

**WARRANT
FALL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2023**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss

To Any Constable of the Town of Natick in said County:
Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify the qualified Town Meeting Members of the said Town of Natick to meet on **Tuesday evening October 17, 2023, at 7:30 PM**, Natick High School, Natick, MA, then and there to act on the following Articles:

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Article 1 | Committee Article |
| Article 2 | 2024 Omnibus Budget |
| Article 3 | Rescind Authorized, Unissued Debt |
| Article 4 | Unpaid Bills |
| Article 5 | Stabilization Funds |
| Article 6 | PEG Access and Cable Related Fund |
| Article 7 | Capital Equipment and Improvement |
| Article 8 | Acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 203C the Prudent Investor Rule |
| Article 9 | Appropriation of Opioid settlement moneys |
| Article 10 | Establish and Authorize Revolving Funds |
| Article 11 | Personnel Board Classification and Pay Plan |
| Article 12 | Rescind Article 35 of the 2001 Spring Annual Town Meeting |
| Article 13 | Apply for Admission to Massachusetts Water Resources Authority |
| Article 14 | Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Footnotes and References) |
| Article 15 | Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Use Section and Category Organization) |
| Article 16 | Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Zoning Districts) |
| Article 17 | Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Update Use Categories and Definitions) |
| Article 18 | Amend Zoning Bylaw: Site Plan Review Procedures |
| Article 19 | Amend Zoning Bylaw: Special Permit Procedures |
| Article 20 | Amend Zoning Map: Highway Mixed Use-I (HM-I) Zoning District |
| Article 21 | Re-Zoning of 24 North Main St., 26 North Main St., 30 North Main St. |
| Article 22 | Amend Zoning Bylaw Body Art Establishments in Downtown Mixed Use (DM) Zoning District |
| Article 23 | To Ensure Safety of Residents living on Dead-End Streets |
| Article 24 | Charter and ByLaw Review Committee Report and Extension |

Article 25	Charter Change
Article 26	Bylaw Changes
Article 27	Roles and Responsibilities of the Personnel Board
Article 28	Appointment Authority for the Office of the Comptroller, Police Chief, and/or Fire Chief from Select Board to Town Administrator
Article 29	Eligibility of Finance Committee Members to Serve on Charter Commission
Article 30	Replace SATM 2023 Town Seal with 1876 Town Seal
Article 31	Safe & Fair Reproductive & Gender Affirming Care Access By-Law
Article 32	Paid Family Medical Leave for Town of Natick Employees
Article 33	Ensuring Stability: A Proposal for Fixed Annual Real Estate Tax for Long-Term Homeowners

Article 1
Committee Article
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to hear and discuss the reports of town officers, boards, and committees; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 2
Fiscal 2024 Omnibus Budget
(Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for the operation of the government of the Town of Natick, including debt and interest, during Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024);

To determine what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, for the maintenance and operation of; the Morse Institute Library and, the Bacon Free Library for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024);

or otherwise act thereon.

Article 3
Rescind Authorized, Unissued Debt
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorization for unissued debt that has been determined is no longer needed for the completion of various projects; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 4
Unpaid Bills
(Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide for the payment of unpaid bills of previous years, incurred by the departments, boards and officers of the Town of Natick; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 5
Stabilization Funds
(Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for the purpose of supplementing the Stabilization Fund established under Article 22 of 1961 Annual Town Meeting, as authorized by Chapter

40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended;

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for the purpose of supplementing the Operational Stabilization Fund established under Article 4 of the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting, as authorized by Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended;

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for, the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund established under Article 15 of the 2017 Spring Annual Town Meeting pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the General Laws as amended by section 15 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016;

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide for the purpose of supplementing the Capital Stabilization Fund established under Article 2 of the 2010 Fall Annual Town Meeting, as authorized by Chapter 40, Section 5B of the General Laws, as amended;

or otherwise act thereon.

Article 6
PEG Access and Cable Related Fund
(Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund, established by vote of 2019 Special Town Meeting #1 under Article 1, as authorized by Chapter 44, Section 53F $\frac{3}{4}$ of the General Laws, as amended, to fund PEG access programming, as well as certain other municipal cable related expenses; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 7
Capital Equipment and Improvement
(Town Administrator)

To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide to implement a Capital Improvement Program as may be required for capital equipment for the various departments of the Town of Natick; to protect the physical infrastructure of the Town of Natick, to add new physical infrastructure, or to improve community assets; and further to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 8
Acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 203C the Prudent Investor Rule
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 203C and to authorize the trustee of the OPEB Trust fund established under Article 15 of the 2017 Spring Annual Town Meeting, as authorized by Chapter 32B, Section 20 of the General Laws, as amended, to invest and reinvest the monies in such fund in accordance with the Prudent Investor Rule established under Chapter 203C of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Article 9
Appropriation of Opioid settlement moneys
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the FY 2023 certified free cash to be expended in accordance with the Massachusetts State-Subdivision for Statewide opioid settlement funds; funds to be used to supplement and strengthen resources available to communities and families for substance use disorder prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery or otherwise act thereon.

Article 10
Establish and Authorize Revolving Funds for
(1) Energy Efficiency and Electrification Rebates and Incentives and/or
(2) Recreation Programs and Activities
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 41A of the General By-Laws of the Town by adding new sections to establish and authorize the following revolving funds:

(1) to utilize monies received through state, federal and utility energy efficiency and electrification rebates, incentives and tax credits to fund future energy efficiency, renewable energy and electrification projects; and/or

(2) to utilize monies received through department program, user fees and donations to fund costs associated with department programs and services, as provided for under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E1/2;

or otherwise act thereon.

Article 11
Personnel Board Classification and Pay Plan
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town, pursuant to the authority contained in Section 108A of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, will vote to amend Article 24 of the Natick Town By-Laws, specifically the Classification and Pay Plan referenced in Section 3, paragraph 3.10 therein, by adding, deleting or amending position titles; re-classifying positions to a different Grade; and/or effecting changes in the salary ranges as presently established; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 12
Rescind Article 35 of the 2001 Spring Annual Town Meeting
(Select Board)

To see what action the Town will take to rescind Article 35 of the 2001 Spring Annual Town Meeting, which accepted M.G.L. c. 31 Section 58A that provides a maximum age of 32 years for original appointment to the position of firefighter or police officer; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 13
Apply for Admission to Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
(Select Board)

To see if the Town will vote to apply for admission to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Water System to receive from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority a supplemental public water supply for the Town of Natick in accordance with Chapter 372 of the Acts of 1984 of the Commonwealth and to authorize the Select Board, acting as Water Commissioners, to take such action necessary or required to apply for admission to and receive a supplemental public water supply for the Town of Natick from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, including, without limitation, filing legislation, payments of applicable fees and charges, and entering into an agreement with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority as may be required or necessary to receive a supply of water at prevailing rates charged by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to communities in its water supply system, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 14
Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Footnotes and References)
(Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning Bylaw to incorporate, modify, or delete existing footnotes and references including, but not limited to, amending § III.A. Use Regulations; or act in any other manner in relation thereto.

Article 15
Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Use Section and Category Organization)
(Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning Bylaw by adding, modifying, or deleting use sections, and then reordering the use sections and categories, including, but not limited to amending § III.A.2 Use Regulation Schedule; or act in any other manner in relation thereto

Article 16
Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Zoning Districts)
(Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning Bylaw by relocating and amending use-related language from individual zoning district sections of the Zoning Bylaw to § III.A.2 (Use Regulation Schedule) with affected sections including but not limited to § III-B Highway Mixed Use-I (HM-I) Districts Use Regulations; § III-C Highway Mixed Use-II (HM-II) Districts Use Regulations; § III.D Use Regulations for LC Districts; § III.E Downtown Mixed Use District (DM); § III.EE Center Gateway District; or act in any other manner in relation thereto

Article 17
Amend Zoning Bylaw: Use Regulation (Update Use Categories and Definitions)
(Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning Bylaw by adding, deleting, or modifying definitions, use categories, and permitting requirements by zoning district, including, but not limited to amending Section 200 – Definitions; § III.A.2 Use Regulation Schedule; or act in any other manner in relation thereto.

Article 18
Amend Zoning Bylaw: Site Plan Review Procedures
(Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning Bylaw by modifications including, but not limited to, § VI-DD Special Permit Procedures and Site Plan Review and Section 200 – Definitions to provide clear, transparent, and efficient permitting review process; or act in any other manner in relation thereto.

Article 19
Amend Zoning Bylaw: Special Permit Procedures
(Planning Board)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning Bylaw by modifications including, but not limited to, § VI-DD Special Permit Procedures and Site Plan Review and Section 200 –

Definitions to provide clear, transparent, and efficient permitting review process; or act in any other manner in relation thereto.

Article 20
Amend Zoning Map: Highway Mixed Use-I (HM-I) Zoning District
(Town Administrator)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning Map to rezone parcels of land identified as Assessor’s Map 17, Lots 11 and 12 (1053 Worcester St); Map 25, Lot 252B (1071 Worcester St); Map 25, Lot 252A (1085 Worcester St); Map 25, Lot 253A (1093 Worcester St); Map 17, Lot 10 and Map 25, Lot 253B (1131 Worcester St); Map 25, Lot 253 (1187 Worcester St) from Industrial-II (IN-II) to Highway Mixed Use-I (HM-I) Zoning District; rezone the respective frontages of Assessor’s Map 25, Lot 252A; Map 25, Lot 252B; Map 25, Lot 253A; and Map 25, Lot 253B to the centerline of the roadway (Worcester Street/Route 9) as Highway Mixed Use-I (HM-I); or act in any other manner in relation thereto.

Article 21
Re-Zoning of 24 North Main St., 26 North Main St., 30 North Main St.
(Kenneth B. Phillips, et al.)

“To see what action(s) the Town will take to re-zone the properties located at 24 North Main Street, Parcel ID: 43-00000468; 26 North Main Street, Parcel ID: 43-00000469; 30 North Main Street, Parcel ID: 35-00000039, from Residential General (RG) to Downtown Mixed Use (DM), or Commercial II (CII), or Center Gateway (CG), or otherwise act thereon.”

Article 22
Amend Zoning Bylaw Body Art Establishments in Downtown
Mixed Use (DM) Zoning District
(Paul R. Joseph, et al.)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Natick Zoning ByLaw and Use Regulations Schedule to allow Body Art Establishments in the Downtown Mixed Use (DM) Zoning District; and to amend the definition of Body Art in section 1- General, Section 200 (Definitions) of the Natick Zoning ByLaws to include “Permanent Make-up and “Microblading” within the description of the “practice of physical body adornment;” or otherwise act thereon.

Article 23
To Ensure Safety of Residents living on Dead-End Streets
(Roger G. Scott, et al.)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning bylaws to limit the number of new housing units that can be built on a residential street consisting of five or fewer existing single family residences to a maximum of fifteen units, or to take any other action with respect thereto.

Article 24
Charter and ByLaw Review Committee Report and Extension
(Charter and ByLaw Review Committee)

To see what action the Town will take to hear and to discuss a report of the Charter and ByLaw Review Committee,

To see what action the Town Meeting will take to extend the term of the Charter and ByLaw Review Committee

Article 25
Charter Change
(Charter and ByLaw Review Committee)

To see what action(s) the town will take, consistent with the scope of this town meeting warrant article, to vote the language of and to authorize the filing of a Home Rule Petition for Special Act Legislation with the General Court involving any or all of the following changes to the Charter and to see if the Natick representative town meeting will consider the following comprehensively or in segments or sub segments as follows:

Representative Town Meeting - Charter Article 2

- (1) to amend or modify the language of Charter Article 2 to decrease or increase the number of representative town meeting members;
- (2) to amend or modify the language of the provisions in Charter Article 2 regarding filling of vacancies in representative town meeting and/or to amend or modify the provisions regarding the caucus procedure in Charter Article 2;
- (3) to create provisions in Charter Article 2 or other Charter articles or sections regarding removal of representative town meeting members, to specify the causes or basis thereof and or to authorize such provisions to be developed in a bylaw;
- (4) to amend or modify the language regarding the quorum of representative town meeting to reflect any changes above;
- (5) to amend or modify the language regarding the initiation of town meeting warrant articles under Charter Article 2, section 2-11(b) by multiple member bodies to be only those articles sponsored by multiple member bodies with an existence and charge created by statute, charter, bylaw or vote of town meeting or to provide that any warrant articles sponsored by an appointed multiple member body that was not created and given a charge in statute, charter, bylaw or vote of town meeting, be, prior to filing, subject to the approval of the appointing authority for such multiple member body and/or to create a new definition in Charter Article 7 for an authorized multiple member body and to use that definition in Charter Article 2, section 2-11(b) to replace the term “multiple member body”;
- (6) to amend or modify the language in the first part of Charter Article 2, section 2-11(b) to provide that the Select Board insert in the warrant all petitions which are received by and/or addressed to the Select Board pursuant to section 2-11(b);

(7) to amend or modify the language of the provisions of Charter Article 2, section 2-10 pertaining to attendance of all town employees and or representatives from any or every town agency at all sessions of representative town meeting and instead to authorize the Moderator to require and to schedule attendance of town employees and town agencies as appropriate consistent with the nature of business pursuant to warrant articles, to arrange for town agencies not in attendance to be contacted by the Moderator during a session of representative town meeting, to authorize hybrid attendance by town employees and agencies and /or to provide for alternatives to the current charter requirement on attendance to be addressed in a bylaw.

Elected Officers - Charter Article 3

(8) to amend or modify the language of Charter Article 3, section 3-1(f) to exclude the Moderator and committees appointed by the Moderator and with regard to other elected officer to limit the scope of Charter Article 3, section 3-1(f) to matters involving joint activities, policies or administrative matters and to add language within the text referencing or strengthening the coordination provision;

(9) to eliminate the provisions for preliminary elections in Charter Article 3, section 3-1(d) and to provide that town wide officers elected with less than a majority for a particular position be elected to a truncated term serving only until the next regular local election and/or to provide that such position to be filled at the next regular local election shall be the balance of the original non truncated term and/or to provide for ranked choice voting, as practical or otherwise, as an alternative solution to eliminating the provisions for preliminary elections in Charter Article 3 and/or to remove obsolete references, if any, to an elected town clerk from Charter Article 3, section 3-1-(a);

(10) to include in the language within Charter Article 3, section 3-12(b) that the recreation and parks commission shall be authorized also to advise the Select Board on policies and practices for parks and recreation within the Town.

Select Board - Charter Article 3, section 3-2

(11) to amend or modify the language of the powers and duties and/or appointment powers of the Select Board under Charter Article 3 to have certain appointments instead made by the town administrator, to specify such appointments, to specify which if any such appointments would be subject to the review and affirmative vote approval of the Select Board, (provided that any such change to additional duties, powers and/or appointing authority for the town administrator under this paragraph and under any paragraph above or below can only occur if provisions for removal or suspension for the Town Administrator currently provided for in Charter Article 4 are changed to less than unanimous attendance by the Select Board) and/or to modify or amend the language in Charter Article 4, section 4-2-3 and or elsewhere to specify or to authorize any appointments to be made subject to review and affirmative vote approval of the Select Board;

(12) to modify the restriction currently in Charter Article 3 section 3-2 on the Select Board broad policy guidelines to allow specific policies that are capable of being followed by others serving under the overall supervision or authority of the Select Board but still not involving involvement

by the Select Board in day to day operations or administration and /or to specify that the chief policy making agency role of the Select Board is a role exercised as a town agency;
(13) to amend or modify the language in Charter Article 3, section 3-2 of the powers and duties of the Select Board to include or to specify that the Select Board shall serve in a policy making, review and oversight capacity as the commissioners of parks, public works, roads, water and sewer, police, fire and other functions, if any, to be specified;
(14) to specify, within Charter Article 3, section 3-2(b) or elsewhere in Charter Articles 3 or 4, that performance review of the town administrator is to be conducted by the Select Board both on its own behalf and on behalf of the town overall and other elected officers, their appointees and representative town meeting.

Town Counsel - Charter Article 3; Charter Article 6

(15) to amend or modify the language with regard to town counsel either

(i) to amend or modify the language of the appointment of town counsel in Charter Article 3, section 3-2 to remove the singular and one year limitation and to provide that such appointment(s) be subject to bylaw, if any, and to permit, subject to bylaw, if any, other elected officers, boards or committees either (a) to appoint special counsel or (b) to approve the appointment of legal counsel to advise such elected officers, boards or committees on their respective duties;

(ii) to remove the references in Charter Article 3, section 3-2 regarding town counsel and provide for such Select Board appointment of town counsel within Charter Article 6; and/or

(iii) to amend or modify the language of Charter Article 6 to authorize other elected officers, boards or committees either (a) to appoint special counsel or (b) to approve the appointment of legal counsel to advise such elected officers, boards or committees on their respective duties.

Moderator - Charter Article 3-10

(16) (i) to authorize the Moderator in Charter Article 3 section 3-10 (b) to appoint a deputy moderator to preside over representative town meeting in the absence of the Moderator, or (ii) in the alternative, in an additional section or subsection under Charter Article 3, to provide for such deputy moderator as an elected office of the town, and/or (iii) to authorize the town to specify the term, duties and responsibilities and other provisions of such Deputy Moderator in Charter Article 3 and/or a bylaw and/or (iv) to determine whether any appointment of a Deputy Moderator should be subject to the approval of representative town meeting.

Town Administrator - Charter Article 4

(17) to amend or modify the language of Charter Article 4 (and other associated references within the Charter) to rename the town administrator position as town manager, to provide additional appointments to be made by the town administrator whether in the charter or in bylaw,

to authorize contract approval powers of the town administrator to be developed in a bylaw, to provide the town administrator a screening and or recruitment role in appointments retained by the Select Board;

(18) to amend or modify the language of the provisions, procedure and/or requirements for attendance by and/or quantum of vote of the Select Board in Charter Article 4 regarding removal or suspension of the town administrator (provided that any change to create additional duties, powers and/or appointing authority for the town administrator under this paragraph or any paragraph above or below can only occur if the provisions for the removal or suspension of the Town Administrator under Charter Article 4 are changed to less than unanimous attendance by the Select Board) and further to provide that any new or revised process in Charter Article 4 be no more burdensome or onerous or disadvantageous to the Select Board than the existing process, and/or to require that any employment contract with the town administrator be consistent with the provisions of the Charter notwithstanding any other provision of the general laws to the contrary;

(19) to amend or modify the language of the provisions in Charter Article 4, section 4-1 on the appointment of a town administrator regarding a minimum term of three years and a maximum term of five years to authorize a lesser minimum term and/or a lesser maximum term;

(20) to amend or modify or to remove the current reference to personnel board and its role in Charter Article 4, section 4-2(4) to provide (i) that the town administrator may be assisted or advised by a personnel board and (ii) that the extent of the role of the personnel board, if any, be specified in a bylaw;

(21) to amend or modify the reference to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in Charter Article 4, section 4-2(13) and to authorize de minimis or immaterial exceptions to the inventory requirement.

Matters and Provisions in Charter Article 6

(22) to remove the text of Charter Article 6, section 6-3 Office of the Comptroller and Charter Article 6, section 6-4 Town Treasurer Collector and to authorize the subject matter of the appointments, qualifications, terms of office, powers and duties, vacancies and assistants, if any, to be provided in bylaw and/or to provide that the existing text of Charter Article 6, sections 6-3 and 6-4 shall remain in effect until a bylaw dealing with any or all of the existing provisions of Charter Article 6, sections 6-3 and 6-4 respectively are adopted and in effect;

(23) to authorize the town administrator to make minor changes, with the approval of the Select Board, to the town's administrative organization and creation or abolition of new positions of town agencies serving under the control of the town administrator and to establish the conditions for such reorganizations and to define and or to limit the authorizable scope of such minor reorganizations with such authorizable scope possibly but not necessarily being limited to (i) town agencies with similar or overlapping technical disciplines, (ii) actions which do not modify or contradict the bylaws regarding any town agency, or (iii) other limitation(s);

(24) to authorize or provide for the appointment or selection of town counsels and or special town counsels whether in the Charter itself or to create a Charter provision to authorize for such appointments to be provided within the town bylaws;

- (25) to provide that reorganizations, creation or abolition of town agencies by bylaw shall take precedence over administrative code actions and to define the term “administrative code”;
- (26) to insert language in Charter Article 6 providing for existing, new or changed appointments to be made by the Select Board and/or town administrator, and/or to specify which appointments made by the town administrator will be subject to the review and affirmative vote approval of the Select Board and/or to modify or to delete language on appointments accordingly in Charter Article 3 and Charter Article 4 Section 4-2-3 respectively;
- (27) to insert language in Charter Article 7, section 7-9 providing that meetings of multiple member bodies shall or can be called either by the chairperson or 1/3rd of the members of such multiple member bodies and to provide for the ways and means of notice of such meetings to all members of such multiple member bodies;
- (28) to amend or modify the language of Charter Article 7, section 7-10 to make clear that the requirement for public notices of vacancies in appointed positions includes and applies to expirations of appointed terms whether or not a vacancy as such has occurred or is anticipated to occur.

Other

- (29) to develop transition provisions, develop new definitions or modify existing definitions to implement any or all of the above as applicable;
- (30) to amend or modify the text of the Charter Articles 1 through 7 inclusive to remove gender specific references and adopt gender neutral, position specific or position neutral references in their place; and/or to remove obsolete references, if any, in Article 3 regarding an elected town clerk;
- (31) to amend or modify the language in Charter Articles 1 through 7 inclusive of the requirements and or definitions regarding postings in a local newspaper;
- (32) to specify whether any Home Rule Petition for Special Act provided for herein shall only take effect upon approval by the voters by ballot;
- (33) to consolidate any or all of the above into a single or more Home Rule Petitions for Special Acts;
- (34) to authorize the Charter and ByLaw Review Committee and/or Moderator and/or Select Board to file the Home Rule Petition for Special Act;

- (35) to authorize the General Court with the approval of the Town of Natick Charter and Bylaw Review Committee reasonably to modify the Home Rule Petition for Special Act if any, adopted by vote of the representative town meeting pursuant to this town meeting warrant article which modifications are to be consistent with the general public policy objectives of this Home Rule Petition;

Or to take any other action related thereto.

Article 26
Bylaw Changes
(Charter and ByLaw Review Committee)

To see what actions the town will take to amend Article 3 of the Bylaws for Procedure at Town Meetings to make changes with regard to:

Article 3 of the Bylaws, as follows:

- (1) Modifying the requirements for the motion for the previous question or removing the existing language to allow Town Meeting to be consistent with Town Meeting Time and the requirements therein contained;
- (2) Allowing the Moderator call the previous question and to establish requirements, if any, for such call;
- (3) Defining No Action as a positive, negative or neutral (non-negative) motion;
- (4) Defining and or distinguishing between Referral and Indefinite Postponement and/or creating an additional new negative motion;
- (5) Creating a consequence for Indefinite Postponement for non-zoning articles and motions;
- (6) Defining, preventing and/or regulating repetitive petitions;
- (7) Authorizing Town Meeting to dissolve at any time and to define the conditions under which such dissolution can occur;
- (8) Distinguishing between referral and referral with request for follow up or action or creating and defining a new motion for such;
- (9) Authorizing Town Meeting to vote multiple line item budgets and/or single appropriations containing multiple line item budget components which could allow the Town Administrator with the approval of the Select Board to transfer money from one line item to another within that single appropriation, provided that such transfers cannot be made from any school department budget and that such transfers must be reported to the finance committee and to the subsequent town meeting;
- (10) Authorizing expanded or existing use of a consent agenda and set the parameters for use of consent agenda or agendas;
- (11) Amending the table of motions, quantum of vote and footnotes consistent with the foregoing, including deleting each appearance therein of the term “2/3 Majority” and inserting in its place “2/3 Vote”;
- (12) Defining the scope of permissible relevant debate at representative town meeting;

And further

To see what changes the town will make to change and conform Article 10 Section 1 of the Bylaws with regard to the Select Board powers and duties for the general direction and management of the property and affairs “in all matters not otherwise provided for” to be consistent with the Town Charter and clarify that the provisions of said Section 1 pertain to administrative and not to legislative matters within the Town;

And further

To see what changes the town will make to Article 1 Town Elections and Town Meeting Section 2 Special Town Meetings to modify the provisions for posting in a local newspaper and/or to modify the 28 day advance notice provision;

And further

To see what changes the town will make to the bylaws for such other bylaw amendments as may be necessary to conform the bylaws to any votes of the representative town meeting at this 2023 Fall Annual town meeting to change the town charter whether by special act or otherwise;

Or otherwise act thereon.

Article 27
Roles and Responsibilities of the Personnel Board
(Select Board)

To see what action the Town will take to amend the Natick Home Rule Charter and/or the Natick General Bylaws to amend, change, clarify and/or further define the roles and responsibilities of the Personnel Board, inclusive of any powers and duties of the Board as noted in the Charter and Bylaws; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 28
Appointment Authority for the Office of the Comptroller, Police Chief, and/or Fire Chief from Select Board to Town Administrator
(Select Board)

To see what action the Town will take to amend the Natick Home Rule Charter and the Natick General Bylaws to change the appointment authority for the positions/officers of the Office of the Comptroller, Police Chief, and/or Fire Chief positions from appointed positions/officers by the Select Board to appointed positions/officers by the Town Administrator, inclusive of any powers and duties of the positions as noted in the Charter and Bylaws; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 29
Eligibility of Finance Committee Members to Serve on Charter Commission
(Joshua Ostroff, et al.)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Natick Bylaws to permit Finance Committee members to serve on an elected Charter Commission, or otherwise act thereon.

Article 30
Replace SATM 2023 Town Seal with 1876 Town Seal
(Jeffrey Alderson, et al.)

To see if the town will vote to replace the Town seal that was approved at the Spring Town Meeting 2023 and reinstate the original Town of Natick seal approved in 1876, or otherwise act thereon.

Article 31
Safe & Fair Reproductive & Gender Affirming Care Access By-Law
(Cody Jacobs, et al.)

To see if the Town will vote to adopt by-laws protecting access to reproductive care and/or gender affirming care in Natick and/or ensuring transparent access to information about the availability of these services; or otherwise act thereon.

Article 32
Paid Family Medical Leave for Town of Natick Employees
(Kat Monahan, et al.)

Move that pursuant to M.G.L.c 4 §4 and M.G.L.c 175m §10, the Town accept the following Massachusetts General Laws pertaining to Paid Family Medical Leave:

M.G.L.c 175M

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXXII/Chapter175M>

Article 33
Ensuring Stability: A Proposal for Fixed Annual Real Estate Tax for Long-Term Homeowners
(Roger G. Scott, et al.)

To see if the Town will vote to authorize: Homeowners who have been residents of the Town of Natick for twenty-five years, have consistently paid their real estate taxes, and continue to live in the same residence, have their real estate tax amount fixed at the rate of the twenty-fifth year for as long as they remain in the home as their primary residence or take any other action with respect thereto.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by causing an attested copy of said Warrant to be posted in the Post Office in said Natick, and at the following public places in said Natick, to wit: Precinct 1: Reliable Cleaners, 214 West Central Street; Precinct 2: Cole Recreation Center, 179 Boden Lane; Precinct 3: Kennedy Middle School, 165 Mill St.; Precinct 4: 2 Summer Street; Precinct 5: Wilson Middle School, 22 Rutledge Road; Precinct 6: East Natick Fire Station, 2 Rhode Island Avenue; Precinct 7: Lilja Elementary School, 41 Bacon Street; Precinct 8: Natick High School, 15 West

Street; Precinct 9: Community Senior Center, 117 East Central Street; and Precinct 10: Memorial Elementary School, 107 Eliot Street.

Above locations being at least one public place in each Precinct, in the Town of Natick, and also posted in the Natick U.S. Post Office, Town Hall, Bacon Free Library and Morse Institute Library seven days at least before October 17, 2023; also by causing the titles of the Articles on the Warrant for the 2023 Fall Annual Town Meeting to be published once in the Newspaper called "The Metrowest Daily News," with notice of availability of an attested copy of said Warrant, said Newspaper published in the Town of Natick and said publication to be August 24, 2023.

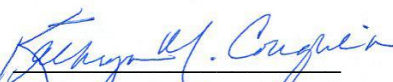
Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at or before the time appointed for holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 21st day of August, 2023.

Select Board for the Town of Natick



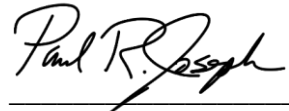
Bruce T. Evans, Chair



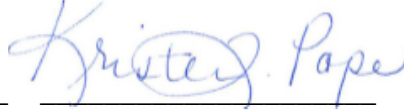
Kathryn M. Coughlin,
Vice Chair



Richard Sidney, Clerk



Paul Joseph
Member



Kristen L. Pope
Member

Certified copies of the Warrant are available at the Office of the Town Clerk, Natick Town Hall, 13 East Central St., Natick, MA between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Wednesday; 8:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m. on Thursday; and 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Friday. The Warrant may also be accessed from the Town website www.natickma.gov.