



TOWN OF HAWLEY
MASSACHUSETTS 01339

TOWN OFFICE:
8 PUDDING HOLLOW ROAD
TELEPHONE: 413-339-5518
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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Hawley
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
Monday, May 12, 2025**

FRANKLIN SS:

To George Rice, Constable of the Town of Hawley, GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby directed to notify and warn said inhabitants of the Town of Hawley qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Hawley Town Office in said Hawley on Monday, the twelfth day of May, 2025, at seven o'clock in the evening to act on the following articles

Article 1: To act on the reports of the Town Officers, or take any other action relative thereto.

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of the following offices of the Town as provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Salaries to be voted on are as follows:

Chairman of Selectboard	2,120.00
Selectboard members (2)	1,900.00
Town Clerk	9,744.00
Chairman of Assessors	1,535.00
Assessors' Members (2)	1,310.00
Auditor	140.00
Moderator	140.00

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following non-school general operation appropriations, or take any other action in relation thereto. Total for Article 3 is **\$661,055..** (This budget can be voted on in its entirety, by Department, or by line. Any balances remaining in these appropriations will close to Surplus Revenue at the end of the year).

line #	Department/Acct Name	FY25 Budget	FY26 Proposed	% change
1	Moderator	135.00	140.00	3.85%
2	Salaries & wages	135.00	140.00	3.85%
3	Board of Selectmen	26,890.00	28,330.00	5.36%
4	Salaries & wages	21,665.00	22,280.00	2.84%
5	Expenses	3,575.00	4,400.00	23.08%
6	Drug & Alcohol testing	400.00	400.00	0.00%
7	Town Reports	750.00	750.00	0.00%
8	Board of Health expenses	500.00	500.00	0.00%
9	Finance Committee	150.00	150.00	0.00%
10	Expenses	150.00	150.00	0.00%
11	Town Auditor	135.00	140.00	3.70%
12	Salaries & wages	135.00	140.00	3.70%
13	Board of Assessors	14,145.00	14,505.00	2.55%
14	Salaries & wages	4,045.00	4,155.00	2.72%
15	Expenses	10,100.00	10,350.00	2.48%
16	Treasurer	46,350.00	47,665.00	2.84%
17	Salaries & wages	43,450.00	44,665.00	2.80%
18	Expenses	2,900.00	3,000.00	3.45%
19	Collector	11,292.00	12,102.00	7.17%
20	Salaries & wages	7,220.00	7,422.00	2.80%
21	Expenses	4,072.00	4,680.00	14.93%
22	Technology/Internet	3,100.00	2,675.00	-13.71%
23	Expenses	3,100.00	2,675.00	-13.71%
24	Town Clerk	10,225.00	10,494.00	2.63%
25	Salaries & wages	9,475.00	9,744.00	2.84%
26	Expenses	750.00	750.00	0.00%
	(Election compensation and expenses moved to separate article.)			
27	Town Buildings	8,875.00	9,775.00	10.14%
28	Purchased Services	750.00	750.00	0.00%
29	Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00%
30	Expenses	8,125.00	9,025.00	11.08%
31	Employee Benefits	77,968.00	85,000.00	9.02%
32	Insurance	36,200.00	42,450.00	17.27%
33	Retirement	41,768.00	42,550.00	1.87%

34	Police Department	1,550.00	1,586.00	2.32%
35	Salaries & wages	1,300.00	1,336.00	2.77%
36	Expenses	250.00	250.00	0.00%
37	Fire Department	43,790.00	48,918.00	11.71%
38	Salaries & wages	7,940.00	10,568.00	33.10%
39	Purchased Services	3,100.00	3,100.00	0.00%
40	Repairs & Maintenance	9,750.00	9,750.00	0.00%
41	Expenses	8,300.00	7,500.00	-9.64%
42	EMS	13,500.00	13,000.00	-3.7%
43	Capital outlay	1,200.00	5,000.00	416.66%
44	Emergency Management	1,390.00	1,820.00	30.94%
45	Salaries & wages	1,140.00	1,170.00	2.63%
46	Purchased Services	150.00	150.00	0.00%
47	Expenses	100.00	500.00	500.00%
48	Franklin Reg Co of Govts	10,838.00	11,193.00	3.28%
49	FRCOG Assessments	10,838.00	11,193.00	3.28%
50	DPW - Highway	277,550.00	308,360.00	11.10%
51	Salaries & wages	153,000.00	171,000.00	11.76%
52	Repairs & Maintenance	47,000.00	57,500.00	22.34%
53	Expenses - Roads	72,500.00	74,500.00	2.76%
54	Expenses - Garage	5,050.00	5,360.00	6.14%
55	DPW Capital Outlay	0.00	0.00	0.00%
	(Care of Cemeteries moved to separate article)			
56	Solid Waste	28,402.00	28,652.00	0.88%
57	Expenses	28,402.00	28,652.00	0.88%
58	Animal Inspector	200.00	200.00	0.00%
59	Expenses	200.00	200.00	0.00%
60	Animal Control Officer	100.00	200.00	100.00%
61	Expenses	100.00	200.00	100.00%
62	Veterans Services	3,157.45	3,300.00	4.51%
63	District assessment	1,007.45	1,100.00	9.19%
64	Veterans Benefits	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00%
65	Veterans expenses	150.00	200.00	33.33%
66	Boards, Committees	3,400.00	4,650.00	36.76%
67	Conservation Comm Expenses	150.00	1,400.00	933%
68	Planning Board Expenses	400.00	400.00	0.00%
69	Zoning Bd of Appeals Expenses	50.00	50.00	0.00%
70	Council on Aging - Grant match	400.00	400.00	0.00%

71	Tyler Memorial Library	2,400.00	2,400.00	0.00%
72	Unclassified	38,900.00	41,200.00	5.91%
73	Prop & Liability insurance	30,000.00	33,000.00	11%
74	Surety bonds	900.00	900.00	0.00%
75	Mass. Unemployment	500.00	300.00	-40.00%
76	FICA/Medicare	7,500.00	7,000.00	-0.07%
87	TOTAL	608,542.45	661,055.00	8.63%

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following school general operation appropriations, or take any other action in relation thereto. Total for Article 4 is **\$569,760**. (This budget can be voted on in its entirety, by Department, or by line. Any balances remaining in these appropriations will close to Surplus Revenue at the end of the year).

<u>line #</u>	<u>Department/Acct Name</u>	<u>FY25 Budget</u>	<u>FY26 Proposed</u>	<u>% Change</u>
88	School - Vocational	104,500.00	70,000.00	-33.00%
89	Transportation	40,000.00	20,000.00	-50.00%
90	Tuition	64,500.00	50,000.00	-22.40%
91	School - Hawlemont	255,999.00	256,079.00	0.03%
92	Operating assessment	242,753.00	243,531.00	0.32%
93	Transportation	13,246.00	12,548.00	-0.53%
94	Capital outlay	0.00	0.00	0.00%
95	School - MTRSD	247,232.00	243,681.00	-0.14%
96	Operating assessment	216,579.00	217,164.00	0.03%
97	Transportation	24,972.00	21,811.00	-12.66%
98	Capital outlay	5,681.00	4,706.00	-17.16%
	(note: Transportation included in FY25 Operating)			
99	TOTAL	\$607,731.00	569,760.00	-6.2%

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to carry forward any balance in the FY25 Vocational Tuition and Vocational Transportation accounts to the FY26 respective accounts, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the Continuing Education for Town Officials account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the Legal Services account, with any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year to be carried into future years, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 to the Assessors Revaluation account, to be used for the FY2030 revaluation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$160 for the Internet Access (installation and equipment) account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,725 for Election Expenses (\$3,000 for Election Officers Compensation; \$725 for Election Expenses) with any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year to be carried into future years, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the Town Building Repair and Maintenance account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the Accrued Sick Pay Fund account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,300 for the Fire Station Building Improvements account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 for the Care of Cemeteries Account, to be under the oversight of the Historical Commission, with any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year to be transferred into the Care of Cemeteries Trust, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the Highway Department Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000 for the Reserve Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$2,000 for the Independent Audit account, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from Free Cash to a fund to be spent at the discretion of the Selectboard for the purposes of grant match or procurement of services to aid in the development of grant proposals, with any funds unexpended or uncommitted by contractual agreement as of June 30 are to be added to the General Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$25,000 from Free Cash to the Fire Department Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$45,000 from Free Cash to the Highway Department Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$20,000 from Free Cash to the Vocational Stabilization Fund, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize a revolving account pursuant to MGL Chapter 44, section 53E ½, for which revenues from fees or fines related to licensing and care of dogs will be deposited into the fund and expended to purchase dog tags; pay for various expenses in relation to licensing, care, and other related dog-control expenses, under the direction of the Town Clerk, and total expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, will be limited to \$2,000, with all money remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to accept a sum in Chapter 90 road funds available subject to conditions detailed by Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue or grant reimbursement for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, in accordance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 44, section 4, and to renew any note or notes for the period of less than two years in accordance with provisions of MGL Chapter 44, section 17, or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to adopt and enact the amendments to the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) Charter, said amendment(s) having been proposed by a two-thirds majority of the weighted vote of the full membership of the FRCOG Council and a majority vote of the FRCOG Executive Committee, with said amendment(s) taking full effect immediately upon adoption by two-thirds of the member towns unless a later effective date is otherwise specified; or take any action relative thereto. A two-thirds majority vote by this town meeting is required for adoption and enactment of this article. (Amendments will be available at the Town Office and on the website).

Article 26: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate or otherwise provide \$1,324 for Hawley's portion of a capital project at the Mohawk Trail Regional School District (the emergency replacement of the hot water heater at Mohawk Trail Regional School in November 2024), or take any other action in relation thereto.

Article 27: To transact any other business that legally may come before the Town Meeting.

Given under our hands this Twenty-Second Day of April 2025.

Williams Cosby Chair

Hussain Hamden

Robert MacLean

Selectboard, Town of Hawley

A true copy. Attest:

George A. Rice, Constable

Date: