

# WESTWOOD FINANCE AND WARRANT COMMISSION

## 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE SUMMARIES

### SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

FEBRUARY 24, 2014

MARCH 24, 2014

7:30 P.M.

**HIGH SCHOOL LITTLE THEATRE**

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Westwood's new library opened in July, 2013.

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IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER, PLEASE CHECK THE TOWN OF WESTWOOD  
WEB SITE AT [WWW.TOWNHALL.WESTWOOD.MA.US](http://WWW.TOWNHALL.WESTWOOD.MA.US)  
FOR WEATHER RELATED POSTPONEMENT INFORMATION.



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## Finance and Warrant Commission

Marianne LeBlanc Cummings, Chairman  
Craig Foscaldo, Vice Chairman

David Blessing	Thomas Looney
Richard Cocivera	Kevin McManus
Barbara Delisle	Denise Murphy
John Grogan	Peter Neville
George Hertz	Raymond Sleight
Peter Kane	Robert Uek
	Margery Eramo Young

Sheila Nee, Administrator

### *A Message from Chairman Marianne LeBlanc Cummings*

As the Finance and Warrant Commission (Fincom) prepares for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, I would like to invite Westwood residents to learn more about the role of the Commission and participate in our upcoming public hearings.

The Fincom is a fifteen member Commission whose members are appointed by the Town Moderator to serve three-year overlapping terms. In accordance with the Town Charter, the Commission:

- ❖ Considers all articles in Town Meeting Warrants and reports in print its advice, estimates, and recommendations to residents.
- ❖ Studies the financial and other affairs of the Town and advises with officers of the Town as to expenditures and recommendations for appropriations.

Preparations to address the articles and the two major budgets, municipal and school, actually commence in September each year. As a Commission, we educate new members through workshops and presentations made by various representatives in Town; monitor budgets approved at the previous Town Meeting; and receive information on possible articles for the upcoming Town Meeting.

Beginning in January and continuing until early April, members of the Commission engage in a thorough review of all Town Meeting warrant articles. Each article sponsor comes before the Commission on at least two occasions and sometimes as often as four times to discuss their article.

The Fincom has scheduled two sets of public hearings devoted to discussing the important issues on which residents will vote at the May 5, 2014 Annual Town Meeting. These hearings are intended to provide residents the opportunity for public participation and input into matters facing our Town. At these meetings and during additional Fincom meetings, members of the Commission are apprised of the intent, background and details of each article. Through sponsor presentations, member questions and input received from the public, Commission members determine their position and formulate recommendations on the articles. Following public input, the Fincom may vote their recommendation(s) at the first public hearing or may do so at any of their regular meetings held during the month of March.

The Fincom urges your participation at our upcoming public hearings and at the Annual Town Meeting on May 5, 2014.



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**February 24, 2014 Schedule – 7:30 P.M.  
High School Little Theatre**

**Town Clerk Article**

1. **Town Bylaw Amendments(s)** – This article is intended to present various Bylaw revisions recommended by the Town Bylaw Review Committee to update the Bylaws.

**Board of Selectmen Articles**

1. **Street Acceptances** - This is an article that accepts private roads that have been constructed and/or brought to the Town's standards and are presented for acceptance as Town ways.
2. **State Grants (i.e. Chapter 90, MassWorks, etc.) Allocation for Road Improvement** - This article authorizes the acceptance of any state funds, including Chapter 90 and MassWorks funds that are allocated for maintenance of the Town's public ways.
3. **Fund University Avenue Building Fee Reserve** – This article authorizes the Board of Selectmen to allocate additional building permit fee payments from the University Station project, to allocate the appropriate services related to permitting, inspection, legal valuation, and other services prior, during, and after construction.
4. **Acceptance and Authorization (multiple) use of University Station Development Agreement Payments** – This article authorizes the Board of Selectmen to accept additional mitigation funds required by the Development Agreement with University Station and to allocate these funds as required under this Agreement.
5. **Land Taking for Right of Way and Construction Easements for University Station** – This article ensures that the Board of Selectmen has the authority to do additional layouts and takings if necessary to implement the University Station's final plans.
6. **Tax Increment Financing** – This article authorizes all the steps necessary to enter into a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Agreement with potential office tenants for a portion of the University Station project should an opportunity arise.
7. **Land Taking for Right of Way and Construction Easements for Downey School** – This article ensures that the Board of Selectmen has the authority to do additional layouts and takings if necessary to implement the sidewalk construction final plans leading to the Downey School.
8. **Article to Increase the Amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000 in Purchasing Competitive Pricing** – This article is intended to update the Town's Bylaws to be consistent with the recently changed Massachusetts General Law which changed the minimum value of a purchase that requires three (3) competitive prices from \$5,000 to \$10,000.
9. **Obed Baker House Article** – This article holds a space on the warrant in the event a project emerges from the ongoing Task Force process related to the disposition of the Obed Baker House.
10. **Zoning Article for Parcel (Obed Baker House)** – This article is intended to make changes to the Official Zoning Map, specifically the zoning of the parcels Map 21, Lots 042 and 043 on which the Obed Baker House is currently located.



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11. **Real Estate Acquisition / Transfers** – This article is intended to seek authorization to acquire one or more parcels that may be necessary to construct or expand a municipal facility.
  12. **Architect Design Funds** – This article is intended to provide funding to proceed with the preparation of design and bid documents for Public Safety facilities.
  13. **Municipal Task Force Miscellaneous Article(s)** – This article is intended to provide a funding mechanism for conducting studies, preparing conceptual plans, acquiring and/or putting deposits on parcels of land, conducting appraisals and cost estimates, all intended for expanding and maintaining municipal facilities and services within the community.
  14. **Child Safety Zone Bylaw** – This article would adopt a Child Safe Zone Town Bylaw which would identify specific locations of particular risk within the community and designate them as “safe zones” that Registered Sex Offenders cannot be in.
  15. **Miscellaneous Article(s)** – The Board of Selectmen has reserved three (3) miscellaneous articles that serve as placeholders in support of Town Government that may come up before the official Warrant is approved.

#### **Planning Board Articles**

1. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw and Official Zoning Map related to Section 9.5 [Flexible Multiple Use Overlay District (FMUOD)]** – This article is intended to establish new FMUOD districts overlaying the Islington and Westwood Town Centers.
2. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw and Official Zoning Map related to Section 9.6 [Mixed Use Overlay Districts (MUOD)]** – This article is intended to delete all references to the MUOD section from the Zoning Bylaw.
3. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw related to Medicinal Marijuana Use, including Section 2.0 [Definitions], Section 4.1 [Principal Uses], and Section 4.2 [Notes for Table of Principal Uses], and Section 4.6 [Interim Regulations for Medicinal Marijuana Use]** – This article is intended to amend the Zoning Bylaw to include specific special permit requirements for Medicinal Marijuana Uses and to remove the section which established a moratorium prohibiting the issuance of Medicinal Marijuana Use special permits prior to May 6, 2014.
4. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw related to restaurants, including Section 2.0 [Definitions], Section 4.1 [Principal Uses], and Section 4.3 [Accessory Uses]** – This article is intended to permit restaurants as an accessory use in office buildings within the Industrial (I) and Industrial-Office (IO) Districts.
5. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw related to Section 2.0 [Definitions]** – This article is intended to amend certain definitions at the request of the Building Commissioner, including definitions for “corner lot” and “story”.
6. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw related to Section 4.5 [Non-conforming Uses and Structures]** – This article is intended to amend the Zoning Bylaw provisions which pertain to non-conforming uses and structures at the request of the Building Commissioner, to remove any ambiguity and ensure a consistent application of these provisions.



7. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw related to Section 5.0 [Dimensional Requirements], including the Table of Dimensional Requirements** – This article is intended to amend certain dimensional requirements, including the setback requirements within the Local Business A (LBA) and Local Business B (LBB) Districts to encourage village style redevelopment within these areas.
8. **Housekeeping Amendments to various sections of the Westwood Zoning Bylaw and Official Zoning Map as may be necessary** – This article is intended to allow for any amendments which are needed to correct errors or inconsistencies, or to clarify sections of the Zoning Bylaw.
9. **Endorse the Dedham-Westwood Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan** – This article is intended to permit Town Meeting’s endorsement of the Dedham-Westwood Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.
10. **Amendments to the Westwood Zoning Bylaw related to Section 6.2 [Signs]** – This article is intended to allow for amendments to those provisions of the Zoning Bylaw which regulate signage, including provisions relating to the composition, location and use of municipal signs.

**Final Public Hearing**

**March 24, 2014**

**7:30 P.M.**

**High School Little Theatre**

**If business is not finalized on March 24, the hearing will continue to  
March 25 at 7:30 P.M. if necessary.**

In addition to the following articles, discussion will continue, if necessary, on articles presented at the February public hearing. The Finance and Warrant Commission will vote its final recommendations on remaining articles at the completion of this hearing.

1. **Supplemental Appropriations FY14** - This article is intended to transfer funds from budget accounts that have a surplus into accounts that are projected to be in deficit by the end of the fiscal year.
2. **Unpaid Prior Year’s Bills** - This article is reserved to consider payment of any unpaid bills remaining from a closed out fiscal year.
3. **FY15 Town salary and expense budgets** - This article is the official approval of the Annual Operating Budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
4. **Appropriations – Municipal Capital** - This article is intended to appropriate funds for the Town’s municipal capital investments for the next fiscal year.
5. **Appropriations – School Capital** - This article is intended to appropriate funds for the Town’s School capital investments for the next fiscal year.
6. **Appropriations – Sewer Capital** - This article is intended to appropriate funds for the Town’s Sewer capital investments for the next fiscal year.



7. **Appropriation to Stabilization Fund FY15** - This article is intended to appropriate funds into the Town's Stabilization Account, a fund to meet some unforeseen extraordinary expenditure or absorb a fiscal shock.
8. **FY15 Appropriation to Capital Stabilization Fund** - This article will transfer funds into the Capital Stabilization Fund, a fund used to reserve and build funds for future capital needs.
9. **Appropriation to OPEB Liability – FY15** – This article is intended to appropriate funds into the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Account as a means of addressing this unfunded liability.



**Mark Your Calendars Now!**

**Annual Town Meeting – May 5, 2014**

Questions? Comments? Contact us:

☎ (781)320-1029

Email: [SNee@Townhall.Westwood.MA.US](mailto:SNee@Townhall.Westwood.MA.US)

***Please Note:***

The Town of Westwood accommodates the needs of all physically challenged or disabled people by reasonable means in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact the Finance and Warrant Commission office at (781)320-1029 to make your request known.