

**WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN
MEETING TOWN OF
LANESBOROUGH
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS FISCAL
YEAR 2026**

BERKSHIRE, ss.

June 10, 2025

To any of the Police Officers of the Town
of Lanesborough:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Lanesborough, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Lanesborough Elementary School property, 188 Summer Street in said Lanesborough on June 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., then and there to act on the following Articles of business, Article 2 through 24 and action on Article 1, will take place on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at the Town Hall at 83 North Main Street, Lanesborough and the polls will be open at noon and close at 8:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 1: To elect the necessary Town Officers on one ballot;
Select Board, one, three-year term,
Finance Committee, two, three-year terms,
Library Trustee, one, three-year term,
Planning Board, one, five-year term.

ARTICLE 2: To fix the compensation of all elected Town Officers as provided by G.L. c. 41, § 108, as amended, and to hear the budget, act thereon and raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money to defray charges and expenses of the Town for the ensuing year, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate** for the operation of the Sewer Enterprise **\$67,860.00** for expenses and budgeted surplus, to be raised as follows: Departmental Receipts - **\$67,860.00**; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate** for the operation of the Ambulance Enterprise Fund **\$208,198.00** for salaries and expenses, to be raised as follows: User Fees - **\$208,198.00**; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate** for the operation of the Local Access Television Enterprise Fund **\$22,500.00** for operating expenses, to be raised as follows:
Departmental Receipts - **\$22,500.00**; or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash such sums of money as may be necessary to pay prior year bills; or take any other action relative thereto.

Town of Williamstown	\$ 454.40
United Construction & Forestry LLC	\$ 1,556.76
County Ambulance:	\$ 855.00
Total:	<u>\$ 2,866.16</u>

4/5th vote required
(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of **\$50,000.00** to pay the Town's contribution to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer \$50,000.00** from Free Cash into the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer \$20,000.00** from Free Cash into the Capital Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from the Town's Stabilization Fund the sum of **\$45,000.00** for the redesign of the new public safety building, or take any other action relative thereto.

Note: At the 2021 ATM for FY22, the Town voted to **appropriate and transfer \$108,000** for this purpose, of which **\$40,000** has been used previously.

2/3rd vote required
(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of **\$100,000.00** for a temporary station lease for the Ambulance department, including purchase of furniture and any renovations, including all costs incidental or relative thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

2/3rd vote required
(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer \$49,291.70** from Free Cash to pay the Department of Public Works Director for unused sick leave and vacation upon retirement in accordance with the terms of the employment agreement between the Town and the DPW Director, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of **\$250,000.00** for the replacement of a 2012 Highway Front End Loader, with or without a trade, including all costs incidental and relative thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of **\$50,000.00** for the replacement of two air conditioning units and wiring/relays for the heating system in Town Hall, including all costs incidental or relative thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of **\$15,000.00** for a Sewer Study to remain in compliance with MassDEP, including all costs incidental or relative thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer \$200,000.00** from Free Cash and **\$181,698.32** from the Baker Hill Road District Fire Truck Fund into the Fire Truck Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 3-1)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of **\$5,000.00** for the resurfacing of the Narragansett Park basketball court, including all costs incidental or relative thereto, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Select Board 2-0)
(Finance Committee 4-0)

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Lanesborough General

Bylaws by adding a new article in Chapter 53 Finances (Article III section 53-3) to create a revolving fund for the Pavilion located at Laston Field and to set the Fiscal Year 2026 spending limits for said funds as shown below or to take any other action related thereto.

Revolving Fund	Spending Authority	FY2026 Spending Limit	Revenue Source	Allowed Expenses	Fiscal Years
Pavilion Events	Recreation Department	\$10,000.00	Fees paid to hold events at the Pavilion	Supplies, maintenance, and expenses related to the upkeep of the Pavilion	FY26 and subsequent years

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.44, §54(b) to allow Town trust funds to be invested in accordance with G.L. c.203C, the so-called “Prudent Investment Rule”, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c. 200A, §9A; or take any other action relative thereto.

Note: This is a local option statute that provides an alternate procedure for disposing of abandoned funds, and allows municipalities to retain unclaimed funds as revenue.

ARTICLE 21: Town Acceptance of a portion of Old Williamstown Road: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a parcel of land approximately 0.72 miles in length (3792 feet) from the south end of Old Williamstown Rd starting approximately 220 feet north of the center of the bridge, and proceeding north to approximately 65 feet south of the bridge at the north end of Old Williamstown Rd; and further to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take all related actions necessary or appropriate to carry out this article, on such terms and conditions as the Select Board shall, in its discretion, deem reasonable, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22: By-law amendments proposed by Lanesborough Finance Committee: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town’s General Bylaws, Chapter 21: Boards, Commissions and Committees, Article 1 Finance Committee, specifically to clarify various portions of the by-laws, including the reference from Town Manager to Town Administrator, the process when a member vacates a position, the Finance Committee election of a Secretary, and remove other sections considered redundant and/or replicated in other parts of Massachusetts General Law:

Reference to Town Manager in § 21-1. Powers, duties and authority.

F. Such estimates shall be submitted to the Town ~~Manager~~ Administrator, who shall evaluate and prepare a proposed budget. This budget, along with transfer requests and financial warrant articles, shall be referred by the Select Board to the Finance Committee for its consideration at a mutually accepted date. Said Committee shall, after due consideration of the subject matter of such articles and proposed budget, report thereon to the Town Meeting, in writing, such recommendations as it deems best for the interests of the Town and its citizens.

[Amended 6-8-2021 ATM by Art. 24]

Process when a member vacates his/her position in § 21-2, A (1). Membership; officers.

A. The Finance Committee shall consist of five members elected for three-year terms. When a member vacates his/her position in the Committee before expiration of their term, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. The Finance Committee shall make it known to the community that a vacancy exists and thereby solicit interested parties.
2. A new member shall be voted on by the remaining members of the Finance Committee and the Select Board as determined by G.L. c. 41, § 11.

Election of Secretary in § 21-2, B Membership; officers.

B. The Finance Committee shall elect a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson and a Secretary at the first meeting held after the Annual Town Election. The officers shall serve until new officers are elected at the next meeting after the Annual Town Election.

[Amended 6-8-2021 ATM by Art. 24]

Removal of following subsections

§ 21-2, B (1) and (2) Membership; officers

- ~~1. Chairperson. The Chairperson shall preside at all Committee meetings. The Chairperson shall have the responsibility of posting notices of meetings as required by law. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Chairperson or the Committee shall appoint an Acting Chairperson. The Chairperson cannot make or second any motion. The Chairperson shall call for a vote on all motions that have been seconded or discussed.~~
- ~~2. The members of the Finance Committee (excluding the Chairperson) will rotate the duty of recording the minutes of the meetings or elect a secretary. The minutes will be typed and distributed to the entire Committee at least one week prior to the next scheduled meeting. The minutes, once approved by the Committee, will be forwarded to the Town secretary within 10 days of last meeting.~~

§ 21-5, Subcommittees A and B

§ 21-5. Subcommittees.

~~A. The Committee members shall make the Chairperson aware of their preference of subcommittee assignments. The Chairperson is responsible for all subcommittee appointments. The Chairperson shall consider subcommittees for the following areas:~~

- ~~(1) Lanesborough Elementary School.~~

- ~~(2) Mt. Greylock Regional High School.~~
- ~~(3) Town Buildings.~~
- ~~(4) Police Department.~~
- ~~(5) Fire Department.~~
- ~~(6) Highway Department.~~
- ~~(7) Assessors.~~
- ~~(8) Select Board.~~
- ~~(9) Special Studies.~~

~~B. The Committee or a designated subcommittee shall hold a public meeting on all capital expenditure articles and all articles submitted by petition for the purpose of hearing proponents and opponents of each proposal.~~

§ 21-6, Committee by-laws

§ 21-6. Committee bylaws.

~~The bylaws of the Lanesborough Finance Committee may be amended by a vote of attending members at a Town Meeting.~~

ARTICLE 23: CITIZENS PETITION (1): To amend the zoning by-law that a footnote be added to Section 165-12 as follows:

With respect to lots located along the shoreline of Pontoosuc Lake, no structure shall exceed 26 feet, unless a special permit is granted by the Planning Board pursuant to section 165-43. The shoreline of Pontoosuc Lake shall mean the boundary between the water of Pontoosuc Lake and the adjacent land.

Note: The Planning Board will present its recommendation based on the outcome of the public hearing.

ARTICLE 24: CITIZENS PETITION (2): To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22H – FULL of the Massachusetts General Laws to provide a full tax exemption for surviving parents or guardians of (1) military personnel (including members of the National Guard on active duty) who went missing in action during active duty and are presumed to have died, or (2) military personnel (including members of the National Guard on active duty) or veterans who died as a proximate result of injuries sustained or contracted during active duty service. Effective for the 2026 Fiscal Year and is not retrospective.

The business meeting at which Articles 2 through 24 will be acted upon will commence at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at Lanesborough Elementary School, 188 Summer Street in said Lanesborough. The election, or action on Article 1, will take place on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 83 North Main Street, Lanesborough and the polls will be open at noon and close at 8:00 p.m.

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting True Attested copies thereof in three public places and convenient places in the Town, at least seven days before the time of holding said meeting.

TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH SELECT BOARD:



Michael Murphy, Chair

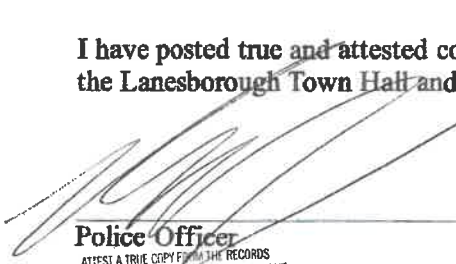


Deborah Maynard

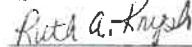


Timothy Sorrell

I have posted true and attested copies of said Warrant at the Lanesborough Post Office, the Lanesborough Town Hall and Bob's Country Kitchen.



Police Officer
ATTEST A TRUE COPY OF THE RECORDS
ON FILE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE
TOWN OF LANESBOROUGH, MA.



Ruth Knysh
Town Clerk

6/2/25
Date

6/2/25
Date

