

Warrant Article Questionnaire Non Standard Town Agency Articles

Section III – Questions with Response Boxes – To Be Completed By Petition Sponsor

Article # 24	Date Form Completed: 9/5/2017
Article Title: Amend Prior Town Meeting Vote to Authorize Navy Yard Field Improvements	
Sponsor Name: Board of Selectmen	Email: jostroff@natickma.org

Question	Question
1	Provide the article motion exactly as it will appear in the Finance Committee Recommendation Book and presented to Town Meeting for action.
Response	<p>“Move that the Town vote to amend the vote of the 2016 Natick Special Town Meeting Number 2 under Article 3 by inserting in the first paragraph, following the text “so-called federal railbanking statute, 16 U.S.C. 1247(d)” the words “, and which land may also be used for expansion of and improvements to Navy Yard Field, which is abutted to the north by Lagrange Street and to the west by Washington Avenue”.</p> <p>Such that the amended vote shall read S.”</p>
2	At a summary level and very clearly, what is the proposed purpose and objective of this Warrant Article and the accompanying Motion?
Response	To allow a small portion of land that was acquired for the rail trail to also be used for improvements to Navy Yard Field. This article is necessary, but not sufficient for the Navy Yard project. The Town must also amend a deed restriction and undertake the capital improvements.
3	Has this article or one of a very similar scope and substance been on a previous Warrant Article and what has been the actions taken by Finance Committee, other Boards or Committees and Town Meeting?
Response	No.
4	Why is it required for the Town of Natick and for the Town Agency sponsor(s)?
Response	Town Counsel is of the view that, since land was acquired from CSX for a particular purpose by TM authorization, TM should also amend that authorization accordingly. At the time of the 2016 TM vote to buy the property, it was not known that the land was planned for part of the new Navy Yard Field.
5	Does this article require funding, how much, from what source of funds and under whose authority will the appropriation be managed and spent?
Response	No.
6	Does this article act in any way in concert with, in support of, or to extend any prior action of

Warrant Article Questionnaire Non Standard Town Agency Articles

	Natick Town Meeting, Massachusetts General Laws or CMR's or other such legislation or actions?
	Does this article seek to amend, rescind or otherwise change any prior action of Natick Town Meeting?
Response	Yes, the article would amend a prior TM vote.
7	How does the proposed motion (and implementation) fit with the relevant Town Bylaws, financial and capital plan, comprehensive Master Plan, and community values as well as relevant state laws and regulations?
Response	The Navy Yard field is part of the capital plan, and a design appropriation was voted at a prior Town Meeting. The expanded Navy Yard Field was identified in a recent Parks master plan.
8	Who are the critical participants in executing the effort envisioned by the article motion?
Response	Town Meeting must amend the vote; other actions necessary to achieve the goals will require Town Counsel, Town Staff, the BOS and outside parties (for the deed restriction); the capital improvement will require a separate process.
9	What steps and communication has the sponsor attempted to assure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested parties were notified in a timely way and had a chance to participate in the process • Appropriate Town Boards & Committees were consulted • Required public hearings were held
Response	This has been discussed with Town staff and the Rec and Parks commission over the course of the summer, and with the BOS, who voted to sponsor this article.
10	Since submitting the article have you identified issues that weren't initially considered in the development of the proposal?
Response	Not directly related to this article. The deed amendment is more complex, but does not require FinCom or TM action.
11	If this Warrant Article is not approved by Town Meeting what are the consequences to the Town and to the sponsor(s)? Please be specific on both financial and other consequences?
Response	Two scenarios: 1) We may proceed with the Navy Yard project using this land, but there will be ambiguity in the land purchase authorization, which may cause problems down the road; 2) the park will be designed to exclude the portion of land acquired from CSX.