

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Town of Adams

Berkshire, ss.

To either of the Constables, of the Town of Adams in the County of Berkshire in said Commonwealth:

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Adams qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet at the **Adams Memorial Building, Side Entrance, 30 Columbia Street, Adams, Massachusetts on Tuesday the 15th day of November 2022 at 6:00 P.M.**, then and there to act on the following articles, to wit.

ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$2,377,120 to complete capital improvements to the Adams Wastewater Treatment Plant, including all costs incidental and related thereto; and to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow said sum under G.L. c.44, §7(1) or §8(14) and/or G.L. c.29C, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes therefor and to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Background: This article provides the authorization required for the Town to borrow the additional funding needed to complete capital improvements to the Adams Wastewater Treatment Plant for a total project cost of \$7,426,620. In June 2021, Town Meeting already approved the authorization to borrow to complete WWTP improvements, with an original estimated cost of approximately \$5,049,000. The Town bid the improvements project earlier this year and the low bid exceeded the Town's estimate. After conferring with Massachusetts DEP and the Town's engineers, the Select Board determined it was prudent to award the project, given the likelihood that construction costs would only continue to escalate.

The Town's Bond Counsel requires an additional Town Meeting authorization to cover the full contracted amount of the project and has recommended the language above for the Article.

The Town's loan application to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund has been approved for the full amount. The Town has obtained very favorable terms for the 20 year loan, with an interest rate at 2%, and at least 9.9% of the overall loan amount to be forgiven (final loan amount to be forgiven will be determined by the number of municipalities applying to the SRF, community need, and other factors). The Town's first principal payment for the resulting loan is expected to begin in summer of 2024, essentially allowing payment on the new loan to begin at the time the current plant debt is retired.

In accordance with MGL Chapter 44 Section 7, approval of this article requires a 2/3 vote at Town Meeting.

Motion: That the Town appropriate \$2,377,120 to complete capital improvements to the Adams Wastewater Treatment Plant, including all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow \$2,377,120 under G.L. c.44, §7(1) or §8(14) and/or G.L. c.29C, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes therefor; that the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for the project; and that the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer are authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project.

ARTICLE 2 To see if the Town will vote to transfer the FY2016 capital appropriation of \$15,000 for a Master Plan for Cemetery, Parks & Grounds to Capital Equipment for Cemetery, Parks & Grounds or take any action in relation thereto.

Background: This appropriation was originally for a Master Plan for Parks and Grounds. This project has since been completed using a federal grant. This request is to transfer these unused funds for the purchase of capital equipment for the same department.

ARTICLE 3 To see if the Town will vote to release to Free Cash the following unused capital appropriations: FY2019 capital appropriation balance of \$9,583.04, originally for water meter replacement with the project now completed; FY2020 capital appropriation balance of \$8,696.74, originally for new equipment and software in the Assessor's office with the project now completed; or take any action in relation thereto.

Background: The appropriation for the water meter replacement is a project that has been completed, with a remaining balance of \$9,583.04. The Adams Fire District provided the labor for this project, and the Town provided the meters. This request is to release the balance of these funds to Free Cash.

The appropriation for the new equipment and software in the Assessor's office is a project that has been completed with a remaining balance of \$8,696.74. The previous CAMA assessing software was obsolete and the Town needed to transition to a different system. This request is to release the balance of these funds to Free Cash.

ARTICLE 4 To see if the Town of Adams will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept an easement to a parcel of land from the Estate of Charles R Ransford, at no cost to the Town, to install and maintain drainage lines from Lower Linden Street to Commercial Street in accordance with a plan drawn and stamped by Hill Engineers Architects Planners under terms and conditions that the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.


Background: This area has been prone to flooding due to a failed drainage system. Most precipitation events have resulted in the need for DPW to utilize its vacuum truck to clear standing water. In anticipation of the Commercial Street reconstruction project, the Town had a new drainage system designed and engineered. This easement will permit DPW to access the new structures for routine maintenance. DPW has been installing the new drainage lines as a cost savings measure versus using a private contractor. Work has been proceeding under a temporary license granted by the property owner in order to coincide with the Commercial Street reconstruction project.

ARTICLE 5 To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

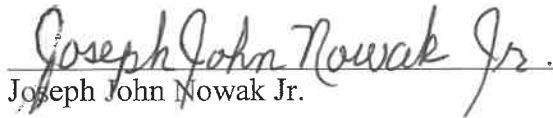
You are to serve this Warrant by posting in three or more public places in said Town of Adams, true and attested copies thereof, fourteen days before the holding of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 26th day of October, 2022.

John E. Duval, Chairman



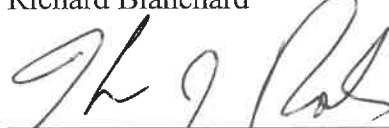
Christine D. Hoyt, Vice-Chairman



Joseph John Nowak Jr.



Richard Blanchard



Howard Jay Rosenberg

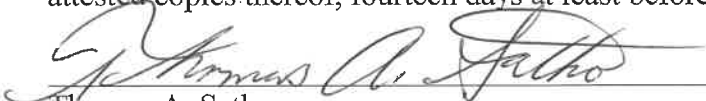
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

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ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Adams, Massachusetts

Date: October 27, 2022

I have served the foregoing warrant by posting in three public places in the said Town of Adams true and attested copies thereof, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.



Thomas A. Satko
Constable of the Town of Adams