



Town of Hudson

MASSACHUSETTS 01749-2134

To: Registered Voters

From: Thomas Gregory

Date: September 15, 2025

Re: Special Town Meeting – Summary of Warrant Articles

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide to the registered voters attending the Special Town Meeting on September 15, 2025 a summary of each of the articles which appear on the Warrant as well as the quantum of vote required for each article. While this summary is intended to provide a brief explanation of the articles, please remember that the Warrant remains the official document to be considered.

Because Free Cash was not certified in time for appropriation this year, the Stabilization Fund, one of the Town's two primary reserves, in addition to Free Cash, is being recommended as bridge funding until Free Cash becomes available. In addition, Article 4 requests a borrowing authorization as a partial funding source for HVAC improvements to Town Hall. The borrowing authorization in this article is also recommended as a temporary funding solution until Free Cash becomes available.

Article 1 – This article appears on the Warrant each year to anticipate receipt of invoices after the Town closes its books for the prior fiscal year. State statute requires that Town Meeting approve any invoice of a prior fiscal year. There were four (4) invoices received this year after the books were closed: one (1) for \$190 for pre-employment physicals for new hires at the Library; and three (3) for \$960 for air testing of the air compressor at the Fire Station, for a total of \$1,150. It is requested that the Stabilization Fund be used to pay these invoices. A 9/10ths vote of Town Meeting is necessary for the passage of this article.

Article 2 – This article requests that \$30,000 be transferred from the Stabilization Fund to fund a new Senior Tax Credit Program to be administered by the Senior Center for FY2026 and FY2027. New program guidelines have been developed which include increasing the \$500 benefit per participant to \$1,500. A 2/3rd vote of Town Meeting is required for the passage of this article.

Article 3 – This article requests \$100,000 be transferred from the Stabilization Fund for a consultant or consultants to be hired to assist the Hudson Public School Department to analyze how the current school building facilities are being used and to make specific recommendations

about the future use of these facilities. A 2/3rds vote of Town Meeting is required for the passage of this article

Article 4 – This article requests that Town Meeting appropriate \$915,000 to design, permit, and implement needed improvements to the Town Hall HVAC system in a phased multi-year approach. To meet this appropriation, the article seeks \$424,380.24 from a borrowing authorization as well as \$490,619.76 from unspent balances in prior-year capital projects as described in the article. A 2/3rds vote of Town Meeting is required for the passage of this article.

Article 5 – This article requests that Article 29 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant be amended to include additional public safety uses as described in the article for the offset receipts collected by the Town. In an agreement signed in 2010, the Hudson tenants within the Highland Commons Shopping Center are required to provide public safety fees to the Town. These fees traditionally have been used to cover the costs associated with the Town’s dispatch operations. Because Hudson will be migrating to the Nashoba Valley Regional Dispatching District, there will be additional capacity in this funding source to address projects this year which otherwise would have been funded via Free Cash. A majority vote of Town Meeting is required for the passage of this article.

Article 6 – This article, sponsored by the Conservation Commission, recommends that \$3,000 be transferred from the Stabilization Fund to cover the costs of OARS, Inc., a local non-profit organization, which performs annual water quality monitoring of the Assabet River in Hudson as well as services to control invasive water chestnut plants in the Assabet River in Hudson. A 2/3rds vote of Town Meeting is required for the passage of this article.

Article 7 – This article recommends that \$8,000 be transferred from the Stabilization Fund to cover Hudson’s share of the ongoing expenses related to invasive weed control on Lake Boon. The Lake Boon Commission was created in 1941 by the State Legislature to regulate recreational activities and the use of motorboats on Lake Boon. Expenses are allocated between Stow and Hudson, with Stow responsible for 2/3rds and Hudson responsible for 1/3rd. A 2/3rds vote of Town Meeting is required for the passage of this article.

Article 8 – This article recommends an amendment to the Town’s General Bylaws which would change the start time for the Annual Town Meeting in May and for the Special Town Meeting in November from 7:30 PM to 6:30 PM. If approved by Town Meeting, the amendment would become effective for the 2026 Annual Town Meeting in May. A majority vote of Town Meeting is required for passage of this article.

cc: Select Board
 Finance Committee
 All Departments
 Interested Parties