TOWN OF DALTON
BERKSHIRE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

WAHCONAH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
150 OLD WINDSOR ROAD, DALTON, MA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026 AT 7:00 P.M.

MOTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. *I move that the Town amend the vote taken under the motion for Article 3 of the May 4, 2026 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the sum of money raised and appropriated for the following department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026:*

Dept #320 Vocational Education $137,004.00

Explanation: This article seeks to amend the amount appropriated at the 2026 Annual Town Meeting based on the changes in the number of students enrolled in vocational education programs (Dept #320).

ARTICLE 2. *I move that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire by purchase a fee simple interest in property located at West Housatonic Street, being Parcel 115-3, containing 3.9 acres, more or less; (a) transfer from the General Stabilization Fund, the sum of $69,700 for the purpose of funding said acquisition and costs incidental or related thereto; and (b) authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article.*

Explanation: The Town of Dalton seeks to purchase a 3.9-acre parcel (115-3) on West Housatonic Street from Crane & Company Co.

ARTICLE 3. *I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $1,000,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding a bridge replacement on Grange Hall Road, including all costs incidental or related thereto.*

Explanation: The Town had a failing culvert on Grange Hall Road. The Town has already funded the cost of design for its replacement through a state grant. Additionally, Dalton has secured $1,000,000 in state grant funding for construction. This motion transfers $1,000,000 from the existing Capital Stabilization Fund to pay for bridge construction. Any remaining expenses will come from Chapter 90 state public works funding. In other words, out of the total project cost (including design) of approximately $2.5 million, approximately $1.5 million will be state funding. This project should go out to bid this winter for the 2027 construction season.

ARTICLE 4. *I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $4,800 from General Stabilization Fund for the purpose of renting electronic voting devices for use at future Town Meetings, including all costs incidental or related thereto.*

Explanation: This allows the Town to rent electronic voting devices (often referred to as clickers) at the 2027 Annual Town Meeting before committing to purchase them. These devices would allow resident to vote anonymously. If it works well at the meeting the Town will appropriate the monies in the 2027 budget to purchase the devices for future meetings

ARTICLE 5. *I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $200,000 from the Sewer Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding a sewer system evaluation survey, including all costs incidental or related thereto, for the purposes of reducing water inflow and infiltration*.

Explanation: Because the new 2026 Intermunicipal Agreement (replacing a 1973 agreement) with the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant utilizes a different formula for calculating expenses, Dalton’s costs have increased substantially. One way to combat this increase is to reduce the amount of wastewater that Dalton produces. This study builds on previous studies and work to reduce Infiltration and Inflow.

ARTICLE 6. *I move that the Town amend the vote taken under the motion for Article 3 of the May 4, 2026 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the sum of money appropriated for Sewer and Sewer Treatment Expenses in the amount of $866,800 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026.*

Explanation: The costs for treating the wastewater exceed what was budgeted. We revised the costs upward based on an engineering evaluation of the contract. This will not increase Taxation, since these fees are paid by the revenue generated by sewer user fees

ARTICLE 7. *I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $524.00 from the General Stabilization Fund to pay an invoice from WJ BluePrint & Digital Graphics from Fiscal Year 2026.*

Explanation: The Town missed a bill from a vendor in a prior year that it now owes. This is to satisfy a prior year's invoice.

(NINE-TENTHS VOTE REQUIRED)

ARTICLE 8. *I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $880.48 from the General Stabilization Fund to pay an invoice from Revolution IT Inc. from Fiscal Year 2026.*

Explanation: The Town missed a bill from a vendor in a prior year that it now owes. This is to satisfy a prior year's invoice.

(NINE-TENTHS VOTE REQUIRED)

ARTICLE 9. *I move to take no action.*

Explanation: This Article was no longer needed.

ARTICLE 10. *I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $126.22 from the General Stabilization Fund to pay an invoice from ORKIN from Fiscal Year 2026.*

Explanation: The Town missed a bill from a vendor in a prior year that it now owes. This is to satisfy a prior year's invoice.

(NINE-TENTHS VOTE REQUIRED)

ARTICLE 11. *I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of $4,000 from the Sewer Stabilization Fund to satisfy the Settlement Agreement between the Town and Cheryl Nelsen.*

Explanation: The Town proposes a settlement in lieu of litigation with a resident on Old Windsor Road related to issues with sewer overflow at the residence.

ARTICLE 12. *I move that the Town vote, pursuant to General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8C, to reduce the number of members appointed to the Town's Conservation Commission from seven (7) to five (5).*

Explanation: The Conservation Commission would like to reduce its membership from seven (7) to five (5) members