



Town of Charlton, Massachusetts
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
Election Portion – Saturday, May 2, 2015
Town Meeting Business Session – May 18, 2015

To either of the Constables of the Town of Charlton:

In the County of Worcester,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify the inhabitants of the **Town of Charlton** qualified to vote in elections to meet in the **Heritage School, Oxford Road** in said Charlton on **Saturday, May 2, 2015** at eight o'clock in the forenoon when the polls will be opened for the Annual Election of Officers; after action is taken on Article 1 of this warrant to meet again on **Monday, May 18, 2015** at seven o'clock in the evening at **Charlton Middle School, Oxford Road**, in said Charlton, for the purpose of taking action on the remaining articles listed on the warrant; that the polls for the Annual Election of officers on Saturday, May 2, 2015 will be closed at eight o'clock in the evening and that the remainder of this meeting on Monday, May 18, 2015 will be adjourned at eleven o'clock in the evening unless voted otherwise by the registered voters present, and that the articles in this warrant shall be deemed part of the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Charlton for the Fiscal Year 2016.

ARTICLE 1. ELECTION

To choose two Selectmen for three years, one Assessor for three years, one Cemetery Commissioner for three years, one Water and Sewer Commissioner for three years, one Water and Sewer Commissioner for two years, one Planning Board member for five years, one Planning Board member for one year, one Board of Health Member for three years, one Recreation Commissioner for three years, one Tree Warden for two years, two Trustees of the Free Public Library for three years, one Trustee of the Free Public Library for one year, one Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee Member for three years, one Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee Member for one year, one Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District Committee Member for 3 years and one Housing Authority Member for five years.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 2. TOWN REPORTS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of its officers for the past year, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 3. LITIGATION

To see what action the Town will take in relation to prosecuting and defending actions or suits for and against the Town, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 4. BYLAW - SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General Bylaws by adding to Chapter 20 thereof, as new Section 20-3 the following:

“Once the Board of Selectmen (and any other board, commission or committee, if any, which has been vested by vote with control, care and custody of any, particular property) has determined that personal property owned by the Town is surplus or obsolete, the Town’s Chief Procurement Officer is authorized to sell or otherwise dispose of same: (a) after first having advertised the same for sale in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the town at least seven (7) days before the date of such sale and by posting a notice thereof in the Charlton Municipal Offices (George C. McKinstry, III Building); or (b) where the estimated net value is \$10,000.00 or more by following the procedures required by Mass General Laws, Chapter 30B, Section 15.”, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 5. INTER/INTRA DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFERS FOR FY15

To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate sums to be specified at the Annual Town Meeting within departmental accounts, from one line item of such accounts to another line item or line items of such accounts, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 6. TOWN BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise, borrow or transfer and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and, as provided by General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as set forth in the budget voted under this Article or as separately voted by the Town under other articles of the Warrant for this meeting, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 7. WATER DEPARTMENT BUDGET (ENTERPRISE FUND)

To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation, borrow or transfer from available funds and appropriate to the Water Enterprise Fund, such sums of money as may be necessary, together with revenue from Water Department operations, to defray the expenses of the Water Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

ARTICLE 8. SEWER DEPARTMENT BUDGET (ENTERPRISE FUND)

To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation, borrow or transfer from available funds and appropriate to the Sewer Enterprise Fund, such sums of money as may be necessary, together with revenue from

Sewer Department operations, to defray the expenses of the Sewer Department for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

ARTICLE 9. TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO AND FROM STABILIZATION FUND ACCOUNT

To see if the Town will vote to add funds to and/or transfer and appropriate sums from the Stabilization Fund Account to an account or accounts to be determined at the Town Meeting, including for purposes of acquiring land in the Town, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 10. CAPITAL ITEMS AND RELATED CONTRACTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation, borrow or transfer from available funds, including so called "free cash" and funds previously appropriated to other uses, and appropriate a sum or sums to purchase capital items and for service, repair, improvement, architectural, construction, renovation, improvement and/or other contracts relating to town buildings, facilities and other property, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, Chief Procurement Officer, or other appropriate town official, board, commission or committee to enter into such contracts or leases, and to take other such action, as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of such votes, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN/VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

ARTICLE 11. CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

To see if the Town will vote to accept the sum of **\$4,460** as trust funds from individual persons, the income from each such sum to be used for the perpetual care of the Charlton cemeteries, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: CEMETERY COMMISSION

ARTICLE 12. REAUTHORIZATION OF REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town, upon recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, will vote, as authorized by Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to reestablish and/or establish the following Revolving Funds, and to authorize the official, commission, board or committee specified in the first column below to expend funds from the specified account, without further appropriation, provided that the amount to be expended from such account in the fiscal year commencing this coming July 1 shall not exceed the amount set forth in the fourth column unless an additional amount or amounts are recommended by both the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee:

Department	Revenue	Purpose	Amount
WIRE INSPECTOR REVOLVING FUND	Fees charged for the Wire Inspector's services	Wire Inspector's fee per inspection. Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year reverts to general fund	\$20,000.00
GAS INSPECTOR REVOLVING FUND	Fees charged for the Gas Inspector's services	Gas Inspector's fee per inspection. Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year reverts to general fund	\$15,000.00
PLUMBING INSPECTOR REVOLVING FUND	Fees charged for the Plumbing Inspector's services	Plumbing Inspector's fee per inspection, Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year reverts to general fund.	\$15,000.00

CEMETERY COMMISSION REVOLVING FUND	Interment fee equal to cost of grave opening	Grave opening fee. Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year in excess of \$5,000.00 reverts to the general fund	\$25,000.00
RECREATION COMMISSION REVOLVING FUND	Fees charged to individuals participating in a program, donations and gifts, private sponsorship of a program and fees charged for the use of Recreation facilities	Funds will be used in direct support of the listed programs for the following items: supplies for the programs, contractual services required to present a program, administrative expenses required to run the program, repair of equipment used in a program and the repair and maintenance of facilities used for a program	\$15,000.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT HAZARDOUS WASTE REVOLVING FUND	Fees charged for Hazardous waste services and supplies	Payments for Hazardous Waste training and for replacement supplies	\$15,000.00
PLANNING BOARD REVOLVING FUND	Fees for engineering review and other consultants as well as advertising and mailing	Payments to engineers and other consultants, as well as advertising and mailing. Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year in excess of \$20,000 reverts to general fund.	\$60,000.00
RECYCLING REVOLVING FUND	Fees from sales of rain barrels and/or compost units	Purchase additional rain barrels and/or compost bins. Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year in excess of \$1,000 reverts to general fund.	\$1,000.00
ASSISTANT BUILDING INSPECTOR REVOLVING FUND	Fees charged for part-time Assistant Building Inspector's services	Part-time Assistant Building Inspector's fee per inspection, Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year reverts to general fund.	\$15,000.00
CONSERVATION COMMISSION-DANIELS/COLBURN RD FUND	Fees from existing timber products and wildlife improvement incentive programs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Timber Improvement 2) Wildlife Habitat Improvement 3) Ecological Education & Studies 4) Passive Recreation I.E. establish trails / access/ parking 5) Site Evaluation & Planning 6) Unencumbered balance at the end of the fiscal year in excess of \$10,000 reverts to general fund. 	\$10,000.00
BUILDING DEPARTMENT-PERMITTING REVOLVING FUND	Fees from online permits	To pay 3% fee charged by online company	\$10,000.00

; or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 13. CLASSIFICATION PLAN UPDATE

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 41 Section 108A and in accordance with the recommendation of the Personnel Board, to amend as set forth in the report entitled "Charlton Proposed Non-Union Classification Plan, FY 2016 Town Budget, Recommendation of the Finance Committee, Annual Town Meeting, May 18, 2015", its Personnel Bylaw, appearing as Chapter 220 of the General Bylaws as recodified and adopted by vote under Articles 27, 28 and 29 of the warrant for the May 19, 2014 annual town meeting, by revising "ARTICLE 2 Classification Plan, Section 220-2.1", thereof, provided: (a) that neither any, particular deletion nor addition approved at the town meeting shall take effect until and unless sufficient funds have been appropriated to fund any increase in compensation which would result from the deletion or addition as to that, particular position, and (b) that

any portion of same, if any, as may require collective bargaining shall not become effective until and unless resolution or impasse is reached through good faith bargaining as to same, and that each of same shall individually become effective on the later of (a) July 1, 2015 or (b) the date when such funds are so appropriated and any such resolution or impasse has been so reached, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: PERSONNEL BOARD and BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 14. PERSONNEL BYLAW AMENDMENT- DEFINITIONS- WORK DAY/WORK WEEK

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Mass. General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108A and in accordance with the recommendation of the Personnel Board, to amend its Personnel Bylaw, appearing as Chapter 220 of the General Bylaws as recodified and adopted by vote under Articles 27, 28 and 29 of the warrant for the May 19, 2014 annual town meeting, "Article 5, Section 220-5.1 Definitions" by adding the following, such amendment to become effective upon adoption:

WORK WEEK: four or five "work days" totaling not more than 40 hours, as determined by the Board of Selectmen for a particular position.

WORK DAY: For purposes of calculating holiday pay and personnel leave, a work day shall be the weekly number of hours an employee in a particular position is required to work on a regular basis per her or his job description, divided by the number of days in a regular work week for such position, all as determined by the Board of Selectmen.

, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: PERSONNEL BOARD

ARTICLE 15. GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote (a) to authorize the Board of Selectmen to create a purely advisory government study committee, and to report back to Town Meeting with any recommendations for possible improvements to the current form and processes of Charlton town government, (b) such committee to be composed of: one appointee by the Bylaw committee; one appointee by the Personnel Board; two appointees by the Moderator; and three members at large appointed by the Board of Selectmen, (c) the term of such committee to be for one year, or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 16. ZONING BYLAW- LARGE-SCALE GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC BYLAW

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Charlton Zoning Bylaw, Section 200-7.1 Administration, Sub-section D-(3)-(b) by adding to said sub-section the following sentence:

Any landscaping plan for a proposed Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation shall include details showing that such installation would be adequately shielded from any neighboring residence, roadway and abutting land uses.

or take any action relative thereto or thereon.

SPONSOR: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 17. CITIZEN PETITION

We, the undersigned, are qualified voters of the Town of Charlton, and in accordance with the provisions of law, request that the following matter be placed on the Warrant for the 2015 annual town meeting:

To see if the Town will vote to amend its zoning by-laws by adding the following provision to the definition of an "Accessory Building" in Section 2.1:

Provided however, that in the Agricultural zoning district on lots not less than eight (8) acres located within 500 feet of an interstate railroad, the definition of an Accessory Building shall include a building for garaging a commercial motor vehicle by the person who owns and resides on the property, provided further, that any such accessory building shall be set back not less than 100 feet from any street or other abutting property other than such railroad;

or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 18. CITIZEN PETITION

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Charlton, hereby petition the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Ch. 39, S. 10 to insert the following article into the Warrant for the ___ Annual ___ Special Town Meeting to be held on _____, 20__:

To see if the Town will vote to

To amend the 3.2.2.4 recreational uses bylaw in an agricultural zone **to exclude the use for motorsports training and racing of all motorized vehicles** such as motorcycles, automobiles, snowmobiles, snowmobiles, ATV's, and all other off-road vehicles with motors and engines.

or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19. CITIZEN PETITION

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Charlton, hereby petition the Board of Selectmen pursuant to MGL Ch. 39, S. 10 to insert the following article into the Warrant for the ___ Annual ___ Special Town Meeting to be held on _____, 20__:

To see if the Town will vote to

To establish standards of noise control for off-road vehicles within the municipality of Charlton, Massachusetts to minimize the impact of noise from the operation of such vehicles on residents of the municipality and the environment.

or take any other action in relation thereto.

* * * * *

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof, one at each of the Post Offices, one in Dexter Memorial Hall and one in the Charlton Municipal Offices (George C. McKinstry, III Building) in said Town, seven days at least before the time and place of holding meeting.

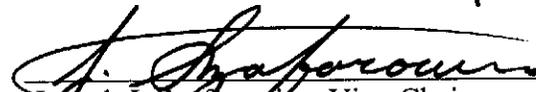
Hereof, fail not, and make due returns of the Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding meeting.

Given under our hands this 23th day of April in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Fifteen (2015).

Board of Selectmen



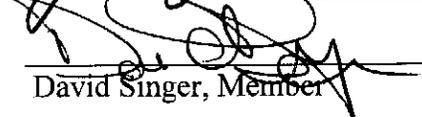
Frederick C. Swensen, Chairperson



Joseph I. Szafarowicz, Vice-Chairperson



Cynthia B. Cooper, Clerk

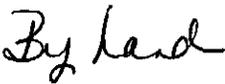


David Singer, Member

John P. McGrath, Member

A true copy:

Attest: 

Posted as directed: 

Constable/Police Officer of Charlton, Massachusetts

 4/22/2015