

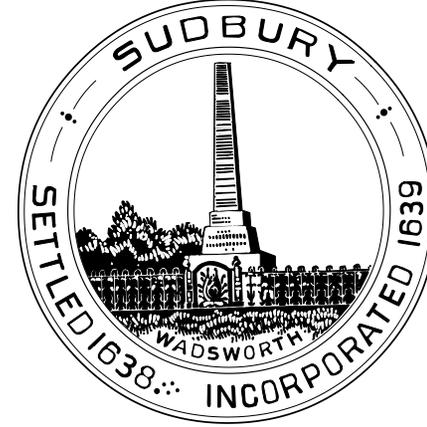
Board of Selectmen  
Sudbury  
Massachusetts

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**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION**  
**Monday, March 31, 2014**

# Town of Sudbury Massachusetts



## 2014 OFFICIAL WARRANT ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION Including Regional District School Committee

**March 31, 2014**

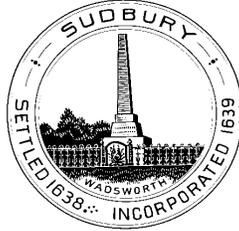
Polls Open 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Precincts 1, 1A, 2 & 5 - Fairbank Community Center, Fairbank Road  
Precincts 3 & 4 - Sudbury Town Hall, Concord Road

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The Warrant for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting, to be held  
Monday, May 5, 2014, will be issued and mailed separately.

**TOWN OF SUDBURY  
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION  
WARRANT**



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Middlesex, ss.

To the Constable of the Town of Sudbury:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sudbury, qualified to vote in Town Elections, that voters residing in Precincts 1, 1A, 2 and 5 should meet at the Fairbank Community Center and voters residing in Precincts 3 and 4 should meet at the Town Hall in said Town on Monday, March 31, 2014, at seven o'clock in the forenoon; then and there to choose by official ballot in accordance with law, one Goodnow Library Trustee for one year; and one member of the Board of Assessors, two Goodnow Library Trustees, one member of the Board of Health, one member of the Board of Selectmen, two members of the Sudbury School Committee, one member of the Park and Recreation Commission, one member of the Planning Board, all for three years; and one member of the Sudbury Housing Authority for five years; Included as part of the Annual Town Election will be an election of two members for three years each to the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional District School Committee. In addition, voters will be requested to vote on the following ballot question:

**BALLOT QUESTION**

*Shall the Town of Sudbury be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to construct a new Police Department Headquarters and appurtenant structures on Town-owned land adjacent to the existing Fire Headquarters, for site development, purchasing additional equipment, technology, furniture, landscaping, and all expenses connected therewith, including professional, engineering, and architectural services and preparation of plans, specifications and bidding documents, supervision of work, relocation, and borrowing costs and expenses?*

YES \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMARY:** The 2014 Annual Town Meeting will include an article for the expenditure of funds to construct a new Police Department Headquarters on Town-owned land adjacent to the Fire Headquarters on Hudson Road. This "construction phase" will utilize the design and construction documents for which funding was approved by the 2013 Annual Town Meeting under Article 16 and the debt exclusion approved in the June 2013 Special Election.

This ballot question seeks to exclude from the Proposition 2 ½ levy limit the principal and interest to pay for this construction phase of the project. If this debt exclusion receives approval via this ballot and Town Meeting subsequently approves the appropriation, permanent bonding will be obtained at the conclusion of the project based on actual expenditures.

At the time of warrant signing, the total project cost has not been finalized; however, predicated upon an estimated total project cost of \$7.8M, including \$627,000 funded under Article 16, the estimated impact on the tax rate of this component (\$7,173,000) is: \$0.13 per \$1,000 assessed value at the highest point of the bonding period (based upon a 20-year bond at 2.5%). For example, the tax impact on the 2014 average home value of \$640,270 is estimated at \$85 in the first year of debt service, and would decline approximately \$2/year during the bonding period.

A “yes” vote on this question will authorize the Town to exclude from the levy limit the debt required to fund construction of a new Police Headquarters facility, with all associated work connected thereto, subject to appropriation by Town Meeting; and a “no” vote will mean the project cannot go forward without the approval of funding by Town Meeting and approval of a debt exemption at a future Special Election.

**ARGUMENT FOR PASSAGE:** Replacement of the 1960 Police Station, expanded in 1980, is the Town’s highest major capital priority. Deficiencies of the existing station have been well documented and confirmed by the Blue Ribbon Committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen in 2008: lack of adequate space for its present-day function; failure to meet current requirements for handicapped access, size/location of cells, evidence processing/storage, interrogation facilities, community interface, separation of police and public traffic, safe handling of detainees, technology and work flow. In addition, major infrastructure systems are at the end of their useful life and are now failing. Its 0.6 acre site does not allow for expansion.

The Blue Ribbon Committee reviewed multiple options, and recommended that a new facility of about 14,500 sq. ft. be built adjacent to the present Fire Headquarters on Hudson Road. This will establish an efficient and attractive public safety complex at the Town’s geographic center.

The 2013 Annual Town Meeting (ATM) approved funding for design and engineering work leading to bid documents for a new facility based on this concept, meeting current codes and standards and comparable to stations in similar communities. The design work and permitting is almost complete and the resulting construction, if approved, will result in an energy efficient, low maintenance public safety building meeting present and future needs. Because of debt retirement in FY15, the projected debt service expense, including borrowing required for the Police Headquarters, will remain well below the FY14 level.

**ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION:** If the design is implemented resulting in construction of a new Police Headquarters, Sudbury will have a new Police Station that is too large for the police function required for a Town of our size. The number of employees staffing the building at any one time is small and data shows the occupancy of the cells is minimal. Sudbury’s population has not grown in recent years so the current size should be sufficient. This plan calls for the new Police Station to be located adjacent to the Fire Headquarters when it should remain on Route 20 where it is close to the business community. Funds should be expended to upgrade and renovate the current station instead. Construction of a new Police Headquarters will increase the Town’s long-term debt service above what is projected beyond FY15 for existing debt. With no construction, the entire amount of the projected reduction in taxes could be passed on to the taxpayers instead. If construction of a new Police Headquarters is approved, there is the question of future use of the building/land owned by the Town on Route 20. No further action should occur until ideas for disposition of the current Police Station have been further explored.

Polls will open at seven o'clock in the forenoon and will be closed at eight o'clock in the evening.

And you are required to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy thereof at the Town Hall at least seven days before the time appointed for such election.

Hereof fail not and make due return of the Warrant by your doing thereon to the Town Clerk, at or before the time of election aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.

SELECTMEN OF SUDBURY:

John C. Drobinski

Charles C. Woodard

Lawrence W. O'Brien

Robert C. Haarde

Leonard A. Simon