

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

FRANKLIN, SS.

TOWN OF GILL

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: NOVEMBER 21, 2020

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 field behind the Riverside Municipal Building, 54 French King Highway in said Town on Saturday, the Twenty First day of November, in the year Two Thousand and Twenty (11/21/2020) at 1:30 PM then and there to act on the following articles.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting will be held outdoors. Face masks and social distancing are required, and voters are encouraged to bring their own chairs. In case of inclement weather the meeting will be held at the same location on Monday, the Twenty Third day of November at 1:30 PM.

Article 1: To elect the following officers: Two or more Field Drivers; Fence Viewers; Measurers of Wood, Bark and Surveyors of Lumber - all for one year; AND

To see if the Town will vote to accept and expend any sum of money that might be made available from State or Federal funds for roadwork for the Fiscal Year 2021 and for the Chapter 90 type funds, authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard to borrow in anticipation of reimbursement; AND

To see if the Town will vote to accept any sum of money that might be made available from the Quintus Allen Trust during Fiscal Year 2021, and authorize the Selectboard to expend such funds in support of the Gill Elementary School, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to negotiate and enter into a lease of up to twenty (20) years with the Gill-Montague Regional School District for the continued use of the land and buildings known as the Gill Elementary School, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 3: 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 unspent money remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year, or take any action relative thereto:

Dept. Spend	Authorized to	Types of Receipts Credited	Program/Purpose for which Funds may be Expended	Maximum Annual Expenditures
Fire Dept.		Oil Burner Inspection Fees	Inspector & Etc.	\$2,000.00
Town Clerk, Selectboard		Dog Fees & Fines	Licenses, Regional Animal Control Services, Dog Care & Control, & Etc.	8,000.00
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
Board of Health, Town Administrator		Recycling Program Revenue	Solid waste & recycling programs, Solid Waste District membership, recycled-content office products	5,000.00

Article 4: 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
- 2nd & 3rd Member, Each
- Board of Assessors Chair
- 2nd & 3rd Member, Each
- Board of Health Chair
- 2nd & 3rd Member, Each
- Town Clerk
- Tax Collector
- Additional As Sewer Fee Collector
- Treasurer
- Registrars – Three members, Each
- Town Clerk, as Chair

Article 5: 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 Town employees and elected officials, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 6: 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 (the “Omnibus budget”), and for other necessary charges, in accordance with the amount recommended by the Selectboard, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide \$1,795,622.00 (ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY FIVE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY TWO AND 00/100 DOLLARS) to provide \$1,785,887.00 for its Fiscal Year 2021 operating assessment and \$9,735.00 for its Fiscal Year 2021 debt service costs for the Gill-Montague Regional School District, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate by taxation or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money to add to the FY21 operating budget for Assessors Clerical Salary in order to increase the hours of the Assessors’ Assistant from twenty (20) hours per week to thirty (30) hours per week, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Released Overlay \$30,000.00 (THIRTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) to add to the account to be used toward the costs associated with a 5-year appraisal of the real and personal property in the Town of Gill owned by FirstLight Power and an appraisal of the personal property in the Town of Gill owned by National Grid, New England Power Company, and NSTAR Electric Company d/b/a Eversource Energy; AND

Transfer from Released Overlay \$5,000.00 (FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) to add to the Board of Assessors Revaluation Account; AND

Transfer from Released Overlay \$5,000.00 (FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the Town Audit Account to be used toward a portion of the cost to conduct an independent financial audit of the Town, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$15,000 to perform various building maintenance projects at the Slate Memorial Library including completing the bathroom walls and ceiling, constructing storage for the upstairs loft area, re-glazing and painting four windows, and painting the exterior trim, sills, bulkhead, and front door, or take any action relative thereto.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$15,000 to add to the account established in 2014 for the purpose of purchasing and installing a heating system for the Riverside Municipal Building and/or Town Hall and/or Slate Memorial Library, or take any action relative thereto.

