

COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT
ANNUAL ELECTION AND DISTRICT MEETING
MAY 27 AND 28, 2025

TO THE CLERK OF THE COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT, GREETING:

You are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Barnstable residing within the territory comprising the Cotuit Fire District qualified to vote in District elections and affairs to meet at Freedom Hall, Main Street, Cotuit, MA 02635 on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, between the hours of four o'clock and eight o'clock PM, then and there to vote for the following officers:

One member of the Prudential Committee, for three years

One member of the Board of Fire Commissioners, for three years

One member of the Board of Water Commissioners, for three years

A Moderator, for three years

Warning shall also be given to said inhabitants to meet on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at The Cotuit Federated Church, Hamilton Room, 40 School Street Cotuit, MA 02635 at seven thirty o'clock PM, when action will be taken on the following articles:

(All articles which are not followed by the words "by request of . . ." are inserted by the Prudential Committee.)

Article 1: To see if the District will vote to accept the reports of the officers and committees of the District for fiscal year 2023 and fiscal year 2024 as published.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 2: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate from available funds and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of **\$16,784,600.00** for the completion of preconstruction phase, construction phase, and equipping of the Fire Station renovation and expansion project.

(By the request of the Board of Fire Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 3: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate from available funds the sum of **\$1,862,000.00** for demolishing and disposing of the structure of the school building located at 140 Old Oyster Road in Cotuit and return the site to nature.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 4: Upon motion duly made and seconded, the District votes that in order to provide adequate time for residents of the Cotuit Fire District to review and evaluate the results of the ICON study regarding the potential costs of reusing and/or demolishing the Cotuit Elementary School (the "School Study"), the voters of the Cotuit Fire District hereby direct that:

- a) Any vote related to the reuse, partial reuse, partial reuse and/or demolition of the Cotuit Elementary School (CES) shall not take place until at least four (4) months have elapsed from the consultant's public presentation of the final School Study. Such a vote may take place at a special district meeting called for that purpose or at the next Annual District Meeting, whichever occurs first.
- b) During those four or more months, the Prudential Committee shall hold or cause to be held at least two public meetings, each advertised at least 2 weeks in advance and to be held at a time and place convenient for those residing within the district, each meeting to include facilitated discussions regarding options for reuse and/or disposition of the CES.

(By Request of a Citizen's Petition)

(The Prudential Committee DOES NOT RECOMMEND this Article)

Article 5: To see if the District will vote to set the annual salaries of the elected officials as follows:

Prudential Committee Members, Members of the Board of Fire Commissioners and Members of the Board of Water Commissioners: \$1,250.00 each; and Moderator: \$250.00

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 6: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer and appropriate the sum of \$45,000.00 to establish the reserve fund as provided under Section 5C, Chapter 40 of the General Laws.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 7: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate:

\$ 159,350.00 for the labor and salaries of the District's Finance Department; and

\$ 334,600.00 for the remaining expenses of the Prudential Committee,

for a total appropriation of \$ 493,950.00

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 8: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate:

\$2,424,021.00 for the labor and salaries of the District's Fire Department; and

\$400,154.00 for the remaining expenses of the Fire Department for a total appropriation of \$2,824,175.00.

(By the request of the Board of Fire Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 9: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate:

\$ 517,141.00 for labor and salaries of the District's Water Department; and

\$ 420,365.00 for the remaining expenses of the Water Department,

for a total appropriation of \$937,506.00

(By the request of the Board of Water Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 10: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of **\$75,000.00** to replace the Superintendent's Truck and related accessories and the disposal by sale or trade-in the 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 VIN# 1C6RR7FT2GS178604.

(By the request of the Board of Water Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 11: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of **\$60,000.00** for any hardware, software, and related expenses to provide Cybersecurity as recommended by our September 2024 independent security review.

(By the request of the Board of Water Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 12: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of **\$20,000.00** for the replacement of the office HVAC system and related expenses.

(By the request of the Board of Water Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 13: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of **\$3,500.00** for the replacement of the office printer and copier and related expenses.

(By the request of the Board of Water Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 14: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate:

\$ 6,212.00 for the labor and salaries for Freedom Hall Maintenance; and

\$ 21,180.00 for the remaining expenses of Freedom Hall,
for a total appropriation of **\$ 27,392.00.**

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 15: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate **\$10,700.00** to maintain the streetlights of the District.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 16: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate **\$ 27,583.00** to support the Maintenance of the Cotuit Library.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 17: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate **\$ 553,084.00** for payment of principal and interest.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 18: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate and/or borrow and appropriate the sum of **\$ 1,075,444.00** for the purpose of paying employee current and post-employment benefits.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 19: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$ 35,000.00** for the Stabilization Fund as provided under Section 5B, Chapter 40, of the General Laws.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 20: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$46,420.00** for the Water Department Stabilization Fund as provided under Section IX, Section 5 of the District By-Laws

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 21: To see if the District will vote to amend the District Bylaws by deleting Section 2 of Article VI which currently reads **"The Clerk shall cause to be published all annual reports of all officers and committees of the District by the end of the calendar year."** Replacing it with **"The Clerk shall cause to be published all**

annual reports of all officers and committees of the District by March 1, of the next fiscal year."

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Hereof fail not to make due return of this warrant and your doings thereon at said meeting.

Given under our hands this twenty-eighth day of April 2025.

Mark W. Lynch, Chair
Frances S. Parks
Seth Burdick

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

A True Copy, attest:

Charles W. Eager, Clerk
Cotuit Fire District