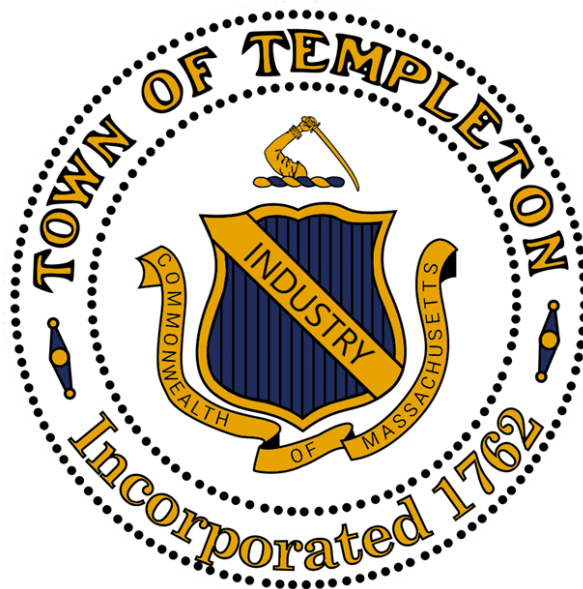


# TOWN OF TEMPLETON

## FALL TOWN MEETING VOTER GUIDE

November 15, 2023



**Narragansett Regional Middle School  
460 Baldwinville Road, Baldwinville**

<http://www.templetonma.gov>

**TOWN OF TEMPLETON, MA  
FALL TOWN MEETING  
VOTER INFORMATION**

Templeton has an Open Town Meeting/Select Board form of government. While there are many things the Select Board can do on a day-to-day basis, there are many things it cannot do which is why we have Town Meeting. In our Town, the legislative body is the Open Town Meeting and is how we adopt by-laws, accept certain state laws, appropriate money, buy/sell land, and the like.

In our Town the legislative body is the Open Town Meeting; a form of government in which any registered voter can appear, ask questions, speak on matters under consideration, make motions and amendments, and cast their vote as they deem in the best interests of the Town.

This Voter Information Guide provides you with the original warrant articles and a summary of the purpose of the articles and the consequences of the vote. Here is the format:

**Article # and Title  
Article Sponsor  
Vote Required**

**Summary: A brief description of the reasons for – and impact of - the article.**

**Comments and Recommendations of the Advisory Committee.**

Citizen's Petitions await motions by those who filed them.

Please feel free to contact me directly at Town Hall via office line at 978.894.2778 or by email at [alamontagne@templetonma.gov](mailto:alamontagne@templetonma.gov), if you have questions you would like to ask before the meeting.

I look forward to meeting you at the Meeting.

Sincerely Yours,



Adam Lamontagne  
Town Administrator

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## **Moderator's Rules**

On a general note, there are often materials on a display table near the check-in tables for people to use at Town Meeting or that provide general information to Town residents. These materials have been pre-approved by me prior to placement to ensure they are appropriate to be distributed at this forum. If you would like to make such materials available to Town Meeting members, please submit them to me for approval at least 72 hours (i.e. three days) before the start of Town Meeting. Only those materials approved by me will be on the display table. Any unapproved materials will be removed at my direction. You should submit any materials you wish to have pre-approved to me at the following email address (blaster25jhg@gmail.com) at least 72 hours (i.e. three days) before the meeting. I will respond as quickly as possible.

Town Meeting is run by a Town Moderator who the voters elect for a one-year term. Our By- Laws call for the most current issue of TOWN MEETING TIME to be considered the general guideline for all procedures of town meetings, except those procedures already provided for by the by-laws. Subject to change, I have some additional rules that I follow. Those are to:

- 1) Call the meeting to order and go over some housekeeping issues such as the location of fire exits, asking you to silence cell phones and electronic devices, and the like.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Read the Constables' return of the Warrant to show that it was properly served and posted.
- 4) Introduce Special Guests, and the like.
- 5) As I call each Article, a Motion will be read and seconded (generally by the Select Board, unless it is a citizen petition) and shown on the screen behind me unless there was no ability for the room to readily accommodate such a screen.
- 6) I will then ask for the Recommendation of the Advisory Committee (just their vote on their "Advisory Committee Recommendation's" document).
- 7) Return to the Motion maker for any explanation.
- 8) Open the floor for discussion (including first recognizing the Advisory Committee for any particular reasons behind their recommendation).
- 9) Anyone wishing to speak on any issue must first proceed to a microphone and be recognized by the Moderator. I will not entertain any shout outs and you must use a microphone unless I permit otherwise. You will be asked to state your name and address every time you are given permission to

speak. You may also be asked if you are speaking as a resident or on behalf of a board or committee.

Any amendments to the main motion must be submitted to me in writing, and signed by the motion maker of said amendment.

Anyone unruly or disorderly will be given a warning and advised that they are out of order. If the situation continues they will be escorted out of the meeting and placed in a convenient place until the meeting is adjourned.

10) If I am not certain of a voice vote or if a vote declared by me is immediately questioned by seven (7) or more people standing and or recognized by me, I will proceed to a hand count.

Otherwise, general parliamentary procedure and common courtesy rule the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John H. Graves". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John H. Graves  
Town Moderator

## Common Terms of Finance

As you read the warrant articles there will be some terms that are unique to public finance or particular to Massachusetts. Below are some definitions of those terms to help you better understand what the request might be for and how it is to be funded.

**Fiscal Year:** Most government entities follow a budget year of their choosing, or that is specified by the state, that is different than the January 1 to December 31 calendar year. Templeton follows a Fiscal Year (FY) of July 1 of a year to June 30 of the following year. We always refer to the Fiscal Year as of the year in which it ends (June 30, 2018 is FY '18).

**Free Cash:** Most budgets assume you collect every dollar - and spend every dollar - you think you will. That never really happens. There are often variations. Free Cash is defined as the remaining, unrestricted funds from operations of the previous fiscal year (i.e. after any liabilities or potential variances you cannot account for) including unexpended free cash from the prior year. In simplest terms, it is actual receipts in excess of revenue estimates and unspent amounts in the appropriation line items. Free cash is not available for appropriation until certified by the Department of Revenue (DOR) Director of Accounts.

**Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP):** This is a collection of accounting standards and common practices that have developed over many years to summarize an organization's accounting records and disclose supporting information such that anyone reading the financial statements of multiple companies has a reasonable basis for comparison.

**Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB):** This independent, private-sector organization establishes accounting and financial reporting standards for state and local governments that follow GAAP. We are not required to follow their rules, but we cannot get a "clean" audit without having done so. Such audits are important to how the bonding agencies view us.

**Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA):** An association of public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada with more than 20,000 members planning, financing, and implementing thousands of governmental operations in each of their jurisdictions.

**Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB):** We promise the people we hire (under certain conditions) that we will give them other benefits (health, dental, and life insurance) beyond just their pensions when they retire. We are required to calculate how much money it would take to pay for those other benefits and to develop a plan to set that money aside to cover this promise.

**Overlay:** This is an account established annually to fund anticipated property tax abatements, exemptions and uncollected taxes in that year. The overlay reserve is not established by the normal appropriation process, but raised on the tax rate recapitulation sheet (Recap). If more monies are built up in this account than are needed, the Assessors declare it "surplus" and it becomes available for appropriation.

**Recap:** This is the set of forms issued by the DOR for us to use in seeking their approval of the annual tax rate. It is shorthand for their Tax Recapitulation Sheet.

**Retained Earnings:** This is the phrase used for free cash of an enterprise fund such as the Sewer fund.

**Stabilization Fund:** The state allows the Town to set up funds in which it can set aside monies in anticipation of paying for allowable, generally unforeseen (i.e. think “rainy day” funds) or high cost items expenditures. Generally speaking, it takes a majority vote to put money into these funds and a 2/3 vote to withdraw money from them. The Town has two such funds.

**Capital Expense (CAPEX):** This covers replacement or major repair of our equipment or facilities such as Town Hall and the like.

**Operating (OPEX):** This provides monies to get through major economic downturns without having to devastate services, high cost unforeseen assessments the state or others might require of us, and the like.



**ARTICLE 1: PAYMENT OF LATE BILLS**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**9/10ths Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the payment of late bills from prior fiscal years from the FY 2023 budgets of the following departments in the following amounts:

Building & Grounds      \$5,896

And to meet said appropriation by a transfer of said sum from certified free cash,

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This is for the remaining street light bill that was invoiced to the Town.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a NO vote on Article 1, with a vote of 1-2.

**ARTICLE 2: FISCAL YEAR 2024 OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$20,000.00) for supplemental appropriations to the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget as follows:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Town Clerk	\$15,000	Unexpected Primary & Election
Accounting	\$5,000	Employee Medical Issue

And to meet said appropriation by a transfer of said sum from certified free cash,

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This is to cover the expenses associated with the special primary and general election for the open seat formerly held by Senator Gobi. The other is to backfill a position for a short period. The motion will be for a lower amount.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 2, with a vote of 2-1.

**ARTICLE 3: NORFOLK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL TUITION  
Submitted by the Select Board  
Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Twenty Six Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Five Dollars and No Cents (\$26,355.00) to pay for the tuition of a Templeton resident admitted to Norfolk County Agricultural School as required by Chapter 74 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

And to meet said appropriation by a transfer of said sum from certified free cash,

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This Article is for a Templeton student going to Norfolk Agricultural High School. We learned the student was accepted after we went through the budget process and these funds would cover the tuition for that student. This is in accordance with MGL Ch. 74.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 3, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 4: NORFOLK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION  
Submitted by the Select Board  
Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Forty-One Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$41,400) to pay for the transportation of a Templeton resident admitted to Norfolk County Agricultural School as required by Chapter 74 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

And to meet said appropriation by a transfer of said sum from certified free cash,

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This Article is for a Templeton student going to Norfolk Agricultural High School. We learned the student was accepted after we went through the budget process and these funds would cover the transportation for that student. The Town will be eligible for state reimbursement covering some of the costs associated with this expense. This is in accordance with MGL Ch. 74.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 4, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 5: SEWER ADMIN BUILDING ROOF**  
**Submitted by the Select Board on behalf of the Sewer Commissioners**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town of Templeton will vote to appropriate the sum Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00) for the purposes of financing the design and oversight of the Administrative Building roof replacement at the Wastewater Treatment Facility and to meet said appropriation by a transfer of Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$50,000.00) from certified retained earnings of the Sewer Fund.

Or to take any action in relation thereto.

**Summary: The roof leaks and has been through many repairs to try to fix the leaks. Looking to get a design for a new roof to replace the approximately 30-year-old roof.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 5, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 6: ADOPT M.G.L. c. 90, § 17C**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 90, Section 17C of the General Laws, to authorize the Select Board to establish a speed limit of 25 miles per hour on town-owned roadways within thickly settled or business districts.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary:** Upon acceptance of this Massachusetts General Law the Select Board will be able to designate certain streets within the Town of Templeton as thickly settled or business districts and post the speed limit as 25 miles per hour.

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 6, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 7: AMENDING THE BYLAWS RE: SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL; WATER DRAINAGE**

**Submitted by the Select Board  
Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 240 of the General Bylaws by amending Article II as follows:

§ 240-6 Violations and penalties.

Whoever violates § 240-3 or § 240-5 of this bylaw shall be punished by a fine of \$50 for each offense **which shall be enforced by the Police Department.**

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This update will allow the Templeton Police Department to enforce our bylaws relative to snow and ice removal.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a NO vote on Article 7, with a vote of 1-2.

**ARTICLE 8: AMEND THE BYLAWS RE: SIGNS & ENFORCEMENT**

**Submitted by the Select Board  
Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 240 of the General Bylaws by amending Article VI as follows:

§ 240-16 Authorized Signs on Town-owned Property

This by-law is adopted for the regulation and restriction of billboards, signs and other advertising devices within this Town on public ways and Town-owned property in order to protect and enhance the visual environment of this Town and the safety, convenience and welfare of its residents. Signs are an informational tool to notify, advertise, or call attention to a variety of purposes.

This by-law is hereby declared to be remedial and protective and is to be so construed as to secure the beneficial interests and purposes thereof. This by-law is adopted pursuant to Chapters 93 and 43B of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

A "Sign" is defined as any permanent or temporary structure, billboard, device, letter, word, illuminated fixture, electric bulb, tube or similar contrivance, medal, banner, pennant, insignia, flag, or any other representation used as, or which is in the nature of, an advertisement, announcement, attraction or direction which is on a public way, public park, or reservation.

A sign shall not, by reason of its location, shape, illumination, wording, or color interfere with foot or vehicular traffic or be confused with or obstruct the view or effectiveness of any federal, state, county, or municipal traffic sign, traffic signal or traffic marking. No sign shall be placed within a curb cut or ramp installed to provide improved access to a sidewalk for the disabled. No sign shall be placed on private property without express permission of the property owner. No sign, together with any supporting framework, shall extend to a height above the maximum building height in the associated zoning district.

Approval of the placement of a sign or signs on Town-owned property shall be the responsibility of the Select Board and selectively delegated to the Town Administrator or Sign Officer. The approval of requests for placement of signs, permanent or temporary, shall be accomplished by making requests to the designated decision-making authority in accordance with established Select Board policy. The decision-making authority shall make a detailed record of its reason(s) for disapproving a particular request. A record of approvals and denials shall be kept in the Select Board and Town Administrator's municipal offices. In the event of a dispute, decisions may be appealed to the Select Board for final approval or disapproval.

Approved signs shall be annotated, visible anywhere on the sign, with the approved date in clear writing. Approved signs shall be placed in accordance with the conditions accepted by the Select Board or delegate.

#### § 240-18 Enforcement; Violations and Penalties

Although the Select Board reserves the right to approve or deny flag or sign requests, the Police Department and Department of Public Services of the Town of Templeton are hereby charged with the enforcement of this by-law and police officers and the Director of Public Services are hereby designated as Sign Officers. Flag request approval or denial shall not be further delegated.

Sign Officer are further authorized, upon notice as herein provided, to order the repair, removal or revocation of any sign which in judgment is, or is likely to become, dangerous, unsafe or in disrepair, or which is erected or maintained contrary to this by-law or which exceeds the

conditions of the permit. Sign Officers are not required to serve any notice to the owner and will provide storage of the non-conforming sign for a period not to exceed 30 calendar days after which time the sign will be discarded or destroyed.

This bylaw may also be enforced by any designated agent of the Town of Templeton in the method provided in MGL c. 40, § 21D. Any person who violates any provision of this bylaw shall be subject to a penalty of \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second offense, and \$100 for the third and each subsequent offense. Each day that a violation exists shall be deemed a separate offense.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This bylaw would (1) establish content-neutral regulations for all signs in the Town and (2) establish a process for placing signs on Town-owned property that may be considered the Town’s speech. The bylaw also contains provisions for enforcement.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a NO vote on Article 8, with a vote of 0-3.

**ARTICLE 9: AMEND THE BYLAWS RE: REVOLVING FUND**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article I, Section 28-6 of the General Bylaws, entitled Departmental revolving funds, by making certain additions to subsection E, as follows:

Establishment of the several departmental accounts. The authorized departmental revolving accounts are as follows:

<b>Revolving Fund Name</b>	<b>Programs and Purposes of Fund</b>	<b>Departmental Receipts to be Credited to Fund</b>	<b>Officer Authorized to Expend from Fund</b>	<b>Fiscal Years</b>
Burial and Improvement Fund	Wages for weekend burials and cemetery capital improvements	Fees charged for weekend burials	Cemetery Commission	FY 2018 and subsequent fiscal years
Recycling Fund	Operation of the recycling program	Receipts from the sale of recycling equipment and disposal of recycled goods	Board of Health	FY 2018 and subsequent fiscal years

Plumbing and Gas Inspector Compensation Fund	Wages for the Gas and Plumbing Inspector	80% of the fees collected for gas and plumbing permits	Office of Development Services Director	FY 2018 and subsequent fiscal years
Electrical (Wiring) Inspector Compensation Fund	Wages for the Electrical (Wiring) Inspector	80% of the fees collected for electrical (wiring) permits	Office of Development Services Director	FY 2018 and subsequent fiscal years
Parks and Recreation Fund	Wages of seasonal or part-time staffing, supplies, and general associated expenses	Fees received for rentals of facilities, concessions, sports, instructional, day-camp, and program offerings	Parks and Recreation Commission	FY 2024 and subsequent fiscal years
<b>Salt Brine Production System Fund</b>	<b>Purchase, installation, operation and maintenance of Brine Master 3000 system and associated equipment</b>	<b>Receipts from Winchendon and Hubbardston pursuant to Intermunicipal Agreement for the Operation of a Salt Brine Production System</b>	<b>Department of Public Services Director</b>	<b>FY 2024 and subsequent fiscal years</b>

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This will create a revolving fund for the Salt Brine Production System Revolving Fund. The system has been built at the Highway garage. The Select Board have approved an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Towns of Winchendon and Hubbardston.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 9, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 10: SET ANNUAL SPENDING LIMIT OF SALT BRINE PRODUCTION SYSTEM REVOLVING FUND**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to set the annual spending limit of the Salt Brine Production System Revolving Fund at Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000).

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This will set the annual spending limit for the Salt Brine Production System Revolving Fund.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 10, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 11: BALDWINVILLE SCHOOL  
Submitted by the Select Board  
Two-Thirds Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 6 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting to 1.) correct map references by deleting “Map 1-4” and inserting “Map 1-4-1” and 2.) by deleting “3.08+/-” and inserting in its place “2.8+/-” and 3.) to add at the end of said article “pending plan approval by the Planning Board”.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This Article will have a motion to pass over until the Town receives a final plan.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee has no recommendation.

**ARTICLE 12: TRANSFER CONTROL OF HOUGHTON PARK  
Submitted by the Select Board on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Commission  
Two-Thirds Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of the parcel of land located at 9 Main Street, Otter River, and described in a deed recorded with the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 630, Page 621, from the Select Board for the purpose of a senior center to the Parks and Recreation Commission for the purpose of use as a recreational park in compliance with MGL c. 45 § 3.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: At the May 2006 Town Meeting - the care, custody, management, and control of the parcel of land located at 9 Main St. was transferred from the Narragansett Regional School District to the Select Board for the purpose of a Senior Center. However, according to the Senior Center Oversight Committee, in Fiscal Year 2006, the 9 Main St. parcel was**



evaluated for the feasibility of a Senior Center, and it was determined that rehab to the property would be too expensive and only provide a short-term solution. Subsequently, the hunt for a Senior Center continued, resulting in the construction of the current Templeton Community Senior Center. The Select Board declared the property at Houghton Park surplus at their October 25, 2023 meeting so the Town can now turn over to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 12, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 13: ROYALSTON ROAD WORK**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer the sum of Sixty Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000), to be expended under the direction of the Select Board, for the appraisal of parcels along Royalston Road required to complete the work described in the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Highway Division Plan and Profile of Reconstruction of Royalston Road, or any revised version of said Plan.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: The Royalston Road project is on the Transportation Improvement Plan for the region on the Montachusett FFY 2024-2028 project listings. The Town is responsible for the Right of Way portion including title work and appraisals for the project. The Town would be looking at \$6+ Million of federal and state dollars to complete this project.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 13, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 14: VERNON STREET LAND ACQUISITION**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Two-Thirds Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to take all steps necessary to acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain for road widening purposes land in the vicinity of the intersection of Vernon Street and Baldwinville Road on such terms as the Select Board shall deem to be in the best interests of the Town; and to transfer from certified free cash of Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents

(\$5,000.00) for the purpose of such acquisition, to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This is to work on an encroachment as the Town received \$1.35 Million for School, Cottage and Vernon Street roadway improvements. See Attachment A on page 23.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 14, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 15: CPA FUNDING FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF THE BALDWINVILLE SCHOOL**  
**Submitted by the Select Board on behalf of the Community Preservation Committee**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$750,000.00) for the below mentioned project as follows:

<b>Item Agent to Expend</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>CPA Fund/Source</b>
CC MPZ School Street LLC	\$750,000	Affordable Housing <sup>1</sup>	\$135,000 Community Housing \$615,000 Undesignated

<sup>1</sup> Creating affordable housing by the redevelopment of the Baldwinville Elementary School. This award is subject to a grant award agreement between the Town of Templeton and the project developer.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: Contained within Article.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 15, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 16: CPA FUNDING FOR REHABILITATION OF HOUGHTON PARK**  
**PLAYGROUND**  
**Submitted by the Select Board on behalf of the Community Preservation Committee**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and No Cents (\$137,434.00) for the below mentioned project as follows:

<b>Item Agent to Expend</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>CPA Fund/Source</b>
Building & Grounds / Parks & Recreation Commission	\$137,434	Rehab Houghton Park Playground <sup>1</sup>	\$41,230 Open Space \$96,204 Undesignated

<sup>1</sup> Rehabilitating of the Houghton Park Playground as described in a the grant application by the Town of Templeton to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant program (301. CMR 5.00). Approval of CPA funds for this project is contingent upon the Town receiving the PARC grant and its associated reimbursement returned to the CPA Undesignated Reserve Fund.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: Contained within Article.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 16, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 17: CPA FUNDING FOR MASTER PLAN OF HOUGHTON PARK**  
**Submitted by the Select Board on behalf of the Community Preservation Committee**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Eleven Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$11,000.00) for the below mentioned project as follows:

<b>Item Agent to Expend</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>CPA Fund/Source</b>
Building & Grounds / Parks & Recreation Commission	\$11,000	Houghton Park Design <sup>1</sup>	\$11,000 Open Space

<sup>1</sup> These funds will be used for the evaluation and design for future open space and recreation improvements at the Town-owned parcels incorporating Houghton Park in the village of Otter River (6-08-8, 6-08-8.1, 6-08-8.2).

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: Contained within Article.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 17, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 18: FY 2024 CAPITAL & SPECIAL ARTICLES**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (\$125,250.00) for capital & special articles as generally described below:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Police – Police Vehicle	\$68,750
Highway – Additional Main St Bridge Design	\$30,000
Treas/Coll – Tax Title Work	\$15,000
Building & Grounds – Baldwinville School	
Caretaking	\$5,000
Scholarship Committee - Scholarships	\$4,000
Select Board – 10 Pleasant Sale	\$2,500

And to meet said appropriation by a transfer of said sum from certified free cash.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This includes the police vehicle that was delayed as well as other projects that the Town would like to move forward and resources that the Town supports. The motion will not include the tax title work so the overall amount will be lower by \$15,000.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 18, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 19: DEPOSIT TO OPIOID STABILIZATION**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Seven Thousand Four Hundred Sixteen Dollars and Thirty-Nine Cents (\$7,416.39) to make a deposit into its Opioid Abatement Stabilization Fund.

And to meet said appropriation by a transfer of said sum from certified free cash.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: These are funds that the Town received as part of the opioid settlement that should be placed into the opioid stabilization account.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 19, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 20: DEPOSITS TO GENERAL FUND STABILIZATION & OPEB ACCOUNTS**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$147,500.00) to make deposits into its Operations (OPEX), Capital (CAPEX) and Infrastructure stabilization accounts and the OPEB reserve account as follows:

OPEX	\$35,000
CAPEX	\$45,000
Infrastructure	\$45,000
OPEB	\$22,500

And to meet said appropriation by a transfer of said sum from certified free cash.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This article will make contributions to the Town's several reserve funds from our certified free cash in keeping with the Town's Financial Management Policy. The formula is as follows:**

<b>67%</b>	<b>Reserved for Working Capital and other town needs</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>Transferred to the Capital Stabilization Fund</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>Transferred to the Infrastructure Stabilization Fund</b>
<b>8%</b>	<b>Transferred to the General Stabilization Fund</b>
<b>5%</b>	<b>Transferred to the OPEB reserve</b>

**After the proposed transfers we will have over \$1.5 Million on deposit in the OPEX reserve, nearly \$200k in the CAPEX reserve, nearly \$100k in the infrastructure (minus Article 13) and over \$350k in the OPEB Reserve.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 20, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 21: SEWER DEBT AUTHORIZATION**  
**Submitted by the Select Board on behalf of the Sewer Commissioners**  
**Two-Thirds Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

To see if the Town of Templeton will vote to appropriate the sum of two million two hundred thousand dollars (\$2,200,000) for the purposes of financing the replacement of the Crotty Ave. Sewer Pumping Station, including, without limitation, all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow two million two hundred thousand dollars (\$2,200,000) and issue bonds or notes thereof under Chapter 44 or Chapter 29 of the General Laws as most recently amended; that such bonds or notes are expected to be paid from the Sewer Department Enterprise Fund Revenues (Sewer receipts), but nevertheless shall be general obligations of the Town of Templeton and that any Federal or State grants awarded prior to issuance of bonds will be used to reduce the amount by the Town of Templeton;

Or to take any action in relation thereto.

**Summary: This pump station is 45 years old and due to be replaced. This pump station is outdated and reached its life expectancy. It is currently one of our oldest pump stations. The new station will be more efficient and safer for the Sewer Dept. personnel.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee recommends a YES vote on Article 21, with a vote of 3-0.

**ARTICLE 22: NONBINDING QUESTION RE: BRIDGE ON STONE BRIDGE ROAD**  
**Submitted by the Select Board**  
**Majority Vote Required**

**Original Warrant Article in its Entirety**

A nonbinding question to see if the Town will vote to recommend that an Article or Articles be placed on a future Town Meeting warrant to discontinue the public way in the location of the former bridge on Stone Bridge Road, to allow for the use of the free-flowing stream and land in that location for recreational purposes.

Or take any other action related thereto.

**Summary: This will give the Town of Templeton guidance on how to proceed relative to the bridge on Stone Bridge Road project.**

**Advisory Committee Comments & Recommendation:**

The Committee has no recommendation.

**ATTACHMENT A**

