

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Middlesex, ss.



To the Clerk of the Water Supply District of Acton, GREETINGS:

You are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Acton who are qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to assemble at their precinct:

*All Precincts voting at Blanchard Auditorium
R.J. Grey Junior High School
16 Charter Road
Acton, Massachusetts*

On Tuesday, April 25, 2023
Between 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M.

Then and there to bring their votes on one ballot for the following officers:

Commissioner for three years

District Clerk for three years

You are further directed to notify the legal voters of the Town of Acton, as aforesaid, to assemble at:

**R.J. Grey Junior High School
16 Charter Road
Acton, Massachusetts 01720**

**On Wednesday, March 15, 2023
6:00 PM.**

Then and there to Act on the following Articles:

Article 1. To fix salaries of the elected officials.

Article 2. To act on the reports of the Commissioners, the Treasurer and other officers and committees of the District.

Article 3. To see if the District will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Commissioners, to borrow in anticipation of the revenue of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with the provisions of the General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 4. To see what sums of money the District will vote to raise and appropriate to defray the usual expenses of the District.

Article 5. To see if the District will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws c.44, §53E½, to establish a \$100,000 limitation on expenditures from the revolving fund captioned “District Revolving Fund for Mitigation,” or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 6. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Grace Stabilization Fund (W.R. Grace settlement) the sum of \$125,000 for the maintenance and repair of the various treatment facilities including, but not limited to, media replacement in the filtration tanks, aeration tower repair, and replacement of packing material or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 7. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$100,000 to clean and rehabilitate existing wells throughout the District or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 8. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of replacing old water mains, renewing old water services, replacing old fire hydrants or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 9. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of repairing emergency water main breaks or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 10. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$100,000 for the replacement of filtration media at the District's water treatment plants or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 11. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$150,000 to Lights, Power, and Fuel for additional utility costs or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 12. To see if the District will appropriate \$400,000 or any other amount, to pay costs of improvements to the District's water system and water mains in Acton, as well as costs of a Lead Service Line Inventory and Replacement Plan; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by transfer from available funds, borrowing, which may include the borrowing of funds through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust, or any combination thereof, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 13. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Surplus Revenue the sum of \$25,104 to the Article 97 Stabilization Fund or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 14. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to fund the Mitigation Revolving Fund or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 15. To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (OPEB) to Surplus Revenue the sum of \$84,325 to fund health insurance benefits for retirees to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 16. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$180,000 to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain, or otherwise, a parcel of land at 104 Powder Mill Road Rear and 36 Knox Trail owned by or formerly owned by Baldco Inc. containing a combined 18.27 acres of land, more or less, as shown in deeds recorded in Middlesex Registry (South) of Deeds in Book 28877, Page 294; Plan 343 of 1993 and Land Court Book 0119, Page 147, Plan No. 25398J, and to enter into a long term lease with Baldco, Inc. to lease back the land to maintain its existing radio towers; said land being acquired for the purposes of protecting the groundwater aquifers and recharge areas for District water supply wells, and conserving the land for watershed protection purposes, and for all things pertinent to its duties as a water district per its enabling act, Chapter 326 of the Acts of 1912, as amended, and under the provisions of Chapter 40 and Chapter 79 of the General Laws; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 17. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,400,000 for costs associated with construction of bedrock wells at 549 Main Street; to determine whether this

amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, which may include the borrowing of funds through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 18. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,900,000 to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain, or otherwise, a parcel of land at 549 Main Street, Acton, MA owned by or formerly owned by The Brewster Conant Trust - 2017, or its nominee and containing a combined 56.85 acres of land as described in the deed recorded in Book 74052, Page 584 and shown as Parcel 2A in a plan recorded in Book 25911, Page 35, and in Plan 1168 of 1995, all recorded in Middlesex Registry (South) of Deeds, and to grant a Conservation Restriction on the same land to the Town of Acton or other entity, said land being acquired for the purposes of protecting the groundwater aquifers and recharge areas for water supply wells, and conserving the land for watershed protection purposes, and for all things pertinent to its duties as a water district per its enabling act, Chapter 326 of the Acts of 1912, as amended, and under the provisions of Chapter 40 and Chapter 79 of the General Laws; and to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise. The Water Commissioners are authorized to apply for funds from any private or public grant or aid programs that may be available to defray costs of this project, which funds, if any, shall reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for this purpose; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 19. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$8,700,000 for costs associated with construction of modifications to the permanent infrastructure at the South Acton Treatment Plant to accommodate installation of a PFAS treatment system; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, which may include the borrowing of funds through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 20. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,420,000 for costs associated with construction of modifications to the permanent infrastructure at the Central Acton Treatment Plant to accommodate installation of a PFAS treatment system; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, which may include the borrowing of funds through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 21. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$955,000 for costs associated with backwash upgrades at the Clapp/Whitcomb treatment plant; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise, which may include the borrowing of funds through the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 22. To see if the District will vote to amend the District Bylaws, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, Revolving Funds, as most recently amended by Section 86 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, the Municipal Modernization Act, by inserting the following section entitled “District Revolving Fund for New Service Meter Installations” or take any other action relative thereto.

“District Revolving Fund for New Service Meter Installations

1. Purpose. This bylaw establishes and authorizes a revolving fund for use by the District in connection with new service meter installation fees, charges or other receipts. The fund will be credited with all fees charged for new service meter installations. Expenditures will be authorized by the District Manager and will not exceed \$100,000. This revolving fund is established under and governed by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½.

2. Expenditure Limitations. The revolving fund is established and authorized by this bylaw subject to the following limitations

- No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.
- The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by District Meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the Water Commissioners.

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this bylaw shall be credited to the General Fund.

4. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½ and this bylaw, the laws, charter provisions, bylaws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of District monies and the expenditure and payment of District funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this bylaw. The District Treasurer shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the District Treasurer provides.”

Article 23. To see if the District will vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws c.44, §53E½ as most recently amended by §86 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016, to establish a \$100,000 limitation on expenditures from the revolving fund, captioned, “District Revolving Fund for New Service Meter Installations,” or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 24. To see if the District will vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 from free cash to fund the District Revolving Fund for New Service Meter Installations or to take any other action relative thereto.

Article 25. Non-Binding Resolution: Water Rate Study To determine whether the Annual Meeting shall request that the Acton Water District, as part of its next 5-yearly Master Plan update or through another timely mechanism, commission an external expert study of options for structuring future water rates, with the goal of generating sufficient revenue to cover operations, maintenance, and debt service, while strongly encouraging water conservation and keeping water affordable for low-income Acton residents.

Hereof fail not and make due returns of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Water Commissioners on or before the time of holding of said meeting.

Given under our hand this 6th day of February in the year two thousand and twenty-three.

Stephen C. Stuntz
Erika Amir-Lin
Barry Rosen, Water Commissioners

A true copy. ATTEST:

William T. Stanford
District Clerk