



DRAFT 1-22-26

**TOWN OF CHELMSFORD
WARRANT FOR
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
April 7, 2026**

MIDDLESEX, SS.

To the Constable, or any other suitable person of the Town of Chelmsford:

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, you are hereby requested to notify and warn the legal voters of said Chelmsford to meet in their several polling places, VIZ:

Precincts 1 and 2.

Precincts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

Precincts 9, 10, and 11.

Senior Center, 75 Groton Road

McCarthy Middle School, 250 North Road

Town Offices, 50 Billerica Road

On Tuesday, the **7th day of April, 2026** being the first Tuesday in said month at 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. for the following purposes:

To cast their votes for the following officers:

One Select Board Member for three years;

One Select Board Member for one year (unexpired term);

Two School Committee Members for three years;

One Town Moderator for three years;

Two Planning Board Members for three years;

One Board of Health Member for three years;

Three Trustees of Public Library Members for three years;

One Cemetery Commission Member for three years;

One Housing Authority Member for five years;

and to cast their votes for the following:

Fifty-five Representative Town Meeting Members for three years in Precincts 1 through 11;

And various additional Representative Town Meeting Members:

One Representative Town Meeting Member for an unexpired one-year term in Precinct 5;

One Representative Town Meeting Member for an unexpired one-year term in Precinct 6;

and to meet in the Senior Center, 75 Groton Road, North Chelmsford, on Monday, the twenty-seventh day of April, at 7:30 p.m. in the evening, then and there to act upon the following articles, VIZ:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to hear reports of the Town Officers and Committees; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Select Board**

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget adopted under Articles 3, 4, and 5 of the Warrant for the Spring Annual Town Meeting held on April 28, 2025; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money to fund the Town's Fiscal Year 2027 assessment to the Nashoba Valley Technical School District; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds a sum of money as may be required to defray charges for the operations of the Chelmsford Public Schools for the fiscal period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be required to defray charges of the Town's General Government operations for the fiscal period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a certain sum of money to be used to fund the cost items of the first fiscal year of employee contract agreements between the Town and its collective bargaining units; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds such sums of money to be used as a Reserve Fund at the discretion of the Finance Committee for Fiscal Year 2027, as provided in General Laws Chapter 40, Section 6; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to: a.) appropriate a certain sum of money for the following capital projects:

FY2027 PROPOSED CAPITAL BUDGET			
Function	Department /Location	Project	Expenditure
Community Services	<u>Adams Library</u>	HVAC System Replacement - Phase 3	\$850,000
	<u>MacKay Library</u>	Ramp Repl. & Rear Entrance Repairs	\$70,000
	<i>Community Services Subtotal</i>		\$920,000
Public Safety	<u>Police</u>	HVAC System Replacement - Phase 1	\$650,000
	<u>Fire</u>	Staff Vehicle Replacement	\$90,150
		Staff Vehicle Replacement	\$95,400
	<i>Public Safety Subtotal</i>		\$835,550
Public Works	<u>Highway</u>	Roadway Improvements	\$425,000
		6-Wheel Sander Truck Replacement	\$350,000
		10-Wheel Dump Truck Replacement	\$375,000
		Sidewalk Snow Clearing Equipment	\$195,000
		Rack Body Truck with Plow Repl.	\$135,000
		3/4 Ton Pickup Truck with Plow	\$90,000
	<u>Cemetery</u>	Backhoe Replacement	\$165,000
	<i>Public Works Subtotal</i>		\$1,735,000
Public Facilities	<u>Municipal Facilities</u>	Utility Van Replacement - Plumbing	\$48,000
	<u>Town Offices</u>	Elevator Replacement - Phase 2	\$325,000
	<i>Municipal Facilities Subtotal</i>		\$373,000
	<u>Harrington, McCarthy & CHS</u>	Roof Replacement Study	\$100,000
	<u>Byam & South Row Schools</u>	Emergency Notification System	\$251,490
	<u>Byam & Harrington Schools</u>	Security & Fire Panel Upgrades	\$400,000
	<u>Byam School</u>	Parking Lot Rehabilitation	\$700,000
	<u>McCarthy Middle School</u>	Bi-Directional Antenna	\$113,850
	<u>High School</u>	Roof Replacement - Kitchen & Cafeteria	\$1,000,000
	<i>School Facilities Subtotal</i>		\$2,565,340
CAPITAL PROJECTS TOTAL			\$6,428,890

; and b.) raise and appropriate, transfer and appropriate from available funds, transfer and appropriate from the General Stabilization Fund, and/or borrow a certain sum of money (or any combination thereof) to fund said projects, and to further authorize the Town Manager to enter into lease and/or purchase agreements, on such terms and conditions as the Town Manager deems appropriate in the best interests of the Town, in excess of three years; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**
Capital Planning Committee

Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for enhancements to the PFAS remedial treatment system located at the Town's highway yard located at 54 Richardson Road, including any incidental and related expenses; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to operate the Sewer Enterprise; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money to upgrade the Clinton Avenue, Fair Street, and Evergreen Street sewer pump stations, including any incidental and related expenses; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to operate the Stormwater Management Enterprise; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for the purchase and equipping of a rack body truck for the Department of Public Works Stormwater Division; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for the design and construction of drainage improvements along Rainbow Avenue, including any incidental and related expenses; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to operate the Forum Ice Rink Enterprise; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2026 budget to operate the Cable Television Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) Access Enterprise adopted under Article 13 of the Warrant for the Spring Annual Town Meeting held on April 28, 2025; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to operate the Cable Television Public, Educational, and Governmental (PEG) Access Enterprise; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a certain sum of money for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to operate the Golf Course Enterprise; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the following total amount of expenditures for Departmental Revolving Funds for the Fiscal Year 2027 which funds have been established under the provisions of Chapter 35, Section 6 of the Code of the Town of Chelmsford, with such expenditure limitations to be applicable from fiscal year to fiscal year unless sooner revised by Town Meeting prior to July 1 in any fiscal year:

- Dog Pound & Licensing: \$10,000;
- Senior Citizen Trip Program: \$75,000;
- Senior Citizen Respite Care Program: \$150,000;
- Police Cruiser Communications Equipment: \$20,000;
- Fire Life Safety Equipment: \$20,000;
- Cemetery Wreath/Floral Decorations: \$10,000;
- Onsite Sewage Facility \$75,000;
- Public Shade Tree \$30,000;

or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to transfer a certain sum of money from the Sale of Graves and Lots to the Cemetery Improvement and Development Fund; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Cemetery Commission**

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to grant, upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board may determine, easements to public utilities in the following Town properties for the purpose of obtaining new or additional electrical service: 1) 260 Old Westford Road, Assessors Parcel ID 58-276-1; and 2) 295 Acton Road, Assessors Parcel ID 117-421-6 and Assessors Parcel ID 117-421-8, as more or less depicted on documents placed on file and available for review in the Offices of the Town Clerk and the Department of Public Works; and to authorize the Select Board to seek such approvals under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution or otherwise, if any, as may be required to allow for such grants, and to execute any and all documents, enter into all agreements, and take such action as may be necessary or convenient in the furtherance of the objectives of this article; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Town Manager**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Conservation Commission wetlands bylaw to add a regulatory 100 buffer zone to Bordering Land Subject to Flooding so that any alterations proposed within 100 feet with require approval of the Conservation Commission

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Conservation Commission**

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to overturn the adopted 2025 Fall Town Meeting Warrant Article 29 Zoning Bylaw Amendment Definition of Family, changing the Definition of Family in Zoning Article XX, Terminology, from the pre-existing Relationship Based Definition of Family to a Zoning Terminology Based Definition of Family and restore the pre-existing Relationship Based Definition of Family.

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Brian Latina**
Citizen Petition
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Town Code, Article XXI Community Enhancement and Investment Overlay District (CEIOD) Section 195.11.C(2) to revise by-right projects, 195-112 Use Regulations to provide clarity, 195-118 Performance Standard A&B to require compliance with Article VII, 195-119 Application Review Procedures A(6) to add “structure”, 195-119 B(d) to provide clarity, 195-119 D to add a new (5) and renumber

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Planning Board**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Town Code, Chapter 195, “Zoning Bylaw”, 195 Attachment 1, Use Table, line D.16, Commercial 16 (Parking Garage/Structure) from BA to PB

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Planning Board**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Town Code, Chapter 195, “Zoning Bylaw”, Table of Dimensional Requirements (195 Attachment 2) change minimum depth from 0 to N/A in the CB, CD & CX districts, CEIOD Site and Bldg Requirements Table (195 Attachment 3) to change minimum depth from 0 to N/A in the CB & CD districts, dimensional requirements for facilitated and independent senior living facilities (195-88) change minimum depth from 0 to N/A in the CB, CD & CV districts, dimensional standards for Center Village Zoning (Article XVIII 195-98.2) change minimum depth from 0 to N/A

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Planning Board**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Town Code, section 195-108 to revise the definition of “Boarding House”

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Planning Board**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Town Code, section 195-108 to add a new definition for “Bed and Breakfast”, 195 Attachment 1, Use Table, to add a new line D.39, “Bed and Breakfast”

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Planning Board**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Town Code by adopting Chapter 108 Outdoor Lighting

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Planning Board**

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to amend The Town Code by amending the zoning map: rezone existing IA parcels to RM, 13-36-2 & 13-36-4, rezone the following parcel to RC, 13-19-15, 13-19-16, 13-19-17, 13-19-18, 13-19-19, 13-19-21, 13-19-22, 13-19-23, 13-35-1, 14-19-6, 14-19-9, 14-19-13, rezone parcel 14-

19-8 to CB and rezone the following parcels from IA, limited Industrial to CBLT, 13-19-20, 13-36-1, 13-36-3, 13-36-5, 13-36-8, 13-36-10, 14-19-1, 14-19-2, 14-19-3, 14-19-4 and 14-19-5.

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Planning Board**
Two-Thirds Vote

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to:

- A. Hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2027 Community Preservation budget;
- B. Appropriate a certain sum of money from Fiscal Year 2027 Community Preservation Fund revenues and/or from Community Preservation Fund reserves for the payment of Fiscal Year 2027 debt service;
- C. Appropriate from Fiscal Year 2027 Community Preservation Fund revenues a sum of money to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2027; and
- D. Reserve for future appropriation amounts from Fiscal Year 2027 Community Preservation Fund revenues as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee:
 - (1) a sum of money for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space,
 - (2) a sum of money for the acquisition and preservation of historic resources,
 - (3) a sum of money for the creation, preservation and support of community housing; and
 - (4) a sum of money for the Community Preservation Fund Fiscal Year 2027 Budgeted Reserve

; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Community Preservation Committee**

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 23 of the April 29, 2024 Spring Annual Town Meeting pertaining to appropriation of \$8,000 for the preservation of headstones at Forefathers Cemetery by allowing the funds to be used for the preservation of headstones at all Chelmsford historic cemetery locations; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Community Preservation Committee**

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate or transfer from the Community Preservation Fund a certain sum of money for the purchase and installation of new handicapped-accessible playground equipment at Varney Playground; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Community Preservation Committee**

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to: a) accept as a public way Proctor Road as laid out by the Select Board and shown by reports and plans which are on file in the office of the Town Clerk; b) authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase, eminent domain, or otherwise and upon such terms and conditions as it may

determine, any and all interests in land, including easements or fee simple interest, with the trees thereon, within said layout and abutting lands as may be necessary for the purpose of completing such acceptance, making traffic safety and road improvements incidental to such acceptance, and otherwise providing for the use and maintenance of said way and drainage facilities incidental thereto for all purposes for which public ways are used in the Town of Chelmsford; c) raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a certain sum of money to defray all necessary costs, fees and expenses in connection with the acquisition of said land and for payment of any damages which may be awarded as a result of any such taking; and, d) authorize the Select Board to negotiate and execute all necessary and proper contracts and agreements thereto; or act in relation thereto.

SUBMITTED BY: **Select Board**
Two-Thirds Vote

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 23rd day of February, 2026

SELECT BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CHELMSFORD:

Patrick J. Maloney, Chair

Patricia Wojtas, Vice Chair

Aaron D. Cunningham, Clerk

Jeffrey A. Hardy

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DATES
AND TIMES FOR CONTINUED SESSIONS OF THE
SPRING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Select Board shall propose the following dates and times for continued sessions of the Town Meeting of April 27, 2026:

Thursday, April 30, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, May 4, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

If additional continued sessions are necessary, they shall take place on the Monday and Thursday of the next consecutive week until the meetings are concluded.

Pursuant to Town of Chelmsford Code Chapter 154-9, these dates and times are proposed and are subject to change by vote of the Town Meeting Representatives.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MIDDLESEX, SS.

_____, 2026

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Chelmsford by posting up attested copies of same at the following places, to wit: Senior Center, 75 Groton Road; North Chelmsford Fire Station, 35 Princeton Street; McCarthy Middle School, 250 North Road; Parker Middle School, 75 Graniteville Road; West Chelmsford Fire Station, 260 Old Westford Road; Westlands School, 171 Dalton Road; Byam Elementary School, 25 Maple Road; Town Offices Building, 50 Billerica Road; South Row Elementary School, 250 Boston Road; East Chelmsford Fire Station, 115 Riverneck Road; and South Chelmsford Fire Station, 295 Acton Road.

Signed:

Edwin Paul Eriksen, Constable

A True Copy Attest:

Edwin Paul Eriksen, Constable