

# TOWN OF SAUGUS

Essex, ss.  
To the Constable of the Town of Saugus  
Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Saugus, qualified to vote in Town affairs for the Special Town Meeting at the Saugus Town Hall located at 298 Central Street, April 22, 2013 at 7:30 PM to hear and act on the following articles: viz;

**Article 1.** To hear and act on reports of Committees.

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$200,000.00 to be transferred to the Stabilization Fund. (Town Manager)

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the purchase of cruisers for the police department; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; to determine whether to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease/purchase agreement with respect to such equipment; or to take any other action relative thereto. (Town Manager)

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,500.00 for the purpose of funding the FY2013 Town Clerk salary appropriation to hire additional clerical staff. Said funds will be added to Article 2 as voted at the 2012 Annual Town Meeting. (Town Manager)

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to petition the Massachusetts State Legislature to amend the town charter by adding the following section:

## ARTICLE 2

SECTION 8A. Extension or Renewal. The selectmen may extend or renew the term of a town manager who has been previously appointed pursuant to Article 2 Section 8. Said extension or renewal shall be for a term of years by a three-fifths vote of the membership.  
(Board of Selectmen)

**Article 6.** To see if the Saugus Town Meeting will vote to petition the Massachusetts State Legislature to amend the town charter as described below hereinafter known as "An Act providing for staggered elections of selectmen and school committee and establishing annual town elections" with the understanding that such amendments will be put before the voters of Saugus at the next scheduled town election.

By adding a new section - Article 1 Section 2A.

## ARTICLE 1

### SECTION 2A

The Representative Town Meeting Membership shall consist in each precinct of five members, who shall be elected for terms of two years each by official ballot at a biennial town election in an even numbered year. The 50 Town Meeting Members who are elected in November 2013 will serve until the annual town election in April 2016. Every two years thereafter the entire membership of Town Meeting will be up for re-election.

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By adding a new section - Article 1 Section 13A.

ARTICLE 1

SECTION 13A

Amendments to this act adopted on or before the 2013 Annual Town Meeting establishing staggered elections of selectmen and school committee with three year terms of office and establishing annual town elections shall be submitted to the registered voters of the Town of Saugus at the town election to be held in November in the year 2013. The vote shall be taken in precincts by ballot in accordance with the provisions of the general laws, so far as the same shall be applicable, in answer to the question, which shall be placed upon the official ballot to be used at said meeting: "Shall an act passed by the general court in the year two thousand and thirteen, entitled '*An Act providing for staggered elections of selectmen and school committee and establishing annual town elections be accepted by this town?*'"

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By amending Article 2 Section 1A by adding the phrase "on the same election ballot" after the words 'major town-wide office' and before the last sentence so that the amended Article 2 Section 1A will read as follows.

ARTICLE 2

SECTION 1A.

*Candidacy Limit on Town-wide Elective Office.* For the purposes of this section, "major town-wide elective office" shall mean the selectmen's office, the school committee and the housing authority and "town-side office" shall mean all other elected offices in the town. No person's name may appear on the ballot for more than 1 major town-wide elective office on the same election ballot. A person's name may appear on the ballot for any town-side office and town meeting within such person's precinct.

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To add a new section - Article 2 Section 1B

ARTICLE 2

SECTION 1B.

Beginning with the year Two Thousand and Fourteen, the regular town election of said town for the purpose of electing town officers, including town meeting members, and Housing authority, and for the submission of questions to the voters of the town if required to be submitted thereat shall be held on the first Wednesday following the third Monday in April, or the Wednesday following the state holiday, Patriot's Day between the hours of seven ante meridian and eight post meridian.

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To delete Article 2 Section 2 and replace with a new Article 2 Section 2:

ARTICLE 2

SECTION 2.

*Election of Selectmen.* At the town election held in each year, the registered voters of the town shall elect five selectmen who shall hold office for a term of three years from the annual town election at which they are elected, except that upon acceptance of this act, these changes will take effect at the annual town election in April 2014; The term of the 5<sup>th</sup> place candidate elected for selectman elected in November 2013 will expire at the annual town election in April 2014; the term of the 4<sup>th</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place candidates elected in 2013 will expire at the annual town election in April 2015; and the term of the 1st & 2nd place

candidates elected in 2013 will expire at the annual town election in April 2016. In the event a selectman duly elected by the voters shall fail to serve out his term of office, the town clerk shall declare said office vacant and declare the candidate for selectmen at the most recent town election who failed to be elected, but received the next highest number of votes as selectman, provided such person remains eligible and provided such person received votes at least equal to thirty percent of the vote total received by the person receiving the largest number of votes for the office of selectmen at the said election. Such person shall serve until the next annual town election at which the balance of the unexpired term, if any, shall be filled by the voters.

If no such 'runner-up' candidate exists the vacancy shall be filled by a joint convention of the remaining members of selectmen. The selectmen shall nominate one or more candidates to fill the position. Persons so elected to fill a vacancy on the selectmen shall serve only until the next regular election at which time the remaining term of office, if any, shall be filled by the voters and the person chosen to fill such vacancy shall forthwith be sworn and shall serve for the then remaining unexpired term in addition to the term for which elected. Persons serving as selectmen under this section shall not be entitled to have the words "candidate for re-election" printed against their names on the election ballot.

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To delete Article 2 Sections 4, 4A and 4B and add a new Section 4 as follows:

ARTICLE 2

SECTION 4.

*Election of School Committee*, the registered voters of the town shall elect five members of the school committee, who shall hold office for three years. These changes will take effect April 2014. The term of the 5<sup>th</sup> place candidate elected for school committee elected in November 2013 will expire at the annual town election in April 2014; the term of the 4<sup>th</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place candidates elected in April 2013 will expire at the annual town election in 2015; and the term of the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place candidates will expire at the annual town election in April 2016.

Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of school committee, the vacancy shall be filled by the candidate for election to the school committee at the most recent town election who failed to be elected, but who received the next highest number of votes, provided such person remains eligible and provided such person received votes at least equal to thirty percent of the vote total received by the person receiving the largest number of votes for the office of school committee at the said election. Such person shall serve until the next annual town election at which the balance of the unexpired term, if any, shall be filled by the voters.

If no such 'runner-up' candidate exists the vacancy shall be filled by a joint convention of the remaining members of school committee and the Board of Selectmen. The school committee shall nominate one or more candidates to fill the position and a majority vote of the joint convention shall be required to confirm such nomination. Persons so elected to fill a vacancy on the school committee shall serve only until the next regular election at which time the remaining term of office, if any, shall be filled by the voters and the person chosen to fill such vacancy shall forthwith be sworn and shall serve for the then remaining unexpired term in addition to the term for which elected. Persons serving as school committee member under this section shall not be entitled to have the words "candidate for re-election" printed against their names on the election ballot.

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To add two new sections to Article 2 known as Section 6A and 6B:

ARTICLE 2

SECTION 6A

*Housing Authority.*

The provisions of Chapter 756 of the acts of 1967 governing the election of members of the Saugus Housing Authority is hereby recognized, confirmed and continued. Two members of the Saugus Housing Authority shall be elected at the town elections held in odd numbered years for terms of four years each, to fill the expiring terms of office. The two terms of office which are scheduled to expire at the town election held in November 2013 shall expire instead at the town election held in April 2014 and the two terms of office which are scheduled to expire at the town election held in November 2013 shall expire instead at the town election held in April 2015. Thereafter as the terms of office expire successors shall be elected for terms of four years each expiring on the first business day of the month following the town election.

ARTICLE 2

SECTION 6B

*Other Officers to be Elected at Town Elections*

In addition to the town officers who are to be elected under articles one and two of this charter, members of a housing authority as provided in MGL chapter 121 B, section 5, the third paragraph, and such members of regional authorities or districts as may be established by statute, inter-local agreement, or otherwise, may also be elected at town elections.

(Town Meeting Charter Review Committee)