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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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TOWN OF OXFORD  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT  
OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK  
OXFORD, MA

WORCESTER, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Oxford in the County of Worcester

GREETING.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet at the **Oxford High School, 100 Carbuncle Drive** in said Oxford on **Wednesday, May 8, 2024** at **7:00 p.m.**, then and there to act on the following articles:

**ARTICLE 1.** To hear the reports of Town Officers or Committees.

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation or transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to pay unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 3.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to meet the State's share of the cost for Town roadway maintenance and repair, such amount to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as State Highway Aid (Fiscal Year 2025 Chapter 90 Apportionment); or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the DPW Director, Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 4.** To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §53E 1/2 to establish the Fiscal Year 2025 spending limits for the following revolving funds established in the Oxford General By-Laws CHAPTER SEVENTY-THREE, Revolving Funds, as follows:

**Wiring Inspector Fees:** One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00)

**Plumbing Inspector Fees:** Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00)

**Gas Inspector Fees:** Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00)

**Building Inspector Fees:** Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)

**Sealer of Weights and Measures:** Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)

**Utilities:** Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00)

**Animal Control:** Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00)

**Board of Health:** Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000.00)

**Rocky Hill Yard Waste Facility Fees:** Twenty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred (\$29,500.00)

or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 5.** To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §53E½ to establish a new revolving fund, to be known as the Emergency Address Funding Account; and further, to amend the Oxford General By-Laws CHAPTER SEVENTY-THREE, Revolving Funds accordingly as shown in the document on file in the Office of the Town Clerk; and further establish the Fiscal Year 2025 spending limit as follows, or act thereon:

Emergency Address Funding Account: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00)

*Sponsored by the Fire Chief and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation or transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to the Compensated Absence Fund; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation or transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund, for Fiscal Year 2025; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation or transfer from available funds and appropriate a sum of money to the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund, for Fiscal Year 2025; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 9.** To determine what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, established by a vote of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting, Article 13, as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §53F 3/4, as amended, to fund PEG access programming, as well as certain other municipal cable related expenses for Fiscal Year 2025; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 10.** To determine what sums of money the Town will raise by taxation or transfer from available funds and appropriate to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 (Fiscal Year 2025); or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation or transfer from available funds or borrow and authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to issue a note or notes and/or bond or bonds and appropriate a sum of money for the Capital Outlay Program for Fiscal Year 2025, including any incidental and related expenses; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease purchase financing agreement in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, §21C for a period of up to 5 years to lease police vehicles; and further to appropriate a sum of money for the first year payment therefor, with funding for such amount included within the Fiscal Year 25 budget; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Police Chief, Town Manager and Finance Director*

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Town will vote to increase the Gross Receipts limits and Whole Estate limits to the maximum allowable limits for the property tax exemption granted to eligible senior citizens under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, by adjusting the following factors in accordance with said statute:

3) increasing the amounts contained in subclause (B) of said first sentence of said statute whenever they appear in said subclause with respect to gross receipts from all sources that such eligible person had, in the preceding year, from \$13,000 to \$20,000, or if married, combined gross receipts with their spouse from \$15,000 dollars to \$30,000; and

4) increasing the amounts contained in subclause (C) of said first sentence of said statute whenever they appear in said subclause with respect to the whole estate, real and personal, of such eligible person from \$28,000 dollars to \$40,000 or if married, from \$30,000 to \$55,000, provided that real property occupied as their domicile shall not be included in computing the whole estate except for any portion of said property which produces income and exceeds two dwelling units; said adjustments to be effective for exemptions granted for any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2024; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Principal Assessor, Finance Director and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the continued service of Mr. Craig Gagner, a current uniformed member of the police department of the Town of Oxford, to continue in his prior position at the police department until he reaches 68 years of age or he is relieved of his duties, whichever occurs first; provided, however, that Craig Gagner is mentally and physically capable of performing the duties of the position; And further provided that the Town, at its own expense, may require that Craig Gagner be examined by an impartial physician designated by the Town to determine his capacity; such authorization to be in accordance with and contingent upon the passage of special legislation currently pending before the General Court as House Docket Number 4716; or act thereon.

*Sponsored by the Police Chief and Town Manager*

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's general By-Laws, Chapter 32, Street and Sidewalks, Section 3 by deleting the language contained therein in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following new text; or act thereon:

Whenever the Department of Public Works is about to construct or resurface any street or way, the Department will, before beginning the work, give reasonable notice of such intention to other departments and corporations affected thereby and to all abutting owners. After such notice has been given no department, corporation, or person shall for a period of three years break up or disturb the

surface of said street or way within the area so constructed or resurfaced except in the case of reasonable necessity as determined by Superintendent of Streets.

In the event an excavation is permitted during the three-year moratorium, the contractor shall conduct the work and restoration as directed by the Superintendent of Streets. In such circumstances, the Superintendent of Streets may require curb-to-curb restoration and that the permanent patch be treated by a process that will ensure that the patch is integrated into the existing bituminous surface. The restoration work shall be warranted and maintained by the contractor for a period of either not less than the remainder of the in-place moratorium, or two years after the completion of the work, whichever is longer.

*Sponsored by the DPW Director and Town Manager*

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the Post Office on the Plains, the Post Office in North Oxford, Memorial Hall, Huguenot Steamer No. 2 and the Post Office in Rochdale in said Town, seven days at least before the time of said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

Dear Sirs  
John B. Engle  
Army Engr  
F. A. Hartree

## **SELECTMEN OF OXFORD**

## WORCESTER, SS.

PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Oxford by posting up attested copies of the same at the Post Office on the Plains, the Post Office in North Oxford, Memorial Hall, Huguenot Steamer No. 2 and the Post Office in Rochdale seven days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.

Stephen Lopomato  
Constable of Oxford

A true copy, ATTEST;

Date: April 19, 2024