

TOWN OF PAXTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING



WORCESTER SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Paxton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, who are qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Paxton Center School Cafetorium, West Street, Paxton on November 20, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., then and there to act on the following articles:

FY23 FINANCE ARTICLES

Article 1. WATER ENTERPRISE -Prior Year Bill

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$21,246.64 from FY24 Water Retained Earnings for the payment of a prior year bill from the City of Worcester Water Department; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Water Commission.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

FY24 FINANCE ARTICLES

Article 2. Transfer– Revise Cemetery Commission

To see if the Town will vote to increase the Cemetery Commission FY24 Department Budget, as voted at the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting under Article 15, by transferring \$1,800 from FY24 Free Cash or any available funds; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Cemetery Commission.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 3.

Transfer– Elections/Registrars

To see if the Town will vote to increase the Elections/Registrars FY24 Department Budget, as voted at the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting under Article 15, by transferring \$6,000 from FY24 Free Cash or any available funds to cover the cost of the State Special Senate Elections; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Town Clerk/Town Administrator.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 4.

Transfer– Fund Interim Town Administrator

To see if the Town will vote to increase the Town Administrator FY24 Department Budget as voted at the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting under Article 15, by transferring \$15,000 from FY24 Free Cash or any available funds for the compensation of an Interim Town Administrator; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Select Board.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 5.

Transfer– Public Safety Generator Repairs

To see if the Town will vote to increase the Public Building FY24 Department Budget, as voted at the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting under Article 15, by transferring \$20,000 from FY24 Free Cash or any available funds to cover the cost of the Public Safety Generator Repairs; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Fire Chief/Town Administrator.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 6.

Transfer - Replacement DPW Mower

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$4,613 from FY24 Free Cash or any available funds to purchase a replacement mower for the Department of Public Works; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Cemetery Commission.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Capital Improvements Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 7.

WATER ENTERPRISE -Water Department Receipts

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken at the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting under Article 4, to raise and appropriate through Water Department receipts, water fees, or water charges, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise, as follows:

Compensation	\$250,325
Expenses	\$799,198
<u>Debt</u>	<u>\$ 84,970</u>
Total	\$1,134,493

and that \$1,134,493 is raised as follows:

Departmental receipts	\$1,087,316
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FY24 Water Retained Earnings	<u>\$47,177</u>
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Or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Water Commissioners.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Article 8.

CONTRACT – 5 Years

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30B, §12(b) to authorize the Town Administrator, as the Chief Procurement Officer, to enter into a postage machine lease with a selected vendor for a period in excess of three years, for a total contract term not to exceed five years; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Town Administrator.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 9.

PUBLIC WAY – Olivia Knoll

To see if the Town will vote to accept the layout of Olivia Knoll as a public way in the location depicted on the plan entitled, “Layout Plan of Olivia Knoll, Paxton, MA” dated February 21, 2020, prepared by Jarvis Land Survey, Inc.,” as heretofore laid out by the Select Board and filed with the Town Clerk’s office; or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Select Board.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

Article 10.

WRSD AGREEMENT - Amend

To see if the Town will vote to approve a proposed amendment to the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement, to modify sections 1.1, 1.7, and 1.8 as attached, or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Wachusett Regional School Committee.

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

BY-LAWS

Article 11.

BYLAW - Revolving Fund Bylaw

To see if the Town will vote to amend the current Departmental Revolving Funds Bylaw with the revisions as attached, or act in any way thereon.

Article submitted by the Town Administrator

Selectboard recommendation TBD.

Finance Committee recommendation TBD.

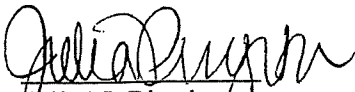
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AND YOU ARE DIRECTED TO SERVE THIS WARRANT by posting attested copies thereof, one of which shall be at the Post Office, as required by By-laws, fourteen days at least before the day set for holding said meeting.

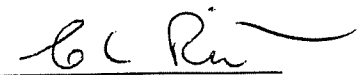
HEREOF FAIL NOT and make due return of the Warrant with your doing thereon at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 25th day of October 2023.

Respectfully submitted,


Julia N. Pingitore
Chairman

Kirk R. Huehls
Vice Chair



Carol Riches
Clerk

A true copy attest

Sign name 

Print name Sgt. Forrest Mope

Date 11/2/2023

Time 10:33 am

Post at the Town Hall

ATTACHMENTS

Article 1	Water Enterprise- FY24 Prior Year Bill	8
Article 10	WRSD Agreement Proposed Amendment	9
Article 11	Revolving Fund Proposed Bylaw Amendment	14

**Article 1
Prior Year Bill
FY23 Worcester Water Bill**

DATE: 07/10/2023
 BILL NUMBER: 4601195
 SERVICE ADDRESS: 1403 PLEASANT ST
 CUSTOMER NUMBER: 32-0017-C00

\$55,925.00

METER READING INFORMATION					
	PREVIOUS	CURRENT	USAGE	RATE	AMOUNT
WATER	522655	538102	14947	3.68000	\$55,004.96
SEWER			11957.60		\$0.00

WATER OPERATIONS AND SEWER OPERATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ARE SEPARATE DIVISIONS WHOSE CHARGES ARE COMBINED ON ONE BILL AS A CONVENIENCE TO OUR CUSTOMERS. INDIVIDUAL CHARGES DUE TO EITHER DIVISION ARE DUE AND PAYABLE AS INDICATED.

* SEWER USAGE IS CALCULATED AT 80% OF WATER USAGE.
 YOUR SEWER USAGE IS

SERVICE	FROM	TO	DAYS
PERIOD	05/15/2023	06/15/2023	32

PLEASE NOTE:

50% OF SEWER CHARGE IS DEDICATED TO OPERATION OF SANITARY SYSTEM, 50% IS FOR STORMWATER SYSTEM AND SEWER DEBT COSTS.

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING WATER/SEWER BILL AMOUNTS OR ABATEMENTS PLEASE CALL WATER BILLING AT 508-799-1440.
 FOR INFORMATION REGARDING PAYMENTS AND ADDRESS/OWNERSHIP PLEASE CALL TREASURER'S OFFICE AT 508-799-1075.

VISIT THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT www.worcesterma.gov

ACCOUNT SUMMARY		
DATE	SERVICE TYPE	AMOUNT
07/10/2023	WATER	\$920.00
07/10/2023	WATER	\$55,004.96
07/10/2023	BAL FWD	\$0.04
AMOUNT DUE		\$55,925.00

TERMS OF PAYMENT: CURRENT CHARGES DUE AND PAYABLE WITHOUT PENALTY WITHIN 30 DAYS OF BILLING DATE. MONTHLY INTEREST CHARGE OF 1.17% EQUIVALENT TO 14% PER ANNUM SHALL BE ASSESSED ON BALANCE OF ANY UNPAID WATER/SEWER BALANCE AFTER 30 DAYS.

FOLD HERE, DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION WITH PAYMENT.

BILL NUMBER: 4601195
 SERVICE ADDRESS: 1403 PLEASANT ST
 CUSTOMER NUMBER: 32-0017-C00

OTHER PAYMENT OPTIONS:
• Cash and Check payments accepted at M&T BANK BRANCHES
• Pay Online: www.worcesterma.gov/paybill

PAYMENT DUE
08/09/2023
AMOUNT DUE
\$55,925.00
AMOUNT ENCLOSED
34,678.36

Mail Payment To:

6254**17**G50**0.728**1/2**AUTO-DIGIT 01602
 PAXTON TOWN HALL
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 107 HOLDEN RD

City of Worcester
 P.O. Box 15588
 Worcester MA 01615-0588

112 9254

ARTICLE 10
WRSD Agreement
Amendments

Article 1: Amendment to the Regional School Agreement

To see if the Town will vote to approve a proposed amendment to the Wachusett Regional School District Agreement, in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71, Section 14E, by changing the language of Section 1 as follows:

Section 1.1 from:

1.1 The Wachusett Regional District School Committee, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee," shall consist of a total of sixteen (16) members, each member hereinafter referred to as a "Member." Each Member shall be elected at their respective Member Town elections as detailed in Section 1.1.1. below, and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 71, s. 14E (4). Six (6) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Holden, three (3) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Rutland, three (3) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Sterling, two (2) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Paxton, and two (2) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Princeton. As used in this Agreement, a person shall be deemed to be a "resident" and/or to meet the "residency" requirement for a particular Member Town only if such person is properly registered to vote in the respective Member Town.

To:

1.1 The Wachusett Regional District School Committee, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee," shall consist of a total of ~~seventeen (17)~~ members, each member hereinafter referred to as a "Member." Each Member shall be elected at their respective Member Town elections as detailed in Section 1.1.1. below, and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 71, s. 14E (4). ~~Seven (7)~~ Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Holden, three (3) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Rutland, three (3) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Sterling, two (2) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Paxton, and two (2) Members of the Committee shall be residents of the Town of Princeton. As used in this Agreement, a person shall be deemed to be a "resident" and/or to meet the "residency" requirement for a particular Member Town only if such person is properly registered to vote in the respective Member Town.

Section 1.1.1 from:

- 1.1.1 The decreasing of the size of the School Committee shall occur as follows, commencing at the 2023 town elections. Just one (1) Member from the town of Sterling whose term is to expire in 2023 shall have their seat abolished at the conclusion of their term in 2023. The two (2) Members from the town of Holden whose terms are to expire in 2023 and who have received the least, and second-to-least elective votes shall have their seats abolished at the conclusion of their terms in 2023. The two (2) Members from the town of Holden whose terms are to expire in 2024 and who have received the least and second-to-least elective votes shall have their seats abolished at the conclusion of their terms in 2024. The Member from the town of Rutland whose term is to expire in 2024 and who received the least elective votes shall have their seat abolished at the conclusion of their term in 2024. The Committee shall recalculate the weight of each Member's vote, pursuant to Section 1.2, every time the number of Members on the Committee changes at any time for any reason.

To:

- 1.1.1 The decreasing of the size of the School Committee shall occur as follows, commencing at the 2023 town elections. Just one (1) Member from the town of Sterling whose term is to expire in 2023 shall have their seat abolished at the conclusion of their term in 2023. The two (2) Members from the town of Holden whose terms are to expire in 2023 and who have received the least, and second-to-least elective votes shall have their seats abolished at the conclusion of their terms in 2023. The ~~one (1) Member~~ from the town of Holden whose term ~~is~~ to expire in 2024 and who ~~has~~ received the least elective votes shall have their seat abolished at the conclusion of their term in 2024. The Member from the town of Rutland whose term is to expire in 2024 and who received the least elective votes shall have their seat abolished at the conclusion of their term in 2024. The Committee shall recalculate the weight of each Member's vote, pursuant to Section 1.2, every time the number of Members on the Committee changes at any time for any reason.

Section 1.7 from:

- 1.7 Commencing at the Reorganizational Meeting occurring on or after May 2023, each Member's vote shall be weighted, as nearly as possible, in direct

proportion to the population of the member town compared to the population of all member towns combined so that the actual weighted vote of each individual member is as nearly equal to one (1) as possible. For example, and for illustrative purposes only, if the 2020 Town census figures were used in calculating weighted voting for the sixteen (16) Member Committee, this 2020 data would result in the following weighted voting factors:

Individual Member Weighted Factor per Member Town	Census Population	Percentage of Combined Population	Committee Members	Total Voting Weight	Weight per member
Total 5 Towns	45,438	100%	16	16	
HOLDEN	19,905	43.81%	6	7.01	1.16

PAXTON	5,004	11.01%	2	1.76	0.88
PRINCETON	3,495	7.69%	2	1.23	0.62
RUTLAND	9,049	19.92%	3	3.18	1.06
STERLING	7985	17.57%	3	2.82	0.94

To:

- 1.7 Commencing at the Reorganizational Meeting occurring on or after May 2023, each Member's vote shall be weighted, as nearly as possible, in direct proportion to the population of the member town compared to the population of all member towns combined so that the actual weighted vote of each individual member is as nearly equal to one (1) as possible. For example, and for illustrative purposes only, if the 2020 Town census figures were used in calculating weighted voting for the seventeen (17) Member Committee, this 2020 data would result in the following weighted voting factors:

Individual Member Weighted Factor per Member Town	Census Population	Percentage of Combined Population	Committee Members	Total Voting Weight	Weight per member
Total 5 Towns	45,438	100%	<u>17</u>	<u>17</u>	
HOLDEN	19,905	43.81%	<u>7</u>	<u>7.45</u>	<u>1.06</u>
PAXTON	5,004	11.01%	2	<u>1.87</u>	<u>0.94</u>
PRINCETON	3,495	7.69%	2	<u>1.30</u>	<u>0.65</u>
RUTLAND	9,049	19.92%	3	<u>3.39</u>	<u>1.13</u>
STERLING	7985	17.57%	3	<u>2.99</u>	<u>1.00</u>

Section 1.8 from:

- 1.8 The quorum for the transaction of Committee business shall be a majority of the total vote value (i.e., 16.0) of all of the Committee Members as defined in Section 1.7 above. A weighted vote total less than a majority may adjourn but may take no other action.

1.8 The quorum for the transaction of Committee business shall be a majority of the total vote value (i.e., 170) of all of the Committee Members as defined in Section 1.7 above. A weighted vote total less than a majority may adjourn but may take no other action.

Or act in any way thereon.

**Article 11
BYLAW**

Departmental Revolving Funds

Add the following language to the Departmental Revolving Funds, Section 5 (G) as follows:

<u>A</u> Revolving Fund	<u>B</u> Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to spend from fund	<u>C</u> Fees, Charges or other receipts credited to fund	<u>D</u> Program or activity expenses payable from fund	<u>E</u> Restrictions or conditions on expenses payable from fund	<u>F</u> Other requirement / reports	<u>G</u> Fiscals years
Town Building Rentals/Leases	Town Administrator	Rental/Lease fees for Town Buildings	Property Maintenance costs for rented Town Buildings	None, other than as set forth in 44, § 53E1/2, in this Bylaw, and by Town Meeting vote.	Annual reports	Fiscal Year 2025 and subsequent years