



TOWN OF SAUGUS

2024 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Essex, ss.

To the Constable of the Town of Saugus
Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Saugus, qualified to vote in Town affairs for the Annual Town Meeting at the Saugus Town Hall located at 298 Central Street on **May 6, 2024 at 7:30 PM** to hear and act on the following articles: viz;

Article 1. To hear and act on reports of Committees.

Article 2. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town charges for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2025. (Town Manager)

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 2 of the 2023 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year, and determine whether the money shall be provided by transfer from available funds; or to see what other action the Town wishes to take in the matter. (Town Manager)

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 6 of the 2023 Annual Town Meeting (Water Enterprise) during the current fiscal year, and determine whether the money shall be provided by transfer from available funds; or to see what other action the Town wishes to take in the matter. (Town Manager)

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 7 of the 2023 Annual Town Meeting (Sewer Enterprise) during the current fiscal year, and determine whether the money shall be provided by transfer from available funds; or to see what other action the Town wishes to take in the matter. (Town Manager)

Article 6. To see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Water Enterprise Fund for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2025. (Town Manager)

Article 7. To see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Sewer Enterprise Fund for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2025. (Town Manager)

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of funding unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. (Town Manager)

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from free cash identified as Opioid Settlement Receipts received in prior fiscal years to be expended in accordance with Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023, Section 9 and M.G.L. c44, s53, Clause 4. (Town Manager)

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote a sum of money from the Supplemental Student Support Reserve Fund for the purpose of supplementing educational programing not supplanting it pursuant to Article 2 of the October 24, 2022 Special Town Meeting whereas voted by Town Meeting. The Saugus Public Schools Supplemental Student Support Reserve Fund Proposal is hereby incorporated by reference. Said funds shall be transferred to a special revenue fund to be expended for the purposes stated in the proposal, in Article 2 referenced above, and in accordance with M.G.L.. (Superintendent of Schools)

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to ratify, approve and confirm the vote adopted under Article 14 of the Warrant of the May 3, 2021 Annual Town Meeting pursuant to which the Town voted to authorize the borrowing of \$2,906,400.00 to pay costs of funding water main projects,

including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; or to take any other action relative thereto. (Town Manager)

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize an amount to be expended from each of the revolving funds listed below and authorized under the Town of Saugus Bylaws as amended April 9, 2018 as Section 405.00 Departmental Revolving Funds for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2025 (Town Manager):

- Saugus Senior Center Programs and Activities
- Saugus Senior Center Lunch Program
- Water System Cross-Connection Program
- Town of Saugus Compost Program
- Youth & Recreation Programs and Activities

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to increase water rates with all receipts to be held within the Water Enterprise Fund to be used exclusively for water expenses, water maintenance, water debt and interest and water improvement programs, or take any other action relating thereto. (Town Manager)

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow a certain amount at 0% interest from the MWRA Local Pipeline Assistance Program for the purpose of designing and constructing improvements to water pipelines or to take any other action relative thereto. (Town Manager)

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for construction and reconstruction of various streets and sidewalks, including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto. (Town Manager)

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of repairing or replacing Town guard rails, including payment of costs incidental or related thereto; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto. (Town Manager)

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the PEG Access Enterprise Fund for the purpose of funding the operating budget of the PEG Access studio/facility in Saugus for the Fiscal Year 2025. Said funds to be distributed under the authority and direction of the Board of Selectmen as they see fit pursuant to the current Cable Television Renewal License Agreement and the current agreement between the Town and its designee a PEG access corporation. (Board of Selectmen)

Article 18. To see if the town will vote to amend the town bylaws by adding the following Section 514A:

514A.00 Board of Health – Solid Waste Facility Environmental Performance Standards

Section 1: Preamble. This section establishes environmental performance standards for solid waste facilities subject to Board of Health enforcement.

Section 2: Purpose. The purpose of this section is to protect the rights of the people of Saugus to clean air and water guaranteed by Article 97 of the Articles of Amendment to the Massachusetts Constitution.

Section 3: Authority. This Section is adopted pursuant to the Home Rule Amendment of the Massachusetts Constitution, Article 89 of the Articles of Amendment, and Massachusetts General Law Chapter 111, Section 31.

Section 4: Solid waste facilities shall not be operated in a manner to cause any dangerous, noxious, injurious or otherwise objectionable hazard; noise or vibration, smoke, dust, odor or other objectionable pollution; glare, conditions conducive to breeding of insects, rodents or other vermin, substances, conditions, or elements to an extent so as to adversely affect nearby neighborhoods. Minimum acceptable standards shall be as follows:

A. Emissions shall be effectively confined within any building, or controlled to prevent any nuisance, hazard, or other disturbance from being perceptible (without the use of instruments) at any lot line of the site location.

B. All use and storage of flammable materials shall be confined and maintained in accordance with the strict provisions set forth by the Chief of the Fire Department acting in accordance with duly established fire prevention regulations, codes and standards.

C. Any emission of visible smoke shall meet the then current color standards of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Division of Air Pollution, and in any event, no emission of smoke shall be greater than 10% opacity.

D. There shall be no emission of ash that can cause damage to the health of humans, animals or vegetation, or that can cause excessive soiling. In no event shall emission of any solid or liquid particles in concentration exceeding 0.2 grams per cubic foot of conveying gas or air be permitted.

E. The maximum permissible sound pressure level at the closest residential lot line shall not exceed more than 10 decibels over background levels at any time, and in no event shall sound pressure levels exceed 69 decibels between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and 61 decibels between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. as measured on a frequency band of 125 cycles per second using a general purpose sound level meter complying with the provisions of the American National Standards Institute, properly calibrated and operated on the "A" weighing network. This regulation shall not apply to:

1. Transient noises of moving vehicles.
2. Noises of safety signals and warning devices.
3. Noises emanating from temporary construction and maintenance activities between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

F. No direct or sky reflected glare whether from flood lights or from high temperature processes shall be permitted when it is determined to be hazardous to human health and welfare or obnoxious. This regulation shall not apply to street lighting or other utilities that are essential for public safety.

G. The Board of Health may require such information, data and testing to be performed and supplied at the owners or developers expense in order to determine the findings of compliance.

Section 5: Violations. Any violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of \$300 per violation. Each day of violation shall constitute a new and separate violation. (Saugus Board of Health)

Article 19. To see if the Saugus Town Meeting will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer available funds in the sum of \$15,000.00 to the Saugus Historical Commission for the purpose of hiring an historic preservation consultant to prepare nominations for placing the Roby School, The Center School (Town Hall Annex), and the Old Town Hall (Procopio-American Legion Building) in Saugus Center and the Cliftondale School (MEG Building) in Cliftondale on the National Register of Historical Places. The Historical Commission will work with the Town Manager to expend these funds to accomplish this purpose (Town Meeting Member Precinct 1, Sue Palomba)

Article 20. To see if the Saugus Town Meeting will vote to appropriate \$200,000 from the General Stabilization Fund for a two (2) year SRO (student resource officer) pilot program. This appropriation will fund salary and benefits for the officer for a finite period of 2 years and no monies shall be appropriated further without Town Meeting approval. (Town Meeting Member Precinct 2, Matt Parlante)

Article 21. To see if Saugus Town Meeting will vote to appropriate \$100,000 from the General Stabilization Fund for eighty (80) two-way radios (walkies) or all three school buildings. (Town Meeting Member Precinct 2, Matt Parlante)

Article 22. To see if Saugus Town Meeting will vote to establish a 11-person Charter Review Committee. The role of the Charter Review Committee is to review the existing Saugus Town Charter and recommend updates or amendments, if applicable, for consideration for the betterment and benefit of the Town of Saugus. This 11-person committee shall include the following:

Ten (10) members of Town Meeting, one from each of the 10 precincts appointed by lottery.
One (1) Selectmen appointed by lottery

The lottery will consist of Town Meeting Members and Selectmen that are interested in serving on the committee.

No committee member shall be employed by the Town of Saugus during their appointment except for Selectmen.

All meetings will be public, and notice will be posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior for each meeting.

This committee does not have a budget and recommendations of the committee are non-binding.

The Charter Review Committee will report back to Town Meeting with an initial report and any recommendations at the 2025 Annual Town Meeting and shall be an ongoing committee that will regularly meet during the year to review the Saugus Charter. Members shall be appointed and reappointed on an annual basis. (Town Meeting Member Precinct 2, Matt Parlante).

Article 23. To see if Saugus Town Meeting will vote to establish a 10-person Community Engagement Committee. The purpose of the committee is to generate more participation of community members in civic matters and increase civic engagement through educational forums and existing Town public events.

This 10-person committee shall include the following:

Ten (10) members of Town Meeting, one from each of the 10 precincts, appointed by the Moderator.

This committee does not have a budget and recommendations of the committee are non-binding.

The Community Engagement Committee will meet bi-monthly and will participate in two (2) public events (ex. table at Founder's Day) and will hold one (1) educational forum prior to the 2025 Annual Town Meeting.

All meetings will be public, and notice will be posted on the Town's website at least 48 hours prior for each meeting. (Town Meeting Member Precinct 2, Matt Parlante).

Article 24. To see if the Saugus Town Meeting will vote to form a Committee to investigate the feasibility of registering and inspecting apartments within the Town of Saugus. Said committee will examine the process used in at least two other nearby communities to register and inspect apartments. Said committee will produce a report by the 2025 Annual Town Meeting that may include a bylaw proposal that would identify procedures, costs associated with a registration/inspection process and recommendations for implementation. Said committee will include three Town Meeting Members, one Selectmen appointed by the Chairperson of the Selectmen and the Manager or his designee. (Town Meeting Member Precinct 10, Peter Manoogian).

Article 25. To see if the Saugus Town Meeting will vote to form an Ash Landfill Closure Committee that will consist of two Selectmen appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, two Town Meeting Members from Precinct 10 appointed by the Town Moderator, and the Town Manager or his designee. The purpose of the committee is to identify timeframes for final closure, post closure maintenance and monitoring, post closure economic re-use possibilities and other related issues that may be identified.

All appointments to me be made within two weeks of the adjournment of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. A representative of WIN Waste will be invited by the Moderator to participate as non-voting member of the committee. (Town Meeting Member Precinct 10, Peter Manoogian).

Article 26. To see if the Saugus Town Meeting will vote to amend Chapter 17 of the Acts of 1947 also known as the Saugus Town Charter to add under Article 2, Section 6 a new paragraph which shall be identified as "Section 6a – Prohibitions" which will read as follows:

"No former member of the Board of Selectmen or School Committee shall hold any compensated appointed office, position, or employment that is directly appointed by the Board of Selectmen or School Committee for which a salary or other employment is payable from the town treasury until eighteen months following the date on which the former member's term of office, as established by this Act, on the Board of Selectmen or School Committee has terminated." (Town Meeting Member Precinct 10, Peter Manoogian).

Article 27. To see if the town will vote to amend the town bylaws by inserting the Rail Trail By-law (shown below) into our Town By-laws under Public Safety, by adding a new section,

601.02 – Rail Trail.

Rail Trail By-law

1. Definitions as used in this section:

1. "Multi-Use Trail" shall mean a paved trail or pathway eight-feet wide or greater specifically created or designed for bicycle and pedestrian travel to the exclusion of autos and motorcycles including the entire length and width of any such trail or pathway as well as landscaped or areas within or adjacent to such trails or pathways.
2. "Electric Bicycle" shall mean Class 1 and Class 2 electric bicycles as defined by M.G.L. c. 90 § 1 with tire widths of five inches or less.
3. "Electric Scooter" shall mean a device that carries a passenger that: has two to four wheels with diameters of 12 inches or less, is no wider than two feet nor longer than six feet, weighs less than 35 pounds, has a maximum speed of 15 miles per hour and an electric motor with 300 watts or less of power.
4. "Moped" shall have the same definition as a "motorized bicycle" under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 90, Section 1.
5. "Motorized Scooter" shall have the same definition as a "motorized scooter" under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 90, Section 1, with exception of an "electric scooter" as defined in this section.
6. "Motorized Uniwheel" shall mean any motorized device with a single wheel.
2. Except as provided in this section, use of multi-use trails shall be limited to pedestrians, including joggers and runners, and devices designed for propulsion solely be muscular power, including bicycle riding, roller skating, in-line skating, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing.
3. No person shall use or operate a motorized vehicle, moped, motorized scooter, or motorized uniwheel or any other vehicle or device capable of motorized operation on a multi-use trail except:
 1. an authorized maintenance vehicle;
 2. an emergency vehicle, including police, fire and emergency medical services;
 3. an electric-powered device no wider than 36 inches designed specifically to provide low-speed indoor and outdoor mobility to a disabled individual;
 4. an electric bicycle; or
 5. an electric scooter.
4. Unless permitted by the Chief of Police, no person shall use multi-use trails for horseback riding.
5. Between dusk and dawn, trail users traveling on bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters shall have both front and rear illumination. No one shall sit, congregate or sleep on or along a multi-use trail between the hours of 9 PM and 7 AM.
6. Use of multi-use trails shall be subject to compliance with M.G.L. c. 85 § 11B and all town ordinances; provided that, subject to compliance with all other ordinances relative to animal control, a user may be accompanied by no more than three dogs.
7. Multi-use trails shall not be used for organized events unless permitted by the Town Manager.
8. No user of a motorized vehicle or device or a vehicle capable of motorized operation shall operate such device at a speed exceeding 15 miles per hour on a multi-use trail, including users of electric bicycles and electric scooters. All users of motorized vehicles or devices or vehicles capable of motorized operation, including electric bicycles and electric scooters, shall yield to non-motorized trail users in all instances. Users operating devices designed for propulsion solely by human-power shall yield to pedestrians, joggers and runners.
9. No person shall solicit, sell, rent, advertise or offer to sell, rent, hawk, peddle, display or distribute any goods, wares, tangible or intangible property, merchandise, liquids or edibles, or services for hire, or render any service for hire, upon multi-use trails, unless licensed by the town upon such terms and conditions as said licensing authority deems appropriate.
10. Violations of this ordinance shall be punished in the manner provided in M.G.L. c. 40 § 21D in accordance with the following schedule of fines: 1st offense \$100.00 2nd/subsequent offense \$250.00

11. In addition to any other penalty provided by law, unauthorized vehicles, whether or not registered under M.G.L. c. 90 or M.G.L. c. 90B may in the discretion of a police officer be towed and stored at the owner's expense. Any motorized vehicle, as defined in G.L. c. 90 s. 1, found in or upon a Town of Saugus Bicycle Path or Rail Trail, or associated areas, unless specifically authorized, shall be subject to towing and storage upon the order and direction of a law enforcement officer in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 266 s. 120D. Any motorized vehicle, or vehicle capable of motorized operation, not so defined by G.L. c. 90 s. 1, shall be subject to removal by a law enforcement officer by towing and storage in a convenient location. Neither the town, nor its chief of police or his designee, shall be liable for any damages incurred during the removal or storage of any such vehicle removed under this section or in accordance with G.L. c. 266 s. 120D.

12. All Rail Trail users shall stop at intersections and obey all regulatory signs and pavement markings. (Debra Panetta)

Article 28. To see if the Saugus Town Meeting will vote to add 10 Harvard Avenue with references:

M: 006-H
B: 0018
L: 0014

Consisting of 12,249 square feet to add to the Waterfront Mixed Use Overlay District known as Section XVIII, of the Saugus Zoning By-Laws. (Michelle Mercado, 10 Harvard Avenue)

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning by-laws of the Town of Saugus by adding the following:

Amend: Article XXI - BUSINESS HIGHWAY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
ZONING DISTRICT
Section 21.10 DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS

By deleting the following first sentence in 21.10 D. Additional Setback Requirements within the BH and BHR subdistricts.

1. A 50 foot setback buffer shall be created from any yard side that abuts an existing residential district zone.

By adding the following new first sentence in 21.10 D. Additional Setback Requirements within the BH and BHR subdistricts.

1. A seventy five (75) foot setback buffer zone shall be created from any yard side that abuts an existing residential district zone. (Michael J. Serino)

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning by-laws of the Town of Saugus by adding the following:

Amend: Article XXI - BUSINESS HIGHWAY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
ZONING DISTRICT
Section 21.10 DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS

By deleting the following section under 21.10 E. HEIGHT

1. As-of- Right = 4 stories with a maximum height of 55 feet.
1a. Structures located less than 25 feet from any buffer zone setback may not exceed 3 stories and 40 feet in height.

By adding the following new section under 21.10 E. HEIGHT

1. Any height over three (3) stories, forty (40) feet will require a Special Permit from the Board of Selectmen (SP2).
1a. Structures located less than twenty five (25) feet from any buffer zone setback may not exceed three (3) stories and forty (40) feet in height. (Michael J. Serino)

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning by-laws of the Town of Saugus by adding the following:

Amend: Article XXI - BUSINESS HIGHWAY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ZONING DISTRICT

Section 21.10 DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS

By deleting the following section under 21.10 E. Height

2. It is permissible to request a Special Permit from the Saugus Board of Selectmen (SP2) to increase the height beyond what is allowed as-of-right within a range not to exceed five (5) stories and a maximum height of sixty (60) feet.

a. Any structure over 55 feet in height allowed by a Special Permit by the Board of Selectmen must be at least 100 feet away from any property line.

By adding the following section under 21.10 E. HEIGHT

2. It is permissible to request a Special Permit from the Saugus Board of Selectmen (SP2) to increase the height over three (3) stories, forty (40) feet within a range not to exceed five (5) stories and a maximum height of sixty (60) feet.

a. Any structure over four (4) stories fifty (50) feet in height, allowed by a Special Permit by the Board of Selectmen (SP2) must be at least 100 feet away from any property line. (Michael J. Serino)

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning by-laws of the Town of Saugus by adding the following:

Amend: Article XXI - BUSINESS HIGHWAY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ZONING DISTRICT

Section 21.10 DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS

By deleting the sentence in 21.10 F. Additional height requirements within the BHR district:

1. Structures or portions of structures within 50 feet of the buffer zone required by Section 21.10 D. 1. shall not exceed a height of 3 stories to a maximum height of 40 feet.

By adding the following new sentence in 21.10 F. Additional height requirements within the BHR district

1. Structures or portions of structures located in a Business Highway Residential (BHR) district shall not exceed a height limit of three (3) stories, forty (40) feet. (Michael J. Serino)

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to amend the zoning by-laws of the Town of Saugus by adding the following:

Amend: Article XXI - BUSINESS HIGHWAY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ZONING DISTRICT

Section 21.10 DIMENSIONAL AND DENSITY REGULATIONS

By deleting the following section under 21.10 H. DENSITY

1. Residential = 20 units per acre maximum

By adding the following new section under 21.10 H. DENSITY

1. Residential = 15 units per acre maximum
(Michael J. Serino)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF SAUGUS

Essex, SS.

To the Constable of the Town of Saugus


Greeting:

You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof at the several voting precincts fourteen days, at least, before the time of holding such a 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 said meeting.

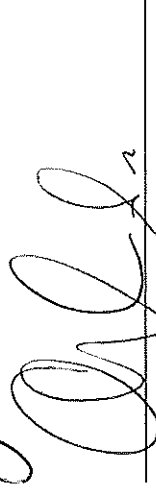
Given under hands and Town seal this 16th day of April 2024.

TOWN OF SAUGUS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Debra C. Panetta, Chairmen


Jeffrey V. Cicolini, Vice Chairmen


Michael J. Serino


Anthony W. Cogliano


Corinne R. Riley

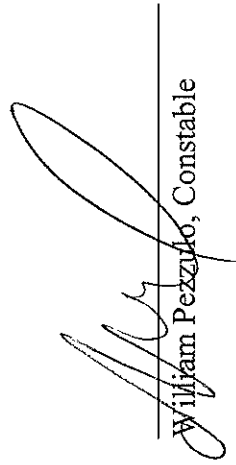
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

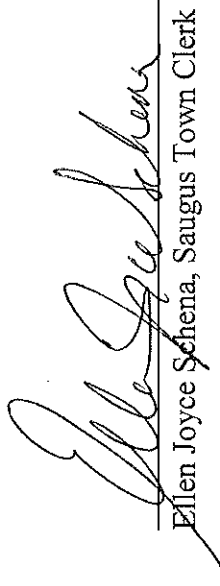
Attestation of Service
By Town Clerk

Essex, ss.

As Town Clerk of the Town of Saugus Massachusetts, I hereby certify that copies of this warrant were committed to the custody of the Town Constable for posting at the several precinct voting locations throughout the Town and that further, copies of the same were sent via first class United States mail, postage prepaid, to the fifty Town Meeting members at their last know residential addresses, and that further copies of said warrant were given by me to the nine members of the Finance Committee, five member of the School Committee, five members of the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager and Town Counsel of the Town of Saugus, Massachusetts at least fourteen days prior to said meeting. Under the pains and penalties of perjury, attest;

Date: April 18 2024


William Pezzullo, Constable


Ellen Joyce Schena, Saugus Town Clerk

