

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### Worcester County

To either of the Constables of the Town of OAKHAM in the county of Worcester, 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 at the *Oakham Fire Station*, on the 12th day of *June 2023 at 7:00 p.m.* then and there to act on the following articles:

- Article 1: To see if the Town will accept reports of Town Officers as printed in the Annual Town Report; or take any action relative thereto.
- Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all Elected Officers of the Town as provided for by Chapter 41 Section 108, of the General Laws of the Commonwealth; or take any action relative thereto.
- Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow in anticipation of revenue for the twelve-month period beginning July 1, 2023, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year; or take any action relative thereto.
- Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into agreements with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Transportation for the construction, reconstruction, and improvement of Town roads; or take any action relative thereto.
- Article 5: To see what compensation the Town will allow for personnel and equipment used in repairing highways and opening roads for enginemen and/or firemen employed for the purpose of fire protection and for police officers employed for the purpose of police protection, during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023; or take any action relative thereto.
- Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to accept any sum of money received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws and authorize the Treasurer to expend such funds for the purposes authorized, including maintaining, repairing, improving and constructing ways, up to the reimbursable amount according to the provisions of said Chapter 90, said funds to be spent with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and Mass. Department of Transportation; or take any action relative thereto.
- Article 7: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to G.L. c. 44 §53E½ as most recently amended, to establish annual expenditure limits for fiscal year 2024 for all revolving funds listed in Section (f) of the Revolving Fund bylaw, Chapter 23 of the General Bylaws, as set forth below, with such expenditure limits to be applicable from fiscal year to fiscal year unless the town meeting votes, prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> in any year, to revise such expenditure amounts:

Board of Health	\$20,000
Building Inspector	\$50,000
Plumbing Inspector	\$5,000
Wire Inspector	\$50,000
Deputy Collector	\$8,000
Planning Board	\$5,000
Zoning Appeals Board	\$3,000
Treasurer- MLC fees	\$5,000

or take any action relative thereto.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to defray charges and expenses and transfer a sum of money from free cash to the general operating budget of the town for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023; or take any action thereto.

Budget	FY2023 Budget \$	FY2024 Budget \$
<b>Ambulance</b>		
Assessment	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 27,500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 27,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 27,500.00</b>
<b>Board of Assessors</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 21,525.00
Stipend	\$ 3,819.00	\$ 3,819.00
Expenses	\$ 8,096.00	\$ 9,434.00
Revaluation	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Cyclic assessment	\$ 3,700.00	\$ 3,700.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 39,115.00</b>	<b>\$ 41,478.00</b>
<b>Board of Health</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 3,150.00
Stipend	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,100.00
Expenses	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 9,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,750.00</b>
<b>Board of Selectman</b>		

Salaries & Wages	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 41,000.00
Stipend	\$ 4,413.00	\$ 4,413.00
Administrative Services	\$ 980.74	\$ 3,000.00
Expenses	\$ 77,050.00	\$ 77,205.00
Website/IT	\$ 14,520.00	\$ 14,520.00
Board of Selectmen Legal	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Town Report Printing	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,500.00
Wachusett Greenways	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 153,163.74</b>	<b>\$ 156,638.00</b>
<b>Building Inspector</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 2,331.00	\$ 2,389.00
Expenses	\$ 1,210.00	\$ 1,210.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 3,541.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,599.00</b>
<b>Cemeteries</b>		
Stipend	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Expenses	\$ 9,300.00	\$ 9,900.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 9,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,200.00</b>
<b>CMRPC</b>		
	\$ 573.00	\$ 573.00
<b>Conservation Commission</b>		
	\$ 725.00	\$ 731.00
<b>Council on Aging</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
Stipend	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Expenses	\$ 6,100.00	\$ 6,600.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 6,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,900.00</b>
<b>Dispatch</b>		
Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,320.00
Assessment	\$ 56,415.00	\$ 63,771.97
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 57,415.00</b>	<b>\$ 65,091.97</b>
<b>Dog/Animal Control Officer</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 5,242.65	\$ 5,373.65



Expenses	\$ 1,270.00	\$ 1,270.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 6,512.65</b>	<b>\$ 6,643.65</b>
<b>Emergency Management</b>		
Stipend	\$ 1,189.00	\$ 1,189.00
Expenses	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1,589.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,589.00</b>
<b>Finance Committee</b>		
Expenses	\$ 1,090.00	\$ 1,125.00
Reserve Fund	\$ 41,090.00	\$ 40,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 42,180.00</b>	<b>\$ 41,125.00</b>
<b>Fire Department</b>		
Salaries & Wages, Chief	\$ 36,500.00	\$ 37,422.00
Salaries & Wages, Other	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 42,417.00
Expenses	\$ 55,150.00	\$ 59,075.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 132,650.00</b>	<b>\$ 138,914.00</b>
<b>Highway</b>		
Salaries & Wages, Superintendent	\$ 75,075.00	\$ 76,575.00
Salaries & Wages, Other	\$ 111,939.00	\$ 114,939.00
Expenses	\$ 56,811.00	\$ 56,811.00
Road Detail	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 245,825.00</b>	<b>\$ 250,325.00</b>
<b>Snow &amp; Ice</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 18,598.00	\$ 18,598.00
Expenses	\$ 71,976.32	\$ 73,415.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 90,574.32</b>	<b>\$ 92,013.00</b>
<b>Historical Commission</b>		
	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
<b>Library</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 59,746.40	\$ 59,746.40
Stipend	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Expenses	\$ 33,339.00	\$ 33,479.00

<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 93,385.40</b>	<b>\$ 93,525.40</b>
<b>Moderator Stipend</b>	<b>\$ 300.00</b>	<b>\$ 300.00</b>
<b>Municipal Building Utilities</b>	<b>\$ 58,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 64,500.00</b>
<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	<b>\$ 4,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>Planning Board</b>		
Stipend	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>Police Department</b>		
Salaries & Wages, Chief	\$ 40,465.95	\$ 40,465.95
Salaries & Wages, Full-time Officer	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 60,300.00
Salaries & Wages, Other	\$ 100,387.40	\$ 97,261.40
Expenses	\$ 62,470.00	\$ 61,026.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 259,323.35</b>	<b>\$ 259,053.35</b>
<b>Street Lights</b>	<b>\$ 2,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,200.00</b>
<b>Town Accountant</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 21,609.00	\$ 21,609.00
Expenses	\$ 45,391.00	\$ 51,531.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 67,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 73,140.00</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 9,608.55	\$ 9,848.55
Expenses	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 1,250.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 10,733.55</b>	<b>\$ 11,098.55</b>
<b>Town Clerk Census</b>		
Stipend	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Expenses	\$ 650.00	\$ 700.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 1,650.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,700.00</b>
<b>Town Clerk Elections</b>		

Salaries & Wages	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Stipend	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Expenses	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 4,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 10,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,300.00</b>
<b>Town Hall</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 7,875.00	\$ 7,875.00
Expenses	\$ 43,692.04	\$ 37,300.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 51,567.04</b>	<b>\$ 45,175.00</b>
<b>Treasurer Debt Service</b>		
Municipal Building-Principal (Part of Debt Exclusion)	\$ 18,125.00	\$ 18,125.00
Municipal Building-Interest (Part of Debt Exclusion)	\$ 14,636.00	\$ 13,775.00
Short-Term Interest and Costs	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 34,061.00</b>	<b>\$ 33,200.00</b>
<b>Treasurer Employee Benefits</b>		
	<b>\$ 210,344.00</b>	<b>\$ 189,000.00</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 32,070.15	\$ 32,871.15
Stipend	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Expenses	\$ 38,800.00	\$ 22,950.00
Foreclosure Expenses	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 71,870.15</b>	<b>\$ 59,321.15</b>
<b>Tree Warden</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 375.00	\$ 375.00
Expenses	\$ 14,636.00	\$ 20,050.00
Road Detail	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 17,011.00</b>	<b>\$ 24,425.00</b>
<b>Veterans Agent</b>		
Salaries & Wages	\$ 1,802.00	\$ 1,802.00
Expenses	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Veterans Benefits	\$ 11,390.00	\$ 11,390.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 13,492.00</b>	<b>\$ 13,492.00</b>



Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Town Operating Budget	\$ 1,737,251.20	\$ 1,750,151.07
Education Budget		
QRSD Operating Assessment	\$ 2,419,605.00	\$ 2,632,826.52
QRSD Long-Term Debt Assessment	\$ 14,379.00	\$ 14,858.75
QRSD Subtotal	\$ 2,433,984.00	\$ 2,647,685.27
Pathfinder Regional	\$ 186,942.00	\$ 181,706.00
Education Budget	\$ 2,620,926.00	\$ 2,829,391.27
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 4,358,177.20	\$ 4,579,542.34
FY24 Revenue Forecast No Free Cash		\$ 4,401,151.76
Free Cash Balance		\$ 251,662.45
Free Cash to Balance Budget		\$ (178,390.58)
Known Articles		\$ (28,860.55)
Free Cash Balance		\$ 44,411.32
		0.97%

- Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for Educational Costs for the Quabbin Regional School District the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023; or take any action relative thereto
- Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for Educational Costs for the Pathfinder School District the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023; or take any action relative thereto
- Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow a sum of money to purchase and equip a new or used combination Fire Department tanker/pumper truck to replace the current 1987 Fire Department tanker truck. This authorization is contingent upon voter approval by ballot of a debt exclusion question; or take any action relative thereto. **Submitted by the Finance Committee on behalf of the Fire Department with the Board of Selectmen support.**
- Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be applied towards the finance costs and purchase price of a new/used Fire Truck for the Fire Department; or take any action thereto  
**Submitted by Finance Committee**

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of money as a grant for Wachusett Greenways Inc., an eight-town collaborative, to continue its work to create and maintain trails for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and in connection therewith, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a grant agreement with such collaborative, on such terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, for the purposes set forth herein; or take any action relative thereto .

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds the sum of money as allowed by G.L. c.40, §5B, to an account known as the Police Department Vehicle Stabilization Account; or take any action thereto.  
**Submitted by Board of Selectmen**

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to pursuant to Mgl. Ch.44 S-53E ½ as most recently amended, to establish a revolving account for the Police Department for expenditures occurring while providing police details for the town during fiscal year 2024 and beyond as for revolving funds listed in Section F of the Revolving Fund Bylaw, Ch.23 of the General Bylaws. Such funds not exceeding \$25,000 during the fiscal year; or take any action relative thereto.  
**Submitted by the Police Chief**

Revolving Fund	Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	Other Requirements/ Reports	Fiscal Years
Police Detail Admin. Acct.	Police Department	Fees charged and received by the Police Dept. for Details	Wages of police officers for services, supplies related to delivery of police services to the Town of Oakham	Not to be used to supplement budgeted police Dept. wages.	Yearly report	FY 2023 and subsequent years

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to fund a full time Police Chief position by transferring funds from the current parttime police officer budget line item and funds from the police training expense budget line item, to the Police Chief salary line item; and apply a sum of money from the health insurance budget line item to pay the cost of health benefits; or take any action related thereto.  
**Submitted by the Police Chief with Support of the Board of Selectmen & Finance Committee**

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to hear a report from the Town Hall Planning Committee; or take any action relative thereto.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to accept Section 9-A of Ch. 32B of the Massachusetts General Law which states; “. Shall the Town pay one half (1/2) the premium costs payable by a retired employee for group life insurance and for group general or blanket hospital, surgical, medical, dental, and other health insurance” or take any action relative thereto.  
**Submitted by the Board of Selectmen**



Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to pursuant to Mgl. Ch.44 S-53E ½ as most recently amended, to establish a revolving account for the Council on Aging for expenditures occurring while providing service for the town seniors during fiscal year 2024 and beyond as for revolving funds listed in Section F of the Revolving Fund Bylaw, Ch.23 of the General Bylaws. Such funds shall not exceed \$5,000 during the fiscal year; or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by the Council on Aging**

Revolving Fund	Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fees, Charges or Other Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	Other Requirements/ Reports	Fiscal Years
COA	Council on Aging	Fees charged and received by COA	Senior activities	Not to be used to supplement budgeted COA wages.	Yearly report	FY 2024 and subsequent years

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be applied to the FY2022 personal property revenue and refund an overpayment to NEXAMP Solar; or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by the Assessors**

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to change the office of the Town Clerk from an elected position to an appointed position to be effective upon the retirement or resignation of the current Clerk; or take any action relative thereto.

**Submitted by the Board of Selectmen**

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the resolution in support of the work of the Special Commission on the Official Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2021 and appointed by the Governor to recommend changes to the current flag and seal of Massachusetts, and in support of a new flag and seal for the Commonwealth that may better reflect our aspirations for harmonious and respectful relations between all people who now call Massachusetts home.

**Submitted by Citizen's Petition**

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to approve the indebtedness authorized by the Regional District School Committee of the Quabbin Regional School District to pay costs of replacing the chiller, a component of the HVAC system at the Quabbin Regional Middle/High School, the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereon.

**Submitted by the Quabbin Regional School District**

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Town of Oakham's share of the capital expense and related financing costs to replace the Chiller unit at the Quabbin Regional Middle/High School to be debt excluded; or take any action related thereto.

**Submitted by the Board of Selectmen**

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to pay for unpaid balances in accounts for FY22, or take any action thereon.

**Submitted by the Board of Selectmen**

To the Oakham Constable; you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at:

Oakham Town Hall - Public Posting Board  
Town Website- [www.oakham-ma.gov](http://www.oakham-ma.gov)

In said Town, **seven (7)** days at least before 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 that time and place of meeting, as aforesaid. Given under our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June in the year of our Lord **2023**


Selectmen:

  
Donald Haapakoski, Chairman

  
Bradford Taylor, Vice Chairman

  
Lucy Tessman, Clerk

A true Copy: Attest:

  
Constable

5/30/23  
Date