

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Hawley
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
May 5, 2014

FRANKLIN SS:

To George A. Rice, Constable of the Town of Hawley, GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are directed to notify and warn said inhabitants of the Town of Hawley qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Hawley Town Office in said Hawley on Monday, the fifth day of May, 2014.

The following officers are to be elected by ballot and the following questions are to be voted on by ballot, for which purpose the polls will be open at 11:45 a.m. and close at 6:30 p.m.:

Selectman (3-year term)
Assessor (3-year term)
Town Clerk (3-year term)
Auditor (1-year term)
Moderator (1-year term)
Rep to K-12 Committee for Mohawk Trail District (3-year term)
Hawlemont School Committee (3-year term)

Question 1: Shall the Town of Hawley be allowed to exempt from the provision of Proposition two and one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to purchase a new Highway Department Truck? Yes ___ No ___

Question 2: Shall the Town vote to have its elected Tree Warden become an appointed Tree Warden of the town? Yes ___ No ___

At eight o'clock in the evening the meeting will convene to act on the following articles, following a brief demonstration of the high speed internet by the Communications Committee:

Article 1: To act on the reports of the Town Officers, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries or compensation of the following officers of the Town as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws, as amended, and raise and appropriate the sum of \$68,500.00 for payment of the same, together with such clerical and other office help as the Selectmen may approve, or take any other action relative thereto.

Salaries being voted on are as follows:

Chairman of Selectboard	1854.00
Selectboard members	1648.00
Town Clerk	8755.00
Chairman of Assessors	1339.00
Assessors members	1133.00
Tax Collector	5562.00
Auditor	118.50
Moderator	118.50
Treasurer	7570.50

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following appropriations as recommended by the Selectboard:

Snow Roads	78,800.00
Employee Vacations	8,200.00
Employee Holidays (11)	4,870.00
Employee Sick Days (5)	2,500.00
Employee Health Insurance	24,300.00
Drug and Alcohol Testing	500.00
Town Insurances (including McNamara coverage)	27,000.00
Massachusetts Unemployment	3,000.00
FICA/Medicare (Town's share)	4,500.00
Town Building Expenses	15,500.00
Selectboard Expenses	2,000.00
Treasurer Expenses	2,000.00
Town Clerk Expenses	600.00
Outside Utilities	200.00
Finance Committee Expenses	250.00
Conservation Comm. Expenses	100.00
Historical Comm. Expenses	100.00
Planning Board Expenses	100.00
Zoning Board of Appeal Expenses	500.00
Assessor's Expenses	4,700.00
Tax Collector Expenses	2,000.00
Board of Health Expenses	250.00
Town Reports	1,500.00
Bonding	600.00
Police Department	1,250.00
Emergency Management Expenses	200.00
Emergency Management Director Salary	1,000.00
Fire Department	10,000.00
Firefighter Stipends	2,000.00
Fire Chief's Salary	2,500.00
EMT Equipment	2,500.00
Insect Pest Control	182.00

Veterans Benefits	2,000.00
Care of Cemeteries	2,000.00
Interest	4,000.00

The following items do not require a vote, but nevertheless represent amounts which will have to be raised:

W. Franklin Veterans Service Center	766.00
Franklin County Retirement System	21,112.00

Total for Article 3 232,580.00

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$165,042.00 to cover its share of operating expenses of the Hawlemont Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$0.00 to cover its share of the capital expenses for the renovations of the Hawlemont Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide \$1,800.00 for the purpose of paying certain costs associated with the Hawlemont preschool program or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$146,290.00 to cover its share of the operating expenses of the Mohawk Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,455.00 to cover its share of the capital expenses for the renovations of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Mohawk Trail Regional School District to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$542,778 to be expended under the direction of the School Building Committee for repair work to the Mohawk Trail Regional Middle & High School located at 26 Ashfield Road in Buckland, Massachusetts, to include drainage upgrades, parking lot resurfacing, re-pointing/re-caulking work, floor replacements, heating, ventilation and air condition upgrades, auditorium lighting equipment upgrades and installation of a second means of egress from main electrical switchgear room totaling \$542,778. The proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required education program.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000.00, and transfer \$40,000 from Free Cash, to cover the cost of tuition for students attending vocational schools, any unexpended balance to be carried into the next fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 to cover the cost of transportation for students attending vocational schools, or take any other action in relation thereto.

- Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 for the Tyler Memorial Library, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,400.00 to meet the cost of solid waste disposal in the year beginning July 1, 2014, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,250.00 to cover its allocated share of the budget for the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, including household hazardous waste, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000.00 for the General Highways Account, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to accept any amount available in Chapter 90 road funds available subject to conditions detailed by the Massachusetts Highway Department, with any unexpended balances to be carried forward into the next fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000.00 for the Reserve Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to employ counsel and to defend any suit that may be brought against the Town and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,500.00 for the purpose, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$450.00 for the Right-to-Know budget in anticipation of reimbursement from the State for this expenditure, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$47,000.00 for Machinery Maintenance, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300.00 for use by the Council on Aging, such sum to help the COA qualify for a \$3,500.00 Council on Aging formula grant, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for new equipment and grant matching funds for the Fire Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for a gasoline account, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,800.00 for internet service expenses, or take any other action in relation thereto.
- Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide the sum of \$1,000.00 for WiredWest, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,567.00 for its share of the statutory charges (\$1,537.00); regional services assessments (\$1,930.00); and Regional Emergency Planning Committee assessment (\$100.00) of the FRCOG, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,364.34 for the Regional Health Agent Program, services provided by the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 to cover Hawley's share of the compensation for the Franklin County Cooperative Inspector Program, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600.00 for Blackboard Connect Notification System, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$772.22 to cover expenses relating to Emergency Communications Maintenance Assessment, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,440.00 to cover this year's payment for the purchase of the McCloud property (principal payment of \$20,000.00 and interest payment of \$1,440.00), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,454.25 to cover this year's payment for the purchase of the loader (principal payment of \$23,000.00 and interest payment of \$454.25), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum required for the FY15 payment for the purchase of a used Fire Pumper, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum or sums for the Town Computer Account to cover periodic upgrades and repairs, with any unexpended balance to be carried into the next fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum or sums for the Town Building maintenance and renovation account, with any unexpended balance to be carried into the next fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 36: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to cover continuing education and conferences expenses for town officers in FY15 with any remaining balance to be carried into the next fiscal year, expenditures from this account to be approved in advance by the Board of Selectmen, or take any action in relation thereto.

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving account pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E ½ for which revenues from fees or fines related to the licensing and care of dogs will be deposited into the fund and expended to purchase dog tags; pay for various expenses in relation to licensing, care and other related dog control

expenses under the direction of the Town Clerk, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 will be limited to \$1,000, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for Landfill Maintenance, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to the Fire Equipment Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to the Highway Equipment Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$12,000.00 from Free Cash to the Interest Account to cover interest on the Storm Damage loan, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 42: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from Free Cash to make a payment on the Storm Damage loan, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 43: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,308.33 from Free Cash to the FY14 Snow Roads account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 44: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2,000.00 from Free Cash to replace the propane heater at the Town Office, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 45: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2,500.00 from Free Cash to the FY14 Town Buildings account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 46: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum from the Highway Department Equipment Stabilization Fund for the purchase of a new Highway Department Truck, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 47: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$150,000.00 to purchase a new Highway Department Truck, and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose, as authorized by General Laws Chapter 44, section 7(9), or any other general or special law, for a period not to exceed five years, provided, however, that this appropriation and debt authorization be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion referendum under General Laws Chapter 59, section 21C (i½), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 48: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one at the West Hawley Town Garage, one at the Hawley Town Office, and one at the Hawley Fire Station, seven days at least before time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this twenty-second day of April, 2014.

Philip C. Keenan, Chairman

John Sears

A true copy. Attest:

Robert MacLean
Selectboard
Town of Hawley
