

# TOWN OF WASHINGTON

Berkshire, S.S.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Washington in the County of Berkshire:

## 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 in the Washington Town Garage at 443 South Washington State Road on May 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

Article 1: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 9A of Chapter 200A of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended by Section 65 of Chapter 188 of the Acts of 2010, which provides an alternate and simplified procedure for disposing of abandoned funds (often referred to as unclaimed checks or “tailings”) held by the Town.

Article 2: To see if the Selectmen shall be an agent for the Town in defense of any suits for, and on behalf of the Town, and to adjust all claims for damage against the Town, and to choose an agent, or pass any vote thereon.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, and to issue a note or notes therefore payable within one year, in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44 of the General Laws, also temporary loans under Provision 6A, Chapter 44 of the General Laws.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to fix the annual salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as provided by Section 108, Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended, all salaries to be effective as of July 1, 2021:

a. Town Clerk -----	\$8,684.00
b. Selectmen - Chairperson-----	\$2,570.00
c. Selectmen - Clerk-----	\$2,570.00
d. Selectmen – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Member-----	\$2,570.00
e. Moderator-----	\$ 75.00

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,469.00 for Elected Officers' salaries.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$187,091.00 for general government accounts to be appropriated as follows:

a. Reserve Account -----	\$20,000.00
b. Town Counsel Yearly Retainer -----	\$ 4,000.00
c. Legal Expenses -----	\$ 5,000.00
d. Administrative Assistant Salary -----	\$17,680.00
e. Selectmen's Expenses -----	\$ 3,000.00
f. Planning Board Expenses -----	\$ 500.00
g. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission-----	\$ 440.00
h. Assessors - Chairperson-----	\$ 4,052.00
i. Assessors - Clerk-----	\$ 3,648.00
j. Assessors' Consulting Services-----	\$13,623.00

k. Appraisal services (504 Public Utility) -----	\$ 2,000.00
l. Assessors' Expenses-----	\$ 2,000.00
m. Assessors' Computer Services -----	\$ 3,715.00
n. Tax Map Maintenance-----	\$ 3,300.00
o. Appointed Treasurer Salary-----	\$16,000.00
p. Treasurer's Expenses -----	\$ 3,200.00
q. Treasurer's Tax Title Expense -----	\$ 2,000.00
r. Interest and Issuance on Short-Term Notes-----	\$ 3,000.00
s. Insurance (Workman's Comp. & general property)----	\$18,000.00
t. Medicare Taxes for Town Employees-----	\$ 4,568.00
u. Auditing Expenses-----	\$ 6,000.00
v. Accounting Officer Salary -----	\$16,240.00
w. Accounting Officer Expenses-----	\$ 250.00
x. Accounting Software (Vadar)-----	\$ 3,575.00
y. Appointed Tax Collector Salary-----	\$15,000.00
z. Assistant Tax Collector's Salary -----	\$ 2,000.00
aa. Tax Collector's Expenses -----	\$ 4,500.00
bb. Tax Collector's Tax Title Expenses -----	\$ 1,000.00
cc. Town Clerk's Expenses -----	\$ 3,000.00
dd. Clerk of Board of Registrars-----	\$ 100.00
ee. Computer Support – Accessible Voting-----	\$ 1,200.00
ff. Records Preservation Account -----	\$ 2,500.00
gg. Town Reports -----	\$ 1,000.00
hh. Finance Committee Expenses -----	\$ 200.00
ii. Moderator's Expenses -----	\$ 50.00
jj. Conservation Commission-----	\$ 300.00
kk. Zoning Enforcement Officer's Expense Account-----	\$ 250.00
ll. Zoning Board of Appeals Expenses-----	\$ 200.00

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4A of Chapter 40 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with other cities, towns, and political subdivisions for the group purchasing of supplies, commodities, and services that the town is authorized by law to purchase, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$800.00 as the town's share of the expenses for the administration of the Berkshire Region Group Purchasing program for Fiscal Year 2022.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$109,001.00 for Capital Costs of the Central Berkshire Regional School District to be appropriated as follows:

a. Becket-Washington School (Debt Exclusion) FY25----	\$29,497.00
b. Wahconah Regional High School – Doors, FY29-----	\$ 3,872.00
c. Kittridge Windows, FY22-----	\$ 376.00
d. Security Updates, FY25-----	\$ 373.00
e. Wahconah Regional High School –Sidewalk, FY22----	\$ 446.00
f. WRHS Building Project (Debt Exclusion), FY47-----	\$74,437.00

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Central Berkshire Regional School District budget for the 2022 fiscal year, as adopted on March 11, 2021, by two thirds vote of the Regional School Committee, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$729,950.00 for the operation of the Central Berkshire Regional School District to be appropriated as follows:

a. Minimum Contribution-----	\$520,140.00
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b. Transportation Assessment-----	\$ 28,971.00
c. Basic Budget Balance-----	\$180,839.00

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,276.00 for Vocational Education Tuition to be appropriated as follows:

a. Vocational Education Tuition-----	\$ 0.00
b. Vocational Education Transportation Operator-----	\$ 0.00
c. Vocational Education Transportation Maintenance-----	\$ 4,400.00
d. Vocational Education Vehicle Insurance-----	\$ 876.00

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 563,834.00 for the Highway Department to be appropriated as follows:

a. Salaries -----	\$144,850.00
b. Winter Road Overtime-----	\$ 13,938.00
c. Non-Winter Overtime-----	\$ 5,808.00
d. Road & Bridge Maintenance-----	\$ 80,000.00
e. Winter Snow & Ice Removal-----	\$105,000.00
f. Engineering Consultation-----	\$ 8,100.00
g. Tree Work-----	\$ 13,200.00
h. Fuel-----	\$ 20,000.00
i. Machinery Repair-----	\$ 25,000.00
j. General Maintenance, Tools & Supplies-----	\$ 35,000.00
k. Highway Department Operating Expenses-----	\$ 18,000.00
l. Highway Equipment Insurance-----	\$ 15,672.00
m. Health, Dental, Life Insurance (town share)-----	\$ 48,000.00
n. Berkshire County Retirement-----	\$ 31,266.00

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$72,978.00 for health and safety accounts to be appropriated as follows:

a. Becket Fire Department – fire protection -----	\$ 15,760.00
b. Becket Firemen’s Association -----	\$ 250.00
c. Police Salary-----	\$ 12,176.00
d. Police Department Expenses -----	\$ 4,434.00
e. Police Department Telecommunication-----	\$ 4,056.00
f. Police Coverage for Pumpkin Walk -----	\$ 0.00
g. Police and Fire Department Insurance-----	\$ 8,200.00
h. Enhanced 911 -----	\$ 10,195.00
i. Animal Control Officer Reimbursements -----	\$ 800.00
j. Animal Control Officer Expenses -----	\$ 250.00
k. Board of Health Expenses -----	\$ 5,250.00
l. Health Agent (Berkshire Public Health Alliance)-----	\$ 4,207.00
m. Public Health Nurse-----	\$ 2,100.00
n. Building Inspector Salary -----	\$ 5,200.00
o. Building Inspector Expenses -----	\$ 100.00

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,893.00 for services to the Washington community to be appropriated as follows:

a. Sons and Daughters Reunion -----	\$ 600.00
b. Historical Commission -----	\$ 400.00

c. Veteran's Aid -----	\$ 7,230.00
d. Veteran's Services Inter-Municipal Agreement-----	\$ 2,250.00
e. Council on Aging -----	\$ 1,500.00
f. Donation to the Becket Athenaeum Operating-----	\$ 9,163.00
g. Donation to the Becket Athenaeum Capital-----	\$ 2,000.00
h. Washington TRACKS -----	\$ 2,250.00
i. Becket Beach-----	\$ 2,500.00
j. Wired West Dues -----	\$ 1,000.00

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,693.00 for operation of the Solid Waste Transfer Station to be appropriated as follows:

a. Operating Expenses-----	\$34,110.00
b. Attendant Labor-----	\$ 9,083.00
c. Facility Maintenance-----	\$ 1,500.00

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 39,190.00 to pay notes and interest due on the following:

a. Culverts, FY33-----	\$28,300.00
b. 5500 Plow & Sander, FY23-----	\$ 7,435.00
c. Last-Mile Fiber Network, FY34 (debt exclusion)-----	\$ 3,455.00

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 31,283.00 for the following buildings, grounds, and equipment accounts:

a. Town Buildings Operating Expenses-----	\$13,000.00
b. Town Hall Repair and Maintenance-----	\$ 5,500.00
c. Custodian Reimbursement-----	\$ 3,713.00
d. Maintenance Coordinator Reimbursement-----	\$ 570.00
e. Town Office Equipment and Support-----	\$ 2,500.00
f. Town Offices Supplies and Services-----	\$ 1,000.00
g. Historical Properties Repairs and Maintenance-----	\$ 1,000.00
h. Stained Glass Restoration – St. Andrew's Chapel-----	\$ 1,500.00
i. Town Park-----	\$ 2,500.00

Article 17: To see if the Town will appropriate from the Stabilization Fund the sum of \$42,780.00 to cover a required principal payment on the Town's Broadband Fiber Network debt. (Two-thirds vote required.)

Article 18: To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$3,715.00 to cover a prior year expense for FY20 incurred under Assessors Computer Expenses for Tyler Technologies software licensing.

Article 19: To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$35,000.00 to replace pins & bushings and perform other needed repair on the Highway Dept. front-end loader.

Article 20: To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$15,000.00 to remove dying ash trees that present a liability along Town roads and public ways.

Article 21: To see if the Town will appropriate from Free Cash the sum of \$8,000.00 to replace the roof on the Town Park gazebo.

Article 22: To see if the Town will transfer the sum of \$30,300.00 from Free Cash into the Stabilization Account. (Two-thirds vote required.)

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to set the limit on the total amount that can be expended from each of the town's established revolving funds, in accordance with General Laws Chapter 44 Section 53E½, as follows:

- a. Electrical Inspector: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,500.00
- b. Gas & Plumbing Inspector: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00
- c. Fire Inspector: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00
- d. St. Andrew's Chapel Rentals and Maintenance: Expenditures not to exceed \$4,000.00
- e. Washington Town Park: Expenditures not to exceed \$6,000.00
- f. Washington Council on Aging Donations: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00
- g. Washington Historical Commission: Expenditures not to exceed \$2,000.00

Article 24: To see if the Town will choose all other Town Officers not required by law to be chosen by ballot: 2 Field Drivers, 2 Fence Viewers, 1 Surveyor of Lumber, 1 Measurer of Wood and Bark, 1 Sexton, and 1 Assistant Sexton. All nominations for the above mentioned officers to be made from the floor.

You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies hereof at each of the usual places for posting attested warrants of such nature seven days at least before the time and place of said meeting.

Hereof fail not to make due return of this warrant with doings thereof to the Town Clerk at the time and place of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this 26th day of April 2021.

_____	Selectmen
_____	of
_____	Washington

I hereby certify that I have served this warrant by posting attested copies hereof at each of the usual places for posting such warrants.

_____	Constable
	A True Copy Attest

jh 04/26/2021