

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF HARDWICK
WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Hardwick qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Hardwick Elementary School, 531 Lower Road, Gilbertville, on Saturday, June 16, 2007 at 1:00 PM then and there to act on the following articles:

Note: Funds acquired through borrowing require a 2/3 vote.
Note: Funds acquired through raise and appropriate (taxation) and transferring require a majority vote
Note: Transfers in and out of Stabilization require a 2/3 vote.
Note: Zoning Bylaws and Amendments require a 2/3 vote.
Note: General Bylaws and Amendments require a majority vote.

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of all officers and committees as printed in the 2006 Annual Report, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds in the treasury, borrow or any combination thereof a sum of money to pay the necessary town charges, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, a sum of money to pay principal and interest due on any note or notes against the Town.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 4. To see if the Town vote to appropriate from the Sale of Lots Fund and Burial Fees to the Cemetery Commission for the care, improvement and embellishment, or enlargement of town cemeteries, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Cemetery Commission

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise fund a sum of money to be used in conjunction with, and in addition to, any funds allotted by the Commonwealth for the construction, and/or improvement of town roads, as requested by the Board of Selectmen, in their discretion, to be returned to the Treasury when reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Highway Surveyor

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds in the treasury a sum of money to purchase a new 2008 dump truck for the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Highway Surveyor

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds in the treasury a sum of money to purchase a new 2008 front-end loader for the Highway Department, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Highway Surveyor

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept a Small Town Road Assistance Program (STRAP) Grant for a sum of up to \$500,000.00 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 637 of the Acts of 1983 for the purpose of making improvements to town roads and to expend such grant without further appropriation. The required re-payment of the grant will be not less than thirty percent of the grant and the time period allowed for such re-payment will not exceed ten years, further, the grant award agreement will authorize the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue to deduct the Town's repayment from any distribution of gas tax monies or any other local aid distribution to the Town under the authority of MGL C. 59, s. 20, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor; Highway Surveyor

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for repairs and renovations at the old Highway Barn, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Fire Department

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the following FY 08 Revolving Funds in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, section 53E1/2, to be expended under the authority and direction of the following agencies or officials, to be credited with receipts from the following revenue sources, to be expended for the following stated purposes, not to exceed the following spending limits respectively:

Revolving Fund	Authorized to Expend	Revenue Source	Use of Fund	Spending Limit	FY 2007 Balance Disposition	Notes
Board of Health	BOH Members	Inspection Fees, permit fees and other funds collected by the Board of Health relating to public health, safety and environmental laws, codes and regulations	Wages	\$10,000	\$	80% of fee paid to inspector 20% retained by town
Electrical Inspector	Inspector, Asst. Inspector	Permit fees and inspections of Wire Inspector	Wages	\$5,000	\$	80% of fee paid to inspector. 20% retained by town
Recycling Commission	Recycling Commission Members	Fees collected for HHW items, bulky waste	Disposal of HHW items & bulky waste	\$8,000	\$	
Gas Inspector	Inspector, Asst. Inspector	Permit fees and inspections of Gas Inspector	Wages	\$2,500	\$	80% of fee paid to inspector. 20% retained by town

Plumbing Inspector	Inspector, Asst. Inspector	Permit fees and inspections of Plumbing Inspector	Wages	\$5,000	\$	80% of fee paid to inspector. 20% retained by town
Youth Commission	Youth Commission	User fees and charges collected by the Youth Commission relating to the conduct of its programs	To meet expenses of the Youth Commission	\$5,000	\$	
Parks & Recreation	Parks & Rec. Commission	User fees and charges collected by the Parks & Recreation Commission relating to the conduct of its programs	To meet expenses of the Parks & Recreation Commission	\$500	\$	
Council On Aging	Council On Aging	User fees and charges collected by the COA relating to the conduct of its programs	To meet expenses of the COA	\$5,000	\$	
Dog Officer	Dog Officer	Fees and fines	Wages	\$1,500	\$	

or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from sewer revenues a sum of money to the Water Pollution Control Facilities Enterprise Fund for operation of the Gilbertville and Wheelwright Water Pollution Control Facilities, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the construction of a wastewater pollution control facility in the Wheelwright Village District of the Town, consisting of a new treatment facility, a submersible pump station, two concrete sequencing batch reactor tanks, a concrete sludge holding tank, a block building, a post equalization disinfection tank, upgrades to existing headworks, original equipment and related site improvements, including the decommissioning and demolition of the existing plant, and engineering costs; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote as allowed by MGL, C.41, s.23 at a meeting held at least sixty days before the Annual Town Election to rescind the action taken at the Special Town Meeting of October 5, 1968 under Article #4, wherein the Town voted to have the Board of Selectmen act as Sewer Commissioners and further beginning at the Annual Town Election of 2008 for the Town to elect by ballot three such Gilbertville-Wheelwright Water Pollution Control Facilities Sewer Commissioners with one member elected initially for a term of one year, one member elected initially for a term of two years, one member elected initially for a term of three years and thereafter for terms of three years and upon their

election and qualification shall have all the duties and obligations imposed upon them by law, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: WPCF Supt.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 44, section 53F1/2 to establish a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) Enterprise Fund for operation of the PAYT Trash & Recycling Collection Program effective July 1, 2007 FY 2008, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Recycling Commission

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) Enterprise Fund from PAYT revenues for operation of the PAYT Trash & Recycling Program in the following manner:

Hauling & Disposal	\$104,500
Administrative Salary	\$ 3,000
Clerk Stipend	\$ 500
Misc. Expenses	\$ 2,500
Bags	\$ 5,000
Accountant & Treasurer Salary	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Total:	\$120,500

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Recycling Commission

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise fund a sum of money for the operational cost of the Hardwick Center Water District, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for upgrades to the Hardwick Center Water System, consisting of the installation of a new control building with storage tanks and original equipment, well casing modifications, interconnecting piping and electric service between the new building and the existing well, and related paving, other site improvements, and engineering costs; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or take any other action relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds in the treasury a sum of money to pay for costs associated with the purchase and installation of security lighting in the Gilbertville Municipal Parking Lot, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, or transfer from available funds a sum of money to purchase software for the Treasurer, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Assessors to appoint one of its members to a full-time position under their supervision as allowed by MGL Chapter 268A, section 21A, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Assessors

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Assessors to appoint one of its members to a part-time position under their supervision as allowed by MGL Chapter 268A, section 21A, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Assessors

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from special assessments Title V Receipts Account (septic system loan program) to pay principal and interest due on notes payable to the Water Pollution Abatement Trust, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds in the treasury a sum of money for services provided by the V.F.W. Post #9093 and John J. Weir American Legion Post #246, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise fund a sum of money for the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Finance Committee

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise fund a sum of money for the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Finance Committee

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws – ARTICLE # 11, s.8 as voted at the Annual Town Meeting of June 25, 1994, under Article #25 by deleting the words “1984, 2ND edition with additions” in the last sentence and replacing it with “a publication of the Massachusetts Moderator’s Association”. The Bylaw will read: “The duties of the presiding officer beyond those fixed by law and foregoing rules, shall be determined by rules of parliamentary law laid down in *Town Meeting Time* a publication of the Massachusetts Moderator’s Association”, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Moderator

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws as allowed by MGL, C. 39, s. 15 and provides in pertinent part that the Moderator may declare that a vote has passed by the necessary two-thirds majority by adding the following: Article #11, s.17. - “When a two-thirds vote of town meeting is required by statute, the Moderator may make a public declaration of the vote and a count need not be taken. If a vote, so declared, is immediately questioned by seven (7) or more voters, the Moderator shall verify it by calling for a standing vote or by polling the voters present”, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Moderator

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to MGL, C.41, s.110A, regarding the closing of any public offices on any or all Saturdays, specifically the office of the Town Clerk and Board of Registrars, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Town Clerk

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws by deleting in full the language of a General By-law as voted under Article #III of the Special Town Meeting of September 7, 1967 and entitled "Building Permits" or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Building Inspector

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to amend the General By-laws by deleting in full the language of the By-law voted under Article #7 of the Special Town of February 20, 1979 relating to Building Permit Fees, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Building Inspector

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section #5 – of the General By-laws by deleting in full the language of the By-law voted under Article #8 of the Special Town Meeting of September 9, 2003 relating to monies received by town officers or departments, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Town Clerk

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain, or otherwise and to accept the deed to the Town of a fee simple interest or less in the parcel of land located on Lower Road, now or formerly owned by Patrick M. Roach and described in a deed recorded with Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 10837, Page 252, and being shown as Lot 18 on a plan of land entitled 'Plan of Land in Hardwick, Mass., Surveyed for Richard A. Walker and Hazel E. Walker,' dated September 15, 1986, by Donald A. Para, R.L.S., recorded with said Deeds in Plan Book 563, Plan 6, and shown on Assessors Map 111 as Lot 20 containing 1.824 acres of land, more or less, said property to be held for municipal/school purposes under the care, custody, control, and management of the Board of Selectmen, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen determines, but at a price not to exceed the assessed value as determined by the Board of Assessors, and to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary on behalf of the Town to effect said purchase and further to vote to raise, appropriate, transfer from available funds, accept gifts or borrow a sum of money for this purpose and any expenses related thereto or in any way act thereon;

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board Of Selectmen

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL, C. 83, s.s. 16A through 16F, inclusive, relative to the billing, commitment, and collection of sewer fees and the establishment of liens for fees not paid on or before the due date, together with interest and costs relative thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof in each of the Post Offices in said Hardwick, seven days at least before the time of said meeting. Hereof and fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk on or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 29th day of May 2007.

Eric Vollheim
Robert Roy
Deana L. Talbot
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF HARDWICK