

**TOWN OF NORTON
WARRANT FOR THE FALL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2023**

To Michael J. Mayer, Sr., or any of the Constables of the Town of Norton:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Norton, qualified to vote in Norton affairs, to meet at the Norton High School, 66 West Main Street, in said Norton, on Monday, the 23rd day of October, 2023, A.D., at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles, viz.

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to pay unpaid bills for which obligation was incurred in prior fiscal years, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to pay all outstanding separation expenses associated with the retirement of various employees from the Town of Norton and authorize the Town Accountant, in consultation with the Town Manager, to allocate amounts to appropriate departments, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund and implement Collective Bargaining Agreements between the Town and various Unions for the period beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026, and/or for general collective bargaining settlement purposes, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to supplement, or otherwise change the funding sources for, the Fiscal Year 2024 operating budget appropriated under Article 7 of the May 15, 2023, Annual Town Meeting, or otherwise amend said vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to supplement, or otherwise change the funding sources for, the Fiscal Year 2024 Water Enterprise operating budget appropriated under Article 5 of the May 15, 2023, Annual Town Meeting, or otherwise amend said vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

(WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS)

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to supplement, or otherwise change the funding sources for, the Fiscal Year 2024 Sewer Enterprise operating budget appropriated under Article 6 of the May 15, 2023, Annual Town Meeting, or otherwise amend said vote, or take any other action relative thereto.

(WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS)

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money for the Capital Improvements Fund established by the By-Law entitled "Capital Improvements Fund," from which appropriations may be made by a two-thirds vote at any Town Meeting, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, including but not limited the Capital Improvements Fund, and/or borrow a sum of money to supplement the Fiscal Year 2024 capital improvements budget appropriated under Article 9 of the May 15, 2023, Annual Town Meeting to pay costs of purchasing, or leasing with an option to purchase for periods of time up to or in excess of three years, new and/or replacement capital items for various Town Departments and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Sections 7 or 8 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to purchase and accessorize an automated external defibrillator (AED), or take any other action relative thereto.

(DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION)

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to be expended only for any lawful purposes and consistent with the applicable opioid settlement agreement, including but not limited to those purposes outlined in the Massachusetts State Subdivision Agreement for Statewide Opioid Settlements and more specifically in Section III of the attachment thereto entitled, "Massachusetts Abatement Terms" to support opioid education, prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm prevention, or take any other action relative thereto.

(TOWN MANAGER AND TOWN ACCOUNTANT)

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to be expended only for any lawful purposes and consistent with the cannabis host community agreements for the implementation of mitigation measures associated with the sale of recreational marijuana, or take any other action relative thereto.

(TOWN MANAGER AND TOWN ACCOUNTANT)

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to comply with the federally mandated actuarial reporting requirements of post-employment benefits (GASB 74/75), or take any other action relative thereto.

(TOWN ACCOUNTANT)

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c.44, §54(b)(1), as most recently amended by Section 26 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023, to allow Town trust funds to be invested using the so-called Prudent Investor Rule found in G.L. c.203C, or take any other action relative thereto.

(TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR)

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 140, Section 139(c), to exempt from licensing fees service animals and dogs owned by a person aged seventy or over, or take any other action relative thereto.

(TOWN CLERK)

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to remove, expand, and replace the rear parking lot area, including all incidental and related expenses, at the Norton Historical Society site identified as 18 West Main Street, Norton and shown on Assessor's Map 23 as Parcel 39, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money for the installation of municipal sewerage, including all incidental and related expenses, at the Norton Historical Society site identified as 18 West Main Street, Norton, and shown on Assessor's Map 23 as Parcel 39, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 110, Article V, §110-31, of the Town's Bylaws, as on file with the Town Clerk, by replacing the existing schedule with the following:

YEARS OF SERVICE	LONGEVITY PAY EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023
After Five (5) Years	\$1,000.00
After Ten (10) Years	\$1,100.00
After Fifteen (15) Years	\$1,200.00
After Twenty (20) Years	\$1,400.00
After Twenty-Five (25) Years	\$1,500.00

(TOWN MANAGER)

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds a sum of money to the "Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund" established to cover the unfunded actuarial liability for retirees' health care and life insurance benefits, or take any other action relative thereto.

(TOWN MANAGER)

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and/or appropriate from available funds, a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund, in accordance with G.L. c. 40, §5B, or take any other action relative thereto.

(SELECT BOARD)

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to revoke the acceptance of Civil Service Laws for the Town of Norton Fire Department at all ranks effective January 1, 2024, thereby removing the fire department force from the provisions of the Civil Service Laws, and the rules and regulations relating to the same, provided that this revocation will not affect the Civil Service status of existing personnel in their current positions, or take any other action relative thereto.

(TOWN MANAGER AND FIRE CHIEF)

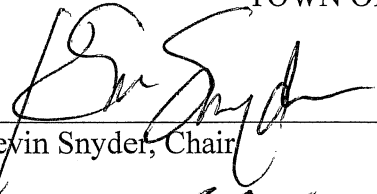
ARTICLE 21

The Town of Norton will adopt for itself the motto “ACVMEN ACVTVM,” (Latin for “sharp point *or* intellect”).

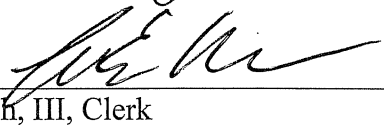
(PETITION OF DANIEL A. PEARSON)

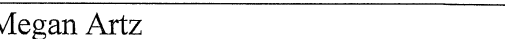
And you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the body of same at Chartley Post Office, Norton Post Office, Norton Municipal Center, Norton Public Library, and three (3) other public places within the limits of said Town, seven (7) days at least, before the time of holding said meeting. Hereof, and fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding said meeting. Given under our hands and seals this 5th day of OCTOBER in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three.

TOWN OF NORTON SELECT BOARD, BY:


Kevin Snyder, Chair


Steven Hornsby, Vice Chair


Alec Rich, III, Clerk


Megan Artz


Denise Luciano

Norton, Massachusetts

I have served this Warrant by posting attested copies at Chartley Post Office, Norton Post Office, Norton Municipal Center, Norton Public Library, and three (3) other public places within the limits of said Town, seven (7) days at least before the time of holding said Meeting.

ATTEST  CONSTABLE Norton DATE 10/12/23