

TOWN OF OTIS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN ♦ BOARD OF HEALTH
Town Hall, One North Main Road, P.O. Box 237
Otis, Massachusetts 01253-0237
(413) 269-0100 ♦ Facsimile (413) 269-0104



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF OTIS

Berkshire SS:

To Russell Loring, Constable, and Blake Middleton, Moderator, of the Town of Otis 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 Town Affairs to meet in the Otis Town Hall, One North Main Road, in said Town on Tuesday February 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. then and there to act upon the following articles, namely:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Stabilization Fund for the Farmington River Regional School District, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 71, Section 16G1/2, as recently amended, for the purpose of funding capital maintenance expenditures for the Farmington River Regional Elementary School. The Treasurer of the Regional School District shall be the custodian of such fund; or take any other action thereon.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to expend the sum of \$134.14 or any other amount, to pay a FY2017 invoice to the Berkshire Eagle and to take said sum from free cash; or take any other action thereon.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to expend the sum of \$60.77 or any other amount, to pay an FY2017 invoice to Quill and to take said sum from free cash; or take any other action thereon.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$125,419.42 or any other amount, to pay the Fiscal Year 2017 Wind Turbine Bond payment and to take said sum from Fund 32; which is funding that has not been spent from the \$400,000.00 appropriated at the Special Town Meeting on February 27, 2013; or take any other action thereon.

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ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to expend the sum of \$20,000.00 or any other amount, to fund the Fiscal Year 2018 Operations and maintenance costs for the Otis Fiber Broadband MLP account and to take said sum from free cash; or take any other action thereon.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$31,000.00 or any other amount, to pay for the Deductible Health Plan coverage for Fiscal 2018 for Town employees and to take said sum from free cash; or take any other action thereon.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature to enact Legislation as follows, provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary from the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

An Act Relative to the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in the Town of Otis
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled
and by the authority of same as follows:

SECTION 1: Notwithstanding Section 17 of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 138, the local licensing authority of the Town of Otis may grant one additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk off the premises, pursuant to Section 15, Chapter 138, to Papa's Healthy Food and Fuel, East Otis, Massachusetts. The license shall be subject to all of said Chapter 138 except said section 17.

The licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of the license to any other location but it may grant the license to a new applicant at the same location if the applicant files with the licensing authority a letter from the department of revenue and a letter from the department of unemployment assistance indicating the license is in good standing with those departments and that all applicable taxes, fees and contributions have been paid.

If the license granted under this section is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use at the location of original issuance, it shall be returned physically with all legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto to the licensing authority which may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location under the same conditions as specified in this act.

SECTION 2: This act shall take effect upon its passage.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw by amending Section 5.2.2, Section 5.2.4, and Section 5.2.6 and by adding Section 5.2.7 and Section 5.2.8 with the following language:

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5.2 SIGNS

5.2.2 Temporary Signs. Temporary signs which do not comply with this By-Law may be authorized by the Zoning Enforcement Officer for special events. The Zoning Enforcement Officer may, at their discretion, require the posting of a bond or cash deposit large enough to cover the cost of removal of temporary signs if such signs are not removed promptly after termination of the advertised event by the sponsors.

5.2.4 Abandoned Signs. Any sign which has been abandoned or advertises any product which is no longer sold, or any activity which is no longer carried on must be removed within thirty (30) days by the owner of the premises after notice to that effect from the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

5.2.6 Signs Authorized by Special Permit.

The following signs may be displayed with a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals:

1. On property in R-40 Residential devoted to use authorized by Special Permit, one sign not exceeding six (6) square feet in total area.
2. Within the V-1 Village district, each business is permitted two (2) signs not to exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in total combined area. Signs may be freestanding or attached flat against the wall of the building. Freestanding signs may not exceed eighteen (18) square feet.
3. On multiple business use lots there is permitted one (1) directory sign per lot not exceeding twenty-four (24) square feet in area for all business establishments or uses on the lot, and not exceeding twelve (12) square feet for any one business establishment or use on the lot.

5.2.7 Billboards are Prohibited.

5.2.8 Political Signs. The following is the Town of Otis policy on political sign location, size and duration:

1. LOCATION: Political signage shall not be located within a public way layout or on Town-owned property except as follows:
 1. Exceptions on Private Property
Political signage may be placed on private property, along a public way provided that:

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- a. The sign is placed a minimum of ten (10) feet back from the edge of pavement for the public way and any sidewalk, and
 - b. The owners of the subject private property allows placement of the signage, and
 - c. The signage does not impede the travel of pedestrians.
2. Exceptions on Town-Owned Property
- Political signage may be placed on town owned property providing that:
- a. The sign is placed a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) feet away from any polling entrance and shall be removed immediately after the polls close. The sign shall not block vehicular traffic, the progress of pedestrians or existing signs.
 - b. ONE SIGN per candidate is permitted on the grassy island at the intersection of Becket Road and East Otis Road, also known as Route 23, provided that the signs are placed so they do not impede the view of drivers on the adjacent public ways or block existing signs or impede pedestrians.
2. TIME FRAME OF DISPLAY: Political signs may be erected forty-five (45) days prior to the election and are to be removed within two days after the election except as noted above for polling places.
3. SIZE OF SIGNS: Political signs may not exceed three (3) square feet of total area and the top of political signs may not exceed thirty-two (32) inches in height from virgin ground below.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting true and attested copies thereof in three public places as designated by said Town of Otis fourteen days at least before the time of said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place aforesaid. Given under our hands this ___ day of January in the year Two Thousand and Eighteen.

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Respectfully submitted:

The Board of Selectmen

William Hiller, Chair

Donald Hawley

Gary Thomas

**I have this day posted three true attest copies in three designated places in the
Town of Otis.**

Russell Loring, Constable

2 - 6 - 18
Date

RECEIVED BY
TOWN CLERK
OTIS, MASSACHUSETTS
2018 FEB - 6 AM 11: 27