



Special Town Meeting Warrant Monday, January 6, 2025 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 Town Hall Auditorium, 15 Middlefield Road, in said Town on Monday, January 6, 2025, at 7:00 in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1: LEASE TO OWN NEW POLICE CRUISER

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to G.L. c. 44, § 21C and upon the recommendation of the Select Board, to authorize the Town to enter into a lease-purchase financing agreement to acquire a new police cruiser for a term up to the useful life of the cruiser as determined by the Select Board, and to appropriate the first year's lease payment from the \$71,730.60 in the Police Cruiser Revolving Expenses account 53208.00; or take any other action relative thereto:

2/3 vote required

Article 2: REPLENISH FUNDS IN HIGHWAY FAIR SHARE ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$12,243.37 to replenish the Highway Department DOT Fair Share Account spent for emergency drinking water; or take any other action relative thereto:

Majority vote required

Article 3: APPROVE HERO ACT TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR VETERANS – CLAUSE 22I

To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c. 59, § 5, Clause 22I, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted under G.L. c. 59, § 5, Clause 22, Clause 22A,

Clause 22B, Clause 22C, Clause 22E and Clause 22F by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for applicable exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025; or take any other action relative thereto:

Majority vote required

Article 4: APPROVE HERO ACT TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR VETERANS – CLAUSE 22J

To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c. 59, § 5, Clause 22J, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted under G.L. c. 59, § 5, Clause 22, Clause 22A, Clause 22B, Clause 22C, Clause 22E and Clause 22F by 100% of the personal exemption amount, subject to the conditions in Clause 22J, to be effective for applicable exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2025; or take any other action relative thereto:

Majority vote required

Article 5: MODERNIZE TOWN GOVERNMENT PHONE SYSTEM

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$7,378.00 to modernize the town government phone system; or take any other action relative thereto:

Majority vote required

Article 6: PURCHASE OF TAX TITLE SOFTWARE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$3,770.00 to purchase Tax Title software for the Treasurer; or take any other action relative thereto:

Majority vote required

Article 7: MAKE PRINCIPAL PAYMENT FOR NEW FIRE ENGINE

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$85,500.00 to make the first of five payments to pay off the loan for the new fire truck; or take any other action relative thereto:

Majority vote required

Article 8: BILL FROM A PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$1,091.48 to pay the following bill incurred in FY2024; or take any other action relative thereto:

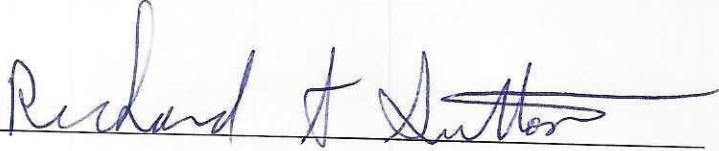
Tritech Software Systems \$1,091.48 Shared Police Expenses Account 54680.58

9/10 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

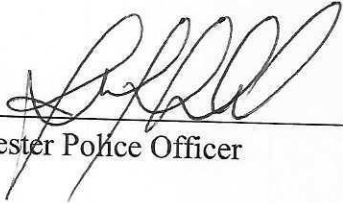


Richard "Andy" Sutton, Vice Chair



Craig Gauthier, Clerk

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



Chester Police Officer