

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

FRANKLIN, SS.

TOWN OF GILL

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: MAY 7, 2012

To any of the Constables of the Town of Gill 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 elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Gill Town Hall in said Town on Monday, the Seventh day of May, in the year Two Thousand and Twelve (5/7/2012) at 7:00 p.m. in the evening then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to dedicate this meeting to all Veterans in the Town of Gill, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion: Move the Town vote to dedicate this meeting to all Veterans in the Town of Gill.

To those who have paid the ultimate price. To those who bear the scars of battle. To those who for life, carry the disabilities of time in service. To those who flew the darkened skies, who sailed on rough seas and served in far off lands. We today recognize the sacrifices you made, the commitment you have shown, and your unselfish devotion to duty defending the freedoms so often taken for granted.

Our goal is to honor people like you. From the time of our birth until now, our veterans have played a key role in the history of our great town and nation, and have contributed to where we are today.

Let us as a town always remember the men and women who answered the call.

This article was requested by the Memorial Committee.

Article 2: To hear and act upon the Annual Report of the Officers of the Town, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion: Move to pass over Article 2.

The Annual Reports for FY 2010 and FY 2011 are significantly behind schedule. Completing both and starting the report for FY 2012 will be a priority for the Administrative Assistant during the coming summer months.

Article 3: To elect the following officers: Two or more Field Drivers; Fence Viewers; Measurers of Wood, Bark and Surveyors of Lumber - all for one year, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion: Move to elect Edward J. Golembeski and Clifford C. Hatch as Field Drivers and elect the Selectboard as Fence Viewers; Measurers of Wood, Bark and Surveyors of Lumber - all for one year.

Article 4: To see if the Town will accept and expend any sum of money that might be made available from State or Federal funds for roadwork for the Fiscal Year 2013 and for the Chapter 90 type funds, authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Department, and to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement or take any action relative thereto.

Motion: Move the Town accept and expend any sum of money that might be made available from State or Federal funds for roadwork for the Fiscal Year 2013 and for the Chapter 90 type funds, authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Department, and authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement.

Chapter 90 funds are given annually by the State to the Town, and are used for our road maintenance program – activities such as repaving asphalt roads or applying new oil & stone. The Town will receive \$152,121 for FY2013, which is down \$642 (0.4%) from FY2012.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the following revolving funds per the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for which revenues will be deposited into the funds and expended to pay related costs under the authorization of the Selectboard, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1 next will be limited to the amounts listed below, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year, or take any action relative thereto:

| Dept. Authorized to Spend | Types of Receipts Credited | Program/Purpose for which Funds may be Expended | Amount of Funds Authorized |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Fire Dept. | Oil Burner Inspection Fees | Inspector & Etc. | \$2,000.00 |
| Town Clerk | Dog Fees & Fines | Licenses, Dog Care & Control, & Etc. | 2,000.00 |
| Cemetery Commission | Opening Fees | Cemeteries & Caretaking | 2,000.00 |
| Conservation Commission | Consultant Fees | Project Review | 10,000.00 |
| Agricultural Commission | Farmers' Market & Ag Event Fees | Ag Programs | 500.00 |
| Energy Commission | Workshop and Program Fees | Energy Programs | 1,000.00 |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | ZBA Fees | Hearings & Expenses | 2,000.00 |

Motion: Move the Town vote to authorize the listed revolving funds per the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, for which revenues will be deposited into the funds and expended to pay related costs under the authorization of the Selectboard, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1 next will be limited to the amounts listed, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year:

These are the same revolving funds approved last year, with addition of a revolving fund for the Zoning Board of Appeals. A revolving fund allows program fees to be used within the fiscal year for the purposes listed by the “department” that collects the fees.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to have the Gill Town Meeting Moderator appoint a committee to investigate revising the Regional Agreement between the member towns of the Gill-Montague Regional School District in order to change the composition and method of selecting the School Committee of said district, and direct the appointed committee to report to the next Town Meeting, special or annual, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion: Move the Town vote to have the Gill Town Meeting Moderator appoint a committee to investigate revising the Regional Agreement between the member towns of the Gill-Montague Regional School District in order to change the composition and method of selecting the School Committee of said district, and direct the appointed committee to report to the next Town Meeting, special or annual.

A similar motion is being considered at Montague’s Annual Town Meeting.

Move to continue the remainder of the Annual Town Meeting to Tuesday, June 19th at 6:30PM.

The Town has not yet finished its budget process for Fiscal Year 2013. The Selectboard recommends continuing Annual Town Meeting to Tuesday, June 19th at 6:30PM, at which time the remaining articles will be presented.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries or compensation of the several officers of the Town as follows, or take any action relative thereto:

| | |
|--|----|
| Constable(s) – Each Posting | \$ |
| Moderator – Annual Town Meeting | \$ |
| Special Town Meeting, Each | \$ |
| Selectboard Chair | \$ |
| 2 nd & 3 rd Member, Each | \$ |
| Board of Assessors Chair | \$ |
| 2 nd & 3 rd Member, Each | \$ |
| Board of Health Chair | \$ |
| 2 nd & 3 rd Member, Each | \$ |
| Town Clerk | \$ |
| Tax Collector | \$ |
| From Sewer Receipts | \$ |
| Treasurer | \$ |
| Registrars – Three members, Each | \$ |
| Town Clerk | \$ |

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds any sum or sums of money to provide a cost of living adjustment (COLA) for all Town employees and elected officials, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide any sum or sums of money for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, and for other necessary charges, in accordance with the amount recommended by the Selectboard, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available fund, or otherwise provide any sum or sums of money for its Fiscal Year 2013 operating assessment and any sum or sums of money for its Fiscal Year 2013 debt service costs for the Gill-Montague Regional School District, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money to pay into the General Obligation Energy Conservation Bond Sinking Fund and to pay the annual measurement and verification fee of the Energy Management Services Agreement with Siemens Industry, Inc, both relating to the energy project at the Gill Elementary School, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money for the repayment of principal, interest, and borrowing costs associated with the boiler replacement at the Public Safety Complex, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money to hire a consultant to conduct an independent financial audit, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$800.00 (Eight Hundred and 00/100 Dollars) from the County Dog Fund to the Library Account, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money in addition to that provided in the Omnibus Budget to be used for the salaries of part-time police officers, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to recommend to the Selectboard and Finance Committee that the salaries of part-time police officers be included within the Police Department line of the Omnibus Budget in Fiscal Year 2014 and subsequent years, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to hear and act upon a report presented by the Capital Improvement Planning Committee, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum or sums of money to purchase a police cruiser and associated equipment for the police department, including borrowing costs that may be associated with said purchase and authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, §7; all or some of which may be contingent upon a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion vote override, or take any other action relative thereto. (A 2/3 vote is required for authorization to borrow.)

Article 19: 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 purchase and install replacement interior doors and locksets for the Gill Elementary School, including borrowing costs that may be associated with said project and authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, §7; all or some of which may be contingent upon a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion vote override, or take any other action relative thereto. (A 2/3 vote is required for authorization to borrow.)

Article 20: 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 purchase a brush chipper and associated equipment for the highway department, including borrowing costs that may be associated with said project and authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, §7; all or some of which may be contingent upon a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion vote override, or take any other action relative thereto. (A 2/3 vote is required for authorization to borrow.)

Article 21: 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 purchase and install a roof and perform related maintenance to the roof and cupola of the Town Hall, including borrowing costs that may be associated with said project and authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, §7; all or some of which may be contingent upon a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion vote override, or take any other action relative thereto. (A 2/3 vote is required for authorization to borrow.)

Article 22: 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 purchase and install a roof and perform related maintenance to the roof of the Public Safety Complex, including borrowing costs that may be associated with said project and authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow in accordance with MGL Chapter 44, §7; all or some of which may be contingent upon a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion vote override, or take any other action relative thereto. (A 2/3 vote is required for authorization to borrow.)

Article 23: 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 fund the Capital Stabilization Fund, all or some of which may be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 ½ Override as allowed under MGL c. 40 §5B, or take any other action relative thereto. (A 2/3 vote is required to place money into a stabilization fund.)

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation or transfer from available funds \$4,000.00 (Four Thousand and 00/100 Dollars) for the First Light Appraisal Account to be used toward a portion of the cost of an appraisal of the real and personal property in the Town of Gill owned by FirstLight Hydro Generating Company, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation or transfer from available funds \$3,500.00 (Three Thousand Five Hundred and 00/100 Dollars) to add to the Board of Assessors Triennial Revaluation Account, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money for one or more of the Stabilization Funds of the Town, or take any action relative thereto. (A 2/3 majority is required to place money into a stabilization fund.)

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from unappropriated funds (Free Cash) to be used to reduce the tax rate and stabilize the tax levy for Fiscal Year 2013, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to approve that, upon exceeding the levy limit, any monies appropriated that exceed the levy limit may be contingent upon the approval by the voters of an "Override of Proposition 2 1/2," or take any action relative thereto.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

FRANKLIN, SS.

TOWN OF GILL

And, you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the Town Hall, Main Road; Post Office, Mt. Hermon; The Gill Store & Tavern, Main Road; and Riverside Municipal Building, Route 2, in said Town seven days at least before the time of holding 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 foresaid.

Given under our hand this 23rd day of April in the year Two Thousand Twelve (4/23/2012).

Selectboard of Gill

_____, Chair

_____, Board member

_____, Board member

A true copy Attest:

_____, Town Clerk

Date: _____

Individuals who may need auxiliary aids for effective communication for this meeting should call the Gill Town Hall at (413) 863-9347 or MA Relay System at (800) 439-2370.

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Gill by posting up attested copies of the same at Town Hall, Main Rd.; Post Office, Mt. Hermon; Gill Store & Tavern, Main Rd.; and Riverside Municipal Building, Route 2, seven days before the date hereof, as within directed.

_____ Constable of Gill

Date: _____