

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Alford
Annual Town Meeting
Fire House
86 North Egremont Road
May 9, 2023
6 pm**

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Alford, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Alford Fire House in said Town on Tuesday May 9, 2023, at 6 P.M., then and there to act on the following Articles:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health to appoint any member of the Board of Selectmen and any member of the Board of Health, respectively, to another office or position for the term provided by law, if any, otherwise for a term not to exceed one year, in accordance with Section 4A of Chapter 41 of the General Laws; or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to accept any and all funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Transportation (Mass DOT), 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 to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to fix the maximum amount that may be spent during fiscal year 2024, beginning on July 1, 2023, for the revolving funds established in the Town's by-laws for certain departments, boards, committees, agencies and officers in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, as follows, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Revolving Fund	Department, Board, Committee, Agency or Officer	FY 2024 Spending Limit
Inspectional Services		
	Fire Inspector	\$10,000
	Sanitation Inspector	\$10,000
	Electrical Inspector	\$10,000
	Plumbing Inspector	\$10,000

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$150,000.00, or any other sum of money, to pay costs of repairs and improvements to Alford Highways, and for payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$ 96,057.00 to the pay the cost of debt service on the 7 Alford Road Property or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$25,000.00 from Retained Earnings of the Alford Link Enterprise Fund to the Alford Link Enterprise Stabilization Fund in accordance with the provisions of Section 5B of Chapter 40 of the General Laws; or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$13,115.00 from Retained Earnings of the Alford Link Enterprise Fund to pay the cost of debt service on the Alford Link Broadband borrowing; or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from receipts of Alford Link the following sums to operate the Alford Link Enterprise fund; or to take any other action relative thereto.

	Alford Link Enterprise Fund	FY 2023	FY 2024
1	ISP Subscription Fees	160,000	160,000
2	Salaries	10,000	10,000
3	Repairs, Maintenance	40,000	40,000
4	Contracted Services	45,000	45,000
5	CAF II Fees	1,500	1,500
6	Poles Fees	10,000	10,000
7	Insurance	25,000	25,000
8	Debt Service	95,000	108,000
9	Capital Replacement/Improvements	20,000	40,000
10	Reserve Fund	20,000	20,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	426,500	459,500

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sums to defray the charges and expenses of the Town as described in the Feature Accounts on these Pages, including the salaries of the Town Officers and Employees for fiscal year 2024; or to take any other action relative thereto.

		<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY</u> <u>2024</u>
1	SBRSD-Operating/Transp.	432,854	456,306
2	SBRSD-Capital	8,360	10,066
3	SBRSD-bond	8,390	10,436
4	Insurance	40,000	40,000
5	Community Health Program	1,000	1,000
6	Mental Health & Addiction Services	177	329
7	Health services	625	625
8	Debt Service	120,500	119,575
9	Veteran's Service	2,026	2,611
10	Berkshire Regional Retirement	54,991	60,178
11	Berkshire Regional Planning	894	894
12	Veteran's Benefits	4,800	14,000
13	Insect Pest Control	1,000	1,000
14	Emergency Reserve	16,000	16,000
15	Town Buildings	70,000	75,000
16	Street Lighting	500	800
17	Sanitation	60,000	72,000
18	Overtime	20,000	20,000
19	Public Works Highway	75,000	75,000
20	Seekonk Marsh Trail Maint	5,000	5,000
21	Rd. Superintendent Salary	68,250	71,663
22	Employee Benefits	106,000	107,060
23	Public Works Employee 2	52,830	55,472
24	Public Works Employee 3	48,250	50,663
25	Public Works Snow & Ice	60,000	60,000
26	Machinery & Maintenance	20,000	25,000
27	Fire Department	15,500	17,000
28	Alford firefighter stipends	18,000	22,000
29	Fire Chief Expense	300	400
30	Police Department	25,000	35,000
31	Emergency MGMT Coordinator	1,000	1,050
32	Board of Health Agent	5,760	6,050
33	Board of Health Expense	1,500	1,500
34	911	9,786	10,080

35	Reverse 911	2,500	2,500
36	Medicare	6,000	6,500
37	Division of Employment	1,000	1,000
38	Eagle Fund	1,000	1,000
39	Grant Writer	2,000	2,000
	TOTAL	1,366,793	1,456,758
		<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
40	Assessor's Expense	22,815	22,500
41	Assessor's Clerk Salary	12,000	12,600
42	Selectmen's Expense	5,000	5,000
43	Admin Assts Salaries	33,530	35,207
44	Accountant's Expense	1,000	1,000
45	Tax Collector's Expense	3,050	3,100
46	Town Clerk's Expense	3,000	3,200
47	Treasurer Expense	2,050	2,100
48	Board of Registration Expense	2,200	2,600
49	Board of Appeals Expense	500	500
50	Planning Board Expense	2,500	4,000
51	Moderator's Expense	50	50
52	SBRSD-Rep Expense	800	800
53	Council on Aging Expense	950	950
54	Building Inspector Expense	2,470	3,470
55	ConCom Agent Salary	4,500	4,725
56	Conservation Commission expense	2,000	2,000
57	Library Services	2,600	2,600
58	Hazardous Waste Center	1,050	1,050
59	Town Counsel Expense	1,500	1,500
60	Town Counsel	15,000	15,000
61	Animal Control Officer Salary	3,000	3,150
62	Animal Control Officer Expense	500	500
63	Finance Committee	150	150
64	Tree Warden Salary	3,500	3,675
65	Tree Warden's Expense	15,000	15,000
66	Historic Commission	8,050	8,050
67	Southern Berkshire Ambulance		27,276
68	IT Maintenance	27,000	30,000
69	Senior services	5,000	5,000

	TOTAL	180,765	216,753
		<u>FY2023</u>	<u>FY2024</u>
	TOWN OFFICER'S SALARY		
70	Assessor, Chairman	3,100	3,255
71	Assessor	3,100	3,255
72	Assessor	3,100	3,255
73	Animal Inspector	2,000	2,100
74	Building Inspector Salary	15,816	16,607
75	Alternate Building Insp.	500	525
76	Constable	250	250
77	Librarian Salary	815	855
78	Moderator's Salary	200	210
79	Clerk of Registrars Salary	300	400
80	Selectmen. Chairman	4,400	4,620
81	Selectmen	2,450	2,575
82	Selectmen	2,450	2,575
83	Accountant's Salary	12,000	12,600
84	Tax Collector/Treasurer	24,000	25,200
85	Town Clerk	12,000	14,000
86	Asst. Town Clerk	1,600	1,680
87	Police Chief	3,645	3,825
	TOTAL	91,726	97,787
	TOTALS	1,639,284	1,771,298

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$20,000.00 to pay for survey and design services for ADA accessibility at the Town Buildings; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote:

- (i) to accept as a public way a certain portion of the roadway known as West Road, which portion is shown generally on a plan entitled "Plan of Proposed Town Highway Layout of a Portion of West Road in Alford, Massachusetts," prepared by CHA Consulting, Inc., and dated April 14, 2022, and shown more specifically as the "2022 Town Layout" on a plan entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of West Road over Scribner Brook, Bridge No. A-06-004, in the Town of Alford, Berkshire County, Preliminary Right of Way Plans," also prepared by CHA Consulting, Inc., comprised of eight (8)

total Sheets, originally dated July 14, 2021, and revised through December 23, 2022, which plans are on file with the Town Clerk; and

- (ii) to authorize the Select Board to acquire by gift, purchase and/or eminent domain (a) the fee to and/or easements in said portion of West Road and any appurtenant construction, utility, drainage and/or other temporary and/or permanent easements related thereto, including but not limited to interest(s) in portions(s) of adjoining properties known as and numbered 295, 300, 301, 307 and 311 West Road, to be used for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Alford or for other associated municipal purposes, and (b) the fee to and/or easements, temporary and/or permanent, in the aforementioned West Road and adjoining properties as may be necessary in connection with the West Road over Scribner Brook bridge replacement project, expressly including the easements identified as "TE-1," "TE-2" and "PUE-2" on the latter of the plans referenced above, to be used for the purposes of bridge construction and maintenance, clearing, relocation of utilities and associated purposes; all of said acquisitions having been determined to be necessary for the health, safety and/or welfare of the inhabitants of Alford;

or to take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12.To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash a sum of money to pay for appraisal services and for the acquisition(s) referenced in said Article 11 for West Road and/or the West Road over Scribner Brook bridge replacement project; or to take any other action relative thereto.

And you are required to serve this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Clerk of said Town on or before the time of said Meeting.

POSTED: _____ **DATE:** _____

Constable

SELECTMEN TOWN OF ALFORD

Charles F. Ketchen, Chairman

Peter Puciloski

Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson