

TOWN OF HEATH
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Franklin, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Heath 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 in town affairs, to meet for the purpose of electing officials, by ballot, **the polls will be opened at twelve o'clock in the afternoon and may be closed at seven o'clock in the evening at Jacobs Road Municipal Center, 18 Jacobs Road, Heath, on Friday, the Eighth day of May, 2026.**

TOWN OFFICIALS BALLOT

SELECT BOARD MEMBER	3 YEARS
BOARD OF ASSESSORS MEMBER	3 YEARS
PLANNING BOARD MEMBER	5 YEARS
PLANNING BOARD MEMBER	2 YEARS
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER	3 YEARS
LIBRARY TRUSTEE	3 YEARS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER	2 YEARS
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD MEMBER	3 YEARS
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD MEMBER	3 YEARS
CONSTABLE	3 YEARS
MODERATOR	3 YEARS

And you are further directed to notify and warn the inhabitants qualified to vote in town affairs to meet for the purpose of Annual Town Meeting at the **Jacobs Road Municipal Center, 18 Jacobs Road, Heath, on Saturday, the Ninth day of May next, at nine o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on the following articles:**

Article 1: To hear the reports of the Town Officers and to act thereon.

Article 2: To choose all necessary officers not elected by ballot for the ensuing year.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sum or sums in accordance with the proposed budget to defray the operating expenses of the Town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$995,297.00** for payment of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Operating Assessment, or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,730.00** for payment of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Capital Assessment, which includes the Colrain Central School Capital Assessment, or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,307.93** for payment of the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Capital Expense for the replacement of a fire alarm control panel at the Colrain Central School, or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$175,613.00** for payment of the Franklin County Technical School Operating Assessment, or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,398.27** for payment of the Franklin County Technical School Capital Assessment, or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$30,500.00** from Free Cash for the replacement of the overhead doors in the Fire Station and Highway Garage, including any incidental and related costs and expenses, or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$3,709.00** from Free Cash for the purchase of one set of Firefighting Turnout Gear, including any incidental and related costs and expenses, or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$60,000.00** from Free Cash to the Broadband Note account, or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$7,500.00** from the Assessors Stabilization account for the purchase of upgraded assessment software to meet current industry standards, or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee
Simple Majority Vote Required**

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of **\$145,000.00** from Free Cash to the following accounts and with the designated amounts:

<i>General Stabilization</i>	\$55,000.00
<i>Audit Stabilization</i>	\$10,000.00
<i>IT Stabilization</i>	\$10,000.00
<i>Equipment/Vehicle Stabilization</i>	\$70,000.00

Or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to accept a sum of money under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 90 to be expended for roadway improvements and to authorize the Select Board to enter into a contract with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Transportation for such purposes, or take any action related thereto.

**Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to transfer during FY '26 the sum of **\$794.08** from the Animal Control Revolving Fund for the use of the Heath Free Public Library, or take any action related thereto.

**Submitted by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee**

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws, Section 7, Town Licensing, Fees and Taxation, Subsection 7.3.6, Authorized Revolving Funds, and Subsection 7.3.7, Procedures

and Reports, to read as follows, with strike-through text to be deleted therefrom, and bold underlined text to be inserted therein:

7.3.6 Authorized Revolving Funds (Amended July 11, 2020; May 6, 2023)

REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM OR PURPOSE	DEPARTMENT RECEIPTS TO BE CREDITED TO FUND	REPRESENTATIVE OR BOARD ENTITY AUTHORIZED TO SPEND
<i>Hearings Revolving Fund – Costs associated with hearings</i>	Application Fees for Hearings	Conservation Comm., Planning Board, ZBA, or BOS
<i>Animal Control Revolving Fund – Animal Control Costs and Expenses</i>	Receipts and Fines in connection with animal control	Animal Control Officer, Town Clerk, or Select Board
<i>Board of Health Revolving Fund – Costs associated with inspections and to aid clean-up</i>	BOH inspections and permits	Board of Health or Select Board
<i>Council on Aging Meals Revolving Fund – Costs associated with preparation of senior meals</i>	Receipts from donations, or senior meals	Council on Aging Chair or Select Board
<i>Board of Health Vaccine Program Revolving Fund – Vaccine services, and expenditures</i>	Vaccine services, and expenditures	Board of Health, Town Nurse, or Select Board
<i>Recycling Program Revolving Fund – Operation of Town’s solid waste and recycling programs, membership in and services of FC Solid Waste Mgmt. District</i>	Receipts related to the Town’s recycling program	Select Board
<i>Senior Center Revolving Fund – Costs associated with normal operations of the Senior Center</i>	Receipts received from donations or generated by Senior Center activities	Select Board or Senior Center Coordinator
<i>Jacobs Road Municipal Center-Use Revolving Fund-costs-associated-with building maintenance-and-use</i>	Payments related to school building use	Select Board
<i>Treasurer Tax Taking Revolving Fund costs associated with tax taking</i>	Payments related to tax taking	Treasurer or Select Board
<i>Community Hall-Use-Revolving Fund costs-associated-with-building-use-and maintenance</i>	Payments related to community Hall use	Select Board

7.3.7 Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, §53E½ and this by-law, all applicable state and local laws and regulations that govern the receipt, custody, expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of revolving funds established and authorized by this by-law.

And further, fiscal year spending limits for such funds shall be established annually by vote of Town Meeting.

And, further, to establish the following fiscal year spending limit for such funds: (Amended July 11, 2020; May 6, 2023)

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
<i>Hearings Revolving Fund</i>	\$1,000
<i>Animal Control Revolving Fund</i>	\$2,000
<i>Board of Health Revolving Fund</i>	\$5,000
<i>Council on Aging Meals Revolving Fund</i>	\$10,000
<i>Board of Health Vaccine Program Revolving Fund</i>	\$3,000
<i>Recycling Program Revolving Fund</i>	\$10,000
<i>Senior Center Revolving Fund</i>	\$1,000
<i>Jacobs Road Municipal Center Use Revolving Fund</i>	\$30,000
<i>Treasurer Tax Taking Revolving Fund</i>	\$15,000
<i>Community Hall Use Revolving Fund</i>	\$15,000

Or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44, § 53E½, as most recently amended, to establish FY ‘27 spending limits as set forth below for the revolving funds established in Section 7, subsection 7.3 of the General Bylaw entitled, “Revolving Funds”, with such limits to be applicable from fiscal year to fiscal year until revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 for the ensuing fiscal year:

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
<i>Hearings Revolving Fund</i>	\$ 1,000
<i>Animal Control Revolving Fund</i>	\$ 2,000
<i>Board of Health Revolving Fund</i>	\$ 5,000
<i>Council on Aging Meals Revolving Fund</i>	\$10,000
<i>Board of Health Vaccine Program Revolving Fund</i>	\$ 3,000
<i>Recycling Program Revolving Fund</i>	\$10,000
<i>Senior Center Revolving Fund</i>	\$ 1,000
<i>Jacobs Road Municipal Center Use Revolving Fund</i>	\$30,000
<i>Treasurer Tax Taking Revolving Fund</i>	\$15,000
<i>Community Hall Use Revolving Fund</i>	\$3,000

Or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Recommended by the Finance Committee

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize all Town departments, boards, and committees to apply for any new State or federal grants without prior permission from the Select Board, and to authorize the Select Board to accept such grant awards, provided that no matching funds or other costs are required of the Town, or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Not within the purview of the Finance Committee

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, the fee to and/or permanent and/or temporary easements, for public way purposes, including, without limitation, for the construction, alteration, installation, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of a culvert, rights of way, sidewalks, bridges, drainage, utilities, driveways, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding, construction, landscaping, wetlands replication, and other appurtenances and/or facilities, to enable the Town to undertake the Jacksonville Stage Road Culvert Project and for any and all purposes incidental or related thereto, in, on and under certain parcels of land located on or near Jacksonville Stage Road and approximately shown on a plan entitled “Heath Route 8A (Jacksonville Stage Road) Property Plan,” dated February 3. 2026, on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended and/or incorporated into an easement plan, and land within 200 feet of said parcels; and further, to authorize the Select Board to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes, or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board
Not within the purview of the Finance Committee

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town of Heath Section 1, Conduct of Town Election, Subsection 1.2, Preparation and Posting of the Town Election Warrant, to read as follows, with strike-through text to be deleted therefrom:

1.2 Preparation and Posting of the Town Election Warrant: The warrant for the Annual Town Election and any Special Town Election will be prepared by either the Select Board or the Town Clerk and posted by the Constables at least seven days prior to the election date. Posting of all elections in the Town shall be done at ~~Sawyer Hall~~ and at the Jacobs Road Municipal Center, with posting on the Town website, if possible.

And further, to amend Section 2, Conduct of Town Meetings, Subsection 2.2, Preparation and Posting of the Town Meeting warrant, to read as follows, with strike-through text to be deleted therefrom:

2.2 Preparation and Posting of the Town Meeting warrant:

The warrant for any Town Meeting shall be prepared by the Select Board, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 10. The warrant shall state the date, time and place of the meeting, as well as all of the articles to be considered. The warrant shall be signed by a majority of the members of the Select Board and posted by the Constables at least seven days prior to the date set for the Annual Town Meeting and at least fourteen days prior to the date set for a Special Town Meeting. Posting of all town meetings in the Town shall be done at ~~Sawyer Hall~~ and at the Jacobs Road Municipal Center, with posting on the Town website, if possible.

Or take any action related thereto.

Recommended by the Select Board

Not within the purview of the Finance Committee

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to accept and approve the petitioned article to acknowledge the following declaration:

Resolution in Support of “Act Establishing Medicare for All”

Whereas access to health care has become one of the biggest political issues of the day and is of great concern to ourselves and our neighbors; and
Whereas: Seventy-two countries provide universal publicly funded health care, but the United States does not; and

Whereas: the cost of health care keeps increasing thereby creating a burden and a concern to us all; and
Whereas: the number of people who do not have affordable access to quality health care increases, the health of our communities decreases, and
Whereas: the cost of health insurance increases and the policies include up-front costs of co-pays and deductibles that are a burden for employers and employees.

Whereas: in particular, the money spent by Cities and Towns to cover their employees is a large cost to both the employer and the employees; and
Whereas the Town of Heath would save \$251,276 (FY 2025 costs) per year in insurance costs under the “Act Establishing Medicare for All”, and

Whereas these funds could be better spent by Towns to improve the overall quality of life, and for employees to increase wages and salaries and other benefits; and

Whereas: 98% of households would have reduced healthcare costs under the “Act Establishing Medicare for All”, and

Whereas Massachusetts has been a leader in providing coverage for quality health care for its people; and

Whereas there is an alternative means of providing health care for all that also provides better coverage, without co-pays and deductibles, and includes medical, dental, vision, mental health, long term, and preventative care as provided for in the “Act Establishing Medicare for All”, House Bill – H1405, Senate Bill S860

Therefore be it Resolved:

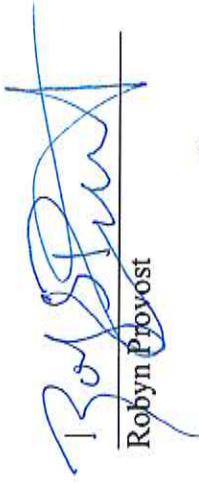
That the Town of Heath endorses the House and Senate Bills, “Act Establishing Medicare for All” (H1405 & S860) and will communicate its support to the State Representative and State Senator.

Article 22: To see if there is any other business for discussion to come before the Town Meeting, or take any action related thereto.

Submitted by the Select Board

And you are directed to serve this Warrant by posting copies thereof at **Sawyer Hall and Jacobs Road Municipal Center Kiosk** in said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting. Hereof fail not, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doing thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid. Given under our hands this day, **14th of April**, in the year of our Lord **Two thousand twenty-six**.

Town of Heath Select Board,


Robyn Provost


Elissa Viarengo

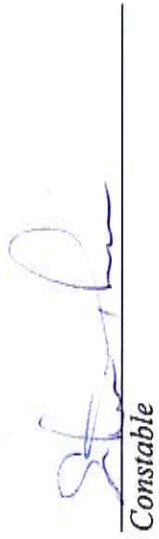

Will Emmet

True copy: *Attest:*


Mary Sumner, Town Clerk

April 17, 2026
(month and day)

Warrant posted by Hand.


Constable

4/17/26, 2026
(month and day)

Franklin, SS.

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the **Town of Heath** by posting up attested copies of the same at **Sawyer Hall and Jacobs Road Municipal Center Kiosk** seven days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.

_____ *Constable of Heath*

_____ Date

Culture and Recreation									
86	Salary Library Personnel	44,645.00	46,043.27	-	1,398.27	-	0.00%		
87	Lib. Trustee Stipends	875.00	475.00	(400.00)			3.13%		
88	Library Operating Expense	11,268.00	12,205.00	937.00			-45.71%		
89	CW Mars Library Annual	1,841.00	1,934.00	93.00			8.32%		
90	Parks & Rec. Comm. Expense	250.00	250.00	-			5.05%		
91	MLP Stipends	2,750.00	1,275.00	(1,475.00)			0.00%		
92	Historical Comm. Expense	250.00	250.00	-			-53.64%		
	Total Culture and Recreation:	61,879.00	62,432.27	563.27			0.89%		
Debt Service									
93	Int. Temp. Loans/Rev. Anti	500.00	500.00	-			0.00%		
94	Broadband	100,000.00	100,000.00	-			0.00%		
95	Broadband Note 1 Interest	45,717.00	31,279.56	(14,437.44)			-31.58%		
96	Truck Note	-	25,000.00	25,000.00			100.00%		
97	Truck Note Interest	-	5,456.25	5,456.25			100.00%		
	Total Debt Service:	146,217.00	162,235.81	16,018.81			10.96%		
Miscellaneous									
98	Fran. Regional Retirement System	95,327.00	95,407.00	80.00			0.08%		
99	Unemployment Compensation	500.00	500.00	-			0.00%		
100	Health Insurance	116,990.00	146,432.00	29,442.00			25.17%		
101	Life Insurance	150.00	150.00	-			0.00%		
102	FICA/Medicare Empl. Match	19,000.00	20,000.00	1,000.00			5.26%		
103	Special Projects Current FY	10,000.00	-	(10,000.00)			-100.00%		
	Total Miscellaneous:	241,967.00	262,489.00	20,522.00			8.48%		
Totals:		1,791,178.00	FY27 Proposed: 1,920,068.08	128,890.08			7.20%		