

**TOWN WARRANT
FOR
TOWN ELECTION AND TOWN MEETING**



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Norfolk, SS: To either of the Constables of the Town of Avon:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Avon qualified to vote in the Local Town Election to vote at:

**BUCKLEY CENTER
AVON TOWN HALL
MARY T. MCDERMOTT MEETING ROOM**

On **TUESDAY, THE ELEVENTH OF APRIL 2023**, from **7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Local Town Election for the candidates for the following offices:

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023

ONE (1) SELECTMAN FOR THREE (3) YEARS
ONE (1) ASSESSOR FOR THREE (3) YEARS
ONE (1) BOARD OF HEALTH FOR ONE (1) YEAR (Fill a Vacancy)
ONE (1) BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THREE (3) YEARS
ONE (1) PLANNING BOARD FOR FOUR (4) YEARS (Fill a Vacancy)
ONE (1) PLANNING BOARD FOR FIVE (5) YEARS
TWO (2) SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR THREE (3) YEARS
TWO (2) CONSTABLE FOR THREE (3) YEARS
ONE (1) LIBRARY TRUSTEE FOR THREE (3) YEARS
ONE (1) HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR FIVE (5) YEARS
TWO (2) PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION FOR THREE (3) YEARS
ONE (1) SEWER COMMISSIONER FOR THREE (3) YEARS
ONE (1) REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR FIVE (5) YEARS

And

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Avon qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet at:

**AVON MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
WEST MAIN STREET**

on **TUESDAY, THE SECOND OF MAY 2023 at 7:00 o'clock** in the evening for the following purpose:

To act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To hear the reading of the reports and minutes of the previous session(s) and to hear and act on the annual reports of the Town Officers and Town Departments for the year ending December 31, 2022 and to hear the reports of any committees, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of the elected Town Officers for the Fiscal Year 2024, and raise and appropriate the necessary funds to defray such costs, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the Town charges for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2024, including salaries of the several elected officers of the Town, and make appropriations for the same, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and to enter into a contract for the expenditure of any funds allotted or to be allotted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and/or County of Norfolk for the construction, reconstruction and/or improvement of Town roads, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOTE: Chapter 90 Funding

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Septic Loan Receipts Account a sum of Twenty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$27,740) for repayment of the CLEAN Water Pollution Abatement Trust Loan voted and approved at the Annual Town Meeting of May 5, 2015, Article 37, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF HEALTH

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000) to previous ATM May 2018 Article 16 to fund necessary water operations of the Town as listed below, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Program	Amount	Previous Article	Source
Cross Connection	\$14,000	ATM 5-2018 #16	Free Cash

NOTE: The Interconnect Program is for protecting, maintaining, and maximizing the sustainability of the Town's water supply and treatment, evaluating, and upgrading interconnects with area towns and supply capacities, projects related to water storage and distribution.

FINANCE ARTICLES:

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Five Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars and Ninety-Four cents (\$5,177.94) to pay prior year bills, or take any other action in relation thereto.

RBLA Design: \$765

Atlantic Tactical: \$134.66

WB Mason: \$251.75
Morton Salt, Inc. \$4,026.53
Proposed by: TOWN ACCOUNTANT

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to set the following annual spending limits for the revolving accounts authorized by May 2022 ATM Article 14:

Revolving Account:	Spending Limit:
COA Van	\$7,500
COA Lunch	\$15,000
Park and Recreation	\$50,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOTE: ATM May 2022 Article 14 established and authorized revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, committees, agencies, or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, § 53E½.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Seven dollars (\$5,707) to upgrade the Treasurer/Collectors software from DNWINDOWS to QDS CORE this updates a DOS version of software we have been using since 2002, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: TREASURER/COLLECTOR

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Chapter 40 §5B of the Massachusetts General Laws, to establish a special purpose stabilization fund for money received from judgments or settlements in litigation or claims against opioid manufacturers or distributors, and determine how the money from such fund may be spent; to see if the Town will vote to dedicate all or a percentage, which may not be less than 25 percent, of money received from judgements or settlements in litigation or claims against opioid manufacturers or distributors to the Special Purpose Stabilization Fund established under this Article, effective for Fiscal Year 2024 beginning on July 1, 2023, or act in any way relative thereto; and, further, to see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of the fourth paragraph of Chapter 40 §5B of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: TREASURER/COLLECTOR

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to adjust under MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 17D exemptions by increasing the exemption amount from One-Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars (\$175) to Two-Hundred Dollars (\$200) or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF ASSESSORS

NOTE: This does not establish a new tax exemption. Instead, it updates the amounts for existing elderly person statutory exemptions.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to adjust under MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 22 exemptions by increasing the exemption amount from Four-Hundred Dollars (\$400) to Five-Hundred Dollars (\$500) or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF ASSESSORS

NOTE: This does not establish a new tax exemption. Instead, it updates the amounts for existing qualifying veterans' statutory exemptions.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to adjust under MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 37A exemptions by increasing the exemption amount from Five-Hundred Dollars (\$500) to Six-Hundred Dollars (\$600) or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF ASSESSORS

NOTE: This does not establish a new tax exemption. Instead, it updates the amounts for existing blind person statutory exemptions.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to adjust under MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 41C exemptions by increasing the gross receipts limits from Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) if single and from Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) if married; and by increasing the whole estate limit from Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) to Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) if married; and by lowering the age of qualification from Seventy (70) to Sixty-Five (65); and by increasing the exemption amount from Seven-Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$750) to One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF ASSESSORS

NOTE: This does not establish new tax exemptions. Instead, it updates the requirements and amounts for the existing senior citizen statutory exemptions.

ZONING/BYLAW ARTICLES:

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will amend the Town of Avon Zoning By-Laws with text pertaining to automotive service and open-air drive-in retail service as posted with the Town Clerk and subject to a Public Hearing or take any other action in relation thereto.

Current:

§ 255-5.3 Table of Use Regulations.

Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses										
		Avon Zoning Districts								
		RES R-25	RES R-40	GEN BUS	IND	COM	MU Low D	RES HD	BOD	VOD
F.	Automotive Service and Open-Air Drive-In Retail Service									
1b	Self-service gasoline sales outlet.	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Change to:

§ 255-5.3 Table of Use Regulations.

<i>Table of Use Regulations - Principal Uses</i>									
<i>Avon Zoning Districts</i>									
	<i>RES R-25</i>	<i>RES R-40</i>	<i>GEN BUS</i>	<i>IND</i>	<i>COM</i>	<i>MU Low D</i>	<i>RES HD</i>	<i>BOD</i>	<i>VOD</i>
F.	<i>Automotive Service and Open-Air Drive-In Retail Service</i>								
1b	<i>Self-service gasoline sales outlet.</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>SP</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>SP</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>N</i>

Proposed by: PLANNING BOARD

NOTE: The Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 6th. The board will report the results and give a recommendation at Town Meeting.

CAPITAL ITEMS:

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Thirty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$32,000) for the purchase of a new Board of Health vehicle, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF HEALTH

NOTE: Currently the Board of Health has a 2016 Ford Escape. Would like to have this vehicle replaced with a small pick-up truck or another SUV.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 4 of the January 28, 2023, Special Town Meeting which read:

A motion was made and seconded and VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY THE MAJORITY to transfer from Free Cash the sum of One Million One Hundred and Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$1,117,000) to complete funding for “paving” various streets.

By changing “paving” to

“design, associated costs, installation of water lines, road reconstruction, sidewalks and paving”

Or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: DPW

NOTE: This amends Article 4 of the Jan 28, 2023, STM to clarify the funds appropriated can be used for water as well as roads as part of the streets that are part of the two projects. This article is not requesting any additional funds.

FIRE VEHICLE CAPITAL ITEMS:

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to Transfer the sum of One Hundred Sixteen Thousand Seven Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$116,007.70) from the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account as the 3rd of 5 payments of the lease purchase agreement on, the Fire Department’s Rescue Pumper truck, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: FIRE DEPARTMENT

NOTE: This is the third of five payments of approximately \$120,000 which will be funded through the Ambulance Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to upgrade Police and Fire radio equipment for digital Emergency Management communication, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: FIRE DEPARTMENT

HOUSE KEEPING ARTICLES:

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to be placed in the Capital Stabilization Account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Proposed by: BOARD OF SELECTMEN/FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum of money to be placed in the Stabilization Account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

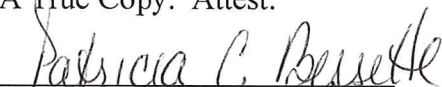
Proposed by: BOARD OF SELECTMEN/FINANCE COMMITTEE

And you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof, at not less than seven (7) public places, including the Post Office, and by leaving not less than twenty (20) copies in each of the public places for distribution in said Town, seven (7) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make do return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 30th day of March, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

A True Copy. Attest:


PATRICIA C. BESSETTE, TOWN CLERK


ERIC S. BECKERMAN, CHAIRMAN


JASON L. SUZOR SR.


JEFFREY BUKUNT, POLICE CHIEF


SHANNON M. COFFEY

AVON BOARD OF SELECTMEN