

**GROUP 1**

**Westport Town Records 1787-1831**

Westport.  
Book of  
Record. No. 1.

---

Town Incorporated  
July 1787.



1787

In Compliance with a Warrant. Issued from Benjamin Russel Esq: Directing William Almy to Notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Westport to meet Together at some Suitable place in said Town. to Choose all such Town Officers as Towns are Required to Choose at their Annual Town meetings in the Month of March or April Annually; and a Committee to Settle with the Towns of Dartmouth & New Bedford. Agreeable to a Late Act of the General Court. for Incorporating said Town of Westport.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport. who were Qualified by Law to Vote. Being Legally Notified and Warned, by the said William Almy. — Assembled at the Dwelling House of William Gifford in said Westport on Monday the Twentieth day of August. 1787. at ten of the Clock A. M.

And Proceeded agreeable to the Directions of said Warrant.

1. William Almy was Chosen Moderator of said Meeting.  
2. Abner Bronnall was Chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and was duly Sworn (by William Davis Justice of the Peace) to authorize him to officiate in said Office.

3. William Almy, Richard Kirby, and Edward Warden were Chosen Select Men for the year ensuing, and took and Subscribed the Oath of Allegiance to authorize them to officiate in said Office Before me Abner Bronnall Town Clerk.

4. Richard Kirby was Chosen an Assessor for the year ensuing and was duly Sworn to authorize him to officiate in said office Before me Abner Bronnall Town Clerk.

5. Thomas Tripp, Stephen Cornell, and Pardon Bronnall were Chosen Town Viewers for the year ensuing.

And



And were duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

6. Abner Brownell was Chosen Town Treasurer for the year ensuing. and was duly Sworn, to authorize him to officiate in said office. By William Davis Justice of the Peace.

7. Stephen Davis Carpenter & Maryann Devoe were Chosen Surveyors of Lumber for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

8. Thomas Tripp and Stephen Cornell were Chosen Field Drivers for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

9. Nathaniel Kirby was Chosen Pound keeper for the year ensuing.

And was duly Engaged to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

10. Benjamin Brownell, Senr was Chosen Sealer of Weight & Measures for the year ensuing.

And was duly Engaged to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

11. Benjamin Cory was Chosen Sealer of Leather for the year ensuing.

And was duly Sworn to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

12. Abner Brownell was Chosen Warden for the year ensuing.

And Sept 15th was duly sworn to authorize him to officiate in said office. By William Davis Justice of the Peace.

13. Galet Earl and Edward Boomer were Chosen Tithing men for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

14. Stephen Davis Carpenter & Maryann Devoe were Chosen Measurers of Wood for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

15. George Tripp 2nd & William Almy were Chosen Hog Measurers for the year ensuing.

And said George Tripp was duly Engaged to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

16. Benjamin Davis Inkeeper, Israel Wrightman, Jonathan Davis, Warton Case, Jonathan Taber Capt. Silvanus White, George Lawton, Job Almy, Parson Brownell, Samuel Willcox, Peleg Cornell Junr and Samuel Milk were Chosen Surveyors of Highways for the year ensuing.

And were all duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

17. It was Voted to have three Men Chosen for a Committee to settle with Dartmouth and New Bedford, agreeable to the act of Incorporation of said Town of Westport.

18. Stephen Peckham, Wesson Kirby & William Davis Esq. were Chosen a Committee to settle with Dartmouth and New Bedford. Agreeable to the act of the General Court for Incorporating said Town of Westport.

19. Lastly it was Voted for this Meeting to be Adjourned to Thursday Sept 20. 1787. at one of the Clock P. M. to be held in at the Dwelling House of Joseph Gifford, Inn keeper.



In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from two of the Select men of this Town. Requiring William Almy to Notify and Warn the Inhabitants of said Town of Westport, to meet together at the Dwelling House of Joseph Gifford Junr keeper on Thursday Sept 20. 1787 at ten of the Clock A.M. to act on the following Particulars.

1. To Agree upon and Vote what Sum of Money to Raise by way of Tax for Support of the Poor and other Necessary Expenses of said Town for the Present year.
2. For the Town to agree upon and Vote what method to take to get the Taxes collected in for the future.
3. To Receive Returns of Highways that is laid out or altered by the Select men of said Town and to approve or not of the same.
4. To conclude by Vote in what method the poor of said Town shall be supported in.
5. To Regulate the Jury Tax.
6. To Consider and conclude in what method Speedily to refund the Expenses, and make demands to the Agents for their Services respecting the Incorporation of this Town.
7. To appoint and enable some person to provide Necessary Books of Record for the Town Clerk.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport, who are Qualified by Law to Vote, being Legally Notified and Warned by the said William Almy. Assembled at the Dwelling House of Joseph Gifford Junr keeper on Thursday Sept 20. 1787 at ten of the Clock A.M. And proceeded agreeable to the Directions of said Warrant.

1. William Almy was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting
2. It was Voted for fifty Pounds L.M. to be raised by way of Tax for the Support of the Poor & other Necessary Expenses that may accrue in this Town.
3. Voted to have the Constables or Collectors Chosen by Agreement & hire.

3. Voted for the Poor to be Supported at the Discretion of the Select men of this Town.

4. Voted that the Jury Tax be in the method it is made, and as their Names are Entered in it.

5. Voted that Abner Brownell be allowed and paid by the Town Treasurer, his Account of Nine Pounds twelve Shillings & six pence for Services & Expenses, as Agent respecting the Incorporation of this Town.

6. Voted that William Davis Esq. be appointed to procure Books Necessary for the Town Clerk, and to be paid his Account there for by the Town Treasurer.

Nextly Agreeable to an Adjournment of the Meeting of the 20th of August Last past, that was Adjourned to this day at this House at one of the Clock P.M.

They proceeded in the remaining part of the Business as was Directed in that Warrant, viz, for Choosing Town officers

1. Benjamin Brownell Sen: & Matthew Boomer were Chosen Assessors for the year ensuing.

And was duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk.

2. John Gifford was Chosen Warden for the year ensuing.

And Sept 27. Inst. was duly Engaged to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk.

3. Benjamin Cory, Welson Tripp, and John Gifford were Chosen Constables and Collectors for the year ensuing. And to have three per Cent. for what they Collect as they Agreed.

And Benjamin Cory was duly sworn to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk.

And Sept 27. Welson Tripp & John Gifford above mentioned were duly Engaged to authorize them to officiate in said office.

Before me -- Abner Brownell Town Clerk.



4. Caleb Gifford was Chosen Scaler of Leather for the year ensuing.

And was duly Engaged to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me. Abner Brownell Town Clerk.

5. Edward Woomer was Chosen a Surveyor of Highways the year ensuing.

And was duly engaged to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me. Abner Brownell Town Clerk.

6. Jonathan Taber Junr. was Chosen holder of Horses & Slaves for the year ensuing.

And was duly engaged to authorize him to officiate in said office. Before me. Abner Brownell Town Clerk.

In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select men of the Town of Westport. Requiring any or either of the Constables of said Town, to Notify and warn the Inhabitants of said Town to meet at the Dwelling house of Joseph Gifford In keeper on Saturday. Sept. 27. 1787 at two of the Clock P.M.

To act on the following Particular. viz.

That whereas the Committee Chosen in this Town, agreeable to the act of the General Court for the purpose of making a Settlement with the Towns of Dartmouth & New Bedford, did by appointment meet the Committee from the aforesaid Towns for the purpose aforesaid, But not being able to accomplish said Settlement, the aforesaid Committees did agree to Submit the matters in Consideration to George Leonard Esq. of Norton, Samuel Sales Esq. of Taunton & M<sup>r</sup>. Ambrose Burnaby of Free town for their Determination & Settlement agreeable to the Acts for

For Incorporating said Towns of New Bedford and Westport.

Therefore for this Town to Consider upon and Vote whether they will agree to the above Proposition or not: If the other Towns Pass a Vote to the like Purpose: or otherwise to act as they shall think Proper Relative thereto.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport, who are Qualified by Law to Vote, being Legally Notified and warned by Benjamin Long Constable of said Town. Assembled on Saturday Sept. 27. 1787 at the Dwelling House of Joseph Gifford In keeper at two of the Clock P.M. And proceeded agreeable to the Direction of said Warrant.

1. William Army was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting.
  2. It was Voted that the Settlement Between Dartmouth, New Bedford and this Town, be Referred to George Leonard Esq. of Norton, Samuel Sales Esq. of Taunton & M<sup>r</sup>. Ambrose Burnaby of Free town for their Determination and Settlement according as they should understand the Acts of Incorporation of said Towns of New Bedford and this Town, as was proposed by the Committees of the aforesaid Towns, and this Town to abide by their award & Determination.
- If the other Towns pass a Vote to the like purpose.

Also Voted that the Committee of this Town be authorized if in case those or either of them that have been appointed Referees could not attend said Business, that the Committee of this Town should appoint others in their Room.

Further it was Voted that if the Committee of this Town do pay the said Referees this Towns proportion of what they shall charge for their attendance and Service in said Business of Settling that the Select men of this Town shall give the Committee an Order upon the Town Treasurer to Refund the Same.

Lastly it was Voted that this meeting be adjourned to October 6. 1787. at two of the Clock P.M. to meet at the same place. On October 6. 1787. the adjournment of said meeting was attended, But nothing then appears Necessary agreeable to said Warrant to further act upon, the meeting was Dissolved.



In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select men of the Town of Westport. Requiring any or either of the Constables of said Town to Notify and warn the Inhabitants thereof to meet at the Dwelling House of William Gifford in said Town, on Thursday Nov<sup>r</sup> 22, 1787, at ten of the Clock A. M. for the Purpose of Choosing a Delegate.

Agreeable to a late Resolve of the General Court, to Represent this Town in the Convention to be holden at the State House in Boston the Second Wednesday of January next, 1788 for the Purpose of Assenting to, and Ratifying the Constitution of the United States, as proposed by the Federal Convention lately assembled at Philadelphia.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport, who are Qualified by Law to Vote for Representatives, being, Legally, Notified and Warned by Benjamin Cory one of the Constables of this Town.

Assembled on Thursday, Nov<sup>r</sup> 22, 1787, at the Dwelling House of said William Gifford at ten of the Clock A. M.

And proceeded agreeable to the Direction of said Warrant:

1. Job Mins was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting
2. William Mins was Chosen a Delegate to Represent this Town in Convention at the State House in Boston on the Second Wednesday of January Next 1788, for the Purpose aforesaid.

In Compliance with a Venire facias Issued from the Clerk of the Sessions for the County of Bristol viz, Samuel Sales Clk. Requiring any or either of the Constables of the Town of Westport to Notify and Warn the Inhabitants of said Town to meet for the Purpose of Choosing one Man for Grand Jurors for this Town to attend the Courts in this County for the year ensuing or until another be Chosen in his room. Also to Draft one man for the Petit Jury for the Court of Common Pleas to be holden at Taunton the Second Tuesday of March Next, 1788.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport, who are Qualified by Law to Vote, being Legally Notified and Warned to meet on Monday Feb<sup>r</sup> 25, 1788 at the Dwelling house of Joseph Gifford Inkeeper at one of the Clock P. M. By Nelson Trigg one of the Constables of this Town.

Assembled on said day & place, and proceeded agreeable to the Direction of said Writ.

1. Nelson Soble was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting for the purpose of the Choice of a Grand Juror.
2. William Mins was Chosen Grand Juror for the year ensuing
3. Samuel Brownell was Drawn out of the Jury Box for Petit Juror for the Court of Common Pleas to be holden at Taunton the Second Tuesday of March Next 1788.

Agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth. Requiring the Select Men of each Town in the Several Counties to call a Meeting of the Inhabitants thereof, Annually on the first Monday of April, for the Purpose of Voting for Governor Lieutenant Governor & Counsellors & Senators.

The Select Men of the Town of Westport did in March 1788 Notify and Warn the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of said Town being twenty one years of age and upwards, having a freehold Estate within this Commonwealth, of the Annual income of three

Pounds, or any Estate of the Value of Sixty Pounds; to meet at the Dwelling house of Joseph Gifford at the Bridge in said Town on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1788 at ten of the Clock A. M. to Vote for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and three Counsellors and Senators, for the Year ensuing Agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

In Compliance with the aforesaid Notification & Warrant



The Inhabitants of Said Town of Westport. Assembled on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> of April <sup>1788</sup> at ten of the Clock forenoon at the Dwelling house of Joseph Gifford Inn keeper and proceeded agreeable to the afore said Notification

And the following Gentlemen were Voted for. (viz)

His Excellency John Hancock Esquire, for Governour  
for the year Ensuing, had Votes ————— 75

Hon: Samuel Adams for Lieutenant Governour  
had Vots ————— 36

Gen: Benjamin Lincoln for Lieutenant Governour  
had Vots ————— 30

Hon: Walter Spooner for Senator had Votes ——— 61

Hon: Thomas Dursu for Senator had Votes ——— 62

Hon: Elisha May for Senator had Votes ——— 61

Gen: David Cobb for Senator had Vote ————— 1

In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select Men of the Town of Westport. Requiring any or either of the Constables of Said Town to Notify and Warn the Inhabitants thereof to meet at the Dwelling house of Joseph Gifford Inn keeper in Said Town on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1788 at Eleven of the Clock A.M. then and there to act on the following Particulars.

1. To Chuse all Such — Officers as Towns are Required to Chuse at their Annual Meetings in the Months of March or April
2. To Receive Returns of high Ways that is laid out or altered by the Select Men. and Conclude by Vote whether they shall go on Record or not.
- 3 To Receive Accounts that shall be brought against the Town & to allow them, or not.



4, To Conclude by Vote what Sum of money to Raise by way of Tax for the Support of the Poor and other Necessary Expenses of the Said Town for the year ensuing.

5, To Conclude in what Method the poor shall be supported.

6, To act on a Request of a Number of the Inhabitants of Said Town to know the Towns Mind respecting Regulating the fishery in the Rivers, and at the Harbour in the Said Town.

And in Petitioning the General Court to enable the Town to carry the Regulations into Execution, or other ways to act as they shall think proper.

7, To act and do as they shall think proper respecting the Towns Landings and other of the Towns property.

8, To know the Towns mind respecting the Town School, and to act as they shall think proper upon it.

9, To know the Towns mind respecting building a Townhouse and where to Set it, and further to act upon it as they shall think proper.

10, To Conclude in what method to get the highways mended.

The Inhabitants of Said Town of Westport who are Qualified by Law to Vote for the Choice of Town Officers being Legally Notified & warned by Benjamin Cory one of the Constables of Said Town.

Assembled on Monday April 7, 1788 at 11 O. Clock A.M. And proceeded agreeable to the Directions in Said Warrant.

1, William Almy was Chosen Moderator for Said meeting.

2, Abner Brownell was Chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing.

And was duly Sworn to Authorize him to Officiate in Said Office, by the Moderator, there being no Justice of the Peace present.

3, Abner Brownell was Chosen Town Treasurer for the year ensuing.



4. William Davis Esq. Thomas Tripp & Wesson Tripp were Chosen Select Men for the year ensuing.

5. Christopher Cornell, Thomas Tripp, & Abner Macomber were Chosen Assessors for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in Said Office before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

6. Jonathan Taber Junr., Israel Brightman, Jonathan Davis, William Gifford Junr., Jonathan Taber Capt. Jeremiah Water, Nathan Tripp, Stephen Crocker, Abel Davis Junr., John Gifford, Job Almy, Peter Richmond, Peleg Cornell Junr., Lemuel Miller, and Ebenezer Baker, were Chosen Surveyors of High Ways for the year ensuing.

And were all duly Sworn or Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in Said Office (excepting Job Almy) Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

7. Thomas Tripp, Stephen Cornell and Pardon Brownell were Chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

8. Stephen Davis Carpenter, and Barjonas Devel were Chosen Surveyors of Lumber for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in Said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

9. Job Davis and William Kirby were Chosen Field drivers for the year ensuing.

And were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in Said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

10. Nathaniel Kirby was Chosen Pound keeper for the year ensuing. And was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in Said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

11. Benjamin Brownell Senr. was Chosen Sealer of Weights and Measures for the year ensuing.

And was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in Said Office before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

12. Benjamin Cory was Chosen Sealer of Leather for the year ensuing. Also Preserved Sherman was Chosen Sealer of Leather for the year ensuing. And were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in Said Office before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

13. Esch Taber and Samuel Bailey were Chosen Wardens for the year ensuing.

And were duly Sworn to authorize them to Officiate in Said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

14. The Article was taken up Respecting the Building of a Town House. And a Vote was called whether the Town would Build a Town House or not. and it passed in the Affirmative. Nextly it was Motioned to Choose a Committee to look and Enquire for the Best accommodations for a place to set it. and to make Report thereof to the next Town Meeting.

Also a Vote was call'd how many the Committee should consist of, and it was Voted to have three upon the Committee.

And William Almy, Wesson Kirby, & Edward Borden, were Nominated to be of the Committee, and they were Chosen, and were to make Report of their doings to the next town meeting.

15. The Article was taken up Respecting the Regulating of the Fishery and a Vote was called whether the Town would Tolerate the Inhabitants thereof to proceed in the method of Seining fish, or not. & it passed in the Affirmative.

Lastly the Meeting was adjourned to the Second Monday of May next following, to meet at the same house at ten of the Clock A.M.

And the same day William Davis Esq. took & subscribed the Oath of Allegiance Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

April 1788 Thomas Tripp took and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance. Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk



Agreeable to an Adjournment of the Meeting of the 7<sup>th</sup> of April last past that was adjourned to this day & house (viz) to the 2<sup>d</sup> Monday of May 1788 at 10 O'clock A.M. at the House of Joseph Gifford

The Inhabitants of Said Town of Westport Assembled & proceeded in the Remaining part of the Business as directed in that Warrant. (William Almy being Moderator of Said Meeting.)

1. A Vote was called for County Treasurers & after Collecting and Counting it appeared that George Godfrey had Votes — 36 —
2. Abraham Cornell & Ephraim Boomer were Chosen Tithingmen for the year Ensuing

Stephen Davis Carpenter & Marjamas Devol were Chosen Measurers of Wood for the year Ensuing. And at the same time Stephen Davis was duly Engaged to Authorize him to Officiate in Said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk,

- 4 William Almy & George Lawton were Chosen Hay Reeves for the year ensuing & at the same time were duly engaged to authorize them to Officiate in Said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk
- 5 Benjamin Cary & John Gifford were Chosen Constables & Collectors for the year ensuing or until others be Chosen in their room & to have four per Cent. for what they collect & pay into the Treasurers And at the same time were duly engaged to authorize them to Officiate in Said Offices By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk
- & Benjamin Cary is to collect all the Taxes in the first & Second District & John Gifford in the Third District in this Town

6. Voted that the Returns or alterations of Highways made by the Select Men of this Town Dated October 25. 1787 & May 9. 1788. Be Recorded in this Towns Book for that purpose.

7 Voted to allow these Accounts brought against this Town (viz) To M<sup>r</sup> Moses Potter for keeping Job Potter from the 2<sup>d</sup> of July 1787 to May 16. 1788 forty five Weeks & four days at 5/6 p<sup>r</sup> Week twelve pounds ten Shillings & 7<sup>d</sup>. To Susa Dick for keeping Hannah Simon (a Black Woman) from July 2. 1787 to November 1. 1787 Seventeen Weeks & an half at 3/4 p<sup>r</sup> Week & from November 1. 1787 to January 14. 1788 ten Weeks & two days at 6/8 p<sup>r</sup> Week Total five Pounds fourteen Shillings & six pence.

To Abiel Macomber for keeping Ann Worgan when Sick from Jan 28. 1788 four weeks (viz) one week is 12/ next a 9/ 12 at 5/ 4 p<sup>r</sup> at 2/ Total £1. 8. 0

To Edward Borden for some Provision for the use of Ann Worgan £

To William Almy for Funeral Cloaths for Hannah Simon Jan. 1788 (viz) to 1 Sheet 7/6 one Shift 6/ one Cap 1/ one Handkerchief 1/6 to Cash paid Saml Sales Esq. for a Warrant &c 1/ Total 17/

To Levy Sherman for a Coffin for Hannah Simon 8/ The Sum total of the above Paid Acks. is £ 21. 14. 1

8. Voted that the Town Clerk Certify upon the Acc<sup>t</sup>s allowed by the Town when the allowance thereof is & Record the Same: And that the Town Treasurer be directed to Issue to such Possessors of Acc<sup>t</sup>s allowed as shall apply for the Same, a Certificate or Certificates in Lieu of Such acc<sup>t</sup>s which Certificates Shall be Received in payment by the Town Treasurer for any Town Tax not all paid in at the time of the date of the Certificate, equal to the Same Sum in Gold and Silver.

9 A further proceeding upon the Article Respecting the Building of a Town house, and it was motioned that the Committee which was Chosen for the Purpose of Enquiring for the Best accommodations for a place to Erect the Town house Should be call'd upon to make a Report. The Committee being call'd upon Reported that at Stephen Hibbs Northwest Corner of his Land adjoining the Road was the Best place.



And the town to Receive of Said Stephen Kirby four Rods of Land each way, that is, sixteen Square Rods upon the Condition of his being Exempted from paying his proportion of the Expence of Building said Town house

10. Voted that the Town house be Erected at the place above mentioned and on the said Condition with Stephen Kirby.

11. Motioned that a Committee be Chosen for the purpose of Building said house, & George Sawton, Wesson Kirby, & William Hicks were Chosen

11. Voted that the Committee be Impowered to Conduct as they think, Proper in preparing Materials for said house & in the Method and Order of Erecting of it, having Regard to the Manner of doing of it, so that the Inhabitants of said Town, in things they Receive of them, may be as justly proportioned according to the Circumstances of the Town, and Appriz'd by the said Committee in as near an Equality as they can come at it.

Also Voted that the Committee be Impowered if in case the aforesaid Quantity of Land should not be enough for the use of said Town for the purpose of a Town house Lot (in their Opinion) that they purchase as much more as will be sufficient.

12. Voted that the Sum of Sixty Pounds be raised by way of Tax for the Support of the Poor & other Necessary Expences of the said Town for the year ensuing.

13. Voted that the Poor be Supported at the Discretion of the Select Men for the year ensuing.

14. Voted that the Select Men be directed to Refurvey and open all the Town Landings which shall appear Necessary.

15. Voted that the Landing Refurveyed by the Select Men of this Town Dated May 10. 1788. And their Return of the same be allowed and Recorded in this Towns Book for that purpose.

16. the further proceeding upon the Article Respecting Regulating the fishery in this Town was taken up, and Motioned that a Committee be Chosen to Consider and Report at this Meeting what is the Best Method for Limiting & Regulating the Seining of Fish in the Rivers.

17. Abraham Cornell, Pardon Brownell, Benjamin Davis, Wesson Kirby and Jeremiah Wait were Chosen a Committee for the purpose of Limiting & Regulating the Seining of fish.

And after they had attended to the Business they Reported as their Opinion, that the Seining of Fish should be under these Limitations viz, that no Person or Persons whatsoever should draw a Seine at any time of the year in any Place in the Rivers of Westport, Below the South end of the Island called Lakes Island striking a line of an East and West Course Across the Town from & by the South end of D. Lakes Island; and that in the Months of October and November there should be no Seine drawn any where in either of the Rivers in said Town.

18. A Vote was Called whether the Town would accept of the Report of the said Committee, or not. And it passed unanimously in the Affirmative.

19. It was Voted that the Town Clerk be directed to prepare a Petition Respecting the Limiting and Regulating the fishery in this Town setting forth the Votes & proceedings of the Town upon the same and to Present it to the General Court to be considered at Boston the last Wednesday of this Inst. May, to be sent & presented to the said Court, by our Representative when Chosen who is hereby authorized to Receive and Carry the same & use his Influence when at the said Court, that the said Petition should be Answered.

20. Lastly It was Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to the Last Monday of June next to meet at the same house two O'Clock P.M.

Agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth.

The Inhabitants of the town of Westport being Equally Notified by the Select men of said Town to meet at Capt. Giffords on the Second Monday of May 1788. at 2 O'Clock P.M.

Assembled on said day & proceeded agreeable to said Notification And after Collecting & Counting the Votes for a Representative it appeared that William Davis Esq. was Chosen for the year ensuing.



Agreeable to an adjournment of the Meeting of the Second Monday of May last past: that was adjourn'd to Monday June 30. 1788. <sup>morning</sup> at the Dwelling House of said Joseph Gifford at 2 O'clock P.M.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport. Assembled on Monday June 30. 1788 and proceeded in the Remaining part of the Business of that Meeting (William Almy being Moderator of said Meeting)

1. Jonathan Tripp was Chosen Select Man for the 3<sup>d</sup> District in this Town (in the Lieu of Wesson Tripp who Declined Serving.)

And at the same time took and Subscribed the Oath of Allegiance Before me — Abner Brownell Town Clerk

2. Jonathan Tripp was Chosen Apspos, (in the Lieu of Abner Almonder who Declined Serving) and at the same time was duly engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office Before me Abner Brownell T. Clerk

3. Christopher Cornell & Benjamin Cory took and Subscribed the Oath of Allegiance before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

4. Voted to allow the Apspos their fees for the year 1787 (viz)

To Richard Turby one Pound fourteen Shillings L 1: 14.

To Matthew Woomer one Pound two Shillings L 1: 12

To Benjamin Brownell (deat) one Pound one Shilling L 1: 1 Total L 4: 7

5. Voted to allow Samuel Manchester Nine Shillings for making a gate for the Pound. L 0: 9: 0

To Samuel Baley four Shillings for making a Jury Box 0: 4: 0

6 Voted that the Select Men be directed to provide Schools agreeable to the Last Law for that Purpose.

In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select

Men of the Town of Westport Dated July 26. 1788 Requiring any or Either of the Constables of said Town to Notify and warn the Inhabitants thereof Qualified by Law to Vote in Town Meetings to meet at the Dwelling House of William Gifford in said Town on Saturday August 2. 1788 at One O'clock P.M. then and there to Act on the following Particulars

1. To take into Consideration the Expediency of Reconsidering the former Vote of said Town, Respecting the place for Building a Town house, and if that proper by said Town to agree upon a more suitable place for the above said purpose; or otherwise for the Town to act and do what shall be the most Proper Respecting said Building.

2. for said Town to act & do what shall be the most proper. Respecting a Settlement with Dartmouth & New Bedford.

3. To Chose Town Officers in the Room of such who have neglected Qualifying themselves as Required by Law

The Inhabitants of said Town who are Qualified by Law to Vote being Legally Notified and Warn'd by Benjamin Cory Constable of said Town,

Assembled on Saturday August 2. 1788 at the Dwelling house of William Gifford at one O'clock P.M. and proceeded agreeable to the Direction of said Warrant.

1. Thomas Tripp was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting.

2. The Matter Respecting a place for Building a Town house was taken up, and a Vote was call'd whether the Town would Reconsider a former Vote (which was for Erecting said house at the Northwest corner of Stephen Rixby's Land) or not, and it pass'd in the Affirmative.

3 a Vote was call'd whether said house should be Erected at Stephen Rixby's Southwest corner of his Land, or at the Northwest corner of William Gifford's Land, and it pass'd to have it Erected at William Gifford's —



4 Voted that the Committee first Chosen for Building Said House viz. Capt William Hicks, Wesson Kirby, & George Lawton be further Impowered to proceed therein agreeable to the Last Vote for Said house & according to the former Instructions.

5 Voted that the Committee first Chosen to settle with Dartmouth and New Bedford according to the Incorporation Act of this Town viz. Stephen Peckham, Wesson Kirby and William Davis Esq. be further Impowered to proceed as they shall think best for the Interest of this Town in accommodating a Settlement.

6 Voted that John Gifford be Excused from being Constable for the upper District in this Town for the year 1788.

In Compliance with a Venire facias Issued from the Clerk of the Sessions for the County of Bristol viz. Samuel Fails Clerk

The Inhabitants of the Town of Westport being Legally V. lified and Warned by Benjamin Cory Constable. Appeared on Saturday Aug. 2. 1788 and Nathan Tripp was Drawn out of the Jury Box for 1st Juror for the Court of Common Pleas to be holden at Trenton the Second Tuesday of September next 1788.



In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select Men of the Town of Westport Dated August 19, 1788. Requiring any or either of the Constables of Said Town, to Notify & warn the Inhabitants thereof Qualified by Law to Vote in Town Meetings, to meet at the House of Wesson Kirby in Said Town on Saturday the Sixth day of Sept. 1788, at One O'clock P. M. then and there to act on the Particulars hereafter mentioned.

1. If thought proper, to Reconsider a former Vote of Said Town for Building a Town house on the Northwest corner of William Giffords Land.
2. for Said Town at Said Meeting further to act and do what shall be thought most proper Respecting the Building Said house.

The Inhabitants of Said Town being Legally Notified & warned by Benjamin Cory Constable. — Assembled on Saturday one O'clock P. M. at Said Wesson Kirby Sept. 6, 1788, and proceeded agreeable to Said Warrant.

1. William Mory was Chosen Moderator of Said Meeting.
2. A Vote was Call'd whether the Town would Reconsider the former Vote pass'd for Building a Town house at the Northwest corner of William Giffords Land, or not. & it pass'd in the Negative not to Reconsider it. 53 Voting for & 3 against Reconsidering of it.
3. Voted that the Committee for Building Said Town house viz. Capt. William Hicks, Wesson Kirby & George Lawton, be further Instructed to proceed in Building Said house, so far as to Enclose it Convenient, & Sufficient for holding the next Annual Town Meeting in March or April, 1789 if Possible.



In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select men of the Town of Westport Dated September 30, 1788. Requiring the Constable of said Town to Notify & Warn the Inhabitants of said Town Qualified by Law to Vote in Town Meetings to meet at the Dwelling house of Wesson Kirby on Monday the 13th Oct. 1788 at one O'clock P.M. there to act on the Particulars hereafter Mentioned.

1. To Reconsider the former Vote of said Town for Building a Town house on the North West Corner of William Giffords Land & Conclude by the same Vote to Build it on the South East Corner of Ichabod Potters Farm.
2. To Conclude by Vote What shall be thought Proper Relative to those Persons that have signed themselves Over to Dartmouth. The Inhabitants of said Town being Legally Notified & Warned by Benjamin Cory Constable. Assembled on Monday Oct. 15, 1788 at One O'clock P.M. and proceeded Agreeable to said Warrant.
  1. William Davis Esq. Was Chosen Moderator for said meeting.
  2. Voted for the Town to purchase two Rods Each way of Land of Ichabod Potter in the South East Corner of his home Farm & give him six Dollars for the same.
  3. Voted to Reconsider the former Vote of said Town for Building a Town house at the North West Corner of William Giffords & to Build it at said South East Corner of Ichabod Potters Land.
  4. Voted that the Committee Chosen for Building said house be Directed to Build it at this Place agreeable to the former Instructions.
  5. Voted that the Town Negative acting upon the second Article of this Warrant. at Present.
  6. Voted that Benjamin Cory be Empowered to Collect all Taxes Due in No. 3. District of this Town for the year 1788.

Pursuant to a Resolve of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. of Nov. 20. 1788.

Requiring the Selectmen of the Several Towns to call Town meetings in due course of Law, on the 18th of Dec. 1788, for the Purpose of Voting for Representatives to the Congress of the United States; Also for Candidates for Electors of President & Vice President of the United States.

Agreeable to the above said, the Select men of the Town of Westport. Notified and warned all their Male persons therein being Twenty one years old & upwards being Qualified according to Law to Vote for State Representatives to meet at the Dwelling house of Joseph Gifford in said Town on Thursday Dec. 18, 1788. to give in their Votes for a Representative to the Congress of the United States for the District of the Counties of Bristol, Dukes County & Nantucket. And to give in their Votes for two persons as Candidates for Electors for the District aforesaid of President & Vice President of the United States.

3. to Chuse a Collector of Taxes for the third District of said Town of Westport to Collect the State Tax No. 6. & Town Tax for the year 1788. The Inhabitants of said Town being thus Notified & Warned. Assembled on Thursday Dec. 18, 1788 at the Dwelling house of Joseph Gifford and gave in their Votes for a Representative to the Congress of the United States after Collecting and Counting it appeared that George Leonard Esq. of Boston had Votes thirty eight. 38. And Secondly after Collecting and Counting the Votes for two persons as Candidates for Electors of President & Vice President it appeared that Hon. Wm. Walter Jernier had Votes twenty nine 29 and Hon. Elisha May had Votes thirty one 31.
3. for the Chuse of Collector, Thomas Frypp was Chosen Moderator.
4. Voted that John Gifford be Re-chosen Constable & Collector for the third District of this Town for State Tax No. 6. & Town Tax 1788 & to have four p. Cent for what he Collects & pays into the Treasury And at the same time was duly Engaged to authorize him to officiate in said Office, also to bear true faith & Allegiance to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Before me Attest Brownell Town Clerk



In Compliance with a Venue facias Issued from the Clerk of the Sessions for the County of Bristol viz. Saml. Tates Clerk. Requiring any or either of the Constables of the Town of Westport to Notify & warn the Inhabitants of said Town to meet for the Purpose of Choosing one Man for Grand Juror for the year ensuing & also to Draught one man for the Petit Juror for the Court of Common Pleas to be holden at Taunton the Second Tuesday of March 1789.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport being Legally Notified & warned to meet on Saturday Feb. 21. 1789 at the Dwelling house of Thomas Gifford in said Town. By John Gifford Constable in said Town.

Assembled on said day & place & proceeded agreeable to the Direction in said writ.

1. Abner Brownell was Chosen Moderator for said meeting for the Purpose of Choosing a Grand Juror
2. Nelson Soule was Chosen Grand Juror for the year ensuing
3. Peleg Cornelius was Drawn out of the Jury Vase for Petit Juror for March Court at Taunton 1789.

In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select Men of the Town of Westport Dated March 21. 1789

Requiring either of the Constables of said Town to Notify the Inhabitants thereof Qualified by Law to Vote in Town Meetings to meet at the Town House in said Town on Monday the Sixth day of April 1789 at 10 O. Clock A.M. then and there to act on the Particulars hereafter mentioned.

1. To Chuse Town Officers as by Law Required.
2. To Conclude by Vote What Sum of money Shall be thought proper for the Support of the poor & other Necessary Charges arising within said Town.
3. To Receive Petitions of Highways Laid out or altered & approve or Disapprove of the Same as Shall be thought proper. & if approved that the Same may be Recorded
4. To approve or Disapprove of all Demands that may be Brought against said Town for allowance & Payment.
5. To Conclude by Vote in what way & manner the Highways within said Town Shall be Repaired for the year ensuing.
6. To Act & do what Shall be thought proper Respecting the hiring a Town Schoolmaster
7. To take into Consideration the Report of the Towns Committee Respecting the Settlement with Dartmouth & New Bedford: that the Same be Recorded if the Town thinks Proper

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport upon due warning given by John Gifford one of the Constables of said Town.

Met together on Monday April 6. 1789 10 O. Clock A.M.

& proceeded Agreeable to the Direction of said Warrant

1. William Mory was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting.
2. Abner Brownell was Chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing & at the Same time was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By William Davis Justice Peace



3. Voted to have three Select Men for the year ensuing  
 4. William Davis Esq: Thomas Tripp & Jonathan Tripp were Chosen Select men for the year ensuing.  
 5. Voted to have three Assessors for the year ensuing.  
 6. Christopher Cornell, Thomas Tripp & Job Mink were Chosen Assessors for the year ensuing.  
 And at the same time were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 7. Abner Brownell was Chosen Town Treasurers for the year ensuing and upon the conditions of the pt. Cont.

8. Voted to have four fencible Viewers for the year ensuing  
 9. Pardon Brownell, Wepson Sowles, Wepson Kirby & Thomas Tripp were Chosen fencible Viewers for the year ensuing  
 And at the same time were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 10. Stephen Davis Carpenter & Barjonas Devol were Chosen Surveyors of Lumber for the year ensuing  
 And at the same time Stephen Davis was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 April 20. Barjonas Devol was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 11. Job Davis & William Kirby were Chosen Field Drivers for the year ensuing, and at the same time were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 12. Nathaniel Kirby was Chosen Pound keeper for the year ensuing, And at the same time was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

13. Benjamin Brownell Senr was Chosen Scales of Weights and Measures for the year ensuing, & at the same time was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 14. Benjamin Cory & Preserved Sherman were Chosen Scales of Leather for the year ensuing & at the same time were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 15. Ichabod Brownell & John Earl were Chosen Wardens for the year ensuing, And at the same time were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 16. Abiel Macomber 2d & Ebenezer Baker were Chosen Tythingmen for the year ensuing, April 13. Abiel Macomber 2d was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 17. Stephen Davis Carpenter & Barjonas Devol were Chosen measures of Wood, and at the same time Stephen Davis was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 April 20 Barjonas Devol was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 18. Joseph Cloppen, William Macomber Son of Timothy, Capt. Job Almy, Capt. Sylvester Brownell & Stephen Davis Capt were Chosen Hog Reeves for the year ensuing.  
 And at the same time all of them except Joseph Cloppen were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 19. Nicholas Underwood, Levy Sherman, Jonathan Taber Senr, Nathaniel Potter Cooper, Isaac Sowles, Job Almy, Abraham Cornell, Samuel Mink, Abner Potter, Joshua Devol, Stephen Crocker, Benjamin Devol Senr of Reuben, Abiel Macomber Senr



Abiel Davis Junr & Ebenezer Baker were Chosen Surveyors of Highways for the year ensuing. & at the same time, Nicholas Underwood, Levy Sherman, Job Mny, Joshua Devel & Stephen Crocker were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk.

April 8, Abner Potter was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk,

Voted to allow the following Accounts viz to Stokes Potter for board ing Job Potter from May 18<sup>th</sup> 87 to July 2<sup>nd</sup> 88 weeks 8, 5 days 2, 56 \$1.16 1/2  
To Wesson Soule L<sup>y</sup> to the Town of Dartmouth yrs Ballance Due \$1.1.10 To William Mny L<sup>y</sup> 12.0.

To Sufa Dick L<sup>y</sup> 3.12.0, to William Mny for bad Taxes L<sup>y</sup> 2.8.13

To Robert Earl for bad Taxes L<sup>y</sup> 10.1.3 1/2

To London Richmond L<sup>y</sup> 3.0 Total of the above L<sup>y</sup> 20.15.2 1/2

20. Sylvester Brownell George Brownell Cooper, Richard Kirby Joseph Gifford, Samuel Soule, Barnea Devel, Job Mny, Samuel Wilcox & John Kirby were Chosen a Committee to see that the Act for Regulating & limiting the catching of Fish in the Rivers & Streams in the Town of Westport be duly Observed & at the same time all of them excepting Samuel Soule were duly Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

May 4. Samuel Soule was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in said Office Before me Abner Brownell Town Clerk

21. Voted to Receive & Allow the Report of the Committee heretofore Chosen to Settle with the Towns of Dartmouth & New Bedford & that the Settlement which they have made be Ratified by this Town & that the same be Recorded in this Book viz,

" We the Committees of New Bedford, Dartmouth and Westport, Legally Chosen by the Inhabitants, at Legal Town Meeting in each Town for the purpose of settling, and adjusting the accounts of Dartmouth that were before the Incorporation of the Towns of New Bedford, and Westport, and also for settling the Public Lands, Workhouse in Bedford, & Town house in Dartmouth, and all other Public Property that each Town have an Interest in: agreeable to the Acts for Incorporating said Towns of New Bedford & Westport.

Therefore we the said Committees, of the afore said Towns of New Bedford, Dartmouth & Westport, mutually agree that the Settlement as adjusted in the Accounts this day for each Town, and Signed by us the Subscribers, the Committees afore said, are approved, & Accepted to be a final Settlement, Between the afore said Towns, so far as the Accounts therein Settled: Also Securing to the Inhabitants of the Towns of New Bedford, the Workhouse and Lot in Bedford, for the Consideration of Twenty five Pounds being the Value of said house and Lot, as appraised by us, and placed to the Credit of the Town Accounts; and also Securing to the Inhabitants of the Town of Dartmouth the Town house and Lot, being in the Town of Dartmouth for the Consideration of the sum of twenty Six Pounds being the Value of said Town house & Lot as appraised by us and placed to the Credit of the Town accounts:

We the said Committees, further agree, that all Public Lands, & Towns Landings, that were formerly the property of the Town of  
Dart



Dartmouth shall be considered, (that all the afore said Lands and Landings, that are lying and being in either of the afore said Towns of New Bedford, Dartmouth or Westport) to be the property of the Inhabitants of either of the afore said Towns wherein any of the afore said Lands, or Landings may be.

Agreed that the following persons are settled and considered as the poor of each Town, at the time of Incorporating New Bedford and Westport. Viz, New Bedford's poor Elisabeth Black, Widow Washburn, Widow Read & three Children, Henry Wrightington, Rhoda Hathaway & Child, Widow Norton, and three Children, John Bennet, Seth Taber's Child, & Mary Greenway. ——— Dartmouth's, viz, Mary Caswell, Thankful Demoranvel, Elisabeth Cornell, Hannah Cornell, Rachel Caspar, Sarah Moses.

Westports poor, Job Potter, Anna Worger, Anner Merriheis, Ruth Earl & Hannah Simon.

Also agreed that no Remittances shall be allowed to the heads of any Clashes for bad Taxes, or for time and expences for Clashing of men, nor no Accounts shall be allowed to any person for Services done as Committees of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, agreeing that each Town shall take the Settlement of it to themselves. Also agreed that each Town settle with the Collectors of their own Town, Respecting the Consolidations of the Taxes. Remitted to them if any Difficulty should arise Respecting the Rates of Consolidation; Also settled and agreed that each town shall bear the Burthen of the failure of their old Collector if any there be.

In Testimony Whereof we the Committees afore said, viz, William Tallman, and Abraham Smith for and in the name, and on Behalf of the said Town of ~~(Dartmouth)~~ New Bedford.

And Henry Smith and John Smith for and in the Name, and on Behalf of the said town of Dartmouth.

And



And William Davis, and Wesson Kirby for and in the Name, and  
 on Behalf of the Town of Westport, have to these presents Interchangeably  
 Set their hands and seals: Done at Dartmouth in the County of Bristol  
 and Commonwealth of Massachusetts this Nineteenth day of February in  
 the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty Nine,  
 and in the thirtieth year of American Independance,  
 Signed Sealed and Delivered }  
 in the presents of us -

David Smith

Resolved Howland

William Tallman O  
 Abraham Smith O  
 Henry Smith O  
 John Smith O  
 William Davis O  
 Wesson Kirby O

22 Nicholas Underwood Levy Sherman, Jonathan Taber Junr  
 Job Amy Abner Potter Joshua Devel Stephen Crocker Abiel  
 Davis Junr were Chosen Surveyors of highways for the year ensuing  
 and at the same time were all duly Engaged (excepting A. Potter)  
 to authorize them to Officiate in said Office prime Attestment 18th  
 April 8. 1789 Abner Potter was duly engaged to authorize him to  
 Officiate in said Office By me Abner Brownell Town Clerk  
 23. Voted that this meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> May  
 of may to meet at the Town house at 10 O. Clock of said Day.



1789

April 6. Agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth  
Requiring the Select men of each Town in the several Counties  
to call a Meeting of the Inhabitants thereof, Annually on the first  
Monday of April, for the purpose of Voting for Governor, Lieut  
enant Governor and Counsellors and Senators.

In Pursuance of which the Select Men of the Town of  
Westport, did on March 21<sup>st</sup> 1789, Notify and Warn the Freehold-  
ers and other Inhabitants of said Town being twenty one years of  
age and upwards having a Freehold Estate within this Common-  
wealth of the annual income of three Pounds or any Estate of the  
Value of Sixty Pounds, to meet at the Town house in said Westport  
on Monday April 6. 1789 at 10 o'clock A.M.

to Vote for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, & three Counsellors  
and Senators, for the year ensuing, agreeable to the Constitution  
of this Commonwealth.

In Compliance with the afore said Notification & Warrant  
the Inhabitants of said Town of Westport, Assembled on Monday  
the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 1789 ten o'clock A.M. at the Town house  
and proceeded agreeable to the afore said Notification & Warrant.

And the following Gentlemen were Voted for, viz.  
His Excellency John Hancock Esq. for Governor  
had Votes Sixty four - 64

His Honor Benjamin Lincoln for Lieutenant  
Governor had Votes twenty. 20

Honorable Samuel Adams had Votes forty five. 45  
for Lieutenant Governor -

Hon: Walter Spooner for Senator had Votes forty 40

Hon: Elisha May for D<sup>o</sup> - forty Eight 48

Hon: Thomas Purfe D<sup>o</sup> - forty Nine 49

26.

Ebenezer Tisdale for Senator had Votes four - 4  
Phanuel Bishop D<sup>o</sup> - 1  
Holder Hlocum D<sup>o</sup> - 4

1789

May 18. Agreeable to an adjournment of the Meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> of  
April last past, that was adjourned to the second Wednesday of  
May 1789 at ten o'clock A.M. at the Town house.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport, Assembled & proceeded  
in the Remaining part of the Business as directed in the Warrant.  
(William Murray being Moderator of said Meeting)

1. Voted that the Surveyors be directed to proceed in the mending  
& Repairing highways as they think best.

2. A Vote was called for County Treasurers, & after collecting  
& counting the Votes it appeared that George Sawyer Esq. had 29

3. Voted to allow the following account to be paid to the said  
Town of Westport, for Materials & Labor in building the Town house  
To George Sawton for 162 feet of timber at 42<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p<sup>r</sup> thousand 67<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
for 2 Squares of glass at 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> each 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, for 191 feet of pitch pine boards at 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
p<sup>r</sup> thousand 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, for 9 Days Service and Attendance in Building the  
Town house at 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p<sup>r</sup> day 1.7 - total 12.18.1

To Welson Kirby for 287 feet of timber at 42<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p<sup>r</sup> thousand 121<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, for 82  
Days Service and Attendance in Building the Town house at 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
p<sup>r</sup> day 1.5.6 total 1.17.6

To William Hicks for 266 feet of timber at 42<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p<sup>r</sup> thousand 112<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
for 8 day Service & attendance in building the town house at 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> p<sup>r</sup> day 1.4  
total 1.13.2



To William Kirby for 133 feet of timber at 42/p<sup>r</sup> thousand 5/7  
 To George Sison for 93 feet of timber 3/10  
 To Samuel Milk for 45 feet of plank at 42/p<sup>r</sup> thousand 2/1 for 251 feet of  
 White pine Boards at 45/p<sup>r</sup> thousand 11/3 Total 13/4  
 To Stephen Pechham for 101 feet of plank at 42/p<sup>r</sup> thousand 4/9  
 To Wesson Maumbers for 200 feet of plank 9/6  
 To Wesson Tripp for 130 feet of plank 6/2  
 To Samuel Manchester for 200 feet of plank 9/6  
 To John Gifford for 106 feet of plank 5/1  
 To Nathaniel Soule for 42 feet of plank 2/1  
 To William White for 363 feet of timber 15/8 251 feet of plank 11/3  
 Total Sub. 10 To Joseph Cloper for 170 feet of timber 7/1  
 To Stephen Davis for 377 feet of timber at 15/10  
 To Justice Kirby for 228 feet of timber 9/6 136 of plank 5/1 total 14/7  
 To Stephen Cornell for 212 feet of timber 8/10  
 To Nathaniel Potter for 182 feet of timber 7/7  
 To Robert Sherman for 136 feet of timber 5/8  
 To Benjamin Brownell for Boards L 1:2/3  
 To Stephen Potter for Boards 10/1  
 To Silvanus White for 366 feet of Boards 12/1  
 To Jeremiah Hale for 259 feet pine Boards 11/3  
 To Ebenezer Baker for 405 feet pine Boards 14/6  
 To John Tibbits for 234 feet of pine Boards 8/5  
 To Humphrey Howland to Shingles 12/1  
 To John Howland for Shingles 16/6  
 To Job Milk for 250 Shingles 6/1  
 To Philip Sison for 480 Shingles 11/6  
 To Abel Macomber for 482 Shingles 11/6  
 To Peter Macomber for 250 Shingles 6/1  
 To Jonathan Pechham for 519 Shingles 11/6  
 To Daniel Pettis & Joshua for 494 Shingles 11/1

To John Davis for Shingles 465 10/1  
 To Edmund Mosher for 275 Shingles 5/6  
 To John Mosher for 2 1/2 days work at 4/p<sup>r</sup> day 10/1  
 To Levy Sherman for 2 days work at 4/1 8/1  
 To Thomas Hicks 1 1/2 day at 4/1 6/1  
 To Joseph Gifford for 1 days work 4/1  
 To Abraham Cornell for 1 days work 4/1  
 To Daniel Allen for 1 day work 4/1  
 To Humphrey Allen for 1 days work 4/1  
 To Thomas Tripp for 2 days work 2/1 & widening a deed 1/1 total 3/1  
 To Eek Taber for 75 feet of fir for Window sashes 4/1  
 To John Tripp for making Window frames 3/1  
 To Benjamin Davis for Window sashes 7/1  
 To Abner Brownell for one Window sash 5/1  
 To Nathan Davis for 3 Window sashes 15/1  
 To Warren Devoe for 18 Square of glass at 3/1 4/6  
 To William Davis Esq. for 4 thousand Shingle Nails at 2/6 to other  
 Nails 1/1 total 11/1  
 To Nathaniel Kirby for 3 hundred plank Nails 9/1  
 To Jonathan Kirby for 60 plank Nails 1/6  
 To George Mosher for 100 plank Nails 3/1  
 To Joseph Allen for 100 plank Nails 3/1  
 To Daniel Tripp for Shingle Nails 4/1  
 To Elisha Kirby for 21 Window Nails 1/1  
 To Jonathan Tripp for 2 1/2 days work 10/1  
 To Nathan Tripp for 2 1/2 days work 10/1  
 To Stephen Crocker for 2 1/2 days work 13/1  
 Total for Materials & Labor (as brought in against the Town of  
 Westport for Building the Town House) so far as it is finished to  
 May 13. 1789. & Accounts allowed is L 30:1:5



To Stokes Potter for Boarding Job Potter one of the Towns poor  
from May 16, 1788 to May 16, 1789 and Clothing £16. 11. 0  
To John Earl for Remittance of Bad Taxes £8. 0. 8½  
To Christopher Cornell as Assessor for the year 1788 £1. 12. 0  
To Thomas Tripp as Assessor for the year 1788 & for providing  
for the poor in the year 1788 £5. 0. 7½  
To Jonathan Tripp as Assessor for 1788 £0. 19. 1  
To George Sawton for Boarding Ann Morgan one of this Towns  
Poor one week & one day 10/ & for half bushel of Corn 2/ total 12/6  
To William Davis Esq: for Service as Committee for settling  
with Dartmouth & New Bedford & for providing for the poor in 1788  
£9. 7. 4½  
To Wesson Kirby for Service as one of the Committee for settling  
with Dartmouth & New Bedford £1. 19. -  
To Stephen Pechham for Service as one of the Committee  
for settling with Dartmouth & New Bedford £1. 8  
To Nathaniel Kirby for hangings for the Pound Gate 2/6  
To Benj. Cory Constable for Remittance of Taxes in the year  
1787 & 1788 of Jeremiah Manchester & Nathaniel Cornell £0. 11. 1  
To Lovat Tripp for Remittance of a Tax he paid for his Brother  
Pardon Tripp for the year 1786 of the sum of 12/6  
To Robert Brownell for Boarding Ann Morgan £1. 9. 6  
To Henry Devel for house room & firewood for Elisabeth Devel £2. 14. 1  
To Stephen Pechham for 14 yards of Cloth for Blankets & Petticoats  
for Elisabeth Devel £1. 15. -  
To Peace Devel Widow for a Bed for Elisabeth £1. 6. 3  
Total of the above Accts is £48. 2. 0½ & the Total of all Accts  
Allowed from July 2, 1787 to May 10, 1789 is £137. 19. 9

4. Voted that Sixty five Pounds be Raised by way of Tax for  
the Support of the Poor and other Necessary Expenses for the year  
ensuing. & that the same be paid into the Treasury by January 1790  
5. Voted that the Collectors settle with the Town Treasurer by the  
Middle of August next, by paying in the Town Taxes for 1787 & 1788  
and if not paid in by that time or before, that the Treasurer be  
hereby directed and authorized to issue his Execution against such Defi-  
cient Constables or Collectors.  
6. Nathaniel Kirby, Isaac Soble, Abraham Cornell, John Tibbitts,  
Benjamin Devel, John Gifford Blacksmith & Ebenezer Baker were  
Chosen Surveyors of highways for the year ensuing,  
and at the same time Nathl. Kirby & Abraham Cornell were duly  
Engaged to authorize them to Officiate in said Office By me A. B. T. Clerk  
7. Christopher Gifford was Chosen Gauger for the year ensuing.  
July 28, 1789 was duly Engaged to authorize him to Officiate in so office  
By me A. Brownell Town Clerk  
Aug. 1789 Isaac Soble was duly Engaged to authorize him  
to officiate in the office of Surveyor of highways  
By me A. Brownell Town Clerk

Lastly Voted that this Meeting be adjourned to the first Saturday  
of August to meet at the Town house at 2 o'clock P. M.



In Compliance with a Warrant Issued From the Select men of the town of Westport Dated May 6, 1789

Requiring either of the Constables of Said Town to Notify & Warn the Inhabitants thereof Qualified by Law to Vote in Town meetings to meet at the Town house on Wednesday May 13, 1789 Inst. at 11 O'clock A.M. of Said day, then and there to act on the following Particulars

1. It thought proper for Said town at Said meeting to answer the Petition of Henry Howland and others, Agreeable to a Citation & Order of the General Court thereon.
2. to Petition the General Court to Impower Said town to call on all other towns inhabitants, living within the Bounds of Said Westport, to do duty in Repairing of highways

The Inhabitants of Said town being Legally Notified & Warned by Benjamin Cory one of the Constables of Said town

Assembled on Wednesday May 13, 1789 at 11 O'clock A.M. and proceeded agreeable to Said Warrant.

1. William Army was Chosen Moderator of Said Meeting.
2. Voted that there be a Remonstrance & Petition preferred to the General Court in Answer to the Petition of Henry Howland and others, and that the Representative take Charge of it.

Agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth,

The Inhabitants of the Town of Westport being Notified By the Select men of Said Town, to meet at the Town house on Wednesday May 13, 1789 at one O'clock P.M. for the purpose of Choosing a Representative.

The Inhabitants of Said Town Assembled on Said Time & place & after Collecting, Sorting, & Counting the Votes it appeared that Mr. William Army was Chosen Representative for the Town of Westport for the Year ensuing.

Agreeable to an adjournment of the Meetings from the 6th of April & 13th May Last past, that was adjourned to Saturday the first day of August. Inst. to meet at the Town house at 2 O'clock P.M.

The Inhabitants of Said Town of Westport, Assembled at Said time and place, and proceeded in the Remaining part of the Business as Directed in the Warrant.

(William Army Being Moderator of Said Meeting)

1. Voted that one Constable be Chosen for the year ensuing
2. John Gifford was Chosen Constable for the Town of Westport for the year Ensuing, & to have Nine pence upon the Pound for what he Collects & pays into the Treasurers

And at the same time was duly Engaged to authorize him to Afficiate in said Office By me

Abner Brownell Town Clerk



Agreeable to a Warrant Issued from the Select  
men of the Town of Westport. Requiring John  
Gifford Constable of Said Town, to Notify and Warn  
the Inhabitants thereof to meet at the Town House  
on Saturday Dec: 26. 1789 at 12 O'clock of Said Day.

Preamble - Whereas there is one Dinah White, Alias  
Burrington, Negro Woman Late the Property of George  
White Deceased of Dartmouth, Now Residing in the Town  
of Westport: Not in a Capacity to Support herself, and  
the Heirs of the Said George White, tho' Requested Refuseth  
to Support the Said Dinah.

Therefore for the Town at Said Meeting to act and do  
what may be tho't Proper Respecting the said Dinah.  
2<sup>d</sup> To act and do what shall be tho't Proper Respecting  
those Persons Taxes that Sign'd themselves to Dartmouth  
after the Incorporating Said Town of Westport.

The Inhabitants of Said Town Being Legally Notified  
and Warn'd By Said John Gifford Constable

Assembled on Saturday Dec: 26. 1789 at 12 O'clock  
and proceeded agreeable to Said Warrant,

1. William Davis Esq: was Chosen Moderator -
2. Voted, that at Present, it was the Judgment & Opinion of  
Said Town, that the Select men have nothing to do in pro-  
viding for the Support of Said Dinah, at the Towns Expence,  
But that they be Directed to Inform the Heirs of Said George  
White Deceased, that it is their Duty to take care and  
provide for the Support of Said Dinah.



3. With Reference to doing what shall be tho't Proper  
 Respecting those Persons Taxes, that Signed themselves to  
 Dartmouth, after the Incorporating said Town of Westport,  
 that Whereas Foster Swift Esq: one of Dartmouth's Committee,  
 for the Purpose of settling said Matter of Taxes,

had proposed to our Select men, to Leave the Subject, viz,  
 which Town it properly belonged for those Persons to pay their  
 Taxes to, (Which was Voted in this Town before those Persons Sign'd  
 off from ~~Westport~~ to Dartmouth,) to be Left with the Judges  
 of the Court of Common Pleas, for them to Determine agreeable  
 to the Incorporating Act of said Westport

On Motion, Voted to agree with the aforesaid Proposition, of  
 Submitting the Subject to the Judgment & Determination of  
 said Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, & that it be a  
 final settlement of the Matter, Proviso, that Dartmouth  
 Passes a Vote or agrees to the same.

And that William Davis Esq: be appointed by this  
 Town to prefer the said Proposition & Vote of this Town on  
 the Subject, to the said Judges, at their next Court to be  
 holden at Taunton, and in behalf of the Town to pray their  
 Assistance in settling the affair,



In Compliance with a Venire Facias, Issued from the Clerk of the Sessions of the County of Bristol viz, Samuel Sales Clerk, Requiring the Constable of the Town of Westport, to Assemble the Inhabitants of said Town to meet for the Purpose of Choosing one Man for a Grand Juror for the Year Ensuing, And also one Man a Petit Juror for the Court of Common Pleas to be holden at Taunton the Second Tuesday of March 1790.

The Inhabitants of said Town of Westport Being Legally Notified and served by John Gifford Constable of said Town to meet at the Town House on Thursday Feb<sup>r</sup> 11. 1790 at two O'Clock P.M.

Assembled on said day and Place, and proceeded agreeable to the Direction in said Writ.

1. George Lawton was Chosen Moderator for said meeting for the Purpose of Choosing a Grand Juror,
2. Major Robert Carl was Chosen a Grand Juror for the Year Ensuing
3. Abner Potter was Drawn out of the Jury Box, for Petit Juror for March Court at Taunton 1790,

In Compliance with a Warrant Issued from the Select of the town of Westport. Dated March 24<sup>th</sup> day 1790. Requiring John Gifford Constable of said town, to Notify the inhabitants thereof Qualified by Law to Vote in town meetings, to meet at the town house in said town on Monday the Fifth day of April Next 1790 at 10 O'Clock fore noon then and there to act on the Particulars hereafter mentioned

1. ly to Give in their Votes to the select men For Governor Lieut. Governor. & three Counsellors & Senators for the Year Ensuing Agreeable to the Constitution of Our said Commonwealth
2. ly to Choose town officers for the Year Ensuing as by Law required, and also to Choose sum Person or Persons to have the Care of Our town Landings
3. ly to Conclude by Vote what sum of Money to raise by Way of Tax on the Pools and Estates of the inhabitants of s<sup>d</sup> town For the support of the poor and other necessary Charges arising within s<sup>d</sup> town
4. ly to act and do what at s<sup>d</sup> meeting shall be thought proper Relative to Finishing the town house
5. ly to do what shall be thought proper Relative to Hiring a Schoolmaster or masters
6. ly to do what the town at s<sup>d</sup> meeting shall think proper Respecting the repairs of highways for the Year Ensuing
7. ly to do what is thought proper relative to the support of the poor of s<sup>d</sup> town for the Year Ensuing
8. ly For the town at s<sup>d</sup> meeting to Conclude what method is best to be taken to procure the records of Our town now on Dartmouth Books
9. ly to allow or disallow all accounts brought Against s<sup>d</sup> town For payment.
10. ly to receive returns of highways and town Landings Laid out or altered by the select men of s<sup>d</sup> town & to approve or Disapprove of the same that they may be of Record.



and make Return of this Warrent. and your Doings thereon  
unto the Clerk of Town on or before the time of the meeting  
Given Under Our hands & Seals at Westport this twenty  
Fourth day of March Annoque Domini, 1790

The Inhabitants of S. town of Westport -  
upon due Notice or Warning Given by John Gifford  
Constable of S. town meet together Monday April  
fifth 1790 - 10 o'clock fore noon, and proceeded Agreeable  
to S. Warrent

And the Following Gentlemen were Voted for -  
VIZ. His Excellency John Hancock Esq. for  
Governor had Votes - - - Fiftytwo - - - 52  
His Honour Samuel Adams for Lieut. Governor  
had Votes Fiftytwo - - - 52 -  
Honourable Walter Spooner for Senator had Votes  
Forty - - - 40 -  
Honourable Elisha May for D<sup>o</sup>. Forty nine - - 49  
Honourable Thomas Durfee for D<sup>o</sup>. Forty three 43  
Hon<sup>r</sup>. - Holder Morsum for D<sup>o</sup>. Twelve - - 12

Business of Gen<sup>l</sup>. officers finish - - -

- 1 William Mory was Chosen Moderator for said meeting
- 2 Robert Earl was Chosen town Clerk for the Year Ensuing  
and at the same time was duly Engage<sup>d</sup> to authorize him  
to Appoint in S. Office by William Davis Sur<sup>r</sup>. Paris -
- 3 Robert Earl was Chosen Town Treasurer for the Year Ensuing  
and for one per Cent - - -
- 5 William Davis Esq<sup>r</sup>. Wesson Kirby Benjamin Brownell  
were Chosen Select men for the Year Ensuing
- 6 Voted to have three Assessors for the Year Ensuing
- 7 Christopher Cornell Nathaniel Kirby Wesson Tripp were  
Chosen Apportion for the Year Ensuing - - -  
and at the same time was Duly Engage<sup>d</sup> to Authorize  
them to Appoint in S. Office by me Robert Earl S. Clerk
- 8 Wesson Soble Pardon Brownell Thomas Tripp Wesson  
Kirby were Chosen fire Viewers for the Year Ensuing

and at the same was duly Engage<sup>d</sup> to Authorize them to  
Appoint in their S. offices by me Robert Earl Town Clerk  
9 Stephen Davis Baryonas Devol were Chosen Surveyors of  
Lumber for the Year Ensuing S. Devol was duly Engage<sup>d</sup>  
to his office by his Oath before me Robert Earl Town Clerk

10 Job Davis William Kirby were Chosen Field Drivers for  
the Year Ensuing S. William Kirby was duly Engage<sup>d</sup>  
to Authorize him to Appoint in S. Office by me  
Robert Earl Town Clerk - - -

11 Nathaniel Kirby were Chosen Pound Keeper for the  
Year Ensuing and was duly Engage<sup>d</sup> to Authorize  
him to Appoint in S. Office by me Robert Earl  
Town Clerk - - -

12 Benjamin Brownell were Chosen Sealer of Weights  
and Measures for the Year Ensuing and was duly  
Engage<sup>d</sup> to Authorize him to Appoint in S. Office

13 Benjamin Cory Preford Shearman were Chosen Seal  
of Leather for the Year Ensuing and at the same time  
was duly engage<sup>d</sup> to Authorize them to Appoint in their  
S. offices by me Robert Earl Town Clerk - - -

14 Voted for 2 Wardens for the Year Ensuing George  
Brownell & Esch. Taber was Chosen, S. Esch. Taber was  
duly Engage<sup>d</sup> to Authorize him to Appoint in S. Office by me  
Robert Earl Town Clerk

15 Voted for 2 tithing men for the Year Ensuing Israel  
Brightman were Chosen.

17 Stephen Davis Baryonas Devol was Chosen, Measurer of Wood  
for the Year Ensuing. S. Baryonas Devol was duly eng<sup>d</sup>  
to Authorize him to Appoint in S. Office by me  
Robert Earl Town Clerk



Capl. Jobb Amy Capl. Silvester Brownell Stephen Davis  
Joseph Clopton Benjamin Cory George Lawton was Chosen  
Hog Reaver for the Year ensuing and was duly Engaged.  
Except Stephen Davis Joseph Clopton to Authorize them  
to Afficiate in their P. offices by me Robert Earl  
Town Clerk ~~Stephen Davis Joseph Clopton~~  
18 Vote Taken to Amend the highways by Tax, a  
Majority Agt it

19 Joseph Head Preservid Shearman Jonathan Taber  
Jr. John Davis Capl. Jobb Amy Peleg Cornell Jr. Robert  
Kirby Justice Kirby Aron Davis Daniel Petty  
Benjamin Devol Abial Macomber Senor Isaiah  
Borden Ebenezer Baker John Gifford Nathaniel  
Potter were Chosen Surveyors for the Year ensuing  
and Joseph Head Preservid Shearman Jonathan Taber John  
Davis Jobb Amy Peleg Cornell Robert Kirby Justice  
Kirby Aron Davis Daniel Petty Isaiah Borden  
were duly Engaged to Authorize them to Afficiate  
in their P. offices by me Robert Earl Town Clerk  
20 Voted for a Return of a high to be put on ye  
town Record that was Laid by William Davis &  
Jonathan Tripp Select men

21 A Committee of three was Voted to settle with Job  
Anthony respecting the town Landing at the head  
of the Eastmost Branch of Westport River, Benjamin  
Brownell Talor Benjamin Brownell & Hebron Kirby  
were Chosen

April 8<sup>th</sup> 1790 Stephen Davis was duly Engaged to Authorize  
him to Afficiate in the offices Above mentioned by me  
Robert Earl Town Clerk

Joseph Clopton was Duly Engaged to Authorize him to Afficiate  
in the office Above August 5<sup>th</sup> 1790 by Robert Earl Town Clerk

Lastly Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned  
the Second Monday of May Next 10 o'clock  
Four noon then to meet at the town House

- Agreeable to an Adjournment of the meeting  
of the Fifth day of April Last past that was adjourned to this day  
(House) to Monday tenth day of May 1790. 10 o'clock for noon  
The inhabitants assembled of S. town Westport and proceeded on the  
Remainder part of the business as Directed in S. Warrant  
William Mory being Moderator of said Meeting
- 1 Voted three Overseers for town Landings, Stephen Peckham for  
Gifford & Benjamin Davis was Chosen on S. Committee
  - 2 Voted to Finish the town house, 3000 to shingle S. town house
  - 3 Voted to Continue the Former Committee for finishing S. town
  - 4 Voted to Allow interest to the Above Committee for finish S. town
  - 5 Voted to Allow interest to the Above Committee for finish S. town
  - 6 Voted for the select men of S. town to proceed as Usual in supporting  
the poor of S. town of Westport.
  - 7 Voted not to act at present on a Petition handed to the town  
of Westport respecting one Dinah White
  - 8 Voted to Choose a Committee to Regulate the town Landing  
in the town Westport. and to Lay the same before S. town  
Stephen Peckham George Lawton John Anthony Benjamin  
Davis James Soule was Chosen for that purpose
  - 9 Voted that Robert Earl John Smith Esq.<sup>r</sup> Take of Dartmouth  
Records a Copy of the Return of Highways & town ways for the  
town Westport. and that S. J. Smith & Robert Earl be paid for the  
same
  - 10 Voted that the town Clerk of Westport procure a Book for the Above  
purpose at the Expence of S. town
  - 11 Voted to Allow the Following Accounts Charged Agt the town of Westport  
To Christopher Cornell L 1.44 Voted not to Allow Thomas Tripp 10/6 in  
his Acc. Voted to Thomas Tripp on his Acc. L 4.5.2 to Jonathan  
Tripp L 2.3 To George Lawton 15/9 it was Voted not to Allow  
Jonathan Tripp 42/ for supporting one Dinah White as one of the  
poor of S. town of Westport.



48<sup>th</sup>  
Voted to Allow William Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> on his Act £5.16.10.  
To Wagon Kirby 18/5 To Benjamin Cory £12.2.8 To Wagon  
Cory £3.13.5 Voted not to Allow Benjamin Cory Act  
for Warming town meetings. To Pardon Brownell said  
4/4 To Schobad Tripp £2.0.10 To Stokes Potter for Keeping  
Job Potter from the 16 may 1789 to the 10 of May 1790 51 Weeks  
@ 5/6 p<sup>r</sup> Week and Cloathing for S. Job Potter as p<sup>r</sup> Act £16.10.0  
To Jonathan Tripp £2.2 Voted, For George Godfrey  
County Treasurer Had Votes 35

Voted to receive and accept the report of a Committee when composed  
ed to continue the same Committee on the fish Act in  
town of Westport with only the following Alterations  
Abraham Cornell in Lieu of Richard Shibley  
Voted to raise by way of Tax £95 for the Year Enjoining  
31. Voted, to Adjourn this meeting to the third  
Monday of June next Two of the Clock after noon then  
to meet at S. town house in Westport  
Agreeable to the Above Adjournment the inhabitants of S. town Wagon  
assembled at time and place and proceeded on the remainder part of the  
Business of S. Warrent  
Voted Chof. Jonathan Tripp Surveyor in Lieu of Benjamin Devoe  
and John Gifford Const. Surveyor in rooms of John Gifford  
Blacksmith

Voted that the Committee complete the settlement with Job Anthony  
concerning town Landing  
Voted to accept the report of George Lorton & Stephen Peckham  
a Committee &c  
Voted Job Miller 16/ to John Anthony £1.3 to Thomas Tripp 1/4  
Voted to put on Record the Deed of Settlement concerning town Land  
ing with Job Anthony Voted to Allow John Gifford Const. £5.16.1  
to Benjamin Cory 8/ to William Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> £1.0.2 to Wagon  
Tripp £1.2.8 to Wagon Tripp 10/2.3/ to Elisha Kirby 14/7 to  
Wagon Kirby 9/ to John Gifford Const. 3/7 Enjoyn John Gifford  
Jonathan Tripp as Surveyor at the time of their being Chosen as  
the Law Directs Robert Earl town Clerk -- John Gifford Chosen  
Constable for the Year Enjoining & upon terms of fees p<sup>r</sup> sent  
for what money he shall collect and pay into the Treasurers --  
Lately Defold this Meeting

49<sup>th</sup>  
Bristol p. Agreeable to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
and Massachusetts, this is to Notify & Warn all the male Persons  
Within the town of Westport being twenty one years of age &  
upwards Qualified as p<sup>r</sup> Constitution direct for the Choice  
of Representatives to meet at the Town house in S. town  
on Monday the tenth day of May Instant one o'clock  
in the ~~fore~~ afternoon of S. day then and there to act on the  
Particulars hereafter mentioned  
If it thought proper to Choose some suitable Person to  
Represent S. town at the Great & General Court to be  
Held at the Court house in Boston on the Last Wednesday  
of may instant & held for Government service from time  
to time for the Year Enjoining --

2 at S. meeting for S. town to act and do what shall be thought  
Proper Respecting the indian Natives Lands within S.  
town now withheld from them

3 if thought proper to Give Isaac Cory and Others Liberty  
to set a school house in the highway near the South East  
Corner of George Brightmans ~~Land~~ Land, Given Under  
our hands & seals at Westport this Fifth day of may  
Anno Domini 1790

William Davis Select  
Benjamin Brownell men  
Wagon Kirby Westport

The inhabitants assembled in S. town at the said time & place  
& a Vote was Taken to know wheather the S. inhabitants  
1 send a Representative to the General Court or not  
Voted not to send a Representative for the Year Enjoining  
2 Voted, Chof. William Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> Moderator of S. Meeting  
3 Voted to know the minds of this town wheather they act on the stroke  
put in S. Warrent Concerning Indian Land, Voted not to act  
4 Voted that Isaac Cory & others have Liberty to set a school  
house in the road near the Southeast Corner of George Bright  
mans Land During the town Plagium



Bristol p. To John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport  
Within said County, Greetings -

In the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, You are hereby  
Required forthwith to warn all the inhabitants of P. town  
Legalized by Law to vote in town meeting, to meet at the town house  
in P. town of Westport on munday the twentyfirst day of June Instant  
Two of the Clocks after noon, of P. day then and there to act and do  
What the said at P. meeting shall think proper Relative to an  
Action: Brought against said town of Westport by Thomas Tripp -  
and make return of this Warrent with your doing, then on unto  
the town Clocks of P. town on or before P. time of meeting -  
Given under our hands and seals at Westport this sixteenth day  
of June A. D. 1790

William Davis ( Selectman  
Wesron Kirby ) of -  
Westport

Agreeable to the Above Warrent, the inhabitants of said town Warn'd by  
John Gifford Constable of P. town of Westport assembled themselves at the town house  
in P. town, on munday the Twentyfirst day of June 1790 at 2 of the  
Clocks after noon William Davis Esq. Chosen moderator proceeded on the  
Business of the Warrent

by Voted to Allow to Thomas Tripp 10/6 in addition to what was allow'd P. Tripp  
last meeting, and for the town of Westport to pay the Cost of the writ  
brought agt P. town by P. Thomas Tripp before Edward Pope Esq.  
and for P. town to pay to P. Tripp Interest for all the money they  
justly owe him after the 15 day of October next -

by Voted that the town Treasurers of P. town Westport Give Thomas  
Tripp a Note for his demands agt P. town in the P. Thomas Giving  
a Receipt to the Treasurers of P. town in full to this day & date Above

Finished the Above Meeting

October 25<sup>th</sup> 1790 - Jonathan Taber Jul. Chosen & Appointed  
Searcher and Packer of Pickled, Pork Beef & Fish for P.  
Town. Appeared before me and was duly Engag'd to authorize  
him to Assist in P. Office.  
by Robert Earl Town Clerk



Bristol 26<sup>th</sup> To John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport  
Greeting - (51)

In the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,  
and in Obedience to a Resolve of the Genl. Court passed the  
Eighteenth day of June 1790 You are hereby Required to  
Notify and Warn all the inhabitants of said town duly Qualified  
to vote for Representatives in the General Court to Assemble at  
the town house in said town on the first Monday of October  
next at one of the Clock in the After Noon of S. day then  
and there to Give in their Votes to the Select Men for one  
Qualified Person to Represent this District in the Congress  
of the United States, Given under Our Hands and Seal  
at Westport this 4<sup>th</sup> of September 1790. Hereof Fail not  
but make due return of Your Doing to the Clerk of S. Town  
on or before said time of Meeting

William Davis (Select  
Benjamin Brownell men  
Nelson Kirby Westport)

At a Legal town Meeting held at the town House in Westport  
on the first Monday of October 1790. the Inhabitants gave  
in their Votes for the following Persons

Walter Spooner 19 Votes  
David Cobb 3 -  
George Leonard 8 -  
Thomuel Bishop 2 -

Bristol 26<sup>th</sup> To John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport &  
Greeting - These are in the Name of the Commonwealth of Mass-  
setts Its require you forthwith to Notify & Warn all the freeholders  
and Other inhabitants of the town of Westport Duly Qualified to vote  
For Representatives to the General Court of this Commonwealth to Assemble  
at the town house in said Westport on Friday the twenty sixth day  
of November Instant one of the Clock after Noon of S. Day to Give  
their Votes for a Representative Who shall be an inhabitant of the  
District of Bristol Dukes County & Nantucket to Represent  
the said District in the Congress of the United States of America



As the Law directs: and make due return of this Warrent and your  
Doings thereon to the Clerk of said town of Westport on or before  
said time of meeting: Given Under Our hands and seals at  
Westport this seventeenth Day of November Anno Domini 1790

William Davis (Select Men  
of  
Westport  
Wespon Kirby  
Benj. Brownell

At a Legal Town meeting held at the town house on Friday the  
Twenty sixth Day of November 1790. in the town of Westport  
the inhabitants of S. town Gave in their votes for Walter Spooner  
Esq. - 13 in Number & for the Purpose set fourth Above and  
Within by S. Warrent -

Bristol &c To John Gifford Constable of the Town of  
Westport in said County - Greeting  
These are in the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
To require you fourthwith to Notify and warn all the Freeholders  
and other inhabitants of the town of Westport duly Qualified  
to Vote for Representatives to this Commonwealth to Assemble  
at the town in said town of Westport on Tuesday the Twenty  
fifth Day of January instant at Eleven of the Clock for noon  
of said Day to Give in their votes for a Representative who  
shall be an inhabitant of the District of Bristol Dukes  
County & Nantucket to Represent the said District in the Con-  
gress of the United States of America  
2ly at said Meeting to act and Do what shall be thought Proper  
Relative to Dinah White a Negro Woman Now at the Expense  
of said town

3ly To Give such orders to the Select men as shall be thought  
Proper for the Warning Other towns inhabitants now Residing  
in S. town to Depart

And make Return of this Warrent and your Doings  
therein to the Clerk of S. town on or before S. time of meeting  
Given under Our hands and seals at Westport this eight.  
teenth Day of January Anno Domini 1791

William Davis (Select men  
of  
Westport  
Wespon Kirby

Agreeable to the Aforesaid Warrent<sup>53</sup> the inhabitant of S. town of  
Westport by John Gifford Constable of said town Assembled at  
the town house in said town on the Twenty fifth Day of January  
instant and proceeded as follows -

2 William Davis Esq. Thomas Tripp Chosen a Committee  
to make Enquiry of the State of Dinah White Negro Woman  
and make Report of their Doings at Our next April  
meeting

Walter Spooner Esq. Had votes 47 in Number  
for the Purpose set fourth in S. Warrent &c

In Compliance with a Venire Facias Issued  
For the Clerk of the Sessions of the County of Bristol  
(viz. Samuel Talcott) requiring the Constable of the town  
of Westport, to Assemble the inhabitants of S. town to  
meet for the purpose of Choosing one man for a  
Grand Juror For the Year ensuing and also one man  
a Petit Juror for the Court of Common Pleas to be  
holden at Taunton the Second Tuesday of March 1791

The inhabitants of said town of Westport  
Being Legally Notified and Warned by John Gifford Constable  
of said town to meet the town house on the third Day March  
1791. at 2 o'clock P.M. -

Assembled on S. Day and Place and Proceeded  
Agreeable to Direction in said writ

1. Thomas Tripp was Chosen Moderator for said Meeting  
For the Purpose of Choosing a Juror for the Year ensuing  
2 Robert Earl was Chosen Grand Juror for the Year ensuing  
3 George Brightman was Drawn out of the Jury Box for  
Petit Juror for March Court at Taunton 1791.



<sup>54</sup>  
Bristol p. To either of the Constables of the town of Westport  
in said County - - - - - Greeting  
You are hereby in the Name of the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts Required fourth with to notify & Warn all the  
Freeholders and other inhabitants within the Town of Westport  
Duly Qualified by Law to vote in town meetings to meet  
at the town house in S. Westport on Monday the Fourth  
Day of April Next at Nine O'clock fore noon of said  
Day then and there to act on the Particulars hereafter mentioned  
1ly to Choose town officers as by Law Required - - - - -  
2ly to Give in their Votes for County Treasurer - - - - -  
3ly to Give in their Votes for County Register - - - - -  
4ly to Conclude by Vote what Sum of Money shall be thought  
proper to raise by Way of Tax for the Support of the poor  
and other necessary Charges arising within said Town  
5ly To Receive Returns of Highway Laid out or Altered and  
Approve or Disapprove of the same as shall be thought  
proper, if Approved that the same may be of Record  
6ly To Approve or Disapprove of all Demands that may be  
brought ag<sup>t</sup> said town for Allowance and payments  
7ly To Conclude by Vote what manner the highways within  
said town shall be repaired For the Year ensuing  
8ly To act and Do what shall be thought proper respecting  
the hiring a Town Schoolmaster - - - - -  
9ly To act and do what shall be thought proper respecting  
the town Landings within S. Town - - - - -  
10ly To act and Do what shall be thought proper respecting  
finishing the town within said town also what shall  
be thought proper in supporting the poor of S. Town  
and make Return of this warrant and your Doings  
there on unto the Clerk of said town of Westport on or  
Before said time of Meeting: - - - - -

<sup>55</sup>  
Given Under Our hands and Seal at Westport  
This twenty first Day of March Anno Domini  
1791 - - - - - William Davis (Selectmen  
Wespon Kirby of  
Benj. Brownell ) Westport

April 4<sup>th</sup> 1791 by Warrant Given by John Gifford Com<sup>t</sup>  
the inhabitants of S. town of Westport met at the town  
house in S. town agreeable to the Above Warrant -  
and proceeded on the Business of S. Warrant in the following  
manner - - - - -

- 1ly William Almy was Chosen Moderator for S. Meeting
- 2ly Robert Earle was Chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing
- 3ly Capt. William<sup>his</sup> was Chosen Town Treasurer and at the rate  
of 2 1/2 per Cent for what money he shall receive in and pay  
out - - - - -
- 4ly William Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> Wespon Kirby and George Lawton  
Chosen Select men for the Year ensuing upon the same  
Terms as they served the town Last year - - - - -
- 5ly Voted to Choose three Assessors Benjamin Brownell Nathan  
Kirby Wespon Tripp was Chosen Land at the same time  
Engaged them duly to officiate in S. office, before me  
Robert Earle Town Clerk - - - - -
- 6ly Wespon Soule Thomas Tripp Pardon Brownell Wespon  
Kirby was Chosen four Sevens and was duly Engaged to  
Authenticate them to officiate in their said office before  
me Robert Earle Town Clerk - - - - -
- 7ly Stephen Davis Carpenter Barjonas Devol Chosen Surveyors of  
Lumber. S. Davis was duly Engaged to Authenticate him to  
officiate in S. office before me Robert Earle Town Clerk



56  
8 by John Davis and Joseph Gifford was Chosen Fielddrivers and  
at the same was duly Engag<sup>d</sup> to Authorize them to Officiate  
in their S. Office, before me Robert East Town Clerk

9 by Nathaniel Kirby was Chosen Surveyor and at the same time  
was duly Engag<sup>d</sup> to Authorize him to Officiate in S. Office  
before me Robert East Town Clerk

10 by Benjamin Brownell was Chosen Sealer of Weights and  
Measures and at the same time was duly Engag<sup>d</sup>  
to Authorize him to Officiate in said Office, before  
me, Robert East Town Clerk

Benjamin Cory and Previn Shearman was Chosen  
sealers of Leather. S. Cory was duly Engag<sup>d</sup> at the same  
time before me Robert East Town Clerk

it was voted to Choose 2 Wardens for the Year ensuing  
John Earl and Cornelious Warren was Chosen S. Warren  
was by vote of S. town Expens<sup>d</sup> and Peter Macomber son  
of Abial was Chosen in his stead S. John Earl was at  
the time of Choice duly Engag<sup>d</sup> to Authorize him to  
Officiate in his said Office before me, Robert East  
Town Clerk

Jonathan Taber Jun<sup>r</sup> and Maryonas Devos was Chosen  
tithing men S. Taber was at the same time duly  
Engag<sup>d</sup> to Authorize him to Officiate in S. Office  
before me Robert East Town Clerk

Stephen Davis Maryonas Devos was Chosen Measuring  
of Wood S. Davis was at the same time ~~Chosen~~ duly  
Engag<sup>d</sup> to Authorize him to Officiate in said Office  
before me Robert East Town Clerk

Capt. Silvester Brownell George Brownell Joseph Gifford  
Samuel Soule Barney Devos Job Mury

Samuel Willcocks John Kirby<sup>57</sup> was Chosen Overseers of the  
ry for the town for the Year ensuing and at the same  
time was duly Engag<sup>d</sup> to Authorize them to Officiate in  
their S. Offices before me Robert East Town Clerk

Voted to Choose a Committee of 3 on Acc<sup>t</sup> brought Ag<sup>y</sup>  
town and that S. Committee make return of their Doing to  
the Clerk of the town of their Doing William Mury  
George Lawton Capt. Silvester Brownell was Chosen  
Voted that the select men of y. town Draw orders on the  
Aut<sup>y</sup> so Allow<sup>d</sup> by S. Committee

George Godfrey Esq<sup>r</sup> Had Votes for County  
Treasurer - Forty One - 41.

James Williams Esq<sup>r</sup> Had Votes for County  
Register of Deeds Seventy One 71.

This meeting by vote stands Adjourn<sup>d</sup>  
To the second monday in may next then to meet  
at the town house in Westport 10 O'Clock for noon.

The inhabitants of the town of Westport Agreeable to a  
Notification from the select men of S. town of Westport  
upon due Notice or Warning Given them by John Gifford  
Constable of S. town meet together on the fourth Day  
of April 1791 at the town house in S. town and proceeded  
Agreeable to S. Warrent.

11 by Gave in their votes for Federal Representative.

Walter Spooner Esq<sup>r</sup> had votes Sixty nine 69.

Phanuel Bishop Esq<sup>r</sup> had votes Ten 10.



The following Gent. was Voted for Governor  
 Lt. Governor & Senators  
 His Excellency John Hancock Esq. For Governor -  
 Had Votes Fifty six - - - - - 56  
 His Honour Samuel Adams for Lt. Governor  
 Had Votes Fifty six - - - - - 56

The Honourable Walter Spooner Esq. for Senator  
 Had Votes Forty three - - - - - 43

Thomas Durspe Esq. for Senator had Votes - 43

Eliha May Esq. for Senator had Votes - 64

Holder Hocum Esq. for Senator had Votes 36

Samuel Foby Esq. for Senator had Votes 21

Abial Mitchel Esq. for Senator had Votes 12

Phanual Bishop Esq. for Senator had Votes 10.

Agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth  
 the inhabitants of the town of Westport being Legally  
 Notified, by the Select men of said town to meet at the  
 Town house in S. town on Monday the Ninth Day  
 of May 1791 at One of the Clocks After Noon  
 Assembled on said day and proceeded agreeable to S. ~~town~~  
 Notification and after Collecting and Sorting and Counting  
 the Votes for Representatives it Appeared that Capt. Silvester  
 Brownell was Chosen for the Year Ensigning  
 for the town of Westport

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1791 Agreeable to an Adjournment of the meeting  
 of the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1791 - that was Adjourned to the Second Monday  
 in May following 10 o'clock for noon at the town house in  
 S. town, the Inhabitants of S. town of Westport Assembled  
 and proceeded in the Remaining part of the Business of the  
 Warrant. William Almy being moderator of the meeting  
 Chas. Baryonas Devol Surveyor of Lumber & measuring of  
 Wood and was Engaged, to Authorize him to Officiate in his  
 S. office before me Robert Earl Town Clerk

Voted to Expune Barney Devol from the Office of Tithing man.  
 Voted that the Return of the Highway between Dartmouth & Westport  
 be put on Record

Voted to Amend the Highway, in S. town in the Usual way  
 Voted to pay over for the present the Stock in S. Warrant respecting  
 hiring town Schoolmaster

Voted to Choope a Committee of 3 to view the town Landing  
 at the head of Nochochuck, river Barney Deol George Lawton  
 and Wagon Kirby was Chosen

Voted to Choope a Committee to agree upon a plan to finish  
 the town house in S. town Robert Earl Pardon Brownell and  
 George Brightman was Chosen

Voted that the Select men of S. town Provide for the poor of S.  
 town in such way as they think most proper

Voted to raise by way of Tax seventy pounds for the Year Ensigning

Voted to Expune Peter Macomber from the Office of Wardean

Voted and Choope. Prejudice Shearman William Welling Jonathan Lathrop

Jr. Abraham Cornell Justice Kirby Aaron Davis Nathan Drigg

Benjamin Boomer Baryonas Devol William Wood Jr. Priner

Brownell Surveyors of Highway for the Year Ensigning and

at the same time was Engaged to Authorize them to Officiate

in their S. office by me Robert Earl Town Clerk

also Choope Josephthead John Davis Capt. Job Almy Robert Kirby

2 Daniel Petty Abial Macomber Surveyors for the Year Ensigning

for highways

John Gifford was Chosen Constable & Collector of Rates for the Year Ensigning

and at the rate of five per cent for what money he shall Collect and

bring in to the several Treasurers Agreeable to Warrant &c



and at the same time was duly engaged to Authorize him to Officiate  
in his P. office by me Robert Earl Town Clerk

Voted Jonathan Taber Jr. Benjamin Cony Phenix Woodde Isaac  
Borden Benjamin Brownell Jonathan Tripp Aaron Davis  
Chosen Hogreaves for the Year Enueing and at the same  
time was Engag. to Authorize them to Officiate in their P.  
office by Robert Earl Town Clerk

Also William Macomber Edmond Tripp Jonathan Kirby  
Joseph Head Joseph Cloxon was Chosen Hogreaves for the Year Enueing  
Voted that the Representative of P. Town When Chosen  
Examine the Treasurers at Boston Respecting Our Representations  
pay Year before Last and see if there be any mistake &  
in what way it Lays &c.

This meeting stands Adjourn. by Vote to the Last  
Sunday in June Next 2 of the Clocks after noon then to meet  
at the town in P. Town

Previous to the Above Adjournment, or on the same day  
the Representative of P. Town was instructed by Vote  
to present a Petition to the Genl. Court Next to be Convened  
at Boston Praying P. Court to relinquish P. Town of the <sup>fine</sup> Law  
on P. Town Last Year for not Choosing and sending a  
Representative to the Genl. Court also to act and do  
what he shall think proper Respecting the Representation  
pays being Taken from Dartmouth and put upon the town  
of Westport in Petitioning the Genl. Court &c.

August 15<sup>th</sup> 1771 then Joseph Head was Engag. to Authorize him to  
Officiate in the Office of Surveyor for the Year Enueing before  
me Robert Earl Town Clerk

Agreable to the Above Adjournment the inhabitants <sup>met</sup> at the  
Town house in Westport and proceeded on the remainder part  
part of the business which was on the 27 Day of June 1771.

Voted that the Committee make Enquiry and Report at the  
Adjournment of this meeting the Regulations for the Landing  
at the head of Nochochuck river Mr. William Abney was  
Added to the Above said Committee

Voted that Capt. Silvester Brownell Purchase 1000 feet of Meads  
and that he receive interest for the Use of his money until  
the town of Westport pay the money



Voted that Levy Shearman<sup>6th</sup> finish Westport town house on  
4<sup>th</sup> of May finding himself which was agreed to

Voted and Chosen William Mory and Nicholas Underwood a  
Committee to settle with the Back Treasurers of S. Town

Voted to adjourn this meeting to the 18<sup>th</sup> July 3

At Clock after noon

Agreeable to the Above Adjournment the inhabitants  
met at time and place and proceeded on business

Voted that the Town Treasurer call on the Collectors for the S.  
Town of Westport for the year 1787 1788 1789 to pay in the  
Town Taxes for S. Years Above mentioned by the first day of  
September Next and for the year 1790 to be paid in by the  
first day of March, a neglect of the Above, the Treasurer is  
Directed to Issue his Warrent of Distress ag<sup>t</sup> such Delinquents  
Constables

Voted to Remove the Report of William Mory George Lawton  
and Wagon Thirby Committee to Draw Regulations of the town  
Landing at the head of Schockhuck River

Voted that the Above Regulation be Delivered to the Judges  
by Robert Earl to be past into an Act or Law

Bristol Co. To John Gifford Constable of the town  
of Westport within said County  
in Obedience to a precept to us Directed from the Honoura-  
ble John Hancock Esq<sup>r</sup> Governor & Commander in  
Chief of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts: and also  
Whereas some Persons are a Carrying Oysters from the  
Said town of Westport Contrary to Law

Then are therefore in the Name of said Common-  
wealth to require you forthwith to Notify and warn all the  
free holders and other inhabitants within the town of Westp-  
ort duly Qualify<sup>d</sup> to vote for Representatives to the General  
Court of this Commonwealth and also to vote in Towns  
meeting to Assemble at the town house in said town of  
Westport on Munday the Twenty sixth day of December  
Instant one O'clock after noon of said Day then and there  
to act on the Particulars hereafter mentioned

1<sup>st</sup> To Give in their Votes for a Representative Who shall be  
an Inhabitant of the District of Bristol Dukes County and  
Wantsket to Represent the said District of Bristol Dukes



County and Nantucket to Represent the said District in  
the Congress of the United States of America  
2ly To take into Consideration an Act respecting Oysters within  
said town and to act and do what shall be then and there  
thought Proper ~~respecting~~ Relative thereto  
and make due Return of this Warrent and your Doings  
thereon into the Clerks office of said town on or before the  
time of said meeting, Given under Our hands and seals  
at Westport this thirteenth Day of December Anno dmini  
1791

William Davis } Select men  
Nelson Kirby } of  
Westport

Mr George Lawton Chosen Moderator of the meeting concerning  
the Oysters in Westport  
Joseph Gifford Peleg Potter Abraham Cornell William Gifford  
Jr and Stephen Davis was Chosen Committee on the  
2 Article in the Above and within Warrent and to make  
Return and Report at the next meeting to be holden in  
said town on munday the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April next  
this meeting stands adjourned to the 1<sup>st</sup> munday in April  
next by the Vote of this town

Bristol Westport December 24<sup>th</sup> 1791  
in Obedience to this Warrent I have Notify the inhabitants  
to appear at time and place by Posting up Advertisements  
as Usual by me John Gifford Constable

In Compliance with a Verine to John Gifford Constable  
of the town of Westport in due form Directed, the inhabitants  
of S. town was Notify and Assembled at the town house  
in S. town of Westport on the 25 Day of February 1792  
and proceeded on the Bujing agreeable to S. Verine

1. George Lawton was Chosen Moderator of said meeting
2. Robert Earl was Chosen Grandjuriman for the year
3. Joseph Gifford was drawn out of the jury box for Petty Jurymen  
man for the next Court of Gen. Session to be held at Sandwich

Bristol To Either of the Constables of the town  
of Westport in said County Greeting  
you are hereby Required in the Name of the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts Forthwith to Notify and warn all the freeholders  
and other inhabitants within the Town of Westport duly Quali-  
fied by Law to Vote in town meeting and also the other inhabitan-  
ts in said town Qualified Agreeable to the Constitution of said  
Commonwealth to Give in their Votes for Governor & Governor three  
Senators and Counsellors and one Suitable Person being an Inhabit-  
ant of the District of Bristol Dukes County and Nantucket  
for a Representative to Represent said Districts in the Congress  
of the United States of America to meet at the town house  
in said Westport on Munday the 2 Day of April Next at Nine  
of the Clock in the fore noon of said Day then and there  
to act on the Particulars above and hereafter mentioned  
1st to Choose town officers as by Law Required

- 2ly To Give in their Votes for County Treasurer
- 3ly To Conclude by Vote what Sum of money shall be thought  
proper to raise by way of Tax for the support of the poor  
and other Necessary Charges Arising within said town
- 4ly To Receive Returns of Highway Laid out or Altered and  
Approve or Disapprove of the Same as shall be thought  
proper if Approved that the Same may be of Record
- 5ly To Choose a committee to Allow or disallow Accounts brought  
against said <sup>town</sup> and Also to settle with the Town treasurer or Treasurers
- 6ly To Conclude by Vote in what way and manner the Highways  
within said town shall be repaired for the year Ensuing
- 7ly To Act and Do what shall be thought proper Respecting the  
Hiring a Town School master
- 8ly To Act and Do what shall be thought proper Respecting town  
Landings within in said town
- 9ly To act and Do what shall be thought proper Respecting a Sum  
of Old Continental Paper money in the care of the town Clerk  
Given under Our hands and seals at Westport this Nineteenth Day  
of March Anno que Domini 1792

William Davis } Select men  
Nelson Kirby } of  
George Lawton } Westport



64  
April the 2 1792 By Warrant Given by John Gifford  
Constable the Inhabitants of said town met at the  
Town house in said Town agreeable to the above Warrant  
and Proceeded on the Business of said warrant in the following  
manner

- 1<sup>ly</sup> William Almy <sup>was</sup> Chosen moderator for said meeting
- 2<sup>ly</sup> Nathanael Kirby was Chosen town Clerk for the year Ensuing  
and at the same time was duly engaged by W<sup>m</sup> Almy Moderator
- 3<sup>ly</sup> Captain William Hick was Chosen Town treasurer for the year  
Ensuing at the rate 2 1/2 percent for what money he shall  
Receive in and pay out
- 4<sup>ly</sup> William Davis Esq Charles Darch Thomas Wode were  
Chosen Select men for the year Ensuing upon the same terms  
that the Selectmen served the town Last year
- 5<sup>ly</sup> Voted to have three Assessors Benjamin Brownell Nelson  
Tripp Nathanael Kirby was Chosen for the year Ensuing  
and ----- Benjamin Brownell was duly Engaged -----  
to officiate in said office before me Nathanael  
Kirby town Clerk
- 17<sup>th</sup> day of April Nelson Tripp was duly engaged as an  
assessor of rates before Nathanael Kirby town Clerk
- Voted to adjourn this meeting till two of the Clock this  
afternoon then to meet at this place -----

By virtue of the foregoing Warrant and agreeable to the  
Constitution of this Commonwealth the Select men did  
proceed to Collect sort and Count the Votes for Governor  
Lieutenant Governor and Senators also for a Federal  
Representative. The following Gentlemen were Voted for  
His Excellency John Hancock Esq. for Governor  
had fifty six Votes 56  
His Honour Samuel Adams Esq. for Lieut.  
Governor had fifty five Votes 55

65  
The Honourable Walter Spooner Esq. for Senator  
had Votes thirty one 31

Thomas Surfee Esq. had Votes 33

Elisha May Esq. had Votes 33

The Honourable George Leonard Esq. had one Hundred  
and five Votes for a Federal Representative to represent  
the District of Bristol Dukes County & Nantucket in the  
Congress of the United States

Agreeable to Adjournment at two of the Clock the town proceeded  
on business as follows

- 1<sup>st</sup> Upon Collecting and Sorting & Counting the Votes for County  
Treasurer George Godfrey Esq. had 45 Votes
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Voted to Chuse a Committee of three to Examine and  
allow accounts Brought against the town. George Lantton  
Sylvester Brownell Lemuel Milk were Chosen and make  
a Return of their doings at the adjournment of this meeting
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Voted a Committee of three to settle with the back treasurers  
and report their doings to this meeting. George Lantton  
Sylvester Brownell & Lemuel Milk were Chosen
- 4<sup>th</sup> Voted that William Hicks town treasurer take the Continental  
Money now in the hands of the town Clerk and Dispose of  
it to the best advantage and account with the town therefor
- 5<sup>th</sup> Voted that the Return of a survey of the Highway Leading from  
the Country Road Cross Red oak hill through the Land formerly  
William Tripps Northly to W<sup>m</sup> Briggs N. W. Corner be Recorded
- 6<sup>th</sup> Upon a Vote taken whether they would raise a sum of Money to  
amend the high ways for the year ensuing Voted not to raise money
- 7<sup>th</sup> Jonathan Tabour William Almy Abraham Cornell Justice Kirby  
Nathan Tripp Edward Burden Paragona Devel William Wood  
Joshua Devel William Records Joseph Gifford Capt. Job  
Almy Robert Kirby Joshua Pettis Henry Tibbitts  
were Chosen Surveyors of Highways for the year Ensuing
- 8<sup>th</sup> Voted to adjourn this meeting to the second Monday of  
May at 10 of the Clock fore noon then to meet at this place



April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1792. Agreeable to the adjournment of the meeting from 26<sup>th</sup> of December 1791. the Committee then Chosen to enquire, and consider, whether people <sup>shall</sup> have Liberty to hatch Oysters in the river to sell. do at this meeting report, that the inhabitants of this town have Liberty to hatch as many as they please above the rock that lyeth against Lake Island so called in the East Branch of acoahset river, and no others, and all below the said rock, be kept for the use of the inhabitants of this town.

Voted that the report of said Committee be received and be recorded.

Voted that there be a Committee of three, for overseers of the Oyster Fishery, and Daniel Allen, Warton Case William Gifford jun<sup>r</sup> were Chosen.

Monday May 7<sup>th</sup> 1792. Agreeable to an adjournment of the Annual meeting from the first monday of April last to this day at ten of the Clock fore noon, the town met and did proceed on business as follows. William C. Hing being Moderator.

Nathaniel Pierby desired to resign the office of town Clerk  
1<sup>st</sup> Voted that he may resign and another be chosen in his stead.

2<sup>nd</sup> William C. Hing was chosen town Clerk, and was sworn agreeable to Law. By William Davis Esq<sup>r</sup>.

3<sup>rd</sup> The Committee on accounts report, that they had met, and examined accounts brought against the town and allow'd the sum of Sixty pounds three Shillings & ten pence <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. to as apper by their record. Voted to accept of their report, and that their Record be kept in the town Clerks office.

4<sup>th</sup> The Committee appointed to settle with the treasurers of this town, Report that they had attended that Business, and made their report.

Voted to receive the report of the committee appointed to settle with the treasurers, and that the same be recorded in this towns book and is as follows.

The report of the Committee Chosen to settle with the back treasurers for the town of Westport, wee find the state of said Treasurers, as follows.

|                                                                   |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Moner Brownell Treasures for the year 1787: 1788.                 | } 183-19-1   |
| and 1789. had to receive from the several collectors.             |              |
| the above treasurer receiv'd and paid out.                        | 77-0-2       |
| Ballance due in the hands of the collectors for sd years          | 106-18-11    |
| Robt Earl Treasures for the year 1790. had to receive sum.        | 97-18-2 1/2  |
| wee find the said treasurer, receiv'd in and paid out             | 41-3-8       |
| Ballance due in the hands of Constable for sd year                | 56-12-6 1/2  |
| Capt. William Hicks treasurer for 1791. had to receive            | 80-2-4 3/4   |
| also in the hands of the Collectors as above stated               | 162-6-5 1/2  |
|                                                                   | 242-8-10 1/2 |
| Capt. Wm Hicks treasurer receiv'd of the above sum, and paid out. | 102-17-4     |
|                                                                   | 140-11-6 1/2 |

Wee find upon vittlement with the above said treasurers, that there is now in the hands of the several Collectors, and the present treasurer the sum of 140-11-6 1/2 to be the Ballance due to the town of Westport.

Signed, Sylvester Brownell  
Lemuel Milk  
George Lawton  
Westport May 11<sup>th</sup> 1792 } Committee

5<sup>th</sup> Voted that the Treasurer, issue his Execution, against the several Collectors, for the Ballance due of the above taxes <sup>for 1791</sup> that shall be in their hands, ~~immediately~~ on the 1<sup>st</sup> day October next.

6<sup>th</sup> Voted the sum of Sixty pounds by way of tax for the support of poor and other necessary expenses, for the year ensuing to be paid into the treasury by the first day of march next, and that the treasurer do issue his execution for the sum that shall be due at that time if any.



- 7<sup>th</sup> Voted, a Committee to hire out such part of towns Landing as is not wanted for town use, provided it can be done without expence to the town. George Lawton was Chosen. accordingly. - - -
- 8<sup>th</sup> Voted a Committee to put Seats in the town house, to be under the direction of the Select men, and to lay his accounts before the towns Committee for allowance, & Jonathan Tripp, was chosen accordingly. -
- 9<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Fairby, was sworn as assessor of rates, by William Athy, T. Clerk
- 10<sup>th</sup> Jonathan Tabour, not presents George Lawton Jonathan Tripp, Barjona Devol, John Tripp, Joshua Devol, Abraham Cornell Joseph Gifford, John Tibbitts, Chron Davis, Were chosen Surveyors of highways, and at the same time duly sworn, by William Athy T. Clerk. Also Joshua Petty, Edward Boomer, Henry Tibbitts, William Records, Capt. Job Athy, Were chosen Surveyors of highways. - - -
- 11<sup>th</sup> Wesson Lovle, Thomas Tripp, Peris Richmond, Parson Brownell, Wesson Fairby, Thomas Woodle and Stephen Crocher were chosen Fence Viewers, and at the same time duly sworn. - - -
- 12<sup>th</sup> Barjona Devol, and Stephen Davis, Chosen Surveyors of Lumber and Borders of Wood, and Barjona Devol, sworn accordingly. -
- 13<sup>th</sup> John Davis & Joseph Gifford, Chosen Field Drivers, and sworn. - - -
- 14<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Fairby Chosen pound Keeper, and sworn. -
- 15<sup>th</sup> Benj. Brownell Chosen Sealer of Weights and measures. -
- 16<sup>th</sup> Voted, to adjourn this meeting till 3 of Clock in the afternoon then to meet again at this place, adjourned accordingly. -

- In Compliance with a Warrant issued from the Select<sup>men</sup> of Westport requiring John Gifford Constable of said town of Westport, to notify and warn all the freeholders and other Inhabitants Qualified agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth, to vote for a Representative to meet at the town house in said town on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> day<sup>of May</sup> next, at one of the Clock in the afternoon of said day, then and there if thought proper, to choose a person to represent said town, in the General Court, of said Commonwealth, of Massachusetts, to be convened at the state house in Boston on the Last Wednesday of May, next, for Governments service for the year ensuing. -
- 2<sup>nd</sup> To act and do what shall be thought proper, relative to those Dartmouth Inhabitants, now living within the Bounds of said town, of Westport
- The Inhabitants of said town of Westport, being Legally Notified and warned by John Gifford Constable, of said town, to meet at time and place aforesaid did meet and proceed to act on said Warrant as ~~after~~ follows. -
- 1<sup>st</sup> Charles Devol Chosen Moderator of said meeting. -
- 2<sup>nd</sup> The Select men did Collect sort and Count the Votes for Representative and William Athy was chosen. -
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Voted that the town Clerk be directed to issue Certificates, Certifying that the town is willing, to receive such people, as have annexed themselves to, the town of Dartmouth, on account of the Incorporation of said town of Westport, and shall petition to be annexed to the town of Westport, or the whole of them if the General Court shall think proper. -
- Agreeable to adjournment at two of the Clock the town met and did proceed upon Business as follows. -
- 1<sup>st</sup> Benjamin Cory and preserved Shearman was Chosen Sealer of Leather and sworn according. -
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jonathan Tabour & Barney Devol Chosen Cutlers of hoops and staves and Barney Devol was sworn accordingly. -
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Capt. Sylvester Brownell, George Brownell, Joseph Gifford, Lemuel Lovle, Barney Devol, Job Athy, Samuel Willcocks, and John Fairby Were Chosen - Overseers of the Fishery in Westport. -



70

4<sup>th</sup> Voted to have three Wardens, and Thomas Woodle, Prince Brownell, & Benjamin Cory were Chosen. Thomas Woodle & Prince Brownell were sworn accordingly.

5<sup>th</sup> Voted to have two tything Jonathan Tabour and Barney Devel were Chosen...

6<sup>th</sup> John Gifford was Chosen Constable and Collector of Rates for the year ensuing, he to procure Bondsmen for the faithful performance of his office, and to Collect and pay in the money that shall be assessed and Committed to him to Collect without any pay. and was Sworn accordingly.

7<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Cory, Jonathan Tabour, Philip Cornell, Sylvester Brownell, Benjamin Gifford, George Tripp & Jonathan Fairby were Chosen Hog Reeves for the year ensuing and, Benj. Cory & Sylvester Brownell, George Tripp, & Jonathan Fairby were sworn, accordingly.

8<sup>th</sup> Voted to adjourn this meeting to the Last Saturday of July three of the Clock afternoon, then to meet at this place and it is adjourned accordingly.

May 28<sup>th</sup> 1792 Then personally appeared Jonathan Tabour, and was sworn agreeable to Law, as Surveyor of highways tything man, Culler of hoops and staves & hog Reeve.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> Then personally appeared Stephen Davis, and was sworn agreeable to Law, a Surveyor of Lumber, and Border of Wood.

---

Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup> 1792. at a town Meeting held by an adjourn<sup>ment</sup> from the 14<sup>th</sup> of May. Last, to this day, the town met, there being no business to act upon, the town adjourned without day.

---

August 13<sup>th</sup> 1792. then personally appeared, Benjamin Brownell, Nathaniel Fairby and Wesson Tripp and took the Affirmation required of them by an act of the General Court. Intitled an act for inquiring into the Rateable Estates, within this Commonwealth, to Qualify them as assessors, agreeable to the said act.



71

1 Agreeable to a Warrant from the Select Men, to John Gifford  
Constable of Westport. Requiring him to Notify and Warn the  
Inhabitants to meet together at the town house in said town on  
on Fryday the second day of November AD 1792. to give in their  
Votes for two persons to Represent the third district of this Commonwealth  
in the Congress of the United States. also to give in their Votes for one other  
person to Represent the first, second and third of this Commonwealth  
also to Vote for three Electors. for said third district of President and Vice  
President of the United States. The Inhabitants met agreeable to  
said Warrant. and gave in their Votes as follows. --

The Honourable George Leonard had 13 Votes }  
Thearyashub Bourn 13 -- } third District

The Honourable David Cobb had 12 Votes. for the first second and third distr<sup>ict</sup>  
Water Spooner Esq<sup>r</sup> had 13 Votes }  
Thomas Dufeu Esq<sup>r</sup> had 13 Votes } for Electors. ---  
John Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> 13 }

At a town Meeting Legally warned and held at the town house  
on Monday the fourteenth day of January AD 1793  
for Voting for a Representative to Congress.

The Honourable James Warren Esq<sup>r</sup> had 17 Votes  
John Davis Esq<sup>r</sup> had 2 Votes

At a town Meeting Legally warned and held at the town house in  
Westport for the purpose of Choosing Grand jurors for the year  
ensuing, on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February AD 1793.

Charles Devol Chosen Moderator of this Meeting.

Wesson Lowle Chosen Grand jurors for the year ensuing.

Justice Kirby was drawn to serve as a petit juror to serve  
at the Court of general Sessions of the peace to be holden  
at Taunton. March Next. ---



Bristol ss. John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport.  
in said County Greeting.

You are hereby in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts required to notify and warn the freeholders and other inhabitants qualified agreeable to law to vote in town meeting to meet at the town house in Westport on Monday the first day of April next at ten of the Clock fore noon of said day then and there to act on the particulars hereafter mentioned.

First. At said Meeting to chuse town officers as by Law Required for the year ensuing.

3<sup>rd</sup> To choose a Committee to receive and allow or disallow all accounts that may be brought against said town, and also to settle with the town Treasurer for the year past.

2<sup>nd</sup> To Conclude by Vote such a sum of money as may be thought proper for the support of the poor and other necessary charges as shall arise within said town for the year ensuing.

4<sup>th</sup> At said meeting to act and do what shall be thought proper Relative to hiring a school Master at the expence of the town.

5<sup>th</sup> To Receive Returns of highways that shall be Laid out or altered by the Select Men of said <sup>Town</sup> that they may be of Record.

6<sup>th</sup> At said Meeting if thought proper to sell to sell to John & Mary Parkes a part of the town Landing on the East side of the River.

7<sup>th</sup> For the town at said Meeting if thought proper agreeable to the request of a number of inhabitants of our said town to purchase or procure a way from the Road so called leading from the old Meeting house so called to the Center meeting house to a landing place to be procured at the expence of said town in some convenient place on the west side of the river between Pikes Bridge and the head of said River.

8<sup>th</sup> At said meeting for the freeholders and other Inhabitants qualified to Vote for Representatives to give in their Votes for County Treasurers for the year ensuing.

And make due Return of this warrant with your doings thereon unto the Clerk of our said <sup>Town</sup> on or before the said time of meeting.

Given under our hands & Seals at Westport this fourteenth day of March Anno Que Domini 1793.

William Davis } Select Men  
Charles Devol } of Westport

Bristol ss. Westport April 1<sup>st</sup> 1793

In obedience to this warrant I have notified the inhabitants of said town to meet at time and place by posting up advertisements in the usual places By me John Gifford Constable

Agreeable to the above warrant the inhabitants of the said town of Westport met at the town house in said town and on Monday the first day of April and proceed to Business as follows.

First. William Almy chosen Moderator.

2<sup>nd</sup> William Almy chosen town Clerk and sworn by Justice Davis.

3<sup>rd</sup> Capt Isaac Cory, Nelson Purby, & Henry Howland Chosen Select Men.

4<sup>th</sup> Upon Collecting Sorting and Counting the Votes for County Treasurer George Godfrey Esq. had 44 Votes.

5<sup>th</sup> William Rich Chosen town Treasurer for the year ensuing, and is to have two & one half per Cent on all Money he shall receive in and pay out of the town treasury.

6<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Brownell, Nathaniel Purby and Nelson Triff were chosen Assessors of Rates, & Benjamin Brownell and Nathaniel Purby were Engaged agreeable to Law. also Nelson Triff.

7<sup>th</sup> Capt Silvester Brownell, Lemuel Milk and George Lanton were Chosen a Committee to settle with the town Treasurer for the year past, and also to Examine and allow accounts that shall be brought against the town.



8<sup>th</sup> Upon the sixth article in the above warrant. Inserted upon a request of a number of the inhabitants of the town. to know whether the town will sell to John Avery Parker. a piece of the town landing on the East side of the river. Voted that there be a Committee of three. Chosen to go to the towns Landing on East side of the head of the river. and view the situation and bigness of the said landing. and <sup>report</sup> whether there can be a piece of said landing. sold. without discomodating persons who shall have occasion to use the landing. also to report to the town whether in their opinion it is expedient for the town to sell any part thereof. and if expedient to sell any part. to report how big a part. and upon what terms. and report to this meeting. when met by adjournment from this day. And Jonathan Peckham. Christopher Gifford & Nathaniel Hurby were Chosen the Committee.

9<sup>th</sup> Upon the seventh article in the warrant. inserted upon a Request of a number of Inhabitants of this town. to know whether the town will purchase or procure <sup>way</sup> from the road leading from the old meeting house so called. to the Center meetinghouse. to a landing to a landing to be procured at the expence of said town. in some convenient place on the west side of the river. between Hicks Bridge and the west side of said river. Voted that there be a Committee of three. to View the lands. make inquiry for their information and report A state of facts. with their opinion thereon. And Philip Tripp. Ephron Cornell. Thomas Tripp. were Chosen. the Committee.

10<sup>th</sup> John Davis. Joseph Gifford & Samuel Willcocks was chosen. Field Drivers.

11<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Hurby. Chosen pound keeper. and was engaged. according to law

12<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Brownell Chosen Dealer of Weights & Measures. Engaged.

13<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Gory. & Preserved Shearman. Chosen Dealers of Leather. & sworn

14<sup>th</sup> Barnea Devel. & George Brownell Chosen Cullers of hoops and staves and Engaged agreeable to Law to

15<sup>th</sup> Capt. Ebenezer Brownell. George Brownell. Joseph Gifford. Lemuel Swile Barnea Devel. Job & Amy. Samuel Willcocks & John Hurby Chosen overseers of the fishery.

16<sup>th</sup> George Brownell and Ebenezer Baker was Chosen lything Men and sworn agreeable to Law

17<sup>th</sup> William Willcox. Nathan Tripp. Philip Sanford. Barjona Devel. John Tibbitts. Henry Tibbitts. Isaiah Burden. Esick Tabour Chosen surveyors of highways. and sworn accordingly.

Christopher Cornell. Edmund Tripp. Chosen and took the affirmation John Cornell. Arnold Wood. Charles Devel. William Records. Joseph Gifford Job & Amy Chosen Surveyors of Highways.

18<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Gory. George Brownell. Henry Tibbitts. Prince Brownell. Chosen hog reeves and sworn. Christopher Cornell. Chosen and took the affirmation. Benjamin Gifford. George Tripp. Elihu Hurby Edmund Tripp. Isaiah Brownell. Stephen Davis Cordwinder. Chosen hog Reeves.

Thomas Tripp Christopher Cornell. and Benjamin Brownell Chosen Fence Viewers and took the affirmation agreeable to Law.

Stephen Davis. Chosen surveyor of Lumber and Wood. sworn. April 22<sup>nd</sup> Barjona Devel Chosen and took the affirmation. } Surveyors of Lumber and Wood. } Job & Anthony chosen and sworn.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourned to Monday the thirteenth day May at ten of Clock forenoon. then to meet at this place.



Bristol ss. To John Gifford Constable of the Town  
of Westport in said County. Greeting.

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts to Notify and warn all the freeholders and other  
Inhabitants of said town Qualified to Vote for Representatives to the  
General Court to meet at the town house in said town on Monday  
the first day of April at one of the Clock afternoon of said day  
then and there to give in their Votes for a Governor Lieutenant  
Governor and three Counsellors and Senators.  
And make returns of this ~~with~~ warrant with your doings thereon  
to the Clerk of our said town on or before the time of said Meeting.  
Given under our hands and seals at Westport this fourteenth  
day of March AD 1793.

Charles Devel } Select Men  
William Davis } of Westport

Agreeable to the Within Warrant I have Notified the Inhabitants to  
meet at time and place within Mentioned by posting up advertisements  
at the usual places. — John Gifford Constable

Agreeable to the above Notification the Inhabitants met at the  
town house in said town and did proceed as follows.

His Excellency John Hancock Esq. had 63 Votes Governor.  
His Honour Samuel Adams Esq. had 63 Votes for Lieut Governor.  
The Honourable.

Eliza May Esq. had 68 Votes } For Senators  
George Leonard Esq. had 68 Votes } and Counsellors  
Golder Hocum Esq. — 35 Votes } for County Bristol  
Thomas Durfee Esq. — 30 Votes }

Bristol ss. To John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport  
Greeting.

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
to Notify and warn the male Inhabitants of the town of Westport being twenty  
one years of age and upward having a Freehold Estate within this said  
town of the annual income of three pounds or any Estate of the Value of  
Sixty pounds to meet at the town house in said town on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>  
day of May next at one of the Clock afternoon for the purpose of Choosing  
a Representative to Represent this town at the General Court appointed  
to be Convened and held at Boston on the last Wednesday of May Next.  
Also you are alike Required to warn all the Freeholders and other  
Inhabitants of said town Qualified by Law to Vote in town Meetings to meet at  
the town house in said town on Monday the thirteenth day of May at two  
of the Clock afternoon then and there to act on the following Articles  
First To act and do what shall be thought <sup>proper</sup> respecting towns Landings.  
Secondly To act and do as the town thinks Necessary in giving the Select  
Directions for Laying out and altering highways.  
And make return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the town Clerk  
of the said at or before the time of said meeting Given under our hands at  
Westport this 27<sup>th</sup> day of ~~May~~ April AD 1793.

Henry Howland } Select Men  
Wesson Purby } of Westport  
Isaac Cory }

The Inhabitants being Notified by John Gifford Constable and being met  
at time and place agreeable to the above Warrant. Upon Collecting  
and Counting the Votes for Representative it appeared that William Chmy Esq.  
was Chosen and declared accordingly.  
Voted that the Select Men be Requested to make enquiry what what land for Landings  
is within the town belonging to the town and that they survey it accordingly.  
On the article Respecting highways not acted upon



A town Meeting legally warned, and held at the town house on Monday the first day of April 1793, and continued by adjournment to Monday the thirteenth day of May following. then met at the town house, and proceeded as follows.

Noted to excuse Joseph Gifford and John Davis from being field drivers, and Benjamin Brownell junr. & Thomas Briggs. Chosen and sworn, also Samuel Wilcox from William Records and Arnold Wood sworn surveyors of highways.

Joseph Gifford excused and William Fitzby chosen surveyor highways and engaged. Thomas Cornell chosen surveyor of high Ways and sworn.

The Committee appointed to examine and allow accounts, against the town reported that they had attended that service, and had examined and allowed accounts to the amount of one Hundred and fourteen pounds Seventeen shillings and Eleven pence, as appears by their Records.

Noted to accept the report of the Committee, and the treasurer is Directed to pay the several accounts accordingly.

The Committee appointed to settle with the treasurer Reported, that they had attended that service, and that find there was in the hands of the Collector and treasurer on the Settlement last year, the sum of  $\text{£ } 140:16:6$ .

It further appeared that the Treasurer had Received and paid out since that time the sum of  $\text{£ } 76:17:10$ .

The Balance then in the hands of Collector & Treasurer  $\text{£ } 63:18:8$ .

Noted that the sum of one Hundred and Eighty pounds, be raised by way of Tax, for the support of poor and other Necessary expenses of the town and that Sixty pounds, of it be proportioned on those who were Inhabitants of the town the last year, and the remainder  $\text{£ } 120$  to be proportioned on those that now belong to the town, and both ~~sums~~ thus proportioned to be assessed in one Bill.

Noted that the Select be empowered to proceed according to law, in hiring a School Master, and to Regulate the school or schools as they think proper.

Noted and made choice of John Gifford, Constable and Collector of Rates, for the year ensuing and he to paid two p<sup>ts</sup> - Cents upon what money he shall Collect and pay the Several Treasurers and he is to procure sufficient

Wardmen for the performance of these Trusts, and sworn accordingly.

The Committee appointed to view the towns Landing upon the request of John Chery Parker, Reported that they had attended that service viewed the landing and reported that in their opinion the town could sell a part of in lying in the North East Corner, of the said landing.

Noted to accept the report of the Committee, and that the town will sell to John Chery Parker, a part of said Landing, Bounded as follows.

Beginning at the North East Corner, of the town Landing on the East side of head of the East Branch of Schoaxet River, thence Southerly in the line Between the said Landing & Job & Anthony's Land, Eighty feet, thence West forty feet, thence Northwily to the County Road, on a line that shall be parallel to the first Described line he paying in the Treasury of

this ~~town~~ town, a sum equal to two Dollars per Rod for the Land contained within the lines before described, and the Select Men are hereby empowered and directed to give the said purchaser a deed accordingly.

The Select Men presented a Return of a Survey of the town Landing on the West side of the head of the West Branch of Schoaxet River.

Noted to accept it, and that it be Recorded according.

Noted that this Meeting be adjourned to the last Monday August Next two of the Clock afternoon then to meet at this place.

August 26<sup>th</sup> 1793. Met agreeable to adjournment, there being no business before the town the meeting was Dissolved.

Agreeable to Notice from the Constable, the town met and did a person to serve on the Petty jury, at the Next Court of Common Pleas and General sessions of the peace, to be holden at Taunton, Second day Tuesday of September & Benjamin Brownell junr. was drawn.



To John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport.

Q You are hereby Required in the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Notify and Warn the Freeholders and others of the said town Qualified by Law to Vote in town Meeting to meet and assemble at the town House in Westport on the Ninth day of September at two of the Clock in the after Noon to act on the following article Viz. To chuse a Committee to divide the Highway that formerly went through Dartmouth and is now the dividing Line between Dartmouth and Westport.

Given under our hands and Seals at Westport this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1793.

Wesley Kirby } Select Men  
Henry Howland } of Westport.

Bristol ss. Pursuant to this Warrant I have Notified the Inhabitants of Westport to meet at time and place set in the within Warrant, John Gifford Const.

Agreeable to the above Warrant, the Inhabitants met at the time and place and

Voted as Follows. First that there be a Committee of three to meet the Committee from the town of Dartmouth appointed for the purpose to divide the Highway that is the dividing Line between Dartmouth and Westport, agreeable to the Act for incorporating the town of Westport. And Wm. Wesley Kirby Henry Howland & Benjamin Brownell was Chosen.

At a town Meeting legally warned, at held at the town House in Westport on Saturday y<sup>e</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> day of February A.D. 1794 - - -  
for the purpose of Choosing one Grand & one petty jurior - - -  
Charles Devel was Chosen Clerk of said Meeting pro tempore - - -  
Charles Devel Chosen Moderator - - -  
Capt. William Hicks Chosen Grand jurior, for the year ensuing - - -  
Constant Church Drann Petty Jurior, - - -

At a town Meeting Legally warned and held at the town House in Westport on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February A.D. 1794 - - -  
for the purpose of Choosing an Agent to answer for the town at the next Court of General Sessions of the peace to be holden at Taunton within and for the County of Bristol, Upon a Bill of indictment found against the town of Westport, at the last General Sessions of the peace holden at Taunton aforesaid, on the second Tuesday of September last, for not Amending and keeping in Repair a certain Highway within said town. - Charles Devel Chosen Moderator -  
Charles Devel Chosen Clerk pro tempore, William Hicks, Chosen Agent as aforesaid.



Bristol Feb. 3 To John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport, within the  
Said County, Greeting,

In the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, You are Required to Notify  
and warn all the Male Inhabitants of the town of Westport, Qualified agreeable  
to the Constitution of this Commonwealth, to meet at the town House in Westport  
on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, at ten of the Clock in the fore noon, then and there  
to give in their Votes for a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and also for Counsellors and  
Senators for the year Ensuing, agreeable to the Constitution - -

Also you are alike Required, to notify and warn all the Freeholders and other  
Inhabitants of the town, Qualified agreeable to Law to Vote in town meetings...  
to meet at the said town House on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> day of April at Eleven of the  
Clock in the fore Noon then and there to Act on the following Articles, - - -

- 1<sup>st</sup>. To choose all such town officers as town are by law required to Choose in the  
Months of March or April Annually
- 2<sup>nd</sup> To give in their Votes for a County Treasurer. - - -
- 3<sup>rd</sup> To Choose a Committee to examine and allow accounts that shall be  
brought against the town -  
And also to Choose a Committee to settle with the town treasurer -
- 4<sup>th</sup> To Receive Returns of Highways that shall be laid out or altered by the Selectmen
- 5<sup>th</sup> To act and do what shall be thought proper, in regard to Amending Highways  
and to Vote such sum of Money, as shall be thought proper for the purpose...
- 6<sup>th</sup> To do what shall be thought proper, about Hiring a school Master -
- 7<sup>th</sup> To Agree upon and Vote a sum of Money, for the support of the poor, and  
other expenses of the town for the year ensuing
- 8<sup>th</sup> To act and do what shall be thought, best, about Building a New Bridge  
over the Head of Acquasett River - - -
- 9<sup>th</sup> To know whether the town will sell to John Gifford, a piece of the towns landings  
at the Head of Acquasett River - - -
- 10<sup>th</sup> To Act and do whatt shall be thought proper in preparing a house for  
the poor - - -
- 11<sup>th</sup> To, act and do what shall be thought proper, Relating the settling the way  
that goes from Gershom Woodles Corner, across the head of the Cedar swamp.
- 12<sup>th</sup> To Act and do what shall be thought proper, Relating to laying out part  
of the towns Landing, on the Westward side and head of Acquasett River,  
in house lots and hiring them for a Number of Years. - - -

You are to make Return of this Warrant with your doings thereon, to the  
Clerk of the said town of Westport, as soon as Conveniently may be  
Given under our hands & seals at Westport this tenth day of March A.D. 1794  
Henry Howland, Select Men  
Wesley Peirby, of Westport



At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town house in Westport in the County of Bristol, of the Male Inhabitants Qualified agreeable to the Constitution, to Vote for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Counsellors & Senators, on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1794. Votes for the following persons were given in Sorted, Counted, and declaration thereof made as is by the Constitution directed Vamely —

|                                  |                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Samuel Adams had 69              | } Votes for Governor —              |
| William Cushing had 21           |                                     |
| Samuel Adams had 6               |                                     |
| Edward H. Robbins had 70         | } Votes for Lieutenant Governor,    |
| Thomas Durfee had 43             |                                     |
| Elisha May — had 46              |                                     |
| George Leonard had — 26          | } Votes for Senators & Counsellors, |
| April 7 <sup>th</sup> 1794 — — — |                                     |
| William Almy Town Clerk —        |                                     |

At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town house in Westport on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1794, for the purpose of Choosing such officers as towns are by law required to choose, at their Meetings in the Months of March and April Annually, Also to Vote for County Treasurers, also to Act on such other Matters as mentioned in the Warrant. —

Upon Collecting Sorting, & Counting the Votes for County Treasurers  
Appolias Leonard Esq<sup>r</sup> had 33 Votes —

- 1<sup>st</sup> William Almy Chosen Moderator of the Meeting —
- 2<sup>nd</sup> William Almy Chosen town Clerk, and Sworn —
- 3 William Davis, Wesson Fairby, & Lemuel Milk Chosen Select Men.
- 4 William Almy Chosen Town Treasurer, and to have one and one fourth per Cent for the Money he shall receive in and pay out within the Year —
- 5 Benjamin Brownell, Wesson Tripp, Chosen Assessors of Rates and took affirmation Nathaniel Fairby Chosen Assessor May 12<sup>th</sup> took the affirmation
- 6 Silvester Brownell, George Lantorn, and Lemuel Milk Chosen a Committee on Accounts and also a Committee to settle with the Treasurer —
- 7 Benjamin Cory & Samuel Willcox Chosen Field drivers and Sworn Thomas Allen and John Davis Chosen field drivers
- 8 Nathaniel Fairby Chosen pound keeper — May 12<sup>th</sup> took the affirmation
- 9 Benjamin Brownell Chosen Sealer of Weights and measures took the affirmation
- 10 Benjamin Cory, & Preserved Shearman Chosen Sealers of Leather — and were sworn agreeable to Law —

- 11 Thomas Woodle Chosen Constable and Collector of Rates for the Year ensuing and to have paid him two per Cent for all the money he shall Collect and pay into the treasury where he shall be directed by the warrants he to procure good and sufficient Bondsman for the faithful performance of the trust.
- 12 Job Anthony and Stephen Davis Chosen Surveyors of Lumber and Sworn Barjona Devol Chosen also and took the affirmation — — — George Brownell Chosen and sworn Barjona Devol Chosen and took the affirmation and Jonathan Potter Chosen Cullers of Hoops and Staves.
- 13 Benjamin Brownell Senior Chosen Thomas Tripp, Christopher Cornell, Pelig White Chosen Fence Viewers and took the affirmation, and Abner Willcox Chosen Fence Viewers —
- 14<sup>th</sup> Stephen Davis, Job Anthony Chosen and took the affirmation Barjona Devol affirmed — Borders of Wood — — —
- 15<sup>th</sup> Henry Tibbitts and Jonathan Taber Chosen Surveyor of Highways and Sworn
- 16<sup>th</sup> William Davis and Lemuel Milk Chosen a Committee to make enquiry into the Right the town has to sell any part of the town Landing and the Expediency thereof, and make Report to this meeting, when met by adjournment.
- 17<sup>th</sup> Upon the fifth Article in the Warrant to know whether the town would Vote a sum of Money, to amend and repair the Highways, for the year ensuing Voted not to raise a Sum of Money for the purpose mentioned —
- 18<sup>th</sup> Voted this Meeting be adjourned to the Second Monday of May Next at ten of the Clock in the fore Noon then to Meet in this place, and it is adjourned accordingly

William Almy Town Clerk —

At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town house in Westport on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> day of April and Continued by adjournment, to Monday y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, following.  
Met according to Adjournment —

The Committee on Accounts, made their Report, that they had attended that service, had Examined and allowed Accounts against the town of Westport, to the Amount of one Hundred and thirteen pounds, seven pence, and Nine pence, agreeable the list presented with the Report, Voted to accept the Report of the Committee and the treasurer, Directed to pay the Accounts accordingly —



Voted to Raise by way of tax on the Inhabitants of the town, the sum of one Hundred and ten pounds, for the Support of the poor and the other necessary expenses of the town, for the year ensuing.

John Howland, Benjamin Brownell, 2<sup>d</sup>, Maryona Devol, Robert Fairby, Thomas Briggs, Christopher Cornell, John Cornell, William Records, Nathaniel Fairby, Chosen Surveyors of highways, and took the affirmation Paul Earl, Abial, Davis jun<sup>r</sup>, Stephen Cornell, Phillip Cornell, William Gifford jun<sup>r</sup>, Surveyors of Highways Paul Earl sworn Stephen Cornell aff<sup>r</sup>. William Almy sworn town treasurer - Philip Cornell sworn, Surveyor high George Brownell and Ebenezer Baker Chosen tything Men, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Silvester Brownell, George Brownell, Joseph Gifford, Samuel Soule Barny Devol, Job Almy, Samuel Willcox, & John Fairby Chosen a Committee to oversee the Fishery - - -

George Brownell Cooper, Henry Tibbitts, Prince Brownell, Benjamin Gifford, George Tripp, John Fairby, Josiah Brownell, Stephen Davis Chosen Hog Reeves, Prince Brownell sworn

Silvester Brownell and Peris Richmond, Chosen Fence Viewers & sworn

The Select Men and George Lorton Chosen a Committee, to do what they think proper, Respecting, the Bridge at the Head of Mashset River, On the Article Respecting, providing a house for the poor, Voted not to proceed, Voted that the support of the poor be under the direction of the Select Men

Voted to sell the Highway from Gershom Woodles Corner, across the head of the Cedar Swamp - - -

Voted to Refer the sale of the above ways to the adjournment of this Meeting

Voted not to act on the Article, Respecting Laying out the landing into house Lots - -

The Committee, appointed to View the town Landing and report the expediency of selling thereof, Reported that they had Viewed the same, and that there could be a store set thereon, without Discommoding, the Landing - -

Thereupon Voted that John Gifford be permitted to set a store thereon under the direction of George Lorton to stand thereon during the towns pleasure - - -

Voted to adjourn this Meeting, to the first Monday in July, then to meet at this place at two of the clock afternoon and adjourned accordingly W. Almy

85  
May 22<sup>nd</sup> Benjamin Gifford sworn hog Reeve - - -  
May 24<sup>th</sup> Jonathan Peter sworn Culler of Hoops and Staves, - - -  
William Gifford sworn Surveyor of Highways - - -  
July 5<sup>th</sup> Abner Willcox sworn Fence Viewer, - - -  
7<sup>th</sup> Samuel Charrman Chosen surveyor of highways and sworn - - -

Att a Meeting legally warned and held at the townhouse in Westport on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April <sup>AD 1794</sup> and continued by adjournments, to Monday the seventh day of July following, then met, and upon the eleventh article in the Warrant, to act and do what shall be thought proper, Relating to the selling the highway, that goes from Gershom Woodles, Corner across the head of the Cedar swamp, Voted that upon Thomas Woodles, paying into the hands of the treasurer of this town the sum of ten silver Dollars, for the use of said town, the treasurer is hereby directed and empowered to give and execute in behalf of this town, a Quil Claim deed of all the right and title the town has to said way, lying between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> forty acre lots, lying in Pocasset purchase so called, and deliver it to said Woodles accordingly - - -

Bristol 4<sup>th</sup> To John Gifford Constable of the town of Westport, Greeting, - - -

1. You are Required in the Name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to Notify and warn the Male Inhabitants of said town, being twenty one years of age and upwards, Residing in said town for the space of one year preceding, having a Freehold Estate within said town of the Annual Income of three pounds, or any Estate to the Value of Sixty pounds, to meet at the town House in said town, on Monday the twelfth day of May Inst, at two of the Clock in the after Noon, for the purpose of Choosing, a Representative to represent them in the General Court, Appointed to be Convened and held at the state House in Boston on the last wednesday of May Inst, and make due Return of this Warrant, unto the Clerk of said town, on or before said time of Meeting, Given under our hands and seal at Westport on this first day of May AD 1794 - William Davis, } Select Men  
Nelson Fairby } of Westport

Att a town Meeting, legally warned and held at the town House in Westport on Monday ye 12<sup>th</sup> day of May AD 1794, for the purpose of Choosing, a Representative for the year ensuing, Upon Collecting Sorting & Counting, the Votes for Representative, It appeared that William Almy Esq<sup>r</sup> was Chosen, and Declaration made thereof accordingly.



At a town Meeting Legally warned and held at the town House in Westport on Friday y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> day of August. 1794. - - - - -

to act on the following particulars Namely - - - - -

First, at said Meeting to act and do what shall be thought proper.

Relative to procuring towns stock of Powder, Balls &c - - - - -

2<sup>nd</sup> To act and do what shall be thought proper, relative to an Action brought by the town of Portsmouth against John Gifford Constable for carrying Daniel Weeden an Infant, from Westport to said Portsmouth.

3<sup>rd</sup> To act and do what shall be thought proper relative to Ephraim Davenport, bringing Mary Weeden into town - - - - -

4<sup>th</sup> For the town to act and do, what shall be thought proper, relative to the towns, making an addition to the wages of the detached Soldiers, if they are called into Service - - - - -

First, William Almy Chosen Moderator - - - - -

2<sup>nd</sup> Voted that the Select Men be requested ~~to~~ to procure Money by hiring on interest or other ways, and purchase the Stock of Powder Balls and other Military Equipments for the town, agreeable to Law, and Charge the same to the town agreeable to Law. - - - - -

3<sup>rd</sup> Voted that William Almy, be the agent to defend on behalf of the town in the Action brought by John Gifford for carrying Daniel Weeden an Infant, by a Warrant from the town of Westport to the town of Portsmouth, and he is requested to Consult such Counsell, and Conduct the Business, in all respects, as he shall judge for the advantage of the town. - - - - -

4<sup>th</sup> On the Article relative to Ephraim Davenport, bringing Mary Weeden into this town, Voted not to act upon it for the present. - - - - -

5<sup>th</sup> Voted, that this town will give to each Soldier, detached from the Militia of this town, agreeable to the Requisitions of Congress a sum that shall make each Soldiers Monthly pay, ten dollars per Month, if Congress or the Legislature of this State does not make it up that sum, for the time they shall actually in service, - - - - -

6<sup>th</sup> Voted this Meeting be adjourned, without day - - - - -

At a town Meeting held at the town house in Westport on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1794, to draw one petit Juror for Septem Court, Warton Case was drawn, accordingly - - - - -

At a town Meeting Legally warned and held at the town House in Westport on Monday the third day of November 1794. - - - - -

To act on the following Articles Namely - - - - -

To give in their Votes for the purpose of Choosing a Representative to Represent the third Southern district, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in the Congress of the United States. - - - - -

The Select Men presided at said Meeting - - - - -

Upon Collecting voting and Counting said Votes it appeared that George Leonard Esq<sup>r</sup> had 13 Votes - - - - - and David Gooch - Esq<sup>r</sup> - had 2 Votes, - - - - -

and declaration thereof, made in open Meeting accordingly, - - - - -

The town then proceeded, on the the other articles in said Warrant, - - - - -

1<sup>st</sup> William Almy Esq<sup>r</sup> was Chosen Moderator - - - - -

2<sup>nd</sup> Voted to Choose a Committee of two, to take a Map of this town, ~~and~~ agreeable to a resolve of the General Court of this Commonwealth, passed at their Sessions June 1794 - - - - -

3<sup>rd</sup> Voted that William Almy Esq<sup>r</sup> and M<sup>r</sup> Lemuel Nitch, be the Committee, for the purposes aforesaid, and they are empowered, to employ such Surveyor, at the expence of the town, and other ways Conduct the said Business, as they shall judge, for the Interest of the town, and for the Compleating the said Business - - - - -

4<sup>th</sup> Upon the Article in said Warrant to act and do what shall be thought proper relative to poor Negroes, now expensive to said town, Voted not to act upon it. - - - - -

5<sup>th</sup> Upon the Article in said Warrant, for the town at said Meeting to Conclude by Vote what sum of Money, to raise for the use of said town - - - - -

Voted that the sum of thirty six pounds, be added to the sum Voted, to be raised by the town of Westport at their last, April Meeting, and the Assessors are directed to Assess it, - - - - -

Accordingly, and that so much of said sum, be appropriated for purchasing, powder, Balls and other, Military Equipments for the town agreeable to Law as they shall Cost, and the Select Men are Requested to Lay their Accounts, of the purchase of said Equipments, before the Committee on Accounts, for their Examination and Allowance. And - - - - -



And the treasurer of this town is directed to pay the said accounts thus examined and allowed, out of the first money he shall receive upon said tax - - - - -

6<sup>th</sup> Voted that the Select Men be directed, to deliver the said Military Equipments, to some suitable person, they shall appoint to receive and keep said Stores for the town, they taking a Receipt, for the same, particularizing of every kind the Quantity and Number and Quality, and the said receipt being produced to the Committee on Accounts shall authorize the Committee to immediately to proceed to examine and allow what shall be found due thereon - - - - -  
Voted to adjourn this Meeting without day, and it was adjourned, accordingly. - - - - -

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, held at the Town House in said town on Monday the third day of November A<sup>d</sup> 1794, for the purpose of drawing one person to serve on the petit jury of trials at the next Court of Common pleas to be holden at Taunton on the second day of December Next, the Select Men and Town Clerk, being present. - - - - -  
Isaiah Burden was drawn out of the Box, accordingly

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport Qualified to Vote for Representatives, on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> day of January A<sup>d</sup> 1795, for the purpose of Voting for a Representative for the third Southern District, to Represent the Congress of the United States, Upon Collecting, Sorting and Counting the Votes it appeared that

The Honourable George Leonard Esq. had 9 Votes

The Honourable David Cobb Esq. had 1 Vote -

and declaration made thereof in town Meeting accordingly

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, Qualified to Vote for Representatives on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March A<sup>d</sup> 1795 - for the purpose of Voting for a Representative for the third Southern District, in this Commonwealth, to Represent the said District in the Congress of the United States of America, Upon Collecting, Sorting and Counting the Votes it appeared, that - - - - -  
The Honourable, George Leonard Esq. had 10 Votes -  
The Honourable David Cobb Esq. had 3 Votes - - - - -  
and declaration was made thereof in town Meeting according to Law..

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport Qualified to Vote in town Meeting, held at the town in said town on Monday the sixth day of April A<sup>d</sup> 1795, To Act on the Following Articles  
Namely, To Choose town Officers, for the year ensuing as by Law Required  
2<sup>d</sup> To Conclude by Vote what sum of Money to raise by tax for the support of the poor, of said town, & to pay the town school Master, and other Contingent Charges for the year ensuing. - - - - -

3<sup>d</sup> To Act and do, what may be thought proper, Relative to the supporting of the poor, of said town, or providing a house for their reception, or otherwise as the town, may think proper. - - - - -

4<sup>th</sup> To give in their Votes for a County Treasurer, for the year ensuing year..

5<sup>th</sup> To Receive Returns of High ways, laid out or altered by the Select Men, and approve or Disapprove of the same... - - - - -

6<sup>th</sup> To Act and do what shall be thought proper relative to Giving Culbert Willcox, Liberty to set up a small Building on the towns landing at Hicks Bridge - - - - -

7<sup>th</sup> To Conclude by Vote, in what manner, the High ways shall be repaired for the year ensuing... - - - - -

8<sup>th</sup> If thought, proper to Choose a Committee, to Allow or disallow of Accounts, brought against said town for Settlement, and also to settle with the town treasurer, for the year past.. - - - - -

9<sup>th</sup> For the town at said Meeting, to Act and do what may be thought proper, Relative to selling spirituous Liquors said Meeting days at near said town House - - - - -

which Warrant was signed by the Select Men and duly the town duly Notified by the Constable - - - - -



William Amy Esq<sup>r</sup> Chosen Moderator, -- -- --  
William Amy, -- Chosen Town Clerk  
William T Davis, Welson Peirby and Lemuel Milk  
Chosen Select Men . . . . .

William Amy Chosen Town Treasurer, & to have one & one fourth per  
Cent, upon the Money he receives into the treasury --  
Christopher Cornell, Lemuel Milk, & Humphrey Howland  
Chosen Assessors of Rates, and was engaged agreeable to Law --  
Silvester Brownell, Lemuel Milk, and George Lawton, Chosen  
a Committee to examine & allow Accounts brought against the town  
and also to settle, with the town treasurer for the year Past . . . . .

Benjamin Brownell & Abraham Cornell, Joseph Gifford, Henry Tibbitts  
John Davis, Benjamin Cory, Chosen Field drivers & sworn . . . .  
Thomas Allen & Samuel Willcox Chosen Field Drivers . . . . .

Nathaniel Peirby Chosen pound keeper, and sworn . . . . .  
Benjamin Brownell chosen pound ~~keeper~~ <sup>keeper</sup> & Leader of Weights & Measures.  
Thomas Woodle, Chosen Constable & Collector of taxes, and to have two  
per Cent, upon the money he shall collect & pay in to the treasurer. --

Job Anthony, Barjona Devol, & Stephen Davis Chosen Surveyors of Lumber,  
Shingles and Plaboards, & Barjona Devol & Stephen Davis was sworn according  
George Brownell & Barjona Devol, Chosen Builders of hoops & Staves . . . .  
Barjona Devol was sworn, accordingly . . . . .

Thomas Tripp, Christopher Cornell, Abner Willcox, Silvester  
Brownell, & Peris Richmond Fence Viewers & Sworn . . . . .

Benjamin Brownell & Peleg White, Fence Viewers . . . . .  
Stephen Davis, Barjona Devol, Job Anthony & Peleg Potter Chose  
Corders of Wood, & Measures. Stephen Davis and Barjona Devol  
was sworn accordingly -- -- --

Benjamin Cory, & Preserved Shearman Chosen Sealers of ~~Wool~~ <sup>Wool</sup>  
Leather & Sworn . . . . .

Daniel Tripp & Christopher Cornell, Chosen Cullers of dry fish & sworn . . . .  
Levy Shearman, Jonathan Faber, Humphrey Maccumbe, Benja<sup>n</sup>,  
Devol, Joshua Petty, Barjona Devol, Ezek Faber, Nathaniel  
Peirby, Philip Cornell, Charles Baker, Surveyors of Highways  
& Sworn, John Cornell, Job Shearman, Edmond Tripp, Edward  
Eddy Chosen Surveyors of high ways. -- -- --



Upon Collecting Sorting and Counting the Votes for County Treasurer  
it appeared that Appollas Leonard Esq. had 41 Votes. ---  
Upon the 7<sup>th</sup> Article in the Warrant. Namely to Conclude by Vote in  
what manner, the highways shall be repaired the year ensuing,  
Voted not to raise a sum of Money by way of Tax, for repairing  
the Highways. ---

Voted, that the Select men be a Committee, to View the towns landing  
near Hicks Bridge, and report to the adjournment of this Meeting  
whether it is best in their opinion, for Culbert, Wilson to have  
Leave to set a Building on said Landing,

The Committee appointed the last year, to View the Bridge at head of the  
River, and report what was the necessary to be done to it. Reported  
that in their opinion it was best to only make some small Repairs  
for the present, Voted to accept the Report. ---

Thomas Woodle was sworn Constable & Collector of Taxes

This Meeting adjourned to the sixth day of May. Nine Clock fore Noon,  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> Ebenezer Eddy engaged Surveyor of high ways,

Att a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the town of Westport,  
Qualified agreeable to the Constitution, and held at the town  
House in Westport, on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 1795  
for the purpose of giving in their Votes for Governor, Lieutenant  
Governor for the Commonwealth, and Senators and Counsellors,  
for the District & County of Bristol, agreeable to the Constitution  
The Votes being Collected, Sorted and Counted by the Select  
Men. It appeared that ---

Samuel Adams. had 61 Votes for Governor. ---  
Moses Gill. - had 54 Votes for Lieutenant Governor,  
Thomas Durfee had 37 Votes } for Counsellors  
Elisha May. - had 46 Votes } and Senators ---



At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town  
in Westport on Monday y<sup>e</sup> sixth day of April 1795,  
and Continued by adjournment to Wednesday y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> day of  
May following. Met accordingly  
George Lawton, John Wate, David Russell, Robert Peirby  
Job Milly, & Thomas Cornell Chosen Surveyors of high ways.  
George Lawton, John Wate, Robert Peirby, engaged accordingly  
Voted to excuse Edmond Tripp, from being surveyor of high ways.

George Brownell, 3<sup>d</sup> and Ebenezer Baker, Chosen tything Men  
Nevester Brownell, George Brownell 3<sup>d</sup> Joseph Gifford, Lemuel  
Sowle, Job Abney, Samuel Wilcox, & John Peirby, Chosen  
a Committee to oversee the fishery

Henry Tibbits, George Lawton, George Tripp, Prince Brownell  
Nelson Sowle, George Brownell 3<sup>d</sup>, Abraham Cornell, & John  
Cornell, Chosen Hog Revers -  
George Lawton, George Tripp, Nelson Sowle, Abraham Cornell, &  
John Cornell sworn accordingly

The Committee appointed to view the towns landing by Hicks Bridge  
and report to this meeting, whether in their opinion it was expedient  
to give Culbert Wilcox liberty to set a building on the said  
landing, made their Report, That it was expedient to give  
him liberty to set a building on said landing, to stand there  
during the towns pleasure, and that no other person <sup>but</sup> ~~person~~  
have liberty to improve it, but himself.

Voted to accept the Report of said Committee and that he  
have liberty to set a building on said landing upon those  
Conditions

Voted that the Resurvey and Alteration of the drift way  
leading from the Head of the East Branch of Acquasset River  
on the West side, down to Hicks Bridge, made by the  
Select Men and presented to this Meeting, be accepted  
and that the same be Recorded.

Voted that the Resurvey and alteration of part of the drift way, leading  
from the Highway by Job Macumbers, to Riverton line, made by  
the Select Men and presented to this Meeting, be accepted, and  
that the same be Recorded.

Voted that the Select Men be directed to fix on the time and place  
when & where they will meet, to Vendue or dispose of the poor of this  
town, for the year ensuing, to that person or persons that will  
keep them the Cheapest, on such Conditions and Restrictions as the  
Select Men shall there agree upon, and the Select Men are  
Requested to give due Notice of time and place, <sup>of Meeting</sup> and to dispose  
of said poor accordingly

The Committee appointed by the town to examine and allow Accounts that  
shall be brought against the town of Westport, Report, that they have  
attended that service and that they have Examined & Allowed Accounts  
against the town of Westport to the amount of £ 143:12:11  
Agreeable to the list herewith presented

Also the Committee agreeable to their appointment, Reported that they  
had examined the Accounts of the treasurer, and find that he has  
Received into the treasury within the year past, £ 144:7:7:  
and paid out the sum of - - - - - 13 9: 2:10

Leaving a Ballance in his hands of - - - - - 5:4:9  
They further Reported, that as near as they can Asertain the  
expence of the town from the incorporation to May 1794 - - -

was - - - - - 557:10:7

Expensed before that time - - - - - 558:10:0

Ballance that against the town - - - - - 4:0:7

Allowed May 1795 - - - - - £ 143:12:11

Expensed the last year - - - - - £ 147:13:0

The Ballance now against the town - - - - - £ 101:11:6

All which is submitted by the Committee - - - - - £ 13:18:0

Voted to accept the Report of the Committee and that the treasurer  
is hereby directed to pay the several Accounts thus allowed, out  
of the treasury, which Accounts thus paid shall discharge him  
of so much of the money, he shall Receive into the treasury -



Voted to raise by way of tax for the support of the poor and other expenses of the town for the year ensuing, the sum of one Hundred and fifty pounds Lawfull Money and the Assessors is directed to Assess the same accordingly.

Voted to adjourn this Meeting to Wednesday J<sup>l</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> of May at 2 o'clock after Noon then to Meet at this place — and it was adjourned accordingly —

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the town of Westport qualified agreeable to the Constitution, to Vote for Representatives. Legally warned and held at the town house in said town on Wednesday the sixth day of May. A<sup>d</sup> 1795, for the purpose of giving in their Votes upon the Necessity and expediency of Revising the Constitution of this Commonwealth, agreeable tenth Article of the sixth Chapter of said Constitution, Upon Collecting sorting and Counting the Votes it appeared there was for Not Revising the Constitution 29 Votes —

Also, for the purpose of Choosing a Representative, to Represent this town in the General Court, agreeable to said Constitution Upon Collecting, sorting and Counting the Votes it appeared that William Abney Esq<sup>r</sup> was Chosen and declaration made thereof accordingly —

At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town house in Westport, on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> day of April A<sup>d</sup> 1795 and continued by adjournments to Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May following, Met according to adjournment

Voted to remove, Elizabeth Devol, to the place, where she can be kept Cheapest,

William Wood chosen & sworn Surveyor of Highways  
Thomas Cornell sworn surveyor of highways. —

David Russell, affirmed surveyor of highways. —

Voted not to act upon upon the Article in the warrant Respecting selling spiritous liquors near the town House on town Meeting days —

Voted to adjourn this Meeting without day and it is adjourned Accordingly, William Abney J. Clerk —

At a town Meeting held at the town House in Westport on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> day of June A<sup>d</sup> 1795 for the purpose of Voting for a Representative to Represent the third southern district of this Commonwealth in the Congress, of the United States of America, upon Collecting Sorting and Counting the Votes it appeared that, George Leonard Esq<sup>r</sup> had Eighteen Votes and declaration made thereof in town Meeting, by the Select Men, agreeable to Law. —

Aug 17<sup>th</sup> 1795 Job. Mith sworn Surveyor of highways  
Benj. Brownell affirmed Dealer of Weights & Measures  
and Fence Viewer by Wm Abney J. Clerk —



At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town house in Westport on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November A<sup>d</sup> 1795.

Voted William Abney Moderator. . . .  
George Lawton, Welson Peirce, and Lemuel With, Chosen a Committee to Build a Bridge across the head of the East Branch of Acushet River, and they are hereby requested, to View the Stream, and agree upon the width to Build said Bridge, and to provide the Stuff of such Materials and in such manner, as they shall think most advantageous to the town, and to build said Bridge as soon as Conveniently may be, and the season of the year will admit of it . . . .

Agreeable to a Venire from the Clerk of Court of Common pleas, Requiring one person drawn to serve as a petty jurior at said Court in December term, the town met on Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November A<sup>d</sup> 1795, and Humphry Howland was drawn to serve as aforesaid.

Agreeable to a Venire from the Clerk of the Court of Common pleas, Requiring one person drawn to serve as a Grand Jurior, for the year ensuing, and one person drawn to serve as a petty jurior, at the Next Court of Common pleas, to be holden at Taunton in the County of Bristol, the town met on Monday the fourth day of April A<sup>d</sup> 1796, and Benjamin Brownell the 2<sup>nd</sup> was drawn to serve as a Grand Jurior, for the year ensuing and Bennett Cook was drawn to serve as a petty jurior, at the Next Court of Common pleas & General Session of the peace, as aforesaid.

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the town of Westport, Qualified agreeable to the Constitution to Vote for Governor, Lieutenant, Counsellors and Senators, legally warned and held, at the town House in said town on Monday the fourth day of April, A<sup>d</sup> 1796, Votes for the following persons, were given in sorted Counted and Declaration made thereof in town Meeting agreeable to the Constitution

|                         |          |                       |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Namely For Samuel Adams | 45 Votes | } For Governor. . . . |
| For Increase Sumner     | 4        |                       |
| For William Cushing     | 1        |                       |

For Moses Gill . . . . 50 Votes for Lieutenant Governor,

|                |    |                                             |
|----------------|----|---------------------------------------------|
| Elisha May had | 42 | } Votes for Counsellors and Senators. . . . |
| Holder Hocum   | 36 |                                             |
| Samuel Tobey   | 4  |                                             |

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, Qualified agreeable to law, to Vote in town Meetings, legally warned and held at the town house in said town on Monday the fourth day of April A<sup>d</sup> 1796, to Act on the following Articles Contained in the warrant for calling said Meeting Namely

- 1<sup>st</sup> To Chuse town Officers for the year ensuing as by law Required,
- 2<sup>d</sup> to Conclude upon, Vote what sum of money may be thought proper, for the support of the poor and other Necessary Charges, arising within said town for the year ensuing
- 3<sup>d</sup> to Act and do what may be thought proper, relative to Hiring a town school Master, for the year ensuing
- 4<sup>th</sup> to receive returns of highways laid out or altered and to approve or disapprove of the same, that they may be Recorded. . . .



- 5<sup>th</sup> To Chuse a Committee, to receive accounts, brought against the town, and approve or disapprove of the same, and also to settle with the town treasurer, for the year past,
- 6<sup>th</sup> to Vote for County Register
- 7<sup>th</sup> to Vote for County Treasurer, for the year, Ensuing...
- 8<sup>th</sup> to Conclude by Vote, in what way or Manner, to support the poor, of said town for the year ensuing.
- 9<sup>th</sup> to for the town at said Meeting, to act and do, what may be thought most proper, relative to Repairing the highways within the said town, for the year, ensuing, either by way of tax or other ways, as may be thought most convenient,

- First William Almy Esq; Chosen Moderator,  
 2<sup>nd</sup> William Almy Chosen town Clerk, for the year ensuing and sworn agreeable to Law. -  
 3<sup>rd</sup> William Davis, Wesson Purby, Roger White, Chosen Select Men, for the year ensuing - - -  
 4<sup>th</sup> William Almy Chosen town treasurer, and to have one and one quarter cent upon each Dollar he shall receive in and pay out of the the year ensuing, & sworn according  
 5. Christopher Cornell, Lemuel Milk, and Humphry Constand chosen Assessors of Rates, and, sworn - - -  
 6<sup>th</sup> Silvester Brownell, Lemuel Milk, & George Lantton, chosen a Committee, to examine and allow accounts, that shall be brought against town, and also to settle with the town treasurer for the year past,  
 7<sup>th</sup> Silvester Brownell, Peris Richmond, Christopher Cornell, Thomas Cornell, Thomas Tripp, Benjamin Brownell 2<sup>nd</sup> & Abner Wilcox Chosen Fence Viewers & sworn - - -

- 3<sup>th</sup> Abner Wilcox, Wesson Lantton, George Lantton, Philip Cornell, Esch Taber, Henry Tibbitts, John Tibbitts & Robert Peabody Chosen Hog Rues, & sworn, also George Brownell 3<sup>rd</sup> & John Cornell 2<sup>nd</sup> Chosen,  
 9<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Brownell 2<sup>nd</sup> Abraham Cornell, Joseph Gifford, Henry Tibbitts, Stephen Davis Carpenter, Esch Taber and William Allen, Chosen Field Drivers and sworn, . . . .  
 10<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Purby Chosen pound Keeper & sworn. . . .  
 11<sup>th</sup> Job Anthony, Barjona Devol, Stephen Davis Carpenter, Chosen Surveyors of Lumber Shingles & Plaboards & sworn,  
 12<sup>th</sup> Job Anthony, Barjona Devol, Stephen Davis Carpenter and Peleg Potter, Chosen Corders & Measurers of Wood & affirmed,  
 13<sup>th</sup> Barjona Devol & George Brownell Chosen, Cutlers of hoops and staves and Barjona Devol was affirmed,  
 14<sup>th</sup> Preserved Shearman and Thomas Briggs, Chosen Sealers of ~~Woods~~ <sup>Measures</sup> Leather & sworn,  
 15<sup>th</sup> Daniel Tripp 2<sup>nd</sup> George Brownell Cooper & Christopher Cornell, Chosen Cutlers of dry Fish, Christopher Cornell affirmed,  
 16<sup>th</sup> Wanton Maccumber, & Wesson Maccumber, Chosen tything men Wanton Maccumber, sworn,  
 17<sup>th</sup> Silvester Brownell, George Brownell Cooper, Joseph Gifford, Lemuel Lantton, Job Almy, Samuel Wilcox, & John Purby Chosen a Committee, to oversee the Fishery.  
 18<sup>th</sup> Voted to raise a Sum of Money by way of Tax, to amend & Repair the highways the Year Ensuing,  
 19<sup>th</sup> Voted that the Select Men have the direction in supporting the poor, either by venduing or other ways as they shall judge for the Interest of the town and Comfort of the poor. . .



20<sup>th</sup> Upon Collecting sorting and Counting the Votes for County Register, it appeared that, James Williams Esq. had 44 Votes,

21<sup>st</sup> Upon Collecting, sorting and Counting the Votes for County Treasurer, it appeared that Appollas Leonard Esq. had 31 Votes.

Voted to adjourn this Meeting to the Second Monday in May

Next Afternoon of Clock Yore Noon, then to Meet at this place, P.

A. B. previous to the meeting being adjourned, Voted, that the Knowrey and Alteration of the towns way, leading from the High way that Crosses Spikes Bridge, so Called, to the County Road, near the East Branch of Acushet River, on the East Branch of said River, Made by the Select Men and presented to this meeting, be accepted and that the same be Recorded. Accordingly

At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town in Westport on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 1796, and Continued by adjournment to Monday May 9<sup>th</sup> following, Met accordingly.

The Committee appointed to examine and allow Accounts brought against the town of Westport, Reported, that after giving due notice, they attended that service at the town house in said town, on Monday the second day of May 1796, and had examined and allowed, Accounts, against the town of Westport, agreeable to a list of persons names, and sums presented to the amount of - - - - -

Doll Cents  
320 17 6 -

and that the select men had Allowed Master Simpson - 102: -

Dollars - 512 17 6

Also the Committee agreeable to their appointment, have, examined, the Accounts of the treasurer, and Report, that the treasurer has received for the town, since the settlement made with him, on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April 1795 the sum of including <sup>interest</sup> ~~Ballance~~ \$ 104. 17. 1

that he had paid out the sum of - - - - - 102. 17. 7

Ballance in his hands May 2<sup>d</sup> 1796 - - - - - \$ 1. 19. 6

Equal to - - - - - Doll. 6. 58 Cents



The Committee further reported, that there was a Balance in favour of the town April D. 1795. between the sum allowed, against the town and the sum expended, of --- £ 13: 18: 2. equal to --- Dollars - 36  
 Expended the last year --- 546: 33

Allowed May 2<sup>d</sup> 1796, as per list } Doll. 320: 76  
 Select men to Simpson --- 192 --- } Doll. --- 79: 93  
 Balance in favour of the town --- 592: 69

The Committee further reported that there was in the hands of Thomas Woodle Collector. --- Balance of taxes --- £ 204: 12: 11  
 in John Giffords hands --- 8: 10: 6 ---  
 Capt. William Hickes hands --- 8- 18- 10 ---  
 In the hands of William Abney, as treasurer --- 1: 19: 6 ---  
 In the hands of William Davis Esq. --- being Money  
 Received by him, of Col. Carl, upon account of a horse sold --- 5- 1: 8 ---  
 for the town, taken of Chase, --- £ 229: 3: 5  
 Equal to --- Doll. 763: 24 Cents

All which was submitted by the Committee ---  
 Voted to accept the report of the Committee, and that the treasurer be directed to pay the Accounts thus Allowed, by the Committee, which Accounts when paid, shall discharge him of as much of the money, he shall receive for the town

Voted that there be raised by way of tax, on the polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, for the support of the peace and other incidental Charges of said town for the year ensuing, the sum of five Hundred Dollars, to be collected and paid into the town Treasury, within one year, from the time of passing this Vote, and the Assessors of said town are hereby directed to assess the same according to law, and deliver a list or lists thereof to the Constable or Collector, of said town, requiring him to collect and pay over the same accordingly, --- and the treasurer is hereby directed, to issue his warrant against the Constable or Collector, for the sum he shall be deficient if any, at the expiration of one year, unless he be directed by the Major part of the Select Men, to suspend, during his vacation, which Suspension shall at no one time exceed three Months ---



Noted, that the treasurer, be and he is, hereby directed, to issue Executions against the Collectors, for the years prior, to the year, 1795, for the sums they shall be deficient within three Months, and against the Collector for the year 1795, within six Months, from the time of passing this Vote.

On Motion made and seconded, to reconsider the Vote passed at this meeting on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April last for raising a way of tax a sum of Money for the amending and repairing the highways within the town for the year ensuing, - Upon Collecting sorting and Counting the Votes it appeared that there was a Majority for not Reconsidering. - -

Noted, that, for the amending and repairing the Highways and town ways, within the town of Westport, for the year ensuing, the sum of six Hundred Dollars, be assessed on the polls, and rateable Estates, personal and Real of the Inhabitants, Residents and non Residents, of the town of Westport, as other Charges are by law assessed, and that the Assessors deliver, a list of the persons, and the sums, at which they are assessed, to each Surveyor for his limits, according to law.

Noted, that fifty Cents be allowed, to a person for a days work done on the ways, and that seventeen Cents be allowed for a Cart or plow one day,

Noted that the Hiring a town school Master be left to the Select Men to do, as they shall think for the Interest of the town. - - -

Noted that Paul Earl, Humphrey Macomber, Peris Richmond, William Wood, Ebenezer Eddy, Edmond Tripp, Abner Potter, Nathaniel Herby, Jonathan White, Thomas Cornell, Roger White, Isaac Howland, John Mosher, Margonia Devol, Ezekiel Brownell, Charles Baker, Henry Tibbitts & Isaac Burden, be surveyors of Highways for the year ensuing, and Humphrey Macomber, Peris Richmond, Ebenezer Eddy, Edmond Tripp, Abner Potter, Nathaniel Herby, Jonathan White, Thomas Cornell, Roger White, Isaac Howland, John Mosher, Charles Baker, Henry Tibbitts, was engaged to the faithful discharge of the duties of said Office - - -

Noted Benjamin Brownell, Sealer of Weights & Measures. - -

Noted to adjourn this Meeting to the first Monday of Aug. Next at ten fore Noon then to meet at this place. - -  
Margonia Devol sworn Surveyor of highways, June,

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport Qualified agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth, to Vote for Representatives, being warned, as the Constitution directs and held at the town house in said, on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1796, for the purpose of Choosing a Representative, to Represent the town of Westport, in the General Court, agreeable to the Constitution, Upon Collecting, sorting and Counting the Votes, it appeared that William Almy Esq, had twenty two Votes and was Chosen, it being the whole Number given in - - and declaration made thereof in town Meeting accordingly. - -

At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town house in Westport, on Monday y. 6<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1796, and Continued by adjournments to Monday y. 1<sup>st</sup> day of August following Not agreeable to Adjournment.

Noted that, Paul Earl, William Wood junr, Ezekiel Brownell, and Isaac Burden be Surveyors of highways for the town of Westport, for the year ensuing. -

Noted, to accept the Return of the highways, laid out by the Select men, on the East side of the East Branch of the River and that the same be Recorded. -

Noted that the ~~Land~~ Owners of the <sup>Land</sup> through which the said highways, is laid out, be permitted to keep up the Bars and Gates as Usual if they see cause, to do it, untill the first day of April Next. - - -

At a town Meeting held at the town house in Westport on Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1796, for the purpose of drawing one Man to serve on the Petit jury at the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the peace, September term, William Gifford junr was drawn, as the law directs - -

Capt. Paul Earl was sworn agreeable to Law, a Surveyor of Highways



At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the town of Westport  
Qualified agreeable to the Constitution to Vote for Representatives in the  
General Court of this Commonwealth, said meeting being legally warned  
and held at said Westport, on Monday ye 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 1796.  
For the purpose of giving in their Votes, for a Representative, to Represent  
the third Southern District of this Commonwealth in the Congress of the  
United States, Also for giving in their Votes for an Elector of President  
and Vice President of the United States, Votes for the following persons,  
were given in, sorted in and Counted, and Declaration made thereof agreeable  
to Law, Viz

For Elisha May Esq<sup>r</sup> - 17 Votes for Representative - -  
for Seth Padesford Esq<sup>r</sup> 15 Votes } For Elector of President  
and for Elisha May Esq<sup>r</sup> 1 Vote } and Vice President - - -  
Also at the same meeting Thomas Brightman, was drawn to serve as  
a Petit Juror, at the next Court of Common Pleas to be holden at  
Taunton on the Tuesday of December next - - -

At a Meeting of the Male Inhabitants of the town of Westport  
Qualified agreeable to the Constitution to Vote, for Representatives to  
the General Court of this Commonwealth, said Meeting being legally  
warned and held at said Westport on Monday ye 16<sup>th</sup> day of ~~January~~  
~~January~~ 1797, for the purpose of giving in their Votes  
for a Representative to Represent the third Southern District of this  
Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States, Also for  
giving in their Votes for an Elector, Votes for the following  
person was given in Counted and Declaration made thereof,  
Agreeable to Law - - -

For Elisha May Esq<sup>r</sup> - 12 Votes - -

Also at said Meeting Voted that the Select Men be and hereby  
are requested, to provide for the support of Elizabeth Devol,  
in the way they shall think for the interest of the town  
and for their comfortable support - - -

April 3<sup>d</sup> 1797, Thomas Tripp Grand Juror. and  
Wesley Macomber - Petit Juror -

Bristol J<sup>r</sup>, To Thomas Woodle Constable of the town of Westport  
Greeting,

You are hereby required in the Name of the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts, to Notify and warn the, the Freeholders and other Inhabitants  
of said town, Qualified by Law to Vote in town meetings, to meet at the town  
house in Westport, on Monday the third day of April Next at ten of  
the Clock in the fore Noory, to Act on the following Articles  
Namely,

- 1<sup>st</sup> - to choose town officers as by Law Required,
- 2<sup>d</sup> - to Conclude by Vote, what sum of money to raise, by tax,  
for support of the poor, and other necessary charges, arising within  
said town the year ensuing - - -
- 3<sup>d</sup> - to Conclude by Vote, in what manner the repair, of the highways within  
said town the year ensuing,
- 4<sup>th</sup> - to Act and do what may be thought proper, relative to hiring a  
town School Master, at the expence of the town the year ensuing
- 5<sup>th</sup> - to give in their Votes for a County treasurer, for the year ensuing,
- 6<sup>th</sup> - to receive returns of highways laid out and altered, by the Select  
Men of said town, that the same may be of Record. - - -
- 7<sup>th</sup> - for the town at said Meeting to Act and do what shall be thought  
most proper, relative to the Records of highways, within the said  
town of Westport,
- 8<sup>th</sup> - to Conclude by Vote, in what manner the poor of said town shall  
be Supported, for the year ensuing, And Make Return of -

William Davis } Select Men -  
Wesley Piercy }  
Roger White, }

The said meeting was legally warned, by the Constable and return  
made thereof, Accordingly - - -

At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the town House in Westport  
on Monday the 3<sup>d</sup> day of April 1797 for the purpose of choosing town  
officers and to Act on other Articles mentioned in the above Warrant



William Almy Esq. Chosen Moderator.

William Almy Chosen Town Clerk, and sworn,  
William Davis, Welson Purby, and Roger White, Select Men,  
William Almy, Chosen Town Treasurer, and to have one and one fourth  
per Cent, paid him upon the monies he shall receive in and pay out of the  
Town Treasury. - -

Thomas Woodle Chosen Constable and Collector of Rate for the year ensuing,  
and to have three and  $\frac{3}{4}$  per Cent, Commissions upon the money he shall  
Collect and pay into the ~~several~~ Treasurers, agreeable to his warrant,  
~~Nathaniel Piercy chosen pound Keeper~~ and sworn accordingly. - -

Nathaniel Piercy chosen pound Keeper,  
Peris Richmond, Christopher Cornell, Thomas Cornell, Thomas Tripp,  
Benjamin Brownell, Benjamin Brownell 2<sup>d</sup> and Abner Wilcox,  
Chosen Fence Viewers, for the year ensuing and ~~sworn~~ affirmed. -  
Silvester Brownell, chosen Fence Viewer. - -

Benjamin Brownell 2<sup>d</sup>, Abraham Cornell, Joseph Gifford, Henry Tibbitts  
Stephen Davis Carpenter, Esch Taber & Williams Allen, Chosen Field  
Drivers and sworn. - -

John Anthony, Marjona Devol, Stephen Davis Carpenter, Chosen Surveyors  
of Lumber, Shingles and Shaboards, and affirmed. - -

John Anthony, Marjona Devol, Stephen Davis Carpenter, Daniel Tripp 2<sup>d</sup>,  
Chosen Corders & measurers of Wood, and, affirmed. - -  
also Pelag Potter chosen Corder and measurer of Wood,

Marjona Devol, and George Brownell <sup>Cooper</sup>, chosen Cullers of ~~dry fish~~ <sup>coopers</sup> ~~and affirmed~~,  
Hoops & Staves, and affirmed. - -

Preserved Shearman, and Thomas Briggs, Chosen Dealers of Leather and sworn,  
Daniel Tripp 2<sup>d</sup>, George Brownell <sup>Cooper</sup>, and Christopher Cornell, Chosen  
Cullers of Dry Fish and, affirmed. - -

Wanton Maccumber, and Welson Maccumber, Chosen Tithing Men,  
Benjamin Brownell, Chosen Dealer of Weights and measures, and affirmed,  
Voted to amend the Highways & town ways within the town for the year  
ensuing by way of tax. - -

Upon Collecting, sorting, and counting, the Votes for County Treasurer,  
it appeared, that, Apollas Leonard Esq. had, 26 Votes. - -

Benjamin Devol, Humphrey Maccumber, Benjamin Cory, Lemuel Lowle  
Abner Brownell, Welson Purby Abner Potter, Golder White, John Mosher,  
Benjamin Wilcox, William White 2<sup>d</sup>, Robert Purby, Jonathan Tripp,  
Marjona Devol, John Gifford, Philips Sanford, Henry Tibbitts  
and Isaiah Wurdery. Chosen Surveyors of Highways, and,  
Robert Purby, Jonathan Tripp, Marjona Devol, Henry Tibbitts sworn  
and, Benjamin Devol, Abner Potter, affirmed. - -

Christopher Cornell, Philips Cornell, & Humphrey Howland, Chosen  
Assessors of Rates, and affirmed. - -

George Lanston, Silvester Brownell, and Lemuel Smith, Chosen  
a Committee, to examine accounts brought against the town and als  
to examine the accounts and settle with the Treasurer for the year past,  
Voted to raise a sum of Money by way of tax for the year ensuing  
to amend the highways. - -

Voted to adjourn this meeting to Monday, the first day of May next at  
ten of the Clock in the fore noon then to meet at this place, and it  
is adjourned accordingly. - -

At a meeting of the male Inhabitants of the town of Westport, Qualfied  
agreeable to the Constitution of of this Commonwealth, held, at the  
town house in said town on monday, the third day of April 1797,  
for the purpose of giving in their Votes, for Governor, Lieutenant Governor,  
for this Commonwealth, and Senators and Counsellors, for the County  
and District of Bristol, Upon Collecting Sorting and Counting the  
Votes, by the Select men, it appeared, that -

|                 |              |                   |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Increase Sumner | had 12 Votes | } for Governor. - |
| Moses Gill      | had 3 Votes  |                   |
| James Sullivan  | had. 3 Votes |                   |

|                   |                |                              |
|-------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| And - Moses Gill  | had - 15 Votes | } for Lieutenant Governor. - |
| Edward H. Robbins | 2 Votes        |                              |
| Samuel Philips    | 1 Vote         |                              |

|                  |                |                              |
|------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| And - Elisha May | had - 27 Votes | } for Senators & Counsellors |
| Leth Smith       | had - 26 Votes |                              |
| Samuel Tobey     | had - 1 Vote   |                              |



At a Meeting of the male Inhabitants, of the town of Westport, Qualified agreeable to the Constitution of this Commonwealth to Vote for Representatives to the General Court, held at the town house in said town on Monday, the third day of April, A.D. 1797, for the purpose of giving in their Votes, for a Representative, to Represent ~~them~~ the third Southern District in the Congress of the United States of America,

Upon the Select mens, Sorting Counting and Collecting the Votes, it appeared that Stephen Kitchcock Esq. had, 12 Votes

and Laban Whiton — had, 5 Votes —

and declaration made thereof in town meeting by the Select Men agreeable to Law — — —

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, at the town house in Westport on Monday y<sup>e</sup> third day April A.D. 1797 for the purpose of Drawing out of the Box, one man to serve as a Grand Juror, to serve at the Courts of General Sessions of the peace for the year ensuing, also to draw in like manner one good and lawfull man, to serve on the petit jury at the Court of Common pleas, and General Sessions of the peace April term A.D. 1797. Thomas Tripp Draven Grand Juror — — —  
Nelson Macomber Petit Juror — — —

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport legally warned and held at the town house in Westport on Monday the first day of May A.D. 1797, for the purpose of ~~giving~~ Voting for a Representative, to Represent the town of Westport in the General Court of this Commonwealth agreeable to the Constitution Upon Collecting sorting and Counting the Votes it appeared that, William Almy Esq. had 17 Votes, and that Thomas Tripp had, — — — 2 Votes, William Almy having a Majority and was Chosen and Declaration made thereof in town Meeting accordingly

At a town Meeting legally warned and held at the Town house in Westport on Monday y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April A.D. 1797, and continued by adjournment to Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May following, Met accordingly.

1<sup>st</sup> Abner Brownell chosen Select Man — — —  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sylvester Brownell, George Brownell, Joseph Gifford, Lemuel Lovle, Job Almy, Samuel Wilcox, & John Herby Chosen a Committee — to oversee the Fishery —

3<sup>rd</sup> Roger White, Philip Cornell, Robert Herby, George Lawton, Robert Earl, Thomas Briggs, Chosen Hogreves, and affirmed and, George Brownell Esq. & Henry Abbotts Chose Hogreves  
4<sup>th</sup> Nelson Macomber excused from being Cything man and William Wood 2<sup>nd</sup> Chosen in his stead

Nathanial Herby sworn Pound Keeper

Sylvester Brownell sworn fence viewer — —

Abner Brownell, Nelson Herby, John Mosher, William White 2<sup>nd</sup> John Gifford, affirmed Surveyors of highways, — — —

5<sup>th</sup> Humphrey Macomber, Benjamin Cory, Lemuel Lovle, Bolder White, Benjamin Wilcox, Philip Sanford, & Phineas Woodley Chosen Surveyors of highways — — —

6<sup>th</sup> The Committee appointed by the town to examine and allow, Accounts Against the town of Westport, Report that after giving due Notice, they attended that service, at the town house in said town on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1797, and examined & allowed, Accounts brought against the town of Westport agreeable to the list of persons names and sums set against them, presented with the report, to the D<sup>ts</sup> Amount of — — — 656-35-

Also the Committee agreeable to their appointment, reported that they had examined the accounts of the treasurer, of the town for the year past, and find, that the treasurer, has received for the town including the Balance ~~then~~ in his hands, at the last settlement with him, the sum of — — — 417:88 Cts, And that he had paid out as by his receipts — — — 427:31 Cts.

Leaving a Balance in favour of the Treasury — — — 2:43<sup>c</sup>



The Committee further reported, that there was a balance in favour of the town, at the Settlement the last year, between the sums that had been allowed, against the town, and the sums assessed for their payment, of — — — — — 79:93 Cts  
and there was assessed the last year the sum of — 505. 9...

385:02

Accounts allowed the present year by Committee — 656:35. —  
Balance against the town. of — 71:33

And that the treasurer had received of Thomas Davis Treasurer of the Commonwealth upon the Account of keeping dinah White the sum of — 50 — —  
Leaving a Balance against the town of — 21:33

The committee also reported that at the time of Making the Settlement there was in the hands of John Gifford Constable — — — — — D. C. 22:41  
In the hands of Thomas Woodle — — — — — 876:73  
Total 899:14

Noted to accept the report of the Committee and that the treasurer, be directed to pay the Accounts, thus allowed by the Committee, which Accounts when paid, shall discharge him of so much of the money he shall have Received for the town — — — — —

Noted that there be raised by way of tax on the polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, for the support of the poor and other incidental Charges arising in said town for the year ensuing the sum of eight Hundred Dollars to be collected and paid into the town treasury within one year from the time of passing this Vote, and the Assessors of said town are hereby directed to assess the same in the way and manner, that other taxes are according to law assessed, and deliver a list thereof to the Collector of said town, requiring him to collect, and pay over the same accordingly, and the Treasurer is hereby directed, to issue his warrant against the Collector, for the sum he shall be deficient, if any at the expiration of said time, Unless he be directed by the Major part of the Select Men to suspend, leaving his execution, which Suspension shall at no one time exceed three Months — — —



Noted that for the amending and repairing the Highways and town ways within the town of Westport for the year ensuing, the sum of seven Hundred, Dollars, be assessed on the polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, Real and personal of the Residents & non Residents, as other taxes are by law assessed, and that the Assessors, deliver a list of the persons and the sum, at which they are assessed, to each Surveyor, for his limits according to law. - -

Noted that fifty Cents be allowed for a days work, for a man on the highways or a pair of oxen and, and that Seventeen Cents, be allowed for a cart or plow one day.

Noted that the hiring a town School Master, be left to the discretion, of the Select Men to do as they shall think for the Interest of the town,

Noted that the providing for and supporting the poor be left to the Select Men, to vendue or otherwise as they shall think for the Interest of the town, and having regard to the comfortable support of the poor. - -

Noted, that there be chosen a Committee to examine the records of the highways recorded in the town of Dartmouth, and to take such measures for Copying such of them belonging to the town of Westport as he shall think Necessary - -

Abner Brownell was Chosen accordingly

Noted to adjourn this meeting to Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1797 at ~~two~~ three of the Clock afternoon then to meet at this place

May 6<sup>th</sup> - Benj<sup>r</sup> Willcox Sworn Surveyor of highways - - - -  
 Isaac Burden Sworn Surveyor of highways - - - -

May 26<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Cory Sworn Surveyor of highways - -

30<sup>th</sup> - Humphry Maudsley Sworn Surveyor of highways - -

Capt. Lemuel Soule Sworn Surveyor of highways - -



To Thomas Wodle Constable of the town of Westport, Greeting  
You are hereby Required in the Name of the Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts, to Notify and warn the Freeholders and other Inhabitants  
of the town of Westport, Qualified by law to vote in town meetings, for town  
officers, to meet at the town house in said town on Monday the second  
day of April Next, at ten of the Clock in the fore Noon, to act  
on the following Articles, Viz -

- 1<sup>st</sup> To Choose town officers, as by Law Required,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> to give in their Votes, for County Treasurers.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> to Receive returns of highways, Copied from the old Records  
and also the Returns and alterations of highways, made by the  
Select men the year past, and Conclude by Vote which and  
how many of them, shall be Recorded in the towns Books.
- 4<sup>th</sup> to Conclude by Vote, what method the Highways shall be repaired  
and amended, the year ensuing.
- 5<sup>th</sup> to Conclude by Vote in what way the poor, shall be supported the  
year ensuing.
- 6<sup>th</sup> to do what shall be thought most expedient, in regard to what  
method shall be devised, for the hiring a town school Master  
the year ensuing.
- 7<sup>th</sup> To Choose a Committee to allow or disallow Aets, brought against sd  
town, and also to settle with the town treasurer.
- 8<sup>th</sup> To conclude by Vote what sum of money, is necessary for Settling the  
Arrearages, due from said town, and the necessary expenses that  
may Arise, the year ensuing.
- 9<sup>th</sup> To appoint an Agent to look up the town Stock, Already  
provided, and to Deposit, altogether in some safe and  
suitable place, under his inspection, also to look up the  
weights and measures, belonging to said town, and to be  
Authorized to Collect and pay into the treasury all Debts  
and Balances, of what kindsover, that is due to said  
town, that is not Committed to the Constables to Collect.
- 10<sup>th</sup> To do what shall appear Requisite in Regard to Calling those  
to an Account, who have trespassed by Cutting wood or timber on the  
highway or town way, or Infringed upon the Rights and  
privileges of said town, in any other way.

Given under our hands & Seals at Westport, this 13<sup>th</sup> of March  
1798.

Wesley Ferby  
Roger White  
Abner Brown } Select Men

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Westport, legally  
warned and held at the town House in said town on Monday y<sup>e</sup>  
second day of April A<sup>d</sup> 1798, for to act on the Articles mentioned in  
the preceding Warrant.

- 1<sup>st</sup> William Almy was chosen Moderator of said Meeting.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> William Almy Chosen town Clerk and sworn.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Abner Brownell, Roger White and Job Nitch Chosen Select Men.
- 4<sup>th</sup> William Almy, Chosen Treasurer, and to have 1/4 per Cent  
on all monies he shall receive in and pay out for the town.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Christopher Cornell, Gideon Tallman & Humphry Howland  
chosen Assessors of Rates, Christopher Cornell and Humphry  
Howland affirmed, May 15<sup>th</sup> Gideon Tallman sworn.
- 6<sup>th</sup> George Lanton, John Mosher and Lemuel Nitch, Chosen a Committee  
to examine and Allow Accounts.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Nathaniel Ferby Chosen pound keeper.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Christopher Cornell, Thomas Cornell, Thomas Tripp, Benjamin Brownell  
Benjamin Brownell 2<sup>nd</sup> & Eleazer Brownell, Chosen Fence Viewers and  
sworn, also Peris Richmond Abner ~~the~~ Wilcox chosen fence viewers.
- 9<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Brownell 2<sup>nd</sup>, Abraham Cornell, Joseph Gifford, Henry  
Tibbits, Stephen Davis Carpenter, Ezekiel Daber, & Williams Allen Chosen  
Field drivers and sworn.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Stephen Davis Carpenter, Maryona Devol, Chosen Surveyors of Lumber  
and sworn, John Anthony Chosen.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Maryona Devol, Stephen Davis Carpenter Chosen Corders and measurers of  
Wood, & affirmed, John Anthony ~~Chosen~~, Daniel Tripp 2<sup>nd</sup> & Peleg Potter Chosen.
- 12<sup>th</sup> ~~Daniel Tripp 2<sup>nd</sup>~~ Maryona Devol, and George Brownell Coper,  
Chosen Cullers of hoops & staves, Maryona Devol affirmed.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Preserved Sherman, and Thomas Briggs, chosen Sealers of Leather & sworn.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Daniel Tripp 2<sup>nd</sup> George Brownell Coper & Christopher Cornell, Chosen Cullers  
of Dry Fish, Christopher Cornell affirmed.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Warton Macumber & William Wood 2<sup>nd</sup> Chosen Tying men.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Benjamin Brownell Senior Chosen Sealer of Wts & measures, affirmed.
- 17<sup>th</sup> Wesley Ferby, Ezekiel Daber, Henry Tibbits, John Tibbits, John  
Cornell, Chosen Hogreavers & sworn.

William Macumber joiner & Wesley Tripp, Chosen Hog Reeves,