

DRAFT

COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT
ANNUAL ELECTION AND DISTRICT MEETING
May 25 AND 26, 2021

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 the Freedom Hall Main Street, Cotuit, on May 25, 2021, 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

Warning shall also be given to said inhabitants to meet on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, at Cotuit Elementary School, 140 Old Oyster Road, Cotuit, 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.)

Covid 19 Protocol will be followed at both the Election and Meeting - Social Distancing and Masks are required.

Article 1: To see if the District will vote to accept the reports of the officers and committees of the District as printed.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 2: 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 3: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$45,000.00** from Certified Free Cash to establish the reserve fund as provided under Section 5C, Chapter 40 of the General Laws.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 4: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate:

\$111,200.00 for the labor and salaries for District's Finance Department; and

\$251,000.00 for the remaining expenses of the Prudential Committee, to be apportioned approximately as follows:

Operating expenses, **\$250,000.00**, and
Miscellaneous, **\$1,000.00**

for a total appropriation of **\$362,200.00**.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 5: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate:

\$1,852,910.00 for the labor and salaries of District's Fire Department; and

\$337,650.00 for the remaining expenses of the Fire Department, to be apportioned approximately as follows:

\$77,500.00, for maintenance;
\$259,150.00, for operations; and
\$1,000.00, for miscellaneous expenses

for a total appropriation of **\$2,190,560.00**.

(By the request of the Board of Fire Commissioners)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 6: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate \$65,000 from Certified Free Cash to acquire a used back-up Ambulance to be expended under the authority of the Fire Commissioners.
(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 7: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate \$48,000 from Certified Free Cash to acquire a new replacement vehicle for use by the Deputy Fire Chief to be expended under the authority of the Fire Commissioners.
(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

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

- \$26,000.00 for the Water Department for service connections
- \$375,029.00 for labor and salaries of the Water Department; and
- \$321,750.00 for the remaining expenses of the Water Department, to be apportioned approximately as follows:
 - \$84,700.00 for maintenance.
 - \$235,550.00 for operations; and
 - \$1,500.00 for miscellaneous expenses

for a total appropriation of **\$722,779.00**
(By the request of the Board of Water Commissioners)
(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

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

- \$3,759.00 for the labor and salaries for Freedom Hall Building Maintenance; and
- \$19,025.00 for the remaining expenses of the Prudential Committee, to be apportioned approximately as follows:
 - \$11,500.00 for maintenance.
 - \$7,425.00 for operations and
 - \$100.00 for Miscellaneous expenses

for a total appropriation of **\$22,784.00.**
(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 10: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate: **\$7,000.00** to maintain the streetlights of the District.
(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 11: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate **\$24,255.00** from Certified Free Cash to support the Maintenance of the Cotuit Library.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 12: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate **\$398,445** for payment of principal and interest.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 13: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate **\$708,000.00** and transfer and appropriate **\$240,000.00** from Certified Free Cash for a total of **\$948,000.00** for the purpose of paying employee and other post-employment benefits.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 14: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$35,000.00** from Certified Free Cash for the Stabilization Fund as provided under Section 5B, Chapter 40, of the General Laws.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 15: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate the sum of **\$45,960.00** From Certified Free Cash for the Water Department Stabilization Fund as provided under Section IX, Section 5 of the District By-Laws. NOTE Under IGR 17-20 (July2017) this may require 2/3's approval)

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 16: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate a sum of **\$45,000.00** from Certified Free Cash to: (1) enable the Prudential Committee and/or its delegates to consummate the transfer of the 5.5+ acres and the school building known as the Cotuit Elementary School at 140 Old Oyster Road in Cotuit to be known as "the School Property"; and (2) maintain the School Property for Fiscal 2022.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 17 : To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate a sum **\$207,500.00** from Certified Free Cash to: (1) Re-open and fund the District Space Needs project to include consideration of the School Property at 140 Old Oyster Road comprising the School Building and surrounding 5.5 acres in the Study findings; (2) Define the cost of implementing the recommendations of Space Need study and any other specific use of the School Property as determined by the Prudential Committee and/or its delegates; (3)

define the cost demolishing the School Building and returning the areas to a green field; (4) fund the cost of a Special District Meeting to determine the District course of action related to the School Property.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 18: To see if the District will vote to close the below listed articles with \$101,925 unencumbered surpluses and no outstanding debt and transfer said surplus to fund the deficits in Article 2016-16 "Rehab Engine No. 263" for **\$60,888.00** and in Article 2018-06 "Fire Station Roof" For **\$9,912.00** The remaining surplus of **\$31,125** to be transferred to Article 2017-14 Office Space Review. The Articles with no debt and unencumbered surplus to be transfer and closed are:

Fire Truck (2018-09)	\$3,513
Water Truck (2018-13)	6,164
Freedom Hall Flooring (2018-15)	10,809
Lovells Pond Tank (2008-10)	32,477
Main Street Mains (2010-10)	45,362
Water System Chemical Upgrade (2008-13)	3,600

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 19: To see if the District will vote to close the Article 1 of the September 3, 2020 Special District Meeting to purchase a Water Department Vehicle and return the unencumbered surpluses of **\$7,430.50** to the Water Department Stabilization Fund. This article has no outstanding debt.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 20: To see if the District will vote to amend the District Bylaws **Article 1, Section 7** to remove the word **"resident"** and replace it with **"registered voter"**. The section will now read: "Any candidate for District Office must be a registered voter of the Cotuit Fire District.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 21: To see if the District will vote to amend the District Bylaws **Article VIII, Section 3** to add the word **"to"** to the second sentence after **"appointments are"**. The section will now read: The Fire Commissioners, through their appointed officers, shall maintain a conscientious and disciplined fire department, which, through a continuous training program, shall provide the District with an adequate roster of qualified rescue/firefighter personnel. They shall also be responsible for the appointed officers, fire police, firefighters, and rescue personnel as may be necessary and consistent with the size of the

department and its activities; such appointments are to be made after consultation with the Fire Chief.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 22: To see if the District will vote to amend the District Bylaws **Article XIII, Section 7** to add after "Fire Chief" the following words "**or the Deputy Chief**". The section will now read: Should the Fire Chief or the Deputy Chief not be available to respond to a fire, rescue, or other call, the senior officer present shall assume authority until properly relieved.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 23: To see if the District will vote to amend the District Bylaws **Article IX, Section 2** to remove the phase in the third sentence "**or their assistants**" and replace it with "**or the Water Superintendent and Water Department employees**". The sentence will now read: The Water Commissioners or the Water Superintendent and Water Department employees may enter upon the premises of any water taker to examine apparatus to ascertain the use to which the water is applied or to find or stop any waste.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Article 24: To see if the District will vote to amend the District Bylaws **Article XI, Section 1** to remove the word in the first sentence "**required**" and replace it with "**expected**". So the section now reads: All elected boards and committees shall be expected to hold at least one regular monthly meeting.

(The Prudential Committee recommends this Article)

Given under our hands this this 26 day of April 26, 2021.

Frances S. Parks
Seth Burdick
Paul Haenle
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

A True Copy, attest:

Charles W. Eager, Clerk
Cotuit Fire District