

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Hampshire, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Plainfield,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Plainfield qualified to vote in Town affairs to assemble at the 304 Main Street Pavilion on Saturday, June 20, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. (Rain date June 27, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.), then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

Article 1. To vote by official ballot for all Town Officers, Committees, Trustees, etc., and to fix compensation for the same.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide such amounts of money as are reasonable and necessary to defray the expenses of the town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the broadband enterprise: Salaries/Stipends \$6,000.00, Expenses: \$262,262.00, Extra/Unforeseen: \$15,000.00, Budgeted Surplus: \$23,501.00, and that the amount of \$306,763.00 be raised as follows: \$306,763.00 from Broadband Departmental Receipts, or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board and MLP Manager Supported by the Finance Committee

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to take the amount of \$23,084.00 from Free Cash for the Town's 45% of a Ford F250 4WD truck with light package, or take any action relative thereto. (The total cost of the vehicle is \$51,296.20 with \$28,212.91 provided for with a USDA Grant.)

Inserted by the Police Chief

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote transfer the amount of \$1,500.00 from Free Cash for Town Office Capital Expense, or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board Supported by the Finance Committee

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$505.50 from Library Sales and Fines to the Shaw Memorial Library, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Town Accountant

Article 7. To see if the Town will authorize the Assessors to apply \$110,000.00 from Free Cash to reduce the Fiscal 2020 tax rate, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the amount of \$33,598.00 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Town Accountant Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to amend the BY-LAWS for the TOWN OF PLAINFIELD as follows with amendments and additions in bold:

ARTICLE X * PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Section 1. Winter Parking: There shall be no on-street parking in the Town of Plainfield from November 1 through April 30 inclusive except Church Lane and Union St. The Board of Selectmen may authorize limited parking by special license.

Any such license issued will restrict parking to one side of the street and

disallow any on-street parking between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 5:00 A.M. Vehicles found in violation of this by-law may be towed and stored at the owner's expense by a police officer of the Town. Each such vehicle towed will be logged by the police. Such logs shall include but not be limited to the estimated year, color, make, registration and/or vehicle identification number, the time, date, and place from which the vehicle was towed, and the location to where the vehicle was towed as well as who ordered the tow.

In case of an extreme emergency, the Chief of Police or his designee may allow such vehicle to remain for a period of not more than four (4) hours. In no event shall a vehicle be left upon a way where it may obstruct the passage of emergency vehicles. Nor may such a vehicle be left in a position which otherwise impedes the safe and orderly flow of traffic. **Any person found to be in violation of this section of the by-law would be subject to a \$50 fine.**

Section 1-A. Winter Plowing: No person, other than an employee of the Town highway department acting in furtherance of his or her duties as temporary expediency may require, shall require, shall pile, push, or plow snow or ice onto or across a Town public way or sidewalk so as to impede the flow of traffic on such way or sidewalk or pile, push, or plow snow so as to cause snow and ice to fall upon persons traveling on such ways.

Any person found in violation of this section of the by-law would be subject to a \$50 fine.

Section 2. No Parking Where View is Obstructed or Where Road Width is Restricted: At no time may any operator park or otherwise leave his vehicle unattended in a position where it is obstructed from view by other drivers or otherwise obstructs the view or safe passage of other motorists which must pass it. In no event may a vehicle be parked so as to restrict the width of the travel way and retard the passage of emergency vehicles. Any vehicles found in violation of this section may be ordered towed and stored at the owner's expense by any police officer of the Town. Each such vehicle towed will be logged by the police. Such logs shall include but not be limited to the estimated year, color, make, registration and/or vehicle identification number, the time, date and place from which the vehicle was towed and the location to where the vehicle was towed as well as who ordered the tow. **Any person found to be in violation of this section of the by-law would be subject to a \$50 fine.**

Section 3. Blocking of Private Roads and Driveways: No vehicle shall be parked or otherwise left unattended which blocks a private drive or way so as to prohibit the owner or person who has use of the property from entering or exiting such way. Nor may a vehicle be parked or left unattended which limits or retards the safe access to the property and the passage of emergency vehicles to the involved property(s) from the public way. For the purpose of this section, a vehicle may be ordered removed from a public way or the adjoining shoulder by a police officer of the Town provided that such obstruction is sufficient to deny the aggrieved party access to or from the property or if the vehicle is

found, in the officer's opinion, to obstruct the access of emergency vehicles to the property. Vehicles towed pursuant to this section shall be logged by the police. Such logs shall include but not be limited to the estimated year, color, make, registration, and/or vehicle identification number, the time, date, and place from which the vehicle was towed, and the location to where the vehicle was towed as well as who ordered the tow. **Any person found to be in violation of this section of the by-law would be subject to a \$50 fine.**
(Adopted June 22, 1996)

ARTICLE XVII * PENALTY

Section 1. Whoever violates any of the provisions of these by-laws, unless otherwise specifically provided therein, or otherwise provided by law, shall be punished with a fine of not more than twenty (20) dollars. *(Amended May 2, 2009)*

Revise to " a fine of not more than \$50"
 or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted and recommended by the Select Board and the Police Department

Requires a 2/3 vote

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to amend the BY-LAWS of the TOWN of PLAINFIELD as follows with the additions in bold:

*ARTICLE XXII * FALSE ALARMS*

Section 1. If any residence or place of business has an intrusion alarm which results in a notification to the Plainfield Police Department of an alarm at said residence or place of business, the owner of the property or the tenant in possession, whoever has control of said alarm, shall be subject to a fine of \$50 for the second, and any subsequent, false alarm calls in any calendar year.

Section 2. A False alarm for this by-law is defined as the activation of an alarm by any cause other than the detection of an intrusion or an attempted intrusion.
 or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board and the Police Department

Requires a 2/3 vote

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to amend the BY-LAWS of the PLAINFIELD as follows with the additions in bold:

ARTICLE XXIII * SPEED REGULATION

Section 1. No person operating a motor vehicle on any public or private way within Plainfield shall operate said vehicle at a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and proper, having regard to traffic and the use of the way and regard for the safety of the public.

Section 2. Determination of a motor vehicle's speed to be in excess of a posted speed limit or a reasonable and proper speed on a non-posted way in Plainfield, through the use of radar, laser or other scientifically recognized method of speed instrument, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation under this section.

Section 3. The penalty for the violation of this section is a fine of \$100 (one-hundred dollars).

or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted and recommended by the Select Board and Police Department

Requires a 2/3 vote

Article 12. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to apply, accept, and expend for specific purposes provided by any Federal or State Grants or Programs which may be awarded to the Town.

Inserted by the Select Board

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to accept as available funds any and all monies from the Executive Office of Transportation for Fiscal 2021.

Inserted by the Select Board

Article 14. To see if the Town will choose or create, as appropriate, any other Town Committees, Boards, Commissions, Trustees, Offices, etc., and to fix compensation for the same, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to retain legal counsel for the town, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the Town Hall, Shaw Memorial Library, Hallock Memorial School Building,

Hathaway Hall, Firehouse, Town Garage, Police Station, Public Safety Building, and surrounding areas, in the charge of the Buildings Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Buildings Committee

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care, operation, maintenance, and repair of the Broadband municipal light plant telecommunications system, including buildings or other structures and the land surrounding them and any extensions or expansions of said system or plant, in the charge of the Select Board, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 164 of the Massachusetts General Laws, or take any action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board and the MLP Manager

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the cemeteries in the charge of the Cemetery Committee, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Cemetery Committee

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to leave the care, maintenance and repair of the highways, public ways, including the alteration and widening thereof, railings and bridges in the charge of the Select Board, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Select Board

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Trustees, etc. as printed in the Town Report.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting two attested copies thereof, one at the Town Hall and one at the Town Offices 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 or before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands on this, the _____ day of June in the year Twenty Twenty.

Plainfield Board of Selectmen

Howard Bronstein

Winton Pitcoff

Hilary Weeks

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to within Warrant, to me directed, I have notified the qualified voters of the Town of Plainfield to meet at the time and for the purpose therein mentioned by posting four copies of said Warrant, one at the Town Hall, one at the Post Office, one at the Town Offices and one at the Recycling Station on this _____ day of June 2020.

Constable