

Commonwealth of Massachusetts;
To Either of the Constables of Granville,

Greetings: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify the inhabitants of Granville qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet at the Granville Village School, 409 Main Road, Granville, on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm to vote on the articles which follow:

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to receive the reports of Town Boards and Committees and to act thereon.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of elected officers and Town employee salaries where stipulated, provide for a reserve fund and for capital outlay, to determine the sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate or otherwise provide including appropriations from available funds to defray charges and expenses of the Town including debt and interest for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, or to take any other action relative thereto:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Assessor Salaries.....	\$4,267.00
Assessor Maintenance.....	\$22,000.00
Assessor Clerk Salary.....	\$18,596.00
Bookkeeper: Salary.....	\$33,233.00
Bookkeeper Maintenance.....	\$12,000.00
Finance Board Maintenance.....	\$350.00
Reserve Fund.....	\$28,276.00
Historical Comm. Maintenance....	\$2,000.00
Planning Board	\$450.00
Selectboard Stipends.....	\$12,000.00
Commissions Clerk.....	\$6,500.00
Town Administrator Salary.....	\$94,000.00
Gen. Gov't Supplies.....	\$20,000.00
Building Operations.....	\$145,000.00
Information Technology.....	\$8,000.00
Medicare Taxes.....	\$25,000.00
Hampden Co. Retirement.....	\$198,420.00
Health/Life Insurance	\$110,000.00
Prop/ Cas/Liab. Insurance.....	\$80,000.00
Worker's Compensation.....	\$13,500.00
Unemployment/Salary Benefits.	\$10,001.00
Veteran's Assessment.....	\$10,056.00
Veteran's Benefits.....	\$600.00
Regional Planning Assessment.....	\$288.00
Law Department.....	\$26,000.00
Moderator: Maintenance.....	\$85.00
Tax Collector: Salary.....	\$16,000.00
Tax Coll. Maintenance.....	\$14,000.00
Town Clerk: Salary.....	\$16,000.00
Town Clerk Maintenance	\$10,500.00
Town Report.....	\$1,500.00
Town Audit	\$3,000.00
Treasurer Salary.....	\$16,000.00
Treasurer Maintenance.....	\$12,000.00
ZBA Maintenance.....	\$300.00

PUBLIC SAFETY

Emergency Management.....	\$18,550.00
Fire Dept. Maintenance.....	\$74,780.00
FD/EMT Salaries.....	\$103,592.00
FD/EMS/Ambulance Stipend....	\$126,875.00
Police Salaries.....	\$228,809.00
Police Maintenance.....	\$33,200.00
Building Dept. Fees/Stipends.....	\$12,360.00
Bldg. Dept. Maintenance.....	\$2,000.00

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Salaries and Wages:	\$386,038.00
Maintenance... ..	\$442,120.00
Town Green Maintenance.....	\$2,000.00

PUBLIC HEALTH

Board of Health.....	\$10,000.00
Cemeteries.....	\$1,200.00
Transfer Station.....	\$49,000.00
Animal Inspector.....	\$4,000.00

CULTURE, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

Conservation Fund.....	\$450.00
Conservation Maintenance.....	\$1,000.00
Conservation Stipends.....	\$3,477.00
Memorial Day.....	\$500.00
Recreation Commission.....	\$1,000.00
Harvest Fair.....	\$5,640.00
Town Newsletter.....	\$8,000.00
Council on Aging.....	\$4,000.00
Library Salaries.....	\$31,020.00
Library Maintenance.....	\$11,819.00
Library Janitor Salary.....	\$3,350.00
Library Books.....	\$10,508.00
Library Youth Program.....	\$2,000.00

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,207,474.00 for the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District assessment for Fiscal Year 2025 commencing July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025, or to take any other action relative thereto.

REQUESTED BY THE SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND-GRANVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer \$85,700.00 from the Ambulance Fees Collected Fund, more often called Ambulance Use Fund, in accordance with Town Bylaws Additions of 1988, Ambulance Service, Section 10, to fund the Town EMT Maintenance and Training Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFERS FROM AMBULANCE FUND RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply, accept and expend any and all grants from the federal government or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other source such as private foundations, for the purposes for which said grants are authorized, or to take any other action relative thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from so-called Chapter 90 available funds, any Transportation Bond Issue or any other such sums as are available for highway work, or to take any other action relative thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to carry over the balances in the following Accounts to be available in FY 2025: Assessor's Legal, Assessor's Computer Maintenance, Assessor's Three Year Update, Assessor's Tax Map Maintenance, Ambulance Fees Collected, Selectboard's Salary Benefits, Treasurer's Audit, Tax Title, as well as donation and gift accounts and any other accounts which may be carried over from year to year, or to take any other action relative thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$52,164.00 to be applied to the \$252,000 FY21 Emergency Communications & Police Cruiser Loan, or to take any other action relative thereto. (# of payments remaining 1, principal balance due \$50,400.00)

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$43,050.00 to be applied to the \$210,000 FY19 DPW Truck Loan, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Last payment)

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$24,310.00 to be applied to the \$220,000.00 FY17 Pond Brook Culvert Repair Loan, or to take any other action relative thereto. (# of payments remaining 2, principal balance due \$44,000.00.)

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$46,724.00 to be applied to debt service for the FY20 Transportation Improvement Program Reconstruction Project Loan authorized by Article 15 of the 2017 ATM, or to take any other action relative thereto. (authorized borrowing \$532,000.00; third issuance in amount of \$229,600.00 (Last payment)

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$168,045.00 to be applied to the \$1,369,000.00 FY20 Road Project Loan, or to take any other action relative thereto. (# of payments remaining 6, principal balance due \$821,400.00.)

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$20,700.00 to be applied to debt service for the \$60,000.00 FY22 DPW Truck and Plow Loan authorized by Article 17 of the 2021 ATM, or to take any other action relative thereto. (Last payment)

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$51,860.00 to be applied to the debt incurred to purchase and equip a new DPW pickup truck approved under Article 16 of the May 8, 2023 ATM, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorized and unissued amount of \$60,000.00 of the borrowing approved under Article 16 of the May 8, 2023 ATM to purchase and equip a new DPW pickup truck, including all incidental and related costs, or to take any other action relative thereto. State law requires that Town Meeting vote to rescind authorized and unissued debt that is no longer required for its intended purpose.)

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (*if Article 14 passes)

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide \$50,000.00 to fund the design and construction of renovations to the West Granville Firehouse approved under Article 19 of the May 8, 2023 ATM, including all incidental and related costs; or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the authorized and unissued amount of \$50,000.00 of the borrowing approved under Article 19 of the May 8, 2023 ATM for the design and construction of renovations to the West Granville Firehouse, including all incidental and related costs, or take any other action relative thereto. State law requires that Town Meeting vote to rescind authorized and unissued debt that is no longer required for its intended purpose.)

RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (*if Article 16 passes)

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$25,000.00 to the FY 2024 DPW Barn Maintenance Account to cover unanticipated expenditures, including all incidental and related costs; or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 19 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow the sum of \$25,000.00 to fund additional tree cutting and the removal of hazardous, dead and/or diseased trees, including all incidental and related costs; said funds to be appropriated to the Department of Public Works Tree Maintenance Account; or to take any action relative hereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$30,000.00 to the FY 2024 Health Insurance Budget to cover unanticipated expenditures; or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$20,000.00 to the FY 2024 Building Operations Budget to cover unanticipated expenditures, including all incidental and related costs; or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$7,500.00 to the FY 2024 Assessors Tax Map Maintenance Budget to cover unanticipated expenditures; or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$13,000.00 for the purchase of SCBA Bottle Replacements for the Granville Fire Department, including all incidental and related costs; or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow the sum of \$25,000.00 to fund the purchase and installation of radio equipment for the Granville Fire Department, including all incidental and related costs; or to take any other action relative hereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or to transfer available funds \$150,000.00 into the Stabilization Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TRANSFER FROM FREE CASH RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Article 26:

To see if the Town will vote in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 to transfer the sum of \$9,099.47 from the National Opioids Settlement Fund Trust Account, the amount equivalent to that received by the Town for settlements of the nationwide opioid litigation matters between November 2, 2022 and June 30, to a Special Opioid Revenue Fund approved by the Director of Accounts pursuant to said Chapter 77, which fund may be expended without further appropriation for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid litigation settlement documents; ; and take any other action relative thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund estimated annual revenues or otherwise as specified the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for qualified community preservation projects, committee administrative expenses and other expenses for the Fiscal Year 2025, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation:

Reserves:

From FY 2025 revenues for Historic Preservation Reserve	\$ 3,400.00
From FY 2025 revenues for Community Housing Reserve	\$ 3,400.00
From FY 2025 revenues for Open Space Reserve	\$ 3,400.00
From FY 2025 revenues for Budgeted Reserve	\$23,800.00

Appropriations:

From FY 2025 revenues for Committee Administrative expenses \$ 400.00
to be appropriated from Budgeted Reserve Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$15,000.00 from the Budgeted Reserve Account of the Community Preservation Fund as a grant to the Granville Selectboard to be used for the hiring of a preservation specialist to evaluate the current condition of the Town-owned Old Meeting House in order to create a long term preservation/restoration plan for the building, as outlined in a grant application received by the Community Preservation Committee in January 2024, including all incidental and related costs, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, §57 and adopt the following bylaw authorizing the Town to deny any application for, or revoke or suspend a building permit, or any local license or permit, including renewals and transfers issued by any board, officer, department for any person, corporation or business enterprise, who has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or any other municipal charges, including amounts assessed under the provisions of section twenty-one D or with respect to any activity, event or other matter which is the subject of such license or permit and which activity, event or matter is carried out or exercised or is to be carried out or exercised on or about real estate whose owner has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or any other municipal charges; or take any other action relative thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD

Denial, Revocation or Suspension of License or Permit (G.L. c.40, §57)

(a) The tax collector or other municipal official responsible for records of all municipal taxes, assessments, betterments and other municipal charges, hereinafter referred to as the tax collector, shall annually, and may periodically, furnish to each department, board, commission or division, hereinafter referred to as the licensing authority, that issues licenses or permits including renewals and transfers, a list of any person, corporation, or business enterprise, hereinafter referred to as the party, that has neglected or refused to pay any local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges, and that such party has not filed in good faith a pending application for an abatement of such tax or a pending petition before the appellate tax board.

(b) The licensing authority may deny, revoke or suspend any license or permit, including renewals and transfers of any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the tax collector or with respect to any activity, event or other matter which is the subject of such license or permit and which activity, event or matter is carried out or exercised or is to be carried out or exercised on or about real estate owned by any party whose name appears on said list furnished to the licensing authority from the tax collector; provided, however, that written notice is given to the party and the tax collector, as required by applicable provisions of law, and the party is given a hearing, to be held not earlier than fourteen days after said notice. Said list shall be prima facie evidence for denial, revocation or suspension of said license or permit to any party. The tax collector shall have the right to intervene in any hearing conducted with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any findings made by the licensing authority with respect to such license denial, revocation or suspension shall be made only for the purposes of such proceeding and shall not be relevant to or introduced in any other proceeding at law, except for any appeal from such license denial, revocation or suspension. Any license or permit denied, suspended or revoked under this section shall not be reissued or renewed until the license authority receives a certificate issued by the tax collector that the party is in good standing with respect to any and all local taxes, fees, assessments, betterments or other municipal charges, payable to the municipality as the date of issuance of said certificate.

(c) Any party shall be given an opportunity to enter into a payment agreement, thereby allowing the licensing authority to issue a certificate indicating said limitations to the license or permit and the validity of said license shall be conditioned upon the satisfactory compliance with said agreement. Failure to comply with said agreement shall be grounds for the suspension or revocation of said license or permit; provided, however, that the holder be given notice and a hearing as required by applicable provisions of law.

(d) The Selectboard may waive such denial, suspension or revocation if it finds there is no direct or indirect business interest by the property owner, its officers or stockholders, if any, or members of his immediate family, as defined in section one of chapter two hundred and sixty-eight A in the business or activity conducted in or on said property.

This bylaw shall not apply to the following licenses and permits: open burning; section thirteen of chapter forty-eight; bicycle permits; section eleven A of chapter eighty-five; sales of articles for charitable purposes, section thirty-three of chapter one hundred and one; children work permits, section sixty-nine of chapter one hundred and forty-nine; clubs, associations dispensing food or beverage licenses, section twenty-one E of chapter one hundred and forty; dog licenses, section one hundred and thirty-seven of chapter one hundred and forty; fishing, hunting, trapping license, section twelve of chapter one hundred and thirty-one; marriage licenses, section twenty-eight of chapter two hundred and seven and theatrical events, public exhibition permits, section one hundred and eighty-one of chapter one hundred and forty.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to negotiate and enter into agreements for payments in lieu of taxes pursuant to G.L. c.59, §5, Clause 45 on such terms and conditions as the Board deems to be in the best interests of the Town; or to take any other action in relation thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c.64L, §2, which authorizes the Town to impose a local sales tax upon the sale of restaurant meals at a rate of .75% of the gross receipts of the vendor from the sale of restaurant meals, effective as of July 1, 2024; or to take any other action relative thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to accept G.L. c.64G, §3A, which authorizes the Town to impose a local excise tax on bed and breakfast establishments, hotels, lodging houses, short-term rentals or motels and to establish said excise tax at a rate of 6% of the total amount of rent for each such occupancy, effective as of July 1, 2024; or to take any other action relative thereto.

RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTBOARD

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies therein in each of the usual places in Town for posting such notice, seven days at least before the time and place of said meeting, given under our hand and seal this 6th day of May, 2024.

Nicole M. Berndt
Selectboard, Chair

Scott J. Bergeron
Selectboard

David K. Ripley
Selectboard

I have served this warrant by posting true copies in each of the usual places for posting.

_____ Date: _____
Constable, Town of Granville

Posted: Town Hall, Post Office, and Country Store