

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of New Ashford
May 21, 2024, at 6:00PM
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
Covering the fiscal year 2025
Berkshire County:



To: Any of the Constables of the Town of New Ashford.

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are required to warn and notify the inhabitants of the town of New Ashford who are qualified to vote in the town affairs, to meet at the New Ashford Church, 199 Mallery Road, in said Town of New Ashford, on Tuesday the twenty-first day of May 2024, at 6:00PM, and transact the following business:

Article I: To elect a moderator for the following year. (Majority)

Article II: To see if the town will vote that there be levied on real estate and personal property of the town, or transferred from available funds, a sum sufficient to meet the appropriation of said meeting. (Majority)

Article III: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to retain counsel when necessary. (Majority)

Article IV: To see if the town will vote to close portions of Bauer Rd, Ingraham Rd, Roys Rd, Greylock Rd, Old Rte. Seven, and any other roads, that at certain times of the year the Road Commissioner and the Select Board deem necessary. (Majority)

Article V: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, to borrow money, from time to time, in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2024, and to issue notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with chapter 44, section 17 of the Massachusetts general laws. (Majority)

Article VI: To see if the town will vote to **raise and appropriate** the sum of seven hundred thousand, eight hundred and twenty-two dollars (\$700,822) or any other sum, to defray the charges and expenses of the town of New Ashford, including any debts and interest and to compensate certain officers of the town of New Ashford. (See attached sheet for individual line items) (Majority)

Article VII: Enterprise Fund budget - to see if the town will vote to **raise and appropriate** the sum of ninety-one thousand, five hundred and seventy-six dollars (\$91,576) through user's fees and fund five thousand nine hundred and fifty-one dollars (\$5,951) to the general fund to reimburse shared financial costs, electricity, licenses, and propane cost. (See attached sheet for individual line items) (Majority)

Article VIII: To see if the town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from the Cash Stabilization Account, the sum in the amount of two thousand, five hundred dollars (\$2,500), to supplement the town's share of grant money from the FY 2025 budget for the Emergency Management Grant. If the article is passed but the grant is not approved, the money will revert to the Cash Stabilization Account. (2/3 vote required)

Article IX: To see if the town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from the MLP Enterprise Fund Free Cash the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to the Broadband Stabilization Fund or take any other action relative thereto. (Majority)

Article X: To see if the town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) to the Old Schoolhouse Repair Stabilization Fund or take any other action relative thereto. (Majority)

Article XI: To see if the town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash the sum of thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) to the Stabilization Fund or take any other action relative thereto. (Majority)

Article XII: To see if the town will vote to set fiscal year 2025 spending limits for such Revolving Funds as follows.

Revolving Fund	Spending limit	Revolving Fund	Spending limit
Conservation Commission	\$1,200.00	Electrical/wiring inspection services	\$1,200.00
Planning Board expenses	\$1,200.00	Plumbing & gas inspection services	\$3,459.86
Trench Safety Inspector Services	\$1,200.00	Zoning Board of Appeals expenses	\$3,459.86
Board of Health - licensing fees	\$1,200.00	Fire Department	\$2,000.00
Select Board expenses	\$1,200.00	All other board expenses	\$1,200.00
Building Inspector	\$3,459.86	Total of all revolving funds	\$20,779.58

Article XIII: To see if the town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash, the sum not to exceed ten thousand five hundred dollars (\$10,500) to supplement the town’s share of grant money for the Fire Fighters’ Safety Grant for FY 2025. If the article is passed but the grant is not approved or all funds not spent, the money will revert to the Free Cash. (Majority)

*The grant is 100% reimbursable and funds go directly back to the town.

Article XIV: To see if the town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash, the sum not to exceed thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) to build a shed/extension off the side of the Fire Station to house the town mower and provide additional storage for the Fire Department. (Majority)

Article XV: To see if the town will vote to **appropriate and transfer** from Free Cash, the sum not to exceed twenty-three thousand three hundred and sixty-four dollars (\$23,364) to purchase financial management and tax collection software. (Majority)

Article XVI: To see if the town will vote to transfer from the Cash Stabilization Account, the sum of \$19,500 to supplement the town’s share of grant money from the FY 2025 budget for a new Mini Pumper Truck. This will replace the existing Engine 4 if the grant is awarded. If the article is passed but the grant is not approved the money will revert to Cash Stabilization. (2/3 vote required)

*This is a Federal Grant and requires a 5% match from the town.

Article XVII: To act thereon and conduct any business legally brought before said meeting.

You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting three (3) attested copies thereof in public places in the town of New Ashford, at least seven days before said meeting. Hereof fail not and make do your returns of doing to the Town Clerk at the time and place of the meeting afore said.

Constable:	Select Board:
Stephen Demyer, Constable	Jason Jayko, Chairman
Date and time posted	Kenneth McInerney
True and attested Susan Supranowicz Clerk, town of New Ashford	Mark Phelps