



Special Town Meeting Warrant – Monday, January 29, 2024, 6:00PM

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, January 29, 2024, at 6:00 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 FY2023; or take any other action relative thereto:*

Meadow Farm Equipment	\$227.99	Highway Supplies & Repairs	20423.02
Meadow Farm Equipment	\$362.97	Highway Supplies & Repairs	20423.02
Westfield Auto Parts	\$15.99	Highway Supplies & Repairs	20423.02
Westfield Auto Parts	\$12.63	Highway Supplies & Repairs	20423.02
E-ZPass MA	\$6.95	Highway Supplies & Repairs	20423.02
Teresa Donovan	\$160.49	Town Clerk Expenses	10161.02
Teresa Donovan	\$35.00	Town Clerk Expenses	10161.02
Berkshire Springs	\$12.50	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Berkshire Springs	\$21.70	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Berkshire Springs	\$12.50	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Berkshire Springs	\$12.50	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Berkshire Springs	\$3.00	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Berkshire Springs	\$12.50	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Berkshire Springs	\$12.35	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Berkshire Springs	\$3.00	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Chester Water Dept	\$32.60	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00
Chester Water Dept	\$136.96	Town Hall Expenses	90192.00

Bolduc Mechanical Services	\$111.55	Shared Police Expenses	54680.58
Atty. Ronald Berenson	<u>\$172.80</u>	Tax Taking Expenses	10146.03
Total:	\$1,365.98		

**9/10 vote required**

**Article 2: CORNERSTONE CHURCH**

*To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept as a gift for general municipal purposes the so-called Cornerstone Church property located at 1 Middlefield Road, Chester; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action deemed appropriate in relation to such acquisition; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

**Article 3: STARKWEATHER PASTURE**

*To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey a certain land-locked property located off South Worthington Road, known as Starkweather Pasture (about 50 acres), to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, as described in a deed recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 1610, page 482, on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action deemed appropriate in relation thereto; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**2/3 vote required**

**Article 4: HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of no more than \$29,000 to undertake the process of updating the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

**Article 5: TOWN CLERK COMPUTER**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,337.54 to replace the Town Clerk computer; or take any other action relative thereto.*

**Majority vote required**

**Article 6:**                    **WATER DEPARTMENT BILLS FROM A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Water Department Free Cash the following sums of money needed to pay the following bills incurred in FY2023; or take any other action relative thereto:*

USA Blue Book	\$ 1,661.52
Hathway Construction Corporation	\$ 192.00
White Wolf Septic & Portables, Inc.	\$ 540.00
Tom Bean 6/23 Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 210.26
Total:	\$ 2,603.78

**9/10 vote required**

**Article 7:**                    **RECLASSIFY ACCOUNTS**

*To see if the Town will vote to reclassify payroll posted in error to CMELD account 96010.99 into Highway Department Salary account 20422.00 in the amount of \$1,866.40 and \$1,703.09 to correct a data entry error; or take any other action relative thereto:*

**Majority vote required**

**Article 8:**                    **RECLASSIFY ACCOUNTS**

*To see if the Town will vote to reclassify payroll posted in error to CMELD account 96010.99 into Highway Department Snow Removal account 20422.02 in the amount of \$157.46 and \$174.95 to correct a data entry error; or take any other action relative thereto:*

**Majority vote required**

**Article 9:**                    **TIRES FOR FIRE ENGINE 1**

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,590.25 to replace the tires on Fire Engine 1; or take any other action relative thereto:*

**Majority vote required**

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 due 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.

---

John Baldasaro, Chair



---


Richard "Andy" Sutton, Vice Chair



---

Brian Forgue, Clerk

As per instructions in this Warrant, I have this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024, posted same in three public places, Chester Town Hall, Chester Post Office, Chester Center.



---

Chester Police Officer