

Annual Town Meeting Warrant
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** day of **MAY 2026** at **6:30 P.M.** in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To act on reports of the Town Officers and Committees.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to update its **REVOLVING FUNDS** by (1) **REVISING** the table shown in §13 of the General Bylaws by deleting the present table in its entirety and inserting in its place the following table:

Town of Rowe Revolving Funds

Revolving Fund	Entity Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fees, Charges, or Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund
Emergency Dispensing Site	Board of Health	Receipts Related to the Emergency Dispensing Site Operations	Dispensing medicines or medical supplies during an emergency
Recycling Program	Board of Health	Receipts Related to the Recycling Program	Operation of solid waste and recycling programs, membership in and services of the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, and the purchase of recycled content or environmentally preferable products
Vaccine Services	Board of Health	Receipts from Insurance Billing	Providing vaccine clinics, distribution, and related services
School Programs	School Committee	Fees for School Programs	Offset costs of school programs
Old Home Day	Old Home Day Committee	Receipts Generated by Old Home Day Activities and Programs	Expenses of Old Home Day
Refuse Garden	Board of Health	Receipts Related to the Refuse Garden Operations	Operation of the town Refuse Garden
Planning Board Legal/ Consulting	Planning Board	Receipts Related to Fees for Special Permits and Other Work of the Planning Board	Legal consultation and representation
Park Programs	Park Commission	Receipts Related to Park Programs	Operation of programs run by the Pelham Lake Park

and (2) **ESTABLISHING** annual expenditure limits for such revolving funds as:

Revolving Fund	Annual (Fiscal Year) Expenditure Limit
Emergency Dispensing Site	\$1,000.00
Recycling Program	\$5,000.00
Vaccine Services	\$6,000.00
School Programs	\$10,000.00
Old Home Day	\$2,000.00

Refuse Garden	\$5,000.00
Planning Board Legal/Consulting	\$50,000.00
Park Programs	\$2,000.00

and (3) **VOTING** that such expenditure limits shall apply from fiscal year to fiscal year until Town Meeting revises the same prior to June 30 in any fiscal year, or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to **AUTHORIZE** the **BOARD OF SELECTMEN** to apply for, accept, and expend federal and state grants as may be available, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to **AUTHORIZE** the **TREASURER** to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2027, pursuant to G.L. c. 44, § 53F, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums, and to set the stipends/salary compensation for all elected officials of the Town for Fiscal Year 2027, pursuant to G.L. c. 41, § 108, to be made effective from July 1, 2026, or take any action in relation thereto.

Elected Boards & Committees:

Board of Assessors (3)	\$5,354.00
Board of Health (3)	\$4,938.00
Board of Selectmen (3)	\$5,928.00
School Committee (3)	\$4,564.00
<u>Planning Board (5)</u>	<u>\$5,200.00</u>
Subtotal Elected Boards & Committees	\$25,984.00

Elected Town Officers

Constable	\$549.00
Moderator	\$439.00
Subtotal Elected Town Officers	\$988.00

TOTAL ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES FROM TAXATION.....**\$26,972.00**

Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$370,000.00** for the purpose of paying down **PRINCIPAL ON THE TOWN ROAD PAVING BOND** and **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$28,411.00** for the **INTEREST ON THE TOWN ROAD PAVING BOND** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto.

Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**, including the charges and expenses of the various town offices, for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto.

Administration

General Administration	\$167,350.00
Town Administrator Salary	\$75,351.58
Administrative Assistant to the Boards Wages	\$40,848.94
Town Hall Custodian Wages	\$18,599.48
Custodian Expenses	\$4,500.00
Facilities Maintenance Manager Wages	\$14,119.58
Facilities Maintenance Manager Operations	\$15,000.00
Snow Removal Wages	\$1,569.96
Legal	\$45,000.00
Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary	\$61,478.68
Treasurer/Tax Collector Operations	\$21,000.00
Town Clerk Stipend	\$16,035.00
Assistant Town Clerk Stipend	\$1,920.00
Board of Registrars/Election Teller Wages	\$6,555.00
Town Clerk Operations/Dues & Education	\$1,335.00
Conservation Commission	\$2,370.00
Council on Aging	\$11,000.00

Goal Post Editor Wages.....	\$7,517.06
Goal Post Operations	\$2,500.00
Veteran's Services	\$6,022.00
FRCOG Services	\$26,729.00
Town Accountant Salary.....	\$32,419.99
Town Accountant Expenses.....	\$4,420.00
Subtotal Administration.....	\$586,391.57

Board of Assessors

Assessors' Admin Assistant Wages	\$14,502.61
Assessors' Reval	\$3,500.00
Assessors' Operations	\$39,000.00
Subtotal Board of Assessors	\$57,002.61

Planning Board

<u>Planning Board Operations</u>	<u>\$1,650.00</u>
Subtotal Planning Board.....	\$1,650.00

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT FROM TAXATION **\$645,044.18**

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$30,000.00** to be used as a **RESERVE FUND**, pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 6, for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Highway Department	
DPW Salaries and Wages.....	\$354,633.23
DPW Operations.....	\$211,626.00
<u>Winter Roads.....</u>	<u>\$72,100.00</u>
Subtotal Highway Department.....	\$638,359.23

Other Public Works & Facilities

Street Lighting	\$8,000.00
<u>Dam Maintenance/Repair.....</u>	<u>\$1,200.00</u>
Subtotal Other Public Works & Facilities	\$9,200.00

Cemetery Commission

Cemetery Operations.....	\$18,500.00
--------------------------	-------------

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES FROM TAXATION..... **\$666,059.23**

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PUBLIC SAFETY** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Police Department	
Police Salaries.....	\$85,287.98
Police Officer Training	\$8,000.00
<u>Police Operations.....</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
Subtotal Police Department.....	\$108,287.98

Fire Department

Fire Department Stipends & Wages.....	\$88,763.33
<u>Fire Department Operations.....</u>	<u>\$76,500.00</u>
Subtotal Fire Department	\$165,263.33

Emergency Management

Emergency Management Stipends\$3,864.00
Generator Maintenance..........\$3,500.00
Subtotal Emergency Management.....\$7,364.00

Animal Control and Inspection

Animal Control Officer Stipends.....\$1,449.00
Animal Control Relief Officer Stipend.....\$508.00
Animal Control Operations.....\$1,050.00
Animal Inspector Stipend.....\$532.00
Regional Dog Kennel..........\$462.00
Subtotal Animal Control.....\$4,001.00

TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FROM TAXATION\$284,916.31

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PUBLIC HEALTH** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Public Health

Health Department Stipends and Wages.....\$92,779.87
Board of Health Operations.....\$86,305.00

TOTAL PUBLIC HEALTH FROM TAXATION\$179,084.87

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PUBLIC SCHOOLS** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Education

Rowe School PreK-6 Operating Budget.....\$1,264,105.89
Rowe School Secondary 7-12.....\$632,721.69

TOTAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM TAXATION\$1,896,827.58

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the **ROWE TOWN LIBRARY** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Rowe Town Library

Library Wages.....\$54,714.68
Library Operations.....\$28,424.00

TOTAL ROWE TOWN LIBRARY FROM TAXATION.....\$83,138.68

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for the **PELHAM LAKE PARK** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Pelham Lake Park

Park Wages.....\$137,287.18
Park Operations.....\$22,795.00

TOTAL PELHAM LAKE PARK FROM TAXATION\$160,082.18

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **CULTURE AND RECREATION** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Culture and Recreation

Beautification\$1,500.00

TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION FROM TAXATION.....\$1,500.00

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sums for **PENSIONS AND INSURANCE** for Fiscal Year 2027, or take any action in relation thereto:

Pensions and Insurance
Franklin County Retirement Assessment.....\$239,986.00
Unemployment Insurance.....\$20,000.00
Group Health/Dental/Life Insurance.....\$1,220,000.00
Medicare Tax – Town Share.....\$34,000.00

TOTAL PENSIONS AND INSURANCE FROM TAXATION.....\$1,513,986.00

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$256,653.49** for the repair, improvement, and construction of Town highways, or any other purpose allowed under Chapter 90 of the General Laws, which amounts shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts through funds made available by Chapter 90 of the General Laws, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$40,000.00** for the purpose of outfitting the 2023 Ford F-550 Fire Department Vehicle with **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS) EQUIPMENT** or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from **FREE CASH** the following sums for **SPECIAL PROJECTS** or take any action in relation thereto:

ADMIN	Town Hall Boiler Replacement.....	\$50,000.00
ADMIN	Bridge Rehab.....	\$21,000.00
FIRE	Generator Replacement.....	\$50,000.00
PARK	Vehicle Rust Repair.....	\$4,500.00
SCHOOL	Exterior Improvements.....	\$30,000.00
TREAS/COLLECT	Vardar Software.....	\$48,000.00

TOTAL SPECIAL PROJECTS FROM FREE CASH\$203,500.00

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 20: To see if the town vote to **TRANSFER** from **CAPITAL STABILIZATION** and/or **BORROW** the sum necessary to fund the expansion and renovation of the Rowe Town Library including demolition, sitework, furnishings and equipment, design, engineering, professional services, moving, and any other costs incidental and related thereto, and to meet this appropriation, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow funds pursuant to G.L.c. 44, §7, or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds and notes of the Town, therefor and, further, to allow the Select Board to apply for and accept any grants available to offset this appropriation, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from **FREE CASH** the sum of **\$154,424.00** and **TRANSFER** from **STABILIZATION** the sum of **\$5,576.00** for the purpose of paying the **\$160,000.00** coverage due to the FY2026 mid-year **HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASE**, or take any action in relation thereto.

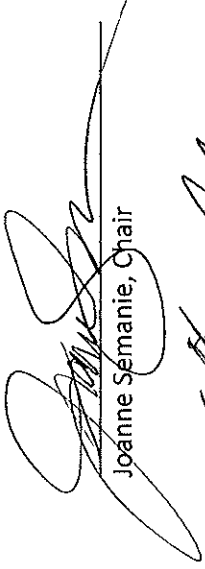
*Recommended by the Finance Committee vote 4-0-0
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen vote 3-0-0*

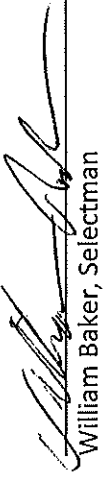
ARTICLE 22: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

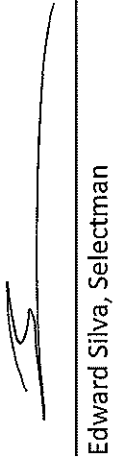
And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the **ROWE TOWN HALL** and **ROWE TRANSFER STATION** in said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.


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

Given under our hands this **SIXTEENTH** day of **APRIL** in the year **TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-SIX**.


Joanne Semanie, Chair


William Baker, Selectman


Edward Silva, Selectman

A true copy, attest:

Henry Dandeneau, Constable

Franklin, SS.

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


Henry Dandeneau, Constable

4/16/26
Date