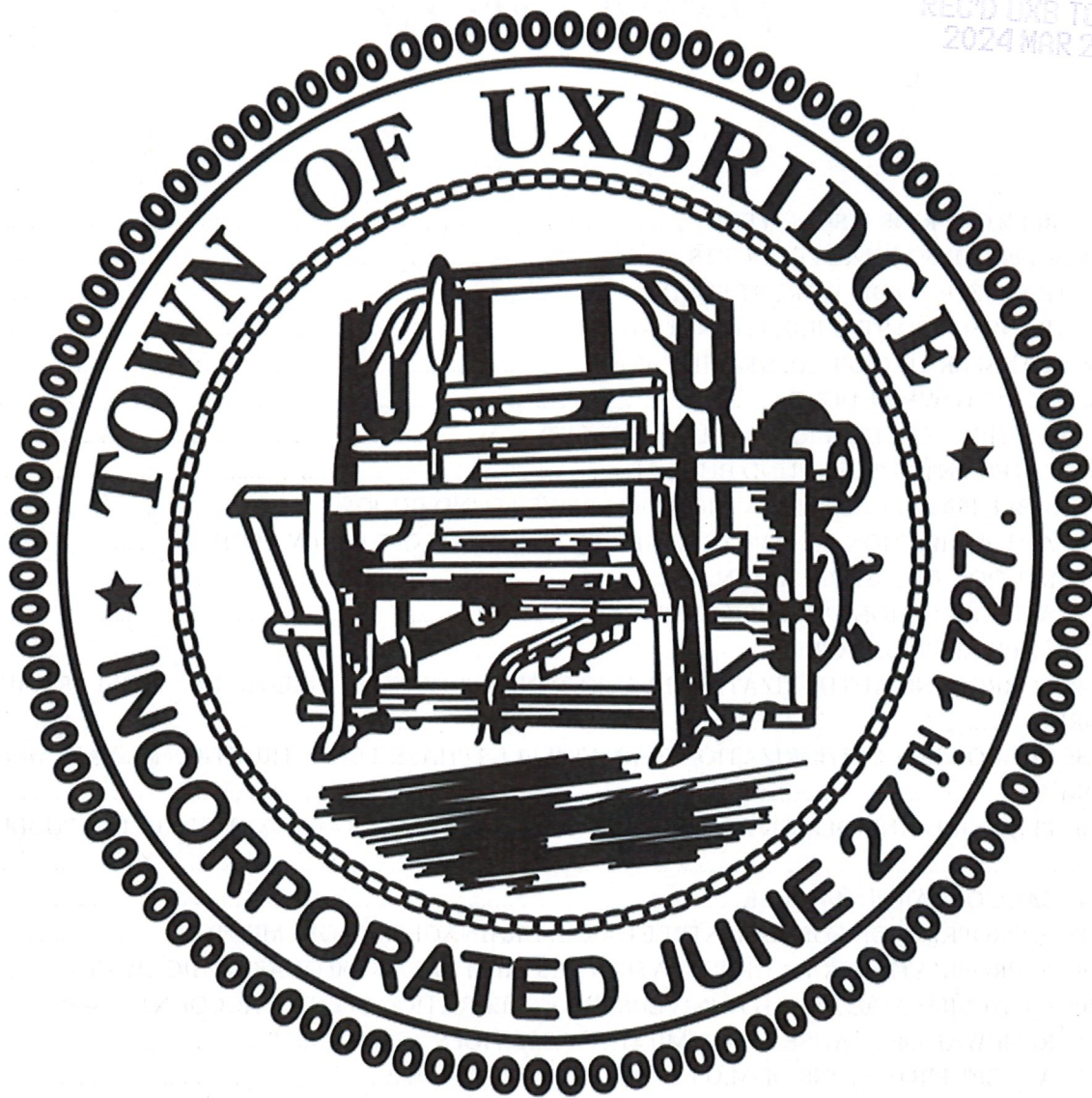


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SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

**TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.
VALLEY CHAPEL – 14 HUNTER ROAD
UXBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS**

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SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

**TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.
VALLEY CHAPEL – 14 HUNTER ROAD
UXBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS**

*WORCESTER, S.S.
TO EITHER OF THE CONSTABLES OF THE
TOWN, IN SAID COUNTY*

GREETINGS:

*IN THE NAME OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, YOU ARE
DIRECTED TO NOTIFY THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF UXBRIDGE,
QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN THE TOWN ELECTIONS AND IN TOWN AFFAIRS, TO MEET
AT THE VALLEY CHAPEL, 14 HUNTER ROAD, IN SAID UXBRIDGE, ON THE
FOLLOWING ARTICLES TO WIT:*

* * *

ARTICLE 1: BILLS OF PRIOR FISCAL YEAR

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §64 to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds such sums of money necessary for the purpose of paying outstanding bills from prior fiscal year(s); or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 2: SUPPLEMENT FY2024 BUDGETS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to supplement Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) departmental expenses; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 3: TRANSFER TO OPEB TRUST FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise or appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be placed into the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund established in accordance with §20 of M.G.L. c. 32B; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 4: TRANSFER TO STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise or appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be placed into the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 5: TRANSFER TO CAPITAL STABILIZATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise or appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, a sum of money to be placed into the Capital Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 6: FY2025 TOWN BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to approve the budget - fix the compensation of all officials of the Town, provide for a reserve fund, determine sums to be raised and appropriated, including those from available funds, in order to defray expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, for fiscal year 2025 (FY25); or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 7: WASTEWATER ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, including Wastewater Enterprise Retained Earnings, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the salaries, expenses, capital, and debt service of the Wastewater Enterprise Fund for the ensuing fiscal year, such sums of money to be offset by revenues of the Wastewater Enterprise Fund received during fiscal year 2025 (FY25); or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 8: WATER ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, including Water Enterprise Retained Earnings, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the salaries, expenses, capital, and debt service of the Water Enterprise Fund for the ensuing fiscal year, such sums of money to be offset by revenues of the Water Enterprise Fund received during fiscal year 2025 (FY25); or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 9: CABLE PEG ACCESS TELEVISION ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money for the salaries and expenses of the Community Access Television budget for the ensuing fiscal year, such sums of money to be offset by revenues received during fiscal year 2025 (FY25) by the Cable PEG Access Enterprise Fund; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 10: AUTHORIZATION TO BOND REPAIRS TO BLACKSTONE VALLEY TECH

To see if the Town will vote to approve the \$10,000,000 debt authorized by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee on February 15, 2024 and amended by its actions of March 14, 2024 to pay costs of roof reconstruction and the replacement to energy efficient rooftop HVAC units at the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, located at 65 Pleasant Street, Upton, MA including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto. Such debt approval by the Town to be contingent upon the District's ability to secure grant approval from the Massachusetts School Building Authority Accelerated Repair grant program.

SPONSOR: Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee

ARTICLE 11: SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a one-time request of \$258,000 to cover the FY25 School District's Athletic and General Education Transportation costs due to increased rates with the Bus Contract and reduced access to revolving funds revenue; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Uxbridge School Committee

ARTICLE 12: APPROPRIATION FOR CMRPC PER CAPITA RATE

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40B, §7, to approve the per capita rate of \$0.31610, as assessed by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) upon the population of 14,162 persons in the Town of Uxbridge, as listed on the 2020 national census, and in doing so, vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$4,476.61 to pay the Town's portion of the fiscal year 2025 (FY25) operating expenses of the CMRPC; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 13: CAPITAL PURCHASES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds including the Capital Stabilization Account a sum or sums of money for capital purchases and/or projects as recommended by the Town Manager in conjunction with the Capital Planning Committee, and/or to transfer to the Capital Stabilization Fund unused balances of completed capital purchases and/or projects; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

**ARTICLE 14: BORROWING AUTHORIZATION BLACKSTONE WATER TREATMENT PLANT
(DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS)**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money, not to exceed nineteen million five hundred thousand dollars (\$19,500,000) to pay costs for the design, permitting, public bidding, construction, and owner's project manager services for the Blackstone Water Treatment Plant Project consisting of a new 1.2 million gallon, more or less, per day water treatment plant to filter water from the Town's existing three Blackstone Street wells, and including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §§7 or 8, M.G.L. c. 29C or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; all, or any portion, of this borrowing may be obtained through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (the "Trust"); and to authorize the Chair of the Board of Water Commissioners, acting on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, the Treasurer and any other appropriate official of the Town to execute and deliver any and all agreements and other documents that may be required by the Trust, or by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Environmental Protection in connection with any financing to be obtained through the Trust; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Uxbridge Water Commissioners

**ARTICLE 15: BORROWING AUTHORIZATION BERNAT WELLS PHASE 2 CONSTRUCTION
(DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS)**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money, not to exceed one million dollars five hundred thousand (\$1,500,000) to pay costs for the public bidding and construction for the Bernat Wells Phase 2 Project consisting of the construction of the replacement production wells including new well pumps, raw water mains, instrumentation, electrical and control equipment and appurtenances and the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is hereby authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §§7 or 8, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; the Chair of the Board of Water Commissioners, acting

on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, the Treasurer and any other appropriate official of the Town are authorized to execute and deliver any and all agreements and other documents necessary or convenient to carry out this project and its financing; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Uxbridge Water Commissioners

ARTICLE 16: PLANNING AND DESIGN APPROPRIATION FOR STATE LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

To see if the Town will vote to apply for, accept, and expend Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program (“MPLCP”) grant funds, if approved, and further to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of \$150,000.00, or any other sum, with said sum to be expended by the Town for library assessment, planning, feasibility and/or design, including all incidental and related expenses; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Board of Library of Trustees & Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 17: SALE OF FARNUM HOUSE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen/Town Manager to convey all or a portion of the Town’s right, title and interest in the Cornet John Farnum, Jr., House buildings and/or property located at 44 Mendon Street, Uxbridge, MA, subject to any existing or new Historic Preservation Restriction or Restriction Agreement, on such terms and condition as the Board may deem in the best interests of the Town; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Uxbridge Historical Commission & Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 18: APPROPRIATION FOR HIGH STREET AREA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer, borrow, or otherwise provide a sum of money to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen for an additional \$640,000 for the High Street Drainage Project to pay the costs of construction and construction phase services associated with the High Street Drainage Project, and the payment of all other costs incidental; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 19: APPROPRIATION FOR CONSERVATION RESTRICTION AT 300 QUAKER HIGHWAY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum up to \$20,000 for the purpose of obtaining a baseline report, paying stewardship or monitoring fees and/or other costs incidental or related to the grant of a conservation restriction on the Town-owned property located at 300 Quaker Highway, as authorized by the vote taken under Article 16 of the October 24, 2023 Fall Annual Town Meeting, or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 20: ESTABLISH A 2027 300th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SPECIAL ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will vote to establish a celebration account pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, §53I for the 300th Anniversary Celebration of the Town of Uxbridge, and to transfer from available funds the sum of \$50,000 to help cover the cost of events of the celebrations, including but not limited to: bands, marchers, police details, firework displays, or other events/performers, etc.; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 21: RENEWAL OF CLAUSE 56 FOR MILITARY SERVICES ABATEMENT

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, §5, Clause 56, which will allow members of the Massachusetts National Guard, or military Reservists who are on active duty to obtain a reduction for all or part of their real personal property taxes for any fiscal year that they are serving in a foreign country, to be effective July 1, 2024 and expire after 2 years unless extended by a vote of Town Meeting; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 22: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. c. 60, §2, PARAGRAPH 2

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 60, §2, Paragraph 2, allowing abatement of certain uncollectable taxes after notification by the Collector to the Assessor; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Assessor & Treasurer/Collector

ARTICLE 23: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. c. 59, §5, CLAUSE THIRTY-SEVENTH A

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, §5, Clause 37A, establishing a tax exemption of \$500.00 for blind persons meeting certain residency requirements; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Assessor

ARTICLE 24: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. c. 59, §5, CLAUSE SEVENTEETH F

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, §5, Clause 17F, which allows the Abatement granted pursuant to certain persons pursuant to M.G.L. §5, Clauses Seventeenth, Seventeenth C, Seventeenth C1/2 or Seventeenth D, to be increased annually by an amount not to exceed the increase in the cost of living as determined by the Consumer Price Index for such year; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Assessor

ARTICLE 25: TRUST FUND INVESTMENTS PRUDENT INVESTOR RULE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 44, §54(b) to allow Town trust funds to be invested in accordance with M.G.L. c. 203C, the so-called “Prudent Investor Rule”; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Treasurer/Collector

ARTICLE 26: SUTTON STREET CULVERT REPLACEMENT AUTHORIZATION TO ACQUIRE PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS)

To see if the Town will vote to (a) authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain and on such terms as the Board of Selectmen deems appropriate, the fee to and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under and over certain parcels of land located on or near Sutton Street and approximately shown on plans entitled “_____”, prepared by _____, on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended from time to time and/or incorporated into an easement plan; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 27: AMEND TOWN CHARTER: TOWN MANAGER – SECTION 2: POWERS AND DUTIES

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to M.G.L. c. 43B, §10 to amend the Uxbridge Charter to create the position of Finance Director and Human Resources Director, Town Manager – Section 2 (b): Powers and Duties, by inserting the bold language; or take any other action relating thereto.

TOWN MANAGER
SECTION 2: POWERS AND DUTIES

(b) To appoint a **finance director**/town accountant; a town treasurer/collector; a town clerk; an assessor; a police chief; a fire chief; a superintendent of public works; an emergency management director and related emergency management personnel; a **human resources director**/human resource professional; a conservation commission; an industrial development committee; a capital planning committee; an inspector of buildings; a wire inspector; an inspector of gas appliances and gas fittings; a plumbing inspector; a sealer of weights and measures in accordance with the civil service law and rules; a parking clerk; a right-to-know coordinator; a veteran's services director, veteran's agent, veteran's graves officer and burial agent; a dog officer; a zoning board of appeals; a tree warden; and a planning board.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 28: AMEND GENERAL BYLAWS SECTION 233-1: LICENSES AND PERMITS

To see if the Town will vote to change the length of time the Town must wait to deny a permit by inserting the bold language and deleting the strikethrough as noted; or take any other action relating thereto.

§ 233-1. Annual list of nonpayers of local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges The Tax Collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessment, betterments and other municipal charges, hereinafter referred to as the "Tax 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 ~~for not less than a twelvemonth period~~ 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.

SPONSOR: Town Manager

ARTICLE 29: AMENDMENT TO GENERAL BYLAWS CHAPTER 290 STORMWATER AUTHORITY

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Uxbridge General Bylaw Chapter 290 Stormwater, by replacing the Planning Board as the Stormwater Authority with the Conservation Commission as the Stormwater Authority and making grammatical updates by inserting the bold language and deleting the strikethrough all as shown on a document on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relating thereto.

SPONSOR: Uxbridge Conservation Commission

ARTICLE 30: CITIZENS' PETITION: TO ESTABLISH A TOWN MISSION STATEMENT

To see if the Town will vote to establish a town mission statement as follows: The Town of Uxbridge will build on its historical legacy to welcome all individuals, encourage their involvement in town government, services and education and support sustainable community development. These goals will be achieved through forward-looking policies, regulations and budgets developed through cooperation and involvement with a broad base of Uxbridge residents.

SPONSOR: Citizens' Petition

* * * * *

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof, one at the Town Hall, one at DPW, one at the Uxbridge Post Office, one at the North Uxbridge Post Office, and one at the Linwood Post Office, at least seven (7) days before the time of holding said meeting, in accordance with M.G.L. c.39, §10.

Hereof, fail not and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time of the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 25th day of March in the year 2024.

Uxbridge Board of Selectmen:

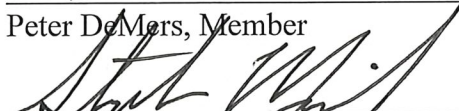


Jeffrey Shaw, Chair

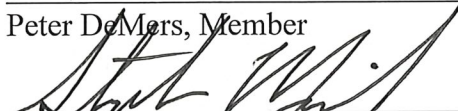


John Wise, Vice Chair

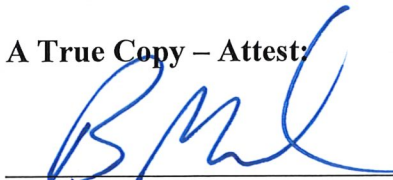
Brian Plasko, Secretary



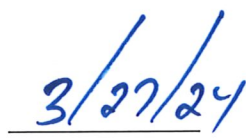
Peter DeMers, Member



Stephen Mandile, Member

A True Copy – Attest:


Constable, Town of Uxbridge



Date

