



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2020

Warrant Article Guide

ARTICLE 1: HEAR REPORTS

Through this article, the Town accepts the reports of every department and committee in town for the previous calendar year.

ARTICLE 3: FY21 BUDGET

This article approves the operating budgets for the Town, Sudbury Public Schools and Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School for the year starting on July 1, 2020. The budget includes all personnel, contractual services, goods and debt payments. You can find information on the budget in the warrant and Town Manager's Proposed FY21 Budget: <https://bit.ly/3IPs08M>

ARTICLE 4: FY21 CAPITAL BUDGET

This article includes capital needs for the Town that are under \$100,000. You can find more information about the budget in the warrant and on page 102 of the Proposed Budget: <https://bit.ly/3IPs08M>

ARTICLE 5, 6, AND 7: ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGETS

These three articles appropriate the budgets for the Town's enterprise fund budgets. The Town has three enterprise fund budgets: pool, fields and the transfer station. Those budgets are funded through user fees rather than the tax levy. More information about these budgets can be found in the warrant and on page 80 of the Proposed Budget: <https://bit.ly/3IPs08M>. To learn more about enterprise funds visit: <https://bit.ly/2UOgUad>

ARTICLE 10: CHAPTER 90 HIGHWAY FUNDING *Consent Calendar*

This article accepts the State aid that Sudbury receives for highway road work.

ARTICLE 11: STABILIZATION FUND *Consent Calendar*

The Town has a policy to maintain an amount equal to 5% of the total projected general fund operating revenues for the last fiscal year in the Stabilization Account. This article transfers \$40,496 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Account to maintain that amount of reserves. A Stabilization Account is like a savings account for emergencies. It requires a 2/3rd vote of Town Meeting to use the funds.

ARTICLE 12: GOODNOW LIBRARY SERVICES REVOLVING FUND *Consent Calendar*

A Revolving Fund earmarks revenues generated from a specific activity/program/service to be used to support the activity/program/service that generated the revenues. The Town would like to create a new Revolving Fund which would use fees collected for lost books, passport applications, photocopies and other services to cover the cost of lost or damaged books and of providing services such as passport processing, notarization, and copying/printing.

ARTICLE 13: FY21 REVOLVING FUND LIMITS *Consent Calendar*

This is a routine item. Under the Municipal Modernization Act, Towns are required to authorize revolving fund accounts and set limits for them every year by amending the Revolving Account bylaw.

ARTICLE 14: CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

This article requests to transfer \$250,000 from Free Cash to save for future capital needs.

ARTICLE 15: FUND LITIGATION COSTS – EVERSOURCE *Consent Calendar*

This article requests to transfer \$150,000 from Free Cash to fund litigation with Eversource regarding the proposed Sudbury to Hudson Transmission Line project. More information on the Eversource litigation can be found here: <https://sudbury.ma.us/selectmen/?p=869>

ARTICLE 16: POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTH INSURANCE TRUST FUNDING *Consent Calendar*

This article requests to transfer \$211,976.08 from Health Insurance Trust - no longer in use after the Town transitioned from being self-insured to joining the State's Group Insurance Commission (GIC) - to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust.

ARTICLE 17: CSX CORRIDOR

This article requests \$1,220,500 to purchase approximately 11.26 acres and 1.4 miles in length that runs north-south in south Sudbury, known as the CSX railroad corridor. If approved, \$820,500 of the purchase would be funded by debt, and \$400,000 would be paid for by available funds then reimbursed to the Town through secured MassTrails grants. More information, including the property appraisals, Purchase & Sale Agreement and property map can be found at <https://sudbury.ma.us/csx>

ARTICLE 18: FAIRBANK COMMUNITY CENTER DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

This article requests \$28,832,000 for design, permitting and construction or renovation of the Fairbank Community Center. If approved, the purchase would be funded by debt. More information, including the project proposal, Town Forum presentation and a virtual tour of Fairbank can be found at https://sudbury.ma.us/fairbank_project

ARTICLE 21: PURCHASE FIRE DEPARTMENT AMBULANCE

This article requests \$340,000 to purchase a new ambulance and associated equipment to add a third ALS ambulance to the Fire Department's fleet. If approved, the ambulance would be funded from the Town's Ambulance – Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Account.

ARTICLE 22: DUTTON ROAD BRIDGE PROJECT – EASEMENTS *Consent Calendar*

This article requests permission to acquire easements from abutters of the Dutton Road Bridge in order to complete the previously funded Dutton Road Bridge Replacement Project.

ARTICLE 25: ROADWAY DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$120,000 to design, permit and bid for town-wide drainage system improvements, including replacement of old corrugated metal pipe. If approved, this would be funded from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 26: OLD SUDBURY ROAD CULVERT DESIGN *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$100,000 to design, permit and bid for replacement of two Old Sudbury Road culverts, necessary to ensure the safe passage of motor vehicles. It also requests permission to acquire easements from abutters to the project. If approved, this would be funded from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 28: DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW

This article requests \$110,000 to purchase a new dump truck and plow. If approved, the truck would be funded from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 29: ONE-TON DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW, SPREADER AND WING

This article requests \$140,000 to purchase a new one-ton dump truck with plow, spreader and wing for use in construction projects and winter operations. If approved, the truck would be funded from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 30: 6-WHEEL COMBO BODY DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW AND SPREADER

This article requests \$260,000 to purchase a new 6-wheel dump truck with plow and multi-use body, replacing a 15-year-old 6-wheel dedicated spreader. If approved, the truck would be funded from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 31: SUDBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

This article requests \$261,023 to purchase and install surveillance cameras and associated equipment at Curtis, Haynes, Loring, Nixon and Noyes Schools. If approved, the equipment and installation would be funded from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 32: SUDBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

This article requests \$333,000 to update the playground at Loring Elementary School. This is part of a multi-year project goal, which, upon completion, will bring the four elementary school playgrounds into compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board (MAAB) accessibility requirements. If approved, the playground improvements would be funded from Free Cash.

ARTICLE 33: SUDBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS NON-RESIDENT TUITION FUND *Consent Calendar*

This article requests to accept Chapter 71, Section 71F of Mass General Law which allows the School Committee to use funds collected from non-resident tuition and foster care student reimbursement towards expenses associated with educating these students.

ARTICLE 34: AUTHORIZE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO PETITION FOR AN ADDITIONAL ALCOHOL POURING LICENSE FOR MEADOW WALK DEVELOPMENT *Consent Calendar*

This article seeks to increase Sudbury's alcoholic beverage license quota, which currently has no available licenses for new Sudbury restaurants to serve alcohol, by adding one all-alcohol serving license to be used at Meadow Walk plaza.

ARTICLE 35: ACCEPTANCE OF PROVISION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS' BRAVE ACT, M.G.L C.59, S.5, CLAUSE 22H *Consent Calendar*

This article requests to accept Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22nd H of Mass General Law which exempts Gold Star parents or guardians from property tax payment obligations.

ARTICLE 36: ADDITION OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION *Consent Calendar*

This article requests to add two associate member roles to the Historic Districts Commission.

ARTICLE 37: AMEND ZONING BYLAW, ARTICLE IX: REMOVE SECTION 4800. TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENTS AND INSERT SECTION 4800. SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

This article requests to replace the section of Zoning Bylaw which placed a temporary moratorium on recreational marijuana establishments with regulations for Solar Energy Systems, which are currently unregulated in the Zoning Bylaw. Since passage of the initial temporary moratorium in 2017, a town-wide prohibition on recreational marijuana establishments has been implemented.

ARTICLE 38: AMEND ZONING BYLAW, ARTICLE IX: INSERT SECTION 5600. INCLUSION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

This article seeks to increase affordable housing opportunities in Sudbury by implementing a Zoning Bylaw which institutes affordable housing requirements (creation of, payment in lieu of, or other method) for developments proposed for 3 or more dwelling units.

ARTICLE 39: EXCHANGE OF REAL PROPERTY – BRIMSTONE LANE PARCELS *Consent Calendar*

This article requests to exchange 1,033 square feet of Conservation Land for a 29,800 square foot parcel on Brimstone Lane between the Conservation Commission and the Aronson family.

ARTICLES 40 & 41: TRANSFER CARE & CUSTODY OF TOWN-OWNED WATER ROW PARCELS TO CONSERVATION COMMISSION *Consent Calendar*

This article requests to transfer approximately 26 acres of land on Water Row parcels (H11-401) and (H11-305) to the Conservation Commission for conservation and passive recreation.

Town Meeting articles 42 – 48 are Community Preservation Act (CPA) projects. These projects are vetted by the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and funded through 1) the CPA tax surcharge and 2) state matching funds, which make up Sudbury's CPA budget.

ARTICLE 42: HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY SURVEY *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$33,000 to fund surveying approximately 30 individual properties and 2 areas to determine if they are eligible for listing in the State or National Register of Historic Places, or for possible inclusion in a local historic district. If approved, this would be funded by the CPA budget.

ARTICLE 43: REMOVAL OF INVASIVE SPECIES FROM KING PHILIP WOODS *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$47,600 for the manual removal of invasive plant species from King Philip Woods, protecting the area's wildlife habitat, native vegetation, and historical value. If approved, this would be funded by the CPA budget.

ARTICLE 44: DESIGN OF WAYSIDE INN ROAD BRIDGE OVER HOP BROOK *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$125,000 for the design of a new bridge on Wayside Inn Road over Hop Brook to replace the temporary structure installed after a 2019 motor vehicle accident severely damaged the bridge. If approved, the design would be funded by the CPA budget.

ARTICLE 45: REMEDIATION OF WATER CHESTNUTS FROM HOP BROOK POND SYSTEM *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$180,000 total (using \$60,000 per year for three years) to remove water chestnuts and other invasive plants from Carding Mill, Stearns Mill and Grist Mill Ponds (known as the Hop Brook Pond System). If left untreated, water chestnuts will effectively kill all indigenous plants in the ponds within a few years. If approved, the remediation would be funded by the CPA budget.

ARTICLE 46: SUDBURY HOUSING AUTHORITY ACQUISITION, CREATION, PRESERVATION, AND SUPPORT OF AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$259,000 be allocated to the Sudbury Housing Authority to create, acquire, preserve, and support affordable rental housing for families and individuals with greatest need. If approved, this would be funded by the CPA budget.

ARTICLE 47: REGIONAL HOUSING SERVICES OFFICE (RHOS) MEMBERSHIP FEE *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$30,000 to fund Sudbury's membership in the Regional Housing Services program, which supports the Town's affordable housing activities. If approved, the membership cost would be funded by the CPA budget.

ARTICLE 48: LIBRARY HISTORIC ROOM CONVERSION *Consent Calendar*

This article requests \$150,000 for the rehabilitation of the Goodnow Library Historical Room and original octagon, to comply with current safety codes and expand the library's available work and study spaces. If approved, this would be funded by the CPA budget.

ARTICLE 49: REVERSION OF FUNDS *Consent Calendar*

This article seeks to return \$46,332.54 left over from completed CPA projects back to the CPA account.

ARTICLE 50: FY21 CPA BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS *Consent Calendar*

This article requests approval for \$1,111,410 of the Sudbury CPA FY 21 budget to fund projects previously approved at Town Meeting and \$85,000 for administrative and operational expenses for the Community Preservation Committee. The 6 projects fall under the Historic Resources, and Open Space and Recreation categories. The CPA budget is funded by 1) a 3% property tax surcharge and 2) matching funds from the state.

Town Meeting articles 51 – 57 are Citizen's Petition Articles, initiated by Sudbury residents.

Consent Calendar- Articles on the Consent Calendar are voted as a unit, without debate, unless a voter "holds" an article(s) for discussion or clarification. The opportunity to hold an article takes place at the call of the Consent Calendar, when the moderator reads the number of each Consent Calendar article. For details, please see page ii of the [2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant](#).

For details, presentations and supporting information on any of the above, visit [Town Meeting Articles](#).

For general information about the outdoor Town Meeting, visit [2020 Annual Town Meeting](#)