



Special Town Meeting Warrant – Monday, October 7, 2024, 7:00PM

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 Elementary School Gymnasium, 325 Middlefield Road, in said Town on Monday, October 7, 2024, at 7:00 in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

The meeting started late (7:27pm) due to the large amount of people attending. It was also moved outside due to concerns by the building inspector and fire chief that there would be too many people inside.

The first order of business was John Baldasaro made a motion to change the order of the articles, so Article 1 would go second due to time restraints and getting people checked in.

That was seconded by Andy Sutton, all in favor.

**Article 2: SALE OF CHESTER MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC LIGHT
DEPARTMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the sale of the Chester Municipal Electric Light Department. This vote constitutes the first of two required votes for the sale to proceed.

2/3 vote required

John Baldasaro accepted this article as read, Andy Sutton seconded.

Discussion was brief, Joe Simonowicz asked if we need to get more info before proceeding with the vote due to the fact they just received the audit back and how much money do they actually have. Someone yelled out 1.4 million. Michelle Kenny asked where is that amount coming from and who said 1.4 million. No one responded.

A True Copy, Attest

John M. Dore 10/8/24
1

Town Clerk

Deryck Savoy spoke to these questions. He said he does not know an exact amount of money they are still reviewing the audit. The loss recorded of \$366,000.00 is recoverable.

Alicia Swendsen asked to call to move the question.

The question was moved, and the vote was done. It was a paper ballot secret vote as requested. Voters were checked in and handed their ballot.

293 registered voters voted, one ballot was not filled out so vote count was 292.

Yes- 26 No -266 Article did not pass.

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 FY2024; or take any other action relative thereto:

Advantage Truck Group	\$ 1,569.43	Highway Supplies/Repairs	20423.02
Advantage Truck Group	\$13,521.58	Highway Supplies/Repairs	20423.02
CAI Technologies	\$ 1,200.00	Assessors Maps	10141.06
Staples	\$ 198.24	Council on Aging Expenses	40494.00
Turley Publications	\$ 23.42	Water Dept. Budgeted Surplus	615917.00
Total:	\$16,512.67		

9/10 vote require

John Baldasaro made a motion to amend this article to read “transfer from free cash” to “transfer from stabilization account”

Andy Sutton seconded the amendment.


The Amended article was then read John Baldasaro explained that this was for leftover/missed bills from the past year.

John made a motion to accept the amended article as read, Andy Sutton seconded.

A yes vote show of hands was asked for, All in favor

312-registered voters present, 0- no votes

A True Copy, Attest



Town Clerk


10/8/24

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



Craig Gauthier, Clerk

A True Copy, Attest


Town Clerk 10/8/24

As per instructions in this Warrant, I have this 23 day of September, 2024, posted same in three public places, Chester Town Hall, Chester Post Office, Chester Center.



Chester Police Officer