

T O W N W A R R A N T

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

FRANKLIN, ss.

To the Constable of the Town of New Salem in the County of Franklin.
Greetings:

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 elections and in Town affairs, to meet behind Town Hall, 15 South Main Street, in said Town on **June 6, 2023 at 7 pm**, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To hear the reports of Town Officers and Committees or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will fix the salaries of all elected officials for the ensuing year as follows, or take any action in relation thereto.

Office	FY 2023	FY 2024
Selectboard (3 members)	\$5766	\$6227
Town Clerk	\$8202	\$8859
Assessors (3 members)	\$5523	\$5965
School Committee (5 members)	\$7720	\$8338
Constable	\$ 259	\$ 280
Moderator	\$ 148	\$ 160
Board of Health (3 members)	\$4576	\$4943
Municipal Light Plant (3 members)	\$9922	\$3200

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with approval of the Selectboard, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws Chapter 44, Section 4; and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year; and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with General Laws Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To Review, Discuss, Debate and Vote upon the Annual Appropriations in Support of the Town’s Operation for FY 2024—July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, or take any action in relation thereto. The proposed Annual Appropriations are as follows:

Desc.	Request
Town Meeting – Article 4 Non-School General Government	

Selectboard	\$ 9,602
Town Coordinator	\$ 35,344
Finance Committee	\$ 200
Accountant	\$ 31,430
Assessors	\$ 49,064
Treasurer	\$ 27,492
Tax Collector	\$ 25,587
Legal Expenses	\$ 13,500
Personnel Board	\$ 380
Constable	\$ 359
Town Clerk	\$ 10,453
Election, Registration, Moderator	\$ 10,385
Copier Maintenance	\$ 500
School Committee	\$ 7,720
Council on Aging	\$ 600
Cell Phone and Air Cards	\$ 3,000
Certified Comp.-Treasurer and Collector	\$ 2,000
Certified Comp.-Assessor's Clerk	\$ 0.00
Short Term Borrowing	\$ 5,000
Franklin County Assessment FRCOG	\$ 8,458
Landfill Monitoring	\$ 5,200
General Government Subtotal	\$246,274
General Highway	
Highway Salaries	\$ 206,898
Highway Expenses	\$ 78,750
General Highway Subtotal	\$ 285,648
Insurance	
General Insurance	\$ 43,025
Group Life & Health Insurance	\$130,583
Insurance Subtotal	\$173,608
Miscellaneous	
Reserve Fund	\$ 40,000
Town Reports	\$ 425
Franklin County Retirement Assessment	\$ 70,083
Payroll Taxes	\$ 20,435
Unemployment Acct	\$ 6,000
Miscellaneous Subtotal	\$136,943
Miscellaneous Boards	
Conservation Comm	\$ 528
Planning Board	\$ 1,875
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ 800
Recreation, Fields, Lawn & Cemetery Maint.	\$15,700
Veterans Services	\$ 2,476
Veterans Benefits	\$ 9,500
Library Salaries	\$ 51,427

Library Expenses	\$ 21,830
Library Bldg. Maint.	\$ 1,500
Recreation Comm	\$ 560
Historical Comm	\$ 702
Memorial Day Cmte	\$ 540
Old Home Day	\$ 1,350
Technology Fund	\$ 5,500
MLP (Broadband) Salaries	\$ 9,448
Energy Committee	\$ 300
Town Tree Committee	\$ 5,000
Miscellaneous Boards subtotal	\$129,036
Property Maintenance	
Purch/Repair Equipment	\$ 3,500
Town Bldg Repairs & Maint	\$ 25,889
Property Maintenance subtotal	\$ 29,389
Public Safety	
Police Dept Salaries	\$ 93,844
Police Dept Expenses	\$ 34,990
Fire Dept Salaries	\$ 61,500
Fire Dept Expenses	\$ 53,590
Reverse 911 (Connect CTY)	\$ 1,300
FD & PD Comm Equipment Maint	\$ 2,890
Ambulance Service	\$ 57,560
Emergency Management	\$ 3,650
Animal Control	\$ 3,881
Franklin County Solid Waste District	\$ 4,100
Animal Inspector	\$ 0
Board of Health Salaries	\$ 21,163
Board of Health Expenses	\$ 58,378
Building Inspector	\$ 12,034
Public Safety subtotal	\$ 408,880
Non-School subtotal	\$1,409,778
Schools	
Swift River School	\$ 946,201
Swift River Transportation	\$ 188,642
Mahar Regional School	\$ 646,900
Franklin Cty Tech School	\$ 157,261
Schools subtotal	\$1,939,004
Subtotal for Article 4 -----	\$3,348,782

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into

Compensating Balance Agreements during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, as permitted by General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53F, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the Professional Services fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the Town's Independent Audit expense, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,266 for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY24 Mahar construction/reconstruction project payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,070 for the FY24 Franklin County Tech School debt payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$61,387 to be used by the Highway Department for expenses related to snow removal and winter road maintenance, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,266 for Cost of Living Adjustments for non-elected salaries, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,835 for Cost of Living Adjustments for elected salaries, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,409 for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the Library construction project loan payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the Town's OPEB Actuarial Expenses, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the Town's OPEB Liability Trust, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be used for Fire Department Turnout Gear, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$46,417, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY2024 loan payment on the Fire Truck, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,868 for the broadband payment, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion and accept \$85,000 from the MLP for a total broadband debt payment of \$170,868, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 43,600, for which the voters of New Salem have approved a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion, for the FY2024 loan

payment on the door/window replacement project at Swift River School, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,340 for the Highway Barn loan payment, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Swift River School Capital request, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for Tax Title Expense, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 for the Vehicle Replacement Stabilization Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 for the Stabilization Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$50,000 for the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Stabilization the sum of \$115,900 for the purchase of an excavator backhoe for the Highway Department, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,220 for the purchase of a Zobrio Cash Management Module for the Town Accountant, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$616,000 for the following capital project: Primary Response Pumper Truck for the Fire Department and to meet such appropriation by transferring the sum of \$150,000 from the Vehicle Capital Stabilization Account, and for the remainder by authorizing the Treasurer, with approval of the Selectboard, to borrow such sum under G.L. Chapter 44, Section 7, or any other enabling authority, and to authorize the Selectboard to take all action necessary to carry out this project, provided, however, that no amounts shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless and until the Town votes at an election to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2-1/2, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds or notes therefor, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to apply for, accept and expend any Federal, State or private grant monies on behalf of the Town (such as Library Aid, Cultural Council, Incentive Aid, Community Development Fund, Green Communities Grants, Public Safety Grants, Foundations, etc.), or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to declare certain items as surplus, and to trade in or sell surplus equipment, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving fund expenditure limits for FY24 as shown in the table below or take any action in relation thereto.

Fund	Annual Expenditure Limit
Wiring, Plumbing, Gas Inspections	\$6,000
Fire Chief Inspections	\$2,000
Library Expenses	\$2,000
Board of Health Agent Inspections	\$12,000
Recreation Commission Expenses	\$2,000
Town Clerk Dog Licensing	\$4,000
Recycling Program/Solid Waste	\$10,000

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, which may be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid-litigation settlement documents, a document prepared by the Substance Abuse Bureau of the Commonwealth’s Office of Health and Human Services Department, found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download> entitled “Abatement Strategies”, and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to adopt the last paragraph of said §5B and dedicate to such fund, without further appropriation, 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town; and further, to transfer from available funds a sum of money equal to that received or to be received by the Town from Opioid litigation settlements resulting from the Town’s Participation in the national Opioid Multi-District Litigation into said Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund; or take any action in relation thereto.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the New Salem Old Library (Town Hall Annex), North New Salem Church, Town Notice Board at Hagerville, Town Notice Board at Freeman Road, New Salem Transfer Station and New Salem Post Office, 7 days at least prior to the time of holding 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 meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands **this 24th Day of May** in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three.

_____ { **SELECTBOARD**
 _____ { **OF**
 _____ { **NEW SALEM**

A true copy. Attest: _____, Constable