

# TOWN OF BERNARDSTON



## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - May 25, 2022

Franklin:

To either of the constables of the Town of Bernardston 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 town affairs to meet at the Kringle Barn Events Center, 219 South Street in Bernardston, Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May next, at seven o'clock in the evening, to conduct the annual business meeting then and there to act upon the following articles:

**Article 1:** To act upon the reports of the Town Clerk, Town Treasurer, Selectboard, School Committees, all other Town Officers and Committees as contained in the Annual Town Report for 2021, and

- a) to hear an oral report from the Selectboard on the status of the Charity Lot Trust Fund;
- b) to hear a report from the Selectboard;
- c) to hear a report from the Chairman of the Fire Station Building Committee, with time for questions and answers pertaining to the Fire Station Building project;
- d) to hear a report from Finance Committee Chair regarding the FY23 Town budget.

**Article 2:** To see if the Town of Bernardston will authorize the Selectboard to apply for and accept state and/or federal monies and to expend any monies received as set forth in the appropriate application and/or document, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to accept and expend without further appropriation any monies, which may be made available from the Commonwealth through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for improvements to Town roads, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements for Fiscal 2023, commencing on July 1, 2022 pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, section 53F, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote, under the provisions of the General Laws of Massachusetts, Chapter 41, §108, or any amendments thereto, to fix the salaries of all elected officials for Fiscal Year 2023, and raise and appropriate any sum or sums therefore, and further:

<b>Raise and Appropriate</b>	<b>\$514,256.79</b>
<b>Transfer from Free Cash</b>	<b>\$134,000.00</b>
<b>For A Total of</b>	<b>\$648,256.79</b>

for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, in accordance with the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee as shown in the first column of the following table (Table I), or pass any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

<b>TABLE I</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>	<b>* Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Moderator</b>			
Annual Meeting	50.00	50.00	50.00
Special Town Meeting (3@,\$60)	180.00	180.00	180.00
<b>Total Moderator</b>	<b>230.00</b>	<b>230.00</b>	<b>230.00</b>
<b>Selectboard Department</b>			
Selectboard Stipends: Chairman	2,050.00	2,050.00	2,050.00
2nd Member	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
3rd Member	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Town Coordinator Salary	63,366.80	61,274.50	59,780.00
Selectboard Expenses	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00
Town Reports, Printing of	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,200.00
Newsletter Stipend	800.00	800.00	800.00
Newsletter Expense	1,800.00	1,800.00	1,800.00
<i>Newsletter</i>	<i>2,600.00</i>	<i>2,600.00</i>	<i>2,600.00</i>
Town Hall Payroll	0.00	6,383.21	6,227.52
IT Services	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Operating & Other Expenses	16,800.00	16,800.00	21,700.00
<i>Sub-Total Town Hall Expense</i>	<i>20,800.00</i>	<i>27,183.21</i>	<i>31,927.52</i>
<b>Total Selectboard Department</b>	<b>96,616.80</b>	<b>100,907.71</b>	<b>104,357.52</b>

<b>TABLE I</b>		<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
* <b>F = Free Cash</b> <b>S = Stabilization</b> <b>T = Transfer</b>		* <b>Recommended by</b> <b>Finance</b> <b>Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Assessor's Office</b>				
Assessors' Stipends	Chairman	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00
	2nd Member	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	3rd Member	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Assessors' Assistant Payroll		38,995.96	37,708.36	36,788.64
Assessors' Expenses		11,165.00	19,165.00	9,445.00
<b>Total Assessors Office</b>		<b>53,210.96</b>	<b>59,923.36</b>	<b>49,283.64</b>
<b>Treasurer's Department</b>				
Salary		24,780.97	23,962.73	23,378.27
Treasurer Certification		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Expense		5,740.00	5,740.00	6,050.00
<i>Sub-total Treasurer's Office</i>		<i>31,520.97</i>	<i>30,702.73</i>	<i>30,428.27</i>
Town Officers' Bonds		652.00	652.00	652.00
Tax Title Expenses		5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
<b>Total Treasurer's Dept.</b>		<b>37,172.97</b>	<b>36,354.73</b>	<b>36,080.27</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>				
Interest on Short Term Borrowing		100.00	100.00	100.00
2022-Highway Truck		<b>F</b> 64,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00
<b>Total Debt Service</b>		<b>64,100.00</b>	<b>60,100.00</b>	<b>60,100.00</b>
<b>Tax Collector's Department</b>				
Salary		21,717.42	21,000.33	20,488.13
Expenses		8,213.00	8,213.00	8,213.00
<b>Total Tax Collector's Dept.</b>		<b>29,930.42</b>	<b>29,213.33</b>	<b>28,701.13</b>
<b>Town Clerk's Dept.</b>				
Salary 16 hrs/wk increased to 18/hrs/wk		18,483.94	18,149.04	15,500.16
Assistant Town Clerk 8/hrs/wk increased to 10 hrs/wk		7,986.89	8,054.80	6,027.84
Expenses		3,700.00	3,700.00	1,850.00
Elections/Registration		10,510.00	10,510.00	4,300.00
Registrars' Stipends		480.00	480.00	480.00
<b>Total Town Clerk's Office</b>		<b>41,160.83</b>	<b>40,893.84</b>	<b>28,158.00</b>
<b>Planning Board</b>				
Payroll		4,751.87	4,482.90	4,482.90
Operating & Other Expenses		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b>Total Planning Board</b>		<b>5,751.87</b>	<b>5,482.90</b>	<b>5,482.90</b>

<b>TABLE I</b>		<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Board of Health</b>				
Board of Health Stipends- - - - -				
Chairman		1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
2nd Member		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
3rd Member		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Wetlands		3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Board of Health Expenses		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b>Total Board of Health</b>		<b>7,200.00</b>	<b>7,200.00</b>	<b>7,200.00</b>
<b>Human Services</b>				
Powers Institute Payroll				3,113.76
Powers Institute Operating Expenses		34,760.00	41,059.00	40,467.00
Council on Aging Payroll		83,987.45	84,034.77	68,914.82
STM 9/15: Council on Aging Payroll				8,251.39
Council on Aging Operating Expenses		4,390.00	4,390.00	3,700.00
<i>Sub-Total Senior Center</i>		<i>123,137.45</i>	<i>129,483.77</i>	<i>124,446.97</i>
Veterans' Benefits		3,672.00	3,672.00	3,600.00
Veterans' Services		4,943.85	4,943.85	5,030.81
Veteran's Memorial Committee		1,500.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
<b>Total Human Services</b>		<b>133,253.30</b>	<b>139,599.62</b>	<b>134,077.78</b>
<b>Cushman Library</b>				
Payroll		59,266.35	59,370.00	55,911.66
Operating Expenses		16,623.00	16,623.00	17,335.00
<b>Total Cushman Library</b>		<b>75,889.35</b>	<b>75,993.00</b>	<b>73,246.66</b>
<b>Appeals Board (Zoning)</b>				
Payroll		344.43	324.93	324.93
Operating & Other Expenses		300.00	300.00	300.00
<b>Total Appeals Board (Zoning)</b>		<b>644.43</b>	<b>624.93</b>	<b>624.93</b>
<b>Conservation Commission</b>				
Payroll		688.86	649.87	649.86
Operating & Other Expenses		882.00	882.00	882.00
<b>Total Conservation Commission</b>		<b>1,570.86</b>	<b>1,531.87</b>	<b>1,531.86</b>

<b>TABLE I</b>		<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>	*	<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Other Boards &amp; Committees</b>				
Agricultural Commission		1,125.00	1,125.00	1,125.00
Historical Commission		400.00	400.00	400.00
MPIC (Master Plan Implementation Committee)				500.00
Reserve Fund (R&A 30,000; Transfer from Free Cash 70,000)	<b>F</b>	100,000.00	60,000.00	53,000.00
<b>Total Other</b>		<b>101,525.00</b>	<b>61,525.00</b>	<b>55,025.00</b>
<b>TOTAL of ARTICLE</b>		<b>648,256.79</b>	<b>749,580.29</b>	<b>584,099.70</b>

**Article 6:** To see if the Town will vote to

<b>FY 2023</b>	
<b>Raise and Appropriate:</b>	<b>\$3,405,842.23</b>
<b>Transfer from Free Cash:</b>	<b>\$11,580.05</b>
<b>for a Total of:</b>	<b>\$3,417,422.28</b>

for Bernardston's share of the education expense in accordance with the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee as shown in the first column of the following table (Table II), or pass any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

<b>TABLE II</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Schools</b>				
<b>School Committee Stipends</b>				
PVRS-1st Representative		200.00	200.00	200.00
PVRS-2nd Representative		200.00	200.00	200.00
PVRS-3rd Representative		200.00	200.00	200.00
FCTS Representative		200.00	200.00	200.00
<b>Franklin County Technical</b>				
Operating Budget		325,872.23	325,872.23	434,266.00
Capital Budget (3rd payment)	<b>F</b>	6,580.05	6,580.05	6,286.47
<i>Total FCTS</i>		<i>332,452.28</i>	<i>332,452.28</i>	<i>440,552.47</i>

<b>TABLE II</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Pioneer Valley Regional Dist.</b>				
Operating Budget		3,079,170.00	3,067,984.00	2,987,167.00
<b>PVRS Capital Projects</b>				
FY22 carpet (rooms 118, 208 & Chorus Rooms)				2,696.90
<b>BES Capital Projects</b>				
Capital Improvements (FY22-Trans from WIFI Project-see Special	<b>F</b>	5,000.00	5,000.00	
<i>Total PVRSD</i>		<i>3,084,170.00</i>	<i>3,072,984.00</i>	<i>2,989,863.90</i>
<b>Total Schools</b>		<b>3,417,422.28</b>	<b>3,405,436.28</b>	<b>3,430,416.37</b>
<b>TOTAL of ARTICLE</b>		<b>3,417,422.28</b>	<b>3,405,436.28</b>	<b>3,431,216.37</b>

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote to

<b>Raise and Appropriate</b>	<b>\$486,625.84</b>
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for Contracted Services, Pension and Insurance Expense in accordance with the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee as shown in the first column of the following table (Table III), or pass any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

<b>TABLE III</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>CONTRACTED SERVICES</b>				
FRCOG Statutory/Core Services		13,375.00	13,375.00	13,066.00
FRCOG Fees for Service:				
Accounting Program		31,792.00	31,792.00	30,749.00
Procurement		2,669.00	2,669.00	2,426.00
Public Health		17,933.00	17,933.00	20,287.00
Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC)		150.00	150.00	150.00
Building Inspection		7,600.00	7,600.00	7,600.00
Emergency Communications		8,538.18	8,538.18	8,943.06
<i>Sub-Total FRCOG</i>		<i>82,057.18</i>	<i>82,057.18</i>	<i>83,221.06</i>

<b>TABLE III</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
Franklin County Solid Waste Management District (Raise & appropriate \$8,000; & pay HHW directly from Recycling Dividend Program)		8,000.00	10,125.00	10,000.00
Town Counsel		8,000.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
Street Lights		4,900.00	4,900.00	4,900.00
Cell phones (COA, Fire, Highway)		3,360.00	3,360.00	3,360.00
<b>Total Contracted Services</b>		<b>106,317.18</b>	<b>104,942.18</b>	<b>105,981.06</b>
<b>PENSIONS AND INSURANCE</b>				
Franklin Regional Retirement System		131,521.00	131,521.00	124,370.00
Social Security		100.00	100.00	100.00
Medicare		13,941.35	14,000.00	14,000.00
Unemployment Insurance		19,000.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
Insurance: buildings, vehicles, equipment, liability town officers		68,968.00	68,968.00	68,968.00
Employee health insurance		138,839.40	121,820.40	121,820.40
Employee dental insurance		7,252.35	6,394.62	6,394.62
Employee life insurance		686.56	665.32	665.32
<i>Sub-Total Employee Ins. Benefits</i>		<i>146,778.31</i>	<i>128,880.34</i>	<i>128,880.34</i>
<b>Total Pensions &amp; Insurance</b>		<b>380,308.66</b>	<b>356,969.34</b>	<b>349,818.34</b>
<b>TOTAL of ARTICLE</b>		<b>486,625.84</b>	<b>461,911.52</b>	<b>455,799.40</b>

**Article 8:** To see if the Town will vote to

<b>Raise and Appropriate</b>	<b>\$1,001,871.04</b>
<b>Transfer from Landfill Receipts</b>	<b>\$92,825.00</b>
<b>Transfer from Transfer Station Recycling Account</b>	<b>\$2,200.00</b>
<b>Transfer from Free Cash</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>For a Total of</b>	<b>\$1,106,896.04</b>

for Public Services in accordance with the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee as shown in the first column of the following table (Table IV), or pass any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

<b>TABLE IV</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
<b>* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer</b>		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Public Services</b>				
<b>Fire Department</b>				
Stipends		12,800.00	12,800.00	12,800.00
Payroll		58,560.56	55,246.00	55,245.81
Operating Expenses		72,250.00	72,250.00	66,350.00
Ambulance Service	<b>F</b>	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
<b>Total Fire Department</b>		<b>153,610.56</b>	<b>150,296.00</b>	<b>144,395.81</b>
<b>Emergency Management</b>				
Stipend		5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
Supplies		6,400.00	6,400.00	6,400.00
<b>Total Emergency Management</b>		<b>11,400.00</b>	<b>11,400.00</b>	<b>11,400.00</b>
<b>Police Department</b>				
Payroll		299,315.42	303,005.00	240,440.64
Operating Expenses		39,875.00	39,875.00	38,675.00
Animal Control Officer		6,375.25	6,375.25	
<b>Total Police Department</b>		<b>345,565.67</b>	<b>349,255.25</b>	<b>279,115.64</b>
<b>Highway Department</b>				
Payroll		219,879.93	181,064.24	187,920.87
Operating Expenses		124,250.00	124,250.00	105,650.00
Snow & Ice		56,850.00	58,290.00	47,480.00
Snow & Ice payroll		25,440.00	24,000.00	17,319.58
<i>Sub-total Snow &amp; Ice</i>		<i>82,290.00</i>	<i>82,290.00</i>	<i>64,799.58</i>
<b>Total Highway Department</b>		<b>426,419.93</b>	<b>387,604.24</b>	<b>358,370.45</b>
<b>Transfer Station</b>				
Payroll (2 @ 20 hours)		20,460.00	36,072.00	32,980.54
Operating Expenses (includes \$2,200 Annual Recycling Rolloff replacement from Transfer Station Recycling Acct.) FY23 transfer \$85,000 from Landfill Receipts) (FY22- trans \$65,000 from landfill receipts)	<b>T</b>	125,095.00	119,050.00	104,650.00



<b>TABLE IV</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
Landfill Testing (transfer from Landfill Receipts Account)	<b>T</b>	7,825.00	7,825.00	7,825.00
<b>Total Transfer Station (FY23: \$2,200 from TS Recycling, \$92,825 from Landfill receipts &amp; Raise &amp; Appropriate \$71,030.54)</b>		<b>153,380.00</b>	<b>162,947.00</b>	<b>145,455.54</b>
<b>Tree Warden</b>				
Tree Warden		14,019.88	13,840.00	11,428.13
Tree Removal	<b>F</b>			10,000.00
<b>Total Tree Warden</b>		<b>14,019.88</b>	<b>13,840.00</b>	<b>21,428.13</b>
<b>Other Public Works</b>				
Municipal Animal Inspector		1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Charity Farm Lot		1,000.00	1,000.00	
Memorial Day		500.00	500.00	500.00
<b>Total Other Public Works</b>		<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>2,500.00</b>	<b>1,500.00</b>
<b>TOTAL of ARTICLE</b>		<b>1,106,896.04</b>	<b>1,077,842.49</b>	<b>961,665.57</b>

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will vote to

**Transfer from Free Cash      \$150,000**

for the Stabilization accounts in accordance with the amounts recommended by the Finance Committee as shown in the first column of the following table (Table V), or pass any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

<b>TABLE V</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
<b>Stabilization Accounts</b>				
Special Purpose Stabilization Fund – Vehicle replacement	<b>F</b>	50,000.00	50,000.00	20,000.00

<b>TABLE V</b>	*	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2022</b>
* F = Free Cash S = Stabilization T = Transfer		<b>Recommended by Finance Committee</b>	<b>Requested</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>
Stabilization Fund	<b>F</b>	100,000.00	100,000.00	55,900.00
<b>Total Stabilization Accounts</b>		<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>75,900.00</b>
<b>TOTAL of ARTICLE</b>		<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>150,000.00</b>	<b>75,900.00</b>

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to Raise and Appropriate the amount of \$4,754.10 for payroll and transfer from the Barber Fund the amount of \$2,000.00 for operating expense making a total of \$6,754.10 for the Recreation Commission Account and, further, to transfer from the Kiwanis Expendable Interest Account the sum of \$1,000.00 to the Kiwanis Recreation Equipment Fund to be expended by the Recreation Commission for Recreation Programs and Field Maintenance, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$8,000.00 for the Town Audit, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$2,400.00 for the fourth of five installments, for the Board of Assessors FY24 revaluation, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$4,000.00 for the fourth of five installments for the Board of Assessors Ten-Year Reinspection Program, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$1,200.00 for maintenance at the Village Cemetery (formerly called Old Cemetery), or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$300.00 for the Flag Replacement Account, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the Employee Retirement/Separation Account, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the amount of \$5,000 to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Fund or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the amount of \$45,000 for the Renovate/Construct Town Buildings Account, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 19:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Vehicle Stabilization Account the amount of \$45,000.00 for the purchase of a new cruiser for the Police Department or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article. A vote to approve requires a 2/3 majority.)*

**Article 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$3,000.00 for the Mosquito Control District, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$75,000.00 for the Fire Station Building Account, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$40,000.00 for the services of Capital Strategic Solutions, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 23:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the amount of \$2,000.00 for Bernardston's share of the additional cost of Special Counsel for the Bernardston Northfield Cable TV Contract (BNCTV) negotiations, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 24:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the amount of \$600.00 for payment of prior years' stipends of a school committee member (B. Stafford) or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Finance Committee and The Selectboard recommend passage of this article.)*

**Article 25:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the following spending limits for Revolving Funds in accordance to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, section 53E½ and the Town of Bernardston Bylaw for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article.)*

<b>Revolving Fund</b>	<b>Spending Limit</b>
Council on Aging Donations	\$10,000.00
Board of Health	\$15,000.00
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$1,000.00
Planning Board	\$2,000.00
Fire Department	\$2,000.00
Dog Licenses	\$3,000.00
Public Safety	\$15,000.00
Transfer Station Recycling	\$37,000.00
Cushman Library	\$5,000.00
Agricultural Commission	\$5,000.00
Newsletter	\$2,000.00
Street Flag Replacement Fund	\$5,000.00

**Article 26:** To see if the Town will authorize the paving of West Road, beginning at Huckle Hill Road and continuing to include the residential, developed area through at least #167, and to incorporate any additional area that the Highway Superintendent deems necessary or take any vote or votes relative thereto. *(This is a petitioned article.) (The Selectboard and Finance Committee do not support passage of this article.)*

**Article 27:** To see if the town will dedicate 100% of PILOT payments, as established in the PILOT agreement between Bernardston MA 1, LLC and the town, to the Stabilization Fund established under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 5B, effective for the fiscal year 2023 beginning on July 1, 2022, or take any other action relative thereto. *(The Selectboard and Finance Committee recommend passage of this article. This article requires a 2/3 majority.)*

**Article 28:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for special legislation to allow Lloyd Grover, a Town of Bernardston call firefighter, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, to serve in such position until the age of 70, or until the date of his retirement or non-reappointment, whichever occurs first; provided, however that no deductions from the regular compensation of Lloyd Grover shall be made under chapter 32 of the General Laws subsequent to his reaching the age of 65 in connection with his service to the Town for retirement or pension purposes; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Selectboard to approve such amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or take any votes relative thereto. *(Article submitted by Fire Chief Peter Shedd)*

**Article 29:** To see if the town will vote or take votes to add to the Bernardston Town Zoning Bylaws the definition of Self-Storage Unit Facilities and add to table 2.2 Use Regulations within the Business and Industrial Uses or take any other vote or votes relative thereto. *(The Planning Board recommends passage of this article, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.)*

Self-Storage Unit Facilities:

ADD to definitions:

Self-Storage Unit Facility: A structure(s) containing separate storage spaces, which may be of various sizes, leased or rented on an individual basis

ADD to table of use Regulations within Business and Industrial Uses

	<b>R/A</b>	<b>R1</b>	<b>CV</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>EPD</b>
Self-Storage Unit Facility	N	N	N	N	N	N

**Article 30:** To see if the Town will vote or take votes to update the Floodplain Overlay District to meet the Commonwealth of Massachusetts floodplain bylaws or take any other action relative thereto. *(This article is recommended by the Planning Board, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.)*

**Article 31:** To see if the town will vote or take votes to amend the definition of Kennels as it pertains to the Bernardston Zoning Bylaws or take any other action relative thereto. *(This article is recommended by the Planning Board, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage).*

KENNELS:

Amend definition by striking text as shown, adding text in italics:

Kennel shall mean one pack or collection of dogs on a single premises, whether maintained for breeding, boarding, sale, training, hunting, or other *commercial* purposes, and including any shop where dogs are on sale, ~~and also~~

~~including every pack or collection of more than three (3) dogs, three months old or older, owned by a person on a single premises regardless of the purposes for which they are maintained or kept. No kennel shall be kept or maintained less than fifty (50) feet from any property line where residences are directly adjacent.~~

**Article 32:** To see if the town will vote or take votes to amend the Bernardston Zoning Bylaws by changing Special Permits to be granted solely by the Bernardston Planning Board and make changes to sections 2.2 Use Regulations and 5.3 Special Permits are shown in Italics and Underlined or take any other action thereto. *(Article submitted by and recommended for passage by the Planning Board. This article requires a 2/3 majority vote for passage.)*

PROPOSED CHANGES TO SPECIAL PERMIT GRANTING AUTHORITY

2.2. Use Regulations

A. General. No structure shall be erected or used or land used except as set forth in Section 2.2 B, "Use Regulation Schedule," or in Section 2.4, "Accessory Buildings and Uses," unless exempted by Section 2.2C, or by statute. No more than one (1) principal structure may be erected on a lot, unless otherwise specified in this By-Law.

Symbols employed below shall mean the following:

Y - A permitted use.

N - An excluded or prohibited use.

~~SP - A use authorized under Special Permit as provided under Section 5.3.~~

SPR - Site Plan Review required (see Section 4.4 for other uses requiring Site Plan Review)

SPP - Special Permit from the Planning Board required following procedures and criteria of Section 5.3

B. Applicability. When an activity might be classified under more than one of the following uses, the more specific classification shall govern; if equally specific, the more restrictive shall govern.

1. Use Regulation Schedule. *(Amended May 6, 2021)*

<b>1. Residential Uses.</b>	<b>R/A</b>	<b>R1</b>	<b>CV</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>EPD</b>
One-family dwelling	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
Two-family dwelling	<u>SPP</u> /SP R	<u>SP</u> P/SP R	Y	N	N	N

Multi-family dwelling in Major Residential	SPP	SPP	SPP	N	N	N
Multi-family dwelling by conversion of an Existing Structure	SPP/SP R	SPP/SP R	SPP	N	N	N
Other Multi-family Dwelling not to exceed four units per structure	N	N	SPP	N	N	N
Major Residential Development	SPP	SPP	SPP	N	N	N
Non-family accommodations (boarding house, etc.)	SPP/SP R	SPP/SP R	Y	N	N	N
<b>2. Extensive Uses.</b>	<b>R/A</b>	<b>R1</b>	<b>CV</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>EPD</b>
Agriculture (not including Marijuana Cultivation) or forestry	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Private commercial campgrounds	SPP/SP R	SPP/SP R	N	N	N	N
Commercial earth removal	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SP R	N
	<b>R/A</b>	<b>R1</b>	<b>CV</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>EPD</b>
Conservation Area, Public Park	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	SPP
Golf Club, Riding Club	SPP/SP R	SPP/SP R	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP
Aircraft Landing Field	N	N	N	N	N	N
Commercial Piggery on 5 acres or less	SP	N	N	N	N	N
<b>3. Community Service Uses</b>						
Public Service Corporation Facility not exempted from zoning regulation by M.G.L. Ch.40A	SPP/SP R	SPP/SP R	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP
School Exempted from Zoning Regulations M.G.L. ch.40A, s.3	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Other Educational Uses	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SPP
Church, Other Religious Use	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Cemeteries	SPP/SP R	SPP/SP R	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	N
Other non-commercial community service use	SPP/SP R	SPP/SP R	SPP	SPP	SPP	N
Municipal Use	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

<b>4. Business/Industrial Uses</b>						
Hotel or motel	N	N	N	Y	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	SPP
Inn	N	N	SP	Y	SP	SPP
Bed & Breakfast	SP	SP	SP	SPP	N	N
Restaurant with drive-in or drive-thru service	N	N	N	SPP	SPP	SPP
Restaurant or Microbrew Pub	N	N	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	Y	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	SPP
Kiosk (*walk-up only)	N	N	SPP*	SPP	SPP	SPP
Junkyard, salvage yard	N	N	N	N	N	N
Gasoline service stations and auto repair	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP
Bank without drive thru	N	N	SPP/SPR	Y	SPP/SPR	SPP/S PR
Bank with drive thru	N	N	N	Y	SPP/SPR	SPP/ SPR
Health or Exercise Club	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/ SPR
Business or professional offices	N	N	<u>SPP</u> /SP R	Y	<u>SPP</u>	Y
Retail uses (by square feet of enclosed floor area with or without outside storage)						
Less than 2,500 sq. ft	N	N	SP	SPR	SPR	SPP
2,500 – 7,500 sq. ft	N	N	SP	SPR	SPR	SPP
7,500 – 12,500 sq. ft	N	N	N	<u>SPP</u>	N	SPP
12,500 – 50,000 sq. ft	N	N	N	N	N	SPP
Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic installations (1-5 acre	SPP/ SPR	SPP/ SPR	SPP/ SPR	SPR	SPR	SPR
Large-Scale Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic installations (>5acres)	SPP/ SPR	SPP/ SPR	SPP/SP R	SPP/ SPR	SPP/ SPR	SPP/ SPR
Wireless Telecommunication Facilities	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP	SPP
Recreational Marijuana Retail Business	N	N	N	SPP/ SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/ SPR
Marijuana Delivery-Only Retail	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/ SPR
Medical Marijuana Treatment Center	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/ SPR
Recreational Marijuana Social Consumption Establishment	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	N	SPP/ SPR
Theatre	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	N	SPP/S PR



Manufacturing or Research & Development facilities up to 20,000 square feet of enclosed floor area for Solar, Wind, Geothermal, or Biomass renewable energy that meet the Performance Standards of Section 4.7	N	N	N	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	SPR
Manufacturing or Research & Development facilities for Solar, Wind, Geothermal, or Biomass renewable energy that do not meet the Performance Standards of Section 4700 or are greater than 20,000 square feet of enclosed floor area	N	N	N	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	SPP
Marijuana Microbusiness with up to 5,000 square feet of enclosed floor area	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR
Marijuana Cultivation Facilities with up to 50,000 sq. ft. of enclosed floor area	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR
Other Manufacturing, production, assembly, processing or research facility including Marijuana Product Manufacturer, Marijuana Research Facility or Marijuana Independent Testing Laboratory	N	N	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR
Wind or Hydroelectric Generating Facilities	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	SPP
Biomass or Other Electric Generating Facilities	N	N	N	N	N	N
Bulk Storage, Warehousing & Distribution	N	N	N	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	SPP/SPR
Farm stand, seasonal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Commercial non-motorized recreation	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	N	N	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	SPP/SPR
Kennels	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	N	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	N
Veterinarian Clinic	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	N	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR
Nursing home, funeral home	N	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	<u>SPP</u> /SPR	N	SPP/SPR

<b>5. Other Principal Uses.</b>						
Having externally observable attributes similar to a use permitted (Y <u>SPR</u> , or SPP) above	SPP/SP R	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SPR	SPP/SP R	SPP/ SPR
Other Principal Use	N	N	N	N	N	N

5.3. Special Permits. A) Special Permit Granting Authority. Unless specifically designated otherwise, the Board of Appeals Planning Board shall act as the Special Permit Granting Authority.

You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting up certified/attested copies thereof at least 7 (seven) days before the time of holding said meeting at the 5 (five) places within the town listed below:

- Bernardston Town Hall, 38 Church Street
- Bernardston Post Office, 9 Center Street
- Country Corner Store, 44 Church Street
- Bernardston Senior Center, 20 Church Street
- [www.townofbernardston.org](http://www.townofbernardston.org)

Hereof fail not and make due return of this notice with your doing thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of said meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 11th (Eleventh) Day of May in the year (2022) Two Thousand and Twenty-two,

**Franklin, SS.** Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Bernardston by posting up attested copies of this Warrant 7 (seven) days before the date of said election, as within directed at:

Bernardston Town Hall, 38 Church Street;  
 Bernardston Post Office, 9 Center Street;  
 Country Corner Store, 44 Church Street;  
 Bernardston Senior Center, 20 Church Street;  
[www.townofbernardston.org](http://www.townofbernardston.org)

*Robert D. Miller* 5/11/22  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 CONSTABLE Date

*Stanley D. Garland*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Stanley D. Garland

*Brian J. Keir*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Brian J. Keir

*Kenneth R. Bordewieck*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Kenneth R. Bordewieck

SELECTBOARD  
 TOWN OF BERNARDSTON  
 A true copy:

Attest: *Christina Slocum-Wysk*  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOWN CLERK  
 Christina Slocum-Wysk

Annual Town Meeting, May 25, 2022