



SELECTBOARD AGENDA & MEETING NOTICE

October 7, 2024

***Indicates item added after the 48 hour posting
bold underlined time = invited guest or advertised hearing
(all other times are approximate)

Location: Town Hall, 2nd floor meeting room, 325 Main Road, Gill

5:30 PM Call to Order (If the meeting is being videotaped, announce that fact. If remote participation will occur, announce member & reason, & need for roll call voting)

Old Business

- Treasurer – recommendation to award 1-year Bond Anticipation Note for \$141,407 to Bank ESB for 4.50% interest rate & sign loan documents (borrowing for the Fire Responder)
- Review of Minutes: 8/29/22, 9/12/22, 10/11/22, 11/21/22, 12/5/22, 12/19/22, 1/30/23, 2/13, 2/27, 3/13, 3/28, 3/30, 4/10, 4/24, 5/8, 5/22, 6/5, 6/20, 7/3, 9/11, 9/25, 11/06, 11/27, 12/4, 1/2, 2/12, 2/26, 3/11, 3/25, 4/8, 4/22, 5/6, 5/21, 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 8/12, 9/23
- Board of Assessors/Assistant to the Assessors – checking in on status of request to move Assistant up on the wage scale from Grade 5 Step B (\$25.70) to Grade 5 Step F (\$30.05)
- Update, if any on Fire Department Purchase Order - Pete’s Tire Barn, \$1,018.36 for 6 all-season aggressive tread tires for new Brush Truck (state bid pricing, includes trade-in of existing tires)

New Business

- Sign warrant for November 5, 2024 State/Presidential Election
- Historical Commission request to declare surplus equipment
 - Assortment of glass bottles and glassware
 - Assortment of wood/metal school desks and chairs
- Police Department awarded \$17,358.71 for Municipal Road Safety grant
- Other business as may arise after the agenda has been posted.
- Public Service Announcements, if any
 - State Boat Ramp at Barton Cove closed for 1-2 weeks beginning 10/7 for resurfacing
 - Cultural Council grant applications due Wed. 10/16. Info & links on Gill website
 - Bulky Waste Recycling Day – Sat. 10/19, 9-Noon at Erving Highway Garage
 - Free COVID test kits available again by mail via COVIDtests.gov website
- Warrants
FY25 #07 Vendors (\$606,559.78) & Payroll (\$40,999.62) – reviewed/signed on 09/23/24
FY25 #08 – review & sign

Adjournment

Other Invitations/Meetings:

Date	Time	Event	Location
Mon 10/14		Columbus Day holiday	
Sat 10/19	11A - 3P	First day of Early Voting	Town Hall
Mon 10/21	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Town Hall
Mon 11/4	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Town Hall
Tues 11/5	7A – 8P	Election Day voting	Town Hall

Mon 11/11		Veterans' Day Holiday	
Mon 11/18	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Town Hall

TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 2024

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM in the 2nd floor meeting room at Gill Town Hall.

Members Present: Greg Snedeker, Randy Crochier, Charles Garbiel Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ray Purington, Town Administrator; Kate Savage, Tim Batchelder, Peter Turban, Gene Beaubien, Bill Kimball, Jake Whitney, and Aaron Budine

Borrowing for New Fire Responder: Treasurer Peter Turban met with the Selectboard to discuss the upcoming borrowing of \$141,407 for the new fire truck due to be delivered this month or next. With interest rates projected to come down in the months ahead, Turban recommended the Town take out a 1-year bond anticipation note (BAN), rather than lock in a high interest rate now for a 3-year loan. The Selectboard agreed with this strategy. Turban noted bid from banks on the 1-year BAN will be due on October 3rd, and the note paperwork will be signed at the Selectboard's meeting on October 7th. Turban left the meeting at 5:32 PM.

Fire Department Purchase Orders: Fire Chief Gene Beaubien and Deputy Fire Chief Bill Kimball met with the Selectboard to discuss three purchase orders for which they are requesting approval. One request is to spend \$856 to have Greg's Auto Body paint the tire rims on the new brush truck. The truck was originally ordered with red rims, off-road tires, and a lift kit, with a package price of around \$7,000. Subsequent pricing changes by the manufacturer led to deleting these items in order to stay within the approved budget for the vehicle. The truck was received with highway-type tires mounted on gray rims. Also in order to stay under budget some lights were removed from the original specs and the tank skid was transferred from the old truck by members of the Fire Department, not by the upfitter. Kimball stated the invoice for the truck as received is \$1,322 lower than the approved budget. Kimball also conceded painting the rims red is for aesthetics, not function, and the Department could live without it.

The second purchase order requested was also for the new brush truck. The Fire Department would like to trade in the 6 tires that came with the truck and purchase 6 new tires with a more aggressive, off-road type tread. The net cost of the new tires, after the \$1,350 trade in allowance, is \$1,477.20. Kimball proposed spending the \$1,322 remaining in the budget on the new tires and taking the balance from the Fire Department's FY25 operating budget. There was reluctance among the Selectboard to approve the request, as it was felt the truck had been originally ordered with the better tires, and if this can be proven, then the dealer should upgrade the tires at no cost. Kimball agreed to review the correspondence related to ordering the truck with an eye toward finding documentation of the Town's intent to have the truck ordered with the better tires. Kimball will bring any new information back to the Selectboard in 2 weeks, at which time the purchase order will be reconsidered.

Lastly, the third purchase order requests spending up to \$2,088 with thefirestore.com on PAC Tools mounting equipment for the new Responder truck. PAC Tools manufactures crash-rated mountings for "loose equipment" such as axes, pikes, poles, hose fittings, bolt cutters, and etc. These mountings were not included, nor ever intended to be included in the original quotation for the Responder. The cost of the mountings, was, however, anticipated and included in the Fire Department's \$5,000 line for new equipment in the FY25 budget. That budget line will also cover roughly \$2,000 of pricing changes and change orders to the Responder. The Selectboard approved the purchase order by consensus.

Fire Department Grant Opportunities: Beaubien and Kimball reported the application period for the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant will open soon, with a deadline of mid-October. Gill is eligible to apply for up to \$12,500 from this competitive grant, and there is no requirement for local funds to match the grant. The application period for FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant will also be opening soon.

Firefighter Appointment: Crochier made a motion, seconded by Garbiel, to appoint Edward Curtis as a Firefighter through June 30, 2025. Purington reported all pre-employment clearances have been met. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Surplus Fire Equipment: Beaubien requested the Selectboard declare as surplus the 1986 Chevy D30 pickup truck (old brush truck) and the 1987 KME fire engine, and recommended both be sold via an online auction vendor such as Auctions International. The old brush truck is already out of service, and the KME will be taken out of service once the Responder is delivered and all equipment has been transferred. Crochier made a motion, seconded by Garbiel, to declare the two requested trucks as surplus equipment and to authorize Purington to sell them on behalf of the Town. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

As the new brush truck was brought to the meeting and parked outside Town Hall, the meeting was recessed at 5:56 PM to allow those in attendance an opportunity to inspect the vehicle. Beaubien, Kimball, Whitney, and Budine left the meeting. The meeting resumed at 6:08 PM.

Surplus Freezer: Purington requested the Selectboard declare as surplus the 7 cubic foot freezer the Town purchased and used to store water-damaged 2022 election ballots after the 2023 flood in Town Hall. He explained the Franklin Area Survival Center would like the freezer and recommended the Town donate it to the Center. Crochier made a motion, seconded by Garbiel, to declare the freezer as surplus equipment and authorize Purington to gift the item to a non-profit entity. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Sewer Commitment: Crochier made a motion, seconded by Garbiel, to approve and sign a sewer commitment in the amount of \$573.92. The commitment is for a mid-cycle reading corresponding to the sale of 52 Riverview Drive. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Community Compact Grant for Updated Wage & Classification Plan: Purington reported the Town was successful in its request for a \$13,000 grant from the Governor's Community Compact program. The award will allow the Town to contract with the Collins Center to update approximately 20 job descriptions, conduct a labor market survey, develop a classification and compensation plan, and recommend an implementation plan. Crochier made a motion, seconded by Garbiel, to accept the grant and to authorize Purington to sign and implement the grant contract and the service agreement with the Collins Center. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The proposal from the Collins Center was based on 20 existing positions within the Town, although not all of the positions are currently filled. The list includes the elected Treasurer and elected Tax Collector, which will both become appointed positions in 2025 and 2026, respectively. Purington explained the list also includes the elected Town Clerk, which is not under any consideration to be made an appointed position. He included it in order to have outside professionals weigh in on how the position is compensated. The proposed position of Principal Assessor was not included in the original list provided to the Collins Center because the Selectboard has not yet voted to create the position. After discussion, the Selectboard agreed by consensus to include the Principal Assessor in the final list to be provided to the Collins Center, as it was felt the Center's professional guidance and opinion on the matter would be useful.

Support Letter for Northern Tier Rail: Crochier made a motion, seconded by Garbiel, to authorize Snedeker as Chair to sign a letter to several Massachusetts Department of Transportation officials in support of reestablishing rail transportation across the northern tier of the state. The project would utilize and upgrade existing rail lines that roughly parallel Route 2 and would provide "equitable opportunities for resiliency, growth, and economic expansion." The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Support Letter for FRCOG Grant Application: Crochier recused himself from the discussion and vote as he is an employee of the FRCOG. Garbiel made a motion, seconded by Snedeker, to authorize Snedeker as Chair to sign a letter to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in support of a proposal by the FRCOG and various partners for a HUD PRO Housing grant to "advance housing that is affordable in our cities and towns." The motion was approved by a vote of 2 in favor and 0 opposed.

Review of Minutes: Crochier made a motion, seconded by Garbiel, to approve the minutes of 9/9/24. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Other Business – Highway Dep't Purchase Order: By consensus the Selectboard approved a purchase order requested by the Highway Department in the amount of \$2,493.87 to purchase a switch kit for the John Deere backhoe from United Construction & Forestry.

Savage and Batchelder left the meeting at 6:25 PM.

Warrant: The Selectboard reviewed and signed the FY 2025 warrant # 7 with totals of \$606,559.78 for vendors and \$40,999.62 for payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Town Administrator

Signed copy on file. Approved on 10/07/2024

Charles Garbiel, Selectboard Clerk

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WARRANT FOR STATE ELECTION

SS. FRANKLIN

To the Constables of the City/Town of **GILL**,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at:

**325 MAIN ROAD
GILL TOWN HALL**

on **TUESDAY, THE FIFTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024**, from **7:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.** for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Election for the candidates for the following offices:

ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT..... FOR THESE UNITED STATES
SENATOR IN CONGRESS..... FOR THIS COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS..... SECOND DISTRICT
COUNCILLOR..... EIGHTH DISTRICT
SENATOR IN GENERAL HAMPSHIRE, FRANKLIN, AND WORCESTER DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT..... SECOND FRANKLIN DISTRICT
CLERK OF COURTS..... FRANKLIN COUNTY
REGISTER OF DEEDS.....FRANKLIN DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE..... FRANKLIN COUNTY

QUESTION 1: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 1, 2024?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would specify that the State auditor has the authority to audit the legislature.

A **YES VOTE** would specify that the State auditor has the authority to audit the legislature.

A **NO VOTE** would make no change in the law relative to the State Auditor’s authority.

QUESTION 2: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 1, 2024?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would eliminate the requirement that a student pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests (or other statewide or district-wide assessments) in mathematics, science and technology, and English in order to receive a high school diploma. Instead, in order for a student to receive a high school diploma, the proposed law would require the student to complete coursework certified by the student's district as demonstrating mastery of the competencies contained in the state academic standards in mathematics, science and technology, and English, as well as any additional areas determined by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

A YES VOTE would eliminate the requirement that students pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) in order to graduate high school but still require students to complete coursework that meets state standards.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the law relative to the requirement that a student pass the MCAS in order to graduate high school.

QUESTION 3: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 1, 2024?

SUMMARY

The proposed law would provide Transportation Network Drivers ("Drivers") with the right to form unions ("Driver Organizations") to collectively bargain with Transportation Network Companies ("Companies")-which are companies that use a digital network to connect riders to drivers for pre-arranged transportation-to create negotiated recommendations concerning wages, benefits and terms and conditions of work. Drivers would not be required to engage in any union activities. Companies would be allowed to form multi-Company associations to represent them when negotiating with Driver Organizations. The state would supervise the labor activities permitted by the proposed law and would have responsibility for approving or disapproving the negotiated recommendations. The proposed law would define certain activities by a Company or a Driver Organization to be unfair work practices. The proposed law would establish a hearing process for the state Employment Relations Board ("Board") to follow when a Company or Driver Organization is charged with an unfair work practice. The proposed law would permit the Board to take action, including awarding compensation to adversely affected Drivers, if it found that an unfair work practice had been committed. The proposed law would provide for an appeal of a Board decision to the state Appeals Court. This proposed law also would establish a procedure for determining which Drivers are Active Drivers, meaning that they completed more than the median number of rides in the previous six months. The proposed law would establish procedures for the Board to determine that a Driver Organization has signed authorizations from at least five percent of Active Drivers, entitling the Driver Organization to a list of Active Drivers; to designate a Driver Organization as the exclusive bargaining representative for all Drivers based on signed authorizations from at least twenty-five percent of Active Drivers; to resolve disputes over exclusive bargaining status, including through elections; and to decertify a Driver Organization from exclusive bargaining status. A Driver Organization that has been designated the exclusive bargaining representative would have the exclusive right to represent the Drivers and to receive voluntary membership dues deductions. Once the Board determined that a Driver Organization was the exclusive bargaining representative for all Drivers, the Companies would be required to bargain with that Driver Organization concerning wages, benefits and terms and conditions of work. Once the Driver Organization and Companies reached agreement on wages, benefits, and the terms and conditions of work, that agreement would be voted upon by all Drivers who has completed at least 100 trips the previous quarter. If approved by a majority of votes cast, the recommendations would be submitted to the state Secretary of Labor for approval and if approved, would be effective for three years. The proposed law would establish procedures for the mediation and arbitration if the Driver Organization and Companies failed to reach agreement within a certain period of time. An arbitrator would

consider factors set forth in the proposed law, including whether the wages of Drivers would be enough so that Drivers would not need to rely upon any public benefits. The proposed law also sets out procedures for the Secretary of Labor's review and approval of recommendations negotiated by a Driver Organization and the Companies and for judicial review of the Secretary's decision. The proposed law states that neither its provisions, an agreement nor a determination by the Secretary would be able to lessen labor standards established by other laws. If there were any conflict between the proposed law and existing Massachusetts labor relations law, the proposed law would prevail. The Board would make rules and regulations as appropriate to effectuate the proposed law. The proposed law states that, if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would provide transportation network drivers the option to form unions to collectively bargain with transportation network companies regarding wages, benefits, and terms and conditions of work

A NO VOTE would make no change in the law relative to the ability of transportation network drivers to form unions.

QUESTION 4: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 1, 2024?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow persons aged 21 and older to grow, possess, and use certain natural psychedelic substances in certain circumstances. The psychedelic substances allowed would be two substances found in mushrooms (psilocybin and psilocyn) and three substances found in plants (dimethyltryptamine, mescaline, and ibogaine). These substances could be purchased at an approved location for use under the supervision of a licensed facilitator. This proposed law would otherwise prohibit any retail sale of natural psychedelic substances. This proposed law would also provide for the regulation and taxation of these psychedelic substances. This proposed law would license and regulate facilities offering supervised use of these psychedelic substances and provide for the taxation of proceeds from those facilities' sales of psychedelic substances. It would also allow persons aged 21 and older to grow these psychedelic substances in a 12-foot by 12-foot area at their home and use these psychedelic substances at their home. This proposed law would authorize persons aged 21 or older to possess up to one gram of psilocybin, one gram of psilocyn, one gram of dimethyltryptamine, 18 grams of mescaline, and 30 grams of ibogaine ("personal use amount"), in addition to whatever they might grow at their home, and to give away up to the personal use amount to a person aged 21 or over. This proposed law would create a Natural Psychedelic Substances Commission of five members appointed by the Governor, Attorney General, and Treasurer which would administer the law governing the use and distribution of these psychedelic substances. The Commission would adopt regulations governing licensing qualifications, security, recordkeeping, education and training, health and safety requirements, testing, and age verification. This proposed law would also create a Natural Psychedelic Substances Advisory Board of 20 members appointed by the Governor, Attorney General, and Treasurer which would study and make recommendations to the Commission on the regulation and taxation of these psychedelic substances. This proposed law would allow cities and towns to reasonably restrict the time, place, and manner of the operation of licensed facilities offering psychedelic substances, but cities and towns could not ban those facilities or their provision of these substances. The proceeds of sales of psychedelic substances at licensed facilities would be subject to the state sales tax and an additional excise tax of 15 percent. In addition, a city or town could impose a separate tax of up to two percent. Revenue received from the additional state excise tax, license application fees, and civil penalties for violations of this proposed law would be deposited in a Natural Psychedelic Substances Regulation Fund and would be used, subject to appropriation, for administration of this proposed law. Using the psychedelic substances as permitted by this proposed law could not be a basis to deny a person medical care or public assistance, impose discipline by a professional licensing board, or enter adverse orders in child custody cases absent clear and convincing evidence that the activities created an unreasonable danger to the safety of a minor child. This proposed law would not affect existing laws regarding the

operation of motor vehicles while under the influence, or the ability of employers to enforce workplace policies restricting the consumption of these psychedelic substances by employees. This proposed law would allow property owners to prohibit the use, display, growing, processing, or sale of these psychedelic substances on their premises. State and local governments could continue to restrict the possession and use of these psychedelic substances in public buildings or at schools. This proposed law would take effect on December 15, 2024.

A YES VOTE would allow persons over age 21 to use certain natural psychedelic substances under licensed supervision and to grow and possess limited quantities of those substances in their home and would create a commission to regulate those substances.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the law regarding natural psychedelic substances.

QUESTION 5: LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives before May 1, 2024?

SUMMARY

The proposed law would gradually increase the minimum hourly wage an employer must pay a tipped worker, over the course of five years, on the following schedule:

- To 64% of the state minimum wage on January 1, 2025;
- To 73% of the state minimum wage on January 1, 2026;
- To 82% of the state minimum wage on January 1, 2027;
- To 91% of the state minimum wage on January 1, 2028; and
- To 100% of the state minimum wage on January 1, 2029

The proposed law would require employers to continue to pay tipped workers the difference between the state minimum wage and the total amount a tipped worker receives in hourly wages plus tips through the end of 2028. The proposed law would also permit employers to calculate this difference over the entire weekly or bi-weekly payroll period. The requirement to pay this difference would cease when the required hourly wage for tipped workers would become 100% of the state minimum wage on January 1, 2029.

Under the proposed law, if an employer pays its workers an hourly wage that is at least the state minimum wage, the employer would be permitted to administer a “tip pool” that combines all the tips given by customers to tipped workers and distributes them among all the workers, including non-tipped workers.

A YES VOTE would increase the minimum hourly wage an employer must pay a tipped worker to the full state minimum wage implemented over five years, at which point employers could pool all tips and distribute them to all non-management workers.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the law governing tip pooling or the minimum wage for tipped workers. Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 7th day of October, 2024.

Selectmen of: GILL

Gregory M. Snedeker, Chair

Randy P. Crochier

Charles J. Garbiel, II

A True Copy. Attest:  Doreen J. Stevens, Town Clerk

Dated: October 7, 2024

Franklin SS.

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Gill by Posting up attested copies of same in the Gill Town Hall, Main Road: The Gill Tavern, Main Road: Post Office Mount Hermon: and Riverside Municipal Building, Route 2, at least seven days before the date hereof as within directed.

_____, 2024.
Constable Signature

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: cristin carpenter <kitc16@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, October 04, 2024 1:05 PM
To: Town of Gill Mass
Subject: Gill Historical Commission items for surplus or disposal

Hi Ray and Selectboard,

The Gill Historical Commission has been working at RMB to clean out the storage room we have been using in the basement.

We have identified three groups of items we have voted to release to town surplus:

- a. A lot of c. 30 old school chairs, many with desks attached (wood and metal), that were not ours but were stored there; marked with pink duct tape; these are in the RMB basement storage room.
- b. A lot of glass items, mostly bottles, some duplicates of ones we'll keep that are embossed ("one quart"; "one full pint" etc.) In crates we would like to have returned to GHC.
- c. A lot of boxes of rocks that were taken from the Ingram house, not identified, but which may have value for study at the Gill School.

Items "b" and "c" are in the second basement storage room, where recreational items have been stored.

In addition, the following items are ready for disposal:

1. The refrigerator, minus its door, at the head of the basement stairs.
2. Several bins of old books (moldy trash) which are in the recreation storage room with the glass items.

Thank you for your consideration of these unwanted items. GHC hopes to upgrade its display space by creating cleaner conditions and more viewing space for the larger items we want to preserve for the town, such as large models of the town hall and of the church.

Sincerely yours,

Kit Carpenter, Chair, on behalf of the Gill Historical Commission



Power of culture

Released by:
Gill Local Cultural Council
Date: September 25th, 2024
Contact: Patricia Crosby, Chair
E-mail: lcc@gillmass.org

GILL CULTURAL COUNCIL SEEKS FUNDING PROPOSALS
Proposals for community-oriented arts, humanities, and science programs due October 16th, 2024

The Massachusetts Cultural Council has set an **October 16th deadline** for individuals, schools and organizations to apply for grants that support cultural activities in the community. The Gill Local Cultural Council has **\$5700** to distribute in 2025.

According to Gill Cultural Council spokesperson Patricia Crosby, grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in Gill. Surrounding communities may also apply. Online events will be considered as well as live events. Gill seeks to bring performers, artists, historians, naturalists, speakers, musicians, and workshop presenters primarily to in-town venues, although nearby town venues will also be considered. Some of the organizations the Gill LCC has supported in recent years include the Slate Memorial Library, Gill Elementary School, the Gill/Montague Council on Aging, the Gill Historical Commission, the Gill Agricultural Commission, and the Antenna Cloud Farm concert series.

In 2024, the Gill Cultural Council distributed **\$5591** in grants to fully or partially fund eleven different projects.

Application forms and complete information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at

<https://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/application-process/>

Or put "MCC Local Cultural Council Applications" in your search box. If you have questions about Gill projects or applications, email lcc@gillmass.org.

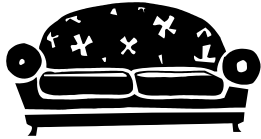
The Gill Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.

###



"CLEAN SWEEP"

BULKY WASTE RECYCLING DAY



**Saturday, October 19, 2024
9 a.m. to noon**




Locations:

- ✓ NEW SITE THIS FALL: Erving Highway Garage, 16 Public Works Boulevard (off Rt. 2)
- ✓ Mohawk Trail Regional High School, 26 Ashfield Rd, Shelburne Falls (Rt. 112)
- ✓ Whately Transfer Station, 73 Christian Lane (off Rt. 5/10)

- ▶ There is a disposal charge on most items; see reverse side.
- ▶ Cash only.
- ▶ No pre-registration necessary.
- ▶ Items will be recycled whenever possible.

Mattresses and box springs are no longer accepted: see website or call for recycling locations in Franklin County.

What To Bring:

- Tires
 - Televisions
 - Computers
 - Scrap Metal
 - Appliances: remove doors from refrigerators & freezers
 - FREE: Bring **clean, dry** bagged textiles and books for reuse or recycling!
- 
- Electronics
 - Microwaves
 - BBQ Grill Tanks
 - Construction & Demolition Debris
 - Furniture
 - Bulky Rigid Plastics
 - Carpeting

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

Mattresses, Box Springs, Yard Waste, Brush, Asbestos, Paint, Auto Batteries, Oil Tanks, Hazardous Materials, Fluorescent Light Bulbs, Trash

Residents and businesses of the following towns may bring items to one of the three Clean Sweep locations above:

Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Rowe, Shelburne, Sunderland, Warwick, Wendell, Whately

For more info and pricing: franklincountywastedistrict.org, 413-772-2438, or info@franklincountywastedistrict.org

MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 (TTY/TDD)
The District is an equal opportunity provider.

Before sending unwanted items for disposal or recycling, consider reuse. Call local thrift stores to see if they can accept your items, or post on a local "Buy Nothing" Facebook page, Freecycle, or NextDoor.

CLEAN SWEEP BULKY WASTE COLLECTION

October 19, 2024: 9 a.m. to noon

Disposal Price Guide

CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS

Asphalt, bricks, cement, mortar	\$50/cu.yd.
Clapboards, doors, plaster, sheetrock, shingles, siding, windows, wood	\$45/cu.yd.
Hot tubs, spas	\$40/cu.yd.

ELECTRONICS

Cell phones	free
Computer monitor, CRT	\$30
Computer monitor, flat screen	\$15
Copy machine	\$30
CPU (computer)	\$10
Laptop computer	\$15
TV: Flat screen < 60"	\$15
CRT or 60" flat screen	\$30
Console or large projection	\$40
Printer (with flatbed), scanner	\$15
Printer (without flatbed), fax machine	\$10
VCR, DVD player, game systems	\$5

FURNITURE/CARPET

Bookcases, end tables, kitchen/dining tables, and wooden chairs	\$5
Bureau	\$10
Carpet or area rug up to 10x10	\$10
Carpet (larger: up to 12x20)	\$20
Carpet padding	\$10
Couch	\$20
Futon mattress	\$15
Loveseat	\$15
Mattresses no longer accepted!	N/A
Mattress for waterbed	\$15
Recliner chair, upholstered chair	\$15
Sink, toilet	\$15
Sleeper sofa	\$35
Vacuum	\$5

SCRAP METAL/APPLIANCES

Air conditioner/dehumidifier	\$15
Bicycle	\$5
Dishwasher	\$10
Fire extinguisher	\$10
Furnace (residential)	\$15
Lawn mower, push (drain gas)	\$10
Lawn mower, riding (drain gas)	\$15
LP gas tank, 1 lb.	\$1
LP gas BBQ tank, 20 lb.	\$5
LP gas BBQ tank, up to 100 lbs.	\$10
Microwave, trash compactor, etc.	\$5
Misc. metal items, small	\$5
Misc. metal items, BBQ grill & larger	\$10
Refrigerator, freezer (remove doors)	\$15
Rototiller, snow blower, etc. (drain gas)	\$10
Stove, washer, dryer	\$10
Water heater (residential)	\$15

Gasoline MUST be drained from all small engines!

TIRES

Passenger up to 19"	\$5
Truck tires	\$25
Tractor/Loader tires	\$200

TEXTILES & BOOKS

Textiles* (CLEAN, DRY , bagged)	FREE
Books (paperback, hardcover)	FREE

**Textiles CAN be torn, stained, or have broken zippers
or missing buttons: those will be recycled.*

BULKY RIGID PLASTIC RECYCLING*

ONLY accepts: 5-gallon pails, trash cans, \$5/load
recycle bins, plastic lawn furniture, laundry baskets

**Nothing longer than 4' in any direction!*

See website or call for more instructions!

Cash Only. Some acceptable items may not be listed.

The District reserves the right to price other items accordingly on site.

MATERIALS WILL BE RECYCLED WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: RegionalPublicHealth, Local (DPH)
<LocalRegionalPublicHealth@MassMail.State.MA.US>
Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 1:34 PM
Cc: Finegan, Eileen (DPH)
Subject: COVIDTESTS.gov Now Open For Ordering

Importance: High

Dear Local Public Health Partner,

On behalf of the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), we're sharing the following information about COVIDTESTS.gov:

The Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with the U.S. Postal Service has reopened [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) as of today, so that households across the country can order four additional over-the-counter COVID-19 tests for free. These tests are intended for use throughout the 2024 holiday season to detect currently circulating COVID-19 variants. Clear instructions are included on how to verify [extended expiration dates](#).

These efforts complement ASPR's ongoing distribution of free COVID-19 tests to long-term care facilities, low-income senior housing, uninsured individuals, and underserved communities. Through this community organization distribution program and the home-ordering program, ASPR has provided a combined total of more than 1.9 billion COVID-19 over-the-counter tests.

As the fall and holiday seasons will create increased close proximity gatherings of people, the Administration remains committed to helping Americans access tests to help so that, if they develop a respiratory illness, they can learn whether it is due to COVID-19 and then make the best choices about seeking medical care and reducing risks to family, friends, and co-workers. To order four free, over-the-counter COVID-19 tests, visit [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov).

Sincerely,
Office of External Affairs
Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services