

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING/ELECTION  
WARRANT**

**HAMPSHIRE SS.**

To either of the Constables of the Town of Westhampton in the County of Hampshire

**GREETING.**

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 elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the TOWN HALL in said WESTHAMPTON on **SATURDAY the THIRTEENTH day of MAY next, at 9: 00 o'clock in the morning, and for the election on SATURDAY the THIRD day of JUNE next, 2017 from 8:00AM to 12:00 P.M.** then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1: To hear and act on all reports presented at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To elect by ballot necessary officers to serve in the ensuing year and to cast their votes on question 1 & 2:

Selectboard	One for three years
Board of Assessors	One for three years
Planning Board	Two for three years
Finance Committee	Three for three years
Finance Committee	One for one years
Hampshire Regional School Committee	One for three years
Elementary School Committee	Two for three years
Elementary School Committee	Two for two years
Moderator	One for one year
Tree Warden	One for one year
Library Trustees	Two for three years
Library Trustee	One for two years
Constable (South District)	One for three years
Hampshire Councilor	One for two years

Question 1: Shall the Town vote to have its Selectboard appoint Cemetery Commissioners?  
YES NO

Question 2 (non-binding): Shall the Town vote to seek issuance of a separate zip code?  
YES NO

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to accept by unanimous consent and without debate the following four articles or any combination of them: Article 4, Care of the Highways; Article 14, Unemployment Benefits; Article 16, Fire Dept. revolving fund; Article 17,Cemetery revolving fund.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to leave the care of the highways in charge of the Selectboard.

ARTICLE 5: To vote in compliance with Section 108, Chapter 41 G.L., which requires that salaries of elected officials be fixed by vote of the Town.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, such sum of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges in the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton’s share of Hampshire Regional School District's assessment for Fiscal 2018, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money to meet Westhampton’s share of Hampshire Regional School District's capital assessment for Fiscal 2018, or any lesser sum as may be certified by the District, provided that any such certification shall be made prior to the establishment of the tax rate, and to meet this appropriation, a sum of money be raised by taxation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for the Elementary School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.



ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school tuition, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for Vocational school transportation, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum of money for a Financial Audit for the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, or take any action relative thereto. (Current balance in Free Cash \$541,712.00/ current balance in Stabilization \$51,139.55)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide \$19,000 to hold in anticipation of unemployment benefits for Town employees in accordance with Chapter 151A of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of \$186,936.00 as may be certified from available funds, due to the Town as Chapter 90 Highway funds, from the Transportation Bond Issue, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund not to exceed \$2000 for the Fire Department, under MGL Chapter 44, sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to re-authorize a revolving fund not to exceed \$6000 for the Westhampton Cemetery, under MGL Chapter 44, Sec 53 E1/2, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to go towards the matching amount required for the procurement of a new ambulance upon a successful award of an Assistance to Firefighters Grant and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transferred from available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money to pay for a feasibility study of the Town's Public Safety Complex, and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transferred from available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money for the procurement of new police department vehicle and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transferred from available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide a sum of money for the procurement of new truck for the highway department and to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transferred from available funds, by borrowing, or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town of Westhampton General Bylaws as follows:

Article 4

Section 5 Power of appointment,

4-5-2: The Selectboard shall also appoint: (h) Cemetery Commission of three members, appointed for overlapping three-year terms, in accordance with M.G. L. Chapter 41, Section 27."

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to instruct its representatives in the Massachusetts State Senate and House to support the Safe Communities Act (SD 1596, HD 3052).

This Act would:

- **Prohibit state support for any Muslim registry.** Prohibit law enforcement agencies and the Registry of Motor Vehicles from allowing access to databases or records for enforcement of any federal registry program based on national origin, religion or other protected characteristics.
- **Ensure Basic Due Process Rights for immigrants detained in state and local facilities.** Require informing detainees - in a language they understand - that they have the right to decline



an interview with ICE agents, and to have their own attorney present (at their own expense) if they so choose.

- **Ensure that police resources are used to fight crime, not separate families.** Ensure that state, local and campus police don't participate in federal immigration enforcement activities, including participation in inquiries, investigations, raids, arrests or detentions that are based solely on immigration status. When police become ICE agents, immigrant victims and witnesses of crime are afraid to call police, which makes us all less safe.
- **Prohibit collaboration agreements between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and law enforcement agencies that deputize state and local officers as immigration agents,** like those recently concluded by Bristol and Plymouth Counties.
- **Uphold constitutional standards.** The bill puts citizens and non-citizens on equal footing with respect to law enforcement. It would not prevent police from arresting or detaining a person in the course of a criminal investigation or prosecution supported by probable cause of crime, which is consistent with constitutional standards applicable to all people in the Commonwealth.
- **Conform to federal law.** The bill contains several provisions ensuring compliance with federal law, specifically to 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which prohibits state and local governments from restricting exchange of information about citizenship or immigration status.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to instruct its representatives in the Massachusetts State Senate and House to support the creation of a revenue-neutral Carbon Fee & Dividend program, such as outlined in the Combating Climate Change (SD 1021).

This Act would:

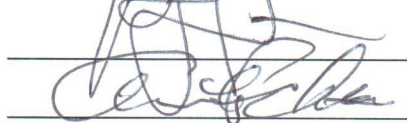
- Create a system of greenhouse gas emission fees to be charged for the sale or distribution of natural gas, petroleum, coal, fuels, derived therefrom, and other greenhouse gas-emitting priorities within the state.
- Place all revenue from these fees within a separate rebate fund.
- Determine the proportion of revenue in the fund attributable to greenhouse gas-emitting sources purchased or consumed by residents, and the proportion purchased or consumed by employers.
- Return all proceeds from the fund to residents and employers in the commonwealth in the form of rebates. Each resident shall receive an equal rebate, except that residents of rural municipalities shall receive an additional motor vehicle fuel rebate. Employers' rebates shall be determined based on the number of full-time equivalent employees, and an evaluation of the sectors, sub-sectors or individual employers most affected by the Act.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following resolution, or take any action relative thereto:

We the residents of Westhampton, MA affirm that our nation is dedicated to the principle of equality. We recognize the inherent value of all individuals in our community, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or immigration status. This commonwealth of ours has been committed since its founding to the common good. It is our belief that policies which deter certain individuals from contacting government officials, law enforcement, or medical assistance, or accessing educational opportunities, out of fear of deportation, create a community which is less welcoming and less safe for all residents.

In accordance with these beliefs, we charge the Westhampton government to serve every town resident equally and without regard to immigration status. We charge schools serving Westhampton residents to continue to enroll children in the district regardless of immigration status, in accordance with rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court and guidance of the Federal Department of Justice and Education, which state that students cannot be denied a free public education due to their immigration status. We further direct Westhampton police department to refrain from initiating an investigation or taking law enforcement action on the basis of immigration status, and to refrain from inquiring as to an individual's immigration status except as required by state or federal law.

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 FIRST day of MAY in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen.



Selectmen of Westhampton

A true copy. ATTEST: