

TOWN OF DALTON  
BERKSHIRE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

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GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Dalton, qualified by law to vote in the Elections and Town Affairs, to meet in the:

**WAHCONAH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL**  
150 OLD WINDSOR ROAD, DALTON, MA  
MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024 AT 7:00 P.M.

Then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will amend current regulations for the Town of Dalton by adding the following sidewalk materials specification into all appropriate sections (for example **§501-19 Curbing and Sidewalks**): "The Town of Dalton, its Highway Department, and all contractors working under the Town's direction, shall utilize cement concrete pavement, or a material with equivalent service life and appearance, rather than less durable materials such as bituminous asphalt, as the specified standard building material for all permanent public sidewalk repairs, replacements, and new installations, in all zones of the Town. Dalton sidewalk work standards shall conform to the requirements of subsection 701 of the **Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Transportation Standard Specifications for Highways and Bridges, 2022 Edition**, or any amendment thereof, addition thereto, or substitution therefor."

*[by citizen petition]*

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, will fix the maximum amounts that may be spent during the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024 for the revolving funds established in town by-laws, as on file and available for viewing in the office of the Town Clerk, for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers, with such expenditure limits to be applicable for each fiscal year until such time as Town Meeting votes, prior to July 1 for the ensuing fiscal year, to revise the same; or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the "Schedule of Compensation for Elected Officials" for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money, including without limitation, appropriations from Sewer User Fees, for the purpose of defraying charges and expenses and debt service for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purpose of paying the Town's share of the Operating Budget of the Central Berkshire Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purpose of paying the Town's share of the Transportation Budget of the Central Berkshire Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purpose of paying the Town's share of the Capital Budget of the Central Berkshire Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

- ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money to the Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; or to take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purpose of reducing or offsetting the expected tax rate increase in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024; or to take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money from available funds to be reimbursed by a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90, Section 34 of the Massachusetts General Laws, and any other enabling statute, for the purposes of highway maintenance, repaving, and similar roadway expenditures; and further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into contracts or grant agreements with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for such purposes as necessary; or to take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will transfer from the Sewer Stabilization Fund a sum of money to pay the City of Pittsfield for the additional costs of sewage treatment in the 2023 fiscal year; or to take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money to each of the following Stabilization Funds: General Stabilization Fund, Capital Stabilization Fund, Legal Stabilization Fund, and Sewer Stabilization Fund; or to take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund to reduce the unfunded actuarial liability of health care and other post-employment benefits; or to take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unutilized balance of several prior years' borrowing authorizations for completed capital improvement projects; or to take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53(4), to create a new special revenue fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Special Revenue 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 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 Special Revenue Fund; or take any other action related thereto.
- ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will transfer from the Capital Stabilization Fund a sum of money for the purpose of providing the following item for the Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Program, including all incidental and related costs; or to take any other action in relation thereto:
- 1) a cruiser for the Police Department;
  - 2) a pickup truck for the Department of Public Works; and
  - 3) a sidewalk and road repair paver for the Department of Public Works.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase, eminent domain, or otherwise, an easement for drainage on a parcel of land located at 484 West Housatonic Street, being Assessor's Map 113, Lot 96, and to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for said acquisition, including all costs incidental and related thereto, and upon such others terms and conditions as the Select Board shall deem advisable, and to execute any and all documents related thereto; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase, eminent domain, or otherwise, two easements for drainage on parcels of land as follows: (1) off North Street, being Assessor's Map 103, Lot 19; and (2) 152 Orchard Road, being Assessor's Map 111, Lot 72, and to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for said acquisitions, including all costs incidental and related thereto, and upon such others terms and conditions as the Select Board shall deem advisable, and to execute any and all documents related thereto; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Program and Fiscal Year 2024 items, as follows, including all incidental and related costs; or to take any other action in relation thereto:

For Fiscal Year 2025:

For the Department of Public Works:

- 1) Final Engineering Work for Orchard Road project
- 2) Engineering and design for Transfer Station renovation and upgrade
- 3) Replace two Town Garage doors
- 4) Pine Grove Park: general repair and rehabilitation
- 5) Line and paint basketball court at Pinegrove Park
- 6) Transfer Station: purchase recycling containers
- 7) Transfer Station: purchase pre-fabricated swap shop shed
- 8) Leaf-blower for use by Cemetery, Parks and Roads Departments

For the Town Manager's Office:

- 1) Updated computer hardware
- 2) Provide seed money to assist residents with condemned housing

For the Buildings and Grounds Department:

- 1) Engineering and cost estimate for lifts for Town Hall for ADA compliance
- 2) Design and installation of heat pumps for third floor of Town Hall
- 3) Engineering and cost estimate for Town Hall roof section reinforcement
- 4) Shredding of outdated Town Hall documents

For the Historic Commission:

- 1) Re-painting the Hoose House

For the Green Committee:

- 1) Electric vehicle chargers at the Senior Center (new location)

For the Open Space Committee:

- 1) Partially reimbursable cost for invasive species removal at The Pines

For Fiscal Year 2024:

For the Town Manager's Office:

- 1) Reimbursement for deposit on real estate purchase
- 2) Provide funding for grant application for re-building Walker Brook culverts

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to enter into contracts for more than three years for the purpose of providing software, operations, management and maintenance support for electric-vehicle charging stations; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town of Dalton will vote to approve the Central Berkshire Regional School District Amended Regional Agreement as presented by the School Committee which will be on file at the Dalton Town Clerk's Office, Superintendent of Schools Office and the Dalton Public Library.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will recess until MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024 at 11:00 O'CLOCK A.M. to 7:00 O'CLOCK P.M. to meet in the DALTON SENIOR CENTER, 40 Field Street Extension in Dalton, MA, to choose and elect the following Town officers and the determination of such other matters as are by law required to be determined by ballot:

- |                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| (1) MEMBER SELECT BOARD              | FOR 3 YEARS |
| (1) MODERATOR                        | FOR 1 YEAR  |
| (2) MEMBERS DALTON HOUSING AUTHORITY | FOR 5 YEARS |
| (1) CEMETERY TRUSTEE                 | FOR 3 YEARS |
| (1) MEMBER PLANNING BOARD            | FOR 3 YEARS |
| (3) LIBRARY TRUSTEES                 | FOR 3 YEARS |
| (4) MEMBERS FINANCE COMMITTEE        | FOR 3 YEARS |
| (1) TOWN CLERK                       | FOR 3 YEARS |

\* \* \*

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting five attested copies thereof as required by the Bylaws of said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meetings.

And you are further required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Dalton, qualified by law to vote in the Elections to meet in the DALTON SENIOR CENTER, 40 Field Street Extension in Dalton, MA, on MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024 at 11:00 O'CLOCK A.M. to 7:00 O'CLOCK P.M. to bring in their votes for Town officers per Article 22 and the determination of such other matters as are by law required to be determined by ballot.

Hereof, fail not, and make due returns of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding meetings as aforesaid.

Given under our hands and seal this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

A true copy. ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather A. Hunt, TOWN CLERK

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph A. Diver, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel E. Esko, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Bishop

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Boyle

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marc E. Strout

SELECT BOARD

By virtue of the within Warrant, I have served the same by posting in at least five public places attested copies thereof as the Bylaws of the Town direct, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONSTABLE

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTED: Dewey's Public House, Dalton Restaurant, Greenridge Variety Convenience, U.S. Post Office, Country Corner Package & Variety, Town Hall Bulletin Board