen L. Dusty
Administrative Secretary	Karen L. Dusty
Animal Control Officer	Tamara N. Dufresne
Building Inspector — Zoning Enforcement Officer	Brenda J. Church
Census Supervisor	Laura J. Stockley
Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission Planning	ng Board Delegate Derick R. Veliz
Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission Board of Delegate	f <u>Selectmen Alternate</u> Richard J. Eichacker
Conservation Commission Secretary	Corrine Thibodeau
Council on Aging Custodian, Ended employment, May 31, 2023	John S. Mieltowski
Council on Aging Director	Sharon L. Meli
Council on Aging Meal Coordinator	Jonathan C. Dusty
Council on Aging General Helper	Gail M. Winders
Council on Aging Van Driver, Resigned, August 15, 2023	John D. Obrzut
Emergency Management Deputy Director	James A. McKeon
Environmental Certifying Officer	James J. Ferrera

Fire Chief Adam S. Lavoie Hearings Officer Kerry A. Schmidt Parking Clerk Mildred A. Gushue Police Chief Gerald N. Millette, Jr. **Procurement Officer** James J. Ferrera Quaboag Hills Tourism Council --- Delegate Sylvia G. Buck Records Access Officer Laura J. Stockley SCM Elder Bus --- Delegate Sharon L. Meli Sexual Harassment Officers David P. Dufresne, Sr. Kerry A. Schmidt Tax Title Custodian Dawn M. Swistak Town Counsel **KP** Law Veterans' Service Director/Grave Officer Agent, Gary W. Lapine Retired, Nov. 30, 2023 Veterans' Service Director/Grave Officer Agent Michelle Durkee, Appt. Dec. 6, 2023 Wiring Inspector Scot M. Mansfield Wiring Inspector --- Alternate Paul Shepardson Board of Appeals Term Expires Richard J. Czaporowski 2024 Matthew A. Bonneau 2025 Martha W. Giguere 2026 Ronald G. Leger 2026 Kerry A. Schmidt 2026 Cable TV Advisory Committee Term Expires Brandon Chiasson 2024 Travis A. Baker 2025 Lisa M. Mundell 2025

Community Development Advisory Committee Richard J. Eichacker, Board of Selectmen Representative Jeremy R. Olson	Indefinite Term
Conservation Commission	
Richard K. Demetrius, Resigned, August. 3, 2023	2024
Otto S. Shillieto	2024
Phillip A. Woodford	2024
Joyce M. Eichacker	2026
Council on Aging	
Catherine M. Duncan	2024
Julie D. Vadnais	2024
Barbara A. Keith	2025
Mary Jane Adam	2025
Joyce M. Stuart	2025
Albert Dimo	2026
Catherine E. Mellen	2026
Cultural Council	
Catherine M. Duncan	2023
Kathleen A. Odiorne	2023
Alicia J. Peltier	2023
Diane M. Banfield	2024
Sylvia Cummings	2024
Carol A. Kelleher	2024
George J. Poleshuk	2024
Robert D. Kelleher	2025
Tracey S. Mazur	2025
Catherine E. Mellen	2025
Election Officers - Polling Place A	
Karen M. Wilk, Warden	Tracey S. Mazur
Sylvia Cummings, Clerk	Donna L. Pina
Kathleen A. Banas	Carol Sanders-Sausville
Heather L. Bridges	Leona A. Wrobel
Catherine M. Duncan	Linda L. Wrobel
Cheryl E. Gagnon	
Karen Kelly-Garay	
Drue C. King	
Barbara B. Larkin	

Election Officers - Polling Place B

Linda J. Cunningham, Warden Maryanne Potrzuski, Clerk

Phyllis A. Dolina

Virginia M. Fleming Patricia A. Morrison

Agnes E. Sablack

Beverly A. Soltys

Historical Commission Term Expires

Sylvia G. Buck
Thomas G. Perkins
2026
William M. Shoucair
2026

Local Emergency Planning Committee Indefinite Term

Adam S. Lavoie Gerald N. Millette, Jr. Jeremy R. Olson

## POLICE DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS

Full-Time Lieutenant James M. Early

**Full-Time Police Officers** 

David A. Mellen, Retired, Feb. 1, 2023

Christopher Bouchard
Garrett K. Fortin, Resigned, Feb. 2, 2023
Andrew Nepal, Resigned, Aug. 15, 2023
Matthew D. Morin

Bradford G. Merkel
Madesyn R. Nale
Michael S. Shea
Paul K. Soojian

Charles Williams

Part-Time Police Officers

Rene P. Cote, II

John P. McGrath, Resigned, Feb. 16, 2023

Christos N. Tsigas

Police Administrative Clerk

Dawn M. Guzik

Regional Highway Equipment Sharing Co-Op Jeremy R. Olson

Board of Registrars	Term Expires
Jennifer M. Leneau, Appointed March 6, 2023	2024
Sheila E. LaFlower	2025
Kathleen A. Odiorne	2026

Survey Board --- Indefinite Term Adam S. Lavoie Gerald N. Millette, Jr. Jeremy R. Olson

#### Town Administrator

James J. Ferrera, III

Veteran's Council -- Term Expires 2026 Rebecca A. Acerra, Resigned, Aug. 3, 2023 Richard K. Demetrius, Resigned, Aug. 3, 2023 H. William Ramsey, Resigned, Aug. 22, 2023 Betty-Jo O'Brien, Appointed, November 2, 2023 Christine Tatro, Appointed, November 2, 2023

Judith E. Rice, Resigned, Aug. 3, 2023 Lloyd A. Rice, Resigned, Aug. 3, 2023

# APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

# Assistant Assessor

Betty-Jo O'Brien

# APPOINTED BY THE CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

# Superintendent of the Cemetery

James A. McKeon

# APPOINTED BY THE FIRE CHIEF

#### **Assistant Chief**

Kenneth O. Beauregard

#### Fire Department Chaplain

James G. Dusty

# <u>Fire Officers</u> Scott E. Bridges, Retired June 30, 2023 Michael J. Jacques

Paul F. Russell, Jr. Chad W. Sablack, Retired, Dec. 1, 2023

# Full-Time Firefighter/EMT

Seth A. Beall Shawn F. Boulette Paul F. Russell, Jr. Halie M. Smith Adam R. Walters **EMT** 

Eric J. Allard, Retired, November 15, 2023

Christina R. Bonneau Matthew A. Bonneau

Abigail N. Cote

James G. Dusty Alex Heaseler, Resigned, April 1, 2023

Christopher M. Mendrek

Ambulance First Responders

Dennis E. Desrosiers

**Firefighters** 

Eric J. Allard, Retired, Nov. 15, 2024

Seth A. Beall

Robert E. Beaudry, III Matthew A. Bonneau

Alex J. Bridges

Scott C. Duncan, Jr. James A. Gagner, Jr.

Andrew R. Giza

Alex Heaseler Lillian M. Harvey

David S. Johnson

Junior Firefighters

Bryce C. Douglas

Grason L. Patchkofsky

Aaron A. Palmer

Stephanie A. Snow

Jacob A. Thompson

Merrill J. Thompson, Retired, Nov. 1, 2023

Jennifer R. Walters

John M. Williams

James A. Gagner, Jr.

Noah M. LaFlamme, Resigned, Dec. 31, 2023

Noan M. Lariamme, Resigned, Dec. 31, 2023
Drew C. Martinez

Christopher M. Mendrek

Aaron A. Palmer

Steve R. Perkins

Jonathan E. Russell Jacob A. Thompson

Merrill J. Thompson, Retired, Nov. 1, 2023

Joseph J. Wedge

John M. Williams Phillip A. Woodford

Timothy E. Russell

APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Health Agent Patricia L. Valiton

Inspector of Live Animals Tamara N. Dufresne

<u>Plumbing and Gas Inspector</u> Christopher P. Jones

Alternate Plumbing and Gas Inspector Michael R. Pluta

Public Health Nurse Cheryl A. Rawiniski, RN

Title V Inspector Christina L. Florence

# APPOINTED BY THE MODERATOR

Capital Improvement Planning Committee	Term Expires
Finance Committee John A. Nason, III Karen Kelly-Garay Raymond C. Kopacko, Appointed, June 6, 2023	Term Expires 2024 2025 2026
Madeline R. Witaszek <u>APPOINTED BY THE TAX COLLECTOR</u>	2026
Assistant Tax Collector, Retired, December 14, 2023 Appointed, December 18, 2023	Ronald E. Guglietti Julie F. Towlson

# APPOINTED BY THE TOWN CLERK

# Assistant Town Clerk Leslie G. Cook

# \*\*\*VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT\*\*\*

Members	
Richard K. Demetrius, Resigned, August 3, 2023	Joanne Martone
Emily A. Doss	Alan P. McKeon
Laura J. Fitzpatrick	Lisa M. Mundell
David A. Johnson	Timothy J. O'Brien
Paul E. LeGrand	Lawrence G. Sullivan
Devon A. Marcille	Ray S. Veitenheimer, Sr. Dec. 1, 2023
John R. Marcille	1, 2023

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Population: As of December 31, 2023 our population was 4,627; registered voters was 3,875

Vital Statistics: Recorded and processed for the year:

Births 51 Marriages 17 Deaths 46

Voter Registration/Election News: 2023 was an exciting year for our office with the purchase of two new Voting Machines. Upon receiving an offer of discounted prices, the Town was able to purchase much needed new voting machines at a discounted price with help from the state. In addition to that, we also re-located Polling Place B, (the Senior Ctr.) to 48 High Street, with all voting happening under one roof, we will be better equipped to process the hundreds of mail-in ballots that we receive during State Election/Presidential years.

**Town Meetings:** In 2023 we had several Town Meetings, our Special/Annual in May, a Special in June to vote only the Quaboag budget, which was defeated at the Annual, and lastly, we had a Special in November. One important change to note, all future Annual Town Meetings will now be held on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, in June**, as voted on as a new By-Law change at our Annual Town Meeting in 2023.

Dog Licenses; It's the Law: Dog licenses are free to all service dogs who have the proper paperwork stating that they are a service dog, and have up-to date rabies certificates. Dog licenses are also free to owners who are aged 70 years or older, which was voted on in 2023. Our licensing period is April 1st - June 30th each year, with late fees applying after July 1st.

Office Hours:
Mon-Wed 8:30am - 3:30pm
Thurs 1:00pm - 6:00pm

Respectfully submitted: Laura J. Stockley Town Clerk

# RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MAY 9, 2023

# 172 VOTERS ATTENDED

Moderator, Dario Nardi, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. More than a quorum of 25 were present. The Moderator declared that the Warrant was properly posted and returned; seeing there is a public quorum, he opened the meeting.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ALLOW JAMES FERRERA, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, AND POLICE CHIEF, GERALD MILLETTE TO ADDRESS THE MEETING – PASSES.

\*Due to a temporary glitch in the Meridia EZ-Vote (Clickers) Software, the first four Articles were taken by voice count.

ARTICLE 1: MODERATOR DECLARED IT IS A VOTE (PASSES): that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,703.28 to pay the following prior fiscal year(s) invoices: Axon Enterprise Inc. for taxer equipment dated August 16, 2021, in the amount of \$1,847.28 and for an annual subscription fee dated May 1, 2022, in the amount of \$1,856.00. These bills were sent to an invalid email address.

ARTICLE 2: MODERATOR DECLARED IT IS A VOTE (PASSES): that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$9,000.00 to pay to replace and install a new server for the Police Department which is currently ten years old and at the end of its useful life.

ARTICLE 3: MODERATPR DECLARED IT IS A VOTE (PASSES): that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,800.00 to replace and install a new firewall and switch for the computers at the Police Department. The firewall is ten years old and unable to be serviced anymore. The switch the firewall is plugged into is fifteen years old and only a twenty-four-port switch which is filled. The equipment is \$3,400.00 and the installation is \$400.00.

ARTICLE 4: MODERATOR DECLARED IT IS A VOTE (PASSES): that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing two new sets of turnout gear, helmets, and boots for new members of the department.

ARTICLE 5: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000.00 for the third and final installment to replace the Fire Department's Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus packs and bottles.

ARTICLE 5: VOTED - YES 101 - NO 11 - TOTAL = 112 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 6: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$29,852.77 to fund the snow and ice deficit.

#### ARTICLE 6: VOTED - YES 82 - NO 26 - TOTAL = 108 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 7: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to reduce the FY 2023 Quaboag Regional School District assessment by \$50,299.57 for FY 2022 State Aid Transportation excess reimbursement in accordance with the vote of the May 11, 2021 Annual Town Meeting.

#### ARTICLE 7: VOTED - YES 74 - NO 25 - TOTAL = 99 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 8: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from the Assessor Clerk Salary the sum of \$11,400.00 to the Assessor Purchased Services for software updates and to transfer \$1,000.00 from the Assessor Clerk Salary to pay for training for the new Assistant Assessor.

# ARTICLE 8: VOTED - YES 79 - NO 23 - TOTAL = 102 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 9: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Workman's Compensation Insurance the sum of \$2,000.00 to Boiler Maintenance.

#### ARTICLE 9: VOTED - YES 89 - NO 23 - TOTAL = 112 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 10: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Workman's Compensation Insurance the sum of \$2,488.89 to pay a prior fiscal year invoice to Civicplus for website hosting services.

9/10 Vote Required

ARTICLE 10: VOTE - YES 86 - NO 22 - TOTAL = 108 - MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 10-MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO RECONSIDER-MODERATOR DECLARED IT IS A VOTE (PASSES)

ARTICLE 10: REVOTE -YES 102 - NO 22 - TOTAL = 124 - MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 11: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Cemetery Salaries the sum of \$3,500.00 to Cemetery expense to cover the costs of sealing cracks on the roads in the cemetery and for the purchasing of new signage.

ARTICLE 11: VOTED - YES 121 - NO 7 - TOTAL = 128 - MOTION CARRIES

Business of the meeting being completed, a motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Laura J. Stockley, Town Clerk

# 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.

2/3<sup>rd</sup> 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: that the Town vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the ensuing Fiscal Year as it appears in the Finance Committee's recommendations in the Annual Report.

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	\$ 92,654.00
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	\$208,569.84
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:

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

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 elerical 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.
- 4. 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	\$ <del>20,000.00</del> \$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 <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download">https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download</a> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in May of each year. The Annual Town Meeting shall be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Name	Lot #	Amount
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.

## <u>ARTICLE 28: VOTED - YES 66 - NO 9 - TOTAL = 75 - MOTION CARRIES</u>

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 10:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Laura J. Stockley, Town Clerk

# RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING JUNE 29, 2023

#### 240 VOTERS ATTENDED

Moderator, Dario Nardi, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:09 PM. More than a quorum of 25 were present. The Moderator lead with the Pledge of Allegiance then he declared that the Warrant was properly posted and returned. He explained the procedures of the meeting, then the following action was taken on articles:

At the start of the meeting, The Moderator made the following motion:

# MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO ALLOW JAMES FERRERA, TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ADDRESS THE MEETING: VOICE COUNT: PASSES

ARTICLE 1: 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	\$ 609,903.00;	
Transportation	\$ 888,994.00;	
Total Operating Assessment	\$4,384,964.00;	
Debt Service for capital payments	\$ 140,334.00;	
Total Quaboag Regional School District Assessment	\$4,525,298.00.	

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.

At this time, a resident made the following motion to amend:

ARTICLE 1 AMENDED: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to amend the above minimum contribution amount from \$609,903.00 to \$110,000.00

# <u>ARTICLE 1 VOTE TO AMEND: VOTED - YES 104 - NO 122 - TOTAL = 226 MOTION DEFEATED</u>

After much discussion, the original motion was voted on.

# ARTICLE 1: VOTED - YES 125 - NO 106 - TOTAL = 231 - MOTION CARRIES

Business of the meeting being completed, a motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Laura J. Stockley, Town Clerk

# RESULTS OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING NOVEMBER 16, 2023

#### 54 VOTERS ATTENDED

Moderator, Dario Nardi, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. More than a quorum of 25 were present. The Moderator lead with the Pledge of Allegiance then he declared that the Warrant was properly posted and returned. He explained the procedures of the meeting, then the following action was taken on articles:

ARTICLE 1: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$352,000.00 to Stabilization.

ARTICLE 1: VOTED - YES 37 - NO 6 - TOTAL = 43 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 2: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000.00 to Capital Stabilization.

ARTICLE 2: VOTED - YES 36 - NO 7 - TOTAL = 43 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 3: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$18,000.00 for Building Maintenance and Improvements as follows; \$7,500.00 to the Shepard Building Office Improvements Line, \$3,000.00 to Town Hall Repair/Maintenance Line, and \$7,500.00 to the Council on Aging Maintenance Line.

ARTICLE 3: VOTED - YES 40 - NO 5 - TOTAL = 45 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 4: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,475.00 for repairs to the roof at the Senior Center.

ARTICLE 4: VOTED - YES 40 - NO 2 - TOTAL = 42 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 5: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from COA Custodian Salary the sum of \$2,600.00 to the Council on Aging Maintenance Line for additional building improvements.

ARTICLE 5: VOTED - YES 39 - NO 3 - TOTAL = 42 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 6: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,000.00 to pay for staff training.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO GIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR JAMES FERRERA PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE MEETING - VOTED UNANIMOUSLY (As declared by the Moderator)

# ARTICLE 6: VOTED - YES 31 - NO 12 - TOTAL = 43 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 7: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,960.00 to vocational education transportation for an increase in transportation costs for an out of district student.

# ARTICLE 7: VOTED - YES 33 - NO 17 - TOTAL = 50 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 8: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from the Accountant Salary Line the sum of \$16,000.00 to the Assistant Town Accountant Salary Line.

# ARTICLE 8: VOTED - YES 39 - NO 6 - TOTAL = 45 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 9: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000.00 for maintenance to the Town's Levee.

# ARTICLE 9: VOTED - YES 41 - NO 9 - TOTAL = 50 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 10: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,717.56 to the Shepard Building Expense Line for security hinges for interior doors at the Shepard Building (\$1,717.56) and (\$2,000.00) for power washing of the building.

# ARTICLE 10: VOTED - YES 28 - NO 16 - TOTAL = 44 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 11: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Facilities Custodian Salary the sum of \$14,000.00 to the Shepard Building Expense Line to cover the cost of cleaning services for the period of 7/1/2023 to 11/17/2023.

# ARTICLE 11: VOTED - YES 39 - NO 8 - TOTAL = 47 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 12: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$18,900.00 for twenty-eight weeks of cleaning services for the Shepard Building, Police Station, Fire Station, Senior Center, and Highway Garage.

# ARTICLE 12: VOTED - YES 37 - NO 10 - TOTAL = 47 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 13: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$9,300.00 to purchase three electronic speed signs and to purchase additional speed limit signs for the Town

#### ARTICLE 13: VOTED - YES 17 - NO 34 - TOTAL = 51 - MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 14: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$30,000.00 to commission a management assessment study for the Quaboag Regional School District as approved at the May 9, 2023, Annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 14: MOTION MADE TO MOVE THE QUESTION: 2/3 REQUIRED VOTED UNANIMOUSLY (As declared by the Moderator)

ARTICLE 14: VOTED - YES 22 - NO 28 - TOTAL = 50 - MOTION DEFEATED

ARTICLE 15: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to Selectmen Information Technology Account to fund additional email accounts.

#### ARTICLE 15: VOTED - YES 37 - NO 14 - TOTAL = 51 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 16: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from the Cable Advisory Fund the sum of \$2,524.10 to pay Valley Communications for prior fiscal year bills for the purchase of audio and video equipment.

9/10<sup>th</sup> Vote

<u>ARTICLE 16: VOTED - YES 42 - NO 5 - TOTAL = 47 - MOTION DEFEATED</u> 9/10 VOTE REQUIRED - 43 NEEDED TO PASS

ARTICLE 16-MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO RECONSIDER ARTICLE 16-MODERATOR DECLARED IT IS A VOTE (PASSES)

ARTICLE 16: REVOTED - YES 46 - NO 3 - TOTAL = 49 MOTION CARRIES 9/10 VOTE REQUIRED - 45 NEEDED TO PASS

ARTICLE 17: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$11,770.00 to pay the following prior fiscal year(s) invoices: Barton & Loguidice, LLC. for Landfill Monitoring Wells and PFAS Analyses dated May 19, 2023, in the amount of \$10,560.00 and for Engineering Services and Facility Inspections dated May 19, 2023, in the amount of \$1,210.00.

9/10<sup>th</sup> Vote

# ARTICLE 17: VOTED - YES 46 - NO 4 - TOTAL = 50 - MOTION CARRIES 9/10 VOTE REQUIRED - 45 NEEDED TO PASS

ARTICLE 18: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300.00 to the Animal Inspector Salary to cover the additional costs of inspections for the months of October, November, and December.

# ARTICLE 18: VOTED - YES 41 - NO 6- TOTAL = 47 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 19: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* \$12,880.35 from Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Highway Equipment fund to purchase a Hopper Sweeper for \$5,882.35 and a Buffalo Turbine for \$6,998.00.

#### ARTICLE 19: VOTED - YES 50 - NO 2 - TOTAL = 52 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 20: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$4,000.00 to Beaver Removal Line for additional beaver removal services.

# ARTICLE 20: VOTED - YES 45 - NO 5 - TOTAL = 50 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 21: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$46,286.00 to purchase a new Ford Police Interceptor and to trade in a 2020 Ford Police Interceptor with approximately 104,000 miles on it which is currently at the end of its useful life.

## ARTICLE 21: VOTED - YES 36 - NO 11- TOTAL = 47 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 22: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,895.00 to cover the following costs associated with a new police hire; \$3,535.00 to be added to police salary line for a new hire starting at a step 4 and \$360.00 to be added to the supplemental salary line to cover the extra educational incentive costs.

# ARTICLE 22: VOTED - YES 42 - NO 9 - TOTAL = 51 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 23: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$400,000.00 to purchase a new Fire Engine Number One of which the Town has already appropriated \$200,000.00 towards its replacement.

#### ARTICLE 23: VOTED - YES 39 - NO 9 - TOTAL = 48 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 24: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Regional Dispatch the sum of \$50,000.00 to complete the purchase of Fire Engine Number One.

# ARTICLE 24: VOTED - YES 43 - NO 5 - TOTAL = 48 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 25: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Fire Engine Number One Capital stabilization, the sum of \$200,000.00 for the purchase of a new Fire Engine Number One.

2/3<sup>rd</sup> Vote

# ARTICLE 25: VOTED - YES 42 - NO 5 - TOTAL = 47 - MOTION CARRIES 2/3 VOTE REQUIRED - 32 NEEDED TO PASS

ARTICLE 26: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to the advanced life support expense line to cover additional advanced life support calls.

# ARTICLE 26: VOTED - YES 41 - NO 4 - TOTAL = 45 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 27: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for the enactment of special legislation entitled "An Act Authorizing the Town of Warren to continue the employment of Steven Perkins" as set forth below, provided however, that the General Court shall be authorized to make ministerial, clerical, and editorial changes of form only to said bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to approve such amendments.

An Act Authorizing the Town of Warren to Continue Employment of Steven Perkins

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, Steven Perkins, a member of the fire department of the town of Warren, may continue to serve in such position until the age of 67, or until the date of his retirement, non-reappointment, or the date he is relieved of his duties by the town, whichever occurs first; provided, however, that he is mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of his office. Provided further, that the town may, at its own expense, require that Steven Perkins be examined by an impartial physician designated by the town to determine such capability; and provided further, that no deductions shall be made from the regular compensation of Steven Perkins pursuant to chapter 32 of the General Laws for any service subsequent to his reaching the age of 65 in connection with his service to the town for retirement or pension purposes, and, upon retirement, Steven Perkins shall receive a superannuation retirement allowance equal to that which he would have been entitled had he retired at age 65.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

### ARTICLE 27: VOTED - YES 50 - NO 1 - TOTAL = 51 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 28: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$2,100.00 to Treasurer's Expense line for the purchase of a new filing cabinet and accessories for the Treasurer's office to replace a non-functional unsafe file cabinet.

# ARTICLE 28: VOTED - YES 39 - NO 7 - TOTAL = 46 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 29: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$72,900.00 to pay off the debt issued for the highway backhoe pursuant to Article number 16 of the May 11, 2021, Annual Town Meeting.

## ARTICLE 29: VOTED - YES 44 - NO 4 - TOTAL = 48 - MOTION CARRIES

### **ARTICLE 30: MOTION MADE AND SECON**

<u>**DED**</u>: I move that the Town vote to *transfer* from Free Cash the sum of \$1,550.00 to the Assessor Expense line for the following unanticipated FY24 expenses; \$700.00 for Assessors and Assistant Assessor continuing education and certification training, \$350.00 for annual Multiple Listing Service subscription, and \$500.00 for mileage expense.

# ARTICLE 30: VOTED - YES 38 - NO 11 - TOTAL = 49 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 31: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause 37A, to adjust Clause 37 eligibility requirements as follows, to become effective July 1, 2023, for the Fiscal Year 2024 tax billing:

Change In Clause: Change from Clause 37 to Clause 37A

Exemption Amount: Increase exemption from \$437.50 to \$500.00

# ARTICLE 31: VOTED - YES 45 - NO 2 - TOTAL = 47 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 32: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 184 Section 51 of the Acts of 2002 (Amending Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59 Section 5 Clause 41C), to adjust Clause 41C eligibility requirements as follows, to become effective July 1, 2023, for the Fiscal Year 2024 tax billing:

MINIMUM AGE: Reduce to 65 from 70 years of age.

GROSS RECEIPT LIMIT: SINGLE resident increase from \$13,000 to \$16,500; Married/Joint residents increase from \$15,000 to \$22,500.

ASSET LIMITS: SINGLE resident increase from \$28,000 to \$34,000; Married/Joint residents increase from \$30,000 to \$42,500.

## ARTICLE 32: VOTED - YES 37 - NO 7 - TOTAL = 44 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 33: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,400.00 to the Accountant Expense Line for an accounting educational training course or to take any action relative thereto.

# ARTICLE 33: VOTED - YES 41 - NO 5 - TOTAL = 46 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 34: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to amend Article IV Section 2 of the Town of Warren General Bylaw by adding (in bold below) the position of Town Administrator and updating its purpose, and its Annual Reporting as the Capital Planning Committee as follows:

Section 2. Capital Planning Committee A. Establishment, The Board of Selectmen shall assist in the establishment and appointment of a Committee to be known as the Capital Planning Committee. This Committee is hereby established under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 106B, and shall be composed of one member of the Board of Selectmen, one member of the Finance Committee, the Town Treasurer, Town Administrator ex officio committee member without the right to vote, and two registered voters from the Town. The Committee shall choose its own officers. Moderator to appoint the Registered Voter members. Member terms will be as follows: Finance committee, one year, member to be selected by the Committee and may be re-appointed by the same; voter members, three years, with one to expire each year and may be re-appointed by the Moderator.

Section 2. Capital Planning Committee B. Purpose, The Committee shall study proposed capital projects and improvements involving major, nonrecurring, tangible assets and projects which: a) are purchased or undertaken at intervals of not less than five years; b) have a useful life of at least three five years, c) cost over \$5,000.00 \$25,000.00. All Town officers, boards, and committees, including the Selectmen and School Committee, shall, by September 1st of each year, give to the Committee, on forms prepared by it, information concerning all anticipated projects requiring Town Meeting action during the ensuing six five years. The Committee shall consider the relative need, impact, timing and cost of these expenditures and the effect each will have on the financial position of the Town. No expenditure appropriation shall be voted for a capital outlay improvement requested by a department, board, or commission unless the proposed capital improvement is reflected considered in the Committee's report, unless or the Committee shall first have submitted a report to the Board of Selectmen explaining the omission.

Section 2. Annual Report C. The Committee shall prepare an annual report recommending a Capital Improvement Budget for the next fiscal year, and a Capital Improvement Program including recommended capital improvements for the following five four fiscal years. The report

shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee for its consideration and approval for the inclusion in the Annual Budget. The Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee shall submit its approved Capital Budget to the Annual Town Meeting for adoption by the Town. The Committee shall also prepare a schedule of capital outlays, which it recommends for funding in the second through sixth ensuing fiscal years, with notes as to funding sources called the "Capital Program."

# ARTICLE 34: VOTED - YES 43 - NO 3 - TOTAL = 46 - MOTION CARRIES

#### **ARTICLE 35: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED:**

I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law chapter 140 Section 139 (C) No fee shall be charged for a license for a dog owned by a person aged 70 years or over.

#### ARTICLE 35: VOTED - YES 45 - NO 1 - TOTAL = 46 - MOTION CARRIES

ARTICLE 36: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: I move that the Town vote to remove the Town of Warren Personnel BY-LAWS Section II – Management Rights, Subsection C. by deleting the entire portion shown in strikeout.

C. All persons not under Civil Service, employed and paid by the Town as laborers, trucking equipment operators, custodians of any town building, police officers, elerical workers and administrative or management employees shall be residents of the Town or shall reside in a community within fifteen miles of a Town boundary. Any such employee removing from the town to any community from within fifteen mile boundary shall thereupon terminate his/her employment. This section shall not apply to persons employed prior to June 21, 1983

#### ARTICLE 36: VOTED - YES 38 - NO 8 - TOTAL = 46 - MOTION CARRIES

Business of the meeting being completed, a motion was made and seconded to dissolve the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted: Laura J. Stockley Town Clerk

# TOWN OF WARREN, MA BALANCE SHEET June 39, 2023

The second secon	GENERAL FUND GENERAL FUND	GENE	RAL FUND	150	FEDERAL & STATE GRANTS	RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION		CAPITAL PROJECT REVOLVING & BIFT FUNDS	T REV	POLVING & GIFT FUNDS	_	SEWER	TRU	TRUST & AGENCY FUNDS	GENERAL LONG TERM DEBT
Assols Cash	1648			44	1,210,731.00	5 144,0	144,064.60	\$ 6,847.50 \$	vs C	303,426.00	*	631,362,00	W	3,841,352.00	
Petty Cash Due to/frem Other Funds	1190	vo.	400,00												
Tax and Excise Receivables:															
Personal Property Taxes	1210		8,582.00												
Real Estate Taxes	1220		401,487,00												
Chapter 61A Inxes	1235														
Start beine Excise	0071		00.040,042												
Classified Perest Land	1290		• 1												
Taxes and Exclas Receivable			705,145.00												
Allowance	1230		(36,343,00)												
Taxes and Excise Receivable, Net			866,802.00												
Tex Uen	1246		488.268.00									SO GAS ON			
Rx Foredosures			187 568.00									201214120			
Town Lies	1270		•												
Tex Take Sewer Liens			•									15,150.00			
Tax Trile Water Liens	1880													11.659.00	
Liens and Foreclosures Receivable			595,834,00											•	
Water Bellement not yyel due	3									٠					
Tax Tale Fee Receivedle															
Olher Receivables:															
Mobile Home Rent	1340		•												
Ambulance	1342		447,879.00												
Due form Restitution	1345		471.00												
Other Receivings					400 010 000							400 000			
			448,356.00		20.00							182,367.00			
Amount Provided Payment Bonds															1,344,155,00
Capital Assets Not Being Depriciation															6,936,521,00
Capital Azels Being Depricialed	1932														72,017,670,00
1	000														
Control of the Contro	200														
and the same of th	200														
Heritaga Project	1831		٠												
Preporty, Play and Equipment			•												
Construction in Pregress			ě												
Accumulated Depreciation	1935		•									3,546,238,80			(67,763,234.00)
Property, Plant and Equipment, Net			-							-	1			-	
Total Ansels		5.38	3.824.435.00	•	1 815 741 00 5	2 144 004 00	\$ 00 71	6 6.47.00	u	303 425 50		A 425 282 BB		C 3 RE1 244 60	12 510 118 00
			- 22			1				and and	-	4,4404,404,40	7	1,000,000	14,334,110.

TOWN OF WARREN, MA. BALANCE SHEET

1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1		GENERAL FIND	FEDCHAL & STATE. GRANTS	RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION		REVOLUNG A			IGENCY TRI	UST & AGENCY FUNDS	GENERAL LONG TERM DEBT
\$ 79.750 00 666,018,000   4.225,000 00   4.622,000   1.2592,000   1.25	1 lefellities								1		
7 9 73 00 666 01 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	Warrants and Accounts Payable 5						*				
44.2500 (41.0020 (41.	Withholdings	78 758 09									
171,256.00  171,256.00  171,256.00  172,250.00  172,25	Highway Chapter 90		605,010,00								
1,100,000   1,10	Des ta Collector	8									
31/105.00 400.705.00 4	Due to Clerk										
12,000,000   14,000,000   12,000,000   14,000,000   14,000,000   12,	1 action gr										
17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/24000000   17/240000   17/240000   17/240000   17/240000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/240000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/240000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/240000000000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/2400000   17/	Other Liabilities Water Bettement					•					
### 1770-500   \$ #70,200-00   \$ #70,	Des to Warren Water							#	4,032,00	12,562,00	
311,705.00  442,00	BANts Payable	•			422,900,00						
311,705.00 403,705.00	Bands Payable South St. Sews Lna	•						8.00			
311,705.00 447,878.00 187,205.00	Bonds Payable Fire Truck	•									
311,705.00 400,205.00 400,205.00 471.	Bonds Payable Shepard Building	•									
311,706.00 147,705.00	Bonds Payable Highway Garage	195								•	
311,705.00 402,205.00 1975,005.00 1975,005.00 255,005.0	Reanin Parable Water Betterment	•									
374,705.00 477,005.00	Deferred Revenue										
443,200.00  447,873.00  477,873.00  477,87	Presenty Tanes	37.1 705 00									
147,000 to   147	Chapter 61A Taxes										
1,700,000   226,000   41,000	Lartiess	468 265 00									
4,110 4,110	Tax Foreclesures	187,568.90									
1,174,171.00	Matter Vehicle Excise	295,055,00									
447,019 de	Farm Animal Exclus	٠									
47,479.00  3	Restitution	471 90									
\$ 1,749,4140.0 \$ 685,610.00 \$ . \$ 422,700.00 \$ . \$ 247,642.00 \$ 14,032.00 \$ 12,002.00 \$ 12,002.00 \$ 12,002.00 \$ 12,002.00 \$ 1,000.00	Departmentsi	447,879.00									
S   1/1912/1912-00   S   6685/610.00   S   T   T   T   T   T   T   T   T   T	Classified Forest	•									
\$ 2006,557.00 \$ 144,032.00 \$ 12,002.00 \$ 144,032.00 \$ 12,002.00 \$			-		-	-	247.66				•
\$2,000.00 \$2,000	Total Liabilities 5	1,763,619.00	\$ 665,010.00		\$ 422,900.00	•	\$ 247,661	*	4,032.00 5	12,902.00 \$	1,344,\$55,(
\$ 300,597.00 92,000,00 92,000,00 1,630,077.00 92,000,00 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 233 240 0 70 234 240 0 7	Com of Dalmanas										
1,240-001   1,240-00	Contraction of the second	***************************************					*******				
\$2,000.00 \$2,000	Canada an all control controls	20,000,000					200	3 8			
\$2,000,00  1,389 00  1,210,731	Managemen	on a la den't						3			
1,249 00   1,249 00   1,249 00   1,249 00   1,240,74	Deptembed Acatements County	00 000 00					26 93	50.00			
1,349-00   1,349-00   1,240-00   1,349-00	Tailing	45,000,00									
2 375 510 60   2 200 60 60   2 200 60 60	Snow & Ice Delect										
1,349-00 1,349-00 1,240,731-00 1,210,731-00	Police Station, Fire Station, Highway, Stiepard										
1,349-00 (1,349-00 (144-034-00 (146_253-00) 303 429-00 (3,343-00 (2,219-00) (2,219-00) (2,219-029-00) (146_253-00) 303 429-00 (3,343-00) (3,343	Highway Chapter 90										
220000 1,349 00 1,210,731:00 144 004 00 (418,253.00) 303 429 60 38,383 00 2,719,639	Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt						2,675,946	000			
1,210,010 (441,034,00) (446,253,00) 343,426 (5 33,33,210,0) (2,110,639,00) (446,253	invested in Capital Assets										11, 185,953.0
Balances s 1885,74100 s 144004 to 8 144004	Designated Betterment Trust	4 240 40					2 356	800			
Balances s assistance statements and services statements s	Cardial Instrumental Found	חם פוצייו					38.367	100			
ALECTION BESIEVES 5 2,001,217,200 5 1,218,721,000 5 144,004,00 5 144,004,00 5 3,004,720,00 5 3,854,934,00 5 3,275,000,00 5	Grand Belginson		1 216 731 66	Colt (604 00)	1418 253 601	303 473 60			317060	9 7110 658-00	
ALPUND Balances 5 2001,270.00 5 1,210,731.00 5 144,004.00 5 (416,253.00) 5 303,236.00 5 330,277.00 5 335,271.00 5 2779,005 0 5	Stabilization							DE LES CONTRACTOR DE LA			
2,223,232,00 3 1,815,741,00 5 1,441,004 00 8 8,647,00 5 202,246,00 5 3,554,834,00 5 2,222,800,00 5	Total Fund Ralances	2 834 547 60	4 350 774 00					*		3 746 609 cm	
2,228,4306.00 \$ 1,845,744.00 \$ 946,004.00 \$ 8,447.00 \$ 303,426.00 \$ 3,554,834.00 \$ 3,852,214.00 \$ 2,732,809.00 \$		Control bell bearing	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH			-				The second secon	
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances S		3 1,815,741,00			383.426.60		v	2 00 121		

Taxes		
Personal Property	\$	846,082
Real Estate		7,334,521
Tax Liens		140,096
Motor Vehicle Excise		511,437
Meal Tax		24,652
PILOT		2,697
SOLAR PILOT		14.
Chapter 61 Deferred		3,158
Classified Forest		
State Owned Land		7,574
Penalties and Interest		92,952
Miscellaneous-pro forma tax		
- "	***************************************	8,963,169
Charges for Services		
Fees		47,612
Rentals		39,298
Cemetery		2,450
Ambulance		317.985
Licenses and Permits		101,973
Parking Fines		170
Miscellaneous		22,945
	S <del>(See</del> ) (40)	532,433
State Aid		
Abatement to Elderly		9,538
Vocational CH 70 Aid		10,989
Veterans benefits		43,509
Lottery		1,048,059
	30000	1,112,095
Court Fines		21,777
Investment income		118,111
Miscellaneous Income		51,497
Other Intergovernmenal		
9400	-	191,385
Total General Fund Revenues	\$	10,799,082

Moderator		
Moderator	\$	500
Selectmen		
Elected salary	\$	15,000
Appointed salary	\$ \$ \$	53,705
Expense	\$	59,493
Capital	<u>\$</u>	
	\$	128,198
Town Administrator		5.000 Marie 100
Town Administrator Salary	\$	90,000
Expense	\$ \$ \$	3,565
	\$	93,565
Finance Committee		
Expense	\$	963
Accountant		
Appointed salary	\$	57,375
Expense		5,535
Procurement	\$	1,090
GASB 45 Actuarial Services	\$ \$	4,850
Annual audit		24,400
	\$	93,250
Assessors		
Elected salary	\$	9.000
Appointed salary	\$	36,240
Expense	\$	32,765
Capital	\$ \$ \$	•
	\$	78,005
Revaluation		
Expense	\$	12,000
	\$	12,000

<u>Treasurer</u>		
Elected salary	\$	52,500
Appointed salary		7,590
Expense	\$	23,191
	\$ \$ \$	83,281
Tax Collector		
Elected salary	\$	52,500
Appointed salary	\$	9,126
Expense	\$ \$ \$	18,986
	\$	80,612
Legal Services		
Expense	\$	89,366
Town Clerk		
Elected salary	\$	54,000
Appointed salary	\$	23,661
Expense	\$ \$ \$	2,370
	\$	80,031
Elections		
Appointed salary	\$	16,563
Expense	\$ \$	8,724
	\$	25,287
Registrar's		
Appointed salary	\$	4,459
Expense	\$ \$	•
	\$	4,459
Parking Clerk		
Appointed salary	\$	375
Expense	\$ \$ \$	
	\$	375

Conservation Committee		
Appointed salary	\$	5,443
Expense	\$ \$ \$	3,280
	\$	8,723
Planning Board		
Appointed salary	\$	13,797
Expense	\$	1,800
	\$ \$ \$	
	\$	15,597
Board of Appeals		
Expense	\$	3 <b>*</b>
Economic Development Board		
Expense	\$	-
Rent Control Board		
Expense	\$	-
Public Buildings		
Appointed salary	\$	27,317
Expense	\$	101,817
Capital	\$ \$ \$	49,220
	\$	178,354
Town Report		
Expense	\$	2,499
Post Special Town Meeting		
Expense	\$	85
Police .		
Appointed salary	\$	740,706
Expense	\$ \$ \$	112,978
Capital	\$	57,199
	\$	910,883

Fire Department		
Appointed salary	s	142,300
Expense	\$	110,368
Hydrant rental	\$	54,054
Capital	\$ \$ \$	253,893
	\$	560,615
Ambulance		
Appointed salary	\$	346,733
Expense	\$ \$ \$	88,587
Capital	\$	
	\$	435,320
Building Inspector		
Appointed salary	\$	27,529
Expense	\$	1,727
	\$	29,256
Electrical Inspector		
Appointed salary	\$	5,300
Expense	\$ \$ \$	99
	\$	5,399
Animal Inspector		
Appionted salary	\$	1,200
Emergency Management		
Appointed Salary	\$	500
Expense	\$	2,500
4 2 2 2	\$	3,000
Animal Control		
Appointed Salary	\$	8,000
Expense	\$ \$	2,159 10,159
Tree Warden	trans.	
Elected salary	\$ \$	6,000
Expense		10,000
	\$	16,000
Regional Schools		
Quaboag Assessment	\$	4,158,564
Debt Exclusion	Š	134,193
	£ <del>®</del>	,

Pathfinder Assessment	S	430,679
Vocational Ed Tuition & Transportation	\$	58,322
	\$	4,781,758
Highway		
Elected salary	\$	69,463
Appointed salary		303,370
Expense	\$ \$	219,715
Capital	\$	18,971
	\$	611,519
Snow and Ice		
Appointed salary	\$	28,473
Expense	\$ \$	135,940
	\$	164,413
Street Lighting		
Expense	S	20,189
Maintenance	\$ \$	8,048
	\$	28,237
Cemetery		
Elected salary	\$	1,500
Appointed salary	s	1,000
Expense	5 5 5	11,319
	\$	12,819

Board of Health		
Elected salary	\$	5,400
Appointed salary	\$	27,644
Expense	\$ \$ \$	13,752
	\$	46,796
Health Agent		
Expense	\$	1,540
Council on Aging		100.004
Appointed salary	\$	103,681
Expense	\$	29,810
Capital	\$	-
Tri-valley services	\$ \$ \$	957 134,448
	Þ	134,440
Veterans Services	water.	
Appointed salary	\$	3,600
Expenses	\$	2,048
Benefits	\$	71,380
Honor Roll	\$ \$ \$	-
	\$	77,028
Library		
Warren Public Library	\$	107,788
West Warren Public Library	\$ \$ \$	99,704
Library Grant Match	\$	<del>-</del>
	\$	207,492
Cultural Council		
Expense	\$	2,126
Parks		
Elected salary	\$	4,125
Appointed salary	\$	7,870
Expenses	\$ \$ \$	24,704
Capital	\$	#1
•	\$	36,699
Historical Commission		
Expenses	\$	6,600

\$	2,452
\$	10,200
\$	160,610
\$	662
\$	161,272
S	2,420
	1,282
\$	6,594
\$	-
\$	-
\$	10,296
\$	1,497
3	13,913
9	414,065
a P	54,185
9	499,592
9	17,060
ě	1,314
\$	39,360 1,039,489
\$	132,055
\$	10,415,718
	* ** * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

	fotal (Memorandum Only)	242,282	868,384	(609,845)		500,819
	Total ()	s				۵
	Community Development Block Grant	45,709	87,936	(107,525)	1	\$ 26,120
9	Deve Con	w				UN.
TOWN OF WARREN, MA RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 39, 2023	Grant	3	ij	×		•
PEND D JUI		w	102	•	1	w
TOWN OF WARREN, MA RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES IN THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 20	ARPA of 2021 Grant	191,735	780,446	(502,320)	1	\$ 469.861
CEIPT HE YI	A	S			I	S
RE FOR 1	Justice	1,295		300		1.295
	wan stee.	so So			1	·n
	Justice & Faser Grant	3,543	( <b>*</b> 10	i		3.543
		W			1	W
		Fund balance, July 1,2022	Receipts	Expendiures	Transfers in (out)	Fund balance, June 38, 2023

TOWN OF WARREN, MA STATE GRANTS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	-101	Highway	¥	Grant.	S S	Polcie Vest	A 01	Grant Grant	SAF	SAFE Grants.	5	Grant, Bidg.
and balance, July 1,2022	w	(12,725)	45	8,494	ø	2,795	49	7,931	w	*	w	20,000
sceipts		•		7,944		٠		15,192		4,658		•
xpenditures		542,702		5,726		٠		10,467		320		
ansfers in (out)	1				}			4	1		I	•
and balance, June 30, 2023		(555,427)	5	16.712	_	2,795	5	\$ 12,656	45	4.338	5	20,000

TOWN OF WARREN, MA STATE GRANTS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 39, 2023

FY22 instanter gusennet Grant	(4,438)	•	6,392	.	(10,830)
Flering Co.	40				3
Municipal Reed Safety Grant	¥	10,032	12,340		(4.364)
최합이	w				~
Covid 19 Grant	2,364	ě	Ü	1	2,364
Con	40			ı	•••
Municipal Vulnerbility Grant	10,224	•	10,224	-	
-151	**			ı	·M
Lucy Slane	5 51	•			\$ 51
Med Grant	1,875	1,300	986	•	2,197
-1	*			ı	w
Green Grent	5 2	•	· S	٠	\$
MA DEP	\$ 14,632	5,600	8,825		11.467
<b>ন</b> শ্ল	40			1	40
Emangence	w	2/#13	٠	•	*
Decay Press	1,724	. •X	*		727
Prepare	"				
Fre Fighting. Ethiowent.	•	10,630	6,896		\$ 3,934
	40				
Errengency, Hanagernerit, Grant	\$ (2,700) \$	2,700	2,799		(2,700)
Man Man	49				
	fund balance, July 1,2022	receipts	apendiures	ransfers in (out)	und balance, June 30, 2023
	70.	W.	TO SE	T.	Ž

TOWN OF WARREN, MA STATE GRANTS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Wedness	•	1,796	1,796		(6)
AM .	v				.,
EWP Grant	٠	966'6	965'6		1
리	60			I	*
ARPA Municipal Emergency Disaster	\$ 1,083,733	r	*	•	\$ 1,093,733
Lucy Stene Sark Education Grant	٠	•	1,806		(1,896)
- a	47			1	w
Police Bridge Cedemy Grant	٠	6,000	٠		6,000
48	v)·			- 1	w
Town Grant	•	11,900	47,924		(36,024)
el el	50			1	w
Cemnuity.	٠	65,000	5,000	•	60,000
- 8	**			1	· wi
Construction Constact Sudget Grant	*	12,840	11,820	1	1,020
104	S		-		44
Fund Emergence Conservation Grant	•	20,000	20,000		
- OI	49	1920	_		wsi
Grant.	•	210,795	166,689	•	44,106
A	63			1	w
COF East-billy, Shiry Grant	٠	40,000	٠		40,500
- M	W				w
	fund balance, July 1,2022	teceipts	xpenditures	ansfers in (out)	und balance, June 30, 2023
	F	Rec	a di	Tra	Pun

TOWN OF WARREN, MA STATE GRANTS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	調型	tate aid to	8	Spen pace &. Rec Grant.	필리회	National OPIOD Settlement	Mana	Risk Grant	Edwar	Edward Bryne Memorial Justice	Total (Memorandem Only)	
Fund belance, July 1,2022	47	а	4	(2,600)	49	•	40	*	ø		1,139,312	
Receipts		13,331		2,600		7,928		7,000			590,442	
Expenditures		13,331		6,900		ř		7,000			929,842	
Transfers in (out)			1	•				•		*		
Fund balance, June 30, 2023		(8)	40	(8,900)	45	7,928	<b>"</b>	1	*	1	\$ 709,912	

TOWN OF WARREN, MA RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Head	Repair	3	Sale of Temetary Lets	24	Sala of Real Estate	Dec	Deg Paund	커됩	Welland	**3	Mighway	횔	Total morandum Onlyi
Fund balance, July 1,2022	ss	624	49	23,298	W	18,471	49	2,068	49	36,072	**	18,830	45	101,303
Receipts				2,000				25		491		18,100		19,239
Expenditures														ı
Transfers in (out)			1					23,402				,	l	23,402
Fund balance, June 30, 2023	٦	624	u	25.298	~	18.471		28,118	4	\$ 38,553	<b>~</b>	34.930	w	144,004

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECTS DOWNTOWN DESI RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Other Financing Sources Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources		÷
EXPENSES Salary and Wages		
Expenses		
Construction Work in Progress		2
Capital Outlay		-
Dabl Service		-
Total Expenses		•
Transfers To Other Funds		
Other Financing Uses	-	
Total Expenses and Other Financing Uses		•
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenses and Other Financing Sources (Uses)		
Capital Assets, net of related debt		
Invest in Capital Assets		
Liability and Fund Balance Beginning of Year		940
Bonds Payable		
Construction Work in Progress		-
Adjustment		

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECTS DOWNTOWN DESI RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

REVENUES		INTOWN SIGN
Charges for Services Federal revenue	\$	•
Miscellaneous Revenue		•
Earnings on Investments		•
	70000 20000 2000	

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECTS DOWNTOWN DESI RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

(		NTOWN SIGN
REVENUES Charges for Services Federal revenue	s	•
Miscellaneous Revenue Earnings on Investments		

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECT HIGHWAY BACKHOE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	High	way Backhoa
REVENUES	Service Control	
Charges for Services	S	
Federal ravenue		
Miscellaneous Revenue		
Earnings on Investments		and the same of th
Total Revenues	W-mooning	•
BANS Payable		122,900
Transfers From Other Funds		122,300
Other Financing Sources		
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	<del>da su</del>	122,900
EXPENSES		
Salary and Wages		
Expenses		•
Construction Work in Progress		-
Capital Outlay		-
Debt Service		0.000
	-	50,000
Total Expenses		50,000
Transfers To Other Funds		826
Other Financing Uses	*********	
Total Expenses and Other Financing Uses		60,000
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenses and Other Financing Sources (Uses) Capital Asseta, not of related debt Invest in Capital Assets		
Liability and Fund Balance Beginning of Year		-122,900
Bonds Payable		
Construction Work in Progress		( <b>*</b> )
Adjustment		<u> </u>
Liability and Fund Balance End of Year	<u>s</u>	(72,900)

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECT HIGHWAY BACKHOE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Highwa	v Backhoe
REVENUES Charges for Services	\$	
Federal revenue		<b>%</b> (
Miscellaneous Revenue		9
Earnings on Investments	*****	

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECT HIGHWAY BACKHOE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 39, 2023

REVENUES
Charges for Services
Federal revenue
Miscellaneous Revenue
Earnings on Investments

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECTS STREET LIGHTS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Street
REVENUES	
Charges for Services	s -
Federal revenue	
Miscellaneous Revenue	•
Earnings on Investments	*
Total Revenues	
BANS Payable	
Transfers From Other Funds	
Other Financing Sources	****
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	•
EXPENSES	
Salary and Wages	*
Expenses	
Construction Work in Progress	
Capital Outlay	
Debt Service	versaman and a remain and a second
Total Expenses	•
Transfers To Other Funds	-
Other Financing Uses	
Total Expenses and Other Financing Uses	*
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenses and Other Financing Sources (Uses) Capital Assets, net of related debt Invest in Capital Assets	
Liability and Fund Balance Beginning of Year	5,707
Sonds Payable	1006
Construction Work In Progress	
Adjustment	-
Liability and Fund Balance End of Year	\$ 5,707

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECTS STREET LIGHTS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Street Lights

REVENUES Charges for Services Federal revenue

\$

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA CAPITOL PROJECTS STREET LIGHTS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

REVENUES
Charges for Services
Federal revenue

### TOWN OF WARREN, MA FIRE AMBULANCE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 36, 2023

	AMBUL	ANCE
REVENUES	5	
Charges for Services	•	-
Federal revenue		<u> </u>
Miscellaneous Revenue		
Earnings on investments		
Total Revenues		
		350,000
BANS Payable Transfers From Other Funds		•
Other Financing Sources		
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources		350,000
EXPENSES		
Salary and Wages		
Expenses		•
Construction Work in Progress		-
Capital Outlay		170
Debt Service		
Total Expenses		•
Transfers To Other Funds		**
Other Financing Uses	***********	
Total Expenses and Other Financing Uses		•
Excess (Deliciency) of Revenues Over Expenses and Other Financing Sources (Uses)	i	
Capital Assets, not of related debt		
Invest in Capital Assets		
With the tit make in the		
Liability and Fund Balance Beginning of Year		
Bonds Payable		-
Construction Work in Progress		•
Adjustment		(350,000)
Liability and Fund Balance End of Year	-	1000,000)

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA FIRE AMBULANCE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

AMBULANCE

REVENUES
Charges for Services

5

#### TOWN OF WARREN, MA FIRE AMBULANCE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 20, 2023

FIRE

REVENUES Charges for Services

5

TOWN OF WARREN, MA REVOLVING FUNDS 53E 1/2 RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Plumbing &		į		Bullding		(Memorandum	
	Sist	PERC Tests	Cappe	Ded Deenses	Hapector	Dog Fenanty	N N	
Fund balance, July 1, 2022	5,095	1,315	98,796	200	1,000	•	100,706	
Receipts	6,475	3,910	30,979	3,616	47,623	110	91,813	
Expenditues	6,485	3,950	53,576	1,350	35,000		100,361	
Transfers in (out)				(2,286)	(12,624)	(110)	(115,000)	
Fund balance, June 30, 2023	\$ 5,085	1,275	75,299	800	1,000	1	83,159	

TOWN OF WARREN, MA
OTHER REVOLVING & GIFT FUNDS
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Cultural Council Program	9,654	2,029	999	*	\$ 11.018
Law Enforcement Trust	14,230	2,782		•	\$ 17,012
WCAC Fuel	732				\$ 732
Veterans Park Gift.	540			-	\$ 540
Council On Aging	29,008	21,137	20,010	009'6	\$ 39,634
	Fund balance, July 1, 2022	Receipts	Expenditures	Transfers in (out)	Fund balance, June 30, 2023

# TOWN OF WARREN, MA OTHER REVOLVING & GIFT FUNDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR FNDFD. II INF 30, 2023

S 2023	Honor Roll Giff	1,370				\$ 1.370
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES R THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 20	Cultural Council Schloarship	23,460	445		1	\$ 23,905
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023		Fund balance, July 1, 2022	Receipts	Expenditures	Transfers in (out)	Fund balance, June 30, 2023

TOWN OF WARREN, MA
OTHER REVOLVING & GIFT FUNDS
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Historical Commission Gift	Tax Title Fee Salary	\$20,000	Gazebo Giff	Park Gift
Fund balance, July 1, 2022	181	243	17,628	86	2,018
ceipts					1,608
enditures					650
ransfers in (out)	•			•	10,000
Fund balance, June 30, 2023	\$ 181	\$ 243	\$ 17,628	\$6	\$ 12.976

# TOWN OF WARREN, MA OTHER REVOLVING & GIFT FUNDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Center Gift	Park Recreation Fund
Fund balance, July 1, 2022	1,600	9,305
Receipts		4,005
Expenditures		1,701
Transfers in (out)		-
Fund balance, June 30, 2023	\$ 1,600	\$ 11,609

TOWN OF WARREN, MA
OTHER REVOLVING & GIFT FUNDS
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Lucy Stone	2,464	200	167	•	\$ 2,797
K-9 Giff	3,991			•	\$ 3,991
Emergency Management Gift	1,437	400			\$ 1.837
CSX Lucy Stone Gift	12,12	150	200		\$ 10,347
Cable Comm Gift	368	45		•	\$ 413
Council On Aging Van Gift	5,215	473	863		\$ 4,695
	Fund balance, July 1, 2022	Receipls	Expenditures	Transfers in (out)	Fund balance, June 30, 2023

TOWN OF WARREN, MA OTHER REVOLVING & GIFT FUNDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Tax Title Collection	26,407	735	525		\$ 26.617
Veterans Council Gift	1,700	5,000	2,026	5,000	\$ 9.674
Cronin Rd Solar Gift	8,000			•	\$ 8,000
Hawy Cutter Rd Gift	9,201		931		\$ 8,270
Heal Inc Gift	1,760			•	\$ 1.760
Used Mower Gift	425			•	\$ 425
	Fund balance, July 1, 2022	Receipts	Expenditures	Transfers in (out)	Fund balance, June 30, 2023

TOWN OF WARREN, MA
OTHER REVOLVING & GIFT FUNDS
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Water	Veterans	BOS	(Me	Total Memorandum
	Betterment	Wreaths Gift	Gift		Only
Fund balance, July 1, 2022	2,251	(1)	•	B	184,390
Receipts	43	4,700	28,500	s	72,552
Expenditures		4,100	4,000	69	36,675
Transfers in (out)	-	,	(24,500)		,
Fund balance, June 30, 2023	\$ 2,294	S 600	\$	S	220,267

## TOWN OF WARREN, MA ENTERPRISE FUNDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

REVENUES		SEWER	1	ANDFILL
Charges for Services	\$	778,035	\$	
State Revenue	Ψ	770,030	Φ	i <b>=</b> 0
Miscellaneous Revenue		3,690		-
Earnings on Investments		2,976		564
Total Revenues	-	784,700		564
		, 0 1, 00		504
Bond Proceeds		-		
Transfers From Other Funds		19,617		68,650
Other Financing Sources	-	-	7	
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$	804,317	\$	69,214
<u>EXPENSES</u>				
Salary and Wages		275395		-
Expenses		323152		81,320
Construction		•		
Capital Outlay		-		-
Debt Service	-	21,293	-	
Total Expenses		619,840		81,320
Transfers To Other Funds		188,251		117,073
	-	***********	-	THE PERSON
Total Expenses and Other Financing Uses	\$	808,091	\$	198,393
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenses and Other Financing Sources				
(Uses)	\$	(3,774)	\$	(129,179)
Fund Balance Beginning of Year		3,410,358		492,844
Adjustments		(99,314)		(363,665)
	-		******	
Fund Balance End of Year	<u>\$</u>	3,307,270	\$	-

## TOWN OF WARREN, MA ENTERPRISE FUNDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

#### REVENUES

Charges for Services State Revenue Miscellaneous Revenue Earnings on Investments Total Revenues

Bond Proceeds Transfers From Other Funds Other Financing Sources

**Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources** 

### **EXPENSES**

Salary and Wages Expenses Construction Capital Outlay Debt Service Total Expenses

Transfers To Other Funds

**Total Expenses and Other Financing Uses** 

Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenses and Other Financing Sources (Uses)

Fund Balance Beginning of Year Adjustments

Fund Balance End of Year

# TOWN OF WARREN, MA TRUST FUNDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Stabilization	Capital Stabilization	Yown Hell Repair Stabilization	Engine 5	Stands Center Klichani Stabilitation	Zamendable Trust Funds	Expendable Trust Euritz	[Bernstandum Onth
Fund balance, July 1, 2022	\$ 1,392,937	\$ 383,358	\$ 10,000	(1,040)	730	5 177,415	\$ 412,856	43
Receipts	31,258	٠	ì	•	800	843	13,998	45,735
Expenditues	10.00	•	•	¥	120		12,939	12,938
Transfers to (cut)		875,000	•		1	1	10.000	285,000
Fund balance, June 38, 2023	\$ 1424235	1255,195	10,000	\$ (1,040)		\$ 171.415	\$ 423.916	\$ 3,286,924

TOWN OF WARREN, MA AGENCY FUNDS RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	m	ALANCE							a.	ALANCE
grand	•=•	7/1/2022	4	ddiffions	ă	<b>Jeductions</b>	日	Transfer	i en	5/30/2023
Cash Accounts Receivable	s l	351,724	s	476,462	69	273,759	69		ss ss	554,427
Total Assets		363,034	w	489,128	S	285,876	S		69	566,286
<u>Liabilities</u> Police Outside Detail	v	14.480	S	220,309	6/3	232 797	v	•	•	1 000
License Due State		1,770	٠	10,050	٠	9,437	<b>,</b>		· v> v	2,383
Total Liabilities	so	363,034	s	489,129	w	285,877	s		0	566,286

## TOWN TREASURER FY23 ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

## Highlights of official acts and accomplishments during period ending 6/30/2023:

- Managed cash flows of approximately \$15 Million
- Issued 6,248 Payroll and Vendor warrant checks/vouchers
   Provided 182 W2s and 30 Form 1099NECs
- Earned \$164,713 from investments
- Provided short-term financing for Fire Department Ambulance
- Conducted a Tax Title Lien auction resulting in recovery of 8 properties totaling \$103,903 in oustanding taxes, interest, and charges
- Collected \$73,122 in outstanding taxes, interest, and charges from Tax Title accounts
   Eight (8) properties were redeemed in full

#### Statement of Cash Flow

	FY2023
Beginning Cash Balance - 07/01/2022	\$ 7,669,204
+ Cash Receipts (Inflows)	\$ 14,968,884
- Warrants Funded (Outflows)	\$ (14,387,117)
Ending Cash Balance - 06/30/2023	\$ 8,250,971

## Balance of Cash Investments by Financial Institution:

Cornerstone Bank	\$ 3,186
Country Bank	\$ 2,949,392
Federated Investments - MMDT	\$ 2,967,425
UniBank for Savings	\$ 36
Bartholomew (CFN) Investments	\$ 2,330,932
Total	\$ 8,250,971

# Trust Funds in Custody of Treasurer

Book Value as of 6/30/2023

Stabilization Funds	\$ 2,558,592
Library Funds	12,000
Mary & Nora Burns School Fund	5,199
Paul Stokosa Baseball Trust Fund	30,508
West Warren Library Trust	81,595
St. Paul's Cemetery Funds	3,142
Cultural Council Scholarship Fund	23,906
Pine Grove Cemetery Fund	202,559
Laura Blair Park Fund	1,958
Cutter Park Playground Fund	3,292
Windsor Wright Cemetery Fund	1,648
Post War Rehabilitation Fund	114
Dr. Rearick Memorial Trust Fund	2,888
Curran Burns Hospital Fund	82,059
Flood Control Escrow Fund	2,423
Conservation Funds	31,105
Unemployment Trust Fund	125,120
Insurance Proceeds	9,722
	\$ 3,177,830

## TOWN OF WARREN 5-Year Long Term Debt Schedule

		1	FY2022		FY2023	. 1	FY2024	1	FY2025	1	FY2026
LONG-TERM DEBT			2 6								
USDA											
Heritage Village - Sewer Betterme	nt (92-04)										
	Interest Paid			32							
Interest 4.50%	Principal		200								
Borrowed: \$440,000			1								*
Maturity Date 12/28/2039	Bond Balance	\$		\$		\$	700 7 <b>1-</b> 00				
			-14-5					13			
USDA	W1 00										
Heritage Village - Water Betterme				1							
THE RESIDENCE OF THE PROPERTY	Interest Paid					1					
	Principal							3			
Bocrowed: \$418,000	n 1n.										
Maturity Date 05/15/2041	Bond Balance	5	•	\$	•	\$	•				
USDA				. 1							
Highway Baen (97-08)								63			
	Interest Paid	5	58,077	\$	56,788	S	55,446	5	54,049	S	52,594
A CONTRACTOR OF STATE AND STATE OF STAT	Principal	\$	31,240	\$	32,529	5	33,871	5	35,268	S	36,723
Borrowed: \$1,699,000	· mapa			Ĭ				-	J-2/200	•	54,45
And the second s	Bond Balance	s	1.376.684	\$	1,344,155	3	1,310,285	\$	1,275,017	s	1,238,294
111111111111111111111111111111111111111											
EASTERN BANK				1							
Municipal Bldg & Fire Truck											
	Interest Paid		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1								
	Principal		11 12-11								
Borrowed: \$900,000											
	Bond Balance	\$		5		\$	-	60			
	,					1					
USDA			17.	.8							
South Street Sewer (92-12)				٠,	a hara		1.				
Issued 02/23/2012	Interest Paid	\$	14,060	\$	13,711	\$	13,354	5	12,989	5	12,616
Interest 2.25%	Principal	5	15,513	5	15,862	\$	16,219	\$	16,584	5	16,957
Borrowed: \$750,000				١,				(5)			
Maturity Date 02/23/2050	Bond Balance	\$	609,361	\$	593,498	\$	577,279	\$	560,695	\$	543,737
USDA											
South Street Sewer (92-14)								N.			
Issued 06/15/2012	Interest Paid	\$	5,827	\$	5,683	\$	5,537	ŝ	5,387	\$	5,235
	Principal	\$	7,186	\$	7,330	\$	7,476	5	7,626	S	7,778
Borrowed: \$350,000		72						2020		100	
B	<b>Bond Balance</b>	\$	284,159	\$	276,830	\$	269,353	\$	261,727	\$	253,949
Maturity Date 06/15/2051	Dona Damice		THE PARTY OF THE P		2 8 900 850						
Manney Date 00/13/2031				10							
Interest Payments		\$	77,963	\$	76,182	\$	74,337	\$	72,425	\$	70,445
		\$	77,963 53,940	\$	76,182 55,721	\$	74,337 57,566	\$	72,425 59,478	\$	70,445 61,458

The following list represents wages and salaries paid to all Town employees for calendar year 2023, for which there were 52 weekly pay periods.

Last Name	First Name	Middle		Gross Wages cluding SDP)	Special Duty Police
ALLARD	ERIC	J	\$	200.00	7 (10 (10 (10 (10 (10 (10 (10 (10 (10 (10
BAKER	TRAVIS	A	S	7,867.50	
BAKER	EMILY		s	2,040.00	
BAKER	SEAMUS	D	s	150.00	
BANAS	KATHLEEN		S	120.00	
BAXTER	CYNTHIA		S	1,500.00	
BEALL	SETH	Α.	S	57,812.06	
BEAUDRY	ROBERT	E.	s	2,445.50	
BEAUREGARD	KENNETH		S	3,285.50	
BLAIS	RAYMOND	R.	s	1,443.13	
BONNEAU	CHRISTINA	R.	\$	202.83	
BONNEAU	MATTHEW	Α.	S	4,251.97	
BOUCHARD	CHRISTOPHER		5	79,796.38	\$ 6,933.50
BOUCHER	LISA	Α	S	1,500.00	
BOULETTE.	SHAWN	I.	S	53,572.25	
BRIDGES	HEATHER	L.	S	75.00	
BRIDGES	SCOTT		S	2,825.50	
BRIDGES	ALEX	J	S	2,445.50	
CHALIFOUX-MILLER	JULL	A	S	18,538.47	
CHIASSON	BRANDON	LEE	S	352.50	
CHURCH	BRENDA	)	s	49,794.60	
CLARKE	JESSICA		S	23,153.52	
COLDEN	DEVON	MJ	S	45,782.54	
COOK	LESLIE	G	S	25,431.49	
COTE	RENE	P.	S		\$ 17,600,52
COTE	ABIGAIL	N	\$	666.06	
CRISTOL	STEVEN		S	553.91	
CUMMINGS	SYLVIA		S	367.50	
CUNNINGHAM	LINDA	J	S	285.00	
CZUB	KATHLEEN	M.	\$	250.00	
DAVIS	SHELLEY	A	s	18,187.75	
DESROSIERS	DENNIS		s	20,626.35	
DIGRIS	LISA	M.	S	29,885.31	
VALTOC	PHYLLIS	A	s	195.00	
DUFRESNE	DAVID	P.	s	5,000.00	
DUFRESNE	TAMARA	N	s	10,299.96	
DUMONT	JEREMY	A	S	52,101.40	
DUNCAN JR.	SCOTT	C.			
DUNN	BRIANNA	D.	S	2,525.50	
OURKEE			s	2,298.25	Alexander of
	MICHELLE	L	\$	300.00	
DUSTY	JAMES	G.	\$	15,001.10	
DUSTY	KAREN	L	S	53,273.09	
DUSTY	JONATHAN	C	S	26,691.52	
EARLY III	JAMES	M	S	112,833.31	\$ 13,988.50

Last Name	First Name	Middle		ss Wages ding SDP)		cial Duty Police
EICHACKER	RICHARD	J	\$	5,000.00		
EMERSON	BARRY	C	S	7,501.17		
FARRIS	CHARLENE	T	S	1,146.80		
FERRERA III	JAMES	J	S	89,653.85		
FORTIN	GARRETT	κ	S	9,388.97	\$	240.00
GAGNER	JAMES	A.	S	19,932.39		
GAGNON	CHERYL		S	262.50		
GIZA	ANDREW		S	2,325.50		
GRAY	DAVID	L.	S	49,173.72		
GUGLIETTI	RONALD	E.	S	9,272.56		
GUSHUE	MILDRED	A.	S	375.00		
GUZIK	DAWN	M.	s	29,778.56		
FLARVEY	LILLIAN	M	S	12,455.84		
HERRICK	WALTER	W	S	59,780.96		
JACQUES	MICHAEL	J.	S	2,785.50		
JOHNSON	DAVID	A.	S	1,560.00		
JOHNSON	DAVID	S.	S	2,435.50		
JONES	CHRISTOPHER	P.	s	5,582.50		
KEEFE	PAULA	В	S	3,250.00		
KELLY-GARAY	KAREN	M	s	3,250.00		
KING	DRUE	C	\$	90.00		
KONDRAT JR.	JOSEPH		\$	450.00		
LAFLAMME	NOAH	И	\$	6,703.05		
LAFLOWER	JOSEPH	R.	S	34,366.00	s	34,366.00
LAFLOWER	SHEILA	E.	\$	100.00		
LAPINE	GARY	W.	s	3,300.00		
LARKIN	BARBARA	В.	s	75.00		
LAVIGNE	JOAN		S	1,500.00		
LAVOIE	ADAM		S	86,302.98		
LENEAU	JENNIFER	M	s	135.90		
MAKOWSKI	DONALD	J	S	1,800.00		
MANSFIELD	SCOT M	3	s	6,907.17		
MARTIN	TAMMY		S	56,957.31		
MARTIN	BRUCE		S	3,500.00		
MARTINEZ	DREW	С	s	4,350.88		
MAZUR	TRACEY	s.	5	45.00		
MCCAUGHEY	VINCENT	j	\$	100.00		
MCGRATH	JOHN	P	\$	407.55	e	232.80
MCGRATH	ERIN	E	S	382.12		
MCKEON	JAMES	12	\$	52,441.74		
MCKEON	ALAN		S	6,248.62		
MELI	SHARON	L.	S	56,762.89		
	DAVID	12. A.				1,181.00
MELLEN	CHRISTOPHER	et.	\$ \$	1,261.00 5,259.37	•	1,181.00
MERKEL	BRAD	G	s S	58,784.31	s	11,346.00
		S	S	1,409.84	*	11,340.00
MIELTOWSKI JR.	JOHN	3	3	1,409.84	200	

Last Name	First Name	Middle		ss Wages ding SDP)	Special Duty Police
MILLETTE	GERALD	N.	S	104,102.18	s 600.00
MORIN	MATTHEW	D.	s	92,886.94	\$ 16,591.50
MORIN	SARAH	24	S	5,511.52	
MORRISON	PATRICIA	A.	s	195.00	
MOULSON	HOWARD	FI.	S	1,500.00	
MUNDELL	LISA	M.	s	4,912.50	
NALE	MADESYN	R	s	118,793.52	s 20,559.00
NARDI	DARIO	F.	s	500.00	2,555.00
NEPAL	ANDREW	A	\$	8,731.97	
O'BRIEN	BETTY-JO		s	42,807.21	
OBRZUT	JOHN	D	S	354.10	
ODIORNE	KATHLEEN	Α.	s	1,562.50	
OLSON	JEREMY	R.	s	76,465.00	
PALMER	AARON	A	s	309.98	MARCHY,
PERKINS	STEVEN	R.	s	2,445.50	
PETRAITIS	SCOTT	D	S	60,102.50	
PLASSE	PATRICIA	A	\$	4,697.77	
PLUTA	MICHAEL	R.	s	1,537.50	
POTRZUSKI	MARYANNE		s	210.00	
RAMSEY	SUZANNE		s	1,500.00	
RAMSEY	HAROLD	WILLIAM	S	250.00	
RITZER	ZACKARY	J	S	73,173.30	
RUSSELL	JONATHAN	E	S	36,760.79	
RUSSELL JR.	PAUL,	F.	S	57,501.48	
SABLACK	AGNES	E.	\$	195.00	
SABLACK	CHAD	W.	S	2,625.50	
SAUSVILLE	CAROL		s	217.50	
SCHMIDT	KERRY	Α.	S	54,004.62	
SCHWENKER	NORAH	C	5	427.12	
SMEA	MICHAEL	s	\$	79,334.66	\$ 2,160.00
SHEPARD	DAVID	w	\$	23,572.87	3 2,160.00
SHEPARDSON	PAUL	w.	S	300.00	
SLEDZIEWSKI	KYLE	Α.	S		
SMITH	HALIE	M	S	10,262.62	
SOLTYS	BEVERLY	A.		28,670.66	
SOOJLAN	PAUL	K.	\$	142.50	
STOCKLEY	JAMES		S	93,491.22	\$ 12,978.00
STOCKLEY	**	М.	S	195.00	
SWEENEY	LAURA	Ţ	\$	55,103.00	
SWIECANSKI	JESSIE STEVEN	C L	S	500.00	
SWISTAK	DAWN	М	\$	62,453.68	
THIBODEAU	CORINNE	191	\$	54,663.50	
THIBODEAU	DANIEL	M	S	5,799.59	
THOMPSON	MERRILL		S	1,800.00	
OWLSON		J.	S	1,515.91	
FROMBLY	JULIE	E	s	15,379.39	
LYCMEDI'I	BARBARA	E	S	625.00	EC #4

Last Name	First Name	Middle		Gross Wages cluding SDP)	Special Duty Police
TSIGAS	CHRISTOS	И	S	8,379.67	\$ 880.00
VELIZ	DERICK	R	\$	5,000.00	
WALTERS	ADAM	R.	S	64,152.37	
WALTERS	JENNIFER	R.	S	2,229.80	
WEDGE	JOSEPH	J	\$	2,525.50	
WILK	KAREN	M.	\$	292.50	
WILLIAMS	JOHN	M.	S	15,034.12	
WILLIAMS	CHARLIE	$\mathbf{T}$	S	50,861.63	\$ 4,596.00
WINDERS	GAIL	M.	\$	14,279.17	
WITASZEK	MADELINE	R.	S	6,082.50	
WOODFORD	PHILLIP	A.	S	2,475.50	
WROBEL	LEONA		S	60.00	
WROBEL	LINDA		\$	270.00	
ZEBROWSKI	RALPH	J	S	65,683.52	
	TOTA	L WAGES & SALAR	IES	2,883,496.70	T68

Respectfully Submitted,

Hauro H. Swistak
Dawn M. Swistak
Treasurer

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# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES JULY 1, 2022 – JUNE 30, 2023

# TAXES TO BE COLLECTED

BALANCE CARRIED FROM JUNE 30, 2022	
Real Estate Taxes	\$300,053.10
Rollback	3,157.31
Personal Property Taxes	9,852.72
Mobile Home Parks	1,116.00
Sewer Liens	59,155.93
Water Liens	2,816.04
Motor Vehicle Excise	246,273.50
TOTAL	\$622,424.60
NEW TAXES COMMITTED DURING FY 2023	
Real Estate Taxes	\$7,554,000.44
Rollback Tax	3,157.31
Personal Property Taxes	846,188.36
Sewer Liens	125,782.61
Water Liens	12,666.34
Mobile Home Parks	17,376.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	595,603.07
TOTAL	\$9,154,774.13
REFUNDS ISSUED DURING FY 2023	
Real Estate Taxes	\$18,976.70
Personal Property Tax	19,232.65
Motor Vehicle Excise	6,276,48
TOTAL	\$44,485.83

\$9,821,684.56

TOTAL TAXES TO BE COLLECTED

# TAXES COLLECTED

CASH PAID TO TREASURER	
Real Estate Taxes	\$7,353,497.49
Roll Back	3,157.31
Personal Property Taxes	865,314.84
Sewer Liens	108,244.04
Water Liens	8,064.80
Mobile Home Parks	18,492.00
Motor Vehicle Excise	517,713.98
TOTAL	\$8,874,484.46
ABATEMENTS GRANTED  Real Estate Taxes  Real Estate Exemptions  Sewer Lien Exemption  Personal Property  Motor Vehicle Excise  TOTAL	\$3,857.25 57,817.44 1,500.00 1,376.88 35,343.25 \$99,984.82
TAX TITLE ACCOUNTS  Real Estate Taxes Sewer Liens TOTAL	\$59,548.84 <u>5,250.00</u> \$64,798.84
TOTAL TAXES COLLECTED	\$9,039,268.12

# **OUTSTANDING BALANCES**

## BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

Real Estate Taxes	\$401,466.53
Personal Property Taxes	8,582.01
Sewer Liens	69,944.50
Water Liens	7,417.58
Motor Vehicle Excise	
TOTAL	295,095.82
IOIAL	\$782,506,44

# \*\*\*\*SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS\*\*\*\*

TOTAL TAXES TO BE COLLECTED	\$9,821,684.56
TOTAL TAXES COLLECTED	9,039,268.12
Outstanding Balance as of June 30, 2023	
5 The state of State 30, 2023	\$782,416.44

# INTEREST AND CHARGES COLLECTED DURING FY 2023

Delinquent Real Estate Interest	\$34,876.05
Delinquent Motor Vehicle Interest	3,723.11
Delinquent Personal Property Interest	1,930.92
Registry Clears	1,060.00
Demand and Warrant Fees	6,485.00
Municipal Lien Certificate Fees	4,050.00
Bounced Check Fees	<u>25.00</u>
TOTAL	\$52,150.08

Taxes Paid to Treasurer	\$8,874,484.46
Interest and Charges Paid to Treasurer	52,150.08
TOTAL PAID TO TREASURER	\$8,926,634.54

Respectfully submitted by Kerry Schmidt, Collector of Taxes

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS 2023

The Assessors' primary duties are to determine the class and value of property for taxation fairly and equitably as prescribed by Massachusetts General Law, and the Guidelines of the Commissioner of Revenue, and to keep accurate data on all real and personal property.

We are responsible for preparing motor vehicle excise data received from the Registry of Motor Vehicles to turn over to the tax collector for billing. We administer and process all Chapter 61 applications, Veteran, elderly, blindness, and hardship exemptions, as well as property and excise abatements.

It is our responsibility to draft, negotiate, reassess, and commit to Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements for all commercial solar facilities and for any other tax-exempt entities/owners that agree to one.

Property inspections are conducted annually for abatement review, building permits, sales review, and cyclical data inspections as required by the Department of Revenue (DOR).

Every year, local property sales and adjusted assessed values are reviewed by our office and then submitted to DOR for approval.

Every five (5) years the DOR certifies our values after an extensive in-house, and field reviews are completed.

It is also our responsibility to track and report all new growth to the DOR. New growth is factored into the maximum amount the Town can levy each year. Proposition 2 ½ terms the tax levy cannot be greater than 2 ½ % of the previous year's levy limit plus the amount of new taxes created from new growth.

TAX RATE: \$15.80 Per Thousand for FY23 on Residential, Open Space, Commercial, Industrial and Personal Property.

FISCAL YEAR 2023	VALUE	PARCEL
CLASS 1 Residential	\$ 452,435,135.00	2,105
Class 2 Open Space	\$ 0.00	0
Class 3 Commercial	\$ 12,567,213.00	140
Class 4 Industrial	\$ 13,100,700.00	207
Class 5 Personal Property	\$ 54,625,240	120
<b>Total Real &amp; Personal Property</b>	\$ 532,728,288.00	
Exempt Property	\$ 39,511,900.00	106
TOTAL Real, Personal, & Exempt Property	\$ 532,728,288.00	2,572

COMMITMENTS	AMOUNT
Real Estate	\$7,554,000.44
Personal Property	\$ 863,078.30
<b>Motor Vehicle Excise</b>	\$ 595,603.07
Sewer Liens	\$ 125,782.61
Water Liens	\$ 12,666.34
Roll Back Taxes	\$ 3,157.33
Water Sewer Betterment	\$ 0.00
Supplemental Taxes	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,137,398.1

AB	ATEMENTS/EXEMPTIONS	AMOUNT
	Motor Vehicle Excise	\$ 35,343.25
	Personal Property	\$ 1,376.88
	Real Estate Abatement	\$ 3,857.25
	Sewer Lien Exemption	\$ 1,500.00
	<b>Real Estate Exemption</b>	\$ 57,817.44
	TOTAL	\$ 99,984.82

RECEIPTS AND REVENUE	AMOUNT
State Reimbursements	\$1,064,112.00
Estimated Receipts & Revenue	\$4,525,476.13
TOTAL	\$5,589,588.13

TO BE RAISED	AMOUNT	
Total to be raised	\$12,942,583.08	
Total Levy	\$ 8,417,106.95	

NEW GROWTH	AMOUNT	
Real Estate	\$3,371,517.00	
Personal Property	\$ 64,150.00	
TOTAL	\$3,435,667.00	

## WARREN BOARD ASSESSORS AND STAFF

Bruce Martin, Chair, Term May 2, 2023 – May 5, 2026 Paula Keefe, Member, Term May 2, 2023 – May 6, 2025 Karen Kelly-Garay, Term May 2, 2023 – May 7, 2024 Betty-Jo O'Brien, Assistant Assessor, Appointed February 27, 2023 Assessor Clerk-Vacant

#### OFFICE HOURS

Office Hours - Mon-Thurs. 8:00 AM to 4:45 PM Closed Friday

Respectfully Submitted, Warren Board of Assessors

#### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2023 was a year of progress and opportunity for the Town of Warren.

The year marked the successful utilization of the remaining ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds, with investments made in new town vehicles, enhancements at the Sewer Building and Senior Center, computers, radio tower equipment, voting machines, and an exterior sign for the Shepard Building.

The Town actively engaged in three grant-funded projects aimed at shaping its future. The first involves an EDA-funded (Economic Development Administration) study of the Wright's Mill Complex, paving the way for a Recovery Master Plan to support potential developers of the 150-acre site. The second initiative focuses on a town-wide Master Plan, guiding long-term growth and development. Lastly, a feasibility study is being conducted for the creation of a Public Safety/Municipal Complex.

Other grant-funded projects, including those from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBD) program, include:

- · School St. neighborhood improvements.
- An Open Space and Recreation Plan.
- Updates to our Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program, which will allow us to apply for grants to help mitigate the effects of climate change.
- Trailers for our emergency management team.
- An effort to re-design the Town Common.
- Implementation of a new financial software package, called VADAR, that will be used by the Treasurer, Town Accountant, Tax Collector, and Assessor.
- · A new pollinator garden at Lucy Stone Park.

We would like to thank the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC), and especially Chris Dunphy, for assisting us in obtaining numerous grants.

In January, the Board, with assistance from the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation (QVCDC), implemented the Senior Outreach Program, which helps seniors that do not have the ability to pick up groceries or medicine, or get to doctor appointments. Additionally, a new streetlight maintenance company was contracted in January, proving to be a significant improvement.

The Board addressed concerns about the downtown railroad bridge in March during a meeting with CSX officials. CSX assured the Town of the bridge's safety but acknowledged the need for repairs. The Town is allowed to paint the bridge, but must supply materials and labor and get approval from CSX first.

In April, the Board hosted a meeting with Whip City Fiber to learn about creating a Town-owned internet service provider (ISP). The ISP would be built and managed by Whip City and all subscription fees would stay within the Town's finances, as opposed to having payments going to an outside vendor like Comcast. The service Whip City creates runs over fiber optic cable and has speeds of IGbps upload and download. Later, in August, the Board, and Town Administrator Jim Ferrera, visited Whip City Fiber's facility in Westfield, MA, to further their understanding of the project and get some idea of what the cost might be.

At CMRPC's Annual Meeting, the Town received a Community Planning Award for our efforts to create a better town through grants.

The May Annual Town Meeting (ATM) approved a Select Board-sponsored article to move the annual meeting to June. This has a number of benefits: it will align our meeting with West Brookfield, it will give the school district an extra month to get updated State figures, and it will allow newly elected Board and Committee members time to get up-to-speed on issues prior to their first ATM.

May also saw the new Fire and Police radio project go into service. Three new radio transmitter/receivers were installed at key locations in town. This was a much needed and long-sought upgrade to our safety infrastructure.

October saw the implementation of a new Flag Policy governing flags displayed at Town-owned buildings. An annual levy inspection in October prompted the formation of a Levy Safety Committee in December to address identified issues. The Town approved a \$25K budget line-item for supplies and maintenance for the levy, crucial for flood control on the western portion of the Quaboag River.

The end of the year brought the return of the chimes on the Old Town Hall's clock tower, ending years of silence, and was well-received by the community.

The Town extends its appreciation to town employees, volunteers, and Town Administrator Ferrera for their dedication and contributions. Looking ahead to 2024, we eagerly anticipate the positive outcomes of ongoing projects and encourage citizens to attend meetings, either in-person or online, to stay informed and engaged.

Respectfully submitted,

David Dufresne, Chair Rich Eichacker, Vice-Chair Derick Veliz, Clerk



# TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

#### CHARLES E. SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING

48 High St. • P. O. Box 609 • Warren, MA 01083-0609 • Tel. 413-436-5701 • Fax 413-436-9754



As another year comes to a close as your Town Administrator, I remain enthusiastic and optimistic for the future of our community. It is truly an honor and a privilege to serve the residents of Warren and West Warren. I have maintained and will continue to maintain an open-door office policy for all residents and members of the business community to stop by with any questions or suggestions regarding the operation of the Town. This past year I

successfully completed the certification to become a Massachusetts certified public purchasing official (MCPPO). As Town Administrator, I am appointed by the Board of Selectmen. My primary responsibilities are to serve as Chief Administrative Officer, Chief Personnel Officer, and Chief Financial Officer for the Town. The role of a Town Administrator is to provide daily central management to the municipal organization and to carry out all policy directives initiated by the Board of Selectmen. On a personal note, I would like to thank the residents and employees of the Town for their kind words of encouragement and continued support.

This past year has been challenging and highly productive. I am pleased to highlight some of the Town's major accomplishments...

- 1) <u>Fiscal Accountability / Transparency</u> Prior to my arrival the Town's "free cash" position was significantly lower than the Department of Revenue's (DOR) recommendation of three to five percent of the Town's overall operating budget be available in reserve. Working with department heads, boards, and commissions and the tireless effort of our Board of Selectmen, I am pleased to report that we now have \$512,736.44 available in free cash, exceeding DOR's recommendation! As you may recall at the Special Town Meeting in November, we deposited \$352,000.00 into Stabilization (the <u>largest</u> deposit in over a decade) and \$100,000.00 was deposited into Capital Stabilization. We are continuously planning for the Town's future.
- 2) <u>Capital Improvements</u> Invested in over \$40,000.00 in exterior and interior Improvements (Siding, gutters, drainage, roof repairs, painting, emergency lighting) to our Senior Center which will continue to preserve and protect the Town's capital asset, to provide our Seniors with a first-class facility, and to prolong its useful life. Spent Over \$25,000.00 on maintenance and updates to the Police Department (Town Hall Building). Over \$9,000.00 was spent to install a new set of concrete stairs at our Wastewater Treatment Plant. This funding was secured at a Town Meeting eight years ago to address this issue but laid dormant for reasons that are unknown and has finally been addressed.
- 3) <u>Grants</u> Working in conjunction with our regional planning commission we were very aggressive in applying for State and Federal grants. I am pleased to report the Town received well over \$512,890.00 in *new* grant funding. These grants will address updating the Town's aging Master Plan, updating its ADA accessibility plan, and addressing Cybersecurity concerns.
- 4) Road / Infrastructure Improvements Collectively spent over \$1 Million in State and Federal grant funds on new road improvements, sidewalks, water lines, and drainage. We will continue to be creative with the use of State and Federal dollars to address our aging infrastructure.

- 5) <u>Public Safety / Municipal Complex Financial Feasibility Study</u> Through a State grant and the use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds, the Town retained the services of Tecton Architects to commission a financial feasibility study on the costs associated with building a new Public Safety / Municipal Complex. The study is currently underway, stay tuned for future announcements on this important project.
- 6) Risk Management / Insurance With the rising cost of insurance coverage, it is a challenge every year to manage the risk of the Town. Throughout the year, I meet with our representatives from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA) to ensure that the Town is properly protecting all its assets and to see where we can mitigate risk.
- 7) Community Planning Grant / Master Plan The Town's current Master Plan is eighteen years old and needs updating, with the help of a \$75,000.00 grant from the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities we can complete a phase one update to the Town's Master Plan. This is a critical project, and to be successful we will need the participation of all Town residents.
- 8) New Hires We have had several new additions to our Municipal work force, including several experienced Police officers joining our department from other communities, a new Assistant Assessor, a new Administrative Assistant to the Board of Health, a new Building and Planning Secretary, a new Town Accountant, a new Building Inspector / Zoning Officer, and a new Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator/ Mechanic. All positions were filled due to vacancies. With the Town's support from last year's Annual Town meeting we were also able to hire a new Firefighter / EMT.
- 9) <u>Implementation of New Financial Software</u> Through a State grant, we purchased a Financial Management Software package "Vadar" so that all the Town's financial departments are connected and communicate with each other. The transition has been relatively seamless thanks to everyone's cooperation. This was also recognized by the Department of Revenue as a **best practice**.
- 10) <u>Employee Evaluations</u> Public service is a privilege and we always must be mindful that the taxpayers pay our salaries. Transparency is the foundation for public confidence that we are available, accessible, and accountable. A streamlined practice for conducting employee evaluations has not been completed in years. I am pleased to report that in accordance with our Personnel By-law, all employees completed the employee evaluation process this year and will continue to be evaluated each year moving forward.

Our Town's future is bright, our fiscal stability has never been stronger, and the best is yet to come!! Feel Free to stop by and say hello!!

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Ferrera Town Administrator

# **ANIMAL CONTROL YEARLY REPORT**

January 1, 2023 to December 31st, 2023

### General Updates:

- A vaccine clinic was scheduled and held at the Highway Barn with the assistance of Second Chance Animal Services. The Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk were there to assist anyone wanting to register their dogs. The event went smoothly with the assistance of the Highway Department and the CERT Team.
- A document holder was placed on the board across from the Town Clerk's office with information on living amongst wildlife, stickers listing number of animals in case of an emergency with Animal Control's phone number, applications for Massachusetts Animal Fund funded spay/neuter vouchers for low income residents, and paper collars for anyone looking to find an owner of a cat found outside.
- A grant for \$380 was awarded by Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association Charities (MVMA Charities) towards the medical care of a stray cat found living outside. The cat was found leaking blood colored fluid from her uterus and VCA Wickaboag diagnosed her with an open pyometra, which can quickly lead to sepsis and death. With the financial assistance of Mass Animal Fund, Second Chance Animal Services was able to get the cat in for an emergency spay procedure and save her life. The grant assisted in covering some of the balance that was not covered by the Massachusetts Animal Fund.

Reports of Loose or Missing Dogs: 37

Dogs Impounded: 8

Reports of Loose or Missing Cats: 16

Cats Brought to Here Today Adopted Tomorrow: 7

Reports of Wildlife Concerns: 14

Reports of Loose Livestock: 8

Assistance to Animals Needing to Be Rehomed by Owner: 5

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS 2023

The following is a detail of permits issued in 2023

New Homes	9	Woodstoves / Chimneys	16
Res / Add / Alter/ Repair	0	Acc Buildings	0
Garages / Sheds	2	Demolition	3
Decks / Porches	8	Window / Siding / Roofing	58
Swimming Pools	0	Miscellaneous	59
Solar - Residential	44	Commercial New / Alter	0

There were 199 permits issued in 2023. Nine new homes were built with an estimated construction cost of \$1,532.572.50. The total estimated construction cost of all permits was \$6,202040.60

## **Building Department Accounts Fiscal 2023**

Inspector of Buildings Revolving Acc	ount
Fiscal 2023	
Beginning Balance	\$1,000.00
Permit Fee Deposits	\$47,623.25
Inspector Wage / Expenses	\$35,000.00
Beginning Balance FY24	\$1,000.00
Balance to General Fund	\$12,623.25

Inspector Salary	
Fiscal 2023	
Beginning Balance	\$14,911.00
Expended	\$14,911.00
Balance to General Fund	\$0.00

Expense Account	
	Fiscal 2023
Beginning Balance	\$2,000.00
Expended	\$98.92
Balance to General Fund	\$1,901.08

Clerk Wages	
Fiscal 2023	
Balance	\$16,000.00
Expended	\$12,618.00
Balance to General Fund	\$3,382.00

Permit applications may be dropped off or picked up at the Municipal Building during normal business hours Monday – Thursday.

## Warren Community Access Television

## Cable Advisory Committee

Warren Cable Access Television (WCAT) is located on the second floor of the Shepard Municipal Building located at 48 High Street Warren, MA. We would like to thank all the Comcast subscribers in Warren and West Warren.

We can broadcast live events from the Shepard Building, Quaboag Regional Middle/High School, and Warren Community Elementary School. In addition to recording live events, WCAT also rebroadcasts these events to our subscribers and uploads videos online to be viewed at any time online.

To contact us please call 413-436-5720 or email wcat12@comcast.net. Our studio hours are from 5pm to 5:45 pm on days the Selectmen meet. We are always open to new ideas and suggestions.

In the last fiscal year 2022-2023 we faced many challenges. We made many improvements to our production equipment. Studio recording & broadcasting upgrades were completed in January of 2023, making a long overdue upgrade to all digital equipment. These upgrades not only allow us to provide higher quality broadcasts, they also have given WCAT the ability to Livestream meetings on other platforms for viewers to access from anywhere. During this time, we produced 121 first run programs and had 1095 programs aired.

In addition to our studio upgrades we added Audio/Video connections to the Finance Meeting Room at the Sheppard Municipal Building making it possible to broadcast meetings Live from that room.

We have added to our broadcasts Housing Authority Meetings, Finance Committee Meetings and many other board meetings that were previously not broadcast.

We still struggle with a stable connection at Quaboag Regional Middle High School and continually try to rectify the problem, we hope in the upcoming year we can develop a permanent solution to broadcasting issue at the school.

In December the Board of Selectmen came to an agreement with Comcast for the Cable Television License Renewal. The new license provides a notable increase in revenue for WCAT which will allow us the funding to continually improve our broadcasts and provide more services to the Town and its residents.

Through donation sales of DVDs, WCAT12 funds the WCAT12 Scholarship which is open to any graduating senior from Quaboag Regional Middle/High School. Unfortunately, we did not raise enough funds for 2023 to award a scholarship.

We would also like to welcome a new member to the Cable Advisory Committee, Brandon Chiasson.

We would like to thank the following students who have helped broadcast community events on WCAT.

Emily Baker - Quaboag Regional Middle/High School

Seamus Baker - TECCA Academy

Respectfully submitted: Travis Baker, Lisa Mundell, Brandon Chiasson, Demitra Stefanou

# Cemetery Department Report for year 2023

The Warren Cemetery Department maintains Pinegrove Cemetery (25 acres) which is located at 207 Maple Street and the South Warren Cemetery, which is located off of Southbridge Road extension at the Brimfield town line.

In 2023, the department had five full burials and no cremation burials.

The highway department performs maintenance of the cemetery, which includes mowing, trimming, leaf cleanup, assistance with burials and records, also tree work, with this new maintenance system, more equipment and manpower available to do the jobs quicker and more efficient.

We would like to thank Sylvia Buck for her generous donation of a new 20' flag pole, solar light, flag and installation at the South Warren Cemetery. Mrs. Buck has been has been exemplary in her dedication to attention and preservation of this historic South Warren Cemetery. Her efforts have been greatly appreciated.

We would like to thank Eagle Scout Camrin Bolduc for his project given to Pine Grove Cemetery. He had our maps enlarged and mounted on aluminum and color coded to identify all veteran's plots. The maps contain all the lot numbers and he has listed the names and lot numbers on a separate display. He spent many hours and logged many miles gathering all this information. As more veterans are identified an additional display can be added. Camrin also supplied a copy of the maps and a flash drive to the cemetery for our records. He also supplied this information to the Veteran's council as well. This display is located next to the shed located on Western Pathway via the front entrance off Maple Street. This is a wonderful gift that will be appreciated by many.

Jim McKeon and the Cemetery Commissioners took part in a "Preservation Massachusetts" Zoom meeting. This covered topics about conservation of historical cemeteries, green spaces and grounds maintenance to help combat global warming and decrease maintenance cost. This meeting was a coalition of Western MA, Central MA, and Eastern MA Historical Commissions. We have set goals based on some of the ideas that were discussed during this meeting.

We are engaged in a mapping project for the Forefathers' section of Pine Grove. This project includes recording information from gravestones, identifying veterans from the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War and Civil War. Gravestones are being cleaned with D-2 Biologic cleaner to enable the transcribing of the information. Information is being collected from genealogy websites to verify military status. A map is being made to record the resting spot of these individuals and to record their location for those seeking to find these ancestors.

We have reset and lifted 39 gravestones in the Forefathers' section of Pine Grove. Kai Nalenz of Gravestone Services of New England worked at straighten stones that were about to topple over and in danger of being damaged. He stood stones back up that had been face down and covered with turf for years. One such stone belonged to Maria Stone who had died in the mid 1800s. Only a small portion of her stone was visible, now it stands erect along side her husband and family. This project was paid for through the Perpetual Care account.

We purchased a new 20' aluminum flag pole with solar light and flag. This will replace the present pole which is in need of much work to remove the many layers of paint and mold. This new pole will not need any maintenance and should stand the test of time.

We are erecting street signs at Pine Grove to help people locate family plots, attend funerals and to aid monument companies that are servicing families with monument placement. We are mindful to keep the beauty of the cemetery intact, but we are mindful of the needs of people to be able to safely and peacefully navigate through this historic 25 acres cemetery.

With cooperation with the Highway Department we have removed many dead and dying trees that were endangering people and historic gravestones. Trees were removed from the Forefathers' section along Maple Street. These trees were found to be hollow and only had inches of wood around the outside holding the tree together.

We performed treatment to take care of Grubs to severely damaged areas in the cemetery. We are going to experiment with some alternate ground cover in some of the hill areas to cut down on maintenance and to take the food source away from the grubs. This will be a long term process but it was one of the options given to us by the experts on grounds keeping that were part of the Preservation Massachusetts presentation.

In the spring we had a company Grindstone Sealcoating, they worked on two sections in the newer area of cemetery performing crack sealing on roadways. This was done to persevere sections of roadway in cemetery, so road will last longer before new paving would be needed.

We continue to help people find grave sites of loved ones and ancestors. Every year the requests grow. Our goal is to one day have our oldest records digital, so they are more easily accessible to those seeking information.

The commissioners would like to thank cemetery Superintendent James Mckeon,

Also, the employees of the Highway Department for their aid in keeping cemetery grounds clean, safe and maintained.

To contact cemetery please e-mail Commission at

Cemetery@warren-ma.gov

Or

Superintendent

Mckeon@warren-ma.gov

James Mckeon

Office phone 413 436 -3213

(Please leave a message)

Respectively submitted,

William Brunk

Cindy Baxter

Steve Cristol

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CDAC)

The Warren Board of Selectmen appointed the first Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) on August 25, 2003. In the realm of Community Development, the CDAC's continuing mission is to help guide a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community development activities build stronger and more resilient communities through an ongoing process of identifying and addressing needs, assets, and priority investments. Many past initiatives have been funded through the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). Public facility projects funded through this program include improvements to the Town Common, Warren Senior Center, and Hobo Gendron (Dean) Park. Examples of public works improvements have occurred to North Street, Winthrop Terrace, Main Street, Bacon Street, Crescent Street, Nelson Street, Pleasant Street, Quaboag Street, Lombard Street, Moore Avenue and School Street.

The CDAC has recently expanded their role as a review and vetting committee for funding opportunities that complement the committee's mission. Highway Surveyor Jeremy Olson continues to serve as chair of the committee, and as such, has strengthened the relationship with the Worcester based Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC). CMRPC staff meet regularly with the CDAC to develop CDBG funded projects and other available grant opportunities. Activities other than CDBG at various stages of action or development include: the Massachusetts One Stop for Growth, Municipal Vulnerability Planning (MVP), Complete Streets, Green Communities, and Open Space and Recreational Planning (OSRP). The MA One Stop for Growth has also recently provided funds to update Warren's Master Plan. The town has contracted with CMRPC to develop the plan, and the Selectboard appointed the CDAC as the steering committee.

Previous CDBG funds provided for the engineering design plans for School Street, Prospect Street and Otis Street. The town, with CMRPC assistance, used the plans to secure CDBG funding for improvements to School Street, One Stop funds for Prospect Street, and more recently for Otis Street. A new water main, and the reconstruction of a large retaining wall has occurred on School Street. Through the One Stop program, a new water main was installed on Prospect and Richardson Street. Final work to School, Prospect, Richardson and Otis Streets is presently scheduled to occur beginning in the spring of 2024.

#### Priorities for 2024

- Prepare and submit an FY24 MA CDBG grant application for improvements to River Street and Central Street in West Warren, and design efforts for the future improvements to Cutter Park
- 2. Launch the final improvements to School Street, Prospect Street, Richardson Street and Otis Street.
- Assist CMRPC with a robust community process associated with the development of an updated Master Plan.
- 4. Build from various planning initiatives and seek any available funds for physical improvements and improved services.
- 5. Provide opportunities for residents to comment and improve on-line informational content.
- 6. Assist, as directed, in efforts directed to the redevelopment of Wright's Mill.

Finally, the committee would like to express its thanks to Chris Dunphy and the CMRPC for all their assistance with available grant programs.

#### Respectfully Submitted

Jeremy Olson, CDAC Chair
Rich Eichacker
Carol Sanders-Sausville
Steve Cristol
James McKeon
James Ferrera, Ex-Officio
Chris Dunphy/Other, CMRPC Committee Advisors

#### WARREN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

#### 2024 Annual Report

The Warren Conservation Commission (WCC) is the local environmental agency in Warren, Massachusetts. The Commission is made up of 4-5 appointed resident volunteers. We are responsible for protecting the land, water, and the biological resources of our community. The WCC is responsible for administering the Wetlands Protection Act (G.L. Ch. 131 §40), working with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to serve the community in a regulatory as well as a conservation capacity. The WCC meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M.

Each year the WCC processes applications related to work to be performed in and near resource areas: wetlands, flood plains, riverfront areas, beaches, and surface water areas. The three types of applications that are most often processed are: 1) Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA), the request to determine if the applicant needs a permit to perform work in or near resource areas; 2) Notice of Intent (NOI), the request for a permit to work within a resource area or buffer zone; 3) Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation (ANRAD), provides a procedure for an applicant to confirm the delineation of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) and other resource areas. When an application is submitted, a public Hearing (for NOI or ANRAD) or Public Meeting (for RDA) is held. Citizens are invited to attend, to ask questions and voice concerns.

2023 was a quiet year for the Commission, with 15 site visits. No new applications for large scale projects were received. Construction of the Solar project on Cutler Rd has resumed, and we continue to have monthly visits by our peer reviewer that we share with the Planning Board to ensure the site remains stable and compliant. We responded to multiple requests for information each month, totaling over 25 requests, each with multiple interactions, 3 of which were citizen complaints. The Commission is currently down to 3 Commissioners and is seeking 2 members of the community to fill these seats. Please contact the office (ext. 102) for more information.

The Commission often participates in non-regulatory activities and coordinates with other departments. For the past 2 years, CMRPC coordinated the *Open Space and Recreation Committee*. Warren Conservation and other Town departments participated, resulting in a small grant for Lucy Stone Park for interpretive signage. More on this below!

### 2023 Summary:

•	2 NOI received	1 Certificate of Compliance was issued
•	2 Orders of Conditions were Issued	1 Emergency Permit issued
•	1 Requests for Determination of Applicability was received	12+ Interactions with Peer Reviewers
•	1 Determination was issued	15+ Site Inspections were conducted
٠	3 Permit extensions were Issued	3 Forest Cutting Plans were reviewed.
•	0 Enforcement Orders were issued.	Addressed 15 Citizen     Concerns/inquiries

#### Lucy Stone Park Restoration Project 2023

Yet another long working season at Lucy Stone Park with spring cleanup starting in March and ongoing maintenance extending to late December. Once again, we thank our small but dedicated group of community volunteers under guidance of part-time Head Gardener "Vinny" Normand to maintain and upgrade our community park. This year we are also particularly pleased and very much welcome volunteer support from two QRMHS students who somehow manage a few hours out of their busy school (and work) schedule to support our community effort. Thank you both! For the 2023 season our volunteer team contributed personal time at 29 individual work days. We also wish to recognize and thank local businesses and organizations who have supported our effort with donations and materials, notably Copart, Warren Rural Improvement, the Quaboag Historical Society, and not forgetting the Warren Highway Department for assisting when equipment needed for some of the bigger jobs, such as planting trees or moving boulders.

Additional to ongoing maintenance, plantings, etc. our volunteer team was also heavily involved in the following activities:

- In January/February 2023, we commenced planning, design, and construction of interpretive signage that will be installed at the Pollinator Garden under the State PARC Grant awarded by the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services. This quickly became a significant task requiring many hours of detailed design work that will ultimately allow visitors of all ages to identify native plant species and their pollinators that are present at Lucy Stone Park. Huge thanks to Joyce Eichacker, Chair of Warren Conservation Commission, for her dedicated photographic and design work for this very detailed project. We plan to have all signs installed June 2024.
- In April 2023, in conjunction with members of Warren's Cultural Council, we held our second annual Easter Egg Hunt at Lucy Stone Park. Again, a great success with many prizes awarded and approximately 60 parents and children attending. Our thanks to donors of many prizes for the Easter Raffle.
- In July and August 2023, we were subjected to unusually heavy rain storms and Lucy Stone Park suffered significant erosion damage, especially to the riverside trail, the kayak trail and the parking area.
   On at least 6 occasions, extensive ruts had to be backfilled, tamped down, and barriers built around the entire parking area to re-direct storm flow to the river. Again, big thanks to our volunteers for their dedicated response actions in these unusual times.

- Also in August 2023, we were happy to welcome batches of freshlyhatched Snapping and Musk turtles from both the wood chip pile and stone dust pile adjacent to the parking area. All were safely delivered to their natural habitat in the shallows of the Quaboag River.
- Finally, toward the end of the year we commenced clearing ground and extending the pollinator garden in a southerly direction under the existing tree canopy. This will allow further native plantings of trees and shrubs and an extension to the riverside trail with additional picnic tables. We also plan a new trail on the field side of the park starting adjacent to the garden shed and meandering through the trees to the far end of the park. Visitors can then return along the river bank and cross the road connecting to the parking area and existing riverside trail. This plan will effectively create a loop connecting both sides of the park.

From the above report, you will see that upkeep and development of this community park is almost entirely dependent on volunteer support. Please contact Tim O'Brien, Project Manager, at (413) 813-7110 or the Warren Conservation Commission at (413) 436-5701 x 102 for volunteer information. We would more than welcome your help. Follow us on Facebook at https://facebook.com/warrenconservation/.

Tim O'Brien Lucy Stone Restoration Project Manager

Warren Conservation Commission

Joyce Eichacker, Chair Phillip Woodford, Member Otto Shillieto, Member Corinne Thibodeau, Secretary

## Council on Aging

It is the mission of the Warren Council on Aging to identify the needs of the residents in our community aged 60 and over, to provide preventative health and educational programs, social and recreation activities and offer assistance to the homebound through referrals. We design, promote and implement elder services within our community, and we are also responsible for the activities and well-being of the Senior Center.

Our Senior Center is used for a variety of events and activities. We offer exercise classes that are open to our seniors during the day as well as various arts and craft classes throughout the year. Bingo, Whist, and cribbage are scheduled weekly. We have a variety of social group activities, as well as informative presentations.

We offer delicious and nutritious meals which are prepared fresh daily and offered for an affordable donation of \$2.50 per meal. Our monthly Birthday Party, which features live music and dancing, is well attended.

The Warren Cultural Council Funds Classes, and speakers who give educational and entertaining talks on a variety of topics. A foot care clinic is available once a month. Fuel assistance has appointments here every other week during heating season, and we are a S.N.A.P. (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) kiosk.

Senior van transportation is available from the senior center for medical rides and a donation is accepted to offset the cost for this service. SCM Elderbus from Charlton and the Quaboag Connector provide ridership services for medical appointments and errands, as well as transporting residents to and from our Senior Center.

A newsletter is available monthly at the senior center, on the town website <u>www.warren-ma.gov</u>, Facebook and at various locations in town.

For more information call the Center at 413-436-5662.

A Council on Aging meeting is held on the third Wednesday of the month at 10 A.M. Council on Aging members listed below.
Cathy Duncan, Chairman
Julie Vadnais, Recording Secretary
Joyce Stuart, Treasurer
Katie Mellen, Vice-Chairman
Albert Dimo
Barbara Keith
Sharon Meli, Senior Center Director

## WARREN CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Warren Cultural Council distributes funds to support programs in the Arts, Humanities, and Interpretive Sciences. The Cultural Council is funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Town of Warren, Cultural Council projects and through private donations.

Arts involve the creation and presentation of and education about work in the performing visual, media design and literary arts.

Humanities include, but are not limited to history, social studies, philosophy and arts appreciation.

Interpretive Sciences are educational activities that engage people of all ages in learning about nature, science and technology in ways that connect directly to their lives.

Individuals, groups and organizations are encouraged to apply to the Warren Cultural Council for funding for projects or performances in the Arts, Humanities, and Interpretive Sciences. The next application deadline will be on October 15, 2025. Please go to <a href="https://www.mass-culture.org">www.mass-culture.org</a> for guidelines. All grants are now done online.

The 2024 funding cycle meeting was held on November 6, 2024. The Council approved grant applications for the following projects:

Name	Project title	Amount
Rick Hamelin	Magical Potter's Wheel "Always Stuck in the Mud"	\$350.00
Gregory Maichack	Pastel Painting Edouard Manet Inspired "Flowers in a Crystal Vase	
Warren Community Elem	African Drummers	\$800.00
Perf. Arts Booster Club	Addams Family Musical	\$500.00
Thomas Rull	A Musical Journey through the years	\$500.00
Warren Community Elem	Maker space build along: Artful mechanisms	\$500.00
Parks and Rec.	Concert with walking tour	\$600.00
Warren playgroup	Music with Caylin	\$225.00
Warren Council on Aging	Entertainment for Seniors	\$2042.00
Parks and Rec.	Summer concert Series	\$1350.00
Warren Public Library	Museum Passes to Old Sturbridge Village	\$400.00
Warren Public Library	Trustees of Reservations GoPass	\$200.00
Warren Public Library	Passes to Springfield Museums	\$175.00
Warren Public Library	Ghosts and Legends with Jeff Belanger	\$450.00
Warren Public Library	Gratitude Mandala	\$500.00
Warren Public Library	Yoga and Meditation	\$175.00
West Warren Library	Ecotarium Passes	\$250.00
West Warren Library	Christmas with Santa and Mrs. Claus	\$340.00
West Warren Library	Summer Reading	\$350.00
West Warren Library	Children's Museum at Holyoke Library pass	\$250.00
West Warren Library	Animal Adventures	\$500.00
West Warren Library	Museum Pass Zoo in Forest Park	\$300.00
West Warren Library	Intro to Ikebana Ajpril	\$550.00
Parks and Recreation	Matt York - Songs and Stories	\$550.00

Total amount granted is \$12,500.00 selected from a total of 34 grant requests amounting to \$35,213.00 The Council encourages people who would like to be a part of this group to write a letter of interest to the town Selectmen.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Banfield Sylvia Cummings Robert Kelleher Carol Kelleher Tracey Mazur Catherine Mellen Alicia Peltier George Poleshuk

# **Emergency Management**

The year 2023 turned out to be a challenging and active year with the Warren Emergency Management and Warren/West Brookfield CERT Community Emergency Response Team. Again, our focus is to respond to emergency situations that may impact our communities whether man-made or natural disasters. We've seen plenty of very unusual weather and Harsh conditions this past year. We also support our First Responders, Police and Fire, wherever and whenever we can. We also aim to provide information to the public on how to prepare for an emergency event, such as sheltering in place, at your home, during a severe storm. What essential supplies should you have so you can ride out that storm and also how to help your elders and neighbors? We can help you with that planning.

The year 2023 Our first extreme weather was extreme cold blast on February third and fourth, morning temperatures were -15 to -17 with windchill of -40 to -50. We opened a warming center at the senior center. In early July we had flooding of the School St., Brook, which flooded the areas of Ware Road, Village point Plaza, Fire, Police, Emergency Management assisted with keeping water away from buildings, closing off the bottom of Ware Road and one lane of route 67 for about two hours. This flooding has occurred in the past. The flooding occurs, when a section of a large beaver dam breaks off the top of North Street in mass wildlife land and all water floods down to the Spring St., Ware Road area and find its way to the Quaboag River. July became a very wet month with multiple street flooding issues throughout town This caused roads to be closed, We Worked with Town departments Highway, Fire, Police, our cones and signs were used. The wettest months were July, September, and December.

In 2023 CERT assisted Quaboag regional school district with a few events, such as a cheerleader competition, where we helped with parking of buses and spectators. We also helped out in June with the graduation ceremony with parking.

In February we got word of the 2022 EMPG grant to get hand tools and sandbags (unfilled) ready if the West Warren levy dam project ever flooded. these tools were put in the the 6x10 trailer flood control unit which trailer is parked at DPW yard.

In November we started working on the next EMPG grant we applied for a 20x8 ft storage container to store more emergency management equipment. This will be put side by side the current green storge box behind the Shepard Building.

In the year 2023 CERT helped with a few events starting with the Easter egg hunt, which was held at Lucy Stone Park. We helped out with the asparagus festival and West Brookfield and Memorial Day parades in both communities of Warren and West Brookfield. In July Cert teams, assisted with helping parking cars at the parks department concerts in a park which are held at Dean Park in west warren off Dean st.

During the end of July in the extreme heat, CERT assisted running a cooling center, which was at the Warren senior center. CERT members assisted other cert teams to our south, Sturbridge and Charlton with a few road races, Pan mass bike race. Members helped with the fireworks celebration at Bay path Regional school in Charlton with these events, we helped with parking, closing intersections while races pass. We coordinated with National Grid to bring out their live line trailer to show CERT members the dangers of electrical hazards. We also had regional Cert members attend as well from other Cert teams. We also started reviewing the basic Cert training every month. section by section, there are 8 sections.

Two 6 x 10 enclosed cargo trailers were purchased and put into service. This was made possible by grant funds. The trailers came during April 2023. One trailer holds the equipment for flood control equipment. One trailer is to move equipment for events that town holds or other town depts need to move items.

In June A light tower was donated to the emergency management. This 2017 light tower can be used as a generator also. The unit has a 45-gallon diesel fuel tank, which can run roughly 100 hours on a tank of fuel it's currently stored in the rear of the Shepard building ready to be used for emergencies or planned events. We used this unit already for Halloween events. In November it was used once to assist during a water break to light up the scene.

In 2023 training that was offered to emergency Managment

there was a couple of training courses In June attended sandbagging course, put on by the Army Corps of Engineers. In June Mema sponsored a table, top exercise of preparedness and preparation and the aftermath of a hurricane that would go through the area, departments of Police, Fire, Board of Health and Emergency Management took part in this exercise, along with towns from Brookfields and Spencer.

In August, attended a search and rescue class put on by Central mass search and rescue team which is a volunteer group trained to assist in searches.

In September a course training manual on uniform traffic control devices. This course is covered, mainly about railroad, crossing safety and standard warning for safety, signs by federal railroad administration and federal highway administration and partnership with mass DOT and Mema.

My town alerts app for smartphones, where you receive text messages. This notification system provides you with urgent updates by town officials, for the town. For example, a tree down, road closures, and updates on town events.

To download this app www.town-alerts.com

The WebEOC for Warren. This is a web-enabled crisis information management system that provides secure real-time information sharing to help managers make sound decisions quickly. It is used for events Statewide. The system can be used to request supplies during emergencies and share important information in planned events or emergencies.

On the first Sunday of every month at about 1pm emergency sirens are tested. One siren is located in the old Wrights complex, and one is located on the old town hall. These would be used in emergencies such as a Tomado Warning to warn the public.

This siren is activated by our regional dispatch center out of Rutland.

Emergency Sheltering for Warren and West Brookfield, the Quaboag Regional Middle/High School serves as our primary shelter. There were no incidents that the shelter needed to be open during 2023. Everything is ready to go and plans are in place to open one if it were needed. The Senior Center in West Warren could be used for a warming or cooling center or small shelter if needed. To check if a shelter has been opened during a Major emergency, check CERT Facebook page or Town website or call Warren Police at 436-9595

We currently have 10 trained CERT members.

We ran our public awareness booth and helped at events with traffic and crowd control in 2023 or Warren 15

for West Brookfield 3

Training /meetings 12

We assisted Warren Police and Fire, in Emergencies 5 times in 2023 in some way.

Cert Volunteers meet on fourth Wednesday at 6pm at Shepard Building. The meetings usually last 1 or 2 hours. A special thank you to all CERT members for your dedicated time in support of this great team effort.

If you are interested in supporting this volunteer effort, please contact

James Mckeon at mckeon@warren-ma.gov

follow us on Facebook at Warren West Brookfield CERT Team

### WARREN FIRE DEPARTMENT

### **2023 REPORT**

### ADAM S. LAVOIE FIRE CHIEF

### **FIRE RESPONSES 2023**

The Fire Department responded to 430 calls in 2023:

Motor Vehicle Accidents	88
Illegal Burning	18
Activated Alarms	63
	21
	18
CO Alarms	8
Mutual Aid	3
Gas Leak, (LP or Natural)	5
Brush Fires	12
Vehicle Fires	6
Structure Fires	22
Cooking Fire (Non-Outdoor)	3
Chimney Fires	1
Electrical Emergency	6
Medical Assist	80
False Alarms/Cancelled,	38
Power Line Incident	2
Rescue	2
Good Intent	5
Hazardous Material	2
Oil Burner/Stove Malfunction	6

### **AMBULANCE RESPONSES 2023**

Total Responses	777
Total Pt's Transported By Warren EMS	555
Mutual Aid Received (ALS)	159
Wing Memorial	437
Harrington	104
U-Mass University Campus	4
U-Mass Memorial Campus	1
Bay-State Medical Center	8
St. Vincent's Hospital	. 1
Not Transported (Refusals)	152
Cancelled In-Route	22
Transported by Other Service	36
Fire Scene Standby	3
No Services Needed/Non Transport	9

### **PERMITS ISSUED 2023**

Brush Burning Permits	208
Agricultural Burning Permits	. 12
Smoke/CO Detectors	65
Liquid Petroleum	34
Oil Burner	16
Oil Tank Install	8
Fireworks	
Sprinkler Re-Piping	
Power Vent	1
Total	346

In 2023, Warren Fire Department staff continued to answer the call and provide compassionate and professional service to the citizens we are proud to protect. Public safety agencies across the Commonwealth and the country continue to see an upward trend in call volume and overall request for services. Warren is certainly no different and we have seen a continually climb in call volume over the last few years. In calendar year 2023, requests for both fire and emergency medical responses reached record numbers again. In 2023, our call volume rose another 9% compared to the previous calendar year. Another trend that is being seen here in

the Commonwealth as well as across the country is quite alarming. As call volume continues to rise at record pace, many public safety agencies are responding with less staff and resources than ever before. Our department as well as the surrounding communities have experienced this trend and mutual aid is being used more frequently than ever before because of staffing shortages. Quite often, communities like ours will be on scene at one emergency when they are dispatched for another emergency requiring a request for mutual aid to cover the call. The Warren Fire Department is predominately an "on call" department, meaning that members respond when they are available from home to the station when a call comes in. Our "on call" staff make up approximately 85% of the department and they are supplemented with five full-time FF/EMT's that staff the station from 7:00am to 11:00pm. Currently, we have approximately 30 members on the department and we are always looking for new members that have a desire to serve others and help protect our community.

All local fire departments are trying hard to find solutions to deal with the staffing shortages and recruitment issues mentioned above. To help combat staffing issues and lack of volunteerism here in our community, we continue our partnership with the Quaboag Regional School District to offer the "Introduction into Fire and Emergency Medical Services Class" at QRMHS. This program is unique and provides students an opportunity to learn basic firefighter and emergency medical skills and give them an idea whether a career in the fire service or public safety may be of interest to them. This class is intense and is fully credited meaning it is offered and taught every day by our on-duty staff and is part of the school curriculum that students may choose to enroll in. Students are taught numerous topics and skills that include, CPR and defibrillation, first aid and basic medical skills, personal protective equipment, search and rescue, ladder operations, hose line operations and deployment, tools and equipment, forcible entry, hydrants and water supply, fire behavior and fire science as well as several other topics. The unique partnership between the fire department and the school district has proven to be successful and other communities have created similar programs based off this model. This venture was made possible by the support and collaboration between our local legislators, fire department staff, school committee, school administration and local municipal leaders. This program provides a much-needed opportunity to find members of the younger generation that have an interest in joining the fire service. The program also fits perfectly into our "Junior Firefighter" program that we formed and teach internally at the fire department. Students enrolled in the "Junior Firefighter" program have a chance to join the fire department when they turn 16 and beginning basic training. When they turn 18, they become recruit firefighters and will be sent to an appropriate fire academy for Firefighter I &II certification.

Members of our department continued to stay actively involved in the younger school grades as well. During the regular school year, members visited Warren Community Elementary routinely to teach the S.A.F.E. (Students Awareness of Fire Education) program. This program had been around for decades and has been instrumental in making our society a safer place. Topics covered included home escape planning, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and safety, kitchen and cooking safety, storm preparedness, flammable liquid awareness, holiday safety, cold water and ice safety as well as other appropriate topics. Our members also visited the elementary school during Fire Prevention Week and discussed safety topics and fire department equipment with many different classrooms and students. Our strong connection with the students

at the schools and our community in general through visits and events help us to cement a bond of trust within the community.

In 2023, our department remained quite busy responding to all types of calls and emergencies, conducting different types of required inspections as well as continuing monthly fire and medical trainings for all members. Some notable accomplishments made by our members in 2023 included Firefighter Alex Bridges graduating from his recruit firefighter academy and passing the national recognized Firefighter I & II certification. FF/EMT Shawn Boulette completed his first year of full-time employment with the department. Firefighter Halie Smith completed and passed her EMT class and was hired as the newest full-time member of the department. Recruit firefighter Lillian Harvey completed and passed her EMT and will be ioining Recruit firefighter Drew Martinez at an upcoming fire academy starting sometime in the beginning 2024. Our department welcomed Bryce Douglas, Grason Patchkofsky and Timothy Russell as the newest members of our "Junior Firefighter" program and all three will eventually become recruit firefighters and be enrolled in a future fire academy. We are very proud of all our members and the extreme effort they put in every day. We did have some members leave or retire from the department in 2023. Captain Scott Bridges and Lieutenant Chad Sablack both retired with close to three decades worth of service to the department and the community. Firefighters Merrill Thompson and Eric Allard also retired after many years of service to the department. Finally, recruit firefighter Noah LaFlamme left to pursue a career opportunity. None of the retired members wanted to leave the department but unfortunately life changes and family and personal commitments made it evident that they simply did not have enough available time to continue to devote to the department. We thank them all for their service and unwavering commitment to our department and to the citizens of our community.

In 2023, we continued to work on many projects. With overwhelming support from the community and local leaders we finally completed the police and fire communication and radio infrastructure project. This project spanned over three years and took a lot of planning, coordination, and expertise to complete. The system was placed into service in the beginning of 2023 and has proven to be one of the biggest advancements the department has seen in many years. For the first time ever, the police and fire departments have a dependable, safe, and fully functioning radio system that allows for effective communication throughout the community and beyond. We were also able to replace all radios and pagers as part of the project. To say this project was badly needed would be an understatement. We also completed our SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) project. This project also spanned over a couple of years and allowed us to replace our aging air packs and bottles that the firefighters wear into fires and other dangerous situations. These new packs and bottles will have a fifteen-year service life and will be tested and serviced annually. We finally took delivery of our new Engine #4 after a two year wait due to COVID related delays. This apparatus was made possible by funding supported by our residents as well as a grant received by the department from the AFG (Assistance to Firefighters Grant) through FEMA. This apparatus was built on a 2023 Dodge 5500 chassis, carries 300 gallons of water, and has three SCBA seats. This vehicle will serve as a mini-attack engine as well as a brush vehicle and back up mini-rescue. It replaces the 1975 Pierce miniattack engine formerly known as Engine #5, that was placed out of service several years ago due to mechanical issues. We also took delivery of a 2023 Chevy Silverado 2500 pickup truck that will be used for day-to-day operations, towing of trailers and fire scene support. This vehicle has

already proven to be a much-needed addition to the fleet for so many reasons and is used daily. It was purchased by using ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds available from the federal government after COVID to assist cities and towns with infrastructure and capital projects. With the support of the community, we were also able to secure the remainder of the funding to replace Engine #1 which is a 1997 International tanker truck. This project will take time to complete and is expected to take place over the next couple of years.

We cannot thank the voters and the community enough for the ongoing support of our members and department, it is so greatly appreciated! It is only through that support that we can replace and update the equipment we use to continue our mission to serve and protect. Finally, I wish to thank the members of the department for their tireless dedication and service. Their commitment and desire to always go above and beyond is truly commendable and I am honored to work alongside of them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam S. Lavoie Fire Chief Warren Fire Department

### Board of Health 2023 Report

Donald J. Makowski, Chairman
Daniel Thibodeau, Co-Chair
Tamara Dufresne, Animal/Barn Inspector
Tricia Valiton, Health Inspector
Chris Jones, Plumbing/Gas Inspector
Jessica Clarke, Secretary

The Warren Board of Health is responsible for both the Department of Public Health regulations and the Department of Environmental Protection regulations. It oversees, monitors, inspects, investigates, and/or follows up on all Food Establishments, The State Sanitary Code, Communicable Diseases, Tobacco Control, Emergency Preparedness, Plumbing and Gas Work, Beaver Trapping, Barns and Animals, Percolation Tests, Subsurface Sewage Systems, the Landfill Closure Operations and Maintenance, and Daily Operations of the Town Transfer Station.

Food sanitation oversight is actively ongoing in the Warren Health Department because of the potential for serious food-borne illness. The Town of Warren has 20 food service establishments, including retail food stores, restaurants, seasonal farm stands, bars, bakeries, and schools. Two inspections are done at each establishment each year, more if compliance issues are found or suspected. Temporary food service events add additional inspections each year.

Under the authority of the State Sanitary Code, 105 CMR 410 Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation, we respond to complaints by residents concerning possible health and safety violations within the Town. Some of these include but are not limited to safety violations, inappropriate garbage/rubbish storage and disposal, rodent/insect infestations and noise.

We also oversee the monitoring and maintenance of the closed Landfill and the operations of the privately-operated Transfer Station on South St. Waste reduction, recycling, and regulating private waste haulers also fall under the authority of the Board of Health. Every year we strive to improve the recycling and disposal services offered to our residents and at the Transfer Station and in town.

We continue to offer free Sharps (needles, lancets) collection both at the Board Of Health office and the Fire Station. Also, there is a collection box at the BOH office for rechargeable, button, alkaline batteries, and cell phones.

Each year we monitor the water safety at Comins Pond. During the summer swimming months we collect weekly water samples and test for E. coli. If a result is found to be at unsafe limits it is our duty to close the beach until results fall within acceptable limits. At the end of each year a report of test results and closures is submitted to the Mass Department of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health.

The Plumbing and Gas inspector will make sure that all plumbing work that is completely complies with the Massachusetts State Plumbing Code.

The Electrical Inspector will make sure that any electrical work completed in a building follows the Massachusetts Electrical Code.

It is the responsibility of the Waren Board of Health to process any emergency beaver trapping permits. This does require a member of the Board to do an onsite inspection to determine if an emergency to public health exist.

Joseph A. Kondrat, Jr. was appointed to the Board of Health in August of 2023 by the Warren Board of Selectmen until the next election in May of 2024.

As Chairman of the Board of Health, I would like to thank Adam Lavoie and his team at the fire Department and Gerald Milette and His team at eh Police Department in assisting the Board of Health in helping the residents of warren and West Warren. To the Commissioner Joe Kondrat for producing this report. Dan Thibodeau for his outstanding field work. Thank you to Leslie, Jessica, Tamara, Tracie and Chris, for all you do.

Sincerely,

Donald Makowski, Chairman

Daniel Thibodeau, Co-Chair

Joseph A. Kondrat, Member

### Warren Highway Department

The winter of 2023 was an average year with 16 snow and Ice events between January, February, and March. A large majority of those events involved ice. Thanks to a good crew and help from a few vendors we were able to handle all these events successfully.

We had a very nice addition to our fleet of trucks in January. Using some ARPA funds through the board of Selectmen we were able to purchase a new 2022 Ford F550 with a Boss 10' HD Snowplow. We upfitted the new truck with a stainless-steel dump body, controls, and a wiring harness to run one of our existing electric Western Striker sand/salt spreaders. Having this new piece of equipment is a great privilege that we always appreciate at the Warren Highway Department. It helps us be more efficient and not depend on old equipment where repairs are seemingly never ending.

Thanks to a short winter season we were able to start spring projects a little sooner than normal. This included some street sweeping, grading repairs to gravel roads, tree work, and cleanup and repairs to our parks and cemeteries.

This was the first year the highway department spent time in our parks resurfacing our baseball and softball fields. With the help of some rental equipment along with our compact loader and some fresh sand we were able to give these playing surfaces a good finish that the Park commissioners were very pleased with. It has really turned into a great relationship working with not only Parks but Cemetery as well. Working together we have been able to accomplish so many projects in just one year. We are excited to see what the future brings.

The month of May we took some time to give High Street a new surface. It was not the reconstruction that I would have liked to have done. Due to the lack of funding to finish replacing the aging water main on High Street. I decided that the town could not wait 10 years or so to have this project completed. As an inexpensive alternative I was able resurface all of High Street with a new layer of asphalt to smooth out the ride for residents and visitors to our town hall. Hopefully in the not to distant future funding can be found to give this important street the complete reconstruction that is needed.

Once High Street was completed, we moved to our big project of the year, Bemis Road. This project was done in 2 parts. Part 1 was about 1.2 miles of a complete overhaul of the road. We removed several dangerous trees, replaced some rotten rusted out drainage lines with new plastic ADS pipes. Repaired some aging catch basins and brought

in hundreds of yards of gravel to raise and reinforce the road where puddling water and poor subsurface conditions caused for a rough driving surface. This section of road also required reclamation and grading to reshape the road for a completely new driving surface.

Part 2 of the Bemis Road project was preparing about 8 tenths of a mile of existing road surface for a 2-inch overlay of new asphalt. This was done on 2 sections of Bemis Road that were in decent shape but starting to deteriorate. The idea behind the overlay is to create a continuous smooth road surface from one end of Bemis Road to the other for many years to come.

The paving was wrapped up in June. July was spent backing up the edges of the new road, adding a few curbs to help with erosion control and putting in temporary driveway aprons until a contractor could come in the fall to finish the job.

The Bernis Road project took many months from start to finish but I am happy to say that it was completed and is now one of the nicer roads to travel in the town of Warren. Thank you to the patience of all the residents of Bernis Road. A very big project that has been needed for many years is finally complete.

The rest of the year was spent doing a large assortment of projects. Ranging from small overlays, drainage repairs, lots of roadside mowing, and plenty of tree work. We spent a couple of weeks grading and cleaning some of our gravel roads as well. We finished the construction season with the final project, rebuilding and overlaying some new sections of sidewalks on High Street.

Snow and ice started a bit early having a couple of snow and freezing rain events in November. There were no recorded snow and ice events in the month of December. Thanks to the weather holding off we were able to continue with our projects into the new year.

Thank you,

Jeremy Olson

Highway Surveyor/Tree Warden

### WARREN HISTORICAL COMMISSION -- ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL 2023

With the limitations of only three Historical Commission members, most of our attention was devoted to the South Warren Cemetery gravestone project. This report may include mention of work which has overlapped Fiscal Years 2022, 2023 and 2024.



### **NATIONAL REGISTER**

In 2023 Shannon Walsh, Historical Planner of Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, was hired to begin writing the National Register Nomination for South Warren Cemetery. She was able to use as background material the recently updated Survey form, (WRR 800, now available on Mass.gov, MACRIS website) which she and the Warren Historical Commission had worked many hours on the year previous before submitting to and receiving approval by the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The National Register forms are quite restricted in form and language, so a professional planner is strongly recommended to meet the required standards. Review of her completion of the Nomination was conducted by the Warren Historical Commission and edits were suggested. The revised document is being submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) for official review. Customarily, further work will be recommended by the MHC.

### SOUTH WARREN CEMETERY STONES ON THE MOVE



For a burial ground where you'd expect gravestones to remain where they had been planted, the stones in South Warren Cemetery have done some unexpected traveling. As reported earlier, in the summer of 2022 a row of mostly Hitchcock family stones were conserved, including some closely abutting the large, old pine tree. In

July of 2023, it was learned that the tree would be removed and that the Hitchcock stones along with another row of gravestones had to be moved some distance away to avoid possible damage from falling tree limbs.

About 24 stones were moved by the conservators, Fannin-Lehner Co. Each gravestone, and sometimes a footstone to go with it, was photographed before

and after work, measured for size, and the location was plotted before moving it. Extracting stones from years of being packed solid in the ground is a difficult, time-consuming process. Sometimes it takes an hour or more per stone. Care has to be exercised not to damage the stone. Soil has to be carefully moved away from the stones, sometimes with a narrow shovel, sometimes with a trowel and whisk broom. Sometimes tree roots have grown around a stone, further hampering its removal. The stones were carefully cleaned, using appropriate D2 material, any small repairs done and carefully stored flat on 2x4s for the interim. Warren Highway Department Surveyor Jeremy Olson and his staff were very helpful in moving some of the larger stones, working a padded forklift and using delicate precision to avoid any damage to the stones. One stone was so solidly attached to its concrete base, the stone and base were left attached and extracted as a unit. A very heavy one, too.

### PINE TREE REMOVED

The old pine tree was finally removed in the summer of 2023. This long overdue project was no small job. It was paid for by a separate Cemetery Commission fund. Its stump was ground out, the area loamed and re-seeded. Then all the gravestones had to be returned to their proper locations, carefully set in perfectly exactly where they belonged, standing plumb upright, then tamped into the

ground to retain their positioning for years to come.



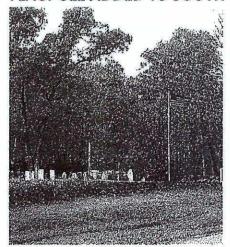
A most recent activity in the cemetery conservation program was Fannin-Lehner's repair of Susanna Alexander's headstone (d. 1849) which was broken

horizontally in two large halves. The two pieces were

thoroughly cleaned, then drilled, pinned and adhesive applied to each to hold them together upright. The repaired stone was then braced for a couple of days before it was set into a specially constructed base which was set into the ground

with the usual firm tamping of sand and pea stone to ensure its stability for years to come.

### FLAGPOLE ADDED TO SOUTH WARREN CEMETERY



In July 2023 Sylvia Buck donated her birthday gift, a twenty foot aluminum flagpole and flag which, with permission of the Cemetery Commission, was set up in the South Warren Cemetery at no cost the town.

### HISTORICAL COMMISSION ROOM

In 2023 the Historical Commission Room was set up with new carpeting, several file cabinets, tables, shelving, a room divider, a desk, a few rows of

seating for guests, and a few individual chairs. And those old state history books

which used to reside in the dusty back room of the Town Hall, and which were carefully labeled as to description of box contents by the late Peter Hastings? They were carried in by Tom Perkins and shelved by volunteer Bev Soltys who also helped organize the room.



## SOME TOPICS of those old Massachusetts "Law Books"

The collections do not appear to be complete but offer interesting material nonetheless. There are 5 volumes of "Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, which cover years 1628 to 1886. Some books have written in pencil the words, "Property of Western.' Western was the town's name until it was changed to Warren in 1834. Another set of Massachusetts Records is titled, "Cases argued and determined by the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth." Volumes dated 1849 through 1885. Another book is titled "List of Persons whose names have been changed in Massachusetts." Yet another title is "History of New England, Vol. 2, 1635-1649."

And more recent books, titled "Acts and Resolves of the Massachusetts General Court"

### **DISPLAY CASE**

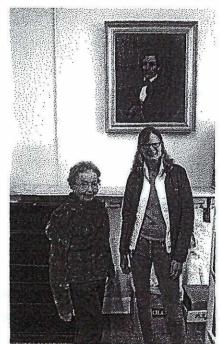
Can you help us find a display case? In April 2023 we received a gift of a woven blanket manufactured by Persky Mills of West Warren and used by Lucinda Thomason's father on Boy Scout outings and at his home. It is logical to have a product of a local industry in the Historical Commission's collection. We are searching for a display case in which we could show this and a few other artifacts from local residents or businesses.

Do you know where Sunset Lodge was in Warren? An inquirer whose parents worked there many years ago asked the Historical Commission where it was located. A bit of research BY Tom Perkins revealed the location had been a farm

on Coy Hill.

### SHEPARD BLAIR PORTRAIT

One of the most unexpected gains in the year 2023 was the gift of an oil on canvas painting of a Warren man who was well known in the mid to late 1800s. Shepard Blair was born in 1800 and died in 1883. His painting had been in his family for three generations and was offered to the Historical Commission by his great, great-granddaughter, Tracy Bodine, representing other members of her family. Chairman Buck had been in negotiations with Ms Bodine about the painting for the past year. When it was delivered November 18, 2023, it was hung in the Historical Commission room and will be available for Warren residents to see during Commission meetings.



Mrs. Buck & Tracy Bodine

An Open House to publicize the painting is planned for the Spring.



### ← Shepard Blair

Both Shepard Blair and his wife, Mary Ann (Bishop) Blair (1817-1898) were committed Anti-Slavery Society members. Mrs. Blair had attended school with Lucy Stone, later a speaker for the Anti-Slavery Society, and remained her good friend. Mr. Blair was so outspoken about his commitment to the Abolition cause that he angered the pastor of the

Congregational Church, which most people in those days were expected to belong to. He was excommunicated, along with a handful of other members, so he led a movement to establish a Methodist Church congregation. Warren in indebted to Shepard Blair's great, great-granddaughter, Tracy Bodine, and her family for this gift.

Mary Ann Blair ->

Mr. and Mrs. Blair entertained in their home such well known leaders of the Anti-Slavery Society as William Lloyd Garrison, William Wells Brown, Frederick Douglass and Garrett Smith. Their home has been said to have been a station on the Underground Railroad, serving as a way station for escaped slaves traveling north.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia G. Buck, Chair Thomas G. Perkins, Secretary William M. Shoucair

For access to any materials housed in the Historical Commission room, contact Town Administrator who will pass the request along to the Commissioners. ##

### **Holiday Decorating Committee**

Responsible for decorating the Town of Warren and West Warren with Christmas Wreaths on Businesses and town bridges. Holiday lights are put on in parks and in other town buildings. Decorating is also done for Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day, Easter and Halloween. There are flags put out in the flower pots around town for Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. All work is done by volunteers.

The 2023 tree lighting was held on December 2 from 4 to 7 PM. The 14 ft tree was lite at 6 pm. There were a few fire pits, these were run by Parks department personnel and Boy Scouts, people were able to make s'mores. There was also a horse drawn wagon, ride, students sang Christmas carols, Santa and Mrs. Clause, also the Grinch were present around the area. Police Dept ran their stuff a cruise event. Where people donated toys to fill Emergency management trailer connected to police cruiser for the jingle fund, this was a success.

This year wreaths were not put out on bridges, instead we put large candy canes on the bridge pole lights

New this year

The 12 ft Artificial Christmas tree was put old town hall steps

The 14-foot artificial hoop tree. Was decorated with ornaments

Plastic battery operated large light bulbs were hung in the trees during tree lighting.

new larger Christmas inflatables which were put on the town common and one in West Warren.

Solor light put on railing of underpass in warren.

There are Bridge, flags which are on South St. bridge There are four different flags, a set for spring, summer, fall and winter. There are also bridge flags by the Warren Fire station, on newer bridge, These flags are changed by the Decorating Committee. The spring of 2023, we put a better anchoring system for these poles that hold the flags they were cemented in. In time we plan to get more bridge flags for the bridge on east main street.

Kathy Odine decorated the flower boxes and barrels with Christmas greens around town.

Corn stalks were donated by Dave Shepard, for Halloween decorations, on old Town Hall and town signs.

Holiday decorations were donated by town resents Jennifer Vincent and Sandera Giza

I would like to thank all the volunteers for all their hard work, which are as follows.

Alan McKeon

Cheryl Mckeon

Jessie Sweeney

Scott Petraitis

Kathy Odine

If any people or groups would like to help decorate in any way please contact

contact James McKeon at mckeon@warren-ma.gov

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WARREN HOUSING AUTHORITY 2023

The Authority's housing market extends beyond the elderly, family and handicap rental units, which the Authority manages. Funding for rental programs is through the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities and Urban Development (HUD)

### State Funded Programs

Chapter 667-1 Winthrop Terrace was completed in 1978. The Authority admissions 59 elderly/handicap units (57 one bedroom and 2 two-bedroom units) under this program. Rent is based on 30% of adjusted gross income and includes all utilities.

Age: 60 or over unless handicap/disabled Assets: Unlimited

Income Limits: 1 person \$57,900.00

2 people \$66,200.00

Exclusions from Gross Household Income have also been changed to provide for an income exclusion of wages or salary earned for persons 62 years of age. The waiting list for this program is open.

Emergency Lighting in the Community Room is complete. Also, the Community Room was completely remodeled, new light fixtures, walls and ceilings painted, new furniture including a Flat screen TV with cable, Internet and WIFI all free of charge to the tenants. A coin machine was also purchased for our laundry room to help tenants after the bank closed.

As apartments have become empty rehabbing takes place with some new flooring and appliances if needed.

Removal of dangerous trees and underbrush has also been completed. Patio upgrades will start in the spring of 2024.

### Chapter 705 Scattered Sights:

This waitlist is open. The property at 540 Keyes Road is under review to be remolded and made available for the non-handicap.

### Massachusetts Rental Voucher Project Based Program (MRVP)

The Authority administers subsidy to Nine (9) Project Based MRVP units and Two (2) Mobile Vouchers. This program is officially part of the CHAMPS application process, the waiting list is open.

### Section 8 Voucher Program

The Authority administers sixty-six (66) Section 8 Vouchers to eligible participants. Our Section 8 waiting list now falls under MassNahro Centralized waiting list. The Dedham Housing Authority administers the Section 8 Program for the Warren Housing Authority.

### Staffing for the Maintenance Department

As of October 26, 2023, the Board of Commissioners for the Warren Housing Authority voted unanimously to hire an additional full-time Maintenance Grounds Keeper.

Information regarding our programs or if you wish to complete an application, contact our Executive Director Barry J Nadon Jr 95 Winthrop Terrace, Warren by phone at 413-436-7184 or at the Oxford Housing Authority 508-987-0581.

The Board of Commissioners, Executive Director and staff wish to extend their appreciation to all Town Officials and Departments for their support.

### Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne Potrzuski Chairperson
Virginia Fleming Vice Chair
Barbara Keith Treasurer
Patricia Mazzapica Assistant Treasurer
Barry J Nadon Jr. Executive Director
David Johnson Maintenance Supervisor
Drew Martinez Maintenance Grounds Keeper

### WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2023

### **Board of Directors**

Term Expires 2024

2023

2025

# Barbara Larkin, President Kimb Jean McCaughey, Vice President Ange Michelle Merrill, Treasurer Rowa

2024 Tracey Mazur, Secretary2026 Edward Londergan

2024 Steven Rust 2025 Karen Kelly-Garay

### **Library Staff**

Kimberly Kvaracein, June 2002, Director Appt. October 2018
Angela Hicks, Library Assistant II, March 2022 Resd. June 2023
Rowan Bernstein, Library Assistant II, April 2023
Jubilee Nale, Library Assistant I, September 2019 Resd. Feb 2023
Gena LaScala, Library Assistant I, June 2023

### **Library Hours**

Tuesday 11-7 Wednesday 11-3 Thursday 11-7 Saturday 11-3

The Warren Public Library continues to serve the community by providing access to books, inter-library loan services, DVDs, music, periodicals and other media – including those available for download to your device from home. The library also offers WiFi access to the public, as well as photocopy and fax services, and home delivery to those unable to reach the library on their own. Services are also provided via Curbside Pickup.

### **Library News**

#### **Museum Passes**

Again this year, the library received a grant from the Warren Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council for passes to Old Sturbridge Village and the Springfield Museum for patrons to use for discounted admission to these museums. The library also received funding for passes to the Trustees of Reservations properties across the state, offering free parking and admission. Trustees' properties include Crane Beach in Ipswich and Wasque Reservation on Martha's Vineyard.

#### **Air Conditioning**

The library is now air-conditioned and welcomes all patrons to come in and stay cool all summer long!

### **Ongoing Programs**

### **Knitting Circle**

A knitting circle meets weekly on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6 PM to share tips, tricks and projects with fellow knitters. It also provides basic knitting instruction for those who want to learn how to knit. All ages and abilities are welcomed.

#### Storytime

Held weekly in person once again on Tuesday mornings on the common (weather permitting) or inside the library at 11:30 AM for pre-school age children. Children enjoy listening to a story and are given instructions to complete a fun craft.

### **Events**

### Birds: The Epic Adventures of a New England Bird Photographer

In February, noted wildlife photographer Peter Christoph delivered stunning photographs of area Massachusetts birds. Among those explored were owls, loons, hawks, eagles and various birds who call the Quabbin area home. His photographs combined with their stories entertained, educated and inspired the audience. Participants learned the secrets of many native birds and animals in their wild and natural habitat. This program was funded by a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency, supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

### Tea, Chocolate & Cheese: A Celtic History and Tasting

Kim Larkin presented a cozy event in April, serving up a variety of classic and delectable Irish specialties, including steaming cups of freshly brewed Irish tea served with tasty Irish cheeses paired with handmade Irish chocolates and Irish soda bread. Participants enjoyed an informative slide show of Irish history and legends.

### All Together Now: Summer Reading 2023

2023's Summer Reading Program kicked off in June with a visit from **Toto the Tornado Kitten**. Children earned prizes for each visit to the library, enjoyed a special weekly Summer Storytime & Craft hour, participated in weekly raffles and attended several special programs throughout the summer. "Super Readers" (who visited the library three or more times over the summer) were entered to win free tickets to the Big E. The program concluded with **Flying High Dogs** on the common.

#### Paws to Read with Keeva

In July Keeva, a certified therapy dog, visited the library for a special story time and craft. Children visited with Keeva and learned about therapy dog training and the various jobs that they do.

### **Ghosts and Legends with Jeff Belanger**

October brought the return of Jeff Belanger, once again at the Warren Senior Center, who enthralled another large audience with his engaging lecture exploring the unexplained. This program was funded by a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency, supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

#### Trick or Read!

Children were once again invited to the library in costume to participate in a special Halloween Storytime, as well as participate in games and activities. All children received a free book to take home.

### **Book Signing with Ed Londergan**

Local Author Ed Londergan gave a fascinating presentation and held a book signing event in November, held at the Warren Senior Center and sponsored by the library. Refreshments were served and guests enjoyed learning about the author's latest book and research project *Unlike Any Other*. The book tells the tale of Bathsheba Spooner, a real-life resident of 18<sup>th</sup>-century Brookfield who was executed for the murder of her husband amid her scandalous affair with a young Revolutionary War soldier.

#### **Gentle Yoga for Stress Relief**

In December Phil Milgrom of The Centered Place in Warren provided a relaxing and informative yoga class that helped participants learned techniques to melt away tension and reduce stress. This program was funded by a grant from the Warren Cultural Council, a local agency, supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

### Circulation Statistics from ARIS Report FY 2023

Total Physical Library Holdings:	23,595
Total Downloadable eBooks, Audio & Video	209,418
Total Circulation:	11,239
Number of Registered Users of the Library:	945

## West Warren Library



### Library Overview

HOURS	Mondays & Wednesdays 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM Friday 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
CONTACT INFORMATION	PHONE: (413) 436-9892 FAX: (413) 436-5086 WEBSITE: mywwla.org
STAFF MEMBERS	Susan Tower, Director  Donna Grigas, Library Assistant  Jenna Obremski, Library Assistant
	MaryJane Rickson, President Christy McCann, Treasurer Sylvia Cummings, Secretary
BOARD MEMBERS	Tom Cummings Magi Bish Amy Gagnon
	Mary Delizder

### Library Services

The West Warren Library houses a sizeable collection of up-to-date fiction, nonfiction and large print books; current periodicals, newspapers, DVDs, and books on CD, are also available for checkout. The library is also a member of CWMARS and offers statewide interlibrary loan, and after hour library access from home via the internet.

Public Computers	Internet Hotspot	Printing	Photocopying	Faxing
Handicap Accessible	Air Conditioned	Local Newspapers	Book Club	Storytime

### Databases - provided by The West Warren Library

Job Now! Not just a database, but a live interactive tool which combines resources and support to guide a jobseeker through the necessary tasks to get a job.

Informative, easy-to-use, with free Internet resources for job seekers; includes personality and career assessments.

Features LIVE resume experts to review and assist with building a winning resume.

Features a LIVE Interview Coach Service, which provides resources to help in the preparation for the interview.



Ancestry® Library Edition, one of the most important genealogical collections available today. It has unparalleled coverage of the United States and the United Kingdom, including census, vital, church, court, and immigration records, as well as record collections from Canada, Europe, Australia and other areas of the world! This collection, with thousands of databases and billions of indexed names.

Answers await everyone—whether professional or hobbyist, expert or novice, genealogist or historian—inside the more than 7,000 available databases. Here, you can unlock the story of you with sources like censuses, vital records, immigration records, family histories, military records, court and legal documents, directories, photos, maps, and more.

### Databases - Provided by the Massachusetts Library System, Massachusetts Libraries Board of Library Commissioners

GALE Academic OneFile, Academic OneFile Select, General OneFile, Health and Wellness
LegalForms, Literature and Resource Center GALE ONEFILE: Agriculture, Business, Criminal
Justice, Culinary Arts, Communications and Mass Media, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Diversity
Studies, Economics and Theory, Environmental Studies and Policy, Fine Arts, Gardening and
Agriculture, Gender Studies, Health and Medicine, High School Edition, Home Improvement,
Hospitality and Tourism, Information Science, Insurance and Liability, Leadership and
Management, Military Intelligence, News, Nursing and Allied Health, Physical Therapy and Sports
Medicine, Pop Culture Studies, Popular Magazines, Religion and Philosophy, Vocations and
Careers, War and Terrorism • GALE IN CONTEXT: Elementary, Environmental Studies, Global
Issues, Middle School, Opposing Viewpoints, Science, U.S, History, World History • GALE
INTERACTIVE: Science • GALE PRESENTS: Peterson's Career Prep, Peterson's Test Prep •
BRITANNICA: Escolar, Fundamentals, Library, Encyclopedia Moderna, School • PEBBLE GO •
PROQUEST: Heritage Quest, Science • TRANSPARENT LANGUAGE ONLINE • THE BOSTON
GLOBE • THE NEW YORK TIMES



The <u>Commonwealth Catalog (ComCat)</u> allows library patrons to locate and request library materials from across the state and have them delivered directly to their home library. No need for mediated interlibrary loan. ComCat has a modern and easy-to-use interface, including book jacket images and improved search options. Users can easily select their preferred format for an item when multiple choices are available. Hardcover, paperback, large print, audiobooks, and DVDs will appear together in search results.



### The secret to finding your next great read

NoveList Plus is a trusted source of expert read-alike recommendations, with recommendations for both fiction and nonfiction, for all ages. Novelists' expertise in books and reading means that you'll always get the best help for finding just the right books.





With OverDrive, you can borrow and enjoy free eBooks, audiobooks, and more from your CWMars digital collection.

You can enjoy many titles immediately online, download them for offline use, or send borrowed eBooks to a Kindle device (U.S. libraries only) for the duration of your lending period.

## Museum Passes

\*Generously underwritten by the Warren Cultural Council





museum of science and nature



### **PROGRAMMING**

### **Past Library Events**

Summer Reading	June-August 2023
Christmas with Santa and Mrs. Claus (Cultural Council grant)	December 13, 2023
Ancestry.com Training	February 2024
Trivia Night Fundraiser	February 17, 2024
Duckie Soap Workshop (Cultural Council grant)	February 23, 2024
Body Balm Workshop (Cultural Council grant)	March 1, 2024
lkebana Floral Arranging Workshop (Cultural Council grant)	March 28, 2024

### **Ongoing Library Events**

Storytime	Wednesdays from 4pm-5pm
Book Club	The Third Wednesday of every month at 7pm

### **Upcoming Library Events**

Bemis Farms Workshop Fundraiser (Hummingbird Café Porch Pot)	June 7 <sup>th</sup> , 6 pm at the Senior Center, preregistration is required.
Summer Reading	July 1st - August 16th
Animal Adventures Educational Animal Show	August 16th, 2:00 pm at Dean Park

### PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Town of Warren Parks and Recreation Department has continued to maintain the parks in town and provide activities for our community to enjoy.

The fall was fun with many people wandering the streets of Warren/West Warren to find deals at our Town Wide Tag Sale. We transformed the Shepard Building gym for three nights of haunted fun at our bi-annual haunted house. During the winter we packed the town common with residents of all ages who enjoyed the Tree Lighting Event which featured Santa, a visit from the Grinch, a letter box for Santa, and horse and wagon rides. Local businesses welcomed families to participate in activities and offered entertainment as well. Families enjoyed quality time staying warm at the winter campfires where they could make hot dogs and S'mores. We offered a fun "Light the Night" decorating contest kicked off by a meet and greet with Santa, Mrs. Claus and delicious hot cocoa.

Summer was busy with activities for all ages included free swimming lessons at Comins Pond, tennis lessons, and weekly Friday night concerts. We honored our veterans and senior citizens in addition to hosting a petting zoo, touch a truck event, and a car cruise night.

We look forward to offering more and more events in the year to come when we will be celebrating Warren Parks and Recreation's 100th Anniversary! Visit https://forms.office.com/r/bkPp2cef66 for updated information for our 2024 Parks & Recreation events.

We will continue to work to provide safe parks and enjoyable recreation activities for the people of Warren and West Warren.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lisa Boucher

Commissioner

Jesšie Sweenev

Commissioner



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**Eric Duda**Superintendent-Director

### PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

### 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee, along with Superintendent Eric Duda, is pleased to present this report to the citizens of the nine-town District. The School Committee consists of the following members: Julie Quink from Hardwick serving as Chairperson, David Droz from Palmer serving as Vice Chairman, Robert Lavoie from Palmer, Lorraine Alves from Belchertown serving as Secretary, Francesco Dell'Olio also from Belchertown, April Judicki from Granby, Marie Barbara Ray from Ware and Richard Fly (who began serving as a Ware member in March 2023), R. Keith Valley from Monson, John Nason from Warren, Martin Goulet from New Braintree, Jeffrey Nelson from Oakham, and Student Representative Morgan Brown from Palmer.

### Community Outreach and Admissions

The Community Outreach and Admissions department achieved success in the past year. In addition to managing enrollment, this department oversees all community engagement efforts, communication, event planning, and media relations. Pathfinder Tech's enrollment as of October 1, 2023, reached 643 students, marking an overall increase from October 1, 2022. Total application numbers also rose from the previous year, indicating a continued heightened demand for career and technical education. The application figures up to December 31, 2023, suggest a potential record number of applications for the incoming class of 2028. Overall, there has been a noticeable growth in the total number of applications.

During Summer Bridge (new student orientation), approximately 176 students attended over three days in July and August. Students engaged in icebreaker activities, facilitating introductions and connections. Staff tours provided insights into all aspects of Pathfinder Tech. Placement tests were administered to finalize class schedules. Students received Class of 2027 t-shirts and left their mark by writing their first names in chalk on the cement outside the school. A group picture commemorated the beginning of their journey at Pathfinder Tech. Pathfinder Tech also maintained a presence at the Belchertown Fair for the second consecutive year. Cosmetology students volunteered for face painting and manicures, and visitors had the chance to win a Cribbage board crafted by the Advanced Manufacturing program. In November and December, annual events such as the 8th Grade Showcase and Career Night were held. The Showcase hosted 210 visiting students, offering them a taste of life at Pathfinder Tech and



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#### **Eric Duda**

Superintendent-Director

allowing them to take home their handmade projects. Career Night saw over 600 students and families in attendance. Both events were highly successful. Additionally, the community outreach department continued its efforts to engage with the community through Pathfinder Tech's social media platforms, sharing updates on events, fundraisers, department achievements, student highlights, and athletics updates.

### 2023 (FY24) Budget Information

In 2023, the School Committee approved a final FY24 budget of \$15,443,177, marking a 5.70% increase over the FY23 Budget. All nine towns within the Pathfinder Regional District unanimously approved their assessments during their 2023 town meetings and council meetings, adhering to the regional school budget statute. Budget formulation and town assessments are determined based on the previous school year's October 1 enrollment.

Throughout 2023, Pathfinder Tech extended Free School Lunch services through a combination of the federal Community Eligibility Provision and new state funding, significantly benefiting students facing financial instability partly due to the COVID pandemic's economic repercussions. Moreover, leveraging the final year of federal COVID Relief funds, the school provided additional student support, including health services, counseling, technology upgrades, and capital purchases, largely funded by public and private grants, donations, and gifts totaling over \$700,000.00.

While some concerns of the pandemic have waned, students continue to grapple with its social, emotional, and economic aftermath. Pathfinder Tech prioritizes data-driven decision-making to reallocate resources as needed, striving for fiscal responsibility amid finite state and local budget resources. Efforts include cost reduction strategies like health insurance plan adjustments, grant acquisition, utility net metering contracts, community partnerships, and internal infrastructure projects.

Ultimately, Pathfinder Tech's dedication to fiscal prudence ensures the delivery of high-quality technical education, providing graduates with a competitive advantage in the workforce or postsecondary pursuits.

### **Competitive Grants Overview**



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Superintendent-Director

In early 2023, Pathfinder Tech secured a competitive Skills Capital grant of \$188,000 to overhaul the cafeteria line. This initiative introduced new service stations equipped with advanced cooking and holding technology, enabling the provision of healthier meals to students while offering culinary students the chance to work with fresh ingredients. Additionally, a second Skills Capital grant totaling \$491,905 was utilized to renovate the HVAC/R technical program, completely refurbishing the facilities and outfitting them with state-of-the-art equipment to enhance student training.

Further competitive grant awards facilitated various enhancements, including the provision of additional mental health services for students, the implementation of a Math Acceleration Academy during school breaks to bolster MCAS scores, the renovation of the staff lounge, the acquisition of kitchen equipment, the inaugural hosting of the Pathfinder Tech Arts and Culture Night, support for robotics competition expenses, scholarships for Advanced Manufacturing students, and the enrichment of MTSS initiatives. Cumulatively, these competitive grant awards exceeded \$900,000, funding innovative improvements and initiatives beyond the general fund budget.

### Cooperative Education and Vocational Technical Highlights

In 2023, Pathfinder Tech's Cooperative Education Program engaged 71 students, while 33 students participated in the WIOA program, contributing significantly to the local labor market.

Pathfinder Tech students excel in hands-on learning, applying analytical skills in real-world scenarios. Through the work request system, municipalities and residents of Pathfinder Tech's member towns can submit requests for discounted services.

In 2023, nearly 600 work requests were received, with around 70% of technical programs accepting requests from member towns. The programs provide services within the District, resulting in substantial taxpayer savings.

- The Automotive Technology program serviced 312 vehicles, saving community members over \$145k compared to industry rates, including maintenance for the Palmer Police Department.
- The Carpentry program saved approximately \$35k on various projects, including residential constructions and signage.
- The Collision Repair and Refinishing program saved nearly \$15k servicing 46 vehicles and repaired police cruisers for Palmer, hosting a successful 30th annual Car Show.
- The Cosmetology program generated around \$8.2k through client visits.



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Superintendent-Director

- The Culinary Arts program's restaurant, Perso, achieved \$45k in sales and \$6k in catering, volunteering to serve the Belchertown Senior Center.
- The Electrical program completed 25 community projects and campus electrical tasks.
- The Horticulture program organized spring and winter sales, decorated Storrowtown Village, designed floral displays for the Springfield Museum of Science, participated in town cleanups, and hosted floral design classes.
- The Plumbing & Pipefitting program completed five new construction plumbing jobs, collectively saving customers \$14.4k.
- The Programming and Web Development program addressed 643 help-desk tickets and undertook web design projects for external clients.

### Select Student Accomplishments

#### Spring 2023 Highlights:

- All six Business Technology students who participated in the Massachusetts Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference achieved top-five placements in their respective events.
- Two Hospitality Management students ranked in the top ten at the DECA state-level conference, with one advancing to the DECA International Career Development Conference.
- Ten students from the CAD/Pre-Engineering program obtained their Certified SolidWorks Associate certification, while four earned the Certified SolidWorks Associate-Additive Manufacturing certification, and two attained the Certified SolidWorks Professional certification.
- Eight Health Assisting Juniors successfully passed the demanding CNA exam.
- At the Massachusetts FFA Competition, a team of two students placed 2nd in Duo Chainsaw Demonstration, and one student secured 2nd place in the Food Science & Technology career development event.
- During the SkillsUSA Massachusetts District V Leadership Conference, students clinched a total of 17 medals, including 1st and 2nd in Automated Manufacturing Team, 1st in Health Knowledge Bowl Team, 2nd in Mobile Robotics Technology, 3rd in Automotive Refinishing Technology, 3rd in Plumbing, 3rd in Power Equipment Technology, and 3rd in Urban Search and Rescue Team. Those who secured 1st and 2nd places earned spots at the SkillsUSA MA State Leadership Conference.

#### Fall 2023 Highlights:



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Superintendent-Director

- The Pathfinder Tech Freshman class celebrated their technical program assignments during the Pathfinder Tech Program Signing Day, signing certificates committing to learning technical skills and demonstrating workplace professionalism.
- In September, the Horticulture program and FFA students received the Kevin Brown Founders Award for their float entry in the Belchertown parade.

### **Select Student Activities**

The initial months of 2023 buzzed with student activities! Throughout January, February, and March, students engaged in fundraising efforts for their classes. They organized Krispy Kreme sales, conducted a Valentine's Day Flower sale and candy guessing game, and coordinated restaurant dine-in nights at Antonio's Pizza in Belchertown. On April 14th, an amusing late Pi Day celebration took place, where students witnessed one teacher and one administrator receive a pie to the face from the Senior class president and the student representative of the school committee during an assembly. Proceeds from the "pie-to-the-face" ticket sales supported the Administration Scholarship Fund.

In April and May, class fundraising events included a bottle and can drive along with a soup fundraiser. The Class of 2023 hosted the Senior prom at Zukas Hilltop Barn in Spencer, Mass on May 12th, creating cherished memories. The Junior prom, organized by the Class of 2024, took place at UMASS Amherst Mass Mutual Center on May 19th.

The autumn of 2023 further fueled our school spirit with additional spirit days and weeks in October, November, and December. Events included a pink-out day for Breast Cancer Awareness month, a Halloween costume contest, and gym decorating ahead of the pep rally. Themed days like country western, favorite holiday, and PT apparel day saw enthusiastic participation from both students and staff, showcasing their school spirit! Our third annual fall pep rally was a tremendous success, preceded by a homecoming dance that brought together hundreds of our students for a memorable evening of fun and dancing!

The Pathfinder Tech Student Council collaborated with the community to support local charities through a food drive in November and a hat & mitten drive in December, along with raising a monetary donation to Breast Cancer Awareness.

The classes of 2024 and 2025 initiated fundralsing efforts for their upcoming proms through Krispy Kreme and Big Fundralsing Ideas sales, while the Class of 2026 organized a PT Jibbet fundralser.



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### **Eric Duda**Superintendent-Director

To conclude 2023, the Drama Club hosted their 2nd annual PT Talent Show, showcasing a diverse array of talents from speed painting to singing to instrumental performances. Wrapping up the year, our talented Culinary Arts department in collaboration with the Hospitality department treated both students and staff to a delightful Holiday Buffet.

### **Athletics Department**

The Athletics Department maintains its commitment to providing a no-fee program, enabling all students to participate without any personal expenses for participation. The sports offered include baseball, basketball, cheerleading, football, golf, lacrosse, soccer, wrestling, and softball. Moreover, cross-country, ice hockey, girl's lacrosse, and field hockey were accessible through a cooperative agreement with Amherst, Monson, and Palmer. These offerings, which commenced in the fall of 2022, attracted twelve enrolled students.

#### **Curriculum and Professional Development**

Data-driven intervention strategies remained a primary focus in 2023 and carried forward into 2024. Collaborating with the Data Team, Progress reports, and Trimester reports were analyzed to tackle the high rate of student course failures. Extra help sessions during school vacations were introduced to offer students additional opportunities to catch up on missed work or receive assistance with specific assignments. Individual student schedules were tailored based on their specific academic needs.

In the 2023-2024 school year, a new instructional coaching program was established to support students in grades 9 and 10 in English and Math. Two instructional coaches dedicated their time to collect departmental data and assess student mastery of covered standards weekly. Students identified as not proficient were provided intervention sessions, temporarily withdrawing from their technical programs. Those who demonstrated proficiency early in the week were exempted from further intervention, while others continued to receive support. Additionally, multiple rounds of Mock MCAS testing were implemented to ensure students were adequately prepared for Spring assessments.

IXL, an online learning platform, saw increased integration across the curriculum in the 2023-2024 school year. Grades 9 and 10 students spent the initial 17 minutes of their technical programs working on IXL skills, while 11th and 12th graders dedicated 30 minutes weekly to technical program practice. Diagnostic testing through IXL aided in measuring student progress and informed data-driven decisions.



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Superintendent-Director

Math and ELA curriculum underwent comprehensive restructuring for grades 9 and 10 at the onset of the 2023-2024 school year. Drawing inspiration from successful regional vocational technical high schools, the pacing and sequencing of courses were redesigned. Teachers received stipends and collaborated with the Academic Director over the summer to finalize the new curriculum.

Professional Development sessions continued to be offered monthly after school, emphasizing best practices. Staff could choose from five different presentations led by Pathfinder Tech personnel, facilitating peer learning and knowledge sharing. Professional Development Points (PDPs) for these sessions, along with all other district-delivered professional development, were tracked and distributed through TeachPoint.

#### **Guidance Department**

The Guidance Department dedicated efforts to ensure students were prepared for college and careers by enhancing its curriculum and services. Utilizing Xello, an interactive college and career software, counselors guided students in career planning and readiness, closely monitoring their progress. They organized visits with military recruiters, college admissions officers, and coordinated post-secondary options and opportunities.

Emphasizing social-emotional support, the department expanded services with the addition of a new school adjustment counselor. This ensured students had access to responsive support for academic, personal, social, and career challenges. Collaborations with various entities included:

- Care Solace: Provided mental health care coordination for families.
- Ori: Offered a virtual curriculum platform focusing on transition and social-emotional learning.
- BHN Family Resource Center (Ware): Collaborated on tier two interventions and supports.
- Quaboag Hills Substance Use Alliance: Conducted awareness and training sessions on substance abuse, mental health, and diversity/inclusion. Mental Health First Aid Training was also provided.
- Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT): Implemented a public health approach to identify students at risk of substance misuse.



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Superintendent-Director

Managing 504 Accommodation Plans, the department scheduled and facilitated meetings to update plans and ensure effective accommodations. They provided progress data for IEP meetings and contributed to student re-entry and safety plans. In May, Pathfinder Tech celebrated its annual award events, inducting 50 students into the

National Technical Honor Society and presenting 137 awards for academic and technical excellence during the Annual Awards Night Celebration.

The Class of 2023 graduated on June 2, 2023, with 124 students receiving diplomas, including one summer graduate. The ceremony awarded 70 scholarships from local supporters totaling nearly \$20,000 to deserving graduates, with 35 class members receiving the John & Abigail Adams Scholarship for outstanding performance on MCAS.

### Student Services Department

The Student Services department at Pathfinder Tech oversees Special Education, Mental Health/Social Emotional Learning initiatives, and English Learners programming. During the 2023 school year, the department managed the Individual Education Plans (IEPs) of approximately 155 students. The dedicated team of teachers, paraprofessionals, and student support personnel focused on enhancing their team meeting process and IEP development.

In the realm of Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health, the department adopted ORI Learning, a well-being curriculum for all 9th graders. The MTSS Coordinator identifies areas of need and implements a Tiered System of Social Emotional support.

A full-time School Adjustment Counselor was added to address the social and emotional needs of students. The department maintains its partnership with Care Solace, connecting members of the Pathfinder Tech community with mental health and substance abuse providers.

During the 2022-2023 School year, the Department collaborated with the Office of Public School Monitoring to conduct a Tiered Focused Monitoring Review (TFM). The school introduced a Comfort Animal (English Cream Retriever) named "Scout" to the Pathfinder Tech community.

### Special Programs Highlights

During the summer of 2023, 45 students from Pathfinder Tech and 22 students from other districts participated in summer school, collectively enrolling in 108 courses across 11 different sending districts. Revenue generated from out-of-district students covered the costs for



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Superintendent-Director

Pathfinder Tech students this year, with most of the funding for summer school teachers coming from grants.

Additionally, we offered in-person summer school courses tailored to students who struggled academically throughout the year, providing extra support for English or Math courses. Our Summer Youth Enrichment Program at Pathfinder Tech experienced its most successful season yet in July! Children aged 9-13 from local towns engaged in 15 diverse technical and educational programs, including Advanced Manufacturing, Baking, Junior Chef, Auto Body, Biking, Plumbing, Drama, First Responders, and Woodworking. Spanning a three-week period, the sessions filled 395 spots, marking an increase of over 100 participants compared to the previous summer.

### **Adult Evening Education**

The School of Adult Evening Education (P.M. Pathways) at Pathfinder Tech celebrated its inaugural year of course offerings with Electrical and Plumbing programs. These initiatives, made possible through a CTI grant from Commonwealth Corporation, align with our mission to engage and inspire the community through valuable educational opportunities.

Both Electrical and Plumbing programs commenced on January 20th, 2023, and concluded on June 26th, 2023. Achieving a combined graduation rate of 75%, each graduate obtained multiple industry-recognized credentials and a range of trade skills, enhancing their employability in their respective fields. Many graduates secured relevant employment, demonstrating a strong drive for personal and professional advancement.

Collaborative efforts with MassHire Springfield Career Center and the Hampden County Workforce aim to support the remaining graduates in their job placement endeavors. Analyzing workforce needs and utilizing employer-focused communication channels, we strive to foster stronger relationships and higher placement rates.

Upon the completion of the inaugural classes, we reviewed advertising, enrollment processes, course structures, and employment initiatives. Several enhancements were implemented to optimize program success, including an earlier enrollment period, MassHire pre-screening, interview process modifications, adoption of a new all-in-one software platform, and recruitment-focused event planning.



## Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District

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#### Eric Duda

Superintendent-Director

As of October, enrollment for the second year of cohort programs began, with increased efforts in advertisement through social media and radio ads. There was a 34% rise in overall applicants compared to the previous year. This increase in interest underscores the community's demand for additional course offerings. Plans for 2024 include the introduction of new programs tailored to community needs and demands, further solidifying our commitment to providing valuable educational opportunities.

#### **Concluding Statement**

As Pathfinder Tech embarks on its 51st year of providing high-quality career and technical education to our member communities, the school committee expresses its deep pride in the dedication of both staff and students. We extend our sincere gratitude to our legislators, town officials, and the various town meetings for their steadfast support.

#### Respectfully submitted,

Julie Quink (Hardwick), Chairperson
David Droz (Palmer), Vice Chairperson
Lorraine F. Alves (Belchertown), Secretary
Robert Lavoie (Palmer)
Francesco Dell'Olio (Belchertown)
R. Keith Valley (Monson)
April Judicki (Granby)
Martin Goulet (New Braintree)
Jeffrey Nelson (Oakham)
Marie Barbara Ray (Ware)
John Nason (Warren)
Morgan Brown, Student Member
Eric Duda, Superintendent-Director

#### Warren Planning Board 2023 Annual Report

During 2023, the Planning Board was actively involved in a number of projects critical to Warren's current and future residents.

The Board approved multiple ANRs (Approval Not Required) for residential lots.

Public hearings were held for new special permit applications for gravel permits. All the previously granted permits had expired requiring new applications. After the required public hearings, each application presented to the Board was approved. Special permits were also approved for new gravel pits.

Site visits were made to the Agilitas solar site on Beaman Road. The Board's peer reviewer visited the Agilitas site to determine compliance with the conditions outlined in the Board's approval decision.

A new secretary, Sarah Morin, was hired to manage the day-to-day administrative work for the Board.

The Board sent letters to the various companies with solar facilities in town to verify ownership and contact information. Responses were received from every company.

A public hearing was held on a special permit application for a home-based speech therapy business. It was approved at a subsequent meeting.

Changes were proposed to the wind and solar bylaws, and a public hearing was held. It was voted to add the changes to the Town Meeting Warrant.

Modifications were voted on and approved for the solar and wind energy environmental testing protocols.

The requirements and procedures for Site Plan and Special Permit applications were reviewed, revisions made, and changes approved simplifying the entire process.

#### **Police Department**

This annual report for the Police Department will help give a small glimpse of this past year's day-to-day operations. It will also touch on areas such as staffing changes, equipment that has been obtained and overall statistics for the year 2023 as well as a look forward to 2024.

In 2023 the Department had a few changes when it comes to staffing. In February of 2023 the Department had two of its members leave. Full-time Officer Garrett Fortin left to join the Belchertown Police Department. The Department also saw the retirement of part-time Officer Dave Mellen. Officer Mellen was a long-time member of the Warren Police Department starting with the Warren PD back in 1999. Dave was always there to help cover shifts when needed and volunteering at events.

In June, Officer Charlie Williams joined our full-time team. Officer Williams holds several certifications and has been an amazing addition. I look forward to working with him for many years to come.

For advanced training initiatives, Officer Soojian was sent to become an instructor in several medical areas. Officer Soojian became a certified MPTC instructor in the following: Stop the Bleed, CPR and First aid. We can now conduct our annual in-service recertifications and trainings in these areas as opposed to having our folks attend classes elsewhere. Officer Morin and I also attended ALICE instructor school. This certification allows us to teach safety planning and incident precaution mechanisms and alert systems to the schools as well as to the Town Offices.

One major project that came to fruition in 2023 was the radio infrastructure project. This was a much-needed upgrade for Police and Fire due to the consistent communication breakdowns and failures as well as an overall archaic failing system. To current, the upgrade has been outstanding and communication has overwhelmingly superseded over our old system.

This past July, two IT projects were completed at the station; these were passed by vote within Town meeting. The Departments server and firewall were upgraded and replaced. This was a major upgrade as our current equipment was out of its useful life span and is crucial for the Department's computer security.

In January, instructors had come out to teach us how to run the new Milo system. This is the training system that was installed at the Town Hall and funded by Homeland Security. This has been a great asset to the Department.

With funding through ARPA, the Department replaced two sedans that were in the fleet, replacing with two SUV's. The sedans were proving not to be conducive to police work and could not be used during storms. Now all Department vehicles will be the same, outfitted with proper equipment and able to be used in all inclement weather.

The Department also received an FLIR infrared night vision optic. This was obtained through a grant from the United States Deputy Sheriff's Association. This device will help Officers clearly see people, objects and animals in total darkness more than 100 yards away. This thermal imager can also capture and store both images and recorded video clips.

At the end of December 2023, the Departments roster was as follows:

#### **Full-Time**

Chief Gerald Millette Lieutenant James Early Officer Christopher Bouchard Officer Matthew Morin **Detective Madysen Nale** Officer Michael Shea Officer Paul Soojian Officer Charlie Williams

Officer Bradford Merkel

#### Part-Time

Officer Rene Cote Officer Christos Tsigas

In 2023, the Warren Police Department logged approximately 22,500 calls of service. Listed below is a random sampling of just a few of the responses and crime statistics:

•	Total offenses committed	818
•	Incident reports	902
•	Felonies	148
•	Arrest	283
•	Juvenile arrests	17
•	Summons	209
•	Protective custody	24
•	Driving under the influence	25
•	Drug violations	21
•	Motor vehicle accident	96
•	Motor vehicle theft	4
•	Motor vehicle stops	2,066
•	Motor vehicle citations	889

•	Burglary/breaking and entering	28
Þ	Larceny/theft	25
D	Disorderly conduct	24
p	Arson	0
•	Aggravated assault	13
•	Simple assault	23
•	Intimidation	29
•	Animal Complaints	141
•	Sexual crimes	15
•	Identity theft/fraud	42
•	Weapon law violations	23
•	Alarm calls	136
•	Suspicious activity	82
9	Vandalism	15
•	Domestic disturbance/custody dispute	86
0	Landlord/tenant/neighbor/property disputes	113
0	Unattended death	9
•	Restraining/Harassment orders and services	65
٥	Harassment incidents	24
0	Violations of restraining/harassment orders	4
•	Trespass/unwanted person	25
0	Assist another agency, motorist or citizen	200
•	Radar/traffic enforcement	1020
•	Check of businesses, homes and Town property	7263
•	Mental health/welfare check	175

In looking the upcoming year and beyond, one area I want to keep moving in the right direction is our fleet of vehicles. Our current fleet is in great condition and I want to work with the Finance Department to keep the cruisers on a replacement schedule. A police cruiser life span is three years and 100,000 miles. In the past we had cruisers with almost 200,000 miles which caused problems due to reliability and high cost of repairs.

Another area of concern is staffing, one change I will be looking for approval is the addition of full time Officers. Due to the outsourcing of part time officers' (relative to police reform), the ability to cover the necessary open shifts, sick/vacation time and the regular training requirements is becoming a hardship; aside from the added burden of the regular turnover of officers. As new officers are needed, onboarding and academy processes can take up to a year and a half before being able to mobilize that new Officer on patrol; resulting in burden of burnout for the remainder of officers to fill the gaps in shifts to keep Warren safe.

Also in 2024, I want to continue moving forward with the planning process of a Public Safety Complex. Working with Town Administrator Ferrera and Fire Chief Lavoie we will drive plans so a viable concept can be presented to the citizens. We will also look for, compile and be ready to present any funding sources available for the project to alleviate the burden to the tax payers.

As I have in my previous reports, I like to end the Police Department annual report by remembering and honoring those that made the ultimate sacrifice. I would like to take a moment to recognize the 134 Officers around the country who died in the line of duty in 2023 and the 162 Law Enforcement Officers who lost their lives to suicide in 2023. Mental health is continually an area of concern for citizens as well as our Police Officers. If you or someone you know are in need of assistance, the suicide and crisis lifeline can be reached by dialing 988.

Thank you to the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and all the citizens of Warren who continue to support our Police Department personnel.

Best,

Chief Gerald Millette

# Warren Board of Sewer Commissioners Annual Report 2023

This past year, upgrading outdated and failing equipment at the 34-year-old Wastewater Treatment facility has continued to be of utmost importance. Installation of the new grit screw, a project paid for with ARPA funding, was completed late in the year. The grit screw is now fully operational. Among other projects that will need to be addressed soon are replacement of the bar rack, the replacement and installation of two scum pumps, the replacement of backup alarm systems, and the replacement of a 2010 Ford F350 pickup truck.

As part of the Mass DEP Administrative Consent Order, testing for PFAS was added to the required testing of Wastewater Treatment Plant effluent. The staff has been inspecting sewer lines and manholes. With the assistance of engineers from Tighe & Bond, we are working on reducing copper, phosphorus, nitrogen, and PFAS, updating the sewer usage regulations, and updating maps of the sewer system.

To meet the requirements of Mass DEP's administrative consent order and make upgrades to the WWTP, it has been necessary to increase the sewer rates by about 15% each year for the past three years. In the past, residential sewer billing was done once a year. The Board of Sewer Commissioners decided that effective in FY2024 (July 1, 2023, though June 30, 2024), residential sewer billing would be done twice a year instead of once a year. The first of two flat fee FY2024 residential bills was mailed out in September 2023. The bill for the second half of the FY2024 residential sewer fee will be mailed out in February of 2024. Dividing the annual sewer fee into two billing cycles a year was done to ease the burden of the increased sewer fee on users, most of whom are low to moderate income. Also new for FY2024, the Sewer Dept. started billing with Vadar software, which is also being used by the Town Accountant, Assessor, Tax Collector, and Treasurer.

#### WARREN WATER DISTRICT P. O. BOX 536 WARREN, MA 01083-0536 (413) 436-9819

#### wwd@warrenwater.comcastbiz.net

	TERM EXPIRES
Clerk	2025
Agent	2023
Member	2024
	David Johnson
	Donald Makowski
t, Treasurer, and Collector	Carol Sanders
	Carol Jay
	Agent

Meetings are posted and held bimonthly and the Annual Meeting will be held May 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

#### 2022 Water Pumped in Gallons

January	3,941,400
February	3,263,800
March	3,597,000
April	3,429,700
May	3,736,200
June	3,577,940
July	3,841,300
August	3,797,800
September	3,439,900
October	3,877,600
November	3,439,600
December	3,680,300

Gallons averaged per month 3,635,211
Gallons averaged per week 838,895
Gallons averaged per day 119,513

Total snow fall 54.1 in. Total rain fall 29.36 in.

#### ANNUAL MEETING

WARREN WATER DISTRICT P. O. BOX 536 WARREN, MA 01083-0536

Minutes for Annual Meeting held May 12, 2022, 7:00 p.m. Held at Shepard Municipal GYM 48 High St., Warren, MA 01083

MEMBERS PRESENT: Loretta Beaudry, Donald Makowski, Cynthia Baxter, Denise Messier; Moderator, David Johnson, Atty. Mary Bassett, Carol Sanders, and customers within the District.

All present were asked to sign in and be checked off on Precinct A Voters list, to be recognized as a registered voter and living in the Warren Water District. The sign-in list will be attached to these minutes.

In accordance with the Warrant as posted, the Warren Water District voters took action on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: VOTED - That Denise Messier be moderator to preside over the Annual Warren Water District Meeting, May 12, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

ARTICLE 2: To hear reports of the District Officers. Ms. Beaudry read the District report attached to these minutes.

<u>ARTICLE 3</u>: To elect one Water Commissioner to hold office for the term of three years. As we have only one candidate, vote is by a show of hands.

#### VOTED UNANIMOUS: Loretta Y. Beaudry

ARTICLE 4: PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE – To authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Commissioners to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue for the financial year beginning July 1, 2022 in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to issue a note or notes therefore payable within one (1) year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one (1) year in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17.

ARTICLE 5: PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE — That the District fix the salaries of the Commissioners at \$2,400.00 each per year, and that the District raise and appropriate \$7,200.00 for said salaries and the sum of \$785,500.00 to defray the expenses of the district for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 6: PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE - That the District raise and appropriate \$24,264.00, to fund the Retirement Assessment Account.

ARTICLE 7: PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE – That the District update Article 7 of the Warren Water District By-law to read 988 Main St.

<u>ARTICLE 8</u>: PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE — That the District transfer \$8,500.00 from the Tank Paint & Repair Fund for the purpose of pressure-washing the tank floor and walls, inspection and removing corrosion from pipes and couplings.

<u>ARTICLE 9</u>: PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE – That the District transfer \$5,800.00 from the Construction Fund to install water main piping on Hillside Ave.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OR DISCUSSION OF THE ANNUAL WARREN WATER DISTRICT, IT WAS VOTED TO TERMINATE AT 7:15 p.m.

#### SPECIAL MEETING

### P. O. BOX 536 WARREN, MA 01083-0536

Minutes for Special Meeting held November 29, 2022 7:00 p.m. held at Shepard Municipal Building 48 High St., Warren, MA 01083

MEMBERS PRESENT: Loretta Beaudry, Cynthia Baxter, David Johnson, Atty. Mary Bassett, Denise Messier, Carol Jay, Carol Sanders, and customers within the district.

All present were asked to sign in and be checked off on Precinct A Voters list, to be recognized as a registered voter and living in the Warren Water District. The sign-in list will be attached to these minutes.

Loretta Beaudry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

In accordance with the Warrant as posted, the Warren Water District voters took action on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: VOTED - That Denise Messier be moderator to preside over the Special Warren Water District Meeting, November 29, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 2: To elect one Water Commissioners to hold office for the unexpired term to May 2024.

Lorette Beaudry nominates three candidates as follows:

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James G. Dusty David Kelly Julie Vadnais

as Water Commissioner for the unexpired term to May 2024. Mrs. Leona Wrobel seconds the nomination.

BALLOT, VIS:

James Dusty

Julie Vadnais

David Kelly

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<u>VOTED</u>: David Kelly will serve as Water Commissioner for the unexpired term to May 2024.

ARTICLE 3: VOTED UNANIMOUS\_That the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 to pay all costs for a Lead Service Line Inventory and Replacement Plan; The 2021 Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) require all Public Water Systems (PWSs) to complete an inventory of utility- and customer-owned service lines connected to its distribution system and prepare a replacement plan by October 2024; and that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Water Commissioners be authorized to meet this appropriation by short term borrowing, by borrowing from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust in accordance with Chapter 29c, as amended, of the General Laws and to authorize the District Clerk to act on behalf of the District to file for and accept financing from the

Massachusetts Clean Water Trust and take any other necessary action to carry out the project or to take any other action relative thereto.

Several customers asked if this is necessary. Cynthia Baxter explained that the revision in the LCR is mandated by the State DEP to protect our customers from excessive lead levels in the water. This is being conducted because of the incident of high levels in Flint, Michigan.

Customers asked if this would raise the rate. Carol Sanders explained this article is for the inventory of the customer owned service lines within the distribution system and it will prepare a list of homes that will need replacement. This phase of the project is a 100% grant for funds reimbursement. She also explained that at this time, there is not a program designed for financial help with the replacement in phase 2. This will take place after 2024 and we are in hopes there may be some financial assistance.

BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS OR DISCUSSION THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WARREN WATER DISTRICT, IT WAS VOTED TO ADJOURN AT 7:15 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

Carol Sanders Admin, Asst., Treasurer, Collector Loretta Beaudry Clerk

WARREN WATER DISTRICT Statement of Net Position and Statement of Cash Flows For The Year Ended June 30, 2022

These statements will be available from the Auditor after April 1, 2023
Statement of Net Position and Statement of Cash Flows will be posted online at
Warrenwaterdistrict.net

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at <a href="https://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html">https://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html</a>, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at <a href="mailto:program.intake@usda.gov">program.intake@usda.gov</a>."

<sup>&</sup>quot;This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## WEST WARREN WATER DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

COMMISSIONERS	<b>TERM EXPIRES</b>
Dina Merwin	2026
James McKeon	2024
Krista Legault	2025

APPOINTMENTS
Secretary/Treasurer
Superintendent
Assistant Superintendent

Kathleen Duncan Andrew Lalashius Daniel Losert

West Warren Water District Bank Balance As of June 30, 2023

		Jun 30, 2023
ASSETS		Water Company of the
Current Assets	Checking-Country Bank	34,215,68
	Savings - Unibank	81,573.21
Capital Improvement Fund	Savings - Monson Savings Bank	168,048.62
Emergency Reserve Fund	Savings - Monson Savings Bank	50,281.58
Total Che	ecking/Savings	334,219.09
Total Current Assets		334,219.09
TOTAL ASSETS		334,219.09
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Total Liabilities		0.00
Total Equity		334,219.09
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		334,219.09

### WEST WARREN WATER DISTRICT ANNUAL REPORT

		Jul '22 - Jun '23
Income/Expense Income		
	Hydrant Income	14,429.00
	Water Receipts	210,181.00
	Interest Income	1,215.00
Total Income		225,825.00

#### Expenses

Total Expense

Net Income(Loss)

Capital Improvement	15,230.00
Chemicals(chlorine,soda ash)	4,772.00
Commissioners	6,300.00
Courses/Training	1,100.00
Dept. of Environmental Protection	213.00
Insurance	4,148.00
Legal Fees	0.00
Misc	2,187.00
Office Expense	2,416.00
Payroll Expenses	57,077.00
Payroll Service	1,355.00
Payroll taxes	4,430.00
Plowing/mowing	900.00
Police Duty	575.00
Repairs & Maintenance	8,899,00
Standby Superintendent	8,695.00
Supplies & Parts, Equipment	16,966.00
Telephone and internet	4,305,00
Utilities(electric&propane)	20,221.00
Vehicle rental	1,200,00
Water Tests	7,003.00
was a second of the second of	167,992.00

57,833.00

## **Veterans Annual Report**

The previous VSO Gary retired and Michelle started in December 2023.

Michelle is a Retired Miltary Chaplain who served 25 years in the military, both Navy and Army.

During the time she has been in Office she has closed out the Veterans's Department accounts July thru December 2023 which allows the State to reimburse the Town of Warren. The total amount of Reimbursement back to Warren is \$25,894.34.

Since Michelle has been in office the amount of Veterans who file VA Claims have also increased.

Michelle is currently organizing previous pieces that have been a part of Warren's tradition to have the Memorial Day Parade.

Michelle Durkee Director of Veterans Services

#### FY 2023 Annual Report of the

## **Zoning Board of Appeals**

The Zoning Board of Appeals received no Petitions for Variances or Administrative Appeals during 2023.

The litigation of last year's decisions on the ZPT Energy Solutions, Inc. Petition for Variance and Administrative Appeal is ongoing.

The FY 2023 appropriation of \$500 remained intact at the end of the Fiscal Year.

Respectfully submitted by,

Richard Czaporowski, Chairman Ronald Leger, Vice Chairman Kerry Schmidt, Clerk Martha Giguere Matthew Bonneau