

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT – FY2016

Town of Rowe

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

FRANKLIN, SS.

To either Constable of the Town of Rowe in the County of Franklin,

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Rowe, qualified to vote in the elections and town affairs, to meet at the **ROWE Elementary School** in said **ROWE** on **Monday, the Eleventh of January 2016**, at 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$2,409.95 to purchase instructional materials for the Rowe Volunteer Fire Department (RVFD), or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 1 Explanation: A DVD series is available entitled Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills: Skills and Drills. This visual aid will help our volunteer firefighters as they learn what is necessary to protect the citizens and property of the Town, as well as themselves. Furthermore, it will save the Town substantial amounts of money as the classroom portion of the training can be done in-house rather than our volunteers having to travel to Springfield individually.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000.00 to purchase twenty (20) new pagers for the First Responders on the Fire Department and the Police Department, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 2 Explanation: The current model of pagers is no longer supported by Motorola. Motorola Monitor 6 is recommended for our paging needs. While the RVFD purchased new batteries for the pagers many are not keeping the charge and some are having charging base issues which are problems the current pager faces. There are five (5) First Responders who do not have a pager at all. Note: Inventory on the pagers will be tracked from now on. Note: other towns with the same pagers that we have now are having the same issues.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$4,000.00 to remove the trees in the front of Town Hall, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 3 Explanation: It has been determined that the very large trees in front of Town Hall are contributing to the structural damage of the building. The window sills are rotted as well as some clapboards due to lack of circulating air.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$5,520.00 to repair the gate at the Refuse Center, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 4 Explanation: The gate has been faulty for some time; the controls freeze and the rollers are not working properly. The attendants have had to run extension cords from a distance to the gate, and some safety features which are now mandated have not been installed.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$3,000.00 to purchase an Emergency Support Vehicle for the RVFD, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 5 Explanation: The North Adams Ambulance Service has a used vehicle in very good condition, one which would normally cost a great deal of money but we have the opportunity to purchase this at a steep discount. This vehicle will be used to transport equipment and supplies to the scene of an accident or other medical emergency, something which is difficult to do now with our large trucks.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to create an Assessors Triennial Evaluations Stabilization Account with the \$15,000.00 which was voted on May 11, 2015 at the Rowe Annual Town Meeting, or take any action related thereto.

Note: Two-thirds vote is required to pass Articles involving Stabilization Funds.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 6 Explanation: For the past several years the Town has voted to raise and appropriate a sum of money to be put aside as savings in readiness for the Triennial Evaluation. However, Selectman Wilson spoke with Patricia Hunt at the Massachusetts Department of Revenue to check on this procedure and learned that a Special Purpose Stabilization account must be established in order to save and retain this money for eventual use.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to create a Road Reclamation Stabilization Account with the \$20,000.00 which was voted on May 11, 2015 at the Rowe Annual Town Meeting, or take any action related thereto.

Note: Two-thirds vote is required to pass Articles involving Stabilization Funds.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 7 Explanation: Selectman Wilson spoke with Patricia Hunt at the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and learned that a Special Purpose Stabilization account must be established in order to save and retain this money for eventual use.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to create a Stabilization Account for Town Hall Complex generators with the \$50,000.00 which was voted on May 11, 2015 at the Rowe Annual Town Meeting, or take any action related thereto.

Note: Two-thirds vote is required to pass Articles involving Stabilization Funds.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 8 Explanation: Selectman Wilson spoke with Patricia Hunt at the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and learned that a Special Purpose Stabilization account must be established in order to save and retain this money for eventual use.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to establish the position of Relief Animal Control Officer and to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$500.00 to fund this position, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 9 Explanation: When the Animal Control Officer is not available the Relief Animal Control Officer will be able to handle any situation which arises.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to move \$3,000.00 from the Treasurer Line Item 01-5-145-100 to the Assistant Treasurer Compensation Line Item 01-5-145-110, or take any action related thereto.

Note: Line Items Transfers by Town Meeting Require a Simple Majority Vote

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 10 Explanation: The Assistant Treasurer is now doing the Town Payroll and the compensation needs to be adjusted accordingly.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$ 2,478.00 to upgrade and repair the smoke detection system and replace faulty smoke detectors in Town Hall, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 11 Explanation: The smoke detection system in Town Hall is faulty; some of the smoke detectors do not work, some are over 25 years old and are not to code.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$ 4,000.00 to repair and bring up to code the Town Hall elevator, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee*

Article 12 Explanation: The elevator license was renewed contingent upon the repairs and upgrades being done.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$607.00 to purchase a suction unit for the Emergency Medical Service, or take any action related thereto.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Not reviewed by the Finance Committee Due to Time*

Article 13 Explanation: This is a vital piece of equipment necessary for the First Responders to clear an airway; if an airway is obstructed and breathing is impaired or impossible by the blockage, this suction apparatus will clear it. The suction unit we now have is faulty.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to Appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$2,482.26 to purchase necessary supplies, including an Automatic External Defibrillator, for the Emergency Medical Services.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Not reviewed by the Finance Committee Due to Time.*

Article 14 Explanation: Although a medical emergency can happen at any time to anyone, with our aging population the cardiac events are more probable than ever. Our First Responders are well trained and dedicated but we need to give them the tools necessary to aid our patients.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to move \$ 150,000.00 into Stabilization from Free Cash.

Note: Two-thirds vote is required to pass Articles involving Stabilization Funds.

*Recommended by the Board of Selectmen
Recommended by the Finance Committee*

Article 15 Explanation: We must continue to bolster our savings accounts.

ARTICLE 16: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

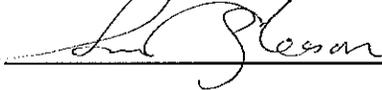
And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the **Rowe Town Hall** and the **Rowe Transfer Station** in said Town, fourteen days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

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

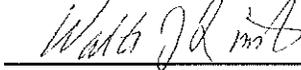
Given under our hands this **Twenty-First day of December** in the **YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND and FIFTEEN**.



Marilyn Wilson, Chair



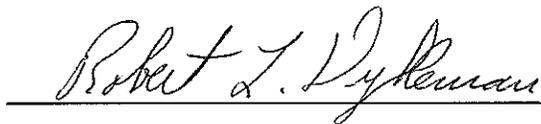
Susan Gleason, Vice-Chair



Walter J. Quist, Selectman

SELECTMEN OF ROWE

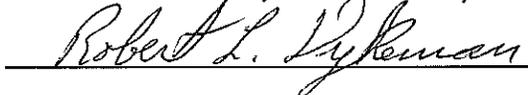
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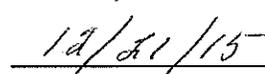
Robert L. Dykeman, Constable

FRANKLIN, SS.

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Rowe by posting up attested copies of the same at the **ROWE TOWN HALL** and the **ROWE TRANSFER STATION, FOURTEEN** days before the date hereof, as within directed.



Robert L. Dykeman, Constable



Date