



Town of Middlefield

Annual Town Meeting

Warrant (Corrected)

Hampshire, ss:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Middlefield in the County of Hampshire

GREETINGS: In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet on May 6, 2023, at 1:30 pm at the Middlefield Town Hall, and there to act on the following articles:

NOTE: Corrections to this Warrant are made in Blue.

ARTICLE 1. To act upon the reports of the Selectboard, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Assessors, and other elected or appointed officers or committees of the Town.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the salaries and compensation of elected officers; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Moderator	100	100	110	110
Assessors, Chair	3,420	3,465	3,549	3,549
Assessors, 2 nd Member	3,360	3,465	3,549	3,549
Assessors, 3 rd Member	3,360	3,465	3,549	3,549
Town Clerk	7,035	7,387	7,387	10,000
Selectboard, Chair	2,275	(2,388) 2,334	(2,388) 2,334	2,388
Selectboard, Member	2,275	(2,388) 2,334	(2,388) 2,334	2,388
Selectboard, Member	2,275	(2,388) 2,334	(2,388) 2,334	2,388
Constable 1 st	100	100	110	110
Constable 2 nd	100	100	110	110
Total	24,300	(25,276) 25,084	(25,528) 25,366	28,141

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the salaries and compensation of appointed staff; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Treasurer	11,353	12,000	11,928	15,000
Town Accountant	11,352	11,928	11,928	15,000
Tax Collector	11,352	11,920	11,928	15,000
Town Administrator	20,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Administrative Assistant	20,000	21,000	21,000	21,000

Recording Secretary	3,200)2,000	2,000	2,000
Asst. Town Clerk	2,142	2,250	2,250	2,250
Assessors' Clerk	7,350	7,718	7,718	15,000
Town Hall Custodian	5,300	4,600	4,600	4,600
Senior Center Custodian	-	3,500	3,500	3,500
Town Maintenance Technician	2,000	2,500	2,500	2,500
Total		89,416	89,352	105,850

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for General Government; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Town Counsel	5,000	15,000	10,000	15,000
Election & Registration	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Maintenance of Public Buildings	50,000	75,000	50,000	75,000
Insurance and Bonds	53,000	53,000	(53,000)	53,000
Medicare	6,000	10,000	(10,000)	10,000
Total	115,000	157,000	(127,000)	157,000

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Expense Accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB /Recommends
Selectboard Expense	2,000	2,500	2,500	2,500
Town Audit	7,500	7,500	(0)	7,500
Printing Expense	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Copier Expense	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Town Accountant Expense	800	800	800	800
Assessors' Expenses	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
Tax Map Update	1,100	1,270	1,270	1,270
CAMA Software Support	3,750	3,800	3,800	3,800
Assessors' Revaluation	2,760	2,700	2,700	2,700
Assessors' Utility Appraisal	3,400	2,000	2,000	2,000
Treasurer Expense	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Treas. Tax Title & Legal Fees	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Treasurer/Acct Software Support	8,200	8,400	8,400	8,400
Payroll Software Support	2,700	2,900	2,900	2,900
Tax Collector Expense	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800
TC Tax Title & Legal Fees	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
QDS Revenue Collection App	2,367	2,439	2,439	2,439
Town Clerk Expense	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Planning Board Expense	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Website/Technology Support	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000

Hosting for Website & WebGIS	2,800	2,800	2,800	2,800
Conservation Comm. Exp.	500	500	500	500
Zoning Board Expense	500	500	500	500
Constable Expense	150	150	150	150
Total	64,427	(64,159)56,659	(56,659)	(64,159)63,659

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Highways; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Highway Dept Wages	168,000	208,981	208,981	208,981
Holidays	7,800	9,345	9,345	9,345
Vacations	10,200	13,239	13,239	13,239
Sick Days	7,200	8,626	8,626	8,626
Unemployment Insurance	500	500	500	500
Hampshire County Retirement	58,827	70,110	70,110	70,110
Health Insurance	42,500	51,760	51,760	60,000
Fuel	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Snow Removal	75,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
Highway Maintenance	48,000	58,000	58,000	58,000
Unpaved Roads Material	37,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Machinery Maintenance	32,000	32,000	32,000	32,000
Streetlights	500	500	500	500
War Memorials/Playground	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Bidding Services	1,700	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total	531,227	627,061	627,061	(635,301)627,061

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money to the Library, Veterans and Cemetery Accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Librarian Salary	7,200	7,560	7,560	7,560
Library Expense	2,200	2,255	2,255	2,255
Veterans Agent Service	1,905	1,943	1,943	1,943
Veterans' Benefits	2,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Cemetery Expense	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Cemetery Maintenance	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Total	19,305	21,758	21,758	21,758

ARTICLE

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Protection of Persons & Property Accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Police Chief's Salary	20,000	21,000	21,000	21,000
Police Dept. Operating Expense	28,800	15,000	15,000	15,000
Police Officers' Compensation	18,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Police Officers' Training	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Police Cruiser Maintenance	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Regional Lockup	0	0	0	0
CodeRED Notification System	1,750	1,750	1,750	1,750
EMS Service	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
EMS Education	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Fire Chief/Forest Warden Salary	500	500	500	500
Fire Dept. Operating Expense	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Fire Dept. Inspector Salary	300	300	300	300
Dispatch Service	9,694	9,985	9,985	9,985
Forest Fire	10	10	10	10
Emergency Mgmt. Expense	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Bldg. Commissioner Comp.	9,600	9,600	9,600	9,600
Bldg. Commissioner Expense	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Assistant Electrical Inspector	100	100	100	100
Animal Control Officer's Salary	1,000	1,050	1,050	1,050
Animal Control Officer's Exp.	700	700	700	700
Insect Pest Control Expense	100	100	100	100
Animal Inspector Salary	750	750	750	750
Animal Inspector Expense	400	400	400	400
Board of Health Agent Services	5,100	5,200	5,200	5,200
Total	122,154	115,545	115,545	115,545

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to Raise and Appropriate the sum of money to establish a Reserve Fund to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures, as provided by M.G.L. Chapter 40, section 6, as amended; or take any other action in relation thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Reserve Fund	10,000	15,000	10,000	15,000

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Health & Sanitation; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024
--	--------------------	---------

		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Ambulance	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Hilltown Resource Management	3,300	3,300	3,300	3,300
Disposal Area	34,000	34,000	34,000	34,000
Disposal Area Attendant Salary		8,500	8,500	8,500
Total	41,700	47,800	47,800	47,800

ARTICLE 11. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for the Miscellaneous Accounts; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Council on Aging Expense	7,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Historical Commission Expense	300	600	600	600
Historical Document Committee	250	250	250	250
Pioneer Valley Planning	350	350	350	350
Recreation Committee Expense	750	750	750	750
Agricultural Commission Exp.	100	100	100	100
Council on Aging Dir. Salary	-	3,900	3,900	3,900
Total	8,750	9,950	9,950	9,950

ARTICLE 12. to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sum for Middlefield's Statutory Assessment for the Gateway Regional School District; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Gateway Statutory Assessment	330,085	351,804	351,804	351,804

Sponsor: Gateway Regional School District

Selectboard:

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following sum for vocational education; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Vocational Education	100,000	140,000	140,000	140,000

Sponsor: Gateway Regional School District

Selectboard:

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving fund accounts for the receipt of inspection fees, pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to be expended during FY2023 without further appropriation for the purpose of administrative duties, capped,000 at the amounts in the table below; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Electrical Inspector	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Conservation Commission	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Zoning Board of Appeals	500	500	500	500
Plumbing Inspector	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000

Sponsor: Select Board

Finance Committee:

Recommends

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund, under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2, which may be spent on the Transfer Station without further appropriation during FY2024. Collected Transfer Station fees may be used for the Transfer Station attendant's salary, for capital equipment, grounds improvement, or other related expenses to benefit the Transfer Station. The Selectboard may spend up to \$7,500 in revolving fund monies for the Transfer Station during FY2024 and retain in this account all collected fees; or take any other action relative thereto:

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of money for Debt & Interest; or take any other action relative thereto:

	FY 2023 Adopted	FY 2024		
		Requested	FinCom Recommends	SB Recommends
Interest on Short-term Debt	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to appoint a member of the Board to serve as the Assessors' Clerk at the salary fixed and voted on by the Town; or take any other action relative thereto:

Sponsor: Board of Assessors

Selectboard: Recommends.

Finance Committee: Recommends.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Franklin Regional Transit Authority as the official transportation agent for the Council on Aging; or take any other action relative thereto:

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 90 and all other Highway grant Funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for the purposes of repair, construction, maintenance and preservation of the Town's roads and bridges and other related costs; or take any other action relative thereto:

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to transfer 15,714.00 from Free Cash Account to cover the overage in the snow removal account; or take any other action relative thereto:

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Selectboard to accept funds and gifts on behalf of the town; or take any other action relative thereto:

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 to purchase a new snowplow for the Highway Department; or take any other action relative thereto:

Sponsor: Highway Department, Select Board

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 23. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 towards the cost of replacing the existing playground equipment at Chester Elementary School or take any action thereto. Note: The Towns of Chester and Blandford have both committed the sum of \$10,000 each towards this project.

Sponsor: Select Board

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Town Investment Policy or take any other action relative thereto.

Sponsor: Select Board

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to give the Select Board approval to enter into future discussions with the Middlefield Congregational Church Council to discuss the future and possible disposition of the Church and property or take any other action thereto.

Sponsor: Select Board

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to have the Town enter into a contract with Hilltown Community Ambulance Association Inc., for FY 2024 or take any other action thereto.

Sponsor: Select Board

Finance Committee: Does not recommend

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funds the sum of \$10,625 dollars for ambulance service to be provided by the Hilltown Community Ambulance Assoc. Inc., for FY2024 or take any relative action thereto.

Sponsor: Select Board

Finance Committee: Does not recommend

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$903.13 which represents Middlefield's annual share of Hilltown Community Ambulance Assoc. Inc., Ambulance Replacement Fund cost for FY2024 or take any other action thereto.

Sponsor: Select Board

Finance Committee: Does not recommend

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from 2023 Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Account and \$10,000 from 2023 Free Cash to the School Stabilization Account or take any other action thereto.

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,010 to pay the balance owed on the 2012 International Tandem Axle Truck or take any other action thereto.

Sponsor: Selectboard

Finance Committee: Recommends

ARTICLE 31. To transact any other business to come before said meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies of same in the Middlefield Post Office, on the bulletin board at the Town Hall, a designated place in the Bancroft section of the Town and a designated place in Smith Hollow, at least seven days before time of holding said meeting. Hereof, fail not and make do return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands at Middlefield the ____ day of April in the year two thousand twenty-three.

_____	_____	_____
Curt Robie, Member	Ann Marie Visconti, Member	Tonya _Santaniello, Member

I have this day posted copies of the above warrant.

_____	_____
Constable, Attest	Date