

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

BERKSHIRE, SS.

To One of the Constables of the Town of Lenox:

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Lenox qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet for the annual election at the

**Lenox Town Hall, located at 6 Walker Street, in
said Lenox, on Monday, May 6, 2024
starting at 7:00 o'clock a.m., then and there to act upon the
following Article 14, and also to meet for the Annual Town
Meeting in the
Lenox Memorial Middle High School, located at 197 East Street, in
said Lenox, on Thursday, May 2, 2024
at 7:00 o'clock p.m., then and there to act upon the following
articles, except Article 14, by posting an attested copy of this
Warrant therefor in three public places in the Town not less than
seven days before the 2nd day of May next.**

**The polls for voting on the ballot on Monday, May 6, 2024 will be
open at 7:00am and will be closed at 7:00pm.**

- ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Town will vote to waive the reading of the warrant and return of service thereof and to authorize the moderator, pursuant to MGL Chapter 39, Section 15, to declare a 2/3rds vote on voice votes if he deems it so; or take any other action in relation thereto.
- ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the treasury, money for the operating expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2025 as follows, or any other sum; and, further, to provide for said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$546,145 from Free Cash, so called, as Certified on July 1, 2023; or take any other action in relation thereto.

DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT	FY 24	FY 25
	<u>JULY 1, 2023 - JUNE 30, 2024</u>	<u>JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025</u>
1. Admin. & Finance	350,707	359,854
2. Town Clerk	87,574	93,262
3. Town Treasurer/Collector	154,138	157,407
4. Compensation Reserve	70,000	110,000
5. Operations Support	101,018	109,500
6. Elections & Registration	17,075	18,195
7. Economic Dev/Advertising	128,625	134,060
8. Town Debt & Interest	279,000	246,125
9. Audit, Reserve Account	862,766	913,104
10. Insurance & Bonds, OPEB	831,597	880,186
11. Land Use Department	537,132	533,134
12. Town Buildings	97,761	231,067
General Government Subtotal	3,517,393	3,785,894
13. Police Department	1,483,084	1,614,632
14. Fire Department	738,417	780,371
15. Emergency Management	36,605	38,185
16. Ambulance Squad	599,660	614,518
Public Safety Subtotal	2,857,766	3,047,706
17. Vocational Education	196,220	202,107
Education Subtotal	196,220	202,107
18. Highway Department	776,786	781,566
19. Snow & Ice	257,005	257,005
20. Cemetery	33,097	33,924
Public Works Subtotal	1,066,888	1,072,495
21. Board of Health	220,849	276,287
22. Veterans Services	30,372	30,372
Human Services Subtotal	251,221	306,659
23. Lenox Library	462,216	505,686
24. Community Center	466,361	517,426
25. Cultural Council Grants	5,000	10,000
26. Cultural District	7,500	15,000
27. Academy Building	7,866	8,063
28. Historical Commission	25,950	25,950
29. Celebrations	2,200	2,255
Cultural & Recreation Subtotal	977,093	1,084,380
Totals	\$8,866,581	\$9,499,241

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds in the treasury, or any other sum, for the operating expenses of the Lenox Public Schools for the Fiscal Year 2025 as follows, or any other sum; and, further, to provide for said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$300,000 from Free Cash, so called, as Certified on July 1, 2023; or take any other action in relation thereto.

	<u>FY24</u> <u>JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2024</u>	<u>FY25</u> <u>JULY 1, 2024-JUNE 30, 2025</u>
Lenox Public Schools	\$15,540,921	\$16,855,665

APPROVED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to make the following appropriations, or any other sum, to fund the Fiscal Year 2025 budget for the Sewer Department;

	<u>FY24</u> <u>JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2024</u>	<u>FY25</u> <u>JULY 1, 2024-JUNE 30, 2025</u>
1. Sewer Operations	\$1,007,470	\$1,088,805
2. Debt Service	\$771,687	\$768,687
3. Capital Expenditures	<u>\$220,000</u>	<u>\$220,000</u>
	\$1,999,157	\$2,077,492

And further, to provide for said appropriations from the following sources of revenue and available funds; or take any other action in relation thereto.

User Charges	\$1,881,531	\$1,857,492
Retained Earnings	<u>\$117,626</u>	<u>\$220,000</u>
TOTAL	\$1,999,157	\$2,077,492

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to make the following appropriations, or any other sum, to fund the Fiscal Year 2025 budget for the Water Department;

FY24	FY25
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	<u>JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2024</u>	<u>JULY 1, 2024-JUNE 30, 2025</u>
1. Water Operations	\$739,626	\$780,005
2. Debt Service	\$748,727	\$746,902
3. Capital Expenditures	<u>\$45,900</u>	<u>\$62,000</u>
	\$1,534,253	\$1,588,907

And further, to provide for said appropriations from the following sources of revenue and available funds; or take any other action in relation thereto.

User Charges	\$1,488,353	\$1,526,907
Retained Earnings	<u>\$45,900</u>	<u>\$62,000</u>
TOTAL	\$1,534,253	\$1,588,907

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to accept funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges; or take any other action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide, the sum of \$1,308,000, or any other sum, for the following capital expenditures:

1. Public Works Department Expenditures	\$ 349,000
2. Technology Expenditures	\$ 100,000
3. School Department Expenditures	\$ 400,000
4. Fire Department Expenditures	\$ 25,000
5. Police Department Expenditures	\$ 40,000
6. Land Use	\$ 120,000
7. Community Center Expenditures	\$ 274,000

And further, to provide for said appropriations, to transfer from Free Cash as certified on July 1, 2023, the sum of \$1,308,000; or take any other action in relation thereto.

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide, the sum of \$200,000, or any other sum, to conduct a feasibility study for improvements at Lenox Memorial Middle High School.

And further, to provide for said appropriation, to transfer from Free Cash as certified on July 1, 2023, the sum of \$200,000; or take any other action in relation thereto.

**APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE**

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues in the amounts recommended by the Community Preservation Committee for committee administrative expenses, community preservation projects and other expenses in fiscal year 2025, with each item to be considered a separate appropriation; or take any other action in relation thereto.

**SPONSORED BY COMMUNITY
PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

CPA FY24 Funding Recommendations

CPA Category:	Funding Amount	Funding Source
Historic Preservation		
Ventfort Hall Masonary Work	\$156,685	Historic Preservation Reserve
Homefarm at Undermountain	\$189,750	Historic Preservation Reserve
Church On The Hill Clock/Steeple	\$ 76,000	Historic Preservation Reserve
CPA Category: Community Housing		
Lenox Affordable Housing Trust	\$ 37,000	Community Housing Reserve
Penrose/Brushwood Housing Project	\$500,000	Community Housing Reserve
CPA Category: Open Space		
The Mount Accessible Trails	\$77,000	Open Space Reserve
Administrative Expenses	\$ 16,559	Unrestricted Fund
Total Expenditures	\$1,052,994	
CPA Reserves (10% of Annual Revenues)		
Historic Preservation	\$ 33,118.70	FY24 Annual Revenues
Community Housing	\$ 33,118.70	FY24 Annual Revenues
Open Space & Recreation	\$ 33,118.70	FY24 Annual Revenues

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 to be placed in the Fire Engine Stabilization Account; and, further, to provide for said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$175,000 from Free Cash, so called, as Certified on July 1, 2023; or take any other action in relation thereto.

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in the Ambulance Stabilization Account; and, further, to provide for said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$50,000 from Free Cash, so called, as Certified on July 1, 2023; or take any other action in relation thereto.

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide, the sum of \$250,000, or any other sum, for capital expenditures at the Lenox Library; and, further, to provide for said appropriation, to transfer the following sums and, further, in accordance with M.G.L. c.44, s.20, the unencumbered balance of \$250,000 for design, engineering, repair, and construction at the Lenox Library appropriated and borrowed under Article 12 of the June 29, 2021 Annual Town meeting warrant, which balance is no longer needed to complete the project for which it was initially borrowed; or take any other action in relation thereto.

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide funds to pay a prior year unemployment bill in the amount of \$1,087.54; or take any other action in relation thereto.

APPROVED BY SELECT BOARD
APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 14.

To see if the Town will bring their votes for one or more members of each of the following Town Officers:

- 1 Moderator for one year
- 2 Selectmen for three years
- 1 Board of Health Member for three years
- 1 Assessor for three years
- 3 School Committee Members for three years
- 1 Planning Board Member for five years
- 1 Housing Authority Member for five years
- 1 Housing Authority Member for four years

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk or the Selectmen, at the time and place of said meeting.


Given under our hand the 24th day of April in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Four.

A true copy, ATTEST:


Constable of Lenox.

Signed









Selectmen of Lenox