

**TOWN of ROCKPORT
WARRANT for
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Saturday, August 8, 2020
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Essex, ss. To: One of the Constables of the Town of Rockport, Massachusetts in
said County of Essex in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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 Town affairs to meet and assemble at the Rockport High School campus at 24 Jerden's Lane in said Rockport on Saturday, the eighth day of August, 2020 A.D., at 8:00 o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

- ARTICLE 1. To choose an agent for the various trust funds of the Town and to choose all other necessary Town Officers in such a manner as the Town may direct; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)*
- ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to pay unpaid bills and/or payroll of previous years; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Town Accountant) (requires majority vote)*
- ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to rescind any one or more of the authorizations previously given to borrow funds for municipal purposes, excluding always, any and all authorizations that have been executed by a borrowing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Town Treasurer) (requires majority vote)*
- ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to amend or revise certain compensation schedules as recommended by the Board of Selectmen and on file in the Town Clerk's Office, which are incorporated herein by reference, namely:
- A. Compensation Schedules A, B, D and H for salaried employees; and
- B. Compensation Schedule C for elected officials;
- or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)*
- ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any or all Town expenses and purposes, including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and

interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's departments and offices, and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*
(requires majority vote)

5A. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any and all Town expenses and purposes including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's Water Enterprise and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*
(requires majority vote)

5B. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, sums of money for any and all Town expenses and purposes including, without limiting the foregoing, debt and interest, out-of-state travel, wages and salaries, operation of the Town's Sewer Enterprise and provide for a reserve fund, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)*
(requires majority vote)

5C. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer from the FY2021 Estimated Annual Revenue of the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money for any and all necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee, all for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, inclusive; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)* *(requires majority vote)*

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items, such sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file with the Town Clerk and incorporated herein by reference, and to determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee)* *(requires 2/3 vote if funded with borrowing or through stabilization)*

6A. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items for the Water Enterprise, sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file with the Town Clerk and incorporated herein by reference, and to determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything

relative thereto. *(Finance Committee) (requires 2/3 vote if funded with borrowing or through stabilization)*

- 6B. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for Capital Outlay Items for the Sewer Enterprise, sums of money as set forth in the schedule prepared by the Finance Committee, or any other sum or sums, a copy of which schedule is on file with the Town Clerk and incorporated herein by reference, and to determine whether such sums will be raised by fees, taxation, transferred from available funds, provided by borrowing, or by any combination of the foregoing; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Finance Committee) (requires 2/3 vote if funded with borrowing or through stabilization)*

ARTICLES: Lottery System

- ARTICLE A. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of its officers, boards, departments, committees and commissions, as printed in the 2019 Annual Town Report or as otherwise submitted to Town Meeting; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Town Moderator) (requires majority vote)*

- ARTICLE B. To see if the Town will vote to expend a sum of money allocated to the Town under the provisions of M.G.L. Ch. 90 or otherwise, so-called "Chapter 90 monies"; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Department of Public Works) (requires majority vote)*

- ARTICLE C. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate and transfer from available funds, including Free Cash, the following sums, or any other sum, as a grant to the following charitable organizations

Action, Inc.	\$4,000
HAWC	\$3,000
Senior Care	\$3,100
Open Door	\$5,000

; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)*

- ARTICLE D. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, including Free Cash, the following sums of money, or any other sum, to the following Stabilization Funds and Trusts to pay for future expenditures:

General Stabilization Fund	\$50,000
Capital Reserve Stabilization Fund	\$200,000
Special Education Stabilization Fund	\$200,000
Conservation Trust Fund	\$450

; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires*

majority vote)

- ARTICLE E. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, including Free Cash, a sum of money for Assessor Revaluation Expenses; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)*
- ARTICLE F. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, including Free Cash, a sum of money to fund otherwise unanticipated costs of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic; including personnel costs and all other expenses; or act on anything relative thereto.
(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)
- ARTICLE G. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds sums of money to be expended by various Town Departments to balance the FY21 budget; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Town Accountant) (requires majority vote)*
- ARTICLE H. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds, including Free Cash, a sum of money for the purpose of funding, in part, FEMA mitigation projects at T-Wharf, Bradley Wharf, White Wharf, and Pigeon Cove Harbor, such amounts to be the equivalent of the Town's required share of matching funds for such projects; or act on anything relative thereto.
(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)
- ARTICLE I. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from the SPED Stabilization fund to the School Department to pay for FY2021 Special Education obligations; or act on anything relative thereto.
(School Committee) (requires 2/3 vote)
- ARTICLE J. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the cost items contained in the initial years of the collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Rockport and the following union: AFSCME, Local 1679 – General Unit; with the agreement covering the term of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)*
- ARTICLE K. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.64G, §3D(a), authorizing the imposition of a community impact fee of 3% on the transfer of occupancy of a short term rental in a “professionally-managed unit”, which term is defined as 1 of 2 or more short-term rental units that are located in the same city or town, operated by the same operator and are not located within a single-family, two-family, or three family dwelling that includes the operator's primary residence; or act on anything relative thereto. *(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)*

ARTICLE L. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.64G, §3D(b), authorizing the imposition of a community impact fee of 3% on the transfer of occupancy of a short-term rental that is located in a two-family or three-family dwelling that includes the operator's primary residence; or act on anything relative thereto.
(Board of Selectmen) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE M. To see if the Town will vote to refer the following to the Board of Selectmen:

"This legislative vote of the Town meeting requests the BOS to petition the General Court of the MA legislature for an exemption to Chapter 111, 8C under Home Rule law in order to establish a town regulation that bans the addition of any fluoridation products to municipal water supplies in order to protect flora and fauna from cumulative effect of waste water, as well as the health of residents with reason to avoid fluoridation chemicals." (Non-Binding Citizen Petition) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE N. To see if the Town will vote to refer the following to the Board of Selectmen:

"Summary: Parcel 26-81 on Straitsmouth Way is the companion site to the Kieran Nature Preserve. It is the primary water source for the preserve. Consisting of mature woods and extensive wetlands, it is home to abundant wildlife. It is also the breeding ground for salamanders, tree frogs and other species. Together, with the Kieran Preserve, parcel 26-81 is a stopover on a coastal bird migration route. As stewards of the woods, we want to do the right thing and protect parcel 26-81 from sale and development.

We, the undersigned, would like to propose the following:

That parcel 26-81 on Straitsmouth Way be proposed as conservation land and a companion site to the Kieran Nature Preserve on Straitsmouth Way." (Non-Binding Citizen Petition) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE O. To see if Town Meeting will vote to send the following text to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission NRC explaining that:

"We have been informed that the Seabrook Nuclear Reactor has been discharging radioactive operating gasses daily to the air and ocean outfall since 1990. The ocean discharge travels by coastal gyres south to all shores, beaches and rock outcropping. The discharge to the atmosphere travels by airborne plumes of hot gasses that cool and drop over coastal interfaces and topographic features such as higher elevations. We must refuse any and all deposition of radioactive gasses, fallout particles or any form of

ionizing radiation discharge on town of Rockport geography, coastal or inland, all water surfaces fresh or salt water. Research from Scotland, Germany and Serbian universities show that radiation fallout kills chlorophyll this stopping photosynthesis. This radioactive discharge kills plankton, trees and other living organisms.” (Non-Binding Citizen Petition) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE P. A Conservation resolution of the following text to be adopted by the Town of Rockport:

“We recognize as a principle of law, the intrinsic value of natural lands in their natural historic state, said lands are to be preserved in perpetuity for the purpose of sustaining life.

Definition of “intrinsic value” of natural land:

- 1) Nature is the only source of life.
- 2) Nature is the only self-renewing living system providing clean air, clean water, chlorophyll, photosynthesis, trees, leaves, all life sustaining processes...All living beings.
- 3) Nature once destroyed cannot be restored.” (Non-Binding Citizen Petition) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE Q. The following article is proposed as an amendment to the Town By-Laws:

Amend Chapter 3, Section 4, part a. Composition: Term of Office by adding at the end:

“No person elected to serve as a Selectman may serve more than three consecutive terms of office or nine (9) consecutive years, whichever is greater. If a lapse in service of at least two (2) years occurs between any previous terms and the term for which election is sought, a person may be elected to serve as a Selectman for a fourth (4th) non-consecutive term or twelve (12) non-consecutive years in the aggregate.”

This amendment shall become effective July 1, 2020. (Non-Binding Citizen Petition) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE R. The following article is proposed as an amendment to the Town By-laws:

Replace Chapter 3, Section 3, Part b. Compensation in its entirety with the following:

“b. Compensation. Elected officers of Town Clerk and Moderator shall receive for their services such compensation as may annually

be provided for that purpose by appropriation. All other Elected Town Officials shall receive no compensation and no compensation shall be appropriated for such officials.”

This amendment shall become effective July 1, 2020. (Non-Binding Citizen Petition) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE S.

To see if the Town will vote to refer the following to the Board of Selectmen:

“Shall the Town of Rockport ask the Board of Selectmen to perform a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Mitigation Study for FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to have the cottages removed from Long Beach’s leased land due to rising sea levels and continual expenses to tax payers to repair or replace the seawall at an estimated cost of 32 million dollars. In place of the cottages have the lands used for an ecologically sustainable parking lot and walking paths for accessing our Public Long Beach by all Rockport taxpayers and residents.” (Non-Binding Citizen Petition) (requires majority vote)

ARTICLE T.

To see if the Town will hear, receive and act upon the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Town Water Supply appointed pursuant to the vote of the 1980 Annual Town Meeting under Warrant Article 16 and extended by votes of successive Annual Town Meetings through and including the 2019 Annual Town Meeting under Warrant Article J and extend the term of the Committee; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Town Moderator*) (*requires majority vote*)

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the same at each of the Post Offices, and in other public places in each village of the Town, seven days at least before the day of the holding of said ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.

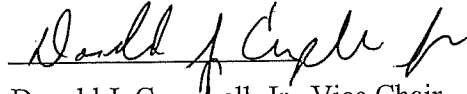
Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, three days at least before Saturday, August 8, 2020.

Given under our hands and seal of the Town this 28th day of July 2020, A.D.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF ROCKPORT



Ruth C. George, Chairperson

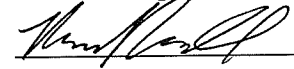


Donald J. Campbell, Jr., Vice Chair



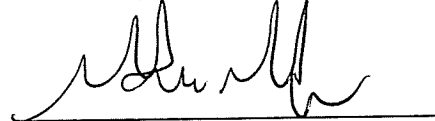
Sarah J. Wilkinson, Selectperson

Paul F. Murphy, Selectperson



Ross C. Brackett, Selectperson

Constable, of the Town of Rockport



A TRUE COPY ATTEST
ASST. TOWN CLERK
ROCKPORT, MA 01966

