

2020
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Essex
Warrant for Special Town Meeting

Essex, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Essex;

GREETINGS:

In name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Essex, qualified to vote as the laws direct, to meet in said Essex at the Essex Elementary School on Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. and there and then to act on the following Articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to eliminate a deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 Cemetery Flowers account; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 2-7A of the Town's General bylaws by increasing the minimum fee for a building permit from \$35 to \$50; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for either a contracted vendor or a Town employee to provide custodial and other related services for Town buildings, including but not limited to the new public safety facility at 11 John Wise Avenue; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to design, engineer and construct repairs, upgrades, improvements and/or replacements to any aspect of the municipal water system, and anything incidental or related thereto; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to design, engineer and construct repairs, upgrades, improvements and/or replacements to any aspect of the municipal sewer system and anything incidental or related thereto; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's General bylaw, Section 4-17 MARIJUANA LICENSING, as adopted pursuant to Articles 15 and 16 at the June 13, 2020 Annual Town Meeting, to prohibit social consumption of all product containing marijuana or its derivatives within the Town as follows:

1. Add the following new section: **4-17.3.1. Social Consumption Prohibited.** No person shall consume or use or be permitted to consume or use any product containing marijuana or its derivatives on the premises of any Marijuana Establishment. Social Consumption Establishments as defined in 935 CMR 500.000, are hereby prohibited in the Town of Essex.
2. Amend the Table in Section 4-17.7 to add a new row to the end of the table as follows:

Type of Marijuana Establishment	Number Permitted
Social Consumption Establishment	0

; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 4 of the Town's General Bylaws by amending Section 4-7.1 Signs and Obstructions Prohibited as follows, with additions shown in bold and deletions shown in ~~strike through~~:

4-7.1 SIGNS AND OBSTRUCTIONS PROHIBITED. No person shall place any post, pipe, pole, barrier, box, container, sign, article, or advertising matter, in any street, way or sidewalk, or annex or affix to any building, pole, street, or structure, any building material, advertising matter, or other material which extends over a street, way or sidewalk, ~~without first having obtained a permit from the board of selectmen. However, no permit shall be required to~~ **Residents may** place a barrel or container, with rubbish therein, at the edge of the sidewalk or street adjacent to the property of any owner for rubbish collection. ~~Neither shall a permit be required for~~ **or** an RFD mailbox at the side of a street or way.

; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the Town's acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 90, Section 20A, relating to the maximum fine for a standard parking violation, thereby allowing Chapter 90, Section 20A ½ (which the Town had also adopted in the past) to control; resulting in authorization for the Board of Selectmen to increase the maximum parking fine from \$25 to \$50, and associated late fees, all in accordance with Section 20A ½; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32, Section 4(2)(b ½), to allow permanent, intermittent or call firefighters to be credited with full-time service for the purpose of calculating retirement benefits in accordance with Chapter 32 of the Massachusetts General Laws and other applicable laws and collective bargaining agreements; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to fund the Town's Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to establish a special stabilization fund in which will be deposited 25% of all marijuana-related local revenue; or take any other action related thereto.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum or sums of money to be added to the Town's building capital improvements fund, and/or recreational capital improvements fund, and/or purchase of vehicles and major equipment that qualify as capital purchases fund, and/or Town Hall/Library repair and maintenance fund, and/or Conomo Point Repair, Maintenance, and Improvement fund, and/or municipal street lighting repair and maintenance fund, and/or Public Safety Building repair and maintenance fund, an/or dredging match fund, and/or Town celebrations fund; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to replenish the Sewer Maintenance line item in the Sewer Enterprise fund budget for fiscal year 2021; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to replenish the Finance Committee's Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2021; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to be added to the Town's Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to amend any aspect of the fiscal year 2021 operating budgets (General Fund, Water Enterprise Fund, Sewer Enterprise Fund), and to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money to effectuate any amendments that are made; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow a sum of money for unpaid bills from a past fiscal year; or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote on the following citizen petition:

Six-Month Moratorium on the Town's Consideration of all Personal Wireless Communication Facilities (Cellular Towers)

We would like the Town's registered voters to vote in the Special Town Meeting on whether the Town should place a six-month moratorium on the Town's consideration of all Personal Wireless Communication Facilities (Cellular Towers). We are in the process of asking the Town to augment its current By-Laws regarding PWCFs (Personal Wireless Communication Facilities) to ensure the safety of our residents and preserve the aesthetic beauty of the town.

And you are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies; one at the Post Office, one at the Town Hall, and one at the Essex Elementary School, in said Essex, fourteen days at least before the time for holding said meeting.

Given under our hand this 10th day of September, two thousand twenty.

Ruth R. Pereen, Chairman

Peter D. Phippen

Guy D. Bradford

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ESSEX

Return of the Warrant:

Date: _____

I have served this warrant by posting attested copies thereof – one at the Post Office; one at the Town Hall; and, one at the Essex Elementary School in said Essex; at least fourteen days before the time for holding said meeting.

Constable