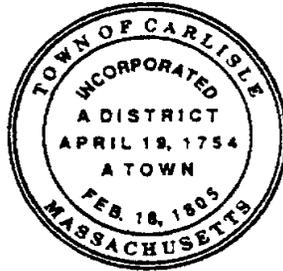


Town of Carlisle



ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MOTIONS

Monday, May 8, 2023
Carlisle Public Schools
Corey Auditorium, 7 p.m.

With Select Board Summaries and Finance Committee
Recommendations

Also please note:

Town Elections
Tuesday, May 16, 2023
Town Hall
Polls Open 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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MOTIONS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – MAY 8, 2023

ARTICLE 1 – Consent Agenda

MOTION (Barney Arnold): I move that Articles 2 through 7 be considered in one motion, and that the motions for Articles 2 through 7 be hereby adopted as printed in the Motions booklet.

** Identifies motions in the Consent Agenda

***Summary:** The Consent Agenda procedure speeds the passage of Articles that the Select Board anticipate, in consultation with the Moderator and Finance Committee, are likely to generate no controversy and can be properly voted on without debate. The purpose of the Consent Agenda is to allow these Articles to be acted upon pursuant to a single motion, and to be passed without debate. As of the publication of the warrant, the Select Board intends to recommend that the following Articles be acted upon under the Consent Agenda: Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7. The Articles to be taken up under the Consent Agenda are identified by a double asterisk (**).*

If Town Meeting approves the use of the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will call out the article numbers one by one. If you object to any article being included in the Consent Agenda, please say the word “Hold” in a loud voice when the article number is called. That article will then be removed from the Consent Agenda and restored to its original place in the Warrant, to be debated and voted upon in the usual manner. After the calling of the individual Articles in the Consent Agenda, the Moderator will entertain a SINGLE MOTION that all items remaining on the Consent Agenda be acted upon favorably by the voters.

Please carefully review the list of proposed Articles, which appears in the printed Warrant Book that is available on the Town website. If you have any questions about the Consent Agenda or procedure, please contact the Town Administrator at 978-371-6688 before Town Meeting.

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of all articles in the consent agenda
Select Board: Recommends passage of all articles in the consent agenda

ARTICLE 2 - Town Reports **

MOTION: I move that the reports of the Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Commissioners and Trustees as published in the Town Report for the Year 2022 be accepted and placed in the permanent records of the Town, it being understood that such acceptance does not constitute a ratification of the contents of those reports.

***Summary:** M.G.L. c. 40, § 49 requires that the Select Board publish an Annual Town Report containing reports and information from all Town Departments. Town Meeting voters are asked to accept the annual report as a routine matter.*

ARTICLE 3 - Salaries of Elected Officials **

MOTION: I move that the salaries of these elected officers of the Town be established as provided by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws, as amended, for fiscal year 2024, beginning July 1, 2023, as follows:

Summary: M.G.L. c. 41, § 108 requires that the salaries of all elected officials be set by Town Meeting. The Moderator and the members of the Board of Assessors receive a stipend; the Town Clerk is the only elected official that is paid a salary. This adjusted salary for the Town Clerk places the position on the Town’s compensation plan (proposed in Article 10) at Grade 10, Step 2.

	Voted FY22	Voted FY23	FY24 Proposed
Moderator	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Town Clerk	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 76,688.00	\$ 83,476.00
Assessors			
Chair	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Member	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
Member	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00

ARTICLE 4 – Actuarial Valuation of Post-Employment Benefits **

MOTION: I move that Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) be raised and appropriated from the FY 2024 tax levy and other general revenues of the Town to be spent by the Select Board for the purpose of professional services in connection with GASB 74/75 actuarial valuation of post-employment benefits obligations for the Town.

Summary: This Article plans for and budgets a percentage of the cost of the actuarial valuation that the Treasurer must do every two years. Historically, we have appropriated \$3,000 annually. The Finance Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,000 for FY2024.

ARTICLE 5 – Real Estate Tax Exemption **

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5C 1/2 to provide an additional real estate tax exemption of one hundred (100%) percent of the exemption provided under M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

Summary: Town Meeting is asked to annually authorize the Board of Assessors to grant the maximum real estate tax exemption allowable under statute to qualified applicants, e.g., seniors, veterans, and the disabled.

ARTICLE 6 - FY 2024 Chapter 90 Authorization **

MOTION: I move that the Treasurer of the Town, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow Two Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$252,100) to be expended by the Select Board for the reconstruction and improvement of public ways in the Town as provided for pursuant to the provisions of Section 34(2) (a) of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, such borrowing to be in anticipation of, and conditioned upon, reimbursement by the Commonwealth pursuant to said Chapter 90.

Summary: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts funds roadway repairs pursuant to M.G.L. c. 90. The Town will receive approximately \$252K in Chapter 90 funds in FY2024. The DPW plans to expend FY2024 Chapter 90 funds for repairing and paving roads as identified in a coming Road Maintenance Plan.

ARTICLE 7 – PEG (Public, Educational, Government) Local Access Appropriation **

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 from the PEG (Public, Educational, Governmental) Local Access Receipts reserved for appropriation special revenue account for the purpose of providing local cable access services, equipment and programming for the Town of Carlisle.

Summary: The General Laws require Carlisle to deposit all revenue we receive under the subscriber provisions of our license agreement with Comcast into a special revenue fund for PEG Local Access and then withdraw funds as necessary at a Town Meeting. Since October 2018, the Town has contracted with the Town of Concord for local cable access programming. The estimated cost to provide service to Carlisle in FY2024 is approximately \$100,000.

ARTICLE 8- Department Revolving Funds Authorization

MOTION (Nathan Brown): I move that the Town vote to eliminate the Building Department and Hazardous Waste Revolving Funds and transfer any remaining funds to the General Fund, and to amend Article XVII of the Town's General Bylaws striking Section 17.1.3 Hazardous Waste Revolving Fund and Section 17.1.9 Building Department Revolving Fund, renumbering the remaining sections appropriately.

MOTION (Nathan Brown): I further move that the Town vote to set the limit on the total amount that may be spent from each revolving fund for fiscal year 2024 as follows:

- a. School Bus Revolving Fund: \$60,000.00
- b. Board of Health Inspections Revolving Fund: \$70,000.00
- c. ~~Hazardous/Solid Waste Revolving Fund: \$70,000.00~~

- d. Trails Committee Revolving Fund: \$10,000.00
- e. Foss Farm Revolving Fund: \$3,000.00
- f. Conservation Comm. Building Maint. Revolving Fund: \$30,000.00
- g. Historical Commission Revolving Fund: \$3,000.00
- h. Youth Commission Revolving Fund: \$10,000.00
- ~~i. Building Department Revolving Fund: \$165,000.00~~
- j. Council on Aging and Human Services Events Revolving Fund: \$30,000.00
- k. Council on Aging and Human Services Transportation Revolving Fund: \$15,000.00
- l. Deer Control Committee Revolving Fund: \$1,000.00

Summary: M.G.L. c. 44, § 53 E1/2 requires annual authorization of departmental revolving funds which are self-supporting and pay for departmental expenses from user fees and charges. The Building Department and Hazardous Waste Revolving Fund (commonly known as the Sticker Fund) are being removed. Those budgets are in the annual operating budget for transparency and accounting purposes. The Town has increased its revenue estimates to offset putting these expenses in the operating budget. Future revenue from the Building Department and the Transfer Station will offset Town expenses.

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 8
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 8

ARTICLE 9 – FY24 Salary/Wage Table

MOTION (Nathan Brown): I move that the Town vote to adopt the Town of Carlisle, Massachusetts FY 2024 Classification & Compensation Plan, as shown below:

Summary: The annual salary/wage tables used by non-union Town employees must be approved by Town Meeting each year. This article appears in the form of a classification table, listing all positions by pay grade and the actual wage/salary table that lists all Grades/Steps for all fifteen classifications. This table expresses the wages effective July 1, 2023, when a 3% wage adjustment will be applied. This change also includes reclassification and adjusted compensation as recommended by a third-party consultant and recommended by the Finance Committee and Select Board as overall non-union employee compensation.

**TOWN OF CARLISLE, MASSACHUSETTS
 FY 2024 CLASSIFICATION PLAN
 Permanent Full and Part-time Employees**

1		8
Library Page		Executive Assistant
2		Planning Assistant
Van Driver		General Foreman
3		9
Library Assistant II		Assistant Treasurer Collector
4		Facilities Director
Driver/Laborer		COAHS Social Services Manager
Library Assistant I		10
Maintenance Custodian		Conservation Administrator
5		Town Clerk
Building Assistant		Assistant Library Director
Head of Circulation		11
ZBA Assistant		Building Commissioner
Municipal Assistant		DPW Director
Heavy Equipment Operator		Health Agent
Transportation and Office Manager		COAHS Director
6		Recreation Director
Fire Assistant		Town Planner
Conservation Assistant		Library Director
Police Assistant		Assistant Town Administrator
COAHS Program Manager		12
Mechanic		Town Accountant
7		13
Finance Assistant		Assessing Director
Assessing Assistant		14
Health Assistant		No Positions
Assistant Town Clerk		15
Children's Librarian		Finance Director
Teen Librarian		

**TOWN OF CARLISLE, MASSACHUSETTS
 FY 2024 COMPENSATION PLAN
 Permanent Full and Part-time Employees**

STEP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Grade 1	19.80	19.99	20.19	20.40	20.60	20.81	21.01	21.22	21.44	21.65	21.87	22.09	22.31	22.53	22.76
Grade 2	21.58	21.79	22.01	22.23	22.45	22.68	22.91	23.14	23.37	23.60	23.84	24.07	24.32	24.56	24.80
Grade 3	23.53	23.76	24.00	24.24	24.48	24.73	24.97	25.22	25.47	25.73	25.99	26.25	26.51	26.77	27.04
Grade 4	25.66	25.91	26.17	26.43	26.70	26.97	27.24	27.51	27.78	28.06	28.34	28.63	28.91	29.20	29.49
Grade 5	27.95	28.23	28.52	28.80	29.09	29.38	29.67	29.97	30.27	30.57	30.88	31.19	31.50	31.81	32.13
Grade 6	30.47	30.77	31.08	31.39	31.70	32.02	32.34	32.67	32.99	33.32	33.65	33.99	34.33	34.67	35.02
Grade 7	33.52	33.85	34.19	34.53	34.88	35.23	35.58	35.93	36.29	36.66	37.02	37.39	37.77	38.14	38.53
Grade 8	36.86	37.23	37.60	37.98	38.36	38.74	39.13	39.52	39.92	40.32	40.72	41.13	41.54	41.95	42.37
Grade 9	40.91	41.32	41.73	42.15	42.57	43.00	43.43	43.86	44.30	44.74	45.19	45.64	46.10	46.56	47.03
Grade 10	45.41	45.87	46.33	46.79	47.26	47.73	48.21	48.69	49.18	49.67	50.16	50.67	51.17	51.68	52.20
Grade 11	50.42	50.92	51.43	51.95	52.47	52.99	53.52	54.06	54.60	55.14	55.69	56.25	56.81	57.38	57.95
Grade 12	55.96	56.52	57.08	57.66	58.23	58.81	59.40	60.00	60.60	61.20	61.81	62.43	63.06	63.69	64.32
Grade 13	62.11	62.73	63.36	63.99	64.63	65.28	65.93	66.59	67.26	67.93	68.61	69.29	69.99	70.69	71.39
Grade 14	68.94	69.63	70.32	71.03	71.74	72.45	73.18	73.91	74.65	75.40	76.15	76.91	77.68	78.46	79.24
Grade 15	78.82	79.60	80.40	81.20	82.02	82.84	83.67	84.50	85.35	86.20	87.06	87.93	88.81	89.70	90.60
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

*Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 9
 Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 9*

ARTICLE 10 – Prior Year Bills

MOTION (Travis Snell): I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$27,019 to pay bills incurred by the Town of Carlisle in fiscal year 2022. The specific bills are as follows:

Police Department Ammunition	\$1,588.00
Animal Control Vet Bill	\$431.00
Miyares & Harrington Legal Bills FY22	\$25,000.00
Total:	\$27,019.00

Summary: Massachusetts General Law does not allow the Town to spend FY2023 funds for bills received in FY2022 unless approved by a 4/5 vote at Town Meeting. The bills identified above were invoiced in FY2022, but not found until FY2023.

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 10
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 10

ARTICLE 11 – FY2024 Operating Budget

MOTION (Lynne Lipinsky): I move that a total of Thirty-Four Million one Hundred Four Thousand Three Hundred Forty Dollars (\$34,104,340) be appropriated for FY2024, as set forth in the column entitled “FY2024 Recommended” as printed below; and to meet this appropriation Two Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$235,000) be transferred from Free Cash and that the balance be raised from the FY2024 tax levy and other general revenues of the Town.

	FY2023 BUDGET	FY2024 RECOMMENDED
GENERAL GOVERNMENT		
Town Hall & General Expense	\$ 566,253	\$ 577,179
Town Hall Maintenance & Facilities	\$ 398,971	\$ 413,696
Historical Commission	\$ 9,246	\$ 15,037
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ 10,208	\$ 14,653
Town Accountant	\$ 166,133	\$ 177,834
Treasurer	\$ 295,578	\$ 317,412
Town Clerk	\$ 123,689	\$ 142,524
Assessors	\$ 212,235	\$ 208,881
Planning Board	\$ 136,492	\$ 151,541
Sustainability	\$ 3,500	\$ 44,925
sub-total	\$ 1,922,305	\$ 2,063,682
PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY		
Police	\$ 1,895,874	\$ 2,049,115
Fire	\$ 698,162	\$ 740,443
Communications	\$ 456,480	\$ 479,044
Conservation	\$ 169,189	\$ 175,218
Dog & Animal Control	\$ 15,557	\$ 12,000
Building & Inspection Services	\$ 41,123	\$ 187,361
Street Lights	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
sub-total	\$ 3,280,385	\$ 3,647,181
PUBLIC WORKS		
Department of Public Works	\$ 838,456	\$ 871,056
Snow & Ice	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000
Transfer Station	\$ 264,918	\$ 275,089
Road Maintenance	\$ 88,416	\$ 88,416
sub-total	\$ 1,281,790	\$ 1,324,561

<u>HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES</u>		
Youth Commission	\$ 4,015	\$ 3,293
Board of Health	\$ 142,267	\$ 148,057
Council on Aging and Human Services	\$ 238,697	\$ 277,139
Veteran's Agent	\$ 20,000	\$ 21,000
sub-total	\$ 404,979	\$ 449,489
<u>EDUCATION</u>		
Carlisle Public School	\$ 12,418,454	\$ 12,794,097
CCRSB (w/o debt)	\$ 6,356,769	\$ 6,942,949
CCRSB Debt Service	\$ 927,815	\$ 951,035
Vocational	\$ 134,702	\$ 84,702
sub-total	\$ 19,837,740	\$ 20,772,783
<u>CULTURE & RECREATION</u>		
Library	\$ 667,983	\$ 693,048
Recreation	\$ 201,072	\$ 212,071
sub-total	\$ 869,055	\$ 905,119
<u>INSURANCE & FRINGE</u>		
Blanket Insurance	\$ 328,900	\$ 389,000
Group Insurance & Medicare	\$ 1,460,111	\$ 1,474,712
OPEB Trust	\$ 215,000	\$ 215,000
County Retirement	\$ 1,265,339	\$ 1,402,244
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 50,000	\$ 30,000
sub-total	\$ 3,319,350	\$ 3,510,956
<u>UNCLASSIFIED</u>		
Reserve Fund	\$ 200,000	\$ 150,000
sub-total	\$ 200,000	\$ 150,000
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>		
Debt Service	\$ 1,332,438	\$ 1,280,569
sub-total	\$ 1,332,438	\$ 1,280,569
Total Operating Budget	\$ 32,448,042	\$ 34,104,340

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 11
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 11

ARTICLE 12 – FY24 Capital Equipment

MOTION (Scott Triola): I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Three Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$347,000), to be available at the close of this Town

Meeting for the projects listed in the table below.

Summary: These capital items are recommended by the Finance Committee and Select Board. This list of necessary items was vetted by both boards in consultation with Town Departments and compared to priorities identified in a five-year plan.

Department	Project	Amount	Expiration
Schools	To purchase and install internal security cameras	\$42,000	30-Jun-25
DPW	To purchase and equip a DPW dump truck	\$180,000	30-Jun-25
Fire	To purchase replacement hose	\$15,000	30-Jun-25
Police	To purchase and equip a police cruiser	\$60,000	30-Jun-25
Town Hall	To purchase, upgrade, and install IT equipment	\$50,000	30-Jun-25
	Total	\$347,000	

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 12

Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 12

ARTICLE 13 – Corey Auditorium Lighting Project

MOTION (Jack Huntress): I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Two Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000) for installing new equipment and repairing additional equipment to replace and fix the lighting in the Corey Auditorium of the Carlisle Public Schools, being expected to be completed by June 30, 2024.

Summary: This article proposes authorizing \$280,000 to replace and repair the lighting in the Corey Auditorium. The Corey Auditorium is center stage for cultural, civic, and educational activities serving the Carlisle Schools, Town, and community. In its 4th decade of service, the current systems are in a state of failure and not working as designed. Replacement and upgrade parts are no longer available. Volunteers risk injury ascending 20-foot ladders on the inclined floor to constantly replace expensive lightbulbs. Repairs and workarounds intended to be "temporary" have stretched into years as the replacement was first proposed in 2018. These temporary workarounds and repairs pose electrical shock and fire hazards. Additionally, at 2,400 amps (comparable to 12 homes of electrical service), the system consumes massive amounts of energy and significantly taxes the HVAC system.

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 13

Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 13

ARTICLE 14 – Greenough Barn Removal

MOTION (Barney Arnold): I move that the Town vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) for the deconstruction and removal of the Greenough Barn to include related site work, being expected to be completed by June 30, 2024.

Summary: This article would authorize the expenditure of \$200,000 to deconstruct and remove the Greenough Barn. The Select Board and the Town’s public safety officials have deemed the barn a liability due to the inability to monitor and protect the space. Upon Town Meeting approval, the Barn would be removed, and the land would be restored to the condition of adjacent conservation land. Where possible, the Select Board is committed to removing the Barn using sustainable practices.

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 14

Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 14

ARTICLE 15 – Additional FY23 CPA Appropriation

MOTION (Travis Snell): I move that the Town vote to appropriate Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) from the Community Preservation Act Undesignated Balances to be used for Community Preservation Committee administrative expenses.

Summary: This will allow the community preservation committee to spend an additional \$4,000 for administrative expenses in FY23.

Finance Committee: Will take a position at Town Meeting if appropriate

Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 15

ARTICLE 16 – CPA Annual Recommendations

MOTIONS (Kate Reid):

Motion 1 – FY '24 CPA Appropriations:

I move that the Town vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee and to appropriate moneys from the from the fiscal year 2024 Community Preservation Fund estimated revenues to the Community Preservation Fund accounts as follows:

- a. Seventy-One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$71,700), be appropriated to the Community Housing Reserve Fund.
- b. Seventy-One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$71,700), be appropriated to the Historic Reserve Fund.
- c. Seventy-One Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$71,700), be appropriated to the Open

Space Reserve Fund.

- d. Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), be appropriated for Administrative Expenses.
- e. Four Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand, Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$465,750), be appropriated to the fiscal year 2024 Community Preservation Budget Reserve account.

Motion 2 - FY '24 CPC RECOMMENDATIONS

No motion will be offered under Article 16, Motion 2 as listed in the Warrant. The Community Preservation Committee has voted not to recommend the Gleason Public Library project to Town Meeting at this time.

Motion 3 - FY '24 CPC RECOMMENDATIONS

I move that the Town vote to act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee for fiscal year 2024; and, further, to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from the Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds a sum or sums of money for the following Community Preservation project or purpose, and to authorize the Select Board and Conservation Commission to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments necessary to acquire, convey, or accept as the case may be, appropriate historic preservation restrictions for historic resources and conservation restrictions for open space, in accordance with Chapter 184 of the General Laws, to be in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 44B, Section 12 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, all as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee:

That Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) be appropriated effective immediately after Town Meeting vote from the Open Space Reserve Fund to the Carlisle Conservation Commission for the rehabilitation, preservation, and restoration of the Cranberry Bog Dam #1, which is located on land used for open space purposes and is listed on the State register of historic places, including stabilizing the upstream bank and crest, removing trees and stumps, conducting compaction tests, and utilizing such water diversion and flood response planning that will allow construction to occur while materials are dry, and that such sums be expended by the Carlisle Conservation Commission pursuant to the terms of the Town of Carlisle Community Preservation Committee Grant Agreement #2023-002, and further that any portion of such sums not expended by June 30, 2026, shall be returned to the Open Space Reserve Fund.

Finance Committee: Will take a position at Town Meeting if appropriate
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 16

ARTICLE 17 – Senior Means Tested Property Tax Exemption Program

MOTION (David Model): I move that the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to petition the Legislature for passage of special legislation substantially as provided below, provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court; and provided further that the Select Board is hereby authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the general public objectives of this petition: AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF CARLISLE TO ESTABLISH A MEANS TESTED SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION as printed below:

SECTION 1. There shall be an exemption from the property tax for each qualifying parcel of real property classified as class 1 residential in the town of Carlisle in an amount to be set annually by the select board as provided in section 3. The exemption shall be applied only to the domicile of the taxpayer; provided, however, that for the purposes of this act, “parcel” shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the board of assessors under the deed for the property and shall include a condominium unit. The exemption provided for in this act shall be in addition to any and all other exemptions allowed by the General Laws.

SECTION 2. The board of assessors in the town of Carlisle may deny an application if they find the applicant has excessive assets that place the applicant outside of the intended recipients of the exemption under this act. Real property shall qualify for the exemption under section 1 if:

(i) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by a person whose prior year’s income would make the person eligible for the circuit breaker income tax credit under subsection (k) of section 6 of chapter 62 of the General Laws;

(ii) the qualifying real property is owned by a single applicant not less than 70 years old at the close of the previous year or jointly by persons either of whom is not less than 70 years old at the close of the previous year and the other joint applicant is not less than 65 years old;

(iii) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by the applicant or joint applicants as their domicile;

(iv) the applicant or at least 1 of the joint applicants has been domiciled and owned a home in the town for not less than 10 consecutive years before filing an application for the exemption;

(v) the maximum assessed value of the qualifying real property is no greater than the prior year’s maximum assessed value for qualification for the circuit breaker income tax credit under subsection (k) of section 6 of chapter 62 of the General Laws as adjusted annually by the department of revenue;

(vi) the qualifying real property is owned and occupied by an applicant or joint applicants whose household assets are less than \$500,000 excluding the value of the qualifying real property; and

(vii) the board of assessors has approved the application.

SECTION 3. The select board of the town of Carlisle, shall annually set the exemption amount

under section 1 between 100 percent and 200 percent of the amount of the circuit breaker income tax credit under subsection (k) of section 6 of chapter 62 of the General Laws for which the applicant qualified in the previous year, set annually by the Board of Assessors. The total amount exempted by this act shall be allocated proportionally within the tax levy on all residential taxpayers.

SECTION 4. A person who seeks to qualify for the exemption under section 1 shall, before the deadline established by the board of assessors of the town of Carlisle, file an application, on a form to be adopted by the board, with supporting documentation relative to the applicant's income and assets as described in the application. The application shall be filed each year for which the applicant seeks the exemption.

SECTION 5. No exemption shall be granted under this act until the department of revenue certifies a residential tax rate for the applicable tax year where the total exemption amount is raised by a burden shift within the residential tax levy.

SECTION 6. This act shall expire 3 years after implementation of the exemption under this act.

Summary: The Council on Aging and Human Services proposes this program to reduce the property tax burden for seniors in financial need. The purpose of this initiative is to enable lower-income seniors to remain in Carlisle by increasing the affordability of their residences. For most of this cohort, property taxes are their single largest annual expense. Many other towns in MA have implemented means-tested senior property tax exemption programs.

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 17
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 17

ARTICLE 18 – Town Offices Saturday Hours

MOTION (Nathan Brown): I move that the Town vote to accept M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 110A, and that, except as otherwise determined by the Select Board from time to time, Town Hall will be closed on Saturdays and that the Town Clerk's Office may treat Saturdays as legal holidays.

Summary: This article proposes that the Town offices may remain closed on any or all Saturdays as may be determined from time to time. The provisions of section nine of chapter four shall apply in the case of such closing of any such office on any Saturday to the same extent as if such Saturday were a legal holiday. Acceptance of this statute will allow the Town Clerk's office to treat Saturday as a legal holiday when calculating filing deadlines, such as voter registration or submittal of nomination papers. Further, the provisions of the Votes Act of 2022 has changed the voter registration deadlines to 10 days prior to elections, instead of 20, such deadlines will now fall on Saturdays. Acceptance of the provisions in this warrant article would allow the Town Clerk to hold voter registration sessions on Fridays, avoiding the costs of opening Town Hall on Saturdays.

Finance Committee: Takes no position on this article
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 18

ARTICLE 19 – Amend General Bylaws – Section 12.1, add Martin Street to the List of scenic roads

MOTION (Nathan Brown): I move that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws, by adding Martin Street to the list of Scenic Roads provided in Section 12.1 of the Carlisle General Bylaws.

Summary: This article proposes making Martin Street a scenic road. Roads designated by Town Meeting as Scenic Roads will not be altered by any person, organization or agency, in any way that requires the cutting or removal of trees, or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls, without adherence to applicable procedures and without the consent of the Planning Board, pursuant to the Scenic Roads Act.

Finance Committee: Takes no position on this article
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 19

ARTICLE 20 – Personnel Bylaw Amendment

MOTION (Kate Reid): I move that the Town amend its General Bylaws by removing section 3.25 and references to the Personnel Board in Section 15.1.

Summary: This article proposes that the Town eliminate the personnel board as a human resources advisory board to the Select Board. The Select Board retains the authority to conduct human resources for the Town and can delegate this to the Town Administrator or their delegate. The rationale for this change is to increase the efficiency of human resource management and ensure compliance with evolving human resource law. The Select Board, the Town Administrator, or the delegate can assemble advisory boards when necessary to help make decisions about the Town's employees.

Finance Committee: Recommends passage of Article 20
Select Board: Recommends passage of Article 20