

# **The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

FRANKLIN SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Ashfield in 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 TOWN HALL in said Ashfield on **SATURDAY the FIFTH day of MAY 2012**, at **TEN O'CLOCK** in the morning, then and there to act on the following articles:

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose a MODERATOR and a TREE WARDEN, both for one year terms. A SELECT BOARD MEMBER, A BOARD OF ASSESSORS MEMBER, A BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER, A PARK COMMISSIONER, A SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER, A CONSTABLE, A SEWER COMMISSIONER, all for three year terms: A PLANNING BOARD MEMBER, A LIBRARY TRUSTEE, all for five year terms.

To vote on the following question:

“Shall the Town of Ashfield be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the purchase of a fire truck?”

**Polls to be closed at 6:00 PM.**

**ARTICLE 2:** To act on the reports of the Town Officers.

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to set the salary compensation for all elected officials of the town (Select Board, Board of Assessors, Board of Health, Moderator, Tree Warden and Constable) as provided by MGL Chapter 41, Section 108, to be made effective as of July 1, 2012, as contained in the budget, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$15,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund to contract with a registered professional engineer to prepare a report outlining in sufficient detail what modifications (if any) to the facility or other changes are required to insure that the facility can remain in compliance with its Ground Water Discharge Permit and other applicable requirements through the next five year permit term and beyond. This report is a requirement for permit renewal.

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt MGL Chapter 41, Section 110A: "Any public office in any city or town may remain closed on any or all Saturdays as may be determined from time to time, in a city by the city council, subject to the provisions of the city charter, or, in a town, by vote of the town at a regular or special town meeting, and the provisions of section nine of chapter four shall apply in the case of such closing of any such office on any Saturday to the same extent as if such Saturday were a legal holiday", or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$50,000 and to borrow up to \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing a fire truck, provided however, that no amounts shall be borrowed or expended hereunder unless and until the Town votes at an election to exempt from the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, section 21C, Proposition 2 ½, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds or notes therefore, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of up to \$45,000 for the purpose of purchasing a truck for the highway department, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **SCHOOL COMMITTEE STIPENDS, VOCATIONAL SCHOOL EXPENSES AND EDUCATIONAL CAPITAL EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| School Committee 2 @ 450 | 900     |
| Capital                  | 89,179  |
| Vocational               | 430,000 |

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds \$1,789,025 to pay for **REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES** or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **AMBULANCE SERVICE** or act relative thereto:

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Highland Assessment | 30,871 |
| Radio Assessment    | 1,277  |

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds \$3,000 to pay for the **RESERVE ACCOUNT**, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Appeals Board                             | 150            |
| Elected Assessor Chair                    | 1,500          |
| Elected Assessor Salaries (2) @ 1,250     | 2,500          |
| Assessors' Clerk                          | 12,353         |
| Assessor Expenses                         | 32,050         |
| Auditor                                   | 10,500         |
| Building Inspector                        | 17,500         |
| Conservation Commission                   | 1,300          |
| Bonds                                     | 1,200          |
| Insurance Buildings/Liability             | 33,000         |
| Town Hall Steward                         | 400            |
| Office Supplies/Expenses                  | 5,650          |
| Postage                                   | 250            |
| Computer/Internet                         | 5,000          |
| Planning Board                            | 950            |
| Elections                                 | 6,412          |
| Registrars of Voters                      | 400            |
| Executive Administrator                   | 23,400         |
| Street Lists                              | 500            |
| Municipal Town Clerk                      | 24,346         |
| Assistant Municipal Clerk                 | 12,597         |
| Town Clerk Expenses                       | 900            |
| Special Project Staffing Fund             | 1,500          |
| Town Report                               | 500            |
| Collector                                 | 17,431         |
| Town Collector Expenses                   | 9,714          |
| Legal Expenses                            | 15,000         |
| Town Hall Maintenance                     | 17,900         |
| Town Hall Utilities                       | 17,710         |
| Elected Select Board Chair                | 1,500          |
| Elected Select Board Salaries (2) @ 1,250 | 2,500          |
| Select Board Expenses                     | 2,000          |
| Elected Moderator                         | 100            |
| Treasurer Salary                          | 14,040         |
| Treasurer Expenses                        | 3,240          |
| Tax Title                                 | 7,500          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                              | <b>303,493</b> |

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available fund the following sums of money to pay for the following **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES** or act relative thereto:

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Ambulance Capital | 3,117 |
|-------------------|-------|

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **PUBLIC SAFETY** expenses or act relative thereto:

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Animal Control Salary     | 1,800          |
| Animal Control Expenses   | 550            |
| Fire Chief Salary         | 3,000          |
| Fire Chief Expenses       | 340            |
| Fire Department Expenses  | 32,530         |
| Fire Department Utilities | 8,177          |
| Fire Department Fuel      | 3,509          |
| Emergency Manager Exp.    | 1,000          |
| Emergency Mngr. Stipend   | 300            |
| Emergency Call System     | 2,486          |
| Lake Dam Inspection       | 2,000          |
| Police Chief Salary       | 55,080         |
| Police Department         | 41,655         |
| Police Department Fuel    | 5,000          |
| Drug/Alcohol Testing      | 300            |
| Tree Warden               | 300            |
| Tree Warden Expenses      | 4,000          |
| Narrowband Mandate        | 12,048         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>174,075</b> |

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **CULTURAL/RECREATIONAL EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Belding Memorial Library | 33,265        |
| Belding Memorial Park    | 11,055        |
| Veterans Graves          | 1,000         |
| Town Website             | 900           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>46,220</b> |

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **SANITATION SERVICES** or act relative thereto:

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Hilltown Resource Management | 5,824         |
| Transfer Station             | 80,525        |
| Transfer Station Utilities   | 900           |
| Inspector of Animals         | 350           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>87,599</b> |

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **HEALTH SERVICES** or act relative thereto.

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Health Agent                            | 8,000         |
| Health Board Expenses                   | 900           |
| Elected Board of Health Stipend 3 @ 450 | 1,350         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>10,250</b> |

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **HIGHWAY AND ROAD EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| General Highway              | 46,700         |
| Labor                        | 159,828        |
| Machinery Maintenance        | 31,500         |
| Highway Fuel                 | 58,246         |
| Highway Department Utilities | 14,490         |
| Uniforms                     | 2,600          |
| Highway Superintendent       | 53,450         |
| Winter Roads                 | 86,160         |
| Street Lights                | 2,000          |
| Lake Dam Maintenance         | 1,000          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>455,974</b> |

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **HUMAN SERVICES EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Senior Center            | 28,322        |
| Local Council            | 500           |
| COA Van/Maintenance      | 250           |
| Veterans' Council        | 3,532         |
| Veterans' Benefits Local | 8,500         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>41,104</b> |

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **EMPLOYEE BENEFIT EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Health Insurance              | 50,590         |
| Medicare/FICA                 | 11,220         |
| Retiree Benefit-Health        | 6,426          |
| Retirement Sys. Contributions | 66,666         |
| Unemployment                  | 5,000          |
| Workers Compensation          | 13,300         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <b>153,202</b> |

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Core Assessment   | 15,251        |
| Accountant        | 17,663        |
| Software          | 1,000         |
| Procurement       | 2,310         |
| Radio Maintenance | 2,553         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>38,777</b> |

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$134,178 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund for sewer expenses and to meet that appropriation by raising \$119,178 from sewer charges and transferring \$15,000 from retained earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund to pay for **SEWER EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Salaries and Benefits | 73,218         |
| Fixed Operating Costs | 900            |
| Volume Based Costs    | 55,060         |
| Emergency Fund        | 5,000          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b>134,178</b> |

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the following sums of money to pay for **DEBT EXPENSES** or act relative thereto:

|                       |                |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Short Term Interest   | 7,500          |
| Town Common Principal | 15,000         |
| Town Common Interest  | 1,980          |
| Highway Debt Truck    | 50,750         |
| Highway Debt Garage   | 82,226         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>          | <b>157,456</b> |

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the following Revolving Fund Accounts pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, to account for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 or act relative thereto:

| <b>Revolving Fund</b>   | <b>Authorized to Spend</b> | <b>Revenue Source</b>         | <b>Use of fund</b>                               | <b>FY2013 Spending Limit</b> |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Dog License and Control | Town Clerk                 | Licenses, fines and donations | Supplies, animal care, by law permitted expenses | <b>\$2,500</b>               |
| Park                    | Park Commission            | Program fees, donations       | Park Expenses                                    | <b>\$1,500</b>               |
| Library                 | Library Board of Trustees  | Fees, rental                  | Library expenses                                 | <b>\$2,000</b>               |

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appoint a select board member to serve as Emergency Management Director, and to supervise him in that position, while he continues to serve as a select board member, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds up to \$85,000 to the **STABILIZATION ACCOUNT**, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept and expend any grants and/or gifts that may become available, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of any unused town-owned equipment and/or property, or act relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will vote to support the following resolution:  
(Citizen Petition)

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights are intended to protect the rights of individual human beings ("real people"); and WHEREAS, corporations are not mentioned in the Constitution and The People have never granted constitutional rights to corporations; WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission presents a serious threat to self-government by allowing unlimited corporate spending to influence elections; WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people of the United States of America to use the constitutional amendment process to correct egregiously wrong decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our democracy: **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the voters of Ashfield, Massachusetts hereby instruct the senators representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the member of the United States House of Representatives representing this congressional district to propose, and our state legislators to ratify, an amendment to the United States Constitution to provide that corporations are not entitled to the constitutional rights of real people and that money is not speech for purposes of campaign-related expenditures and contributions.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the ASHFIELD TOWN HALL and the ASHFIELD POST OFFICE 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 aforesaid.

Given this day under our hands this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve.



Douglas M. Zick

Ashfield Select Board



A true copy. Attest: Walter Kiefer Constable

Franklin, SS

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Ashfield by posting up attested copies of the same at the Ashfield Town Hall and the Ashfield Post Office

7 days before the date of the meeting as within directed.

Walter Kiefer  
Constable of Ashfield

Date 4-19-12