

# Annual Town Meeting Warrant



Town Hall Fallon Auditorium  
June 6, 2022  
7:00 P.M.

TOWN OF CLINTON  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

WORCESTER, SS.

To the Constable of the Town of Clinton in the County of Worcester.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town, qualified to vote in the elections and Town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Clinton on Monday, the sixth day of June 2022 at 7:00 P.M., then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1

To receive the reports of the Town officers and to act thereon.

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all elective officials of the Town, as provided by Chapter 41, Section 108, of the Massachusetts General Laws, said salaries and compensation to be effective from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, and to raise and appropriate a sum of money therefore, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to revise the current Classification Plan required under the Personnel By-Law whereby the new Classification Plan will consist of nine (9) classifications and fifteen (15) steps as proposed by the 2022 Classification & Compensation Review prepared by the Collins Center for Public Management, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from the current tax levy or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be deemed necessary to defray town charges from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, as those charges appear in the Finance Committee Report of Recommendations, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer and Town Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement with a banking institution for Fiscal Year 2023 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F, of the Massachusetts General Laws, or act in any manner relating thereto.

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$4,800.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended for social services in accordance with programs as approved by the Board of Selectmen, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$20,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended as the Town of Clinton's share to the Wachusett Health Education Action Team (WHEAT, Inc.), which committee is a delegate agency of the United Way of Tri-County, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53E½ of the Massachusetts General Laws to set the limits on the total amounts that may be expended from each of the Town's revolving funds established under the Town's Administrative By-Laws, or act in any manner relating thereto.

<b>Revolving Fund</b>	<b>Spending Limit</b>
Gas/Plumbing Inspection	\$35,000.00
Council on Aging	\$20,000.00
Town Hall Use	\$ 5,000.00
Olde Home Day	\$30,000.00
Fuller Field	\$ 5,000.00
Town Clerk	\$10,000.00

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Assessors Overlay Reserve Account the sum of \$50,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be used to continue the Veterans and Senior Tax Rebate Program for Fiscal Year 2023, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5N to establish a property tax work-off program for taxpayers who are veterans, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$100,000.00, or any other sum, to the Health Insurance Trust Fund, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$500,000.00, or any other sum, to the Stabilization Fund, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the PEG Access and Cable Related Fund the sum of \$175,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be used for the support of cable access related services, programming and equipment, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from the Landfill Enterprise Fund retained earnings the sum of \$3,200,000.00, or any other sum, to the Capital Projects & Infrastructure Improvements Stabilization Fund, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from the Landfill Enterprise Fund retained earnings the sum of \$1,000,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be used for the Phase I & Phase II Landfill Closure and South Meadow Pond Dredging Project, and all related work, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Public Works)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from the Capital Projects & Infrastructure Improvements Stabilization Fund the sum of \$1,000,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Department of Public Works for road resurfacing and infrastructure improvements as approved by the Board of Selectmen, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Public Works)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from the Stabilization Fund or transfer from available funds the sum of \$50,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Department of Public Works for the purchase of a F-350 Pick-Up Truck, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Public Works)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or transfer from available funds the sum of \$25,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended for the purchase of data collection radar speed signs, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Select Board)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or take from available funds the sum of \$2,500.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Veterans Agent for a memorial plaque honoring Persian Gulf veterans, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Veteran Services)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or take from available funds the sum of \$49,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Assessors Office to defray the cost of performing the state mandated property revaluation for Fiscal Year 2024, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Board of Assessors)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or transfer from available funds the sum of \$420,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Department of Facilities and Grounds for HVAC work at School and Town buildings, act in any manner relating thereto.

(Facilities & Grounds)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or transfer from available funds the sum of \$125,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Department of Facilities and Grounds for the rental and purchase of mobile generators at the Clinton Middle School, act in any manner relating thereto.

(Facilities & Grounds)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or transfer from available funds the sum of \$140,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Department of Facilities and Grounds for the upgrade and replacement of auditorium lighting and sound system at the Clinton High School, act in any manner relating thereto.

(Facilities & Grounds)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to amend the appropriation authorization under Article 31 from the 2020 Annual Town Meeting to allow these funds to be used for the design, purchase and installation of additional lighting systems at Savage Field and to raise and appropriate, borrow or take from available funds the sum of \$250,000.00, or any other sum, said sums to be expended by the Facilities & Grounds Department to fund said project, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Facilities & Grounds)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or transfer from available funds the sum of \$525,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended for the renovation and repair of the Clinton Senior Center, act in any manner relating thereto.

(Council on Aging)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or take from available funds the sum of \$25,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Department of Facilities & Grounds for replacement of a water valve at Fuller Field, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Parks & Recreation)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or take from available funds the sum of \$25,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Parks & Recreation Commission for a condition assessment of the Field House and Concession Stand at Fuller Field, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Parks & Recreation)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from the Stabilization Fund or take from available funds the sum of \$5,000.00, or any other sum, said sum to be expended by the Police Chief to fund retroactive wages as part of a negotiated agreement between the Town of Clinton, through the Board of Selectmen, and Public Safety Dispatchers, through MassCOP Local 490, for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, having been negotiated in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 150E, as amended, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Select Board)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

## ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, transfer, or borrow the sum of \$400,000.00, and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to expend said sum for design services for the Mass Central Rail Trail Clinton and project costs associated with developing a detailed plan for the remediation of the tunnel and a design for the trail bed; provided, however, that the funds appropriated hereunder shall not be expended unless the Town is approved for a MassTrails Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation or other grant source in the amount of \$300,000.00, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Select Board)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

### ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, transfer, or borrow the sum of \$100,000.00, and authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to expend said sum for design services for the Mass Central Rail Trail Clinton and project costs associated with developing a detailed plan for the remediation of the tunnel and a design for the trail bed; provided, however, that the funds appropriated hereunder shall not be expended unless the Town is approved for a MassTrails Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation or other grant source in the amount of \$100,000.00, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Select Board)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

### ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 32, Section 103, to increase the current retirement cost of living adjustment base amount of \$14,000.00 to \$18,000.00, or act in any manner relating thereto.

(Retirement Board)

(Finance Committee – Approved)

### ARTICLE 32

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Administrative By-Laws to change all references to “Town Treasurer” and “Town Collector” to “Treasurer-Collector”, or act in any manner relating thereto.

### ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote to amend the “Peddling and Soliciting – Door-to-Door Solicitors” bylaw to include the following new paragraph, or act in any manner relating thereto:

#### NO SOLICITATION LIST

A No Solicitation List shall be established and maintained by the Clinton Police Department. Residents may submit their property for inclusion on the list without charge. Upon approval of the issuance of a license as provided herein, each such licensed entity or individual shall be provided with a copy of the No Solicitation List and may not solicit or canvass at such property.

### ARTICLE 34

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Administrative By-Laws by adding the following new Article captioned “Suspension or Revocation of Licenses or Permits for Nonpayment of Taxes” as set forth below for the purpose of allowing the local licensing authority to suspend or revoke a license or permit to any entity with outstanding local taxes, fines or fees, or act in any manner relating thereto:



## ARTICLE \_\_\_\_: Suspension or Revocation of Licenses or Permits for Nonpayment of Taxes

### SECTION 1 – List of Delinquent Taxpayers.

The treasurer-collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessments, betterments and other municipal charges, hereinafter referred to as the treasurer-collector, shall annually, and may periodically, furnish to each department, board, commission or division, hereinafter referred to as the licensing authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation, or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges, and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or a pending petition before the appellate tax board.

### SECTION 2 - Authority to Deny or Revoke licenses or Permits.

The licensing authority may deny, revoke or suspend any license or permit, including renewals and transfers of any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the treasurer-collector or with respect to any activity, event or other matter which is the subject of such license or permit and which activity, event or matter is carried out or exercised or is to be carried out or exercised on or about real estate owned by any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the treasurer-collector; provided, however, that written notice is given to the party and the treasurer-collector, as required by applicable provisions of law, and the party is given a hearing, to be held not earlier than fourteen days after said notice. Said list shall be prima facie evidence for denial, revocation or suspension of said license or permit to any party. The treasurer-collector shall have the right to intervene in any hearing conducted with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any findings made by the licensing authority with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension shall be made only for the purposes of such proceeding and shall not be relevant to or introduced in any other proceeding at law, except for any appeal from such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any license or permit denied, suspended or revoked under this section shall not be reissued or renewed until the license authority receives a certificate issued by the tax collector that the party is in good standing with respect to any and all local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges, payable to the municipality as the date of issuance of said certificate.

### SECTION 3 – Payment Agreements.

Any party shall be given an opportunity to enter into a payment agreement, thereby allowing the licensing authority to issue a certificate indicating said limitations to the license or permit and the validity of said license shall be conditioned upon the satisfactory compliance with said agreement. Failure to comply with said agreement shall be grounds for the suspension or revocation of said license or permit; provided, however, that the holder be given notice and a hearing as required by applicable provisions of law.

### SECTION 4 – Determination of Business Interest.

The Board of Selectmen may waive such denial, suspension or revocation if it finds there is no direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, its officers or stockholders, if any, or members of his immediate family, as defined in section one of chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A in the business or activity conducted in or on said property

ARTICLE 35

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel Bylaw in Section 3.2-3 by deleting the "Personnel Board" and replacing it with the "Town Administrator" in the second sentence as the entity to approve or disapprove the starting rate for new employee appointments, or act in any manner relating thereto.

ARTICLE 36

We, the undersigned Clinton residents, would like to formally request that sidewalks be install for address: 227, 235, 243, 245, 267 and 293 Greeley Street.

Pedestrian traffic should have safe access while walking to and from the Hospital. It is a huge safety issue with the amount of traffic on Greeley Street, as well as, Parker Street, Lancaster; especially with numerous emergency vehicles from Clinton, Lancaster, Sterling and Bolton driving up the hills with warning lights on (not always with sirens sounding).

(Citizens Petition)

ARTICLE 37

To see if Veteran's that own a home in Clinton get a 50% tax rate reduction on their Property Tax.

(Citizens Petition)

(Finance Committee – Disapproved)

**HEREOF FAIL NOT** and make due return of this warrant with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of the meeting, as aforesaid.

**GIVE UNDER OUR HANDS**, this eighteenth day of May in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-two.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Sean J. Kerrigan, Chair  
John J. Boisoneau, Vice-Chair  
Julie K. Perusse, Clerk  
Edward J. Devault, Member  
Matthew H. Kobus, Member

WORCESTER, SS.

By virtue of this Warrant, I have this day notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Clinton aforesaid, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the time and place for the purpose within named, by publishing in The Item, a newspaper published in the said Town, as hereby directed.

Kevin R. Haley  
Constable for the Town of Clinton