

**WARRANT FOR THE 2025  
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT**  
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**To: TK Menesale**

Clerk of the Hyannis Fire District

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby requested to notify the inhabitants of the Hyannis Fire District who are qualified to vote to meet at the Hyannis Fire Department, 95 High School Road Ext, Hyannis Massachusetts, MA on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, between the hours of 3:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M., then and there to bring in their votes for the following elective office.

Two (2) members of the Board of Commissioners for the term of Three (3) years.

And you are hereby requested to notify the inhabitants of the Hyannis Fire District who are qualified to vote to meet subsequently at the Hyannis Fire Department, 95 High School Road Ext. Hyannis Massachusetts, MA on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. and then and there to act on the following articles.

Article 1. To hear and to vote to accept the reports of the Treasurer, Chief Engineer, Board of Commissioners, and all other Fire District Officers and Committees, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners recommends favorable action on all reports.)*

Article 2. To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Commissioners to enter into contracts for street lighting power and maintenance for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners recommends favorable action.)*

Article 3. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$56,000 for street lighting power and maintenance for the period July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners recommends favorable action.)*

Article 4. To see if the District will vote to set the following salaries of elective and appointed District Officers for the fiscal year 2026 as follows: Board of Commissioners, \$5,100 each plus an additional \$1,000 for Chairman of the Board of Commissioners; Clerk-Treasurer \$121,403; Moderator, \$300, and to see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$148,203 for the purposes of this Article, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners recommends favorable action.)*

Article 5. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer and appropriate from available funds the following amounts for fiscal year 2026: \$ 12,245,881 for Fire Salaries & Wages, \$926,400 for Fire Services, \$558,500 for Fire Supplies, \$136,500 for Fire Expenses, \$606,357 for Building Services, \$654,000 Other Charges, \$1,686,698 for Debt Service, \$5,705,890 for Employee Benefits, and \$64,700 for District Officers' Expenses. To meet said appropriations, \$4,000,000 will be transferred from the Ambulance Account, \$1,900,000 will be appropriated from Free Cash to reduce the tax levy, and the remainder of \$16,684,927 will be raised from the tax levy, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners recommends favorable action.)*

Article 6. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate \$40,000 to be set aside in a reserve fund for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners recommends favorable action.)*

Article 7. To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Commissioners to sell, or dispose of, in the best interest of the District, miscellaneous materials with a monetary value of less than \$500 per item, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners recommends favorable action.)*

Article 8. To see if the District will vote to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$100,000 to the Stabilization Fund or take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners will make their recommendation at the meeting.)*

Article 9. To see if the District will vote to transfer the entire balance sum from the Building Fund in the amount of \$178,945.06 plus accrued interest in order to reduce the property tax for fiscal year 2026, or to take any other action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners will make their recommendation at the meeting.)*

Article 10. To see if the District will vote to rescind unexpended borrowing authorizations which total \$983,914 from borrowing authorizations voted by previous District meetings for the Fire Station building project, or take any action relative thereto.

*(The Board of Commissioners will make their recommendation at the meeting.)*

#### **ARTICLES 11-12 PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE BY-LAW COMMITTEE**

Article 11.

##### **Justification for Proposed Change**

Update Article I: Elections

Review of the Hyannis Fire District By-Laws determined that Article I: Elections should be updated to streamline and clarify requirements, to codify current practices and requirements, and to ensure compliance with State election standards. Furthermore, the proposed change would correct a clerical error at the end of Article I Section 2.

##### **Proposed Change: Rewrite Article I to read as follows:**

#### **ARTICLE I: ELECTIONS.**

Section 1: The Hyannis Fire District elections shall be held annually on the Tuesday prior to the third Wednesday in May.

(a) The election shall be held within the limits of the Hyannis Fire District in a manner in accordance with all of the Massachusetts General Laws pertaining to elections; and in a location as determined by the Board of Commissioners to be suitable to safely accommodate the number of potential District voters so participating.

(b) The District will make available guidelines and voter information to the voters upon request; in addition to the foregoing, such guidelines and voter information shall be posted at least sixty (60) days prior to the election in a publicly accessible format, as determined by the Board of Commissioners.

(c) Nominations: The District Clerk-Treasurer shall make nomination papers available on the first business day of the calendar year. The preparation and filing of nomination papers of candidates for District office shall require fifty (50) certified signatures of registered voters of the Hyannis Fire District. Such nomination papers must be filed for certification of signatures with the Town of Barnstable's Town Clerk, not later than sixty (60) days prior to the date set for the election, and must thereafter be filed by the nominee with the District Clerk-Treasurer, not later than 4:00 PM fifty-three days (53) prior to such election. Any objections to or withdrawal of nomination papers must be filed by the objector or nominee with the District Clerk-Treasurer, not later than 4:00 PM fifty-three days (53) prior to an election.

(d) Ballot Position: The order in which names of candidates appear on the ballot for each office shall be determined by a drawing by lot conducted by the District Clerk-Treasurer in the presence of such candidates or their representatives as may choose to attend such drawings. Such drawing shall be held within seven (7) days after the deadline to submit nomination papers to the District Clerk-Treasurer.

(e) Election Warrant: At least fourteen days before an election, notice of such an election shall be given by the District Clerk-Treasurer by posting in two (2) or more public places and advertising in a newspaper published within the town of Barnstable and by making copies of warrant available. The Election Warrant either shall include a copy of the Hyannis Fire District Ballot to be used in that election or

shall list all positions being decided in that election with a list of all candidates on the ballot for each position. The Clerk-Treasurer may issue a combined warrant for both the Annual Election and Annual District Meeting.

(f) Ballots: The District shall use Hyannis Fire District Ballots for all District elections. The Clerk-Treasurer shall prepare printed Hyannis Fire District Ballots for all District elections.

(g) Absentee Ballots: Absentee ballot applications must be received by 4:00 PM no later than seven (7) days before an election.

(h) Eligible Voters: Residents of the Hyannis Fire District must be registered as a voter with the Town of Barnstable's Town Clerk by no later than ten (10) days before a Hyannis Fire District election in order to be eligible to vote in said election.

(i) Unless otherwise stated in the District By-Laws, the provisions of this Article I, Section 1, will apply to all District elections.

Section 2: In accordance with Section 1 of Chapter 313 of the Acts of 1984, each Commissioner and the District Moderator shall be a registered voter of the Hyannis Fire District at the time of election and shall continue to be a resident thereof throughout his or her term.

## Article 12.

### **Update Article XI: Automatic Fire and Rescue Alarm Systems**

Fire and Rescue Alarm Systems have expanded to encompass a wider array of products and systems. This proposed change would rename this article to better capture the many different types of monitoring systems and makes also minor changes to sections (a) through (c) to update and modernize definitions and reporting requirements.

**Proposed Change: Rename Article XI and Revise Article XI Sections (a) through (c) to read as follows:**

**ARTICLE XI: ALARM, FIRE, AND LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS.**

**Section 1: DEFINITIONS.**

- (a) **ALARM DEVICE:** Any device which, when activated, (a) transmits a signal to the Fire Department, (b) transmits a signal to a person or company who relays information to the Fire Department, or (c) produces an audible signal to which the Fire Department is expected to respond.
- (b) **ALARM USER:** Any person who is the owner, or person in charge, of premises where an alarm is maintained within the Hyannis Fire District.
- (c) **FIRE & LIFE SAFETY SYSTEM USER:** Any person who is the owner, or person in charge, of premises where a fire safety system is maintained within the Hyannis Fire District.
- (d) **FALSE FIRE ALARM:** The activation of an alarm through negligence of an alarm user or his/her agent or employee, improper installation, mechanical failure, malfunction, or any other cause which results in the Fire Department responding when no fire or evidence of fire or an emergency exists, where it is determined after investigation by the Fire Department that no malicious activity or attempted malicious activity has occurred in the activation of such alarm device. If the Fire Department determines after investigation that malicious activity or attempted malicious activity has occurred in activating the alarm device, the Fire Department shall notify the appropriate prosecutorial authorities, and the District reserves all rights to initiate legal proceedings for such malicious or attempted malicious activity.

**Section 2: ALARM USER RESPONSIBILITY.**

- (a) Every alarm user and fire & life safety system user shall submit to the Fire Department their name, address, telephone number, email address, and at least one (1) other person who is authorized to respond in a timely manner to an emergency signal transmitted by an alarm device and who can open the premises in which the alarm device is located.
- (b) All alarm users and fire & life safety system users must notify the Fire Department, in advance, of any testing of equipment. Failure to notify the Fire Department in advance of a testing of equipment shall constitute a false alarm, and be subject to the assessment schedule contained herein.
- (c) Every alarm user and fire & life safety system user shall submit all Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance reports in the manner, method, timeframe, and/or form prescribed by the Hyannis Fire Department.

**Section 3: PENALTIES.**

- (a) Failure to comply with Paragraphs (b)(i), (b)(ii) or (b)(iii) above shall be punishable by a fine as noted below.
- (b) Any person who maintains, or permits to be maintained, any mechanical or electronic fire alarm device which transmits more than three (3) false reports of fire within any consecutive twelve (12) month period, after written notification by the Fire Department, shall be punished by a fine as noted below.
- (c) The Board of Commissioners shall maintain and, from time to time, amend a schedule of reasonable fines and fees for failure to comply with Paragraphs (c)(i) or (c)(ii) above.

(d) This schedule shall be made available on the District's website, in addition to being available from the District Clerk-Treasurer.

Article 13. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof in two (2) or more public places in the District, and in all Towns served thereby, and by advertising in the newspaper published within the Town of Barnstable and making copies of the annual report and warrant available fourteen (14) days at least, before the date of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 24th day of April 2025  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT

Laura Cronin 4/24/25

Laura Cronin, Chairman Date

Peter L. Cross 4/24/25

Peter Cross, Vice Chairman Date

[Signature] 5/1/25

Demetrius Atsalis, Clerk Date

Alex Mercado 4/24/2025

Alex Mercado Date

Victor Skende-In Memoriam Date