



**OFFICE OF THE  
TOWN CLERK  
TOWN HALL  
511 MAIN STREET  
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313  
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FAX (978) 649-4371  
CSkerrett@dunstable-ma.gov**

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Carol A. Skerrett

Date: March 21, 2013

Subject: Articles by Petition/Petition to Call a Special Town Meeting

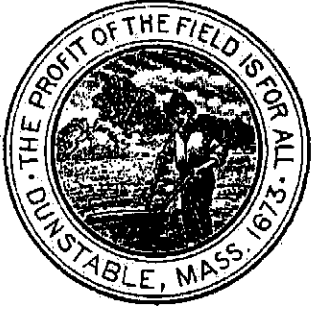
I have drafted the attached memo and petition with the approval of Rich Larkin for the citizens of the Town of Dunstable to be used when petitioning for warrant articles or to call a Special Town Meeting in accordance with MGL 39:10<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>The selectmen shall insert in the warrant for the annual meeting all subjects the insertion of which shall be requested of them in writing by ten or more registered voters of the town and in the warrant for every special town meeting all subjects the insertion of which shall be requested of them in writing by one hundred registered voters or by ten per cent of the total number of registered voters of the town whichever number is the lesser. The selectmen shall call a special town meeting upon request in writing, of two hundred registered voters or of twenty per cent of the total number of registered voters of the town, whichever number is the lesser; such meeting to be held not later than forty-five days after the receipt of such request, and shall insert in the warrant therefor all subjects the insertion of which shall be requested by said petition.

The written requests of registered voters for the insertion of subjects in town meeting warrants shall not be valid unless the required number of registered voters not only sign their names but also state their residence, with street and number, if any. The selectmen shall submit such written requests to the board of registrars of voters or the board of election commissioners who shall check and forthwith certify the number of signatures so checked which are names of voters in the town, and only names so checked and certified shall be counted. A greater number of names than are required in each case need not be certified.

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Carol A. Skerrett, Town Clerk CMMC  
Member, Board of Registrars



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## ARTICLES BY PETITION

### Signatures Needed

Annual Town Meeting - 10 signatures of Dunstable registered voters  
Special Town Meeting - 100 signatures of Dunstable registered voters

### Petition Form

Each individual sheet of the petition must include the text of the article and the signatures of the petitioners together with their residences including streets and house numbers. You may use several sheets depending on the number of signatures needed. The petition must be submitted to the Board of Registrars for certification of signatures. Each petition must include the full text of the article printed on the petition. It is also your responsibility to make sure the article is legal and properly worded. While not required, it is suggested that you consult an attorney if you have any questions about the legality or wording of the article. We also recommend that petitioners with illegible handwriting print their name next to the signature.

## CALLING MEETINGS

The **Annual Town Meeting** for the transaction of all business in the Warrant shall be held on the second Monday in May at seven o'clock in the evening.

**Special Town Meetings** may be held at such times as the Selectmen may order or on petition of 200 registered voters. Forms to call a Special Town Meeting are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

## DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES

The deadline for the submission of all articles for the Annual Town Meeting shall be 45 days prior to the date set for posting the warrant.

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.**

Date and Time received by Board of Registrars

**TOWN OF DUNSTABLE  
PETITION FOR ARTICLE FOR  
ANNUAL OR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

SUBJECT REQUESTED FOR ACTION AT THE TOWN MEETING (to be filled in by petitioner). If space is insufficient attach additional page of description before signatures are gathered.

NOTE: For an Annual Town Meeting, ten registered voters' signatures are required to be certified.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO SIGNERS**

For your signatures to be valid you must be a registered voter in the town named above and your signature should be written substantially as registered. If you are prevented by physical disability from writing, you may authorize a person to write your name and residence in your presence.

**SIGNER'S STATEMENT**

We, the undersigned, are qualified voters of the Town of Dunstable, and in accordance with the provisions of the law request an article be placed on the warrant for the next annual town meeting for the purpose stated above.

	<b>Signature</b> (to be made in person with Check name substantially as registered)	<b>Printed Name</b>	<b>Street Address (not P.O. Box)</b>
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