

**DRAFT COPY FOR
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING.**

**Town of Middlefield
2002 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
Hampshire, ss.**

To Either of the Constables of the Town of Middlefield,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the Middlefield Town Hall in said Middlefield on Saturday the 4th of May next, at 1:30 in the forenoon then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose on one ballot: A Moderator, Town Clerk, and Tree Warden for a term of one year. An Assessor, Cemetery Commissioner, Finance Committee member, Library Trustee, two Planning Board members, Selectman, and Zoning Board of Appeals member for a term of three years. The polls will be open at 12:00 p.m. and may be closed at 5:00 p.m. The business meeting will start at 1:30 p.m.

ARTICLE 2. To hear the report of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Assessors and School Committee and act thereon.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise & appropriate the sum of money to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003, or take any other action relating thereto:

Salaries of Elected Officials:

Moderator	100.00
Town Clerk	2,000.00
Treasurer	5,000.00
Tax Collector	5,000.00
Assessor, Chair	3,000.00
Assessor, 2nd	3,000.00
Assessor, 3rd	3,000.00
Selectman, Chair	1,500.00
Selectman	1,500.00
Selectman	1,500.00
Constable, 1st	90.00
Constable, 2nd	90.00

Highway and Related Expenses:

Snow Removal	50,000.00
Highway Maintenance	75,000.00
Unpaved Roads Materials	15,000.00
Machinery Expense	18,000.00
Fuel	8,000.00
Holiday and Vacation Pay	8,000.00
Health Insurance, Employees	10,000.00
Social Security	9,000.00
Hampshire County Retirement	793.00
Unemployment Compensation	2,000.00

Natural Resources:

Dutch Elm Disease Control	0.00
Forest Fire Protection	10.00
Insect Pest Control	100.00
Tree Warden	100.00

Government:

COBRA (Medicare)	2,000.00
Elections & Registrations	2,000.00
Health & Sanitation	10.00
Interest, Short Term Loans	6,000.00
Insurance	25,000.00
Printing	750.00
Town Counsel	2,000.00
County Tax/Hampshire Council Gov't	3,032.00

Office Expenses:

Selectmen's Secretary	3,500.00
Selectmen's Travel & Expense	800.00
Office Supplies	3,000.00
Assessors Assistant	3,500.00
Assessors Education	1,200.00
Assessors Computer Software/ Maintenance	1,500.00
Assessors Expense	1,500.00
Assessors Registry Fees	150.00
Assessors Tax Map Update	650.00
Tax Collectors Expense	3,500.00
Town Accountant Expense	6,000.00

Miscellaneous:	
Cemetery Expense	3,600.00
Civil Defense	10.00
Council on Aging	1,500.00
Disposal Area	30,000.00
Hill town Resource Mngt Coop	1,898.00
Dog Officer Salary	400.00
Dog Officer Expense	300.00
Historical Commission	500.00
Lee Visiting Nurse	1,000.00
Library Expense	1,750.00
Maintenance of Public Buildings	26,000.00
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	60.00
Planning Board	10.00
Recreation Committee	2,400.00
Street Lights	500.00
Veterans Agent	100.00
War Memorials & Playgrounds	3,500.00
Police Department:	
Police Chief Salary	1,000.00
Police Expenses	7,600.00
Fire Department:	
Fire Chief/Forest Warden	425.00
Fire Department Expenses	4,500.00
Dispatch Services	3,000.00
Hinsdale Ambulance	1,200.00
Inspectors Salaries:	
Building	3,784.00
Board of Health/Inspection Agent	300.00
Electrical	300.00
Electrical Assistant	100.00
Oil Burner	100.00
Plumbing	300.00
Smoke Detector	100.00
Propane	100.00

ARTICLE 4. To determine the disposition of the Dog Fund. (\$250.00)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$5,000.00 for the Reserve Fund or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$100.00 from the Conservation Commission Wetland's Receipts Reserved Account to the Conservation Commission Wetland's Expense Account.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to accept Franklin Regional Transit Authority as the official transportation agent for the Council on Aging.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$347,304.00 for Middlefield's minimum contribution of the budget for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003, or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$86,104.00 for Middlefield's share of the over-minimum contribution to the budget for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003, or take any other action thereto, or accept as an over-minimum contribution a sum which is less than \$86,104.00 as certified by the Gateway Regional School District.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,160.00 for Middlefield's share of the Transportation and Debt Service (non-foundation budget) & Construction for the Gateway Regional School District for the period of July 1, 2002 through June 30,2003, or take any other action thereto.

(The Finance committee recommends that \$20,000 be transferred from the Free Cash account towards this expense.)

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 20,000.00 for the Stabilization Fund or take any other action thereto.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving fund under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53 E 1/2 that may be spent on the Transfer Station without further appropriation during FY2003. Funds collected may be used for the Transfer Station, for capital equipment, grounds' improvements or other related expenses to benefit the Transfer Station. The Selectmen may spend up to \$5,000 in revolving fund monies for the program during FY2003.

("Funds", as indicated in Article 12, are derived from fees collected during the fiscal year at the Transfer Station.)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for a new Roll-off dumpster for the town Transfer Station.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for a study and update to the heating system at the town hall.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$69,000 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will instruct the Board of Selectmen, acting as the Board of Health, to institute a "pay as you throw" system at the town transfer station.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the town will vote to eliminate the position of Town Auditor.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$10,000.00 from Free Cash for the purchase of a used wood chipper, or take any other action relating thereto.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to amend Zoning By-laws Section 4.6.1 concerning Driveways to include the following as item 1) of the requirements for permitted driveways, and renumber the remaining items accordingly:

1) the location of the driveway on the lot plan, which location shall not be less than 25 feet from adjoining lot lines.

Or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to amend Zoning By-laws Section 4.2 by deleting the existing first paragraph and adding the following in its place:

No person shall keep in the open, on any public or private land, any abandoned, wrecked, junked, or dilapidated motor vehicle and/or parts thereof, except for a maximum of two unregistered vehicles screened from view, to be stored at a residence, or unless said person has been licensed to do so in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 57. Working farm equipment, including trucks, on a producing farm shall be exempted from this regulation.

or to take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to amend Zoning By-laws Section 4.3 currently titled "Mobile Homes, Trailers and Camping" to:

Change the undefined term "Trailers" to the defined term "Travel Trailers" in the title.

And in Section 4.3.1 (a) to delete the term "trailer" and the requirement that stored equipment be "in a garage or other accessory building". To also delete the word "residential", but add the clearer requirement that storage of unused camping equipment must be on private property "on which a conforming residence exists".

And to delete the existing Section 4.3.1 (b) and add the following new language as 4.3.1 (b):

"No tent, travel trailer, or camper, as described in section 4.3.1 (a) (hereinafter called camper) may be stored or parked on undeveloped land except by Annual Camping Permit from the Board of Selectmen. Permit is limited to a maximum of one camper per existing conforming lot. Camper must be located at least forty (40) feet from lot lines. Camper must be removed at the end of the permitted camping period. The maximum period allowed for camping permits is 24 consecutive days per annum. The yearly granting of a camping permit shall be contingent on approval of sanitary facilities and presentation of a valid registration. A camper in violation of any term of this article is subject to daily fine per camper, and may be towed and impounded at the violators' liability and expense."

And to delete section 4.3.1. (c)

And to delete the existing wording of Section 4.3.3 (b) and add the following:

"(b) All recreational camping must conform with Bylaw 4.3.1 (b), and is subject to inspection by the Board of Health for proper sanitary and waste disposal procedures."

And to add to Section 7 Definitions the following:

"Lot, Conforming: A parcel of land of required minimum building lot dimensions at the time of its recording."

Or take any action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22. To transact any other business to come before said meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies of same in the Middlefield Post Office, on the bulletin board at the Town Hall, a designated place in the Bancroft section of the Town and a designated place in Smith Hollow, seven days at least before time of holding said meeting.

Given under our hands at Middlefield the 24th day of April in the year of Our Lord, two thousand two.

Board of Selectmen:

Tom Rock

Peter Oligny

Larry Pease

I have this day posted attested copies of herein warrant as directed

Constable of Middlefield

Date