

**TOWN OF CONCORD
SELECT BOARD
AGENDA**

Tuesday, February 19, 2019 – 7 p.m. – Select Board Room – Town House

1.	Call to Order
2.	Consent Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Accountant Warrants • Minutes • Gift Acceptance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Sony Pictures \$10,000 Old Calf Pasture Restoration Project • Proclamations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Concord Band 60th Anniversary • One Day Special Licenses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lauren Pincus 3/30 6pm-10pm 40 Westford Road Wine & Malt · Military Friends Foundation 4/14 1pm-7pm 269 Monument Street All Alcohol
3.	Town Manager's Report
4.	Chair's Report
5.	Green New Deal Resolution – Concord Academy students
6.	Discuss Middle School building project – School Committee
7.	Approve 2019 Election Warrant
8.	Update from Town departments on 2030 Long Range Plan
9.	Electronic voting update – Carmin Reiss, Town Moderator
10.	Take Positions on Warrant Articles
11.	Review letter to MassDOT re: Route 2 culvert for Nashoba Brook (Bridge # C-19-18)
12.	Public Comments
13.	Committee Liaison Reports
14.	Miscellaneous/Correspondence
15.	Committee Nominations: Richard Higgins of 15 Grove Street to the Conservation Restriction Stewardship Committee; Carlene Hempel of 50 Highland Street to the Junction Village Open Space Task Force; Jennifer Montbach of 45 Pine Street to the West Concord Junction Cultural District Committee
16.	Committee Appointments: David Witherbee of 195 Heaths Bridge Road to the SuAsCo River Stewardship Council for an unexpired term to expire May 31, 2021
17.	Adjourn

PENDING

Monday	February 25	6:30 pm	Select Board Meeting	Town House
Monday	February 25	7 pm	Finance Committee – Public Hearing	Town House
Tuesday	February 26	6:30 pm	Select Board Meeting	Town House
Tuesday	February 26	7 pm	Select Board – Public Hearing	Town House
Monday	March 4	7 pm	Select Board Meeting	Town House
Tuesday	March 5	6:30 pm	Select Board Meeting	Town House
Tuesday	March 5	7 pm	Planning Board – Public Hearing	Town House
Monday	March 11	6:30 pm	Select Board Meeting	Town House
Monday	March 11	7 pm	Finance Committee Public Hearing	Town House
Monday	March 18	7 pm	Select Board Meeting	Town House
Monday	April 1	7 pm	Select Board Meeting	Town House
April 8, 9, 10, 11		6:30 pm	Select Board Meeting	CCHS
April 8, 9, 10, 11		7 pm	Annual Town Meeting	CCHS

Supporting materials for agenda items are available online at www.concordma.gov/sbmtgdocs. Materials are uploaded on the Friday before a Select Board meeting.

Weekly One Day License Log – February 19, 2019

Applicant Name & License Number	Phone Number	Date	Location	Type of Alcohol	Event Details
19-30 Lauren Pincus	305 632-7530	3/30	40 Westford Road	Wine & Malt	Event Coordinator: Lauren Pinus Bartenders: Ben Elliott Under 21: No First License in Concord: Yes
19-31 Military Friends Foundation	617 733-7994	4/14	269 Monument Street	All Alcohol	Event Coordinator: Sarah Sweeney Bartenders: Deborah Podgurski, Carol Large, Mary Burke Under 21: No First License in Concord: No

Gift Acceptance Log – February 19, 2019

Gift Received From:	For Gift Account:	Total Amount:
Sony Pictures	Old Calf Pasture Restoration Project	\$10,000.00



TOWN OF CONCORD
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

141 KEYES ROAD, CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01742

TEL. (978) 318-3285 FAX (978) 318-3291

Delia R. J. Kaye
Natural Resources Director

Doug Dresser
Supervising Location Manager
Sony Pictures
24 Hartwell Avenue
Lexington, MA 02421

November 28, 2018

RE: Sony Pictures Assistance in Old Calf Pasture Restoration Project

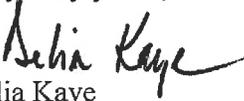
Dear Mr. Dresser,

On behalf of the Natural Resources Commission, I write to extend our tremendous appreciation for your commitment of \$10,000 towards the Old Calf Pasture restoration project. The Old Calf Pasture is home to the largest regional population of the rare Britton's violet, which was first identified at the meadow in 1992. The invasive glossy buckthorn has been identified as the largest threat to the survival of this violet population, and buckthorn removal efforts have been underway since 2008. Across the 21-acre meadow, control of the buckthorn has methodically expanded, resulting in increased numbers of the violet population.

Dedicating funds to this project will allow us to expand efforts towards the long-term viability of this Britton's violet population, and will also markedly enhance the meadow's species diversity and richness.

We thank you for your support to preserve and protect this unique meadow that contributes so greatly to Concord's natural resources.

Very truly yours,


Delia Kaye
Natural Resources Director

cc: Natural Resources Commission



TOWN OF CONCORD
Division of Natural Resources
141 Keyes Road, Concord, MA 01742
(978) 318-3285

To: Chris Whelan, Town Manager
Kerry Lafleur, Finance Director

Via: Marcia Rasmussen, DPLM Director *MAR*

From: Delia Kaye, Natural Resources Director *DK*

Re: Donation for Old Calf Pasture Restoration

Date: February 5, 2019

Sony Pictures was excited to be able to film portions of Little Women in Concord, and was impressed with Concord's wealth of natural resources as well as its rich history. As part of their environmental legacy program, Sony Pictures has generously donated \$10,000 towards the Old Calf Pasture restoration project. Please see the attached letter of commitment for more information about the restoration project. Sony Pictures can only make a donation to a non-profit organization and provided a check in the amount of \$10,000 to the Concord Land Conservation Trust and the Land Trust has, in turn, submitted the attached check to the Town.

In accordance with MGL Chapter 44, Section 53A and APP #19, I am submitting the check for deposit and respectfully request Select Board acceptance of the gift. Please establish a gift account for the Old Calf Pasture Restoration and deposit the check to this account.

Please let me know if additional information would be helpful to expedite this request.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF CONCORD
SELECT BOARD

PROCLAMATION

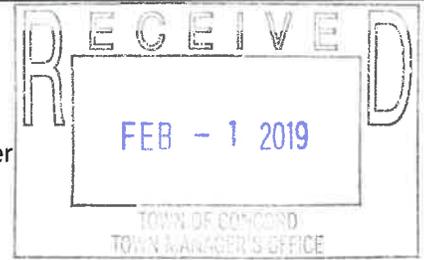
**CONCORD BAND
60TH ANNIVERSARY**

- WHEREAS** The Concord Band was organized in 1959 to participate in Concord’s Patriot’s Day Celebration; and
- WHEREAS** In 1972, the Concord Band joined with the Concord Players and the Concord Orchestra to form the Friends of the Performing Arts in Concord (FOPAC), now known as “51 Walden”; and
- WHEREAS** The Concord Band provides an opportunity for adult musicians from over 40 Massachusetts cities and towns to expand their instrumental and ensemble skills; and
- WHEREAS** The Concord Band plays 15 or more concerts yearly in Concord and at various locations including summer performances at Fruitlands Museum in Harvard; and
- WHEREAS** The Concord Band concerts are available through their YouTube channel and Minuteman Media Network; and
- WHEREAS** The Concord Band has commissioned or received as gifts 83 new works for symphonic wind ensembles, making new compositions available to concert bands throughout the country and beyond; and
- WHEREAS** The Concord Band engages world-class guest conductors and soloists for the benefit of its members and audiences; and
- WHEREAS** In 2013, the Concord Band was the first community band in New England to receive the Sudler Silver Scroll, North America’s most prestigious award recognizing community bands of outstanding musical excellence; and
- NOW THEREFORE** We, the Select Board of the Town of Concord, Massachusetts, celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Concord Band, and do hereby recognize the Concord Band’s many contributions to the Town over the past sixty years.

CONCORD SELECT BOARD

Andrew Mara

From: Audrey Lin <audrey.lin@concordacademy.org>
Sent: Friday, February 1, 2019 9:11 AM
To: Thomas McKean
Cc: Andrew Mara; Chris Whelan; Anna Sander; Anna Dormitzer
Subject: Climate Presentation Inquiry



Hi Tom,

I hope you are having a good day. My name is Audrey, and I am a senior at Concord Academy. A group of students and I are working on an exciting climate campaign here in Concord with the Sunrise Movement, a national organization of young people uniting to stop climate change. We would like to present to the Concord Select Board to discuss with them a symbolic resolution in support of a national Green New Deal. High schoolers around the country are organizing visits to their local governments within the next four weeks, and we hope that widespread local support for a Green New Deal will put pressure for action to be taken at a federal level.

What is the Green New Deal? At its core, the Green New Deal is a plan to decarbonize the American economy in the next 10 years and create millions of jobs in the process, especially in the areas most affected by the consequences of climate change and areas with historically disenfranchised people. As young people, we will be the generation to face the most severe ramifications from climate change, and we know that action must be taken now if we want a liveable future.

We would like to present this resolution to the Concord Select Board, and are wondering if it is possible to get on a meeting agenda in the next few weeks.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Best,
Audrey Lin
Concord Academy 2019

Concord Campaign for a Green New Deal



The Green New Deal

Federal Green New Deal legislation would create a “detailed national, industrial, economic mobilization plan for the transition of the United States economy to become greenhouse gas emissions neutral and to significantly draw down greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and oceans and to promote economic and environmental justice and equality.”

The Green New Deal would do three key things:

1. Eliminate greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
2. Invest in communities on the frontlines of poverty and pollution
3. Guarantee a good job to anyone who wants to help make this happen

On February 6th, Senator Ed Markey (MA) and congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio Cortez (NY - 14th) released **Twin Resolutions for the Green New Deal** in the Senate and the House. Already, over 64 congressional representatives and 9 senators have co-signed the resolutions, which are **“the first that tackle climate change in line with what science and justice demand.”**

The High School Campaign

Across the country, high schoolers are bringing the Green New Deal resolution to their local governments.

We are a group of students who are working through the Sunrise Movement* to **“make climate change an urgent priority across America.”** We are dedicated to the environment, concerned for the future, and committed to making effective change in the legislature that guides our community.

Our hope is that city councils, town boards, and county commissions will all pass resolutions to demonstrate a symbolic commitment. At the end of February 2019, high schoolers are going to town halls and council chambers to share our stories and call on our local elected officials to **stand up for a just and liveable future and show the federal government that communities coast-to-coast demand a Green New Deal.**

**Sunrise is a national movement of young people working to “make climate change an urgent priority across America, end the corrupting influence of fossil fuel executives on our politics, and elect leaders who stand up for the health and wellbeing of all people.”*

Can the Concord Select Board support this resolution?

Resolution for a Green New Deal

A Resolution by the Concord Select Board calling for the federal government to pass a Green New Deal.

WHEREAS, an October 2018 United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report states that we have only until 2030 to limit devastating global warming and avoid the most serious ramifications of climate change;

WHEREAS, the October 2018 IPCC report also makes clear that every bit of warming matters, so every fraction of a degree less of warming will save lives and pay dividends across the world's economies;

WHEREAS, the world is already experiencing serious, costly, and increasing impacts of climate change, including more intense storms, unprecedented flooding, and persistent wildfires;

WHEREAS, an inadequate response to climate change will increase economic and environmental disruptions. These include, but are not limited to severe storms, longer and hotter heat waves, worsening flood and drought cycles, growing invasive species and insect problems, accelerated species extinction rates, rising sea levels, increased wildfires, and a dramatic increase in refugees from climate impacted lands; and in Massachusetts alone, we face the coastal erosion of Cape Cod, shifting ranges of native tree species, forced migration of native birds, and rising infestation of ticks and other disease-bearing insects in areas Concordians enjoy for recreation.

WHEREAS, the most negative impacts of climate change are generally falling on frontline communities. Frontline communities that are underrepresented, such as lower-income communities or communities of color, are bearing the initial burden of climate change, but are least equipped to adapt to these impacts;

WHEREAS, doing what is now necessary to adequately address the climate crisis requires a national mobilization of a scope and scale that is a historic opportunity to address inequities caused and exacerbated by the fossil fuel economy as well as virtually eliminating poverty in the United States;

WHEREAS, at least 45 U.S. Representatives endorsed a resolution to establish a Select Committee for a Green New Deal;

WHEREAS, federal Green New Deal legislation would create a detailed mobilization plan to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, invest in communities on the frontlines of poverty and pollution, and guarantee a good job to anyone ready to make this happen;

WHEREAS, local governments calling for the federal government to pass a Green New Deal will demonstrate widespread popular support for necessary and just climate action;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Concord Select Board calls on the U.S. Government to pass a Green New Deal that meets the following goals by 2030:

- Dramatically expand existing renewable power sources and deploy new production capacity with the goal of meeting 100% of national power demand through renewable sources;
- building a national, energy-efficient, “smart” grid;
- upgrading every residential and industrial building for state-of-the-art energy efficiency, comfort, and safety;
- eliminating greenhouse gas emissions from the manufacturing, agricultural and other industries, including by investing in local-scale agriculture in communities across the country;
- eliminating greenhouse gas emissions from, repairing and improving transportation and other infrastructure, and upgrading water infrastructure to ensure universal access to clean water;
- funding massive investment in the drawdown of greenhouse gases;
- making “green” technology, industry, expertise, products and services a major export of the United States, with the aim of becoming the undisputed international leader in helping other countries transition to completely greenhouse gas neutral economies and bringing about a global Green New Deal.
- Noting that the scope presents a historic opportunity to virtually eliminate poverty in the United States and to make prosperity, wealth and economic security available to everyone participating in the transformation, the Green New Deal should aim to:
 - provide all members of our society, across all regions and all communities, the opportunity, training and education to be a full and equal participant in the transition, including through a job guarantee program to assure a living wage job to every person who wants one;
 - diversify local and regional economies, with a particular focus on communities where the fossil fuel industry holds significant control over the labor market, to ensure workers have the necessary tools, opportunities, and economic assistance to succeed during the energy transition;
 - require strong enforcement of labor, workplace safety, and wage standards that recognize the rights of workers to organize and unionize free of coercion, intimidation, and harassment, and creation of meaningful, quality, career employment;
 - ensure a ‘just transition’ for all workers, low-income communities, communities of color, indigenous communities, rural and urban communities and the front-line communities most affected by climate change, pollution and other environmental harm including by ensuring that local implementation of the transition is led from the community level and by prioritizing solutions that end the harms faced by front-line communities from climate change and environmental pollution;
 - protect and enforce sovereign rights and land rights of tribal nations;
 - mitigate deeply entrenched racial, regional and gender-based inequalities in income and wealth (including, without limitation, ensuring that federal and other investment will be equitably distributed to historically impoverished, low income, deindustrialized or other marginalized communities in such a way that builds wealth and ownership at the community level);

- include additional measures such as basic income programs, universal health care programs and any others deemed appropriate to promote economic security, labor market flexibility, and entrepreneurship; and
- deeply involve national and local labor unions to take a leadership role in the process of job training and worker deployment.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by _____ in _____ on _____ with a quorum present.

Signed by: _____

Attest: _____

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF CONCORD

WARRANT

**FOR ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
MARCH 26, 2019**

ss. Middlesex

To any of the Constables of the Town of Concord, in said County,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Concord, qualified to vote in elections, to vote at:

Precinct	Polling Location
1	Concord Dept. of Planning & Land Management (141 Keyes Rd);
2	Harvey Wheeler Community Center (1276 Main Street);
3	Harvey Wheeler Community Center (1276 Main Street);
4	Ripley School (120 Meriam Road); and
5	Hunt Recreation Center (90 Stow Street)

on **TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019 FROM 7:00 AM TO 8:00 PM** for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Town Election for the candidates for the following offices:

- TOWN MODERATOR**.....One Position for One-Year Term
- SELECT BOARD**..... Two Positions for Three-Year Terms
- SCHOOL COMMITTEE** Two Positions for Three-Year Terms
- HOUSING AUTHORITY** One Position for Five-Year Term
- HOUSING AUTHORITY VACANCY** One Position for Three-Year Term

Hereof fail not and make return of this Warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this 19th day of February 2019.

Select Board:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

* * * * *

Constable's Return of Service

By virtue of posting this Warrant at the Town House and at least one location in each precinct, I have notified the legal voters of the Town of Concord to meet at the times and places and for the purposes within named as directed.

Constable

Date

D-R-A-F-T
2019 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING QUESTIONNAIRE

Your feedback is essential – thank you!

Please complete only one Questionnaire per person.

Return to lobby box in lobby at Town Meeting or to Town Clerk's Office.

1. Please circle the Annual Town Meeting sessions which you attended:

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

2. Please circle the number that best rates your assessment of the ease and efficiency of the following aspects of Annual Town Meeting (include any additional comments in Comments section indicating question (e.g., 2(c)...*your comment*):

- a. Voter check-in and paper ballot distribution

1 2 3 4 5

Needs ImprovementExcellent

- b. Materials distribution

1 2 3 4 5

Needs ImprovementExcellent

- c. Visual presentations during the Meeting

1 2 3 4 5

Needs ImprovementExcellent

- d. Audio presentations during the Meeting

1 2 3 4 5

Needs ImprovementExcellent

- e. Microphone positioning and queuing for comments from the floor

1 2 3 4 5

Needs ImprovementExcellent

- f. Accessibility accommodations (listening aids, accessible seating & microphones, closed captioning, parking)

1 2 3 4 5

Needs ImprovementExcellent

- e. Information signage in the lobby

1 2 3 4 5

Needs ImprovementExcellent

3. Please circle the number best indicating whether you strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, are neutral, somewhat agree, or strongly agree with the following statements about Town Meeting (include any additional comments in Comments section indicating question (e.g., 3(c)...*your comment*):

a. Town Meeting materials posted on the Town's website are useful, complete, well-organized, and easily accessible.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

b. Town Meeting makes efficient use of voters' time.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

c. Town Meeting currently begins at the optimal time: 7:00 pm.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

d. Town Meeting should begin earlier: at 6:45 pm.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

e. Town Meeting should take up no new business after 10:00 pm, even if staying in session until 11:00 or 11:30 pm would avoid an additional session.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

f. Town Meeting should use PRO and CON microphones for every session.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

g. Town Meeting should use PRO and CON microphones only in sessions including high interest articles.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

h. Town Meeting should not use PRO and CON microphones in any session.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree

i. Town Meeting should accept questions and comments submitted by email from verified voters watching or listening remotely.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly DisagreeStrongly Agree

j. Town Meeting should consider use of electronic voting at the Meeting in some form if it could save significant time in the counting of votes.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly DisagreeStrongly Agree

k. Town Meeting should consider use of electronic voting at the Meeting in some form because greater confidence in the accuracy of vote counts could be achieved.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly DisagreeStrongly Agree

l. Town Meeting should use electronic voting at the Meeting by distributed clickers transmitting on a secure network for all votes.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly DisagreeStrongly Agree

m. Town Meeting should use electronic voting at the Meeting by distributed clickers transmitting on a secure network for all votes, but only if those voting for and against a motion are asked, in turn, to stand when they click their votes.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly DisagreeStrongly Agree

n. Town Meeting should use electronic voting at the Meeting by distributed clickers transmitting on a secure network only for (1) votes on motions requiring a two thirds or greater vote for passage, and (2) votes requiring a standing count because they were too close for the Moderator to call viewing raised paper ballots.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly DisagreeStrongly Agree

o. If Town Meeting uses electronic voting at the Meeting for any purpose, it should be by means of a secure app downloaded to voter smart phones or tablets (with roving iPads available for use by those without smart phones or tablets) transmitting on a secure network, because the app would offer (1) use by the Town for important push notifications; (2) use by the Town for conducting surveys; and (3) the potential for input or vote by voters watching Town Meeting remotely.

1 2 3 4 5
Strongly DisagreeStrongly Agree

Link to 2019 Annual Town Meeting webpage

<https://concordma.gov/2235/2019-Annual-Town-Meeting>

Link to 2019 Town Meeting Warrant (PDF)

<https://concordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17892/Concord-2019-Town-Meeting-Warrant->

**Select Board Recommendations/Positions/Comments
Recommendations for inclusion in the FinCom Report**

Article #	Article Name	In Favor	Not In Favor	Report at TM	No Action
1	Choose Town Officers				
2	Hear Reports				
3	Meeting Procedure				
4	Ratify Personnel Board Classification Actions				
5	Classification & Compensation Plan for Regular Status Positions				
6	Town Budget				
7	Appropriate Funds -- Municipal Capital Projects				
8	Authorize Expenditure of Revolving Funds under MGL Chapter 44, Section 53E ½				
9	Authorization to Accpet M.G.L. ch.32B, §20 -- Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund				
10	Minuteman Regional Technical High School District Budget				
11	Concord Public Schools Budget				
12	Concord Public Schools Capital Projects				
13	Authorization to Accept M.G.L. ch.71 §71E -- School Property Fund				
14	Concord Middle School Feasibility Study				
15	Concord-Carlisle Regional High School Budget				

**Select Board Recommendations/Positions/Comments
Recommendations for inclusion in the FinCom Report**

16	Concord-Carlisle Regional High School Capital Projects				
17	Use of Free Cash				
18	General Bylaw Amendment - Sustainable Growth Rate				
19	General Bylaw Amendment - Town Meeting Notice				
20	General Bylaw Amendmennt - Records Management				
21	Acceptance of M.G.L. ch.54, §16A -- Election Vacancy Appointments				
22	Community Preservation Committee Appropriation Recommendations				
23	Appropriate Funds -- Affordable Housing Development				
24	Authorization to Accept M.G.L. ch. 44 § 55C - Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund				
25	Authorize Special Legislation -- Real Estate Transfer Tax for Affordable Housing				
26	Authorize Special Legislation - Building Permit Fee Surcharge for Affordable Housing				
27	Authorize Transfer of a Portion of the Property at 369 Commonwealth Avenue for Affordable Housing				
28	PETITION: Adopt a Moratorium of Synthetic Turf on Town Property				
29	Zoning Article Amendment - Formula Business				
30	Zoning Article Amendment - Personal Wireless Communications Facility Overlay District Map				

**Select Board Recommendations/Positions/Comments
Recommendations for inclusion in the FinCom Report**

31	Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Handicapped Parking				
32	Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Groundwater Conservancy District				
33	Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Marijuana Establishment Temporary Moratorium				
34	Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Nonconforming Single & Two Family Residential Structures				
35	Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Fairs, Bazaars, Antique Shows etc.				
36	Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Flood Plain Conservancy District Map				
37	Zoning Bylaw Amendment - Large Ground-Mounted Solar Table of Uses				
38	Light Plant Expenditures & Payment In Lieu of Taxes				
39	Solid Waste Disposal Fund Expenditures				
40	Sewer System Expenditures				
41	Sewer Improvement Fund Expenditures				
42	Water System Expenditures				
43	Debt Authorization: Water Main Replacement				
44	Authorize Expenditure from PEG Access and Cable-Related Fund				
45	Beede Swim & Fitness Center Enterprise Fund Expenditures				
46	Unpaid Bills				

February 19, 2019

Mr. Paul D Stedman
District 4 Highway Director
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
519 Appleton Street
Arlington, MA 02476

RE: Weight Restriction on existing Route 2 culvert (Bridge # C-19-18)

Dear Mr. Stedman,

The Town of Concord Select Board was encouraged to hear that MassDOT has recently entered a contract with Brox Industries, Inc. on Project # 608478 – **Resurfacing and Related Work Including 5 Bridges along a Section of Route 2**. In the early stages of review and comment periods for this project, Town of Concord officials and staff requested that the culvert for Nashoba Brook under Route 2, Bridge #: C-19-18 be replaced to accommodate all Route 2 traffic. This has been an ongoing problem that has been brought to the attention of MassDOT since the posting and enforcement of this weight restriction. The Select Board was disappointed that this replacement was not included within this project or added as a separate project prior to the re-surfacing. As you may be aware, this existing reinforced concrete box culvert and the associated weight restriction results in continued negative impacts to the operators of the commercial vehicles along with the residents, and business owners of Concord and Acton. This restriction forces large and heavy commercial vehicles which exceed the weight limit to unnecessarily exit Route 2 in Acton and travel through Acton and West Concord Center via School Street (Acton), Laws Brook Road and Commonwealth Avenue. This has caused unnecessary traffic delays, added wear and tear on local roadways, and even sporadic hazardous situations involving the MBTA rail crossing at the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue and Church Street.

MassDOT has continued to move forward on other projects within close proximity of the culvert, including the construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (Project # 606223) and the roadway resurfacing project of Route 2 (Project # 608478) and the Town expresses our sincere appreciation for this however the weight restricted issue remains unresolved. When speaking to MassDOT officials it is our understanding that those projects funding sources do not provide funding for the reconstruction of the culvert. As such, the Select Board respectfully requests that MassDOT prioritize upgrading this culvert to remove the imposed weight restriction.

Again, the Select Board understands and appreciates the funding and construction improvements that MassDOT has directed to the area in recent years which improves the experience for those motorists that travel along Route 2. We are hopeful that MassDOT can address these concerns and prioritize the replacement of this culvert to improve the negative impacts for those directly affected in Concord and Acton.

Respectfully,

Tom McKean, Chair

Michael Lawson, Clerk

Alice Kaufman

Jane Hotchkiss

Linda Escobedo

Cc: Mr. Jonathan Gulliver, Highway Administrator
Tami Gouveia, State Representative, 14th Middlesex
Michael Barrett, State Senator, 3rd Middlesex
Concord Public Works Commission
Christopher Whelan, Concord Town Manager
Richard Reine, Director of Public Works and Engineering
Christopher Olbrot, P.E., Town Engineer
File