

Warrant Article Questionnaire Non-Standard Town Agency Articles

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

Article # 30	Date Form Completed: 2022.03.24
Article Title: Extend Term of the Land Area & Makeup Study Committee	
Sponsor Name: Land Area & Makeup Study Committee	Email: (Chair) jmunnich.pb@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>Motion:</p> <p>To extend the term of the Land Area & Makeup Study Committee, established per Article 28 of 2019 Fall Annual Meeting and appointed by the Moderator, to expire upon the dissolution of 2023 Spring Annual Town Meeting, unless otherwise extended by Town Meeting.</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 enable the Study Committee to continue its collection of materials, and to produce a report for Town Meeting.																								
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	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Warrant Period</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Other Committees</th> <th style="width: 25%;">FinCom Action</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Town Meeting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FATM 2021</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>SATM 2021</td> <td></td> <td>Positive Action</td> <td>Positive Action</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SATM 2020</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>FATM 2019</td> <td></td> <td>Positive Action</td> <td>Positive Action</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prior</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Warrant Period	Other Committees	FinCom Action	Town Meeting	FATM 2021				SATM 2021		Positive Action	Positive Action	SATM 2020				FATM 2019		Positive Action	Positive Action	Prior			
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4	Why is it required for the Town of Natick and for the Town Agency sponsor(s)?
Response	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The general constraints of COVID restrictions has slowed the collection of some materials and limited access to out-of-town resources. 2) The departure of three staff members of the Community and Economic Development Department has serially reset the project timeline. 3) The Study Committee has limited its outreach to Town resources to not burden them during the current period of restrictions.
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	There is no additional funding being sought.
6	<p>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?</p> <p>Does this article seek to amend, rescind, or otherwise change any prior action of Natick Town Meeting?</p>
Response	The Article and Motion are to extend the previously passed mandate of Town Meeting.
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	<p>Excerpt from FATM 2019 questionnaire:</p> <p><i>"It augments the data sets required to make informed decisions in all of these areas. Additionally, Natick may be in a position to utilize innovative approaches to leverage available land to enhance its tax base. "</i></p>
8	Who are the critical participants in executing the effort envisioned by the article motion?
Response	<p>The members of the Study Committee are:</p> <p>Cathi Collins Alfred Doig Sara Hanna Julian Munnich</p>

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	William Proia
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	<p>Excerpt from FATM 2019 questionnaire: <i>“As with studies to collect information not yet elsewhere gathered; the most important outreach will occur at (or near) the conclusion of the project when those entities that would most benefit from confirmed data can seek to implement it in their areas of interest. (Open Space, Conservation Commission, Assessors, Economic Development, Planning Board, etc. would all be able to utilize this information in meaningful ways.) “</i></p>
10	<p>Since submitting the article have you identified issues that weren't initially considered in the development of the proposal?</p>
Response	<p>In the interim; the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development has issued materials to help clarify several issues.</p>
11	<p>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?</p>
Response	<p>A valuable in-process assemblage of work product would not be completed for the Town's benefit. The Town will continue to be uninformed as to its options to address matters of economic development, residential housing, and environmental protection. The Town will lose an opportunity to gain important information in time to be able to explore all of its options tied to the 2020 census.</p>