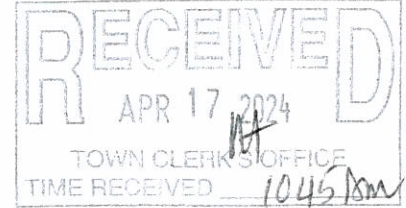




WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF WARE  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS



HAMPSHIRE, ss

To any of the Constables of the Town of Ware, in said County,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn all of the inhabitants of the Town of Ware, Precincts A, B and C qualified to vote on Town affairs to meet at the Ware High School Auditorium, 237 West Street, Ware, on Monday, May 13, 2024, at six thirty (6:30 PM) o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

### Fiscal Year 2024

**Article 1.**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay unpaid bills from prior fiscal years, or take any other action relative thereto.

**Article 2.**

To see if the Town will vote to amend or adjust any of the line items of the Fiscal Year 2024 Town Budget, including debt and interest, and to determine what sums of money the Town will appropriate for any such adjustments or amendments and to determine the manner of meeting said appropriation, whether by transfer from available funds, transfer from other items or appropriations, borrowing, or any other means or combination thereof, or take any other action relative thereto.

### Fiscal Year 2025

#### Consent Articles (3-11)

**Article 3.**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of Town Boards, Committees and Departments as presented in the Annual Town Report or take any other action relative thereto.

- Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Tax Collector, with the approval of the Selectboard, to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2025 as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to accept and appropriate any Grant Funds awarded to the Town of Ware under Massachusetts Community Development Fund by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development and to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Community Development Authority to expend the funds in accordance with the terms and conditions of any such grant agreements, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to accept all State and Federal Educational Grants in any amount as may be awarded for the direct educational expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025, to be expended by the Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to accept all State and Federal Educational Grants in any amount as may be awarded for the direct educational expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025, to be expended by the Ware Public Schools, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 8.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard and Town Manager to apply for, accept and expend any grants or donations from State or Federal governments or private agencies, individuals, or institutions, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be expended for road repairs, including all costs incidental and related thereto, in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Department under the Chapter 90 State Highway Aid Program, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to establish the spending limits for the Town's revolving funds as established by the Town's General Bylaw, as adopted by Article 24 on November 13, 2017, for certain Town departments under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 as follows, or take any other action relative thereto.

Authorized Revolving Fund	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
Senior Center Rental	20,000.00
Ware Public School Athletic Advertising	100,000.00
Community Development Septic Repair	25,000.00
Community Development	120,000.00
Cemetery Maintenance and Burial	10,000.00
Bulky Waste	15,000.00

- Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of the several Elected Officers of the Town for the Fiscal Year 2025 and to determine whether any Town Board, Commission or Committee shall be authorized to employ any of its members for additional salary or compensation or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Water Enterprise during Fiscal Year 2025, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 13.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Sewer Enterprise during Fiscal Year 2025, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate including appropriations from Available Funds of whatever type, to defray the charges and expenses of the Town including Debt and Interest for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the Employee Compensated Absences Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 16.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's General Bylaws by adopting the Stormwater Bylaw, as on file with the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 17.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaws to the Floodplain zoning overlay, Section 4.1 (Use Designations) and Section 4.9 (Overlay District Regulations), as on file with the Town Clerk, or take any action relative thereto.
- Article 18.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for design of the refurbishment of the water tanks on Church Street and Anderson Road, including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.
- Article 19.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the refurbishment of the water tanks on Church Street and Anderson Road, including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto

- Article 20.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to develop a plan for the Ware public water system in relation to the pending EPA PFAS Regulation including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto
- Article 21.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for masonry repairs at the Ware Senior Center including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto
- Article 22.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for the feasibility study for roof repairs for the Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School at 4 Gould Road, Ware for which feasibility study the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or take any other action relative thereto. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.
- Article 23.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for the feasibility study for roof repairs for the Ware Middle School at 239 West Street, Ware for which feasibility study the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or take any other action relative thereto. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.
- Article 24.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the design for restroom facilities at Grenville Park including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto
- Article 25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, borrow, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the upgrade the electrical system at Town Hall to meet code compliance including all costs incidental and related thereto, or take any other action relative thereto

**Article 26.**

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.43B, §1, to establish a Charter Review Committee, rules for appointment to said committee and the purpose of said committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

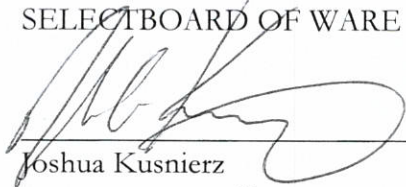
**Article 27.**

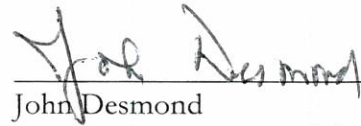
To see if the Town will vote to accept MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C and reduce the eligibility age to 65; increase the exemption amount up to 100%; increase the gross receipts limit up to \$20,000 for single people and \$30,000 for married people; increase the whole estate limit up to \$40,000 for single people and \$55,000 for married people; or take any action relative thereto.

**And you are directed to serve up this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the Town Hall, at the Post Office calling the same at least seven (7) days before the time of said meeting and also by publishing a copy of the warrant on the Town of Ware website at least seven (7) days before said meeting and make due return of this Warrant with doings thereon, to the Town Clerk of Ware on or before the time of said meeting.**

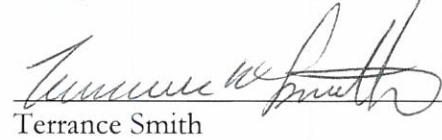
Given under our hand at Ware this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

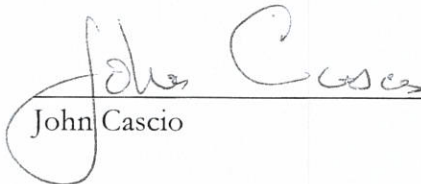
SELECTBOARD OF WARE

  
Joshua Kusnierz

  
John Desmond

  
Nancy Talbot


  
Terrance Smith

  
John Cascio

HAMPSHIRE ss.

By virtue of this Warrant, I have posted two attested copies: one at the Post Office, and one at the Town Hall. I have also caused to be posted one attested copy on the Ware website.

Signed this 17<sup>th</sup> Day of April 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable of Ware