

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 29, 2007

Worcester, SS:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Blackstone in the County of Worcester.

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify the inhabitants of Precinct #1, Precinct #2 and Precinct #3 in the Town of Blackstone, qualified to vote in Town Affairs to meet in the Blackstone-Millville Regional Molony-Sullivan School Auditorium in said Town of Blackstone on Tuesday, May 29, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. then and there to act upon the articles of the warrant.

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Collector to use all means of collecting taxes that a Treasurer may use when appointed Collector, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of various obsolete and/or inoperative equipment, scrap materials, etc., on hand in any Town Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be deemed necessary to fix the salaries of all elected and appointed Town officers and to defray Town expenses for all departments including the Reserve Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007, and ending June 30, 2008 and to determine how such sums of money should be raised, whether from the current tax levy, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or otherwise, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the members of the Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee to be compensated for their services as such members and to set the amount of said compensation at \$1,500.00 per member and \$1,800.00 for the Chairman, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Superintendent of Schools)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to establish the Blackstone Valley Recycling Center as a recycling program in accordance with the provisions of General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8H, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into agreements with other cities, towns and districts for the purposes of conducting a joint recycling program pursuant to said Chapter 40, Section 8H, or take any other action in relation thereto

(Submitted by Board of Selectmen)

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of the Blackstone Code , Section 189-11, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into new or revised agreements to sell or provide water from the Town's public water supply to those persons, firms, corporations or businesses whose property is located outside the bounds of the Town of Blackstone and whose property had been tied into the Blackstone water supply and was receiving water supply service from the Town prior to January 1, 2007, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Water and Sewer)

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from any available funds a sum of money to overlay town streets and roads to be determined by the Board of Selectmen with Type I mix, or for the design, construction, reconstruction and improvements of public ways, bridges and street drainage systems and to determine how such sums may be raised, whether by advancement from Town Treasury, or by borrowing in anticipation of reimbursement by the Commonwealth, by the Treasurer, with approval of the Board of Selectmen, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Department of Public Works)

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Department of Public Works to enter into contracts for the construction, reconstruction and improvements of public ways, street drainage systems and sidewalks throughout the Town, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Department of Public Works)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, purchase or eminent domain an easement or easements for the purpose of construction, installation, maintenance and repair of municipal drainage, sewer water systems, and roadway, and to raise and appropriate or transfer from any available funds a sum of money to fund such acquisitions, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Department of Public Works)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to auction or sell any excess equipment that may be on hand in any Town Department or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Department of Public Works)

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funding or transfer from available funds the sum of \$20,000 to purchase a new half ton 4x4 pickup truck (Ford Ranger or equal) or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Highway Department)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funding or transfer from available funds the sum of \$50,000 to purchase a new one ton dump truck (Ford F-450 or equal), complete with snow plow equipment and all necessary attachments and to trade-in or dispose of existing 1997 Ford F-350 or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Highway Department)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funding or transfer from available funds the sum of \$48,500 as the third year of a multi-year meter replacement program to upgrade and replace water meters in accordance with the Department of Environmental Protection meter replacement policy, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Water and Sewer Commission)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money to the stabilization fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Finance Committee)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L.c.39, §23D, which provides that a member of the Planning Board, committee, or commission holding an adjudicatory hearing shall not be disqualified from voting on the matter solely due to the member's absence from one session of such hearing provided that certain statutory conditions are met, and to make those provisions applicable to members of the Planning Board, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Planning Board)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Blackstone Zoning Bylaw by inserting the following as Section 123-2.C(5), or act otherwise in relation thereto:

- “(5) Upon request by an applicant seeking an occupancy permit prior to completion of all requirements of the approved site plan, the Planning Board may authorize the Building Inspector to rely upon security received by the Town from the applicant for completion within a specified time of specific incomplete elements, such as landscaping or roadway finish course, whose completion has been determined by the Board not to impair the safety or convenience of users of the site. Such security shall be irrevocable and in an amount found by the Board to exceed the cost of the remaining improvements by no less than 20% cash security. Failure by the applicant to fully complete the specified improvements by the specified time shall result in forfeiture of the full amount of the security to the Town and shall constitute a zoning violation, subject to the penalty provisions of Section 123-2.D.” or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Planning Board)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Blackstone Zoning Bylaw as follows, or act otherwise in relation thereto:

1. Amend Section 123-15.A by deleting it and replacing it with the following.

- “A. Number of spaces. Adequate off-street parking must be provided to service all increases in parking demand created by new structures or additions or created by change of use. The number of parking spaces provided must be as required in Section 123-15B, unless the special permit granting authority or the Planning Board in either performing site plan review or responding to a request for determination by the Building Inspector finds that a lesser provision would be adequate for all parking needs because of such special circumstances as shared parking for uses having peak parking demands at different times, unusual age or other characteristics of site users, company-sponsored car-pooling, or other measures which reduce parking demand.”

2. Insert the following as Section 123-15.C:

- “C. Location of spaces. Required parking spaces must be on the same lot as the use they serve, except that crediting the following may be authorized on special permit by the Planning Board for cases where both the use and the parking are located within either or both the Commercial District or the Village Overlay District, upon determination by the Planning Board that, subject to conditions regarding location, egress design, landscaping and screening, or other matters doing so will be more beneficial to the vicinity than the alternative of requiring all

demand to be met on-site, and will not result in departure from historic patterns of land or street usage or substantially add to congestion or hazard:

"(1) Legal on-street parking spaces not otherwise assigned or credited, if on the same side of the street and extending not more than ten feet beyond the extended side lines of the premises;

"(2) Off-street spaces on a separate lot either in the same ownership as the premises in question or subject to a recorded agreement assuring the availability of those spaces for the duration of the use in question."

or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Planning Board)

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Blackstone Town Code, by Chapter 33, § 19 to read:
§Chapter 33-19. Promotions.

- A. Lieutenant. Only those who have served at least five years as a full-time patrolperson or Sergeant would be eligible to take the qualifying exam. All candidates must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in law enforcement or a management field. Promotion shall be made by the appointing authority based not only on the written exam results, but a thorough interview by three Police Chiefs. The Blackstone Police Chief will not be part of the interview process but will submit an evaluation of the individual's past performance. The appointing authority will make the final selection.
- B. Sergeant. Only those who have served at least two years as a patrolperson would be eligible to take the qualifying written exam. All Candidates must have a minimum of an associate's degree in law enforcement or a related field. Promotion shall be made by the appointing authority based not only on the written exam results, but a thorough interview by the Blackstone Police Chief. The appointing authority will make the final selectmen.

§Chapter 33-21. Qualifications of Chief of Police.

- A. Requirements for the position of Chief of Police shall be a minimum of a master's degree in law enforcement or a related field.
- or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Chief of Police)

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Blackstone Town Code Chapter 115 as follows:

Ch. 115 §1. Keeping or Storage Restricted

Only one unregistered motor vehicle, assembled or disassembled, shall be kept, stored or allowed to remain on a parcel of land, if the parcel is a single family dwelling; or per unit, if the parcel is a multi family dwelling, for a period of time not to exceed 90 days, except by a person duly licensed under MGL c 140. §59, and except as provided in section 2 of this chapter.

Ch. 115 §3. Restrictions on Permits

Each such permit shall be:

- A. Limited to a reasonable amount of time which shall not exceed 90 days; and
- B. A personal privilege of the applicant and not a grant attached to and running with the land.

Ch. 115 §5. Violations and Penalties

Any person who continues to violate the provisions of this chapter after 30 days following receipt by him/her of written notice of such violation from the Chief of Police shall be liable of a penalty not exceeding \$50.00 for each offense. Each day that any violation is allowed to continue after said thirty day period shall constitute a separate offense. Each vehicle found in violation of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Chief of Police)

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer or borrow the sum of \$140,000.00 to purchase a 2007 ambulance, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Fire Chief)

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will to raise and/or appropriate and/or transfer from available funds \$26,855.00 to insulate, replace roof, and install vinyl siding to the Blackstone Historical Museum building, or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Blackstone Historical Commission)

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ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to Raise and/or appropriate and/or transfer from available funds \$25,600.00 for continued GIS System installation or take any other action in relation thereto.

(Submitted by the Town Administrator)

Hereof, fail not and make due return of this Warrant with doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at or before the time of said meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies thereof in each of the following names and places in Blackstone seven (7) days at least before the day fixed for such meeting at the Municipal Center on St. Paul Street and at the Fire Station on Rathbun Street and the A.F. Maloney School on Lincoln Street and also by publication no less than seven (7) days before the days fixed for such meeting in that newspaper having the largest circulation in the Town.

Given under our hands this 10th day of April in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Seven.

SELECTMEN OF BLACKSTONE

Constance D. Perreault

Margaret Bik

Robert J. Dubois

Robert J. Kluchevitz

Joseph Marchand

A true copy attest:

Constable of Blackstone

Worcester, SS:

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, I have this 11th day of April, 2007 notified the inhabitants of Precinct #1, Precinct #2 and Precinct #3 in the Town of Blackstone by posting up true and attested copies of the within warrant at the within named places and by publication as within directed.

Constable of Blackstone

A TRUE COPY OF THE WARRANT AND RETURN:

Marianne Staples
Town Clerk

