

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Special Town Meeting**

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby in said County:

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ashby, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Ashby Elementary School, 911 Main Street in said Ashby, Saturday, May 3, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. to act on the following articles:

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$20,000 to implement, and to fund the financial terms for the current fiscal year, of a collective bargaining agreement entered into by the Town and Teamsters Local #170 (Dispatchers Unit) for the period July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2016; and, further, to augment the sum appropriated for wages and benefits for Dispatchers for the remainder of the current fiscal year; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *Contract negotiations are concluding with the new Dispatcher's Union, including wage adjustments which bring Ashby closer to being in line with wages in surrounding communities. Additionally, independent of contractual issues, the current line item is not adequate to fund the Dispatch function to the end of the year, due to overtime already expended in covering vacant positions.*

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

Article 2. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds, to extinguish the deficit incurred in the Winter Operations budget in the current fiscal year; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *There is no possible way to accurately predict the volume of snow, the length of time necessary for snow removal, or the complexities of activities resulting from any given storm. As in all other municipalities in this fiscal year, the actual cost of snow removal activities has exceeded the budget provided. This appropriation will allow for payment of all costs in excess of appropriation that have been incurred during this snow season.*

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy in at least three (3) public places in said Ashby fourteen (14) days at least before holding of said meeting. Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Janet Flinkstrom, Chair

Michael McCallum, Clerk

Steven Ingerson, Member

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least fourteen days before the time of said Special Town Meeting.

Date: _____

William Davis
Constable of Ashby

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Annual Town Meeting**

Middlesex, ss:

To: Constable of the Town of Ashby in said County:

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Ashby, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Ashby Elementary School, 911 Main Street in said Ashby, Saturday, May 3, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. to act on the following articles:

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to elect all other town officers not required to be on the official ballot.

Brief Explanation: *This article allows the voters at Town Meeting to elect officials to open elected positions that are not filled at the time of the Town Meeting. This typically consists of a Field Driver, but could be any other open position.*

Finance Committee action: ___ Approved ___ Disapproved √ No Action

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to hear the reports of the various town officials and committees.

Brief Explanation: *In response to this motion, the Town Moderator usually asks if the Town Meeting will vote to dispense with the reading of all the annual reports that appear in the Town Annual Report.*

Finance Committee action: ___ Approved ___ Disapproved √ No Action

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds as necessary in anticipation of revenue, in accordance with Chapter 44, Sections 23 to 27 of the Massachusetts General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This article allows the Town Treasurer to take out short term loans throughout the fiscal year if necessary to address cash flow timing issues.*

Finance Committee action: ___ Approved ___ Disapproved √ No Action

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following sums in trust, the income therefrom to be expended for the perpetual care of lots as follows:

Glenwood Cemetery

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Ave.</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Section</u>
\$400.00	Leslie & Ethel Anderson	E	29	Lyman II
\$600.00	Paul R. Gerry	D	28	Lyman
\$200.00	Vivian Cordio	E	20	Lyman II;

or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *The Cemetery Commissioners are responsible to report all monies collected from the sale of lots for perpetual care during the year so that the voters at Town Meeting can formally accept the funds for the Town.*

Finance Committee action: ___ Approved ___ Disapproved No Action

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the renewal of the Cemetery Burial and Foundations Revolving Fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to receive monies collected for burials, said funds to be expended by the Cemetery Commissioners to pay for said burials to be performed, for grave foundations, and for general cemetery maintenance and improvements with total expenditures not to exceed \$15,000; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This motion asks the voters to renew their authority to the Cemetery Commissioners to maintain a revolving account for the specific purpose of maintaining the cemeteries.*

Finance Committee action: Approved ___ Disapproved ___ No Action

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the renewal of the Library Books Revolving Fund in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E½, to receive monies collected for book late fees and replacement fees, said funds to be expended by the Library Trustees to pay for book and media repairs, replacements, supplies and expenses with total expenditures not to exceed \$3,000; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This motion asks the voters to renew their authority to the Library Trustees to maintain a revolving account for the specific purpose of maintaining library books and media.*

Finance Committee action: Approved ___ Disapproved ___ No Action

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all funds received from the state under the provisions under the “Chapter 90” program to provide for eligible road resurfacing and/or other improvement projects for Town roads; said sum to be 100% reimbursable by the Commonwealth under the provisions of the “Chapter 90” program; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This article asks the voters to formally accept the state funding granted to the Town for road work.*

Finance Committee action: Approved ___ Disapproved ___ No Action

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$34,132 for the purpose of operating the Ashby Recycling Center & Transfer Station for FY2015; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This article is the proposed annual budget of the Recycling Center and Transfer Station (RCTS) for FY15; funding is derived from the funds generated by the RCTS, and does not come from the tax levy.*

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 9. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds to defray the expenses of the Town for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2014 and to set the salaries of elected officials; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This article will establish a departmentalized budget that has been proposed by the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen after careful deliberation.*

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Amounts shown for prior fiscal years may include funds received through warrant articles, reserve fund transfers, etc. as well as transfers out and do not necessarily reflect budget amounts voted initially by Town Meeting.				
TOWN OF ASHBY		FY13	FY14	FY15
	LINES	SPENT	BUDGET	FINCOM RECOMMEND
<u>Administration</u>				
<u>1</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 39,156.71	\$ 51,156.71	\$ 51,156.71
<u>2</u>	Expenses	\$ 5,282.85	\$ 6,550.00	\$ 6,550.00
		\$ 44,439.56	\$ 57,706.71	\$ 57,706.71
<u>Town Administrator</u>				
<u>3</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 39,869.25	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
		\$ 39,869.25	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
<u>Finance Committee</u>				
<u>4</u>	Expense Budget	\$ 152.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<u>5</u>	Reserve Fund	\$ 23,057.88	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 31,000.00
		\$ 23,209.88	\$ 35,500.00	\$ 31,500.00
<u>Town Accountant</u>				
<u>6</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 32,136.00	\$ 33,457.36	\$ 33,457.36
<u>7</u>	Clerical	\$ 3,338.50	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Expenses	\$ 23,321.58	\$ 24,400.00	\$ 24,400.00
		\$ 58,796.08	\$ 63,857.36	\$ 62,857.36
<u>Board of Assessors</u>				
<u>10</u>	Assessing Services	\$ 17,800.00	\$ 27,800.00	\$ 28,500.00
<u>11</u>	Wages	\$ 15,283.74	\$ 17,100.78	\$ 17,100.78
	Expenses	\$ 4,523.22	\$ 4,650.00	\$ 5,280.00
		\$ 37,606.96	\$ 49,550.78	\$ 50,880.78
<u>Treasurer</u>				
<u>15</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 25,399.08	\$ 25,643.07	\$ 25,643.07

	Expenses	\$ 9,758.06	\$ 15,826.00	\$ 13,826.00
		\$ 35,157.14	\$ 41,469.07	\$ 39,469.07
<u>Tax Collector</u>				
18	Salaries & Wages	\$ 32,124.17	\$ 32,435.41	\$ 32,435.41
	Expenses	\$ 15,254.40	\$ 14,329.75	\$ 12,828.75
		\$ 47,500.18	\$ 46,765.16	\$ 45,264.16
<u>Legal Services</u>				
21	Expenses	\$ 23,615.71	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
		\$ 23,615.71	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
<u>Technology and Systems</u>				
22	Expenses	\$ 37,106.65	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 43,000.00
		\$ 37,961.65	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 43,000.00
<u>Town Clerk</u>				
23	Town Clerk Salary	\$ 29,250.60	\$ 29,543.11	\$ 31,143.11
24	Clerical	\$ 7,542.01	\$ 7,191.15	\$ 7,191.15
25	Election and Registrar Stipend	\$ 8,496.25	\$ 6,227.13	\$ 6,127.13
	Expenses	\$ 7,680.00	\$ 10,837.00	\$ 10,837.00
		\$ 55,218.86	\$ 53,798.39	\$ 55,298.39
<u>Town Reports</u>				
30	Expenses	\$ 1,519.44	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
		\$ 1,519.44	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
<u>Conservation Commission</u>				
31	Expenses	\$ 1,199.96	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
		\$ 1,199.96	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 1,700.00
<u>Planning</u>				
32	Expenses	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
		\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
<u>Zoning</u>				
33	Zoning Bd Expense	\$ 1,039.66	\$ 500.00	\$ 580.00
		\$ 1,039.66	\$ 500.00	\$ 580.00
<u>Land Use</u>				
34	Agent Budget	\$ 8,487.50	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	Expenses	\$ 1,547.56	\$ 1,628.38	\$ 1,651.59
		\$ 10,035.06	\$ 11,628.38	\$ 11,651.59
<u>Town Office</u>				
	Expenses	\$ 35,998.82	\$ 46,170.00	\$ 46,170.00
		\$ 35,998.82	\$ 46,170.00	\$ 46,170.00
<u>Town Clock</u>				
40	Stipend	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
		\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
<u>Municipal Buildings</u>				
47	Wages/Stipend	\$ 3,723.75	\$ 3,472.11	\$ 3,900.00
	Expenses	\$ 6,990.23	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 16,100.00
		\$ 25,187.62	\$ 38,472.11	\$ 20,000.00
<u>Police</u>				
49	Police Chief Wages	\$ 43,261.00	\$ 53,328.00	\$ 84,278.00
50	Wages - Coverage	\$ 391,706.59	\$ 445,252.32	\$ 419,739.22

	Expenses	\$ 103,911.69	\$ 120,658.05	\$ 160,923.29
		\$ 538,879.28	\$ 619,238.37	\$ 664,940.51
<u>Fire</u>				
<u>54</u>	Chief Salary	\$ 54,000.82	\$ 54,540.83	\$ 54,540.83
<u>55</u>	Firefighters Wages	\$ 13,054.80	\$ 13,637.33	\$ 13,637.33
<u>56</u>	FF/ EMT Wages	\$ 38,417.60	\$ 38,963.81	\$ 38,963.81
<u>57</u>	Firefighter Stipends	\$ 4,997.66	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
<u>58</u>	FF/EMT Overtime	\$ 6,179.33	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Expenses	\$ 35,564.85	\$ 39,222.70	\$ 38,222.70
		\$ 190,849.04	\$ 156,364.67	\$ 155,364.67
<u>Waste Oil</u>				
<u>62</u>	Wages	\$ 2,143.24	\$ 2,164.65	\$ 1,164.65
<u>63</u>	Expenses	\$ 20.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 950.00
		\$ 2,163.24	\$ 3,114.65	\$ 2,114.65
<u>EMS</u>				
<u>64</u>	Wages - Coverage	\$ 6,470.16	\$ 12,170.89	\$ 12,170.89
<u>65</u>	Stipend - training	\$ 4,214.28	\$ 4,215.00	\$ 4,215.00
	Expenses	\$ 39,440.74	\$ 36,773.00	\$ 37,123.00
		\$ 50,317.18	\$ 53,158.89	\$ 53,508.89
<u>Emergency Management</u>				
<u>67(2)</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ -	\$ 626.20	\$ 626.20
<u>68</u>	Expenses	\$ 8,277.28	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 30,148.72	\$ 1,626.20	\$ 1,626.20
<u>E-911</u>				
<u>69</u>	Expenses	\$ 96.90	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
		\$ 96.90	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
<u>Hazardous Waste Coord.</u>				
<u>69(2)</u>	Stipend	\$ 345.86	\$ 345.86	\$ 345.86
		\$ 345.86	\$ 345.86	\$ 345.86
<u>Building Inspector</u>				
<u>70</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 10,524.30	\$ 10,629.54	\$ 10,629.54
	Expenses	\$ 373.99	\$ 907.74	\$ 907.74
		\$ 10,898.29	\$ 11,537.28	\$ 11,537.28
<u>Plumbing Inspector</u>				
<u>72</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 6,224.99	\$ 6,287.24	\$ 6,287.24
<u>73</u>	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 115.00	\$ 165.00
		\$ 6,224.99	\$ 6,402.24	\$ 6,452.24
<u>Electrical Inspector</u>				
<u>74</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 6,224.99	\$ 6,287.24	\$ 6,287.24
<u>75</u>	Expenses	\$ 79.99	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,200.00
		\$ 6,304.98	\$ 6,487.24	\$ 7,487.24
<u>Dog Officer</u>				
<u>76</u>	Salaries & Wages	\$ 14,142.37	\$ 14,283.79	\$ 14,283.79
<u>77</u>	Expenses	\$ 1,498.93	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
		\$ 15,641.30	\$ 15,783.79	\$ 15,783.79

Emergency Dispatch				
78	Salaries & Wages	\$ 147,472.97	\$ 152,246.00	\$ 176,083.97
79	Expenses	\$ 2,036.76	\$ 2,297.04	\$ 2,297.04
		\$ 149,509.73	\$ 154,543.04	\$ 178,381.01
Monty Tech				
80	Assessment	\$ 318,059.00	\$ 327,562.00	\$ 396,879.00
		\$ 318,059.00	\$ 327,562.00	\$ 396,879.00
NMRSD				
	Assessment	\$ 2,830,191.45	\$ 2,941,144.00	\$ 2,982,562.00
		\$ 2,830,191.45	\$ 2,941,144.00	\$ 2,982,562.00
Highway				
83 (2)	Wages Supt.	\$ 49,400.00	\$ 50,091.46	\$ 61,000.00
84	Wages - Regular	\$ 139,926.40	\$ 154,327.84	\$ 160,233.12
85	Wages -Overtime	\$ 3,058.82	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00
	Expenses	\$ 138,284.93	\$ 144,451.00	\$ 152,201.00
		\$ 342,518.41	\$ 351,370.30	\$ 375,434.12
Snow & Ice				
91	Winter Operation Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
92	Winter Overtime	\$ 39,250.65	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 13,000.00
93	Winter Expenses	\$ 154,369.21	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 87,000.00
		\$ 193,619.86	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Street Lights				
94	Expense	\$ 664.63	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
		\$ 664.63	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Tree Warden				
95	Expenses	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,000.00
		\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,000.00
Cemetery				
96	Wages - Coverage	\$ 7,750.71	\$ 8,670.53	\$ 8,670.53
97	Expense	\$ 1,885.88	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
		\$ 9,636.59	\$ 10,670.53	\$ 10,670.53
Board of Health				
	Expenses	\$ 15,725.84	\$ 18,282.00	\$ 18,282.00
		\$ 15,725.84	\$ 18,282.00	\$ 18,282.00
Animal Inspector				
102	Stipend	\$ 420.24	\$ 420.24	\$ 420.24
		\$ 420.24	\$ 420.24	\$ 420.24
Council on Aging				
103	Wages	\$ 2,163.00	\$ 2,184.63	\$ 2,184.63
103A	Expense	\$ 1,366.86	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 1,850.00
		\$ 3,529.86	\$ 4,059.63	\$ 4,034.63
Veterans' Services				
104	Salaries & Wages	\$ 1,731.73	\$ 1,749.05	\$ 1,749.05
	Expenses	\$ 40,042.90	\$ 42,500.00	\$ 42,000.00
		\$ 41,774.63	\$ 44,249.05	\$ 43,749.05
Library				
107	Librarian Salary	\$ 18,594.16	\$ 19,968.00	\$ 22,550.40

108	Library Assistant Wages	\$ 17,869.34	\$ 18,741.13	\$ 18,741.13
	Expenses	\$ 46,210.28	\$ 44,577.00	\$ 43,726.82
		\$ 82,673.78	\$ 83,286.13	\$ 85,018.35
Band Concerts				
113	Expenses	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
		\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
July 3rd				
114	Expenses	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
		\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Allen Field				
115	Expenses	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,400.00
		\$ 16,724.95	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,400.00
Town Common				
116	Expenses	\$ 3,885.27	\$ 4,025.00	\$ 4,025.00
		\$ 3,885.27	\$ 4,025.00	\$ 4,025.00
Debt Service				
118	Temporary Loan Interest	\$ 4,709.75	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 4,709.75	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Middlesex Retirement				
123	Middlesex Retirement System	\$ 150,810.00	\$ 141,772.00	\$ 153,299.00
		\$ 164,870.91	\$ 141,772.00	\$ 153,299.00
Unemployment				
124	Unemployment Compensation	\$ 1,867.15	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00
		\$ 1,867.15	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,000.00
Employee Ins. Benefits				
125	Employee Benefits Expense	\$ 301,640.76	\$ 347,129.94	\$ 343,615.13
		\$ 301,640.76	\$ 347,129.94	\$ 343,615.13
Workers Compensation				
126	Insurance Not Health	\$ 9,591.10	\$ 13,666.68	\$ 11,000.00
		\$ 9,591.10	\$ 13,666.68	\$ 11,000.00
Insurance P & C				
127	Liability P&C, E,F&P	\$ 73,193.15	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
		\$ 73,193.15	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00
FICA				
128	Employee Costs	\$ 20,772.08	\$ 21,028.65	\$23,740.00
		\$ 20,772.08	\$ 21,028.65	\$23,740.00
	Total	\$ 5,928,554.75	\$ 6,085,536.34	\$ 6,280,199.45

Setting of Elected Salaries under Article 9:

- a. Town Clerk: \$31,143.11
- b. Town Collector: \$32,435.41 (Includes \$1,000 certification stipend)
- c. Town Treasurer: \$25,643.07 (Includes \$1,000 certification stipend)

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$6,900 to have CAI Technologies provide tax map text conversions and digitizations consistent with

MassGIS Level III Standards. This project would also include set up and support for ongoing Query Manager Online Services; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *Once the tax map text conversion is complete and brought to the MassGIS standards the Town can take advantage of the CAI Query Manager Online GIS Services (\$1,800 annual hosting fee) which is helping communities to share their parcel data. It enables town boards, homeowners and real estate professionals to query, browse, report, and print maps from their own computers.*

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to amend the By-laws of the Town of Ashby by adding the following new section, to be numbered consecutively:

COUNCIL ON AGING

Section 1. The Board of Selectmen shall appoint a Council on Aging for the purpose of coordinating or carrying out programs designed to meet the problems of the aging in cooperation with programs of the Commission on Aging established under Chapter 40, Section 8B of the General Laws.

Section 2. The Board of Selectmen shall appoint the Council on Aging consisting of seven (7) members, including three (3) members for three (3) years; two (2) members for two (2) years; and two (2) members for one (1) year terms. Members can be reappointed for consecutive terms. The members of the Council shall serve without pay.

Section 3. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the membership of the Council, by reason of death, resignation, inability to act, or for any other reason, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment, by the Selectmen, for the remainder of the term.

Section 4. The Council on Aging, annually in April of each year, shall elect from its membership a President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each officer shall hold office until the next annual election. In the event a vacancy occurs in any of the offices above, the Council shall hold a special meeting for the purpose of electing one of its members to fill such vacancy.

Section 5. The Council shall prepare and submit an annual report of its activities to the Town and shall send a copy thereof to the Commission on Aging.

Section 6. The Council may appoint such clerks and other employees as it may require.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This by-law was adopted by the Town in 1976, but, for some reason, was never processed for approval by the Attorney General. To meet documentation requirements for the acceptance procedure, we need to start again.*

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to endorse the following non-binding resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO BAN “FRACKED GAS” PIPELINES
AND TO CHAMPION SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

Whereas a proposed High-Pressure Pipeline carrying natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing may come through Ashby, or neighboring communities, bringing said fuel en route to Dracut, Massachusetts to be used for electricity generation; and

Whereas said pipeline goes against current Massachusetts commitments to renewable energies and combating global climate change; and

Whereas said pipeline would destroy unknowable amounts of forest, conservation land and farmland with the installation of the pipeline and maintenance in perpetuity of a 50 foot right-of-way through the use of herbicides; and

Whereas said pipeline would destroy unknowable amounts of wetlands and the flora and fauna dependent upon Ashby’s rivers and streams, all of which have been identified as outstanding resource waters; and

Whereas said pipeline would adversely affect property values of properties within 300 feet of the pipeline as well as probable use of eminent domain to secure parcels along the pipeline route; and

Whereas a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture or devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives; and

Whereas said pipeline has the potential to ruin wells and drinking water through blasting activities and/or leakage of methane gas; and

Whereas the cost of said pipeline would require Massachusetts citizens to pay a utility bill tariff as well as environmental costs not required by law for Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (“TGP”, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.), making ratepayers bear financial risk for the endeavors of a private corporation; and

Whereas, we the citizens of Ashby, Massachusetts choose not to participate in such encumbrances to the life, vibrancy, economic stability, and general well being to our neighbors in New York and elsewhere, wherever hydraulic fracturing is occurring and the pressurized pipeline is running; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the people of Ashby, Massachusetts:

1. Hereby call on our Board of Selectmen to stand in opposition to TGP’s high pressured pipeline and not allow it within our town borders;
2. Oppose said pipeline, and any pipeline carrying natural gas obtained through hydraulic fracturing, within the borders of our Commonwealth; and
3. Hereby instruct our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials to enact legislation and take any such other actions as are necessary to disallow such projects that go against our commitments to life, the environment, our economic well being and our bodily safety, and, instead, to legislate more stringent energy efficiency and further exploration of and subsidies for renewable energy sources.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote, under the provisions of MGL, Chapter 71, Section 16 G½, to approve the establishment of a Stabilization Fund for the Montachusett Regional Vocational School District; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This is a “housekeeping” item, requested by the School District. Sufficient other member Towns having already voted to approve the proposal, the Stabilization Fund is already established; Ashby’s approval is merely a gesture of concurrence.*

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Ashby Zoning By-law as follows:

- 1) Change the title of Section 9 (currently “Overlay Districts”), to “Overlay Districts and Special Provisions.”
- 2) Move subsections 4.6 (“Floodplain Districts and Boundaries”), 4.7 (“Personal Wireless Communications Facility”), 4.8 (“Rate of Development”), 4.9 (“Open Space Residential Development”), 4.10 (“Inclusionary Housing”), 4.11 (“Utility-Scale Wind Energy Facilities”), 4.12 (“Small Wind Energy Systems”) to said Section 9, and renumber said subsections, respectively, as 9.1 through 9.7.
- 3) Re-number the internal subdivisions of each of the items moved into Section 9, as above, accordingly.
- 4) Renumber the pre-existing existing Section 9.1 (“Ashby Village Center Zoning Overlay District”) as Section 9.8, and re-number its internal subdivisions accordingly.
- 5) Add a Table of Contents.

Or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *The purpose of this warrant article is to adopt a reorganized Ashby Zoning By-law (the ‘By-law’) that places the sections of the By-law into a more logical order. No substantive changes to the provisions, dimensional or use requirements, or standards of the By-law have been made. A significant part of this reorganization is a new Table of Contents at the beginning of the Bylaw.*

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-law by deleting the word “special”, from the phrase “Site Plan Special Permits” as it appears in sections 4.5 and 12.5; and, further, deleting the words, “Sections 11.3 and 11.5”, as they appear in said Section 4.5, and substituting therefor the phrase, “Section 12.5”; and, further, in Section 12.5.3, deleting the words “Sections 11.31 and 11.32” and substituting therefor the words “Sections 12.31 and 12.32”;

or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: Approved Disapproved No Action

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-law by adding the words “or to parcels 2 acres or more, if the sale of products produced from the agriculture, aquaculture, silviculture, horticulture, floriculture or viticulture use on the parcel annually generates at least \$1,000 per acre based on gross sales dollars,” following the words, “5 acres,” in sections 4.1.1;

and, further, vote to amend the By-law by adding the words, “that annually generates less than \$1,000 per acre based on gross sales dollars,” following the words “Agriculture on land parcels of 5 acres or less” in sections 5.2.7, 6.2.11, and 8.2.3;

or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$43,000 to procure and install an emergency generator for the Police Station; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 18. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate from the Stabilization Fund to procure a new pickup truck, with appropriate accessories and any related expenses, for the Highway Department; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift, easements for water supply purposes upon parcels of land located on Main Street and New Ipswich Road, Ashby, the former parcel being now or formerly the property of DLR Realty, LLC, said property being more specifically shown as Lot 4 on the Ashby Assessors’ Map #9, and described in a deed recorded with the South Middlesex Registry of Deeds at Page 096 of Book 58934; the latter being now or formerly the property of Rene Rainville, being more specifically shown as Lot 1.1 on the Ashby Assessors’ Map #9, and described in a deed recorded with the South Middlesex Registry of Deeds at Page 191 of Book 52692;

or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or borrow the sum of \$185,000 for a water system improvement project intended to supply water to Town-owned and other non-residential buildings in the vicinity of the Town Common; and, further, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow said funds pursuant to MGL Ch. 44, ss. 7 or 8 or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept federal and/or state grants and/or loans to offset any costs incurred hereunder, including but not limited to grants and/or low-interest loans from the United States Department of Agriculture; and, further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any and all agreements, and execute on behalf of the Town any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purpose of this article;

or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to amend the By-laws of the Town of Ashby by adding under Article V (“Financial Affairs”), the following new Section 11:

Unless otherwise voted by Town Meeting, beginning in FY 2015, funds appropriated for a special purpose (excluding appropriations for stabilization funds, enterprise funds, other special purpose

funds, borrowing, or appropriations that create legally binding obligations or opportunities such as matching funds for grants or gifts) shall automatically close to the General Fund at the end of the third fiscal year following such appropriation, if such appropriation has not been expended or encumbered prior thereto.

or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Stabilization Fund the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of funding a Capital Projects Account; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 73, Section 4 of the Acts of 1986 as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions by 100 percent to all persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C1/2, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 37, 37A, 41, 41B and 41C under Chapter 59, Section 5 of the Massachusetts General Laws; or take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

Article 24. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to transfer from available funds for deposit in the Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto.

Brief Explanation: *This article allows the Town Meeting to gather and total any monies that were available and not appropriated under previous articles, and direct that sum to the Stabilization Fund.*

Finance Committee action: **Approved** **Disapproved** **No Action**

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting an attested copy in at least three (3) public places in said Ashby seven (7) days at least before holding of said meeting. Hereof, fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Janet Flinkstrom, Chair

Michael McCallum, Clerk

Steven Ingerson, Member

ASHBY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By virtue of this precept, I have posted three (3) attested copies of the foregoing warrant in three (3) public places in said Ashby at least seven days before the time of said Annual Town Meeting.

Date: _____

William Davis
Constable of Ashby