

**Route 6 Sewer & Water Project**  
**Warrant Articles**  
**May 7, 2024**

Below are the three draft Warrant Articles proposed for Town Meeting. These articles are worded as required by State Law and Bond Counsel. A brief summary is provided after each article to describe the results of a positive vote.

**ARTICLE 14**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of \$35,000,000.00 to pay the costs of engineering, designing, and constructing a water system and a system of sewers and associated treatment facilities, pumps, and equipment in the Route 6 area, including the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; and to meet this appropriation authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow such amount pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44 or any other enabling legislation and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, provided, however, that any such borrowing shall be contingent upon passage of a Proposition 2½ debt exclusion ballot question pursuant to G.L. c.59, §21C(k), and to determine whether all or a portion of such sum may be borrowed from the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust established pursuant to G.L. c.29C; and/or take any other action relative thereto.

INFRASTRUCTURE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

**Passing Article 14 would:**

1. Appropriate up to \$35 million for the Route 6 Project
2. Authorize the Treasurer to borrow the funds with approval from the Select Board.
3. Require appropriation and borrowing to be contingent on the voters approving a 2 ½ debt exclusion at a Town Election.
4. Authorize borrowing from the State Revolving Fund at a reduced interest rate.

**ARTICLE 15**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board or Sewer Commission to assess sewer betterment assessments pursuant to G.L. c.83, §14, in connection with the greater Route 6 area sewer project, by a rate based upon the uniform unit method, as provided by G.L. c.83, §15, to assess twenty (20) percent of the cost of said sewer project upon those who benefit from the project, to establish a rate of interest to be assessed on payments not made within thirty (30) days of billing at five (5) percent, to delegate the apportionment of assessments to the Select Board or Sewer Commission, and to elect the deferred recording procedure pursuant to G.L. c.80, §12; to adopt G.L. c.80, §13B, providing for the deferral of betterment assessments for qualifying seniors eligible for an exemption under G.L. c.59, §5, c1.41A; to adopt G.L. c.83, §15D, providing for apportionment of betterment assessments over a period not to exceed 30 years and collection thereof on quarterly tax bills; and/or take any other action relative thereto.

INFRASTRUCTURE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE/SELECT BOARD

### Passing Article 15 would:

1. Allow the Select Board or Sewer Commission to assess betterments for sewer.
2. Cap the Betterments at 20% of the overall sewer expenses.
3. Calculate Betterments based on the “Uniform Method”.
4. Assess property owners at a fixed rate of 5%.
5. Authorize the Town to simplify document records to minimize expenses.
6. Allow for the deferral of betterment assessments for qualifying seniors.
7. Allow for borrowing up to 30 years.

### **ARTICLE 16**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53F½ establishing sewerage service as an enterprise fund effective fiscal year 2025; to create a Sewer Commission pursuant to G.L. c.41, §63; to convert the Sewer Commission from elected to appointed pursuant to G.L. c.41, §1B; and/or take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

### Passing Article 16 would:

1. Create a Sewer Enterprise Fund.
2. Create a Sewer Commission subject to approval by voters at the Annual Election in 2025.
3. Allow for the option of having an appointed sewer commission if approved by voters at the Annual Election in 2025.