



Town of Medfield

Massachusetts

OPEN LETTERS AND OPEN FORUMS



OPEN LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Scott F. McDermott
Town Moderator

August 22, 2022

Hello Medfield:

I hope you've had a great summer, around town or wherever your travels may have taken you. I enjoy the annual rhythm of Medfield, and how the beat slows down a little during the heart of the summer. And now, as we get deeper into August, the familiar tempo begins to return.

It is an important time for our community. For me as Moderator, it is filled with a unique opportunity, but also a big challenge. To be successful, I need to create a conversation with all of you in Medfield. I need a dialogue that will prepare, guide, and enable me, as Moderator, to make six or seven highly significant appointments.

First, I have two or three appointments to make to our Warrant Committee. Making these appointments, annually at this time of year, is not new to me as Moderator. I'm proud of the heritage of the committee's excellent service to the community. They do a great job. The Warrant Committee is the key advisory committee to our legislature -- the Town Meeting. They have stepped-up in a big way for our community in recent years as we have addressed a wave of important issues. Bringing talented, committed, and collaborative neighbors to Warrant Committee is an annual privilege of the Moderator.

And, per our vote on a bylaw amendment at our Annual Town Meeting, I have four appointments to the new School Building Committee. I am honored to have the opportunity to appoint three citizens at-large and one member of the Warrant Committee. It is time for Medfield to move forward renewing our commitment to elementary education. In Medfield, we are about being a great community with great schools. We need to come together. We need to go forward as a smart, collaborative, civil, and open town. This fall's appointments to the new School Building Committee will be instrumental to 'coming together' and 'moving forward.'

Now you can see why I need a conversation with the town! I need to hear from more neighbors. I need to understand differing perspectives. I need to meet a whole lot of new friends. And, although the conversations need to be focused on the Warrant Committee and the School Building Committee appointments, we also have a need to ignite separate conversations about both the spirit of volunteerism and open town meeting in the 21st century.

So, how will I be connecting with you? First, I will begin the conversation by hosting Open Forums. The first three forums are scheduled for:

Wednesday August 24, 7:00pm

Wednesday August 31 7:00pm

Wednesday September 14, 7:00pm

Medfield Town House live and on Zoom

Public Safety Building live and on Zoom

Medfield Town House live and on Zoom

Details can be found on the [Town's website](#). I will also be corresponding through a series of open letters like this one. And I always encourage you to reach out to me at:

medfieldtownmoderator@medfield.net

I'm excited to engage and hear your thoughts. Let's come together. More to come – stay tuned!





“A unique opportunity, but also a big challenge. To be successful, I need to create a conversation with all of you in Medfield. I need a dialogue that will prepare, guide, and enable me, as Moderator, to make six or seven highly significant appointments.”

VOTERS IN MEDFIELD

| Prnct No | Active | Inactive | Non-Voter | Grand Total |
|----------|--------|----------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | 2427 | 69 | 740 | 3236 |
| 2 | 2252 | 74 | 912 | 3238 |
| 3 | 2346 | 65 | 854 | 3265 |
| 4 | 2259 | 68 | 822 | 3149 |
| | 9284 | 276 | 3328 | 12888 |
| | 9284 | 276 | 3328 | 12888 |





- SECTION 2-1 Legislative authority.
- SECTION 2-2 Time of Annual Town Meeting.
- SECTION 2-3 Special Town Meetings.
- SECTION 2-4 Moderator and Deputy Moderator; election, appointive powers, terms, compensation.
- SECTION 2-5 Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting.
- SECTION 2-5.5 Submission of Articles for Annual or Special Town Meeting.
- SECTION 2-6 Notice of Town Meetings.
- SECTION 2-7 Quorum for Town Meeting.
- SECTION 2-8 Warrant reports.
- SECTION 2-9 The Warrant Committee.
- SECTION 2-10 Attendance of Town officials at Town Meetings.

SECTION 2-9 The Warrant Committee.

A Warrant Committee of nine members shall be appointed by the Moderator. It shall recommend the Annual Town Budget for vote by the Town Meeting and fulfill all the duties of a finance committee as required by general law. It shall hold a public hearing not less than 30 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting to inform the residents of the Town of its proposed recommendations and to hear testimony and argument before publication of its final recommendations. This hearing shall be attended by all elected and appointed Town officers, unless they are deterred by illness or other reasonable cause.





WARRANT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

“Making these appointments, annually at this time of year, is not new to me as Moderator. I’m proud of the heritage of the committee’s excellent service to the community. They do a great job. The Warrant Committee is the key advisory committee to our legislature -- the Town Meeting. They have stepped-up in a big way for our community in recent years as we have addressed a wave of important issues. Bringing talented, committed, and collaborative neighbors to Warrant Committee is an annual privilege of the Moderator. “





Nikolaos Athanasiadis

Kristine Barton

Joanne Bragg

Stephen Callahan

Stephen Curran

Edward Doherty

Mather Eldred

Martha Festa

David Fischer

Mark Fisher

Barbara Gips

Richard Gordet

Amanda Hall

Diane Hallisey

Joanna Hilvert

William Johnson

Abby Marble

Michael Marcucci

Thomas Marie

Jeremy Marsette

Robert Morrill

Debbie Mozer

Thomas Mulvoy

Gustave Murby

Timothy Nugent

Michael Pastore

Stephen Pelosi

Jillian Rafter

Randy Rogers

Victoria Schepps

Thomas Schlesinger

James O'Shaughnessy

James Shannon

Robert Skloff

Robert Sliney

Caroline Standley

Catherine Steever

Gregory Sullivan

Sharon Kinglsey Tatro

Newton Thompson

Edward Vozzella

Maryllice Whalen

Mary Wilson

Jack Wolfe

Current members in red





Town of Medfield

Massachusetts

Medfield Warrant Committee

FY '23 2022-2023

Jeremy Marsette* of 62 Colonial Road [term expires 2023]

Sharon Kingsley Tatro of 12 West Street [term expires 2023]

Jillian Rafter of 16 Elm Street [term expires 2023]

Mather Eldred of 110 Granite Street [term expires 2024]

Robert Sliney of 6 Overfield Drive [term expires 2024]

Edward Vozzella of 65 Wood End Lane [term expires 2024]

_____ of _____ [term expires 2025]

_____ of _____ [term expires 2025]

Stephen Callahan of 33 Pederzini Drive [term expires 2025]

* **Chairperson**

WARRANT COMMITTEE OPENINGS



Town of Medfield

Massachusetts

Warrant Committee Openings

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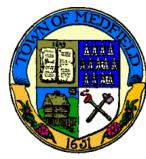
_____ of _____ [term expires 2025]

_____ of _____ [term expires 2025]

Stephen Callahan of 33 Pederzini Drive [term expires 2025]

* Chairperson





Town of Medfield

Massachusetts

The Warrant Committee serves an exceptionally important role in the legislative, administrative, and financial activities of the Town of Medfield. The committee reviews, evaluates, and makes recommendations to the Town Meeting regarding all warrant articles including the annual town operating and capital budgets. The Warrant Committee further fulfills all the duties and responsibilities of a finance committee as stipulated in the Massachusetts General Laws. The Medfield Warrant Committee has a proud and dedicated heritage of excellent service to the community founded upon principles of collaborative engagement, prudent deliberation, open dialogue, study and inquiry, and application of knowledge, experience, and insights.

Considerations for Appointment To the Medfield Warrant Committee

- Highest character and integrity
- Not constrained by single-issue focus. Understands and appreciates we are 'weaving the fabric' of the community
- Deliberative body 'team player.' Understands and appreciates the nature and protocols of a collaborative and deliberative committee chartered to make recommendations to the legislative branch (Town Meeting)
- Constructive contributor to the wealth of knowledge, experience, and insights of the committee
- Constructive contributor to a committee possessing the right blend of subject matter expertise, professional and business acumen, problem-solving and analysis
- Brings sound judgment and discretion predicated on a blend of fairness, prudence, and the best interests of the community
- Constructive contributor to a committee balancing points of view and bringing diversity of age, gender, life positioning, years in town, children in schools, and other meaningful variables
- Demonstrated commitment to the Medfield community through volunteer organizations, community activity, committees, and initiatives
- Strong interest in the process of town governance and the consideration of local laws, initiatives, and budgets.
- Ability to lower one's self-orientation in order for the committee's deliberative and advisory process to be successful
- Sense of humor

WARRANT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT CONSIDERATIONS





School Building Committee Composition

1. **SBC Composition:**
 - a. The SBC shall consist of twelve (12) voting members and at least three (3) non-voting members.
 - b. **Voting Members:** All voting members of the SBC (or any subcommittee established thereunder) shall be Medfield residents and shall not be full-time, compensated employees of the Town of Medfield. The voting members shall be appointed as follows:
 - i. The School Committee shall appoint four (4) voting members to the SBC. Two appointments will be current School Committee members whose terms are not coterminous. Two additional appointments will be Medfield residents with pertinent experience in education, if possible.
 - ii. The Town Moderator shall appoint four (4) voting members to the SBC. One appointment will be a current Warrant Committee member, selected by the Warrant Committee. One appointment will be a senior Medfield resident sixty-five (65) years of age or over. Two appointments will be residents at large.
 - iii. The Board of Selectmen shall appoint four (4) voting members to the SBC. One appointment will be a current Planning Board member, selected by the Planning Board to represent the Planning Board's responsibilities and priorities, including, the Town-Wide Master Plan. A minimum of one appointee will be a current member of the Permanent Planning and Building Committee, selected by the Permanent Planning and Building Committee. Of these four (4) appointees, a minimum of two (2) will endeavor to have expertise in pertinent areas such as architecture, building engineering, commercial or municipal construction, and/or construction law/contracts, at least one (1) of which appointees shall have expertise in energy/sustainability measures (including knowledge of Medfield's energy goals to meet Net Zero). No current member of the Board of Selectmen may be appointed to the SBC, except as provided in subparagraph (c)(iv) below.
 - c. **Non-Voting Members:** The following individuals will be ex-officio, non-voting members of the SBC:
 1. The Superintendent of Schools and/or his/her appointed designee.
 11. The building Principal(s) directly affected by the School Project.
 111. The Town Administrator, in consultation with the appropriate Town departments (other than the School Department) and/or his/her appointed designee.
 - 1v. Such additional member(s) to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen, including, without limitation, a current member of the Board of Selectmen, if and to the extent the same become required in order to obtain funding under MGL c. 70B.





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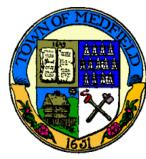


SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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Coming Together and Moving Forward





Back to School: Our Education Roots

History has shown that the town of Medfield has had a long commitment to educating its young people. Town Historian Richard DeSorgher answers these questions: How did we get to this point and what are the roots of our educational system?

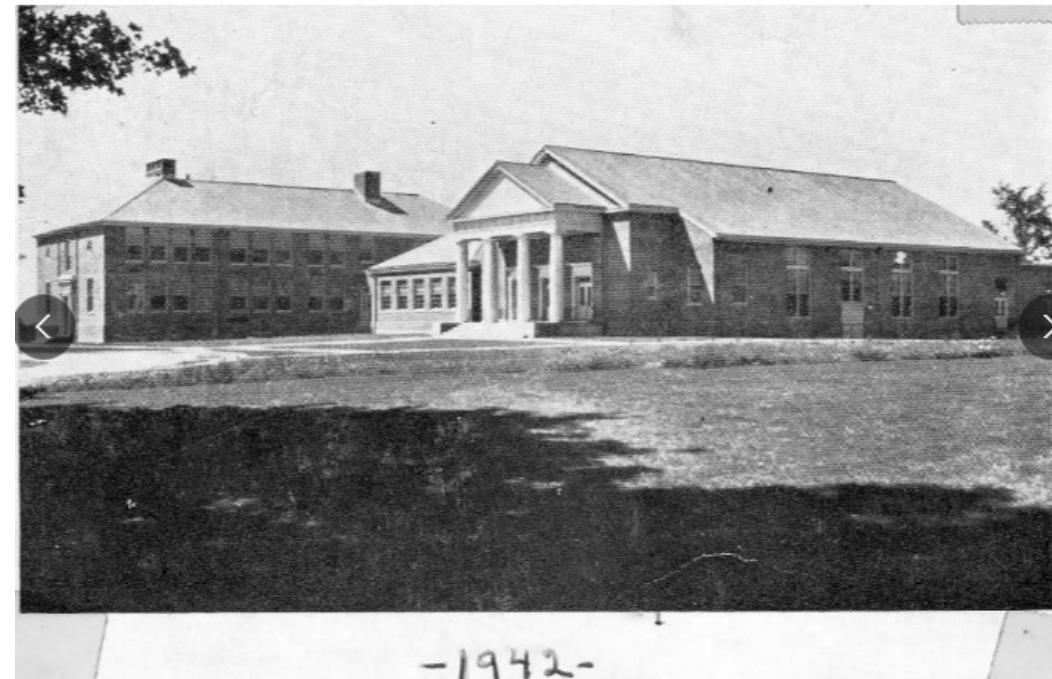


Theresa Knapp, Patch Staff

Posted Fri, Aug 24, 2012 at 5:19 am ET | Updated Fri, Aug 24, 2012 at 5:38 am ET

[Reply](#)

Education and the Fabric of Our Community





**The Spirit of Engagement
and Volunteerism**

**Town Meeting of the
Future**





Upcoming Open Forums

Wednesday August 31, 7:00pm

Wednesday September 14, 7:00pm

Public Safety Building live and on Zoom

Medfield Town House live and on Zoom

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