

**2024 ANNUAL TOWN WARRANT
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

FRANKLIN, SS:

To either of the Constables of the **Town of Sunderland** in the County of Franklin,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in the elections and in town affairs, to meet at ONE SWAMPFIELD DRIVE, SUNDERLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, in said SUNDERLAND on Friday this TWENTY-SIXTH Day of April, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FOUR at **6:30** p.m. and act on the following articles:

All articles on this warrant require a simple majority unless otherwise indicated or required by the motion.

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to hear the reports of the Selectboard, the Sunderland School Committee and all other Town Officers, Boards, Committees and Commissions, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote (no statutory reference)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 108, to set the salaries and compensation of all its elected officials connected therewith for Fiscal Year 2025 or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Assessors: Chair \$2,994.21 annually Clerk \$2,994.21 annually Member \$ 2,994.21 annually

Board of Health: Chair \$1,500 annually Member \$1,200 annually Member \$1,200 annually

Moderator: \$200.00 annually

Planning Board: Chair \$1,000.00 annually Clerk \$1,000.00 annually
Members each \$550.00 annually

Town Clerk: \$58,964.00 annually

Selectboard: Chair \$3,275.00 annually Vice Chair \$2,850.00 annually Clerk \$2,850.00 annually

Majority Vote - G.L. c.41, §108

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the Town and general municipal purposes connected therewith for Fiscal Year 2025 or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §5, and G.L. c.71, §16B (NOTE: 2/3 vote required if: borrowing pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §§7 or 8 and G.L. c.59, §21C; or transfer from stabilization pursuant to G.L. 40, §5B)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 2-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Budget, specifically for the capital equipment, buildings, facilities and other capital projects as shown on a document entitled, "FY25 CAPITAL BUDGET BY FUNDING SOURCE" on file with the Town Clerk, and posted on the Town website at www.townofsunderland.us, and as may be necessary in connection therewith, and to authorize one or more tax exempt lease purchase finance agreements pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §31C for capital equipment identified in the FY 25 Capital Budget for terms not to exceed the useful life of the equipment as determined by the Selectboard, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §5 (NOTE: 2/3 vote required if: borrowing pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §§7 or 8 and G.L. c.59, §21C; transfer from stabilization pursuant to G.L. 40, §5B; or authorization of lease/purchase agreement pursuant to G.L. c.44 §21C)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 2-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
CAPITAL PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 4-0

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money to pay prior year bills and take any other action in relation thereto.

***REQUIRES 4/5ths VOTE MGL c.44, §64**

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the amount of \$177,000, of which \$28,000 is from the *CPA Historic Resources Reserve* and \$149,000 is from the *CPA FY24 Undesignated Fund Balance*, as requested by the Sunderland Public Library. Monies will be used for the restoration of the masonry, foundation and site of the Graves Memorial Library for the purpose of exterior preservation and related work. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Sunderland Public Library; or take any other action thereto.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 44B, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Community Preservation Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
CPC RECOMMENDATION: 7-0

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the amount of \$25,000 from the *CPA FY24 Undesignated Fund Balance*, as requested by the Town of Sunderland. Monies will be used as part of the local match for a MassTrails Grant for a feasibility study on the Norwottuck North Shared Use Path proposal, connecting Sunderland to UMass and the Whately Park & Ride. Said funds to be expended under the direction of the Town of Sunderland, are contingent on getting the MassTrails Grant; or take any other action thereto.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 44B, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Community Preservation Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
CPC RECOMMENDATION: 7-0

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the **Community Preservation Fund** annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2025.

Appropriations:

From FY 2024 estimated revenues* for Committee Administrative Expenses	\$ 6,000
Community Preservation Debt Service	\$ 25,401.91

Reserves:

FY 2024 estimated revenues for Historic Resources Reserve	\$ 28,945
FY 2024 estimated revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$ 28,945
FY 2024 estimated revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$ 28,945

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 44B, §5

SUBMITTED BY: Community Preservation Committee
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
CPC RECOMMENDATION: 7-0

* Estimated revenues are based on FY25 CPA Surcharge Estimate of \$160,000 and a 22% State Match (\$35,200), plus an adjustment for an additional 65% state match received in FY24 (\$94,250). Each reserve fund is allocated 10% of that total.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 125 of the Code of Sunderland, Zoning Bylaws as set forth in a document entitled "Proposed Zoning Amendment ATM 2024 – Battery Storage" on file with the Town Clerk, with provisions to be inserted shown in underlined text and provisions to be deleted shown in strikethrough text; or take any other action relative thereto.

2/3rds vote-G.L. c.40A §5

SUBMITTED BY: Planning Board
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 125 of the Code of Sunderland, Zoning Bylaws as set forth in a document entitled "Proposed Zoning Amendment ATM 2024 – Structure Conversion" on file with the Town Clerk, with provisions to be inserted shown in underlined text and provisions to be deleted shown in strikethrough text; or take any other action relative thereto.

2/3rds vote-G.L. c.40A §5

SUBMITTED BY: Planning Board
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of General Laws c.44, §53E½, as most recently amended, to establish FY2025 fiscal year spending limits for the revolving funds listed in Section 35-6 of the General Bylaws, and to authorize such expenditure limits to remain in place from fiscal year to fiscal year unless revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 for the ensuing fiscal year, as follows:

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
Wiring Inspector	\$ 9,000
Plumbing Inspector	\$ 3,000
Board of Health	\$16,500
Sunderland Public Library Community Room	\$ 5,000
Fire Inspector	\$ 7,000
Highway Shared Equipment	\$23,000

or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority vote - G.L. c.44, §53E 1/2.

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0
FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: 2-0

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to enact legislation in substantially the form below to grant the Town of Sunderland the authority to endow legal voting rights in municipal elections for Town of Sunderland residents aged 16 and 17 years old, and further that the Selectboard be authorized to approve amendments to said act by the General Court before its enactment that are within the scope of the general objectives of this motion.

"An Act granting the Town of Sunderland the authority to endow legal voting rights in municipal elections for Town of Sunderland residents aged 16 and 17 years old."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 1 of Chapter 51 of the General Laws or any other general or special law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, any individual aged 16 or 17 years old residing in the Town of Sunderland, who is ineligible to vote under state law due to age, but who is

otherwise eligible to vote under state law, may upon application have their names entered on a list of voters established by the office of the Town Clerk for the Town of Sunderland. Such individuals on the list of voters may vote in any election for local offices, local ballot questions, Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting in accordance with this Act. For the purposes of this Act, "local voters" are anyone who is eligible to vote pursuant to this Act in a local election, upon a local ballot question, or in an Annual Town Meeting or Special Town Meeting in the Town of Sunderland.

SECTION 2. Said office of the Town Clerk shall establish a separate registration list for local voters who shall fill out an alternative registration form. Upon turning eighteen, each local voter shall be taken off said list and notified that he or she must register as a regular voter in accordance with state law, regulations, and guidelines, in order to be eligible to vote. Said office shall create and print, at the Town of Sunderland's expense, the special registration form needed for the purpose of registering local voters.

SECTION 3. Said board is hereby authorized to promulgate regulations, guidelines and forms to implement the purpose of this act.

SECTION 4. If a local ballot question appears on a state election ballot, the office of the Town Clerk shall print a separate ballot for the local ballot question at the expense of the Town of Sunderland.

SECTION 5. The Town of Sunderland is hereby authorized to pass ordinances to implement the purpose of this act.

SECTION 6. Nothing in this act shall be construed to confer upon local voters the right to vote for any state or federal office or any state or federal ballot questions.

SUBMITTED BY: Citizen Petition

Articles 13 through 18, inclusive, are so called Consent Articles

SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION to Consent Articles: 3-0

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION to Consent Articles: 3-0

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2025, as permitted by G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53F, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote-G.L. c.44, §53F

SUBMITTED BY: Treasurer/Collector

SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to apply for, accept and expend any grants or donations from State or Federal governments or private agencies, individuals or institutions, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote (no statutory reference; see G.L. c. 44, §§53, 53A)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard

SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend any sum or sums of money which may be available from the State for Chapter 90 work for road improvement and equipment expense, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote (no statutory reference; see G.L. c. 44, §53A and G.L. c.90, §34)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard and Highway Superintendent

SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote under the provisions of G.L. Chapter 40, Section 4A to authorize the Selectboard to enter into inter-municipal agreements or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 40, §4A

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts for goods and services with duration in excess of three years pursuant to the provisions of G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 12 (b), or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote - G.L. c. 30B, §12(b)

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 2024 in accordance with the provisions of G.L. Chapter 44, Section 4 and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with G.L. Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Majority Vote - G.L. c.44, §§4 and 17

SUBMITTED BY: Selectboard/Treasurer
SELECTBOARD RECOMMENDATION: 3-0

You are hereby directed to warn the inhabitants of said Sunderland qualified to vote in Town elections to bring in and cast their votes for the following offices to be filled for the year 2024 on Saturday, the Fourth of May 2024 at the Sunderland Public Library at 20 School Street, Sunderland from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.:

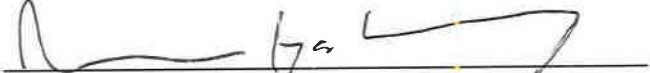
Office	Vote for:	Term
Assessor	1	3 Years
Selectboard (Selectman)	1	3 Years
Board of Health	1	3 Years
Library Trustee	3	3 Years
Moderator	1	1 Year
Planning Board	1	5 Years
Riverside Cemetery	1	3 Years
Sunderland Elementary School Committee	2	3 Years


You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the Town Office Building, the Sunderland Public Library and the Sunderland Post Office in said Sunderland seven days, at least, before the holding of said Meeting.

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

Given under our hands this ___th day of April 2024.


SUNDERLAND SELECTBOARD


 Nathaniel Waring, Chair


 Christyl Drake-Tremblay, Vice Chair

 Daniel Murphy, Clerk
 Sunderland Selectboard

A True Copy ATTEST:

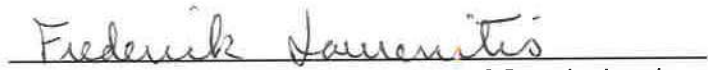

 Wendy Houle, Sunderland Town Clerk

REC'D SUNDERLAND CLERK
 APR 19 '24 PM 12:36

 Date and Time

FRANKLIN, SS:

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Sunderland by posting up attested copies of the same at the Town Office Building, the Sunderland Public Library and the Sunderland Post Office seven days, at least, before the date hereof, as within directed.


 Frederick Laurenitis, Constable of Sunderland

 Date and Time

REC'D SUNDERLAND CLERK
 APR 19 '24 PM 12:36