

RESULTS OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

JUNE 27, 2020

There were ninety-eight (98) Town of Buckland registered voters in attendance (quorum being 7) at the Annual Town Meeting held in the parking lot of the Mohawk Trail Regional School. Phoebe Walker served in her capacity as Moderator working from a warrant dated June 15, 2020 and posted by Constable, Floyd Scott.

The meeting was called to order at 10:01am. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting and went over the rules of Town Meeting and explained the booklet that voters received when they checked into Town Meeting. Select Board chair, Zachary Turner read the dedication of the Annual Town Report that was dedicated to Arthur "Henry" Phillips.

Senator Adam Hinds and Representative Natalie Blais were in attendance and presented citations from the Senate and House of Representatives to retiring Town Clerk, Janice Purington in recognition of her 30 years of service as Town Clerk for the Town of Buckland.

1. CONSENT MOTION:

The Town **voted and passed unanimously** to take Articles 1, 2, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14 & 15 out of order in this warrant and approved the motions below as one vote without debate:

Article 1 -- That the Town vote to instruct the Town Clerk to report on Officers elected on the June 23, 2020 Annual Town Election.

Article 2 -- That the Town vote to accept the reports of the Town Officers as printed in the 2019 Annual Town Report.

Article 5 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,710 for the purpose of funding Special Line Items in the Town Operating Budget for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee, in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020, and, further to authorize that unspent amounts in said line items may be carried forward for use in following fiscal years without further appropriation.

Article 11 -- That the Town vote to appropriate from anticipated receipts from the Town of Shelburne (pursuant to the Operations Agreement) and revenue of the Buckland user assessment, the sum of \$267,955 to fund the operation and maintenance of the Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

Article 12 -- That the Town vote to appropriate from Sewer Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings the sum of \$155,000, which is the estimated cost of capital and/or debt expenses for the Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility, as a line item appropriation in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

Article 13 -- That the Town vote to appropriate from revenue of the Buckland user assessment the sum of \$340 for the purpose of funding Special Line Items in the Wastewater Treatment Facility Enterprise Fund budget for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee, in the Fiscal 2021 Wastewater Treatment Facility Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

Article 14 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,411 to pay short term interest and interest and principle on Town debt, as shown in the chart below:

Project	Amount	Source of Funds	Excluded Debt
Town Hall Renovation	\$28,844	Raise & Appropriate	Yes
Short Term Interest – Highway Garage	\$16,567	Raise & Appropriate	Yes
TOTAL	\$45,411		

Article 15 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$63,000 to be placed in departmental Capital Accounts, as shown in the chart below.

Account	Purpose	Amount	Source of Funds
Buckland Museum	Bldg Repairs	\$3,000	Free Cash
Police Department Expenses	Police Radios	\$10,000	Free Cash
Highway Expenses	Road Repairs & Paving	\$50,000	Free Cash
TOTAL		\$63,000	

2. TOWN BUDGET:

The Town ***voted and passed unanimously*** to take Articles 3, 4, 16 out of order in this warrant and approved the motions below as one vote:

A **Motion was made and seconded** to amend the Elected Officials Salaries by \$966.23 to allow the Town Clerk to receive a 2.5% COLA increase in accordance with other Town of Buckland employees.

The amended motion failed.

Article 3 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$49,349 for Elected Officials' Salaries for Fiscal 2020, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report dated June, 18, 2020.

Article 4 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,744,176 to fund the Town Operating Budget for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

Article 16 -- That the Town vote to transfer \$20,000 from Special Fund Account entitled Franklin County Housing Authority Housing Rehab Reimbursement to General Fund Account Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for FY19 CDBG Grant Match.

3. MTRSD BUDGETS:

The Town **voted and passed** to take Articles 6 and 7 in this warrant and approved the motions below as one vote:

Article 6 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,424,337 for the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Operating Assessment for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

Article 7 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$104,683 for the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Capital Assessment for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

4. VOC/TECH SCHOOL BUDGETS:

The Town **voted and passed unanimously** to take Articles 8, 9 & 10 in this warrant and approved the motions below as one vote:

Article 8: That the Town vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$75,000 for tuition and transportation of students to Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

Article 9 - That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$84,300 for the Franklin County Technical School Operating Assessment for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

Article 10 -- That the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,969 for the Franklin County Technical School Capital Assessment for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020.

5. CONWAY STREET, SUMMER STREET, SOUTH STREET & CONWAY ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

ARTICLE 17: The Town **voted and passed** to (a) authorize the Select Board to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain and on such terms as the Select Board deems appropriate, the fee to and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under and over certain parcels of land located on or near Conway Street, Summer Street, South Street, and Conway Road and approximately shown on plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Reconstruction & Minor Widening on Conway Street, Summer Street, Summer Street, & Conway Road in the Town of Buckland Franklin County", prepared by Nitsch Engineering, on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended from time to time and/or incorporated into an easement plan, and land within 200 feet of said parcels, for public way purposes, including without limitation, for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of rights of way, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, driveways, retaining ways, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding, construction,

landscaping, and other structures and/or appurtenances, to enable the Town to undertake the Conway Street Reconstruction Project and for any and all purposes and uses incidental or related thereto; (b) transfer the care, custody, and control of the portions of the Town-owned properties shown on the aforesaid plans from the board or officer having custody of the same for the purposes for which such properties are currently held to the Select Board for the foregoing purposes and further to dedicate said portions of the Town-owned properties to said purposes, and, if applicable, authorize the Select Board to submit petitions to the General Court to permit the foregoing under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution or otherwise; (c) authorize the Select Board to dispose of excess land located outside the altered layout of the foregoing public ways, if any, on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Select Board deems appropriate; (d) raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum of money to fund the foregoing project and any and all costs incidental or related thereto, including, without limitation, the cost of any land/easement acquisitions, appraisals, and surveys; and, further, (e) authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes.

Town Clerk, Janice Purington thanked the residents for their support and said it had been an honor to serve the Town of Buckland and that she had enjoyed her 30 years of service.

The meeting dissolved at 11:18am

Attest: _____
Janice D. Purington, Town Clerk

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Town of Buckland

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Franklin, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Buckland in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

Greetings:

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 **Mohawk Trail Regional School Parking Lot, 26 Ashfield Road, at 10:00 AM on Saturday, June 27, 2020** then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

To see if the Town will instruct the Town Clerk to report on the election of officers as follows:

Select Board (1)	for three years
Town Clerk (1)	for three years
Board of Assessors (1)	for three years
Board of Health (1)	for three years
Constable (1)	for three years
Finance Committee (2)	for three years
Moderator (1)	for one year
Mohawk Regional High School (1)	for two years
Mohawk Regional High School (1)	for three years
Buckland Library Trustee (1)	for three years

ARTICLE 2: REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the Reports of Town Officers; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 3: SALARIES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for Elected Officials' Salaries for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 4: TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money to fund the Town Operating Budget for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 5: SPECIAL LINE ITEMS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purpose of funding Special Line Items in the Town Operating Budget for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee, in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report, further to authorize that unspent amounts in said line items may be carried forward for use in following fiscal years without further appropriation; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 6: MOHAWK TRAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT ASSESSMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Operating Assessment for Fiscal 2021; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 7: MOHAWK TRAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT CAPITAL ASSESSMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Capital Assessment for Fiscal 2021; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 8: TUITION AND TRANSPORTATION FOR SMITH VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money for tuition and transportation of students to Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 9: FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL OPERATING ASSESSMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the Franklin County Technical School Operating Assessment for Fiscal 2021; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 10: FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL CAPITAL ASSESSMENT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the Franklin County Technical School Capital Assessment for Fiscal 2021; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 11: SHELBURNE FALLS WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money to fund the operation and maintenance of the Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility, an Enterprise Fund, for which a sum of money will be raised from anticipated receipts from the Buckland user assessment as a line item appropriation, and for which a sum of money will be raised from anticipated receipts from the Town of Shelburne (pursuant to the operation agreement), as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Budget Report; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 12: CAPITAL AND/OR DEBT EXPENSES FOR THE SHELBURNE FALLS WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or otherwise provide a sum of money, which is the estimated cost of capital and/or debt expenses for the Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility, an Enterprise Fund, for which a sum of money will be raised from anticipated receipts from the Town of Buckland user assessment, as a line item appropriation, and/or the Buckland Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings as recommended by the Finance Committee in the Town of Buckland Fiscal 2021 Operating Budget Report; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 13: SPECIAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY LINE ITEMS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide a sum of money for the purpose of funding Special Line Items in the Wastewater Treatment Facility Enterprise Fund budget for Fiscal 2021, as line item appropriations, as recommended by the Finance Committee, in the Fiscal 2021 Wastewater Treatment Facility Budget Report, dated June 18, 2020; and, further to authorize that unspent amounts in said line items may be carried forward for use in following fiscal years without further appropriation; or take any action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 14: TOWN DEBT SERVICE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or otherwise provide a sum of money to pay short term interest and interest and principle on Town debt, as shown in the chart below; or take any action relating thereto.

Project	Amount	Source of Funds	Excluded Debt
Town Hall Renovation	\$28,844	Raise & Appropriate	Yes
Short Term Interest – Highway Garage	\$16,567	Raise & Appropriate	Yes

TOTAL	\$45,411		
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ARTICLE 15: TOWN CAPITAL EXPENSES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow or otherwise provide a sum of money to be placed in departmental Capital Accounts, as shown in the chart below; or take any other action relative thereto.

Account	Purpose	Amount	Source of Funds
Buckland Museum	Bldg Repairs	\$3,000	Free Cash
Police Department Expenses	Police Radios	\$10,000	Free Cash
Highway Expenses	Road Repairs & Paving	\$50,000	Free Cash
TOTAL		\$63,000	

ARTICLE 16: COVID-19 MICRO LOAN FUNDING STRATEGY

To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$20,000 from Special Fund Account entitled Franklin County Housing Authority Housing Rehab Reimbursement to General Fund Account Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for FY19 CDBG Grant Match; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: CONWAY ROAD TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to (a) authorize the Select Board to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain and on such terms as the Select Board deems appropriate, the fee to and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under and over certain parcels of land located on or near Conway Street, Summer Street, South Street, and Conway Road and approximately shown on plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of Reconstruction & Minor Widening on Conway Street, Summer Street, Summer Street, & Conway Road in the Town of Buckland Franklin County", prepared by Nitsch Engineering, on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended from time to time and/or incorporated into an easement plan, and land within 200 feet of said parcels, for public way purposes, including without limitation, for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of rights of way, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, driveways, retaining ways, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding, construction, landscaping, and other structures and/or appurtenances, to enable the Town to undertake the Conway Street Reconstruction Project and for any and all purposes and uses incidental or related thereto; (b) transfer the care, custody, and control of the portions of the Town-owned properties shown on the aforesaid plans from the board or officer having custody of the same for the purposes for which such properties are currently held to the Select Board for the foregoing purposes and further to dedicate said portions of the Town-owned properties to said purposes, and, if applicable, authorize the Select Board to submit petitions to the General Court to permit the foregoing under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution or otherwise; (c) authorize the Select Board to dispose of excess land located outside the altered layout of the foregoing public ways, if any, on such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Select Board deems appropriate; (d) raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum of money to fund the foregoing project and any and all costs incidental or related thereto, including, without limitation, the cost of any land/easement acquisitions, appraisals, and surveys; and, further, (e) authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes; or take any action relating thereto.