

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH  
WARRANT FOR FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 OF SOUTH HADLEY

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Hampshire, ss

To either constable of the Town of South Hadley:

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of Fire District No. 1, in the Town of South Hadley, qualified to vote in the Annual Meeting to meet at:

**Pioneer Valley of Performing Arts Charter School, 15 Mulligan Dr., South Hadley, MA  
on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.,**

To vote on the following articles:

**ARTICLE 1** To hear and act on the report of the Prudential Committee.

**ARTICLE 2** To hear and act on the report of the Water Commissioners.

**ARTICLE 3** To hear and act on the report of the District Treasurer.

**ARTICLE 4** To see if the District will vote to fix the salary and compensation of the following elective officers of the Fire District No. 1 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024 as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as follows:

Moderator	\$280.15 per year (includes 3% COLA)
Prudential Committee Chair	\$1,674.74 per year (includes 3% COLA)
Prudential Committee Clerk	\$1,940.40 per year (includes 3% COLA)
Prudential Committee Member	\$1,674.74 per year (includes 3% COLA)
Board of Water Commissioners Chair	\$1,500.00 per year
Board of Water Commissioners Clerk	\$1,500.00 per year
Board of Water Commissioners Member	\$1,500.00 per year
District Clerk/Treasurer	\$75,587.03 per year (includes 3% COLA and \$400 longevity)

**ARTICLE 5** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,915,571, and transfer the sum of \$853,057 from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, for a total of \$2,768,628 to fund the Personnel Services Account as detailed in the Prudential Committee FY25 budget document, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 6** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$312,000, and transfer the sum of \$63,000 from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, for a total of \$375,000 to fund the Fire Department Operating Expense Account as detailed in the Prudential Committee FY25 budget document, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 7** To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, the sum of \$260,000 to fund the Ambulance Operating Expense Account as detailed in the Prudential Committee FY25 budget document, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 8** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$41,900, and transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$100,000, for a total of \$141,900 to fund the Administration Operating Expense Account as found in the Prudential Committee FY25 budget document, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 9** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 to fund the Legal Fees Union Negotiations Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 10** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000 to fund the Air Compressor Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 11** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$25,000 to fund the Fire Department Building Improvement Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 12** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 to fund the Fire Department Major Equipment Repair Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 13** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 to fund the Fire Gear Replacement Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 14** To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Fire Gift Fund Account the sum of \$2,267, and to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$733, for a total of \$3,000 to fund the Jaws of Life Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 15** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$10,000 to fund the Alarm Radio Console Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 16** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$5,000 to fund the SCBA Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 17** To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Ambulance Gift Fund Account, the sum of \$500 to fund the Ambulance Computer Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 18** To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, the sum of \$5,000 to fund the Ambulance Infusion Pumps Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 19** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$80,000, and transfer the sum of \$40,000 from the Mt. Holyoke College Gift Account for a total of \$120,000 for the Debt Principal Account to fund the annual principal payment for the Fire Department ladder truck, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 20** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$14,550 for the Debt Interest Account to fund the annual interest payment for the Fire Department ladder truck, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 21** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$35,000 to fund the Fire Stabilization Fund Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 22** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$60,000 to fund the Fire Vehicle Stabilization Fund Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 23** To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, the sum of \$100,000 to fund the Ambulance Stabilization Fund Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 24** To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Fire Gifts Account, the sum of \$2,700 to fund the Promotional Exams Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 25** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000, and transfer the sum of \$50,000 from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, for a total of \$150,000 to fund the Fire Department Other Post-Employee Benefits (OPEB) Fund Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 26** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$663,050 to be paid by the District Treasurer to the Treasurer Custodian of the Hampshire County Retirement System, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 27** To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$640,000 to fund the Medical, Dental and Life Insurance benefits account for certain persons in the service of the District for health, dental and life insurance benefits at seventy-five (75%) percent of the premium, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 28** To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$20,000 to fund the New Fire Station Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 29** To see if the District will vote to authorize the Clerk/Treasurer, with the approval of the majority of the Prudential Committee, to make legal and prudent investments of the District's funds all pursuant of the terms, conditions and restrictions of all relevant sections of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 167, or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 30** To see if the District will vote to authorize the District Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the financial year beginning July 1, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4 and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 31** To see if the District will vote to allow the Prudential Committee to sell surplus equipment or material, or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 32** To see if the District will vote to authorize the Prudential Committee to apply for, accept and expend any State or Federal Grants, or take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 33** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,148,446.00 to defray the operating cost of the Water Department and to meet said appropriation transfer:

- \$625,647.00 for Wages and Salaries (inclusive of 3% raise)
- \$1,205,000.00 for Maintenance and Operations
- \$17,500.00 for the Office of the Clerk/Treasurer
- \$10,000.00 for the Reserve Fund
- \$64,436.00 for Amortization of Debt for the Ludlow Facility
- \$1,919.00 for Interest on Debt for the Ludlow Facility
- \$3,000.00 for the Travel expense
- \$5,000.00 for the Audit expense
- \$5,000.00 for the Compensation account
- \$144.00 for Loan Fees
- \$2,000.00 for Computer Equipment and Software
- \$203,800.00 for Amortization of Debt for Newton St.
- \$3,000.00 for the Shop Repair and Improvements account
- \$2,000.00 for the Computer Meter Reading Equipt. account

For a Total of \$2,148,446.00 from Water Receipts.

**ARTICLE 34** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$240,000.00 for the Health, Dental and Life Insurance Account and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$240,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 35** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$171,000.00 for the Retirement Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$171,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 36** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 for the Water Tank Stabilization Fund and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$100,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 37** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 for the Critical Infrastructure Stabilization Fund, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$50,000.00 from its Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 38** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for the Meter Replacement Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$25,000.00 from its Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 39** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 for the Replacement and Installation of New Water Mains Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$100,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 40** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 for the Water Tank Upkeep and Repair Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$15,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 41** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for the Water Main Leak Detection Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$2,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 42** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$8,000.00 for the SCADA System Equipment and Maintenance Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$8,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 43** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$90,000.00 for the New Skid Steer Loader Account and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$90,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 44** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 for the OPEB Trust Fund Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$50,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 45** To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for the Leaping Wells Watershed Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$3,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**ARTICLE 46** To see if the District will vote on a Citizen's Petition as follows:

**Article A.** To see if the District will raise and appropriate or transfer from available surplus, or transfer from available funds, the sum of up to \$50,000.00 to hire a consultant to perform a financial analysis of combining Fire District 1 with Fire District 2 in the Town of South Hadley.

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**Article B.** To see if the District will amend Section 4 of the District bylaws as follows:

**Existing Bylaw**

SECTION 4. Names of candidates for any office shall be placed on the ballot by petition of the Clerk of the District, accompanied by an acceptance by the candidate, and shall be signed by not less than ten registered voters of the District and filed with the Clerk of the District before five o'clock in the afternoon of the seventh Monday preceding the annual election.

**Proposed Bylaw**

SECTION 4. Names of candidates for any office shall be placed on the ballot by petition of the Clerk of the District, accompanied by an acceptance by the candidate, and shall be signed by not less than ten registered voters of the District and filed with the Clerk of the District before five o'clock in the afternoon of the Eighth Monday preceding the annual election.

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**Article C.** To see if the District will amend Section 1 of the District bylaws as follows:

**Existing Bylaw**

SECTION 1. The annual district meeting shall be held on the month and day to coincide with the month and day of the Town of South Hadley's annual election as stated in Chapter 18-1 of the By-Laws of the Town of South Hadley, as amended from time to time. The hours and location of voting for the annual district meeting shall be set to coincide with the hours and location of the Town of South Hadley's annual election as established by Order of the Select Board. The polling place for the district voters shall be in a separate location within the building for the polling place for the town voters.

**Proposed Bylaw**

SECTION 1. The Annual District Election shall be held on the month and day to coincide with the month and day of the Town of South Hadley's Annual Election as stated in Chapter 18-1 of the By-Laws of the Town of South Hadley, as amended from time to time. The hours and location of voting for the Annual District Election shall be set to coincide with the hours and location of the Town of South Hadley's Annual Election as established by Order of the Select Board. The polling place for the District voters shall be in a separate location within the building from the polling place for the Town voters.

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**Article D.** To see if the District will amend Section 12 of the District bylaws as follows:

**Existing Bylaw**

SECTION 12. The Prudential Committee shall consist of three members elected in the manner herein before described. The Prudential Committee shall:

- a. meet for organization not later than the fourth week after the annual meeting, and shall then elect by ballot from their number, a Chairman and Clerk, each of whom shall serve one year or until their successors are chosen.

**Proposed Bylaw**

SECTION 12. The Prudential Committee shall consist of three members elected in the manner herein before described. The Prudential Committee shall:

- a. meet for organization not later than the fourth week after the Annual District Election, and shall then elect by ballot from their number, a Chairman and Clerk, each of whom shall serve one year or until their successors are chosen.
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**(Article 46 continued)**

**Article E.** To see if the District will amend Section 12 of the District bylaws as follows:

**Existing Bylaw**

SECTION 14. The Board of Water Commissioners shall consist of three members who shall be elected in the manner herein before described. The Board of Water Commissioners shall:

- a. As soon as possible after the annual District meeting the Board of Water Commissioners shall meet for organization and elect by ballot from their members a Chairman an Associate Member and a clerk.

**Proposed Bylaw**

SECTION 14. The Board of Water Commissioners shall consist of three members who shall be elected in the manner herein before described. The Board of Water Commissioners shall:

- a. meet for organization not later than the fourth week after the Annual District Election, and shall elect by ballot from their members, a Chairman, an Associate Member, and a Clerk.”

**ARTICLE 47** To see if the District will vote to amend its bylaws as presented by a Citizen’s Petition as follows:

“**Article:** To see if the District will vote to amend its Bylaws, specifically section 18 under Fire Chief to read:

**Existing Bylaw**

The Fire Chief shall have sole and entire command over the fire department and over all members of the department, have charge of all apparatus belonging to the same, and direct all measures the Chief may deem proper for the extinguishing of fires and operation of the ambulance service. The Fire Chief shall have all the authority and responsibility pursuant to the provisions of MGL Chapter 48 section 42A.

**New Bylaw**

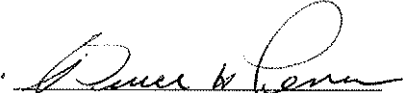
The Fire Chief shall have sole and entire command over the fire department and over all members of the department, have charge of all apparatus belonging to the same, and direct all measures the Chief may deem proper for the extinguishing of fires and operation of the ambulance service. The Fire Chief shall have all the authority and responsibility pursuant to the provisions of MGL Chapter 48 section 42.”

HEREOF FAIL NOT and make due return of the warrant with your doings thereon to the District on or before the time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands this seventh day of May in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Four.

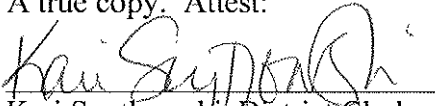
  
KURT SCHENKER  
CHAIR

  
JOHN WOJCIECHOWSKI  
CLERK

  
BRUCE PERRON  
MEMBER

**PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

A true copy. Attest:

  
Kari Scytkowski, District Clerk

Posting: Fire District No 1. Fire Dept., Fire District No. 1 Water Dept., Town Hall, Main Library and Senior Center.

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Constable

Warrant must be posted by May 16, 2024, at least seven days prior to the May 23, 2024 District Meeting.