

Warrant Article Questionnaire Non-Standard Town Agency Articles

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

Article # 9	Date Form Completed:
Article Title: Acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 200A, Section 9A: Disposition of Abandoned Funds	
Sponsor Name: Town Administrator	Email:

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	Move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 200A, Section 9A, to authorize an alternative procedure for disposing of abandoned funds held in the custody of the Town as provided for in MGL Chapter 200A, Section 9A; or otherwise act thereon.																								
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 accept the provisions of M.G.L c. 200A Section 9A which provides that once abandon funds have been processed according to the provisions of the chapter, the amount abandon escheats to the Town.																								
3	Has this article or one of a very similar scope and substance been on a previous Warrant Article and what have been the actions taken by the Finance Committee, other Boards or Committees and Town Meeting?																								
Response	<p>NO</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Warrant Period Ex: 2021 SATM</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Other Committees Ex: Planning Bd refer</th> <th style="width: 25%;">FinCom Action Ex: Referral</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Town Meeting Ex: Referral</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Warrant Period Ex: 2021 SATM	Other Committees Ex: Planning Bd refer	FinCom Action Ex: Referral	Town Meeting Ex: Referral																				
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	Comments:
4	Why is it required for the Town of Natick and for the Town Agency sponsor(s)?
Response	It allows the Town to deal with abandon property in a more expeditious manner.
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 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	NO
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	It ensures compliance with state law when processing abandon property and will have a slight beneficial effect on the Town's financial plan.
8	Who are the critical participants in executing the effort envisioned by the article motion?

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Response	Treasurer/Collector and the Deputy Town Administrator/Finance Director
9	<p>What steps and communication has the sponsor attempted to assure that:</p> <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 does not require a public hearing. The sponsor has consulted with the Deputy Town Administrator/Finance Director, the Treasurer/Collector, the Comptroller, Town Auditors and the Town Clerk.
10	Since submitting the article have you identified issues that weren't initially considered in the development of the proposal?
Response	NO
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	Difficulty in handling abandon property and loss of revenue since without this chapter, abandon property escheats to the State.