



Special Town Meeting Warrant – March 27, 2023, 6:30PM

Town of Chester

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**Hampden, SS:**

To any of the Constables in the Town of Chester in the County of Hampden,

**Greetings:**

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Chester qualified to vote in Elections and town affairs to meet in the Chester Town Hall Auditorium, 15 Middlefield Road in said Town on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 6:30 in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

**Article 1:**

**BILLS FROM A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the following sums of money needed to pay the following bills incurred in FY2022; or take any other action relative thereto:*

Morton Salt	\$20,848.30	Snow & Ice	20422.80
Gir USA	\$ 328.44	Highway	20422.80
Gateway Pet	\$ 76.25	Highway Supplies & Repairs	20423.80
Bacons	\$ 77.06	“ “	“
TMC, Inc.	\$ 244.63	“ “	“
CMELD	\$ 81.29	“ “	“
USA Blue Book	\$ 419.95	Water Expenses	20428.81
Comcast	\$ 72.19	Transfer Station	40491.81

TOTAL \$22,148.11

**A True Copy, Attest**

**9/10 vote required**

*Tim M. Dan*

Town Clerk 4/4/23

John Baldasaro accepted the article as read, Jason Forgue seconded.

0- No Votes    23 Registered voters present    Article approved unanimously

**Article 2:**

**HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from the Highway Salaries account 20422.00 to the Highway Administrative Assistant account 20422.01 the sum of \$3,200.00; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

John Baldasaro accepted the article as read, Jason Forgue seconded.

0-No Votes    23- Registered voters present    Article approved unanimously

**Article 3:**

**PROPERTY CASUALTY INSURANCE**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$8,270.00 to the Property Casualty Insurance account 90193.00; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

Jason Forgue made a motion to amend this article. The article should read "transfer from Old school building Maintenance Account" instead of from free cash.

John Baldasaro seconded the amended article.

0 -No Votes    24- Registered voters present    Amended article approved unanimously.

John Baldasaro made a motion to accept the newly amended article, Andy Myers seconded.

0- No Votes    24- Registered voters present    Article approved unanimously

**A True Copy, Attest**

*Tim M. Dore*

Town Clerk

4/4/23

**Article 4:**

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

*To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$514.00 to the Workers' Compensation Insurance account 90912.00; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

**John Baldasaro accepted the motion as read, Jason Forgue seconded.**

**0-No Votes      24- Registered voters      Article approved unanimously**

**Article 5:**

**INSURANCE REVOLVING**

*To see if the town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the following sum of money needed to pay the following bill, inadvertently charged to the Insurance Revolving account, or take any other action relative thereto:*

Elevator Repair                      \$43,720.00

**9/10th vote required**

**Discussion: Liz Massa and Jill Strong questioned what this bill was for. Don Humanson said it was an old bill approved by Barbara Huntoon when she was on the selectboard. Andy Myers explained the money is being moved from free cash to the Insurance Revolving account to correct billing error.**

**John Baldasaro accepted the article as read, Andy Myers seconded.**

**0- No Votes      24-Registered voters present      Article approved unanimously**

**Article 6:**

**POLICE ROAD SAFETY GRANT**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$154.00 to the Police Road Safety Grant account 54680.64; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

**John Baldasaro accepted the article as read, Jason Forgue seconded**

**0- No Votes      24-Registered voters present      Article approved unanimously**

**A True Copy, Attest**

*Tom M. Daw*

**Town Clerk**

*4/4/23*



**Article 7:**

**COMMUNITY COMPACT GRANT**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00 to the Community Compact Grant account 54680.46; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

**Discussion: Andy Myers explained that the grant did not come in and we need to cover with free cash**

**Jason Forgue accepted the article as read, John Baldasaro seconded**

**0-No Votes      24- Registered voters present      Article approved unanimously**

**Article 8:**

**NORTH CHESTER ENERGY SUPPLIER**

*To see if the Town will vote to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164 & 134 for the limited town residents that because of their location are not served by Chester Municipal Electric Light and, further, to adopt the following resolution:*

*WHEREAS the Municipal Electric Light Department provides electric distribution service to the majority of the Town's residents and businesses;*

*WHEREAS, given the location of certain residents or businesses near municipal borders and the configuration of the electric grid, it has been economical and appropriate for these customers to be served by Eversource West;*

*WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through the restructuring of the electricity market for customers served by investor-owned utilities such as Eversource West;*

*WHEREAS, citizens of Chester served by Eversource West have a substantial economic and social interest in terms of greater customer choice and opportunities for savings in this restructured market; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of Chester hereby finds that it may be in the interest of that portion of its citizens who are electric ratepayers to Eversource West, both residential and commercial/industrial, to develop and secure such approvals and enter into appropriate*

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*Tim M. Dan*

**Town Clerk 4/4/23**

agreements with consultants, experts and attorneys in connection with the establishment and operation of an electricity aggregation plan;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Town of Chester hereby:

*Publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business electric customers that are served by Eversource West and to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended; and*

*Authorizes the Selectboard to negotiate and enter into such contracts for power supply pursuant to the plan or services for such plan, with the understanding that if a power supply contract is executed, individual customers would retain the option not to participate in the aggregation plan and, instead, to choose any electricity alternatives they desire and, further, to take such other action relative hereto as may be appropriate and necessary.*

**Majority vote required**

**John Baldasaro accepted the article as read, Jason Forgue seconded.**  
0-No Votes      25- Registered voters present      **Article approved unanimously**

**Article 9:**

**BOARD OF HEALTH REVOLVING FUND**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000.00 to the Board of Health Revolving Fund account 40491. ; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

**Jason Forgue made a motion to amend the article to read "Building department" and not Board of Health**

**John Baldasaro seconded the amended article**

0-No Votes      25-Registered Voters present      **Amendment to article approved**

**Jason Forgue accepted the newly amended article as read, John Baldasaro seconded**

0-No votes      25- Registered voters present      **Article approved unanimously**

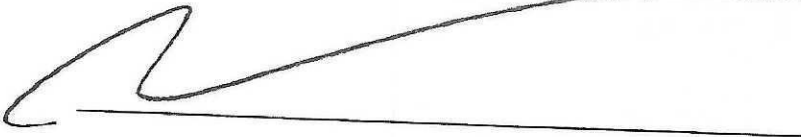
**A True Copy, Attest**

*Tom M. Dan*  
**Town Clerk**  
*4/4/23*

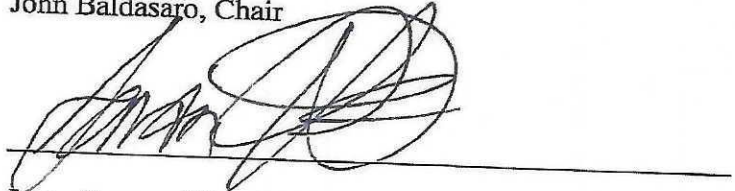
You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting true and attested copies thereof, in three public places within the Town of Chester, fourteen (14) days at least, before the day and hour of holding said meeting.

Therefore, Fail Not and make do return of said Warrant with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk of the Town of Chester, at or before the day and hour of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands at Chester, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023.



John Baldasaro, Chair

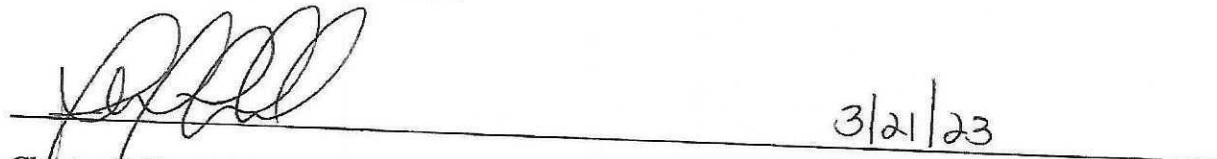


Jason Forgue, Vice Chairman



Richard Sutton, Clerk

As per instruction in this Warrant, I have posted same in three public places, Chester Town Hall, Chester Post Office, Chester Center.



Chester Police Officer

3/21/23

Date/Time

A True Copy, Attest



Town Clerk

4/4/23

